Implementation of the Use of Sirekap Applications in the 2024 General Election at the Cirebon Regency General Election Commission

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ABSTRACT

This research is intended to find out about the Implementation of the Use of the SIREKAP Application in the simultaneous elections on February 14 in Cirebon Regency. SIREKAP is a technology-based tool in the process of recapitrating the results of the 2024 election. The case study of this study is located in at the Cirebon Regency General Election Commission in May 2024. In this study, qualitative methods are used through direct interviews, direct observations, and literature reviews and thews with e focus of the research is using the theory of George C. Edwards III. The results of the study show that the implementation of the use of the Sirekap Application in the 2024 presidential election in Cirebon Regency is not optimal communication related to the clarity of the delivery of communication between parties related to election organizers in the delivery of technical guidance socialization at the basic level or at the General Election Organizing Group (KPPS), lack of understanding of KPPS officers regarding the use of the SIREKAP application, and in terms of resources related to facilities are still lacking support the need for an increase in supporting the implementation of the use of the SIREKAP application in the next election.
INTRODUCTION
Rapid advances in information technology and its potential wide use have been applied in the implementation of elections. Technology is considered a set of technical tools used to achieve various goals in elections, including improving efficiency, effectiveness, and ensuring that the election process and results run well and have high integrity.

The General Election Commission of the Republic of Indonesia has implemented the Vote Counting Information System (SITUNG), which has been carried out in 2019 based on KPU Regulation (PKPU) Number 8 of 2018 and has now been developed into the Recapitulation Information System (SIREKAP).

The implementation of elections in Indonesia is based on the legal basis that regulates the election system and the use of technology in the process, namely according to the General Election Commission Decree Number 115 of 2024 concerning the Determination of the application of the electronic recapitulation system as a special application for the General Election Commission.

The SIREKAP application is an information technology-based application that is used to publish the results of the vote count and facilitate the process of recapitulation of election results, as well as as a tool in the implementation of vote recapitulation. The decision is based on Law No. 7 of 2017 which has been amended by Law No. 7 of 2023.

With a strong legal basis like this, the use of the SIREKAP application in the implementation of elections in Indonesia is expected to provide the necessary technical support to increase transparency, accuracy, and efficiency in the entire process of organizing the 2024 elections. This is in accordance with democratic principles and ensures that elections are conducted based on applicable regulations and stipulated to ensure the integrity of the electoral process in the country.

Cirebon Regency implements the Sirekap application in the 2024 presidential election to increase efficiency and transparency in the vote recapitulation process. From the results of interviews with the chairman of the KPU and KPPS officers, it was revealed that there were several obstacles faced during the use of the Sirekap application in the field.

Thus, based on previous research, there are differences. This research focuses on the application of the four dimensions of implementation theory according to Edwards III. The first dimension is Communication, which has a great influence on the success of implementation. The second dimension is Resources, which plays a supporting role in the implementation of implementation. The third dimension is Disposition, which is related to the readiness of the implementer to implement the policy. Finally, the fourth dimension is the Bureaucratic Structure, All stakeholders involved in the policy
must have sufficient understanding and knowledge about the actions that must be taken.

From the results of the research through an interview with one of the KPPS officers, there are several things that are factors in the less optimal use of the sirekap application so that in the input, it must be edited again in the vote which was carried out on February 14, 2024. This is worried by many KPPS members who hold sirekap accounts who complain about the difficulty of accessing the application during voting. From these problems, the chairman of the Cirebon Regency KPU confirmed that in the implementation of the use of the Sirekap application, there are still obstacles in the field. This is an evaluation point for the KPU to develop the implementation of future elections when using the Sirekap application again.

The focus of this research is to determine the implementation of the use of the recapitulation information system application in the 2024 presidential election in Cirebon district, then to find out the factors that hinder the implementation of the use of the recapitulation information system in the 2024 election in Cirebon district and to find out the efforts and solutions in overcoming obstacles to the use of the recapitulation information system in the 2024 election in Cirebon district.

