



WE ARE PUSKAPA

We work to improve children's access
to health, education, justice, and social care



UNIVERSITAS
INDONESIA



PUSKAPA
CENTER ON CHILD PROTECTION & WELLBEING

www.puskapa.org

PUSKAPA

stands for “Pusat Kajian dan Advokasi Perlindungan dan Kualitas Hidup Anak.” It translates to “Center of Knowledge and Advocacy for Children’s Protection and Wellbeing”, although we’d rather go by “**Center on Child Protection and Wellbeing.**”

In **PUSKAPA** “knowledge” goes hand-in-hand with “advocacy”. It’s never just research for the sake of doing research, and we never do an advocacy without evidence.

PUSKAPA was established in early 2010 at Universitas Indonesia (UI) through a collaboration between UI, Columbia University, and the Indonesian Ministry of National Development Planning (BAPPENAS).



Policies should support the healthy and safe development of all Indonesian children. This is not only humanly rational but also economically sensible.



250M Population

24M Children live in poverty

Children make up over a third of Indonesia's 250 million population. They are our country's future workers, taxpayers, and caregivers. However, around 24 million of children in Indonesia still live in poverty, and more are hindered from access to adequate health care, education, social services, justice, and economic opportunities.

We believe that investments in making sure that all children regardless of their social-economy status, gender, identity, and ability can achieve their development potential should be prioritized.

Overall protection and wellbeing, not just against violence.

People see child protection as dealing 'only' with violence against children. Violence does affect children negatively, but there are other wellbeing issues that are as critical, e.g. health, education, and poverty.

Threats to children's wellbeing are a complex problem, and can only be resolved through an interdisciplinary lens.

Our focus

Historically, child rights movement had struggled to make its case because it lacked scientific evidence and solid economic or political argument. We want our work to change that through better understanding of the long-term impacts of childhood experiences and what factors help children to emerge from adversity.

We will do it by

1. Establishing a body of knowledge and culture of learning around:
 - o **Inequality** – How do factors in individual, family, and society affect children’s ability to access basic services?
 - o **Exclusion** – How do economic status, age, identity, or ability affect the enjoyment of public services, legal protection, and economic opportunities?
 - o **Resilience** – How do children emerge from childhood adversities?
2. Designing and implementing policies related to those areas.
3. Evaluating and measuring the impact of those policies.

Our area of work

PUSKAPA is an interdisciplinary team of researchers, policy thinkers, and program implementers.

We work with scientists, practitioners, and civil society actors to help the government improve children's access to health, education, justice, and social care.

We do this through





We invest in social inclusion.

PUSKAPA adapts the two-prong approach, which are:

1. Investing in specific research, programs, and publications that focus on social exclusion issues.
2. Investing in making sure that all research, programs, and publications enable decisive participation of people with different ability.

We want to build local institutions.

For us, sustainability means turning available resources into long-term institutionalized practices. It can only be achieved when government and donors understand the value of building local institutions. They should be willing to materialize this commitment in core support.

We call this strategic partnership.

Child-Centered Social Inclusion and Protection

PROBLEMS

24M Children came from poor households



Exposed to higher vulnerability of hardships and adversities



37%
 < 5 year old
 stunted



25% girls
 married
 < 18 yo



> 500,000
 children
 live in orphanages
 due to poverty or disability



IMPLICATIONS

Less likely to realize their potentials in the future

UNDERLYING FACTORS



Programs designed in-silo.
 E.g. some only address violence, some only health



More integrated programs exist, but **families are not aware or cannot access**



Not enough **professional social workers**



Limited understanding on the prevalence and characteristics of children's vulnerability



