



**Australian Institute
of International Affairs**
Victoria

Report on the AIIA Vic Study Tour to Indonesia

June 2019



Networking Reception in Yogyakarta

Report - AIIA Study Tour to Indonesia June 2019

Dear Reader,

We arrived in Indonesia with open minds. We came from all States in Australia, except South Australia. We were a very eclectic group of Australians with many different backgrounds, ages and interests. This meant that we saw the same things and heard the same things but through different lenses. This deepened our understanding of Indonesia. The list of all Delegates are appended to this report.

We were very well received wherever we went. Our Australian Missions in Indonesia were most helpful.

We met with numerous peoples and organisations. These too are listed in this report.

Despite taking six internal flights, we saw very little of this very large and diverse country; seeing only Jakarta, Yogyakarta, Makassar and Toraja. And yet, from those visits, we gleaned so much about this most wonderful country.

We were fortunate in having briefing materials prior to our departure. The headings of these are appended to this report.

We came away from Indonesia optimistic about its future; marvelling at the opportunities it has and the challenges it faces. We nevertheless carry a disappointment in that Australians have a pitiful knowledge about Indonesia.

We came away with the understanding that Australians must implement changes to ensure that Indonesia and Australia can only go into the future, hand in hand, if we, in Australia, are determined to inform ourselves better, much better, about our most important neighbour.

I hope that this report does something towards achieving that. This report reflects our observations. It also contains opinions we heard voiced.

I wish to thank all who so meticulously worked to make such a success of this Study Tour. In particular I would like to thank John McCarthy who helped open many doors and led many of the discussions. I would like to thank the Walter Mangold Trust Fund for supporting one of our Interns. I would like to thank both Interns, Dean Georgakopolous and Georgia Smith for their help both before and during the Study Tour.

I am also most indebted to those Members of the Study Tour who have contributed articles to this report. Theirs is a very worthwhile contribution.

But above all, I would like to thank all Members of the Study Tour for their keen interest and involvement in all that we did.

Patrick Moore

Study Tour Leader

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Introduction and Some Observations

Prior to the departure of the Study Group Tour of Indonesia, there were three presentations at Dyason House. These presentations briefed Delegates as well as other AIIA members and guests. A total of 170 Members and Guests attended these briefings:

- Andrew Parker, Partner and Asia Practice Leader, PwC. “Asleep at the Wheel? “Australian Economic Engagement in Indonesia”
- Ms Spica A. Tutuhaturnewa, Consul General of Indonesia “Indonesia and Australia: Prospects and Opportunities”
- Professor Tim Lindsey AO FAIIA “Strangers Next Door? Australia and Indonesia after the Elections”

Our objectives included our desire to establish long term relationships with Institutions in Indonesia. We wanted to see the extent of Australia’s involvement in Indonesia at the Government, Educational, not for profit and business levels. We strived to understand better the gaps in our relationship with Indonesia. We wanted to understand better the nature of the Indonesian Economy, its Body Politic, its Social and Religious cohesion and its views of Australia.

We arrived in Indonesia soon after the election of President Joko Widodo (aka “Jokowi”) and left before the Constitutional Court unanimously confirmed his re-election with 55% of the vote. Nevertheless, there are 260 cases of individual disputes throughout the country’s 34 Provinces still to be heard. This may change the representation in some Provinces; however, this will not change Jokowi’s victory. Jokowi will be sworn in as President in October 2019.

During our Study Tour, we visited Jakarta where most of our meetings were held; all of which were held under the Chatham House Rule. We then visited Yogyakarta, Makassar and Toraja. Again, all our meetings were under the Chatham House Rule.

Our Embassy in Jakarta and the Consul Generals in Surabaya and Makassar were most helpful in organising meetings, briefing us and introducing us to many people. The importance of our Diplomatic commitment to Indonesia cannot be understated. Perhaps the most significant illustration is that Indonesia has more Consulates in Australia than Australia has in Indonesia. This might soon be increased. That type of commitment from both Countries illustrates the degree of importance each holds for the other.

Indonesia is a country with so much going for it. It has abundant natural resources. It has a well-educated young population. It is a robust democracy. And yet. Glue or putty?

“Indonesia is still learning about democracy. The country is getting used to it and likes to exercise its choice”

What glue holds this country together? Or is it putty filling in the cracks?

Or is it the glue of **Pancasila** which is embedded in the Indonesian Constitution? It sets out five principles:

- Belief in the one and only God
- Just and Civilised Humanity
- The Unity of Indonesia
- Democracy guided by the inner wisdom in the unanimity arising out of deliberations amongst representatives
- Social Justice for all Indonesians

It must be questioned as to whether Pancasila alone is the glue that can adequately hold the country together.

With six religions, one must question whether belief in one God is the glue.

- Can you have a Just and Civilised Humanity with such wide differences in Incomes and opportunities?
- The Unity of Indonesia is vital. Without unity, Indonesia weakens itself.
- Jokowi is doing all he can to strengthen democracy and deliver social justice.

Indonesia must grow its economy and the benefits of that growth must flow through to the Provinces. Without such growth, Indonesia runs the risk of becoming less cohesive. As with Aceh Province, pressure already exist to dismantle the unity of Indonesia.

There is one more factor; the rejection of Communism arising from the “Year of Living Dangerously” (1965). This brought together the many anti-Communists into the one fold. Of course, this left the Conservative factions in Indonesia free to assert their control. Mostly this was formerly the Military. Now, the conservative influence in Indonesia is manifest more through Islam.

Indonesia is a country of six recognised religions, widely different standards of living from Province to Province and many ethnic Groups with their own dialects. Thank goodness Bahasa is spoken throughout Indonesia. That is some glue! (Contrast that with Sri Lanka.)

In looking to her future in 2002, Indonesia was focussed on four main issues. The Rule of Law, Good Governance, Democracy and Peaceful Conflict Resolution. Progress to some extent was made on all these issues. When Jokowi was elected in 2014, his objectives were Infrastructure and Growth and making Indonesia more Democratic. Again, these objectives were attained in part.

His first objective in his current term is the further development of infrastructure construction. Next is the development of human resources including the health of pregnant women and the young and the improvement in the quality of education. Lastly, is that he has to remove impediments to Investment including reform of the bureaucracy. He has also called for National Unity.

“This is not about me, or you. And not about us, or them. Not about West or East, or South or North. Now is not the time to think about all that. It is the time to think about our nation as a whole. Don't ever hesitate to move forward because we are capable if we are united!” Jokowi.

The Economy

There are three key issues facing the Indonesian economy:

- Regulation
- Capacity of the Tax Department, and
- Dealing with the Digital Economy

Jokowi's objectives following his re-election in 2019 follow similar lines to that of his previous Presidency. Indonesia needs strong economic growth.

“Jokowi has a narrow window to reform the economy”

Jokowi's two other challenges, other than the Economy, are Education and Islam. All this is against the background of increasing Economic Nationalism. Economic growth is needed to absorb the youth of Indonesia as well as fulfilling his desire for further infrastructure development. Furthermore, Jokowi wants to see Indonesia as a more democratic country. A stepping stone toward this objective is devolving fiscal power to the Provinces.

Whilst this is an admirable objective, we need only to look to Australia whose three levels of government, taxation and spending but in Indonesia can be somewhat overshadowed by corruption. Labour laws too need a major overhaul. Some laws, such as extraordinarily high severance pay, hampers employment. Another factor hampering economic growth is the tightness in the Financial System. This is understandable given the tribal memory of the havoc wreaked following the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997. Nevertheless, banking ratios are likely to hamper domestic investment; thereby requiring Foreign Investment to fill the gap.



Dr Marty Natalegawa (former Foreign Minister of Indonesia) and Prof Dewi Fortuna Anwar interviewed by John McCarthy.

The economy is not in bad shape. Growth is less than that desired. The fiscal deficit is running at 2% of GDP. Foreign exchange reserves are healthy. Bank Indonesia has the space to borrow more by 28% of GDP – around \$US 280 billion.

“Indonesia needs to push the economic growth higher without compromising the economic resiliency and exposing the vulnerabilities further”

There are a number of self-imposed constraints on the economy. For instance, public debt levels are not permitted to rise more than 40% of GNP. Some Banking ratios are such as to constrain lending. There is more than adequate liquidity in the banking system yet capital adequacy is over 20% whereas the minimum is 8%.

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Singapore, followed by Japan and the US are the biggest investors in Indonesia. Much of the investment coming from Singapore probably comes from Indonesians using Singapore as a conduit.

A major economic problem for Indonesia is its weak taxation base. Taxation lies at around 13% of GNP. This is not sustainable for a growing country. This means that officials cannot be paid as much as they should and that substandard products are used in building contracts. This can lead to some degree of corruption.

Funds adequate to invest in the future cannot be generated from such a weak taxation base. About 80% of taxes are on income (of which in a country of 260 million people there are only about 30 million taxpayers). The balance of 20% comes from duties of which tobacco taxes comprise half. There are Australian experts working closely with the Indonesian Directorate General of Taxes to improve systems to create a more robust taxation system. That is already bearing some fruit. Taxation evasion is not particularly difficult in Indonesia. Apparently, some taxes can be avoided simply by moving Provinces!



Meeting of Delegates and Ambassador Quinlan with HE Dr Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Minister for Finance of the Republic of Indonesia

Jokowi recognises fully that Foreign Investment is required to reach his goals. Yet he is cautious about Investment from China. As we discovered on the Study Tour, not all is clear in the rules and regulations concerning Foreign Investment in Indonesia. There is a strong desire to move towards a “One Stop Shop” for approvals. However, our conclusion is that this is some way off.

Running through all these matters is the theme of Human Development. Thus, Education is of paramount importance. It was terrific seeing the involvement of many Australian Universities in Indonesia. Indonesia needs an economic Growth Rate of at least 6.3% to absorb its youth. Unfortunately, as it stands, Indonesia is not growing at the required rate.

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Indonesia will face difficulties in the future if the youth of the country are not able to participate in the growth of the economy.

The fact that 90% of Indonesia's GNP is produced in Java, Sumatra and Kalimantan illustrates the problem with Economic development. That is why devolution of fiscal power must go to the Provinces; particularly those lagging behind in GNP distribution.

Another growing problem is the fracturing of the Country along religious lines. Muslims comprise about 85% of the total population with Christianity being the next largest group. In the latest election, it is most instructive to overlay the Presidential election results with the Religious areas. In the 2019 Presidential Elections, Prabowo received more support from regions predominately dominated by conservative Muslim populations. It is worth noting however that Prabowo himself is not a radical; nevertheless, he is somewhat dependent on the radicals.

It is imperative that economic growth continues and above the current levels of around 5.0% to 5.25%. Without that growth, the glue that holds Indonesia together may crack.

Indonesia has the skill and the market. This is reflected by the establishment of Unicorns: new high-growth companies. [These are listed elsewhere in this report.](#)



Patrick Moore thanks Mr Jusuf Wanandi, Co-Founder of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies for his presentation.

Human Development, Universities and Education

Jokowi has always emphasised the need for Human Development in Indonesia. The methodology is through Education and Growth in the Economy. There is little point in pursuing Education unless a job awaits the graduates and school leavers. Thus, the requirement of a minimum of 6.3% annual growth rate in the economy; but preferably 7%.

It is somewhat difficult to have Human Development spread evenly across Indonesia when the differential of the Economic Development varies so much between Provinces, Religions and Ethnic Groups. Thus, the introduction of devolution fiscal power to the Provinces is important.

Indonesia has an impressive array of Universities. A few are freed from Central Control. Ten have been selected to grow to highly prestigious universities. There is a desire amongst some to improve their International Rankings. Such rankings depend on many varied criteria. It may not be necessarily wise to pursue this path too strongly as that may well detract from some more important matters which are more relevant to many Indonesians.

Australian Universities have collaborated with many Indonesian Universities on a wide variety of matters.

The AIIA delegation visited Hasanuddin University in Makassar where we met with their impressive female Rector, Dwia Aries Tina Pulubuhu. She attested to the desire of Indonesian universities to improve their global rankings. Hasanuddin claims to have research excellence in maritime sciences. In 2017, Hasanuddin University became one of several Autonomous Universities, freed from the need to seek Ministry approval for basic operations and budgetary matters.

We saw the results of the collaboration of Griffith University with Hasanuddin University in the research on Rock Art at Maros. We discussed the results that Monash University (with others) has achieved in the area of sustainable Development with the RISE project.

There are many other areas where Australian involvement is bearing fruit:

- Causindy (Council of Australia and Indonesian Youth),
- ACICIS (Australian Consortium for In-Country Indonesian Studies) are cases in point. In the second half of 2019, ACICIS will have a total of 46 Students in Indonesia of which 38 are funded by the New Colombo Plan and the
- New Colombo Plan.

Whilst there is this terrific involvement of Australian Universities and organisations in Indonesia, there is an embarrassing lack of teaching about Indonesia and of Bahasa in Australian Schools and Universities. Australia's Indonesia Youth Exchange Program which peaked under Paul Keating has slid abysmally since. Indonesia is and will continue to be a most important ally and neighbour of Australia. Australia needs to wake up and address itself to this matter most urgently.

