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<https://doi.org/10.5109/7183400>

出版情報 : Evergreen. 11 (2), pp.1050-1059, 2024-06. 九州大学グリーンテクノロジー研究教育センター

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Informality and Public Space Policies –a Study of Bandung City Urban Center

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(Received October 25, 2023; Revised February 23, 2024; Accepted April 17, 2024).

Abstract: Indonesian street vendors, exemplify by Jalan Dalem Kaum corridor in Bandung City, are rapidly becoming vital to the urban informal sector. They use public spaces, becoming community integral and influencing user perceptions. Despite its positivity, The Municipality designates the corridor as a street vending red zone, contradicting the situation on the field. This research aims to comprehend users' perceptions, contrasting them with existing policies. Qualitative approach with qualitative descriptive analysis is employed to explore these perceptions, derived from in-depth interview data transcription. The findings have answered the research goals, highlighting street vendors' crucial role in shaping the corridor's dynamics, evident in positive perceptions from visitors and formal traders, contradicting established policies.

Keywords: Street vendor, Space user, perception, qualitative

1. Introduction

Urban informality, as an outcome of urban transformation, is undergoing rapid expansion in developing countries, including Indonesia¹. Economic informality constitutes an integral facet of urban informality. The International Labor Organization in 2017 defines the informal economy as a labor sector wherein workers lack legal and social security provisions². Moreover, the informal economy encompasses entrepreneurial endeavors and temporary employment within formal establishments. Informal workers are devoid of crucial social safeguards, such as pension funds and benefits, which are enjoyed by their formal counterparts. As a result, the informal economy, encompassing both the workforce and employment, is characterized by heightened vulnerability³. Given these vulnerabilities, it is of utmost importance for regional authorities to devote significant attention to the informal sectors, aiming to foster social welfare⁴. The root causes of urban informality can be attributed to rapid urbanization and urban restructuring, which lead to heightened demands for land and employment opportunities⁵. Policy is a crucial component in addressing development processes^{6,7}. However, the government system's capacity to address these challenges is relatively limited⁸. Furthermore, the proliferation of urban informality is attributed to political opportunities and dynamics, encompassing both policy formulation and execution⁹, characterized by areas of ambiguity that allow the informal sector to exploit these circumstances for advancement¹⁰. In the economic context, informality

refers to traditional economic activities conducted by organizations with low hierarchical structures¹¹. These activities lack transactional accounts and involve seasonal and personal work relationships without formal contracts. The informal sector exhibits unique features, such as low labor productivity, low wages, flexible work relationships, and limited labor protections¹².

Street vendors (PKL) exemplify the phenomenon of informalization within the economic sector. The Ministry of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises Regulation No. 16 of 2018 defines street as business entities engaged in trade activities utilizing mobile or stationary facilities, making use of urban infrastructure, social amenities, public resources, land, and temporary government or private structures. Street vendors operate either by establishing a fixed location or by utilizing mobile means such as carts¹³. Additionally, street vendors can be understood as individuals involved in commercial and service-oriented endeavors within public spaces, including sidewalks and road edges, serving the general public's interests¹⁴. Street vendors are informal sector participants characterized by self-employment and irregular job arrangements. They possess distinct attributes such as engaging in both trading and production, operating in diverse locations, emphasizing durable goods, lacking standardized product quality, experiencing relatively low money circulation, and favoring small-scale business operations¹⁵. Street vendors' characteristics can be categorized into three types based on movement, activity space, and activity itself^{16,17}. Movement aspects classify vendors according to mobilization patterns, while spatial aspects differentiate them by selling locations,

trading facilities, facility size, and trader unit type. Additionally, activity aspects distinguish vendors based on merchandise type and trading timing¹⁸⁾. Their trading practices often involve the creation of trade bands along major thoroughfares, significantly impacting urban design¹⁹⁾ and mobility²⁰⁾. The presence of street vendors contributes tangibly to supporting urban activities that cater to the community's needs at affordable prices, encompassing various elements within the realm of activity support, including the informal PKL sector²¹⁾.

