



Internalization of Environmental Values, Local Wisdom, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Issues

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Abstract

This study aims to explain the importance of internalizing environmental values based on local wisdom in supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These values not only encourage environmental awareness, but also play a role in creating a balance between economic, social, and environmental aspects of sustainable development. The approach used in this study is descriptive qualitative, combining the author's opinions and experiences and supported by relevant secondary sources, such as literature and previous research. The results of the study indicate that local wisdom, through traditional practices such as community-based forest management and organic farming, supports ecosystem preservation and community empowerment in sustainable decision-making. Internalizing environmental values helps communities become more aware of the impact of human activities on the environment and more active in mitigating climate change and conserving natural resources. Based on these findings, it is recommended that environmental education and development policies better integrate local wisdom, to create more inclusive and sustainable development. This is important to ensure that the achievement of the SDGs does not only focus on economic growth but also ecosystem sustainability and social welfare.

Keywords: Community Empowerment, Ecosystem Conservation, Environmental Education, Environmental Care Values, Local Wisdom, SDGs.

Introduction

Many studies have discussed the importance of environmental values and local wisdom, but empirical studies measuring the effectiveness of internalizing these values in formal or non-formal learning contexts are still limited. Research evaluating the real impact of local wisdom-based learning methods on changes in students' attitudes, behaviors, and skills in protecting the environment is still very much needed. Another gap is the lack of development of learning models that systematically integrate local wisdom with environmental education [1]. Many existing learning models tend to adopt a generic or universal approach, without considering the local context. Further research is needed to develop learning models that effectively combine local traditional values and contemporary environmental education materials.

Local wisdom is often passed down through social and cultural practices involving the community [2]. However, how to involve the community in the formal learning process in schools or universities is still understudied. Research that examines how local community participation in the educational process can enrich learning about environmental values is urgently needed, especially to bridge the gap between formal education and traditional wisdom. Most studies on local wisdom and environmental care are still focused on a particular region or culture. Comparative research between

regions, cultures, or countries that examines various local wisdom practices in preserving the environment, as well as how these practices can be internalized into different learning systems, is still minimal. This gap opens up opportunities for cross-cultural research that can provide a broader view of the variations and similarities in local wisdom-based approaches.

Studies on the internalization of environmental values and local wisdom have the potential to offer novelty as research, depending on the context, approach, and contribution to existing literature. This research can provide novelty if it focuses on a specific social or geographical context that has not been widely explored. For example, studies in Indigenous communities that have local wisdom practices related to environmental conservation that have not been studied in a modern context can open up new insights into how these traditional values can adapt to global challenges such as climate change [3],[4]. Approaches that integrate environmental values and local wisdom with modern technology or education can also create novelty, such as research that explores how digital media can support the spread of traditional environmental values to young people in urban areas. In addition, interdisciplinary research that combines ecology, anthropology, and education, or studies that focus on the impact of local wisdom on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) also offer new perspectives. For example, a study that links local wisdom to SDG goals such as sustainable production and consumption can provide innovative contextual solutions to global issues. The development of a model for internalizing environmental values based on community participation or environmental regeneration also has the potential to offer new theoretical models that have not been applied before. In addition, long-term studies that observe how the internalization of these values persists or changes over time, or comparative studies between communities with different local wisdom practices, can provide new insights that enrich the scientific literature in the field of sustainability and the environment. Thus, this research has strong potential for novelty if it focuses on areas that are not widely explored and produces findings that are innovative and relevant to the global challenges being faced.

The urgency of internalizing environmental values based on local wisdom is very important, especially in the context of increasingly pressing global environmental challenges such as climate change, ecosystem degradation, and natural resource crises [5]. Local wisdom contains time-tested knowledge and practices that are inherently sustainable because they are developed through long-term human interaction with the environment. Internalizing these values not only helps preserve local culture but also supports environmental conservation through a more contextual and community-based approach.

