

(Research) Article

Analysis of Governance and Affirmative Action Policies For The Sale of Native Papuan Products (OAP) in The Central Market of Sorong City

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Abstract, This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of market governance and the implementation of affirmative policies for Indigenous Papuan traders (OAP) at the Sorong City Central Market in 2026. Using a *mixed methods* approach with a sequential explanatory design, quantitative data were collected through a survey of 90 OAP trader respondents, followed by in-depth interviews with key informants from government elements and community leaders. The study results show a high level of trader dissatisfaction (58.7%), particularly regarding trade zoning and price protection. Qualitative findings reveal that affirmative policies remain administrative in nature and fail to address spatial marginalization, placing OAP traders in low-accessibility areas. This study recommends restructuring market zoning to be more equitable, standardizing local commodity prices, and digitizing trader data to ensure that Special Autonomy policies are on target. By addressing these core issues, it is hoped that the market environment in Sorong City will be more inclusive and supportive of OAP traders, fostering economic empowerment in line with the goals of Special Autonomy.

Keywords: Affirmative Action Policy Concept; Indigenous Economic Empowerment Concept; Market Governance; OAP; Special Autonomy.

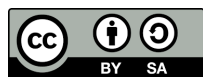
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1. INTRODUCTION

The affirmative action policy for Indigenous Papuans (OAP) is a national strategic agenda mandated by Law No. 21 of 2001 concerning Special Autonomy for the Province of Papua, as amended by Law Number 2 of 2021 (Ministry of Home Affairs, 2021). This policy aims to provide protection and empowerment to OAP in various sectors of life as an effort to reduce the development gap between Papua and other regions in Indonesia (President of the Republic of Indonesia, 2021). In the economic context, the affirmative policy is implemented through special allocation instruments for trade in traditional markets, simplified business licensing, access to capital through special schemes, and entrepreneurship coaching, designed to increase the economic capacity of OAP (West Papua Provincial Government, 2019).

The governance of economic affirmative action policies for OAP is crucial, as data from the Central Statistics Agency (2020) show that poverty rates in Papua and West Papua remain the highest nationally, at 26.80% and 21.70%, respectively, far above the national average of 9.78%. This economic gap is inseparable from the lack of OAP participation in the productive economic sector, where most OAP still depend on subsistence agriculture and small-scale trade in agricultural products (West Papua Central Statistics Agency, 2021). Through Presidential Instruction No. 9 of 2020 on Accelerating Welfare Development in Papua and West Papua Provinces, the government emphasizes the importance of good governance, including the principles of transparency, accountability, participation, and responsiveness to the needs of indigenous peoples (Secretariat of the Cabinet of the Republic of Indonesia, 2020).

Good governance in the context of economic affirmative action policies for indigenous peoples requires a balance between the roles of the state, the market, and civil society in creating an equitable economic space (United Nations Development Programme, 1997). The concept of collaborative governance proposed by Ansell and Gash (2008) emphasizes the importance of multi-stakeholder involvement in the formulation, implementation, and evaluation of affirmative policies, ensuring they are not only top-down but also accommodate the aspirations and local wisdom of indigenous peoples. The implementation of affirmative policies for OAP must consider a rights-based approach as mandated by the 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which recognizes the right of indigenous peoples to determine their own development priorities and strategies (United Nations, 2007).

The city of Sorong, as the capital of West Papua Province, is a strategic economic gateway to the province, with economic growth reaching 5.62% in 2019, driven by trade, services, and tourism (BPS Kota Sorong, 2020). However, this economic growth has not been accompanied by a proportional increase in the welfare of OAP, with most OAP still working in the informal sector and earning low incomes (Sorong City Government, 2022). In response to this situation, the Sorong City Government issued Mayor Regulation No. 23 of 2018 concerning the Economic Empowerment of Indigenous Papuans through Affirmative Policies in Traditional Markets, which allocates a minimum of 30% of the total stalls and booths in traditional markets to OAP traders selling agricultural products (Sorong City Government, 2018). This policy includes exemption from market fees for OAP traders, business management assistance, and facilitation of access to capital through cooperation with microfinance institutions (Sorong City Trade Office, 2020).

