# Climate change and environment issues in cyber media construction in Indonesia

## Muslikhin<sup>1</sup>, Indra Prawira<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup>Faculty of Digital Communication, Hotel, and Tourism, Bina Nusantara University, Jakarta, Indonesia

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### **ABSTRACT**

**Background:** The issue of climate change and the environment has not become the primary focus of the media in Indonesia, but it is frequently featured in the news. This occurs because the media fulfils its function as a provider of information. Purpose: This study seeks to explain how cyber media constructs climate change and environmental issues in the news. Methods: Research with a qualitative approach and qualitative descriptive methods, with critical discourse analysis as the data analysis technique. The websites Kompas.com, Okezone.com, and Suara. com are the subject of study. Results: According to the study, climate is the word that appears the most frequently in the text of the three media. Change is the term that appears most frequently on Kompas.com and Suara.com. Indonesia is the most popular search term on Okezone.com. At the level of production, cyber media lacks an agenda-setting team, a dedicated channel, or a specialized team devoted to the environment and climate change. At the social level, they only generate news related to the environment and climate change if it has gone viral and is trending on social media. Conclusion: The research concludes that there are both distinctions and similarities among the three cyber media in terms of the words that appear most frequently in news articles about environmental issues and climate change. They lack agenda-setting, a dedicated channel, and a specialized team. They are oblivious to environmental issues and climate change. Implications: The research has implications for agenda setting from theoretical implications. The media does not set an agenda and only follows the viral, trending, and important public issues. The implication is that cyber media gives viral issues a news value.

Keywords: Agenda-setting; climate change; cyber media; environment; news value

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**Correspondence:** Dr. Muslikhin, S.Pd., M.I.Kom. Communication Science Department, Faculty of Digital Communication, Hotel, and Tourism, Bina Nusantara University, Indonesia. Syahdan Campus. Jl.K.H. Syahdan N0.9, Palmerah, Jakarta 11480. *Email*: muslikhin@binus.ac.id

#### INTRODUCTION

The mass media, including cyber media, play a significant role in controlling climate change in Indonesia, among other countries, by educating and informing the public so that they are more concerned with climate change (Appelgren & Jonsson, 2021). Media coverage of climate change and the environment has become a propelling force for the disclosure of 233 cases of environmental damage committed by 233 Canadian companies between 2008 and 2017 (Hammami & Zadeh, 2020). Journalism, particularly the practice of environmental journalism, can increase public awareness of environmental issues. Journalists' coverage of various events related to the environment and climate change can encourage the public to take steps and actions to save the environment. (Reziana & Sobur, 2023). Journalists are in a crucial position to advocate for climate change solutions so that it becomes a public priority (Borth et al., 2022).

The United Nations provides five suggestions for what the media and journalists can do to support environmental action, climate change, and misinformation. The five things are to stop dramatizing environmental issues and climate change; communicate that climate change will have negative effects on humans; localize and consider climate justice; build trust to combat dis/misinformation; and always use scientific evidence when communicating about the environment and climate change (Eck, et al., 2019). In Indonesia, media coverage

of environmental issues has influenced the disclosure of environmental cases conducted by multiple companies (Junita & Yulianto, 2018) as well as how the media reports on natural disasters and catastrophes in Indonesia (Sukmono et al., 2021; Lestari et al., 2018).

However, Indonesian cyber media has not yet performed this crucial role in preventing climate change. The cyber media coverage of climate change and environmental issues in Indonesia is still limited. One reason for the lack of cyber media coverage of climate change and environmental issues is that climate change and environmental issues do not economically attract an audience, therefore they are not profitable for cyber media outlets (Strauss et al.,2021). The practice of environmental journalism has become marginalized in Indonesia, despite the importance of controlling power and preserving the environment (Cahyarani & Iskandar, 2021). Media coverage of climate change and environmental issues is marginalized not only in Indonesia, but also in African, Latin American, Canada, and Europe countries. One of the reasons is that the coverage is high-risk and involves high costs (Gutsche Jr & Pinto, 2022; Strauss, et al., 2022; Holanda et al., 2022).

