

UNITED IN DIVERSITY AND UNITED IN ADVERSITY: AN UPDATE

Dear Friends, Welcome to the second UID newsletter!

Since the beginning of this year, UID has continued its activities. Particularly, we have made more progress in the areas of leadership education and post-tsunami community development.

AN EDUCATION FOR INDONESIA'S FUTURE

During the months of February and March, UID joined the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Sloan School of Management, USA, Tsinghua University, China, and meet TsiBA Education of Cape Town, South Africa in a Global Classroom Seminar (GCS) from Jakarta, Indonesia.

coordinated with leading universities and academic institutions around the world. The seminar was designed to develop an innovative way of teaching development and globalization worldwide, by linking MBA (Master's in Business Administration) and MPA (Master's in Public Administration) programs in case study-based learning through advanced telecommunication technology. Under the theme "Leading Innovation for Sustainable Development", Professor Otto Scharmer from MIT led the Global Classroom Seminar via teleconference, Skype-call, and small-group discussions with participants from Boston, Beijing, Cape Town, and Jakarta.

The objective of the Global Classroom Seminar was to explore "the links between international business and poverty reduction," which was based on a case study of Unilever in Indonesia. Through the Global Classroom Seminar,

the pioneering Emerging Leaders for Innovation across Systems (ELIAS) executive leadership program. Co-founded by MIT, the UN Global Compact, the World Bank Institute, Oxfam, BASF, BP, Nissan, and Unilever, the belief of ELIAS is to "build a global network of high-potential leaders and develop the capacity, in both the participants and their organizations, to address economic, social, ecological, and political challenges at global, national, and [organizational] levels."



UID executive director Frans Sugiarta (far left) and fellow ELIAS participants during a visit to an MIT lab



Participants in the Global Classroom Seminar

The Global Classroom Seminar was a joint initiative by the World Bank Institute and the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business and was



Participants in the Global Classroom Seminar from Jakarta during a teleconference session with their counterparts at MIT

participants learned how a business can really help reduce a country's poverty and still makes profit. But more importantly, they learned that for corporate social responsibility to work, it must be based on a partnership among business, the state, and civil society.

The follow-up exercise after the Global Classroom Seminar is for each national group to identify potential projects in which business entities—regardless of their sizes—can help reduce poverty in their own locations.

MIT Sloan School of Management's noted Professors Peter Senge and Otto Scharmer also developed and launched

UID has joined ELIAS by contributing three Indonesian participants and young leaders from different sectors to the pilot program. They are Mr. Suryopratomo, Editor-in-Chief of Kompas; Mr. Andin Hadiyanto, Head of the Center for Trading Business Climate at the Indonesian Ministry of Trade; and Mr. Frans Sugiarta, a UID Executive Director.

This tri-sector leadership team signifies an important beginning toward achieving UID's ongoing mission of developing a learning process engaging future leaders of diverse sectors in Indonesia for our common futures.

UID is grateful to MIT Sloan School of Management, especially Dean Emeritus Lester Thurow, Dean Alan White and Professors Otto Scharmer, Peter Senge and many others for their confidence and noble commitment toward building a learning process and knowledge sharing with Indonesia.

POST-TSUNAMI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

In Nias, where UID has been collaborating with the Monaco-Asia Society (MAS) on a reconstruction project following the Asian tsunami in December 2004, we have continued to build new homes for victims of tsunami and earthquakes in the Sirombu Village.



Monaco-Asia Society member Cecilia Serin with children in Nias

Last January, Ms. Cecilia Serin, a member of the MAS committee, visited Sirombu to check out our housing project and schools in the district as a way to assess their funding eligibility for an educational project from Monaco.

PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS

In December 2005, UID was honored to launch *Think: Notes of an Educator*, a book by Sr. Francesco Marianti, OSU, at Kinokuniya Senayan Bookstore. Written as her memoirs, Sr. Francesco gives a moving account of her life journey and how she has become a Catholic nun and



Sr. Francesco (holding flowers) with (from left to right): Thang D. Nguyen, Catharina Widjaja, Aristides Katoppo, Cherie Nursalim of UID; Ms. Ratih Ibrahim; and UID advisor Wimar Witoelar



More houses under construction in the Monaco Complex

one of Indonesia's most respected educators. Through the book, the author reminds the readers of the importance of education in schools, at homes, and elsewhere. But most importantly, this book shows us that the ability to think is the essence of being.

In early March this year, with assistance of UID adviser and CSIS Member, Board of Trustees, and Executive Director - Hadi Soesastro, UID sponsored and launched the bahasa-Indonesia publication of *East Timor: Development Challenges for the World's Newest Nation* at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Jakarta, Indonesia. Edited by Professor Hal Hill of Australian National University, Canberra, and João M. Saldanha of the Timor Institute of Development Studies, Dili, this book lays out the most critical challenges facing Timor Leste following its independence from Indonesia in 1999 and recommends ways in which it can go about dealing with them.

On March 24, UID had the pleasure of launching a movie-book entitled *Berbagi Suami* (husband sharing).



Nia Dinata and Prof. Dr. Siti Musdah Mulia at the launch of her book-film *Berbagi Suami*

Directed by Ms. Nia Dinata, one of Indonesia's young, promising film directors, this movie-book is about polygamy and its practice, impacts, and meanings in Indonesia.

Following these events, UID will continue to host publications and educational activities as part of its mission as an education forum on Indonesia. In this effort, we hope to contribute to a better understanding—and future—of Indonesia.

Until the next UID newsletter, we hope to count on you for your continued support and send our best regards.

With warm wishes, I am,



Thang D. Nguyen
Program Director