

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOOD STRENGTHENING POLICY IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR BY THE AGRICULTURE OFFICE OF NORTH MALUKU PROVINCE IN THE JAILOLO SUB-DISTRICT

Muhtar Husen

Universitas Satyagama, Indonesia
Email: muhtarhusen78@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the implementation of food-strengthening policies by the North Maluku Provincial Agriculture Office in Jailolo District. The research method used is qualitative with a case study approach. Data was collected through in-depth interviews with farmers, Department of Agriculture staff, and local community leaders. Data analysis is carried out using content analysis techniques. Research findings show that the implementation of food-strengthening policies in the Jailolo sub-district faces various challenges, including limited human and financial resources. Despite this, some measures have been taken to increase agricultural productivity and food availability. Recommendations are prepared to improve the effectiveness of policy implementation, including improved coordination among stakeholders and adequate budget allocation. This research is expected to contribute to the improvement of agricultural policies and practices at the local and regional levels

Keywords: Policy implementation; Food strengthening; Agricultural sector

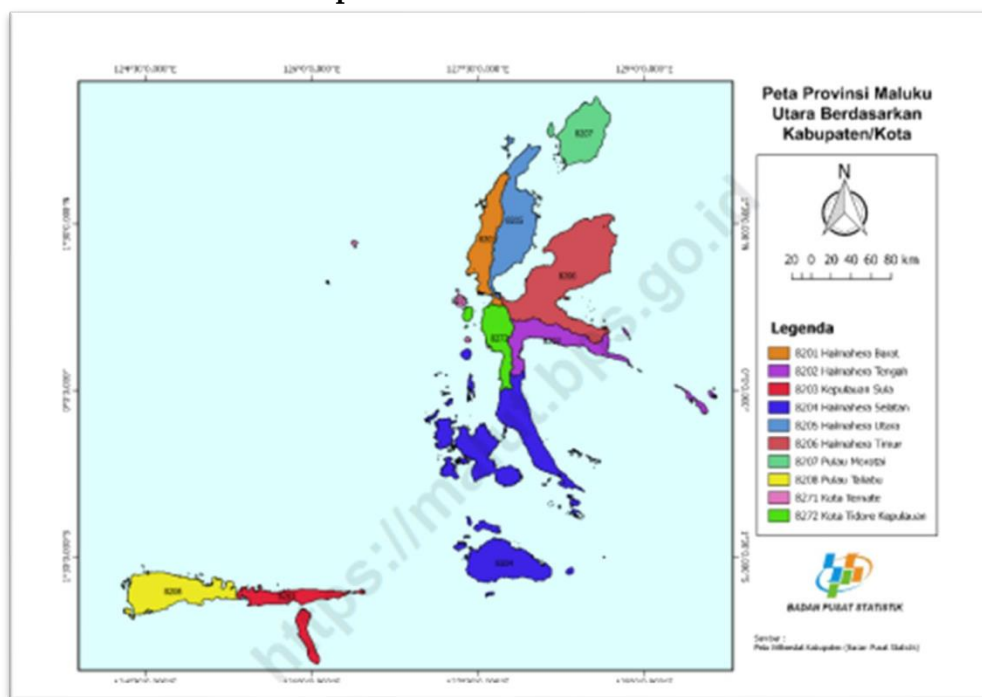
Introduction

The speed of technology that continues to develop requires rapid adaptation, in this context in the science of government administration known as borrowing Miftah Taha in contemporary Public Administration (2017) "The Old Public Administration has been abandoned, which according to Wood Row Wilson equates bureaucracy with business, therefore the government must have a structure following the business model of having an executive controlling authority (controlling) which is very important to have a hierarchical organizational structure, from the top structure to the most carrying structure, and that is only possible in bureaucracy government. Willson further said that in the context of policy implementation as the dominant government administration as above there is a danger that it can be right and great intervention by politics, quoting Willson's very famous words Administration lies outside the proper sphere of politics, administration question are not political question although politics sets the tasks for administration, it should not be suffered to manipulate its offices.

