



# Strengthening Community Engagement through the Muslim Intellectuals Program in Majalengka

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## ABSTRACT

Sustainable development for harmony in community life, the environment, and well-being. The implementation of sustainable development is starting to spread and become a reference for development in all aspects of community life. This means that community participation is a key element in innovative, inclusive, responsive development that is oriented towards community needs. One of the community actors that plays an active role in development is community organizations, such as the Indonesian Muslim Intellectuals Association (ICMI). ICMI is committed to strengthening the strategic role of Muslim intellectuals and the spirit of collaboration in Indonesian development. ICMI focuses on the power of cross-sector collaboration as a key to solving the country's strategic problems. ICMI is also involved in regional development, such as in Majalengka Regency. The ICMI Majalengka Unit Organization (ORSAT) collects various community aspirations as a basis for developing programs relevant to local needs. The purpose of this study is to identify and analyze the distribution of community aspirations in various development and social sectors as a basis for determining policy priorities that are responsive to community needs. This study uses a qualitative descriptive method with a case study approach regarding the aspirations of the ICMI Majalengka Unit Organization in ICMI program discussion meetings to strengthen the commitment of active community participation in realizing 'Langkung Sae' Majalengka. Research on 69 aspirations across 15 sectors indicates a shift in public focus from primary physical development to integrated ecosystem development. Public aspirations have shifted from primary physical development to comprehensive ecosystem development. Short-term policy recommendations focus on systemic waste management, while long-term recommendations are directed at the digital transformation of MSMEs and equitable education quality. Specifically, the Waste Management sector has the highest aspirations, accounting for 22% of the total, indicating the high public urgency regarding environmental cleanliness, waste management, and sanitation systems as a primary focus.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Sustainable development encompasses three aspects: economic growth, social welfare and environmental protection (Nurbaiti et al., 2023; Halim et al., 2025). These three aspects are inseparable, as they are interlinked by cause-and-effect relationships. A change in one aspect will inevitably affect the others. The relationship between the economy and society is expected to create an equitable relationship. The relationship between the economy and the environment is expected to be viable. Meanwhile, the relationship between society and the environment aims to be bearable. These three aspects economic, social and environmental will create sustainable conditions (Hapsoro & Bangun, 2020).

The concept of sustainable development is a long-term approach to development, spanning generations and aiming to provide sufficient resources and a healthy environment to support life. The emergence of this concept is closely linked to an awareness of social structures within community life, with a focus on economic interests (Kristianto & Nadapdap, 2021). In Indonesia, the implementation of sustainable development has begun to take hold and has been adopted as a benchmark for development across all sectors (Setianingtias et al., 2019). This includes sustainable regional development, which demands synergy between local government, the community, and civil society organisations as strategic actors in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public policy (Rozikin, 2019; Prasetyanti & Kusuma, 2020). Community participation is a key element of development that is innovative, inclusive, responsive, and oriented towards the real needs of the community (Sucahyo & Fitria, 2023).

One of the social actors playing an active role in development is civil society organisations, such as the Indonesian Muslim Intellectuals Association (ICMI). As an organisational framework conceived by a new, better-educated generation within the Muslim community, ICMI has influenced the development of Islam as a cultural movement (Rahman & Hazis, 2018; Lathifah et al., 2020). A more striking development is the breaking down of barriers between civil society organisations and other institutions (Saepudin, 2016). ICMI is committed to strengthening the strategic role of Muslim intellectuals and the spirit of collaboration in Indonesia's development (Ali & Andari, 2024). ICMI serves as a beacon of civilisation, reinforcing the values of sustainability, knowledge, and humanity. Indeed, ICMI has played a role during the New Order era, the Reform era, and in the present day (Rohman, 2015; Nurjaman et al., 2022; Afifatuzahra, 2024).

ICMI views the power of cross-sectoral collaboration as key to resolving the nation's strategic issues, ranging from food security, human resource capacity building, educational transformation, to the strengthening of the halal industry. This demonstrates that synergy between the government, academia and the private sector is absolutely essential for the development agenda to proceed effectively and to strengthen the branding of regional development (Fitria, 2023). Internally, ICMI draws its strength from its orientation towards noble humanistic and civilisational values (Pitri et al., 2022). Its members comprise individuals from various academic disciplines and professions who are also active in various civil society organisations (Saepudin, 2016). Moreover, ICMI figures within the government have brought about a shift in the orientation of understanding and policy from a macro approach to a micro approach. The concept of the trickle-down effect from growth to welfare through the acceleration of poverty alleviation via community empowerment and a pro-people approach. The development and implementation of development policies have a direct impact on society in general and the Muslim community in particular (Kartasmita, 2015 in Saepudin, 2016).

