



Implementation of Stunting Reduction Policy in Garut Regency

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Abstract. The problem of stunting in Garut Regency is very high at the district level, West Java Province. In-depth researchers 3 (three) research problems: (1) policy implementation, (2) efforts made, and (3) obstacles in program implementation. Therefore, the objectives of this study are: (1) describe the implementation of stunting reduction policies; (2) medicalize the efforts made as well; (3) obstacles/obstacles in implementation. This research uses qualitative methods, discussed and analyzed using the implementation of Marile S. Grindle's model policy. From the research activities carried out, researchers found: 1) There are several policies issued by the Garut Regency Government; 2) The existence of TPPS, TPK, and the Task Force for Handling Stunting; 3) There are 8 Scope of Service for intervention programs; 4) the existence of the Stunting Search Month Movement and implementing the TOSS program; 5) There are obstacles/obstacles in its implementation. Namely: (1) Family apathy indicated by stunting; (2) Lack of Optimal Coordination and Communication at the Implementation Level; (3) Limited human resources and not optimal capacity owned; (4) Limited budget and facilities/facilities. The research that has been carried out concluded that the Garut Regency government had implemented a policy to reduce stunting rates by issuing regulations and forming implementing organs, namely TPPS, TPK, the Stunting Task Force, universities, and other community organizations. The Garut Regional Government has provided human resources, budgets, and facilities/facilities to support the program's implementation. Some obstacles arise in the implementation of activities.

Keywords: Stunting, Resources, Programs

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is currently facing nutritional problems that significantly affect the quality of human resources. This is shown by the height of short toddlers (stunting), a significant concern today. Stunting is a problem of chronic malnutrition caused by low levels of nutrition over a long period due to eating foods not for nutritional needs at the time of growth. Nirmalasari, in the *Journal For Gender Mainstreaming*, explained that stunting needs more attention because it has the potential to have an impact on children's lives until they reach adulthood. Significantly, it can interfere with children's physical development and knowledge if it has a short-term impact on learning abilities. Later in development, it can suffer from reduced opportunities for education, employment, and increased income in the long run. In addition, there is a possibility

of being obese later in life, which increases the chances of developing various non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and cancer (Nirmalasari, 2020).

According to the Ministry of National Development Planning (Bappenas), stunting problems can occur because income and economic inequality, trade, urbanization, globalization, food systems, social security, health systems, agricultural development, and women's empowerment all have an impact on the indirect causes of the problem. The following supporting factors are needed to address the causes of stunting: a) Commitment to policy and politics for its implementation, (b) Participation of government and other sectors, and (c) the ability to perform. (Ministry of National Development Planning / Bappenas, 2018).

Based on the findings in the interview, stunting is a problem in Garut Regency because of (1) Malnutrition; (2) The child's weight and height do not increase; (3) Poor parenting; (4) Lack of nutritional intake since the mother is pregnant; (5) The presence of economic factors, environmental sanitation; (6) Poor diet; (7) The presence of comorbidities. The following findings are the results of the 2022 Garut Regency Situation Analysis which explains that the problem of stunting is caused by: (1) Public concern for stunting is still low; (2) High rates of early marriage; (3) Low knowledge of nutrition for pregnant women; (4) High culture of instant food consumption; (5) Low skills in alternative food processing; (6) Low access to clean water sources; (7) Low consumption of animal protein and; (8) Low quality of food consumption (Kania, 2022).

Based on the problems stated above, in 2021, based on SSGI data, the stunting rate in the Garut Regency reached 35.2% (Media Indonesia, 2022). The stunting rate is the highest of all districts in West Java. However, there was a decrease in 2022, reaching 15.6% of stunting Search Month activities (Kurniawan, 2022). The Garut Regency Government has made various efforts to reduce stunting, including by issuing several policies, forming a stunting reduction acceleration team and the Stunting Task Force, implementing programs with the support of existing human resources, budget availability, and supporting facilities/facilities.

LITERATURE

Dimok in the Pamuji presented by Anggara defined that state administration as "A process encompasses all of the actions performed between the time an enforcement agency assumes jurisdiction and the location of the missing brick." (As a constitutional procedure, it covers every step from the moment authority is granted to the executing body to the moment of laying the final stone to the moment of laying the final stone (Anggara, 2016). State administration includes

the entire process of activities carried out by a state organization with the authority granted to the implementing body to achieve practical goals.

