INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE IN INDONESIA

Inspirational Young Leaders Driving Social Change
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Disclaimer

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INVESTING
in YOUNG PEOPLE
in INDONESIA
UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon in his World Population Day address this year said, “I call on all those with influence to prioritise youth in development planning, to strengthen partnerships with youth-led organisations, and to involve young people in making the decisions that affect them. By empowering today’s youth, together we can lay the groundwork for a more sustainable future for generations to come”.

At the United Nations, we work with young people not only as a target group for development, but as potential initiators, participants, decision-makers and leaders. We aim to place young people at the centre of what we do.

Recognising the importance of young people in development, the United Nations country team in Indonesia in 2013 established the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD). The network aims to coordinate contributions by UN agencies in Indonesia already working on youth development, thereby making the UN response stronger and more effective.

This publication is another initiative by the United Nations in Indonesia, particularly United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to prioritise young people and highlight their potential contributions to a sustainable future for Indonesia. We at the UN hope to continue working with our partners from the Government of Indonesia as the country transitions to a new government in 2014 and beyond.

The stories in this booklet inspire confidence for a bright future for Indonesia. To all of Indonesia’s talented young people, my message is this: the world will face great challenges in your lifetime. I have faith that you can manage them. Go ahead and ask the big questions. Take the time to find out who you are and how you can contribute. Develop your skills. Find mentors to support you. Surround yourself with the best, and you will achieve the best. Your life is what you make of it.

Douglas Broderick
UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia
Today, adolescents and youth represent the largest generation in human history. One third to almost one half of the population in developing countries is under 20 years old. The challenges and opportunities brought by this demographic change need to be addressed and harnessed in order to achieve national development goals. Their transition into adulthood needs to be understood within a larger development context. Increased poverty, social inequalities, low quality education, gender discrimination, widespread unemployment, weakened health systems and rapid globalisation are the realities that young people now face.

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, is mandated by the Programme of Action developed at the International Conference on Population and Development to promote the empowerment and well-being of young people and to ensure their safe transition to adulthood. To do so, we need to secure young people’s participation in and rights to education, work opportunities and health services. Enabling young people to make choices about their sexual and reproductive health has tremendous bearing on all aspects of their lives, including their health, education, employment and participation in society.

The theme of World Population Day in 2014 is ‘Investing in Young People’. Adolescents and youth are central to the future development agenda. A safe, and successful and healthy passage from adolescence into adulthood is the right of every youth. This right can only be fulfilled if families and societies make focused investments and provide opportunities to ensure that young people progressively develop the knowledge, skills and resilience needed for a healthy, productive and fulfilling life.

Youth have a valuable contribution to make in Indonesia. When youth are engaged in processes to influence the policy decisions that affect them, they have the ability to improve the policy focus, find innovative solutions and increase youth participation. Young people need to provide advice and technical guidance on how to best manage the issues that affect them. There is a duty on the part of governments around the world to assist and collaborate with young people to reach these goals.

It is with great appreciation that UNFPA extends its gratitude to all those involved in this report; to the young author Ms. Alanda Kariza, our Youth Advocate Mr Angga Dwi Martha, and our Youth Advisory Panel who provided expertise in the writing of the report. We also thank our Programme Officer for Youth and Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH), Ms. Margaretha Sitanggang our editor, Ms. Catriona Croft-Cusworth, and youth leaders and networks that have given their time to collaborate on and finalise this report.

Today’s youth have higher expectations than the generations before them, with a stronger grasp of their rights and a clearer vision of what they are capable of accomplishing. The aim of this booklet is to showcase how investing in young people will benefit their future, and Indonesia’s development. We believe that the young people in this booklet are the leaders in their fields and making real change for development.

I hope you will be inspired by their stories.

Jose Ferraris
UNFPA Representative in Indonesia
Why invest in young people?

• A safe, successful and healthy passage from adolescence into adulthood is the right of every child. This right can only be fulfilled if families and societies make focused investments and provide opportunities to ensure that adolescents and youth progressively develop the knowledge, skills and resilience needed for a healthy, productive and fulfilling life.

• Adolescents and youth are central to the future development agenda. Safeguarding their rights and investing in their future by providing quality education, decent employment, effective livelihood skills, and access to health services that emphasize gender and power, is essential to their development and that of their families, communities and countries.

• More girls are finishing primary school, but they are facing challenges in accessing and completing secondary education, a critical source of skills in changing economies.

• The largest generation of adolescents is entering sexual and reproductive life. Yet there has been too little progress in preventing adolescent pregnancies, maternal death, sexually transmitted infections and transmission of HIV and there are also significant gaps in availability and quality of, and access to, sexual and reproductive health services and education for young people.

• As girls move into adolescence and young adulthood, their needs for SRH services increase acutely. Lack of access to SRH services can have lasting impact on a girl’s health and opportunities.

• Young people are still too often excluded from decision-making processes that directly affect their lives. Only 76 percent of countries report instituting concrete procedures and mechanisms for the participation of adolescents and youth in making decisions that affect them.

• By ensuring that young people are equipped with the agency, knowledge and skills they will need, youth-centred programmes can contribute to the efforts of young people and governments to end inter-generational poverty, illiteracy, gender-based violence, and gender inequality.

• With investments that give young people choices in all aspects of their lives, create conditions for them to participate in decisions that influence their future, and overcome barriers to their well-being, countries can increase their demographic dividends.
Priority Areas of Concern for Indonesian Youth

Education: Access is a challenge for those in rural and remote areas, for youth in special conditions and for young people with special needs. Bridging education to employment is essential to prepare young people to enter the job market and for long-term employment. Young Indonesians voice common concerns about the quality of education, the need for inclusive education and a non-discriminatory experience. Sexual and reproductive health needs to be urgently and appropriately included in school curricula to ensure young people make safe, responsible and smart decisions about their futures.

Health: There are seven major health categories of concern for young people, including sanitation, personal hygiene, risky behaviors, sexual and reproductive health, and new and re-emerging diseases. Youth themselves have also expressed three additional issues as important health priorities: smoking behaviour, increasing morbidity of non-communicable disease and harmful traditional practices.

Information and Communications Technology (ICT): ICT is a crosscutting issue and is rapidly influencing how youth communicate, learn and work. Indonesia needs to harness the educational and economic value of ICT, as well as deal with the negative impacts.

Citizenship: Young Indonesians do not yet fully embrace or take advantage of citizenship. A combination of education, awareness and skepticism contributes to low levels of civic participation. There are some positive trends as well, including the growing role of volunteerism.

Safety and Security: The four main areas considered to be of critical importance to youth are bullying, workplace safety and security, underage and/or child labor, and gender-based violence (GBV).

Environment, Culture and Traditions: Environmental and climate based challenges are seen by young people as a critical area of concern. Focus group discussion participants cite a need to change lifestyles and policies in Indonesia in order to contribute to and “create a better world”. Several cultural and traditional factors support the development of young people. This includes “friendly and positive” support from young people’s social environments, including from parents, teachers, public figures and other adults. To help create a decent and inspiring life for young people, adults need to be available as positive role models.

Source: Indonesian Youth in 21st Century, 2014, UNFPA Indonesia
This book profiles the achievements of 21 INSPIRING YOUTH LEADERS from across Indonesia. The young people featured here were selected by youth leaders and members of UNFPA Indonesia’s YOUTH ADVISORY PANEL (YAP), a forum set up by UNFPA to include YOUTH AGED 15-24 in developing policies and programmes to better address their needs. They worked hard to seek out young people who are MAKING A DIFFERENCE for their communities, for Indonesia and for the world. Some of the stories are told in the words of the authors, while others have been compiled in the words of the profiled leaders themselves. ALL OF THEM COME FROM THE YOUTH OF INDONESIA.

There are MANY OTHER YOUTH LEADERS out there in Indonesia who, due to the limitations of the project, could not be included in this book. We hope that the stories told here will inspire them to continue their work, and ENCOURAGE OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE to become involved in developing their nations and communities, and LEAVING THEIR MARK ON THE WORLD. We also hope to prompt the older generation to recognise the fantastic work being carried out by youth leaders, and to support them and others like them in fulfilling their potential. As shown in the pages of this book, INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE is the key to a better common future for us all.
EMPOWER WOMEN FARMERS
Upon graduating from university with a Pharmacy major, Nadya Saib, 27, and two of her friends decided to pursue an entrepreneurial journey with Wangsa Jelita, a social enterprise that offers natural personal care products while empowering local communities.

Wangsa Jelita has been my main gig for almost six years now. It’s very exciting to look back and see how I have grown together with the business. Starting out with a dream in high school of having my own beauty products brand, I later tried it out as a hobby before truly running a venture and, finally, growing a social enterprise that collaborates with a local communities. I feel so blessed to say that this entrepreneurial pursuit is something that has kept me busy every day.

My friends and I first started Wangsa Jelita, which literally means “the Beautiful Dynasty”, in 2008. The fact that there is no pharmaceutical regulation of the word “natural” encouraged me and my friends to create something that embodies the true concept of natural products. We carefully chose only “good” ingredients that we wanted to put in our personal care products. In retrospect, it was more like a hobby investment – something that we enjoyed doing, something that we were excited about.
But then along the way we met local farmers in our country, and we were inspired to expand Wangsa Jelita into something that would meet our ideals about how a business should operate. We are committed to purchasing farmers’ crops at a fair trade price and finding ways to incorporate their crops in our product lines. Now we use the same approach for our local artisans. The spirit of introducing and producing truly natural personal care products remains the same, but the way we conduct our business has evolved from a traditional profit-maximising business to a social enterprise that empowers local communities.

I believe everyone deserves truly natural personal care products that really serve their skin, not chemically laden ones with a few natural extracts thrown in. I hope that this business can eventually raise people’s awareness of the ingredients within the products they use or consume. Secondly, I think the way we conduct the business also makes a difference. The richness of the natural resources in Indonesia at our disposal, as well the skills of our people, are two things that we should never take for granted. I hope Wangsa Jelita will continue to make of the best out of those two major resources, and serve many people in the years to come.

I believe there are many things that could be done by the government or non-governmental organization (NGO), including organizations like UNFPA, to facilitate young people’s dreams of becoming entrepreneurs. I think access to role models who can share their lessons, as well their struggles, is very much needed. I’m lucky to have been able to meet many people whom I can look up to and I can learn from. They are my source of ideas, inspiration and motivation. From my experience, the impact of inspiration is usually the greatest when it comes from someone close to my age. I have found that it is powerful, for me at least, to learn from my own peers. If UNFPA and the government can provide that opportunity for youth as early as possible, it would be a great help.

I still have plenty of plans for developing Wangsa Jelita in the future. I really hope that Wangsa Jelita can become one of the leading social enterprises globally, as well in the personal care product industry. We have not yet reached the destination we have set – there is still a long way to go. Nonetheless, I’m optimistic that we’re on the right track.
Farmers’ children show off their produce used in Wangsa Jelita beauty products.
“The world today has its largest generation of youth in history – 1.8 billion young people, mostly in developing countries – with enormous potential to help tackle the major challenges facing humanity. But too many are denied their rightful opportunities to get a quality education, find decent work, and participate in the political life of their societies. World Population Day is an opportunity to renew our commitment to help young people unleash progress across society.”

