



Newsletter 2023

May-August

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SDG Focus



For
More
Info





Fore word

From The UN Resident Coordinator's Notepad

Dear readers,

Greetings, and welcome to the second edition of the UN in Indonesia Newsletter for the year 2023.

In Indonesia, a diverse nation with a large population, achieving an inclusive society where everyone, regardless of background or abilities, can access opportunities is crucial. This involves providing equal access to quality education and healthcare, fair job opportunities, and dismantling systemic barriers based on factors like race, gender, and socioeconomic status.

Inequalities can hinder sustainable development by limiting access to resources and opportunities for those who need them most. Addressing inequalities is a key component of achieving sustainable development goals. This is why the SDG Focus of this volume is SDG 10: Reducing Inequalities.

This edition features highlights from the work of the UN in Indonesia between May and August 2023. We bring you stories from UN agencies in Indonesia, highlighting their impactful efforts to bridge the gap between the UN and the communities it supports, ensuring inclusivity for all.

One of the projects featured in this edition is the effort by UN in Indonesia to promote equal job opportunities for persons with disabilities. For the first time, the UN in Indonesia held a Human Resource Information Session for Persons with Disabilities in Jakarta. At this event, all UN agencies in Indonesia provided comprehensive information about career opportunities within their organisations open to all.

Let us unite to champion equal opportunities, combat discrimination, and ensure that no one is left behind.

Thank you and happy reading,

Valerie Julliard
UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia

Leave No One Behind: A Commitment Carved in Action

In a world that is increasingly interconnected and interdependent, the persistence of wide disparities in wealth, education, healthcare, and opportunities is not only morally intolerable but also poses severe threats to social stability, economic growth, and sustainable development.

Reduced inequalities are central to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, as specifically stated in Goal 10, and also serve as the heartbeat of the United Nations' agenda of Leaving No One Behind.

To Leave No One Behind means ensuring fair wages, access to quality education and healthcare, gender equality, and social protection for vulnerable groups. It involves dismantling systemic barriers that perpetuate discrimination and exclusion based on race, gender, ethnicity, physical ability, and other factors.

To find out more about Goal #10 and other Sustainable Development Goals, visit:
<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment>



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Human Resource Info Session for Persons with Disabilities

“I applied to many companies, and some invited me for an interview. But when they learned that I have a hearing impairment, they stopped the interview, and that was it,” said Cynthia, one of the participants of the United Nations in Indonesia’s **Human Resources Info Session for Persons with Disabilities** in Jakarta (11/5).

Cynthia’s story is not unique. Persons with disabilities often encounter significant challenges when applying for jobs, as they frequently face discrimination, stereotypes, and systemic barriers that hinder their job opportunities, leaving them behind. This struggle not only deprives these individuals of economic independence but also denies society the diverse perspectives and talents that people with disabilities can bring to the workplace.

Through this session, the UN aims to underscore its commitment to being an inclusive workplace that welcomes everyone. Agencies provide participants with opportunities to explore various career prospects available within the UN.

The Human Resource Info Session was followed by a workshop for organizations for/of persons with disabilities and UN Agencies, to discuss how the UN Agencies could involve persons with disabilities in their work as well as facilitate the involvement of persons with disabilities in policy and programme making by the government.

Read more [here](#) or watch on [Youtube](#).

“Job and occupations should also not be compartmentalized based on one’s disability, but rather be a tool to eliminate barriers in the workplace, so everyone could work to their best ability”

- Tedy Gunawan -

ILO Programme Officer for Inclusivity

Sharpening Green Skills for Youth on International Youth Day

The shift towards an environmentally sustainable and climate-friendly world is critical not only for responding to the global climate crisis but also for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To achieve a successful transition towards a greener world, we need more voices from young people, as they are the pillar of the future.

This year's theme, "**Green Skills for Youth: Toward a Sustainable World**", raises awareness about the importance of green skills for youth and the benefits to the individual and to society, including for sustainable development as well as resilience and well-being.

There were three activities to mark this year's International Youth Day:

- Survey on thematic issues to assess and gather the voices of young people on priority issues related to green jobs.
- Youth Advisory Group Workshop to produce recommendations for UN projects and for Government activities related to International Youth Day topics.
- Talkshow session, with 100 young leaders from various youth organizations and the government to share their expertise and recommendations regarding the topics.

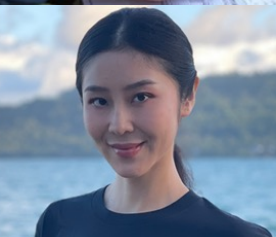
The main output of this session was to draft an **issue brief** that includes recommendations, presenting a comprehensive analysis of the critical issues affecting their generation.



