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Letter of Acceptance

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Greetings from International Journal of Demos.

Thank you for submitting an article to International Journal of Demos. After reviewed by our reviewer and revise process. We are glad to inform that your article with the title "**Evaluation of the Non-Cash Food Assistance Program in Sadang Village, Sucinaraja District, Garut Regency**" found that it meets with International Journal of Demos requirements, we will publish your article in **Volume 4 Issue 2, 2022** in International Journal of Demos at this website: <http://hk-publishing.id/ijd-demos/index>

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M. Dian Hikmawan, MA.

Evaluation of the Non-Cash Food Assistance Program in Sadang Village, Sucinaraja District, Garut Regency

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Abstract

This study aims to determine the evaluation of the Non-Cash Food Assistance program, now on known as BPNT, in Sadang Village, Sucinaraja District, Garut Regency, and the factors that influence it. The use of the qualitative method as the research method was selected using descriptive analysis. In collecting data, the method used was interviews with selected informants, observation, and documentation. Data analysis techniques employ data reduction, data presentation, and concluding. In terms of the effectiveness of the Beneficiary Families, from now on, known as KPM, it was concluded that they felt the benefits: Non-Cash Food Assistance, known as BPNT. In terms of efficiency, errors in targeting targets in the distribution of BPNT can lead to budget leakage. In terms of the distribution of BPNT, it is carried out following the portion. In terms of accuracy, KPM expects the program to continue. The enumerator's subjectivity is high in recording poor households in terms of efficiency. In terms of responsiveness, BPNT implementers at each level understand enough about BPNT's activities as there are several inhibiting factors in the field. Suggestions put forward by researchers are updating data and data validity of BPNT recipients every six months by BPNT assistants in coordination with RT, RW. The assistant regularly checks people who are no longer entitled to receive BPNT. Socialization to KPM who are already prosperous wants to leave BPNT membership.

Keywords: Non-Cash Food Aid, Evaluation, Program, Beneficiary Family.

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui evaluasi program Bantuan Pangan Non Tunai yang sekarang disebut BPNT, di Desa Sadang, Kecamatan Sucinaraja, Kabupaten Garut, dan faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhinya. Penggunaan metode kualitatif sebagai metode penelitian dipilih dengan menggunakan analisis deskriptif. Dalam pengumpulan data, metode yang digunakan adalah wawancara dengan informan terpilih, observasi, dan dokumentasi. Teknik analisis data menggunakan reduksi data, penyajian data, dan penarikan kesimpulan. Dari sisi efektivitas Keluarga Penerima Manfaat (KPM), mulai saat ini yang dikenal dengan KPM disimpulkan bahwa mereka merasakan manfaat: Bantuan Pangan Non Tunai yang dikenal dengan BPNT. Dari sisi efisiensi, kesalahan penargetan target dalam pendistribusian BPNT dapat menyebabkan kebocoran anggaran. Dalam hal penyaluran BPNT dilakukan mengikuti porsi. Dari sisi akurasi, KPM berharap program ini terus berlanjut. Subyektivitas pencacah tinggi dalam mencatat rumah tangga miskin dari segi efisiensi. Dari sisi ketanggapan, para pelaksana BPNT di setiap tingkatan cukup memahami kegiatan BPNT karena ada beberapa faktor penghambat di lapangan. Saran yang diajukan peneliti adalah pemutakhiran data dan validitas data penerima BPNT setiap enam bulan sekali oleh pendamping BPNT berkoordinasi dengan RT, RW. Pembantu tersebut secara rutin memeriksa orang-orang yang tidak lagi berhak menerima BPNT. Sosialisasi kepada KPM yang sudah sejahtera ingin keluar dari keanggotaan BPNT.

Kata kunci: Bantuan Pangan Non Tunai, Evaluasi, Program, Keluarga Penerima Manfaat.

