

The Effectiveness of Direct Cash Village Fund Program in 2021

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Abstract: *The COVID-19 pandemic has become a global health problem and causes various problems in the social, educational, and economic fields. One form of effort made by the government in efforts to deal with the effects of COVID-19 in the village is the implementation of the Direct Cash Assistance Program, sourced from the Village Fund budget, but in its implementation there are still many problems related to effectiveness. In measuring effectiveness, three factors are used, including the accuracy of timing, whether the results of the analysis show that it is effective, and the accuracy in selecting the beneficiary families. The method used in this descriptive qualitative research is research that aims to describe and explain events and phenomena that occur in the field and present data in a systematic, factual, and accurate manner regarding the facts or phenomena that occur in the field. The results showed that the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program had been running in accordance with the procedures set by the government and the accuracy of the targets, but there were still discrepancies in the information so that some people who should have received the assistance did not receive it. Meanwhile, obstacles to the distribution of Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance, including access to some villages, are difficult to reach, resulting in delays in distribution.*

Keywords: *effectiveness; direct cash assistance; village funds.*

Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic has not only had an impact on health but also on social and economic conditions (Susanto, 2021). The COVID-19 outbreak has been positively confirmed by more than 1.5 (one and a half) million people spread across all provinces in Indonesia; this has an impact on all aspects, especially the implementation of community life. From an economic perspective, this pandemic has caused a decline in domestic economic activity, which does not rule out the possibility of reducing

people's welfare (Iping, 2020; Purwanto, 2021).

One form of effort made by the government in efforts to handle the effects of COVID-19 in the village is the implementation of the Direct Cash Assistance Program, in which the budget comes from the Village Fund, or the Village Fund BLT, which has been regulated through Minister of Finance Regulation Number 50/PMK. 07/2020 concerning the second amendment to the Regulation of the Minister of Finance Number 205/PMK. 07/2019 concerning the Management of Village Funds, as well

as the Instruction of the Minister of Villages PDT. Number 1 of 2020 concerning the acceleration of the distribution of BLT funds. This provides a new instrument to minimize the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the village economy. (1) Letter (i) of the regulation states that it is necessary to prioritize the use of budget allocations for certain activities (refocusing), adjust allocations, and/or cut or delay the distribution of budget transfers to regions and village funds with certain criteria.

Furthermore, in the explanation of the Perppu, it is stated that what is meant by "prioritizing the use of village funds" is that village funds can be used, among others, for direct cash assistance for the poor in villages and activities to handle the COVID-19 pandemic. With the article and its explanation, it is necessary to study how the policy can be implemented quickly and suppress the "moral trap" (Achmad, 2022).

The Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program was implemented to ease the burden on the community affected by COVID-19. Mekarsari Village, Cibalong District, Garut Regency, is one of the villages in Indonesia whose people are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of the people in this village have construction workers who work outside the city, such as in the Jabodetabek area, with their work activities as construction workers. The village government budgets direct assistance funds equal to 25% of the total village fund budget to be received.

The criteria and mechanism for receiving Village Fund Cash Direct Assistance in Mekarsari Village have been guided by the Guidelines for Data

Collection of Village Fund Cash Direct Assistance issued by the Ministry of National Development Planning or the National Development Planning Agency (PPN/Bappenas).

When researchers conducted interviews and observations with the community, it was found that there were initial problems, namely, that there was still a phenomenon of friction between the community and the Mekarsari Village government because, in the implementation of data collection, the recipients of the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance lacked coordination between the village government and the community so that the community did not know the criteria for recipients or the mechanism. recipients of Direct Cash Assistance, so there are some people who are not aware of the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance program. There is an issue of nepotism with the local village apparatus, as the list of beneficiaries of this Cash Direct Assistance does not match the criteria set by the government.

And to make it easier in this study, the authors took samples from the Mekarsari Village Government Office because researchers found the first problem: Mekarsari Village has not determined the village income and expenditure budget, abbreviated as APBDes, so that it will hamper the process of distributing the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program. Secondly, in the process of distributing the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance on a monthly basis, it is difficult to distribute because it is controlled by geographical conditions because there are several villages in Mekarsari Village

that are difficult to reach by vehicles, which will make it difficult for the last government to distribute Cash Direct Assistance.

