Evaluation of the Policy to Accelerate Stunting Reduction in Purwakarta Regency

Raden Roro Astrid Kurnia Irawati[1], Elisa Susanti[2], Darto[3].
[1]Universitas Padjajaran, Bandung, Indonesia, astridkurnia94@gmail.com.
[2]Universitas Padjajaran, Bandung, Indonesia, elisa.susanti@unpad.ac.id.
[3]Universitas Padjajaran, Bandung, Indonesia, darto@unpad.ac.id.

Corresponding Author: astridkurnia94@gmail.com[1]

Abstract: Stunting in Indonesia shows fluctuations in prevalence, with a significant downward trend only seen after 2018. Although the stunting rate in 2023 was recorded at 7.1%, disparities between regions are still a major concern. Purwakarta Regency, which has a strategic role in human resource development, faces a major challenge in reducing stunting rates. With a high dependency ratio, Purwakarta has the potential to experience a demographic disaster if stunting is not addressed immediately. This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach to describe the policy of accelerating stunting reduction in Purwakarta in 2000-2023. Data were collected through observation, interviews, and documentation with informants from various related agencies, including the Health Office and Bappelitbangda. The results show that although policies such as Purwakarta Regent Regulation No. 203 of 2021 and intervention programs have been implemented, policy effectiveness is still limited. The main problems faced are low community participation, data misalignment, and limited infrastructure and supervision. Policy evaluation based on indicators of effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, and responsiveness shows the need for improvements in inter-sectoral coordination and increased human resource capacity to achieve better targets. These findings provide important insights for policies to accelerate stunting reduction in Purwakarta district, with a focus on cross-sector collaboration and resource optimization.

Keyword: Purwakarta District, Stunting in Indonesia, Stunting Policy Evaluation, Stunting Reduction Policy.

INTRODUCTION

Sustainable development places people at the heart of the development process, with health and education as the two main aspects in improving the quality of human resources. Optimizing human development needs to begin from the prenatal stage and continue during the child's growth period, where nutrition plays a central role.

Adequate nutritional intake is an important foundation in ensuring that children's physical growth, cognitive development, and digestive health go well. On the other hand,

malnutrition that occurs in the long term will have a serious impact on the quality of life of individuals and have implications for nation building.

Nutrition problems are not only a challenge for developing countries, but also touch developed countries. Indonesia faces dual challenges in the form of excess and malnutrition, which have an impact on various age groups, especially children (Djauhari, 2017; Wahyuningsih, 2018). One of the most worrying forms of chronic malnutrition is stunting, which is a condition of failing to grow in children due to long-lasting malnutrition, especially from the womb to the age of two years (Hasan, 2023). The impact of stunting is not only short-term, such as decreased cognitive function and metabolic disorders, but also long-term, including educational delays, low productivity, and increased risk of non-communicable diseases (Djauhari, 2017 in Sumardilah and Rahmadi, 2019).

In Indonesia, the prevalence of stunting fluctuates from year to year. Data from the Ministry of Home Affairs and Riskesdas show that the stunting rate had reached 40% in 2000, dropped to 28.5% in 2001, then increased again and reached 37.2% in 2013. A significant downward trend was only seen after 2018, and in 2023 the stunting rate was recorded at 7.1%. Although this trend shows improvement, it is still a serious concern, especially since disparities between regions are still quite high. Therefore, a comprehensive and sustainable approach is needed to reduce stunting rates in Indonesia evenly.

One of the regions that also faces challenges in reducing stunting rates is Purwakarta Regency. This region consists of 17 sub-districts and 192 villages, which shows the breadth of the coverage of the intervention area. As a buffer area for the capital of West Java Province, as well as with a strategic position and stable economic growth, Purwakarta Regency has great potential in human resource development. However, stunting is still an obstacle that can interfere with the optimization of the demographic bonus in this area. With a dependency ratio of 44.13% in 2021 and 44.27% in 2022, Purwakarta is enjoying a demographic bonus period, which if not managed properly due to the high stunting rate, can turn into a demographic disaster.

