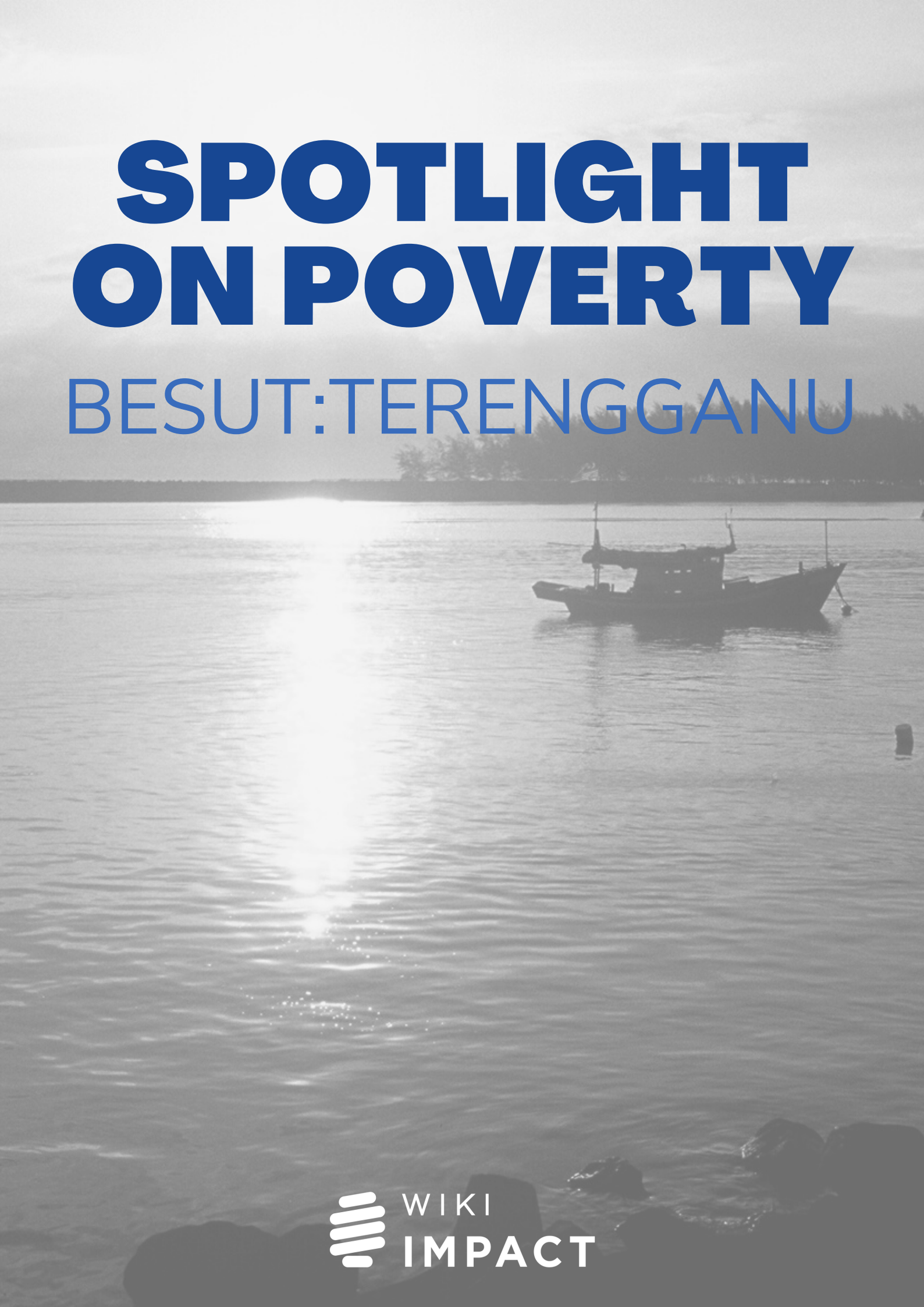

SPOTLIGHT ON POVERTY

BESUT:TERENGGANU

WIKI IMPACT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Spotlight on Poverty	2
Besut in General	3
Employment	4
Gross Output	5
Basic Amenities	6
Education: Primary	7
Education: Secondary	8
Healthcare	9
Internet and Connectivity	10
Definitions	11-12
References	13

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INTRODUCTION

Eradicating poverty remains one of the biggest challenges facing humanity today and the primary focus of Wiki Impact's Poverty Project.

Out of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), 'No Poverty' is the first. The stakes are high, human lives are on the line. It is of utmost importance that together, as a nation, state and community, work together to eliminate poverty.

End poverty in all its forms, everywhere.

We usually associate poverty with a lack of money – not being able to afford to put food on the table or having a roof over your head. While poverty definitely includes not being able to meet basic needs including meals, clothing and shelter, it is also about so much more than that.

"Fundamentally, poverty is a denial of choices and opportunities, a violation of human dignity. It means lack of basic capacity to participate effectively in society. It means insecurity, powerlessness and exclusion of individuals, households and communities." United Nations, 1998

Let us restore human dignity, give back voices to people and provide opportunities where everyone can not only survive, but thrive.

