

Revitalization Village Digital Community Space (RKDD) and Establishment of Digital Corner to Realize a Bumi Harjo as a Smart Village

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Abstract: Bumi Harjo village is one of villages in Moilong sub-district, Banggai Regency, Central Celebes Province, which has been designated as one of the 1000 smart villages in Indonesia. The government's initiative in this regard was to establish a Village Digital Community Space (RKDD) in each smart village, include in Bumi Harjo. The village government had high hopes for the development of RKDD; however the RKDD did not develop effectively. Therefore, the community service team took steps to assist Bumi Harjo Village Government to realizing their expectations regarding the development of RKDD through of the Revitalization Village Digital Community Space (RKDD) and Establishment of Digital Corner to Realize a Bumi Harjo as a Smart Village. The method used in community service project was Participatory Action research (PAR), an empowerment-oriented approach that addresses to community needs and solves practical problems. The result of this project showed the establishment of a village website based on public services, the improvement of RKDD members' ability to manage village websiate and social media, and the creation of Digital Corner.

Keyword: Revitalization, Village Digital Community Space(RKDD), Digital Corner.

INTRODUCTION

Bumi Harjo Village is one of the villages in Moilong sub-district, Banggai Regency, Central Sulawesi Province, which is designated as one of the 1000 smart villages in Indonesia. This is in accordance with the Decree of the Head of the Development and Information Agency for Villages, Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration Number 55 of 2022, concerning the Determination of 1000 Village Smart Village Locations dated March 02, 2022 (KEMENTERIAN DESA & INDONESIA, 2022). This decision is in line with the Banggai district government program as one of the cities in Indonesia committed to Banggai Smart City. Smart villages are villages that are able to manage resources and assets to develop new opportunities both traditionally and through digital technology (Santoso et al., 2020). There are six important pillars that a village must have to creating a smart village, namely smart community, smart mobility, smart economy, smart government, smart living and smart environment. Smart community is the most important pillar that must be formed to be a smart village. In realizing smart villages, each village has different benchmarks, but basically villages are said to be smart if they are able to innovatively use information technology to achieve improvements in quality of life, efficiency and competitiveness in economic, social and environmental aspects. Therefore, village potential is needed, both physical potential and non-physical potential to realizing the smart village (Purwanto et al., 2023).

One of the government's initiatives in realizing smart villages is through the establishment of the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD). RKDD is a physical/virtual space designed to empower village communities in learning, discussing, and creating innovative solutions based on digital technology. The implementation of RKDD has started in various villages, including Bumi Harjo village, where the village government has established a meeting to form RKDD managers. The RKDD manager consists of 10 members, including the village head as the director, digital ambassadors, digital cadres, and representative members from various communities in the village. The purpose of establishing RKDD is to support the achievement of government goals related to smart villages in an optimal and sustainable manner. In addition, RKDD also aims to improve digital literacy, village development capacity through digital technology, access to information, the quality of village planning and development, public services, and support the achievement of the Village Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Pusdaing Kemendes PDTT, 2022).

Based on observations and interviews with the village head, it was revealed that the Bumi Harjo Village Government has implemented digital technology in various sectors, ranging from administration to public services such as education and health. It is clear that changes in the administration sector have begun to be structured and shifted to the digital realm, as well as the use of barcodes as digital attendance for employees in the village office. Not only that, the village government has taken concrete steps to install free wifi in all schools in Bumi Harjo village, as well as providing guest books and textbooks in digital form that can be accessed through QR codes.



Figure 1. Application of barcode method as digital attendance for village officials

Moreover, the village government hopes that in the future the community will no longer need to visit the village office to take care of letters such as ID cards or other documents. Everything will be made easier with online services that can be accessed by the community from their homes, which will then be entered on the village website and immediately followed up by the staff on duty. However, to realize this, the community needs to have an understanding of digital literacy. In Bumi Harjo village, only a small number of people have an understanding and skills related to the application of digital technology. However, with the establishment of the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD) and the selection of managers, it is expected to make a significant contribution to the village. As Xu stated, digital communities are the implementation of various technologies to integrate community member resources and build interactive services between government, society, and various organizations or communities (Xu, 2021). So the purpose of establishing a village digital community space is to guide the community to become more adaptive, deepens digital literacy, and improves their ability to utilize technology to access public services more effectively.

