NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE AND COMPETITIVENESS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF NATIONAL RESILIENCE

Dyah Andrianti1*, Eva Claudia Boru Lubis2, Kiki Nuridayanti3 Endar Purnawan4
123,4Magister Ekonomi Syariah, Pascasarjana, Institut Agama Islam Sultan Muhammad Syafiuddin Sambas, Indonesia

*E-mail: andriantidyah@gmail.com

ABSTRACT
Steps to ensure food security in order to increase economic independence and competitiveness while maintaining national resilience are discussed in this article. Based on a literature review analysis, this study highlights Indonesia’s agricultural policies and the country’s need to control and develop sustainable food security plans due to its favorable position and wealth of natural resources. This study reveals that despite all the wealth that Indonesia has and the supporting factors that exist, it is not enough to become a strength in national food security. Therefore, to ensure national food security, unique planning and strategies are needed that support independence and healthy competition. Research findings show that sustainable food systems from upstream to downstream can be used to strategically achieve sustainable food security and increase national food supplies. Food independence is then achieved through achieving food diversity, which leads to achieving food security. Overall, the findings of this study underline the importance of supporting industries such as banks, universities, agricultural extension centers as supporting industries in the implementation and success of the national food security strategy.

Keywords: Competitiveness; Food Diversification; Independence; Food Security

ABSTRAK
Langkah-langkah untuk menjamin ketahanan pangan dalam rangka meningkatkan kemandirian dan daya saing ekonomi dengan tetap menjaga ketahanan nasional dibahas dalam artikel ini. Berdasarkan analisis tinjauan pustaka, penelitian ini menyoroti kebijakan pertanian Indonesia dan kebutuhan negara untuk mengendalikan dan mengembangkan rencana ketahanan pangan berkelanjutan karena posisi dan kekayaan sumber daya alamnya yang menguntungkan. Penelitian ini mengungkapkan bahwa meskipun Indonesia memiliki semua kekayaan dan faktor pendukung yang ada, itu tidak cukup untuk menjadi kekuatan dalam ketahanan pangan nasional. Oleh karena itu, untuk memastikan ketahanan pangan nasional, diperlukan perencanaan dan strategi yang unik yang mendukung kemandirian dan persaingan yang sehat. Temuan penelitian menunjukkan bahwa sistem pangan berkelanjutan dari hulu hingga hilir dapat digunakan untuk secara strategis mencapai ketahanan pangan berkelanjutan dan meningkatkan pasokan pangan nasional. Kemandirian pangan kemudian dicapai melalui pencapaian keanekaragaman pangan, yang mengarah pada pencapaian ketahanan pangan. Secara keseluruhannya, temuan penelitian ini menggarisbawahi pentingnya industri pendukung seperti bank, universitas, pusat penyuluhan pertanian sebagai industri pendukung dalam implementasi dan keberhasilan strategi ketahanan pangan nasional.

Kata Kunci: Daya Saing; Diversifikasi Pangan; Kemandirian; Ketahanan Pangan

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A. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia benefits from a favorable geographical position, vast productive agricultural land, a well-preserved environment, and effective food security measures. In addition, the culture of people who tend to rely on agriculture is also a major strength in achieving this goal. However, implementing the plan is not easy, especially in terms of ensuring national food access, maintaining food sovereignty and competitiveness, achieving food self-sufficiency, and expanding the range of food sources. This is difficult to do. This is due to a number of challenges that must be addressed, including an inadequate food logistics system, low farmer trade volumes, declining agricultural land and capabilities, the lack of an all-encompassing policy to ensure food security, and the declining diversity of available food sources.

Indonesia has enough resources to ensure food security. Food is a fundamental human right as well as the most vital basic human need. Therefore, a country like Indonesia strives to ensure that its citizens have access to food by promoting a number of activities aimed at achieving sustainable food security and nutrition. Within the framework of national resilience, national food security policies must also be implemented in a comprehensive and integrated manner to enhance economic independence and competitiveness. The five provinces with the highest scores according to the provincial IKP ranking are West Sumatra (83.22), South Sulawesi (83.36), Bali (87.65), Central Java (84.80), and DKI Jakarta (83.80). According to the National Food Agency (2023), Papua (42.27), West Papua (47.95), North Maluku (62.34), Maluku (64.37), and Riau Islands (65.10) are the five provinces with the lowest scores. Interventions should be focused on areas considered food insecure and on features that continue to underperform in order to accelerate the achievement of food security and nutrition. Improving food security and self-reliance as well as competitiveness in terms of food security should be the main objectives of interventions.

