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CAN ELECTION JUSTICE AND ECO-JUSTICE BE ACHIEVED SIMULTANEOUSLY THROUGH SUPERVISORY? A CASE STUDY OF REGIONAL ELECTIONS IN WEST JAVA INDONESIA

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Abstract

The intersection of election justice and eco-justice is an emerging area of focus, highlighting the connection between democratic processes and environmental sustainability. As societies grapple with environmental challenges and increasing social inequalities, the 2024 elections present an opportunity to address both issues simultaneously. This paper investigates the environmental impact of the 2024 Pilkada Serentak (simultaneous regional elections) in Indonesia, with a specific focus on the environmental consequences of the election materials used throughout the process. It analyzes key materials such as paper ballots, election booths, and ballot boxes, as well as the carbon emissions generated during the distribution of these materials to 27 regencies and cities in West Java. The study employs a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) framework to assess the environmental footprint of these materials, considering all stages from production and transportation to disposal. The analysis provides a comprehensive evaluation of the ecological impact associated with the logistics of the election process, including the emissions related to the transportation of materials and the waste generated from non-biodegradable election materials. Drawing from the findings, this paper offers a set of policy recommendations aimed at reducing the environmental impact of future elections.

Keywords: *Elections; Eco-Justice; Environmental Impact; and Electoral Logistics.*

Abstrak

Keterkaitan antara keadilan pemilu dan keadilan lingkungan merupakan bidang yang semakin mendapatkan perhatian, yang menyoroti hubungan antara proses demokrasi dan keberlanjutan lingkungan. Seiring dengan tantangan lingkungan yang semakin mendalam dan meningkatnya ketidaksetaraan sosial, Pemilu 2024 menjadi kesempatan untuk menangani kedua isu tersebut secara bersamaan. Makalah ini menyelidiki dampak lingkungan dari Pilkada Serentak 2024 di Indonesia, dengan fokus khusus pada konsekuensi lingkungan dari bahan-bahan pemilu yang digunakan sepanjang proses tersebut. Makalah ini menganalisis bahan utama seperti kertas suara, bilik suara, dan kotak suara, serta emisi karbon yang dihasilkan selama distribusi bahan-bahan tersebut ke 27 kabupaten/kota di Jawa Barat. Penelitian ini menggunakan kerangka Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) untuk menilai jejak lingkungan dari bahan-bahan ini, dengan mempertimbangkan semua tahapan mulai dari produksi dan transportasi hingga pembuangan. Analisis ini memberikan evaluasi komprehensif mengenai dampak ekologis yang terkait dengan logistik proses pemilu, termasuk emisi yang terkait dengan transportasi bahan dan limbah yang dihasilkan dari bahan pemilu yang tidak dapat terurai secara hayati. Berdasarkan temuan-temuan tersebut, makalah ini menawarkan serangkaian rekomendasi kebijakan yang bertujuan untuk mengurangi dampak lingkungan dari pemilu di masa depan.

Kata Kunci: Pemilihan Umum, Keadilan Lingkungan, Dampak Lingkungan, dan Logistik Pemilu.

INTRODUCTION

The simultaneous pursuit of Election Justice and Eco-Justice, particularly in the context of regional elections in West Java, Indonesia, presents a multifaceted challenge. The interplay between political processes and environmental governance is increasingly critical, especially as Indonesia navigates its electoral landscape amidst growing ecological concerns. Election Justice in Indonesia encompasses the principles of fairness, inclusivity, and integrity in electoral processes. However, recent elections have highlighted systemic issues, including voter fatigue and declining participation rates, as evidenced in West

Java's regional elections. These trends not only question the legitimacy of elected officials but also highlight gaps in their responsiveness to public needs (Indarto et al., 2023)

Eco-Justice, on the other hand, emphasizes equitable environmental governance, ensuring that no community disproportionately bears the burdens of ecological degradation. In Indonesia, eco-justice has gained traction as environmental challenges intensify, with political campaigns increasingly addressing sustainability (Rodríguez & Hernández, 2020). Candidates like Anies Baswedan and Ganjar Pranowo have integrated ecological commitments into their platforms, proposing renewable energy transitions and green economies. However, skepticism persists about the feasibility and sincerity of these promises, raising doubts about their impact post-election (Eco Bussiness, 2024).