Activity support refers to a range of activities and functions aimed at facilitating and enhancing the use of public spaces within a city. It plays a significant role in shaping the overall image and identity of a particular area²²⁾. Activity support encompasses various activities and functions that contribute to the vitality and cohesion of urban public spaces, where the activities themselves and the spaces mutually complement each other. For instance, street vendors, pedestrian pathways, city parks, and plazas serve as examples of activity support in the form of spatial elements. On the other hand, shopping centers, government complexes, public libraries, and other similar structures exemplify activity support through built environments²³⁾. Nevertheless, the unauthorized presence of street vendors in locations, such as designated red zones free from street vending, can pose challenges in public spaces, as it is perceived to disrupt security, comfort, orderliness, cleanliness, and the aesthetic appeal of the environment, ultimately shaping the perceptions of public space users²⁴⁾⁽²⁵⁾⁽²⁶⁾. User perception is the cognitive interpretation or response directly received from an object through the engagement of the five senses²⁷⁾⁽²⁸⁾. According to Fred Luthans²⁹⁾, user perception involves a unique interpretation of a situation rather than a simple recording of it. Perception begins with stimuli received through the senses, which are then interpreted to create meaningful constructs³⁰⁾. Indicators of user perception include perceived objects, sensory organs, nerves, the nervous system, and attention³¹⁾. This research was conducted in Dalem Kaum street corridor, Bandung, Indonesia.

The Jalan Dalem Kaum street corridor in Bandung is a prominent area for street vendors due to its proximity to Bandung Square and various shopping destinations. This strategic location allows street vendors to contribute to the local economy by engaging in medium to large-scale trade and services, thereby influencing overall activity within the corridor³²⁾. The strategic map of Jalan Dalem Kaum can be seen in Fig.1. Ensuring the sustainability of economic activities in Jalan Dalem Kaum is crucial as it plays a significant role as the central hub of Bandung City's Alun-alun area³³⁾. Specifically, the corridor serves as a bustling pedestrian mall, where only pedestrian could use this space, connecting the central business district (CBD) with surrounding areas and generating a high level of activity³⁴⁾. However, Street vendors operating in the Dalem Kaum Corridor remain a focal point for the government of Bandung City due to its designation as a prohibited red zone for street vending, as stipulated by municipal regulation: Perwal Kota Bandung No. 032 of 2019. Despite this prohibition, a considerable number of

street vendors persist in contravening the regulations, driven by economic imperatives³⁵⁾.

