

Media literacy's role toward Roda Jari Mas Radio listeners in dealing with disasters

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Abstract

Pangandaran is an area that is vulnerable to tsunami disasters. It is caused the sonic activity of the Indo-Australian plate's in the southern coastal regio. Roda Jari Mas (RJM) Radio as a community radio has the role of informing the community about tsunami disaster information. This study aims to determine the role of media literacy for RJM Radio listeners in dealing with disasters in Pangandaran Regency. This research used a qualitative approach with a case study research method through Focus Group Discussion (FGD) on 9 participants. The results stated that the most widely used media exposure of Pangandaran people is radio, which is RJM Radio, television, and social media. Sources of disaster information obtained by the Pangandaran community include television and social media (if a disaster occurs). There are three aspects influenced people's readiness to face disasters, namely media exposure, government attention, and infrastructure. Social media can be a source of disaster information. The community has participated in several disaster mitigation simulations, but has not been supported by adequate infrastructure. The conclusion of the study is that the Pengandaran community has low media exposure could have an impact on a lack of knowledge and low levels of government attention, which resulted in a lack of disaster preparedness training, not to mention low levels of infrastructure. All of these things had a big impact on one thing, namely low preparedness to face disasters.

Keywords: Media literacy; Community radio; Disaster mitigation

Peran literasi media terhadap pendengar Radio Roda Jari Mas dalam menghadapi bencana

Abstrak

Pangandaran merupakan wilayah yang rentan dengan bencana alam tsunami. Hal ini disebabkan adanya aktivitas tektonik lempeng bumi Indo-Australi di wilayah pesisir selatan. Radio Roda Jari Mas (RJM) sebagai salah satu radio komunitas memiliki peran menginformasikan informasi bencana tsunami kepada masyarakat secara luas. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui peran literasi media terhadap pendengar Radio RJM dalam menghadapi bencana di Kabupaten Pangandaran. Metode penelitian menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan metode studi kasus melalui Focus Group Discussion (FGD) pada Sembilan (9) informan. Hasil penelitian menyatakan bahwa paparan media paling banyak digunakan di masyarakat Pangandaran adalah Radio RJM, televisi, dan media sosial. Sumber informasi bencana yang didapatkan masyarakat Pangandaran antara lain dari televisi dan media sosial (jika ada bencana terjadi). Ada tiga hal yang berpengaruh pada kesiapan masyarakat dalam menghadapi bencana yaitu paparan media, perhatian pemerintah, dan infrastruktur. Media sosial dapat menjadi sumber informasi kebencanaan. Masyarakat telah beberapa kali sudah mengikuti simulasi mitigasi bencana, namun belum didukung infrastruktur yang memadai. Simpulan penelitian yakni masyarakat Pangandaran memiliki tingkat paparan media yang rendah yang dapat berdampak pada rendahnya pengetahuan, kemudian tingkat perhatian pemerintah yang juga rendah berdampak pada kurangnya latihan menghadapi bencana, dan tingkat infrastruktur yang juga rendah. Hal ini berdampak pada rendahnya kesiapan dalam menghadapi bencana.

Kata Kunci: Literasi media; Radio komunitas; Mitigasi bencana

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INTRODUCTION

Disasters are becoming increasingly common due to factors such as growing population density and accelerated climate change (Gregg et al., 2022). South Asia is one of the regions of the world most vulnerable to natural disasters (Dhakal, 2018). Indonesia has the longest coastline in the world and is in the path of the three earth plates, this causes Indonesia to have high tectonic activity and holds the potential for earthquakes and tsunamis (Muhlisah et al., 2021). The disaster caused huge losses in terms of economy and casualties. Based on data from the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) until July 2023, the island of Java is the most disaster-prone area with a total of 288 and is the largest number of disasters in Indonesia. From 2019 to 2021, there were 3.006 natural disasters in West Java province, which makes the province with the highest number of natural disasters in Indonesia (Ismana et al., 2022). One of the regencies in West Java Province that has disaster potential is the Pangandaran Regency.

