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Synergy of Pancasila, Youth, and SDGs in Protecting the Earth

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ABSTRACT

Indonesia is one of the countries facing critical environmental sustainability issues, including deforestation, pollution, and the impacts of climate change. This article discusses how Pancasila, the role of youth, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) work together to maintain environmental sustainability in Indonesia. As the country's basic philosophy, Pancasila provides a moral and ethical foundation to support sustainable development, where the key principles are humanity, justice, and shared prosperity. Around 23.18% of Indonesia's population are youth, who have great potential to become agents of change in environmental sustainability efforts. They can do so by developing new technologies, organizing campaigns to raise public awareness, and actively participating in environmental policies. This article analyzes the role of youth and Pancasila in achieving the SDGs by using literature study methodology. It is emphasized that the role of youth in adopting environmentally friendly lifestyles and encouraging green innovations such as circular economy and renewable energy technologies is in line with the values of Pancasila and the SDG's goals. Indonesia can achieve sustainable development while preserving the environment for future generations by working together with this synergy. In addressing the climate crisis, the synergy between Pancasila and the SDGs provides a strong moral foundation. Youth, as agents of change, play an important role in realizing a more just, inclusive, and sustainable future.

Keywords: Pancasila; Youth; SDGs; Environment; Climate Crisis.

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INTRODUCTION

Environmental sustainability is becoming an increasingly important global issue. Many countries face significant challenges in maintaining a balance between development and environmental sustainability due to the threat of climate crisis and natural damage caused by human activities. Indonesia also faces this issue due to its extraordinary biodiversity, but it also faces major problems such as deforestation, water and air pollution, and an increased risk of natural disasters due to climate change. To address this issue, the United Nations (UN) developed a global framework called the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) or the Sustainable Development Agenda, which consists of 17 main goals. Various aspects of development include poverty reduction, improving education quality, and climate action. The SDGs serve as the foundation for all countries to achieve environmentally friendly, inclusive, and economically beneficial development. The UN recognizes that development solely focused

on economic growth without considering social and environmental aspects will have negative long-term consequences, especially for future generations.

There are many challenges to achieving the SDG goals in Indonesia. This country must ensure that development does not disrupt the ecosystem's balance while maintaining economic growth. Indonesia is one of the countries with the largest tropical rainforests in the world, which can help balance the climate, but illegal logging, forest fires, and environmentally unfriendly mining have damaged the environment. Additionally, rapid population growth and urbanization have increased pressure on natural resources.

As the foundation of the Indonesian state, the Pancasila philosophy provides a strong moral and ethical basis to support the achievement of the SDGs. With its five principles, which contain universal values such as humanity, justice, and common welfare, Pancasila can serve as a guide for realizing sustainable development. A harmonious relationship between humans and nature is essential, according to the second principle, "Just and Civilized Humanity." Meanwhile, the fifth principle, "Social Justice for All Indonesian People," demands justice in the distribution of development outcomes, including access to clean and sustainable natural resources. By combining the values of Pancasila with the sustainable development agenda, a more comprehensive and sustainable approach can be created to achieve the SDGs in Indonesia. The role of youth is an important component that can help achieve the SDGs in Indonesia. Youth are not only responsible as the nation's successors but also as agents of change. They have a great responsibility to ensure that current progress will leave a positive legacy for future generations. BPS data (2023) shows that youth make up approximately 23.18% of the total human population in Indonesia (Rizaty, 2024), making them a crucial group in the development process. Youth have enormous potential to play a significant role in environmental sustainability, such as managing waste and renewable energy, as well as supporting eco-friendly policies. They can also do this because they are dynamic, innovative, and tech-savvy. Furthermore, Indonesia's younger generation has the direct ability to incorporate Pancasila values into achieving the SDGs, particularly in terms of preserving the Earth's sustainability. As a generation more aware of environmental impacts, they are responsible for promoting more environmentally friendly lifestyles, such as the zero-waste movement, circular economy development, and the adoption of eco-friendly technologies. Additionally, the younger generation plays a significant role in raising public awareness about the importance of maintaining environmental sustainability through education and social campaigns, both at the local and national levels.

This aligns with SDGs 12 and 13, which focus on responsible consumption and production as well as efforts to address climate change.

More than just participating, young people have the potential to be creators in finding new ways to address the increasingly urgent environmental crisis. They can participate in the development of business and technology models that support sustainability, such as renewable energy, green transportation systems, or technological solutions for waste management. UNDP (United Nations Development Program) recognizes that young people have tremendous potential to change the world and supports governments, civil society actors, and youth-led networks to create supportive environments focused on inclusive governance, meaningful action, and a sustainable future ("Youth Empowerment," 2024). Therefore, to preserve the environment in Indonesia, it is important to align the role of youth with Pancasila values and commitment to the SDGs. By understanding the importance of sustainability and committing to sustainable development, Indonesia can continue to progress in achieving the SDGs while maintaining its environmental integrity. Because they are the main pillars of social change and

innovation, it is hoped that the younger generation will continue to lead the campaign to save the earth and ensure that the progress being made today does not jeopardize the future.

