



**TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT  
CAROLO-WILHELMINA  
ZU BRAUNSCHWEIG**

Englisches Seminar

**Environmental education in Indonesia:  
An interview and questionnaire study in six schools  
On Sumatra/ Indonesia**



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2013

In the context of the Project Education for sustainable development/  
public understanding of science for learners of English

## **1. Introduction: A personal statement**

“Environment” is a common word this time. The current situation and condition of environment in the world is so fretting and makes people afraid and worry about the consequences. A lot of words, logos, etc. are referring to the current situation of environment. One can hear words like „global warming“ everywhere and people worry about it, now and regarding to the future.

Love our planet, Save Energy, Do not use Fossil Energy, Stop Illegal Logging, Go Green, Save Green, Save Animals, Love Nature, Bio Cotton, Fair Trade, Save O<sub>3</sub>, Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> Emission, Reduce Green House Gases, Save Glaciers, Save the nature to save yourself, Grüne Plakate, Green Living, Green Energy, Recycling, Think Green, Every day is the earth day, Think Different, save Energy Save Money, One World One Dream etc. are slogans suggesting to protect and to save the environment. A lot of campaigns, activities and events are made as well for saving the environment especially to wake people up and help people in the developing countries to become aware of how important it is to save this planet that is threatened by extinction.

Indonesia is one of the developing countries with high growth where people are in a conflict between thinking about their career and economical welfare and thinking about environment. Children do not get much information about environmental issues from their parents but learn about it by media like television or internet and via schools. A lot of disasters have happened in Indonesia because of the endless deforestation. More than half of the Indonesian forests are used for logging, timber productions and palm oil plantation which influenced the balance of environment. Each 20 seconds, about one soccer field of forest vanishes because of this deforestation all over the world but mostly in Indonesia.

Based on this situation and due to connections with schools in the area of Padang and with the Universitas Negeri Padang, it was possible to make a survey. The aim was to find out about children and teenagers' thinking about environmental issues. The survey was conducted in August and September 2013.

## 2. Research

School's categories : – Elementary school (Sekolah Dasar/ SD)  
– Junior High School (Sekolah Menengah Pertama/ SMP)  
– Senior High School (Sekolah Menengah Atas/ SMA)

Time : August, 26th – September, 6th, 2013

In this research, six government schools ( Sekolah Negeri ) took part in a survey answering questions about environmental matters. The questions for students in elementary schools are similar to the questions for students in Junior and Senior High school. For the Junior and the Senior High School questions are asked and written in English and require English answers as well. For students in elementary schools questions are asked and written in the Indonesian language (Bahasa). Most students answered these questions in Bahasa Indonesia because it is easier for them to express their opinion and to write their answers and thoughts about environment.

## 3. Purpose of research

The aim of this research is the integration of „environment“ in lessons at schools. Furthermore it will help children to become aware and be concerned with the current situation and condition of the environment.

## 4. Research questions

There are 5 questions in the Indonesian language for students in Elementary schools and 6 English questions for students of Junior and Senior High Schools.

The questions for students of the Elementary schools are: (The original in Bahasa Indonesia is attached).

1. What do you understand by „Environment“?
2. Do you think that environment is important for us?
3. Can you please say shortly something about the environmental situation around you?
4. What kind of idea(s) do you have to keep the environment good and sustainable?
5. Would you help and support a program for the environment? If so, what would you do?

The questions for students of Junior and Senior High Schools are:

1. Do you have an interest in „Environment“? Please present an argument for your answer!
2. What do you understand by „Environment“? What do you think about it?
3. Do you think it is important to care about environment? Please present an argument!
4. What do you think about the environmental situation around you now and before?
5. What do you know about recycling of organic and inorganic products? What kind of products would you prefer to buy?
6. Would you please think of an idea what else you can do for the environment?

