Resilient Communities and Context-Specific Policies: Shaping Urban Environments in Banjarmasin's Slum Areas

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Abstract  This study examines Banjarmasin City's low-income slum residents' views and housing preferences. To fully grasp their lives is the goal. This study seeks to explore the numerous elements affecting these communities’ residential decisions and objectives. Additionally, it investigates the viability of implementing setting-specific urban policies and interventions. Our study used systematic review and thematic content analysis. Our 16 sources included qualitative investigations, quantitative surveys, ethnographic research, and policy publications. Our study covers demographics, slum living, residential preferences, economic limits, health risks, and natural disaster susceptibility. This study highlights the resilience of the people, their desire for better housing, the economic constraints of informal employment, the health risks of inadequate sanitation, and their susceptibility to natural disasters. The study’s use of ambitious goals and community-based solutions sets it apart from prior research. Access to work is also a major factor in residents' preferences, especially in Banjarmasin. This study enhances our understanding of urban life in slums and emphasizes the need for situation-specific urban policy. Our research suggests community-driven projects have great potential, emphasizing the need for localized solutions. This work advances urban planning and development by allowing low-income communities to shape their own futures. Future research should examine the long-term consequences of localized initiatives and the scaling possibilities of community-driven development strategies in urban areas.

Keywords: urban slums, low-income communities, residential preferences, community resilience, context-specific policies

Abstrak  Studi ini mengkaji pandangan dan preferensi perumahan penduduk kumuh berpenghasilan rendah di Kota Banjarmasin. Tujuan utamanya adalah memahami sepenuhnya kehidupan mereka. Studi ini bertujuan untuk mengeksplorasi berbagai elemen yang memengaruhi keputusan dan tujuan perumahan komunitas ini. Selain itu, studi ini menyelidiki kelayakan keterlibatan masyarakat dalam perumahan yang spesifik dan intervensi. Studi kami menggunakan tinjauan sistematis dan analisis konten tematis. Sebanyak 16 sumber kami meliputi penyelidikan kualitatif, survei kuantitatif, penelitian etnografis, dan publikasi. Studi kami mencakup demografi, kehidupan kumuh, preferensi perumahan, batasan ekonomi, risiko kesehatan, dan kerentanan terhadap bencana alam. Studi ini menyelidiki keterlibatan masyarakat, keinginan mereka untuk perumahan yang lebih baik, keterbatasan ekonomi dari pekerjaan informal, risiko kesehatan akibat sanitasi yang tidak memadai, dan kerentanan mereka terhadap bencana alam. Penggunaan tujuan ambisius dan solusi berbasis masyarakat dalam studi ini membedakannya dari penelitian
Introduction

Banjarmasin City, nestled on the lush banks of the Barito River in South Kalimantan, Indonesia, exemplifies the myriad challenges that rapidly urbanizing developing regions face in the 21st century. The city's urbanization process has been accompanied by the proliferation of slum areas, characterized by substandard housing conditions, limited access to essential services, and high population densities (Loretta et al., 2015). Within these urban slum areas, the city is home to low-income communities who confront a gamut of socio-economic, health, and environmental challenges, making their perceptions and residential preferences an area of paramount significance in the realm of urban studies and development (UN-Habitat, 2016). This literature review endeavors to delve into the nuanced landscape of perceptions and residential preferences among these vulnerable populations inhabiting the slum areas of Banjarmasin City.

As urbanization continues to sweep across Indonesia, Banjarmasin's expansion offers a microcosm of the complex interplay between rural-to-urban migration, informal economies, and the pressing need for improved living conditions. Low-income communities inhabiting the city's slum areas grapple with adverse living conditions but simultaneously exhibit remarkable resilience and adaptability in the face of adversity (Jackson, 2020). They harbor dreams and aspirations, their residential choices molded by a mix of economic constraints, proximity to livelihoods, and the strength of social networks within their communities (A. Roy, 2005).

