

Impact of SRHR and Clean Sanitation on the Life of Persons with Disabilities | DSROI 2022

Selamat pagi, Vina. Terima kasih waktunya. Good morning, Vina.

Thank you for your time today. Hari ini kita ingin ngobrol dengan Vina tentang kegiatan Vina. So today we are going to talk about your activity.

Di mana organisasi Vina bergerak bersama rekan-rekan di akar rumput untuk menyuarakan pentingnya kesehatan reproduksi bagi perempuan disabilitas di Kupang. We know that you have been working with local organisation in Kupang to speak about the rights of women with disabilities reproduction health rights. Sebelum kita ngobrol, Vina boleh memperkenalkan diri? Before we start the discussion, can you please introduce yourself, Vina? My name is Serafina Bete.

People used to call me Vina. Saya ketua dari salah satu organisasi penyandang disabilitas di Kupang, Nusa Tenggara Timur. Saya ketua dari salah satu organisasi penyandang disabilitas di Kupang, Nusa Tenggara Timur.

Nama organisasi saya Perkumpulan Tunadaksa Kristiani. is that how do you overcome the challenges you are facing when you are fighting for the rights of the disability women's rights for for health reproduction especially in Kupang? so the one of the challenges is that in Kupang the issues of reproduction is still viewed as a taboo issue so there are a lot of parents with a teenager's disability who has disabilities so the parents has never told them about their reproduction health so at the end the children doesn't really know what is the reproduction health for them what is the importance of health reproduction from them up until now women with disabilities they have difficulties when they are starting the period of menstruation so they find difficulties or sometimes they don't know how to use the sanitary napkins how to take care of themselves and take care of the cleanliness or sanitation of themselves they also have facing the mythos in the in the past as such as for example when they're having the period or menstruation they are not allowed to take a bath they are not allowed to take a bath and they're also not allowed to get along with the male friends so that with all the challenges that you're facing what is the impact to women with disabilities in your area so in Kupang until now there are a lot of women with disabilities who doesn't have a full understanding of what is the health reproduction issues so their knowledge is still limited so it's really impacted women with disabilities so when they are talking about the health reproduction or pregnancy there sometimes they are still confused especially those women with intellectual disability autistic disabilities and also hyperactive disorder and also those who have visual challenges like blind women so those groups who have the biggest challenges is the one who has disability in talking, hearing, visual disability and also intellectual disability so having known these challenges for women with disabilities have you is there anything that the government or any institution in your area has done to make the women with disabilities in your area to know about the their rights of reproduction health so in Kupang the government already disseminate or have socialization for the women with disabilities reproduction health but they have never not yet involved the women with disabilities in it even the public health existing in the Kupang public health services they already have the reproduction health education for teenagers but that's for the general teenagers they haven't involved teenagers with disabilities and also the other thing is that

the information of this reproduction health issue is not the accessible format for the information for this reproduction health issue are not very easy to get so all the brochure or the information available are only in writing text and it's only for non-disability teenagers so for those who have visual disability they have difficulties in understanding what the issue was because the information is not accessible for them and also the the term or the words that used in the brochure they use a difficult language or high language which is not very easy it is not easy to read for a person with disabilities yeah so for those who have intellectual and hearing disability it is difficult to understand the information moreover the sanitation points or the toilets in the Kupang are not yet accessible even for non-disability person so it is not accessible as well for a person with disabilities all right that's all so with all that challenges what did your organization do to overcome the challenges um so as a disability organization we view this issue is very important for person with disabilities especially women with disabilities plan international so we work together collaborate with the international NGOs plan because a plan has sanitation program so they have the a program called the gender equality sorry wait uh community community lead total sanitation um so together with plan we do the uh dissemination or socialization about the this issue to person with disabilities um we invited the representative from each disability organization in to join the event or the socialization of the equal gender community lead total sanitation program so we also do activity on menstruation health management um we also introduced the accessible toilet that also introduced um uh the toilet which can be accessible to run the menstruation health management um is the program still running and how is it now nowadays um so uh to continue this program the one that we have with the international plan is the disability rights fund we also are working together with the disability rights fund the program is called water and sanitation for all um so the activity that we are doing is also about health reproduction for all type of disabilities um our aim is that so that person with disabilities have the better understanding of health reproduction health um and also sanitation we also do training giving training to uh friends with disabilities um to become the peer educator in their represented organization um so that the the person all the friends with disabilities in their organization also have the better understanding of their health reproduction rights and also sanitation um this this uh we feel this as a important things to do because there are a lot of friends with disabilities um who has bad sanitation management in their own living area or in their own house so we often see in the um in the uh in the environment there are a lot of uh person with disabilities who are discriminating who are sorry who are being discriminated yeah for example so we still find a person with disabilities who are separated from from their own house so for example there it seems like they are uh they are given like a cage so they are living in a cage um so they eat and they also do toilet uh they eat and they also do the toilet the activities in the same cage um so we feared is that the his sanitation or his or her sanitation it's really bad and this also what caused a person with disabilities of uh this has become the reason why there are a lot of person with disabilities also dying in this area and we feel very sorry for this so our organization is really focusing on this issue because for us sanitation is a really a basic uh rights that someone should get or sunny also have difficulties in doing the activities in the rural area or villages we can't use the toilet most of the time because the toilet are not accessible sometimes even in the toilet there is no water at all and sometimes the toilet doesn't even have a proper door or proper and safe door so when we are running these activities, we sometimes cannot go to the toilet at all um so we have to hold ourselves to go to toilet until we reach our home so that's why uh still focusing on the water and sanitation

uh issue to be very friendly to all because the local government and community still thinks that the person with disabilities here are not has not become their priority in in terms of fulfill their rights foreign so um, I It seems like your organization has already do the twin track approach that you're you know, giving um giving a focus to the government to the environment to the community and also other other institutions, but you also work with the disability organization itself, right? Yeah Foreign How about your How about your relation with other organizations such as women organization or also organization for the sanitation There in Tupang So, uh besides working with the organization with disabilities I mean We also working together with the women's organization like Like uh KK in in district area In villages And also the working group which is called the ANPL Yeah Yeah, so this organization or institution also are working for the sanitation and Clean water so those are organization or institution that we are working with Yeah And the impact is very good Because there are a lot of Like for example the women organization who doesn't understand about the issue or the rights of health reproduction Reproduction health for person with disabilities Yeah So they realized that after all this time they're only talking about learning about women with uh without disabilities So they are very happy that person need uh You know discuss with them about their the program of water and sanitation and also talking about reproduction health issue Yeah Okay Thank you, uh fina so it it's important yeah to build uh Connections working together with other movements on this issue. And also you also highlight the importance of uh using the approach of gender equality and disability inclusions in your work to promote uh Inclusive sanitations, but also a community lead total Sanitations and hygiene menstruations Yeah, so fina what would you uh Share to the grassroots in your area if you want to talk about this issue to them So, uh, I hope that All the friends with disabilities will view or will take this as an important Issue And also beside of sanitation we also have to see about the accessible sanitation So person with disabilities also have to think that That the sanitation is their basic rights of all human including person with disabilities Yeah, then Uh So to those who would like to work on a sanitation issue We hope that you all will work together with other stakeholders Agar Agar program So that this program can impact to all person with disabilities with all types of disabilities I hope that all person with disabilities Tidak Never afraid of raise your voice In regards of health reproduction issue And sanitation rights And also accessibility for toilets And also, uh, please, uh, I hope that you will have Ability to raise your voice To In regards of menstruation hygiene management Because this is very important that a person with disabilities know this issue Yeah.

Okay. Thank you so much, Tina.