

Press Release

EU-INDONESIA REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO GREEN GROWTH

JAKARTA – The Minister for National Development Planning/Head of Bappenas of the Republic of Indonesia Suharso Monoarfa, together with the European Union (EU) Ambassador to Indonesia, H.E. Mr Vincent Pilet, launched the EU-Indonesia Cooperation Publication 2020 in a virtual online event in Jakarta on Thursday (9/17). Encapsulating efforts in advancing sustainable development to mitigating the impacts of climate change, the publication also highlights key achievements of the EU and its Member States’ development programmes with Indonesia.

“We are aware that the post-pandemic-economic recovery period would be challenging, especially on how to keep the economic recovery efforts still on the sustainable development track. The sustainable environment is one of the national priorities and agenda that needs to be considered on all sector’s targets. We believe that efforts to pursue quality economic growth can only be obtained if, at the same time, we also preserve the environment,” Minister Monoarfa said via video conference.

With a partnership that spans over 40 years, the EU and Indonesia have made great progress in addressing joint priorities and global challenges, including addressing the current health crisis and addressing climate change. EU and EU Member States’ cooperation with Indonesia support economic growth, the health system, education, social inclusion, and environmental protection. In all these areas, cooperation projects aim at exchanging knowledge, developing skills and building capacities, which is reflected in this year’s publication theme, “Building Capacity for Green Growth”.

In response to the global health challenge, the EU and its Member States have recently launched a “Team Europe” package to support Indonesia’s response to the coronavirus pandemic. A total of EUR 200 million (approximately IDR 3.4 trillion) have been dedicated to supply protective equipment, work with civil society and vulnerable groups, and investments to strengthen the health sector. Looking forward, cooperation with Indonesia will include innovative methods to finance the green transition, urban development and the sustainable management of natural resources.

“The coronavirus pandemic is the most abrupt and biggest social and economic shock of our generation, affecting all societies globally. As “Team Europe”, the EU and its Member States are determined to cooperate with Indonesia to face the crisis. Through joint efforts, we can overcome the health crisis and ensure a green and sustainable recovery”, said H.E. Vincent Pilet, EU Ambassador to Indonesia.

Recent highlights of EU-Indonesia cooperation include:

- **ARISE Plus – Indonesia:** the new trade-related assistance programme will promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, boost job creation, and contribute to Indonesia’s trade competitiveness.
- **Three new projects,** blending EU grants with loans from EU Member States development banks, will support priority reform areas and sustainable infrastructure investments in areas such as renewable energy.
- **The launch of the Marine Biodiversity and Support of Coastal Fisheries in the Coral Triangle project,** to enhance capacity for marine ecosystem management in North Maluku and North Sulawesi;
- **Continued support to mobility in higher education,** including over 1,600 annual scholarships awarded to Indonesian students through the EU’s Erasmus+ programme and Member States’ scholarship schemes

This year's launch also included a virtual panel discussion "EU and Indonesia: Together for Green Growth", which featured:

- H.E Vincent Piket (EU Ambassador to Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam)
- Arifin Rudiyanto (Deputy Minister for Maritime Affairs and Natural Resources, Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas)
- H.E. Peter Schoof (Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Indonesia, ASEAN and Timor-Leste)
- Indah Budiani (Executive Director of Indonesia Business Council for Sustainable Development (IBCSD))
- Wichard von Harrach (Vice Chairman of EuroCharm)

The discussion emphasised the importance of close cooperation between the government and other partners including the private sector, highlighted success stories of EU and Member States cooperation programmes on green growth, and explored opportunities to strengthen the partnership with Indonesia looking forward. The EU-Indonesia Cooperation Publication 2020 is available online at teameuropeindonesia.eu.

About the Ministry of National Development Planning/ National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas RI)

Bappenas RI is a national ministry/agency and think tank directly reporting to the President of the Republic of Indonesia that performs governmental roles in policy formulation and decision making on national development planning, budgeting and the supervision and evaluation of its implementation. It is also tasked and engaged in large scale national and priority issues assigned by the President. Bappenas RI administers as well the strengthening of the national planning capacity to generate innovative and creative development funding mechanism. Furthermore, it ensures an all-inclusive participatory planning process through collaborations with universities, professional associations, NGOs and the civil society. Through its coordinating capacity, Bappenas RI additionally provides sectoral, cross-sectoral and cross-regional directives besides macro-economic framework at national and regional levels, infrastructure main design and regulatory, institutional and funding frameworks.

About the European Union

The European Union (EU) is an economic and political union of 27 Member States. Together, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. In 2012, the EU was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for advancing the causes of peace, reconciliation, democracy and human rights in Europe. The EU is the largest trade block in the world, as well as the world's largest source and destination of foreign direct investment. Collectively, the EU and its Member States are the largest donor of Official Development Assistance (ODA), providing more than half of ODA globally. The 27 EU Member States (in alphabetical order) are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

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