

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STUNTING RATE REDUCTION PROGRAM IN PANDEGLANG REGENCY

Aulia Dewi Purbasari

Public Administration Department,
Postgraduate Program,
Universitas Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa,
dewiaul25@gmail.com;

Ayuning Budiati

Public Administration Department,
Postgraduate Program,
Universitas Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa,
ayuning.budiati@untirta.ac.id;

Arenawati

Public Administration Department,
Postgraduate Program,
Universitas Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa,
arenawati@untirta.ac.id;

ABSTRACT

Stunting is a chronic nutritional problem that seriously impacts children's physical growth and cognitive development, and contributes to an increased risk of morbidity and mortality. Although the national prevalence of stunting shows a downward trend, the stunting rate in Pandeglang Regency remains relatively high, reaching 27.4% in 2022, exceeding the national and provincial averages. The Pandeglang Regency Government has implemented various stunting reduction programs through a convergence approach of specific and sensitive interventions. However, program implementation still faces various obstacles, such as limited resources, weak intersectoral coordination, low community participation, and a complex bureaucratic structure. This study aims to examine the implementation of the stunting reduction program by the Pandeglang Regency Health Office using George Edward III's policy implementation theory approach, which includes variables such as communication, resources, implementer disposition, and bureaucratic structure. This study uses qualitative methods to gain an in-depth and objective understanding of program activities through interviews, observation, and documentation. Data collected include written and spoken words, as well as observed actions, and is expected to represent actual conditions in the field. The research results show that the implementation of the stunting reduction program in Pandeglang Regency is highly integrated and has gradually succeeded in reducing stunting rates. Factors influencing the success of this implementation include communication, which in this case needs to be slightly improved and continuously enhanced. Resources, including human resources, are already very adequate in terms of both quality and quantity. Meanwhile, budgetary resources are sufficient and can support optimal program implementation. Policy implementers are

dispositioned to have an appropriate team, strong commitment, and clear standard operating procedures (SOPs). The bureaucratic structure implements hierarchical coordination and conducts regular monitoring and evaluation.

Keywords: *Stunting, Policy Implementation, George Edward III, Program Evaluation, Public Policy.*

A. INTRODUCTION

Stunting is a chronic malnutrition problem caused by insufficient nutritional intake over a long period of time. This leads to future disorders, namely a person will experience difficulties in achieving optimal physical and cognitive development (Ekayanthi & Suryani, 2019). Children with stunting have an average Intelligence Quotient (IQ) score eleven points lower than the average IQ score of normal children (Erik et al., 2020). The problem of stunting is one of the nutritional issues faced globally, especially in poor and developing countries. Stunting is a problem because it is associated with an increased risk of illness and death.

Stunting is defined as a condition of growth failure in toddlers due to chronic malnutrition that occurs from the time they are in the womb until the age of two (the First 1000 Days of Life) (Djauhari, 2017). Children who experience stunting have a height below the standard for their age, and this condition not only impacts physical growth, but also cognitive development, productivity, and long-term health (Mulyana et al., 2025).

According to data from the Indonesian Nutritional Status Survey (SSGI) released by the Ministry of Health, stunting prevalence decreased by 2.8 percentage points in 2022 compared to 2021, from 24.4% to 21.6%. Despite the decline, this 2.8 percentage point decline is below the established target of 3.4% per year (Ariestiningsih et al., 2024). The Indonesian government has made accelerating stunting reduction a national priority, with a cross-sectoral convergence approach involving various ministries/institutions, local governments, and the community.

Pandeglang Regency, as one of the regions in Banten Province, is categorized as an area with a high prevalence of stunting. According to the 2022 SSGI data, the stunting rate in Pandeglang reached 27.4%, higher than the national and provincial average (BPK Provinsi Banten, 2023). This situation indicates that despite various programs being implemented, significant challenges remain in the implementation and effectiveness of stunting reduction programs in this region.

