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International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace
Dear readers,

On behalf of the United Nations family in Indonesia: Eid Mubarak!

As we gather with our loved ones for the festivities—whether in person or over digital devices—let us delight in being together. In moments like these, we can’t help but appreciate the abundance in our lives. At the same time, we reflect on the fact not everyone enjoys such abundance. Even as we visit neighbours, enjoy ketupat, and try on new clothes, some of our brothers and sisters are hungry, huddling in bomb shelters, or fleeing their homes. And while tragedies like the war in Ukraine rightly make headlines, other conflicts churn more insidiously—like the one between humans and nature. Globally, ten million hectares of forest are destroyed each year while some 31,000 species are currently threatened with extinction.

In line with this month’s SDG, Life on Land, let’s consider our responsibility to our brothers and sisters, but also to the natural world that sustains us all. In Indonesia, boosting the green agenda and preventing climate change is especially critical. The National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) had recorded at least 1,175 natural disasters in 2022 by early April, displacing about 1.6 million people. This edition collates stories that highlight our collective efforts to recover better from COVID-19, including protecting life on land and protecting each other. In that vein, I urge all of you undertaking mudik, or homecoming, to remain vigilant and to observe the COVID-19 health protocols this week.

Happy reading

FROM THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR’S NOTEPAD

Valerie Julliand
UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia

The UN team in Indonesia - through its Communications Group - gathers a group of Indonesian journalists across broadcast TV, radio, print, online and journalist alliance in a get-together dinner (iftar) with the UN team in Indonesia – led by Valerie Julliand, the Head of UN in Indonesia. After two year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the gathering was held under the present COVID-19 health protocol.

In her remarks, Juliand extends her appreciation to everyone for doing their part in keeping well and curbing the pandemic. Furthermore, she applauds the Indonesian media for their critical role in pushing for reliable, trusted public information on COVID-19 and fighting misinformation. The event serves as a platform to exchange contacts and information from the UN to the media – and vice versa.

Suci Sekarwati (a Tempo journalist), one of the participants, said, “The event was good and intimate. It allowed us to connect further with the UN team. I also enjoyed the fun quiz about the UN; I got new knowledge from it”. The event was also used to share information about the UN SDG Media Compact - an initiative marking a new drive to advance awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and seeks to inspire news and entertainment organisations to leverage their resources and talent to amplify and accelerate progress towards achieving the Goals. For more information about the SDG Media Compact, please visit [https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdg-media-compact/about/](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdg-media-compact/about/)
Before Covid-19

The world is falling short on 2020 targets to halt biodiversity loss

- Over 31,000 species are threatened with extinction
- 27% of over 116,000 assessed species in the IUCN Red List

COVID-19 Implications

Wildlife trafficking disrupts ecosystems and contributes to the spread of infectious diseases

- Pangolins are possibly the intermediary animal that transferred the coronavirus
- The equivalent of 370,000 pangolins were seized globally (2014–2018)

Forest areas continue to decline at an alarming rate, driven mainly by agricultural expansion

- Each year, 10 million hectares of forest are destroyed (2015–2020)

- Two billion hectares of land on Earth are degraded, affecting some 3.2 billion people, driving species to extinction and intensifying climate change

Only a third of 113 countries were on track to achieve their national target to integrate biodiversity into national planning

I was able to continue my previous internship with UN Women Indonesia for my first assignment as a UN Volunteer. Ever since then, I learned much about the state of women’s rights, women empowerment, and gender equality.

Bintang Aulia's volunteering work started in 2016 during her last year of university when she joined a climate movement in Bandung. What initially was a learning opportunity about environmental issues, she also got to know a lot about how volunteering works.

Bintang then joined UN Women Indonesia in 2019 as Communications and Social Media Intern. As Bintang got to know the UN program and its people, she realized how important volunteers are to the UN. Be it their expertise or time or be it their effort, the UN Volunteers are passionate about what they do. These values resonated with her passion. And in 2021, she returned to the UN family as a UN Volunteer.

Together with UN in Indonesia, UNFPA, UNDP and the National Commission on Violence against Women (Komnas Perempuan), Bintang and her colleagues started '#OrangeChallenge', a multimedia content competition on gender-based violence and gender equality. She also supported 'Comedy for Equality', a stand-up comedy workshop as part of the UN joint campaign during the 16 Days of Activism in 2021.