Research by the Alam et al. (2026) reveals that ICMI's role has been influential in socio-political circles. ICMI has been able to represent the revival of Islamic organizations. The direction of this revival is not merely conservative but also toward a better image. This means that ICMI's image is oriented toward revival, modernization, and intellectualism. ICMI makes significant contributions to the development of an integrated and sustainable Islamic education paradigm. ICMI focuses on educational development, particularly in the field of Islamic scholarship, in conjunction with sustainable national development. Research by Yuldafriyenti et al. (2025) describes ICMI's struggle for existence and identity as capable of shaping the direction of a new social class. This means that it has the support of Islamic scholars capable of addressing the challenges of modernity, such as reforms in modern education, both within traditional Islamic educational institutions and secular ones.

Furthermore, research by Fahmi et al. (2024) explains that ICMI has participated in community empowerment since the New Order era until now, such as ICMI establishing Bank Muamalat Indonesia, establishing the Abdi Bangsa Foundation, Baitul Mal wa Tamwil, Takaful Insurance. Meanwhile, during the reform era, ICMI oriented community empowerment activities consisting of economic and entrepreneurship programs, village welfare programs, community economic development, public health programs, agribusiness and agro-industry development programs, education and environmentally friendly energy programs, and the green revolution program. This is supported by research by Pitri et al. (2022), which explains that the Association of Indonesian Muslim Intellectuals (ICMI), the South Sumatra Regional Organization, is directing more modern developments and adapting to the times, technology, and science. For example, ICMI established the Republican Daily, Cendekia Tabloid, Dompot Dhu'afa, and others. ICMI also contributes to the political, social, and economic sectors. ICMI's existence has had a positive impact on Muslims, as Muslims have begun to enter the realm of government bureaucracy.

Previous research has highlighted the need for an ICMI movement within society. Research by Saepudin (2016) indicates that the revitalisation of ICMI is crucial as an agent of change. The aim is to ensure that ICMI's role in the life and development of the nation is optimally fulfilled. ICMI's role can be directed towards the religious, social, political, educational and empowerment sectors in Indonesia as part of the development of a civil society.

Furthermore, research by Istanah & Suparto (2025) highlights that ICMI's role in managing da'wah with an intellectual foundation is of great importance. Renewal is needed through a strategy of digitalising da'wah. The reason is that digitalisation needs to be optimally adapted. ICMI also needs to implement cross-generational collaboration. The reason is that ICMI requires generational renewal so that the organisation remains sustainable whilst bringing innovation to society. Furthermore, scientific Islamic literacy is required. The reason is that in daily life, Islamic values do not fade and indeed possess scholarly and scientific value.

Meanwhile, in Majalengka Regency, development is directed at strengthening the economy and welfare by optimizing local potential, infrastructure, and agrotourism. This has driven the concern and participation of the Majalengka Regency ICMI in contributing to the development of Majalengka Regency. Within Majalengka Regency, the spirit of development encapsulated in the 'Majalengka Langkung Sae' vision emphasises the importance of engaging various elements of society to create a progressive, prosperous and competitive social

order. Through the ICMI Majalengka Unit Organisation or ORSAT, various community aspirations are gathered to form the basis for the formulation of programmes relevant to local needs. These aspirations reflect the hope for the implementation of empowerment programmes that are not merely normative, but also practical and have a direct impact on improving the quality of life for the community.

ICMI's programme, which focuses on strengthening the commitment to active community participation, is a concrete effort to bridge the aspirations of the ICMI Majalengka ORSAT with the region's development objectives. This programme is designed to foster collective awareness, enhance human resource capacity, and strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration in addressing various social, economic, and cultural challenges in Majalengka. However, the effectiveness of this programme requires comprehensive analysis to ensure its implementation aligns with community aspirations and is capable of making a tangible contribution towards the realisation of 'Majalengka Langkung Sae'.

Against this background, the study aims to analyse the ICMI programme in consolidating the commitment to active community participation based on the aspirations of the ICMI Majalengka Regional Chapter. This analysis is expected to provide an overview of the alignment between programme planning and implementation, whilst also serving as a basis for strategic recommendations to strengthen the role of ICMI in participatory and sustainable regional development.

## 2. METHOD

This study employs a descriptive qualitative method using a case study approach to examine the aspirations of the ICMI Majalengka Regional Chapter during an ICMI programme discussion meeting, aimed at reinforcing the community's commitment to active participation in realising a 'Langkung Sae' Majalengka. The selection of this method is appropriate for addressing the formulated research problem, thereby yielding accurate, objective, and scientific findings (Sugiyono, 2020). This research was conducted in November and December 2025. The research location was in Majalengka Regency, with the research site being the location of the Muslim Intellectuals Association Organization in Majalengka Regency. The informant in this study was the Chair of the Majalengka Regency Muslim Intellectuals Organization (ICMI). The primary informants were all branch administrators of the Majalengka Regency Muslim Intellectuals Organization (ICMI).

