

Indonesian Government Capacity In Dealing With Contemporary Disasters During The Covid-19 Pandemi To Support National Security

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Abstract

The capacity of the Government of Indonesia is urgently needed in dealing with contemporary disasters, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic. The impact of disasters will disrupt community resilience where if the government in its capacity as a policy maker, especially when large-scale natural disasters occur, is not immediately resolved, it will greatly affect national security. This study uses a qualitative method with a descriptive exploratory approach. Data collection by observation, in-depth interviews and documentation. Data analysis technique with qualitative data analysis techniques Miles and Huberman. The research results found that it is important to formulate and oversee disaster management and mitigation programs in the RPJMN every 5 years (2020-2024). The Indonesian government must establish cooperation with Japan, which has already implemented various effective policies in disaster risk management. The conclusion from this study is that capacity building efforts that should be carried out by the Government of Indonesia to anticipate and cope with contemporary disasters are the need to use technology in disaster management, disaster education for the community, and realizing community regeneration/resilience. Increasing government capacity during the Covid-19 pandemic can be carried out by following the direct example of Japan's success in disaster management so that national security is maintained.

Keywords: *Capacity, Contemporary Disaster, Indonesian Government*

INTRODUCTION

In 2015, the State of Japan agreed on disaster risk reduction which was contained in the Sendai Framework for Action 2015-2030 and has been ratified by almost all countries in the world which stated to be more serious in reducing disaster risk. Disasters whose risks must be reduced include disasters due to climate change, disasters due to geology to disasters due to diseases that become epidemics and pandemics (UNISDR, 2015). The impact of disasters will disrupt community resilience which, if not addressed immediately, will greatly affect national security. National security for Indonesia is the goal of a state organization which is translated as a dynamic condition of a nation and the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia that is physically and psychologically safe for every individual, citizen, community, government and state, as well as the sustainability of national development from all threats. In implementing national defense, all potential national resources owned will be converted into national defense forces. Defense resources This country relies on military defense resources, namely the TNI as the main component and non-military defense resources. (Law no.3, 2002)

During the Covid-19 pandemic along with the development of the strategic environment, the patterns and forms of threats were very complex and multidimensional in the form of military threats and non-military threats. Indonesia has experienced the Covid-19 pandemic for 3 years, since the discovery of the first case of a Covid-19 patient in March 2020, the government has implemented various policies aimed at limiting the transmission of Covid-19 and providing assistance to communities affected by Covid-19. Even today, many world governments appreciate the success of the Indonesian government in providing vaccines to boosters of up to 50%. This success is a form of effective coordination between the local

government, the ministry of health, the Covid-19 task force, the Ministry of Communication and Information, the TNI, Polri, ministries and institutions, and the community.

Compared to Japan, which both have the potential for natural disasters due to geological aspects, where tectonic plates pass through, Indonesia is still below it. The difference in natural disaster risk management between Indonesia and Japan lies in the disaster management technology they have and the mitigation actions taken. In terms of disaster management, Japan learns and adapts more quickly from natural disasters that have occurred hundreds of years ago. The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) has very complete data on the history of earthquakes and tsunamis that frequently hit the country. On their official website, all earthquake mapping that has occurred to the complete monitoring and mitigation system is recorded. All data can be accessed by anyone who opens the site. Japan's tsunami and earthquake early warning systems are also clearly recorded on the site. What technology and steps have been taken by the country of the rising sun.

Japan's resilience in dealing with disasters is very strong and sturdy, even though it was hit by three major disasters at almost the same time. From this incident, it can be used as a lesson when a tectonic earthquake measuring 8.9 on the Richter scale (SR) is followed by a tsunami as high as 10 meters. The international community was amazed by the reaction of the Japanese people when a disaster occurred. They continued to live as usual and there were no residents who made noise, let alone crime. During the emergency response, the process of evacuating victims was carried out quickly. Distribution of aid is distributed with full responsibility. Then the reconstruction process went according to schedule. High discipline can be shown with an attitude that strengthens Japan as a civilized country. Assuming that disaster events are normal and there is no excessive worry that is shown then supported by a culture that does not want to be a burden on the government, it won't take long for Japanese people to live a normal life.

