

## **Local solutions to improve education quality explored at Temu INOVASI forum in Batu City, East Java**

**Batu, 2 May 2019** – In collaboration with the Batu City government, the Innovation for Indonesia's School Children (INOVASI) program today held a 'Temu INOVASI' education forum at Gajah Mada Sports Center in Batu City.

Held in celebration of National Education Day (Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019), the event was an opportunity to recognise Batu City as a 'Literacy City', and showcased INOVASI's program implementation and promising education practices. Batu is one of five INOVASI partner districts/cities in East Java. Other partners include Sidoarjo, Pasuruan, Sumenep, and Probolinggo.

More than 250 participants attended today's Temu INOVASI, including various educators, government officials, community members and partners. Attendees were able to view a range of interactive education exhibitions during the day, featuring innovative learning materials from teachers and principals. Student works were also on display, helping spark conversation and discussion around the importance of creating a more literate younger generation in Batu City.

INOVASI's engagement with Batu City began in 2017, through an education innovations stock take. The results of the stock take, which identified promising education practices across East Java, highlighted strong principal leadership and potential at Punten 1 and SDN Sumbergondo 2 primary schools in Batu. Building on the results of this stock take and mapping study, it was decided that INOVASI pilots in Batu would focus on leadership and learning and literacy learning outcomes. In Batu, INOVASI is also partnering with Kolaborasi Literasi Bermakna (KLB) to implement an early grade literacy pilot.

Three sub-districts are participating in INOVASI pilots, including Batu, Junrejo and Bumiaji. Partner schools include 4 primary school working group clusters and 11 madrasah school working group clusters.

In the future, it is hoped that the results from the pilots will be shared with many other schools, teachers and principals across East Java.

Said INOVASI's Communications Manager, Stephanie Carter, "at today's Temu INOVASI gathering, we are fortunate to hear from a range of stakeholders. 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 and literacy learning outcomes in Batu City."

The Mayor of Batu also spoke positively about the event. "Batu City would like to thank the INOVASI team, who have worked together with the Batu City government to help us become not just a tourist city, but also a strong education city. We are committed to seeing Batu City becoming a Literacy City. INOVASI is helping us put into action the Mayor Regulation Number 93 2018, which confirms Batu City as a Literacy City."

## **About INOVASI**

Innovation for Indonesian School Children (INNOVATION) is a partnership program between the Australian and Indonesian Governments and aims to improve the quality of education at the primary school level. Working directly with the Ministry of Education and Culture (Kemendikbud) and the Ministry of Religious Affairs, INOVASI seeks to understand ways to improve student learning outcomes in diverse schools across Indonesia, especially when it comes to literacy and numeracy learning outcomes. The implementation of the program is carried out in 17 districts across West Nusa Tenggara, East Nusa Tenggara, North Kalimantan and East Java provinces.

Implementation in East Java began with an education mapping and stock take study at the end of 2017, in order to identify strong practices in basic education in East Java. The study found 165 promising practices in the fields of literacy, numeracy and inclusion. The 27 strongest practices were then explored in more depth and displayed at the East Java provincial Temu INOVASI forum on April 26, 2018, attended by the then East Java Governor, Dr. H. Soekarwo, S.H, M.Hum. In May 2018, five INOVASI program partner districts / cities were selected, namely Sumenep, Pasuruan, Probolinggo, Sidoarjo and Batu City.

For further information about the INOVASI program, visit the website at [www.inovasi.or.id](http://www.inovasi.or.id) or visit our Facebook page <https://facebook.com/InovasiPendidikanAIP/>.

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