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The Impact of the Implementation of the Rice Distribution Policy by the Logistics Depot (DOLOG) on Community Welfare in Madello Village, Balusu District, Barru Regency

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ABSTRACT

The implementation of the rice distribution policy by the Logistics Depot (DOLOG) is an important part of the government's efforts to maintain food security and improve community welfare, especially for low-income households. However, in practice, the implementation of this policy still faces various obstacles, such as targeting recipients accurately, smooth distribution, and community satisfaction levels. This study aims to analyze the impact of the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy on community welfare in Madello Village, Balusu District, Barru Regency. This study used a quantitative approach with a survey method. The population in this study was all DOLOG rice recipient households in Madello Village, with the sample determined using a purposive sampling technique. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire based on policy implementation indicators, including communication, resources, implementer disposition, and bureaucratic structure. The collected data were analyzed using SPSS through validity tests, reliability tests, descriptive statistical analysis, and simple linear regression analysis. The results show The results showed that the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy had a positive and significant impact on the welfare of the community in Madello Village. This indicates that the better the implementation of the rice distribution policy, the higher the welfare of the beneficiaries. This research is expected to provide evaluation material for the local government in improving the effectiveness of the rice distribution policy implementation to ensure it is on-target and sustainable.

Keywords: policy implementation; DOLOG rice distribution; community welfare



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A. INTRODUCTION

Policy implementation is a crucial stage in the public policy process because it determines the extent to which policy objectives can be realized in practice. A well-formulated policy will not have optimal impact if it is not implemented effectively. Policy implementation involves various actors, resources, and interacting bureaucratic mechanisms. According to Edward III (1980), the success of policy implementation is influenced by communication, resources, implementer disposition, and bureaucratic structure. These four factors are important indicators in assessing the effectiveness of public policy implementation in various sectors. Therefore, policy implementation needs to be studied empirically to see real results at the community level.

Food distribution policy is one of the government's strategic policies to ensure food security and socioeconomic stability. Rice, as a staple food, plays a vital role in the lives of Indonesians. The government, through various policies, strives to ensure the availability and affordability of rice for all levels of society, especially low-income groups. According to the World Bank (2020), access to affordable staple foods directly contributes to improving welfare and reducing poverty. Therefore, rice distribution is a policy instrument with a broad impact on the socioeconomic conditions of the community.

The Logistics Depot (DOLOG) or Perum BULOG plays a strategic role in implementing rice distribution policies in Indonesia. BULOG is responsible for maintaining price stability, stock availability, and distributing rice to target communities. Implementing this policy requires strong coordination between the central government, regional governments, and implementing officials at the local level. According to Suryana (2014), weak coordination and oversight in food distribution often leads to inaccurate targeting and inefficient policy implementation. This highlights the importance of continuously evaluating the implementation of rice distribution policies.

Public welfare is the primary objective of public policy implementation, including rice distribution policies. Welfare is measured not only by income but also by the community's ability to meet basic needs such as food. According to Todaro and Smith (2015), public welfare is closely related to access to adequate resources and public services. Effective rice distribution is expected

to reduce household expenditures and improve the community's quality of life. Therefore, public welfare is a crucial variable in assessing the success of rice distribution policies.

Previous studies have shown that the implementation of rice distribution policies still faces various obstacles in the field. These obstacles include a lack of transparency, limited resources, and low public participation. Research by Dwiyanto (2018) states that the low quality of public service policy implementation is often caused by weak accountability and responsiveness of implementing officials. This condition has the potential to reduce the positive impact of policies on beneficiaries. Therefore, strengthening implementation aspects is an urgent need.

In addition to internal bureaucratic factors, the social environment also influences the success of policy implementation. The level of public understanding of implemented policies significantly determines the effectiveness of implementation on the ground. According to Nugroho (2017), public policies that are not adequately socialized tend to generate resistance and misperceptions in the community. This can hinder the optimal achievement of policy objectives. Therefore, policy communication is a crucial factor in the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution program.

A quantitative approach is needed to objectively measure the impact of policy implementation on public welfare. This approach allows researchers to statistically analyze relationships between variables and produce generalizable conclusions. According to Creswell (2014), quantitative research is highly effective for testing theories and hypotheses through numerical measurements. In the context of this research, a quantitative approach was used to assess the impact of rice distribution policy implementation on public welfare in a measurable and systematic manner.

The use of statistical analysis with the help of SPSS software allows for more accurate and reliable data processing. SPSS is widely used in social research to test validity, reliability, and relationships between variables. According to Ghozali (2021), regression analysis in SPSS can be used to determine the extent of the influence of independent variables on dependent variables. Thus, the use of SPSS supports the accuracy of the analysis and the robustness of the research findings.

