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Development of a Village Food Security Policy Model in Handling Stunting in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency

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Abstract
Research on the development of an adaptive and inclusive regional government policy model is a highly strategic study in realizing sustainable village food security in addressing stunting in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency. This research was conducted due to the still low effectiveness of food security policy implementation at the village level, characterized by limited intersectoral coordination, low community participation, dependence on government assistance programs, and minimal data utilization in stunting management. This study used qualitative research methods with a research design.reseach and developmentthrough a stage,First, analysis of the existing conditions of village food security policies in handling stunting,second, mapping of actors and interests in village food governance,third Formulating a village food security policy model for stunting management in North Bola Mongondow Regency. Data collection was conducted through in-depth interviews with key informants, policy document studies, field observations, and direct assessment of village communities as beneficiaries of the policy. The research results were as follows:First, The village food security policy in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency has been included in the regional and village development agenda. However, this policy still faces various challenges.Second, Stunting management in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency is regulated through various policies and programs involving the local government, village governments, health workers, cadres, and the community. Synergy between these actors is needed, fostering a more integrated, data-driven, preventative, participatory, and sustainable approach.Third, The development of a food security policy model for stunting management in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency has fostered integrated collaboration between the local government, village governments, communities, health workers, cadres, food groups, village-owned enterprises (BUMDes), and stakeholders. The development of a village food security policy model for stunting management in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency needs to be oriented toward an integrative, participatory, local potential- and data-driven policy model, and oriented toward sustainable stunting prevention and reduction.
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1. INTRODUCTION

Food security studies are national strategic policies and issues that are a priority agenda for community life, social stability, and state sovereignty. Villages are the primary locus of food production, central to supporting the food security system. Reality shows that food security in 106 villages in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency still faces various structural issues, ranging from low productivity, weak village economic institutions, limited

access to resources, and low capacity of village government officials in planning and implementing local food policies. These conditions indicate that food security issues are not only due to the influence of production factors, but also due to the influence of governance aspects and local government policies on handling stunting, considering that there are 82 toddlers. experiencing stunting in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency [1].

The North Bolaang Mongondow Regency area is dominated by a coastal area of 1,644 km.^{2}and 107 villages that face unique challenges in ensuring the availability, accessibility, and stability of food for rural communities. North Bolaang Mongondow Regency is a region with significant food resource potential, both in agriculture, plantations, and fisheries. Food security is a pillar of regional development, with rural areas being the basis for food security for rural communities. However, the challenge of food security is crucial due to the prevalence of stunting, which accounts for 19.8 percent of the population. The data shows that several villages in North Bolaang Mongondow still face food insecurity, which impacts the consumption patterns of vulnerable communities, particularly toddlers and pregnant women, which can lead to stunting. Various programs for handling stunting and strengthening food security have not been integrated into village-level policies, which are not yet optimal [2].

As the spearhead of national development, villages have the authority to manage village funds and develop innovative village programs. However, villages in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency lack the capacity to formulate targeted and integrated food security policies to accelerate stunting reduction. Furthermore, there is no comprehensive model for village governments to implement village food security policies. This situation causes village programs to operate partially and contributes to stunting in rural areas. Therefore, it is necessary to develop a participatory, adaptive, and integrative food security policy model to address stunting in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency [1].

North Bolaang Mongondow Regency is a region with significant food resource potential, particularly in the agriculture, fisheries, and plantation sectors. This potential presents challenges for the local government, given the heterogeneous nature of the coastal and rural agriculture sectors and their limited ability to respond to the socio-economic dynamics of rural communities. Furthermore, food security policies tend to be sectoral.*top down*, and the lack of integration between regional and village governments. This has resulted in food security programs being unable to significantly impact stunting management. This situation weakens policy effectiveness and has implications for food insecurity at the household level in North Bolaang Mongondow, which remains high. The use of village data as a basis for food security policy planning is a serious issue due to the lack of data available to inform policymaking. The limited capacity of village government officials necessitates this research to explore the root causes of problems in village food governance and stunting management.

