


INCREASING AWARENESS OF COASTAL AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT FOR TEENAGERS OF HUTUMURI VILLAGE

Novianty C Tuhumury^{*1}, Laura Siahainenia², Daniel G Louhenapessy³

Mahriyana Hulopi⁴, Sumiyanti⁵

^{1,2,3,4,5} Pattimura University, Maluku, Indonesia

*Corresponding Author: noviantytuhumury@gmail.com

<p>Info Article</p> <p>Received : 09 Juli 2025</p> <p>Revised : 13 Agustus 2025</p> <p>Accepted : 10 September 2025</p> <p>Publication : 30 September 2025</p>	<p>Abstract: <i>Awareness of the importance of preserving coastal and marine environments can be fostered through various channels. The objective of this community service program (CSP) is to cultivate environmental awareness among adolescents in Negeri Hutumuri, Ambon. The CSP activities were conducted on July 7, 2025, with 52 participants aged 10–15 years. The method used in this CSP is an interactive approach. Materials are presented using images and videos to capture attention and make them easy to remember. The videos shown feature teenagers who are caring and passionate about coastal and marine environments. As a result, participants will be motivated to think critically. Participants were divided into groups to demonstrate their concern and commitment through drawings and sentences on paper, which would later be presented. The participants were highly enthusiastic about participating in this CSP and expressed a desire to become environmental agents within their families and communities.</i></p> <p>Abstrak: Kesadaran untuk melestarikan lingkungan pesisir dan laut dapat ditumbuhkan melalui jalur. Tujuan pengabdian kepada masyarakat (PKM) ini adalah untuk menumbuhkan kesadaran peduli lingkungan pesisir dan laut bagi para anak remaja di Negeri Hutumuri, Ambon. Kegiatan PKM ini dilakukan pada tanggal 7 Juli 2025 dengan peserta anak remaja berusia 10-15 tahun sebanyak 52 orang. Metode yang digunakan dalam PKM ini yaitu metode interaktif. Penyajian materi dengan menggunakan gambar dan video untuk menarik perhatian serta mudah diingat. Video yang ditampilkan berupa aktivitas remaja yang peduli dan cinta lingkungan pesisir dan laut. Dengan demikian, para peserta tentunya akan terpacu serta termotivasi untuk berpikir kritis. Para peserta dibagi dalam kelompok untuk menunjukkan kepedulian serta komitmen mereka melalui gambar dan kalimat pada kertas yang nantinya akan dipresentasikan. Para peserta sangat antusias mengikuti kegiatan PKM ini dan berkeinginan untuk menjadi agen lingkungan baik dalam keluarga maupun masyarakat.</p>
<p>Keywords: <i>Coastal and Marine, Pollution, Teenagers, Hutumuri Village</i></p> <p>Kata Kunci: Pesisir dan Laut, Pencemaran, Anak Remaja, Negeri Hutumuri</p>	
<p><i>Licensed Under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License</i></p> 	

INTRODUCTION

Currently, environmental pollution is inevitable, both on land and in coastal and marine areas (Akbar & Pratiwi, 2023). Pollution is caused by various activities such as office work, education, healthcare, markets, fish processing industries, and other activities that produce both solid and liquid waste into coastal and marine environments. As is well known, there are important coastal ecosystems such as mangroves, seagrass beds, and coral reefs that provide significant benefits to humans both ecologically and economically (Lakshmi, 2021). Mangrove ecosystems on the coast have high biodiversity, and they also protect the land from waves (Awuku-Sowah et al., 2022). Coral reef ecosystems are a source of life for marine biota that have exotic appeal because they have beautiful and colorful corals and reef fish (Wagner et al., 2020). Nowadays, pollution occurring in coastal and marine environments is the result of human activity (Lazim et al., 2024). The higher the level of human activity, the greater the pressure on coastal and marine environments (Hamuna et al., 2018). Pollution has also occurred in the waters of Maluku, particularly in Ambon City on Ambon Island. Various data show that there has been a decline in coastal biological resources such as mangroves, seagrass, and coral reefs, which are important coastal ecosystems. Pollution is becoming increasingly apparent, one example being plastic waste in the waters of Ambon Bay due to direct waste disposal and waste flowing through rivers (Tuhumury et al., 2023).

