



The Urgency of Establishing Special Prisons for Narcotics Offenders: Rehabilitation Approach and Overcrowding Reduction

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the urgency of establishing special prisons for narcotics offenders in Indonesia, focusing on rehabilitation approaches and the reduction of overcrowding in general prisons. The increasing number of narcotics inmates, which exceeds 50% of the total prison population, has created serious challenges within the correctional system. The objective of this research is to explore the impact of establishing special prisons on the effectiveness of rehabilitation and the reduction of recidivism rates. The methodology employed in this study is qualitative analysis, including case studies of several prisons in Indonesia and interviews with inmates and correctional officers. The findings indicate that separating narcotics offenders from other lawbreakers can create a more conducive environment for rehabilitation, enhance the success of Therapeutic Community-based rehabilitation programs, and reduce the risk of drug trafficking within prisons. The conclusion of this study emphasizes that the establishment of special prisons not only meets legal requirements but also serves as an effective solution to address drug abuse issues holistically while providing social support for former inmates during their reintegration into society.

Kata Kunci

Lapas Khusus,
Narkotika,
Rehabilitasi,
Overcrowding.

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini mengkaji urgensi pendirian Lapas khusus untuk narapidana narkotika di Indonesia, dengan fokus pada pendekatan rehabilitasi dan pengurangan overcrowding di Lapas umum. Meningkatnya jumlah narapidana kasus narkotika, yang mencapai lebih dari 50% dari total populasi narapidana, telah menciptakan tantangan serius dalam sistem pemasyarakatan. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengeksplorasi dampak pendirian Lapas khusus terhadap efektivitas rehabilitasi dan pengurangan angka residivisme. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah analisis kualitatif dengan studi kasus pada beberapa Lapas di Indonesia, serta wawancara dengan narapidana dan petugas pemasyarakatan. Hasil temuan menunjukkan bahwa pemisahan narapidana



narkotika dari pelanggar hukum lainnya dapat menciptakan lingkungan yang lebih kondusif untuk rehabilitasi, meningkatkan keberhasilan program rehabilitasi berbasis Therapeutic Community, dan mengurangi risiko peredaran narkoba di dalam penjara. Kesimpulan dari penelitian ini menegaskan bahwa pendirian Lapas khusus bukan hanya memenuhi kebutuhan hukum tetapi juga menjadi solusi efektif untuk menangani masalah penyalahgunaan narkoba secara holistik, sekaligus memberikan dukungan sosial bagi mantan narapidana saat reintegrasi ke masyarakat.

INTRODUCTION

The issue of narcotics abuse in Indonesia has reached a concerning level and has significant impacts on the correctional system. Data from the Directorate General of Corrections (Ditjenpas) shows that as of 2021, out of a total of 255,435 inmates, 139,088 of them were related to narcotics cases.¹ This condition has led to overcrowding in many correctional institutions (Lapas), hindering the implementation of rehabilitation and development programs for inmates. With the number of occupants far exceeding capacity, prisons in Indonesia face significant challenges in providing adequate space, facilities, and correctional services. Additionally, the high number of narcotics offenders also impacts the effectiveness of rehabilitation and development efforts, as available resources must be divided to address inmates involved in various types of crimes.

Overcrowding in prisons not only diminishes the quality of life for inmates but also reduces the effectiveness of rehabilitation programs. For instance, Cipinang Class I Prison in 2019 had a capacity for 880 individuals but was inhabited by 4,139 inmates, resulting in an overcapacity of 370%.² This condition indicates that general prisons are unable to accommodate the increasing number of narcotics offenders, necessitating alternative solutions.³ Furthermore, the placement of narcotics offenders in general prisons often exacerbates the problem, as they interact with other inmates who have more serious criminal backgrounds. This interaction increases the risk of negative influences and heightens the likelihood of recidivism after their release.

¹ Novianto Murti Hantoro & Rachmi Suprihartanti Septiningtyas. (2024). Upaya Penanganan Overkapasitas Pada Lembaga Pemasyarakatan. *Bidang Politik, Hukum, dan Keamanan Info Singkat Pusat Analisis Keparlemenan Badan Keahlian DPR RI*, 16(21), 6-10.