Although the affirmative action policy has been in effect since 2018, the gap between the policy and its implementation is still evident in the Sorong City Central Market. Data from the Sorong City Trade Office (2023) show that of the total 850 traders, only 98, or around 11.5%, are OAPs, far below the 30% allocation target. The majority of OAP traders occupy marginal positions, occupying stalls on the outskirts of the market or selling semi-permanently on the sidewalks (Preliminary interview with market managers, 2024). This condition indicates a gap in the implementation of the affirmative action policy caused by various factors, both in terms of policy management and the capacity of the OAP itself.

The second gap is evident in the quality of products and the competitiveness of agricultural products sold by OAP traders. Observations show that OAP agricultural products, such as local vegetables and fruits, often lose out to similar products from outside Papua in terms of packaging, post-harvest quality, and supply continuity due to limited access to post-harvest technology, adequate logistics systems, and knowledge of market product quality standards (Researcher observations, 2024). According to Van Meter and Van Horn's (1975) theory of public policy implementation, the gap between policy objectives and implementation results can be caused by six factors: policy standards and targets, policy resources, inter-organizational communication, characteristics of implementing agents, socioeconomic and political conditions, and the disposition of implementers.

The third gap relates to suboptimal collaborative governance. Preliminary studies indicate that coordination among the Trade Office, the Market Technical Implementation Unit, the Community Empowerment Agency, and indigenous Papuan organizations remains weak, resulting in partial and unintegrated empowerment programs (Interview with stakeholders, 2024). The collaborative governance theory of Emerson, Nabatchi, and Balogh (2012) explains that the successful implementation of public policies involving multiple actors requires three key elements: principled engagement, shared motivation, and capacity for joint action.

This study was developed by integrating several theoretical frameworks. First, Rhodes' (1997) theory of governance, which defines governance as a system of rules, decision-making processes, and policy implementation involving the state, the private sector, and civil society in a network of partnerships. Second, Anderson's (2004) theory of affirmative action explains that it is an instrument for correcting historical and structural injustices experienced by marginalized groups by providing temporary special treatment until substantive equality is achieved. Third, the theory of economic empowerment of indigenous peoples, developed by Cornell and Kalt (1992) through a nation-building approach, emphasizes three pillars: sovereignty, institutions, and cultural match.

Several researchers have studied affirmative action policies for indigenous Papuans, but there remain gaps. Mansoben's (2020) study on the implementation of Papua's special autonomy policy focuses more on macro aspects at the provincial level. However, it has not analyzed the mechanisms of affirmative action policy governance at the city level, particularly in the context of traditional markets. Wanggai's (2019) research on the economic empowerment of OAP in Jayapura City does not specifically analyze the effectiveness of affirmative action policies in improving OAP access to markets. Romainum's (2021) study on the management of traditional markets in West Papua reveals market management issues. However, it does not specifically analyze how affirmative policies for OAP are managed and implemented in the market governance system.

The selection of Sorong City as the research locus was based on the consideration that this city is one of the cities in West Papua that already has specific regulations on economic affirmative action policies for OAP, thus enabling a comprehensive analysis of policy implementation. The Sorong City Central Market was chosen as the object of research because it is the largest and oldest traditional market, serving as a barometer of grassroots economic activity with 850 traders and an average daily transaction volume of Rp. 2.5 billion (Preliminary observation by the researcher, 2024).

Based on these gaps and research gaps, the main research question is formulated as follows: How is the governance of affirmative action policies for the sale of indigenous Papuan products implemented in Sorong Central Market, and what factors influence the effectiveness of these policies in improving access and economic competitiveness for indigenous Papuans? This study aims to analyze the governance structure, the roles and interactions among stakeholders, the policy implementation mechanisms, and the structural and cultural barriers encountered in implementing economic affirmative action policies for OAP at the Central Market in Sorong City.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Concept and Purpose of Affirmative Action Policy. Affirmative action is a set of policies and actions designed to address past and present discrimination against groups that have historically been marginalized in access to education, employment, and economic opportunities (Anderson, 2004). Sowell (2004) defines affirmative action as preferential treatment given to members of certain groups based on their membership in those groups, rather than on individual achievement or merit. This policy aims to create substantive equality, not just formal equality.

According to Bacchi (2004), affirmative action is a form of social intervention that recognizes that "fair" competition is impossible without addressing structural inequalities that are deeply rooted in society. The main objectives of affirmative action are: (1) to correct historical injustices experienced by marginalized groups; (2) to increase the representation of underrepresented groups in various sectors; (3) to create a level playing field or equal competition; (4) to encourage diversity in social, economic, and political institutions; and (5) to break the cycle of poverty and marginalization between generations (Holzer & Neumark, 2000).

