



Communication dynamics in farmer groups: Enhancing food security programs through agricultural collaboration

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ABSTRACT

Background: Bungaraya Subdistrict is one of the largest rice-producing areas in Riau Province. However, in 2023, rice production experienced a significant decline, decreasing from the target of 45,463 tons to 26,064 tons. This decline highlights the necessity of supporting food security programs implemented by farmer groups (Gapoktan). Communication dynamics within Gapoktan play a crucial role in supporting food security initiatives. This study examines the communication dynamics within Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki, focusing on how these dynamics contribute to the success of food security programs. **Methods:** This research employs a descriptive qualitative approach, involving seven informants as participants. Data collection methods include interviews, observations, and document analysis to gain a comprehensive understanding of communication dynamics within Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki. The study categorizes communication dynamics into two types: formal and informal communication, further distinguishing between vertical and horizontal communication structures. **Findings:** The findings reveal that communication dynamics within Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki are divided into formal and informal communication. Formal communication occurs through both vertical and horizontal channels. Vertical communication involves exchanges between the Gapoktan members and Agricultural Extension Workers (PPL), facilitating the dissemination of program information, policy coordination, and activity management. Horizontal communication occurs among members of similar levels within the organization, utilizing face-to-face meetings and WhatsApp groups. Informal communication, on the other hand, takes place during casual interactions in the field, such as discussions and information sharing about rice cultivation. This informal interaction fosters stronger relationships, trust, and collaboration among members. **Conclusions:** Overall, both formal and informal communication significantly support food security programs by enhancing coordination, transparency, and solidarity within the group. **Novelty/Originality of this article:** By examining both vertical and horizontal communication structures, the research highlights the critical role of structured and casual communication in achieving organizational goals.

KEYWORDS: communication dynamics; gapoktan; food security.

1. Introduction

In this day and age, problems related to health and the economy are a scary specter for the whole world, especially in the economic system. In Indonesia itself, economic problems are closely related to all Indonesian people. This is because if population growth is high, and if it is not accompanied by an increase in food production, it will have the opportunity to face the problem of meeting the food needs of the population in the future. In government regulation number 17 of 2015 concerning food security and nutrition which contains, the State is obliged to realize the availability, affordability, and fulfillment of adequate, safe,

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quality, and nutritionally balanced food consumption, both at the national and regional levels to individuals evenly throughout the territory of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia at all times by utilizing institutional resources, and local culture. Therefore, food supervision or safety is required to maintain the prosperity and welfare of the Indonesian people (Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia on Food Security and Nutrition, 2015).

According to Pane, the food security system in Indonesia comprehensively includes 4 sub-systems, namely: (a) food availability in sufficient quantities and types for the entire population of Indonesia, (b) smooth and equitable food distribution, (c) food consumption of each individual that meets the adequacy of balanced nutrition, which has an impact on, (d) the nutritional status of the community. Therefore, the process of food security is not only about food production, distribution and access, but also about micro access, namely in the community. As we know that the realization of food security in Indonesia still has several obstacles related to several aspects, such as aspects of food availability, food affordability, and food utilization (Pane, 2022). According to the survey results by the National Food Agency (NFA) through the Food Security and Vulnerability Atlas (FSVA), in 2023 the level of food insecurity vulnerability in Indonesia decreased by 1% from 14% in 2022 to 13% in 2023. Through these results, it can be seen that food security in Indonesia itself can be said to be safe, but it does not make us careless, because food availability and consumption can still be a major problem caused by a lack of fulfillment of proper consumption needs which will ultimately be related to community nutrition standards.

Of the 38 provinces in Indonesia, there is one province, namely Riau Province. Riau Province itself is dominated by a lack of food security, indicated by the yellow color "Somewhat Vulnerable". This is due to the lack of farmers in this area. As we know that in an effort to improve food security development, the role of farmers is very large in supporting and implementing various programs that will be run.

