Study on Implementation of Special Efforts to Increase Production of Rice, Corn, Soy (Upsus Pajale) in Cakranegara District, Mataram City

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Study on Implementation of Special Efforts to Increase Production of Rice, Corn, Soy (Upsus Pajale) in Cakranegara District, Mataram City

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Abstract

The Special Effort Program to Increase Rice, Corn and Soybean Production (Upsus Pajale) is a program to increase food production in 2015 which was implemented in Indonesia, including in Cakranegara District, Mataram City. With the implementation of the program, the purpose of this research is to analyze the level of implementation, identify obstacles and supports of the Upsus Pajale program which concentrates on rice commodities in Cakranegara District, Mataram City. This study uses descriptive methods and data collection techniques with survey techniques. The sampling technique used in the sampling area was purposive sampling (deliberately) with the consideration that 2 sub-districts received the Upsus Pajale program. The technique of determining the number of respondents used proportional sampling so that 40 respondents were determined according to the number of sub-populations of farmer groups in 2 villages in Cakranegara District. The data analysis used is categorical and descriptive data analysis. The results showed that there were 3 main stages in the implementation of the Upsus Pajale program, namely the planning stage was achieved well (62.5%), the implementation stage (97.5%), and the evaluation stage was achieved less well (80%). The Upsus Pajale sub-program that was well implemented in Cakranegara sub-district included 100% Irrigation Network Development, Land Optimization (100%), and System of Rice Intensification (95.2%). Constraints faced during program implementation include natural and technical constraints. Supporters of the program are Agricultural Field Extension Officer, Babinsa, assistant students from the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Mataram, and activities from farmer groups.

Keywords: Upsus Pajale, Increased Production, Self-Sufficiency in Food, Rice, Assistance to Farmers

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INTRODUCTION

Currently, domestic production of food crops, especially rice, corn, and soybeans, has not been able to meet the food needs of the community because their production has not been maximized (Triana, et al., 2018). This can be seen from imports of food, especially rice, corn, and soybeans which are still being carried out by the government to meet the food needs of the community (Hamyana & Romadi, 2017). According to data from the Ministry of Agriculture, in 2014 the government still imported 300 thousand tons of rice, 2.58 million tons of corn, and 1.92 million tons of soybeans. In 2015 rice imports significantly increased to 1.5 million tons, as well as corn imports increased to 2.7 million tons and soybean imports to 1.96 million tons (Mulyaningsih, et al., 2018). The government's efforts in meeting food needs have so far been considered unsuccessful, so a special effort is needed to increase the production of food crops, especially rice, corn, and soybeans (Waedhiani, 2019).

Many factors can affect national food production, one of which is the role of farmer groups (Hadi, et al., 2019). One way of channeling technological innovations and information

to the farmer level is through rural support institutions such as farmer groups. Farmer groups are considered as effective organizations to empower farmers, increase productivity, income, and welfare of farmers with the help of government facilitation through programs of various agricultural development policies (Subyantoro, et al., 2021).

Programs to increase food production have been carried out such as the BIMAS (Mass Guidance), INMAS (Mass Intensification), INSUS (Special Intensification), SUPRA INSUS (Special Intensification Supra), SL-PTT (Field Schools – Integrated Crop Management, P2BN (Improved Rice Production) National) and etc. These programs largely concentrate on increasing food production and productivity as well as increasing farmers' capacity in technology management (Sayaka et al., 2015).The implementation of the Insus program in 1980 had a good impact on increasing production national rice.

The level of national rice production increased by 20 million tons, compared to 1979 only at 17.87 million tons with a percentage increase of 12.8%. The increase continued in 1981 with rice production reaching 22.29 million tons with an increase of 10.5% (Adjid, 1985). In fact, the programs that have been implemented have not been able to achieve food self-sufficiency. In 2015, the government launched a program to increase food production and productivity, namely the Special Efforts to Increase Production of Rice, Corn, Soybeans, abbreviated Upsus Pajale (Minister of Agriculture, 2015). The production target that must be achieved in this program is 73.40 million tons for rice commodities with a growth of 2.21%, corn commodity production of 20.33 million tons with 5.57% growth, and soybean commodity production of 1.27 million tons. with a growth of 26.47% (Minister of Agriculture, 2015). The Upsus Pajale program in Cakranegara District is implemented in two of the ten existing urban villages. The purpose of this study was to analyze the level of implementation of the Upsus Pajale program, as well as identify the obstacles and supporters of the implementation of the Upsus Pajale program in Cakranegara District, Mataram City.