Effectiveness is derived from the basic word "effective." According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, the word "effective" has the meaning of effect, influence, effect, or can bring results. That is, effectiveness is the activity, usability, and existence of conformity in an activity of people carrying out tasks with the intended target. In general, effectiveness shows the achievement of results and is also often referred to as "efficient" in terms of something different. Effectiveness was initially focused on the level of achievement of results, often or always associated with the notion of efficiency, although in fact there is a difference because the two have different meanings, although in various uses the word "efficiency" is closely related to the word "effectiveness," because efficiency implies a comparison between costs and results, while effectiveness is directly related to the achievement of goals.

According to experts, researchers used several theories of effectiveness in describing the theory of effectiveness. According to He et al. (2021) and Gine & Mansuri (2021), "effectiveness" basically comes from the word "effect" and is used in this sense as a cause-and-effect relationship. Effectiveness can be seen as the cause of other variables. Effectiveness means being able to achieve previously planned goals, or, in other words, achieving goals through the operating process.

According to Ravanito (2014) and Maun (2020), effectiveness is how well

the work is carried out and the extent to which the organization produces output that is in accordance with what it wants to achieve. If a job can be completed in accordance with the plan, both in terms of time, cost, and quality, it can be said to be effective.

Furthermore, Steers (2008) stated that effectiveness is the extent to which program efforts as a system are provided with certain resources and means to achieve their goals and objectives without crippling the means and resources or placing undue pressure on program implementation.

Meanwhile, Gibson (2011), Dewi & Andrianus (2021), and Ilhami et al. (2022) consider that effectiveness in the context of organizational behavior is the relationship between output, quality, efficiency, flexibility, satisfaction, the nature of excellence, and development. Efficiency in carrying out the activities of an organization can be understood in terms of the extent to which the goals have been achieved, which indicates the extent to which the goals have been achieved. An organization can be said to be effective if it is fully implemented to achieve the agreed goals. Effectiveness is generally considered to be the extent to which business and operational objectives are achieved. Efficiency is the quality of work—the extent to which a person produces results that are consistent with what is expected.

According to Mardiasmo (2016), effectiveness is a measure of organizational success or failure in achieving goals. If an organization achieves its goals, it is already operating effectively. Performance indicators describe the level of consequences and

impact of program outputs on the achievement of program objectives. The greater the contribution of the resulting product to the achievement of certain goals or objectives, the more effective the work process of an organizational unit will be.

Meanwhile, Prawira et al. (2021) stated that effectiveness is the relationship between output and goals, or it can also be said to be a measure of how far the level of output, policies, and procedures of the organization go.

Measuring the effectiveness of performance is not easy and simple because performance can be studied from various angles and depends on the person evaluating and interpreting it. The level of effectiveness can also be seen by comparing the plans that have been set with the actual results achieved. If the efforts or results of work and actions taken are ineffective in such a way that they impede the achievement of goals or the setting of targets, they are said to be ineffective.

Makmur (2015) has the opinion that effectiveness can be seen by measuring several things, including:

1. Timeliness, time used properly affects how effective a program or activity is in achieving its goals.
2. Cost calculation accuracy: this is done to run a program without running out of funds or budget until the program is completed.
3. Accuracy in measurement, This means that during program execution, normalization must be applied. The accuracy of the standards used in the implementation of a program is a measure of its effectiveness.
4. Accuracy in making choices is an activity performed in order to achieve success in achieving goals because choosing is a critical process in achieving these results.
5. The accuracy of thinking is determined by its effectiveness in achieving predetermined goals.
6. Accuracy in the execution of orders is the activity of organizations or individuals who are able to give orders clearly and understandably, and if it is not possible to understand the orders given, then the execution

Effectiveness is a very important concept because it can provide an overview of the success of an organization in achieving its goals, or it can be said that efficiency is the extent to which the objectives of the activation goals have been achieved compared to the previously set targets.

The Factors Affecting Effectiveness Based on the effectiveness theories that researchers have put forward before, it can be said that a program will run well if the organization can be said to be good too. By looking at the factors that affect organizational effectiveness, the organization must have clear goals, organizational structure, the existence of community participation, and the existence of a value system that is a reference.

