

UGM Students Develop Solar Power and PikoHydro Hybrid System

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The ASEAN Economic Community to be launched end of 2015 has pushed small and medium enterprises across Indonesia to be able to compete with their ASEAN counterparts. Each has to have added values. This has made members of the I-Sys UGM team implement the science they learnt at the university in the real world.

Consisting of Tanri Muhammad Rizal and Muhammad Rifki Ali (Electrical Engineering students), Barkah Zuhdi Bardani, Suci Wulandari and Ellena Wulandari ((Engineering Physics students), the team proposed the adoption of hybrid I-Sys system through Student Creativity Programme.

"We aim at increasing the added value of production for our partners through power supply provision integrated between pikoHydro irrigation based and solar power," said spokesperson Ellena Wulandari on Friday (31/7) at UGM.

Ellena added they worked with Murkandariyah group that makes embroidery at the Deresan village in Bantul regency. They group has limited power supply since they they have to share with their neighbours, hence they can only work between 09.00 - 15.00 or 23.00 - 03.00 hours depending on other users.

"This forces them to often reject orders," she said.

Meanwhile, irrigation in the area is strong with solar power available abundantly that generates a pikoHydro.

The project that has been funded since March 2015 still runs well, hoping that the renewable energy can boost their added production values.

Chairperson of the team, Tanri Muhammad, said the system they had developed enabled partners to support government's programme in reducing CO2 emissions from electricity uses.

"*Alhamdulillah*, I don't have to interrupt my neighbours any longer and I can do embroidery at my own timing," Mrs. Arif said. She hoped the system could be a model for renewable energy development with hybrid system for small enterprises in rural areas.

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