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IMPROVING CHILD NUTRITION: EVALUATING STUNTING REDUCTION INTERVENTIONS

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Abstract

The purpose of this research is to describe the Regent Regulation No. 77 of 2021 Implementation of the Stunting Reduction Program Policy in Ayula Tilango Village, Bone Bolango Regency. Based on the following indicators; (a) Policy Standards and Targets, (b) Resources, (c) Inter – Agency Communication, (d) Implementer Characteristics, (e) Economic, Social, and Political Environment, and (f) Implementer Attitudes. This study utilized a qualitative research method with a case study approach. Data was collected through in – depth interviews with various stakeholders, observation, and analysis of policy documents related to stunting program, The research results indicated that the implementation of the stunting program in Ayula Tilango Village faces several challenges, such as budget misalignment and difficulties in creating land for a clean water source. Despite these challenges, the program has achieved some positive impacts, including increased awareness of importance of balanced nutrition, improved acces to healthcare services, and healthier eating habits. However. These impacts still need further enchancement to address stunting issue in Ayula Tilango Village effectively. In conclusion, this research finds that the implementation of the stunting program in Ayula Tilango Village has encountered various obstacles affecting its effectiveness, therefore, greater efforts are needed to improve human resources and allocate budget moe effectively.

Keywords: Implementation Policy, Stunting Program, Malnutrition, Child Growth, Ayula Village Tilango.

INTRODUCTION

Stunting in Indonesia has become a highlighted issue as it concerns the future of Indonesian children, which is an investment in ensuring there is no lost generation. According to SSGI 2021, Indonesia's stunting rate reaches 37.8%. Stunting refers to a condition where children under the age of five fail to grow properly due to chronic malnutrition, making them too small for their age. Stunting occurs during pregnancy and in the first few days after birth but becomes noticeable when children reach the age of 2. The first 1000 days are critical and require special attention as they determine a child's physical development, intelligence, and future productivity. The aim of this research is to describe the implementation of the Accelerated Stunting Reduction Program Policy in Ayula Tilango Village, Bone Bolango District, based on Regent's Regulation No. 77 of 2021. Sururi (2017) concluded that public

policies, as instruments that involve both the government and society, are not implemented effectively. The phenomenon where some policies are canceled or revised by the government indicates overlapping policies and a lack of innovation among public officials. The public policy process involves various intellectual activities, starting with agenda setting, policy formulation, policy application, policy implementation, and connecting various layers of society through policy implementation. This is what is referred to as the "public policy process" (Mulyadi, 2015: 26).

According to Oktasari (in Bobihu, 2022), "Implementasi" originates from the English language, specifically "to implement," which means to carry out or execute. Implementation involves providing the means to execute something that results in an impact or consequence on something else. This action is taken to generate an impact or consequence, which can take the form of laws, government regulations, judicial decisions, and policies created by government institutions in the realm of state affairs. Van Meter & Horne (2017: 65) further define policy implementation as an action undertaken by the government or private sector, either individually or collectively, to achieve the goals established in prior policy decisions, thereby transforming those decisions into operational decisions and objectives. It aims to bring about changes, both minor and major, through those policy decisions.

The Van Meter and Horn policy implementation model outlines several variables believed to influence the implementation and performance of a policy model. Winarno (2014:159-158) lists these variables as follows:

1) Policy Standards and Targets

The use of performance indicators is one effective way to measure the success of policy implementation, provided that the metrics and objectives are realistic within the social and cultural context at the policy implementation level. If the policy measures or policy objectives are too idealistic to be applied at the community level, it can be challenging to achieve public policy success to the extent the policy is considered successful. Identifying performance indicators is a crucial step in the analysis of policy implementation.

2) Resources

The effectiveness of the implementation process depends on the ability to utilize available resources. This applies to specific stages within the overall implementation process, where the presence of competent human resources is crucial to carry out the tasks required by

policy-driven initiatives. However, if there is intense competition for and a lack of resource capacity, it can be very challenging to anticipate the effectiveness of public policy.