Even though it has been two years since the start of the pandemic, Bintang is still adjusting to the new work-from-home regime. The pandemic made her learn that kindness and patience go a long way and that we need to support each other as we go through this together. The values that she learned during the last few years have strengthened her determination to continue volunteering work.
The COVID-19 crisis has underlined why digital transformation in the public sector is imperative. This transformation requires a holistic approach to ensure that data systems are interoperable, and decision-makers can access timely and comprehensive insights. With this vision in mind, UN Global Pulse through Pulse Lab Jakarta teamed up with the Indonesian Ministry of Health and the Ministry of National Development Planning to explore how COVID-19 related datasets from across different systems within the Ministry of Health might be combined to inform the Government’s response to the pandemic.

Given the personal and sensitive nature of health data, Pulse Lab Jakarta also implemented measures to handle data privacy and ethics issues, including incorporating UN Global Pulse data ethics framework.

This collaborative research gave an insight into how data can feed into public health policies that are evidence-based and inclusive and why service design can derive better data-driven policies and actions. As stakeholders and experts continue to share practical knowledge, improving data integration within the Ministry of Health and with other national data systems ought to be the way forward to manage future pandemics. Learn more about how the Pulse Lab Jakarta team combined data analytics and service design in this research here.

Using Pulse Lab Jakarta’s mixed-methods approach and applying service design to support data analytics, the initial assessment with the Ministry of Health and relevant stakeholders revealed three research themes:

- Epidemiological trends
- Vaccine breakthrough cases
- Public health and social interventions
Enabling Market Access through Improved Productivity and Innovative Financing for SMEs

In traditional and originative industries, Small and Medium Enterprises face a number of challenges that impede their upscaling potential, including limited access to infrastructure and know-how, design and product development skills, and also application of innovative financing instruments, such as SDG-linked loans.

To enable wider access to the market through improved productivity and innovative financing for SMEs in Indonesia, UNIDO, in cooperation with the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs of the Republic of Indonesia, announced the beginning of SMEs technical assistance project in Lombok Island, West Nusa Tenggara. The project was officially launched by the Governor of West Nusa Tenggara on 21 February 2022. The project’s application forms are currently in the assessment process for selecting the targeted beneficiaries. One of the steps taken by UNIDO to ensure the project is well implemented and monitored was that the UN agency established a field office at the New Premium PLUT (Integrated Enterprise Service Centre) Building in Mataram, Lombok, which was initiated at the end of January 2022 prior to the launching of the project.

The cooperation between UNIDO and the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs also reached out to the innovative financing aspect for SMEs in Indonesia. The two institutions jointly organised a digital financial literacy training in Lombok Island, West Nusa Tenggara on 17 March 2022. The training was officially launched by high-level government officials and attended by 30 selected SMEs.

Additionally, UNIDO also provided assistance in the curation process, led by the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs, the national counterpart of the UN Joint Program “ASSIST”, in selecting 55 SMEs from food, originative handicraft, and textile sectors to be showcased during the MotoGP event in Mandalika circuit in March 2022.

For further info on UNIDO SMEs technical assistance project, please follow Instagram @unido_indonesia and @unidoassistsmes.
Nearly half of women in the world cannot claim their right to bodily autonomy, according to UNFPA’s 2021 State of World Population (SWOP) report. At the same time, one out of four women in Indonesia aged 15-64 has experienced violence all her life, according to the 2021 Indonesian National Women’s Life Experience Survey (SPHPN) released on 27 December 2021 by the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection (MOWECP).

To observe Kartini Day on 21 April, the day that Indonesians celebrate the national hero’s legacy for women’s emancipation, an all-girl rock band from Garut, West Java, Voice of Baceprot, shared their thoughts about bodily autonomy and violence against women.

The video, entitled “Ask Us Anything: Voice of Baceprot” can be viewed on UN Women or UNFPA’s Instagram.
Safe and Quality Poultry Products Starts from Hygienic Farms

The quality of poultry products we eat every day depends on the quality of the production process on farms. The poultry farm’s hygiene and sanitation have a significant impact on the health and safety of poultry products and on human health.

Under Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), the Government of Indonesia through the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and Ministry of Health (MoH), with tripartite organisations—FAO, The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and World Health Organization (WHO)—conducts Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) control activities with One Health approach in four pilot areas: Boyolali and Karanganyar regencies in Central Java and Malang and Blitar regencies in East Java.

