# Role of Public Protection Unit (SATLINMAS) Handling Covid-19 Pandemic in Surakarta City

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#### Abstrak

In function of carrying out the mandate of Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Local Government, each region recruits its citizens voluntarily to become members of Public Protection Unit (Satlinmas). One of Satlinmas duties is to carry out the disaster function. Covid-19 pandemic is also classified as a very impactful national disaster. The purpose of this study was to determine the role of Satlinmas in handling Covid-19 pandemic in Surakarta City. The method used is qualitative where data is obtained from interviews, questionnaires and involved observations. Results were analyzed using interactive analysis techniques. The conclusion is that Satlinmas primarily involved in handling Covid-19 in Surakarta City by carrying out the task of assisting related agencies in Surakarta City and stakeholders who carry out the handling of Covid-19 pandemic in Surakarta. These tasks include pre-disaster, covid-19 emergency response and post covid-19.

Keywords: Disaster, Covid-19, Satlinmas

#### 1. Introduction

Law Number 23 of 2014 about Local Government, Article 12 section (1) states that one of the mandatory basic services for Local Government is **Protection of Society**. To realize society protection, the Local Government has formed an organization, whose members are members of the community who are prepared and equipped with knowledge and skills to carry out disaster management activities in order to reduce and minimize the effects of disasters, and participate in maintaining security, peace and public order. The organization is a public protection unit or Satlinmas.

In Minister of Home Affairs Regulation (Permendagri) Number 84 of 2014 concerning Implementation of Public Protection, it is stated that Satlinmas duties include assisting in disaster management; assisting security, tranquility and public order, and are divided, among others, by the Early Preparedness and Vigilance team; Rescue and Evacuation Team; and the Public Kitchen team. In carrying out these

disaster tasks, Satlinmas role is divided into pre-disaster, disaster emergency response and post-disaster stages.

Since the stipulation of Covid-19 pandemic as a national disaster (Ririn: 2020) which was declared through Presidential Decree Number 12 of 2020 on Stipulation of Non-Natural Disasters of the Spread of COVID-19 as a National Disaster. In the Presidential Decree, it stipulates that the management of the national disaster caused by the spread of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is to be conducted by the Task Force for the Acceleration of the Management of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-I9) under Presidential Decree Number 7 of 2020 on The Task Force for the Acceleration of the Management of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as amended by Presidential Decree Number 9 of 2020 on the Amendment to Presidential Decree Number 7 of 2020 on The Task Force for the Acceleration of the Management of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) through synergy between ministries / institutions and local governments. This is mentioned in the second point in the Presidential Decree. As a follow-up at the Local Government level, this presidential decree also gives orders to Governors, Regents and Mayors as the Heads of the Task Force for the Acceleration of the Management of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-I9) in the regions, in setting policies in their respective regions, must pay attention to the policies of the Central Government.

Satlinmas as one of the parts that carry out disaster tasks, also has a role in overcoming the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic disaster. So that in this study, it will be explained how the role of Satlinmas of Surakarta City in handling the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### 2. Research Methods

Research was carried out at Satlinmas of Surakarta City, with data sources being primary data from Satlinmas members, Civil Service Police Unit, Regional Disaster Management Authority, Indonesian Red Cross, Social Service, and disaster stakeholders involved. The primary data was obtained through interviews, involved observations, focus group discussions and questionnaires. Data obtained were analyzed qualitatively and used interactive analysis techniques to draw conclusions.

#### 3. Result and Discussion

# 3.1. Surakarta City Satlinmas Profile

Local Government Administrators in the perspective of Law Number 23 of 2014 about Local Government, prioritize the implementation of Mandatory Government Affairs related to Basic Services. Implementation of Basic Services in Mandatory Government Affairs relating to Basic Services shall be guided by the minimum service standards set by the Central Government. Minimum Service Standards (SPM) are provisions regarding the type and quality of basic services that every citizen is entitled to at a minimum. The implementation of basic services is part of the implementation of mandatory local government affairs. SPM is positioned to answer important issues in local government administration, especially in providing basic services that lead to the creation of people's welfare. People's welfare is a state goal guaranteed by the constitution. In its application, SPM must guarantee public access to basic services from the Local Government in accordance with the measures set by the government. According to the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs Number 6 of 2007 Article 4 basic services are part of the implementation of mandatory affairs and have the characteristics of very basic services, are entitled to a minimum of every citizen, guaranteed availability by the constitution and international conventions, supported by the latest data and information complete and does not generate material benefits.

