



Assessment of the Programme to Empower Rural Communities to Pasi Timur, Lolayan, and Lolak District in the Regency of Bolaang Mongondow Indonesia

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Abstract

This research has the scope of the empowerment of the rural community. In accordance with Law Number 6 of 2014 regarding Villages, National Development focuses on villages with the principle of sovereign villages. The Cash Work Intensive Program in The Villages (PKTD) is an activity to empower rural communities, especially the productive poor and marginal, by prioritizing the use of local resources, labour and technology to provide additional wages/income, increase purchasing power, reduce poverty, and at the same time support the reduction of stunting rates. This is a program directed by the president, which is carried out for all villages in Indonesia. Methods: The research is qualitative descriptive research. Research in this model is primarily semi-qualitative as it always uses theory as a research guide. The purpose of this model research is to describe, and summarize various conditions, various situations, or various phenomena of existing social reality, then try to draw reality to the surface as a feature, character, trait, model, sign, or description of the condition, or specific phenomenon. This format focuses on a particular unit of the phenomenon. Result; The village infrastructure that was built in the three villages was the construction of village road access to community plantation locations which were initially impassable by motorized vehicles, the construction of village halls for various purposes of village activities, construction of village fields. Second point. Empowerment policies in the form of the Cash Intensive Village programme in three sub-districts of the Bolaang Mongondow district continue to be effective in encouraging village growth. This program turned out to be a stimulant for various village economic activities. Conclusion; Community and Village Empowerment Policy through the "Village Cash Intensive Work" Program is still effective and efficient in encouraging village development.

Keywords: *Empowerment; Rural; Assesment; Programme*

Introduction

The main program of the Indonesian Ministry of Villages for Development of Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration is to build villages using a participatory, bottom-up method and to prioritize

the creation of the rural community. In accordance with Law Number 6 of 2014 regarding Villages, National Development focuses on villages with the principle of sovereign villages. Meanwhile, the data from the Central Bureau of Statistics of North Sulawesi for 2021 shows that out of 15 (fifteen) districts/cities in North Sulawesi, the poverty percentage rate for Bolaang Mongondow district is 7.58% or is in the 6th (sixth) lowest after the city of Bitung (6.43%) (Central Bureau of Statistics for North Sulawesi Province, 2021). The change in the poverty rate from year to year is small, around 0.1%. Various central government programs aimed at reducing poverty have also entered this district, one of which is the Cash Labor Intensive Program. The Cash Work Intensive Program in The Villages (PKTD) is an activity to empower rural communities, especially the productive poor and marginal, by prioritizing the use of local resources, labour and technology to provide additional wages/income, increase purchasing power, reduce poverty, and at the same time support the reduction of stunting rates. This is a program directed by the president, which is carried out for all villages in Indonesia. There are six essential things that are the essence of this program, namely, Inclusive, Participative, Transparent and Accountable, Efficient, Self-help and management, and the issue of giving wages.

In Bolaang Mongondow Regency, the PKTD Program was also implemented in 200 villages in 15 existing sub-districts. The problem is that at least over a period of nearly five years (2017-2022), the political objectives have met. However, the poverty rates described above raised questions about the implementation of the PKTD programme in that district.

So based on the description above, the formulation of the problem in this study is "how is the Village Cash Work-Intensive Program in East Pasi sub-district, Lolak sub-district and Lolayan sub-district in Bolaang Mongondow district implemented?". Furthermore, the aim of this research is to obtain results on the advantages, disadvantages and disadvantages of implementing the Village Cash Work-Intensive programme in the villages mentioned above. At the academic level, the results of this research are expected to be useful in strengthening policy theories, especially with regard to the most technical form of policy, namely policy evaluation theory. Practically, this research should be a practical reference for strengthening the village's cash labour intensive program in the Bolaang Mongondow district.

Literature Review

Hatry (1976:323) explains that "policy evaluation efforts often face an uphill battle, from gaining agreement to undertake the evaluation, through planning and conducting the evaluation, to use the results, much can go wrong during the evaluation process". Furthermore, Jones (1984: 199) explains that "evaluation is an activity designed to judge the merits of government programs which vary significantly in the object specification, the techniques of measurement, the method of analysis and the forms of recommendation".

