

YAYASAN PLAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
INDONESIA



Australian  
Aid 

CASE STUDY

# THE ROLE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN REDUCING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

THROUGH THE PLAN INTERNATIONAL INDONESIA  
FOUNDATION'S URBAN NEXUS PROGRAM

# I. OBJECTIVE CONDITIONS

**Indonesia is in a strategic position to play a key role in the issue of climate change, which has developed into a global climate crisis.**

As an archipelagic country, Indonesia is in a position that is vulnerable to the effects of global climate change and is also strengthened by various disaster events from natural and environmental hazards due to human influence. On the other hand, the country has natural capital, such as vast forest and wetlands ecosystems and seas, that function as carbon sequestration to help the world reduce the disastrous impact of global climate change. As future leaders, young people will determine national climate change policies, strategies, programs, and the country's global commitment.

Director of Environmental Partnerships at the Directorate General of Social Forestry of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) Jo Kumala Dewi also acknowledged the importance of Indonesian youth facing climate change so that the Ministry will integrate various programs targeting youth into the plans of the MoEF. "Young people must be the main actors. They must be the main ingredient in climate change issues," she said.

*Photo: Documentation of Nor Anisa's Offline Socialization*



## II. PROGRAM ANATOMY

The important and strategic position of Indonesia's youth in overcoming the effects of the climate crisis has prompted the Plan International Indonesia Foundation (Plan Indonesia) to organize the **Youth Festival for Climate and Humanity program** from October to December 2021 through the Urban Nexus. This festival is being held with the community youth Teens Go Green as key collaborators and supported by Plan Australia and DFAT-ANCP.

The event provides opportunities for young people to become agents of change by developing an understanding of the impact of climate change on urban environments and providing the tools and resources needed to participate in sustainable solutions. Young people are encouraged to carry out educational actions and digital campaigns in various regions to disseminate issues related to climate change resilience, disaster preparedness, fulfillment of rights and protection for children, women, marginalized groups, gender-based violence, management of menstrual hygiene, and humanity.

As an organizer, Plan Indonesia facilitated online discussions to increase the understanding and capacity of participants on climate change issues and aspects of leadership, as well as help seed funding to carry out educational actions to spread climate and humanity issues. Fifty young leaders have been selected as individual and organizational representatives.

**209** PEOPLE  
registered as

**YOUNG CLIMATE LEADERS**

from **29** PROVINCES

**67** LOCAL COMMUNITIES

during the period **OCTOBER -  
DECEMBER  
2021**

**FESTIVAL  
KAUM MUDA  
untuk IKLIM  
& KEMANUSIAAN**

# III. PROGRAM MAIN AREAS

The three main areas the focus of activities in which young Indonesians participate are:

## TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

By addressing real problems faced by local communities, young people are encouraged to develop innovative solutions to reduce the impact of climate change on their environment. They design and implement technology-based projects such as waste management, urban greening, ecosystem rehabilitation, and sustainable farming practices.



Photo: Documentation from Gagas Volunteer (left) & Youth for Climate Action Campaign (right)

## COUNSELING & AWARENESS

Young people can act as agents of change by spreading knowledge about climate change and its impact on society. They are also involved in outreach campaigns in schools, communities, and social media to raise awareness about the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adopting environmentally friendly and sustainable lifestyle practices.



## YOUNG PEOPLE AS PIONEERS OF CHANGE

Through active participation in the Urban Nexus program, young people become agents of change in their communities.

They drive change through activities such as forming environmental groups, skills training, and advocating for policies that support environmental sustainability by involving the community directly.

## IV. CASE STUDY:

### CASE STUDY 1

# HOPE SHOULD NOT BE LOST IN KARANG MUMUS



*Photo: Nor Anisa's Personal Documentation*

Anisa is a young leader who takes the lead on women's issues and climate change in Samarinda City, East Kalimantan, in the Sungai Karang Mumus settlement. She promotes the issue because women's groups, especially housewives, are vulnerable to climate change. She conducts online education through live streaming on Instagram and offline socialization at Odah Bekesah Park with city government and academics who focus on protecting women and children.

This program received a positive response from the City Government of Samarinda through the Department of Environment and the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection. As a continuation of the activity, the government held a long-term work program for making eco-enzymes through support from the Environment Service and private parties PT Paragon Technology and Innovation and Wardah Cosmetics. The Samarinda City Environmental Service has also established a policy to impose a fine of Rp.1,500,000 for waste disposal and incineration in the Karang Mumus River Area, so that the river can be clean from domestic waste and other pollutants.



*Photo: Documentation of Nor Anisa's Offline Socialization*

## CASE STUDY 2

# FROM BANDUNG TO REDUCE DISASTER RISK

The Youth for Climate Action Campaign is a project initiated by the Bandung Poltekesos to answer the challenge of how to educate peers about climate change. The focus of the campaign is to raise awareness and inspire young people to take action in climate resilience and disaster risk management.

