

The Indonesian Update

Monthly Review on Economic, Legal, Security, Political, and Social Affairs



Main Report:
The Disease of Fuel Subsidy and a Premature Policy

Law

- Delegitimation of Presidential General Election ■
- The Last Stage of Legislation ■

Politics

- A Look at the Quality of the 2014 Presidential Election ■
- Transition House of Jokowi-JK ■

Social

- A Look at the Urbanization Problem ■

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FOREWORD

Towards the end of its tenure, the government of SBY has been tested again by considering a decision that will invite a dilemma. The current administration is faced again with the issue of fuel subsidy.

On the one hand, the fuel subsidy budget use has exceeded the target. But on the other hand, restricting the use of subsidized fuel policy or reducing the budget allocation can also invite the community's anger.

The August-September 2014's edition of the Indonesian Update raises a main theme on "Fuel Subsidy and Half-Hearted Policy". On law, it talks about "Delegitimation of the Presidential General Election". On politics, it reviews "A Look at the Quality of the 2014 Presidential Election". On social affairs, it discusses "A Look at the Urbanization Problem".

In addition, on law, this edition of the Indonesian Update also discusses "the Last Stage of Legislation". And in politics, it touches on "The Establishment of the Transitional House, Highlighting Jokowi-JK".

The regular publication of the Indonesian Update with its actual themes is expected to help policy makers in government and business environment -- as well as academics, think tanks, and other elements of civil society, both within and outside the country, to get the actual information and contextual analysis of economic, legal, political, cultural and social developments in Indonesia, as well as to understand the public policy in Indonesia.

Happy Reading.

The Disease of Fuel Subsidy and a Premature Policy

Before the end of its term, the SBY administration is being retested by a dilemmatic policy. The government is now being faced again with the fuel subsidy issue. In a way, the fuel subsidy is a burden for the annual national budget, and the use has exceeded the target. However, reducing or removing the fuel subsidy may also attract the people's anger.

The Annual Disease of Fuel Subsidy

The main point that we should realize is that to change the paradigm from appreciating the fuel subsidy as a pro society policy into an annual disease. Every year, the fuel subsidy is always discussed in the government and the House of Representatives (DPR). The author considers this as an annual disease because the government actually already realizes several things.

First, the portion allocated for the fuel subsidy every year is a burden, which is relatively high in the annual national budget (APBN). In this year, the government's allocation of fuel subsidy in APBN-P tends to increase up to around 25 percent from the previous APBN-P, which is around IDR 246.49 trillion. This has been worsen by the realization, which tends to exceed from the allocation every year.

Second, the government has actually already realized that the fuel subsidy is no longer good now. The government has already realized that since 2004, Indonesia has been recorded as a net importer of oil commodities, as a result of the domestic consumption that has exceeded the production. The data released by the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA, 2014) revealed that in 2013 the total consumption of petroleum products and the direct combustion of crude oil doubled from the production, which was 1,660 million barrels per day (with a total production of only 939.71 thousand barrels per day).

Third, maybe the government has been pretending to forget that the use of subsidized fuels has mostly been by the private transports. The data from Susenas in 2009 showed that 40 percent of the beneficiaries of the fuel subsidy were the 10 percent highest income earners. On the other hand, the lowest 10 percent income earners only enjoyed less than one percent of the fuel subsidy.

Furthermore, more than 80 percent of the use of subsidized fuels is for transportation. So, that is why there are a lot of traffic jams in big cities.

It seems that both the government and the House of Representative have already recognized this annual disease. A question that may arise is that is the cycle of this annual disease should be cured permanently or temporarily?.

A Premature Policy

Maybe we still remember that the government has previously tried to handle the budget problem arising the fuel subsidy. There have been policies, such as the use of stickers for official vehicles, the limitation of subsidy users who have certain types of cars, and buying subsidized fuels with non-cash payments. And now, the government has just released a new policy that limits fuel subsidy users in certain places and times. Is this kind of policy effective?.

The author believes that the policy is still premature. The reason is that the policy of limiting the users of subsidized fuels as explained above is vulnerable to the cost of delay.

The cost of delay means that there is a deficit in the current account. Last year, for instance, Indonesia's deficit in oil trading reached a level of USD 27.7 billion.

