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### THE EFFECT OF FLEXIBLE WORKING ARRANGEMENT AND WORK LIFE BALANCE ON EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY IN GOVERNMENT BEKASI CITY, WEST JAVA

By : Beti Nurbaiti Waluyo Dwi Setyowati

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## SEE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE - JAPAN | as Presenter & Chairman, November, 10-12, 2022





ID: s8576

## Certificate of Participation/Presentation

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Beti Nurbaiti, Waluyo and Dwi Setyowati

Participated in the following conference and presented a research paper entitled as:

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The Eighth International Conference on Structure, Engineering & Environment Yokkaichi City, Mie, Japan 10-12 November, 2022

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Prof. Dr. Zakaria Hossain Conference Chairman

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#### **General comments**

This paper is a very interesting study that analyzes the impact of flexible work arrangements (FWA) and work-life balance (WLB) on employee productivity in the City Hall (Pemkot) in Bekasi, West Java. The study addresses the lifestyle changes caused by COVID-19, and is a necessary study for the future.

#### **Mandatory changes**

The table numbers are different. Final page, both columns are not at the same height top and bottom.

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#### Preface

On behalf of the SEE 2022 Organizing Committee, it is our great pleasure to welcome you to the Eighth International Conference on Structure, Engineering & Environment, held at Miyako Hotel Yokkaichi, Mie, Japan organized in conjunction with Mie University Research Center for Environmental Load Reduction, The GEOMATE International Society, Useful Plant Spread Society, Glorious International, AOI Engineering, HOJUN, JCK, CosmoWinds and Beppu Construction, Japan.

The conference covers three major themes with many specific themes including:

- Advances in Building Structure Advances in Infrastructures Advances in Civil Engineering Advances in Structural Engineering Advances in Geological Engineering Advances in Geometics Engineering Advances in Chemical Engineering Advances in Environmental Engineering Advances in Geotechnical Engineering Advances in Architectural Engineering Advances in Industrial Engineering Advances in Manufacturing Engineering Advances in Materials Engineering
- Advances in Mechanical Engineering Advances in Petroleum Engineering Advances in Process Engineering Advances in Environmental Technology Advances in Geophysics Advances in Hydrology Advances in Recycle Solid Wastes Advances in Use of reclaimed Waters Advances in Water Distribution Advances in Water Treatment Advances in Irrigation and Drainage Advances in Farm Structures

Even with the COVID-19, this year we have received many submissions from different countries all over the world including Australia, Czech Republic, . The technical papers were selected from the vast number of contributions submitted after a review of the abstracts. The final papers in the proceedings have been peer reviewed rigorously and revised as necessary by the authors. It relies on the solid cooperation of numerous people to organize a conference of this size. Hence, we appreciate everyone who support as well as participate in the joint conferences.

Last but not least, we would like to express our gratitude to all the authors, session chairs, reviewers, participants, institutions and companies for their contribution to SEE 2022. We hope you enjoy the conference onsite and ZOOM online and find this experience inspiring and helpful in your professional field. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming conference next year.

Best regards,

Prof. Dr. Zakaria Hossain, Chairman

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#### THE EFFECT OF *FLEXIBLE WORKING ARRANGEMENT* AND *WORK LIFE BALANCE* ON EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN BEKASI CITY, WEST JAVA

Beti Nurbaiti<sup>1</sup>, Waluyo<sup>2</sup> and Dwi Setyowati<sup>3</sup>

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#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to analyze the effect of Flexible Working Arrangement (FWA) and Work Life Balanced (WLB) on Employee Productivity in the City Government (Pemkot) of Bekasi, West Java. The approach used is a quantitative method using a survey questionnaire from primary data of 151 employees, at the Bekasi City Government, West Java during April 1 - May 30, 2022. The research equation is in the form of structural research (SEM) which is processed using Lisrel software. The results show that there is a significant positive relationship between FWA and WLB, as well as a negative relationship significant difference between WLB and PROD. This finding shows that the implementation of FWA during the COVID-19 pandemic in the Bekasi City Government of West Java has a positive impact on WLB, but does not necessarily increase employee productivity in the Bekasi City Government. The presence of employees is still required at the Bekasi City Government office as a place for community services and activities, even though they take turns because of the prokes during the pandemic. So it can be concluded that the application of flexible work from home is not effective if fully enforced in the office on employee productivity.

Keywords: Flexible Working Arrangement; Work Life Balance; Productivity; SEM

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic over the past 2 years has had a significant impact on people's lives in all parts of the world on economic conditions, as well as social, cultural, and daily activities. Social life has turned into face-to-face remotely by utilizing technology (zoom, google meet, whatsapp, and other social media *platforms*). On the one hand, the pandemic of giving is considered a disaster, but on the other hand, it creates a virtual communication technology that is more flexible without time and place limits. The ferocity of this flu mutation has forced many people to stay at home using digital technology with various policies/regulations. The Bekasi City Government has also implemented a policy of Enforcement of Community Activity Restrictions (PPKM) for both its employees and the local community, where the regulation continues the previous policy, namely Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) to break the chain of spread of the COVID-19 virus. However, it is necessary to study further whether the concept of flexible work or Flexible Working Arrangement (FWA) is in line with the concept of work life balance (WLB) and has an impact on employee productivity. To analyze these three variables, the authors conducted a study by taking saturated samples of all employees with the status of the government employee the Bina Marga dan Sumber Daya Air (BMSDA) Bekasi City.

