



UNITED NATIONS
**GROUP OF EXPERTS ON
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES**

Strengthening relationships, links and connections in geographical names
standardization and for sustainable development and pandemic recovery

2023/3rd session UNGEGN | 1-5 May 2023 | @unsd_gegn



National Dialogue

Agenda item 4a

*Governments on the situation in their countries
and on the progress made in standardization of
geographical names*



**United Nations Group of Experts
on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)**

Day 4

Theme: Cooperation, training and promotion

Topics:

- a. Input of academia and specialists towards the process of geographical names standardization
- b. Toponymic training (in-house, national, etc.) offered to geographical names administrative staff
- c. Promotion of geographical names standardization and cooperation/outreach
- d. Support to international programmes / international collaboration
- e. Work against UNGEGN Strategic Plan



4a. Input of academia and specialists towards the process of geographical names standardization

National reports that consider this topic:

Armenia

Jordan

Cameroon

Lithuania

Denmark

Norway

Finland

Oman

Hungary

Sweden

Italy



THEME 4a:

Cooperation, training and promotion

ITALY

ANDREA CANTILE

PROFESSOR OF HISTORICAL CARTOGRAPHY

ITALIAN GEOGRAPHIC MILITARY INSTITUTE AND UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE

MAY 4, 2023



Academia cooperating with IGMI - symposia and exhibits, influence on standardization?

The Italian Geographic Military Institute (IGMI) recently organized with the academia a series of events on the standardization of geographical names, such as

- Thematic symposia for experts, teachers and scholars;
- Conferences for municipal, provincial and regional technicians;
- Itinerant exhibitions of historical and current cartography.

Events organized in the period 2021-2022

- Castel dell'Ovo, Naples;
- Mediceo Castle of Ottaviano (Naples);
- State Archives of Naples;
- Provincial College of Surveyors of Caserta;
- Ischia island, "Villa Arbusto";
- Procida island, as Italian Capital of Culture 2022.



Events scheduled for 2023

- The University of "Roma Tre" [*Third Roman Athenaeum*];
- The "Sapienza" [*Wisdom*] University of Roma;
- The "Tor Vergata" [*Vergata tower*] University of Roma;
- The Italian Geographical Society.



4b. Toponymic training (in-house, national, etc.)
offered to geographical names administrative staff
National reports that consider this topic:

Austria

Jordan

Finland

Malaysia

Iceland

Norway

Indonesia

Republic of Moldova

Islamic Republic of
Iran

Saudi Arabia



THEME 4b: Toponymic Training

FINLAND

Ms. Ulla Onkamo

Online manual for guidance on names planning

Institute for the Languages of Finland

4th May 2023



Online manual for guidance on names planning

What? The manual contains almost 20 guidelines on forming place names in Finnish and Swedish: names of administrative units, merging municipalities, traffic sites and streets, commemorative naming, using dialectual features, taking care of biligualism etc.

To whom? The target group of the manual is all employees of the public administration who plan proper names or make decisions on proper names.

When? The manual is to be published at the end of 2023.

Why? The objective of the online manual is to have better functioning planned place names which respect the inherited place names as our cultural heritage.



THEME 4b:

Cooperation, training and promotion

Toponymic training (in-house, national, etc.) offered to geographical names administrative staff