Mr. Ban Ki-moon  
*Secretary-General of the United Nations, on World Population Day 2014*
YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE WORLD TODAY

- With a population of 1.8 billion people, the world is home to the largest generation of young people in its history.

- Close to 90% of the world’s youth live in developing countries, where they tend to make up the largest proportion of the population.

- Some 75 million youth are unemployed.

- Young women and men are three times more likely than older segments of the population to be unemployed, and in some countries, the youth unemployment rate exceeds 50 percent.

- Some 65 million adolescents of junior high school age remain out of school.

- In developing countries, 1 in 3 girls is married before her 18th birthday, and across the world, more than half of all sexual assaults take place against girls younger than 16.

- 1.5 billion persons, the majority of them young people, live in conflict or in fragile situations.

- Despite significant progress made since the MDGs were adopted, this generation of young people has been left behind. They are still denied the opportunities that they need to realize their full potential.

Sources: Global Youth Call: Prioritizing Youth in the Post-2015 Development Agenda
Vikra Ijas and his friend Alfatih Timur, who is better known as Timmy, strongly believe in the potential of young people to transform Indonesia. That’s why they started KitaBisa, an online crowdfunding portal designed to support young people’s social activism. This is their story.

We currently spend our lives spreading optimism to the people of Indonesia, especially among the youth. Too often have we heard the saying Indonesia has so much unrealised potential’ - yet it remains a saying as time passes by. That is what motivated us to build KitaBisa, which literally means “We Can” (no Obama reference there).

The basic value that forms the foundation for KitaBisa is gotong royong (collaboration/com­munal work), a traditional value that is embodied by every citizen of this country. Technology has enabled us to easily connect with each other. These connections must now be capitalised on to support projects that seek to unearth our vast potential.

The KitaBisa Foundation focuses on facilitating and promoting cross-sectoral collaboration to support projects that create social impact and betterment for Indonesia, from those addressing poverty, education, health care, the environment, religious and community issues, to creative and technology-based projects.
Investing in Young People in Indonesia

Through our website Kitabisa.co.id, we provide projects with an online fundraising page that engages people and enables them to lend their support. In today’s fast-moving information cycle, we know that people are already bombarded with information and have little time to read. That is why it is essential for us to keep our fundraising pages simple, concise and straight to the point.

Going forward, we aim to become more than an online platform and provide hands-on support, from training to workshops and networking opportunities.

Many of us have a great idea or ongoing project that can change someone else’s life, but we find it difficult to communicate or reach the right people and resources.

Essentially, we want to send two messages to the people of Indonesia. The first is “Hey, if you’ve got an exciting idea or project that you think people should know about, and that has the potential to create a better Indonesia, then share it right here”. The second of course is, “If you love your country so much, then come this way and support or collaborate on our projects.”

We’ve been told that the appropriate term for our model is “impact enabler”. It sure sounds fancy and all, but in the end it comes down to our belief that cross-sectoral collaboration can leverage the impact of many existing or upcoming projects.

In our one year of operation, the site was officially launched in 6 July 2013 we have facilitated more than 25 successfully funded projects, raising a total of $85,000. Though it may seem relatively small in numbers, we are proud because all of that was achieved with practically zero marketing budget. So we truly believe in the power of word-of-mouth and online virality.

It was a great honour for KitaBisa to be selected as a finalist in the DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge Asia, alongside Asia’s most inspiring social ventures.

We believe other pillars of society, such as government bodies and NGOs, should be able to support young people by providing them with access and opportunities to make a difference. Given the archipelagic nature of Indonesia, access is arguably one of the biggest challenges for equal opportunity. Ideally, we’d love to say that “the Internet has eliminated this problem”. However, in reality we are not there yet. We still need to have real hands-on places or people that can help our youths in pursuing their entrepreneurial dreams. Not everyone has the luxury of access to the required resources, knowledge, expertise, network and, of course, funds.

Taking all this into account, we would love to become UNFPA’s supporting partner to facilitate youth entrepreneurship when it comes to raising funds. At the very least, online exposure gives a better chance for new ideas to be found and to connect with people with the required resources and networks that are willing to back them. And we can, can’t we?
KitaBisa.com receiving the People’s Choice Award as part of the DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge Asia in 2014.
“We know that healthy, educated, productive and fully engaged young people can help break the cycle of intergenerational poverty and are more resilient in the face of individual and societal challenges. As skilled and informed citizens, they can contribute more fully to their communities and nations.”

Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin
United Nations Under-Secretary-General
and UNFPA Executive Director
The 2010 Population Census recorded 62 million youth aged 15-29 in Indonesia, accounting for about 26% of the population.

Over time, the size of the youth population has been increasing and is projected to reach 70 million in 2035.

While the youth population continues to grow, its proportion within the total population has declined since 2000, dropping to 26 percent. This proportion is expected to drop to 23 percent by 2035.

The size of the dependent population, or those aged under 15 and over 65, is relatively low and likely to change only gradually in the coming decades. There is a window of opportunity to invest more resources in now before a greater share of resources is needed to support an ageing population in the future.
Investing in Young People in Indonesia
I have been focusing my activism and entrepreneurial efforts around the health care industry because from the way I see it, health levels in Indonesia are relatively low, evident in the health issues that are still prevalent in many areas in Indonesia. We still have many unsolved cases of disease. Because of that, social entrepreneurs and scientists are needed in Indonesia. Thats why I developed Indonesia Medika, an organization that combines principals of development with those of entrepreneurship and health care. I believe that interconnection and innovation can merge to create health products that are based on practical and strategic solutions for improving health in Indonesia. Through Indonesia Medika, I hope to share recent knowledge, previous experience, and build wider networks to solve the problems. My goal is not only to create a breakthrough programme, but to make one that is both effective and efficient.

I set up the Garbage Clinic Insurance (GCI) initiative, whereby less privileged people can exchange their household waste for access to medical facilities and support in GCI-accredited clinics. The collected waste is used to generate
funds to cover health costs. For example, organic waste becomes fertiliser while inorganic waste is sold to collectors. A month’s worth of refuse can reach close to 10,000 Indonesian rupiah, which is used to cover a patient’s treatment and run health care programmes. CGI also provides clinical services for the community, giving families access to doctors, nurses, midwives, pharmacists, dentists and health volunteers. To date, GCI has recruited 88 volunteers, 15 doctors and 12 nurses, all of whom are paid with earnings from refuse from the community in Malang, East Java.

If I were to choose two labels to describe myself, they would have to be “scientist” and “social entrepreneur in health”. Research and social programmes have always been an integral part of my life. The opportunity to conduct research and social projects was not only a future dream for me, it was and still is my calling. I am willing to fight for the opportunity to continue my calling. This is the point in my life when I have truly realised who I want to become and what I have to do to achieve it. If you give my company an opportunity to do it, you will see that the results will speak for themselves.

Indonesia is classified by the World Bank as a middle-income country. Until now, “limited resources” has become the cliché of poor health services for the poor. Although household health insurance population coverage rates have increased in the last decade to 60 percent of the population, many remain without any coverage. Recent estimates indicate that about 18 percent of our population continues to live on less than US$1 a day, and about half live on less than $2 a day. About 2.1 percent of total household spending is on health, ranging from about 1.6 percent for the poorest decile and 3.5 percent for the richest, which is relatively low compared to other countries with similar income levels.

Health financing in Indonesia is lacking. Total expenditure on health as a percentage of GDP (2010) is 2.6. Compared with neighbouring Malaysia and Thailand, Indonesia spends relatively little on health services. The estimated total expenditure on health per capita in 2003 was $33 in Indonesia compared with $149 in Malaysia and $90 in Thailand. We have a lot of problems with health financing.

Health is becoming a major public problem, requiring sustained prevention and control of the risk factors involved. However, the major challenge will be to implement and develop multisectoral public policies in support of strategies to support health financing, health services and quality control. To achieve this, awareness and willingness of public health policy will be important, especially in health financing.

In Indonesia, a lot of young people have great ideas. But what do they need to turn their ideas into projects? They need resources, research, capacity development and networking. We must focus on preparing young people to turn their ideas into action.
For empowering young people, I have three steps: building the system, stabilising and establishing independence. I always focus on these steps because every programme that wants to achieve a big impact should have the power of sustainability. To build sustainability, we must build a sustainable organisational system and prepare resources. The hardest challenge we face is sustainability in leadership, because this concept needs strong capacity to maintain sustainability of the system. My focus is on advocacy for young people to become leaders in the community, and building community organisations, which provides both cultural and structural schemes.

We have been making manuals to help others replicate our project. The government has enormous power to accelerate the enlargement of the programme. I need support from the Health Ministry, the Environment Ministry, and the Ministry of Youth and Sports to allow me to replicate the project on a massive scale.
“At least 65 million young people live in Indonesia, making up a third of the population. This huge cohort of young people will inherit the development efforts of today. It is vital that they are included in making decisions about the kind of Indonesia they want to live in.”

Mr. Jose Ferraris
UNFPA Representative in Indonesia
More youth aged 15-29 in Indonesia live in urban areas (about 33 million) than in rural areas (29 million).

The proportion of youth in urban populations (28%) is higher than in rural populations (24%).

The top destination provinces for youth migrants are West Java, DKI Jakarta and Banten for work opportunities and West Java, Banten and DI Yogyakarta for study.

"Youth migrate across provinces more than any other age group in Indonesia.

High school graduates are the most likely to move from rural to urban areas for work and study."
Yurdhina Meilissa

Brightening the World through Innovations in Health care

Yurdhina Meilissa, 27, known to her friends as Icha, started her career as a physician. However, after realising that being a ‘regular’ doctor would not allow her to help all citizens equally, she joined Pencerah Nusantara, a social movement that aims to strengthen the primary health care system for all Indonesians.

In 2012, I joined a programme organised by the President’s Special Envoy on MDGs office called Pencerah Nusantara, which calls upon the country’s best young doctors, dentists, nurses and public health officers to serve the community for one year in primary health care centres in various locations in Indonesia, especially those located in remote areas where health care is less accessible. These young health care professionals are assigned with re-orienting the primary health care system to build a nation with a better concept of health. My team and I were placed in the Ogotua Health Centre, in North Dampal district, Central Sulawesi. The experience changed my life and reaffirmed that my greatest passion is to ensure that all citizens get equal access to quality health care.

I believe our support in bringing Pencerah Nusantara to the forefront of community health care services has started reducing exclusion and social disparities of health, by organizing services around people’s need and expectations in our area of deployment. The interventions are not a complicated process, we simply focus on little things that local health workers and communities could do most effectively and in the
least costly way. The fact that interventions have been able to go beyond the health sector, such as by building education and entrepreneurship, has resulted in stronger and more resilient communities after just one year of engagement. However, I felt that my one year of duty at Pencerah Nusantara was enough to produce significant impact felt by the public.

