

Accelerating SIREKAP Digital Transformation in the 2020 Natuna Regency Election

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis implementasi transformasi digital dalam penggunaan Sirekap pada Pilkada 2020 Kabupaten Natuna. Jenis penelitian ini adalah kualitatif, dengan menggunakan strategi penelitian studi kasus tunggal, yang melibatkan satu individu dalam satu perusahaan atau kantor, yaitu kantor KPU Kabupaten Natuna. Desain penelitian yang digunakan adalah penelitian kualitatif. Percepatan transformasi digital sangat penting dalam proses operasional akuisisi dan sebagai alat pendukung sekaligus meminimalisir risiko dari tahapan awal pemilihan, hari pemilihan, dan pasca pemilihan. (pasca pemilu). Penerapan Sirekap pada pemilihan kepala daerah Bupati dan Wakil Bupati Kabupaten Natuna tahun 2022 meningkatkan transparansi dan akuntabilitas untuk meningkatkan kepercayaan masyarakat terhadap hasil perhitungan pemilu. Aplikasi Sirekap membuat waktu kerja KPU menjadi lebih efektif dibandingkan dengan perhitungan manual. KPU, dengan hadirnya aplikasi Sirekap, juga membuat informasi yang disebarkan ke masyarakat tidak kalah cepat dengan lembaga survei karena daerah dapat memantau data yang masuk di tempat pemungutan suara secara langsung. Aplikasi Sirekap juga memiliki tingkat ketelitian yang tinggi dan meminimalisir tingkat kesalahan perhitungan suara

Kata kunci: Sirekap, Transformasi Digital, Pemilihan Umum

ABSTRACT

The aim of this research is to analyze the implementation of digital transformation in the use of Sirekap in Pilkada 2020 district of Natuna. This type of research is qualitative, using a single case study research strategy, which involves an individual in one company or office, namely the Natuna Regency KPU office. The research design used is qualitative research. The acceleration of digital transformation is essential in the operational process of acquisition and as a support tool while minimizing risks from the early stages of the elections, the election day, and the post-election period. (post-election). The over-implementation of the Sirekap in the election of the head of the Bupati district and the Deputy Bupati District of Natuna district in 2022 increases transparency and accountability to increase public confidence in the results of the election calculations. The Sirekap application makes the working time of the KPU more effective than manual calculations. The KPU, with the presence of the Sireap application, also makes the information disseminated to the public no less rapidly than the survey agency because the region can monitor the data entered in the place of direct voting. The Sirekap application also has a high level of rigor and minimizes the error rate of voting calculation

Keywords: Sirekap, Digital Transformation, General Election

INTRODUCTION

Covid-19 has been declared a world pandemic by WHO. Furthermore, due to the increase in cases and the spread of disease between regions, the government issued Government Regulation Number 21 of 2020 concerning Large-Scale National Restrictions to accelerate the handling of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). These large-scale national restrictions impact all aspects of life, including the economy, business, work, worship, education, political activities, and others [1]. One of the affected political activities is holding general elections, which is a complex and challenging task to keep the polls democratic, with integrity, healthy, and safe [2].

The General Election Commission (KPU), in the emergency of the Covid-19 pandemic, seeks good election governance through accelerating digital transformation into all stages of electoral operations (pre-election, election day, and post-election) [3]. The acceleration of digital transformation in elections uses digital-based technology to facilitate the performance of the KPU, considering that it is currently developing the Industrial Revolution 4.0. Acceleration of digital transformation in elections as a performance support and to minimize risks in the election and post-election processes. The International Institute IDEA notes that there are several advantages of implementing election digitalization, namely faster vote counting and tabulation, more accurate results, efficient handling, improved ballot display, increased comfort for voters, increased voter participation, alignment with community needs, prevention of fraud at polling stations, increased accessibility, multilingual services, cost savings, and minimizing fraud.

The massive acceleration of digital transformation in a pandemic situation aligns with the digital transformation roadmap at the KPU. Some electoral frameworks have designed, developed, and introduced digitalization methods in election governance. Based on the experience of the death and illness of KPPS officers in the 2019 Simultaneous Elections due to fatigue with a heavy workload during vote counting at polling stations, Sirekap election digitalization is prepared for four things, namely preventing overtime and fatigue of election officers, reducing the workload of election administrators, minimizing election stages and processes, and simplifying and accelerating stages [4]. The acceleration of digitisation in the 2020 local elections also minimizes the risk of spreading and expanding the spread of Covid-19 due to election activities [5]. This acceleration of digitization did not go smoothly. The results of Suri & Yuneva's research found that digitalization efforts at all stages of the election have not been carried out thoroughly due to administrative constraints/technical aspects in addition to non-technical factors, namely related to stakeholders in the election [6].