In recent years, there has been increasing recognition of how electoral systems, policies, and practices can impact both social equity and environmental health. Election justice ensures that all citizens, particularly marginalized communities, are able to participate fully and equitably in the democratic process, having their voices heard in shaping policies that affect their lives (Suhariyanto et al., 2024). Eco-justice, on the other hand, focuses on addressing the disproportionate environmental burdens faced by these same communities, advocating for fair treatment and protection from environmental degradation. This connection between the two underscores the idea that policies promoting social equity cannot be fully realized without considering their environmental impacts, and that ecological sustainability is best achieved when it incorporates social justice for all (Sahran Raden, 2024). As the world confronts climate change and other pressing environmental challenges, elections have the potential to serve as a powerful tool for driving systemic change. The 2024 elections present a timely opportunity to examine how electoral processes can be restructured to prioritize eco-justice while also ensuring fairness and inclusivity for marginalized populations (Suparto et al., 2023). However, while elections have the potential to shape environmental policies, they also contribute to significant environmental impacts. The logistics of elections, from the transportation of materials and voters to the waste generated by campaign materials, can produce substantial carbon emissions and pollution. Therefore, integrating eco-justice into election processes is not only necessary for addressing environmental challenges but also for ensuring that future elections are conducted in a manner that respects both human and planetary well-being.

The West Java regional elections serve as a compelling case study to explore how these two forms of justice intersect. Candidates are faced with the dual imperative of addressing governance deficiencies while integrating environmental sustainability into their agendas. Yet, significant challenges remain, from the effective implementation of policies and bureaucratic inefficiencies to engaging voters whose immediate economic concerns often overshadow ecological issues. Despite these obstacles, opportunities for synergy exist. Voter awareness about environmental issues has the potential to reshape electoral priorities, while collaborative governance can bridge the gap between electoral integrity and sustainability. The extent to which candidates and institutions genuinely align these two aspects will be crucial in determining

whether Indonesia can simultaneously uphold democratic principles and ecological justice in its electoral processes (Mannoni, 2024).

This growing awareness of the link between election justice and eco-justice calls for a reevaluation of electoral systems and practices to ensure that they are not only fair and inclusive but also environmentally sustainable. The role of electoral management bodies (EMBs), such as Bawaslu (the Election Supervisory Agency) in Indonesia, becomes crucial in this context. These bodies are responsible for overseeing the integrity of elections, but they can also play a key role in fostering sustainable practices within the electoral process. By adopting policies that reduce environmental waste, encourage eco-friendly campaigns, and educate voters on the importance of sustainable practices, EMBs can help ensure that elections serve both democratic and ecological goals. This article offers an in-depth exploration of the complex interplay between Election Justice and Eco-Justice, using the ongoing regional elections in West Java, Indonesia, as a critical case study. By examining the multifaceted challenges, opportunities, and practical realities at the intersection of democratic processes and environmental sustainability, the article seeks to assess whether these two equally vital goals can be pursued and achieved simultaneously in the context of Indonesia's current electoral landscape.

METHODOLOGY

This study employs Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) to analyze the environmental impacts associated with election logistics during the ongoing regional elections in West Java, Indonesia. LCA is a comprehensive approach that evaluates the entire lifecycle of election-related materials, from raw material extraction to disposal, with the goal of assessing the environmental consequences of activities such as paper ballot production, transportation, energy consumption at polling stations, and waste management (Jegen, 2024). By applying this methodology, the study aims to identify key areas where environmental sustainability can be improved within election processes.