#### II. LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1. Flexible Working Arrangement

COVID-19 pandemic has changed the behavior pattern of a person with a flexible work system that is not limited by time and place with the use of technology (Ko & Kim, 2018). Work flexibility offers employees a balance between their professional and personal lives, which leads to job satisfaction and high performance and overall improvement of the organization (Sethi & Saini, 2020). Work flexibility is very important, and with digital advancements and technological advancements, employees can continue their work anywhere they want, as long as they have an internet connection (Davidescu et al, 2020). Flexible working hours and home-based remote work are added values, (Dilmaghani, 2021).

There are three reasons why work-life measures that focus on flexibility can prevent employees from leaving the company: *First*, employees feel that the leader or company cares about the need for reconciliation and work-life balance. *Second*, flexibility measures imply greater autonomy with respect to employees' working time and workplace. *Third*, flexible work patterns are applied depending on the size of the company, generally the larger the size of the company, the more attractive flexible work systems are because of clear remuneration according to output (Marx et al, 2021).

There are several advantages obtained from FWA as expressed by FGD respondents, namely: a) Flexible time; b) work and family life balance; c) freedom to choose a comfortable workplace; d) safety and security; e) company budget savings for facilities and utilities; f) develop trust among employees; and g) and developing a digital work environment (Hasan & Butt, 2021). The application

of flexible options to employees has potential benefits and this type of arrangement ensuring worklife balance for employees (Anya et al, 2021). It is hoped that employees of organizations that provide flexible working hours have a much higher turnover intention low, influenced by collective culture and norms in the workplace (Gašić & Berber, 2021).

#### 2.2 Working Life Balance (WLB)

WLB is defined as a balance of individual life activities between work/professional and non-work activities, in order to enable individuals to have sufficient autonomy to meet the demands of their professional and personal duties. (Johnson & College, 2021).

WLB practices can be categorized as follows:

(1) Time reduction practices, allowing employees to voluntarily reduce the number of hours they work by working part time or sharing jobs, temporarily reducing their workload and salaries;

(2) The practice of flexible work arrangements, including all employer policies that allow employees to control flexibly without reducing their salary (Martines-Leon et al, 2019).

WLB emphasizes eliminating difficulties related to gender and employee welfare, especially for women. Employees need a meaningful balance between work and life in order to be productive and focus on both areas (Uddin & Khan, 2022) and (Martinez-Leon et al, 2019). WLB is necessary for people to find a match between their personal and professional lives. An employee can be better at managing personal and work commitments if the company has a good functional information system to reduce employee problems (Paje et al, 2020).

#### 2.3 Productivity (PROD)

Productivity is the relationship between outputs (goods or services) and inputs (labor, materials, money). Productivity is a measure of productive efficiency. A comparison between the output and input. For work, workers prefer FWA so that they can benefit from increased productivity and efficiency (Ko & Kim, 2018). Productivity and skill development of employees can be increased by improving the working life of employees in the workplace through flexible work (Kumar & Verma, 2022).

Flexible Work Arrangements (Flextime, Flexplace and Compressed Workweek) have a positive impact on employee engagement and thus lead increased productivity, financial to performance, customer satisfaction, quality improvement (Gašić & Berber, 2021). The idea of work-life balance is focused on developing a positive work atmosphere that encourages and enables workers to maintain a balance between their professional and personal lives, thereby increasing productivity and employee loyalty (Anya et al, 2021).

This type of flexible work will increase productivity if employees can reduce stress, rest more and are happier, and more prosperousOf course, this condition has an impact on higher organizational outcomes in production and income (Martínez-León et al, 2019). Monitoring and management of employee work stress is emphasized because it is a factor that affects productivity. (Rachmawati et al, 2021). Adequate funding for flexible work is important so that it is right on target and produces high work productivity (Hoggart et al, 2021).

#### III. METHODS, HYPOTHESES, AND RESEARCH RESULTS

The research method used quantitative by taking a of the entire population of Bina Marga and Sumber Daya Air Kota Bekasi yang berjumlah 158 people, with data returned and ready to be processed from 151 people. The research equation using a structured model (*Structural Equation Modeling*/ SEM) was processed with Lisrel software (Asra et al, 2015). Statistical tests used in this study include: (1) model fit test, measuring the suitability of the data with the model; (2) validity test, measuring what the researcher wants to measure; and (3) reliability test, test instrument reliability, and (4) structural model test/hypothesis test (Wijanto, 2008).

According to Wijanto (2008) the GOFI indicator is sufficiently represented by 9 (nine) indicators, which are: RMSEA  $\leq$  0.080, NFI  $\geq$  0.90, NNFI  $\geq$ 0.90, CFI  $\geq$  0.90, RFI  $\geq$  0.90, IFI  $\geq$  0.90, Standardized RMR  $\leq$  0.050, GFI  $\geq$  0.90, dan AGFI  $\geq$  0.90. GOFI dengan Degrees of Freedom = 0; Chi-Square = 0.0 P = 1.00): *The Model is Saturated, the Fit is Perfect* in other words the fit is very good. Good validity to the construct or latent variable if the *Standardized Loading Factor* (SLF) value  $\geq$ 0.50. Measurement of reliability seen from the value of *Construct Reliability* (CR)  $\geq$  0.70 and *Variance Extracted Mesure* (VE)  $\geq$  0.50.