According to data from PPID (2022), the prevalence of stunting in Purwakarta Regency shows a downward trend from 23.42% in 2019 to 3% in 2022 based on the results of the Toddler Weighing Month (BPB). However, data from the Indonesian Nutrition Status Survey (SSGI) actually shows an increase to 21.8% in 2023. These differences point to challenges in data consistency and the need for uniform and accountable measurement methods. The Purwakarta Regency Government has carried out various interventions through the Health Office, including target mapping, routine weighing, nutritional therapy, and referrals to hospitals for severe cases. However, public participation that is not yet comprehensive is one of the big challenges that must be overcome (Media Indonesia, 2024).

Stunting control efforts in Purwakarta Regency are targeted to reduce the prevalence from 21.8% in 2023 to 14% in 2024. The strategies used include three approaches: primary prevention (focusing on breastfeeding/complementary foods and routine monitoring), secondary prevention (early detection and intervention at health centers), and tertiary prevention (medical treatment at advanced health facilities) (PPID, 2023). To achieve this target, cross-sector synergy is needed involving all elements of society, from the central government to the village level. In addition, evidence-based approaches and strengthening data-driven policies are essential so that the policies implemented are targeted and effective.

Various previous studies have shown that the implementation of policies to accelerate stunting reduction still encounters various obstacles. Elisandra et al. (2024) stated that the implementation of the program in Candi District, Sidoarjo has not been optimal due to weak infrastructure, inter-institutional coordination, and lack of community participation. Meanwhile, Mawarni et al. (2024) also emphasized that the evaluation of stunting policies in Rembang Regency has not been running optimally. These findings indicate the importance of comprehensive policy evaluation as a basis for formulating more effective strategies.

Thus, considering the importance of stunting prevention as part of sustainable development and improving the quality of human resources, as well as looking at the empirical conditions in Purwakarta Regency that face similar challenges to other regions, this study is relevant. The main focus of the research is directed at the evaluation of policies to accelerate stunting reduction in Purwakarta Regency, with the hope of providing practical and local context-based strategic recommendations in answering stunting challenges as a whole.

METHOD

Approaches and Types of Research

This study uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive type of research. The descriptive qualitative approach was chosen because it was able to provide an in-depth overview and interpretation of the phenomenon being studied in the field. Qualitative descriptive research aims to understand ongoing trends, opinions, and processes as a result of actual events. In its implementation, scientific methods are used involving observation, interview, and documentation techniques to identify and solve research problems (Sanjaya; Moleong, 2020).

This type of qualitative research is often called the descriptive method because it is carried out in natural conditions (Salim, 2019). Ghony and Almanshur explain that qualitative research is used for objects that cannot be quantified statistically, such as social phenomena, spiritual phenomena, and sign processes with a non-positivistic approach. With reference to this understanding, this study is focused on describing the reality related to the policy of accelerating stunting reduction in Purwakarta Regency during the 2000–2023 period.

Research Informant

The informants in this study are parties who have knowledge and direct involvement in policies to accelerate stunting reduction. They were used as interview subjects to obtain relevant and in-depth data. The informants consisted of five elements, namely the Head of Government and Human Development of Bappelitbangda Purwakarta Regency, TPK Cadres from DPPKB, Head of the Public Health Section of the Purwakarta Health Office (DINKES), parents/caregivers of toddlers who suffer from stunting in several villages or sub-districts, and the Head of Family Planning Division of DPPKB.

Data Collection Techniques

Data collection in this study was carried out through field studies using three main techniques, namely observation, interviews, and documentation (Swarjana & SKM, 2022). Observations are carried out directly on the object of research, by recording various phenomena that occur in the field.

