



DOI: <https://doi.org/10.38035/jgia.v4i3>
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Public Policy Performance Evaluation: Free Nutritious Meal Program in Tambang District

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Abstract: The Free Nutritious Meal (MBG) program is a government policy aimed at improving the nutritional quality of the population-particularly vulnerable groups-as part of efforts to enhance the quality of human resources. The program's success requires evaluation to determine the extent to which its implementation has achieved the established objectives. This study aims to evaluate the public policy performance of the MBG program in Tambang District based on the aspects of effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, equity, responsiveness, and appropriateness. This study employs a quantitative approach using a descriptive method. Data were collected through questionnaires, interviews, observations, and document reviews involving government officials, healthcare workers, “Posyandu” (integrated health post) volunteers, program administrators, and beneficiaries of the MBG Program in Tambang District. Data analysis was conducted using descriptive statistics based on public policy evaluation indicators proposed by William N. Dunn. Research findings indicate that the public policy performance of the MBG Program in Tambang District falls into the “good” category. The adequacy aspect received the highest rating, demonstrating the program's success in helping meet the community's nutritional needs through the provision of proper, nutritious meals. The aspects of efficiency, equity, responsiveness, and appropriateness also yielded positive results, indicating that the program has been managed optimally, garnered community support, and aligned relatively well with the needs of the target groups. Conversely, the effectiveness aspect received the lowest rating compared to the others, suggesting that the program's impact on improving the community's nutritional and health status still requires enhancement. Based on the research findings, it can be concluded that the MBG Meal Program in Tambang District has demonstrated strong performance as a public policy initiative in the realm of public health and nutrition. However, the program's effectiveness needs to be enhanced through strengthened nutrition education, refined beneficiary targeting, improved inter-agency coordination, and robust monitoring and evaluation systems, ensuring that the program's benefits are realized more optimally and sustainably.

Keywords: Public Policy Evaluation, Free Nutritious Meal Program, Policy Performance

Abstrak: Program Makanan Bergizi Gratis (MBG) merupakan kebijakan pemerintah yang bertujuan untuk meningkatkan kualitas gizi masyarakat—khususnya kelompok rentan—sebagai bagian dari upaya peningkatan kualitas sumber daya manusia. Keberhasilan program ini memerlukan evaluasi untuk menentukan sejauh mana pelaksanaannya telah mencapai

tujuan yang telah ditetapkan. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengevaluasi kinerja kebijakan publik Program MBG di Kecamatan Tambang berdasarkan aspek efektivitas, efisiensi, kecukupan, keadilan, responsivitas, dan kesesuaian. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kuantitatif dengan metode deskriptif. Data dikumpulkan melalui kuesioner, wawancara, observasi, dan tinjauan dokumen yang melibatkan pejabat pemerintah, tenaga kesehatan, relawan “Posyandu” (pos kesehatan terpadu), pengelola program, dan penerima manfaat Program MBG di Kecamatan Tambang. Analisis data dilakukan menggunakan statistik deskriptif berdasarkan indikator evaluasi kebijakan publik yang diusulkan oleh William N. Dunn. Temuan penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kinerja kebijakan publik Program MBG di Kecamatan Tambang termasuk dalam kategori “baik”. Aspek kecukupan memperoleh penilaian tertinggi, yang menunjukkan keberhasilan program dalam membantu memenuhi kebutuhan gizi masyarakat melalui penyediaan makanan yang layak dan bergizi. Aspek efisiensi, keadilan, responsivitas, dan kesesuaian juga menunjukkan hasil positif, yang mengindikasikan bahwa program ini telah dikelola secara optimal, mendapatkan dukungan masyarakat, dan relatif selaras dengan kebutuhan kelompok sasaran. Sebaliknya, aspek efektivitas memperoleh peringkat terendah dibandingkan aspek lainnya, yang menunjukkan bahwa dampak program terhadap peningkatan status gizi dan kesehatan masyarakat masih perlu ditingkatkan. Berdasarkan temuan penelitian, dapat disimpulkan bahwa Program Makanan MBG di Kecamatan Tambang telah menunjukkan kinerja yang kuat sebagai inisiatif kebijakan publik di bidang kesehatan masyarakat dan gizi. Namun, efektivitas program perlu ditingkatkan melalui penguatan pendidikan gizi, penyempurnaan penargetan penerima manfaat, peningkatan koordinasi antarlembaga, serta sistem pemantauan dan evaluasi yang kokoh, guna memastikan bahwa manfaat program dapat terwujud secara lebih optimal dan berkelanjutan.

