Coordination Between Actors in Handling Stunting in Pemalang District

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Abstract. Public health is something that is very important to be considered by the government. The existence of problems in the health sector will affect the growth and development of children, the quality of life of human resources and the competitiveness of the nation. One of the health problems is the high prevalence of stunting. Pemalang Regency is 11th in Central Java in terms of stunting and 6th in poverty. This study aims to analyze how coordination is carried out between stakeholders in dealing with stunting. The two institutions studied were Bappeda as the coordinating agency and the Health Service as the leading sector. This study uses a qualitative descriptive method with informants from the Bappeda and the helth office. The results showed that the coordination carried out by the Bappeda as the institution that carried out the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the program handling had been carried out well because the Health Service always reported on the progress of the program once a month and when a problem occurred, it was immediately resolved. The low level of understanding, the level of public knowledge about the importance of good nutrition is an obstacle in handling stunting and the role of the private sector which has not taken part in this program is also something that needs to be considered, because so far only the government has handled the APBN, APBD and APBDes funds.

Keyword: Coordination, Actors, Stunting.

1 Introduction

Stunting is one of the serious threats to the quality of human resources and the competitiveness of the nation, this is because the impact of toddlers suffering from stunting is not only physically disturbed, namely short/short stature, but stunting sufferers will also be susceptible to disease due to the development of the system. inadequate immunity. In addition, stunting sufferers will also have impaired brain development where this will affect the child's intelligence. The level of intelligence of children who are below the average can affect the level of achievement in school, as well as the productivity and creativity of children in productive age.

Stunting is caused by several factors, namely a lack of understanding of diet so that balanced nutrition is not met, poor parenting due to limited understanding and difficulty in accessing clean water and poor sanitation. However, the root cause of stunting itself is more to non-health factors such as economic, political, socio-cultural factors, and the lack of women's empowerment. The factor of low economic income and the limitations and low quality of human resources cause a person to be unable to fulfill a nutritious diet, good parenting and limited access to clean water which causes stunting problems.

Pemalang Regency is one of the regencies in Central Java Province which is included in the 11 priority regencies/cities in stunting prevention in Central Java and is included in the 100 priority regencies/cities at the national level.

Various efforts have been made by the Pemalang Regency Government, including the Pemalang Regency Regional Regulation Number 12 of 2016 [1] concerning the 2016-2021 Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD).

The Pemalang Regent also issued a Regent's Decree No. 188.4/9611/2019 [2] concerning the Formation of the Team for the Acceleration of Stunting Prevention and Control in Pemalang Regency. Where there are 14 local government agencies involved in the prevention of stunting in Pemalang Regency.

In addition to the RPJMD and the Regent's Decree, the Pemalang Regent also ratified a regulation in the form of the Pemalang Regent Regulation Number 84 of 2019 [3] concerning the Regional Action Plan for the Acceleration of Stunting Prevention and Control.

With the involvement of various agencies, coordination needs to be carried out so that the action plan in dealing with stunting can be directed, there is a unity of motion and does not overlap. In this study, we want to see how the coordination is carried out by the actors in their actions.

2 Literature Review

Coordination is the process of integrating goals and activities in separate units (departments or functional areas) of an organization to achieve organizational goals efficiently."

According to Hasibuan [4], "Coordination is balancing and moving the team by providing a suitable location for work activities for each and keeping those activities carried out in proper harmony among the members themselves.

Even though coordination is generally recognized as important in the administration/management process of government, in practice it is not uncommon to find various problems that lead to ineffective implementation of the required coordination, so that the achievement of goals/objectives does not always run as expected. Handayaningrat [5] factors that can hinder the achievement of coordination is as an obstacle in vertical (structural) coordination. In vertical (structural) coordination, obstacles often occur because the formulation of tasks, authorities and responsibilities of each work unit (work unit) is not clear. Besides that, the relationship and work procedures and procedures are not understood by the parties concerned and sometimes doubts arise between them.

If the organization is coordinated effectively, there are several benefits, namely:

- a) To prevent confusion, bickering and twinning or job vacancies.
- b) So that people and their work are aligned and directed towards the achievement of organizational goals.
- c) So that the facilities and infrastructure are used to achieve the objectives.
- d) So that all tasks, activities and work are integrated into the desired goals.

For the principle of strategic coordination, according to Sugandha [6], the principles of coordination are: 1) There is agreement and a unified understanding of the goals that must be achieved as a direction of joint activities. 2) There is an agreement regarding the activities or actions that must be carried out by each party, including the targets and schedule. 3) The existence of obedience or loyalty from each party to the respective duties and schedules that have been set. 4) There is an exchange of information from all parties who work together

regarding the activities and results at a certain time, including the problems faced by each. 5) There is a coordinator who can lead and mobilize and monitor the cooperation, as well as lead joint problem solving. 6) The existence of information from various parties that flows to the coordinator can monitor the entire implementation of cooperation and understand the problems that are being faced by all parties. 7) There is mutual respect for the functional authority of each party so as to create a spirit to help each other

Indicators of coordination Handayaningrat [5], coordination in the management process can be measured through indicators:

- a) Communication
- b) Awareness of the Importance of Coordination
- c) Competence
- d) Coordination Agreements, Commitments and Incentives
- e) Continuity of Planning

3 Method

This study uses a qualitative descriptive research method to examine how the coordination is carried out by the actors in dealing with stunting in Pemalang Regency, where there are 14 agencies involved in it. For this reason, the informants also come from representatives of agencies who are members of the stunting management team and also Bappeda as the coordinator and the Health Office as the leading sector. Data collection is carried out online and offline by means of FGD (Focus Group Discussion).

