PUBLICA, Vol. 17 No. 1: 196-212 DOI: 10.15575/jpan.v17i1.46118

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat

Helti Handraini^{1*}, Zikri Alhadi¹

¹Ilmu Administrasi Negara, Universitas Negeri Padang, Indonesia *Corresponding author E-mail: heltihandrainichan@gmail.com

Abstract

This study aims to analyze community empowerment through the Food Security Program in Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kinali District, West Pasaman Regency. It addresses challenges arising from the community's low post-training independence, suboptimal program sustainability, and insufficient attention to nutritional and food-safety aspects. A descriptive qualitative method was employed, with data collection comprising in-depth interviews, participatory observation, and documentation, supported by source and method triangulation to ensure data validity. Findings indicate that the principles of equity and participation have been well implemented through training and mentoring; however, community independence remains low, and post-training sustainability is not yet optimal. Although food production has shown intermittent increases and food access has improved via cooperatives, attention to nutrition and food safety remains inadequate. The principal impediments include limited human resources, inadequate infrastructure, insufficient capital, and weak inter-agency coordination. The study underscores the need to strengthen HR capacity through locally tailored training, provide intensive posttraining mentoring, optimize the allocation of Village Funds for production facilities and infrastructure, and reinforce local institutions such as the LPMN, PKK, and Karang Taruna. These insights are intended to guide the Nagari government and relevant stakeholders in formulating more effective and sustainable community-empowerment strategies.

Keywords: Decent Work, Economic Growth, Community Empowerment, Food Security, Independence, Program Sustainability, Nagari Anam Koto Selatan.

INTRODUCTION

Over the past decade, Indonesia has continued to face serious challenges in meeting domestic food requirements despite being an agrarian nation endowed with abundant natural resources. Statistics from the Central Bureau of Statistics indicate that rice imports reached 3.06 million tons in 2023, reflecting a high dependency on external supplies(Saragih, 2021). The

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

Received: April 30, 2025; Revised: Juny 5, 2025; Accepted: Juni 27, 2025

^{*} Copyright (c) 2025 Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

impacts of climate change and declining soil fertility have further undermined food security, particularly in rural areas(Larashati, 2022). The Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia enshrines the right to food as a fundamental human right, obliging the state to ensure its availability, accessibility, and quality in an equitable and sustainable manner (Law No. 18/2012). In tandem with population growth, enhancing productivity through community empowerment has become a key strategy for achieving national food self-sufficiency.

Villages are mandated to allocate a minimum of 20 percent of Village Funds to food-security programs under Ministerial Regulation No. 7/2023, yet in practice these allocations are often diverted to infrastructure priorities Although allocations rose from IDR 10.5 trillion in 2018 to IDR 19.8 trillion in 2022 demonstrating political commitment more in-depth evaluation of fund utilization is required (Saragih, 2021). Routine evaluations and stringent accountability mechanisms are essential to ensure that community-based food-security initiatives effectively foster village self-reliance.

Table 1 Allocation of Village Funds for Food-Security Programs (2018-2022)

Year	Village Funds for Food Security (IDR trillion)	% of Total Village Funds	Flagship Program
2018	10.5	17%	Development of Village Food Barns
2019	12.8	18%	Sustainable Agriculture Training
2020	15.2	20%	Utilization of Fallow Land
2021	17.5	22%	Development of Local Food Enterprises
2022	19.8	24%	Enhancement of Agricultural Output

Table 1 show At the local level, West Pasaman Regency possesses extensive agricultural land. However, land conversion to oil palm plantations and insufficient human-resource capacity have depressed local food productivity (Nurhayati, 2020)Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, spanning approximately 5,308.6 ha, still relies on conventional farming practices without improved varieties or optimal irrigation systems(Prasetyo, 2021). Dependence on traditional methods heightens the risk of crop failure and impedes productivity growth. Thus, empowerment through technical training and hands-on mentoring is critical to translate land potential into enhanced agricultural performance. Food-security initiatives must therefore be designed with a bottom-up approach grounded in local needs (Amboisa et al., 2023)

