

NL Knowledge House Indonesia – Collaboration Dialogue
Research Collaboration in Indonesia: Navigating Policies and Permits
Tuesday, 19th September 2023,
14.00 – 15:30 WIB / 9.00 – 10.30 CEST

Speakers:

1. Mr. Ayom Widipaminto, Director of Repositories, Multimedia, and Scientific Publishing, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)
2. Ms. Tri Sundari– Director of Management of Research Permits and Innovation and Scientific Authorities, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN)

Moderator:

Ms. Yvonne Klerks – Science & Education Attaché, The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Indonesia

1st Session: A Presentation About, the Mandatory Deposit of Primary Data and the Output of Research Results

Explanation regarding the National Scientific Repository. “Wajib Serah Wajib Simpan” regulations Research funded by the government will have a mandatory deposit of data and research outputs. BRIN regulations will be expanded. BRIN will have more detailed regulations regarding data security, utility, and forums to convince users to reserve primary data. Related to the regulation, BRIN has regulation no 22. Mandatory deposit to the repository.

Based on law number 11, there are 2 systems of repositories. Contained publications, research reports, and scientific publications. For the data, brin.go.id uses IQSS Harvard University. Content policies support all data types, several data formats, and no quota limitation with each maximum size of 18 GB. Secondary data can be uploaded.

The repository serves universities, industries, ministries, research organizations, and foreign research. Supported by data information centres and laboratories. Interoperability with other systems. Lastly, we prepare historical data, imaging, and digitalization. All primary data must be submitted to the repository.

The legal aspects of the decision success level are all defined by the data owner. BRIN only facilitates the data platform. The level of access should be defined by the owner. If the data owner decides to close, then all should close. We also have sensitive data handling. If needed data owner could ask for a curator to access clearances. Data can be considered sensitive if relates to national defense, natural diversity, a person's identity, personal conditions, and state relations.

Data security in RIN can be restricted by locking each file. Account access limitation, provide guestbook feature, RIN uses creative commons license, regular data backup, disaster recovery centre, auto encryption, and uses handle as a PID.

Creative Commons license use Dissemination by BRIN. Our repository is a state service for the mandatory deposit. So, we invite all of you researchers who do your research in Indonesia or collaborate with the Indonesian government, to comply with the mandatory deposit law using our repository.

1st Session Q&A

1. Why do you recommend the Creative Commons License?
 - a. *The first point is that we don't call the data owners to open the data. Because when we open the data, the reproducibility of the research is much easier and more open. That's why we recommend the open-source license because it is very common, and open and can serve the 3 access: open, moderate, and closed access. That's why we recommend the Creative Commons License.*
2. Is storage of secondary data also mandatory? Or is it only the storage of primary data is mandatory?
 - a. *No, secondary data is not mandatory, only the primary data is mandatory. However, when they need secondary data, our repository can support this request. But for the mandatory deposit, should be focused on primary data.*
3. You mentioned that the researchers themselves have access to the data. For how long? How does it work?
 - a. *In the Law No.11, it is stated that the minimum period is 20 years. But in our system, there is no retention time. We have designed the system for a long live time.*
4. Is it possible for researchers to delete the data?
 - a. *Yes, it all depends on the data owners. If the data owners decide to delete their data, they can delete the data. For example, the process is we prepare the storage, data owners use the storage, and if something happens, we can recall the data. At the moment, our repository has a policy to be temporarily closed to solve the problem.*
5. Primary data might have sensitive information that should not be shared with the public, how do you protect primary data that contains sensitive information?
 - a. *If we refer to Law No.11, the spirit is: "earth, water, and natural resources of Indonesia should be protected for the benefit of Indonesia". That's why we preserve the data for a long time, when the data is related to ethical regulation, then it should be closed, with the decision by the data owners. That's why the rule of data owners is very important to define, which is the open or closed data. For security, we have encryption and level access, and the proven platform is the Harvard system. We also have regular backups of data to convince the user that the data is safe for a long retention period.*
6. Can you anonymize the data that you upload to the data repository?
 - a. *Yes of course, if it's related to a person's identity, or personal condition, it must be anonymized.*
7. Regarding research output, what exactly is needed to be stored there? Can you give some examples?
 - a. *By definition, research output is a scientific paper, IP, literature, blueprint prototype, and report document. But in our amendment regulation, we will coordinate between agencies. But the priority is the primary data and for the research output, we will connect with the other platforms from other agencies to coordinate based on the national regulations. For example, some reports after 20 years should be sent to ANRI.*
8. Does archival material count as primary source material/data and does that also need to be deposited? Even though it is already part of the Indonesian institute/database?
 - a. *Yes, because we call it a backup service. Even though they have stored the data in their system. However, because it is mandatory, researchers should also submit the data to the repository. There is an administrative sanction if data owners do not make the mandatory deposit. BRIN also won't facilitate the research operations. That's why we encourage all data owners to register as a backup of the service. You should save the data to the repository when you have your own em. But if you don't have your own*

