

Exploiting the leading potential of Indonesia through strategic alliances with the G20 and SDG-aligned policy making

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This research examines Indonesia's evolving international relations, especially in the wake of its role as a G20 summit host, and assesses the alignment of its legislative initiatives with the global sustainable development goals (SDGs). The data highlights an increased international interest in Indonesia subsequent to the G20 summit, emphasizing the advantages associated with arranging such prominent global events. These mega-events amplify Indonesia's global presence, fortify its international alliances, and create prospects for economic expansion. A comparison of Indonesia's 2020–2023 legislative priorities against the G20's 2023 action plan reveals distinct variances in SDG alignment. While Indonesia predominantly emphasizes Life On Land (SDG 15) and Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), the G20 extends greater focus to SDG 8, Quality Education (SDG 4), and Gender Equality (SDG 5) – an area currently absent from Indonesia's legislative spotlight. The study suggests that Indonesia, while remaining adjusted to its crucial domestic needs, should consider strategic alignment with SDGs that feature prominently on the global stage. Such synchronization not only cultivates international partnerships and draws in foreign investments but also propels comprehensive national advancement. In essence, with its unique standing as the only Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) G20

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Indonesia, opportunity: to influence and be influenced
policy, in the international arena. The nation's
sustainable development goals (DG), future course should therefore transition
ASEAN, from mere response to global trends
G20 towards actively molding them.

Introduction

Indonesia began its G20 presidency on December 1, 2021, culminating in the G20 summit in November 2022. The G20 is a pivotal forum for economic cooperation, representing over 60% of the global population, 75% of world trade, and 80% of global economic output. Member nations include the major economies like the U.S., U.K., China, and Indonesia, among others, along with the European Union.

Hosting the event gave Indonesia a platform to boost its creative economy, industry, and tourism. Post-Covid-19, maximizing such opportunities is crucial for nations. In today's tech-driven world, adaptive governance is essential, with data playing a pivotal role in policy-making. Enhanced data collection methods, complemented by the internet's vast data production, make policy formulation more informed. Collaboration, like the Penta Helix model, is vital to achieve SDGs (Tezcan 2023, Ghalehtimouri et al. 2021, Vona 2023, Kocziszky–Szendi 2023, Kashour 2023, Benedek–Veres 2023, Nguyen 2023, Szép et al. 2022).

This study will explore Indonesia's role in international frameworks, assessing its global trade dynamics, especially within ASEAN. It will scrutinize trends in trade balance, G20's summit impact, Indonesia's legislative alignment with G20's SDGs, and predict future foreign presence dynamics. This study aims to answer the following research questions, firstly:

RQ1: Should Indonesia invest in hosting major events?

As an emerging powerhouse within both the G20 and ASEAN, Indonesia finds itself at a crucial situation. The nation's potential to realize significant advancements in trade, tourism, and global political standing is intrinsically linked to its decision to host grand events, such as the G20 leaders' summit. Delving deep into Indonesia's historical trade patterns, contrasting them with ASEAN peers, and assessing the ramifications of hosting events like the G20, this research aims to shed light on the tangible and latent benefits of such international endeavors. The gravity of this question cannot be understated. By illuminating the prospective rewards and inherent challenges associated with hosting these global events, this study provides invaluable insights for policymakers. These insights not only serve as a beacon for strategic resource allocation but also as a roadmap for Indonesia to harness the myriad opportunities that arise from international engagements. So, to further guide policy makers, the following research question is formulated:

RQ2: Which SDGs should policy-makers in Indonesia prioritize to align with global interests?

With the mounting emphasis the G20 places on SDGs, the imperative for Indonesia to discern and align its legislative strategies becomes paramount. The nation's stature and influence on the international stage are dependent upon how well it engages its domestic legislative actions with global SDGs. By mapping Indonesia's existing legislative initiatives against the G20's SDGs, this research endeavors to pinpoint potential areas of synergy and, equally critically, spotlight areas that might be under-represented or sidelined. The significance of this alignment transcends mere policy coherence. It provides a robust foundation for strategic planning, ensuring Indonesia's policymakers are equipped with the insights needed to prioritize areas that not only resonate with national development prerogatives but are also in harmony with global objectives. This alignment facilitates a more coherent, synergistic, and future-focused approach to both growth and diplomacy.

Theoretical background

Indonesia's G20 presidency in 2021 and hosting of the summit in 2022 underscore its rising global economic stature. The G20, representing over 60% of global population and 80% of its economy, is vital for international cooperation. This study examines the impact of these events on Indonesia's trade, tourism, and industry, especially in the post-Covid-19 and digital era. The research aims to guide policies for Indonesia's lasting global prominence and growth.

G20 and its global impact

The G20, representing major advanced and emerging economies, is a vital international forum for global economic governance. Covering over 80% of global GDP and 75% of global trade, its importance grew after the 2008 Global Financial Crisis (Beeson–Bell 2009). Regional representation is: South America (10.53%), North America (15.79%), Asia (31.58%), Europe (26.32%), Africa (5.26%), and Oceania (5.26%).

Its diverse membership allows for developed and developing countries' viewpoints, earning it a description as the nearest entity to a „global economic government“. Post the 2008 crisis, it played a pivotal role in global financial reforms, coordinating policies for financial stability (Angeloni–Pisani-Ferry 2012, Lombardi–Woods 2008).

However, it faces criticisms regarding transparency, inclusivity, and representation of non-member states (Cooper–Thakur 2013, Kirton 2014). Its variable performance and challenges in aligning member interests also spark debates (Lesage et al. 2013).

In summary, the G20's influence on global economic governance is crucial, but with both achievements and challenges. Further research, like studies on recent summits in Indonesia, is essential to understand its evolving role in global economics.