The objective of this study is to quantify the environmental impacts of election logistics, focusing specifically on how the production, transportation, and disposal of election materials affect the environment. The scope includes examining paper ballots, voting booths, transportation logistics, and energy consumption at polling stations, as well as the end-of-life disposal or recycling of election materials. Data for this study was gathered from various sources, including the West Java Election Supervisory Agency (Bawaslu). Information on the quantities of materials used in the election process, such as paper ballots, printing materials, and other election-related products, was collected. Additionally, data on the energy consumed at polling stations and the transportation emissions generated from moving election materials was compiled. The study also incorporates data on waste generation, focusing on the disposal or recycling of ballots and other election materials post-election.

The environmental impacts were assessed across several categories, including, Carbon Footprint: Emissions resulting from the transportation of election materials, energy use at polling stations, and the production of paper ballots. Resource Depletion: The consumption of raw materials such as paper, ink, and plastics used in the production of election materials. Waste Generation: The volume of waste

generated during the election, particularly from paper ballots and single-use election products. Ecological Impact: The potential harm to ecosystems due to waste disposal methods, resource extraction, and the overall environmental footprint of the election process.

The results of the LCA were analyzed to identify significant environmental impact areas and to determine opportunities for reducing the ecological footprint of future elections. Recommendations for more sustainable election practices, such as reducing paper usage and optimizing waste management systems, were proposed. The study also provides a comparative analysis of the environmental impacts associated with different election logistics scenarios, offering insights into potential improvements for future electoral processes

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Environmental Impacts of Election Materials

One of the most significant findings of this study is the high environmental cost associated with the production of paper ballots. Paper production is resource-intensive, requiring large amounts of water, energy, and raw materials. Additionally, the chemicals used in printing ink contribute to air and water pollution. During the regional elections in West Java, it was found that approximately 7,777.4 tons of paper were used for ballots, resulting in 11,666,100 of carbon dioxide emissions. This highlights the considerable ecological footprint of election materials, especially considering the large number of voters in the region.

Table 1. Total Distribution of Ballot Papers

No.	REGENCY/CITY	AMOUNT OF DPT	PAPER BALLOTS PROPOSED 2.5% PER TPS	PAPER BALLOTS PROPOSED	TOTAL OF PAPER BALLOTS NEEDS	
					PILGUB	PILBUP/ PILWALKOT
				PBP	2.000	
1	Bogor Regency	3.926.080	101.663	2.000	4.027.743	4.029.743
2	Sukabumi Regency	1.983.406	51.669	2.000	2.035.075	2.037.075
3	Cianjur Regency	1.816.668	47.369	2.000	1.864.037	1.866.037
4	Bandung Regency	2.664.172	69.431	2.000	2.733.603	2.735.603
5	Garut Regency	2.005.168	52.253	2.000	2.057.421	2.059.421
6	Tasikmalaya Regency	1.418.938	36.824	2.000	1.455.762	1.457.762
7	Ciamis Regency	960.995	25.030	2.000	986.025	988.025
8	Kuningan Regency	891.960	23.257	2.000	915.217	917.217
9	Cirebon Regency	1.744.235	45.203	2.000	1.789.438	1.791.438
10	Majalengka Regency	1.000.378	26.025	2.000	1.026.40	1.028.403

					3	
11	Sumedang Regency	894.295	23.336	2.000	917.631	919.631
12	Indramayu Regency	1.390.569	36.092	2.000	1.426.661	1.428.661
13	Subang Regency	1.198.736	31.250	2.000	1.229.986	1.231.986
14	Regency Purwakarta	738.968	19.178	2.000	758.146	760.146
15	Karawang Regency	1.801.870	46.914	2.000	1.848.784	1.850.784
16	Bekasi Regency	2.251.856	58.186	2.000	2.310.042	2.312.042
17	Bandung Barat Regency	1.309.568	33.882	2.000	1.343.450	1.345.450
18	Pangandaran Regency	334.425	8.732	2.000	343.157	345.157
19	Bogor City	815.249	21.075	2.000	836.324	838.324
20	Sukabumi City	259.961	6.756	2.000	266.717	268.717
21	Bandung City	1.887.881	48.861	2.000	1.936.742	1.938.742
22	Cirebon City	255.779	6.655	2.000	262.434	264.434
23	Bekasi City	1.828.740	47.499	2.000	1.876.239	1.878.239
24	Depok City	1.427.674	36.964	2.000	1.464.638	1.466.638
25	Cimahi City	419.974	10.903	2.000	430.877	432.877
26	Tasikmalaya City	543.990	14.014	2.000	558.004	560.004
27	Banjar City	154.425	4.009	2.000	158.434	160.434
TOTAL		**35.925.960**	**933.030**	**54.000**	**36.860.990**	**36.912.990**

