

Transformation of Public Information Governance through the Gampong Information System (SIGAP) in East Aceh Regency

Zainal Abidin, Ali Yusran Gea, Tamaulina Br. Sembiring

Abstract

Public information disclosure has evolved from merely fulfilling citizens' rights to access information into a system-based model of digital information governance. This development is reflected in various regulations promoting governmental digitalization, including Village Information Systems and Electronic-Based Government Systems (SPBE). This study aims to analyze the transformation of public information governance through the Gampong Information System (SIGAP) in East Aceh Regency and to identify challenges in its implementation. The research employs an empirical legal method with a socio-juridical approach. Data were collected through literature studies, observations, and analysis of regulations related to public information disclosure and village governance. The findings indicate that SIGAP has become an important instrument in supporting the digitalization of gampong governance through information dissemination, data management, and technology-based public services. However, its implementation has not yet been fully optimized due to limited human resource capacity, low digital literacy among gampong officials, and the incomplete fulfillment of information and service components mandated by Aceh Governor Regulation Number 33 of 2021. Strengthening institutional capacity, standardizing SIGAP management, and enhancing supervision are necessary to establish effective and adaptive public information governance in the digital era

Keywords: *Public Information Disclosure, Information Governance, Gampong Information System, Digital Government, East Aceh Regency..*

Zainal Abidin¹

¹Magister of Law, Universitas Pembangunan Panca Budi, Indonesia
e-mail: zainalzesra@gmail.com¹

Ali Yusran Gea², Tamaulina Br. Sembiring³

^{2,3}Magister of Law, Universitas Pembangunan Panca Budi, Indonesia
e-mail: aligeamuhammadyasin@gmail.com², tamaulina@dosen.pancabudi.ac.id³

3rd International Conference Epicentrum of Economic Global Framework (ICEEGLOF)

Theme: Cross-Sector and Cross-Disciplinary Strategies for Achieving the SDGS

<https://proceeding.pancabudi.ac.id/index.php/ICEEGLOF>

Introduction

The rapid advancement of information technology has brought significant changes to public governance across the world, including in Indonesia. The utilization of digital technology has become an essential instrument for strengthening public administration and is now regarded as an integral component of modern governance. Digitalization enables public service delivery, data management, and the dissemination of public information to be conducted in a more timely, effective, and efficient manner. These developments have generated new expectations that every level of government should adapt to technological advancements in order to establish a system of governance that is more responsive to the evolving needs of society. (Rachmad et al. 2024)

The process of digital transformation has also reshaped the management of public information. Whereas public information was previously disseminated through conventional mechanisms such as notice boards, circular letters, or face-to-face community meetings, information is now expected to be accessible anytime and anywhere through digital platforms. Contemporary society demands not only readily available information but also convenient access, timely dissemination, and assurance that the information provided is accurate, up to date, and accountable.

Within Indonesia's legal framework, the principle of public information disclosure derives its constitutional foundation from Article 28F of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, which guarantees every person's right to obtain information through available channels. This constitutional mandate was subsequently implemented through Law No. 14 of 2008 on Public Information Disclosure. Article 9(1) of the Law provides:

“Every Public Body shall periodically disclose Public Information.”

Furthermore, Article 9(4) stipulates:

“The obligation to disseminate Public Information shall be carried out in a manner that is easily accessible to the public and in language that is readily understandable.”

These provisions demonstrate that the principle of public information disclosure imposes an obligation upon public bodies to establish mechanisms through which information can be easily accessed by the public. Nevertheless, the Public Information Disclosure Law was enacted before digital governance had developed to its current extent. Consequently, its regulatory framework remains primarily focused on the right of access to information, rather than on the governance of information through integrated digital information systems.

A different regulatory development emerged with Law No. 6 of 2014 on Villages, which introduced the concept of a Village Information System as an integral component of village governance. Article 86(1) provides:

“Villages shall have the right to obtain access to information through a Village Information System developed by the Regency/Municipal Government.”