By implementing extensive measures to increase domestic food production, the government effectively resolved the 1998 food crisis in 2003. In 1998, rice imports reached a record 5.8 million tons, with Indonesia becoming the world's largest rice importer. In 1999, imports dropped to 4 million tons. Russia is now the world's largest importer of sugar, with Indonesia having a 30% dependency on imports (Azahari, 2008). This effort is in line with the mandate given to the central and local governments through the Food Law No. 18/2012, which aims to improve the quantity and quality of food consumed by ensuring the availability of food for communities, households, and individual environments (Articles 12, 46, and 59). According to the FSVA, food security in Indonesia is high overall, although 74 of the country's 514 districts and cities are still at risk of food crisis. In 2021, Indonesia ranked 69th out of 113 countries in terms of food security (Tono, 2023).

B. METHODS

National food security is studied in various literatures to encourage economic independence and competitiveness within the framework of national resilience. This paper uses a descriptive qualitative method. Information and data are sourced from two book publications, five online journal articles, and several document searches. The availability, accessibility and affordability of the three main dimensions of food security can only be fulfilled if the government starts to realize it, according to documents sourced from publications of the National Food Security Agency, Lemhannas RI journals, and other research journals, including the results of Salasa's research (2021).
The findings of Elizabeth's study (2011) show that a number of factors contribute to macro (national) human food self-sufficiency, including expanding domestic food production based on locally available resources, improving food reserve management skills, expanding the reach of food networks and distribution for producers and consumers, and enhancing the government's capacity to foresee and address food-related problems before they arise.

C. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
Food Security Strategies to be Implemented for Sustainability in the Framework of National Food Strengthening

The paradigm or approach used to interpret the context of food security and integrate food security policies with national development policies has a significant impact on how well government policies enable the realization of food security. Research findings suggest that the government should prioritize the development of availability, affordability and access to meet the three main aspects of food security in this regard (Salasa, 2021). The government’s paradigm of Food Self-Sufficiency and Independence (FAA) still has weaknesses. Indonesia faces three common problems in achieving food security: supply, distribution and consumption.

Therefore, in the context of strengthening national food, sustainable food security strategies can be seen from a sustainable food system from upstream to downstream. The first three stages are considered as ‘upstream’, while the last two stages are considered as ‘downstream’. This system is complex and important to ensure a country’s food security. For a sustainable food system, several things must be considered (Ari Purnomoaji, 2022).

Upstream (Agricultural Production):
1. Agricultural Production: The main focus is on food production, which includes farmers, farmland and agricultural technology. It is crucial to increase productivity, reduce crop losses, and pay attention to environmental sustainability.
2. Land Management: To keep the land fertile and productive, soil and water must be carefully preserved and used.
3. Agricultural Technology: Agricultural yields can be increased with technologies such as smart irrigation, balanced fertilization, and improved crop varieties.

Central (Distribution and Processing):
1. Distribution: Ensuring food can be efficiently distributed from producers to consumers. This involves good transportation, storage and distribution networks.
2. Processing: Food must be properly processed to make it durable and safe for consumption. The food processing industry plays an important role at this stage.

Downstream (Consumption):
1. Consumption: Good and healthy food should be available to everyone. It is also important to educate them on good diet and nutrition.
2. Food Safety: Ensure there are no diseases or contaminants in food. Regulations and supervision must be strengthened.

Food systems are interconnected and multisectoral. As such, it includes all inputs, institutions, infrastructure and support services. We need to involve the entire food chain when modeling for decision-making and base it on sufficient information to change the food system. We cannot just examine the food system from the perspective of production or
consumption. Thus declared Rajendra Aryan, Head of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Country Office in Indonesia.

In an effort to improve the resilience of national food systems, the World Food Program (WFP) collaborated with the government to conduct research on affordable healthy diets that take into account regional variations. As part of WFP assistance, social protection measures were implemented to improve post-harvest rice, and policy discussions were held. Along with this, we want to put into practice focused plans and creative improvements to increase everyone's access to food, nutrition, and overall health by promoting varied and locally appropriate production and consumption. (Widyawati, 2023).