Introduction

Poverty is a condition or condition of the inability of individuals or community groups to meet the needs of life, both physical and economic conditions (Rahman et al., 2019). Poverty is one of the problems still faced by several countries in the world, including Indonesia. Poverty is often associated with underdevelopment and underdevelopment. In addition, poverty is also a severe social problem (Solikaturun & Masrurroh, 2014). According to Syawie (2011), in general, the consequences that will arise from the problem of poverty are the loss of welfare for the poor, namely the non-fulfillment of basic needs, including clothing needs. Food and shelter, loss of the right to education, right to health, exclusion from decent work for humanity, marginalization from the right to legal protection, right to security, right to participate in government and public decisions, right to spirituality, and right to freedom of life. The problem of poverty is quite complex, so it must involve all parties to work together and carry out optimal coordination (Kadji, 2012).

Policies to improve people's welfare have long been a problem in various regions in Indonesia. This is because many poor people have not benefited from government programs, especially in improving their welfare of people's lives (Prawoto, 2008). Law Number 11 of 2009 concerning Social Welfare defines social welfare as a condition of meeting the material, spiritual, and social needs of citizens to live appropriately and develop themselves so that they can carry out their social functions. One of the basic material needs of humans is food.

Food is an element in social welfare (Suradi, 2015). According to Law Number 18 of 2012 concerning Food, food is defined as an essential basic need and affects the life of every human being. The government has provided Food/Rastra subsidies since 1997 in the form of Special Market Operations (OPK) in response to the economic crisis and prolonged drought. In 2002 the OPK program was changed to the Raskin Subsidy (rice for the poor) with the amount of rice received was 15 Kg/KPM/Month with a redemption fee of Rp. 1,600/Kg. In 2013, the Ministry of Social Affairs (Kemensos) was assigned as the Authorized User of the Food Subsidy/Raskin Budget, and in 2016 the term Raskin was changed to Rastra or Rice for Prosperous Families, which was given to 15.6 million families (Fadlurrohman et al., 2019).

The Indonesian government has rolled out various programs for poverty alleviation, and one of the programs to alleviate poverty is the Non-Cash Food Assistance (BPNT) program (Kurniawan, 2020). The provision of food assistance in non-cash is regulated in the Presidential Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 63 of 2017 concerning the distribution of non-cash food social assistance. This BPNT program is a replacement program for the previous assistance program, namely the Prosperous Rice Program (Rastra). In the Rastra program, the government provides direct assistance to the poor by distributing cheap rice (Mangede et al., 2016). This cheap rice ransom program ran for several years. Still, in the end, the government decided to change the program to the BPNT program because, in the implementation of the Rastra program, many complex problems were not following the initial objectives of the program, namely, many households should receive rastra but are not registered as rastra recipients. Meanwhile, households belonging to the prosperous category receive assistance (Baidah & Arifin, 2021).

Second, the indicator is the right amount the Target Beneficiary Households (RTS-PM) have the right to redeem 15 kg of rice per month. Still the RTS-PM only receive 5-7 kg of rice per month than they should because Rastra recipients often must share it. With communities who are eligible to receive but are not registered as RTS-PM. The ransom

price for rasta rice is Rp. 1,600 per kg. Still, RTS-PM has to pay a higher price for rice than it should cover the shrinkage of rice or for wrapping bags, and often the quality of the rice distributed is of poor quality and unfit for consumption. Third, for timely indicators, rasta should be distributed every month, but there are still frequent distribution delays due to late payments in the previous month (Oetari, 2020).

Seeing the problems of the rastra program, on 26 April 2016, in a limited meeting on financial inclusion, the President of the Republic of Indonesia gave directions for social assistance and subsidies to the poor to be distributed in the form of non-cash through the banking system to increase program transparency and accountability. Ease of control and reduce the deviation. This has prompted the change of the Rastra program into a complete subsidy assistance program in the form of Non-Cash Food Assistance (BPNT) which was then gradually distributed from 2017 to residents with the lowest 25% socio-economic conditions in the implementation area. The government's goal to convert Rastra to BPNT is expected to be able to realize the 6T principle in the distribution of food aid. The 6T principle in question is Right Target, Right Time, Right Quantity, Right Quality, Right Price, and Right Administration (Angga, 2020).