On November 17, 2012, Pangandaran officially became a Regency in West Java Province, authorized by President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Minister of Law and Human Rights Amir Syamsudin. In Law Number 21 of 2012, it is stated that Pangandaran Regency originated from Ciamis Regency, consists of Parigi District, Cijulang District, Cimerak District, Cigugur District, Langkaplancar District, Mangunjaya District, Padaherang District, Kalipucang District, Pangandaran District and Sidamulih District. The location of the capital of Pangandaran Regency is in Parigi District (My Pangandaran, 2017). The coastal area of Pangandaran is a dynamic area, which is a southern coastal

area, making this area also vulnerable to the tectonic activity of the Indo-Australian earth plate (Prayogi et al., 2021).

Pangandaran Regency has a coastal length of 91 km with an area of 168.509 Ha and a sea area of 67.340 Ha. Pangandaran has a lot of tourism potential which most attractive part of Pangandaran is beach and river. Many foreign and domestic tourists visit the following tourist attractions: Pangandaran Beach, Pananjung Nature Reserve, Batu Hiu Beach, Batu Karas Beach, Madasari Beach, Karapyak Beach, and river attraction, namely Cukang Taneuh (Green Canyon), Citumang, Santirah. Hotel facilities of various classes, restaurants and other entertainment venues are also available. In addition, Pangandaran's potentials are agriculture, fisheries, livestock, and forestry.

In the Pangandaran Regency, natural hazards include geophysical and biological activities (Schweizer et al., 2019). The Pangandaran Regency Disaster Management Agency (BPBD) recorded that up to 2019, Pangandaran Regency experienced 50 disasters in the form of earthquakes, typhoons, landslides, and fires. Some of these disasters resulted in heavy damage, casualties, and estimated losses of approximately 1.2 billion rupiahs. Obviously, the number of disasters is not small if it occurs every year, not to mention the tsunami that occurred on July 17, 2006. A tsunami is a sequence of extended gravitational waves caused by volcanic eruptions, landslides, underwater earthquakes, or collisions by meteorites (Chandramohan et al., 2017).

Undersea earthquakes cause almost 90% of tsunamis in the world. This type of undersea earthquake occurs due to the meeting or collision of tectonic plates,

generating many vibrations that cause tsunamis. However, some underwater earthquakes will not generate tsunamis. However, volcanic eruptions, both above and below the sea, can cause tsunamis. On the seabed, there are hills, valleys and depressions that can landslide. Tectonic earthquakes or sea-borne volcanic eruptions usually cause submarine landslide tsunamis. Moreover, this one rarely occurs; in fact, there is no evidence to suggest a meteor hit caused a tsunami, albeit it is still possible.

The National Earthquake Center of the Meteorology and Geophysics Agency or PGN BMG stated that the earthquake that occurred in the Pangandaran coastal area was measured at 15.19 with a magnitude of 6.8 on the Richter Scale (SR). The earthquake also caused tsunami waves that hit the southern coast of West Java, such as Cilauteureun, Garut Regency, Cipatujah, Tasikmalaya Regency, Pangandaran, Ciamis Regency, the southern coast of Cianjur and Sukabumi. In fact, tsunami waves also hit the coast of Cilacap and Kebumen, Central Java, and the southern coast of Bantul Regency, Yogyakarta. The earthquake that generated a tsunami caused hundreds of deaths and hundreds of injuries, and dozens of people were declared missing (Bencana Kesehatan, 2014). Apart from the losses due to the large number of fatalities, there are also losses due to the psychological shock of the victims who have survived the tsunami disaster (Lestari, 2019).

