

CASE STUDY REPORT

Study location	<i>Bekasi City (Bantar Gebang Landfill, Sumur Batu Landfill, Bintara, Bintara Jaya, Jatiasih)</i>
Organizations or researchers that develop case studies	<i>JARAK, Trisakti Waste to Value, Tropical Forest Foundation/Earthworm Foundation</i>
Date	<i>21 July – 29 August 2025</i>

Introduction

The survey was conducted to find out the income of waste pickers and calculate the decent wage. Based on the Poverty Alleviation Acceleration Agency (BP Taskin), there are around 4.2 million waste pickers in Indonesia. This figure is almost the same as data collected by the Indonesian Waste Pickers Association (IPI)¹ from 29 provinces, with the number of waste pickers recorded as many as 4,235,610 people, including more than 762 thousand waste pickers working at Final Disposal Sites (TPA) and 6,360 waste pickers at the Bantar Gebang Integrated Waste Management Unit (UPST²).

For the purposes of the survey, the waste pickers who will be used as respondents are those in the Bekasi City area, as it is known that Bekasi City is the location of the operation of the Bantar Gebang TPST and the Sumur Batu TPS which are the centers for garbage collection from Jakarta and Bekasi. In addition to looking at the lives of waste pickers around landfills, waste pickers with activities in several waste picker communities near housing complexes are also considered.

¹ CNN Indonesia article "4.2 million Waste pickers Will Be Given Jobs, Their Children Enter Public Schools" read more here: <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/ekonomi/20250318135944-532-1210208/42-juta-pemulung-akan-diberi-kerja-anaknya-masuk-sekolah-rakyat>.

² <https://www.tribunnews.com/nasional/2025/05/24/bp-taskin-minta-ipi-data-pemulung-non-ktp>

The survey with a total of 40 respondents included those who work independently (14 people), are members of the Bantar Gebang Sejahtera Waste Picker Community community/organization³ (25 people), and those who are formal workers in a waste bank (1 person). Most of them came from the West Java area (Karawang, Cikarang, Bekasi City, Bekasi Regency, Cikampek) and Pandeglang Banten Information was excavated using the available forms and interviews were conducted and looking at the conditions of the residence/home environment.

In addition to obtaining information from the respondents, the team also conducted a dialogue with key informants, namely two waste picker community mobilizers at landfills (Apong and Bagong), Supian (education activists in the waste picker community), elementary school teachers in the Bantar Gebang and Sumur Batu neighborhoods, personnel working in the environmental office, waste depot managers, and waste bank managers.

This survey was carried out by JARAK Indonesia, Trisakti Waste to Value, Tropical Forest Foundation/ Earthworm Foundation from July 21 – August 29, 2025.

A – Current waste picker income

Most of the waste pickers come from the West Java region (Karawang, Cikarang, Cikampek, Bekasi City and Bekasi Regency) and from Pandeglang Banten. They work in this garbage for economic reasons and are encouraged by the invitation of relatives, friends and stall bosses, and some even from childhood have been brought by their parents from the village to participate in scavenging until finally now they are adults still working as waste pickers. Many also end up doing this job because the village no longer has land/rice fields, so even though they work, they are only laborers and the nature of odd jobs is limited. In addition to the condition of the village that makes it impossible to find a job, the lack of adequate skills and education makes them have no other job options.

The encouragement to go to the city to earn a living was also learned from parents who worked in this sector first. Found in the case/respondent, a child who has participated in looking for garbage or is used to being in a mountain of garbage, finally forming the child's choice to work in the garbage as a waste picker when he is an adult/graduated from vocational school. There are also many of them who have indeed scavenged since childhood so that their level of education is low (they did not graduate from elementary school) and some have even never gone to school so they cannot read and write.

The reasons that are found why they are engaged in becoming waste pickers are the nature of free work, no binding working hours rules, no need for the necessary educational standards even without any experience to be able to do this work.