METODHS

The method used in this research is descriptive method (Sugiyono, 2017). The unit of analysis in this study was farmer group members and farmer groups who received the Upsus Pajale program in Cakranegara District, Mataram City. This research was conducted in Cakranegara District, Mataram City. Cakranegara sub-district consists of 10 villages, as the research sample area there are 2 villages, namely Sayang- Sayang Village and North Cakra Village. The research sample area was selected by purposive sampling or intentionally, namely the determination is based on certain characteristics or traits that have a close relationship with previously known population characteristics (Saebani, 2008). The research sample area was chosen with the consideration that only these 2 sub-districts received social assistance from the Upsus Pajale program. Respondents were selected by proportional sampling of 40 respondents and determined by taking samples from each subpopulation/farmer group in each kelurahan by taking into account the size of the sub-subpopulation (Saebani, 2008). Data analysis using categorical data analysis with a determined score interval.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Characteristics of Respondents

Characteristics of respondents include age, education level, farming experience, area and status of arable land and cropping patterns. Based on the age level, the results showed that 85% of the respondents were of productive age, namely 15 - 64 years, while 15% were more than 65 years old. It can be concluded that broadly speaking, the age group of respondent farmers who implement the Upsus Pajale program is still classified as productive, meaning that physically and mentally already have the ability to produce goods and services. Even at a productive age, a person can still change their mindset and accept new innovations

from agricultural technology. Based on the education level of respondent farmers who received the Upsus Pajale program, it shows that the education level of respondent farmers is more dominated by farmers who have a low education level of 62.5% with details of Elementary School (SD) 30% and no school by 32.5%, while farmers with junior and senior high school education levels equal to 27.5%. Meanwhile, farmers with a higher education level at the university level are 10%. This means that farmers who carry out the Upsus Pajale program are still classified as farmers with low levels of education so that it is very difficult for farmers to adopt innovation developments (Hadi, 2020). The results showed that the farming experience of farmers in Cakranegara District who received the Upsus Pajale program by 5% were farmers with experience under 10 years, farmers who had farming experience for 10-20 years were 22.5%, while farmers with farming experience above 20 years with percentage of 72.5%. The average experience of respondent farmers in farming is 33.32 years. This situation affects farmers tend to be more advanced in making the right decisions because with their experience farmers know how to apply what technology is suitable to increase yields and are more willing to listen to suggestions from field agricultural officers. Based on the results of the study, the area of land cultivated by respondent farmers who carried out the Upsus Pajale program was 65% above 0.5 ha, while farmers with land area below 0.5 ha were 35%. The average land area of farmers in Cakranegara sub-district is 1.36 ha. The area of arable land owned by respondent farmers is quite large so that it can affect the level of production cultivated. There are three types of land tenure status in Cakranegara sub-district, namely self-owned land with a percentage of 27.5%, leased at 60%, and sakap (arable) at 12.5%. Farmers who own their own land are more free to make decisions regarding the selection of good technology for cultivation. Farmers who have leased land are more careful in making decisions because they tend to think about profit and loss because they have to pay land rent. Meanwhile, for farmers who say that it means working on their fields, people will not dare to make their own decisions without the consent of the owner of the fields.

Implementation of the Upsus Pajale Program

The results showed that the implementation of the Upsus Pajale program in Cakranegara District in 2015 included 3 stages, namely the planning, implementation, and evaluation stages. The level of implementation of the Upsus Pajale program in Cakranegara District, Mataram City can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1 Implementation Level of Upsus Pajale Program in Cakranegara District, Mataram City, 2015

No	Indicator	Category					
		Well		Medium		Not good	
		People	%	People	%	People	%
1	Planning	35	87,5	3	7,5	2	5
2	Implementation	39	97,5	0	0	1	2,5
3	Evaluation	0	0	35	87,5	5	12,5

Source: Primary Data Processed (2017)

Table 1 shows the level of implementation of the Upsus Pajale program in Cakranegara District is in the good category because the implementation of the Upsus Pajale Program (all activities in the program) is carried out according to the plans and recommendations set by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The planning stage shows a good level of implementation of 87.5%, less good at 7.5% and not good at 5%. Sub-activities carried out at the planning stage include determining prospective farmers and locations (CPCL), drafting a Definitive Plan for Group Needs (RDKK), carrying out program socialization, farmer group meetings, opening new group

accounts and the final process is receiving transfers of program assistance funds from the government directly. to farmer group accounts. Except the implementation of making savings books is not carried out properly because most farmer groups already have group accounts so there is no need to create another one.