Kebijakan Mencapai Kemandirian Upaya Berdaya Saing di Pasar Dunia

Food diversification combines a number of different policy tools into one cohesive idea. One of the best strategies to achieve food security and self-reliance while improving the welfare of farmers and fishermen is to diversify diets by increasing the amount of food produced domestically. A country's capacity to ensure food independence, diversity and availability will be compromised, undermining the foundations of food security. Adequate operational policies, actively involved research, extension and marketing institutions, appropriate technology and information provision strategies, and more targeted government policy assistance are required. Therefore, in order to enhance food self-reliance, the following measures should be used in Indonesia when implementing food diversification policies in the future (Kushartoto, 2012):

1. Food Production

   Food production and distribution must be directed towards achieving Pola Pangan Harapan (PKH) in order to meet the adequate food consumption needs of the population. Land, air, technology, market, human resources, policy and leadership are three variables that play a role in the success of food production because during these times the government accelerates the policy of convention of arable land and provides incentives to developers and residents who undertake development. Thus, the expansion of food production should be focused on ensuring that the population has access to sufficient food, meeting the demand for industrial raw materials, creating safe and high-quality markets, and encouraging collaboration between the tourism, trade and environmental sectors.

2. Food Processing Technologies

   The continuous development of food processing technology supports and accelerates the achievement of food dissertation goals and policies. This is intended to expand the range of processed foods offered and make them an additional choice for customers in terms of food. To achieve this, growth in business and employment opportunities, innovation, a greater variety of safe and high-quality foods tailored to customer preferences, increased added value, and expansion of local and international markets are top priorities.

3. Food Distribution and Supply

   A key and functional component of food is distribution, as seen in food markets, products and the materials used in their manufacture. Transportation infrastructure and facilities play an important role in distribution.

4. Food Consumption and Nutrition Improvement

   Food industry players are interested in selling a wide variety of processed foods because consumers like to eat a wide selection of high-quality and safe foods. This encourages traders to move food production from food production centers to food industries and markets. An important solution to overcome this problem in the future is to involve
partnerships between the government, research institutions and higher education institutions. Therefore, it is necessary to develop human resources in the food and nutrition sector through specialized training in catering services (Hardinsyah, 2001).

Food self-sufficiency is the capacity of a nation or state to ensure the availability and purchase of sufficient, safe, clean, nutritious and high-quality food (Bulog, 2014). This guarantee is based on maximizing the diversity and use of nearby resources. Large and small indicators show food self-sufficiency. At the national level, macro indicators show balanced food availability, distribution and consumption. A number of fundamental indicators that must be achieved to realize human micro food self-sufficiency include: (i) the availability of minimum energy (2,200 kcal/capita/day) and minimum protein (57 g/capita/day); (ii) increased ability of food utilization and consumption to meet minimum energy (2,200 kcal/capita/day) and protein (57 g/capita/day); (iii) an increase in the quality of community food consumption with a Pola Pangan Harapan (PPH) score of at least 80; (iv) an increase in the safety, quality and hygiene of food consumed by the community; and (v) a decrease in the number of chronically food insecure people (consuming less than 80% of the RDA) and poor people by at least 1% each year.

A number of indices show the state of national food self-sufficiency. The first step is to increase domestic food production based on local resources to maintain a daily energy supply of at least 2,200 calories and a daily protein supply of at least 57 grams per capita. To do this, food imports are limited to less than 10% of the country’s needs while simultaneously strengthening self-sufficiency in rice, corn, sugar and meat. Second, identifying drylands and permanently irrigated areas totaling at least 15 million hectares will improve the land-to-people ratio, increasing the capacity of national and local governments to monitor food stocks. Fourth, expand equitable food distribution to all regions for both farmers and consumers. Improving the government’s capacity to identify, predict and manage situations related to food and nutrition insecurity in a timely manner (Elizabeth, 2011).

A plan is needed that uses domestic raw resources for food processing and diversification to meet various food demands and achieve food self-sufficiency. In addition to requiring appropriate policies, technology and information tools as well as the existence of other supporting institutions, this approach should aim to minimize or reduce the use of imported raw materials.

D. CONCLUSION

According to the policy direction, the main objective of the national food security plan is to increase the availability, independence, sovereignty, competitiveness and accessibility of food for all people in order to promote the realization of a prosperous society and strengthen national resilience. This increase in availability, self-reliance and competitiveness, also known as food self-sufficiency, should become a national commitment by paying special attention to agriculture, plantations and fisheries as a whole. To increase the added value of national food products and improve their competitiveness, priority should be given not only to agricultural products but also off-farm ones.

REFERENCES