This technique aims to complement observation instruments and capture empirical dynamics. Interviews are conducted in depth and structured to predetermined informants. Interviews are conducted intensively and repeatedly to obtain accurate and valid data. The interview guide is used as an instrument, equipped with tools such as smartphones that have a voice recording feature. Documentation is used to obtain secondary data as a complement to primary data. The documents used include laws, books, scientific journals, theses, and information from the internet related to this research topic.

Research Instruments

The main instrument in this study is the researcher himself. Researchers are directly involved in the process of collecting data in the field to answer research questions (Hidayat, 2022). The active role of the researcher cannot be replaced by other parties because his involvement in observation, interviews, and documentation is crucial. In addition, the

researcher also used interview guidelines as an auxiliary instrument in the process of collecting data from informants.

To support the validity of the instrument, Table 1 was prepared which contains the operationalization of the concept of research variables. The table shows that the evaluation of stunting reduction policies is analyzed based on six indicators, namely effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, leveling, responsiveness, and accuracy, referring to the policy evaluation theory from William N. Dunn.

Table 1. Operationalization of Research Concepts

Variable	Operational Definition	Indicators	Theory
Evaluation of Stunting Reduction Policy	Policy evaluation is a process of interpretation, assessment, and value to assess the benefits and impact of a policy. Stunting reduction policy evaluation is a process of interpretation, assessment, and value to assess the benefits and impacts of policies or programs carried out to reduce the prevalence of stunting in children in a region or country.	Effectiveness Efficiency Adequacy Alignment Responsiveness Accuracy	William N. Dunn (Martins and Toletina, 2024)

Source: (Data Processed by Researchers, 2024)

Data Analysis Techniques

The data analysis technique used in this study is qualitative data analysis. The analysis process is carried out systematically on the data obtained through interviews, observations, and documentation. The analysis begins from the collection of data in the field, with the aim of compiling meaningful and easy-to-understand information (Wijaya, 2019). The stages of analysis include data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawn. Data reduction is done by simplifying and sorting out important data that is relevant to the formulation of the problem. Data that is considered irrelevant is removed to facilitate further analysis.

Furthermore, the data that has been reduced is presented in the form of narratives, graphs, matrices, or charts. The presentation of data aims to visualize the findings so that they can be used to answer research problems. In addition, the researcher also compiled the results of the interviews in logical order based on the informants' answers to produce a comprehensive understanding. This process is accompanied by supporting evidence, such as audio recordings, field notes, and photographic documentation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Stunting in Purwakarta Regency is a chronic health problem that has not been optimally handled, as reflected in prevalence data and in-depth interviews with regional stakeholders. Although the policy to accelerate stunting reduction has been formulated and updated through the Regent Regulation, the prevalence of stunting actually shows an increasing trend. This condition indicates that policy implementation has not been effective in achieving its main objectives. Policy support has not fully answered the real needs in the community. This can be seen from the structural and social obstacles that hinder citizen involvement. Field evaluation shows that the low participation of mothers in Posyandu activities is a major obstacle in data collection and intervention. In addition, limited infrastructure and human resources have also aggravated the situation. Therefore, a more comprehensive and participatory approach is needed in formulating and implementing policies.

Field findings show that the stunting reduction policy target has not been achieved due to low public interest in basic health services. Key informants mentioned that mothers are often reluctant to come to the Posyandu, especially when their children show symptoms of stunting. Psychosocial factors, such as shyness or lack of confidence, inhibit community engagement. In addition, basic infrastructure such as sanitation and clean water is still an obstacle in some areas. Local governments face limitations in providing support facilities evenly in all sub-districts.

The availability of data is also still problematic because recording is done manually. This situation is exacerbated by the absence of the latest national regulations that can serve as a reference for local policy updates.

Policy evaluation through interviews with various stakeholders shows that there are still significant obstacles in policy implementation. Several strategies such as sensitive interventions by the Family Assistance Team (TPK) and socialization of adolescents through the Generation Planning Program have been implemented, but the results have not been significant. Prevalence data taken from the Indonesian Nutrition Status Survey (SSGI), the Indonesian Health Survey (SKI), and the Health Office show that the stunting rate has not decreased significantly. The decline recorded by the Health Office has not shown consistency with national data. Differences in data collection methods and coverage are factors that cause these inconsistencies.

