

13 March 2023

English

**United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names**

2023 session

New York, 1 – 5 May 2023

Item 16 of the provisional agenda *

Other geographical names issues

**Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi awards: a new initiative of
the geographical names standardization evaluation
mechanism in Indonesia**

Submitted by Indonesia**

Summary:

In its regulation No. 2 of 2021 on the standardization of geographical names, the Government mandated that the Geospatial Information Agency (Badan Informasi Geospasial) monitor and evaluate the implementation of geographical names standardization. The Agency established an evaluation mechanism that provides geographical names standardization awards known as the Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi awards. The first awards ceremony to recognize Indonesian stakeholders involved with toponyms was held in December 2022. The awards recognize the persistent efforts and the most significant contributions of multiple stakeholders. They are divided into the following categories: ministries/agencies, local governments at the provincial and regency/city levels, community/non-governmental organizations and individual toponym experts.

The Agency evaluated the ministries/agencies and local governments categories using quantitative and qualitative assessment methods. The top five candidates were carefully determined from the analysis of toponymic data derived from the Indonesian geographical names information system (Sistem Informasi Nama Rupabumi). In addition, the top five candidates were required to provide additional data and information to verify the standardization activities carried out during 2021 and 2022. For the community/non-governmental organizations and individual toponym experts categories, interviews were conducted to explore the scope of works, publications and activities of the candidates. The Bhumandala

* GEGN.2/2023/1

** Prepared by Farid Yuniar, Umi Hidayati, Mega Ratri Adiola Sari and Arifah Trisnawati of the Geospatial Information Agency.

Nama Rupabumi awards initiative will likely motivate stakeholders in their standardization efforts. The Agency will host the awards ceremony annually.

The report explains the objectives of the evaluation mechanism, the formulation and criteria for the categories, the evaluation exercise and its benefits for national names standardization, and provides an overview of the awards ceremony and awardees.

Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi awards: a new initiative of the geographical names standardization evaluation mechanism in Indonesia

Introduction

Government Regulation Number 2 of 2021 on Standardization of Geographical Names (hereinafter referred as GR 2/2021) consists of comprehensive principles and procedures regarding the standardization of geographical names in Indonesia. The GR 2/2021 contains 10 chapters, with three prominent chapters governing stakeholders, standardization processes, monitoring and evaluation. In article 30, Geospatial Information Agency (*Badan Informasi Geospasial* - BIG) is responsible for monitoring and evaluating standardization activities at the national level.

Two years since the GR 2/2021 was enacted, activities of the geographical names standardization have increased and involve a more significant number of participants. Stakeholders on toponyms in Indonesia consist of ministries/agencies and local governments at the provincial and regency/city levels (as stated in article 5 of the GR 2/2021). Furthermore, the GR 2/2021 also welcomes any individuals, community, or non-governmental organizations to contribute and participate in geographical name standardization. Monitoring and evaluation are needed to strengthen stakeholder relationships and maintain geographical name activities on the right path. Therefore, BIG conducts an evaluation mechanism by awarding the stakeholders involved and actively participating. It is known as the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* awards. The first awards ceremony was held on 25 November 2022.

Awarding category and the assessment method

Considering the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* awards in 2022 was the first, BIG was still exploring the details of the awarding process, including publication, assessment methods, and the award category. For example, the publication of the event was only broadcasted via BIG's social media channels. Also, there were no official technical guides for the participants in this first attempt. The first official dissemination for the participants regarding the awards was the webinar that commenced on October 3, 2022. In the webinar, BIG presented the information on the timeline, award category, and assessment criteria.

It also announced that there are five categories, namely the Category for the Regency/City, Province, Ministry/Agency, Community/Non-Government Organization (NGO), and Individual category (Fig. 1). The assessment employed both qualitative and quantitative methods, except for the NGO and Individual category, which were evaluated solely using qualitative methods. The assessment methodology for government categories primarily focused on the number of geographical names data collected by the nominees, as well as the consistency and quality of geographical names standardization efforts.



Figure 1. The initial announcement for the categories of *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* awards
Government categories

The quantitative assessment for the Government category was based on the number of geographical names data records stored in SINAR. The fundamental requirement for the data to be evaluated is geographical names data (with the exception of island names, to minimize discrepancies across different regions). Furthermore, any simulated or training data stored in SINAR will be disregarded. The calculation was based on the completeness of geographical name information, variation of the data standardization status, and the spatial distribution of the verification data.