The implementation stage shows a good level of implementation of 97.5%, and not good of 2.5%. The technical implementation which includes the implementation of the Irrigation Network Development (PJI) sub-program, Land Optimization, and System of Rice Intensification (SRI) has been carried out in accordance with the guidelines recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture. The details can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2 Technical Implementation Level of Upsus Pajale Sub-Program in Cakranegara District, Mataram City, 2015

No.	Activity	Score	Criteria	Poktan
1.	Irrigation Network Development	13	Good	Saksari
2.	Land Optimization	34	Good	Sayang Lauk 2
3.	*Sistem Rice of Intensification 1*	38	Good	Sayang Lauk 1
4.	*Sistem Rice of Intensification 2*	39	Good	Sayang Daye 2
5.	*Sistem Rice of Intensification 3*	38	Good	Bedugul
	Jumlah	162	Good	5 Poktan

Source: Primary Data Processed (2017)

Table 2 shows the level of implementation of the Upsus Pajale program based on sub-programs/activities showing good results. This is indicated by the implementation of the sub-programs carried out properly according to the standard guidelines set by the Ministry of Agriculture. The sub-activities of the implementation include Irrigation Network Development (PJI) which was carried out on the Saksari farmer group, Land Optimization (OPLA) on the Sayang Lauk 2 farmer group, and the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) carried out on the Sayang Lauk 1, Sayang Lauk 2 farmer group, and Bedugul.

The implementation of this activity cannot be separated from the existence of social assistance in the form of funds which are converted in the form of seeds, fertilizers, and agricultural machinery which are directly managed by the farmer groups themselves. Not only financial assistance, but also escort and assistance carried out by agricultural extension workers, Babinsa and accompanying students from the University of Mataram. All stages of activities that will be carried out at the implementation stage of this program have been regulated and recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and coordinated by the Department of Agriculture and Agricultural Extension Officers who will help absorb the implementation of activities in Cakranegara District.

Implementation of Irrigation Network Development Sub Program (PJI)

In the implementation of the Irrigation Network Development (PJI) sub-program, based on research results, the level of implementation shows good results. In the realization of this PJI sub-program, it was carried out by the Saksari farmer group in North Cakranegara Village. The irrigation channel that was built uses a budget of Rp. 63,000,000. The implementation of the construction of the PJI was carried out by the management and members of the Saksari farmer group and assisted by the Agriculture Service and the Public Works Service. This development was built and managed by the Group itself. Of the 3 types of buildings that are recommended to be built, only 2 have been realized, namely distribution channels and tertiary and quaternary canals that will flow water to the farmers' fields. The construction of the dam or collection building was not carried out because the previous dam was built by the Public Works Agency which was not a project from the Upsus Pajale program. The length of this irrigation network channel is 1,500 m2 stretching the area of rice fields located in the Saksari farmer group and even through the Bedugul farmer group. In the

implementation of irrigation network construction, escort and assistance are carried out by agricultural extension workers, Babinsa and accompanying students. Babinsa helps more in technical work in the field with members of farmer groups.

Implementation of Land Optimization Sub Program (OPLA)

At the implementation stage of the Land Optimization sub-program, there are 10 sub-activities carried out by farmers. The Land Optimization sub-program was carried out at the Sayang Lauk 2 Farmer's Group, Sayang-Sayang Village. The sub-activities carried out to support the land optimization program are generally well implemented, namely land preparation, seed procurement, jajar legowo planting system, procurement of machinery and equipment, maintenance during the cultivation process, escort and mentoring. The procurement of machinery and assistance was not carried out well. In the distribution of assistance funds for needs during farming, they are distributed to the accounts of each group and are facilitated by the Department of Agriculture and agricultural extension in the procurement of goods.

Implementation of the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) Sub Program

In the implementation of the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) sub-program, it was carried out by 3 farmer groups, namely the Sayang Lauk 1, Sayang Daye 2 farmer group located in Sayang- Sayang Village and Bedugul farmer group in North Cakranegara Village. The sub-activities carried out in support of the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) program include land preparation, seed procurement, planting jajar legowo, procurement of organic fertilizer, seed testing, procurement of Local Micro Organisms (MOL), procurement of agricultural machinery, maintenance during the cultivation process, escort and accompaniment.

