





# Powerful Data Visualization with Power BI

# **TECHNOLOGY - Power BI**

AIP-Rural uses Power BI to analyse and visualize data for program management. Power BI is Microsoft's entry into the self-serviced business intelligence (BI) space and it is combining powerful analytics with an intuitive interface and powerful data visualization capabilities. It can join multiple data sources and perform complex queries to come up with useful information that is easy for the management to use. In AIP-Rural, Power BI can generate reports combining impact data, financial records and Human Resource (HR) information.

Power BI is a business analytics service provided by Microsoft. It provides interactive visualizations with self-service business intelligence capabilities, where end users can create reports and dashboards by themselves, without having to depend on information technology staff or database administrators.

[Microsoft.com]

### HOW IT IS USEFUL FOR US

#### **Using Power BI**

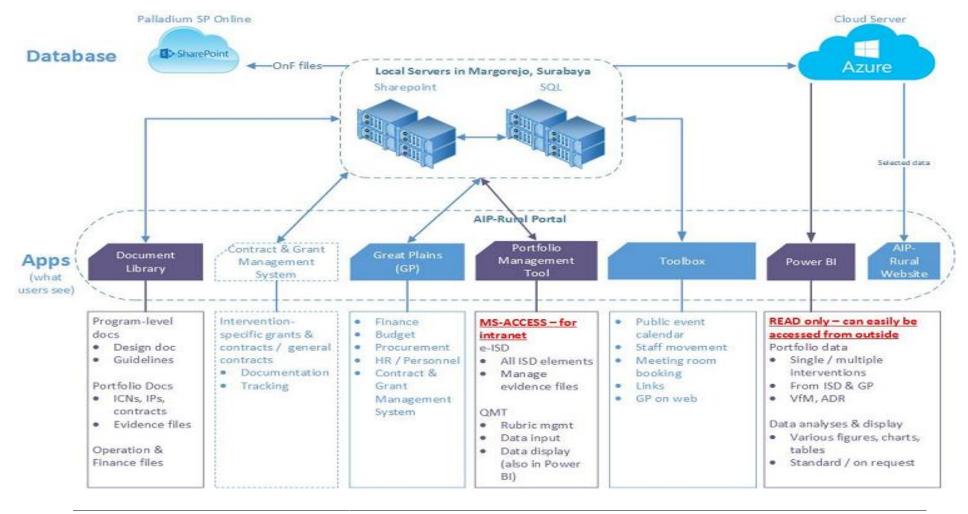
- Analysis of 6-monthly and yearly data is now easier
- Quicker and informed decision making
- Accuracy of data has increased significantly one source for everyone to see
- Use of Power BI in program review meetings saves time and ambiguity
- Provides data and infographics for reports
- Response time for "URGENT Requests" has improved significantly
- Increased transparency and trust with donors and other key stakeholders

AIP-Rural has 4 projects with 120 staffs, more than 130 interventions and 100 private and public-sector partners. Aggregation of data and user-friendly representation of data analysis is required to take better decisions. Power BI interacts with AIP-Rural Management Information System (database server, Azure cloud, Microsoft Dynamics GP and Portfolio Management Tool) and provides visual analysis to ensure the information is systematically used to improve intervention quality, strategic orientation and management decisions.

# USING IT EFFECTIVELY IN PSD PROGRAMS

Developing a system with Power BI needs planning and proper needs analysis of the program. Most of the PSD/MSD programs are dynamic and require adaptive systems. Some tips to make it work are -

- Develop user specific dashboards management, implementation team, results measurement team and operations team
- Involve management in developing the dashboards
- Both large and small programs can use it Power BI development is not very difficult if you have a good database system
- Once established, remove parallel source of analytics to ensure data accuracy and consistency
- Effective and fit-for-purpose database is key to pull the data for Power BI
- Dedicated human resource is required who can manage the system and develop dashboard charts on request



ICN – Intervention Concept Note

IP - Intervention Plan

ISD – Intervention Steering Document

QMT - Quality Management Tool

VfM – Value for Money

ADR – Aggregated Development Report