

Indonesia broadens 5G network to strengthen digital connectivity in maritime area

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Indonesia's leading digital telecommunications company, Telkomsel has collaborated with ZTE Corporation to synergize the testing of the 5G network capability. The efforts will increase the coverage of broadband services focusing country's maritime area.

A key objective of the collaboration is to accelerate economic growth by enabling the development of the fisheries and marine tourism sectors through the provision of digital connectivity. Additionally, the initiative will assist Indonesia in meeting the growing demand for communication access in the maritime area.

Through synergistic testing, 5G network capabilities are expected to be enhanced using the 2.3GHz frequency band. Together with ZTE, Telkomsel is testing the coverage of 5G transmitters in Gorontalo using the 2.3GHz spectrum. ZTE provides network solutions to Telkomsel to increase the capacity and quality of its maritime broadband networks.

ZTE's 5G radio device with Active Antenna technology, which can reach up to 60 km in radius, is the solution used to improve coverage and quality of broadband networks in Indonesia's maritime area.

This trial was carried out in the Gorontalo province of Indonesia which is known for its tremendous maritime potential, with a coastline of 903.7 km, where the naval sector is a major economic driver for the region. Data from the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service stated that in 2019, around 19,013 fishermen were dependent on the maritime industry. Thus, the availability of communication network infrastructure and internet access is one of the essential requirements to support the

growth and acceleration of a digital-based economy.

Nugroho, Telkomsel Director of Network, said: "By strategically collaborating with cross-industry players such as ZTE, Telkomsel can support the national digital transformation roadmap using innovative 5G technology. Through this collaboration in testing 5G broadband services in the maritime sector, we hope to improve access to digital telecommunications further, simultaneously accelerating digital economic growth in the Gorontalo region more inclusively and sustainably."