

Government Coordination In Implementing Stunting Weighing Operations In Kupang City

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui Koordinasi Pemerintah Dalam Pelaksanaan Operasi Penimbangan Stunting di Kota Kupang. Jenis penelitian yang digunakan adalah penelitian kualitatif. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pelaksanaan operasi stunting di Kota Kupang melibatkan koordinasi lintas sektoral. Ketersediaan data balita stunting akibat pelaksanaan operasi sebagai dasar dalam melakukan intervensi stunting di Kota Kupang. Berdasarkan bentuk koordinasi horizontal, meskipun lead sektornya ada di Dinas Kesehatan, namun koordinasi dengan lembaga setara sudah berjalan maksimal. Namun yang masih menjadi kendala dalam koordinasi vertikal adalah di tingkat masyarakat, sasaran penimbangan (balita) melibatkan partisipasi masyarakat dalam pelaksanaan operasi muatan. Meski tingkat kehadirannya cukup tinggi, namun tidak semua balita mengikuti kegiatan tersebut. Berdasarkan hal itu maka, koordinasi antar Lembaga pemerintahan, baik pusat, daerah, maupun local perlu lebih ditingkatkan lagi. Selain peningkatan koordinasi antar pemerintah, juga dibutuhkannya partisipasi masyarakat yang lebih efektif lagi. Koordinasi antar pemerintah dan partisipasi masyarakat merupakan kunci sukses untuk menangani permasalahan stunting di kota Kupang.

ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine Government Coordination in Implementing Stunting Weighing Operations in Kupang City. The type of research used is qualitative research. The research results show that the implementation of stunting operations in Kupang City involves cross-sectoral coordination. Availability of stunting toddler data as a result of carrying out operations as a basis for carrying out stunting interventions in Kupang City. Based on horizontal coordination, even though the leading sector is in the health office, coordination with equivalent institutions has been running optimally. However, vertical coordination is still a problem because the target for weighing (toddlers) at the community level involves community participation in load operations. Even though the level of attendance is relatively high, not all toddlers participate in these activities. *Based on this, coordination between central, regional, and local government institutions needs further improvement. Apart from increasing coordination between governments, more effective community participation is also required. Inter-governmental coordination and community participation are the keys to success in dealing with the stunting problem in Kupang.*

INTRODUCTION

Stunting is a crucial nutritional problem, especially in developing countries, and it is crucial to solve it. In Indonesia, one of the health problems that is relatively high is stunting. Stunting is a problem of chronic nutrition and malnutrition, which is characterized by a child's height being shorter than the standard for the children's age. Nutritional problems, especially for toddlers, can hinder children's development, with negative impacts that will occur in later life, such as intellectual decline, vulnerability to non-communicable diseases, decreased productivity, poverty, and the risk of giving birth to low-birth-weight babies (UNICEF, 2012; WHO, 2010).

Basic Health Research (Riskesdas) data shows that the prevalence of stunted toddlers in 2018

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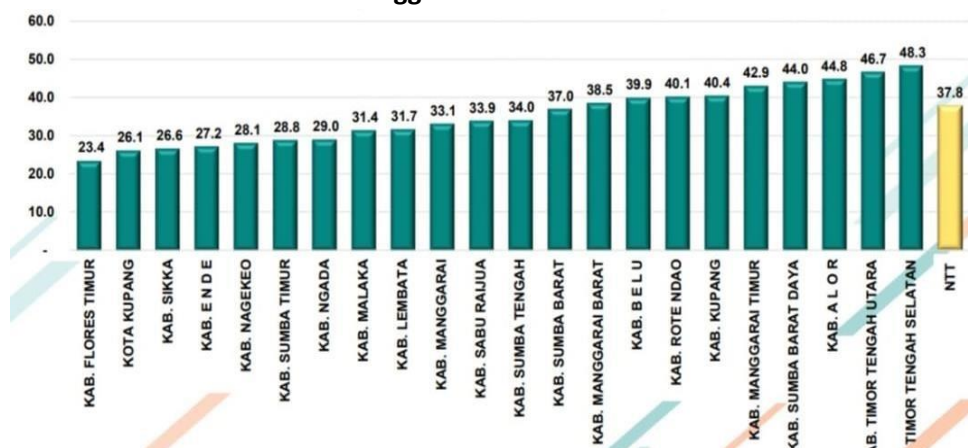
reached 30.8%. Indonesia itself is the country with the second highest number of stunted children in the Southeast Asia region and 5th in the world at that time. Meanwhile, the number of stunting cases in Indonesia based on 2021 SSGI data has decreased by 1.6% per year from 27.7% in 2019 to 24.4% in 2021. However, this figure is still within the upper threshold for stunting prevalence, namely 20% set by the World Health Organization (WHO), which is less than 20 percent. World Bank data for 2020 shows that Indonesia's stunting prevalence is 115th out of 151 countries in the world. This shows that Indonesia is experiencing quite severe public health problems in the case of stunting toddlers, still included in the high stunting prevalence group.

Presidential Regulation Number 72 of 2021 also establishes a Stunting Reduction Acceleration Team (TPPS) consisting of Directors and Implementers. The Vice President becomes the Chief Director, accompanied by the coordinating ministry for Human Development and Cultural Affairs and other ministers. Meanwhile, the Head of the National Population and Family Planning Board was appointed Chief Executive. Teams for the Acceleration of Reducing Stunting were also formed at the provincial, district/city and village/sub-district levels.

