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Planting Medicinal Plants at RPTRA Amanah through TP PKK' Empowerment

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A B S T R A C T

Medicinal plants are plants that can be a source of natural medicines used to prevent and treat various minor illnesses. Medicinal plants can be grown in the yards of residential homes or in public open spaces like RPTRA, which has benefits for preventing and treating minor illnesses, in addition to making RPTRA more lush, green, and beautiful, thus combining health and esthetic benefits. The method involves sharing a Google form to gage residents' interest in planting medicinal plants, conducting a survey at RPTRA locations without medicinal plants (specifically RPTRA Amanah in North Jakarta), and coordinating to implement the planting of medicinal plants at RPTRA Amanah in North Jakarta thru the empowerment of TP PKK. The expected outcome is that RPTRA Amanah in North Jakarta will become more lush, green, and esthetically pleasing.

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INTRODUCTION

The DKI Jakarta Province has facilitated its citizens by building Child-Friendly Integrated Public Spaces (RPTRA) as places to learn, play, recreate, and interact within residential areas. Public open spaces are a vital element in an urban area because they are located in high-activity areas and serve three types of functions: ecological functions to improve the quality of the urban environment, aesthetic/architectural functions to create urban environmental beauty, and social functions as a place for community social interaction within a city (1). The concept of RPTRA development itself is a park equipped with facilities to support community activities, a public library, and also encourages all RPTRA managers to plant medicinal plants that can be grown and benefit the surrounding community (2). Family Medicinal Plants (TOGA) are herbal plants grown at home that are effective in treating and used in efforts to improve health, including prevention, promotion, and treatment (3). It is important to plant TOGA in RPTRA so that family health independence can be increased by providing natural medicine for the prevention and treatment of minor illnesses, in addition to making RPTRA more beautiful, green, and esthetically pleasing, thus combining health and esthetic benefits (4). RPTRA is also expected to have facilities that accommodate the functions desired by the government, such as environmental and food security functions, which can be achieved thru the presence of a TOGA garden (5).

RPTRA also needs to have esthetics to create public spaces that are comfortable, safe, and attractive for children and residents as a whole, contributing to optimal physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development. An esthetically pleasing environment also encourages social interaction, fosters a sense of care for the environment, and supports optimal learning and recreational activities (6).

To achieve esthetics, which are the elements of visual beauty, it can be obtained thru lines, shapes, colors, and textures. Therefore, every design work must meet the criteria for compositional elements, which consist of (7):

1. Lines - actual or implied marks, paths, masses, or edges, where length is the dominant feature, such as plant borders, circulation, guide plants, and so on.
2. Form - mass form, is an element with many variations, including circular, spherical, pyramidal, hexagonal, and other shapes.
3. Texture – the structure and surface condition of a material (rough, smooth)
4. Impression - the degree of lightness or darkness of a particular color
5. Color – determines the psychology of the designed space

The planning and creation of medicinal plant gardens must be based on the principles of landscape design, namely: Arrangement (order), unity, dominance, major contrast, repetition, rhythm, interconnection, and balance (8).

The data on the number of RPTRA in DKI Jakarta Province in 2023 is 324 RPTRA. (https://pkk.jakarta.go.id/). Some of these RPTRA do not yet have medicinal plants, one of which is RPTRA Amanah in North Jakarta. Before conducting this activity, the lecturer and students shared a Google form with the residents around RPTRA Amanah to gage their interest in planting at RPTRA. The results are that out of 18 respondents, 55.6% (10 respondents) are very interested in growing medicinal plants, 38.9% (7 respondents) are interested in growing medicinal plants, and 5.6% (1 respondent) are not interested in growing medicinal plants.

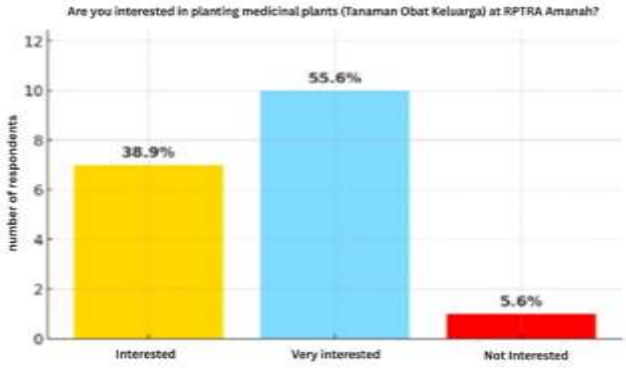

Figure 1. Diagram of Gform Results Regarding Interest in Growing Medicinal Plants

The respondent data is as follows:

Table 1. Respondent Data

No	Name	How frequently do you go to RPTRA Amanah?	Are you interested in planting medicinal plants (Tanaman Obat Keluarga) at RPTRA Amanah?
1	Esih sukaesih	Often	Interested
2	Renny Kurnia Rianty	Often	Very interested
3	Saidah	Very often	Very interested
4	Ricko	Very often	Not interested
5	Rahma Yanti	Very often	Very interested
6	Muliyanah	Very often	Very interested
7	Sri Purwanti	Often	Interested

