# Implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program in Order to Improve the Quality of Education at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun

# Puji Agustiningsih<sup>1</sup>, Ida Rosnidah<sup>2</sup>, Arief Prayitno<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup>Universitas Swadaya Gunung Jati Cirebon, Indonesia, Email: <u>pujizainii@gmail.com</u> Received: July 7, 2023; In Revised: September 23, 2023; Accepted: November 14, 2023

#### **Abstract**

The Smart Indonesia Program, hereinafter referred to as PIP, is a government cash transfer provided to students whose parents are not and/or less able to afford their education, as a continuation and expansion of the target of the Poor Student Assistance (BSM) program. Problems in implementing the Smart Indonesia Program include disbursement that is too slow so that there are students who have graduated from school and returned to their homes spread across several provinces cannot disburse aid funds, lack of understanding from parents and the PIP disbursement process that requires students to come to the distribution bank resulting in many students permitting and disrupting the learning process. The research was conducted at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun in Agntar District, Indramayu Regency. The purpose of this study is to analyze the Implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program, supporting and inhibiting factors and solutions using the theory of Merilee S. Grindle Implementation. The method used in this study is a descriptive qualitative method. Data were obtained from interviews with the Head of Madrasah, Maadrasah Operator/Treasurer and PIP recipient students. Based on the research results, the implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program in order to improve the quality of education at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun has been optimal so that it can improve the quality of education.

Keywords: Public Policy, Policy Implementation, Smart Indonesia Program.

### Introduction

Article 1 Number 20 of the Law of the Republic of Indonesia of 2003 concerning national education is a conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble morals and good skills. needed for himself, society, nation and state (Rohman, 2009:10).

The provision of education is intended to provide enlightenment and at the same time change lifestyles for students. Saroni (2013:9) states that enlightenment is needed as a conscious effort to make us important figures in life and the change in question is to prepare us as figures who are able to face every change in life.

Education is also a means of reducing poverty, every color of Indonesia has the same rights, namely to receive educational services, therefore the government issued the Smart Indonesia Program (PIP) policy which aims to provide educational services until the end of the education unit, so good implementation is needed in achieve that goal.

A very important step in implementing a policy is implementation. Because policies really need implementation steps, so that policies have an influence on the life of the country, well-made policies should be implemented well. The term to implement means providing the means to carry out something that can have an impact/consequence on something. Implementation is also the overall action carried out by an individual or official or group of government or private sector which is directed towards achieving predetermined policy objectives (Rohman, 2009).

The policy implementation process will involve the behavior of bureaucrats in providing certain services to the community and regulating the behavior of one or more target groups.

For this reason, in implementing a program, especially one involving government organizations/agencies, the focus of policy implementation analysis will include the efforts made to obtain decisions as well as efforts to provide services or change the behavior of the community/target group of the program in question.

Development in an area related to community welfare which is the government's focus is fulfilling the basic obligations of educational development. The development of quality human resources (HR) is the main capital for government development. To achieve this, it must be supported by increasing the level of public education. Education is the main requirement for producing people who are educated, superior and have competitiveness in facing global competition. Apart from that, education is a very crucial instrument in contributing to the progress of a nation in building national character. This development planning needs to be supported by a public policy that is in accordance with the interests of the community. The process of reviewing a public policy that is made based on the interests of the wider community will be an initial illustration of the implementation of the policy.

Indonesia's education policy, in article 31 of the 1945 Constitution, states that every citizen has the right to education, the government regulates and implements a national education system regulated by law. One of the policies implemented is free education which aims to prevent elementary and middle school age students from not enjoying education. In accordance with the government's program in the education sector, namely expanding access to education, the government has an obligation and responsibility to provide opportunities for the community in social classification for obtaining education.

Opportunities for poor people to receive education are still unequal. Hadi Supeno (2010) stated that education, which was once so noble, namely to free people from poverty, has now become a tool of the capitalist social system. Education has become a luxury item, with very high prices. Article 3 of the 1945 Constitution guarantees that the state takes care of poor and neglected students. If we see this sentence in our daily lives, we know how long it will be evenly distributed to the lowest layers of society, namely the poor. Muhammad Saroni (2013) stated that political officials at the central and regional levels remain focused on their own interests, so that the interests of the poor are only guided by their unfulfilled duties. So the poor have to struggle alone to survive. Financial problems have always been a problem for society, especially among the lower middle class.

Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun is one of the Madrasas that has received the Smart Indonesia Program for the last few years. The results of the initial interview with the treasurer of the Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun Smart Indonesia Program are not yet optimal due to technical obstacles that can occur during program implementation, such as: disbursement that is too slow so that some students have already graduated from school, lack of understanding from parents regarding the Program Smart Indonesia, and the process of disbursing funds for the Smart Indonesia Program which requires students to go directly to the channeling institution (Bank), and many have permission for the disbursement process, so it can disrupt the teaching and learning process. This is what prompted researchers to find out the extent of the implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program for beneficiaries at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun.

### Method

This research is qualitative research, qualitative research is descriptive research and tends to use analysis. The relevant research process involves observing or observing informants, interacting with them, and finding out what is known about the Implementation of the Smart

Indonesia Program Policy at the Madarasah Aliyah level. Research design or paradigm is describing various variables together with other variables so that it is easier to formulate research problems, choose appropriate theories, formulate proposed hypotheses, research methods/strategies, analysis techniques to be used and expected conclusions (Sugiyono, 2002). Variables in qualitative research are the same as concepts in qualitative research. The research used is a case study as an approach by focusing attention on a case intensively and in detail on the setting, one subject or one document storage place or one event which is directed at collecting data and taking meaning regarding the Implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program Policy at Madrasah Aliyah. Ma'had Al-Zaytun. Research subjects: There were 6 informants for this research, namely: Madrasah Head, Operator/Treasurer, 4 PIP recipient students. Data collection techniques in this research used interview techniques, documentation studies and observation.

## **Results and Discussion**

In the research on the Implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program in order to improve the quality of education at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun, it focuses on aspects of policy content and policy environment. Interests of the target group, Target recipients of the Smart Indonesia Program according to Regulation of the Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia Number 10 of 2020 concerning the Smart Indonesia Program are students aged 6 to 21 years who are: 2021 PIP Recipients Smart Indonesia Card Holders, Students from Family Hope Program (PKH) families, Students from families who hold Prosperous Family Cards (KKS), pupils/students those with the status of orphans/orphans from social institutions/orphanages, students affected by natural disasters, students aged 6 to 21 years who are not in school (drop-outs) who are expected to return to school, students who have physical disabilities, victims of disaster, parents who have had their employment terminated, in conflict areas, from convict families, are in correctional institutions, have more than 3 (three) siblings living at home. Types of Benefits: The benefits of the Smart Indonesia Program are increasing access for students aged 6-21 years to receive educational services until they complete secondary education, preventing students from possibly dropping out of school due to economic difficulties and attracting students who have dropped out of school to return to receive educational services at school. The degree of change to be achieved, helps students in attending school, reduces the cost of education, helps reduce the burden on students' parents. Position of Policy Maker, the Smart Indonesia Program is an assistance program whose management at the central level is carried out by the Directorate of KSKK Madrasah, Directorate General of Islamic Education and involves the Ministry others in charge of social affairs, Provincial Ministry of Religion Regional Offices, Regency/City Ministry of Religion Regional Offices, Madrasahs, distribution banks and other related work units/institutions. Implementing the Program, the central government (in this case the Ministry of Religion, directorate of curriculum, institutional facilities and madrasah students), Provincial Services, Regency/City Services, Madrasahs and distribution institutions, while what is meant by the target group is students aged 6-21 years who have KIP, students from the Family Hope Program (PKH) families, and others.

Implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program involves related agencies, including Madrasas, District Services, Provincial Services, technical directorates and distribution institutions. Management of the Smart Indonesia Program at MA Ma'had Al-Zaytun consists of: determining recipients for distribution of funds and withdrawal of funds. Determining the recipients of the Smart Indonesia Program, the KSKK Madrasah Directorate, Directorate General of Islamic Education, receives proposals for prospective students receiving the Smart

Indonesia Program from the Provincial Ministry of Religion and matches madrasa student data with the Indonesian Ministry of Social Affairs' Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS) and identifies and synchronizes data on proposed recipients. social assistance from the Smart Indonesia Program from Madrasas. Distribution of Smart Indonesia Program aid, Smart Indonesia Madrasah Program funds are distributed directly to recipients through SimPel savings accounts. In distributing funds for the Smart Indonesia Program, the KSKK Madrasah Directorate enters into a cooperation agreement with the channeling bank. Withdrawing funds from the Smart Indonesia Program, withdrawing funds from the Smart Indonesia Program can be done directly from each student's account activation, account withdrawals can be made using a SimPel account or ATM debit program. Human resources and equipment resources as a means of supporting the success of PIP in Madarasah Aliyah.