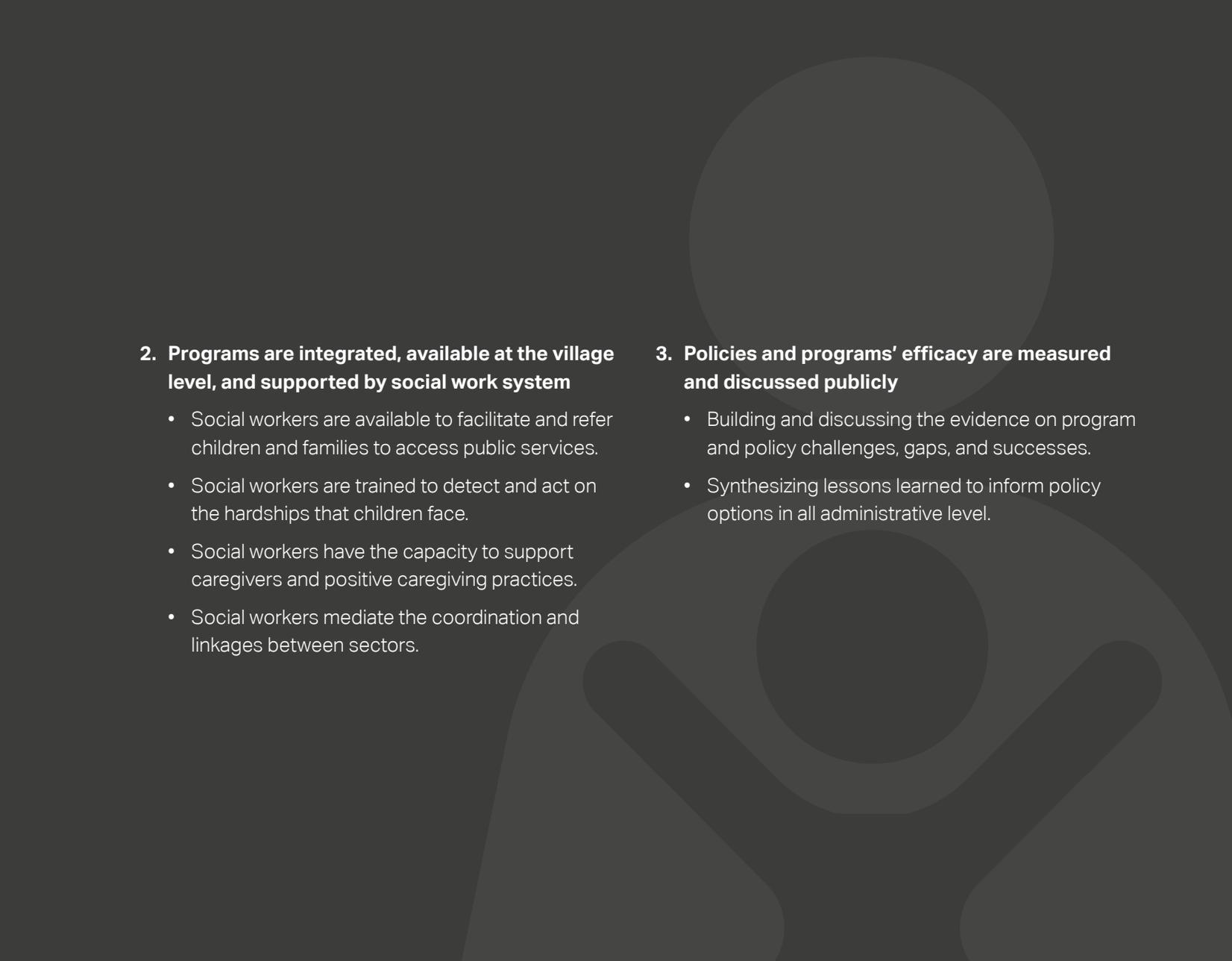
The goal we work toward

Child wellbeing considerations should be incorporated in poverty reduction, social assistance, and social security programs.

To achieve it, we work by making sure:

1. Policies and programs are informed by inclusive statistics

- Programs also investigate more complex issues like child marriage, childhood violence, child labor, child migration, and family separation.
- Data collection also reach homeless children and children in institutions.
- Investment is made in large-scale, longitudinal, and multisectoral studies to investigate childhood adversities and resilience.

A large, faint, stylized human figure in a dark gray color serves as a background for the page. The figure is composed of simple geometric shapes: a circle for the head, a rounded rectangle for the torso, and two thick, curved lines for the arms and legs.

2. Programs are integrated, available at the village level, and supported by social work system

- Social workers are available to facilitate and refer children and families to access public services.
- Social workers are trained to detect and act on the hardships that children face.
- Social workers have the capacity to support caregivers and positive caregiving practices.
- Social workers mediate the coordination and linkages between sectors.

