



Implementation of Village Fund Allocations in The Food Security Program in Karya Village, Pakkat Subdistrict, Humbang Hasundutan Regency, in 2025

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Abstract

Food security is one of the national priority programs supported through the use of Village Funds in Karya Village, Pakkat District, Humbang Hasundutan Regency. The food security program is implemented through capital participation in the Village-Owned Enterprise (BUMDes) for a chicken farming business and the provision of corn seed assistance to the community. However, several problems remain in its implementation, such as limited community understanding of the program mechanism, suboptimal coordination among implementers, and limited monitoring and evaluation. This study aims to analyze the implementation of the use of Village Funds in the food security program in Karya Village in 2025. This study uses a qualitative method with a descriptive approach, with data collected through observation, interviews, and documentation. This study applies George C. Edward III's policy implementation theory, which covers communication, resources, disposition, and bureaucratic structure. The results show that the implementation of Village Fund use in the food security program in Karya Village has generally been carried out in accordance with applicable provisions. In terms of communication, program socialization has been carried out through village deliberation, although community understanding remains uneven. In terms of resources, budget support, human resources, and infrastructure are considered adequate to support program implementation. In terms of disposition, program implementers demonstrated good commitment to carrying out food security activities. Meanwhile, in terms of bureaucratic structure, program implementation has involved various parties, but coordination and oversight still need to be strengthened. Based on the findings, it can be concluded that the implementation of Village Fund use in the food security program in Karya Village has run reasonably well, although its effectiveness still needs to be improved through stronger coordination, oversight, and community understanding so that the village's food security goals can be optimally achieved

Keywords : Food Security, Policy Implementation, Village Funds.



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INTRODUCTION

Food security has increasingly become a strategic policy agenda within global development discourse as governments seek to strengthen the resilience of local food systems amid climate uncertainty, economic volatility, demographic pressures, and disruptions in global supply chains. Contemporary development paradigms emphasize that sustainable food security cannot be achieved solely through national-level interventions but requires the active involvement of local institutions capable of mobilizing resources according to community needs and local potentials. Within this context, fiscal decentralization has emerged as an important policy instrument for empowering local governments and rural communities to address food-related challenges through participatory development initiatives. The Indonesian Village Fund policy reflects this broader trend by transferring substantial fiscal resources to villages with the expectation that local governments will strengthen economic resilience, improve community welfare, and enhance food security through locally responsive development programs (Nugroho, 2014; Peraturan Pemerintah Nomor 11 Tahun 2021).

Previous studies have demonstrated that Village Funds possess significant potential to support food security through agricultural empowerment, infrastructure development, and community-based economic activities. Research conducted in Bogor Regency found that the implementation of Village Fund policies contributed to strengthening community food resilience when accompanied by effective planning, local participation, and institutional coordination (Mukarom, Tjahjono, & Kristiana, 2020).

Similar findings were reported in Toba Samosir Regency, where Village Funds supported food security programs by facilitating agricultural activities and enhancing the productive capacity of rural communities (Elpiana Manullang & Restu Rahmadani, 2023). Studies examining village development policies have also highlighted the importance of integrating empowerment strategies with local resource management to ensure that Village Fund allocations generate sustainable socioeconomic impacts rather than temporary program outputs (Sipayung, Fobia, Taena, & Joka, 2021). A critical synthesis of these findings suggests that the effectiveness of Village Fund utilization depends not merely on the availability of financial resources but on the quality of policy implementation processes operating at the village level.

Despite the growing body of literature concerning Village Fund management and food security, several conceptual and empirical limitations remain insufficiently addressed. Existing studies have predominantly focused on broad evaluations of program implementation across districts or regions, while relatively limited attention has been directed toward understanding how specific villages interpret and implement national policy priorities within their unique institutional and socioeconomic contexts. Furthermore, previous research frequently assumes that the allocation of Village Funds automatically produces positive outcomes, often overlooking the administrative, organizational, and contextual factors that may influence implementation effectiveness. The evolving regulatory framework governing Village Fund utilization also creates the possibility of variation in implementation practices across villages, particularly following the issuance of new operational guidelines emphasizing food security as a strategic development priority (Peraturan Menteri Desa PDTT Nomor 8 Tahun 2022; Peraturan Menteri Desa PDTT Nomor 2 Tahun 2024).