The government has established the National Action Plan for Accelerating the Reduction of Stunting (RAN PASTI) to encourage and strengthen convergence between programs in reducing stunting rates. The National Action Plan for the Accelerating the Reduction of Stunting in Indonesia is a derivative regulation or guideline from Presidential Decree Number 72 of 2021 concerning the Acceleration of Reducing Stunting, which will later be used as an implementation guide. The National Action Plan for Accelerating the Reduction of Stunting in Indonesia is an effort by the central government to consolidate or converge activities, programs, and budgets, which include regional governments, various stakeholders, and the private sector.

East Nusa Tenggara was recorded as the province with the highest national stunting rate in 2021. SSGI recorded that 37.8% of children under five in NTT were stunted. Based on data from the Indonesian Nutrition Status Study (SSGI), the following is stunting data for East Nusa Tenggara Stunting Province.

Figure 1.
Prevalence of Stunting Toddlers (Height According to Age) Based on Regency/City in East Nusa Tenggara Province 2021



Source: Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia (2021)

This data shows that stunting in Kupang is still relatively high, namely 26.1%. The stunting prevalence rate decreased by 4.6% based on the results of weighing operations for August

2022 to 21.5%. Even though there has been a decline, it has not fully reached the annual reduction target of 10%.

In carrying out stunting weighing operations, Kupang City Government continues to strive to target infants under five to optimize efforts to handle stunting and intervention from the government can be right on target implemented through coordination from interrelated agencies so that the government's efforts to reduce stunting can run well. The following is weighing operation data for the period August 2022 in Kupang City:

Table 1.
Weighing Operation Data for the Period August 2022

No	Subdistrict	Target	Target	Quantity Measured	Stunting	
		Projection	Real		Σ	%
1	Alak	6200	5575	5649	1173	21,4
2	Maulafa	7783	6832	5792	1391	24,0
3	Kota Radja	4596	3069	3056	466	15,2
4	Oebobo	8105	5198	4963	993	20,0
5	Kota Lama	2800	1954	1932	310	16,0
6	Kelapa Lima	6084	4592	4331	1164	26,9
Total		35.568	27220	25.543	5.497	21,5

Source: Lewokeda & Tokan (2022)

Based on the data above, it can be seen that the achievement of stunting weighing operations in Kupang City is relatively high and has almost reached 100% weighting. This is because the participation rate based on real targets was 93.8%. Of the real targets, there were 27,220 toddlers, while the number of toddlers weighed was 25,543. The gap or difference was 1,677 (6.2%). This condition is a problem that must be resolved immediately so that weighing operations can reach all toddlers.

Based on preliminary observations by researchers, coordination between the relevant parties has been running optimally. This can be seen from the weighing results based on real targets. What is still a problem is community participation as a target. Although 25,543 toddlers have been weighed, 1,677 have not been weighed, which is quite a large number. Not all toddlers come to the *Posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) because parents do not have time or work, and access to information and places is far away, so the achievement of visits by toddlers or toddlers coming and being weighed is reduced.

Inter-governmental cooperation and community involvement are crucial to deal with the problem of stunting. Governments from various fields, such as health, education, and social affairs, must work together to organize programs to help overcome stunting (Sumiaty S. et al., 2023). That way, existing resources can be utilized optimally, and an approach involving various sectors can be carried out as a whole. The government has implemented various initiatives to coordinate and participate in weighing operations to combat stunting (<https://en.antaranews.com>). However, there are challenges in coordinating stunting reduction programs at the district level, including poor coordination between Community Health Centers and village governments in procuring weighing equipment and weak cross-

sectoral collaboration between government agencies (Syafrawati, S., et al. 2023). In addition, village government capacity is vital in coordinating the implementation of stunting prevention activities at the local level, and it is essential to strengthen monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of stunting prevention services (Iryani, R. Y., et al. 2022).

Not only the government, but active participation from the community is also crucial. The role of parents and families in increasing awareness about nutrition and health for children is significant (Sadariah, S., et al. 2023). To increase this participation, an educational approach needs to be taken (KURNIAWAN, M. 2017). For example, by increasing understanding of the negative impacts of stunting and facilitating access to health services, such as routine weighing at *Posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) or the nearest health facility. If the government can work efficiently between agencies and the community is actively involved, then the problem of stunting can be overcome comprehensively with an integrated and sustainable approach.

Based on the problems above, the author is interested in studying "Government Coordination in Implementing Stunting Weighing Operations in Kupang City."

Literature Review

Weighing Operations

Weighing is the first step in monitoring a child's growth and development. Routine weighing is carried out every month at the *Posyandu* (Integrated Service Post); this aims to find out or early detect whether the baby/toddler is sick or not, complete immunizations, and receive nutritional education.

Weighing operations are carried out to follow up on the weighing results. Weighing operations are carried out in all *Posyandu* (Integrated Service Post), with activities including weighing all toddlers, filling out KMS to capture BGM and toddlers who do not gain weight twice in a row, recording BGM and 2T toddlers, providing health and nutrition education, as well as recording and reporting SKDN (Department of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, 2009).