The Pandeglang Regency Government has implemented various programs and policies to reduce stunting rates, including the establishment of the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Team (TPPS), stunting case audits, supplementary feeding (PMT), nutrition education, and strengthening specific and sensitive interventions. However, an evaluation by Cahya et al., (2025), found that the implementation of these programs still faces various obstacles, such as limited human resources, lack of coordination between sectors, and low community participation.

In the context of public policy, the success of a program's implementation is greatly influenced by four main variables, as proposed by George Edward III: communication, resources, implementer disposition, and bureaucratic structure (Subekti, 2017). First, communication. Successful policy implementation requires that implementers clearly understand what needs to be done. Policy goals and objectives must be communicated effectively to target groups (target group) to reduce the possibility of distortion in implementation. Second, resources. Even if a policy has been communicated clearly and consistently, implementation will not be effective if the implementer lacks the necessary resources. These resources can be human or non-human resources. Third, disposition. Disposition refers to the character and characteristics possessed by the implementer, such as commitment, honesty, and democratic traits. Fourth, bureaucratic structure. The bureaucratic structure tasked with implementing a policy has a significant influence on the success of its implementation (Muharram et al., 2025).

In the case of Pandeglang, communication between the local government and the community, as well as between implementing agencies, still needs to be strengthened. Resources, including budgets, health workers, and infrastructure, remain limited. The disposition or attitude of program implementers is also influenced by their level of understanding and commitment to the importance of stunting management. Meanwhile, a complex bureaucratic structure often hinders coordination and rapid and accurate decision-making. By considering these four variables, a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the stunting reduction program in Pandeglang Regency can be conducted to ensure the program's effectiveness and success in reducing stunting prevalence in the area.

Furthermore, the convergence approach promoted by the central government demands synergy between specific interventions (such as exclusive breastfeeding, immunization, and *PMT*) and sensitive interventions (such as clean water provision, sanitation, education, and social protection). At the local level, the success of this approach depends heavily on institutional capacity, political commitment, and community participation. However, in practice, many regions, including Pandeglang, still experience fragmentation in program implementation, with each sector operating separately without adequate integration.

The *Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 36 Tahun 2009* concerning health "that health is a human right and one of the elements of welfare that must be realized in accordance with the ideals of the Republic of Indonesia as referred to in the *Pancasila* and the *Undang-Undang Dasar Republik Indonesia Tahun 1945*. Providing good service is an activity to realize optimal health services for the community through a preventive, curative, promotive, and rehabilitative approach. This is the responsibility of the government including local governments implemented by the health service (Yuliantari, 2023).

With the enactment of the Health Law and the Presidential Decree on the Acceleration of Stunting, local governments are responsible for addressing

stunting issues in their regions. This commitment is also being supported by the Pandeglang Regency Health Office. Healthcare services for toddlers with stunting are now receiving special attention. Data obtained by researchers from the Pandeglang Regency Health Office indicates that the stunting rate in Pandeglang is quite high, ranking second among regencies/cities in Banten Province for the highest number of stunting cases (BKPK, 2022).

Therefore, the local government, particularly the Pandeglang Regency Health Office, has a significant responsibility to reduce stunting rates in its region. The Pandeglang Regency Health Office plays a strong and crucial role in formulating health policies. Therefore, the Pandeglang Regency Office must improve the quality of health services by developing programs to address health issues and developing supporting strategies, including reducing stunting rates. These include program strategies, organizational strategies, and supporting resources.

Pandeglang Regency's geographical location, consisting of coastal areas, mountainous areas, and remote rural areas, also presents challenges in the distribution of health and nutrition services. Poor accessibility leads to delays in stunting treatment and low intervention coverage. Furthermore, sociocultural factors such as parenting patterns, beliefs about traditional foods, and maternal education levels also influence program success.

Health efforts undertaken by the Pandeglang Health Office must fulfill several elements, namely the approach of prevention, maintenance, health improvement, recovery, and treatment of disease (Rachmat, 2018). There are two efforts in preventing and reducing stunting: sensitive nutrition interventions and specific nutrition interventions. Efforts to accelerate stunting reduction will be more effective if both interventions are implemented in a convergent manner. Convergence or integration of service delivery requires a common process for planning, budgeting, and monitoring government work programs across sectors to ensure the availability of all sensitive nutrition intervention services and specific nutrition interventions for all levels of society, especially the poor.