3) Communication among implementers

Coordination plays a crucial role in the implementation of public policies. The higher the level of communication among stakeholders in the implementation process, the greater the likelihood that errors can be minimized, and vice versa.

4) Implementer Characteristics

The implementing stakeholders involved in the implementation of public policies will have a significant impact on the appropriate and suitable characteristics for implementing agencies, including bureaucratic structures, standards, and patterns of interaction among various parties. This is important because these characteristics will significantly affect the performance of public policy implementation.

5) Economics, Social, and Political Environment

In order for policies to be effectively implemented, it is important to consider favorable conditions within the external context, which encompass socio-economic, political, and economic contexts. The external context also contributes to the success of established public policy implementation.

6) Implementer Attitudes

The attitudes of implementers towards the acceptance or rejection of a policy will have a significant impact on the performance of public policy implementation. This may occur because the policy being implemented is not the result of a deep understanding of the issues and problems faced by the local community. Instead, policies implemented by implementers often stem from decisions made at higher levels, where it is highly likely that decision-makers may never be aware of (or may not be able to grasp) the needs, desires, or problems that the community wants to address.

Stunting can be caused by various factors, including but not limited to malnutrition experienced by pregnant women and toddlers due to poor economic conditions and a poor environment. Other significant factors contributing to stunting include inadequate nutrition, such as protein, calories, vitamins, and minerals, which can adversely affect growth and development. Stunting can also result from early marriage, driven by poverty and limited access to education. Social and cultural factors also play a role in early marriages. The most crucial intervention to reduce stunting is providing early interventions to toddlers in their first

1,000 days of life. Addressing stunting requires a combination of programs/interventions and collaboration between the government and the business/community sectors. The following data on Stunting SSGI, the prevalence of stunting in Indonesia in 2021, can be presented in Table 1.1 below.

Tabel 1
Data SSGI Kemenkes RI 2021

No.	Region	Prevalence Figures
1.	Nusa Tenggara Timur	37.80 %
2.	Gorontalo	29.00%
3.	Bali	10.90 %

sources: www.litbang.kemkes.go.id 2023

Table 1 shows that according to Table 1.1, the "good" category and low stunting rates are found in Bali Province, the "acute" category is found in East Nusa Tenggara Province, and the prevalence of stunting in Gorontalo Province is 29.00%, categorizing it as "moderate." Let's move on to Table 2.1. The following table displays the SSGI stunting prevalence in 2021 for Gorontalo Province.

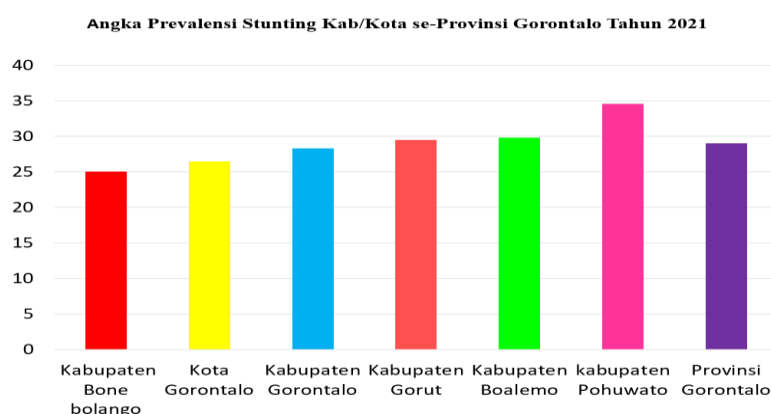


Image 1 Chart SSGI Prevalensi Stunting 2021

Source : www.litbang.kemkes.go.id 2023

Based on Image 1 above, the prevalence of stunting in 2021 in Gorontalo Province was 29 percent according to SSGI. The stunting rate in 2020 was 34.89 percent, showing a decrease of about 5.9 percent in 2021. The figure above indicates that the stunting rate in Gorontalo Province in 2021 was 29 percent based on the Indonesian Nutrition Status Survey (SSGI). Previously, this figure was recorded at 34.89 percent in 2020, marking a decrease of about 5.9 percent in 2021. Pohuwato Regency had the highest prevalence of stunting, reaching 34.6 percent, followed by Boalemo Regency at 29.8 percent, North Gorontalo at 29.5 percent,

