

Newsletter

Issue 12

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MESSAGE FROM THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR



On Sept 13, alongside BAPPENAS, I had the pleasure of presenting the UN-Indonesia Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021–2025, the principal strategy document for the UN's cooperation with the Government of Indonesia over the next five years. Only days before, Secretary-General António Guterres launched Our Common Agenda in New York, a bold new vision for the future of the UN.

Both documents look ahead to the future of the UN. They show us where we need to go to realise our common aspirations, the Sustainable Development Goals. But their near parallel release says as much about the present moment as it does the future.

"We are at an inflection point in history," the Secretary-General told the General Assembly on Sept 10., characterizing COVID-19 and the climate emergency as the biggest tests the world has faced since World War Two. "Humanity faces a stark and urgent choice: breakdown or breakthrough," he added.

The Secretary-General went on to extrapolate the polemic of "breakdown" versus "breakthrough." But the word that struck me most in that clause was "choice."

The climate crisis and the pandemic are of such magnitude that they can feel paralysing; diminish our sense of agency. Actually, the opposite is true. The lives our children can lead are defined by the choices we make today. And choose, we must: perpetual crisis or a better, more sustainable, peaceful future for people and planet?

Like Our Common Agenda, the UNSDCF 2021–2025 reinforces the notion that we are at an inflection point. Although it was formulated before anyone had heard of COVID-19, the pandemic has made its four strategic priorities more urgent than ever: inclusive human development; inclusive economic development; green development, climate change and natural disasters; and innovation to accelerate progress towards the SDGs. All of them are underscored by the principle at the heart of the UN, our pledge to leave no one behind.

Our September newsletter gives a snapshot of the various ways in which the UN in Indonesia is working with the government to ensure no one is left behind.

Globally, and in Indonesia, we have long advocated for equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines. This month we had cause to celebrate the City Government of Bekasi's landmark vaccination of 118 refugees. Elsewhere a partnership between the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the Government of Japan helped deliver 2,800 oxygen concentrators to strengthen Indonesia's medical response to the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak.

UN agencies are also working to ensure that vulnerable populations are protected from the adverse impacts of COVID-19. For example, at a time when the pandemic risks further isolating remote communities, UNDP's "energy patriots" program is accelerating clean energy projects in island villages, providing healthier and more reliable electricity to communities at risk of being left behind. Meanwhile, as the pandemic threatens Indonesia's hard-won progress on eliminating child labour, ILO is working with local authorities to establish child labour-free zones at the village level. And, through the multilateral "SheDisrupts" program, UN agencies and other stakeholders last month helped scale up 24 women-led start-ups, whose impacts focus on gender and women's empowerment.

Throughout history, humanity has shown itself capable of great feats when we work together. The inflection point the Secretary-General refers to in his speech should serve as an urgent wake-up call, and a vindication of our collective efforts. Because, rarely has our mandate shone so brightly. "In this time of division, fracture and mistrust," he said, "the United Nations is needed more than ever."

Valerie Julliaud

UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia



New Cooperation Framework Scales Up Inclusive Approach to the COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery



The COVID-19 pandemic has brought significant challenges to sustainable development in many parts of the world, including Indonesia. The country's impressive progress in poverty and unemployment reduction, gender equality, and access to health and education is disrupted. On the other hand, the onset of the pandemic also came at a critical phase in the country's planning, coinciding with the end of a five-year development framework the United Nations had drawn up with the Government of Indonesia that ran from 2016 to 2020. How Indonesia moves forward in a world irrevocably altered by COVID-19 was the focus of a joint BAPPENAS–UN Forum 2021 in September 2021. The forum also launched a new joint plan, officially known as the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025.



The newly launched UNSDCF 2021-2025 has four strategic priorities: inclusive human development; inclusive economic transformation; green development, climate change and natural disasters; and innovation to accelerate progress towards the SDGs. At the event, the UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia said that the combination of flexibility in adapting to the challenges of COVID-19 and steadfastness to inclusive values are essential to forward Indonesia on course towards the 2030 Agenda. "The core principle, etched throughout the UNSDCF, is our pledge to Leave No One Behind (LNOB), which is our commitment to eradicate poverty in all its forms, to end discrimination, and to reduce the inequalities that leave people behind," Julliard added. Read the full [UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021–2025 here](#).



