

Independent Evaluation of Phase 1 of the School Linkages Program BRIDGE

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

Aid Activity Objective

BRIDGE is an important part of Australia's education support to Indonesia. It builds people-to people links between Australian and Indonesian teachers and students and improves communication through global learning and new technology. Around 90,000 students in Australia and Indonesia have already benefited through this program and these partnerships have fostered a better understanding and knowledge about Indonesia and Islam in Australian schools. Under the first phase, 46 schools across Australia partnered 47 Indonesian schools from 7 Indonesian provinces from 2008-2010.

Aid Activity Summary

Aid Activity Name			
AidWorks initiative number	55349		
Commencement date	January 2008	Completion date	December 2010
Total Australian \$	BRIDGE was funded in partnership by the Australian Government through AusAID (\$700,000) and the Australia Indonesia-Institute (AII) (\$124,000).		
Total other \$	The Myer Foundation - \$750,000		
Delivery organisation(s)	BRIDGE was initiated by the Australia-Indonesia Institute (AII) at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and implemented by the Asia Education Foundation (AEF), with support from the Australian Embassy in Jakarta.		
Implementing Partner(s)	Asia Education Foundation (AEF), Austrade (formerly Australia Education International) and the Indonesia Australia Language Foundation		
Country/Region	Indonesia – a range of provinces and Australia – a range of states and territories		
Primary Sector	Education (school and people-to-people linkages)		

Overview of the Aid Activity

Independent Evaluation Summary

Evaluation Objective: to determine if BRIDGE program was meeting its objectives and if so, how it could be strengthened in a second phase

Evaluation Completion Date: June 2010

Evaluation Team: Dita Nugroho and Adrian Beavis from the Australian Council for Educational Research

Management Response

AusAID commissioned an independent review of the first phase of BRIDGE in April 2010. The review by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) found that the program had met its objectives and recommended a strengthened second phase. The review found the AEF (contracted by the AII) was delivering the program successfully with support from the Australian Embassy in Jakarta. The review recommended and identified ways to replicate and expand the project under a second phase

AusAID agreed with all recommendations in the independent review and they were considered in the design of the new five year \$3.6 million program which commenced in 2011.

