



PROFILE

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FROM THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR'S NOTEPAD



Valerie Julliand UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia

Dear readers,

Welcome to our third newsletter edition.

I'm writing to you in the wake of a busy May, which culminated in field visits to Aceh and the seventh Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) in Bali on 25 May. This landmark event brought together the UN Deputy Secretary-General, Amina Mohammed, the President of the UN General Assembly, Abdulla Shahid, and Indonesia's President Joko Widodo.

With the spotlight on Indonesia, some 6,000 people registered for GPDRR and at least 4,000 delegates attended in person under rigorous COVID-19 safety protocols. The GPDRR took stock of the implementation of the Sendai Framework, based on the experience of practitioners and policymakers at local, national, and regional levels. It stands as an example of the UN's incredible convening power, and our

ability to focus global attention on some of the most urgent issues of our time.

This month, our editorial team has compiled coverage of the DSG's visit to our office in Jakarta and her visit to a UN partner organisation doing incredible work with the survivors of gender-based violence. In this edition's 'profile' section, our team sat down with the President of the UN General Assembly, Abdulla Shahid to discuss his "Presidency of Hope", and critical issues such as the no manel pledge and recovering better from the pandemic.

Last but not least, we have some great stories from UN agencies in Indonesia, sharing their extraordinary work in bringing the UN closer to the people it serves while leaving no one behind.

I hope you enjoy this latest edition.

Valerie

UN Deputy Secretary-General's Visit to Indonesia and the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction





So teach those coming behind you, teach those ahead of you, especially leaders who have not quite done what they should do with the environment, so they can meet the Paris Agreement so that they can meet the Sustainable Development Goals."

On 22 May, UN Deputy Secretary-General (DSG) Amina Jane Mohammed visited the Indonesian capital Jakarta ahead of her attendance at the Seventh Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) on the island of Bali on 25 May. After a roundtable meeting with the UN Country Team, Ms. Mohammed met founders and counsellors at Yayasan Pulih, a UNFPA-backed foundation that provides mental health and psychosocial support to victims of gender-based violence during emergencies. The DSG also engaged in an exchange with 15 young climate leaders from access Indonesia on how to amplify youth voices on climate on the world stage.

After listening to presentations on projects that ranged from founding digital food banks, to organic farming, to

charting air pollution, the Deputy Secretary-General said she wanted to relay "the energy, the anger, the frustration, the optimism, and the hope," of youth in Indonesia, during her meetings with delegates in Bali in the days ahead. On 23 May, the DSG met with international development partners supporting Indonesia's transition towards low carbon energy, and with the country's Minister of Finance. She also joined stakeholders in tourism—including Indonesia's Minister of Tourism-to discuss how to sustainably and inclusively revive a COVID-19 ravaged sector that serves as an economic lifeline for millions in the country.

In Bali, Ms. Mohammed observed an elementary school's earthquake and tsunami drill, part of a UNDP-supported programme to boost resilience in a community acutely vulnerable to disasters. She also joined a government-led nationwide mangrove tree-planting drive-demonstrating

UN support for vulnerable ecosystems that not only sequester huge amounts of carbon but also mitigate the impact of tsunamis on vulnerable coastal communities.

"You are already leaders," she told the Indonesian students leading the local tree-planting initiative near Bali's capital Denpasar, "

At the official opening ceremony of GPDRR alongside President Joko Widodo, the DSG commend the country's effort in disaster risk reduction, "Indonesia is a critical partner that has much to teach the world about disaster risk reduction. Your willingness to host this important gathering is a testament to the leading role that you play in sustainable development and Climate Action." Following the opening ceremony, the DSG visited the UN in Indonesia's booth as part of the Innovation Platform of GPDRR and interacted with the UN team there - including signing a 'leaving no one behind' canvas - together with the UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia, Valerie Julliand, the President of the UN General Assembly, Abdullah Shahid and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, Mami Mizutori.



PROFILE

Mr. Abdulla Shahid,

President of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

During his visit to the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) in Bali in May 2022, we spoke to the President of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on a wide range of issues: from the power of hope amidst global challenges, his message at the GPDRR, youth and gender equality, and what leaving no one behind means to him.



This interview has been edited for clarity.

UN in Indonesia: Your campaign for the President of the General Assembly is called "Presidency of Hope". Given the inequalities exacerbated due to the COVID-19 pandemic, looming threats of climate change and food security, and conflicts around the world, what are your goals in this presidency and how do you spark hope at such a pivotal time?