**LITERATURE REVIEW**

*Policy Implementation Concept*

According to Van Meter and Van Horn in (Rezillah, A. A., Siswoyo, M., & Nariyah, H. 2018) It is explained that "Policy implementation is actions taken either by individuals or officials or groups of government or private groups that are directed towards the achievement of the goals outlined in the policy decision."

According to the opinion of Mazmanian and Sabatier in (Bharoto & Nursahidin, 2021) which states that "Implementation is the implementation of basic policy decisions, which are usually in the form of laws, but may also be in the form of orders or important legislative executive decisions or decisions of the judiciary."

Policy implementation is needed for various reasons or viewpoints. According to the perspective of policy problems put forward by Edwards III in (Akib, 2010), policy implementation is needed to overcome and solve existing policy problems. Edwards III proposed an approach to dealing with implementation problems by evaluating the factors that support and hinder the success of policy implementation. Based on the analysis, four key factors have been identified as the causes of the problem and important conditions for the success of the implementation process. These factors include communication, resources, disposition, and bureaucratic structure. These four factors are considered important criteria in the implementation of a policy.
SIREKAP Application

The Electronic Recapitulation Information System (SIREKAP) is an information technology-based application used to publish the results of vote counting and facilitate the process of recapitulating election results, as well as as a tool in the implementation of vote recapitulation.

The Recapitulation Information System (SIREKAP) used by members of the Sirekap Voting Organizing Group (KPPS) has two main functions:

1. As a supporting means in the process of implementing the vote recapitulation in stages.
2. As a means of supporting in publicizing the vote counting from all Polling Stations (TPS) and from every stage of the recapitulation to the public.

In the use of the sirekap application, it is divided into 2, namely mobile sirekap and web sirekap where:

1. Sirekap Mobile This app is used for:
   a. Take a photo of the Model C-Result form, submit it, and verify the match between the application readings and the Model C-Result form.
   b. Produce a digital copy in the form of a Model C-Results form to be submitted to the PPK and the Regency/City KPU
   c. Compile vote count data at the polling station level to then announce it as a quick count result by the General Election Commission (KPU) at the Regency/City level.

2. Sirekap Web this app is used to:
   a. A system of tools in the process of recapitulation of vote counting in stages at the sub-district, district/city and/or provincial levels
   b. Monitoring the data of the Recapitulation of Vote Counting Results that have been recorded in stages.
   c. Generate a Model C-Result form
   d. A system that functions to list disputes and the results of disputes.
METHODOLOGY

In this study, the author applies a descriptive qualitative approach. The informant selection method used is purposive sampling, where the researcher deliberately selects several informants who are considered competent and have a deep understanding of the problem being researched. The following are the key informants and supporting informants in the research on the Implementation of the Use of Recapitulation Information System (SIREKAP) applications in Cirebon Regency:

a. Key Informant
   1. Chairman of the Cirebon Regency General Election Commission
   2. Head of the Technical Subdivision of Election Organizers, Participation and Public Relations of the Cirebon Regency KPU

b. Informan Pendukung
   1. KPPS Members (4 people)

RESEARCH RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Based on the Decree of the General Election Commission Number 115 of 2024 concerning the Determination of the electronic recapitulation system application as a special application for the General Election Commission (KPU) then the General Election Commission (KPU) of Cirebon Regency which implements the policy or as an institution that organizes, controls, monitors and coordinates all stages of the election both in the implementation of the use of the SIREKAP application in Cirebon Regency.

The author analyzes the implementation of the SIREKAP Application using the implementation theory of George C. Edwards III which states that the implementation has four dimensions, namely Communication, Resources, Disposition and Bureaucratic Structure.

The presentation can be seen in the following presentation:

1. Communication

   According to Edward III in (Winarno, 2016) "The first requirement for effective implementation is that those who carry out decisions must know what they should do". Effective communication occurs when information about policies is conveyed appropriately and accurately, so that it can reduce the risk of misunderstandings.