Kata Kunci: *Evaluasi Kebijakan Publik, Program Makanan Bergizi Gratis, Kinerja Kebijakan*

INTRODUCTION

The Free Nutritious Meal (MBG) program is a strategic policy of the Indonesian government aimed at enhancing the quality of human resources by meeting the nutritional needs of students, pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, and children under five. This program is positioned as a long-term investment in human capital development to support the realization of "Golden Indonesia 2045." Beyond improving nutritional status, the program is expected to enhance learning concentration, reduce stunting prevalence, boost the productivity of the younger generation, and stimulate the local economy through the involvement of farmers, MSMEs, and food service providers. Implementing such a wide-reaching policy requires effective governance to ensure that its objectives are optimally achieved.

From a public administration perspective, the success of a policy cannot be measured solely by program implementation; rather, it must be assessed based on the extent to which established goals have been achieved. Dunn (2018) explains that policy evaluation is a systematic process for assessing the worth and merit of a policy across six key dimensions: effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, equity, responsiveness, and appropriateness. Such evaluation provides information on whether a policy has yielded the expected benefits and serves as a basis for refining the policy in subsequent periods. Thus, the evaluation of public policy performance functions not only as a mechanism for oversight but also as an instrument for policy learning, enabling the government to improve the quality of public services.

The implementation of the MBG Program involves various stakeholders, including the National Nutrition Agency, local governments, educational institutions, food providers, health workers, and the community. Given the complex array of actors involved, the program's success hinges on factors such as inter-agency coordination, human resource readiness, budget adequacy, the effectiveness of food distribution, the quality of the menus provided, and food safety oversight mechanisms. Therefore, the implementation of the MBG Program requires

continuous evaluation to provide the government with an objective overview of achievements and the various challenges encountered during the program's execution.

Tambang District in Kampar Regency is one of the areas implementing the MBG Program. The district features a mix of urban and rural areas and has a relatively large number of schools and beneficiaries. These diverse local conditions could lead to variations in program implementation—particularly regarding the accuracy of food distribution, service quality, inter-agency coordination, the readiness of facilities and infrastructure, and beneficiary satisfaction levels. Consequently, Tambang District serves as a relevant location for a comprehensive evaluation of the MBG Program's public policy performance.

Several previous studies indicate that the implementation of the MBG Program still faces various challenges. Suprpto et al. (2025) concluded that the MBG Program holds significant potential for enhancing the quality of human resources; however, the effectiveness of its implementation is heavily influenced by governance readiness, institutional coordination, monitoring mechanisms, and sustainable evaluation systems. The study also emphasized that the long-term impact on improving nutritional status cannot yet be optimally measured, as outcome monitoring systems remain limited.

Hastuti et al. (2026), through a literature review on the implementation of the MBG program in schools, found that key challenges include school infrastructure readiness, food provider capacity, distribution mechanisms, food quality monitoring, and cross-sector coordination. The study recommends evaluating implementation at the regional level, as the characteristics of each area present distinct operational challenges. Basuki et al. (2025) revealed that the MBG program's implementation still faces issues regarding fiscal sustainability, inter-agency coordination, regional distribution disparities, and food safety oversight. The study emphasizes that the policy's success is determined not only by the size of the budget but also by the quality of governance and the effectiveness of implementation on the ground.