Abdulla Shahid: The goal is to deliver for people, planet and prosperity – how do we do that? By focusing on first, recovering from COVID19. This means access to medical resources, universal access to vaccines, because no one is safe until everyone is safe. This also means recovering from the economic downturn.

The second priority is rebuilding sustainably, because we need to of course rebuild our economies and livelihoods, but also do so in a more sustainable manner, one that is stronger, greener and bluer. That looks at the 2030 Agenda as the framework.

Third, we need to look at the environment – the climate crisis, the pollution and loss of biodiversity, the degradation of our ocean and seas.

Fourth, ensure that people are at the centre of all our efforts, that the rights of all are realized. In

order to do all this, we need multilateralism and a UN at the heart of it. A reformed, revitalized UN, that can address the needs of the people and the planet, effectively and efficiently.

How do we generate hope? By showing that there is a will, that there is a way. My goal, in every event I hold has been to highlight initiatives and partnerships that are making a difference. That are making changes possible. The goal is to highlight that there are resources, technology, and innovation, available. That we need the political will to make it happen.

UN in Indonesia: As someone from the Maldives, you witness firsthand how climate change poses severe risks to local communities and livelihoods. Now that you're in Indonesia, another island country with its unique challenges and risks. What is your message to the world leaders and experts here in the UN GPDRR do to support the vulnerable communities at risk of disasters?

Abdulla Shahid: Climate change is not something distant in the future. It is happening now. The impacts are being felt now. Lives and livelihoods are being impacted now. The weather is getting more extreme, more unpredictable. We need to start preparing ourselves right away.



We must do more to facilitate more opportunities. Especially at decision-making level, where young people's perspectives need to be heard and respected. This is much needed at the national level, but more so at the international level as well.

The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, or the GPDRR, brings together Governments, peoples, and ideas. Here, we can see the possibilities, share ideas and challenges and best practices to overcome them. Let us use this opportunity to build partnerships across countries and within countries.

UN in Indonesia: Like us here at the UN in Indonesia, you also support the #NoManel pledge, where you commit to not sit in any panel that is not gender balanced. What other gender initiatives do you have in your presidency?

Abdulla Shahid: My Presidency is based on five pillars or priorities. Each of my priority areas, my rays of Hope, can be seen through a gender lens. Be that recovering and rebuilding sustainably from the pandemic, responding to the planet, respecting the rights of all or revitalizing the United Nations. This is what I have instructed my team to do.

Over the past seven months of my Presidency, I am proud of the work we have accomplished to advance gender equality. I have endeavored to ensure that my Office is gender balanced. Rather, it would be apt to say that the Office has more women than men. I appointed a Special Adviser on Gender Equality – Ambassador Darja Bavdaz Kuret – to ensure that the women empowerment and gender equality dimension is mainstreamed through my Five Rays of Hope, mandated events and initiatives.

The Board of Advisors on Gender Equality has been upgraded and reconstituted to ensure synergies between the Member States, the UN Secretariat, the human rights pillar of the UN System including of course UN-Women, civil society and the private sector. This advisory board is my sounding board for ideas, and I am guided by their advice and suggestions.

Of the eight young Fellows who have joined my Youth Fellowship Programme, five are women diplomats.

And with the help of the UN Secretariat, we expanded and upgraded the lactation rooms at UNHQ New York. A brand-new room located behind the General Assembly Hall was inaugurated last

week to ensure that all delegates, including those visiting during high-level week, will no longer require to leave the premises to feed their babies.

In addition, this March, I held an informal dialogue with women experts across the six committees of the United Nations on what can be done to empower women in diplomacy. To achieve gender parity comprehensively, we must do more to remove barriers, and empower women in all professional fields, including diplomacy. It is also critical to address the disproportionate impacts of COVID-19 on women and girls in Southeast Asia and worldwide, such as higher rates of genderbased violence, higher rates of unemployment amongst women and youth, school disruptions leading to dropouts, and teenage pregnancy and early marriage.



Beyond diplomacy, political representation is another area where we need more women. In March this year, I held a Special Event on Ending Violence Against Women in Politics. Ministers and M.P.s present recognized that violence is the most determinantal issue to women's equal participation in politics and that eradicating is critical to ensure that women have equal and safe space to participate meaningfully in politics.