Nutrition Officers in weighing operations monitor, recapitulate data and evaluate weighing operation activities. The SKDN beam or bar is about the number of all toddlers who live in the *Posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) working area, the number of toddlers who have KMS or KIA books, the number of toddlers who come on *Posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) opening days, and the number of toddlers whose weight scales increase (Republic of Indonesia Ministry of Health & Pokjanal Posyandu, 2011). Indicators of the strategy's success in increasing the weight of toddlers in *Posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) can be seen from the process and final indicators. The final indicator is increasing D/S coverage. D/S is a ratio of the attendance rate of children under five at posyandu (Republic of Indonesia Ministry of Health & Pokjanal Posyandu, 2011).

Stunting

Stunting is a condition when a toddler has a height below average. This is due to the nutritional intake not meeting needs over a long period (Republic of Indonesia Ministry of Health, 2018). According to Minister of Health Decree no. 1995/MENKES/SK/XII/2010 dated 30 December 2010 concerning Anthropometric Standards for Assessment of Children's Nutritional Status, the definition of short and very short is nutritional status based on the index of body length according to age

(PB/U) or height according to age (TB/ U) which is the term stunting or severe. A short toddler (stunting) can be identified if the toddler's length or height can be measured, then compared with the 2005 WHO-MGRS (Multicentre Growth Reference Study) standard and obtained a z-score <-2 SD. In contrast, it is said to be very short if the z-score results <-3 SD (Republic of Indonesia Ministry of Health, 2016).

One way to detect children affected by stunting is by monitoring their weight, especially up to the age of two years. Weight loss is one of the risks of stunting. If your weight starts to drop continuously, you can become stunted. So that children do not suffer from stunting, it is best to pay attention to the early signs, namely if the child's weight gain is less than 750 grams in the first three months. Furthermore, if a child is under one year old, their weight does not increase by 100 grams; for children over one-year-old, it does not increase by 50 grams a week. The easiest symptom to recognize is a child whose height is less than 85 cm at the age of 2 years. If these symptoms are not treated, they will be fatal. Children will experience permanent stunting and lose their ability to grow until adulthood.

Efforts to Handle Stunting

Prevention efforts can be carried out with specific nutritional interventions and sensitive nutrition (Yanti,. [All](#), 2020). Specific Nutritional Interventions are aimed at children in the First 1,000 Days of Life (HPK). The health sector generally carries out this activity. Specific interventions are short-term, and results can be recorded relatively quickly. Sensitive Nutrition Interventions are interventions aimed at various development activities outside the health sector. The target is the general public, not specifically.

Efforts to accelerate the handling of stunting will be more effective if specific and sensitive nutritional interventions are carried out convergently. Convergence is an approach to delivering interventions to priority targets carried out in a coordinated, integrated, and joint manner to prevent stunting.

Add 2-3 sentences at the end of the literature review regarding the novelty of your research/Novelty>

This research aims to determine government coordination in implementing the Stunting Weighing Operation in Kupang City. To achieve the research objectives, the researcher refers to the theory of Syafiie (2011, p. 35), which states that forms of coordination consist of:

a. Horizontal Coordination

Horizontal coordination is the harmonious and synchronous alignment of cooperation between equal institutions.

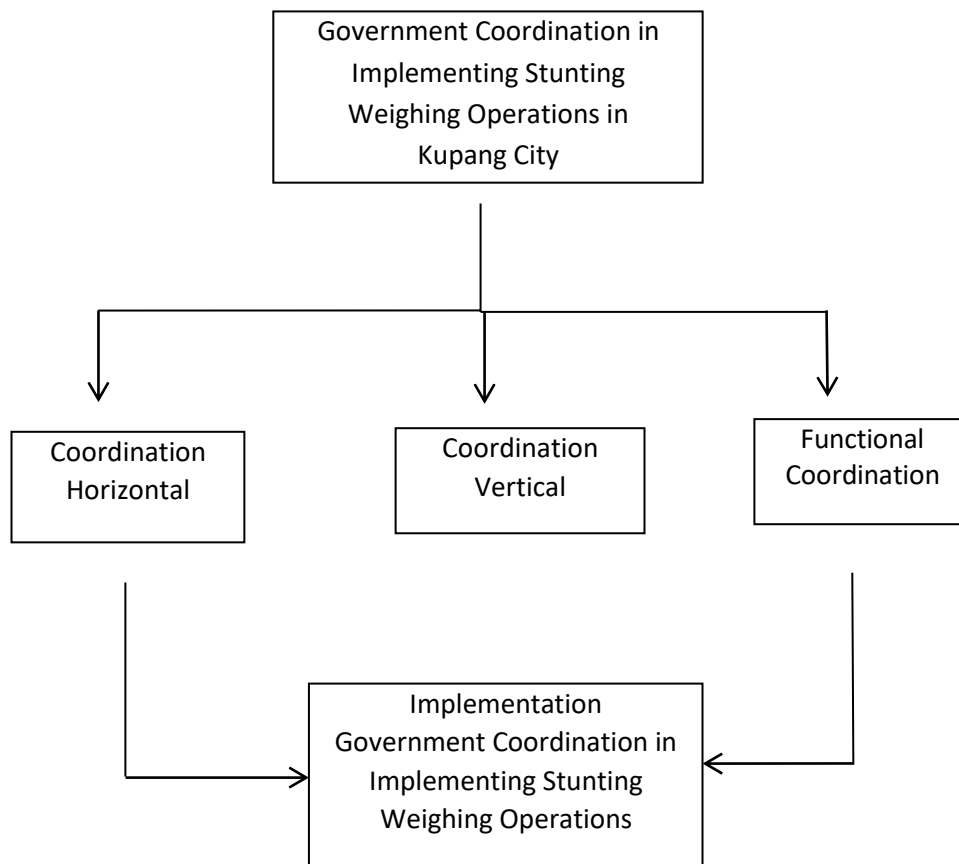
b. Vertical Coordination

Vertical Coordination is the harmonious and synchronous alignment of cooperation from institutions of a higher level to other institutions of a lower level.

c. Functional Coordination

Functional Coordination is the harmonious and synchronous alignment of cooperation between institutions with similar work functions.