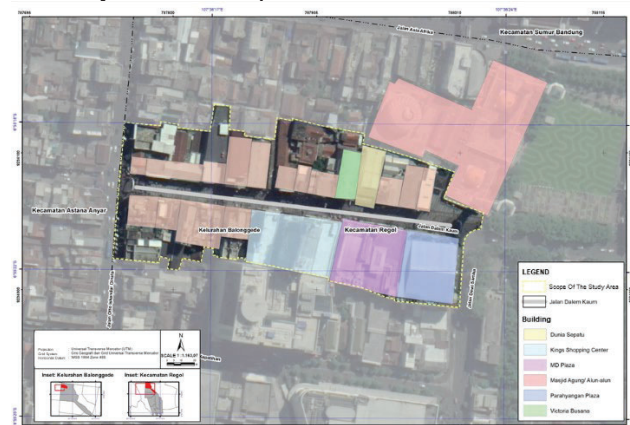


Fig. 1: Strategic map of Jalan Dalem Kaum

Prior research has extensively examined the characteristics and operational pattern of street vendors³⁶⁾. Additionally, numerous studies have explored the symbiotic relationship between public spaces, user³⁷⁾⁽³⁸⁾, and street vendors, wherein the latter function as an activity support³⁹⁾. Within the corpus of literature dedicated to street vendors, a prevailing consensus has emerged, affirming their pivotal role as a potent force within the informal economy, thereby engendering a favorable impact on the broader economic landscape, notably within urban and regional contexts⁴⁰⁾. Nonetheless, the extant body of research remains somewhat limited in its exploration of the perceptions held by cohabitants of spaces shared with the informal sector, specifically pertaining to whether this sector, replete with both affirmative and detrimental attributes, assumes a consequential role as delineated in the present study. This investigation further undertakes a comparative analysis of these perspectives vis-à-vis prevailing spatial management policies. The objective of this study is to ascertain the perceptions of space users, specifically visitors and formal traders on Jalan Dalem Kaum, regarding the presence of street vendors, who, in essence, are prohibited from engaging in vending activities by government policy.

2. Methods

This research adopts a qualitative research approach. According to Cresswell⁴¹⁾, qualitative research aims to comprehend and explore the subjective meaning attributed by individuals or groups to social issues⁴²⁾. To elucidate the perceptions of space users within the Jalan Dalem Kaum corridor, a qualitative descriptive analysis is employed⁴³⁾. The study focuses on visitors and formal traders who engage in commerce along Jalan Dalem Kaum. Data for the descriptive qualitative analysis is derived from previous in-depth interviews. The informants in this research are key persons from formal trader groups who is individual owner and has been selling in that space for a long time, and the community visiting

Jalan Dalem Kaum who come from various background such as worker, student, and family. The interview questions are based on variables investigated in prior studies, specifically the existence and quality of street vendors as perceived by visitors⁴⁴⁾, and the income and visitor access variables pertaining to the perspectives of formal traders⁴⁵⁾. There are 16 variables in total used in the in-depth interview with 12 variables used for investigating the visitor's perception and 4 variables for formal trader's perception. While the interview questions serve as a foundation, respondents are encouraged to provide open-ended responses, allowing for alternative viewpoints⁴⁶⁾. All variables used in the research shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Research Variables

Research Variables	
Perception of Visitors ⁴⁴⁾	The Presence of Street Vendors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasons to buy • Price of goods • Quality of goods • Convenience for consumers • Environmental impact • Orderlines • Availability and variety of goods • Target market
	The Quality of Street Vendors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Street vendor cleanliness • Appearance of the merchandise • Service to buyers • Product quality
Perception of Formal Traders ⁴⁵⁾	Store Income <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Income Visitor Access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of visits • Visibility from outside the store • Ease of access for visitors

Two sampling techniques are employed in this study: accidental sampling is utilized to select visitor informants, and snowball sampling is employed to identify formal trader informants⁴⁷⁾. The visitors sample was chosen from the group of people who visits Jalan Dalem Kaum and buy goods from street vendors in the location⁴⁸⁾. In addition, The descriptive qualitative analysis employed comprises eight stages⁴⁹⁾. The analytical stages in this study are delineated in Fig.2. The initial stage involves the formulation of interview questions. Subsequently, in-depth interviews are conducted to gather information based on the prepared variables guideline. Interview was

conducted by giving question to 1 key person from formal trader group and 5 visitors informants. The recorded interviews are transcribed to facilitate data processing. The next stage involves data reduction, employing the ATLAS.ti –assisted qualitative data analysis software-analytical tool and 16 predetermined codes aligned with the identified variables. The reduced data is then presented descriptively. The subsequent stage involves drawing conclusions from the description of the data to address the research questions. Finally, the findings are verified using the triangulation method. The results of the validated descriptive qualitative analysis were then compared with the policy narrative regarding the designation of Jalan Dalem Kaum as a red zone for street vendors as stated in Bandung City Perwal No. 032 of 2019. Comparisons are made to find out the suitability between the policies in force and the conditions on the ground⁵⁰⁾.