METHOD

This study was written using the literature review method. This data collection method was carried out by collecting, reviewing, and analyzing library materials or written sources related to the research topic. Therefore, this study has collected articles and journals related to its writing. Furthermore, the collected articles and journals will be evaluated and analyzed to reach conclusions about the issues discussed.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Understanding the Pancasila ideology is very important to support Indonesia's sustainable development. Pancasila education also teaches the importance of maintaining a balance between economic growth and environmental conservation. By studying Pancasila, people can understand the importance of developing an economy based on sustainable principles, which considers the long-term social, economic, and environmental impacts. Pancasila education can also help people understand the importance of maintaining sustainability in natural resource management. To achieve the goals of sustainable development, Pancasila education has become a highly relevant method. Pancasila education can be a strong foundation for Indonesian society in achieving sustainable development goals and building a sustainable future for future generations. Thru education that includes Pancasila values, society can understand the importance of maintaining sustainability in economic, social, cultural, and environmental aspects. They can also take wise and responsible action in facing the challenges of sustainable development in the future.

Therefore, Pancasila education can be used to increase public awareness and participation in sustainable development. Having a good understanding of Pancasila values allows society to prepare itself to play an active role in building a sustainable future for Indonesia. To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, society must actively participate and recognize the importance of Pancasila education (Aziz & Najicha, 2024).

Youth have a strategic role in building a green generation that prioritizes environmental sustainability. Besides being the nation's successors, the younger generation also acts as agents of change, possessing the ability to drive social and environmental transformation. Youth can make a significant contribution to efforts to protect the Earth and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through active participation in various sustainability programs. Community-Based Tourism (CBT) is one of the programs that allows youth to get involved in sustainability. CBT is a tourism approach that aims to empower local communities through sustainable tourism where youth can play an active role in managing local resources while considering environmental sustainability. CBT not only impacts the economy but also raises environmental awareness among the public (Alimi & Darwis, 2023).

Besides cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), teenagers are also crucial in adopting zero-waste behavior. The zero-waste movement, which aims to reduce the amount of waste generated and promote reuse and recycling of items, is gaining popularity among Indonesian teenagers. Young people participating in the zero-waste movement tend to inspire behavioral change in their environment through educational campaigns and daily actions. Creative youth with high social awareness can spread important messages about reducing plastic waste, using

environmentally friendly products, and increasing consumer awareness of sustainable lifestyles (Pratiwi, 2023).

Furthermore, the circular economy can be a long-term solution to the environmental problems the world currently faces, especially those related to excessive use of natural resources and waste, as this economic model focuses on reusing materials and products to reduce the amount of waste generated. In Indonesia, the circular economy movement pioneered by teenagers is starting to gain attention. Teenagers are involved in campaigns to promote sustainable consumption patterns, recycling initiatives, and eco-friendly innovations. Youth not only influence their communities but also their own consumption behavior, which has a broader impact on society (Oktarini et al., 2023).

Indonesian youth have proven their capacity as drivers of change by building a green generation that supports environmental sustainability and achieves the SDGs. Their involvement is not limited to individual actions but also drives systemic change that impacts various aspects of society's social and economic life. Indonesian youth have a role in creating a fairer and more sustainable future for all segments of society, as their contributions are not limited to environmental aspects but also include poverty alleviation and food security.

Synergy of Pancasila and SDGs in Overcoming the Climate Crisis in Indonesia

As the foundation of the Republic of Indonesia, Pancasila plays an important role in guiding the direction of national development, including achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The five principles of Pancasila reflect universal values that are aligned with the goals of the SDGs, which include just, sustainable, and inclusive development. Therefore, the integrity of Pancasila's values can be a strong foundation for achieving the SDGs in Indonesia.

Indonesia faces a serious threat of climate crisis due to global climate change, such as rising global temperatures, natural disasters, rising sea levels, significant decreases in rainfall, and environmental pollution (Ainurrohmah & Sudarti, 2022). This crisis demands real action that focuses not only on technological and economic aspects, but also on a strong moral and ethical foundation. This is where the synergy between Pancasila values and achieving the SDGs becomes important in addressing the climate crisis in Indonesia.