Madello Village, Balusu District, Barru Regency, is a target area for the DOLOG rice distribution policy. The socioeconomic characteristics of the village community make it a relevant research location. Rice distribution in rural areas often faces geographical and administrative challenges. According to the Statistics Indonesia (BPS) (2023), rural communities remain highly dependent on government food aid. Therefore, research in Madello Village is crucial for understanding policy implementation contextually.

Based on this description, this study aims to analyze the impact of the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy on community welfare in Madello Village. This research is expected to contribute academically to the development of public policy implementation studies. Furthermore, the results are expected to serve as evaluation material for the local government in improving the effectiveness of rice distribution to ensure it is more targeted and sustainable. This way, the implemented policy can truly provide tangible benefits to the community.

B. RESEARCH METHODS

This study used a quantitative approach with an explanatory approach, aiming to explain the impact of the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy on community welfare. The quantitative approach was chosen because it can objectively measure relationships between variables through numerical data and statistical analysis. Explanatory research allows researchers to test hypotheses formulated based on theories of policy implementation and community welfare, allowing the results to provide measurable and generalizable empirical explanations.

The research location was Madello Village, Balusu District, Barru Regency, considering that this area is one of the recipients of the DOLOG rice distribution policy. The population in this study was all DOLOG rice recipient households in Madello Village. The research sample was determined using a purposive sampling technique, with the criteria being households actively receiving DOLOG rice distribution. The sample size was adjusted to the population conditions and the needs of statistical analysis to ensure representativeness of the research results.

Data collection was conducted through the distribution of a structured questionnaire to respondents. The research instrument used a five-point Likert scale to measure the variables of policy implementation and community welfare. Policy implementation variables were measured

using indicators of communication, resources, implementer disposition, and bureaucratic structure, while community welfare variables were measured using indicators of basic needs fulfillment, reduced food expenditures, and perceived policy benefits. Prior to use, the research instruments were tested for validity and reliability to ensure their appropriateness.

The collected data were analyzed using IBM SPSS. The analysis steps included descriptive statistics, validity tests, reliability tests, and simple linear regression analysis to determine the effect of policy implementation variables on community welfare. Hypothetical decision-making was based on significance values and regression coefficients. Regression analysis was used because it can quantitatively explain the causal relationship between independent and dependent variables (Creswell, 2014).



Figure 1 Diagram of the thinking framework

C. RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

➤ Research Results

Descriptive statistical analysis was used to provide an overview of the characteristics of the respondents and the research variables examined. Respondents in this study were households receiving DOLOG rice distribution in Madello Village, Balusu District, Barru Regency. The analysis showed that most respondents were in the productive age group, aged 30–55. The respondents' educational level was dominated by elementary and junior high school graduates. This reflects the general characteristics of food aid recipients in rural areas. Furthermore, most respondents work in the informal sector with unstable incomes. This situation results in a relatively high dependence on DOLOG rice assistance. Rice assistance is one of the main pillars of meeting household food needs.

Descriptive statistics for the policy implementation variable show an average (mean) value in the good category. This indicates that, in general, the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy has been quite effective. The communication indicator received the highest average score compared to other indicators. This condition indicates that information regarding the schedule, mechanisms, and requirements for rice distribution is relatively easy for the public to understand. Meanwhile, the resource and bureaucratic structure indicators also scored quite well. However, some respondents still considered the distribution process to be less than optimal. This perception primarily related to distribution delays and limited staff. This indicates room for improvement in policy implementation at the implementing level.

The community welfare variable was analyzed descriptively to determine respondents' perceptions of the impact of the DOLOG rice distribution policy. The analysis showed that the majority of respondents stated that the DOLOG rice assistance was able to help meet family food needs. Respondents also assessed that the assistance reduced household expenditure on rice purchases. The average score for the community welfare variable was in the good category. This indicates that the DOLOG rice distribution policy was perceived to provide real benefits to recipients. However, a small number of respondents still considered the policy's benefits to be less

than optimal. This assessment related to the amount of rice received and the frequency of distribution. This situation indicates the need for further evaluation of the policy mechanism.

Prior to further analysis, the research instrument was tested for validity using the Pearson Product Moment correlation test. The validity test was conducted to ensure that each question item adequately measured the intended variable. The validity test results showed that all questions on the policy implementation variable had correlation coefficients greater than the r value in the table. The same finding was found for the community welfare variable. Therefore, all statement items were declared valid and suitable for use in this study. These results indicate that the research instrument met the eligibility requirements as a measurement tool. The instrument accurately represented the research construct. Therefore, the data obtained could be further analyzed.

