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Gender Equality in Natural Disasters and Climate Change

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ABSTRACT

Climate change will contribute to increasing the frequency and severity of natural disasters with negative impacts on human life. Although disasters and climate change affect all populations, the impact on each gender, in terms of vulnerability, ability, and resilience, will be different. The impact of disasters and climate change is certainly heavier on women and children because women will struggle more to overcome the effects and have limited access to resource management. This research questions how women are affected by climate change and natural disasters and how climate change impacts trade in traditional culinary traders at Oesapa Color Beach, most of whom are women victims of high waves destroying their place for business. These factors make women the most vulnerable and exposed group to the effects of climate change.

KEYWORDS: climate change, natural disaster, gender equality, gender perspective, vulnerability

INTRODUCTION

Climate change can have serious impact on the whole society including women and children. The absence of gender-responsive governmental policies related to climate change and budget for programs where women’s professions are recognized and recorded, make women more vulnerable to dealing with climate change (Apik Indonesia, 2019).

The impact of natural disasters and climate change on women and children will be certainly bigger because women will have to overcome both the effects of the disasters and the limited access to resource management, while children will drop out of schools, etc. These factors make women the most vulnerable and exposed group to the effects of climate change.

Because of the lack of aggregated data on men and women, the budget for climate change adaptation programs for the most vulnerable groups such as women, children under five, and disabled people, is not available. Unfortunately, the availability of local budget for climate change
adaptation and mitigation programs is the key to building resilience.

In every disaster, caused by climate change or not, it turns out that the number of women victims is 4 times bigger than men. The results of an analysis conducted by the London School of Economics (LSE) in 141 countries prove that the differences in the number of victims due to natural disasters are closely related to women's economic and social rights. When women's rights are not preserved, the number of women victims will be greater than men. Conversely, in community groups that uphold equal rights between men and women, the numbers of victims are the same (DTE, 2008).

The issue of the impact of climate change on the genders is always discussed in forums in Indonesia, including in the province of East Nusa Tenggara. This issue is very important especially as Indonesia has currently implemented and provided examples of solutions entailing regulations, policies, and results. When there is a long dry season, women and girls are usually assigned as water and fuel collectors to look for fodder and prepare food for the family. Besides, women in rural areas often bear the responsibility for managing the work in the fields for their families' food consumption needs. In times of difficult and uncertain climate, they clearly have to face increasingly limited natural resources and heavier workloads. The consequences of longer and heavier duties for women and girls are very diverse and cover various aspects, such as education, health, and diet (Latifa S., Ade, & Fitranita, 2015).

Climate change also exacerbates inequality relationship between men, women and sexual minorities that can exist in the community before the disaster. There are differences in the ability of women and men to access resources, information, logistics, and politics. In some cases, inequalities arise when women are not warned before the disaster occurs (because of the strong traditional role of women to meet the family needs) and have limited access to various resources such as water, sanitation, and energy, which in turn creates a larger burden on women. This condition shows that climate change has a social impact on women.

In their study, Rochmayanto and Kurniasih (2013), have revealed that in middle to lower economic level farming families, the role of women is very dominant from the beginning of the land preparation process to harvesting. Women's participation in farming activities is due to uncertain family economic factors caused by changes in rain patterns. As a result, this affects the productivity of crops so that it has an impact on decreasing family income. Women work in fields and replace their husbands who work as farm laborers in other people's fields or work in other sectors to earn additional income. Changes in temperature and rain patterns slowly transform the productive roles, so that women are responsible for agricultural production in a greater proportion.

In her research, Pah (2016), have found that gender inequality is experienced by men and women. In food management, men are subordinated because they are only the factor of production, while
women, who suffer from a double burden, dominate it. Rusmadi (2016) has explained that to create gender-equitable climate change resilience programs, gender mainstreaming is needed in the policies. O’Brien, Geoff, O’Keefe, Phil, Rose, Jo, & Wisner, Ben (2006) have affirmed that, although climate change is a natural phenomenon, it is accelerated by human activities. For this reason, disaster-policy responses to climate change depend on several factors, such as readiness to accept the reality of climate change, institutions and capacities, and willingness to embed climate change risk assessments and management in development strategies. However, these factors are not universally present.