The first principle, "The Oneness of God," emphasizes the spiritual relationship between humans and the natural world created by God. This principle aligns with SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 15 (Life on Land), where protecting the environment is a moral and religious duty. The religious approach contained in the first principle can help raise awareness of the importance of maintaining ecosystem balance. Religious conviction can be a strong motivator for participating in environmental and sustainability activities. Religion is considered to have a significant impact on climate change due to the large number of adherents of certain religions. Religion generally refers to five Rs: Reference (scriptural reference), Respect (mutual respect), Restraint (control/limits), Redistribution (sharing), and Responsibility (accountability). In terms of environmental protection, religion plays a role in educating children, transforming daily life into a more environmentally friendly lifestyle, conducting environmental preaching, holding environmentally friendly holidays, providing a platform for discussing environmental issues, and so on (Mangunjaya, 2017).

The second principle of Pancasila is Just and Civilized Humanity, which highlights the importance of respecting and protecting human rights, as well as the existence of moral and ethical values that serve as the foundation for social life. This principle shows that humans are social beings who must live in justice and equality (Aziz & Najicha, 2024). The second

principle has profound implications in the context of climate change. This humanitarian value demands attention to human suffering caused by the impacts of climate change, such as droughts, floods, and increasing weather uncertainty leading to food insecurity. The principle of fair humanitarianism requires climate change mitigation and adaptation policies that consider justice for all people, especially the most vulnerable groups. This principle discusses the values of social justice and human rights. SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) align with these values. These values promote the fair distribution of resources and humane treatment of all people, especially the most vulnerable. A civilized humanitarian policy, with human rights at its core, is necessary to achieve the SDGs.

The third principle, "The Unity of Indonesia," emphasizes the importance of cross-sectoral and cross-regional cooperation in addressing the climate crisis. In this regard, SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) calls for various entities, including governments, communities, private businesses, and international organizations, to collaborate in addressing climate change. The climate crisis cannot be solved by just one organization or industry. To produce efficient and inclusive solutions, all stakeholders in Indonesia must work together well. The spirit of national unity contained in Pancasila can serve as a catalyst for enhancing domestic cooperation and building stronger partnerships worldwide. Additionally, the principle of unity is also crucial for overcoming the policy chaos that often occurs in environmental issues. Climate mitigation and adaptation policies can be more coordinated and efficient if there is unity and synergy across sectors. This also ensures that various government programs are aligned with local needs and potential across Indonesia.

The fourth principle, "Citizenship Guided by the Wisdom of Deliberation/Representation," provides the foundation for society to participate in decision-making processes that affect the environment. Pancasila Democracy supports a deliberative process involving all segments of society, including indigenous communities and marginalized groups, in addressing climate change in relation to SDG 16. This method ensures that climate policies are focused and meet local needs. One important aspect of the Pancasila democratic approach is the active participation of society, especially youth, in climate action. Climate policies are made more inclusive and sustainable because they involve the entire community. This can accelerate the achievement of SDG targets related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and increase public awareness of the importance of environmental protection.

The fifth principle, "Social Justice for All Indonesian People," proves that a state that prioritizes justice and welfare is when a nation is committed to realizing justice and welfare. Actions that reflect a person's social justice nature include a family-like and cooperative attitude and atmosphere, fairness, maintaining a balance between rights and obligations, and respect for the rights of others (Antari & Liska, 2020). This principle is also relevant in addressing the climate crisis, as it demands a fair distribution of limited natural resources. This concept of social justice supports the goals of SDG 13 (Climate Action), which emphasizes the importance of collective efforts in mitigating the impacts of climate change. Furthermore, efforts to reduce carbon emissions, conserve forests, and transition to renewable energy must be based on the values of social justice, where all segments of society participate fairly in protecting the environment.

Thus, the synergy between Pancasila values and the SDGs provides a strong moral foundation for addressing the climate crisis in Indonesia. This approach focuses not only on technical or economic aspects, but also on the principles of justice, humanity, and social responsibility.

The Role of Youth as Agents of Change in the Environmental Sustainability Movement Based on Pancasila

Values Civilization depends on youth. In the hands of youth lies the history of the world, and they determine the direction and future of the nation. Widodo says that youth are always linked to words; if the youth are good, the nation is good, and vice versa. Quoting from Widiatmaka's writing, he also states that religious characteristics, responsibility, discipline, independence, honesty, trustworthiness, caring for others, cooperation, self-confidence, creativity, perseverance, leadership, and nationalism are all attributes possessed by youth. With all these characteristics, adolescents are called agents of change, agents of social control, agents of civilization, and so on (Sahendra et al., 2023).

Collectively, every human being must face the environmental problems currently plaguing the world, including Indonesia. The role of youth as agents of change is becoming increasingly important within the broader framework of sustainable development. As the next generation, young people have an important role in creating beneficial changes that can preserve the Earth's sustainability. The role of youth can be seen as a manifestation of Pancasila values working together with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to maintain environmental sustainability.