Figure 2.
Thinking Framework Image



Source: Syafiie (2011, p. 35)

RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses qualitative research. Qualitative research is a research method that focuses attention on the general principles that underlie the manifestation of symptom units in human social life. The type of approach used in this research is case study research.

Thus, in qualitative research, the things that must be considered are the problem and focus of the research because they provide boundaries for research.

Table 2.
Research Focus and Sub-Focus

Focus	Operational definition	Sub Focus
Horizontal Coordination	Coordination between equivalent institutions.	Coordination between the Health Service, BKKBN and DP3A
Vertical Coordination	Coordination between institutions of the same level is higher than those of a lower level.	Coordination between the sub-district and sub-district parties and between the Community Health Center and the Posyandu reaches the community.
Functional Coordination	Coordination between institutions that have similarities function in work.	Coordination of Universities, NGOs and Churches with related OPDs.

Source: Processed by the author 2023

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In describing coordination in handling stunting in Kupang City, researchers used Syafiie's theory (2011, p. 35) which consists of three dimensions, namely horizontal coordination, vertical coordination and functional coordination. Researchers will describe the data obtained from interviews and document studies related to the coordination of handling stunting in Kupang City using three dimensions.

Horizontal Coordination

Horizontal coordination is the harmonious and synchronous alignment of cooperation between equal institutions that handle Kupang City's stunting. The agencies handling stunting in Kupang City, especially in carrying out weighing operations based on horizontal coordination, consist of the Health Service, BKKBN, and DP3A (Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service).

a) The role of the Health Service

The role of Kupang City Health Service in handling stunting is more of a specific form of nutritional intervention, which means directly addressing the target. Specific nutritional interventions are efforts to prevent and reduce nutritional problems directly. The health sector generally carries out this activity with a specific target group of 1000 HPK (pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and children 0 – 23 months). Activities include providing additional blood medication to teenagers and pregnant women, providing additional food to pregnant women and toddlers at *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post), immunizations, checking prospective brides and grooms, and checking children for stunting and wasting.

This information is based on the statement conveyed by Mr. Olden Stefens Mbeo as Public Health Staff, who said:

"The role of Kupang City Health Service in efforts to handle stunting works in specific handling efforts or direct handling of targets, such as interventions for young women, pregnant women, prospective brides and toddlers. The Health Service handles these specific activities."

Some specific interventions that the health service in Kupang City has carried out include Interventions for young women, pregnant women, prospective brides and grooms, and toddlers.

b) The role of BKKBN

It is essential to know that stunting can be overcome so that it does not become stunted in the first 1000 days of life. The focus is on groups of pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and children under two years old. So, up to the age of two years, intervention can still be done to prevent stunting. This is the right target for an accelerated program to improve nutrition in the first 1000 days of birth. Apart from that, in overcoming stunting, the BKKBN assists families and prospective couples of childbearing age before pregnancy by encouraging prospective brides and grooms to undergo examinations before getting married or becoming pregnant.

This information is based on the statement submitted by Mrs. Dr. Marsiana Halek as Secretary of BKKBN, who said:

"BKKBN's role in prevention is to focus more on 1000 HPK. There is a program for accompanying prospective brides and grooms, assisting pregnant women and mothers after giving birth. "In the prevention program, there is family development for children under five so that children have adequate nutrition and do not lead to malnutrition or stunting."

There is also a program from BKKBN, namely PIK-RR. This information follows the statement conveyed by Mrs. Dr. Marsiana Halek as Secretary of BKKBN, who said:

"From toddlers to teenagers. There is something called PIK-KRR. "This is one of the sub-programs owned by BKKBN which focuses more on teenagers as the subject of counseling."

PIK-KRR is related to how teenagers have a healthy lifestyle or healthy behavior so that later, when they enter the family stage, they are mentally, emotionally, and economically ready. In this way, we will be able to create superior future generations.

Apart from that, BKKBN also has a program to audit stunting cases. This information is by the statement conveyed by Mrs. Dr. Marsiana Halek as Secretary of BKKBN, who said:

"The BKKBN program, as I said, assists prospective brides and grooms, pregnant women, and post-natal mothers. Then there is an audit of stunting cases, family support teams, and family planning villages."

Audit of stunting cases as an effort to prevent stunting cases. Auditing stunting cases means auditing stunting cases in the community so that it is known what problems exist in the community so that editing occurs. Thus, it will be followed up when the root of the problem or stunting case in society is known. Apart from that, there is also a family support team. With the existence of a family assistance team, it is to assist families who have the potential for stunting.

c) The role of DP3A

Concerning its role in the stunting problem, DP3A itself has one role related to data availability. This data is, of course, related to community participation in weighing operations in the February and August periods.

This information is by the statement conveyed by Mr. Dinson D.L Ludji, S.Sos, M.Si as Head of the Fulfillment of Children's Rights, who said:

"The specific role of DP3A is regarding the amount of data. "After we got the data on the implementation of the weighing operation, we verified it and recapped it again from that data."

