



Press Release

Local solutions to improve education quality explored at Temu INOVASI forum in Jakarta

Jakarta, 28 November 2018 – The Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture's Research and Development Agency (Balitbang), in collaboration with the Innovation for Indonesia's School Children (INOVASI), an Australia – Indonesia education partnership program, today held the fourth 'Temu INOVASI' education forum in Jakarta. Hosted in the Ministry of Education and Culture's Graha Meeting Room, the event was attended by more than 200 provincial and national stakeholders from Indonesia's education sector. This included teachers, principals, supervisors, government officials, and representatives from education institutions and organisations seeking to improve educational quality.

Head of the Ministry of Education and Culture's Research and Development Agency, Totok Suprayitno, explained in his opening remarks that, "Temu INOVASI is a platform for exchanging ideas, and sharing good and promising practices to improve student learning outcomes carried out in various regions in Indonesia. It is expected that the various practices showcased today from NTB, NTT, North Kalimantan and East Java will not only stop at schools that participate in INOVASI pilots, but can also be scaled-out and create a snowball effect in other locations."

Held in commemoration of National Teacher's Day (Sunday 25th November), the Temu INOVASI forum featured speakers from all four INOVASI partner provinces, namely West Nusa Tenggara, East Nusa Tenggara, North Kalimantan and East Java. These presenters, including both teachers and local government representatives, shared promising education practices, inspirational stories and their experiences working to overcome learning and teaching challenges in the classroom, particularly related to early grade literacy, numeracy and inclusive education.

Said INOVASI's Program Director, Mark Heyward, "at today's Temu INOVASI gathering, we are fortunate to hear from a range of stakeholders across all four INOVASI partner provinces. There is much to learn from their discussion, and promising practices at the classroom level. The topics explored today are incredibly relevant as we continue to find ways to strengthen educational quality in Indonesia, including in post-earthquake affected North Lombok."

Currently, more than 40 pilots are either underway or starting across INOVASI's seventeen partner districts. These pilots are finding out what does and doesn't work to improve learning outcomes in areas like basic literacy and numeracy, socially inclusive education, transition from mother tongue to Indonesian, school leadership, and multi grade schooling.

"Indonesia and Australia have been working together for many years to strengthen the education system in Indonesia. We believe that educational quality is of great importance to Indonesia, contributing directly to economic growth and a competitive workforce. With improvements to quality education, we can see real progress for Indonesia's human development. The INOVASI program is an important partnership between the governments of Australia and Indonesia," said Fleur Davis, Minister Counsellor for Governance and Human Development from the Australian Embassy in Jakarta.

In addition to the Temu INOVASI interactive education talk show, which discussed locally relevant solutions and practices to education challenges, and local government support and policies, an education exhibition was held throughout the day. Teachers from INOVASI's partner districts were excited to demonstrate their learning media and ideas.

In the afternoon, an ideas 'pitch' market place was held. Participants were able to hear more on three topics relevant to improving quality education: learning innovations, school based management and education policy. Speakers in the market place session came from a variety of education institutions and organisations, including UNICEF, World Bank, RISE (SMERU), PSPK, Tanoto Foundation, Technical Assistance for Education Systems Strengthening (TASS), Muhammadiyah, Ma'arif NU, INOVASI, and selected INOVASI government partners from NTB and East Java.

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For further information about the INOVASI program, visit the website at www.inovasi.or.id and Facebook page <https://facebook.com/InovasiPendidikanAIP/>.