datarage, you can use our repository, where we can help you save your data for a long time.

9. Do raw anthropological fieldwork notes fall under this policy? For those, how is the co-ownership of the informant organized??
 - a. *The definition of primary data is physical, digital and live specimens. Related to biological and nonbiological fields, artefacts should be considered physical. We tried to have a special metadata catalogue where we manage the primary data while still managing the other agency. For example, we work with museums that have several artefacts and digitalization. But in the short term, we must ensure our repository can handle the catalogue's metadata.*

10. I am talking about fieldwork written notes. They are highly personal and almost impossible to anonymise. The informant is seen in anthropology as a co-owner and co-creator of this raw data. Hence my question.
 - a. *The law states when you have a co-owner, the owner will decide who will store the data. If format data cannot be anonymized, by the system you could still close the data by yourself. Even the technical people who managed the repository cannot access the data. We can guarantee that.*

11. I may have missed it, but when is a researcher or institute required to submit all their data to the repository? Is it when the project is financed by Indonesian governmental funding?
 - a. *two conditions are required for the mandatory deposit. One is when the research is conducted in Indonesia, or the object is in Indonesia. And/or when the research is funded by the govt of Indonesia (article 4 point 6). When should the data be stored is after the research is finished and the primary data should be saved to the repository. And when the research results of the primary data are completed.*

12. In this repository system, are there functions that assist researchers in finding data already stored or let researchers cooperate?
 - a. *We use the data first system from Harvard but there is a searching feature to search what data or subjects are already stored. Related to the data owners, the data set is related to the project name and the title itself. But when the user request or have the potential to collaborate to use the data, they can also access it directly when the data opens. But when it is closed, we can use the guestbook feature. The data user should fill in the list then the data owner can contact the potential user and collaborate. Our repository doesn't have the feature yet, only data and connect researchers to use data in the repository.*

13. Can BRIN delete data if it is sensitive or violates ethics and the data owner chooses not to delete it?
 - a. *We have a policy called recall data. We cannot delete it because the set is all dependent on the data of the owner. But if something law-and-security-related happens, we have a special high-level decision, where BRIN is ordered to delete it. The Court should decide that level.*

14. It is great that BRIN offers these facilities and data management is of course very important. I strongly believe in sharing information between scholars, including data. However, I am concerned that also security services (army, police) would access my data. E.g. I research corruption, I would be afraid that my transcripts can be checked by persons who are guilty of corruption. There are also other sensitive topics. I would not trust my own (Dutch) government with such data either, or any other government. What guarantee do we have that it is the state can't check primary data?
 - a. *By law the guarantee depends on the owner to open or close the data unless there is a special level order from the court mandate. Only then we must access and open the data (Keputusan Pengadilan -> Special Case).*

This is another research of its own that BRIN is also doing as they are also aware if there are researchers who are focusing on sensitive topics; so, they are discussing how should they go about this? Regardless, in terms of data protection, there is already a Harvard system that will ensure data protection. But for now, if there is a court mandate, data must be accessed to support court proceedings.