Spotlight on Poverty is a series that aims to highlight the needs and gaps in the poorest districts of every state in Malaysia.

What's in this report?

This comprehensive report will give you grand overview of how the district is fairing. Poverty is a complex and interconnected issue that impacts on other issues of society.

The report will cover the following:

- Socio economic overview
- Employment
- Basic Amenities
- Education (Primary and Secondary)
- Healthcare
- Internet & Connectivity

How can this report be used?

If you're a changemaker (NGO, association, government led initiative, social investor) that is involved in alleviating poverty, this data will help you to make impactful and informed decisions on where to channel and focus your resources and efforts.

The data will also help policy makers and communicators better understand the state of poverty in these districts.

Let's work together to give a voice to the voiceless.

SPOTLIGHT ON POVERTY:

BESUT, TERENGGANU

Bordered by the state of Kelantan to the north and to the east, the South China Sea — Besut is a district in Terengganu. Its district capital is Kampung Raja although Jerteh is a much more developed district. Kuala Besut has a fishing port which also happens to be another major town thanks to its activities.

Historically, Besut was known as the Kingdom of Besut Darul Iman and according to Munshi Abdullah — a Malaysian historian, Besut was established by a group of pilgrims from Patani and Sumatra led by Che Latif of Palembang. Their arrival was met with a group of indigenous Orang Asli who previously settled down in the area. After the relocation of the Orang Asli, Che Latif and the pilgrims began constructing a settlement — naming the place Palembang, after their place of origin.

Image: Kuala Besut, Terengganu

Pulau Perhentian is the most popular tourism site which is located in Besut — rated among the top island destinations in the world by CNN. Located about 20 km from the northeastern point of Kuala Besut, it consists of a few islands famous for their snorkelling activities, scuba diving and breathtaking coral reefs.

Besides the local beaches, visitors can opt to experience the tropical forests in Lata Tembakah and Lata Belatan or a hike up Gunung Tebu. There is also a natural hot spring known as the Kolam Air Panas La where visitors could head over for a hot bath.

BESUT IN GENERAL

Brief overview of the population & poverty in Besut

172.5

Population Size Besut (2019)
Constitutes of **13.80%** of Terengganu's population

4527

Monthly Household Income (Median)
10.8% less than Terengganu (RM5,545)

0.332

GINI Coefficient
Compared to Terengganu's **0.330**

10.1%

Incidence of Absolute Poverty[1]
Compared to Terengganu's **6.1%**

9.5%

Incidence of Relative Poverty
Compared to Terengganu's **8.2%**

Ethnic Composition:

163,000
Bumiputeras

2,000
Chinese

200
Indians

500
Others

3,300
Non-Citizens

EMPLOYMENT

The Employment Situation in Besut

96.3%

Employment Rate
in Besut (2019)

3.7%

Unemployment Rate
Compared to Terengganu's **3.5%**

42.2 ('000)

Persons Outside the Labour Force
Out of population total in Besut

64 ('000)

Persons in the Labour Force
Out of population total in Besut

61.7 ('000)

Persons Employed
Out of the **64** persons in the labour force

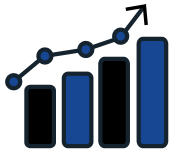
2.4 ('000)

Persons Unemployed
Out of the **64** persons in the labour force

OBSERVATIONS

The unemployment rate in Besut is relatively higher when compared to the state's rate. Although a large number of the labour force is employed, some 2400 persons are left jobless.

Looking at the number of employed persons, 96.3% of the total labour force are employed, leaving the remaining 3.7% unemployed.



GROSS OUTPUT

An Insight on the Economic Output in Besut

35,989

Total Gross Output Value
(RM Million)

RM 13,096 mil.

Manufacturing
36.4% of the Total Gross Output Value

RM 18,512 mil.

Service
51.4% of the Total Gross Output Value

RM 3016 mil.

Agriculture
8.9% of the Total Gross Output Value

RM 1165 mil.

Construction
3.2% of the Total Gross Output Value

RM 183 mil.

Mining and Quarrying
0.5% of the Total Gross Output Value

OBSERVATIONS

The majority of the economy in Besut is dominated by the service sector, followed by the manufacturing sector which makes up 36.4% of the total output value.

At 51.4%, the service sector in Besut makes up for more than half of the total gross output value, making it the most profitable industry in the state.

BASIC AMENITIES

Available utilities and amenities for the population

100%

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

100% for all of Terengganu

83.4%

PIPED WATER IN THE HOUSE

Compared to **96.2%** for T'ganu

7.0%

OTHERS

Compared to **1.2%** for T'ganu

9.6%

PUBLIC WATER STAND PIPE

Compared to **2.6%** for T'ganu

GARBAGE COLLECTION FACILITY

10.8%

NONE AVAILABLE

Compared to 2.7% for Terengganu

86.3%

WITHIN AREA*

Compared to 73.3% for Terengganu

2.9%

LIVING QUARTERS

Compared to 24.0% for Terengganu

* Garbage collection in the collection area where the distance is more than 100 metres away from the living quarters

EDUCATION: PRIMARY

An overview on the state of primary school education in Besut

19,162
PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS
(2016)

