QUALITY OF CITY PARKS AS A PUBLIC GREEN OPEN SPACE BANDA ACEH

KUALITAS TAMAN KOTA SEBAGAI RUANG TERBUKA HIJAU PUBLIK KOTA BANDA ACEH

Desyan Ria[1]*, Edi Saputra[2], Eka Rahmi[1], Reza Fahmi[1]

[1]Forestry, Faculty of Agriculture, Universitas Almuslim
[2]Forestry, Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Kehutanan Teungku Chik Pante Kulu

*Email Koresponden: anriadesy@gmail.com

Abstract

City parks are part of public green open space in urban areas, the city of Banda Aceh already has several locations that have been used as city parks. The purpose and function of city parks are regulated in Law No. 26 of 2007 concerning RTRW. This research was conducted at five city park locations, namely Taman Sari & Kids Rock, Tsunami Education Park, Lambung Park, Meuraxa Tourism Park, and Pantai Cermin Park. Visitors to city parks in the city of Banda Aceh are mostly students and families with an average age of 19-15 and 25-35. The community utilizes the physical function of the Banda Aceh city park as a place of relaxation, recreation, a place for children to play, and a place to exercise, while its social function is as a place to interact with residents. The quality of city parks in Banda Aceh in terms of area is sufficient, and public facilities are widely available.

Keywords: *Green Open Space, City Park, Banda Aceh*

Abstrak

Taman kota merupakan bagian dari ruang terbuka hijau publik dalam perkotaan, kota Banda Aceh sudah memiliki beberapa lokasi yang sudah dijadikan sebagai taman kota. Tujuan dan fungsi taman kota sudah diatur dalam UU No 26 Tahun 2007 tentang RTRW. Penelitian ini ditentukan pada lima lokasi taman kota yaitu Taman Sari & Kids Rock, Taman Edukasi Tsunami, Taman Lambung, Taman Wisata Meuraxa, dan Taman Pantai Cermin. Pengunjung pada taman-taman kota yang ada di kota Banda Aceh banyak dari kalangan Pelajar/Mahasiswa dan keluarga yang rata-rata berusia 19-15 dan 25-35. Masyarakat memanfaatkan fungsi fisik taman kota Banda Aceh sebagai tempat santai, rekreasi, tempat bermain anak-anak dan tempat berolah raga, sedangkan fungsi sosialnya adalah sebagai tempat berinteraksi antar warga. Kualitas taman kota di Banda Aceh secara luasan sudah cukup, dan fasilitas umum sudah banyak tersedia.

Kata Kunci: Ruang Terbuka Hijau, Taman Kota, Banda Aceh

INTRODUCTION

Green Open Space (GOS) in the current global development environment is needed to maintain the balance of environmental quality of an area, especially in urban areas that have various problems, related to spatial issues that are so complex. According to Muchran *et al*., (2015), the benefits of green spaces in urban areas include creating comfort, health, and beauty in the environment as the lungs of the city, creating a clean and healthy

Quality of City Parks As a Public Green Open…………   **250**
Ria, et. al, 2025
Hal. 250-258

environment for urban communities, providing production products in the form of wood, leaves, flowers, fruit and as a place to grow plants and live animals.

The availability of green space in Banda Aceh city as a whole has reached 30% of the total area of Banda Aceh city of 61.36 km^2. By Law Number 26 of 2007 Article 17, concerning GOS, the proportion of forest areas is at least 30% of the watershed area (DAS) which is intended to maintain environmental sustainability. However, there is still a lack of availability of urban park areas as public green space from 20% in Banda Aceh, which will have an impact on the function of shading and the lungs of the city will be reduced.

Based on the Banda Aceh City Spatial Plan (RTRW) 2009-2029, the Banda Aceh area has a total public green space of 1,227.2 ha consisting of urban forests, city parks, sports fields, road greenways, and public cemeteries. The percentage of public green space in the total area of Banda Aceh city (61.36 km^2) has only reached 11%, still lacking another 9 ha, because based on Law Number 26 of 2007, it confirms that the proportion of green space in urban areas is at least 30% consisting of 20% public green space and 10% consisting of non-public (private) green space, as an alternative effort to minimize the impact of environmental damage by optimizing the ecological function of urban public green space.