In formulating policies whatever the name, especially those policies made by government bureaucracies that have rights and authority, often raise various problems because policymaking cannot be avoided various kinds of conflicts of interest, both interest groups, and policy makers. The involvement of interest groups in the formulation of public policy in a certain space of political interests breaks in, the influence of political interests by politicians in public policy making often brings disaster.

In general, the mapping of the North Maluku province is depicted on the map of the North Maluku province as follows.

Map of North Maluku Province



Source: North Maluku in 2022 Figures

The policy of the North Maluku provincial government in implementing development in agriculture is an inseparable part of national development to achieve the ideals of people's welfare and prosperity. With geographical conditions as a tribal region, of course, in implementing agricultural sector development policies has a uniqueness compared to other regions in Indonesia (Situmeang, 2023).

North Maluku Province is also one of the provinces that has the highest economic growth in Indonesia at 27.74%, economic growth in the year decreased from the previous year of 28.33%. (Setyowati & Khoirudin, 2022). The mining sector (nickel ore) is still a supplier sector for North Maluku's economic growth with massive foreign exports, as well as incoming investment growth in line with the plan to build a smelter in North Maluku. The high economic growth in the mining sector has an impact on the

development of the agricultural sector as a basis for strengthening food. The results of research on the Impact of Nickel Mining on the Lifestyle of Coconut Farmers in Waleh Village, North Weda District, Central Halmahera Regency conducted by Fahrur Rifa'i et al (2022) stated that the existence of the nickel mining industry in Central Halmahera is based on the shrinkage of agricultural products and the conversion of agricultural land into mining areas.

Based on the Regional Fiscal study of North Maluku Province in the third quarter of 2021 (Finance, 2020), The business sector in the third quarter of 2021 (y-o-y) whose growth was very significant was the mining and quarrying sector by 55.81 percent and the processing industry sector by 44.25 percent. Meanwhile, the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sector contracted by 1.2 percent in the third quarter of 2021 (y-o-y), indicated as people began to choose to work in the mining and processing industry sectors. The decline in the business sector above has an impact on the food security index of North Maluku province. Based on 2021 Food Security Index data reported by (Food Security Agency, 2021), showing that the North Maluku food security index is in the rank of provinces that obtained the lowest score of 59.58 after Riau province, with a IKP value of 66.84. The picture above encourages researchers to explore how the implementation of food strengthening policies in North Maluku province by the North Maluku Agriculture Office. The food strengthening policy of the North Maluku Agriculture Office which is the target of this study is more focused on the implementation of agricultural sector policies by the North Maluku Agriculture Office, as well as the challenges of implementing food strengthening in the agricultural sector in North Maluku (Talib, 2018).

Research Methods

This research is a form of qualitative descriptive research. The sampling technique used in this study was purposive sampling. The data collection techniques used are interviews, observations, and documentation. The method chosen to analyze the data in this study was descriptive analysis

Results and Discussion

The policy of strengthening food security is the heart of survival by community members, not only the survival of farmers alone who produce food crops but for the livelihood of the nation's citizens as a whole, therefore the involvement of the State is important, at the State level views the importance of policies to strengthen food security so that Law number 18 of 2012 was born which regulates the availability of food nationally which is reflected in food availability sufficient, both in quantity and quality, safe, diverse, nutritionally evenly distributed and affordable (Central Government, 2012). Law number 18 concerning food security is a reference and a sequence of every policy regulation in the regions. Therefore, the implementation policy of strengthening food security in the agriculture office of North Maluku Province becomes a common ideal and vision as

outlined in the strategic plan of the agricultural office is part of the elaboration to implement in the context of the North Maluku Province.

