

# Policy Formulation of Community-Based Sanitation Programs in Indonesia

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## Abstract

Cleanliness is an inseparable part that is the obligation of every individual for survival; in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, stakeholders have prepared policies in the health sector so that people get their right to live healthily. This study intends to evaluate the role of the government in managing sanitation programs during the COVID-19 pandemic, where policies previously needed to formulate solid policies. This research method uses a literature study where data analysis uses relevant secondary data so that it can be analyzed in depth using the concept of the policy implementation process. The results show that in the sanitation program during the COVID-19 pandemic, the government's role in setting agendas must refer to existing problems in the form of community group routines. Furthermore, the government's policy formulation must take a community-based approach that provides insight into the importance of sanitation program involvement and legitimacy. Finally, an evaluation of government policies must make breakthroughs and program initiations in each regional stakeholder by prioritizing innovations that can happen by the Indonesian people.

**Keywords:** Policy Formulation; Community-Based; Sanitation Programs

## Abstrak

*Kebersihan adalah bagian yang tidak terpisahkan yang merupakan kewajiban setiap individu untuk bertahan hidup; dalam kondisi pandemi COVID-19, para pemangku kepentingan telah menyiapkan kebijakan di bidang kesehatan agar masyarakat mendapatkan haknya untuk hidup sehat. Penelitian ini bermaksud untuk mengevaluasi peran pemerintah dalam mengelola program sanitasi di masa pandemi COVID-19, dimana kebijakan sebelumnya diperlukan untuk merumuskan kebijakan yang solid. Metode penelitian ini menggunakan kajian pustaka dimana analisis data menggunakan data sekunder yang relevan sehingga dapat dianalisis secara mendalam dengan menggunakan konsep proses implementasi kebijakan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa dalam program sanitasi di masa pandemi COVID-19, peran pemerintah dalam menetapkan agenda harus mengacu pada permasalahan yang ada berupa rutinitas kelompok masyarakat. Selanjutnya, perumusan kebijakan pemerintah harus menempuh pendekatan berbasis masyarakat yang memberikan wawasan tentang pentingnya keterlibatan dan legitimasi program sanitasi. Terakhir, evaluasi terhadap kebijakan pemerintah harus melakukan terobosan dan inisiasi program di setiap pemangku kepentingan daerah dengan mengedepankan inovasi yang dapat terjadi oleh masyarakat Indonesia.*

**Kata kunci:** Perumusan Kebijakan; Berdasarkan komunitas; Program Sanitasi

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## INTRODUCTION

The World Health Organization (WHO) lists global health problems that must be tackled collectively over the next decade. Therefore, countries, communities, and international foundations must work together to address global health challenges. One of them is sanitation (Rosensweig et al., 2012; Seppälä, 2002). Although environmental sanitation is essential, keeping the environment healthy and clean will also affect human health (Wankhade, 2015). By definition, sanitation is a public health condition related to the provision of drinking water and the treatment and disposal of human waste and sewage (Cronk et al., 2015). Direct contact with people with dirt and other hazardous waste materials and hand washing with soap is part of sanitation activities. In addition to the fact that wastewater treatment is a component of sanitation, the two phrases are sometimes written together, as in "sanitation and wastewater management." (Whittington et al., 2020).

Rapid population growth, especially in certain areas, has various effects on population growth. For example, many densely populated settlements will add seriousness to the environment, limited green open space, and very serious is the decrease in environmental carrying capacity caused by human behavior itself (Cameron). & Shah, 2010; Nastiti et al., 2014). Therefore, the effect must be appropriate because population growth will increase and lead to negative behavior (Afifah et al., 2018; Winters et al., 2014). Furthermore, the rapid development of regional and regional development will result in the emergence of several existing problems, namely the problem of environmental hygiene. Sanitation problems can cause damage to the social, physical, and mental environment. Thus sanitation activities are an effort that needs to create awareness of conditions that can prevent disturbances and diseases (Adams et al., 1994; Cameron et al., 2019).

One of the sanitation methods is to keep all elements that affect environmental sustainability clean and the most appropriate way to prevent disturbance and disease. The term sanitation has to be associated with various descriptions, so sustainable, improved, poor, environmental, on-site, ecological, and dry sanitation are widely used (Clark & Gundry, 2004; Rosensweig et al., 2012).