The answer of students from 6 schools can be seen in the following chapter. It will begin with Elementary Schools (SDN/Sekolah Dasar Negeri), then go on to Junior High Schools (SMPN/Sekolah Menengah Pertama Negeri) and close with Senior High Schools (SMAN/Sekolah Menengah Atas Negeri).

## **5. Answers to the questions**

### **5.1 Elementary Schools**

#### **5.1.1 SDN 10 Sungai Sapih Padang.**

About 42 students from 6<sup>th</sup> grade were chosen by the school's vice principals Mrs. Hilda, S.Pd and Mrs. Mery Amriati, S.Pd to answer these questions on Wednesday, the 28th of August 2013.



**Question 1:** What do you understand by environment?

Answers:

- the place where we are living
- the place of human, animals and plants in this world which is clean of each kind of rubbish and pollution.

**Question 2:** Do you think that environment is important for us?

Answers:

Yes, because an environment is a place of living for us.



Class 6 SDN 10 Padang (source: private)



**Question 3:** Can you please say shortly something about the environment around you?

Answers:

The environment around us is always clean, has a living pharmacy, is green, has a lot of trees and is fresh.

**Question 4:** What kind of idea(s) do you have to keep the environment good and sustainable?

Answers:

- replace the damaged trees, clean the surrounding, compost organic waste
- separate the organic and inorganic waste, Gotong royong/ working together, recycle
- recycle things which can be used again

**Question 5:** Would you help and support a program for protecting the environment? Please give examples of how you would support it!

Answers:

„Yes“, will support and help the environment's program, for example: not throwing rubbish everywhere, planting and not cutting trees, always clean the surrounding, use things that can be recycled, composting and creating a nice and healthy surrounding.



Class 6 SDN 10 Padang (source: private)

### 5.1.2 SDN 03 Pakan Kurai Bukittinggi

The school's principal Mrs. Yose Mira decided that 33 pupils from 6<sup>th</sup> grade should answer the questions about environment on Wednesday, the 4th of September 2013 at 11.30 supervised by Mrs. Desatry Elyda.

**Question 1:** What do you understand by environment?

Answers:

The environment is:

- the surrounding that should be cared for, the place around us
- the place where oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) is collected, the place where we live
- the place where human live, the situation around our place
- the place where human are in interaction with others, the green surrounding
- the place where we can live until now, the healthy and comfortable place

**Question 2:** Do you think that environment is important for us?

Answers:

Yes, environment is very important for our life, when it's clean we won't get diseases.



Class 6 SDN 03 Pakan Kurai Bukittinggi (Source: private).



**Question 3:** Can you please say shortly something about the environmental situation around you?

Answers:

Always clean because our teachers ask us to collect the rubbish before we start learning and class competition, dirty because the people around do not want to clean the surrounding.

**Question 4:** What kind of idea(s) do you have to keep the environment good and sustainable?

Answers:

- not to throw rubbish into the ocean
- to empty the trash can
- Gotong Royong once a week
- reforestation (in Bahasa: reboisasi)
- green plants and flowers around the house
- do not throw the burning cigarette anywhere, avoid fire
- do not throw the industrial waste into a river or ocean
- fertilize the plants
- do not hurt and kill wild animals
- self-awareness of everybody

**Question 5:** Would you help and support a program for protecting the environment? Please give examples of how you would support it!

Answers:

Yes, will support, for example:

- separate organic and inorganic trash
- throw rubbish where it belongs
- advice and inform parents, brothers/ sisters of how to care for the surrounding and of how to keep it clean
- forbid to cut trees freely
- do not burn rubbish around the garden's house
- clean the industrial waste before throwing it into the ocean

- remind friends to throw rubbish in available places
- care well for the surrounding to avoid flood and landslide
- do not throw rubbish into the ocean
- do not give poison to fish, or use bombs when catching fish
- do not let the motor running (long) when you are not driving
- to punish those children who do not throw rubbish in the available place

## 5.2 Junior High Schools

### 5.2.1 SMPN 02 Padang

Mrs. Efalina, the school's vice principal chose the class 8.6 with 31 students to answer these questions on Thursday, the 29th of August 2013 under supervision of Mrs. Eva.