After finishing my stint with Pencerah Nusantara, I joined the Office of the President’s Special Envoy on Millenium Development Goals (OSE-MDGs) as a Programme Officer. Along with two of my colleagues, I am now conducting research funded by the John Hopkins University of Public Health and the Muhammadiyah Tobacco Control Centre on the economic burden of smoking. As we know, the prohibition of tobacco would result in the reduction of tobacco-related disease. However, there is an assumption that this would cause the regions’ local income to decrease. Our research compares health-care expenditure of inpatients diagnosed with tobacco-related disease against the regional local income received from tobacco advertising.

Also, aside from research I am also currently starting up a seed initiative on Indonesian health research and policy assessment named Impetus (@impetusID). Impetus aims to influence both policymaking and individuals’ choices on health issues through evidence-based research and behavioural modification. Now we are beginning to do research on the maternal mortality rate across provinces in Indonesia using secondary data, seeing how it has changed over the years, and overlaying that with additional data from programmes endorsing a lower rate of maternal mortality. We will try to trace correlations between or evidence of health innovations and a lower rate of maternal mortality. This will then be analysed for potential future scaling-up, if proven successful.

Through my activities, I have realised that there are actually a lot of young people who care about development issues, specifically health. The Government of Indonesia and UNFPA should support mainstreaming youth in the development agenda. Recognizing youth diversity, all process relating to development should be inclusive and appreciate the richness of ethnic, cultural, religious, gender, politic and socioeconomic difference. Indonesia still faces inequality in terms of access to facilities and has room for improvements in enhancing youth capacity. Involvement of young people living away from the center of growth should also be encouraged, to ensure that the participation of Indonesian youth representatives at the global level can also be beneficial to the youth at the grassroots level. It can start from something simple, such as providing support for young Indonesians with big ideas, but limited English-language capabilities. With a translator for their thoughts, they can be heard by the whole world.

I believe that good health policies can only be formulated by people who work day by day to maintain community health and empower society.
The government and UNFPA also should enhance the integration of youth into official government delegations in a more meaningful way. The election of delegates can be done through partnership with all youth movements that have channels to remote areas in Indonesia, to ensure that all youth have the same access to learn about and engage in development.

In regards to dreams, however, mine would be to see people no longer put health as a consumptive need, but rather as an investment, and for all citizens have equal access to health and health-care facilities. This requires more doctors to be interested in public health, not only by taking on the role of caregiver but also by venturing out of the clinical space to engage with broader public. I also have a dream to see a growing number of doctors who want to be aligned with policymakers in Indonesia. I believe that good health policies can only be formulated by people who work day by day to maintain community health and empower society.

Currently I am preparing to take a master’s degree in health policy and economics. I can see myself five years from now, working closely with the Government of Indonesia and UN agencies to support decisions about health care, informed by high-quality, relevant and up-to-date synthesised research evidence, free from conflict of interest. To achieve these targets, I have to strengthen my understanding of health at the grassroots level in Indonesia, by seeking the opportunities to study in a country with the best health care system in the world. This will help me to understand how they designed their health system and policies so as to minimise welfare inequality and allow me to bring that knowledge home to Indonesia.
“We see youth not only as recipients of development, but as participants in the development process. It requires hard work and big dreams on the part of young people to imagine and strive for a better world. Our commitment is that we will invest in you to help you become the best you can be.”

Mr. Douglas Broderick
UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia
“In 2010, less than 2% of youth aged 15-29 were illiterate.”

PAPUA, WEST SUMATRA AND WEST NUSA TENGGARA are the top three provinces with a high percentage of youth unable to speak Bahasa Indonesia

Education participation rates by age and sex in Indonesia, 2010

THE YOUTH OF TODAY ARE BETTER EDUCATED THAN PRECEDING GENERATIONS
Investing in Young People in Indonesia
Loveria Sekarrini

A Midwife with a Mission

Loveria Sekarrini - or Love for short - lives up to her name. The 26-year-old spreads love through her work as a midwife and as a public health consultant who has represented young people in numerous gatherings of policymakers, advocates and researchers in the field of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR).

I started my journey as a midwife before pursuing higher education in the field of public health, which was followed by a number of assignments to represent Indonesian youth in conferences on health, including the 47th Session of Commission on Population and Development (CPD). At the moment, I am working in the areas of adolescent sexual and reproductive health and pregnancy, gender, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), dating and domestic violence, and the role of prospective young midwives in improving community health. Besides that, I am also doing some research related to SRHR with several research institutions. I have also become a volunteer at the SRHR and working on developing classes for children who live along the Ciliwung River.

My contribution to the field of health started with volunteering in high school as peer counsellor at an adolescent health centre and as an adolescent ambassador at the World Health Organization (WHO). I now encourage my students to contribute by being more than just a midwife in the community. They also have to focus on providing necessary education on maternal and child health issues, conditions related to pregnancy
Investing in Young People in Indonesia

and labour, as well as issues of SRHR, domestic violence, STIs, HIV, gender, human rights and so on - because all of these issues are related. This is important because communities need adequate health information and services that are friendly to all individuals. Young midwives have the capacity to provide health services that are gender-sensitive and friendly for everyone.

My profession allows me to contribute towards the lives of children, adolescents and mothers in a continuous cycle. When we nourish a child, she will grow into a healthy young person, who will also become a healthy mother. I have witnessed that there are still a lot of things that we can do to step up our efforts in the field of SRHR, as well as the overall health landscape. I believe the government and the UNFPA should encourage the development of a sustainable and comprehensive health programme, not only by providing adequate and accessible information on health, but also following up the development of programmes.

As a midwife and public health professional, my focus will remain the same: to actively build communities that are not only aware of their health conditions, but are also able to access health services well. My dream is to strengthen the role of young health professionals, from midwives to nurses, physicians and public health workers, to better focus on empowering communities. I also wish to continue my studies by taking a doctoral degree in Public Health, so I can strengthen the participation of young people and young health professionals in development.
Loveria speaking with junior high school students about reproductive health.
“Besides ideas, young people need to create things and take action.”

Dr. Nafsiah Mboi
Former Minister of Health
of the Republic of Indonesia
**YOUTH AND EDUCATION**

**WELL BELOW 10% OF YOUTH HAVE OBTAINED A UNIVERSITY DEGREE**

**LESS THAN HALF (48.4%) OF 19-29 YEAR OLDS IN 2010 HAD OBTAINED A SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CERTIFICATE**

"INDONESIAN STUDENTS’ PERFORMANCE IN THE 2012 PISA RANKED WELL BELOW STUDENT AVERAGES FOR SINGAPORE, THAILAND AND MALAYSIA."

"POVERTY REMAINS A STRONG BARRIER TO SCHOOLING"

"The probability of completing compulsory schooling has increased for all children irrespective of their economic status"

Source: Suharti (2013), “Schooling and Destiny: Behind the Inequality in Education Performance in Indonesia”, PhD Thesis, the Australian National University, Table 6.27 p.203
Dirga Sakti Rambe

Indonesia’s First Vaccinologist
(and the Youngest Vaccinologist in the World)

At the age of 27, Dirga Sakti Rambe became the first vaccinologist in Indonesia. He is committed to raising awareness of the importance of immunology and vaccinology for Indonesia’s future development.

A after graduating from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Indonesia, I worked in a hospital as a general practitioner. At the same time, I assisted my professor in conducting some research at teaching hospital. Then I got a scholarship from the University of Siena, Italy, in collaboration with Novartis Vaccines & Diagnostics to study vaccinology, a branch of medicine that focuses on vaccines. There were hundreds of applicants from all over the world but in the end, only 13 were accepted, including me.

There are very few universities in the world that offer a program in vaccinology. After two years, I completed my studies and obtained my master’s degree. Studying vaccinology means we learn formally about vaccines from A to Z - not just the medical aspects, but also the aspects of public health, statistics, marketing and so on. I also worked in a laboratory on some candidate vaccine projects. I am grateful to be the first Indonesian to have a formal education in vaccinology.
I like studying immunology, a branch of medicine that focuses on the immune system. Immunology is the backbone of vaccinology, but many doctors dislike it because it is difficult and some even call it “imaginary”. But when I got the offer to learn vaccinology and immunology, I did not think twice to take it.

Immunology is not a favourite subject among medical students, nor a topic of interest among general society in Indonesia, especially among its young people. But I believe Indonesian youths should know more about vaccines and the immune system. Firstly, vaccines are an investment in our health. Unlike drugs, which are made to cure diseases, vaccines are made to prevent them. For example, if you receive a Hepatitis B vaccine, it means you have immunity to the disease of Hepatitis B. In the future, if you are exposed to the Hepatitis virus, you will not get sick. Imagine if you did get sick; how much money would you have to spend on hospital bills and drugs? How many days would be wasted in lost productivity? By getting vaccinated, you only pay a little to protect yourself. This is not to mention the possibility of disease complications. For example, Hepatitis B may cause liver cancer, which is fatal. On the other hand, vaccination is very safe and cost-effective.

Many Indonesian people, including youths, receive the wrong information about vaccines. On Google, if you search “vaccine”, many false articles are found. They are created by people who do not even have an educational background in vaccinology. Sadly, Indonesians tend to easily believe this kind of information. My point is, when you read or hear any information about health or medicine, including vaccines, please consider the source of the information. Is the author a credible source?

I realize I have to do more to inform Indonesian people about the importance of immunisation. It is really a great task that cannot be achieved by one person alone. Collaboration is needed from all sides. At the moment, I have been giving lectures for medical societies and Indonesian people in general to address the importance of immunisation. I have also been invited by some universities and institutions to give lectures. I regularly write articles for books, newspapers and magazines about vaccines. Based on my experience, I would say the majority of people have not received correct and adequate information about vaccines. I often address the most neglected issue: adult vaccination. Most of us think that vaccines are only for children, which is completely wrong. Adults should also get vaccinated. Currently, there are 15 vaccines recommended for Indonesian adults.

In addition, I have been trying to raise people’s awareness about this issue, especially by using social media, which is very accessible for anyone nowadays, to spread accurate information. Specifically, I dedicate my Twitter account (@dirgarambe) to answering people’s questions about vaccines. My followers can ask anything about
vaccines and I am always more than happy to respond. More people should be well-informed and more people vaccinated. Immunisation protects ourselves and our families.

Raising awareness and increasing vaccination coverage is no easy task. All stakeholders should work together. The Indonesian government has a good national immunisation program. Our vaccination coverage is quite good, yet there are many challenges to face. UN agencies, especially those represented by the World Health Organization, have also been conducting various programmes and policies to raise awareness and to ensure adequate access to vaccines, mainly for developing countries. What can be done by Indonesian young people? Many things. Read the correct information about vaccines. Educate yourself. Visit the doctor to get yourself vaccinated, to protect your future and to maintain your productivity. And then spread information about the importance of vaccination to your relatives, neighbours, classmates and so on. By doing these things, you are protecting yourself and helping to achieve good health for all Indonesians.
“I am confident that wherever Indonesia’s youth may be, in whatever sector they are involved in and what kind of work they do, they can achieve the betterment of our diverse country, ensuring it is free from inequality and discrimination.”

