Summary of Event

Setting the Agenda for an Integrated Social Protection System for Children and Families in Indonesia
An Inter-Governmental and Civil Society Partnership Event

Collaboration between the Ministry of Planning of Indonesia (BAPPENAS) with the Center on Child Protection University of Indonesia (PUSKA PA)

Background

Indonesia is moving forward, as indicated by its recent categorization as a middle-income country. For many of the most vulnerable Indonesians, however, progress has been a slow and halting process. For more than a decade, the Indonesian government has embraced its responsibility to reduce the number of people living in poverty and to provide assistance by developing a variety of social protection and safety net programs for the poorest and most vulnerable. While these programs represent an important step in development and poverty reduction, they have yet to comprehensively respond to the needs of one of the most vulnerable populations - children. It is

1 Social assistance programs include BLT, BSM, RASKIN, JAMKESMAS, and PKH.
widely recognized that economic deprivation is significantly associated with child vulnerability. Children living in poor families are at high risk for abuse and neglect, impaired development, family separation, and a decreased ability to access education or other basic needs. Research has shown that lost opportunities in childhood often cannot be regained later in life.

A successful poverty reduction strategy, therefore, requires an inclusive approach that targets children and families in need. The quality of children’s lives today will shape Indonesia’s manpower potential tomorrow. With an inclusive social protection system in place, Indonesia will reap economic benefits 20 years down the line, when Indonesia reaches its “demographic bonus” - from a stronger labor market to increased productivity. Investing in children, therefore, represents a great opportunity for future economic growth.

**Strategy and Remaining Gaps**

In recent years, Indonesia has made some important strides to remedy some of the aforementioned gaps in social protection programming. In addition to a wider household-based PKH program, the Ministry of Social Affairs launched a program called “Program Kesejahteraan Sosial Anak” (PKSA) in mid 2009. PKSA was designed as a gradual conditional cash transfer program that combines a model of youth savings accounts with assistance to children to access basic care and welfare services. PKSA also aims to provide family members raising these children with guidance and counseling. Social workers are charged with helping families make good decisions about how to raise their children. The program was introduced as a model designed, in part, to support the paradigm shift within the child protection sector, moving away from institutionalization and residential care in favor of family-based interventions.

Although the framing of the social protection system for children has changed, implementation of the program is still understood to be fragmented, weak in coordination and ad hoc. Evaluations of these programs show that improvements are needed to achieve the intended outcomes. More effective targeting, rigorous baseline information, an effective monitoring and evaluation system, professional social workers to support families, and better coordination amongst responsible ministries have all been identified as areas for improvement.

**Rational and Purpose of Meeting**

Achieving an integrated and sustainable social protection system that strengthens families and promotes children’s welfare will be maximized through a strong partnership between policy-makers, academics and civil society. Such a partnership has the potential to bring together sector-specific strengths in a structured manner to develop evidence-based programming that keeps families together and improves outcomes for children – and Indonesia, as a whole.

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5 According to the latest population estimates, Indonesia in 20 years will reach the lowest dependency ratio with its productive age population increasing significantly.

6 PKH (Program Keluarga Harapan) is a conditional cash transfers program provides direct cash benefits conditional on household participation in locally-provided health and education services.
Through this one-day meeting, BAPPENAS and the Center on Child Protection at the University of Indonesia are drawing together key stakeholders as a first step in building what is envisioned to be a long-term partnership. Decision-makers and key stakeholders will explore current achievements and gaps in social protection programming, and later will conceptualize steps to take towards developing an integrated social protection system that strengthens child and family welfare.

To achieve the intended goal, partners will collaborate to:

- Identify challenges and opportunities in social protection policies and programming in Indonesia, especially in regards to the role of social protection in keeping families together and addressing child protection priorities;
- Develop a research agenda to support evidence-based social protection programming that supports children and families; and
- Develop a strategy towards realizing a fully integrated social protection system.

**Participants**

- Key Government Ministries and actors responsible for social protection, poverty reduction, and child protection: Ministry of Planning (BAPPENAS), Coordinating Ministry of People's Welfare (KEMENKOKESRA), Ministry of Social Affairs (KEMENSOS), Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection (KPPPA), Indonesia Statistics Body (BPS), Komisi Perlindungan Anak Indonesia (KPAI), National Team for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction Programs (TNP2K), and selected Provincial and District Offices of the respective agencies (BAPPEDA, DINSOS, BADAN PP, BPSD).
- Representatives from Development Partners and the UN, such as: USAID, AUSAID, World Bank, ADB, IDB, GIZ, Japan Foundation, The Asia Foundation, UNICEF, UNDP, ILO.
- Practitioners and professionals from international NGOs and national organizations in the field of child protection and family services, such as: Save the Children, PLAN Indonesia, World Vision Indonesia, YKAI, Komnas PA, Coalition of Rumah Singgah, IPPSI (Ikatan Pekerja Sosial Profesional Indonesia)
- Academics and researchers from the University of Indonesia and other universities working in the field of social development, child and family development, and economics, as well as research institutes such as LPEM-UI, SMERU, PUSPELKESSOS UI, PUSKRIS UI and LEMBAGA DEMOGRAFI UI.