Morning ceremony in the school's yard of SMPN 02 Padang (Source: private).

**Question 1:** Do you have an interest in „environment“? Please present an argument for your answer!

Answers:

Overall Yes. The arguments are:

- environment has a lot of functions in our life
- the only place for living, one of the beauties of Indonesia
- resident, important for life
- love the healthy surrounding and hate the untidy one
- important for human
- environment has a right to survive and should be cared for
- home of animals and plants
- the only place to stay



**Question 2:** What do you understand by „environment“? Please explain what you think about it!

Answers:

Environment is

- a thing which can have a big influence on most livings in this world
- a place for living for dead things or alive one
- the situation and circumstances around us which should be cared for
- a place to adapt for a living, a place around us or around the house
- something familiar with everything that is able to move



Class 8.6 SMPN 02 Padang (Source: private).

**Question 3:** Do you think it is important to care about environment? Please give an argument for your answer!

Answers:

Yes. The arguments are:

- when we don't care for the environment, let's see what will happen
- we will get diseases because of our own mistakes
- will get the global warming caused by a lot of vehicles
- cannot survive
- will damage
- the land will dry, creation will be ended
- environment is nice
- important for health
- for growing

**Question 4:** What do you think about the environmental situation around you now and before? Please give a short explanation!

Answers:

*Before:*

- the environment in Padang was nice and clean
- there were not so many vehicles, not so much dirt
- waste water wasn't contaminated and there was no pollution

*Now:*

- it has changed because of the growth of people, people are lazy, vehicles have made the air dirty
- don't care what will happen if they don't care about it, almost nobody feels responsible for the clean environment
- rivers are dirty and contaminated by industrial waste.

**Question 5:** What do you know about recycling of organic and inorganic products and which products would you prefer to buy? Please give examples!

Answers:

*Organic:* fruits and meat, leaves, wood, excrement, paper, can be used for fertilizing

*Inorganic:* plastic and other human's products, must be recycled

*Prefer:* -

**Question 6:** Would you please think of an idea what else you can do for the „environment“?

Answers:

- do not throw rubbish everywhere
- reforestation
- reducing the use of vehicles and reducing the amount of fossil energy
- keep clean, reduce pollution
- do not cut trees freely
- make a clean and healthy surrounding into a cultural value
- recycling
- go green
- protect trees from illegal logging
- separate organic and inorganic

### **5.2.2 SMPN 08 Bukittinggi**

The school's director Mr. Yusrizal, MPd chose the class 9.5 with 27 students to answer these questions on Thursday, the 5th of September 2013.

**Question 1:** Do you have an interest in „environment“? Please present an argument for your answer!

Answers:

Yes, because:

- important for life
- nice things are available here
- not nice to have the dirty environment
- it is a basis of our health
- should care for the atmosphere
- be concerned about the global warming

**Question 2:** What do you understand by „environment“? Please explain what you think about it!

Answers:

- our planet. nature. healthiness and cleanness. schools. houses



Class 9.5 SMPN 08 Bukittinggi ( Source: private).

**Question 3:** Do you think it is important to care about environment? Please present an argument for your answer!

Answers:

Yes.

*Their arguments:*

- no environment – no nice plants and nice views
- when it's dirty it won't be healthy
- show a way of life of somebody
- if you don't care for the environment, friends will be away
- if the environment is clean we are healthy
- a place for activities

**Question 4:** What do you think about the situation of environment around you now and before?

Please give a short explanation!