Indonesia's economy and the ASEAN economic community (AEC)

Indonesia, Southeast Asia's economic powerhouse, has undergone significant transformations over decades, with increasing dominance by individuals and foreign entities since the 1990s (Astami et al. 2010, Hill 2000). The 1997 Asian financial crisis led to major reforms and IMF collaborations (Bello 1999). Although hit by a recession in 2020, the nation witnessed a 5.31% GDP growth in 2022 (Trading Economics 2023, World Bank 2022). Under President Joko Widodo, focus has shifted to infrastructure and economic diversification, despite challenges like corruption and trade barriers (Warburton 2018). The 2020 omnibus bill aimed to boost investment and jobs but faced opposition and requires revision (Putra 2021). Regionally, the AEC aspires for a competitive single market but grapples with non-tariff barriers and infrastructure concerns (Ishikawa 2021, Petri et al. 2012). Indonesia's economic trajectory and the AEC's progression are vital chapters in Southeast Asia's economic narrative (Acharya 2014).

Impact of global events on host countries

Global events exert diverse impacts on host countries economically, socially, and politically. Mega-sporting events can usher in tourism, infrastructure growth, and a bolstered national image but may also present environmental and local challenges (Amponsah et al. 2018). The influence of such events on foreign direct investments is complex, with political factors playing a pivotal role in decision-making processes (Schöllhammer–Nigh 1984). Events like the G20 might intertwine with a nation's political fabric. Additionally, they can evoke 'feel-good' effects among viewers, fostering national pride (Cornelissen–Maennig 2010). The multifaceted repercussions of global events, especially in the G20's context, necessitate a thorough and nuanced understanding.

Role of big data analytics in economic analysis

Big Data analytics transforms raw data into actionable insights, aiding decision-making and revealing patterns. This technology has revolutionized economic research by providing detailed, up-to-date observations, reducing reliance on aggregated statistics (Einav–Levin 2014). Big Data's capability to refine economic predictions is evident from studies using Google Trends to anticipate economic factors like car sales and jobless claims (Choi–Varian 2012). Additionally, Twitter data analysis has showcased Big Data's utility in evaluating public sentiment during large events, such

as the Olympics (Kassens-Noor et al. 2019). Thus, for significant events like the G20 summit, Big Data analytics is vital for assessing their impact.

SDG mapping in the context of EU's 2030 Agenda mapping

The „Mapping EU Policies with the 2030 Agenda and SDGs” report semantically linked EU policies to the SDGs, highlighting areas of alignment and gaps, especially focusing on SDG 3 (health) and SDG 8 (sustainable economic growth) in light of the Covid-19 pandemic (Borchardt et al. 2022).

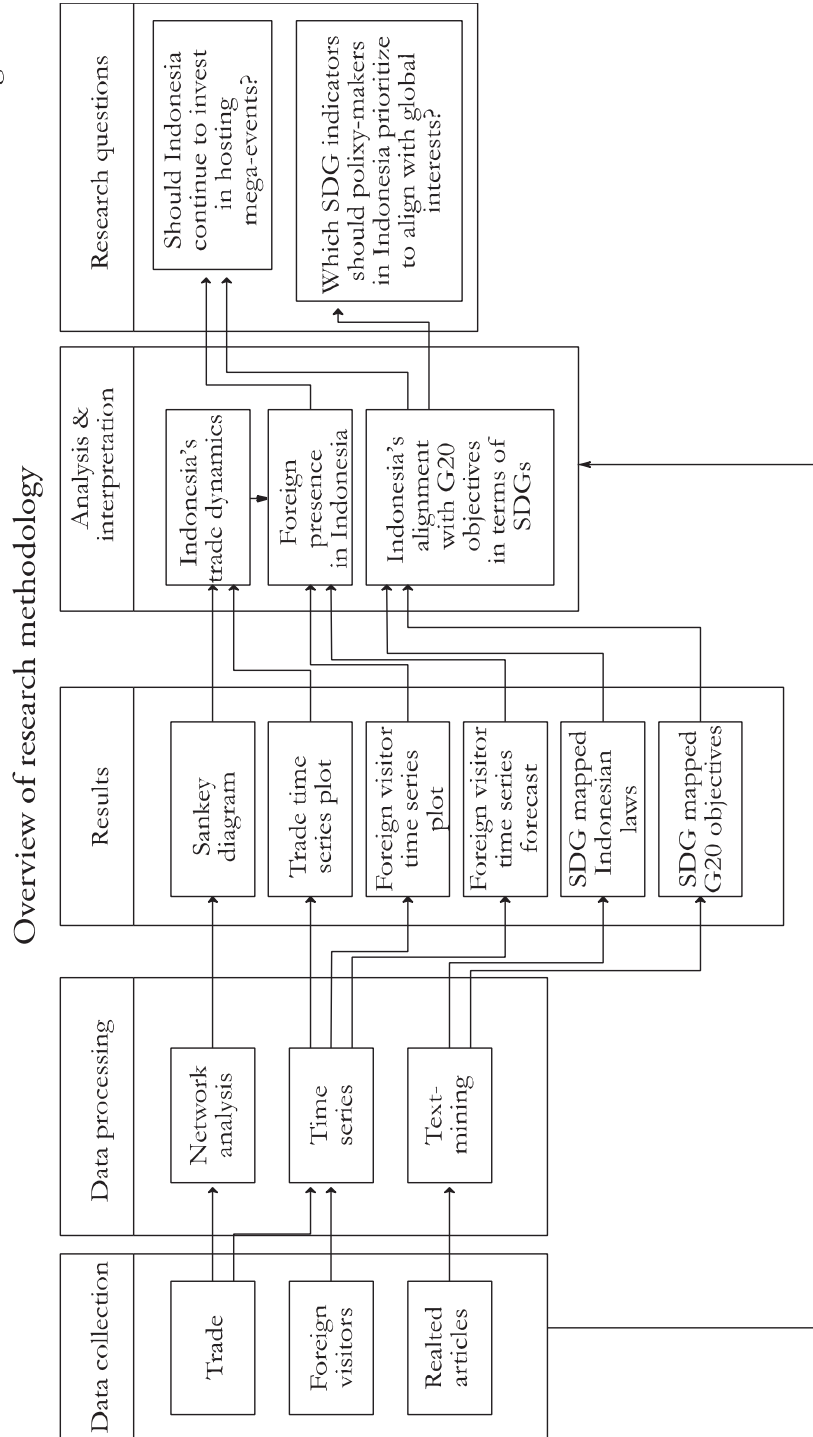
Incorporating the SDG Mapper Tool in such studies can offer an enhanced visual representation. While the report provides a clear methodological approach, the Mapper can further illuminate correlations between policies and SDGs. For instance, gaps like those identified in SDG 5 on gender equality could be visually pinpointed for stakeholders.