Gorontalo Regency at 28.3 percent, while Gorontalo City had 26.5 percent. The lowest prevalence of stunting was achieved by Bone Bolango Regency at 25.1 percent. Gorontalo Province had a stunting rate of 29 percent in 2021 according to SSGI, as seen in Figure 1.1.

In 2021, the Regional Government of Bone Bolango Regency held a stunting conference that identified 27 specific and sensitive intervention focus villages. According to the 2021 Regent's Decision in Bone Bolango, ranking the prevalence of stunting in these focus areas resulted in the identification of 27 villages as priority intervention locations. In South Bone Bolango Regency, there are 10 villages, and 5 of them are designated as priority intervention villages, as follows:

Tabel 1.2
List of Priority Villages for Stunting Intervention in South Bulango District

Village	Number Of Stunting Children	Prevalence Stunting
Huntu Selatan	19	37,25 %
Tinelo Ayula	21	35%
Ayula Tilango	39	29,55%
Huntu Utara	19	27,14%
Ayula Selatan	20	30,77%

Source: SK. Bupati Bonebolango 2021

Ayula Tilango is one of the priority villages in the South Bone Bolango Subdistrict. Compared to other villages, this village has the highest number of children, totaling 39 individuals, who are classified as stunted. However, according to the Central Statistics Agency (BSCA) of Bone Bolango, in 2020, the village's population was 1,671 people, with a growth rate of 0.50%. Ayula Tilango Village is situated in an area with healthcare facilities and adequate per capita income.

Looking at the various efforts made by the government of Ayula Tilango Village to reduce stunting and considering the persistently high stunting rates in the village, it can be concluded that there are several challenges in implementing these programs to accelerate stunting reduction in Ayula Tilango, Bone District, Bolango Subdistrict. Based on initial observations, these challenges include, but are not limited to, the standards and targets of the stunting reduction acceleration program in the village not being optimal. In this regard, the target data for stunted individuals does not match the actual field data, as there are still stunted children not included in the database. Human resources in terms of data input and intervention

by cadres lacking the necessary skills and training pose a significant challenge in the program's implementation. The third challenge is the lack of communication between cadres and the community regarding stunting awareness, as evidenced by the low number of cadres visiting Integrated Health Posts (Posyandu). The fourth issue is that the program implementers should ideally be cadres, but in some cases, they still rely on Community Health Centers (Puskesmas) or the Health Department. The fifth issue is related to socio-economic environmental problems. The community in Ayula Tilango Village has participated in various initiatives or programs to promote stunting prevention. However, there are still few community members who have not fully participated and understood stunting prevention efforts due to a lack of knowledge about optimal childcare practices and information about healthy nutritional intake. Based on the information above, this is what underlies the researcher's decision to further investigate or prioritize this issue in the research titled "Implementation of the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Program in Ayula Tilango Village, Bone Bolango District."

METHOD

This research employs a qualitative methodology based on the post-positivist philosophy and is used to investigate the conditions of natural organisms (in contrast to experimental methods) where the researcher is the primary investigator. Data sources are purposively and snowball-sampled, data collection techniques involve a triangulation (combination), data analysis is inductive or qualitative, and the research findings focus on the significance of the results as opposed to generalizations (Sugiono 2019:57). This study will gather and interpret data obtained from valid sources with the aim of discussing the Implementation of the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Program Policy in Bone Bolango District. The data analysis in this research is conducted through several stages, with the first being data reduction, following the data analysis framework proposed by Miles and Huberman, which involves "data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing/verification. Data Reduction, this stage involves summarizing, selecting key information, and focusing on the most important aspects of the data obtained from previous fieldwork. It is essential to record the data meticulously and in detail to prepare it for analysis. Data Display, the data that has been reduced is then presented in various formats such as tables, brief descriptions, and charts. This presentation is aimed at clarifying the data, making it easier to draw conclusions, and facilitating further work. Verification/Conclusion Drawing, in this stage, efforts are made to derive meaning from the obtained data. This includes identifying propositions, cause-and-