Based on the above background, research is needed that aims to assess the quality of city parks as public green spaces in Banda Aceh, with the target of identifying physical conditions and public facilities, user characteristics and types of activities carried out, developing recommendations for efforts to improve the function of city parks, so that the positive impact of beauty, cleanliness, attractiveness, creativity, and management can be maximized.

RESEARCH METHODS

Place and Time

This research was conducted in five City Parks (Taman Sari, Tsunami Education, Lambung, Ulee Lheue playground, and Pantai Cermin) in Banda Aceh City. This research was conducted for 1 (one) month from April to May 2020.

Materials and Tools

The materials used include: Banda Aceh City Park Location Distribution Map Scale 1: 50,000, observation sheets, and questionnaire sheets. The tools used include: Global Positioning System (GPS), Personal Computer, digital camera, recording device, and other tools that support this research.
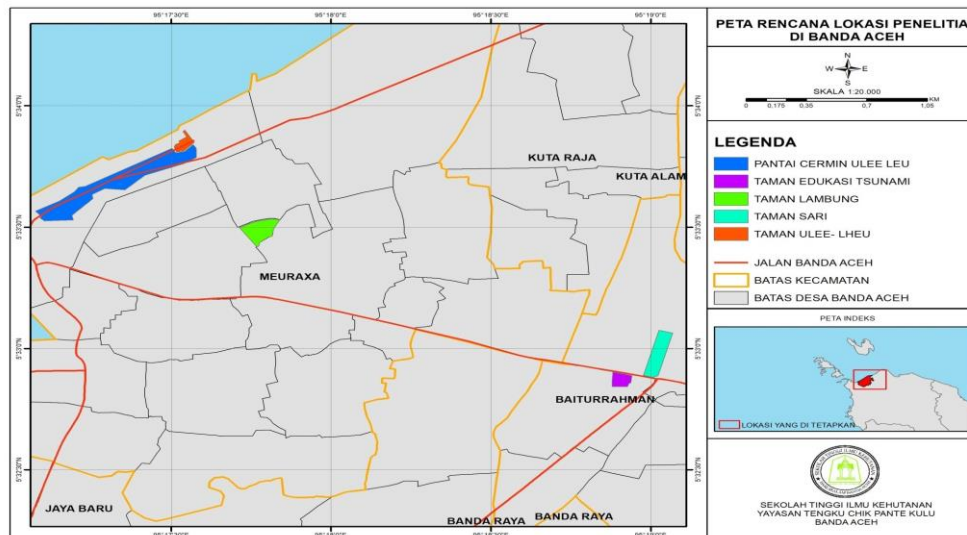
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Figure 1. Map of the Distribution of Parks in Banda Aceh City

Sampling Technique

Determination of the research location (city park) is done by non-random sampling method (non-probability sampling), with Purposive sampling type. Samples were selected based on their knowledge and understanding of the implementation of city parks (Arikunto, 2010). Determining the sample for filling out questionnaires and interviews is done by random sampling, where this technique is a way of sampling randomly or indiscriminately and has the highest probability of determining a representative sample (Zuriah, 2007). The random sampling technique used is non-probability sampling with an accidental sampling type. Where the number of samples is determined, chosen by chance, and does not use a rigid special condition. Questionnaire filling and interviews involve visitors or users of city parks. The number of locations and details of the respondents are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Number of Locations and Samples that became Research Respondents

No.	Location	Sample Quantity
1	Taman Sari dan Kids Rock	4
2	Tsunami Education Park	4
3	Lambung Park	4
4	Meuraxa Tourism Park	4
5	Taman Pantai CerminPark	4
	Total	20

Types and Sources of Data

The types and sources of data used in this research are primary data in the form of data from in-depth interviews and observations and secondary data in the form of documents, archives, literature, and previous research results (journals) related to this research. Primary data, namely data obtained directly in the field through interviews/questionnaires and direct observation.

Data Collection Technique

The data collection method for this research was carried out in two ways, namely primary data collection and secondary data.