Of the 40 respondents, 11 people were found to be organized in the waste picker community (KBPS), most of them lived and picked up garbage at the Bantar Gebang TPST and the Sumur Baru TPS. A total of 28 people are independent waste pickers, not tied to a

³ KPBS (Prosperous Bantar Gebang Waste Picker Community) is a forum for waste pickers in the Sumur Batu sub-district, Bantar Gebang who have a strong desire to unite to care, maintain and manage the welfare of their environment, especially in Sumur Batu Village. Where in this area is the Bantar Gebang TPST and Sumur Batu Landfill zones which are the final place for waste by the DKI Jakarta and Bekasi City Governments. (KPBS Profile, p.2).

specific community, but have subscription stalls to sell goods. There is one waste picker who is categorized as formal because he is tied to a waste bank and has a more scheduled job.

The waste pickers do work with working hours that exceed the standard, it is known that a total of 24 people do the work with an average time of between 8 hours, but there are also waste pickers who work up to 18 hours a day. This is very long because some say that there are no holidays unless they are sick or there are other important needs that require them to take a day off. With these long working hours, they hope to achieve a large volume so that they can get enough money. Most waste pickers live near landfills, this allows them to collect waste throughout the day considering that trucks carrying garbage also enter the landfill area continuously, from morning to night depending on the location of the garbage collection (according to the info of garbage trucks, there are areas where garbage is picked up in the morning, some are during the day so the delivery process to the landfill lasts until night).

It is known that a total of 16 people depend on income from scavenging work and 24 people have other jobs/ services as a source of income to supplement the family economy.

Most waste pickers rely on searching for waste at the Bantar Gebang TPST and the Sumur Batu Landfill, some go around in residential areas, streets, shops and other locations, but there is no information on waste pickers who take from the market area because the type of waste is wet and organic.

The time used to pick up garbage starts from dawn, morning, noon, afternoon and even until night. At the landfill, there are waste pickers who deliberately choose to look for garbage at night because it is "cooler" than during the day. That way the waste pickers need light fixtures. Especially for the rainy season, especially heavy rain, they limit garbage collection because they are worried about lightning.

The type of waste that is collected and still has a high price such as plastic bottles is rarely found in landfills. This was complained by waste pickers due to the incessant waste sorting campaign and waste banks that are rampant in the community. The quality of waste that enters the landfill can be said to be no longer of high selling value because the condition is dirty and wet. This type of glass waste is also known to not be the target of waste pickers to pick up or collect because of its very low price, apart from the fact that it is very burdensome if collected.

There is a term used by waste pickers to describe the type of waste collected and sold in the stall, namely *gabrukan / emberan* (mix plastic). This waste is very diverse and is not sold in a separate manner, it can be anything that contains plastic, including cracker bags (red and black). The price information per kilo is only Rp 700 - Rp 800. The waste pickers try to collect as much as possible to meet their daily income. The types of waste that are still valuable and that waste pickers are looking for are paper/cardboard (Rp 1,500-Rp 1,800 per kilo), iron (Rp 5,000 per kilo) and nails (Rp 2,500 per kilo).

Although used food is not among what they are looking for/collecting, if they find food that is still good and can be consumed, this is a fortune for the waste pickers. In fact, it is said that waste pickers, for example, there are fruits/food that are partially damaged, other parts can still be enjoyed at that moment.

The sale of this type of mixed plastic goods is forced by waste pickers considering that they do not have enough land to store and sort. In addition, if sorting is carried out, it will require extra process and labor and a longer time to get money. That is why the waste is left

to mix and be weighed immediately. However, there are also waste pickers who separate first before weighing them because of the request from the boss of the stall owner where they deposit their junk.

For independent waste pickers who work outside the landfill area, the conditions are different because they can sell goods more expensive because they have sorted the type of waste. In addition, even though they live in a "bedding", there is still a place that allows them to store and sort garbage, so they don't have to weigh every day. Plastic bottle waste that has been cleaned has a high selling price of up to Rp 5,000 per kilo.

The issue of waste banks is a competitor in waste collection for waste pickers. Waste with clean plastic and paper bottles (including cardboard) is valued more expensive than other plastics and dirty/wet paper (cardboard). Collection at waste banks on the one hand is part of reducing waste to landfills, but on the other hand it is an obstacle for waste pickers to get quality waste materials with high selling value.