Thus, integrating the SDG Mapper Tool can complement Borchardt et al.'s findings, making the connections between EU policies and SDGs more interactive and immediately comprehensible.

Methodology

This study adopts a multifaceted research methodology, integrating both quantitative and qualitative approaches, to provide a holistic perspective on the impact of Indonesia hosting the G20 summit, its G20 membership, and its alignment with the sustainable development goals (SDGs). The methodologies are strategically chosen to address the complexity of the research problem, ensuring both depth and breadth in the analysis.

Figure 1



Data collection and analysis

Trade balance data

Data is mainly sourced from the World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS) database of the World Bank, supplemented by the Badan Pusat Statistik of Indonesia. This data will undergo a time series analysis to identify significant changes or trends.

Article analysis

Relevant articles addressing shifts in trade are clustered to discern causes and factors contributing to the trade balance.

Network visualization

The relationships of Indonesia with global trading partners and its ASEAN counterparts are visualized, highlighting regions of partnership and potential areas where Indonesia can exert greater influence.

Foreign visitor trend

Data on foreign visitors sourced from the Badan Pusat Statistik (The National Statistics Authority of Indonesia) undergoes a time series analysis, followed by forecasting to predict future trends and sources of visitors.

Legislative & G20 objective analysis

Data concerning laws being passed or already passed during 2020–2023 are retrieved from official legislative programs. Together with the G20 objective documents, the contents from these documents are mapped using the term matrix used by the EU's SDG mapper tool to categorize them in line with their SDGs. The alignment or disparity between Indonesia's laws and G20 objectives regarding SDGs is then subsequently assessed.

Analytical framework

Network analysis

This helps in mapping out and understanding Indonesia's position in global trade, illuminating its connections, influence, and potential areas for growth in the context of the G20 and beyond.

Time-series analysis

This method traces the historical trajectory of Indonesia's trade balance and the influx of foreign visitors, identifying patterns, and making predictions.

Content analysis

This method aims to map the Indonesian laws and the G20's Action Plan documents to discern the SDG focuses of each. The mapping will be based on the term matrix provided by the EU's SDG Mapper. The approach involves pattern matching to identify terms within the documents that, according to the term matrix, correlate with specific SDGs. For Indonesian laws written in Bahasa Indonesia, an additional step will be integrated before mapping: these laws will be translated into English using the Google Translate API.

Expected outcome

Upon concluding this multifaceted analysis, the research will describe Indonesia's trade and foreign presence dynamics in the G20 context. Furthermore, it will critically evaluate Indonesia's legislative alignments with the SDGs, culminating in informed recommendations that may shape potential strategies and direct future inquiries.

Limitations and challenges

Data integrity

While the World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS) database and Badan Pusat Statistik are credible sources, the accuracy and completeness of the data can be subject to variations. Additionally, discrepancies in data recording or reporting mechanisms between different sources might arise.

Interpretive bias

The mapping of the documents to respective SDGs can be influenced by the semantics and structure of the text, leading to potential misalignments or overgeneralizations.

Scope of network analysis

Network visualization, although useful, can often become complex and challenging to interpret. While it provides a bird's-eye view of Indonesia's connections, it might not capture the qualitative nuances of these relationships.

Predictive limitations

Time-series analysis, especially when predicting future trends, operates under the assumption that past trends will continue in the future. This assumption might not always hold, given the dynamism of global economic and political landscapes. The study might not account for unforeseen global events such as economic downturns, pandemics, or geopolitical tensions, which can significantly impact trade balances, foreign visitor trends, and Indonesia's stance in the G20 and ASEAN.

Results and discussion

Dynamics of Indonesia's trade

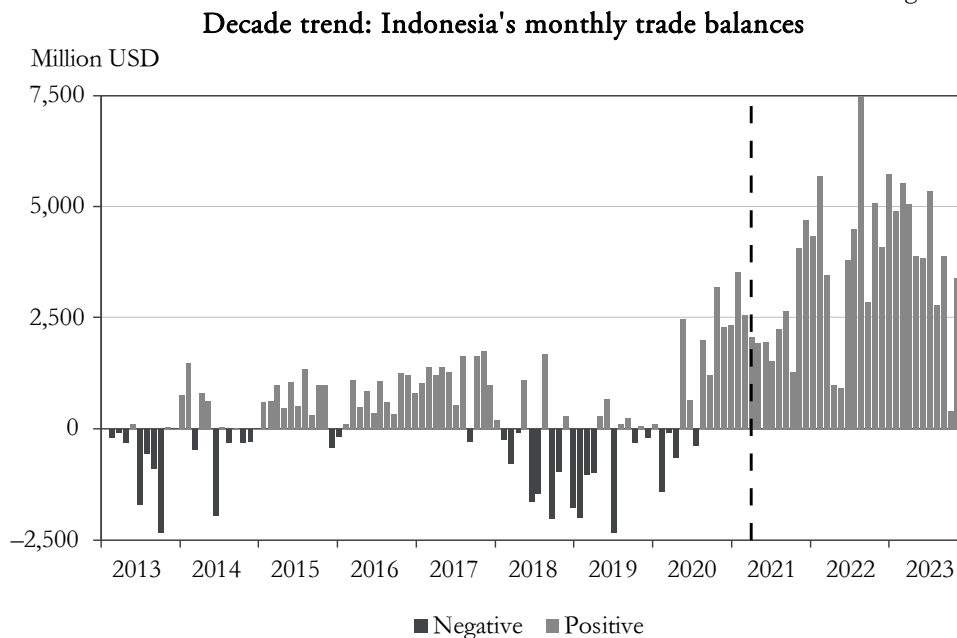
Indonesia's trade achievements over the previous three years paints a vivid picture of resilience, adaptability, and strategic growth which is in great contrast to the trends observed from 2013 to the first quarter of 2020, where the last negative trade balance in the past three years is found. But the path to this success was by no means straightforward.

