By running his own coffee shop, Haswin, a 32-year-old former drug offender, turned his life around after leaving Tangerang prison in January 2022. Read his story, “Preparing for freedom: prisoners learn skills, pursue degrees behind bars.”

Preparing for Freedom: Prisoners Learn Skills, Pursue Degrees Behind Bars

News

- For Every Child, Vaccination
- ILO Launches the First Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Handbook for Higher Education Institutions
- A Joint Initiative on Disability Inclusion in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Action Led by OCHA

SDG Focus

For More Info

17 Partnerships for the Goals
From The UN Resident Coordinator’s Notepad

Dear readers,

Welcome to the first edition of the UN in Indonesia Newsletter for the year 2023.

As of May 2023, the World Health Organization (WHO) has revoked the status of COVID-19 as a global emergency, a good news for the humanity. The pandemic has indeed disrupted our progress and put many initiatives on hold. It is now urgent that we make up for the lost time in our pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This calls for robust partnerships and cooperation between governments, private sector, and civil society.

This is why the SDG Focus of this volume is SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. Multistakeholder partnerships are crucial to leveraging the SDGs to enhance their effectiveness and impact and accelerate progress in achieving them.

This edition features highlights from the work of UN in Indonesia between January and April 2023. Inclusivity is at heart of it, in line with the spirit and promise of the 2030 Agenda - to leave no one behind. We share stories from UN agencies in Indonesia, showcasing their remarkable work in bringing the UN closer to the people it serves while leaving no one behind.

One of the projects featured in this edition is the inspiring story about the prisoners of Tangerang Class IIA Correctional Facility. Supported by the UNODC, this facility has implemented a vocational training programme that provides prisoners with essential skills to successfully reintegrate into society after completing their sentences.

Let’s strengthen our collective impact and forge new pathways towards achieving the SDGs! We hope you enjoy reading this edition of the newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support.

Valerie Julliand
UN Resident Coordinator in Indonesia
Partnerships is Key to Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

By working together, countries can create a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable future for all.

Goal 17 is about revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development in a post-pandemic world. The urgent need to strengthen multilateralism and foster global partnerships has never been more evident. Our interconnected challenges demand collective action and collaborative solutions.

The Sustainable Development Goals remain the framework of reference for building back better. We need everyone to come together — governments, civil society, scientists, academia, and the private sector.

Partnership enables us to facilitate knowledge sharing, resource mobilization, multi-stakeholder engagement, and the collective response to global challenges.

To find out more about Goal #17 and other Sustainable Development Goals, visit: [http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment)
Preparing for Freedom: Prisoners Learn Skills, Pursue Degrees Behind Bars

Denny, 31, has a just over two years left of his five-year sentence, and he hopes to work in a café when he gets out. “I want to make the most of my time even in prison, and this training should help me find a job later,” he says.

Denny is one of 200 inmates in the Tangerang Class IIA Correctional Facility involved in vocational training, and one of the over 35,000 inmates across Indonesia who are involved in vocational training of some sort: batik, eco-printing on textiles, soap making, farming, embroidery, among others. Several other inmates are involved in professional sports and are able to join competitions outside the prison. These vocational training programmes supported by the UN will help them to re-integrate into society once they have served their time.

While most correctional facilities offer vocational education, Tangerang Class IIA is the only one in the country with a university education programme — to which prisoners from across Indonesia can apply. Currently, 200 prisoners are pursuing university studies as part of a pilot programme, which could be rolled out countrywide subject to funding.

The United Nations on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has developed a partnership with the Directorate-General of Corrections to assess the suitability of inmates for the programme using specific tools. UNODC also collaborates and supports NGOs such as Second Chance, which help inmates reintegrate into society once they are out of the facility.

The full version of this article will be published on news.un.org on 4 June.

“Life is so much better now. I am more content with life and proud of my creativity. I had never thought I could find a career outside nightlife. I no longer see my work as just a means to make ends meet. I want to break the stigma around ‘ex-cons’ by showing that ex-offenders can also be independent and creative.”

- Haswin -

UN Agencies involved:

UN in Indonesia Newsletter 2023 | Vol. 1
A Joint Initiative on Disability Inclusion in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Action Led by UN-OCHA

Disasters pose significant challenges – even more so for persons with disabilities. Recognizing the importance of inclusivity and ensuring the well-being of all individuals, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Humanitarian Country Team in Indonesia organized a multistakeholder workshop that brought together key stakeholders, including Organizations for Persons with Disabilities (OPDs).