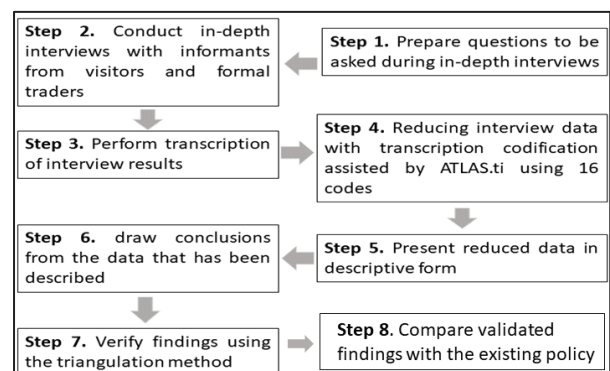


Fig. 2: Analytical Stage Scheme

3. Results

The Jalan Dalem Kaum corridor is an integral component of the City Service Center (PPK) Alun-Alun, encompassing several sub-districts, namely Kebon Jeruk Sub-District, Karanganyar Sub-District, Balong Gede Sub-District, Cikawao Sub-District, and Braga Sub-District. Consequently, the level of activity observed on Jalan Dalem Kaum is notably elevated. Within this corridor, numerous shopping centers such as the Kings Shopping Center, Plaza Parahyangan, Dunia Sepatu, and various other establishments are strategically situated along the thoroughfare.

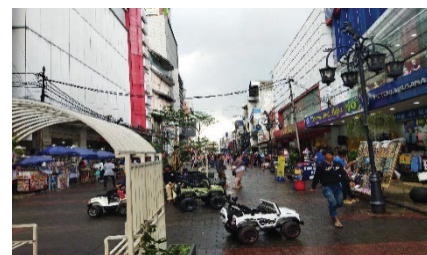


Fig. 3: Jalan Dalem Kaum Condition

The Jalan Dalem Kaum corridor has been designated as a pedestrian mall exclusively intended for pedestrian use, with no allowance for motorized vehicles to enter the area.

This corridor serves as a focal point for various trading activities, encompassing both formal and informal traders. Formal traders on Jalan Dalem Kaum comprise shopping centers, shops offering branded goods, as well as small and medium-sized businesses. Business operations along Jalan Dalem Kaum are conducted daily from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm. Jalan Dalem Kaum typically constitutes an integral part of the tourist itinerary, particularly for visitors exploring the Alun-alun Bandung. However, an agreement with the Satpol PP (Public Order Agency) dictates that street vendors refrain from engaging in selling activities on Mondays. Despite the overall conducive environment for trading activities on Jalan Dalem Kaum, it is interesting to note that the area has been officially classified as a red zone, mandating the prohibition of street vendors from conducting their trade within its confines.

The regulation designating Jalan Dalem Kaum as a red zone was formulated by the Bandung City Spatial Service, as stated in Municipal regulation Number 032 of 2019. The rationale behind this regulation stems from Jalan Dalem Kaum's central location in Bandung City, which attracts a significant number of both local and out-of-town tourists. In light of this, the Bandung City government aims to establish Jalan Dalem Kaum as a location that presents a favorable aesthetic image and impression for visitors to the city. Consequently, street vendors are prohibited from conducting their business along the Jalan Dalem Kaum corridor due to concerns that their presence may disrupt the comfort, aesthetics, and orderliness of the

area.

The designation of Jalan Dalem Kaum as a red zone was formulated through a collaborative forum involving street vendors. The forum primarily included coordinators representing street vendors from various locations in the city of Bandung, including the coordinator responsible for street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum. These forums with street vendor coordinators have been conducted over an extended period prior to the formulation of regulations. However, despite the regulations prohibiting street vendors from selling on Jalan Dalem Kaum, the corridor continues to be occupied by street vendors.