The mobility of waste pickers in collecting waste is helped by the vehicles owned, facilities from the stall boss or garbage cart equipment from the RT management. There is a term for vehicles (*otok-otok*) that are taken to the mountains of garbage in landfills. There are also waste pickers who are escorted by their boss's car so that it can make it easier to pick up garbage. For waste pickers who are garbage pullers for residential residents, there are usually wheelbarrows/motorcycle carts, there are also stall bosses who have prepared carts. A small percentage of female waste pickers do not use vehicles because they only collect in sacks and walk inside housing or highways around housing.

Other challenges that can affect waste picker income include:

- Unpredictable weather conditions (if rain is dangerous due to lightning)
- Health problems (there is a sick family member)
- Physical fatigue due to hot weather
- Heavy equipment does not operate due to cooling issues
- Have no other skills
- Officers are cleaning up garbage dumps
- Low level of education
- Items collected by waste pickers are few

To increase income, several waste pickers have other jobs including:

- Helping to collect residents' garbage
- Helping to transport garbage onto trucks at garbage depots
- A crew member in a garbage dump car.
- Sorting at the stall
- Opening a snack stall
- Domestic workers and childcare
- Squirt
- Construction work
- Selling food (done when the weather is not supportive)
- Massage

Limited income also affects daily food intake. The waste pickers feel a lack of food, eating with makeshift vegetables, simple side dishes such as tofu, tempeh, or eggs only. Sometimes without side dishes, even relying only on instant noodle dishes. They are starving because they don't have the resources to do so. Usually they prioritize the needs of their children over themselves. As a result of discussions with the female waste pickers, they even dare to go into debt to be able to serve rice and eggs to their children if they don't have money. A father said that he often counteracts hunger with a drink with fiber (gelatin) to reduce his eating allowance. If you are scavenging to get slightly wilted vegetables or get vegetables that have not sold well from a mobile seller, it is part of fulfilling the day's meal.

With minimal income, waste pickers must adjust their needs, including choosing a place to live. Some waste pickers have stall bosses who provide makeshift "bedeng" facilities. Some pay every month between Rp 200,000 - Rp 300,000 per month, including electricity and water. Some waste pickers also do not pay the rental fee, of course with a makeshift situation. Another choice of residence is a tenement house which is usually a sturdier building and in a better/organized environment, with a high cost of between Rp 500,000 to Rp 650,000 per month not including electricity and water expenses.



Photo: The condition of the bed prepared by the stall boss (free of charge) for the waste pickers located in the Bintara Jaya waste picker community

Source: JARAK Documentation, 2025.



Photo: Waste picker rental house with a monthly rental fee of IDR 200,000 - IDR 300,000
Source: JARAK Documentation, 2025.



Photo: A tenement house in Jatiasih with a rent of IDR 500,000 per month.
Source: JARAK Documentation, 2025.



Photo: A plot house located next to a housing complex with a rental price IDR 650,000 per month.

Source: JARAK Documentation, 2025.

Not all waste picker residences are equipped with bathrooms. There is a shared bathroom system outside the residential building. In fact, in some waste picker communities, the baths are close to the river, so the waste is disposed of directly into the river.



Photo: Shared common bathroom or WC and bathroom in bed.

Source: JARAK Documentation, 2025.

Looking at the comparison of waste picker income in the landfill environment and outside the landfill, it can give an unequal picture of the selling price. Waste pickers around the landfill will be encouraged to collect a larger volume because of the relatively cheap selling

price of goods. The type of goods that can still be collected is really "leftover" from the garbage because before it arrives at the landfill, it has been reduced from the residents who sort, the cleaners at the RT, and the garbage truck crew who also collect garbage.

One of the phenomena that is also a concern for the condition of waste pickers and makes them unable to enjoy a decent income, conveyed by Mr. Bagong in his advocacy is the existence of 'emok banks' in the lives of waste pickers. That the loans offered can be obtained easily, but actually ensnare them themselves because the return can reach 30%. In addition to the emok bank, there is also a ijon system that is carried out by bosses/loan sharks and owes money to stalls to survive. This is very suffocating for waste pickers who have limited income and are squeezed by heavy loan patterns.