From a public policy perspective, developing a food security program requires a development approach that emphasizes not only results but also participatory and collaborative processes to reduce stunting rates in North Bolaang Mongondow. Therefore, a regional government policy model is needed that is not only adaptive to environmental changes but also requires policies to effectively address stunting. The policy model needs to be developed within a framework to bridge the various gaps between regional government policies and the realities in 106 villages in managing food security and addressing stunting [3].

Strengthening village food security policies in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency requires more systematic institutional support through synergy between local governments, villages, and communities. Village institutions need to be strengthened with data-driven planning capacity, so that each program designed can address real-world challenges. With

a clear coordination mechanism, villages can integrate food security programs with the agenda for sustainable stunting reduction. This also requires regional regulations that provide space for villages to innovate in managing local food resources [4].

Furthermore, the development of a village food security policy model must emphasize the principle of inclusivity by involving vulnerable groups, such as pregnant women and toddlers, in the policy planning and evaluation process. Community participation is key to ensuring that the resulting policy is not merely administrative in nature but also directly addresses the nutritional needs of families. With a participatory approach, village food security policies will be more adaptive to the socio-economic dynamics of rural communities, while strengthening food security as the primary foundation for reducing stunting rates in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency [5].

2. RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses qualitative research as the method used to analyze the entire research process related to the development of a village food security policy model for addressing stunting in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency. This research will be conducted in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency, given its potential, located along the coast and mountains. The primary data sources for this study are primary and secondary data. The data collection techniques used in this study include interviews, observation, and fieldwork.*Library reseach*(literature study) and also Focus Group Discussion (FGD) [6].

Data analysis was conducted after all data was collected according to the research needs. Where data analysis began when all data had been collected. Neuman (2013) stated that the qualitative analysis process includes testing, categorizing, evaluating, comparing, and contemplating one data with another that has been interviewed and also recorded. In the data processing stages that will be carried out in this study, it consists of data interpretation, data reduction, data compilation, categorization and tabulation, checking data validity, drawing conclusions. The analysis of this study uses a qualitative descriptive analysis method by analyzing the development of a village food security policy model in handling stunting in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency [7].

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1.Research Results

a. Village Food Security Policy in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency.

The village food security policy in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency is a strategic policy to promote food availability for rural communities. This policy represents the local government's effort to ensure the availability, affordability, and sustainable utilization of food for the community. The village food security policy process in North Bolaang Mongondow is more directed at increasing productivity in rural areas. The implementation of the policy in this study found that there are still challenges in promoting the village food security program. The most important challenge is the limited capacity of agricultural infrastructure and the unequal distribution across rural areas in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency [8].

The study found that the ratio of agricultural land area has a positive correlation with the level of food availability by influencing food production capacity. The higher the ratio of agricultural land area to population, the better food availability is assumed to be, and vice versa. Of the 107 villages in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency, 57 villages are priority 1 (53%), 15 villages are priority 2 (14%), and 10 villages are priority 3 (9%). The sub-districts with a ratio of agricultural land area to population priority 1-3 are mostly spread across the sub-districts of East Bolangitang, West Bolangitang, Kaidipang, and Pinogaluman, totaling 83 villages [9].

Table 1 Distribution of the ratio of agricultural land area to population based on priority scale

Priority	Agricultural land ratio	Number of Villages	Percentage
1	0.0236	57	53 %
2	0.0475	15	14 %
3	0.0731	10	9 %
4	0.1225	15	14 %
5	0.1713	0	0 %
6	0.1713	10	9 %

Data source: Department of Agriculture 2024

The North Bolaang Mongondow Regency Government in the agricultural sector (including livestock, forestry, and fisheries) has contributed 50.11% of the Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) of North Bolaang Mongondow Regency in 2024 and provides significant opportunities to contribute to improving food security, poverty alleviation, and the dynamics of economic growth. Where the average production in the last 5 years in table 2 shows that rice is 40,030 tons, corn 41,046 tons, cassava 54.6 tons and sweet potatoes 10.6 tons.