In addition, the smuggling activities by the oil mafia will be difficult to avoid. The reason is that the smugglers will gain an advantage from the discrimination in using the subsidized fuels. Therefore, this will harm the APBN, which will not be on target and will not benefit the poor, which actually have the rights to receive the basic needs from the government through the subsidy.

The hampering of the development in alternative energy may become another problem. This is because the budget allocation is already large for subsidizing the fuels. Besides, the alternative energy may be less competitive compared to the fuels, as the fuels have lower prices (under pricing).

In the end, the author concludes that the policy that limits the use of subsidized fuels will become contra-productive and create a new problem. The government should strictly limit the budget for the fuel subsidy by reducing or eliminating the allocation.

Therefore, the allocation can then be used for infrastructure development, direct subsidies for the poor, fertilizers for farmers, and so on. In the end, this may result in a productive and on target allocation. And this can be achieved if the government is brave enough and therefore does not transfer the burden to the President elect.

- Akbar NikmatullahDachlan -

The main thing that we should consider is to change our paradigm from appreciating fuel subsidy as a pro society policy into a subsidy that is an annual disease. Moreover, the government should strictly allocate the budget for productive economy activities.

Delegitimation of Presidential General Election

The voting stage of the presidential and vice-presidential election had been completed on July 9, 2014. Then, on July 22, 2014, the KPU had also completed the national vote counting process through the issuance of KPU Decision No. 535/Kpts/KPU/2014 and KPU Decision No.536/Kpts/KPU/2014, which set Ir. H. Joko Widodo and Drs. H.M. Jusuf Kalla as the president- and vice president-elect.

There was a pretty interesting thing on July 22, before KPU officially announced the winners. One of the pairs, Prabowo and Hatta Rajasa, declared that they withdrew from the presidential and vice presidential election. The witnesses who attended the national voting counting process were also ordered to leave the process.

It was actually very unfortunate, considering the mechanisms of elections in Indonesia are very clear. There is a mechanism if a candidate feels that he or she has been harmed by a Decision of KPU. The mechanism is through the application of the Election Result Dispute (PHPU).

Rejecting the Delegitimation of the Presidential Election

The presidential election consists of several stages, participated by the candidates. The first one is the registration of candidates, the determination of election participants, the determination of the sequence election numbers, the campaigns, the voting, and the vote counting. The stages at the different levels get tight supervision.

Supervision is carried out by the KPU, the candidate pairs, the campaign teams, Bawaslu, independent observers, and even by the mass media, both print and electronic media. Monitoring is also carried out by the general public through social media.

Therefore, it can be said that each stage of the elections has been

conducted by KPU in a transparent manner. It is also influenced by information technology that makes people able to monitor and supervise the election stages, although the location is not located.

Opinions and allegations of fraud and manipulation that were structurally, systematically, and massively carried by one of the candidates and KPU are very serious things. There have been doubts over the independence and integrity of the KPU's work, which involved hundreds of thousands of people worked from the KPPS to the centrak level.

These serious allegations must be proved legally before the Constitutional Court as the state institution authorized by the 1945 Constitution to resolve presidential election disputes. Nevertheless, please do not let these allegations become part of an effort to delegitimize the election.

If the allegations could be proven in courts, the election organizers had betrayed the mandate given to him. Instead, they cannot be proven, the allegations of fraud and manipulation are realized as part of efforts to delegitimize the election results.

As it has already been known, the Constitutional Court's decision on the presidential election is final and binding. There is no other remedy that can be used if the decision assigned by the nine constitutional judges. Therefore, all parties are obliged to accept any decisions of the Constitutional Court later.

Those candidates who were set by the Constitutional Court as the winners of the 2014 presidential election should be accepted as the President and Vice President of Indonesia for the period of 2014-2019. The delegitimizing efforts by accusations of fraud and manipulation in the election must be stopped. All elements of society must accept the final election results.

Nurturing Democracy

Direct Presidential Election is one of the products of democracy as outlined in the 1945 Constitution. Not all democratic countries in the world carry out direct presidential elections by his or her own people. Even the United States as a champion of democracy does not implement this type of democratic process.

Therefore, it is very important for Indonesia to take care of the work and products of democracy that have been carried out over the last sixteen years. The waves of reforms have fundamentally changed Indonesia.