Febryanti et al. (2025) who examined the implementation of MBG at SD Negeri 3 Kepanjen, Malang Regency, showed that communication between actors, availability of resources, bureaucratic structure and commitment of implementers are important factors that determine the success of policy implementation. Even though program implementation is going quite well, the research found that technical regulations at the regional level still need improvement so that implementation is more uniform. Meanwhile, Malik and Rabbani (2025) in their research on the implementation of the MBG Program in Depok City concluded that the success of the policy was influenced by the effectiveness of communication, adequacy of resources, disposition of implementers, and bureaucratic structure as explained in the Edward III implementation model. This research also shows that evaluation of implementation at the local level is very necessary to identify operational obstacles that are specific to each region.

A review of prior research reveals that most studies have focused on policy implementation, institutional readiness, governance analysis, or health and nutrition aspects. Few of these studies have comprehensively evaluated public policy performance using Dunn's evaluative dimensions—namely effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, equity, responsiveness, and appropriateness. Furthermore, there is currently a dearth of research specifically evaluating the performance of the MBG Program at the sub-district level, particularly in Tambang Sub-district, Kampar Regency. Consequently, a research gap exists regarding both the evaluation approach and the research location.

Addressing this gap, this study aims to evaluate the public policy performance of the Free Nutritious Meal (MBG) Program in Tambang District using William N. Dunn's policy evaluation model. The findings are expected to contribute theoretically to the development of public policy evaluation studies while offering practical recommendations for local governments, the National Nutrition Agency, and stakeholders to enhance the effectiveness of the MBG Program's implementation in the future.

Based on the foregoing, the research problem concerns the public policy performance of the Free Nutritious Meal Program in Tambang District, examined through the dimensions of effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, equity, responsiveness, and policy appropriateness.

Furthermore, the objective of this study is to analyze and evaluate the public policy performance of the Free Nutritious Meal Program in Tambang District based on William N. Dunn's six dimensions of policy evaluation, thereby obtaining an objective overview of the program's implementation success and recommendations for its improvement.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Public policy evaluation is an integral part of the policy cycle, as it serves to assess the extent to which a policy achieves its established objectives. Public policy itself is understood as a series of government decisions and actions aimed at addressing societal issues. Dye (2013) defines public policy as "whatever governments choose to do or not to do," while Anderson (2015) describes it as a series of purposeful actions undertaken by the government to resolve public problems. Consequently, the success of a policy is determined not only by the quality of its formulation but also by its implementation and the outcomes achieved following its execution. This concept underscores the fact that the MBG (Nutritious School Meals) program is a form of public policy requiring systematic evaluation to determine its success in meeting community nutrition development goals.

In the study of policy evaluation, the most widely used model is the one developed by William N. Dunn. According to Dunn (2018), policy evaluation is a systematic process for assessing the worth and merit of a policy based on six criteria: effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, equity, responsiveness, and appropriateness. Effectiveness refers to a policy's ability to achieve established goals; efficiency describes the relationship between the results obtained and the resources utilized; adequacy indicates the extent to which a policy resolves the problem at hand; equity assesses the fairness of benefit distribution among target groups; responsiveness reflects a policy's capacity to address public needs; and appropriateness concerns the alignment of the policy with the conditions and characteristics of the beneficiaries. These six dimensions constitute a comprehensive evaluation framework, making it widely utilized in research evaluating government programs.

Beyond policy evaluation, the success of the MBG Program is also influenced by the quality of policy implementation. Edward III (1980) explains that implementation is shaped by four key factors: communication, resources, implementer disposition, and bureaucratic structure. Clear communication facilitates program execution, while the availability of resources—both budgetary and human—determines the smoothness of implementation. Implementer disposition reflects the commitment of officials to carrying out the policy, whereas bureaucratic structure determines the effectiveness of coordination among the involved organizations. Therefore, although this study focuses on evaluating policy performance, implementation theory serves as a supporting perspective to explain why specific evaluation indicators yield high or low results.

