

ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF POLICY IN IMPLEMENTATION OF STUNTING PREVENTION IN BUTON SELATAN DISTRICT

Andi Tenri, Zainul Abidin

Postgraduate Programme, Dayanu Ikhsanuddin University, INDONESIA

E-mail: anditenri@unidayan.ac.id

ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze environmental aspects of policy in implementing stunting prevention in South Buton district. This study used a qualitative approach with descriptive analysis. Data was collected through interviews, observation and documentation studies. The results of the study show that the community has participated in activities or programs that support stunting prevention, but there are still many people who have not participated. In Posyandu, Batauga District, it shows that the average education level of parents who have stunted children is at a low level of education. The social and economic environment is very influential during this pandemic, interactions between communities are limited, many people have reduced incomes and affect people's purchasing power to buy nutritious food. The level of technological progress shows that, like other developing Districts or Regencies, the main use of technology is related to the electronic input of community-based nutrition recording and reporting. Public support in the implementation of Regent Regulation No. 14 of 2020 shows that the community is given the widest possible opportunity to improve individual, family and community nutrition. Some people respond well to support the program, but there are still a handful who don't believe in the phenomenon and incidence of stunting. The main obstacle is that not all people understand the true concept and meaning of stunting. The level of apparatus commitment to policy implementation is quite good.

Keywords: Policy Environment, Policy Implementation, Stunting Prevention.

BACKGROUND

South Buton Regency is a district that has a high stunting rate. Having the most stunting sufferers in Southeast Sulawesi. The results of the 2021 measurement of stunting prevalence reached 25.14%. For 2021, there are 27 locus villages spread across 7 districts. Batauga District has a 12.04 percent prevalence of stunting, Batuatas 41.30 percent, Kadatua 34.45 percent, Lapandewa 24.61 percent, Sampolawa 21.55 percent, Siompu 22.28 percent, and West Siompu 29.10 percent (Achievement Report Stunting 2021, South Buton Health Service). The national government's target of the stunting prevalence rate is 14% in 2024. Thus, Batauga District has reached the target. However, in Batauga District in 2021 there will be two villages with high stunting rates, namely in Bola Village there are 20 cases with a stunting prevalence of 32.79%, Laompo Village with 34 cases and a stunting prevalence of 21.79%.

The South Buton Regency Government has issued several policies for the prevention and control of stunting. In 2020, the Regent of South Buton issued Regulation number 14 of 2020 concerning stunting prevention. Then, issued Decree of the Regent of South Buton number 128 of 2021 concerning the priority locus of stunting prevention in South Buton Regency in 2022. Regulation of the Regent of Buton Selatan number 14 of 2020 concerning stunting prevention is in the form of convergence, which aims to synergize all efforts to approach nutritional interventions carried

out to accelerate prevention of stunting by paying attention to coordination, integration, consolidation and sustainability of central, regional and village programs. One of them is increasing the scope of integrated nutrition interventions both in preventing and overcoming stunting which is supported by an adequate stunting data management system at the district, sub-district and village levels. To carry out the convergence action, a team body secretariat was formed at the district, sub-district and village levels which was determined by the regent's decision, to carry out coordination.

Data showing the high prevalence of stunting in South Buton Regency shows that implementing the policy, in this case the South Buton Regent Regulation number 14 of 2020 concerning stunting prevention, including in Batauga District, is not an easy thing. Theoretically, policy implementation according to Mulyadi (2018) is a very important step in a good policy process that is capable of being made by the government, but then it turns out that it often has no or only small effect. According to Mazmanian and Sabtier in Mulyadi (2018), there are three variables that influence the success of policy implementation, namely the character of the problem. policy characteristics and environmental variables.

