Anti-Corruption Behavior: Its Relationship to The Creation of Food Independence and Community Welfare In 3T Regions

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the influence of anti-corruption behavior on food self-sufficiency and its impact on community welfare in the Frontier, Outermost, and Disadvantaged (3T) regions. Corruption in the distribution of food aid and agricultural subsidies is often a major obstacle to the development of remote areas. Using a qualitative approach and in-depth literature review, this study explores how the integrity of local governance can ensure the effectiveness of food security programs. The analysis shows that anti-corruption behavior, manifested through budget transparency and public accountability, contributes significantly to sustainable food availability. The resulting food self-sufficiency ultimately becomes a key determinant in improving the welfare standards of communities in the 3T regions. This study recommends strengthening community-based supervision and digitizing the bureaucracy to minimize rent-seeking practices in the food sector in disadvantaged areas.

Keywords: *Anti-Corruption Behavior, Food Independence, Community Welfare, 3T Regions, Governance.*

Introduction

Indonesia's Frontier, Outermost, and Disadvantaged (3T) regions often face asymmetric development challenges compared to urban areas. Although the government has allocated significant funds to villages and regional development, their effectiveness is often hampered by structural issues and bureaucratic constraints. Inequality in access to economic resources and basic infrastructure makes 3T regions highly vulnerable to crises, particularly food crises. In this context, clean governance is an absolute prerequisite for development policies to reach the lowest levels of society without being distorted by corruption (Prasojo, 2020).

Corruption in remote areas has a far more destructive impact than in urban areas. This is due to limited oversight and limited public access to information on public budgets. Corrupt practices not only harm state finances but also directly undermine people's basic rights to public services and food security. Therefore, fostering anti-corruption behavior at the local level is not simply a matter of law enforcement, but also an effort to safeguard the dignity and survival of communities on the nation's front lines (KPK, 2021).

Anti-corruption behavior is defined as a manifestation of individual and systemic integrity that rejects all forms of abuse of authority for personal gain. In public sector accounting literature, this behavior is closely linked to transparency and accountability. In the 3T (frontier and remote) regions, the integrity of stakeholders—from village officials to agricultural extension workers—is crucial in determining whether subsidies for seeds, fertilizers, and appropriate technology actually reach the right farmers. Without anti-

corruption behavior, government assistance will become a mere political commodity for a handful of local elites (Aritonang, 2019).

Internalizing anti-corruption values within the 3T regional bureaucracy is a long-term investment in social stability. When food budgets are managed effectively, resource savings can be diverted to support infrastructure development, such as irrigation and farm roads. Anti-corruption behavior also increases public trust in the government. This trust is crucial for mobilizing community self-help participation in the success of government programs aimed at empowering regions by reducing their dependence on external food supplies (Sujarweni, 2015).

From a consumer psychology perspective, hedonistic individuals are highly sensitive to trends and social status. They tend to use consumption as a means of self-expression and seeking social recognition. This lifestyle often encourages impulsive shopping, with decisions made quickly and without thoughtful consideration of a product's long-term utility. This impulsiveness creates a compelling connection when confronted with provocative and visually appealing social media content (Babin et al., 1994).

Food self-sufficiency is the ability of a region to produce food domestically, ensuring that individual food needs are met. In the 3T (frontier and remote) regions, dependence on food distribution from the central government often leads to high price inflation and food insecurity when extreme weather disrupts logistics. Therefore, diversifying local food sources and increasing local land productivity are crucial strategies. However, achieving this target often fails not because of a lack of natural resources, but because of budget leaks in agricultural production facility procurement projects (Purwanto, 2022).

Corruption in the food supply chain often manifests itself in the form of extortion or manipulation of aid recipient data. In underdeveloped regions, farmers often lack the bargaining power to report such irregularities due to unequal power relations. Consequently, low-quality or late-arriving agricultural inputs lead to crop failures and distance the region from achieving food self-sufficiency. Therefore, food self-sufficiency cannot be separated from efforts to rid the bureaucracy of corrupt practices (Fauzi, 2021).

The well-being of people in the 3T (United Nations, 3T) regions is often measured by indicators such as the fulfillment of basic needs, health, and purchasing power. There is a linear relationship between governance integrity and welfare levels: regions with a low corruption perception index tend to have lower poverty rates. This occurs because social safety net funds and economic empowerment programs are distributed effectively. Conversely, massive corruption in 3T regions only widens the gap in inequality and perpetuates the cycle of systemic poverty (Siregar, 2020).

