TNP2K

POVERTY REDUCTION POLICY SUPPORT THINK TANK

TNP2K Journey in Brief

Poverty reduction has been the focus and priority of the government since the beginning of independence and this effort continues to this day. Many policies and programs have been launched. Even though the percentage of poor population continues to decline—currently in single digits—the overall number of the poor remains high at around 25 million people.

In this era of transparency, the decision-making process is more difficult and complex, including policymaking and determining programs related to poverty reduction. After *Reformasi*, the cabinet is composed based on multi-party coalition, and poverty reduction programs are distributed across ministries and agencies. Meanwhile, poverty reduction requires multidimensional effort, involving a diversity of stakeholders. In this context coordination in decision making becomes a challenge. Often in the decision-making process, a solution is proposed, but then another idea comes up and counters the previously proposed solution.

Purpose and Strategy of TNP2K

TNP2K was formed in 2010 with the purpose of providing coordination and improving policies/programs to ministries and agencies that are part of TNP2K, including ensuring the quality of its implementation, thus facilitating ministries and agencies in performing their tasks, which, in turn, would accelerate poverty reduction. Essentially, TNP2K through its secretariat provides services to ministries and agencies that are members of TNP2K. TNP2K leverages knowledge and evidence to support proposals for improving policies and the quality of implementation of poverty reduction programs. This is the purpose of TNP2K in undertaking its mandate. TNP2K believes that strong evidence does not only distinguish between good and bad policy, but also sees that strong evidence is a 'language' that can resolve differences in opinion between policymakers that come from diverse backgrounds in determining policy choices to reduce poverty.

The strategy of TNP2K is to design policies and programs based on scientific evidence and strong analysis. Furthermore, the policies and programs advocated to relevant ministries and agencies are designed in a way that can be accepted and implemented as part of the policies and programs of the ministries and agencies in question. To ensure the effectiveness of implementation of programs and policies, TNP2K takes part in facilitating ministries and agencies during the implementation. TNP2K also supports ministries and agencies in monitoring and evaluation of policy and program implementation as feedback for future improvement.

Poverty Reduction as Part of Long-Term Work

TNP2K believes that efforts to reduce poverty is long-term work that needs to be done collectively by many stakeholders, both within and outside the government, at national and local levels. It is often the case that proposals for policy or program changes are not agreed by stakeholders. As a result, TNP2K must always be prepared with any political decision regarding the proposals or

inputs to policies and programs. For TNP2K, it is not a setback, rather a motivation to work better in the future.

As part of long-term work, TNP2K believes that the success of poverty reduction cannot be judged from one or two wins. Sometimes there are setbacks to the progress achieved. But for TNP2K, as long as a step back is followed by several going forward, it serves as motivation to not give up. A 'defeat' in one or two 'battles' will not undermine the resolve of TNP2K to win the 'greater war' against poverty. This is why TNP2K consistently builds its capacity and innovates in formulating policies and programs.

In strengthening capacity and innovation, TNP2K does not hesitate to learn from ministries and agencies, other research institutions, international agencies, universities, both national and foreign, that also have reputation in using knowledge and evidence to prepare policies and programs. For TNP2K, what is most important is that the decisions for policy improvements are the best possible that can effectively reduce poverty. Thus, on top of working hard, TNP2K also intensively collaborates and engages in knowledge exchange with these diverse organizations.

Technocratic Capacity, Trust, and an Open Mindset

To ensure that it has the capacity to design evidence-based policies and programs, TNP2K is supported by expert staff and professional specialists who are the best in their respective fields. The staff is recruited through an accountable process to ensure that the best candidates are selected. Additionally, continuous efforts to strengthen capacity are made in response to the challenging dynamics in implementing the assigned tasks.

Besides ensuring technocratic organizational capacity, two important mindsets are instilled in the organization in implementing the tasks: openness to new ideas, and

collaboration based on trust. Openness to new ideas is important to create policy breakthroughs in relation to new programs, or even just innovation in the delivery mechanisms. While trust—both in the leadership and between staff—is the main foundation for the TNP2K organization in order to move in sync and be effective in fulfilling its mandate.

