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Other geographical names issues

Enhancing the implementation of geographical names in Indonesia through strategic monitoring and evaluation

Submitted by Indonesia **

Summary:

As mandated by Government Regulation No. 2/2021, the implementation of geographical names in Indonesia encompasses several key stages: collecting, verifying, announcing, and establishing geographical names, as well as generating the Gazetteer of the Republic of Indonesia. While these activities meet predetermined annual targets, they often face challenges and obstacles. Therefore, a structured approach to monitoring and evaluation (M&E) has been established to improve implementation quality and ensure the achievement of long-term objectives.

As the leading authority for geographical names standardization in Indonesia, the Indonesian Geospatial Information Agency (*Badan Informasi Geospasial* - BIG) has prioritized the development of a practical M&E framework. Guided by BIG Regulation No. 6/2023, this framework involves hierarchical coordination across ministries, organizations, and regional governments. Central to this effort is the SINAR application, which facilitates data collection, verification, and management at local and national levels.

The annual monitoring and evaluation process generates statistical reports that categorize data into three groups: surveying data, intermediary data (verification and recommendations at regency and provincial levels), and standardized geographical names data. These reports utilize estimation variables based on urban, rural, and suburban Areas of Interest (AOIs) and administrative areas. The data are analyzed to track progress, identify gaps, and provide actionable insights. Key outputs include percentage summaries, status charts, data growth trends, and distribution maps of surveyors and verifiers.

The M&E process has proven effective in improving the quality and quantity of geographical names data. Initial implementation in 2023 demonstrated significant enhancements, with minor corrections of standardized names during national-level announcements. The SINAR application was pivotal in streamlining data management and fostering stakeholder collaboration.

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Strategic M&E provides valuable assessments and recommendations to stakeholders at all levels, ensuring continuous improvement in the standardization process. National meetings and intergovernmental coordination disseminate these findings, promoting alignment across ministries and regional governments.

The focus will remain on adopting advanced methodologies and technologies to accelerate the standardization process and fulfill geographical naming targets more efficiently. By addressing current challenges and leveraging innovative solutions, Indonesia reaffirms its commitment to upholding the principles of geographical names standardization and contributing to global efforts under the framework of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN).

Enhancing The Implementation of Geographical Names in Indonesia Through Strategic Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

Introduction

Names in Indonesia involve several key stages: collecting, verifying, announcing, and standardizing geographical names, as well as publishing the Gazetteer of the Republic of Indonesia. Conducted annually, the standardization process often faces challenges at both central and local government levels, affecting the achievement of its targets.

To ensure continuous improvement, the standardization of geographical names aligns with the targets set in the National Medium-Term Development Plan. Monitoring and evaluation play a crucial role in addressing challenges and refining implementation processes. The annual monitoring and evaluation report documents activities throughout the year, serving as a basis for improving geographic name management and enhancing overall data quality in the future.

The Urgency of Monitoring and Evaluation in Indonesia

According to the regulation, the standardization of geographical names involves ministries, agencies, provincial governments, district/city governments, and other relevant stakeholders. This highlights its collaborative and cross-sectoral nature, ensuring a unified approach across Indonesia.

The standardization process begins with data collection from ministries, institutions, regional governments, and other entities. This includes naming, alteration, and abolishment mechanisms for geographical features. The collected data falls into various status categories, such as data collection, review, and standardization. Once standardized and documented, geographical names are compiled in the Gazetteer of the Republic of Indonesia (GRI), which serves as a reference for data-sharing and multiple government and public purposes.

Recognizing the need to assess the performance of administrators involved in geographical name standardization, the Indonesian Geospatial Information Agency (*Badan Informasi Geospasial* – BIG) developed the Evaluation Document Report on Geographical Names Standardization in Indonesia. This document provides a comprehensive assessment of standardization efforts, as outlined in the following sections.

Data Processing for Monitoring and Evaluation of Geographical Names Standardization

The data processing for the current year uses toponym data from June 2023 to December 2024, stored in the Geographical Names Information System of Indonesia (*Sistem Informasi Nama Rupabumi* – SINAR) across various status categories. This dataset includes points, lines, and polygons classified by administrative regions (regency/city and province). To analyze the data, the nearest approach method is applied to estimate values, calculate percentages, and identify growth trends within the given timeframe. The process involves multiple GIS tools and software including spreadsheets for managing both tabular and spatial data.