The government must prepare its people to face unpredictable disasters, in accordance with the vision of the Pangandaran Regency BPBD, which states, "Pangandaran Community and Tourists are Resilient to Disasters." From this

vision, it can be interpreted that what must be prepared is mitigation. Mitigation is an effort to deal with a disaster so that we can save ourselves and other people who are unable to do so. The concept of disaster mitigation is presented to reduce the impact of disasters (Fadillah et al., 2020). Structure resilience is classified as "hard" or "soft" infrastructure. Local governments can enhance "soft infrastructure resilience" by implementing disaster management systems, as well as "hard infrastructure resilience" by investing in and managing disaster management facilities and technologies (Lee, 2020). Matters related to mitigation are also regulated in Law Number 24 Year 2007, which also contains definitions of mitigation. According to Law Number 24 of 2007, mitigation is a series of efforts to reduce disaster risk, both through physical development and awareness and improvement of the ability to face disaster threats (BPBD Kabupaten Bogor, 2022).

Uncertainty is a major worry during disaster communication. Effective communication involves reducing uncertainty. Communication emerges from the urge to eliminate ambiguity and act effectively to defend or strengthen one's ego while engaging individually or in groups. Accurate information is essential for disaster management by both governmental and private institutions caring for victims. Effective catastrophe communication management can enhance uncertainty reduction in disaster mitigation efforts.

Disaster literacy in communities in disaster-prone locations must be updated periodically. The government and the community must work together to enhance disaster-related literacy skills. The government can improve literacy through

relevant institutions, while the community can benefit from community leaders. Government agencies promote disaster literacy in disaster-prone communities through local rules, while community leaders should transmit moral, social, and spiritual values (Damayani et al., 2022).

If we learn from Japan, that country has shown that public preparedness is essential in the face of earthquakes. Japanese citizens have time to prepare themselves and take the necessary measures thanks to early warning notifications. In addition, the way they build earthquake-resistant infrastructure using antiseismic, damping and seismically isolated building principles shows how seriously the country anticipates earthquake risks. Some of the natural disasters that have occurred in Japan include the Isewan typhoon in 1959 and the Kobe earthquake in 1995. In addition, for almost 2,000 years, Japan has experienced many natural disasters. In 2011, The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami caused more than 15,800 deaths, 2,900 casualties from subsequent disasters, 6,150 injuries, and more than 2,000 missing. As a result, Japan made a variety of more serious policies.

Indonesia, with the characteristics of natural disasters similar to Japan, can definitely implement a Disaster Management Plan like Japan. Disaster education can help everyone become more aware that disaster anticipation and handling is a shared responsibility, not just

government. Our country can learn from Japan about the importance of educating our people on what to do when disasters occur. Development planning should also pay attention to how important it is to build earthquake-resistant buildings. Education and Disaster Management are still a problem in Indonesia. The absence of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) at the central and regional levels indicates the seriousness of the handling. It shows that we must work together to improve people's understanding, strengthen disaster mitigation systems, and give Indonesians a sufficient understanding of what to do when disaster strikes.

Apart from the government, the media also plays a role in providing education on disaster mitigation to the community. The emergence of new media is a concept that describes how media capabilities, with the support of digital devices, can access any content anywhere and anytime. Communities and organizations in Indonesia provide content in the form of information about disasters, notwithstanding that Indonesia has various kinds of potential for natural and social disasters (Indahsari et al., 2021). Not only are not a few mass media such as radio also a means of disaster information for the surrounding community (Wardiana et al., 2018). The presence of media with many assessors makes it easier for all parties to provide information, especially disaster information, awareness, and preparedness in dealing with disasters.