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

LITERATURE REVIEW

Poverty alleviation through community empowerment is defined as the process of enhancing the capacities of individuals and groups so that they can independently identify, plan, and implement problem-solving efforts to achieve welfare and self-reliance (Wijaya, 2022). (Larashati, 2022) emphasizes that the transformation of local strengths into productive resources must be carried out according to four key principles equality, participation, autonomy, and sustainability which serve as benchmarks for successful empowerment interventions (Wijaya, 2022)

Theoretically, this study adopts Robert Chambers's Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) approach (Neef, 2021)which prioritizes participatory methods to uncover community needs and potentials. Amartya Sen's Capability Approach (Robeyns, 2021) is applied to assess the extent to which the food-security program enhances the community's capabilities to meet their basic needs in a sustainable manner. Additionally, the UNDP's Community Empowerment Framework (UNDP, 2021)is used to analyze power distribution, resource access, and sustainability mechanisms at the local level.

Legally, empowerment is governed by Indonesia's Law No. 6 of 2014 on Villages, which mandates that at least 20 percent of Village Funds be allocated to community-empowerment programs, and by Ministerial Regulation No. 7 of 2023 on Village Funds, which prioritizes food security and need-based mentoring (Law No. 6/2014; Permendesa No. 7/2023). Program evaluations have shown that well-planned fund allocations can increase the institutional capacity of farmer groups by up to 30 percent (Sari et al., 2021), but insufficient monitoring and follow-up often undermine both learning outcomes and community autonomy (Sutrisno et al., 2020)

The Food and Agriculture Organization defines a food-security program as a set of interventions aimed at improving the availability, accessibility, and utilization of sufficient, safe, nutritious, and sustainable food at the community level. (Veliu & Tahiri, 2021) categorizes program components into four main aspects: production enhancement through appropriate technology; distribution and access by developing market infrastructure; nutrition and food-safety education in partnership with health posts (Posyandu); and sustainability via local institutions and monitoring mechanisms (Rahmi, S. Putra & Harsono, n.d.) These policy frameworks are further supported by Indonesia's Law No. 18 of 2012 on Food, Government

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

Regulation No. 17 of 2015, and Ministerial Regulation No. 22 of 2021, where Astuti et al. (2021) demonstrated that the integration of technical training and field mentoring can boost smallholders' productivity by up to 25 percent, and highlighted the critical role of cross-sectoral collaboration in ensuring program sustainability in rural areas.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employs a descriptive qualitative approach to explore community empowerment through the Food Security Program in Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat. This approach was selected for its ability to provide an indepth depiction of social phenomena in their real-world context, particularly the implementation of community-based food security initiatives (Indrawan & Yaniawati, 2017). The research site was chosen purposively because Nagari Anam Koto Selatan actively implements both food security and fisheries sub-programs. Informants were selected via purposive sampling and comprised the Nagari head, sub-village heads, agricultural extension officers, farmer-group leaders and members, catfish cultivators, community leaders, and PKH mentors. In total, 17 informants were interviewed, reflecting their direct involvement from program planning through implementation. This diversity of informants enabled the researcher to capture a wide range of perspectives.

Data were collected through in-depth interviews, participatory observation, and document review, focusing on the empowerment principles of equality, participation, autonomy, and sustainability (Moleong, 2010). Semi-structured interviews were conducted to elicit informants' experiences with the program. Observations took place during training sessions and field-based group activities, while document review traced program reports and supporting archives. Data validity was ensured through source and method triangulation: source triangulation by comparing information across different informants, and method triangulation by cross-referencing interview, observation, and documentary evidence. These triangulation techniques helped minimize bias and enhance the reliability of the findings.

