

THE URBANIZATION IN SEMARANG CITY

Saratri Wilonoyudho

wsaratri@yahoo.com

*Civil Engineering Department Semarang State University
Building E second floor Campus of Sekaran, Gunungpati Semarang*

ABSTRACT

The purpose this paper is to provide a broad overview of the recent patterns and trends of urban growth, and to discuss the relationship between urbanization, economic and population growth and environment in Semarang City. Over the last 20 years many urban areas have experienced dramatic growth, as a result of rapid population growth and as the world's economy have been transformed by a combination of rapid technological and political change. Centralistic type of development from New Era Government gives consequences in the formation of mega urbanization. As a geographic phenomenon, urbanization is seen as a continuum from community level until global level. In the cases of Semarang, there is much more than a doubling. Net migration in many cases contributes as much as two thirds of the population growth in these zones, whereas in the city cores, net migration contributes little to growth. The main factor which is influencing urbanization process in Semarang is the growth of service sector, especially informal activities. A comprehensive model suggests that urbanization in Semarang is influenced by structural and social demographic factors. So, the balance between managing urban discharges to environment and enhancing environmental resource capacity is key determinant of the sustainability of the development in Semarang and livability in general

Keywords : urbanization, population growth, mega urban, environmental, degradation, sustainability development

INTRODUCTION

Semarang city which is hereinafter called Semarang is the capital of Central Java Province that has hinterlands or suburbs involving *Kedungsapur zone* (Kendal, Demak, Ungaran, and Purwodadi). Kedungsapur zone is such a strategic node. Some places in Semarang regency, which its capital is in Ungaran, become a buffering zone for pure water, while Demak and Purwodadi becomes the buffering zone for settlements and workers supplier on behalf of the sustainability of Industrial activities in Semarang.

Semarang has grown become a “*region-based urbanization*” as a term quoted from [McGee, 1991], i.e. an urban area that pervades into the suburbs. Then, the problem arisen is how far the advantages of economically growth in Semarang can be pervaded into the suburbs area or *hinterland*, in order to happen as what [Rondinelli, 1984] said as “trickle down effect” and “spread effect” or affect that extent from the axis of growth of Semarang. The result of research by [Sutomo, 1994], for example, suggested that he found a spontaneous agglomeration in the form of commercial activities in Semarang particularly along the regional traffic lane. In the particular places, there were contrast in-out migrations in the specific times. It happened because of the spatial dynamic and the change of farming area usage into the settlement and business center. This change led into some problems, such as, the problems of environment, traffic lane, settlement, and other social problems. The very serious problems that Semarang faces that cannot be handled until time being are flood and rob. Another problem is dealing with job opportunities. According to [McGee, 1971], there are two very serious facts lying on the developing countries. *First*, most of the cities grow extraordinarily; *second*, these extraordinary growths are not going along with the quick economic growth which provides some job opportunities for the populations. [Todaro and Stilkind, 1981] called it “over urbanization,” i.e. a misbalancing between urbanization and cities’ growth.

The very rapid growth of Semarang requires a strategic planning to support the ongoing city development. The facts show that each city in Indonesia has had the spatial planning, nevertheless they cannot be implemented seriously because there is no well-done mechanism [Soedrajat, 2000].

Seeing that the background of problems will rise the research questions, (1) what factors are called the principal determinant of urbanization in Semarang? (2) How far do the effects happen because of urbanization in Semarang?

The objectives of this research are, 1) to describe the principal determinant of urbanization in Semarang, 2) to describe how far the effects happened because of urbanization in Semarang.

The significances of this research are theoretically it can give in-depth and detailed knowledge dealing with the determinants and effects of urbanization in Semarang. In this research, the tendency of urbanization was not only studied from the view of demographic problem, but also from the view of economy and other determinants comprehensively.

According to [Cohen, 2006], in the beginning of twentieth century there were only 16 cities in the world that had more than a million people within. For time being, however, there are about 400 cities in the world that has more than a million within. According to John Friedman in [Laquian, 2008], *urban fields* typically extend outward from the city core to a distance of more than 100 kilometer, in which McGee said as unique feature of Asian Urban agglomerations has coined the term *desakota* development to describe their growth combining the *Bahasa* terms *desa* (village) and *kota* (city) to indicate their mixed rural-urban characteristics.

