

Poverty and Climate Crisis: Building Resilience Among the Poor and Vulnerable

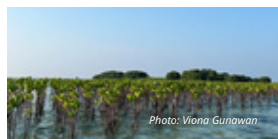


Climate change is not just an environmental issue—it's a pressing social challenge for poor and vulnerable communities in Indonesia. Why are these groups most affected, and how can we better protect them? These questions guided SMERU's talk show, "Poverty and Climate Crisis: Building Resilience Among the Poor and Vulnerable", held on 23 October.

Moderated by SMERU researcher Asep Kurniawan, the session featured Nila Warda (Senior Researcher, SMERU), Maliki, ST, MSIE, Ph.D. (Deputy for Community Empowerment, Population, and Manpower, Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas), and Sonny Mumbunan, Ph.D. (Head of the Master of Public Policy in Climate Change Program, UIII, and Researcher at the Climate Change Studies Forum (CCSF), Universitas Indonesia). The speakers discussed climate science trends, social vulnerabilities, and adaptive social protection strategies, highlighting the importance of cross-agency coordination and evidence-based policymaking.

[Click the image](#) to watch the recording.

International Day for the
Eradication of Poverty



Mainstreaming Welfare Improvement of the Poor and Inequality Reduction in Marine Protected Area Management

SMERU, together with the Agence Française de Développement and the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, has developed a guidance module to help managers of marine conservation areas integrate social welfare considerations into their governance. The module complements existing national policies and supports the government's efforts to improve the welfare of poor communities and reduce inequality. [Click the image](#) to read more.

World Food Day



The Role of Social Protection in Tackling Food Insecurity and Under-nutrition in Indonesia A Gendered Approach

Published in 2015, this report assessed the effectiveness of Indonesia's social protection system in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition. Discussions on poverty primarily focused on income, often overlook factors such as gender, location, and life-cycle risks. Even a decade after the study, the findings remain relevant for strengthening inclusive and effective social protection. [Click the image](#) to read the full report.

International Day of
Care and Support



Every Worker Has Rights, Including the Domestic Worker in Your Home

This infographic discusses why recognizing and upholding the rights of domestic workers is crucial. It also invites the public to support collective advocacy for the passage of the Domestic Workers Protection Bill (RUU PPRT). It draws on research on care work conducted with support from the Government of Canada and the Penabulu Foundation. [Click the image](#) to view the full infographic.

Question

You have been researching poverty issues since 2011. Has this long experience influenced or taught you anything in your personal life?



Asri Yusrina (Riri)
Head of Governance and
Poverty & Inequality Cluster

Researching poverty has deepened my understanding of social protection programs, and I've been able to share this knowledge with those around me. For instance, when the domestic worker at my home asked why she wasn't receiving social assistance, I helped her check using the Cek Bansos app and guided her through the registration process. I also realized the importance of ensuring domestic workers are protected under BPJS Ketenagakerjaan, so they have access to the same social safety nets as everyone else.

Rekening Penerima Bansos Dicabut, Kesempatan Menerima Bantuan Masih Terbuka

Ficky Ramadhan

16/9/2025 20:26

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This *Media Indonesia* article reports that approximately 600,000 social assistance accounts were revoked by the Ministry of Social Affairs due to suspected irregularities. Issues included duplicate data (NIK and name), recipients from civil servant families, recipients with income above the provincial minimum wage, and involvement in online gambling. Recipients who feel the revocation is unfair can appeal and verify their status at the village level, says SMERU senior researcher Asri Yusrina. [Click the image](#) for the article.

Activities



Photo: SMERU

The Consortium of Community for Education Advocacy in Indonesia (KMPPI) held an online meeting on 15 October to discuss preparations for its upcoming November event. The event will conclude a year-long series of five public discussions

on the National Education System Bill (RUU Sisdiknas) held by KMPPI members throughout 2025. The meeting discussed the event format, potential speakers, invited stakeholders, and the theme that will synthesize key insights from previous discussions.

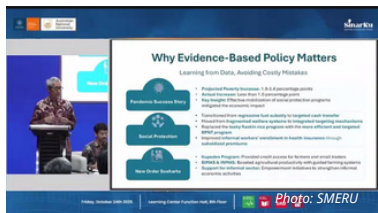


Photo: SMERU

SMERU Senior Research Fellow Sudarno Sumarto was the main speaker at The 9th Mubyarto Public Policy Forum on 24 October in Yogyakarta. The forum, themed "Poverty and Welfare Reform in Indonesia," discussed the major transformations

in Indonesia's poverty reduction and social welfare programs over the past two decades. In his presentation, Sudarno emphasized the importance of maintaining an evidence-based approach amid concerns over the declining use of research in large-scale social program implementation. The event was co-hosted by Universitas Gadjah Mada and The ANU Indonesia Project.

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