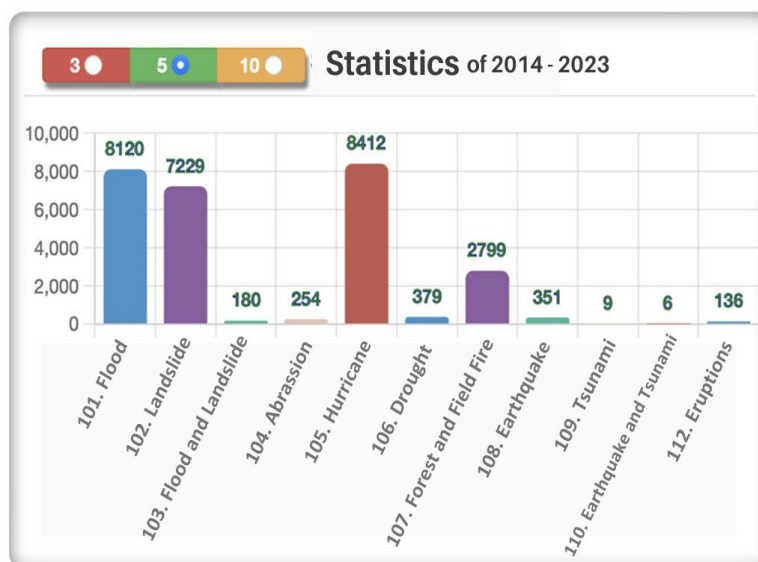


Figure 1. Types of disasters that occur in Indonesia
Source: Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (BNPB), 2023

Indonesia is an archipelago located in the Pacific Ring of Fire, resulting in a high potential for natural disasters, especially in coastal and mountainous areas (Permana, 2021). According to the data from Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (BNPB) (2023), since 2020, Indonesia has experienced 5.003 disasters. This number is the highest number of disasters from 2014 to 2023. Until 2023, there are still many disasters occurring in Indonesia; up to mid-2023, there have been 611 disasters. Java Island is the most disaster-prone island, with 288 disasters occurring on Java in 2023. According to the Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (BNPB) (2023), there are 11 types of disasters in Indonesia sorted from the most in the period 2014-2023, namely: (1) hurricane, (2) flood, (3) landslide, (4) forest and land fire, (5) drought, (6) earthquake, (7) abrasion, (8) flood and landslide, (9) volcanic eruption, (10) tsunami, (11) earthquake and tsunami.

Based on previous studies, researchers found that there has been little research on disaster mitigation in the Pangandaran Regency in the past five

years. One of them has identified the level of coastal vulnerability and the impact of coastal vulnerability on regional development in the Pangandaran coastal area. The results of the analysis provided several recommendations, namely (1) disaster mitigation-based planning; (2) improving disaster mitigation support facilities; (3) mitigation education to reduce community losses; (4) providing disaster evacuation sites in low vulnerability areas (Prayogi et al., 2021).

Another study from the media point of view presents the results of an analysis of Disaster Programs for Patients and Staff of R. Syamsudin Local Public Hospital on Radio Bunut, which is divided into three stages: pre-disaster stage, during disaster and post-disaster stage. In this study, Radio Bunut, as a disaster communication media, has consistently broadcasted disaster information to patients and hospital staff (Sjuchro et al., 2019).

This study is important because of the need to improve the preparedness and response of the community to disasters in the Pangandaran region, which is known as an area vulnerable to natural disasters,

especially tsunamis. This study will benefit the wider community by increasing public awareness and knowledge about natural disasters, such as how to spot early signals of disaster, take appropriate action when disaster strikes, and prepare for disaster. People will be better prepared to respond to disasters if they understand them and know how to mitigate them. This can reduce the number of fatalities and property damage due to natural catastrophes.

This study also can assist the government and other institutions in improving the emergency communication system and the distribution of information to the public during disasters. The study's findings can be used to design more effective public disaster management policies. The government and relevant institutions can use the results of this study to build better education, training, and infrastructure programs to improve community readiness in the event of a disaster. Therefore, the purpose this study determined the role of media literacy for RJM Radio listeners in dealing with disasters in Pangandaran Regency.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study used a qualitative approach with a case study research method. The case study approach allows for a holistic understanding of a thing within real-life contexts from the perspective of those involved (Crowe et al., 2011). Data were collected through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs). The object of this study was disaster mitigation literacy, and the subject was the people of Pangandaran Regency who listened to radio RJM.