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Meet the newest
**UNFPA Indonesia
Champion**

Putu Ayu Saraswati

Strengthening Data to Reduce Maternal Deaths in Indonesia

According to Noor, the midwife of RSU Slamet, Garut, the most common causes of maternal deaths at RSU Slamet in 2023 have been preeclampsia, bleeding, and infection. With 189 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births (2020 Population Census), Indonesia has a substantially higher Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) than other countries in Southeast Asia.

The quality of healthcare for pregnant women plays a key role in preventing maternal deaths. With support from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), UNFPA Indonesia works with the Ministry of Health to improve maternal health and reduce maternal mortality in Indonesia by strengthening the maternal and perinatal audit, surveillance, and response (MPDSR) systems and implementation.

Read more [here](#).



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From Rohingya Refugee to Tech Professional

Tahsin, along with his family, fled Myanmar in 2006. Their journey led them to Bangladesh, where they often faced discrimination and struggled to blend in with the local population.

In 2017, due to increasing restrictions in Bangladesh, they decided to leave and seek refuge in Indonesia. The family first arrived in Medan, where they sought assistance from UNHCR and eventually settled in Jakarta.

Despite limited opportunities for formal education, living as an isolated Rohingya refugee, Tahsin pursued self-learning and developed skills in computer science. Tahsin continued to enhance his programming skills while volunteering for an Indonesian startup. His talent led him to technology startups and thanks to Talent Lift, a non-profit talent sourcing company, he has been resettled and is now a permanent resident in Canada, and eligible to apply for citizenship and potentially reunite with his family.

Read more about [Tahsin's journey here](#).



Social Forestry Creates Lush Landscapes in Place of Barren Land in Indonesia

Gazing at the lush mosaic of green woodland interspersed with cultivated fields, it is hard for 49-year-old community leader, Pendi, to remember how his community forest land looked back in 2005. Then, this same land in the district of Ciwidey was barren and unproductive with no vegetation. At that time, with insecure tenure rights and little sense of ownership of the lands, deforestation in Indonesia was rampant.

With the support of FAO, UNEP, and other partners through the United Nations' Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN-REDD) programme, Pendi and his community were granted tenure rights. With secure land rights, they felt confident enough to inter-plant crops, such as coffee, with different tree species, which produced remarkable benefits; a resurgence of vegetation has taken the place of bald, unproductive terrain.



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Read on how they managed to transform barren to green [here](#).



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



Indonesian Teachers trained on AI Ethics

UNESCO held an Ethics Teachers Training Course (ETTC) focused on AI ethics in Yogyakarta, in collaboration with the University Gadjah Mada, 23-24 August. The interactive event brought together 30 participants from various backgrounds and universities at UGM's Faculty of Philosophy, to build the capacity of professional lecturers on AI ethics, towards a responsible and inclusive AI technology for the future.

"We need a multi-layered, more balanced, and inclusive approach to AI ethics, focused on how to create more inclusive teaching environments for the students, so that they can be aware of the issues and apply ethics when using AI, to prevent misuse of AI in teaching and learning processes," said F.X. Risang Baskara, PhD, Universitas Sanata Dharma. Read more about the pilot project for AI ethics [here](#).

In other news, UNESCO welcomed new **Global Geoparks, Biosphere Reserves** and inscriptions on the **Memory of the World Register** from Indonesia and other countries.



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© UN Women/Christina Phan

UN Women and Republic of Korea Work to Support Women and Resilient Communities in Indonesia

UN Women and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) launched **Empowered Women for Sustainable Peace: Addressing the Peace-Humanitarian Nexus to Enhance Community Resilience in Indonesia**, a three-year project to build sustainable peace for women and girls in Indonesian villages by preventing violent extremism and mitigating climate risks (8/7). The project will directly benefit about 17,000 people, 10,000 of them women, in at least 20 villages in three provinces – West Nusa Tenggara, East Nusa Tenggara, and Central Sulawesi – that are prone to natural disasters and civil conflicts and need humanitarian assistance.





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IOM and MOFA Launches a Short Film to Educate the Public on the Risks of Human Trafficking in the Digital Era

Throughout 2020-May 2023, MOFA reported that more than 2,400 Indonesians had fallen victim to online scam syndicates. Traffickers enticed young high school and university graduates with false promises of lucrative overseas employment via online job ads and social media, ultimately coercing them into working at scam centers linked to online gambling, cryptocurrency, and romance applications.

To educate the public on the signs and risks of being trafficked in the online scam industry, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), **launched a short film** "Through the Screen" (25/7). The film portrays a young woman who has fallen victim to trafficking in person by online scam companies abroad.

Watch the movie [here](#).



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UNFPA and Grab Train Thousands of Grab Driver-Partners in 5 Cities on Safe Driving and Sexual Violence Prevention

The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and Grab **signed a memorandum of understanding** witnessed by the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection (KEMPPA) to develop workshop materials on sexual violence preventive measures that are in line with the Sexual Violence Crime Law (UU TPKS) in Jakarta (25/7).