² Utomo Bimantoro, Muhammad Nurul Irfan, & Mara Sutan Rambe. (2022). Dampak Over Kapasitas Di Lembaga Pemasyarakatan Kelas I Cipinang Bagi Narapidana. *Journal of Legal Research*, 4(4), 1089-1104. <https://doi.org/10.15408/jlr.v4i4.21528>.

³ Stuart A. Kinner, & Jesse T. Young. (2018). Understanding and Improving the Health of People Who Experience Incarceration: An Overview and Synthesis. *Epidemiologic Reviews*, 40(1), 4-11. <https://doi.org/10.1093/epirev/mxx018>.

The current legal approach tends to imprison narcotics users without distinguishing between users and traffickers. As a result, narcotics users who should receive medical and social rehabilitation in accordance with Article 54 of Law No. 35 of 2009 on Narcotics are placed in general prisons without adequate rehabilitation programs.⁴ This has the potential to increase recidivism and hinder their social reintegration. In some cases, courts even tend to impose prison sentences on narcotics users without considering rehabilitation options that should be prioritized.⁵ As a result, many narcotics offenders continue to experience dependency and become involved in substance abuse again after their release.

Previous research has shown that effective rehabilitation programs can reduce recidivism rates. For example, a study at the Narcotics Class IIA Prison in Jakarta⁶ indicates that structured rehabilitation programs can help inmates overcome dependency and prepare them for reintegration into society. However, the implementation of rehabilitation programs in general prisons is often hindered by limitations in facilities, human resources, and budget.⁷ The lack of medical and psychological professionals specifically addressing drug dependency cases is a major obstacle to the effective implementation of rehabilitation. Additionally, the limited availability of supporting facilities, such as rehabilitation rooms and skill training programs, means that many inmates do not receive adequate guidance during their sentences.

Based on this background, it is important to examine the urgency of establishing special prisons for narcotics offenders as a solution to address overcrowding and enhance the effectiveness of rehabilitation.⁸ Currently, although there are several prisons specifically handling narcotics cases, their numbers are still very limited and are unable to accommodate all narcotics offenders in Indonesia. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the urgency of establishing special prisons for narcotics offenders, evaluate the effectiveness of rehabilitation approaches in reducing recidivism rates,

⁴ Muhammad Nauval Hilmi & Widodo Tresno Novianto. (2019). Kendala dan Upaya yang Dilakukan Lembaga Pemasyarakatan Narkotika Kelas IIA Jakarta Dalam Melaksanakan Rehabilitasi Narapidana Narkotika. *Jurnal Recidive*, 8(3), 253-261. <https://doi.org/10.20961/recidive.v8i3.47382>.

⁵ David H Cloud, Ernest Drucker, Angela Browne, & Jim Parsons. (2018). Public Health and Solitary Confinement in the United States. *American Journal of Public Health*, 105(1), 18-26. <https://doi.org/10.2105/Ajph.2014.302205>.

⁶ Daniel Lukman Sipahutar & Ali Muhammad. (2024). Strategi Membangun Resiliensi Narapidana Tindak Pidana Narkotika Di Lapas Narkotika Kelas IIA Jakarta. *Innovative: Journal of Social Science Research*, 4(5), 8278-8292. <https://doi.org/10.31004/innovative.v4i5.15902>.

⁷ Erlangga Alif Mufti & Ontran Sumantri Riyanto. (2023). Peran Lembaga Pemasyarakatan Dalam Upaya Rehabilitasi Narapidana Untuk Mengurangi Tingkat Residivis. *Al-Manhaj: Jurnal Hukum Dan Pranata Sosial Islam*, 5(2), 2425-2438. <https://doi.org/10.37680/Almanhaj.v5i2.4026>.

⁸ Hamja. (2022). Implikasi Overcrowding Terhadap Lembaga Pemasyarakatan di Indonesia. *Jurnal Mimbar Hukum*, 34(1), 296-324.

and identify the challenges and strategies for implementing the establishment of such special prisons.⁹

Various studies have addressed the issues of overcrowding and the rehabilitation of narcotics offenders. For instance, research by Hilmi (2019) found that the implementation of rehabilitation at the Narcotics Class IIA Prison in Jakarta¹⁰ Various studies have discussed the issues of overcrowding and the rehabilitation of narcotics offenders. For instance, research by Hilmi (2019) found that the implementation of rehabilitation at the Narcotics Class IIA Prison in Jakarta was not optimal due to limitations in facilities and human resources. Meanwhile, a study by Saputra (2019) highlighted the importance of establishing special prisons for narcotics to enhance rehabilitation effectiveness. However, these studies have not specifically addressed how special prisons could serve as a concrete solution to overcrowding in general prisons and how the implementation of such policies could be effectively carried out.¹¹ Therefore, this study will focus on the urgency of establishing special prisons for narcotics offenders as a solution to address overcrowding and enhance the effectiveness of rehabilitation, a topic that has not been extensively discussed in previous research.

