

Customs Supervision Through Synergy Against Narcotics Smuggling in Batam

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Abstract

The circulation of Narcotics in Indonesia cannot be separated from the crime of Narcotics smuggling that occurred in Batam because of its strategic location in the Malacca Straits area and having access to various regions in Indonesia. Customs is an agency that oversees the entry and exit of goods from the Batam Free Trade Zone needs to continue to improve supervision of narcotics smuggling. This study aims to analyze customs supervision of Narcotics smuggling in Batam through synergy with The National Narcotics Board (BNN) as the leading sector in handling Narcotics problems in Indonesia. This paper will explore the memorandum of understanding between Customs and BNN and examine it using the theory of synergy. The method used is qualitative research with a narrative research design. The results of this study found that the synergy between Customs and BNN has been going well and supported by an agreement. Customs has the advantage of analyzing the traffic of export and import goods. This is complemented by BNN's superiority in analyzing the circulation of Narcotics in the country through intelligence activities in the form of undercover. The synergy carried out by Customs and BNN can create more effective, efficient, and sustainable supervision. Further research about other synergies is still needed to eradication of illegal circulation of Narcotics.

Keywords: Customs, Supervision, Smuggling, Synergy, Narcotics

INTRODUCTION

Narcotics are a dangerous threat to the Indonesian people (Akuntono, 2015). Disclosure of Narcotics crime cases by law enforcers is proof that Indonesia has become the target of Narcotics marketing. The length of Indonesia's borders, especially the sea, is a potential entry point for narcotics smuggling (Octavian, 2022). Until now, there are still attempts to smuggle, although not a few actions have been taken.

Limitations of law enforcement officers in monitoring the border, has always been a target for criminals to smuggle narcotics into Indonesia. This challenge will be even greater if law enforcement officers supervise and take action respectively. Disharmony among law enforcement officials can also be a distinct advantage for narcotics smugglers. Thus, there needs to be an effort so that all supervisory resources can be utilized jointly and directed through synergy.

Synergy is an important element for Customs in conducting supervision. The synergy that can be carried out can be in the form of synergy between units in the internal environment of Customs or synergy with external units. In supervising narcotics smuggling, Customs establishes a synergy with BNN which is the leading sector in handling narcotics problems in Indonesia.

Customs administration generally has the task of supervising the traffic of goods between countries only. However, Batam's status as a free trade zone adds to the task of Customs to supervise the traffic of goods entering and leaving the free trade zone, both for foreign destinations and other areas within the country. Supervision of domestic goods traffic is a challenge for Batam Customs because the Head Office of Customs control system is national in nature and tends to focus on goods traffic between countries or export-import.

According to Brush et al. (2011), many communities face urgent problems and are not responsive to single-solution programs or strategies that have been derived from the above using community-based participatory research. In this approach, communities and partners come together to achieve results that may be difficult or impossible to achieve alone, such as pooling resources, giving the best in their fields, and looking at problems from different points of view.

To get an ideal partnership, related parties must be involved in a synergy that is built. Synergy is a form of interaction process to create a harmonious balance to obtain optimum results. Synergy also means the power to combine the perspectives, resources and skills of a group of people and an organization (Lasker et al., 2003).

The components that encourage synergy are collaboration, engagement, and trust in maintaining the integrity of the partnership. Synergy is not an end goal to be achieved. However, the synergy that is formed will produce partnerships that are sustainable, effective, and efficient.

In conducting research related to customs control of the smuggling of Narcotics in the Batam Free Trade Zone, researchers place limitations on supervision carried out by Customs and Customs synergy with BNN in dealing with Narcotics problems. The synergy of Customs and Excise with other agencies or other collaborations can be material for further research.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses qualitative research methods. Qualitative research methods are an approach to exploring and understanding problems in a social context (Creswell, 2014). The data used in this study, namely data from the results of observations made by researchers on the activities of customs duties and functions. This research also uses normative juridical research methods with a research focus on literature studies and written regulations or other legal materials. The data analysis technique used is the Miles-Huberman data analysis technique. The analysis process begins with data collection, data presentation, and verification. Throughout the process, data reduction was carried out in order to obtain data that was really needed in the research. The purpose of this study is to analyze the synergy between Customs and BNN in monitoring Narcotics smuggling in the Batam Free Trade Zone.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Synergy is an important element for Customs in term of supervision, including in monitoring Narcotics smuggling. Customs synergizes with BNN which is the leading sector in handling narcotics problems in Indonesia. As a leading sector, BNN has complete information and in-depth analysis regarding the circulation of Narcotics compared to other agencies. Through Presidential Instruction number 2 of 2020, BNN becomes the coordinator in implementing the Prevention and Eradication of Narcotics Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (P4GN) national action plan for 2020-2024 and Customs is one of the agencies involved in it.

