

Subtheme 9 *Digital Public Management and the Quality of Public Service*

9.1. Sirojuddin Abbas

IMPROVING SOCIAL PROTECTION TARGETING METHOD IN INDONESIA: A HYBRID MEANS-TEST MODEL

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The paper discusses an alternative solution for an inherent limitation of the “Improved Proxy Means-test” method in identifying the deserving targets of government social protection programs. Initially developed by “The National Team for Poverty Eradication/TNP2K” the improved method served as the foundation for the existing database of social protection beneficiaries, called “Data Terpadu Kesejahteraan Sosial” (DTKS) adopted by the Ministry of Social Affairs. Yet, the problem of “inclusion and exclusion errors” remains high. This paper argues for the merit of a hybrid means-testing model to reduce the errors significantly. The model utilizes the strengthened village governments through Dana Desa Programs and the use of information technology. The paper is organized in four parts. Following a brief reviews on the strengths and limitations of the method, the second section examines the existing limitations of DTKS updating method. The third and fourth sections discusses the potentials for involving Village Government and the use of information technology for implementing means-testing method and its limitations.