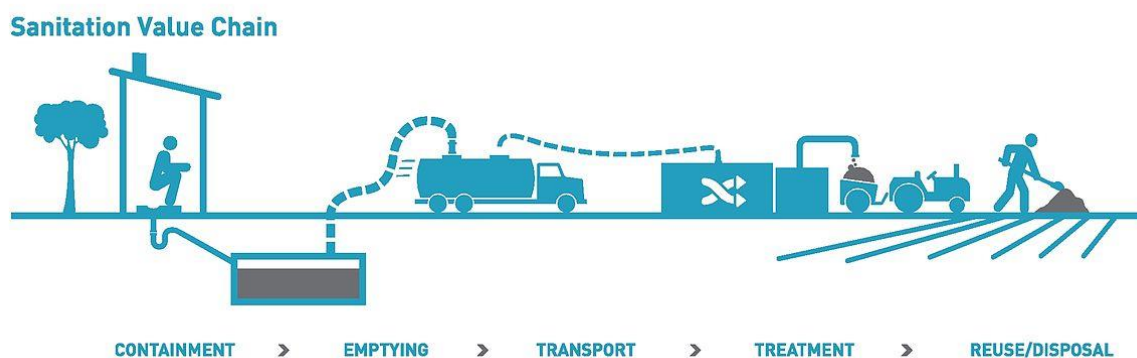
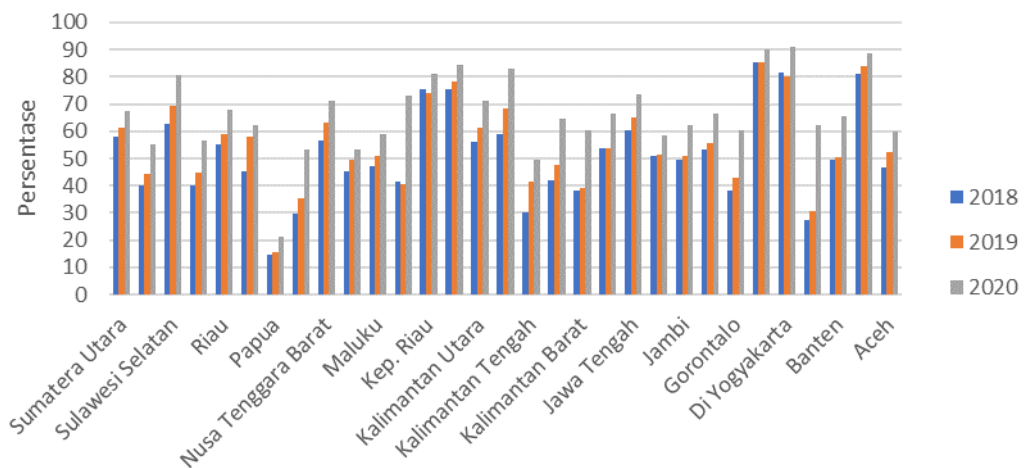


Figure 1. Sanitation systems using technology

Source: WHO, 2018

The problems related to sanitation above are also directly proportional to the results of the Health Research from the Indonesian Ministry of Health, which states that awareness of the practice of defecation by the Indonesian people is indeed low. Regulation of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia Number 3 of 2014 concerning Community-Based Total Sanitation (Booth et al., 2019). It should have that the %age of households using their defecation facilities was higher at 79.7 % in urban areas compared to 59 % in rural areas. That sanitation for disposal and its sewers has also not by the Indonesian people, which impacts health hazards (Kerstens et al., 2016; Meier et al., 2013).

In Indonesia, sanitation is still a significant problem to pay attention to; several studies have shown a significant relationship between sanitation and health, human resources, and the economy (de Silva & Sumarto, 2018; Rofiana, 2015). For example, a total of 100,000 children die from diarrhea yearly in Indonesia, based on data from the Water and Sanitation Program (WSP-EAP, 2008). That is also because 60 % of the rural population live without access to proper sanitation, which poses a risk to health (Pratama & Isnani, 2018). In addition, sanitation in rural areas includes the practice of open defecation, either into water bodies or directly on the ground so that it impacts other daily activities (Nugraha, 2015; Pratama & Isnani, 2018).



**Figure 2. Total Sanitation Development at the Provincial Level in Indonesia**  
Source, BPS, 2020

The data above shows a minimal increase in access to safe sanitation from 2017 to 2020. However, the government targets increasing access to safe sanitation from 2017 to 2020. So the sanitation facility development program that supports community welfare is essential in formulating this policy. Sanitation facilities built are a priority of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia. Furthermore, at this time during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Indonesia has established a national policy for the development of drinking water and sanitation as stated in Presidential Regulation number 185 of 2014 concerning the Acceleration of Provision of Drinking Water and Sanitation as an effort to achieve universal access by the end of 2020. So departing From these problems, it is necessary to formulate alternative strategic policies to overcome gaps in the health sector.