- **Defining The Data Estimation**

The data estimation process analyzes the current year's land use within designated areas in Indonesia, considering administrative boundaries. The resulting dataset is refined by applying predefined constants for urban, rural, and suburban classifications. To enhance efficiency and accessibility, the final results are consolidated into a centralized online spreadsheet, ensuring seamless information delivery.

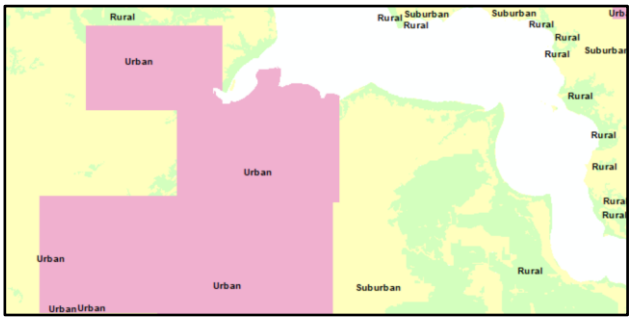

Figure 1. The Area of Interest: Urban, Rural, and Suburban

No	District	Regency/City	Province	Rural Area (km2)	Suburban Area (km2)	Urban Area (km2)	Estimation Taget_Rural	Estimation Taget_Suburban	Estimation Taget_Urban	Target Estimation Toponim Data
1					0.00368013603		0	0.01560377677	0	1
2			Jawa Timur			0.1010102737	0	0	3.347.480.471	4
3			Kalimantan Barat	0.3506067009	0.08688371942		0.6871891337	0.3683869703	0	2
4			Maluku	0.4531128764	1.839.372.528		0.8881012378	7.798.939.518	0	9
5			Maluku Utara		0.1492708245		0	0.632908296	0	1
6			Sulawesi Selatan	0.1072710661	0.1388898686		0.2102512895	0.5888930428	0	1
7			Sumatera Barat		0.5845106873		0	2.478.325.314	0	3
8			Sumatera Utara	0.3100139053	1.110.915.847		0.6076272544	471.028.319	0	6
9		Bangka Selatan	Kepulauan Bangka Belitung		0.00514295737		0	0.02180613925	0	1
10		Belitung	Kepulauan Bangka Belitung		0.00275077139		0	0.01166327069	0	1
11		Belitung Timur	Kepulauan Bangka Belitung		0.00002777398		0	0.0001177616752	0	1
12		Bengkulu Utara	Bengkulu		2.892.334.467		0	1.226.349.814	0	13
13		Blitar	Jawa Timur	0.1069386205	0.02229232623		0.2095996962	0.09451946322	0	1
14		Boalemo	Gorontalo		0.08946530745		0	0.3793329036	0	1
15		Bolaang Mongon	Sulawesi Utara	0.03723754659	0.00546120256		0.07298559132	0.02315549885	0	1

Figure 2. The Result of The Estimation Target Calculation

- **The Annual Achievement Calculation**

The annual achievement calculation evaluates the progress of geographical name standardization by local governments against the estimated target for the current year. To provide a clear overview of data status, percentages are categorized into three groups: Survey Data, Intermediate Data, and standardized geographical names data. This classification helps local governments assess the current condition of their data. The calculation follows the equation below:

$$Data\ Percentage\ = \frac{Amount\ of\ Data}{Estimation\ Target} \times 100\%$$

Below is the example of the calculated annual achievement data:

Province	*Regency/City*	Estimation Targets	Total Data	Percentage Total Data	Survey Data	Percentage Survey Data	Intermediate Data	Percentage Intermediate Data	Standardized Geonames Data	Percentage Standardized Geonames Data
Jawa Barat	Bandung	22.131	23.472	106	8186	37	14358	65	928	4
Jawa Barat	Bandung Barat	14.440	1.827	13	61	0	1748	12	18	0
Jawa Barat	Bekasi	41.426	44.860	108	1875	5	42847	103	138	0
Jawa Barat	Bogor	44.175	2.965	7	206	0	2726	6	33	0
Jawa Barat	Ciamis	12.169	2.788	23	38	0	2704	22	46	0
Jawa Barat	Cianjur	17.711	45.685	258	12194	69	31640	179	1849	10
Jawa Barat	Cirebon	24.805	1.515	6	52	0	1403	6	60	0
Jawa Barat	Garut	11.299	8.052	71	3448	31	4568	40	36	0
Jawa Barat	Indramayu	15.973	5.723	36	94	1	4919	31	710	4
Jawa Barat	Karawang	57.616	6.313	11	678	1	5620	10	15	0
Jawa Barat	Kota Bandung	5.513	1.786	32	1022	19	723	13	41	1
Jawa Barat	Kota Banjar	3.597	3.470	96	79	2	3339	93	52	1
Jawa Barat	Kota Bekasi	7.065	8.355	118	485	7	7062	100	808	11
Jawa Barat	Kota Bogor	3.693	481	13	10	0	418	11	53	1
Jawa Barat	Kota Cimahi	1.408	6.214	441	3643	259	2421	172	150	11

