EVALUATION OF STRATEGIES FOR STRENGTHENING FOOD SECURITY IN SENGON VILLAGE, REGENCY AS A DISASTER-RESILIENT VILLAGE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Rahmad WIDODO, Bambang PRASTISTHO, Jaka PURWANTA

Faculty of Mineral Technology, Universitas Pembangunan Nasional Veteran Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Corresponding author: Rahmad WIDODO
E-mail: widodosugimin@gmail.com

Abstract: This study aims to assess Sengon Village's approach to food security during the Covid-19 Pandemic eradication period in Klaten Regency, which has led to significant food security issues in rural areas. When the Covid-19 pandemic first entered Sengon Village and continued to spread rapidly, researchers began working on a strategy to address the issue of food security. They also made attempts to approach the village government about empowering the locals. As a result, many victims in Sengon Village were exposed to Covid-19. Especially in food security, there is still weak supervision, primarily when the Emergency PPKM (Enforcement of Restrictions on Community Activities) is implemented. The research employs Participatory Action Research (PAR) with qualitative supporting data. Evaluation of this strategy is based on the strategies that have been implemented through programs starting from public awareness of food needs, the initial foundation for building food security in the village, to advocacy to the community for the policies of the Sengon village government itself, as well as evaluation of the mapping of sustainable actions. Post-research by analyzing village communities related to food security to food security institutions, one of which is the Women Farmers Group (KWT), to build and encourage an increase in food security in the village. The results of this study indicate that the evaluation of the food security strategy carried out by Destana (Disaster Resilient Village) was carried out very well by Sengon Village as one of the disaster-resilient villages in the Klaten district.

Keywords: Covid-19 Pandemic, Village Government, Destana, KWT.

INTRODUCTION

Sengon Village is one of the villages that is included in the supervision. An Emergency PPKM (Enforcement of Community Activity Restrictions) has been implemented because the exposure rate of the community affected by the Covid-19 virus is very high, and the death rate. Besides that, citizen participation in vaccines still tends to be low. At the beginning of the declaration of the national vaccine, the Destana Sengon Crew continued to intensively carry out socialization to provide services to residents who wanted to get the vaccine. We can see this in the table of Covid-19 exposure cases in Sengon village, Klaten district below:

| No | Name of Dusun in Sengon Desa Village | RW | Total population | Number of Covid-19 Cases | Number of Deaths |
|----|-------------------------------------|----|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1  | Cabakan                            | 01 | 509              | 19                       | 9                |
| 2  | Panggil                            | 02 | 297              | 7                        | 3                |

Table 1. Data on Covid-19 in Sengon Village for the Period January to December 2021
In the table, it can be seen that one of the hamlets in Sengon village, with the third largest population, became the center of the spread of Covid-19, so it affected the food security sector during the Covid-19 pandemic. Prambanan with a relatively high death rate, recorded in 2021 when the second wave of attacks occurred, the Sengon village community recorded 52 cases of death, and it was almost 50% of the people exposed to Covid-19 who became victims of the Covid-19 ferocity. It was recorded that the village community was exposed to as many as 107 cases spread over 11 RW and 17 hamlets. It is not a tiny number but quite large, although compared to the number of villagers who reached 3,930 people, the death rate, which touched 52 people, was tremendous. The average case of death is usually only 3% worldwide.

Although the issue of food security in Sengon Village has fallen due to the almost uncontrollable Covid-19 case, the residents' enthusiasm to get the vaccine is much more after learning of the death experienced by Sengon Village residents, be it their family or neighbors. It is inseparable from the efforts of the Destana Rapid Response Team (Disaster Resilient Village) Sengon to go massively directly to the settlement of residents to invite and convey information that vaccines are a necessity for residents to stay healthy and strong in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic, which will not know when it will end. In addition to efforts to accelerate the spread of the covid-19 vaccine that is evenly distributed throughout the Sengon village community, efforts to access food security which are also more needed by residents during the pandemic must also be maintained, every family must have the choice to provide a variety of food needs to their families. The following are the various types of food eaten by the Sengon village community:

![Consumption Variety Diagram of Sengon Village Community](image)