B - Estimated Living Income

- **B1 – Healthy eating survey**

Based on the number of respondents, most of them have a family member of 3-4 people (28 respondents), some have 5-6 people (7 families) and the rest only have 1-2 family members (5 respondents). The family member in question is a child, brother or parent.

Most respondents expressed concerns about getting enough food and eating healthy, including often missing their hunger. Most of them prioritize their children's food needs over themselves, that's why they get around providing food for their children, including going into debt if they don't have food at all.

Daily shopping patterns are carried out by families, including for the purchase of rice, vegetables or side dishes. The simplest and easiest to prepare meal is eggs, a foodstuff that is easy to find in stalls and is still affordable to buy (egg price is Rp 2,000 per piece). For respondents who live alone, their food needs are carried out by buying at stalls, if they only eat with simple side dishes, they have to spend around Rp 12,000 - Rp 15,000. Some respondents said that they used to process vegetables given by others to reduce spending money. The price of rice in the cheap category is around Rp 10,000 per liter and has now risen to Rp 12,500 per liter.

In addition to food needs, spending on clean water is also a cost that must be set aside considering that most are hesitant to consume water from their homes. Refillable water ranging from Rp 5,000 to Rp 6,000 is a vital need.

An interesting thing found in the dialogue with the waste pickers is that even though they are worried that they cannot eat enough, most of them still eat before going to work. According to them, the work that will be done throughout the day is heavy and the body must get intake to be strong to work. There are also waste pickers who bring provisions (food) for them to eat at the landfill on the sidelines of collecting junk so that they still have energy and are not tired.

Although the purchase of coffee and cigarettes is not part of a healthy diet, the finding that the need for these items is also quite large. It is estimated that a day's expenses can reach more than Rp 30,000 assuming Rp 20,000 for cigarette expenses and Rp 10,000 for 2 cups of coffee.

Examples of respondents' expenses with family members of 4-5 people (husband, wife and children), daily shopping are; kilos of rice, egg grains, side dishes (salted fish, tofu and tempeh), vegetables, ice cubes and children's snacks. There are also weekly necessities that they have to buy such as gas, sugar, cooking oil, cooking spices, etc. with expenses ranging from Rp 100,000 per day. \

For the purpose of cooking tools and ingredients, around Rp 500,000 per month is needed. These needs include buying gas, cooking oil, kitchen spices, and other cooking tools and materials.

- **B2 – Feasibility housing survey**

Looking at some of the houses lived by waste pickers, it was found that the following categories:

- **Bedding/living in a stall:** this is one of the housing options offered by the boss of the stall for waste pickers. Some get housing for free, even including water and electricity expenses. Some get this facility by paying Rp 250,000 - Rp 300,000 per month including water and electricity.

The situation of beds also varies, some have bathrooms and some do not have their own bathrooms, but there is a shared bathroom. If they choose a bed with a bathroom, the rental price will be more expensive (Rp 350,000) even without a toilet, so they still have to use public toilet facilities provided by the rental owner.

- **Tenement house:** the house is built with sturdy materials, there are ventilation and an en-suite bathroom. Some of these tenement houses have rooms or do not depend on the size of the area. From the observation results, the average plot house is 3x4 m², there is an electrical network and an internal bathroom. The rental price per month reaches Rp 500,000 - Rp 650,000 depending on the location, whether it is near housing or villages. This rental price does not include electricity needs.

- **Land rent:** There are also waste pickers living around the location of the Bantar Gebang Landfill who get their place of residence by only renting their land with an annual payment system of Rp 1,000,000 with a land area of 6x4 meters, with the land area used by waste pickers to build a residence with makeshift materials and some of them used as a place to accommodate their junk.

In landfill locations, waste pickers live more in beds, while other waste pickers in some communities have a choice of plots/rented houses that are more livable because the environment is organized. Better housing options correlate with higher contract values.

Based on government regulations, the size of subsidized houses is 21-36 m² LT: 60-200m² (PUPR No. 242/KPTS/2020). However, many waste picker dwellings are smaller and not feasible, and there are no proper sanitation facilities (bathrooms, toilets, clean water).



Photo: The condition of the water channel in front of the waste picker's house which is full of garbage and shallow.