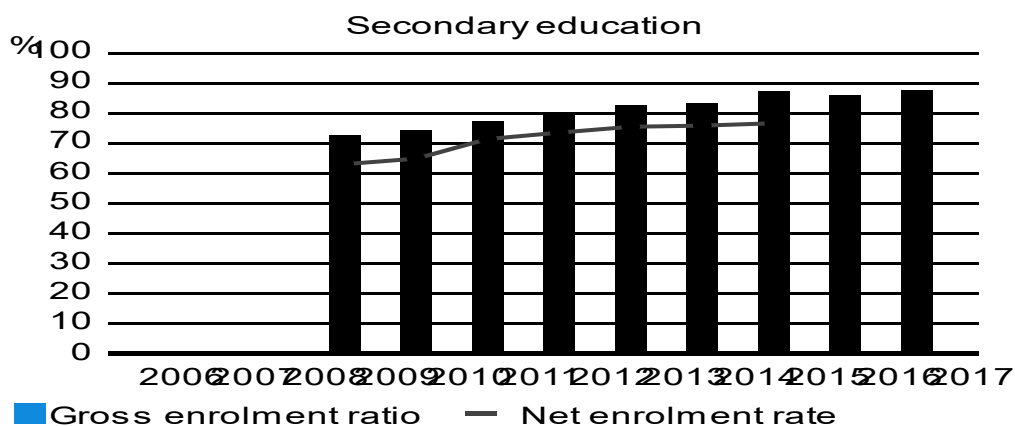
Over the next two decades Indonesia needs to absorb 58 million skilled people into its workforce. This puts a large and very important burden on its educational system. This will bring the total number of Indonesians in the working age population to 195 million.

These new workers will replace some who are low or unskilled. At present, about 50% of the 125 million in the workforce today is low or unskilled.

Indonesia has 4,655 higher educational institutions. These will add over 2.5 million skilled Indonesians to the workforce each and every year over the next two decades. That is equivalent to about 540 graduates per institution per annum for two decades. We noted that Indonesia is already positioned to achieve these numbers.

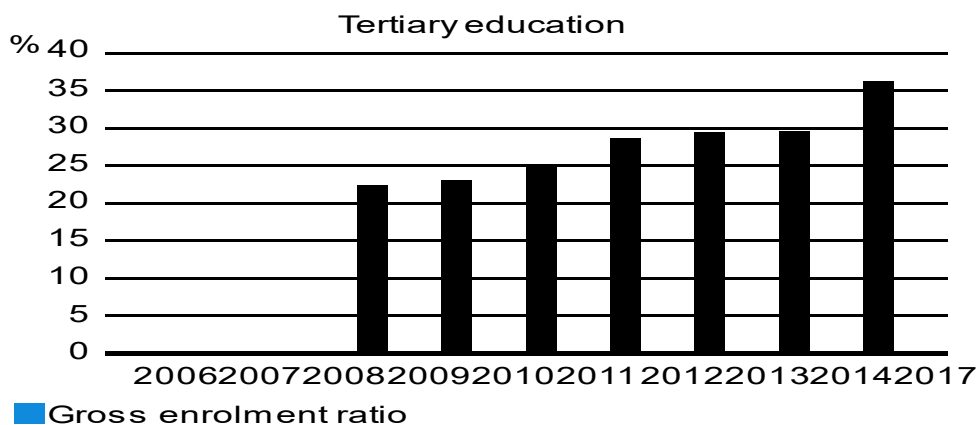
Furthermore, there are currently 45,000 Indonesians studying abroad of which about 40% are studying in Australia. It can be argued that it is better for Australia to put further resources in this area rather than rely on larger numbers of Chinese students.

Indonesia's focus on education has already made a considerable difference as the numbers below indicate. Secondary School enrolment rates are healthy with more females than males enrolling. Just under 90% of primary students progress to secondary school.

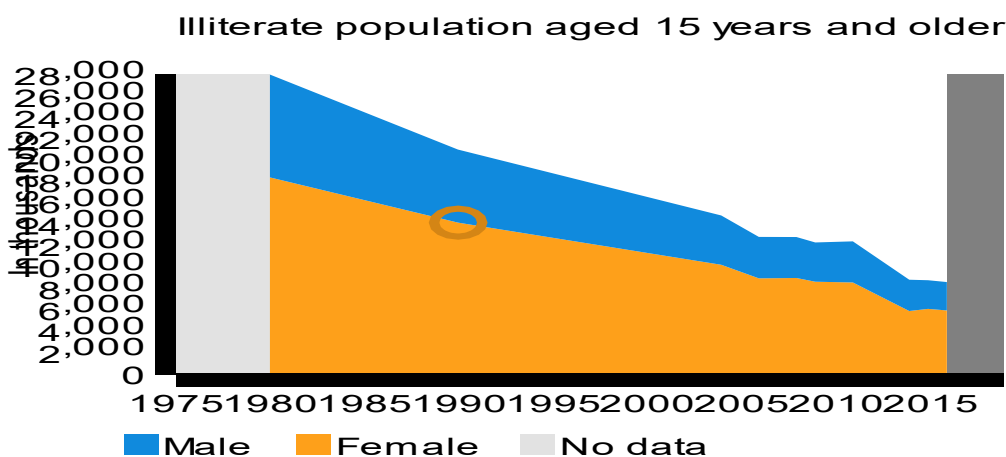


Tertiary enrolment rates have also been increasing; again, with females dominating enrolments.

“With most of the workforce having low education (more than 50% are primary school educated), the application of IT based technology may lead to lay-offs. There are also areas with stone-age lifestyle. All this uneven quality of human resources and education has to be taken into consideration if the government wants to formulate a good policy on education.”



There has been a steep fall in the number of illiterate people aged 15 years or older in the population. The total now stands at about 10 million.



Note All sources are UNESCO <http://uis.unesco.org/country/ID>

We also saw other data on Education; and found it somewhat difficult to reconcile some numbers.

Indonesian government has launched a Frontline Teacher Program (GCD) and Frontline School Program (SGD). This aims to improve education in remote areas and aligns with Jokowi’s “developing the nation from the periphery”. Teacher recruitment in this area has been increased tenfold since 2015, from 798 teachers to over 9,000 in 2018. However, most of them being recent graduates under 30 years of age and their quality may be variable. The World Bank has launched programs to reduce teacher absenteeism and improve performance by empowering communities and tying teacher allowances to performance. Australia has supported a range of initiatives aimed at improving literacy.

As in so many areas of Indonesia life, it seems that professional development is a pressing need. When a group of academic staff were asked what could Australia do in terms of collaboration, the immediate answer was “Give us support in learning how to write internationally competitive journal articles!”

One must be alert to the consequences of having certain and ambitious objectives. It might be argued that the education and training of Indonesia's youth is more important than increasing the international rankings of Universities. This is because some of the criteria used in ranking universities internationally may just not be particularly relevant to Indonesia's current requirements.

We came away feeling that the most important current task at Indonesian Universities is to teach the teachers. This, more than anything else, will assist with Human Development.

While at Hasanuddin University, we were briefed on an exemplar of international collaborative research, a project known as Revitalising Informal Settlements and their Environments (RISE).

ISLAM

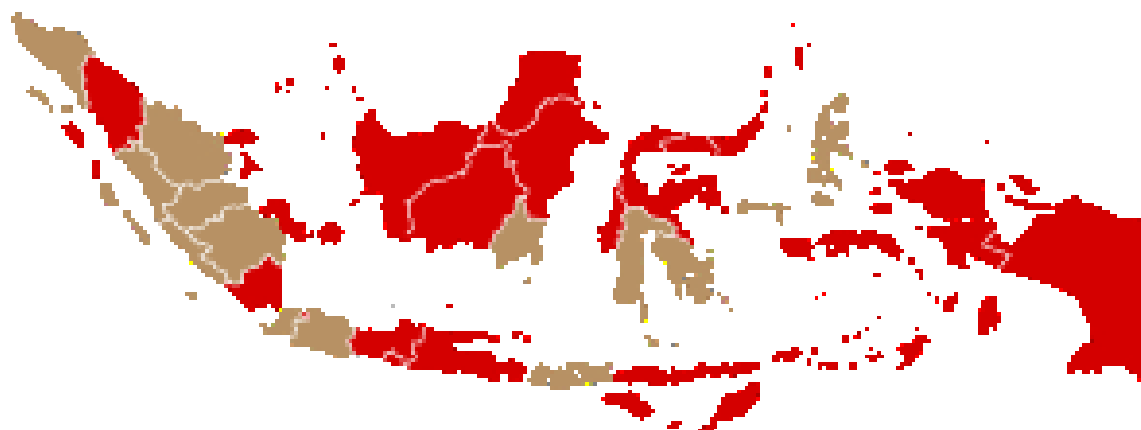
Islam accounts for about 85% of Indonesia's Population. It should be noted that all Indonesians have to register with one of the six recognised religions. More Muslims are taking pride in Islam and its growing importance. Indeed, it seems that children tend to be more Islamic than their parents. This is evidenced by the increasing use of the Hijab over the years. There seems to be a growing prevalence of Conservative Islam. However, this does not necessarily lead to Militant Islam. Indeed, one family of suicide bombers became self-radicalised within twelve months.

Nevertheless, there is concern about the growing prevalence of the "Arabisation of Islam" in Indonesia. There is no question in the minds of some Indonesians that Saudi Arabia is spreading its Wahhabism and Salafism influence in Indonesia.

In part, the recent Presidential result may have been somewhat influenced by this. This has the ability to destabilise Indonesia. Sharia Law is established in the Province of Aceh. Aceh is considering introducing polygamy! Other Provinces have been courting with the idea of introducing Sharia Law.

"US policy with Saudi is creating havoc with Militant Islam in Asia"

The recent election demonstrates that there is a growing religious divide in Indonesia. Look at the map of the types of religion and superimpose that one over the Election result. There is a remarkable similarity. With this split showing no signs of abating, one must wonder what is the glue which holds this country with its many different Ethnic Groups as well a Religious Groups together?



Jokowi's wins are in red and Prabowo's in brown (source Wikipedia)

This distribution of votes reflects the polarisation of Indonesia's socio-religious structure.

The economic divide in Indonesia does not lend the country to a Just and Civilised Humanity. Java with its population of 145+ million (being 55% of Indonesian population) provides 70% of Indonesia's GNP. When the income distribution of Indonesia is overlaid with the Religious and Election maps above, it is difficult to see a clear pathway for a unified Indonesia.

It does not help Indonesia in that President Trump is backing Saudi Arabia. That gives Saudis a freer hand to extend their influence in Indonesia; particularly with its Salafism and Wahhabism. Perhaps, reflecting on this matter in a decade or so, we may see unfortunate unforeseen consequences of President Trump's policy in this area. Goodness only knows, Indonesia must grow strongly; if for no other reason than to be a bulwark against China.



President Jokowi and vice-President Ma'ruf Amin

Indonesian Foreign Policy

Jokowi most certainly is more concentrated on Domestic Policies than International Policies. Nevertheless, the separation of Domestic Policies and Foreign Policies are being blurred. Indonesia used to act as though there was a clear delineation between Internal and external affairs. But now, I am thinking there is a fragile separation.

A strong link between Palestine and Indonesia formed when Palestine was the fourth country to recognise Indonesian independence. Thus, Indonesia's continued strong relationship with Palestine and the Palestinians. Indonesia maybe sees Palestine as "unfinished business" of decolonisation.

"To an extent, Indonesia sees its Foreign Policy through Values.
But in reality, Foreign Policy is about National Security and the Balance of Power."

Indonesia was instrumental in the formation of the non-aligned movement. Thus, there is a total reluctance to choose between supporting the US or supporting China.

"We have not struggled for our Independence just to give it to two structured alliances.
We have the Freedom to choose AND the freedom NOT to choose"

After all, having gained independence from the Dutch after WWII, why decide to reject that independence? Having said that, if it came down to the wire, Indonesia would be very reluctant to side with Communist China. Despite this comment, another was made to the effect that Indonesians find it easier to talk with China than with the US. Maybe this is because "the US is misbehaving with Islam"?

Indonesia is vital for holding ASEAN together.

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ASEAN used to be a strong organisation when led by the likes of Lee Kuan Yew and Mahathir. At present, strong leadership of ASEAN seems to be lacking. Maybe Indonesia should step into that role. One snide comment made was to the effect that ASEAN is very good at organising conferences and events.

Nevertheless, it is there. And should the need arise, its influence can be strengthened. ASEAN has a policy of not interfering in the affairs of other ASEAN countries. This policy comes under some strain when dealing with matters like Myanmar with its Rohingya problem.

En passant, it is worth noting that Australia's relationship with ASEAN is close without our having to become a Member; something which is most unlikely because it would hamper our ability to make open and frank comments about the internal affairs of other Members.

ASEAN is but one important area of Indonesian Foreign Policy. In the years ahead Indonesia will have to manage carefully its affairs with India, South Korea and Japan; whilst continuing to do so with the US and China. No mean feat.

China

Indonesia is adopting a careful approach towards signing up to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). There is growing Indonesian scepticism about possible debt traps as we have seen in places such as Sri Lanka. Nevertheless, China offered Indonesia about 30 BRI projects in April 2019. We were informed that Indonesia wants China to set up a special fund within the BRI to "better coordinate Chinese loans that are associated with BRI projects".

Like it or not, Indonesia needs investment from China. Therefore, expect to see some of the 30 projects going ahead.

Indonesia is reliant on China for 30 % of its Trade. (For Australia it is 40%.)

The Indonesian ethnic Chinese have a large stake in the Indonesian Economy. We did not discover the extent of any relationship between these and Mainland Chinese although some interlocutors were sceptical.

Relationship with Australia

There are various matters concerning Indonesian Australian relations not covered in other parts of this report.

Indonesia and Australia have managed their bumpy relationship over the years pretty well. We may forget East Timor, the storming of the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, the cutting off of our meat trade, recognising Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and our eavesdropping on the phone of the Indonesian President's wife.

However, as the relationship has withstood such tremors, then fundamentally, it is a strong relationship.

The relationship with Australia is most interesting. One can conjecture whether Indonesia is more important to Australia; or whether Australia is more important to Indonesia. The answer which comes firstly to mind is that Indonesia is far more important to Australia than Australia is to Indonesia.

It is often speculated that in one or two decades, Indonesia will rank in the top five or six Countries as measured by GNP. Of course, it must be more important to Australia than the other way around.

And yet, we were informed that Indonesia does like to have Australia standing behind it; if for no other reason, if Indonesia is threatened, so too is Australia.

Prime Minister Morrison's first overseas visit was to Indonesia to emphasise the importance of a strong relationship. President Jokowi has been invited to Australia.