What I have learnt through my discussions with female leaders, diplomats, scientists, and civil society across the countries I have visited, is that

challenges, regardless of country or field, are the same. What I have also learnt is the importance of listening to women, and have you, women guide the discussions on how we can improve our work environments, and our societies to make them more inclusive.

UN in Indonesia: One of the programs in your presidency is called the President of the General Assembly Youth Fellowship Programme, where you offer young diplomats from underrepresented countries an opportunity to work in your office. As a diplomat with an illustrious career, have you seen more young people participating in decision-making? How do you intend to bring more young people to a critical forum like the General Assembly?

Abdulla Shahid: Over the course of my career, I have seen repeatedly, bright young people who are passionate, driven, and committed. Young people's role has certainly increased over the years. For example, in my country of Maldives, more and more young people are becoming active in politics. In my Ministry, I see young people rising to the top of the administration.

But we must do more to facilitate more opportunities. Especially at decision-making level, where young people's perspectives need to be heard and respected. This is much needed at the national level, but more so at the international level as well.

One of the things I have done is what you just mentioned: the Fellowship. More and more young people are becoming increasingly disillusioned. And why would they not? The world is a bleak place and we face many challenges. But we have to rebuild faith in multilateralism. And the HOPE Fellowship was constituted for that. To build interest in multilateralism, to offer opportunities for young people from underrepresented countries who would have not usually been able to come, the opportunity to come to the UN, and experience how things are run.

Additionally, I make it a point to speak to young people when I travel and in New York — to learn their views, to hear their concerns. And I bring them back to the UN. I do my best to include young people in the meetings I hold and the events that I plan.

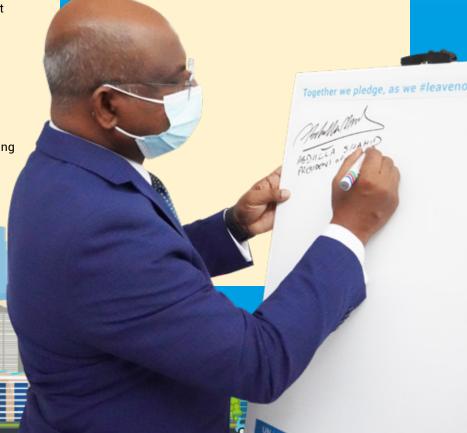
UN in Indonesia: In your words, what does "leaving no one behind" mean to you?

Abdulla Shahid: It is an often used phrase since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. For me, it means no one, in no country, in no community is left behind in our quest for development and prosperity.

That every country – small or big, developed or underdeveloped – is heard. And included. This is why I advocate for targeted interventions for least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS), because we shouldn't leave them behind in our quest to get ahead

It means that often marginalized people – women, young people and children, aged – are included. This is why I advocate for gender equality, for equal opportunities, for young people's voices to be included in decision making.

Leaving no one behind is not just words or something nice to say. We should adopt it as our guiding principle.



Sustainable Development Goal of the Month



PROMOTE PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL AND BUILD EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS

BEFORE COVID-19





DESPITE PROTECTIONS

UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW

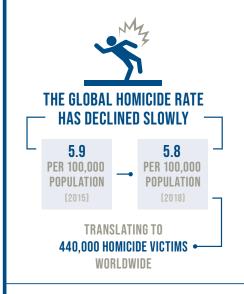


COVID-19 IMPLICATIONS FURTHER THREATEN
GLOBAL PEACE AND SECURITY





ALREADY IN 2019, THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE FLEEING WAR, PERSECUTION AND CONFLICT EXCEEDED 79.5 MILLION, THE HIGHEST LEVEL EVER RECORDED







60% OF COUNTRIES HAVE PRISON OVERCROWDING, RISKING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19



Human evacuation is often the only focus of disaster management efforts when a disaster occurs. However, for the first time, the government of Indonesia integrates livestock evacuation as a new and essential element in disaster management. Livestock is a valuable livelihood asset, and having a livestock evacuation route can reduce human and animal casualties and economic losses.



Commemorated every April 26th, the National Disaster Preparedness Day this year includes the livestock evacuation drill in Sleman, Yogyakarta.