However, in Riau province itself, the role of farmers can be said to be lacking in fulfilling food, it is due to the lack of the role of the government. This is in line with the results of the researcher's observations, which found that for Bungaraya sub-district it is still difficult to get subsidized fertilizer, in line with the media coverage quoted from riauonline.co.id. said that in the last three years it has been difficult to collect subsidized fertilizer because of the many requirements that have to be met to collect it, therefore empowering farmers is very important. According to the Head of the Siak District Agriculture Office, Irwan Saputra said that rice production in Siak district amounted to 29,063 tons, therefore, there is a production shortfall of 16,400 tons that must be achieved, from the target of 45,463 tons by the end of 2023 (Fitri, 2023). Therefore, the food security program is needed for farmers. Food Security is the ability of a region or community to provide, access and use food resources in a sufficient, safe and sustainable manner to meet the food needs of the community.

In terms of food security, there are 4 pillars that must be met, including availability, affordability, utilization and stability. Therefore, if you want to determine food security, these four indicators are important components. If the four pillars are not fulfilled, then the country still cannot be said to be a country with food security. Likewise in an area such as a sub-district. Therefore, the role of farmers is needed in the sustainability of this food security, so that farmer empowerment is needed (Supu et al., 2022). The importance of empowering farmers is very reasonable, because if you pay attention, the existence of agricultural institutions lately is very lacking and even seems to be ignored, so that farmer institutions are actually a very valuable asset in supporting food security development. One way to improve the performance of farmers is by joining farmer groups. According to Hafid Ramdhani, a Farmer Group is an institution at the farmer level formed directly by farmers in an organized manner in agricultural businesses. Meanwhile, according to the Ministry of Agriculture through Law number 19 of 2013, the Farmer Group is a group of farmers / livestock/planters formed on the basis of common interests, similar environmental conditions (social, economic, resources) and familiarity with the aim of developing the business of its members (Ramdhani et al., 2015). But lately, farmer groups have been

enlarged into a combination of farmer groups in a village administrative area or better known as GAPOKTAN (Farmer Group Association). Based on the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture number 03 of 2022 concerning human resource development, research and development, rejuvenation, infrastructure and infrastructure of oil palm plantations, Gapoktan is a combination of several farmer groups that join and work together to increase economies of scale and business efficiency (Ministerial Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia No. 03 of 2022, 2022).

Therefore, Gapoktan is a forum used for cooperation between farmer groups. In Riau Province itself, one of the sub-districts that has Gapoktan is Bungaraya sub-district, Siak Regency (Regulation Of The Minister Of The Republic Of Indonesia No 03 2022, 2022). The Gapoktan is called Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki. In this Gapoktan, of course, there is a leader's role in it. The leader is of course also a determinant of the success of a farmer group. Therefore, one of the supporters of food security development is the success of a farmer group.

According to Agus Subhan Prasetyo, one of the keys to the success of a farmer group is the right communication strategy. In addition, the main characteristic that distinguishes successful and unsuccessful farmer groups is the existence of dynamic and effective leadership and being able to communicate well to its members (Prasetyo et al., 2019). In line with that, according to Dennis, the Communication Dynamics used in an organization are divided into several types, namely formal and non-formal communication (Tatang, 2016). Therefore, the success of farmer groups is strongly supported by the dynamics of communication, be it interpersonal communication, downward communication, upward communication, horizontal communication, to non-formal communication which is certainly carried out in the farmer group.

Based on the previous explanation, it can be seen that Food Security and Communication Dynamics have a close relationship between the two. Communication plays an important role in achieving and maintaining food security. Proper implementation of Communication Dynamics between the government and farmer groups allows for in-depth information exchange regarding agricultural practices. For example, through communication, stakeholders can understand the needs and challenges faced by farmer groups, facilitate knowledge transfer, and help implement food security programs. In addition, effective communication can create opportunities for resource mobilization and collaboration among stakeholders. Therefore, building good communication dynamics will result in a good agricultural system to achieve comprehensive food security goals.