There were two contradictive opinions about the urbanization leading this study become much more interesting. The first opinion suggested that it was such thing leading some advantages, in the contrary, nevertheless, the second opinion suggested this would come up to a dozen of problems. The one who suggested this positive assumption about urbanization, for example, Stanislaw Wellisz from University of Colombia, United States see also, [The World Bank, 1994] proposed that it had a straight correlation to the increasing of per capita GNP. This suburbs-city migration mainly indicated that industrialization process was going stronger. Finally, this economic development would “pervade” to the suburbs, consequently there would be such of progress in the agricultural sectors and of course the increasing of its income [Todaro & Stilkind, 1981].

Meanwhile, those who were in the opposite opinion claimed there were several “parasite” cities, since some of them “soaked up” human resources a lot from its hinterland. It was in contradiction with a “generative” city, i.e. a city leading a surrounding development. Also, it was believed it would take along several harmful effects since it came up to a dozen of problems, such as: poverty, job opportunity, transportation crisis, pure water crisis, environment damage, slum areas growth, and forth.

Urbanization is tightly related to the world capitalism growth, while Asia is the most dramatic area being influenced by the economic globalization [Light, 2001 and Tyner, 2002]. John Friedman in [Melchert, 2005] suggested that there was a relationship between the world economic growth and the city growth especially in the developing countries. In other words, global economy was led and controlled by the world capitalism Saskia Sassen in [Melchert, 2005].

The capitalism growth in cities drives the suburbs populations to make a better life by working there. According to [Short, 1984], urbanization processes was related to the individual pretensions to move to and work out in big cities, as a consequence, it would come up to the populations concentration. In other hands, Stahl in [Keban, 1995] proposed neoclassic and macro-structural theories; the *micro neoclassic* suggested that ones' or families' decision to migrate was rationally made on behalf of maximizing its advantages or benefits.

The urbanization determinants was also suggested by [Hoover, 1975], describing that a decision the most entrepreneurs made to place their works in big cities was aimed to gain the efficiency, profit and *utility maximization* that finally it would lead to populations concentration. Of course, it would raise a number of interactions, particularly in the production system and some regulation systems related to politics, economics, and financial both in national and even international, that would end to the economic growth of a big city [Boyer, 1990].

Furthermore, the effects of urbanization was assumed with the transformation processes of economic social leading to the polarization between suburb-city, the spatial gap, and also the gap between “advanced” and “less-advanced” regions [Lo & Shalih, 1975]. The future of the Third World couldn’t be understood without asking the job descriptions in the world and the government interests to manage a city [Gilbert & Gugler, 1996], and also, [Smith and Nementh, 1987], the ones who were such henchman of historic structural, believed that city urbanization could be traced from the history of its growth, it was because that in the past, the cities in the developing countries were the place to gather up the crops, besides as the governmental center.

Seeing the explanations above showing that a research about urbanization in Semarang will be much more important because the urbanization happened here can be described as [Evers, 2008] called *urban involution*. The word “involution” is highly contrast to “evolution” which shows a process with the structures, patterns, and the types tend to be crucial, complicated, without stepping up on to the stairs of evolution. Most of cities in Indonesia keep on growing involutedly toward to the “*true urban revolution*” i.e. wider market opportunity, a lot of investments admitting and changing the spatial planning planted with mall within, shopping center, central business district, ICT (Information, Communication and Technology) Network, and other infrastructure buildings.

THE METHODS

This research is trying to uncover the meaning of urbanization phenomena by utilizing the numerical data or information of survey result from BPS (Center Bureau of Statistic) or other related institutions. The understanding toward these data and information is fairly done and, without any manipulation, arranged through some experiments or tests. In other words, it tends to be a qualitative research [Nasution, 1988]. This research, in order to be much comprehensively, will fuse the quantitative research and numeric [Brannen, 1997].

Research Variable

Variables used in this research are;

Dependent variable; urbanization;

Independent variable;

1. Populations change, *indicators*, number of populations, density, structures (age, sex, job, and education), ratio of city-suburbs populations, and ratio of human sources working in industrial field.
2. Economic growth, *indicators*, growth of Regional Gross Domestic Products, per capita income, number and growth of big, middle, and small industry, informal sector, and contribution of industrial sector toward the sum of PDRB.
3. Dynamically environment changing, *indicators*, Life Quality Index or Human Development Index, and a number of environment impairment.