Elections to choose either the legislative or executive officials should be interpreted as a momentum of political excitement for all elements of the society. It can also be interpreted as a renewal of hope and a momentum of the people's mandate for their leader. Elections should not be a means to divide and even undermine the unity and oneness of the nation.

The channels for protests and complaints have been provided both by 1945 Constitution and by the Presidential Election Law. All charges and allegations of fraud and manipulation must be submitted through legal mechanisms to state agencies that have the authority.

The sessions of the Constitutional Court are still ongoing. The constitutional judges will be consulted and will decide whether there was structural, systematical, and massive cheating. In addition, the constitutional judges will also consider the soundness of the vote counting processes.

We all believe that the nine constitutional judges are statespersons who are capable of deciding the case wisely and prudently. The political elite should have maturity to accept the final decision related to the presidential election. Safeguarding democracy that has begun to grow well in Indonesia is the duty of all elements of the nation.

-Asrul Ibrahim Nur-

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The Last Stage of Legislation

The members of the Parliament of the period of 2009-2014 will end their service soon. The period of August to October is like the last racing in in the last stage for the representatives of the people to complete their tasks. A work legislation still piling will be passed to the House of Representatives load of legislative work that still needs to be completed will be carried over to the next term.

The main task of the Parliament is its important role to draft legislation. Therefore, it is very important to pay attention to the performance of the House of Representatives' legislative work. Until now, dozens of bills have not been completed by the Parliamentary Organs (AKD).

There is not much time for the current House of Representatives to settle delayed legislation. Moreover, there will be many ceremonial events leading up to the end of the term in October 2014. Optimizing legislative work should be a priority agenda for the people representatives in the last stage.

Priority Agenda

The bill is being discussed at this time is a priority that should be resolved. Especially for a bill that has been discussed for months and even for years. If not completed, then the arrears of the legislation could run aground in the next period.

Before ending the term, the bills that must be a priority to be resolved are those related to the welfare of the people and the economy. Referring to the National Legislation Program (Prolegnas) of 2014, there were several bills related to the welfare of the people.

Some of them are Bills on the Acceleration of the Regional Development, the Bill on the Protection of Indonesian Overseas Workers, Bill on Housing Savings and the Bill on the Recognition and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous People.

One thing to remember is that the discussions and approval for the bills in the last stage will be loaded by politicization or political interests. In addition, the tool should not only be a show of force and power of a particular coalition of people.

It is unfortunate because the representatives are supposed to be able to provide and present the bills with the best quality to the people.

Legislative work in the final stage is indeed experiencing a variety of obstacles. *First*, there are House members who were not elected again for the next period. It is very likely that they will be psychologically less eager to follow the discussions on the outstanding bills.

Nonetheless, it may also be likely that they are eager to discuss and settle the bills with a qualified substance. We all hope that the House members are able to form qualified laws that are in accordance with the aspirations and needs of the community.

Second, another situation that might become an obstacle is the presence of the two different coalitions in 2009-2014 and in 2014-2019. One example is the passing of the MD3 Law, which clearly showed two different camps.

Big coalitions in the Parliament or the government are quite affecting legislative work in the House of Representatives. However, in the discussions of the bills, it was quite often that the substance or the themes of the bills are was often discussed.

Two things can act as factors that support or hinder legislative work in this last stage. If the service period of the current Parliament is a road full of twists, the final weeks before the outgoing this is the final hairpin before the finish line.

It is expected that in the final stage the House members debate and argue with each other in each of the sessions of the discussions. The focus on legislation in the last weeks this is a proper obligation fulfilled.

Recommendations

1. To discuss and prioritise the completion of the bills relating to the welfare of the people.
2. The members of the Parliament from 2009 to 2014 should focus on the completion of legislations. Beyond that it should not be prioritized.

Avoid the politicization of the discussions of the bills in the last stage and focus on quality and substance of the bills in accordance with the aspirations and needs of the people.

-Asrul Ibrahim Nur-

There is not much time for the House of Representatives until the end of the term in office to settle the legislation problems. Optimizing legislative work should be a priority agenda for the people's representatives in the last stage.

A Look at the Quality of the 2014 Presidential Election

At the end of this July, congratulations should be given to the Indonesian people, for their victory in the Presidential Election (Election) in 2014.

Appreciation is not excessive, as this nation has been through the important stages; namely, the determination of the president- and vice president- elects for the period of 2014-2019 by the General Elections Commission (KPU) on July 22.