Within these urban slum areas, the city is home to low-income communities who confront a gamut of socio-economic, health, and environmental challenges. The dense and haphazard construction in these areas often leaves residents vulnerable to the risks of fires, floods, and landslides, especially during the city's dried season. Inhabitants face a daily struggle for access to clean drinking water and sanitary facilities, leading to elevated health risks and the spread of preventable diseases.
This review aspires to contribute to the understanding of these intricate dynamics by synthesizing and analyzing existing research, reports, and studies pertaining to Banjarmasin City’s slum areas. Through this exploration, we aim to shed light on the factors influencing residents’ perceptions, the underlying drivers of their residential preferences, and the overarching challenges that they endure daily (UNDP, 2019). Additionally, this study will probe the potential policy implications that emerge from these findings, seeking to provide guidance for efforts aimed at ameliorating living conditions and fostering inclusive urban development in Banjarmasin City and analogous urban contexts (World Bank Group, 2017).

The narrative unfolds by first dissecting the perceptions of slum living, encompassing the dual nature of resident sentiment, ranging from the adverse aspects of overcrowding and inadequate infrastructure to the positive attributes of community and resilience (Krstic, 2016). Subsequently, the focus shifts to the residential preferences of low-income communities, investigating their propensity to remain in the slum areas due to proximity to livelihoods, the support of social networks, and their aspirations for improved housing conditions (Lanjouw & Shariff, 2004). Following this, we examine the array of challenges that these residents face daily, including inadequate infrastructure, health risks, and vulnerability to natural disasters (Trindade et al., 2021). Lastly, we consider potential policy implications that might pave the way for a more equitable and sustainable urban future in Banjarmasin City.

In this exploration of perceptions and residential preferences among low-income communities in Banjarmasin City’s slum areas, we endeavor to offer insights that are both academically illuminating and pragmatically beneficial, serving as a stepping stone for future research and urban development initiatives aimed at improving the lives of these marginalized populations. For that our research question is What are the key perceptions and residential preferences of low-income communities residing in the slum areas of Banjarmasin City, and how do these findings contribute to the development of context-specific urban policies and interventions?

**Methods**

This study employed a descriptive research approach to gain a comprehensive understanding of the perceptions and residential preferences of low-income communities in the slum areas of Banjarmasin City. Descriptive research is a frequently employed method in the field of urban studies, facilitating the systematic observation and documentation of the present condition of the phenomenon being examined (Gurr, 2020). The present study predominantly relied on the examination of pre-existing data, including peer-reviewed literature, official publications, and research undertaken in Banjarmasin City and other metropolitan settings in Indonesia. The investigation involved the utilization of many scholarly databases, such as PubMed, Scopus, Google Scholar, and JSTOR, among others. The data gathering procedure encompassed a comprehensive review of relevant scholarly sources, employing specific search phrases including "Banjarmasin slums," "low-income communities," "residential preferences," "urban poverty," and "Indonesia." The scope of the inquiry spanned from 2000 to 2021, specifically targeting sources written in the English language. This approach aimed to
incorporate the most relevant and current scholarly works in the respective topic. The investigation encompassed literature published between 2000 and 2021, with a major emphasis on sources written in English to ensure inclusiveness and pertinence. During the search process, a comprehensive collection of 127 materials was first located. These sources encompassed a range of scholarly articles, government reports, theses, and conference papers. The relevance and quality of each source were evaluated using a rigorous screening procedure. The review incorporated articles and papers that offered valuable insights into the views, residential preferences, and living situations of low-income communities residing in slum regions. The focus was mostly on studies undertaken in Banjarmasin City or other comparable metropolitan settings in Indonesia. The screening procedure yielded a total of 16 sources that satisfied the established criteria for comprehensive examination and evaluation. The examination of the chosen sources encompassed a methodical methodology in order to extract fundamental observations and trends pertaining to the perspectives and housing preferences of economically disadvantaged communities residing in the impoverished regions of Banjarmasin City. Thematic content analysis was utilized by the research team in order to discern reoccurring themes and shared characteristics within the selected set of 16 articles. The task encompassed the classification of discoveries pertaining to the state of living conditions, dynamics within the community, economic limitations, aspirations, health hazards, and susceptibility. The process of data synthesis and interpretation was conducted in order to derive significant conclusions from a wide array of sources, encompassing qualitative studies, quantitative surveys, ethnographic research, and policy reports. The primary objective of this extensive investigation was to acquire a nuanced comprehension of the diverse elements that influence the living conditions and ambitions of marginalized communities residing in urban slums.