Answers:

*Before:*

- was clean and wasn't contaminated even when it wasn't cared for
- healthy and full of plants because of less buildings
- often doing Gotong Royong to clean and care for the surrounding
- environment had good care, used traditional technology to care for the environment

*Now:*

- more people care for environment but rubbish everywhere
- is contaminated by industries and a lot of vehicles
- less awareness of people about the necessity of environment
- no information about environment from the government
- less reforestation, more illegal logging
- more people care about environment by using modern technology

**Question 5:** What do you know about recycling of organic and inorganic products and which products do you prefer to buy? Please give examples!

Answers:

*Organic:* wet rubbish, can be used as fertilizer, wet rubbish that has a bad smell. things that can be recycled by bacteria

Examples:

*Inorganic:* can't be decomposed in soil but can be recycled into useful things like hand-bag, wallet, etc.

Examples: plastic, water bottles

*Prefer to buy:* inorganic products because of the safety, no bad smell, free from bacteria if the food is covered in plastic, organic

**Question 6:** Would you please present an idea what else we can do for our „environment“?

Answers:

- reduce vehicles. reduce driving
- do not burn forests, reforestation
- doing Gotong Royong again to keep the environment clean and healthy
- punish people for their incorrect behavior, throw rubbish in garbage cans, recycling
- keep the environment clean of smoke and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission, drive by bicycle
- reduce private transportations and use more public transportation to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission.
- it is better not to pack food in plastic but rather in natural products like leave, etc.

- more slogans and posters about saving environment to reach public attention
- make a rule for environment, reduce using fossil energy, reduce using chemical products in the Household, have two kinds of garbage places for wet and dry garbage
- to act and to plan 1000 plants can refresh the air
- more care and not damaging the environment, „go green“ programs planed by government

## 5.3 Senior High Schools

### 5.3.1 SMAN 01 Bukittinggi



Mrs. Netty Herlita is the vice director of the SMAN 01 Bukittinggi and she chose the class 12 IPA 7 ( Ilmu Pengetahuan Alam/Natural Knowledge ) to answer these questions. Around 31 students answered the questions in their English lesson by Mr. Syamsu on Monday, the 26th of August 2013.

**Question 1:** Do you have an interest in „environment“? Please present an argument for your answer!

Answers:

Yes

*Arguments:* Environment is:

- a place for socialization and interaction between humans and their surrounding
- a part of my life, amazing.
- important position in my life
- can show people's behavior
- our identity and character

**Question 2:** What do you understand by „environment“? Please explain what you think about it!

Answers:

- A place around us which has flora and fauna
- where we do our daily activities
- something around us and it's very important to care and to keep
- condition around us, it's like a second house



Class 12 IPA7 SMAN 01 Bukittinggi (Source: private)

**Question 3:** Do you think it's important to care about environment? Please present an argument for your answer!

Answers:

Yes

*Arguments:*

- Who else to care if not we?
- Where else can we live?
- our duty
- if dirty we will get diseases
- to care one should start at the simply way like to throw rubbish into the dustbin
- do not smoke in public places because it can be a danger to your health, environment will protect the earth, you, me and everyone
- can't live peacefully
- a clean environment will make us happy and should be like that also for other generations
- students must understand how important it is to care for environment especially now with the global warming and other disasters

**Question 4:** What do you think about the environmental situation around you now and before?

Please give a short explanation!

Answers:

*Now:*

- many illegal loggings and burning forests which will have a bad effect for our life
- so many disasters like floods
- global warming
- difficult to get fresh air
- too many buildings and less trees which made the climate warmer
- Bukittinggi has a lot of waste and dirt
- littering and dirty
- in this school we always try to keep it clean, but there are still a lot of things to care for here
- lack of awareness
- getting better because many friends realize that we should throw rubbish in the basket
- smoky air
- better and arranged
- almost each day the neighbors burn their rubbish in front of their house
- more buildings
- worse, because no support from people
- no more fresh water in the river because it has been contaminated by the industries around
- smoky because of illegal logging and burning forests
- almost ruined and bad because of global warming, green house-effect, illegal logging

*Before:*

- disasters happen seldom, clean and fresh, a lot of trees, Bukittinggi was a clean city
- waste rubbish everywhere, many rice fields, no illegal logging, the mountain, ocean and rivers are still clean, in the years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century as shown in internet it was green, nice and no burning forests

**Question 5:** What do you know about recycling of organic and inorganic products and which products do you prefer to buy? Please give examples!