The research procedure is a descriptive qualitative study involving the distribution of a form containing open-ended questions to the participants of the ICMI Majalengka branch. The instrument used was a questionnaire distributed to ICMI branch members. ICMI branch members were asked to express their aspirations on the distributed list of questions. The list of questions contained open-ended questions. The use of open-ended questions was intended to provide an opportunity for branch members to convey their aspirations based on their own experiences and observations, free from the influence of the researcher's experiences, observations, and opinions.

"in an open-ended question, the participant supplies an answer. The question does not constrain individual responses. It is ideal when the researcher does not know the response possibilities and wants to explore the options. Further, open ended questions allow participants to create responses within their cultural and social experiences instead of the researcher's experiences." (Creswell, 2022).

The open-ended questionnaire was validated before distribution through expert judgment and pre-testing to ensure that the questions were well understood and yielded answers that aligned with the research objectives. During the expert judgment stage, the instrument was reviewed by experts or practitioners to assess the appropriateness of the content, clarity of language, and representativeness of the research indicators. According to Elangovan & Sundaravel (2021), expert validation is crucial to ensure each question accurately represents the construct being measured and avoids multiple interpretations. Furthermore, question formulation should avoid ambiguous language, multiple-choice questions, and questions that lead respondents to answer (Elangovan & Sundaravel, 2021).

Next, a pre-test, or limited trial, was conducted on respondents with characteristics similar to the research population. This stage aimed to determine whether respondents understood the purpose of the questions and were able to provide answers relevant to the research indicators. Artino et al. (2014) explained that instrument trials help researchers identify questions that are confusing, difficult to understand, or produce inappropriate answers so they can be revised before widespread distribution of the questionnaire. Thus, the validation process was carried out to ensure the data obtained is more accurate, relevant, and scientifically accountable.

The selection criteria for informants in this research were purposive to ensure the data obtained accurately and in-depthly represented the organization's conditions. In the context of ICMI Branch members, informants were selected based on several criteria: active membership, experience and involvement in organizational activities, understanding of the issues being studied, and the ability to provide relevant and reliable information. This selection aligns with the concept of purposive sampling, a technique for determining informants based on specific considerations to ensure researchers obtain rich data that meets research needs (Creswell, 2022). Furthermore,

variations in informant characteristics, such as position, length of membership, field of expertise, and level of organizational involvement, were also considered to avoid perspective bias and increase data representativeness.

According to (Creswell, 2022), informant selection in research must consider the informant's ability to provide in-depth information regarding the phenomenon being studied, so that the resulting data has strong validity. Meanwhile, Miles, M.B, Huberman & Saldana (2014) explained that well-selected informants will help researchers obtain credible, context-rich data that can comprehensively depict social realities. Therefore, the selection of informants from ICMI Branch members was based on relevance, experience, and informative capacity to ensure more valid and representative research results.

Data collection was carried out by distributing forms to all participants or local organisations. Based on the field results, the response rate was as follows:

**Table 1. Form Return Rate**

Criteria	Total	Percentage
Questionnaire Distributed	30	100%
Number of Unreturned Questionnaires	11	36,67%
Valid Questionnaire	19	63,33%
Total		100%

Source: Data Processing (2025)

The researchers distributed a total of 30 questionnaires (100%) to the study participants. Of these, 11 questionnaires were not returned or were not completed by the respondents, equivalent to 36.67% of the total distributed. Following verification and validation of the returned forms, 19 questionnaires were deemed complete and eligible for further analysis. Consequently, the valid response rate in this study was 63.33%.

Despite the challenge of a 36.67% non-return rate, the 19 forms collected were deemed to represent the target sample. A response rate of 63.33% is generally still considered adequate in the context of scientific research for statistical analysis and drawing conclusions. In the literature on research methodology (such as according to Babbie or Creswell), a response rate above 50% is often considered adequate, and above 60% is considered good for analysis.

“...a high response rate creates a stronger claim in generalizing results from the sample to the population. A response return rate is the percentage of questionnaires that participants return to the researcher. Many survey studies in leading educational journals report a response rate of 50% or better. However, this rate will fluctuate depending on proper notification, adequate follow-up procedures, respondent interest in the study, the quality of instrument, and use of incentives.”(Creswell, 2022).

