Dear readers,

10 years ago, the DAAD and the Government of the Province of Aceh launched the “Aceh Scholarships of Excellence Programme”. The programme was meant to contribute to the capacity building in Aceh province, enabling students and graduates from Aceh to pursue Master or PhD studies in different fields of science in Germany. Today, we can proudly state that more than 140 students and graduates have been funded by the programme. A significant number of our “Aceh Alumni” work at Aceh’s universities today and are thus contributing to the education of the present and future student generations. Others are successfully working in industry, business and administration.

In this newsletter, you will find some examples of “careers made by German-Acehnese cooperation”. You will also get information on the remarkable network of Acehnese students which exists in Germany. In our photo gallery we are presenting some of the main German-Acehnese events which have taken place during the last years. Maybe you participated in one of them! Please also note the information on the current scholarship announcements and their deadlines and the announcement of our next “Falling Walls Lab”, which will take place in September.

This newsletter is the “farewell newsletter” of our dear colleague Ivan Annusyirvan, who has been working with us for more than five years and has contributed so much to improve our communication with you, dear readers and friends. Most of our communication media – social media as well as webinars, newsletters and others - have been developed or updated by him and we, all colleagues of our DAAD branch office Jakarta, would like to say thank you and goodbye to him! We will always be glad to see you again, to meet you and to learn from you, dear Ivan!

As always, I wish you a pleasant reading of our newsletter in the name of our whole DAAD team! Please feel free to contact us anytime in case you would like to get more information or just address questions and suggestions to us.

Thomas Zettler

P.S.: In our DAAD office Jakarta and at multiple information events we consult and assist those of you who are planning to take up or continue your studies or research projects in Germany. Information on the consultation hours can be found on our webpage www.daad.id.
Over the past ten years, the government of Aceh Province has given the opportunity to Acehnese to pursue their Master or Ph.D. degree in Germany. In April 2009 the government of Aceh Province and the DAAD signed an MoU for the implementation of the Aceh Scholarships of Excellence Programme. Over the ten years of its existence, the programme has supported ten groups of awardees consisting of 143 young Acehnese.

The government of Aceh Province funds the Aceh Scholarships of Excellence Programme. It pays for a German language course in Jakarta, monthly allowance, travel cost, an arrival allowance, book allowance, research allowance, and the tuition fee. The DAAD is responsible for the administration of the overall programme and compliments the scholarships by paying for a language course in Germany, meetings, and seminars, such as orientation seminars and intercultural training for newly arrived scholarship holders. A new group of scholarship holders (11th batch) is expected to depart to Germany in 2019.

Collaboration between the DAAD and Aceh Province has a long tradition. Already in the 1990’s the DAAD granted scholarships for doctoral degrees in Germany to several lecturers from Universitas Syiah Kuala and State Islamic University UIN (formerly IAIN) Ar-Raniry.

After the catastrophic tsunami disaster struck Aceh in December 2004, relations became closer when the DAAD offered and channeled special scholarship programmes and various German aid programmes. These programmes, such as DAAD Catastrophes Prevention, Crises Management, and Conflict Prevention Special Programme (CCC/Tsunami), Training Academy of Syiah Kuala University (TASK Program), Sur-Place scholarship programmes financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Stifterverband BMZ–SV and PricewaterhouseCoopers PWC supported more than 1300 Acehnese.

In August 2005, the Aceh Peace Agreement was signed in Helsinki after 29 years of conflict between the Indonesian Central Government and the Free Aceh Movement. According to the agreement, Aceh is entitled to retain 70 percent of the revenues from all current and future hydrocarbon deposits and other natural resources in the territory of Aceh as well as in the territorial sea surrounding Aceh. With this revenue, the government of Aceh Province is committed to enhancing human resources through capacity building by providing various scholarship programmes for Acehnese.

**PROGRAMME SCHEME**

⇒ Objective: Capacity building and human resource development in Aceh Province (through Master and Doctoral study in Germany)
⇒ Target group: Fresh graduates, professionals, civil servants and university teachers
⇒ Funding: Master or PhD studies at universities or universities of applied sciences in Germany
⇒ Selection: Annual selection of scholarship holders by the DAAD commission
IMAN (Ikatan Mahasiswa Aceh di Jerman - Association of Aceh Students in Germany)

Students established the Association of Aceh Students in Germany (IMAN) in 2011 in Göttingen as there is an increasing number of Acehnese, who study in Germany. They are funded by the Aceh Government through DAAD Aceh Scholarships of Excellence or other scholarships such as Dikti, Erasmus Mundus or self-financed students. Besides promoting friendship among Aceh students, the association is actively involved in promoting Aceh culture in Germany. The IMAN website also provides information about student life in Germany.

