

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: policy change and early grade literacy in North Kalimantan

INOVASI hosted its third and fourth national Temu INOVASI forums in Jakarta on 3 July and 3 October 2019. With more than 80 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) in the ministry library.

While our July event explored general conditions and factors leading to successful policy change, our October forum, held in acknowledgement of International Literacy Day and World Teachers' Day (falling on 8 September and 5 October respectively), focused on the importance of early grade literacy skills and reading. Teachers and partners from INOVASI's early grade literacy pilots in Malinau and Bulungan, North Kalimantan, shared their experiences and progress to date – including how the use of digital books in the classroom can enhance literacy teaching and learning in remote areas.

In addition to our partner educators, talk show resource persons included representatives from the village ministry, MoEC's policy directorate (Puslitjak), and PT. PKN (with a focus on private sector funding for children's reading books).

Prior to the October 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 education challenges and opportunities in North Kalimantan.

 North Kalimantan early grade literacy video (Bahasa Indonesia)

 Wartakota media coverage (Bahasa Indonesia)

 Kompas news article, October 2019 (Bahasa Indonesia)

 TV Edukasi talkshow (Bahasa Indonesia)

 Temu INOVASI PPT materials


INOVASI commences round two pilots

The January – July 2019 period saw INOVASI maintain a high volume of program activity, with 54 pilots either underway or commencing across 17 partner districts and 4 provinces. This included 20 short course style pilots, and 34 partnerships pilots – including those implemented by our newest grantees Ma'arif NU and Muhammadiyah in East Java. Emerging results from sources like the 2019 spot check, showed evidence of changes in mindset and behaviour resulting from the pilot programs, including changes in students' attitudes to learning mathematics and changes in parents and school stakeholders' attitudes to inclusive education.

In July, a range of round two pilots began in partner districts. In several instances, certain short course style pilots that were implemented exclusively in certain districts, focused on themes like multi-grade teaching and learning, and mother language transition, will be trialled in different locations – contributing to INOVASI's growing body of evidence.

 INOVASI pilot map, July – December 2019


 DevPolicy Blog, PDIA in education


 An update from the Literacy Round 2 Short Course Pilot in Dompu, NTB

 Featured videos from INOVASI grantee pilots

New research studies explore education issues and opportunities


INOVASI recently published a further suite of new studies and reports, showcasing emerging evidence and results from completed pilots and activities. This included baseline and midline reports and results from East Java and West Nusa Tenggara, and responsive research studies exploring the status of children with disabilities and inclusive education in Central Lombok, the conditions for policy change and success in Batu City, East Java, and how working groups for teachers, principals and supervisors act as a forum for continuing professional teacher development.

 Batu City Perwali, the Mayor's regulation on Batu as a literacy city

 Study report on working groups for teachers, principals and supervisors as a forum and support for continuing professional development

 INOVASI midline in West Nusa Tenggara

 Baseline report, East Java

 The status of children with disabilities and inclusive education in Central Lombok

Learning resources for inclusive education

In September 2018, INOVASI commenced numerous grant-funded pilots, with 20 new grant partners. This grants initiative is a key part of our approach to expanding and strengthening engagement with Indonesia's non-governmental education sector. One of these grant partners is Forum Lingkar Pena, or the Writer's Forum, who have been implementing an inclusive book development and training pilot in Central Lombok. The Lingkar Pena team cooperated with the Yogyakarta Deaf Art Community to produce a series of children's books incorporating sign language. The Deaf Art Community helped translate written language into sign language that was subsequently illustrated. To date, 21 book titles have been published, as part of the Si Bintang series.

Also in the inclusive education space, INOVASI has worked closely with the Technical Assistance for Education Systems Strengthening (TASS) program and MoEC to develop an instrument called 'Profile Belajar Siswa' (PBS), which helps to collect data on children with disabilities. Data collection is key if all children with disabilities are to remain included and accounted for in the system. The instrument will also be developed in an application based format, linked to basic education data (DAPODIK) at district and national level.

- Forum Lingkar Pena reading books for the deaf
- Creating equality through quality education – PBS application



East Nusa Tenggara's 'Grand Design' for human development and education

INOVASI has continued providing support to East Nusa Tenggara's (NTT) provincial 'Grand Design', which puts in place a blueprint for improving human development and education across all districts – including Sumba Island, where INOVASI is currently implementing program activities. Work on the Grand Design has included two key workshops so far, with a third to be held in early November 2019. The first, held in September, focused on identifying strategic issues in education, while the second, held in October, looked at how to develop strategic goals and targets. Each workshop has been attended by key district government leaders, national ministry members where appropriate, and local education office staff.

The workshops have been an opportunity for INOVASI to provide design advice and lessons learnt, drawing on emerging evidence and results from pilots in all four districts of Sumba Island. At the final workshop series in November, Bupati leaders from all 22 NTT districts will be present, before a final Grand Design document is finalised for the province.

Rajawali TV field trip video, September 2019



Pilot Updates: Stories from the Field

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

- Primary schools in Bima move to replicate INOVASI pilot approaches
- Engaging parents for better learning outcomes
- Edukasi 101 and INOVASI share teacher success in West Sumbawa
- West Sumba puts education quality first
- Deputy Regent of West Sumba welcomes child friendly libraries
- Times Indonesia coverage of East Java joint monitoring visit, September 2019
- Australia's Deputy Head of Mission visits schools in East Java







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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 Provincial Newsletters

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