Another scientist Carol Weiss in Jones (1984:198), explains evaluation is an elastic word that stretches to cover judgments of many kinds; what all the uses of the word have in common is the notion of judging merit. Someone is examining and weighing a phenomenon (a person, a thing, an idea) against some explicit or implicit yardstick. This can be interpreted that evaluation, in a more genuine sense, is providing an assessment of various things or assessing the benefits of a policy.

Anderson (2003: 151) basically evaluates the policy as "the appraisal or assessment of the policy, including its content implementation and impact". Policy evaluation can be interpreted as an activity involving the evaluation or testing of a policy, including the content, implementation and impact of the policy. Policy evaluation is a functional activity; namely, policy evaluation is not only carried out at the final stage but in the entire policy process so that policy evaluation will include the formulation of policy problems, proposed programs to solve policy problems, the implementation and the impact stage of the

policy. Therefore, according to Anderson later, as a functional activity, policy evaluation is as critical as the policy itself. As for what is meant by an activity that is functional in nature, policy evaluation activities are not only carried out at the final stage but are carried out throughout the policy process. So, policy evaluation will cover the entire process starting from the formulation of policy problems, the programs proposed to solve policy problems, and the implementation and impact stage of the policy.

Based on some of the concepts above, it can be argued that policy evaluation is actually an essential part of public policy. Policy evaluation is a crucial tool to be able to answer questions about why a policy was successful or not successfully implemented. By paying close attention to the objectives and the way the evaluation is carried out, then through the policy evaluation process, it can be found in which part of a mechanism the obstacles or weaknesses occur. So later, this becomes a reference for revising public policies that are made.

Wollman (2007: 393) states there are three types of policy evaluation, namely Ex-ante evaluation, Ongoing evaluation and Ex-post evaluation.

- 1) Ex-ante evaluation. It is a policy evaluation that is carried out before the policy is implemented. Hypothetically, this type of evaluation is intended to anticipate and provide an initial assessment of the estimated effects or impacts and consequences of the planned or determined policies. Its purpose is to provide information that is relevant to the policy or to the ongoing policy-making process. Ex-ante evaluation is an essential instrument for determining the choice of various policy options. This type of evaluation also provides an impact analysis on the policy environment.
- 2) Ongoing Evaluation. Identify and measure the impacts and outcomes of ongoing programs. The essence of Ongoing evaluation is to provide relevant information, returning to the policy implementation process, especially at certain stages of policy implementation when the information can be used to improve, revise, and "straighten" the policy implementation process in the direction that it really wants to achieve. In relation to this type of evaluation, monitoring is also categorized as ongoing evaluation. Monitoring is an evaluation procedure that aims to (descriptively) identify and provide appropriate data support, which, if possible, can be applied. Monitoring also provides indicators for measuring the impact or effect of the policies being implemented.
- 3) Ex-post evaluation. According to Wollman, this is a classic variant of policy evaluation. This evaluation is intended to provide an assessment of the level of achievement of the objectives and the impact of the policies that have been implemented. It is also an evaluation of policy outcomes.

Of the three models or types proposed by Wollman, this research can be categorized as an ongoing evaluation. The object of research is a policy that is in process or being implemented.

Basically, evaluation is related to policy performance. Especially in the implementation of public policy, evaluation of the "formulation" is carried out in the "post" of the action, namely in the formulation process, which generally only highlights the accuracy of the policy formulation procedure itself. Below are the policy criteria according to Dunn:

Criteria Type	Question	Illustration
Effectiveness	Has the desired result been achieved?	Service unit
Efficiency	How much effort is required to achieve the desired result?	Unit cost, net benefit, cost benefit ratio
Adequacy	How far the achievement of the desired result solves the problem	Fixed cost Fixed effectiveness
alignment	Are the cost benefits evenly distributed among different groups?	Pareto criteria, Kaldor-Hicks criteria, Rawls criteria.
Responsiveness	Do the policy outcomes satisfy the needs, preferences or values of particular groups?	Consistency with citizen surveys
Accuracy	Is the desired result (goal) really useful or valuable.	Program

Source; Dunn, William, 2004: 610

The Tunas Desa Labor-Intensive Program is one of the village community empowerment programs that are sustainable. This means that it has been sustainable since it was announced in 2018. Thus the most appropriate evaluation research method to use is to use ongoing evaluation (process evaluation). Furthermore, because the activities of the Village Cash Labor Intensive Program are oriented towards improving the quality of life of village and village communities, it is thus relevant to conduct evaluation research on the implementation of the Cash Labor Intensive Program in 3 sub-districts in Bolaang Mongondow district using policy evaluation theory from Dunn (2004: 610), namely the evaluation of policies covering aspects of effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, responsiveness and accuracy.