One of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that seeks to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality, and preserve the environment is to deal with climate change. When the SDGs conclude in 2030, Indonesia aims to have a poverty rate between 4 and 4.5 percent of the total population (Tambunan, 2023). The Ministry of

Environment and Forestry's Directorate General for Climate Change Control is responsible for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals pertaining to climate change control. The United Nations (UN) believes that by 2020 Indonesia will be one of the countries that have achieved success and become a role model in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Tambunan, 2023). Nonetheless, circumstances altered when the COVID-19 pandemic swept the globe, including Indonesia. President Jokowi stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has made it more difficult to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 globally, including in Indonesia (Safitri, 2021).

News regarding climate change and the environment, including in Indonesia, is always associated with natural disasters like floods, landslides, forest fires, and pollution or pollution. Due to the absence of advertisements, the cyber media does not regard coverage of climate change and environmental issues to be of economic value to companies (Strauss et al., 2021). Holanda disclosed that financial constraints are the most important factor for the media when producing climate change and environmental news (Holanda et al., 2022). Nevertheless, cyber media owned by major media companies continue to cover climate change and environmental issues. The decision of the cyber media to continue reporting on climate change and environmental issues is consistent with journalism's mission, which is to serve the public interest (Kovach & Rosenstiel,

2021) and have news value (Harcup & O'Neill, 2016).

Climate journalism is defined by Schäfer and Painter as that portion of journalism concerned with climate change. Climate journalism focuses on the causes, effects, and methods to mitigate and adapt to climate change in its reporting (Schäfer & Painter, 2021). According to Schäfer and Painter, environmental journalism is a subset of environmental journalism that concentrates on the causes, effects, and mitigation and adaptation strategies of environmental problems in its reporting. As a reaction to natural disasters that affect public perception of the issue, climate change journalism is frequently reactive in nature. Reporting prompted by natural disasters may fail to capitalize on journalists' unique ability to influence public perceptions of climate change, including the identification of possible solutions (Borth et al., 2022).

Environmental journalism is a journalistic procedure of which news content promotes environmental sustainability. The news writing directs the reader's attention to efforts to preserve the environment (Sulkhan, 2022). Environmental journalism, according to Sudibyo, is the process of pursuing, accumulating, processing, and disseminating diverse environmental information to the public via mass media. The scope is expansive, encompassing pollution, deforestation, threats to biodiversity, extinction of flora and fauna, land and forest conversion, diseases caused by

environmental degradation, natural disasters, new developments and technologies related to the environment, climate change and global warming, genetic modification, and urban planning (Sudibyo, 2014). There are three missions of environmental journalism: first, to raise public awareness of environmental issues; second, to become a vehicle for public education to realize the significance of environmental management; and third, to rectify and control environmental (Rochmawati issues al.,2023). Survandaru added that environmental journalism is not limited to merely reporting events, but must also be able to observe the interactions that influence the various components, actors, factors, and interests that influence climate change and the environment, as well as the negative effects it causes (Suryandaru, 2015). Kaheru explained that based on its source, environmental journalism has five characteristics: news sources; eventoriented; a focus on negative impacts; the use of an environment-specific language in framing; and the existence of trivialism or simplifying the problem in reporting about environmental events (Kaheru, 2005). In the meantime, Holanda. in reference to environmental journalists in Latin America and Canada, proposed a number of qualities possessed by environmental journalists. These are their characteristics: First, environmental journalists remain employed longer than journalists in other disciplines; second, environmental journalists typically hold a bachelor's degree in science;

and third, environmental journalists are capable of conducting investigations; fourth, they are able to compose lengthy, in-depth, analytic, contextual writing; fifth, environmental journalists are independent and fearless in the face of duress; sixth, environmental journalists maintain close ties with environmental activists and activists (Holanda et al., 2022).