UN IN INDONESIA AND COVID-19

UN in Indonesia Relaunches a COVID-19 Microsite to Guide Recovery From COVID-19

The United Nations in Indonesia has relaunched its COVID-19 microsite in late August 2021 as the go-to hub for the latest UN interventions, public health tips, and developments related to the pandemic. First introduced in the early days of the crisis, the site's relaunch responds to the surge in COVID-19 infections in Indonesia, which surpassed 4-million officially recorded cases in July 2021.

The microsite houses the latest information on the UN's global, national, and community-level responses to the pandemic. The four sections of the microsite include WHO situation reports, press statements, humanitarian and policy responses, as well as public health tips and COVID-19 prevention guidelines. The resources will be updated regularly as the situation on the ground evolves. [For more information on this microsite, click here.](#)

Strengthening National Healthcare System During the COVID-19 Pandemic With the Shipment of 2,800 Oxygen Concentrators



Since August 2021, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the Government of Japan have been partnering to deliver 2,800 oxygen concentrators to strengthen Indonesia's healthcare system and medical response to the ongoing COVID-19 delta variant outbreak. The procurement and delivery of this life-saving equipment were made possible thanks to close coordination with Indonesia's Health Crisis Center, the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia.

The concentrators are now being distributed in hospitals to help treat COVID-19 patients across Indonesia. The partnership between the Government of Japan and UNOPS is a positive step towards strengthening national resilience to the COVID-19 pandemic in Asia and the Pacific. [Click here for more information.](#)

Eliminating Child Labour Takes Focus in Rural Areas



The trend for child labour and working children in the country has decreased over the years, but the COVID-19 pandemic can be a game-changer for the prevalence of child labour. In August 2021, the International Labour Organization conducted a policy dialogue with key labour ministries such as the Ministry of National Development Planning (Bappenas), Ministry for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection and Ministry of Manpower. The policy dialogue invited stakeholders to share lessons learned on child labour programmes and coordinated efforts to set up a new goal in line with the commitments towards ending child labour in all its forms by 2025.

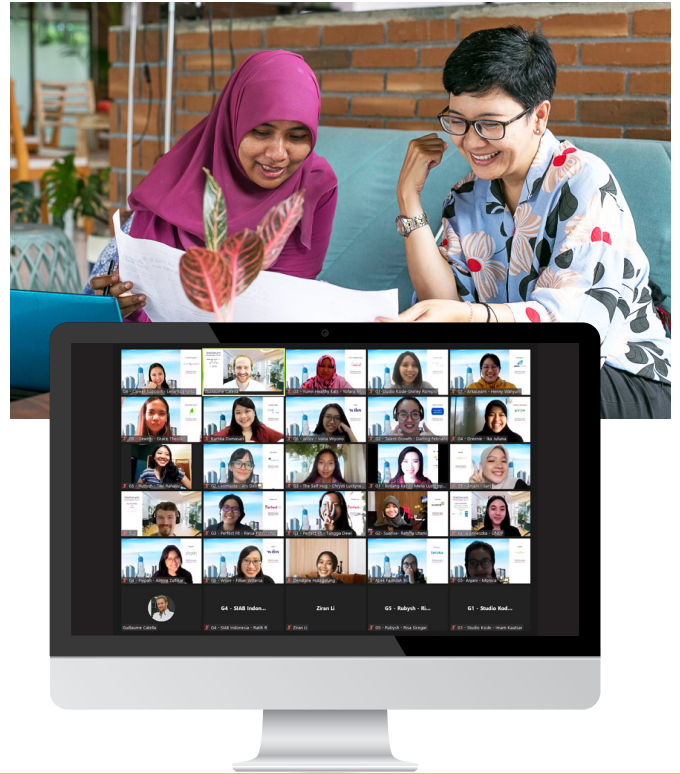
The dialogue revealed that the prevalence of child labour aged 15-17 years is projected to be around 293,000 children by 2025. In addition, most child labourers are still found in the rural area, dominated by the agriculture sector. In response to this finding, the dialogue highlighted the focus on the rural area as a priority in efforts to eliminate child labour by 2025 by continuous advocacy to rural authorities and leaders, establish child labour-free zones at the village level, and enhance national child labour data to develop targeted interventions. [Click here for the full story.](#)