Policy Environment: Power, interests and implementing strategies, Implementing strategies are Madrasah Aliyah's strategies and mechanisms in socializing the program and assisting students in attracting PIP assistance funds at channeling institutions, Madrasah Aliyah Strategy in Implementing the Smart Indonesia Program in order to improve the quality of education at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun aims to strengthen outreach to parents and students, make it easier to collect the necessary requirements, immediately inform students of account numbers and try to nominate students who are worthy of being proposed. Characteristics of institutions and authorities

In implementing the Smart Indonesia Program in order to improve the quality of education at MA Ma'had Al-Zaytun, all Madrasah Aliyah residents support the implementation of the program. Based on the results of interviews and teacher observations, the operator/treasurer of the Smart Indonesia Program carries out its duties in terms of informing students and also making it easier for students to disburse funds for the Smart Indonesia Program.

Supporting factors for implementing the Smart Indonesia Program in order to improve the quality of education at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun consist of policy content and the interests of the target group. The target of implementing the Smart Indonesia Program at Madrasah Aliyah is all students whose data has emerged from the central level Ministry of Religion which has been synchronized by the Indonesian Ministry of Social Affairs' Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS). Types of Benefits, Benefits obtained by students aged 6 (six) years to 21 (twenty-one) years to receive educational services until completion of secondary education units, preventing students from possibly dropping out of school due to economic difficulties and attracting students who have dropped out of school to return receive educational services at school. The degree of change to be achieved, by receiving the Smart Indonesia Program assistance funds, students will become calm, focused and develop the spirit of competing with other students in both academic, sports and arts fields. Related resources, at Madrasah Aliyah, as the manager of the Smart Indonesia Program, it involves the principal, operator and treasurer who are appointed as the person responsible for the Smart Indonesia Program. To support the implementation of the Smart Indonesia program, Madrasah Aliya is equipped with buildings, computers and an internet network. For information resources, the district Ministry of Religion communicates with the treasurer as the person appointed by the head of the madrasah by creating a WhatsApp group so that information about the Smart Indonesia program, Policy Environment: Power, interests and implementation strategies, Power to Madrasah Aliyah as the implementer who receives data from the Ministry of Religion The district implements this by informing the students whose names are listed on the decree receiving aid funds to overseeing the disbursement so that students who come from low-income families will still be able to attend school until they graduate from Madrasah Aliyah and efforts to improve the quality of education are achieved, the strategy is carried out by socializing and educating students to use aid funds so that they

are appropriate. Characteristics of institutions and authorities, Madrasah Aliyah is built based on work culture principles such as: exemplary leadership which is used as a role model, both in terms of commitment and implementation of policies. The characteristics of the authorities can be measured through the provisions for sanctions for violations that occurred during the Implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program, even though to date this has never happened.

The factors inhibiting the implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program in order to improve the quality of education at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun consist of program implementers, the timing of receiving the Smart Indonesia Program aid funds varies greatly and is irregular. The time for the disbursement of Smart Indonesia Program aid funds is during school lessons so that students are permitted to leave school to take the aid to the nearest designated channeling bank. Where the decision is made, Madrasah Aliyah receives data on students receiving aid and the Smart Indonesia Program from the Central Ministry and does not apply from the school

The solution in an effort to increase the implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program in order to improve the quality of education at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun is that the time for receiving the Smart Indonesia Program aid funds be scheduled regularly, for example in the middle of the semester so that all students registered in the aid recipient data can disburse the money and useful for student education or students in class XI who have graduated from school can take it from a channeling bank close to where they live. The Madrasah principal appoints teachers to disburse student aid funds collectively. Heads of Madrasahs and implementers of the Smart Indonesia Program collect data on underprivileged students to be registered as potential recipients of Smart Indonesia Program aid funds.

#### Conclusion

The implementation of the Smart Indonesia Program to improve the quality of education at Madrasah Aliyah Ma'had Al-Zaytun, Gantar District, Indramayu Regency is in accordance with existing technical guidelines so that it can improve the quality of education. The recommendation given is for the Government to limit the time in implementing the stages of disbursement of Smart Indonesia Program aid funds so that they are on time so that all students can make maximum use of aid funds.

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