A reliability test was conducted to determine the level of consistency and reliability of the research instrument. Reliability testing was conducted using Cronbach's Alpha values. The results showed that the Cronbach's Alpha value for the policy implementation variable was above 0.80. Meanwhile, the Cronbach's Alpha value for the community welfare variable was also above 0.70. These values indicate that all research instruments have a good level of reliability. Therefore, the questionnaire used can provide consistent measurement results. The research instrument is considered stable when used under relatively similar conditions, strengthening the reliability of the research data.

After the research instrument was declared valid and reliable, the analysis continued using simple linear regression. Regression analysis was used to determine the effect of the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy on community welfare. The results showed a positive regression coefficient. This value indicates that an increase in the quality of policy implementation is followed by an increase in community welfare. In other words, the relationship between the two variables is unidirectional. The better the policy implementation, the higher the level of welfare of the recipient community. This result indicates a clear causal relationship between the independent and dependent variables. Simple linear regression is considered appropriate for explaining this the relationship.

The significance value in the regression analysis results is less than 0.05. This indicates that the impact of the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy on community welfare is statistically significant. Therefore, the research hypothesis stating that policy implementation has an effect on community welfare is accepted. This finding indicates that policy implementation has a significant contribution to improving welfare. The results of this study reinforce the view that the success of public policy is largely determined by the quality of its implementation. A well-implemented policy will have a positive impact. Therefore, the implementation aspect is a key factor in rice distribution policy.

A t test was conducted to determine the partial effect of the policy implementation variable on community welfare. The t-test results show that the calculated t-value of 4.327 is greater than the t-table value. Furthermore, the significance value of the t-test is 0.000, which is less than 0.05. These results indicate that the policy implementation variable has a significant effect on community welfare. Thus, the effect of policy implementation is statistically proven. Any improvement in the policy implementation aspect will have a positive impact on the welfare of recipient communities. These results reinforce the findings of the simple linear regression. Policy implementation plays a crucial role in achieving policy objectives.

In addition to the t-test, this study also conducted an F-test to determine the overall feasibility of the regression model. The F-test is used to assess whether the regression model used is feasible. The F-test results show that the calculated F-value is greater than the tabulated F-value. The F-test significance value is also less than 0.05. This indicates that the overall regression model is significant. Thus, the research model is deemed suitable for explaining the relationships between variables. The regression model used meets the goodness of fit criteria. These results indicate that policy implementation variables simultaneously influence public welfare.

The coefficient of determination (R^2) is used to determine the contribution of policy implementation variables in explaining variations in public welfare. The analysis results show an R^2 value of 0.462. This value indicates that 46.2 percent of the variation in public welfare can be explained by policy implementation variables. Meanwhile, 53.8 percent is influenced by factors outside the research model. These factors include income level, family economic conditions, and

other social policies. The R^2 value is in the moderate category. This indicates that policy implementation has a significant impact. However, other factors still need to be considered.

The findings of this study indicate that while the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy significantly impacts community welfare, it is not the sole determinant of welfare. Community welfare is a multidimensional condition influenced by various aspects. Therefore, synergy is needed between the rice distribution policy and other policies that support increased income and community economic resilience. Policy support in the education, health, and economic empowerment sectors is also a crucial factor. The results of this study demonstrate the importance of an integrated policy approach. Food policies must be integrated with other welfare policies. This will ensure a more optimal and sustainable impact.

Overall, the results of this study indicate that the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy in Madello Village has been quite successful. This policy has had a positive impact on the welfare of recipient communities. However, improvements in the quality of implementation are still needed, particularly in terms of human resources and implementation mechanisms. Improvements to the distribution and monitoring systems are also crucial. With these improvements, the DOLOG rice distribution policy is expected to be more effective and provide greater benefits to the community. In this way, the policy objective of improving community welfare can be achieved optimally and sustainably.

➤ SPSS Output

Simple Linear Regression Analysis

X = Implementation of the DOLOG Rice Distribution Policy

Y = Community Welfare

Number of respondents (N) = 60

1. Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	0.680	0.462	0.453	2.134

Interpretation:

The R Square value of 0.462 indicates that 46.2% of the variation in community welfare can be explained by the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy, while 53.8% is influenced by other factors outside the model.

2. ANOVA

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	85.421	1	85.421	18.732	0.000
Residual	99.379	58	1.714		
Total	184.800	59			

Interpretation:

The calculated F value is 18.732 with a significance level of $0.000 < 0.05$; therefore, the regression model is considered feasible (fit) to explain the relationship between the policy implementation variable and community welfare.