Furthermore, Anggara (2016) explained that the functions of state administration have a relationship with public policy. The relationship emphasizes the role of the state/government in making public policies and implementing policies as part of the bureaucratic system. As defined by David Easton (Taufiqurokhman, 2014), public policy is the legitimate distribution of value to all members of society. About the value referred to by James E. Anderson, I mentioned that public policy is an action by one or a group of policy actors to solve specific problems and goals. Because of the significant role of the state in public policy, Islamy (Muadi et al., 2016) stated several essential elements of state policy, namely:

1. State policy in its first form is in the form of determining government actions,
2. It is not enough for the country's policy to be stated but implemented in a tangible form,
3. The policy to do or not do something needs to be based on a specific purpose and purpose,
4. State policy shall be aimed at the benefit of society.

Public policy has stages in the process of making it. This was stated by William N. Dunn (Dunn, 1999), who explained the stages of public policy consisting of (1) Problem formulation, (2) Forecasting, (3) Recommendations, (4) Monitoring, and (5) Evaluation. According to Dunn, the process in the public policy stage is a series of intellectual activities carried out in political activities. Political activity is described as a policy-making process and visualized as a series of chronologically interdependent stages. In the stages of public policy making, we know and understand the structure and actors of public policy. Nugroho (Kadji, 2015) stated that there are 3 (three) hierarchy levels in Indonesia.

1. Macro or General and Principal Policy such as the 19945 Constitution, Tap MPR, Law / Perpu, PP, Perpres and Perda;
2. Middle-Rank Policy in the form of Ministerial Regulations, Circulars/Decrees, Governor Regulations, Regent / Mayor regulations;
3. Operational or micro public policy is in the form of bureaucratic decisions brought at the ministerial level.

Every existing policy is critical and implemented through real programs providing value and benefits to all parties or stakeholders. According to Mazmanian and Sabatier (Kadji, 2015), "Policy implementation is the implementation of basic policy decisions, usually in the form of laws, but can also be in the form of executive orders, decrees, or judicial decisions." The decisions identify issues that need to be addressed, explicitly state the goals or objectives that need to be achieved, and the various ways to structure or manage the implementation process.

According to Grindle, 1980 (Akib, 2010), "Implementation is a general process of administrative action that can be examined at the level of a particular program." this statement provides a general understanding of policy implementation. Implementing a plan cannot begin until goals and objectives have been set, a schedule of activities has been set, and funds have been prepared and distributed to achieve the objectives. Policy implementation is necessary to ensure compliance among the policy's target audience. As a result, adherence to target groups becomes a crucial factor in determining the success of policy implementation from a behavioral perspective. This understanding, according to Akib (2010), is in line with Ripley and Franklin's belief that to support the success of policy implementation must be based on three factors, namely

1. the level of bureaucratic compliance with the bureaucracy above or the level of bureaucracy required by law,
2. the routine runs smoothly, and there are no obstacles and
3. how each program should be implemented, and what it will do (benefits).

In implementing public policy, a model is needed where indicators or variables are determined to determine an achievement goal. The mentality of experts and implementers, as well as minimum policy target groups based on policy relevance, effectiveness, and implementation, can be observed through the development of this model. The policy implementation model of Donald Van Meter and Carl Van Horn 1975 (Kadji, 2015) suggests several variables consisting of (1) Interorganizational communication; (2) Characteristics and performers; (3) Economic, social, and political conditions; (4) The implementer of this model emphasizes the importance of communication aspects where organizational leaders can communicate policies and create working conditions so that staff or implementers have the capacity and motivation to work as desired by the public policy itself. Edward III (1980) stated that there are 4 (four) factors in implementing public policy: communication, resources, attitudes, and the structure of the bureaucracy. According to Edward, implementation is influenced by

bureaucratic structure in the sense that implementation will fail if the bureaucratic structure is lacking.

The Merilee S. Grindle 1980 model presented by Kaji (2015) emphasizes that in addition to being influenced by the content of the policy and the implementation process, program activities that have been developed and adequate funding greatly determine the policy's success. Grindle initiates two main variables:

- 1) Content of Policy (a) interests that in-affected); (b) expected benefits; (c) expected degree of change, (d) decision making); (e) program implementors), dan (f) resources committed.
- 2) Konteks Kebijakan terdiri: (a) Power, Interests, and strateies of Actors Involved; (b) the characteristics of institutions and regimes in power, dan; (c) compliance and responsiveness.

METHOD

Research using this qualitative method is where researchers describe the study's main purpose. The data source used consists of primary and secondary data. Researchers obtain primary data through observation, interviews, and documentation studies. In contrast, secondary data is collected from literature studies in the form of references such as books, articles, or journals related to the research subject. Then, the data comes from regulations, publication documents, Garut Regency Ansit Documents, and data from internet media.