Oesapa Color Beach (Pantai Warna) is a unique tourist attraction in Kupang. This beach has been opened for tourists since 2017 and, not only has beautiful views and sunsets but also offers culinary tourism that attract visitors. Most of the culinary traders are local residents, most of whom are women. Community economic empowerment is the basic concept in this place. Currently, culinary traders at Oesapa Color Beach consist of 10 cafes, 47 spots of culinary tourism (roasted corn and bananas), 12 Salome sellers, and 24 photographers. All the 47 spots of culinary tourism are run by women. Every year, between January to March, Oesapa Color Beach endures storms resulting in damages and business closure.

Looking at various weather conditions experienced by traders, most of whom are women, at Oesapa Color Beach, climate change, and its relationship with gender equality and justice become inseparable topics. This is why, to have resilience in gender-equitable climate change, gender mainstreaming in climate change policies is needed. This carried out by integrating a gender perspective in planning, budgeting, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation so that gender-responsive climate change resilient programs and policies are manifested.

The description above shows that climate change has a social impact on women and children. Thus, the questions of this research are: 1) What are the impacts of climate change on women traders? 2) What disaster mitigation efforts are undertaken by women traders? 3) How does the destination’s image affect visitors’ interests? For this reason, an in-depth analysis of the socio-economic impacts on women and children due to climate change in East Nusa Tenggara was done.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change occurs because of the increase in Earth’s temperature leading to global warming in various regions that threatens human survival. Climate change as an implication of global warming has caused atmospheric instability in the lower layers, especially those close to the surface of the Earth. Global warming is caused by the increased amount of dominant greenhouse gases, resulting in reflection-and-absorption effect on the re-emitted long-wave (infrared) radiations, released by industries (Susandi, Firdaus, & Herlianti, 2008).
Changes in atmospheric temperatures cause the atmosphere's physical conditions to become increasingly unstable and lead to anomalies of weather parameters lasting for a long time. In the long run, these anomalies lead to climate change. Therefore, climate change has become a significant global issue in several ways: firstly, rising sea levels due to global warming will threaten the survival of coastal communities and people living on small islands (Indonesia is one of the countries threatened with the loss of up to 2,000 of its small islands by 2030), and, secondly, the potential and intensity of natural disasters such as tsunamis, droughts, and flash floods in various regions of the world will increase.

The issue of climate change is significant because it has social, agricultural, economic, and health impacts on the wider community. For example, various natural disasters not only cause death but also increase the potential for the spread of various diseases to surrounding communities: diarrhea, malaria, cholera are types of diseases that often afflict poor countries affected by natural disasters due to rising seawater and rainfall. This is because, when a disaster occurs, it is difficult for people to obtain clean water, adequate sanitation, and health facilities. In this way, the consequences on health are then closely related to the emergence of various social and economic problems.

**DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

According to the Republic of Indonesia’s law number 24, 2007 concerning disaster management, a disaster is defined as an event or series of events that threaten and disrupt people’s lives and livelihoods caused by natural factors and/or non-natural (human) factors resulting in human casualties, environmental damage, loss of property, and psychological stress. According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, disaster means something that causes distress, loss, or suffering.

While natural disasters are driven by natural events or a series of natural events that can cause environmental damage, material loss, and human victims (Kamadhis UGM, 2007), types of natural disasters, according to National Disaster Management Agency in IRBI 2013, are as follows:

1. Earthquakes,
2. Volcanic eruptions,
3. Tsunamis,
4. Landslides,
5. Flooding and flash floods,
6. Land and forest fires,
7. Extreme weather (for example, windstorms),
8. Abrasion.

Disasters have a large impact on human development. Globally, events such as earthquakes, floods, and droughts contribute to tens of thousands of deaths, hundreds of thousands of injuries, and economic losses of billions of dollars every year (O’Brien, Geoff, O’Keefe, Phil, Rose, Jo, & Wisner, Ben, 2008). In developing countries, natural disasters are a major source of risk for the poor and can destroy
development gains and wealth accumulation.

