

## Implementation of Ministry of Agriculture Policy Number 64 of 2013 Concerning the Organic Agriculture System at the Food Security, Food Crops and Horticulture Office of North Sumatra Province

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### ABSTRACT

The implementation of the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture Number 64 of 2013 concerning Organic Farming Systems is the focus of this study, with an emphasis on conditions in the Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture Office of North Sumatra Province. Through qualitative methods with primary data collection through interviews and secondary data from related sources, this study explores supporting and inhibiting factors in the implementation of these policies. The findings show that the implementation of this policy in the Food Security Office of North Sumatra Province has gone quite well. Community involvement, coordination between agencies, and effective utilization of resources have been carried out. The bureaucratic structure of the agency has facilitated the dissemination of this policy, while the attitude of the implementers indicates full compliance with the instructions of the central government

## **INTRODUCTION**

Indonesia is one of the agricultural countries whose development is based on agriculture, but agricultural development has so far not been able to improve the welfare of farmers. This is because the agricultural system in Indonesia is still mostly applying the conventional agricultural system, namely the agricultural cultivation system with an intensification model and the use of manufacturer input materials in this case fertilizers and chemical agricultural drugs (Bakhtiar, 2022; Ningrum et al., 2021; Suwanto, 2008). This condition can make farmers increasingly dependent on the manufacturer's products, poor in innovation and trapped into a high-cost production system due to the high cost of these factory products.

Agriculture in the region around the equator is an important source of livelihood, with the state having a major role in the development of the sector as an economic pillar. The agricultural sector contributes significantly to the economy, provides employment, and contributes to the country's foreign exchange. However, the development of organic farming is hampered by farmers' doubts about the advantages of organic farming and a lack of financial support and significant pilot land. The cautious attitude of farmers to new innovations reflects the process of their perception of the stimulus received. Government support in the form of organic agriculture pilot plots is crucial as a means of proving the truth of innovation for farmers (Fauziah, n.d.).

The government, through the Minister of Agriculture, considers it important to pay attention to the issue of organic agriculture, so the Minister of Agriculture Regulation Number 64 of 2013 was issued which regulates the Organic Farming System nationally. Organic Farming System is holistic production management to improve agroecosystem health, with emphasis on the use of aquaculture waste inputs and environmentally friendly management practices. Organic products are products that are manufactured in accordance with organic standards and certified by an official certification body. Organic products include organic fertilizers, which are mostly made from organic matter such as plant residues and animal manure that have undergone decomposition processes, are used to supply plant nutrients, and improve the growing environment of plants. This regulation is set to regulate organic supervision, provide protection to the community, provide business certainty for producers, build a credible organic agricultural production system, preserve ecosystems, and increase the added value and competitiveness of agricultural products (Hasibuan et al., 2022; Irwanda et al., 2022; Purnomo et al., 2020).

The organic farming system promises better agricultural products because it is healthier, free of chemical elements, relatively smaller production costs, while the selling value is higher. This provides greater profit opportunities for farmers. However, one of the obstacles faced is dependence on inorganic fertilizers, whose raw materials are still widely imported. When there are internal dynamics in supplier countries, such as the Russia-Ukraine war, Indonesia is affected because fertilizer supplies become scarce and prices soar. Therefore, policies are needed that are able to overcome the scarcity of fertilizers (Noviandi et al., 2020; Rangkuti, 2012).

In this context, policy is a process involving various resources, including human, fund, and organizational capabilities, carried out by the government and private sector both individually and in groups. Policy implementation, according to (Widodo, 2021) is to provide a means to implement and have an impact on something. According to Mazmanian and Sabatier in (Widodo, 2021) policy implementation includes events and activities that occur after the issuance of authoritative public policies, including administrative efforts and their substantive impact on society and events. Therefore, to overcome the problem of fertilizer scarcity, effective and comprehensive policy implementation is needed to maintain the availability and stability of organic fertilizer supply in Indonesia. All processes carried out in Policy Implementation are aimed at achieving the objectives that have been set in advance by policy makers. It often happens, especially in a national policy, the policy involves many organizations and bureaucratic levels so that its implementation becomes more complex. This can theoretically be viewed from several points of view.