Table 2 Production of Staple Cereals, Rice and Tubers 2020-2024 (Tons)

Commodity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Average 5 years
Paddy	50.869	42.083	43.388	31.180	32.629	40.030
Corn	47.175	51.654	53.160	26.844	26.398	41.046
Cassava	41	8	99	63	62	54.6
Sweet potato	21	9	5	9	9	10,6

Source: Regency in Figures 2023-2024 BPS Agriculture Service

The data in table 3 shows the ratio of the number of food supply facilities and infrastructure to the number of households is the comparison between the number of food supply facilities and infrastructure such as markets, minimarkets, shops, stalls, restaurants, and others with the number of households in the village. The higher the ratio of food supply facilities and infrastructure to the number of households in the village, it is assumed that the better the level of food availability in the village. From the results of the analysis of 107 villages in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency, there are no villages included in priorities 1, 2 and 3, meaning that the availability of food supply facilities is very good with details that there are 4 villages included in priority 5 (3.21%), 3 villages, priority 6 there are 104 villages (97.2%) [10].

Table 3 Distribution of economic infrastructure ratios based on priority

No.	Priority	Economic Infrastructure Ratio	Number of Villages	Percentage
1	1	0.0288	0	0 %
2	2	0.0412	0	0 %
3	3	0.0510	0	0 %

4	4	0.0640	0	0 %
5	5	0.0738	3	2,8 %
6	6	0.0738	104	97,2 %

Source: Village Potential PODES BPS and DISPERINDAG 2024

The Food Availability Fulfillment Strategy is carried out by observing the population growth rate of North Bolaang Mongondow Regency from 2020-2024, which reached 1.19% per year. Meanwhile, rice and corn production growth reached 1% and 1.43%, respectively. The average farmer's land ownership in the Regency is 0.5 ha. The ratio of agricultural land to total land is 54.60 ha. Meanwhile, the land conversion rate is 0.5%. The ratio of economic facilities providing food in priorities 1-3 reaches 25%. This is a challenge in fulfilling food availability [11].In the study, it was found that there were limitations in access to affordable food access in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency, namely*First,* economic access, financial ability to purchase sufficient and nutritious food.*Second,* Physical access, the existence of infrastructure to reach food sources; and/or.*Third,* Social access, social capital that can be used to obtain informal support in accessing food, such as barter, loans or social safety net programs. WherePopulation growth rate, increasing unemployment, low education, uneven income distribution, and rising food prices. The number of poor people in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency in chart 1 experienced a slight decrease from 7.90% (6,660 people) in 2024 to 7.88% (6,550 people).

Chart 1 Percentage of poor population



Data source: Regency in figures 2024

At the village level, based on DTSEN (National Socio-Economic Single Data) data in 2024, there are 71 villages that have a household ratio with the lowest level of welfare above 80% (Priority 1). A total of 11 villages (10%) are included in priority 2, and 17 villages (16%) are included in Priority 3. Therefore, poverty alleviation programs in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency in the future still need to be improved and prioritized in these 71 villages [12].

Table 4 Distribution of villages with the lowest level of welfare based on priority scale

Priority	Range	Number of Villages	Percentage
1	0.0790	71	66 %
2	0.0790	6	5 %
3	0.0657	10	9 %
4	0.0515	7	6 %
5	0.0388	9	8 %
6	0.0278	20	18 %

Source: Village Potential PODES BPS and DISPERINDAG 2024

The study found that village food security policies in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency have essentially become part of the regional and village development agenda. However, the development of village food security policies still faces various issues, from implementation to resource availability. Therefore, food security policies in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency need to be developed adaptively and sustainably through strengthening village institutions, increasing community capacity, optimizing local resources, strengthening the village economy, utilizing technology, and periodically monitoring and evaluating policies. This approach is expected to create more independent villages in meeting food needs while simultaneously improving community welfare in a sustainable manner [13].

b. Stunting Handling Process in North Bolaang Mongodow Regency.