The Village Digital Community Room (RKDD) has been established by the village government since early 2023. Although it has been formed for a long time, the activities related to digital literacy that have been organized are still very minimal, and are not running as planned. The impact of this situation is that the village program related to public services that can be accessed from home is not running as planned. So that with this service, the RKDD of Bumi Harjo Village, which seems less than optimal in organizing activities, will be able to organize digital literacy activities, can be revitalized or reactivated. Revitalization is an effort made to preserve everything that has experienced a decline in quality, for example in physical, economic, and socio-cultural aspects. In addition to these aspects, related stakeholders also play an important role in sustainable revitalization (Musyawaroh et al., 2018). So that by carrying out revitalization, the RKDD which is the hope of the Village Government in helping to realize smart villages can develop optimally.

However, revitalizing the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD) is not enough. After the revitalization has developed to the point of optimal success as expected, space is needed to develop RKDD in a sustainable manner. This is in accordance with the RKDD Technical Guidelines which state that virtual and physical space is needed for the Village Digital Community Room .(Yunianto et al., 2023). Based on this, it is necessary to establish a Digital Corner. The establishment of this Digital Corner will be carried out by utilizing public spaces / village facilities in the form of meeting rooms that will be equipped with supporting facilities such as laptops.

With the Digital Corner, it is possible for RKDD members/managers to develop their literacy knowledge in a sustainable manner. The corner services provided aim to fulfill the needs of information sources for their targets, for example, the American Corner contains a special American collection, the French Corner contains a French collection and the Bank Indonesia Corner contains a collection of Bank Indonesia (Sari & Desriyeni, 2016). Similarly, the Digital Corner was formed to provide information to the public regarding digital-based village administration information and services. Moreover, the Digital Corner can also be a space for them to collaborate, coordinate with each other between community members, and facilitate them to plan innovative, creative, and sustainable digital literacy activities.

METHOD

This community service uses a community service method with a Participatory Action Research (PAR) approach. PAR is a community service approach that is oriented towards community empowerment, which includes meeting needs and solving practical problems, developing science and community religiosity, and the process of religious social change (Afandi, Agus; Laily, Nabiela; Wahyudi, Noor; Umam, 2022). In this service, members of the digital community and the village government become participants who fully participate in this activity. This is because the success of the implementation of a smart village is very dependent on the motivation of the village leader, active participation of the community, and the potential of village resources (Masrich et al., 2023). This service will be carried out for 8 months consisting of the following stages.

Socialization

The proposing team conducted program socialization to partners as an initial step in service activities. In this socialization activity, partners are given clear information regarding the COMMUNITY SERVICE that will be carried out, the objectives of the COMMUNITY SERVICE, the stages that will be carried out, and the schedule for implementing COMMUNITY SERVICE activities. The socialization provided aims to make partners understand the COMMUNITY SERVICE activities that will be carried out. So that partners are expected to be motivated to participate in every program that will be implemented. Thus, the COMMUNITY SERVICE objectives will be realized, namely the development of the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD) and the establishment of Digital Corner as an innovative, creative, and sustainable digital literacy space that supports the village's vision in realizing Bumi Harjo as a Smart Village.

Training and mentoring

Training and mentoring activities include the revitalization of the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD) and the establishment of Digitan Corner in Bumi Harjo village. The stages of the activities are as follows.

| and Establishment of Digital Corner | | | |
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| Revitalization of RKDD Establishment of Digital Corner | | | |
| 1 | Improve and develop the quantity and quality of training programs, workshops and workshops related to digital literacy both online and offline that are tailored to the needs of the village. | 1 | Provide assistance to RKDD in utilizing public space/village facilities in the form of a village hall meeting room as a Digital Corner, a gathering place for RKDD to plan innovative, creative, and sustainable digital literacy activities. |
| 2 | Provide direct assistance to RKDD by inviting and collaborating with digital literacy experts/ practitioners. | 2 | The Digital Corner was established in the village hall by utilizing one corner of the room without structural construction or renovation. All RKDD members were involved in the process of decorating, arranging, and designing the Digital Corner, as well as preparing things that support the Digital Corner to become a comfortable and representative place. |
| 3 | Community service team together with RKDD created a public service- based village website, and conducted training and mentoring on village website management and village- owned social media. | 3 | Provide training and assistance to RKDD members/managers in creating useful and interesting digital content. |
| 4 | Provide training on village website management | | |
| 5 | Provide training related to photography, videography, and content creation for the content needs of promoting village potential through village-owned social media. | | |