The MBG Program is essentially a public policy intervention in the field of nutrition aimed at enhancing the quality of human resources by meeting nutritional food needs. From a public health perspective, the success of a nutrition intervention is influenced not only by the quality of the food provided but also by socioeconomic conditions, community behavior, sanitation, and access to healthcare services. Therefore, the MBG Program requires a comprehensive evaluation that goes beyond measuring administrative aspects of implementation to assess the extent to which the policy delivers tangible benefits to the community as the service recipients.

Empirical studies indicate that the effectiveness of nutritional support programs is heavily influenced by the quality of policy implementation. Bhutta et al. (2013) demonstrated that nutrition-specific interventions can reduce stunting rates when supported by appropriate policy implementation. Ruel and Alderman (2013) added that nutrition interventions are more successful when integrated with support for sanitation, education, and socioeconomic conditions. Furthermore, Torlesse et al. (2016) showed that family behavior, sanitation, and maternal education remain key determinants of nutritional issues in Indonesia. Meanwhile, Black et al. (2013) emphasized that the success of nutrition programs requires a multisectoral

approach that integrates health, education, and social protection policies. A summary of these studies has also been compiled in the literature review of this research

More recent studies on the Free Nutritious Meal Program also show relatively consistent results. Suprpto et al. (2025) concluded that the success of the program is heavily influenced by policy governance, inter-agency coordination, and continuous monitoring and evaluation systems. Malik and Rabbani (2025) found that the program's implementation at the local level is influenced by communication, resources, and bureaucratic structure, as outlined in the Edward III model. Meanwhile, Febryanti et al. (2025) indicated that while the program's implementation at the school level has proceeded reasonably well, challenges remain regarding equitable distribution, food quality oversight, and coordination among implementing stakeholders.

Nevertheless, most prior research has focused on policy implementation, the effectiveness of nutrition programs, or public health impacts. Few studies have evaluated the MBG Program using William N. Dunn's policy evaluation model, which simultaneously integrates the dimensions of effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, equity, responsiveness, and appropriateness. Furthermore, evaluative studies at the sub-district level—specifically in Tambang Sub-district, Kampar Regency—remain very limited. Thus, this study addresses that gap by conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the MBG Program's public policy performance using Dunn's policy evaluation approach.

Based on the theoretical framework and findings from previous research, this study positions the Free Nutritious Meal Program (MBG) as the subject of a public policy evaluation. Program implementation is viewed as a prerequisite for successful policy execution, while policy performance is measured using William N. Dunn's six evaluation dimensions: effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, equity, responsiveness, and appropriateness. The evaluation results serve to illustrate the success level of the MBG Program in Tambang District and provide a basis for formulating policy recommendations for local government and stakeholders to enhance the quality of future program implementation.

METHOD

This study employs a mixed-methods approach with a convergent parallel design, integrating quantitative and qualitative methods to obtain a comprehensive overview of the public policy performance of the Free Nutritious Meal (MBG) Program in Tambang District, Kampar Regency. The quantitative approach is used to measure policy performance levels based on respondents' perceptions regarding William N. Dunn's six dimensions of policy evaluation: effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, equity, responsiveness, and appropriateness. Meanwhile, the qualitative approach is utilized to provide an in-depth explanation of the program's implementation process and the factors influencing its success or the obstacles encountered, as well as to interpret the quantitative findings.

The research was conducted in Tambang District, Kampar Regency, Riau Province. The location was selected purposively, taking into account that the area had implemented the MBG program and possessed characteristics aligned with the research objectives. The study was carried out from April to July 2026. The research population comprised all stakeholders involved in the implementation of the MBG program in Tambang District. The quantitative research sample was selected using purposive sampling—specifically, respondents deemed to possess knowledge and experience regarding the MBG program's implementation while qualitative informants were identified through snowball sampling, allowing the information gathered to expand until data saturation was reached. The research data consisted of both primary and secondary data.

