

Moral Legitimacy of Indonesia's Free Nutritious Meal Program through Pluralistic Ethical Perspectives

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Abstract

The Food for Health Program (MBG) is an Indonesian government strategic program that focuses on improving public health through the promotion of nutritional practices to boost human quality. The program raises the important question of morality, in terms of issues such as moral rights, the distribution of benefits, policy priorities, and the use of the public's wealth. Evaluating the MBG program in this new light calls for a different kind of approach, based on a review of the basic moral grounds for the use of state power. This study uses three main ethical points of reference deontology, natural law, and the utilitarian point of reference to assess the MBG program's foundation. The purposes of this study are to evaluate the moral legitimacy of the MBG program by using a comparative analysis of deontological, teleological, and utilitarian perspectives. To be specific, this study reviews how the three philosophical approaches interpret the state's moral obligations, long-term development goals, and commitment to public welfare in terms of evaluating the programs' fairness and legitimacy. This study adopts a normative-analytical method based on philosophical analysis. We critically reviewed policy documents, ethical principles, and relevant literature to identify the normative foundations of the MBG program. Several strands of thinking in public policy have different and yet also similar ways of looking at the MBG program. Looking at it from a view of what is good, the program is based on the idea that the government has a right to protect the basic rights of people, as well as the rights to food and nutrition, no matter what happens as a result of the policy. utilitarianism evaluates the program as a result of its success in creating the greatest good for the greatest number, while also bringing to light other problems such as low costs and costs of doing nothing that might lower the social benefits overall. The other view, called teleology, looks at the program based on its impact on things like overall human progress, making sure everyone gets a fair deal, and making sure people are doing well. Taken together, this suggests that while each of these three ethical points of view is useful in its own right, they are in fact best viewed as working together to help us understand the moral basis for the MBG program's claim to morality. This study makes a positive impact on the study of public policy by proposing a model for evaluating the MBG program that includes moral commitments, policy impacts, and goals for growth in the future. The MBG program's valid moral standing not only comes from protecting public rights but also from fair implementation, making good use of money, and making sure the public is doing well over the years. This analysis will serve as a useful point of reference for governments in their efforts to make sure their policies are fair and right.

Keywords: deontology; ethical public policy; nutritious meals program; social equality; teleology; utilitarianism



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Introduction

This national food and nutrition program (MBG) is a leading social welfare initiative focused on nutrition, enhancing food security, and human development, as well as helping to address social and economic equality. The program, that was launched under Indonesia's new administration following the 2024 presidential selection, has become a pillar of the social

progress agenda, showing a serious commitment to investing in children's health and their educational future. At the same time, the program's scope and impact have raised important questions about the role of the state, questions of just distribution, the allocation of public goods, and policy decisions. This means that evaluating the MBG cannot be limited to its impact; it needs to look more closely at the moral foundations of public policy and the basis for government programs. A broader debate has taken place among the public and academics regarding their moral foundations, principles of fair distribution, priorities, and policy priorities. Given these moral considerations, it is important to evaluate the MBG program beyond the operational performance of the process by looking at the normative values that inform the government's decision to use public funds to improve public good. Initiative introducing flagship commitments who President Prabowo Subianto and Vice President Gibran Rakabuming Raka following periodical 2024 presidential election.

Designed to provide nutritious meals for Indonesian students schools and Islamic boarding schools (pesantren) be broader effort to improve children's nutritional status, support healthy growth, and strengthen the nation's human capital (Sitanggang et al., 2024). Formulated Indonesia's 2024 stunting reduction target, MBG program wan to represents welfare policy, formulating national agenda enhance child nutrition and food security over the long term (CISDI, 2024). Program is consistent principles Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on school food and nutrition, which recognize access to nutritious meals as both a public health priority and a means of advancing social equity, educational inclusion, and children's well-being (FAO, 2022). Nationals normative framework, MBG reflects the implementation of the fifth principle of Pancasila concerning social justice, state's moral responsibility to uphold human dignity in accordance with the principle of humanity. Beyond its health and educational impacts, MBG also carries economic implications by involving MSMEs and local farmers through the operation of hundreds of kitchens, contributing to the creation of tens of thousands of new jobs (Setneg.go.id, 2025).