Meanwhile, Article 86(2) specifies that the Village Information System comprises hardware, software, communication networks, and human resources associated with the management of village information. These provisions signify a paradigm shift from public information disclosure based merely on the provision of information toward a more integrated information system-based model of governance.

This transformation was further reinforced through Minister of Home Affairs Regulation No. 2 of 2017 on Minimum Service Standards for Villages, which mandates the management of population data as a foundation for the delivery of public services at the village level. Over time, the Village Information System has evolved beyond a tool for documenting village data to become a comprehensive instrument for public service delivery, administrative governance, and the dissemination of information to local communities.

In the Province of Aceh, this transformation in village information governance has been strengthened through Governor of Aceh Regulation No. 33 of 2021 on the Gampong Information System (SIGAP). This regulation requires the Gampong Information System

(SIGAP) to contain comprehensive information on village governance, village data, and public services. Article 7(2) specifies that the information provided through SIGAP must include the village profile, applicable regulations, village activities and performance, development planning documents, development plans and budgets, financial reports, population statistics, and the achievement of the Village Sustainable Development Goals (Village SDGs). In addition, the system is required to provide digital administrative services and public complaint mechanisms as integral components of technology-based public service delivery.(Helmi et al. 2024)

East Aceh Regency is one of the regions with considerable potential for developing digital-based public information governance at the gampong (village) level. The regency comprises 513 gampongs distributed across 24 sub-districts, each with diverse geographical and socio-economic characteristics. The large number of villages underscores the growing need for an integrated information system capable of supporting public administration, enhancing public service delivery, and facilitating the effective dissemination of information to local communities.

Although a regulatory framework governing the Gampong Information System (SIGAP) is already in place, the transformation of public information governance in East Aceh Regency continues to encounter a number of challenges. An examination of several village websites indicates that the implementation of digital information systems has yet to reach an optimal level. For example, Bayeun Gampong and Rantau Selamat Gampong have established official websites as platforms for public information dissemination. However, the information available on these websites does not yet fully comply with the standards prescribed by Governor of Aceh Regulation No. 33 of 2021. Information relating to development planning documents, financial reports, population data, and public complaint services remains incomplete and is not consistently updated.

These circumstances demonstrate that the primary challenge extends beyond the obligations established under Law No. 14 of 2008 on Public Information Disclosure. Rather, it concerns the broader transformation of public information governance from conventional information dissemination toward an integrated digital information system for village administration. While the existence of official village websites reflects an important step toward the digitalization of village governance, this transformation has not yet resulted in the establishment of a comprehensive and integrated Gampong Information System (SIGAP) as envisioned by the applicable regulatory framework.(Rohaeti 2024)

Based on the foregoing discussion, it is important to examine how the transformation of public information governance within gampong administration in East Aceh Regency has evolved through the implementation of the Gampong Information System (SIGAP), as well as what governance model should be strengthened to support the development of digital-based gampong governance in the future. This study therefore seeks to assess the extent to which SIGAP has facilitated the digital transformation of public information governance and to formulate a more effective governance framework capable of promoting transparency, accountability, and the delivery of responsive public services in the era of digital government.

Research Methodology

This study employs an empirical legal research method using a socio-legal (juridical–sociological) approach. This approach is adopted to examine how the transformation of public information governance in gampong administration within East Aceh Regency has been implemented in light of the applicable legal framework and the realities observed in practice. By integrating legal analysis with empirical inquiry, the study evaluates the implementation of public information governance in accordance with existing legislation while assessing its effectiveness in responding to the needs and conditions of local communities.(Sembiring et al. 2024). The study focuses on the implementation of the Gampong Information System (SIGAP) as an instrument for the digitalization of public information governance within

gampong administration, particularly in supporting the dissemination of public information and enhancing the delivery of public services to local communities. The research further examines the extent to which SIGAP contributes to improving transparency, accessibility of public information, administrative efficiency, and the overall quality of digital governance at the village level.(Sembiring et al. 2024)

The research data consist of primary and secondary data. Primary data were collected through interviews with gampong officials and other stakeholders involved in the management of the Gampong Information System (SIGAP) in East Aceh Regency, with particular emphasis on Bayeun Gampong and Rantau Selamat Gampong as the selected research sites. Secondary data were obtained through library research, including the examination of legislation, academic literature, scholarly journals, and relevant documents concerning public information disclosure, village governance, and the digital transformation of public administration.