Environmental variables or environmental aspects of policy in preventing stunting in South Buton, especially Batauga District, are also problematic in the view of researchers. Where socio-economic and technological conditions, time differences and differences between regions affect efforts to achieve goals. The socio-economic and technological conditions of the people of South Buton are still quite lagging behind, such as the lack of socialization media in the form of technological information that has not yet reached remote villages and there are still many people who still do not know about modern technology, monitoring is still limited, as is done in several health centers. in several villages that have become stunting loci. lack of access to healthy food such as supplementary feeding and infant and child feeding.

Researchers also see that there is still a lack of stunting prevention and control activities carried out by local government organizations, especially during the 2021 Covid-19 pandemic. Usually it is carried out at least once a month, but since the Covid-19 pandemic, meetings are only held when there are important things, and even then only attended by core local government organizations that are directly related to stunting namely, the Regional Family Planning Coordinating Board, the Health Office, the Regional Development Planning Agency, the Education Office and the Social Service. This has reduced cooperation in convergence and cooperation of each local government organization in South Buton Regency. This description is the problem in this research. It is this aspect of the policy environment that is the focus of this paper. Variables that influence the success of policy implementation. Aspects of the policy environment that are of concern are the socio-economic conditions of the community, the level of technological progress, public support for policies and the commitment and skills of officials and implementers

LITERATURE REVIEW

Public Policy Implementation

Mulyadi (2018) explains implementation refers to actions to achieve the goals set in a decision. This action seeks to convert these decisions into operational patterns and seeks to achieve big or small changes as previously decided. According to Mazmanian and Sabatier (Agustino, 2014) states, implementation means understanding what is actually after a program is declared valid or

formulated which includes efforts to administer and to have a real impact on society or events. Nugroho (2008) says the plan is 20% success, implementation is the remaining 60%, the remaining 20% is how we control implementation. Policy implementation is the hardest thing, because here problems that are sometimes not found in the concept, appear in the field. In addition, the main threat, is the consistency of implementation.

According to Mazmanian and Sabatier (Subarsono, 2005) and Nugroho (2008), there are three groups of variables that influence the success of implementation. First, whether or not the problem is easy to control includes the variables mentioned by Subarsono (2005): (1) The level of technical difficulty of the problem in question (2) The level of plurality of the target group (3) The proportion of the target group to the total population (4) The scope of changes in behavior expected. Second, the ability of the policy to structure the implementation process. Includes variables (1) Clarity of policy content (2) To what extent does the policy have theoretical support (3) The size of the allocation of financial resources for the policy (4) How much there is linkage and support between implementing agencies (5) Clarity and consistency of rules is in the implementing agency (6) The level of commitment of the apparatus to the policy objectives (7) How wide is the access of outside groups to participate in policy implementation. Third, environmental variables. includes (1) Socio-economic conditions of the community and the level of technological progress (2) Public support for policies (3) Attitudes of the electorate (4) Level of commitment and skills of officials and implementers.

Policy Environment

Van Meter and Van Horn, Grindle, Mazmanian and Sabatier (Mulyadi, 2018) include policy environment variables as variables that influence policy implementation. The difference is, Mazmanian and Sabatier mention the word technology as a unit with socioeconomics. Like Grindle, Mazmanian and Sabatier are concerned with politics. The second element, namely public support and support from sovereigns, shows that public support and support from the authorities determine implementation. Without support from both parties, implementation will face obstacles. Publics who have more interests tend to support a policy that prioritizes their interests. Likewise, the authorities will also tend to support policies that suit their interests. The second element, namely attitudes and resources of constituency groups, has similarities with the disposition factors of the Edwards III model. The difference is that Edwards III focuses on the attitude of the implementor, while Mazmanian and Sabatier focus more on the attitude of the constituents/voters. The next element is the commitment and leadership skills of implementing officials. Mazmanian and Sabatier also focus on the commitment and leadership abilities of the implementer.