Analysis Method

The data or information collected will be analyzed after being correlated and gathered with the facts and other data, besides it will be supported by the data triangulation. The analysis results are to determine the significances beyond the decision displacement of economic growth and population prudence in the relationship with the effects of urbanization. Seeing the model used by [*Miles and Huberman*, 1992], content analysis model is used to analyzed the substance of any documents related to spatial policy, spatial planning of the city, and some other population prudence.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Rapid growth happened in Semarang could be realized from the population growth along a year. Semarang BPS Data, in 2008, showed that along 2002 until 2006 respectively the populations coming to Semarang are 32,270 people in 2002, 37,063 people in 2003, 35,105 people in 2004, 30,910 people in 2005, and 42,714 people in 2006. Among the sub-districts with dense population category, they received quite lot populations in 2006. They respectively received 4,128 people in Banyumanik, 4,136 people in Tembalang, 6,209 people in Pedurungan, 4,002 in Semarang Barat, and 4,059 in Ngaliyan.

An ingress migration numbers in Semarang was apparently as rapid as we can see in *Table 1*. It could be seen that 0-4 year-old group, either boys or girls, seemed to decrease its numbers, i.e. in 1997 that consisted of 57,966 boys and 57,792 girls decreased its numbers into respectively 25,874 and 24,847 in 2007. This fact showed us that a birth rate in Semarang was decreased. If we looked into 25-29 and 35-39 year-old groups, nevertheless, either men or women, we found that it somewhat incisively increased. In the 25-29 year-old group, for example, there were only 56,409 men and 57,827 women during 1997, while ten years later, it incisively increased, i.e. 78,093 and 77,228 people for men and women respectively. The same condition of incisively increasing happened on 35-39 year-old group, as well. It could be assumed it was because of the ingress migration in Semarang.

Table 1. Semarang population by age in 2007

Age Group	Numbers of Male Population		Numbers of Female Population	
	1997	2007	1997	2007
0 – 4	57.966	25.874	57.792	24.847
5 – 9	59.756	59.372	58.894	56.700
10 – 14	60.201	60.551	59.870	58.647
15 – 19	63.309	58.626	63.481	56.615
20 – 24	61.435	61.626	62.444	59.992
25 – 29	56.409	78.093	57.827	77.228
30 – 34	51.999	72.612	52.038	73.843
35 – 39	46.526	70.036	47.518	71.698
40 – 44	39.906	58.912	40.868	61.964
45 – 49	34.589	50.905	36.205	53.136
50 – 54	30.933	41.808	31.988	39.964
55 – 59	26.138	27.684	26.581	26.237
60 -64	21.553	16.151	22.734	18.755
65 ke atas	15.730	39.776	17.239	52.942
Total	626.450	722.026	635.479	732.568

Source: Central Bureau of Statistic/ BPS Kota Semarang in 1998 and 2008

The population growth happened because of that ingress migration seemed to go along with the rapid of economic growth in Semarang. Semarang BPS Data, in 2007, showed that the revenue of admission charge, excise tax and other revenues (in million) kept on increasing from times to times since 2002 to 2006 respectively, Rp. 193,890 (2002), Rp. 193,892 (2003), Rp. 367,717 (2004), Rp. 557,628 (2005), and Rp. 1,458,932 (2006). The rate of Regional Gross Domestic Products also showed that industrial and trading sectors, hotel and restaurant gained over more 30% of the GRDP.

Table 2. Semarang Regional Gross Domestic Product (PDRB) in 2001, 2004 and 2006 (Based on the constant price in 1993 in million rupiah)

