INSPIRASI

INDONESIA YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAMME

INSPIRASI PROSPECTUS

UnionAID, with support from the Indonesian Ministry of Youth and Sport and New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, invites applications for INSPIRASI (Indonesia-Selandia Baru Program untuk Generasi Muda Inspiratif), the Indonesia-New Zealand Programme for an Inspiring Young Generation. Young community leaders from East and West Nusa Tenggara (NTT & NTB), Maluku and North Maluku, all Papua provinces and all Sulawesi provinces are invited to apply for this immersive programme in 2026, commencing online in June and continuing in New Zealand in September 2026.

What is the INSPIRASI Programme?

INSPIRASI is a capacity building programme for emerging young civil society leaders, managed by UnionAID in collaboration with Yayasan Bursa Pengetahuan Kawasan Timur Indonesia (BaKTI Foundation) and Auckland University of Technology (AUT). The programme enables participants from East Indonesia to further develop their knowledge, skills and confidence so they can enhance their contribution to the sustainable development of their community and the wider East Indonesia region.

INSPIRASI offers young leaders the opportunity to explore new ideas and approaches to sustainable development both in East Indonesia and New Zealand, inspiring them to think creatively about the challenges in their own communities. Participants follow a group programme and work together on an inclusive, cross-ethnic and cross-religious basis. Each young leader will explore a specific development challenge affecting their community, develop and refine a research question on this topic, and prepare a proposal for a participatory action project to address the challenge.

INSPIRASI CONTENT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COURSE

The Sustainable Development Course (SDC) will be delivered in two parts. SDC Part 1 is a part-time online course of approximately 150 hours delivered in Indonesia, commencing in June.

Online learning is complemented by a two-week in-person residential workshop held in Indonesia during SDC Part 1 for participants to meet their peers and teaching team, and to learn intensively. SDC Part 2 is a full-time, in-person course of 12 weeks which takes place in New Zealand, commencing in September.

The Sustainable Development Course will enable participants to:

- explore the principles and practice of sustainable development in East Indonesia and Aotearoa New Zealand
- apply systems thinking to understand complex development challenges
- develop research skills, including participatory approaches, and apply these to gain a deeper understanding of a specific development challenge
- understand how to achieve development goals through a range of approaches
- apply learning on cross-cutting issues including human rights, gender and social inclusion, and environmental impact
- build the skills required to develop and manage a project, including proposal writing, project management and MERLA (monitoring, evaluation, research, learning and adaptation)
- improve their proficiency in English for professional and academic purposes

SDC Part 2 in New Zealand will include:

- exposure to a range of New Zealand institutions, policies and practices that are relevant to sustainable development, such as human rights, democratic processes, and community development, through classroom learning and field trips
- visits to government and non-government organisations, such as community development organisations, the Human Rights Commission and Parliament
- Māori approaches to development, introduction to the Treaty of Waitangi and the opportunity to stay on a marae (traditional Māori meeting ground)
- leadership skills workshops, such as organisational management
- a schedule of visits with organisations addressing similar issues to participants' development challenges, either individually or in small groups
- a multi-day young leaders conference in Wellington to share learning and exchange ideas with young leaders from the Mindanao (Southern Philippines) Young Leaders Programme

ENGLISH FOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE

INSPIRASI participants develop their English language proficiency for professional and academic purposes through the English for Development course (EDC). The EDC runs alongside the Sustainable Development Course, commencing online in April and continuing in New Zealand.

The course supports participation in the SDC by teaching:

- language specific to sustainable development
- formal English suitable for a professional context
- oral and written communications skills
- writing for research reports and funding proposals
- study skills for more effective language learning

The online component of the English for Development course requires a total of approximately 40 hours: 20 hours of online workshops and 20 hours self-study.

For applicants whose level of English does not meet the selection criteria, there may be additional in-country English language support available prior to departure for New Zealand.

ACTION PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION – EAST INDONESIA

Participants manage a small action project in their communities, which is funded subject to meeting certain criteria. The action project provides participants the chance to apply learning from the programme to address a specific development challenge in their community.

The action project is in two phases: phase 1 (community consultation and scoping), and phase 2 (implementation). Both these phases take place after SDC Part 2 once participants return to Indonesia. Participants will receive coaching and ongoing support from UnionAID, BaKTI and alumni throughout this process.

ALUMNI NETWORK

- An alumni conference is held annually in East Indonesia, organised by BaKTI and fellow INSPIRASI alumni. The conference brings together INSPIRASI alumni from all cohorts to share learning and build long-term connections.
- Alumni also become part of the wider UnionAID young leaders network and can engage with their peers from the Myanmar and Mindanao Programmes.

STUDY COSTS, TRAVEL AND LIVING IN NEW ZEALAND

The programme is fully funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Participants receive an allowance to support their participation in online study in Indonesia. The costs of participation in a residential workshop in-country are also covered.

Travel to and from New Zealand is paid for.

Participants do not need to pay any fees or bring money with them. Participants will be hosted by families in Auckland in a friendly and supportive home environment. A weekly allowance will cover lunches, transport and other costs.

Auckland is New Zealand's largest city with 1.5 million people and a strong Asia-Pacific culture. The AUT campus, where most of the SDC Part 2 will be based, is in the central city and is accessible by public transport. Participants will visit other parts of New Zealand, including the capital city of Wellington and Māori communities. New Zealand is a secular and multicultural country and the opportunity to practise any faith will be supported by the programme and host families. The university campus also has prayer rooms and adequate facilities.

WHAT WILL YOU GAIN FROM INSPIRASI?

Participation in the INSPIRASI programme will build your knowledge, confidence and skills in sustainable development, leadership, research and communications. The learning and experiences gained on the programme will help you to make a greater impact on the sustainable development of East Indonesia and beyond. Alumni have demonstrated leadership qualities through job promotions, taking up greater responsibilities in their communities and being more active on local and national level issues. Many alumni have also secured further funding to build on or expand their INSPIRASI action projects.

Participants develop strong relationships with their peers and INSPIRASI alumni, as well as host families, mentors, teachers and organisations in New Zealand. Alumni continue to draw on and contribute to these networks well beyond the end of their direct participation in the programme.

WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE **INSPIRASI** PROGRAMME?

Applicants must

- be aged 20-30 years
- be living and working in East Indonesia (East and West Nusa Tenggara, Maluku and North Maluku, all Papua provinces and all Sulawesi provinces)
- be working for a community-based organisation or NGO such as a women's organisation, labour union or environmental group
- intend to continue working for their organisation for a minimum of one year after completing the programme
- have support to participate in the programme from the organisation they represent or work for, including flexibility to attend online study sessions during office hours
- have English language proficiency equivalent to ≥4.5 IELTS or > TOEFL 32-34 (test certificate not required)
- be available to participate in a full-time residential of 2 weeks from 2-12 June
- not be enrolled in any other full-time courses of study or a similar scholarship/fellowship during the SDC
- talk to UnionAID before enrolling in any other part-time courses during the SDC
- hold, or be able to obtain, a passport issued by the Government of Indonesia valid until 1 July 2027

In selecting participants, the following criteria will also be considered

- demonstrated leadership and commitment to development and community work
- identification of a clear and relevant development challenge or area of interest that they wish to explore through the programme
- commitment to working with other ethnic and religious groups
- open-mindedness and maturity
- ethnic, faith and gender mix of the group

To apply please fill out the online form by 25 January 2026

Online Form:

https://unionaid.org.nz/young-leaders-programmes/indonesia-young-leaders-programme/

For further information please visit: **www.unionaid.org.nz** atau kontak **info@bakti.or.id**

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REPUBLIK INDONESIA

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