

Teacher Training In West Timor, Indonesia December 2018

Funded by Australia Indonesia Association (ACT)

Implemented by NTA East Indonesia Aid

PELATIHAN PROFESIONAL GURU 2018



Australia Indonesia Association (ACT) Inc.

In memory of

**Dr. Walter and Jane
Mickleburgh**

NTA East Indonesia Aid would like to extend its greatest appreciation for the continued support of the Australian Indonesian Association (ACT) in donating \$3000 to run teacher training in West Timor, Indonesia during 2018. We also note that part of the donation was in remembrance of Dr Walter and Jane Mickleburgh and express our appreciation to the donor.

Outcomes with AIA funding:

- 2 day teacher training workshops held in Sumlili (West Kupang) 14-15 December and at Mio (West Timor highlands) 21-22 December 2018
- 57 primary and secondary teachers participated
- 40 of the trained teachers were female and 17 male
- Courses targeted honorary teachers and provided an introduction to the curriculum and basic teaching skills. Honorary teachers are recruited locally with no qualifications and make up over 50% of teaching staff in the remote farming villages.
- Teachers also take on a research project to help further develop their skills following the workshops.
- The training better equips teachers for the challenges in the classrooms and encourages improved teaching techniques. This training also assists honorary teachers to pursue professional teaching careers.
- The outcome of this training is improved delivery of education to children from small farming villages. This is an important step in helping to lift communities out of poverty.



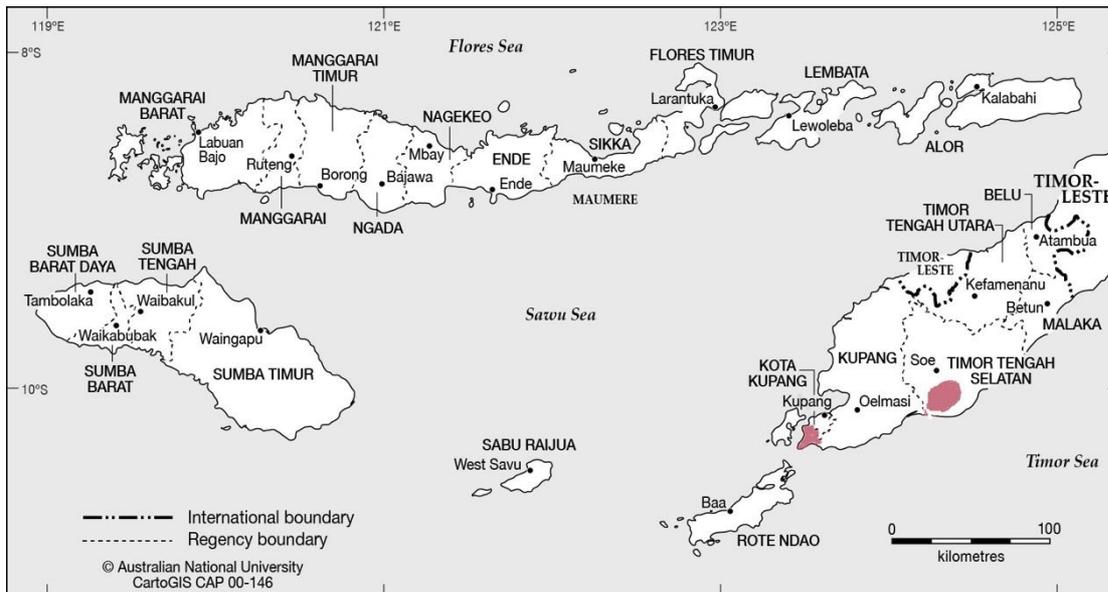
Students in West Timor highlands



Teacher training at Sumlili (West Timor highlands)

The NTA Team from Australia visits all their project locations twice a year to monitor progress, collect data and set directions which enables them to meet the needs of the beneficiaries and stay in line with the current overall situation.

NTA currently supports 62 schools and has received strong positive feedback regarding the teacher training: not only the teachers who participated the training expressed their gratitude, but also the school management made clear how much benefit they see in the program, repeatedly asking for opportunities to increase the number of participants. Again it became clear, that teacher training in the remote areas of West Timor meets the local needs and is therefore seen as a great success.



(red marked: Subdistricts Kupang Barat and Amanuban Selatan, where the participants are teaching.)