No	Sector	Year		
		2001	2004	2005
1	Agriculture	36.904 (0,68%)	40.516 (0, 66%)	42.182 (0, 66%)
2	Mining and Quarrying	14.039 (0, 26%)	15.495 (0, 25%)	15.903 (0, 27%)
3	Industry	1.705.755 (31, 56%)	1.915.753 (31, 34%)	1.976.291 (31, 04%)
4	Electricity, Gas, Water	77.331 (1, 43%)	98.491 (1, 61%)	106.102 (1, 67%)
5	Building	196.230 (3, 63%)	216.436 (3, 54%)	236.101 (3, 71%)
6	Trading, Hotel and Restaurant	1.913.163 (35, 4%)	2.189.632 (35, 8%)	2.267.850 (35, 62%)
7	Transportation and Communication	397.261 (7, 35%)	458.847 (7, 51%)	507.827 (7, 98%)
8	Finance, rental, Government Service	350.124 (6, 48%)	385.362 (6, 31%)	395.972 (6, 22%)
9	Services	714.432 (13, 22%)	791.374 (12, 95%)	817.771 (12, 85%)

Source: Central Bureau of Statistic/ BPS Kota Semarang in 2002, 2005, 2006

The rapid growth of economy in Semarang happened because it was supported by the stockholders investing their capitals (*Table 3 and Table 4*). Along 2003 – 2005, the sums of foreign capital (PMA) were quite higher than domestic capital (PMDN). In 2004, the sums of foreign capital were almost six times of the sums of domestic capital, even in 2006, it was highly imbalance since domestic capital merely counted Rp. 317 billion which was contrasted with Rp. 172 trillion of foreign capital. This suggested the domination of foreign capital in Semarang was completely right. In 2009, a *Semarang Business Forum* agreed 13 letters on intent about the investment planning in Semarang with Rp. 1.13 million in total; that was what the head of Trading and Industrial Board of Central Java said in *Kompas* daily news (21/8/2009).

On another hand, capital flow for micro- and middle-enterprise (*Usaha Mikro Kecil dan Menengah UMKM*) was quite limited. As Bank Indonesia in Semarang reported, micro-credit for UMKM which *Bank Perkreditan Rakyat (BPR)* distributed in 2003 was merely as much as Rp. 4,311,696 million, and in 2007 became two times much more than before, Rp. 10.519.465 million. And also, the numbers of micro-businessmen increased its numbers from 12.911 in 2003 to 19.316 in 2007 [*BPS Semarang, 2008*].

Table 3. Realization of investment value of foreign capital in Semarang

Categories	2003	2004	2005	2006
Numbers of Projects	3	1	5	1
Numbers of Workers	9 people	1.761 people	605 people	262 people
Values of Investment (in thousands rupiah)	25.691.660.000	57.000.000.000	216.470.910.000	317.475.000

Source: Central Bureau of Statistic/ BPS Kota Semarang in 2004,2005,2006,2007

Table 4. Realization of investment value of foreign capital in Semarang

Categories	2003	2004	2005	2006
Numbers of Projects	4	4	13	10
Numbers of Workers	641 people	996 people	1.509 people	1.967 people
Values of Investment (in thousands rupiah)	60.798.575.00	792.968.642.585	271.350.775.250	172.039.001.836

Source: Central bureau of statistic/ BPS Kota Semarang in 2004,2005,2006,2007

The increasing numbers of micro-businessmen as described above is an interesting phenomenon. From the side of job opportunity, it was increasing; nevertheless, something too fairly notices was the phenomenon Wertheim in [Geertz, 1963] called the form of "shared poverty", or Breese called "subsistence urbanization." These terms referred to a condition of many job opportunities giving little income. It can be understood that the huge numbers of ingress migration in Semarang was because it has a pull factor in creating some job opportunities.

Normally, the availability of big capital was ceased by a straight control in order to the exploitation of workers or labors could be met. The facts showed that unfair welfare would lead a social conflict. Data issued by Semarang District Police Department (Polwiltabes) which [BPS, 2008] quoted showed that in 2006 were lots of demonstrations; i.e. 114 cases in politics, 65 cases in economics, and 2 cases of labors strike.

Besides of the politics and economics views, the very rapid growth of industrial sector led to environment damage, as well. Water pollution cases was increasing from 13 cases in 2005 to 19 cases in 2006, air pollution from 24 cases to 29 cases, and soil pollution from 4 cases to 7 cases Semarang [BPS, 2006]. *Jawapos* daily news (17/8/2009) reported *Karonsih* and *Wisma Asri* Housings in Ngaliyan sub-district protested PT. NST and SP (initial names only) that produced smokes and polluted the surroundings.