Wiwi, one of the farm owners who have applied the Infection Prevention and Control-Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (IPC-WASH) measures said that it has led to fewer sick poultry and motivates him to further improve the farm’s biosecurity, hygiene and sanitation standards and obtain a certification that ensures the health and safety of livestock products. For more information, click here.

An intervention project on 20 selected farms will assist farmers to control antimicrobial resistance risks:

- Optimize antimicrobial use in poultry
- Improve farm hygiene and sanitation practices
- Provide clean water and proper waste management

New Publication Highlights Media Reporting to Free the World of Work from Violence and Harassment

The International Labour Organization (ILO) in collaboration with the Alliance of Independent Journalists (AJI) Indonesia published a publication titled “Safe Environment to Work” in March 2022, consisting of in-depth journalistic reporting from across Indonesia on workplace violence and harassment across industries. The publication also covers media engagement activities to promote the ratification of the ILO Convention No. 190 (C190) on violence and harassment at work. C190 is the first international treaty to recognize the right of everyone to a world of work free from violence and harassment, including gender-based violence and harassment.

The publication was the result of the ILO-AJI Indonesia media fellowship, where 10 journalists across Indonesia received mentorship from senior media professionals to produce high-quality in-depth reporting on workplace violence and harassment. Some of the stories include the plight of garment workers in Semarang, men migrant workers vulnerable to violence and harassment, and the emerging group of women online drivers in Papua.

Read more about the Safe Environment to Work publication here.
Involving Men and Boys in Eliminating Gender-based Violence in Lombok

Gender equality can only be achieved with everyone involved, including men and boys. Since 2019, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection (MOWECP) have been running a program on community-based prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful practices in North Lombok District, West Nusa Tenggara.

As the primary strategy to prevent GBV, the program involved male figures in the community, such as husbands, fathers, sons, brothers, peers, and teachers. It also worked with religious leaders to train with skills on how to communicate and educate the community on taboo issues such as female genital mutilation/cutting, child marriage and also GBV.

Milestones of the program:

- Endorsement of two village regulations on GBV and harmful practices prevention
- Establishment of the Child Village Forum
- Budget allocation to fund activities
- Expansion to 43 villages in Lombok

Young people also participated in the program, where they were given the training to be more confident in expressing their opinions and be more active in influencing a change in perspectives among men and boys.

It turns out that the program has also made an impact on women in the community. Marina, a 36 year-old businesswoman, said that the training has brought a lot of positive changes in her life. “Communication with my children has been much better. They are in their teenage years, and I have been able to talk to them about maintaining reproductive health, and the harms of child marriage,” Marnia said.

Eliminating gender-based violence is everyone’s business. The program reflects UNFPA’s commitment to ensuring universal access to reproductive health services and information so that no one is left behind. Learn more here.

“Cleaning, washing dishes are not only women’s responsibilities but also men’s. We must share responsibilities.”

Abdurrahman, a 32-year-old community facilitator in Tenige Village, North Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara (NTB).
Ring the Bell for Gender Equality Calls for Women’s Leadership for an Equal and Sustainable Future

The COVID-19 pandemic is deepening pre-existing inequalities and causing a setback to gender equality and women’s empowerment. To increase awareness about the issue Indonesia Global Compact Network (IGCN), Indonesia Business Coalition for Women Empowerment (IBCWE), together with International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Indonesia Stock Exchange, with the support from UN Women’s WeEmpower Asia programme funded by the European Union, held the ‘Ring The Bell for Gender Equality’.

In its third iteration in Indonesia, the Ring the Bell event ‘Gender Equality Today for Sustainable Tomorrow’, offered reflections on the theme of the day and called for a concerted action to promote women’s representation in economic recovery post COVID-19. This year’s Ring the Bell aligns well with Indonesia’s G20 presidency theme “Recover Together, Recover Stronger” which focuses on cooperation for post-pandemic recovery.

In her keynote speech, Minister of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection, Bintang Puspayoga, underscored the importance of stronger collaboration between government and the business sector to accelerate progress for women’s empowerment.