The Surakarta City Government, which is administratively a city in Central Java Province, has a population of 519,587 people (2019) and a density of 11,798.06 / km. As an effort to realize SPM in the field of public protection carried out the recruitment of linmas members from community in surakarta city. The ideal number of Satlinmas is one number of community organization members compared to number of residents (1: 1000). The members come from representative elements of each local community and are domiciled in the District and Neighborhoods.

A long history before the birth of Local Government Regulation Number 12 of 2018 concerning Public Protection, regulations regarding the management of public protection (Linmas) are regulated in Mayor Regulation Number 7 of 2017 about Public Protection Units (Satlinmas) and previously with Mayor Regulation Number 58-A of 2012 Public Protection Unit. Empowerment of Satlinmas

members is an inseparable part of the implementation of peace, public order and public protection. The empowerment of Satlinmas members is carried out to increase the capacity of Satlinmas members in carrying out their duties.

Based on Government Regulation No. 16 of 2018 about the Civil Service Police Unit (Satpol PP) which regulates that one of the Satpol PP's duties is to provide public protection, so structurally Satlinmas is **under the authority of Satpol PP**. Based on the main duties and functions of the public protection unit which is structurally under the Civil Service Police Unit and spiritually the voluntary recruitment process of public protection unit (Satlinmas) members requires the participation of other stakeholders in carrying out the role of implementing disaster mitigation functions.

The main tasks and functions of the public protection unit:

- assist in disaster management including risk reduction / mitigation,
   evacuation and rehabilitation;
- assist Satpol PP and TNI / POLRI in creating security, peace and public order:
- assist in social activities;
- assisting with the handling of peace, order and security in the administration of elections; and
- assisting the country's defense efforts.

Based on this role, it can be concluded that the role of public protection is limited to that of assistants, in the sense that public protection units are not at the forefront of the disaster management function. However, members of public protection who are representatives of elements from each region, both sub-districts and villages, have strong emotional ties in each area where the Satlinmas member comes (Joko P: 2020). Apart from the element of representation from each neighborhoods or village area, members of public protection also know empirically character of population and geographically about their respective areas. The limitations of members of Satlinmas from internal and external elements encourage the need for a collaboration of elements involved, for example BPBD (Regional Disaster Management Authority), SAR (Search and Rescue Agency), DAMKAR (firefighters). Many factors hinder the performance of public protection. The role of Satlinmas in disasters in assisting disaster-related

agencies such as BPBD (Regional Disaster Management Authority), PMI (Indonesian Red Cross), SAR (Search and Rescue Agency) (Joko P: 2019).

- 3.2. The Role of the Satlinmas of Surakarta City in Handling Covid-19 Pandemic According to Law Number 24 of 2007, Disaster shall mean an event or a series of events threatening and disturbing the community life and livelihood, caused by natural and/or nonnatural as well as human factors resulting in human fatalities, (Boudreaux:2019) environmental damage, loss of material possessions, and psychological impact. Disasters can be categorized into three things, namely:
  - 1. Natural disaster shall mean an event or a series of events caused by nature such as earthquake, tsunami, volcanic eruption, flood, drought, typhoon, and landslide.
  - Nonnatural disaster means a nonnatural event or a series of nonnatural events such as technological failure, modernization failure, and epidemic.
  - 3. Social disaster means an event or a series of events caused by humans, which include social conflicts between community groups, and terrorism. Floods, landslides, tornadoes, abrasions and drought are considered natural disasters because they are caused by natural factors.

Disease outbreaks as one of the types of non-natural disasters that hit Indonesia are a real threat to the safety of nation. As a factual threat, this outbreak is a potential disaster, which is described in Law Number 24 of 2007 concerning Disaster Management. The spread of corona virus (Covid-19) is a threat (hazard) of potential disasters for national interests and conditions, which in this case can include natural disasters, man-made disasters or a combination of the two (Samodro Eko: 2020).

In relation to Covid-19 pandemic, this is considered a non-natural disaster, where Article 6 letters a and b of Law Number 24 of 2007 concerning Disaster Management describe that the government's responsibility for disaster management, disaster risk reduction and integration thereof into development program. In addition, protection is implemented for communities affected by disasters.

