

Estimating the Effect of a Fuel Price Increase on Poverty and Inequality: Evidence from a Fuel Subsidy Reduction in Indonesia



The government topped up the social assistance programs using funds from the saved subsidy to mitigate the potential adverse impact of the increased fuel prices in 2022. How did the increase in fuel prices and the added social assistance funds affect poverty and expenditure inequality? [Click the image](#) to read the analysis by SMERU researchers in a research note, "Estimating the Effect of a Fuel Price Increase on Poverty and Inequality: Evidence from a Fuel Subsidy Reduction in Indonesia".

Latest Research



Harnessing Inequalities Reductions Benefits In Marine Protected Areas

Inequality assessments are largely absent in the design, implementation, and management of marine protected areas (MPAs). SMERU specifically studies the dynamics of inequality in MPAs in Indonesia to develop a toolbox for mainstreaming inequalities in the design, implementation, and management of MPAs. [Click the image](#) for more details.

SMERU Researchers

SMERU is Back on the Top 25% Institutions and Economists in Indonesia

In January 2023, IDEAS/RePEc released the Top 25% Institutions and Economists in Indonesia. Two of SMERU's senior research fellows, Sudarno Sumarto and Asep Suryahadi, were ranked first and fifth, respectively, while SMERU ranked third. SMERU actively encourages its researchers to share knowledge from research by publishing scientific articles in academic journals. [Click the image](#) to see the full list.



SMERU Video

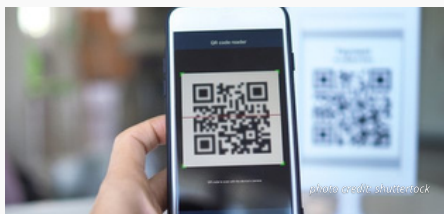


Every district/city in Indonesia has the authority to produce educational innovations appropriate to their regional context. How has this authority been implemented in several regions in Indonesia? [Click the image](#) to watch the video.

SMERU Activities



RISE Programme in Indonesia and Tanoto Foundation, in collaboration with Papan Tulis Education Podcast, produced education podcast series, “Learn and Unlearn”, that tells unique stories from elements of education. The first episode talked about “Lagging Literacy and Numeracy Skills, Can Indonesia Catch Up?” with guests Iwan Syahril (Director General of Early Childhood Education, Basic Education, and Secondary Education, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology), Dhitta Puti Sarasvati (a founder of Gernas Tastaka and Gernas Tastaba), and Fakhurrozi (Head of Junior Secondary School Development Division, Education Agency of Siak District, Riau/PINTAR Program partner). [Click the image](#) to listen to the talk.



Director of SMERU, Widjajanti Isdijoso, attended a focus group discussion with the theme “Digitalization of Government Program Payments” organized by the Payment System Policy Department, Bank Indonesia, on 22 February 2023. Widjajanti gave a presentation on the challenges and potential of developing an integrated data center to support the digitalization of social assistance in Indonesia.



Head of the Kupang National Marine Protected Areas Agency (BKKPN) Imam Fauzi visited SMERU to discuss marine protected areas (MPAs) and opportunities for future collaboration with multiple stakeholders. SMERU is currently researching the dynamics of inequality in MPAs in Indonesia.

SMERU Blog

How do Researchers Explore Sensitive Issues in Collecting Data?



Information extracted in collecting research data is sometimes sensitive, such as domestic violence. How do SMERU researchers gather information on domestic violence, which might evoke psychological reactions or trauma? What are the procedures for protecting participants who are also victims, survivors, or informants of domestic violence? [Click the image](#) to read SMERU researchers’ lessons learned from a study in a blog post, “Listening to Women’s Voices Better: Lessons Learned from Longitudinal Studies in Exploring Domestic Violence Issues”.

Latest Publications



Accelerating Inclusive and Fair Digital Transformation to Anticipate Challenges Facing the Future of Work

Digital transformation in Indonesia is still behind its neighboring countries, even though it is evident that digitalization sustained the country’s economy during the COVID-19 pandemic. This position paper overviews the recent development of digital transformation and existing policy gaps. [Click the image](#) to read SMERU’s recommendations for accelerating inclusive and fair digital transformation, including protection for gig-economy workers.



The Impact of COVID-19 Lockdowns on Household Income, Consumption, and Expectations: Evidence from High-frequency Data in Indonesia

The COVID-19 lockdowns greatly impact households’ income and consumption in Indonesia. This paper by SMERU researchers published in the *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies* investigates the impact and how households adjust their budget allocation for consumption in the face of declining income during the pandemic. [Click the image](#) to read the full article.



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