

Press
Release

Coordination Meeting Between Bappenas and Regional Representatives Continue Discussion of 2022 Priority Projects

JAKARTA – To strengthen the bond between the central government and regional areas for the sake of the 2022 Government Working Plan (RKP), the Minister of National Development Planning/Head of Bappenas Suharso Monoarfa opened the 2021 Technical Coordination Meeting for Development Planning (Rakortekrenbang) on Thursday (25/2).

The 2021 Rakortekrenbang helped sharpen strategic issues and priority project proposals that have been discussed beforehand at the Governor's Pre-Meeting Coordination Dialogue and the Governor's Joint Coordination Meetings.

"[The Rakortekrenbang] helped formulate joint agreements on priority programs, activities and projects to address regional problems, develop regional potential whilst supporting the achievement of national development targets, and bring regional progress that provides real benefits to the welfare of communities," Minister Suharso explained.

Several strategic priority projects that were highlighted for 2022 include the construction of industrial estates (KI) and 31 smelters, improving the role of micro, small and medium scale businesses (UMKM), develop renewable energy, construct food estates, develop 10 tourist destinations, continue major projects in the Papua region, the State Capital relocation project (IKN), reforming the social protection system, improving the national health system, stepping up education reform, developing an integrated major port network, and accelerating digital transformation. The results of the discussion on priority projects in the Rakortekrenbang will be monitored as input in preparation of drafting the 2022 RKP, the 2022 Ministerial/Institutional Working Plan and the 2022 Regional Governments Working Plan.

Minister Suharso encouraged regions to carry out priority programs that are in line with the main theme of the 2022 RKP, namely "Economic Recover and Structural Reform", with the development of every region in Indonesia, as a way of mitigating economic growth contractions due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Socio-economic transformations, optimization of regional competitive advantage, and equitable development are also very important points to highlight, considering that the economic output of Java still makes up the largest percentage of Indonesia's gross domestic product (GDP) contribution, at 60.1%. Meanwhile, Sumatra, the second largest contributor, contributes 21.2% while other regions contribute far less.

The Minister also emphasized the importance of effective vaccination distribution to speed up Indonesia's economic recovery. The Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas estimated that in September 2021, the Covid-19 case increase curve would decrease and herd immunity can be achieved by March 2022. If the vaccination process were to be accelerated, Covid-19 cases in Indonesia would be expected to decrease by July 2021.

"Therefore, by doing so, consumption goes up as such conditions encourage household spending, thereby becoming the engine for our GDP growth. Our GDP makeup is still dominated by household spending," added the Minister.

The lessons learned from the country's Covid-19 mitigation efforts must also act as a reference points to handle other disease outbreaks such as tuberculosis, malaria and leprosy, and must also encourage the

improvement of health service standards and quality of health centers (Puskesmas).

Data from the Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas show that only 18-30% of all Puskesmas in Indonesia meet national standards. This target is expected to increase to 71% by 2022. In addition, increasing coverage of basic immunization as a health reform is also one of the main priorities outlined in the 2022 RKP.

"Our basic immunization rate is currently at 57% nationally, while our neighbouring countries have already achieved 90% rates, some even 100%. We aim to reach 100% by 2024. Immunization distribution must become a primary concern for regional heads," concluded Minister Suharso.



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