Answers:

*Organic:*

- can be recycled
- leaves, papers
- can make compost
- vegetables, fruits, etc.
- something can be composted by bacteria

*Inorganic:* re-use things, can't be recycled, plastic and metal things

*Prefer:*

- organic products because they are healthy and delicious
- organic products because they are easier to recycle
- organic products because they can save our planet
- organic products to support a good environment
- would buy whatever is necessary for me
- organic products but it's difficult to get them here

**Question 6:** Would you please present an idea what else we can do for our „environment“?

Answers:

- from now on we should start to care about environment for the next generation
- go green in my world, to use electricity if necessary
- do not throw rubbish everywhere
- Back to the past!
- Care for the environment like you care for yourself!
- collect rubbish around us and throw it in garbage cans
- reduce pollution
- reforestation
- Gotong Royong each week or each month to clean the surrounding
- convey the understanding how danger it is if the environment is dirty
- more trees
- construct an advertisement about environment in media like TV and radio
- present examples of organic and inorganic products in order to make people understand the difference between them
- government should be more active to convey an information about environment and make a green program
- recycle something which can be recycled
- Do not burn the forest!
- allocate a place for waste by the government
- set a mind to a concept of „save our environment“ for the young generation and start by ourselves
- Start with small acts e.g. to throw garbage in the available basket.
- to make people realize the bad environment and its risks.





### 5.3.2. SMAN 03 Bukittinggi

Under the supervision of Mr. Zetri Zainal who taught English in the class 12 S3 on Tuesday, the 3rd of September 2013, 29 students answered the questions about environment.



**Question 1:** Do you have an interest in „environment”? Please present an argument for your answer!

Answers:

Yes

*Arguments:*

- environment is not only for today but also for the future and for the next generation
- each of us for sure wants to have a healthy and clean surrounding
- we need a nice, clean and comfortable surrounding.
- important for our life
- without environment we can't live and survive in this world
- environment has a positive influence on us
- a place for living
- if the environment is disappeared, we would be in danger
- nice environment means nice life
- essential for life
- amazing
- environment has a nice view and nature which the human needs
- environment has an influence on our health and is important for our life
- we depend on environment
- when the environment is clean, the creatures who live in it will feel happy and healthy
- because right now our environment isn't good, polluted and has many affects on our life
- environment is able to fulfill the requirements of our life

**Question 2:** What do you understand by „environment“? Please explain what you think about it!

Answers:

Environment is

- a place to: live, to get breath, a place for all creatures to do their activities
  - a place where one can find all kinds of life which depend on each other
  - source of food for everybody, a source of living – the important part of our life
  - a gift of God for human which has a lot of advantages for human life
  - place for interaction of all creatures, all about our world, a place that can provide a lot of benefit
  - all the activities of human for their life, like the social, culture, religion, laws, etc which are different
- From each area



Class 12S3 SMAN 03 Bukittinggi (Source:;private).

**Question 3:** Do you think it's important to care about environment? Please present an argument for your answer!

Answers:

Yes

*Arguments:* The environment

- can influence the personality, the health
- is important for life
- cleans, we like to stay there
- is the only place to live
- is a place for living
- has a big impact on life, like flood, global warming, etc.
- damage, we'll suffer
- has an influence on the future, if the environment doesn't get cared for, the weather won't stay stable and a lot of creatures will die even disappear completely
- it is important to care and to protect us from danger and disaster
- destroyed, the life is disrupted
- it is dirty, will get a lot of diseases and it won't feel comfort to live there

- is a source of living, like: water, natural things, etc.