In the context of Indonesian legislation, it has been stipulated that food security and stunting policies need to be well integrated. The concept of developing food security is not only oriented towards efforts to provide sufficient food for each individual, but must also be accompanied by efforts to increase the effectiveness of food utilization to create good nutritional status for each individual. Food access is part of the ability to obtain sufficient nutritious food, through one or a combination of various sources, such as self-production and supply, purchasing, bartering, gifts, loans, and food aid [14].

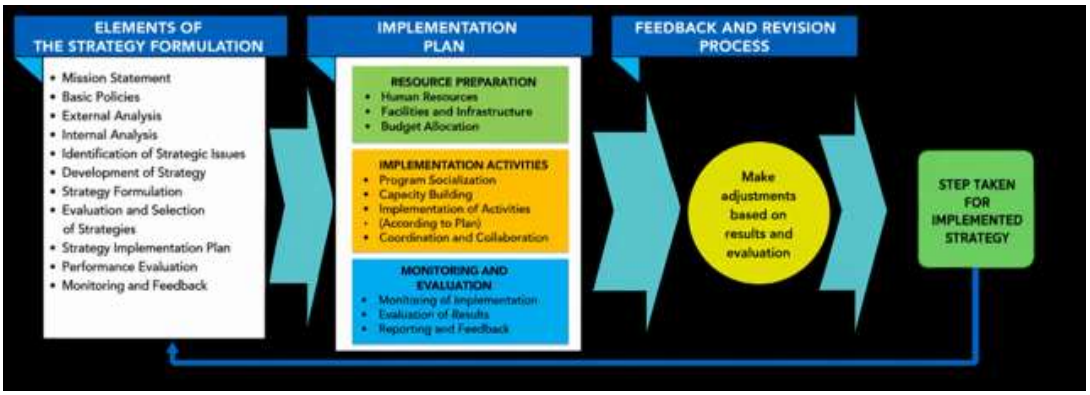


Figure 1. Concept of Food and Nutrition Security (Source: FAO and UNSCN)

The food security policy program in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency is closely linked to the process of addressing stunting. The North Bolaang Mongondow Regency government has prioritized the acceleration of stunting reduction as a regional development priority. Furthermore, accelerated stunting management is also being promoted as a priority program by village governments to ensure public health [15].

From a public health perspective, local government programs are encouraged to integrate food security and health programs. Local governments, through health offices and community health centers, are improving health services for mothers and children. Meanwhile, food security programs are encouraged to ensure proper fulfillment of all aspects of production, processing, and consumption patterns in rural communities. Various programs are implemented to ensure health checks, immunizations, education, and nutritional management during pregnancy. Stunting services are not limited to infants and toddlers; monitoring of children's growth and development is also essential.

The ratio of the number of households without access to clean water to the total number of households is the comparison between the number of Decile 1-4 households with unprotected clean water sources and the total number of households in the village. Clean water is water used for daily needs that meets health requirements and is drinkable after being boiled. Unprotected clean water sources have the potential to increase morbidity and reduce the ability to absorb food, which will ultimately affect an individual's nutritional status [16].

Table 5 Distribution of villages based on households without access to clean water based on priority scale

Priority	Range	Number of Villages	Percentage
1	0.3626	0	0 %
2	0.3626	0	0 %
3	0.2136	0	0 %
4	0.1220	0	0 %
5	0.0523	0	0 %
6	0.0314	107	100 %

Data source: Department of Health and BPS 2024

The ratio of the number of village residents per health worker to population density is the number of village residents per health worker consisting of general practitioners/specialists, dentists, midwives, and other health workers such as nurses, community health workers, nutritionists, pharmacists/pharmacist assistants compared to population density. Health workers play an important role in reducing the morbidity rate of the population.*(morbidity)*and increasing public knowledge of the importance of a diverse, balanced, and safe diet. The ratio of the number of village residents per health worker to population density indicates the ability of the number of health workers in the village area to serve the community. An adequate number of health workers will improve the community's food utilization status [17].