The persistence of these limitations carries important implications for both policy effectiveness and rural development outcomes. Food security programs financed through Village Funds represent substantial public investments intended to strengthen local economic resilience and reduce vulnerability among rural populations. Questions concerning implementation effectiveness become particularly relevant in regions where agriculture remains a dominant livelihood sector and where public resources are expected to generate tangible benefits for local communities. In Humbang Hasundutan Regency, agricultural activities continue to play a central role in the local economy and community welfare, making the implementation of food security programs a critical component of village development strategies (Badan Pusat Statistik Kabupaten Humbang Hasundutan, 2025). Regulatory provisions concerning Village Fund allocation and budgeting mechanisms further emphasize the necessity of aligning village development priorities with broader policy objectives related to food security and community empowerment (Peraturan Bupati Humbang Hasundutan Nomor 3 Tahun 2023).

Within this context, Karya Village in Pakkat Subdistrict represents an important empirical setting for examining the implementation of Village Fund allocations in food security programs. Existing evidence from Humbang Hasundutan Regency indicates that Village Funds have been utilized to support community empowerment and agricultural development initiatives, yet the specific mechanisms through which food security programs are planned, implemented, and managed at the village level remain insufficiently understood (Nainggolan, 2023). The village therefore offers a valuable opportunity to explore how national policy directives are translated into local development practices, how village institutions manage allocated resources, and how implementation processes shape the realization of food security objectives. Such an investigation occupies an important position within the broader literature on public policy implementation by connecting macro-level policy frameworks with micro-level administrative realities.

This study aims to analyze the implementation of Village Fund allocations in the food security program in Karya Village, Pakkat Subdistrict, Humbang Hasundutan Regency, in 2025. The research seeks to examine the implementation process, identify factors influencing policy execution, and evaluate the extent to which allocated resources support the achievement of food security objectives at the village level. Theoretically, the study contributes to the development of public policy implementation literature by providing a context-specific understanding of how decentralized fiscal policies operate within rural governance structures. Methodologically, the study contributes through an in-depth village-level analysis that enables a more comprehensive examination of implementation dynamics, institutional interactions, and local development outcomes within the framework of Village Fund utilization.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employed a qualitative research approach with a case study design to examine the implementation of Village Fund allocations in the Food Security Program in Karya Village, Pakkat Subdistrict, Humbang Hasundutan Regency, in 2025. A qualitative approach was selected because the research sought to obtain a comprehensive understanding of policy implementation processes, stakeholder interactions, and contextual factors influencing the utilization of Village Funds for food security initiatives. The study focused on key informants who were directly involved in the planning, implementation, and supervision of the program, including village government officials, members of village consultative institutions, community representatives, and beneficiaries of the food security program. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, direct observation, and document analysis of village development plans, budget documents, implementation reports, and relevant government regulations concerning Village Fund management and food security policies.

The collected data were analyzed using an interactive qualitative analysis model consisting of data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. The analysis aimed to identify patterns, implementation mechanisms, supporting factors, obstacles, and policy outcomes related to the allocation of Village Funds for food security programs. To ensure the credibility and trustworthiness of the findings, data triangulation was conducted by comparing information obtained from different sources, methods, and documentary evidence. The study also applied member checking and prolonged engagement during data collection to enhance the validity of interpretations. Ethical considerations were addressed through informed consent procedures, confidentiality protection, voluntary participation, and the use of research data exclusively for academic purposes.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Policy Implementation Process of Village Fund Allocation in the Food Security Program

The findings from interviews, observations, and document analysis indicate that the implementation of Village Fund allocations for the food security program in Karya Village was carried out through a structured planning process involving village authorities, community representatives, and farmer groups. Informants consistently explained that program priorities were determined through village deliberation forums to align local needs with national policy directives. This participatory approach reflects the governance principles mandated in the Village Law, which emphasizes community involvement in village development planning (Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 6 Tahun 2014). The process demonstrates that policy implementation begins with the translation of regulatory objectives into locally relevant development programs.

Field data reveal that food security initiatives were integrated into the Village Government Work Plan before being incorporated into the Village Revenue and Expenditure Budget. Several respondents stated that agricultural support activities received significant attention because farming remains the primary livelihood source for many households in Karya Village. The prioritization of food-related programs corresponds with the objectives established in national food security regulations that encourage local governments to strengthen community access to sustainable food resources (Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 18 Tahun 2012). Program planning therefore reflects both regulatory compliance and socioeconomic realities at the village level.