Food independence resulting from clean governance directly impacts well-being. The availability of affordable and nutritious local food can reduce household expenses in the 3T (frontier and outermost) regions, freeing up income for education and healthcare. Furthermore, a self-sufficient agricultural sector creates jobs in rural areas, prevents urbanization, and strengthens the local economic base. This is the essence of inclusive development, where honesty within the bureaucracy is a driving force for the prosperity of people in remote areas (Mulyadi, 2019).

Studying the relationship between anti-corruption behavior and food self-sufficiency in the 3T (United Nations, Regions, and Transmigration) region is particularly urgent given its strategic geopolitical position. The 3T (United Nations, Regions, and Transmigration) region is Indonesia's frontline; failure to provide food and welfare in this region could impact national stability and regional sovereignty. Previous research has focused primarily on the technical aspects of agriculture, but often overlooks the "human" and "system" factors that manage these budgets. Therefore, behavioral accounting and legal sociology perspectives are needed to examine the root causes of development problems in this region (Nawawi, 2018).

This analysis also addresses the increasing number of public complaints regarding misappropriation of village funds in remote areas. A development model is needed that integrates strengthening officials' morality with a strict oversight system. If integrity can be upheld, every rupiah allocated to the 3T (frontier and remote) regions will translate into tangible food sovereignty. It is hoped that this research can provide policy recommendations for the central government in evaluating the effectiveness of regional autonomy in underdeveloped regions through an anti-corruption lens (Ramadhan, 2023).

The primary objective of this study is to formulate a conceptual framework linking anti-corruption behavior as a precursor to food self-sufficiency and well-being in the 3T (frontier and remote) regions. Theoretically, this study contributes to the growing literature on development economics and public sector accounting by emphasizing the importance of ethical variables in regional economic growth. Practically, this study is expected to serve as a reference for policymakers in designing a more transparent and community-based food aid system (Sumaryanto, 2021).

Furthermore, this study emphasizes that food self-sufficiency in the 3T (frontier and remote) regions is not merely about adequate stock in warehouses, but also about fairness in distribution and access. Anti-corruption practices ensure this fairness is achieved. By strengthening integrity values at the grassroots level, it is hoped that the 3T (frontier and remote) regions will no longer be objects of budget exploitation but rather become subjects of independent and prosperous development. Development based on honesty is the only path to true national resilience (Haryanto, 2022).

Research Methods

This study uses a qualitative, descriptive-analytical approach to explore the causal relationship between anti-corruption behavior and food self-sufficiency in the 3T region (United Nations, 3T). The choice of a qualitative approach is based on the need to understand social phenomena in depth and in their context, with a focus on bureaucratic integrity in remote areas (Creswell & Poth, 2018). Research data were collected through systematic *library* research, compiling information from policy documents, public sector audit reports, and relevant academic literature (Snyder, 2019). The focus of the observations was on the variables of village fund governance and agricultural subsidy distribution, which are often vulnerable to corruption in underdeveloped regions (Prasojo, 2020).

Data analysis was conducted through an interactive model that includes data reduction, data presentation, and final verification to produce objective conclusions (Miles et al., 2014). Researchers applied content analysis techniques *to* anti-corruption regulations and food security achievement data to identify budget effectiveness patterns (Krippendorff, 2018). To ensure the credibility and validity of the findings, this study used source triangulation techniques, namely by comparing official government report data with the results of independent studies from civil society organizations (Denzin, 2017). The use of deductive logic in the discussion aims to build a new conceptual framework regarding the importance of accounting ethics in supporting food independence and the welfare of communities at the forefront of the nation (Sujarweni, 2015).

Result And Discussions

Analysis of Anti-Corruption Behavior in Food Governance in the 3T Region

Research shows that anti-corruption behavior in the 3T (Frontier, Outermost, and Disadvantaged) regions is not merely about legal compliance, but also an enabling factor *for* effective logistics distribution. In remote areas, the food supply chain is very long and involves many bureaucratic actors, creating vulnerable points for rent-seeking. Literature findings indicate that regions that adopt radical transparency in the management of village funds and social food assistance have a 40% lower budget leakage rate than regions without a community oversight system (KPK, 2021). The integrity of village officials ensures that agricultural input subsidies, such as seeds and fertilizers, are distributed based on objective need criteria rather than political proximity (Aritonang, 2019).

The integration of ethics into public sector accounting at the local level is key. When local government officials implement the principle of accountability, the procurement of goods and services for the development of food-supporting infrastructure—such as village granaries and farm roads—is competitive and high-quality (Sujarweni, 2015). Conversely, corrupt behavior such as price *markups* or volume manipulation in infrastructure projects in the 3T (frontier and remote) regions often results in these facilities being short-lived or failing to function, directly cutting off farmers' access to markets and weakening the competitiveness of local food (Prasojo, 2020).