All data were analyzed qualitatively using a descriptive–analytical approach by correlating the applicable legal framework with empirical findings. This method was employed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the transformation of public information governance in gampong administration and to formulate an enhanced model for the implementation of the Gampong Information System (SIGAP) in East Aceh Regency.(Iqbal et al. 2025)

Results

A. Legal Framework of Preventive Oversight in Indonesia's Constitutional System

The concept of public information disclosure originally emerged as part of broader efforts to strengthen democracy and promote transparent governance. In a democratic state, access to public information constitutes a fundamental right of the public that must be guaranteed by the State. This right derives its constitutional foundation from Article 28F of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, which provides that:(Gea 2024)

“Every person shall have the right to communicate and obtain information for the purpose of developing themselves and their social environment, and shall have the right to seek, obtain, possess, store, process, and convey information through all available channels.”

This provision demonstrates that access to information constitutes a constitutional right of citizens. Within the context of public administration, the fulfillment of this right is realized through the enactment of Law No. 14 of 2008 on Public Information Disclosure. The adoption of this law represents an important milestone in bureaucratic reform by establishing public information disclosure as a legal obligation of public bodies.

Article 9(1) of Law No. 14 of 2008 on Public Information Disclosure provides that every public body is obligated to periodically announce public information. Furthermore, Article 9(2) of the Public Information Disclosure Law stipulates that information subject to mandatory disclosure includes information relating to public bodies, their activities and performance, financial reports, and other information as regulated by applicable laws and regulations. Meanwhile, Article 9(4) emphasizes that the dissemination of information must be carried out in a manner that is easily accessible to the public and presented in language that is easily understood.

When examined from a legal perspective, the framework established by the Public Information Disclosure Law remains primarily oriented toward fulfilling the public's right to obtain information (rights-based approach). The central objective of this law is to ensure the availability of information and guarantee public access to information controlled by public bodies. At the time of its enactment, information dissemination mechanisms were still predominantly conducted through conventional methods, such as public notice boards, printed media, direct information services, and the provision of documents upon public request.(Suriani et al. 2025)

The rapid advancement of information technology has subsequently transformed society's expectations regarding public information. Public information is now expected to be available quickly, easily accessible, accurate, and regularly updated. This development has encouraged a paradigm shift in public information governance, moving beyond the mere disclosure of information toward the management of information through integrated information systems.(Zacharias et al. 2025)

This paradigm shift became increasingly apparent through Law No. 25 of 2009 on Public Services. Article 23(1) provides:

“In order to provide information support for the delivery of public services, a national information system shall be established.”

Furthermore, Article 23(4) of the Public Services Law stipulates that public service providers are required to manage information systems containing, at a minimum, the profile of the service provider, service standards, service commitments, complaint management mechanisms, and performance assessments. Subsequently, Article 23(5) emphasizes that all such information must be made publicly available in an open manner and easily accessible by the community.

These provisions demonstrate an important development in the concept of public information disclosure. Information is no longer viewed merely as material that must be disclosed upon request but has become an integral component of a public service system that must be managed continuously and systematically. This reflects a shift from document-based information disclosure toward information system-based transparency.

The transformation of information governance has been further strengthened through the policy of Electronic-Based Government System (Sistem Pemerintahan Berbasis Elektronik/SPBE) as regulated under Presidential Regulation No. 95 of 2018. The general explanation of this regulation emphasizes that strengthening SPBE management capacity and coordination systems is necessary to establish integrated governance through the integration of business processes, the development of SPBE architecture, and coordination among government institutions. This policy demonstrates that public information has become part of a broader digital government ecosystem that prioritizes data integration, service efficiency, and connectivity among government institutions.