Roda Jari Mas (RJM) Radio listeners were, on average, 35 years old and over.

According to from the RKPD (Local Government Work Plan) of Pangandaran Regency, in 2020, the number of residents aged 35 years and over amounted to more than the age of 35 years and under, namely 198.153 people out of a total population of 428.242 people (Bupati Pangandaran, 2020). This was the reason why researchers chose radio listeners as participants for this study. The researchers interacted with the listeners; they said that millennials, X, and Baby Boomers generations in Pangandaran were still actively listening to the radio for entertainment and information. Even radio RJM announcers often got feedback from listeners in the age range of 35-70 years. These three generations were digital immigrants who still needed to be fully proficient in using technology, so they still used the radio as a source of information.

Radio RJM recommended the selection of participants in this study with a variety of backgrounds and livelihoods. An FGD is a qualitative data collection method that brings together one or two researchers with several participants in a group to discuss a research topic (Bisjoe, 2018). The FGD was held in Pangandaran Regency, precisely at Radio RJM Pangandaran, on June 13, 2023. The participants in this study consisted of nine participants who live in Pangandaran Regency and have different backgrounds. Informants are obtained by selecting subjects based on categories that are considered to exist in the population (Simione et al., 2020).

The Focus Group Discussion (FGD) sought to find answers to the questions. The discussion began with a casual conversation regarding the extent of media literacy in disaster mitigation in the Pangandaran community. The data

analysis technique used an interactive model approach that combined literature studies and field visits.

The analysis consists of 3 main points: data reduction, data presentation and conclusion drawing/verification, where the three activities are interrelated activities that were carried out previously. Data reduction results are processed in such a way that it looks complete in the figure. It may take the form of sketches, synopses, matrices, and other forms; it is very necessary to facilitate the explanation and affirmation of conclusions. The process is not just one time, but there is back-and-forth (Rijali, 2018). The data collected specifically was about disaster insights in the Pangandaran Regency area, which were then presented in a Focus Group Discussion (FGD).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Mass media industries describe eight types of mass media business. The eight media industries are: (1) books, (2) newspapers, (3) magazines, (4) records, (5) radio, (6) films, (7) television, and (8)

internet (Gumilar et al., 2014). Study results' findings showed that several media were most popular and used as a means of information and entertainment, namely radio, television and social media.

Today, social media has become an important channel for information dissemination, even replacing the role of traditional media (Chen et al., 2022). Nonetheless, Pangandaran Regency has three radios that can give actual information to society, especially about natural disasters. There are two private radio stations, namely Roda Jari Mas (RJM) Radio and Pangandaran RIS FM Radio, as well as one community radio, namely Panji Radio. According to the informal statement of the Pangandaran people, there are still many illegal radio stations in Pangandaran that do not have broadcasting licenses. The government has been monitoring the situation but still has yet to find a solution because illegal broadcasting institutions have reappeared and broadcasted after a month of monitoring.

Table 1

Media exposure in the Pangandaran Regency area

No	Type of Media	Yes/No
1	Newspapers	No
2	Radio	Yes
3	Television	Yes
4	Social media	Yes
5	Others	No

Source: Research results, 2023

Table 1 shows media exposure in the Pangandaran Regency area. FGD participants said that they listened to RJM Pangandaran radio every day starting at 7 AM to listen to information, entertainment and dangdut programs. The most popular program is "Tergoda Keren Euy", whose

program began with information about an event in Pangandaran. Apart from that, people also watch television every day. The public's favorite programs are soap operas, infotainment, and political news. All national television stations are able to reach Pangandaran from TV One, Metro

TV, Kompas TV and many others. However, only one participant was still reading a newspaper, namely the *Pikiran Rakyat* (PR). He said that he only read the PR newspaper once a month. It could be said that people rarely read newspapers except through their respective gadgets.