In the 3 groups implementing the SRI sub-program, there were several activities that were not carried out properly, on average the MOL procurement was not realized due to the limited raw materials in the manufacture of MOL. The provision of agricultural tools and machinery was not carried out properly. This is because some farmers do not get the machineries provided by the government.

The evaluation stage shows that the level of implementation is not good at 87.5% and not good at 12.5%. This is due to the fact that the evaluation phase of activities is carried out mostly only by the group management so that it can be ascertained that the evaluation implementation shows poor results. Sub-activities carried out at the evaluation stage include evaluation of production results and supervision/monitoring.

The results showed that all farmers in this area used the jarwo cropping system, although some farmers did not use the 4:1 and 2:1 formulas. The formula 4:1 is if there are 4 rows of plants interspersed with empty rows, while the formula 2:1 is if there are 2 rows of plants interspersed with empty rows (Abdulrachman et al., 2013). Thus, farmers' production increases and even exceeds the target. Cakranegara District got the highest tile production in Mataram City in 2015.

The implementation of supervision/monitoring shows poor implementation in all farmer groups. The supervision team that goes to the field will only supervise some farmers, which are dominated by group administrators, so that all members of the farmers do not know anything about the existence of a supervisory team. The implementation of supervision in the Saksari farmer group was not carried out well. This is due to the activeness of the Saksari group so that it does not only involve group administrators who participate in supervision activities, although only a small number of members participate. The evaluation is said to be good if all group members carry out supervision together with the supervisor team.

Obstacles in the Implementation of the Special Effort Program for Rice, Corn, and Soybeans (Upsus Pajale)

The obstacles faced in the implementation of the Upsus Pajale program in Cakranegara District are divided into 2 parts, namely natural constraints and technical constraints which can be explained as follows:

Natural constraints include erratic/abnormal weather (rain not at normal times) causing water shortages, plant pests breeding in cold temperatures and high humidity such as neck swelling, and causing rice roots to rot. The distribution of water is difficult during the construction of the irrigation network, so that when plants need water, water is very difficult to flow and they have to wait a long time for irrigation. Soil that is used for continuous cultivation and never rests causes the land to be unproductive. Some of the respondent farmers have experienced this problem so that their yields have decreased slightly.

Technical obstacles include the performance of administrators, the use of machine tools assistance, group readiness, and distribution of water. The performance of group administrators is still not transparent in managing finances from program assistance and some members are not involved in certain activities. In addition, the use of agricultural machinery assistance is not evenly distributed so that only some farmers can experience it. This is because the use of machineries in rotation has to wait a long time to get time for use so that farmers feel inefficient with respect to time. The readiness of the group is still lacking, meaning that the group is only active at certain times, for example, when the aid decreases, after the assistance decreases, the members of the farmer group will usually be passive again. Not yet felt the benefits of the group caused by the behavior of farmers is still low. This means that farmers with low behavior will not really understand the benefits of having a group so that farmers do not know how to group properly. On the other hand, to support the acceleration of completion of the irrigation network construction process (PJI), water cannot be flowed optimally and causes uneven distribution of water.

CONCLUSION

The implementation of the Upsus Pajale program in Cakranegara District, Mataram City was carried out with a good level of implementation. The three stages carried out include the planning stage, the implementation stage, and the evaluation stage in accordance with the recommendations or program guidelines. In the implementation stage, there are several sub-programs that are realized in accordance with regional conditions and needs in Cakranegara District including Irrigation Network Development (PJI), Land Optimization (OPLA) and System of Rice Intensification (SRI). In implementing the program, several obstacles were encountered, namely natural constraints (erratic weather, plant diseases) and technical constraints (participation of some members and administrators was not optimal). Supporters of the Upsus Pajale program are active Field Agricultural Extension Officers, the presence of Babinsa, the presence of accompanying students from the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Mataram, and the activity of farmer groups. Handling in minimizing losses due to climate change as well as abuse that benefits some parties is very much needed through good integration between stakeholders in program implementation. The implementation of this program is expected to make farmers more sensitive to changes in natural conditions, the environment and can work well together and create harmony among members in farmer groups.

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