Source: Human Resources and Organization Division of the West Java provincial Election Supervisory Agency

The production of voting booths and ballot boxes also contributed to environmental impacts, although to a lesser extent. These materials, primarily made of plastic and wood, require substantial energy during production and pose significant waste management challenges after the election. Many of these materials are not recycled effectively, exacerbating their environmental impact.

Table 2. Total Distributions of Voting Booth

No	REGENCY/CITY	Amount of TPS	NEEDS
			TPS X 4
1	Bogor Regency	7.908	31.632
2	Sukabumi Regency	4.318	17.272
3	Cianjur Regency	4.054	16.216
4	Bandung Regency	5.859	23.436
5	Garut Regency	4.418	17.672

6	Tasikmalaya Regency	2.847	11.388
7	Ciamis Regency	2.084	8.336
8	Kuningan Regency	1.927	7.708
9	Cirebon Regency	3.318	13.272
10	Majalengka Regency	2.111	8.444
11	Sumedang Regency	2.012	8.048
12	Indramayu Regency	2.780	11.120
13	Subang Regency	2.652	10.608
14	Purwakarta Regency	1.462	5.848
15	Karawang Regency	3.793	15.172
16	Bekasi Regency	4.236	16.944
17	Bandung Barat Regency	2.562	10.248
18	Pangandaran Regency	774	3.096
19	Bogor City	1.530	6.120
20	Sukabumi City	551	2.204
21	Bandung City	3.590	14.360
22	Cirebon City	547	2.188
23	Bekasi City	3.673	14.692
24	Depok City	2.763	11.052
25	Cimahi City	823	3.292
26	Tasikmalaya City	985	3.940
27	Banjar City	285	1.140
TOTAL		**73.862**	**295.448**

Source: Human Resources and Organization Division of the West Java provincial Election Supervisory Agency

Transportation and Carbon Emissions

The transportation of election materials across the province of West Java emerged as another major source of environmental impact. The study found that the movement of election materials to 73,862 number of polling stations generated approximately 22,329.69 tons of CO2 emissions, primarily due to the use of diesel-powered trucks. This represents a substantial carbon footprint, especially considering the geographical spread of polling stations, which resulted in long transport routes. The calculation of carbon emissions from logistics operations follows a standard formula:

This method requires three key parameters: the total distance traveled by the vehicle, the fuel efficiency (assumed to be 4 km/l for logistics trucks), and the CO2 emission factor, which is 2.68 kg CO2/l for diesel fuel. By dividing the distance by the fuel efficiency, the total fuel consumed in liters is determined. Multiplying this value by the emission factor yields the CO2 emissions in kilograms. Summing the emissions for all distances traveled provides the total carbon dioxide emissions, offering a clear insight into the environmental impact of logistics operations and highlighting the need for sustainable practices.

$$\text{CO2 Emissions (kg)} = \frac{Distance\ Traveled\ (km)}{Fuel\ efficiency\ (km/1)} x\ CO2\ emission\ factor\ (kg\ CO2\ /1).$$