According to (Wahab, 2021) "policy implementation can be seen from the point of view of (1) policy makers, (2) implementing officials in the field, and (3) policy targets (target group)". The main concern of policymakers, according to focus on "the extent to which the policy has been achieved and what are the reasons that led to the success or failure of the policy". From the implementor's point of view, implementation will focus on "the actions of officials and agencies in the field to achieve program success". Meanwhile, from the point of view of target groups, implementation will focus more on "whether the implementation of the policy really changes their lifestyle and has a long-term positive impact on improving the quality of life including their income". One thing that is often encountered in implementing a policy is that the process does not always run smoothly. Many factors can affect the success of a policy implementation. To clearly describe variables or factors that have an important influence on public policy implementation and for simplification of understanding, policy implementation models will be used (Atiah et al., 2022; Marsuyetno & Harahap, 2013; Nasution et al., 2019; Retired, 2020).

Based on data available so far at the Department of Food Security, Food Crops and Horticulture of North Sumatra Province , it shows that the need for fertilizer for food crop and horticulture agriculture in North Sumatra is quite high. For example, for 2022, farmers' fertilizer demand reaches 25 million tons, while the government is only able to meet it as much as 9.1 million tons. Indeed, nationally, the ability of the central government to provide fertilizer subsidies to farmers only ranges from 30-40%. According to a report from Lamas Ekonomi Bisnis, it shows that the need for subsidized fertilizer in 2022 reaches 2,518 million tons, while the Ministry of Agriculture is only able to meet 95 million tons, which means that even if this subsidized fertilizer program goes smoothly, it will not be able to meet all farmers' fertilizer needs. (<https://ekonomi.bisnis.com/read/20220129/12/1494793>). While field facts show that so far there have been many problems in the subsidy fertilizer distribution system in the form of manipulation and fraud carried out by unscrupulous individuals, of course this has further aggravated the situation and

in the end there is often a scarcity of subsidized fertilizers in the field. With limited supply of subsidized fertilizers, farmers are forced to consume expensive non-subsidized fertilizers. This, of course, has a direct impact on increasing their production costs. As a result, the cost of goods produced is getting higher while this condition is not accompanied by good grain prices, as a result of which farmers' incomes decrease significantly and in turn their welfare is getting worse and the position of farmers is relegated to the poor in this country. This fact can be observed through BPS data in 2019 where the existence of poor people is still a crucial problem in development in Indonesia. The results of Susenas 2019 show that 49.41% of poor households' income sources come from agriculture.

Another problem in agriculture with conventional systems is the continuous degradation process of agricultural land because it is burdened with the application of chemical fertilizers that are over intensive, thereby reducing soil fertility. In addition, it also has a long-term impact on public health as consumers. Actually, there is one alternative solution that can be applied in overcoming this problem, namely the use of organic fertilizers. Organic fertilizers can be produced by farmers themselves because the raw materials are so abundant in this country. According to (Sutanto, 2002) organic agriculture is defined as an agricultural production system based on biological recycling. Nutrient recycling can be through the means of plant and livestock waste, as well as other waste that can improve fertility status and soil structure. (Sutanto, 2002) describes organic agriculture more broadly, that according to Western agricultural experts, the organic farming system is a law of return which means a system that seeks to return all types of organic matter into the soil, both in the form of residues and waste per plant and livestock which then aims to provide food to plants.

From these not simple conditions, consequently in North Sumatra the organic farming program is like a road in place. However, on the other hand, there is a gap in hope with increasing public awareness of the dangers posed by the use of chemicals in agricultural cultivation, so the development of organic agriculture has attracted attention both at the producer and consumer levels. In addition, consumers who are starting to choose foods that are safe for health and environmentally friendly are increasingly increasing the demand for organic products.

Some previous studies can be made comparisons, such as "Identification of Potential and Development of Organic Farming Systems towards Bali Organic Island" by Anak Agung Istri Kesumadewi et al (2020) The results showed the potential for the development of organic farming systems in almost all districts in Bali, except Klungkung and Denpasar. The innovation resulting from this research is an organic farming database system in Bali Province that is online, integrated, compact, lightweight, and easy to operate (Kesumadewi et al., 2020). The second is "Study of Organic Agriculture in an Effort to Formulate Sustainable Agricultural Development Policy in Buleleng Regency" by I Putu Parmila et al (2022) This research found that Bali has potential in the development of organic agriculture, especially in Buleleng. However, there are still some problems such as low farmer interest and price differences between organic and conventional

products. Therefore, it is necessary to make arrangements as a basis for implementing the Organic Farming System so that it can be run by all parties through PERDA (Parmila et al., 2022). The third is "Organic Agriculture as One of the Concepts of Sustainable Agriculture" by Yuriansyah et al (2020) The results of this study show that the organic farming system developed at the Lampung State Polytechnic refers to the concept of sustainable agriculture. Therefore, organic farming can be used as one of the choices for the concept of sustainable agriculture (Yuriansyah et al., 2020).