Indonesia is at a big risk for natural disasters, so mitigation is needed as an effort to overcome them. UNISDR9 in O’Brien, Geoff, O’Keefe, Phil, Rose, Jo, & Wisner, Ben (2008) have defined disaster risk reduction as a conceptual framework of elements considered with the possibility to minimize vulnerability and disaster risk throughout the community, to avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) adverse effects from hazards, in the broad context of sustainable development.

Mitigation is divided into two types, namely structural mitigation and non-structural mitigation.

Structural mitigation is an act to reduce the impacts caused by disasters, such as the use of technological approaches and infrastructure development (Sutrisnawati, 2018).

Therefore, non-structural mitigation is an act related to policy, science development, and community capacity of setting emergency plans (Rahman, as cited in Wulan, Albayudi, & Lidiarti, 2016). Coburn, Spence, & Pomonis, as cited in Wulan, Albayudi, & Lidiarti, (2016) have classified disaster mitigation efforts as follows:

1. Civil engineering and construction, that are divided into two types, namely (a) acts that produce structures stronger and resistant to hazards, and (b) acts that create disaster-protection structures;

2. Physical planning of the countermeasures against the effects of natural disasters, such as floods and landslides, for instance, by allocating the separation of development between the industrial sector (hazardous industrial activities) and the settlement center;

3. Economy, because one of the best protections against future disasters is a strong economy where profits are shared with the whole community (that is a “just economic development”);

4. The community, because people have an important role to save themselves through preparedness manifested through several ways such as socialization to all levels of society.

GENDER EQUALITY

Gender issues have been largely ignored in the global negotiation on climate change. Although general gender-related studies about disasters have been done, little has been done or promised so far to address vital issues. A thorough analysis of documents available from Bangladesh about climate change clearly highlights the lack of gender-sensitive studies in the design and delivery of adaptations (Etzold, Ahmed, Hassan, & Neelormi, 2014). In addition, relationships development between gender and mitigation is also largely absent. There is international recognition that the gender dimension of climate change needs to be better understood and reported. As governments and donors increasingly target women
in their programs in community-based climate change adaptations (UN Women, 2014), more attention needs to be paid to the gender dimension of climate change and disasters to identify and reduce gender-based inequality and build a resilient population.

In Indonesia, gender mainstreaming has been implemented in accordance with Presidential Instruction number 9, 2000. Gender mainstreaming is a strategy to manifest gender equality and justice, while gender aspects are integrated into the formulation of program policies and activities through planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

The importance of gender mainstreaming in environmental efforts and poverty alleviation has been recognized in various global agreements and conventions, and, in this context, the Indonesian government has provided the three Rio Conventions with a strong mandate on gender equality and women’s empowerment for the first time. By signing and ratifying the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Climate Change (UNFCCC), and Desertification (UNCCD), the government is officially committed to implementing these agreements and monitoring and reporting their progress. As a result, the implementation of these international agreements at the national level requires immediate attention. Over the past decade, new knowledge, which allows for a clearer understanding of the relationship between gender and adaptation, has been gained (Ahmed et al., 2007; Alam et al., 2008), but there is a need for more actions to be done. In fact, this task becomes more pressing with the increased attention paid to adaptations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

**DESTINATION IMAGE**

Sach (2010) has argued that an image is a knowledge and an attitude toward different groups of people. Sangkaeng, Mananeke, & Oroh (2015) have stated that an image is an impression, a feeling, an overview of a company, the impression being deliberately created from an object, person, or organization. Soemirat and Ardianto (2007) have defined an image as a picture of reality that does not have to conform to the perception of reality and the world. Therefore, from the definitions above, an image can be interpreted as a result of an object’s experience and knowledge. In the context of this research, tourism image is defined as a picture of reality that can influence the interests of tourists to visit the attraction again. The destination image in this study is divided into two dimensions, Cognitive Destination Image and Affective Destination Image.

**VISITING INTERESTS**

A visiting interest is an individual’s interest in one particular object that pleases the individual. In this case, Mappier (1982) has explained that interest is a mental device consisting of blends of feelings, hopes, education, fears, or other tendencies that move individuals to a certain choice. Meanwhile, Sukardi (1994) has
argued that interest is one element of personality that plays an important role in making future decisions. Interests direct individuals to an object on the basis of “like” or “dislike”. The happy or unhappy feeling is the basis of interests, and a person’s interest may be known from a happy or unhappy statement about a particular object.

