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State Intelligence Strategy in Facing Transnational Threats from Kratom Plant Abuse in Indonesia

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A B STR A CT

Facing the complexity of kratom threats, an integrated, adaptive, and evidence-based intelligence strategy is needed. The purpose of this study is to analyze the State Intelligence Strategy in Facing Transnational Threats from Kratom Plant Abuse in Indonesia. Through SWOT analysis and AHP methods, three main strategies have been formulated: (1) Strengthening Early Detection through Integration of Analytical Technology and Big Data (SO1), (2) Formulating National Intelligence-Based Policies (SO2), and (3) Expansion of International Cooperation (SO3). From the scoring results of the seven criteria, SO1 occupies the top priority (score 2.466), emphasizing the importance of utilizing technologies such as big data and GIS to detect kratom distribution patterns more accurately and quickly. All of these approaches require synergy across institutions and stakeholders, as well as support for ongoing scientific research.

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INTRODUCTION

The kratom plant (*Mitragyna Speciosa*), traditionally used by rural Indonesians as a mild stimulant to increase stamina, now presents new challenges at the national and global levels. As the world market begins to take notice of kratom's opioid-like psychoactive effects, new dynamics have emerged: illicit trade, cross-border smuggling, and potential money laundering based on this commodity. This phenomenon is no longer merely an agrarian or public health issue, but has transformed into a transnational threat that demands a strategic and coordinated state intelligence response. In this context, kratom not only holds lucrative economic value, but also has the potential to be exploited by cross-border organized crime networks. This raises fundamental questions about the state's readiness and strategy in mitigating threats through an adaptive, integrated, and digital technology-based intelligence system (Henningfield et al., 2018).

National security is a vital aspect that determines the sovereignty and safety of a country, and includes not only military threats, but also non-traditional threats such as abuse of psychoactive substances. One issue of concern is the free circulation of kratom plants in Indonesia, which contain psychoactive substances such as mitragynine and 7-hydroxymitragynine. This plant grows abundantly in several regions of Indonesia such as Kalimantan, Sumatra, and Papua, and has been used for generations by the community in the form of infusions. However, kratom has been included in the list of new psychoactive substances by UNODC since 2013 and is categorized as a high-risk substance by BNN because it can cause dependence and various serious side effects, such as seizures, liver disorders, and even death. Cases of kratom consumption in pregnant women have also shown adverse effects on newborns. The spread and abuse of kratom domestically is now one of the threats to national security in the field of public health. Therefore, a more systematic approach is needed in handling it, including strict regulations, public education, and strengthening supervision so that it does not develop into a wider public health crisis (Grundmann, 2017).

The abuse of kratom plants in Indonesia has developed into a complex transnational threat, requiring strategic attention from the country's intelligence apparatus. Since the early 2010s, kratom plants from West Kalimantan have begun to be in demand by foreign markets, especially the United States and Europe, as an herbal alternative to relieve pain. However, high demand from countries that categorize kratom as a dangerous substance has actually encouraged large-scale illegal exports. Cross-border syndicates take advantage of small ports and unofficial distribution channels, which often escape the supervision of the authorities. This gap is a serious challenge for the State Intelligence Agency (BIN) and authorities such as Customs and Excise in detecting and breaking the illegal logistics chain of kratom that moves under the radar (Meireles et al., 2019).

In addition, kratom abuse also targets vulnerable groups in border areas, such as communities in Kapuas Hulu and Entikong, Kalimantan. In this region, kratom is traditionally used as a stimulant to increase work stamina. However, the latest phenomenon shows the existence of illegal practices in the form of extraction of active kratom substances by unauthorized parties, which are then sold in capsule form to domestic and foreign consumers. Social intelligence operations reveal that local farmers and laborers are often used by narcotics networks as initial production nodes, making kratom a gateway for the distribution of other addictive substances (Pratiwi et al., 2022).

The threat extends to international tourism areas such as Bali and Lombok, where kratom is openly marketed as an herbal product with the claim of a "natural high". Several foreign nationals (WNA) have been reported to consume kratom as an alternative to synthetic narcotics, strengthening the suspicion that this commodity is used as a gateway drug. This activity has the potential to damage the image of Indonesian tourism and create a new illegal market that hides behind the legal permits of MSMEs or herbal shops. Its covert distribution and marketing patterns are an important focus for intelligence work in dismantling distribution networks and prosecuting actors who are undercover in the law (Wahyono et al., 2019).

Furthermore, economic intelligence faces another challenge in the form of kratom export document forgery. Kratom powder is often disguised as herbal tea or spices, complete with manipulative documents to avoid classification as a psychoactive substance. This mode indicates the involvement of a cross-country document forgery network, which exploits weaknesses in the logistics and digital trade verification system. Therefore, the involvement of cyber intelligence is needed to trace the transaction records and identities of fictitious exporters, including their links to e-commerce-based international distribution networks (Khalil et al., 2021).