Primary data were obtained through questionnaire distribution, field observations, and in-depth interviews, while secondary data were gathered from official government documents, MBG Program implementation reports, nutritional status data, and policy documents relevant to the study. The research instrument a questionnaire was designed based on William N. Dunn's six dimensions of policy evaluation. To reinforce the quantitative findings, semi-structured

interview guides and observation sheets were used to elicit information regarding program implementation, field conditions, and various implementation challenges.

Quantitative data analysis employed descriptive statistics through stages including editing, coding, tabulation, and the calculation of scores, means, percentages, and assessment indices to characterize the performance level of the MBG Program across each evaluation dimension. Results were interpreted based on program achievement categories to assess the effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, equity, responsiveness, and implementation accuracy of the MBG Program. Qualitative data analysis utilized the interactive analysis model developed by Miles, Huberman, and Saldaña, comprising data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing and verification. Finally, the quantitative and qualitative analysis results were integrated using source and method triangulation techniques to produce a comprehensive interpretation of the public policy performance of the Free Nutritious Meal (MBG) Program in Tambang District.

The research variables are based on William N. Dunn's policy evaluation model, which comprises six dimensions; the definitions and indicators for each variable are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Operational Definitions of Research Variables

No	Variable	Definition	Indicator	Scale
1	Effectiveness	The success rate of the MBG program in achieving the goal of improving the community's nutritional status.	1) Achievement of program objectives 2) Changes in nutritional status 3) Alignment of results with targets	Ordinal
2	Efficiency	The ratio of program inputs (cost, time, effort) to outputs.	1) Resource utilization 2) Accuracy of budget use 3) Program implementation period	Ordinal
3	Adequacy	The program's ability to meet the nutritional needs of the target population.	1) Appropriateness of the amount of assistance 2) Quality of nutritious food 3) Fulfillment of the recipient's nutritional needs	Ordinal
4	Equitable Distribution	The level of fairness and equity in the distribution of programs to the community.	1) Distribution of beneficiaries 2) Equity in program access 3) Geographic scope of the program	Ordinal
5	Responsiveness	Level of public response to and acceptance of the MBG program.	1) Public response 2) Recipient satisfaction level 3) Public participation	Ordinal
6	Accuracy	Level of alignment between the program and the needs and intended targets.	1) Accuracy of recipient targeting 2) Alignment of the program with needs 3) Timeliness of implementation	Ordinal

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study involved 100 respondents comprising government officials, administrators of the Free Nutritious Meal (MBG) Program, *Posyandu* (integrated health post) volunteers, parents of beneficiaries, and beneficiary community members in Tambang District. The respondent profile was predominantly female (52%), aged over 30 (41%), educated to the junior high school level (34%), classified as beneficiaries (42%), and had participated in the program for 6–12 months (43%). This composition indicates that the information gathered originated from various groups directly involved in the MBG Program's implementation, thereby providing a comprehensive overview of public policy performance. Overall, the evaluation results indicate that the performance of the Free Nutritious Meal Program in Tambang District falls into the "good" category, although there are still some aspects requiring improvement. A summary of the evaluation results based on William N. Dunn's six dimensions is presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Summary of MBG Program Performance Evaluation Results

Evaluation Dimensions	Average Score	Category
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Effectiveness	3,10	Pretty Good
Efficiency	3,58	Good
Adequacy	3,71	Good
Equitable Distribution	3,55	Good
Responsiveness	3,57	Good
Accuracy	3,47	Good

Source: Data Processing Results

Based on Table 2 above, the performance assessment of the MBG program public policy-using William N. Dunn's dimensions—reveals that adequacy was the highest-rated aspect, while effectiveness was the lowest. This indicates that, although the provision of nutritious food has met the beneficiaries' basic needs, the program's success in improving the community's nutritional status has not yet been fully optimal. A detailed explanation of each aspect is provided below:

1. Effectiveness of the Free Nutritious Meal Program

The research results showed that the effectiveness dimension obtained an average score of 3.10 in the quite good category. This value shows that the MBG Program has contributed to improving community nutrition services, but the achievement of program objectives has not been fully optimal. The indicator with the lowest value is changes in the nutritional conditions of beneficiaries (2.96), while the highest indicator is achieving the goal of improving community nutrition (3.16).