15. What about archives beyond ANRI?

- a. *National Scientific Repository (RIN) - BRIN will have coordination for managing research output that relates to or includes the definition of archive, we will connect and build the interoperability of the research output as archive (for example research report etc.) and will follow the regulation of archive (time retention etc).*

16. Does the repository mandate also valid for qualitative interview data? E.g. those that due to ethical considerations the researcher cannot disclose the respondents.

- a. *Qualitative interview data is also primary data. Based on Indonesian Law No 11 of 2019 Article 40 (3), primary data is authentic raw data in various forms obtained from research, development, assessment and application activities. Moreover, in National Research and Innovation Agency (Badan Riset Inovasi Nasional/BRIN) Law No 18 of 2019 Article 7 (2), primary data could be formed in: graphics; tables; maps; still images; video; audio records; visual records; transcript; and/or source code. Meanwhile, in the latest BRIN Law Plan, primary data included are such as live specimens; non-living physical specimens; digital specimens from external or internal agencies; digital information of specimen content such as protein structures; compound and /or genetic contents; measurement results data; audio-visual records; manuscripts; and/or artefact. So, RIN will also provide mandatory storage for interview data. When the data relates to ethical boundarieregulationson Data Owner can close the access, and RIN will guarantee the data security. When any user proposes to access should propose and communicate with the data owner and it depends on the willingness and decision of the data owner can open and collaborate with NDA or not.*

Interview sessions between the Moderator and Speaker about National Scientific Repository (RIN)

- *Talking about primary data. Which data actually needs to be stored? For example, picture taken from a page of a book? Notes of an interview? Answers to questions received via email? Can you please specify?*

Based on Indonesian Law No 11 of 2019 Article 40 (3), primary data is authentic raw data in various forms obtained from research, development, assessment, and application activities. Moreover, in National Research and Innovation Agency (Badan Riset Inovasi Nasional/BRIN) Law No 18 of 2019 Article 7 (2), primary data could be formed in: graphics; tables; maps; still images; video; audio records; visual records; transcript; and/or source code. Meanwhile, in the latest BRIN Law Plan, primary data included are live specimens; non-living physical specimens; digital specimens from external or internal agencies; digital information of specimen content such as protein structures; compound and /or genetic contents; measurement results data; audio-visual records; manuscripts; and/or artifact.

Based on these laws, notes of interviews also included as primary data which must be saved. If there are answers to questions received via email, which are considered as part of the interview, could be saved. Photos in book pages can be categorized as secondary data that can be saved/uploaded by following the license and mentioning the data source.

- *Who has access to the data?*

The access setting for the data saved in RIN is fully set by the data owner. According to BRIN Law No 18 of 2022, data owners are defined as 3 entities, such as researchers, research institutions, and funders. Also, there are 3 levels of access (open, moderate, and close) based on the RIN policy. As long as the data owner allows access to the data, other users outside the data owner can access the data.

- *How is the data secured?*

For security, RIN provides several security layers consisting of

RIN features

1. *Restrict files for locking every file/digital object in the dataset.*
2. *Access limitation for a particular account (only invited users could access)*
3. *Guestbook for users outside the data owner to fill in for personal identity and reasons of necessity for downloading data.*
4. *License which is integrated with the Creative Commons*

RIN System:

1. *There are backups in 3 different locations*
2. *Regularly backups every 24 hours*
3. *Every digital object automatically encrypted into 128kb*
4. *Every digital object are generated with a persistent identifier, called Handle*

- *How to protect others from using or publishing the original scholars' data without permission?*

There are license features used for protecting the published data. Whoever used the data, needs to follow the chosen license.

- *For how many years will BRIN store the data?*

According to Indonesia Law No. 11 of 2019 Article 40 (5), primary data and research outputs have to be saved for at least 20 (twenty) years. As for the system, there is no retention period for data saved in RIN.

- *Talking about research output. What exactly needs to be stored? Can you give examples?*

Based on Indonesian regulations, besides primary data, research output has to be handed over and stored to RIN. Research output is defined as scientific papers, research intellectual property such as gray literature (thesis and dissertation), publication, blueprint prototype, and intellectual property document.