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

In this study, the objectives to be achieved are as follows: Conduct an analysis of the implementation of the Policy Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture Number 64 of 2013 concerning the Organic Agricultural System within the Office of Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture of North Sumatra Province. This study aims to gain a comprehensive understanding of how these policies are implemented and implemented at the sub-national level. Identify and analyze supporting and inhibiting factors in the implementation of the policy. This is important to provide an overview of the challenges and opportunities faced in realizing the Organic Agriculture policy in North Sumatra Province, as well as the potential for improvement strategies that can be applied.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This study aims to understand and describe the implementation of Permentan policy Number 64 of 2012 in the Office of Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture of North Sumatra Province. The research method used is a descriptive method with qualitative analysis, which involves direct interviews with resource persons. According to (Arikunto, 2019), descriptive research is research presented in the form of a report that uses qualitative data analysis. (Moleong, 2018) states that qualitative research uses open interviews to understand the attitudes, views, and behaviors of individuals and groups. Research informants are selected through purposive sampling techniques based on information needs relevant to the object of research.

Purposive Sampling, is a sampling technique that is carried out intentionally, where the selection of individuals is based on certain considerations. These considerations can be in the form of the level of knowledge or the position of the individual towards the research topic. Key informants are selected based on their great relevance to the research problem, while key informants have a direct role in the research topic. Supporting informants, although not having a leading role, still provide information that complements the research. The informant selection criteria are based on provisions that have been set by the researcher and considered according to their relevance to the research (Bah et al., 2020a, 2020b).

This research involved three types of informants, namely key informants, key informants, and additional informants. Key informants are selected based on criteria in accordance with the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture Number 64 of 2013 concerning Organic Farming Systems. They are the Head of the Food

Security, Food Crops and Horticulture Office (Rajali, S.Sos, MSP), Secretary of the Food Security, Food Crops and Horticulture Office (Ir. Lusyantini, MM), Head of Food Security (Heru Suwondo, SP, M.M), Head of Food Crops (Muhammad Juwaini, SP, M.MA), Head of Facilities and Infrastructure (Heru Suwondo, S.P, M.M), Head of Extension (Sutarman, SP, MM), Head of UPT Tanjung Morawa Rice Seed Center (Ir. Jhonni Akim Purba. MP), and Head of the Food Crops and Horticulture Laboratory of Kerasaan (Selamat Riyadi, SP). The main informant was the Rukun Karya Tani Farmer Group, Siparepare Village, Air Putih District, Baru Bara Regency. While additional informants are the perpetrator farmers and farming communities around the research site.

Data collection techniques in research are very important because they affect the quality and success of research. (Sugiyono, 2018) emphasized that without the application of the right technique, researchers will not get data that is in accordance with the desired standards. Therefore, researchers need to use a variety of data collection techniques to achieve research objectives effectively.

The data needed in the study consists of primary data and secondary data. Primary data, according to (Lubis et al., 2019) are obtained directly from the object of research and specifically collected for certain research purposes. Primary data collection methods include direct observation, experiments, interviews, and FGDs, as well as questionnaires. Meanwhile, secondary data are data obtained indirectly from the object of research. Secondary data is macro and general because it is not intended for just one study, and is usually obtained from institutions such as BPS, research centers, documents, publications, journals, and others. The use of these two types of data can support the completeness and diversity of information in research.

This study used two main methods for data collection. First, through interviews with respondents, to obtain information about fertilizer distribution, price, price perception, promotion, and purchasing decisions. Second, through documentation techniques, secondary data are obtained from sources such as provincial agricultural offices, related companies, websites, and relevant journals. Data analysis was conducted qualitatively with a focus on the Implementation of Ministry of Agriculture Policy Number 64 of 2013 concerning Organic Farming Systems in the Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture Office of North Sumatra Province. Interview data was used to understand the implementation of the policy, with descriptive analysis methods to evaluate the extent to which the policy was achieved. Conclusions were drawn from data analysis of interviews and questionnaires to provide an overview of the implementation of the policy.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### **Implementation of Ministry of Agriculture Policy Number 64 of 2013 Concerning Organic Agriculture System at the Office of Food Security, Food Crops and Horticulture of North Sumatra Province**