Program can be interpreted as a form of state intervention aimed at fulfilling difference principle within a Rawlsian framework of distributive justice, the, namely prioritizing the most vulnerable groups through resource redistribution. Perspective of the capability approach, MBG has the potential to expand individuals' basic capabilities particularly those of children to achieve healthy and productive lives. Meanwhile, from a utilitarian standpoint, the program derives legitimacy insofar as it contributes to aggregate welfare through improvements in health and educational outcomes. effectiveness of the Free Nutritious Meal Program (MBG) depends not only on the ethical justification effectively implemented. Policy must ethically well-founded, give benefits can only be realization implementation is carried out consistently, transparently, and in accordance with established standards. A case study in 2026 by Putra et al. has shown that if a child nutrition program is implemented properly, it can improve children's nutrition and yield social welfare benefits; we believe that the moral legitimacy of a policy cannot be based on its original objective alone, but must be continually worked on through responsible governance.

The MBG project has a solid normative foundation; however, the various operational challenges encountered during its implementation could potentially undermine the project's ethical legitimacy. Based on the deontological research by F. Wahyudi et al. in 2025, this project has established a core ethical value in the form of the state's guarantee of citizens' rights, grounded in the principle of social justice within Pancasila. This project, faces some challenges in its implementation, including food insecurity and limited transparent governance; this means that governance gaps must be covered by making sure the process is fair, holding people in power account, and having people who can keep an eye on things. Based on a 2026 teleological study conducted by Ahmad Muhyidin and Muhammad Syarofi, and by applying the concept of preserving living beings from the objectives of Sharia, this analysis suggests that the value of public policy should be based not only on its stated objectives but also on its ability to produce substantial results in the long term.

MBG programs have the potential to promote good health among children, academic success, and improve the general condition of the community, reported Albaburrahim et al. (2025). While Arafanditama Najim Hidayat et al. (2025) describe the failure of implementation in cases of food poisoning, which has contributed to a loss of public trust and to the success of the program as a totality. The findings suggest a clear gap between the MBG programs ethical goals and the way they are applied in practice. These programs are well supported by strong policy arguments, but their legal and social right to carry on their work in general is dependent on the way the government shares information and how fair, open, and in charge they are. In order to realise this public commitment and translate it into meaningful and meaningful public benefits, it is essential to have strong institutional systems, good governance, food standards and effective management.

The Food and Nutrition Program for Children (MBG) became a very popular topic in the area of the study of the state of the public policy and social security in Indonesia. The program's goal to improve nutrition, grow human skills, and create better social protection. Many studies have focused on MBG from the nutrition, health, economy, administration, and implementation side (e.g., Ramlan et al., 2025). The evidence from places like the United States, Japan, and South Korea tells us that a school lunch program can boost nutrition, educational achievement, and social benefits if it's based on strong institutions and good management. Learning from the success of these other countries highlights just how important it is to get the policy implemented in a way that fits the local institutional and social situation. While much of the literature to date has focused on the operational, administrative, and planning aspects of MBG programs, their legal and moral foundations have not become a focus of academic attention.

To our knowledge, not many studies have looked at the kinds of standards that inform how the government works in public services or looked at how the different ways of thinking about this can result in different takes on things like how fair it is, how right it is, and what the public is meant to do. Those gaps make it hard to really get the whole story on the basic ideas behind the MBG Program and how it's actually working. To close this knowledge gap, our study looks at the MBG Program by using three types of views on what is right that

complement each other: deontology, teleology, and utilitarianism. By evaluating a program not in terms of mere results or outcomes, but by studying its values and purpose, the study uses a set of values to inform the debate on the different forms of evaluation, how to make sure things are fair, and the role of the government in making sure everyone is taken care of. The study presents a complete and comprehensive set of tools for evaluating policy on public benefits and contributes to the larger body of literature on the ethics of public policy.

Literature Review

An evaluation of MBG's policy on social protection is connected to the basic rights of nationals, the goals of our national progress, and the public benefits promised by the state. These evaluations, based on a series of principles, require a normative perspective that examines not only the policy's effectiveness but also its ethical acceptability. There are three main ethical schools of thinking, deontology, teleology, and utilitarianism, with each having a way to look at the value of MBG's programs. Looking at it as a right, nutrition is part of the basic rights to be taken care of by the state, no other questions about the policy's results. The teleological view looks at public policies based on the way they help get to the point of having the social goals we want, things like more human capital, better social rights, and having a better life for everyone. Following Aristotle's philosophy, teleology sees human happiness (also known as *eudaimonia*) as the moral goal (Aristotle, 2009). Utilitarianism judges the legitimacy of public policy by comparing the benefits it generates with the social, economic, and administrative cost. From this perspective, a policy is deemed to be ethical if it allows for the efficient and effective use of public resources to create the greatest possible collective benefits.