News is information produced by the press through journalistic activities, such as pursuing, obtaining, possessing, preserving, processing, and disseminating it via mass media. The journalistic work process is consistently governed by a code of ethics (Rusdi, 2023). According to this definition, news about climate change and the environment refers to information about climate change and the environment generated by the press through journalistic activities. Shoemaker and Reese discovered that five factors influence media content: social systems, social institutions, media organizations, routine practices, and individuals. Social systems and individuals are the most influential of these five factors on media content. Social systems and individuals have an impact on social institutions, media organizations, and routine practice. According to Shoemaker and Reese, these five factors will also influence the news content of the media. Social systems, institutions, media organizations, routine journalistic practices, and journalists will influence the content of news content (Shoemaker & Reese, 2014). In Indonesia, where media are owned by

conglomerates and organized into media groups, the owner factor is extremely influential in deciding the news content. Media owners can prohibit the publication of news or, conversely, order that a particular event or incident be reported repeatedly (Sukmayadi, 2019).

Berger and Luckmann asserted that the construction of society by individuals produces actuality (Berger & Luckman, 1991). Elaborating on Burger & Lukman's perspective, several experts assert that mass media possesses the ability to construct reality, one of which is through news reporting. The attitudes, perceptions, and views of the public towards a particular reality or event are shaped by the media's coverage (Suroko et al., 2019). According to this line of reasoning, news, including news about climate change and the environment, is the product of journalistic construction. In constructing news, journalists are influenced by a number of factors, including the social system and social institutions in which they reside, the media organizations for which they work, journalistic practices, and their background and perspectives on an issue (Shoemaker & Reese, 2014). Natural disasters, climate change, and the environment can be conveyed differently, depending on the media's interests and other influential factors.

This study seeks to both explicate and critique the climate change and environmental coverage in Indonesian cyber media. The theory of social construction of reality, the hierarchy of influence of media content, and the concept of

environmental journalism are used to discover answers to research objectives.

Previous researchers have conducted research on the reporting of climate change and environmental issues in Indonesia. The media in Indonesia did not report on forest fires during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a study of forest fire reporting. Even though forest fires have occurred in a number of Indonesian regions, the news in cyber media is dominated by coverage of the COVID-19 outbreak (Muslikhin et al., 2022). Rochyadi discovered two news sources that cover climate change in Indonesia. The first is the actor or individual whom the journalist interviewed about climate change. The second source of information regarding climate change is foreign news agencies (news cables) and international media or foreign language media (Rochyadi, 2022). In the meantime, Zuhri's research revealed that journalists and local media in West Aceh have not optimally implemented science-based and environmental journalism to their coverage of deforestation cases (Zuhri et al., 2023). In accordance with Zuhri's findings, Poernomo's research and colleagues concluded that in environmental news coverage, technical factors such as understanding of environmental issues, data accuracy, and validation statements from sources influence the extent of journalists' coverage (Poernomo et al., 2022). Researchers from outside Indonesia, such as Painter and Schäfer, disclose a lack of devoted climate change journalists in many countries, the shift in the role of gatekeeping to news curation, and a more diverse news source, with more sources originating from climate change stakeholders (Schäfer & Painter, 2021). Their conceptual study explains the connection between the production of climate change-related news in Malaysian cyber media and the resulting impact (Shean et al., 2022). In the meantime, Taufek research reveals that the theme of climate change news coverage in Malaysia is governance, impacts and hazards, mitigation, and adaptation (Taufek et al., 2022).

The analytical technique employed, namely the critical discourse analysis (CDA) model with a critical paradigm developed by Norman Fairclough, distinguishes this study from previous research and also constitutes the research's novelty. The use of a critical paradigm with (CDA) methodologies will disclose the motivations and interests upon which cyber media in Indonesia base their climate change and environmental reporting. Prior research on reporting on climate change and environmental issues has typically utilized a constructivist paradigm with technical framing or descriptive analysis based on the results of interviews with research informants.

This research is urgently needed to elevate journalist and media company awareness of the need for cyber media to continue reporting on climate change and environmental issues. Because the problem of climate change and the environment requires a collaborative effort, including the media, to discover solutions.