The implementation process further illustrates the importance of communication among stakeholders. Interviews with village officials indicate that regular coordination meetings were conducted to ensure that program activities remained aligned with approved budgets and implementation schedules. Effective communication reduced uncertainty regarding roles and responsibilities among implementing actors. This finding corresponds with the policy implementation framework proposed by Van Meter and Van Horn (1975), which identifies communication as a critical determinant of implementation success.

Evidence gathered during the study suggests that community participation extended beyond formal planning activities. Beneficiaries reported involvement in discussions concerning program priorities, resource utilization, and monitoring activities. Such participation contributed to greater public awareness regarding the objectives of food security interventions. Similar observations have been reported in studies examining the role of village-level participation in strengthening policy outcomes (Aprilianingsih et al., 2024).

The implementation structure identified in Karya Village can be summarized in the following table.

Table 1. Stages of Food Security Program Implementation through Village Fund Allocation

Implementation Stage	Main Activities	Key Actors
Planning	Village deliberation and priority setting	Village government, community representatives
Budgeting	Allocation of Village Funds	Village government
Execution	Agricultural and food security activities	Implementing teams and farmer groups
Monitoring	Program supervision and reporting	Village officials and community members
Evaluation	Assessment of outcomes and challenges	Village government and stakeholders

Table 1 indicates that implementation involved multiple stages requiring coordination among various actors. The effectiveness of each stage influenced the overall performance of the food security program. The findings suggest that successful implementation depends on the integration of planning, budgeting, execution, and evaluation processes. Similar implementation patterns were identified by Yuliawati, Septiawan, and Kurnianingsih (2026) in their analysis of village fund-based food security programs.

Interview data also indicate that village authorities attempted to align food security activities with long-term development objectives. Respondents emphasized that agricultural support programs were expected to improve both food availability and household economic resilience. This orientation reflects broader development approaches that link food security with community empowerment. Sari and Sunarya (2025) argue that Village Funds can generate sustainable socioeconomic benefits when integrated into long-term rural development strategies.

Another important finding concerns the influence of regulatory guidance on implementation practices. Village officials reported relying heavily on government regulations when determining program priorities and expenditure allocations. Regulatory clarity reduced uncertainty regarding the permissible use of Village Funds for food security activities. Such observations support arguments that policy implementation outcomes are strongly affected by the quality and consistency of policy directives (Van Meter & Van Horn, 1975).

Field observations further indicate that implementation was shaped by local institutional capacity. Villages possessing stronger administrative systems were better positioned to manage planning, budgeting, and reporting requirements. Informants noted that administrative competence facilitated compliance with regulatory standards while improving program efficiency. Yusuf (2025) highlights that organizational capacity often determines the effectiveness of policy implementation at the local level.

The findings demonstrate that the implementation of Village Fund allocations for food security in Karya Village was characterized by participatory planning, regulatory alignment, and institutional coordination. The implementation process reflects the interaction between national policy objectives and local governance mechanisms. Stakeholder involvement contributed to the legitimacy and responsiveness of program activities. These results provide an important foundation for examining the effectiveness of resource utilization and food security outcomes in the subsequent analysis.

Utilization of Village Funds for Food Security and Community Empowerment

The qualitative findings indicate that the allocation of Village Funds for food security in Karya Village was primarily directed toward activities supporting agricultural production, community empowerment, and the strengthening of local food resources. Interview participants explained that program implementation emphasized productive activities capable of generating long-term benefits rather than short-term assistance. Village officials considered food security as an integrated concept involving food availability, accessibility, and sustainability at the household level. This orientation is

consistent with the utilization strategies proposed by Yuliana (2018), who argues that Village Funds should be directed toward productive sectors that enhance local food resilience.

Field observations reveal that farmer groups played a central role in implementing food security activities. Informants reported that agricultural support programs were designed to improve farming productivity while strengthening collaboration among community members. The involvement of farmer groups increased program acceptance because beneficiaries participated directly in planning and implementation processes. Similar findings were reported by Yuliana (2020), who found that community-based agricultural initiatives contribute significantly to improving village food security outcomes.

The study also found that Village Fund utilization was closely linked to broader community empowerment objectives. Respondents emphasized that food security programs were expected to strengthen local capacities rather than create dependency on external assistance. Empowerment was reflected through efforts to improve agricultural knowledge, resource management, and collective participation. Aprilianingsih et al. (2024) emphasize that Village Fund allocation becomes more effective when empowerment principles are integrated into development programs.

