

## 17. WHAT TO DO WITH GENERICS IN REGIONAL LANGUAGES?

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Indonesia has many regional languages and one official national language:

### Bahasa Indonesia

Indonesian regional language	River generic	Regional toponym	Official toponym
Sundanese	Ci	Ciliwung	Sungai Liwung
Javanese	Kali	Kali Brantas	Sungai Brantas
Jambinese	Batang	Batang Hari	Sungai Hari
Coastal Malay	Air	Air Musi	Sungai Musi
Acehnese	Kruëng	Kruëng Tripa	Sungai Tripa

In order to enable everyone in the country to understand the generics, they should be rendered in the official language. However, in order to preserve the cultural heritage of the regional language communities, the generics should be kept in the regional language. These are difficult decisions to make.

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