

Development of Community Behaviours Towards Clean Sanitation to Reduce Stunting Prevalence: A Case Study

Mia Rahma ROMADONA^{1*}, Rendi FEBRIANDA¹,
Anggina DINASEVIANI¹, Andi BUDIANSYAH¹

¹ Research Center for Science Technology and Innovation Policy and Management,
Indonesian Institute of Sciences, Indonesia

Keywords: sanitation, stunting, behavior, community

Stunting is a failure of child growth and development as a result of poor nutrition considered shorter than the average age of children seen from the growth curve in who or $-2SD$ (Ministry of Health 2018; Kemendestrans 2017). The Indonesian government is still struggling to reduce the prevalence of stunting, because data from RISKESDAS (Ministry of Health 2018) shows that 30.8% of stunting prevalence, which is the second-highest in Asia after Cambodia (Rokx et al. 2018). Stunting is not just a child malnutrition problem, but also is a multidimensional problem. In this regard, cultural factors need to be taken into account, indicating that individual and community behaviors towards the hygiene environment are important to be targeted for knowledge and prevention of stunting. For example, healthy and hygienic behaviors in daily life along with the intervention of clean water and good sanitation facilities are important measures to be promoted. The government of Indonesia has emphasized the fulfillment of clean water and sanitation facilities (TNP2K 2018) as one of five measures to tackle stunting at the village level. Despite the government's effort, there are still many people in various regions behaving inappropriately related to sanitation. They use rivers and swamps for MCK (Bath, Wash, latrine) activities and therefore insufficient clean water sources cause poor sanitation, which consequently contribute to high levels of diarrhea in children. Based on the above-mentioned problems, improvement of hygiene behaviors is inarguably one of critical elements in solving the stunting problem in Indonesia.

The purpose of this study was to reveal the community behavior of the Ogan Komering Ilir (OKI) district on clean sanitation as one of the efforts to reduce stunting. This study employed a qualitative method that is case study approach. Data mining used semi-structured interviews and secondary document analysis.

The results of research to answer the question that since a few years before the government's efforts to tackle stunting, various efforts have been made to program healthy behavior activities related to sanitation. In OKI Regency, most of the area is crossed by rivers and swamps so that residents have cultural habits of MCK behavior in rivers and swamps as well as some in the land. The healthy sanitation activities have been targeted in remote areas because there are still many cultures of sanitary behavior that are unhygienic. Cultural behaviors on sanitation is gradually improved through the construction of several public toilet facilities and access to clean water at every point in several regional villages, representing the construction of MCK facilities, good Septic Tank, Posyandu and BKB campaigns. However, the challenge is that some residents still maintain MCK activities in rivers or swamps; these behaviors are seemingly difficult to be changed immediately. Specifically, there was no significant change in both sanitation behaviors through the stunting intervention campaign. On the other hand, changes towards good sanitation behaviors occurred as a result of programs that have long been carried out by the government. In addition, the present study demonstrated that it takes time to build awareness to build an independent MCK

* Correspondence
✉ romadona.mia@gmail.com

facility at for each household due to cost constraints, cultural value, as well as the mindset and habits of local people. In this sense, innovation in stunting reduction program is still minimal due to limited availability of funds and relying only on village and local funds. Also, the findings suggest that poverty is an obstacle in getting used to healthy sanitation behavior goes well in accessing sanitation services among underprivileged families who have to rely on limited sources, such as rivers, swamps and land as a means of MCK. In conclusion, there is a need for a multidimensional understanding and therefore approach to diminish/combat the stunting prevalence considering improved sanitation.

References

- Badan Pusat Statistik Kabupaten Ogan Komering Ilir [BPS-Statistics of Ogan Komering Ilir Regency] 2019. *Kabupaten Ogan Komering Ilir dalam Angka* (Ogan Komering Ilir Regency in figures 2019). BPS-OKI Regency, Kayu Agung.
- Kementerian Kesehatan [Ministry of Health] 2018. *Hasil Utama RISKESDAS 2018* (Main Results RISKESDAS 2018). Badan Penelitian dan Pembangunan Kesehatan, Kementerian Kesehatan Republik Indonesia, Jakarta.
- Kementerian Desa [Ministry of Village] 2018. *Buku Saku Stunting Desa* (Village Stunting Pocket Book). Kementerian Desa, Pembangunan Daerah Tertinggal, dan Transmigrasi, Jakarta.
- Rokx, C., Subandoro, A. and Gallagher, P. 2018. *Aiming High: Indonesia's Ambition to Reduce Stunting*. World Bank, Washington DC.
- TNP2K (National Team for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction) 2018. *Strategi Komunikasi Perubahan Perilaku: dalam Percepatan Pencegahan Stunting* (Behavior Change Communication Strategy: Accelerating Stunting Prevention). Direktorat Promosi Kesehatan dan Pemberdayaan Masyarakat, Jakarta.