

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

Advancing Free Trade for Asia-Pacific **Prosperity** 

Capacity Building for Managing Single Online Location for Regulatory Information in Indonesia

December 2017 - 2018

**APEC Economic Committee** 

May 2019

APEC Project: EC 07 2017A

Produced by

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APEC#219-EC-04.4

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#### Introduction

Measures to remove regulatory obstacles to regional trade and investment have become increasingly central to APEC activities. In the Honolulu Leaders' Declaration 2011, in Apendix-D, Strengthening Good Regulatory Practices, Leaders called on all APEC economies to take steps in the rulemaking process by: (1) ensuring internal coordination; (2) assessing the impact of new and existing regulations; and (3) conducting public consultations. In 2013, Leaders has also encourage economies to take specific actions to develop, use or strengthen the implementation of the three Good Regulatory Practices identified in 2011, and note three optional tools used by some economies to help achieve this goal including 1) single online locations for regulatory information; 2) prospective regulatory planning; 3) periodic reviews of existing regulation.

To improve transparency and accountability and to implement good regulatory practices as stated above, the government enacted Presidential Regulations No. 33/2012 and Ministerial Decree No. 2/2013 stipulates the establishment of Legal Information and Documentation Network or JDIH to provide and accelerate public service delivery on legal information and to standardize legal information management in all level of governments throughout Indonesia.

The Ministry of Law and Human Rights was on the implementation of the said regulation, however, the progress has been slow due to development gap among regional governments, human resources and the complexity of highly decentralized government. To accelerate the integration process, Indonesia proposed an APEC RAASR Project to conduct series of capacity building to develop set of skills and proficiency required for officials responsible for legal documentation.

This project supports Indonesia's regulatory reform agenda to accelerate integration of online legal database into the portal by conducting series of workshops to disseminate, to facilitate and to support officials from central and regional governments. The project will also contribute to Indonesia's Open Government program to promote transparency, accountability, public participation and innovation.

The project is a follow-up phase of a previous APEC project on Capacity Building Program to Facilitate the Development of Single Online Portal for Regulatory Information in Indonesia implemented in 2015.

The objectives of this project are as follow:

• Capacity building activities for agencies yet to develop an online regulatory database. To conduct series of training workshops to raise awareness and to

support and assist local and central agencies so they will be able to establish a regulatory data base; and

 Technical and advisory support to integrate into the portal for agencies that have an online regulatory database. To conduct training for officials to manage, update and to sustain the online regulatory database.

The activities have been conducted throughout Indonesia, taking into account that there are 1610 Regulatory Units from all level of governments (Central, Provincial, Regency, Municipality), the workshop/training conducted in 4 regions, in Western, Central and Eastern Indonesia to reduce the transportation costs and to encourage every network member to participate in the workshop closest to their area. The first to third workshops were intended for officials from local governments (provincial and municipality) to provide information, requirements, tools, support and technical assistance for regulatory units or JDIH from local governments to develop their website and to provide all necessary requirements for members who already have developed their website. The final workshop was intended to JDIH from central government of which most agencies already have a website developed but may require information and technical capacities to integrate into the portal.

## Briefing of the presentations

Workshops divided into 2 sessions, first session consists of presentation, discussions and sharing experiences for approximately one and half day. A second session, officials and experts provide technical assistance develop and integrate database. Presentations from workshops consist of 3 sections, first, officials from Ministry of Law and Human Rights presented regulatory reform agenda and briefed about legal documentation and information database, followed by sharing best practices and experiences from local governments, users and experts. Lastly, presentation focused on technical aspects on website development and integration. The last section of the workshop, participants required to use their laptop for a training session, officials and expert provide technical guidance on how to integrate into the website.

Brief of the presentation are as follows:

#### A. Regulatory Reform Agenda

Officials from Ministry of Law and Human Rights presented priorities and reform agenda and the important role of an integrated database in public service delivery and legal information management 1. Development of an integrated online regulatory database.

All law and legal documents are required to be readily accessible. Thus, to manage huge legal and law database, it would need to be supported by ICT for faster document management and easily accessible for the public.

2. To periodically evaluate regulations.

All regulations will be evaluated periodically to ensure its competency, effectiveness and efficiency to achieve its intended objectives.

To implement these objectives, the government established the Legal Documentation and Information Network (JDIHN) in 2013. JDHIN was established with consideration that the availability of a comprehensive and accurate legal information is a vital requirement in regulatory decision making process that serve as important references in determining the foundation of developing a new regulation.

JDIHN is responsible for:

- a. Developing and maintaining effective cooperation between the network center and its members as well as among fellow network members to provide legal documentation and to manage a comprehensive regulatory information database throughout Indonesia
- b. Providing regular and on demand technical support and consultation to network members.
- c. Improving and maintaining quality of service to provide greater accessibility to legal information for the public as an integral part of implementing a clean and accountable government.

JDIHN currently has a membership of 1610 network members which will continue to grow along with the development of JDIHN. JDIHN's membership includes, among others, the Legal Unit at the State Ministry, State Institution, Non-Ministerial Government Institutions, Provincial Government, Regency/City Government, Regional Legislative Secretariat, Legal Library at State and Private Universities, and other institutions engaged in the development of legal documentation and information.

#### **B.** Sharing experiences

Member of JDIH unit in local government share experiences on how they develop online regulatory database. Some notable experience are as follow:

#### B.1. JDIH member from Tuban Regency, East Java

In 2011, the Government of East Java launched the JDIHN website to provide easier and faster access to regulatory database and in 2017 the government introduced a mobile-based application called Jariku Android to raise awareness and to encourage people to use the JDIH legal database and to ensure the availability and accessibility of legal information.