Both countries have a common interest in cooperating our activities in the Western and South Pacific.

The Free Trade Agreement which is yet to be ratified by both National Governments gives great opportunities to both Countries; but only if there is enough, determination, wisdom and understanding to use it.

"We (Australia) have to do the heavy lifting, the door is open with Indonesia, we have to go through it."

"Never underestimate the role of Australia. We know that we are safer because we have Australia there."

Three Important messages for our Government

The Delegation came away with an unequivocal view that our relationship with Indonesia must remain central to our foreign policy focus.

This imperative derives not only from geographic proximity but Indonesia's role as a significant power at a time of major global and regional change, internal political trends in that country and the latter's economic growth.

With President Widodo about to enter his second term of office, several sets of developments will be of particular importance to Australia.

"The way forward (with our relationship with Indonesia) is to be very open, very frank, so we can identify where the problems lie."

1 Foreign Policy

Interlocutors were not confident that Widodo would show markedly more interest in foreign policy than he had in his first term. However, given China's assertiveness and the markedly self-interested response of the Trump administration, an active Indonesian role in the region both as the major Southeast Asian power and as the engine room of ASEAN will remain important to us, as will ASEAN's capacity to play a stabilising role in the Indo-Pacific.

The group noted that Indonesia's approaches to the United States and China were different to our own. Indonesia remains non-aligned but wants and needs a continued United States regional presence. However, we detected no confidence from any Indonesian interlocutor about the reliability or direction of American policy. Indeed, the head of one traditionally pro-western NGO was scathing about United States' future regional and global authority.

While Indonesia is apprehensive about Chinese regional policies, in particular in the South China Sea, we did not sense the same degree of alarm in Indonesian foreign policy/security circles about this Chinese assertiveness as exists in equivalent circles in Australia. China tends rather to be seen through the prism of Indonesia's demography and against the background of Indonesia's strong sense of economic nationalism – points were brought home forcefully by Kuntoro Mangusubroto a former economic minister and administrator.

Notwithstanding the different approach of our two countries towards China and the United States – and also because of that difference – dialogue at the highest level between Australia and Indonesia (and ASEAN countries more widely) on security matters must remain central to Australian external policy. Australia cannot allow that dialogue with Indonesia to be interrupted by mistakes such as our handling of the SBY bugging affair. The personal relationship between the leaders of both countries will continue to be crucial.

2 Governance (Including Islam)

President Widodo's recent electoral victory was achieved reasonably fairly and the successful conduct of five different sets of elections in Indonesia on the same day was an achievement. Indonesia can lay claim to being the most democratic country in ASEAN. But Australia needs to follow two trends carefully.

First, Indonesia's democratic process does not always work well. There were multiple instances of false news in the recent elections. Moreover, Jokowi's principles can bend if

the need arises e.g. by his political abandonment two years ago of the Chinese Christian Mayor of Jakarta, Ahok, and with suggestions recently that the military might regain some of the functions in the public service it used to enjoy under Suharto. In the Provinces too democratic principles do not necessarily always prevail.

It is in enabling Indonesia more effectively to function as a democracy that Australian development assistance is particularly important. It is regrettable that this assistance has been reduced so extensively in recent years. The AIIA group saw it in Australia's interests that previous levels of assistance be restored.

Second, Islam in Indonesia is becoming more conservative. This does not mean that Islamic parties are increasing their share of the vote. Nor does the growth of conservative Islam ipso facto leads to the growth of Islamist terrorism. But conservative Islam is affecting the political stance of all political parties and is impacting on the secular character of the Indonesia polity which has been perceived as consistent with Australian interests since Indonesia became independent. Australia needs to understand these developments and to engage all strands of Islam in Indonesia, including the conservatives.

Australia also needs to be more aware that policies on the Middle East are sharply at odds with views in Islamic countries such as Indonesia or Malaysia, cannot neatly be disaggregated from our wider relationship with those countries.

3 The Economic Relationship

As the Australian Government recognises, we must focus more attention on our economic relationship with Indonesia. Both our countries rate poorly in terms of both trade with, and investment in, the other.

While estimates of Indonesia's future economic growth vary and reform will be required in a number of areas if Indonesia is to grow sufficiently fast to meet employment targets, Indonesia will become a major economy over the next two decades and Australian business must recognise this. The newly signed bilateral economic agreement between Australia and Indonesia, if ratified, should bolster the economic relationship.

Two other specific initiatives regarding Indonesia, based on Australian policy towards India, are recommended.

One is a full study on trade and investment opportunities with Indonesia similar to the Varghese Report on Australia's economic relations with India.

Second is the creation of a major research fund akin to that which exists for India and Australia to assist science and innovation projects between Indonesian and Australian universities. Such an initiative would blunt the perception in Indonesia and elsewhere of Australian external education policy being based overwhelmingly on acquisitiveness and would contribute towards the development of the Indonesian economy in directions to which Indonesia attaches priority.

The Australian Domestic Aspect

A striking takeaway from the trip was the poor knowledge in Australia of Indonesia and of how it works. For example, according to the latest Lowy poll, only 34% of Australians recognise Indonesia is a democracy. Unless the Australian system – Federal and State – recognises the paucity of our knowledge of Indonesia (and the rest of the region), and does something about it, our capacity to deal with the external challenges of the 21st Century will remain limited.



Australian Embassy Briefing



Richard Mathews – Bamboo Forest Opening

Corruption

Corruption is a factor inhibiting Australian Investment in Indonesia because of the Global application of our laws. Even if a partner of an Australian Company in Indonesia breaks Australian Law, the Australian partner will be charged.

Jokowi himself is incorruptible. He has done much to reduce (but not eradicate) corruption. There have been meetings to which people have gone to find only half of the people not available due to their involvement in corruption.

It is interesting to read what was said about corruption in Indonesia over 60 years ago.

“Alongside the physical squalor of the pathetic little homesteads, and the dust of mud, according to the season, of its roads and alleys, is the pervasive moral squalor of corruption. Djakarta has its vice sports, like any big city. It is not simply that the foreigner is likely to be ‘taken for a ride’; it is that every level of the bureaucracy has its price for services rendered. The neighbourhood warden has his price for issuing a certificate of good conduct; the police department has its price for a certificate stating that a person has not been guilty of any felony; the department of foreign affairs needs documentation that a person was not involved in the abortive coup of 1965; even a doctor’s nurse requires a cut if an inoculation or vaccination certificate is required. The reasons are specious of course: there are no forms left, the official responsible is out, it is necessary to refer the matter to another department, the vaccine has run out, the doctor has just left. The excuses are endless, but the remedy is always the same. A procedure as simple as obtaining a passport can cost up to Rp20,000. Translated into dollars it does not sound much, but it represents three or four months’ salary for a person on an average salary. Nothing could illustrate more clearly the demoralisation of the bureaucracy. This, of course, is corruption on a relatively petty scale. There are ways and means of doing very much better and, however one is placed, there is always a way. A rather ingenious technique was pioneered by officials in the Ministry of Education responsible for the approval of text-books to be used in all the schools in the country. If an author wished to have a book accepted by the ministry, he needed only allow a key official to put his name on the cover as co-author, and thus share in the royalties. With an edition running into millions, these can be considerable.

Indonesia: Richard Woldendorp, A H Johns and Y Johns. Thomas Nelson 1972

Role of the Military

Indonesia was born out of revolution and military rule. Its first two presidents were Military Strongmen: Sukarno and Suharto. Sukarno and Hatta declared independence in August 1945 becoming respectively President and Vice-President. The Dutch tried unsuccessfully to re-assert their Colonial rule. In the late 1950s, Sukarno drifted towards authoritarian rule culminating in the year of living dangerously when the Communists were pitched against the Military. Suharto, the head of the Military ousted Sukarno and became President in 1967.

We felt it somewhat strange that our interlocutors did not raise the issues of Indonesia's defence spending (as it is on its 12 submarines) and the current and perhaps future role of the military in Indonesia. After all, the military was such a central force in Indonesian politics. It seemed that Indonesia wants us and others to think that the military has gotten out of politics. If that is the case, then it seems to us that it is still behind the scenes.

Although elections have been held in Indonesia since 1955, it was not until 2004 when the President was elected directly by the people of Indonesia.

The fact is that 58% of Australians think that Indonesia is not a Democracy (according to a recent Lowy survey). This is pathetic and really comes down to a dereliction by both State and Federal Governments to provide an education system where such important matters to Australia are currently not taught.

The Australian press is more likely to show rioting in the streets of Jakarta than the actual outcome of an election where there was an 80% (voluntary) voter turnout.

Nevertheless, the Indonesian Military is still there in the background. Analysing the economy, social behaviour and other trends; although no longer in control. After all, Prabowo came from a Military background.

We see the possibility of circumstances where Jokowi might find it useful to have the Military in some positions in Government. If anything, this would counter-balance leaders like Prabowo garnering support from Conservative Islam. This does not necessarily suggest that Indonesia will be reverting back to the days of Suharto.

It is unlikely that the next leaders of Indonesia will come from traditional sources such as the Military. Although some will attempt to ask the military to side with them, as did Prabowo, formerly a lieutenant general in the military.



President Sukarno



President Suharto

Preserving a Bamboo Forest in North Toraja, South Sulawesi

Consul General of Makassar – Richard Mathews

As I have said in previous blog posts, I see tourism as one of the most promising sectors for development throughout eastern Indonesia. This year we have focused much of our economic diplomacy work on trying to build links with Australia in this sector. We held the Australia Eastern Indonesia Tourism Forum 4 – 5 March this year, and our sister-post - the Australian Consulate-General in Bali – held the Island Tourism Forum in Lombok 29 – 30 April: both events brought together tourism experts, practitioners and business people to explore how we can raise awareness and build partnerships that will result in sustainable tourism development and growth in the eastern provinces of Indonesia.

We also support sustainable tourism in eastern Indonesia with small grants from our Development Assistance Program (DAP). In 2018 we agreed to support a proposal from the Suloara Village Tourism Foundation in North Toraja to help the To’Kumila community preserve its ancient bamboo forest and develop it as a sustainable tourism resource.



Putri and I visited this project in November 2018 shortly after it had begun. This ten-hectare forest is located in Tonga Riu village, a drive of around one hour to the north of Rantepao. The journey takes you upwards through sculptured rice field terraces peppered with huge rocks, past large rock-graves, new churches and through pretty little villages. It is not an easy road to travel, with plentiful potholes and the occasional landslide making passage a challenge. But on reaching the ridge line at the village of Batu Tomonga you can stop briefly at one of several cafes and take in the view back down to Rantepao – if you get there early enough the valley below is filled with mist; and when it rises the scenery is stunning, looking south over the township towards the mountains that divide Toraja from the rest of South Sulawesi.



Megalithic Statues South Sulawesi

Report - AIIA Study Tour to Indonesia June 2019

A drive of around fifteen minutes to the west from Batu Tomonga takes you to the village of Tonga Riu, in which is located the hamlet of To'Kumila, population 290 people.

Last November we were given a guided tour of the hamlet and the forest. We drove half-way up a hill and parked among a small collection of traditional Torajan houses (known as *tongkonan*) then walked along a gently rising road to the top of the forest. It was quiet and green and the bamboo towered over us, in some places blocking out the sunlight. A group of ancient menhir stones signifying an old burial site, dotted a space near the top of the hill.



Six months later the project organisers have now completed training seminars with the villagers and the local government has put in basic infrastructure, and everything is ready to go. So, in June we returned for the official launching of the To'Kumila Bamboo Forest, and this time we brought with us the 27 participants in the 2019 Australian Institute for International Affairs (AIIA) Study Tour to Indonesia. It was not an easy journey for the Australians, who had to fly from Australia to Denpasar or Jakarta, then to Makassar, then to Bua airport near Palopo, then take a 2½ hour bus journey through the mountains to Rantepao. Then the next day a one hour drive up windy, bumpy roads to the To'Kumila hamlet. But by all accounts, they were excited by the opening ceremony, several telling me that it was an experience they will never forget.

The launching of the bamboo forest project was indeed a magical experience. We arrived at the foot of the hill on which the forest is located, then walked up some newly constructed steps to a performance space in the middle of the forest. We were escorted by women in colourful traditional costumes, men wearing sack-like cloaks and head dresses symbolising the buffalo that are so important in Torajan culture, all the while singing eerie songs from the past. The stage was a flat piece of dirt under a huge, cathedral-like canopy of bamboo. We were seated slightly above and overlooking the stage, and the mist began rising up through the bamboo, making us shiver a little. The mesmerising music continued (see a video here:

<https://twitter.com/KonJenMakassar/status/1142337464641576960>).



Report - AIIA Study Tour to Indonesia June 2019

The AIIA participants were eventually seated and the formalities then began. Of course, no matter how magical the event, speeches are an essential element in Indonesia. But they were well-deserved speeches, coming from the key players in this project: the leaders of the Suloara Tourism Village Institute (Pak Danny, Pak Josef and Ibu Nyoman); the local Tourism Department (Pak Harli); and the village headman (Pak Petrus). I praised the village for taking on this project, and also recognised their decision to ban single-use plastic items, to ban smoking in the forest, and to encourage respect for the environment and local traditions. A few hundred locals from Rantepao had also made the journey up to the Bamboo Forest, and listened intently.

Many of the visitors later walked further up the hill to the Bamboo Market which the villagers hold once every two months. There you can buy bamboo cutlery, bamboo tea-pots and mugs, and various traditional Torajan foods. The AIIA were also invited to plant bamboo seedlings in the forest, which they did with enthusiasm.



Our contribution towards this project was modest, but has helped seed further in-kind and monetary contributions from other organisations and individuals. I see it as a model for future, similar projects that we would like to support at the community level. The “Tourism Village” concept (*Desa Wisata*) is slowly taking off in eastern Indonesia (eg see blog no. 46), and is a practical way for villagers to learn about the benefits and risks of tourism, and hopefully to find a way to make a fair living from the amazing natural and cultural assets that so many communities have across the archipelago.

