

Collaborative Accountability in Institutional Collaboration in Handling Stunting in Southwest Papua Province

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HOW TO CITE:

Anhar Akib Kadar, Muh. Akmal Ibrahim, Hasniati (2026). Collaborative Accountability in Institutional Collaboration in Handling Stunting in Southwest Papua Province. International Journal of Special Education, 41(15s), 68-79

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ABSTRACT:

Collaborative accountability is a crucial element in addressing stunting because inter-institutional collaboration requires information transparency, joint discussion forums, and collective responsibility for effective and accountable program implementation. In practice, collaborative accountability within the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Team in Southwest Papua Province still faces various obstacles. This study aims to analyze collaborative accountability within institutional collaboration within the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Team in Southwest Papua Province. This study used a qualitative approach with a case study strategy. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, observation, and documentation, then analyzed through the stages of data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing. The results indicate that inter-institutional information transparency has not been implemented comprehensively, joint discussion forums have not been conducted consistently, and shared responsibilities in program implementation have not been strongly integrated. Furthermore, program evaluation is still sectoral, so collaborative accountability has not been able to effectively strengthen inter-institutional coordination. Collaborative accountability within institutional collaboration within the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Team in Southwest Papua Province has not been optimal, so strengthening information transparency, joint discussion forums, and collective responsibility between institutions is necessary for more transparent and sustainable collaboration. **Keywords:** Collaborative accountability, information, joint discussion, collective responsibility, stunting.

Introduction

Stunting is a complex issue in Southwest Papua Province. The high stunting rate demonstrates that various programs to accelerate stunting

reduction implemented by the local government still face numerous challenges on the ground. According to 2024 data from the Ministry of Health, the prevalence of stunting in Southwest

Papua Province remains at around 31 percent. This figure is still far above the national target for stunting reduction set by the government.

In an effort to accelerate stunting reduction, the government established the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Team (TPPS) as a cross-sectoral coordination forum at the regional level. The TPPS involves various regional government agencies, health workers, community organizations, educational institutions, and community leaders in supporting the implementation of an integrated stunting management program.

Field findings indicate that the implementation of collaboration within the TPPS (Student Action Plans) in Southwest Papua Province still faces various challenges. One particularly visible issue is the suboptimal transparency of information between institutions in the implementation of the stunting management program. In some situations, information regarding stunting target data, activity implementation, budget utilization, and program monitoring results is not fully accessible to all TPPS members.

Furthermore, data discrepancies between institutions are still frequently found in the implementation of stunting management programs. Some organizations use different data on the number of stunting targets and program priority areas. This situation results in interventions in the field not always being integrated and often leads to misunderstandings among program implementers.

Another issue is evident in the communication and decision-making processes between organizations within the TPPS. In some coordination activities, the involvement of all actors in the discussion and program development process has not been optimal. Some decisions are still largely determined by certain organizations, while others merely act as implementers.

This situation has resulted in a less-than-equal cooperative relationship between actors. In some cases, certain organizations still dominate the coordination and implementation of stunting

management programs. Meanwhile, other organizations lack sufficient space to express their views and participate in collective decision-making.

Furthermore, the evaluation of stunting management programs has not been fully transparent and sustainable. In some activities, program implementation results have not been collectively discussed to assess successes and challenges encountered in the field. Consequently, program improvement is often slow due to a lack of communication and collaborative evaluation between organizations.

These various conditions indicate that the implementation of institutional collaboration in the TPPS has not been fully able to build information transparency, participatory communication, and shared accountability between organizations in handling stunting in Southwest Papua Province.

In fact, the success of stunting management is greatly influenced by the ability of all actors to build open, accountable, and collaborative relationships, as well as the ability to conduct joint evaluations of program implementation. Stunting management requires not only coordination between organizations but also collaborative relationships that ensure each actor carries out its roles and responsibilities clearly and sustainably.