**Question 4:** What do you think about the environmental situation around you now and before?

Please give a short explanation!

Answers:

*Now:*

- bad, because of vehicles which are responsible for global warming and making our ozone thinner
- in serious condition, polluted, damaged and has impact on our life
- disaster, rubbish everywhere, illegal logging, pollution
- in the classroom: still a lot of waste on the floor and no one being disturbed by seeing it
- people throw rubbish everywhere
- a lot of buildings
- no awareness from people about how important it is to care for the environment
- rubbish has produced pollution
- dirty air and it is difficult to breath
- worse, hot
- the public places have regulations to care for the surrounding
- throwing rubbish everywhere is a culture
- reforestation made only in the elite area or in the special surrounding
- has chemical particles
- full of houses and public service places, like station, etc.
- Bukittinggi doesn't have so many trees at all
- more use for buildings
- waste water or rivers have been contaminated by industrial waste
- a rule for cleaning available in the school

*Before:*

- clean, healthy, fresh, beauty and there was good care
- it was seldom to see rubbish in the public places
- a lot of people care for environment
- natural with a lot of trees
- rivers were clean
- more use of farming
- waste water was clean and natural

**Question 5:** What do you know about recycling of organic and inorganic products and which products would you prefer to buy? Please give examples!

Answers:

- recycling is a method to save the environment
- recycling is a way to change the unused products into useful products again, like unused batik used

as pencil cases

*Organic:*

- like leaf, plant, skin of fruits which can be used as fertilizer
- using animals' excrements as fertilizer
- don't need money for processing, like animals' dirt
- natural/ herbal products from the environment

*Inorganic:*

- re-use things
- can't be recycled, plastic, tin and metal materials
- things which can't be degraded naturally
- things made of chemical material that are difficult to process, like: cell phone
- products human made by using technology

*Prefer:*

- organic products
- inorganic products, like drink in a plastic bottle
- cheap products of quality
- will buy what I need

**Question 6:** Would you please present an idea what else we can do for our „environment“?

Answers:

- remembering Indonesia is a heart of the world
- to do something to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and to keep the ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) stable.
- punish those who don't care for environment, begin with the smallest mistakes
- decrease using plastic and instead use bananas' leaves for packing food
- recycling
- don't burn rubbish around your house!
- throw rubbish in the garbage place or in the available place
- use solar energy
- drive bicycle to stop pollution
- limit for driving
- green around the house
- people should change their habits
- stop illegal logging
- use more friendly materials
- make the area free from cigarettes
- schools' program: plant 1000 trees
- find a fast way to clean the contaminated rivers, lakes and ocean
- give advice and warn people who damaged and destroyed environment
- stop using fossil energy

- the government and public should work together to save the environment
- create environmental rule
- influence the government to care for environment
- there should be more government involved in the case of environment
- more garbage places available in each area
- separate places for organic and inorganic waste
- to care for environment starts at home

## 6. Interview with teachers about environmental activities

This research is not only to receive answers and opinions from pupils and students at school but also to ascertain their teacher's opinion about the environment through an interview. There are five interviews that will be presented in this report conducted by school principals and vice principals.

### 6.1 Mrs. Hilda, SPd

She is the vice principal of SDN 10 Sungai Sapih Padang with 948 pupils. **This school is one of the national Adiwiyata's schools in Indonesia.** To save the environment is the main aim of the Adiwiyata's schools.

There is so much rubbish lying down everywhere in a school full of children so that it motivates the teachers to think about cleanliness. Starting in year 2000 by planting some trees, they have continued until the school became green and shady. There was more rubbish lying around the school yard because of the old leaves and the children's food



packing. Mrs. Mery had the idea to open a garbage bank. Before each class, the school takes out a big black plastic bag for collecting the rubbish. Now, they have three kinds of trash cans which they try to fill up. The green can is for organic, the yellow one is for the inorganic products and the red can is for waste glass.

