

UNITED IN DIVERSITY AND UNITED IN GIVING!

Dear friends, Welcome to the forth UID newsletter!

Since the issuing of the third UID newsletter, our team has grown with the addition of two colleagues. They are Mr. Rosihan Arsyad, who serves as our President in Indonesia, and Mr. Boyke Aveanto, who serves as our Manager for Community Development (their bios are included on the back of this newsletter).

During this summer, we made good progress on our existing projects. We also continued to explore new areas of collaboration with various organizations from Indonesia and abroad.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The great news is that, in June, we completed our housing project in Sirombu, Nias, and met our targeted goal of 239 houses. Named after its donor, the Monaco-Asia Society, the Monaco Complex in Sirombu is now fully occupied by tsunami and earthquake residents in the area. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, this was among the first projects to provide permanent housing to tsunami victims in Indonesia. Another

positive outcome of the project is that, whereas Christian and Muslim villagers lived in separate areas before the tsunami, today they live side-by-side in the homes that we have built for them.



New homes in Sirombu

In addition to meeting their housing need, UID is partnering with Sunlabob, a Laos-based solar-energy specialist, to install solar panels in all households within the Monaco Complex. Funded by Deutsche Bank Indonesia, this project is designed to provide residents in the complex with free electricity.



A sample solar panel

Since many of them have lost their jobs and are unemployed, or underemployed, following the tsunami and sequential

earthquakes, the solar-energy project will relieve them of a financial burden as they rebuild their lives.

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION

During the summer, we continued our education project. In July and August, we had a student from the MIT Sloan School of Management, Ms. Pragnya Yogesh Alekal, visiting UID, Bali, and Jogjakarta to identify projects in Indonesia that students from the school's G-Lab can work on.

The G-Lab started out a few years ago as a course to teach business students about how entrepreneurship can help people in the developing world. Today, G-lab is MIT Sloan's flagship course and has been copied in many other schools.

The course gives students a chance to help companies in troubles with real, concrete projects. Until recently, the projects were mainly in business sector. But this year, the school started to partner with the World Bank and realized that students in G-lab can undertake projects in NGOs in developing countries.

In addition to bringing Indonesia to the attention of G-Lab students after her visit, Pragnya will help UID's education academy to build a mini G-Lab in Indonesia, as it has proven itself to be a very practical idea to replicate.

PUBLIC EVENTS

On 9 August, UID was honored to launch *The Pebble in the Shoe: the Diplomatic Struggle for East Timor*. Written by Indonesia's well-known diplomat and UID's board member, Mr. Ali Alatas, this book is a well-documented account of East Timor's history, from its colonization by the Portugese to its integration into Indonesia and, finally, to its parting in 1999 with Indonesia to become one of the world's youngest nations.

The book was published by Aksara Karunia under the leadership of Mr. Aristides Katoppo, who is also a co-founder of UID.



Pragnya Yogesh Alekal (3rd from left in the back row) with UID co-founder Aristides Katoppo (in red) and the UID team

Among the audience at this event were: H.E. Dr. Hassan Wirajuda, Indonesian foreign minister; ambassadors from various countries to Indonesia; respected Indonesian academics; and journalists of foreign media in Jakarta.

“On behalf of all of us at UID and recipients of this donation, I want to thank the Wheelchair Foundation and its members for their great generosity. Among other issues confronting Indonesia, the challenges facing those suffering from



Mr. Ali Alatas (third from left in front row) with Indonesia's foreign minister, Dr. Hassan Wirajuda (second from left in front row) and ambassadors to Indonesia present at his book launch

WHELLCHAIR PARTNERSHIP

UID has partnered with the US Wheelchair Foundation (www.wheelchairfoundation.org) in the distribution of wheelchairs within Indonesia. Throughout the summer UID has been preoccupied in the distribution of 280 wheelchairs to Indonesians with disabilities in Jakarta and other locations.

The Wheelchair Foundation was founded by Mr. Kenneth Behring, a leading philanthropist, to provide hopes in those around the world with physical disabilities.



Mr. Behring smiled after giving a wheelchair to a child as Cherie Nursalim (left), member of UID steering committee, looked on

disabilities are formidable—although they are often unseen. Thanks to the Foundation's support, many Indonesians and their families will be able to go on with their lives,” writes Cherie Nursalim, member of the UID steering committee.

UID is collecting information on those in Indonesia who need but cannot afford wheelchairs. So, please contact us (tel. +62 21 352 3217; email: boyke@unitedindiversity.org) for a request form and further information.

Until the next UID newsletter, I hope you have enjoyed reading about UID and our programs and count on you for your continued support.

With warm wishes, I am,



Thang D. Nguyen
Program Director



Rosihan Arsyad has recently joined the United in Diversity Forum (UID) as its President in Indonesia. In this capacity, he will lead an effort to enhance the Forum's network of constituencies

across business, government and civil society sectors, provide guidance on its programs, as well as to help strengthen its mission and works in Indonesia.

Before joining UID, Mr. Rosihan Arsyad had held numerous senior positions. Most notably, he served as the Governor of South Sumatra Province, Indonesia, from 1998 to 2003. Widely respected for his integrity and courageous performances during Indonesian crisis periods as well as external ones, his management of the Silkair flight crash in South Sumatra in 1997 earned him great appreciation from the Singapore Government.

A retired admiral, he has held senior positions in the Indonesian Navy and served in numerous duty missions in Indonesia and abroad. He also served many years as a pilot in the Indonesian Navy after his graduation from the US navy flight training in Pensacola and successfully commanded a tank-landing ship—the Kri Teluk Semangka—on various missions.

Mr. Rosihan Arsyad received his education from the Indonesian Naval Academy and National Resilience Institute. A recipient of numerous awards and service medals, he has attended and spoken at many conferences. Mr. Rosihan Arsyad is married to Mrs. Rachma Arsyad, and they have three children.



Boyke Aveanto has worked in various positions during his years at HSBC Indonesia, including the last one as Vice President, Card Services. After a long deep reflection on his life journey, he has come to

believe that he has another purpose in life than just pursuing career in business.

By joining UID, he hopes to have a chance to use his experience and talents and work with the UID team to contribute to the building of a better future for Indonesia.

Boyke graduated from the Faculty of Letters, majoring in German Language, from the University of Indonesia. He has taken language courses from Goethe Institute and the Institut für Germanistik in Justus-Liebig Universität, Gießen. He has also attended various seminars and trainings conducted by HSBC in Indonesia and overseas.