2. Methods

2.1 Data source, location, and time

This research uses a qualitative approach. According to Sugiyono, qualitative research is a research method based on the philosophy of positivism, which is used to research on natural object conditions, (as opposed to experiments) where the researcher is the key instrument, sampling data sources is done purposively and snowball, collection techniques with triangulation (combined), data analysis is induction or qualitative, and qualitative research results emphasize meaning rather than generalization. Sugiyono (2016), this research also uses a qualitative descriptive approach. Descriptive research is data collected in the form of words, pictures, not numbers and research reports will contain data quotations to provide an overview of the presentation of interview reports, field notes, and documentation (Moleong, 2017). Researchers prefer to use a qualitative approach due to the nature of the problem itself, namely related to the communication dynamics of Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki in supporting the food security program which of course aims to describe these problems. For the location itself, namely the farmer group in Bungaraya Village, Siak Regency.

This research was conducted by the author in Bungaraya Village, Siak Regency, Riau, especially in the Sumber Rezeki Farmer Group. The reason the researchers conducted

research here is with the consideration that this Gapoktan is a combination of farmer groups in Bungaraya Village, totaling 12 farmer groups into GAPOKTAN (Gabungan Kelompok Tani) Sumber Rezeki and the research time was carried out for 3 months from the proposal received. There are two sources in this research, namely primary data and secondary data. Primary data is data obtained from the first or first-hand data source in the field. (Kriyantono, 2006) Primary data sources are obtained through interview activities with research subjects and by observation or direct observation of researchers in the field. Primary data in this study is in the form of observations and interviews from the field with the results of interviews with the Chairman of Gapoktan and the head of PPL Bungaraya in observations made by researchers. Secondary data is data obtained or collected from sources that have been obtained in real time, in the form of documents, reports, and other official archives that are still relevant (Natalia Silalahi et al., 2023). The usefulness of secondary data is to assist researchers in finding data and help obtain information on research topics related to Communication Dynamics at Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki in Supporting the Food Security Program in Bungaraya Village, Siak Regency.

2.2 Informants and data collection techniques

This research entrusts information from sources called research informants. Informants in this study were determined by using a purposive technique, which means that informants were selected based on appropriate criteria or special characteristics and have more knowledge to provide information related to this research data. Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki consists of 12 farmer groups (Poktan) then, those taken as research informants are the heads of farmer groups from 5 farmer groups under the auspices of Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki. The informants in this study can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Research informants

No	Name/Job	Description	Total
1	Chairman of Gapoktan	Key Informant	1
2	Head of PPL Bungaraya	Additional Informants	1
3	Farmer group leader	Additional Informants (The criteria for additional informants are active as a farmer group in running the program food security)	5

Data collection is very important in research. In this study using field research techniques, namely by using interviews, observation and documentation methods. Interview is one way of collecting data by means of communication, namely through a conversation conducted by two parties, namely the interviewer who asks questions and the interviewee who provides answers to these questions. Interviews as a means of rechecking or proving information or information previously obtained.

The interview technique used in qualitative research is in-depth interview, which is the process of obtaining information for research purposes by means of question and answer face-to-face between the interviewer and the informant or interviewee, with or without interview guidelines, where the interviewer and informant are involved in a relatively long social life. Murdiyanto (2020), researchers will conduct interviews with informants who have been determined directly and face-to-face with the interviewed subjects in a free and controlled manner so that the data obtained is extensive and in-depth data. Observation is making observations in a recording manner that is carried out systematically on the symptoms that appear on the object of research (Suparman et al., 2021). Researchers will collect data through observation by observing organizational communication activities in farmer groups during meetings and meetings. Documentation is analyzing documents produced by oneself or others documents are sources of information in the form of past records (Sugiyono, 2016).

2.3 Data validity and data analysis techniques

Researchers used the Triangulation technique to check the validity of the data. Triangulation is a data validity checking technique that uses something different to compare the results of interviews with research subjects. Moleong (2017) triangulation can be done with various methods, such as observation, interviews, and documents. Triangulation is also used to check the truth of the data and then it is done to enrich the data. Among the four different types of triangulation are by using sources, methods, investigators, and theories. In this study, researchers only used the technique of checking with sources from the four types of triangulation discussed. In qualitative research, triangulation with sources means equalizing and rechecking the level of confidence of information obtained through various tools and time. However, do the following things to gain that trust. Comparing observation data with interview data and comparing what people say about the situation comparing personal statements with research public statements and what he said over time. Comparing situations with different perspectives of a person as well as perspectives from various classes of society. comparing interview results with relevant document *osi* (Moleong, 2017). This researcher conducted a data validity test using the source triangulation method, researchers compared the results of interviews with documents that researchers had obtained from PPL (field agricultural counseling), Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki and the Head of the Farmer group.

