

Responsiveness Of Food Diversification Policy in Gowa Regency

By

Andi Erni

Public Administration Study Program, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences
Hasanuddin University, Makassar

Muhammad Akmal Ibrahim

Public Administration Study Program, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences
Hasanuddin University, Makassar

Nurdin Nara

Public Administration Study Program, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences
Hasanuddin University, Makassar

Sukri

Departement of Political Science, Faculty of Social and Political Science, Hasanuddin
University, Makassar

Abstract

The Policy of Increasing Food Diversification is one of the priorities in the Strategic Plan of the Ministry of Agriculture. One form of realization of food diversification policies is the diversity of consumption and household-based food safety. However, this policy has not been running optimally in Gowa Regency. This study aims to analyze the Responsiveness of the Food Diversification Policy in the Gowa Regency. The research method used is qualitative. Data collection techniques use in-depth interviews, observations, and documentation studies. The results of this study show that the policy responsiveness for the medium term of the program does not have an impact on improving nutrition and community welfare. A negative response also occurs in extension workers who do not carry out their duties regularly and professionally. To support the sustainability of the program, the Gowa Regency government must be involved until the end, mainly by providing special assistance for the program recipient groups and providing supporting facilities such as product packaging to marketing, not only limited to growing and developing plants of need but achieving a level of independence and improving the welfare of the community.

Keywords: Policy, Food diversification, community welfare, Responsiveness

Introduction

Government policies on food are generally regulated through Food Law Number 18 of 2012 and Food Law Number 7 of 1996, built on food sovereignty and independence. The Food Law emphasizes the fulfillment of food needs at the individual level by utilizing the potential of natural, human, social, economic, and local wisdom resources helpfully.

This food diversification is one of the work contracts between the Minister of Agriculture and the President of the Republic of Indonesia from 2009-2014 to increase food diversity following regional characteristics. This work contract is a follow-up to Presidential Regulation Number 22 of 2009 concerning the Policy of Accelerating the Diversity of Local Resource-Based Food Consumption. Where in this presidential regulation it is explained that

the three main objectives of accelerating the diversity of food consumption are to encourage the achievement of (1) Increasing public demand for various foods, both fresh, processed, and ready-to-eat food, through an internalization process to all components of society including officials, which includes increasing knowledge and awareness of balanced nutrition from an early age, developing household economic empowerment activities, and promotion and movement diversity of food consumption based on local resources. (2) Increasing the availability of a variety of fresh and processed foods through the development of businesses and industries processing various food sources of non-rice and non-wheat carbohydrates, vegetable and animal protein sources, fiber, vitamins, and minerals based on local resources, safe, affordable, socially, economically and culturally acceptable, and able to drive the development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). (3) Strengthening and increasing the participation of local governments in developing and implementing local resource-based food consumption diversity programs.

Technically, this presidential regulation is further followed up through the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture Number 43 of 2009 concerning the Movement for the Acceleration of Diversity in Local Resource-Based Food Consumption.

One form of realization of food diversification policies is the diversity of consumption and household-based food safety. This policy from 2010 to 2019 has been realized in the form of Sustainable Food House Area (KRPL) activities. According to Hardono (2014), the development of food diversification as part of realizing food sovereignty should be carried out by all groups.

To expand beneficiaries and land use, in 2020, KRPL activities changed to Sustainable Food Yards or P2L for short. P2L activities are carried out in order to support government programs for handling priority areas of stunting intervention and handling priorities for vulnerable areas of food insecurity or strengthening of food security areas.

Research by Dewi et al (2012) on Anticipating the Food Crisis through Food Diversification Policies found that the world food crisis is a threat to all countries, including Indonesia. The food policy paradigm implemented in Indonesia must change from food security to food independence so that Indonesia does not depend on other countries, especially for food problems. Food diversification is one of the appropriate policies to achieve food independence and anticipate the food crisis.

Implementing food diversification policies, especially in the Sustainable Food House Area (KRPL) program in several regions, has proven to be suboptimal. Research by Tamara et al (2020) shows that the implementation of the sustainable food house area (KRPL) program in Ciganjeng Village, Pangandaran District for its success rate is not optimal enough because respondents only plant for daily needs and the form of kitchen spice plants, so the situation cannot cover the burden of food consumption on vegetables, only I can reduce the burden of their essential needs to buy spices at least 2 thousand rupiahs per day.