#### *Achievement of Implementation Objectives*

##### 1. Content of Policy

Based on the description above, the author can provide an opinion that the content of the Ministry of Agriculture policy Number 64 of 2013 concerning the Organic Agricultural System can be beneficial for the target group in this case for policy organizers (dinas), for farmer groups, for farmers and for the community in general. This is in accordance with the theory of policy content according to Grindle, namely the interests of target groups where the interests of target groups or target groups are contained in the content of the policy, so that it can be seen how much the policy provides benefits to the target group (Grindle, 2017). Then in accordance with Minister of Agriculture Number 64 of 2013 where in the opening of the regulation on Organic Agricultural Systems in Minister of Agriculture Number 64 of 2013 in letter b it is said that by having a guarantee of organic integrity, it can increase public trust and at the same time get guarantees for these products without causing consumer losses.

##### 2. Types of Benefits

Therefore, based on the description above, it can be concluded that the type of benefits obtained by the target group is significant, the benefits of agricultural / fertilization cost efficiency, and changes in soil fertility levels, biodiversity, biological cycles, and increased soil biological activity. This is in accordance with Grindle's theory that how much benefit is obtained by the community for policy implementation (Grindle, 2017). In accordance with the objectives of the implementation of the Ministry of Agriculture Policy Number 64 of 2013 concerning Organic Agricultural Systems intended to improve and develop agroecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycles, and soil biological activities. Organic agriculture emphasizes the application of management practices that prioritize the use of inputs from waste from cultivation activities on the land, taking into account adaptability to local conditions. Where possible this can be achieved by the use of cultural, biological and mechanical methods, which do not use synthetic materials to meet specific needs in the system. So it can be known that the benefits of this organic farming system include improving and developing agroecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycles, and soil biological activities, and this is certainly very beneficial for agriculture.

##### 3. Desired Degree of Change

The degree of change is highly desired by the community, especially farmers, so that there is a solution to reduce costs, especially the cost of fertilizer which has been very high. This is consistent with Grindle's theory of the extent to which the desired change of a policy (Grindle, 2017). Meanwhile, in the implementation of the Ministry of Agriculture policy Number 64 of 2013 concerning the Agricultural System that the desired change is in the opening letter a: "that agricultural development, especially organic agriculture in the era

of globalization, must support the growth of the business world so that it is able to produce organic products that have guarantees for the integrity of the organics produced".

#### 4. Place Decision-Making

Decision making to carry out organic farming is the domain of the government which has the authority to direct farmers to use organic fertilizers. If the government is serious about directing it, farmers will certainly follow suit. This conclusion is in accordance with Grindle's theory, related to the location of decision making in a policy, is the location of a program appropriate? (Grindle, 2017). Meanwhile, in the implementation of the Ministry of Agriculture policy Number 64 of 2013 concerning the Organic Agriculture System that the location of decision making in article 1 letter 6 is: The Competent Authority for Organic Food hereinafter referred to as OKPO is a government institution that has the authority or power to supervise organic fresh food entered and / or circulated in the territory of Indonesia.

#### 5. Programme Implementation

Based on the results of interviews with key informants and farmers related to the implementation of the organic farming program in North Sumatra Province, there are efforts that have been made by the central and provincial governments in implementing this program. The Department of Agriculture has established an organic farming program and designed a work program for the current year. However, according to the main informant from the farmer group, improvements are needed in programs that farmers can directly implement. They highlighted the need for more regular programs and intensive guidance from the government to farmer groups. From the perspective of farmers, they have experienced organic farming programs, especially through training in making organic fertilizers, although such training has not been done often. In this context, the researcher concluded that although the organic farming program has been programmed, it is necessary to increase the volume and additional programs in order to cover more farmers in North Sumatra. This conclusion is in accordance with Grindle's theory which emphasizes the importance of detailed program implementation in a policy. In line with this, the implementation of the Ministry of Agriculture policy Number 64 of 2013 concerning the Organic Agricultural System has been regulated in detail in fostering the implementation of the system by the central and regional governments, in accordance with Article 14 Paragraph 1.

#### 6. Resources Involved

The results of interviews with the Head of the Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture Office of North Sumatra Province showed that the implementation of the organic agriculture program involved resources from the Provincial and District/City Agriculture Offices, as well as farmer groups, farmers, and non-governmental organizations. Farmer groups have been actively involved in the programs of provincial and district agriculture offices, especially in the scope of organic farming. Farmers have also been provided with information and knowledge about the importance of organic farming. The implementation of the policy of the Minister of Agriculture Regulation Number

64 of 2013 concerning the Organic Agriculture System is in accordance with Grindle's theory, which clearly determines who is involved in the implementation of the policy and the resources needed (Grindle, 2017). The resources involved include all organic products circulating in Indonesia, both domestic and imported, which are required to bear the Indonesian organic logo. In addition, ministers, governors, regents/mayors are also responsible for fostering the implementation of organic farming systems, with coordination between local governments and related agencies in agriculture.