The 2014 presidential election ran smoothly. There was fear for unrest in this presidential election. These concerns had emerged in the presidential campaign period participated by only two pairs of candidates.

With only two candidates competing, the country had been split into two camps. Accusations, which were also followed by libels, had heated the political tensions between the two pairs of candidates.

Ultimately, we should be grateful, the fear for riots had disappeared. People had not fallen for provocation by the elite who are still at odds in determining the results of the presidential election.

The people realize that the differences that occurred during the campaign will end after the Commission determines the winner of the presidential election. The people already look tired of the elite tensions affecting the stability of this country.

Many people rate the 2014 presidential election as one of the qualified elections ever held in Indonesia. The author noticed some aspects of the 2014 presidential election that showed the quality of it.

The first aspect is the voter participation. If you look at the number of voters in the presidential election, it was lower than the previous election.

In the 2009 presidential election, the number of voters who exercised their voting rights reached a level of 71.17 percent of the total of 171 068 667 of the total voters in the DPT.

In the 2014 election, the number of voters in the presidential election reached a level of 69.58% of the total 193 944 150 voters listed in the DPT.

In the presidential election this time, the author saw an increase in the quality of voter participation. The increase was seen by many people who participated in the organizations or volunteer groups supporting the two pairs of candidates. They took the initiative to assemble and were relatively self-sufficient in terms of funding.

This could be seen from the Jokowi-JK pair, which was supported by 1289 volunteer groups of supporters all over Indonesia (tribunnews.com, 20/7).

In addition, active participation was also rife in cyberspace. Wave Politica survey in the period of 8 June to 5 July 2014 noted that there were 5,977,879 and 1,592,323 of conversations amongst netizens on presidential candidates (liputan6.com, 6/7). Increased public participation in the campaign helps to improve the quality of voter participation.

The second aspect is transparency. The Elections Commission's decision to display the data form CI was part of the transparency building in the elections in Indonesia.

The scans had showed the CI form from the minutes of vote casting and the counting of votes in the 2014 presidential election. The results then can be directly accessible to the public through the Commission's website.

Besides the access through the Commission's website, during the election time, there were also several groups of volunteers who participated in presenting information to the public during the vote counting process.

One of the many sites that are publicly accessible is www.kawalpemilu.org. In addition to providing information, the site also can be used as media monitoring to prevent the manipulation of vote counting.

Based on some of the aspects, the author saw that the active participation of the community and transparency were the two main points that made the 2014 presidential election more qualified than the previous one. Therefore, it would be appropriate that congratulations are given to the Indonesian people who have gained victory in democracy.

The active community participation and transparency were the two main points that made the 2014 presidential election more qualified.

- Arfianto Purbolaksono-

Highlighting the Establishment of the Transition House of Jokowi-JK

The President-elect for the 2014-2019 period, Joko Widodo (Jokowi), on Monday August 4, 2014 formed a transition team. The team aims to deliver a transition leadership from Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's cabinet to the Joko Widodo administration.

The Transition Team comprises five members, including a chair and four deputies. The Transition Team is led by Rini M Soemarno, assisted by four deputies; namely, Hasto Kristianto, Anies Baswedan, Andi Widjajanto, and Akbar Faizal. The establishment of this Transition Team has invited the attention of the public in the midst of the 2014 presidential election result dispute in the Constitutional Court (MK).

The polemics over the Establishment of the Transition Houses

The establishment of the Transition Team itself had created polemics amongst the political elite. There are some people who have lamented the team establishment because the election results have not been fixed. There are still ongoing processes to resolve the 2014 presidential election result dispute in MK.

Some of these opinions, such as the one submitted by the National Campaign Team spokesperson for the Prabowo-Hatta Rajasa pair, Ade Rosiade, argue that the existence of a transition team is considered not respecting the process that is taking place in MK. The Prabowo-Hatta Team said that Jokowi-JK should respect the process until the final decision of the Court has been announced, resolving the presidential election result dispute.

President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (SBY) also voiced about the formation of the Transition Team. SBY believes that it is not appropriate for the Transition Team formed by Joko Widodo and

the government, even though he appreciated Jokowi's initiative to establish the team. Despite the appreciation for the initiative of Jokowi, SBY considers that further talks should wait for the decision of the Constitutional Court (Tempo.co, 8/8).