Real-world studies around the world show that school meal programs have a lot of positive impacts. Altindag et al. (2020) have found school meal programs can help improve student attitude and participation in the classroom, while Bethmann and Cho (2022) point to their impact on improving the mental and health of children. Another study by Gordanier et al. (2020) confirms that access to school meals is connected to improvements in learning outcomes. But studies to this point focus on looking at the impact of these school meal programs and the effects of putting them into use, and they leave out an even more important evaluation of the morality of government interventions and the moral basis for evaluating these policies. The academic community needs to build research skills to push for social and public good.

1. Deontological Lens: Moral Obligation and Human Rights

These works first of all describe the basic logic of public policy from a deontological point of view. They argue that the reason for this is that the state has a clear moral right to respect the rights of its peoples, not just to meet the needs of its economy. There is a strong case for this position, as discussed in Posner's (2023) study. The provision and distribution of free nutritious food is a core task of the government to meet the rights of all children to food and a

good life. The MBG has a long history of working with local communities to address food security and other social needs. Watts-Cobbe and Fitzpatrick (2023) point out the importance of respect for rights and social values in the implementation of the MBG program. That is, MBG programs must be based on the protection of individual rights and the promotion of social benefits.

2. Teleological Perspective: Advancing Long-Term Development Goals

These presentations were first and last compared to the concept of what is at the center of our deontological and what is at the center of our teleological view of the world. Drawing on deontology as a reference, it introduces a teleological public policy evaluation logic that applies to the public sphere, traces the Aristotelian philosophical roots of this framework, and applies this set of ethical standards to the ethical value assessment of the MBG public project. Finally, it proposes that the ethical legitimacy of this project must be tied to both its pre-set goals and its actual on-the-ground implementation effects.

3. Utilitarian Perspective: Maximizing Collective Welfare

This study constructs an ethical legitimacy evaluation framework for welfare policies from a utilitarian perspective. Drawing on the conclusions of Watts-Cobbe & Fitzpatrick (2023), this study proposes that for welfare policies to maintain their legitimacy, they must satisfy three core conditions: efficient resource allocation, fiscal sustainability, and responsible governance. Only policies that create the greatest well-being for the largest number of social members and minimize overall social costs hold ethical justification. When applying this framework to evaluate the MBG public program, an assessment of its legitimacy must examine whether four categories of benefits nutritional improvement, educational attainment, public health, and future productivity, exceed three categories of implementation costs: financial costs, administrative costs, and fiscal resource costs. Following Braithwaite's (2022) point that the goal of assistance programs is helping people become better able to take care of themselves and not creating people who have to stay on state support longer, the MBG program should also be looked at to make sure how well it helps people stay on good terms with the government without taking away their sense of duty.

4. Ethical Synthesis

Looking at the picture as a big whole, we can see that together these three views present a really complete way to look at the MBG program's right to get started. One view looks more at what the state is meant to provide, while another talks about how the program helps with big goals, and the other one just asks if the good it does is worth the price. Far from being in conflict with each another, they in fact serve to complement one another in informing the thinking process around the concept of the grounds for policy on social security. What this suggests is that the question of the MBG program's legality is not just a result of its structure, but also how it is actually implemented in order to make sure it meets the standards of fair, practical, and ongoing social security.

5. Teleological Lens: Focus on Outcomes and Consequences

We introduce and apply two of the three major schools of thinking in philosophy, known as the three major schools of thought, to evaluate the outcomes of the MBG school lunch program and its impacts. As proposed earlier by Littlejohns et al. in 2019, based on the results of the program, we assess the impact of the program based on its results, not just on its plans on paperwork. When MBG is successful in helping children eat better, lowers the health risk, and improves academic performance, as well as helping to meet the basic needs of the community, it meets the goals of the program. Based on the most important goal of creating the best possible outcome for the many, MBG meets this objective but faces some serious challenges. According to a 2023 review by Watts-Cobbe and Fitzpatrick, high program spending could result in a transfer of benefits away from others, so we need to make making the program more economical and affordable a priority. While Braithwaite caution in 2022 to stakeholders to be mindful of the downside of making people addicted to assistance. We also made sure to use simple, daily language in writing to help break away from the idea that these ideas are difficult to understand.