Environmental factors cannot be ignored by any policy makers or implementers. Ignoring this factor can have fatal consequences because it will fail the state's goal of making its people prosperous. Therefore, environmental studies need to be carried out more deeply and broadly so that this factor can anticipate the negative impact on the government's efforts to advance its people. The environment of public policy itself requires various kinds of information to strengthen a policy more adequately to be implemented. Value and cultural factors are the basic reasons when a policy environment influences a decision. Various decisions in the form of this policy need to consider the internal and external environment so that this policy can be accepted by the general public, where the community is the stakeholders as the final assessor of a policy.

Stunting Prevention

The government through regulations has made stunting a priority in alleviating it in society. This is indeed important because the implications of stunting have a great impact on the development of Indonesia's human resources so that attention must be paid from birth. Stunting is still a major nutritional problem for infants and children under two years of age in Indonesia. This condition will hamper the momentum of Indonesia's golden generation in 2045 and must be resolved immediately. Stunting itself is a disorder of growth and development of children due to chronic malnutrition and recurrent infections, which is characterized by the length or height below the standard set by the minister administering the affairs (Regulation of the President of the Republic of Indonesia Number 72 of 2021).

Stunting can be prevented from becoming stunted or corrected in the first thousand days of life. So that when a baby is born up to the age of two years, modifications and interventions can still be made so that they do not become stunted. Various programs have been created to prevent stunting in Indonesia. The purpose of accelerating stunting prevention is as a basis for implementing the convergence of stunting prevention programs, as a guide for Regional Governments and all elements of development actors in the regions in supporting the acceleration of stunting prevention, creating healthy, intelligent, productive and quality young people and having an impact on increasing the Human Development Index (HDI). The goal of accelerating prevention is realizing program convergence at the regional level in preventing stunting and improving the nutritional quality of individuals, families and communities. The principle of preventing stunting in the regions includes nutrition workers acting quickly, accurately and in accordance with the regular procedures for nutrition services and a professional/communication code of ethics, cross-sector cooperation and coordination in an effort to strengthen stunting prevention institutions. Transparency, meaning that stunting prevention is carried out openly. Culturally sensitive, meaning that in all matters related to stunting prevention must pay attention to the socio-cultural nutrition of the local area and accountability, meaning that stunting prevention is carried out in an honest, fair and responsible manner.

In South Buton Regent Regulation number 14 of 2020, it is explained that the principle of preventing stunting includes the commitment and vision of the Regent, Regional Leaders and Heads of Community Agencies/Organizations, campaigns with a focus on understanding, behavior change, political commitment and accountability. Furthermore, convergence, coordination and consolidation of national, regional and community programs, driving nutritional food security policies and monitoring and evaluation. The targets for preventing and reducing stunting for the Specific Nutrition Intervention Group include pregnant women, nursing mothers and children under the age of six months and breastfeeding mothers and children over the age of six months to the age of twenty-three months. Meanwhile, the target of preventing and reducing stunting for the nutrition-sensitive intervention group is an activity to address indirect causes in the community.

RESEARCH METHODS

The research design is qualitative. This research is qualitative in nature because it is to explore aspects of the policy environment in the implementation of stunting prevention policies in Batauga District where researchers need to speak and hear directly from the actors or sources involved through the process of document study and interviews and triangulation. The approach used in this research is a descriptive approach. The researcher conducted an interview, document study and

observation to dig up various information and factual data. Interviews were conducted by preparing questions to ask informants to obtain the necessary information. Those interviewed were Head and staff of the Batauga District Health Center, Head of the Health Office of South Buton Regency, Head of BKKBN of South Buton Regency and the people of Batauga District who were directly involved in implementing stunting prevention policies in Batauga District. In this study, researchers conducted data analysis as described by Miles and Huberman (Moleong, 2010). The data analysis technique in question is data collection, data reduction, data display, and conclusion

RESULTS

Environmental Aspects of Policy in the Implementation of Stunting Prevention

The policy environment is the policy implementation environment for South Buton Regent Regulation number 14 of 2020, especially in Batauga Sub-District where it is seen from the socio-economic conditions of the community and the level of technological progress, public support for the policy and the level of commitment and skills of officials and implementers.