Therefore, the issue of accountability in institutional collaboration for stunting management in Southwest Papua Province is crucial for further study. This research is needed to understand how information transparency, joint discussions, and inter-organizational accountability are implemented to support effective stunting management in Southwest Papua Province.

Literature Review

Accountability is a crucial principle in governance and public service delivery. In public administration, accountability is understood as the accountability of organizations and public actors for the implementation of their duties, the use of resources, and the outcomes of their

policies to stakeholders. Accountability is crucial because the implementation of every public program requires openness, transparency, and clarity of responsibility to achieve shared goals.

Bovens (2007) explains that accountability is a relationship between actors and a forum that obliges actors to explain and be accountable for their actions. According to Bovens, accountability is not only related to administrative reporting but also includes the process of evaluating and monitoring the actions of public organizations.

This opinion is reinforced by Romzek and Dubnick (1987), who explain that accountability in public organizations relates to control, oversight, and responsibility in the implementation of government duties. They explain that public organizations must be able to account for their actions and policies to the public and institutions with oversight authority.

Furthermore, Koppell (2005) explains that public accountability is not only related to compliance with formal rules, but also relates to transparency, responsiveness, and the organization's ability to explain its actions to the public. In the context of modern organizations, accountability has become increasingly complex because it involves many actors and cross-organizational collaborative relationships.

These conditions indicate that traditional accountability approaches, which emphasize hierarchical relationships, are not fully capable of explaining the dynamics of accountability in cross-sectoral collaborations such as the TPPS. Therefore, this study utilizes the Collaborative Accountability theory developed by Lee and Ospina (2022).

Lee and Ospina (2022) explain that collaborative accountability is a form of accountability that develops in collaborative relationships between public and non-governmental organizations. In this approach, accountability is understood not only as an administrative obligation but also as a shared process of fostering information transparency, shared discussions, and the consequences of collaborative implementation.

According to Lee and Ospina (2022), collaborative accountability consists of three main elements: information, discussion, and consequences. Information relates to data transparency and the exchange of information between actors in a collaboration. Discussion relates to actors' involvement in the communication process and joint decision-making. Consequences relate to follow-up and accountability for the implementation of tasks and the results of the collaboration.

The collaborative accountability approach is considered relevant in this research because the implementation of the TPPS in Southwest Papua involves collaborative relationships between various organizations, requiring information transparency, shared communication, and a clear division of responsibilities between actors. The discourse on collaborative accountability has also developed in various public administration studies. O'Leary and Vij (2012) explain that public collaboration requires accountability mechanisms that can accommodate horizontal relationships between organizations, not just vertical bureaucratic relationships. In cross-sector collaboration, accountability is built through communication, negotiation, and joint evaluation between actors.

Bardach and Lesser (1996) also explained that interagency collaboration requires shared accountability between organizations in implementing joint programs. According to them, the success of collaboration is greatly influenced by the organization's ability to establish shared responsibility for program objectives. Furthermore, Klijn and Koppenjan (2016) explained that governance networks require more flexible accountability mechanisms because the relationships between organizations within the network are interdependent and not entirely hierarchical. Therefore, openness of information and communication between actors are important factors in supporting the effectiveness of collaboration. Mashaw (2006) explained that modern public accountability has become multidimensional because public organizations now work through collaborative networks involving many actors. In this

situation, accountability is no longer solely carried out through formal bureaucratic control, but also through social processes and cooperative relationships between organizations.

In the context of stunting management in Southwest Papua, a collaborative accountability approach is considered more relevant than traditional accountability theory because the implementation of the TPPS involves multiple organizations with different authorities and roles. Stunting management requires collaborative relationships that foster open information, participatory communication, and shared responsibility among the actors involved.

Several previous studies in Indonesia have shown that collaborative stunting management still faces various accountability issues between organizations. Research by Wibowo and Purnamasari (2021) indicates that coordination of stunting management in Sleman Regency still faces limited information transparency between regional government agencies. This situation has resulted in suboptimal program evaluation. Research by Rahman et al. (2022) on collaborative stunting management in Maros Regency also shows that the decision-making process in program implementation is still largely dominated by specific organizations, resulting in suboptimal involvement of other actors in joint discussions.