Figure 3. The Result of the Annual Achievement Calculation

- **The Data Growth**

The data growth aims to show the current trends of the three groups' data: Survey Data, Intermediate Data, and Standardized Geographical Names Data, from July 2023 until December 2024.

WADMPR	WADMKK	01_Juli 2023	02_Agustus 202	03_September 2	04_Oktober 202	05_November 2	06_Desember 2	07_Januari 2024	08_Febuari 2024	09_Maret 2024
		01 Data Survei	01 Data Survei	01 Data Survei	01 Data Survei	01 Data Survei	01 Data Survei	01 Data Survei	01 Data Survei	01 Data Survei
Jawa Barat	Bandung Barat	33	33	33	33	36	36	36	36	61
Jawa Barat	Bekasi	1149	1095	1265	1453	1382	1402	1441	1419	1419
Jawa Barat	Bogor	182	183	183	183	183	183	183	189	191
Jawa Barat	Ciamis	15	16	16	23	27	28	33	33	33
Jawa Barat	Cianjur	4821	4376	4740	4578	4692	4892	4917	4987	5683
Jawa Barat	Cirebon	14	14	16	16	16	34	34	33	37
Jawa Barat	Garut	3418	3418	3418	3418	3418	3418	3419	3419	3434
Jawa Barat	Indramayu	75	78	90	90	90	94	94	94	94
Jawa Barat	Karawang	448	449	449	449	449	449	449	449	449
Jawa Barat	Kota Bandung	150	151	152	152	153	152	159	159	190
Jawa Barat	Kota Banjar	153	11	8	8	8	8	8	8	9
Jawa Barat	Kota Bekasi	421	421	423	425	425	431	435	435	435
Jawa Barat	Kota Bogor	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	10	12

Figure 4. The Existing Geographical NamesData per Month

The graph below illustrates data trends for the three main categories of existing data.

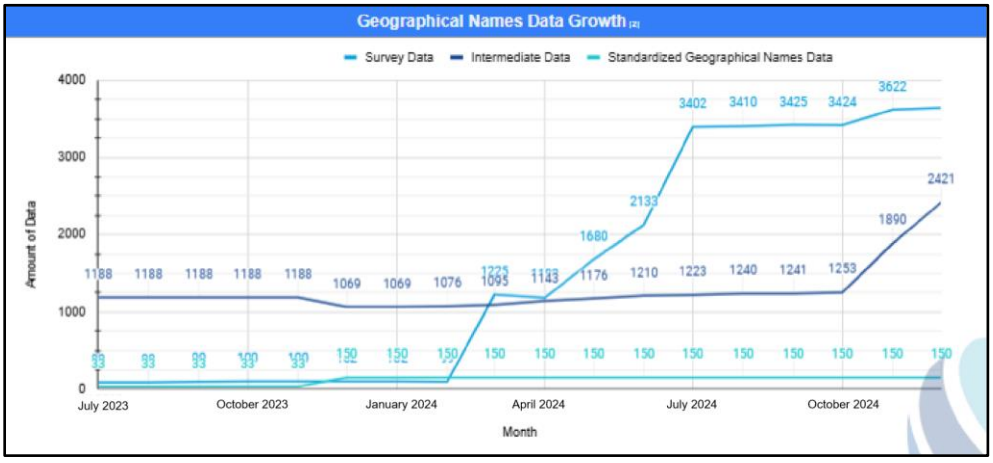

Figure 5. The Example of Data Growth

- **Result of Monitoring and Evaluation**

The final output is a single file comprising three sections. The first section presents an overview of data trends, the second visualizes the spatial distribution through a data distribution map, and the third provides a recapitulation of data for smaller administrative areas.