In December 2020, the 7th trade policy assessment with the WTO marked the initiation of significant alterations. These changes were aimed at improving competitiveness, broadening export markets, and fostering national industries.

Covering diverse areas such as farming and intellectual property rights, the evaluation was meticulously comprehensive. Special efforts were made to align Indonesia's domestic standards with global norms. Attention was also paid to the health crisis's influence by adopting distant evaluation protocols, endorsing legislative changes such as the Omnibus-law, and enhancing the investment environment.

Responses from 44 WTO members during the analysis further shaped Indonesia's approach. While there were some objections regarding trade obstructions, they were met with mutual aspirations to strengthen trade connections, acknowledging Indonesia's proactive role in global trade.

Figure 2



From 2020 onward, the results of these strategic modifications became evident in the form of positive trade balances. Figure 2 depicts this positive transformation, which can be credited to the refined policies from the trade policy review (see the dashed line in Figure 2). This robust approach, combining international standards compliance, regional pacts devotion, and associations with primary trade allies, laid the groundwork for vigorous expansion.

Furthermore, Indonesia's integration into regional partnerships like the ASEAN Economic Community harmonized with these fresh policies, formed a comprehensive strategy that strengthened trade within the region and beyond.

This emphasizes how aligning trade policies with global interests can translate into concrete benefits enjoyed by a nation.

Understanding Indonesia's position within its region is vital for comparing its performance with that of its ASEAN neighbors, and it serves as a benchmark to assess whether Indonesia is fully leveraging its advantages. The star network diagram presented in Figure A1 (see in Appendix) offers insight into the dynamic of Indonesia's trade influence within the global network relative to its ASEAN counterparts. The varying widths of the edges and unique colors for each ASEAN country symbolize the relationships that these nations maintain, illustrating their prominence and interconnectedness. Upon examination of the diagram, it is observed that Indonesia ranks fifth within the ASEAN region, trailing behind Singapore, Vietnam, Malaysia, and Thailand. This positioning confirms that, even with the unique advantage of being the sole ASEAN member in the G20, Indonesia has not been utilizing this benefit to its fullest potential in the 21 years it has been part of the G20.

Figure A2 (see in Appendix) breaks down Indonesia's trade partners by region, highlighting the prominence of partners in East Asia, North America, and within the ASEAN community. This understanding of Indonesia's strategic positioning in both ASEAN and global trade networks raises the question of the country's ability and justification to host significant economic events, which often come with substantial costs.

Hosting large-scale economic summits and conferences requires heavy investment in areas such as infrastructure development, security enhancement, logistical arrangements, and other related expenditures. Such a commitment can translate into long-term benefits, including increased foreign investment, strengthened international relationships, improved global standing, and enhanced trade opportunities, making the investment worthwhile.

For Indonesia, these observations are particularly relevant, given its status as a member of the G20 and the significant presence of G20 members in Europe. This membership opens opportunities for Indonesia to increase its trade impact with European nations, offering room for growth and strategic advantage. Hosting events aligned with these interests could thus be beneficial for Indonesia.

However, capitalizing on G20 membership still requires continuous refinement of trade policies and strategies. This practice has proven effective in Indonesia, as seen in its performance since the trade policy review. By continuing to follow this approach, Indonesia can further enhance its influence within both the ASEAN and global trade networks. This can solidify Indonesia's leadership position, aligning with its strategic goals and reinforcing its status as a member of the G20.

The exploration of the trade network reveals the intricate web of connections and partnerships that form the backbone of the global economic landscape. From regional alliances to international agreements, these trade relationships are not merely isolated transactions but part of a broader areas of international collaboration. As the analysis transitions from trade networks to foreign presence, it becomes essential to recognize the complex link between the two. The patterns, trends, and dynamics observed within the trade network lay the foundation for understanding foreign influence and interactions on the world stage. In the following section, the complexities of foreign presence will be explored, revealing how the principles and practices discerned in the trade network extend into the domains of diplomacy, investment, and global strategy.

Foreign presence in Indonesia

The time-series plot presented in Figure A3 (see in Appendix) provides a comprehensive overview of the various sources of foreign presence in Indonesia, encompassing both tourists and expatriates from all regions of the country. The pre-pandemic data reveals a predominance of East Asian and ASEAN presence. In particular, an upward trend in ASEAN presence was evident up to the end of 2019, with seasonal spikes indicative of tourism trends. The East Asian presence, on the other hand, maintained a more stationary pattern with similar seasonal fluctuations.

A critical observation in the data is the pronounced contrast between the trends before and after 2022. Before 2020, the combined presence from East Asia and ASEAN was double that of all other regions. However, following the G20 summit held in Indonesia in 2022, a universal upward surge across all foreign presence is observed.

This post-summit trend is not merely coincidental; it appears to be a direct effect of the G20 summit, which served as a catalyst to introduce or emphasize Indonesia's significance on a global scale. The summit's focus on key international issues and collaboration potentially augmented Indonesia's image as a strategic partner and desirable destination.

Moreover, the summit's influence may extend beyond tourism. The upward trend in foreign presence from diverse regions could signal an increase in international business engagements, investments, and cultural exchanges, reflecting a broader international confidence in Indonesia's economic and political landscape.

In 2019, Indonesia's tourism sector alone contributed 934.57T IDR to the country's GDP. With the G20 summit acting as a springboard for increased global

interest and the observed continuous upward trend, it is reasonable to expect the tourism sector to exceed this contribution in the future. Furthermore, the summit's impact may foster longer-term relationships with other G20 nations and beyond, possibly leading to increased trade, investment, and collaboration.

The G20 summit appears to have had a transformative effect on Indonesia's international presence. The insights gleaned from the time-series plot in Figure A3 demonstrate a pivotal shift in foreign engagement patterns, with potential implications for not only tourism but also economic development, international relations, and Indonesia's role in global affairs.