Dr. Nila F. Moeloek
Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia
**Youth and the Labour Force**

**Men have substantially higher rates of labour force participation than women**

- **64%**
- **36%**

**What industries are young men and women are working in?**

- **Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fishing**
  - **31.4%**
  - **23.8%**
- **Wholesale Trade, Retail Trade, Restaurants & Hotels**
  - **17.9%**
  - **28.2%**
- **Manufacturing Industry**
  - **16%**
  - **20.9%**
- **Community, Personal and Social Services**
  - **12.8%**
  - **21.6%**

**Youth have high unemployment rates compared to older people**

- **14.3%** vs **2.5%**

**More youth workers are employed in informal rather than formal jobs, and more work full time than part time**

- **Formal**
  - **40%** Full Time
  - **60%** Part Time

- **Informal**
  - **74%** Full Time
  - **26%** Part Time

**Education matters for youth seeking formal employment**

**In August 2012, 3.4 million youth were unemployed first-time job-seekers**

“There were also some 4.3 million male youth (14% of male youth) who were effectively idle, that is, neither studying nor working”
Karina Salim

From Classical Ballet to the Sundance Film Festival

While other actresses her age started their careers in supporting roles of soap operas, Karina Salim, 23, started hers as the lead role in a film about youth with disabilities. It became Indonesia’s first movie to be screened at the Sundance Film Festival.

Since I was very young, I have loved performing arts. I started learning ballet at the age of 5, which has continued even until now, and become the foundation of my performing arts career. In 2010, I made a decision to learn about musical drama, so I took classes in theatrical acting, singing and contemporary dancing. After taking roles in several musicals, I finally received an offer to appear in a feature film for the first time.

I began my career in the film industry in a short movie directed by Joko Anwar, called “Durable Love”. Although it was a commercial movie, the film was unscripted, so I had a chance to fully explore my interest in acting while still following directions from Joko Anwar, whom I previously had worked with in the production of Onrop! Musikal, a musical drama.

After that, I got the leading role in a film called “What They Don’t Talk About When They Talk About Love”, directed by Mouly Surya. This feature film tells the story of two young girls with “different abilities” (disabilities), who go to a special school for children and youths with difficulties related to sight. In the film, I became Diana, a 17-year-old girl with low vision – that is,
only being able to see things within up to 2 cm away. It was very challenging, especially because I had to act side-by-side with acclaimed actors such as Nicholas Saputra. However, my work in the film has also been my proudest achievement to date. The film was screened at the Sundance Film Festival, one of the largest independent film festivals in the United States, becoming the first Indonesian film to be screened there. It received positive responses from the audience, critics and the media. I have never imagined that my acting would be praised by international media such as The Hollywood Reporter, nor that would be awarded by the Indonesian Movie Awards 2014 for being The Most Promising Female Newcomer.

But most importantly, I am very proud of being involved in the making of this film because it tells a story about disability from a completely different point of view. Other films with a similar theme usually portray disability “darkly”, closely related to sadness and pity. From what I understand, people with different abilities see the world in the same way as us. They have their own comfort zones, they also have fun, and even fall in love. This film provides a glimpse of how we should see and treat people with different abilities.

I think it’s the beauty of film-making. Films that are beautifully made can bring an impact and deliver a message to the people who watch it. I believe it would be great if many pillars in the society, including the government, businesses, and NGOs could invest in young film-makers. I personally believe that films are the most effective media to convey positive messages to a younger audience. For example, I am currently playing a role in Nia Dinata’s series of short movies with the objective of educating teenagers. I am confident such films are able to convey positive messages to a younger audience, whose initial thoughts upon seeing the movie might only be as simple as “looking for entertainment”. But in the end, they get more than they expect. That is, broader and deeper knowledge, experience and, most of all, values.
Karina performing ballet as part of a stage production.
“Young people have to keep learning. Because what we learn today might be obsolete tomorrow. Just keep your dream alive, because a great dream is a dream that is contagious.”

Mr. Handry Santiago
CEO General Electric Indonesia
"Youth with very low levels of education have worse employment outcomes but are somewhat less likely to be unemployed."

**Youth Making the Transition From School to Work**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Studying</td>
<td>25.2%</td>
<td>25.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working</td>
<td>57.3%</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3.9%</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>36.6%</td>
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**Youth Looking for Their First Jobs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Age</th>
<th>Looking</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.59</td>
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<td>Male</td>
<td>2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>Female</td>
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</table>

**Total Youth Unemployment Rate**

14.3%

Source: National Labour Force Survey (SAKERNAS), August 2012
Khairani Barokka - let’s call her Okka - is an artist. The 29-year-old is a writer, poet and inclusive arts advocate, and the first Indonesian to be involved in various endeavours, from being a resident artist at the Vermont Studio Center to performing spoken word at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Writing has always been my favourite thing in the world! I’ve been writing poetry in English since I was 5 years old (am branching out a bit into Indonesian, I’m happy to say!), and have also been writing fiction and non-fiction since I was small. I love storytelling and getting lost in the act of making, and later in life found performing as a viscerally resonant way of communicating.

At the moment, I’m in Europe for three months, performing my solo show “Eve and Mary Are Having Coffee” at the Edinburgh Fringe and elsewhere, as well as teaching poetry workshops. The show is spoken word with performance art elements, is hearing-impaired accessible. In addition, I’m continuing ongoing projects and consultancies in arts and disability with partners, and working on a few other writing projects. The rest of 2014 will be more workshop teaching and writing.

I’m interested in inclusive arts because I’m an artist with disability myself, which is something a lot of people still don’t fully comprehend, since my disability is neuromuscular and invisible - you can’t see what my body feels like.
Many people are surprised to know I have constant pain and fatigue issues since I’m performing and teaching so much, and because young women are (often erroneously) associated with being “able-bodied”. However, in order to be so productive, I have to lie down for most of the week and am very happy to work from my laptop with ice cream in bed! Eating in bed isn’t just an ability, it’s a superpower!

Having disability, as millions of people and artists around the world do, has absolutely shaped my life for the better. I became more aware of disability rights and justice, and decided to focus on raising awareness of the dire need for more accessibility and inclusion in the sphere I know best, the world of art and literature. It’s been difficult since I’m completely independent, and also have to juggle health concerns, but it’s about being consistent and clear-minded about what the goals are.

All too often, people think of arts and disability in relation to charity events, rather than being aware of the many, many talented people out there with disability who are creators in their own right, not objects of pity. Who, like me, are proud to live with disability. The lack of adherence to international laws and regulations on accessibility and inclusion is pervasive not only in terms of accessible venues, but in every way that media and arts are consumed - when you tweet a picture, can your blind friend see it without captioning? Are movie theatres accessible? Is arts education? Are there opportunities for people with and without disability to create art together without barriers or prejudices? The list of things to tackle is endless, but finding community locally and worldwide for support has been invaluable.

I’m proud of bringing an unexpected flavour to what people think writing and performance should look and feel like, how an Indonesian woman with disability is supposed to be. I’m proud of representing Indonesia, women, as well as the disability community in arenas where artists from these communities are underrepresented; being the first from all of these to get certain residencies, for example, or this summer, being the only Indonesian act at the Edinburgh Fringe. I’m proud of bringing an unexpected flavour to what people think writing and performance should look and feel like, how an Indonesian woman with disability is supposed to be. I’m proud of being part of a global arts and disability network, of having kept intact relationships with my loved ones that I have and travelling extensively while getting better at managing my health needs (it’s definitely been trial and error!). It’s been very difficult to go into the unknown and often solo in this line of work, but I have a great support system, which is what everyone needs.

Unfortunately, some people might not have a proper support system to help them get through the day. There needs to be a concerted effort to see the millions of people, especially young people, with disability as enormous stores of talent, potential and creative power. For people with
disability, the largest minority in the world, there is still such entrenched discrimination. It’s about following the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for every institution, and in the arts sphere in particular, it’s about ensuring equal access to arts and creativity - as both creators and appreciators - in media materials, schools, venues, cultural organisations, cultural policies, infrastructure. The information is easily available and easily implementable in terms of what policies need changing urgently; I find that it’s also a matter of not knowing that certainly policies are discriminatory, so take the time to educate your institution and effect change, no matter how incremental.

This needs to be seen as not a niche need, but a vital and urgent issue that is otherwise squandering human resources, and leaving millions of people without what I see as a human right: the opportunity to unleash creativity, and for us to contribute and speak up for ourselves. There needs to be more consultation of local disability organisations and representatives in creating new policies, and the eradication of stigma. In Indonesia, so often people with disabilities have families who hide people away or think they can’t achieve - when in fact the opposite is true.

My greatest wish is for all youth to be seen as artists, whether or not that is what one chooses as a profession. I also wish to see artists with disability treated with respect. Not to see us as people to be pitied, or as objects of charity, but to help us to help ourselves and make our creativity a sustainable source of income and community. Do away with the charity model - it’s about seeing us as agents of change and contributors to society, on a playing field that needs to be equal. Increase the opportunities for people of all abilities to come together and create. The possibilities are endless.

At the moment, I’m focusing on writing, performing and teaching with “Eve and Mary Are Having Coffee” in Europe this summer, as well as presenting and performing at the International Federation for Theatre Research (a pretty Star Wars name, huh?) World Congress, and have a few short pieces coming out in publication this year. I’ve been working on a few different bigger projects at once, in performance, writing and interdisciplinary art, and I am looking forward to seeing where they go! Also, the plan is to start a PhD in arts practise next year, after a few years of doing independent research/tinkering! I am seeing a PhD as an extended thinking-and-creating recidency. I hope to be able to help create actual change in the arts and disability field, slowly but surely, with my peers, and also to expand my personal practice and make time for solo work. It can all seem like a tall order, but it’s certainly worth it!
“Young people should be encouraged to go on learning, reading and thinking so that we can develop a great nation.”

Mr. Emil Salim
Former Special Advisor to the President of the Republic of Indonesia
52.3% of young people are now connected to the internet, for the rest, digital inequalities present a unique challenge for achieving equity in education and information.

Indonesia Data Snapshot

- Total Population: 251,160,124
- Urban: 51%, Rural: 49%
- Internet Users: 38,191,873
- Facebook Users: 62,000,000
- Mobile Subscriptions: 281,963,665

Breakdown by Educational Attainment:

- No Education: 57%
- Primary: 95%
- Junior High: 14%
- Senior High: 15%
- Academic/Diploma: 32%
- University: 49%

Time spent online by Internet users each day via a desktop or laptop computer:

- Total Population: 5H 27M
- Mobile Internet users: 14%
- Time spent online by mobile Internet users each day via a mobile phone: 2H 30M

Smartphone Usage:

- Smartphone penetration as a percentage of the total population: 14%
- Smartphone users searching for local information via their phone: 94%
- Smartphone users researching products via their phone: 95%
- Smartphone users who have made a purchase via their phone: 57%

Social media penetration as a percentage of the total population:

- Average time spent on social media each day by social media users: 15%
- Percentage of mobile users using social media apps on their phone: 74%
- Percentage of mobile users using location based services: 32%
Pangeran Siahaan

Encouraging Youth to be Involved in Media

Pangeran Siahaan, 29, is the kind of person who has so many kinds of jobs you would not know how to label him. However, he has always been closely associated with football and politics, and that’s just the way he likes it.