Types and Models of Affirmative Action Policies according to Crosby and Cordova (1996) classify affirmative action policies into three categories: (1) equal opportunity, which ensures that there is no discrimination in the selection process; (2) affirmative recruitment, which is a proactive effort to recruit members of underrepresented groups; and (3) preferential treatment, which is giving special treatment in the form of quotas, bonus points, or reservations. Fullinwider (2005) adds that affirmative action policy models can be soft (such as outreach and special training) or hard (such as quotas and explicit preferences). In an economic context, affirmative action policies can take the form of: business reservations in markets or malls, preferential access to credit and capital, tax and levy exemptions or reductions, special entrepreneurship training, technical and management assistance, and priority in government procurement of goods and services (Bates & Williams, 1996). The effectiveness of each model depends heavily on the socio-economic context, the capacity of the implementing institutions, and political support (Kellough, 2006).

Criticism and Challenges in Implementing Affirmative Action Policies. Affirmative action policies face various criticisms, both from philosophical and practical perspectives. Sander and Taylor (2012) identify several key arguments: (1) it violates the principles of meritocracy and individual justice; (2) it stigmatizes beneficiaries as incompetent; (3) it creates

reverse discrimination against the majority group; (4) it can lead to dependency and reduce motivation to achieve; and (5) it is difficult to determine when affirmative action policies should be discontinued. Sowell (2004) adds that affirmative action policies often benefit members of the target group who are already relatively better off (elite capture) rather than those who need it most.

From an implementation perspective, Lipsky (2010) explains that street-level bureaucrats have considerable discretion in implementing policies, which can create a gap between formal policies and practices in the field. Mazmanian and Sabatier (1983) identify six conditions that influence the success of policy implementation: (1) clarity of policy objectives; (2) a valid causal theory; (3) adequate legal support; (4) commitment and capacity of implementers; (5) support from interest groups; and (6) supportive socio-economic conditions.

The Concept of Indigenous Peoples and Their Rights. International Labor Organization Convention 169 (1989) defines indigenous peoples as inhabitants of independent countries who are considered indigenous because they are descendants of the inhabitants who occupied the country or geographical area where the country is located, at the time of conquest or colonization or the establishment of present-day borders, and who, regardless of their legal status, have retained some or all of their own social, economic, cultural, and political institutions. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) recognizes the rights of indigenous peoples, including the right to self-determination, the right to land and natural resources, the right to maintain and strengthen their own economic institutions, and the right to participate fully in decisions that affect them.

The Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago (2012) defines indigenous peoples in Indonesia as groups with ancestral origins in a specific geographical area and their own value systems, ideologies, economies, politics, cultures, societies, and territories. Arizona and Cahyadi (2013) emphasize that recognition of indigenous peoples is not merely cultural recognition, but also recognition of their collective rights to land, natural resources, and their own governance systems.

The Theory of Economic Empowerment of Indigenous Peoples. Cornell and Kalt (1992, 2000) developed a theory of nation-building for the economic development of indigenous peoples that emphasizes three main pillars: (1) sovereignty or practical sovereignty in economic decision-making; (2) capable institutions, namely effective and culturally appropriate government institutions; and (3) culture match, namely the compatibility between economic development strategies and the values and cultural practices of indigenous peoples. They found that indigenous peoples with greater control over their economic development and culturally appropriate institutions tend to be more economically successful.

Sen (1999), through his capability approach, emphasizes that the economic empowerment of indigenous peoples is not only about increasing income, but about expanding substantive freedoms to live according to the values they cherish. This includes the freedom to participate in the economic market without losing cultural identity, access to education and health, and the ability to participate in political processes. Bebbington (1999) integrates the sustainable livelihood framework with the actor and agency perspective, emphasizing that the economic empowerment of indigenous peoples requires the strengthening of five types of capital: human, social, natural, physical, and financial.

The economic empowerment of Indigenous Papuans (OAP) has a unique historical and structural context. Chauvel and Bhakti (2004) explain that the economic marginalization of OAP is the result of a long historical process from the colonial era to the modern era, during which OAP lost control over their land and natural resources. The Papua Special Autonomy Law provides a legal basis for the economic empowerment of OAP through various instruments such as the allocation of special autonomy funds, affirmative policies, and the recognition of customary rights (Sumule, 2003).