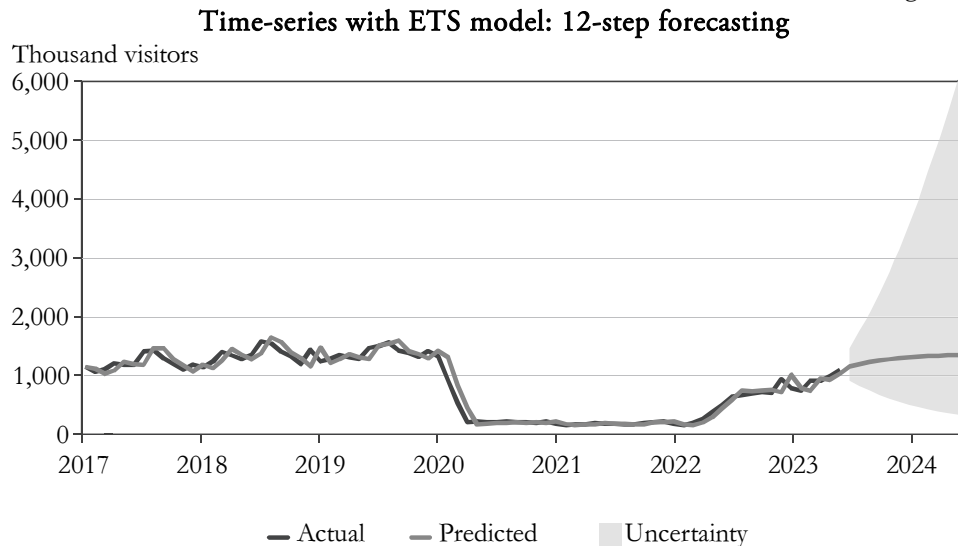
Indonesia's role as the host of the G20 summit in 2022 provides an opportunity to evaluate the shifts in foreign presence from various regions. Given the potential influence of this significant event on international engagement, it would be insightful to look at trends before and after the summit.

When comparing distribution averages from 2017–2019 to 2023, a few key patterns emerge. Analysis skips 2020–2022 due to pandemic-induced irregularities. In 2023, ASEAN's figure rose to 37.97% from 34.65%, suggesting stronger regional partnerships and alignment with summit themes. Conversely, Africa's slight dip to 0.53% from 0.61% may show a disconnect from summit priorities. East Asia, dropping from 35.34% to 25.12%, might reflect geopolitical shifts, notably involving Russia, China, and the U.S. Eastern Europe, however, jumped to 3.51% from 2.28%, possibly due to the summit's focus on the region. The Middle East's decrease to 1.36% from 1.79% might stem from regional politics. North America's rise to 4.5% from 3.36% hints at increased U.S. engagement in Southeast Asia, amplified by the summit. Oceania's growth to 13.65% from 10.25% could be tied to sustainability goals and proximity to Indonesia. South America's slight ascent to 0.64% from 0.44% may reflect broader global shifts, while Western Europe's increase to 12.72% from 11.38% suggests a sync with the summit's economic themes and upcoming G20 alignments.

Comparing the averages from 2017–2019 to the statistics from 2023 reveals a mixed picture. Regions like ASEAN, East Europe, North America, Oceania, and West Europe have experienced increases, potentially reflecting alignment with the G20 summit's themes and broader geopolitical shifts. East Asia shows a notable decrease, while other regions exhibit minor fluctuations. These trends could signal shifts in interest, collaboration, and alignment with global priorities, influenced by the summit's outcomes and other factors beyond the pandemic.

The overall increase in presence from nations that are members of the G20, combined with strategic alignment in key regions, suggests that the summit was effective in growing the interest and engagement of foreign visitors to Indonesia. This success may pave the way for enhanced collaboration and influence in the future, highlighting the role of the G20 and similar international events as a critical platform for international dialogue and action.

Figure 3



The following table contains the accuracy metrics for other models that was used to determine which to use for this forecast:

Table 1

Time-series model performance comparison

Model	ME	RMSE	MAE	MPE (%)	MAPE (%)
ARIMA	-21.54568	114181.1	79814.07	-1.123575	13.44748
BSTS	-249346.41	571595.37	468733.79	-215.24	231.56
ETS	0.001942108	0.1912805	0.1309862	0.01515186	1.020486
LSTM	678865.8	685234.9	678865.8	182012131	182012131
Prophet	61.33288	394982.3	348382.7	-95.41171	128.3129

The choice of employing the ETS (error, trend, seasonality) model for forecasting the total number of foreign visitors in Indonesia was based on a careful evaluation of performance metrics such as mean error (ME), root mean square error (RMSE), mean absolute error (MAE), mean percentage error (MPE), and mean absolute percentage error (MAPE). Comparatively, the ETS model outperformed other models like autoregressive intergrated moving average (ARIMA), bayesian structural time series (BSTS), long short term memory (LSTM), and Prophet in terms of accuracy and minimized error. This superior performance reflects the model's ability to mirror the underlying patterns of the time-series data, including trend and seasonality, which are essential in understanding the dynamic flow of foreign presence in Indonesia. The 12-step forecast generated through the ETS model not only enhances the predictability of short-to-medium term trends but also offers a comprehensive insight into the potential growth of foreign presence.

An interesting aspect of the ETS model's 12-step forecast is the range of uncertainty, which is skewed towards upper values. This skewness is indicative of an optimistic outlook, pointing towards the prospect of higher foreign presence than what has been observed in previous years. It does not only confirm the continued upward trend but also implies a potential acceleration that may even surpass historical highs. This skewness towards higher values resonates with the transformative effects seen post-G20 summit and strengthens the expectation of a continued upward trajectory in foreign engagements. The data supports a positive outlook and prepares stakeholders for a future where foreign presence might exceed existing benchmarks.