But, there are also some people who have praised the steps taken to form a transition team. Senior PDI-P politician Pramono Anung said that the formation of a presidential system transition team was under the authority of the president-elect to prepare the necessary policies. As for the preparation of the cabinet, Pramono said that Jokowi would talk with JK and chairs of the coalition political parties. Pramono said that the public's expectations on Jokowi to determine a good cabinet was very high. The technical issues will be worked on by a transition team (Tribunnews.com, 7/8).

Political observer from University of Indonesia (UI) Hamdi Muluk sees the formation of the transition team as a new breakthrough. Hamdi said that the formation of the team was a new political tradition. He said that it was very encouraging, and the people welcome the team and will escort it via public participation. Hamdi explained that the existence of this transition team will save time during the two months before the president and vice president elects are sworn in on October 20, 2014. The elected leaders need to form a new government scheme starting in October (Liputan6.com, 10/8).

Jokowi himself has said that a transition team will first prepare the strategic matters related to the 2015 planning, prepare matters related to institutional readiness under the president and vice president, prepare matters related to the implementation of the vision and mission set forth in the Nine Programs of Jokowi-JK, or Nawacita, and ensure that the transition of power from SBY to Jokowi runs smoothly (Kompas.com, 4/8).

Conclusions

The author sees the history of governmental transition in Indonesia has not been well. The transition from the Old Order regime to the New Order was characterized by bloody events. The transition from the New Order to the Reform Era was similarly bloody.

During the reform era, the transition of power did not always go smoothly. Former President Abdurrahman Wahid was forced to leave the palace and then replaced by Megawati Sukarnoputri. Likewise, Megawati and SBY have had a cold relationship because of the power transition that until now.

Looking at history, the formation of the transition team by Jokowi is a new tradition in order to bridge the two governments. Considering that the country has been under SBY's rule for a decade (where

there are positive outcomes to be handed over, but on the other hand there are shortcomings that must be resolved), the transition has to be prepared well by forming a transition team.

However, we should also respect the ongoing process at MK. It would be better for the team to start working after the Court's binding decision has been announced on August 22 2014 Respect for the Constitutional Court.

One should bear in mind that the Transition Team is not as a forum for the the transactions of ministerial seats. If this happens, the image of Jokowi-JK wil be tainted. The transition team should be able to provide a map of the problems and is not able to create directions and new hopes for this nation.

- Arfianto Purbolaksono-

The establishment of the transition team of Jokowi is a new tradition in order to bridge the two governments.

A Look at the Urbanization Problem

Urbanization brings many newcomers to big cities during the returning flows of the Idul Fitri holiday, alarming many governments of big cities that are overrun by the newcomers. The returning flows of Eid holiday are usually a momentum to move to new cities.

For Jakarta, according to the results of a survey by the Population and Civil Registration (dept) and the Faculty of Economics, the University of Indonesia (UI), as many as 3,616,774, or 36.21 percent of the total population of 9,988,329 people in Jakarta returned to their respective homes during the Lebaran holiday, while the returning flows were stimated at 3,685,274.

Thus, there was an excess of newcomers of around 68,500 people, or 1.89 percent of the amount of the returning flows.

This figure was higher from last year, about 25.5 percent higher, or around 17,500 people compared to the number of immigrants in the past year, which amounted to 51 thousand people.

The Policies Addressing Urbanization

Many city and provincial governments have conducted raids on these newcomers, as measures to 'counteract' the newcomers, starting from the arrival terminals to the people's homes. For immigrants who can not show local Identity Cards (KTP), actions will be taken to transfer them to their original sites. The activities are called the legal residence raid operation /Operasi Yustisi Kependudukan (OYK).

Different actions have been shown by the Government of Jakarta in the last two years. Since 2013, they have no longer conducted raids. Head of the Department of Population and Civil Registration Purba Hutapea said that the revocation of the raids did not mean that they would be free from control.

The city government realizes that the capital Jakarta is an open city and belongs to all citizens of Indonesia. Coming to Jakarta is not banned, as it is a human right protected by Article 28 of the Constitution. However, there needs to be signs, both from central government and the provincial governments, about which regulations should be adhered to.