Non-Cash Food Aid is Rp. 200.000,-/KPM/month is given to Beneficiary Families of Non-Cash Food Assistance (KPM-BPNT). In its distribution, BPNT is not given in cash but is channeled into a Combo electronic card or Prosperous Family Card, which will be received by KPM per month. This BPNT can only be taken by conducting electronic transactions at e-Warong that has been appointed as partners with related banks that provide various basic needs such as rice, eggs, flour, cooking oil, and so on. At the beginning of the BPNT program, the number of funds provided was Rp. 110,000/KPM/month, which gradually increased every year by Rp. 40,000/KPM following the conditions of the community, then in early 2021 as an addition due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the amount of aid money was added back. of Rp. 50,000 so that the total electronic money received by each KPM is Rp. 200,000. This BPNT disbursement is carried out every month, and if the KPM does not spend it within that month the following month's assistance is considered forfeited or cannot be taken back (Hadita et al., 2021).

One of the villages in the Sucinaraja Subdistrict, Garut Regency, that has received the BPNT program since 2018 is Sadang Village. Sadang Village consists of 5 RW and 18 RT. Sadang Village is one of the targeted areas for BPNT distribution because 20% of the population is included in the BPS version of the poor category. The livelihoods of the population are primarily in the informal sector, such as daily laborers, motorcycle taxi drivers, construction workers, laundry workers, etc., where the income is not fixed and cannot meet the needs of a decent daily life; they are very dependent on the users of their services. Place of research because the researchers found problems regarding implementing the BPNT program, which the researchers got through observations when conducting a pre-study in Sadang Village.

The replacement of the Rastra program with BPNT aims to improve the community's standard of living and provide transparency of distribution based on policy procedures. Still, in reality, the implementation of BPNT policies is not always fully guided by policy procedures because it depends on the conditions and situations of the local community. There are still deviations in its implementation so that it is not the same as the objectives in the BPNT General Guidelines, such as the discovery of problems in the distribution of the BPNT program in Sadang Village, Sucinaraja District, Garut Regency so that it has not been running according to the program targets.

Method

Researchers used a qualitative approach with a descriptive analysis method in this study. Bogdan and Taylor in Moleong (2005) define qualitative research as a research procedure that produces descriptive data in written or spoken words from people and observed behavior from phenomena that occur. Data collection techniques used are interviews, observation, and documentation. The types of data consist of primary and secondary data related to BPNT. At the same time, the data analysis technique uses the Miles and Huberman model (in Sugiyono, 2013), which consists of data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing/verification.

Result and Discussion

The implementation of BPNT refers to the Regulation of the Minister of Social Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia Number 20 of 2019 concerning the Distribution of Non-Cash Food Aid. The BPNT program began to be implemented in Garut Regency in 2017, where Garut Regency is one of the Pilot Projects from 44 selected cities in Indonesia. The implementation of the BPNT program is given in the following contexts: First, to reduce the burden of KPM expenditures through partial fulfillment of food needs. Based on the findings in the field, the researcher assessed that the implementation of the BPNT program in Sadang Village in the Sucinaraja District was able to reduce the burden of KPM spending by fulfilling some of the KPM food needs. This is evidenced by the interviews between researchers with several KPMs; generally, they reveal that they feel accommodating with this assistance because it can ease their burden of expenses.

This finding follows Suharto's (2015) opinion about the purpose of social policy to fulfill family needs, which is provided through partial fulfillment of food needs in this program. According to Suharto (2015), one of the goals of social policy is to meet the needs of individuals, families, groups, or communities that they cannot fulfill individually but must be through collective action.

Second, the implementation of the BPNT program is given to provide more balanced nutrition to KPM. Based on the provisions written in the 2018 BPNT General Guidelines, the food commodities that KPM can exchange at e-warong/BRI-Link agents are rice and eggs only. Then after the BPNT program transformed into an essential food program in early 2020, there was an expansion of other types of food commodities containing sources of carbohydrates, animal protein, vegetable protein as well as vitamins and minerals as an effort from the government to provide Beneficiary Families access to essential ingredients with other nutritional content. The development of the types of food obtained from this program will be able to improve the nutrition of the community, especially children from an early age so that it will influence reducing stunting.

However, the facts on the ground are that many KPMs do not spend their needs following the provisions written in the general guidelines for the BPNT program. Generally, KPM spends this aid on other necessities such as oil and sugar. At the same time, oil and sugar are not included in the types of food commodities written in the provisions. In addition, referring to the provisions of the latest general guidelines (Pedum for the Sembako Program 2020), it is also explained that oil and sugar are types of food that are not allowed to be purchased with BPNT aid funds. If KPM buys non-commodity types, BPNT's goal to provide balanced nutrition to KPM will not be achieved.

