Public Policy for Strengthening the Empower of Low Income Family in the New Normal Era: Does Public Charging Utilities Matter of Local Governments Administration?

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: This study was based on the absence of policy innovation for the poor's empowerment to increase the government's public charging in the new normal. The existence of poor people who are neglected on the streets or who live alone raises general problems. Purpose: This study examines the strengthening of the empowerment of low-income families from various sectors in ensuring the quality of the welfare of the neglected poor. Methods: The method of this study is a descriptive study using qualitative research methods. The data used are primary data and secondary data obtained through observation, interviews, and documentation. Results: This study's results to innovate the poor's empowerment policy to increase public charging of the local government show that the provincial government's strategy has not been running well. This is because some social services have not been implemented, such as providing life insurance, education, health, and material needs in fulfilling life's demands. Conclusion: The institutional human resources from the government are urgently needed in implementing appropriate policy innovations. The quality of welfare services for the low-income family is still lacking and rarely paid attention by the government; therefore, the government's budget resource is a better way to overcome the problems.

Introduction

The strengthening empowerment policies in poor communities carried out by the government have been appropriately implemented in accordance with the program to improve the quality of organizations in the region. The empowerment program provided by the government to the community is undoubtedly an economic stimulus to enhance the welfare of all communities. Social welfare is a condition that must be realized for all citizens in fulfilling their material, spiritual and social needs to live correctly and be able to develop themselves so that they can carry out their social functions. For the Indonesian people, development is an effort made by the government to create an Indonesia that is just, prosperous and prosperous. Development progress that has occurred includes various fields such as economy, health, environmental improvement, and science and technology (Alessandro et al., 2021). One of the rapidly developing development policies is in the health sector, which impacts various aspects of social life in society.

The high level of life expectancy of the community is undoubtedly the success of the government in improving the quality of life for the community. Further, local governments' role in enhancing the community's economy becomes an essential priority in anticipating the onset of economic differences between marginal communities and economic policyholders in the region (McKay, 2019). The important things that become obstacles in improving people's economy in the area, such as the lack of job opportunity resulting from the high unemployment, so that

there is a low economy of the community. Therefore, the government is expected to create policies that can increase low-income communities' participation through community empowerment programs.

In government policy, the poor are divided into two classifications: the potential poor and the non-potential poor. Likely low-income families are poor people who can still do work that can produce goods and services. Poor people with no potential are poor people who are powerless to make a living so that their lives depend on others' help. The poor have conditions that cause changes in their psychological and physical dynamism that affect their economic and social needs.

Community empowerment in increasing the potential of the region to improve the economy of the community is indeed a priority of the local government in enhancing the development economy in the region. However, a region's economic improvement will undoubtedly be hampered if natural resources in the area are not available. Then, the high population of people with a low per-capita income of the region will undoubtedly impact the community's low quality of life. Therefore, for community empowerment to increase regional revenue, the quality of human resources must be fulfilled. Quality communities certainly make it easier for governments to find sources of local funds that can improve local income, such as growing independent businesses, increasing taxes, and efforts to succeed in community programs through creative economies that will be able to boost economic resources to improve the quality of life of prosperous communities.

The high level of community welfare will undoubtedly make it easier for local governments to overcome the problem of population density in the region. Nevertheless, the success of the government to empower the community in improving the economy will produce quality community resources. Population growth in Indonesia is accompanied by the emergence of various problems that will affect multiple aspects of life, social, economic, and community life, causing poverty to become a problem requiring innovation in local government public policies regarding social welfare. Local welfare is the fulfillment of the material, spiritual, and social needs of citizens to live correctly and develop themselves so that they can carry out their social functions.

Local government policy in the implementation of social welfare is a targeted effort to improve the quality of life of integrated communities and sustainable forms of social welfare to meet every citizen's basic needs, which includes social rehabilitation, social security, community empowerment, and protection. In addition, local governments are responsible for implementing social welfare by providing services and welfare development for all communities in a planned, targeted, and integrated way to create a decent and dignified life and fulfill the rights to the basic needs of citizens an achievement of social welfare. The importance of this empowerment study will explain the importance of quality living standards based on government policies in the new era today. Therefore, community empowerment is significant for the government in a region to increase the government's critical role in overcoming economic problems and poverty that are the main problems that always arise in the area.

Literature Review

The government policy is a set of systematically interrelated concepts, definition, and a proposition that are advanced to explain and predict phenomena Jackson et al. (2020); Lionardo and Nasirin (2020b). Meanwhile, Latunreng and Nasirin (2019); Naseer et al. (2020) explain that community empowerment as a policy is a systematic policy so that it can be used for the welfare of poor people who are challenging in their lives. The definition of policy is essentially a kind of answer to a problem. It is an effort to solve, reduce, and prevent a problem in a certain way, namely by directed action. According to Leviäkangas (2020), the policy is a series of movements or activities proposed by a person, group, or government in a particular environment where there are obstacles and opportunities where the procedure is useful in overcoming them to achieve the intended objectives.