The Maluku Provincial Government has made numerous efforts to prevent and address the decline of important coastal biodiversity on Ambon Island (Tuhumury et al., 2025). Restrictions on the use of single-use plastics when shopping in certain stores have been implemented effectively in accordance with regulations. However, public awareness remains low, as evidenced by the practice of disposing of waste into rivers during rain by residents living along riverbanks, which has become a common occurrence (Tuhumury & Kaliky, 2019). Visibly, coastal and marine environmental pressure is quite high in Negeri Hutumuri, as evidenced by the presence of waste in the area due to the concentrated location of residential areas along the coast. Coastal communities find it easier, and it has even become a habit, to dispose of household waste directly into coastal areas. One approach that can be taken to raise public awareness of coastal and marine environments is through education (Pradilia et al., 2024). Public awareness needs to be raised through both formal and informal education. In formal education, students are taught to protect and preserve the environment through messages displayed in strategic locations around the school, such as “Keep Clean” and “Do Not Litter.” However, formal

education is sometimes limited to theory and lacks practical application. Informal education, such as imparting knowledge about the environment during religious activities, is one way to foster concern for environmental damage. As is well known, the advancement of technology today has made teenagers indifferent to their surroundings because they are focused on the gadgets they use daily. One of the impacts of technological advancement is that teenagers have become less sensitive to their environment. Yet, the younger generation has great potential to become agents of change in protecting and preserving the environment (Askani et al., 2021).

Environmental careness is an attitude or action to protect, preserve, and improve the environment so that it remains sustainable and undamaged. (Tuhumury & Louhenapessy, 2023). Environmental awareness needs to be instilled as early as possible in children of school age, from kindergarten to high school. (Oktamarina, 2021). At that age, their memory is very strong, so it is hoped that these teenagers can become agents of environmental careness for their families and surrounding communities. The goal of this community service is to foster awareness of coastal and marine environmental issues among teenagers in Hutumuri Village, Ambon City.

METHOD

This community service activity was conducted on July 7, 2025, in Hutumuri Village, Leitimur Selatan Subdistrict, Ambon City, Maluku. The activity took place during the Creative Week for Teenager of the Protestant Church of Maluku, Ambon Timur Island Classis, Hutumuri Congregation. The target audience for this activity was church teenager aged 10–15 years. The stages of the community service activity include preparation and implementation. During the preparation stage, the CSP team coordinated with the Chairman of the Hutumuri Congregation Council regarding the implementation schedule and the number of CSP participants. The CSP implementation utilized an interactive method (Sumiyati, 2017) through the provision of material in the form of images and videos entitled “Coastal and Marine Environment Education of Zero Waste.” As a form of evaluation, at the end of the material delivery session, CSP participants expressed their care for the coastal and marine environment through drawings and sentences on the paper provided. Following this, participants were asked to explain the meaning behind their drawings and sentences. The CSP team also posed questions related to coastal and marine environments to assess the knowledge levels of the teenagers at the beginning and end of the material presentation, accompanied by prizes. The distribution

of prizes during this CSP activity served as a high form of appreciation for the teenagers who could answer the questions correctly.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The PKM activity was conducted for the teenager of the Protestant Church of Maluku, Hutumuri Congregation, in the Hutumuri Village, Leitimur Selatan Sub-district, Ambon City, on July 7, 2025. A total of 52 teenagers aged between 10 and 15 years old participated in the CSP activity (Figure 1). The CSP activity began with a prayer led by the teenager leader. Before the material was presented, the CSP team asked the participants about what they had observed and discovered in the coastal and marine areas. The participants mentioned various marine resources such as fish, shellfish, crabs, mangroves, coral reefs, and many others. However, the core of the question remained unanswered until one teenager responded that trash was also found along the coastline. This indicates that the participants were still unaware of the pollution occurring in coastal and marine areas.