So with reference to this frame of mind, the proposition in this study is "the evaluation of the implementation of the Village Cash Labor Intensive Program in the East Pasi, Lolak and Lolayan sub-districts in Bolaang Mongondow district includes aspects of effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, alignment, responsiveness and accuracy."

Research Methods

The research is qualitative descriptive research. Research in this model is primarily semi-qualitative as it always uses theory as a research guide. The purpose of this model research is to describe, and summarize various conditions, various situations, or various phenomena of existing social reality, then try to draw reality to the surface as a feature, character, trait, model, sign, or description of the condition, or specific phenomenon. This format focuses on a particular unit of the phenomenon.

The types of data used are primary data and secondary data. Primary data is data that is directly recorded in the field through in-depth interviews and obtained through observations made by the researchers themselves. Meanwhile, secondary data is processed data or data that has been officially published and obtained from news media, documentation and archives of other related institutions. To obtain the required data, the selected informants are those related to the implementation of the Village Cash Intensive Program established by the Ministry of Villages, Transmigration and Disadvantaged Regions, such as the Director of the Directorate General of Village and Village Community Empowerment, Coordinator of Community Empowerment of North Sulawesi Province. , Village chiefs in the search zone. In the interest of obtaining this data, the research instrument in this study was the researcher himself, using tools such as tape recorders, visual recording devices (video recorders),

stationery, and laptops to store research data. The interview and observation documents were developed based on various references mentioned in the proposal.

The data-gathering technique used in this research involves in-depth interviews. Essentially, the in-depth interviews conducted as part of this study were unstructured interviews, although guidelines were also developed for conducting the interviews. Interviews with informants took place in various locations, as agreed. Researchers visited the informants one by one in different places. The technique of testing the validity of the data carried out in this study is to use a triangulation technique. The new data and findings obtained were tested by cross-checking the data, then analyzed by combining the researcher's interpretation with the theory of reference, as well as other theories related to the findings in the study.

The next stage is to interpret and explain the pattern of interaction between categories, between properties, and between attributes so that, in turn, it will produce a pattern of influence relationships between the phenomena being investigated. The next step is that all existing fact findings are interpreted according to the categories, properties and attributes obtained according to the perspective set based on the framework of reference and literature review. Qualitative interpretation is also directed at determining the pattern of interaction between empowerment phenomena.

The last stage of this section is drawing conclusions, namely drawing certain propositions or propositions or hypotheses based on the tendency of interactions that occur between attributes. Basically, conclusions that are directed as answers to research problems will explain the pattern of correlation between categories and properties.

Results and Discussion

This Research Found the Following Things

First, The government's policy of alleviating poverty through village infrastructure development programs, the technical implementation of which must be carried out by village staff, is still effective as part of village and village community development instruments. This is demonstrated by the addition of various village facilities in the three research villages and the absorption of local workers to work on the village facilities. The village infrastructure that was built in the three villages was the construction of village road access to community plantation locations which were initially impassable by motorized vehicles, the construction of village halls for various purposes of village activities, construction of village fields.

Second point. Empowerment policies in the form of the Cash Intensive Village programme in three sub-districts of the Bolaang Mongondow district continue to be effective in encouraging village growth. This program turned out to be a stimulant for various village economic activities.

However, an important finding from this research is that the success of this policy is primarily determined by the quality of leadership, integrity and totality of the Village Heads in responding to this Empowerment Program. This is evidenced by the differences in utilization and results in the three research villages, which turned out to be differences in the quality of utilization, depending on the Village Head's Leadership Quality aspect.

Conclusion

From this research, it can be concluded that:

1. Community and Village Empowerment Policy through the "Village Cash Intensive Work" Program is still effective and efficient in encouraging village development.
2. This policy can be a stimulant for economic growth and rural community development.
3. The Village Head Leadership Quality Factor is a crucial determinant of the success of this policy.

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