One of the main urgencies is that local wisdom is often more responsive to local environmental conditions than uniform global solutions. Values such as wise management of natural resources, utilization of local materials, and lifestyles that respect the balance of nature can be practical solutions to address environmental issues at the local level [6]. By internalizing these values, local communities can maintain more relevant and effective environmental management methods, while strengthening their ecological resilience to changes caused by human activities or natural disasters.

In addition, in the context of education and social transformation, the internalization of environmental values based on local wisdom supports the creation of stronger collective awareness and

action [7]. Younger generations can be taught to understand and appreciate the relationship between culture and environmental sustainability. This also encourages a deeper sense of ownership of the local environment, which is important in building long-term responsibility for preserving nature. Local wisdom-based approaches also often involve broader community participation, thus creating a collective movement for sustainable environmental protection.

Amidst the dynamics of globalization, many communities face pressure on their traditions and local wisdom, which are often displaced by modernization. Internalization of values based on local wisdom is also important to maintain cultural identity and preserve ecological heritage. This provides a balance between modernity and tradition, where innovations can be combined with old wisdom to produce more comprehensive environmental solutions [8]. Thus, internalization of environmental care values based on local wisdom is not only important for the sustainability of the ecosystem, but also for the sustainability of culture, society, and the welfare of future generations. The purpose of this study is to explain the urgency of internalizing environmental care values based on local wisdom, as well as to provide relevant and effective learning recommendations in integrating the theme into the context of education and the development of environmental awareness.

Materials and Methods

The method used in this study is a qualitative descriptive approach, which aims to explore a deep understanding of the internalization of environmental care values based on local wisdom. This approach allows the author to study the phenomenon holistically, with a focus on the interpretation of the qualitative data obtained. In several aspects of the discussion, this study also relies on the opinions and experiences of authors who have been involved in related fields, providing a more contextual and personal perspective on the issues discussed. These opinions and experiences are positioned as academic reflections that still pay attention to objectivity. In addition, the strengthening of the study is carried out through the use of secondary sources of information consisting of literature, scientific articles, research reports, and other relevant documents. These secondary sources serve to enrich and expand the analysis, as well as provide a stronger theoretical and empirical basis. Data from secondary sources are integrated to support the findings, provide justification, and enrich the arguments put forward in the discussion. With this approach, the study is not only based on subjective reflection but also gains legitimacy from trusted data sources, thus providing a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the issues studied.

Results and Discussions

A. Environmental Care Values

Environmental values are a key element in achieving various Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 13 (Addressing Climate Change), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), and SDG 15 (Life on Land). SDG 13 focuses on global efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change and adapt to these changes, such as rising global temperatures, rising sea levels, and extreme weather. Internalizing environmental values in this context is crucial, as it encourages individuals and communities to be more aware of their role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adopting environmentally friendly practices, and supporting

sustainable policies. For example, by instilling values such as energy conservation, use of renewable energy, and environmentally friendly consumption patterns, society can play an active role in reducing the impacts of climate change.

Meanwhile, SDG 14 focuses on the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources. The values of environmental care here play a role in increasing public awareness of the importance of protecting marine ecosystems from threats such as plastic pollution, overfishing, and damage to marine habitats [9]. Internalization of this value teaches the importance of maintaining the balance of marine ecosystems by reducing destructive activities and supporting marine conservation through programs such as beach cleanups, coral reef restoration, and limiting the use of single-use plastics. In this way, people become more aware and responsible in protecting the sea which is an irreplaceable source of life and biodiversity [10].

SDG 15 focuses on conserving terrestrial ecosystems, including forests, wetlands, mountains, and biodiversity. Internalizing environmental values related to SDG 15 teaches the importance of protecting forests from deforestation, land degradation, and damage to animal and plant habitats [11]. This includes awareness of the benefits of forests for humans, such as the function of forests in carbon absorption, providing clean water, and protecting biodiversity. By instilling these values, communities will be more motivated to protect forests, support conservation efforts, and engage in reforestation and sustainable land management [12].