8	Nurjanah	Often	Interested
9	Weni Suprihatin	Very often	Very interested
10	LILIE SULIYAH	Very often	Very interested
11	Martamia Purwati	Very often	Very interested
12	Upe	Very often	Yes, very interested
13	Rara	Often	Interested
14	Taufik Hidayat	Very often	Interested
15	Abdul Khafid	Very often	Interested
16	Ayu Soraya	Often	Interested
17	Martamia Purwati	Very often	Very interested
18	Martamia Purwati	Very often	Very interested

Source : Data Processing, 2025

Based on the survey results above, the lecturers and students of the Architecture Study Program at UKI Faculty of Engineering are realizing their RPTRA to have esthetically pleasing medicinal plants in an activity titled "Green Action 38: Implementation of Planting Medicinal Plants at RPTRA Amanah, North Jakarta thru PKK Mother Empowerment," because the level of interest in planting medicinal plants is quite high.

The Child-Friendly Integrated Public Space (RPTRA) Amanah at the Jakarta Islamic Center complex in Tugu Utara Village, North Jakarta, is visited by hundreds of residents every day. RPTRA Amanah was inaugurated in February 2017 and is equipped with several facilities such as children's play areas, sports facilities, and a library, and is open from 06:00 WIB to 22:00 WIB.

Figure 2. Current Condition of RPTRA

One location identified as lacking medicinal plants is RPTRA Amanah, located in the Jakarta Islamic Center complex, Tugu Utara Village, North Jakarta. RPTRA Amanah itself was inaugurated in February 2017 and is equipped with children's play facilities, sports areas, and a library, visited by hundreds of residents every day.

To strengthen the identification of this problem, the implementing team has conducted a rapid survey of the community around RPTRA Amanah. The results of the questionnaire administered to 10 respondents show that:

a. Visit Frequency: The majority of respondents (80% or 8 people) stated that they frequently visit RPTRA Amanah (1-4 times a week), confirming that this RPTRA is actively used as a center for social interaction.
b. TOGA Awareness: Almost all respondents (90% or 9 people) know about or have heard of Family Medicinal Plants (TOGA).
c. Availability and Need: All respondents (100% or 10 people) stated that RPTRA Amanah currently does not have TOGA plants. Furthermore, 100% of respondents agreed and were interested if RPTRA Amanah had TOGA plants.
d. Processing Interest: In fact, 70% of respondents (7 people) expressed interest in learning how to process TOGA plants into natural remedies.

The location is planned on the following land with an area of approximately 200 m2.

Figure 3. Planting Location

Here is the starting point for planting medicinal plants:

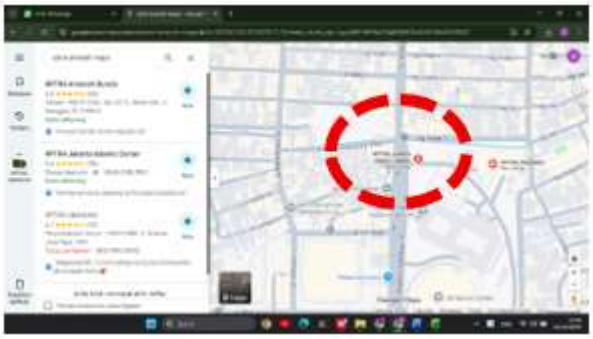

Figure 4. Starting Point of the Toga Planting Location by Google Maps

Before planting medicinal plants, lecturers and students from the UKI Architecture Study Program will provide socialization/counseling related to educating how to make and use medicinal plants and how to care for the plants for a successful harvest.

It is planned that after socialization/counseling is provided, several plants, fertilizers, and planting media will be given, with the following types:

1. Ginger plants/seedlings (10 pieces).
2. Turmeric plants/seedlings (10 pieces).
3. Saga leaf plants/seedlings (10 pieces).
4. Lemongrass plants/seedlings (10 pieces).
5. Kencur plants/seedlings (10 pieces).
6. Cat's whiskers plants/seedlings (10 pieces).
7. Planting medium + red soil (10 pieces).
8. NPK fertilizer as needed.

Figure 5. Medicinal Plantsto be Planted

IMPLEMENTATION AND METHODS

The implementation method for the Community Service Program (PKM) of the Architecture Study Program, Faculty of Engineering, Indonesian Christian University, titled "Green Action 38: Implementation of Medicinal Plant Cultivation at RPTRA Amanah, North Jakarta," is as follows:

1. Distributing the gform to residents around RPTRA Amanah regarding their interest in growing medicinal plants.
2. Holding a coordination meeting for the PKM team, including students, to discuss matters or preparations for coordinating with the Village Head, RPTRA Management, and PKK mothers.
3. Holding a coordination meeting with the Village Head, RPTRA Management, and PKK mothers and their staff.
4. Conducting a survey of where medicinal plants will be planted at the Amanah RPTRA in North Jakarta and taking documentation. The location is planned on the following land with an area of approximately 200 m2.
5. Conducting socialization/educational outreach on how to make and use medicinal plants and how to care for plants for a successful harvest.
6. Preparing medicinal plants/seedlings, planting medium fertilizer, and other necessary items for the project titled "Green Action 38: Implementation of Medicinal Plant Planting at RPTRA Amanah, North Jakarta." As for the plants/seedlings to be prepared, they are ginger, turmeric, sage leaves, lemongrass, cat's whiskers, and galangal.
7. Creating a maintenance schedule such as watering plants and applying fertilizer to ensure a successful harvest when young (4-5 months) or when mature (8-12 months).

