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Toponymic education

Strengthening toponymic capacity-building in Indonesia

Summary**

Following Government Regulation No. 2 of 2021 on the Standardization of Geographical Names, the Geospatial Information Agency (Badan Informasi Geospasial) held 19 toponymic capacity-building activities in 7 of 34 provinces in Indonesia throughout 2021. In 2022, in order to further strengthen capacity and support local government participation in the standardization of geographical names, the Agency increased its toponymic capacity-building to include 75 activities in over 28 of 38 provinces.

The Agency holds toponymic capacity-building sessions for various stakeholders in geographical name standardization. By improving the capability of the stakeholders, it expects that stakeholders will be able to thoroughly fulfil their roles in the standardization of geographical names. However, the impact of toponymic capacity-building differs for every stakeholder, especially for local governments. Specific or distinct toponymic capacity-building strategies need to be employed in order to have an efficient geographical names standardization process.

The full report provides a description of the four types of toponymic capacity-building strategies in Indonesia: (a) dissemination of General Regulation No. 2 of 2021 and toponymic guidelines; (b) technical assistance; (c) toponymic consultation; and (d) coordination between stakeholders. The report focuses on the five provinces that invested the most in toponymic capacity-building in 2021 and 2022, as well as their efforts to standardize geographical names in the Indonesian geographical names information system (SINAR).

* GEGN.2/2023/1.