Furthermore, research by Yuliana and Harahap (2023) on the implementation of the TPPS (Stunting Management Plan) in North Sumatra showed that the division of responsibilities between organizations in implementing the stunting management program was still not clear and integrated. This situation often resulted in overlapping activities. Research by Sari et al. (2022) on collaborative governance in stunting management in Central Java also showed that the joint evaluation process between organizations was not routinely implemented, resulting in frequent delays in follow-up on various issues in the field.

Meanwhile, research by Kurniawan and Putra (2023) on stunting management in coastal Sulawesi shows that community involvement in

program monitoring and evaluation remains relatively low due to limited access to information and communication between program implementers and local communities. These studies demonstrate that studies on stunting management in Indonesia largely focus on collaborative governance, program implementation, and cross-sector coordination. Previous research also predominantly views accountability as administrative relationships and formal reporting between organizations.

Methods

This study employed a qualitative approach. This approach was used because it aimed to gain a deeper understanding of how institutional collaboration in stunting management in Southwest Papua Province is implemented by various actors involved in stunting management.

The research was conducted in Southwest Papua Province, focusing on the provincial-level Stunting Reduction Acceleration Team (TPPS) and several districts/cities with a relatively high stunting prevalence. The research locations were selected based on the conditions in Southwest Papua, which continues to face stunting issues, posed by various geographical, social, and institutional challenges.

The data sources in this study consisted of primary and secondary data. Primary data were obtained directly through interviews and observations with informants involved in the TPPS (Student Development Planning Agency) in Southwest Papua Province. The informants were parties deemed to have a strong understanding of and direct involvement in the implementation of the stunting management program, namely the Stunting Reduction Acceleration Team from various regional government agencies (OPD), such as the Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda), the Public Health Office, and NGOs.

Informants were selected purposively, based on their experience, knowledge, and involvement in institutional collaboration processes at the TPPS (Student Action Plan for Children with Disabilities). Secondary data were obtained from various supporting documents, such as TPPS

reports, stunting prevalence data, local government policy documents, activity reports, coordination meeting results, and other documents related to stunting management in Southwest Papua Province.

Data collection techniques in this study were conducted through in-depth interviews, observation, and documentation. In-depth interviews were conducted with research informants to obtain information regarding the implementation of institutional collaboration, organizational capacity, coordination challenges, and accountability within the TPPS. Observations were conducted by directly observing the coordination activities and implementation of the stunting management program in the field. Documentation was conducted by collecting various documents related to the TPPS institution, government policies, activity reports, and stunting management data.

The data analysis technique in this study used Miles et al.'s (2014) interactive analysis model, which consists of data condensation, data

presentation, and conclusion drawing and verification. Data validity in this study was carried out using source and method triangulation techniques.

Results

The research data was obtained through interviews with government officials including the Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda) of Southwest Papua Province, the Southwest Papua Provincial Health Office, the Southwest Papua Provincial Food Security Office, and staff from the Southwest Papua Provincial Government Bureau. The study also involved community leaders, religious leaders, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in stunting management programs in Southwest Papua.

Before explaining the research results on each element of collaborative accountability, a data reduction table of research results is first presented as a general overview of the field findings from each research informant.

Table 1. Data Reduction on Collaborative Accountability in Institutional Collaboration in Handling Stunting in Southwest Papua Province

Collaborative Accountability Elements	Informant Response		
	Government	Public	NGO
Information	Data exchange and reporting between regional government agencies (OPDs) are not yet fully synchronized. Program information remains predominantly administrative in nature.	The public obtains information through cadres and health workers. Public understanding of stunting remains uneven.	NGOs have not yet received open and routine access to program information.
Discussion	The program coordination and evaluation forum has been running, but the involvement of OPDs has not been evenly distributed.	Community and religious leaders have not always been involved in program discussions.	NGOs are more often involved in field implementation than in program planning discussions.
Consequence	The implementation of responsibilities between regional government agencies (OPDs) has not been fully balanced. Program evaluations have not been followed by consistent follow-up.	People still see stunting as the government's responsibility.	NGO involvement depends on program support and cooperation from local governments.