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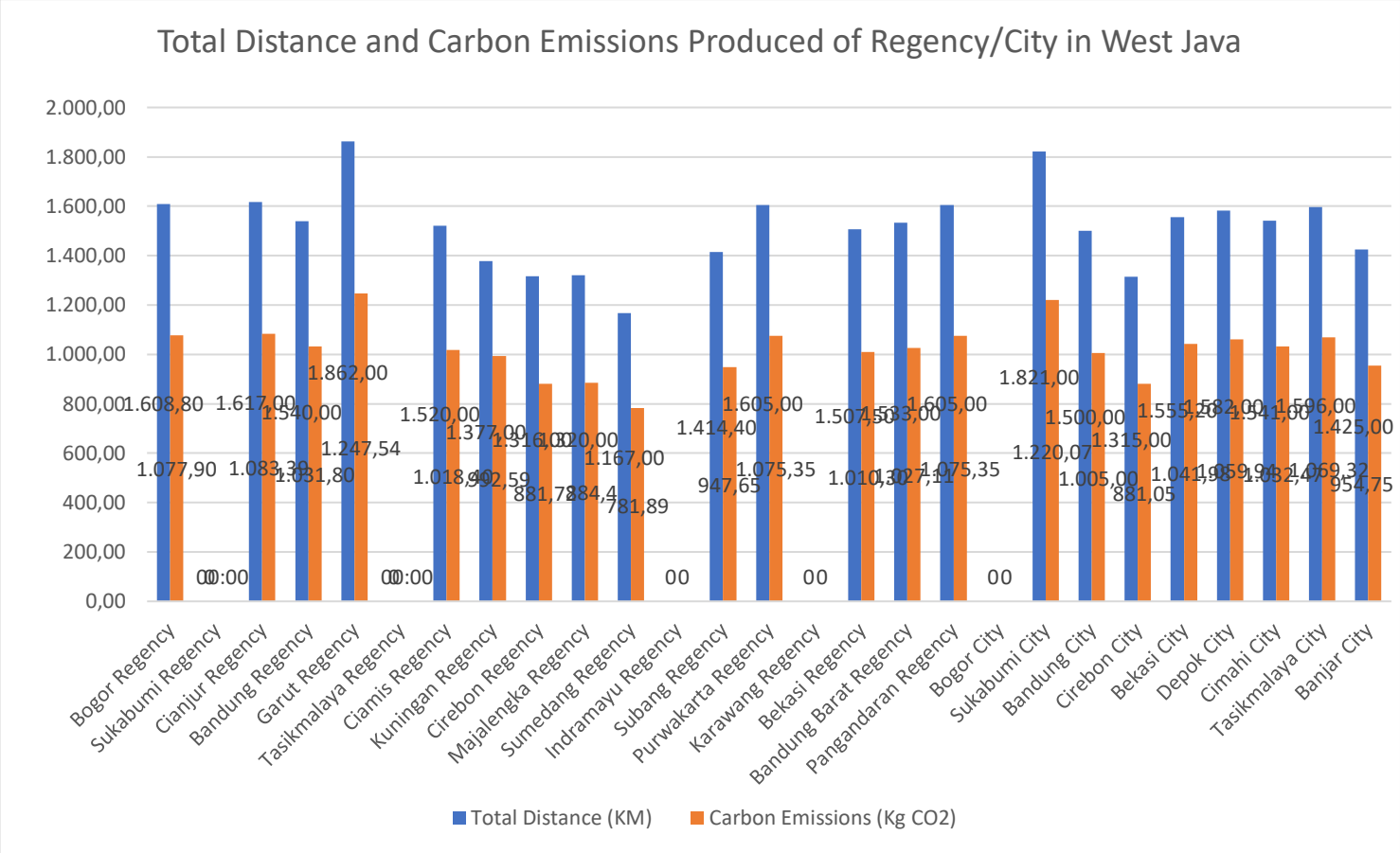
Graphic 1. Total Distance and Carbon Emissions Produced of Regency/City in West Java



Source: Human Resources and Organization Division of the West Java provincial Election Supervisory Agency and Processed by Researchers