INDONESIA

MUH ARIS MARFAI

HEAD

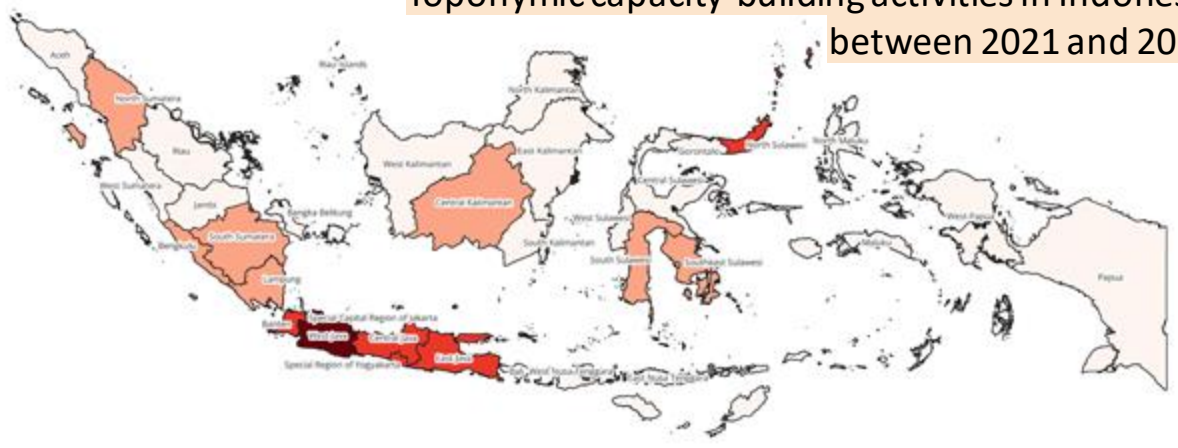
Geospatial Information Agency of Indonesia (Badan Informasi Geospasial - BIG)

4 May 2023



Capacity Building for Local Governments

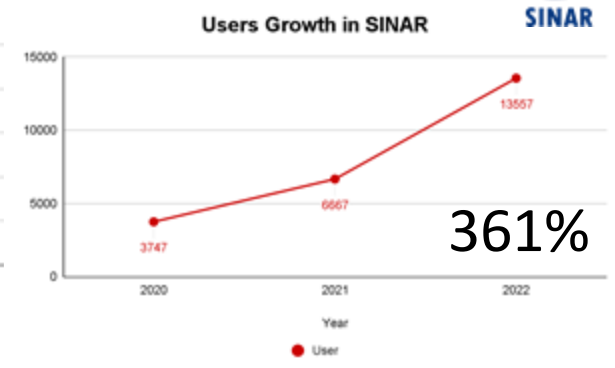
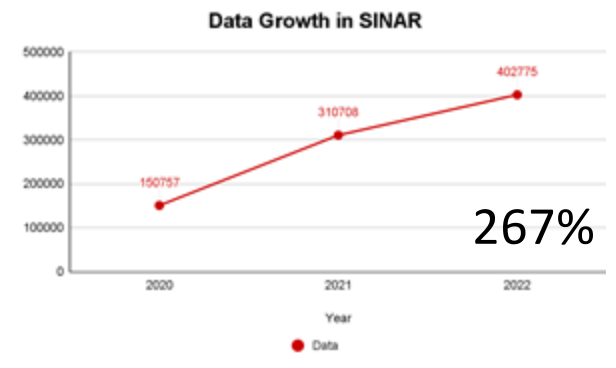
Toponymic capacity-building activities in Indonesia between 2021 and 2022



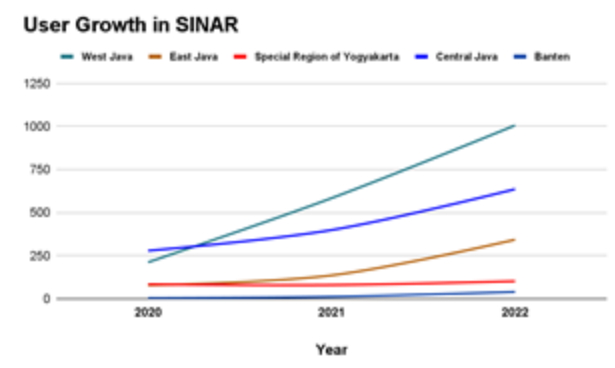
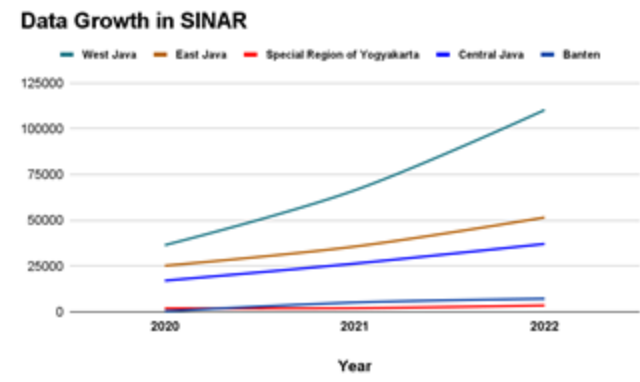
Total of Toponymic Capacity Building Activities

- 0 - 1
- 1 - 4
- 4 - 15
- 15 - 39

The program's coverage has expanded from 7 provinces in 2021 to 28 provinces in 2022 (out of 34 provinces).