A. Socio-Economic Conditions of the Community

What is meant is the social conditions of the community where the policy of the South Buton Regent regulation number 14 of 2020 is implemented, specifically the socio-economic conditions of the people of Batauga District. In theory, the social, economic and technological conditions of an advanced society will of course be easier to accept and support a policy or program that is being implemented. Likewise with technology. The use of more advanced technology will facilitate the implementation of policies or programs.

Based on the results of interviews and observations during the research, it shows that some people have participated in activities or programs that support stunting prevention, but it is undeniable that there are still many people who have not participated in and have a good understanding of stunting prevention due to limited knowledge of good parenting. and knowledge related to nutritional intake. This unbalanced intake of nutritious food is included in exclusive breastfeeding which is not given for 6 months.

In addition, based on interviews, at the Posyandu in Batauga District, it was shown that the average education level of parents who have stunted children is at a low level of education. Even if the level of parental knowledge is low coupled with a poor parenting style, there will be a very high risk of stunting in children. Batauga Health Center itself has attempted activities that can increase mothers' knowledge regarding breastfeeding through KP-ASI activities. Then, in terms of the economic environment, based on the results of interviews with nutrition officers at the puskesmas in Batauga, the average child who is stunted comes from a low level of income or family economy. This condition makes it difficult to meet the basic needs of the family, especially in the intake of nutritious food for their children.

The social and economic environment, especially the social environment, is very influential during this pandemic, interactions between people are limited, the economic environment is also very influential, many traders have reduced their income and this affects people's purchasing power to buy nutritious food. The government is prioritizing reducing Covid-19 cases compared to stunting cases. The PPKM rules make it impossible to realize various activities to accelerate the prevention and control of stunting. Limited human resources, forcing officers in the field to have multiple

assignments, which were originally midwives and Nutrition Implementing Workers (TPG) at the health center carrying out stunting prevention activities, now also Covid-19 officers, this has made officers not focus on dealing with stunting.

B. Level of Technological Advancement

The point is the level of technological progress where the policy of the South Buton Regent Regulation number 14 of 2020 is implemented, specifically the condition of technological progress in the people of Batauga District, can it help implement stunting prevention policies.

Technological advances in Batauga District are the same as other developing Districts or Regencies. Technological advances in society are quite good, at least access to food is quite easy but the price of food is still rather high. The level of technological performance is largely determined in the South Buton Regent's regulation policy No 14 of 2022. This is mainly related to the electronic input of community-based nutrition recording and reporting (EPPBGM) which is an indicator of the prevalence of stunting in Batauga District. However, the input of toddler data in the EPPBGM application is not optimal and does not yet describe the condition of toddlers in South Buton.

C. Public Support for Policy

The intended public support is public support in implementing the policy of South Buton Regent Regulation number 14 of 2020, specifically public support, especially the people of Batauga District. Policies or programs that provide benefits to the public usually receive support from the public. A different thing happens when the policy or program is disincentive, such as rising fuel prices. Constituent group attitudes and resources. They can influence policy implementation in various ways, including intervening in policies made by the implementing agency through comments aimed at changing decisions, then making published criticisms of the performance of the implementing agency, and making statements addressed to the legislature. The full authority of the implementer will facilitate the implementation of a policy or program.

In implementing the Regent's regulation No. 14 of 2020 the community is given the widest possible opportunity to improve individual, family and community nutrition. Some people respond well to support the program, but there are still a handful who don't believe in the causes of stunting. Some of the community, especially Village/Kelurahan officials, are very enthusiastic about preventing stunting. Related parties have a strong commitment to preventing stunting by holding regular meetings on stunting in South Buton. However, the obstacle is that not all people understand the concept and true meaning of stunting. Only a few villages have started to act to help prevent stunting. Another fact is that the commitment and skills of the apparatus are still lacking and it is necessary to increase the capacity of all existing apparatus. So that it can be said that public support has not been maximized, especially in terms of the community's understanding of risk factors and is important for preventing stunting.