Furthermore, the Regional Government in this case the agriculture office of North Maluku Province is an institution that produces policies and executes them as implementers of the principle of decentralization where the central government synchronizes some of its affairs to local governments to be managed independently, in this context regional governments are given the freedom to regulate themselves in the context of implementing regional autonomy, among others, through strategic design (*Renstra*) on policies to strengthen food security in North Maluku Province (Safa'at, 2013). The authority to regulate itself in the context of regional autonomy which gives direction to opportunities to be more independent in implementing policies to strengthen food tea.

Prof. Dr. Makmur in the Effectiveness of Supervision Institutional Policy said (2011) "Indeed, basic thinking in a policy always starts from thinking about its preparation or formulation, implementation or implementation to evaluation or assessment, these activities all require rational and objective thinking so as to create justice. If thinking is always carried out rationally and objectively and implemented in just and dignified actions, it will certainly provide the greatest benefit to life for living things in general and especially for humans themselves, because in government science the order of human life will not be separated by the policies made by humans themselves.

In the above opinion, human order cannot be separated from the policies made, so the quality of policies made by an institution, especially the government, must be realized from the accumulation of rational thoughts, not in public policy theory before the implementation or embodiment action is born from a long process and cannot be separated from social dynamics with all the problems of life (Widodo, 2021).

The implementation of policies to strengthen food security in the agriculture office of North Maluku Province must really be born from a dynamic of rational, objective thoughts on problems that occur in the agricultural world, because a policy that will be implemented is not through the exchange of ideas, rational thoughts from various interest groups, then the policy will not be able to survive, otherwise the policy is said to be anomalous and did not last long.

The Regional Government in this case the agriculture office of North Maluku Province in implementing several policies to strengthen food security formulated in the strategic plan on future direction seen in this research by researchers is responsive (Tjilen, 2019). Because after all, the work of a policy requires responsiveness or responsiveness from the government in providing services to the community through government policies.

Implementation The policy of strengthening food security in the Agriculture Office of North Maluku Province must actually be seen as an effort to encourage the growth and

development of farmers in utilizing all their potential both natural and human resources so that the community with government programs can survive in difficult situations, therefore the implementation of food security policies is not just a policy that only wants to show to citizens. The community will be committed to the government's *political will*, but more than that the implementation of a policy through government programs is nothing but in order to meet the needs of the community, of course the policy must be based on the real needs of the farming community.

Producing a policy implemented by the government, in this case, the North Maluku provincial agriculture office does not have to be based on political interests, let alone the interests of a few people, therefore the distribution of policies through the North Maluku provincial agriculture office program to the community must be measured by how much it accommodates the needs of residents for the importance of strengthening food security. The implementation of work carried out by the North Maluku provincial agriculture office should be designed as a responsive policy, namely policies made and implemented by paying attention to and considering the needs, expectations and desires of the community.

Policy implementation is actually formulated based on the heartbeat of the community, meaning that its benefits are felt directly by the community, with other policy words taken must emphasize a deep understanding of the issues faced by the community and ensure the actions taken meet their needs. According to the author, the implementation of policies to strengthen food security that is responsive and has sustainability resilience because it is felt that its efficacy must be avoided in the interests of individuals and group interests, therefore policy implementation must have the characteristics of:

- a. Oriented to the needs of the community, policy implementation must ensure that the community has an active role in the process of formulation and implementation.
- b. Solution-oriented: policy implementation focuses on solutions that can help address problems facing communities and meet their needs.
- c. Common will: the implementation of policies carried out through work programs must accommodate the needs of all citizens
- d. Improving the quality of life of citizens: the implementation of an effective policy is to help people to fight for and raise their standard of living towards prosperity and prosperity.

By taking into account these characteristics, policies manifested in strengthening responsive food security will be more effective in meeting the needs of the community and ensuring that actions are taken in accordance with their hopes and desires. The implementation of policies designed by the agriculture office of North Maluku province in order to strengthen food security must have implications for improving better living standards (Rahman, 2018b).