ASFE (Aceh Scholars for Excellence) Radio

Starting from the limitations of time and distance to gather and stay in touch during studies in Germany, Aceh awardees took the initiative to form an online friendship forum in the form of radio: ASFE Radio, Aceh Scholars for Excellence Radio. ASFE Radio offers many interesting programmes, such as information and knowledge sharing about study in Germany, entertainment, scientific discussion and religious programmes.
Cultural Promotion in Germany

IMAN formed two traditional dancing teams (Tari Likok Pulo and Tari Rapa’i Geleng) to introduce and promote Aceh culture. They have participated in many cultural events in Germany, such as:

- Perayaan Hari Kebudayaan Indonesia di Köln, 2011
- Peringatan 60 Tahun hubungan Bilateral Jerman-Indonesia di Braunschweig, 2012
- Gaung Garuda Music Festival di Hannover, 2013
- Malam Indonesia di Bremen, 2014
- Peresmian Mesjid Indonesia di Frankfurt, 2014
- One Day Indonesia di Dortmund, 2015
- HUT Kemerdekaan Indonesia di Berlin, 2017
- Indoversity di Berlin, 2017
- Lange Nacht der Konsulat KJRI Hamburg, 2017 & 2018

Travelogue Aceh – Germany - Europe

A unique and interesting source of information about Germany based on reports & direct experiences of Acehnese students who studied in Germany. Being illustrated and written in a easily understandable language, the book provides personal tips on getting scholarships, portraits of campus life in Germany, tips for traveling in Europe, insights of being a Muslim in Germany or being a football fan. The main contributors of Travelogue Aceh -Germany-Europe are Aceh Scholarships of Excellence Awardees. The book was published in 2014.

Short interviews with three Acehnese alumni

Please tell us about your study experience in Germany! How would you relate your study experience abroad and your postgraduate degree to your own personal development as well as your professional career?

I studied Hydrogeology, and Environmental Geoscience at the University of Göttingen from 2010 to 2013. During my study, I learned mostly about Hydrogeology which is very important to my current job. During my stay in Germany, I experienced many new cultures and also the attitude of people. Most of the students are disciplined, serious, and like traveling. Some of my Friends and I also performed Aceh Traditional dance in Germany (ex: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CAMroMv5C2k). During my study, I also travelled abroad to France and the Netherlands. Currently, I am still working at the Agency of Energy and Mineral Resources of Aceh. In my position as the head of the Hydrogeology section, I have contributed to solving problems related to my section, for instance, in a village called Lengkong in 2018. Excessive groundwater extraction has resulted in social conflicts between communities and groundwater entrepreneurs in Lengkong Village. According to the community, the cause of land subsidence is due to a large amount of groundwater extraction in the area from companies, while groundwater companies argue that land subsidence is caused by the lithology of the area in the form of peat and clay. My team and I performed a geologic measurement and pumping test in the area of conflict and did a laboratory analysis to know the cause. Finally, based on the research, the solution we made was a recommendation that had to be accepted by all. I also do verification for companies that need a legal permit for groundwater use. Finally, the study I had in Germany is now very helpful for me to develop my professional career.

Ikhlas Ali Amran, M.Sc.
Please tell us about your study experience in Germany!

I studied Water Resources Engineering at the University of Stuttgart. It was the best choice for me to continue studying in Germany. I have learned about the methodology at university and it gave me a very important value that is called quality. I got the strong motivation to explore something new related to a subject or to conduct research that I am interested in and it is supported by the facilities. In addition, the place where I am living has also influenced my behavior to respect rules, meet new people and manage how to use time to be valuable in life. My study experience abroad gave me a strong motivation to always keep learning something new through developing what I have. This was a very valuable experience for me, to explore and increase my ability for the future of my career. Progress (even if it is small) is important to level up the capacity to improve the quality.

Please briefly inform us about your current job and any other major activities after you finished your study in Germany!

