



**National Study on the
IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC
ON OLDER PERSONS
(Including those with disabilities)
IN INDONESIA**



FINAL REPORT

2022

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FOREWORD

Praise and gratitude to Allah SWT, God Almighty, for His mercy and grace, that **The National Study of the Impact of COVID-19 on the Older Persons Including Older Persons with Disabilities in Indonesia** has been completed.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been the fastest-spreading public health crisis this century, and it has caused a significant increase in the number of deaths and morbidity, and also has created social, economic and health challenges.

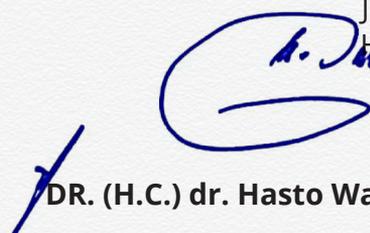
According to data from the 2021 Older Persons Population Statistics, the number of Older Persons people in Indonesia has increased and Indonesia has entered the phase of an aging population structure, which is indicated by the proportion of Older Persons people exceeding 10 percent of the total population, or 10.82 percent to be precise. The country has a total Older Persons population of 29.3 million, with 52.32 percent of them being women and 47.68 percent men, whereas 12.40 percent of them are Older Persons people with disabilities.

A National Study on the Impact of COVID-19 on the Older Persons including the Older Persons with Disabilities in Indonesia in the new normal situation, after the COVID-19 pandemic, is needed. The Older Persons, including those in the disabilities group, are amongst the most vulnerable to disease, particularly COVID-19, and require special assistance to access social and health services due to their physical condition. Therefore, this book will provide an understanding on the condition of Older Persons population from various aspects as a result of the impact of COVID-19. The findings can be taken into account in setting policies and assisting stakeholders to plan programs for the Older Persons in an effort to improve the quality of life of the Older Persons so they can remain healthy, independent, active, productive and dignified (SMART).

We would like to express our gratitude and highest appreciation to all of those who have contributed their thoughts and energy in the preparation of this book. Hopefully this book will be useful for the advancement of the Older Persons programs in Indonesia.



Jakarta, June 2022
Head of BKKBN RI


DR. (H.C.) dr. Hasto Wardoyo, Sp. OG(K)



FOREWORD

It seems that we are finally at the exit of prolonged COVID-19 pandemic, both globally and in Indonesia. We commend the efforts made by the Government of Indonesia, UN agencies and other stakeholders to bring this pandemic under control.

However, we lost so much during the past two and half years – the new virus claimed more than 6 million lives in the world, among which 150,000 are in Indonesia. It has also brought serious socio-economic impact on the whole society. The restriction of social activities has deprived people of opportunities for education and employment. People have faced various socio-economic and psychological challenges. Japan also severely suffered from this new virus, but nonetheless we have provided international assistance throughout the world, including for Indonesia, as no single country can overcome this transnational crisis alone. Japan has provided Indonesia with various medical supplies such as PCR test kits and personal protective equipment (PPEs) at the initial stage of the pandemic, and then vaccines and oxygen concentrators in the face of Omicron crisis. Japan has also provided technical cooperation in partnership with international organizations to enhance health capacity and response to pandemic. We also provided budget support for Indonesia's National Economic Recovery (PEN) program.

As part of these efforts, Japan contributed nearly US\$ 3 million to UNFPA to implement the “Leaving No One Behind” project. The pandemic has brought impact on people disproportionately, damaging vulnerable groups such as women, people with disabilities and the older persons more severely. As Japan promotes the concept of human security, we should focus on each individual, particularly protecting and empowering those individuals who face vulnerabilities. This is why our Government decided to contribute to this project that focuses on these vulnerable population.



I launched this project with Dr. Ir. Himawan Hariyoga Djojokusumo, MSc, Secretary of the Ministry of National Development Planning and Ms. Anjali Sen, UNFPA Representative in Indonesia, in June 2021. Since then the project has provided assistance for women with disabilities and older persons. This National Study on the Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Older Persons in Indonesia is a part of this project.

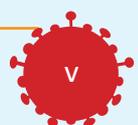
The disproportionality of the impact of COVID-19 pandemic I mentioned above is detailed in this report. Indonesia's population is regarded young, especially compared with aging Japan, but Indonesia does have aged population and has discussed the way to address the issue of aging (I once delivered presentation and joined discussion on aging at the BKKBN event in May 2021.). I hope that the national and local governments could make use of the findings and recommendations of this study in their policymaking. I am also sure that they are of use for other stakeholders for planning and implementing their activities.

As Indonesia maju, we should leave no one behind. And please rest assured that Japan is always with Indonesia.

Jakarta, June 2022

KANASUGI Kenji

Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Indonesia



FOREWORD

Looking back on the past two years, the COVID-19 pandemic has been the fastest-spreading global public health crisis in a century, causing significant mortality and morbidity increase to daunting health and socioeconomic challenges. The Government of Indonesia has been taking unprecedented measures to limit the spread of the virus through the establishment of national coordination and response task forces at the country's highest level, and playing a role in executing the health sector response.

The pandemic is disrupting access to health services, and social systems are struggling to cope with rising caseloads, supply chain bottlenecks, movement restrictions, and economic strains. It is also compounding existing gender, economic, and social inequalities. Older persons, including and especially those with disabilities, are among the most vulnerable groups of the population. They need special assistance to access health and social services not only due to their physical condition and other disabilities but also multi-layered vulnerabilities to violence and discrimination.

Through the funding from the Government of Japan, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in collaboration with the National Population and Family Planning Board (BKKBN) provided technical assistance and conducted the National Study on the impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Older Persons, including Those with Disabilities, in Indonesia. The study provides general background, characteristics, current status of older persons in Indonesia, and the challenges they face as well as social protection, existing policies, and rights-based legal framework. The study also; offers recommendations for safeguarding sustainable integrated access to health and social services for older persons, including those with disabilities, in Indonesia.



In determining the methodology, especially with respect to the sampling, we closely consulted with the BPS Statistics. We used the Golantang BKKBN web based application for the data collection process, which was carried out by 365 enumerators from BKKBN's Older Persons Family Development (BKL) cadres in 30 districts. Approximately a total of 9,000 respondents across 10 provinces in Indonesia were involved in the study. In its analysis, this study also includes secondary data reviews obtained from the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) data from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the BKKBN Family Data (PK) collection, Village Potency data from BPS-Statistics, and COVID-19 data from the National Disaster Management Authority (BNPb). The study also captures an overview of the government's policies, and the socioeconomic and health situations of older persons during the COVID-19 pandemic in Indonesia.

We hope that the results of this study provide an understanding of how COVID-19 affects the lives of older persons, including those with disabilities, in health, social, and economic aspects during the pandemic nationwide. Finally, we are hopeful that the study and its analysis provide valuable policy recommendations for strengthening the government's response to COVID-19, informing Indonesia's programme of inclusive growth and development, and ensuring that Indonesia's future policies will leave no one behind, especially older persons, including those with disabilities.

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