The actions taken by the city government to address the newcomers are intended to tighten the implementation of the Regional Regulation No. 8/2007 on Public Order. Under the regulation, beggars and homeless will not be tolerated. It says that the government will conduct raids and will then select which ones to be trained and returned to their respective homes. Raids are conducted also on those who occupy land that is not theirs. This action is known as Operation Population Development (Binduk) and starts at H + 14 Lebaran.

The Population Development Policy, as an alternate option to raids, is carried out by means of registering and choosing who will receive Jakarta ID cards. The references are the profiles and the average high school education. If their education is below SMA, then they will be returned to their home areas.

The city government's decisions should be appreciated and can be used as examples for other areas around Jakarta, such as Bogor, Depok, Tangerang and Bekasi that are also crowded by new immigrants after the Eid holiday.

One important note in relation to this Binduk operation is that public order violaters in Jakarta are not only the newcomers but also the residents who have long been in Jakarta and have Jakarta ID cards. In addition, the issue of public order in Jakarta should not only be submitted to the Civil Service Police Unit and the Office of Population alone. Assertiveness in enforcing the rules of the city government is still considered only temporary, not permanent.

On the other hand, the regions that act as senders of newcomers should also be improved. Inevitably, other than for personal reasons of really wanting to work in big cities, the main reason for these newcomers flooding large cities is the lack of jobs in their respective home towns.

Local governments must actively improve the skills of the unemployed labor force. This process is not only beneficial to the unemployed but also to the regions concerned as skilled work force will be in demand in the labor markets and will automatically

increase or move the local economies. And, when the workforce is trained to work in big cities, they will be ready to work and not be 'troublesome' for local municipalities by becoming beggars or vagrants.

The issue of urbanization is not only the responsibility of the destination cities but also the source regions. Only with the cooperation and coordination of the two sides, then the issue of urbanization can be effectively addressed.

-Lola Amelia-

The handling of the issue of urbanization can be effective only if the local governments of the destination and source regions cooperate and coordinate.

 THE **INDONESIAN INSTITUTE**
CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

The Indonesian Institute (TII) is a Center for Public Policy Research which was officially established since 21 October, 2004 by a group of young and dynamic activists and intellectuals. **TII** is an independent, nonpartisan, and non-profit institution having its main funding source from grants and donations from foundations, corporations, and individuals.

TII aims to become the center for major researches in Indonesia for issues regarding public policy and committed to contribute to debates on public policy and to improve the quality of the creation and results of public policy in the new democratic situation in Indonesia.

TII's mission is to conduct researches that are reliable, independent, and nonpartisan, and to channel the researches results to policy makers, the business world, and civilians in order to improve the quality of public policy in Indonesia. **TII** also has the mission to educate the community in policy issues that affect their livelihoods. In other words, **TII** is in a position to support the process of democratization and public policy reform, as well as taking an important and active role in that process.

The scope of the researches and public policy studies conducted by **TII** covers the fields of economics, social, and politics. The main activity conducted in order to reach the vision and mission of **TII** among others are researches, surveys, trainings, working group facilitation, public discussions, public educations, editorial writings (**TII** expression), publications of weekly analysis (*Wacana*), monthly studies (*Update Indonesia*, in Bahasa Indonesia and English) and annual studies (*Indonesia Report*), and public discussion forum (*The Indonesian Forum*).

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POLITICAL RESEARCH

The consolidating democracy needs direction and guidance in order to realise a strong national political system. In addition, decentralization as part of democratization has created room for more issues in the development of political system in Indonesia. Therefore, political analysis are present for the government, political parties, the business sector and professionals, academics, non-governmental organizations, donors, and civil society to answer recent political issues.

TII's Political Research Division provides policy analyses and recommendations in order to produce strategic policies to consolidate democracy and to achieve good governance at the central and local levels. Types of political research offered by TII are: **(1) Public Policy Analyses, (2) Media Monitoring, (3) Mapping & Positioning Research, (4) Needs Assessment Research, (5) Survey Indicators.**

RESEARCH ON THE SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Social development needs policy foundations that come from independent and accurate research. Social analysis is a need for the government, the businesspeople, academia, professionals, NGOs, and civil society to improve social development. The Social Research Division is present to offer recommendations to produce efficient and effective policies, steps, and programs on education, health, population, environment, women and children.