Third, the BPNT program's implementation is given to improve the accuracy of targets and the time of receipt of Food Assistance for KPM. Based on the findings in the field, generally, implementers and KPM consider that the BPNT program has not been

fully targeted. Because there are still many people with pre-prosperous status who have not benefited from this program. For 2020, the number of DTKS in Sadang village, Sucinaraja sub-district, is 1,648 RTM, while 968 KPM have just received this assistance.

This means that there are around 680 KPM who should also be entitled to receive BPNT assistance in Sucinaraja District. Indiahono (2009) states that policy implementation is the stage of determining whether the policies adopted by the government are applicable in the field and successfully produce outputs and outcomes as planned. Suppose Indiahono's opinion above is related to the findings in the field. In that case, the researcher can judge that the BPNT program has not been able to produce outputs and outcomes as planned because the policy targeting of this program has not been fully optimal, so the results to be achieved have not been maximized.

Fourth, the BPNT program's implementation is given to give KPM more choices and control in meeting food needs. Although KPM has been given many options to buy food commodities, KPM must still comply with the provisions not to buy types of food outside the written provisions. However, the facts on the ground reveal that many KPMs still spend aid funds with types of commodities outside the provisions, such as buying cooking oil, sugar, and other manufacturing staples outside of the specified commodity provisions. Whereas in the latest general guidelines for the BPNT program/Sembako program, it has been explained that BPNT assistance/Sembako Program cannot be used to purchase oil, wheat flour, granulated sugar, manufactured MP-ASI, canned food, instant noodles, and other foodstuffs that are not included in the program provided.

Aid also may not be used to purchase credit and cigarettes. This phenomenon is also caused by the fact that E-Warong agents generally have packaged food ingredients, namely selling food ingredients of the type and quantity determined unilaterally by the e-wrong. Whereas in the latest provisions of the food social assistance program, ewarong may not package food ingredients, namely selling food ingredients of the type and quantity determined unilaterally by the e-warong or other parties, so KPM has no choice.

The successful implementation of the BPNT Program needs to be supported by the optimization of program implementation communications. This is because intensive communication in conveying the benefits and objectives of the program can increase community support for the program (Nainggolan et al., 2022).

The discussion of the evaluation of the BPNT program in Sadang Village, Sucinaraja District, Garut Regency will focus on effectiveness, efficiency, equity, accuracy, effectiveness, and responsiveness, as proposed by Dunn (2013). Each of these sections will be discussed based on the observed research phenomena.

1. Effectiveness

a. Achievement of Success

The desired degree of change with the existence of this BPNT program for KPM is that the community can meet basic needs for daily food needs. However, in practice, it has not significantly changed the poverty condition of KPM before getting BPNT and after getting BPNT. Still, at least with the existence of BPNT, Community welfare can be helped in meeting basic needs.

b. The results you want to achieve

The community (KPM) feels the benefits of the usefulness of BPNT and is assisted in meeting basic food needs in the form of rice and daily food needs. Most of the KPM recipients of the BPNT program felt that this assistance to the poor had great benefits.

2. Efficiency

a. Effort required

To know the exact target or target of BPNT recipients, cooperation from various parties is needed, especially with local community leaders who know the citizens. So far, BPS enumerators have come directly to the field when conducting socio-economic censuses without prior coordination. This has often resulted in data collection results not following actual conditions in the community, which, in turn, led to mistargeting in the distribution of BPNT.

