

TRADITIONAL FOOD DIVERSIFICATION TRAINING BASED ON LOCAL BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES IN NGLANGGERAN GUNUNG KIDUL

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ABSTRACT

Nglanggeran has been becoming a partner village of Culture Region and Environment Research Center of Institute of Research and Community Services of Yogyakarta State University since 2012, with running of service activities for two years. Form and theme of activities during this period were determined based on public demand. Based on information and willingness of housewives group called "Paguyuban Purba Rasa" as target of this community service activities, in the third year (2014) we conducted a training of food product diversification with raw materials of biological resources which were widely available in Nglanggeran Village. Based on the survey result, the potential biological resources in this village were cocoa and cassava. This project was to support the increase of The Paguyuban Purba Rasa members income by product diversification as souvenirs of Nglanggeran which they could sell.

The activity was carried out by giving them the knowledge about which types of biological resources were abundant in Nglanggeran that were potential to produce special foods as high value foodmark of Nglanggeran. After that, we demonstrated how to make variety of foods with materials from local biological resources, and the participants followed to practice immediately. Various food products trained were cassava croquettes, caramelized cassava, cassava muffins, steamed cassava cake, cookies and cocoa syrup. The activities were carried out in 2 days, ie on 30-31 August 2014 at the Padukuhan House of Nglanggeran Village. On the first day, we delivered the knowledges, demonstrations, and hands-on by the groups of participants, while the 2nd day we filled with hands-on by own participants guided by the chairman of the association. The activity was attended by 28 participants and the local government.

The results of the questionnaire evaluation, out of ten people who filled customer satisfaction questionnaire, 30% replied that the project was very good appropriated with the needs of the community, 50% said good, and only 20% who answered enough, while the impressions and comments of all participants (100 %) were happy and grateful, and felt the benefits of the activity, and would try to diversify food products for selling. In addition, all participants also hoped that such activities could be continued in the future and there would be still an assistance for the participants. Thus, the evaluation results showed that this service activities were successful. The conclusion of the service activities were the participants could be; (1) selecting and utilizing local biological resources to produce the foodmark of Nglanggeran; (2) processing of local biological resources into a variety of food products ready for sale (product diversification); and (3) understanding the value of traditional culture in such products as the local characteristic culture of Nglanggeran.

Kata Kunci: *diversification of traditional food, local biological resources*