effect relationships, and explanations of configurations, as described by Sugiyono (in Aneta, 2022). It involves the process of drawing conclusions and verifying the findings based on the analyzed data. These steps collectively form the process of data analysis in the research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Implementation of the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Program in Ayula Tilango Village, Bone Bolango Regency.

The research data in this study pertains to policy implementation and can be seen from the policy implementation strategies of the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Program in Ayula Tilango Village.

a. Policy Standards and Targets

To assess the level of policy implementation, it is crucial for the implementers to ensure that standards and targets have been communicated in accordance with relevant regulations. The implementation process in South Bulango Subdistrict begins with the establishment of standards and targets, which are then used to measure performance. In the context of the Implementation of the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Program in Ayula Tilango Village, Bone Bolango District, the program's standards and targets are considered vital variables in policy implementation. Therefore, it is necessary to verify whether the program's standards and targets have been communicated. Based on the interview results with AK, who serves as a Functional Planner/Junior Expert in the field of PPM at BAPPEDA Litbang Bone Bolango, the following information was obtained: "The Local Government has paid attention to the needs of Ayula Tilango Village residents and provided assistance in the form of the PKH (Program Keluarga Harapan), which targets couples of childbearing age, as well as the distribution of clean water to the village. The Government also offers intervention program assistance to the community, especially to group farmers, in the form of plant fertilizer and chicken seedlings.

Furthermore, based on an interview with DSP, who serves in the Family Health and Nutrition Section of the Bone Bolango Health Department, it is as follows: "Before setting the Policy Standards and Targets, the Community Health Center (Puskesmas) conducted socialization in each village about what stunting is to the community. However, some villagers refused to attend the socialization because they were afraid and believed that their children were already indicated as stunted, even though the Community Health Center conducted the socialization only to provide advice and education aimed at prevention.

This does not entirely align with the statement from the Village Head of Ayula Tilango, IP, who said: "The residents of Ayula Tilango Village receive assistance in the form of PKH,

BLT, and BMT from the local government. However, the target recipients of the assistance are not entirely accurate because some of the intended beneficiaries do not participate in the distribution of aid, and there is also a limitation in the food distributed by the government. This is because the aid is also intended for families classified as extremely poor. In addition, the local government provides other assistance in the form of MCK (Mandi Cuci Kakus, or Toilet and Clean Water Facilities) and male chicken and tilapia fish seeds for families engaged in farming. There are also Mini Loka Karya activities for pregnant women and post-marriage couples." And based on an interview with DI, a resident of Ayula Tilango Village who has participated in the program, the statement is as follows: "I am not very active in participating in government programs, but I did receive BMT assistance from the Health Department when I visited the community health center. Besides that, there is no more assistance distributed, and perhaps only my family received it."

b. Resource

The implementation of policies requires the allocation of resources. Without these resources, the policy implementation process will not be successful. The primary focus of the policy implementation process is to provide individuals, financial assistance, and facilities required for implementation. Therefore, resources are crucial for the sustainability of the Stunting Reduction Program in Ayula Tilang Village, Bone Bolango District.