There are 2 (two) research hypotheses, namely:

Hypothesis 1 (H1): There is a significant relationship between Flexible Working Arrangement (FWA) and WA, also Work Life Balance (WLB)

Hypothesis 2 (H2): There is a significant relationship between Work Life Balance (WLB) and Productivity (PROD).

Questionnaire Number	Questionnaire Statement	SLF Value	Error	Validity Test Results	Reliability Test Results
FWA2	I work more effectively with flexible working hours.	0.82	0.29	Good Validity	
FWA7	Flexible working hours are assessed according to work safety and security standards.	0.79	0.38	Good Validity	CR Value = 0.86
FWA3	I feel more comfortable with flexible working hours.	0.73	0.47	Good Validity	
FWA5	Flexible working hours allow me to do two or more jobs more than normal working hours.	0.69	0.53	Good Validity	VE Value = 0.52
FWA6	Flexible working hours are able to create a balance between working and family time.	0.61	0.62	Good Validity	Good Reliability
FWA4	The company's policy of implementing flexible working hours has a positive impact on my work motivation.	0.60	0.64	Good Validity	
FWA1	My income has increased with flexible working hours.	0.59	0.65	Good Validity	
FWA9	Flexible working hours contributes in reducing conflicts between me and my colleagues.	0.56	0.69	Good Validity	
RMSEA = 0	0.00; NFI = 0.99; NNFI = 1.00; CFI = 1.00; IFI =	= 1.00, RFI = 0.97;	Standardized R	MR = 0.039; GFI = 0.93	8 and AGFI = 0.90
	Conclusion: all variables observed in the	e latent variable FV	VA have good v	alidity and reliability.	

Table 3.1 Goodness of Fit, Validity, Reliability of Flexible Working Arrangement (FWA) Result

Source: processed by researchers (2022)

The results of the survey data processing in the table 3.1 shows that FWA is considered by employees to be more effective, safer because it avoids the spread of the covid-19 virus according to the results of research Kumar & Verma (2022) and Reard et al (2021, Martínez-León (2018).

Respondents' perceptions indicate that employees minimize conflicts between colleagues and FWA, as well as increased income due to savings from transportation costs due to working more from home in line with findings from Nwagbara (2020) and Rachmawati (2021).

Questionnaire	Questionnaire Statement	SLF	Error	Validity Test	Reliability Test
Number		Value		Results	Results
WLB1	I am able to find a balance between work activities and family activities with the implementation of FWA.	0.9 3	0.14	Good Validity	
WLB 9	I am able to harmonize work time with family or personally as a result of implementing FWA.	0.87	0.24	Good Validity	CR Value =
WLB 6	I find it easier to meet work targets with the FWA concept.	0.77	0.40	Good Validity	0.91
WLB 7	I am more motivated to work with the FWA concept.	0.77	0.41	Good Validity	
WLB 5	With the FWA concept, I feel more comfortable working because I have more time with my family.	0.76	0.42	Good Validity	VE Value = 0.60
WLB 4	With the FWA concept, I feel more comfortable working because I have more time for my personal life.	0.69	0.52	Good Validity	
WLB 8	I can complete my work anywhere because of the application of the FWA concept.	0.59	0.65	Good Validity	Good Reliability
RMSEA =	0.00; NFI = 1.00; NNFI = 1.00; CFI = 1.00; IFI = 1.00, RFI	= 0.99; Stand	ardized RMR =	0.020; GFI = 0.99 and	d AGFI = 0.93
	Conclusion: all variables observed in the latent vari	able WLB ha	we good validity	y and reliability.	

Source: processed by researchers (2022)

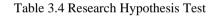
Referring to the results of the WLB variable data processing in the table 3.2 it can be seen that employees think that the FWA work concept can harmonize work and home or family affairs. This condition is in line with research from Bartsch et al (2021) where in order for this balance to occur, a leader/supervisor needs to take conducive actions by: (1) involving employees in virtual team work; (2) give their employees the necessary autonomy and support and (3) adequate internet supporting facilities related to digital technology to maintain a high level of performance among employees. The balance of work and personal according to research conducted by Marx et al (2021).