3.1 Perceptions of Visitor

Visitors' perceptions are evaluated by considering two variables, namely the presence of street vendors and the quality of street vendors. Regarding the variable of the presence of street vendors, interviews were conducted, focusing on aspects such as reasons for purchasing, pricing of goods, consumer convenience, environmental impact, maintenance of orderliness, availability of diverse merchandise, target market, and visitor convenience. Meanwhile, for the variable of street vendor quality, interviews were carried out, focusing on aspects such as cleanliness of street vendors, presentation of merchandise, customer service, and product quality. The analysis results indicate that visitors' perceptions of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum align with the findings presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Perceptions of visitor towards street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum

Presence of street vendors	Street vendors quality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors inclined street vendors due to the competitive quality of goods available, as they are comparable to those found in the market, and the prices offered are relatively cheaper and open to negotiation. • Street vendors offer convenience to visitors owing to their strategic location and the diverse range of goods available, effectively meeting the varied needs of consumers. • Street vendors operating on Jalan Dalem Kaum are not perceived as causing any disruption to public order, and they do not exert any negative environmental impact on the surroundings of Jalan Dalem Kaum. • The visitors who engage in shopping activities encompass individuals from diverse occupational backgrounds and age groups, underscoring the ability of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum to cater to the needs of a broad spectrum of clientele. • The presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum is not regarded as compromising the comfort of visitors. Conversely, the relocation of street vendors to the Basement Alun-alun is deemed incapable of offering a convenient shopping experience for visitors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The merchandise offered by street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum is distinguished by its commendable quality relative to its class. • The street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum demonstrate a conscientious approach to maintaining the cleanliness of their merchandise. • The presentation of merchandise by street vendors exhibits a high level of proficiency, thereby facilitating visitors' visual access to the displayed goods. • The street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum are notable for their provision of exemplary service to visitors, often extending their assistance in guiding them towards suitable product choices.

For visitors, the presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum yields a positive impact on their activities.

Street vendors can be deemed as a successful activity support for Jalan Dalem Kaum, as visitors express

contentment with their presence, valuing them from various perspectives. Firstly, visitors perceive street vendors as a viable alternative when shopping due to factors such as reasonable product quality, easy accessibility, and the option for negotiation. Moreover, visitors find the prices offered by street vendors considerably more affordable compared to similar products available in stores. Despite slightly higher prices for food at Dalem Kaum's street vendors than other vendors, visitors find it acceptable, given the superior portion sizes and service quality offered by these vendors.

The existence of street vendors serves as an effective activity support for Jalan Dalem Kaum, primarily because visitors experience convenience through the array of goods available, alleviating the need to search elsewhere. Additionally, the presence of street vendors has a negligible adverse impact on the environment of Jalan Dalem Kaum. Waste generated by these vendors does not significantly disrupt the overall ambience of Dalem Kaum, ensuring that visitors can freely roam and shop while maintaining a comfortable atmosphere. Consequently, street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum are not deemed to disrupt the general order of the area in any substantial manner. The compliance of street vendors to regulations, particularly their practice of selling only on the roadside without encroaching on the pedestrian right-of-way on Jalan Dalem Kaum, contributes to the convenience and positive shopping experience they provide for all

3.2 Perceptions of Formal Trader

The perspective of formal traders is examined through two distinct variables: store income and visitor access. To assess the store income variable, interviews were conducted to gauge the effect of the presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum on the overall financial performance of the shops. Furthermore, regarding the

consumers. The diverse range of merchandise offered by street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum attracts visitors from various demographic groups, including parents and young individuals. Consequently, these street vendors effectively cater to the needs of different segments of the population.

In general, the presence of street vendors enhances the comfort of visitors on Jalan Dalem Kaum. Although certain circumstances, such as high levels of congestion on Jalan Dalem Kaum, may somewhat hinder visitor mobility, such conditions are still perceived as tolerable, given that they are natural occurrences and not a result of any irregularities caused by street vendors. Moreover, visitors express a preference for shopping on Jalan Dalem Kaum, where numerous street vendors operate, as opposed to the basement areas of Alun-alun and Kings Mall, even though both locations host street vendors. The perceived quality of the goods offered by street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum is considered fairly good within their respective categories. The merchandise is well-maintained in terms of hygiene, and the friendly and helpful service provided by the vendors further adds to the positive shopping experience.