Based on data analysis and preliminary observations of the authors in the field, it was found that several problems, especially the Responsiveness of this policy, have not been able to provide satisfaction to the community. This is because this policy has not provided satisfaction to the community. After all, there is no justice for access to this program because of its limited number and inability to increase the income of the people of the Gowa Regency. Several obstacles have been faced, so the goal of the food diversification policy in Gowa Regency has not been achieved. Because this policy has been running for ten years, it is

essential to evaluate the achievements and obstacles faced in implementing this household-based food diversification policy in Gowa Regency.

Research Method

In this study, the authors used qualitative research, where the research conducted was descriptive. This research was conducted in the Gowa Regency, especially the Food Security Office, where groups of peasant women and beneficiaries of food diversification policies are located. Research data are obtained from various data sources to answer research problems, namely from the results of observations and interviews, and document reviews. Field surveys are conducted to collect primary and secondary data. Primary data were obtained through observation and interviews with six key informants. At the same time, secondary data is taken from documents that can clarify primary data. Miles et al. (2014) interactive data collection with data analysis and qualitative data analysis in this study by referring to the cyclical data collection model of data analysis through the process of Data Collection, Data Condensation, Data Presentation, and Conclusion/Verification.

Results And Discussion

Responsiveness is concerned with how far a policy can satisfy the needs, preferences, or values of particular groups of people. Responsiveness in public policy means the response of public policy goals to the implementation of a policy.

The Responsiveness in evaluating food diversification policies in Gowa Regency is on community satisfaction with various program realizations, especially in the form of Sustainable Food House Areas (KRPL) and the Sustainable Food Yards (P2L) program. This is related to how beneficial the program is to the community as well as the extent of its long-term impact.

The benefits of the food diversification policy in Gowa Regency, in this case, the realization of the Sustainable Food House Area (KRPL), are felt by the community in the form of improving nutrition in the form of the availability of nutritional complements through green plants that can be consumed. As explained by M, a resident of Somba Opu Subdistrict:

"The benefits that I feel are that we do not need to buy too many vegetables because they are already in the area. And children also like to eat chili" (16/8/2022).

This explanation shows that the community has felt this food diversification policy with the ease of getting vegetables without being bought, and children are used to consuming vegetables. From this, each family already has direct benefits and dietary changes. Members of the program recipient group also feel this benefit. As explained by MG, the Tamarunang Sustainable Food House Area Administrator (KRPL) who received assistance in 2017-2018:

"There used to be 30 group members, thank God they didn't need to buy vegetables for 2 years" (16/8/2022).

During the two years of the program, each group member can meet the nutritional needs of vegetables, and each group can harvest their crops and become family consumption. Other groups of program recipients also feel the benefits of this food diversification policy. As explained by KE, Chairman of the Gowa Regency Fishermen's Farmers Group:

"So each member of the group brought home results that were beneficial to his household. Including seedlings from the green house. This is what each member develops around his house, his yard. So it doesn't cost anymore to buy vegetables because it is used by each member involved in this activity. And it becomes an added value because there is a friendship between fellow members who are present there" (11/8/2022).

Generally, the benefits felt by group members are because group members no longer buy vegetables. In addition, the existence of this group will establish friendships between communities that remind each other about the importance of fulfilling nutrition. This foundation is also an argument for the success of food diversification policies in the Gowa Regency. As explained by MR, Head of the Food Diversity Division of the Food Security Service of Gowa Regency.

"Yes, especially for people who have felt the results in this case the group that is still getting assistance from this program" (20/8/2022).

This explanation shows that the Food Security Service considers that the community is satisfied with the food diversification policy, especially in the realization of the form of a Sustainable Food House Area (KRPL), which is then changed to a Sustainable Food Yard (P2L). However, these benefits do not have a long-term impact on society. As explained by M, Interview of the People of Sumba Opu District, Tamarunang. The Sustainable Food House Area (KRPL) was placed in 2017-2018:

"During the activity there was no improvement in well-being. It's still the same, it's just that the vegetables are distributed, and the vegetables are not bought anymore" (16/8/2022).

The benefits felt by the community are only temporary, namely during the program. However, after that, it is no longer, so the community considers this policy to have no implications for improving community welfare and nutrition in the long term. There are many obstacles faced why this program is not sustainable, as explained by SJ, Head of the Borong Pa'lala Village Peasant Women's Group, Patalassang District:

"The benefits are very good at the first time, because in addition to people, they can consume themselves and can also get money even though they are not too much. However, because of the first obstacle, the results from the farmers are very cheap so that members no longer have the desire to plant" (24/7/2022).

