

Dear friends,

Welcome to our 13th newsletter!

As the holiday season is here with us, we wish you much joy, health and happiness and bring you an update on our programs and activities in the last quarters of 2009.

On the education front, the 2009 class of our IDEAS (innovative, dynamic education for action and sustainability) leadership program graduated back in July. As a requirement, our IDEAS fellows had to work together in groups to build prototypes: practical projects that are based on their theory materials.

The prototypes this year cover a quite range of issues, including water management, journalism and women empowerment; presentations of these prototypes are available on our website, www.unitedindiversity.org

And to continue the progress we have had with the IDEAS program, we have started the selection (application) process for the class of 2010.

Should you or someone you know wish to join this program as a fellow,



Dean White (center) handed a certificate of completion to IDEAS fellow Ery Seda as Minister Pangestu and UID President Rosihan Arsyad (far left) looked on.

or sponsor, please contact our colleague Frans Sugiarta at: frans@unitedindiversity.org.

As a foundation of tri-sector partnership, UID always welcomes opportunities to work with individuals and organizations across sectors on projects that are meaningful.

And this year, UID collaborated with the Singapore Innovation Park (SIP) for the Global Social Innovators Forum (GSIF) that took place in

Singapore on 1-3 October (<http://www.socialinnovatorsforum.org/>).



Dr. Marie Pangestu, Indonesia's minister of trade, spoke at the IDEAS 2009 graduation



IDEAS 2009 graduates posed for picture with Dean White, Minister Pangestu, and UID leadership and team.

Founded by Singaporean member of parliament Penny Low, this forum is an annual gathering of leaders from all sectors coming together with innovative ideas for a better world.

This year, SIP partnered with Conservation International (CI) to program the forum under the theme "Investing in Team Earth and an Inclusive World".



UID leaders and team members interacted with Indonesian participants at the GSIF.

Among the forum's participants and prominent speakers were Wal-Mart chairman Robson Walton, CI chairman Peter Seligman, and futurist Alvin Toffler.

From Indonesia, we had several leading figures, including Mr. Gelwyn Yusuf, the Indonesian deputy minister for maritime affairs and fisheries; Mr. Ongku Hasibuan, head of the northern Sumatra Regency; Dr. Gumilar Somantri, rector of the University of Indonesia; and Mr. Marzuki Usman, former minister of forestry and founder of the Jakarta Stock Exchange.

We are also proud to share that Ms. Dea Sudarman, president of Alun Alun Indonesia and a dear friend of UID, was honored at the GSIF with an SIP Fellow award.



UID co-founder Aristides Katoppo spoke during a workshop on media ethics at the GSIF.

This award is given once a year at the GSIF Gala Dinner to recognize global leaders in social entrepreneurship and innovation. Under Dea's leadership, Alun Alun promotes Indonesia's culture-based products, including handicrafts, foods, drinks, and garments from Indonesia. Also known for her documentaries on the environment in Indonesia and nature, Dea is the first Indonesian to receive this award.

From our side, we had board members Aristides Katoppo and Cherie Nursalim and UID president Rosihan Arsyad. Messrs. Katoppo and Arsyad were invited to witness the pledge from the Indonesian Ministry for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries to partner with CI for the protection of biodiversity in Indonesia.

In addition to its board members, UID team members Catherina Widjaja, Ben Chan, Frans Sugiarta, Gina Dharmawan, Boyke Aveanto, and Thang Nguyen also came to Singapore to help with the program and Gala Dinner of the GSIF.

Aside from the GSIF, UID also conducted numerous workshops on system thinking as a foundation of leadership training.

We hope to have more of these activities next year and, thus, will need your support. Thank you for being our friends and supporters this year, and we wish you and yours much health, peace and happiness in 2010.

The United in Diversity Forum



UID board member Cherie Nusalim interacted with Mr. Zainul Abidin Rasheed, Singapore's senior minister of state at the GSIF.