In addition to traditional media, social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram are another avenue to disseminate disaster-related stories and images (Blackwood et al., 2023). However, the most popular social media in Pangandaran is TikTok. TikTok, which is famous for its video applications lasting 15 seconds or more, around 2-3 minutes, has received much attention because the content created by its creators is very interesting. TikTok is also a platform for creators to promote their products, such as make-up tutorials, comedy and education. It is not surprising that TikTok has become a very popular application, especially among teenagers.

When comparing social media with conventional media, emphasize that the latter has a greater impact on readers' perceptions of risk (Vicari et al., 2023). So, misinformation can greatly impact risk management.

The propagation of hoaxes and rumors on social media is one instance. Meanwhile, on the radio, the spread of hoaxes is only 1.2% spread of hoaxes, based on the results of the 2021 Mastel (Indonesian Telematics Society) survey. This is different from social media, which claims there are around 92.4% of the total number of hoaxes and distorted information circulating.

RJM radio was the media most in demand by the people of Pangandaran. It was known from the listeners' responses both on air and off air. The head manager

of Radio RJM Pangandaran said that many listeners gave feedback to the broadcasting via WhatsApp, telephone, and messages via Facebook and Instagram. Social dialogues facilitate two-way communication between communities and relief organizations, perhaps exceeding the advantages of one-way communication, which simply "pushes" information to the public (Yan et al., 2019). Its popularity could be seen when the radio held events such as *halal bi halal*, which around a hundred people attended. Then, there was an annual off-air program and a karaoke party every Saturday and Sunday at RJM. The community could find out when and where the government agencies and offices would carry out activities.

RJM radio is a popular media in Pangandaran Regency because it has a wide coverage. RJM's radio frequency range reaches Tasikmalaya, Singaparna, Cirebon, to Cilacap, and even RJM radio is currently creating streaming broadcasting via the internet. They have a special media group which contains information about the latest news. Radio RJM cooperates with the Indonesian Ministry of Information and Communication to provide information and news in the form of links that can be accessed. Currently, RJM Radio does not have a special reporter, but broadcasters and other colleagues help to inform when there are activities such as sports, National Working Meeting, National Coordination Meeting, and crime (traffic control, arson, theft, and others). However, RJM Radio has never held a disaster management event. Disasters are almost always stories of social inequality (Madianou, 2015). RJM Radio's efforts as a broadcast radio are only limited to exhorting through broadcasting institutions when broadcasting

Table 2
Sources of disaster information in Pangandaran

No	Sources	Yes/ No
1	Newspaper	No
2	Radio	No
3	Television	Yes*
4	Social media	Yes*
5	Others (Government)	Yes*

Source: Research results, 2023

*) Only if there is a "Disaster"

In 2006, the Pangandaran FM Radio Disaster Emergency was established in the Pangandaran Regency. The purpose is for disaster mitigation literacy, weather information, and other information regarding disaster emergencies, as shown in Table 2. However, the radio was terminated due to the tsunami disaster that occurred in Pangandaran Regency in July 2006. At the time the tsunami occurred in Pangandaran, all radios were turned off due to a power outage, so people in Pangandaran received information from their neighbors who told them that there was a disaster.

It turns out that not only when a disaster occurs but also that the Pangandaran community's knowledge about disasters is very low; even knowledge about mitigation for disaster management or pre-disaster education has never been properly taught to them. The government's role still needs to be clarified for the community. Only a few have received education about disaster mitigation.

In the FGD, participants said that they had not received information about the impending tsunami that occurred in July 2006 from anyone; in fact, they did not know how a Tsunami occurred and what the signs were of an impending tsunami. When the tsunami disaster occurred in 2006, the people in Pangandaran watched

when the water receded, but they did not know that was a sign that a tsunami was coming. At that time, the water receded for three hours as a sign of a tsunami; many people even walked to the middle of the beach, not knowing that there would be a disaster.