Currently, I am a lecturer at the Department of Civil Engineering, Universitas Pertamina. In addition, I was involved as a technical advisor to provide the low emission development strategies (LEDS) for the strategic environmental assessment or KLHS in RPJM (Medium-Term Development Plan) in Aceh Province. These strategies have the main purpose of decreasing carbon emissions due to the government development planning and supporting the sustainable development goals (SDGs). Furthermore, I was also involved as a team leader to prepare the strategic policy at the division of research and development with the Development Planning Agency at Sub-National Level (Bappeda) Aceh. These policies are based on RPJM Aceh 2017-2022 which involve education, economy, environmental health and public services. This document, further called the Kebijakan Strategis (Jakstra) Penelitian dan Pengembangan Bappeda Aceh Tahun 2017-2022, will be used by the government agencies in Aceh to develop a programme based on evidence-based planning and an outcome basis. In addition, currently, I am involved with Bappeda Aceh in preparing the proposal for the IRENA-ADFD (International Renewable Energy Agency – Abu Dhabi Fund for Development) that is related to the development of renewable energy in Aceh Province.

How would you relate your study experience abroad and your postgraduate degree to your own personal development as well as your professional career?

I started my master programme in October 2010 at the Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, majoring Health and Society; Gender and Diversity Studies. During my master programme we had a class excursion to Geneva to visit international organizations like WHO, World Bank, ICRC, IFRC and UNHCR and later on I was successfully accepted to spend a six-week internship at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Geneva. My previous study and internship experiences have brought me to my professional career right now as a lecturer and a researcher. I can give my best contribution to Aceh based on my expertise. From DAAD, I also received a great benefit to my professional career. For example, I often apply to participate in some conferences in different cities in Indonesia which is a great benefit to my professional connection with my German Alumni fellows, I was involved as a researcher in a multi-year research programme between Universitas Syiah Kuala and the Georg-August University of Göttingen in 2016. It aims to reduce the number of maternal and infant mortality death by using a tool named the Safe Childbirth Checklist from the World Health Organization. Some similar research projects to see how this checklist can give great benefits to the public health have been done in several other countries in the world. In Indonesia, this project was the first of its kind and it was conducted in Aceh. The result of this research was disseminated to the World Health Organization Indonesia and the stakeholders in Aceh, including Provincial and Districts Health Office, BKKBN, Hospitals, Puskesmas and other health professional associations.

Do you have any advice for future students who want to apply for Aceh Scholarships of Excellence Programme?

I believe, I would not be who I am now if I had not taken the opportunity to study abroad, particularly in Germany. I am really happy about who I am today. Taking the challenge to pursue my master degree abroad was one of my best decisions in my life. I gained more than I expected. This is the opportunity of a lifetime. We should try our best to give back what we gained to Aceh afterwards. Having DAAD as Aceh Government’s scholarship partner makes you only need to think about yourself and your study. The benefits of studying in Germany will end once you have graduated but continue on into your professional careers. When you finish your study, the German Alumni Association will welcome you. In Indonesia and particularly in Aceh the German Alumni Association has a strong and solid bond. We work and play together, more like a big family. Now, it’s time for you to join us.
Memorable moments of “Aceh Scholarship of Excellence” awardees

- Pre-Departure Training organised by DAAD Jakarta
- German language course at Goethe-Institut Jakarta
- Meeting with DAAD Jakarta’s programme officer of „Aceh Scholarship of Excellence“
- Arrival in Germany
- German language course in Marburg with participants from various countries
- Intercultural training course in Germany
- Meeting with the DAAD Bonn’s team
- Group picture during the DAAD Meeting in Kassel
- Group picture on the way to German language class
- Tari Saman team
- Enjoying Ramadhan dinner with Acehnese fellows
- Introducing traditional Acehnese dishes and culture at Indonesian Sport Festival at Universität Hannover
Liebe Alumni, liebe Freunde,

Every beginning has to come to an end, and that is true for my time here at the DAAD Jakarta office. For more than a half-decade I have worked and supported the DAAD team in Jakarta as Media Manager. Honestly, it never crossed my mind that someday I would leave the office and say goodbye to my humble and hardworking colleagues here. There were indeed ups and downs but mostly I enjoyed my last five years taking care of the media world for the office.

Please allow me to put down a short, memorable review of what I have done so far. My first working day was 2 January 2014, right after New Year. Our media technology was not as advanced as today then. We started with establishing the web-based seminars (short: webinar). I developed a concept for the webinar series fit for information and marketing purposes, identified suitable topics and presenters, and invited my DAAD colleagues as speakers, as well as representatives from German universities, Indonesian students in Germany and alumni. In 2016, I developed a webinar particularly designed for German language lecturers and students. This webinar is called Gerbinar (Webinar für Germanisten). In total, 137 webinars have been organized, 42 of them together with German universities, and 4 as Gerbinars.