Table 6 Distribution of the ratio of health workers in villages based on priority scale

Priority	Range	Number of Villages	Percentage
1	0.0687	100	93 %
2	0.0687	5	4 %
3	0.0352	1	0 %
4	0.0178	1	0 %
5	0.0082	0	0 %
6	0.0032	0	0 %

Data Source: Department of Health 2024

In research shows that food security is one aspect that affects the health and nutritional status of the community. The nutritional status of children is determined by food intake and the diseases they suffer from. The number of malnutrition sufferers in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency in 2020-2024 was 3 toddlers. The number of malnutrition sufferers was found in East Bolangitang District (1 toddler) in 2020, Pinogaluman District (1 toddler) in 2020, Pinogaluman

(1 toddler) in 2021 and the lowest was found in Sangkub Kaidipang and Bolangitang Baarat Districts data source North Bolaang Mongondow Regency Government [18].

Table 7 Malnutrition Sufferers 2020-2024

NO	Subdistrict	People with Malnutrition				
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1	Sangkub	0	0	0	0	0
2	Bintauna	0	0	0	0	1
3	East Bolangitang	1	0	0	0	1
4	West Bolangitang	0	0	0	0	0
5	Kaidipang	0	0	0	0	0
6	Pinogaluman	1	1	0	0	1
	Total	2	1	0	0	0

Data Source: Department of Health 2024

The infant and maternal mortality rates during childbirth in table 8 are the impact of health and nutritional status. The infant mortality rate in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency in 2024 was 24 people. Meanwhile, the maternal mortality rate during childbirth in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency was 1 person. The infant mortality rate was in Sangkub District (1 person), Bintauna District (5 people), Bolangitang Timur District (2 people), Bolangitang Barata District (6 people), Kaidipang District (5 people), and Pinogaluman District (5 people) [19].

Table 8 Number of Infant and Maternal Deaths During Childbirth per District (2024)

No.	Subdistrict	Number of Infant Mortality Rates	Number of Maternal Deaths During Childbirth	Total
1	Sangkub	1	0	1
2	Bintauna	5	1	6
3	East Bolangitang	2	0	2
4	West Bolangitang	6	0	6
5	Kaidipang	5	0	5
6	Pinogaluman	5	0	5
	Total	24	1	25

Data Source: Department of Health 2024

Chronic malnutrition (stunting) remains a high problem in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency. Chronic malnutrition is a result of suboptimal fetal and infant growth in the first two years of life, primarily due to a combination of inadequate nutritional intake, high exposure to disease, and inappropriate parenting patterns. All of these factors can cause irreparable damage, which can ultimately lead to an increased burden of disease and death in toddlers [20].

To reduce the prevalence of stunting, nutritional interventions must be planned promptly and implemented effectively at all levels, from the household to the national level. To effectively prevent and address malnutrition, it is necessary to prioritize vulnerable groups, understand the multidimensional causes of malnutrition, develop appropriate and effective interventions to address these

causes, and increase commitment and investment in nutrition. Furthermore, the process of managing stunting is also carried out through activities such as weighing, measuring height, administering vitamin A, immunization, and health education. The government also monitors the nutritional status of toddlers periodically. Data obtained from integrated health posts (Posyandu) is used as a basis for implementing necessary interventions for children experiencing stunting [21].

The stunting management program is also implemented through the provision of supplementary feeding (PMT). Through PMT, local governments strive to improve community nutrition so that basic nutritional needs can be met. This study shows that the role of local and village governments in stunting management is very strategic. This role requires good communication and coordination processes to encourage more integrated stunting management policies. This includes regulating the use of village funds for stunting management programs to support community health and nutrition activities. Stunting management in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency is carried out by the government by involving various regional government agencies, such as the health office, food security office, village community empowerment office, education office, public works office, and other agencies. This multi-sectoral involvement demonstrates that stunting cannot be addressed solely through a health approach, but requires a multidimensional approach.