FGD participants also said that the government did not provide socialization or information about the characteristics of a tsunami, so the community did not have knowledge about what the signs of a tsunami were when it was coming. In fact, after the tsunami disaster until now, people only knew that the characteristic of a potential tsunami disaster was an earthquake above seven on the Richter Scale (SR) without any detailed explanation regarding this. Ineffective dissemination of information to those who believe the probability of disaster is low is a significant contributing factor to this (Xu et al., 2020). The participants said that a long ago, the Government had provided a disaster mitigation simulation organized by the BPBD, but the community thought that the target needed to be revised because at that time, the participants were only schoolchildren who were far from the sea. The people of Pangandaran had participated in a disaster mitigation simulation shortly after the tsunami occurred. However, three years ago, there were no more simulations held by the

Government of Pangandaran Regency. It could be said that school children such as SD and SMP had more knowledge about disaster mitigation and were better prepared to deal with tsunamis than the common people in Pangandaran.

In the developing world, the low resources of the necessary government agencies heighten the need for business cooperation in natural catastrophe mitigation (Javed et al., 2022). When the researchers asked the FGD participants if they knew someone in Pangandaran named "Mang Ocic" who received an award from UNESCO as a disaster savior, they said they had never heard of him before. However, they claimed to know "Mang Ocic" as a part of an NGO and Tagana, who liked to write and upload written works on social media. "We just found out that after the tsunami occurred, Mang Ocic has formed a group to prepare for a tsunami," said one informant. Effective natural disaster management necessitates a mix of private and public policy, both before and after the event. Governance may involve land use planning, construction regulations, insurance, and alleviation (Jemli, 2021).

Mang Ocic is a disaster mitigation activist in Pangandaran. In 2013, he collaborated with the Provincial BPBD to establish FKDM, which initially only existed in 6 villages according to the budget provided by BNPB, namely Legok Jawa Village, Masawah Village, Batu Karas Village, Pananjung Village, Pangandaran Village and Babakan Village. FKDMs from each region are equipped with competencies according to the location and situation of their respective regions. FKDM members are volunteers totaling 30-40 people. He said,

"I first formed it with the Provincial BPBD; the budget was from the central BPBD, but the PJOK was from the province. We built it together with the Provincial BPBD. Friends of the Provincial BPBD in 2013, previously for the western region, were equipped with competencies to become facilitators so that FKDM members were created and facilitated by BNPB" (J. Suharja, Interviewed, June 13, 2023).

The Regional Disaster Management Agency (BPBD) has the task of establishing guidelines and direction for disaster management efforts, which include disaster prevention, emergency management, rehabilitation, and reconstruction fairly and equitably, and has the function of coordinating the implementation of disaster management activities in a planned, integrated and comprehensive manner so that BPBD has an important role in carrying out regional disaster management (Rahmah et al., 2022). The people of Pangandaran felt that so far, when there was a disaster, the BPBD was alert; when there was a flood, they initiated to help people in the flooded area using a rubber boat. Then the BPBD was not alone, but was accompanied by an organization under the local Social Service, namely the Tagana (Disaster Emergency Response).

There was a reason why the government carried out very little outreach on disaster mitigation so that the community's knowledge about what a tsunami disaster was like could have been more extensive. According to the Pangandaran community, previously, the Pangandaran Government was still part of Ciamis Regency. This resulted in the absence of counseling from the

government due to the long distance. In fact, mitigation is important to reduce the impact of disasters in an area. The impact of disasters is generally related to health, social life, economy, religious life, and psychology (Dewi et al., 2020). The classification of preventive activities in implementing disaster management is in the form of (a) preparedness, (b) early warning, and (c) disaster mitigation (Fadillah et al., 2020). If the emergency plan and preparedness were zero, and so the loss of human life would be huge (Chandramohan et al., 2017). Disaster mitigation can be defined as a collection of scientifically planned actions aimed at reducing the vulnerability of a disaster-prone area to disasters. In fact, this strengthens the resilience of target areas to disasters (Sharma, 2021).

