


## Policy Implementation Community Empowerment Through Strengthening The Role Of Coordination Pokja Posyandu To Prevent Stunting In Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir East District, 2023

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| Article Info   | ABSTRACT   |
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| <b>Keywords:</b><br>Evaluation,<br>Coordination Role of Posyandu Working Group,<br>Stunting  | The role of the village level posyandu working group is very strategic, one of which is coordinating the implementation of programs related to the development of posyandu in an effort to prevent stunting in the posyandu working area. The aim of the research is to evaluate the role of posyandu working group coordination in preventing stunting in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District in 2023. This research is a qualitative research. The informants for the interview were 1 coordinator and 1 member of the posyandu working group in Bangun Harja village, while the supporting informants included: 1 head, 1 nutrition officer, 1 health promotion officer at Kualua Pembuang II Health Center, and 2 mothers with toddlers. in Bangun Harja village taken using the purposive sampling method. Data analysis in qualitative research. The research results of the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group have been organizationally established and are not functioning optimally due to the lack of human resources and facilities/infrastructure and there is no funding for the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group and coordination is only carried out by the Provincial and Regency Level Posyandu Working Groups directly with the community. to Posyandu cadres and the community, so that coordination of the Posyandu Working Group in Bangun Harja Village did not work due to the lack of clear technical instructions regarding the role of the Posyandu Working Group in preventing stunting. Then we look at the 5 M's, namely: 1) There is no clear planning, organization and direction, 2) Human resources in the Posyandu Working Group have not been empowered maximally, 3) There is no infrastructure such as weight measuring scales, Upper Arm Circumference measuring devices. and Toddler Head Circumference Measuring Tools, 4) There is no technical guidance regarding duties and functions, and 5) There is no budget yet, both operational and transportation budgets for activities in carrying out their duties to prevent stunting in Bangun Harja Village. |
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### INTRODUCTION

Globally, stunting is one of the goals of the *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs). Indonesia is in the process of realizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS) 2, which is ending

hunger, achieving better food and nutrition security, and supporting sustainable agriculture. The target included in this is the prevention of stunting problems which are sought to decrease by 2025. This 2nd goal is closely related to the 3rd goal, which is to ensure a healthy life and support well-being for all for all ages.(1)

Stunting is still a major nutritional problem faced by Indonesia. Based on data from the 2018 Basic Health Research (Riskesdas), the stunting rate in Indonesia is 30.8%. This figure is still relatively high compared to age. This figure is still relatively high compared to the target of the National Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMN) of 19% in 2024.(2) Stunting is defined as the condition of the nutritional status of toddlers who have a length or height that is classified as less when compared to their age. Measurement is carried out using child growth standards from the *World Health Organization* (WHO), namely by interpreting stunting if it is more than minus two median deviation standards. Stunting in toddlers is caused by many factors such as socioeconomic conditions, maternal nutrition during pregnancy, pain in babies, and lack of nutritional intake in babies. Generally, these various causes last for a long period of time (chronic).(3)

Data on the prevalence of stunting in children under five collected by WHO released in 2019 stated that the South-East Asia region is still the region with the highest stunting prevalence rate (31.9%) in the world after Africa (33.1%). Indonesia is included in the sixth country in the South-East Asia region after Bhutan, Timor Leste, Maldives, Bangladesh, and India, which is 36.4%.(4) Based on the results of the 2022 Nutrition Status Survey, the stunting rate in 2022 nationally is 21.6%. Stunting is also a priority issue in Central Kalimantan Province even though the prevalence of stunting can be reduced from 27.4% in 2021 to 26.9% in 2022, but the prevalence is still above the WHO standard of less than 20%. The prevalence of stunting toddlers in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District based on the 2022 Nutritional Status Survey is 34.7%, this shows an increase of 5.4% when compared to the prevalence of stunting toddlers in 2021 of 29.3%.(5)