McGibbon (2004) identifies several structural barriers to the economic empowerment of OAP: (1) low levels of education and skills; (2) lack of access to capital and technology; (3) weak business networks and market information; (4) discrimination and negative stereotypes; and (5) incompatibility between empowerment programs and the cultural context of Papua. Widjojo (2009) emphasizes the importance of a rights-based and participatory approach to OAP economic empowerment, whereby OAPs are not only objects but also subjects of development, determining their own priorities and strategies.

Concept Development

Characteristics of Traditional Markets

Traditional markets are places where sellers and buyers meet, characterized by direct transactions and usually involving bargaining. The buildings consist of kiosks or stalls, open-air stalls, and open spaces that are opened by sellers or market managers (Presidential Regulation No. 112 of 2007). Damsar (2005) explains that traditional markets have the following characteristics: (1) locations that are easily accessible to the public; (2) negotiable prices; (3) intensive social interaction between sellers and buyers; (4) a relatively complete range of fresh products; and (5) serving as the economic center of the local community.

Suryadarma, Poesoro, Budiyati, Akhmadi, and Rosfadhila (2007) identified the important role of traditional markets in the Indonesian economy: (1) employing millions of small traders; (2) providing necessities at affordable prices; (3) serving as a marketing outlet for farmers and small producers; (4) maintaining the price stability of necessities; and (5) serving as a space for social interaction and local knowledge transfer. Despite facing competition from modern markets, traditional markets remain resilient due to their flexibility, proximity to consumers, and socio-cultural functions (Triyono, 2013).

Traditional Market Governance

Traditional market governance in Indonesia generally involves three main actors: local government as owner and regulator, market managers (which can be Regional Technical Implementation Units or third parties), and trader organizations (Arianto, 2013). According to Utami and Lantu (2014), effective traditional market governance requires:

(1) a fair and transparent retribution system; (2) good infrastructure and sanitation management; (3) clear zoning and business location allocation regulations; (4) security and order systems; (5) facilitation of access to capital and training for traders; and (6) trader participation in decision-making. Research by Hardati, Fadli, and Nugraheni (2018) found that the success of traditional market revitalization is highly dependent on the quality of governance that involves the active participation of traders in planning and supervision. Widiyanto (2011) emphasizes the importance of a community-based management approach in traditional market management, where traders are not only objects of management but also active partners in improving market quality and competitiveness.

Policy Implementation Gap

Pressman and Wildavsky (1973), through their classic study on policy implementation, revealed the phenomenon of the implementation gap, which is the gap between policy objectives and the results achieved in the field. They found that the longer the implementation chain and the more actors involved, the greater the likelihood of a gap. Winter (2003) developed an integrated implementation model that distinguishes between implementation outputs (the direct results of implementation activities) and implementation outcomes (the impact of policy on target groups). Lipsky (2010), through his street-level bureaucracy theory, explains that frontline bureaucrats who interact directly with the public have considerable discretion and often "make policy" through their daily decisions. This can lead to the same policy being implemented differently in different locations. Matland (1995) developed an ambiguity-conflict model that explains how the implementation of highly ambiguous and conflict-prone policies (such as affirmative action) tends to result in symbolic implementation, where policies are formally implemented but do not achieve their substantive objectives.

3. RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a mixed-methods approach that combines quantitative and qualitative methods to provide a more comprehensive view. Descriptive-analytical research is used to systematically and accurately describe the facts, characteristics, and relationships among the phenomena under study, then analyze them using a relevant theoretical framework (Neuman, 2014). This research not only describes how affirmative action is implemented but also analyzes the factors that influence its effectiveness, the obstacles encountered, and the dynamics of interaction among various stakeholders in the governance of affirmative action policies in Sorong City Central Market. This research was conducted at the Central Market in Sorong City, West Papua Province.

The selection of the research location was based on several considerations: First, the Central Market is the largest and oldest traditional market in Sorong City, with 850 traders and an average daily transaction volume of Rp 2.5 billion, making it the center of economic

activity in the city (Sorong City Trade Office, 2023). Second, the Central Market is the location for the implementation of Sorong Mayor Regulation No. 23 of 2018 concerning the Economic Empowerment of Indigenous Papuans, particularly in relation to affirmative policies for the sale of OAP agricultural products (Sorong City Government, 2018).