Youth, as agents of change, have enormous potential to apply the principles of Pancasila in the environmental sustainability movement. Pancasila, the state ideology, provides moral and ethical guidelines for environmental conservation efforts. The spiritual basis provided by the first principle, "The Almighty God," is that as a way to show gratitude to the Creator, humans must preserve nature. In the second principle, "Just and Civilized Humanity," justice is crucial for overcoming the climate crisis. In their role as agents of change, young people have the capacity to support environmental rights, especially for vulnerable communities most impacted by climate change. In this context, youth participation aligns with the goals of SDG 10, known as Reducing Inequalities, which promotes addressing climate issues by prioritizing social justice for disadvantaged groups.

One of the most significant contributions of youth in terms of the SDGs is in technological innovation. Young people are more adaptable to technological advancements and can create solutions related to environmental sustainability, such as green technology, renewable energy, and environmentally friendly agricultural techniques. Many startup initiatives focused on green technology, such as solar energy utilization, biodegradable material production, and waste management technology, demonstrate that Indonesian youth have begun to take on this role. Initiatives like this not only support SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) but also reflect the implementation of the third principle of Pancasila, Indonesian Unity, which encourages all segments of society to unite in achieving sustainability goals.

Young people are not only doing new things in technology and environmental awareness campaigns; they are also serving as advocates and drivers of policy change. Young people play a crucial role in pushing for more environmentally friendly policies. Youth movements have successfully influenced the formation of progressive environmental policies in recent years in various countries, including Indonesia. The youth movement has influenced policies related to deforestation and carbon emission reduction. Regarding SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), youth have the opportunity to actively participate in strengthening environmental governance. They can also ensure that the policy-making process is inclusive and considers the aspirations of young people. The fourth principle, guided by the Wisdom of Deliberation and Representation, encourages young

generations to participate in public policy deliberation processes to ensure that sustainable development is carried out wisely and with a focus on Earth's sustainability. Various methods can be used by youth to monitor the government's policy implementation, such as employing the direct reform strategy previously used by the GIDKP (Gerakan Indonesia Diet Kantong Plastik) organization or the popular power strategy previously used by the BBPB (Bye Bye Plastic Bag) organization (Lestari et al., 2023).

Youth play a role as role models for sustainable behavior and innovators. Young people can promote more environmentally friendly lifestyles, such as reducing plastic, supporting the circular economy, and living low-carbon lifestyles. In line with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), the "Zero Waste" movement and the adoption of sustainable lifestyles are becoming increasingly popular among young people. This shows that they have the potential to be pioneers in changing consumption patterns toward more responsible practices. Various efforts have been made by young people to preserve the environment, such as building communities as a learning platform for young people to become more closely involved in environmental care. For example, a group of young people who organized a cleanup action after the Kebumen International Expo (KIE) 2023 event concluded. They received a lot of public attention, which led to the creation of their community called Trash Ranger Indonesia. This community also serves as a platform for all young people in Indonesia to learn about environmental issues happening in Indonesia (Sulkhanudin, 2023). This is one of many efforts made by young people to build a green generation capable of creating a healthy environment for all segments of society. In this regard, the fifth principle, Social Justice for All Indonesian People, emphasizes that everyone must have equal access to a healthy and clean environment. As the younger generation, they are responsible for ensuring that the sustainability movement not only focuses on the environment but also on creating social justice for all people, including future generations. Besides youth, the government must also play an important role in youth's role as agents of change; the government must actively socialize with youth and create regulations governing how they function so they have a strong foundation for saving the environment (Chandra, 2021).

CONCLUSION

Conclusion

To preserve environmental sustainability in Indonesia, there is a strong foundation: Pancasila, the role of youth, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). SDGs emphasize sustainable and inclusive development, and values such as justice, humanity, and common welfare align with Pancasila. This integration of national ideologies and global development frameworks provides a clear direction for achieving a balance between economic progress and environmental preservation amidst the increasingly urgent climate crisis and environmental degradation.

As agents of change, young people have a very important role in this effort. They have great potential to drive technological progress and environmental awareness campaigns. They can also influence sustainability policies and collective action. Youth can be at the forefront of creating environmentally friendly and sustainable solutions by harnessing their energy and innovation.

Suggestion

To realize a green generation that cares about the environment, it is important to continue supporting youth in various sustainability initiatives, strengthen Pancasila education

as a moral guide, and expand collaboration across various sectors to achieve the SDGs. Only thru this collaboration can Indonesia ensure that current progress does not sacrifice the future of generations to come, and that the earth we inhabit remains fertile.

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