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Indonesia Development Forum 2017

# Fighting Inequality for Better Growth

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# Cost of the Diet Study in Indonesia

Provide Evidence for a Nutrition Sensitive *Rastra (Beras Rakyat Sejahtera)* Reform

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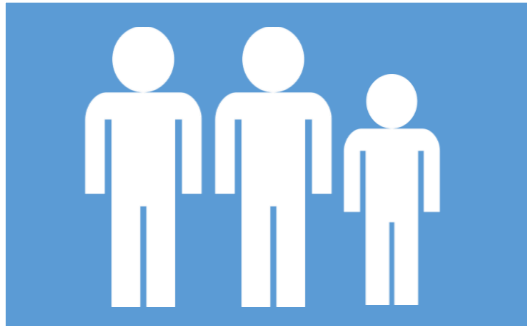
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# Background

## Malnutrition in Indonesia

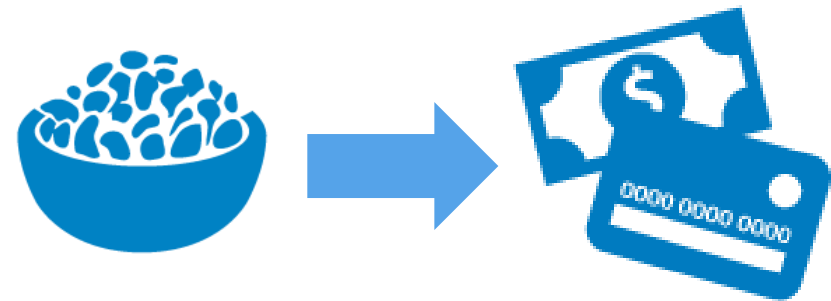
- **1 in 3** children under five is stunted



- Poor Indonesians are at **50% more likely to be stunted** than those in the upper wealth quintile

## Rastra Reform (BPNT)

- Issues with the **effectiveness**
- **Negligible impact** on the nutritional status of its recipients
- The GoI decided to reform Rastra from **in-kind distributions of rice to voucher (BPNT)**



# Research Questions

1. Is it possible to purchase a nutritious diet using foods locally available on the market?
2. What is the cost and content of a nutritious diet?
3. Do households have enough money to purchase nutritious this diet?
4. Which locally available foods should be included in the BPNT's local food basket?
5. If it is possible to increase the voucher value, what foods should be included?

# Methodology: Cost of the Diet

## How it works?

Locally Available Food Items

Possible nutritious diets meeting requirements of the model household (a father, a breastfeeding mother, an adolescent girl, and a 12-23 month child)

Least expensive nutritious diets

## Data sources:

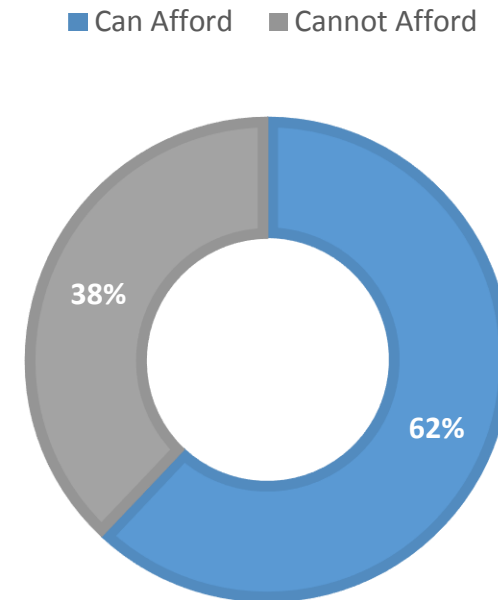
- March 2016 National Socioeconomic Survey (SUSENAS)
- Market Survey: 33 markets in 8 Provinces