Social research that **TII** offers: **(1) Social Policy Analysis; (2) Explorative Research; (3) Mapping & Positioning Research; (4) Need Assessment Research; (5) Program Evaluation Research; and (5) Indicator Survey.**

RESEARCH ON LEGAL AFFAIRS

According to stipulations in Law No. 12 Year 2011 on the Formulation of Laws and Regulations, every bill which will be discussed by the legislative and the executive must be complemented with academic paper. Therefore, comprehensive research is very important and needed in making a qualified academic paper. With qualified academic papers, the bills will have strong academic foundation.

TII can offer and undertake normative and legal research related to harmonization and synchronization of laws and regulations, especially in making academic papers and bills. In addition, the research will be conducted with sociological, anthropological, and political approaches in order to produce a more comprehensive academic papers and bills. It is expected that with such a process, the laws and regulations will be produced through such a participatory process, which involves the making of academic papers and bills to also go through process, such as focus group discussion (FGD) which will involve stakeholders related to the laws and regulations that will be discussed.

RESEARCH ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

The economy tends to be used as an indicator of the success of the government as a policy-maker. Limited resources have often caused the government to face obstacles in implementing economic policies that will optimally benefit the people. The increase in the quality of the people's critical thinking has forced the government to conduct comprehensive studies in every decision-making process. In fact, the studies will not be stopped when the policy is already in place. Studies will be continued until the policy evaluation process.

The TII Economic Research Division is present for those who are interested in the conditions of the economy. The results of the research are intended to assist policy-makers, regulators, and donor agencies in making decisions. The research that TII offers: **(1) Economic Policy Analysis; (2) Regional and Sectoral Prospects; and (3) Program Evaluation.**

Project or Program Evaluation

One of the activities that have been conducted and offered by TII is a qualitative evaluation on a project or a program of a non-governmental organization or a government agency. Evaluation activities that are offered by TII are a mid-term evaluation and a final evaluation.

As we may already know, evaluation is one of the important stages in the implementation of a project or a program. A mid-term evaluation is intended to see and analyze challenges, lessons learned during the project or the program, and to give recommendations on the implementation of the project or the program. Meanwhile, a final evaluation will be useful to see and analyze the achievements and lessons learned to ensure that all the projects or the program's goals are achieved at the end of the project or program.

THE INDONESIAN FORUM

The Indonesian Forum is a monthly discussion activity on actual issues in the political, economic, social, legal, cultural, defense, and environmental fields. TII organizes these forums as media for competent resource persons, stakeholders, policymakers, civil society activists, academicians, and the media to meet and have discussion.

Themes that have been raised were the ones that have caught public attention, such as migrant workers, social conflicts, domestic politics, and local direct elections. The main consideration in picking a theme is sociological and political reality and the context of the relevant public policy at the time that the Indonesian Forum is delivered.

It is expected that the public can get the big picture of a particular event as the Indonesian Forum also presents relevant resource persons.

Since its inception, the Indonesian Institute is very aware of the passion of the public to get discussions that are not only rich in substance but also well formatted, which support balanced ideas exchanges ideas and the equal involvement of the different elements of the society.

The discussions, which are designed to only invite a limited number of participants, do not only feature idea exchanges but also regularly offer policy briefs (policy recommendations) to relevant policymakers and also summaries to the participants, especially the media people and the resource persons at the end of each discussion. Therefore, the discussions will not end without solutions.

LOCAL COUNCIL TRAINING

The roles and functions of local councils in monitoring local governments are very important. They need to ensure that participative and democratic policies will be espoused. Members of provincial and regent local councils are required to have strong capacity to understand democratization matters, regional autonomy, legislative techniques, budgeting, local Politics, and political marketing. Thus, it is important to empower members of local councils.

In order for local councils to be able to response every problem that will come out as a result of any policy implemented by the central government or local governments, the Indonesian Institute invites the leaderships and members of local councils to undergo training to improve their capacity.

WORKING GROUP

The Indonesian Institute believes that a good public policy process can be held with some engagement and empowerment of the stakeholders. The Indonesian Institute takes a role as one of mediator agencies to facilitate some forums in which the Government, Council Members, Private Sectors, NGOs and Academicians can meet in interactive forums. The Indonesian Institute provides facilitation on working groups and public advocacy.

The Indonesian Institute takes the role of mediator and facilitator in order to encourage the synergy of public policy work between the stakeholders and policy makers and also to have a synergy with funding agencies (donors).

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