**Table 1** Stunting Data of the Seruyan Regency Health Office

| No  | Nama Puskesmas    | Prevalensi Stunting |       | Naik/ (Turun) |
|-----|-------------------|---------------------|-------|---------------|
|     |                   | 2021                | 2022  |               |
| 1.  | Kuala Pembuang I  | 12,36               | 42,86 | 30,5          |
| 2.  | Kuala Pembuang II | 16,58               | 18,15 | 1,57          |
| 3.  | Telaga Pulang     | 17,9                | 25,32 | 7,42          |
| 4.  | Danau Sembuluh    | 1,24                | 4,38  | 3,14          |
| 5.  | Terawan           | 3,7                 | 15,94 | 12,24         |
| 6.  | Asam Baru         | 4,35                | 9,73  | 5,38          |
| 7.  | Pembuang Hulu     | 28,18               | 44,44 | 16,26         |
| 8.  | Sandul            | 24,27               | 22,22 | (2,05)        |
| 9.  | Rantau Pulut I    | 10,8                | 0     | (10,8)        |
| 10. | Rantau Pulut II   | 13,93               | 50    | 36,07         |
| 11. | Tumbang Manjul    | 33,78               | 33,09 | (0,69)        |
| 12. | Tumbang Langkai   | 30,2                | 30    | (0,2)         |

Source : Health Office Stunting Data Report in 2022

Stunting deserves more attention because it can have an impact on children's lives until they grow up, especially the risk of impaired physical and cognitive development if not handled properly immediately. The impact of stunting in the short term can be in the form of decreased learning ability due to lack of cognitive development. Meanwhile, in the long run, it can reduce the quality of life of children as adults because of the decrease in opportunities to get education, job opportunities, and better income.(6)

The adverse impacts that stunting can cause, in the short term, are disruption of brain development, intelligence, physical growth disorders, and metabolic disorders in the body. Meanwhile, in the long term, the bad consequences that can be caused are decreased cognitive ability and learning achievement, decreased immunity so that it is easy to get sick, and a high risk for the emergence of degenerative diseases such as diabetes, obesity, heart and blood vessel diseases, and others (7). In addition to inhibiting children's growth and development and being susceptible to disease, stunting also affects brain development which makes the child's intelligence level not optimal. This risks reducing productivity in adulthood. Stunting and other nutritional problems are estimated to contribute to the loss of 2-3% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) every year (8).

The problem of stunting growth is often not realized by the public because there are no "instant" indications such as disease. The effects of stunting in children can be a predisposing of other health problems until later the child becomes an adult. Therefore, the prevention of stunting problems must begin long before a child is born (period of 100 HPK) and even since adolescent mothers to be able to break the chain of stunting in the life cycle.(9) The use of the Posyandu Working Group as a form of community-sourced health efforts in public health services can be one of the strategies. in stunting intervention because it focuses on pregnant women to toddlers.(10)

Prevention of a disease can be done through community empowerment in the health sector with the hope that the community will be able to empower themselves in identifying a problem, solving health problems at the smallest community level. Research conducted by Zereyesus (2021), obtained from 4718 cited articles identified, there were 15 articles that met the inclusion and exclusion criteria. In general, evidence suggests that community empowerment at the household level is positively and statistically significant with better child health outcomes in sub-Saharan African countries.(11) The review also revealed that decision-making power or community autonomy is the most commonly used measure of community empowerment by many studies.

Bangun Harja Village, East Seruyan Hilir District is one of the areas affected by stunting, and is handling/preventing stunting. The background of stunting in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District is due to the lack of parental knowledge about nutritious food, the environment, water, sanitation and others. In addition, the results of the researcher's observation show that there is still a lack of human resources in the Posyandu Working Group, so that coordination in the implementation of stunting reduction has not been maximized. This is also shown by the achievement of stunting which has not met the target, which is 14%. This phenomenon requires a study on the Evaluation of the Implementation of

Community Empowerment Policies through Strengthening the Coordination Role of the Posyandu Working Group to Prevent Stunting in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District in 2023.

To reduce the stunting rate in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District, the role of health workers such as the posyandu working group is needed to provide health information and education to pregnant women and parents of toddlers in preventing stunting. There is still a lack of knowledge and skills of cadres in stunting prevention who have not been able to overcome the problem of stunting in Bangun Harja Village, East Seruyan Hilir District. For this reason, it is necessary to empower the posyandu working group in stunting prevention to improve the knowledge and skills of cadres in stunting prevention in Bangun Harja Village, East Seruyan Hilir District.