The total emission of 22,329.69 kg of CO2 has significant environmental implications, contributing to climate change and ecological degradation. To offset these emissions, approximately 1,015 trees would need to absorb carbon for an entire year, highlighting the challenge of relying on natural sequestration alone. Such emissions are equivalent to those produced by five average passenger vehicles annually or the energy consumption of six to seven households in Indonesia, underscoring the substantial carbon footprint of logistic operations. Furthermore, these emissions accelerate the melting of polar ice caps, contributing to rising sea levels and threatening Arctic ecosystems and coastal communities (NSIDC, 2024). The carbon output is also comparable to the deforestation of one hectare of tropical rainforest, which not only destroys habitats but also reduces the capacity of forests to act as future carbon sinks. Over time, such emissions exacerbate systemic climate changes, including altered precipitation patterns, desertification, and ecosystem disruptions, leading to food and water insecurity in vulnerable regions. These findings underscore the urgent need to integrate eco-justice principles into logistics, particularly in critical operations like election logistics, to ensure sustainability and mitigate long-

term environmental impacts (Willemson & Krips, 2023).

Waste Generation and Disposal

The disposal of election-related materials and waste represents another area of concern. The study found that a significant amount of paper ballots and other election materials ended up in landfills. A portion of this waste is recycled, but much of it is not properly managed, leading to long-term environmental damage (Aran Barack, 2024). The lack of comprehensive recycling programs at many polling stations and the absence of centralized waste management systems contribute to the high levels of waste generated by the election process. In some areas, local authorities have implemented recycling initiatives, but these efforts are not uniformly applied across the region.

Waste generation and disposal during elections is a critical environmental issue, as elections often involve large-scale logistics and materials. Printed ballots, envelopes, and other voting materials are used in vast quantities, especially in paper-based voting systems. After elections, significant waste is produced from campaign materials, such as signs, flyers, and promotional items, which often end up in landfills if not properly recycled. Additionally, the increasing use of electronic voting systems introduces e-waste, as voting machines and other electronic equipment may become obsolete or damaged. Transportation of election materials, staff, and voters also generates waste, including vehicle emissions and fuel consumption. Furthermore, food and beverage waste are created in polling stations or election headquarters where workers and volunteers use disposable packaging.

From a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) perspective, the environmental impact of election-related waste can be analyzed through several stages. The production stage includes the creation of materials such as paper ballots, signs, and electronic devices, which require energy, water, and raw materials. The use phase involves the consumption of these materials during the election process, contributing to waste generation and resource depletion. The end-of-life stage deals with waste disposal and recycling, where the environmental impact can be minimized by employing efficient recycling systems and proper disposal methods, especially for e-waste. Additionally, transportation emissions contribute to the carbon footprint throughout the entire lifecycle of election materials. Analyzing this lifecycle helps identify opportunities for waste reduction, such as minimizing paper use, using sustainable materials, encouraging recycling, and properly managing e-waste, thus making elections more sustainable and reducing their long-term environmental impact.

The logistics needs for the 2024 Regional Elections in West Java highlight the significant waste generation and environmental impact of large-scale electoral processes. Approximately 77,773,980 paper ballots are required, with each ballot weighing around 5 grams. This results in a total weight of 388.87 metric tons of paper, the production of which necessitates the felling of an estimated 9,333 trees and the consumption of approximately 9,332,880 gallons of water. Furthermore, this process generates 567.76 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions, contributing to deforestation, water resource depletion, and climate change. In addition to paper waste, 295,448 voting booths made of cardboard are also required. Assuming an average weight of

1 kilogram per booth, this results in 295.45 metric tons of cardboard waste. While cardboard is more biodegradable than other materials, its production still contributes to deforestation, water use, and greenhouse gas emissions, further compounding the environmental impact of the election logistics.

These figures underscore the resource intensity and environmental degradation tied to election logistics. To address these challenges, implementing recycling programs for paper ballots and used cardboard voting booths is crucial. Encouraging the use of sustainably sourced, FSC-certified materials for both ballots and booths, as well as exploring reusable or compostable options for future elections, can help reduce the ecological footprint. Moreover, transitioning to electronic voting systems presents a long-term solution to significantly decrease waste. These measures are essential to ensuring that the electoral process aligns with the principles of election justice and eco-justice, paving the way for a more sustainable and equitable democratic system.

Discussion: The Intersection of Election Justice and Eco-Justice, Does Supervision Conquer that?

