

Crowdsourcing in National Names Authority: OSM Data and Topographic Map Data

Aji Putra Perdana

Ph.D. Student, University of Twente

Abstract:

Since the emerging of volunteered and crowdsourcing approaches in geospatial information and technology bring new ideas and paradigms in research on toponyms or geographical names. “Volunteered Geographic Information (VGI) and Crowdsourcing” is one of the issues discussed by The Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers of UNGEGN (United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names) within the Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (UNCSGN) 2012 in New York. Crowdsourcing offers an opportunity and provides insights not available to traditional geographical names data collection. In order to investigate on this issues, this working group also maintain the online discussion forum as part of the Working Group website. Currently, there are two kinds of research activities on geographical names collection conduct by several national names authority: developing the application in mobile phone or web application and the possibility of using the existing and available of crowdsourcing geographic data such as open street map (OSM) data. The discussion of VGI and Crowdsourcing in National Names Authority also continued within the national policies related to geospatial information or specifically on geographical names and promotion of the standardization procedure of geographical names. Empowering the local people to participate in data collection is also part of the awareness using volunteered and crowdsourcing approach. In another hand, the concern of the standardization of geographical names is how to use crowdsourcing geographic data as the complementary data to be verified by the national names authority. In this presentation will describe the use and integration of OSM data and Topographic Map data to support research on names for possible authorization. An example of the dataset (OSM data and Topographic Map data) used in the verification process will be presented, including data preparation, verification process on geographical names, and until post-verification also data maintenance. This case study is an example of how national names authority using and integrating crowdsourcing geographic data with available official data.