

United in Diversity and United in Adversity: An Update on UID

Dear Friends,

UNITED IN DIVERSITY FORUM WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A HEALTHY AND GENERATIVE NEW YEAR!

We appreciate your support and wish to update our activities.

Since its international conference "Building Trust for Our Common Future" took place in Bali in December 2003, UID has pursued its education mission of engaging diverse sectors of business, civil society and the state. In 2004, UID launched its publication of *The Indonesian Dream*, which was edited by myself with contributions from President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and former President Megawati Soekarnoputri as well as voices of diverse sectors, such as Ilham Habibie, Jeffrie Geovaine, Maria and Agus Pakpahan and other learned international individuals.

POST-TSUNAMI RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION WORKS

Since December 2004, UID has joined everyone else in extending a helping hand to Indonesia's Tsunami victims. This effort was started by steering committee member Cherie Nursalim and her husband, Dr. Enki Tan, who operated in the medical emergency relief hospital in Aceh. International assistance to our young foundation and its initiatives has come from Monaco-Asia Society, Temasek Holdings of Singapore, deans of MIT Sloan School of Management, Samuel Group of Canada, Peggy Dulany and the Rockefeller family, and Continental of Germany, Egypt et al.

While the international community can and must help, it is essential that aid reaches the people most in need and that the aid fits with a strategy that has longer-term impacts.



However well-intentioned, brave, and vital in the short run they may be, UID recognizes that relief workers

cannot make the kind of long-term commitment that is needed to help rebuild and sustain local economies, communities, and institutions.

Therefore, UID's response to this crisis is to work with international and Indonesian partners, the Government of Indonesia, and experts to invest in developing local capacity, i.e., victims and families who remain in tsunami-affected areas, so that they can rebuild their homes, livelihoods, and futures.



AMONG THE FIRST TO DELIVER PERMANENT HOMES TO VICTIMS

UID is proud to be among the first organizations to deliver permanent homes to Indonesia's Tsunami victims and thier families in early August. Made possible with Monaco's generosity, this gratifying project is located in Sirombu village of Nias, where UID and partners have been rebuilding 239 homes and sustainable infrastructures



Appreciation from villagers to Enki Tan in local ceremony

Another United in Diversity fruition is that Sirombu, with an 80% Muslim majority, is a minority on the largely Christian Nias island. Prior to the Tsunami, local residents lived more closely with those who share their faiths, but now, they all integrate in the same Monaco Complex.

THE UID TEAM

UID has called on Frans Sugiarta and Gina Dharmawan, his wife, to help with its works.

Both Frans and Gina, who managed the logistics for the Bali Forum, have been serving as UID's executive directors since January this year.

In the United States, Dr. Jane Pratt, who founded the Mountain Institute and comes with a wealth of NGO experience, will serve as the President of UID foundation on a pro-bono basis. In Singapore, Dr. Ben Chan, an academic and expert on social entrepreneurship, serves as the Director of the UID Education Academy. (Their profiles are on the back of this newsletter.)



FURTHERING EDUCATION MISSION

As this update shows, UID has demonstrated action with its diverse hearts, heads, and hands in a most relevant manner as Indonesia moves forward.

In early November 2005, MIT Sloan School of Management and its senior faculty have reiterated their support to further a leadership education program in Indonesia for young leaders of diverse sectors in partnership with UID. Achieving UID mission as a bridge among business, government, and civil society to contribute to Indonesia's progress is undoubtedly a tall order. It is a mission possible, however, if and when it has support from individuals like you. To that end, I send you this update and hope to count on you for your continued support of UID. Once again, thank you, and I hope to see you again soon.

Meanwhile, please keep in touch and let me know if you have any question (phone: +62 813 1723 5921, email: thang.nguyen@unitedindiversity.org).

With warm regards, I am,

Thang D. Nguyen
Program Director



Frans Sugiarta manages UID's post-Tsunami reconstruction program. He works with donors, partners, and local parties and directs the allocation of resources to meet the objective of this program.

In addition to the reconstruction program, Frans also works with the UID team on building a tri-sector leadership education program that it will launch in the near future. Prior to joining UID in January 2004, Frans and his wife, Gina Dharmawan, played an instrumental role in the international conference "Building Trust for Our Common Future" in December 2003 as the logistics organizers of the event.

Frans is also a volunteer in Yayasan Kasih Batu Penjuru (Corner Stone Love Ministry Foundation), a foundation designed to assist Indonesian prisoners, detainees, recidivist, ex-prisoners and their families, and adolescents with problems.

Frans was also participant and translator of a manual of *Reclassering*, a Dutch word stands for assistance to people who get into trouble with authority/law in order for them to be rehabilitated and accepted by their families and communities and to rebuild a sustainable life.)

Frans holds a Bachelor's in Mathematics from Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. He is married to Gina Dharmawan, and they have two children.



Gina Dharmawan works with Frans and the UID team on its reconstruction and education programs as well as the organization of its events.

Her focus in these programs includes financial details of UID's projects and donors' funding, allocation of resources, planning, and logistical management.

Gina's career started in the retail industry, in which she had a six-year experience in all aspects of the business.

Frans and Gina later became self-made owners and operators of FG Organizer, an organizing agency for international forums, exhibitions, and other events.

Gina holds a professional certificate in Economics in Dutch from VASVU (Voorbereiden Jaar Voor Aanstandige Economische Studie) and a Bachelor's in Accounting from HES (Hogere Economische Studie), Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She is married to Frans Sugiarta



Jane Pratt has recently joined the United in Diversity Forum (UID, www.unitedindiversity.org) as its President in the US.

In this capacity, Dr. Jane Pratt is spearheading the efforts of concerned Americans to support UID in creating and implementing actions that help forge a new, positive national identity for Indonesia, based on the multiple strengths of its diverse people.

Among her other responsibilities, she is the Principal and founding Partner in EcoLogica LLC, a consulting firm whose mission is to promote economic and ecologic sustainability.

In 1994, after 14 years as an executive at the World Bank and several other international organizations, Dr. Pratt created the Mountain Institute, (<http://www.mountain.org>), an international non-profit devoted to conservation of mountain ecosystems, and sustainable development for mountain people, rooted in respect for their unique cultures.

Dr. Pratt holds a Ph.D. in political science and development from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT); a certificate in Southeast Asia Area Studies from Yale University; and a B.Sc in Zoology from University of Michigan. A recipient of numerous awards and a member of many professional associations and commissions, Dr. Pratt publishes and speaks frequently on environment and development issues. She has been married since 1970 to John D. Shilling, with whom she has two daughters, Kaile and Kaitlin. They live in Virginia, US.



Ben Chan has also recently joined UID as the Director of the UID Education Academy. Dr. Chan has a 25-year experience that includes general management and

regional marketing management for industrial, consumer and services products, mostly in ASEAN countries. He is also the Executive Director of Singapore's Entrepreneurship Development Centre, a resource centre where young entrepreneurs come for counseling, training and consultation about their business venture creation and sustenance.

An academic with distinguished achievements, Dr. Chan gives lectures on and offers consulting services in social entrepreneurship both in Singapore and overseas. He has conducted extensive research and published widely on this subject.

A member of numerous academic and professional associations, Dr. Chan holds an M.Sc in International Marketing from the University of Strathclyde, UK; a Doctorate in Business Administration from Brunel University of West London, UK; and several professional diplomas.

Dr. Chan speaks various languages, including Bahasa Indonesia, Malayu, and Mandarin. He is married and lives in Singapore.