Another role of DP3A is to carry out outreach with the PKK team. This socialization is related to the problem of stunting and directing or explaining how they work in each sub-district. One of them is in the Naimata sub-district; a team has been formed to do grocery shopping and cook, and also, a team to provide food.

This information is by the statement conveyed by Mr. Dinson D.L Ludji, S.Sos, M.Si as Head of the Fulfillment of Children's Rights, who said:

"We have now entered the collaboration stage with Kupang City PKK to socialize the acceleration of handling and reducing stunting and how it works in each sub-district PKK."

Based on this, DP3A, together with PKK, is included in the role of specific intervention or direct intervention to targets through the provision of food. The PKK (Family Empowerment and Welfare) Mobilization Team at the provincial, district, sub-district and village levels are invited to pay attention to efforts to deal with stunting that must be supported and successful.

In handling stunting in Kupang City, the TPPS (Stunting Reduction Acceleration Team) was formed, consisting of regional apparatus organizations (OPD) related to the stunting problem. This team moves or coordinates across sectors to reduce the stunting rate and make coordination easier.

This information is based on the statement conveyed by Mr. Olden Stefens Mbeo as Public Health Staff at Kupang City Health Service, who said:

"Now we have TPPS. So all OPDs related to reducing stunting are in the team, and coordination becomes easier. "And there are areas for handling each one, both specific and sensitive."

The formation of this TPPS facilitates coordination between sectors responsible for their respective roles. Everything included in the TPPs has its own specific and sensitive handling areas—for example, the health service works in specific areas of intervention and other OPDs.

Data from weighing results is fundamental to knowing how many children receive intervention to treat stunting. The problem of stunting is a collective problem, not the responsibility of the Health Service alone. Thus, the Health Service coordinates with BKKBN, DP3A, and various other cross-sector parties to achieve the stunting reduction target. If we work together, it will be more effective or faster; for example, in carrying out this weighing operation, BKKBN and DP3A act as drivers and monitor its implementation.

This information follows the statement conveyed by Mrs. Dr. Marsiana Halek as Secretary of BKKBN, who said:

"In the mobilization of the BKKBN, the Health Service carries it out."

During the weighing operation, Kupang City BKKBN helped mobilize parents and the community so that all children participated in being weighed at the designated location. Meanwhile, determining whether a child is stunted is the Health Service's authority based on the results of measurements carried out by health workers.

The information regarding the implementation of the weighing operation is also by the statement conveyed by Mr. Dinson D.L Ludji, S.Sos, M.Si as Head of the Fulfillment of Children's Rights, who said:

"In carrying out the weighing operation, we took part in mobilizing the community to take part in this activity because most people are afraid to come to health facilities due to trauma due to the impact of Covid."

DP3A and BKKBN are both activators and participate in monitoring the implementation of weighing operations. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in less public participation or many people being afraid to go to health facilities, including *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) to take part in weighing.

Vertical Coordination

Vertical coordination is the harmonious and synchronous alignment of cooperation from institutions of a higher level to other institutions of a lower level. The agencies involved in handling stunting, especially in carrying out weighing operations in Kupang City, are based on this second form of coordination, starting from the sub-district level, sub-district level, the community health center level, *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post), and up to the community level.

Accelerating stunting reduction must be a top priority program for regional governments with high stunting rates. This requires support from all available resources to ensure that all forms of intervention are carried out well. In this way, sub-district and village heads are proactive in implementing the acceleration of stunting reduction. At the sub-district level, sub-district heads can hold regular meetings to monitor stunting conditions at the sub-district level in their area.

This information is by the statement conveyed by Mr. Nikodemus Kalle, S. Sos as Secretary of the Oebobo District Head, who said:

"The sub-district head or sub-district officials can hold regular meetings to monitor stunting conditions at the sub-district level so that planning and implementation are data-based. So we are going down based on data, not just going downhill like that."

The sub-district government in Kupang City implements a foster father system or pattern to encourage the acceleration of handling stunting. As a form of support for the direction and policy of Kupang Mayor officials in handling and preventing stunting, a foster parent pattern is implemented for stunted children. Handling stunting using the foster parent system is already underway and showing encouraging results.

As the smallest government units at the city level, subdistricts have a strategic role in accelerating stunting reduction. The government at the sub-district level is very important in handling stunting concerning data because sub-districts are close to the community. To reduce the stunting rate in Kupang City, sub-district and sub-district authorities find out or monitor the condition of their residents, for example, during *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post). This is very important to improve the reduction in stunting cases in Kupang City. By knowing the residents' condition and their complete data, it will be easy to carry out various treatments.

This information is in accordance with the statement submitted by Mr. Robert C.H. Ndolu as community service staff in TDM Village said:

"Together with several parties, we carried out data collection and monitoring at the lowest level, namely posyandu."

Prevention and management of stunting is still a government priority. Community health centers are one of the critical pillars in overcoming the stunting problem in Indonesia. Oepoi Community Health Center Nutrition Manager, Mrs. Herlina Tandirerung said:

"The role of community health centers is very important in handling stunting cases, where community health centers must be able to collect data or obtain data about stunting cases and create mapping."