 Table 1. The Agenda of Village Digital Community Space (RKDD) and Establishment of Digital Corner

Application of technology

The application of technology in this service includes making a village website based on public services, as well as conducting training and mentoring on village website management and village-owned social media. It has a positive impact on society. Technology is very important to be implemented by the village because it easier to provide services to the community, obtain information, and make it easier for the community to obtain administrative services (Kusumawati, 2024).

Evaluation

The evaluation carried out in the aspect of revitalizing the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD) in Bumi Harjo village is evaluating the achievement targets that have been determined at the beginning of the activity whether they have been achieved or not, and identifying related causal factors that affect whether or not the targets are achieved. Then make a satisfaction survey related to the implementation of activities such as workshops and assistance from various parties, including the Village Government, the community, and the revitalization implementation team. Based on the survey results, the proposing team identified things that needed to be improved or adjusted to make the revitalization program a success. Furthermore, the evaluation of the Digital Corner establishment activities is carried out periodically to find out whether it is in accordance with the target or not. If it does not reach the target, so intense mentoring will be carried out to match expectation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the community service program "Revitalization of Village Digital Community Space and Establishment of Digital Corner to supoort Bumi Harjo as a Smart Village" illustrate comprehensive and far-reaching achievements in various aspects of village life. This program was designed with the main objective of utilizing technology to increase the digital capacity of the community and improve the efficiency of public services. By applying digital technology, we managed to create solutions that simplify administrative processes and enrich the digital skills of residents. Digital technology plays a very important role in the sustainability of a village because through digitalization, village accessibility will be more open, connected to the world, even without access restrictions (Manoby et al., 2021). This result shows the development of the Village Digital Community Space (RKDD) in realizing Bumi Harjo as a smart village with significant increases from <50% to 90%. Moreover, the establishment of the Digital Corner as a physical space for innovative, creative, and sustainable digital literacy, which is 90% implemented. In this implementation, there are several stages, including the following.

Socialization Activities



Figure 2. Socialization to RKDD partners

The first stage is socialization activities. This socialization activity aims to introduce the community service program to the village community and explain the benefits and objectives of each component that will be implemented. Through this socialization, the community was given an understanding of the importance of digital literacy, how the village website can facilitate the processing of letters and administrative services, and how the Digital Corner can function as a digital learning and collaboration center. Socialization was conducted through various media, including in-person meetings, distribution of information materials, and Q&A sessions, to ensure that all community members understand and support the implementation of this program.

Revitalization Village Digital Community Space (RKDD) Creation of Public Service-Based Village Website

The creation of a Public Service-Based Village Website is one of the main initiatives in this service program which aims to improve the efficiency of administrative services in Bumi Harjo Village. This website is designed to provide easy access to the community in taking care of various village administrative needs, such as applying for certificates, applying for licenses, and other public information services. With a public service-based website, the community no longer needs to come directly to the village office to process documents, but can do so online anytime and anywhere. Village websites play an important role in increasing transparency in village development by allowing people to easily access information about all development activities. In addition, innovation in public services is reflected through ease of access, where people can obtain administrative needs, such as processing letters, online through the village website without having to come directly to the village office (Nabilah & Fanida, 2022).

The website also serves as a transparent platform for the delivery of village information, including activity reports, budget information, and ongoing development programs. In addition, with its interactive features, the website allows citizens to provide feedback or ask questions directly through the available forum or messaging service. The creation of this website not only accelerates the administrative process, but also increases the accountability of the village government in providing better and more responsive public services to the needs of the community. This is in accordance with current developments, where all public services lead to digitalization, starting with goods services, services, and administrative services (Murdi, 2023). Thus, a public service-based village website helps the service process to be faster and more efficient (Anam et al., 2023).



