INOVASI partners with 17 education NGOs and organisations in Indonesia

The Governments of Australia and Indonesia are partnering to understand how to improve student learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy in diverse schools and districts across Indonesia. Working with Indonesia’s Ministry of Education and Culture (MoEC), INOVASI pilot activities focus on how to improve literacy and numeracy learning in primary schools, especially the early grades. Program implementation is carried out in 17 districts across four partner provinces, including West Nusa Tenggara (NTB), East Nusa Tenggara (NTT), North Kalimantan and East Java.

INOVASI’s approach is focused on building local capacity. All stages involve local stakeholders including representatives from local government bodies, school principals, teachers, parents, communities and local organisations. Pilots are implemented at the school cluster and Teacher Working Group (KKG) level and focus on locally identified education themes and challenges. In July 2018, INOVASI commenced a new grants and partnership program with 17 education NGOs and associations from around Indonesia. These organisations will help INOVASI answer its core question of what does and doesn’t work to improve student learning outcomes in literacy, numeracy and inclusive education in Indonesia.

INOVASI in West Nusa Tenggara

INOVASI began work in NTB province in June 2016. Pilots are being implemented in six partner districts, including North Lombok, Central Lombok, Sumbawa, West Sumbawa, Dompu and Bima. Pilots implemented in partnership with grant partners include:

Inclusive Reading Books (Forum Lingkar Pena)

The pilot implemented by INOVASI with Forum Lingkar Pena (FLP) will see the procurement of 170 levelled inclusive children’s reading books for primary schools and madrasah in Central Lombok. These books will include 21 titles, and several levels to suit children’s reading ability. The pilot will run for 10 months, and targets 19 schools. Ultimately, the pilot will support the mainstreaming of inclusive education in Central Lombok schools. FLP will also provide training with teachers in the use of the levelled reading books.

Innovative Literacy and Numeracy (Edukasi 101)

The Edukasi101 pilot aims to accelerate the improvement of basic reading, writing and math skills amongst primary school students in West Sumbawa and Sumbawa. The pilot is being implemented in 16 schools (two clusters) and will run for 12 months. 16 school principals, 192 teachers and 4 school supervisors will be involved.

Indonesian Literacy School (Dompet Dhuafa)

The pilot implemented by Dompet Dhuafa in partnership with INOVASI works to improve literacy based school performance by focusing on two key factors: school culture and instructional systems. The pilot will be implemented for 12 months in one cluster and 10 target schools in Dompu. 9 school assistants will support the activity.

Sunbright from the East (Sahabat Pulau Indonesia)

This integrated pilot focuses on both literacy and numeracy, enabling local stakeholders such as teachers and students to create change. The activity will be implemented in Bima, and will run for 9 months. 10 schools will be targeted, as well as 20 teachers, 10 principals, and a committee leader and school cluster head.
This pilot will operate in North Lombok and focus on reading books and literacy for early grade students. The pilot will work to transform the way that Indonesian children are taught to read, equipping classroom teachers with the knowledge and skills they need so that the children in their care are taught reading effectively, and are able to read with fluency and understanding at the start of their education.

**INOVASI in East Nusa Tenggara**

INOVASI began work in NTT province in November 2017. Pilots are being implemented in four partner districts, including Southwest Sumba, West Sumba, Central Sumba and East Sumba. Pilots implemented in partnership with grant partners include:

**Child friendly libraries and educator training (Taman Bacaan Pelangi, or Rainbow Reading Gardens)**

This pilot aims to foster reading habits for children in target areas, building human resources through the establishment of child-friendly libraries that provide quality books to inspire children’s dreams and help improve the quality of education, especially their literacy skills. Rainbow Reading Gardens will work with four partner INOVASI schools in Sumba to establish four child-friendly libraries, which will benefit around 750 students. 48 teachers and principals will participate in the workshops. Rainbow Reading Gardens will also train 2 district facilitators and 2 local government officials. Local community representatives, including parents, will also be involved.