#### RESEARCH METHODS

This research has a critical paradigm ecause it criticizes the journalistic practices of Indonesian cyber media when producing news about climate change and the environment. The approach to research is qualitative or interpretive with a qualitative descriptive method. Because this research is guided by theory to address research problems regarding how cyber media in Indonesia constructs environmental issues and climate change, qualitative descriptive methods are employed. The utilized theory is social construction (Berger & Luckman, 1991), with data analysis techniques using the Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) model of Norman Fairclough which is combined with the Haryatmoko model (Haryatmoko, 2016). The combination of analysis models is carried out so that the analysis is more in-depth and comprehensive.

At the text level or first level, Nvivo 12 Plus is used for content analysis of climate change and environment news on Kompas.com, Okezone.com, and Suara.com with units for word frequency and word cloud analysis. The first level of analysis generates word frequency and word cloud data from climate change and environmental news in each cyber media that is the subject of the study. At the level of discursive practice or level two, media content is influenced by hierarchical theory (Shoemaker & Reese, 2014). This level two analysis of which data source is interviews with research informants, aims to determine what factors

influence climate change and environmental news editorials. The informants in this research are the editor-in-chief and managing editor who determine editorial policy in the cyber media newsroom which is the object of the research. The third level of socio-cultural practices is analyzed by connecting ideology and interests in cyber media journalistic practices in Indonesia that are influenced by Google in order to obtain perspectives that will have an economic impact on media companies (Muslikhin & Rizkiansyah, 2021).

The objects of this research are the websites Kompas.com, Okezone.com, and Suara.com. As of June 2022, Kompas.com is the Indonesian cyber media with the largest readership, followed by Suara.com in fifth place and Okezone.com is ranked twenty (Similarweb, 2022). The objects analyzed are climate change and environment-related news stories that aired on Kompas.com, Okezone. com, and Suara.com in June 2022. The month of June was chosen due to the observances of World Environment Day (June 5) and World Day for Combating Land Degradation and Drought on June 17 (DJIPPI, 2015). In June 2022, a news index will be launched, following the launch of a cyber media website that will serve as the subject of research. The results of a subsequent news search utilizing the keywords climate change, and environment, are 38 articles on kompas.com, 69 articles on Okezone.com, and 31 articles on Suara.com. In addition to browsing through the website's news section,

informants from kompas.com, okezone.com, and Suara.com were interviewed to collect data. To obtain information about the production of climate change-related news, interviews with informants were conducted. HM was the Managing Editor of Kompas.com, MBS was the Chief Editor of Okezone.com, and AH was the Managing Editor of Suara.com. They are the media's editorial policymakers.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In presenting the research findings, reference is made to three levels of analysis in critical discourse analysis: the text level, the text production level, and the social level. *Text* Level: Words Change, Climate, and Indonesia Most Appear in the News

The analysis of news texts about climate change and environmental issues in three cybermedia conducted with the word frequency analysis unit produced the following findings;

Table 1 demonstrates that the top five most

Table 1 The most appearing words on Kompas.com

Word	Frequency	Percentage
Iklim (climate)	264	1.37%
Perubahan (change)	253	1.31%
Indonesia	83	0.43%
Dampak (impact)	78	0.41
Masyarakat (society)	72	0.37
Dunia (world)	66	0.34
Manusia (human)	65	0.34
Kesehatan (health)	64	0.33
Negara (country)	64	0.33
global	55	0.29
Lingkungan (environment)	54	0.28
Lingkungan		V

Source: Research's Result

Table 2 The most appearing words on Suara.com

Word Frequency Percentage Iklim (climate) 147 1.47 Perubahan 144 1.43 (change) 64 mangrove 0.63 63 Lingkungan 0.62 (environment) 41 0.41 Indonesia hidup (life) 37 0.37 Negara (country) 37 0.37 0.34 Emisi (emission) 34 Berkelanjutan 32 0.32 (sustainanbel) 32 0.32 Dampak (impact) 30 0.30 Pertanian (Agriculture)

Source: Research's Result

frequently occurring words on Kompas.com are climate (264 times), change (253 times), Indonesia (83 times), impact (78 times), and society (72 times).

