

SIFBAS – Sarawak’s Total Financial System

The State Integrated Financial, Budgetary and Accounting System (SIFBAS), is the latest solution for the management of public funds in the Sarawak Government. It covers a wide scope, from the State’s financial planning, budgeting, auditing, funds management, financial monitoring and control to investment management, cost management and accounting.

The major components of the State financial solution are the Budgetary System, the Financial Management System, and the Accounting System. To reflect this, the solution was named The State Integrated Financial, Budgetary and Accounting System (SIFBAS).

SIFBAS phase 1 was implemented in 2002, and from 2002 to 2010 it went through three phases and various enhancements.

SIFBAS Re-engineered

In 2009, the State Financial Secretary’s office proposed the review and redesign of SIFBAS to address several issues including the fact that the solution was not fully integrated within and with other Government systems.

Workshops

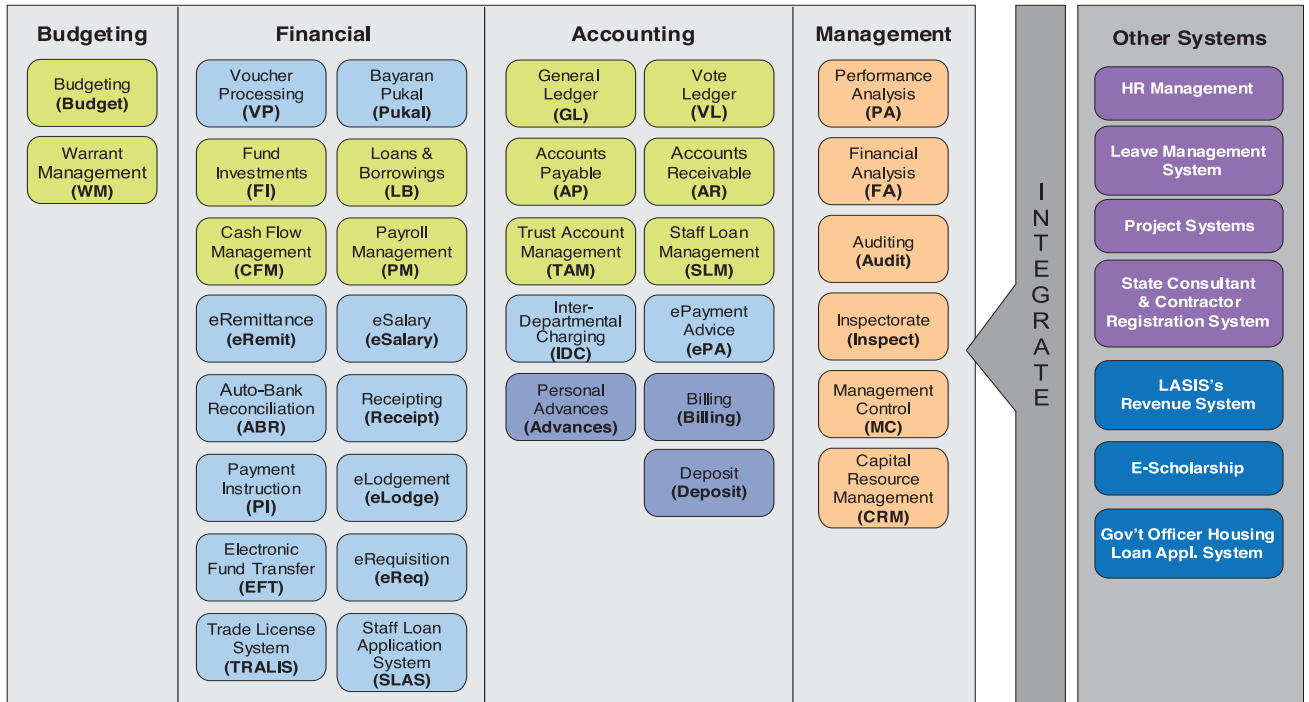
To ensure that the new solution will be relevant, user friendly and address all the needs of its users, Functional Requirement Meetings (FRM), User Acceptance Tests (UAT) and User Requirement workshops are continuously being held to gather input and requirements from the various government agencies. These are held for each one of the 35 systems to ensure that every system addresses the needs of its users. Periodic workshops to discuss the progress of the project are also held to ensure the agreement of all users. At the time of writing, 14 workshops as well as several FRMs and UATs have been held. Participants for the workshops include system users, domain experts, project managers and developers. The workshops have been attended by over a hundred people from various government agencies as well as SAINS.



SAINS together with the State Financial Secretary’s Office organized a one day workshop titled “SIFBAS Redevelopment Dialogue” for the users in the State Government Departments to collect suggestions for system upgrade.

The Systems

The project has 35 systems under the four core business areas of Budgeting, Financial, Accounting and Management which form the SIFBAS core functions and associated functions.



35 systems of SIFBAS and integration with other systems

System Highlights

Full integration between all 35 systems and all associated government systems	Budgetary control at time of expenditure
Single point transaction and data capture at source	Accounting for expenditure at time of payment approval

Security

As the financial system for the Sarawak Government, it is imperative that the solution is fully secured from all threats whether physical or intellectual. To ensure this, the systems' servers are hosted within a secure purpose-built data centre, and supported by a disaster recovery centre to ensure high availability of the solution.

Additionally, in order to protect the network and data of SIFBAS, security management is deployed for the management of risk and processes. This includes prevention, detection and response to incidents, on-going maintenance, reviews and audits.

Different levels of security are implemented for various key functional areas and data depending on the requirements of the transaction.

- User Verification/Digital Authentication:
 - Biometrics identification
 - PKI Digital certificate
 - On-demand authentication code
- User Monitoring - Audit Trails
- Secure Socket Layer (SSL)
- Virtual Private Network (VPN) for SIFBAS