Source: JARAK Documentation, 2025.

- **B3 – Healthcare costs**

The waste pickers said that there are some of them who do not have BPJS/health insurance covered by the government, but not a few have experienced access to health and have taken advantage of it.

The existence of BPJS or KIS received by waste pickers is assistance from the government for its citizens who are included in the underprivileged category. This health service is a basic right and is very helpful for waste pickers to check their health and even access services at hospitals in times of emergency or need long-term care. For treatment of pain that is not too severe, they still choose to go to a paid general practitioner because it is considered easier. There are also those who undergo birth at the Health Center.

For waste pickers who do not have free access to health, the Bantar Gebang Sejahtera Waste picker Community helps provide health costs, including bearing if a colleague dies. This is a benefit that is felt by waste pickers who are organized in the community because there is attention and help from other colleagues.

Some of the complaints felt by waste pickers such as diarrhea, itching, fever, and typhoid can be overcome by buying medicine from a stall or visiting the nearest clinic with a cost of around Rp 50,000 - Rp 100,000

- **B4 – Tuition fees**

The policy of free education up to the high school level only applies to public schools. If children enroll in a private school, it is necessary to consider the existence of expenses for monthly tuition. Even though public schools are free, there is still a fee to buy uniforms, shoes, books or other school supplies. This is what often makes it difficult for parents because they have to have enough money when they go to school. Even though there has been a policy of

no levy in public schools, based on teacher information, there are still efforts to provide relief for students from waste picker families if needed.

In one year, the expenditure of school necessities such as uniforms, bags, shoes, and other school necessities must be prepared by parents. These needs include uniforms, shoes, bags, or other school needs of Rp 150,000 per month. The credit fee to access the internet is IDR 150,000 per month. Also, for school pocket money needs, which is IDR 305,000 per month.

Elementary school services, both public and private, are around the waste pickers' residences (TPA), making it easier for their children to go to school because there are no transportation costs. Higher education levels (junior high school/high school) are usually located further away, but they are accessible to children because they have motorcycles and are escorted by their parents.

The components of education costs are not only tuition fees, but also related to pocket money for children, gasoline money, savings money and Student Worksheets (LKS) books used in learning. The price of LKS per semester is IDR 150,000, so that in one year the LKS expenditure needed by students will be IDR 300,000.

Monthly tuition fee information according to school level: High School: IDR 300,000, Junior High School: IDR 150,000, SD: IDR 30,000, Kindergarten: IDR 50,000. Information was obtained that in addition to tuition fees, there was a purchase of LKS for children at the elementary level of Rp 150,000 for one year.

Meanwhile, the allowance varies according to the child's school level because there are different snack needs. For the elementary school (SD) education level, pocket money ranges from Rp 2,000 - Rp 5,000. For Junior High School (SMP), pocket money ranges from Rp 5,000 - Rp 10,000. Then, for Senior High School or Vocational School (SMA/K) pocket money ranges from Rp 10,000 - Rp 15,000.

● **B5 – Decent work costs**

Actually, when it comes to what equipment waste pickers use, most say that none are specifically bought. Some of the things used are gifts from other people (used goods), for example such as long-sleeved shirts, hats or footwear (ordinary shoes).

The equipment they really need is boots and lights to provide lighting at night. Boots are felt to benefit because they protect them from sharp garbage and water from garbage that gives itching.

Of all the equipment that is least used is gloves, according to them, gloves actually interfere with the picking up of goods and can even make debris stick.

Here are the prices of equipment that are commonly purchased:

- Boots: IDR 80,000 - IDR 90,000
- Sack: IDR 20,000
- *Ganco* (garbage pick-up): IDR 15,000
- Garbage basket: IDR 30,000
- Lights: IDR 60,000
- Hat: IDR 25,000 - IDR 30,000

- Gloves: IDR 25,000
- Transportation/ Petrol: IDR 150,000

- **B6 – Savings**

The habit of saving is carried out by waste pickers in various ways, some of whom deposit an amount of Rp 5,000 - Rp 10,000 every day in the children's school savings so that it is not easy to take them. For waste pickers who have family dependents in their hometowns, they set aside an income of around Rp 300,000 - Rp 500,000 after getting money so that it is not used every day.