Qualitative data analysis begins with examining all available data from various sources, such as observations that have been written in field notes, documents, interviews, photos, and so on, according to Bogdan and Biklen (Moleong, 2017). In this study, data analysis was used using the Miles and Huberman data analysis method (1984 in Sugiyono, 2016: 246), which involves an analytical process that takes place interactively and continues continuously until the data becomes saturated. After the review, the data is reduced, presented, and conclusions are drawn. Data reduction is in the form of summarizing data, selecting key information, prioritizing information that is considered important, looking for certain patterns, and eliminating unnecessary information. There are many ways to reduce data, one of which is to analyze, sharpen, classify, direct, and organize data so that conclusions can be made. In the initial reduction stage, researchers carried out data activities that had been collected and then reduced with data that was in accordance with the research to be used. However, data that is not appropriate will not be used. Presentation of data is an arranged set of information that allows drawing conclusions by providing an arranged set of information that allows drawing conclusions to occur. This is done to simplify but still contains value. This research data will be presented in the form of text, images, tables, and photos after being technically organized into a data analysis matrix. In addition, the interview findings will be presented as supporting data. At the data presentation stage, the researcher presents the data in the form of text, images, tables, and photos that are in accordance with this research. The final stage of the data analysis process is when researchers convey their conclusions from the data they collected during the research. Drawing conclusions is the process of expressing the meaning of the research results in sentences that are short, concise, and easily understood by the reader. (Sugiyono, 2016) Researchers conducted conclusion drawing activities from the research results.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Overview of gapoktan sumber rezeki

Gapoktan is an agricultural business that was established with the aim of facilitating activities ranging from the capital sector to the processing of agricultural products. Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki was established on February 1, 2007 in Bunga Raya Village, Bunga Raya District, Siak Regency, Riau Province. The establishment of Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki was motivated by the need to improve coordination and cooperation between farmer groups in the Bunga Raya area. Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki has 12 farmer groups spread across

Bunga Raya Village, with members reaching 440 people with a managed agricultural land area reaching 444 ha (Programa of Agricultural Extension Center, 2019). The purpose of establishing Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki is to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of agricultural management in the Bunga Raya Village area, then to facilitate access to government programs in agriculture such as fertilizer assistance, rice seeds and agricultural training or extension, strengthen the position of agricultural crops and improve the welfare of farmers in the Bunga Raya village area, then also as access to information and resources. gapoktan resources become a liaison between farmer groups and related parties such as the Agriculture Office, banks and research institutions to facilitate access to information and resources needed by farmers. Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki is one of the 10 groups of groups and Sumber Rezeki is one of the 10 Gapoktan formed in the Bunga Raya sub-district, the existence of this Gapoktan is expected to increase significant progress in the agricultural sector in the region (Prayitno, personal communication, May 2024). The field agricultural extension agency in Bungaraya village certainly has an important role in the process of village activities, especially in agriculture, so that BPP/PL has a big responsibility in it. In its activities, of course, this BPP is not only run by one person, but many people. Therefore, the following is the Management Structure of the Agricultural Extension Center in Bungaraya Village.