New schools in West Kupang District

Teacher Training in Multiple Locations

Assessing the needs in West Timor over the past decades, NTA found that Training for teachers has always been high on the priority list. This is mainly because of a challenge that many schools in remote areas of Indonesia are facing: the lack of trained teachers. A small and remote schools often lack the funding to pay the proper salary of a trained civil servant / government teacher (Pegawai Negeri Sipil). It leaves them little choice but to recruit local “educated” people who are prepared to teach for a much lower salary. These teachers are called Honorary teachers (guru honor) and have often finished junior high school, but without any experience or training in teaching. NTA works in remote farming villages in one of the poorest provinces in Indonesia. Honorary teachers make up more than 50% of the teaching staff.

The parents of the students are usually expected to cover some of the school costs, for example a small part of the honorary teachers salaries. In remote and poor areas, such as NTAs target areas, the parents seldom have the means to do so. For example in the parts of West Kupang, such as in the Village Sumlili, the people are mostly farmers who moved from Seaweed farming to horticulture / irrigated vegetable farming over the past 5-10 years. Their main crops are now Vegetables such as Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Chilly, Red Onions, Corn/Maize, and some green vegetables such as Morning Glory. They often have to manage their household with less than 2 or 3 dollars a day.

In the Villages around Mio (West Timor highlands), the situation is often more difficult. Many of the families are descendants from refugees who fled East Timor during the conflict. The insufficient access to water and the lack of good roads make it very hard to earn any money from agriculture, and most families farm mainly for consumption. Very little is left to sell on the market. Most families grow Peanuts, Corn, Casava and / or Chilli and some of them have livestock such as chickens, a pig or a goat. Their daily income is even lower than the average family in West Kupang and the rate of malnutrition is high.

There are big differences in the quality of school buildings. Whilst some have decent structures and solid buildings, other schools are very basic - built out of palm leaves and wood, with a crumbling cement floor at the most. Water and consequently hygiene is often a great problem. Children are frequently forced to carry water in little canisters from home, in order to be able to wash hands or flush a basic toilet at school.

NTA supports these schools and the children who are expected to learn in them and prepare for life. With the Teacher Training, NTA aims to increase practical skills and

motivation of the local teachers, making school and learning more attractive for the students. NTA is convinced that students who have access to an improved education have a better chance to overcome poverty and hope for a brighter future.

Pictures from training session



The NTA Teacher Training and its Trainers

This year, the Teacher Training was held in 3 different locations. In February 2018 a first Training was held in Semau with a total of 56 participants. In December 2018, funded by AIA ACT, the training took place in Sumlili and in Mio with a total number of 57 participants. Most of the teachers were able to go back home over night, but those who had a longer way, managed to stay the night at one of their colleagues house.

As in the previous year, the training was provided by Drs Mesach D Beeh, Head of the Faculty of Education at the Christian University of Kupang. Pak Mesach was assisted by 2 other senior trainers, 3 senior facilitators and one assistant.

Pak Mesach is a very experienced trainer and has conducted training courses for the NTA over two decades with great success. His colleagues include on lecturer in

education from the Christian University of Kupang, and two experienced trainers from the Undana University of Kupang.

The majority of participants were attending for the first time. A number had previously participated and these were divided into a separate group to facilitate further progression of their skills and knowledge. The Training was designed around a concept called PTK (Penelitian Tindakan Kelas), which can be translated to "Classroom Action Research". Within this training the teachers learn within the framework of the official curriculum how to recognize individual student's problems / challenges and how to address them in the most constructive way, finding appropriate solutions to their problems.

In the second part of the training all the teachers were advised to start making a small research project based on the problem identified in their own class. The Teachers are encouraged to send the results to Pak Mesach and his colleagues, who will respond individually to each teacher, giving advice for possible improvements. Those who have participated for the second time, were given the opportunity to discuss their results and make improvements with Pak Mes' support.

The motivation and dedication of the participants and representatives of the school management, send a clear message of success regarding the teacher training in West Timor. NTA is committed to continue with teacher training programs in all target areas in West Timor and hopes to soon start with a similar program in Flores. With continuing support such as the generous donation by AIA ACT and other organizations we can make this happen.

The NTA Team would like to express its gratitude to the members of AIA ACT, for its ongoing support. It would be an honour to have some of your Club joining us one day in the field, visiting some of the schools and hearing the voices of the people who benefit from the Teacher Training and other project activities.

Participant Profiles

Ibu Normi Takalapui, 33 years old

Honorary teacher at SDN Oenoni (West Timor highlands) since 2005. She is teaching Science in Grade 6 and this is the second time she has participated in NTA's professional teacher training.



"in the professional teacher training we were given small research tasks addressing a problem that we experience in our own classroom. I choose the lack of interest among students in grade 6 to learn about science."

Ibu Normi has submitted her research plan to Pak Mes (NTA's head teacher trainer) the trainer) and has commenced the research.