From the discussion above, it is clear that the number of stunting sufferers in Pandeglang Regency is very high every year. If this situation continues without specific treatment, it will increase even further in the coming years, given that stunting is a very serious problem. Therefore, the local government, particularly the Pandeglang Regency Health Office, has implemented various programs to reduce stunting rates.

Therefore, the researcher is interested in conducting research to obtain accurate information regarding the stunting cases that occur so that this research can provide benefits for everyone. Therefore, the author feels the need for further study regarding the implementation of the stunting reduction program by the Pandeglang Regency Health Office. In this case, the local government, especially the Health Office, has a strong role and responsibility in this regard. Based on the problems described above, the author wants to conduct research entitled "Implementation of the Stunting Reduction Program in Pandeglang Regency".

B. LITERATURE REVIEW

Public Policy

Policy in historical perspective, namely as a policy activity in the scientific level called policy analysis, does indeed attempt to synchronize knowledge and action. It is said by Sore & Sobirin (2017) that policy analysis in the broadest historical sense is an approach to solving social problems starting at a historical milestone when knowledge is consciously explored to enable explicit and reflective testing of the possibility of connecting knowledge and action. Public policy as everything that is done or not done by the government, why a policy must be carried out and whether it is beneficial for common life must be a holistic consideration so that the policy contains great benefits for its citizens and has a small impact and should not cause detrimental problems, even so there must be those who benefit and those who are harmed, this is where the government must be wise in determining a policy (Alamsyah, 2016). Public policy in the international literature is referred to as public policy, namely a rule that regulates common life that must be obeyed and is binding on all its citizens. Each violation will be given a sanction according to the severity of the violation committed and the sanction will be imposed in front of the public by an institution that has the task of imposing sanctions) (Nuriyah et al., 2025).

Policy Implementation

The policy implementation model used in this study is a top-down perspective and was developed by George C. Edward III. According to Edward III (1980) his policy implementation model is termed Direct and Indirect Impact on Implementation. The theoretical concept approach by Edward III, there are four aspects that greatly determine the success of a policy implementation, namely (1) communication; (2) resources; (3) disposition; (4) bureaucratic structure (Subekti, 2017). Edward III's Policy Implementation Model The first variable that influences the success of a policy implementation, according to Edward III is communication, according to him, it greatly determines the success of achieving the objectives of public policy implementation. Effective implementation occurs when decision makers already know what they will do. Knowledge of what they will do can run if communication runs well so that every policy decision and implementation regulation must be transmitted (or communicated) to the appropriate personnel. In addition, the communicated policy must be precise, accurate, and consistent. Communication (or transmission of information) is necessary so that decision makers and implementers will be more consistent in implementing every policy that will be implemented in society (Mini & Juemi, 2023).

There are three indicators that can be used to measure the success of the communication variables mentioned above, namely (1) Transmission; (2) Clarity; and (3) Consistency. The second variable that influences the success of implementing a policy is resources. Resources are another important thing, according to George C. Edward III (1980), in implementing a policy, resource indicators consist of several elements, namely:

1. Staff, the primary resource in policy implementation, is staff or human resources (HR). Frequent failures in policy implementation are caused,

among other things, by insufficient, inadequate, or incompetent staff (Tirayoh & Waworundeng, 2023).

2. Information, in policy implementation, comes in two forms: (i) information related to how the policy is implemented, and (ii) information regarding the implementers' compliance with established government rules and regulations (Suciana et al., 2022).
3. Authority, in general, must be formal in order for orders to be carried out. Authority represents the authority or legitimacy for implementers to implement politically determined policies (Suciana et al., 2022).
4. Facilities and physical infrastructure are also important factors in policy implementation. According to George C. Edward III, the third variable influencing the success of public policy implementation is disposition. The disposition or attitude of policy implementers is the third crucial factor in the approach to implementing a public policy. For policy implementation to be effective, implementers must not only know what to do but also have the ability to implement it, preventing bias in practice (Sasuwuk et al., 2021).