The establishment of special prisons for narcotics offenders aims not only to reduce the number of inmates in general prisons but also to ensure that these offenders receive treatment tailored to their specific needs. With the presence of special prisons, it is hoped that rehabilitation programs can be implemented more effectively, utilizing a structured health and social-based approach. Additionally, special prisons can separate narcotics users from inmates involved in more serious crimes, thereby reducing the risk of negative influences during their incarceration.

This research is expected to contribute to the formulation of more humane and effective correctional policies, particularly in addressing narcotics issues in Indonesia. With data-driven recommendations and academic studies, the government is anticipated to consider the implementation of special prisons as part of the reform of the correctional system. Ultimately, a rehabilitation-oriented approach is hoped to reduce recidivism rates, enhance the effectiveness of corrections, and assist former inmates in positively reintegrating into society.

⁹ PL. Tobing & Purbaningrum. (2022). The Effectiveness of the Narcotics Convict Development Program at the Class IIA Jakarta Narcotics Correctional Institution. *Journal Evidence of Law*, 1(1), 1-20. <https://doi.org/10.59066/jel.v1i1.25>.

¹⁰ Muhammad Nauval Hilmi & Widodo Tresno Novianto. (2019). Kendala dan Upaya yang Dilakukan Lembaga Pemasyarakatan Narkotika Kelas IIA Jakarta Dalam Melaksanakan Rehabilitasi Narapidana Narkotika. *Jurnal Recidive*, 8(3), 253-261. <https://doi.org/10.20961/recidive.v8i3.47382>.

¹¹ Ingrid A Binswanger, Nicole Redmond, John F Steiner, & LeRoi S Hicks. (2012). Health Disparities and the Criminal Justice System: An Agenda for Further Research and Action. *Journal of Urban Health*, 89(1), 98-107. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-011-9614-1>.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employs a normative legal research method with a statute approach and a conceptual approach.¹² The statutory approach is used to examine regulations related to sentencing and rehabilitation for narcotics offenders, particularly in Law No. 35 of 2009 on Narcotics and Law No. 22 of 2022 on Amendments to Law No. 12 of 1995 on Corrections. Additionally, this research refers to various implementing regulations concerning the correctional system and rehabilitation of narcotics offenders. The conceptual approach is employed to analyze the concept of rehabilitation-based sentencing within the Indonesian legal system and to compare it with rehabilitation models in other countries that have effectively implemented special prisons for narcotics offenders.

The sources of legal materials in this study consist of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials. Primary legal materials include relevant legislation and court decisions related to narcotics cases. Secondary legal materials encompass scholarly journals, books, and research findings that discuss the concept of rehabilitation in the sentencing of narcotics offenders. Tertiary legal materials, such as legal dictionaries and encyclopedias, are used to clarify the terminology employed in this research. The technique for collecting legal materials is conducted through library research, which is then analyzed using a descriptive-analytical method. This analysis aims to describe the prevailing normative conditions and provide interpretations of existing legal rules to identify the urgency of establishing special prisons for narcotics offenders. With this approach, the research is expected to contribute to the development of more effective and rehabilitation-oriented correctional policies.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Urgency of Establishing Special Prisons for Narcotics Offenders

The establishment of special correctional facilities for narcotics offenders in Indonesia is a strategic and urgent step to address various issues arising from the high number of narcotics cases. According to data from the Directorate General of Corrections, narcotics offenders dominate the prison population, accounting for over 50% of total inmates. This situation has led to overcrowding in many general prisons, which not only hampers rehabilitation processes but also increases the risk of drug