Method

This is a descriptive study with a qualitative approach. Qualitative descriptive research is research that aims to describe events and phenomena that occur in the field and present data in a systematic, factual, and accurate

manner regarding the facts or phenomena that occur in the field, collecting data through interviews, observation, and documentation. data analysis The descriptive data analysis technique was used in this study, which means that the analysis begins with reviewing the resources of the results of interviews, observations, and documentation studies and ends with drawing conclusions that will eventually be understood both by oneself and others. This research was carried out in Mekarsari Village, Cibalong District, Garut Regency.

Results And Discussion

The Effectiveness of the 2021 Village Fund Cash Assistance Program for Communities Affected by COVID-19 in Mekarsari Village, Cibalong District, Garut Regency. Experts have differing perspectives on measuring effectiveness, one of which is the source specified, which states that effectiveness can be measured in a variety of ways, including the determination of timing, accuracy of cost calculations, determination in measurement, determination in making choices, and determination of thinking, all of which can determine effectiveness in achieving the goals that have been set, accuracy in orders, accuracy in determining goals, and the last target accuracy.

The researcher argues that the above results show that effectiveness is a very important concept because it is able to provide an overview of the success of an institution or organization in general in achieving its goals, or researchers can say that effectiveness is the level of goal achievement from the activations that

have been carried out compared to the targets that have been previously set.

The researcher uses three factors in measuring the effectiveness that have been stated by Prosper, which include the accuracy of timing, determination in choosing KPM, and targeting accuracy. With this type of research method, which is a qualitative approach, the data obtained is in the form of sentences and words, such as interviews, observations, and documentation. In this study, the words and actions of the interviewees were the informants, who were the main sources in this study.

The Direct Cash Assistance Program sourced from the Village Fund (BLT-DD), which is assistance in the form of direct money sourced from the Village Fund budget and will be aimed at the poor and vulnerable who have difficulty meeting their daily needs, especially due to the impact of the COVID pandemic. The primary goal or point is to assist poor and vulnerable people who have not received assistance from other social welfare insurance schemes such as the Family Hope Program (PKH), Non-Cash Food Assistance (BPNT), and Pre-Employment Cards and are eligible for this Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program.

In this discussion, the researcher will discuss the focus of the research, where, based on prosperity, there are three factors in measuring effectiveness that have been stated by the source, which include the accuracy of timing, determination in the selection of KPM, and finally targeting accuracy, and also researchers using Edward III's theory in Mulyadi about the factors that affect the success of policy implementation, which

include using communication factors with three dimensions, including the dimensions of transmission, clarity, and consistency. The following researchers will discuss the results of the study in more detail.

a. Timing Accuracy

One of the factors that can be used to assess effectiveness is timing accuracy. In carrying out an activity or program, planning and determining the time are absolutely necessary. The amount of time used appropriately will affect the effectiveness of a program in achieving its objectives and will help determine the timeliness of the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program distribution in Mekarsari Village in 2021.

The results of interviews with the Mekarsari Village Secretary, Cibalong District, and Garut Regency as key informants, as well as the Mekarsari Village Government Apparatus and two community informants who received the 2021 Village Fund Cash Assistance Program benefits, Researchers can see from the timeliness of the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program distribution in 2021 for people affected by the COVID-19 pandemic that everything went well from the beginning to the end.

b. Accuracy in the Selection of Beneficiary Families

In terms of determining the selection of beneficiary families, it is not an easy matter and also not just a guess; it must go through a process so that it can determine and find those that are in accordance with the criteria that have been set, so that they must look for truly honest people among all the poor affected. Covid-19 pandemic.

To find out how the Mekarsari Village Government, Cibalong District, Garut Regency has made the right choice in determining the choice of beneficiary families (KPM) for the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program in Mekarsari Village, Cibalong District, Garut Regency, which the author proposes.