The magnitude and multitude of tasks given to TNP2K that must be executed by TNP2K staff with their diverse backgrounds can only be achieved through teamwork and having a unified vision. With that, trust can then be built. Without a unified vision and solid trust, it is difficult to imagine how TNP2K can get to where it is now. With such working environment and confidence in contributing to poverty reduction, TNP2K staff is prepared to exceed what is demanded in their professional contracts.

Leadership that Shelters and Supports

Another important factor that has brought TNP2K to where it is today is effective leadership in managing the strengths as well as weaknesses that it possesses. The main leadership of the Vice President has been key to the success of TNP2K. The Vice President has given the space and great trust to staff to have the confidence in taking actions that supports TNP2K 'mission' to improve policies based on evidence. This has also encouraged staff to work fiercely to complete the tasks assigned from the leadership and meet expectations.

Leadership of the Vice President is operationalized effectively by the Executive Secretary in managing the operations of TNP2K secretariat as 'policy support think tank' for the Vice President and Ministers who are members of TNP2K. The journey of TNP2K Secretariat in the last decade has demonstrated how important it is to have leadership capacity and technocratic qualification to lead TNP2K daily operations. Such capacity and qualifications are essential to sustain the achievements and effective work of TNP2K in the future.

TNP2K as Policy Support Think Thank

With respect to all that has been done, TNP2K Secretariat has developed into a think tank for policy support, serving as reference for issues related to poverty reduction. To this end, relevant stakeholders continued to give positive response to TNP2K work outcomes so far.

Many parties, from home and abroad, learn from TNP2K, even seeking opportunities to intern at TNP2K Secretariat. In nearly 10 years, TNP2K staff have also visited all provinces and hundreds of districts and municipalities across Indonesia to conduct poverty reduction advocacy with local governments, including survey-related visits, research, as well as spot checks for piloting. In the last decade TNP2K also published hundreds of publications that serve as reference for researchers at home and from abroad, including international agencies. This does not take into account the many unpublished knowledge products.

Acceleration of Extreme Poverty Elimination by 2024

In a limited Cabinet working meeting on 4 March 2020, President Joko Widodo gave directions to accelerate the elimination of extreme poverty by 2024. To strengthen the program implementation instructions, Presidential Instruction (Inpres) No. 4/2022 was issued on 8 June 2022. It mandates 22 ministries, six institutions, governors, mayors, and regents to jointly work to accelerate the elimination of extreme poverty by 31 December 2024. The implementation of this Inpres is coordinated by the Vice President, as the Head of the National Team for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction (TNP2K).