More worryingly, kratom is also used as a means of money laundering by international narcotics networks. Based on investigations by the BNN and PPATK, the proceeds from unrecorded kratom exports were transferred abroad through shell company accounts or even in the form of crypto assets. This financial channel is difficult to track without strong coordination between financial intelligence agencies. This phenomenon confirms that kratom is not just an ordinary agricultural commodity, but has become a tool in the mechanism of transnational crime. Therefore, the country's intelligence strategy must be directed at strengthening the early detection system based on cross-sector data, regional collaboration, and policy synchronization between BIN, BNN, PPATK, and other law enforcement agencies at the national and international levels (Singh et al., 2018).

In the context of law and legislation, handling the abuse of kratom plants as a transnational threat in Indonesia still faces a significant regulatory gap, considering that kratom (Mitragyna speciosa) has not been officially included in the list of narcotics in Law Number 35 of 2009 concerning Narcotics, although it has been recommended by the National Narcotics Agency (BNN) and BPOM to be categorized as a class I narcotic. However, supervision of the trade and export of kratom can refer to Law Number 17 of 2006 concerning Customs, Law Number 8 of 2010 concerning the Prevention and Eradication of Money Laundering, and Law Number 11 of 2008 in conjunction with Law No. 19 of 2016 concerning Information and Electronic Transactions (ITE) to regulate illegal digital transactions involving kratom. In addition, the legal framework for cross-sectoral supervision is also strengthened through Presidential Regulation Number 82 of 2020 concerning the National Committee for Combating Illicit Trafficking of Narcotics and Narcotics Precursors (P4GN) which encourages synergy between BIN, BNN, PPATK, Customs and Excise, and related institutions. Because there is no single regulation that explicitly regulates kratom, the current legal approach is sectoral and requires cross-legislation harmonization to ensure the effectiveness of intelligence strategies and law enforcement against transnational networks that exploit loopholes in the legality of kratom (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). 2021).

In das sein (the reality that occurs), the misuse of kratom plants in Indonesia has developed into a cross-border phenomenon involving illegal exports, document forgery, use by vulnerable groups, and indications of money laundering practices by international narcotics networks (Nugroho et al., 2020). However, in das sollen (what should happen), the state should have strict and comprehensive regulations regarding the supervision, classification, and prosecution of the circulation of kratom as should apply to other psychoactive substances, including by determining kratom in the list of class I narcotics (Ahmad et al., 2021). The problem gap arises because there is no explicit and comprehensive legal basis regulating kratom, resulting in a lack of synchronization in law enforcement and weak coordination between intelligence, customs, and law enforcement agencies in dealing with transnational threats arising from the misuse of this plant.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Non - Traditional Security Theory

Traditional security theory asserts that threats to the state today do not only come from military aggression, but also from cross-sectoral issues such as drug crimes, health threats, and transnational crimes (Buzan in the Concept of Non - Traditional Security by Tobing, 2009) cite turn 0 search 1. The case of kratom abuse, which grows in domestic areas but is exported illegally and consumed massively, meets all the criteria for this threat because it disrupts health, social stability, and erodes national resilience. With this framework, the state intelligence approach in responding to the threat of kratom must be multidisciplinary, involving the BNN, BIN, and Customs, and linked to public health policies and pharmaceutical regulations.

Intelligence Strategy Theory

This theory highlights the importance of intelligence elements in detecting, analyzing, and responding to threats in a comprehensive and coordinated manner. In the context of kratom, intelligence strategies should include the integration of HUMINT, TECHINT, and financial and logistics data analysis to map distribution networks and disrupt illegal distribution channels. A study by Ahmad (2024) shows that the BNN and related institutions have implemented the P4GN (Prevention and Eradication of Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking) program, but have not specifically targeted new psychoactive substances such as kratom. Therefore, the formulation of a systematic intelligence strategy with integrated task force and digital technology is indispensable.

Transnational Criminology Theory

According to Mackenzie (2020), transnational crimes such as drug trafficking move in complex global networks, exploiting corruption and weak international logistics systems. Illegal kratom has the potential to follow a similar pattern: exported illegally, disguised in legal shipments, and used as an instrument for money laundering. This theory emphasizes that handling cannot be done unilaterally; it requires intelligence synergy between countries, harmonization of regulations, and coordination of law enforcement at various levels (UNODC). Thus, the country's intelligence strategy must adopt a regional approach through ASEAN and international cooperation in order to cut off the path of transnational kratom crime.

The three theories are non - traditional security, intelligence strategy, and transnational criminology. provides a comprehensive conceptual framework to support the study of "State Intelligence Strategy in Facing Transnational Threats from Kratom Plant Abuse in Indonesia". Non - traditional security theory asserts kratom as a new security threat; intelligence theory leads to operational strategies; and transnational criminology asserts the importance of global cooperation in countermeasures.

