

Moving ahead with ideas for change!

Dear friends,

Welcome to the 7th volume of our newsletters!

Before we share with you updates on our works, it is our pleasure to note that the Japanese government recently awarded UID Trustee Ali Alatas, former Indonesian foreign minister, with the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun for his outstanding service in international affairs.

Congratulations, Pak Ali!



Source: National Library of Australia

UID Trustee and former Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ali Alatas

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

After months of hard work and patience, we are pleased to inform you that we have completed our solar-energy project in Sirombu, Nias.

Funded by Deutsche Bank Indonesia, this project gives residents in 239 homes in the Monaco Complex free electricity, using solar panels installed throughout the community to generate it from sunlight.

This particular project was completed under the management of UID director of community development, Mr. Boyke Aveanto, and with the expertise of Mr. Andy Schroeter, founder of award-winning Sunlabob Rural Energy Inc.



Recipients receiving instruction on how to maintain solar panels

As you may already know, the Monaco Complex is named after the Monaco-Asia Society whose generosity—in partnership with UID and its partners—has made it possible to build the 239 homes for tsunami victims and families in the Sirombu community.



Launching our solar-energy project

At the same time, we are also starting a public health campaign in the Monaco Complex. The idea behind this program is to create awareness among residents in the community of clean living and,

thereby, contributing to environmental betterment. Through this campaign, we hope to educate residents in the Complex the importance of healthy living, waste management, and hygiene.



A recipient with his new wheelchair

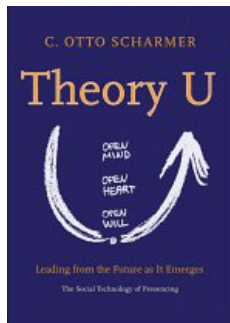


UID Staff Mundi Murbawani (right) with a wheelchair recipient

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION

Throughout the summer, our education team, with Frans Sugiarta of UID, Suryoprato of Kompas, Andin Hadiyanto of the Indonesian Ministry of Trade, and Dr. Ben Chan from Singapore at the helm, developed the curriculum for our IDEAS (Innovative, Dynamic Education and Action for Sustainability) program.

As mentioned in our previous newsletters, the purpose of IDEAS is to provide young, promising Indonesian leaders with a real-world learning environment in which they will gain the tools, skills, and capacities that will need to address the interconnected business, social, political and cultural challenges that they face in their respective positions.



Theory U, a much-awaited book by Otto Scharmer

The changes that IDEAS fellows are expect to make after their participation in this program do not only benefit them and their organizations; they are meant, also, to bring about positive development and progress across the Indonesian society—as its applications are multiplied and modelled after.

The curriculum for IDEAS is based on Theory U, an innovative learning and business principle developed by Dr. C. Otto Scharmer, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

In a 10-month (non-consecutive) program with lectures, retreats, private and group sessions, site visits, etc., IDEAS is designed to:

- Help future leaders in Indonesia develop leadership capacity both in themselves and in their organizations
- Build networks of cross-sectors leaders in Indonesia that can lead profound innovation and change
- Encourage interaction and enhance cooperation among the three sectors in Indonesia

Upon completion, this course aims to see prototypes of innovation developed by participants to address shared challenges among the three sectors and contribute to Indonesia's progress—economically, socially, and otherwise.

As we plan to launch the first class of IDEAS in 2008, we have been visiting prospective organizations from business, government, and civil society to present IDEAS to them and invite them to participate and invest in it.

On this note, we are pleased to share with you that, as of now, we have received sponsorships from several leaders and organizations for IDEAS. Among these generous sponsors is the former World Bank President, Mr. James Wolfensohn, who has been supporting UID since its foundation.

Thank you, Jim, for your generosity, unwavering support of and belief in UID!



Former World Bank president and great friend of UID, James Wolfensohn

UPCOMING EVENT

We are planning a workshop on the topic of “Learning from the Future as It Emerges” with potential participating organizations across sectors on 11 September.

Through this event, we seek to give participants an experience and understanding of the aforementioned U Theory and how we—regardless of our sectors, positions, and backgrounds—can benefit from its applications as an effective problem-solving tool at home, at work, and elsewhere in our daily lives.

Should you, or someone you know, be interested in this workshop, please let us know (tel. 021 352 3217; email: frans@unitedindiversity.org).

As we forge ahead with IDEAS, we look forward to having you, or your organization, participate in it.

In the meantime, we thank you for your continued support of UID and send our best regards.

The United in Diversity Forum