## LITERATUR REVIEW

### *Public Policy Process*

The policy development process occurs as a policy cycle that starts from setting the agenda by setting or defining public problems to evaluating or assessing policies (Pearce & Robinson, 2009). The process of developing public policy can be classified as follows:

1. Agenda Making; In response to public problems, the legislative machinery and government bureaucracy can move and be involved in the policy formulation, adoption, and implementation, including taking part in overcoming problems that arise during the policymaking process. Therefore, agenda-making ranks first in the policy development cycle (Douglas, 1986; Maher, 2001).

2. Policy Formulation; The policy formulation process, in general, has stages, including setting the policy development process, describing problems, setting goals and objectives, setting priorities, policy design, describing options, evaluating options, "turnover" for peer review, and policy revision, and finally efforts to obtain legal support for the policy being proposed or drafted (Sidney, 2006).
3. Policy Adoption; After policy formulation, the next stage is policy adoption, which is a process to formally take or adopt alternative policy solutions as a regulation or policy product which will then to implemented (Hai, 2013; Turnpenny et al., 2015).
4. Policy Implementation; Implementation is a way for the policy to achieve its objectives. The definition of implementation is the implementation of controlling policy actions within a specific time. Data or evidence-based policy formulation also has a significant influence on the success or failure of policy implementation (Nakamura & Smallwood, 1980; Ripley et al., 1986)
5. Policy Evaluation; Policy evaluation assesses all stages in the policy cycle, primarily when a prepared policy. The aim is to see whether the policy has succeeded in achieving its objectives and to assess the extent to which the policy's effectiveness can be for interested parties (Hurteau et al., 2009; Rossi et al., 2004).

Public policy formulation is the earliest step in the overall public policy process. Therefore, what happens in this phase will significantly determine the success or failure of public policies made in the future. (Caro, 1971; Tufo & Gaster, 2002).

## RESEARCH METHOD

This investigation is a kind of library research (Zed, 2014). Library research, also known as literary study, is a sequence of actions including collecting library data, reading and note-taking, and processing research materials (Mirzaqon, 2018). The author employs library research in this study since there are at least a few underlying factors. First, not all data sources may originate from the field. Occasionally, data sources may only be through libraries or other written publications, like periodicals, novels, and other literature (Galvan & Galvan, 2017). Another factor is the library's continued reliability in resolving research issues. Finally, library researchers may utilize any knowledge or empirical data acquired by others, whether in books, scientific studies, or research reports (Pautasso, 2013). Even in some circumstances, the field data is insufficient to address the study questions that need to be answered.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### *Sanitation Program Development in Indonesia*

PAMSIMAS (Provision of Community-Based Drinking Water and Sanitation) is one of the World Bank's projects in Indonesia's rural and suburban areas. To better serve rural and peri-urban low-income regions, Pamsimas aims to increase the number of facilities available. As a result, individuals may have access to safe drinking water and sanitary facilities with Pamsimas, allowing them to live healthier lives.

The Urban Sanitation and Rural Infrastructure (USRI) Initiative, a PNPM-Mandiri aid program, includes the Community-Based Urban Sanitation Initiative (SPBM). Individuals and the community will benefit from this program's efforts to create and improve quality of life, independence, and communal well-being. The Community-Based Urban Program (SPBM) implements a community-based sustainable development model via full community engagement in all activities, including community organization, planning, implementation, and program monitoring.

## **Strategic Policy in Sanitation Program Development in the COVID-19 Pandemic**

### ***Agenda Setting***

Public policy agenda planning is a very strategic phase and procedure. Here, the term "public problem" may to a wide range of issues, from health care to education. To the extent that an issue has to be a public concern, it demands more of the government's resources than other problems. If an issue has become a public concern and has a prominent position on the public agenda, it should get a more significant share of public resources than other problems. For example, the covid-19 epidemic, which has been ongoing since the beginning of this year in March 2020, seems to make all parties aware of the significance of clean water, appropriate sanitation, and PHBS in daily life. Clean water and proper sanitation are essential elements and can even be considered basic needs for the community during this pandemic—the health protocols set by WHO mostly contain recommendations for maintaining hygiene and health.

Health protocols during the Covid-19 pandemic and must continue to be implemented during the new average include washing hands with clean water and bathing when traveling home. Both activities certainly require clean water in sufficient quantities. Likewise, the Hand Washing with Soap Movement (CTPS), which is currently being heavily campaigned, proves that every activity in life requires clean water in sufficient quantities.

The government has also formed a Committee for the Handling of Covid-19 and the National Economic Recovery. The formation of this committee to accelerate the completion of the Covid-19 pandemic. The committee focuses on health recovery and the revival of the economy. Changes in people's behavior during the pandemic by frequently washing hands and bathing have caused the consumption of clean water to increase. In setting the agenda, the government should focus on the Scope, including the provision of community sanitation infrastructure/facilities, including: (i) communal MCK facilities and (ii) communal wastewater treatment plants (IPAL); Increasing the capacity of the community and local government in terms of planning and development, especially concerning efforts to improve community-based settlement environments.

