

PAPUAN INFORMATION SYSTEM (SIO PAPUA) STRENGTHENS BENEFICIARY DATA FOR 14,000 NEW HOMES

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In the Papuan village of Nendali in the District of Jayapura, local village cadres routinely visit residents' homes to update data on family status. They record housing conditions and the number of household members, and verify Indigenous Papuan (Orang Asli Papua/OAP) identity.

This work is a crucial foundation for Papua's development planning, particularly the National Strategic Project (PSN) to build 14,000 liveable homes across Papua Province.

In fact the Papuan Information System (SIO Papua) has become the Papua Provincial Government's primary reference to determine who should become beneficiaries of the liveable homes program. The system is underpinned by Papua Governor's Regulation No. 61 of 2024 on SIO Papua, which establishes the framework to manage, verify and use OAP data to support development planning and basic services in Papua. This aligns with efforts to strengthen data governance through the One Data Indonesia (Satu Data Indonesia) approach and the implementation of Papua's Special Autonomy.

According to Acting Head of Papua Province's Department of Public Works, Spatial Planning, Housing, Land and Residential Areas, Natirmalus D. Renyaan, construction of the 14,000 liveable homes, scheduled to run until 2030, relies on the quality of data available in SIO Papua.



D. Renyaan

"The data from SIO Papua is excellent because it is collected directly in the field on a by-name, by-address basis. This enables us to readily identify which communities genuinely require assistance,"

Mr Renyaan said the data collected in the field had been continuously updated since 2016. This information has helped the government to categorise communities based on their socioeconomic conditions, including identifying low-income residents who require housing interventions. To ensure data validity, SIO Papua data is cross-referenced with the National Socio-Economic Single Data (DTSEN) to pinpoint eligible program recipients. The system is also used to inform proposals for assistance to the central government, particularly the Ministry of Housing and Residential Areas.





Technical Housing Data Helps Determine Beneficiaries



Acting Head of Planning at the Papua Public Works Department, Abraham S. Bonay, said SIO Papua not only stored demographic data, but also technical information on the condition of residents' homes. This included everything from damaged roofs and dirt floors to bamboo or wooden walls.

Mr Bonay

“Technical data, such as the condition of the roof, floor or walls, is immensely helpful in compiling our list of beneficiaries. This is the data we subsequently submit to the Ministry of Housing,”



Districts and cities that already have comprehensive databases within SIO Papua are the initial priorities for PSN implementation. This includes the districts of Biak Numfor, Supiori, Mamberamo Raya, Waropen and Sarmi, as well as the city of Jayapura. Other regions can still propose prospective beneficiaries through supplementary data collection mechanisms, with such data able to be reconciled with SIO Papua at a later date.

Several regions have already made strong contributions to SIO Papua. In Supiori District, the Aruri Islands Subdistrict has completed its data collection in full, while the Supiori Selatan Subdistrict has reached 83 per cent of households. In Biak Numfor District, four villages in the Biak Timur Subdistrict have also achieved 100 per cent data collection. With this coverage, the government has comprehensive socioeconomic data on these communities that extends to the condition of individual homes.

Mr Bonay said the data was highlighting issues of overcrowding and poverty, such as single dwellings in substandard condition being shared by multiple families across generations.

Mr Bonay

“Within a single home, there may be several heads of the household; everyone from grandparents to grandchildren living together in poverty. This is clearly visible in the SIO Papua data,”

As such, the PSN is not just an infrastructure project, but an integral part of long-term efforts to reduce poverty rates and improve the welfare of Papuan communities.





Data collection led by local village youth



At the village level, young local cadres have been integral to the success of SIO Papua. Jems Roberd Daber has been a village cadre in Nendali since 2014. In the beginning he faced questions and scepticism from community members who felt that despite being frequently surveyed, they were yet to see tangible results.

Understanding these feelings, Mr Daber set out to build trust among the residents, with his personal approach grounded in local culture proving to be the key.

“In Papua, chewing betel nut is part of our culture. So sometimes, we sit and chew betel nut first while waiting for people to come out of their homes, and only then do we discuss data collection,” he said.

For Mr Daber, local data collection is a vital safeguard for OAP.





Mr Daber

“SIO Papua contains data on tribes and indigenous communities. That is crucial for protecting Papuan people,”

Nendali's Village Head, Loth K. Wally, said using local cadres made data collection much more accurate than the conventional methods of external officers. He said local young people knew their own community, ensuring no family was overlooked during the data collection process.



Mr Wally

“If a house is closed, they will return the next day. Because they know the family, everyone can be recorded,”

Mr Wally said the village data was the foundation for drafting development programs, distributing social assistance and planning village budgets. Without valid data, assistance would otherwise be misdirected, leading to community grievances.

He also highlighted the importance of strengthening data collection mentoring at the village level, particularly given the dynamics of population mobility and civil administration challenges in Papua. In his view, the quality of village data will largely determine the overall quality of regional development planning.



Collaborative support



The SIO Papua database has been further strengthened by the One Data initiatives of the Ministry of Home Affairs' Data and Information Centre. These are backed by technical support from SKALA, the Australia–Indonesia partnership program.

This support assists the Papua Provincial Government to enhance data management, verify and reconcile information, and use data as the basis for better-targeted development planning.

During the data compilation process for the liveable housing PSN, cross-sectoral collaboration was crucial to accelerate coordination, validate data and synchronise development needs with the on-the-ground realities faced by the community.

Mr Bonay said that support from various stakeholders had made the planning process more robust and focused. "We feel this national program can succeed because all parties are genuinely assisting in the realisation of the PSN," he said.

Beyond the housing PSN, the Papua Provincial Government hopes that SIO Papua will be the foundation for delivering various other basic services and social protection programs. With an accurate, verified and interconnected data system, development can be more equitable and targeted, thereby reducing overlapping assistance and reaching the communities that need it most.



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