1855
PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS
15.97% of primary school teachers in T'ganu

54
PRIMARY SCHOOLS

1:355
RATIO OF PRIMARY SCHOOL TO STUDENTS
Compared to **1:352** in T'ganu

1:10
RATIO OF PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS TO STUDENTS
Compared to **1:11** in T'ganu

HOUSEHOLD DISTANCE FROM SCHOOL

100%
<5KM FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL
Compared to 99.6% for Terengganu

0%
5-9KM FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL
Compared to 0.2% for Terengganu

0%
>9KM FROM PRIMARY SCHOOL
Compared to 0.2% for Terengganu

EDUCATION: SECONDARY

An overview on the state of secondary school education in Besut

15,478
SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS
(2016)

1643
SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS
16% of secondary school teachers in Terengganu

22
SECONDARY SCHOOLS

1:704
RATIO OF SECONDARY SCHOOL TO STUDENTS
Compared to **1:650** in Terengganu

1:9
RATIO OF SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS TO STUDENTS
Compared to **1:10** in Malaysia

HOUSEHOLD DISTANCE FROM SCHOOL

95.3%
<5KM FROM SECONDARY SCHOOL
Compared to 96.7% for Terengganu

1.9%
5-9KM FROM SECONDARY SCHOOL
Compared to 2% for Terengganu

1.3%
>9KM FROM SECONDARY SCHOOL
Compared to 1.3% for Terengganu

HEALTHCARE

Available government healthcare facilites

1

Public Hospitals

0

Private Hospitals

28

Government Clinic(s)

140

Beds

1:1232

Ratio of beds to population

Compared to **1:911** in T'ganu

OBSERVATION:

With only one public hospital and no private hospital, Besut may not be able to provide enough bed space in an event of a emergency.

However, more severe medical cases may require referral to hospitals in Kuala Terengganu when specialists are needed.

HOUSEHOLD DISTANCE FROM PUBLIC HEALTHCARE CENTRES

98.3%

<5KM FROM FACILITY

Compared to 97.9% for Terengganu

0%

5-9KM FROM FACILITY

Compared to 1.2% for Terengganu

1.7%

>9KM FROM FACILITY

Compared to 0.9% for Terengganu

INTERNET & CONNECTIVITY

Internet penetration and accessibility in Besut

45.7%

MOBILE PHONE

Compared to **98.2%** for Malaysia

70.1%

PAY TV CHANNEL

Compared to **75.8%** for Malaysia

92.3%

SUBSCRIPTION INTERNET AT HOME

Compared to **90.1%** for Malaysia

13

MALAYSIA INTERNET CENTRES

0

RURAL INTERNET CENTRES

1

CITIZEN INTERNET CENTRES

SOLS 24/7 Starbucks Community Centre - SOLS Health
This is a community centre that provides free English, IT and motivation classes with the belief that education is the best way out of poverty.

Phone Number: 018-247-2471
Website: https://www.sols247.org/community-centres/
E-mail: redang@sols247.org

Empowered 2 Teach (Kg Wakaf Tupai) - SUKA Society
This changemaker provides training, support and resources for the indigenous communities to start their own pre-school education classes within their rural villages.

Phone Number: 03-78774227
Website: http://www.sukasociety.org/creating-greater-access-to-education/
E-mail: enquiry@sukasociety.org

DEFINITIONS

An explanation of the terminologies used in this Spotlight

Absolute poverty- "The most severe type of poverty where there is a severe deprivation of basic human needs, including food, safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, health, shelter, education and information. It depends not only on income but also on access to services." (UN 1995 report of the World Summit for Social Development)

Relative Poverty- It is when impoverished households earn 50% less than the national median household incomes. This means that the household does have money, however they do not have enough money to afford anything other than the basics. This type of poverty is also dependant on the economy of the country, and as such is subject to change from time to time.

GINI Index- It is defined as the measure of statistical dispersion intended to represent the income inequality within a nation. It is calculated using a specific formula and the results determines the different levels of income inequality.

GINI Index:

- <0.2 = perfect income equality
- 0.2-0.3 = relative equality
- 0.3-0.4 = adequate equality
- 0.4-0.5 = big income gap
- >0.5 = severe income gap

The bigger the number of the GINI index, the more severe the income inequality. Anything less than 0.2 represent perfect income equality, while anything higher than 0.5 represents a severe income inequality. Any number between 0.2 and 0.3 is considered an adequate safe value. A value of 0.4 is considered the warning level that immediate action must be taken to reduce income inequality.

DEFINITIONS

An explanation of the terminology used in this Spotlight

Labour force- It represents the group of people in the population that are currently actively looking for work, or already working.

Outside labour force- Refers to the group of people that are not actively looking for work. Example : Pensioners, school children, infants, and housewives.

Employed force- The group of people within the population that are currently working for pay at least one hour per week.

Unemployed force- The group of people within the population that are currently able and looking for work, but not yet hired.

Gross output- "The total output of a firm, industry, or economy without deducting intermediate costs." (Collins Dictionary)

This means that the Gross Output of an industry is the immediate value of their output/sales, without taking into account the cost of labour and production.

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