Analysis of the effectiveness of the policy shows that the interventions carried out have not succeeded in significantly reducing the stunting rate. The informant said that although a number of activities have been carried out, the stunting rate remains high. The provision of direct assistance in the form of nutritious food has also not had a maximum impact due to the lack of supervision over the use of the assistance. The lack of integrated data processing across sectors is a challenge in policy evaluation. The community also does not fully understand the dangers of stunting and the importance of prevention from an early age. This shows the need for a more effective and culturally based communication approach.

Policy efficiency is also an important highlight in this study. The allocation of human resources and the budget has not been balanced with the needs of the field. The limited number of TPK cadres is not proportional to the number of people who must be served. A budget of Rp 5 billion per year is used for the operation of 2,304 cadres, but the distribution has not been able to reach all aspects of intervention. On the other hand, manual data reporting hinders real-time monitoring and evaluation. The problem of coordination between sectors is also a serious obstacle in the effectiveness of program implementation.

The adequacy of the policy is still considered to be unable to meet all the needs of the community, especially in the aspect of providing specialist services. The community complained about the difficulty of accessing Pediatricians, especially in remote areas. The Purwakarta Regency Government has proposed the addition of CPNS formations for specialist doctors, but it is still hampered by budget and authority limitations. However, efforts to strengthen community capacity through the Toddler Family Development (BKB) group have been carried out as one of the program innovations. However, the effectiveness of this program still needs to be improved.

Equitable distribution of policy benefits is a challenge because not all regions experience the same decrease in stunting prevalence. Based on Table 2, there are five sub-districts that have experienced an increase in stunting rates even though the policy has been implemented evenly. This shows that the causes of stunting are complex and are not only influenced by government intervention, but also environmental and socio-cultural factors of the community. Therefore, although the program has been implemented in all regions, the results have not been uniform. This requires policies that are more adaptive to the local context.

Table 2. Stunting Percentage in Purwakarta Regency in 2020-2023

No	Health Center	Tahun			
		2020	2021	2022	2023
1	Purwakarta	2,57	2,04	1,98	1,68
2	Munjuljaya	2,11	1,39	0,37	0,42
3	Koncara	0,82	6,58	2,40	2,90
4	Campaka	3,85	14,79	0,41	1,00
5	Jatiluhur	4,85	3,18	2,08	1,29
6	Plered	3,72	6,52	3,95	2,89

7	Sukatani	8,95	19,73	8,81	2,95
8	Darangdan	4,48	3,65	2,43	1,56
9	Maniis	5,69	7,23	7,22	2,86
10	Tegalwaru	2,83	1,35	1,61	1,70
11	Wanayasa	9,18	4,41	6,04	5,05
12	Pasawahan	5,41	5,50	4,03	2,35
13	Bojong	3,79	3,43	3,11	1,21
14	Mulyamekar	1,65	1,03	0,31	0,94
15	Maracang	3,27	2,83	1,96	2,15
16	Bungursari	4,17	1,19	0,28	0,33
17	Cibatu	0,57	0,70	0,41	0,73
18	Sukasari	27,77	19,78	3,40	8,76
19	Pondoksalam	5,66	5,88	4,18	1,07
20	Kiarapedes	5,31	4,73	4,39	4,18

Source: Purwakarta Regency Health Office, 2025

Policy responsiveness is also not optimal, as evidenced by the fact that a number of urgent community needs have not been met. Some of the community's requests, such as the presence of specialist doctors in each health center, have not been realized. Although the public can submit complaints through cadres and mini-workshops, the response from the government is often slow or not concrete. This shows that there is a gap between field needs and policy response capabilities. Local governments must increase their capacity to respond to policies in order to respond to the needs of the community quickly and appropriately.