The use of group members' garden products so far has only been for their consumption because the harvest is generally priced so cheaply that it makes group members no longer interested in planting. This obstacle is undoubtedly caused by a poor planting and management model so that this happens. Generally, the success of programs like this is also determined by the companions of the group. However, this is also less than optimal in Gowa Regency. As explained by SS, Coordinator of District P2KP Gowa:

"The next obstacle is that so far, the group assistants in each village have been appointed by us to consider that they are still unprofessional. Why? Because sometimes there are group companions who are not technical personnel or personnel who are far from the location of the activity or group. Even then, we cannot deny that the obstacle arises because the food security service does not have functional personnel, including agricultural extension workers in each village" (4/8/2022).

The placement of less professional group companions also causes the community's dissatisfaction. So in practice, it is also unable to carry out optimal mentoring. In addition, the unavailability of functional personnel makes local governments limited in providing agricultural assistance and extension in each village. Nevertheless, efforts continue to be made by the Gowa district government. The Head of the Gowa Regency Food Security Service explains this.

"The Food Security Service is moving to motivate and encourage community groups and farmers, especially women's groups, to use as optimally as possible, empowering assistance to the development of these groups. So, we monitor and encourage the sustainability of the program to the community, because P2L is very helpful for food security, especially the food security of families and communities" (30/8/2022).

This indicates the response of the local government, in this case, the Gowa district food security office, to some groups that have not been successful, namely continuing to monitor and conduct guidance efforts. This is done because this program is considered very helpful in achieving food security in the Gowa district.

Responsiveness in evaluating public policy is concerned with how far a policy can satisfy the needs, preferences, or values of particular groups of people. Dunn (2003) states that Responsiveness Responsiveness concerns how far a policy can satisfy the needs, preferences, or values of particular groups of people.

The community's Responsiveness Responsiveness to the food diversification policy in Gowa Regency can be seen in two aspects: the short term and the long term. This is because, in the short term in the form of people are enjoying the benefits directly in the form of their crops. Meanwhile, in the long term, there is a diversity of public consumption, which has implications for improving nutrition and additional community income. According to Mamahit et al. (2021), the government's Responsiveness Responsiveness must be guided by the community and increased socialization about the importance of policies or programs made so that people's concern for wanting to be involved in policies and programs is increasingly used as a habit.

The people of Gowa Regency, especially members of the program recipient group, feel the benefits of getting vegetables without being bought, and children are used to eating vegetables. This indicates that the recipients of this program respond positively and feel the benefits of this food diversification policy. Another thing is that people are accustomed to using the land around the house to grow vegetables and chilies. This makes the availability of vegetables for group members during the program always varied. Another thing is that the community around the recipients of the program is also satisfied because they get free vegetable distribution. This, of course, also has implications for the diversity of people's daily consumption.

Public satisfaction with the realization of food diversification policies in both the KRPL and P2L models did not last long. This is because it is felt only at the time of the two years running. Even then, it is only on the availability of vegetables and the like, not on improving welfare, which is not in line with each program's goals to improve nutrition and the welfare of the community.

The obstacle that makes people dissatisfied is the vegetable harvest which is challenging to sell, and the price is low. This makes group members uninterested in planting in

large quantities. The factor of cheapness and difficulty in selling is also due to the low quality of the harvest. This obstacle is caused by group members not being equipped with good planting skills beforehand. It is actually left to extension workers prepared by the ministry of agriculture and the food security service of Gowa Regency for skill improvement. However, limited and less professional companions also cause the public to be dissatisfied with the program's assistance. According to Imelda et al (2017), the strategy that must be carried out is to increase synergy between the government and micro, small and medium enterprises for the local development of food products, the use of communication systems and market information in increasing the marketing of local food products to micro, small and medium enterprises, and the use of untapped agricultural land to improve the quality and quantity of local food products.

Conclusion

The Responsiveness of the household-based food diversification policy in Gowa Regency for the short term is very good because of the availability of free vegetables and the establishment of a varied diet. However, in the medium term, namely the second and third years, people tend to be disappointed because, generally, programs do not have an impact on improving nutrition and community welfare. Negative responses also occur in extension workers who do not carry out their duties regularly and professionally. It is recommended that the Gowa Regency Government formulate various policies and programs to foster the entrepreneurial culture of the community in general and specifically in the food diversification program.

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