**Agenda**

**Background of Event**
By Deputy for Poverty, Labour and Small-Medium Enterprises BAPPENAS
Dr. Ir. Ceppie Kurniadi Sumadilaga, M.A

**Opening Remarks from BAPPENAS**
By the Minister of National Development Planning (Head of BAPPENAS)
Prof. Dr. Armida S. Alisjahbana, SE, MA

**Executive Lecture**
“Investing in the Future: From Neurons to Nations”
By the U.S. Government Special Advisor and Senior Coordinator to the Administrator on Children in Adversity, Prof. Dr. Neil Boothby
Discusssants: The Indonesian Context

- “Policy and practices on the protection of children in Indonesia”
  By the Secretary Minister of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection, Dra. Sri Danti, MA
- “Situation of Child Well-being and Protection in Indonesia”
  By the Co-Director of the Center on Child Protection University of Indonesia, Prof. Irwanto

Panel Discussions: Challenges and Opportunities

- “De-institutionalization and Keeping Children in Families”
  By Program Manager Tata Sudradjat, MSi from Save the Children
- “Integrating Child Welfare and Family Support into Social Protection System to Accelerate Poverty Reduction”
  By Economist Dr. Vivi Alatas from The World Bank
- “Strengthening Child Protection through Social Protection”
  By Director for Population, Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection BAPPENAS Dr. Sanjoyo, MEc.

Conclusion: Recommendations for Action toward Social Protection System that Protects Children and Strengthening Families

By Director for Social Protection and Welfare BAPPENAS, Dr. Vivi Yulaswaty, MSc.

- Challenges and opportunities in social protection policies and programming in Indonesia, especially in regards to the role of social protection in keeping families together and addressing child protection priorities;
- Research agenda to support evidence-based social protection programming that supports children and families; and
- Focus and priorities towards realizing a fully integrated social protection system.

Closing Remarks

By Deputy for Poverty, Labour and Small-Medium Enterprises BAPPENAS
Dr. Ir. Ceppie Kurniadi Sumadilaga, M.A

Summary and Recommendations

Challenges in social protection policies and programs for children in Indonesia

1. Low indicators of children’s basic welfare needs, such as: nutrition and access to health, access to early childhood education and primary education, various poverty indicators of families that have direct impact on children, ownership of birth certificate.

2. High prevalence of child protection issues, particularly those in need of special protection, such as: children as victim of abuse and neglect, child labor, children in conflict with the law, children in exploited and emergency situations.

3. Alarming issues of vulnerable children and its implications, such as: children separated from their families, children living in institutions, child marriages, child-headed households, children living with HIV/AIDS. Research and findings from the field show the impact of child neglect on children’s development in a whole throughout their life span. Children who are put in institutions, particularly early on in their lives can have weak brain circuits that effect the development of other body organs, learning difficulties, behavioral issues, and delays in physical and mental health.
4. Organizational/institutional challenges:
   • Week cross-sector coordination and collaborations in planning, implementation, monitoring and/or evaluation, as well as between programs related with child protection and strengthening families.
   • Week institutional capacities and human resources in planning and implementation of child welfare and protection.
   • Absence of accurate and sustainable data that can support the acceleration between child welfare and protection, family strengthening, and social protection.

5. Policy related challenges:
   • Fragmented policies without holistic focus on children’s needs that often overlook family’s role in child development.
   • Dissonant implementation of various policies related to child welfare, child protection, and family support.
   • These policies resulted in impacts that are not optimal and unsustainable, moreover child protection, child welfare, and family support are not yet integrated within the social protection system.

Opportunities in social protection policies and programs for children in Indonesia

1. Government’s commitment towards child protection will direct policy focus towards comprehensive protection for children, including family support, such as: the inclusion of child protection as a national priority together with poverty reduction in the National Mid-Term Development Plan (RPJMN) 2010-2014, the identification of child protection as one of the social protection priorities together with people with disabilities and aging population, presence of an institutional structure that coordinate the implementation of child protection policies, and development of various programs such as Family Cash Transfer Program (PKH), Children Social Welfare Protection Program (PKSA), and various types of out-of-institutions alternative care.

2. Civil society and government partnership and capacities for policy and program development, such as: professional social workers, research institutions, development partners with specialty in child welfare and child protection, and poverty reduction.

Focus and priority strategies toward an integrated and comprehensive social protection for children and families in Indonesia
1. Focus on children and their families, particularly those who are poor and vulnerable.

2. Prioritizing comprehensive preventive measures, not only rehabilitative interventions that are fragmented by issues, including efforts to keep children within family care and preventing them to enter institutions to access health and education.

3. Develop a social protection program that promotes support to strengthening family capacities to care and protect children.

4. Combining protections for child development, survival, care, health, and education.

5. Investment on families to be able to continually care and protect children through eliminating social economic burdens of parents/families in the care of children, investment on access to education, health and protection, and eliminating obstacles to access, and develop non-monetary support through support from skillful social workers.