The assessment of the accuracy of the policy shows that the Purwakarta Regency Government has made efforts to monitor and evaluate the program periodically through the Stunting Rembuk and TPPS coordination meetings. However, the biggest challenge is in community participation. Many residents are still reluctant to follow basic health programs, so the effectiveness of the policy is not achieved. Low understanding of the importance of stunting prevention is the main factor that hinders the success of the program. An approach that touches more on aspects of behavior and public awareness is needed.

Data from the Health Office shows that there is a tendency to decrease stunting rates in general, but it is not even in all regions. The data gap between national survey results and regional data shows the need for synchronization and integration of data across sectors. The government needs to develop a more sophisticated information system to ensure data accuracy and accountability. Thus, policy evaluation will be more targeted and responsive to dynamics in the field.

The programs that have been implemented such as the First 1,000 Days of Life (HPK), food assistance, and socialization in schools are part of a comprehensive effort to reduce stunting rates. However, this approach needs to be strengthened with evidence-based policy innovations and periodic evaluations. The role of cadres is vital, but it needs to be balanced with capacity building and proper incentives. Synergy between OPDs, the private sector, and the community also needs to be strengthened to create a sustainable system.

Based on all the findings, it can be concluded that the policy to accelerate stunting reduction in Purwakarta Regency has not succeeded in meeting all public policy evaluation indicators. The success of the program is more partial and inconsistent between regions. Therefore, the main recommendation is the need for more responsive, participatory, and data-driven policy updates. Policy evaluation must be a continuous process and adaptive to changes in society.

The Purwakarta Regency Government has shown its commitment to dealing with stunting problems through policies contained in Purwakarta Regent Regulation Number 203 of 2021 concerning the Acceleration of Integrated Stunting Reduction. This policy was later updated to Regent Regulation Number 77 of 2023 in response to the need for adjustments in the

implementation and evaluation of the program. This policy is in line with the definition of public policy according to Risnawan (2017), which is a guideline designed by public authorities to regulate actions in society to achieve certain goals.

The preparation of the Regent Regulation departs from the initial stage in the public policy process, namely setting the agenda. The Purwakarta Regency Government identified the increase in stunting rates as a priority problem, which ultimately led to the formulation of Perbup Number 203 of 2021. However, the results of the evaluation in 2022 show that the regulation is not specific enough in setting targets, so it was revised to Perbup Number 77 of 2023 with a clearer target setting, namely 19% (2022), 18% (2023), and 13% (2024).

Agustino in Oktaviani (2024) stated that public policy is a response to problems faced by the social environment, with the aim of overcoming obstacles and achieving certain goals. In this context, the policy evaluation by the Purwakarta Regency Government reflects the application of the theory through formal evaluation mechanisms, both summative and formative as classified by Dunn. Summative evaluation is used to assess the success of a program based on a specific time target.

The implementation of the evaluation is carried out collaboratively by the central government, provinces, districts, and non-governmental actors such as the community, academics, and business actors. This is in accordance with Article 23 of Perbup Number 77 of 2023. Evaluations are carried out periodically, including through the TPPS Coordination Meeting and activities such as Stunting Rembuk and mini workshops. TPPS coordination meetings are held once a year, while collaborative evaluations are conducted three times per year. In addition, the Purwakarta Regency Government also utilizes technology through the Stunting Dashboard from the Directorate General of Bangda to monitor stunting prevalence data. The policy evaluation also includes an assessment of the implementation of 8 stunting convergence actions to ensure effective interventions.

Despite the various efforts that have been made, the results of the interviews show that the policy is not yet fully effective. Informant 1 stated that the stunting prevalence target in 2023 (13%) has not been achieved, with an actual achievement of 21.8%. The lack of new strategies and low community participation are the main obstacles. On the other hand, infrastructure conditions such as sanitation and clean water have also not been optimally supported.