In collecting data on stunting, health workers from the community health center and cadres collect data at each *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post). The community health center visited RT-RT to collect data on all toddlers. Health workers collect data and measure the height and weight of children under five. This data collection aims to determine malnutrition status, including stunting, in Kupang City. Apart from collecting data, the *puskesmas* (Community Health Center) also maps stunting cases in its work area. After that, proceed with the handling action plan. In this way, the reduction in the number of stunting cases will undoubtedly increase.

Oepoi Community Health Center Nutrition Manager, Mrs. Herlina Tandirerung also stated that:

"So far, the programs we have created to accelerate stunting reduction include carrying out weighing and measurements, providing vitamins, nutritional counseling for mothers under five and pregnant women, and providing blood supplement tablets for young women."

Stunting in children can be prevented by fulfilling the mother's balanced nutritional intake from the pre-conception (fertilization) period until the 1000 hpk period. The next step is to monitor the health and development of toddlers through Integrated Service Posts (Posyandu). Posyandu Melati Liliba cadre, Mrs. Wihelmina Subnafeu said:

"The role of posyandu can help deal with stunting. The special role of posyandu is preventing stunting during the toddler years. "We also often provide counseling about nutrition for mothers of toddlers."

Parents' awareness of coming to have their children checked at the *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) is essential because routine checks such as weighing and measuring the child's height at the *posyandu* aim to monitor the child's development. With these routine checks, if there is a growth disorder in a child, it can be detected and identified early. Therefore, one of the things that *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) cadres do is encourage and remind parents to take their children to posyandu (Integrated Service Post).

One of the obstacles to carrying out weighing operations is public awareness of participating in carrying out weighing operations. Mr Nikodemus Kalle, S. Sos as Secretary of the Oebobo District Head, said:

"The most important thing is how to motivate people to come. Sometimes, it is time. Like yesterday's example here, the sub-district left and the health workers were already there. However, the number of people who come is not yet completely on target. "You have to do another sweeping before you come to the posyandu."

In efforts to accelerate stunting reduction, cross-sector collaboration is needed. Accelerating stunting reduction is not only carried out by health service providers but must also involve regional apparatus organizations in Kupang City to coordinate together. Coordination is essential in development because its implementation involves more than one government agency. The second part is related to the implementation of vertical coordination. Vertical

coordination is defined as aligning cooperation harmoniously and synchronously from institutions of a higher level to other institutions of a lower level.

Coordination at the sub-district level with sub-district levels in handling stunting in Kupang City is in accordance with the statement made by Mr. Nikodemus Kalle, S. Sos as Secretary of the Oebobo Sub-district Head, who said:

"Stunting is mostly in sub-districts. Well, we got that data from them. "So, the sub-districts coordinate concerning data, because that data is the target for interventions to prevent stunting."

Information regarding coordination between sub-district and village parties was also conveyed by Mr. Robert C.H. Ndolu as community service staff in TDM Village said:

"We and the sub-district have one line of command to work together in handling stunting."

Next is related to vertical coordination between community health centers and *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) in handling stunting. Please note that this puskesmas (Community Health Center) always receives direction from the Health Service. Oepoi Community Health Center Nutrition Manager, Mrs. Herlina Tandirerung stated that:

"We always coordinate with the department, especially regarding department programs. We are carrying out this program together, one of which is handling stunting. Because our health centers are ready to be regulated by the department."

The implementation of the stunting weighing operation month is critical. The aim is to monitor the growth and development of children by weighing their body weight and measuring their length/height to determine the condition of their toddler. Kupang City Government, through the Health Service and regional apparatus organizations (OPD) related to handling stunting in Kupang City, continues to strive to find targets for babies under five to be weighed and their height measured. The officers carried out sweeping around every sub-district in Kupang City area.

Mr. Nikodemus Kalle, S. Sos also conveyed information regarding the implementation of the weighing operation as Secretary of the Oebobo District Head, who said:

"Almost every day throughout the weighing operation period, it continues to fall. That is from 9 to noon. "That is in all sub-districts, in the seven sub-districts in Oebobo."

In vertical coordination, they cover sub-districts, sub-districts, community health centers, and *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) to the community as program targets. Factors including working parents also cause the low attendance rate of children under five; some still do not understand the importance of *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post), the factor of residents' movement or entry and exit, and access to information. The population movement factor influences the attendance rate at *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post); for example, the names of toddlers are still recorded even though they are no longer in the area. In this regard, sub-district heads, village heads, community health centers and *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post) need to strengthen communication with the community and invite community participation so that they want to participate in carrying out weighing operations.

Functional Coordination

Functional Coordination is the alignment of cooperation in a harmonious and synchronous manner between institutions with similar work functions, for example, universities with the same function or responsibility as the government in handling stunting problems. Based on this third form of coordination, the institutions involved in handling stunting in Kupang City consist of universities, social institutions and churches.

a) Higher Education (Nusa Cendana University)

Universities have a strategic role in preventing and handling stunting. Information regarding the role of higher education (Nusa Cendana University) was conveyed by Mr. Dr. William Djani, M.Si, who said:

"The role of universities is quite large, even though that task falls to the BKKBN and related agencies. However, universities are also given a role in handling stunting, namely in providing ideas or education regarding how to handle stunting. The following role is to carry out research and work in various regions related to the problem of stunting. This research has recommendations as material for decision-making regarding handling stunting. Another role is in scientific seminars or scientific discussions."