This posyandu service is inseparable from the posyandu working group which is the main driver of posyandu activities. The active role of the Posyandu Working Group is important because it affects the success of the Posyandu program, especially in monitoring children's growth and development. To encourage the acceleration of community empowerment in the health sector, the Posyandu Working Group is present as a supervisory institution from the government to discuss the progress and obstacles encountered in the implementation of the Posyandu, as well as to increase awareness, willingness to live a healthy life and realize an optimal level of public health, empower and encourage the active role of the community in all forms of health efforts.(12)

Several policies have been issued by the government to support community empowerment through strengthening the coordination role of the Posyandu Working Group to prevent stunting. The birth of Law (UU) No. 6 of 2014 concerning Villages which was followed up with Government Regulation (PP) No. 43 of 2014 has major implications for the change in the institutional status of Posyandu from previously only as a Community Resource Health Effort (UKBM), then ratified as a Village Community Institution (LKD). The policy was followed up with the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs No. 54 of 2007 concerning Guidelines for the Establishment of Operational Working Groups (Pokjandal) for the Development of Posyandu, that one of the functions of the Posyandu Working Group is the implementation of government policies in the development of Posyandu.(13)

Policy evaluation is an evaluation that aims to see the compatibility between the success of the policy and the goals achieved. The results of previous research related to the evaluation of the impact of the implementation of stunting prevention policies in Kenagarian Pulakek Koto Baru are still not optimal. This is marked by the lack of maximum implementation of nutrition surveillance in the health sector. Second, the lack of consistency of the government so that the implementation of prevention is still not optimal, marked by the absence of special regional regulations for handling stunting so that the programs implemented are limited. Third, the lack of innovation from the local government so that the public's interest in participating in prevention activities has also decreased, and public understanding and knowledge are also limited due to a lack of counseling. Fourth, lack of support between regional apparatus organizations and institutions related to stunting

prevention. Fifth, the Food Security Service which only focuses on the problem of food insecurity in general and considers that the stunting problem is a matter for the Health Office. Finally, health human resources are inadequate and unevenly distributed, so the implementation of stunting prevention is still not optimal. Due to these problems, policy objectives have not been achieved.(14)

Stunting prevention is a shared responsibility. The Posyandu Working Group has a big role in implementing effective interventions to reduce the stunting rate of children under five in Bangun Harja Village, East Seruyan Hilir District. Based on the above background, the formulation of the problem in this study is that it is not yet known how the results of the evaluation of the implementation of community empowerment policies through the strengthening of the posyandu working group in stunting prevention in Bangun Harja Village, East Seruyan Hilir District. However, to make this happen, supporting information is needed. The success of stunting prevention also depends on policies and intervention strategies at the right time. The government and related parties have an important role to implement existing policies in order to create an independent and skilled community, especially in Bangun Harja Village, East Seruyan Hilir District. The purpose of the study is to evaluate the coordination role of the posyandu working group in preventing stunting in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District in 2023.

## METHOD

This study is a qualitative research to evaluate and evaluate the coordination role of the posyandu working group in preventing stunting in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District in 2023. The data sources in this study are: primary data is a data source that directly provides data to data collectors.(15) The primary data sources of this study are interviews, observations and documentation studies. Secondary data is a source that does not directly provide data to data collectors.(16) Secondary data sources in this study are village profile data, poskesdes profile data, posyandu profiles, stunting data, photos and videos of the implementation of the posyandu working group.

The informants for this interview, including the main informants, were 1 employee of the Seruyan Regency Health Office, 1 Head of the Health Center, 1 person from the Bangun Harja Village Government, 2 Posyandu Cadres and 1 mother who has a stunted toddler. The informants in this study were taken using the purposive sampling method because the informants above are relevant parties and are involved and understand the coordination role of the posyandu working group in preventing stunting in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District in 2023.

Data collection techniques in qualitative research use observation, interview, and documentation techniques. Observations were made by directly observing the coordination role of the posyandu working group to prevent stunting in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District in 2023. The interview method conducted by the researcher is an unstructured interview, which is a free interview where the researcher does not use interview guidelines that have been arranged systematically and completely for data collection. Data collection

through this unstructured interview, the researcher aims to obtain data on the role of the Posyandu working group coordination to prevent stunting in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District in 2023. Then the documentation carried out in this study is by taking pictures in the form of photos, videos, and writing. This documentation technique is used by researchers to find data from agencies (Puskesmas, village governments, and Pokja and Posyandu) to support the research findings.