- b. Fees issued
So far, there have been budget leaks due to the inappropriateness of the targets; many people who are classified as capable get BPNT. For this reason, each facilitator can provide understanding for well-to-do families so that they are willing to give up their participation in the BPNT program.
3. Alignment
 - a. Distributed according to portion
The distribution of BPNT is carried out according to the portion where KPM can transmit points of Rp. 200,000, with foodstuffs that can be selected according to needs. Points can be exchanged at e-waroeng, namely food stalls, collaborating with channeling banks. In this e-waroeng, KPM can exchange them for eggs, rice, flour, cooking oil, and other essential food needs
 - b. Uses of BPNT
The existence of this BPNT program helps low-income families increase the need for balanced nutrition because KPM can exchange it for staple foods and protein foods, which can improve family health and prevent malnutrition.
4. Accuracy
 - a. According to the original purpose
The existence of the BPNT program does not significantly affect the level of people's income, and it's just that the existence of BPNT can help and overcome the burden of family expenses, especially to meet daily basic food needs.
 - b. Can meet the needs of the community
Beneficiary families (KPM) are pleased, feel they have benefited, and have been helped in fulfilling their basic food needs to meet their daily needs. Several informants met stated that this program must continue to be run, and if possible, the disbursement was on time.
5. Usability
 - a. Accuracy of Targeting of Non-Cash Food Aid Recipients
The role of the BPNT facilitator in the field is significant because the facilitator also verifies and updates the data on BPNT recipients for each period which is then submitted to the Social Service and will be followed up on submissions to BPS if in the field it is found that a prosperous community has received BPNT.
 - b. Timely Distribution of Non-Cash Food Aid
A delay occurred in the distribution of BPNT in Sadang Village due to a system disturbance at the center, so the balance given to KPM did not come in, or there was no account opening for new KPM, so they did not get a combo card. For this delay, the KPM can confirm with the channeling bank that it has the authority to disburse
6. Responsiveness
 - a. Clarity of Implementing Non-Cash Food Aid
The BPNT program in Sadang Village has been implemented well. It can be seen through socialization and data verification where the BPNT assistant has validated the data and carried out physical documentation of community houses

submitted to the Ministry of Social Affairs to verify whether or not they are eligible as BPNT recipients in the next period. As for the poor who did not receive the program, data collection was also carried out by being asked to submit files such as a Family Card, KTP, and a Certificate of Disability from the Village to be submitted as recipients of the program following year.

b. Understanding of Implementers of Non-Cash Food Assistance

Implementors quite understand their respective duties, and socialization is also going well as desired

There are a few inhibiting Factors for the Non-Cash Food Assistance Program in Sadang Village, Sucinaraja District, Garut Regency:

1. BPS carries out the process of enumeration or data collection for poor households in the field without any collaboration with local RT/RW. Thus causing inaccuracy in the target recipients of BPNT assistance.
2. Indicators in measuring poverty in the community use BPS standards which are less sensitive in capturing the socio-economic conditions of the household as a whole, so the unclear concept of the beneficiary family (KPM) causes different interpretations in the community.
3. BPNT data collection is carried out every five years using an integrated database. This has caused many social changes in society over the past five years. This is what causes determines the KPM in the Sadang Village area. Several KPMs have died, moved houses, or have changed from the pre-prosperous category to become prosperous families.
4. From the 2020-2021 period, from 129 BPNT KPMs that have been registered, it turns out that only 109 have KKS Cards and are active. Besides that, 15 KPMs have problems with utilization, an empty balance of assistance where KPM wants to disburse the funds; it turns out that the funds are not available. There are and need to contact the assistant to ask for help with disbursement; besides, there are four cards that have not been issued, so KPM needs to wait for disbursement in the next period.

Conclusion

From the research above, it can be concluded that the distribution of Non-Cash Food Aid in Sadang Village, Sucinaraja District, Garut Regency is in the context of reducing the burden of spending on KPM through partial fulfillment of food needs to provide more balanced nutrition to KPM, to improve target accuracy and time. Receipt of Food Assistance for KPM to provide more choices and control to KPM in meeting food needs. The discussion on evaluating the BPNT program in Sadang Village, Sucinaraja District, Garut Regency will focus on effectiveness, efficiency, equity, accuracy, efficiency, and responsiveness.

To reduce errors in targeting, it is better to update the data and data validity of BPNT recipients every six months by the BPNT assistant in coordination with the local RT and RW with a more thorough look at the condition of the prospective beneficiaries. In addition, the assistant needs to check regularly which people are no longer entitled to receive Non-Cash Food assistance so that the data is given to the Social Service so that the Social Service can replace it with people who are genuinely less fortunate and in need. And finally, provide socialization to KPM who are already prosperous so that they want to leave BPNT membership and provide opportunities for more entitled people.

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