Figure 3: Discussion on the establishment of a Public Service-Based Village Website

The process of creating this website involved a close collaboration between the service team, Bumi Harjo Village Government, and the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD), involving IT experts. The process began with the identification of public service needs that are most frequently accessed by residents, such as applying for certificates, business licenses, and other administrative services. Based on these needs, IT experts assisted the COMMUNITY SERVICE Team with the village government and RKDD to design a website structure that was easy to use, with a simple and informative interface. The village government plays an active role in providing the required data, including information related to services that will be available online, as well as standard operating procedures that must be applied in the platform.

Website management Training

This training is designed to equip village managers and members of the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD) with the necessary skills to manage, update, and optimize the use of the website as a public service tool. Thus, the website can function well as a digital platform that makes it easier for citizens to access various administrative services and important information from the village government



Figure 4: Discussion on the establishment of a Public Service-Based Village Website

The speaker of this training was Irfani Zuhrufillah, S.Kom. M.Kom. The training process began by providing a basic understanding of the function and structure of the website. The participants, consisting of village officials and RKDD members, were taught how to use the content management system implemented on the village website. This allows managers to easily update content, such as adding new announcements, updating service data, uploading documents, and publishing the latest news or information from the village. The training focused on technical and practical aspects so that participants could immediately apply the knowledge they gained.

In addition to basic content management skills, trainees were also taught about the importance of data security in website operations. The Community Service Team (COMMUNITY SERVICE) emphasized how to maintain the confidentiality of information of citizens who use digital services on the website. Some of the topics discussed in this training include password management, network security, and measures to prevent cyber-attacks such as hacking or data misuse. This is very important because the village website will contain residents' personal data that must be kept secure so that it is not misused.



Figure 5: Village Website Display

In addition to the technical aspects, the training also covered communication management through the website. Website managers are taught how to interact with citizens through forums or contact features available on the website. Good communication through the website can build community trust in the village government and encourage community participation in village activities. With the website, the community can ask questions, provide input, or report problems directly, and the website manager is expected to respond quickly and professionally.

The training also included an explanation on how to maintain the sustainability of the village website. Participants were taught how to plan regular updates, including routine content that needs to be updated such as service schedules, village event announcements, financial reports, and village development project information. The COMMUNITY SERVICE team encourages managers to collaborate with various parties, including the village government, RKDD, and local communities to ensure the website remains relevant and up-to-date.

After the training, participants were given the opportunity to practice directly under the guidance of the COMMUNITY SERVICE Team. This is done to ensure they have adequate technical skills and are ready to manage the website independently. The guidance also includes

simulations on how to handle technical issues that may arise, such as server maintenance, software updates, or handling complaints from website users.

Ultimately, the village website management training provides long-term benefits for the sustainability of the village's digital platform. With the skills possessed by village officials and RKDD, the village is able to keep these digital services running optimally and benefit the entire community. In addition, this training also encourages the creation of a more transparent, accountable and responsive public service system to the needs of citizens, which ultimately strengthens Bumi Harjo Village's position as a smart and leading village in the utilization of digital technology for public services. In addition, the Website-based Village Information System as a Village Government Platform can improve fast, accurate, efficient, and structured public services for the community (Buntoro et al., 2024).

Training on Photography, Videography and Content Creation as Media for Promoting village potentials

This activity is an important part of this service program, which aims to improve the ability of villagers to promote local potential through digital media. This training was delivered by Irfani Zuhrufillah, S.Kom. M.Kom as the resource person. This training is designed to equip participants, especially members of the Ruang Komunitas Digital Desa (RKDD), with creative skills that can help them document and promote tourism potential, culture, local products, and village activities through social media platforms and village websites.

This stage of the training began with an introduction to the basics of photography and videography. The participants were taught the basic techniques of taking pictures and videos, such as composition, lighting, point of view, and the use of camera devices or mobile phones. The aim was to enable them to produce high-quality photos and videos that would capture the attention of the audience and visually convey the village's story more effectively. In this training, participants also learn how to use simple yet optimal equipment, so that they can utilize existing devices without having to rely on expensive technology.



Figure 6: Photography, Videography and content creator training

After understanding the technical basics, the training continued with an introduction to the concept of creative content creation. The participants were invited to think creatively and innovatively in designing a narrative or storyline that illustrates the uniqueness of Bumi Harjo Village. They were taught how to create interesting, informative and relevant content, whether in the form of photos, videos or text. The focus of this training was to encourage participants to explore local potential, such as natural tourist destinations, local MSME products, traditional culture, and social activities that can be promoted through digital content.