DISCUSSION

Policy implementation The reduction of stunting rates in the Garut Regency was analyzed by researchers using the policy implementation theory proposed by Merilee S. Grindle. Grindle's idea is called Implementation as a Political and Administrative Process (Kadji, 2015). According to Grindle, the success of public policy implementation is influenced by two factors: the content of policy and policy environment (Kinanti & Yusran, 2022).

Interest Affected

Merilee S. Grindle (1980). (Kadji, 2015) argues that a policy's implementation must involve many interests and the extent to which these interests influence its implementation. In implementing the stunting rate reduction policy, Garut Regency refers to the national policy, namely Presidential Regulation No. 72 of 2021, concerning the acceleration of stunting reduction. The Garut Regional Government implemented the policy because of the high stunting

problem requiring serious attention. Therefore, the Garut Regency Government exercises its authority by forming a Stunting Acceleration and Reduction Team (TPPS) through Regional Apparatus Organizations, Universities and Community Organizations, and Stunting Task Forces in implementing policy programs. The establishment of TPPS, which carries out stunting handling activities, is both an interest and an obligation of the region to provide services to the community.

Type of Benefits

Grindle, (1980). (Suparno, 2017) explained that the success of implementation depends mainly on the type of benefits the policy wants to produce. The Garut Regency Government, in implementing the stunting rate reduction program, provides the following benefits:

1. Regarding legality, namely, benefits where the Garut Regional Government has issued policies, these become the basis and guidelines for implementing the program.
2. Benefits in terms of Roles and Responsibilities. The existing policies and implementing bodies for stunting reduction that have been established ensure clarity on the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved.
3. The fulfillment of goals. Namely, the benefits felt by the wider community, especially regarding better health and welfare development.

Extent of Change Envisioned

Grindle, (1980). (Nurdin, 2019) stated that another thing that affects the success of policy implementation is the extent of changes expected from a policy. The reduction in stunting rate in Garut Regency is expected to be by the national policy target of reaching 14% by 2024, as stated in Article 5, paragraph 1 of Presidential Regulation No. 72/2021 concerning the acceleration and reduction of stunting. Implementing the program for handling nutritional problems (stunting) that has been carried out in the Garut Regency is expected to change behavior, give a better perspective of the community, and improve public health.

Site of Decision Making

According to Grindle. 1980, (Nurdin, 2019) that the location of decision making of a policy will affect the success of the implementation of the policy in achieving its goals. In carrying out the national policy mandate related to Stunting Acceleration and Reduction, the Garut Regency Government makes decisions on stunting reduction policies by issuing a number

of policies, forming a Stunting Reduction Acceleration Team and implementing stunting handling programs and strategies.

Program Implementors

Grindle.1980 (in Nurdin, 2019) suggests that, "Decisions that determine who is authorized and responsible for implementing various programs that have been formulated during the policy formulation stage, will affect how the policy is implemented". The Garut Regency Government has established TPPS, Family Assistance Team (TPK) and the Stunting Task Force as implementing agencies that have their duties and functions in implementing stunting reduction policies.

Resources Committed

In order to accelerate the reduction of stunting rates, the Garut Regency government utilizes the availability of resources such as the following:

- 1) Human resources. Namely those who carry out stunting reduction activities in the form of organizational bodies or community groups that focus and are integrated in carrying out stunting handling activities.
- 2) Financial Resources. Based on the publication document of the Integrated Stunting Reduction Convergence Action by the Secretary of Bappeda Garut Regency for the implementation of stunting reduction activity programs, the local government provides a budget of Rp 158,750,470,804 from 41 activities.
- 3) Facilities/Facilities. The Garut Regency Government in implementing stunting reduction policies uses and prepares facilities/facilities to support the smooth implementation of the program.

Power, Interests, and Strategies of Actors Involved

The Garut Regency Government, as the administration of government in the region, has power based on the authority determined according to the law. Therefore, based on its authority, the Garut regional government issues policies related to reducing stunting rates in their regions, namely: (1) The decision of the Regent regarding the determination of the locus of focus for intervention in decreasing edit in villages/kelurahan; (2) Regent Decree on the Establishment of Stunting Acceleration and Reduction Teams (3) Regent Regulation on the role of villages in integrated stunting reduction; (4) Make a statement of commitment to the implementation of stunting acceleration and prevention.

