
Editorial Note

From Evidence to Impact: Strengthening Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development

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This issue of The Journal of Indonesia Sustainable Development Planning (JISDeP), Volume 16 Number 3 (December 2026) brings together studies that highlight a shared urgency in development planning today: policies must be targeted, equitable, and implementation-ready. Across diverse themes—ranging from technical analyses to governance reflections—the contributions converge on a single proposition: planning should not end as a document, but must translate evidence into decisions that work in real-world settings.

A key thread throughout the issue is the need for place-based and differentiated policy design rather than uniform solutions. A fiscal decentralization study that develops a multidimensional typology of 403 local governments underscores that spatial inequality and dependency on central transfers cannot be solved through a single formula; instead, it calls for adaptive transfer designs, performance-oriented incentives, and capacity strengthening aligned with local profiles.

In the realm of human development, the issue stresses that success should be understood as sustainability, not merely numerical achievement. A stunting program study shows how economic–ecological vulnerabilities can remain binding constraints even when governance is relatively strong, implying that interventions must be genuinely integrated across dimensions. The evaluation of “One Village, One ECE” further suggests that campaigns alone do not automatically raise participation; improvements are more strongly linked to systemic factors such as infrastructure expansion and coordination with social protection programs.

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Climate, environment, and digital transformation are framed as both challenges and opportunities. Research on land conversion to mining in Samarinda associates mining expansion and built-up growth with declining carbon stocks, reinforcing that spatial planning, reclamation, and mitigation strategies should be treated as core policy priorities.

Meanwhile, “From Data to Policy” demonstrates how machine learning and sentiment analysis can convert public experiences into actionable policy inputs—covering issues such as pricing, parking, accessibility, and facilities. Ultimately, the issue argues that the most persistent barrier is often not the absence of programs, but policy coherence and cross-instrument governance. A commentary on overlaps across planning, performance systems, and budgeting warns of fragmented mandates when integration is weak. At the same time, a critical discussion of AI in a national health platform reminds us that digital innovation must be accompanied by accountability, data protection, and inclusivity to avoid creating new forms of exclusion.