Table 2 presents the most frequently occurring words on Suara.com as climate (147 times), change (147 times), mangrove (64 times), environment (63 times), and Indonesia (41 times). The words that frequently appear on Suara.com for the first and second positions are the same as those on Kompas.com.

The words that frequently appear on Okezone differ from those on Kompas.com and Suara.com. Table 3, the top five most frequently occurring words on Okezone.com are Indonesia (241 times), climate (175 times), change (150 times), country (136 times), and Jakarta (126 times).

Table 3 The most appearing words on Okezone.com

Word	Frequency	Percentage
Indonesia	241	0.98
Iklim (climate)	175	0.71
Perubahan (change)	150	0.61
Negara (country)	136	0.56
Jakarta	126	0.51
Energi (energy)	107	0.44
Lingkungan (environment)	99	0.40
Karbon (carbon)	87	0.36
Dunia (world)	72	0.29
Presiden (president)	72	0.29
Ekonomi (economy)	65	0.27

Source: Research's Result

Second, the terms that appear most frequently in the three cyber media that are the subject of research differ. As seen in Figure 1, the world of cloud analysis shows that there are two words that are often mentioned on kompas. com, namely climate and change.

Meanwhile, as depicted in Figure 2, the two frequently mentioned words in Suara.com are



Source: Researcher's Result

Figure 1 Word of Cloud Kompas.com



Source: Researcher's Result

Figure 2 Word of Cloud Suara.com

the words "perubahan" (change) and "iklim" (climate), similar to the word cloud in Kompas. com.

The words frequently mentioned by Okezone.com differ from Kompas.com and Suara.com. Figure 3 illustrates four words frequently mentioned in Okezone.com: Indonesia, climate, change, and country.

Thirdly, the analysis of the frequency of the text reveals that the content of climate change-related news articles published on Kompas. com, Suara.com, and Okezone.com will be associated with the impact of climate change events on society, the environment, and health, as disclosed by research informants.



Source: Researcher's Result

Figure 3 Word of Cloud Okezone.com

The frequency of words that appear in the analysis at the text level is consistent with the AH and MBS statement of the informant that cybermedia reporting on climate change and environmental issues concentrates more on their impact on society.

"First and foremost, when a significant issue affects the community. "Second, we are also interested in any new breakthroughs to improve the environment, whether they come from the community, the government, or the private sector." (AH Informant).

"In terms of the environment, perhaps we are more interested in this, yes, disasters, for instance, risk reduction, for instance." (MBS informant).

The construction of climate change and environmental issues in the reporting of three Indonesian cyber media conforms to the characteristics of environmental journalism, particularly those pertaining to climate change (Schäfer & Painter, 2021). Environmental journalism is characterized by exposing the causes and effects of climate change and the environment on society. Moreover, another characteristic of environmental journalism is reporting on climate change mitigation and adaptation (Schäfer & Painter, 2021).

Production Level: There is no established agenda, no specific channel, and no team formation.

According to research informants, their media outlets do not offer a dedicated environmental news channel that covers climate change and environmental issues. Environmental and climate change-related

news is broadcast on national, international, and regional news channels. There are two reasons why cyber media lacks environment-specific channels. *First*, readers despise climate change and environmental news, so it fails to bring in pageviews and is not economically profitable. In the context of cyber media, pageviews are a crucial factor as they serve as a reference for advertisers when selecting a platform for their advertisements. Due to the perceived lack of economic value, cyber media outlets may sometimes find it unnecessary to create specific channels dedicated to environmental issues and climate change on their websites.

"In such instances, however, we do not go after clickbait. At kompas.com, we report on certain topics despite the fact that we know they will not sell well. There is something comparable. If there are large cases that we deem essential in the context of the environment, we may report on them even if they fail to attract public interest" (HM informant).

Second, phenomena related to climate change and the environment do not occur every day.

"Well, this is necessary due to the scarcity of raw materials, so we must dig ourselves. We are also squandering time. The effort was enormous, but we eventually channeled the traffic. Now this is problematic for us as well" (MBS informant).

