An Economic and Social Review on Indonesian Direct Cash Transfer Program to Poor Families Year 20051

Muliadi Widjaja Department of Economics, University of Indonesia Institute of Economic and Social Research, University of Indonesia

Abstract

This paper is to elaborate the result of surveys regarding the Indonesian Year 2005 Direct Cash Transfers (*Bantuan Langsung Tunai*) implementation. The survey name Susenas (National Census and Survey) was held across Indonesia in the aftermath of the program in 2006. The economic purpose of this government's welfare program is to dampen the increasing rate of poverty incidence in Indonesia due to the increase of gas prices. Several issues featured in this paper are the achievement of the program in distributing the cash transfer, how the recipients use the fund they received, the impact of cash transfer on the recipient's working behavior, the socialization method of the program, and finally the problems that happened during the program implementation. The findings are that, besides the facts that the program was not properly prepared and was not properly organized; it achieves the goal in resisting the increase of poverty rate due to gas price increases.

Keywords: Cash Transfers, Welfare, Poverty