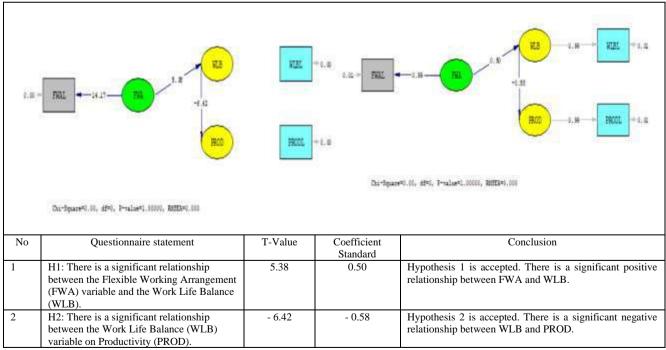
Questionnaire	Questionnaire Statement	SLF	Error	Validity Test	Reliability Test
Number		Value		Results	Results
PROD 6	The punctuality of completion of work by employees is better with the application of the FWA concept.	0.80	0.35	Good Validity	
PROD 4	The quality of employee work results is better with the implementation of FWA.	0.73	0.47	Good Validity	CR Value =
PROD 10	The application of the FWA concept demands the achievement of higher targets.	0.72	0.48	Good Validity	0.89
PROD 2	I have more autonomy in my work with FWA concept.	0.71	0.50	Good Validity	
PROD 5	Achievement of work targets by employees is better with the application of the FWA concept.	0.68	0.54	Good Validity	VE Value = 0.50
PROD8	The level of employee independence is higher with the application of the FWA concept.	0.68	0.54	Good Validity	
PROD 9	The responsibility of superiors in supervising subordinates/staff is lighter with the application of the FWA concept.	0.67	0.55	Good Validity	Good Reliability
PROD 3	Employees are more responsible for completing work with the FWA concept.	0.65	0.58	Good Validity	
PROD 7	Companies benefit from saving organizational resources as a result of applying the FWA concept to their employees.	0.65	0.58	Good Validity	
RMSEA =	0.00; NFI = 1.00; NNFI = 1.00; CFI = 1.00; IFI = 1.00, RFI	= 0.99: Stand	ardized RMR =	0.018: GFI = 0.99 an	d AGFI = 0.96
	Conclusion: all variables observed in the latent variables	,		,	u 1101 I = 0.90

Table 3.3 Goodness of Fit, Validity, Reliability of Productivity (PROD) Result

Source: processed by researchers (2022)

The majority of government employees in the Bekasi City Government think that the completion of work is the most important thing compared to the implementation of FWA work itself. This finding is in line with previous research from Dilmaghani (2021). Employee independence increases with the implementation of FWA in the office, supported by supervision and the necessary technological devices such as research results from Paje et al (2020). Employees have more responsibility with the application of FWA, and this phenomenon is in line with the findings of Nwagbara (2020).





Source: processed by the author (2022)

Based on the hypothesis test, it can be seen that both research hypotheses are accepted, where Hypothesis 1 answers that there is a positive relationship/correlation between the latent variable Flexible Working Arrangement (FWA) and Work Life Balance (WLB), or in other words, the higher the application of FWA, the better the WLB condition. Furthermore, hypothesis 2 answers that there is a negative relationship/correlation between the latent variable Work Life Balance (WLB) and Productivity (PROD), or it can be concluded that a high WLB will reduce employees' PROD.

#### IV. DISCUSSION

The COVID-19 outbreak has an impact on worklife balance and employee job satisfaction. Employees who enjoy a favorable work-life balance tend to be more satisfied with their jobs. The positive impact that emerges from telecommuting reduces work-family conflict and improves well-being for employees, thus leading to positive outcomes such as increased performance and productivity. The supporting aspects of work-life balance signal to Bekasi City Government employees that they are valued by the organization, and employees feel included when the organization provides resources that meet employees' work-life balance needs. Work-life balance satisfaction is stronger among men and women without dependent children. The demands of work even if expressed in the realm of flexible work can interfere with domains of life, not just child-rearing responsibilities, such as health, friendships, and civic engagement. To overcome this in order to avoid work-family conflict requires more specific actions. Flexible work needs to be supported by bonuses and remuneration that are adjusted to the demands of the Bekasi City Government.

For the effective operation of the FWA, it is important not only to launch the flexible work program itself, but also to ensure that users are properly understood and evaluated fairly. Work-life programs such as flexible work arrangements, employee assistance programs, family and dependent care services, and health and wellness aim to provide a means for the workforce. This work system aims to meet performance expectations while managing their personal life needs and commitments, but the level of participation or response from the community can be negative.

However, not all types of flexible work arrangements are manageable or beneficial for all sizes and types of organizations. There are several things employers should consider what type of flexible scheduling will best suit their needs. On the other hand, previous research found a negative side that concerns all organizations, namely the lack of supervision of workers from direct their organizations during FWA can result in a decrease in intrinsic motivation and unethical behavior of these employees. In addition, flexible work can lead to work-family conflict as spouses need to multitask to take care of family responsibilities and work responsibilities at the same time. This is because flexible work arrangements can result in blurred boundaries between work and home roles leading to an increase in work and family conflicts. This is certainly a dilemma for organizations in implementing the FWA concept. Organizations offering FWAs should periodically assess whether employees find FWAs attractive and facilitate different circumstances of flexibility.

One's work-life balance must be measured and seen in the hope of providing a better future. The implementation of FWA must be balanced with the system so that employees are not trapped in a blurred time limit between work and personal or household. Most of the work done in developing countries related to the implementation of FWA creates family conflicts, especially for societies with a strong patriarchal culture. The main determinant of effective WLB implementation is HR policy that emphasizes a work-life balance culture. A flexible work system must be supported by good leadership. Leadership behaviors, particularly relationshiporiented leadership, can promote a supportive work environment and make it easier to cope with excessive work demands and establish appropriate boundaries between work and personal life. But on the other hand, if there is a state of excessive commitment to work (individual behavior) and high job demands, it will have a negative impact on the employee's life balance because of disturbed psychosocial factors.