Sirekap is a new product that was used for the first time in the 2020 Simultaneous Regional Elections. PKPU No.19 of 2020 concerning Recapitulation of Vote Counting Results and Determination of Election Results defines Sirekap as an information technology-based application tool as a means of publication of vote counting results and recapitulation of vote counting results as well as a tool in the implementation of recapitulation of election vote counting results. Sirekap replaces the Counting Information System (Situng) used in previous elections, whose function is limited to the publication of election results. Meanwhile, Sirekap is not only a means of publication but also functions as a tool in vote counting and tiered vote recapitulation (PPK-KPU) [7]. The researcher will analyze how the digital transformation of Sirekap (electronic vote recapitulation information system) in the 2020 Pilkada in Natuna Regency, Riau Islands Province. Natuna

Regency and Anambas Regency are two regions in Riau Islands Province, the northernmost islands in the Karimata Strait.

METHOD

This type of research is qualitative, using a single case study research strategy, which involves an individual in one company or office, namely the Natuna Regency KPU office. The research design used is qualitative research. The location of this research is in Natuna Regency, Riau Islands Province. The technique of determining informants in this study uses purposive sampling, which is a data collection technique by the criteria set and has the required criteria according to the sample with the aim of the quality or quality of an object. Data collection techniques using in-depth interviews and documentation.

RESULT

Description of Geographical Situation

The land area of Natuna Regency is 1,978.29 km². The capital of Natuna Regency is Ranai City. The sub-district with the largest area is the North Bunguran sub-district. This sub-district consists of 8 villages: West Kelarik, Kelarik, North Kelarik, Kelarik Air Mali, Teluk Buton, Belakang Gunung, West Seluan and Gunung Durian. The capital of the North Bunguran sub-district is Kelarik village. Natuna Regency originally consisted of 12 sub-districts. On 10 December 2014, 3 new sub-districts were formed, bringing the total number of sub-districts in the Regency to 15. Of these 15 sub-districts, there are 70 villages and six sub-districts. These 6 villages are Sabang Barat, Sedanau, Ranai, Ranai Darat, Bandarsyah and Serasan. Meanwhile, in 2020, a new sub-district was formed in the Bunguran Timur sub-district, namely the Batu Hitam sub-district.

Natuna Regency consists of islands. According to data obtained from the local government, there are 159 islands. Of all the sub-districts, Serasan has the largest number of islands at 31 (19.5 percent of the total islands). Based on the topography, the area of Natuna Regency is generally hilly and mountainous, but lowlands and slopes are also found on the coast. This is natural because the region is an archipelago surrounded by ocean. Therefore, the height of the sub-districts above sea level (DPL) ranges from 58 to 980 meters. Subi is the sub-district with the lowest elevation, reaching only 58 meters at the highest point.

Meanwhile, the sub-district with the highest elevation is Bunguran Timur Laut. This is because there is a mountain in this sub-district with a height of 980 meters above sea level (DPL). The distance from the sub-district capital to the capital of Natuna Regency is quite far and varied. Because the capital of Natuna Regency is in the Bunguran Timur sub-district, the distance between the two is very close. Meanwhile, the sub-district with the furthest straight distance to the capital of Natuna Regency is Serasan Timur, reaching 200.35 km. This sub-district is the furthest from Bunguran Island and is quite close to West Kalimantan Province.