In short, the android-based application contains features as follow:

- Law and legislation information catalog; a comprehensive list of local legislation and other related information
- Legal handbook; legal documentations and information that can be viewed via mobile phone.

For this innovation, in 2018 the Regional Government of Tuban has been awarded by the Ministry of Law and Human Rights as the best regional government on public service delivery and innovation.

# **B.2. JDIH member from West Java Provincial Government**

With the aim to improve transparency, accountability and public service delivery, the Government of West Java Province established a JDIH unit in 1980 and begin to develop computer based legal catalogue in 2000. The unit is also the first JDIH unit integrated into the integrated legal database in 2016. By the end of 2017, the website and legal data base directory attracted 27,162 unique visitors.

The website and its legal database also serve to inform the public on the progress of development in West Java Province, e-budgeting and more importantly, to raise awareness and encourage public to participate in regulatory development process by providing comments on planned and drafted regulations. In 2018, a mobile-based android application called 'JDIH Jabar', was launched to provide faster and easier access for the public.

## C. Technical Aspects on database Integration and standardization

JDIHN Website Integration Development activities focus on the concept of data integration systems that will be used to collect statutory data from all JDIH members throughout Indonesia. This integration system uses an API (Application Programing Interface) for retrieving data from members servers to JDIHN servers, based on the activity log of member's database.

The advantages of programming using the API are: (i) portability; Programmer can run the API in any environment/operating system; (ii) easier to understand; the API uses programming language that is more structured and easier to understand than the system call language. This is very important in terms of editing and development; and (iii) low resources. This system works quite effectively and in most cases, does not overload the server, because the API system reads the database log and will only send data to the JDIHN server if there is an update or activity The benefits of integration:

# **Objective standardization**

The website standardization aims to provide guidelines to all JDIH units regarding the minimum requirement and tools to develop JDIH website to create a consistency in design and interface in all JDIH online legal database.

The procedures contain six indicators as follow:

# • Technical standard system requirement comprises of

- Domain name. Domain name is a unique name to identified computer server for example website server or email server in computer network or internet. Domain name main function is to make it easier for a user when they access a server. Moreover, it is also easier to remember the domain name instead compare to memorize the IP address. Domain name is also known as the entity of a website. Therefore, the usage of domain name adjusted to the related institution e.g. www.jdih.bphn.go.id
- Storage. Space limit total is a maximum capacity offered by hosting provider. The space limit capacity should be able to sustain the needs for several years, since the amount of data will continue to grow.
- Bandwidth capacity. Bandwidth capacity is a maximum capacity of a network link transmitting bits of data (including text, picture, video, voice, etc.) between hosting server and user computer in a certain period. Minimum requirement for bandwidth is 2 Mbps.
- Open source application. It is recommended to use an "open source" application. e.g. Linux.
- Template. Interface/layout/appearance of the website should show JDIHN characteristics.
- Appearance

- User friendly interface. The appearance of the JDIHN website should be easy to use. It is also have to be able to be accessed from a limited bandwidth, so it is still can be accessible to people live in limited infrastructure.
- JDIHN information. The website need to contain JDIHN identity including the logo, page list of network member below its institution and working plan of JDIHN activity.
- Basic requirements
  - Basic identity of JDIHN. In the website need to contain the vision and mission of JDIHN; JDIHN management organization structure; website usage instruction; and JDIHN management address and a contact person.
  - o **JDIHN activity information.** It contains all the recent JDIHN activities.
  - **Site map.** A tool to assist users to view the website directory. It will help the search engine to detect the content on the JDIHN website.
  - **JDIHN interactive forum.** This forum to help the user to exchange information related to JDIHN.

## **Briefing and Discussions**

Each workshop provided rather interesting discussion among members. In brief, there are some similarities of issues that concern among members, as follows

- Low rate participation. Members discussed their challenges in initiating, developing the database. They pointed out that lack knowledge of the government regulatory reform agenda and leaders support are the main factors on why they have yet initiated an online legal database.
- Development gap and lack of IT infrastructure in rural and remote areas. Members
  from remote areas revealed that they still struggling to get a good reception for their
  mobile phones, let alone developing an online data base. Thus, until the central
  government can provide an adequate IT infrastructure, it is not feasible for them to
  develop a website.
- Budget restrained; many regional JDIH Members have yet to allocate budget for a website development let alone integrating into a web-portal.
- Lack of quality and quantity of human resources. Members discussed on how to improve capacity and quantity officials responsible for JDIH.

• Lack of legal foundation for an integrated system. Members discussed whether central JDIHN could enacted a government regulation which contain a full guideline, from planning, monitoring, developing and integrating legal documentation.

# Recommendations

Participants understood that developing government website and online legal information and database no only will accelerate documentation, data processing and improving the quality of public service, but also improving the process of policy making. However, participants, particularly from from rural and remote areas are concerned about lack of infrastructure in the region, poor internet coverage and lack of official to develop and maintain the website, as well as limited budget, thus, developing website will be somewhat useless without people to maintain the website and poor internet coverage, therefore they were recommend that the central government will speed up infrastructure development in the eastern Indonesia to get assisted and trained to develop and integrate the website. They also requested that the central government could persuade local governments to allocate the budget for this matter.

Members also provide recommendation on how to improve the online portal as follow:

- Analyze the visitors for future development.
- Develop forum or group for JDIH member
- Developing a mobile-based application program. Established members should also consider developing a mobile based application for even faster and easier access to online legal database.
- Using QR Code for books and documents archive.
- Provide a JDIH award for the most innovative members.
- Optimizing available human resources by using information system and provide training for trainers to improve capacity of officials.
- Providing a regular technical assistance to network members
- Developing an integrated system and regularly monitoring JDIH member development