Important things that need to be considered in the disposition variable, according to Edward III are: (1) Disposition Effect; (2) Carrying out Bureaucratic Arrangements (staffing the bureaucracy); (3) Incentives. The fourth variable, according to George C. Edward III, that influences the level of success of public policy implementation is the bureaucratic structure. Even if the resources to implement a policy are available, or the policy implementers know what should be done, and have the desire to implement a policy, it is possible that the policy cannot be implemented well because there are weaknesses in the bureaucratic structure. Two characteristics, according to Edward III, that can boost the performance of the bureaucratic or organizational structure in a better direction are:

- a) Create more flexible Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs); SOPs are routine planned procedures or activities that enable employees or policy implementers.
- b) Implementing fragmentation, the aim of which is to spread responsibility for various activities, programs or programs across several work units in accordance with their respective fields.

Convergence of Efforts to Accelerate Stunting Prevention

Efforts to accelerate stunting prevention will be more effective if combined with intensive, specific and sensitive nutrition interventions. Integration of service delivery includes access to specific nutrition intervention services for priority families and nutrition-sensitive interventions for all community groups, especially the poor (Sari et al., 2023). There is a need to integrate the planning, budgeting, and monitoring processes of government programs/activities across sectors.

In other words, convergence refers to an intervention approach implemented in a coordinated, integrated, and collaborative manner across specific geographic areas and priority households in stunting prevention efforts (Neherta & Asri, 2023). This intensive intervention implementation process is carried out by synergistically combining various resources to achieve a common

goal.

Convergence efforts to prevent and accelerate stunting management are carried out from the planning stage through implementation, as well as program monitoring and evaluation. At the planning stage, the primary focus of convergence is to refine the planning and budgeting process periodically, relying on accurate data and information. This aims to ensure that programs and activities are more targeted, through in-depth initial analysis, consultations on stunting, and the development of a well-planned work plan (Hisanuddin et al., 2023). In analyzing the initial situation and conducting discussions on stunting, efforts are made to understand the stunting situation at the district/city level. This process involves identifying the main causes of stunting and assessing previously implemented programs and activities. This analysis is expected to identify various programs and activities, target groups, funding sources, and locations to focus on in accelerating stunting prevention efforts in the region. The results of this analysis are then translated into the Regional Government Work Plan (*RKPD*), the Regional Apparatus Organization Work Plan (*OPD*), and the Regional Revenue and Expenditure Budget (*APBD*).

C. METHOD

The research used qualitative methods. Qualitative research methods are used to objectively examine an activity, which ultimately leads to new, previously unknown knowledge (Sugiyono, 2019). Through qualitative research methods, researchers sought to obtain comprehensive information regarding the evaluation of stunting prevention and reduction programs. Information was obtained through in-depth interviews with informants. In qualitative research, the data collected is a collection of written or spoken words and actions observed by the research subjects. The data collected must accurately describe the conditions being studied and reflect real-life situations.

The focus of this research is to reveal the "Evaluation of the Implementation of the Stunting Prevention and Reduction Program in Pandeglang Regency in 2023." Therefore, the researcher will describe how the Evaluation of the Implementation of the Stunting Prevention and Reduction Program in Pandeglang Regency in 2023. Therefore, the researcher uses a qualitative research method, where the aspects to be studied are deemed more appropriate through observation, interviews, and documentation.

The data collection techniques used in this study were interviews, observation, and documentation. Informants were selected using purposive sampling. In purposive sampling, informants are determined by adapting to the research objectives and are expected to provide the information needed during the study. Therefore, the researcher identified specific individuals who would provide the necessary data.

D. DISCUSSION RESULT

Healthcare for toddlers with stunting is now receiving special attention. The stunting reduction policy was issued based on the *Peraturan Bupati Pandeglang No. 28 Tahun 2019* concerning the Acceleration of Stunting

Reduction, which was further strengthened by *Peraturan Bupati Pandeglang No. 61 Tahun 2022*, which is in line with the *Peraturan Presiden No. 72 Tahun 2021*.

