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MESSAGE FROM THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR



It's difficult to believe it's been over a year since I first arrived in Indonesia to start my duty as Resident Coordinator. When I cast my mind back to last October, it gives me great pleasure to recall how—even in the midst of the intense disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic—my new colleagues were already mobilizing to celebrate UN Day 2020.

Upon my arrival, the communications team was already busy pushing the UN75 global conversation to shape our organization's future. Under UN75's auspices, I had the honour of joining 400 young Indonesians gathered virtually for youth dialogue on climate action. I was struck by their energy and determination to commit to a greener future.

A year on, I see the energy and determination of those Indonesian youth reflected on a daily basis. I'm proud to say that spirit has been even more evident as I've been able to work from the office and meet many of you in person for the first time. It manifests in your determined efforts to affect positive change, sometimes in the midst of personal adversity.

UN Day is an opportune moment for us to reflect upon the ideals that brought the UN into being 76 years ago. The values and the principles expressed in our founding document, the UN Charter remain relevant as we navigate through the turbulence of COVID-19's socioeconomic, worsening hunger and poverty, and the climate emergency.

Every anniversary reminds us how far we have come together. On some senses, the world has changed in so many ways since World War Two, when our founders resolved that their descendants would never experience an atrocity like the one they had just lived through. Yet in other areas we seem to have barely advanced. Today, in addition to the pandemic, the world is grappling with the highest geo-strategic tension in years, an existential climate crisis, deep and growing global mistrust, and the dark side of the digital world. These events serve us to remind us of the urgency of our work, and the essential nature of our multilateralism.

The ideals that have powered the UN Charter for the last 76 years—peace, development, human rights, and opportunity for all—have no expiry date. As we mark UN Day, let's unite behind these ideals, and live up to the full promise, potential and hope of the United Nations.

Valerie Julliard

UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia



UN in Indonesia Country Team Answer Common Questions About the UN on UN Day 2021

Every year on October 24, people worldwide celebrate UN Day, the anniversary of the United Nations' founding 76 years ago. To mark this year's observance, the UN in Indonesia's communications team produced a video designed to answer some of the questions that most commonly arise about the UN and its work.

In [the 28-minute-long video](#), UN Resident Coordinator for Indonesia Valerie Julliand joins the heads of 19 UN agencies to field questions on subjects ranging from whether the UN has an army, COVID-19 response, difference between migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, to how Indonesians can contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

"UN Day is really for all of us to celebrate diversity, inclusion, and of course peace," Julliand says in the video. "The objective of the UN is to ensure that all people, no matter who they are, where they live, or what they believe in can live a life that is safe, free, dignified and prosperous," Julliand adds.

Aside from the "autocomplete"-style video, an educational kit containing SDG lesson plans and a letter from



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the Resident Coordinator addressed to students was distributed to more than 80 schools across Indonesia. In addition, the UN in Indonesia also joined forces with Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), who organized multimedia content competition and a virtual run to commemorate UN Day where 3,000 slots were filled within the first four hours of the run opening. In addition, the iconic National Monument in Jakarta is illuminated in blue until November 24. [Learn more here.](#)

Indonesia Launches Southeast Asia's First SDG Bond to Bring Agenda 2030 Back on Track

In September, Indonesia became the first country in Southeast Asia to issue a Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Bond in the global debt capital market, raising EUR 500 million (USD 584 million). The Bond reflects the country's leap forward in tapping innovative sources of financing to fund projects that benefit communities and the environment.

UNDP worked in partnership with the Ministry of Finance during all stages of the technical aspects of SDG Bond's issuance. This collaboration included developing a feasibility study and the securities framework, as well as supporting the verification process. Previously, UNDP Indonesia was the first UNDP Country Office to develop innovative sustainable debt instruments when it supported the Indonesian Government's creation of the world's first 'Green Sukuk', issued in 2018.