Bungaraya Village, located approximately 25 kilometers from the center of Siak Regency, which can be accessed by land and river. Formerly part of Sungai Apit Sub-district, Bungaraya Village then separated itself and became an independent sub-district in 2001 based on the Regional Regulation of Siak Regency Number 13 of 2001. When it was first established, Bungaraya District had 14 villages, namely: Bungaraya, Jayapura (Lefaan, 2023), Jatibaru, Sungai Berbari, Sungai Limau, Dosan, Benayah, Pebadaran, Dusun Pusaka, Perincit, Tuah Indrapura, Buatan Lestari., Langsung Permai, and Kemuning Muda. In 20007, Siak District Regional Regulation number 8 of 2007 was issued again, where Bungaraya District was divided into two sub-districts, namely Bungaraya District and Pusako District. As a result of this policy, the village in Bungaraya Sub-district was divided into two, namely: Bungaraya, Jayapura, Jatibaru, Tuah Indrapura, Buantan Lestari, Langsung Permai and Kemuning Muda are part of Bungaraya Sub-district, while the other villages are included in the Pusako Sub-district area (Programa of Agricultural Extension Center, 2019). Along with the development of the community, in 2009 Perda No. 5 of 2009 was issued again concerning the formation of 3 (three) new villages from the results of the expansion included in Bungaraya District, namely Temusai Village as a result of the expansion of Perincit village, Dayang Suri village from the expansion of Pebadaran village and Suak Merambai village from the expansion of Sungai Berbari village. So that until now Bungaraya District has 10 villages, namely Bungaraya Village, Kemuning Muda, Jatibaru, Langsung Permai, Temusai, Dayang Suri, Jayapura, Suak Merambai, Buantan Lestari and Tuah Indrapura (Programa of Agricultural Extension Center, 2019).

3.2 Informants

This research uses a qualitative method with a descriptive nature that aims to describe a problem by referring to the phenomenon that is happening. The description of the problem is explained as it actually occurs in the field. This description certainly refers to an event that can be explained in detail and in depth. Therefore, to find out the descriptive study of communication dynamics that occur in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki, researchers describe the explanation of the results of interviews with informants, documentation, and observation as a form of supporting the success of this research. Based on the informant table, it can be seen that the informants that researchers use are internal parties from Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki who certainly have more knowledge so that they can answer the questions or objectives of the research conducted, namely the Communication Dynamics carried out by Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki in supporting the food security program in Bungaraya Village. Data informant data can be seen in Table 2.

Table 2. Informant data

No.	Name	Gender	Position & Reason for Choosing Informant
1	P	Male	Chairperson of Bungaraya PLL (Because he has an important role in implementing the food security program and his in-depth knowledge of Gapoktan and the food security program Farmer groups under its auspices)
2	M	Male	Chairman of Gapoktan (because of his leadership in Gapoktan and his understanding of Gapoktan's communication strategy with external parties such as BPP and Poktan)
3	S	Male	Chairman of Poktan Sukamulya 1 (Poktan representatives were selected because of their direct experience in implementing the program food security program and their understanding of communication between Poktan and Gapoktan)
4	H	Male	Head of Poktan Sukamulya 3 (Poktan representatives were selected because of their direct experience in implementing food security programs and their understanding of communication between Poktan and Gapoktan).
5	S	Male	Head of Poktan Sukamulya 4 (Poktan representatives were selected because of their direct experience in implementing food security programs and their understanding of communication between Poktan and Gapoktan).
6	B	Male	Head of Poktan Setia Karya (Poktan representatives were selected because of their direct experience in implementing food security programs and their understanding of communication between Poktan and Gapoktan).
7	S	Male	Poktan Sukajaya (Poktan representatives were selected because of their direct experience in implementing the food security program and their understanding of inter Poktan communication and the food security program Gapoktan)

3.3 Formal communication

The first stage of communication based on the concept of Organizational Communication is Formal Communication. Formal communication has an important role in the message delivery process because it can provide a structural framework that ensures information can flow clearly, efficiently within an organization (Julia, 2019). So that this formal communication can allow the delivery of information that has been determined through various media, such as online media, which certainly allows the delivery of information to its group. But in this formal communication, the media that are often used are such as invitation letters, reports, official emails which of course are with the aim of gathering people either for formal meeting activities, or other activities that occur under the auspices of their group. So it can be seen that formal communication is an important part of maintaining order, efficiency, and transparency in organizational activities. In addition, formal communication also aims to ensure that information is conveyed through channels such as mass media or social media with the aim of improving coordination between farmer group members (Sudarko et al., 2023).

