

INOVASI Insights is a digest of updates, highlights and content from the Innovation for Indonesia's School Children (INOVASI) program. Partnering with the Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC) and Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA), INOVASI is working to strengthen learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy across Indonesia, and address Indonesia's current teaching and learning crisis. It does this by co-designing and piloting solutions to the challenge of improving teaching and learning outcomes in local contexts. An investment in basic education is an investment in economic stability and a healthy and productive generation and workforce.







## Temu INOVASI in Jakarta: championing education for all

INOVASI hosted its fifth national Temu INOVASI forum in Jakarta on 5 December 2019. With more than 100 attendees from a cross section of the education community and national government, the events were held in partnership with MoEC's Research and Development Agency (Balitbang).

Our December event explored the importance of education for all in Indonesia, sharing key results and evidence from our inclusive education pilots in Central Lombok and East Sumba. The event was held in acknowledgement of International Day of Disabled Persons (falling on 3rd December). Teachers and partners from INOVASI's inclusion pilots in NTB and Sumba shared their experiences and progress to date – including how the right teaching skills and knowledge, and the right facilities, can improve education quality for all. They also spoke of the power of parental and community engagement when improving the access and quality of education for children with disabilities.

In addition to our partner educators, talk show resource persons included representatives from the DFAT funded Technical Assistance for Education Systems Strengthening (TASS) facility, INOVASI's implementation partners CIS Timor in East Sumba and the University of Mataram, MoEC's policy directorate (Puslitjak), and the Head of the Central Lombok Education Office – a passionate champion for inclusive education. An additional panel member, Head of the Legislation Body in West Sumbawa, NTB, also attended – sharing the district's experience drafting new inclusive legislation policy.

Prior to the December forum, visiting teachers also participated in a radio and television talk show with Suara Edukasi and TV Edukasi at MoEC's ICT Department (Pustekkom), giving a national audience insight into inclusive education challenges and opportunities in Central Lombok and East Sumba.

-  [INOVASI Inclusive Education endline video \(Bahasa Indonesia\)](#)
-  [Jakarta Post media coverage, December 2019](#)
-  [Temu INOVASI PPT materials](#)
-  [Devex article, inclusive education in Indonesia](#)

## INOVASI releases pilot endline data and policy recommendations




Education quality improvement and the strengthening of Indonesia's human resources is a key priority for President Joko Widodo's government in the next five years. When it comes to strengthening education, we have learnt that with the right pedagogical training and knowledge, teaching competencies and student literacy learning outcomes can improve. INOVASI endline data from pilots that finished in July 2019 in partner provinces West Nusa Tenggara (NTB), East Nusa Tenggara (NTT), East Java and North Kalimantan, shows notable improvements in student learning and teaching.

Key areas of teaching improvement were: (1) the teacher now uses effective learning media to engage students; (2) the teacher uses a more engaging student centered teaching approach; (3) classes now have a reading corner; and (4) the class displays learning media such as teaching aids, posters, maps and other learning resources that increase student exposure to reading and words. Combined, these factors contribute to improved literacy learning outcomes.

In all four INOVASI partner provinces, there was an increase in the percentage of students who passed the basic literacy test: 150% increase in NTT (increase of 33 points), 64% increase in North Kalimantan (increase of 33 points), 33% increase in NTB (increase of 20 points), and 15% increase in East Java (increase of 12 points).

Significantly, in Bulungan, where the INOVASI intervention was expanded and supported by other stakeholders including working with private sector, mentoring, book supplies, digital books and village libraries, basic literacy test results show that this collaboration fostered significant increases in learning outcomes. In Bulungan district alone, the percentage of students who passed the basic literacy test increased from 57% to 94%, exceeding the average score of all other INOVASI partner districts and provinces.

In late 2019, INOVASI revised its suite of 8 policy briefs with up to date endline data, and co-published with Puslitjak through MoEC channels.

-  [INOVASI endline press release, on the occasion of National Teacher's Day](#)
-  [Kompas.com media coverage \(Bahasa Indonesia\)](#)
-  [INOVASI policy briefs on key education issues](#)

## Australia's Ambassador for Women and Girls visits partner school in Probolinggo

In late November 2019, Australia's Ambassador for Women and Girls, Dr Sharman Stone, visited Indonesia, travelling to Surabaya and East Java to visit various program sites. In Probolinggo, Dr Stone visited an INOVASI partner primary school that has participated in our literacy and multi-grade pilots. Meeting with teachers, the school principal, and local education facilitators, she learnt more about how INOVASI has streamlined gender and inclusion (GESI) components into pilot training.

To date, efforts to streamline GESI in pilot activities have included GESI training for all teachers, and a broader focus on effective classroom management in module training. With the right skills and knowledge, teachers can better differentiate teaching approaches for students based on learning ability and level. This includes ensuring they give equal attention to boys and girls in the classroom. Earlier in 2019, community engagement and inclusion workshops were also held in Probolinggo, in support of the multi-grade pilot. These workshops encouraged the role of parents in the learning process, to ensure girls and boys receive equal learning opportunities and adequate support at home.



## Reflections and learnings from INOVASI's grants and partnerships program

INOVASI alone is not able to improve student learning outcomes and find out 'what works' to improve education quality in Indonesia. Collaboration and cooperation with various parties is needed to achieve our educational goals of improved student learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy. By working with educational institutions and partners in a broader education landscape, from government, non-governmental organisations and private institutions, together we can achieve greater impact. In 2018 and 2019, INOVASI selected 20 non-governmental organisations (NGOs and foundations) and universities through an open competitive process to collaborate with the program and implement local education programs. Many of these grantee programs came to a close in late 2019.







In October 2019, INOVASI shared what we've learnt about NGO and partnership sustainability with Devex. Read more below.

 Devex article, building sustainability in education programs



## Pilot Updates: Stories from the Field

Catch up on some of our latest stories from the field:

-  Dompu replicates INOVASI literacy pilot with new schools in Woja sub-district
-  Spreading the word about inclusion in East Sumba
-  Reading to improve literacy in North Lombok
-  Ari Karnia helps children with special learning needs in Central Lombok
-  Involving the community in a child's learning: one mother's story from Dompu
-  Video from Dompu literacy scale out pilot (Bahasa Indonesia)




The INOVASI website is regularly updated with key updates and communications and knowledge products. Make sure you jump across and check it out!

 INOVASI website

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