The workshop’s objective was to emphasize the importance of involving persons with disabilities in disaster emergency management plans. By actively engaging OPDs and other relevant organizations, we promote inclusivity, identify existing barriers, and develop strategies to eliminate them. This collaborative approach recognized that persons with disabilities possess invaluable insights and perspectives that can contribute to more effective and comprehensive disaster preparedness and response.

One of the workshop’s crucial outcomes was the identification of barriers hindering the access of persons with disabilities to appropriate assistance during emergencies. By pinpointing these obstacles, stakeholders were better equipped to develop targeted solutions and ensure that disaster response mechanisms are inclusive, accessible, and responsive to the needs of persons with disabilities.

For Every Child, Vaccination

The world is facing a red alert for children’s health: Vaccination coverage dropped sharply during the COVID-19 pandemic, leaving millions more children unprotected against some of childhood’s most serious diseases. In addition, millions of children from some of the world’s most marginalized communities have long missed life-saving vaccination. Catch-up and recovery are needed urgently to vaccinate all children and avoid further backsliding.

To address this crisis, UNICEF is calling on governments to double-down on their commitment to increase financing for immunization and to work with stakeholders to unlock available resources, including leftover COVID-19 funds, to urgently implement and accelerate catch-up vaccination efforts to protect children and prevent disease outbreaks.


UN Agencies involved:

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ICT/Digital Accessibility Action Plan

In January, the UN in Indonesia launched the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)/Digital accessibility action plan (2023-2024), comprising 20 activities with the aim of achieving equality of access to UN digital content for all, in terms of time, content, and cost, regardless of the persons’ disabilities or conditions. Engaging Operations Management Team (Human Resources, Supply, Information and Communication Technologies) and UN Communications Group, the plan will contribute to improving processes, strengthening staff competencies, nurturing inclusive culture, and increasing collaboration.

As part of this effort, the Resident Coordinator Office (RCO) conducted two training sessions on accessible documents and meetings in January, exclusively for UN staff and personnel in Indonesia. Furthermore, an interagency disability inclusion advocate network was established, consisting of 22 advocates from 10 agencies who voluntarily support the implementation of the ICT/Digital accessibility action plan. The disability inclusion guidelines and training resources were also added to the UN in Indonesia Staff Welcome Kit.

UN Agencies involved

ILO Launches the First Gender Quality and Social Inclusion Handbook for Higher Education Institutions

As an effort to promote social inclusion and prevent sexual violence in the academic sector, the International Labour Organization (ILO) launched guidelines and a training manual, “Mainstreaming Gender Equality, Disabilities, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) and Preventing and Handling of Sexual Violence in Vocational Education and Training Institutions”, on January 24, in Jakarta. This initiative is a part of the ILO’s Skills for Prosperity (SfP) programme in Indonesia, funded by the British Government.

“This guideline and training manual is important to ensure that students and teachers can learn and work in educational institutions without fear of sexual violence and harassment. We hope this will empower youth and higher educational institutions to be part of the global and national actions toward creating a world of work in Indonesia, which is free of violence and harassment," said Michiko Miyamoto, ILO Country Director Indonesia and Timor-Leste.

Read more here.

UN Agencies involved:
Improving the Coordination of Gender-Based Violence Services to Women Migrant Workers in Indonesia

According to the Indonesian Migrant Worker Protection Agency, 172,448 Lampung residents have worked abroad in the past five years. Of these, women make up the majority, mostly working in the domestic sector. Many go through irregular channels, with human trafficking estimated to have doubled during the pandemic, while requests for protection of witnesses or victims rose 15 percent.

In collaboration with the LAdA (Lembaga Advokasi Anak) DAMAR Women Crisis Center, UN Women Safe and Fair Programme supports improving services for women migrant workers who are victims of gender-based violence and trafficking in the Lampung province. Efforts to strengthen the service are conducted by supporting the development of standard operating procedures (SOPs) for coordinated service and referral mechanisms for women and children victims of violence, including women migrant workers.

Find out more here.

Indonesia Launch National Strategy for Agriculture Digitalization

While agriculture farms take up 32% of the total land area of the country, and the sector accounts for 14% of GDP, agricultural production faces several major challenges such as high costs, and lack of substantive benefits trickling down to smallholder farmers.

To address this challenge and take advantage of emerging digital opportunities, FAO - in close collaboration with Center of Agricultural Data and System Information (CADIS) of the Ministry of Agriculture - is for the first time launching an agriculture digitalization strategy called "e-Agriculture National Strategy", which is able to harness the data and information resources in agriculture to the benefit of smallholders. According to the e-Agriculture National Strategy roadmap, by 2027 Indonesia will have an integrated database for farmland and farmers, providing a digital early warning system for disasters that threaten agriculture production and run systems for agriculture data collection, extraction, and analysis.

