Australia Awards in Indonesia - Short Term Award
Democratic Resilience – Digital and Media Literacy

Participants of the "Democratic Resilience – Digital and Media Literacy" Short Term Award in front of State Library of Queensland in Brisbane

Course highlights:

- Pre-course workshop in Jakarta: 6-8 August 2019
- In-Australia course in Brisbane and Sydney: 23 September – 4 October 2019
- Post-course workshop in Bali: 27 - 30 January 2020
- A range of site visits, guest speakers and Q&A sessions in Australia

The Democratic resilience – Digital and Media Literacy Short Term Award (STA) focused on helping digital and media practitioners, policy makers and other key stakeholders to build digital and media literacy, to counter mis/disinformation and hate speech, and to promote pluralism and tolerance through social media and digital platforms. This course allowed the participants to benchmark success stories in channeling social and digital media towards positive change and the strategic roles of government, media practitioners, educators, and other stakeholders to promote tolerance and inclusiveness and reduce the spread and impact of disinformation in digital media.

The 11 female and 13 male participants were mid-level managers and other professionals from strategic government, police, media, education/research and civil society organisations: Office of the President; Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MoCIT); Ministry of Education and Culture; Ministry of Religious Affairs; Ministry of Youth and Sport; Election Supervisory Agency; Cyber and Crypto Security Agency (BSSN); National Police General Crime Unit; Kompas; Liputan 6; Metro TV; Kitogalo.com; NU Online; University of Indonesia; State Islamic University; Katadata Research Centre; Civil Society

Against Violent Extremism (C-SAVE); MAFINDO and Australia Indonesia Partnership for Justice.

The participants visit co-Lab Innovation Hub – Digital Transformation Agency

The course was delivered by the Queensland University of Technology with an experienced and multi-faceted team of specialists in Indonesian media: Assoc Prof Angela Romano and Dr Fiona Suwana (School of Communication / Digital Media Research Centre, QUT) and cyber-news verification expert Dr Anne Kruger (First Draft Asia Pacific, UTS). The course involved presentations by the course designers and a rich array of experts and innovators, roundtable discussions, simulations, panels, ABC 'Q&A'-style discussion panel, and site visits, as well as networking dinners and workshops for participants to develop and present their Award Projects.

In addition to learning and networking with government, academic, business and industry leaders in classroom activities, the participants also visited Australian government, new media and other organisations to explore Australian practice and policy around digital/media literacy, fighting disinformation and promoting pluralism. The presentations by 46 academics, government and industry leaders meshed closely with the core themes as all guest presenters were briefed thoroughly about how their work fitted into a healthy communication ecosystem and/or the 5Rs. This ensured strong connectivity of each presenter with the projects and the course learning objectives. Site visits included:

Australian Communication and Media Authority (ACMA), the Office of the eSafety Commissioner and Federal Dept of Communication and the Arts (DoCA) on *Regulation, content safeguards, projects and policies, research, and education and training*; Australian Federal Police (AFP) Cybercrimes Operation on *Role, jurisdictions and*

standard operating procedures (police and BSSN participants only); Brisbane City Council on *Digital Brisbane strategy, digital literacy training and inclusivity*; Centre for Media Transition, University of Technology Sydney on *Diversity, content and social media; hate speech and Facebook*; Digital Transformation Agency on *Government information and services*; QUT Library and The Edge–State Library of Queensland (SLQ) on *Applied creativities, public inclusion, and media and digital literacy training and development*; Education Queensland on *Digital and information literacy in schools, cyber safety, copyright, privacy and age-appropriate content*; First Draft Asia Pacific on *News literacy in theory and practice, verification training*; Google and Google Digital News Initiative on *Policies and practices, digital media literacy training, support of news media, fact checking and philanthropic activity*; Queensland Government on *Parliament, Premier and Cabinet integrated communications, information standards, responsive government, community digital champions*, Living Safe Together—Police Counter Terrorism on *police public affairs*.