Based on the interview with AK, who is a Functional Planner/Junior Expert in PPM at BAPPEDA Litbang Bone Bolango, regarding resources in policy implementation, it is as follows: "When it comes to budget resources, this budget falls under convergence and comes from DAK (Special Allocation Fund), Village Fund, and DAU (General Allocation Fund). Additionally, there is independent financial assistance from CSR, which is Bank Sulut, in collaboration with government funding. In terms of budget amount, it is still inadequate because even if the implementing party intervenes with a large budget, it is likely that the program will not be evenly distributed throughout the areas in Bone Bolango District that are the target of the program. Therefore, the allocation of loci in the program, as previously explained, is necessary to ensure that the budget for the policy program is sufficient for sensitive interventions. As for facilities and infrastructure, the intervention for the stunting program's target is still insufficient because if it were considered sufficient, there would be no need for intervention. Nevertheless, the government still provides assistance in the form of

facility development in villages, such as MCK (Toilet and Clean Water Facilities), clean drinking water facilities, or PAMSIMAS."

Furthermore, based on an interview with DSP, who serves in the Family Health and Nutrition Section of the Bone Bolango Health Department, it is as follows: "In the years 2019-2021, the Ministry allocated specific funds for stunting reduction to the Health Department for socialization and resource improvement without direct intervention, such as providing food. Direct interventions in the form of food are only included in the budgets of Community Health Centers (Puskesmas) and Village Funds, which focus on capacity building. The budget is quite adequate because in 2020, this budget was only for SKPD (Regional Working Unit) and was distributed to relevant implementing agencies, such as the Department of Food and the Health Department. The following year, in 2021, this special budget was distributed to all Community Health Centers and between programs. The Ministry, Health Department, and Villages collaborate on facility development, including the provision of height and weight measurement tools in village offices and Community Health Centers, as well as the maintenance of public drinking water facilities once a year. In summary, the condition of facilities and infrastructure can be considered adequate."

However, this does not entirely align with the statement from IP, the Village Head of Ayula Tilango, who said: "The resources allocated for the stunting reduction program are considered not up to standard for prevention actions because 50% of the budget comes from the Village Fund, and the rest comes from the Regional Government (Pemda), which focuses on sensitive interventions such as providing tuna fish for pregnant women and specific convergence. In other words, the Provincial Government does not provide any budget to the Village Government for the program's budget. In terms of facilities and infrastructure in terms of quantity and maintenance, the village has provided a Healthy Village House (Rumah Desa Sehat) with an active organizational structure both outside the program context and within it, with a budget of IDR 6,000,000 per year. The Regional Government also facilitates health facilities in Community Health Centers and Posyandu with weighing and height measurement tools and implements monthly maintenance, in addition to communal facility construction such as septic tanks."

The statements from the informants regarding resources, including the availability of human resources, budget, and facilities and infrastructure, indicate that the implementation of convergence interventions by the implementers is still minimal, the provincial budget allocated

to the village is insufficient to cover all areas, and convergence intervention actions do not align with established standards. However, the local government still provides assistance in managing and maintaining these resources. Moreover, the local government is unable to provide clean water resources due to land and construction conditions that do not meet standards. This has led to dissatisfaction among the community regarding the allocated resources, resulting in overlapping responsibilities between the relevant implementers and the community, with the majority of them relying on the village government as they allocate most of the Village Fund for stunting prevention programs.

c. Inter-Agency Communication

Communication among implementers is crucial for the success of policy implementation. When there is ambiguity, inconsistency, and lack of uniformity, it hinders the achievement of policy standards and targets. Therefore, communication among policy implementers is equally important as policy standards and objectives, as well as the resources for policy implementation. Based on the interview with AK, who is a Functional Planner/Junior Expert in PPM at BAPPEDA Litbang Bone Bolango, regarding communication among implementers in policy implementation, it is as follows: "The Health Department, both at the Community Health Centers (Puskesmas) and with village cadres, collaborates in registering every baby from 0 to 5 years old to monitor their growth and development. The goal is to identify if the child is not stunted by the age of 5, as early estimations based on their initial growth indicate potential problems such as malnutrition, short stature, and problematic determinants. As a result, interventions related to this program are implemented in the village, considering the specific needs of the child, such as supplementary food, the availability of clean water in the child's living area, sanitation, and also the poverty level of the child's parents. Thus, it becomes the responsibility of the Village Government in collaboration with the Regional Government. Additionally, the Head of the Community Health Center conducts socialization to the community regarding stunting issues as a national concern. Besides, there are public awareness campaigns through mass media, posters commonly found on the roadside, and leaflets available at the Posyandu."