![Image]

Figure 1. Methods Overview: Descriptive Research on Low-Income Urban Communities in Banjarmasin City Slums

Results and Discussion

The table 1 provides a summary of key information from 16 articles that have been reviewed in this study, offering insights into various aspects of low-income communities in Banjarmasin slum areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Topic</th>
<th>Author &amp; Year</th>
<th>Research Methodology</th>
<th>Key Findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. "Urban Poverty in Banjarmasin" | Vikalista & Warsono (2023) | Qualitative Study | - High levels of overcrowding.  
- Residents lack access to clean water.  
- Strong community support networks.  
- Aspirations for improved housing. |
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<tr>
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<td>10.29080/eija. V9 i1. 2100</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
- Limited access to electricity.  
- Economic constraints affecting choices.  |
- Sense of belonging within the community.  
- Proximity to employment is crucial.  |
- Slum residents vulnerable to vector-borne diseases.  
- Poor access to healthcare facilities.  |
- Limited job security and social protection.  
- Desire for formal employment opportunities.  |
- Challenges of access to quality education.  
- Aspirations for better educational opportunities.  |
| 7. "Social Networks and Slum Communities" | Morgner et al., (2020) | Qualitative Interviews | - Strong social networks within slum areas.  
- Mutual support among residents.  
- Social capital plays a crucial role.  |
- Impact of poor sanitation on health.  
- Lack of green spaces and urban planning.  |
- Empowerment through microfinance projects.  
- Gender-based challenges in slum areas.  |
- Challenges in waste disposal and sanitation.  
- Spatial disparities in service provision.  |
- Vulnerability to natural disasters.  
- Impacts on physical and mental health.  |
- Barriers to accessing formal employment.  
- Cycles of poverty within slum areas.  |
- Integration challenges and opportunities.  
- Contributions to the local economy.  |
- Limited access to healthcare services.  
- Environmental factors affecting health.  |
| 15. "Gender Dynamics in Urban Slums" | (Tewari, 2005) | Gender Disparity Index | - Gender disparities in employment.  
- Challenges in addressing gender-based issues.  
- Women's roles in community development.  |
| 16. "Aspirations for Improved Housing" | (Gholib, 2020) | Qualitative Study | - Strong aspirations for better housing.  
- Economic constraints hinder progress.  
- Desire for safer, cleaner environments.  |
The analysis of the selected sources revealed several key insights and recurring patterns that shed light on the perceptions and residential preferences of low-income communities within Banjarmasin City’s slum areas. These insights, drawn from a diverse range of research methodologies, offer a multifaceted understanding of the complex dynamics at play (see Table 2).

Table 2. Key Insights and Patterns in Perceptions and Residential Preferences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Insights and Patterns</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Resilience and Solidarity</td>
<td>Residents exhibit remarkable resilience and a strong sense of belonging to their communities. They provide mutual support despite challenging living conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirations for Improved Housing</td>
<td>Overwhelming desire for safer, more spacious, and cleaner living environments, emphasizing the importance of housing quality in residential preferences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Constraints and Employment Proximity</td>
<td>Majority rely on informal labor sectors, highlighting the significance of proximity to employment opportunities in residential choices. Limited job security and social protection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Risks and Vulnerability</td>
<td>Inadequate sanitation facilities and overcrowding pose significant health risks, including waterborne and vector-borne diseases. Vulnerability to natural disasters, such as flooding and landslides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong Aspirations and Local Solutions</td>
<td>Residents exhibit strong aspirations for self-improvement and community development. Local initiatives and microfinance projects are identified as potential solutions for economic empowerment and progress within the slum areas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The analysis of the perceptions and residential preferences of low-income communities in Banjarmasin City’s slum areas has provided unique insights that significantly contribute to the existing body of research. Notably, our study unveils several findings that are distinct to the context of Banjarmasin and its specific slum areas, shedding light on the nuances and distinct features of this urban landscape.

First and foremost, the research highlights the localized solutions and aspirations of the residents. While prior studies predominantly emphasized the challenges and vulnerabilities within urban slums, our findings underscore the residents’ strong desires for self-improvement and community development. This unique dimension suggests a proactive approach within the community to address the challenges they face, setting Banjarmasin’s slum areas apart as potential hubs for grassroots initiatives and micro-level development. Such aspirations, unique to this context, should be harnessed in urban planning and development strategies. This unique finding contrasts with earlier research (D. Roy & Lees, 2020) that primarily focused on vulnerabilities and hardships, possibly missing the latent potential for community-driven development.

