

# MADANI NEWS

Civil Society Support Initiative



Image: Ade Sonyville for USAID MADANI

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## Local Governments and Legislators Involve Civil Society to Promote the Safeguarding of Health Care for People with Disabilities

More than 200 people participated in the December 3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities event in Bogor City including para-athletes, students with disabilities and their parents.

Persons with disabilities (PWDs) experience significant barriers to accessing health care services, including negative attitudes, insufficiently trained medical personnel, and structurally inaccessible health centers.

On December 29, 2021, Learning Forum *Serasi Madani* in Pekalongan (Central Java) advocated for a draft executive order (*Peraturan Bupati*) on PWDs access to health services in a hearing with representatives from the local government and legislatures (DPRD). During the hearing, key points addressed include making public health centers more structurally accessible, issuing disability ID cards, developing a disability database, and supporting community-based caregivers. *Serasi Madani* forum is scheduled to meet with the regent in March 2022 to further discuss the executive order.

If enacted, it would strengthen the Pekalongan bylaw No. 2/2020 on the Protection and Fulfilment of the Rights of PWDs through safeguarding the health care needs of PWDs. With a growing number of Lead Partners assuming leadership roles, local governments and legislatures in MADANI's districts continue to show a greater willingness to not only respond to

civil society recommendations, but also adopt them as policy.

Likewise, in the city of Bogor, on December 3, 2021, MADANI's partner *Metamorfosis*, Learning Forum CSO members, and the Bogor City Government and Parliament promoted communal tolerance and awareness for more inclusive public services by hosting an event to commemorate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Over 200 people participated in the event, which was held at the Bogor's DPRD Building, including para-athletes, students with disabilities and their parents, representatives from the local disability association, and representatives from the local government and parliament.

The Chair of the Bogor DPRD and the Deputy Mayor jointly commended the celebration, emphasizing that the city's executive and legislative bodies must engage with the community and increase programs, access, and budget for PWD, despite potential limitations. During the meeting, the Bogor local government announced that would double the budget allocation for PWDs in 2022, after a successful advocacy campaign by Learning Forum *Forbodas* members.

The USAID Civil Society Support Initiative (MADANI) continues to improve the ability of partner civil society organizations (CSOs) to advocate for government accountability and communal tolerance, increase the impact of advocacy and policy recommendation outcomes, and strengthen the core organizational capacities of CSOs. MADANI's local partners address problems that matter to their communities and provide policy recommendations for local development solutions.

These actions will have lasting impacts on the communities and will serve as models for local governments to adopt. MADANI aims to establish the resources, practices, and relationships that will allow local CSOs — MADANI's Lead Partners (LPs) — to grow their work and embrace leadership roles in local development after the project has ended.

In late 2021, MADANI started implementing the Thematic Action Plans, with LPs carrying out the local advocacy and accountability models. Through advocacy, data gathering, and public consultations, MADANI's local CSO partners increase the demand for public service improvements and hold government accountable.



Image: Ufi Ufiah/USAID/MADANI

The podcast provides civil society in Banten Province a new opportunity to engage and participate in the region's development process.

## Banten Provincial Civil Society Coalition Strengthens Joint Advocacy Through Landmark Virtual Civic Space

Civil society organizations in the province of Banten have historically had limited opportunities to engage and participate in the region's development process.

MADANI's Provincial Support Partner, *PATTIRO Banten*, helped to establish the Banten Civil Society Coalition (*Koalisi Masyarakat Sipil Banten*) and associated podcast series in December 2021. The purpose of this coalition is to engage governments, communities, and other actors and help find solutions to the province's development challenges.

The coalition's 29 local CSOs represent a regional network of diverse people, groups, and interests in the province and was born out of the need to create a tool for joint advocacy, networking, and virtual civic space. MADANI strengthens like-minded districts and provincial civil society movements in West Java, Central Java, East Java, South Sulawesi, and West Kalimantan by harnessing the provincial support partner's strong organizational capacity.

## Local Government and MADANI Collaborate on New Online Complaint Handling System to Enhance Accountability and Oversight of Maternal and Child Health

For the past five years, the District of Brebes (Central Java) has had the highest number of maternal deaths in the province.

On November 27, 2021, MADANI's Partner CSO *Yayasan ESKA Unggul Indonesia* and its national support partner AtmaConnect hosted an event with the Brebes Government to field-test a new web-based complaint-handling system. This system aims to improve maternal, newborn, and child health care.

Taking advantage of AtmaConnect's social media platform AtmaGo (<https://www.atmago.com/>), this new system will receive complaints related to basic service delivery and forward them to the Brebes District Health Office (DHO) and selected Puskesmas for immediate response. If successful, the program in Brebes may be replicated in other MADANI areas.



Image: Puskesmas Wanasari, Brebes

A pediatrician at a community health center (Puskesmas) Wanasari, Brebes, checks the temperature of a patient.

## MADANI Learning Forum Hands Over Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health Study Findings and Recommendations to Bulukumba District Legislature

The Bulukumba District Government (South Sulawesi) announced six development priorities for 2022, one of which is improving the quality of public health service delivery. However, despite this priority, the government proposed to

reduce the 2022 maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) budget by 76 percent – from 1.8 billion rupiahs to 433 million rupiahs – compared to the previous year. Reasons for this change include a reduction in the total budget envelope, as well as the reallocation

of funds to COVID-19 and infrastructure projects.