#### *Implementation Environment*

##### 1. Power, Interests, and Strategies of the Actors Involved

Interviews with the Head of the Food Security, Food Crops and Horticulture Office of North Sumatra Province and other informants revealed that actors in the implementation of organic farming programs have different interests and strategies. The central government, through the Ministry of Agriculture, wants people to switch to organic farming to preserve land and agriculture, although producers, chemical fertilizer agents, and farmers accustomed to chemical fertilizers may find it disturbed. Farmers, such as Mr. M. Ridho from Batu Bara Regency, highlighted the lack of socialization about organic fertilizers and hoped to be able to make their own fertilizers as well as get subsidies and improved distribution systems. The implementation of organic farming programs is faced with challenges because it involves actors with different interests, in line with theory (Grindle, 2017). Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture Number 64 of 2013 concerning Organic Agriculture System recognizes the need for guidance that involves the participation of other parties who are competent and coordinate with local governments and related agencies in agriculture.

##### 2. Characteristics of Institutions and Rulers

The results of an interview with the Head of UPT Tanjung Morawa Rice Seed Center, Ir. Jhoni Akim Purba, MP, showed that the North Sumatra Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture Office is at the forefront of implementing organic farming programs in accordance with the Minister of Agriculture Regulation Number 64 of 2013. UPT as an extension of this office is responsible for socializing and coordinating with districts / cities so that this program reaches the community and farmers. According to the main informant from the Rukun Karya Tani group, the agency has socialized the organic farming program to farmer groups, which is considered as a solution to the problem of fertilizer distribution which often experiences scarcity. Information from farmers, Mr. M. Rasyid, shows his hope for sustainable government programs in agricultural issues, especially organic fertilizers. From these results, it is concluded that the success of the implementation of the organic farming system depends on the sincerity of the government, especially the North Sumatra Food Security, Food Crops and Horticulture Office. The government needs to be more serious in socializing organic agriculture as a solution for North Sumatran farmers. This conclusion is in accordance with the theory (Grindle, 2017), which emphasizes that policy implementation is influenced by the characteristics of institutions and regimes that are in power in the environment where the policy is implemented.

### 3. Compliance and Capture

Based on the results of an interview with a key informant, Selamat Riyadi, SP, Head of UPT Laboratory of Food Crops and Horticulture Kerasaan, all aspects related to organic agriculture have been regulated in the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture Number 64 of 2013, and all stakeholders in North Sumatra Province are expected to comply with the regulation. Information from the main informant, the Rukun Karya Tani group, shows that both farmer groups and farmers are expected to comply with regulations related to organic farming, with sanctions for violators stipulated in the regulations. The opinion of an additional informant, farmer Mr. Adi Purwanto from the Sipare bitter melon group, indicated that farmers would follow the direction of the local government regarding the organic farming program. From these results, it can be concluded that both the government, farmer groups, and agricultural business actors welcome this organic farming program. This conclusion is in accordance with the theory (Grindle, 2017) which emphasizes that compliance and responsiveness of implementers to policy implementation are very important.

#### **Supporting Factors for the Implementation of Ministry of Agriculture Policy No. 64 of 2013 Concerning Organic Agriculture**

##### 1. Komunikasi

Interviews with the Head of the Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture Office of North Sumatra Province show that communication patterns related to organic agriculture are regulated by the Ministry of Agriculture. The implementation of the regulation is guided directly by the central government, then distributed to the provincial level, and then to the Regency / City level. Control of organic products in Indonesia, both imported and local, must be certified through the National Accreditation Committee (KAN), in accordance with the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture Number 64 of 2013. The successful implementation of this regulation depends on the central government through the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Indonesia. According to (Budi Winarno, 2016), effective communication is an important factor in policy implementation, with a centralized communication pattern, the implementation of organic agriculture policy is clearly regulated and efficient. Article 1 of the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture Number 64 of 2013 confirms that the Minister of Agriculture has full authority in this matter.