Two networking dinners featured keynotes from senior media industry leaders: the head of ABC Digital, Grant Sherlock, and the UTS Centre for Media Transition co-director, founder of PolitiFact Australia and former Sydney Morning Herald editor, Peter Fray. The dinners also provided opportunities for extended networking with many of the course presenters and stakeholders from visited sites, as well as representatives from the Australia Indonesia Business Council, Australia Institute for International Affairs, DFAT, Indonesian Consulate, Indonesian Student Association, SBS News, TME Media and Education, and Twitter.

The scholars during networking dinner in QUT

Each session and site visit had its own highlights. Connections with Girl Geek Academy created excitement about opportunities to embed gender-aware approaches. Visits to libraries and the Brisbane City

Council generated fresh thinking about the potential of libraries as hubs for building healthy social interactions in the real and online world. A presentation by a co-author of UNESCO's Media and Information Literacy: Policy Strategy and Guidelines overturned some preconceptions about best practice for the Indonesia context; in roundtables and simulations participants shared divergent perspectives about sensitive and politically-charged issues in ways that modelled pluralistic bridge-building across differences.

The scholars visit the Google Office in Sydney

Pre and Post-Course Workshops

The Pre-Course Workshop was delivered in Jakarta by A/Prof Angela Romano, Dr Fiona Suwana and Mr Vincent Sacriz. The work-shop included a dinner reception hosted by the Deputy Ambassador, Allaster Cox at the Australian Embassy's Executive Residence.

The scholars networking with Deputy Ambassador in the Dinner Reception, Australian Embassy Jakarta

At the Post-Course Workshop the participants had the opportunity to network with industry leaders and present their Award Projects.

During the post-course workshop the participants attended a MoCIT conference 'SIBERKREASI Class 2020' bringing together Indonesian ministries, digital and media literacy experts and the STA participants. Two of the awardees acted as facilitators at the conference. The post-course workshop also included a visit to Telkomsel, Internet Baik project.

Participants at Telkomsel Internet Baik.

Quotes:

- I get to learn how other countries such as Australia are battling the spread of misinformation and disinformation through digital and media literacy. Personally, it also helps me reaffirm the important role of being a journalist in this era of information chaos.
- The site visits were very awakening moments. I've learnt from the people we've met and the institutions we've visited that the biggest drive to create an impact and to make a difference is to be of service to the public

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Award Project highlights:

The course's two primary achievements were constructive networking and the completion of high-quality Award Projects with clear potential for medium- to long-term impact. The participants collaborated with each other and with connections forged in Australia on Award Projects and other independent projects and initiatives. The completed Award Projects have real-world value, ranging from a series of news/news feature reports that are run each month on digital media literacy in Kompas newspaper, an online portal that serves stakeholders in digital media literacy across Indonesia, to a year-long training mobile journalism scheme for people with disabilities. This networking, collaboration and sharing of expertise culminated with participants presenting in a one-day conference with 200 participants and forming the prelude to the AAI post-course workshop.

Other Award Project examples included multiple digital media literacy training programs tailored to different constituencies or to develop different types of capacities, creation and introduction of two sets of Standard Operating Procedures for handling disinformation by the Metropolitan Police and the National Cyber and Crypto Agency, a blueprint for the Election Monitoring Agency on how to counteract election-related information in district/city elections, a research report that mapped outcomes of Indonesia's largest counter-disinformation interventions, and training of 381 civil servants in mobile journalism to create audio visual stories relating to democratic resilience for television and social media.

Projects were designed with a view for sustainability. For example, Liputan6.com representative's project developed mobile journalism training workshops for people with disabilities. Through links with MoCIT, the national Siberkreasi agreed to support the initiative for a year. The participant also created a dedicated portal in Liputan6.com to bring national attention to the best stories created by training participants and the network's own journalists about disability-related issues.