Similar to the condition of Japan, Indonesia is a country known as a disaster laboratory (Indonesian Meteorological, Climatological, and Geophysical Agency, 2023). At least 13 types of disasters alternately colored disaster events in Indonesia (National Agency for Disaster Management). If this is not anticipated, more than 270 million people will be threatened by the dangers caused by earthquakes. Likewise about five million people who live in tsunami-prone areas. Hundreds of active volcanoes that have the potential to erupt at any time are also ready to give birth to casualties. Moreover, Indonesia is in a tectonic plate fault zone which in its history has often led to volcanic eruptions (Indonesian Meteorological, Climatological, and Geophysical Agency, 2023). The successive natural disasters that Indonesia has experienced should be a reflection for the country's leaders and staff. Technological improvements with shorter detection paths can be a priority and taken seriously apart from mitigation and socialization of Indonesia's earthquake-prone condition. Japan has built all of these ecosystems for decades and you can see the strength of the country today. Indonesia should be able to do something similar. This is because the tsunami and earthquake disasters not only harmed the material but put people's lives at risk.

Based on the description above, it raises several problem formulations that encourage researchers to conduct an analysis of "The Capacity of the Indonesian Government in Dealing with Contemporary Disasters During the Covid-19 Pandemic to Support National Security." The purpose of this research is to analyze the government's efforts in carrying out disaster management during the Covid-19 pandemic by comparing the capacity of the Japanese state which has already succeeded in implementing disaster risk management.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study will use qualitative research methods that focus on exploring and understanding data that is carried out in depth (Bandur, 2016, p.18). This research will describe in more detail the government's capacity to carry out contemporary disaster management efforts during the Covid-19 pandemic to support national security. The data in this study were obtained through several data collection techniques. Data collection techniques in this study were carried out by collecting data and information through interviews (in-depth interviews) and literature studies (desk research).

The results of the interviews will become the primary data of this research and will be recorded/transcribed for interviews/discussions. Primary data is obtained through observation, exposure and discussion, while secondary data will be obtained from books, journals and reports. Interviews which are the source of primary data are conducted by interviewing research subjects. Interview techniques were conducted with informants who had direct involvement in the implementation of Japanese government programs in disaster management and informants who conducted research as academics in Japan. The research subjects consisted of people who were directly involved in collecting primary data and became resource persons in the interview activities in this study.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The capacity of the Government of Indonesia that needs to be increased to deal with disasters

The high potential for disasters in Indonesia requires serious handling, an important step has been taken by the government by ratifying various global commitments related to capacity building in disaster risk reduction. After being actively involved on a global scale in various disaster risk reduction activities, activities within the country itself must of course continue to be increased, especially strengthening capacity at the grassroots level, namely the community, including: (Perkim, 2021)

a. The need for the use of technology in disaster management

Take the example of a case study of Japan which handled the flood and tsunami natural disasters by using the technology they created, namely MOWLAS, where the disaster detection system is able to reach all land and sea areas around Japan. MOWLAS is claimed to be able to detect various frequencies of earth vibrations directly, and can provide disaster warnings up to 20 minutes before the incident. Thus, when an earthquake or tsunami occurs, the community has enough additional time to evacuate and minimize casualties.

b. The need for disaster education for the community

In facing the threat of disaster, preparedness is the key to safety. Preparedness is a series of activities carried out to anticipate disasters through organization and through appropriate and efficient steps. Many preparedness efforts are useful in various disaster situations. Some important efforts for preparedness are:

- 1) Understand the dangers around.
- 2) Understand the local early warning system. Know evacuation routes and evacuation plans.
- 3) Have the skills to evaluate situations quickly and take action initiatives to protect themselves.
- 4) Have a disaster anticipation plan for the family and practice the plan with exercises.
- 5) Reducing the impact of hazards through mitigation exercises.

- 6) Get involved by participating in training.
- c. Realizing community resilience (community regeneration/resilience) Twigg (2007) explains that resilience includes three meanings, namely
 - 1) The capacity to absorb pressure or crushing forces, through resistance or adaptation.
 - 2) The capacity to manage, or maintain certain basic structures and functions, during the event of a hazard.
 - 3) The capacity to recover or 'bounce back' after an incident.