Description of the Demographic Condition of Voters

Understanding the demographic characteristics of voters is very important to know voter preferences to get as many votes as possible. The number of voters on the final voter list (DPT) determined by the General Election Commission (KPU) in 2020 is 52,896. This reflects the large number of residents with voting rights in 2020. Approximately 65 percent of Natuna residents have

voting rights with various inherent socio-demographic characteristics. Millennials (Y) born in 1981-1996 will have the most voters, approximately 70 percent of the total voters. The next generation with the largest voters is Generation X (born 1964-1980), which is 60 percent, and Generation Z (born 1997-2007), which reaches 30 percent. Although Generation Z is now the majority of Natuna's population, not everyone has the right to vote, while elderly voters (age 60 and over) make up 40 percent of the electorate. The number of older voters is slightly below Generation X and has a higher turnout than the younger generation. There are still more young voters than senior voters. In addition to generations and ages, the composition of the population according to education is also important to be taken into account. Based on census data, it is known that potential voters for the 2020 elections are predominantly those with low education. Nearly 80 percent of voters have the highest high school education level, but only 20 percent of candidates have the lowest undergraduate education degree. (S-1 dan D-4). The KPU should formulate a strategy to encourage election participation in areas with a low population, given that various literature concludes that the lower voter education, the lower the tendency to participate.

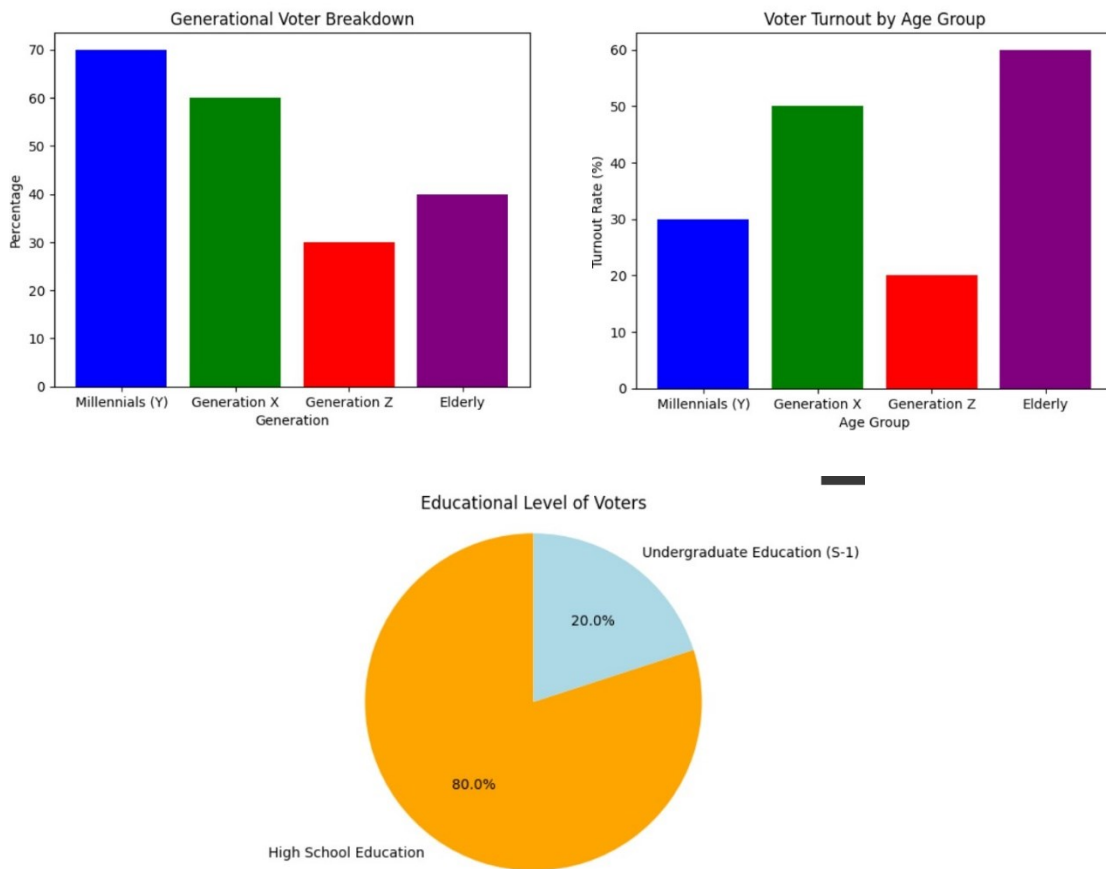


Figure 1. Diagrams of Description of the Demographic Condition of Voters

Political participation dynamics in the district of Natuna

The general election (election) is the only legitimate institution that legitimizes the power of a democratic government. In managing a democratic order of government, there have been some changes in the electoral aspects, from electoral governance to the electoral system to the implementation of electoral law. The electoral scheme is not just a routine political agenda. The government's efforts to establish an effective and consolidated government order depend on the quality of the elections. The electoral political landscape heavily influences the dynamics of voter perception. In every election, the political landscape is generally different and may have something in common, even if it won't be the same.