Furthermore, based on an interview with DSP, who serves in the Family Health and Nutrition Section of the Bone Bolango Health Department, it is as follows: "The Health Department provides Technical Guidance as a form of communication regarding the stunting program to the relevant implementers at the Posyandu, along with training on how to use

facilities and reviewing record-keeping and reporting. This is because the data obtained by the Health Department comes from the relevant implementers."

This aligns with what IP, the Village Head of Ayula Tilango, explained: "Village cadres and nutrition staff often collaborate with the Health Department and related parties in implementing this convergence intervention program, both in data collection and reporting. However, there are sometimes errors in data reporting from village cadres to the Health Department, and there is still misinformation about the reported data. They also actively participate in mini workshops held monthly. Village cadres are also actively involved in training and technical guidance related to the stunting prevention program. Previously, I, as the Village Head, participated in the district's stunting discussions and proposed several suggestions related to the stunting issue in Ayula Tilango Village due to the high number of stunted children in the village."

Based on the interviews conducted with the informants mentioned above regarding communication among implementers, it is evident that communication among implementers is highly important and plays a significant role in the success of the Accelerated Stunting Reduction Program in Ayula Tilango Village. This is essential for all stakeholders and has been in line with the intended plan so far. However, human errors may still occur, leading to inaccurate information and misinformation in program implementation.

d. Implementer Characteristics

The characteristics of implementation encompass standards and relationships established during the policy implementation process, and all of these elements impact the implementation of a program. Based on the interview with AK, a Functional Planner/Junior Expert in PPM at BAPPEDA Litbang Bone Bolango, regarding the characteristics of implementers in policy implementation, it is as follows: "Regarding the characteristics of implementers, we are bound by Regulation Number 72 (PERPRES 72) related to accelerating stunting reduction, along with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) that include 8 convergence actions from the Ministry of Home Affairs (KEMENDAGRI) and are collaborated with 5 actions carried out by the National Family Planning Coordination Board (BKKBN). This makes it clear that the program for accelerating stunting reduction is strictly regulated. At the village level, the Village Chief is also required to issue a Regional Regulation (Peraturan Bupati - PerBup) related to the implementation of stunting reduction interventions at the village level, with implementation carried out through sub-district discussions that invite

every village chief through mini workshops conducted by the Family Planning Office. Regarding support from the Central Government to the Provincial and Regional Governments, there is no doubt that the Central Government allocates funding to relevant Regional Government agencies in line with the ministry guidelines, including the Ministry of Public Works and the Ministry of Villages, through 8 convergence actions that involve interventions in sub-activities related to the coverage of stunting services with 29 stunting service indicator components. This ensures that the budgeting from the Central Government to the Regional and Local Governments is clear and aimed at stunting reduction when formulating Regional Government Work Plans (RKPD) and Regional Office Work Plans (Renja OPD). Thus, the Central Government can review the contribution of the Provincial and Local Governments to accelerating stunting reduction. Therefore, the support or intervention from the Central Government is in accordance with the regulations set by PERPRES 72."

Furthermore, based on an interview with DSP, who serves in the Family Health and Nutrition Section of the Bone Bolango Health Department, it is as follows: "...before obtaining data on stunting, as mentioned earlier, we conduct data collection on toddlers, including the number of babies, their size, and height. This data is input into the electronic-based e-ppgbm application, and the output is in the form of nutritional status. All the results of baby nutritional status are then provided to BAPPEDA for further processing. Every year, the Central Government allocates a budget for this stunting program to the Provincial Government, and the Provincial Government provides support in the form of blood iron supplements for adolescent girls and pregnant women and high-dose vitamin A for toddlers based on their age to the Health Department. Other support includes the Provincial Government involving the Health Department in enhancing the capacity of nutrition officers in dealing with stunting."