The level of job flexibility does not necessarily have high flexibility. This is influenced by other factors such as functional flexibility, working time, and work space flexibility in increasing the level of satisfaction and work productivity of employees. WLB has an impact on organizational performance, productivity and sustainability. WLB is aligned with participatory human resource (HR) management, making it possible for mutual benefit (or win-win situation) for both employers and employees. This flexible working method will have a positive impact if the organization helps employees achieve more balance by offering various policies and initiatives that balance work and family pressures. One of the drawbacks of FWA is that the company may not be able to control every employee, and will not be able to see whether everyone is working or not, or whether they are productive. For this reason, work management is needed so that work stress does not occur, where this can trigger low productivity, of illness and ineffectiveness government employees in the Bekasi City Government.

#### V. CONCLUSION

The COVID-19 outbreak has affected the lives of individuals around the world, without any age limit and the type of work they are currently engaged in, including employees, so it can be concluded :

1) Flexible work began to be carried out as an adaptation to conditions during the pandemic due to restrictions on individual

movement out of the house to break the chain of the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

- Employees will enjoy work-life balance if telecommuting reduces work-family conflict and increases welfare for employees, thereby increasing performance and productivity.
- 3) Flexible work needs to be supported by a flexible work environment, bonuses, and remuneration adapted to the demands of the Bekasi City Government work to avoid decreasing intrinsic motivation and employee unethical behavior.
- 4) The control function when implementing FWA needs to be arranged so that the performance of the Bekasi City Government can be maintained.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research was supported by the Bekasi City Government, Bina Marga dan Sumber Daya Air (BMSDA) division's.

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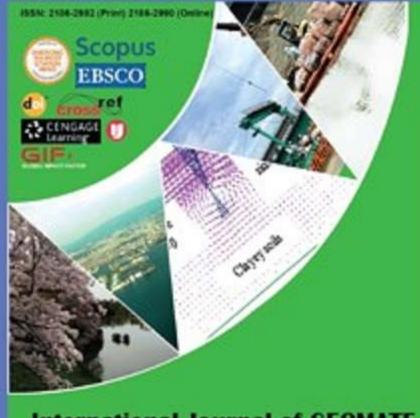
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# THE EFFECT OF FLEXIBLE WORKING ARRANGEMENT AND WORK LIFE BALANCE ON EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN BEKASI CITY, WEST JAVA

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#### THE EFFECT OF FLEXIBLE WORKING ARRANGEMENT AND WORK LIFE BALANCE ON EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN BEKASI CITY, WEST JAVA

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#### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to analyze the effect of Flexible Working Arrangement (FWA) and Work Life Balanced (WLB) on Employee Productivity in the City Government (Pemkol) of Bekasi, West Java. The approach used is a quantitative method using a survey questionnaire from primary data of 151 employees, at the Bekasi City Government, West Java during April 1 – May 30, 2022. The research equation is in the form of structural research (SEM) which is processed using Lisrel software. The results show that there is a significant positive relationship between FWA and WLB, as well as a negative relationship significant difference between WLB and PROD. This finding shows that the implementation of FWA during the COVID-19 pandemic in the Bekasi City Government of West Java has a positive impact on WLB, but does not necessarily increase employee productivity in the Bekasi City Government. The presence of employees is still required at the Bekasi City Government office as a place for community services and activities, even though they take turns because of the prokes during the pandemic. So it can be concluded that the application of flexible work from home is not effective if fully enforced in the office on employee productivity.

Keywords: Flexible Working Arrangement; Work Life Balance; Productivity; SEM

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic over the past 2 years has had a significant impact on people's lives in all parts of the world on economic conditions, as well as social, cultural, and daily activities. Social life has turned into face-to-face remotely by utilizing technology (zoom, google meet, whatsapp, and other social media platforms). On the one hand, the pandemic of giving is considered a disaster, but on the other hand, it creates a virtual communication technology that is more flexible without time and place limits. The ferocity of this flu mutation has forced many people to stay at home using digital technology with various policies/regulations. The Bekasi City Government has also implemented a policy of Enforcement of Community Activity Restrictions (PPKM) for both its employees and the local community, where the regulation continues the previous policy, namely Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) to break the chain of spread of the COVID-19 virus. However, it is necessary to study further whether the concept of flexible work or Flexible Working Arrangement (FWA) is in line with the concept of work life balance (WLB) and has an impact on employee productivity. To analyze these three variables, the authors conducted a study by taking saturated samples of all employees with the status of the government employee the Bina Marga dan Sumber Daya Air (BMSDA) Bekasi City.

#### II. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Flexible Working Arrangement

COVID-19 pandemic has changed the behavior pattern of a person with a flexible work system that is not limited by time and place with the use of technology (Ko & Kim, 2018). Work flexibility offers employees a balance between their professional and personal lives, which leads to job satisfaction and high performance and overall improvement of the organization (Sethi & Saini, 2020). Work flexibility is very important, and with digital advancements and technological advancements, employees can continue their work anywhere they want, as long as they have an internet connection (Davidescu et al, 2020). Flexible working hours and home-based remote work are added values, (Dilmaghani, 2021).