# Findings

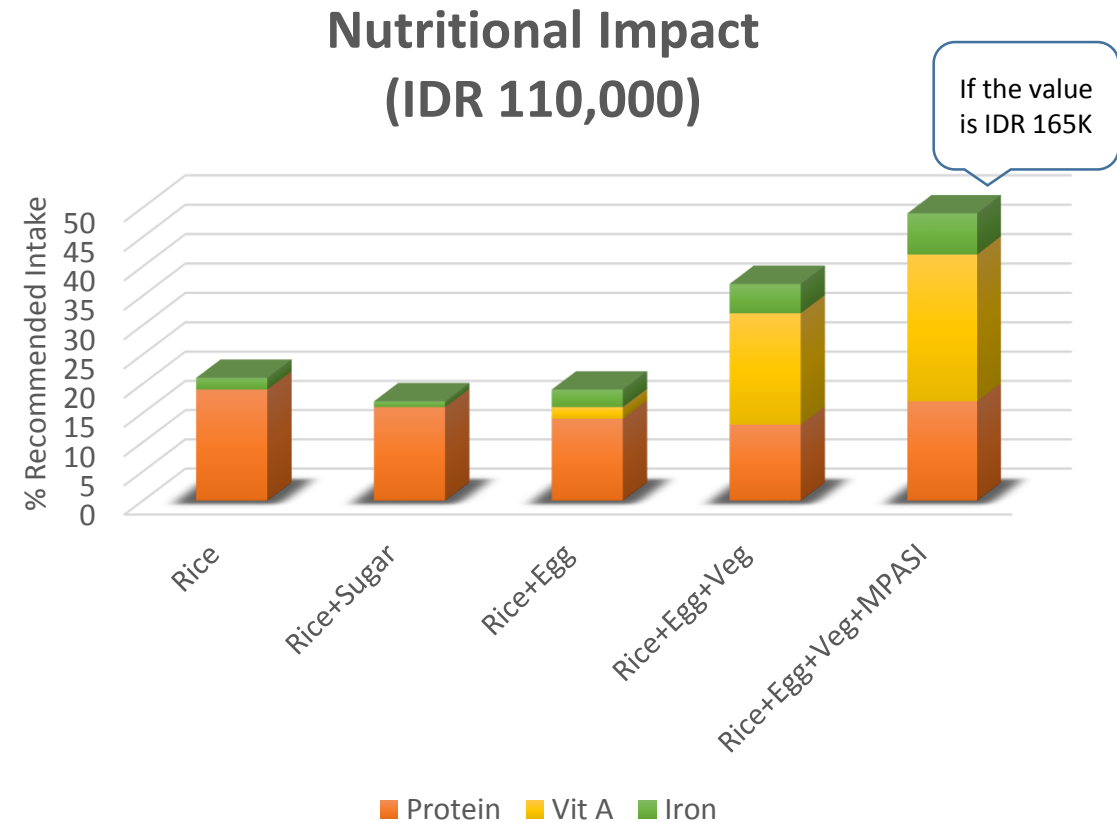
- Sufficient nutritious food is available in local markets;
- The minimum cost of a nutritious diet in Indonesia is **IDR 1,191,883** per month per household, with wide variations among provinces (least expensive= Sulawesi Selatan IDR 1,023,655, most expensive=Papua IDR 1,689,534); and
- 62 % of Indonesian households currently spend enough to afford a nutritious diet, but 38 % are unable to afford to meet their minimum nutritional needs.

PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS CAN AFFORD A NUTRITIOUS DIET



# Recommendations: Greater Nutritional Impact of BPNT

- ✓ Voucher value should be adjusted by province;
- ✓ With a voucher worth IDR 110,000, in addition to rice, BPNT should also include **egg, dark-green leafy vegetables**;
- ✓ If the value is increased by 50% (IDR 165,000): increase the amount of other commodities and **add fortified complementary food** (*Makanan Pendamping Air Susu Ibu -MP-ASI*) for children aged 6-23 month.



# THANK YOU



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