Writing has always been my thing. Like many aspiring writers from the digital generation, I started publishing on my personal blog when I was 15. Then I was recruited by one of the most prominent male magazines in Indonesia as a reporter in 2009, when I hadn’t even finished university.

A few months later, I joined Super Soccer, a football website, before I worked as a sports correspondent for Press Association for two years, covering Indonesian football. I also blogged for various online media such as the Jakarta Globe, BeritaSatu and Waspada.

Nowadays, I run Bolatotal.com, a football magazine website where I serve as the CEO. At the same time, I write a football column for Detik.com, the biggest news portal in Indonesia, and I’m also one of the pundits in ESPN FC Indonesia, a football talkshow, and a commentator for beIN Sports Indonesia.
Contrary to the popular belief that I have always been “the football guy”, I am actually more vastly interested in media and politics. A few years ago, I started to pursue my interest in political issues by developing Provocative Proactive, a satirical and political TV show that I co-created with Pandji Pragiwaksono. The show aired for one and a half years on national TV. I also got involved as an officer in the Ayo Vote initiative, which aimed to encourage young people to participate in the 2014 election.

I’m part of the generation that started making waves on a digital platform before moving to a more conventional platform, such as print media and TV. For instance, I think I’m the only person to date to host a football show on national TV after starting out as a blogger online. I’ve recently published my own book, “The Big Pang Theory”. I believe what I’m doing encourages people to be more creative and produce their own content. If I can do it, then anybody can do it.

However, even with the rise of the internet and social media, it’s still quite difficult for young aspiring writers and journalists to break into the industry. It’s an old Jurassic world out there. I think it would be great if there was a platform for aspiring writers and journalists to gather and exhibit their skills, from which established media outlets could take note and pick the best ones to join their organisations. It could be some sort of a talent scouting process.
Pangeran speaking about ‘New Media and Technology: Youth Activism 2.0’ at Youthsesian 2014, held by UNFPA Indonesia and the Ford Foundation in Jakarta.
“Don’t be a young person who lacks idealism. Make your life meaningful, find something to contribute to. You have an amazing power to empower yourself!”

Dino Patti Djalal  
*Former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia*
YOUTH AND FAMILY

Youth Still Living with Their Parents

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<th>AGE</th>
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<th>FEMALE</th>
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<td>80%</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>60%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>23%</td>
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“FEMALE YOUTH LEAVE THE PARENTAL HOME EARLIER THAN MALE YOUTH”

Unmarried Youth

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<th>FEMALE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>93.9%</td>
<td>85.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>69.1%</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29</td>
<td>34.9%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
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</table>

“MOST MALE YOUTH REMAIN SINGLE UNTIL THEIR MID-TO-LATE TWENTIES BUT FEMALE YOUTH MARRY YOUNGER”

Percentage of Women Who Have Ever Married (By Age)

- 1971
- 1980
- 1990
- 2000
- 2010

“INDONESIAN YOUTH ARE DELAYING MARRIAGE TO OLDER AGES”

What’s the Ideal Age for Marriage According to Unmarried Youth?

- 1971
- 1980
- 1990
- 2000
- 2010

“THE TREND TO MARRY AT OLDER AGES CAN BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE”

Marriage Age by Education & Residence

- Urban Male
- Rural Male
- Urban Female
- Rural Female

“BETTER EDUCATED AND URBAN YOUTH TEND TO MARRY AT OLDER AGES”

“HAVING A HIGHER EDUCATION DECREASES THE GENDER DIFFERENCE IN MARRIAGE AGES”

Among young women, those living in rural areas and those with lower levels of education are experiencing relatively faster transitions to leaving the parental home, to marriage, and to parenthood.
Before he even started university, Septinus George Saa (known as Oge for short) came up with a physics formula that brought him to the attention of the world. The Manokwari-born 27-year-old’s own formula for life is just to be himself.

I won the First Step to Nobel Prize in Physics in 2004 after completing research on “Infinite Trigonal and Hexagonal Lattice Networks of Identical Resistors”, which was selected based on the originality and difficulty of the topic. The research was about finding a method of problem-solving that calculated equivalent resistance between two nodes of a hexagonal and trigonal network of identical resistors. The mathematical method involved the use of Fourier series to solve the equations and ended up with singular form of equation. The discovery of the formula outperformed hundreds of papers from 73 countries that crossed into the judges’ table, and the 17-year-old me, that day, won the gold medal.

After winning the competition, I later went to university in 2005 to learn more about rocket science and air vehicles, such as aircraft and spacecraft, by taking a major in Aerospace Engineering at the Florida Institute of Technology in the United States. The university was adjacent to the Kennedy Space Center and the shuttle launch zone of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). I graduated four years later.
I am interested in science and technology because it provides the most fundamental explanation of the daily motions, energy, work, power and other aspects. If you learn science, you have the most critical understanding of what is going on physically in the world, which in turn will help you to pursue any relevant topic such as engineering or applied science. I was interested in science because it was something that easily made sense and did not take much time for me to grasp the meaning of its concepts.

However, the majority of Indonesians are technology users, not technology developers. Technology is the practical application of science. The more science we introduce and teach to this generation, the more able they will become in years from now to invent and further develop existing technology that will become our country’s assets. This is the same also in Eastern Indonesia. Science is the backbone of our humanity, and if we ignore this aspect, we may one day no longer be able to invent anything new. In my opinion, this is critical, since we’re running out of energy sources. I witness this every day when I work as a mechanical engineer for rotating equipment in BP Berau Ltd, posted in Papua to supervise the operation of large rotary machines (turbines, compressors, pumps, fans, blowers, motors and so on).

The path to utilising science and technology to develop a country is a long, winding road, which needs in-depth involvement from young people. So, be yourself. Reinvent yourself. Build yourself and make everyone look up to you as their source of motivation.
Oge at his graduation from the Florida Institute of Technology, United States.
“Have a big dream, and shout and work loudly on it. Be a leader! I am ready to be your follower.”

Mr. Heru Prasetyo
Head of REDD+ Indonesia
“YOUTH SAY THE IDEAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN IS BETWEEN TWO AND THREE”

“FERTILITY RATES FOR YOUNG WOMEN HAVE DROPPED OVER TIME, AND PLATEAUED IN THE PAST DECADE”

Fertility rates for young women have dropped over time, and plateaued in the past decade. Ideal number of children is between two and three.

In 2010, more than half (54%) of all rural women aged 20-24 had ever given birth. The corresponding percentage among all urban women was 32%.

16.7% of low-income teens aged 15-19 had begun childbearing.

24.1% of teens aged 19 had begun childbearing.

29.2% of 15-19 year old females who did not commence high school had begun childbearing.

Census-based ‘Age-Specific Fertility Rates’ (ASFRs)

SDKI-based ‘Age-Specific Fertility Rates’ (ASFRs)
Alfi Irfan, 22, has a dream to develop rural areas by solving problems affecting villages, such as lack of electricity and infrastructure, poverty, hunger, and other issues related to economic inequality. He is doing so through his social venture, AgriSocio.

I have just established a social enterprise named AgriSocio that works to develop various kinds of entrepreneurship in villages, backed by distinctive branding. The entrepreneurs are separated into the categories of sociopreneurs, edupreneurs, technopreneurs, entrepreneurs and ecopreneurs. It is hoped that these categories can help to focus the efforts of young social entrepreneurs, especially in the agricultural sector.

The Republic of Indonesia is comprised of more than 74,000 villages. With a developing economy, Indonesia still has a significant portion of its population living as villagers. Realising the importance of villages in our country, the government has enacted various policies to improve villagers’ standard of living. Failing to achieve this would mean that villagers would continue to migrate to major cities, looking for better opportunities.

Several policies have been formulated to improve rural farmers’ standard of living. Many of them haven’t worked. At AgriSocio, we believe the main reasons of previous failures are the inefficiency and unsustainability of government programs. Rigid, top-down mechanisms lack the
much-needed flexibility when unorthodox cases come up within a rural environment. Villagers often have to go through complicated democratic processes to request small but important policy changes when an unpredicted development occurs. Some programmes also fail because of a lack of incentives for villagers, for example, in the case of the Farmers’ Business Group (Kelompok Usaha Tani), which lost momentum after the government stopped providing agricultural aid packages, including subsidies and training. We believe the situation could be improved if the programmes targeting rural farmers were carried out in a more flexible and accommodating manner.

We at AgriSocio came up with the idea of organizing village-based socio-entrepreneurship, with a responsive manner to solve daily operational problems. We believe providing decent employment within rural populations is a solid solution. We have to make sure the solution is sustainable enough in order to make it worthwhile. Sustainability will only materialize if the solution can carry economic incentives, is environmentally friendly and socially acceptable. These three aspects are the core philosophies of socio-entrepreneurship, and what we have attempted to realise by forming AgriSocio.

We have established programmes for five types of entrepreneurship. These are:

**Edupreneurship**: We have established a volunteering programme that invites students and others from the younger generation in villages to participate in economic activities with a social orientation, particularly in agriculture. The goal of this is to change their perspectives, so that they can see a bright career future in agriculture.

**Ecopreneurship**: We have supported organic and biodynamic agriculture, which involves creating high-quality commodities using waste from other products. For example, waste from some crops can be used to make derivative products such as spiced beverages or spiced candy.

**Technopreneurship**: We have used technology not only as a means of production in agriculture, but also for marketing and sales. For example, high-quality, machine-processed goods can be advertised and sold online via social media or a dedicated website.

**Business Entrepreneurship**: For us, business entrepreneurship must take into account the concept of social development. We combine the concepts of profitable business and social development by allocating 35% to the development of AgriSocio as a greater movement, 15% to the team, 15% to the scholarship and 35% to the villagers.

**Sociopreneurship**: We have included farmers and women in our programmes with the aim of increasing household income. This decreases the social gap between the poor and the rich, and also boosts economic growth, social equity and environmental sustainability.

I also want to give two perspectives here on why young people should be proud to become young social entrepreneurs, especially in the agricultural sector:

1. Businesses today are starting to pay attention to “3P” economic development, that is, with a focus on people, profits and the planet. On the other hand, many institutions predict that agriculture is a major sector that will bring Indonesia forward in the future. So, we can see there is a
gap between potential and reality. But in doing this now, we’ll be the agents of change. We will be doing something now that’ll become something great in the future.

2. Trends of human culture show that we are now really paying attention to Economic 3P development (People, Profit, Planet). This means a focus not only on economic growth by GDP, but also equity of income distribution and sustainability, such as via eco-friendly products. This is what we do as young social entrepreneurs. We do business with a focus on social progress. I think this is a great job for great people, not only being useful for themselves but also for others.

To make this happen, I need to keep myself busy and encourage the communities to join programmes and scale up impacts.

Of course, working on a venture like this while also trying to reach my own personal goals, such as finishing my studies, has its trade-offs. Sometimes you have to use your holiday time to work while other people hang out. You need to take risks, work harder and smarter to reach your vision. One thing that matters is the value of time. I always keep every target and appointment on my to-do list. I list my activities by priority of urgency, impact and difficulty. I improve hard skills by being active in class and joining research lectures, soft skills through organizations and committees, and life skills through empowering villages and social activities. There is no one who has less or more than 24 hours in a day. Some people make decisions that influence millions. Others cannot even take care of themselves. It’s not your fault if you are born poor and have nothing, but it’s your fault if you die poor and can’t give any positive contributions to the universe.