Based on the research results, it was found that stunting management has been implemented through various policies and programs involving local governments, village governments, health workers, cadres, and also the community. The handling process is carried out through specific and sensitive interventions. The process of monitoring the growth and development of toddlers, providing supplementary food, maternal and child health services, increasing immunity coverage, providing clean water and sanitation, nutrition education, and increasing public awareness regarding parenting patterns and meeting nutritional needs. Various programs have been implemented, but the process of handling stunting still faces various obstacles. These obstacles include coordination, integration of service equality programs, and consistency in implementing interventions at the village level. The results of the study indicate that stunting management in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency is influenced by institutional capacity and synergy between actors. Thus, the success of stunting management in the region is largely determined by the government's ability to build collaboration across sectors and across levels of government so that each program can support each other and have a real impact on improving the nutritional status, health, and quality of life of the community [22].

c. Development of a Village Food Security Policy Model in Handling Stunting in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency.

The development of village food security policies in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency is part of a policy integrated into the stunting management process. Food security is a crucial resource for stunting management. Research shows that stunting is not only a health issue but also relates to social, economic, educational, and household food security factors. Therefore, stunting management efforts should not be carried out solely through sectors but must utilize an integrated and sustainable policy approach. In this study, village food security is a highly strategic instrument for accelerating stunting reduction in North Bolaang

Mongondow Regency. This acceleration is achieved through increasing community access to adequate, nutritious, safe, and diverse food security programs.

The research results show that most villages in North Bolaang Mongondow have relatively large natural resource potential, especially in the plantation, agriculture, fisheries, and livestock sectors. Although this potential is large, this potential has not been able to improve the nutritional status of the community because there are still obstacles in managing food production, distribution, household economic access, and the community's low knowledge regarding nutritious food consumption patterns. This low level of knowledge is the cause of the continued presence of families experiencing food insecurity and at risk of stunting [23].

Research in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency found that village food security policies tend to be oriented towards increasing food production. Food security policies still lack integration with community health and nutrition improvement programs. This results in increased food production not directly contributing to stunting reduction. A food security policy model is needed that can integrate health, education, and community empowerment interventions to encourage stunting management by village governments in North Bolaang Mongondow.[24]

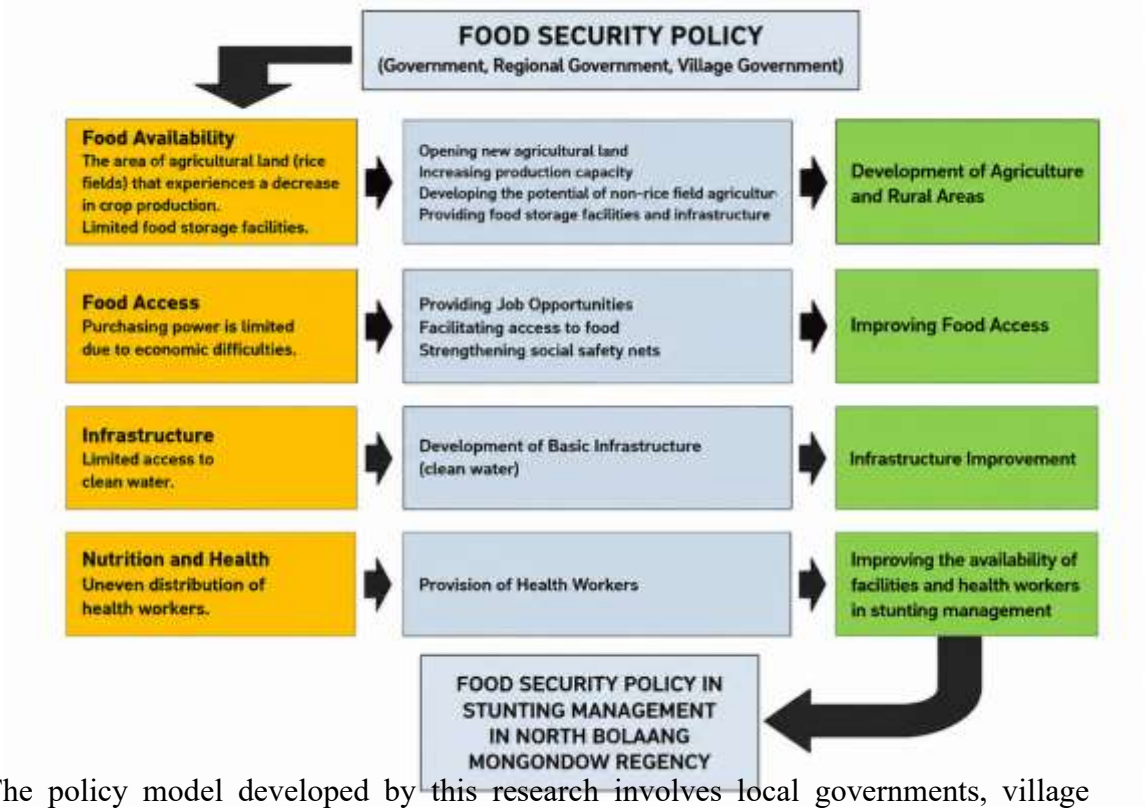
The success of stunting management is strongly influenced by four dimensions in the food security process, including:*food avaliable* (food availability),*food accessubulity*(food access),*food itilization* (food utilization), and*food stability* (food stability). This dimension can be the basis for formulating village policies, thus ensuring that food security policies have a significant impact on reducing stunting in rural communities. The food availability dimension relates to the village's capacity or ability to provide food for the community. Food availability in North Bolaang Mongondow can be improved through agricultural strengthening programs, productive village garden development, yard utilization, family livestock development, and village fisheries development programs. Villages that are able to maximize rural resources tend to have a better level of food security than villages that are dependent on food supplies from outside their region [25].