This contrasts with what IP, the Village Head of Ayula Tilango, explained: "All implementers in the village adhere to the SOPs provided by the Health Department in the implementation of this program, starting from data collection, reporting, and interventions. As for government support, this year our village did not receive support from the province, only from the district, which means that the district government fully supports the implementation of the stunting reduction policy in our village."

The interview results indicate that the type of implementer is a determining factor in the success of the implementation of the Accelerated Stunting Reduction Program in Ayula Tilang, Bone Bolango District. In terms of communication between the Litbang Bappedia

Rolango, Bone Bolango District Health Department, village officials, and the local community, the program's implementation has been successful in terms of networking, coordination meetings, and socialization through both print and electronic media.

e. Economic, Social, and Political Environment

To assess the effectiveness of policy implementation, it is necessary to consider the extent to which the socio-economic and political context influences the success of the program's policy. If the socio-economic context does not support the program's policy, it can lead to the failure of program implementation. Based on the interview with AK, a Functional Planner/Junior Expert in PPM at BAPPEDA Litbang Bone Bolango, regarding the economic, social, and cultural environment in policy implementation, it is as follows: "When talking about the economy, we are certainly talking about the target population of the poor. This is because the poverty of the population can be seen from their income and expenditures based on data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), as well as their income from consumption. Regarding the social environment, the social environment is very broad, both in terms of interventions related to religion because it could be a significant factor causing stunting in the area. One of the major issues in the area is early marriage, which poses a risk to children being born stunted. Therefore, the social environment is very important, including religious and social behavior. Consequently, community awareness is essential for the success of stunting prevention. The political environment is important for obtaining program interventions and budgeting at the regional level. Therefore, it requires the aspirations of representatives related to stunting."

Furthermore, based on an interview with DSP, who serves in the Family Health and Nutrition Section of the Bone Bolango Health Department, it is as follows: "The village community is quite helpful in the success of this implementation because some of the villagers have land for gardening, so they don't spend as much money. In addition, the Health Department provides local food aid aimed at economic empowerment. In terms of the social environment, we have gathered housewives who have children, including those still in the womb and toddlers, at the nutrition posts or integrated health posts (posyandu). This is for sharing information about child health and also for cooking activities. This has contributed to the success of the implementation. In the political environment, there is involvement from Mr. Rachmat Gobel, representing the Nasdem Party, who distributed sports rice to the community,

especially those targeted by the stunting program. This has been a factor in the success of the Accelerated Stunting Reduction Program in Ayula Tilango Village."

This contrasts with what IP, the Village Head of Ayula Tilango, explained: "Regarding the economic environment in the village, the majority of our residents work as laborers or in small and medium-sized enterprises (UKM), supported by the Trade and Industry Office with food assistance, which is helpful even though it is not specifically targeted for stunting. According to Hadi Purnomo (in Tui et al., 2022), UKMs play a crucial role in driving Indonesia's economy. In Kikia Village, Sumalata Subdistrict, there are two UKMs: those processing fishery products and those processing agricultural products. This means that the economic environment in our village does not significantly contribute to the success of the Accelerated Stunting Reduction Program. Regarding the social environment, our community still lacks understanding of stunting prevention in the social context. Fortunately, thanks to the activities provided by the Health Department, such as socialization and Mini Lokakarya workshops, there has been some improvement in awareness, even though some still neglect prevention efforts. In terms of politics, there has been no intervention related to stunting."

