

# Voices of Community

What's happening in East Java and NTB?

UNICEF Surabaya Newsletter

is prepared monthly in order to share views / concerns of beneficiaries with partners and to develop common understanding of how UNICEF-assisted projects bring about positive changes in day to day life of community.

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## "CDF generated the implementation of AJEL"

Mainstreaming Good Practices in Basic Education (MGP-BE) Programme has begun to show its results. After trainings for trainers, school supervisors, school principals, teachers and members of school committee were conducted, the programme has been continued by providing support for school level implementation. Supports provided for its implementation are including Capacity Development Fund (CDF) and supporting meeting at cluster or sub-rayon level.



MI NW Puyung

VoC reporter, Mr. Priyono visited Madrasah Ibtidaiyah (MI) Nahdlatul Wathan (NW) at Puyung, Jonggat sub-district, Lombok Tengah District. This is a private school that was founded in 1959. It is located on the main road between Mataram, the capital city of NTB Province and Praya, the capital city of Lombok Tengah District. Geographically, this school is located in a strategic location, however, it did not yet become a "favorite" school. It did not become the first choice for children to enroll school.

The small number of students and enough number of teachers have given a chance to manage learning process efficiently. The current number of students is 85 children consists of 44 boys and 41 girls. Number of teachers is 8 persons consists of 1 male and 7 females. All teachers were trained on school management and AJEL (active, joyful and effective learning).

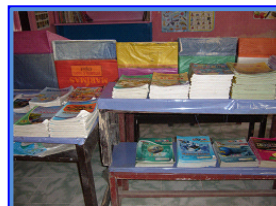
After joining the second training, significant changes can be seen in this school. Observation on the spot, revealed that teachers have been successful in building rapport with the children and making them feel comfortable in following learning process in and out of the classroom. Students often ask question and feel more relax with teachers. As a result learning motivation has increased.

The School Principal, Ms. Amanah explained the changes that she found: *"One day, when there was vacant school hour, students of Grade-4 came to my room and asked me to teach them. It means that they don't want to stay at the classroom for doing nothing. On the other day, a teacher reported that her students asked for extra learning hours in the afternoon. All of these indicated that learning motivation is growing better. This is a result of favorable learning atmosphere built by teachers and students"*.

Capacity Development Fund (CDF) has triggered the changes. In terms of managerial aspect, CDF that was transferred directly to the school's bank account has empowered school to develop its own plan and create transparency. CDF has been used to support the implementation of AJEL. In MI NW Puyung, CDF has been used to procure reading materials that have been placed in reading corner of each classroom. It has also been used to develop classroom display,

supplementary reading and "wall magazine". In this magazine, creativity of students to express their ideas, opinions and critics have been displayed. Those can be written in either of these following forms such as poetry, letter and articles or drawn a poster.

Those new facilities have been used optimally by students. Reading corner has made students to read more. It can be seen in the student attendance record of each reading corner. Student also learn how to run reading corner since it is managed by students themselves. Each student who borrows a book -- either read it in the classroom or at home -- should fill in the attendance record. Teachers in fact, are not bothered by the reading corner. They only supervised and ensured that reading corner done in the right way. Ms. Baiq Arfini, Teacher of Grade-5 said: *"By doing so, the children become more independent, build their sense of belonging, and learn to be responsible for their own business."* Ms. Masnawati, Teacher of Grade-2 added: *"MGPBE training and CDF support have changed school atmosphere. There are more learning materials developed by teachers and improving classroom management. Teachers become more creative"*. While Adrian, boy, student of Grade-5 commneted about reading corner as follows: *"I like it because I learn ton how to manage books, choose books to be read, know more issues, and be more responsible"*.



A reading corner

The wall magazine or "*majalah dinding*" has been developed and managed by students at Grade-5 and 6. However, students at lower grades are encouraged to contribute. The magazine is placed on the wall outside the classroom. All students, teachers, community and parents can have an access to read it. This media is a part of early development of basic skills - writing and reading - and to reduce the fear of writing as some people thought it is a difficult thing to do. It also becomes an arena for expressing children's views. Elda Mashuri, student of Grade-6, girl, said: *"I like majalah dinding because I can post my school work. I am proud that other students can read it"*

MGP-BE has improved school management, learning process and community participation in MI NW Pujut. Significant progress has been made. At school level, trained teachers have been supported by CDF to implement AJEL ...\*\*\*\*\*



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