The same condition also happened in Tugu sub-district in which people protested five companies located there that made their environment polluted. Those five companies - initial names only - were *PT BMA*, *PT SKM*, *PT MSJ*, *PT MO*, and *PT AK*. They were suspected for breaking a specific policy by neglecting the coals enhancement uncovered, letting fire points inextinguishable, and unhandled company wastes [*Kompas*, 30/7/2009]. Water pollution was determined by the numbers of the companies built near along the flood plains. Besides, lots of cadgers sell made those flood plains denser. Head of Water Resources and Mineral Resources Energy Department of Semarang, Fauzi, said that there were 498 cadgers being relocated from the flood plains of West Canal since they produced some environment disturbances [*Kompas*, 20/7/2009].

Those demonstration acts indicated therein laid some gaps. Politics radicalism has been so long an interesting issue describing an affiliation of urbanization, poverty of citizens and other social-politic conflicts. The criminal infractions kept raising (*table 5*) based on the numbers of infringed articles, such as, theft by violence, robber, drug-abused, oppression, murder, etc.

Table 5. Numbers criminal acts in Semarang in 2005 and 2006

Type of Criminals	2005	2006
Pasal 362	281	322
Pasal 363	319	317
Pasal 365	19	38
Pasal 368	43	66
Pasal 372	370	534
Pasal 378	337	372

Sources: Central Bureau of statistic/ [*BPS*, 2006, 2007]

Social-politic fluctuation, criminal acts and environment damages were some of the consequences of unwell-distributed economic growth of a city. Those are all of things the government of Semarang must pay attention to, moreover knowing the high numbers of poverty in Semarang. According to [*BPS*, 2008], in 2005 the numbers of poor populations in Semarang was 58,700 people (4.22%) with the poverty rate on Rp.162,723.00 per capita per month by P1 0.8 and P2 0.18. It was rising on numbers of poor populations in 2007 became 77,600 people (5.26%) with the poverty rate on Rp.171, 870.00 per capita per month by P1 0.8 and P2 0.19.

CONCLUSION

Having the results of research, we could conclude some interesting things, i.e. the main determinant of urbanization process in Semarang was a capitalism process assumed that had been initiated since Holland colonialism era until present. It is still difficult to claim the real urbanization process, however, because what actually happened was *peri-capitalism* by the strict control derived from central capitalism - developed western countries. As a consequence, the industrialization did not happen in Semarang, instead of service sectors did. Urbanization in Semarang did not derive linearly started respectively from farming sectors increasing into industrial sectors and finally transforming into service sectors, instead it directly jumped from farming sectors into service sectors.

The service sectors grew flexibly and as if “served” the industrialization process which could only grow sporadically. Implicitly, this fact also indicated that welfare of most labors in Semarang was not quite well, as showed with lower minimum wage/income they got that their actual life needs. Informal sectors became more and more grown because it was easily filled up by the new workers, so as a consequence therein would happened what so called involution. The new job seekers kept flooding up Semarang in these informal sectors that finally fasten the population growth.

The next consequence was that Semarang had to carry some heavy problems causing the lack of environmental support capability and social accommodation capability, such as, 1) infrastructures supplying responsibility for the poor people became higher due to city growth, 2) economic profit was highly enjoyed by big businessmen, 3) urbanization in Semarang would also grow the lower society cluster especially informal sector sellers and other micro - and middle-businessmen, 4) therein dominated by the foreign capital, and the radically growth of “proto-proletarian” cluster as indicated with the numbers of politic and social demonstration happened in Semarang.

Policy Implication

Having those conclusion described above, a policy implication that could be taken was that the problems Semarang faced could be solved by itself without involving its hinterland areas, i.e. Kedungsapur (Kendal, Ungaran, Semarang, and Purwodadi). Some consideration might be prepared in the future were,

1. Strategy of city growth should rather be directed to create a counter magnet for its hinterland areas in order to emerge the harmony for inter-areas. Hopefully, ingress urbanization into Semarang from its surrounding areas will decrease in numbers,

2. It is hoped that Semarang can distribute the development results wider, in order the main city not to tend to be “parasite” exploiting its hinterland areas,
3. There is such a joint planning aiming to be a clear and reasonable integrated regional development program at all aspects,

Each of areas have to be able to inventor and identify those problems, that later on discuss them in coordinative, cooperatively and comprehensively to solve those problems.

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