



THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE VILLAGE FUND DIRECT CASH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY COVID-19 IN BATU GAJAH VILLAGE, RUPIT DISTRICT, MUSI RAWAS UTARA REGENCY

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ABSTRACT

In early 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic became a worldwide problem. It does not only have an impact on health, but also social and economic conditions. The government has designed various new policies in order to suppress the spread and handling of this virus with several social protection programs, one of which is the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance which is sourced from 20-30% of the total Village Fund. The purpose of this study was to determine the effectiveness of the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance program for communities affected by COVID-19. This research was conducted in Batu Gajah village, Rupit sub-district, North Musi Rawas district using qualitative methods. The informants in this study were selected purposively consisting of 4 people who received BLT DD and 2 people as key informants, namely village officials. Data collection techniques are carried out by observation, interviews, and documentation as well as data analysis through data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. The results showed that the effectiveness of this program was related to the timeliness of the distribution of the Village Fund BLT in Batu Gajah Village on time and following the existing mechanism. In terms of accuracy in making choices, the village government has worked according to procedures, and for the aspect of targeting accuracy, the distribution of direct cash assistance from village funds in Batu Gajah Village is right on target. This is based on the statements of people who directly feel the impact of BLT and are direct actors in the field. Especially for the poor, it is very beneficial for them, and most of the people support the program carried out by the central government.



INTRODUCTION

As we all know, COVID-19 is a global health problem. This case began with information from the World Health Organization (WHO) on December 31, 2019 which stated that there were cluster cases of pneumonia with unclear etiology in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. This case continued to grow until there were reports of deaths and imports outside China. Corona Virus Disease (Covid-19) in 2020 spread a new type of coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) whose disease is called Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

In order to protect the poor, the government is expanding the Social Safety Net (JPS) including those contained in the Regulation of the Minister of Villages PDTT Number 6 of 2020 concerning Amendments to the Regulation of the Minister of Villages of PDTT Number 11 of 2019 concerning Priorities for the Use of Village Funds, including those related to the provision of Direct Cash Assistance sourced from the Village Fund (BLT-Village Fund). In order to expedite the implementation of the BLT-Dana Desa, various other policies have been issued including the Instruction of the Minister of Home Affairs Number 3 of 2020 concerning COVID-19 Management in Villages through the Village Revenue and Expenditure Budget and Regulation of the Minister of Finance Number 40 of 2020 concerning Amendments to Ministerial Regulations. Finance Number 205 of 2019 concerning Village Fund Management.

Batu Gajah Village, Rupit Subdistrict, Musi Rawas Utara Regency is one of the villages in Indonesia whose community has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. With this regulation, the village government has budgeted direct assistance

funds of 20% of the total village fund budget to be received. Direct Village Fund Cash Assistance (BLT-DD) in Batu Gajah Village is distributed in 3 (three) stages.

As with previous aid programs, the implementation of BLT-DD in the field is not free from various obstacles. At the same time, various opinions emerged in the community regarding the effectiveness of this Program and its impact. This is due to the limited time available to verify the data on poor families affected by COVID-19 who have not received other social assistance. Issues that then surfaced were data collection problems which resulted in inaccurate targets, the existence of recipients of aid funds who were not eligible to receive but received, and vice versa there were those who appeared to be eligible but did not receive as well as inaccurate beneficiary data.

The purpose of this study was to determine, describe and analyze the Effectiveness of the Village Fund Direct Assistance Program (BLT-DD) for the Impacted Communities of COVID-19 in Batu Gajah Village, Rupit District, Musi Rawas Utara Regency.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This type of research is field research. That is research conducted by looking for data in the field. Meanwhile, judging from the type of data, this type of research uses qualitative research methods. Qualitative research according to Kirk and Milles is research in the social sciences that fundamentally depends on observing humans in their own area and relating to these people (objects) in their language and behavior. This type of research cannot be tested statistically. This is also in accordance with the opinion of Anselm

Straus and Juliet Corbin who said that qualitative research findings are not obtained from statistical procedures or other forms of calculation. The implementation of this research uses case study research, namely research that studies in depth a particular individual, group, institution or community about the background, circumstances or conditions, factors or social interactions that occur in it. This study aims to obtain an overview in depth about the process of "The Effectiveness of the Village Fund Direct Assistance Program (BLT-DD) for the Impacted Communities of COVID-19 in Batu Gajah Village, Rupit District, Musi Rawas Utara Regency".

