

## Conference Paper

# Strengthening Community-Based Organization to Achieve Food Security in the South Sulawesi Province

Novayanti Sopia Rukmana\*, Heriany Alwi, Didin Halim, and Oky Nur Pratiwi Johansyah

Universitas Negeri Makassar, South Sulawesi, Indonesia

**ORCID**

Novayanti Sopia Rukmana: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6802-80991>

**Abstract.**

Food security is an important and urgent issue in South Sulawesi Province. To address these challenges, strengthening Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) becomes a relevant and effective strategy. This study aims to determine the strength of community-based organizations by the food security department of South Sulawesi Province. This research uses a qualitative approach. Data collection techniques are carried out by observation, interviews, and documentation. Data were analyzed using data reduction techniques, data presentation, and conclusions. The results of this study show that the empowerment of community-based organizations by the Food Safety Office of South Sulawesi Province can be seen from five indicators, namely: possibility, strengthening, protection, support, and maintenance. Based on the results of the study, four out of five empowerment indicators have been adequately met, namely: empowering, reinforcement, support, and maintenance. Protection indicators are still poorly met. The Food Safety Office of South Sulawesi Province has not fully implemented protection, especially for local food processing, so more efforts need to be made so that Women's Group products can now be better known and can compete with other local products, especially in the South. The South Sulawesi Food Safety Office has not fully implemented protection, especially for local food processing, so more efforts need to be made so that women's group products can now be better known and can compete with other local products.

**Keywords:** food sustainability, empowerment, society-based organizations, women's group now

Corresponding Author:

Novayanti Sopia Rukmana;  
email: [novayanti@unm.ac.id](mailto:novayanti@unm.ac.id)

Published 3 January 2024

Publishing services provided by  
Knowledge E

© Novayanti Sopia Rukmana et al. This article is distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use and redistribution provided that the original author and source are credited.

Selection and Peer-review under the responsibility of the ICHLSS Conference Committee.

## 1. Introduction

One concrete form of the public policy process is to produce laws related to people's basic needs such as food regulated in Law Number 18 of 2012 concerning Food. Indonesia as the country with the fourth largest population in the world [1], should strive to achieve conditions of sufficient food availability, both in terms of quantity, quality, nutrition, security, diversity and affordability or what is called food security.

**OPEN ACCESS**

Food security is very important because it is undeniable that the increase in population goes hand in hand with the increase in the number of food needs.

The food condition of Indonesia based on Global Food Security Index (GFSI) data in 2020 [2] decreased to rank 65th out of 113 countries with a score of 59.5. Even though in 2019 Indonesia was ranked 62nd with a score of 62.6 [2]. This means that in 2020 it fell by 3.1 points compared to 2019. Declines in the ranking include affordability indicators which are now in 55th position, availability indicators are in 34th position and quality and safety categories are in 89th position.

Especially for ASEAN countries, Indonesia's Food Security Index score in 2020 is ranked 5th. Ranked first in Southeast Asia is Singapore with a score of 75.7 and on a global scale is ranked 19th out of 113 countries [2]. Even though the State of Indonesia is known as an agricultural country and relies on the agricultural sector which has an important role in national economic development. Of course, this is supported by large land and fertile land.

In addition to the need for more efforts to improve food security, of course, it must go hand in hand with increasing nutritional fulfillment. Based on the Strategic Review of Food Security and Nutrition in Indonesia: Latest Information 2019-2020, despite the increase, many Indonesians still face the risk of hunger and malnutrition. The nutrition of Indonesian people is still low based on international standards and the variation remains large between regions. Indonesia is one of three countries that have the number of children with underweight (wasting) and short / stunted conditions (stunting) in the Global Nutrition Report. Not only that, the problems faced are also related to the level of overweight, obesity and malnutrition problems, namely undernutrition side by side with excess nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies [3].

Talking about fulfilling nutrition and strengthening food security, there is an alternative to encourage the realization of diverse, safe and nutritious food consumption patterns, namely food diversification or food diversification. Food diversity has been mandated in Law Number 18 of 2012 concerning Food article 60, Presidential Regulation Number 22 of 2009 concerning Policy for Accelerating Diversity of Food Consumption Based on Local Resources and Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture Number 43 of 2009 concerning the Movement to Accelerate Diversity of Food Consumption Based on Local Resources.