The people of To’Kumila are now committed to preserving the bamboo forest that their ancestors have bequeathed to them, and are looking forward to earning a sustainable income from the visitors that will come to their beautiful village. I encourage you to visit North Toraja, and to make the journey up through the rice fields and the clouds to the lovely To’Kumila Bamboo Forest!

RISE

Report of our visit to RISE published by RISE



The AIIA Study visits the Hasanuddin University Faculty of Public Health Research Laboratory

The Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA) is an independent and nonprofit organization dedicated to the promotion and discussion of international relations and global issues. The visit of AIIA totaling 20 people to the Office of Revitalizing Informal Settlement and Their Environment (RISE) Indonesia and the Research Laboratory of the Faculty of Public Health, Hasanuddin University (FKM UNHAS) is a series of activities the AIIA Indonesia Study Program conducted in Indonesia from the 10th to the 23rd upcoming June 2019.

AIIA's visit led by AIIA President Patrick Moore was received directly by the Dean of FKM UNHAS, Dr. Aminuddin Syam, SKM., M Kes, M. Med, Ed, along with the Act. RISE Indonesia Coordinator Fitriyanty and RISE Ruzka Taruq Assessment Team Leader. Participating in the AIIA group, was Australian Consul General for Makassar, Richard Matthew.

RISE is a five-year Health and Environment Research Program in testing natural-based solutions for water management that can result in improved human health and the environment in slums. This research program is the first partnership between Monash University Australia and UNHAS, which strengthens the research relationship between Australia and Indonesia, as the two countries work to achieve sustainable development goals.

"FKM UNHAS is open to opportunities for who are interested in collaborating both in the field of research and others" explained Aminuddin Syam as Dean of FKM UNHAS. Besides laboratory-based research, it is hoped that there will be community development research in the form of field laboratories that are implemented through PBL activities. "Hopefully the collaboration between Monash University Australia can continue not only for five years but can be sustainable for the next few years," he hoped.

RISE Assessment Team Leader Ruzka Taruq explained about the RISE activities that have been carried out since August 2017 and through to 2022. So far, RISE has carried out public health and environmental research activities in 12 slum areas in Makassar. To measure public health, RISE regularly takes environmental samples such as water, soil, mosquitoes, animal faeces, and health samples of children under five years such as blood and faeces. Sampling is done both before and after revitalization. During the visit, the Dean of the FKM and the RISE Assessment Team invited the AIIA delegation to visit the FKM UNHAS Research Laboratory, which has been used by RISE to examine environmental and human samples.

AUSTRALIAN AID AND INVOLVEMENT IN INDONESIA

Ray Miles

The Australian Government will provide an estimated \$298.5 million in total Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) to Indonesia in 2019-20, including an estimated \$255.7 million in bilateral funding managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). Indonesia is classified by the World Bank as having middle income status and has achieved substantial development progress. Nevertheless, challenges remain such as infrastructure bottlenecks, skills deficits and institutional weaknesses. Australian Aid is working with Indonesia targeting fundamental constraints to Indonesia's growth and poverty reduction. To address these constraints Australia AID has developed a program to strengthen initiatives that directly support economic diplomacy and aid for trade.

Economic governance programs support infrastructure leverages through Indonesia's own infrastructure spending and improve the quality of public and multilateral development bank infrastructure projects. Australian ODA investments have a focus on private sector development and increasing the capacity of women to participate in the economy and political life. Human development is a major part of Australian AID and directs investments towards support for systemic reform and Indonesian capacity enhancement to deliver better quality services.

Australia's ODA vision is to be an equal partner with Indonesia to boost inclusive growth and productive jobs by improving Indonesia's competitiveness through strengthening the impact of Indonesia's own resources. The objectives that will contribute to this goal include; effective economic institutions and infrastructure, human development for a productive and healthy society, and an inclusive society through effective governance.

Australia's knowledge, proficiencies skills and strengths include supporting the roads, water and sanitation investments that Indonesia's rapidly urbanising population need to become more productive. In recent years Australian government ODA has moved from directly building or demonstrating actual infrastructure using grant funding, to partnerships with relevant ministries to provide policy advice and improve the preparation phase of projects funded by the Indonesian government and multi-lateral development banks. Australia's ODA governance programs supporting Indonesia's community grants program, target rural village-level infrastructure such as roads and water connections to essential public services including schools and health clinics.

Report - AIIA Study Tour to Indonesia June 2019

Nearly two-thirds of Indonesia's poor live in rural areas, hence Australian assistance continues to target the development of the agricultural sector. Including encouraging economic growth by strengthening the operation of agricultural markets, improving food security, raising agricultural productivity, and helping to boost poor farmer's incomes and employment.

A key component of Australia's AID PROGRAM is facilitating private sector led investment and support for NGOs in developing better agricultural practices and services such as irrigation, investing in women led initiatives to promote economic growth that increases employment opportunities for women in the foremost sector is an important part of Australian assistance.

Opening of the Bamboo Forest Tourism Area

Consulate-Generals offices in Makassar, Surabaya and Bali. The Makassar Consulate-General is the hub for Australia's activities in Eastern Indonesia and covers the 11 provinces South Sulawesi, Southeast Sulawesi, Central Sulawesi, Gorontalo, North Sulawesi, East Nusa Tenggara, Maluku, North Maluku, West

Papua and Papua and a population of 30 million out of a total of 260 million



Australia's Direct Aid Program managed by the Australian Embassy provides funding to Indonesian community groups and non-government organisations engaged in development activities on a not-for-profit basis, this includes support for sustainable tourism in eastern Indonesia with small grants being provided. In 2018 Australia agreed to support a proposal from the Suloara Village Tourism Foundation in North Toraja to help the To'Kumila community preserve its ancient bamboo forest and develop it as a sustainable tourism resource.

Within the jurisdiction of the Makassar Consulate-General there are considerable opportunities for ODA supported private sector engagement; including:

- tourism and hospitality industry business,
- education and training,
- academic research collaboration; eg RISE,
- mining and resources development; mining equipment, technology and services (METS)
- water sensitive cities planning and design, community participation,
- smart city and practical urban development, assisting Indonesian cities improve urban services, including water, sanitation, health services, roads and transportation services, telecommunications, etc.
- cattle sector development, especially South Sulawesi, and potentially Sumba,
- agriculture services, including irrigation and water management,
- retail and niche market food products for a growing middle class of consumers, and
- building region to region links, to generate this engagement.

WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION

Water Supply and Sanitation in Indonesia is characterised by poor levels of access and service quality, over 40 million lack access to an improved water source and more than 110 million of the country's 265 million population have no access to improved sanitation. According to the WB the current growth rate is 1.1% that is an increase in population of about 3,000,000 persons per year. To put this in context, it is the same as building a city the size of Brisbane each year just to provide for the annual population increases. Catchup funding for the current population is in part being provided for by multilateral banks, Australia has been providing specialist water supply and sanitation expertise to Indonesia since the 1970s and continues to provide assistance through economic governance incentives such as:

- Water and Sanitation Hibah Phase 2, co-financed by Australia and World Bank,
- Water and Sanitation for Low Income Communities Project (Pamsimas), PAMSIMAS is the Indonesian Government's national program to deliver water, sanitation and improved hygiene to rural and peri-urban areas.
- Palembang City Sanitation Project (PCSP). This project is one component of the Asian Development Bank's Metropolitan Sanitation Management Investment Project (MSMIP), other cities supported by MSMIP are: Makassar, Jambi and Pekanbaru.
- The Australia Indonesia Infrastructure Grant for Municipal Sanitation (Saiig) supports approximately 49 local governments to implement sanitation infrastructure, including simplified sewerage treatment systems, connections to existing sewerage networks, and solid waste transfer stations.
- Multilateral Development Bank Infrastructure Assistance Program. Through the Multilateral Development Bank Infrastructure Assistance Program Australia works with the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the Indonesian Government to support a range of activities, including project preparation support and implementation, feasibility studies, engineering designs and environmental impact assessments. Australia also supports the development of a Public

Private Partnerships Centre in the Indonesian Ministry of Finance.



Still some problems with waste water

INFRASTRUCTURE

Australia's economic governance investments support Indonesia to boost inclusive growth and to achieve mutual benefit from international trade and investment. Technical Assistance is provided, including through government-to-government partnerships, which focus on Indonesia's priority economic reforms in areas such as financial sector supervision, budgeting, trade and competition, tax policy and administration and macroeconomic management. Australia is working with Indonesia to tackle the underlying disincentives to investment in infrastructure, providing input on regulations and project planning, along with targeted technical assistance to make sure that Indonesia gets good results from its own spend on infrastructure development.

- Australia-Indonesia Partnership for Economic Development (Prospera). Australia's economic governance program (PROSPERA) aims to foster more effective Indonesian economic institutions and policies that contribute to strong, sustainable and inclusive economic growth. PROSPERA activities are delivered by Australian Government agencies and contracted advisers working with around 30 Indonesian counterpart agencies.
- Indonesia Australia Infrastructure Partnership (KIAT). Through KIAT Australia supports the development of high-quality infrastructure projects in water and sanitation, and transport; a reduction in regulatory constraints that impede infrastructure investment, and building capacity of government bodies responsible for infrastructure delivery.
- Provincial Road Improvement and Maintenance (PRIM). The Provincial Road Improvement and Maintenance Pilot Program is an output-based grant program that provides incentives for local governments to implement road maintenance and rehabilitation works.
- Indonesia-Australia Partnership for Environmental Governance. The 2015 forest and land fires in Indonesia caused an economic loss of approximately USD16 billion (approximately AUD20 billion) and discharged over one billion tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere. Forest and land fires are an annual crisis in Indonesia and a significant contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions. To support Indonesia's efforts to prevent the recurrence of fires and to reduce emissions, Australia initiated "The Indonesia Australia Partnership for Environmental Governance Program" in 2017 consisting of four activities which are implemented over a four-year period (2017-2020). This responds to Indonesia's renewed interest and involvement in addressing forest fires and climate change. Through technical experts from Government of Australia and multilateral agencies, Australia partners with the Indonesian Government to promote sustainable land management practices, and strengthen governance and law enforcement.

HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY AND RISE

Revitalising Informal Settlements and their Environments (RISE) is part of an action-based research project exploring how to make water and sanitation more sustainable and inclusive by trialling the 'Water Sensitive Cities Approach' in 24 urban informal settlements in Makassar Indonesia and Suva Fiji. The research project is funded by the global Wellcome Trust's (UK) 'Our Planet Our Health funding program' and supported by the Asian Development Bank's 'Future Cities Program'. Monash University is leading the research and participating with The University of Melbourne, Stanford University, Emory University, University of Cambridge and collaborating universities in Indonesia and Fiji. Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) Kota Makassar is one of the three collaborating universities (Fiji National University and the University of the South Pacific) engaged in the field research.

Working alongside communities, governments, local leaders RISE aims to enable communities to develop nature-based solutions to:

- Recycle their own wastewater (both black-water and grey-water);
- Harvest rainwater;
- Create green space for water cleansing and food cultivation;
- Restore natural waterways to encourage diversity; and,
- Reduce vulnerability to flooding and climate change.

The program intends to reduce both environmental contamination itself and the likelihood of human contact with contaminants. Multiple benefits are anticipated, including improved community health, fewer infections, better intestinal health among children, increased food production, and reduced gender inequality through the provision of secure domestic sanitation facilities and reliable water supplies.



The Indonesian RISE team is staffed with twenty Academic and professional staff and students undertaking Public health and environmental research activities in 12 slum areas in Makassar, and Student Field Learning Activities to increase the knowledge base to enable intervention programs and projects to be developed and funded. In addition to field work in Indonesia, RISE has provided PhD scholarships to Monash University.

The Public Health Faculty of Hasanuddin University Makassar has established and staffed a research field laboratory to collect environmental samples such as water, soil, mosquitoes, animal faeces, and health samples of children under five years such as blood and faeces. Besides laboratory-based research, it is hoped that there will be community development research in the form of field laboratories that are implemented through 'Student Field Learning Activities (PBL)' which is more about collecting data and determining the priority of health problems. PBL in the next 2 semesters will return to the field in the same village to make program interventions and next year's PBL's activities will be evaluated but program intervention is also needed.

RISE success will be measured by the health and wellbeing of residents, particularly children under five years of age and the ecological diversity of the surrounding environment.

ENVIRONMENT AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

It was noted that at most tourist and UNESCO world heritage listed sites that AIIA visited various Indonesia government agencies, Non-Government Organisations (NGO) and commercial enterprises have made a considerable effort to design and erect educational behaviour change signage and messages. Commercial enterprises such as PT Boskallis International Indonesia, a fully owned subsidiary of Royal Boskallis Westminster, a Dutch dredging company fund signage such “How Long Does Litter Last”. The signage shown in part was erected in association with a school program as part of the contract that Boskallis for Reclamation Works Project Centre Point of Indonesia Project consisting of five islands located off the coast of Makassar South Sulawesi. Although it is early days for the project there is no evidence that the messages have had any impact on community behaviour change nor was any infrastructure provided to enable the communities to be easily able to implement environmental protection and healthy living activities.

	<p>The photo below depicts an unused toilet block, it appears that the island population still use the shoreline or pit latrines for toileting.</p>
<p>The small islands, including Samalona and Kodingareng Keke Islands off the coast of Makassar are promoted as places for snorkeling are particularly polluted, with no facilities being provided for solid waste or refuse disposal and very poor if non-existent sanitation facilities.</p>	

Water that is used for washing and cooking is obtained from the shallow groundwater lens which overlays the coral reef which is the basic geological structure of the island. The water extracted from the lens is likely to be contaminated because of the way in which waste water is disposed of and the breakdown of organic refuse seeping into the water lens. Also, the ground water is probably brackish and hence unsuitable for domestic consumption without treatment.