- *Primary data may contain sensitive information that should not ethically be shared or made public – how to protect it? Can data be anonymized?*

In our law, primary data which contains sensitive information has to be anonymized.

Data sensitivity is determined by the researcher or data owner and ethics in related scientific fields. Data could be considered sensitive if related to the following matters:

- *national and defense security.*
- *Indonesian natural wealth, such as data of location (longitude and latitude), protected species, and mineral and gas resource location.*
- *personal identity.*
- *personal privacy/condition, such as medical records (has to be anonymous);*
- *international relations between countries.*

2nd Session: A Presentation About the Process and Criteria for Research Permits in Indonesia

1. Ethical Clearance and Research Permits: the legal framework (Law number 11/2019, article 39 and 75, BRIN regulation no 22/2022) government of Indonesia is open and encouraging to carry out research from Indonesia and other countries; as long as permit has already been acquired and BRIN issues those permits. Those who need research permits are individual researchers and Indonesian nationals who work in foreign research institutes.
2. In the past, the reviewers were not only from a scientific aspect but including security ones, now we have ethical clearance. There is also a privilege given by the Ministry of Finance to those who have collaborated where we can waive the fee of the research permit.
3. Register through our website at kliresetik.brin.go.id. Everything is online, digital-based and already bilingual. First, you need to have a single sign-on from BRIN.
4. There are 5 fields of ethics committees in BRIN; social humanities, chemistry, care and use of animals, nuclear, health, and others (fields that are not covered in the other 5). We do understand not all research activities require research clearance. For Indonesian researchers, if your research doesn't involve animals or humans, you won't need a permit. However, for foreign researchers or institutions, you still need one regardless of the content of your research.
5. General business process: one continuous process. Once you have SSO, go to the BRIN website, submit your application through the website, and do the self-assessment, which is a set of questions that will identify whether your research activities will need a permit or not. After that, go through the field based on the result and upload the required documents. Our secretariat will then see whether it complies with regulations or not. Later this will be sent will to the ethics committee. Once approved, they will issue the letter of approval for the research activities. However, a research permit will be given to one person only. Once the letter of approval has been approved, we will verify the blacklist and do the payment.
6. If everything goes smoothly and the documents are complete, it will normally take 20 days until the research permit is issued. Generally, the ethics committee will have meetings twice a month to review the proposals.
7. Required documents: proposal, a document of cooperation, other documents required by the ethics commissions, passport (validity of 6), guarantee letter from a local partner, material transfer agreement if required.
8. Research permits in other ministries: Permit is not only from BRIN but there are also permits from other ministries depending on the topic of your research. For example, a visa from an immigration office. They already issued the new regulations which in the past it's a different visa (2 types, one for research and the other for your stay permit) but in this new regulation, the stay permit will be one bundle with the visa. This new regulation will be effective in October.
9. You need a travel letter from the police (*Surat Keterangan Jalan or SKJ*) which you or your Indonesian counterpart can ask for from the provincial police station. A research notification letter is also required. If your research is related to conservation or resources, you'll need a permit from the Ministry of Forestry and Environment. If you use a vessel or aircraft, you'll need clearance from the Ministry of Defence. Lastly, permits for pil if you use a drone or aircraft from the Ministry of Transportation.
10. This semester we have issued 600 research permits. The numbers have doubled from last year. The top ten countries are the US, Australia, and Britain. Top 1 research fields: zoology, archaeology, ecology. Location: West Java, Jakarta Timur, Jakarta Barat. Counterpart: BRIN, UGM, UI. For reference see [Annex 2. Presentation of Ms. Tri Sundari](#)