The Regent's Regulation issued by Pandeglang Regency is a follow-up to efforts to reduce stunting rates in the region. The primary focus of this policy is to accelerate stunting reduction through nutritional interventions, increasing access to nutrition services, and enhancing the food and nutrition awareness system. Nutrition interventions include specific and sensitive nutrition interventions.

Table 1: Specific Nutrition Interventions for Prevention and Acceleration of Stunting Reduction

Target Group	Priority Interventions	Supportive Interventions	Intervensi Prioritas Sesuai Kondisi
Specific Nutrition Interventions – Priority Targets			
Pregnant mother	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iron supplementation tablets • Providing additional food for pregnant women from poor group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calcium supplementation • Pregnancy check-up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV prevention • Protection from malaria
Breastfeeding mothers and children 0-23 months	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion and counseling of infant and young child feeding (PMBA) • Management of acute malnutrition • Breastfeeding promotion and counseling • Growth monitoring and promotion • Providing additional recovery food for children with acute malnutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prinkle supplementation • Vitamin A capsule • Immunization • Integrated management of sick toddlers (MTBS) • Zinc supplementation for the treatment of diarrhea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worm prevention

(Source: Pandeglang Regency Health Office 2023)

Table 2: Nutrition-Sensitive Interventions for Prevention and Acceleration of Stunting Reduction

Intervention Group	Type of Intervention
Improving the provision of drinking water and sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to adequate sanitation • Access to safe drinking water
Improving access and quality of nutrition and health services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Health Insurance (JKN) • Access to cash assistance for low-income families (PKH) • Access to Family Planning (KB) services
Increasing awareness, commitment, and practices of maternal and child care and nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination information through various media • Provision of access to Early Childhood Education (PAUD), promotion of early childhood stimulation and monitoring of child growth and development • Provision of interpersonal behavior change counseling • Women's empowerment and child protection • Provision of health and reproductive counseling for adolescents • Provision of parenting counseling for parents
Increasing access to nutritious food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Sustainable Food Home Area (KRPL) activities • Access to fortification of staple foods (salt, wheat flour, cooking oil) • Strengthening regulations regarding food labels and advertising • Access to Non-Cash Food Assistance (BPNT) for underprivileged families

(Source: Pandeglang Regency Health Office 2023)

Efforts to accelerate stunting prevention will be more effective if combined with intensive, specific and sensitive nutrition interventions. Integration of service delivery includes access to specific nutrition interventions for priority families and nutrition-sensitive interventions for all community groups, especially the poor. There is a need to integrate the planning, budgeting, and monitoring processes of government programs/activities across sectors.

Based on data obtained by researchers from the Pandeglang Regency Health Office, the stunting rate in Pandeglang is quite high, ranking second among regencies/cities in Banten Province for the highest number of stunting cases (SSGI: 2021). The following data shows the total number of toddlers stunting from 36 sub-districts in Pandeglang Regency in 2024.

Table 3: Stunting Rates in 36 Sub-districts in Pandeglang Regency in 2024

No	Community Health Center	Stunting	%
1	SUMUR	129	5,18
2	CIMANGGU	41	1,35
3	CIBALIUNG	11	0,37
4	CIBITUNG	144	7,16
5	CIKEUSIK	63	1,40
6	CIGEULIS	28	0,80
7	PANIMBANG	33	0,68
8	SOBANG	83	3,49
9	MUNJUL	12	0,59
10	ANGSANA	110	5,02
11	SINDANGRESMI	17	1,00
12	PICUNG	39	1,13
13	BOJONG	63	2,56
14	SAKETI	39	1,65
15	CISATA	10	0,47
16	PAGELARAN	60	2,24
17	PATIA	186	7,10
18	PERDANA	43	1,78
19	LABUAN	62	1,30
20	CARITA	189	8,63
21	JIPUT	20	0,85
22	CIKEDAL	23	1,19
23	MENES	68	2,69
24	PULOSARI	187	8,17
25	MANDALAWANGI	39	0,95
26	CIMANUK	24	0,79
27	CIPEUCANG	89	3,97
28	BANJAR	41	1,99
29	KADU HEJO	107	3,27
30	MEKARJAYA	393	25,94
31	PANDEGLANG	35	4,61
32	CIKUPA	45	3,07
33	MAJASARI	499	13,43
34	CADASARI	447	17,81
35	PAGADUNGAN	93	5,24
36	BANGKONOL	32	2,20
	AMOUNT	3504	3,74

