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## **EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND ECONOMIC CREATIVITY TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF HUMAN RESOURCES (SDI) FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN BALONG PONOROGO**

**Adib Khusnul Rois 1, Anip Dwi Saputro 2, Alip Sugianto 3  
Pandi Ahmad Maruf 4**

<sup>1</sup> University of Muhammadiyah Ponorogo

<sup>2</sup> University of Muhammadiyah Ponorogo

<sup>3</sup> University of Muhammadiyah Ponorogo

<sup>4</sup> University of Muhammadiyah Ponorogo

\*Corresponding author, e-mail: [adibkhusnul@umpo.ac.id](mailto:adibkhusnul@umpo.ac.id).

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### **Article History:**

Received: February, 2026

Revised: February, 2026

Accepted: February, 2026

**Keywords:** Economic creativity, human resources, community empowerment, rural development, entrepreneurship.

### **Abstract**

*This community service program aims to enhance economic creativity and human resource capacity in Karangpatihan Village, Balong District, Ponorogo Regency. The program addresses limited skills, knowledge, and access to markets by applying a participatory empowerment approach. Methods include field surveys, socialization, skills training, business mentoring, and continuous monitoring and evaluation. The results show that the community experienced improvements in entrepreneurial skills, product innovation, and digital marketing capabilities. In addition, human resource training strengthened self-confidence, teamwork, and financial literacy among participants. The program also contributed to the establishment of sustainable micro-enterprises and community business groups. Overall, this initiative successfully supports the development of an independent, productive, and competitive rural economy based on local potential.*

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## **Introduction**

Karangpatihan Village, Balong District, Ponorogo Regency, is one of the areas that has considerable potential for local resources, both from the agriculture, handicrafts, and community micro business sectors. (BP Statistics, 2020) However, this potential has not been fully utilized optimally due to limited knowledge, skills, and access to markets and technology. (Adiyanti, 2017) This condition has an impact on the low level of economic welfare of the village community. Therefore, empowerment efforts are needed through the Community Service (PKM) program which focuses on economic development based on local potential. This program is expected to be able to increase the capacity of the community in managing businesses, expand marketing opportunities, and encourage sustainable economic independence in Karangpatihan Village. (Al-Fairusy, 2020)

Educational assistance and economic creativity for the Disabled in Balong Ponorogo is a program that aims to improve the educational and economic abilities of the Disabled in Balong, Ponorogo. This program is designed to provide support and guidance

to people with disabilities in developing their abilities, increasing their confidence, and improving their quality of life. (Anugrawati, 2021) In the field of education, this program provides academic assistance, such as private tutoring and tutoring, to help people with disabilities improve their academic abilities. In addition, the program also provides extracurricular activities, such as sports, art, and music, to help people with disabilities develop their skills in non-academic fields. (Arfianto, 2014) In the field of economic creativity, this program provides training and mentoring to help people with disabilities develop their skills in the economic field, such as making handicrafts, managing small businesses, and improving their ability to market products. The program also provides access to economic resources, such as venture capital and markets, to help people with disabilities improve their economic skills. (Arum, 2021) Thus, this program can help people with disabilities improve their abilities, increase their confidence, and improve their quality of life. Educational assistance and economic creativity for the residents of the Disabled Balong Ponorogo also involves the active participation of the community and the local government. Communities and local governments can play a role in providing resources, such as venues, equipment, and funds, to support the program. (Danny, 1989) In addition, the community and the local government can also play a role in promoting this program and raising public awareness about the importance of education and economic creativity for people with disabilities. Thus, this program can have a wider and sustainable impact in improving the ability and quality of life of people with disabilities in Balong, Ponorogo

The development of human resource creativity is one of the important factors in improving community welfare, especially in rural areas. Karangpatihan Village, Balong District, Ponorogo Regency, has considerable human resource potential, but still faces various limitations in managing the creative economy and utilizing local potential optimally. (Hadiyanti, 2008) Therefore, the Student Creativity Program (PKM) in the field of Community Economic Development is present as an effort to encourage the increase in the capacity, skills, and creativity of the village community. Through this program, it is hoped that the community will be able to develop innovative ideas based on local potential so that they can create new business opportunities, increase income, and strengthen the village's economic independence in a sustainable manner. (Hasanah, 2017)

