

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Citi Indonesia and Indonesia Business Links Prepare Indonesia's Young Generation with Third "Skilled Youth Program"

- *The Skilled Youth Program provides soft skills and hard skills for the economic empowerment and capacity building of more than 300 young participants*
- *In collaboration with three local governments — Bekasi Regency, Karawang Regency, and Bandung Regency — this program has been running for 3 years, with a total of more than 800 beneficiaries*
- *The program aims to contribute to Indonesia's demographic bonus by tackling unemployment in West Java, the region with the highest Open Unemployment Rate (TPT)*

Jakarta, 25 July 2019 – Indonesia is expected to experience a demographic bonus phase from 2030–2040¹; a period when two-thirds of the population will be of productive age. To make the most of this opportunity, the government is looking to boost employment and job availability. As part of its contribution to this effort, **Citi Indonesia (Citibank)** and its implementing partner **Indonesia Business Links (IBL)** held a **Skilled Youth Program** to train Indonesia's young generation in financial independence.

Minister of the National Development Planning/Head of the National Development Planning Agency, Prof. Dr. Bambang P.S. Brodjonegoro said, "In an effort to utilize the demographic bonus, the government will focus on human capital and capital investment. Policy interventions are based on the life cycle. Human capital is driven towards: (1) upgrading health insurance and improving nutrition; (2) expansion of universal secondary education; (3) improving access and quality of higher education; and (4) increasing the productivity of workforce and old age. Capital investment is driven in the direction of: (1) development of savings, deposits, stocks, and other types of long-term investments; (2) political and economic stability; (3) capable banking and investment system; and (4) a sustainable pension system. Special interventions are also needed to solve the problem of young age NEET² rate, women's work participation, quality employment, human resource development, financial system literacy, and investment."

Chief Executive Officer of Citi Indonesia, Batara Sianturi said, "Citi pays special attention to the younger generation in the social programs which we run. One of them is with the implementation of the third stage of Skilled Youth Program where young Indonesians have the opportunity to achieve better economic opportunities thanks to the increase in self-competence they have acquired, so that they are ready to become skilled workforce members or young entrepreneurs. We hope that the

¹ https://www.bappenas.go.id/files/9215/0397/6050/Siaran_Pers_-_Peer_Learning_and_Knowledge_Sharing_Workshop.pdf

² The condition of being not in education, employment, or training/NEET.

initiatives which we carry out sustainably can contribute to a decrease in the unemployment level in Indonesia, especially in the regions targeted by this program.”

A continuation of the company's CSR activities under the umbrella of **Citi Peka** (*Peduli dan Berkarya* or caring and creating something meaningful), the third stage of the Skilled Youth Program successfully engaged 384 young people ages 15 to 24 from August 2018 to July 2019. The Skilled Youth Program has been running for three years now and has succeeded in providing positive benefits and impacts to more than 800 young people. This program is part of the “Pathways to Progress” global commitment, which was initiated by the Citi Foundation and aims to bring positive impacts to 500,000 young people around the world, including in Indonesia, through 2020.

Focusing on West Java Province as the target area, the latest Skilled Youth Program was implemented in collaboration between Citi Indonesia and IBL and three regional governments: Bekasi Regency, Karawang Regency, and Bandung Regency. The unemployment figure in Indonesia stands at 6.82 million, according to data from Statistics Indonesia (BPS), with the highest Open Unemployment Rate (TPT) recorded by Vocational High School (SMK) graduates, at 8.63%. By province, West Java has the highest TPT in Indonesia, with a total of 7.73% of total national unemployment.³ The Government of Indonesia has launched a human resource development program to achieve one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): “Decent work and economic growth.”⁴

During its implementation, the third stage of the Skilled Youth Program embraced young people by presenting a series of activities in a planned manner, including financial literacy, character and behavior strengthening, technical skills and entrepreneurship training, as well as job search assistance and business mentoring. The program also involved various parties, including training institutions, the government, local business players, communities, and of course Citi Indonesia to create a conducive environment for the empowerment of the young people.

Executive Director of Indonesia Business Links Mohamad Fahmi said, “We believe that the unemployment rate among young people can be overcome if the business sector, government, community organizations, and academics can work together synergistically. For this reason, Citi Indonesia and IBL are committed to continuing the Skilled Youth Program to more coverage areas. This year we expanded the collaboration area to Purwakarta and Bandung. The Skilled Youth Program will continue to empower young people through capacity building, both soft skills and hard skills, to increase capacity to open up better economic opportunities for themselves and those around them.”

– END –

³ Statistics Indonesia or BPS, February 2019; <https://www.bps.go.id/pressrelease/2019/05/06/1564/februari-2019--tingkat-pengangguran-terbuka--tpt--sebesar-5-01-persen.html>

⁴ <https://www.ojk.go.id/sustainable-finance/id/publikasi/prinsip-dan-kesepakatan-internasional/Pages/Tujuan-Pembangunan-Berkelanjutan.aspx>

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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 Warta Ekonomi 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.

Further information can be obtained at Website: www.citigroup.com | Twitter: @citi | YouTube: www.youtube.com/citi | Blog: <http://blog.citigroup.com> | Facebook: www.facebook.com/citiindonesia | LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/citi

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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

For further information on IBL, send an email to 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

PHOTO GALLERY



Minister of the National Development Planning/Head of the National Development Planning Agency, Prof. Dr. Bambang P.S. Brodjonegoro conveyed the government's vision in facing the demographic bonus, which is predicted to occur in the upcoming 2030-2040, in the Skilled Youth Program Phase III closing ceremony in Jakarta. Skilled Youth Program is an initiative of Citi Indonesia (Citibank) together with implementing partners of Indonesia Business Links (IBL), in order to provide financial independence, work preparation and entrepreneurship for the young generation of Indonesia.



Citi Indonesia's Chief Executive Officer, Batara Sianturi conveyed Citibank's commitment to Indonesia's young generation in Skilled Youth Program phase III closing ceremony in Jakarta.



PPN Minister / Head of the National Development Planning Agency Prof. Dr. Bambang P.S. Brodjonegoro (center left) with **Chief Executive Officer Citi Indonesia Batara Sianturi** (center right) accompanied by **Chairman of the Board of Patrons of Indonesia Business Links (IBL) Heru Prasetyo** (left) and **Director, Country Head of Corporate Affairs Citi Indonesia Elvera N. Makki** (right) during the closing ceremony of Skilled Youth Program phase III in Jakarta.



PPN Minister / Head of the National Development Planning Agency Prof. Dr. Bambang P.S. Brodjonegoro (center left) with **Chief Executive Officer Citi Indonesia Batara Sianturi** (left) accompanied by **Director, Country Head of Corporate Affairs Citi Indonesia, Elvera N. Makki** (right) visited the youth entrepreneurs who are participating in the Skilled Youth Program phase III.