Source: Data reduction results, 2026

Based on the research data reduction results above, it is clear that collaborative accountability in the implementation of the TPPS in Southwest Papua Province has been established through coordination between regional government agencies (OPDs), the dissemination of program information, the implementation of discussion forums, and the division of responsibilities in addressing stunting. However, the implementation of this accountability still faces various challenges related to information transparency, actor involvement in program discussions, and the implementation of shared responsibilities among program implementers.

To understand these conditions more deeply, the following explains the research results on each element of collaborative accountability, which includes information, discussion, and consequences in institutional collaboration for handling stunting in Southwest Papua Province.

Information on Collaborative Accountability

Information is a crucial element in the implementation of collaborative accountability for stunting management in Southwest Papua Province. Information in stunting management involves data exchange between regional government agencies (OPDs), program reporting, communication between program implementers, and dissemination of information to the public regarding stunting management in Southwest Papua. Implementing the stunting management program requires information transparency to ensure targeted and mutually supportive coordination between program implementers. Information on stunting data, program target areas, activity implementation, and program achievements is crucial in supporting the implementation of the TPPS (Student Action Plan). Effective information exchange helps OPDs understand field conditions and community needs in their respective regions. Furthermore, information transparency also helps strengthen cross-sectoral coordination to accelerate stunting reduction in Southwest Papua.

Interviews also revealed that information exchange between regional government agencies (OPDs) is not yet fully synchronized. An informant from the Southwest Papua Provincial Government Bureau explained that discrepancies in stunting data between OPDs in several regions in Southwest Papua remain. In some cases, OPDs use their own internal data because they believe that other OPDs' data does not fully reflect field conditions. Consequently, program targets and activity implementation in some regions are not always based on the same data. This situation impacts coordination between OPDs, as program development and activity implementation require shared information regarding the conditions of the target communities. Data discrepancies between OPDs mean that program implementation in the field is not fully integrated.

Furthermore, interview results indicate that program information shared between OPDs remains predominantly administrative in nature. An informant from the Southwest Papua Provincial Health Office explained that information shared in the TPPS forums primarily concerns activity reports, program achievements, and the implementation of each OPD's activities. Information exchanges regarding field challenges, program implementation experiences, and community needs have not always been discussed in depth in coordination forums. In some situations, the information shared focuses on fulfilling program reports rather than building a shared understanding of community conditions on the ground. As a result, the information exchange process has not fully assisted program implementers in understanding community needs comprehensively. Communication between OPDs still primarily takes place in formal and administrative activities.

Interview results also indicated that the geographic conditions of Southwest Papua influence the information delivery process in the implementation of the TPPS. The region, consisting of coastal areas, islands, and inland areas, means that program reporting and data transmission cannot always be completed

quickly. Informants from the Southwest Papua Provincial Health Office explained that in some remote areas, health workers experience limited communication networks and internet access in submitting community service reports. In some cases, health workers must wait for specific network access to submit reports on health service activities and community data. This situation results in delays in program reporting and information exchange between program implementers. Limited communication access is one of the obstacles to supporting information transparency among program implementers in Southwest Papua.

Overall, the research findings demonstrate that information in collaborative accountability plays a crucial role in supporting program coordination, activity reporting, and the delivery of stunting management programs to the community. However, data exchange between regional government agencies (OPDs), program information transparency, and communication between program implementers still face various limitations. Southwest Papua's geographical conditions, limited communication access, and unequal public understanding of stunting impact the implementation of information transparency within the TPPS (Student Action Plans). Stunting management becomes more effective when information is shared more openly, routinely, and easily understood by all program implementers and the community at the village level. Improved information transparency helps strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration to accelerate stunting reduction in Southwest Papua.