The concept of Organizational Communication regarding formal communication itself is very precise, it can be seen from the information conveyed that can include actual, reliable information that is relevant to farmer group members (Agustian et al., 2023). So that the role of the media is very important for media delivery of messages within a Gapoktan. In their social media, they convey information either about food security, or activities carried out by the BPP team to the farmer groups. So it can be seen that in delivering messages about this food security program to the community, he uses social media such as WhatsApp Facebook, and Instagram (Jayadi, 2022). It can be concluded that the role of the media in formal communication is very important, especially when there are meeting activities in the Farmer Group Association and related to the food security program. For Formal communication used in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki, namely during meeting activities, so PPL

has an important role to carry out meetings and provide important information about agriculture to Gapoktan members.

Based on the results of researcher observations, it is found that this formal communication is not only carried out by the PPL/BPP team, but also carried out by Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki. Examples such as meeting or counseling activities. And of course in the process of gathering its members using social media such as whatsapp to convey information on the schedule of activities carried out by this Gapoktan itself. So it can be concluded that in this Sumber Rezeki Gapoktan uses media in its activities, this is indicated by statements from M and P who said that in their activities, they use social media such as WhatsApp, Facebook, and Instagram to convey information, especially when there are meeting activities. In addition, the media also aims to deliver food security programs to members of Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki. So it can be seen that the role of the media is needed in this Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki. Furthermore, for formal communication itself, this Formal Communication has an important role in the process of delivering messages to Gapoktan members, especially in Meeting activities. Then in this formal communication, the role of both the government and the field agricultural extension team is also needed, especially in delivering information about agriculture. This can be seen from the statements of the Head of the Farmer Group who stated that the role of formal communication is very important, therefore Formal Communication is considered very important in this Sumber Rezeki Gapoktan.

In Organizational Communication Theory, it is stated that the media is an important role in formal communication (Effendy, 2020), so that it is in line with the activities carried out by Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki which uses the Media in its activities, this is indicated by statements from M and P who said that in their activities, they use social media such as WhatsApp, Facebook, and Instagram to convey information, especially when there are meeting activities. In addition, the media also aims to deliver food security programs to members of Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki. So it can be seen that the role of the media is needed in this Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki. Furthermore, for formal communication itself, this Formal Communication has an important role in the process of delivering messages to Gapoktan members, especially in Meeting activities. Then in this formal communication, the role of both the government and the field agricultural extension team is also needed, especially in delivering information about agriculture. This can be seen from the statements of the Head of the Farmer Group who stated that the role of formal communication is very important, therefore Formal Communication is considered very important in this Sumber Rezeki Gapoktan. Thus it can be concluded that the Formal Communication that occurs in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki is in accordance with the concept of organizational communication, namely Media is often used such as social media which of course can maintain order, efficiency, and transparency in an organization.

This formal communication is divided into two forms of communication, namely Horizontal Communication and Vertical Communication (Heri et al., 2023). Horizontal communication is a form of communication from formal communication, this communication occurs between individuals or groups who are at the same level in an organization (Azizah et al., 2021). This communication aims to facilitate coordination, efficient information exchange between group members. Horizontal communication occurs when meeting or gathering activities between members of the farmer group (Dewi et al., 2020). So it can be seen that horizontal communication carried out by both Gapoktan, or farmer groups, is using direct communication, according to the words of B, S and S who said that this communication occurs when meeting in the fields. And when conducting meetings such as the planting season with farmer group members. Documentation of horizontal communication can be seen in Figure 1.

Horizontal communication carried out by Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki and other Gapoktan is well maintained. So that of course there is no misunderstanding, especially if you have used WhatsApp media, so that information certainly runs smoothly between Gapoktan. Based on the results of the observations that the researchers got, the horizontal

communication that occurs in this Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki that occurs between members. Either during meeting activities, or during counseling activities.