Data collection techniques were carried out by observation and interviews. Informants in this study were selected purposively, namely selected with certain considerations and objectives, namely the search for informants that are in accordance with the objectives of this study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Characteristics of Informants

The informants in this study consisted of 4 people who received BLT assistance and 2 people as key informants.

Table 1 Characteristics of Informants

No	Nama	Pendidikan	Usia	Status perkawinan	Pekerjaan
1	Bpk "H.D"	SMA	59 Tahun	Kawin	Kepala Desa
2	Bpk "R.I"	S1	25 Tahun	Kawin	Sekretaris Desa
3	Ibu "A"	SD	48 Tahun	Janda	Petani
4	Bpk "Ra"	SD	67 Tahun	Kawin	Petani
5	Ibu "Ma"	SMP	69 Tahun	Janda	Petani
6	Ibu "Y"	SMA	41 Tahun	Janda	Petani

One indicator to assess effectiveness is timeliness. To carry out an activity or program, planning in determining the time is absolutely necessary. The time used

properly will affect the effectiveness of a program in achieving its goals. To find out the timeliness of the distribution of direct cash assistance from village funds, it is first explained about the mechanism for collecting data on prospective recipients of BLT Village Funds.

Mechanisms and Flows of Data Collection for Candidates for BLT-Village Funds, can be determined by the village itself by following the established criteria, carrying out data collection in a transparent and fair manner and can be legally accounted for. Villages can use village data as a reference, and use DTKS as a reference for PKH, BPNT recipients, as well as Department of Manpower data to identify recipients of Pre-Employment Card assistance. If the data on JPS recipients is not available, the village can use the recapitulation data of beneficiaries from the social safety net program assistant.

The list of candidates for BLT-Dana Desa recipients is reported and ratified by the Regent, or can be represented to the Camat. For the second month of distribution, the village must ensure that the data on the recipients of the BLT-Village Fund must have been validated.

Effectiveness is something that is closely related to productivity and efficiency. As stated by Makmur in his book, the effectiveness of supervisory institutional policies (2010:7) argues that effectiveness can be measured from several things including timeliness. The distribution of the Village Fund BLT in Batu Gajah Village was completed on time as specified in the plan.

initial data collection of the task force team as many as 202 families affected by covid-19, followed by a Musdesus meeting between village officials, BPD, and the task force team and related communities to discuss to decide which families are really priority and deserve BLT-DD with reference to the criteria contained in the

data collection manual for direct cash assistance for village funds (BLT-DD) June 2020 from the central government. After conducting the Musdesus with the agenda of verification, validation, and finalization of the data, it was decided that 73 families were declared to meet the requirements in accordance with applicable regulations. Other affected communities are not entitled to receive BLT-DD because some receive other social assistance because it is in accordance with government regulations that BLT-DD recipients may not receive other assistance or double assistance.

In order to ensure the accuracy of the target, namely in the distribution of Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance, the central government has issued mechanisms and tasks for each level of government from the central government to those in the regions. To carry out the process of distributing BLT-Village Funds, it is necessary to have good cross-sectoral and cross-level coordination of government.

Discussion

One of the effectiveness of the distribution of assistance for handling the impact of Covid-19 is budgeted from the Village Fund (DD) in the form of the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance (BLT-DD) program which is provided directly by village officials. Direct Village Fund Cash Assistance (BLT-DD) sourced from village funds is an allocation of about 25 percent of the 2020 Village Fund and Direct Cash Assistance provided directly by village officials to KPM sourced from the Decree of the Rupit Head of Musi Rawas Utara Regency concerning ratification. the results of data collection on the families of prospective recipients of direct village cash assistance (BLT-DD) Batu Gajah Village, Rupit District, Musi Rawas Utara Regency for Fiscal Year 2020. This BLT-DD allocation is expected to be the right solution in overcoming the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic at the village level. .

In addition, the BLT-DD can strengthen the role of village government.

