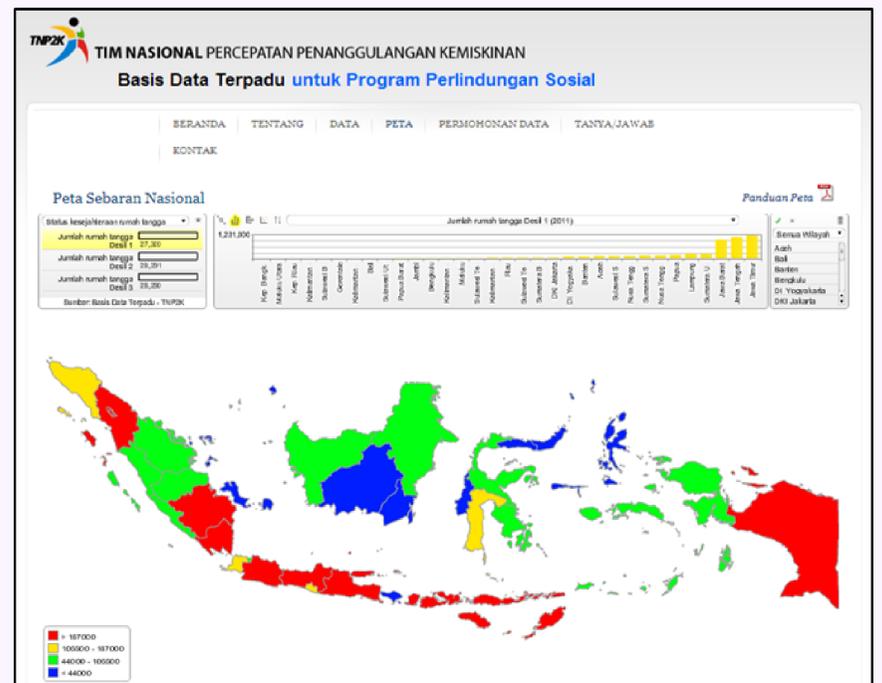


Indonesia's Unified Database (UDB): rationalising a fragmented system

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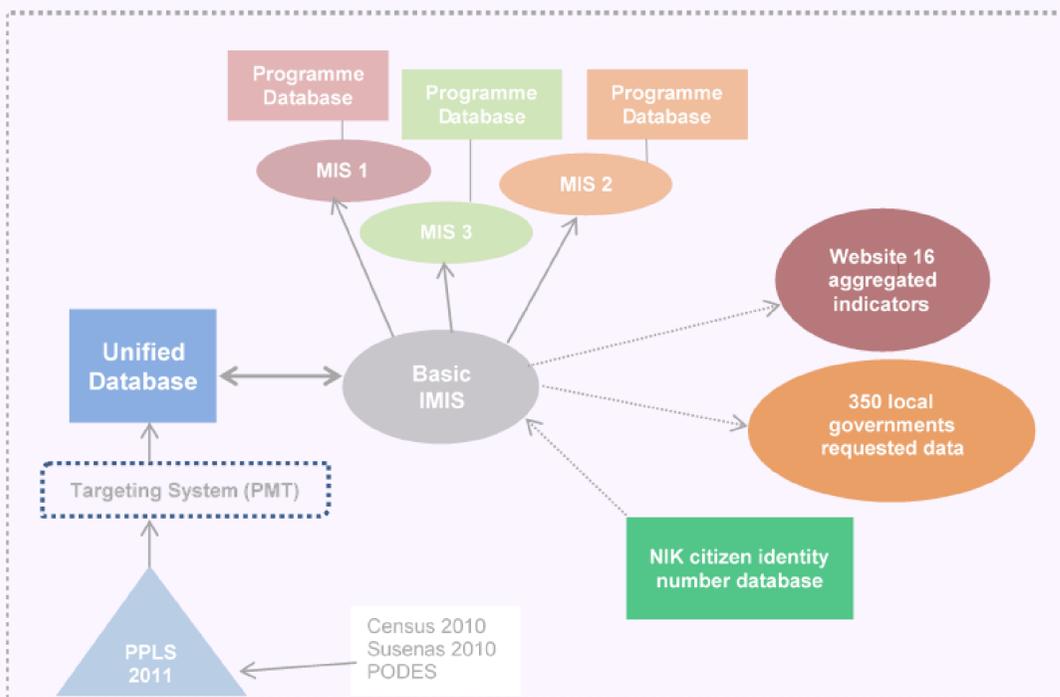
BACKGROUND and OVERVIEW

- ◊ The **Unified Data Base for Social Protection Programs (UDB)** was created to **improve the targeting** system of Indonesia's poverty alleviation programs. It is expected to result in social assistance programs better complementing one another and for assistance to effectively reach those in need.
- ◊ The database is managed within a **20-staff unit** of the National Team for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction (TNP2K)
- ◊ The UDB covers **25.2 million households** (96 million individuals) in more than 77,000 villages nationwide,
- ◊ At least **five national programmes use the UDB** (health insurance, scholarship, CCT, rice subsidy programme and temporary UCT)
- ◊ To date, approximately **350 local governments** have requested UDB data, including for improving their targeting system of locally owned poverty reduction program
- ◊ Data collection is conducted by **Statistics Indonesia**, which has updated data every three years since 2005. Detailed socio-economic information was collected on 25.2 million households (40% population) identified using the poverty mapping or small area estimates methodology combined with community suggestions.
- ◊ Data is then subjected to a **Proxy Means Test (PMT)** to determine four levels of poverty, used in combination with programme level criteria for targeting.



Sample of UDB data available online (16 indicators, aggregate format)

Overall data structure



Key components of the integrated data system

- The UDB data is stored using a **Microsoft SQL server** but it is **not linked to other servers or web services** for remote access.
- To date, **transfer of data** between TNP2K and other counterparts is done **manually** (written requests, data sent in variety of formats according to user's needs, including Excel and SQL).
- Main counterparts requesting data are:
 - ⇒ **Five main social assistance programmes** nationally
 - ⇒ **350 local governments**, who use data for their own purposes
 - ⇒ An important institutional arrangement is being pursued to integrate the UDB with the **NIK (citizen identity number)**, which is managed by the Ministry of Home Affairs. To date, approximately 74 per cent of UDB data has been integrated with the NIK and results used in designing the social security card.
 - ⇒ No other links to government databases have yet been established, but data is used for **accountability** purposes and published on the UDB website in aggregate format (see Figure above).

Challenges and limitations

- Data not integrated online, shared manually on ad-hoc basis
- Lack of 'formal' institutional arrangement surrounding the UDB—no clear written regulation determining who is responsible for its management, how it will be staffed and funded, which programs should use data and how, and who, will collect the data and update it.
- Reputational risk for Statistics Indonesia if it is seen to be involved in selecting beneficiaries for social assistance programs, which could, in turn, potentially lead households to give false responses to important surveys and the population census
- Regular updating of data has high costs (but annual cost per household registered of about USD \$0.6, lower than average internationally + cost savings compared to fragmented targeting for each programme)

REFERENCES/FURTHER INFORMATION

Barca and Chirchir (2014) Single Registries and Integrated MISs, Demystifying Data and Information Management Concepts. Case Study 3
 Finding the Poor versus Measuring their Poverty: Exploring the Drivers of Targeting Effectiveness in Indonesia, TNP2K Working Paper, November 2014