The training also teaches basic editing techniques for both photos and videos, using easily accessible software or apps. Participants learned how to make simple edits, such as adjusting colors, cropping videos, adding music, or inserting relevant text, so that the final result looks more professional and attractive. With these skills, participants are expected to create content that can compete in the digital world and social media, so that the promotion of village potential becomes more effective and targeted.

In addition to the technical aspects, the training also covered content management on social media and websites. The participants were taught strategies to build a consistent digital presence, such as how to schedule posts, use the right hash tags, and utilize social media analytics to understand audience interests and responses. Thus, village promotions can be carried out in a sustainable and more measurable manner, in accordance with the target audience to be achieved. This is because social media is an important tool that can be used to accelerate access to information to the wider community (Liedfray et al., 2022). Thus, in developing villages, community participation is needed by utilizing social media to promote village potential (Korompot et al., 2019).

Not only limited to the visual promotion aspect, the training also encouraged participants to become content creators who are able to present an interesting narrative about the potential and development of the village. They were trained to write stories, create vlogs, or produce short documentary videos that can be shared through the village's social media, such as Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, or other platforms. By becoming content creators, participants are expected to act as digital ambassadors who introduce Bumi Harjo Village to a wider audience, both at the local and national levels.

The success of this training is measured by the participants' ability to produce and publish digital content that effectively promotes village potential. Through collaboration with the Village Government and RKDD, participants' work can be published on the village website and official village social media accounts. Thus, the village can utilize digital platforms as a broader, cheaper, and faster means of promotion, to increase tourist attractiveness, introduce local products, and strengthen the image of Bumi Harjo Village as a smart and innovative village.

The training not only improved the technical skills of the participants, but also had a positive impact on community empowerment. With their new skills, participants can play an active role in developing and promoting village potential, which in turn can increase community income through tourism, local products, and other economic activities.

Digital Corner Establishment

This activity aims to provide a special space in the village as a center for digital literacy and technology activities. Digital Corner was established as a place for the community to learn, innovate, and develop skills in the digital field, as well as support Bumi Harjo Village in realizing the Smart Village concept.

The process of establishing the Digital Corner began with joint planning and discussion between the community service Team, the Village Government, and the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD). They worked together to determine a strategic location in the village to establish the Digital Corner. After various considerations, the village hall was chosen as the ideal location, utilizing one corner of the existing room without the need for major renovations. The community service team together with the village government then designed the layout and decoration of the Digital Corner to make it look attractive and functional. The decoration involved all RKDD members, who also provided input on the needs of the digital devices required.



Figure 7: Collaboration between Team of COMMUNITY SERVICE and RKKD members in creating Digital Corner

After the location is ready, the Digital Corner is equipped with internet access facilities and one laptop. This facility allows villagers to access the internet, learn information technology, and develop their digital skills. In addition, the Digital Corner is also designed as a place to conduct various trainings related to digital literacy, such as village website management, content creator training, and activities related to promoting village potential through digital media.



Figure 7: Launching of Digital Corner

Digital Corner is expected to become a center for innovative, creative, and sustainable digital activities. Here, villagers, especially the younger generation, can learn and collaborate in developing new ideas to advance the village through technology. In addition, the Digital Corner is also a meeting place for RKDD members to plan various digital activities and innovate in utilizing technology for the welfare of the community. With the Digital Corner, Bumi Harjo Village is steadily moving towards digital transformation that supports the sustainability of village development and improves the quality of life of the community.

Application of Technology

The application of technology in the community service program "Revitalizing Village Digital Community Space and Establishing Digital Corner in realizing Bumi Harjo as a Smart Village" plays an important role in supporting digital transformation in the village. The applied technology includes two main aspects, namely the creation of a public service-based village website and the establishment of a Digital Corner as a center for digital literacy and activities.

First, technology in the form of village websites allows villagers to access public services more quickly and efficiently. This website becomes an important platform for managing village administration, such as the creation of correspondence, population information, announcements, and other village programs. With the application of this technology, administrative processes that were previously manual become simpler and can be done online, thus accelerating and facilitating access to services for the community.