The Inpres was followed by the Decree of the Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Culture No. 25/2022 on Priority Districts/Cities for 2022-2024. Several priority areas have been established for the initiative starting with 35 districts/cities in seven provinces in 2021. The priority area targets have been expanded to 212 districts/cities in 25 provinces in 2022 and will continue to increase to 514 districts/cities in 34 provinces in 2023-24.
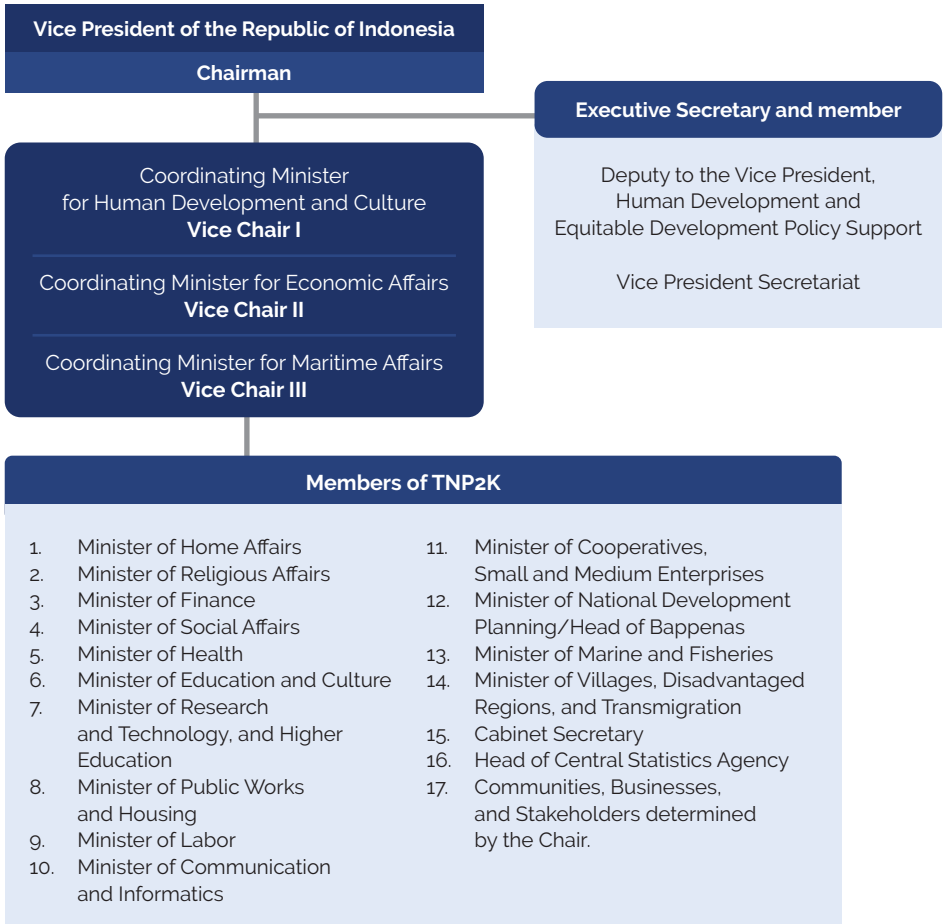
The important point of Inpres No. 4/2022 is the need to take steps that are in accordance with the respective duties, functions, and authorities of officials to accelerate the elimination of extreme poverty by ensuring targeting accuracy and program integration between ministries/agencies by involving community participation focused on program priority locations. Program (*Program Penghapusan Kemiskinan Ekstrem*: PPKE) implementation is funded from the APBN, APBD, APBDes, and other legal and non-binding sources in accordance with the provisions of the legislation.

The identification results from TNP2K show that in 2021 many poverty reduction programs and activities have been launched, including programs to reduce extreme poverty. These programs and activities are spread across various ministries/agencies and local governments in two groups. First, programs/activities with the aim of reducing the expenditure burden of the extremely poor citizen through social assistance and subsidies, and secondly empowerment programs to increase productivity and economic capacity.

To support the acceleration of poverty reduction, TNP2K continues to encourage synergy and integration from related parties in controlling programs, advocating for local governments to ensure programs are on target, and seeking to involve non-government parties such as universities and NGOs. In addition, TNP2K has also created three modules, all of which can be accessed through the TNP2K website. The first module is about minimizing exclusion errors by reaching out to the extreme poor. The second module is about increasing the effectiveness of regional planning and budgeting that can target the extreme poor. The third module is on strengthening collaboration/cooperation between government and non-government entities.

TNP2K MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE

PRESIDENTIAL REGULATION NUMBER 96 OF 2015 regarding Amendments to Presidential Regulation Number 15 of 2010 regarding Poverty Reduction Acceleration

Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia

Chairman

Executive Secretary and member

Deputy to the Vice President, Human Development and Equitable Development Policy Support

Vice President Secretariat

Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Culture
Vice Chair I

Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs
Vice Chair II

Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs
Vice Chair III

Members of TNP2K

1. Minister of Home Affairs
2. Minister of Religious Affairs
3. Minister of Finance
4. Minister of Social Affairs
5. Minister of Health
6. Minister of Education and Culture
7. Minister of Research and Technology, and Higher Education
8. Minister of Public Works and Housing
9. Minister of Labor
10. Minister of Communication and Informatics
11. Minister of Cooperatives, Small and Medium Enterprises
12. Minister of National Development Planning/Head of Bappenas
13. Minister of Marine and Fisheries
14. Minister of Villages, Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration
15. Cabinet Secretary
16. Head of Central Statistics Agency
17. Communities, Businesses, and Stakeholders determined by the Chair.

For information on TNP2K's contribution to the government's effort on poverty reduction, please visit:

http://www.tnp2k.go.id/

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