The interview results indicate that one of the determining factors for the success of the implementation of the Accelerated Stunting Reduction Program in Ayula Tilang is the economic, social, and political environment. Despite some discrepancies in the oral and field testimonies, it cannot be denied that the village's economy can meet the needs of every family. Therefore, the government provides assistance with the aim of reducing stunting among the poor population, even though the target population of the program does not meet the criteria for stunting. As a result, the village's residents educate each other about the risks of stunting without political interference.

f. Implementer Attitudes

The attitudes of the implementers are equally important as the resources, communication among implementers, and the attributes of the implementers. This is because if the policy implementers lack the capacity and exhibit poor behavior in policy implementation, then the policy will not be effective and may even fail. Based on the interview results with AK, a Functional Planner/Young Expert in the field of PPM at BAPPEDA Litbang Bone Bolango, regarding the attitudes of implementers in policy implementation, it is as follows: "...The attitudes of the implementers are related to the commitment from the local government, and we carry out activities such as the 'rembuk stunting,' involving relevant parties

from the regent, council chairman, and policy stakeholders. This commitment results in a program that receives budget allocation for stunting acceleration interventions. The support of the community towards this program is significant, particularly from the village side, which has a better understanding. I can see the impact, which is an increased awareness of stunting among the community, influencing their lifestyles from not practicing open defecation to managing their diets."

Furthermore, based on the interview with DSP, the Head of the Family Health and Nutrition Section at the Bone Bolango District Health Office, it is as follows: "Before the 'rembuk stunting' is conducted, we have meetings with Human Development Cadres and Village Governments to gather data on stunting, which serves as the basis for discussions in the 'rembuk stunting.' Of course, as implementers, we are enthusiastic and maximize our performance. The community's support is also quite enthusiastic for the stunting program, even though a small portion of the village residents initially refused."

This is somewhat inconsistent with what was explained by IP, the Head of Ayula Tilango Village, as follows: "All related implementers in the village are quite enthusiastic, and they are very efficient in implementing this program, especially the village's cadres and nutrition experts. Their performance in data collection and reporting is excellent. They often visit the homes of families targeted for stunting prevention if the mother or child cannot participate in the program. Although some of them have varying levels of education, with some having completed high school, their performance is deemed quite satisfactory. Members of the Healthy Village Council (RDS) are also active in participating and educating every family in the village about health." The interview results indicate that the approach taken by the implementers of the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Program in Ayula Tilango Village is considered very effective. This is due to the involvement of the local government in the program's implementation."

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings and discussions previously discussed in the chapter regarding the concentration and sub-concentration of the research, the researcher can draw conclusions based on the Van Metter-Horn model indicators as follows. Policy Standards and Targets: The implementation standards and objectives of the accelerated stunting reduction policy in Ayula Tilango Village, Bone Bolango Regency, are in accordance with the provisions of Perbup Bonbol No. 77 of 2021. Resources: The resources available for the implementation of the

accelerated stunting reduction policy in Ayula Tilango Village, Bone Bolango Regency, are adequate in terms of personnel, equipment, and infrastructure, although budget transparency is lacking. Communication Among Implementers: Communication among implementers in the implementation of the accelerated stunting reduction policy in Ayula Tilango Village, Bone Bolango Regency, is well-structured and follows the applicable regulations, as observed from stages (1) to (8). Characteristics of Implementers: The performance of implementers and stakeholders in the implementation of the accelerated stunting reduction policy in Ayula Tilango Village, Bone Bolango Regency, is satisfactory, as evidenced by the policy's effectiveness in slowing down stunting in the village. Economic, Social, and Political Environment: The economic, social, and political conditions in Ayula Tilango Village are considered to facilitate the project's implementation, although there is no political interference from any party other than the implementers. Attitude of Implementers: The implementers' approach to accelerating the reduction of stunting rates in Ayula Tilango Village deserves praise. Although the cadres in the village lack experience, they are effective in implementing the policy. The policy to accelerate stunting reduction has been applied in Ayula Tilango Village, Bone Bolango Regency, but it has not been systematically implemented in accordance with the guidelines outlined in Regulation No. 77. Therefore, efforts are needed to expedite the reduction of stunting rates. Increased funding allocation from the Gorontalo Provincial Government, the Regional People's Representative Council, NGOs, as well as community and traditional organizations is required to collaborate in the prevention and reduction of stunting.

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