Based on the causal relationship between dependent variables and independent variables, the researcher has provided a framework generated for this research below:

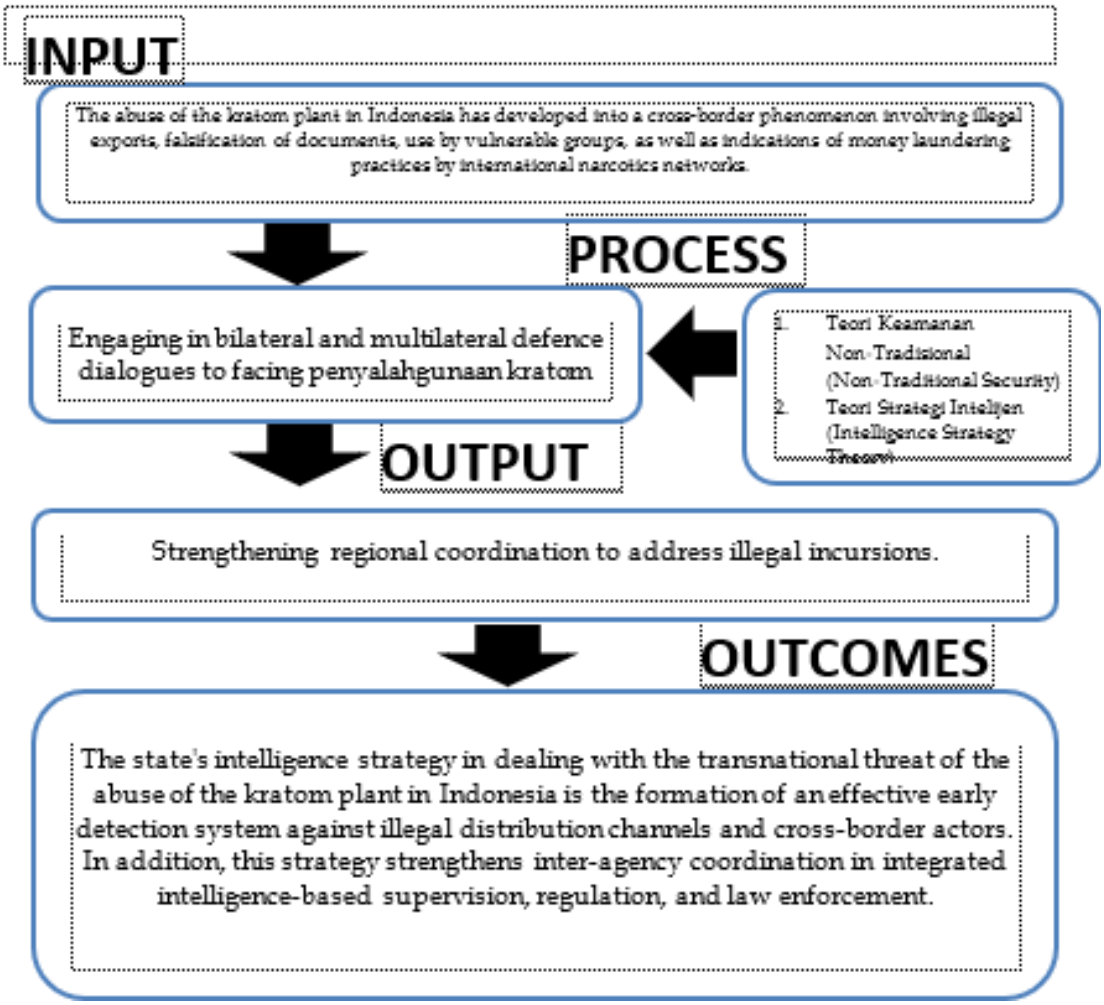

Figure 1. Conceptual Framework

METHODOLOGY

In this study, the method used is a descriptive qualitative method, which aims to systematically and factually describe how state intelligence strategies can be formulated in dealing with transnational threats from the misuse of kratom plants in Indonesia. Data collection techniques are carried out through library research and literature review, as explained by Soerjono Soekanto (1998), that the library method is very relevant for digging up secondary data from official documents, laws and regulations, academic journals, and national intelligence and security policy reports. In addition, Bambang Waluyo (1996) also emphasized that this approach allows researchers to examine normative and empirical aspects in the context of law and policy.

To analyze the data, two main analysis tools were used, namely SWOT Analysis and AHP (Analytical Hierarchy Process) Analysis. SWOT Analysis is used to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of intelligence strategies in the context of controlling kratom abuse as a transnational phenomenon. Meanwhile, AHP Analysis is applied to prioritize intelligence strategies based on certain criteria, such as effectiveness, resources, legal frameworks, and international cooperation. The combination of these two analysis tools is used to formulate a holistic and structured state intelligence

strategy, both from internal aspects (institutional capacity and regulation) and external (dynamics of transnational threats and global responses to kratom).

RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Kratom Plant Threat Perspective and National Security

The kratom plant (*Mitragyna Speciosa*) originates from Southeast Asia, including Indonesia, and has long been used by local communities for traditional medicinal purposes and as a stamina enhancer, especially by heavy workers. In West Kalimantan, especially in the Dayak community, kratom has very important cultural and economic value, is used in rituals and is the main source of income for many families (Pratiwi & Adhari, 2022). Although historically its use has been traditional and local, global developments, especially increasing demand from the United States, have made kratom a strategic export commodity for Indonesia.

However, the active ingredients in kratom such as mitragynine and 7-hydroxymitragynine are of concern because they both work on opioid receptors in the brain, providing a stimulant effect at low doses and a sedative effect at high doses. This makes it potentially abused like synthetic opioids (Henningfield, Fant, & Wang, 2018). In the US, reports from poison control centers indicate cases of overdose, seizures, and even death associated with the use of kratom, especially when combined with other substances (Grundmann, 2017). This shows that even though it comes from a natural plant, kratom is not without health risks.

A report by Meireles et al. (2019) suggests that common side effects of kratom include nausea, vomiting, insomnia, and in some extreme cases can cause psychotic symptoms. Another issue is the potential for contamination of export products, such as the presence of *Salmonella Bacteria*, which has triggered a product recall from the US market and tarnished Indonesia's image as an exporter. These facts raise concerns about public safety if kratom is not strictly regulated both domestically and internationally.

From a policy perspective, the National Narcotics Agency (BNN) is pushing for kratom to be included in Class I narcotics, in line with the classification of high-risk substances and without recognized medical benefits. However, this decision is still being considered by the Ministry of Health, as there is pressure to allow further scientific research and exploration of kratom's medical potential (Pratiwi & Adhari, 2022). On the other hand, there are large local economic interests; a total ban on kratom would impact an estimated 112,000 to 200,000 farmers in West Kalimantan who depend on cultivating this plant for their livelihood (Wahyono et al., 2019).

The economic implications are significant. Kratom is not only a major source of income for local communities, but also an export commodity worth millions of dollars each year. When strict regulations are imposed to comply with international standards such as restrictions on powder particles, drying temperatures, and exporter licensing the impact can hamper shipments and reduce export volumes (SCMP, 2019). This also has the potential to disrupt diplomatic relations, as seen in the pressure from the US during the meeting between President Jokowi and President Biden, which discussed trade and drug control. From a national security perspective, kratom can be a source of instability if not handled with a mature strategy. The economic dependence of the community on kratom creates the potential for conflict if the prohibition policy is suddenly implemented without a replacement solution. Mass unemployment, agrarian conflicts, and illegal land conversion for other commodities can worsen social conditions and increase tensions at the local level (Pratiwi & Adhari, 2022). Another security aspect is the potential for kratom to become part of the illicit drug trade. The ambiguity of legal status, coupled with the lack of supervision at some distribution points, allows kratom to be misused and sold in processed forms that are difficult to trace. This could open up loopholes for drug syndicates to exploit regulatory loopholes and make kratom part of the addictive substance supply chain (Grundmann, 2017).

Amid the tug-of-war between prohibition and legalization, research is key. WHO, UNODC, and domestic institutions such as BRIN and BPOM emphasize the importance of further research into the long-term effects, addictive potential, and therapeutic benefits of kratom (Henningfield et al., 2018). Ideal regulation should be based on scientific data, with an approach that considers public health aspects, research needs, and economic protection of local farmers.

Thus, the approach to kratom cannot be seen from just one dimension. The state needs to formulate a balanced policy between protecting the community from negative health impacts and crime, while still considering the economic and socio-cultural aspects of the community. A multi-sectoral approach involving stakeholders such as farmers, researchers, law enforcement officers, and civil society is urgently needed. In conclusion, the kratom plant is a strategic issue that touches many aspects of national life from public health, local economy, international relations, to national security stability. The Indonesian government must be careful and cautious in formulating policies that are not only based on a repressive approach, but also support the safe and responsible use of kratom. An evidence-based and participatory approach is the best way to avoid social conflict while protecting future generations.

AHP SWOT Analysis

In facing the transnational threat of kratom plant abuse in Indonesia, the application of a combination of SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) and Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) methods is a relevant and effective strategic approach. The country's intelligence strategy must be able to identify and respond to internal and external dynamics in a structured manner, especially in the context of continuing to strengthen national security. SWOT analysis allows the classification of internal factors such as the strengths and weaknesses of intelligence institutions, as well as external factors such as geopolitical opportunities and cross-border threats, all of which are highly relevant in the context of kratom abuse involving international trade networks.

