



March 2021

Dear Indonesia network members,

We are pleased to present the first Country Update for Indonesia of this year. It was exactly a year ago that we all returned from a State Visit/Economic Mission to Indonesia and immediately went into lockdown. Fortunately, work is continuing largely virtually for the time being, at least in the Netherlands, and the bilateral cooperation has made steady progress.

In this edition, we would like to update you on developments, including the status of the new MoU Water, activities related to East Java Province, Central Java floods, the completion of the National Capital Integrated Coastal Development (NCICD) Project and its next steps, the Pekalongan scoping study, and Irrigation Development for Food Production. Upcoming events are also highlighted.

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1. Update MoU Water and Joint Steering Committee

As reported in the last Country Update (October 2020), the intention was to have the new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed before the end of last year. Virtual meetings were held to develop the MoU that covers bilateral cooperation for the coming years on: i) resilient cities; ii) integrated water management (including river basin management); iii) smart water; iv) water governance; and v) lowland development/water for food. Unfortunately, Covid has delayed this process. The intention now is to conclude the new MoU sometime in spring. A Joint Steering Committee is tentatively scheduled for early June, followed by an Indonesia Country Platform meeting in late June. The date for the latter will be communicated in due course.

2. Indonesia Healthy Rivers Challenge 2020 Winner



Within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding Water (MoU-Water) and as part of the cooperation with East Java Province, the Partners for Water Programme supported the Water Agency to organise the Indonesia Healthy Rivers Challenge (IHRC) in the Welang River. The Challenge was envisioned to engage, educate and ignite innovation among students and young professionals in Indonesia about the sustainable management of the Welang River that could inspire and generate input for the Welang River Basin Master Plan. This Master Plan is currently being developed by a consortium led by Witteveen+Bos as part of a Partners for Water Programme project.

Five teams of students, supported by experts from several Dutch and Indonesian companies and institutions, prepared their version of the master plan. In the final round of the Challenge, held on 15-17 March, the first IHRC was won by Team B Asik Mantab. Team B's project focused on solving floods gradually, enhancing water resources and water quality through structural, vegetative, and management approaches, as well as prioritising the readiness of each business model. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the IHRC was successfully executed while strictly following health protocols (no new Covid-19 cases resulted from the event). It was not only fun, but also inspirational, educational and, above all, beneficial to the integrated development of the Welang River in the future!

For more information on the IHRC, please check out this page on the Indonesia Water Portal! ([Indonesia-Netherlands Collaboration on River Basin Management in East-Java \(indonesiawaterportal.com\)](https://indonesiawaterportal.com))

3. Central Java Floods



Starting in late January 2021, Central Java experienced several weeks of intense rainfall. This caused extensive flooding, notably in the Pesisir area, and northern coastal cities, namely: Pekalongan, Semarang, Demak and Kudus. The provincial government, including Governor Bp. Ganjar Pranowo, municipal agencies in Semarang and its City Mayor, responded quickly by announcing support for affected communities and mobilising technical agencies to come up with solutions. A technical seminar was convened in which a preliminary analysis of the events was presented accompanied by a wide range of possible solutions. A YouTube recording of a technical seminar (in Bahasa) organised by BalitekDAS in Solo (Balai Penelitian dan Pengembangan Teknologi Pengelolaan Daerah Aliran Sungai Solo - Watershed Management Technology Centre, Ministry of Environment and Forestry) is available on www.youtube.com/watch?v=akQdQhdsug4. The webinar includes interesting presentations, good visuals, maps and graphics.



The extensive floods in Semarang city led the Dutch consortium working on the Water Management Semarang to conduct a study on the flood. The study focuses on the events (intensive rainfall, high tides etc.), what went wrong (status of the pumps), and what can be done to prevent this from happening again. As part of this analysis, the Dutch company Floodtags (www.floodtags.com) was asked to collect social media data on the flood events in Semarang (see image above of the type of analysis Floodtags supplies). The results of this study will be integrated into the broader analysis of urban drainage that will make recommendations for improving Semarang's city water management in a few months. For more information on the ongoing study, please contact the consortium lead, Witteveen+Bos (victor.coenen@witteveenbos.com), or Rien Dam, the Delegated Representative Water in Indonesia, at rien.dam@rvo.nl.

4. NCICD – End of Trilateral Project and Next steps

In a previous Country Update (October 2020), we included an article on the expiry of the trilateral MoU National Capital Integrated Coastal Development (NCICD) Phase 2 on 30 September. Only Rebel Group will continue work on Financing and Procurement until March 2021.

With the recent delivery of the Final Business Case for the Outer Sea Dike, the trilateral cooperation between Indonesia, Korea and the Netherlands on NCICD has now come to an end. Dutch consultants have worked since 2016 on preparing interventions to: reduce land subsidence; accelerate water supply and water sanitation; urgently strengthen the existing sea defences; upgrade the polder systems; and, construct a closable offshore sea dike in the central and western parts of the Bay of Jakarta.

This included five Task Sets.

- 1 Structured decision making and strengthening of the organisation.
- 2 Acceleration of Stage A (identifying high-risk dike sections, prioritisation of interventions, development of conceptual designs, technical guidelines and financing and procurement models).
- 3 Development of an Outline and a Final Business Case (OBC/FBC) for Stage B (the Open Sea Dike), including all the necessary technical, environmental, social and financial studies and documentation to make a well-informed decision on Stage B.
- 4 Communication, consultation and dissemination.
- 5 Capacity building and data management.