The Impact of Integrity on Creating Food Independence

Food self-sufficiency in the 3T (United Nations, Regions, and Transmigration) regions relies heavily on the sustainability of local production to reduce dependence on external supplies, which are expensive due to logistics costs. Analysis indicates that anti-corruption behavior is positively correlated with land productivity. This occurs because farmer empowerment funds are managed without deductions from illegal levies, providing farmers with sufficient capital to adopt appropriate agricultural technologies (Purwanto, 2022). Food self-sufficiency in the 3T (United Nations, Regions, and Transmigration) regions is the result

of fair and transparent resource distribution, which enables diversification of local commodities such as sago, corn, and tubers into primary energy sources (Fauzi, 2021).

This discussion on food self-sufficiency revealed that the greatest threats to food sovereignty in border regions are smuggling and the manipulation of subsidized food stocks. Anti-corruption practices among border control officers prevent the "illegal export" of local food commodities to neighboring countries or hoarding by speculators. By maintaining integrity throughout the distribution chain, food availability at the household level in the 3T (frontier and remote) regions becomes more stable and secure, a fundamental foundation of national security (Haryanto, 2022).

The Relationship between Food Independence and Community Welfare

The welfare of people in the 3T (frontier and remote) regions has significantly improved with the achievement of food self-sufficiency. Economic data analysis shows that household expenditures in underdeveloped, food-sufficient areas are on average 30% lower than in areas dependent on imports from the central government (Mulyadi, 2019). This decrease in the cost of living directly improves the Human Development Index (HDI), allowing families to allocate their remaining income toward education and healthcare. Food self-sufficiency, based on sound governance, creates a healthy microeconomic ecosystem in rural areas (Sumaryanto, 2021).

Furthermore, public welfare is also influenced by stable food prices, which are maintained due to the absence of cartel practices and illegal levies in the 3T logistics channels. Communities in remote areas feel the presence of the state through affordable prices for basic necessities. High public trust in the government, driven by low corruption levels, encourages citizen participation in self-help development programs (Siregar, 2020). Therefore, welfare in the 3T regions is measured not only by economic growth but also by the sense of security and justice felt by the community through honest and equitable food distribution (Nawawi, 2018).

The Role of Digitalization and Community-Based Supervision

Discussion of research findings highlights that strengthening anti-corruption behavior in the modern era must be supported by bureaucratic digitization, even in the 3T (frontier and lower-middle-class) regions. The implementation of *e-government* in the distribution of village funds has been shown to narrow the scope for individuals to cut aid (Ramadhan, 2023). However, technology alone is not enough; community empowerment is needed to conduct social auditing. When communities in 3T regions have the courage to report irregularities in food programs, bureaucratic accountability will naturally increase (KPK, 2021). This synergy between official honesty and public oversight is a key pillar of sustainable prosperity (Sumaryanto, 2021).

Conclusion

Based on the analysis and discussion that have been conducted, this study draws several crucial conclusions regarding the dynamics of development in the Frontier, Outermost, and Disadvantaged (3T) regions. Integrity as a Prerequisite for Development: Anti-corruption behavior among local bureaucrats and stakeholders in the 3T (frontier and remote) regions is a key determinant of successful resource distribution. Without integrity, budget allocations for agricultural infrastructure and facilities will experience systemic leaks, hindering aid delivery to the communities most in need (Prasojo, 2020). Food Independence through Clean Governance: Food independence in remote areas cannot be achieved solely through agricultural technical approaches; it must be accompanied by budget transparency. Anti-corruption practices ensure that agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, and technologies are managed without rent-seeking, thereby strengthening local food sovereignty and reducing dependence on vulnerable external supply chains (Purwanto, 2022). Correlation between Welfare and Honesty: There is a linear relationship between anti-corruption behavior and improved community welfare in the 3T (frontier and outermost) regions. With the elimination of corruption, prices of basic necessities become more stable and people's purchasing power increases. The resulting prosperity stems from efficient public budget allocation, translated into basic services and real economic empowerment (Sumaryanto, 2021). Synergy Between Oversight and Digitalization: Strengthening anti-corruption behavior in the future requires integrating the digitalization of village accounting systems with participatory oversight from local communities. Digital transparency

narrows the scope for malfeasance, while community moral awareness serves as the final bulwark in maintaining the sustainability of welfare programs in border areas (Ramadhan, 2023).

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