The National Agency for Disaster Management (BNPB) recorded 2,800 cattle deaths during the 2010 Mount Merapi Eruption

and an estimated 12.4% of the total economic loss affecting the agriculture and livestock small and medium-sized businesses. According to the head of BNPB, the human evacuation process is often hampered by farmers who are reluctant to evacuate if they have to leave their livestock as valuable livelihood assets behind. Meanwhile, Indonesia has a high risk of volcanic disasters with an average of 15 eruptions a year and with more than 1.2 million Indonesians who live around volcanic areas and work as family farmers.

Rajendra Aryal, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations Representative for Indonesia and Timor Leste, added the importance of proper support and strong collaboration to protect humans and animals and reduce losses inflicted by disasters.

As the chair of the G20 and the host of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction this year, good disaster management efforts in Indonesia can offer good examples to the rest of the world. With a large population situated in the ring of fire, Indonesia's approach to integrating livestock in disaster mitigation efforts strengthens the country's preparedness, saves more lives, and reduces losses.

Read more here.

New Report: The Call to Step up Efforts to Implement GenderResponsive Strategies to Combat Violent Extremism in South-East Asia

In April 2022, UN Women and the National Counter Terrorism Agency of Indonesia jointly published the 58-page report, Gender Analysis on Violent Extremism and the Impact of COVID-19 on Peace and Security in ASEAN: Evidence-based Research for Policy. It was written by the Monash Gender, Peace and Security Centre at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia.

The report, based on a survey of experts and interviews done between July and November 2021,

The report recommends that national policies to prevent and counter violent extremism in the region:



Be based on a gender analysis of the causes of radicalization: what pushes men to join an extremist group may not be the same for women.



Differentiate among the ways different types of extremist groups – ethno-nationalist, far-right and communist – construct gender norms that enable or limit women's participation or increase the risk of violence against them.



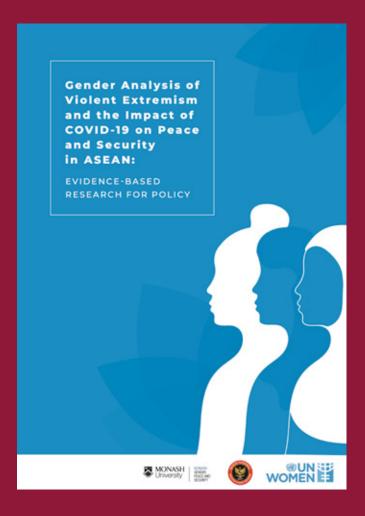
Recognize that women are not always the (stereotyped) victims of terrorism, but also perpetrators, supporters, influencers and active participants.



Involve women and civil society groups who are already confronting violent extremism in their communities.



Develop counter-narratives that promote gender equality, including by featuring the voices of women who were previously involved with extremist groups.



found that extremist groups had exploited the stay-athome orders of the pandemic to get more people in the region to engage with their messages on social media and other online platforms. That includes misogynistic views that increase the risk of women facing sexual and gender-based violence offline.



Teachers Become Mentors Behind Successful Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management





When it comes to discussing menstruation issues, studies show that teenage students mostly talk about it with their peers, and they only come to authorities like women teachers when it is truly necessary. This is to show how menstruation remains taboo and how young girls still feel uncomfortable and embarrassed about the situation.

In SMPN 3 Cisauk junior high school in Tangerang, Banten, a male teacher Agung Winanda is one of the go-to adults to discuss menstruation. Agung has participated in the teacher training on Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management (MHM) in Tangerang District held by UNICEF, with the support from KAO Corporation through the Japan National Committee for UNICEF.

The MHM training, he said, gave him insights and knowledge that enable him to reach out to the students and raise their awareness on the issues. As teachers receive the training, they need to pass on the knowledge to fellow teachers and youth health cadres. One of the most notable interventions in the MHM program was a comic book that was fun to read by the students. In addition, school principals also play a key role in creating a successful campaign. Their leadership, from appointing designated teachers to ensuring that the program runs smoothly, has opened up a new horizon about menstrual and reproductive health management for students of all genders.

Get to know more about the MHM program here.



The girls had difficulties in managing their menstrual health and hygiene due to the lack of infrastructure and facilities at school. To make matters worse, boys teased the girls about it."



Reaching the Furthest Left Behind in Disaster Response in Sintang, Indonesia

The heavy rainy season in late 2021 caused the city of Sintang regency in West Kalimantan to experience its worst flood in 58 years. The area was severely submerged and more than 112,000 people were displaced, and among them were vulnerable groups such as people living with HIV (PLHIV).

