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December 2021

Dear Members of the Indonesia network,

We are pleased to present you the final Country Update for Indonesia for 2021 and for Partners for Water 4 (“PvW-4”) (2016-2021). In the new Partners for Water 5 (2022-2027) programme, Indonesia will remain a key Delta country, and through the MoU Water with Indonesia, the programme will continue to support Indonesia in improving its water management and resilience in both coastal and urban areas while simultaneously supporting Dutch organisations in realizing their international ambitions in Indonesia.

In this Update we start with a Message from the Delta Coordinator Indonesia, and continue with a number of upcoming opportunities in Pekalongan and the Welang River Basin area for Dutch Water Sector organisations at the start of 2022, an update on the Blue Deal Indonesia, and the preliminary results of a Dutch Water Sector in Indonesia survey recently carried out.

With the end of the current Partners for Water programme, the role (co-implementing agent) of The Netherlands Water Partnership (“NWP”), publisher of, amongst others, the Country Updates, also comes to an end. As networking organisation for the Dutch Water Sector, NWP will of course continue to widely support and promote the Dutch Water Sector to make an even bigger impact on the water sector worldwide. All information and tasks related to NWP’s role in the Partners for Water programme are being transferred to RVO. For all related questions and requests for information after 31 December 2021, please contact Johan Heymans (johan.heymans@rvo.nl).

Finally, we wish you and your families healthy, peaceful and joyous end of year celebrations and all our best wishes for the New Year 2022!



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1. A Message from the Delta Coordinator Indonesia

It is safe to say it has been a remarkable year. COVID19 has had and will continue to have a big influence on so many aspects of both personal and professional lives. Zooming in on the bilateral cooperation in the field of water with Indonesia, the following topics are of interest:

The PvW-4 programme entered its last year of execution in 2021. We are looking back at several projects that have been successfully executed and have produced the desired results for our counterparts but have also created solid ground for continuation of the cooperation in the coming years. Coastal development (North coast Central Java), Flood Management (Welang river) and Watermanagement (Semarang) are projects that have shown the importance of cooperating with motivated partners with a short term and a longer term view; thus giving us perspective and lessons learned to extend the cooperation and activities in time, using other instruments and involving other parties. In the next issue of the Country Update a more extensive overview of 2021 will be given.



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With the growing attention worldwide for climate change, the awareness and opportunities for water security and water safety also gain momentum. The importance of adaptation to the changing circumstances in the field of water have never been so obvious. Looking at the bilateral cooperation, the importance to adapt, innovate and share knowledge is key. This applies to and should benefit both countries as both countries are facing unknown or new challenges.

In 2022, the fifth PvW programme will start with an execution period of six years. PvW-5 has selected 8 countries as priority countries, the so-called Delta countries. Indonesia is one of them. PvW-5 is introducing a theme-oriented approach next to the Delta country approach. These themes are Building with Nature and the combination of Water-Biodiversity-Agriculture. The beginning of 2022 will be used to make a further orientation on possibilities for further cooperation within the framework of PvW-5 and other instruments. The outcome of the sector update (see item 5 of this Update) will certainly be taken into account.

On behalf of the whole team: we wish you all a happy, healthy and successful 2022!

2. Solution providers to work together in Welang River, East Java

In a follow-up initiative to the ongoing cooperation with the Province of East Java and the Welang Flood Management and Master Plan project, a Call for Expressions of Interest was launched, aimed at identifying Dutch solution providers for a range of pressing issues in the Welang river basin, Pasuruan area. Examples of the types of interventions for which the project partner is seeking solutions, are:

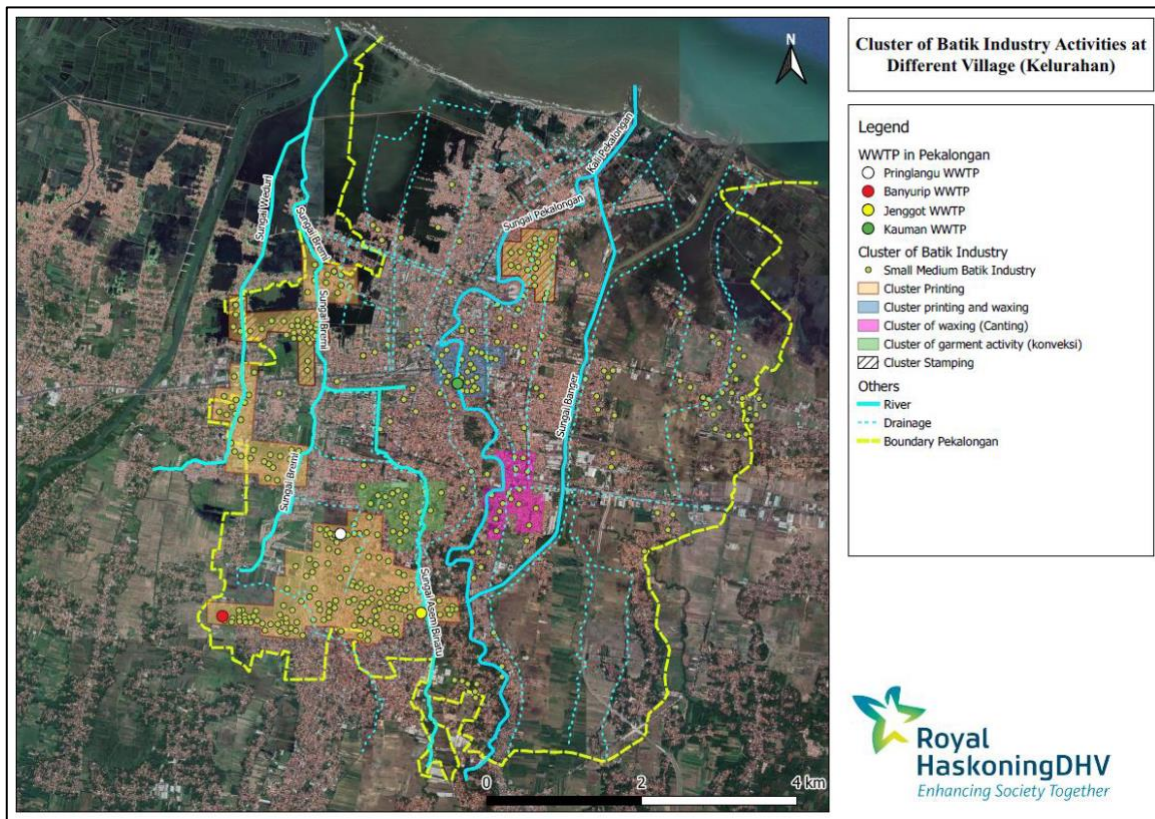
- river dredging
- sludge/sediment material management
- water retention
- checking dams
- river widening
- Early Warning Systems (EWS)
- terrace cultivation/terracing
- sustainable farming practices
- agroforestry
- reforestation actions
- ecosystem services
- community education (on soil and water conservation) and
- infrastructure financing

The Call received an overwhelming response from solution providers. For an overview, click on the following link: <https://www.indonesiawaterportal.com/pages/categories/welang-solution-providers/all/latest.html>

The plan is to bring these solution providers in contact with the main project partner, the Water Resources Agency of East Java (PU-SDA), other stakeholders and possible financing partners to discuss potential new cooperation in the area (following up on recommendations and results of the Welang project). A first meeting with all parties is being planned for the end of January 2022 and announcements will be made through NWP and/or the Indonesia Water portal.

3. Pekalongan, Central Java: batik industries wastewater pollution

The ongoing and expanding collaboration with the city of Pekalongan focuses, as one of the priority topics, on improving the management of wastewater from Batik (textile production) industries in the city. A new study that will be available soon will present further results of the specific wastewater issues, existing treatment facilities and needs for expanding technical and human resources capacities. The idea is to invite Dutch solution providers, early 2022, to reflect on the situation in Pekalongan and present tailor-made solutions; the further consultation process on this topic between a selection of Dutch solution providers and stakeholders and local government in Pekalongan will be facilitated by RVO in the first half of 2022. Interested parties viz. solution providers in tailored wastewater treatment for textile industries can contact the Delegated Representative Water for Indonesia at: rien.dam@rvo.nl



The cooperation with Pekalongan forms part of the bilateral cooperation in water with Indonesia under the MoU Water. It is expected that ongoing and future activities in the coming years will focus on addressing land subsidence and improving groundwater management, improving urban drainage, as well as flood management and raw water availability for the city and adjacent regions. The long-term cooperation will also include a partnership with the Dutch Water Authorities under the Blue Deal programme, additional assignments for Dutch water sector parties (companies, knowledge institutes) and student internships for Indonesian and Dutch Master students.