Third, there is a significant gap between the policy target (30% allocation for OAP traders) and the actual realization (only 11.5% OAP traders), making it an interesting topic for in-depth study (Preliminary observation by the researcher, 2024). Fourth, the Central Market has a heterogeneous mix of traders from various ethnic backgrounds, allowing researchers to examine the dynamics of economic competition and the implementation of affirmative policies in a multicultural context. Research Period: This research will take place over a period of 4 (four) months, from January to April 2026.

Research Findings

Based on a survey of 90 indigenous Papuan (OAP) traders at the Central Market in Sorong City, the study found several crucial issues in the implementation of economic affirmative action policies. The survey results showed that 65% of traders reported being aware of affirmative action policies, such as capital or stall assistance, but only 25% reported having actually received these benefits. This gap between policy awareness and benefit receipt indicates a serious problem in the implementation mechanism of the economic empowerment program for OAP traders.

Quantitative findings also show that OAP traders' average satisfaction with market governance is 2.4 on a 5.0 scale, which is considered low. The lowest indicator was found in the variable of trade zoning fairness, confirming the existence of structural inequality in the allocation of business space in the market. Despite protection policies, as many as 72% of OAP traders still reported daily incomes of less than IDR 150,000 because they were unable to compete in stock speed with non-OAP traders.

In-depth interviews and field observations conducted in March 2026 provide an in-depth explanation for the low satisfaction of OAP traders. First, the observation results show that the government-built special stalls for OAPs are located at the back or upper floors of the market, which buyers rarely visit. In contrast, non-OAP traders dominate the entrance area and main aisles due to an old rental contract system that has not been reorganized by the government, creating spatial injustice in market management.

Second, interviews with OAP trader leaders revealed that the affirmative action policy addresses only the selling space, not the source of goods. OAP traders often purchase agricultural products from non-OAP intermediaries at high prices, making their selling prices to consumers uncompetitive. Third, informants from the Trade Office acknowledged that data on OAP traders have not been integrated into the latest electronic ID card (KTP-el) population database of West Papua Province, resulting in aid distribution often missing its target and being ineffective.

Integration of Results (Mixing): Governance and Policy Analysis

The study's results show a **gap between regulations and implementation**. Quantitatively, affirmative action policies seem to exist on paper, but qualitatively, market management still relies on old patterns that are not adaptive to OAP traders' characteristics. Governance: Still "physically-centric" (only building buildings) without regulating buyer circulation strategies to be fair to all zones, and Affirmative Action Policy: Has not been able to break the chain of OAP traders' dependence on middlemen for capital.

Table 1. Percentage of OAP Traders' Satisfaction Levels with Governance and Affirmative Action Policies (N=90).

No	Indicator	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Moderat Satisfied	Not Satisfied	Very Not Satisfied
A	Market Governance					
1	Location and Zoning of Market Stalls	5	10	15	45	25
2	Sanitation and Clean Water	10	15	20	35	20
3	Security and Order Market	12	20	40	18	10
B	Affirmative Action Policy for OAP					

4	Ease of Access to Capital Business	2	8	20	50	20
5	Selling Price Protection for Agricultural Products	5	12	18	35	30
6	Transparency of Distribution Aid	3	7	25	40	25
Average Total Percentage		6.1	12	23	37.1	21.6

Discussion

Based on the data presented in Table 1, in general, the perception of Indigenous Papuan traders (OAP) regarding governance and affirmative policies at the Sorong City Central Market in 2026 shows an unsatisfactory trend. This is evident from the cumulative total average of 58.7% of respondents who fall into the "Dissatisfied" and "Very Dissatisfied" categories. The following is an in-depth analysis based on key indicators:

Inequality in Governance and Trade Zoning

The indicator of location and trading stall zoning is a crucial point, with a dissatisfaction rate of 45%. This finding indicates structural problems in the division of market space. **Although** the government has provided infrastructure, the stalls allocated to OAP traders are strategically placed but are not accessible to consumers. Vendors feel marginalized in the back area, so buyer circulation is mostly concentrated in the front area, which non-OAP vendors dominate.

Effectiveness of Affirmative Action and Price Protection Policies

The affirmative policy, which was expected to stimulate the economy for OAP traders, has not yet shown optimal results. In terms of the indicator of protection of agricultural product selling prices, 30% of respondents stated that they were "very dissatisfied." This reflects the vulnerability of OAP traders to market price fluctuations and unfair competition with large suppliers. The policy's inability to maintain stable local agricultural product prices (such as tubers and vegetables typical of Papua) has weakened OAP traders' bargaining position in the central market.