The school will sell this rubbish when each can is full. For the yellow can the garbage bank will pay for Rp. 1500 and for the green can it is Rp. 2000. This money will be collected in the classroom to buy drinking water for their class. Each day, the pupils try to stow these cans by collecting waste from their way to school and around school. This keeps our school always clean, said Mrs. Hilda.

Besides that, each Wednesday the children can give a donation using the rest of their pocket money. The parents give around Rp. 5 Million for supporting this school project each semester in order to replace the trees and plants that are already damaged.

The result can be seen by parents and that is the reason why they don't mind to support this program by allowing their children to collect rubbish on their way to school.

Teachers in this school have a meeting each week to collect ideas from teachers and from pupils which the teachers gathered in the classroom during lessons. The teachers always convey the understanding of environment to the pupils in each lesson for example by telling them something about the consequences of dirtiness e.g. stomach aches.

The green surrounding, which is full of trees and other plants like flowers and spices, is necessary to help children learning and to teach them to get used with greens and cleanliness, said Mrs. Hilda at the end of the interview.

## **6.2. Mrs. Yose Mira**

This school principal of Elementary school 03 Pakan Kurai Bukittinggi said that the greening program for the surrounding of school is already made. The people around are not aware of how important this program is for their environment. This, we can see, they don't want to care for the trees which have already been planted, they just disturb and damage them only. This case has made our school thinking to convey more understanding to our children about how important these plants are for us and for our environment.



We are ready to work together with the parents for the development of our school for a good environmental situation in the future. We just began by passing the information on to our pupils in order to keep clean first with themselves then with the surrounding of the school. We must give this kind of information to our children in school so that they can inform somebody else out of school then.

After that, we will make the gotong royong's program (working together) which we first start in this school to make our school clean as an example of good environment for the parents and people outside of the school later.

The idea which Mrs. Yose Mira created is to make a clean-class-competition each semester where the cleanest class will receive the title of the champion which they should try to keep in their class for each semester.

Mrs. Yose Mira has complained about the peddlers on the pedestrian ways. It can be dangerous for our children who pass by and want to use this pedestrian walk that is filled with peddlers. The children have to walk on the street to avoid these peddlers and to be in school on time.

### 6.3. Mrs. Evalina



She is the vice principal of Junior High School 02 in Jalan Bundo Kanduang No. 2 Padang. According to her, when the school is clean it means that the way of student's thinking is also clean. That is the reason why this school has tried to keep the surrounding always clean, especially the toilet should be clean and nice.

This school has already taken some steps in order to make students here aware of environment and to inform them about it. The school has a socialization program for students in order to keep their environment always clean. The motto: cleanliness is an act of conscience. Every rubbish which you pick up from the ground is a kind of conscience. Sometimes students forget that our school also has some garbage places. A reason for that is the situation's changing when students change from Elementary school to Junior High School. The students who forget will be reminded by their teacher to pick the rubbish up again and throw it into the garbage place. Besides that, after the lesson is over some students are obliged to clean their class before they go home in order to return the next morning into a clean class. Every student will get this task. The students in a classroom will be divided into six groups to clean their class each day. „If you are clean in school, you should be clean as well at home. What you do here is also useful later when you are adult“, there are advices from teachers in this school for their students to keep the environment clean.

The dirt can be recognized on the glass, table and window. It can be shown to the children that after we clean the window, table, etc soon one can see particles of dust on them again.

After broken down from earth quake in September 2009, this school was rebuilt, after the school building was destroyed by the earth quake of 2009, from donation and now has enough ventilation and good sanitation and is environmentally friendly.

This school makes always „Gotong Royong“ to clean their environment. As a day of cleanliness, they clean their environment each saturday which they call a „Krida“ day. Since the area of our school is used more for business like hotel, etc, we do this „Krida“ day at the beach area, to clean the beach and keep it clear of rubbish each week. Now this is continued by the government who orders to clean the beach area each Friday. This school also got the „Besi“ trees from government and private companies to plant them in the school's area but instead they plant them around the beach area of Padang because their area is too small.

