

## **THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SIPD IN ENHANCING DEVELOPMENT PLANNING SYNERGY IN GORONTALO CITY**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of the Regional Government Information System (SIPD) in supporting the synergy of development planning in Gorontalo City. A qualitative approach with a case study design was employed, utilizing data collection techniques such as in-depth interviews, observation, and documentation. The research informants included local government agencies and relevant stakeholders involved in the development planning process. Data analysis was conducted using an interactive model consisting of data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. The findings indicate that the implementation of SIPD has contributed to improving the integration of planning, budgeting, and development reporting in a more systematic and transparent manner. SIPD also enhances synergy among municipal, provincial, and central governments through policy alignment and data integration. However, its effectiveness has not been fully optimized due to technical constraints such as system stability and network access, as well as non-technical challenges including limited human resource capacity, data literacy, and institutional coordination. This study highlights that the effectiveness of SIPD is not solely determined by technological factors but also by organizational readiness, human resource capacity, and policy support. Therefore, optimizing SIPD requires a comprehensive approach through capacity building, strengthening technological infrastructure, and improving intergovernmental coordination. These findings provide empirical contributions to the development of data-driven governance and the enhancement of integrated development planning.

Keywords: Information System, Effectiveness, Synergy, Planning, Local Government

### **INTRODUCTION**

Digital transformation in public administration has accelerated the adoption of information systems as strategic instruments for improving governance quality and policy effectiveness. In this context, the Regional Government Information System (SIPD) emerges as a critical platform for integrating planning, budgeting, and reporting processes within a unified data-driven framework. SIPD supports the realization of good governance principles by enhancing transparency, accountability, and coordination across government levels [1], [2]. At the national level, development planning requires strong coordination and synchronization between central and local governments to ensure policy coherence and alignment of development priorities [3], [4], [5].

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The advancement of e-government provides a broader theoretical foundation for understanding the role of SIPD in transforming governance practices. E-government emphasizes the use of information technology not only to improve administrative efficiency but also to strengthen transparency, accountability, and service delivery [6], [7]. Within this framework, SIPD functions as an integrative platform that facilitates data sharing, policy alignment, and intergovernmental coordination. The integration of data across government levels enables planning processes to become more coherent, measurable, and auditable, thereby supporting evidence-based policymaking and improving responsiveness to public needs [3], [5].

Despite its strategic potential, the implementation of SIPD faces significant structural and technical challenges. Institutional misalignment in the implementation of decentralization policies, including deconcentration and co-administration tasks, often leads to overlapping programs and budget inefficiencies [4], [5], [8], [9]. Furthermore, limitations in human resource capacity and low levels of digital literacy hinder the effective utilization of SIPD, particularly in managing complex system features and ensuring data accuracy [1], [2].

Additional challenges include inconsistencies in budget allocation, weak cross-sectoral coordination, and limited stakeholder participation in development planning processes [10], [11], [12]. These issues indicate that intergovernmental planning synergy remains suboptimal, despite the availability of integrated information systems. From a collaborative governance perspective, effective synergy requires not only technological integration but also strong coordination mechanisms, institutional trust, and active participation among stakeholders [11], [13].

Regional development planning theory further emphasizes the importance of integrating planning, budgeting, implementation, and monitoring processes within a coherent policy framework [3], [4]. SIPD is designed to support this integration by providing a unified system for managing development data. However, the effectiveness of such systems depends on multiple factors, including data quality, institutional capacity, and governance arrangements. Previous studies have highlighted that the success of information systems in public administration is contingent upon the interaction between technological infrastructure, human resources, and organizational context [14], [15].

The literature also indicates that effective information systems must ensure high-quality data, transparency in reporting, and efficiency in resource allocation [5], [16]. In addition, strong data governance and regulatory support are essential for sustaining system performance and ensuring policy coherence. Without these supporting factors, information systems tend to remain administrative tools rather than strategic instruments for improving governance outcomes.

However, empirical studies examining the effectiveness of SIPD in fostering intergovernmental planning synergy at the local level remain limited. Most existing research focuses on policy frameworks or institutional capacity without directly analyzing the relationship between SIPD implementation and planning synergy

outcomes [17], [18]. This gap highlights the need for context-specific empirical investigations to better understand how SIPD functions in practice and how it influences development planning processes.