### ***Policy Formulation***

Policy-makers then discuss issues that are already on the policy agenda. These problems are defined, and then the best solution is sought. Solving these problems comes from various alternatives or existing policy options. During the policy development stage, each option fights as the problem-solving option. That is similar to the fight to get an issue on the policy agenda. Decision-making is entirely in the hands of the community, and the role of the government and accompanying consultants is only limited to being a facilitator.

The community determines, plans, builds, and manages a chosen system facilitated by a companion consultant with experience in waste treatment technology and social assistance. The government plays a role in facilitating community group initiatives, not as a facility manager. Residents with community-based communal sanitation systems integrated with the RIPJM, City/District Sanitation Strategy, Pronangkis PJM (Medium Term Poverty Reduction Plan/MTPRP), and Action Plans for Improvement Sanitation (Community Sanitation Improved Action Plan/CSIAP).

### ***Legitimate Policy***

The goal of legitimacy is to give the government authority to carry out its essential functions. Citizens will follow the direction of the government if the sovereignty of the people directs the act of legitimacy in society. On the other hand, citizens must have faith in the government's conduct. Goodwill reserves for government activities that allow members to accept discordant governance

tend to spread out. Symbolic manipulation may provide legitimacy to an idea where individuals learn to support the government via this method. So, in this case, the need for the principle of accountability in implementing the program. As for the legitimacy of the policy on the sanitation program, namely;

1. Acceptable; The selection of activities is based on village meetings so that the community supports and accepts them. Applies from the time of site selection and determination of technical solutions (type of infrastructure/facilities and choice of technology used), determining the mechanism for implementing activities and procurement, and determining the mechanism for managing and maintaining community sanitation infrastructure and facilities.
2. Transparent; The implementation of activities is carried out openly and known to all elements of the community and local government officials to allow monitoring and evaluation by all parties.
3. Can be accounted for; The implementation of activities must be accountable to the whole community in implementing the program.
4. Sustainable; The implementation of activities must be able to provide benefits to the community in a sustainable manner characterized by the use, maintenance, and management of facilities independently by the user community.
5. Medium Term Framework; Implementation is carried out on a medium-term framework as the basis for efforts to increase access to infrastructure and sanitation facilities for the poor, women, and vulnerable/marginalized groups.
6. Simple, The procedures, mechanisms, and procedures in implementing activities are simple, easy to understand, and easy to implement by all stakeholders.

### ***Policy Evaluation***

In general, policy evaluation may be a conclusion as the estimate or assessment of a policy's content, implementation, and effect, all of which are in the definition of functional activity in this instance. As a result, policy assessment throughout the policymaking process, not only at the end. Policy assessment, therefore, includes the formulation stage, the development of policy solutions, implementation, and evaluation of the policy outcomes. The SPBM Program's approach to policy assessment is crucial since it is a program to construct sanitary facilities and infrastructure with community evaluations;

1. One definition is "empowerment of communities," which means that the community is actively involved in all phases of the implementation process (preparation, planning, implementation, monitoring, and maintenance).
2. It means that the activities are focused on the poor, women, and vulnerable/marginalized groups and that both the process and the use of the work resulted in women, vulnerable/marginalized groups, and the poor/low-income communities being the beneficiaries.
3. Autonomy, decentralization, and accountability mean local governments and communities are solely accountable for implementing and maintaining constructed infrastructure/facilities.
4. Women, underrepresented groups, and those with less economic resources have a more significant opportunity to actively participate in all stages of the process because of the community's involvement in all these steps.
5. Self-reliance, in this context, refers to community engagement in the planning, executing, and overseeing of activities and in the long-term maintenance of the outcomes of these activities.
6. To say that a development program is synchronized indicates that it works in concert with other projects.
7. Institutional Capacity Building is the process of enhancing the ability of government agencies, non-profit organizations, and other groups with interest in healthy communities to do so.

8. In other words, men and women are treated equally at all stages of development and in the fair use of development activities' outcomes.

## CONCLUSION

In a later implementation, this program will use existing community institutions (BKM/LKM) and have a good track record and performance in managing community empowerment programs. Through the implementation of the SPBM Program, the community will plan the program, choose the type of communal sanitation infrastructure/facilities according to their needs, draw up a work plan, carry out construction, and manage and preserve the development results. In addition, this program intends to improve the quality of public health by providing community-based communal sanitation facilities, especially for women, vulnerable/marginalized groups, and the poor during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, this policy formulation can only be achieved by mobilizing regional leaders to innovate, issuing policies that support the STBM program, allocating budgets to prioritize investments in sanitation programs, and building evaluation monitoring systems and infrastructure to maintain the sustainability of STBM program services in their regions.

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