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The completion of the aspirations form highlights aspirations across several sectors. The 19 ICMI branch organisations in Majalengka Regency submitted 69 aspirations. These 69 aspirations cover 15 sectors. The aspirations gathered from the 19 branch organisations reflect a comprehensive bottom-up development model. There is a strong common thread between economic modernisation through digitalisation and industry and the preservation of local values (religious and rural). The sectoral classification is shown in the following table:

**Table 2. Data from 19 regional offices has been broken down into 69 proposals across 15 sectors**

No	Aspirations	Sector	Code
1	Adding ADD and DBH funds to villages	Village	1
2	Drawing up a village master plan	Village	1
3	Villages as a pillar of national progress through food security	Village	1
4	Mosques and Islamic boarding schools	Education	2
5	Implementing nine years of compulsory education at village level	Education	2
6	Etiquette, Knowledge, Morality	Education	2
7	The quality of madrasahs has been further improved	Education	2
8	Scholars Programme: training in science, technology and ethic	Education	2
9	Primary and secondary school pupils can read	Education	2
10	Improving moral standards	Education	2

No	Aspirations	Sector	Code
11	The addition of secondary schools	Education	2
12	Religious event: “The Rajaban Tradition and Islamic Boarding Schools”	Religion	3
13	Construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and public facilities	Development	4
14	Investment and development of access to Ketarjati Airport and the integrated development area	Development	4
15	Government support in terms of funding, security and convenience	Development	4
16	Infrastructure	Development	4
17	Reforestation	Environment	5
18	Environmental conservation	Environment	5
19	Recommendations for greening	Environment	5
20	Accumulation of rubbish	Waste Management	6
21	Waste sorting and processing facility at the Heulet Landfill	Waste Management	6
22	Establishing a waste awareness task force responsible for	Waste Management	6
23	Education on organic and inorganic waste	Waste Management	6
24	Raising public awareness about the environment (waste)	Waste Management	6
25	Delivering the Regent’s circular to the neighbourhood associations	Waste Management	6
26	Provision of litter bins in public spaces	Waste Management	6
27	Separation of organic and inorganic waste	Waste Management	6
28	Polling stations around the village	Waste Management	6
29	Refuse collector	Waste Management	6
30	Tekbang is provided for waste management	Waste Management	6
31	Waste management	Waste Management	6
32	Community Waste	Waste Management	6
33	Kertajati Roundabout Waste	Waste Management	6
34	KIEM Industrial Waste	Waste Management	6
35	The formation of an anti-drug task force	Law	7
36	Educational sessions and guidance for secondary school pupils on understanding the dangers of drug-related crime (introductory session for secondary school pupils)	Law	7
37	Increase the production of rice, the staple food	Agriculture	8
38	Anticipating the reduction in agricultural land	Agriculture	8
39	Integrating scientific and technological innovations into the agribusiness sector boosts crop yields	Agriculture	8
40	Proposing a programme for grassroots economic development. Such as the establishment of BMTs and Sharia-compliant rural banks	Economy	9
41	Empowerment of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs)	Economy	9
42	Prioritising the empowerment of MSMEs and providing economic support to tackle poverty and unemployment. Such support must be directed towards enhancing capabilities and improving access to capital, information and markets	Economy	9
43	Training, management, mentoring, packaging, capital, distribution for SMEs	Economy	9
44	Establishing a Halal SME incubation centre	Economy	9
45	Digitisation of SME marketplaces	Economy	9
46	SME Partnership Programme	Economy	9
47	In connection with the policy to establish the Merah Putih Cooperative (Increasing workload)	Economy	9
48	The Sharia-oriented agro-industrial park programme is intended to go beyond simply selling raw materials. It aims to integrate key agricultural	Economy	9

No	Aspirations	Sector	Code
	sectors (mangoes, onions) with processing industries, supported by Sharia financing schemes		
49	Leadership development programme	Empowerment	10
50	Delivering vocational training tailored to the needs of local industry to develop skills	Empowerment	10
51	Community outreach on social awareness	Empowerment	10
52	Organisation of seminars	Empowerment	10
53	Training	Empowerment	10
54	Digital literacy awareness-raising and training for community leaders	Empowerment	10
55	Training for village representatives on MSMEs and tourism for young people	Empowerment	10
56	Training for Muslim intellectuals who are alumni of Islamic boarding schools to help them adapt to the modern era and engage with regional and national programmes	Empowerment	10
57	Organising an academic seminar featuring experts and academics from the Majalengka regency	Empowerment	10
58	Family empowerment and nutrition education	Empowerment	10
59	Tackling stunting	Health	11
60	The movement for affordable, nutritious food	Health	11
61	Improvements in sanitation and clean water	Health	11
62	Making educational digital resources available is not just about the end result	Digitalisation	12
63	Works by digital authors	Digitalisation	12
64	Digital literacy training to combat cybercrime	Digitalisation	12
65	Developing tourist villages	Tourism	13
66	Resources of tourist villages	Tourism	13
67	With a view to increasing local revenue and promoting Majalengka Regency	Tourism	13
68	A cross-sectoral study on disaster mitigation in the context of a phenomenon and national disaster	Disaster Management	14
69	Coordination or communication with organisations to strengthen working relationships and foster good cooperation	Communication	15