The intersection of election justice and eco-justice underscores the critical relationship between democratic processes and environmental sustainability. As public awareness grows, voters are increasingly recognizing the impact their electoral choices have on both social equity and ecological health. The 2024 elections offer a unique opportunity to prioritize candidates who advocate for policies that address environmental injustices (Media Indonesia, 2024). Environmental justice centers on the equitable treatment of all individuals in relation to environmental policies, particularly those affecting marginalized communities that are disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards. Lawmakers play a pivotal role in shaping legislation that influences not only environmental outcomes but also the socio-economic well-being of low-income and vulnerable groups. Furthermore, elections contribute to significant waste generation from campaign materials, including signs, flyers, and ballots, many of which contain non-biodegradable materials that exacerbate pollution. This highlights the need for electoral management bodies (EMBs) to adopt sustainable practices that align with eco-justice principles, ensuring that environmental stewardship is integrated into electoral processes.

Supervision emerges as a critical mechanism to navigate this intersection, fostering accountability and equity while promoting sustainable practices. Election logistics, for example, often involve large-scale resource consumption, such as paper for ballots, posters, and related materials, leading to significant environmental degradation. Effective supervision not only enforces the use of recyclable or biodegradable materials but also champions innovative solutions such as digital ballots and eco-conscious supply chains, minimizing waste and reducing the carbon footprint of electoral processes.

Beyond logistics, election justice calls for equitable access to resources for candidates and voters alike. Without robust oversight, resource allocation can favor powerful actors, sidelining campaigns and policies centered on environmental advocacy. Supervisors play a vital role in leveling this playing field, ensuring that eco-justice considerations receive fair representation within electoral platforms and policy debates. Similarly, political campaigns, often characterized by

massive rallies and unsustainable practices, underscore the need for stringent regulation. Supervisory bodies can impose restrictions to limit environmental harm, such as reducing single-use plastics, promoting low-carbon events, and ensuring that green agendas are amplified rather than obscured. An ecocentric framework within election supervision deepens this alignment, offering a lens to evaluate electoral decisions not just in terms of immediate outcomes but their broader ecological implications. Decisions about polling station placement, waste management during elections, and infrastructure use can integrate sustainability as a core value. Moreover, voter education initiatives led by supervisory bodies can cultivate a more informed electorate, connecting the dots between their democratic choices and long-term environmental stewardship.

Organizations like Eco-justice advocate for incorporating environmental considerations into political platforms, promoting proposals such as phasing out fossil fuel subsidies and establishing an Environmental Bill of Rights. These initiatives demonstrate how electoral platforms can simultaneously address eco-justice and election justice by ensuring that environmental policies are both equitable and inclusive. Moreover, research indicates that the structure of electoral systems whether based on majority rule or proportional representation can influence the design of environmental policies. Proportional representation systems tend to produce more socially optimal outcomes, further emphasizing the connection between electoral justice and eco-justice. This relationship illustrates that the structure and design of electoral systems can have profound implications for environmental outcomes. By supporting candidates who advocate for sustainable and inclusive policies, voters can help foster a future where both ecological health and social equity are prioritized in tandem.

Recommendations for Improving Sustainability in Elections

The logistics and execution of these democratic processes often leave significant environmental footprints, particularly in densely populated regions like West Java. Recognizing this challenge, a detailed study was conducted to identify the key areas contributing to environmental degradation during elections. The findings reveal pressing concerns, from excessive use of paper and non-biodegradable materials to inefficient transportation systems. Addressing these issues is essential not only for fostering sustainable practices but also for ensuring that elections uphold principles of environmental justice alongside democratic fairness. Based on these insights, the following recommendations aim to mitigate the ecological impact of future elections while maintaining their integrity and inclusivity.

1. Reduce Non-Biodegradable Materials
   Mandate the use of biodegradable or recyclable materials for campaign signage and promotional materials, requiring political parties to utilize sustainable options such as recycled paper and compostable plastics for all campaign-related items. To encourage compliance, provide incentives like reduced fees for campaign registrations or public recognition for parties that adhere to these guidelines.
2. Promote Digital Campaigning
   Encourage the use of digital platforms for campaigning by offering resources and training

for candidates on effective online outreach strategies, including webinars on social media marketing. Establish a digital toolkit with templates and best practices to minimize reliance on physical materials like flyers and posters.

