

EDUCATION

Initiating the Concept of SDGs–Based Inclusion Services in Libraries

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Abstract. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collective agreement on sustainable development with a universal, inclusive, and integrity spirit. Libraries can adopt this spirit in providing open access and inclusion services. SDGs consist of 17 goals, of which not all goals can be the basis for the formation of the concept of library inclusion services. The concept of SDGs based on library services is based on social pillars, and four concepts emerge, namely: (1) Opening access to useful information for free to the community as an effort to alleviate poverty; (2) Cooperating with other parties to build healthy lifestyle centers in the community; (3) Repackage information so that information can be accessed anywhere and anytime for free; (4) Women's empowerment through community-based programs by libraries.

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1 Introduction

The library is a public institution providing information services to users. Inclusion-based library services aim to meet the information needs of users without exception. Unfortunately, in the field, there are often obstacles to accessing information in libraries; existing obstacles include poverty, making it difficult for users to access information, access to people with disabilities, and access difficulties due to gender and other conditions. The variety of conditions from users causes the accessibility to be different.

The development of the times and technology has transformed libraries in improving the quality of service and the welfare of users. The transformation carried out by the library is with the existence of library inclusion services. The existence of library inclusion services allows libraries to provide the same services to all users so that all users get full rights.

A library is a place of lifelong learning that provides services regardless of the physical, economic, racial or gender conditions of its users. Library inclusion services are provided to users with physical and mental limitations so that they can still have the potential to develop [1]. Wiyono [2] define social inclusion-based library services as library services whose access is open to meet the information needs of all levels of society.

The library's information can help develop library users' potential. All library information and services should be easily known and accessed by all users [3]. The existence of inclusion-based library services owned by libraries can provide wider access to information for users with disabilities. Inclusion services in libraries are aligned with the United Nations program in the form of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). SDGs are a sustainable development agreement until 2030 to ensure no one is left behind. The main spirit of SDGs is universal inclusion and integration [4]. The concept of SDGs has been applied in almost all government and education agencies in Indonesia. This article combines the concept of SDGs as the basis for developing inclusion services in libraries because it is felt that these two things have similarities in providing equal access for all parties.

2 Research Methods

The method used in writing this article is a traditional literature review. The traditional literature review method is chosen because this article aims to provide ideas in the form of SDGs-based inclusion service concepts in libraries, where research related to concept development is more appropriate if using traditional literature review [5]. Traditional methods of literature review require at least four processes in data processing. First, conduct the research design by determining research objectives and then detailing research questions to achieve research objectives. The challenge in traditional literature review is the large number of literature resources that may be found [6], so the author does some restrictions, namely time, language and access. Researchers only use articles published within the last five years, namely 2018 to 2023, to maintain the update of its information. Researchers carry out access restrictions by only using articles that can be accessed in full by researchers. In addition, researchers also use language restrictions to understand and give meaning to the articles used, and researchers only use articles in English or Indonesian. In the second process, the researcher reviews the article to find out whether the article found can answer the research question; if the article can answer the research question, then the researcher proceeds to the next process, namely analysis. The third process is the analysis process, where researchers analyze several articles to find saturated answers to research questions. The last stage is to write a narrative based on the findings obtained.

3 Result and Discussion

Providing library services that are easily accessible to all users is a big job for librarians. An inclusion service strategy is needed that follows the needs of services for students with disabilities to realize this. The library inclusion service strategy is a method that has been planned by librarians in providing inclusion services so that they can achieve the goals that have been set. The digital era, like today, certainly demands the presence of inclusion services through current technological developments. Access to technology owned by libraries also contributes to the 2030 UN agenda or commonly known as Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In addition to following the development of existing technology, it must also understand the users served. Librarians must analyze the users'

characteristics, the needs of the users served, practical perceptions of the services provided, and approach the users served [7].

Building good communication between librarians and users with disabilities is key to understanding services that suit user needs. Good communication between librarians and users can make librarians feel accepted by users and will make users come back to the library [8]. The survey conducted by IFLA was conducted to get an overview of policies, assistance, and support access to information, especially through technology for people with disabilities [9]. Access to information through technology is increasingly important because, as a driver of development, to achieve this, libraries can provide space, support, and trust to users.