Read more here.
Malaria Detection and Treatment for Indigenous Orang Rimbo Community

Malaria is a common disease among the indigenous Orang Rimbo community in Riau. However, they face barriers to access health services: their nomadic lifestyle, difficulty communicating with healthcare staff due to language barriers, geographical isolation, limited road access and high transportation costs are the most common problems.

As part of the effort of leaving no one behind in health care, the MOH together with WHO and the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit - Indonesia (OUCRU - Indonesia) is analysing and mapping the situation of malaria services and barriers to the community of the Orang Rimbo as the representative of indigenous tribal community affected by malaria in Indonesia. Moreover, a team from the nearest primary healthcare centre reaches out and provides health care services, including malaria detection and treatment. This will contribute to reducing malaria cases and deaths in the Orang Rimbo communities.

Read more here.

International Women’s Day

The Resident Coordinator traveled to Yogyakarta to observe International Women’s Day 2023. She visited a joint UN initiative supported by UN Women and UNDP that successfully addresses the digital gender gap and spotlights the importance of reducing women's exclusion from the digital world. During her travel, the Resident Coordinator met with six women entrepreneurs who are championing the advancement of transformative technology, civil society organizations, and the local private sector. She delivered a public lecture on gender equality at Universitas Gadjah Mada and addressed the local media.
UN in Indonesia participated at the United Nations World Data Forum in 2023 in Hangzhou, China. Close to 2,000 participants from 140 countries over four days discussed the better collection and use of data to accelerate the SDGs’ achievement. The UN in Indonesia organized a stand to showcase the way UN agencies in Indonesia support the National Statistics Office (BPS) and other government agencies in the collection and analysis of data, with a special emphasis on data on vulnerable communities and population segments.

At the event, BPS shared its experience of conducting the Population Census 2020, implemented with the support of the UN in Indonesia, showing the transition from traditional census to the use of administrative data to support the census. BPS also participated in a side event to share their experience in big data. The Director of UNIC Jakarta, Miklos Gaspar, also was present to lead a discussion at the Forum on the importance of communicating the impact of data to policymakers and the wider public, showcasing examples from Indonesia.

On 2 April 2023, the first ever United Nations Country Team (UNCT) 2022-2025 PSEAH Strategy and accompanying terms of reference for those in coordination and accountability roles on PSEAH was completed. These documents articulate the UN common vision and commitment to prevent and respond to SEAH as set out as four strategic objectives: leadership, prevention, response, and awareness-raising. These objectives outline how development and humanitarian actors must create an environment that is free from SEAH, where personnel and community members are safe and empowered to report SEAH, and where victims/complainants will be dealt with in a timely and appropriate manner using a victim-centred approach. The drafting of the Strategy was led by the PSEAH Coordinator and PSEAH Network Co-Chair agency focal points, with support from the Indonesia PSEAH Network members.

On 14 April 2023, the UN in Indonesia launched its first ever Protection from Sexual Exploitation Abuse and Sexual Harassment (PSEAH) ‘microsite’ to give clear information on what constitutes SEAH and how to report suspected SEAH, as well as a list of useful website resources for further information. Additionally, the microsite contains a new confidential reporting form which goes directly to the PSEAH Coordinator available in English and Indonesian.
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 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 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.

About UN in Indonesia

Pitch us your story!

Send your article, blogs, and photo stories to:
unic-jakarta@un.org

January

4th: World Braille Day
22nd: National Pedestrian Day
25th: International Day of Education & National Nutrition Day
30th: 3 year anniv COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Declaration

February

1st – 7th: World Interfaith Harmony Week
2nd: World Wetlands Day
6th: International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation
9th: National Press Day
11th: International Day of Women and Girls in Science
13th: World Radio Day
15th: World Children Cancer Day
20th: World Day of Social Justice
21st: National Waste Awareness Day
21st: International Mother Language Day

March

1st: Zero Discrimination Day
3rd: World Wildlife Day
8th: International Women’s Day
9th: National Music’s Day
8th: International Women’s Day
17th: National Nurses’ Day
20th: International Day of Happiness
22nd: World Water Day
24th: World Tuberculosis Day
25th: Earth Hour
30th: National Film’s Day

April

2nd: World Autism Awareness Day
6th: International Day of Sport for Development and Peace and National Fishermen’s Day
7th: World Health Day
17th: World Creativity and Innovation Day and Kartini Day
22nd: International Mother-Earth Day
28th: World Day for Safety and Health at Work

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