**Figure 1.** Consumption Variety Diagram of Sengon Village Community

| Hamlet  | Population | Cases | Deaths | Survivors |
|---------|------------|-------|--------|-----------|
| Jetis   | 136        | 1     | 0      | 1         |
| Sengon  | 312        | 8     | 4      | 27        |
| Kedung  | 51         | 2     | 0      | 44        |
| Belan Kulon | 134   | 2     | 1      | 119       |
| Pangkah | 82         | 1     | 0      | 81        |
| Garutan | 251        | 4     | 1      | 247       |
| Kututsari| 70         | 0     | 0      | 70        |
| Gedong  | 408        | 10    | 5      | 393       |
| Mangunjayan | 298   | 6     | 3      | 292       |
| Sumberjo| 164        | 4     | 1      | 160       |
| Gunung Pegat | 398   | 27    | 18     | 371       |
| Belan   | 266        | 6     | 3      | 260       |
| Dukuh   | 219        | 5     | 2      | 214       |
| Paten   | 118        | 1     | 0      | 117       |
| Tegalsari| 217        | 4     | 2      | 214       |
| **Total** | **3,930** | **107** | **52** |           |
Based on the diagram, it can be seen that the most significant consumption of the Sengon village community, especially rice, is very high. Namely, 65% of the total population is already highly dependent on one of these carbohydrates. Even though this village is one of the villages with a large number of agriculture and rice producers, during the COVID-19 pandemic, when this happens, the nutritional needs of the community also increase in order to maintain the body's resistance so that it is not easily exposed to the deadly virus. The 'Eat what is planted, the plant is eaten' program is the main focus of researchers to find out and evaluate the strategies and goodness movements carried out by the villagers of Sengon and the Desatana Sengon team, which the government supports. Evaluation is a process that includes measurement and possibly testing, which also includes making decisions about values (Wiersma and Jurs, 2013). So that Sengon Village, as one of the Disaster Resilient Villages (Destana) in the district that has implemented a strategy in improving food security during the Covid-19 pandemic, should be evaluated to find out which goodness movements are the basis of the strategy, which deserves to be published to the general public and can be exemplified by various similar villages that experience symptoms of declining food security in their respective villages.

In previous research conducted in Sengon Village, Klaten Regency, there were discussions about food security, but in-depth. Systematically it had not been found because previous research only took data from 2 Pillars of Citizens (RW) as research material, so the area of Sengon Village, which has 11 RW and 23 Rukun Tangga (RT) with an area of 233 ha, this research will improve the previous research. To find out whether Sengon Village's Strategy as a Disaster Resilient Village has been effective in maintaining food security during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Furthermore, what evaluations have been made by Destana Sengon on the implementation strategy?

METHODS

This research uses a participatory qualitative method with a PAR (Participatory Action Research) approach. Where this qualitative method applies research procedures to produce descriptive data such as spoken, written words and observed behavior (Taylor, Bogdan & DeVault, 2016). PAR is a research method that engages various parties in researching ongoing actions based on the community's experiences. Community experiences are judged as personal speeches in order to carry out replacement and improvement actions for the better (Afandi et al., 2016). PAR is a participatory research and development method that recognizes social relationships and assesses the reality of shared experiences, thoughts and feelings. This research process is looking for something to link the research process to the process of social change. The stages in this research method are:

1. Initial Mapping;
2. Building human bonds;
3. Confirmation of studies for social change plans;
4. Participatory Planning;
5. Shaping Humanitarian Issues;
6. Develop a Village Strategy;
7. Launching Action for Change;
8. Build a Pandemic Education Center;
9. Reflection (social change theory);
10. Expand Movement and support.

In this research, document studies are also applied as a PRA tool; researchers will conduct an in-depth study of historical documents that occurred in Sengon Village, be it stories from village
elders, regulations and policies both in written form and directly (oral) that support the research. Document studies complement observation and interview methods (Sugiyono, 2018).

| Tool PRA                        | Tool Description                                                                 | JPA |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Observation                     | To find out attitudes, life processes, work, motivation, natural phenomena, and so on | 10  |
| Individual                      | To know the things that are the key to activities to increase food security during the Pandemic | 20  |
| Semi-Structured Interview       | To find out aspects of life in the community at the family level                  | 10  |
| Family                          | To find out the opinion of a community group at a certain time                   | 10  |
| Group                           |                                                                                  |     |
| History Flow                    | To find out the list of events in Sengon Village                                 | 1   |
| Mapping                         | To find out the pattern of mobilization of each community group in increasing food security during a pandemic | 1   |
| Household Survey (RT)           | To find out information about a family in Sengon Village, especially about the needs and the process of increasing food security | 5   |
| FGD (Focus Group Discussion)    | To find out the problems and find solutions that will be presented by the community in the context of food security during the Covid-19 pandemic | 5   |
| Actor Analysis                  | This analysis is one strategy to find out people and their interests in increasing food security in the hamlet or even in Sengon Village. | 2   |
| Document Study                  | To find out written and unwritten things to improve food security during the Covid-19 pandemic | 2   |