One of the provinces in Indonesia that implements food diversification is South Sulawesi. Based on Provincial Food Security Index data, South Sulawesi occupies the third position out of 34 provinces in Indonesia with a score of 81.81 [4]. Through the Food Security Office, the Provincial Government of South Sulawesi implements

food diversification by empowering Community-Based Organizations. Several empowerment activities were carried out related to food diversification by encouraging local Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to carry out local food processing activities by providing assistance in the form of mixers and vacuum sealers and conducting socialization.

Activities carried out by the Food Security Office by empowering Community-Based Organizations in this case the Farmer Women's Group. This certainly cannot be separated from the food security goals of the South Sulawesi Provincial Government. Known as the granary of rice because it is one of the largest rice suppliers in Indonesia, where the main work of the community is farmers [5] is a great potential in terms of food availability.

Based on its potential, long-standing food security policies, especially regarding food diversity, are then implemented through empowerment activities for the Local Farmer Women's Group and looking at the position of the South Sulawesi Provincial Food Security Index. This makes this research memorable to be conveyed, especially about empowerment carried out by the Food Security Office of South Sulawesi Province, as the executor of local government affairs in the food sector.

The involvement of community or non-government groups in order to synergize to overcome public problems whose solutions cannot be overcome by the government alone, either due to incompetence or limited resources [6]. Through this research, empowerment can increase the role and productivity of peasant women in addition to being housekeepers as well as increasing family income, can meet family food needs and achieve Diverse, Nutritious, Balanced and Safe (B2SA) food. The Women's Farmer Group can play a role in achieving food security which can be started from household food security.

Previous research by Pangestika [7] entitled "Empowerment of Tourism Awareness Groups by the Youth and Sports Tourism Office in Pematang Regency" explained that the Youth and Sports Tourism Office carried out activities such as: charm sapta action, general coaching, special mentoring, training/technical guidance for the development of tourist attraction and Pokdarwis performance. The obstacles in empowerment activities consist of internal obstacles, such as limited Disparpora personnel and external obstacles, such as lack of understanding of Pokdarwis members.

The next previous research by Sophia Rukmana S, et al [6] entitled "Complexity and Public Policy: Network Model Of Food Security Policy Implementation in Bone Regency" explained that the performance of the Food Security Council as a network of organizations has not been maximized, resulting in ineffective food security policies in

Bone Regency. The ineffectiveness of the Food Security Council can be seen from the network of organizations that have not been able to function properly. The partnership process between stakeholders involved in the program did not go well. Each agency focuses on its own program and is not an agreed program within the Food Security Council organization. Some programs implemented in order to improve the quality of meeting food needs are also not running effectively.

Based on the description above, researchers are interested in conducting research entitled “Empowerment of Community Organizations by the Food Security Office of South Sulawesi Province”.

## 2. Method

This research was conducted in South Sulawesi Province. The research design used a qualitative approach. Data collection techniques are carried out through observation, interviews and documentation. Furthermore, data analysis techniques are used through data reduction, data presentation, and conclusions. The focus of the research refers to indicators of empowerment theory by Suharto [8], namely: Enablement, Strengthening, Protection, Support and Maintenance. The technique of determining informants uses purposive sampling. The informants were the Head of the Food Security Office of South Sulawesi Province, Head of Consumption and Food Safety, Group Assistant, Chairman and Member of KWT Mandiri, KWT Bunga Lotus and KWT Mangki Maju dan Sejahtera.

## 3. Result and Discussion

### 3.1. Possibility

The possibility of empowerment as according to Suharto [8] is to create an atmosphere or climate that allows the potential of the community to develop optimally. The concrete steps taken by the Food Security Office of South Sulawesi Province are through yard utilization activities and providing assistance for local food processing. Both activities are the implementation of the Movement for the Acceleration of Food Consumption Diversity (P2KP) as a manifestation of Presidential Regulation Number 22 of 2009 [9] and Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture Number 43 of 2009 [10].

Before being empowered, KWT who will become a beneficiary must meet requirements such as: have been formed before, submit a proposal that also contains a deed of confirmation, have met the minimum number of members of 25-30 people, have

an organizational structure and have been registered in the Agricultural Extension Information System (SIMLUHTAN).