Women-Led Startups Deliver Tech Solutions to Solve SDG Challenges

The future of entrepreneurship is socially impactful, women-led, and tech-based. On August 2021, 24 impact-oriented, women-led startups pitched online to the Indonesia Women Empowerment Fund (IWEF) and other impact investors and ecosystem partners in Indonesia and abroad as part of “SheDisrupts Indonesia 2021” program.

Initiated by IWEF and Creatella Impact, in partnership with Investing in Women, UN Women, UNDP, and Citibank, “SheDisrupts” program aimed to empower Indonesian women entrepreneurs to build and scale innovative and tech-driven business solutions to complex social and environmental issues in Indonesia. The startups received mentorship sessions with impact investors, entrepreneurs and advisors on business, technology and impact-related topics, focusing on gender issues and women empowerment. [Read the full story here.](#)



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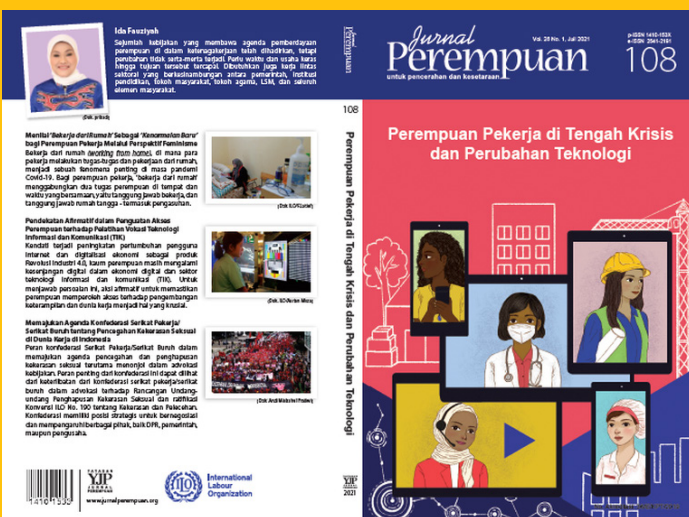
New Publication Outlines Gender-Responsive Strategy for Women Workers Adapting with COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 has increased the pressure on working women and demonstrated the stark inequality in the workplace. Women workers tend to be the first to lose their jobs during the crisis as they are not considered the primary breadwinners. Last month, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Jurnal Perempuan launched the first joint publication titled “Women Workers in the Midst of Pandemic and Technology Change”, highlighting the plight of women workers in dealing with the fast-changing of employment and work conditions and patterns due to the COVID-19 pandemic, technological advancement, globalization and other factors.

Key issues highlighted by this joint edition included the strategy to eliminate barriers for women workforce, the needs of lactation for female journalists, working from home as a “new normal” for women workers and strengthening of women’s access to vocational training in the area of information, technology and communication, the elimination of workplace violence and harassment and the representation of women in the trade union. The ILO remains committed to promoting gender equality and fair employment opportunity. [To access the story from the publication launch, click here.](#)



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Opening Access to COVID-19 Vaccines for Refugees



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The virus knows no borders or nationality, and neither should our solidarity. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) applauds the response of the City Government of Bekasi and Pukesmas Jatisampurna for opening COVID-19 vaccination access to the refugee community. Recently, IOM facilitated the City Government of Bekasi's COVID-19 vaccination program for 118 refugees until they are fully vaccinated in September 2021.