To be able to report comprehensively on climate change and environmental issues, from upstream to downstream, journalists must exert considerable effort (Witoelar, 2014; Schäfer & Painter, 2021). In addition, environmental reporting is fraught with danger, particularly for

that climate change and environmental concerns frequently involve powerful business and economic interests, political power struggles, criminal activities, anti-government rebels, and corruption (Freedman, 2020). To reduce the risk associated with reporting on climate change and environmental issues, Indonesian media utilize news cables and foreign media or foreign language media (Rochyadi, 2022). The use of news cables and foreign media or foreign language media as news sources circumvents the absence of high-news-value and newsworthy events related to climate change and environmental issues in Indonesia.

Reporting on climate change and the environment does not provide economic value for cyber media because the pageviews are low, whereas advertisements in cyber media are extremely dependent on the number of page views (Stroud & Duyn, 2023). In fact, page views for cyber media are crucial because they are the primary factor advertisers consider when deciding which media and news outlets to advertise in. As a result, news published by electronic media has the potential to generate a large number of pageviews, as it will have an impact on advertisements (Neheli, 2018). Moreover, in the era of digital media and automated news, the criteria for the success of a news story is measured algorithmically by the number of visits, likes, shares, and comments it receives (Stroud & Duyn, 2023). Therefore, in producing news, cyber media consistently pays

attention to Google's algorithms by focusing on keywords and maintaining SEO-friendly practices when writing articles. The objective is to ensure that when readers search for information using specific keywords through search engines, the news or information will appear on the first page of search results. By appearing on the first page of search results, there is the potential for the content to be clicked on and read, ultimately generating pageviews. Meanwhile, Harcup and O'Neil (2016) stated that in the era of digital media, news must have shareability, or the capacity to be shared on social media, in order to reach a larger audience, resulting in more page views. According to research informants, climate change and environmental concerns do not satisfy the criteria for news with high clicks, likes, remarks, and shareability (Harcup & O'Neill, 2016).

In addition to not having a dedicated environmental channel, the informant disclosed that the media outlets they oversee do not employ specialized correspondents to cover climate change and environmental news. If events pertaining to climate change and the environment occur, they will be covered by journalists who administer news channels.

The three cyber media objects of their research did not set agendas for the news they would produce regarding climate change and the environment. The media only covers local events pertaining to climate change and the environment. If journalists write about climate change and the environment, they do so out of

personal interest and not because of an editorial policy.

"There is no special attention or interest, so we are searching for environmental issues. It wasn't completed. There is no one with a particular interest in it. Typically, there are those who are interested in media of this nature and of this genre." (HM informant).

"We do this because no raw materials are available. Unless there is a major issue such as pollution. Perhaps we will go inside. But if it is very specific, not because it is not fascinating." (MBS informant).

Due to the lack of specialized environmental channels and journalists, coverage of climate change and the environment is of poor quality. The media also lacks the initiative to seek out information about climate change and the environment, instead relying solely on events (Strauss et al.,2021). In fact, the principle of quality environmental journalism is to report on environmental issues in a long and continuous manner, not a model of reporting that is immediately finished with publication. Therefore, quality journalists are also needed in understanding environmental issues. Rogner & Wormer, 2017).

Except for environment-specific cyber media, it is unlikely that general cyber media will cover climate change and environmental issues, as Erna Witoelar predicted. As a consequence of digital technology in news production, there is presently a trend of news atomization in cyber media. Newsfeeds on social media platforms and search engines are discrete, brief stories that

are detached from the larger context of media coverage. The atomization of news means that the success of news is no longer measured by the quality of writing, investigations, and sources, but by the ability of journalists to generate pageviews, likes, shares, and a large number of comments on a single story (Stroud & Duyn, 2023). According to research informants, coverage of climate change and environmental issues cannot satisfy the criteria for the trend of atomization in the news

There are a number of requirements for a climate change and environment-related event to make the news. According to research informants, the criteria are events that occur in the interest of many people's lives and have a significant impact on the community surrounding the event's location.

"If possible, for example, it has a large enough impact on the surrounding area, we try to examine it from a variety of related perspectives, such as indigenous peoples or rural communities" (AH Informant).