There are three reasons why work-life measures that focus on flexibility can prevent employees from leaving the company: *First*, employees feel that the leader or company cares about the need for reconciliation and work-life balance. *Second*, flexibility measures imply greater autonomy with respect to employees' working time and workplace. *Third*, flexible work patterns are applied depending on the size of the company, generally the larger the size of the company, the more attractive flexible work systems are because of clear remuneration according to output (Marx et al, 2021).

There are several advantages obtained from FWA as expressed by FGD respondents, namely: a) Flexible time; b) work and family life balance; c) freedom to choose a comfortable workplace; d) safety and security; e) company budget savings for facilities and utilities; f) develop trust among employees; and g) and developing a digital work environment (Hasan & Butt, 2021). The application

of flexible options to employees has potential benefits and this type of arrangement ensuring worklife balance for employees (Anya et al, 2021). It is hoped that employees of organizations that provide flexible working hours have a much higher turnover intention low, influenced by collective culture and norms in the workplace (Gašić & Berber, 2021).

#### 2.2 Working Life Balance (WLB)

WLB is defined as a balance of individual life activities between work/professional and non-work activities, in order to enable individuals to have sufficient autonomy to meet the demands of their professional and personal duties. (Johnson & College, 2021).

WLB practices can be categorized as follows:

(1) Time reduction practices, allowing employees to voluntarily reduce the number of hours they work by working part time or sharing jobs, temporarily reducing their workload and salaries;

(2) The practice of flexible work arrangements, including all employer policies that allow employees to control flexibly without reducing their salary (Martines-Leon et al, 2019).

WLB emphasizes eliminating difficulties related to gender and employee welfare, especially for women. Employees need a meaningful balance between work and life in order to be productive and focus on both areas (Uddin & Khan, 2022) and (Martinez-Leon et al, 2019). WLB is necessary for people to find a match between their personal and professional lives. An employee can be better at managing personal and work commitments if the company has a good functional information system to reduce employee problems (Paje et al, 2020).

#### 2.3 Productivity (PROD)

Productivity is the relationship between outputs (goods or services) and inputs (labor, materials, money). Productivity is a measure of productive efficiency. A comparison between the output and input. For work, workers prefer FWA so that they can benefit from increased productivity and efficiency (Ko & Kim, 2018). Productivity and skill development of employees can be increased by improving the working life of employees in the workplace through flexible work (Kumar & Verma, 2022).

Flexible Work Arrangements (Flextime, Flexplace and Compressed Workweek) have a positive impact on employee engagement and thus lead to increased productivity, financial performance, customer satisfaction, quality improvement (Gašić & Berber, 2021). The idea of work-life balance is focused on developing a positive work atmosphere that encourages and enables workers to maintain a balance between their professional and personal lives, thereby increasing productivity and employee loyalty (Anya et al, 2021).

This type of flexible work will increase productivity if employees can reduce stress, rest more and are happier, and more prosperousOf course, this condition has an impact on higher organizational outcomes in production and income (Martinez-León et al, 2019). Monitoring and management of employee work stress is emphasized because it is a factor that affects productivity. (Rachmawati et al, 2021). Adequate funding for flexible work is important so that it is right on target and produces high work productivity (Hoggart et al, 2021).

#### III. METHODS, HYPOTHESES, AND RESEARCH RESULTS

The research method used quantitative by taking a of the entire population of Bina Marga and Sumber Daya Air Kota Bekasi yang berjumlah 158 people with data returned and ready to be processed from 151 people. The research equation using a structured model (*Structural Equation Modeling*/ SEM) was processed with Lisrel software (Asra et al, 2015). Statistical tests used in this study include: (1) model fit test, measuring the suitability of the data with the model; (2) validity test, measuring what the researcher wants to measure; and (3) reliability test, test instrument reliability, and (4) structural model test/hypothesis test (Wijanto, 2008).

According to Wijanto (2008) the GOFI indicator is sufficiently represented by 9 (nine) indicators, which are: RMSEA  $\leq 0.080$ , NFI  $\geq 0.90$ , NNFI  $\geq$ 0.90, CFI  $\geq 0.90$ , RFI  $\geq 0.90$ , IFI  $\geq 0.90$ , Standardized RMR  $\leq 0.050$ , GFI  $\geq 0.90$ , dan AGFI  $\geq 0.90$ . GOFI dengan Degrees of Freedom = 0; Chi-Square = 0.0 P = 1.00): The Model is Saturated, the Fit is Perfect in other words the fit is very good. Good validity to the construct or latent variable if the Standardized Loading Factor (SLF) value  $\geq$ 0.50. Measurement of reliability seen from the value of Construct Reliability (CR)  $\geq 0.70$  and Variance Extracted Mesure (VE)  $\geq 0.50$ .

There are 2 (two) research hypotheses, namely:

Hypothesis 1 (H1): There is a significant relationship between Flexible Working Arrangement (FWA) and WA, also Work Life Balance (WLB)

Hypothesis 2 (H2): There is a significant relationship between Work Life Balance (WLB) and Productivity (PROD).