¹² Soerjono Soekanto. (1986). *Pengantar Penelitian Hukum*. (Jakarta: Universitas Indonesia), p. 11. Lihat juga Peter Marzuki Mahmud. (2014). *Penelitian Hukum*. (Jakarta: Prenada Media Group), p. 133-134. Lihat juga Sheyla Nichatus Sovia, et al. (2022). *Ragam Metode Penelitian Hukum*. (Kediri: Lembaga Studi Hukum Pidana), p. 25-31.

proliferation within these facilities. By creating special prisons, narcotics offenders can be separated from other criminals, allowing for more focused and effective management of inmates. This separation is crucial for implementing rehabilitation programs tailored specifically to the needs of drug offenders, thereby enhancing their chances of successful reintegration into society. Additionally, specialized facilities can provide a safer environment that minimizes the influence of more dangerous criminals and reduces the likelihood of drug-related incidents within the prison system.

Law No. 22 of 2022 on Amendments to Law No. 12 of 1995 on Corrections emphasizes that the purpose of corrections is to rehabilitate inmates so that they can become individuals who contribute positively to society. However, in practice, general prisons often struggle to meet the specific rehabilitation needs of narcotics offenders. Rehabilitation-based approaches, such as the Therapeutic Community (TC), become difficult to implement due to limitations in facilities and the availability of qualified professionals. This gap highlights the urgent need for specialized correctional facilities that can provide tailored rehabilitation programs designed for narcotics offenders, ensuring they receive appropriate treatment and support during their incarceration.¹³ Therefore, the establishment of special prisons for narcotics offenders can provide integrated rehabilitation programs tailored to the specific needs of inmates.

The theory of modern sentencing emphasizes the importance of rehabilitation over mere punishment, particularly for drug abusers who are often viewed as victims of addiction.¹⁴ This approach aligns with Law Number 35 of 2009 on Narcotics, which stipulates that drug users must receive medical and social rehabilitation. With the establishment of specialized correctional facilities, the government can ensure that drug users receive the necessary treatment, while drug dealers and producers are subjected to harsher penalties in accordance with the severity of their violations.

Overcrowding in general prisons not only affects the quality of rehabilitation but also leads to various other social issues, such as conflicts among inmates and the spread of infectious diseases.¹⁵ Data from the Ministry of Law and Human Rights indicates that many prisons in Indonesia are operating at up to three times their ideal

¹³ Lusi Hertina & Umar Anwar. (2022). Strategy Analysis of Handling Circulation and Abuse Using SWOT Method at Class IIB Rutan Prabumulih. *International Journal of Economics, Business and Accounting Research (IJEBAR)*, 6(1), 608-614. <https://doi.org/10.29040/ijebar.v6i1.4868>.

¹⁴ Wido Cepaka Warih & Eka Fitri Setiawan. (2024). Implementation of Social Rehabilitation Program Policy for Narcotics Inmate (Case Study Purwokerto Class IIB Narcotics Prison). *Journal of Social Politics and Governance (JSPG)*, 6(1), 61-75. <https://doi.org/10.24076/jspg.v6i1.1619>.

¹⁵ Yoga Adi Pramudhito. (2021). Efektivitas Lembaga Pemasyarakatan Dalam Membina Narapidana di Indonesia: Sebuah Tinjauan Pustaka. *Jurnal Yustisiabel*, 5(1), 69-82. <https://doi.org/10.32529/yustisiabel.v5i1.859>

capacity. The establishment of specialized narcotics prisons could help alleviate this pressure by separating inmates based on the type of crime they committed. This separation would also allow for more efficient and targeted management of correctional facilities, ensuring that resources are allocated appropriately and that rehabilitation efforts can be tailored to the specific needs of different inmate populations.

In addition, the establishment of specialized prisons can support the implementation of restorative justice policies that are being introduced in Indonesia. Restorative justice aims to restore the conditions of victims, offenders, and the community as a whole.¹⁶ In the context of drug abuse, users are often seen as victims who require rehabilitation assistance rather than harsh punishment. With the establishment of specialized prisons, this approach can be maximized to help drug users reintegrate into society as healthy and productive individuals.

From a geographical perspective, several regions in Indonesia have high prevalence rates of narcotics cases, necessitating specialized facilities to address related inmates. For instance, North Sumatra and Jakarta often serve as hotspots for drug trafficking, with the number of cases continuing to rise each year. Establishing specialized prisons in these areas would assist the government in tackling the issue more effectively while also preventing further drug circulation.

