



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 1NDONES1AN YOUTH 1N THE 21ST CENTURY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY INDONESIAN YOUTH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

CONTRIBUTORS

Co-authored by: Mr. Nicholas Goodwin Ms. Irma Martam

DISCLAIMER

The findings, interpretations and conclusions presented in this document are those of the authors and do not reflect the policies, views, and positions of the Government of Indonesia, UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development, and UNFPA. UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, commissioned this report as part of its programme of assistance to the Government of Indonesia. UNFPA is working in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports (*Kemenpora*) to support the development of the National Youth Strategy 2015-2019, which will focus on the areas of youth development, participation and leadership.

The objective of this report is to review initiatives, departments, programmes and policies that focus specifically on youth in Indonesia in six categories: health, education, economic opportunity, technology, citizenship, and safety and security. Additionally, the report contains a review of primary stakeholders working on youth issues in Indonesia, including government departments, UN agencies, youth networks, and national and international NGOs. The planned methods to collect data were: desk review, data form, in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, and consultative meetings with stakeholder groups.

The situation for young people in Indonesia is as diverse, promising and complex as the nation itself. Young people in Indonesia are defined as citizens aged 18-30 years. There are over 65 million young people, representing 28 percent of the total population of 238 million. The World Bank and others have described large numbers of young people as a "demographic bonus." Throughout Indonesia's history, young people have played major roles in bringing political, social and economic change and driving the country forward. Indonesia's youth are also a focus of development, facing challenges in the six categories that are considered in this report.

Indonesia's national development agenda, including its goal to achieve middle-income country status, serves as the political and economic backdrop to the development of its youth. In turn, as part of the global development agenda, young people are shaping social and economic development, challenging social norms and values, and building the foundation of the world's future post-2015.

Participation is seen by a lot of stakeholders as a basic right for young people. If a programme is designed to benefit young people, they should have input and involvement in how it is developed and administered. Youth participation is also a means of helping to achieve programme goals for youth or communities. We examine several models for participation currently used in Indonesia and elsewhere.

PRIORITY AREAS OF CONCERN FOR INDONESIAN YOUTH

Data was collected from discussions with young people, and then organized as priority areas into three broad categories of importance, each with three key themes. The first category includes those themes consistently cited by all youth participants as critically important: Health, Education, and Economic Opportunities. The second sets out three additional priority concerns: Information and Communications Technology (ICT), Citizenship, and Safety and Security. The third area explores the role and prioritization of three additional crosscutting influences: Environment, Culture, and Tradition.

Priority Category 1

Education: access is a challenge for those in rural and remote areas, for youth in special conditions and for young people with special needs. Bridging education to employment is essential to prepare young people to enter the job market and for long-term employment. Young Indonesians voiced common concerns about the quality of education, the need for inclusive education and a non-discriminatory experience. Sexual and reproductive health need to be urgently and appropriately included in school curricula to ensure young people make safe and smart decisions about their futures. **Health**: there are seven major health categories of concern for young people including sanitation, personal hygiene, risky behaviors, sexual and reproductive health, new and re-emerging disease. Youth cited three additional issues as important health priorities – smoking behavior, increasing morbidity of non-communicable disease, and harmful traditional practices

Economic opportunities: problems of access to economic opportunities for youth are closely linked to education and poverty issues in Indonesia. Traditional (and available) work, such as farming, is not viewed by many young people as providing a decent income. The motivation to obtain more income, as well as high rates of unemployment, has driven young people to become self-employed as entrepreneurs.

Priority Category 2

Information and Communications Technology: ICT is a crosscutting issue and is rapidly influencing how youth communicate, learn, experience and work. Indonesia needs to harness the educational and economic value of ICT, as well as deal with the negative impacts.

Citizenship: young Indonesians do not yet fully embrace or take advantage of citizenship. A combination of education, awareness and skepticism contributes to the low levels of civic participation. There are some positive trends as well, including the role of volunteerism.

Safety and Security: the four main areas considered to be of critical importance to youth are bullying, workplace safety and security, underage and/or child labor, and gender based violence (GBV).

Priority Category 3

Environment, Culture and Traditions

Environmental and climate based challenges are seen by young people as a critical area of concern. FGD participants cited a need to change lifestyles and policies in Indonesia in order to contribute to and "create a better world". Several cultural and traditional factors support the development of young people. This includes "friendly and positive" support from young people's social environment, such as parents, teachers, public figures and other adults. To help create a decent and inspiring life for young people, adults need to be available as positive role models.

Current Programs: this section includes the current and recent (since 2008) programmes, policies and other initiatives undertaken by government, UN agencies, NGOs and youth networks.

Regulations and policies: this section covers the current policies and regulations relating to young people across the various sectors, including health, education, employment, protection, and participation.

Governance and Management: this section covers the various instruments and mechanisms used to manage youth initiatives. This includes the National Youth Strategy being developed by *Kemenpora*, with this agency's three priority strategic areas – awareness, empowerment and development for young people. Also covered are Indonesia's National Medium Term Development Plan (RPJMN) for 2015-2019 and the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD).

RECOMMENDATIONS

THE RECOMMENDATIONS DETAILED IN THE REPORT ARE DIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS, NAMELY, THOSE COMMUNICATED BY YOUNG PEOPLE, AND THOSE COMPILED BY THE AUTHORS OF THIS REPORT.

Youth Recommendations

- 1. Increase youth participation and genuine collaboration with government, especially in the development of the National Youth Strategy.
- Develop and strengthen multi-stakeholder collaboration between government, private sector, NGOs and young people.
- 3. Provide and support role models for youth participation in development.
- 4. Develop clear indicators to measure the success of the National Youth Strategy by 2019.
- 5. Make the content of the National Youth Strategy easily accessible for youth.
- 6. Ensure socialization of the National Youth Strategy.

Authors' Recommendations

- 1. Engage key stakeholders in the development and implementation of the National Youth Strategy 2015-2019.
- 2. Enable young Indonesians to participate in a genuine manner and trust their ability to play a productive role in Indonesia's development.
- 3. Establish indicators of programme and policy success in priority areas that affect young people in Indonesia.
- 4. Develop innovative partnerships to address the most pressing and persistent issues affecting young people in Indonesia.





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