This project consists of a climate action campaign for youth through social media, capacity building for digital campaigners on the role of youth in dealing with the climate crisis, and online campaigns for change and challenges to action for climate. Fun Talk through Instagram Live is presented to increase climate awareness from various perspectives. Apart from learning about leadership, Erwin the project leader, also managed to build partnerships with other youth organizations to get involved in this campaign program, including with four schools in Bandung. During program implementation, his work was featured in 804 posts on social media and managed to reach 57,000 viewers, and around 150 young people were involved as volunteers.



*Photo: Documentation of Youth for Climate Action Campaign*



*Photo: Erwin's Personal Documentation*

### CASE STUDY 3

# CREATING A CHILD-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT



*Photo: Personal Documentation of Minawati*

According to Minawati, in a disaster situation, children are often neglected because of the mindset of the people who consider children's knowledge to be relatively low and traditions that teach children always to follow the orders of their elders. Gagas Volunteers, which she initiated, together with the Sanggar Anak Ramah Lingkungan (SARAN), are trying to promote a child-friendly environment through early education on social security and gender equality in children, encouraging children's participation in protecting rights related to impacts of climate change.

Gagas Volunteer involved 100 children in face-to-face activities and 335 children during online activities. Many participants have shown an active contribution by processing waste into eco-bricks, bringing tumblers of drinking water wherever they go, and their own shopping bags. "The change in behavior is the first real impact of this program," she said. For her, this festival provides the benefit of increasing networks between local and national organizations, increasing the capacity of knowledge and information about climate change, and abilities as a facilitator and funding support.



*Photo: Documentation from Gagas Volunteers*



## CASE STUDY 4

# MBANG ACTION THROUGH ART AND CLIMATE



*Photo: Mbang's Personal Documentation*

Rizal, or Mbang, thinks about combining the issue of climate change and the field of art he is passionate about. Through Youth Festival for Climate, he collaborates with the Tyaga Art and Culture Institute and Jember Doodle Art, Mbang successfully held the Virtual Doodle Art exhibition program. "Local cultural arts are filled with messages charged with environmental protection," he said. He teaches young people to express their imagination about climate change through trending doodles and then displays them on the Jember Doodle Art Instagram account.

The doodle activity reached more than 2,700 art viewers and 300 comments. Mbang and Jember Doodle Art also conducted education by holding Climate Talk on Instagram, which 200 viewers attended. This program has also expanded Jember Doodle Art's membership to 50 people and 100 volunteers who remain consistent in conveying climate change issues through doodles.



*Photo: Documentation from Jember Doodle Art*

## CASE STUDY 5

# TEENS.SEA: HOW TO NOT GET AWAY FROM THE COAST



*Photo: Zulaikha's  
Personal Documentation*

Responding to the Youth Festival for Climate challenge, Zulaikha and Panrita Studio initiated the TEENS.SEA program (Action to Care for Climate Issues and Coastal Areas). This initiative provides information about climate change that is happening and its impact on coastal areas, especially on fishing communities and young people. Activities in the program consist of educational content and story challenges via Instagram, talk shows, and webinars.

In the TEENS.SEA Story Challenge (TSC), everyone has the opportunity to voice out the climate issues in coastal areas through Instagram Stories. The seminars and talk shows held offline were attended by dozens of young people, and Zulaika managed to recruit 15 of them as candidates for climate youth leaders at the local level. She and her team are working on a waste education module for the community, an environmental campaign through social media, and the use of maggot for waste composting.



*Photo: Documentation from TEENS.SEA*

## V. LEARNING:

**Lessons to be concluded from program reports, opinions and perspectives as well as expectations of program participants, organizers and partners are:**

- 1** The program has a real and positive impact on increasing the capacity of young participants in terms of climate change information and knowledge, as well as leadership, innovative solutions, and impact on the community.
- 2** The absence of post-program activities has the potential to cause discontinuity of climate change campaigns by participants.
- 3** The absence of a baseline study and survey on the level of interest of young people to be involved in this program has caused the target number of participants to be far below the target.
- 4** Continuous support and endorsement for young people's contributions are needed from national and local government agencies.
- 5** More public figures may be involved to attract journalists and mass media for publication.



## VI. RECOMMENDATION:

### YOUNG PEOPLE:

- 1 Forming an alumni network as a forum for communication, exchanging ideas and experiences, and a means of mentoring new participants.
- 2 Actively provide suggestions and publish program activities for sustainability.
- 3 Build new partnerships with local government and local NGOs.
- 4 Partnering with the mass media as official media partners and influencers to expand activity publications.

### GOVERNMENT:

- 1 Integrating the vision and mission of the Youth Festival Program for Climate into the development program plans of the central, provincial and district/city governments as a strategy for program sustainability and active involvement of young people in development.

### DONORS:

- 1 Provide support to continuing the program because of the contribution and real impact that has been shown in increasing the capacity of young people in the climate change program.
- 2 Participate in promoting good practices, innovations, and the program's positive impact on donor information channels.





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