I dream of becoming a social entrepreneur in a world that gives a major contribution to sustainable agriculture. I hope to grow AgriSocio to be better and to have a greater impact on society in poverty reduction, sustainable trade, empowerment of women, youth, food security, health, education and the environment; unleashing the potential of Indonesia. These are the dreams that make me happy to wake up every morning and do this with spirit.

AgriSocio as well as our other initiatives are still growing, and need tremendous supports from other stakeholders in society. One thing that matters now is market access of AgriSocio products. We want to scale up our impact and involve more villages in our programmes, empowering more farmers, housewives, students and others. It would be very useful if UNFPA and other stakeholders could facilitate market access for our products. We could also exchange products, information and mutual visions. This would increase the efficiency and effectiveness of all youth development programmes.

At the moment, AgriSocio is conducting a programme to accelerate the development of 17 villages around the campus of the Bogor Agricultural Institute (IPB). AgriSocio will continue to strive towards its mission of becoming a social enterprise at the global level and make, a major contribution to sustainable agriculture for a better world. Inspiring the world starts by taking small steps, such as developing 17 villages near IPB, expanding to the Bogor municipal level, expanding to West Java, recruiting as many villages as possible in Indonesia, and rising to other countries. We also will expand our market, establish more factories for production and processing, and increase productivity via technology.
“Youth are crucial agents of change; be a source of inspiration.”

Mr. David Hulse
Ford Foundation Representative
EVERY YEAR IN INDONESIA 1.7 MILLION WOMEN UNDER THE AGE OF 24 GIVE BIRTH, INCLUDING NEARLY HALF A MILLION TEENAGERS

47% OF WOMEN AGED 10-24 HAVE MARRIED AND GIVEN BIRTH

REPORT USING CONTRACEPTIVES AT FIRST SEX ACT

UP TO 30% OF INDONESIA’S MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE MAY BE DUE TO UNSAFE ABORTION ATTEMPTS BY UNMARRIED YOUNG PEOPLE

40% OF NEW CONFIRMED CASES OF HIV/AIDS ARE IN PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN 20 AND 29 YEARS

THE ADOLESCENT AGE-SPECIFIC FERTILITY RATE HAS INCREASED FROM 39.2 BIRTHS PER 1,000 IN 2007 TO 48 BIRTHS PER 1,000 IN 2012

7% Young Females

14% Young Males

REPORTED BEING ENGAGED IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITH THEIR PARTNER

20% OF YOUNG PEOPLE KNOW HOW TO PREVENT SEXUAL TRANSMISSION OF HIV

Source:

- Dr. Iwu Dwisetyani Utomo & Dr. Ariane Utomo, Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute, Australian National University, Adolescent Pregnancy in Indonesia: A Literature Review, 2013
- 2010 Greater Jakarta Transition to Adulthood Survey by Australian National University
- Population Census, 2010, BPS-Statistics Indonesia
Gracia Paramitha

Aspiring to Become Indonesia’s First Young Female Environmental Professor

Gracia Paramitha, 24, has been closely linked to environmental issues since she was very young. As she grows older, she has fallen in love with the issue and decided to focus her endeavours on solving problems related to the environment and climate change.

It was a life-changing experience for me to be appointed Global Youth Advisor for the Asia-Pacific region 2011-2013 by UNEP-TUNZA, the children’s and youth unit of the United Nations Environment Programme. The experience has helped me to learn more about global environmental governance, communicate more with young people all over the world on environmental issues, and share with Indonesian youth so that they can contribute more actively on UN activities. It had been my dream to join UNEP-TUNZA since 2002, and that dream came true. Even though I am no longer the Global Youth Advisor, I am still involved in UNEP-TUNZA as a mentor, and am planning to help build a stronger strategy for the programme beyond 2015. The TUNZA programme is interesting way to encourage and empower children and youth around the world to care about the environment based on the UNEP framework. It boosted my passion to encourage Indonesian environmental groups or communities to collaborate globally.

Because of this experience, I have grown fonder of environmental issues and climate change. I have tried to do my best to foster youth leader-
ship in this field through several initiatives. For example, this year my friends and I managed a project called Youth EcoPreneurship (YEP) Camp (www.yepcamp.org). At YEP Camp, we aimed to teach potential young entrepreneurs to not only gain profit from business, but also to contribute to solving global environmental problems and deliver concrete impacts for improving local societies and economies, consistent with local values. The pilot project was held in May 2014 at the Cibodas Botanical Gardens, where 30 selected youths participated in the camp. At the end of the camp, we chose the three best business plans and gave them seed funding, as well as mentorship for 6 months.

I realise that solving environmental issues cannot be achieved by conducting grassroots projects alone. Environmental issues also require the attention and support of academic and scientific circles. That is why I am also currently involved in a book project, together with lecturers and young researchers from the Department of International Relations at the University of Indonesia. We are writing a book on International relations and the environment, which hopefully will be launched by the end of this year. I believe that global cooperation is very much needed to solve the complex problem of climate change. In August 2014, I am planning to go to Taiwan to learn new things about the importance of advanced networks for sustainable environment.

In the past, I thought achieving personal goals was the most remarkable value. Then I met some inspiring leaders who had successfully created more leaders. This is my dream! In the next five years, I am planning to build a foundation that nurtures, encourages, and empowers underprivileged, homeless, disabled and special-treatment children and youth to become great leaders. Practically speaking, I would like to provide them with access to education and health care, build their environmental awareness, and equip them with life skills such as training in ecopreneurship or social business.

I understand that measuring impact is pretty relative. I am a person who always considers the impact of an activity based on two sides: qualitative and quantitative. In numbers, there are a lot of young people who are aware of environmental or social issues. However, none of them have officially been accredited or acknowledged by the UN, including by UNEP.

These contradicting realities motivate me to work harder and encourage all stakeholders to keep helping each other. Qualitatively speaking, this is the starting point. By building stronger communication, tighter collaboration and social and local values, young people will be ready to stand for global action. This is the most important modality that will make a big change in people’s lives.
I believe that we are living in neverending collaboration. As a social creature, each person needs help, working hand in hand to build a better and more peaceful world. Indonesia’s democracy is consolidating and I am optimistic about the new presidency. For better youth development on environmental issues, we need a multi-stakeholder partnership approach. The Government of Indonesia (especially the Ministry of Environment), UNFPA and other international organizations and environmental communities and groups should engage young people at every level of the decision-making process (planning, implementing and evaluating). There should be one system of communication that connects all of these stakeholders. This is the appropriate way to create great and sustainable young leaders, especially in the field of environmental issues.

In the short term, I am planning to pursue my PhD on Global Sustainability and Politics in the United Kingdom in 2015. This is my first step to become the first young female professor on global environmental issues in Indonesia in the future. This higher education will only be worthwhile if I also develop environmental education, and hopefully enrich Indonesia’s national assets by inspiring others to become sustainable environmental heroes and leaders.

The next big thing is creating, building and empowering thousands of young people with great leadership skills competitiveness, integrity and a commitment to sustainability in order to make global changes.
Yoga Dirga Cahya

Enhancing the Lives of Indonesian Workers Overseas through Politics

Being educated and employed overseas did not stop Yoga Dirga Cahya, 28, from positively contributing to the betterment of the country he grew up in: Indonesia. On the contrary, Yoga found ways to support the nation from afar by protecting the rights of the Indonesian diaspora and eventually running to become a Member of Parliament.

It all began some years ago when I studied Biology at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore with a tuition grant from the Singapore government. After graduating, I served my bond to the Singapore government in the National Environment Agency (NEA) under the Ministry of Environment and Water Resources for four and a half years. Although I served Singapore’s public, I was very much involved in the Indonesian community here, such as a member of the Indonesian Students’ Association in Singapore (PPIS), as president of the of Indonesian Professionals’ Association (IPA) and as chairman of the Indonesian Communities’ Forum. During my time in Singapore, I saw many Indonesian migrant workers treated unfairly by their agents, employers by Indonesian officials back home. Many of them complained to me that they were even being extorted in Indonesian airports as they returned home. But when I relayed their plights to the Indonesian Member of Parliament (MP) visiting Singapore, it fell onto deaf ears. Since then I have been convinced that if I can’t ask for my MPs’ help, I may as well run as an MP, to represent Indonesians living overseas. When Hatta Rajasa visited Singapore as Coordi-
nating Ministry of Economic Affairs, he asked if I was interested in becoming an MP representing Indonesian Diaspora. Accepting the offer changed my life.

In 2013, I finally returned home to run as an MP with the National Mandate Party (PAN). It was a very challenging experience for me as well as my team who supported me in running to become MP. None of my campaign team had experienced political campaign before so most of us brainstormed for the ideal way to run a campaigning, which we could run with the utmost idealism. We then initiated the #KampanyePutih (“White/Clean Campaign”) movement to educate people of the right way of doing politics, and restore people’s faith.

As for my own programmes, as a representative of the Indonesian diaspora, I felt obliged to fight for the rights of migrant workers - which became the epicentre of my vision, mission, and proposed programmes if I became an MP-elect. Since I was not elected as an MP in the 2014 term, I am realising this ambition through a foundation I established called Sigmantara (Sinergi Masyarakat Advokasi untuk Pekerja Internasional / People’s Synergy of Advocates for International Workers). Through the foundation, together with my team, I hope to fulfill, protect, and empower migrant workers’ aspirations overseas by reviewing the laws and regulations related to migrant workers and by establishing a feedback channel and 24-hour hotline to ensure the safety of migrant workers. We will also train migrant workers prior to their placement or assignment overseas.

As a young politician, I believe it is very important for youths to be interested in politics. In democratically developed countries, every young adult will want to be associated with a certain political ideal. For them, this is important to fight for their beliefs, faith and causes. They are aware that in order to bring changes in their lives, they have to do it through the political system.

The government must encourage young people to be more involved in politics, not only entice the youths to vote every five years, but to understand political system, its benefits and how politics can directly impact their lives.

Currently, the perception of youths towards political parties is that parties are only interested in getting their votes and only those who want to be an MP will join the political party. This is not right. Parties must go down to the grassroots level and involve the youths more with interesting engagement events. They must also deliver their promises to the youths so that trust will be built between them.
Yoga speaking at an event to promote the rights of Indonesian migrant workers abroad.
Habibie Afsyah
Fighting for a Fully Inclusive Indonesia

Habibie Afsyah, 26, might spend most of his time in a wheelchair, but that does not stop him from positively contributing towards the betterment of Indonesia through his activities. He is actively involved in the Indonesia Disabled Care Community, which fights for the rights of Indonesians with disabilities, and for more inclusive communities in Indonesia.

I am actively involved in the Indonesia Disabled Care Community (IDCC), which is an inclusive community that cares about issues related to disability and promotes the importance of supporting synergies and collaborations between the disabled and the able-bodied. IDCC was founded in December 2011, on the International Day of Disability, and operates by the motto of “Aware, Care, Share”.