1. Punctuality

Effectiveness is something that is closely related to productivity and efficiency. As stated by Atmosoeprapto, (2001) productivity is a measure of what is obtained with what is given. The use of time in the development program, namely the distribution of BLT village funds in Batu Gajah Village, was completed on time as specified in the plan. As for the mechanism and data collection of BLT-Village Fund Candidates, where the Village can determine for itself who the BLT-Dana Village recipient candidate is as long as they follow the established criteria, carry out data collection in a transparent and fair manner and can be legally accounted for. Villages can use village data as a reference, and use DTKS as a reference for PKH, BPNT recipients, as well as Department of Manpower data to identify recipients of Pre-Employment Card assistance. If the data on JPS recipients is not available, the village can use the recapitulation data of beneficiaries from the social safety net program assistant.

2. Accuracy in making choices

The Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance (BLT-Dana Desa) is financial assistance to poor families in the village sourced from the Village Fund to reduce the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The value of the Village Fund BLT is Rp. 600,000 in stage I for each poor family who meets the criteria and is given for 3 (three) months and for stage 2 and stage 3 is Rp. 300,000 every month for the next 6 months. The BLT-Dana Desa is tax-free. If the village needs exceed the maximum provisions that can be allocated by the village, the Village Head may submit a proposal to increase the allocation of Village Funds for Direct

Cash Assistance to the Regent/Mayor. The proposal must be accompanied by reasons for the addition of the allocation according to the decision of the Special Village Deliberation (Musdesus).

3. Target Accuracy

In order to ensure the accuracy of the target, namely in the distribution of Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance, the central government has issued mechanisms and tasks for each level of government from the central government to those in the regions. To carry out the process of distributing the Village Fund BLT, it is necessary to have good cross-sectoral and cross-level coordination of government. Based on the results of the research in the field, the researcher saw that the accuracy of the target for the distribution of BLT Village Funds in Batu Gajah Village, Rupit District, Musi Rawas Utara Regency in stages II and III were right on target, while in stage I it was not right on target where there were still many irregularities in the existence of BLT recipients. -DD is not feasible and should be evaluated. After the evaluation, there were 17 families recorded as recipients of other social assistance such as PKH assistance.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research and discussion of the effectiveness of the village fund direct cash assistance program (BLT-DD) for communities affected by COVID-19 in Batu Gajah Village, Rupit District, North Musi Rawas Regency, the following conclusions were obtained:

1. The punctuality of the data collection process to the distribution has been carried out by the officers according to the predetermined time. Village apparatus, BPD, Village Volunteers, and the community cooperate according to their respective tupoksi so that the distribution of BLT-DD phase I, phase II, and phase III can be carried out on time.

2. Accuracy in making choices, the village government has worked in accordance with applicable regulations, from the initial data collection process as many as 202 families who really felt the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, but with limited funds through a special village consultation forum (Musdesus) by the Government Villages, BPD, Village Volunteers, and other related elements in the village validate, finalize and determine the KK data of prospective BLT-DD recipients as many as 73 families. Regarding the alleged nepotism in determining the recipients of the Village Fund BLT from the research results, this has been firmly denied by the village government and also based on the primary data results in the field stating that, in addition, various perceptions of the poor recipients of assistance are also different.
3. On target, the 2020 village fund budget, especially for direct cash assistance from village funds from stage I to stage III went well and did not experience difficult problems. Furthermore, the researchers saw that the accuracy of the target for the distribution of BLT Village Funds in Batu Gajah Village, Rupit District, Musi Rawas Utara Regency in stages II and III were right on target, while in stage I it was not right on target where there were still many irregularities in the existence of BLT-DD recipients who inappropriate and should be evaluated. After the evaluation, there were 17 families recorded as recipients of other social assistance such as PKH assistance.

Suggestion

1. In order to ensure timeliness in data collection and validation of people who are eligible to receive direct cash assistance, it is suggested to the village

government to study and comply with the steps issued. The ability of human resources is also important so it is recommended that the Batu Gajah Village Head provide training on the use of information technology in order to accelerate their work.

2. In determining the right choice, especially in determining whether it is feasible or not for the recipient community later, it is recommended that village officials hold an internal village census that looks at the lives of each family so that there are no errors in recipient data. In addition, there is a need for an approach from the government through socialization on several occasions and explaining the criteria and basis for determining the Village Fund BLT so that there is no misperception among the community.
3. To ensure the accuracy of targeting for recipients of the Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance, it is recommended that there be direct supervision by the sub-district and district governments in the villages and conduct direct interviews with village communities, as well as the need for an integrated complaint service at the sub-district level, in order to minimize nepotism in the village later.

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