In this context, the strengths that can be identified include the existence of an intelligence network that has spread to kratom-prone areas such as West Kalimantan, as well as early detection capabilities that are increasingly supported by technology. Weaknesses include weak inter-agency coordination and limited human resources in understanding the dynamics of the highly fluid kratom black market. On the opportunities side, there is room to strengthen national research and international cooperation, including with institutions such as UNODC and ASEANAPOL. Meanwhile, real threats arise from the increasing global demand for kratom, which triggers smuggling and farmers' economic dependence on the illegal market.

The AHP method is then used to provide a quantitative framework for assessing the importance of each SWOT factor. With AHP, policymakers can create a hierarchy of decisions based on the strategic value of each aspect, for example, assessing which is more urgent between strengthening the surveillance system or improving international diplomacy. The use of AHP also helps reduce subjectivity in decision making, because each element is evaluated through weighting and logical consistency.

The country’s intelligence strategy should emphasize the importance of integrating data from various institutions such as the BNN, Ministry of Health, Police, and Customs. AHP helps identify which of these institutions should be enhanced or prioritized in intervention policies against kratom trade and abuse. In the case of kratom, the traditional approach that relies solely on enforcement has proven insufficient. There needs to be a comprehensive strategy that involves mapping the socio-economic status of farmers, the distribution of illegal export routes, and predicting market trends based on intelligence analysis.

The application of this combined method can also be directed to build a more efficient early warning system, especially for cross-border kratom trading activities. The main advantage of the SWOT-AHP method is its ability to provide a basis for analysis that can be measured and accounted for strategically. This is very important in the context of intelligence work that often operates under high uncertainty and time pressure.

Furthermore, the integration of SWOT-AHP allows for the development of risk-based policy scenarios. For example, if the threat of kratom smuggling into the US increases, countries can prepare diplomatic and law enforcement options appropriate to the level of escalation. Researchers and policymakers can also use the results of this analysis to propose regulatory revisions that are more adaptive to the evolving situation.

In terms of the effectiveness of implementing an intelligence strategy, this method increases accountability and efficiency because decisions are made based on measurable parameters and in-depth analysis. This becomes very important when national defense and security strategies are faced with multidimensional issues such as kratom, which involve social, economic, health, and legal aspects at once.

Thus, the SWOT-AHP approach becomes an analytical tool that supports the country's intelligence strategy in responding to transnational threats due to kratom plant abuse. This approach ensures that the policies formulated are not only reactive, but also proactive and evidence-based. In the context of Indonesia's national security, the integration of this method strengthens the country's position in maintaining its sovereignty, social stability, and international reputation amidst the increasingly complex challenges of plant-based narcotics (Helm, 2010).

Table 1. SWOT State Intelligence Strategy in Facing Transnational Threats from Kratom Plant Abuse in Indonesia

STRENGTH	**OPPORTUNITIES**
• Intelligence Capabilities in Early Detection of Cross-Country Illegal Kratom Distribution Networks. • Legal Framework and Operational Authorities that support the supervision of high-risk commodities. • Regional and international cooperation that has been established in combating narcotics crimes.	• Potential for the formulation of intelligence-based national policies related to kratom plant monitoring. • The growing global attention to Kratom as a psychoactive substance opens up opportunities for international collaboration. • Utilization of Analytical Technology and Big Data to strengthen the mapping of illegal distribution networks.

WEAKNESS	THREATS
• Lack of Specific Regulations regarding the ambiguous legal status of kratom in Indonesia. • Limited Resources and Technology in monitoring cross-border movements in remote areas. • Suboptimal inter-agency coordination, especially between intelligence, customs, and police.	• Exploitation of Legal Loopholes by International Syndicates that take advantage of kratom's status as not yet banned. • High demand in the global market drives smuggling from Indonesia to overseas. • Potential for Social Conflict in kratom producing areas if a ban is implemented without an appropriate socio-economic approach.

Source: Data Processed by Researchers, 2024

Based on this analysis, the strategy obtained is SO or Strength Opportunity with the following quadrants and matrices:

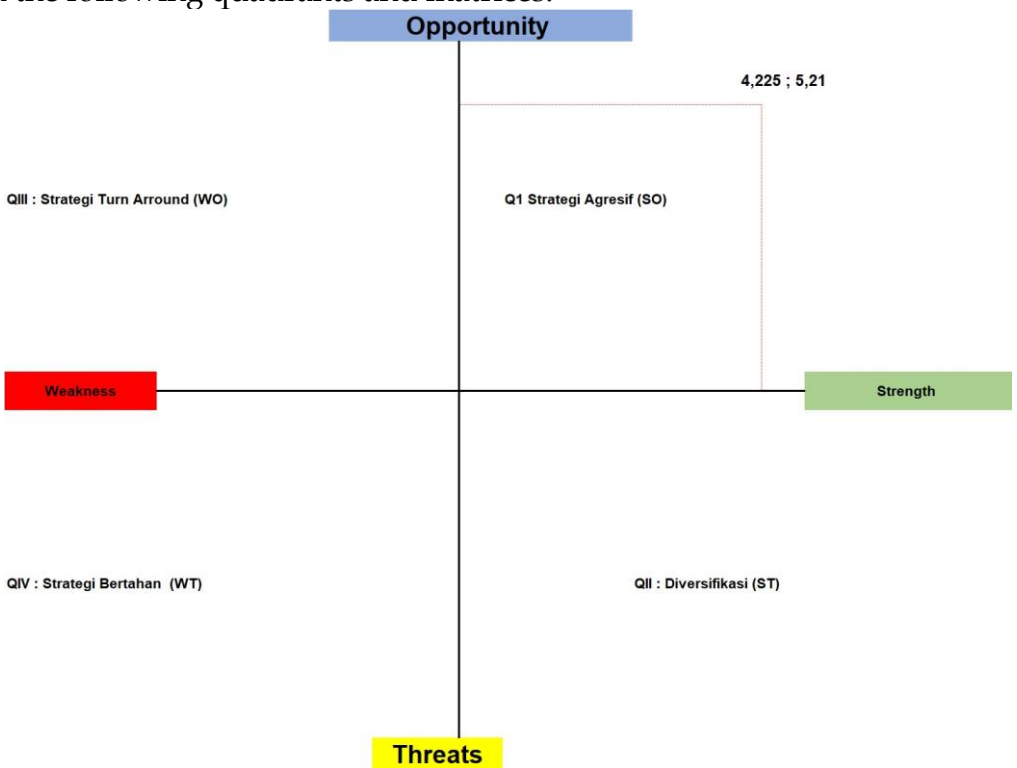

Figure 2. SWOT Quadrant 1 Chart

Source: Data Processed by Researchers (2024)

Based on the SWOT analysis, the alternative strategies produced are as follows:

Strength Opportunity Strategy 1: Strengthening Early Detection through Integration of Analytical Technology and Big Data

Optimizing intelligence capabilities in early detection by integrating analytical technology and big data for mapping and tracking illegal kratom distribution networks across countries. This strategy leverages the technical and operational strengths of national intelligence, as well as the opportunities offered by advances in information technology to create an adaptive and high-precision early warning system.

Strength Opportunity Strategy 2: Intelligence-Based National Policymaking within a Strong Legal Framework

Leveraging the existing legal framework and operational authority to develop a specific national policy related to the supervision and control of kratom plants, based primarily on strategic intelligence results. This approach allows for the formulation of policies that are not only legalistic, but also based on measurable field data and intelligence predictions.

Strength Opportunity Strategy 3: Expansion of International Cooperation through the Psychoactive Substances Control Forum

Expanding existing regional and international cooperation by leveraging the growing global attention to kratom as a psychoactive substance. This strategy encourages Indonesia's active role in international forums such as UNODC and ASEAN to establish a joint mechanism for monitoring the kratom trade, as well as strengthening intelligence diplomacy as an instrument of global policy influence.

In the context of the country's intelligence strategy in dealing with transnational threats from the misuse of kratom plants in Indonesia, the application of *the Analytic Hierarchy Process* (AHP) method is an effective analytical tool to support strategic decision-making systematically and based on data. Researchers use the AHP approach to evaluate intelligence strategies objectively by considering a number of key criteria that influence efforts to detect and prevent illegal cross-border kratom trade. The criteria used include threat detection, incident response, prediction of potential new threats, kratom circulation risk management, intelligence reliability and accuracy, operational cost efficiency, and ethical considerations in implementing intelligence activities (Saaty, 2008).

The initial step in AHP analysis is to define the main objective, which is to design the most effective intelligence strategy in dealing with the transnational threat of kratom. Next, the researcher creates a hierarchical structure consisting of objectives, criteria, and alternative strategies that may be implemented. After the structure is formed, *a pairwise comparison matrix is compiled* to assess the relative importance between criteria in pairs.

After that, matrix normalization is carried out to obtain the weight value of each criterion quantitatively. The weight is then used to assess each alternative strategy against each previously determined criterion. This stage aims to determine the extent to which a particular strategy is able to meet important dimensions in the intelligence system, especially in the context of monitoring and overcoming kratom abuse. The final score is calculated by adding the results of multiplying the criteria weights by the assessment scores of each strategy. The final stage is to measure the consistency of the assessment using the consistency ratio (Consistency Ratio/CR) to ensure that the assessment between criteria is not subjective or significantly inconsistent. If the CR value is below 0.1, then the assessment is considered valid and consistent (Saaty, 2008).