3. Comprehensive Waste Management Practices
   Develop a standardized waste management protocol for all polling stations that includes recycling bins and clear disposal guidelines for campaign materials. Collaborate with local waste management authorities to ensure proper disposal and recycling of election-related waste, including signage and ballots.
4. Eco-Friendly Polling Stations
   Require the use of eco-friendly materials in the construction and operation of polling stations, such as energy-efficient lighting and sustainable building materials. Pilot eco-friendly polling booths made from biodegradable materials, as seen in Goa's Assembly elections, to assess their effectiveness for broader implementation.
5. Encourage Public Transportation
   Promote public transportation among voters and election officials by providing free or discounted transit passes on Election Day. Partner with local transit authorities to create special routes or services that facilitate access to polling places, thereby reducing carbon emissions associated with personal vehicle use.
6. Training and Awareness Programs
   Implement mandatory training programs for election officials on sustainability practices in electoral processes, covering waste management and strategies for reducing the carbon footprint of elections. Develop an online training module that can be accessed by all election officials prior to the elections.
7. Engagement with Civil Society
   Foster partnerships with civil society organizations focused on environmental sustainability to promote awareness campaigns about eco-friendly voting practices among the electorate. Organize community events that educate voters on how they can participate in sustainable electoral practices, such as reducing waste and supporting candidates who prioritize environmental issues.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the intersection of election justice and eco-justice reveals the profound link between democratic processes and the sustainable future of both society and the environment. Election justice ensures that all citizens, especially marginalized communities, have an equitable voice in shaping policies that directly affect their lives. On the other hand, eco-justice addresses the disproportionate environmental burdens faced by these same communities, advocating for fair treatment and protection from environmental harm. As public awareness of the connection between social equity and ecological health grows, the 2024 elections provide a crucial opportunity for voters to prioritize candidates who support policies that address environmental injustices and advocate for systemic changes that promote environmental

sustainability. The significant waste generated during elections ranging from non-biodegradable campaign materials to the carbon emissions from logistics operations illustrates the need for EMBs to adopt sustainable practices aligned with eco-justice principles. The use of materials such as plastic signs, paper ballots, and other disposable campaign items directly contributes to pollution, while the logistics of moving election materials and voters increase carbon footprints. Addressing this waste generation within the electoral system not only ensures cleaner elections but also models responsible environmental behavior for the electorate.

As part of the electoral oversight process, Bawaslu plays a key role in ensuring that the election process remains transparent, free from fraud, and fair. Beyond its primary responsibility of monitoring electoral integrity, Bawaslu can also encourage the adoption of sustainable practices within the electoral process. Bawaslu could oversee the implementation of waste reduction measures, such as promoting the use of eco-friendly materials for ballots, signage, and other election-related items. Additionally, the agency can collaborate with other electoral bodies and stakeholders to ensure proper waste management and recycling protocols are followed at polling stations and during the transportation of election materials. Furthermore, Bawaslu can advocate for greater environmental accountability in the political sphere by encouraging political parties to reduce the environmental impact of their campaigns. By adopting more sustainable campaigning practices, such as reducing printed materials and promoting digital outreach, political parties can align themselves with eco-justice principles. Additionally, Bawaslu can support the adoption of proportional representation systems, which tend to produce more inclusive and environmentally conscious policies, ultimately benefiting marginalized communities and promoting greater social equity.

Incorporating eco-justice principles into voter education and political advocacy can help raise awareness of the links between environmental sustainability and social justice, fostering support for candidates who prioritize both. By integrating these principles into the electoral process, voters can influence a future where eco-justice and election justice are central to shaping a sustainable and fair society. Ultimately, aligning environmental and social justice in electoral systems will create long-lasting, positive outcomes for both people and the planet, with Bawaslu playing an important role in ensuring these practices are upheld throughout the election cycle.

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