A person’s interest is driven by some important factors, namely, a sense of delight, attention, and need. In relation to a students’ research about an interest in extracurricular activities like musical art, a person’s interest in something is not to be known or measured directly, but factors should be used to uncover it. Thus, questions are used to reveal the factors and uncover a person’s interest in an activity.

In the context of this study, a visiting interest is analogous to a buying interest. This is in line with the research conducted by Albarq (2014) which equates the interests of tourist visits with the interests of consumer purchases. The interest in a return visit is an impetus needed by someone to make a repeat visit. Retention is part of a purchase where there is a context of loyalty (Söderlund, M., & Vilgon, M, 1999). In addition, Fornell (1992) has stated that customers make a repeat visit in the future and invite others to the services they receive.

INTRODUCTION STUDIES AND ACHIEVED RESULTS

One of the empirical studies and achieved results that form the basis of this research is O’Brien, Geoff, O’Keefe, Phil, Rose, Jo, & Wisner, Ben (2006) entitled Climate change and disaster management. Even though climate change is a natural phenomenon, it is accelerated by human activities. The disaster-policy response to climate change depends on several factors, such as readiness to accept the reality of climate change, institutions and capacity, and the willingness to embed climate change risk assessments and management in development strategies. However, these factors are not universally present.

This research adopted a quantitative method with cause and effect associative approach. A quantitative approach aims to look for the influence of the independent variable (X) on the dependent variable (Y). In this study, there were two units of analysis, culinary traders at Oesapa Color Beach and visiting tourists. Therefore, in addition to conducting an influence test, the SWOT\(^1\) analysis provided results of culinary trader analysis.

METHODOLOGY

Population, Samples, and Sampling Techniques

In this study, the population consisted of 2 units of analysis, the first was the 47 women-run culinary tourism businesses (roasted corn and bananas), while the second were visitors of Oesapa Color Beach in Kupang. The sampling technique

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\(^1\) SWOT analysis: identifying various environmental factors both internal and external to be able to maximize strengths and opportunities while minimizing weaknesses and threats.
used for the latter was nonprobability, or the Accidental Sampling Method amounted to 100 visitors above 15 years old.

Data Analysis Techniques

Classical Assumption Test

- Normality Test
  Normality is used to determine whether the data is spread normally. One-sample of the Kolmogorov Smirnov test with a significant rate of 0.05 (5%) was used here. This statistical test is also meant to determine what analysis tools should be used next.

- Heteroscedasticity Test
  Heteroscedasticity is a condition in which the disturbance variables do not have the same variances. Detection of the absence of heteroscedasticity can be done using the Rank Spearman correlation method (Gujarati, 1997).

Multiple Linear Regression Analysis

The analysis tool used in this study was Multiple Linear Regression supported by the SPSS program. Multiple Linear Regression analyses are formulated as follows:

\[ Y = a + b1X1 + b2X2 + e \]

Remarks:
- \( Y \) = visiting decision variable
- \( b0 \) = constant
- \( X1 \) = Cognitive Destination Image variable
- \( X2 \) = Affective Destination Image variable
- \( e \) = margin of error (Sugiyono, 2014)

Description of Object

Oesapa Color Beach, known as Pantai Warna, is located in Oesapa village, district of Kelapa Lima, in Kupang, East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) province. This place is about 7 kilometers from the city center and is approximately 500 meters from the main road, Timor Raya.

This beach has been opened for tourists since 2017 and, in addition to the beautiful scenery and sunset colors, it offers culinary tourism. The majority of culinary traders are local residents who are the members of the Oesapa Color Beach Traders Association consisting of 10 cafes, 47 spots of culinary tourism (roasted corn and bananas), 12 Salome traders, and 24 photographers. The majority of the culinary traders have long been selling even before the place was developed into a culinary tourism spot. From the interviews with 10 traders, only one person started selling since the beach was opened for tourists, while 9 started selling even before that.

Of the 10 key informants, who were culinary traders, 50% finished elementary school, 20% finished junior high school, 20% finished
senior high, 10% were without a diploma. These results indicated that the majority of the culinary traders (in this case, women) had very low levels of education, and becoming a culinary trader was their choice.