User and data growth in SINAR between 2020 to 2022 in Indonesia



User and data growth in SINAR between 2020 to 2022 in top 5 Most active provinces in toponymic capacity-building

Types:

1. Dissemination of Government Regulation No. 2 of 2021 and Toponymic Guidelines
2. Technical Guidance
3. Toponymic Consultation
4. Coordination Between Stakeholders



Further research and evaluation are necessary to determine the factor contributing to the varying levels of growth for each province.

THEME 4b:
TRAINING AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

ICELAND

EMILY LETHBRIDGE

ASSOCIATE RESEARCH PROFESSOR

ÁRNI MAGNÚSSON INSTITUTE FOR ICELANDIC STUDIES, REYKJAVÍK

Thursday 4th May 2023



1. Public awareness

- Long-standing and widespread public interest in geographical names in Iceland; national and local press coverage and debate
- Recent tendency at municipal level towards inviting public input re. choice of old and new geographical names



2. Training

- Place-name collection has a long history in Iceland and has always relied on local participation and collaboration
- 2021-2022 "Hvar er?" trial by NLSI/AMI to collect co-ordinates of geographical names using crowd-sourcing (via www.nafnid.is interface)
- 12 courses held around Iceland and



17.623 örnefni skráð í landsátaki



3. In conclusion

- Public involvement brings certain challenges with it
- But encouraging wider participation can raise awareness and create opportunities to disseminate knowledge



4c. Promotion of geographical names standardization and cooperation/outreach

National reports that consider this topic:

Austria

Indonesia

Brunei Darussalam

Italy

Cambodia

Malaysia

Canada

New Zealand

Estonia

Norway

Iceland

Slovenia



THEME 4c: Promotion of Geographical Names Standardization and Cooperation

CYPRUS

Andreas Hadjiraftis, email: ahadjiraftis@dls.moi.gov.cy

Chief Lands Officer and Deputy Director of the Department of Lands and Surveys,
President of CPCSGN

Permanent Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names of Cyprus (CPCSGN)

May 4, 2023

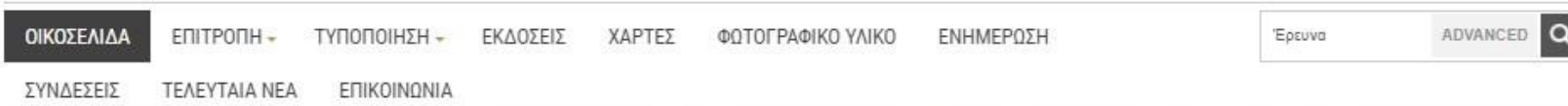


Promotion of Geographical Names Standardization and Cooperation Website of Permanent Committee for the Standardization of Geographical Names of Cyprus (CPCSGN)

www.geonoma.gov.cy



ΜΟΝΙΜΗ ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΗ ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ
ΤΥΠΟΠΟΙΗΣΗΣ ΓΕΩΓΡΑΦΙΚΩΝ ΟΝΟΜΑΤΩΝ



- Historic background
- Legislation
- Organizational structure
- Announcements
- Activities
- Documents from conferences and other events
- Transliteration info
- Several editions
- Photographs
- Maps
- Latest news
- Main links
- Complete Gazetteer
- Automatic transliteration tool



**United Nations Group of Experts
on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)**

THEME 4c:

Cooperation, training and promotion

NEW ZEALAND

NAME OF PRESENTER: Wendy Shaw

JOB TITLE: Secretary, New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa

Organization: Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand

Date: Thursday 4 May 2023



Outreach and Engagement

Our outcomes

To secure and celebrate New Zealand's unique identity through place names.

