

Network Analysis of Food Security Policy in Majalengka Regency

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ABSTRACT

Food security is a crucial issue in the development of a region that affects people's welfare. Majalengka Regency has great agricultural potential, however, its vulnerability to climate change and fluctuations in food commodity prices emphasizes the importance of analyzing the policy framework related to food security. This research aims to explain the structure of the food security policy implementation network in Majalengka Regency. This research uses a qualitative approach. Data collection techniques are in-depth interviews, documentation and observation. Data were analyzed using data reduction techniques, data presentation, drawing conclusions and verification. The research results show that the implementation of food security policies in Majalengka Regency through mutual adjustment type coordination illustrates the importance of cooperation between various entities, including government, non-government and community-based organizations. Even though there are challenges in the availability and quality of information that differ between actors, the cross-departmental meeting initiated by the Majalengka Regency DKPP succeeded in creating an adequate adjustment process to ensure the achievement of food security policy goals. This emphasizes the need for structured collaboration and synergy between various related parties in order to realize sustainable and effective food security for local communities.

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INTRODUCTION

In the midst of Indonesia's claim to be an agricultural country with the majority of its population making their living as farmers, the problem of food security remains a serious threat. Even though the agricultural sector makes a significant contribution to the national economy, the country still experiences significant food scarcity, especially in line with population growth that continues to increase (Rusdiana & Maesya, 2017). The threat is increasingly real with the reduction of agricultural land due to conversion to residential and industrial use, providing its own challenges in Indonesia's efforts to achieve food independence. This requires serious efforts to address changes in land use patterns and improve agricultural systems to ensure adequate food supplies for all Indonesian people (Iryana, 2018).

The role of farmers as the front guard in achieving community welfare and maintaining food security is the main focus in efforts to strengthen the national food system (Rahmadiyahanti, 2021). Increasing agricultural productivity not only has a direct impact on increasing national food supplies, but also indirectly increases food availability throughout the country. With an increase in farmers' income, their access to food will increase

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significantly (Kariyasa, 2005). The aspect of food affordability will increase, and in turn, will make a major contribution to overall food security in Indonesia.

Increasing food security in Indonesia has become the main focus since the enactment of Food Law Number 18 of 2012, replacing Food Law Number 7 of 1996, which emphasizes the importance of food sovereignty and independence in achieving national security (Saragih, 2016). The main focus of this law is to ensure the fulfillment of food needs at the individual level by optimally utilizing the potential of natural, human, social, economic and local wisdom resources. The concept of national food security means the ability of a country to ensure that its entire population receives sufficient, good quality and safe food supplies, which is based on the optimal use of diverse local resources (Wuryandani & Meilani, 2011).

However, food imports are regulated as a last alternative step to fill the gap between domestic food production and needs, by ensuring that the interests of local food producers, especially small-scale farmers, as well as the interests of consumers, especially the poor, are maintained (Ariani & Suryana, 2023). The presence of this law underlines the importance of a national food policy that can increase food security, with a focus on the availability of good quality and affordable food supplies, as well as safe food consumption for the community. Considering the projected increase in Indonesia's population which is expected to continue to increase, reaching 319 million people in 2045, it is important for the Indonesian government to continue to formulate effective food policies in ensuring sustainable food security (Garuda, 2018).

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To achieve food security, the government has a crucial role in building a strong and resilient system. The success of government policy in achieving this goal is very dependent on the approach adopted in looking at the dimensions of food security as well as the integration of food policy with other national development policies, such as poverty alleviation policies and macroeconomic policies (Wibowo, 2020). In this context, national development priorities place increasing food availability for all citizens as the main strategy that must be realized at the regional level in order to achieve national resilience (Purwaningsih, 2008).

This success can be seen from the ability of each farming household to meet their food needs, which in turn can improve overall welfare (Rahim et al. 2014). This process reflects the government's concrete efforts to increase income and economic welfare at the farming family level, which will ultimately have a positive impact on overall food security in Indonesia (Prasetyo & Amelia, 2022). Thus, the government needs to adopt a holistic and integrated approach to ensure successful implementation of food security policies across the country.

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The regional government of Majalengka Regency must continue to strive to educate the public regarding the regional food security institutional structure that has been established, as well as encourage active participation by the private sector and the community in realizing regional food security by considering all aspects related to food security. Food security policy itself is an integrated concept, which requires collaboration

between various related parties, and cannot be implemented by one party alone (Agustian et al, 2023). The success of policy implementation is greatly influenced by cooperative relationships and exchange of resources between organizations. Therefore, network analysis of public policy implementation is important, which emphasizes the joint use of resources by stakeholders (Rukmana, 2020). Collaboration in joint use of resources shows the efficiency and effectiveness of the performance of the policies implemented. Thus, collaboration between the government, the private sector and community-based organizations is key in ensuring the successful implementation of food security policies in Majalengka Regency.