Source: Data Processing 2021

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Based on the author’s narrative while conducting research in Sengon Village during the Dutch colonial period, this village area was a centralized area for planting sengon trees, so the previous people wanted to call this area “Sengon”. Sengon Village is also a combination of two villages at that time, namely Sengon Village and Sumberjo Village, in 1946 after the independence of the Republic of Indonesia. So that this village is quite comprehensive in its existence in the Prambanan sub-district. Most of the Sengon village area is rainfed rice fields, i.e., 68% of it is agricultural land. It shows how large the rainfed agricultural land in Sengon village is. Hence, it is not impossible to strengthen and improve food security if a thorough evaluation of the strategy is carried out well assistance that will make people aware of the process of strengthening food security during the Covid-19 pandemic.
Before officially becoming Sengon Destana in 2019, the spirit of the Destana began after the May 26, 2006, Earthquake, where Sengon Village was one of the villages that were severely affected so that it made people aware of being together and working together to help the government at that time by forming an MTB (Society). Tangguh Disaster) in 2009, and then changed its name again in 2012 to KTB (Disaster Resilient Group) and briefly went on hiatus from 2015 to 2018, and was active again with the spirit of establishing a Disaster Resilient Village (Destana) accompanied by researchers from PSBA (Center for Disaster Studies) Universitas Gadjah Mada and Destana Sengon continues to exist until the researcher completes this research.

The evaluation carried out by researchers on the strategy used by the Sengon Village Government as a Destan starts from the existence of:

1. Community Awareness Action Process on Food Security Issues
2. Building the Initial Foundation for Food Security in the Community
3. Village Government Policy Advocacy on Food Security Issues
4. Destana Strategy Map Solving Future Food Problems
5. Realizing a Sustainable Food Security Program by Destana

This sustainable program related to increasing food security is obtained every semester from 2021 to the first semester of 2022. Researchers continue to provide education related to food security in the form of questionnaires distributed before the program is run and after the program is run as a form of evaluation of the program's sustainability. It can be seen in the graphic image of increasing knowledge of Sengon Village residents about the importance of increasing food security during the Covid-19 pandemic, as follows:
CONCLUSION

Based on the questionnaire distributed, the graph shows that every semester, the community understands correctly that the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on food security is genuine, so this researcher makes ongoing assistance efforts to produce people who are aware of food security during the Covid-19 pandemic. Then from the results of the questionnaire, the researcher continues to take steps so that the sustainable programs that have been carried out during the research continue to be carried out by the Sengon Village community as a form of evaluation of fundamental strategies produced by the community itself in the form of increasing food security, which is packaged in the form of education. Moreover, continuous training by producing a follow-up form of the food improvement strategy in the form of:

1. The community must remain healthy in order to be able to farm;
2. Provision of self-help and self-managed fertilizers;
3. Mutual maintenance of food security among residents in the community;
4. Maintain the cleanliness of the food production environment

This simultaneous strategy evaluation results in suggestions to:

1. The village government is expected to have a role so that it can improve food security and contribute so that when the program is created or formed a food security group for the formation of the group it is expected to involve the village community so that the formation of the group will be very beneficial;
2. For further research, in order to assist the village community so that the community can better understand how vital public awareness is to increase (principal) food security during the crisis season so that the Sengon Village community is better prepared to face crisis conditions;
3. For the community in Sengon Village to be able to develop independently (individually) and be able to continue the activities carried out, increase experience on land use for food (staple) needs so that if there is a famine (crisis), the community will have ready to face it.

REFERENCES
Afandi, A. (2014). dkk, Metodologi Penelitian Sosial Kritis. Surabaya: Uin Sunan Ampel Press.
Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2017). Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches. Sage Publications.
SK Bupati Nomor 32 tahun 2019. Tentang Penetapan Destana Sengon.
Sugiyono. (2017). Metodologi Penelitian Pendidikan (Pendekatan Kuantitatif, Kualitatif dan R&D). Bandung: Alfabeta.
UU RI No. 32 Tahun 2004 tentang Pemerintahan Daerah
UU RI No. 24 Tahun 2007 tentang Penanggulangan Bencana.
UNISDR Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction. 2009.