Table 1. Strategic Objective Performance Measurement

No	Target Performance Indicators	Target	Realisation	Achievements
1	Voter participation rate	75	77,78	103,71

SIREKAP Overview

General Overview The Election of Governors, Chancellors, and Mayors is a Law regulating the mechanisms of manually counting and recapitulating the votes of elections and using electronic voting systems regulated by the Regulations of the KPU. Based on these provisions, KPU has developed a tool to support performance accountability in the implementation of the stages of counting votes and recapitulation of voting results, as well as establishing the results of the Single Elections of the Year 2020.

Sirekap is an application device based on information technology that publishes the Vote Count results and recapitulates the Voice Count results. It is also a tool for implementing the recapitalization of the results. The number of voters participating in the 2020 National Election was 86.3 percent, according to gender: male voters: 23.125 and female votes: 23.057, making the total 46.182, while the number of disabled voters is male voters: 152 and feminine voting: 159 Total: 311. The total number of valid votes in the 2020 election was 44,980 votes. The overall number of invalid votes was 1,202 votes for the 2020 elections. The number of votes used in the National Elections and the 2020 National Election was 46,182.

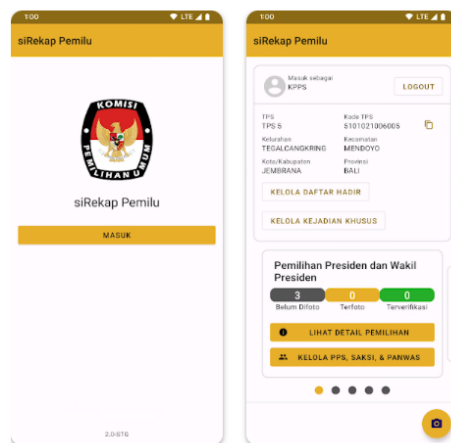


Figure 2. SIREKAP App

General Overview:

The poll on the 2020 Natuna Bupati Election and Deputy Bupati was held on December 9, 2020, from 07.00 PM to 1.00 PM and was conducted safely, peacefully, orderly, and conducive. Submission of the Recapitulation Result Certificate from the KPPS to the PPS on the same day, the KPS has the recapitulation of the voting count to PPS. In the election of the governor and Vice-governing, deputy and deputy deputy, and mayor and mayor, there are some differences in the type of form used. The information system for counting votes has also been updated, which was previously used in the 2019 *Sistem Informasi Perhitungan Suara* (SITUNG) ; at the 2020 Uniform Election, the General Electoral Commission introduced Sirekap. The atmosphere at the polling stations required to implement strict health protocols also differs from the previous elections. Here's what's new in the 2020 simultaneous elections.

Digital Transformation in Sirekap Usage at Pilkada 2020 in Natuna District

In the voting phase in Indonesia, e-voting is aimed not only to minimize the spread of the coronavirus but also to help the organizers' workload accelerate the process of recording votes. A feasibility study is needed before e-voting can be applied to heterogeneous Indonesian societies. The method of e-voting itself is divided into three: e-counting or optical scanning system in which the voice paper is specially made scanned by the optic of the scanner machine; Electronic Direct Recording System (DRE), voters give voting rights to a computer, a touch screen, or an electronic voice panel where the recording of the vote is stored in memory in the TPS and can then be sent to the center online or offline; and Internet Voting, voters can give the right to vote on a computer or touch screen device that is connected to the Internet network. The voice delivered will be directly recorded centrally. This method requires a reliable data communication network and security.

E-voting is permitted as long as it meets the cumulative requirements. Its legal basis is MK Decision No. 147/Law-VII/2009 [8]. Other alternative voting methods can be postal or electronic voting or proxy voting, in which voting rights are delegated to a trusted person, possibly from a lower-risk group. The voting system in the electoral process is inclusive and safe for vulnerable age groups (i.e., over 60) or ethnic minorities that are highly susceptible to disease.