This research aims to explore the network analysis of food security policies in Majalengka Regency, with a focus on the policy framework that has been implemented, the actors involved, as well as the obstacles and opportunities in achieving sustainable food security. By understanding the interactions between government, non-government and society related to food security policies, it is hoped that this research can make an important contribution in developing integrated strategies to strengthen food security at the local level.

METHOD

The approach used in this research is a qualitative approach. The goal of qualitative research is to gain a deeper understanding of human perception of reality. Qualitative research can take many forms, but most of them are flexible and aim to preserve the full context of the data when analyzing it. Descriptive analysis according to Sugiyono (2011) is a research technique used to draw meaningful conclusions from data. This research uses observation, documentation and technical interviews. Using data reduction and technical triangulation, researchers collect data then delete and verify it.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the context of the food security policy implementation network in Majalengka Regency, the involvement of various actors is a key factor in implementing programs related to food security. This implementation network involves a number of government institutions, such as the Food Security Service, Agriculture Service, Health Service, as well as extension workers, both at the district and sub-district levels. Coordination between government agencies is important in formulating and implementing policies related to food security in the region. Apart from government institutions, non-government institutions such as farmer shops are also involved in the policy implementation network, contributing through various partnership programs with farmers and agribusiness service providers. In addition, the role of the community represented by community-based organizations is also important in providing input, participation and active involvement in the implementation of food security programs at the local level.

The involvement of various actors provides strong synergy in efforts to achieve food security in Majalengka Regency. With good coordination between government institutions and non-government institutions, as well as active community participation, it is hoped that a strong and sustainable food security system will be created in the region. This synergistic

collaboration between various parties provides a strong foundation for facing challenges related to food security, both in terms of production, distribution and community access to quality and affordable food. Based on Majalengka Regency Regent's Regulation Number 18 of 2020 concerning Details of Duties, Functions and Work Procedures of the Food Security, Agriculture and Fisheries Service (DKPP) of Majalengka Regency, DKPP is used as a forum for this food security network research. Based on the results of the study, it can be seen that there is a close relationship between network actors implementing food security policies in Majalengka Regency.

In the context of the contribution of various related actors in realizing food security in Majalengka Regency, each entity has a specific role that supports each other to achieve the common goal, namely achieving optimal food security. For government actors, the main contribution lies in providing resources that include financial aspects, improving skills, and providing relevant information. The availability of these resources is the government's responsibility to ensure optimal food security is achieved in the region.

On the other hand, contributions from non-governmental organizations, such as the Majalengka Regency Farmer Empowerment Institute, are important in improving the quality of farmer resources through training and mentoring programs, as well as maintaining the stability of food supplies. Farmer groups fostered by the Majalengka Regency Agricultural Service also make a significant contribution in providing resources including food buying and selling transactions, which play a role in maintaining price stability and food availability in the local market.

Farm shops have an important role in maintaining the availability and stability of food prices in the region, while the availability of subsidized fertilizer is also strictly maintained to ensure even distribution throughout the Majalengka Regency area. Agricultural Partners, through community-based community organizations, play a role in organizing farmers in the form of groups to actively participate in meeting family nutritional needs and increasing agricultural production through optimal land management. The Women Farmers Group focuses on fulfilling family nutrition, while Gapoktan aims to organize farmer groups, and Gempita acts as an organization to involve youth in the agricultural sector. Through these various roles, collaboration between various actors in Majalengka Regency is the key to achieving sustainable and inclusive food security.

The importance of a team consisting of various entities is crucial in facilitating the integration and control of programs and activities of the Majalengka Regency Agricultural Service. According to a research journal conducted by Rukmana (2020), the study highlights the organizational structure of the food security policy implementation network, which involves participation from various entities, including government institutions, non-government institutions, and community-based organizations (Community Based Organizations). Interaction patterns between actors are measured based on the frequency of contact in the food security policy implementation network, which includes the contribution made by each actor, the duration and high intensity of interaction, as well as the benefits or utility obtained by community-based organizations in implementing the program.

By having a well-structured team involving various related actors, the Majalengka Regency Food Security, Agriculture and Fisheries Service (DKPP) can be more effective in overseeing and coordinating the implementation of programs related to food security. The pattern of intense interaction between various actors shows the importance of close collaboration and cooperation between government, non-government entities and community-based organizations in order to achieve a common goal, namely realizing sustainable and equitable food security for all communities in Majalengka Regency. Thus, a strong organizational structure and effectively coordinated interactions will strengthen the implementation of food security policies at the local level, making Majalengka Regency an example of a successful model for increasing food security.