Based on the Decree of the Head of the Surakarta Civil Service Police Unit Number 346 / II / IV / 2020 concerning Standard Operational Procedures (SOP) on the Role of the Public Protection Unit (SATLINMAS) in Disaster Management. In the SOP, the role of Satlinmas is divided into pre-disaster, disaster emergency response, and post-disaster. The implementation of the SOP has been carried out in the role of disaster assistance by the Satlinmas of Surakarta City which is also manifested in subscribing to the Covid-19 pandemic which is described as follows:

# 1.PRA (Preventive / Preventive)

In the pre-disaster stage is an effort to prevent or break the transmission of covid-19, the efforts carried out by the public protection unit is to conduct socialization in their respective regions about healthy cultural behaviors (PHBS) such as hand washing, keeping distance, using masks. At this stage, members of the public protection unit always appeal to the public to prevent the transmission of Covid-19 in their respective areas.

When there is report from the public about information of potential residents who are sick and lead to symptoms of Covid-19 and check the accuracy of the report by using the Covid-19 protocol and report to the task force and related agencies in the local village area for follow-up. Furthermore, providing security and guarding for the location of the community affected by Covid and guarding for residents who carry out independent isolation from these communities. Report the results of location security and evacuation activities to people affected by Covid-19 and report the results of work to the local village area task force and related stakeholders.

# 2. EMERGENCY RESPONSE (Handling)

The next stage is emergency response for COVID-19 pandemic that has occurred. The implementation stage of SOP coincides with status of Surakarta city starting March 16, 2020, becoming the Extraordinary Condition (KLB) of Covid-19. The policy implemented on March 16 - May 30 implements quarantine of migrants coming from outside Surakarta, namely Jakarta (coinciding with Eid al-Fitr 2020). The quarantine policy places travelers from outside the region in Ghaha Wisata Niaga, Dalem Tjokrosoemartan, and Dalem Priyomartaman. In the function of carrying out this quarantine, the Satlinmas members also picked up the travelers in their

respective areas to be taken and undergo quarantine. Other Satlinmas member roles is to help distribute logistics / assistance to citizens who carry out self-isolation. In addition, the policy of providing social assistance funds (Bansos) to communities that need Satlinmas role helps the process of distribution and data collection, and regional security at the time of receipt of social assistance.

# 3.PASCA (Conditioning)

The next stage is post-disaster, considering the Covid-19 pandemic has not shown symptoms subsided so the role of Satlinmas in this case is to provide reporting of the results of monitoring in region to community who have finished treatment because of covid and have been declared cured and provide supervision and monitoring of the implementation of self-isolation in residents who are confirmed positive Covid-19.

In connection with the Surakarta Mayor Regulation Number 10 of 2020 concerning Guidelines for Implementation of Covid-19 Handling in the Surakarta city, Satlinmas is also involved in it. Satlinmas' involvement in enforcing guardians is to socialize in the environment related to 3M's principles, namely wearing masks, maintaining distance, and washing hands. Regarding the findings on violation of health protocols in environment, Satlinmas members will politely remind the community to implement health protocol.

In the event that there is a justisia operation carried out by Civil Service Police Unit, Police and related agencies, Satlinmas will also assist in the operation, by providing assistance in accordance with the duties and functions of protecting community.

# 4. Conclusions and suggestions

Role of Public Protection Unit (Satlinmas) in handling Covid-19 carries out assistance duties to agencies related to Covid-19 management in the Surakarta city. The role of assistance includes preventing the spread of Covid-19 by conducting socialization in their respective environments about clean and healthy living habits including washing hands, maintaining distance and using masks. In the emergency response phase for the Covid-19 disaster, SATLINMAS carried out assistance

functions including protecting areas for residents affected by Covid-19 who carried out self-quarantine to assist justice operations in implementing health protocols in Surakarta City area. In the post-disaster stage, Satlinmas members have a role in providing reports on impact of Covid-19 disaster on structurally related agencies in Surakarta City area.

# **Acknowledgments**

The author would like to thank the Ministry of Research and Technology of Republic Indonesia for providing facilitation in form of funding for this research activity. The publication in this article is one of outputs of applied research with a focus on disaster with the title Developing Public Service Management Model Based on Local Wisdom in Disaster Management. Hopefully the results of this study are able contribute to disaster risk management efforts in Indonesia.

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