



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Publication

## Citi Indonesia and Indonesia Business Links Supported Financial Independence for Youth through Skilled Youth Program Phase II

*In the period from August 2017 to June 2018, Phase II of the Skilled Youth Program provided 249 young people in industrial areas with both soft skills and hard skills - exceeding the pre-determined target of 200 participants*

**Jakarta, 25 July 2018** – Citi Indonesia (Citibank), through its umbrella theme for entire community activities known as Citi Peka (caring and creating something meaningful), together with the non-profit organization Indonesian Business Links (IBL), is holding Skilled Youth Program Phase II. For Citi, this program forms part of its 50-year dedicated commitment to Indonesia as well as the implementation of its Pathways to Progress initiative being carried out in various countries around the world.

**Citi Indonesia CEO Batara Sianturi** said, “Last year, we’ve announced the global expansion of Pathways to Progress which was initiated by Citi Foundation. In Indonesia, we are realizing this commitment by collaborating with the non-profit institution Indonesia Business Links, in holding the Skilled Youth Program. This program is aimed at opening up better economic opportunities for the younger generations through capacity building and preparing them for work as well as to become successful entrepreneurs.”

With the objective of helping reduce youth unemployment aged 16-24 in key cities around the world including Indonesia, Pathways to Progress is the largest philanthropic commitment in the history of the Citi Foundation, featuring an additional investment of USD 100 million to deliver positive impact on 500,000 young people worldwide by 2020.

**Citi Indonesia Country Head of Corporate Affairs Elvera N. Makki** explained, “In the world today, including Indonesia, there are 1.2 billion young people, of whom 156 Million are working, yet living in poverty. Furthermore, 71 million youth are unemployed, a proportion three times times higher than the adult unemployment rate. These statistics form the basis of Citi’s commitment and efforts to assist young people in various cities around the world in improving their capabilities and insights, in order to bring them into line with present day market needs and trends.”

In Indonesia itself, data from the Central Bureau of Statistics shows that the number of unemployed people aged 15-24 dominate the total number of existing unemployed. Furthermore, the highest figure for the Open Unemployment Rate (TPT) stems from Vocational School (SMK) graduates, accounting for 11.41% of the total 7.04 million unemployed as of August 2017<sup>1</sup>. In light of this, the economic empowerment of society is an important agenda consistently focused on by the government, as well as being part of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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<sup>1</sup>Indonesian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2017

“Citi Indonesia's collaboration with IBL is an example of a multi-stakeholder partnership in support of the implementation of the government's Sustainable Development Goals (TPB). We believe that youth unemployment will be overcome if the business sector, government, civil society organizations and academia can work together in terms of capacity building, opening up job opportunities, encouraging entrepreneurship, and creating favorable work environments. Using the Skilled Youth-Working and Skilled Youth-Entrepreneurial approaches, the Skilled Youth program provides opportunities for young people to improve their capabilities, as well as obtain better economic opportunities for themselves and the people around them,” explained **Chairman of the Board of Patrons of Indonesia Business Links Heru Prasetyo**.

Phase II of the Skilled Youth program aimed to empower the economic potential of young people aged 16-25 years, including students of vocational schools located in Bekasi, Cikarang and Karawang, through enhancing both their soft skills and hard skills, providing business entrepreneurship assistance and job guidance. Supported by the Citi Foundation, the program that took place from August 2017 to June 2018, managed to reach 249 young people; surpassing the pre-determined target of 200 participants.

At Citi, this program forms an integral part of its CSR activities by providing economic opportunities to the younger generations, otherwise known as Youth Economic Opportunities. Through this program, Citi expects more and more young people to reach their greatest possible potential, by increasing both their employment opportunities and also their entrepreneurial expertise, thereby contributing to economic development in all the country's regions.

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#### About Citibank Indonesia

Citibank, N.A., Indonesia is a branch of Citibank, N.A., New York, USA. Citibank, N.A., Indonesia has been in Indonesia since 1968 and is one of the country's largest foreign banks. Citibank operates 10 branches in six major cities in Indonesia - Jakarta, Bandung, Surabaya, Semarang, Medan and Denpasar. Citibank has consumer transaction networks of around 33,000 payment points and corporate distribution networks of around 6,000 locations in 34 provinces. Citibank, N.A., Indonesia is connected to ATM Bersama networks with more than 70,000 ATM terminals throughout Indonesia.