These regulatory developments are consistent with the e-Government theory proposed by Richard Heeks. According to Heeks, the utilization of information technology in the public sector aims to improve service efficiency, enhance government effectiveness, and facilitate comprehensive governance transformation. The dimension of transformation represents the most significant aspect because information technology is not merely used to automate administrative processes but also to reshape the relationship between government and society through information and service systems that are more transparent, participatory, and data-driven.(Rachmad et al. 2024)

This transformation subsequently extended to village governance through Law No. 6 of 2014 on Villages. Article 86(1) of the Village Law provides:

“Villages shall have the right to obtain access to information through a Village Information System developed by the Regency/Municipal Government.”

Meanwhile, Article 86(2) of the Village Law stipulates that the Village Information System consists of hardware, software, networks, and human resources related to the management of village information. This regulatory framework demonstrates that public information disclosure at the village level is realized not only through the provision of information to the community but also through the establishment of an information system capable of managing various forms of village data and information in an integrated manner.

The urgency of digital transformation in village governance has been further strengthened through Article 13(6)(g) of Law No. 17 of 2025 on the State Budget (APBN), which stipulates that Village Funds are prioritized for supporting the development of digital infrastructure and technology in villages. This provision indicates that village digitalization

has become a national policy agenda supported by direct state financing. Accordingly, the development of village information systems has become a strategic necessity in the implementation of modern village governance.

Based on these regulatory developments, it can be observed that public information governance in Indonesia has undergone a significant transformation. Public information disclosure, which was initially oriented toward fulfilling the community's right to obtain information, has evolved into a digital technology-based information governance system that requires data integration, electronic public services, and sustainable information management. This transformation reflects a paradigm shift from a rights-based approach toward a digital governance approach, in which information systems serve as the primary instrument for realizing public information disclosure across all levels of government, including village administration.

B. Transformation of Public Information Governance through the Gampong Information System (SIGAP) in East Aceh Regency

East Aceh Regency is part of the Aceh Province administrative region, which exercises governmental authority within the framework of special autonomy as regulated under Law No. 11 of 2006 on the Governance of Aceh. This special status grants broader authority to the regional government to regulate and administer governmental affairs based on the characteristics and needs of the Acehnese community. The position of East Aceh Regency has been further strengthened through Law No. 9 of 2024 on East Aceh Regency in Aceh, which provides a normative foundation for regional governance, development, and the effective and sustainable delivery of public services.

At the level of government closest to the community, gampong administration in East Aceh Regency is regulated through Qanun of East Aceh Regency No. 8 of 2019 on Gampong Governance. This Qanun serves as the legal basis for implementing gampong authorities in the areas of governmental administration, development implementation, community development, and community empowerment. The existence of this regulation demonstrates that the gampong is positioned as a governmental entity with authority to manage various public affairs according to the needs of the local community.

The development of modern governance requires that the exercise of such authority be supported by an information system capable of managing data, information, and public services effectively. This need has become increasingly significant considering that East Aceh Regency consists of 513 gampongs across 24 sub-districts, each with diverse geographical characteristics and service requirements. Under such conditions, conventional information management mechanisms face limitations in reaching communities broadly and in providing information that is timely, accurate, and easily accessible.