The synergy between Customs and BNN currently has a cooperation agreement (PKS) signed in 2022. This PKS is an effort to strengthen the basis for synergies that have previously been implemented. The scope of the PKS includes exchanging data and information, implementing joint operations, sharing resources, increasing and developing the capacity of human resources, and increasing the ability of K-9 units.

In exchanging data and information, Customs plays a role in providing data and information to BNN regarding Narcotics crimes committed in the Customs control area and

other supporting data to be integrated into BNN's Integrated Interdiction Information System. Customs will gain access to the system which is used to analyze potential Narcotics smuggling. Customs also agreed to carry out joint operations in taking action against Narcotics crimes that occurred in the Customs control area, including the investigation process, case development, and publication of the results of the prosecution.

Customs and BNN also cooperate in resource utilization. Both Customs and BNN have their own resources. Through this cooperation, the joint use of resources is intended to optimize the power of supervision. For example, the use of sea patrols owned by Customs can be used together with BNN in carrying out maritime surveillance activities and prosecutions at sea. The last form of cooperation is capacity building for human resources and K-9 units. This cooperation is carried out by means of, among others, joint education and training, workshops, seminars, discussions, and outreach.

In addition to these four matters, the PKS that was drawn up between Customs and BNN also explained the follow-up of the PKS which opened up opportunities to develop joint standard operating procedures, the validity period of this PKS, force majeure, confidentiality, financing, monitoring and evaluation, and correspondence. This PKS is prepared comprehensively in order to create optimal results.

In supervising the smuggling of Narcotics in the Batam Free Trade Zone, the synergy of Customs and BNN has a positive and complementary impact. Customs has advantages in the availability of sea patrol facilities, analysis of goods coming from abroad, and direct supervision of goods from the Batam Free Trade Zone to other places in the customs area (TLDDP). On the other hand, BNN has advantages in domestic supervision and international network. To supervise the distribution of Narcotics, BNN uses intelligence activities such as undercover techniques. In addition, supervision carried out by BNN can also strengthen supervision of Narcotics imported into Batam from TLDDP and illicit traffic in the Batam area. Thus, supervision of Narcotics smuggling in the Batam Free Trade Zone can be carried out more optimally.

According to Brush et al. (2011), synergy is the basis for creating an ideal partnership. The partnership has a sustainable nature in solving a problem. The partnership is also able to solve problems more effectively and efficiently. To realize synergy, collaboration, engagement, and trust are needed as driving components. With the fulfillment of these components, it can be said that the synergy has been going well.

Collaboration is marked by initiating partnerships, formulating goals, and making memorandums of understanding or cooperation agreements. Customs in conjunction with BNN have initiated partnerships, have a goal of eradicating the abuse and illicit traffic of Narcotics, and have a cooperation agreement.

Engagement is full participation so that the movement changes from being alone to being a community. In this engagement, a community advisory board is formed, designing a strategic plan, and identifying priorities to be examined. In the relationship between Customs and BNN, a chief officer has been appointed to serve as an advisory board for the implementation of the cooperation carried out by his staff. The Presidential Instruction regarding the P4GN national action plan forms the basis for designing a strategic plan.

Meanwhile, trust is a component in which a community can give confidence in the agreed way of working even though it may be slightly different from their point of view. Differences in perspectives naturally occur in a community due to differences in backgrounds and perspectives from the partners involved. However, this is a crucial point so that a problem can be solved by a certain method. After deciding on the method to be used and how to implement it, a partnership must be able to ensure and ensure that all its members have obtained information, are aware of it, are willing to accept it, and finally, use this information to achieve their goals.

Solving problems with certain methods that are convincing and ensure that all members have received information, awareness is raised, are willing to accept, and finally utilize this information to achieve goals, has been shown in the synergy of Customs and BNN. This is evidenced by the use of ways of acting in utilizing information and carrying out operations against Narcotics smuggling. Each party also tries to maintain the confidentiality of information so that supervision does not fail.

CONCLUSION

The synergy between Customs and BNN in supervising Narcotics in the Batam Free Trade Zone has been going well. This synergy is also supported by cooperation agreements and action plans so that it can run more effectively, efficiently, and sustainably. The scope of the cooperation includes exchanging data and information, implementing joint operations, utilizing shared resources, and increasing the capacity of human resources and K-9 units.

Furthermore, there are several suggestions put forward by researchers, namely that it is necessary to conduct research to determine indicators of successful supervision of Narcotics smuggling so that the monitoring system can continue to be improved and further research is needed regarding the synergy of Customs and Excise with other agencies, both domestic and foreign, in order to obtain a more comprehensive monitoring model for Narcotics smuggling

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