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Implementation of “Merdeka Learning – Independent Campus (MBKM)” Program at Muara Gembong

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Abstract. This study aims to analyze the grand strategy to create Muara Gembong as The Implementation of "Merdeka Learning – Independent Campus (MBKM)". The sources of the study are secondary data originating from books and publications related to "Merdeka Learning – Independent Campus (MBKM)" programs. In writing this paper, the author uses a qualitative research method using a library approach. Qualitative research is a particular tradition in social science that is fundamentally dependent on observing humans in their own area and relating to these people in their language and their terminology. While the library approach is a study that uses data analysis based on written materials. Library materials in the form of published notes, books, magazines, newspapers, manuscripts, journals, or articles. Hope that the results of the study become an influence for next research related to the development of "Merdeka Learning – Independent Campus (MBKM)" programs.

Keywords: Muara Gembong, Strategic, Education

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1. Introduction

The Merdeka Campus is one of the policies of the Minister of Education and Culture Nadiem Makarim who gave a university policy to give the right to study for three semesters outside the study program. The independent campus has become a new concept that allows students to gain the freedom to study in higher education (Leuwol et al., 2020; Muhsin, 2021; Wijayanto, 2021). This concept is a continuation of the previous concept, namely Merdeka Learning. The planning of the Merdeka Campus concept is basically a learning innovation to get quality learning.

The legal basis for implementing the MBKM (Merdeka Learning Independent Campus) curriculum is Permendikbud Number 3 of 2020 concerning Higher Education standards; Permendikbud Number 4 of 2020

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concerning Changes in State Universities to Universities with Legal Entities; Permendikbud Number 5 of 2020 concerning Accreditation of Study Programs and Universities; Permendikbud Number 6 of 2020 concerning New Student Admissions for Study Programs at State Universities; Permendikbud Number 7 of 2020 concerning the Establishment, Amendment, Dissolution of State Universities, and the Establishment, Amendment, Revocation of Permits for Private Universities.

The Merdeka Learning Independent Campus policy aims to encourage students to master various fields of knowledge according to their fields of expertise, so that they are ready to compete in the global world (Baharuddin, 2021; Fatmawati, 2020; Tohir, 2020). This policy provides an opportunity for students to choose the courses they will take based on their own wishes.

The Independent Campus Learning Policy in Higher Education grants the right of autonomy to Higher Education. In principle, change the educational paradigm to become more autonomous with an innovative learning culture. The implementation of the Independent Learning Campus policy encourages the learning process in higher education to be more autonomous and flexible. There are 5 policies related to this Merdeka Campus package, namely a) a higher education accreditation system; b) study at a university (right to study outside the study program); c) ease in opening new study programs; d) new student admissions; and e) change of status to become a Legal Entity State University. This provision does not apply to the fields of Education and Health.

Muaragembong is a sub-district in Bekasi Regency, West Java Province, Indonesia. This sub-district is a sub-district with the most remote area and sub-district in Bekasi Regency. It is bordered by the Java Sea in the north, Jakarta Bay in the west, Karawang Regency in the east, and Babelan sub-district in the south. Socio-economic problems in Muara Gembong have the potential to be used as a target area in implementing the MBKM Program

2. Method

In writing this paper, the author uses a qualitative research method using a library approach. Qualitative research is a particular tradition in social science that is fundamentally dependent on observing humans in their own area and relating to these people in their language and in their terminology. While the library approach is a study that uses data analysis based on written materials. Library materials in the form of published notes, books, magazines, newspapers, manuscripts, journals, or articles.

3. Discussion

3.1 Muara Gembong

Muara Gembong, which is located on the north coast of West Java, is one of the coastal areas experiencing environmental damage related to global warming, especially sea abrasion. This condition is exacerbated by the mangrove forest as a belt. Coastal protection is decreasing even only 3% of its initial condition. The main factor in the shrinkage of mangrove forests is their conversion to non-forest areas, both for settlements, industry, aquaculture, and others.