6. Utilitarian Lens: Maximization of Collective Welfare

This program has been evaluated using the core principles of utilitarianism, which is defined as “the greater happiness of the most people,” as this program has been evaluated using criteria such as the access of children to proper nutrition and clothing, health, and academics, resulting in an increase in the standard of the community’s quality of life and is totally consistent with this standard of evaluation. But if the programs become too expensive, causing the other people to have to survive on nothing but instant noodles, this equation of the greatest happiness will fall apart. The Watts-Cobbe and Fitzpatrick (2023) argue that every public program must meet efficiency and sustainability requirements in order to be launched. Braithwaite (2022) warns of the hidden risks of social assistance as well as its potential to create a group that takes social assistance benefits for given. This program seems to align with deontological standards and is perfectly suited for social media, but its success in the world is the only true test of its worth. Stakeholders should keep a close eye on how the program is going, help kids learn to be grateful, and never put its benefits first while letting its impact on the long run slip by

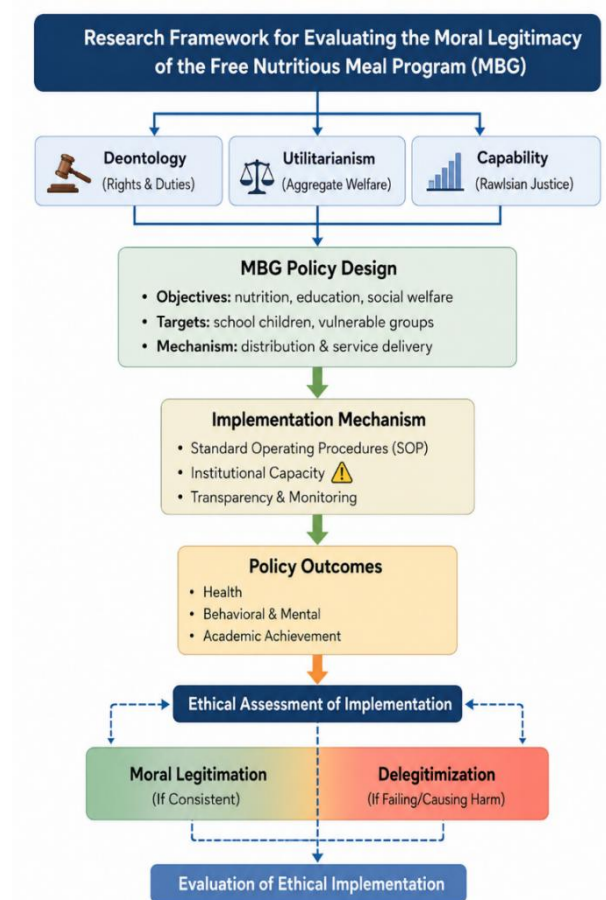
Method

Our main objective is to review the policy’s ethical and moral standing in Indonesia. We adopted an analysis based on the use of a normative analysis supported by the use of primary and quantitative data, and based on a full review of this data. By using analysis, we not only aim at describing the details of the programs, as well as the more important task of unpacking the moral concepts, as well as the more important task of unpacking the moral principles, normative foundations, and value systems that support the use of state intervention in the public good. This project's normative analysis draws on three major schools of thinking: deontology, teleology, and utilitarianism. We used data from local and international

publications that have made it through review by others in the profession, government policy documents, and relevant surveys. Among them, Altindag et al. (2020), Bethmann and Cho (2022), and Gordanier et al. (2020) report on the positive impact of school lunch programs on student attitudes, as well as in terms of mental and health and academic success, as does Ramlan et al. (2025) explain the local implementation of MBG, which serves as the basis for additional evaluation of its impact.

Analytical Framework

MBG has a system of rules that looks at the policy from a few points of interest, just like deontology, teleology, and utilitarianism. Looking at it, this way is done in steps to confirm that the process is easy to follow and the result is good.



