

Third Session of the UNGEGN

4 May 2023

Agenda Item	:	4 a) - Reports: Governments on the situation in their countries and on the progress made in the standardization of geographical names
Theme	:	Cooperation, training and promotion
Sub-theme	:	Toponymic training (in-house, national, etc.) offered to geographical names administrative staff

BIG holds toponymic capacity building to strengthen the rules and regulations comprehension, institutional resources, as well as the skills and abilities of individuals related to the standardization of geographical names. There are four types of toponymic capacity-building activities offered by BIG, which include:

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

In the Dissemination of Government Regulation No. 2 of 2021 and Toponymic Guidelines, BIG delivers the importance of geographical names standardization and strengthens the awareness and understanding of the principle, policy, and procedure of geographical names to the stakeholders.

By providing Technical Guidance, BIG presented modules that covered rules and regulations related to geographical names standardization, the process of geographical names standardization, and the use of the SINAR for data collection and verification. This activity could be initiated by BIG or requested by the local governments.

Furthermore, BIG gives Toponymic Consultation to stakeholders regarding issues that are of concern to them, such as team management, budgeting, or technical issues regarding SINAR. During these meetings, BIG provides guidance and expertise to assist stakeholders in resolving the issues.

In addition, BIG is responsible for Coordinating with Stakeholders on standardizing geographical names. This coordination involves sharing data and synchronizing tasks to ensure effective and efficient collaboration among stakeholders.

By performing capacity building, there is a significant increase in the number of users and the data of geographical names. From 2020 to 2022, there was an increase in the number of data by 267% and the number of users by 361%.

Out of 34 provinces in Indonesia, seven provinces had toponymic capacity building held by BIG in 2021. The toponymic capacity buildings by BIG increased tremendously in 2022 to 75 activities in over 28 of 34 provinces. Nevertheless, there are still six provinces that never had toponymic capacity building either in 2021 or 2022. The six provinces are Riau, Riau Islands, Gorontalo, Central Sulawesi, North Maluku, and Papua.

The chart on right below shows the continuous growth in both users and data in the top 5 most active provinces from 2020 to 2022. The continuous growth suggests the effort to strengthen the capacity through toponymic capacity building has been successful. West Java had the highest leap in both users and data in just 2 years. The second place followed by Central Java in data growth and East Java in user growth.

The success of toponymic capacity building can be reflected through the continuous growth use of SINAR application. The increasing use of the SINAR application can be shown through the increasing number of the registered users and toponym data. Further research and evaluation are necessary to determine the factor contributing to the varying levels of growth for each province. Through continuous efforts to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders, the standardization of geographical names in Indonesia can be implemented effectively and efficiently to achieve its objectives.