C – Comparable income or minimum wage

Waste picker hunting is a job that some people do because they do not have other job opportunities. It is pursued because of economic needs and does not require certain education. Waste pickers are part of informal work some are done as main or side jobs.

The results of discussions and findings of several professions are presented as a comparison of the honorarium or monthly wages received.

- According to the General Cost Standard, a government document for 2025, it is known that the ceiling of honorarium for security guards and drivers is 3.7 million, while for cleaners and flight attendants they get an honorarium of 3.4 million.
- Based on the Decree of the Governor of West Java Number 561/Kep.782-Kesra/2024 concerning the Sectoral Minimum Wage of West Java Province in 2025, starting January 1, 2025, it will increase by 6.5%. The determination of the increase and the list of the amount of MSEs in West Java in 2025 is stated in the Decree of the Governor of West Java Number 561.7/Kep.798-Kesra/2024 concerning the Minimum Wage for Regencies/Cities in the West Java Province Region in 2025. The amount of UMP in West Java is IDR 2,100,000 million, Minimum wage in Bekasi City are IDR 5,690,000 million and Bekasi Regency is IDR 5,500,000 million
- For handyman jobs whose daily wage system gets a wage range of Rp 150,000 for handymen and Rp 120,000 for assistant (the average waste picker can also do work as an assistant).
- Based on experience, garbage truck drivers with high school level get a wage of IDR 4,100,000 million, junior high school IDR 3,700,000 million, and elementary school IDR 3,500,000 million.

Key learnings and recommendations learned

The survey describes the lives of waste pickers who earn **small incomes, long working hours, living in unsuitable environments**. Many waste pickers are tied to one of the waste picker bosses because they have debts and are not free to transact/sell waste to other places.

The findings were that a total of **18 respondents started this work from a young age and there were still children involved** in this work (sorting). The issue is not only about child labor but the protection of children more comprehensively related to health, education, and even population administration that may be missed is not taken care of because the family is actually still a local resident but does work outside their place of origin.

The limited education and skills of waste pickers are also one of the biggest obstacles. So, it is difficult for them to get out of the work situation in the garbage. In the end, they also felt comfortable and difficult to get out of the comfort zone. This then makes them continue to work as waste pickers even though they do not get a decent income and life.

- The factors that have the greatest influence in increasing or limiting the income and welfare of waste pickers.

The cheap selling price applied by the vendors certainly limits the income of waste pickers. With a low selling price, they have to go the extra mile in terms of time and effort. This work prioritizes the physical strength factor (especially those in landfills/TPST) so that this will affect the volume/number of goods/junk obtained/collected and will ultimately also affect the income they earn.

The result of **physical fatigue** makes them rest/take a break for 1-2 days after which they start working again. That way, there is no income or surviving with the money they have until they can get back to work.

With the **circular economy movement**, currently more and more people use used goods in their homes to sell or process. More and more people are collecting garbage so that there are fewer used goods/garbage that can be collected by waste pickers. The existence of waste pickers outside the landfill is a competitor for waste pickers who depend on life in the landfill.

Learning from waste pickers, we get **the spirit to survive from garbage**, something dirty and not many people want to carry out this profession. Others' view of this job does not discourage them from working in the garbage.

- Opportunities to improve livelihoods

The survey location covers the area around the Sumur Batu Landfill which has TPS3R which already has equipment for enumerators, *presses*, and *conveyors*. The utilization of TPS3R by KBPS can be an alternative to improving the economy of waste pickers because later it can be prepared to partner with companies that buy waste from TPS3R.

One of the findings of this survey is that not all waste pickers have BPJS health whose premiums are subsidized by the government even though they are included in the category of poor/vulnerable families. By doing work that is prone to work accidents, there is a need to make efforts to protect waste pickers. Registering waste pickers to participate in BPJS Ketenagakerjaan so that waste pickers get protection at work and can get long-term benefits. Another effort that can be made before registering BPJS, it is necessary to collect data in order to support the baseline of waste pickers.