The main axis of policy execution is that based on the real needs of the community it can be carried out effectively if the formulation and process of policy making, the public must be given an open space for their involvement, because they are the ones who understand their needs best. O'Toole in Frank Fischer (2015) said that policy implementation is broadly defined as what happens between setting a clear goal on the part of the government to do something or stop doing something, and the ultimate impact on the world of action.

In the above context, policies and maxims will change very often and inconsistently and even distorted, or their implementation is delayed or even completely blocked, the obstruction often occurs and it is common knowledge that the interests of the group, person to person, collide with each other. Therefore according to Gunn (2015: 74) the ideal process of policy implementation should include the following core elements:

- a. Specification details the program (i.e., how and by which institution the program should be implemented.
- b. Resource allocation (i.e. how is the budget distributed? Who will run the program? Which organizational unit is responsible for carrying it out?).
- c. Decision (i.e. how is the decision implemented?)

The three elements stated by Gunn above are a complete series of a policy implementation process, there are detailed program specifications, there is an allocation of resources, both resources in the form of budget and human resources, then decision making, three themes in the series of policy implementation, the author analyzes the implementation of policies to strengthen food security by the agriculture office of North Maluku Province sometimes experiencing bottlenecks (Zalfa, 2023).

The obstacle is due to the division of separate rooms, one side of the agricultural office in which there is a separate organizational structure with its own organizational devices and their respective functions and duties as explained by one of the heads in the North Maluku provincial agriculture office that the change in nomenclature since 2017 from the agriculture and food security service has changed to a stand-alone food security service, Therefore, the Department of Agriculture in carrying out policies through its programs only supports the context of production and production of agricultural products, both food crops and horticulture.

Relying on the various arguments above, the implementation of policies to strengthen food security of the North Maluku Provincial Agriculture Office in the future should ideally pay attention to several important things, effectiveness and efficiency in executing agricultural service assistance programs to communities who have the ability to manage assistance from the agricultural office as a form of policy implementation in strengthening food security in North Maluku Province as follows:

Effectiveness

The effectiveness of assistance for all policies related to strengthening food security must be based on knowledge of the use of the assistance provided, coordinating with all apparatus of brocracy organizations in North Maluku province, in this case agencies that are closely related to encouraging together the strengthening of food security in North Maluku Province, and at the same time expanding cooperation networks with other parties including the private sector in participating Helping to invest in the sustainability of farmers, in short, the distribution of aid in agriculture to residents for the purpose of food security must be of quality, not just a false commitment or just presenting policies that are only political or popuistic tendencies.

In the context of policy implementation, policy executors in implementing policies that will be implemented properly must understand correctly the objectives and suggestions of policies, meaning that policy implementation must be oriented to the needs of the community that is appropriate, and adjusted to the ability of the beneficiaries in this case community groups.

Policy implementers in this case the North Maluku provincial agriculture office must involve *stakeholders* including communities, interest groups and related parties in the process of implementing this policy will ensure that all parties involved feel ownership and involved in implementing the policy properly and responsibly, besides that policy implementers must ensure in the implementation of the policy the availability of good resources Human Resources and *Finance Research* because of the ability of human resources and at the same time the ability to budget a policy that is implemented definitely requires the availability of these resources.

Effective policy implementation also requires a regular assessment and evaluation process to ensure the policy is aligned with the plan and meets the goals and objectives set. By evaluating policy implementation implementers can identify any problems and errors that occur, so that they can make improvements in the future, policy implementation implementers must also be flexible and responsive to changing conditions and needs in accordance with the dynamics and changes that continue to occur, not rigid in the speed of adjusting to the flow of changes that continue to move, In short, effective policy implementation requires hard work and dedication from policy implementers.

In the context of implementing policies to strengthen food security with all the dynamics and challenges it faces, it must be focused on efficiency because efficiency can be measured by how much benefit is provided to community members in relation to the efficient use of available resources. Efficiency in the implementation of food security policies of the North Maluku provincial agriculture office can be achieved by optimizing work processes and systems and accelerating decision making, and expanding the network of cooperation between institutions in this case several related agencies or OPDs,

consolidating between policy makers of different rooms is very important for the ease of implementation of the policy itself.