Based on these considerations, this study aims to analyze the effectiveness of SIPD in supporting development planning synergy in Gorontalo City. The study offers novelty by adopting an empirical case study approach that focuses on data integration, intergovernmental coordination, and their implications for the quality of regional development planning. By integrating theoretical perspectives from e-government, public administration effectiveness, collaborative governance, and development planning, this research contributes to advancing knowledge on data-driven governance and intergovernmental coordination.

## **METHOD AND ANALYSIS**

This study employs a qualitative approach with a case study design to gain an in-depth understanding of the effectiveness of the Regional Government Information System (SIPD) in supporting development planning synergy in Gorontalo City. A qualitative approach is selected as it enables the exploration of processes, contexts, and dynamics of policy implementation comprehensively, including interactions among actors, institutional factors, and social conditions influencing policy effectiveness [19], [20]. The case study design is utilized to address “how” and “why” questions regarding the implementation of SIPD within a specific local context, thereby producing rich and contextualized insights [21].

The research site is Gorontalo City, which serves as the unit of analysis representing SIPD implementation at the local government level. The selection of this location is based on policy relevance, data availability, and regional characteristics that enable the analysis of synergy among municipal, provincial, and central governments. The study involves key stakeholders engaged in regional development planning processes.

Research informants are determined using purposive sampling, where participants are selected based on their direct involvement in SIPD implementation. Informants include officials from Bappeda. This selection aims to obtain rich and in-depth data regarding the use, challenges, and effectiveness of SIPD in practice [15], [22].

Data collection techniques involve a combination of methods to enhance depth and validity. First, in-depth interviews are conducted to explore perceptions, experiences, and interpretations of actors regarding SIPD implementation. Second, observations are carried out to directly examine coordination processes and decision-making dynamics within development planning forums, including interactions among stakeholders [6]. Third, document analysis is conducted on planning and budgeting documents such as RKPD, RKA, evaluation reports, and SIPD-related documents to understand data structures and integration mechanisms [5]. Additionally, secondary data such as regulations and policy reports are utilized to enrich the analysis.

Data analysis in this study follows the interactive model of Miles, Huberman, and Saldaña, which consists of four main stages: data collection, data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing and verification [21], [23]. Data reduction involves simplifying and categorizing data based on themes relevant to the research focus. Data display is conducted through narrative descriptions, matrices, or diagrams to facilitate interpretation. Subsequently, conclusions are drawn iteratively by linking empirical findings with the theoretical framework.

During the analysis process, coding techniques are employed to identify emerging themes from the data. Coding is conducted in stages, starting from descriptive coding, followed by interpretative coding, and culminating in pattern coding to identify relationships among concepts. This approach enables the integration of inductive analysis grounded in empirical data and deductive analysis based on theoretical constructs [23], [24].

To ensure data validity and reliability, this study applies triangulation techniques, including source triangulation, method triangulation, and time triangulation. Source triangulation is conducted by comparing data from different informants, while method triangulation involves comparing findings from interviews, observations, and document analysis. Time triangulation is applied by examining data consistency across different periods [20], [25]. Additionally, an audit trail and systematic documentation of the research process are maintained to enhance transparency and credibility.

Through this methodological approach, the study is expected to produce valid, reliable, and contextually grounded findings regarding the effectiveness of SIPD in supporting development planning synergy, while also providing empirical contributions to the advancement of data-driven governance at the local government level.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **4.1 Research Findings**

The implementation of the Regional Government Information System (SIPD) in Gorontalo City reveals dynamic processes occurring across three main stages: preparation, implementation, and evaluation.

During the preparation stage, the primary challenge encountered was the adaptation process to the new system, which replaced previously familiar planning applications. This transition required both technical and administrative adjustments from regional apparatus organizations (OPD), as well as an understanding of the integrated planning framework within SIPD. Although, in general, infrastructure and human resource readiness were considered adequate, disparities in capacity among OPDs remained, particularly in mastering system features. In addition, network constraints due to high user traffic at certain times affected system accessibility.