Data analysis in this qualitative research uses domain analysis at the stage of grouping and determining terms and content analysis, namely grouping the information obtained by topic and comparing it with existing theories. In full, the data processing and analysis are carried out as follows: (1) Listening to the recording of the results of the in-depth interview, (2) Making a transcript of the results of the in-depth interview, (3) Compiling all the themes that appear simultaneously and grouping them into categories, (4) Compiling all themes into a summary (matrix) of findings from the results of the discussion and interview so that provisional results can be obtained, (5) Referring and developing a resume from the scheme obtained with related literature, (6) Making a comprehensive and understandable interpretation, and (7) Presenting the results of the analysis data in the form of a narrative.

Then the data validity technique in this qualitative research uses three types of triangulation, namely source triangulation, method triangulation, and data triangulation. Source triangulation means comparing and rechecking the degree of confidence of information obtained from different information. Source triangulation is the collection of informants from different sources on the same topic. In this research design, the triangulation of sources in the selection of informants consisted of in-depth interview informants, namely the head of the health center, nutrition officers, and health promotion officers of the health center. Triangulation techniques/methods, namely the researcher will compare the results of in-depth interviews conducted with the data of observations conducted in the field to check the degree of trust with techniques using various data collection methods, namely in-depth interviews, observations, and document reviews. Meanwhile, data triangulation was carried out by analyzing data obtained from various sources, namely data from nutrition officers, health promotion officers and Posyandu working group coordinators by comparing the results of the researcher's analysis with the results of research or observations for the purpose of re-checking the degree of trust.

## DISCUSSION

The results of the evaluation of the Implementation of Community Empowerment Policies through Strengthening the Coordination Role of the Posyandu Working Group to Prevent Stunting in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District in 2023 have not been maximized because the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group has been formed organizationally and has not functioned optimally due to the lack of human resources and facilities/infrastructure and the lack of funding for the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group. In addition, coordination is only carried out by the Provincial and Regency Level Posyandu Working Groups to the community directly to Posyandu Cadres and the

community, so that the coordination of the Posyandu Working Group in Bangun Harja Village does not run due to the absence of clear technical instructions in the role of the Posyandu Working Group in preventing stunting.

Meanwhile, the Implementation of Community Empowerment Policy through Strengthening the Coordination Role of the Posyandu Working Group to Prevent Stunting in Bangun Harja Village, Seruyan Hilir Timur District in 2023 is reviewed from the 5 M's, namely: 1) There is no clear planning, organization, and direction , so that the Posyandu Working Group in Bangun Harja Village has not optimally carried out the coordination role, 2) Human resources in the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group have not been empowered in a by the Health Office and the Health Center, so that the existing Posyandu Working Group does not have routine activities, 3) The absence of infrastructure owned by the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group such as weight scales, upper arm circumference measuring devices and toddler head circumference measuring devices, 4) The absence of technical instructions about the duties and functions of the Bangun Harja Village Working Group in carrying out its duties, so that the Bangun Harja Village Working Group does not know what to do, and 5) There is no budget owned by the Bangun Harja Village Working Group, both operational budgets and transportation activities in carrying out its duties to prevent stunting.

Therefore, the Seruyan Regency Regional Government is expected to make regional regulations related to cross-sector cooperation in reducing stunting rates through the Posyandu Working Group, especially the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group and can pay attention to human resources, funds and facilities/infrastructure as well as the budget for the Bangun Harja Village Working Group so that it can carry out its duties and functions properly in preventing stunting rates.

The coordination role of the Posyandu Working Group of Bangun Harja village is not in line with the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs No. 54 of 2007 concerning Guidelines for the Formation of Operational Working Groups for Posyandu Development, explaining that the Posyandu Working Group, hereinafter referred to as the Posyandu Working Group, is a working group whose duties and functions are related to the development of the implementation/management of Posyandu based in the village.(5) then in Article 9 paragraph 1 of the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs No. 54 of 2007 concerning Guidelines for the Establishment of Operational Working Groups for the Development of Posyandu, it is explained that the Working Group of Posyandu in villages/sub-districts has the following duties: Managing various data and information related to Posyandu activities in villages/sub-districts; Prepare an annual activity plan and seek funding sources to support Posyandu development activities; Conducting an analysis of program implementation problems based on alternative problem solving in accordance with the potential and needs of the village/sub-district; Providing guidance, coaching, facilitation, monitoring, and evaluation of the management of activities and performance of Posyandu cadres on an ongoing basis; Mobilizing and developing participation, mutual cooperation, and non-governmental organizations in developing Posyandu; Developing other activities according to needs; and Report the results of the implementation of activities to the Head of Village/Lurah and the

Chairman of the Sub-district Posyandu Working Group (5).