Additionally, the study emphasizes the significance of proximity to...
employment opportunities in shaping residential choices, a finding that is of particular relevance to the context of Banjarmasin. Given the city’s unique economic dynamics and employment landscape, where informal labor sectors are prevalent, our research underscores the crucial link between residence and livelihood. This finding may guide local policies and interventions that consider the spatial distribution of employment opportunities to improve the well-being of slum residents. This finding aligns with the studies of Opoko et al., (2015) and Lin et al., (2020), which have also underscored the importance of employment proximity, reinforcing the validity of our findings within a similar context.

Moreover, the research exposes the environmental challenges faced by residents, including vulnerability to natural disasters. This aspect is particularly pertinent to Banjarmasin, a city susceptible to flooding due to its low-lying geographical features. The acknowledgement of the particular environmental hazards within this given context is of utmost importance in order to foster the establishment of robust and secure urban habitats. This discovery is consistent with previous studies conducted by Heryana et al., (2015) and Okaka & Odhiambo, (2019) in different regions susceptible to flooding, underscoring the need of customized approaches to mitigate catastrophe risks in urban slum settings.

Based on the distinctive discoveries presented, this study functions as a compelling appeal to urban planners, legislators, and municipal authorities in Banjarmasin to take immediate action. This highlights the necessity of customized strategies that exploit the ambitions of inhabitants, harness the grassroots development potential of the local community, and tackle the distinctive economic and environmental obstacles inherent in the slum sections of this city. Furthermore, this underscores the significance of including job proximity into urban planning initiatives, based on insights gained from various situations.

In conclusion, our study provides unique perspectives specific to the setting of Banjarmasin and its slum regions, thereby enhancing the wider domain of urban studies and development. The results of this study support the idea of adopting a customized strategy for urban development that takes into account the unique goals and conditions of the local area. This approach can contribute to a more comprehensive and environmentally-friendly process of urbanization within this particular context. At the same time, the alignment of certain findings with previous research in similar contexts provides valuable cross-contextual validation, reinforcing the robustness and generalizability of these findings within the field of urban studies.

Conclusions
The findings of the research have shown a comprehensive comprehension of the attitudes and residential inclinations of low-income
communities residing in the slum regions of Banjarmasin. The aforementioned observations hold significant value in informing the development of urban policies and initiatives that are specifically designed to address the distinct requirements of this demographic.

The research reveals that the inhabitants of these impoverished regions have remarkable endurance and a strong sense of unity, despite the adversities posed by their living circumstances. The individuals in question aim to improve their housing conditions, prioritizing the significance of living in safer and more hygienic situations. The individuals’ decisions about their place of residence are influenced by their economic situations, which are predominantly dependent on informal job sectors. Furthermore, the research emphasizes notable health hazards associated with insufficient sanitation and susceptibility to natural calamities, necessitating focused interventions in these domains.

One notable discovery pertains to the citizens’ notable ambitions for personal advancement and the enhancement of their community. The proactive nature of this approach highlights the capacity for community-driven initiatives and micro-level transformations, distinguishing these communities as catalysts for change. In summary, the results of this study prompt us to contemplate the employment dynamics within urban planning that are contingent upon specific contextual factors.

In summary, the results of this study enhance the comprehension of urban growth inside slum regions, emphasizing the significance of policies and interventions that are tailored to the specific situation. The aforementioned statement highlights the need of implementing tactics that acknowledge and utilize the desires of people, tackle distinctive obstacles, and enable communities to initiate constructive transformations. The ongoing process of urbanization has significant implications for the future, and the aforementioned insights play a crucial role in directing the progress towards the creation of cities that are more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable.

Author(s) Statement
authors with this declare that this research is free from conflicts of interest with any party, has never been published anywhere and has complied with the rules of publication ethics. Additionally, we acknowledge the assistance provided by AI in the writing process

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Muhamad Ratodi contributed in Conceptualization, Methodology, Validation, Formal Analysis, Writing - Review & Editing, Supervision
Septia Heryanti contributed in Methodology, Investigation, Data Curation, Visualization, Writing - Review & Editing