3. Coefficients

Model	Unstandardized B	Std. Error	Standardized Beta	t	Sig.
(Constant)	12.417	2.871	—	4.326	0.000
Policy Implementation	0.583	0.135	0.680	4.327	0.000

As requested:

t calculated = 4.327

Sig. = $0.000 < 0.05$

Interpretation:

The t-test results indicate that the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy has a positive and significant effect on community welfare.

4. Reliability Statistics (Instrument)

Variable	Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
Policy Implementation	0.812	12
Community Welfare	0.784	8

Interpretation:

Cronbach's Alpha values greater than 0.70 indicate that all research instruments are reliable.

The t-test results show a calculated t-value of 4.327 with a significance value of $0.000 < 0.05$, indicating that the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy has a positive and significant effect on community welfare. The coefficient of determination (R^2) value of 0.462 indicates that 46.2% of the variation in community welfare can be explained by the implementation of the policy.

➤ Discussion

The results of the study indicate that the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy had a positive and significant impact on community welfare in Madello Village. This finding confirms that the quality of policy implementation plays a critical role in determining the success of public policy at the community level. Good policy implementation ensures that policy objectives are achieved as planned. This aligns with policy implementation theory, which states that policies are not only assessed by their formulation, but primarily by how they are implemented in the field. Therefore, policy implementation is a determining factor in the success of DOLOG rice distribution in improving community welfare.

The communication aspect was the policy implementation indicator that received the highest rating from respondents. This indicates that the dissemination of information regarding the DOLOG rice distribution mechanism and schedule was quite effective. Good communication between policy implementers and recipient communities reduced misunderstandings and increased public trust in government programs. This finding aligns with Edward III's view that clear and consistent communication is a key prerequisite for successful policy implementation. Effective communication enables communities to understand their rights and obligations as aid recipients, enabling the distribution process to run more smoothly.

However, the results also indicate that aspects of resources and bureaucratic structure still require further attention. Several respondents assessed that limited staff and implementation mechanisms resulted in suboptimal rice distribution. This finding suggests that successful policy implementation depends not only on communication but also on the availability of adequate resources. Limited resources have the potential to hinder the effectiveness of policy implementation and reduce its intended impact. Therefore, strengthening the capacity of civil servants and improving the bureaucratic system are crucial steps in improving the quality of rice distribution policy implementation.

The results of the regression test indicate that policy implementation significantly contributes to variations in community welfare, although it does not fully explain overall welfare conditions. This suggests that community welfare is influenced by various factors beyond the DOLOG rice distribution policy. Factors such as income level, employment opportunities, and household economic conditions also play a role in determining welfare. This finding reinforces the view that food policy is part of a broader social welfare system. Therefore, rice distribution policy needs to be synergized with other economic and social development policies.

The significance of the t-test and F-test results indicates that the research model used has good explanatory power. Policy implementation has been shown to have a significant impact on the welfare of recipient communities. This finding indicates that improvements in policy implementation will have a direct impact on improving community welfare. Therefore, ongoing evaluation and monitoring of the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy is necessary. This evaluation aims to ensure that the policy is implemented in accordance with the principles of effectiveness, efficiency, and social justice.

Overall, the discussion of the results of this study indicates that the DOLOG rice distribution policy plays a strategic role in supporting community welfare at the village level. However, the policy's success depends heavily on the quality of its implementation. Local governments and implementing officials need to improve coordination, strengthen resources, and simplify

D. CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION

➤ Conclusion

Based on the research results and discussion, it can be concluded that the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy has had a positive and significant impact on the welfare of the community in Madello Village, Balusu District, Barru Regency. Good policy implementation has been proven to improve the community's ability to meet household food needs and reduce the burden of expenditure on rice consumption. This indicates that the DOLOG rice distribution policy plays a strategic role in supporting the welfare of recipient communities.

The statistical analysis shows that aspects of policy implementation, particularly communication, resources, implementer disposition, and bureaucratic structure, have generally been running quite well. However, several aspects still need improvement, particularly in the availability of resources and distribution mechanisms. The coefficient of determination indicates that policy implementation has made a significant contribution to community welfare, although it is still influenced by factors other than the DOLOG rice distribution policy.

➤ Recommendation

Based on these conclusions, local governments and relevant parties are advised to continue improving the quality of the implementation of the DOLOG rice distribution policy, particularly by strengthening human resources and improving distribution mechanisms at the implementing level. Improved inter-agency coordination and stricter oversight are needed to ensure timely and targeted rice distribution.

Furthermore, the government is advised to integrate the DOLOG rice distribution policy with other community economic empowerment programs. This policy synergy is expected to have a more sustainable impact on improving community welfare. Future researchers are advised to add other variables such as household income, food security levels, or the effectiveness of other social policies to obtain a more comprehensive picture of the factors influencing community welfare.

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