UNDP's support is part of a UN Joint Programme on [Accelerating SDGs Investment in Indonesia \(ASSIST\)](#), alongside the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). It aims to support the Government of Indonesia in meeting its SDGs targets by scaling up proven and new financing instruments (thematic bonds, impact funds, and SDG-linked loans) and to develop the capacities of key stakeholders. Find out more about [the SDG Bond announcement here.](#)



More Than 25,000 Children Lost a Caregiver Amid COVID-19 in Indonesia

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Since the start of the pandemic, 25,430 children in Indonesia have lost one or both caregivers due to COVID-19, according to a nationwide mapping by the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection (MoWECP) and UNICEF. Children who have lost a caregiver due to COVID-19 are identified using RapidPro software to collect data via SMS, WhatsApp and other communications channels.

The loss of one or both caregivers can have a detrimental impact on the nutrition, growth and development of children and can put them at greater risk of neglect, violence and exploitation – particularly infants and young children from low-income families. Children orphaned or bereft of their caregivers often face adverse consequences, including poverty and institutionalization. Meanwhile, the surviving or alternative caregivers also face additional economic and mental health burdens, which often fall on women and adolescent girls and may put them at increased risk of dropping out of school.

The MoWECP, UNICEF and partners are working together to continuously identify children who have been orphaned due to COVID-19 in Indonesia, facilitate access to mental health and psychosocial support for children and caregivers, and strengthen coordination efforts to ensure children remain in family-based care. In September 2021, UNICEF handed over 1,250 recreational kits and 1,100 personal protective equipment to the Government to support social workers as they carry out home-based activities with vulnerable children. [Find out more here.](#)

Entrepreneurship Training Help Vulnerable Groups to Scale Up Innovative Businesses during the Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the vulnerable groups the most as their livelihoods were at risk. Take, for example, Epang from East Nusa Tenggara (NTT), whose future was full of uncertainty as he struggled to earn income just right after graduating high school during the pandemic.

However, it all changed after Epang signed up for a three-day entrepreneurship and business development training organised by the International Labour Organization. The training, organised by the Consulting Institution for the Empowerment of Small Medium Enterprises and Cooperatives (LKP UKMK), is part of the Employment and Livelihood project, a joint United Nations (UN) project in Indonesia in which the ILO is one of the four UN agencies involved.

The joint project focused on empowering women, villagers, refugees, people with disabilities, people with HIV and youth groups to increase their income earned from their new or existing businesses. Now, Epang is running a successful food business called Moringa House with a turnover of up to IDR 1 million per week. Epang hopes that his business continues to grow and can provide opportunities for people of NTT, and more young people are taking an active role to preserve local culture through innovative businesses. [Learn more here.](#)



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Empowering Teachers on Reproductive Health Education for Students with Intellectual Disabilities



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As teachers are trying their best to provide students with intellectual disabilities with information and support, many still struggle. For example, Tri, a teacher from Jember, East Java, feels like she isn't ready to support her students on reproductive health needs despite having certification for teaching students with special needs. "I feel like I am dealing with these issues all on my own," said Tri.

Tri began to receive some support when she participated in a pilot programme by the Ministry of Education that provides training on adolescent Reproductive health education for teachers from 11 provinces. "It was my first time learning how to teach these topics to people with

intellectual disabilities so that students are fully supported as they go through puberty."

The training programme, which includes face to face training and online supervision, runs throughout 2021. The programme addresses the pressing challenges and violence faced by young people with intellectual disabilities in Indonesia. Implemented with technical support from the Ministry of Health, UNFPA, and Rutgers WPF, the pilot programme aims at equipping teachers with skills to deliver adolescent reproductive health education to students with intellectual disabilities. [Learn more here.](#)