Furthermore, in Article 9 paragraph 1 of the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs No. 54 of 2007 concerning Guidelines for the Establishment of Operational Working Groups for the Development of Posyandu, it is explained that the village/sub-district Posyandu Working Group has the following functions: Distribution of community aspirations in the development of Posyandu; implementation of government policies in the development of Posyandu; coordination of the implementation of programs related to the development of Posyandu; and improvement of the quality of Posyandu services to the community and the development of partnership in fostering Posyandu (5).

The active role of the Posyandu Working Group is important because it affects the success of the Posyandu program, especially in monitoring children's growth and development. To encourage the acceleration of community empowerment in the health sector, the Posyandu Working Group is present as a supervisory institution from the government to discuss the progress and obstacles encountered in the implementation of the Posyandu, as well as to realize increased awareness, willingness to live a healthy life and realize an optimal level of public health, empowering and encouraging the active role of the community in all forms of health efforts.(12) In the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs No. 54 of 2007 concerning Guidelines for the Establishment of Operational Working Groups (Pokjandal) for the Development of Posyandu, that one of the functions of the Posyandu Working Group is the implementation of government policies in the development of Posyandu.(13)

Evaluation of the implementation of community empowerment policies through strengthening the coordination role of the Posyandu Working Group to prevent stunting is needed because it can be used as a recommendation for local governments in increasing public awareness and knowledge about nutrition problems, especially for toddlers so that people are exposed to new information to be applied in their daily lives. Evaluation of policy implementation will have an impact on improving the performance of posyandu in stunting prevention and changes in community knowledge, awareness and behavior, which are very important factors in stunting prevention.US\$ 13

## CONCLUSION

The Buk Harja Village Posyandu Working Group has been formed organizationally and has not functioned optimally due to the lack of human resources and facilities/infrastructure and the lack of funding for the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group. In addition, coordination is only carried out by the Provincial and Regency Level Posyandu Working Groups to the community directly to Posyandu Cadres and the community, so that the coordination of the Posyandu Working Group in Bangun Harja Village does not run due to the absence of clear technical instructions in the role of the Posyandu Working Group in preventing stunting. Meanwhile, reviewed from the 5 M's, namely: 1) There is no clear planning, organization, and direction, 2) Human resources in the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group have not been empowered to the maximum by the Health Office



or the Health Center, 3) There is no infrastructure owned by the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group such as weight scales, upper arm circumference measuring devices and toddler head circumference measuring devices, 4) There is no technical instruction about the duties and functions of the Bangun Harja Village Working Group in carrying out its duties, and 5) There is no budget owned by the Bangun Harja Village Working Group, both operational budgets and transportation activities in carrying out its duties to prevent stunting. The suggestions in this study are as follows: The Seruyan Regency Regional Government needs to make a Regional Regulation or Regent Regulation related to cross-sector cooperation in preventing stunting through the Posyandu Working Group in the village, especially the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group, so that the implementation of policies on Posyandu development does not run according to their respective interests. The Regional Government and the Seruyan Regency Health Office need to pay attention to human resources, funds and facilities/infrastructure as well as the budget, so that the Bangun Harja Village Posyandu Working Group can carry out its duties and functions well in preventing stunting rates. The Seruyan Regency Health Office immediately optimizes coordination between the Puskesmas and sub-districts, sub-districts or villages as well as Posyandu cadres to increase the role of the Posyandu Working Group officers in carrying out the function of fostering Posyandu and continuous coaching of Posyandu cadres to improve and maintain the quality of Posyandu services, especially in preventing stunting. The Seruyan Regency Health Office needs to make a Guidebook and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) related to the implementation of the Posyandu Working Group, so that the Posyandu Working Group administrators clearly know what to do in reducing the stunting rate. To Bangun Harja Village, it is necessary to prepare a special budget for the Posyandu Working Group related to the needs of facilities and infrastructure as well as the operation of officers in 1 (one) year in carrying out the activities of the Posyandu Working Group every month, so that the Posyandu Working Group in carrying out its duties well.

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