##### 2. Sources

Based on theory, successful policy implementation requires adequate resources, including staff who are experts in carrying out duties, authorities, and supporting facilities to support public services. Analysis in the field shows that the Department of Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture of North Sumatra Province has a section that specifically handles organic farming. In addition, there are funding sources from the central government and the North Sumatra Provincial Budget. The resources used by this service include the Directorate General of Food Crops, the Directorate General of Agricultural Infrastructure and Facilities, and the Directorate General of Horticulture. This is in accordance with the theory (Budi Winarno, 2016) which states that important resources to support policy implementation include qualified staff and supporting facilities. According to the researcher's analysis, resources in the form

of budget have been sufficient to succeed the work programs of the agency. These programs are supported by funding sources from both the provincial government and the Ministry of Agriculture, so that they become strategies to achieve the desired performance.

### 3. Bureaucratic Structure

Analysis of Minister of Agriculture Regulation Number 64 of 2013 concerning Organic Agriculture System shows that the bureaucratic structure involved in the implementation of this policy has been clearly regulated. In accordance with Article 14, guidance on the implementation of the Organic Agriculture System is carried out by the Central and Regional Governments. In addition, ministers, governors, and regents/mayors also have a role in coaching the implementation of this policy. Thus, the implementation of this policy involves a bureaucracy with a predetermined structure, where its implementation is handled by the central and local governments, as well as by ministers, governors, and regents/mayors technically. Overall, supporting factors such as communication patterns, resources, and existing bureaucratic structures have supported the implementation of policies on organic farming systems in the Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture Office of North Sumatra Province.

### **Inhibiting Factors in the Implementation of Ministry of Agriculture Policy No. 64 of 2013 Concerning the Organic Agriculture System**

The target group is not involved in the implementation of the program. Problems related to community understanding and participation in organic farming programs are indeed challenges that need to be overcome. Massive and effective socialization from the government, through related agencies, is an important step in overcoming this problem.

Measures to increase community participation in organic farming include intensive socialization through various media, training on organic fertilizer manufacturing, infrastructure development, partnerships with community institutions, and strengthening the organic fertilizer certification system. With these steps, it is hoped that community understanding and participation in the organic farming program in North Sumatra can be improved, so that the implementation of this program can achieve greater success.

Organic farming programs do not consider social, economic, and political environmental conditions. Analysis of factors influencing policy implementation highlights differences in ideas, the desire for quick profit, legal uncertainty, and opposition to societal values. The certification requirements regulated by Permentan No. 64 of 2013 may be an obstacle for people who want to engage in organic farming. In addition, those who have benefited from conventional farming systems, such as chemical fertilizer agents, can hinder the implementation of organic farming because this can disrupt the flow of existing profits.

## **CONCLUSION AND RECOMENDATION**

The results of research on the implementation of Permentan Policy No. 64 of 2013 concerning Organic Agriculture in North Sumatra Province show the government's efforts to increase public trust in organic products through the participation of bureaucratic structures from the central to the regions. However, the lack of involvement of the target group and consideration of environmental conditions affect its implementation. However, this policy provides significant benefits such as agricultural cost efficiency and increased soil biological activity. The hope of change is the development of organic agriculture that supports the business world by reducing high fertilizer costs. The success of implementation depends on the commitment of local governments, especially the Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture Office of North Sumatra Province, as well as positive responses from all parties involved. Budget support from the provincial government and the Ministry of Agriculture shows commitment in policy implementation. Overall, this program has been successfully implemented, as reflected in the program's achievements and budget support provided.

The implementation of organic farming policy is supported by three main factors: effective communication from the central government, adequate resources including qualified staff and sufficient funding, and a clear and well-organized bureaucratic structure involving central and local governments and relevant officials directly. Factors inhibiting the implementation of organic agriculture policies in the Department of Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture of North Sumatra Province include non-participation of target groups, lack of understanding and participation of the community, and lack of consideration of social, economic, and political environmental conditions. Solutions include intensive socialization, training, infrastructure development, partnerships with community institutions, and strengthening the certification system. Other barriers include differences in ideas, a desire to seek quick profits, legal uncertainty, and societal values that conflict with policy. Nevertheless, budget support from the government shows commitment in the implementation of policies successfully implemented by the Department of Food Security, Food Crops, and Horticulture of North Sumatra Province.

## **FURTHER STUDY**

It is hoped that this research can provide a better understanding of the implementation of organic farming policies at the regional level, as well as provide valuable input for policy parties in increasing the effectiveness of these policies. The results of this research can also be the basis for further research on strategies and interventions that can be implemented to improve the implementation of organic farming policies in North Sumatra Province and other regions.

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