2. Discussion on Collaborative Accountability

The research findings indicate that discussions are a crucial component of collaborative accountability for stunting management in Southwest Papua Province. Discussions in stunting management include coordination forums between regional government agencies (OPDs), cross-sectoral program discussions, activity implementation evaluations, and communication between the government, the

community, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to support accelerated stunting reduction. Discussions serve as a platform for addressing field issues, developing joint management strategies, and fostering mutual understanding among program implementers. Discussion forums are also used to strengthen collaborative relationships between OPDs in implementing the stunting management program. The presence of discussions within the TPPS (Regional Action Plans) helps local governments assess the state of program implementation in their respective regions. Furthermore, discussions play a crucial role in building cross-sectoral communication in Southwest Papua.

The research also showed that the involvement of regional government agencies (OPDs) in discussion forums was not entirely equitable. Informants from the Papua Barat Daya Provincial Government Bureau staff explained that some OPDs actively participated in program discussions and regularly reported on field conditions. However, there were also OPDs whose involvement was limited to specific activities. In some cases, discussions were dominated by OPDs directly involved in public health services. As a result, discussions on the stunting program in the coordination forum did not fully reflect the involvement of all OPDs within the TPPS. This situation affected the quality of cross-sectoral communication in the implementation of the stunting management program. The uneven involvement of members resulted in the program discussion process not being fully implemented.

The research also shows that discussions between program implementers still mostly take place through formal forums held by the local government. Informants from the Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda) of Southwest Papua Province explained that cross-sector communication outside of formal forums does not yet occur routinely across all Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs). In some situations, coordination between program implementers only occurs when specific activities are underway or when problems arise

in the field. This situation means that communication between OPDs has not yet fully developed into ongoing communication. As a result, discussions regarding community needs and program constraints cannot always be conveyed quickly between program implementers. Holding more regular discussions helps strengthen cross-sector coordination in addressing stunting. Active communication between program implementers is crucial in supporting the implementation of the TPPS.

Furthermore, the research findings indicate that the geographic conditions of Southwest Papua influence discussions and coordination between program implementers. The region, comprising coastal areas, islands, and inland areas, results in limited transportation and communication access in some areas. Informants from the Southwest Papua Provincial Government Bureau explained that coordination meetings cannot always be held routinely across all regions due to distance and transportation constraints. In some cases, program implementers in certain areas experience delays in attending coordination forums and delivering program discussion results. These conditions impact communication between program implementers in supporting field activities. Limited regional access poses a challenge to establishing regular cross-sectoral discussions in Southwest Papua. Implementing coordination requires better communication support to ensure effective relationships between program implementers.

The research also showed that community involvement in stunting program discussion forums was still not optimal. Community leaders explained that they were more often involved in health service activities than in discussions about stunting program planning. In some areas, communities only received information about program activities after the program was implemented at the village level. This situation meant that communities did not have the opportunity to fully convey their needs and conditions in the program discussions. Community leaders explained that community involvement in program discussions was important because they understood the social

conditions and family needs in their respective areas. Conducting discussions involving the community helped government programs better align with field conditions. Community involvement also helped build better communication between the government and the community.

The research findings show that discussions on collaborative accountability at the TPPS (Special Targeting Center) in Southwest Papua Province have been conducted through coordination forums, program evaluations, and cross-sectoral discussions involving various Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs). However, member involvement in the discussion forums has not been fully equitable, and communication between program implementers is still predominantly conducted through formal forums. The involvement of the community, religious leaders, and NGOs in program discussions is also still suboptimal, resulting in program discussions not fully reflecting the community's needs as a whole. The geographical conditions of Southwest Papua and limited communication access also affect the implementation of cross-sectoral discussions in the field. Implementation of stunting management will be more effective when discussion forums are able to actively, openly, and sustainably involve all program implementers in discussing community needs and the implementation of the stunting management program in Southwest Papua.