The community was set up to address the fact that there is still a lot of negative stigma in society towards disability. A lot of people believe that disability is a burden, and that the disabled do not have a chance to have a bright future. That kind of judgement has limited our space to learn and create things. For that reason, along with IDCC, I keep on trying to “revise” this wrong perception of disability, and of people with disability, that has been instilled in the minds of the people for years, with a special focus on changing the mindset of the younger generation. We are tapping into this generation so that hopefully, perhaps in five to 10 years when they become the leaders of the country, they would be able to have the “correct” perception towards disability.
We have been visiting cities and campuses to deliver adequate information on issues related to disability. We also held the National Conference on Disability Awareness (NCDA) in Jakarta last year, where we gathered representatives from different universities to discuss the issues surrounding disability and develop strategies to raise awareness. Because the initiative was quite successful, this year we decided to build on the idea by organising an “IDCC goes to high schools” project, to meet an even younger audience.

I am doing this with the sole hope that Indonesia will become an inclusive country, where both the able-bodied and the disabled can work together, side by side, towards the development of this archipelago. I dream of a nation where the disabled can work and have activities as easily as the able-bodied. For everything to be accessible by people with different kinds of abilities, including education, employment, transportation and health.

After all, disability should not limit humans to create things. This is the message that I have been trying to convey through my work.
Habibie with his family.
Aria & Intan

Heading to the East, One Story at a Time

Partners in life and in advocacy, Aria Angga Dwipa, 30, and Intan Anggita, 28, in 2012 started up a website called menujutimur.com. The name means ‘Heading to the East’, which is what Aria and Intan were doing when they found their calling. This is their journey.

In the early 2010s, we started taking trips to a number of areas in Eastern Indonesia. On one of those first trips, we stumbled upon a sincere smile from the locals, which magically made us want to go back to Eastern Indonesia again and again. However, after several trips to the region, we realised that even this kind of paradise has problems, including how a lot of outsiders have exploited residents and the land they own to get the region’s wealth of natural resources, which has resulted in severe damage in areas across Eastern Indonesia.

We wanted to highlight the other side of Eastern Indonesia, from a humanist — and not an exotic — perspective. We chose to develop a kind of digital campaign for easy access and fast response. We established the Pecinta Timur Indonesia (Eastern Indonesia Lovers) community on Google+ as a way to aid people in the region, and spread stories of inspiring people on Twitter and Instagram. We also developed the website menujutimur.com to become the media hub of all our campaigns and activities. We integrated the online initiative with the offline movements. Through the website, people can choose which projects to support.
From our perspective, there has not been sufficient support for the people in Eastern Indonesia from the young people of Indonesia as a whole. We think that one of the root causes of this is the lack of access to communication (Internet and mobile phone signal is weak), transportation, education and information. That is why we have developed a number of strategic plans to encourage even more young people to care about humanitarian issues in Eastern Indonesia, by perhaps first bringing them to visit the region and appreciate the beauty of the area and its people.

We plan to train local people at tourist attraction sites to produce merchandise, so they can generate income for the sustainability of more inspiring activities. Aside from that, we have also thought about many more empowering projects and making comic books for children on Eastern Indonesia. Maybe the government can collaborate with us again, just like when – the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries helped pay for our trip to Japan for a Marine Litter and Waste Management conference with Papa Jo, environmental activist from Labuan Bajo, Flores.

We made a short documentary movie about him, his project, life and achievements as an activist from Eastern Indonesia.

Moreover, we also work to raise money through crowdfunding and by selling pieces combining vintage denim with traditionally woven fabrics (ikat) from Eastern Indonesia. Our fashion line — called Sight from the East — uses online marketing through Twitter and Instagram to great success. The side business funds our other projects. Therefore, if you would like to support our initiatives, you could simply buy Sight from the East’s products because that way, you have contributed funding.

We believe that there are a lot of things that Indonesian youths could do if they would like to support Eastern Indonesia, may it be through our project or through other means. Choose your own way of contributing, choose what you like – just like what we did. That way, we could bring an even greater impact to this mesmerising equatorial emerald.
Intan and Aria at work in Eastern Indonesia as part of the Menuju Timur initiative.
Hailing from the volcanically active and earthquake-prone region of Yogyakarta, Daniel Oscar Baskoro, 21, helped create an award-winning application for disaster mitigation using Google Glass. He believes that technology is the key to solving both ordinary and extraordinary problems.

My name is Daniel Oscar Baskoro and I am a 21-year-old student at Gadjah Mada University majoring in Computer Science. I was born and raised in the friendly town of Yogyakarta, but I decided not to stop there. As a student, I do research in developing technology to be implemented for disaster, health and economics purposes in developing countries. With my research team, I have invented several innovations in technology for health. The most recent innovation was a disaster mitigation application developed for the Google Glass wearable computing device. The application was named the Global Winner of the World Bank “Code for Resilience” competition in London. I have also collaborated on digital technology research projects in countries such as Singapore, the United States, Hong Kong, South Korea and the United Kingdom.

Beside actively doing research, I always try to engage in social work in order to empower people to use technology as a solution to answer everyday problems. Once I served as a supervisor for digit-
Investing in Young People in Indonesia
tal disaster mapping during the Sinabung volcanic eruption in North Sumatra. That experience led me to being chosen as an XL Future Leader by telecommunications provider XL Axiata. My activities outside of academia haven’t made me leave my studies behind. In 2014, I was chosen as one of the 10 best students at Gadjah Mada University out of around 40,000 active students.

Getting awards and honours is not my main focus. It is just a bonus when I am already doing the things I like doing. What matters to me is that I can help others and contribute to their happiness, especially those with lower economic status, through my inventions. I vividly remember the first acknowledgement I got when I was in the last year of junior high school. There was an educational website design competition organised by the Ministry of Education. Other participants uploaded their school profiles with beautiful photos of their schools and outstanding web designs. Mine was a simply designed website with photos of children living in poverty. I had a theme of “Let’s Go to School”, where I designed my website in a way that could be some sort of guide to be used by street children to go to school. I had never expected that I would have won this competition, but I did win the first place, and it was my first acknowledgement. This has motivated me to continue winning several other competitions in photography, research, innovations and leadership worldwide, the most recent being the Google Glass challenge I won in the United Kingdom.

I am interested in creating things within the area of technology because I personally believe that technology is the key towards the development of every human era. What would have happened had Thomas Edison not discovered the light bulb, or Alexander Graham Bell had not invented the telephone? The world would have become a completely different place to the one we know today. Technology makes a huge difference in times of disaster. When disasters occur in developed countries, there is generally a much lower level of casualties than when disasters occur in developing countries. This is because developed countries tend to adopt disaster mitigation technologies before developing countries do. This has become the motivation for me to create innovative technologies for developing countries, while at the same time spreading the message that technology is there to serve mankind.

Youths are some of the most important assets that a country could possess, especially those of us who have been introduced from a young age to the culture of innovating, inventing and collaborating to create great things for our societies. We can try to tap into the asset of young people using the power of technology. By introducing new, cutting-edge technologies that could change the
world through young people, we might be able to leverage their interest in keeping up-to-date with technology and trends to educate older generations, such as their parents and grandparents, about the latest innovations and inventions. In this way, young people can contribute to their country by being the “ambassadors” of new technology as it rapidly enters our world.

Technology can be useful when it is quickly adopted by a larger community or a larger population, especially in developing countries. Because most of the time, technology could be the answer to the problem that we have been possessing for quite some time, and finally unleash the betterment of the lives of many people, the lives of humankind.
Anton Abdul Fatah

Empowering Villagers Through Land Reclamation

When Anton Abdul Fatah, 29, saw how brick production was causing land damage in Garut, West Java, he decided to do something about it. His idea to restore the land’s fertility using agroforestry techniques won him international appreciation.

Since 2009, I have been empowering the citizens of Sindang Sari village in Garut, West Java, to perform land reclamation. The condition of the land in the village has been damaged by brick-making business activities, which is quite concerning. The land damage has occurred because a large part of the land has been leased to real estate businessmen, not to be used as a land to build residential or office building complexes on, but to produce red bricks from scratch on-site.

Because of my work in this field, I won the E-Idea Competition organised by the British Council in collaboration with Lloyd’s Register Quality Assurance (LRQA). E-Idea is an initiative to help young eco-entrepreneurs to develop innovative projects to solve environmental issues with measurable business impacts and practices to benefit the respec-
tive communities in the Asia-Pacific region. My idea was within the field of agroforestry, a concept which is relatively new in the eyes of Indonesian people. Basically, agroforestry is having land where both agriculture and forestry are combined. For example, the soil would be planted with plants that are able to fix the nitrogen supply, such as peanuts, corn and potatoes, which would help the development of trees and forests. At the same time, trees could be planted in the same soil to make it harder and firmer.

The idea that made me won the competition was to initiate a project to restore the fertility of land used for the production of bricks by using both agroforestry techniques, as well as injecting compost made from agricultural and animal waste. In terms of the agroforestry activities, I created intercropping patterns, by combining pea plants that are very productive and are able to restore the condition of the soil with the albizia tree’s ability to reduce. This method can overcome the problem of soil degradation and erosion of land sediment.

Moreover, I also made time to have a proper discussion with farmers from the village on finding the best methods to execute the idea, as this is a relatively new idea within the agricultural industry. For instance, we discussed ways of making cheap composts and fertilisers, finding ways to plant trees, and the possibility of providing free albizia seeds to be planted in the soil.
Anton working in the field as part of his farmers’ empowerment programme.
young minds, new ideas

18-38 YEARS OLD?
LET'S FIND CREATIVE IDEAS FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA'S FUTURE.

Special Session: You
Monday, 5 May 2014
The Shangri-La Hotel, Jakarta
18.00 - 20.00
Andhyta Firselly Utami, 22, or Afu to her friends, has many interests, ranging from public policy to forestry, volunteerism and creative writing. She’s trying to balance everything at the moment, and find a way for her interests to contribute to the betterment of her country.

Right now I am primarily working as research analyst for the World Resources Institute, a global environmental think tank. My chief focus lies in Indonesia’s forest governance, as well as land use issues. On a daily basis, my routine includes providing data-based analyses and policy recommendations, engaging with various stakeholders—be it government, business or civil society actors—while also trying to minimise my own carbon footprint!

Before having a full-time job, I was an International Relations student with a number of activities outside campus, as most college students do. I was actively involved in a non-governmental organisation called Indonesian Future Leaders, and chaired the Indonesian Youth Parliament (Parlemen Muda Indonesia), a national movement that aims to increase youth participation in the decision-making process and democracy in the bigger picture. Through a series of roadshows, regional consultations, as well as innovative methods of political education (such as Kampung Politik, or Political Village), we reintroduced the parliament as well as its utmost importance to our young generation.
I obviously have an interest in politics and public policy. Nevertheless, on top of all my activities, I also love writing—in fact I love writing so much that my proudest moment was when they announced me as the 3rd Winner of the GOI-UNESCO International Essay Contest for Young People in 2012. I was also been very proud when I was invited to be the keynote speaker of the CIFOR Forests Asia Youth Session, because it was when both of my worlds (forestry and youth) got to meet in one room, and afterwards not only did I get standing ovation, but some people I truly respect also patted me on the back and congratulated me on the speech.