The study utilizes both primary and secondary data. Primary data were obtained through in-depth interviews with various informants directly involved in the program, such as the wali nagari (village head), local legislative members, relevant agencies, agricultural extension workers, aquaculture practitioners, and farmer groups. Secondary data were gathered from

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

official documents such as the village development work plan (RKP Nagari), village budget (APB Nagari), activity reports, and literature and regulations related to food security and community empowerment.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Community Empowerment

This study employs a descriptive qualitative approach to explore community empowerment through the Food Security Program in Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kinali District, West Pasaman Regency. This approach was chosen because it allows for an in-depth depiction of social phenomena within real-life contexts, particularly the implementation of community-based food security programs (Indrawan & Widiyanto, 2018) The research site was selected purposively, as Nagari Anam Koto Selatan has been actively implementing food security and fisheries sub-programs. Informants were selected using purposive sampling and included members of the West Pasaman District Parliament (DPRD), officials from the Community and Village Empowerment Agency, the Wali Nagari and village apparatus, heads of local hamlets (Jorong), agricultural extension officers, heads and members of farmer groups, catfish farming practitioners, field experts, and others. A total of 17 informants were interviewed based on their direct involvement in the planning and implementation of the program. The diversity of informants enabled the researcher to obtain a wide range of perspectives and deeper insights.

The principle of participation has also been well upheld by involving community members in the planning and implementation of empowerment activities, for example through food-security initiatives like the Field School and catfish (lele) cultivation programs. Nevertheless, low educational levels, entrenched socio-cultural factors, and a lack of post-training support impede the program's effectiveness. This underscores the need for a continuous mentoring strategy to develop both the technical skills and confidence of residents. Active participation is required not only during the planning phase but also throughout program evaluation. Sustained engagement will foster a stronger sense of ownership over empowerment activities. Accordingly, collaboration between the Nagari

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

government and the community must be continuously strengthened to ensure that participation is substantive rather than symbolic.

Achieving autonomy is the ultimate goal of empowerment, yet implementation in Nagari Anam Koto Selatan remains suboptimal. Residents are not yet fully able to manage the outcomes of their training independently, whether in agriculture or catfish farming. The main obstacle is the absence of adequate follow-up and technical support once training concludes. True autonomy requires a synergy between technical training and psychosocial support to break dependency on external assistance. Initiatives like utilizing household yards have been directed toward this goal and have become a follow-up program at the Nagari level, but their implementation remains weak. Therefore, strengthening internal motivation and establishing a robust monitoring system should be prioritized in future empowerment policies.

Program sustainability is a critical weakness that must be addressed immediately to prevent empowerment efforts from stalling prematurely. The lack of ongoing oversight and active post-training participation means many programs fail to meet expectations. Long-term success depends on periodic evaluation and a locally adaptive approach to community needs. Without strong institutional backing, programs are at risk of ending once external support is withdrawn. Hence, the active involvement of local organizations and the provision of incentives are key to ensuring sustainability. Synergy among the government, community, and supporting institutions is essential for creating sustainable, self-reliant food-security systems (table 2).

Table 2. Evaluation of Community Empowerment Principles

No.	Empowerment Principle	Description
1	Equality	Empowerment involves all community groups fairly, without
		discrimination based on gender or social status. However,
		psychological barriers such as low self-esteem still limit full
		participation.
2	Participation	Community members actively engage in planning and
		implementing programs like the Field School and catfish
		cultivation. The main challenges are low educational levels and
		the lack of post-training mentoring.

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

No.	Empowerment Principle	Description
3	Autonomy	Training has been provided, but it has not yet fully produced a
		self-reliant community. Continuous mentoring, strengthened
		motivation, and regular evaluation are still needed to build true
		autonomy.
4	Sustainability	The Food Security Program is an ongoing initiative that began
		under President Jokowi and remains a priority under President
		Prabowo, funded by Village Funds. Because this
		empowerment effort is seen merely as government aid-
		subject to annual funding-community engagement is not
		maximized: if it doesn't succeed this year, they assume it may
		work next year.