In conclusion, street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum have successfully fulfilled their role as activity support, offering a beneficial impact on visitors. The observance of regulations, the provision of diverse goods, and the overall comfortable shopping environment contribute to the positive perception of these street vendors among visitors. visitor access variable, interviews were conducted to ascertain the number of store visits, the visibility of stores from outside, and the ease with which visitors can access the shops. By scrutinizing the findings of the analysis, it was revealed that the perceptions of formal traders on Jalan Dalem Kaum concerning street vendors align with the details presented in Table 3.

Table 3. Perceptions of formal traders towards street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum

Store Income	Visitor Access
The presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum does not negatively affect adjacent shops' revenue. Shop income remains stable regardless of street vendors being present or not. In fact, street vendors are seen as advantageous, acting as a focal point that attracts visitors to patronize the shops.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The presence of street vendors is regarded as exerting a positive impact on the frequency of shop visits. This can be attributed to the street vendors' ability to function as an attraction that entices visitors to explore Jalan Dalem Kaum, thereby indirectly amplifying the prospects of shops being noticed by visitors. • The visibility of shops remains unhindered by the presence of street vendors, as the vending facilities employed by street vendors tend to be modest in size and do not obstruct the visibility of store signage. • The accessibility of shops for visitors remains unaffected by street vendors, as the street vendors exclusively conduct their sales activities on the periphery of Jalan Dalem Kaum, without obstructing the entrances to the shops. Consequently, visitors encounter no impediments when accessing the shops.

In addition to its favorable implications for visitors, the presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum yields positive outcomes for the neighboring shops as well.

Formal traders do not perceive the presence of street vendors as a threat to their businesses; on the contrary, the number of visitors and the income generated by the shops

remain consistently stable, even with street vendors operating in close proximity. Shop owners consider the presence of street vendors advantageous, as it enhances the overall shopping experience for visitors by offering a diverse array of goods with varying price points and qualities on Jalan Dalem Kaum. Furthermore, street vendors are viewed as contributing to the sales of the shops, as their presence fosters a vibrant ambiance on Jalan Dalem Kaum and acts as a compelling attraction, thereby enticing visitors to frequent the area, consequently augmenting the number of shop visits. The presence of street vendors does not impede the buying and selling activities taking place within the shops, as they do not obstruct store visibility or visitor access. Hence, the buying and selling activities conducted both in the shops and at the street vendors harmoniously coexist without detriment to one another, with the presence of street vendors even proving to have positive implications for the shops' businesses. Consequently, it can be inferred that street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum have successfully established themselves as valuable activity support systems for the shops situated along the thoroughfare.

3.3 The role of street vendors as an activity support on Jalan Dalem Kaum

The presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum has unequivocally demonstrated its beneficial role as an activity support system for both visitors and formal traders. Their presence assumes a pivotal significance in maintaining the continuity of purposeful and profitable activities for all space users on Jalan Dalem Kaum. Street vendors serve as providers of commendable services and diverse shopping options for visitors, thereby affording them alternative activities beyond mere pedestrian strolling. Moreover, the street vendors function as a compelling attraction, perpetuating a vibrant and bustling

atmosphere on Jalan Dalem Kaum, thus ensuring its vitality as a public space. The resultant influx of visitors also exerts a positive influence on the economic activities experienced by shop owners along Jalan Dalem Kaum. The favorable shopping experiences enjoyed by visitors, the constructive economic impact realized by formal businesses, and the consistent presence of bustling crowds on Jalan Dalem Kaum collectively exemplify the street vendors' affirmative contribution to the sustainable existence of Jalan Dalem Kaum as a public space.

Moreover, a comparative analysis was conducted between the perceptions of space users on Jalan Dalem Kaum and the established policies governing the classification of Jalan Dalem Kaum as a red zone. This comparative assessment aimed to ascertain the extent of the influence exerted by street vendors as activity facilitators on Jalan Dalem Kaum, as perceived by visitors and formal traders. These findings were subsequently juxtaposed with the governmental policies pertaining to the organization of street vendors. This phase yielded two potential scenarios that served as reference points for formulating recommendations regarding future structural directives.

