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**Other geographical names issues**

**Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi Awards: an effective evaluation  
mechanism for geographical names standardization in Indonesia**

Submitted by Indonesia \*\*

**Summary:**

In 2024, the Indonesian Geospatial Information Agency (*Badan Informasi Geospasial* - BIG) held the 10th annual Bhumandala Awards, recognizing excellence in geospatial data and infrastructure innovation. Since the 8th annual awards, a dedicated category—*Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi*—has been introduced to honor significant contributions to the standardization of geographical names in Indonesia. This category highlights the persistent efforts of various stakeholders, celebrating achievements in managing and standardizing geographical names as a critical component of national development policies and regional governance.

Over the past three years, the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Awards have attracted many participants from ministries, national agencies, local governments, private entities, and academia. This increasing participation reflects the stakeholders' commitment to advancing the standardization of geographical names. The awards play a strategic role in motivating institutions to systematically organize and utilize geographical names in alignment with Government Regulation No. 2 of 2021 on the standardization of geographical names.

The paper outlines the development of the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Awards, focusing on categories, the growth of participants, and assessment mechanisms over the past three years. Notable improvements include expanding the scope of assessments to integrate additional supporting data, revising criteria, adjusting weighting parameters, and diversifying award categories. These enhancements accommodate the increasing number of participants and ensure comprehensive evaluations.

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\* GEGN.2/2025/1

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# **Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi Awards: An Effective Evaluation Mechanism for Geographical Names Standardization in Indonesia**

## **Introduction**

Since 2022, the Indonesian Geospatial Information Agency (*Badan Informasi Geospasial* - BIG) has organized the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* awards three years in a row. The event is a mandate to BIG, as mentioned in Government Regulation No. 2 of 2021 on the standardization of geographical names and BIG Regulation Number 6/2023 as detailed implementation rules, as an action of technical monitoring and evaluation. *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* awards recognize stakeholders, namely Ministries/Institutions, regional governments, and other parties contributing to geographical names standardization in Indonesia. During the three years, some transformations and enhancements were made, including assessment techniques, timeframes, and participant categories, to ensure higher-quality awards.

## **Development of Awarding Category, Assessment Method, and Number of Winners**

This year marks the third event for the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Awards, which began in 2022. As part of the first event in the 2022 evaluation, some important improvements are planned to be implemented in next year's event. BIG commits to hosting the events annually, a commitment reflected in the awards presented in 2023 and 2024. The absence of technical guidance in the first year came as a challenge, which led BIG to provide the document in 2024. The document emphasizes BIG's commitment to perform a transparent and accountable assessment in determining the winners.

BIG has also included external examiners in the judging team to complement the previously all-internal team from BIG in the first year. In the event of 2023, Mr. Titi Bachtiar, as the winner of the individual category in 2022, was included as an external judge. For the recent event in 2024, Professor Bangun Muljo Sukojo and Mrs. Titiek Suparwati sat in the external teams and performed in the interview stage.

BIG, as the committee of the event, also had some improvements, including category, period for submission of data and information, and parameters of assessment, as shown in Table 1. In 2022, there were five categories: ministries/agencies, provinces, regencies/cities, NGOs/communities, and individuals. As the evaluation of the first-year event, BIG decided to have the NGO/community and individuals category every two years to accommodate the stakeholders performing wider activities and research related to geographical names standardization.

In 2023, the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* awards opened three categories: Ministries/Agencies, Provinces, and Regencies/Cities. According to the evaluation of the awarding process in 2023, the regency/city category was divided into two separate categories to accommodate and hold fairness due to the significant difference issues between regency and city. Two separate categories were implemented in the 2024 event agenda. For the most recent awards, there are six categories: Ministries/Agencies, Provinces, Regencies, Cities, NGO/Community, and Individuals.

BIG also revised the activity stages, parameters, and the period of data and information to increase the number of participants and to see better quality of the assessment. In 2022, the evaluation used data from the Geographical Names Information System (*Sistem Informasi Nama Rupabumi* - SINAR). The selected finalists were then asked to provide supporting data and information. Interview sessions were only performed for the NGO/Community and Individuals categories. As part of the evaluation of the first-year event, in 2023, the government category including ministries/agencies, provinces, regency, and city are required to submit data and information related to activities and institutions parameters, which are used along with two other parameters, quantity and quality, based on SINAR to assess and choose the finalists. The new approach is intended to motivate participants to be more passionate and engage with the events from the beginning of the awards process. The data and information are then processed to choose the finalists in each category, who are invited to join the interview stage, which is also used in the 2024 event.

**Table 1.** *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Assessment Method

Assessment	2022	2023	2024
Category	Ministries/Agencies, Provinces, Regencies, Other Parties	Ministries/Agencies, Provinces, Regencies	Ministries/Agencies, Provinces, Regencies, City, Other Parties
Data Period	2021-20 September 2022	September 22, 2022 - June 30, 2023	July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024
Parameters	Quantity, Quality, Activity, Institutional	Quantity, Quality, Activity, Institutional	Quantity, Quality, Activity, Institutional

One of the crucial parts of assessment is the period for data and information. The cut-off time affects the determination of the data that can be reviewed and be part of the assessment. The data examined in 2022 covers the period of 2021 to September 2022. In 2023, the committee determined the consistency of the period for data and information from 1 July to 30 June. In 2023, the data that can be submitted and calculated in the assessment is from October 2022 to June 30, 2023. As an impact of the regularity period, in 2024, the assessment data covers the period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024..