Food Security Program

In terms of increasing food production, the implementation of training on high-yield crop varieties and the adoption of modern agricultural techniques have succeeded in boosting harvests in most areas particularly among farmers who followed the guidance provided during training. However, those who continued using traditional methods achieved minimal results or even experienced crop failure. This has led to productivity gaps between plots, highlighting disparities in adaptation and outcomes.

Regarding food distribution and access, the food security program in Nagari Anam Koto Selatan had previously initiated the construction of farm roads (jalan tani), which has facilitated the flow of harvested crops. However, the roads remain unpaved and are prone to flooding during the rainy season, as potholes and waterlogged areas disrupt transportation. This condition has made the improvement of farm road infrastructure a priority for the next Village Fund cycle.

The opening of farm roads has indeed improved access to markets, but the rocky and flood-prone condition of these roads continues to hinder the smooth distribution of agricultural products, especially during the rainy season. (Sutrisno et al., 2020) recommends that road infrastructure should be prioritized by allocating a more proportional share of Village Funds toward improvements that support agricultural mobility.

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

The nutrition and food safety components of the program remain limited. Nutrition education has been primarily carried out through the distribution of Nutri-Zinc rice seeds to families with stunted children, without any follow-up on nutritional outcomes. Fitriani & Nugroho (2022) argue that without formal synergy between the Health Office and Posyandu (community health posts), food interventions alone are unlikely to lead to significant changes in dietary behavior. Additionally, the excessive use of synthetic pesticides and chemical fertilizers may compromise the nutritional quality and safety of the food produced.

In the aspect of sustainable food security, the adoption of organic fertilizers, botanical pesticides, and intercropping systems has only been implemented on a small portion of the land. To enhance sustainability, part of the Village Fund should be specifically allocated for organic input subsidies and the organization of ongoing agroecology training, as recommended by (Sari et al., 2021)

Meanwhile, efforts to promote sustainable farming practices remain relatively low among farmers. Most have limited access to environmentally friendly materials and lack follow-up training in agroecological methods. To strengthen long-term food security, a portion of Village Funds should be earmarked for subsidizing organic inputs and organizing regular training sessions focused on agroecological techniques and environmental conservation (table 3)

Table 3. Evaluation of Food Security Program Components

No	Food Security Aspe	ect	Description
1	Increased	Food	Intensive training and the provision of high-quality seeds have
	Production		contributed to a 15-20% increase in crop yields among farmers
			who followed the recommended techniques. However,
			approximately 40% of farmers still experienced stagnant or failed
			harvests due to difficulties in adapting to new seed varieties and
			limited capital for purchasing fertilizers and micro-irrigation
		systems. To address this issue, the Nagari administration should	
			organize follow-up training sessions every six months focusing on
			the identification of field-level constraints. Additionally, it is
			essential to facilitate access to microcredit schemes backed by the
			Nagari government to support the purchase of agricultural inputs.

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

The establishment of "pilot" farmer groups is also recommended to accelerate the dissemination of best practices among other local farmers.

2 Food Distribution and Access

The construction of farm roads has facilitated the flow of harvested crops; however, 60% of the road sections remain unpaved, making them prone to potholes and waterlogging during the rainy season. This condition significantly increases transportation costs and delays distribution times. To overcome this issue, it is recommended to reinforce critical flood-prone areas with gravel or compacted sand, allocate at least 30% of the Village Fund annually for road infrastructure improvements, and establish a Farm Road Maintenance Team involving youth organizations (Karang Taruna) and women's groups (PKK) to conduct regular maintenance. These measures will help ensure smoother market access and more efficient logistics for local farmers.

3 Nutritional Quality and Food Safety

Nutrition education to date has been limited to the distribution of Nutri-Zinc rice seeds, without any monitoring of nutritional status, resulting in an intervention coverage of only around 20% of vulnerable households. This has been further exacerbated by the excessive use of synthetic pesticides and chemical fertilizers, which increases the risk of chemical residues in food products. As a solution, the Nagari should develop an integrated nutrition module facilitated jointly by the Health Office and agricultural extension workers. In addition, it is essential to schedule quarterly nutrition monitoring at local health posts (Posyandu) and provide free pesticide residue testing at nearby laboratories to ensure food safety and promote healthier agricultural practices.

