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**United Nations Group of Experts on
Geographical Names
2023 session**

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Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda*

**National and international standardization of geographical
names: names collection, office treatment, national
authorities, features beyond a single sovereignty and
international cooperation****Strengthening relationships in geographical names
standardization through collaboration with mapping
communities and non-governmental organizations
in Indonesia****Summary****

In government regulation No. 2 of 2021 on the standardization of geographical names, it was mandated that the Geospatial Information Agency (Badan Informasi Geospasial) should enable and strengthen relationships with mapping communities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) related to toponyms. Moreover, the regulation allows citizens, mapping communities and NGOs to participate in geographical names standardization by recognizing participatory mapping and crowdsourcing as approaches to toponym data collection.

Since the enactment of the regulation, the Agency has communicated intensively with various relevant mapping communities and NGOs. It was realized that the current status of geographical names collected by the Agency barely covers 5 per cent of the estimated 8 million items of data. Therefore, accelerating participatory toponym data collection has become a challenge that needs to be properly addressed by the Agency.

The intention of including participatory mapping and crowdsourcing in the regulation was to gather information about the history and meanings of place names in a particular region and to expand them with additional details in order for the complete toponymic information to be included in the national gazetteer. Furthermore, implementing participatory mapping and crowdsourcing to create maps or other resources would help people to learn about place names.

* [GEGN.2/2023/1](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd_session_2023/).

** The full report was prepared by Nafisa Andika Putri, Faqih Rohmatulloh, Andreas Kelvin Pujianto and Aji Putra Perdana of the Geospatial Information Agency. The report will be available under document symbol GEGN.2/2023/41/CRP.41, in the language of submission only, at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/3rd_session_2023/.



The Agency has conducted focus group discussions and meetings with mapping communities and NGOs, resulting in a collaborative action plan, data-sharing, utilization and the sharing of knowledge and experiences. The Agency's efforts to enable and strengthen collaborative action with mapping communities and NGOs in geographical names standardization activities are described in the report.