Authority embodies the power possessed, encouraging actors to serve the public interest according to policy objectives. As stated by the informant, actors are organizers who carry out the mandate of stunting reduction policies and are responsible for organizing, supervising, and ensuring the accuracy and quality of data related to stunting reduction programs. Second, actors who intensely take direct action to the community ensure that the programs of the policies implemented are right on target and feel the benefits by the community.

Institution and Regime Characteristics

Based on the results of the study, the Garut Regency Government, together with the Regional Apparatus Organization as the organizer of the implementation of stunting reduction policies, have the characteristics of several aspects: (1) Policy Aspects, which are aspects based on the authority of the Garut Regency government to make policies and form Stunting Reduction Acceleration Teams from the district, sub-district and village/village levels. In addition, forming a Family Assistance Team and Stunting Task Force; (2) Commitment Aspect is the commitment of the Garut Regency government to provide serious attention in handling stunting. This is manifested in the form of a written statement of commitment to the central government; (3) Centralistic. The implementation of the stunting reduction policy is a national policy. Therefore, all activities carried out must be coordinated and controlled by the central government. Regions are authorized to implement policies in the regions to deal with stunting problems by the objectives set out in Presidential Regulation No. 72/2021 concerning the acceleration and reduction of stunting.

Compliance and Responsiveness

Presidential Regulation No. 72 of 2021 concerning the Acceleration of Stunting Reduction provides mandate and authority to district/city governments to implement national programs and agendas. In this case, the Garut Regency Government, together with the Regional Apparatus Organization and other stakeholders, have carried out steps and strategies in implementing the program by conducting (1) Communication and Coordination, (2) Consistent in implementing policies to accelerate and reduce stunting rates; (3) Implementation of the Sustainability Program.

Barriers to Policy Implementation

In the implementation of the stunting rate reduction policy program in Garut Regency, several obstacles or obstacles were found, including:

- 1) The apathy of stunting families. This attitude arises due to a sense of prestige at the family level, an attitude of inferiority, and not accepting children who are declared stunted. This is according to the submission of Mr. Iqbal Fawas, SKM, Functional Nutrition Section of Garut Regency, in an interview on October 25, 2022, that changing behavior, as mentioned above, is an obstacle or challenge in handling stunting.
- 2) Not Optimal Coordination and Communication. Based on the findings, there are obstacles, including (1) Difficulties in updating the progress of program implementation. The slow coordination and communication of the implementing agency parties resulted in the update of the progress of the program implementation being constrained. The parties' sectoral egos cause existing coordination and communication to be not optimal. (2) Unclear accuracy and source of data. The constraints of this section are shown by the differences in the results of stunting rate data collection by the implementing agency and differences in views on stunting indicators.
- 3) Resource Limitations. These resource limitations include limitations regarding (1) Human Resources and Capacity, namely limited health specialists and inadequate skills in data entry and suboptimal data system utilization. (2) Budget Constraints. Budget constraints have caused several implementation programs to be not optimal, including the MP-ASI Program and nutrition team training; not all of them have been trained, and not all villages have provided a budget for Gemar Makan Ikan (Gemarikan) activities. In addition, budget constraints cause Socialization Activities for the Safety and Quality of Fresh Food of Plant Origin, Provision of additional nutritional intake for pregnant women, Chronic Energy Deficiency, and Lack of healthy latrines.
- 4) Limited facilities. Obstacles in the facilities such as the location for MCK construction are inadequate, limited clean water facilities

CONCLUSION

In order to carry out the mandate of Presidential Regulation No.72/2021 concerning the Acceleration of Stunting Reduction, a national policy, the Garut Regency Government has implemented a policy by issuing regional policies as guidelines for implementing stunting rate reduction. Based on this policy, an implementing body was formed, namely the Team for the Acceleration of Stunting Reduction, consisting of Regional Lifting Organizations, Higher Education, and Community Organizations.

In addition to specific and sensitive intervention programs, the Garut Regency government conducts the Stunting Search Month Movement and the TOSS (Find, Cure, and Love Stunting Children) Program. Human resources and capacity in Garut Regency support the program. There is budget availability from the APBN, APBD, and other budgets determined—the availability of facilities/facilities to support the program's implementation.

In the implementation of the program to accelerate the reduction of stunting rates in Garut Regency, there are obstacles to family apathy indicated as stunting, not optimal coordination and communication at the implementation level, limited human resources and not optimal capacity, budget limitations which cause some implementation programs are not optimal, and limited facilities/facilities in the form of inadequate locations for MCK construction and limited clean water facilities.

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