We enable meaningful connections between people, places and language through these goals:



Naming places

We officially name features and places so that people can effectively communicate information about location and preserve New Zealand's heritage and culture



Using official names

Organisations use official names so that people use them in everyday life



Outreach

We make information including stories about place names readily available



Improving capability and processes

We continuously improve our capability and processes to achieve our goals and objectives



THEME 4c:

PROMOTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES STANDARDIZATION AND COOPERATION/OUTREACH

MALAYSIA

Sr Dr. Ahmad Sanusi Bin Che Cob

Director of Survey (Geodetic Survey Division)

Department Survey And Mapping Malaysia (JUPEM)

4 May 2023



National Committee / Working Group Meeting



Geographical Name Database (PDNG) Update

Phase I	Development of PDNG and MyGeoname application
Phase II	Development of PDNG at a scale of 1:50,000 - 69,628 geographical names have been verified and updated in PDNG
Phase III	Development of PDNG urban area - 1,626 geographical names in three (3) cities has been identified - 22 cities are still under process of review & verification

Portal of Geographical Names Updates



Workshops and Briefings



2022

ACTIVITIES YEAR 2022-2023

Application Expansion



2023

National Committee / Working Group Meeting



Geographical Name Database (PDNG) Update



Workshops and Briefings



Publications



United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)

4d. Support to international programmes / international collaboration

National reports that consider this topic:

Argentina

Estonia

Korea

Brazil

Hungary

Republic of

Bulgaria

Italy

Moldova

Canada

Norway

Slovakia

Cyprus

Oman

Slovenia

Czechia

Republic of



THEME 4d:

Support to international programmes / international collaboration

NORWAY

Peder Gammeltoft

SCIENTIFIC MANAGER OF THE NORWEGIAN LANGUAGE COLLECTIONS

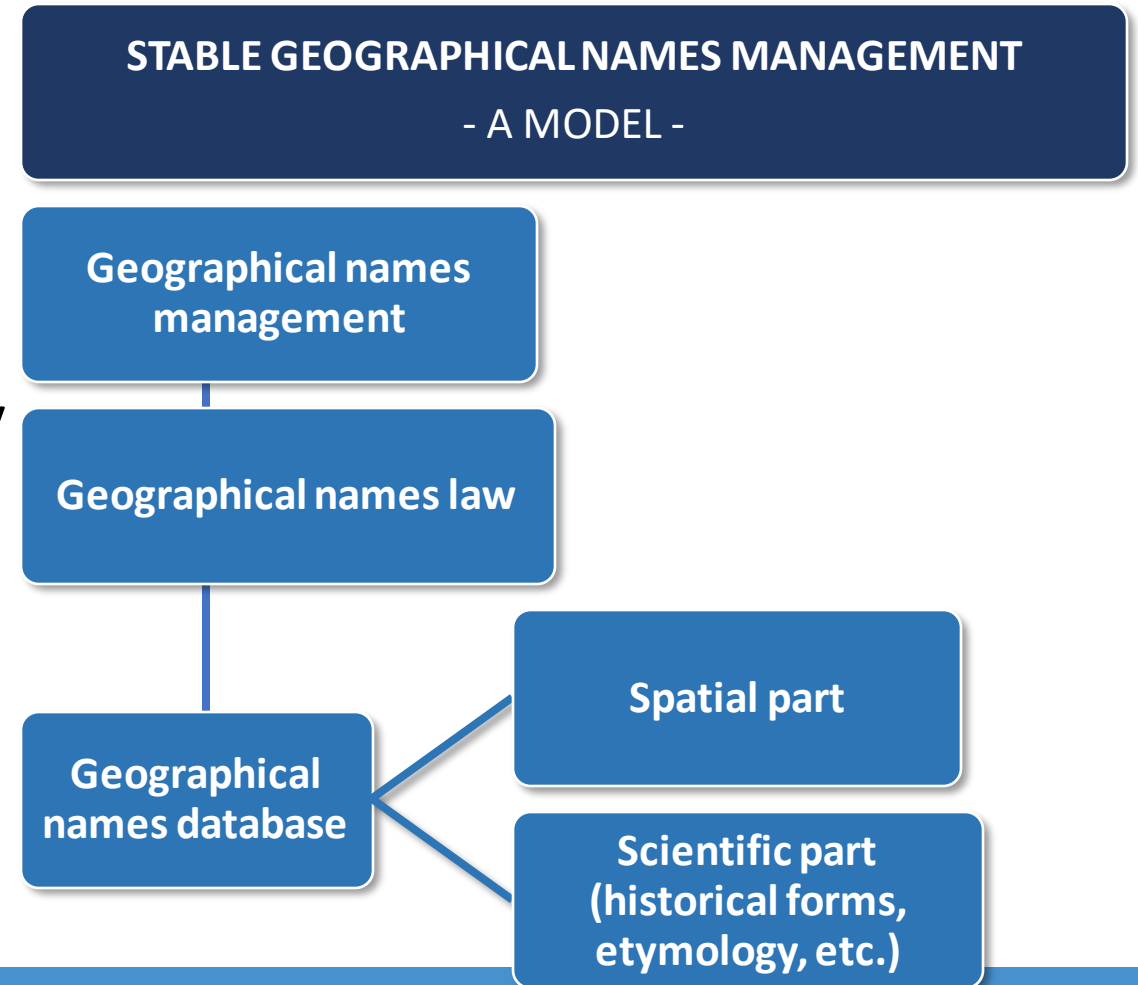
University of Bergen

4. May 2023



Project “Maps for sustainable management”

- Project 2022
- Norwegian Dept. of Foreign Affairs & Republic of Moldova
- Managed by Norw. Mapping Agency
- Successful cooperation between experts in toponymy from Norway and Moldova



4e. Work against UNGEGN Strategic Plan

National reports that consider this topic:

Cabo Verde

Jordan

Oman

Republic of Korea

Slovenia

South Africa



THEME 4e:
**NGII's Response to UNGEGN Strategic Plan for
Toponym Standardization: Implementing UN
Sustainable Development Goals**

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

JANG Young Ki

Deputy Director

National Geographic Information Institute

May 04, 2023



UNGEEN strategies	Executable projects of NGII
Strategy 1: Technical expertise	1.1. Visualizing the achievements of toponymic data management 1.2. Researching the intersection between domestic toponymic data and UN SDGs agenda 1.3. Establishing toponymic database management 1.4. Developing new technology for advanced use of toponymic data
Strategy 2: Relationships, links and connections	2.1. Strengthening Korea's contribution to linking UNGEEN and UN-GGIM 2.2. Establishing networks among UNGEEN and UNESCO participating bodies 2.3. Promoting geographical names as intangible cultural heritage 2.4. Continuing cooperation with PAIGH
Strategy 3: Effective work programs	3.1. Supporting UNGEEN activities 3.2. Researching UNGEEN resolutions and databases 3.3. Training toponymic experts
Strategy 4: Culture, heritage and language recognition	4.1. Establishing database of geographical names as cultural heritage 4.2. Developing academic and educational foundation of toponymic cultural heritage 4.3. Establishing a toponymic-related WIKI
Strategy 5: Promotion and capacity building	5.1. Promoting Korean geographical names and toponymic database internationally 5.2. Developing online/offline toponym education programs 5.3. Creating toponymic education modules through a website





Some general questions

- Many countries have academics providing advice on language and the appropriate written forms of geographical names. What other groups of people do names authorities find useful/essential to provide input into geographical names decision-making? (e.g. historical societies, alpinists, veterans, etc.)
- To address in-house training for geographical names administrative staff, do any countries have documentation, web exercises, Powerpoint presentations, etc. that could be helpful for others to develop their own training – even if translation would be required?
- Promotion of geographical names programmes and the names approved is essential for supporting national (or sub-national) activities. Do you have suggestions of undertakings that have proved successful for you, that others might also follow? (e.g. online interactive maps, geographical names days, presentations to public groups, etc.) Could some of these ideas be linked to the website of the WG on Publicity & Funding?