4 Sustainability of Food Security Agroecological practices such as the use of organic fertilizers, botanical pesticides, and intercropping have only been adopted on approximately 15% of the available farmland due to limited

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

access to environmentally friendly inputs and the lack of follow-up training. To strengthen sustainability, it is recommended that at least 10% of the Village Fund be allocated for subsidizing organic materials, and that agroecology training be conducted every semester in collaboration with environmental NGOs. Additionally, the establishment of a Local Seed Bank is necessary to store and distribute high-quality seed varieties and cover crops for use in future planting seasons.

Overall, the Food Security Program in Nagari Anam Koto Selatan excels in promoting equality, participation, and distribution/access components, but requires significant strengthening in autonomy, sustainability, nutrition, and environmental resilience. A holistic approach that integrates management training, infrastructure improvements, and cross-sectoral collaboration in health and environment is essential to ensure the program's sustainability and long-term community welfare.

Comparison with Other Regions

Previous studies have examined how various countries manage food security and agricultural development programs, particularly in rural areas. The findings indicate that community participation, government support, and inter-agency collaboration play a crucial role in the success of these programs. Countries such as Nigeria, the Philippines, Ghana, and Nepal have implemented different approaches, yet share a common goal of improving farmers' welfare and strengthening food security. Lessons from these studies can serve as valuable references for Indonesia in designing more effective and well-targeted programs.

Nigeria - Assessment of the Implementation of Rural Agricultural Development Programme in Area Councils of Abuja, Nigeria

The study by (Kakamba, A., Okoh, E., & Musa, 2024) assessed the implementation of the rural agricultural development programme in Abuja's Area Councils using a combination of survey and document analysis methods under a mixed-methods approach. A total of 400 questionnaires were distributed to local residents and government staff, with a 93% response rate. The findings revealed that the Youth Empowerment in Agriculture Programme (YEAP) successfully improved smallholders' mastery of irrigation technology. Communities actively participated in planning through village forums that determined infrastructure allocation.

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

However, the Agricultural Promotion Policy (APP) was suboptimally implemented due to interagency coordination challenges. Recommendations included increasing financial support and working capital for new farmers. This study underlines the importance of participatory approaches in formulating public policies at the local level. The implication for Indonesia is the need for a transparent monitoring and evaluation system at every stage of program implementation.

Nigeria - An Overview of Nigerian Government Policies on Combating Poverty and Food Insecurity in North East, Nigeria

(Abdulazeez & Hamidu, 2022) reviewed Nigerian government policies addressing poverty and food insecurity in Borno, Adamawa, and Yobe States. A descriptive qualitative method was used, relying on policy document analysis and key informant interviews. Emergency food aid and agricultural subsidies helped reduce extreme poverty by 10% over the past three years. The planning process engaged local stakeholders through district consultations and state agricultural boards. The involvement of international NGOs enhanced food distribution capacity in conflict zones. Major challenges included security instability and a complex bureaucratic system. Recommendations focused on budget decentralization and greater transparency in aid distribution. The findings are relevant for designing rapid-response mechanisms for food emergencies in remote areas of Indonesia.

Filipina - Enhancing Government Services to Rice Farmers: A Service Quality-Sustainability Approach

(Ituriaga et al., 2024) evaluated the quality of government services to rice farmers in the Philippines using the SERVQUAL framework and Structural Equation Modeling (SEM). A survey of 400 respondents assessed five dimensions of service quality: assurance, empathy, reliability, responsiveness, and tangibility. Results showed that perceived security was the most critical factor in boosting farmers' trust and satisfaction. Farmers participated through local harvest committees evaluating the effectiveness of seed subsidy programs. Sustainability was enhanced through training in environmentally friendly land management. The study emphasized the importance of bureaucratic responsiveness in addressing farmers' concerns promptly. Recommendations included improving digital information systems to monitor real-

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

time input distribution. These findings are relevant to strengthening agricultural governance in Indonesia.