Domestic drinking water is obtained by importing bottle water and some use of roof rainwater collection tanks. It was noted that although many of the roofs were constructed from cement sheeting (and possible asbestos sheeting) there was no indication collection systems included 'first flush' devices to ensure that contaminants do not enter the storage tanks

AGRICULTURE:

It is reported by multi-lateral funding agencies that more than 70% of water usage in Indonesia is for agriculture purposes, principally rice production and processing. Bilateral funding, research and technology transfer to the Agriculture sector has been foremost in development assistance for many decades which has contributed to doubling of Indonesia's GDP from 2001 to 2012 and reducing poverty levels by roughly half.

The Australian Government has provided assistance to the Agriculture sector since the 1970s. It was observed during the AIIA tour that existing infrastructure, primary, secondary and tertiary irrigation channels are operating well and appeared to be well maintained. As nearly two-thirds of Indonesia's poor live in rural areas, Australian assistance, mainly through the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) continues to pay particular attention to the development of the agricultural sector and encourages inclusive economic growth by strengthening the operation of agricultural markets, improving food security, raising agricultural productivity, and helping to boost poor farmers' incomes and employment by addressing constraints such as access to loans. Projects and partnerships include;

- Australia Indonesia Partnership For Promoting Rural Incomes Through Support For Markets In Agriculture (Prisma-2). This is the second phase of Australia Indonesia Partnership for Rural Economic Development Program (AIP-Rural). The aim of the program is to increase the incomes of an additional 700,000 smallholder farming households by a minimum of 30% using a Market Systems Development (MSD) approach. The program operates in six provinces; East Java, East Nusa Tenggara (NTT), West Nusa Tenggara (NTB), Papua, West Papua and Central Java.
- Indonesia-Australia Partnership on Food Security in The Red Meat and Cattle Sector. Through the Indonesia-Australia Partnership on Food Security in the Red Meat and Cattle Sector Australia aims to strengthen long-term economic relations between Indonesia and Australia. This partnership focuses on developing economic opportunities along the cattle and beef sector supply chain in order to support Indonesia's food security and to promote closer ties in the beef and cattle sector between Indonesia and Australia.

ACICIS

Georgia Smith

Founded by Professor David Hill AM in 1994, the Australian Consortium of In-Country Study (ACICIS) is a not-for-profit international education consortium that serves as a vital role for university students in Australia through the programs, opportunities and outcomes it provides.

ACICIS was established in order to “overcome the substantial academic, bureaucratic and immigration impediments” which were preventing Australian students from studying in Indonesian universities while being able to earn credit towards their degrees.

ACICIS currently has 25 university members in Australia as well as two international members in the UK and the Netherlands. Assisting the facilitation of ACICIS programs is the National Secretariat currently located in University of Western Australia and in-country staff at offices in Yogyakarta, Jakarta, Bogor and Bandung.

A total of 17 programs are currently offered to Australian university students which cater for a variety of faculties and disciplines. ACICIS programs are distributed throughout the archipelago running as short courses and up to a semester long. Study areas that ACICIS provide for students include Indonesian language, Journalism, Agriculture, Public Health, Law, Business, International Relations, Creative Arts, Development and Sustainable Tourism.

Students who attend Member Universities listed under the ACICIS program and decide to undertake one of its programs as part of their studies are eligible for funding by the New Colombo Plan, an initiative by the Australian Government.

ACICIS continues to support students after their participation as alumni. Alumni of the program have various opportunities made available to them, including an online platform exclusively for past participants, a jobs board and also the option to become an ACICIS campus ambassador.

During 2018, a total of 429 university students studied in Indonesia through ACICIS. This is compared to 2013 where only 134 students participated. The most popular programs enrolled in by students in 2018 were the three-week Indonesian Language Short Course and the two-week Public Health Study Tour, which combined reached 45% of the total amount of students who took part in an ACICIS program.

During the Study Tour, Resident Director Dr Adrian Budiman presented on behalf of ACICIS alongside ACICIS Yogyakarta Program Manager Sinta Padmi. Dr Budiman outlined and explained key aspects that make up the ACICIS program, including pre departure, on-ground support and assistance and post departure. Followed by a Q&A, it was clear that there is a concern more needs to be taught, understood and known about Indonesia, its language as well as its historical, political and cultural background.

Certainly, more needs to be done from the grassroots of Australia towards our relationship with our closest neighbour. Meanwhile, ACICIS has become one way to assist in improving that lack of understanding, perhaps sometimes misunderstanding, of the Republic of Indonesia.

Australia’s relationship with Indonesia has always had ups and downs and many Australians have formed impressions and ideas about Indonesia based on headline grabs over the years around Bali, Beef and Boats and in more recent years around Terrorism.

New Colombo Plan

Georgia Smith

In order to encourage Australian university students to travel and study abroad in the Indo-Pacific region, the Department of Foreign Affairs, as supported by the Australian Government, has continued to fund the New Colombo Plan (NCP) which was established in 2014.

The program aims to increase and improve knowledge of the Indo-Pacific region by providing support to undergraduate students to study as well as undertake internships in the region. In addition, the NCP allows for deepened relationships between Australia, for the students themselves as well as university and business connections (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade).

Two key programs are offered:

NCP Scholarship: Awarded to more than 100 undergraduates each year, the scholarship allows for study up to one year and the opportunity to complete an internship or mentorship.

NCP Mobility Grant: Supporting thousands of students each year, the mobility grant assists in supporting opportunities to undertake semester study, short-term study programs, internships, practicums, research or clinical placements.

Once students have completed their studies under the NCP and return from their time abroad, they become a part of the Alumni Program. The Alumni Program provides students who have completed their overseas experience under the NCP scholarship or mobility access to exclusive networking events, professional development and mentoring opportunities.

There is also the chance to apply to become an NCP Alumni Ambassador. Open to any student returning to study for the next 12 months after their experience overseas completed under the NCP, Ambassadors assist in promoting the NCP within their university and the wider community while receiving opportunities for professional development.

By the end of 2020, there will be almost 40,000 university students who have participated in the NCP (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade).

The New Colombo Plan not only provides a financial means for Australian university students to travel to the Indo-Pacific, it also provides the experience to live, work and study in a variety of cultures, growing curiosity and transforming attitudes towards the region for the better.

CAUSINDY

Georgia Smith

Supporting Australian and Indonesian young professionals, the aim of the Conference of Australian and Indonesian Youth (CAUSINDY) is to provide a platform for young leaders to create a stronger relationship. They also work in conjunction with Australia Indonesia Youth Association (AIYA), another youth-led organisation providing opportunities in strengthening this bilateral relationship.

Each year 30 young leaders with various professional backgrounds are chosen from across Australia in Indonesia. The location of the conference also alternates between the two countries each year.

Established in 2012, the bilateral youth organisation holds the four-day event annually and is planned by volunteer teams located both in Australia and Indonesia.

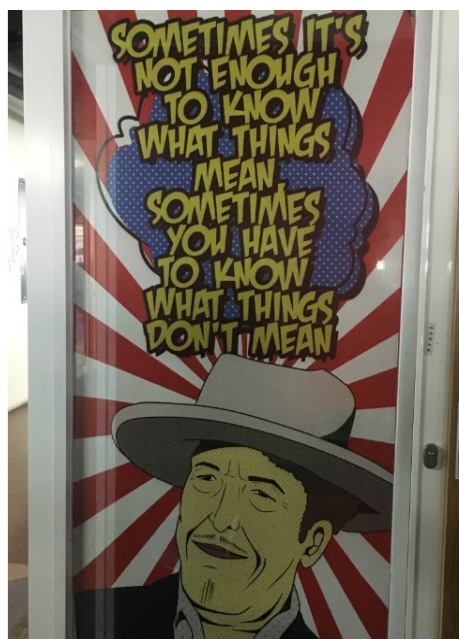
In addition, CAUSINDY also extends its opportunities beyond the conference: open a wide network including associates and sponsors to alumni, provide seed funding for successful CAUSINDY Review community projects, as well as resources which promote opportunities for universities and schools.

The AIIA Study Tour Delegation had the privilege to hear from six CAUSINDY alumni with assorted occupations and experiences. We were able to hear diverse discussion that addressed what is happening at the grass roots and people-to-people levels up to internal and external affairs concerning Indonesia.

Joined by an impressive panel, they are only six of several emerging leaders who have participated in CAUSINDY and provide hope and reassurance for the future in strengthening the Australia – Indonesia relationship.



Kraton



Sign in Tempo's Office

Tourism

Patrick Moore

Indonesia has so much to offer the Tourist; and not just Bali which seems to some to be an outpost of Australia.



Indonesia has fantastic UNESCO historical sites. It has a very wide and varied population. It has 40,000-year-old Rock Art paintings. It has top art galleries. It has fantastic diving and excellent surfing.

The Rock Art in Indonesia is similar in timing and in style to that in Australia.

To the left is 40,000-year old Rock Art paintings at Maros

We were invited to the opening of the Bamboo Plantation Tourist area. It was truly magnificent and quite ethereal. It was supported by Australian Finance. Although these little things may not seem that important, they have a great multiplier effect in the community.



During our time in East Java, we visited Borobudur and Prambanan; both wonderful examples of Indonesian ability, design and religion erected over 1,200 years ago. And yet, there are a myriad of problems. Getting to some of the wonderful sites involved avoiding hundreds of pot-holes in the road. ATMs did not always work and sometimes swallowed the cards. Indonesian food is terrific; but if that is not to your taste, then there are further shortcomings.

Engagement with locals - out and about in Jakarta

Kris Cant

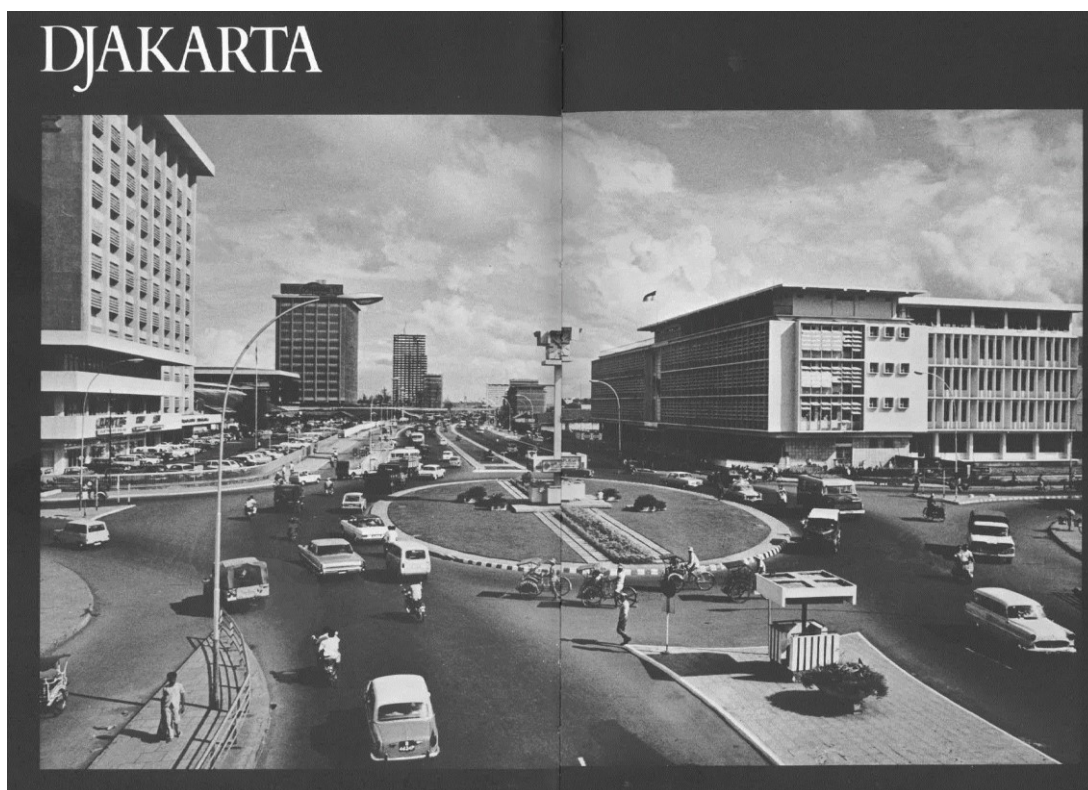
Photo, photo?

So many engagements with locals start in this way. It crosses language boundaries but provides space for a warm, welcoming and most of all memorable interaction.

Sunday is when you find groups of friends or family out and about in Jakarta and nowhere more so than Merdeka Square. Considered one of the largest squares in the world, measuring one square kilometre in area it takes a long time to cross the square as a visitor. It is Jakartans' popular destination for family reception.



Merdeka Square is the central square of the city with lawns, gardens and monuments, the most famous and recognisable of all is the so-called Monas - a 132-meter-high obelisk-looking structure.



Djakarta 1972

So, for visitors crossing this large square on a Sunday the encounter goes something like this: *walk twenty meters - stop - photo - photo smiles - where from?, Australia - more smiles - walk on*, until the scene repeats itself...and repeats itself...It was just one of those memorable afternoons out engaging with the locals.

Looking down from our hotel rooms at the Shangri La Hotel in Jakarta you couldn't help but take in the scene as modern, new Jakarta strangled out old, traditional Jakarta. Huge buildings towered over the poor neighbourhood below. It's a familiar story in developing countries when inner city land becomes a valuable commodity.



The village is a working, living place of small shacks and small shops selling for the needs of just this community. Little local things. Inexpensive things.

The mosque was impressive in relation to the poor village it supported and I wondered if it had been built by the developers surrounding the village as compensation for their land.



Cutting through the village was a small lane where we walked and interacted with the friendly and welcoming people who call this home.

And, once again one of a number of memorable encounters on our weekend out with the locals where smiles and photos are the universal language. Where we were welcomed into their village.