The food security dimension is a key factor influencing the community's ability to obtain nutritious food. Research has shown that the primary obstacle in developing food security policies for stunting management in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency is poverty and low household income, which hinder the family's food security. This necessitates the development of a policy model for stunting management that can encourage the community's economic capacity through empowering productive businesses, strengthening Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDes), and developing MSMEs that promote locally-based food businesses. Meanwhile, the food utilization dimension relates to the context in which food can meet family nutritional needs. The main challenge identified in North Bolaang Mongondow is the lack of understanding among families about the importance of consuming nutritious, balanced, and safe food. Nutrition education programs, an increased role of integrated health posts (Posyandi), and family mentoring are needed to effectively develop stunting management efforts [26].

Figure 2 shows that the food security policy model is implemented starting from collaboration between regional and village governments in realizing food availability, food access, basic infrastructure, health, and nutrition. Food availability is achieved through the clearing of new land and efforts to increase

production capacity. Meanwhile, food access is encouraged through the provision of employment and providing easy access to social safety nets for poor households. To encourage infrastructure, basic infrastructure development is carried out to ensure the availability of clean water. Health and nutrition issues are addressed through the provision of adequate health workers [27].

Figure 2. Development Model of Food Security Policy Model in Handling Stunting in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency



The policy model developed by this research involves local governments, village governments, communities, health workers, cadres, food groups, village-owned enterprises (BUMDes), and other stakeholders in building integrated and sustainable collaboration. This model emphasizes data-based planning, mapping family food vulnerability and potential, strengthening local food production and diversification, increasing community capacity, and regular monitoring and evaluation. The success of this policy model is determined by the synergy of regional and village policies, resource and budget support, community participation, and consistent program implementation at the village level. Therefore, the development of village food security policies in handling stunting in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency needs to be directed at an integrative, participatory, local potential and data-based policy model, and oriented towards prevention from the family and the first thousand days of life. This ensures that food security not only increases food availability but also improves the quality of consumption and nutritional status of the community, and supports a sustainable reduction in stunting [28].

3.2.Discussion

Village food security is a crucial pillar of sustainable development, particularly in relation to stunting management. North Bolaang Mongondow Regency faces serious challenges, with a stunting rate of 19.8 percent, indicating food insecurity at the household level. This situation is exacerbated by low agricultural productivity, weak village economic institutions, and the limited capacity of village officials to formulate targeted food policies. Therefore, this study emphasizes the urgency of developing an adaptive and inclusive village food security policy model to address this multidimensional issue [29].