Figure 1. Presentation of Material for Hutumuri Church Teenager

Next, participants were asked to express their feelings when viewing the images shown. Participants smiled and clapped their hands when they saw images of beautiful, clean beaches. However, when the slides showed trash covering mangrove roots, participants looked sad and even angry, and some even said words such as “dirty” and “filthy.” The purpose of this material is to cultivate sensitivity toward the environment,

even through expressions. The next material is an example of a community of young people who care about the environment, specifically from the province of Bali. The two young people, Melati Wijsen and Isabel Wijsen, are the founders of “Bye-Bye Plastic.” Their activities aim to stop the use of single-use plastic bags. Initially, this movement did not receive attention from the local government, but with persistence and commitment, change slowly began to take place. Mollucas Coastal Care (MCC) is one of the coastal and marine environmentalist communities in Ambon City. This non-governmental organization aims to educate the public to care the coastal and marine environment. The various activities carried out by this community include educating the public about the importance of protecting coastal and marine environments, beach cleanup campaigns involving the government, the public, and relevant stakeholders, as well as mangrove rehabilitation activities. Several examples of coastal and marine environmental communities were presented with the aim of inspiring teenagers to emulate the activities that have been carried out so that they can become environmental agents in society. This is also supported by the technological savvy of teenagers, who are able to access all of their idols' activities through digital social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram. In the final session, the CSP team encouraged the participants, as Christian teenagers, to protect the natural environment, particularly coastal and marine areas, as these are gifts from God that must be safeguarded. As the most noble creatures, we must take responsibility for not causing pollution in coastal and marine areas (Rantelangan, 2023).

After presenting the material, the CSP Team gave participants the opportunity to ask questions about the material presented. One of the questions that arose was what needs to be done to reduce plastic waste in coastal areas. The CSP Team answered that one example of reducing plastic waste is by bringing a tumbler. The CSP Team also explained that a waste bank needs to be established so that teenagers can also save waste. The CSP Team also asked questions to the participants, and those who could answer were given prizes.

Next, the CSP team divided the participants into groups of 2-3 people. Each group was given paper and colored pencils to draw or write sentences encouraging everyone to preserve coastal and marine areas (Figure 2). After that, each group presented their work. The results showed that some groups depicted nature in the mountains and coastal areas and wrote sentences such as: “Beware, trash is dangerous; People who litter are idiots.” There were even groups that wrote poems about a clean and comfortable environment,

such as: “Go to the market and meet a thug, then be helped by a friend; if the environment is clean and safe, life will be comfortable.” The responses from these teenagers indicate that they have a good understanding of the importance of preserving the environment, as they also live alongside coastal and marine areas. This also shows that they are ready to become environmental agents within their communities. As a conclusion, the CSP team invited all the teenage participants to take a group photo together (Figure 3).



Figure 2. Results of Group Presentations Protecting Coastal & Marine Environment



Figure 3. Photo of the CSP Team with the teenagers

CONCLUSION

The Hutumuri congregation's teenagers were very enthusiastic about participating in this CSP activity. The results of the group work, in the form of pictures and sentences presented, showed that the participants understood the material on coastal and marine environmental protection that was provided. In fact, the participants expressed a desire to become environmental agents both within their families and in the community.