According to Dunn (2018), effectiveness is a measure of a policy's success in achieving its established goals. Research findings indicate that although the program has proceeded according to plan, the tangible impact on improving nutritional status has not yet been fully realized by all beneficiaries. This situation may be attributed to the program's relatively recent implementation, meaning that significant changes in nutritional status have not yet been observed.

The results of this study align with the research of Suprpto et al. (2025), which states that the success of the MBG Program is determined not only by the implementation of food distribution but also by a system for the continuous monitoring and evaluation of nutritional outcomes. Consequently, enhancing effectiveness requires periodic nutritional status assessments and strengthened coordination among the National Nutrition Agency, local governments, and health facilities.

2. Efficiency of the Free Nutritious Meal Program

The efficiency dimension achieved an average score of 3.58, placing it in the "good" category. Respondents assessed that the utilization of resources, budget, personnel, and facilities, as well as program implementation, proceeded relatively efficiently. The indicator with the highest score was resource utilization (3.84), while the lowest scores were recorded for the use of personnel and facilities (3.34). From Dunn's (2018) perspective, efficiency reflects the relationship between achieved outcomes and the resources employed. A favorable efficiency score indicates that the implementation of the MBG Program in Tambang District successfully optimized available resources, enabling the food distribution process to proceed according to schedule.

These findings support the research by Malik and Rabbani (2025), which states that the efficiency of program implementation is significantly influenced by organizational communication, inter-agency coordination, and resource adequacy. Therefore, enhancing human resource capacity and optimizing distribution facilities remain necessary to further improve program efficiency.

3. Adequacy of the Free Nutritious Meal Program

The adequacy dimension achieved an average score of 3.71, the highest among all evaluation dimensions. Respondents assessed the provided food as suitable for consumption, nutritionally sound, and capable of meeting the beneficiaries' basic needs. The highest-scoring

indicator was the suitability of the food for consumption (3.92). According to Dunn (2018), adequacy refers to a policy's ability to meet the needs of the target group. The high adequacy score indicates that the quality of food provided through the MBG Program aligns with the beneficiaries' needs.

These findings are consistent with research by Bhutta et al. (2013) and Black et al. (2013), which indicates that the provision of nutritious food is a crucial intervention for improving health status and the quality of human resources. However, meeting daily nutritional needs depends not only on the food provided through the program but is also influenced by household consumption patterns and the health status of the beneficiaries.

4. Equitable Distribution of the Free Nutritious Meal Program

The equity aspect received an average score of 3.55, falling into the "good" category. The program is considered to have reached the majority of target groups; however, perceptions persist regarding limited opportunities to access benefits and issues with the equity of distribution. According to Dunn (2018), equity measures the extent to which policy benefits are distributed fairly among all target groups. The obtained score indicates that the MBG Program has successfully provided public access, yet the accuracy of targeting and the transparency of distribution still require improvement. These findings support the research by Febryanti et al. (2025), which highlights that equitable distribution is a key challenge in the implementation of the MBG Program, particularly in regions with diverse geographical characteristics.

5. Responsiveness of the Free Nutritious Meal Program

The responsiveness dimension obtained an average score of 3.57, categorized as good. The community responded positively to the implementation of the MBG Program, felt quite satisfied, and demonstrated a relatively high level of participation in supporting the program's sustainability. According to Dunn (2018), responsiveness describes the policy's ability to meet community expectations. The high level of community participation indicates that the MBG Program has gained considerable social legitimacy in Tambang District. This study's findings align with Malik and Rabbani's (2025) research, which states that community acceptance is a critical factor in determining the success of public policy implementation.