Data Analysis Technique

This research is included in descriptive research using content analysis techniques, data analysis techniques carried out in three stages of analysis, namely open coding, axial coding, and selective coding (Creswell, 1998). The open coding stage is the stage of identifying keywords that have been obtained from respondents' answers in the form of related text data, the axial coding stage, after the keywords are obtained and collected from the text data, the next stage is to group them in predetermined categories according to the closeness of the meaning of each keyword, and the last is selective coding, which is the stage carried out after the keyword categories are collected to further create a story based on the relationship between categories. The type of approach taken in this research is quantitative analysis, used to determine the tendency of community choice in improving the quality of city parks as public green spaces. The quantitative approach is suitable for analyzing the data obtained based on the operational variables of the research used.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The components of public green open space in the urban area of Banda Aceh city consist of city parks, urban forests, sports fields, green lanes, tombs, and reservoirs/ponds. Here are some city parks in the city of Banda Aceh

Table 2. City Park in Banda Aceh City

No	Name	Area (m2)	Area (Ha)
1.	Taman Sari & Kids Rock	2.370.00	0.24
2.	Tsunami Education Park	3.546.71	0.35
3.	Bustanussalatin Nursery Park	2.881.39	0.29
4.	Ulee-Lheu Playground	5.312.25	0.53
5.	Taman Lambung Park	28.565.86	2.86
6.	Meuraxa Tourism Park	19.448.00	1.94
7.	Banda Aceh Tourism Office Tourism Pond Park	12.766.92	1.28
8.	Pantai Cermin Park	74771.51	7.48
	Total	**149,662,64**	**14.97**

Source: DLHK3 Banda Aceh 2013

At this open coding stage, researchers analyze the data obtained from respondents, usually, each respondent can mention more than one keyword, and here are some examples of the results of respondents' answers that become keywords. "Visitors to the city park are visited by families and students, usually these visitors come to gather or just walk and stop for a moment. Some exercise and vacation." "The visitors commented on the social function of the city park that the city park serves as a place of interaction, education, exercise, and a place to relax. While the physical function of the city park is as a shade and sound damper". "Opinions on improving the quality of city parks, city park public

facilities should be given more attention such as toilets, seating, wifi networks, and sports facilities and children's play facilities." "Visitors to city parks want parks that can provide comfort, places that are friendly, clean, safe, and well managed".