The first scenario involves positive impacts of street vendors as activity support on Jalan Dalem Kaum. This prompts a reconsideration of its red zone classification. Conversely, if space users on Jalan Dalem Kaum perceive street vendors to have a negative impact, it suggests that the governmental policies have been effective and necessitates further steps to address the organization of street vendors. The subsequent section presents a comprehensive comparison between the perceptions of visitors and formal traders and the policies instituted by the Bandung City government, illustrating the extent to which street vendors have influenced Jalan Dalem Kaum. A detailed comparison of the perceptions of space users with the governmental policies is depicted in Table 4.

Table 4. Comparison of the perceptions of space users with the governmental policies

Bandung City Government Policy	Perception of Visitors	Perception of Formal Traders
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The regulations pertaining to street vendors operating on Jalan Dalem Kaum are stipulated in Regional Regulation Number 04 of 2011, which focuses on the management and development of street vendors. Further clarification on these regulations is provided in Municipal regulation Number 032 of 2019, where it designates Jalan Dalem Kaum as a red zone wherein street vendors are prohibited from conducting sales activities. The Bandung City Government has designated the Basement Alun-alun and Basement Kings Mall as alternative locations for the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum facilitates convenience for visitors due to the extensive assortment offered by these vendors. Moreover, the affordability of the merchandise, combined with satisfactory quality, enables street vendors to cater to the requirements of diverse visitor groups effectively. Notwithstanding occasional disruptions caused by the presence of street vendors during peak traffic periods on Jalan Dalem Kaum, visitors express a prevailing sentiment that the overall shopping experience remains superior compared to the basement alternative. Visitors perceive the basement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum is considered to provide benefits to formal traders in shops indirectly by making Jalan Dalem Kaum more crowded. For shop owners, this is a magnet that also affects the number of visits to their store. Formal traders feel that the relocation of street vendors to the relocation location has an impact on the situation on Jalan Dalem Kaum which has become quiet and less attractive to visitors so that visits to shops are not as busy as usual

Bandung City Government Policy	Perception of Visitors	Perception of Formal Traders
<p>relocation of street vendors who previously operated on Jalan Dalem Kaum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The guidance and supervision of street vendors are solely undertaken by the Bandung City Government, and this support is extended exclusively to those street vendors who have successfully relocated to the designated alternative sites and possess a valid NIB (Nomor Induk Berusaha, or Business Registration Number). 	<p>environment as congested and uncomfortable, further reinforcing their preference for the accessibility and ambiance provided by street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum.</p>	

Based on the comparative findings, the presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum assumes a significant role in ensuring the sustainability of Jalan Dalem Kaum as a public space. This significance arises from the positive impacts experienced by both visitors and shop owners, who collectively constitute the users of space on Jalan Dalem Kaum. Street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum have effectively established themselves as activity support, catering to the diverse needs of visitors and fostering a multitude of activities within the area. Furthermore, the presence of street vendors engenders a positive economic cycle on Jalan Dalem Kaum, as it not only offers shopping options for visitors but also influences the visitation patterns of potential buyers to the adjacent shops. Consequently, it is imperative to reassess the policy implemented by the Bandung City government, designating Jalan Dalem Kaum as a red zone, as it contradicts the perceptions of space users regarding the role of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum. Moreover, based on the identified conditions from the analytical outcomes, the classification of Jalan Dalem Kaum as a street vendor-free red zone holds the potential to eradicate crucial activities within the area, thereby compromising the efficacy of Jalan Dalem Kaum as a public space.

4. Discussion

The aim of this study is to determine the perceptions of individuals who utilize the space, particularly visitors and formal traders along Jalan Dalem Kaum, regarding the existence of street vendors. These vendors are essentially restricted from participating in vending activities based on government regulations. Based on the findings of the perception analysis conducted among visitors and formal traders, it is evident that the presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum distinct positive effects on these two cohorts. For visitors, the existence of street vendors brings forth numerous advantages. Firstly, street vendors offer a diverse array of merchandise, facilitating the fulfillment of visitors' needs. The availability of a wide range of products provided by street vendors enhances the overall shopping experience of visitors on Jalan Dalem Kaum.