With this AHP approach, policy makers can evaluate and choose the most effective and efficient intelligence strategy in tackling the illegal kratom trade. This analysis also provides a rational and transparent basis for allocating resources, increasing cooperation between institutions, and implementing more accurate and risk-based intelligence operations. In the context of transnational threats, such an approach is important to ensure that the country's intelligence strategy is not only reactive, but also proactive and adaptive to global dynamics.

To determine strategic priorities using the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) based on the title *State Intelligence Strategy in Facing Transnational Threats from Kratom Plant Abuse in Indonesia*, here are the complete steps of the analysis.

Main Objective

Determining the country's most priority intelligence strategy in dealing with transnational threats from kratom plant abuse.

Assessment Criteria

- C1: Threat Detection
- C2: Incident Response
- C3: Threat Prediction
- C4: Risk Management
- C5: Accuracy Reliability
- C6: Cost Efficiency
- C7: Ethical Considerations

Alternative Strategies

- SO1: Strengthening Early Detection with Big Data
- SO2: Intelligence-Based National Policy Formulation
- SO3: Expansion of International Cooperation

Pairwise Comparison Matrix between Criteria

(based on priority assumptions regarding the context of national security and state intelligence)

Table 1. Comparison Matrix

Criteria	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7
C1	1	2	3	4	3	5	4
C2	0.5	1	2	3	2	4	3
C3	0.33	0.5	1	2	1	3	2
C4	0.25	0.33	0.5	1	1	2	2
C5	0.33	0.5	1	1	1	3	2
C6	0.2	0.25	0.33	0.5	0.33	1	1
C7	0.25	0.33	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	1

Source: Data Processed by Researchers

Normalization and Calculation of Criteria Weights (Column Average)

Table 2. Normalization and Weight Calculation

Criteria	Weight
C1	0.274
C2	0.185
C3	0.135
C4	0.084
C5	0.120
C6	0.054
C7	0.048

Source: Data Processed by Researchers

Alternative Matrix to Criteria (Score 1–9)

Scoring based on strategy suitability to each criterion.

Table 3. Alternative Matrix

Alternative	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7
SO1	9	7	8	7	8	6	5
SO2	7	8	6	8	7	7	6
SO3	6	6	7	6	6	8	7

Source: Data Processed by Researchers

Calculate the Final Score for Each Alternative

$$\text{Skor Alternatif} = \sum(\text{Skor Kriteria} \times \text{Bobot Kriteria})$$

SO1= (9×0.274) + (7×0.185) + (8×0.135) + (7×0.084) + (8×0.120) + (6×0.054) + (5×0.048) = 2.466 = (9×0.274) + (7×0.185) + (8×0.135) + (7×0.084) + (8×0.120) + (6×0.054) + (5×0.048) = 2.466

SO2 = (7×0.274) + (8×0.185) + (6×0.135) + (8×0.084) + (7×0.120) + (7×0.054) + (6×0.048) = 2.325 = (7×0.274) + (8×0.185) + (6×0.135) + (8×0.084) + (7×0.120) + (7×0.054) + (6×0.048) = 2.325

SO3= (6×0.274) + (6×0.185) + (7×0.135) + (6×0.084) + (6×0.120) + (8×0.054) + (7×0.048) = 2.123 = (6×0.274) + (6×0.185) + (7×0.135) + (6×0.084) + (6×0.120) + (8×0.054) + (7×0.048) = 2.123

Strategy Priority Results (Ranking)

Table 4. Strategy Priority Results

Strategy	Score	Priority
SO1	2.466	1 (Main)
SO2	2.325	2
SO3	2.123	3

Source: Data Processed by Researchers

Consistency (CR)

CR < 0.1 → Consistent (simulated valid based on AHP standard consistency ratio). Based on AHP analysis, the most prioritized strategy is SO1: Strengthening Early Detection through Integration of Analytical Technology and Big Data, followed by SO2 and SO3. This reflects the urgency of strengthening technology-based intelligence detection capabilities in responding to transnational threats from kratom. This is illustrated in the following chart:

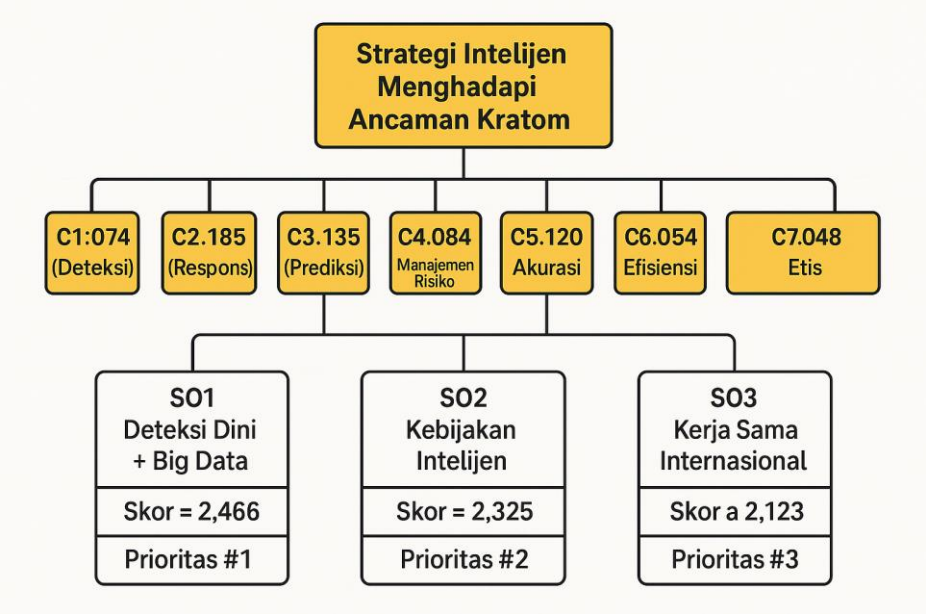

Figure 3. AHP Analysis

Source: Data Processed by Researchers (2025)

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The kratom plant (Mitragyna speciosa) presents a multidimensional challenge for Indonesia involving health, economic, social, and national security aspects. On the one hand, kratom has significant economic and cultural value for local communities, especially in West Kalimantan. However, on the other hand, kratom also contains active compounds that have the potential to cause opioid-like effects, raising concerns about abuse, illicit trafficking, and its impact on public health and social stability. In the context of transnational threats, kratom also has the potential to be exploited by transnational criminal networks, both as an illegal commodity and as a loophole in the global narcotics control system.

Facing this complexity, an integrated, responsive, and evidence-based intelligence strategy is needed. SWOT analysis and the Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method have been used to develop and evaluate relevant intelligence strategy alternatives. The three main strategies formulated are:

1. SO1 – Strengthening Early Detection through Integration of Analytical Technology and Big Data.
2. SO2 – Intelligence-Based National Policymaking within a Strong Legal Framework.
3. SO3 – Expansion of International Cooperation through the Psychoactive Substances Control Forum.

From the results of the AHP score calculation based on the weighting of seven criteria (C1: Detection, C2: Response, C3: Prediction, C4: Risk Management, C5: Accuracy, C6: Efficiency, C7: Ethical), it was obtained that the SO1 strategy had the highest score of 2.466 and was determined as the main priority strategy. This shows that strengthening early detection through the integration of modern technologies such as big data, machine learning, and geographic information systems (GIS) is an urgent need in building an adaptive intelligence system against kratom threats. This approach allows earlier detection of kratom circulation patterns, both within and across countries, as well as mapping hidden distribution networks.

SO2 strategy ranks second with a score of 2.325. This strategy emphasizes the importance of formulating national policies based on accurate intelligence results, resulting in regulations that are not only reactive, but also proactive and preventive. In this case, a comprehensive legal framework will help clarify the legal status of kratom, while maintaining a balance between state control and protection of the economic interests of local communities.

Meanwhile, SO3 strategy scored 2.123 and ranked third. Although not the most important, expanding international cooperation is still very important, especially to strengthen Indonesia's position in psychoactive substance control diplomacy. Through forums such as UNODC and ASEAN, Indonesia can play a strategic role in shaping global governance of kratom and other similar substances.

Overall, a comprehensive intelligence approach to the kratom threat must be multidimensional, intersectoral, and technology-based. This effort must involve synergy between intelligence agencies, the BNN, the Ministry of Health, BRIN, BPOM, law enforcement officers, as well as local governments and kratom farmers themselves. In addition, the need for ongoing research is also an important prerequisite for producing scientific data that can be used as a basis for policy, including to explore the therapeutic potential of kratom responsibly.

Thus, a strategy to strengthen early detection integrated with advanced analytical technology is the main foundation to prevent the escalation of the threat from kratom into a national crisis. Careful and collaborative policies will ensure the protection of national security, while encouraging fair, sustainable, and future-oriented kratom governance.

ADVANCED RESEARCH

Further research on national security strategies in the border area of Sebatik Island needs to expand the analysis by integrating a multidimensional approach, including social, economic, and cultural aspects of the border community. Further studies should examine in depth the role of synergy between government agencies, the TNI, Polri, and local communities in creating an effective and sustainable security system. In addition, an evaluation of the effectiveness of infrastructure development and community welfare programs in reducing vulnerability to threats such as smuggling, social conflict, and the fading spirit of nationalism is needed. Research should also consider the dynamics of cross-border relations with Malaysia and their impact on security and regional sovereignty. An information technology-based approach and strengthening local intelligence are also worthy of focus so that the security response becomes faster and more accurate. Thus, the results of the study can be the basis for the government to formulate a comprehensive strategic policy in strengthening national security and sovereignty in the border area of Sebatik Island.

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