The establishment of specialized prisons also provides opportunities for the development of community-based rehabilitation programs. Programs such as Therapeutic Community have proven effective in helping inmates overcome their drug dependency through psychological and social approaches.¹⁷ In several countries such as the United States and Thailand, similar programs have successfully reduced recidivism rates significantly. Indonesia can learn from these experiences to develop rehabilitation programs that cater to local needs.

From a legal perspective, the establishment of specialized prisons aligns with the mandate of Law Number 35 of 2009 on Narcotics and various other regulations that support rehabilitation as part of addressing narcotics cases. Furthermore, this policy can strengthen the government's efforts to combat drug trafficking from production to distribution. With these specialized facilities in place, the government can ensure that legal processes adhere to the principles of restorative justice.

¹⁶ Doris Rahmat, Santoso Budi NU, & Widya Daniswara. (2021). Fungsi Lembaga Pemasyarakatan dalam Pembinaan Narapidana di Lembaga Pemasyarakatan. *Widya Pranata Hukum*, 3(2), 134 -150. <https://doi.org/10.37631/widyapranata.v3i2.423>.

¹⁷ Erlangga Alif Mufti & Ontran Sumantri Riyanto. (2023). Peran Lembaga Pemasyarakatan Dalam Upaya Rehabilitasi Narapidana Untuk Mengurangi Tingkat Residivis. *Al-Manhaj: Jurnal Hukum Dan Pranata Sosial Islam*, 5(2), 2425-2438. <https://doi.org/10.37680/Almanhaj.v5i2.4026>.

Technically, the design of specialized prisons must consider aspects of security and rehabilitation. In several developed countries, specialized prisons are designed with varying security zones ranging from maximum to minimum, tailored to the rehabilitation needs of inmates.¹⁸ This approach ensures that each inmate receives treatment appropriate to their risk level while allowing for the effective implementation of rehabilitation programs. From the perspective of the national budget, the establishment of specialized prisons can aid in the efficiency of government spending in the long term. Currently, significant costs are incurred to address issues of overcrowding and drug trafficking within general prisons. With specialized facilities focused on rehabilitation and correction, budgets can be allocated more effectively towards sustainable rehabilitation programs.

In addition to the individual benefits for inmates, the establishment of specialized prisons also has significant social impacts for the broader community. By reducing the number of drug users through appropriate rehabilitation, society can be shielded from the negative consequences of drug abuse, such as crime and mental health issues. This is crucial for creating a healthier and more productive social environment. In the long term, the establishment of specialized prisons can also help reduce the stigma associated with drug users as mere criminals.

A rehabilitative approach allows society to view users as individuals in need of help rather than simply as offenders. This shift is essential for fostering social acceptance of former inmates so they can reintegrate and contribute to the community. The importance of cross-sector collaboration in establishing specialized prisons cannot be overlooked. The government needs to work together with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and health institutions to ensure the success of rehabilitation programs within these facilities. In several areas, such as Purwokerto, collaboration between the local National Narcotics Agency (BNN) and local foundations has shown positive results in rehabilitation programs for drug users.

The Urgency of Establishing Specialized Prisons for Drug Offenders: A Rehabilitation Approach and Overcrowding Reduction in Prisons

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The establishment of specialized prisons for drug offenders has become an urgent necessity in Indonesia, particularly in the context of rehabilitation and overcrowding reduction. The theory of rehabilitation emphasizes that the primary goal of sentencing is not only to punish but also to restore individuals so they can

¹⁸ Nunung Rahmania & Atika Zahra Nirmala. (2023). Relevance Between Drug Abuse Rehabilitation And Overcrowded Correctional Facilities in Indonesia. *Jurnal Risalah Kenotariatan*, 4(1), 398-406. <https://doi.org/10.29303/Risalahkenotariatan.v4i1.119>.

function effectively within society.¹⁹ In this regard, Law Number 35 of 2009 on Narcotics stipulates that drug users must receive medical and social rehabilitation as part of their recovery process. With the establishment of specialized prisons, the government can focus more on providing integrated rehabilitation services to effectively address drug dependency.