This partnership is one of IOM's wide range of COVID-19 responses in collaboration with government health offices and hospitals nationwide to address the health and social impacts of COVID-19. The efforts reinforce the importance of ensuring that nobody is left behind in getting access to vaccination, including refugees. [Read more here.](#)

Peer Educators Foster a Safe Environment for Children and Adolescents



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Ariel Fitriani from Surakarta City never lets her blindness get in the way of achieving her dream of becoming a professional singer. However, she had to put her dreams on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic. So, how do we foster a safe environment for children and adolescents with disabilities like Ariel so they can thrive?

SAFE4C program, implemented by local NGO Yayasan Setara and the Central Java Office for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection with support from UNICEF, aims to create a safe and friendly environment for children in 10 districts and cities in Central Java Province. The program supports children and adolescents to become peer educators by providing life skills information, knowledge on protective behaviour practices, and facilitating access to child protection services as needed.



Ariel, along with other participating youth with disabilities, found the SAFE4C training sessions invaluable. She learned digital literacy and now understands the risks when she interacts with strangers online. Shildam, another participant, said that the program taught him the importance of mental well-being. Both Ariel and Shildam are committed to spreading the knowledge to their peers and believe that the skills they get will help them thrive beyond the pandemic. [Learn more here.](#)

Report: Children in Indonesia at 'High Risk' of the Impacts of the Climate Crisis



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The climate crisis is a child rights crisis. Record heatwaves, wildfires and flooding in many countries herald a challenging 'new normal' that presents today's children and young people an uncertain future. A new global report launched by UNICEF in August 2021, 'The Climate Crisis Is a Child Rights Crisis: Introducing the Children's Climate Risk Index', is the first comprehensive global analysis of climate risk from a child's perspective. For the first time, UNICEF ranks countries based on children's exposure and vulnerability to climate and environmental shocks, with Indonesian children among the world's most vulnerable.

According to the report, Indonesia is among the high-risk countries, with a ranking of 46. The report finds that Indonesian children are highly exposed to vector-borne diseases, air pollution, and coastal

floods. However, it also spotlights that investments in social services, particularly health and nutrition, education, and social protection and financial inclusion, can make a significant difference in our ability to safeguard their futures from the impact of climate change.

It is already clear that children are more vulnerable to climate and environmental shocks than adults. Without the urgent action required to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, children will continue to suffer the most. All stakeholders need to ensure that the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic is green, low-carbon and inclusive so that the capacity of future generations to address and respond to the climate crisis is not compromised. [Read the full report here.](#)



'Energy Patriots' Accelerate Equitable Access to Power in Indonesia's Remote Villages

For millions of villagers in Indonesia's remote areas, a 12-hour-per-day erratic electricity supply is the norm. A more consistent rural electricity supply could open opportunities for greater economic development and help people in remote villages improve their well-being.

A recently launched UN-backed initiative from the Indonesian Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (MEMR) is on a mission to bring more equitable access to power in these remote areas, thanks to a group of Indonesians dubbed "energy patriots". The energy patriots are recruited by UN Development Programme's (UNDP) ACCESS clean

energy project, and are tasked with boosting the use of clean energy resources, with the goal of improving access to healthcare, education and economic development in rural villages. This 23-person group will be spending a year living in their assigned villages to prepare the infrastructure for solar energy generation.

By accelerating the implementation of clean power in remote areas of the world's largest archipelago nation, it is hoped that the program serves as a blueprint for inclusive and sustainable rural energy development that goes beyond basic socio-economic support. [For the full story, click here.](#)

New Global Initiative Aims to Prevent the Next Pandemics in Indonesia



The COVID-19 pandemic shows how infectious diseases can pose serious health, economic, political, and societal consequences. Many of the greatest pandemic threats are associated with "zoonotic diseases", also known as "zoonoses", diseases that can spread between animals and humans. Continuous attention to animal diseases in general and zoonoses, in particular, remains a priority for governments worldwide, including Indonesia.