Source : Author, 2026

Figure 1. Framework Research

This process starts with an impact assessment evaluation of Indonesian government's School Meals Program (MBG). These evaluations look at programs from different perspectives: deontology, teleology, and utilitarianism. Based on information from local government official reports and important academic work, this assessment evaluates programs by using standards that can be turned to practice. The standards were reused to help assess another social policy in the country and keep the focus of the evaluation from being

focused on just one thing. Our findings are based on an evaluation of the MBG health and social services program, which was based on a series of things like government reports, other programs, and studies on similar projects. Instead of only focusing on the program's outcomes, this study also looked at the programs' goals and how well they were executed. These criteria allow us not only to review the points of view, but the similarities and points of difference as well. Support for a position is grouped into three categories: consistent, more consistent, and less consistent.

We use basic ideas from deontology, teleology, and utilitarianism as our standard. This process of rating is also used to support a detailed review of three moral points of view. The impact of a public policy, including an upgrade of benefits, for illustration, brings up some questions around the concept of protecting some basic rights as understood through these three points of view. We do not view one set of value as better than the other; instead, different perspectives can lead to better understanding of public problems. These reports focus on the MBG project and present findings in three categories: food security, food distribution, and operations. Our assessment is not based on a single ethical theory; rather, we demonstrate the complementary nature of several approaches to evaluation, empirically test the application of the principles described in policy standards in the real world, and seek to answer two basic questions: how to verify and assess the project's legal and moral rights, and understand the factors that impact the project's success. We conducted research by applying a normative method of evaluation to assess the extent to which the policies under study meet set standards based on deontological, teleological, and utilitarian concepts. We identified some areas of similarity among ethics traditions and found that applying the same standards to different situations can lead to conflict.

Result and Discussion

From a teleological perspective, MBG demonstrates strong alignment with the long-term objectives of public policy, particularly in health protection and the improvement of human resource quality. The program is designed to generate sustainable benefits through enhanced nutritional status and improved learning readiness among target groups. Findings indicate that, at the design level, the program is oriented toward achieving these substantive objectives. Effectiveness of achieving these goals remains contingent upon implementation consistency, particularly in maintaining service quality and operational standards in practice. Utilitarian framework, MBG generally contributes positively to aggregate welfare. Response to the identified mismatch between program objectives and field-level implementation—particularly across the dimensions of access, utilization, and stability within the food security framework—this study recommends the adoption of community feedback-driven policy evaluation mechanisms. Furthermore, it advocates for the redesign of food programs to be more participatory, sustainable, and responsive to prevailing environmental crises. (Komara et al., 2025). Accordingly, the aggregate benefits of the program are highly sensitive to implementation quality.

Table 1. Comparative Ethical Evaluation of Indonesia's Free Nutritious Meal Program