The assessment parameters cover four themes: quantity, quality, activities, and institutions. In the 2023 and 2024 implementations, the assessment of these four factors will be used to determine which finalists are eligible to participate in the interview stage. Every year, the weight for parameters remains constant. The results of the first stage are combined with the interview stage results to decide the winner.

Over the three implementations, the number of registered participants increased, as shown in Table 2. The regencies and cities categories participants demonstrate high participation rates. However, the number of participants from ministries/agencies and provinces has remained stagnant. The number of participants in the NGO/communities and Individuals categories has not shown significant.

**Table 2.** Number of Participants in *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi*

Category	2022	2023	2024
Ministries/Agencies	4	4	3
Provinces	5	7	6
Regency	5	39	36
City	-	-	10
Other parties	7	-	6

The number of winners is also adjusted in three years of awards events. In 2022, there was only one winner in each category. In 2023, BIG added winners to first, second, and third place. In 2024, BIG delivered a new approach to determining the winner by having a group of winners, namely gold, silver, and bronze, accommodating each group to have more than one winner. These changes were made because some participants have similar capacities and equally deserve to be recognized as the best.

## Award Winners and Ceremonial Events

In three years of *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Awards events, the number of winners increased, as shown in Table 3, sorted by category.

**Table 3.** *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Award Winners

Category	2022	2023	2024
Ministries/Agencies	Secretariat General of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Secretariat General of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing</li> <li>2. Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources</li> <li>3. Directorate General of Marine Management and Marine Spatial Environment, Secretariat General of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries</li> <li>4. Hydro-Oceanographic Center of the Indonesian Navy (<i>Pusat Hidro-Oceanografi, TNI Angkatan Laut-Pushidrosal</i>)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Secretariat General of the Ministry of Public Works and Housing</li> <li>2. Hydro-Oceanographic Center of the Indonesian Navy (<i>Pusat Hidro-Oceanografi, TNI Angkatan Laut-Pushidrosal</i>)</li> <li>3. Directorate General of Marine Management and Marine Spatial Environment, Secretariat General of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries</li> </ol>
Provinces	West Java Provincial Government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. West Java Provincial Government</li> <li>2. Central Java Provincial Government</li> <li>3. East Java Provincial Government</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. East Java Provincial Government</li> <li>2. Central Java Provincial Government</li> <li>3. West Java Provincial Government</li> <li>4. West Kalimantan Provincial Government</li> <li>5. South Sumatera Provincial Government</li> </ol>
Regencies	Cianjur Regency	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Magelang Regency Government</li> <li>2. Bandung Regency Government</li> <li>3. Cianjur Regency Government</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lebak Regency Government</li> <li>2. Cianjur Regency Government</li> <li>3. Kudus Regency Government</li> <li>4. Magelang Regency Government</li> <li>5. Sumedang Regency Government</li> </ol>
Cities	-	-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Semarang City Government</li> <li>2. Cimahi City Government</li> <li>3. Banjarmasin City Government</li> <li>4. Banjar City Government</li> <li>5. Samarinda City Government</li> </ol>
Individuals	Titi Bachtiar	-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prof. Dr. RMT. Multamia Lauder</li> <li>2. Dr. Fajar Erikha, S.Psi., M.Hum</li> <li>3. Dr. Nani Darheni, S.S.,</li> </ol>

Category	2022	2023	2024
			M.Pd.
NGO/communities	Open Street Map (OSM)	-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bandung Mountain Exploration Community</li> <li>2. Muhammadiyah Malang University - Faculty of Economics and Business</li> </ol>

The ceremony for the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Awards 2023 was held in Bali on November 6, 2023 (Fig. 2). The 2024 ceremony was conducted in Jakarta on November 4, 2024, and broadcast on Metro TV, a television network in Indonesia (Fig. 3). In the awarding event, ministers, governors, and heads of the regencies and cities joined and received the awards, showing the commitments from leaders in Indonesia to support geographical name standardization in Indonesia.



Figure 2. *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Award Ceremony 2023



Figure 3. *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Award Ceremony 2024

## Conclusion

In the first introduction in 2022, the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Awards had some issues to handle in upcoming events, including the requirement for external assessors for judging, technical instructions for activities, and consistency in handing out prizes annually. BIG makes its best effort to fulfill the remaining issues and successfully delivers awards ceremonially in 2023 and 2024. The number of participants has increased, but BIG recognizes a new strategy is required to encourage more and larger participation in the events. BIG also needs to approach a wider number of NGOs, communities, and scientists to participate. BIG believes that the *Bhumandala Nama Rupabumi* Award is an effective approach as an evaluation mechanism of Geographical Name Standardization in Indonesia.