Public policy can be interpreted as allocating values legally to all members of society. This statement implies that only the government can lawfully impose something (policy values) on the community as a whole because the government is the ruler in a political system involved in the problems of everyday people's lives, which has made its responsibility and role. Then according to De La Cruz et al. (2020); Ivana et al. (2020); Mueller (2020) convey the definition of public policy, namely what the government chooses to do or not do. Through this definition, we get an understanding that there are differences between what the government will do. Meanwhile, Carmichael et al. (2020) give a sense of the definition of public policy, namely a series of activities that have a specific purpose or purpose which is followed and carried out by an actor or a group of actors who are related to a problem or a matter of concern. This policy concept focuses on what is done rather than what is proposed or intended. And this is what distinguishes policy from a decision, which is a choice among several alternatives.

Furthermore, according to Nasirin and Lionardo (2020a); Perlaviciute and Squintani (2020) state that making public policy is a complex process because it involves many processes and variables that must be studied. Therefore, some political experts interested in studying public policy divide the functions of formulating public policies into several stages. The purpose of such division is to make it easier to learn public policy. Further, Mazmanian and Sabatier (1983) define policy implementation of fundamental policy decisions, usually in the form of laws, but can also be in the form of orders. The essential executive decisions or judicial decisions. Typically, the decision identifies the problem to be resolved, states the goals or objectives explicitly to be achieved, and various ways of structuring or regulating the implementation process.

On the other hand, expressed firmly in Lionardo and Nasirin (2020a); van de Goor et al. (2017) said that leadership management is essential for policymaking. Policies will only be just dreams or good plans that are neatly stored in the archives if they are not implemented". This opinion defines that individuals or officials or government or private groups' actions are directed at achieving the goals outlined in policy decisions.

The concept of potential poor people is the poor who can still do work or activities that can produce goods and services. The non-potential poor are the poor who, due to certain factors, cannot fulfill their basic needs. Social assistance, in a broad sense, is any service intended to improve human social welfare. In contrast, it is a service provided to a part of the less or less fortunate society in the narrow sense. In a narrow sense, social services are also called social welfare services, including assistance and protection for disadvantaged groups such as social services for displaced people, poor families, with disabilities, and so on. Social service is an activity that aims to help individuals, groups, or community units so that they can meet their needs, which in the end, they are expected to solve the problems faced by clients so that they return to their social functions..

Methods

This research is descriptive qualitative research. The type or type of research used to determine an independent variable's value, either one or more (independent) variables, without making comparisons or linking one variable to another. The research method used to examine the condition of natural objects in the study of policy innovations for the empowerment of the poor to improve the public charging of the government in the new era, research instruments, data collection techniques are carried out in combination, data analysis is inductive, and the results of qualitative research.

Emphasizes meaning more than generalizations. The research focus is on policy innovation for the poor's empowerment to increase the government's public charging in the new normal. Primary data is data obtained directly from the place of research obtained through interviews with key informants. Secondary information is data obtained and collected by conducting literature studies of documents related to implementation in the form of reference books, records, archives, laws and regulations, and the internet related to research problems. This primary data source is obtained from the data source from direct interviews with related parties.

Results

The policy innovation for the poor's empowerment to increase the government's public charging in the new normal was collected in several ways, namely through interviews, documentation, and observations. This type of research uses qualitative data analysis techniques. The results of the study showed data on the poor, as follows:
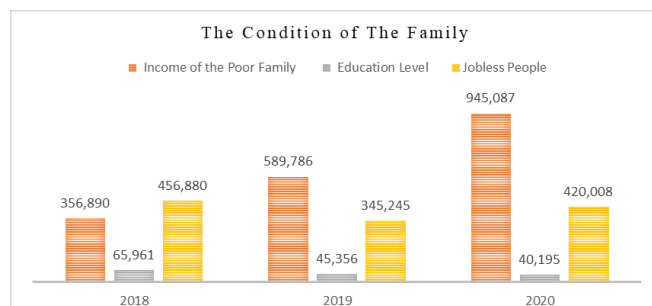

Fig 1. The Conditions of the Low-income family

The data above shows that the low-income people's condition determines the policy innovation plan for empowerment to the low-income family. Generally, the poor cannot cope with family economic problems. However, in today's development era, most low-income families make a living without job skills. On the other hand, they also often lose their jobs due to the absence of professional skills that result in a decrease in family income. The causes of a poor community's existence are very complex, namely the lack of jobs, family needs, a sophisticated social environment so that poverty is the most vulnerable thing. The local government must ensure a proper livelihood through innovative policies for empowering the poor to increase the government's public charging in the new era. To implement community welfare as a form of overcoming the poor's social problems, the local government has issued a policy in the form of a social life education program for the poor to help the poor restore and develop their daily lives. The direction of government policy includes educational activities for work protection programs and job opportunities for the poor.