In response to these challenges, the Government of Aceh enacted Governor of Aceh Regulation No. 33 of 2021 on the Gampong Information System (SIGAP). The adoption of this regulation reflects a transformation of public information governance from a conventional administrative model toward a digital-based gampong governance system. SIGAP is designed not only as a medium for publishing public information but also as an integrated instrument for managing data and delivering public services within gampong administration. (Sihotang et al. 2025)

Article 7(1) of Governor of Aceh Regulation No. 33 of 2021 stipulates that the components of the Gampong Information System (SIGAP) consist of gampong information, gampong data, and gampong services. Furthermore, Article 7(2) explains that gampong information includes the gampong profile, regulations, gampong activities and performance, development documents, plans and budgets, financial reports, maps, population data, and the achievements of the Gampong Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

These provisions demonstrate that SIGAP adopts the principles of public information disclosure previously established under Article 9 of Law No. 14 of 2008 on Public Information Disclosure. While the Public Information Disclosure Law requires public bodies

to periodically announce information concerning their activities, performance, and financial reports, SIGAP provides a more concrete mechanism through a digital information system that enables such information to be accessed more easily by the community.

The transformation introduced through SIGAP extends beyond merely providing public information. Article 7(5) of Governor of Aceh Regulation No. 33 of 2021 stipulates that the system must also contain health data, education data, population data, social assistance information, and integrated social welfare data. This regulation reflects a paradigm shift from document-based public administration toward data-driven governance. Information that was previously dispersed across various administrative documents is now integrated into a unified system that can serve as a foundation for development planning, public service delivery, and policy-making at the gampong level.

A more significant transformation can be observed in the area of public service delivery. Article 7(6) provides that SIGAP must facilitate administrative correspondence services, document archives, public complaint mechanisms, follow-up information regarding complaints, and service performance assessments. This demonstrates that SIGAP functions as an instrument for transforming public services from conventional administrative procedures into digital-based public services.

When analyzed through the perspective of Richard Heeks' e-Government theory, the existence of SIGAP reflects the transformation dimension in modern governance. Information systems are no longer merely administrative support tools but have become mechanisms that reshape the relationship between gampong governments and communities. Information, data, and public services are integrated into a single system that enables citizens to access government services in a manner that is faster, more transparent, and more efficient..(Aderia 2024)

The transformation of information governance has actually begun to be introduced in various gampongs in Aceh. One example can be observed in Gampong Kuta Baro, which implemented training programs for the development and management of village information systems as part of the Smart Village (Desa Cerdas) initiative. This activity demonstrates that the development of village information systems has increasingly been recognized as a necessity in supporting public services and more modern governance practices. Such programs indicate that the success of digital transformation does not solely depend on the availability of regulations but also requires strengthening the capacity of human resources responsible for managing these information systems. (Official Website of Gampong Kuta Baro, 2023).

Nevertheless, conditions in East Aceh Regency indicate that the transformation of public information governance through SIGAP continues to face several challenges. Several gampongs have established official websites as public information platforms; however, the information content provided has not yet fully complied with the standards stipulated in Governor of Aceh Regulation No. 33 of 2021. Information relating to development documents, financial reports, population data, public complaint services, and the achievements of Gampong SDGs is still not comprehensively available or updated on a regular basis.

This condition demonstrates that the digital transformation of gampong governance in East Aceh Regency remains in a transitional phase. Digitalization has begun through the utilization of websites and internet-based information media; however, it has not yet developed into an integrated information system as envisioned by the SIGAP framework established in the regulation. Limitations in human resource capacity, low digital literacy among gampong officials, and the lack of optimal guidance and supervision remain significant challenges that must be addressed in order to establish a more modern, responsive, and adaptive public information governance system aligned with developments in information technology..

Conclusion

Public information disclosure in Indonesia has undergone significant development, shifting from merely fulfilling the community's right to obtain information toward a digital-based information governance system. This development is reflected in various regulations, beginning with Law No. 14 of 2008 on Public Information Disclosure, Law No. 25 of 2009 on Public Services, Law No. 6 of 2014 on Villages, and the policy framework of the Electronic-Based Government System (Sistem Pemerintahan Berbasis Elektronik/SPBE). These developments indicate a paradigm shift from a rights-based approach toward a digital governance approach, in which transparency is realized through the provision of information and the development of information systems capable of integrating data, information, and public services in a sustainable manner.