Source: Data Processing (2025)

Based on the data presented, there are 69 points of public concern spread across 15 sectors. A frequency analysis reveals the following distribution of priorities:

**The Dominance of the Waste Management and Economic Sectors**

The Waste Management Sector (Sector 6) is the most critical issue, with a total of 15 aspirations (21.7% of the total data). This indicates a systemic urgency regarding waste management at the grassroots level, ranging from infrastructure needs such as waste bins and temporary waste collection points, to education on waste sorting (organic or inorganic), and the formation of special task forces. The Economy Sector (Sector 9) and Community Empowerment (Sector 10) follow as the next priorities with 9 and 10 aspirations respectively. The main focus in these sectors is on strengthening SMEs, market digitalisation, and vocational training to address industrialisation.

**Focus on Human Resource Quality**

The Education Sector (Sector 2) makes a significant contribution with 8 aspirations. Interestingly, educational aspirations are not merely physical (such as the construction of a senior high school in Argapura), but also qualitative, such as strengthening manners, ethics, basic literacy, and technological proficiency.

**Other Sectoral Distributions**

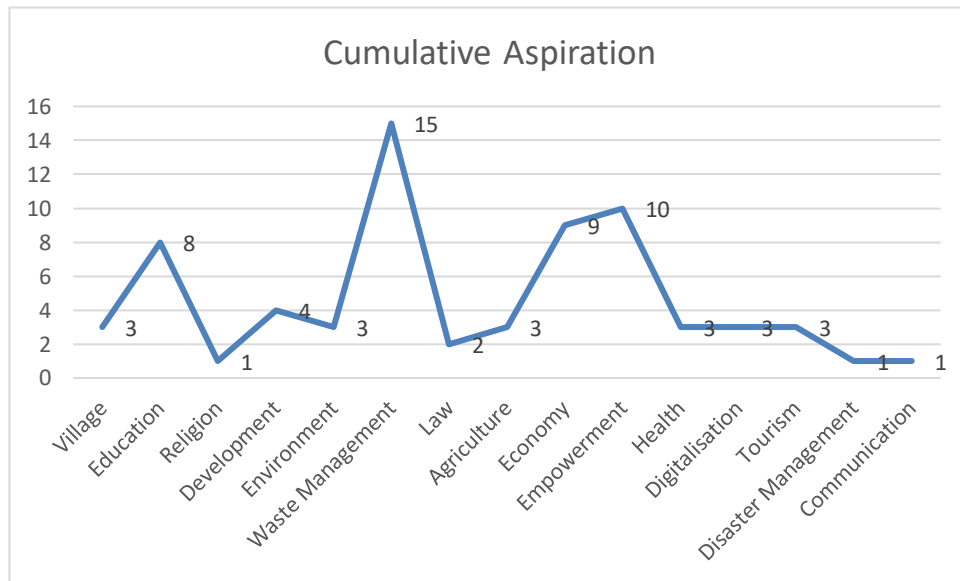
Infrastructure Development (Sector 4) focuses on regional connectivity, particularly access to Kertajati Airport and industrial zones. Health (Sector 11) emphasises national strategic issues, namely the prevention of stunting and sanitation. Environment and Agriculture (Sectors 5 and 8) emphasise reforestation and the protection of productive land affected by land-use conversion.

From a sociological perspective, the high level of aspiration regarding the waste management sector reflects a shift in public ecological awareness, with the community demanding that the state play a role in providing modern sanitation infrastructure. This is in line with the theory of sustainable development (Sustainable Development Goals/SDGs), particularly the points concerning sustainable cities and settlements. This is in line with Abiddin et al. (2022) research which explains that existing non-profit organizations are able to provide contributions and services to society as a whole

On the other hand, regarding community empowerment and the economy, there are concerns about the impact of industrialisation in Majalengka, such as the presence of the Kertajati International Industrial Estate Majalengka (KIEM) and Kertajati Airport. The community seeks an active role through sharia-based economic schemes, a halal SME incubation centre, and vocational training so as not to merely be bystanders in the region's economic growth. This data indicates that the community's needs have now shifted from merely primary physical development towards ecosystem development. The community is calling for integration between physical infrastructure such as roads and other facilities and social infrastructure such as character or moral education as well as life-supporting infrastructure in waste management and environmental stewardship.

This analysis of aspirations highlights the urgency of policy recommendations. Firstly, short-term policy priorities, starting with the systematic management of waste at the village and neighbourhood (RT) levels through the provision of technical facilities for waste collection points and the strengthening of the Waste Task Force. Secondly, medium-term policy priorities, such as the transformation of SMEs through digitalisation and halal standardisation to capitalise on international market opportunities in the vicinity of the airport. Thirdly, long-term policy priorities focus on improving the quality of secondary and higher education by integrating education with pesantren values (science and technology alongside religious values).