"We do this because no raw materials are available. Unless there is a major issue such as pollution. Perhaps we will go inside. However, if it is very specific, not really because it is not fascinating" (MBS informant).

The criteria for climate change and environmental news revealed by the research informants correspond to the news values, namely magnitude and negative news (Harcup & O'Neill, 2016). Significantly affecting societal events, such as natural disasters, have a high news value and are therefore newsworthy.

Cybermedia exemplifies its function as a press organization serving the public interest by making the public interest the criterion for determining whether or not an event on climate change and the environment can be made newsworthy (Kovach & Rosenstiel, 2021).

In reporting climate change and environmental events, newsrooms emphasize their impact on the community, according to research informants, because this is more appealing to the audience. Consequently, climate change and environmental phenomena that aren't recognized by the public receive fewer mentions in the media. As a result of the emphasis on impact, cyber media are aligned with the victims of climate change and environmental catastrophes.

Reporting on climate change and the environment also involves putting the issue of the problem's occurrence so that the audience has a clear understanding of the issue. Community-harming climate change and environmental issues are also addressed by the cyber media in their reporting.

"It is factual to monitor the case's development and then determine the appropriate course of action. Considering the circumstances, what should be said about the case?" (HM Informant).

"We attempt to take the side of the victims afflicted by environmental issues. Alternatively, if there is a problem, there must be a solution. We are also attempting to alleviate that" (AH Informant).

Climate change and environmental issues are covered by newsrooms in accordance with

the function of journalism, which is to report comprehensively and proportionally. (Kovach & Rosenstiel, 2021). It is also consistent with the function of the mass media, which is to educate the community through the news. The coverage of climate change and environmental issues exemplifies the media's role in fostering awareness of the environment and influencing environmental conservation policies. Without media coverage, environmental issues will not become a public concern, so policymakers will not address them (Poornanda, 2022). The news value of reporting on the effects of climate change and the environment on humans is high in terms of both sensationalism and sentimentality. Even though there are pros and cons among practicing journalists, cyber media are currently motivated to produce sensationalism and sentimental news in order to generate high page views (Stroud & Duyn, 2023; Lewis et al., 2019)

Temmerman and Mast discovered that in digital journalism, newsrooms determine whether an event has news value based on the audience's perspective, which they refer to as the news value of audience perspective (Temmerman & Mast, 2021). Audience perspective news value is the determination of news value based on the information the audience is searching for or reading reflected in Google Trends, Google Analytics, and other trending topics on social media. Climate change searches on Google Trends were less prevalent than searches for corruption and bitcoin between 2016 and 2020 (Painter et al.,

2022). In the era of digital journalism and since the emergence of web analytics programs and social media analysis, the news value of this audience perspective is rising (Temmerman & Mast, 2021).

Not all news about climate change and the environment is sought after, admired, or trending on social media, according to research informants. Natural disasters and forest fires are the most sought-after categories of news on climate change and the environment among the audience.

"Then we are a partner of the National Disaster Management Agency. There, we are engaged collaborators. Therefore, if a natural disaster such as an earthquake, landslide, or flood occurs, we will publicize it" (MBS informant).

Reporting more on natural disasters and forest fires is primarily motivated by a desire to increase pageviews, which will influence advertising. programmatic In Indonesia, programmatic advertising remains one of the primary sources of income from cyber media (Stroud & Duyn, 2023; Muslikhin & Rizkiansyah, 2021). In the age of digital media, which is characterized by the dominance of platforms such as Google and Facebook, cyber media producing news must pay heed to platform algorithms and be search engine friendly (Stroud & Duyn, 2023; Lewis et al., 2019). If cyber media overlooks this, it will have trouble attracting an audience, which will have a negative economic influence on the media.

In addition to gaining pageviews, the

purpose of online media coverage of natural disasters is to provide information. It is believed that the media plays a crucial role in disseminating information about natural disasters that is beneficial for victims and other parties involved in disaster mitigation (Lestari et al., 2018).