As of March 2022, Indonesia has a total of 157 WEPs signatories. This represents a significant growth of interest from the corporate sector to sign and carry out the WEPs, guidance to businesses on empowering women and advancing equality in the workplace, marketplace, and community since inaugural Indonesia’s Ring the Bell for Gender Equality in 2019. Find out more about the Ring the Bell for Gender Equality 2022 commemoration here.

“Gender equality in the workplace requires commitment from companies, therefore we really appreciate companies in Indonesia that have signed the Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPs). Gender inequality is a very complex issue, caused by patriarchal culture that has embedded itself for centuries. For this reason, strong synergy is needed between government, local governments, academia, the business sector, the media, and the wider community. We hope that the audience at this event can also support the acceleration to achieve gender equality. In the momentum of International Women’s Day, we break old beliefs that limit women’s movement through real action in all access to development.”
The HIV epidemic among young people in Asia and the Pacific has largely been overlooked, despite a quarter of new HIV infections in the region affecting people aged 15–24 years. The vast majority of young people affected by HIV in the region are members of vulnerable populations—people living with HIV, gay men and other men who have sex with men, transgender people, sex workers and people who inject drugs. Unfortunately, like in many countries in the region, HIV infections among young people in Indonesia are still attributed to stigma and discrimination, poor educational awareness of HIV, lack of youth-friendly services and social taboos.

"Young people far too often experience stigma and discrimination in healthcare settings. Healthcare workers are first-line responders. If the services are bad, young people won’t use them and they will tell other young people not to use them. We are limited by which clinics we can access because many, if not most, are not youth-friendly."

Sepi Maulana Ardiansyah, who is known as Davi and is the National Coordinator for Inti Muda, the national network of young key populations in Indonesia.

A recent study conducted by Inti Muda and the University of Padjajaran found that the willingness of young people to access services in provinces like West Papua was very low, mainly due to the lack of youth-friendly services and the poor understanding of key population issues by healthcare workers. Young people often face difficulty accessing services because of the remoteness of clinics and hospitals and encounter barriers such as the age of consent for testing.

In March 2022, Inti Muda, with technical support from Youth LEAD and UNAIDS, organized sensitization training for more than 50 healthcare workers in two cities in West Papua. Inti Muda also organized a festival attended by more than 80 young people as an effort to engage young people in the HIV response and drive awareness of the demand for access to HIV services. The training and festival were supported by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and is aimed to reduce the number of new HIV infections among key populations in four countries including Indonesia.

To learn more about the training, click here to read the full story in the UNAIDS website.
When the earthquake destroyed a vital irrigation canal in Indonesia’s Jono village in 2018, Ibu Olfen’s world turned on its head. The 51-year old coconut farmer also lost the critical lifeline to her farmland which had supported her family for years.

When the UNDP’s Programme for Earthquake and Tsunami Reconstruction Assistance (PETRA) began working in the region with local partner Imunitas, Ibu Olfen jumped right in. Since working on the ongoing reconstruction of the canal, Ibu Olfen has earned a living to support herself and her three young children. The project ensures that the workers are paid each month and that the bank accounts are held in each worker’s name, which has helped women working in the project as they have autonomy over their income and can decide how to spend or save their earnings.

Aside from financial empowerment, working to rebuild this vital irrigation gives Ibu Olfen a morale boost. “Like many women in my community, I have had many struggles and obstacles, but I’m thankful for the opportunities that have come by which have helped me immensely,” she said.

With a steady income, Ibu Olfen now has the confidence to plan for the future, including fully returning to farming once the reconstruction project ends later this year. Read more here.

PETRA’s objectives are aligned with SDG 1, 13, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

**PETRA’s outputs:**
- Rehabilitation and reconstruction of partially and fully damaged infrastructure for critical public services which consider gender needs and other gender concerns
- Rehabilitation of affected communities’ economic infrastructure to promote more resilient and sustainable livelihoods for both men and women.
Calendar Highlights

April 2022

Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7
8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14
15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21
22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28
29 | 30 | 31

May 2022

Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun
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1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7
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22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28
29 | 30 | 31

- 7 | World Health Day Instagram campaign
- 22 | International Girls in ICT Day
- 24 | International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace
- 28 | World Day for Safety and Health at Work
- 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
About the UN in Indonesia

The United Nations (UN) is an international organization founded in 1945. It is currently made up of 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 the achievement of 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 to 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.

Pitch us your story!
Send your article, blogs, photo stories to us:
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