Fig. 1. Horizontal communication

In this gapoktan Sumber Rezeki also of course often uses social media, such as Whatsapp and Facebook which aims to convey information, be it a schedule of activities or the delivery of information about seedlings, and so on. So, it can be concluded that Horizontal Communication that occurs between members of Gapoktan can be said to be very good, this is indicated by a statement from M, he said that this horizontal communication occurs when there is a rice harvest event, then during the seeding season, that between members will later be held a meeting. Then based on statements from the head of the farmer group who said that the horizontal communication that occurred was very good, it was because they had their respective WhatsApp groups, so it could be said that the horizontal communication that occurred in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki was very good. In addition, horizontal communication also occurs between Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki and other Gapoktan (Medianto & Aini, 2022), therefore the horizontal communication that occurs between Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki and other Gapoktan is classified as good, it can be seen from the statement of M who stated that communication between Gapoktan is very good, it is supported by the use of media, so that information runs smoothly between Gapoktan. Therefore, if it is described in a chart, the horizontal communication that occurs in this Gapoktan can be described in Figure 2.

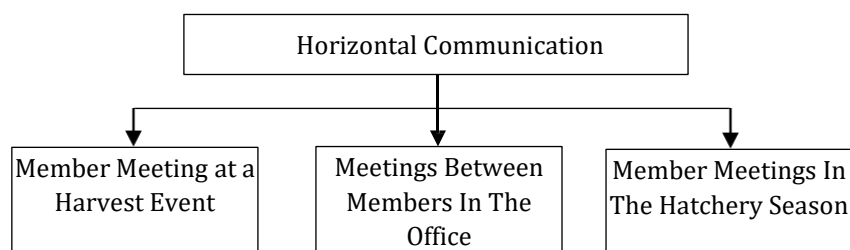


Fig. 2. Chart horizontal communication

Unlike Horizontal communication, which occurs between the same positions, Vertical Communication occurs when conveying information from the highest position to subordinates (Zainal et al., 2023). In other words, vertical communication occurs between individuals or groups at different levels of an organization, involving both top-down and bottom-up communication. Vertical communication in this Gapoktan occurs well, especially when they coordinate between Gapoktan members; they will communicate through direct media or social media such as WhatsApp. They also carry out vertical communication during

activities such as meetings or when in the fields. Documentation of vertical communication can be seen in Figure 3.



Fig. 3. Vertical communication

Vertical communication that occurs within this Gapoktan occurs well, especially when they coordinate between Gapoktan members, there they will communicate with each other either through direct media or social media such as WhatsApp. Apart from that, they also carry out vertical communication when at activities such as meetings or when in the fields. the role of vertical communication that occurs between Gapoktan, PPL, and the Government occurs very well. Moreover, the communication relationship between Gapoktan and PPL, it is shown from the statement of M who said that the vertical communication process between Gapoktan and PPL occurs directly during meeting activities. And P also said the same thing, this communication process also occurs directly during meeting activities.

Based on the results of the researcher's observations, there is that vertical communication that occurs in this sustenance source farmer group when meeting activities, or the delivery of information by PPL. The information conveyed by PPL is of course related to the food security program (Andriani, 2022). Thus it can be concluded that vertical communication in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki is going well, it is shown by the statement of M who said that for vertical communication within Gapoktan itself occurs when there is a rice harvest event, there the role of the Gapoktan chairman in providing information about seeds to its members, Then the statement was reinforced by the statement of S who said that for vertical communication itself occurs during the planting season, and later he will ask M about the planting schedule, or other coordination. Then for vertical communication with the local government and PPL, namely when there is a meeting activity, there will be communication carried out by the PPL team to Gapoktan members, and communication from the local government also occurs at the meeting.