3. Policies and programs' efficacy are measured and discussed publicly

- Building and discussing the evidence on program and policy challenges, gaps, and successes.
- Synthesizing lessons learned to inform policy options in all administrative level.



There are 10 million families receiving conditional cash transfers, mostly come from the poorest 20%. This program aims to condition parents to provide formal education, health checks, and positive childcare for their children.

In other countries, social workers ensure parents comply. However, until 2016, there are only 860 government social workers in Indonesia, spread across 34 provinces. It leads to a ratio of 1 social worker for >290,000 people. To compare, in Cambodia the ratio is 1 to 25,000.

Legal Identity and CRVS

PROBLEMS



30M

Unregistered Children

No proper national ID



60%

of them come from
the poorest families

IMPLICATIONS



Children without ID
cannot access
basic services



Government cannot
accurately allocate
resources and monitor
results

UNDERLYING FACTORS



Poor civil
registration
services



Fragmented
policies



Low quality
of vital
statistics



Poor
utilization of
the vital data

The strategy

We help the government provide legal identity documents for all children and adults, regardless of their gender, socioeconomic status, and ability. We aim to ensure that civil registration (CR) produces complete and accurate vital statistics (VS), so they can inform child protection and wellbeing programs and policies.

To improve legal identity system, we need to strengthen civil registration that universally and continuously records all vital population events. As the registration is increasing, we can encourage the government to use the data for planning and budgeting.

At the same time, we focus on reaching the most vulnerable children, women, and people with special needs.



*In one person's life,
there are at least
6 vital events to be recorded
and registered, involving
at least 10 different ministries,
and >12 mechanisms*

Short-term

We promote these solutions:

- Bringing civil registration services closer to the community.
- Facilitating civil registration through frontline services to record vital events in their first instance.
- Improving the quality and utilization of vital data from the civil registry at select areas.

Long-term

We will address:

- Passive supply side
- Passive demand side
- Fragmented policies
- Weak vital data

To address passive supply side:

- Facilitate collective applications and integrated services down to village level.
- Make procedures easy, consistent, and comply with the standard.
- Link civil registration mechanisms to other basic services.

To address passive demand side:

- Make community understand the value of having legal identity documents.
- Increase community members' capacity to apply for them and minimizing the barriers in application procedures.

To address fragmented policies:

- Connect all procedures in civil registration, population administration, and SIAK (population administration information system).
- Streamline processes between different administrative levels.
- Improve coordination between civil registration authority and other sectors.

To address weak vital data:

- Address incompleteness, inaccuracy, and lack of data privacy and security.
- Minimize the discrepancy between the information that is stored in SIAK and in other sector systems
- Improve connectivity between databases.
- Increase utilization of vital data for planning and budgeting.

Access to Justice

PROBLEMS



3,000
children/year

jailed, lack of alternative to trial and incarceration, unaccounted diversion and reintegration



Not enough

specialized personnel and facility for children cases



UNDERLYING FACTORS



Law with little evidence



Lack of clarity & institutional capacity for implementation



Contradictory laws

IMPLICATIONS

- Long- lasting stigma
- Inability to avoid criminal activity in the future
- Under-representation of children's voices and needs in civil cases (e.g. adoption, marriage, inheritance) or as a victim of a crime
- Poor quality of rehabilitation and legal representation



The goal we work toward

1. We support the implementation of a comprehensive juvenile justice system that:
 - protects children's civil rights.
 - prioritizes diversion for children being accused of, trialed for, or convicted of a crime.
 - provides rehabilitation and reintegration to prevent juvenile reoffending and to ensure child victims' full recovery.
2. We seek to introduce evidence in the lawmaking processes.
3. We promote appropriate legal representations for children, including for children with disability.

Specifically, we work to support:

- Provision of legal aid for children awaiting trial and sentencing.
- Provision of proper parole and reintegration mechanisms for children.
- Provision of probation and community services for children who committed petty crimes.
- Proper post-diversion support through psychosocial, education, and health services.
- Provision of medical, psychosocial, and legal aid services for child victims.
- Implementation of monitoring and evaluation of the efficacy of the juvenile justice law and its impact on children.
- Engagement of professionals outside the traditional justice sector (paralegals, social workers, and vocational trainers) to ensure an integrated support for children and families going through juvenile justice processes.
- Provision of psychosocial support and legal representation for children affected by civil and family law cases.



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