In addition to the low level of education, culinary traders at Oesapa Color Beach had limited access to capital. 8 out of 10 culinary traders set up their business with their own capital. This was possible because the scope of work was small so they did not need much capital. However, when they needed additional capital, daily cooperatives and loan sharks were the choices. Access to banking was constrained by legality and ability to provide collateral (to add, the low level of education made the traders reluctant to deal with banks).

**FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

*Impacts of Climate Change for Women Traders*

Decreased family income often pushes women to look for alternative business opportunities. Women try to maintain family food security, so that the needs of the family members are fulfilled and, sometimes, they are also willing to ignore their very personal interests to maintain the family economy. In other words, women are the most sensitive parties to economic changes in the household. Sometimes, women are not only engaged in the domestic sphere but also the breadwinner in the family.

As is the case with women all over Indonesia, where many of them work illegally, Women in East Nusa Tenggara also experience the same thing. Lack of access to employment and low education level make women get jobs that are far from their gentle and protective nature (Wijayanti, I., Pneumatica I., Oryza, & Nurjannah, S., 2018).

Based on the results of this study, where the majority of the culinary traders in Pantai Warna had a low level of education (50% only finished elementary school), to become a culinary trader was the women’s first choice. With all these limitations, the women traders sell roasted corn and bananas, different kinds of cassava chips, and various drinks, and 47 of them sell roasted corn and bananas as favorite menus of visitors. Based on the results of the interviews, the traders bought foodstuffs in the market or from suppliers. In that way, the traders could easily get the bananas every morning. Nevertheless, it could be hard to get corn since it is a seasonal crop. Changes in the rain patterns are also a major factor of difficulty to get raw material for sale. Moreover, high waves and strong winds that occur at Oesapa Color Beach cause traders to suffer losses too because they keep away visitors, leaving corn and bananas rotten.

*Disaster Mitigation Efforts Undertaken by Women Traders*

High waves and strong winds that occur at Oesapa Color Beach damage the roads and food stands. Based on the interview results, the physical damage caused by climate change was the most directly felt impact.

This study also analyzed the ability of the community to cope with climate change occurring in the village area. The parameters
were based on a combination of ideal capacity characteristics created by the community itself and juxtaposed with the ideal adaptation frameworks from the I-ICTACH guide, some of which are (Ichsan, 2018):

1. The community has mutual cooperation habits, has a leader, and several people who work for the common interests, and is used to make plans together driven by good values in managing the environment.

2. The community has the expertise, ability, and cooperation as well as strong motivation to cope with climate change, including through livelihoods to overcome the problems from the bad weather resulting in damage to property and risk to life safety.

3. The community has the ability to build cooperation and good relations with external parties (NGOs, the private sector, regional governments) and organize collaborative activities.

4. The community lives in a healthy environment with diverse natural resources and healthy and sufficient water.

5. The community has a background in and experience of dealing with climate change.

The results of the interviews with traders at Oesapa Color Beach indicated that they could deal with climate change. These results suggest that although the impacts of climate change are experienced by the whole community, those who have prepared themselves to face the situation, for example, founding Oesapa Color Beach Traders Association, are equipped with early warnings and joint practical deliberations in dealing with annual high waves and winds. Oesapa Color Beach Traders Association can strengthen social relations among affected traders, and improve the economy. In this way, it is expected that traders can run alternative businesses so as not to depend entirely on one source of livelihood.

Mitigation efforts can also be undertaken with the use of gabions along the coast, bearing in mind the routine of tidal waves and abrasion every year, but without losing the beauty of the traditional huts. Moreover, mitigation can also be done through the development of weather information transmission to provide fast and accurate data about the latest weather conditions. This will be helpful for the beach traders who only rely on their traditional ability to read the weather that is not always accurate. In the end, all mitigation efforts must synergize with the government through the preparation of regional planning and compilation of action plans along with regional policies both at the city and village level.

Effect of Destination Image on the Visiting Interest

The formulation of the third problem wants to illustrate the impact of e natural disasters on visitors because their presence is a major factor for the economic activities of culinary traders at Oesapa Color Beach. To do this, a survey was conducted on visitors who came before any disaster
occurred and after the disaster occurred. The results are:

Visitor characteristics by gender

From 100 respondents, 46% were male and 54% were female (gender differences are usually the background of one’s actions and behaviors). The distributed questionnaire suggested that the visitors to the tourist site were mainly women.