**Cumulative Aspirations**



**Figure 1. Cumulative Aspiration Chart**

This line graph presents the quantitative distribution of various categories of aspirations across 15 development and social sectors. The data demonstrates considerable variation between sectors, reflecting the differing priorities and urgency of community needs identified during the data collection process. The overall trend indicates that issues related to public services, welfare, and environmental management dominate community concerns, while several other sectors remain relatively less prioritised. An analysis of the trends and key points in the graph highlights several important aspects, including:

**1. Top Priority**

The Waste Management sector ranks highest, with a cumulative total of 15 aspirations. This indicates that waste-related issues have become the most urgent concern raised by the community. The high number reflects growing public awareness regarding environmental cleanliness, waste processing systems, sanitation management, and the need for more effective environmental governance. The dominance of this sector suggests that existing waste management policies and infrastructure may still be insufficient to meet community expectations. As in research by Leknoi et al. (2024) which explains

that having an appropriate and sustainable community is able to drive good waste management. Significant Clusters

Several sectors form a second cluster of dominant aspirations. The Empowerment sector recorded 10 aspirations, while the Economy sector reached 9 aspirations. These figures indicate a strong public demand for programmes related to community empowerment, skills development, employment opportunities, and economic strengthening. Such findings illustrate that improving welfare and increasing community capacity remain important priorities for society.

The Education sector also recorded a relatively high figure, with 8 aspirations. This demonstrates that educational access, service quality, infrastructure, and human resource development continue to be major public concerns. The relatively high educational aspirations indicate that communities still expect improvements in educational facilities and opportunities as part of long-term social development.

## 2. Moderate Stability

Several sectors show moderate and relatively stable frequencies. The sectors of Village, Environment, Agriculture, Health, Digitalisation, and Tourism each recorded 3 aspirations, while the Development sector reached 4 aspirations. These figures indicate that although these sectors are important, they are not considered the most urgent compared to waste management or empowerment issues. Nevertheless, the consistency across these sectors reflects balanced community attention toward infrastructure, environmental sustainability, public health, technological adaptation, tourism development, and rural progress. This is in line with Khalid et al. (2019) research which explains that communities through community organizations are able to develop sustainable tourism. In addition, research by Setiawati (2024) explains that community organizations adapt to communication technology through effective development and strategies for modern society.

## 3. Lower Aspirations

The Law sector recorded 2 aspirations, while the sectors of Religion, Disaster Management, and Communication each recorded only 1 aspiration. The low frequency in these sectors may indicate that community conditions in these areas are relatively stable or that these issues have not yet emerged as immediate priorities during the data collection period. However, the low number does not necessarily imply that these sectors are unimportant; rather, it may reflect limited current public pressure compared to more pressing socio-economic and environmental concerns. In practice, civil society organisations have not yet focused their efforts on legal reform. The reason for this is the perceived gap between the organisations' agenda and the needs of the community (Trowbridge, 2022). However, this does not mean neglecting the sectors mentioned above. Rather, civil society organisations should focus on taking action towards positive change, such as promoting sustainability and resilience (Dushkova & Ivlieva, 2024).

## 4. Overall Interpretation

Overall, the data pattern reveals a fluctuating distribution of aspirations with a sharp concentration in sectors associated with environmental management and community welfare. The dominance of the Waste Management sector highlights the need for policymakers to strengthen environmental governance systems, improve waste infrastructure, and promote sustainable environmental practices. Meanwhile, the strong figures in the Empowerment, Economy, and Education sectors indicate that communities expect participatory development programmes capable of improving social welfare, economic resilience, and human resource quality. The role of civil society organisations (CSOs) in harnessing internal potential and addressing challenges to realise the potential of local environmental management (Jore et al., 2024). Organisational structure, governance, coordination mechanisms, infrastructure and human resources promote flexibility and adaptability in civil society organisations' (CSOs) capacity to adapt to climate change (Sharma, 2023). Civil society organisations are stepping up their efforts to promote environmental, social and economic development (Pozniakovska et al., 2025). The views of civil society organisations can serve as input for policymakers in advancing effective environmental governance. Civil society organisations participate at every stage of the policy process, namely formulation, implementation and monitoring (Wang & Qiu, 2025).

### **Percentage Breakdown of ORSAT ICMI Aspirations**

The classified aspirations will be analysed to determine the percentage for each sector. The aim is to examine the percentages from the highest to the lowest, thereby making it easier to identify the level of urgency of public needs.