6. Targeting Accuracy of the Free Nutritious Meal Program

Research findings indicate that the "accuracy" dimension falls into the "good" category. The program is considered to have been directed at the communities in need and aligned with their nutritional requirements, although there remains a perception that the accuracy of beneficiary targeting needs improvement. From Dunn's (2018) perspective, accuracy relates to the alignment of a policy with the problems faced by the community. Therefore, the validity of beneficiary data, verification mechanisms, and inter-agency coordination are crucial factors in enhancing the targeting accuracy of the MBG Program.

Overall, an evaluation based on William N. Dunn's model indicates that the public policy performance of the Free Nutritious Meal Program in Tambang District falls into the "good" category. The program's success is particularly evident in terms of adequacy, efficiency, responsiveness, and equity; however, the aspect of effectiveness requires further attention, as the program's impact on improving the community's nutritional status has not yet been fully optimized. These findings suggest that the success of the Free Nutritious Meal Program depends not only on the distribution of nutritious meals but also on the quality of implementation, targeting accuracy, oversight, cross-sector coordination, and continuous evaluation of program outcomes. Consequently, enhancing effectiveness through monitoring nutritional status, refining distribution mechanisms, and strengthening governance has become a crucial agenda for improving the quality of this public policy in Tambang District.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion of this study is:

1. The effectiveness dimension indicates that the performance of the Free Nutritious Meal (MBG) Program in Tambang District falls into the "fairly good" category, with an average score of 3.10. While the program has operated in alignment with policy objectives and contributed to improving community nutrition, its impact on changing the nutritional and health status of beneficiaries has not yet been optimal. This suggests a need to enhance the program's effectiveness by strengthening monitoring and evaluation, as well as integrating it with other health programs.
2. The Efficiency dimension falls into the "good" category, with an average score of 3.58. These results indicate that the utilization of resources, budget, personnel, facilities, and implementation time has supported the implementation of the MBG Program in a relatively optimal manner. Nevertheless, enhancing human resource capacity and optimizing supporting facilities remain necessary to further improve the efficiency of the program's implementation.
3. The Adequacy dimension received the highest rating, with an average score of 3.71, placing it in the "good" category. These findings indicate that the MBG Program has successfully met the basic needs of beneficiaries by providing food that is fit for consumption and nutritionally sound, thereby contributing to improved nutritional adequacy within the community. Nevertheless, fully meeting nutritional needs still requires support from factors outside the program.
4. The Equity dimension falls into the "good" category, with an average score of 3.55. The program has successfully reached the majority of target groups and provided benefits to communities in need. However, there remains a perception that access to benefits is not yet fully equitable; therefore, improvements in data accuracy and transparency regarding beneficiary selection are required to ensure the program's distribution becomes fairer and more effectively targeted.
5. The Responsiveness dimension falls into the "good" category, with an average score of 3.57. The program has garnered a positive response from the community, reflected in high levels of satisfaction, acceptance, and participation in support of the MBG Program's continuity. This indicates that the community has experienced the program's benefits, making social support a crucial asset for sustaining the policy's implementation.
6. The Accuracy dimension falls into the "good" category, with an average score of 3.47. The program is considered sufficiently aligned with community needs and relatively accurate in reaching its target groups. Nevertheless, improvements to the beneficiary verification mechanism and the timeliness of implementation are still required to ensure that the target groups receive the program's benefits more optimally.

Overall, an evaluation based on William N. Dunn's six dimensions indicates that the public policy performance of the Free Nutritious Meal (MBG) Program in Tambang District falls into the "good" category, with an overall average score of 3.50. These findings suggest that the program has made a positive contribution toward meeting the community's nutritional needs. However, improvements in effectiveness and targeting accuracy, strengthened coordination among stakeholders, and a sustainable monitoring and evaluation system remain necessary to achieve the policy objectives more optimally and sustainably.

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