Thousands of Grab's Driver-Partners in 5 cities, Jakarta, Bandung, Surabaya, Medan, and Sanur, participated in the Safety Training for Grab Partners (PAKEM). During the workshop, participants learned about sexual violence prevention, how to drive safely, and Grab's service excellence. This strategic partnership seeks to contribute to creating safe public spaces for women and girls where they can live free from all forms of violence.





From Plastic to Prosperity: Uniting for Cleaner Oceans and Stronger Communities

On World Environment Day, the UN in Indonesia collaborated with Trash Hero Jakarta and Trash Hero Depok, local CSOs focused on plastic waste awareness activities. The #BeatPlasticPollution clean-up activity (3/6), organized by UNIC, was held at Setu Pengasinan Depok, West Java. The activity, which consisted of picking up plastic waste around the lake, discussion, and games, was attended by 40 people. In less than one hour, we collected 26.6 kg of inorganic waste – with plastic straws being the most frequently found.



The second part of the commemoration, also organized by UNIC, was an interactive dialogue at RRI Jakarta(6/6), broadcast live via their Pro1 network. Under the theme of “Plastic Waste: Unravelling the Problem, Building Solutions”, this interactive dialogue – in front of a live audience – featured expert speakers from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as well as the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, University of Indonesia and Get Plastic Foundation to provide a deeper understanding of the challenges and solutions to plastic waste problem globally and in Indonesia. Director, UNIC, gave the opening address on behalf of the UN in Indonesia.

The key takeaway was that while efforts have been made to tackle ocean pollution, it is important to also address the problem from the source: **land**. UNOPS is supporting the ASEAN Secretariat in implementing the **Southeast Asia Regional Program on Combating Marine Plastics (SEA-MaP)** project to fight marine plastic pollution.

Read more [here](#) and watch the full RRI event [here](#).



First initiated in 2012 as a joint innovation facility between the United Nations and the Government of Indonesia, Pulse Lab Jakarta has evolved from a big data innovation lab to an analytical partnership accelerator and **officially transformed** into a regional innovation powerhouse with the launch of **United Nations Global Pulse Asia Pacific (23/6)**. This expansion as a regional hub marks a considerable milestone for driving innovation and sustainable development across the region.

The regional hub will play the role of enabler for the UN system and its development partners by championing a UN 2.0 that is fit for the future. This new era of collaboration and innovation in the Asia Pacific region is an exciting opportunity for countries across the global south to collaborate, learn, and grow together.

Congratulations to Global Pulse Asia Pacific Hub!



Pulse Lab Jakarta Transforms as United Nations Global Pulse Asia Pacific Hub to Foster Innovation Across Region



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May

- 1st: International Labour Day/May Day
- 2nd: National Education Day
- 3rd: World Press Freedom Day
- 15th: International Day of Families
- 16th: International Day of Living Together in Peace
- 17th: Int Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia
- 20th: World Bee Day
- 22th: International Day for Biological Diversity
- 29th: International Day of UN Peacekeepers
- 31st: World No-Tobacco Day

June

- 1st: Global Day of Parents
- 3rd: World Bicycle Day
- 7th: World Food Safety Day
- 8th: World Ocean Day
- 12th: World Day Against Child Labour
- 14th: World Blood Donor Day
- 18th: International Day for Countering Hate Speech
- 19th: International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict
- 20th: World Refugee Day
- 24th: International Day of Women in Diplomacy
- 26th: International Day against Drug Abuse and illicit Trafficking
- 27th: Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day

July

- 11th: World Population Day
- 18th: Nelson Mandela International Day
- 23rd: National Children Day
- 28th: World Hepatitis Day
- 30th: International Day of Friendship and World Day against Trafficking in Persons

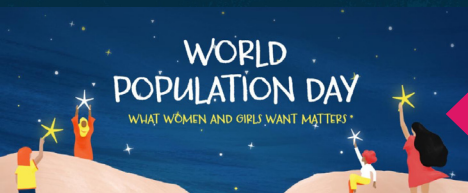
August

- 9th: International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
- 12th: International Youth Day
- 17th: Indonesia Independence Day
- 19th: World Humanitarian Day
- 21st: International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to Victims of Terrorism

Ways to deal with hate speech:



#NoToHate



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About UN in Indonesia

Pitch us your story!

Send your article, blogs, and photo stories to:

unic-jakarta@un.org

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization founded in 1945. It has 193 Member States. The mission and work of the United Nations are guided by the purposes and principles contained in its founding Charter. In Indonesia, the UN is committed to supporting the Government of Indonesia in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

The UN Country Team is led by the UN Resident Coordinator (RC for short), the highest-ranking representative of the UN development system at the country level. RCs led UN Country Teams in consultations with the Government define and agree on the UN strategic response to the Government's development priorities in implementing the 2030 Agenda. The Resident Coordinator is the designated representative of – and reports to – the UN Secretary-General.

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