**Table 3.** Classification of Aspiration Indicators into 15 Sectors

Sector	Cumulative Aspirations	Percentage
Village	3	4%
Education	8	12%
Religion	1	1%
Development	4	6%
Environment	3	4%
Waste Management	15	22%
Law	2	3%
Agriculture	3	4%
Economy	9	13%
Empowerment	10	14%
Health	3	4%
Digitalisation	3	4%
Tourism	3	4%
Disaster Management	1	1%
Communication	1	1%
Total	69	100%

Source: Data Processing (2025)

This data presents an in-depth analysis of the structure of constituents' aspirations gathered through 19 ICMI Unit Organisations (Orsat). With a total of 69 points of aspiration distributed across 15 strategic sectors, this data provides an objective picture of the community's priority needs. This analysis employs a descriptive-analytical approach to examine how the cumulative percentage of each sector reflects the urgency of issues on the ground, whilst mapping the policy directions expected by grassroots intellectuals.

An analysis of dominant issue clusters (top-tier priorities) based on percentage data reveals three main sectors that account for more than half (49%) of the total public aspirations. This indicates a concentration of issues in the areas of the environment, human resources, and the people's economy. Firstly, the discussion on the ecological crisis and waste management paradigms accounts for 22%. The Waste Management sector tops the list with a total of 15 aspirations, or 22%. Scientifically, this very high figure indicates that the waste problem has reached a sociological saturation point. These aspirations are not merely routine complaints, but demands for systemic change. This high figure reflects an urgent need for waste treatment infrastructure (landfills/transfer stations), waste sorting systems, and strengthened regulations through a dedicated waste task force. The issue of waste has shifted from being merely a matter of cleanliness to a fundamental issue of environmental sustainability.

Secondly, the empowerment and capacity-building of human resources accounts for 14%. Community empowerment ranks second with a percentage of 14% (10 aspirations). This indicates a collective awareness that physical development must be accompanied by improvements in human capacity. The focus on this sector includes vocational training, intellectual leadership, and community literacy, which constitute crucial social capital in navigating the era of disruption.

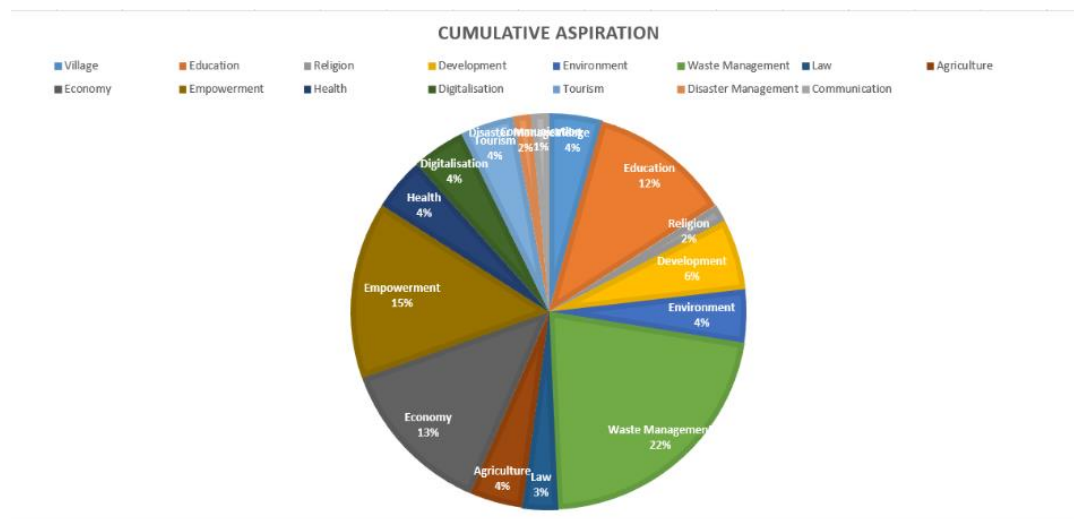
Thirdly, people-centred economic transformation accounts for 13%. The economic sector contributes 13% to the total aspirations. The high level of interest in this sector highlights the importance of strengthening SMEs, access to sharia-compliant capital, and market digitalisation. From a development economics perspective, this data confirms that the public is demanding economic inclusivity amidst the ongoing macro-industrial growth in the region.

Next is the analysis of supporting sectors (mid-tier priorities). First is the Education Sector, accounting for 12%. Education remains a key pillar, accounting for 12% of aspirations. Analysis of this sector reveals a unique pattern where the public demands not only physical access (the construction of school buildings) but also fundamental qualities such as the strengthening of moral character, etiquette, and technological literacy. This reflects the intellectual values of ICMI, which seeks to harmonise intellectual intelligence with moral strength.

Secondly, the Infrastructure Development (6%) and Connectivity sectors. Although accounting for only 6%, the infrastructure development sector carries significant strategic weight as it relates to regional connectivity to vital national assets such as Kertajati Airport and industrial estates. Aspirations in this sector act as a bridge enabling the economic and tourism sectors to flourish.