Ghana - Evaluating Youth-Centered Food-Security Policies: A Collaborative Governance Approach

Anser et al., (2022) analyzed youth-focused food security policies in Ghana using a collaborative and open governance framework. The study applied document analysis and multi-sectoral collaboration frameworks to identify weaknesses in coordination among government agencies, NGOs, and youth organizations. Active youth involvement in policy formulation was found to enhance accountability and transparency. However, overlapping institutional mandates and the lack of monitoring schemes fragmented program implementation. Recommendations included establishing a national youth forum for regular policy evaluation. Public participation was facilitated through open dialogues and official government social media platforms. Findings stress the importance of feedback mechanisms from youth communities to ensure policy sustainability. These insights offer valuable lessons for participatory food security policy design in Indonesia.

Nepal - Assessment of the "Suaahara" Community-Based Nutrition Program

Shrestha et al (2022) assessed the impact of the "Suaahara" program across 41 districts in Nepal, focusing on the first 1,000 days of child life. The Difference-in-Differences (DID) method applied to DHS data showed an increase in length-for-age z-scores by 0.2 standard deviations. The program integrated both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions, including home gardening, small livestock farming, and health counseling. Pregnant and lactating women were organized into local support groups facilitated by community health volunteers. Equity was addressed as the program targeted all low-income households equally. Sustainability was promoted through a "goat pass-on" scheme, where the first offspring was given to neighboring families. The study highlighted that combining nutrition and economic empowerment fosters community self-reliance. Recommendations included strengthening local staff capacity and integrating the program into broader village services.

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

Afrika Selatan - Governance and Organisational Culture in Implementing Food Security Programmes in Rural South Africa

Maluleke & Mubangizi (2024) explored the influence of organizational culture and governance structure Centralized vs. decentralized in implementing food security programs in Eastern Cape. Using a qualitative case study, they found that top-down approaches often resulted in a disconnect between policymakers and frontline implementers. Farmer involvement in planning was minimal due to hierarchical bureaucratic culture. Local political interventions also disrupted agricultural input distribution. Researchers recommended broader farmer inclusion in cross-sectoral coordination forums. Adapting organizational culture to be more inclusive can improve program responsiveness and innovation. Continuous training for district staff was also suggested to foster a learning culture. The study is relevant for designing adaptive governance structures for food security programs in Indonesia.

West Africa (Ethiopia et.al) - Social Inclusion, Innovation and Food Security in West Africa

Anser et al (2021) examined the contributions of social inclusion and innovation to food security in the Sahel through policy analysis and community empowerment case studies. A mixed-methods approach combined household surveys with stakeholder interviews. Findings showed that public works and food social safety nets increased household incomes by an average of 12% annually. Community participation was realized through village food councils overseeing aid distribution. Technical innovations, such as organic fertilizers and terracing methods, bolstered resilience to climate extremes. Gender equity was addressed through a 40% quota for women in all beneficiary groups. Sustainability was supported by partnerships between governments, NGOs, and the private sector. Recommendations included integrating digital platforms for real-time program monitoring.

India - Malnutrition and Poverty: Does the Use of Public Distribution System Matter?

Panda et al (2020) investigated the relationship between the use of the Public Distribution System (PDS) and child nutrition status in India using NFHS-4 data. Multivariate logistic regression analysis revealed that active PDS users had a 15% lower risk of child stunting compared to non-users. The study highlighted the role of local bureaucratic institutions in verifying beneficiary eligibility. Community participation was facilitated by village supply chains

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

involving citizen oversight committees. Equity was ensured through double verification mechanisms for recipient families. Distribution barriers included poor transport infrastructure. Recommendations included digitizing recipient data and training local PDS officers. These findings offer empirical evidence to strengthen PDS governance in Indonesia.