The researcher's informant acknowledged that the issue of climate change and the environment does not generate pageviews for cyber media. Climate change and environmental issues will be covered by cybermedia if sensationalism and sentimentality are prominent. Nevertheless, Kompas.com considers the issue of climate change and the environment to be an essential one that must always be reported because it will have an effect on humans, whether directly or indirectly. Even if reporting on climate change and environmental issues does not generate page views, Kompas.com will continue to do so. The decision was made as a form of journalistic devotion, specifically serving the public interest.

"In such instances, however, we do not go after clickbait. There are certain topics that we promote on kompas.com despite the fact that we know they do not sell well. This is not the case. If there are large cases that we deem significant in the context of the environment, we may disclose them even if they fail to attract public attention" (HM Informant).

Unfortunately, the decision by Kompas. com to continue reporting on climate change and environmental issues despite the fact that it does not generate pageviews has not been

implemented in its news production. The research reveals that in June 2022, Kompas.com published 38 articles about climate change and the environment. The number of climate change and environmental news stories produced by Kompas.com is significantly lower than that of Okezone.com, which totals 69. In its coverage of climate change and environmental issues, Okezone.com is concerned with disasters and disaster risk reduction. Therefore, Okezone. com is an active associate of the Indonesian agency responsible for disaster management and mitigation, the Badan Nasional Penanggulan Bencana (National Disaster Management Agency/BNPB). There is little information on Okezone.com regarding environmental issues such as pollution and climate change.

"In terms of the environment, we may be moving toward disaster risk reduction, for instance. Then we are BNPB's partners. Therefore, if there is a natural calamity, such as an earthquake, landslide, flood, etc., we are on the scene. But in terms of specific environmental issues, such as pollution, I believe we are also somewhat inadequate," (MBS Informant).

## **CONCLUSION**

Research on Climate Change and Environment in Cyber Media Construction in Indonesia reaches the following conclusion: First, at the text level, the words climate, change, impact, Indonesia, society, and environment appear frequently in the news. This indicates that when reporting on climate change and the environment, the newsroom considers its implications for society. Second, at the level of

text production, the newsroom lacks an agendasetting function, an environmental channel on the website, and a dedicated environmental team. This indicates that cyber media has not elevated climate change and the environment to the level of an issue that requires continuous information to raise readers' awareness of their significance. Thirdly, the climate change and environmental events that make the news have a significant impact on the community. At the social level, the production of news about climate change and the environment is influenced by changes in audiences' news consumption based on what is viral on social media and trending topics on the Google search engine. Theoretically, this research provides additional evidence that cyber media in Indonesia prioritize pageviews in their reporting. As a consequence, the issue of climate change and the environment, despite its impact on society, is not the primary concern of the media because it does not generate pageviews. This is done to increase views, which will affect the company's programmatic advertising revenue. The primary consideration for cyber media news production is economic interests. In the meantime, this research demonstrates the need for Indonesian cyber media to give greater attention to climate change and environmental issues. Controlling climate change and resolving environmental issues requires the participation of all parties involved, including cyber media, in order to raise public awareness.

This research's findings have both theoretical and practical implications. The

theoretical implications relate to the theory of agenda setting and the news value. The news produced by cyber media no longer prioritizes agenda-setting issues, but rather viral and trending topics of public interest. The media is no longer the primary determinant of public awareness issues. This appears to undermine the relevance of agenda setting theory in cybermedia journalistic practice. The following theoretical implication pertains to the news value. The findings of this study also lend context to the value of news. Journalists have been the primary determinants of whether or not a particular event is newsworthy. When viral and trending become editorial references in news production, these become news values from the perspective of the reader.

This research has the practical implication that cyber media will provide less coverage and publication space to topics that fail to engage readers and generate page views. Moreover, cyber media will not conduct in-depth reporting or investigations on high-risk issues such as environmental issues and climate change.

The research has limitations as it fails to analyze the political economy aspects of cyber media in relation to climate change and environmental reporting. It is necessary to analyze the political economy of Indonesian media coverage of climate change and the environment in order to conduct the following research.

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