Non-Formal communication in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki has an important role in maintaining relationships between farmers, it is because every time they meet, these farmers always discuss about their plants, how the health of their plants, so that it will produce trust between each farmer. Non-Formal communication has a difference than formal communication, it is because this non-formal communication occurs directly when farmers are in the fields. Then to answer the question of which type of communication is better, it can be seen from the previous statements, there are those who choose non-formal communication as a good conveyer of information, but there are also those who think that formal communication through meetings is better. But between the two, each has its own important role in managing good relations between Gapoktan members. Based on the observations made by researchers in the field, there are non-formal communication

activities carried out by members. The communication process occurs directly either when talking in the hut during breaks, or when planting rice. This is done with the aim of establishing friendship between members, apart from that this communication also aims to convey information about rice seeds. So, it can be concluded that for this non-formal communication, Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki has a very important role in maintaining good relations between farmers, it is done by the way every time they meet, these farmers always discuss how the health of their plants, so that it will produce trust between each farmer and Gapoktan. Then this non-formal communication certainly has a difference with formal communication, it is shown from the previous statement which says that this non-formal communication occurs directly when farmers are in the fields. And for this non-formal communication it can also be said to be a good conveyer of information, but between the two, of course, each has its own important role in managing good relations between Gapoktan members.

If it is associated with the concept of organizational communication, it can be concluded that for this non-formal communication, Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki has a very important role in maintaining good relations between farmers, it is done by the way every time they meet, these farmers always discuss how the health of their plants, so that it will produce trust between each farmer and Gapoktan. Then this non-formal communication certainly has a difference with formal communication, it is shown from the previous statement which says that this non-formal communication occurs directly when farmers are in the fields. And for this non-formal communication, it can also be said to be a good conveyer of information, but between the two, of course, each has its own important role in managing good relations between Gapoktan members. Then the form of communication dynamics that occurs in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki can be described through Table 3.

Table 3. Communication dynamics of gapoktan sumber rezeki

No	Form Of Communication	Activity	Message Content
1	Formal Communication	- Meeting Activities - Extension	Providing information about agriculture such as seed breeding, pest counseling, fertilizer distribution, and related programs food security
2	Horizontal Communication	- Inter-Gapoktan Meeting - Meeting	- Rice Planting Schedule - Hatchery Sharing - Sharing About Planting
3	Vertical Communication	- Harvest event - Meeting conducted by PPL	- Seedling Hatchery - Education for Farmers - Pest Counseling - Rice Planting Schedule
4	Non Formal Communication	- Chatting in the Lodge - Planting Rice	- Sharing activities of each member - Plant Condition each

4. Conclusions

Based on the results of the research and discussion that has been described, the communication dynamics that occur in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki are divided into two forms of communication, namely Formal communication and non-formal communication. So that based on the results of this study it can be concluded that the communication dynamics that occur in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki strongly support the food security program. Formal communication in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki in the delivery of information, coordination, and transparency of information between members. This is done through various means of communication such as social media and direct meetings. Formal communication is divided into two, namely horizontal communication and vertical communication. In horizontal communication, the communication process occurs between members who are at the same level of establishing good relations through meetings and whatsapp groups. As for vertical

communication, it occurs between Gapoktan, making it easier to exchange information and cooperation between organizations. Vertical communication occurs between Gapoktan members and PPLs. This vertical communication is important in delivering information about programs and policies and coordinating activities. For the second stage, based on the results of the research it is evident that the non-formal communication that occurs in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki aims to establish a strong relationship between members. This can be seen from the daily life of farmer groups who always discuss and exchange information about rice in the fields. Informal communication helps farmer groups understand each other better, trust each other more and work well together. Overall, formal and non-formal communication in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki has an important role in establishing relationships, both between members and between Gapoktan and PPL, so that with this communication process, it can facilitate Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki in achieving its goals.

It is hoped that Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki will always provide direction and guidance to members, especially members who have difficulty receiving information. This is because there are still most Gapoktan members who still do not use the media, then it is hoped that they can maintain solidarity between Gapoktan administrators so that cohesiveness occurs. Then it is hoped that the communication that is happening can run well, without any challenges and obstacles in the future. It is hoped that the Field Agricultural Extension Team (PPL) will provide more direction, information, and motivation so that Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki will grow and provide many benefits to the people of Siak, especially Bungaraya village. It is hoped that further research will be able to explore more information about the dynamics of communication that occurs in farmer groups, especially in Gapoktan Sumber Rezeki, because for the dynamics of communication itself, of course there are still many, not only formal and non-formal communication, so of course it will continue to experience significant changes in the future.

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Author Contribution

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