#### SEE-Mie, Japan, Nov.10-12, 2022

Questionnaire Number	Questionnaire Statement	SLF Value	Error	Validity Test Results	Reliability Test Results
FWA2	I work more effectively with flexible working hours.	0.82	0.29	Good Validity	
FWA7	Flexible working hours are assessed according to work safety and security standards.	0.79	0.38	Good Validity	CR Value = 0.86
FWA3	I feel more comfortable with flexible working hours.	0.73	0.47	Good Validity	
FWA5	Flexible working hours allow me to do two or more jobs more than normal working hours.	0.69	0.53	Good Validity	VE Value = 0.52
FWA6	Flexible working hours are able to create a balance between working and family time.	0.61	0.62	Good Validity	Good Reliability
FWA4	The company's policy of implementing flexible working hours has a positive impact on my work motivation.	0.60	0.64	Good Validity	
FWA1	My income has increased with flexible working hours.	0.59	0.65	Good Validity	
FWA9	Flexible working hours contributes in reducing conflicts between me and my colleagues.	0.56	0.69	Good Validity	
RMSEA = 0	0.00; NFI = 0.99; NNFI = 1.00; CFI = 1.00; IFI =				8 and AGFI = 0.90
	Conclusion: all variables observed in the	latent variable FW	VA have good v	alidity and reliability.	

#### Table 3.1 Goodness of Fit, Validity, Reliability of Flexible Working Arrangement (FWA) Result

Source: processed by researchers (2022)

The results of the survey data processing in the table 3.1 shows that FWA is considered by employees to be more effective, safer because it avoids the spread of the covid-19 virus according to the results of research Kumar & Verma (2022) and Reard et al (2021, Martinez-León (2018). Respondents' perceptions indicate that employees minimize conflicts between colleagues and FWA, as well as increased income due to savings from transportation costs due to working more from home in line with findings from Nwagbara (2020) and Rachmawati (2021).

Table 3.2 Goodness of Fit, Validity, Reliability of Work Life Balance (WLB) Result

Questionnaire Number	Questionnaire Statement	SLF Value	Error	Validity Test Results	Reliability Test Results
WLB1	I am able to find a balance between work activities and family activities with the implementation of FWA.	0.9 3	0.14	Good Validity	
WLB 9	I am able to harmonize work time with family or personally as a result of implementing FWA.	0.87	0.24	Good Validity	CR Value =
WLB 6	I find it easier to meet work targets with the FWA concept.	0.77	0.40	Good Validity	0.91
WLB 7	I am more motivated to work with the FWA concept.	0.77	0.41	Good Validity	
WLB 5	With the FWA concept, I feel more comfortable working because I have more time with my family.	0.76	0.42	Good Validity	VE Value = 0.60
WLB 4	With the FWA concept, I feel more comfortable working because I have more time for my personal life.	0.69	0.52	Good Validity	-
WLB 8	I can complete my work anywhere because of the application of the FWA concept.	0.59	0.65	Good Validity	Good Reliability
RMSEA =	0.00; NFI = 1.00; NNFI = 1.00; CFI = 1.00; IFI = 1.00, RFI =	= 0.99; Standa	ardized RMR =	0.020; GFI = 0.99 and	AGFI = 0.93
	Conclusion: all variables observed in the latent varia	able WLB hav	ve good validit	y and reliability.	

Referring to the results of the WLB variable data processing in the table 3.2 it can be seen that employees think that the FWA work concept can harmonize work and home or family affairs. This condition is in line with research from Bartsch et al (2021) where in order for this balance to occur, a leader/supervisor needs to take conducive actions by: (1) involving employees in virtual team work; (2) give their employees the necessary autonomy and support and (3) adequate internet supporting facilities related to digital technology to maintain a high level of performance among employees. The balance of work and personal according to research conducted by Marx et al (2021).

#### SEE-Mie, Japan, Nov.10-12, 2022

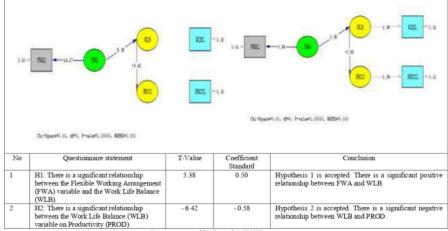
#### Table 3.3 Goodness of Fit, Validity, Reliability of Productivity (PROD) Result

Questionnaire Number	Questionnaire Statement	SLF Value	Error	Validity Test Results	Reliability Test Results
PROD 6	The punctuality of completion of work by employees is better with the application of the FWA concept.	0.80	0.35	Good Validity	
PROD 4	The quality of employee work results is better with the implementation of FWA.	0.73	0.47	Good Validity	CR Value =
PROD 10	The application of the FWA concept demands the achievement of higher targets.	0.72	0.48	Good Validity	0.89
PROD 2	I have more autonomy in my work with FWA concept.	0.71	0.50	Good Validity	
PROD 5	Achievement of work targets by employees is better with the application of the FWA concept.	0.68	0.54	Good Validity	VE Value = 0.50
PROD8	The level of employee independence is higher with the application of the FWA concept.	0.68	0.54	Good Validity	
PROD 9	The responsibility of superiors in supervising subordinates/staff is lighter with the application of the FWA concept.	0.67	0.55	Good Validity	Good Reliabilit
PROD 3	Employees are more responsible for completing work with the FWA concept.	0.65	0.58	Good Validity	
PROD 7	Companies benefit from saving organizational resources as a result of applying the FWA concept to their employees.	0.65	0.58	Good Validity	
RMSEA =	0.00; NFI = 1.00; NNFI = 1.00; CFI = 1.00; IFI = 1.00, RFI =	= 0.99; Standa	ardized RMR =	0.018; GFI = 0.99 and	d AGFI = 0.96
	Conclusion: all variables observed in the latent varia	able PROD ha	ve good validit	ty and reliability.	