**Development of creative reading and learning material in Kodi language (Suluh Insan Lestari – SIL)**

This pilot, implemented by SIL, aims to improve literacy for early grade primary school students in Southwest Sumba. It works with students in 8 schools (2 clusters) in the Kodi community – Kodi Balaghar sub-district. Pilot activities focus on the development of creative reading and learning materials in two languages (Indonesian and Kodi), using software from Bloom.

**Early grade reading (YLAI)**

This pilot provides a balanced reading program to 10 partner schools in West Sumba. It will run for 12 months, and includes a focus on interactive reading, reading together, guided and self-reading.

**Improving student learning outcomes (Circle of Imagine Society – CIS Timor)**

This pilot aims to increase school capacity when it comes to implementing inclusive education. The pilot will run for 10 months in 9 schools in Rindi sub-district, East Sumba. It will use three primary approaches, including teacher training, inclusive community engagement to support children’s education, and the creation of a coalition of change, which encourages local government to improve inclusive education in East Sumba.

**Early grade reading and writing ability (Sulinama)**

This pilot implemented by Sulinama focuses on early grade reading ability. It will work with 9 schools in Haharu sub-district, East Sumba, and will run for 12 months. 9 local facilitators and 27 first grade teachers will participate.

**INOVASI in North Kalimantan**

INOVASI began work in North Kalimantan province in December 2017. Pilots are being implemented in two partner districts, including Bulungan and Malinau. Pilots implemented in partnership with grant partners include:

**Literacy and learning improvement for primary schools and teacher working groups (University of Borneo Tarakan)**

This pilot, implemented in partnership with University of Borneo in Tarakan, works to improve the quality of literacy learning and teaching for primary school and madrasah teachers. It also focuses on the strengthening of teacher working groups (KKGs) in Malinau. The pilot will run for 10 months, and target 13 schools.
Reading for fun (Litara – OPOB)

The 'Reading for Fun' pilot will run for 12 months in Malinau and will foster a stronger reading culture. The pilot will increase community access to quality books, and enhance community participation in reading culture.

Improvement of literacy and KKGs (State University of Makassar)

This pilot focuses on improving literacy outcomes for primary school and madrasah children. It works to empower teachers. Running for 10 months, it involves schools in 2 clusters in Tanjung Selor, Bulungan.

Digital books (The Asia Foundation)

INOVASI is partnering with The Asia Foundation in both Malinau and Bulungan districts, to pilot the use of digital children’s reading books. This is done via the foundation’s Let’s Read initiative and open source database. In addition to benefiting primary school students, the pilot will work to help teachers with accessing and using children’s books.

INOVASI in East Java

INOVASI began work in East Java province in 2017. Pilots are being implemented in five partner districts/cities, including Sidoarjo, Sumenep, Probolinggo, Pasuruan and Batu City. Pilots implemented in partnership with grant partners include:

Training and mentoring for improved early grade literacy (UNESA)

This pilot works to improve the pedagogical and professional competence of teachers in early grade literacy. Implemented in Sidoarjo, it will run for 10 months and focus on child friendly literacy training and mentoring in the early grades.

Innovation and numeracy (BINUS University)

This pilot, implemented in partnership with Bina Nusantara University (BINUS), aims to improve numeracy learning outcomes for children in grades 1-3. It works in 17 schools in 2 sub-districts in Sumenep.

Teacher training for literacy development (UINSA)

This teacher training pilot will be run in 10 madrasahs in Pasuruan, over a 10 month period. It aims to improve teacher professionalism, improve student literacy skills, and will be carried out in collaboration with various local stakeholders. Ultimately, it will foster a literacy culture in target schools. The pilot will use a community development based approach to improve school independence and commitment to literacy.

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Literacy learning for all students (Kolaborasi Literasi Bermakna)

This pilot focuses on improving literacy outcomes for primary school students, encouraging them to be agents of change and foster independent and innovative learning. Sustainability is a primary focus. The pilot is a coalition between four education organisations: Kampus Guru Cikal, The Center for Education and Policy Studies (PSPK), IniBudi, and Our Families (Keluarga Kita).

Numeracy workshops (UNUSA)

Implemented in 16 schools in Pasuruan over a period of 10 months, this pilot works to improve school management and numeracy teaching and learning. Numeracy workshops will involve teachers, supervisors, principals, school committees and local associations.