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4. Dutch Water Authorities (DWA) Indonesia joins the Blue Deal



The Indonesia Blue Deal partnership proposal was admitted to the Blue Deal program on December 3, 2021. The Dutch government's intensive cooperation with the Indonesian government in the field of water management and water governance dates back many years. The Dutch Water Authorities ("DWA") or water boards have also been closely involved since the beginning of this century (DWA Indonesia). One example of this is the various partnerships with local water authorities, including the Banger Polder project in Semarang (Central Java). This development has led to other partnerships as well, amongst which is the one with the municipality of the Pekalongan regency.

The accession of DWA Indonesia to the Blue Deal offers the opportunity to enter into a long-term and sustainable partnership from 2022 to 2030. The partnership focuses on three regions where DWA was previously active, and will now be linked in one program, BD Indonesia. The Blue Deal is a programme of the Dutch Ministries of Infrastructure and Water and Foreign Affairs and the 21 water boards in the Netherlands. The programme currently runs until 2030, divided into two four-year periods (2022-2026 and 2027-2030). The programme brings sustainability to the relationship between our partners in Indonesia. DWA Indonesia supports this in the field of regional and local water management. The accumulated knowledge and experience of the Dutch water boards can now and for a longer period be shared with our colleagues in Pekalongan, Semarang and Tangerang.

The emphasis of the partnership lies with all partners in Indonesia on flood control (from the Java Sea and the hinterland) and regional water management. Where relevant and important for the integrity of water management, we also look at the possibility of improving the water quality of the surface water. The first half of 2022 is now dedicated to drawing up a joint proposal of goals and activities for the period 2022 to 2026, together with our Indonesian partners, despite the necessary COVID restrictions in both countries. Any implementation regarding collaboration with third parties will therefore not be likely before the second half of 2022.

The partnership DWA Indonesia and its Indonesian partners are very pleased to close the year 2021 on a high note with this positive decision to join the Blue Deal.



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5. Indonesia Sector Update 2021 - preliminary results

In June-July 2020 NWP launched an online survey to solicit input from the Dutch Water Sector on the 5 proposed themes for bilateral cooperation in the new MoU Water, their relevance to respondents, which risks and opportunities they associated with these, and expectations regarding the bilateral cooperation. The survey yielded a wealth of useful information that also contributed to further shaping the MoU Water. Nearly 18 months later, the world has changed dramatically and organisations have had to deal with the ongoing effects of Covid19. With this, and in light of the new 6 year-cycle of the Partners for Water programme starting in January, it was deemed an opportune moment to take stock of what is happening on the ground in Indonesia. NWP therefore commissioned The Water Agency to provide an up-to-date overview of water-related activities by Dutch organisations in Indonesia.

Given the relatively short amount of time available, a survey was sent out to a cross-section of 32 parties (21 responses were received) and interviews were conducted with 8 organisations. The final report will be available early in the new year, but the preliminary results already provide some very interesting insights. What is clear is that all parties have suffered substantially from Covid-19, which also hit Indonesia hard. However, on the positive side, for most, Indonesia will remain a target market based on the future potential. Budgets have also largely remained stable, although the outlook is somewhat less certain for smaller, private players, and will depend on how long the current situation persists, where the key requirement of personal contact is currently very restricted. Interestingly, NGOs are the exception, where international donor funding has in fact increased. Respondents expressed an interest in further dialogue with the Dutch government on plans and activities between these two groups, with a focus on more small-scale, focused engagement, and a drive for concrete results. Further information and follow-up actions will be planned and communicated in the New Year.

6. Events calendar

Dubai Expo (22 Jan) The full event will take place from October 2021-March 2022



SIWW (17-21 April 2022)





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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 and stay informed by other partners of the Indonesia Network, kindly register on the NWP Indonesia Platform LinkedIn page [here](#).

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