It can be ensured that in carrying out a policy by ensuring that the policy runs efficiently there are several factors that can and contribute to influence, namely; *first*. Policy implementation to strengthen food security must have a clear priority, namely providing appropriate assistance based on community needs, this priority is accompanied by consistency of attitude and transparency of policy implementation. *Second*, the implementation of policies in strengthening food security in the agriculture office of North Maluku province must have the ability to manage resources effectively, namely allocating resources wisely and efficiently, if there is an error in allocating human resources and other resources in supporting the smooth implementation of a policy that has been decided jointly is certain to experience serious problems. *Third*, the implementation of policies to strengthen food security must have a long-term impact on utilization, although it is known that policy execution with assistance from the North Maluku provincial agriculture office is sometimes in the nature of machine tools intended for processed land production can be quickly damaged in their use.

Coordination and cooperation

Coordination and cooperation between institutions in this case the government bureaucracy must be carried out in order to build a common orientation in the implementation of policies to strengthen food security in North Maluku province, connecting coordination between institutions and related agencies in the form of food offices, partner offices and agricultural offices so that they both move quickly, mutual cooperation together utilizing all potentials in all agencies, If cross-sector communication and cooperation are not built, the acceleration of policy implementation to encourage the strengthening of food security in North Maluku Province will only be a meaningless story.

There are several reasons why coordination and cooperation are important in policy implementation: *first*. Coordination and cooperation can increase the speed of access space for the community to the policies implemented. With the cooperation built from coordination and communication across institutions, related cross-agencies are easier to refer to. *Second*. With the coordination and cooperation of available resources from various cross-sections, the Regional Government Organization (OPD) of North Maluku Province can be more easily and lightly optimized more effectively. With another explanation, equalizing the frequency between opd so that the policy to be implemented becomes a common property, it must not move alone in drafting a policy, there must be joint collaboration. In addition, the implementation of future food security policies requires several prerequisites, including:

- a. Provision of adequate resources, this includes qualified personnel in their respective fields, adequacy of facilities needed for effective policy distribution.

- b. Continuous monitoring and evaluation is important to ensure that the implementation of a policy is in accordance with the needs of the community.
- c. Effective coordination with other stakeholders in this case Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) including private parties.
- d. Education through the apparatus of the Agriculture Office that has formed organizational tools in each community group formed by the Agriculture Office in the form of extension workers and farmer groups provided assistance, education and extension services must be carried out continuously in a continuous manner.
- e. Adequate and adequate budget support, this is important to ensure the implementation of policies to strengthen food security is sufficient for the needs in managing the resources available to produce food crops and horticulture.

By paying attention to these matters, the implementation of policies to strengthen food security in the farmer office of North Maluku Province will be more effective and in accordance with the needs of community members. Thus, the implementation of an ideal food security strengthening policy is the implementation of a policy that ensures all resources are met only in the ways described above that the implementation of food security strengthening policies in the North Maluku provincial government office can run effectively, although there are still many challenges faced in realizing the policies designed by the North Maluku Provincial Agriculture Office (Rahman, 2018a).

Conclusion

Based on the results of the research and discussion above, it can be concluded as follows The implementation of the policy of the North Maluku Provincial Agriculture Office on strengthening agricultural food is inseparable from the vision of the North Maluku regional government, namely North Maluku Sejahtera, as well as the goals to be achieved by the North Maluku agricultural office, namely realizing regional food independence and the welfare of farmers who rely on medium-scale industrial agriculture and farmer corporations with some of its dynamic programs; programs for the provision of agricultural facilities, institutionalization of farmer groups, Quality Control, Provision and Circulation of Seeds/Plant Seeds, and Agricultural Extension Programs, Institutional Capacity Building of Area-Based Farmer Economy

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