The table above shows that the number of stunting cases in each sub-district in Pandeglang Regency is quite high and alarming if left unaddressed. Therefore, the role and strategy of the Pandeglang Regency Health Office is crucial in reducing stunting rates in each sub-district. Based on an analysis of each theoretical aspect using the Edward III implementation model.

1. Communication, related to the stunting reduction program, involves conveying program information from policy makers to policy implementers, then further streamlining it by communicating it to the program's target groups and other stakeholders. Indicators of communication include the communication transmission/distribution process, clarity, and consistency.
 - a) Transmission, where the Health Office continues to encourage the preparation of budgets at community health centers regarding stunting and programming stunting activities by holding village discussions and integrated health post (*Posyandu*) services in conjunction with the Service Standards (*SPM*) program and conducting outreach in the form of meetings with all heads of community health centers in Pandeglang Regency. Where it is hoped that by conducting appeals and outreach to the heads of community health centers through village discussions and services to the Posyandu, it can easily implement stunting prevention policies.
 - b) Sub-aspect of clarity, the delivery of information about handling stunting prevention in Pandeglang Regency between the Health Office and the community health center is running well, the community health center has been directly involved in providing socialization about stunting prevention to the community, however, there are still several obstacles that occur, such as from the village government which has not implemented stunting prevention policies in villages consistently, that the task of integrated health post (*posyandu*) cadres in handling stunting prevention has been running well, although there are still obstacles, but the community health center and integrated health post (*posyandu*) cadres are making maximum efforts to reduce stunting rates.
 - c) Aspect of communication consistency, Communication related to the stunting reduction program is the delivery of program information from policy program makers to policy implementers and then made effective again by conveying it to the target group of the policy program and other interested parties. Internal communication regarding the stunting reduction program in Pandeglang Regency involves several implementers including, the Pandeglang Regency Health Office in coordination with a team of health center experts and also coordinating with several agencies namely the Fisheries and Food Service, the *PUPR* Service, the Communication and Information Service and Education. Internal communication carried out by several agencies is delivered in a formal form through direct meetings and non-formal communication such as direct reports from several parties through messages.
2. Human Resources. Human Resources significantly influence the implementation of a policy. Even if the policy's content has been communicated clearly and consistently, if the implementer lacks the necessary resources to carry it out, the implementation will not be effective. These resources include human resources and financial resources.
 - a) Human Resources (HR). HR is the implementer of the stunting program acceleration process and plays a crucial role. In terms of quality, HR must

be experienced and competent in the health sector to support the program's success.

In terms of quality, the human resources at the Pandeglang Regency Health Office already meet the competencies required for stunting management. However, additional field staff, such as integrated health post (Posyandu) cadres, should receive regular training to ensure they are able to provide appropriate stunting management. Researchers encountered several *Posyandu* cadres who were still confused about how to record children categorized as stunted.

Table 4: Employee Data for the Family Health Section of the Public Health Division of the Pandeglang Regency Health Office

Education	Amount
D-3	1
S-1	1
S-2	1

(Source: Pandeglang Regency Health Office 2024)

- b) inancial Resources or Budget. The funding source for the stunting reduction program comes from the Regional Budget (*APBD*). In 2023, the Pandeglang Regency Government allocated Rp 39,755,980,000 (thirty-nine billion seven hundred fifty-five million nine hundred and eighty thousand rupiah). This budget is divided among several regional government agencies (*OPD*), including.

