

The Limits and Advantages of the Community Based Housing Approach in Sustaining the Housing Program in Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

Since last decades the Community Based Development Approach has been widely discussed and even accepted in development activities particularly in developing country. In Indonesia, there is a Program called Community Based Housing Development, which deals with the issues related to housing development for low income people. This approach is strongly "campaigned" both by government and or non government institutions until today.

This paper examines the implementation of the Programm, which is seen as an alternative way to "enabling market to work" and outlines issues, challenges and constraints faced in the implementation process. The qualitative research method ('participatory action research') has been employed, where the researcher was also partly involved in the implementation process as an observer.

From this research conducted from 2000-2005 the researcher found that such program is less compatible or not feasible economically for "the poor", so that the program is not sustainable. However, the program has potential to help "the low income people", who are actually able to pay but politically discriminated.

Researcher conclude that issue of the unsustainability of the housing program in Indonesia does not lie in the "limit" of the market mechanism (market failure) only, but also in the unfair accessibility for the majority of low income people to the key resources in housing development (state failure).

Keywords: Community based Housing Development, Enabling Market to Work, and Low-Income People