Mrs. Evalina's idea: town and province should create a competition for children for environment.

#### 6.4. Mr. Yusrizal, MPd

The school's principal of the Junior High School 08 in Jalan Syech M. Jamil Jambek Bukittinggi said that his school has started to make an environmental care program by planting flowers and trees in order to keep the atmosphere in the school fresh. There are flowers hanging in front of each classroom and the sanitation in this school is adequate.

Whenever the town's cleaning service is too late to empty the rubbish container, which stands around the left side of the school area, it can be a pollution problem for us and we'll notice a bad smell from it. But until now, that never happened yet.

This school is located in the market place where a lot of people don't care about the cleanliness of the market. This has already become habit of people here and is difficult to change. It's almost impossible to work together with people here for a clean surrounding. Probably, we can work together with parents like schools in Japan where parents clean the school's toilet for their children.

To care for environment should come first from inside the school e.g. to keep the school clean of rubbish is the students' habit. The students here are not allowed to drive a motorbike to school. If there is an order from the government, like the mayor, for schools to work together with people here for cleaning the surrounding, we'll do it as a necessity.



#### 6.5. Mrs. Netty Herlita



Mrs. Netty Herlita with Mr. Mardison, the SMAN 01 Bukittinggi Principal

She is the vice principal of Senior High School 01 in Jalan Syech M. Jamil Jambek No. 36, Landbow – Bukittinggi, then gave her the opinion about environment that it is a place where we live.

The environment around us right now has been damaged by pollution and we should try to save it.



Each food here is covered by plastic which is not good for the environment; it's one of the problems here. It could be better if the food is covered by natural or organic material.

Our school has the rule that students should separate their rubbish before they waste it and they should care for the cleanliness of this school. Some students don't care about it, this students will be reminded by the school to follow the regulation in order to keep the school's surrounding clean.

We try to help our students to be concerned about the environmental condition now and try to make them aware to care about it.

We should work harder to make the people aware of how important it is to care for the environment and to be concerned with the global warming as an effect of uncaring about environment.

## 7. Conclusion

The environmental problem in Indonesia especially in West Sumatra has become a dilemma which needs immediate solving. Everywhere we can see rubbish on the street, in the river, at the beach, in the market, etc. The people do not care about throwing rubbish in the waste container. Children and adults are used to throw the food package, snacks or plastic bottles after drinking and when they finished consuming them wherever they want. Some people e.g. in the market just throw their rubbish away afterwards in the river or just leave it somewhere. People's awareness must be awakened and their view on their surroundings must be changed. It is difficult and not easy to inform, to advise and to teach them to keep their environment clean and healthy and to care for it.

Throughout this research it was noticed how children and the youth are concerned with their surrounding and the sustainability of their future. Most of them complain about the illegal logging and forest burning in Indonesia. They don't mind to do „gotong royong“ especially in order to keep the surrounding clean of rubbish.

They wish: to get advice, clues and support from the government for their environment and in order to protect it. We should work together to keep our town clean and free from rubbish. Town, province and country should seriously pay attention in order to focus on the aim of the Indonesian president Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in his speech on the Environmental Conference 2009 in Copenhagen. His aim is the reduction of the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission until 20 % are reached in his country. The Spiegel Online reported that Indonesia lost around 1,3 million hectare rain forest with an average of two million ton carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission in the atmosphere.

The students advised Indonesia to reduce the use of vehicles because it is the main originator of traffic jams and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission all over Indonesia. There should be more separate garbage cans available in the public places and the possibility to punish those who don't throw rubbish in the available cans.

There is hope, this research can help Indonesia especially West Sumatra to solve the rubbish problem in the surrounding there and in order to reach this aim, we must work together for a sustainable world for the next generations. With our understanding and help, also with support from our children in school, for sure, we can do it!