The research method used is qualitative with a design*research and development*(R&D). The research stages include analyzing existing policy conditions, mapping actors and interests, and formulating a village food security policy model. Data collection techniques were carried out through in-depth interviews with key informants, field observations, policy document studies, and focus group discussions (FGDs).*FGD*This participatory approach aims to ensure that the policy model developed is not only academically valid, but also realistic and operational for implementation in the villages of North Bolaang Mongondow Regency.

The novelty of this research lies in the integration of two main approaches, namely adaptivity and inclusivity, in the design of village food security policies. Most previous studies have only emphasized the technical aspects of food production or the evaluation of sectoral programs, without directly linking them to stunting management. This research offers a policy model that is responsive to local socioeconomic dynamics while also accommodating the interests of vulnerable groups such as toddlers and pregnant women. Thus, this research provides both a theoretical contribution to public policy studies and a practical contribution in the form of a policy model that can be replicated in other regions [30].

The five-year research roadmap outlined a systematic direction for the model's development. The first year focused on diagnostic studies and mapping of existing policies, the second year on formulating a conceptual model, the third year on limited trials in selected villages, the fourth year on strengthening regional institutions and regulations, and the fifth year on institutionalization and cross-regional replication. This strategy ensures that the policy model is not merely conceptual but is also tested, strengthened, and institutionalized for long-term sustainability [31].

In the context of public policy, this study emphasizes the importance of cross-sector collaboration-based food governance. Local governments, villages, farmer groups, fishermen, women, and business actors must be actively involved in the policy formulation process. This participatory approach not only strengthens policy legitimacy but also ensures that the resulting policies align with the real needs of village communities. Thus, the developed policy model is able to bridge the gap between top-down local government policies and the socio-economic realities of village communities [32].

Furthermore, this study emphasizes the importance of utilizing village data as a basis for decision-making. The lack of integrated data has been a contributing factor to the weak effectiveness of food security policies. With a village-based food and nutrition information system, policies can be designed in a more targeted and evidence-based manner.*evidence-based policy*). This is in line with the mandate of Law No. 18 of 2012 concerning Food and Government Regulation No. 17 of 2015 concerning Food Security and Nutrition, which emphasizes the importance of an integrated information system in supporting food policy planning and evaluation [33].

Overall, this study confirms that village food security cannot be separated from inclusive and adaptive policy governance. Villages, as the spearhead of national

development, must be empowered to formulate evidence-based policies.*evidence-based policy*) by optimally utilizing village data. With the developed policy model, it is hoped that North Bolaang Mongondow Regency will be able to strengthen village food security, reduce stunting rates, and support the achievement of sustainable development goals (SDGs), especially poverty alleviation and improving the quality of life of rural communities [25].

4. CONCLUSION

In research on the development of a village food security policy model in handling stunting in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency, it was concluded that,*First,* Village food security policies in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency have become part of the regional and village development agenda. These policies address various challenges, and village food security programs require a system that connects the economic, institutional, social, environmental, and welfare dimensions of village communities.*Second,* Stunting management in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency has been implemented through various policies and programs involving the local government, village governments, health workers, cadres, and the community. Synergy between these actors is needed to achieve a more integrated, data-driven, preventative, participatory, and sustainable approach. The success of stunting management is determined by the government's ability to build collaboration across sectors and levels of government so that each program can support each other and have a tangible impact on improving the nutritional status, health, and quality of life of the community.*Third,* The development of a food security policy model for stunting management in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency has brought together local governments, village governments, communities, health workers, cadres, food groups, village-owned enterprises (BUMDes), and other stakeholders to build integrated and sustainable collaboration. The development of a village food security policy model for stunting management in North Bolaang Mongondow Regency is directed at an integrative, participatory, local potential- and data-driven policy model, and oriented towards sustainable stunting prevention and reduction.

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