The main programmes that have been carried out include: (1) The First 1,000 Days of Life (HPK) Programme through Posyandu; (2) Socialization of Generation Planning (GenRe) in schools (Pro Radio Purwakarta, 2024); (3) Direct intervention in the form of food assistance such as eggs and milk (Tintahijau.com, 2023); and (4) The establishment of TPPS through Regent Decree Number 050.05/Kep.225-Bappelitbangda/2022. However, these programs are considered to have not succeeded in significantly reducing stunting rates.

The main problems in the implementation of the policy include: (1) Low community participation in Posyandu activities; (2) Limited supervision of food aid distribution; (3) Data irregularities between the village and district levels, as well as between BPS and Posyandu data; and (4) Less supportive environmental conditions, including poor sanitation and limited infrastructure. Informant 5 also highlighted the importance of parenting and community education in preventing stunting.

The evaluation also refers to six policy indicators, according to Dunn, starting from effectiveness. The results of the interviews show that the policy has not met the indicators of effectiveness, both in terms of achieving goals and program success. Therefore, systemic improvements are needed that include increasing community participation, strengthening supervision, integrating data across sectors, and improving basic infrastructure. Thus, although formal policies have been issued and a number of programs have been implemented, the challenges faced at the implementation level are still quite complex. Cross-sector collaboration,

data updates, human resource capacity building, and active community participation are key to increasing the effectiveness of policies to accelerate stunting reduction in Purwakarta Regency.

Efficiency in the context of public policy refers to the optimal use of resources to achieve a certain effectiveness (Dunn, 2003). In this study, efficiency is measured through the ratio of service time and optimization of the use of human resources (HR) and nature. Based on the results of the interview, Informant 1 indicated that there is an imbalance in the allocation of human resources and infrastructure in the implementation of the stunting reduction acceleration program in Purwakarta Regency.

One of the crucial findings is the stunting data reporting process which is still manual, before it is finally uploaded to the monitoring system of the Directorate General of Development. This is due to limited infrastructure and adequate access to technology, thus hindering real-time data collection. The limited number of cadres, which only amount to 12 people per sub-district, is considered disproportionate compared to the number of population and the complexity of the tasks carried out (Informant 5). On the other hand, the lack of availability of Pediatricians is also a significant inhibiting factor in achieving program goals (Informant 1).

Efficiency is also hampered by weak cross-sector coordination. Informant 1 highlighted the lack of collaboration between agencies as a structural barrier. Some agencies did not even send representatives in coordination forums that discussed stunting, which ultimately weakened the synergy of policy implementation. Therefore, intensive communication and coordination between Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD) is an urgent need. In terms of financing, no significant obstacles were found. Informant 1 stated that each agency had allocated a budget as needed. For example, DPPKB has operational funds of IDR 5 billion per year for 2,304 cadres, each of whom receives IDR 210,000 per month for 10 months (Informant 5).

Efforts to increase efficiency are carried out through the involvement of community elements, such as Karang Taruna, to optimize the function of supervision of mothers and children at the Posyandu. However, Informant 1 again emphasized the challenges of coordination, especially with 16 OPDs and related ministries such as the Ministry of Religious Affairs, which are often absent from evaluation forums. However, the collaboration between DPPKB and the Health Office is said to be quite synergistic (Informant 5). As a measure to increase efficiency, Informant 1 stated the need to expand cross-sector collaboration, for example with the Education Office to reach schools and the Ministry of Religion in educating prospective brides. Overall, these findings show that the policy to accelerate stunting reduction in Purwakarta Regency has not been fully efficient, especially due to constraints in resource allocation and inter-agency coordination.

Adequacy in policy evaluation reflects the extent to which the effectiveness of the program is able to meet the needs, values, or expectations of the community (Dunn, 2003). In this context, the assessment is carried out based on the level of satisfaction of the beneficiaries and the program's capabilities in responding to these needs. The findings of the study show that some people in Purwakarta Regency still submit complaints, especially related to the limited number of Pediatricians in rural areas (Informant 1). These limitations make it difficult for people to access quality children's health services, especially due to the remote location of specialist doctors and high costs. In addition, the policy is still oriented towards handling cases, not on the aspect of stunting prevention. Thus, it can be concluded that the policy has not met the adequacy criteria. Although Informant 1 stated that he had submitted public complaints to the central government, as well as proposed the formation of CPNS for Pediatricians in each sub-district, substantive challenges still need to be addressed.