During the course of the activity, the Peasant Women Group played an active role, although sometimes there were some members who did not attend because they were constrained by external affairs. KWT members actively participate and work together in every stage of activities. One of the efforts made to avoid many members who cannot attend is to make an agreement regarding the time to be able to attend and participate in each stage of the activity.

In addition, other obstacles such as: there are certain areas in the dry season experiencing a lack of water so that plants experience drought. Conversely, during the rainy season that occurs continuously resulting in excess plant water. In terms of budget, the provision of assistance cannot cover many groups each year and with the existing budget cannot be maximized to focus on yard utilization activities or food processing only.

The most important purpose of this empowerment activity is certainly related to food security, ranging from household food security to food security of South Sulawesi Province. During the course of this activity apparently had an impact on accessibility for the Farmer Women’s Group, namely the ease of consuming their crops automatically reduced expenses to buy foodstuffs, consumed more diverse, nutritious, balanced and safe food and could earn income from the sale of crops.

The average income of KWT every time you harvest from yard utilization ranges from Rp 700,000 - Rp 1,000,000. The income goes to the group’s treasury which is then spent back to buy seeds and other equipment as the planting needs of each member’s yard and demplot. If members have certain needs, they can report to the group leader for later follow-up.

The impact on food diversification in South Sulawesi Province can be seen from the Hope Food Pattern (PPH) score which tends to increase. PPH is an indicator of nutritional quality and diversity of food consumption with a score of 100. It can be seen in the following table:

TABLE 1: Hope Food Pattern Score of South Sulawesi Province.

Uraian	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Skor Pola Pangan Harapan (PPH)	87,5	88,5	87,7	88,9	89,20	94,7	94,7	94,70

Sumber: Dinas Ketahanan Pangan Provinsi Sulawesi Selatan (2021)

### 3.2. Strengthening

Strengthening in empowerment as according to Suharto [8] is an empowerment agent, strengthening the knowledge and ability of the community in solving problems and meeting their needs, and can develop confidence to support their independence. In this research to strengthen the knowledge and ability of KWT, the Food Security Office of South Sulawesi Province provided socialization, counseling and coaching.

Socialization is carried out by gathering all Farmer Women Groups, either at the district level or by visiting each group. After introducing and providing an understanding of the importance of the activity, the objectives and procedures for its implementation were also presented. KWT is directed related to plant cultivation techniques ranging from seeding seedlings to harvesting, pest control and plant arrangement to make them look beautiful and beautiful.

Counseling is given regarding the use of processed food equipment along with examples of processed food that can be made. Furthermore, regular counseling and coaching are carried out every 1 or 2 months to convey information and monitor the implementation of activities. This illustrates the function of the government in empowerment, which is to direct the community to independence and development in order to create prosperity in people's lives. Community empowerment cannot be handed over and released to the community concerned, but in order to be able to empower themselves, they must involve the government optimally and deeply [11].

After being equipped with knowledge and the ability to achieve independence, there is a change for the better. The change felt by KWT is that there is no need to spend money to buy daily groceries, especially vegetables because they can get from their own yard. KWT can save shopping for vegetables which ranges from Rp50,000-Rp70,000 per month. Thus the funds allocated to buy vegetables can be diverted to meet other needs.

Although it has not been able to become the main source of income, KWT earns income from the sale of crops or from the sale of processed food products, gets fresh, healthy and guaranteed food because it is grown alone, can develop local food businesses, increase production, support food diversification of local resources and form participation and group cooperation.

These changes lead to the formation of independence so that it becomes an empowered society. As if you see empowerment as a goal, namely: making individuals, communities or groups strong enough to participate to meet their needs both physically,

economically and socially such as having self-confidence, being able to convey aspirations, having a livelihood, participating in social activities and being independent in carrying out their life tasks [8].

### 3.3. Protection

Protection in empowerment as according to Suharto [8] is to protect the community from discrimination and oppression from powerful groups so that unequal competition does not occur. Empowering also means protecting. In the empowerment process, it must prevent the weak from becoming weaker because they are less empowered against the strong [12].

To prevent this, in empowerment activities there are assistants from the Food Security Office who always visit, communicate by telephone, discuss and give directions to the group. If KWT has any questions or wants to get information related to activities, first contact the group assistant. Conversely, if there are activities that can be participated in by KWT, the companion will contact the group. This is as the function of companions in community empowerment activities to facilitate and assist the community in participating in these activities. In other words, the companion can provide support to the community in carrying out these activities [13].