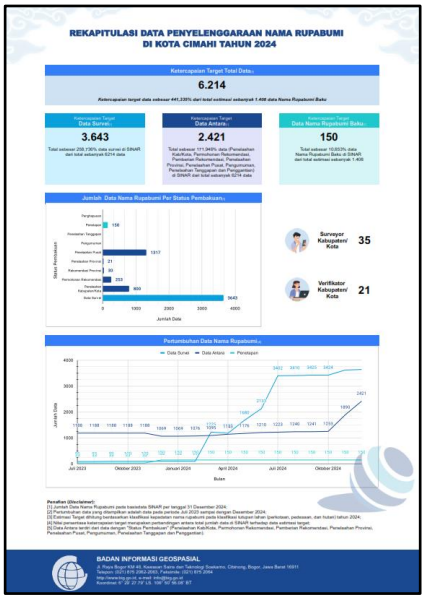

Figure 6. Data Report

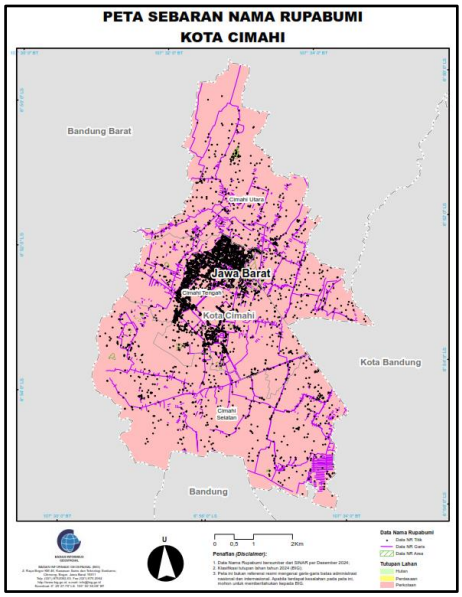

Figure 7. Geographical Names Data Distribution

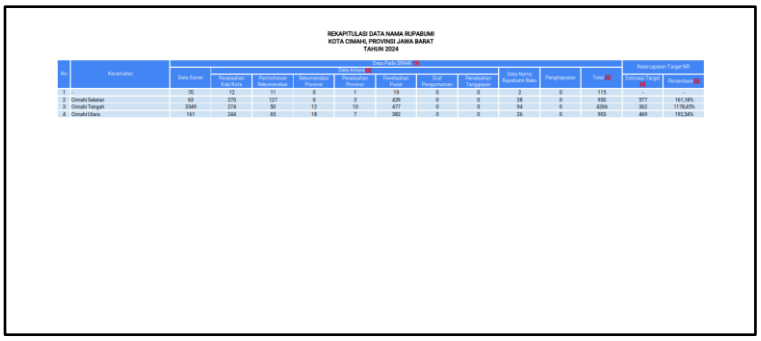

Figure 8. Data Recapitulation

- **Dissemination of the report**

The report is delivered online via SINAR Web and through official notification letters to local governments using a top-down approach. It includes an introductory report to provide insights into ongoing activities, challenges, and application developments, supporting the implementation of geographical names in Indonesia.

Conclusion

The standardization of geographical names faces challenges in human resources, technology, and data. However, in 2024, the process was successfully implemented, exceeding the established targets. The results are presented in the table below.

NO	PARAMETER	2023	2024	%
1	Geographical Names Data	462.266	831.222	79,81%
2	Standardized Geographical Names Data	37.342	41.307	10,62%
3	Province Surveyor	23	58	152,17%
4	Province Verifier	107	221	106,54%
5	Regency/City Surveyor	1.414	3.440	143,28%
6	Regency/City Verifier	806	1.520	88,59%
7	Contributor	14.575	20.808	42,77%

Figure 9. The Significant Growth of Users and Data

This achievement is primarily driven by enhanced stakeholder communication, a key success factor. Additionally, the continuous development of the SINAR application has played a crucial role in supporting these efforts. Strengthening and refining the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for geographical name standardization has also contributed significantly, reducing rejections and negative feedback upon data publication—demonstrating a clear improvement in quality.

Recommendation

Advancements in methodology and scientific research should be leveraged to enhance and accelerate the standardization of geographical names. Optimizing business processes in geographical name management will help expedite target achievements while improving data quality and accuracy in the coming years.

Key efforts include continuous training for human resources, technological modernization, and enhanced data integration, ensuring more effective support for development planning and cultural preservation. Strengthening governance is also crucial, particularly in coordination, community engagement, and monitoring mechanisms. Establishing clear technical guidelines and a well-structured division of responsibilities will help maintain high national standards while preserving local heritage. Additionally, cross-sector collaboration will be a key factor in ensuring the long-term success of geographical name standardization.