Secondly, the application of technology is also realized through the provision of laptops, internet access, and digital training at the Digital Corner. With this facility, the community, especially the younger generation, can utilize technology to develop digital skills, such as content management, photography, videography, and digital promotion. The Digital Corner also serves as a place for training and empowering the community in using information technology to promote village potential through social media and village websites.

Overall, the application of this technology not only supports digital innovation in the village, but also empowers the community to be more independent in utilizing technology to improve their quality of life and welfare.

Evaluation and Sustainability Program

The evaluation shows that RKDD serves as a key partner to the Village Government in realizing the village's vision as a digital village. RKDD has improved the ability of its members to manage the village website and utilize technology for public services, contributing to the

transparency and efficiency of village administration. In addition, the Digital Corner serves as an important asset that supports the village's quality of life and economic progress by providing technology facilities and digital skills training for the community. To ensure the sustainability of the program, several strategic steps have been planned. First, RKDD will continue to serve as a key partner in the digital development of the village, ensuring that the technology applied remains relevant and effective in meeting the needs of the community. Second, the Digital Corner will become a sustainable center of innovative activities and training, contributing to the improvement of the village's quality of life and economy. Third, Tridarma Perguruan Tinggi/The Three Pillars of Higher Education activities, including education, research, and community service, will continue to be conducted through collaboration between lecturers and students with RKDD and Digital Corner. Internal college funding will support the implementation of these activities, ensuring that academic engagement continues to contribute to village development. Fourth, the program will continue to collaborate with the Banggai District Government and other parties that have community empowerment programs, especially those related to digital literacy. This collaboration aims to expand the reach of the program and leverage additional available resources and support to support the sustainability and further development of digital initiatives in Bumi Harjo Village. With these steps, it is expected that the program will provide long-term benefits, strengthen digital transformation in the village, and improve community welfare in a sustainable manner.

Discussion

This service activity aims to improve digital literacy and empower the community through technology. The results of this service showed significant progress in two main aspects: the revitalization of the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD) and the establishment of a Digital Corner.

The revitalization of RKDD has resulted in a public service-based village website that makes it easier for the community to access information and administrative services. This process involved website management training for RKDD members, who now have the ability to manage and update content independently. This is a significant improvement compared to the results of the previous service, where access to information was still limited and not well organized. In the previous service, the community could only rely on verbal announcements or static information boards, which were often inefficient and not up- to-date.

Meanwhile, the establishment of Digital Corner creates an interactive space supported by technological devices, such as computers and internet access. This space serves as a center for training activities that teach digital skills, including photography, videography and content creation for social media. The Digital Corner makes digital literacy activities more structured and focused, supporting community efforts to promote village potential. This is in contrast to previous programs that were more one-way, where trainings lacked specific facilities and were often less engaging for participants.

The results of this service are similar to the results of research conducted by (Riko & Marcus, 2023) which showed positive results from the creation of a village website that facilitates access to information about health services, education, and social activities. Moreover, this public service-based website is designed with high responsiveness, so it is easy to access using various devices, including laptops, computers and smartphones (Ichsan et al., 2023).

Overall, this service not only resulted in technological innovations, but also created a sustainable learning culture in Bumi Harjo Village. With the village website and Digital Corner in place, the community now has better access to public services and opportunities to develop relevant digital skills, which in turn can improve the village's quality of life and economic progress. Comparisons with service outcomes elsewhere show that similar approaches can be applied in a variety of contexts, providing inspiration to expand the impact of future service.

CONCLUSION

The community service program "Revitalizing the Village Digital Community Room and Establishing Digital Corner to support Bumi Harjo as a Smart Village" was successful in improving digital literacy and empowering the community through technology. The revitalization of the Village Digital Community Room (RKDD) and the establishment of the Digital Corner have created an innovative and sustainable space for learning and collaboration. Trainings in website management, photography, videography, and creative content creation have increased the community's capacity to utilize technology. One of the significant benefits of creating a village website is the ease with which people can apply for letters and administrative services online, which saves time and reduces the need to visit the village office in person. The program also reinforces Bumi Harjo Village's identity as a digitally connected Smart Village.

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