In addition to mentors, other organizations such as PKK are involved as space providers to carry out the Cheap Market so that KWT can market its products. Other parties as well as KWT's partners in yard utilization activities are traders. Traders come to the group to buy the harvest so that the group does not need to bring merchandise to the market. But sometimes also groups who go to traders to offer their crops.

Unlike P2L activities, local food processing does not yet have a permanent partner to market its products. The resulting products are sold at KWT business premises or when the Cheap Market is carried out and by taking orders. This makes processed food products sold by KWT unable to compete with other local products in South Sulawesi Province. In fact, the existence of protection is intended so that the weak do not get weaker but are able to compete equally and create togetherness and partnership between the developed and undeveloped [14].

The form of protection provided to KWT can also be seen from the efforts made by the Food Security Office of South Sulawesi Province when problems occur in groups, namely by taking a family approach by always providing education and guidance. The problems that occur include: there are still group members who do not understand the importance of this activity, group members who are not present and do not participate

in one of the stages of activities such as nursery. Unlike KWT which states that it does not experience any problems. However, during the research process, it was seen that the problem that occurred was that there were group members who were not present because they were constrained by other affairs.

### 3.4. Support

Support in empowerment as according to Suharto[8] is to provide support and guidance so that the community is able to carry out their roles and life tasks. As a form of support, the Food Security Office of South Sulawesi Province provides assistance sourced from the APBN and APBD. Assistance from the APBN is in the form of funds transferred directly to group accounts.

The amount of financial assistance at the growing stage is Rp60,000,000 per group to carry out the components of P2L activities, namely: seed gardens, demplots, planting, and post-harvest. As for the development stage of Rp. 15,000,000, - to improve the function and capacity of nurseries, demplot development, planting, and post-harvest handling. This is as stipulated in the Technical Guidelines for Government Assistance for P2L Activities where Sulawesi is included in zone 2. The assistance funds provided must be utilized according to the Activity Plan and Budget Needs (RKKA). When the stages have been completed, KWT reports the calculation of funds received and the use of funds along with proof of depositing the remaining funds if there are remaining aid funds.

The assistance from the APBD is in the form of seeds, fertilizers, polybags, seed houses or screen houses and equipment related to the use of yards. After seeding the seedlings, the seeds that are ready to be planted in the yard are distributed to group members so that they can be planted in their respective yards. For local food processing, assistance provided is in the form of food processing equipment such as vacuum sealers, spinners, mixers and scales. These tools can be used by KWT to make processed bananas or bitter melon into chips, make traditional cakes such as onion cakes, sponge cakes or bread.

In addition to being given assistance, of course, it must be supported by maintaining group activity so that activities can run smoothly and achieve the desired goals. The way to maintain group activity is to make regular visits to see the progress of activities, actively conduct coaching almost every month, do socialization either by visiting directly or by inviting groups if there are activities that can be followed.



### 3.5. Maintenance

Maintenance in empowerment according to Suharto [8] that empowerment must be able to ensure harmony and balance that allows everyone to get business opportunities. In addition to conducting regular visits, socialization and coaching, the creation of a maintenance situation for KWT by holding a Cheap Market. The Cheap Market is held by the Food Security Office of South Sulawesi Province by involving several other Regional Apparatus Organizations such as: the Food Crops and Horticulture Office, the Livestock and Plantation Office and the Fisheries Office. This activity is aimed at presenting healthy and cheap food from KWT production that has been empowered. So KWT has the opportunity and container to market its products. One of them was held on February 18, 2022 in the courtyard of the PKK Building in order to welcome the anniversary of South Sulawesi Province.

As for ensuring the maintenance of conducive conditions, there is monitoring and evaluation. The monitoring and evaluation stages are very important in the process of community development and empowerment. The effectiveness and efficiency of programs or activities can be known through monitoring and evaluation activities [15].

Evaluation activities are always based on the results of monitoring. In general, two types of evaluation are known, namely: On-going evaluation or continuous evaluation. and Ex-post evaluation or final evaluation[15]. In this study, on-going evaluation was carried out through weekly reports containing photos of activities to find out the progress that occurred. The report is sent from the Farmer Women's Group to the group companion or to the Field of Consumption and Food Security. Ex-post evaluation in the form of a year-end report where there is a team that directly reviews the location.