Thirdly, the analysis of fundamental sectors and specific issues (low-tier). Sectors such as Rural Areas (4%), Agriculture (4%), Health (4%), Tourism (4%), and Digitalisation (4%) show an even distribution. Scientifically, although the percentages appear small, these sectors form the interconnected foundations of life. Firstly, food security, with the integration of the Village and Agriculture sectors (total 8%), is key to long-term stability. Health and Sanitation within the Health Aspirations (4%) focusing on stunting and clean water correlate directly with failures in the waste management sector. The Digitalisation sector acts as a cross-cutting issue that will influence effectiveness across all other sectors.

Sectors with the lowest percentages such as Religion, Disaster Management, and Communication at 1% do not mean they are unimportant; rather, this indicates that these issues are considered to already have a sufficiently stable foundation or are highly specific and technical in nature.



**Figure 2.** Breakdown of ORSAT Aspirations Across 15 Aspiration Sectors

Based on the results of the primary data collection, a total of 69 community aspirations were identified, categorised across 15 strategic sectors. This distribution of data reflects the community’s priority needs and the urgency of the issues on the ground.

1. Top Priority Sector (Dominant Aspirations)

The analysis shows that the Waste Management Sector is the community’s primary focus, accounting for 22% (15 aspirations). This indicates a strong demand for improvements to management systems, governance, or resource management in the waste sector. Next, in second and third place, are the Empowerment Sector at 14% (10 aspirations) and the Economic Sector at 13% (9 aspirations). The high figures for these two sectors indicate that the community places emphasis on enhancing human resource capacity and on the recovery and strengthening of economic self-reliance. The Majalengka Regency Government aims to make the region waste-free by 2025. Achieving this target presents a shared challenge that can only be realised through cross-sectoral cooperation and the active participation of the community in waste management.

2. The Secondary Sector and Infrastructure

The Education Sector accounts for a significant 12% (8 proposals), indicating that access to and the quality of education remain crucial basic needs. Meanwhile, the Development Sector (physical/infrastructure) stands at 6% (4 proposals). Several other sectors are evenly distributed at 4% (3 aspirations), including:

- a. Rural Sector
- b. Environment
- c. Agriculture
- d. Health
- e. Digitalisation
- f. Tourism

The emergence of the Digitalisation and Tourism sectors in the same proportion as the Health and Agriculture sectors indicates a shift in public orientation towards the modernisation of governance and the utilisation of local potential. This is in line with the guidance of ICMI Chairman Prof. Arif Satria, who emphasised that in this era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, digitalisation has become an inevitability. Consequently, ICMI is preparing a number of training programmes for Indonesian youth. The ICMI Chairman has initiated the Digital Leadership School. This school will train young leaders to navigate the wave of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

3. Sectors with the Lowest Intensity

There are several sectors with the lowest percentage of public concerns, namely the Legal Sector (3%), and the Religious, Disaster Management and Communications Sectors, each accounting for just 1% (1 concern). The low figures do not imply that these sectors are unimportant; rather, they suggest that the

issues within these sectors are not considered urgent, or that public satisfaction with services in these sectors is currently relatively stable.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Research into 69 key priorities across 15 sectors reveals a shift in public focus from primary physical development towards integrated ecosystem development. The dominance of environmental and economic issues within the waste management sector highlights the critical need for systemic waste management and a transition towards ecological awareness in line with the principles of the SDGs. The Economy and Community Empowerment sector follows, with a focus on strengthening SMEs and vocational training to address the industrialisation of economic zones. Human resource quality is enhanced, with the Education sector emphasising a balance between physical infrastructure and qualitative aspects such as manners, ethics, and technological proficiency. Health & Infrastructure, as a strategic issue, focuses on tackling stunting, sanitation, and regional connectivity supporting national critical infrastructure. Public aspirations have shifted from merely primary physical development towards comprehensive ecosystem development. Short-term policy recommendations focus on systemic waste management, whilst long-term ones are directed towards the digital transformation of SMEs and the equitable distribution of educational quality.

This study has limitations related to the limited scope of respondents, which included ICMI branch members as data sources. This situation means that the representation of aspirations and views obtained does not fully reflect the overall condition of society at large, particularly community groups outside the ICMI organizational network. This study used an open-ended interview-based data collection approach, so data quality is greatly influenced by the level of participation, the depth of the interviewees' responses, and the interviewees' ability to convey their aspirations. Some sectors with low levels of aspirations may also be influenced by respondents' limited understanding of certain issues, not simply because the sector is unimportant. Therefore, future research can expand the scope of respondents by involving more diverse elements of society, such as community leaders, local government, business actors, academics, youth organizations, women's groups, and other local communities.

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#### 6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Authors state no conflict of interest.



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