Universities also collaborate to overcome the problem of stunting. Universities accelerate stunting reduction through education, research and community service. Undana, one of the universities in East Nusa Tenggara Province, is participating in efforts to accelerate stunting reduction. To reduce and realize stunting-free NTT, the Undana Stunting Team collaborates with the business world, Kreasi Reka (Kedaireka) and BKKBN. This collaboration program was implemented through the intervention program "Transformation of the Economic Structure of Rural Households through Optimizing the Five Pillars to Overcome Stunting and Pentahelix Synergy Towards Stunting Free NTT 2024". Apart from that, there is also an Undana student KKN program. For this reason, some time ago, Undana KKN students' activities carried a strategic theme, namely stunting. Apart from that, the State Administration Science study program at Nusa Cendana University held a national seminar with the theme "Stunting Free Indonesia: Synergistic Action to Achieve SDGs Goals in 2030". Things like this certainly positively impact overcoming the stunting problem in Indonesia, especially in NTT.

Information regarding coordination between universities and the government was conveyed by Mr. Dr. William Djani, M.Si, who said:

"Handling stunting involves many elements, not only universities and the government. Nevertheless, it also involves elements of society, the business world, and who must work together."

Handling stunting will be better if it is carried out in a multi-sector manner that must collaborate or coordinate in terms of handling stunting. Because the stunting rate in NTT is relatively high, there must be cross-sector coordination, consisting of universities, local government, the private sector, and other elements that work together well and synergize with each other to accelerate stunting reduction. Coordination between universities and the regional government of Kupang City is a strategic step to achieve the stunting reduction target.

b) Community Social Institutions (Church World Service/CWS)

Reducing the stunting rate is the role of the government and social organizations such as Church World Service/CWS to take steps forward with the community to save the nation's

future generations from the problem of stunting. So basically, NGOs do not work much differently from the government.

This information is based on the statement submitted by Mr. Vinsen Surma as, Program Manager at Church World Service, who said:

"So, basically, this is the basic understanding of NGO work, namely helping the government build/help the government develop society in any way. So if you look at NGOs, the way they work is not much different from the government."

The way NGOs work is not much different from the government. What makes the difference can be seen from the triangular cooperative relationship between the government, the private sector and society. This NGO comes from the community side.

Furthermore, he explained that the government has a big responsibility. Where all sectors are considered and all of them have funds. However, if divided in detail, sometimes the funds are limited to finance these programs. Due to limited funds to achieve the government's targets, that is where NGOs come in. For example, in nutrition, the government is preparing to provide additional food to rehabilitate malnutrition; sometimes, there are limitations to the community's many needs. That is where NGOs come in, both in specific and sensitive interventions.

Regarding coordination with the government, Mr. Vinsen Surma, as Program Manager at Church World Service, said:

"The first thing is to have the same understanding of not letting NGOs contradict the government. One way to have the same understanding is through workshops on situation assessment."

NGOs and the government must have the same understanding in coordinating stunting handling. For this reason, a workshop was held regarding situation assessment because every action taken certainly has specific considerations and the results of stunting data collection were presented in the workshop.

Furthermore, he explained that "NGOs do not work outside the programs launched by the local government." The problem of stunting is now one of the government's focuses. So when the government plans to focus on handling stunting, NGOs participate in it.

c) Church

As an effort to support the reduction of stunting rates in Kupang City, the role of religious figures and religious institutions is a strategy that is considered effective in reaching all levels of society, especially in Kupang City, in providing education and information on preventing stunting through routine religious activities in the community.

This statement is in accordance with the statement made by Father Deo Parera, who stated:

"So far, we have preached to families, especially how to pay attention to a good life for children, children's growth, preparation for the birth of children."

Religious figures are a source of knowledge apart from conveying religious values and messages. Therefore, fast work and intelligence are needed, and, most importantly, coordination of all parties, including the active participation of religious figures in Kupang City. Religious figures usually preach and convey information through sermons during worship or mass celebrations. He also said that:

"From health institutions comes outreach in churches regarding church stunting and frequent dialogue and joint discussions between the government and priests."

Furthermore, he explained that in the coordination meeting, not only regional organizations were involved, but even in the TPPS coordination meeting, religious figures were also involved. Meanwhile, in supporting the implementation of weighing operations, the Church's contribution is in forwarding or conveying information to the public during mass celebrations regarding the implementation of weighing operations in its area.

In measuring the implementation of coordination, it is reviewed using the following themes or indicators:

1. Coordination regarding Time

The toddler weighing operation, carried out routinely every February and August, involves weighing and measuring height in all areas. This activity aims to determine the nutritional status of toddlers so that they can anticipate cases of malnutrition and stunting as early as possible and map nutritionally vulnerable areas.

This information is based on the statement conveyed by Mr. Olden Stefens Mbeo as Public Health Staff, who said:

"For the weighing operation itself, pre-implementation, we held a coordination meeting and issued a circular regarding the weighing operation. If, during the weighing, everyone also coordinates, when the weighing is carried out at the posyandu, all OPDs or stakeholders are active. Then, after weighing, there is data input."

In order to improve health services for toddlers and monitor the growth and development of toddlers according to standards at Posyandu, and also to increase the role of cross-sectors regarding the implementation of weighing operations for the February and August periods in Kupang City, starting with a coordination meeting between related sectors.

2. Coordination of Facilities and Infrastructure Resources

Apart from the mentioned facilities and infrastructure, weighing operations are also significant. Information regarding weighing facilities and infrastructure was conveyed by Mr. Olden Stefens Mbeo as Staff for Public Health, who said:

"For infrastructure, incidentally, the budgeting system is the department's planning, and then it goes to Bapeda. "For carrying out weighing operations, the technicalities and so on, for example the preparation of anthropometric equipment and so on, we plan it from the department."