Women Leading Disaster Resilience and Pandemic Recovery Efforts in North Luwu

The high-intensity rainfall in North Luwu District, South Sulawesi in July 2020 caused flash floods and forced 14,000 people to flee their homes. Almost one year later, 600 people still lived at temporary shelters. How can these residents affected by the natural disaster get back to their feet in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Meet Indah Putri Indriani, Besse A. Parfangi, and Sulfa Harbi, the three women leading the COVID-19 and flash floods response, recovery, and reconstruction efforts in the North Luwu Regency. In these efforts, they work closely with IOM's COVID-19 and flash floods relief efforts through the generous funding from the European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO). The IOM supported the three women, and they said the key to recovering better was through the collaborative efforts, active role of local women, and stakeholder partnerships. IOM provided training such as the Displacement Tracking Matrix assessment tool to the coordinators and also basic entrepreneurship skills to 30 women at the temporary shelter so that the local community could rebuild their lives and livelihoods. [For more information, click here.](#)



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Expanding Innovative Ecological Fiscal Transfers to Villages



How can governments support subnational government actors to address climate change and create economic opportunities at the same time? A recent UNDP webinar, through its Kalimantan Forest Project (KALFOR), discussed ways to distribute the Ecological Fiscal Transfer to village levels.

Ecological Fiscal Transfers (EFT) is a shared revenue system that has been partially adopted in the country by subnational governments based on ecological indicators. Expanding this to smaller communities can help boost

forest protection initiatives and encourage more policies concerning ecology and environmental issues. At the community level, this expansion will also increase the district's economies, from tourism, infrastructure, and close monitoring of land use and spatial plans through management of green open space. The Ecological Fiscal Transfer (EFT) will support the national target to reduce carbon emission by 29 per cent in 2030. Currently, UNDP ensures the feasibility of the EFT implementation to reach deeper into the village level of its pilot projects area. [Find out more here.](#)

Strengthening Indonesian Midwives' Resilience in Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic



"Can you imagine what would happen if we could not continue to provide family planning services? How many would have failed and resulted in unwanted pregnancies?" The question that Emi Nurjismi, Chairperson of the Indonesian Midwives Association (IBI), asks reflects the critical need to continue family planning and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Maintaining access during the pandemic has not been easy. Midwives, like other health workers, face high risks of transmission. "In Tangerang district, there have been 169 midwives who tested positive for COVID-19. One died in January. In the Banten province, 1,634 midwives have been infected," Een Setianah of IBI Tangerang explains. Many midwives were infected and had to close their clinics when the COVID-19 cases spiked in June-August 2021 in Indonesia.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) UNFPA Indonesia has [distributed PPEs](#) consisting of hazmat suits, safety goggles, face shields, KN95 masks, medical masks, cloth masks, and disinfectants to 1,780 independent midwifery practices in Jakarta, Depok, Tangerang, Bekasi, Karawang, Serang, and Bandung, with support from Global Affairs Canada (through a joint initiative with UNICEF: the Better Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for All in Indonesia/BERANI) and Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). UNFPA Indonesia also supports online training for midwives in collaboration with IBI and the Knowledge Hub of Reproductive Health of Universitas Indonesia's Faculty of Public Health (FKMUI). [For more information, click here.](#)

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Agricultural Transformation Starts in the Backyard



Nissa Wargadipuras's earliest memories involve learning how to live with nature. Her childhood home's backyard in the hilly town of Garut, West Java, was a little forest where her father planted vegetables, herbs and fruits. Her mother produced traditional medicine from the plants for their family and their neighbours. Sundanese people in Nissa's village consider their homes a place to rest and take shelter, and a means to provide them food and make a living.

Nissa's idyllic memories of her Garut childhood speak to the deep roots of family farming in rural Indonesian life. But her struggles to maintain those traditions against political adversity and poverty are illustrative of the threats family farmers have faced across Indonesia. Issues such as getting their land back and high dependency on intermediaries didn't protect farmers from the ravages of poverty.



Nissa decided to find a way to empower the farmers, decrease their dependency on intermediaries and rekindle the experience of living close to nature through education, where students learn sustainable farming practices at school. Through its Family Farming Initiative, FAO supports living examples, like Nissa's, of the values and lifestyles that concretely help the world attain a more sustainable future. Family farming preserves traditional food products, contributes to a balanced diet, uses natural resources sustainably and safeguards the world's biodiversity. Through its Family Farming Initiative as part of the [Decade of Family Farming](#), FAO encourages living examples, like Nissa's, of the values and lifestyles that concretely help the world attain a more sustainable future. Read more about Nissa's [family farming journey here](#).