In addition to activities using village funds, community support is also present in their cooperation or involvement in collaborating with the Office of Religious Affairs (KUA). Where prospective brides (catin) who register with KUA are directed to the puskesmas to get education regarding reproductive health and the dangers of underage marriage. The South Buton Regency Government together with the Southeast Sulawesi Regional Family Planning Coordinating Board have formed

a stunting reduction team and also a family companion team consisting of village midwives, extension workers from the Regional Family Planning Coordinating Board and also family empowerment and welfare cadres who play an active role in monitoring and socializing prevention of stunting in the community. Including, through education for youth, and families with cross-sector collaboration. The involvement of the community started with youth from various junior and senior high schools in South Buton, youth family advisors, and School Health Effort actors. The Regional Family Planning Coordinating Board together with the community also provides assistance in the implementation of educational preparation for planning family life for adolescents.

D. Level of Commitment and Skills of Officials or Implementers

The point is the level of commitment and skills of the apparatus and policy implementers of South Buton Regent Regulation number 14 of 2020, especially in Batauga District. Irregularities and inability to solve problems that arise during implementation make policies or programs often fail. Once fulfilled, at the implementation stage the implementing officials and target groups must comply with the program. Without their compliance, policy objectives will not be achieved. However, discretion of power is unavoidable for officials to adapt to changing environmental factors. The above requires the need for the recruitment of bureaucrats who are experts in mobilizing resources and taking the initiative to make decisions to modify policies.

The level of commitment of the apparatus towards implementing the policy of the South Buton Regent Regulation No. 14 of 2020 is quite good. Each related agency is responsible according to the duties within their respective authorities. This implementation is contained in 8 Convergence Actions. Related parties have a strong commitment to preventing stunting by holding regular meetings on stunting in South Buton. However, further and in-depth strengthening is needed so that the implementation can run as expected and there is a need to increase the capacity of existing officials.

To strengthen commitment and capacity, the Health Service in suppressing stunting is taking a cross-sectoral approach by involving all health centers in South Buton Regency (including Batauga sub-district), involving community organizations, educational institutions, to be active in suppressing stunting sufferers because of the great opportunities in tackling stunting is in the community itself to achieve a healthy and independent society. The next strategy is to determine the target location to be the locus of stunting prevention in South Buton Regency for each village. After Covid-19, the South Buton District Health Office always held meetings with all Heads of Community Health Centers in South Buton Regency regarding determining the location of the stunting focus. So that the determination of the location of stunting prevention activities is more focused on each village in South Buton Regency.

In Batauga District, data collection on stunting in children under five in South Buton Regency is carried out once a month by nutrition workers at the puskesmas during posyandu activities. Toddlers who are sentenced or predicted to experience stunting are seen from their physical health. The strategy for preventing and treating stunting in South Buton Regency is carried out by first tracing the causes of stunting in children under five. After being investigated, a solution to the problem will be sought with the aim of reducing the stunting rate in Batauga District, South Buton Regency. The strategy pays attention to the strategic engagement of a particular program. Then

what is the impact if a certain program is implemented or introduced (what is the impact on organizational goals).

In addition, in Batauga District, the South Buton District health office continues to work to improve public health status, including through the Healthy Living Community Movement. The Healthy Living Community Movement has been around for a long time, but power is needed to further strengthen the movement. With this activity, at least the community is aware of how important it is to maintain a healthy lifestyle. In addition, there is also a Stunting Care community movement. tackling stunting is a shared responsibility, not only the Government but also every family in South Buton Regency.