The only difference this time was that it was us who said:
Photo, photo?

A recent travel blog had a headline: **Why you should visit a Muslim country**
Travel to a Muslim country. Travel there now.

It was a very positive article on what travel to Muslim countries has to offer the traveller and the open-minded.

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Australians seem to have a problem. There's a disconnect here between the Islam we perceive - the scary Islam - and the one that really exists in countries like Indonesia. It's a misunderstanding, a fear of Muslim people driven as much by a handful of terrorists as a crisis-hungry media, and a general lack of knowledge of what this religion and its adherents are all about.

Travel to Indonesia, spend time there, walk the streets, have photos with the locals, eat the food, drink the coffee and very quickly you will begin to realise that this is not an enemy. Anyone who has travelled to Turkey, Iran or Central Asia will know what it's like to be welcomed. It's surprising and humbling, warm and friendly.

It changes the way you see the Muslim world. Islam isn't a cult of violence and aggression, but a culture of hospitality and warmth.

A Sunday out and about with the locals reinforced this for us.

TORAJA

Meg Pocock

The Toraja heartland is still a long way from anywhere. After flights from Yogyakarta to Makassar, and another from there to Palopo, and a long winding bus ride, the AIIA group arrived in Rantepau, in the heart of Toraja country. As our bus rattled and bounced up into the hills we were struck by the preponderance of bamboo and wood houses, the Tongkonan, with their distinctive bow-shaped roofs and their highly decorated gables, all in disciplined designs in brown, black, ochre and white, and all with the same north/south orientation - and, incongruously among them, a scattering of Christian churches.



Toraja in the highlands of Sulawesi, and seemingly produces nothing of value. It had been ignored by the Dutch, who had established trade with the Spice Islands from the seventeenth century. They were polytheistic animists with a highly structured society of nobles, commoners and slaves, based around rice growing and the breeding of buffalo and pigs.

But by the beginning of the twentieth century, with the growing influence of Islam among the Buginese and Makassarese, the Dutch saw in the Torajans a potential Christian balance. So, in the 1920's, the Dutch Reform Church, with the support of the government, became active. There was strong opposition at first, as the Dutch abolished the profitable slave trade and introduced taxes, which significantly reduced the power of the nobles. But after the Torajans were attacked by the Islamic lowlanders in the 1930's, and then again in 1950's and 60's, when Darul Islam separatists fought for an Islamic state in Sulawesi, there were massive Torajan converts to Christianity.

Our group was struck by what seemed to be a 'death culture' among the Torajans. We were privileged to see a small part of a four day death ceremony, with its dancing and chanting and the ritual slaughter of buffalo and pigs, and we saw the unique tombs of noble families, carved into cliff faces, with effigies of the dead gazing out from them, and other tombs carved into huge rocks, and huge memorial standing stones. We watched the elaborate carving of coffins, and buffalo heads to be used in the funeral ceremonies and the making of funeral effigies.

Elisabeth (right) stayed at home for six months after her death. We attended her funeral and gave the family 1200 cigarettes as a present.



And indeed, the rituals around death, traditionally only for noble families, are very important. The dead person is first regarded as 'having a headache', and usually wrapped in layers of cloth and kept in the middle of the traditional Tongkonan, until the funeral, which, being a very elaborate and expensive affair, and needing all of the family to be present, could be months or even years later.



Gifts for sacrifice with initials of donor sprayed onto the Buffalo. (This does not stand for Patrick Moore!)

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As we saw, a special ground is prepared, with traditional houses, shelters and rice barns, enough to accommodate the hundreds of expected guests. The funeral was arranged along a central space where the traditional dances, one for each part of the ceremony, took place. The chanting, and the recitation of gifts, and the slaughter of buffalo - the minimum number for anyone of consequence seems to be 24 - and pigs, and the distribution of the raw meat were all notable highlights at the ceremony. Cock fighting, and the spilling of the blood from at least three cocks, is part of the tradition too, and sometimes buffalo fighting. And then, with the minister in a black robe and a white dog collar, the whole thing is wrapped up with a traditional Christian burial service - which I saw, grainily transmitted on our resort television.

Although we were privy only to ceremonies around death, it seems that there had been equally elaborate rituals around life in the old 'aluk' or way of the ancestors. Indeed, the whole culture was one of opposites, light/dark, male/female, north/south, life/death. But it seems that the ceremonies that centred around life were considered too licentious by the missionaries, and banned!



Toraja Rock Burial in hollowed out chambers

Tourism became an important source of revenue for the Torajans in the 1980 's and '90's, but since the Bali bombings, tourism dropped right off. With its

UNESCO protected traditional villages and with its unique architecture and burials, its animist/Christian beliefs systems, and the friendliness of the people, it is doubtless that the Torajan Regency has some unique attractions. But without investment in infrastructure, particularly in roads, it is hard to see Toraja country as more than a boutique destination for the particularly adventurous traveller. Remittances sent from Torajans working elsewhere brings money into the area - and has also had the effect of breaking down the formerly rigid class barriers, as the new wealthy claim rights of the nobility.

The 2019 Indonesian Elections – A robust democracy

Scott Reid

Indonesian democracy has been typically described as an exemplary model for both eastern and western democratic systems. The general election on the 17th April 2019 was no exception. This was Indonesia's 4th presidential election and 12th legislative election. Traditionally both presidential and legislative elections have been held apart, however a 2013 Constitutional Court ruling saw the combination of both to increase voter participation. Comparatively, this proved immensely successful for a non-compulsory voting system with an 85% voter turnout. This occurred during a single day. Our closest neighbour holds the position of the 3rd largest democracy in the world, seeing 193 million voters participate in the world's biggest direct Presidential election ever.

Whilst travelling in the country we were exposed to this Indonesian love affair with democratic values. This is enshrined in the national philosophical theory of Pancasila, embedding pluralism and inclusion into the fabric of national discourse. Indonesian enthusiasm for democracy extends to expats outside of the country itself. 15,000 Indonesians cast their votes here in the Melbourne consulate, happily waiting hours on a weekday in lines spanning hundreds of metres.

The 2019 elections proved a challenging logistical operation. 245,000 candidates campaigned for 20,000 seats, 40% of which were women. A total of 805,000 polling stations housed around 7 million election workers, most working around the clock under intense work conditions. Exhaustion may have been a contributing factor to the widely publicised deaths of some of these electoral workers. It was reported that 425,000 military personnel and 443,000 police were banned from voting to safeguard impartiality and security during the event. The Indonesian military still plays a wider role in the country's political system.

Presidential incumbent Joko Widodo, also known as "Jokowi" sought re-election on economic and human development issues. The small business man turned mayor of Surakarta ran a similarly styled campaign to Obama's 2008 "Hope" campaign. Jokowi was said by many to have left a mixed legacy from unrealistic policy expectations. Facing allegations of being a liar, communist, Chinese and a Christian, Jokowi's running mate was senior Muslim cleric Ma'ruf Amin. Previously holding the position of chairman of the Ulema Council of Indonesia, (the world's largest Islamic organisation) Amin's involvement in the campaign was seen to cement Jokowi's Islamic credentials.

The Jokowi-Amin ticket faced former Army Lieutenant General Prabowo Subianto and former Jakarta vice governor Sandiaga Uno. Prabowo held ties to President Suharto and served in the Indonesian special forces group Kopassus, also serving as commander of Kostrad – the main warfare combat unit of the Indonesian Army. Although not a radical himself, Prabowo did not shy away from the support of radicals. Prabowo was banned from entering the United States for alleged human rights abuses. His running mate Sandiaga Uno provides a modernising contrast. The George Washington-graduate turned businessman (estimated net worth of US\$460 million) turned politician, was the youngest of Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates. He reported to personally having spent

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US\$100 million on the campaign. The Prabowo- Subianto campaign slogan read 'just and prosperous Indonesia' and 'Indonesia triumphs'. Both were unfortunately implicated in the Panama Papers scandal.

With regards to the Presidential election, some might say that this year's election was simply a rematch of the 2014 election. This is not correct, this election was fought on economic infrastructure, rising Islamic conservatism and reduction of wide-scale corruption. With over two-fifths of the population on social media and 90 million citizens under the age of 30 – the smartphone became a key election device. Hoax news facilitated through WhatsApp proved a security concern with Indonesian government officials holding weekly meetings to combat citizen created political disinformation.

After months of debate, the election results were announced on the dawn of the 21st of May. Prabowo dominated much of West Sumatra with an overall 68 million votes, Jokowi however won the election decisively with 85 million votes. In similar fashion to the 2014 Presidential election, Prabowo mounted an appeal for the election results in the Constitutional Court of Indonesia. On the 27th June 2019, the Court unanimously rejected the Prabowo legal challenge.

The next 2024 election holds no apparent or current heir. The constitutional limit of Widodo to two Presidential terms will see a new figure rise within the incumbent 'Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle'. Local institutions do not have the capacity to deliver infrastructure for Jokowi's growth aspirations, foreign investment will prove crucial. Prabowo and the 'Great Indonesia Movement Party' will also need to adapt organically to these demands if they wish to actualise the full potential of Indonesian economic growth. For the moment, we look forward to the inauguration for Indonesia's incoming President and Vice President scheduled for October 20th 2019.

Indonesia – Australia Relations: The role of education

Zahn Gane – 2019

As Indonesia continues to grow economically, and in population, its demand for qualified workers will also continue to grow. In order to sustain such growth and achieve its 7% growth goal, Indonesia must acknowledge the importance of tertiary education. Indonesia currently has around 3000 registered and legitimate universities/higher education facilities, and a variety of semi-formal training centres for the likes of trades, languages, and agriculture.

The first issue for the education sector is to increase its administration capacity and national consistency. This includes attendance and enrolment at universities, which is significantly low (currently under 10 million/ about 5.5 percent of the population). It must also acknowledge the lack of national consistency in courses, grading, and entry requirements.

The second area Indonesia must focus on is seeking to encourage and develop a greater level of international student programs. Indonesia must be striving to send students abroad to study, primarily in South East Asia and Australia (Currently a difficult task with minimal participation). Furthermore, Indonesia must also encourage international students to study at its universities, from the same region it sends students to. Establishing international educational bi-lateral relationships has demonstrated great potential, especially over long periods of time. It provides opportunity for economic growth, fostering relations, and developing the Australasian region all together. For Indonesia – Australia relations to prosper, education must very much be on the agenda.

Administration and Consistency:

Currently one of the greatest difficulties for Indonesian tertiary education is the lack of administration capacity and national consistency. The administrative element reflects the ability (or difficulty) for students to register, enrol, and attend universities. Common consensus amongst students suggests the processes are extremely difficult, clunky, and lack organization and efficiency. In many cases the means of selecting classes, payment for courses, and the physical facilities are poor (by comparison to Western universities). This is also reflected in attitudes of teachers and lecturers who lack clear understanding of requirements and structured curriculum. While this is not the case for every university, it is a widely reoccurring issue. This correlates with a second major issue, the lack of national consistency.

Indonesia through its relaxed and diverse culture lacks an applied national framework. This framework acts as a standard for ensuring consistency in teaching and graduate skills output. Universities (as in Australia), must be accountable to a set of requirements which ensures students are subject to the same standards and challenges while also having access to the same opportunities. This includes the requirements for core units which achieve similar learning outcomes for each course, providing a minimum set of skills and theory any graduate will achieve.

Assessment and examination conditions must also be consistent to ensure graduates have both the same opportunity and can equally compete for jobs based on merit, not on conditions or quality of the university. A further issue is raised in being able to monitor and track student performance and growth, reflective of the administration issue. Currently, it is estimated that 22% of all students 'enrolled' are no longer attending/have 'dropped out'. Data on students and education is therefore skewed and inaccurate. Finally, Indonesia must look towards more thoroughly regulating universities and dealing with 'illegitimate/fake' universities. This refers to the presence of organizations and institutions claiming to be a university without being registered and nationally or internationally recognised. This provides 'graduates' who are less skilled (through lower quality education) and unrecognised qualifications.

International Student Programs:

There must also be significant increase in Indonesian student exchange. Student exchange in today's world is a vital component of becoming a 'globally connected' state. The next generation must have exposure to the outside world to realize the potential, and of course foster relations. The two components which must be considered are firstly the role of international students studying within Indonesia, and the second being the importance of allowing Indonesian students to study abroad (perhaps the more difficult of the two). Both actions result in tremendous value to both Indonesia

and the country it is engaging with. Immediate and long-term value is evident in both cases from young friendships evolving into international trade deals.

a) International students to Indonesia

Currently, there is an average of 6,000 international students per year studying in Indonesia. Majority of these students are from Singapore, Malaysia, and of course, Australia, as well as a variety from Europe and North America. International students provide a variety of benefits to the host country, the first aspect is the role it plays on fostering Australian – Indonesian relations. One international student in a rural university has the capacity to influence a vast amount of people, even without consciously doing so. The presence of an International student identifies the university's connection to the international sphere, it reaffirms the quality of the university to existing students and inspires cross-cultural relations. Furthermore, whilst a clear majority may never leave Indonesia, a foreign student still provides an opportunity (primarily in rural settings) for the community to engage with a foreign culture. The economic value is also visible with the tuition fees paid by foreign students being returned to the Indonesian economy, this is not to mention other spending such as accommodation and education resources. Exchange programs provide the same benefits to both countries participating whilst allowing youth to travel and develop a 'worldly' mindset. These attitudes are reflected long after the student returns home and provides incentive for further relations and travel, thus promoting a positive image of the host country.

b) Indonesian students studying abroad

Whilst it is currently a difficult process for Indonesian students to study in Australia (primarily due to expansive visas, upfront university fees, and cost of living), there is a great deal of potential. Indonesian students studying abroad, primarily in Australia, have the capacity to foster elaborate and rich relationships with Australian students. The next generation of policy makers, economists, and advisors are currently engaging with a vast horizon of foreign students, yet very few are Indonesian. Given the population of Indonesia, it is quite an achievement in some respects to leave the country, yet alone for students to do so. Students of Indonesia studying in Australia are likely to pursue a successful career, and in the current world that very much relies on some form of international cooperation.

