



Data for Development: Collaborative Solutions for an Inclusive Indonesia

Collaboration between central government and local stakeholders is essential to improving data quality and improving how social assistance programs are targeted in East Nusa Tenggara.

This collaboration involves active engagement by all stakeholders to ensure that three key databases are integrated and validated at the community level. These efforts help ensure that assistance reaches those who need it most and contributes to poverty reduction and greater social equity.

The case for Collaboration in Data Integration to Reduce Poverty across Indonesia

Poverty is a persistent challenge in Indonesia that affects millions and impedes access to basic services, economic growth, and social stability. The Government of Indonesia has implemented numerous poverty reduction strategies over the years to address these issues. The success of such programs depends heavily on the availability and reliability of accurate data to identify and support the most vulnerable groups effectively.

The data integration initiative in NTT has strengthened trust between the central government, which manages the data, and the local government, which plays a key role in utilizing, updating, and validating it. By involving sub-district and village governments in the validation process, the collaboration has extended to the village level. Using an integrated dataset for program targeting across the provincial, district, and village levels has also improved programming efficiency.

Integrated socio-economic datasets and systems are a critical tool in the fight against poverty. By combining multiple datasets, the government can ensure that social assistance programs target those most in need, reduce duplication, and maximize the impact of limited resources. Integrated data also fosters transparency and accountability which are essential for sustainable poverty alleviation.



Complexities and Challenges in Managing Poverty Data

Indonesia's vast geographical expanse, large population, and diverse socio-economic conditions create unique challenges in managing poverty data. The three primary datasets used to address these challenges were the Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS), the Targeting Data for the Acceleration of Extreme Poverty Eradication (P3KE), and the Socio-Economic Registry (Regsosek). Each dataset served a unique purpose and contributed valuable insights to poverty alleviation efforts.

DTKS supported the distribution of general social assistance and informed the design of targeted social policies. P3KE focused on eradicating extreme poverty by identifying the most vulnerable families or individuals who required intensive interventions. Regsosek provided a unified registry to integrate socio-economic data across multiple sectors which enabled comprehensive planning and monitoring. While each dataset had its strengths, their standalone use sometimes led to fragmentation and inefficiencies, such as duplication of aid and inaccurate targeting.

The integration of DTKS, P3KE, and Regsosek addresses these challenges by creating a cohesive data ecosystem. In NTT however, this process has not been without difficulties:

- Fragmentation of datasets initially led to duplication and inconsistencies.
- Ensuring accuracy requires extensive validation efforts which demand resources.
- Earlier data inaccuracies eroded trust, and renewed efforts were required to build confidence in the system.

Despite these challenges, the integration process has delivered significant benefits.



Elderly Community Kitchen in Cendana Village, Kota Soe Subdistrict,
Timor Tengah Selatan District, East Nusa Tenggara Province
(Photo: SKALA)

Highlights from NTT's Collaboration in Data Management Efforts

East Nusa Tenggara has emerged as a leading example of what collaboration in data management looks like in action, especially through data integration. The central government, particularly Bappenas and the NTT Provincial Government, supported by SKALA, successfully aligned key datasets to enhance local capacity to address poverty and stunting by:

- 1. Revitalizing Data Management:** The NTT government upgraded its digital capabilities to ensure accurate and up-to-date data. This included drafting standard operating procedures for technical guidelines and action plans under the One Data policy.
- 2. Leveraging SEPAKAT:** The Data-Based Development Planning System (SEPAKAT) was utilized to analyse data, including socio economic micro data. The analyses revealed issues faced by the community, especially in accessing basic services as well as the formulation of action plans during Development Planning Deliberations (Musrenbang).
- 3. Integrating Poverty Data:** Datasets from DTKS, P3KE, OPDs, and Regsosek were successfully combined for precise social assistance targeting in districts such as Kupang, South Central Timor, and East Manggarai.
- 4. Supporting Targeted Programs:** Integrated data was used to implement programs like stunting prevention and extreme poverty alleviation, funded by the Fiscal Incentive Fund (DIF). These efforts benefitted 24,560 families to alleviate poverty and 9,270 individuals to prevent stunting.

The NTT government's proactive efforts, supported by central government demonstrate how integrated data systems at the local level can transform social assistance programs to become more inclusive and impactful.



Transforming Lives through Collaboration in Data Integration and Verification

Beneficiaries of social assistance programs in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) have expressed gratitude for the improvements brought about by the central and provincial government's data integration efforts.

Juliana Oematan, a widow from Nauno Village in Fatuleu Subdistrict, shared how social assistance became a lifeline for her family. After losing her husband in September 2024, Juliana struggled to provide for her five children.

"I was happy to receive rice, sugar, and cooking oil—essential items we need for our daily lives," she explained.

Because of accurate data, her family was included in the list of social assistance recipients, which ensured that they received much-needed support.