   In a communication process, there are several things that can affect whether a communication runs well or not, namely there is a mission, clarity, consistency, understanding of the responsibilities of each related agency, coordination, and socialization of policies for the use of the recapitulation information system application (SIREKAP).

   From the results of the research through interviews with the chairman of the Cirebon Regency KPU and the Head of the Technical Subdivision of Election Organizers, Participation and . Public Relations of the Cirebon Regency KPU they stated that in terms of communication carried out by the Cirebon Regency General Election Commission (KPU) has gone well and is not an obstacle if KPPS members understand from
the material that has been submitted, However, it is different from what was conveyed by KPPS officers that in the socialization or training carried out it was still not optimally integrated because in the delivery of communication between related parties regarding socialization such as technical guidance on the use of the Sirekap application held at the basic level (PPS to KPPS) was not conveyed in its entirety due to the limited time in the implementation of socialization to all KPPS members as the operator of the Sirekap application.

2. Resources

The availability of resources is a crucial element in policy implementation. Resources are considered the main component in this process, and the ability to manage resources can affect the success of policy implementation, in addition to supporting components, including human resources, budgets, and facilities.

In the research on resources and researchers, we interviewed the chairman of the Cirebon Regency KPU and the Head of the Technical Subdivision of Election Organizers, Participation and the Public Relations Department of the Cirebon Regency KPU stated that the implementation of the application in Cirebon Regency faces problems related to facilities that are not optimal, especially problems with unstable networks. The network often experiences disruptions due to full access traffic, which has a serious impact on the input of election recapitulation results in the SIREKAP application. This network instability is an important issue because it affects the smooth data input process. In addition, there are also obstacles to human resources itself, where there is still a lack of understanding of KPPS members regarding the SIREKAP application.

Meanwhile, according to the results of interviews with KPPS members, there were problems with the network and from the application itself, which had experienced errors, which became an obstacle in the process of using the SIREKAP application. In using the application, KPPS members admitted that they lacked understanding in the use of the SIREKAP application.

From this, it can be concluded that the use of the SIREKAP application in Cirebon Regency in terms of resources is not optimal, especially the lack of understanding of the monitoring of the use of the SIREKAP application and still lack of support regarding the related facilities of the system of the application that experiences errors and lack of network stability.

3. Disposition

Based on the implementation of the policy, the key factor for success is assessed from their ability to implement the policy so that there is no inconsistency with the policy that has been set.

According to the results of the research through an interview with the chairman of the Cirebon Regency KPU then the Head of the Technical Sub-Division of Election Organizers, Participation and Public Relations of the Cirebon Regency KPU and KPPS officers in the field that the
seriousness of the Election Organizing Officers in Cirebon Regency as a whole is quite good, but there are still some officers who still lack understanding of the procedure for using the SIREKAP application in the 2024 Election in Cirebon Regency because the SIREKAP application is fairly new because the Sirekap Application is a development application of the Situng Use in the 2019 elections.

4. Bureaucratic Structure

Bureaucracy is an institution that is responsible for the overall implementation of various activities. The existence of bureaucracy is not only found in private institutions, but also in government structures, where bureaucracies are formed to implement certain policies. Without bureaucracy in the policy implementation process, its effectiveness can decrease and the implementation process can be hampered. One of the important parameters of the bureaucracy is the existence of SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures), which are work guidelines for handling general situations in various sectors. SOPs function to equalize actions in an implementation process in complex institutions, thus ensuring consistent implementation.

According to a thorough interview conducted with the chairman of the Cirebon Regency KPU and the Head of the Technical Sub-Division of Election Organizers, Participation and Public Relations of the Cirebon Regency KPU that the SOP for the use of the SIREKAP application has been prepared. Personnel within the Cirebon Regency KPU who use information assets belonging to work units (satker) must be responsible for the use of information assets in accordance with the principles of information security.

Meanwhile, based on what was conveyed by KPPS officers, the income of the guidebook itself had been given before the implementation of the 2024 presidential election.