Indonesia's proximity and trade relations suggest there will be continuous relations economically and socially with Australia. This will prosper through educated and aware individuals who have experienced and valued time in the other country respectively. In order for Australia to become more accessible to Indonesia changes must also be made. Currently the cost of visas and admin fees is drastically disproportioned to that of Indonesia. For instance, to travel to Indonesia for a holiday requires no visa at all for less than 30 days, while to come to Australia requires elaborate applications and is an expensive process. Although immigration policy must be thorough and firm, it is perhaps time to reconsider the procedures and systems used, especially regarding students studying in Australia.

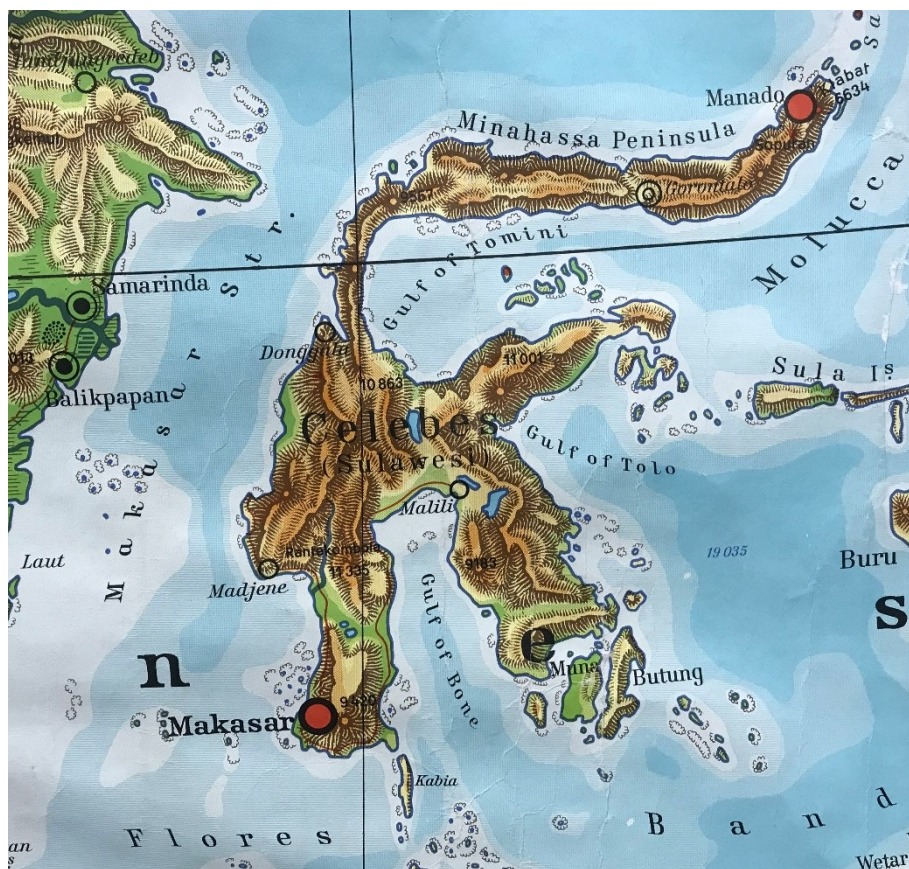
Education for Indonesia is a significant both long term domestic development and establishing itself as a significant member of the international community. Bilateral student relationships between Indonesia and Australia serve a range of benefits, primarily in fostering relations and economic growth. Indonesia holds a great deal of potential and to realize such capacity it must refine its education sector to efficiently accommodate its population, whilst encouraging international participation.

Architecture of Indonesia

Peter Clements

Crossing the Archipelago – from Jakarta to Sulawesi via Yogyakarta.

From the big smoke of Jakarta, via the cultural attractions of Yogyakarta (which included the Kraton Royal Palace and the Malioboro Road night market) and the highlights of the Borobudur and Prambanan temples, our AIIA tour group flew into Makassar. A city located on the island of Sulawesi (the sprawling one that looks like a letter K, formerly known as The Celebes). Makassar is a bustling regional hub for Sulawesi and outlying islands with a densely built-up old town core of three to four storey shophouses, with a few skyscraper international hotels and a whole street of gold jewellery shops stretching three city blocks.



In the centre of old Makassar town lies Fort Rotterdam, constructed in 1673 by the Dutch as a walled garrison complex, from where both military and government administration of the region was conducted until the 1930s. From the Swiss-Bel Hotel tower we overlooked a newly reclaimed island in the bay, the Citraland Waterfront CBD, with the grand new 99 domed “Floating Mosque” holding pride of place overlooking the old town beyond. To accommodate this expansion of the CBD, the existing port facilities are being moved around the bay to a new location where they will be expanded fourfold. Currently the mosque shares the island with only a large Conference Centre, but many multi-storey office and residential buildings are planned for what will become a docklands precinct. Across the bay

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the mosque overlooks the lively promenade night market along the foreshore known by locals as “The World’s Longest Table” (similar to East Coast Park in Singapore.)

Amongst other architectural landmarks we discovered in the centre of Makassar was the Sacred Heart Cathedral and the art deco Harmonie Society Arts Building built in 1896, on Jalan Riburane. Nearby, and not to be missed, is Holland Bakery, with a delicious range of European-inspired pastries and local desserts – advertised by a rotating Dutch windmill overhead, of course.

Not far out of town we visited Hasanuddin University, which is hosting the RISE program in partnership with Monash University. The RISE program conducts research on how to monitor and improve the health and environments of informal (slum) settlements. The RISE acronym stands for “Revitalising Informal Settlements and their Environments. RISE conducts randomised trials being conducted across twelve villages in Indonesia and another twelve in Suva, Fiji. The program monitors mosquitoes, water quality and other disease vectors in each village, while employing a fully equipped blood analysis laboratory to improve adult and children’s health.

Being a port town, Makassar hosts a fleet of aging “phinisi” timber merchant ships that conduct inter-island trade through the smooth waters of the archipelago, carrying the essentials of Indonesian life – rice, cooking oil and 40kg bags of cement. These boats were originally sailing vessels, but are now mostly diesel powered. The town displays a quiet confidence, and combined with the lack of pollution and reasonable population levels, plus a host of recently constructed nickel smelters in Central Sulawesi, the economy at first glance appears to be growing steadily.

Before heading off to the highlands of Tana Toraja, we visited 40,000-year-old rock art at Maros and Leang Timpuseng and enjoyed the Bantimurung waterfalls in the countryside not far from Makassar city.

Departing from the modern Hasanuddin Airport in Makassar, we flew northwards over Sulawesi for one hour to the coastal town of Palopo, where we disembarked at the modest yet brand-new airport terminal. Loading into a bus, we quickly passed through the lowlands of Palopo town, with many brightly coloured domes on the mosques, for a two-hour journey up a windy road into the misty mountains of Toraja where a Christian-animist culture predominates.

Arriving in the highlands base-camp town of Rantepao, being the centre of the Torajan people, we quickly discovered the elaborate Tonkongan traditional houses and smaller rice barns. They were spaced out regularly alongside the roads passing through the mountain valleys and interspersed between luminescent green rice paddy fields. Locals are taking the initiative and opening more hotels and restaurants, in the traditional style, to cater for the growing number of tourists exploring this amazing culture. Both the elaborate Tongkonan houses and the smaller rice barns are both built on the same principle of being raised on

smooth palm tree columns to prevent rats climbing up into the structures. The most striking feature however of these timber and thatch structures are the twin prow-like structures cantilevering out and upwards from each end. They form a distinctive saddleback roofline reminiscent of both water buffalo horns and traditional phinisi sailing boats from the lowlands. It appears that as the lowland people migrated up into the hill country, they continued their boat building skills to craft the elaborate facades while incorporating high-status buffalo symbols into the structure, both literally and symbolically. Some of the most high-status tongkanan houses are additionally situated around megalithic stone circles from an even older culture, reminiscent of Stone Henge.

We were also privileged to experience a traditional Torajan funeral ceremony, where many water buffalo and pigs are slaughtered to feed the whole community. Funeral ceremonies with more buffaloes are given higher status, with the highest status reserved for burial in elaborately carved coffins inside special Tongkanan funerary houses or beneath open-air rock shelters. Other smaller graves are carved into niches in rock faces with beautifully carved timber doorways decorated with paintings of buffalo and rooster symbols. In some locations, graves are additionally guarded by carved 'tau-tau' statues representing the buried ancestors, the statues looking down from the rock faces alongside the grave doors.

As we departed the Torajan high country and returned to Makassar via Palopo, and subsequently travelled home through Bali, we could only wonder at the vast variety of cultures and environments to be experienced across Indonesia. A common understanding was shared that we had only touched the surface of this vast archipelago only hours flight from Australia.

Indonesia has another challenge

Kris Cant

Hotels can tell you a lot about their surroundings!

The Hyatt Hotel the delegation stayed in in Yogyakarta had reception rooms named after several of Indonesia's volcanoes. Our breakfast meeting with the Australian Consul from Surabaya, Chris Barnes, was named Agung with the Merapi room next door.

The challenge is great in Indonesia, home to 127 volcanoes - more than half of which must be continuously monitored for activity.

"The truth is that the chain of volcanoes in the Sunda Islands of Indonesia, from Sumatra through Java and Bali to Timor, constitutes the most dangerous of the world's tectonic interfaces" Professor Anthony Reid wrote in October on New Mandala, an Australian National University website.

Reid noted that Indonesia had a mild 20th century in seismic terms, and warned that things might be changing. 'The 21st century has in its first decade already far exceeded the number of casualties from ... the whole 20th century' in Indonesia, he said.

The massive death toll largely comes down to one event. Triggered by a magnitude 9.2 earthquake off northern Sumatra, the third-largest in history, the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004 was the deadliest ever recorded. The province of Aceh alone saw tremendous loss of life and damage with Australians and the Australian government giving unparalleled assistance.



The Indonesian archipelago is located amid four major tectonic plates making it the world's most earth-quake prone region. Australians will be familiar with two of the recent volcanic eruptions, that in 2010 when Mount Merapi, Indonesia's most active volcano erupted forcing about 410,000 people to evacuate beyond 10km and Mount Agung in 2017 that disrupted flights and dampened tourism on the island of Bali.

The first time a volcano truly made world news is well-known, as 1883 is often referred to as the 'day the world exploded'. The eruption of Krakatoa, just off the coast in the Sunda Strait, west of Java was heard as far away as Australia and reportedly generated the loudest sound ever heard in modern history. Most of the 35,000 killed at the time were victims of the tsunamis it created.

A look below Indonesia would reveal lots of shifting and colliding plates. Both of Indonesia's most active volcanoes - Kelt and Merapi sit on Java island and both have a history of explosive eruptions.

After Krakatoa exploded in 1883 it was completely unrecognisable to those who had survived the devastation or knew it as a recognisable landmark for sea navigation. Gone. But it wasn't finished. Anak-Krakatoa, referred to as Indonesia's angry Child of Krakatoa, the small island-mountain, which had been born out of the sea forty years after the very explosion that destroyed and vaporised its parent, was now itself growing fast, thrusting upwards at an extraordinary rate.

Until its 2018 collapse, Anak Krakatoa grew at an astonishing 13 cm per week on average since the 1950's, equating to an average growth of 6.8m per year.

An eruption of the volcano on 22 December 2018 caused a deadly tsunami. The disaster agency put the tsunami's death toll as 437, with 14,059 injured. According to an index of eruptions in the 21st century this makes Anak-Krakatoa the deadliest volcanic eruption of the 21st century.

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Analysts have commented on the government's preparedness and response to these disasters. But among the public, elements of faith have been intertwined into explanations of destruction. For example: A 2018 earthquake in Central Sulawesi left two mosques standing - while others were decimated - sparking debate over the nature of divine intervention.

In private comments on Facebook, people have asserted that the mosques survived because of the mystical power of the saints who 'guard' these mosques.



These comments have revealed tensions between what people refer to as 'old Islam' and 'reformist Islam'.

Whether in direct response to these events or as a way of coping with their consequences, many Indonesians often react to the unpredictability of the natural world with a 'wait and see' attitude.

While not a uniquely Indonesian concept, its prevalence throughout the archipelago affects both natural disaster planning and environmental conservation. When all is predestined, what is the point in planning for the changing natural world, or acknowledging that humans have a role in protecting it?

MACAN MUSEUM

Rosie McCormack

The Delegation visited the Modern & Contemporary Art in Nusantara or Museum X. (MACAN). Macan is the Javanese word for tiger.

Museum MACAN is the only museum in Indonesia where you can see legendary contemporary works of arts by Andy Warhol, Mark Rothko, Jeff Koontz, and visiting large-scale exhibitions of artists such as Yayoi Kusama

Museum Macan has recently been included in the 'World's 100 Greatest Places' released by Time Magazine.

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Our visit to Macan confirmed visually, all information presented at early meetings in Jakarta - the process of democratization, the struggles of ethnic minorities such as the Chinese and changes in day to day living. The group was escorted by several curators to glimpse three current exhibitions addressing important milestones of social history where there was a focus on political freedom and free speech.

Though all works were uniquely Indonesian, influences of western art & media were observed.

1. *Dunia dalam Berita* celebrated works by 10 of the country's recognized contemporary artists

Agus Suwage (b. 1959), FX Harsono (b. 1949), Heri Dono (b. 1960), I GAK Murniasih (1966-2006), I Nyoman Masriadi (b. 1973), Krisna Murti (b. 1957), Mella Jaarsma (b. 1960), S. Teddy D. (1970-2016), Taring Padi (est. 1998), and Tisna Sanjaya (b. 1958).



