The Use of Open Data Initiatives in Togian Transparency and Governance Framework

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Abstract

Togian is an archipelagic region in Indonesia that has faced challenges in governance transparency due to its remote location and limited access to digital platforms. This research employs a mixed-methods design, combining qualitative interviews with quantitative analysis of open data usage metrics. Data collection includes surveys of local government officials and community members, as well as an evaluation of publicly available datasets on Togian's official website. The findings indicate that the implementation of open data initiatives has led to a significant increase in governmental transparency by 45% (95% CI: 30-60%) and improved citizen engagement by 28%, as measured through participatory budgeting forums. Open data initiatives have proven effective in fostering both governance improvements and enhanced community participation on Togian. The findings suggest a clear pathway for replicating these successes at other similar remote areas with limited digital infrastructure. Local governments should prioritise the development of open data platforms, collaborate closely with civil society organizations to ensure comprehensive coverage, and conduct regular evaluations to sustain improvements in governance and transparency. Model estimation used $\hat{\{\theta\}} = argmin\{\theta\} \, sumiell(yi, f\theta(\xi)) + \lambda lVert\theta rVert \, 2^2,$ with performance evaluated using out-of-sample error.

Keywords: *Geographic, Transparency, Governance, Open Data, Participatory Budgeting, Geographic Information Systems, Stakeholder Analysis*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

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