2nd Session Q&A

1. Are there committees where you would focus on interdisciplinary research or does it depend on the animals involved? Do you need to go to the animal committees or others?
 - a. *If it is multidisciplinary and involves a human being, it goes to social humanities. If it involves animals, you propose to social humanities and animals. Others are for research not covered in a specific field.*
2. Must all published research be co-authored? What about PhD students?
 - a. *It depends on the contribution of the Indonesian counterpart but for the PhD student, it must be single work so you don't need co-authors. But for publication and journal, you'll need co-authors based on the contribution.*
3. Is there a minimum length of stay for a research permit?
 - a. *For now, our regulations do not differentiate the length of stay or research. So, whether it's short or long-term, you will go through the same process.*
4. If researchers travel with students or supervisor who do not travel to Indonesia but conduct research in the country of origin, will they need a research permit as well?
 - a. *As long as you are coming to Indonesia, you'll need a permit. For those who are not coming to Indonesia, but have access to data or analyse the data, it means that they are involved in the research activity. That's why the regulation also applies to even those who are not coming to Indonesia but have access to the data.*
5. How strict is the 20 working days for both ethical clearance and permit?
 - a. *If the research needs ethical clearance, it will need more time. Because they need time for the ethics committee to review the proposal. But for the proposal in others scope, it does not need to be reviewed by the ethics commission, so they may only need a shorter time to get the permit, which can be around 7-8 working days.*
6. Is it possible to send in reports after they leave the country or is it mandatory before exiting the country?
 - a. *We will ask two times, during the mid-term report and the final report. So, if you can finish the research before coming back it would be better. But if it's not possible, you can still send it once you finish it, even after you have left the country.*
7. Is there a maximum period connected to it?
 - a. *There is no fixed date. Once you finish the research just send it to BRIN.*
8. Is there any proposal rejected during the ethical clearance procedure? Are there any examples of proposals that have been rejected?
 - a. *Mostly not because of substance, but more about formality. An example is when they submit their proposal after they finish the field activity instead of before. Another example is a proposal from a high school for a scientific program. We understand the topic is excellent, but the commission thinks that kind of topic of research cannot be conducted by high school students ex: clinical trials. Or the students want to research mental illness with their peers. If there are proposals not complete or detailed, then the committee will ask them to provide more information rather than reject them.*

9. Whenever I go to the website klirensetik.brin.go.id and I do the self-check, the system does not seem to work. When I fill in 'no' when asked whether I will work with psychotropics, for instance, the system then, after submitting the form, tells me that my research 'does relate to psychotropics, hazardous chemicals compound, nuclear and radioactive materials', which does not align with what I filled in. What is the issue here or what am I doing wrong? (I am a researcher in the humanities, working with archives)
 - a. *If you have difficulties, please take a screenshot of the issue faced, and send it to BRIN's email. Our colleagues will give the solution.*

10. Maybe I misunderstood, but do I understand correctly that once a researcher has obtained the research permit and ethical clearance, one does not need to independently apply for a visa?
 - a. *The research permit is one of the requirements to apply for the research visa. So, you still need to apply for the visa.*

11. Regarding the research permit, for Indonesian citizen who is studying in one of the universities in the Netherlands and intend to do field work for their thesis, shall they follow the same procedure? How about the fee, will it apply the same? If one is also a university staff in Indonesia, what is the procedure?
 - a. *If you are affiliated with an Indonesian institute, you don't need to. you only need ethical clearance, not a research permit. For example, If you are a university staff, you only need ethical clearance.*

12. SKJ can be issued at the provincial level. Are the police departments at the provincial level already informed about this procedure if the new regulations have just been issued?
 - a. *We already have coordination with the police in Mabes POLRI. In the past, SKJ had to be issued in MABES POLRI, but now it can be issued by the police offices at the provincial level.*

13. Is there going to be a Knowledge House-BRIN-NWO-KNAW initiative with funding for joint Indonesian-Netherlands research; a scientific cooperation programme?
 - a. *Currently, BRIN has a similar program, and joint fund with other research institutes or funding agencies in other countries to have a joint in certain areas that are mutually beneficial. I will pass this info to my colleague, the director of funding and research innovation.*

14. I am interested in collaborating with BRIN researchers for joint research in public policy. Is there any platform/event that can facilitate such matchmaking between me and the BRIN researcher?
 - a. *I think we have with a certain university, for example, a matchmaking forum to allow Indonesian and Dutch researchers to discuss and collaborate. In addition, we can have another approach. On our website, we have profiles of research organizations and centres. So currently BRIN have 12 research organization. There is one that relates to public policy.*