Subsequently, a qualitative assessment was conducted to evaluate the level of activity geographical names Standardization for the top five nominees. This assessment involved a review of supporting data collected by the nominees to demonstrate their geographical names standardization activities at their respective levels of authority in the period between year 2021 to 2022. The assessment were based on four criteria, namely (a) Consistency in the geographical names standardization program (both in national and international scope), (b) Involvement of the other local government institutions, (c) Involvement of communities and other parties in the geographical names standardization process, and (d) Continuity of intensive coordination with BIG, including geographical names data sharing. The Supporting evidence may include geographical names standardization activity reports and the local derivative regulation related to geographical names standardization. The evidence was comprehensively reviewed, and each criteria was evaluated accordingly.

Community/Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) and individuals categories

Unlike the assessment methods employed in previous categories, community/NGOs and individual categories are evaluated solely using a qualitative approach. For individuals category, to get a shortlist of candidates BIG distributed questionnaires via an online form to the geographical names-related Communities/NGOs. The nominees in the NGO category are organizations which actively participated in standardization activities. The nominees in the individual category are individuals who show a profound commitment to geographical names standardization and are actively engaged in research on toponymy. An interview-based assessment method is intended to evaluate both NGO and individual nominees. The interview focuses on their contribution to the geographical names standardization and for individual nominees also includes toponymy research findings.

The nominees

After conducting a comprehensive calculation of the geographical names data quantity, the committee obtained nominations for each category:

a. **Regency/City Category**

Kabupaten Bandung (Bandung Regency), *Kabupaten Cianjur* (Cianjur Regency), *Kabupaten Ngawi* (Ngawi Regency), *Kabupaten Sumedang* (Sumedang Regency) and *Kota Bekasi* (Bekasi City).

- b. Province Category
Jawa Barat (West Java), *Jawa Tengah* (Central Java), *Jawa Timur* (East Java), *Kalimantan Tengah* (Central Kalimantan) and *Sulawesi Utara* (North Sulawesi).
- c. Ministries/Agencies Category
The Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, the Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing, the Ministry of Education and Culture, the Ministry of Transportation, and the Indonesian Navy Hydrographic and Oceanographic Center.
- d. Community/Non-Government Organization (NGO) Category
OpenStreetMap Indonesia Association (*Perkumpulan OpenStreetMap Indonesia - POI*) and Participatory Mapping Network (*Jaringan Kerja Pemetaan Partisipatif - JKPP*), Lembang Disaster Management Volunteers (*Relawan Penanggulangan Bencana Lembang*).
- e. Individual Category
Mr. Titi Bachtiar, Prof. Cece Sobarna, Prof. Multamia Lauder, and Mr. Fajar Erikha

The *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* awards winners

After thorough assessment, BIG came up and decided the winner for each category namely under the category of ministries/agencies the winner was the Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing; West Java Province came up as the champion for the province category; while Cianjur Regency became the first in the regency/city category; Mr. Titi Bachtiar became the selected persona for individual category, while OpenStreetMap Indonesia Association (*Perkumpulan OpenStreetMap Indonesia - POI*) became the winner for NGO category. The award ceremony was carried out by the Head of BIG, Prof. Muh Aris Marfai, and broadcasted live on BIG YouTube channel on November 25th, 2023 (Fig. 2).



Figure 2. The award ceremony

Conclusions

BIG organized the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* award as a form of evaluation mechanism for the implementation of geographical names standardization activities. The new initiative was appreciated by the stakeholders, especially by the candidates actively participating in the award process.

Although the impact of the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* event cannot be noticed instantaneously, many stakeholders started planning to conduct proper activities in geographical name standardization. With positive feedback, BIG plans to host the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* as an annual event. BIG intends that in the upcoming year, the stakeholders will persistently conduct geographical name standardization and hopefully emerge with some innovations to accelerate the process. BIG believes that the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* awards positively impact governance and sustainable development. BIG still needs rigid guidelines to assess the geographical names activities as official technical guide for the participants in the upcoming event, and to exercise the possibility of the involvement of external assessor in the awarding process.

Points for discussion

The Group of Experts is invited to:

1. Express its views on the report and discuss whether other countries have distinct and diverse objectives towards the monitoring and evaluation mechanism of Geographical Names Standardization.