Secondly, the presence of street vendors has minimal impact on the physical aesthetics of Jalan Dalem Kaum, thereby preserving the environment's pleasant atmosphere for incoming visitors. Furthermore, street vendors provide shopping alternatives at more affordable prices, thus presenting economical options for visitors to meet their requirements. This affordability aspect enables visitors to make purchases with increased budgetary efficiency.

From the perspective of formal traders, the existence of street vendors has a positive influence on the economic activities of the shops situated on Jalan Dalem Kaum. The phenomenon of increased foot traffic attributed to the presence of street vendors serves as a compelling attraction for visitors, consequently contributing to a rise in the number of patrons visiting formal shops surrounding Jalan Dalem Kaum. Consequently, as visitors frequent the area, their exposure to the existence of formal shops heightens, consequently leading to amplified sales opportunities for formal traders.

This study has ascertained that the presence of street vendors along Jalan Dalem Kaum plays a significant role in providing support for community activities, aligning with prior research conducted by Damanik in 2022, which posits a positive association between street vendors and public spaces as facilitators of communal activities. Furthermore, this investigation reaffirms that the presence of street vendors exerts a notable influence on economic activity along Jalan Dalem Kaum, corroborating previous research findings that highlight the contribution of street vendors to the regional economy. Notably, this study unveils a captivating revelation wherein street vendors serve as a catalyst for attracting crowds to public spaces, thereby fostering sustained communal activities. The classification of Jalan Dalem Kaum as a restricted zone Designating Jalan Dalem Kaum as a street vendor-free red zone has the potential to eliminate vital activities on Jalan Dalem Kaum which will disrupt the effectiveness of Jalan Dalem Kaum as a public space. These insights offer a foundational basis for further inquiries into the behavioral patterns within public spaces in the context of their functionality.

5. Conclusion

This study delves into the perspectives held by users of public spaces regarding street vendors and their alignment with pertinent regulations. This research holds significance due to the burgeoning expansion of street vending as a substantial informal sector within Indonesia, thereby emerging as a novel employment avenue for urban populations. Consequently, investigating the perceptions of public space users who coexist with street vendors assumes direct importance.

In conclusion, the presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum undoubtedly renders substantial benefits to visitors in terms of shopping convenience and more affordable pricing alternatives. Concurrently, formal traders experience enhanced economic activity and increased potential for sales within the area due to the presence of street vendors. Thus, it can be firmly stated that street vendors have a favorable impression on both visitor and formal trader groups, within the context of Jalan Dalem Kaum. Street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum have proven to have a positive impact as activity support on Jalan Dalem Kaum both for visitors and formal traders. The presence of these street vendors assumes a pivotal role in perpetuating activities that are advantageous and remunerative for the entire spectrum of space users on Jalan Dalem Kaum. The commendable shopping experiences reported by visitors, the constructive economic impact realized by formal enterprises, and the consistent influx of visitors on Jalan Dalem Kaum collectively substantiate the assertion that the presence of street vendors engenders a constructive contribution to the sustainability of Jalan Dalem Kaum as a public space. On the other hand, it also can be concluded that the presence of street vendors on Jalan Dalem Kaum is relevant to maintain and should not be designated as a red zone.

This study has answered the research objectives and makes a significant scholarly contribution by offering insights into the perceptions of space users as an additional dimension to the discourse surrounding the evolution of street vendors. It discerns that the presence of street vendors can serve as a pivotal catalyst for engendering activity within public spaces, thereby fostering their sustainability. Moreover, the research findings highlight a misalignment between the policies enacted on public spaces and the actual conditions on the ground, wherein the perspectives of street vendors, formal traders, and visitors do not conform to the stated policy objectives. Consequently, this research holds value as a point of reference for informing zoning policies pertaining to Indonesian public places.

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