3. Consequences on Collaborative Accountability

Consequences are a crucial element in the implementation of collaborative accountability for stunting management in Southwest Papua Province. Consequences in stunting management relate to the responsibilities of program implementers, follow-up actions on evaluation results, compliance of regional government agencies (OPDs) with joint program implementation, and the impact of program implementation on the community. The implementation of consequences in the TPPS (Sub-district Action Plan) is crucial because each

OPD is responsible for accelerating stunting reduction, in accordance with their respective duties and functions. Furthermore, consequences also relate to how program implementers follow up on evaluation results and problems identified in the field. The implementation of shared responsibilities helps strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration in supporting the implementation of the stunting management program. A well-functioning accountability relationship helps program implementation become more focused and coordinated.

Based on interviews with informants from the Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda) of Southwest Papua Province, the regional government has divided the tasks and responsibilities of each Regional Apparatus Organization (OPD) in supporting the implementation of the stunting management program. Each OPD is responsible for implementing the program according to its respective areas of responsibility and reporting activity progress in the TPPS forum. This division of responsibilities ensures that program implementation is coordinated and mutually supportive across OPDs. The regional government also evaluates the progress of program implementation in each region. This evaluation is used to determine the extent to which activities have been implemented according to the program plan. The division of responsibilities is a crucial part of supporting cross-sectoral coordination within the TPPS.

Interviews also revealed that the implementation of responsibilities across regional government agencies (OPDs) has not been fully balanced. An informant from the Papua Barat Daya Provincial Government Bureau explained that some OPDs actively implement programs and regularly participate in coordination activities. However, there are also OPDs whose involvement is still limited to specific activities. In some situations, the health sector still dominates the implementation of the stunting program compared to other OPDs. As a result, the implementation of shared responsibilities within the TPPS (Special Task Force for the

Development of Stunting) has not been fully implemented evenly across all members. This situation affects the effectiveness of cross-sectoral coordination in supporting the implementation of the stunting program in the field. Implementing shared responsibilities requires more active involvement from all OPDs in supporting the stunting management program.

Overall, the research findings indicate that the consequences of collaborative accountability relate to the implementation of shared responsibilities, follow-up on program evaluation results, and the involvement of all program implementers in supporting stunting management. However, the implementation of responsibilities across regional government agencies (OPDs) has not been fully balanced, and follow-up on program evaluation results still faces various limitations. Southwest Papua's geographical conditions, limited resources, and uneven community involvement also impact the implementation of program responsibilities in the field. Stunting management will be more effective when all OPDs, communities, and NGOs share shared responsibilities that are consistently and sustainably implemented to support the acceleration of stunting reduction in Southwest Papua.

Discussion

The research results indicate that collaborative accountability in the implementation of the TPPS (Special Action Plan for the Development of Children) in Southwest Papua Province has been established through collaboration between regional government agencies (OPDs), information exchange, discussion forums, and shared responsibility for stunting management. However, implementation has not been fully optimized due to limitations in information exchange, uneven actor involvement, and unequal distribution of shared responsibilities among program implementers.

Information is a crucial element in supporting collaborative accountability, particularly through data exchange between regional government agencies (OPDs), program reporting,

communication between implementers, and public information dissemination. However, discrepancies in stunting data between program implementers are still found, indicating that information transparency is not yet fully implemented. This situation aligns with Lee and Ospina (2022), who emphasized that access to the same information is the basis for collaborative accountability, while information that is not transparent and consistent will hinder the effectiveness of collaborative relationships. This finding also aligns with Bovens (2007), who explained that accountability is not only related to reporting but also to openness in explaining the process, obstacles, and results of program implementation. Research by Wibowo and Purnamasari (2021) also shows that coordination of stunting management still faces issues with information transparency between government agencies.