In response, a number of initiatives have been developed. Among them is the doctoral specialization scholarship program funded by the provincial budget (Informant 1), as well as the activation of the Toddler Family Development group (BKB) with the provision of educational aids (APE/BKB Stunting Kit) to attract community participation in various

counseling activities (Informant 5). However, this policy is still considered insufficient in responding to the urgent needs of the community, which is reflected in the continued complaints about access to services and the effectiveness of the program.

Equity in public policy refers to the balanced distribution of justice between different groups of society (Dunn, 2003). Evaluation of the equitable distribution of policies to accelerate stunting reduction in Purwakarta Regency shows that there is an inequality of achievement. Data shows that of 17 sub-districts, there are five sub-districts of Koncara, Tegalwaru, Babakancikao, Cibatu, and Sukasari that experienced an increase in the percentage of stunting in the 2020-2023 period. However, Informant 1 and Informant 5 explained that the program has been implemented evenly in terms of the number of cadres and implementation mechanisms in all regions. Even vulnerable groups are actively accompanied. The Regency Government also periodically holds Stunting Rembuk three times a year as a forum for evaluation and coordination.

Rembuk Stunting involves various stakeholders, ranging from regional officials to professional organizations and community leaders, with the aim of strengthening joint commitment in integrated stunting handling. This forum is also a forum to identify and resolve field obstacles, as well as ensure fair and equitable distribution of programs to the village level (Prokompim, 2023). Furthermore, the difference in achievement between sub-districts is likely to be influenced by the internal conditions of each region. Informants 1 and 5 indicated that these factors need further study so that the distribution of program benefits is truly evenly distributed.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of this study, it can be concluded that the implementation of the policy to accelerate stunting reduction as stated in Purwakarta Regent Regulation Number 77 of 2023 faces various challenges, including limited human resources, funds, data, and a lack of cross-sector coordination and community participation.

These obstacles have an impact on the non-achievement of several indicators, as follows: effectiveness is assessed from the non-achievement of the stunting percentage target that has been set in the stunting reduction acceleration policy, efficiency is reflected in the lack of optimal utilization of infrastructure and human resource allocation, adequacy can be measured from public dissatisfaction with the stunting reduction acceleration program, and responsiveness is assessed from the lack of The government's response to the needs and demands of the community related to stunting reduction.

However, the implementation of Purwakarta Regent Regulation Number 77 of 2023 has met the indicators of equity, because this program has been implemented simultaneously and evenly in all sub-districts in Purwakarta Regency, as well as the accuracy indicator, which is reflected in the success in carrying out a routine monitoring and evaluation process to identify the main challenges in ensuring this policy is on target in dealing with stunting problems in the region.

In light of these findings, there are several suggestions to improve the effectiveness of policies. First, it is recommended for the Purwakarta Regency Government to carry out a direct survey to the community door-to-door to identify factors that cause low public interest in stunting reduction programs, especially those related to Posyandu.

Second, the Purwakarta Regency Government needs to focus on allocating the budget for infrastructure improvements that have the potential to reduce stunting rates, such as improving sanitation and the availability of clean water. Third, it is recommended for the Purwakarta Regency Government to digitize the stunting data administration system, so that data is easier to integrate and the synchronization process can be achieved.

This step will facilitate collaboration in efforts to accelerate stunting reduction in Purwakarta Regency and can be done through collaboration with the private sector engaged in

technology and information. Finally, for the community and the private sector, it is recommended to increase their participation in the program to accelerate stunting reduction in Purwakarta Regency, through contributions such as sponsorships, direct assistance, or other forms of support.