"when I finish this research I will receive a certificate, which will help me very much to reach a better position within my work. I was a honorary teacher for 14 years, and hope I can become a government employed teacher soon. I do hope that we can continue to receive this kind of training from NTA. It gives me some confidence and gives me hope."

Pak Aris Sopaba, 26 years old

Honorary teacher at SDI Bongkono in the highlands of West Timor for 4 years.



He is teaching Religion and has participated twice in the professional teacher training provided by NTA.

He is very happy about the training and mentioned: *"The Professional Teacher training helped me a lot. I learnt how to overcome problems in the classroom. For example how to motivate the students by using practical tools such as pictures or models during the lesson. I also feel very grateful that NTA was thinking of us teachers and our problems. NTA supported me with training, much earlier than the my own government did."*

Aris mentioned also how important the training is for his career. *"I am a honorary teacher now. But I want to become a teacher that is employed by the government, so I can have a proper career and start to receive a proper salary for the work I am doing. The professional teacher training teaches me some skills I need for this career, for example how to conduct small research projects. If I submit my research I will get a certificate, which will help me to get into a better position."*

Attendance list

Teacher Training in Mio Village, TTS District West Timor Highlands			
No.	Name of participant	Name of the School	Gender (F/M)
1	Marta S. Se'u	SDN Oenoni	F
2	Normi M Takalapui	SDN Oenoni	F
3	Norince Bell	SDI Oeboi	F
4	Margarita Sabat	SDI Oeboi	F
5	Darmi Pitay	SDI Oeboi	F
6	Sepriana R.P Sufmera	SDI Oeboi	F
7	Antonia Tabun	SDI Oeboi	F
8	Erna Nuba Tonis	SDI Oeboi	F
9	Hawa Sir	SDI Oeboi	F
10	Dominikus Fatin	SDI Mio	F
11	Simon P. Taupan	SDN Oeayo	M
12	Musa O Puay	SDN Oeayo	M
13	Marince Y. A Puay	SDN Oeayo	M
14	Tobias Talan. (Kepsek)	SDI Bangkono	M
15	Aris Sopaba	SDI Bangkono	M
16	Anggeraini	SDI Bangkono	F
17	Sergius A. Neonufa	SDI Bangkono	M
18	Jefri H.Polly	SDN Kobekaka	F
19	Hilmata Nuba	SDN Kobekaka	F
20	Yuni Tse	SDN Kobekaka	F
Teacher Training in Sumlili Village, Kupang District West Timor			
21	Murti Panael	SDI Sumlili	F
22	Jeni A Kote	SDI Sumlili	F
23	Nurlaila	SDI Sumlili	F
24	Yane M Kote	SDI Sumlili	F
25	Orpa Y. Hotan	SDI Sumlili	F
26	Petrus Lasi	SDI Sumlili	M
27	Aldi A Meto	SDI Sumlili	M
28	Zacharias A. Dalla	SDI Sumlili	M
29	Riana Ermy R	SDN Onitua	F
30	David Soru A	SDN Onitua	M
31	Koriakuino Laki	SDN Onitua	F
32	Marselin Y	SDN Onitua	F
33	Melawaty B	SDN Onitua	F
34	Agrip S Sulla	SDN Batu Esa	M
35	Alfari C Buan	SDN Batu Esa	M
36	Arnol B Lani	SDN Batu Esa	M
37	Agustinus Nitbani	SDN Batu Esa	M
38	Yulisan N Losik	SDN Batu Esa	F
39	Dionisius W Kaka	SDG Oenaek	M
40	Yuliana Pama	SDG Oenaek	F
41	Serly Y. Pandu	SDG Oenaek	F
42	Yuliana Hau Dima	SDG Oenaek	F
43	Yustina Lasi	SDG Oenaek	F
44	Suzana V Kause	SMPN 3 Kupang	F

45	Anitarini Puspita Wati	SMPN 3 Kupang	F
46	Rosiana Kase	SMPN 3 Kupang	F
47	Martha Rede	SMPN 3 Kupang	F
48	Muhamad Kasim	SMPN 3 Kupang	M
49	Dofiaranci Killok	SDN Oelili	F
50	Maria K Nenotek	SDN Oelili	F
51	Margaretha Djo Hau	SDN Oelili	F
52	Mince O Ndun	SMPN Sumlili	F
53	Helda Sanga	SDI Tuadale	F
54	Adryani Tuy	SDI Tuadale	F
55	Sepriana Taibenu	SDI Tuadale	F
56	Kornelis Sae Ketu	SDI Tuadale	M
57	Yunit Sanga	SDI Tuadale	F
	Total Participants 57		40F, 17M