From the results of interviews and documentation evidence regarding the accuracy of determining the beneficiary families (KPM) of the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program in Mekarsari Village, Cibalong District, Garut Regency that has worked in accordance with the established procedures and regarding the issue of nepotism in determining the prospective beneficiary families (KPM), the 2021 Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program in Mekarsari Village has been refuted by the community leader informants firmly and also based on the secondary evidence in the field stating so.

c. Target Accuracy

In order to ensure the accuracy of the target, namely the distribution of the 2021 Village Fund Cash Direct Assistance Program in Mekarsari Village, Cibalong District, and Garut Regency, the Central Government has issued regulations and mechanisms, as well as tasks from each level from the Central Government to the Regional Government. To carry out the process of distributing the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program, it is necessary to have good coordination between sectors and levels of government.

The results of interviews between researchers and informants indicate that there is a mismatch of information

between the village government and the community, so that there are people who deserve to receive but do not accept. Furthermore, the statement of the Mekarsari Village Apparatus informant contradicted the statement of the community, which did not accept it. At this stage, it was stated that, from the targeting factor, it was quite on target, but there were some informants who did not state that.

The 2021 Direct Cash Assistance Program in Mekarsari Village, Cibalong District, Garut Regency, was implemented to help ease the burden on people affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially the poor who are unable to meet their daily needs. The implementation of this assistance is carried out by the government through Regulation Minister of Villages PDDT Number 06 of 2020 concerning Amendments to Regulation of the Minister of Villages and PDDT Number 11 of 2019 concerning priorities for the use of village funds, which regulate the Direct Village Fund Cash Assistance Program. As the researchers discussed earlier, the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program is a social assistance policy that is sourced from the APBN, which is channeled through the Village Fund.

In order to implement the distribution of the Village Fund Cash Direct Assistance Program in 2021 in Mekarsari Village, Cibalong District, and Garut Regency, it has been running according to what is regulated by the Central Government in its distribution and implementation. The initial findings of the researchers found several factors inhibiting the distribution of the Village

Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program in Mekarsari Village. Therefore, the next stage of the researcher's work involved conducting a question-and-answer session using interview techniques with two informants, including the village apparatus and the Mekarsari village secretary.

The results of the informant's statement were that in the implementation of the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program in Mekarsari Village, Cibalong District, Garut Regency, there were obstacles, including the Mekarsari Village Government having difficulty accessing distribution due to geographical conditions in one village located in a hilly area and also difficult road access. Finally, the obstacle for the village government in distributing is that there is a delay due to the disbursement of the village fund from the central government, causing delays in its implementation and distribution. Several months must be accumulated into one month of distribution.

Conclusion

Direct Village Fund Cash Assistance is direct cash assistance to the poor provided by the Village Fund to help mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on research results and the community that received the benefits of the 2021 Village Fund Cash Assistance Program, researchers can conclude that, given the timeliness factor, the distribution of 2021 Village Fund Cash Direct Assistance for communities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic has been quite effective. Although there were obstacles in the field that delayed the

disbursement of the village fund from the central government, the Mekarsari village government accumulated the disbursement over several months.

Accuracy in the Selection of Beneficiary Families (KPM) The researchers can conclude from interviews with the Mekarsari Village Apparatus and two community leaders that the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program in Mekarsari Village, Cibalong District, and Garut Regency is being implemented in accordance with the established procedures and that the issue of nepotism in determining the prospective beneficiary families (KPM) is being addressed. So, based on the accuracy factor for the selection of beneficiary families (KPM), the researcher stated that the factor was effective.

Based on the accuracy of the concluded targeting factors as well as the findings of interviews with community leaders, Mekarsari Village Government apparatus, and two community informants who deserved but did not receive benefits, researchers can conclude from the interview results that there is a mismatch of information and socialization between the Mekarsari Village Government and the community, resulting in people who should receive Village Fund Cash Assistance Program benefits not receiving them. So at this stage, the researcher stated that the target accuracy factor was not effective.

There are several suggestions from researchers, one of which is that the government must prepare a channel for complaints and aspirations that can be used by the community to submit complaints related to the

implementation of the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program. By making a number information, WhatsApp application, or suggestion box that is integrated with village reporting.

The government must re-enforce socialization so that all people can hear that there is information so that there is no misinformation and also no incomplete information related to the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance Program or other community information.

It is hoped that further researchers will be able to examine more deeply the effectiveness of the 2021 Village Fund Cash Assistance Program.

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