Technical Guidance on Recording and Counting of Voice and Use of Sirekap

Technical guidance activities voting, counting, and recapitulation, as well as the use of Sirekap in Pilkada Year 2020, took place for 6 (six) days from November 19, 20, and 22 for wave one at RM Gerai Beach Natuna and November 23, 24, 25 2020, at Ballroom Natuna Hotel, Ranai, Natuna District. The contestant is the Technical Division of Natuna District. This technical guidance activity aims to submit material on the selection ceremony, calculation, and use of Sirekap in the election of Bupati and Deputy Bupati district of Natuna in 2020.

The event was opened by the Chief of the KPU of Natuna District and Mr. Risno, a Natuna County KPU Technical Maintenance Division member, who conducted the material exhibition. The next session was conducted live practice, where we filled out Form C-Results-KWK and Simulation of Use of Application Sirekap.

Simulation of Summing, Voice Counting, and Use of Sirekap

Simulation of polling, counting of votes, and use of the Sirekap application to the Prefectural Election Commission of Natuna District took place for one day on November 21, 2020, at the Village Kaki Ball Course of Harapan Jaya, Bunguran Tengah, Natuna County. The Simulation Activity is aimed at strengthening the Section Selection Committee's capacity to provide technical guidance in selecting, counting votes, and using Sirekap for KPPS. The Activity was opened by the Chief of the KPU of Natuna District and continued with the simulation of the mobile Sire Kap application.

DISCUSSION

Among other things, the surplus of elections increases public confidence in the transparency of the elections, makes the election more efficient, and minimizes the error rate in counting election results. Transparency in electoral governance is the openness of electoral authorities' rules and procedures, results, and processes. It is considered to build public confidence, enhance the dignity of policymakers, and facilitate accountability [9]. Furthermore, applying transparency can help the KPU identify any violations of ownership, weaknesses of competence, and favoritism towards a particular political group, as well as improve the credibility of the KPU [10]. KPU stated that prevention is essential to prevent misconduct or electoral corruption. As expressed by [11]. The emphasis on preventing corruption needs to be more focused than the repression. Legal sanctions for electoral organizers need to be imposed as a form of prevention of electoral misconduct [12].

In addition to legal sanctions, transparency is considered a means of preventing electoral misconduct. According to Abidin, transparency can also be understood as " information relating to the organization is readily available and freely accessible by those affected by the policies implemented by the organization. In addition, sufficient information about the agency's performance is available and presented in an easy-to-understand form or medium [13]. In addition to the preventive aspects, a systemic solution is needed or applied throughout the region. Research results suggest that to improve accuracy in counting votes and making news of events and certificates of voting gains, e-recapitulation is needed to count votes at voting stations (TPS). With the presence of Sirekap, KPU is not inferior to Survey Institutions, which means the speed and volume of KPU data are wider than those of survey agencies that only perform sampling or data spotted. So that people will have more confidence and support for the Sirekap program [14].

The Recapitulation System (SIRAP) application that was already in use at the time of counting votes and the recapitulation of the 2020 simultaneous elections is considered successful in assisting the organizer's performance [15], [16]. In addition to counting votes, this instrument is also used to publish accurate and accountable recapitulations of votes. Implementation of Sirekap in Pilkada 2020 District of Natuna 228 Research results show there are still weaknesses in implementing Sirekap for electoral calculations. Not all KPPS members can operate the Android used for Sirekap. It's because not all KPPS members understand the technological aspects; some are still not familiar with the use of technology. The technological understanding of KPPS members varies. The ability to adapt to technology cannot be denied; implementing the Sirekap application is the first. Hence, the time to implement the technical guidance is very short, requiring a fast adaptive ability to use the application [17]. Device availability for KPPS operators having a communication device whose specifications meet the minimum standards of this application

CONCLUSION

The acceleration of digital transformation is essential in the operational process of acquisition and as a support tool while minimizing risks from the early stages of the elections, the election day, and the post-election period. (post-election).

The over-implementation of the Sirekap in the election of the head of the Bupati district and the Deputy Bupati District of Natuna district in 2022 increases transparency and accountability to increase public confidence in the results of the election calculations. The Sirekap application makes the working time of the KPU more effective than manual calculations. The KPU, with the presence of the Sireap application, also makes the information disseminated to the public no less rapidly than the survey agency because the region can monitor the data entered in the place of direct voting. The Sirekap application also has a high level of rigor and minimizes the error rate of voting calculation.

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