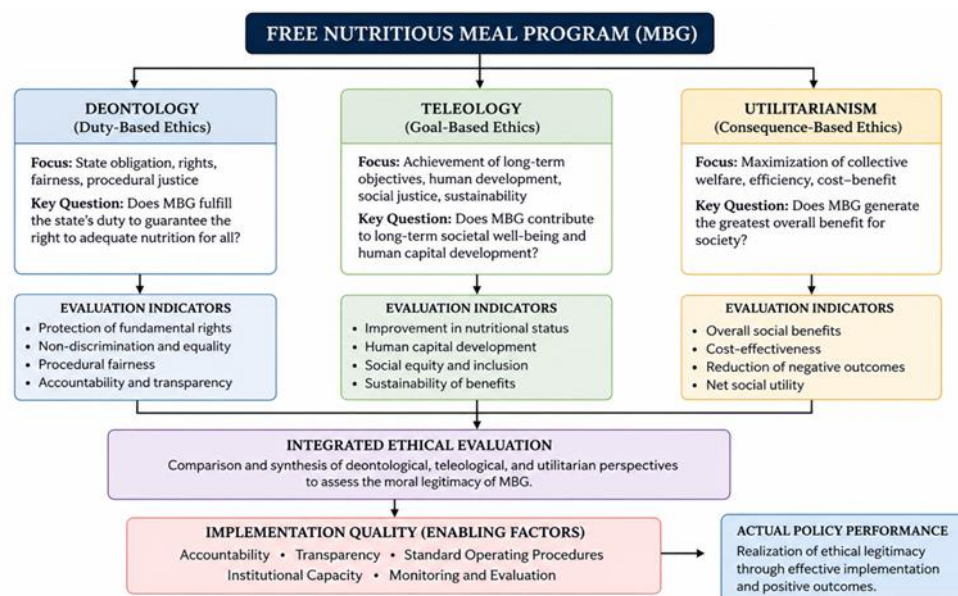
Ethical Perspective	Normative Evaluation Criteria	Evidence from the MBG Policy	Ethical Assessment	Key Implications
Deontology	Protection of fundamental rights, state obligations, fairness, and procedural justice	MBG prioritizes children and other vulnerable groups by providing publicly funded nutritious meals; however, implementation reports indicate inconsistencies in food safety, transparency, and monitoring.	The policy demonstrates strong normative legitimacy because it reflects the state's duty to protect the right to adequate nutrition. Ethical legitimacy is weakened when procedural obligations are not consistently fulfilled.	Effective governance, accountability, and equal implementation standards are essential to preserve moral legitimacy.
Teleology	Achievement of long-term societal goals, human development, and social justice	MBG is intended to improve nutritional status, educational participation, and long-term human capital development. Program outcomes depend on sustained implementation quality and institutional continuity.	The policy is ethically justified insofar as it advances long-term public welfare objectives. Failure to maintain implementation quality limits the realization of these intended goals.	Long-term policy success requires institutional sustainability and continuous program improvement.
Utilitarianism	Maximization of collective welfare and efficient use	Empirical studies on school meal programs suggest positive effects	The ethical value of MBG depends on whether aggregate social	Improving implementation efficiency increases the

	of public resources	on nutrition, health, behaviour, and educational outcomes. Conversely, implementation failures, including food safety incidents and resource inefficiencies, reduce overall social benefits.	benefits exceed its economic and administrative costs.	overall social utility generated by the program.
Integrated Ethical Interpretation	Convergence of duties, outcomes, and long-term objectives	The three ethical perspectives converge in recognising the importance of improving children's welfare but differ in the criteria used to judge policy legitimacy.	MBG possesses a strong normative foundation, while its ethical legitimacy in practice depends on implementation quality, procedural fairness, and sustained public benefit.	Ethical evaluation should integrate deontological, teleological, and utilitarian considerations rather than relying on a single framework.

Source: Author's processed data, 2026

As Table 1 points out, the moral case for Indonesia's Healthy Meals Program cannot be evaluated based on a single perspective of rights. From a deontological point of reference, programs like this are a part of the states' moral commitment to protect children and other populations at most needs by giving them access to healthy food. In order to protect the most serious cases of harm, such as starvation, child malnutrition, and other forms of basic service equality, the program must be able to respond to the most severe forms of the problem. The MBG program gets its legal basis from protecting basic rights, applying fair distribution standards, and making sure food is safe and enough. Weaknesses in food safety, information access, accountability, or just implementation, meanwhile, can destroy this, because the state's promises must be consistent, not something that's just written on paper (Hofmann, 2024).

Such integrated approaches to food and nutrition show that food security should not be understood as a matter that is limited to food distribution or as a means to improve health outcomes. Supporting healthy eating policies can become something of a perfect solution when it prioritizes certain health values at the cost of the autonomy, the cultural and social participation of communities. There is a need, then, for a more inclusive form of public reasoning so that health, autonomy, culture, and social justice are taken into account together when making MBG programs. This type of thinking can lead to more fair and accepted policy because it understands that people, food companies, schools, parents, and those who benefit from the program might have different views and needs. Food security policies that focus too narrow on distributive fairness can accidentally weaken the freedom and the right to choose of the community. The moral legitimization of the MBG program, if we are to be true to the original MBG program, needs to be informed by a set of criteria that can be applied to the MBG program.



Source: Author's processed data, 2026

Figure 2. Analytical Frameworks For Ethical Evaluation

From a legal perspective, the National Food and Nutrition Law (No. 1 of 2019) states that the state has the right to food and the right to food security. Based on this concept, the state is the main stakeholder in protecting the right to food and food security. Noll and Murdock (2020) have noted that nutritional food security is crucial to the food and nutrition system. The MBG's legal and human rights basis is not only based on the fact that the program is in place but also on making sure its distribution is fair, transparent, and consistent to all people who have a right to the program, with a special focus on children and the most needed.

