

Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR



One out of three women in Indonesia aged between 15 and 44 has experienced physical or sexual violence. That's a devastating figure. More devastating still is the fact it's not out of the ordinary. Globally, one in three women experience violence, with a quarter of young women who have been in relationships having experienced violence by their mid-twenties.

The epidemic of violence against women is a key driver behind the UNFPA in Indonesia's publication this month of a report on bodily autonomy around the world. The landmark State of World Population (SWOP) Report 2021 advocates for the power and agency of every woman and girl to make choices about their own body without fear of violence or having someone else decide for them.

The brief on UNFPA's report is just one story in our July newsletter that illustrates the importance of responding directly to the needs of the communities we serve. In Indonesia, the UN System continues to work to protect and empower people who are among society's most vulnerable and marginalised, ensuring they are also included in the COVID-19 response. This month's newsletter shows how UN agencies are collaborating at the community and governmental levels to address some of the most pressing socio-economic and environmental issues of our time: from UNDP's innovative solutions to mitigate CO2 emissions and build resilience to natural disasters; to ILO's guidelines for the ethical recruitment of domestic workers; to UNICEF's global Supply Division scaling up access to affordable pneumonia vaccines for infants and children Indonesia.

Especially at a time when all of us are contending with a surge in COVID-19 cases, I am proud of the hard work of all UN agencies to mitigate the additional challenges the pandemic has imposed on vulnerable communities. Among many responses, UNFPA is taking steps to ensure the wellness and safety of female sex workers, who are exposed to increased social and economic pressure; meanwhile IOM continues to provide food and medical relief to the Rohingya refugees rescued by Acehese fishermen last month.

Our work is never just about facts and figures. It's about the people around us, including those who are not often the focus of society's attention. These stories inspire me because they amplify the voices of the most vulnerable in Indonesia and demonstrate the positive change we can make for people and the planet when we work together.

They also inspire me because they illustrate the power of human solidarity. At a time when some of us are contending with COVID-19 cases among our friends, colleagues, and loved ones, this solidarity has rarely been as evident. It is humbling to see all of you working so hard to protect and support our wider community at this challenging time. It is equally humbling to witness the many ways in which you are supporting each other through the COVID-19 crisis.

This is a struggle we are in together, and I am proud to be struggling alongside you.

Valerie Julliand
UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia

Protecting Children From Pneumonia With Vaccines From UNICEF's Global Supply Division



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Pneumonia is one of the leading causes of deaths among children under five years old. UNICEF's global Supply Division has enabled countries like Indonesia to scale-up life-saving Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccines (PCV) at greatly reduced prices.

The new batch of PCV recently arrived on Lombok Island, the dedicated site for the PCV programme since 2017, and distributed to health centres through district health offices. Next year, the PCV vaccination program will be incorporated into Indonesia's national routine immunization programme with the aim to protect more than four million children every year against pneumonia. To achieve this target, children need to get three doses of PCV – first at around two months, then at three and 12 months, and a strategy for children who missed out. This new programme can make massive contributions towards Indonesia's child health goals. [Read the full story here.](#)



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Innovative Solutions Mitigate CO2 & Empower Workers Into a Clean Energy Era

UNDP is supporting Indonesia to adopt innovative solutions to foster a cleaner and greener energy transition in emerging economies. These solutions revolve around creating low-carbon energy while having positive social impacts in the community, including the inclusion of women's representation in the sector.

A joint MTRE3 Project by UNDP and the Government of Indonesia, the Ministry of Energy and the Mineral Resources is currently piloting in four provinces. The objective is to implement climate mitigation actions in the National (RAN-GRK) and Provincial (RAD-GRK) climate mitigation plans. So far, the pilot projects have revealed alternative scenarios on how provinces can make meaningful contributions towards the country's targets on clean energy.

The project is having a positive impact on the community with skills training for people who previously relied on the fossil fuel industry.

