



International Climate Change Workshop on Research Priorities and Policy Development Conference Statement

A two-day international workshop focussing on research priorities and policy development required to address climate change was held at the University of Indonesia over 18-19 March. Co-organised by the University of Indonesia and the Association of Pacific Rim Universities World Institute (AWI), the workshop was actively participated in by some 200 researchers, students, and representatives of corporations, government and government agencies. Included were international climate researchers, from China, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Japan and the United States of America, who had been working with colleagues at the University of Indonesia in the AWI Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies (AWI-CMAS) program.

Opened by Indonesian Vice President Boediono, the Workshop comes at an important moment for Indonesia and the world in relation to the climate transition now under way.

As a major net greenhouse gas emitter, Indonesia has the capacity and is already taking the role as a regional and global leader in emission reductions. This has important implications for regional action being taken to create the necessary consensus for global agreements to be forged. Sustained research, and the explanation of its findings in accessible form, is vital to creating the capacities to implement the emission reductions which are already national policy.

The archipelago of Indonesia will be extremely vulnerable to the multiple impacts of climate change. These impacts have to be well researched and understood in order to increase local and national resilience to the impacts that are already unavoidable.

This Workshop has demonstrated the considerable knowledge, and energetic research capacities in the University of Indonesia, Indonesian government agencies and NGOs. Nevertheless, no country is equipped to either analyse the complex interrelated challenges fully, any more than they can respond effectively alone. International collaboration is central to a successful response to climate change.

We identify three major interconnected opportunities for magnifying our capacities through research collaboration.

- (i) The University of Indonesia is in the process of establishing the Research Centre for Climate Change (UI-RCCC). Strategically developing its research with the support of a tapestry of collaborations across the faculties, with appropriate engagement by government, business and funding bodies, this Centre promises to

be an intellectual powerhouse for substantially assisting the Indonesian community to meet its multiple climate change challenges.

- (ii) As demonstrated by this International Workshop, there is already a vigorous engagement developing between the University of Indonesia, the Indonesian Government, and the Association of Pacific Rim Universities World Institute (AWI), which includes 42 of the leading research universities across the Pacific Rim. AWI's Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies (CMAS) research program can substantially reinforce the capacity of the new UI-RCCC to make use of international expertise from researchers from the USA, China, Japan, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, as well as collaborating with many other researchers across the world, with whom AWI-CMAS is building connections.
- (iii) There is an opportunity to establish the UI-RCCC as the developing country leg of the proposed United Nations University Institute for Climate Transition Innovation (UNU-ICTI), whose developed country leg is proposed to be established in Australia - probably to be hosted at Monash University. This would place the UI-RCCC firmly on the global and regional stage, as a leading component of the United Nations system.

These opportunities - if supported by appropriate funding support from government, international agencies, and the private sector - provide a powerful capacity for Indonesia to address the climate change challenges, and utilise the opportunities to become a global leader in the development of a low-carbon, but high life-quality, economy.

The participation of government leaders and 15 senior AWI-CMAS researchers in this Workshop indicates the importance of climate change issues to Indonesia and the entire Pacific Rim community. The task now is to ensure that the pressing challenges of climate challenges to Indonesia are effectively responded to by seizing the opportunities we have identified.



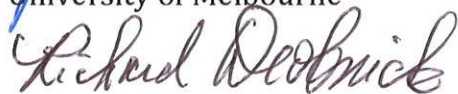
Jatna Supriatna, Co-Chair, International Climate Change Workshop

University of Indonesia



Jim Falk, Co-Chair, International Climate Change Workshop

University of Melbourne



Richard Drobnick, Managing Director, APRU World Institute

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19 March 2010.