The program must be evaluated from a teleological point of view based on its success in helping to get to where it's going, such as helping to improve nutritional status, grow human skills, make people feel accepted, and keep public benefits going. The findings, though, show that there can still be a structural gap between what is right and how well things are

done. While a policy may be sound and just, good intentions don't mean good results. The categorical Imperative of Kant, Rawls's idea of "justice as fairness," as well as concepts of good governance, show that public policy must not only address the goals of policy but also address the process of public service delivery (Torry, 2024). The result is that good institutional quality, clear standard operating processes, monitoring, transparent and honest reporting, and holding people to account are all important factors that can make or break if MBG's good intentions can be put into reality.

The MBG can be said to be from a practical point of view if it results in the greater good by improving health, education, participation, the community's quality of living, and how public services are handled. That being the case, the effort to improve the quality of community life should not turn food into just an item of economic worth or treat people who benefit from the program as mere people who get help from the government. Azétsop and Joy (2024) describe how modern food systems are more and more controlled by market mechanisms that put profit first while ignoring human rights and human worth. Because of these reasons, evaluations that use this type of system put together what we call rights-based, purpose-based, and the effects of the actions. MBG's moral standing rests on the way it's put into action and its power to turn good rules into good practices, helpful services, and positive, proven results for the community,

Table 2. Main Finding

Option	Description	Advantages	Risks
Status quo	Continue the program without significant changes	Policy stability	Risk warn failures
Limited technical improvements	Focus on SOPs and supervision	Short-term operational improvements	Not address root causalities
Implementation reform (RECOMMENDED)	Strengthening institutional capable	Long-term and sustain	Requires substantial investment

Source: Author's processed data, 2026

The table in Table 2 shows three policy choices for how to keep the Free Nutritious Meals Program going and make it better. One option is the status quota, meaning the program should go on like it is now, which means no major changes to how it's set up or run. This has the benefit of policy and institutional consistency, since it does not result in changes to the way the program is run. But it could also result in problems being ignored, such as signs of trouble or weak implementation. The program's current problems with accounting, control, quality, or food standards will still be issues, and the program's flaws in both how the program is run and its goals will not be improved.

Option two would focus on limited reforms that center on standard operating practices and monitoring. This option could result in operating benefits in the short period by bringing about greater administrative standards, more clear lines of work, and making routine monitoring more powerful. The results, but would only be in the area of reforms, as that alone might not address the problems that are at the basis of the problems with delivery. Structural problems, such as weak institutions, weak leadership, low standards of monitoring and evaluation, and high levels of corruption, cannot be fixed by just changing procedures. These changes may not lead to significant or stable institutional changes.

The Third Option, known as reform of operations, has been selected as the course of recommended policy because it will focus on both institutional and operational reforms to correct the problems of implementation. Even if this option needs a lot of money, effort, and work, it can lead to the best results in the future. The implementation must include the use of stronger systems of reporting, and transparent and clear operational standards, as well as evaluation and evaluation of human skills and evaluation of the program's progress. This option is different from the two others because it is more focused on closing the gap between the program's goal and its results, which results in both improving the results of the policy and its public support.

Conclusion

This paper proposes a two-dimensional ethical legitimacy assessment logic for the MBG public welfare policy, which takes deontology, teleology, and utilitarianism as its normative basis. It points out that theoretical ethical justification alone is insufficient; assessments must be combined with evaluations across five implementation dimensions, and must also be carried out within the context of Indonesia's socioeconomic institutional system. The relevant requirements outlined are supported by citations of the literature of Watts-Cobbe et al. (2023) and Littlejohns et al. (2019). Every ethical point of opinion can add something different to evaluating a policy. From a deontological point of opinion, protecting the basic right to enough food and supporting fair practices is important; a teleological focus is on getting to big goals over the course of time, and a 2026 study by Putra et al. argues that this point of view should include important things like making people better and more productive. Utilitarian perspectives focus on the social benefits more than the public costs as the basis of their assessment. Policy implementation continues to have six challenges, such as not having the same standards, low transparency, weak systems, and less institutional support. They propose the need to address all remaining MBG issues, as well as to foster better governance, to improve quality of delivery, and to strengthen the core of MBG's legal and moral basis. .

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