Overcrowding in general prisons has become one of the main challenges in implementing rehabilitation programs for drug offenders. Research indicates that overcrowded conditions in prisons hinder the execution of rehabilitation programs and increase the risk of conflicts among inmates.²⁰ By separating drug offenders into special prisons, space in general prisons can be used more optimally for other criminals. This separation also allows for the implementation of more focused rehabilitation programs without being disrupted by issues of overcrowding.²¹

Modern penal theory supports a rehabilitation-based approach rather than mere punishment, especially for drug users who are often seen as victims of addiction. This approach aligns with Law Number 22 of 2022 concerning Amendments to Law Number 12 of 1995 on Corrections, which emphasizes that the purpose of corrections is to rehabilitate inmates so they can reintegrate into society. The establishment of special prisons allows for programs like Therapeutic Community (TC) to be implemented effectively, assisting inmates in overcoming their drug dependencies.²²

Medical rehabilitation is a crucial aspect of the recovery process for drug users. According to research, medical rehabilitation in prisons should involve experts such as doctors, psychologists, and counselors to provide an integrated approach. This process includes evaluating physical and mental health, as well as developing rehabilitation programs tailored to the individual needs of each inmate. Additionally, a psychosocial approach must be implemented to help victims of substance abuse cope with the trauma and social stigma they experience.

The establishment of special prisons is also crucial for preventing drug trafficking, which is often controlled from within general prisons. According to data

¹⁹ Allyssa & Ade Adhari. (2024). Optimalisasi Rehabilitasi Medis Kepada Penyalahgunaan Narkotika Di Balai Pemasarakatan Kelas I Jakarta Barat Dan BNN Jakarta Utara Guna Mengatasi Overkapasitas, *Unes Law Review*, 6(4), 10320-10328. <https://doi.org/10.31933/unesrev.v6i4.2018>.

²⁰ Baroqah Meyryndy, Umiyati Idris & Azna Novalina. (2022). Efektivitas Kegiatan Rehabilitasi Korban Penyalahgunaan Narkotika, Psikotropika dan Zat Adiktif di Kota Palembang. *Jurnal Administrasi Publik*, 1(1), 58-68. <https://doi.org/10.37858/publik.v2i1.146>.

²¹ Firman Malik Parlindungan, Basri, Johny Krisnan, & Yulia Kurniaty. (2022). Efektivitas Pelaksanaan Rehabilitasi Bagi Pengguna Narkotika di Lembaga Pemasarakatan Kelas II A Magelang. *Borobudur Law And Society Journal*, 1(6), 14-21. <https://doi.org/10.31603/8550>.

²² Ibrahim Nainggolan. (2019). Lembaga Pemasarakatan Dalam Menjalankan Rehabilitasi Terhadap Narapidana Narkotika. *Jurnal Edutech*, 5(2), 136 -149.

from the National Narcotics Agency (BNN), a significant portion of drug circulation in Indonesia originates from networks operating inside general prisons. By separating users from dealers and traffickers, the government can prevent the illegal collaborations that frequently occur within correctional facilities. This separation also enables tighter supervision of serious drug-related offenders.²³

The effectiveness of rehabilitation programs is significantly influenced by the environmental conditions in which they are implemented. Research conducted at Class II A Magelang Prison indicates that the execution of medical and social rehabilitation programs has been effective, achieving a success rate of 78.55% in reducing inmates' dependence on drugs.²⁴ With the presence of specialized facilities designed to support the rehabilitation process, similar results can be achieved in other regions with high prevalence rates of drug-related cases.

The classification of inmates based on their level of involvement in drug abuse is another reason for establishing special prisons. Drug users require a rehabilitative approach that differs from that of dealers or traffickers.²⁵ With the establishment of specialized facilities, the government can design more targeted rehabilitation programs tailored to the crime categories of each inmate. This helps prevent drug users from being exposed to criminal networks during their incarceration.

Community-based approaches such as Therapeutic Community (TC) have proven effective in helping inmates overcome their drug dependencies through social and psychological support. In several countries, including Thailand, these programs have been implemented to facilitate recovery and reintegration into society,²⁶ this approach has successfully reduced recidivism rates significantly. Indonesia can implement similar programs in special prisons to ensure that inmates receive the psychological and social support they need.