Results

By now, the deliverables for each Task Set have been completed and have been handed over to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (PUPR). Most documents have only been informally approved by the Project Management Unit (PMU), and key decisions such as that on the Integrated Flood Strategy Plan still have to be taken by the Indonesian Government. The Dutch side has continuously stressed the importance of decision-making, but under the present political and economic conditions in Jakarta, the Ministerial Steering Committee is not expected to meet at short notice. Despite the lack of overall strategic decision-making, NCICD-2 has moved things forward in several areas (see the details in the previous Country Update: <https://www.netherlandswaterpartnership.com/regions/asia/indonesia>) and has highlighted and confirmed the position and reputation of the Dutch Water Sector.

Follow-up

Although the trilateral cooperation has now come to an end, the overall NCICD project will continue after this date. If no adequate measures are taken to stop land subsidence, flood risks in Jakarta will continue to increase. PUPR is preparing tender packages for construction and signed an MOU with DKI Jakarta on improving coastal dikes, polders and pumping stations. The MOU also notes that the timely construction of an outer sea dike will also be necessary.

In the current political and economic situation, it is unlikely that the Final Business Case will quickly result in a positive investment decision. Nevertheless, there are potentially promising areas of cooperation.

- Improving procurement, design and engineering, and construction practices in dike sections.
- Polder designs, funding and procurement strategies, implementation and polder management.
- Creating and implementing integrated coastal designs (in line with Sunda Kelapa Showcase) and delivery models with co-funding options.

Many lessons have been learned from the NCICD process on technical and organisational issues, as well as on the cultural differences between the Indonesian, Korean and Dutch approaches of policy and decision making. These lessons will be shared with the Dutch water sector in the next Indonesia Country Platform meeting (foreseen in late June, following the Joint Steering Committee. The date will be communicated in due course). For more information about NCICD, please contact Koos Wieriks, the Principal Advisor at koos.wieriks@gmail.com.

5. Assessment of Urban Water Management in Pekalongan

Deltares and Diponegoro University have been commissioned by the Partners for Water Programme to map the city of Pekalongan's challenges in water management. Pekalongan is located on the north coast of central Java and has around 307,000 inhabitants. The city is home to well-known traditional batik industries, often located in small-scale home-based workshops. Although economically important, the batik industry is a cause of poor water quality in the urban area and coastal zone, as production techniques consume a lot of groundwater and the wastewater is not properly treated. In addition, large parts of the city are affected by tidal and fluvial flooding, as was the case recently in February. The assessment of the water management situation serves as a stepping stone for future project development under the MoU Water, and the outcomes will be presented to those interested.

6. Irrigation Development for Food Production

In response to the global Covid-19 pandemic, Indonesia's President Joko Widodo launched an ambitious national programme to increase food production and agricultural output in order to improve overall food security for the people of Indonesia. In multiple regions throughout this vast island nation, various ambitious initiatives have been launched, with major national and foreign investment, to increase agricultural output. In a number of these schemes, the Ministry of Public Works and Housing has been tasked with ensuring adequate irrigation water supply and drainage, improving the general infrastructure in the rural areas, and arranging studies and designs on irrigation and drainage. Very aptly, in the bilateral cooperation on water between Indonesia and the Netherlands, one of the five cooperation themes is lowland development/water for food. In the context of

Indonesia's agricultural goals, diverse and major opportunities for the Dutch agriculture, water, food processing and related sectors are expected to emerge.

The Ministry of Public Works and Housing has already requested experts from IHE-Delft to review and guide plans and designs to improve irrigation/drainage for a rice and food crop development scheme in Kapuas Regency, Central Kalimantan. A small team of IHE-Delft experts is now engaging with their counterparts in Indonesia. Potential further collaboration may focus on regional land and water management studies, automation of irrigation, and capacity building. In another scheme in North Sumatra, the emphasis is on horticulture, while on Sumba the main challenge is adequate water supply. For more information on water related issues, contact Rien Dam (rien.dam@rvo.nl) the Delegated Representative Water in Indonesia. For questions related to agriculture, contact Joost van Uum (joost-van.Uum@minbuza.nl) the recently appointed Agricultural Attaché at the Embassy in Jakarta.



7. Events calendar

A virtual Trade Mission to Southeast Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam (ASEAN-5)) took place from 12 October 2020 to 11 December 2020. The Mission focused on the water, agrifood and waste management sectors. Nearly 700 participants from the Netherlands and Southeast Asia registered for the event. By popular demand, while travel is restricted, the B2Match platform will continue to be used to bridge the period up to the Singapore International Water Week. The platform is now open to all interested parties. A series of follow-up events will be held in the coming months. Information on the events will be made available on: <https://virtual-mission-asean5.b2match.io/>.

The next Indonesia Country Platform Meeting is expected to be held in late June 2021 (the date will be communicated in due course).

The next SIWW will be on 20-24 June 2021 (virtual)



IndoWater 2020 has been cancelled and re-scheduled to 21-23 July 2021 in Jakarta, Indonesia.



Stockholm Water Week is on 23-27 August 2021





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Amsterdam International Water Week (AIWW) will run from 31 October - 5 November 2021 this year, and will include Aquatech Amsterdam from 2-5 November.



The UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) set to take place in Glasgow has been re-scheduled to 1-12 November 2021.



For more information or suggestions for the next Country Update Indonesia, please contact Simone Sweerts, Project Manager Asia: +31-70-3043736, s.sweerts@nwp.nl.

If you would like to share information with and be informed by partners in the Indonesia Network, please register on the NWP Indonesia Platform LinkedIn page [here](#).

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