REFERENCES

- Akbar, A., & Pratiwi, I. (2023). DAMPAK PENCEMARAN LINGKUNGAN DI WILAYAH PESISIR MAKASSAR AKIBAT LIMBAH MASYARAKAT. *Riset Sains Dan Teknologi Kelautan*, 6(1), 75–78. <https://doi.org/10.62012/sensistek.v6i1.24252>
- Askani, A., Fatmala, R. A., Saputra, D. D., Angglena, D., & Al Faris, S. A. (2021). MEMBANGUN KARAKTER PEMUDA PEDULI LINGKUNGAN DALAM PARIWISATA BERKELANJUTAN DI KOTA BENGKULU. *Jurnal Kewirausahaan & Bisnis*, 3(2), 193–196.
- Awuku-Sowah, E. M., Graham, N. A. J., & Watson, N. M. (2022). INVESTIGATING MANGROVE-HUMAN HEALTH RELATIONSHIPS: A REVIEW OF RECENTLY REPORTED PHYSIOLOGICAL BENEFITS. *Dialogues in Health*, 1(1), 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dialog.2022.100059>
- Hamuna, B., Tanjung, R. H. R., dkk (2018). KAJIAN KUALITAS AIR LAUT DAN INDEKS PENCEMARAN BERDASARKAN PARAMETER FISIKA-KIMIA DI PERAIRAN DISTRIK DEPAPRE, JAYA PURA. *Jurnal Ilmu Lingkungan*, 16(1), 35-43. <https://doi.org/10.14710/jil.16.135-43>
- Lakshmi, A. (2021). COASTAL ECOSYSTEM SERVICES & HUMAN WELLBEING. *Indian J Med Res*, 153(3), 382–387. <https://doi.org/10.4103/ijmr.IJMR>
- Lazim, A., Ayu Ningtias, D., Laksmi Kusuma Wardani, D., Yunita Program Studi, I. S., Publik Rembang, A. K., & Ilmu Sosial Dan, F. (2024). ANALISIS KEBIJAKAN PENCEMARAN LINGKUNGAN LAUT SEKITAR PESISIR PANTAI KABUPATEN REMBANG MENGGUNAKAN SOFTWARE EXPERT CHOICE. *Nova Idea*, 1(1), 19–29.
- Oktamarina, L. (2021). MENINGKATKAN KARAKTER PEDULI LINGKUNGAN SEJAK USIA DINI MELALUI KEGIATAN GREEN SCHOOL DI PAUD USWATUNN HASANAH PALEMBANG. *Jurnal Ilmiah Potensia*, 6(1),37-44.

- Pradilia, A. D., Sudirman, A. A., & Idris, W. (2024). Edukasi Lingkungan Pesisir: MENGASAH KEPEDULIAN GENERASI MUDA TERHADAP EKOSISTEM LAUT DI SMP NEGERI 1 GORONTALO. *MALLOMO: Journal of Community Service*, 5(1), 503–509. <https://doi.org/10.55678/malलोmo.v5i1.1707>
- Rantelangan, Y. (2023). AKTUALISASI PANDANGAN IMAN KRISTEN TENTANG PELESTARIAN ALAM. *Peradaban Journal of Religion and Society*, 2(2), 136–150.
- Sumiyati, E. (2017). PENGGUNAAN MODEL PEMBELAJARAN INTERAKTIF BERBASIS AKTIVITAS UNTUK MENINGKATKAN PRESTASI BELAJAR SISWA KELAS VI PADA PELAJARAN PKN SD NEGERI 09 KABAWETAN. *Jurnal PGSD*, 10(2), 66–72. <https://doi.org/10.33369/pgsd.10.2.66-72>
- Tuhumury, N. C., & Kaliky, I. (2019). IDENTIFIKASI SAMPAH PESISIR DI DESA RUMAH TIGA KOTA AMBON. *TRITON : Jurnal Manajemen Sumberdaya Perairan*, 15(1), 30–39. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.30598/TRITONvol15issue1page30-39>
- Tuhumury, N. C., & Louhenapessy, D. G. (2023). PENINGKATAN KESADARAN “CINTA BAHARI” BAGI ANAK DAN REMAJA GEREJA DI PULAU AMBON. *Community Development Journal*, 4(5), 10175–10182.
- Tuhumury, N. C., Sangadji, D. M. D., & Ummah, A. N. A. (2023). ANALISIS TIMBULAN SAMPAH DAN PEMANFAATAN SAMPAH ORGANIK BERBASIS ECO ENZYME PADA KAWASAN WISATA KULINER AIR SALOBAR, KOTA AMBON. *Jurnal Pengendalian Pencemaran Lingkungan (JPPL)*, 5(2), 142–149. <https://doi.org/10.35970/jppl.v5i2.2021>
- Tuhumury, N. C., Selanno, D. A. J., & Angwarmase, Y. (2025). RIVER MANAGEMENT BASED ON PHYSICAL CHEMICAL PARAMETERS OF WATER QUALITY IN WAI BATU GAJAH , AMBON CITY. *Jurnal Perikanan*, 15(2), 899–914.
- Wagner, D., Friedlander, A. M., Pyle, R. L., Brooks, C. M., Gjerde, K. M., & Wilhelm, T. ‘Aulani. (2020). CORAL REEFS OF THE HIGH SEAS: HIDDEN BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS IN NEED OF PROTECTION. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 7, 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2020.567428>