In research on policy innovation for empowering the poor to increase public charging for the government in the new normal, there are research findings to innovate local government policies, including providing a place to live proper life insurance in food and clothing. According to Ripley and Franklin, success in implementing procedures is a measure of compliance with the policy program so that it does not experience failure if the implementation does not

comply with or carry out the policies that have been set correctly. The local government also monitors job opportunities in companies that provide employment services for the poor.

The policy innovation for the empowerment of the poor to increase the public charging of the government in the new era has a policy goal which is something that must be considered in implementing the policy, by questioning whether the target of the policy is following or not following the criteria set in the content of the policy.

Based on economic development data that the low economy still tends to be unstable. This is because the government's community empowerment program does not target the exact level of its economy, so the community is experiencing economic setbacks. Therefore, the number of targets cannot be predicted considering that the number of poor people who get their work results is uncertain. The poor's target focus did not increase due to economic factors or poverty, so that they could not support their daily needs and had no income. The following data on the condition of policies to empower the poor to improve the economy, as follows:
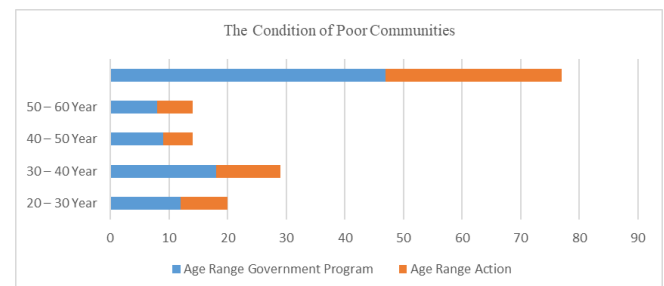

Fig. 2 The empowerment of low-income community

Based on the data above, policy innovations to empower the poor to improve the quality of life can be concluded that the government's policies have been implemented even though they are not optimal. Certain factors failing to fulfill the program's implementation are socio-economic conditions and a lack of commitment to implement employment opportunities following applicable terms and conditions. Thus, the policy results have focused on improving the quality of life and welfare of the poor and meeting the poor's basic needs (Knuutila et al., 2021; Nasirin, 2020). The research findings recommendation calls for the community, government, and district's participation in implementing and providing various social services for the poor.

Resources have an essential role in the policy innovation for the empowerment of the poor to increase the government's public charging in the new era. The success of policy implementation is very much dependent on the ability to utilize available resources, both human resources and non-human resources. For the smooth running of routine functions in performance, of course, it requires adequate resources. Policy implementation will be less effective if the implementers lack the necessary resources to implement the policy. As a result, it will impact policy outcomes (Jones et al., 2020; Nasirin and Lionardo, 2020b). Resources can also be interpreted as everything or assets that every organization owns to achieve goals. Thus, resources can be said to be an essential factor in implementing public policy.

Policies to empower the poor to improve the quality of life are indeed a government's strategic program. Increasing the

number of staff and implementers alone is not enough to solve the problem of policy implementation. However, it requires a good team with the necessary skills and abilities to implement a policy. Thus, human resources in implementing procedures must have enough expertise and knowledge to carry out their duties properly because, without existing human resources and reliability, policy implementation will run slowly. Therefore, human resources must have accuracy and appropriateness between the number of staff needed and their expertise following their duties.

Conclusion

Community empowerment is an important thing that must be the attention of local governments in addressing economic problems in the community. The high gap between the communities in the city and village will certainly have an impact on the quality of human resources in a region. Therefore, the economy is a right area that will undoubtedly have an effect on the level of welfare of the community as well. The research analysis concludes that the study of policy innovation for empowering the poor to increase public charging of the government in the new era has prioritized public services for the poor based on local government programs seen from the level of ease of work, job opportunities.

The performance of local government in the new era at this time positively does not affect the economy of the poor in remote areas. This study also explained about matters related to local government policies in improving socioeconomic and empowering the poor to achieve the target of attaining community welfare policies, namely providing jobs to the poor and preparing business capital assistance to the poor who have lost their jobs, so that there is no longer a gap between the population and each other, and can always meet the basic needs of the community.

Government policy innovation in empowering the poor is by improving the economy of the poor in the region. Therefore, local governments are expected to provide opportunities for people to make efforts to benefit the creative economy that has the ability to create superior local products as an effort to prepare jobs that can be utilized by many people, especially the poor who live in rural areas affected by the current global pandemic. in addition, the government is expected to provide free health services and decent infrastructure to improve the welfare of the community. The policy of the local government as an effort to alleviate the problem of poverty and social welfare, especially the people living in the village by being given intensively through empowering the community to produce a creative economy that can improve the welfare of the community. Some efforts to improve community empowerment such as providing food fulfillment programs and health assistance for the poor. In addition, improving the performance of independent community resources can be done by providing medium-sized business units that can improve the family economy conducted by local governments.

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