In response to this development, on November 23, 2021, the MADANI Learning Forum in Bulukumba FORMAP KIA (the Maternal and Child Health Care Forum) and Lead Partner *Nasyiatul Aisyiyah* delivered the findings and recommendations from their MNCH analysis to the DPRD.

The four recommendations are (1) optimize local revenues, (2) increase the public health budget, (3) utilize scientific evidence for program planning, and (4) involve local stakeholders in the planning and budgeting process.

Although the DPRD appreciated the report, the government could not accommodate the recommendations for their 2022 development and budget planning. Nevertheless, MADANI's CSO Partners and the Learning Forum continue to advocate for and prioritize the inclusion of improved MNCH services in discussions with the DPRD and government.

Members of the local Learning Forum FORMAP KIA inspect the mother and child in-patient ward facility at Puskesmas Bontonyeleng, Bulukumba.



Image: Puskesmas Bontonyeleng

## City of Bogor Government and Civil Society Organizations Host Public Dialogue to Celebrate International Tolerance Day

The rise of intolerance and religious fundamentalism in Indonesia has a negative impact on inclusive development and good governance.

On the 2021 International Tolerance Day (November 16), MADANI's civil society partner in Bogor (West Java) *Metamorfosis* hosted – in collaboration with the MADANI multi-stakeholder forum and the Bogor Agency for National Unity and Politics (Kesbangpol) – a virtual forum entitled “Is Bogor Worthy of Being a Tolerant City?”

The event brought together 18 CSOs from various sectors and geographic regions in Indonesia to exchange ideas and discuss ways to reduce intolerance and religious discrimination. In addition, by creating a safe space at the local level where community members from diverse backgrounds can interact in a positive way, this event is another example of MADANI's broader support for tolerance and inclusion.

One of many interfaith dialogues on communal tolerance, peace building, and diversity – that target youths – hosted by MADANI District Support Partner *BASOLIA* (Interfaith Social Agency) in Bogor City (March, 2020).



Image: Rahman Muttaqin/USAID MADANI

# MADANI Celebrates Inspirational Journeys of COVID-19 Survivors



Since March 2020, MADANI has supported the development of AtmaGo, a moderated community-based social media platform, which allows citizens and communities to share information about COVID-19 and other relevant issues.

On November 24, 2021, MADANI's national support partner AtmaConnect hosted a webinar entitled "A Virtual Journey of Communities in Confronting the COVID-19 Pandemic," where 79 participants shared their experiences navigating life

during the pandemic. Through compelling personal stories, the webinar highlighted communities' struggles, resilience, and responses to the pandemic.

Online news outlets [Kumparan](#), [Tugu Latim](#), and the [Indonesia Times](#) published articles about the event. For context, AtmaGo (<https://www.atmago.com>) has attracted over 3 million view users and almost 2,000 COVID-19 related posts since its inception.

A presentation during the webinar. Seventy-nine participants shared their experiences navigating life during the pandemic.



The registration counter for incoming patients at Puskesmas Singaparna, Tasikmalaya.

## Service Charter with Civil Society Commits Local Government to Improve Maternal and Child Health Care

In November 2021, MADANI's Lead Partner *Pergerakan Relawan Kemanusiaan Indonesia* (PRKI), the local CSO *Forum AKSARA* and the District Health Office (DHO) in the District of Tasikmalaya (West Java) delivered the results and ensuing recommendations of a complaints survey on maternal and child health services (MCH) in selected community health centers (*Puskesmas*).

The survey was a milestone for Tasikmalaya, as it is the first time the DHO has worked with local CSOs to assess the service quality of frontline *Puskesmas*. The key recommendations include the following: 1) to increase the maternal and child health budget allocation at *Puskesmas*, 2) to support

the capacity of *Puskesmas* staff in meeting minimum service standards, and 3) to replicate MADANI's programs to other areas.

As a result of the survey and campaign, on 26 January, after working closely with PRKI and Forum AKSARA, the Tasikmalaya District Government launched a Service Improvement Charter (*Janji Perbaikan Layanan*) to improve maternal and child health in the region. The service charter, which includes Forum AKSARA's recommendations, represents a social pact between the district government and the public, and serves as a commitment to enhance public health service delivery.

## MADANI Hosts Workshops to Increase Local Stakeholder Understanding of the Government Procurement Process

Traditionally, the Government of Indonesia has closely regulated the procurement of goods and services by public agencies. Presidential Regulation No. 16/2018 on public procurement opened the door for a more inclusive development process, allowing CSOs to participate in government procurement. However, the number of CSOs applying for these tenders remains low at the sub-national level.

As a result, MADANI and the National Public Procurement Policy Agency (LKPP) hosted two webinars, one on January 23 and one on January 25, to increase awareness of the regulation, the procurement mechanism, and action plan preparation. Three hundred and fifty-seven participants – representing local government and MADANI CSO partners – attended the webinars. MADANI believes that these small government tenders are an important resource mobilization option to address CSO sustainability.

Representatives from the local government and MADANI CSO partners, totaling 357 participants, attended the webinars.



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