In order to achieve an effective food security policy, trust between the actors involved in the organizational network is crucial in ensuring a smooth process of interaction and program implementation. Therefore, the role of the Majalengka Regency Food Security, Agriculture and Fisheries Service (DKPP) is very important in supporting the achievement of food security in the region. Trust built through contractual agreements (agreement trust) plays an important role in ensuring the success of program implementation. This trust agreement includes an initial agreement approved by each relevant actor, where the DKPP working meeting results in the assignment of each Department as a member of the DKPP network organization.

As an effort to strengthen trust, the leadership of this sector was appointed by the Regent of Majalengka Regency as the main person responsible, with the results of this working meeting then submitted to DKPP for consideration in policy making. In order to support the establishment of trust between actors, the Head of Service plays an important role in coordinating the implementation of guidance, supervision and control of the preparation of the Service's Strategic Plan (RENSTRA), as well as annual planning documents. Thus, through built trust and well-coordinated leadership, DKPP Majalengka Regency can encourage effective collaboration between relevant actors in an effort to achieve optimal food security in the Majalengka Regency area. With solid coordination and responsible leadership, it is hoped that effective and sustainable policy implementation will be realized for the welfare of local communities.

Dabukke & Iqbal (2014) highlight the importance of anticipatory and strategic efforts in order to achieve sustainable food security. This strategy includes improving the quality of human resources in the agricultural sector nationally, developing integrated technology, innovation and knowledge networks, as well as strengthening coordination between stakeholders in the development of the agricultural sector. The main focus includes sustainable agribusiness development, increasing added value through value chain development, utilizing bioeconomy, and strengthening overall food security. By adopting these strategies, it is hoped that an agricultural system that is efficient, sustainable and capable of providing optimal benefits for community welfare and environmental sustainability can be realized.

In the context of managed information, there are differences in the coverage and quality of information between government, non-government entities and Agricultural Partners in the Majalengka Regency DKPP organizational network. The government tends

to have a wide range of information, although the quality of the information tends to be low. On the other hand, non-governmental entities tend to choose a more specific range of information, but the quality of the information is also often limited. However, Agricultural Partners show significant differences with government and non-government, in that they have access to more comprehensive and high-quality information.

DKPP Majalengka Regency provides an illustration that most areas in Majalengka are included in the top priority category, with adequate transportation access throughout the season, so that food supplies can be maintained smoothly. In carrying out his duties, the Head of the Majalengka Regency Food Security, Agriculture and Fisheries Service (DKPP) is the main person responsible for ensuring the smooth management of information and coordinating access to information needed to support food security in the region.

Given the differences in coverage and quality of information between various related entities, effective coordination and collaboration between them is key in ensuring the fulfillment of information needs required in efforts to achieve optimal food security in Majalengka Regency. Through structured and complementary collaboration between government, non-government and agricultural partners, it is hoped that a holistic and sustainable information system can be achieved that supports the effective implementation of food security programs.

In the food security policy implementation network, the type of coordination applied is the mutual adjustment type. The Majalengka Regency DKPP team, as a network organization consisting of various actors, works together to agree on programs and agencies that will be the leading sectors in implementing the program. However, in its implementation, the Majalengka Regency DKPP team still needs to improve the effectiveness of coordination between agencies related to food security. As a coordinating agency for actors involved in the food security policy implementation network, the Majalengka Regency DKPP is tasked with coordinating various agencies related to food security policy.

Inter-departmental meetings are held periodically every two years, coordinated by the food security council, where adjustments are made between the actors involved to ensure that the process of achieving food security policy goals can run effectively. Dependence on resources in the policy implementation process emphasizes the importance of coordination to direct the interaction process between various related agencies. The alignment process (mutual adjustment) is carried out in two stages, namely internal coordination within each agency and centralized coordination involving all agencies and coordinated by the Majalengka Regency DKPP.

From the explanation above, it can be seen that adjustments have been made in the implementation of food security policies through a planned coordination process. By ensuring effective coordination and synergy between various related agencies, it is hoped that it will be able to improve the performance of food security policy implementation in Majalengka Regency and support the realization of sustainable and inclusive food security for local communities.

CONCLUSION

This research highlights the importance of implementing food security policies in Majalengka Regency, which involves collaboration between various entities, including government, non-government and community-based organizations. In this context, it was found that coordination between the actors involved in the implementation network was carried out through a type of mutual adjustment, where there was a joint effort to align the programs and activities being implemented. The limited information and the different quality between government, non-government entities and Agricultural Partners emphasize the need for effective coordination in ensuring the smooth flow of information and access needed to support food security in Majalengka Regency. This coordination is carried out through cross-departmental meetings controlled by the Majalengka Regency DKPP as the main coordinating institution. Even though there are challenges in implementation, it is hoped that cooperation between agencies and planned coordination can strengthen efforts to achieve food security policy goals in Majalengka Regency. By adopting a mutual adjustment strategy and ongoing adjustments, it is hoped that sustainable, effective and inclusive food security can be achieved for local communities.

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