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Young Indonesians Take Their Cultural Heritage Forward on National Batik Day

Batik is a living art. It touches all aspects of Indonesian life: from the batik slings designed to bring luck to the babies they cradle to the funerary garments in which the dead are often shrouded. But it is time-consuming and labour intensive to create. Handcrafting an intricately patterned garment can take weeks, but mass-produced prints can be produced far cheaper and saturate the market in days. Even before the pandemic, that made for tough conditions for some 18,000 small and micro-scale batik businesses currently registered with Indonesia's Ministry of Industry. But COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted small enterprises, heaping pressure on young creatives in one of Indonesia's most traditional sectors.

On Oct 2, Indonesia's National Batik Day, UNESCO Jakarta and its partner Citi Foundation hosted a virtual

celebration of batik called "Batik: Karsa Adhikari." With a name taken from the Sanskrit words "intention" and "special," UNESCO's online commemoration explored the cultural roots of batik and gathered experts to discuss how to make the industry more sustainable. Prior to the event, UNESCO and its partner had provided educational kits to hundreds of kindergarten and elementary school students containing eco-friendly dyes so that attendees could practice making batik patterns on a plant pot and raise awareness of using natural dyes to protect the environment. The event wrapped up with a virtual tour of a batik-producing village in Klaten, Central Java, and a fashion market promoting batik products from young creatives as part of the Kita Muda Kreatif programme.

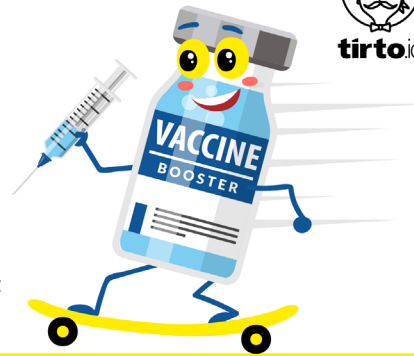
[Read more here.](#)

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SEBERAPA PERLU VAKSIN BOOSTER?

Sejumlah negara mulai mempertimbangkan penggunaan vaksin booster untuk meningkatkan imunitas tubuh terhadap COVID-19. Namun, apakah perlu masyarakat umum mendapatkan vaksin booster saat ini?



Sumber: Artikel tirto.id 'Seberapa Perlukah Kita Mendapatkan Vaksin Booster?' | Kerja sama dengan PBB & Verified

How Important Is It for Us to Get a Booster Vaccine?

Recently, a number of countries in the world began to consider the use of booster vaccines to increase the body's immunity against the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19. However, should the general public get a booster vaccine at this stage?

According to WHO, consideration of booster doses may vary based on vaccine product, epidemiological environment, risk group, and level of vaccination coverages. Furthermore, WHO stated three main considerations for booster vaccines, namely decreased immunity, vaccine effectiveness, and global vaccine supply.

At the moment, the main focus of the government and WHO are increasing COVID-19 vaccines distribution globally. Giving booster vaccines when a large part of the population has not yet received the first dose of vaccine can undermine the principle of equality nationally and globally. Prioritizing boosters over the first vaccine administration could also disrupt the prospects for pandemic mitigation and have serious health, social and economic implications.

In Indonesia, based on data from [the COVID-19 Task Force](#) as of September 13, 2021, 73.31 million people have received the first vaccination dose (35.2 per cent of the total vaccination target population). As many as 42.1

million people have received full vaccination (approx. 21 per cent of the total vaccination target population).

The procurement of booster vaccines needs to be supported by evidence and given to the population groups that need it most. Currently, there is insufficient evidence for the need for a booster vaccine for the general population. Given the limited global supply of vaccines, procuring booster vaccines could exacerbate inequalities and lead to scarcity for populations who have not received vaccines.

The UN team in Indonesia is scaling up its efforts in fighting misinformation, promoting solidarity, and pushing for vaccine equity 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. [Read the full second article of the series here.](#)