In implementing the stunting prevention policy in Batauga, the implementers are quite capable of understanding the direction and objectives of the policy. They carry out the Toddler Weighing Month (BPB) Activity. BPB is carried out in the framework of monitoring the growth of toddlers by weighing their weight (BB) and measuring their height (TB) to get an overview of the nutritional status of toddlers. BPB activities are carried out during the implementation of Posyandu. The selection of officers was taken from health cadres who were active in the village, but indeed they were still not in accordance with their knowledge, but at least the cadres could be active and have the desire to understand stunting prevention in village communities. Some informants stated that health cadres in the village had a lack of understanding and knowledge about stunting, this was due to a lack of counseling and guidance for health cadres in the village. Another problem is the lack of coordination from health cadres in the village in implementing policies on stunting prevention so they do not know the authority to implement them in the field.

As an output, based on the measurement results for 2021, Batauga District has 12.04 percent prevalence of stunting, Batuatas 41.30 percent, Kadatua 34.45 percent, Lapandewa 24.61 percent, Sampolawa 21.55 percent, Siompu 22.28 percent, and West Siompu 29.10 percent. In Batauga District In 2021 there will be two villages with high stunting rates, namely in Bola Village there are 20 cases with a stunting prevalence of 32.79%, Laompo Village with 34 cases and a stunting prevalence of 21.79%. . (Stunting Achievement Report 2021, South Buton Health Service).

CONCLUSION

The environmental aspects of the policy in the implementation of the stunting prevention policy in Batauga District, Buton Selatan Regency show that the community has participated in activities or programs that support stunting prevention, but there are still many people who have not participated. In Posyandu, Batauga District, it shows that the average education level of parents who have stunted children is at a low level of education. The social and economic environment is very influential during this pandemic, interactions between communities are limited, the economic environment is also very influential, many traders have reduced their income and this affects people's purchasing power to buy nutritious food. The level of technological progress shows that Batauga District is the same as other developing Districts or Regencies. Technological progress in society is good enough. The main use of technology is related to the importation of EPBGM which is an indicator of the prevalence of stunting in Batauga District. Public Support for the Policy shows that in the implementation of the Regent's regulation No. 14 of 2020 the community is given the widest possible opportunity to improve individual, family and community nutrition. Some people respond well to support the program, but there are still a handful who don't believe in the

phenomenon and incidence of stunting. Some of the community, especially Village/Kelurahan officials, are very enthusiastic about stunting prevention. However, the problem is that not all people understand the true concept and meaning of stunting. The level of commitment of the apparatus towards implementing the policy of the South Buton Regent Regulation No. 14 of 2020 is quite good.

Suggestions for the future, don't just be dominated by the health office anymore. Policy makers and implementers also need to open wide access to non-governmental parties such as NGOs and universities. Policy implementers need to encourage progress in the economic, technological and social aspects of society so that stunting prevention can be strengthened. Communities and especially mothers who have children under the age of 2 years to be more active in assisting local governments so that stunting prevention is strengthened, assisting policy socialization and increasing cooperation and coordination and opening wider access for stakeholders to succeed in implementing stunting prevention. Activities that can be self-sufficient such as knowledge and nutrition improvement are strengthened and not only dependent on government funds.

REFERENCES

- A. G Subarsono, 2005. *Analysis of Public Policy Concepts, Theories and Applications*. Yogyakarta : Student Libraries
- Augustine, Leo. 2014. *Basics of Public Policy*. Bandung: Alfabeta.
- South Buton Regent Decree number 128 of 2021 Concerning the Priority Locus of Stunting Prevention in South Buton Regency in 2022
- Report on the Achievement of Stunting in South Buton Regency in 2021. Batauga: Health Office of South Buton
- Moleong, Lexy J. 2010. *Qualitative Research Methodology*. Bandung: PT Juvenile Rosdakarya
- Mulyadi, Deddy. 2018. *Study of Public Policy and Public Services*. Bandung: Alfabeta
- Nugroho, Riant. 2008. *Public Policy*. Jakarta: PT Elex Media Komputindo
- South Buton Regent Regulation Number 14 of 2020 Concerning Stunting Prevention.
- Regulation of the President of the Republic of Indonesia Number 72 of 2021 Concerning Accelerating the Reduction of Stunting.