

Mr. Ongku Hasibuan (Head of Tapanuli Selatan Regency, North Sumatra - IDEAS 1.0 fellows representative)

The excellency, Madam Marie Pangestu, the Minister of Trade of Republic of Indonesia, Laksamana muda Rosihan Arsyad, the President of United in Diversity Forum, Dr. Alan White, Senior Dean of MIT Sloan School of Management, Ibu Cherie Nursalim, Bapak Aristides Kattopo and all member of the UID board, My dear IDEAS fellows,

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullah Wabarrakatuh.

I have the honor and the pleasure to speak on behalf of all the IDEAS fellow who are graduating today. We feel very privileged to have been selected for this very prestigious, and yet very intense program, which had been put together the UID and the MIT Sloan, and even more privileged to have completed the entire program, and to be inducted today as the first graduates of the IDEAS Indonesia fellowship program.

IDEAS, which stands for Innovative Dynamic Education and Action for Sustainability, is a leadership program. It is a development program that comes under the auspices of the MIT Sloan. And most of all, it is about collaboration.

Twenty nine participants were selected through careful screening by the UID. What is unique about the group is that, we come from three different sectors: the Civil society, the Business, and the Government.

From the civil society, we have president of University, top academic, social and environmental activists, and senior journalists. From business sector, a bunch of CEOs, president and vice president of very diverse industries; and from the government, various levels of sennior officers from various deparment, both from central and regional government.

The UID also make sure that we have a gender balance, and no less important, a good mix of the different ethnic groups that make up Indonesia. It is certainly not easy to pack more punch and power than this group. This is the IDEAS Indonesia 1.0

We call this program a journey, a personal as well as group's learning journey. A journey that has taken us from our places to Boston, spending one week learning from the best at MIT and then to Jakarta, Bali, Bandund and back to Jakarta again. If we can't spend the entire year at MIT in Boston, why not bring the best of the MIT to Indonesia. That is exactly what UID did.

While we truly enjoyed the travel and will always cherish those moments of learning together, it was the journey of our transformation and conversion that gave an even deeper and far lasting impact, on ourselves, our respective profession, organization and the environment.

Along the porgram, we have been drilled into the system thinking, organizational learning, to take more holistic approach to issues and challenges, to do more self-reflection and self-contemption through what we call sensing journey and deep diving, and to think and work more collaboratively. The later is the most important, as we have learned, that by breaking down the wall separating the three pillars of society, we can do a lot more - and a lot more effective and efficient than if we work territorially, and even at times, adversely against each other.

If Prof. Senge taught us to be a better organizational person, Prof. Scharmer taught us to be a better individual and leader. Together, the teaching of these two very distinguished professors made a powerful combination that IDEAS provide through the program.

We have just seen the presentation of the five collaborative works of the IDEAS fellows. Through those prototypes, we have put the theories learned into practice. The prototypes have taken to life of their own. From prototypes, we will soon move to pilot projects, and hopefully, become projects and programs that can be replicated elsewhere not only in Indonesia.

This has indeed been a journey to experience. We cherish the learning, the collaboration and most of all the fellowships built among ourselves. This is certainly not the end. Instead, for us this is just the beginning of the real journey. We will soon return to our profession in our world, and will put into practice what have been learned, shape the future which is about to emerge.

Finally, on behalf of the fellows, I would like to express our highest gratitude to everyone who has made this learning journey possible, first thanks go to Laksamana Muda Rosihan Arsyad, the President of the UID, Ibu Cherie Nursalim, Bapak Aristides Kattopo and all members of the UID board of Trustees, and all the sponsors who have supported this program. Special thanks to Dr. Allan While, Senior Dean of the MIT Sloan School of Management, who has flown all the way from Boston to be here with us today; to Judith Flick of the Presencing Institute, and the Professors Peter Senge and Otto Scharmer, and to everyone at the MIT Sloan, who have taught and helped us throughout the program.

Our most fond thanks go to Dr. Ben Chan and Frans Sugiarta, whom we now call Thompson and Thompson, the unidentical twin who have been with us and who have put up with our own eccentricities from the start till the end, and of course to Gina and Mundy for their very fine and efficient running the organization of the program.

Last but not least, we want to thank our own family, colleagues and friends, for all support, patience and understanding as we took time off so many times during this past year to take part in this program.

This has been a worthy experience for all the fellows, one that we will not only cherish forever, but also one that has transformed us into better person, better leader and better citizen

Thank you

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullah Wabarakatuh