Axial coding stage or grouping of the same keywords that have been identified in several categories. At this stage several categories were obtained, namely as follows: of the 20 respondents who have been selected and participated in filling out questionnaires in this study where 65% of respondents aged 19-25 years and 35% of respondents aged 25-35 years, respondents who are female as many as eleven people or 55%, and respondents who are female as many as nine people or 45%. Meanwhile, the respondents' occupations also vary. While the respondents' jobs also vary, more details can be seen in the diagram below.
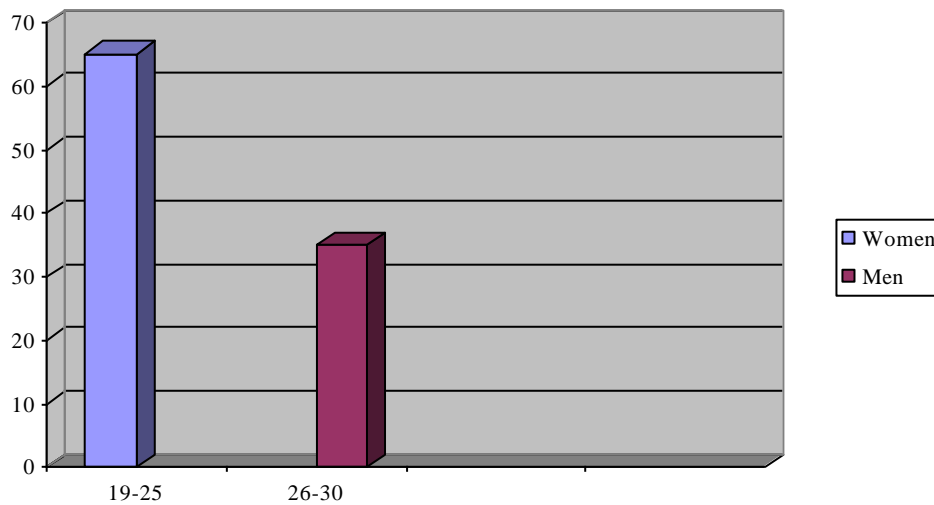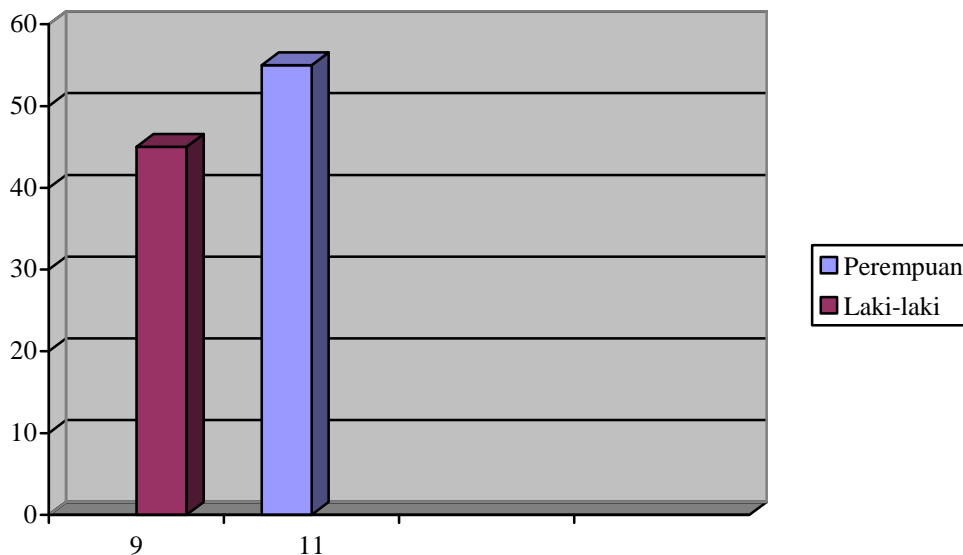

Figure 2. Respondent Age Diagram

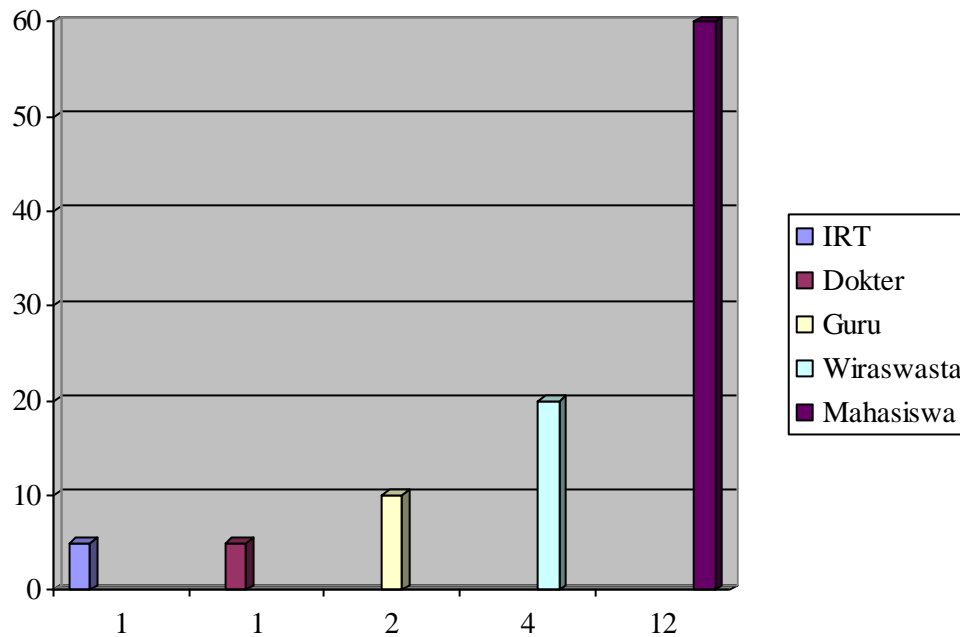**Figure 3.** Respondent Gender Diagram

Figure 4. Diagram of Respondents' Occupation

The results of various questionnaire data from 20 respondents in the five city parks were collected and have been content analyzed to obtain keywords of answers. Axial coding of keywords that appear or quotes from respondents about the function of city parks as public open spaces are as follows:

