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"Food and nutrition security and its resilience to global crises"

Encouraging Evidence-based Policy for Food and Nutrition Security in the Threat of Global Crises

Mohammad Taqiuddin¹, Husnul Maad², Yuni Setyaningsih³

¹ University of Mataram, Socio-economic Laboratory, Faculty of Animal Science, Indonesia

Abstract

Extrem. weather and economic shocks have a significant impact on the occurrence of the global food crisis in 2019, in addition to its main trigger, the conflict. In fact, policy choices related to food also contributed to exacerbating the conditions of food scarcity, although not to the point of triggering a food crisis if referring to Asia during the 2007–2012 period. Cases of hunger and malnutrition have the potential to increase again in the future if not treated immediately. Globally, stunting has been experienced by approximately 149 million or 21.9% of children under 5 years old (CU5) and wasting is still found in 49.5 million or around 7.3% of CU5. As many as 81.7 million or more half of these stunting children are in Asian countries. In Indonesia, the latest data from Riskesdas (2018) recorded the prevalence of stunting reaching 30.8%. This figure is still above the tolerance limit of the number of stunting prevalence in a country, which is a maximum of 20% or one fifth of the total number of CU5. IFPRI (2020) estimates that hunger and malnutrition are likely to increase especially since the Covid-19 pandemic is plaguing which has implications for all aspects of our food and nutrition security system. Changes in food and nutrition governance policies are needed to overcome the existing challenges as an anticipation of the global crisis and its implications particularly on aspects: increasing productivity of food products; the impact of climate change on food and nutrition security sector; increasing access of local farmers in the market value chain; and the nutritional status of the community, including CU5. This paper explores and draws lessons from the partnership patterns of development actors to drive changes in food and nutrition policies in Indonesia at the local and national levels through 'evidence-based' advocacy strategies.

Keywords: Evidence-based, food and nutrition security, policy, stunting

²Snv Netherlands Development Organization, Country Program Manager Indonesia V4cp,

³Snv Netherland Development Organization, Communication and Advocacy Officer Indonesia,