As soon as the flood became massive, volunteers mobilized themselves swiftly. Ika Rizka, the Provincial Coordinator of West Kalimantan of Ikatan Perempuan Positif/IPI (Association of Positive Women), received the donation to provide meals for the flood survivors and set up a public kitchen as a meeting point for activists in West Kalimantan. Ika found that volunteers' awareness to not leave anyone behind was remarkable. "A volunteer in the kitchen asked me if special assistance was needed for PLHIV," she recalled.

Under the Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) programme supported by the Government of Japan, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) works with JIP on designing and distributing the first-ever dignity kits tailored to the needs of PLHIV during emergencies. The kits contain basic toiletries and a box for storing antiretroviral (ARV) medicines safely, as it is important for PLHIV to maintain their ARV treatment. As of 20 March 2022, dignity kits have been distributed to hundreds of PLHIV affected by disasters such as Mount Semeru eruption in Lumajang, East Java, and earthquakes in Pasaman and West Pasaman, West Sumatera.

During humanitarian crises, PLHIV are more vulnerable due to the absence of health services and social instabilities. Thanks to local volunteers like Ika, the Sintang response was able to reduce risks, identify survivors, and deliver the aid immediately.

For more information about the response in Sintang, click here





Peacekeepers' Day Campaign Harnesses the Power of People to Secure Peace, Progress and Partnerships

For more than seven decades, UN peacekeeping efforts have saved countless lives and bolstered peace and stability in many countries. The International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers is commemorated every 29 May and pays tribute to peacekeepers' invaluable work and honours the lives lost serving under the UN flag.

The theme for the 2022 annual commemoration is "People. Peace. Progress. The Power of Partnerships." The UN peacekeeping efforts and mission to end conflicts and secure lasting political solutions cannot fully succeed without the support of partners. Whether support from the Member States, non-governmental organizations, civil society, UN agencies, or other parties, partnerships are fundamental to bringing tangible improvements in critical areas, such as economic development, the rule of law, women's rights, human rights, health and education.



peacekeepers serving around the world is an invaluable pride to fight for the right to live in peace for every human being on Earth"

Ni Kadek Tia Cahaya Sari, a peacekeeper currently on a UNIFIL mission in South Lebanon, in her quote card.



Since the first peacekeeping mission in 1948, more than 1 million women and men have served in 72 UN peacekeeping operations, directly impacting the lives of millions of people and saving countless lives. Today, UN Peacekeeping deploys more than 87,000 military, police and civilian personnel in 12 operations.

To commemorate this important event, the UN in Indonesia and UN Women organized a social media campaign asking our partners about how partnerships help them to advance peace and improve lives in the communities they serve.

On 29 May, we featured quote cards from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia, the UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia, and UN Women Indonesia's Representative and Liaison to ASEAN on the role of partnerships in bringing sustainable peace and a collective effort behind peacekeeping efforts.

In addition, eight Indonesian peacekeepers also shared their experiences on missions and how partners contribute to their work in maintaining peace, achieving gender equality, and improving local communities.

This one-day campaign generated over 18,000 impressions on social media and 1,000 engagements. Notable social media engagements include the UN Peacekeeping, the Indonesian Military Army's Peacekeeping Mission Center (PMPP TNI), and the Ambassador of Indonesia to Sweden & Latvia.

Read other responses to the Peacekeeping Day campaign on @UNinIndonesia's Twitter timeline here.



Calendar Highlights

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- 3 | World Press Freedom Day
- 8 | World Migratory Bird Day
- 9-13 | UN Forum on Forests
- 9-21 | UNCCD COP15
- 20 | World Bee Day
- 22 | International Day for Biological Diversity
- 23-28 | The Seventh Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
- 29 | International Day of UN Peacekeepers
- 31 | World No Tobacco Day



- 2-3 | Stockholm+50
- 5 | World Environment Day
- 7 | World Food Safety Day
- 8 | World Oceans Day
- 17 | World Day to Combat
 Desertification and Drought
- 18 | Sustainable Gastronomy Day
- 20 | World Refugee Day
- 26-30 | World Urban Forum 11
- 27 June-1 July | HL Event on
- Ocean Conference
- **30 June-1 July** | HLM on Global Road Safety





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