## **Method**

The method of implementing PKM activities in Karangpatihan Village, Balong District, Ponorogo Regency is carried out through a participatory approach and community empowerment. The stages of the activity began with a field survey and identification of the potential and economic problems of the local community. Furthermore, the program was socialized to residents and village stakeholders to build understanding and support for the activities. (Hendrik, 1996) The core program is carried out through business skills training, micro business management assistance, and

capacity building in product marketing, both conventionally and digitally. In addition, facilitation is also carried out to establish joint business groups to increase the economic independence of the community. The final stage in the form of monitoring and evaluation is carried out periodically to assess the effectiveness of the program and ensure the sustainability of the activities that have been carried out.

Table 1. Implementation Method

Yes	Method Stages	Main Activities	Purpose	Output
1	Problem Identification	Field surveys, community interviews, observation of village potential	Know economic conditions, local potential, and key issues	Data on village needs & potentials
2	Program Planning	Preparation of work programs, determination of partners, preparation of activity schedules	Designing programs that suit the needs of the community	Proposals & activity plans
3	Socialization	Counseling to the community related to the PKM program	Increase community understanding and participation	Citizen support & engagement
4	Skills Training	MSME training (handicrafts, culinary, agriculture, etc.)	Improving people's skills and productivity	The community has new skills
5	Business Assistance	Production guidance, business management, marketing	Helping the sustainability of community businesses	More developed and managed efforts
6	Application of Appropriate Technology	Introduction of simple tools/technologies for production	Improve product efficiency and quality	Faster & quality production
7	Monitoring & Evaluation	Periodic evaluation of program activities and results	Know the effectiveness of the program and improvements	Evaluation report
8	Publication & Dissemination	Documentation, publication of the results of activities	Disseminate program results	Articles/reports of publications
9	Program Sustainability	Formation of local business groups/partners	Maintain the sustainability of the program after the completion of the PKM	Independent business groups

## Result and Discussion

### 1) Educational Assistance for Persons with Disabilities in Balong Ponorogo Village

Educational assistance and economic creativity for the Disabled in Balong Ponorogo is a program that aims to improve the educational and economic abilities of the Disabled in Balong, Ponorogo. (This program is designed to provide support and guidance to people with disabilities in developing their abilities, increasing their

confidence, and improving their quality of life. (Mushlich, 2021) In the field of education, this program provides academic assistance, such as private tutoring and tutoring, to help people with disabilities improve their academic abilities. In addition, the program also provides extracurricular activities, such as sports, art, and music, to help people with disabilities develop their skills in non-academic fields. In the field of economic creativity, this program provides training and mentoring to help people with disabilities develop their skills in the economic field, such as making handicrafts, managing small businesses, and improving their ability to market products. (Purnomo, 2024)



Figure 1: Educational and economic counseling for mentally retarded residents of Balong

The program also provides access to economic resources, such as venture capital and markets, to help people with disabilities improve their economic skills. Thus, this program can help people with disabilities improve their abilities, increase their confidence, and improve their quality of life. (Samuji, 2025) Educational assistance and economic creativity for the residents of the Disabled Balong Ponorogo also involves the active participation of the community and the local government. Communities and local governments can play a role in providing resources, such as venues, equipment, and funds, to support the program. In addition, the community and the local government can also play a role in promoting this program and raising public awareness about the importance of education and economic creativity for people with disabilities. Thus, this program can have a wider and sustainable impact in improving the ability and quality of life of the disabled in Balong, Ponorogo. (Tabi'in, 2020)

## 2) Economic Creativity Assistance

Assistance for economic creativity and training of human resources in the community of Karangpatihan Village, Balong, is a strategic step in increasing the independence and welfare of residents. This activity is focused on developing local potential through skills training, product innovation, and strengthening the

entrepreneurial spirit. ( Andayani, 2021) The community is encouraged to be able to process existing resources into products of economic value, as well as be equipped with knowledge of business management, marketing, and the use of digital technology. In addition, human resource training aims to increase individual capacity in terms of confidence, leadership, and group cooperation. With sustainable assistance, it is hoped that the community will not only be able to create new business opportunities, but also build a competitive and sustainable village economic ecosystem. (Muyaningsih, 2014)