The SDGs have 17 Goals which are reduced to 169 targets [4]. Of the 17 Goals, not all goals can be adopted into library inclusion services. Library inclusion services can adopt goals that become social pillars, namely goals 1, 3, 4 and 5. The Concept of SDGs – Based Inclusion Services offered are:

3.1 Opening access to useful information for free to the public as an effort to alleviate poverty

Poverty alleviation is goal 1 of the SDGs. It is undeniable that poverty has become a crucial problem in several countries, especially after the Covid-19 outbreak [10]. The trend is that areas with high poverty rates struggle to access adequate education. Difficulties occur due to several factors, 1) geographical location that does not allow people to access proper education due to the absence of transportation [11], (2) the absence of facilities and infrastructure supporting access to information, reportedly some areas are not supported by electricity or internet signals [12], or even the absence of funds to buy devices to access information. So far, the library is considered an institution that stays in place and users who will come to the library, but to be able to provide inclusion services based on SDGs, it is necessary to have a moving service where the library visits users so that users who experience economic difficulties, can still take advantage of library services. Equitable access to information is expected to raise people's living standards to reduce poverty by increasing income in the community.

3.2 Cooperate with others to build healthy lifestyle centres in the community

It is reported by the UN that there has been a decrease in the rate of expansion of life globally, and there has been an increase in the prevalence of anxiety and depression [4]. The library has been known only as a centre for books and information, but actually, the library can transform into a centre for a healthy lifestyle. Librarians can invite users to do activities in the library by holding joint sports movements or providing routine health check-up services. Libraries can also contribute to being a centre for a healthy lifestyle by providing reading materials that can relax people to avoid anxiety and depression. In library and information science, bibliotherapy and bibliocounseling, this can be raised again to reduce the prevalence of anxiety and depression [13]. In addition, libraries can provide useful infographics related to health and clarify hoax news, misinformation and disinformation. It is because, based on research, hoaxes and misinformation are one of the causes of anxiety and depression in society [14]. The library's efforts to become a centre for a healthy group style in the community align with goal 3 of SDGs.

3.3 Repack information so that information can be accessed anywhere and anytime for free

So far, libraries are believed only to be able to contribute to goal 4 SDGs, namely goals in the field of education. The contribution of libraries to the SDGs goals has been found in many articles. It is necessary to repack information to maximize existing contributions. The spirit brought by library inclusion services is the spirit of universal and integration [15]. For example, suppose a library only has a collection of printed books while some users experience visual disabilities. In that case, the library needs to repack the book into an audiobook so that users with disabilities can use the book. Repackaging can be adjusted to the needs of users in the library [16]; in addition to paying attention to user needs, repackaging also needs to pay attention to the media used [17]; whether users can access repackaging products with devices that they have also need to be considered.

3.4 Woman empowerment through community-based programs in libraries

Women are often perceived as physically and financially helpless. There is still much assumption that women will only be housewives, so they do not need higher education. Because of being homemakers, there is an assumption that women are financially lacking [18]. Libraries can take a role in women's empowerment by providing craft training that can have economic value based on books in libraries. The library can also provide a special corner to display the training results so that if other users are interested, they can buy the product directly. Not only can it provide support for economic empowerment. Libraries can also support strengthening education for women by providing books and information according to user needs, such as books related to Women's Health, parenting, financial literacy, household management and others. The existence of this role is in line with SDGs goal 5, related to gender equality.

4 Conclusion

The common spirit of libraries and SDGs allows the creation of inclusion services based on SDGs. In SDGs, there are pillars of social formation that can be adopted by inclusion services in libraries to increase access and as a form of support for library contributions to sustainable development. So far, libraries are considered only to be able to contribute to goal 4 of the SDGs, which does focus on education; after further study, it turns out that libraries are flexible institutions that can participate in other SDGs goals. The concept of SDGs-based college library inclusion services adopts Goal 1 (End poverty in all its forms everywhere), Goal 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages), Goal 4 (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all) and Goal 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) of the SDGs.

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