REFERENCE

Augustine, Leo. (2006). Fundamentals of Public Policy. Bandung: CV. Alphabet.

Agustino, L. (2023). Understanding Policy Evaluation from Theoretical and Practical Perspectives. Malang: Empatdua Medis Intans Publishing Group.

Djauhari, T. (2017). Nutrition and 1000 HPK. Medical Science, 13(2), 125-133.

Elisandra, D., Puspaningtyas, A., & Widiyanto, M. K. (2024). Evaluation of the Policy to Accelerate Stunting Reduction in Candi District, Sidoarjo Regency. Journal of Research and Development on Public Policy, 3(2), 132-144.

Hasan, A. (2023). Risk Factors for Stunting in Toddlers Aged 24-59 Months in the Working Area of the Motolohu Health Center, Pohuwato Regency (Doctoral dissertation, University of Muhammadiyah Gorontalo).

Hidayat, A. A. (2021). Compiling Research Instruments & Validity-Reliability Tests. Health Books Publishing.

Mawarni, A. E., Santoso, R. S., & Yuniningsih, T. (2024). Evaluation of Stunting Policy at the Social Service of Women's Empowerment and Family Planning of Rembang Regency. Journal of Public Policy and Management Review, 13(3), 432-448.

Indonesian media. (February 21, 2024). Purwakarta Regency Government Asks Community Participation to Reduce Stunting. https://mediaindonesia.com/amp/nusantara/653240/pemkab-purwakarta-minta-partisipasi-masyarakat-turunkan-stunting (Accessed on August 6, 2024)

Moleong, L. J. (2020). Approaches and Types of Research. Implementation of Agrarian Reform in Sumberdanti Village, Sukowono District, Jember Regency (Based on Law No. 5 of 1960 concerning Agrarian Principles and Presidential Decree No. 86 of 2018 concerning Agrarian Reform).

Purwakarta Regent Regulation Number 203 of 2021 concerning the Acceleration of Integrated Stunting Reduction in Purwakarta Regency

PPID. (December 28, 2023). The Scarlet Witch Hunt has reached a fever https://ppid.purwakartakab.go.id/read/pemkab-purwakarta-tekan-angka-stunting. (Accessed August 6, 2024).

PPID. (November 11, 2022). Reducing Stunting Rates, Purwakarta Health Office Focuses on Targets. https://ppid.purwakartakab.go.id/read/turunkan-angka-stunting-dinkes-purwakarta-fokuskan-sasaran. (Accessed August 6, 2024).

Prokompim, (2023), Rembuk Stunting in Purwakarta Regency in 2023, in https://prokompim.purwakartakab.go.id/berita/read/rembuk-stunting-kabupaten-purwakarta-tahun-2023-dengan-tema-perkuat-kolaborasi-dan-sinergitas-untuk-zero-new-stunting-di-kabupaten-purwakarta-bertempat-di-bale-sawala-yudistira dialyses on February 19, 2025.

Risnawan, W. (2017). The Role and Function of Political Infrastructure in Public Policy Formation. Dynamics: Scientific Journal of State Administrative Sciences, 4(3), 511-518.

Salim, H. (2019). Educational Research: Methods, Approaches, and Types. Gold.

Sumardilah, D. S., & Rahmadi, A. (2019). Risk of Stunting of Baduta Children (7-24 Months). Journal of Health, 10(1), 93-104.

Swarjana, I. K., & Skm, M. (2022). Population-Sample, Sampling Techniques & Bias in Research. Andi Publisher.

Wahyuningsih, W. (2018). Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Social Welfare. BISMA: Journal of Business and Management, 11(3), 390-399.

Wijaya, H. (2018). Qualitative Data Analysis of Spradley Model (Ethnography).

Wijaya, Y. A., Yudhawati, N. L. P. S., & Ilmy, S. K. (2022). Development of nursing concept and theory model: differences and identification of nursing theory group between theory, grand theories, middle range theory and nursing practice theory.