Table 2. Mentoring Programs Carried Out

Ye s	Program Areas	Types of Activities	Objectives	Implementatio n Time	Method	Expected Output
1	Economic Creativity	Handicraft training (bags, doormats, weaving)	Housewive s & youth	Monthly	Direct practice & mentoring	Craft products with selling value
2	Economic Creativity	Processing of agricultural products (chips, local processed foods)	Farmer groups and MSMEs	Once every 2 months	Workshop & demo	Market-ready processed products
3	Economic Creativity	Digital marketing & online marketing	MSME Actors	Stuttgart	Training & simulation	Increased online sales
4	Human Resources (Human Resources )	Basic skills training (sewing, cooking)	Teenagers & women	Monthly	Practice & mentoring	Self- employment skills
5	HR	Entrepreneurshi p training	General public	Stuttgart	Seminars & case studies	The emergence of new entrepreneur s
6	HR	Financial literacy education	MSMEs and families	Stuttgart	Education & discussion	Good financial management
7	Economic Creativity & HR	Formation of joint venture groups (KUBE)	Village community	Annual	Intensive assistance	Sustainable collective effort
8	HR	Soft skills training (communication, teamwork)	Village youth	Every 6 months	Interactive training	More productive HR
9	Economic Creativity	Product branding & packaging	MSMEs	Stuttgart	Workshop	More attractive & competitive products
10	HR	Program Monitoring & Evaluation	All participant s	Periodical	Observation s & reports	The program runs effectively

### 3) Human Resources Training in the Karangpatihan Balong Village Community

Human resource training for the community of Karangpatihan Balong Village is one of the strategic efforts to improve the quality of life and independence of villagers, especially in facing social and economic challenges that continue to develop. This training activity not only focuses on improving technical skills, but also emphasizes strengthening mentality, confidence, and entrepreneurial skills for the community. (Riyanto, 2024) By utilizing their local potential, such as handicrafts, agriculture, and micro businesses, this training is able to open up community insights to be more creative and innovative in managing existing resources. In addition, the approach used in training is usually participatory, so that the community is not only an object, but also an active subject in the learning process. This is important to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility for the results achieved. The existence of this human resource training also plays a role in reducing the unemployment rate and improving family welfare, because people are equipped with skills that can be directly applied in daily life. With support from various parties, both the government and social institutions, this training is expected to be able to create a more independent, productive, and competitive Karangpatihan Balong Village community, as well as an example for other villages in developing human resources based on local potential. (Magvira, 2023)



Figure 2. Entrepreneurship Workshop

### 4) Results of Economic Training and SDI Development in Karangpatihan Balong Village

Community economic development in Karangpatihan Village, Balong District, is a strategic effort that aims to improve the welfare of residents through strengthening local potential and empowering human resources. This activity is carried out with a participatory approach, where the community is actively involved in every stage, from planning to program implementation. The potential of villages such as handicrafts, agriculture, and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) is developed through skills training, business assistance, and access to capital and marketing. In addition, coaching also includes increasing financial literacy so that people are able to manage their income wisely and sustainably. The village government together with various related parties, such as non-governmental organizations and government agencies, work

together to create innovative programs that are able to open up new business opportunities and reduce the unemployment rate. With this economic development, it is hoped that the people of Karangpatihan Village will not only be able to be economically independent, but also have higher competitiveness, so that they can face the challenges of globalization and the development of the times more confidently and sustainably.



Figure 3. SDI Development in Karangpatihan Balong Village

## Conclusion

Human Resources Training for the people of Karangpatihan Balong Village can be concluded as a strategic effort to improve the quality of ability, independence, and community welfare. Through the various materials and practices provided, people not only acquire new knowledge, but also skills that can be directly applied in daily life, especially in the field of productive economy. In addition, this training also fosters confidence, the spirit of innovation, and awareness of the importance of developing self-potential. Thus, this activity is expected to be able to encourage the creation of a more independent, productive, and competitive society, as well as contribute to sustainable village development.

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