Source: processed by researchers (2022)

Table 3.4 Research Hypothesis Test

The majority of government employees in the Bekasi City Government think that the completion of work is the most important thing compared to the implementation of FWA work itself. This finding is in line with previous research from Dilmaghani (2021). Employee independence increases with the implementation of FWA in the office, supported by supervision and the necessary technological devices such as research results from Paje et al (2020). Employees have more responsibility with the application of FWA, and this phenomenon is in line with the findings of Nwagbara (2020).



Source: processed by the author (2022)

Based on the hypothesis test, it can be seen that both research hypotheses are accepted, where Hypothesis 1 answers that there is a positive relationship/correlation between the latent variable Flexible Working Arrangement (FWA) and Work Life Balance (WLB), or in other words, the higher the application of FWA, the better the WLB condition. Furthermore, hypothesis 2 answers that

#### **1V. DISCUSSION**

The COVID-19 pandemic has an effect on employees' job satisfaction and work-life balance. Workers who experience a positive work-life balance typically have higher job satisfaction. The advantage Work-family conflict is lessened and employee wellbeing is enhanced as a result of telecommuting, which has a beneficial impact on performance and productivity. When a company offers resources that help employees achieve work-life balance, it sends a positive message to them about how much it values them. This helps employees at Bekasi City Government feel valued.

The satisfaction with work-life balance is higher among men and women who do not have dependent children. Work demands, especially those that fall under the category of flexible work, might conflict with other aspects of life besides childrearing duties. In order for the FWA to function well, it is not only necessary to initiate the flexible work program itself, but also to guarantee that users are fairly assessed and understood. Work-life initiatives including family and dependent care services, employee assistance programs, flexible work schedules, and health and wellness centers are designed to give workers a way to live comfortably. The goal of this work system is to manage their own obligations and demands while meeting performance standards; nevertheless, the community's response or level of participation may not always be positive.

But not every kind of flexible work arrangement is feasible or advantageous for businesses of all shapes and sizes. Employers should think about a number of factors before deciding what kind of flexible scheduling best meets their needs. On the other hand, prior research discovered a drawback that affects all organizations: when employees are not directly supervised during FWA, their intrinsic motivation may decline and they may act unethically. Flexible employment arrangements may also result in work-family conflict since spouses must multitask in order to attend to both work and family obligations simultaneously. This is due to the fact that flexible work schedules may enable lines to blur between work and family responsibilities. It is important to assess and evaluate one's work-life balance with the goal of building a better future. It is necessary to strike a balance between the strategy to prevent workers from becoming stuck in a state where the lines between work and personal or domestic time are blurred.

Family disputes are a result of most work done in developing nations in relation to the implementation of FWA, particularly in civilizations with strong patriarchal cultures. HR policy that promotes a work-life balance culture is the primary factor influencing the successful implementation of work-life balance. Effective leadership is necessary to enable a flexible work structure. It is easier to deal with excessive job demands and create appropriate boundaries between work and home life when leadership practices, especially relationship-oriented leadership, are practiced. However.

High levels of flexibility are not always associated with jobs. This is impacted by additional Functional flexibility, flexible work hours, and flexible workspaces all contribute to higher employee happiness and productivity. WLB affects sustainability, productivity, and organizational performance. WLB and participatory human resource (HR) management go hand in hand, enabling win-win situations or mutual benefits for employers and employees. If the company offers numerous policies and programs that assist employees achieve more balance between work and

family pressures, then this flexible working technique will have a beneficial effect. One of the disadvantages of FWA is that the business might not be able to supervise every worker and won't be able to see

#### V. CONCLUSION

Human capital is prioritized in a knowledge economy as the knowledge worker's In order to achieve organizational goals, competences are a crucial component of value. Given that the majority of these women are educated, young, and in their mid-thirties, this in turn connects to the pressing economic issue of women quitting their jobs to care for their families. This aligns with current micro-level research.

Second, research reveals that women believe improved relationships with family, kids, and siblings are the main advantage of FWAs. This results from women who utilize FWAs achieving improved WLB. This is consistent with research on teleworkers in Singapore by [25], who similarly discovered that women prefer having more family time and less time spent traveling. Both time and place can be adjustable. This suggests that FWAs give female workers greater autonomy, less stress from commuting, time flexibility, and improved job satisfaction.

Lastly, in terms of socioeconomic and demographic characteristics, women in the 30- to 39-yearold age range who were responsible for providing care preferred FWAs, despite the fact that FWAs do not statistically significantly affect WLB.

## THE EFFECT OF FLEXIBLE WORKING ARRANGEMENT AND WORK LIFE BALANCE ON EMPLOYEE PRODUCTIVITY IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN BEKASI CITY, WEST JAVA

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