Access to Capital and Transparency of Assistance

Low satisfaction with access to business capital (50% dissatisfied) and transparency in aid distribution (40% dissatisfied) indicates administrative and communication barriers between the government, as the policy manager, and traders in the field. Traders consider the bureaucratic process for obtaining capital assistance too complicated, or that information about such assistance is not evenly distributed to the entire OAP trader community.

Security and Order as Positive Points

The only indicator showing a relatively positive trend is market security and order, with 40% of respondents stating they are "Quite Satisfied." This shows that in terms of physical supervision and market stability, the management of the Sorong City Central Market has performed its duties well. However, this has not directly correlated with an improvement in the economic welfare of OAP traders. Overall, this descriptive analysis confirms that the affirmative policy for OAP traders in Sorong City is still an administrative formality and has not addressed the substance of traders' needs, namely economic space justice (zoning) and market price protection. This quantitative data provides a strong basis for qualitative deepening to find the root causes of more inclusive governance.

Based on interviews with OAP traders at the market, several traders expressed their dissatisfaction with the location of their stalls, and not without reason. A vegetable trader from Arfak, Mama Martina (48), explained how the location of a stall greatly affects the fate of her business. She said:

"...The high level of dissatisfaction with zoning (45%) is in line with findings in the field. Mama Martina's statement reinforces this, that she feels that placing stalls in the back area actually cuts off their access to consumers..." Mr. Silas, a tuber seller, explained the weak price protection and the challenges of unfair competition:

"The government gave us a new building at the very back. It is clean, but buyers don't go there. They finish shopping at the front entrance with other vendors, while we sit and wait from morning to evening. The vegetables wilt, but buyers don't see our goods."

"We bring taro and potatoes all the way from our village at great expense. But when we get to the market, prices are depressed because cheaper goods are coming in from outside Papua. The government says it has policies to protect us, but in reality there are no price standards. We are forced to sell at a loss rather than let our goods rot."

I also asked one of the administrators of the OAP traders association directly, and he said bureaucracy and information were the main obstacles to distributing capital assistance. He said

"Many of us did not attend college, so when asked to take care of complicated administrative paperwork at the government office, we are confused. In the end, the capital assistance only circulates among those who know how to access it. Those of us who are at the market every day don't even know when the data collection takes place."

4. CONCLUSION

Based on mixed-methods research conducted at the Sorong City Central Market in early 2026, this study identified several important findings on the effectiveness of affirmative action policies for Indigenous Papuan traders (OAP). First, the current affirmative action policy for OAP traders is still administrative in nature and has not addressed the substance of true economic justice. Although the market's physical infrastructure is adequate, the policy has not significantly improved the welfare of OAP traders.

Second, the low level of satisfaction among traders, which reached 58.7%, stems from the failure of market zoning management, which tends to marginalize OAP traders. OAP traders are located in the "back" area of the market, which is poorly accessible, thereby reducing their economic potential for growth. Third, without price protection and simplified access to business capital, OAP traders remain at a disadvantage in economic competition with non-OAP traders. This condition shows that the spirit of Special Autonomy (Otsus) in the people's economy sector has not been optimally implemented in the field and still requires more substantive policy intervention.

Based on these findings, this study provides several policy recommendations to the Sorong City Government. First, the Sorong City Government, through the Trade Office, needs to re-map market zoning by applying the concept of Integrated Zoning. Under this concept, OAP traders selling agricultural products are given business premises in the front area or main aisle of the market, which has high customer traffic, rather than being grouped in an isolated, hard-to-access area at the back. Second, the Sorong City Government needs to issue a Mayor Regulation (Perwali) setting the minimum retail price for local Papuan agricultural commodities.

This regulation aims to protect OAP traders from price-dumping practices by large distributors or intermediaries that could harm their economic position. Third, the Sorong City Government needs to re-evaluate the OAP trader database integrated with the West Papua Province electronic ID card (KTP-el) system to ensure that capital assistance and economic empowerment programs are targeted and transparent.

Fourth, the Sorong City Government needs to establish a proactive service unit in the market to assist OAP women traders in managing business administration or capital assistance. This service will reduce the bureaucratic barriers that have been an obstacle for OAP traders in accessing empowerment programs. Fifth, the government can provide special transportation to transport agricultural products from OAP farmers on the outskirts

of the city directly to the Central Market in order to cut high distribution costs and increase the profit margins of OAP traders.

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