The insights taken from the ETS model's forecast are more than mere statistical observations; they translate into a powerful tool for strategic planning. By recognizing the upward skew in the range of uncertainty and the potential surpassing of previous trends, policymakers have the opportunity to proactively align strategies with anticipated growth in foreign presence. This alignment can foster targeted tourism promotions, investment incentives, and international collaborations that aligns with global interests. The precise understanding of future trends allows for the creation of adaptable policies that not only respond to the dynamic global environment but also ensure that Indonesia continues to be an attractive and strategic partner on the global stage.

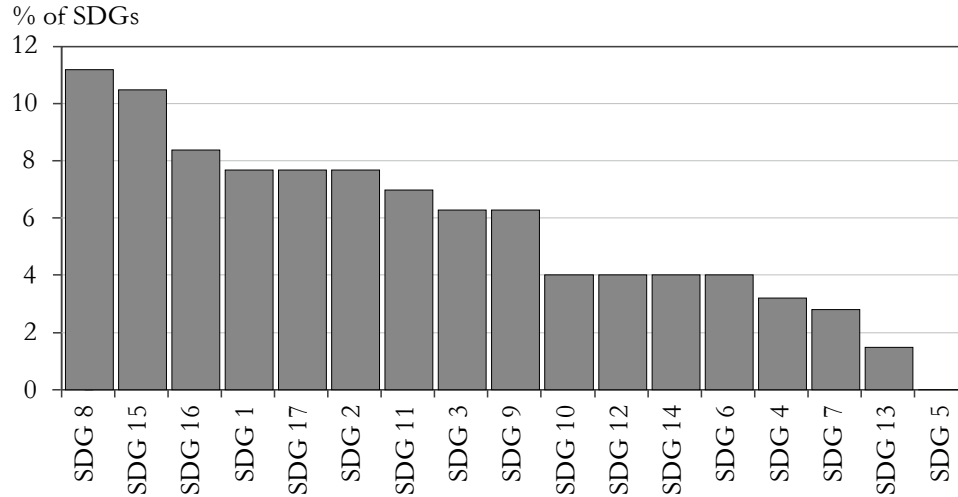
Indonesia's legislation, G20 and SDGs

Sustainable development goals (SDGs) serve as modern-day benchmarks for holistic growth and development. Nations and their legislative frameworks are increasingly reflecting these UN-backed goals, ensuring their developmental activities align with a sustainable future. This section evaluates Indonesian laws and contrasts them with the G20's 2023 Action Plan based on SDG classifications.

In the classification of Indonesia's National Legislation Programs for the period of 2020–2023 based on the SDG Indicator, several priorities emerge. The legislation underscores Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8) at 11.19%, followed closely by Life On Land (SDG 15) at 10.49%, and Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (SDG 16) at 8.39%. Other emphasized sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the Indonesian context include No Poverty (SDG 1), Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17), and Zero Hunger (SDG 2), all at 7.69%. Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11) are highlighted at 6.99%, while Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3) and Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (SDG 9) are both marked at 6.29%. Notably, Gender Equality (SDG 5) is conspicuously absent from the Indonesian agenda.

Figure 4

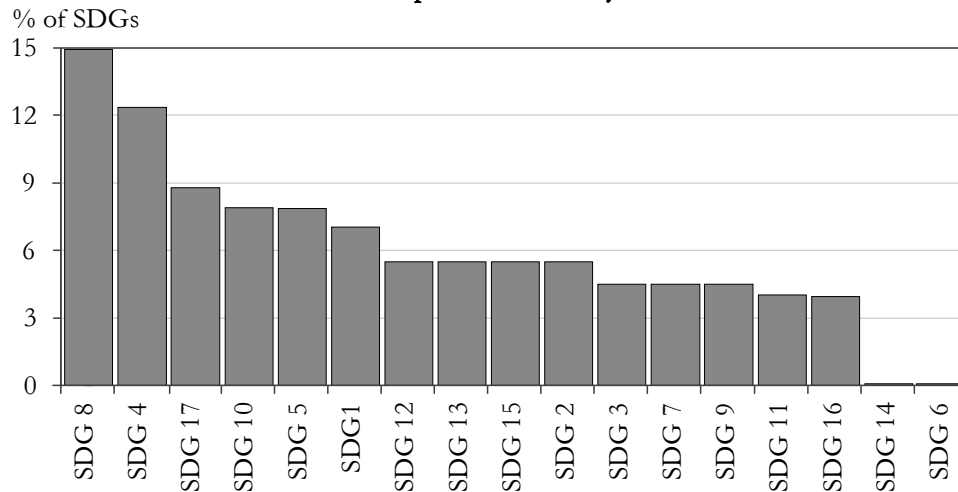
Indonesia's laws classified by SDG indicator



Note: SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG 15: Life On Land; SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions; SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals; SDG 2: Zero Hunger; SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being; SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities; SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production; SDG 14: Life Below Water; SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation; SDG 4: Quality Education; SDG 7: Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All; SDG 13: Climate Action; SDG 5: Notably, Gender Equality.

Figure 5

G20's 2023 action plan classified by SDG indicator



Note: SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG 4: Quality Education; SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities; SDG 5: Notably, Gender Equality; SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production; SDG 13: Climate Action; SDG 15: Life On Land; SDG 2: Zero Hunger; SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being; SDG 7: Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All; SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure; SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions; SDG 14: Life Below Water; SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation.

On the other hand, the G20's 2023 Action Plan places a strong emphasis on Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8) at 14.91%, Quality Education (SDG 4) at 12.28%, and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17) at 8.77%. Other SDGs spotlighted by the G20 include Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10) and Gender Equality (SDG 5), both at 7.89%, and No Poverty (SDG 1) at 7.02%. Interestingly, the G20 does not feature Life Below Water (SDG 14) and Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6) in its plan.

When comparing the two agendas, both Indonesia and the G20 emphasize SDG 8, but at different rates: 11.19% for Indonesia and 14.91% for the G20. While Indonesia prioritizes Life on Land (SDG 15) at 10.49%, the G20 lags at 5.26%. In terms of Gender Equality, the G20 allocates 7.89% for SDG 5, yet Indonesia does not address it. Education sees a stark contrast with the G20 highlighting SDG 4 at 12.28%, while Indonesia is at a mere 3.50%. Climate Action (SDG 13) is touched upon lightly by Indonesia at 1.40%, with the G20 at 5.26%. In terms of focus areas, Indonesia's programs tend towards environmental and justice goals, whereas the G20's initiatives lean more towards economic growth and education.