From an ecological point of view, mangrove forests are a unique form of ecosystem. The reason is that in integrated mangrove areas four important biological elements: land, trees, fauna, and ecosystems. Thus,



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the management of forest potential like this must be appropriate and rational so that its ecological and economic functions can be utilized optimally. The function of the mangrove forest itself is to protect against coastal erosion, protect against sea breezes, and resist seawater intrusion and a place for developing marine life, apart from being an object of research and tourism that needs to be developed.

From a juridical perspective, the arrangement of the Muara Gembong area has been determined by the Bekasi Regency Government, the basis of which is adjusted to the dynamics of community development and development that occurs. Of the entire Muara Gembong area, a small part is designated as a protected mangrove forest area. In fact, the small portion of mangrove land is actually decreasing, the main reason being the expansion of the community's pond area which acquires protected mangrove forest land.

Social and economic problems are very high in Muara Gembong considering the existence of the region and its infrastructure can not be said to be fully good. This potential requires the role of academics to contribute positively to the development of the Muara Gembong area and overcome existing problems.

3.2 "Merdeka Learning – Independent Campus (MBKM)"

The MBKM program is implicitly a response Indonesian Ministry of Education to prepare excellent graduates to face changes in society, culture, the world of work, and technology that is growing rapidly in the revolutionary era of Industry 4.0. Student competencies must be further strengthened in accordance with existing developments. There is a need for a link and match between graduates of higher education not only with the business world and the industrial world but also with a future that is rapidly changing. Based on this, the Ministry of Education and Culture has enacted a new policy in the field of higher education through the "Merdeka Learning – Independent Campus (MBKM)" program which is now starting to be implemented by universities. The Ministry of Education and Culture's policy relates to the granting of freedom for students to participate in learning activities for a maximum of three semesters of study outside the study program and campus.

The MBKM policy provides opportunities for students to gain wider learning experiences and new competencies through several learning activities including student exchanges, internships/work practices, research, independent projects, entrepreneurial activities, humanitarian projects, teaching in schools, and projects in villages/ thematic real work lectures. Besides that, Students are also given the freedom to participate in activities study outside their study program in a higher education institution equal to the weight of certain credits.

Various previous research results show that the program independent learning independent campus has the main goal of increasing the competitiveness of students (students, students), and staff teachers (teachers, lecturers) in the face of the digitalization era and disruption. For example, in the study of Progressivism Theory, where MBKM program is considered a leap in education in Indonesia. Progressivism's view of learning is based on the view of students as beings who have advantages over other creatures.

In addition, the thinning of the dividing wall between the school and the school society becomes the basis for the development of educational ideas and progressivism. Students naturally already have potential reason and intelligence. With intelligence that is dynamic and creative, students have the



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provision to face and solve various existing problems. Related to that, increasing the intelligence and creativity of students become the responsibility of the world of education.

Students not only is seen as a being who is united physically and spiritually only, but it is also necessary to look at the manifestations of behaviour and actions that are in their experience. Intelligence students need to be actively functioning in taking part in the events that exist and occur in the environmental surroundings. In this case, educational institutions should be able to apply fairly, openly, and without a dividing wall against the public. Educational institutions are miniatures of society itself. Thus, students are expected to can live life through an educational learning process. Educational learning is independent learning, which can be carried out inside and outside the classroom

4. Conclusions

Curriculum preparation is carried out according to the needs in the field. The objective of the Merdeka Learning Independent Campus curriculum is the policy of the Minister of Education and Culture to encourage students to master knowledge that is useful for entering the world of work, and to provide opportunities for students to choose the courses they will take. Implementation of the MBKM curriculum to answer the challenges of technological development, with an OBE (Outcome Based Education) based learning system so that graduates focus on learning outcomes that are aligned with scientific disciplines. Muara Gembong with a fairly high level of complexity in socio-economic problems, and requiring the role of academics in it, is one of the areas with great potential to become an MBK implementation laboratory.

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