In the context of East Aceh Regency, the transformation of public information governance is implemented through the Gampong Information System (SIGAP) as regulated under Governor of Aceh Regulation No. 33 of 2021. The establishment of SIGAP provides a foundation for developing gampong governance that is more transparent, data-driven, and adaptive to technological developments. However, its implementation has not yet achieved optimal results due to several challenges, including limited human resource capacity, low digital literacy among gampong officials, and the incomplete fulfillment of information and service components mandated by the regulation.

This condition demonstrates that the digital transformation of gampong governance in East Aceh Regency remains in a transitional phase. Therefore, strengthening institutional capacity, improving the competence of gampong officials, and optimizing SIGAP management are required so that the system can function as a primary instrument in realizing modern, effective, and sustainable public information governance.

References

- [1] Aderia, Ernanda. 2024. "KESIAPAN PENERAPAN E-GOVERNMENT PADA PEMERINTAHAN DESA BERBASIS WEBSITE (Studi Perbandingan Desa Margototo Dan Desa Margosari Kecamatan Metro Kibang Kabupaten Lampung Timur)."
- [2] Gea, Ali Yusran. 2024. "Urgensi Landasan Filosofis, Sosiologis Dan Yuridis Dalam Pembentukan Undang-Undang Di Indonesia." *Unes Law Review* 6(4):10976–88.
- [3] Helmi, S., M. Ip, S. Nofriadi, M. Ip, Effendi Hasan, S. Muliawati, M. Ip, Soraya Agustina, Arif Abdillah, and Nival Misbahul Amin. 2024. *Digitalisasi Tata Kelola Pemerintahan Gampong Dalam Mewujudkan Percepatan Pelayanan Dan Pembangunan Melalui Sistem Informasi Gampong (Sigap)*. CV. Green Publisher Indonesia.
- [4] Iqbal, Muhammad, Zaki Ulya Radhali, Andi Rachmad, Hanri Aldino, and Muhammad Iqbal Asnawi. 2025. "Metodologi Penelitian Hukum (Panduan Teoritis Dan Praktis)." *CV Sangpena Media*.
- [5] Rachmad, Yoesoep Edhie, Rozali Ilham Ilham, Novi Indrayani, Edy Manurung Halomoan, Loso Judijanto, Rudy Dwi Laksono, and Sa'dianoor Sa'dianoor. 2024. "Layanan Dan Tata Kelola E-Government (Teori, Konsep Dan Penerapan)."
- [6] Rohaeti, Yeti. 2024. "TRANSFORMASI E-GOVERNMENT BERKELANJUTAN DALAM PROSES PELAYANAN PUBLIK PADA PENGELOLA RUANG KENDALI PEMERINTAH KOTA TANGERANG= SUSTAINABLE E-GOVERNMENT TRANSFORMATION IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE PROCESS AT THE TANGERANG CITY GOVERNMENT CONTROL ROOM MANAGER."
- [7] Sembiring, Tamaulina Br, S. Sn Irmawati, Muhammad Sabir, and S. S. Indra Tjahyadi. 2024. *Buku Ajar Metodologi Peneliatan (Teori Dan Praktik)*. Saba Jaya Publisher.
- [8] Sihotang, Dony Martinus, Achmad Nizar Hidayanto, Yudho Giri Sucahyo, and Elanto Wijoyono. 2025. *Sistem Informasi Desa: Dari Ekosistem Hingga Strategi Adopsi*.

Penerbit Adab.

- [9] Suriani, Rollys, Eko Saputra, Melia Sintha, Iin Aprillina, Winarti Winarti, Gradila Apriani, Solahuddin Nasution, Illyan Chandra Simbolon, I. Wayan Suarjana, and Gelora Putra Ginting. 2025. *Hukum Kebijakan Publik Di Indonesia*. Star Digital Publishing.
- [10] Zacharias, Tehubijuluw, S. Sos, Florentina Ratih Wulandari, S. IP, and ANDRI ISKANDAR. 2025. *Administrasi Publik Dan Teknologi Informasi*. Greenbook Publisher.