The poignancy of the title can be translated '*The World in News*' after a popular Indonesian news program running since 1973.

The exhibition explores the emergence of contemporary art preceding and following Indonesia's political reformation in 1998 including the influence of globalized popular culture in Indonesia via Internet, media and International travel.

2. *Matter and Place* features installations by local and international artists. The themes explore the varied relationship between people and place and forge understanding of identity within Indonesia. Works address colonization, displacement, immigration and transportation.

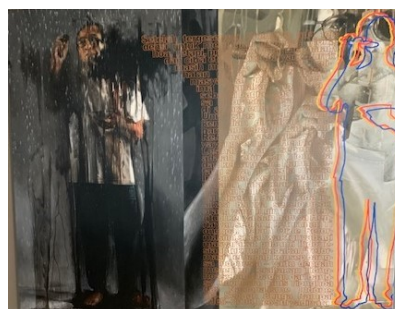


'Elevation' Andra Matin prominent Indonesian architect, architectural installation originally presented at 2018 Venice Architecture Biennale.

'Wipe Out' by FX Harsono 2011

This work represents personal experience of an artist of Chinese descent where in 1967 ethnic minorities were encouraged to change their Chinese names to Indonesian names to support the nation and push character building within Indonesia.

It is a powerful work depicting the artist mid performance. The right-side quotes Leo Suryadinata a sinologist stating that despite Suharto's resignation as President, the negative image of Chinese Indonesians within Indonesian society still exists. FX Harsono depicts his own struggle for identity in a place that he calls home.



3. *Figurative works by Jeihan Sukmantoro (b.1938) painter and poet*

The portraits of this expressionistic figurative painter are of family and neighbors created from the 1960s and 70s, around his home in Cicadas E. Bandung, W. Java. It is a lower socio-economic area, densely populated, notorious for prostitution and petty crime.



Jeihan's house became a communal space as neighbors gathered to watch his television in the '70s – one of the first in the area. His signature black eyes in many of his portraits may have coincided with the coup attempt-and refer to the communist party's failed coup attempt that ultimately led to rise of General Suharto.

Collection includes

Cai Guo Qiang *Ascending* (2002) Gunpowder and ink on paper

(Artist exhibiting at Melbourne Winter Masters NGV (July-August 2019))

The space was modern, open, edgy and equipped with all accompaniments of a contemporary arts space - Public programs, Education Programs, interactive children's programs, sculpture garden and designer shop.



The Museum totally connected through social media – Facebook, twitter and as website. Museum MACAN opened in 2017 and its growing collection focuses on Contemporary art from Indonesia as well as Internationally. It is the first museum of its kind in Indonesia. **Jakarta** boasts a bustling art scene scattered all over the city - State owned museums, privately owned galleries, and avant-garde contemporary spaces.

Our home coming welcomed an exhibition at NGA 'Contemporary Worlds,' further highlighting the recent political changes of our near neighbor.

"A work of art is a scream of freedom" – Christo, Bulgarian artist

Artists don't create society, they reflect it - Ben Elton

Indonesian Media

Scott Reid and Meg Pocock

The manner in which the Indonesian media operates was an issue of significant interest to the delegation.

Since the advent of democracy in Indonesia, the media has become a genuine Fourth Estate. Most of the New Order newspapers continue to function and grow. Television conglomerates (many with links to politicians) are now household names. Indonesia is one of the most active social media societies in Asia --even allowing for its large population

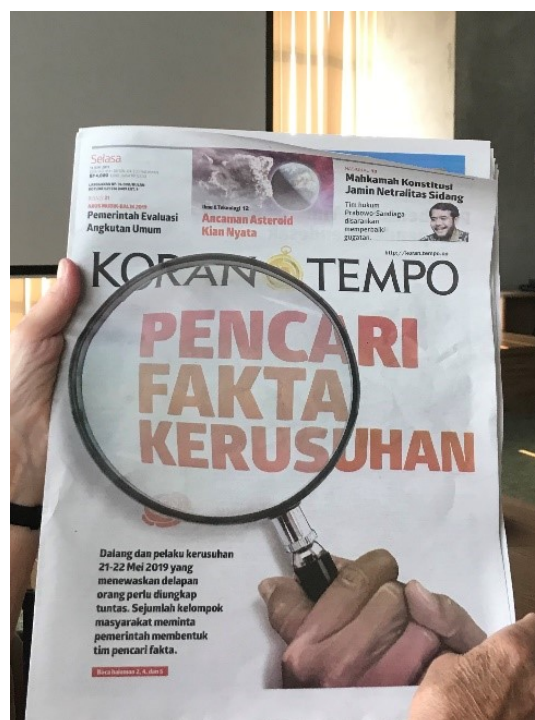
The embassy was good enough to arrange media briefing involving with Tempo and its senior staff. It has a circulation of 300,000 and an increasing digital platform. It has had an English language edition since 2000.

Tempo has played an important role in the development of free and fearless investigative journalism in Indonesia. Founded in 1971, Tempo was officially banned by President Suharto in 1994 for four years. In 1995 it re-emerged as an underground movement, with stories downloaded, printed and passed around by students.

From 1998 when the ban was lifted the magazine had to start from scratch with both production plant and journalists. It publishes both English language and Indonesian editions.

Tempo has five equal shareholders who are not aligned with any political party, and its independence is an overarching value. Their journalists collaborate with local media from all over Indonesia on investigative journalism, and they publish together. This is not without risks. Nine journalists have been murdered in remote areas including West Papua and Kalimantan, for writing such stories as conflict

between a palm oil company and locals over land acquisitions.



Tempo has published investigations into the Indonesian #MeToo movement (witnesses specifically choosing Tempo), cases of female genital mutilation and consults with the largely underground LGBTQI community on related journalistic matters.

As a result, Tempo has faced considerable difficulties in its reporting duties. This includes harassment from the Islamic Defenders Front, fire-bombing of headquarters amid investigations into police corruption.

Indonesian Unicorns

It was most interesting to discuss Indonesian Unicorns. A few were mentioned in our discussions. In many ways they replicate the Unicorns of the USA in that they are essentially platforms without any assets.

The growth in Unicorns reflects the fact that Indonesia does have talent as well as a receptive market into which services can be provided.

GoJek

Established in 2010 as a motorcycle ride-hailing phone service in Indonesia, GOJEK has since evolved to provide on-demand transport and lifestyle services that move the city.

Equipped with a social mission to improve the welfare and livelihoods of workers in various informal sectors, GOJEK partners say that since joining the platform, they have seen their earnings increase and have reached more customers through our app. They also have access to health and accident covers, financial services and insurance, as well as affordable automatic payments and many other benefits.

GOJEK now operates in over 50 cities across Southeast Asia, with more to follow in the coming years.

The 3 GO-JEK Pillars

1. Speed -
Our service is fast, and they continually learn and grow from experience.
2. Innovation
They work hard to continuously improve their services, so that they provide more ease for users.
3. Social Impact
They work to create as much positive social impact as possible for GOJEK users.

Mission

They are an Indonesian start-up with a social mission – to improve social welfare by ensuring efficiency in the market. With their technology, they strive to spread positive social impact by increasing the earnings of GOJEK partners and ensuring a better standard of living for themselves as well as their families.

Around the Region

GOJEK first established its international footprint in 2018 when the Indonesian first 'Unicorn' company entered Vietnam, followed by Singapore, Thailand and The Philippines. Driven by the spirit of spreading positive social impacts through technology, GOJEK's expansion aims to improve the quality of life of their customers by ensuring efficiency in each market and to be the solution of every day's frustration.

Pre-Study Tour Briefing Notes

Background Information

1. Map of Indonesia – DFAT Travel Advice
2. Religions in Indonesia
3. EIU Indonesia Fact Sheet (October 2018)
4. Indonesia General Information (December 2018)
5. General Facts about Indonesia – Telstra Presentation

Australia and Indonesia

1. DFAT – Bilateral Relations
2. Indonesia Australia – CEPA Trade Agreement
3. Indonesia Calling (Australian Foreign Affairs)
4. Asleep at the Wheel (PwC Presentation by Andrew Parker at the AIIA)

Culture and History in Indonesia

1. Timeline of Indonesia: 1670 onwards (BBC News)
2. UNESCO Sites in Indonesia and Maros Rock Art
3. Your Invitation to the Afterlife (Toraja)
4. 40,000-Year-Old Rock Art (Brumm & Aubert)
5. Ice Age Art reveals an ancient symbol culture (Brumm & Langley)
6. South Sulawesi
7. Sulawesi Fauna

Education in Indonesia

1. Joel Backwell (Victorian Department of Education)
2. Monash University Partnership with UNHAS on Sustainable Development Goals
3. Australian Education in Indonesia (Eugene Sebastian)
4. Australian G8 Universities

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Indonesian Internal Affairs

1. Joko Widodo – The Modest Reformer (The Economist)
2. Is Indonesia heading towards a Militarised Democracy (CSIS)
3. Is Indonesia's 'Era Reformasi' Over? (Tim Lindsey)
4. Refugees in Transit – Jakarta Post

Indonesian Foreign Policy

1. Australian Outlook – Indonesia's Expanding Horizons
2. China's Educational Expansion in Indonesia
3. What will Indonesia's Foreign Policy in Jokowi's Second Term Look Like?
4. Indonesia's Elections: The Foreign Policy challenges that await
5. Indonesia Election: China's complicated role in the country's future



South Sulawesi is very rich in rice fields

Meetings with High-level Interlocuters

Dr M Chatib Basri

Co-Founder and Senior Partner of CRECO Consulting and Research, Former Finance Minister of the Republic of Indonesia

Mr Chris Barnes

Australian Consul-General in Surabaya

Dr Adrian Budiman

Resident Director of the Australian Consortium for In-Country Indonesian Studies (ACICIS)

CAUSINDY

Alumni of the Conference of Australian and Indonesian Youth

Dr Fitriyanty and Ruzka Taruq

Coordinators and Assessment Team Leaders at the Office of Revitalising Informal Settlement and their Environment Rise (RISE), University of Hasanuddin

HE Dr Sri Mulyani Indrawati

Minister for Finance of the Republic of Indonesia

Ms Megan Jones

Deputy Head of Australian Mission to ASEAN

Ms Jenny Mathews

WA Government Commissioner

Mr Brett Stevens

Commissioner for Victoria to South-East Asia

Prof Kuntoro Mangkusubroto

Founder and Chairman of School of Advisory Council, School of Business and Management, Bandung Institute of Technology

Mr Richard Mathews

Australian-Consul General in Makassar

Dr RM Marty M Natalegawa

Former Foreign Minister of the Republic of Indonesia

Prof Dr Dewi Fortuna Anwar

Research Centre for Politics at the Indonesian Institute of Sciences

HE Mr Gary Quinlan AO and HE Mr Allaster Cox

Australian Ambassador and Deputy Ambassador to Indonesia

Dr Solahuddin

Co-Director of the Institute for Policy Analysis of Conflict

Dr. Aminuddin Syam

Dean of the Faculty of Public Health at the University of Hasanuddin

Mr Hamzah Thayeb

President of the Indonesia-Australia Business Council

Ms Lydia Trotter

First Secretary of Public Diplomacy moderated a Media Roundtable with local Senior Editors

Mr Jusuf Wanandi

Co-Founder of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies

Lieutenant General (Ret) Agus Widjojo

Governor of the National Resilience Institute (Lemhanas)

HE Dr Hassan Wirajuda

Co-Founder of the Indonesian School of Government and Public Policy, Former Foreign Minister of the Republic of Indonesia

Mr Arif Zulkifli

Editor-in-Chief of TEMPO Magazine

List of Delegates

Jim Anderson

Bachelor of Business (Accounting) (Tasmanian College of Advances Education)

Prof Jean Beaumont

BA (Hons) (University of Adelaide), PhD (Kings College, London)

Kristine Cant

Diploma of Teaching (Macquarie University), Grad. Dip. Teacher Librarian
(Queensland University of Technology)

Brendan Caughey

BAppEc/BPolitics&IntlRel (University of Canberra)

Peter Clements

BA (Architecture) (University of Melbourne)

Stuart Coppock

BA LLB (University of Sydney), MBA (University of New England), LLM (University of
NSW), MA Tax (University of NSW)

Margaret Drury

BA (University of Sydney)

Barry Fox

LLB (University of Adelaide)

Judy Friend OAM

BA (University of Sydney)

John Fullerton

BA LLB (University of Melbourne)

Emily Gadaleta

BA (Notre Dame), MA Public Policy (University of Sydney)

Zahn Gane

BA (Deakin University), MA International Relations (Monash University)

Dean Georgakopoulos

B. Com (Finance)/BA (Monash University), MA International Relations (University of
Melbourne)

John Goodlad

BA LLB (University of Melbourne), MA International Law (ANU)

William Holder

BA LLB (Hons) (University of Melbourne), LLM (Yale University), Diploma of International Law (The Hague)

Jonathan Hooper

MBBS (University of Melbourne), FRCS (UK), FRCS, Ed, FRACS, FA (OrthA)

Sue Kimpton

BA (RMIT), BA (Monash University)

John McCarthy AO FAIIA

MA LLB (Cantab)

Rosemary McCormack

Nursing and Midwifery

Ray Miles

Dip. Civil Engineering (Monash University), CPEng, FIEAust

Patrick Moore

MA (Cantab) (Economics and Law)

Meg Pocock

BA (University of New England)

Jeanette Richards

BSocSc (Curtin University)

Scott Reid

BA (University of Melbourne)

Jim Short

B. Com BA, MA Commerce (University of Melbourne)

Georgia Smith

BA Law/ BA International Studies (Indonesian) (Deakin University)

Ross Stewart

Diploma of Civil Engineering, (Caulfield Institute of Technology), CPEng, RPEQ, MIE Aust

Busy Meetings



Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Professor Kuntoro Mangkusubroto



Tempo



Lieutenant General (Ret) Agus Widjojo



Earnest Discussions