



Australia Awards

Australia Awards Short Course

Human Rights Leadership to Influence Policy

23 August 2021 – 17 February 2022



The participants of the 'Human Rights Leadership to Influence Policy' Short Course attending the post-course workshop.

Course Highlights:

- Pre-Course online workshop from 23-25 August 2021
- Seven week online short course from 20 September 2021 to 6 December 2021
- Post-Course hybrid workshop from 14-17 February 2022

The 'Human Rights Leadership to Influence Policy' online course built the capacity of Indonesian human rights leaders and their organisations. The course recognised that effective human rights advocacy can shape policy and facilitate coordination to ensure better outcomes for vulnerable communities.

The short course was delivered as a collaboration between the Diplomacy Training Program (DTP), the Australian Human Rights Institute (AHRI), and the Institute for Global Development (IGD) at UNSW Sydney.

25 Indonesian human rights defenders and practitioners participated; 17 women and 8 men, including staff at National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and civil society organisations (CSOs) across Indonesia.

The course connected Indonesian participants with human rights advocates and organisations in Australia. This enabled a sharing of experiences and approaches on issues important to both countries, and the building of linkages. These issues include the rights of persons with a disability, child rights and protection, migrant workers, Indigenous peoples' rights, human rights and business, discrimination against LGBT+ communities, religious tolerance, and ending sexual violence in the tertiary sector.

The range of knowledge, experience and issues represented by the participants was a real strength of the course.

Session Highlights

Over 20 leading human rights experts from Australia, Indonesia and the region led sessions on the course and acted as mentors. These included Michael Kirby; Rosemary Kayess; Andrew Byrnes; Justine Nolan; Chris Sidoti; Vitit Munthabhorn; Marzuki Darusman; Philip Chung, Noam Peleg, Patrick Walsh, Yuyun Wahyuningrum and Daniel Awigra. Leading Australian NGOs and institutions were also involved in the program, including; Australian Legal Information Institute, Kaldor Centre on Refugee Law and Policy, Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC), Australian Lawyers for Human Rights, Australian Human Rights Commission, Indigenous Law Centre, and the National Native Title Council.

A key highlight was the keynote address by DTP Advisory Council Member, the Hon Michael Kirby who reflected on a lifetime's engagement with advancing human rights and dignity during the opening session.

Participant feedback demonstrated new perspectives were gained, including new understandings of LGBT+ issues, women's rights, indigenous rights, disability and the intersection of Human Rights and business.

".. [We] learned from the good practice human rights are for everyone regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity."

"This session is interesting because we learn about Indigenous people and their rights that often violated by government, from the experiences of Australia we could learn how to make solutions for the rights of Indigenous peoples."

"I enjoyed the speaker's session, it helped me gain new perspective on CEDAW."

Participant Projects

A key component of this course was supporting participants as they worked individually or in groups on developing and implementing twelve diverse Award Projects on human rights in Indonesia. These projects included:

- Strengthening access to Justice for People with Disability in a Judicial process
- Indigenous People's Access to Justice
- Protection of Migrant Workers
- CEDAW and Sexual Violence in

- Educational Institutions
- Child Protection

Pre-Course Workshops

The pre-course workshop took place online between 23rd-25th August 2021. The online workshop was facilitated by the Australia Awards Indonesia team, with Course Leaders - Patrick Earle, CEO, Diplomacy Training Program, Prof. Justine Nolan, Director, Australian Human Rights Institute, and Dr Anna Nettheim, Diplomacy Training Program. The workshop introduced the course and the online learning platform, established a WhatsApp group, and encouraged participants to define and build collaborations on their Award Projects.

Post-Course Workshops

The post-course workshop was delivered in a hybrid format from 14-17 February 2022, with participants and AAI and Human Rights Working Group facilitators gathering in person in Bogor on 16-17 February, with Australian facilitators joining online sessions. The participants presented on the impressive progress made in their Award Projects.

Testimonies

"My personal impression during the short course was that it was very useful and provided a broader perspective on human rights... It was an honour for me to be selected for this short course."

"this course provided me with an understanding of aspects of human rights that I had not explored before."

In the course I get a lot of material, especially in the terms of disability rights, I continue this by discussing and sharing the knowledge I gain with Deaf organizations and communities in Yogyakarta and the Yogyakarta Disability Committee... Through this course, I hope that institutions and society can come together and work together on human rights issues....

.. knowing many participants and exchanging knowledge gave me a lot of new perspectives and new networks in my work, I hope that in the future there will be collaboration between participants.

For further information about the program, please contact:

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