In 2018, Citibank Indonesia received awards as **Best International Bank in Indonesia from Finance Asia**, **Best Bank-Global in Indonesia**, **Best Bond Adviser-Global in Indonesia**, **Best Digital Bank in Indonesia**, **Best Retail Mobile Banking Experience** from the Asset, **Digital Banking Initiative of the Year** from Asian Banking and Finance, as well as **Innovative Company in Digital Services** in the category of **Foreign Bank** from Warta Ekonomi. In 2017, Citibank Indonesia has received various awards, including from Global Finance Magazine as both “**Best Corporate/Institutional Digital Bank**” and “**Best Consumer Digital Bank**”, “**Best Foreign Bank in Indonesia**” from Finance Asia, “**Best Bank in Compliance Reporting of Foreign Exchange Flows (LLD = Lalu Lintas Devisa) and Export Proceeds (DHE = Devisa Hasil Ekspor)**” by the Indonesia Central Bank, “**Best Bank in Indonesia**”, “**Best e-Bank in Indonesia**”, “**Best Corporate and Institutional Bank – Global in Indonesia**”, “**Best Corporate Bond in Indonesia**”, “**Best Liability Management in Indonesia**” from The Asset magazine and “**Best Perform in Custodian Bank**” along with “**Indonesia's Digital Innovation Award 2017 in Foreign Bank category**” from Warta Ekonomi magazine. In 2016 Citibank Indonesia earned various awards from The Asset Triple-A Awards as “**Best e-Bank in Indonesia**” and from Global Finance as “**The Best Digital Bank**”, from Finance Asia and Alpha Southeast Asia as the “**Best Foreign Bank in Indonesia**”, from SWA Magazine as co-winner of the “**Best Companies in Creating Leaders from Within**”, from Warta Ekonomi magazine for “**Best Digital Innovation Award for Banking in the Category of Top 1 Foreign Bank**”, from Global Finance as “**Best Digital Corporate/Institutional Bank**”, from Euromoney at the Asian level of “**Best Bank for Transaction Services in Asia**”, as well as from Mix magazine in the **Best Corporate Social Initiative 2016** as “**Best Employee Volunteering**”. PT Citigroup Sekuritas Indonesia (PT CSI) won “**Best Securities 2016**” in the category of assets above IDR 1 Trillion by Investor Magazine.

Further information can be obtained at Website: [www.citigroup.com](http://www.citigroup.com) | Twitter: @citi | YouTube: [www.youtube.com/citi](http://www.youtube.com/citi) | Blog: <http://blog.citigroup.com> | Facebook: [www.facebook.com/citiindonesia](http://www.facebook.com/citiindonesia) | LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/citi](http://www.linkedin.com/company/citi) To enjoy a digital banking experience, please visit [www.citibank.co.id](http://www.citibank.co.id).



Citibank N.A., Indonesia is a bank that is licensed, registered and supervised by the Indonesia Financial Services Authority (OJK).

#### **About Indonesia Business Links (IBL)**

Indonesia Business Links (IBL) is a non-profit organization founded in 1998 by a group of business leaders in Indonesia in response to the economic crisis of the time. IBL's vision is to become a leading advocate of good corporate citizenship in Indonesia, with a mission of contributing to creating good corporate citizenship, as well as developing and strengthening the capacity of its business partners (including corporations, small and medium enterprises, governments, NGOs and civil society). IBL's primary objective is to promote ethical business practices in Indonesia. As it stands, IBL's activities have expanded to include advocacy, the strengthening of CSR, and providing understanding and encouragement to multi-sectors to collaborate through initiatives in building partnerships for Sustainable Development Goals. IBL's advocacy has already helped thousands of corporate executives in Indonesia to better understand CSR, as well as how to measure success beyond mere economic gains. In addition, IBL is an action/implementation partner of CSR programs, primarily through the Indonesia Integrity Initiative (*Inisiatif Indonesia Berintegritas*), while also empowering young people towards work preparedness and entrepreneurship. For more information, please visit [www.ibl.or.id](http://www.ibl.or.id).

For further information on IBL, send an email to [ibl@ibl.or.id](mailto:ibl@ibl.or.id)

To keep up with updates on IBL's activities, look at:

Facebook: **Indonesia Business Links (IBL)** | Youtube: **Indonesia Business Links (IBL)** | Instagram: **ibl\_id** | Twitter: **@ibl\_id** | [www.ibl.or.id](http://www.ibl.or.id)

**PHOTO GALLERY**



Left-right: Citi Indonesia CEO Batara Sianturi, Citi Indonesia Director, Country Head of Corporate Affairs Elvera N. Makki and IBL Chairman of the Board of Patrons Heru Prasetyo see the beneficiaries of Skilled Youth program phase II. This program aims to empower the economic potential of young people aged 16-25 years, including students of vocational schools located in Bekasi, Cikarang and Karawang, through enhancing both their soft skills and hard skills, providing business entrepreneurship assistance and job guidance.



Citi Indonesia CEO Batara Sianturi, Citi Indonesia Director, Country Head of Corporate Affairs Elvera N. Makki, IBL Chairman of the Board of Patrons along with youth beneficiaries from Skilled Youth program phase II