Resilience is defined as the ability to survive, absorb, acclimatize, adapt to, change and recover from the hazard effects in a timely and efficient manner (Yan et al., 2019). The FGD revealed some of the disaster events that some informants experienced. One informant said,

"During the tsunami, my wife saw news of an earthquake on television. Shortly after that, the electricity went out, and water started to enter the house" (D. Supirno, Interviewed, June 13, 2023).

Then, he said that when the water hit, there was no one to direct them. People just followed the flow using their instincts. People only knew that they had to run to the mountains because there were no tall buildings in Pangandaran and only a few high-rise hotels, and people did not even know that they were allowed to climb to the top of high buildings. Since the Tsunami disaster, the people in Pangandaran have had a new awareness, namely that if they

encounter an earthquake, they will immediately look towards the beach to see whether the beach is receding or not. If the coast does not recede, everything will be fine.

Even though there was some news about natural disaster mitigation that was broadcasted through mass media, such as television and radio broadcasts, it was never received because, according to FGD informants, the news that the Pangandaran people were most interested in and looking for was news about natural disaster mitigation, crime and on-site reports. They often watched the news on their gadgets by accessing social media. to get information on disaster and crime news. This might be one of the reasons why the information about mitigation was not well-known or popular among the people in Pangandaran. In addition, infrastructure facilities such as sirens and tsunami signaling devices are just a few, and some of them need to be fixed. One of the sirens is located at the Navy office to alert the public to earthquakes and tsunamis. The community said that a year ago, the siren was still working, but now it no longer makes sounds when there is an earthquake. The tsunami signaling device in the middle of the sea is currently in a state of disrepair. Information facilities from the hotel as a third party are minimal, so tourists who come to visit and play on the beach, many of them need help understanding the meaning of danger signs, red zones, and other disaster warning systems.

The community expects a complete warning system and information package regarding what the people of Pangandaran should do when a disaster occurs. The community also needs publications through printed materials and digital

media about disasters in the form of advisory messages so that if a Tsunami happens again, people who live along the beach at least know how to save themselves and their families and relatives. What they regretted was the lack and inaccurate socialization messages from the government on how to save themselves when disaster strikes, such as being told to turn off the stove and close the windows first, and others that the community felt did not make sense. It is expected that there will be accurate information on every sign of a tsunami so that people will be aware of

existing information. They also want to be reminded of the disasters that could potentially occur in Pangandaran.

According to the description above, three aspects affect community preparedness in the face of disaster: media exposure, government attention and infrastructure. The Pangandaran Regency has a low level of these three aspects that have an impact on the low readiness of the community to face unexpected disasters. The level of preparedness of the Pangandaran community in facing disaster is presented in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Level of disaster preparedness in Pangandaran Regency

Source: Research results, 2023

CONCLUSION

The Pangandaran community had low preparedness to face disasters. Three types of media become a means of information and entertainment for the Pangandaran community, namely radio, television, and social media. In addition, the source of information about disasters obtained is from television and social media; however, during a disaster information from the government is not widely distributed to the communities in Pangandaran. The facts above illustrate that three aspects affect community readiness in facing disasters, namely media exposure, government attention and infrastructure. Judging from the results of

FGDs with the Pangandaran community, there is a low level of media exposure that can have an impact on low knowledge. Besides, the low level of government attention has an impact on the lack of disaster preparedness training, not to mention the low level of infrastructure. The researchers hope that there will be further research that explores the efforts of the Pangandaran government in providing disaster mitigation education to the community through the relevant government agents such as BPBDS, BNPB, and others because there are still ignorant people who need to receive information and education about disasters in Pangandaran Regency.

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