Past collaborations where Indonesia aligned with global interests have yielded mutual benefits, underscoring the advantages of strategic alignments. By tweaking its legislative focus to better resonate with the G20's 2023 vision, Indonesia could strengthen international partnerships while continuing to address its own unique development goals. The country's strong emphasis on environmental and urban development is evident, but there's potential to expand its legislative horizon to embrace a more comprehensive range of SDGs. Doing so could not only attract foreign investment but also foster a robust collaboration platform with global partners.

A closer alignment with the G20's priorities, especially in areas like gender equality and education, could enhance Indonesia's cooperative initiatives, potentially furthering its already distinct advantage in the ASEAN region. However, this realignment would require a delicate balancing act: formulating policies that are harmonious with global trends while simultaneously addressing Indonesia's internal challenges and aspirations, all directed towards sustainable, long-term growth.

Conclusion

Should Indonesia continue hosting mega-events?

Certainly. Based on the presented results and discussions, Indonesia experiences shifts in foreign dynamics and anticipates a growing foreign presence following the G20 summit. Hosting international mega-events clearly positions Indonesia for greater visibility and influence on the global stage. Moreover, such events are crucial for enhancing diplomatic ties with other countries. It is evident that aligning national

objectives, as seen when Indonesia matched its trade policies with that of the World Trade Organization (WTO), can lead to tangible positive outcomes. Thus, embracing this strategy will only propel Indonesia forward in global discussions and partnerships.

Which SDG indicators should policy-makers in Indonesia prioritize to align with global interests?

To balance national development aspirations with the evolving global landscape, Indonesia may want to consider the following:

Gender Equality (SDG 5)

G20's pronounced emphasis on gender equality signals its global importance. By integrating this into their legislative agenda, Indonesia stands to unlock socio-economic dividends, championing societal progress and inclusive growth.

Climate Action (SDG 13)

With its rich biodiversity, Indonesia's modest allocation of 1.40% towards climate action is a surprise. Rising to the global climate challenge not only addresses environmental sustainability but can also position Indonesia as a leader in green initiatives, attracting international collaboration and funding.

Quality Education (SDG 4)

Prioritizing education transcends societal boundaries – it's the bedrock for sustained economic advancement, technological innovation, and fostering a generation ready for the challenges ahead. Indonesia's alignment with this SDG could be the catalyst for a bright, progressive future.

Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17)

In a globally connected world, the emphasis on partnerships cannot be overstated. By aligning with the G20's vision, Indonesia can tap into a vast network of global stakeholders, fostering innovation, investments, and shared growth.

Reassessing under-emphasized SDGs

A periodic review of SDGs that have received less legislative attention is crucial. Whether these indicate areas of strength or overlooked opportunities, a holistic approach to the SDGs ensures comprehensive national growth.

In essence, Indonesia has the opportunity to align more closely with the G20's objectives while simultaneously addressing its domestic needs. This does not mean neglecting its current focus areas but rather diversifying and incorporating a broader range of SDGs. This strategic alignment can make Indonesia more attractive for international partnerships, investments, and collaboration efforts, thereby positioning it as a key player in both the ASEAN region and on the global stage.

Indonesia stands uniquely as the only ASEAN member in the G20, granting it access to 60% of the world's population, 75% of international trade, and 80% of the global GDP. This is not just an opportunity; it is a platform. Instead of being shaped by the world, it is time for Indonesia to shape it. The future should see not just how the world impacts Indonesia, but how Indonesia impacts the world.