Since I have been in charge of maintaining the homepage of DAAD Jakarta, I - supported by Christian Rabl, one of my colleague at the office - was the responsible liaison officer when DAAD Jakarta’s website was relaunched in 2017. I closely supervised the year-long process together with my colleagues in the head office. Beside this, I also have been in charge of DAAD Jakarta’s three-monthly newsletter, including layout, overseeing the production process, identifying main topics and possible authors, contacting alumni and interviewing them, negotiating with translators and eventually distributing the newsletter to various target groups in time. This June edition is my 20th and my last edition as well.

Another field of my activities were the social media channels such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. DAAD Jakarta only had Facebook and Twitter when I was hired in 2014. As time went by, Instagram became more popular than these channels, so I decided to open the Instagram channel on 1 January 2018 to keep our followers updated. Now, we have more than 21.000 followers on Facebook, more than 22.000 followers on Instagram, and almost 5.000 on Twitter. I am a passionate photographer, and it was one of my tasks to shoot pictures during our events. Now you know where all the good images posted on our social media came from 😊. I also supported the Director in her/his annual reports by finding pictures and securing or clarifying copyrights. My duties also involved face-to-face guidance and consultation for students and parents interested in studying in Germany, at education fairs and during our consulting hours every Thursday afternoon at the office. Last but not least, I was in charge of the alumni database. Because of this, I had the chance to get in contact with many of our wonderful alumni. They inspired me to continue my studies and broaden my network.

There were still a lot of memorable events that will not be forgotten. The last five years have been an invaluable experience and of course, have set the foundation of my future career and skill. Herewith, I would like to thank my former Director, Ibu Dr. Irene Jansen, who accepted me as one of her team members and my current Director, Bapak Thomas Zettler, who has always supported me with every decision I made. Big thanks also to my wonderful colleagues for the great cooperation and many moments of joy and laughter. I will really miss our lunch together at Doib. Thank you dear DAAD Jakarta’s Freunde who have always been giving your likes on social media, joining our webinars and subscribing to our newsletter.

For you who are interested in studying in Germany, either with or without a scholarship, I wish you all the best of luck. Do not give up easily and keep trying. Remember: „Setiap orang ada masanya dan setiap masa ada orangnya“.

See you in Europe!
Scholarships now open!

Please click here to visit our website to see the list or DAAD scholarships that are currently available.

Development Related Postgraduate Courses (EPOS)

- Postgraduate courses for young professionals from developing countries with at least two years of related professional experience after the first degree (bachelor) at the time of application. His/her academic degrees should normally not be more than six years old.
- Internationally recognised Master’s and PhD degree
- Duration: 12-24 months for Master (depending on the particular institution) and 36 months for PhD
- Includes German Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences
- Support of selected programmes with a variety of scholarships (including German language courses)

Helmut-Schmidt-Programme (Master’s Scholarships for Public Policy and Good Governance - PPGG)

- The scholarship programme is open to graduates in the field of social, political sciences, law, economics and in public administration
- The programme is open for very well qualified graduates with a first university degree (bachelor or equivalent) who want to actively contribute to the social and economic development of their home countries. It is offered both for young graduates without professional experience and for mid-career professionals
- Duration: 12-24 months (depending on the particular institution)
- The application period lasts from June 1st to July 31st, 2019.

Advertisements by German Universities

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Goethe University is now offering scholarships for 75 Master’s programs. Applicants must hold an excellent Bachelor’s degree from a university outside of Germany. Awardees are provided with a monthly stipend of 1,000 EUR and other benefits to help them develop their career. Find more info here: www.uni-frankfurt.de/masterstip and spread the word!
Registration: https://www.falling-walls.com/lab/apply/asia-oceania

12 SEPTEMBER 2019 | 1PM
FALLING WALLS LAB IS COMING TO JAKARTA

Which wall will your research break? Pitch your innovative idea in just 3 minutes, showcasing a breakthrough that creates a positive impact on science and society.

WHO
Students, entrepreneurs, early-career researchers, & academics of all disciplines

WHAT
Convince a jury of your idea - in 3 minutes!

WHY
Win a trip to the global Finale in Berlin this November! The winner will also receive the EURAXESS Prize valued at €600 to visit a research lab or university of their choice in any of the 28 member countries of the European Union.

WHERE
Universitas Indonesia, Fakultas Ekonomi dan Bisnis, Auditorium Dekanat FEB UI, Kampus Depok, www.feb.ui.ac.id

QUESTIONS
fallingwallslab@daadjkt.org

APPLY HERE
falling-walls.com/lab/apply

Deadline: 18 August 2019

*Public event – attendance is free & encouraged