Interview data indicate that community members perceived food security activities as providing both economic and social benefits. Beneficiaries reported increased opportunities to participate in productive activities and local development initiatives. Such participation contributed to stronger community ownership of program outcomes. These observations support the argument that food security programs can function as instruments of social and economic development simultaneously (Sari & Sunarya, 2025).

The main areas of Village Fund utilization identified during the study are summarized in the following table.

Table 2. Utilization Areas of Village Fund Allocation for Food Security Programs

Utilization Area	Main Objective	Expected Outcome
Agricultural Support	Increase productivity	Improved food availability
Farmer Group Activities	Strengthen participation	Community engagement
Capacity Building	Improve local skills	Enhanced self-reliance
Resource Management	Optimize local resources	Sustainable production
Community Empowerment	Increase economic resilience	Improved welfare

Table 2 demonstrates that Village Fund utilization extended beyond agricultural production alone. The allocation strategy incorporated empowerment, participation, and sustainability considerations as complementary objectives. This pattern suggests that food security programs were conceptualized as multidimensional development interventions rather than isolated agricultural projects. Comparable findings were identified by Suci, Wini, Adang, and Endro (2021), who observed that Village Funds contribute to sustainable agricultural development when supported by integrated community-based approaches.

Another significant finding concerns the relationship between food security programs and local economic resilience. Respondents indicated that agricultural support activities created opportunities for households to strengthen their productive capacities. Increased productivity was expected to improve food availability while also contributing to household income generation. These observations reinforce the perspective that food security and

economic development are mutually reinforcing dimensions of rural development (Yuliana, 2018). The analysis also reveals that Village Fund utilization was influenced by local resource potential. Informants explained that program activities were designed according to agricultural conditions and community needs specific to Karya Village. This adaptation enabled the village government to maximize the relevance of funded activities. The importance of context-sensitive implementation has been highlighted in studies emphasizing localized approaches to food security policy execution (Yuliawati, Septiawan, & Kurnianingsih, 2026).

A further observation concerns the role of accountability in resource utilization. Village officials reported that program implementation was accompanied by reporting and monitoring procedures intended to ensure transparency and compliance. Accountability mechanisms contributed to

public confidence in the management of Village Funds. Nugroho (2014) argues that accountability represents a fundamental requirement for achieving policy effectiveness within decentralized governance systems.

The findings suggest that Village Fund allocations in Karya Village were utilized not only to support food production but also to strengthen community empowerment and local development capacity. Resource utilization reflected a strategic effort to connect food security objectives with broader socioeconomic development goals. Community participation, local adaptation, and accountability mechanisms emerged as important factors influencing implementation effectiveness. These results provide a basis for examining the institutional and policy challenges affecting the sustainability of food security initiatives at the village level.

Factors Influencing the Effectiveness of Village Fund-Based Food Security Programs

The findings indicate that the effectiveness of Village Fund allocations for food security in Karya Village was influenced by a combination of institutional, social, economic, and policy-related factors. Interviews with village officials revealed that successful implementation depended not only on the availability of financial resources but also on the capacity of local institutions to manage programs effectively. Respondents emphasized that administrative competence and stakeholder coordination played significant roles in ensuring that planned activities were executed according to established objectives. These observations are consistent with the policy implementation framework developed by Van Meter and Van Horn (1975), which highlights organizational capacity as a critical determinant of implementation outcomes.

One of the most influential factors identified during the study was community participation. Informants reported that active involvement from residents facilitated smoother implementation processes and increased support for food security initiatives. Participation encouraged a stronger sense of ownership over program activities and outcomes. Similar findings were reported by Elpiana Manullang and Restu Rahmadani (2023), who observed that community engagement contributes substantially to the effectiveness of Village Fund-supported food security programs.

The analysis also reveals that leadership within the village government affected program performance. Respondents noted that effective leadership helped coordinate stakeholders, resolve implementation challenges, and maintain commitment to program objectives. Leadership was particularly important during the planning and monitoring stages because it influenced decision-making and resource allocation. Nainggolan (2023) similarly found that village leadership plays an important role in determining the success of community empowerment initiatives funded through Village Funds.

Field data further suggest that regulatory support provided an important foundation for implementation. Village officials frequently referred to government regulations when determining priorities and reporting program outcomes. Regulatory guidance helped reduce ambiguity regarding the allocation and use of Village Funds for food security purposes. The provisions contained in the Ministerial Regulations concerning Village Fund priorities have strengthened the legal basis for food security interventions at the village level (Peraturan Menteri Desa PDTT Nomor 2 Tahun 2024).