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Appendix

Figure A1

Star network visualization: Indonesia vs. ASEAN global trade influence, 2020

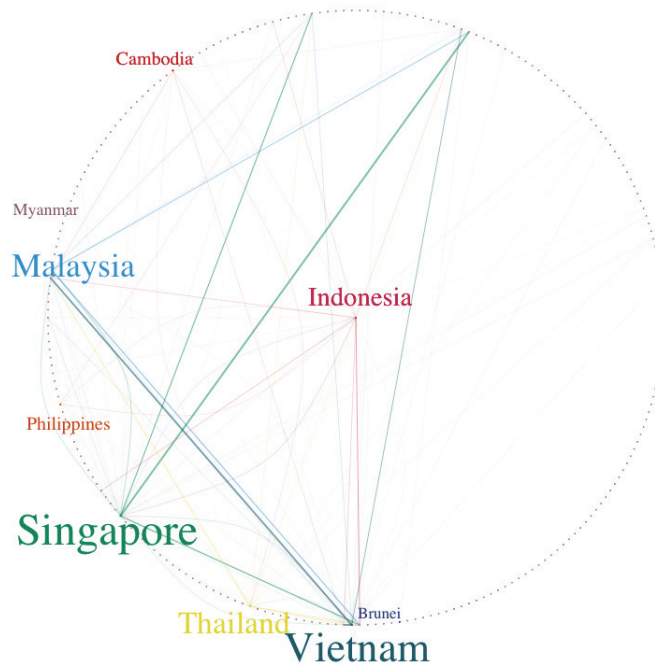


Figure A2

Sankey diagram: trade partners of ASEAN, 2020

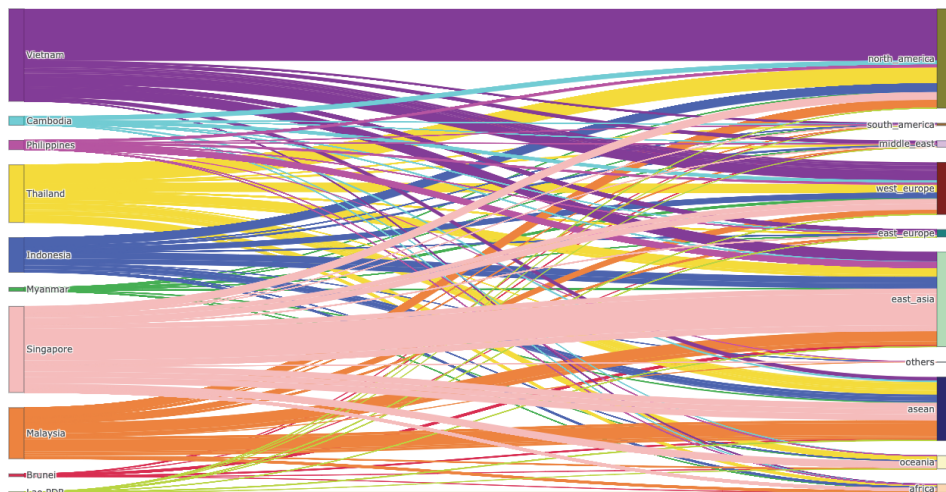


Figure A3

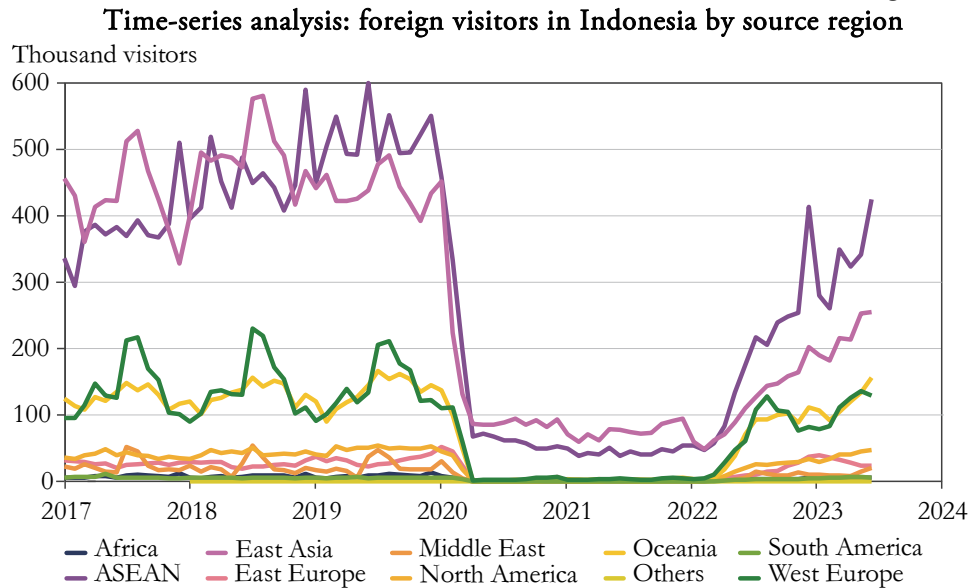
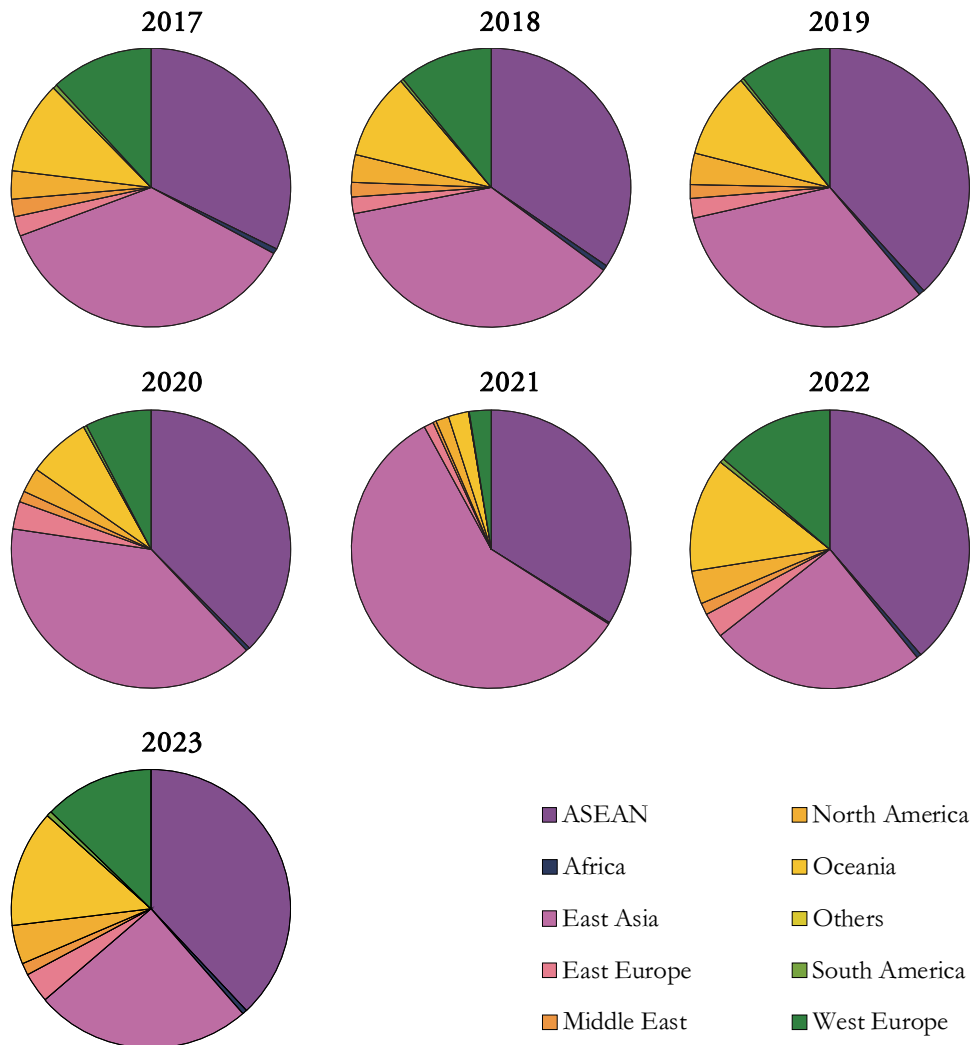


Figure A4

Yearly distribution: foreign visitors to Indonesia by region



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