In connection with the availability of supporting infrastructure for weighing operations, it is proposed through official planning to Bapeda. For weighing operation equipment, for example anthropometry and so on, these are planned by the relevant agencies. For the budget, for example for 2022 and 2023, the department has a budget. It was preceded by planned and then proposed. If the proposed budget is approved, funds and infrastructure will be procured.

3. Coordination of Budget/Cost Resources

In terms of resources to support and finance stunting management programs, they are channeled through institutions to reduce the prevalence of stunting. Therefore, all related institutions or OPDs that have a role in handling stunting are allocated through health

operational assistance. Before assigning the relevant OPD, propose the program to Bapeda for verification.

Mr. Olden Stefens Mbeo as Public Health Staff at Kupang City Health Service said:

"Each OPD prepares all costs for handling stunting. Then, Bapeda will check again regarding these funds."

For all stunting handling costs, everything is prepared by each OPD based on their respective programs or activities and proposed to Bapeda. At Bapeda, the proposals from each OPD will then be verified again. In Kupang City itself, a subdistrict should be designated as the locus, so that any budget from each OPD related to handling stunting is then allocated to that area.

Furthermore, he explained that in terms of financial resources, the beginning of 2022 was still constrained due to the problem of refocusing the budget for various activities for handling Covid. However, for 2023, Kupang City Government has provided a budget of IDR 18.2 billion for handling stunting in 2023. This budget is an effort to achieve the target of reducing the prevalence of stunting in Kupang City to 10% in 2023.

1) Human Resources

Quality and professional human resources are some of the most important resources as implementing agents for activities or policies to carry out their duties well and optimally.

Mr. Olden Stefens Mbeo as Public Health Staff at Kupang City Health Service said:

"In terms of implementation, for example, we at the Health Service have staff who we call professional and they work based on their function."

Human resources as the technical team carrying out the weighing are health workers—Kupang City Health Service is the coordinator in carrying out weighing operations. The health department has professional staff consisting of functional nutritionists, nurses, midwives, doctors, and other community health centers. These actors are field technical health workers who coordinate with other related OPDs from BBKBN, DP3A, sub-district heads, and village heads in Kupang City, whose role is to reach the community and target groups in weighing operations.

2) Coordination in Sweeping

Kupang City Government, through the Health Service and regional apparatus organizations (OPD) related to handling stunting in Kupang City, continues to try to find targets for babies under five to be weighed and measured for height. If toddlers are not present at the *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post), officers will sweep around each sub-district from house to house to weigh the children.

Mr. Olden Stefens Mbeo as Public Health Staff at Kupang City Health Service said:

"For sweeping, you have to coordinate. We are the technical implementers. Meanwhile, the target drivers are from sub-districts, rt/rw. Sweeping means that if we go alone we will have difficulty. So you really have to coordinate. For example, we have agreed on the sweeping schedule the day after or whenever. Well, there is coordination. "Who moves the target, then where is the place, then the health worker must be there to carry out weighing activities."

Optimizing coordination, all leaders of relevant regional apparatus organizations (OPD), sub-district heads, village heads, and rt/rw throughout Kupang City encourage and provide

awareness for the community to obtain essential health services. For this reason, officers carried out sweeps with related OPDs and sub-district heads, village heads, and rt/rw from house to house to weigh children. Data on e-PPGM shows that during the August 2022 weighing operation, related parties provided services to 25,543 babies under five who had been weighed and had their height measured, out of a total of 27,219 targets recorded.

3) Communication

In carrying out weighing operations within Kupang City area, the relevant OPD coordinates through direct and indirect communication, such as coordination meetings and letters.

As explained by Mr Olden Stefens Mbeo as Public Health Staff at Kupang City Health Service, he said:

"There are many forms of coordination, including through meetings, letters and even communication channels."

Furthermore, he explained that coordination meetings were held before and after the weighing operation involving several related institutions such as Kupang City BKKBN, DP3A, sub-district, sub-district, community health centers and *posyandu* (Integrated Service Post). Then, each sub-district on day 7 held another coordination meeting, and day three was held at the sub-district level in Kupang City.

The last is a medium for disseminating information to stakeholders and the public regarding weighing operations through communication media such as WhatsApp, Instagram, Facebook and radio.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of the analysis in the research discussion and findings in the field regarding government coordination in implementing stunting weighing operations in Kupang City, it can be concluded that coordination from the relevant OPD has been running optimally. Based on horizontal coordination, even though the leading sector is in the health service, coordination with equivalent institutions has been running optimally. However, vertical coordination is still a problem at the community level, as the weighing target (toddlers) requires community participation to be involved in carrying out weighing operations. Even though the attendance rate is relatively high, not all toddlers participate in these activities. Apart from that, there is a lack of budget allocation in early 2022 because part of the budget is being refocused on handling Covid-19 and a lack of supporting facilities for weighing operations. Meanwhile, functional coordination is coordination from institutions with similar functions to related institutions in handling stunting. In this case, these institutions contribute with their respective activities. Therefore, coordination between central, regional, and local governments needs to be improved to overcome the stunting problem. Apart from inter-governmental coordination, community participation is also needed. Active participation from the community is the key to alleviating the stunting problem. One solution to increase participation can be an educational approach.

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