Table 5: Budget Human Resources for the Stunting Prevention and Reduction Program in Pandeglang Regency in 2023

No.	<i>OPD</i>	2023 Budget
1.	Public health Office	Rp. 17.579.000.000
2.	Education and Culture Office	Rp. 7.569.000.000
3.	Regional Development Planning Agency	Rp. 63.720.000
4.	Communication and Information Service	Rp. 140.000.000
5.	Public Works and Public Housing Agency	Rp. 11.047.000.000
6.	Social Services	Rp. 107.260.000
7.	Department of Agriculture and Food Security	Rp. 134.000.000
8.	Fisheries Service	Rp. 20.000.000
9.	P2KBP3A Service	Rp. 3.096.000.000
Amount		Rp. 39.755.980.000

(Source: Data Recapitulation of Stunting Prevalence Reduction and Handling Program Pandeglang Regency 2023)

Table 5 shows that the budget allocated to support the stunting reduction program is quite substantial. With this funding, it is hoped that the program will run smoothly, considering that budget resources are a crucial aspect for optimal program implementation. The funds allocated to the

Health Office, amounting to IDR 17,579,000,000, are allocated to provide nutritional needs for children and pregnant women, as well as to provide iron-fortified tablets for adolescent girls, as part of efforts to ensure the smooth management and reduction of stunting.

3. Disposition. This is the character or characteristics possessed by policy implementers. Disposition is also a determining factor in the success of policy implementation. When implementers have a good disposition, they will effectively implement policy programs in accordance with the policymaker's intentions.

The implementers of the stunting reduction policy are considered excellent. They demonstrate a strong commitment to the program, conducting meticulous data collection, providing family support, providing outreach to integrated health post (*Posyandu*) cadres, and continuously updating their knowledge to ensure the program's success. The regional government agencies (*OPDs*) involved in the integrated stunting reduction policy work together to implement the program within their respective *OPDs*.

In terms of understanding, it can be seen that the understanding held is more focused on the involvement of relevant agencies. Having an understanding of the policy by implementers significantly contributes to the achievement of policy objectives, as the implementer's knowledge of the program being run is crucial. With the numerous policy actors involved in program implementation, they have a clear understanding of their respective primary tasks.

The prevalence of stunting in Pandeglang Regency has decreased year-on-year over a three-year period, from 2021 to 2023. The following table shows the prevalence of stunting in Pandeglang Regency.

Table 6: Prevalence of Stunting in Pandeglang Regency 2021-2023

Prevalence	2021	2022	2023
SSGI	37,8	29,4	28,6
EPPGBM	13,4	4,1	3,0

(Source: Pandeglang Regency Health Office 2023)

The data above shows that the Pandeglang Regency Government, especially the Health Office, is very serious in its efforts to reduce stunting rates in the Pandeglang Regency area. Every year the prevalence of stunting in the Regency has decreased.

4. Bureaucratic Structure. The bureaucracy is the institution that often and entirely carries out activities. Policy implementation tends to be complex and requires cooperation from many parties. The bureaucratic structure at the Pandeglang Regency Health Office did not encounter any serious obstacles. The division of tasks and authority in the implementation of the stunting reduction program shows that many parties are involved, but the ultimate coordination and accountability for implementation remains with the head of the Pandeglang Regency Health Office. Other parties involved in the program's implementation only act on assignments from the office.

The implementation of a stunting reduction program requires work procedures, or SOPs. Good work procedures include a clear, uncomplicated framework, as SOPs serve as a reference for implementers.

E. CONCLUSION

Based on the research and discussion above, the implementation of the stunting reduction program in Pandeglang Regency is highly integrated and has gradually succeeded in reducing stunting rates. Factors influencing the success of this implementation include communication, which in this case needs to be slightly improved and continuously enhanced. Resources, including human resources, are already very adequate in terms of quality and quantity. Meanwhile, budgetary resources are sufficient and can support optimal program implementation. Policy implementers are well-positioned, with appropriate teams, strong commitment, and clear standard operating procedures (SOPs). The bureaucratic structure implements hierarchical coordination and conducts regular monitoring and evaluation.

Although considerable success has been achieved, continued attention and commitment are needed to improve communication, increase the quality of resources, and provide more effective monitoring to achieve optimal results.

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