In addition to evaluation, the success of food diversification can also be seen from the number of Food Hope Patterns (PPH) as in table 1 it seems that it tends to increase every year. This means that there is an increase in food diversification during this empowerment activity.

## 4. Conclusion

Based on the research that has been done, it can be concluded that the empowerment of Community-Based Organizations, namely the Women's Farmer Group by the Food Security Office of South Sulawesi Province, is considered to be quite fulfilled. Four of the five indicators that are adequately met are enablement, strengthening, sustaining and maintaining.

The Food Security Office implements enablement through yard utilization activities and the provision of food processing equipment assistance. During the course of the activity, it turned out to have a positive impact on household food security and South Sulawesi Province. Strengthening is carried out through the provision of socialization, counseling and coaching so as to bring positive changes to KWT. Support is carried out through the provision of assistance in the form of funds, facilities and infrastructure so that it can support the smooth running of empowerment activities. Maintenance is carried out by providing opportunities for KWT to continue to grow, one of which is through Cheap Market activities. The indicator that is less fulfilled is protection. The Food Security Office of South Sulawesi Province has not fully implemented protection due to the lack of efforts so that KWT products can be better known and can compete with other local products, especially in South Sulawesi Province.

## References

- [1] Worldometer. Countries In The World By Population (2021). 2021.
- [2] Unit Ei. Global Food Security Index.
- [3] Arif S, Isdijoso W, Fatah Ar, Tamyis Ar. Tinjauan Strategis Ketahanan Pangan Dan Gizi Di. Indonesia: Informasi Terkini;
- [4] Pertanian BK. Indeks Ketahanan Pangan 2020. Jakarta; 2020.
- [5] Jusnawati A, Aa P. Kontribusi Produksi Padi Sawah Daerah Sentra Sipil (Sidrap, Pinrang, Luwu) Terhadap Produksi Padi Sawah Di Sulawesi Selatan. *J Agribis.* 2020;12(2):48.
- [6] Sopia Rukmana SN, Alwi, Susanti G. Complexity And Public Policy: Network Model Of Food Security Policy Implementation In Bone Regency. *Iapa Proc Conf.* 2019;522–30.
- [7] Pangestika T. Pemberdayaan Kelompok Sadar Wisata Oleh Dinas Pariwisata Pemuda Dan Olahraga Di Kabupaten Pemalang. Universitas Negeri Semarang; 2019.
- [8] Suharto E (Gunarsa A, editor). *Membangun Masyarakat Memberdayakan Rakyat.* Bandung: Pt Refika Aditama; 2009.
- [9] Peraturan PR. 22 Tahun. Tentang Kebijakan Percepatan Penganekaragaman Konsumsi Pangan Berbasis Sumber Daya Lokal; 2009.
- [10] Peraturan MP. 43 Tahun. Tentang Gerakan Percepatan Penganekaragaman Konsumsi Pangan Berbasis Sumber Daya Lokal; 2009.
- [11] Rakar I. Public Participation And Democratic Legitimacy Of Rulemaking - A Comparative Analysis. *Danube.* 2017;8(2):57–77.

- [12] Mustangin KD, Np I, Setyaningrum B, Prasetyawati E. Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Berbasis Potensi Lokal Melalui Program Desa Wisata Di Desa Bumiaji. *Pemikir Dan Penelit Sociol.* 2017;2(1):59–72.
- [13] Enza R. Peran Pendamping Dalam Mensukseskan Program Keluarga Harapan Di Kecamatan Gapura Kabupaten Sumenep. *Public Corner.* 2016;11(1):1576–80.
- [14] Mohammad A-Hj, Ahmed Ah, Alabbas Saa. The Capital Management System After The Adoption Of Basel Iii Norms: Evidence From Iraqi Credit Banks. *Int J Ebus Egovernment Stud.* 2022;14(2):57–77.
- [15] Ahmad MH, Rashid M, Hamid AB, Azlinna N, Azizan B. Impact Of Culture On The Acceptance And Outcomes Of Assessment Centre Method. *J Qual Meas Anal.* 2018;14(1):23–43.