Visitor characteristics by age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-20 years</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-25 years</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-30 years</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 30 years</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above table shows that the majority of visitors were those of 21-25 years old (76%), followed by those of 15-20 years (14%). It suggested that the visitors of Oesapa Color Beach were usually enthusiastic youth interested in new things.

CONCLUSION

Culinary traders at Pantai Warna justify the economic effects of climate change. Whenever high waves and strong winds occur at the beach, the number of visitors dramatically drops resulting in rotting corn and bananas.

Furthermore, high waves and strong winds damage roads and sales points. Adaptive strategies undertaken by women traders at Oesapa Color Beach can be active, passive, and network strategies.

Active strategies include optimizing human resources, family members such as children and husbands, to improve the economy. It is also expected that traders can run alternative businesses so that they do not depend entirely on one source of livelihood. Passive strategies are carried out by women traders at Oesapa Color Beach, by reducing family expenses done through the coordination with all family members. Meanwhile, network strategies are carried out by establishing consensus through Oesapa Color Beach Traders Association that provides early warnings and joint practical deliberations in facing annual high waves and winds and strengthens social relations among affected traders.

In the end, all mitigation efforts must synergize with the government through the preparation of regional planning and compilation of action plans along with regional policies both at the city and village level.

This study is limited to one site along the Oesapa coastline in Kupang municipality. More information can be gathered if the study is extended to cover more sites in the municipality.

It is recommended to conduct further research using a mixture of quantitative and qualitative methods so that more complete data and information can be gathered.
REFERENCES


ABOUT

SALASIKA etymologically derived from Javanese language meaning ‘brave woman’. SALASIKA JOURNAL (SJ) is founded in July 2019 as an international open access, scholarly, peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal publishing theoretically innovative and methodologically diverse research in the fields of gender studies, sexualities and feminism. Our conception of both theory and method is broad and encompassing, and we welcome contributions from scholars around the world.

SJ is inspired by the need to put into visibility the Indonesian and South East Asian women to ensure a dissemination of knowledge to a wider general audience.

SJ selects at least several outstanding articles by scholars in the early stages of a career in academic research for each issue, thereby providing support for new voices and emerging scholarship.

AUDIENCE

SJ aims to provide academic literature which is accessible across disciplines, but also to a wider ‘non-academic’ audience interested and engaged with social justice, ecofeminism, human rights, policy/advocacy, gender, sexualities, concepts of equality, social change, migration and social mobilisation, inter-religious and international relations and development.

There are other journals which address those topics, but SJ approaches the broad areas of gender, sexuality and feminism in an integrated fashion. It further addresses the issue of international collaboration and inclusion as existing gaps in the area of academic publishing by (a) crossing language boundaries and creating a space for publishing and (b) providing an opportunity for innovative emerging scholars to engage in the academic dialogue with established researchers.

STRUCTURE OF THE JOURNAL

All articles will be preceded by an abstract (150-200 words), keywords, main text introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion; acknowledgments; declaration of interest statement; references; appendices (as appropriate); table(s) with caption(s) (on individual pages); figures; figure captions (as a list); and a contributor biography (150 words). Word length is 4,000-10,000 words, including all previous elements.

TIMELINE AND SCHEDULE

Twice a year: February and July.

PUBLISHING AND COPYRIGHT APPROACH

All articles must not have been published or be under consideration elsewhere. We are unable to pay for permissions to publish pieces whose copyright is not held by the author. Contributors will be responsible for clearing all copyright permissions before submitting translations, illustrations or long quotes. The views expressed in papers are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the journal or its editors.

CONTENT ASSESSMENT

All articles will be peer-reviewed double-blind and will be submitted electronically to the journal (journal@salasika.org). The editors ensure that all submissions are refereed anonymously by two readers in the relevant field. In the event of widely divergent opinion during this process a third referee will be asked to comment, and the decision to publish taken on that recommendation. We expect that the editorial process will take up to four months. We will allow up to four weeks for contributors to send in revised manuscripts with corrections.