All of these activities have helped me “give birth” to two big dreams, and I haven’t decided which one I will go for first: be a full-fledged writer and publish books on a yearly basis, or work in the public sector and eventually serve as a minister for the country. Both ideas are as intriguing to me, especially because I have been exposed to the best of both worlds.

As a youth activist myself, I see the world of youth activism as having both demand and supply sides to it. The Government of Indonesia should create demand (for youth participation) by opening doors and windows of opportunities for young people contribute their thoughts and ideas to. This could be done by increasing the number of public consultations that include youth as one of the identified groups (in addition to the usual government-business-civil society approach), giving youth a platform to stand up for our own causes and points of view. This is essential because many of the decisions made by the government will affect the future we live in.

UNFPA and other UN agencies, in the meantime, could foster the supply side of this equation through empowering youth via capacity-building activities. For example, for Indonesian youth there is still a big gap in terms of awareness of issues as well as speaking and writing capacity between those living in urban and rural areas. Should we manage to close this gap, we will not only facilitate youth participation, but also ensure quality participation from them.
Andhyta advocating youth participation and leadership as the key for future development.
Natasha Ardiani’s passion lies in development, international affairs, education and youth activism. The 24-year-old had always been interested in making a career in the public sector, both at a national and international level.

Ultimately, I dream of living in a world where everyone lives equally, rights are secured and guaranteed, and basic human needs are fulfilled. But this is such a utopia, isn’t it? I realise that dreaming about living in a utopian world will not cut it. Therefore, I feel the urge to act upon my dream and do something meaningful that would make life worthwhile.

In the road to pursuing my dream, I have decided to use public policy as my tool. I believe that public policy is one of the strongest tools we can use to help others. At the moment, my goal is to have a good work/life balance whereby I can still thrive at my job and can make time for family and friends. I started with a bachelor’s degree in International Relations before taking a master’s in Public Policy. Now I am a public policy professional working at the executive branch of the government, and in my free time I’m an avid traveller. In order to fulfill my potential, I am striving not only to become better educated, but well travelled better rounded as a whole person and to able to aspire communities and inspire social change. It is my wish to see every young person in Indonesia being realise their own dreams.
with the best of their abilities, knowing that nothing is stopping them to become successful but themselves.

I started working at the President’s Delivery Unit for Development Monitoring and Oversight (UKP4) in 2012 to assist the co-chairmanship of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono at the High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (HLPEP). The panel was established by the UN Secretary-General to come up with a recommendation on Post-2015 agenda. I mainly coordinate outreach efforts to governments, private sector, civil society and youth, organize UKP4’s contribution to inter-ministerial, national and international processes and develop analyses in relation to the formulation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), policy drafting, event planning and seeking solutions to bridge the gap between the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and post-2015 agenda. I also prepare briefings, reports and presentations on the Post-2015 to the President and Head of UKP4 for UN General Assembly, National Consultation on Post-2015 and other engagements. My role as a Post-2015 analyst continues as I assist the government in the round of negotiations on the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals at the UN Headquarters in New York, with the most recent negotiation in 19 July 2014 and came producing 17 SDGs and 169 targets. It was such a privilege to witness the birth of the SDGs, as goals that will potentially lead global efforts on development for the next 15 years.

My other responsibilities in the office include managing bilateral and multilateral initiatives on climate change and deforestation under the REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) scheme. This opportunity has taken me to places such as Sebangau National Park, Tanjung Puting National Park and other places in Kalimantan where we do our work.

From 2013 to 2014, I took on leadership role as the co-chair of a youth-led and youth-based initiative, called Indonesian Youth, and was also involved in Indonesia Mengglobal, an online platform that spreads information about studying abroad from first-hand alumni and encourages more Indonesians to study abroad by showing that high-quality global education is accessible to everyone.

Throughout the post-2015 process, I have been wearing two hats, one as government representative and one as a young person. I could not help but relate to the 1.8 billion people out there whose fate would be determined largely by the Post-2015 agenda. In the paradoxical world of development, youth can play many roles: being embedded in development planning, contributing to implementation and acting as a development
watchdog. I like what I see so far – that youth has been involved in many debates, consultations and discussions, been quoted and mentioned in many reports and even have influenced negotiations through persistent lobbying. Youth are determined not to miss out on having their say, as they did in the formulation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in which youth also received no special mention as a target group for development. This time around, youth as the future generations are safeguarding their future by helping governments and the UN to produce better outcomes.

As a young person and a concerned citizen, I see a huge untapped potential for young people in Indonesia. This potential needs to be recognised and acted upon by the Government of Indonesia, UNFPA and other UN agencies. The government can incentivise more youth activism, entrepreneurship, mentorship, internship and apprenticeships at home and abroad and at the same time giving access for young people to social, economic and financial resources. UNFPA and other stakeholders can help close this gap by raising awareness, building capacities and building quality of participation for young people across Indonesia.

I am still trying to mold my professional and academic experience by embarking into different experiences and taking on different roles. I can see myself doing PhD in a few years since I am very much interested in researching more deeply about Sovereign Wealth Funds (SWF), specifically in regards to developing one for Indonesia. I would also like to see the organisation I am still leading, Indonesian Youth Diplomacy to grow in numbers, influence and social impact.

The most important thing for me is to keep going forwards, trying my best and do not looking back, being flexible and always wanting to advance; this way I can live my life with no regrets.
Since the publication of her debut novel at the age of 14, Alanda’s writings have been featured in various media, including the UN’s flagship magazine, UN Chronicle. She has written three books on her own and three as a co-writer.

Alanda is involved in youth empowerment activities, mainly through the Indonesian Youth Conference that she started in 2009 and Sinergi Muda, a youth-run organisation based in Jakarta, in which she sits as a member of the Board of Supervisors. She has been appointed to represent Indonesia in a number of international forums, including the Global Changemakers and One Young World summits. In mid 2011, Alanda was invited to represent the Asia-Pacific region as a youth panelist in the 100th Session of the International Labour Conference 2011, to speak about youth unemployment and social justice at Palais des Nations, Geneva. She has also spoken in front of the Roman Catholic Church cardinals and archbishops about the importance of promoting interfaith cooperation and engaging young people in managing religious affairs, allowing her to meet Pope Benedict XVI in person in Vatican City, 2013.

She received the ASHOKA Young Changemakers Award for Innovation in Clean Water and Sanitation (2010); the IPA Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Award in the People’s Choice category (2011); and was named one of the most influential women in Indonesia by The Marketeers magazine (2011). Alanda has recently been named a Young Social Entrepreneur by Singapore International Foundation (2014) and one of the World Economic Forum’s Global Shapers (2014).

Alanda graduated from Binus International University with a bachelor’s degree in Economics, majoring in International Business. She is currently working in one of the largest consumer goods company in the world, Unilever. She is also a partner in Amame Ice Cream Therapy, which aims to sell ice creams that spread happiness and good feelings to the people of Indonesia.
Born in 1991 in Sungai Penuh, Angga holds a master’s degree in Public Policy and Administration from the University Indonesia, and a bachelor’s degree in Public Administration from the State University of Padang in Indonesia.

Angga now works as the Youth Advocate at UNFPA Indonesia. He advocates for the rights of young people and ensures that youth participate in shaping the processes surrounding the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

He was named one of the Young Leaders for Indonesia in 2011 by McKinsey and Company, was one of two youth speakers at the 5th International Parliamentarians Conference 2012 in Istanbul, Youth Speaker at the 45th Session of Committee on Population and Development Meeting in 2012 at UN Headquarters in New York, and closing speaker and MC at the UN ICPD Beyond 2014’s Global Youth Forum. Most recently, Angga was one of the youth delegates at the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly and one of the youth conveyers for the Youth Multi-stakeholders Meeting during 4th HLPEP Meeting in Bali.

‘Ange’ is a youth advocate working on Public Health issues. She recently graduated from the Public Health Faculty at the University of Indonesia, majoring in Epidemiology. In 2012, she was awarded third place by her faculty as the most outstanding student and the most inspiring student in the scientific category. Her interests include global health, public health issues, reproductive health and youth mobilisation.
Johan is a youth advocate working in Papua. A graduate of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Yapis, Papua, Johan advocates on issues such as sexuality, early marriage, drugs and life skills for youth. He provides practical information for young people via participation in government programmes, community meetings and the Papua Youth Forum.

‘Vivi’ is a youth advocate on adolescent and juvenile delinquency. Since graduating from Semarang’s Diponegoro University with a specialisation in International Law, she has been actively involved in projects to raise legal awareness among young people in Indonesia and across Asia. She recently won Best Position Paper at the Asian International Model United Nations (AIMUN) in Beijing.

Faqih is a youth leader studying Sharia Economics at the Bogor Institute of Agriculture (IPB). He was one of two youth representatives from Indonesia at the International Global Citizen Corps in Tunisia in June 2013. His interests are youth issues, politics, development, socio-cultural affairs, human rights and climate change.
Vania is a youth activist for environmental and sustainable development issues. While studying Management at the Airlangga University in Surabaya, Vania co-founded AV Peduli, an environmental NGO, and led Startic, an “ethnic trashion” ecopreneurship. She received the Satyalencana Wirakarya award from the president of Indonesia for her work in environmental conservation and social empowerment.

Ami is a youth leader from Balikpapan who advocates for youth empowerment and green lifestyles. He tours schools around his city to speak about a role for youth in environmental issues. Currently, Ami is involved in a number of youth-focused programmes in Balikpapan run by the East Kalimantan Provincial Office for Youth and Sports.

Briliansy is a student at the Faculty of Medicine at Gadjah Mada University. She has experience in public health, medical education, human rights and peace projects. She has also participated in sessions led by the International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations (IFMSA) to train students from the Center for Indonesian Medical Students’ Activities (CIMSA). She is currently developing an educational project for sustainable development.
Investing in Young People in Indonesia

Authors

Ekky is a human rights activist and student majoring in Informatics Engineering at Brawijaya University in Malang, East Java. He represents Indonesia as a youth activist for Amnesty International and is an active advocate for gender diversity, reproductive health services and information for young people with disabilities.

‘Fay’ is a youth activist and student of Psychology at the University of Al Azhar Indonesia. For several years she has worked at a local youth radio station, where she shares information on various youth issues. Fay was involved as volunteer at the ICPD Global Youth Forum in Nusa Dua, Bali, and as a youth observer at the World Conference on Youth 2014 in Sri Lanka.
Sewar is a youth leader and student at Undana University’s Faculty of Agriculture. He is involved in youth activism across the province of East Nusa Tenggara, especially in activities related to sharing information on reproductive health, drugs, alcohol and HIV/AIDS for youth in Kupang.

Diba is an activist for youth participation and a student at the Bogor Institute of Agriculture (IPB), majoring in Science Communication and Community Development. She has worked with a number of organizations on human rights, gender equality and youth empowerment, including with the Global Citizen Corps by Mercy Corps in 2010.