These trainings are essential to help secure their social-economic outcome and transition into new opportunities provided by the clean energy era. [Read the full story here.](#)



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Hundreds of Children and Youth Call for Kindness and an End to Bullying



#BaikItuKeren

#KonferensiKebaikan



@kemenpppa

@ureportindonesia

@unicefindonesia

Bullying is among the key issues that negatively impact children in Indonesia and can have detrimental effects on health and well-being. According to UNICEF's youth engagement platform U-Report, 45% out of 2,777 young people aged 14-24 said they experienced cyberbullying.

To call for an end to bullying and promote kindness, 360 youth participants in Indonesia joined leaders, journalists, and activists over a three-day virtual Kindness Conference via zoom from 26-28 June 2021.

Participants were selected from over 2,500 applicants via the Kindness Challenge #BaikItuKeren on UNICEF's youth communication platform, U-Report. During the event, young people were able to voice their opinions and ideas about kindness and bullying prevention. They learnt how to identify and report cases of bullying to prevent peer-to-peer violence in their daily lives. The Kindness Conference Indonesia called on youth to become 'kindness leaders' to help end violence against children by promoting kindness and empathy in their schools and communities. [Read the full article here.](#)

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Food and Water Relief for Rohingya Rescued in East Aceh



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IOM is continuing to provide food, drinking water and medical support as part of coordinated efforts to help 81 Rohingya rescued by local fishermen in East Aceh in June 2021 after a perilous journey. Louis Hoffmann, IOM Chief of Mission in Indonesia says important next steps are now underway to help assess and stabilize this group in a more sustainable location in close coordination with UNHCR – the UN Refugee Agency, and other partners.

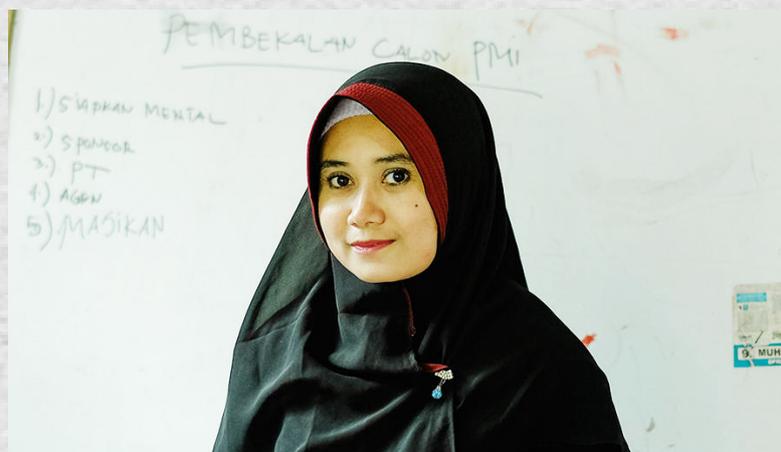
This latest rescue comes almost exactly 12 months after 99 Rohingya, mostly women and children, were rescued by local Acehnese fishermen after being stranded at sea for more than 120 days. Another vessel carrying 296 Rohingya disembarked in Aceh several months later, in September 2020. [Read the full story here.](#)

Guidelines to Ensure Ethical Recruitment & Labour for Migrant Domestic Workers

Migrant domestic workers are primarily women who provide essential care for children, people with disability and the elderly. Economically, they contribute billions of dollars to their host countries, and support the development of their own countries through the transfer of remittances. While many migrant domestic workers have positive migration and employment experiences, they can be vulnerable to exploitation and, in extreme cases, forced labour.

Labour recruiters have an important role to play as they not only facilitate a worker's recruitment from one country to another, but they also have direct contact with the workers and their families as well as employers, government officials and other business partners that are involved in the recruitment process.