Ghana - Effectiveness of Government Communication on Planting for Food and Jobs Policy

Odoom et al (2023) evaluated the effectiveness of government communication in Ghana's "Planting for Food and Jobs" (PFJ) policy through surveys and structured interviews (n=412). Mann-Whitney and Kruskal-Wallis analyses indicated high citizen perception of policy relevance but low understanding of technical details, hindering field implementation. Farmer participation in public dialogue forums remained largely one-way. Local governments were advised to involve farmer groups as information ambassadors. Gender equity was promoted through a quota system for women's participation in technical meetings. Research recommendations included enhancing two-way communication channels through mobile applications. The study underscores the role of public communication strategies in food security policy.

Various Countries - Social Capital Contributions to Food Security: A Comprehensive Literature Review

Nosratabadi et al (2020) conducted a systematic literature review on the role of social capital in global food security based on 39 articles. The study noted the mechanism of sharing information and food products among community members as a key to improving food access. The case of South Sudan shows that social networks reduce food insecurity in vulnerable families. In Niger, a social capital-based resilience measurement tool was shown to increase adaptive capacity after floods. The findings also highlight the role of social capital in maintaining food system stability. Recommendations for policy makers include building collaborative networks across sectors and communities. The article emphasizes the integration of social capital into village and district-level food security program planning. The results are relevant for designing community-based empowerment interventions in Indonesia

CONCLUSION

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

Based on the findings, the community empowerment program through food security initiatives in Nagari Anam Koto Selatan has successfully implemented the principle of equality by providing equitable access to training and mentoring for various community groups. However, self-reliance remains a major challenge. Weak post-training support, limited active participation, and persistent socio-cultural barriers have constrained the adoption of new technologies, resulting in minimal improvements in agricultural and aquaculture productivity. Additionally, restricted access to food, due to dependence on the market and a lack of understanding about balanced nutrition have further limited opportunities to enhance community welfare. This study confirms that the program's achievements have not yet fully aligned with the principles of self-reliance and sustainability, as emphasized in the Participatory Rural Appraisal framework and the Capability Approach. While participation and equality are evident, insufficient attention to nutrition and the absence of community-based monitoring mechanisms hinder long-term impact. Therefore, future strategies should integrate advanced technical training, a comprehensive nutrition education module, and community-driven monitoring systems to enable Nagari Anam Koto Selatan to build a food security program that is self-sufficient, sustainable, and impactful.

REFERENCES

- Abdulazeez, M., & Hamidu, R. (2022). An overview of Nigerian government policies on combating poverty and food insecurity in North East, Negeria. *African Journal of Public Policy*, 10(2), 115-130.
- Amboisa, N. F., Pradita, A. E., Iku, A. B., & Pratiwi, A. Y. (2023). Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Melalui Program Ketahanan Pangan dalam Pembangunan Desa. Journal of Community Service and Society Empowerment. *Journal of Community Service and Society Empowerment*, 2(1), 61–73.
- Anser, M. K., Abdu, M., & Yeboah, D. (2022). Evaluating youth-centered food-security policies: A collaborative governance approach. *International Journal of Public Administration in Development*, 14(2), 99-114.
- Anser, M. K., Aliyu, A., & Tchereni, B. H. (2021). Social inclusion, innovation and food security in West Africa. *West African Journal of Rural Development*, 15(3), 89-107.
- Indrawan, R. M. J., & Widiyanto, B. (2018). Kebijakan Ofset dalam Membangun Kemandirian Pertahanan Negara. *Jurnal Pertahanan & Bela Negara*, 6(2), 29-50.
- Ituriaga, M. T., Delos Reyes, J., & Lacsamana, K. (2024). Enhancing government services to rice farmers: A service quality-sustainability approach. *Asian Journal of Agricultural Development*, 21(1), 55-72.

- Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi
- Kakamba, A., Okoh, E., & Musa, L. (2024). Assessment of the implementation of rural agricultural development programme in Area Councils of Abuja, Nigeria. *Journal of Agricultural Policy and Development*, 19(1), 22–37.
- Larashati, B. N. (2022). Implementasi prinsip pemberdayaan masyarakat dalam program ketahanan pangan. 7(1), 45-60.
- Maluleke, T., & Mubangizi, B. C. (2024). Governance and organisational culture in implementing food security programmes in rural South Africa. *Journal of Southern African Governance Studies*, *9*(2), 134-150.
- Neef, A. (2021). (2021). Participatory Approaches in Development Practice: Principles and Applications.e. *Cham: Springer*.
- Nosratabadi, S., Mosavi, A., & Mardani, A. (2020). Social capital contributions to food security: A comprehensive literature review. *Ustainability*, 12(12), 49-58.
- Nurhayati, R. (2020). Alih fungsi lahan pertanian ke kelapa sawit dan dampaknya terhadap produktivitas pangan di Kabupaten Pasaman Barat. Jurnal Agroforestri Indonesia. 15(2), 123-136.
- Odoom, D., Aboagye, F., & Mensah, E. (2023). No Title. *Ghanaian Journal of Agricultural Communication*, 11(2), 67–81.
- Panda, B., Mishra, S., & Roy, D. (2020). Malnutrition and poverty: Does the use of public distribution system matter? Indian Journal of Social Development. *Indian Journal of Social Development*, 20(1), 20–34.
- Prasetyo, B. (2021). Evaluasi sistem pertanian di Nagari Anam Koto Selatan: potensi dan tantangan bagi ketahanan pangan. Jurnal Pertanian Lokal. 9(1), 45-60.
- Rahmi, S., Putra, E., & Harsono, D. (n.d.). Impact of technical training and field mentoring on smallholder productivity in East Java, Indonesia. Indonesian Journal of Agricultural Extension, *Journal of Agricultural Extension*, *14*(2), 112-128.
- Robeyns, I. (2021). Wellbeing, Freedom and Social Justice: The Capability Approach Re-Examined (2nd ed.).
- Saragih, B. (2021). Dinamika ketahanan pangan di Indonesia. Jurnal Ekonomi Pertanian. 17(1), 67-83.
- Sari, D., Nugroho, R., & Fitriani, T. (2021). Evaluating the Impact of Village Fund Allocation on the Institutional Strengthening of Farmer Groups in Rural Indonesia., 11(2), *Jurnal Ilmu Sosial Dan Administrasi Negara*, 11(2), 134-148.
- Shrestha, R., Acharya, P., & Gurung, M. (2022). Assessment of the "Suaahara" community-based nutrition program. Nepal Journal of Nutrition and Public Health. *Nepal Journal of Nutrition and Public Health*, 7(1), 45-61.
- Sutrisno, H., Wulandari, S., & Ramadhan, A. (2020). Monitoring and Evaluation Challenges in Community Empowerment Programs: A Case Study of Village Fund Implementation. Journal of Rural Development and Governance, 8(1), 55-70. 8(1), 55-70.
- Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 3 Tahun 2024 tentang Desa.
- Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 18 Tahun 2012 tentang Pangan.
- UNDP. (2021), Community Engagement and Empowerment for Sustainable Development: Policy and Practice Guidance.
- Veliu, A., & Tahiri, N. (2021). Components of community-based food security programs in rural areas. *Journal of Food Systems and Sustainability*, 5(1), 23–38.

Community Empowerment through the Food Security Program: A Case Study of Nagari Anam Koto Selatan, Kecamatan Kinali, Kabupaten Pasaman Barat Helti Handraini and Zikri Alhadi

Wijaya, S. (2022). Risiko gagal panen akibat teknik konvensional: studi kasus petani kecil. Jurnal Teknologi Pangan dan Pertanian. 8(3), 75-88.