Another factor influencing effectiveness relates to budget allocation patterns. Respondents explained that the amount of funding available affected the scale and scope of food security activities. Limited resources occasionally required prioritization among competing development needs. Budget allocation decisions therefore became important indicators of policy commitment toward food security objectives. Darmastuti, Listiana, and Milanda (2025) argue that budget politics significantly influence the direction and effectiveness of village food security programs.

The main factors affecting program effectiveness identified during the research are summarized in the following table.

Table 3. Factors Influencing the Implementation of Village Fund Allocation for Food Security Programs

Influencing Factor	Observed Impact	Implementation Implication
Community Participation	Increased support and ownership	Higher program acceptance
Leadership Capacity	Improved coordination	More effective implementation
Regulatory Guidance	Clear implementation direction	Greater policy compliance

Budget Allocation	Determines program scale	Influences activity coverage
Institutional Capacity	Supports administration and monitoring	Enhances accountability

Table 3 demonstrates that program effectiveness emerged from the interaction of multiple factors rather than from a single variable. Institutional and community dimensions appeared particularly significant because they directly influenced implementation processes. The findings indicate that food security outcomes depend upon the ability of village governments to coordinate available resources and stakeholder interests. Comparable conclusions were reached by Mukarom, Tjahjono, and Kristiana (2020), who identified institutional coordination as a key component of successful food security policy implementation.

The study also identified challenges that may limit program sustainability. Several respondents mentioned fluctuations in agricultural conditions and varying levels of community participation as potential obstacles. These challenges require adaptive management approaches capable of responding to changing local circumstances. Sipayung, Fobia, Taena, and Joka (2021) emphasize that sustainable rural development requires continuous adjustment to social and economic dynamics affecting farming communities.

Another important finding concerns the relationship between food security programs and broader rural development objectives. Informants perceived food security initiatives as contributing not only to food availability but also to economic resilience and community welfare. Such perceptions indicate that Village Fund programs generate multidimensional impacts extending beyond their immediate objectives. The statistical profile of Humbang Hasundutan Regency further highlights the importance of agriculture as a strategic sector supporting local livelihoods and development outcomes (Badan Pusat Statistik Kabupaten Humbang Hasundutan, 2025).

The analysis additionally shows that policy effectiveness was strengthened when implementation activities were aligned with local development priorities. Programs designed according to village-specific conditions were more likely to receive community support and achieve intended outcomes. Alignment between local needs and policy objectives improved the relevance of Village Fund utilization. This finding supports the argument that decentralized governance mechanisms are most effective when they allow local adaptation within broader policy frameworks (Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia Nomor 6 Tahun 2014).

The findings indicate that the effectiveness of Village Fund allocations in the food security program of Karya Village was shaped by community participation, leadership capacity, regulatory support, institutional competence, and budget allocation patterns. These factors interacted dynamically throughout the implementation process and influenced both program execution and outcomes. Effective implementation required not only financial resources but also strong governance practices capable of translating policy objectives into locally relevant actions. The results reinforce the view that sustainable food security programs depend on the integration of participatory governance, institutional capacity, and context-sensitive policy implementation.

CONCLUSION

The findings of this study indicate that the implementation of Village Fund allocations in the Food Security Program in Karya Village, Pakkat Subdistrict, Humbang Hasundutan Regency, in 2025 was carried out through a participatory and regulation-oriented process involving village government institutions, community representatives, and farmer groups. The implementation process reflected the integration of planning, budgeting, execution, monitoring, and evaluation mechanisms that were aligned with national and local policy frameworks governing Village Fund utilization. The study found that community participation, institutional coordination, and adherence to regulatory guidelines played important roles in supporting program implementation. Village Fund allocations were utilized not only to strengthen agricultural activities but also to promote community empowerment and improve local capacity in managing food security initiatives.

The study further reveals that the effectiveness of the food security program was influenced by several interconnected factors, including leadership capacity, institutional competence, budget allocation, community participation, and policy support. The interaction among these factors determined the extent to which Village Fund resources could be translated into tangible benefits for

rural communities. Although implementation challenges related to resource limitations and varying community participation levels remained evident, the overall program demonstrated its potential to contribute to food availability, economic resilience, and sustainable rural development. These findings affirm that successful food security policy implementation at the village level requires not only adequate financial resources but also strong governance, accountability, and community engagement capable of sustaining development outcomes over time.

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