Given the significant impact of natural disasters, it is important to determine the level of disaster risk in a country or region. In-depth understanding of this problem will help the government to develop a comprehensive framework or policy to minimize the negative impact of disasters. In addition, an understanding of the level of risk must also be followed up with an assessment of the level of resilience to overcome disasters. As mentioned by Mayunga, (2007) disaster resilience is the capacity or ability of a community to anticipate, prepare, respond, and recover quickly from the impact of disasters. Furthermore, disaster resilience and economic vitality, environmental quality, social and intergenerational equity, quality of life, and participatory processes are the six principles of sustainability (University of Colorado, 2006).

The culture of disaster risk reduction varies greatly from country to country. Indonesia and Japan face potential natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, too volcanic eruption. The two countries must strengthen their anticipation of facing disasters and reduce their impact on humans. Indonesia has included a disaster management and mitigation program in the 2020-2024 RPJMN. Regarding the natural disasters that Indonesia has experienced in the last two decades, the Government of Indonesia appreciates the role of the Government of Japan, which has always been one of the first countries to act when Indonesia experiences a large-scale disaster. Japan provided grants of 16 billion or the equivalent of 1.8 trillion rupiah for assistance to three disasters over the past few years, namely the Aceh and Nias tsunamis in 2004, the Yogyakarta earthquake in 2006 and the Padang earthquake in 2007. This support was very useful for post-tsunami recovery projects. , including tsunami early warning.

In addition, the Aceh Barat District Government of Aceh Province built cooperation with Japan in an effort to increase disaster management mitigation in the area in January 2016. The Provincial Government asked Japan to provide full support in increasing disaster mitigation in West Aceh. In the first stage, a proposal will be made to be submitted to JICA. The Aceh Provincial Government is in dialogue with two Japanese researchers who came to West Aceh, namely Prof. Suzuki Tamojo, general secretary of Engineers Without Borders Japan, and Prof. Masaru Arakida, as senior Asian Disaster Reduction Center. After the agenda for the meeting of the two parties was followed by the making of a proposal by the two Japanese researchers to be submitted to JICA. According to the Japanese government, the disaster mitigation methods being carried out in Japan now no longer need theory and presentation, but are best implemented through games applicable. In addition, it is necessary to involve the community culturally and consciously to improve mitigation, so that people are accustomed to and better prepared for disasters. With regard to coordination in Japan, in the past the people of that country relied heavily on standard procedures.

Leonard and Barton (1992:4-5) state that core capabilities or core capabilities are the essence and dimensions of organizational capabilities that define differentiating knowledge areas and also provide competitive advantage. The core capabilities cover four dimensions, namely knowledge and skills, technical systems, managerial systems, and values and norms. Based on the data obtained by researchers, the capability or ability of the Indonesian government that needs to be improved in disaster management is to strengthen disaster mitigation by carrying out training and simulation programs that must always be evaluated and

the curriculum used by Japan can be widely applied in Indonesia by way of apprenticeship. Thus the government can carry out its participation in carrying out the duties of policy makers who understand the importance of disaster risk management to support national security.

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From the explanation above, Japan has an advance disaster management system to mitigate and minimize risk in term of facing disasters. Meanwhile, Indonesia has not yet developed an advanced technology to support the disaster management in Indonesia. Other than that, resilient culture has not yet been shaped in the community. Indonesia and Japan bilateral relations can be used to increase Indonesia's capacity to face disaster by sharing and developing disaster technology together as well as shaping the resilient culture in Indonesia.

CONCLUSION

The Indonesian government can increase its capacity in dealing with contemporary disaster risks, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic, which, when compared to the Japanese government, still has several weaknesses in its implementation. The weakness of the government lies in the dimensions of the proper application of science and technology in the field of disaster. Following the success of the Japanese government, the efforts that should be made by Indonesia to increase capacity in dealing with disasters are the need to use technology in disaster management, disaster education for the community, and creating community regeneration/resilience. Indonesia can apply the Disaster Management Plan as in Japan, because the two countries have almost the same characteristics of natural disasters, besides their natural conditions and administrative systems. Anticipating and handling disasters is our shared responsibility, not only the responsibility of the government, humanitarian agencies, disaster management agencies, volunteers and professionals. Enhancement responsibility, participation, ability to anticipate and manage disasters can be achieved one of them through disaster education. We can learn from and reflect on the Japanese people who have a high risk of disaster vulnerability and have a willingness to learn about disasters so that they can still live in harmony with the disasters that occur. The topic of disaster management policies and strategies and institutional capacity building can also refer to Japan's experience

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