At the community level, information dissemination is primarily conducted through cadres and health workers. This finding aligns with research by Kurniawan and Putra (2023), which demonstrated that a community-based approach is more effective in disseminating health information. However, public understanding of stunting remains uneven, indicating that information disclosure has not been fully followed by public understanding. This condition aligns with Koppell (2005), who explained that information must be understood by recipients to achieve accountability goals. Furthermore, NGOs have not yet gained open and routine access to program information, so information disclosure is still predominantly conducted between government agencies (OPDs). This finding aligns with Emerson et al. (2012), who emphasized the importance of open communication between all actors in public collaboration.

In addition to information, discussions are a crucial part of collaborative accountability through coordination meetings, program evaluations, stunting discussions, and cross-sectoral forums. These forums have helped build communication between program implementers, but member involvement is uneven, as some

regional government agencies (OPDs) are still only involved in specific activities. Lee and Ospina (2022) explain that discussions in collaborative accountability involve more than formal meetings, but also the ability to build open and participatory communication. Research findings also indicate that discussion forums are still dominated by the health sector. This finding aligns with research by Rahman et al. (2022) and the views of Ansell and Gash (2008), which emphasize that successful collaboration is strongly influenced by open and equal dialogue between actors.

The involvement of communities, religious leaders, and NGOs in discussion forums is also suboptimal, as they are more involved in field implementation than in program planning and discussion. This situation indicates that discussions are still dominated by government bureaucracy. Klijn and Koppenjan (2016) explain that public governance requires interactive relationships between actors to ensure decisions are more aligned with field conditions. This finding is also supported by research by Sari et al. (2022), which shows that collaborative governance is more effective when communities and non-governmental actors are actively involved.

In terms of consequences, research shows that local governments have divided tasks and responsibilities among regional government agencies (OPDs) in accelerating stunting reduction. However, implementation has not been balanced, as the health sector remains the most dominant actor. This finding aligns with Bardach and Lesser (1996), who emphasized that collaborative accountability requires clarity of responsibilities and consequences in program implementation. Furthermore, follow-up to evaluation results has not been carried out evenly due to limited implementing personnel, access to health services, and geographic conditions. This situation supports Mashaw's (2006) view that accountability requires a link between evaluation and corrective action. Research by Yuliana and Harahap (2023) also shows that follow-up to the stunting program still faces coordination

challenges and limited service coverage in the regions.

Research also shows that the public still views stunting management as the responsibility of the government and health workers, resulting in unequal sharing of responsibility. This is consistent with Romzek and Dubnick (1987), who explain that public accountability relates not only to organizational compliance with regulations but also to the ability to build shared responsibility among actors. Furthermore, although NGOs have been involved in stunting programs, their involvement still relies on program support and cooperation with local governments. These findings support the view of O'Leary and Vij (2012) that public collaboration requires consistent working relationships for sustainable accountability between actors.

Overall, collaborative accountability within the TPPS (Special Action Plan for Children with Disabilities) in Southwest Papua Province has been established through information transparency, discussion forums, and shared responsibility among actors. However, this accountability has not been optimal due to ongoing issues with information synchronization, uneven actor involvement, the dominance of certain sectors in decision-making, and a lack of strong shared responsibility between the government, communities, and NGOs in addressing stunting.

5. Conclusion

The study results show that collaborative accountability within institutional collaboration

for stunting management in Southwest Papua Province has been established through information exchange, cross-sector discussion forums, and the sharing of responsibilities among program implementers to support accelerated stunting reduction. This accountability involves various regional government agencies (OPD), health workers, the community, religious leaders, community leaders, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in supporting the implementation of the stunting management program in Southwest Papua.

Overall, collaborative accountability within the TPPS (Special Targeting and Targeting) in Southwest Papua Province has demonstrated efforts to build information transparency, cross-sectoral communication, and shared responsibility in supporting the acceleration of stunting reduction. However, the implementation of this accountability has not been fully optimal due to limitations in information exchange, uneven involvement of actors in discussion forums, and the unequal implementation of shared responsibility among regional government agencies (OPD), the community, and NGOs. The geographical conditions of Southwest Papua, consisting of coastal, island, and inland areas, are also important factors influencing the implementation of collaborative accountability in addressing stunting throughout Southwest Papua.

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