Factors inhibiting the implementation of the use of the sirekap application in the 2024 general election at the Cirebon Regency KPU

Factors inhibiting the use of the sirekap application include:

a. Network instability caused by overload on Voting and Counting day on February 14, 2024.

b. The level of literacy of officers towards the procedures for using sirekap needs to be improved.

c. The level of public trust in the sirekap application is still not optimal

Efforts to overcome obstacles in the implementation of the use of the sirekap application in the 2024 general election at the Cirebon Regency KPU

Efforts to overcome obstacles in the use of the sirekap application:

a. Improvement and improvement of the quality of technological devices and human resource competencies

b. Improving coordination, communication and synergy with stakeholders related to the use of sirekap so that it can increase public trust.
CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of the research presented, several conclusions can be drawn related to the implementation of policies related to the SIREKAP application in the Elections in Cirebon Regency. Although there have been good communication efforts from the Cirebon Regency KPU regarding the SIREKAP application, there are still shortcomings in coordination and socialization, especially in delivering technical guidance to KPPS members as a whole. This can result in a suboptimal understanding of the application.

Then the problems that arise related to network stability become a serious obstacle in the process of inputting election recapitulation results. This shows the need for more attention to the technological infrastructure that supports the implementation of SIREKAP applications. In terms of disposition, the seriousness and ability of the organizing officers in implementing the SIREKAP application in the 2024 election is considered quite good. However, an evaluation is still needed to ensure that this use can be carried out without significant inequality.

An effective bureaucratic structure with the provision of clear Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in the operation of the SIREKAP application is considered to be running optimally. Overall, although there have been good efforts in several aspects of the implementation of the SIREKAP application for elections in Cirebon Regency, there is still room for improvement, especially in improving coordination, improving technological infrastructure, and ensuring a better understanding of all relevant parties.

RECOMMENDATIONS

From the results research, here are some suggestions to improve implementation policies related to the SIREKAP application in the Election in Cirebon Regency:

1. Improvement of Communication and Socialization. There needs to be a more intensive effort in coordination and socialization related to the SIREKAP application to KPPS members. Ensure that technical guidance (technical guidance) is delivered thoroughly and in a timely manner so that all parties involved understand well the purpose and method of using the application and re-evaluate the communication methods used to ensure that information is delivered accurately and on target, thereby reducing the possibility of miscommunication.

2. Strengthening Technology Infrastructure by focusing on improving network infrastructure to overcome frequent stability problems. A stable and reliable network is very important to ensure the smooth process of inputting election recapitulation results through the SIREKAP application then ensure that all technological resources, including hardware and software, are adequate to support the operation of the SIREKAP application without obstacles in addition to the need for development of a system on the SIREKAP application which can facilitate the process of calculating and recapitrating voting results by digitization in calculation and can be displayed together as transparency using existing technology.
3. Evaluation of the disposition of the organizing officer. Although the disposition and seriousness of the organizing officers are considered quite good, it is still necessary to conduct periodic evaluations of their performance. Ensure that they continue to implement the SIREKAP application according to established procedures, and if necessary, provide additional training to improve their skills.

4. Optimization of Bureaucratic Structure and SOPs. Although the SOP in the operation of the SIREKAP application is considered to be running well, continue to evaluate and improve in accordance with the latest feedback and developments and ensure that the bureaucratic structure supports the implementation of policies effectively and efficiently, including in terms of monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the SIREKAP application.

5. Continuous Monitoring and Evaluation by establishing a clear mechanism for continuous monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the SIREKAP application. Use the results of this evaluation as a basis for continuous improvement and improvement.

With the implementation of the above suggestions, it is hoped that it can increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the implementation of the SIREKAP application in future elections, so that the process of recapitulation of election results can run more smoothly and accurately in accordance with the set policy objectives.

ADVANCED RESEARCH

For the perfection of this research, we believe that further research is needed to explore the development of applications as well as the use of SIREKAP applications that are needed in the future that may differ significantly from the current situation, the researchers acknowledge that this research is far from perfect in terms of language and writing therefore researchers need constructive criticism and suggestions.
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