Table 3. Function of City Park as Public Green Space

No	Category	Keywords	Respondent	%
1.	Physical function	Relaxation, children's play, and sports venues	8	40
		Soundproofing	7	35
		Protection from pollution	4	20
		Shade and lungs of the city	1	5
2.	Social Function	Recreational facilities	11	55
		Educational facilities	4	20
		Sports facilities	4	20
		Interaction between residents	1	5
3.	Function of beauty	comfort	15	75
		Beauty	4	20
		Freshness	1	5

Table 4. Criteria for City Parks as Public Spaces

No	Category	Keywords	Respondent	%
1.	Location	Close to residential areas	11	55
		Close to offices and education	5	25
		Close to arterial roads	3	15
		Close to markets and shops	1	5
2.	Area	Fair	19	95
		Rather lacking	1	5
3.	Ideal city park	Adequate facilities	13	65
		Security guaranteed	4	20
		Well-maintained condition	3	15

Table 5. Quality of City Parks as Public Spaces

No	Category	Keyword	Respondent	%
1.	Park quality	Safety and Security	8	40
		A welcoming place	7	35
		Clean and maintained	5	25
2.	Public facilities	Restrooms	7	35
		Wifi network	6	30
		Seating	2	10
		Lighting	2	10
3.	Vitality	Good management	14	70
		Community role	3	15
		Conservation of fauna and flora	2	10
		Promotion	1	5

The axial coding table above is a grouping of keywords that become keywords to be analyzed for frequency to find out which categories appear most often and the least mentioned by respondents, or what is commonly called distribution analysis.

From the results of the distribution data above, the final stage of this research is to conduct selective coding or it can also be called correspondence analysis. As time goes by, the state of green open space in urban areas is increasingly being taken into account, this is due to the development or increase in the city's population which automatically affects the use of land that was once green now covered by many city buildings. Increased development in the city continues to affect other aspects of life such as lack of green space, increased pollution, lack of playgrounds, and so on.

The answers of respondents in this study varied which states that the function of the city park as a green open space, the function that is seen involves three categories, namely, the physical function category, the social function category, and the beauty category. For physical functions, 45% of people think that if examined from the physical function of the city park is as a place to relax, a place to play with children, and a place to exercise, 35% of people assume city parks as sound absorbers, 20% of people state that city parks are protective from pollution, and 5% of people think that city parks are the shade and lungs of the city.

The social function of city parks, when viewed the answers of respondents, stated that 55% of respondents mentioned the social function of city parks as a means of recreation, 20% stated it as a means of education, 20% stated sports facilities, and 5% stated it as a place of interaction between residents. While the beauty function of the city park respondents stated that, 75% of respondents chose comfort, 20% stated beauty, and 5% of respondents chose freshness. The community states and not only functions as the lungs of the city. We can see this from the results of respondents' answers to park visitors. Respondents stated the physical function of Taman Kota Sari and Kids Rock as a place to play and shelter from city pollution and a social perspective as a means of recreation for visitors.

CONCLUSION

The function of city parks is as a place of relaxation, recreation, children's playgrounds, and places to exercise and also as the beauty and comfort of the urban climate. The availability of facilities in city parks in Banda Aceh, in terms of area, is sufficient, as well as other public facilities that the community wants are available, it's just that there is less maintenance and security. Recommendations for city park facilities should further improve maintenance and add facilities to the wishes of the community.

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Quality of City Parks As a Public Green Open…………..   **257**
Ria, et. al, 2025
Hal. 250-258

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Quality of City Parks As a Public Green Open…………   **258**
Ria, et. al, 2025
Hal. 250-258