Cross-sector collaboration is key to the successful establishment of special prisons for drug offenders. Cooperation among the government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), health institutions, and the National Narcotics Agency (BNN)

²³ Gusatar Marza & Muhammad Ali Equatora. (2021). Program Rehabilitasi Terhadap Narapidana Kasus Narkotika Di Lapas Kelas IIA Sumbawa Besar. *Nusantara: Jurnal Ilmu Pengetahuan Sosial*, 8(2), 281-287. <https://doi.org/10.31604/jips.v8i2.2021.281-287>.

²⁴ Raden Mas Dimas Pangestu & R. Rahaditya. (2023). Urgensi Rehabilitasi Sosial Terhadap Narapidana Pecandu Narkotika Di Lingkungan Lembaga Pemasarakatan. *Unes Law Review*, 6(2), 5802-5808. <https://doi.org/10.31933/Unesrev.v6i2.1412>.

²⁵ Cristina Natalia Sitompul, M. Ekaputra, Wessy Trisna, & Haidar. (2024). Penerapan Rehabilitasi Terhadap Penyalahguna Narkotika Dalam Upaya Mengurangi Over Kapasitas Di Lembaga Pemasarakatan Kelas I Medan. *Jurnal Hukum Bisnis*, 13(2), 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.47709/Hukumbisnis.v13i02.3690>.

²⁶ Brilian Alfredo Yuanto. (2025). Rehabilitasi Sosial Narapidana Penyalahguna Narkotika Di Lembaga Pemasarakatan. *Jurnal Legisla*, 16(2), 63-80. <https://doi.org/10.58350/Legisla.v16i2.53>.

is essential to ensure the success of rehabilitation programs within these prisons. This approach facilitates the exchange of information and resources to create more effective joint policies in addressing drug abuse issues.

The urgency of establishing special prisons for drug offenders lies in the potential solutions they offer to address overcrowding issues while simultaneously enhancing rehabilitation effectiveness. In Indonesia's correctional system, more than half of the inmate population is involved in drug-related cases, leading to overcrowded conditions that hinder the implementation of rehabilitation programs. This research identifies that separating drug offenders into special prisons can create a more conducive environment for rehabilitation, in accordance with the mandate of Law Number 12 of 1995 on Corrections. Consequently, this approach not only alleviates pressure on general prisons but also facilitates the execution of more focused and structured rehabilitation programs..

The rehabilitative approach based on medical and social therapy is a crucial element in supporting the recovery process of drug offenders. Programs such as Therapeutic Community (TC) provide inmates with opportunities to participate in collective rehabilitation activities designed to help them overcome drug dependency. This research emphasizes that the implementation of rehabilitation programs in special prisons can be carried out optimally without being hindered by overcrowding issues, which frequently occur in general prisons. This aligns with the principles set forth in Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, which underscores the importance of medical and social rehabilitation for drug users as part of the correctional process.

The establishment of special prisons also opens opportunities for the development of cross-sector policies involving the government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and health institutions. This collaboration is necessary to ensure that rehabilitation programs encompass not only medical aspects but also social support for inmates during their incarceration and after their return to society. This research makes an important contribution by recommending such a collaborative model as a long-term strategy for addressing drug abuse issues in Indonesia. This approach will not only enhance the quality of rehabilitation but also has the potential to significantly reduce recidivism rates.

CONCLUSION

The establishment of special prisons for drug offenders is a strategic step that is critically needed within Indonesia's correctional system. By separating drug offenders from other law violators, these special prisons can create a more conducive environment for rehabilitation, in accordance with the mandates of Law

Number 22 of 2022 regarding Amendments to Law Number 12 of 1995 and Law Number 35 of 2009. Focused rehabilitative approaches, such as Therapeutic Community, have proven effective in assisting inmates in overcoming their dependencies, thereby potentially reducing recidivism rates. This research also highlights the importance of cross-sector collaboration among the government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and health institutions in supporting rehabilitation programs within special prisons. With strong social support, former inmates will find it easier to reintegrate into society. The novelty of this study lies in its integration of rehabilitation theory with comprehensive public policy practices, providing a holistic solution to the issue of drug abuse. Therefore, the findings of this research are expected to serve as a reference for policymakers in formulating more effective and humane strategies for addressing drug abuse in Indonesia.

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There is no additional information from the author.