

Community education for achieving West Java Aspiring Geopark

EKO PRAMUDYO¹, MUSTI'ATIN¹, VANI N. ALVIANI¹, BUDI BRAHMANTYO¹, AND OMAN ABDURAHMAN² - 1. *Geological Engineering Study Program, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Jl. Ganesha No. 10 Bandung 40132, West Java, Indonesia <doyo_pr@ymail.com>* ¶ 2. *Badan Geologi, Geological Agency of Indonesia, Jl. Diponegoro No. 57 Bandung 40122, West Java, Indonesia*

Ciletuh area is located in the southwestern part of West Java, Indonesia. It is one of three places in Java where pre-Tertiary rocks crop out. The pre-Tertiary rocks were regarded as melange complex rocks, and are evidence of preTertiary subduction in Java. Therefore, Ciletuh area holds important sites for geological science of Java Island and Indonesia. The geological setting and the nature's beauty make Ciletuh an area with potential to become a geopark. Thus, the Geological Agency of Indonesia has made some effort to make Ciletuh area part of West Java Aspiring Geopark.

The West Java Aspiring Geopark has to involve the community as a part. In fact, The Ciletuh people are part of West Java community that have inherited the Sunda culture of their ancestors. They are generally aware of their nature's beauty. However, most of the people are unaware about geological importance and the tourism potential of their region.

Therefore, we as geology students have a concern to help the Geological Agency achieve their goals, by giving such geological education to Ciletuh people. The education is done through schools and a community group. It involves experts from the Geological Agency, geology students as educators under the supervision of Institut Teknologi Bandung Lecturers, and the Ciletuh people. The education methods are socialization for the general community and geotourism practices in a community group. The materials provided in the socialization are knowledge of general geology, geological setting and natural resources of the area, and the importance of the people's role in a geopark such as protecting geological sites. More knowledge and skills are given in the geotourism practices to those who are more interested to become a tour guide or an interpreter. The expected results of this education are community awareness and pride of their region's uniqueness.

Presented in Theme 4