The proposed maintenance schedule is as follows:

Table 2. Maintenance Schedule Plan

No.	type of activity	Days	Description	Time
1	Watering the plants	Everyday	PIC: RPTRA Manager or designated resident or PKK Pokja/Poktan 3 Mother	For 4-5 months (if harvested young) or about 8-12 months (if harvested when old).
2	Cutting or pulling weeds, picking up dry leaves	Everyday	PIC: RPTRA Manager or designated resident or PKK Pokja/Poktan 3 Mother	For 4-5 months (if harvested young) or about 8-12 months (if harvested when old).

3	Fertilizing	Everyday	PIC: RPTRA Manager or designated resident or PKK Pokja/Poktan 3 Mother	For 4-5 months (if harvested young) or about 8-12 months (if harvested when old).
4	Harvest			

8. Conduct Community Service activities as a form of implementing the planting of medicinal plants in the esthetically pleasing RPTRA Amanah, North Jakarta, using elements of composition and the principles of garden design, adjusted to the available budget.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

On Tuesday, December 8th, at 13:00 WIB at the Amanah RPTRA in North Jakarta, lecturers and students held a Community Service activity titled "Green Action 38: Implementing the Planting of Medicinal Plants at the Amanah RPTRA in North Jakarta through the Empowerment of TP PKK." This was done by providing socialization and education regarding medicinal plants by two speakers: Mr. Descartes, SP., M.Si (an expert in medicinal plants) and Mrs. M. Wuryaning Setyawati, S.Kes (a medicinal plant practitioner).

Figure 5. The Resource Person Delivering Material at the Socialization and Outreach Event

After both speakers delivered their material during the socialization and outreach, the next step was the symbolic handover of medicinal plants, planting media, and fertilizer to the RPTRA Amanah in North Jakarta, represented by the local village office.

Figure 6. Symbolic Handover of Medicinal Plants, Planting Media, and Fertilizer to RPTRA Amanah, North Jakarta

The medicinal plants provided were 60 in number, planting media 10, and NPK fertilizer 3.

Figure 7. Medicinal Plants to be Planted

After that, a joint planting event was held at the designated location in one of the areas within RPTRA Amanah, North Jakarta.

All the medicinal plants provided were planted using the planting medium and fertilizer, with the hope that all the plants would be successfully harvested.

Figure 9. Planting Medicinal Plant

To create an esthetic, efforts were made to fulfilll the elements of composition, namely providing 5 rows by forming long lines so that medicinal plants could be planted along the lines in the 5 rows that had been prepared. The shape prepared was a long straight line to match the available land. The texture, impression, and color given were by placing the medicinal plants in areas that were less green, thus increasing the impression of greenness in that area.

To make the principles of garden design applicable, all medicinal plants are arranged on the available land without being separated, forming a single unit and having a dedicated zone for medicinal plants. This makes the prepared land area dominated by medicinal plants and creates a contrast with other plants in the RPTRA. The planting pattern is arranged and planted neatly, with taller plants placed at the back and shorter plants in front to create visual dimension, allowing for the perception of repetition, rhythm, and balance.

The Community Service activity titled "*Green Action 38: Implementation of Planting Medicinal Plants at RPTRA Amanah, North Jakarta through TP PKK Empowerment*" concluded with the presentation of certificates and plaques to both speakers and RPTRA Amanah, North Jakarta. This was followed by a group photo.

Figure 10. Certificate, Plaque, and Group Photo Presentation

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Community Service activity of the Universitas Kristen Indonesia's Architecture Study Program, carried out by Lecturers and Students and titled "*Green Action 38: Implementing Planting of Medicinal Plants in RPTRA Amanah, North Jakarta through TP PKK Empowerment*" is an implementation activity for planting TOGA (Family Medicinal Plants). Its purpose is to increase family independence and health awareness thru the utilization of local resources, provide natural remedies for prevention and mild treatment, preserve medicinal plants as an affordable health solution, and increase the amount of green and sustainable areas. With the availability of medicinal plants in this Amanah RPTRA, it is hoped that this RPTRA can accommodate environmental and food security functions with esthetic value.This activity still requires ongoing educational support to overcome challenges such as successful harvests and land availability for planting, especially in North Jakarta. It is recommended that the managers of RPTRA Amanah, Jakarta collaborate with the PKK (Family Welfare) to monitor the medicinal plants that have been planted and carry out the maintenance schedule as suggested, so that the harvest success rate can reach 100%.

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