To keep the world safe from infectious disease threats, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Ministry of Agriculture and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) launched a Global Health Security Program in June 2021. The GHSP project will run for the next four years and focuses on technical assistance in four key areas: a) Multi-sector collaboration and policy development; b) Surveillance, laboratory, and risk management; c) Disease preparedness and response with a One Health focus; d) National poultry health and control of antimicrobial resistance. [Read the full story here.](#)



Youth Leads Sustainable and Inclusive Fashion Through Innovation

The global fashion industry is under increasing scrutiny over environmentally unsustainable practices and exploitative labour conditions. Against this backdrop, young entrepreneurs in Indonesia are finding new ways to ensure fashion aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals: uplifting heritage, using natural dyes, and supporting women's financial inclusion and family income. To mark International Youth Day 2021 in August, UNESCO and Citi Indonesia organised Watsra Nusantara Virtual Market, where young creative entrepreneurs showcased their designs and presentations about batik and other traditional textiles.

The young designers who participated in the virtual market are part of the UNESCO-Citi Foundation program "Kita Muda Kreatif". The program provides business capacity-building to some



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400 young cultural entrepreneurs living around UNESCO designated sites and other popular tourist destinations in Indonesia. The work of these young creative entrepreneurs plays an important role in improving local livelihoods and uplifting communities, especially to micro, small and medium enterprises affected by the pandemic. [Learn more here.](#)

Experts Reflect on the COVID-19's Impact on Population Dynamics



© UNFPA

The population is at the heart of development, and understanding significant shifts and their impacts on the population is essential to develop evidence-based policies. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought changes to the demographic parameters, such as mortality, fertility, migration and population mobility in many countries. In August 2021, academics, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers gathered at [the 5th Asian Population Association \(APA\) Conference](#) to discuss the changing population dynamics and identify opportunities to tackle issues such as child marriage, access to education, and retirement.

Organized by APA, the National Family Planning Development Board (BKKBN), Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) with support from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy (Kemenparekraf), the virtual conference brought together expertise and knowledge from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, India, Nepal, Afghanistan, and Taiwan among others. This conference provided a platform to exchange ideas and breakthrough solutions towards key issues that populations face today.

The Dangers of Infodemic during the COVID-19 Pandemic

"COVID-19 is just a common cold", "thermal guns are dangerous for the brain" and "COVID-19 vaccines connect the body to a 5G signal" are just three of the hundreds of hoaxes that were spreading in Indonesia during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to WHO, in the first 3 months of 2020, nearly 6,000 people around the globe were hospitalized because of coronavirus misinformation, recent research suggests. During this period, researchers say at least 800 people may have died due to misinformation related to COVID-19.

The UN team in Indonesia is scaling up its efforts in fighting misinformation through Verified - an

online initiative to deliver trusted information, life-saving advice and stories from the best of humanity. To further boost awareness on the importance of fighting misinformation, the UN team in Indonesia is partnering with Tirto.id - an online Indonesian media with 800,000+ daily active users providing news backed by facts and data analysis. Tirto.id is part of Indonesia's Facebook partner, Third-Party Factchecker, a signatory of the International Fact-Checking Network, and won Innovative Cyber Media at PWI 2018 Awards. In this collaboration, there will be biweekly articles, infographics and social media posts published, promoting Verified. Click [here](#) to read the first article.



tirto.id

FATALNYA INFODEMI SELAMA PANDEMI

Infodemi adalah **fenomena meluapnya jumlah informasi**, baik akurat maupun tidak, **yang menyebar bersamaan dengan wabah penyakit**



Hampir 6.000 orang di seluruh dunia pada 3 bulan pertama tahun 2020 **harus dirawat di RS karena misinformation** bahwa mengonsumsi alkohol berkonsentrasi tinggi bisa membunuh virus COVID-19. (The American Journal of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene)



Penyebaran masal informasi yang keliru bisa menghambat upaya penanganan COVID-19 & dapat berakibat fatal



Sumber: Artikel tirto.id 'Fatalnya Infodemi saat Pandemi COVID19 Menerjang' | Kerja sama dengan PBB & Verified



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