Waste picker empowerment programs through community mentoring can be carried out to encourage waste pickers to manage family financial planning, provide the best education for their children and provide other issues (occupational health safety, clean and healthy lifestyle/PHBS, child protection).

For example, increasing awareness of child protection can be done by providing public facilities that children can use for positive and decent activities, such as the procurement of reading places, shared learning places, playgrounds, and others. Thus, children can take advantage of their free time to do activities and fulfill their rights in accordance with their child's development tasks.

- **Actions for local governments**

One of the **programs launched by the Ministry of Social Affairs, Social Rehabilitation Assistance (ATENSI)**, empowers the waste picker community by providing tools, training and the development of ATENSI's creation center. **Yayasan Kumala runs creative programs** for waste pickers, such as:

- **ATENSI Creation Center** — a place to buy and sell handicrafts from recycled wood, paper, and other waste. Inaugurated by the Minister of Social Affairs in November 2021.
- The ATENSI Waste picker program includes **vocational training (waste processing & crafts), waste banks, wood lathe training, tutoring for waste picker children, and creative houses.**

The government through the Ministry of Social Affairs pays attention to waste pickers and their families in the target of the social safety net program. The Minister of Social Affairs symbolically handed over the assistance of the representative of the Bekasi City Government, namely the Head of the Bekasi City Social Service Alexander Zulkarnaen, with the total assistance distributed by the Ministry of Social Affairs (Kemensos) reaching Rp 650,050,643,833, including 2,055 packages of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for waste pickers, 389 packages of basic necessities and nutrition, 44 aids for disabilities, and 14 entrepreneurship packages.

There needs to be a supportive policy, positioning waste pickers as partners of local governments in waste control and management (providing infrastructure, subsidies, training, and capacity building) in waste banks, TPS3R, and waste recycling businesses.

- **Action for local private sector actors**

For business actors, especially stall owners to waste management companies, they can provide coaching, social services, capital and education assistance as well as training for waste pickers related to financial management, health/BPJS, education for waste picker children (scholarships) and provide assistance for educational facilities.

Some examples of plastic recycling companies ensuring their supply chains receive training related to financial management, PHBS, obtaining BPJS and paying attention to child waste pickers to ensure children are not involved in waste management.

Other examples are as follows:

1. Waste picker Child Scholarship Program (BAPI) by Le Minerale

Le Minerale, a bottled water company, supports the Indonesian Waste Grabber Child Scholarship Program (BAPI) by providing scholarships worth a total of **Rp 500,000,000 million** for **100 waste picker children** who are threatened with dropping out of school or have dropped out of school. The main goal: to improve the living standards of waste pickers by supporting their children's education and expanding access to better education.

2. Collaboration with the Kumala Foundation by ABM Group (related SOEs)

ABM Investama Tbk (leveraging its subsidiaries, such as CKB Logistics) partnered with the Kumala Foundation to present a **waste bank** model and recycling works that empower the waste picker community and street children in North Jakarta (Tanjung Priok). They apply the principles of **making recycled products such as paper, paper bags, and recycling wooden pallets**—thus generating alternative income for waste pickers. This program is part of a CSR initiative to create sustainable economic and environmental benefits.

3. Academic Initiative: Creative Waste Bank in Klender

In the waste picker village of Klender, East Jakarta, there is a creative economy-based initiative through **the Swara Cipta Mandiri Waste Bank**. With the application of **the 4R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Replace) principle**, this program provides participatory training, socialization of waste management, and the use of waste generated by waste pickers as raw materials for products with economic value.

The action steps currently being taken by the **Earthworm Foundation with private support (Nestle)** and in collaboration with various stakeholders, including the government, private companies, other CSOs, and academics, include:

1. Development of a database of waste pickers, which will be used as a reference for applications to be registered with the Employment Social Security Agency (BPJS Ketenagakerjaan) under the BPU (Non-Wage Recipient) scheme, or other assistance.

2. A Resilience Pilot Project for a group of waste pickers (24 people) by providing capacity building in terms of resilience, occupational safety and health, human rights, and economic improvement. For economic improvement, waste pickers receive information and explanations about the requirements for selling wastepaper so that it can be accepted by paper factories at a good price, provide bridge financing, and build networks/access to sell waste to large retailers.