To strengthen recruiters' business practices and help uphold the human and labour rights of migrant domestic workers, IOM developed a set of Guidelines for Labour Recruiters on "Ethical Recruitment, Decent Work and Access to Remedy for Migrant Domestic Workers" in 2020. This set of guidelines is now



available in Bahasa Indonesia on IOM Indonesia's Website to inform Indonesian labour recruiters on best practices for promoting, facilitating, and ensuring the ethical recruitment of migrant domestic workers across the archipelago. Government regulation No. 9/2020 will be implemented in July 2021, which makes this an excellent opportunity to promote the guidelines to the recruitment industry to promote ethical recruitment of migrant domestic workers in Indonesia. [Access the guidelines in Bahasa Indonesia here.](#)

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Apprenticeships Help Indonesian Youth Transition From School to Work

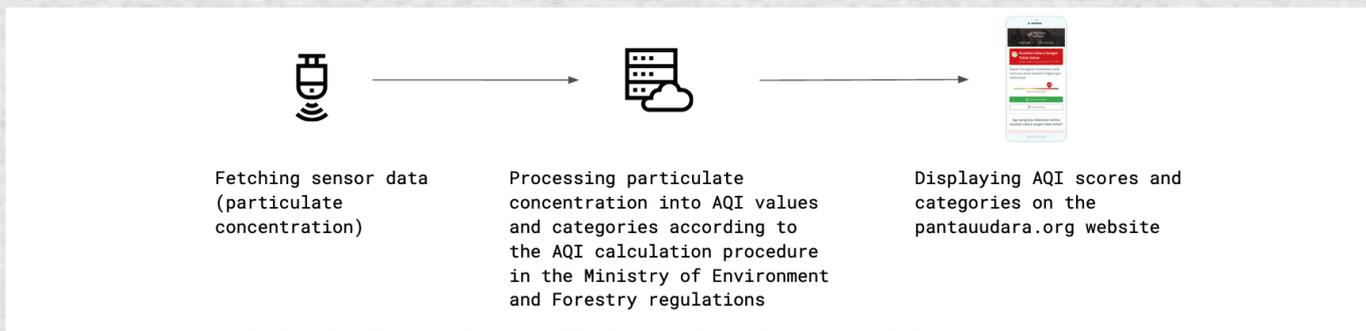
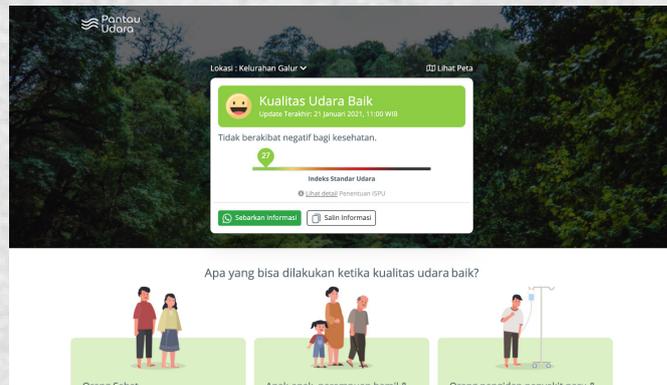


provide solutions for youth unemployment and underemployment.

To support the Indonesian government's goal to enhance the competence and competitiveness of human resources in the country, ILO kicked off a series of webinars on quality apprenticeships for industries. The webinars also feature virtual workshops on practical steps and information designed to assist industries to implement apprenticeship programmes. The workshops will be jointly conducted until September by the ILO and the Ministry of Manpower. [More on apprenticeships and how this can help Indonesian youth transition from school to work here.](#)

Apprenticeship programmes have the potential to transform and empower Indonesian workers and businesses alike. Tauvik Muhamad, ILO's Project Manager of the "Industry Skills for Inclusive Growth Phase 2" (InSight-2), highlighted how apprenticeships could solve the issue around skills mismatch and

Protecting Vulnerable Communities From Air Pollution With a User-Centric System



Air pollution poses serious health risks to residents, particularly for children. UNICEF estimates that the health of nearly ten million children is at risk from frequent peatland and forest fires in Kalimantan and Sumatra. Even though a range of short- and long-term respiratory symptoms and illnesses are known, many vulnerable communities don't always know when and what precautions to take to limit their exposure to poor air quality.