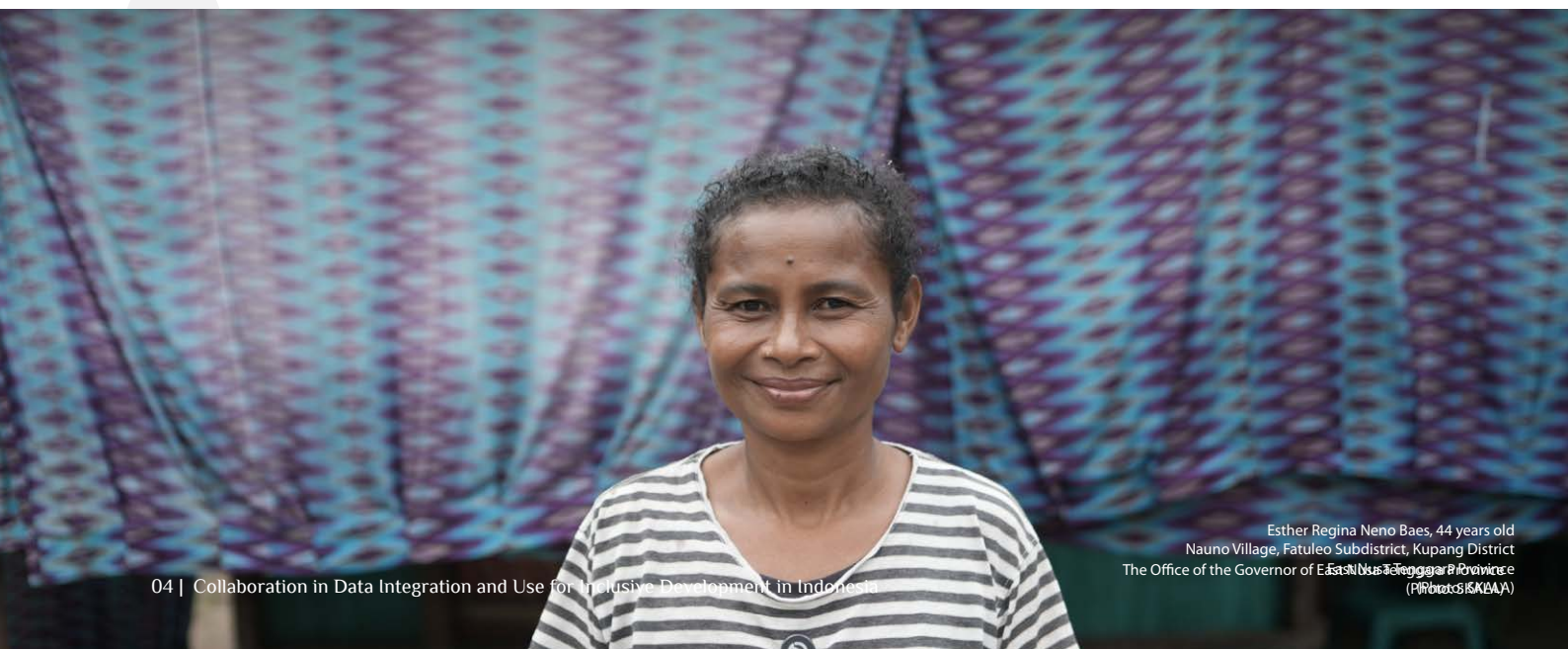
Esther Regina Neno Baes, another widow from the same village, described how the program helped her care for her five young children. After her husband's death, she began receiving food packages and other essential items.

"I was asked to update our Family Registration Card to qualify for assistance," Esther said. "Now, I receive basic food packages and even some chickens and eggs."

With strategic support from SKALA to align datasets, the Central and NTT governments have:

1. Improved efficiency, eliminated duplication, and ensured effective use of limited resources.
2. Directed assistance to those genuinely in need.
3. Fostered trust by making processes accountable and clear, and
4. Minimized conflicts arising from mistargeted aid.

The collaboration to integrate socio-economic data from Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS), Targeted Data for Accelerating the Elimination of Extreme Poverty (P3KE), and Socioeconomic Registry (Regsosek) has enabled the development of more precise policies and monitoring systems which is transforming poverty alleviation efforts across NTT.



Strengthening Poverty Alleviation through Collaboration in Data Integration


Integrated data systems are revolutionizing poverty alleviation in Indonesia. The alignment of datasets like DTKS, P3KE, and Regsosek ensures that social assistance programs are targeted, efficient, and transparent. The NTT government's achievements, supported by the central government with SKALA's technical expertise, illustrate the transformative potential of these systems.

The process of integrating Regsosek, P3KE, and DTKS data has enhanced the accuracy of program targeting, particularly for vulnerable groups in East Nusa Tenggara Province.

The National Unified Socioeconomic Database (DTSEN)—which consolidates these three socioeconomic datasets at the national level—will ensure that social protection and basic service provision address the needs of poor and vulnerable communities across Indonesia.

DTSEN is a breakthrough that requires support from all stakeholders to maximize its benefits in driving synergistic and collaborative poverty reduction policies and programs at the national, provincial, district, and village levels.

By addressing challenges and building on successes like NTT's, Indonesia can continue to refine its data management practices so that no one is left behind in the journey toward inclusive growth and social justice.



Welmince Nome, 60 years old
Cendana Village, Kota Soe Subdistrict,
Timor Tengah Selatan District,
East Nusa Tenggara Province
(Photo: SKALA)