Initial coordination between the Gorontalo City Government, the Provincial Government, and the Central Government was conducted through socialization and technical guidance facilitated by the Ministry of Home Affairs. This process reflects

efforts to harmonize regional planning policies with national and provincial development priorities.

During the implementation stage, the process of data input into SIPD was generally carried out adequately, although not yet fully optimal. Some OPDs experienced difficulties in data entry due to the complexity of the system and the high level of accuracy required. On the other hand, SIPD has proven to support planning synchronization across different levels of government, enabling regional planning documents to be aligned more systematically with national and provincial policies.

Technical constraints encountered during implementation included slow system access, errors during data storage, and system updates that were not always accompanied by adequate socialization. These issues affected work efficiency, particularly when approaching data submission deadlines.

At the evaluation stage, SIPD was considered relatively effective in supporting regional development planning. The system is capable of integrating planning, budgeting, and reporting processes in a structured and transparent manner. Furthermore, synergy among municipal, provincial, and central governments has improved, as indicated by better alignment of development programs. However, such effectiveness remains dependent on data quality and human resource capacity.

Several improvements are required to optimize SIPD, including strengthening human resource capacity through continuous training, improving system stability, and enhancing coordination and support from the central government. Additionally, the development of a more user-friendly system is essential.

## **4.2 Discussion**

The findings indicate that SIPD implementation in Gorontalo City has contributed to improving the integration of development planning, in line with the concept of e-government, which emphasizes the use of information technology to enhance transparency, accountability, and efficiency in governance [6], [7]. SIPD functions as an integrative platform linking planning and budgeting processes systematically, as also identified in previous empirical studies [26], [27].

However, the effectiveness of SIPD remains partial, as it is influenced by human resource capacity and infrastructure readiness. This finding is consistent with prior studies indicating that the success of government information systems largely depends on user competence and technological support [22], [28].

From a data integration perspective, SIPD has demonstrated its potential to promote synchronization of planning among central, provincial, and local governments. This aligns with integrated development planning concepts that emphasize policy harmonization across levels of government [4], [29]. Nevertheless, issues such as data inconsistencies and differences in program nomenclature indicate that integration has not yet been fully achieved.

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The technical and non-technical constraints identified in this study reinforce previous findings on SIPD implementation challenges. Issues such as network connectivity, system changes, and limited human resource capacity remain significant barriers [27], [30]. Furthermore, institutional coordination and the distribution of authority also pose challenges in achieving planning synergy [4], [8], [17].

Within the framework of collaborative governance, the observed increase in intergovernmental synergy reflects improved coordination and policy integration facilitated by SIPD. However, the effectiveness of such collaboration still requires strengthening communication, participation, and more systematic coordination mechanisms [11], [13].

Therefore, the effectiveness of SIPD in supporting development planning synergy in Gorontalo City is shaped by the interaction of technological, institutional, and human resource factors. Optimizing the system requires a comprehensive approach, including enhancing human resource capacity, strengthening technological infrastructure, and improving policy harmonization and intergovernmental coordination.

## **CONCLUSION**

This study concludes that the implementation of the Regional Government Information System (SIPD) in Gorontalo City has made a significant contribution to enhancing the integration of development planning and strengthening synergy across different levels of government. SIPD facilitates the integration of planning, budgeting, and reporting processes in a more systematic manner, thereby supporting transparency and accountability in regional development governance.

However, the effectiveness of SIPD has not yet been fully optimized. The findings indicate that challenges persist in both technical and non-technical aspects. Technical issues include system stability and network accessibility, while non-technical constraints involve human resource capacity, data literacy, and institutional coordination. Disparities in capacity among regional apparatus organizations also affect the overall utilization of SIPD.

On the other hand, the use of SIPD has proven to enhance synergy among municipal, provincial, and central governments through policy alignment and the integration of planning data. This demonstrates that SIPD holds substantial potential as a data-driven development planning instrument.

Therefore, optimizing SIPD requires strengthening human resource capacity through continuous training, improving information technology infrastructure, and enhancing coordination and intergovernmental support. Through these efforts, SIPD is expected to function optimally in supporting effective, integrated, and sustainable development planning.

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