and piloting a new air quality monitoring system that sends alerts to users through a web browser notification to local residents. The system also sends recommended actions on how to mitigate health risks, which is specific to the local context and the needs of certain key beneficiaries in the areas. This mixed-methods approach focuses on the role of human intermediaries within communities to share reliable, actionable and contextual information, particularly among vulnerable groups. [Read the full article here.](#)

To help mitigate health risks at the community level, Pulse Lab Jakarta supported Kopernik by developing

Ensuring Wellness & Safety for Female Sex Workers During the Pandemic

Female sex workers are often the primary breadwinners in their family, yet they experience stigma and disrespect from their family and community. Now with the closures of sex work establishments because of lockdowns and large-scale social restrictions, sex workers in Indonesia are facing particular hardships during the pandemic. Risk of violence exacerbated by COVID-19, and loss of income threatens the lives and wellbeing of female sex workers. That's why, safeguarding their human rights and ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health services is one of the priorities in the COVID-19 response.

UNFPA and partners are helping female sex workers in Indonesia to stay connected with peer leaders and



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peer educators via multiple social media channels. This way, they can receive life-saving information on HIV and COVID-19 and refer to necessary services and tests. Thanks to inter-agency collaboration and support from the Global Fund, UNFPA and partners can continue to support and provide HIV services for female sex workers in 88 districts in Indonesia despite challenges. [See the full story here.](#)

New Ways of Thinking Builds Resilience From Natural Disasters

Mitigating and preventing risks from natural disasters means we need to change the way we think and plan for the future. On the 25th of June 2021, UNESCO Jakarta, UNDRR Bangkok, UNDP Accelerator Lab Indonesia, and U-INSPIRE Alliance held a webinar on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) called 'Reflection of The Past and The Present'. The webinar explained the need for DRR and talked about the "Futures Literacy" project to raise awareness amongst young people so they can mitigate risks from future natural disasters.

Dr. Hans D. Thulstrup, Officer in Charge of the UNESCO Jakarta Regional Science Bureau for Asia and the Pacific says it's not enough to only use our past and current knowledge, but to "also imagine and utilize the future to help us make decisions to reduce risk and build resiliency." This event provided an opportunity to gain knowledge and a deeper understanding from experts as they shared crucial milestones in DRR within the international community, beginning with the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) in the early 1990s to the Hyogo Framework for



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Action (HFA), which ended in 2015, and currently the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SFDRR).

The webinar was an encouraging event for countries to do more to protect development gains from disasters, and increase new ways of thinking, through avenues such as promoting 'Futures Thinking' amongst young people and young professionals. These new ways of thinking would equip our current generation with the skills they need to better anticipate and plan for the future. [Read the full article here.](#)



Report on Bodily Autonomy: Power & Agency Over One's Own Body



Making bodily autonomy a reality is vital to achieving Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. UNFPA Indonesia's recent State of World Population (SWOP) Report 2021 entitled "[My Body is My Own: Claiming the Right to Autonomy and Self Determination](#)" published in July 2021 is the first of its kind in the UN, a report that focuses on bodily autonomy, advocating the power and agency to make choices about one's own body without fear of violence or having someone else decide for you.

The report found that nearly half the women in 57 developing countries are denied the right to decide whether to have sex with their partners, use contraception or seek health care. Meanwhile, "one out of three women in Indonesia aged 15-44 have experienced physical or sexual violence," say Ratna Susianawati, Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection's Deputy of Women's Rights Protection. To make our own decisions about our own bodies is a human right, but not all of us can claim that right, especially women and girls. Lack of bodily autonomy can also have significant implications beyond women and girls: potentially depressing economic productivity, undercutting skills, and resulting in extra costs to health care and judicial systems.

More progress is needed to realise gender equality. The report supports the empowerment of women, girls, men, and boys and the need for them to access unbiased, and non-discriminating sexual and reproductive health information and services so they can make healthy and safe decisions and behaviours. The report recommends enforcing laws and policies to shift attitudes and to prevent and address violations of women's rights, including policies that engage men as allies in making gender equality a reality. [Find out more about the report launch in Indonesia here.](#)

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