Overall, the internalization of environmental care values encourages society to be more active and involved in climate change mitigation (reducing the impact) and adaptation (adjusting to the impact) efforts, as well as the preservation of marine and terrestrial ecosystems. These values provide a foundation for creating collective and individual awareness of the importance of maintaining natural resources, ecosystems, and the balance of nature sustainably. Without internalization of these values, efforts to achieve the SDGs goals related to the environment will be difficult to achieve, because the success of environmental efforts is highly dependent on changes in attitudes and behavior of the wider community.

B. Local wisdom

Local wisdom, which refers to practices and values that develop naturally within a community through years of experience, has strong relevance to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) [14]. This wisdom includes local knowledge about sustainable natural resource management, such as traditional farming systems, water management, and forest conservation. These practices align with several key SDGs, particularly SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Sustainable Consumption and Production), and SDG 15 (Ecosystems on Land). In SDG 11, local wisdom plays a critical role in creating more sustainable and resilient communities. For example, environmentally friendly traditional architectural practices or community-based water management often offer solutions that are more adaptive to local natural conditions than uniform modern approaches.

Local wisdom is also very relevant to SDG 12 which emphasizes sustainable consumption and production. Many traditional communities have developed organic farming systems based on tradition that focus on maintaining soil fertility, using natural materials, and reducing waste [15]. This is in line with minimizing environmental impacts and promoting environmentally friendly production [16].

In addition, local wisdom plays an important role in preserving biodiversity, which is closely linked to SDG 15. Community-based forest management, where local communities maintain forests and sustainably utilize their products, is a clear example of how local traditions can support nature conservation. In addition to preserving the physical environment, local wisdom also preserves cultural diversity and promotes the empowerment of local communities in sustainable decision-making, which has a direct impact on ecosystem sustainability.

C. General Relevance to SDGs

Internalization of environmental values and local wisdom plays an important role in supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a whole, especially related to sustainable development, environmental conservation, and improving the quality of life of the community. These values serve to instill a deeper awareness of the impact of human behavior on the earth, while also teaching the importance of maintaining a balance between economic, social, and environmental interests. This is very relevant because one of the main goals of the SDGs is to create sustainable development, where current human needs are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

In the context of sustainable development, environmental values and local wisdom help communities understand the importance of managing natural resources wisely and sustainably [17]. For example, traditional practices that encourage moderate use of resources, as well as agricultural methods that maintain soil fertility, can support the achievement of SDG 12 on sustainable consumption and production. In addition, these values also inspire small actions that have a big impact, such as recycling, water conservation, and tree planting, which support global efforts to mitigate climate change and conserve biodiversity [18].

In addition to environmental aspects, the internalization of these values also supports social balance. Local wisdom values often include the principles of togetherness and cooperation, which help strengthen social cohesion and inclusiveness in development. Thus, environmental values and local wisdom not only encourage environmentally friendly development practices but are also socially inclusive, ensuring that sustainable development can provide equitable benefits to all groups in society, as mandated by the SDGs.

Conclusion

Internalization of environmental values and local wisdom plays a crucial role in supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These values not only help maintain a balance between economic, social, and environmental aspects but also promote sustainable and inclusive actions. Local wisdom, rooted in traditional practices and knowledge passed down from

generation to generation, often provides practical and adaptive solutions for sustainable natural resource management. This is in line with the SDGs' goals related to ecosystem conservation, sustainable consumption, and the development of resilient cities. By internalizing these values, communities are expected to be more aware of the impact of their actions on the environment and more involved in nature conservation efforts. In addition, these values support the strengthening of social cohesion and inclusiveness in development, ensuring that the benefits of sustainable development can be felt by all groups in society. By integrating environmental values and local wisdom into various aspects of life, we can contribute significantly to the achievement of the SDGs, creating a more balanced, sustainable, and equitable world for current and future generations.

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