4 Results

4.1 Communication

In terms of communication, the handling of stunting has already occurred, because the information provided is hierarchical, starting with information from PKK cadres (via posyandu) that there are cases of stunting in the area. This information is then reported to the RW level, then discussed at the next level at the kelurahan level. After that, it was analyzed and identified villages that were red/food insecure. From there, collaboration between OPD and community elements was carried out and communication was carried out intensely to take action and determine target villages, because almost all villages had stunting cases. With the discussion through the Musrenbang, a priority scale is set for handling it. The leading sector in the handling of stunting is the Health Service, however, technically it is carried out through the local Puskesmas with the help of PKK cadres and groups of under-five family development. Socialization so that the stunting rate does not increase has also been carried out by the Health Service through the Toddler Family Development group, however, the stunting rate is still high, due to a lack of public awareness and understanding in community prevention and management. Besides, it is also because of the conditions of poverty that are behind it. As we know that Pemalang Regency ranks 6th out of 15 Regencies in Central Java.

Since 2019 it has been determined that villages are handled in tackling stunting, monitoring and evaluation are periodically carried out to see the progress. Every year 10 villages are set, because they are adjusted to the existing budget, and if the results of the money are villages

whose progress is not yet good, in the following year they will become target villages again in the handling of stunting.

4.2 Awareness of the Importance of Coordination

The stakeholders/actors in handling stunting recognize that it is very important to coordinate, because it involves 14 agencies involved in stunting prevention. In its implementation, there is a specific intervention team, namely Bappeda and the Health Service who directly come into contact with the community while the other 12 agencies are: the housing and residential area office, the village community empowerment office, the PUPR service, the fisheries service, the social service, the agriculture office, the environment service, the environmental service. Education and culture, Disdukcapil, Diskominfo, Pemalang District Secretariat, Health Service and Pemalang District Ministry of Religion are involved in sensitive interventions.

Although each agency has its own main tupoksi which are support programs for specific intervention teams, coordination still needs to be done and in this case, Bappeda is coordinating centrally. This means that all the results of actions taken by each agency are reported to Bappeda. However, because the level of knowledge of the implementers on the importance of coordination has not been fully understood, their coordination has not been / less than optimal, for example that the role of the housing office to monitor the availability of clean water and sanitation has not been integrated with the village community empowerment office. So that what should be done by the community has not been informed and finally the public knows that the government is authorized to do it.

4.3 Competency of Participants

From the community itself, participation is still very limited as program recipients, so they do not understand and are still minimally involved in overcoming their own problems. There is still a lack of awareness and understanding of the community in preventing and handling stunting, causing efforts to increase and prevent it from being maximized, such as many pregnant women who do not do prenatal care, many toddlers who do not weigh in at the posyandu, many families who do not understand the importance of balanced nutrition, husband's awareness to take classes for pregnant women and other indicators. The results of sensitive handling are also still not maximized, namely the coverage of households using proper sanitation, only reaching 53.64% and the number of healthy houses only reaching 52.16%, a lot of land is not used for growing vegetables or aquaculture. This indicates that the community has not been fully involved in overcoming their own problems.

4.4 Coordination Agreements, Commitments and Incentives

The form of agreement that occurred was from the OPD, but with the community it had not been established, so it was the OPD who had to work hard to always socialize and take action by activating PKK cadres or stunting working groups to always provide assistance and monitoring activities. For technical monitoring, it is reported to the local health center related to monitoring exclusive breastfeeding, monitoring pregnant women and providing additional food (PMT) for toddlers.

4.5 Continuity Planning related to the results

Continuity Planning related to the results of monitoring will always be reported in stages starting from the stunting cadres/working groups forwarded to the Puskesmas and then to the Health Service as the leading sector. When viewed at a macro level, each OPD has carried out

their respective programs/tasks in preventing and dealing with stunting. However, the coordination is not optimal. However, the continuity of the implementation of stunting management continues to this day, as can be seen from the stunting village location target that has been planned until 2022.

5 Conclusion

Coordination in the handling of stunting in Pemalang Regency can be categorized as still not optimal. This is because each of the regional apparatus organizations (OPD) involved operate independently in accordance with their respective tupoksi. There are specific intervention teams and sensitive intervention teams. The specific intervention team, namely Bappeda, acts as the coordinator and the Health Office as the leading sector, while the sensitive intervention team, namely the OPD, who carries out tasks according to their capacity, assists the Health Office for action in the field, which consists of 12 agencies, namely the housing and residential area service, and the community empowerment office, village, PUPR service, fishery office, social service, agriculture office, environment service, education and culture office, disdukcapil, diskominfo, Pemalang district secretariat, health service and ministry of religion Pemalang district. These agencies carry out sensitive activities/programs to support the main program. However, in its implementation, it does not continuously report to the coordinator so that many programs that are not running are not covered by Bappeda.

6 Suggestion

Regular coordination is needed once a month to report the progress of the program, even though the program is not optimal.

An increasingly intense socialization is needed through various forums to increase public awareness of the importance of handling and the dangers of stunting for the community such as youth organizations, community leaders and youth.

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