



Australia Awards

Australia Awards in Indonesia – Short Term Award Tackling Marine Pollution issues through Recycling



The participants of the Tackling Marine Pollution issues through Recycling Short Term Award attending the post-course workshop with the Griffith University and Australia Awards in Indonesia team in Surabaya, East Java.

Course Highlights:

- Pre-course workshop on 30 July - 1 August 2019 in Tangerang (Indonesia)
- Two-week short course on 2 -13 September 2019 in Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Melbourne and Sydney (Australia)
- Post-course workshop on 14 - 16 January 2020 in Surabaya (Indonesia)

The purpose of this Short Term Award was to understand how behavioural change approaches can be applied to reduce plastic use and increase recycling as well as explore current Australian policies, regulations, research, technologies and expertise - both public and private - that can be readily and easily applied in Indonesia to increase recycling and reduce marine pollution.

The Short Term Award saw 25 Indonesian government, non-profit and industry leaders complete a two-week immersion in Australia to learn about marine pollution reduction fundamentals, laws and regulations, recycling industry technologies and solutions using circular economy principles.

Leading the course was Griffith University's Dr Sunil Herat from Griffith's School of Engineering and Professor Sharyn Rundle-Thiele from Social Marketing @ Griffith.



Highlights of Site Visits and Sessions:

Institutional visits highlighted the work being undertaken in Australia to tackle waste and enabled participants to make connections with Australian waste and recycling organisations.

Site Visits (Brisbane and the Sunshine Coast):

Presentations from the **Queensland Department of Environment and Science**; marine debris collection and analysis on the Sunshine Coast with **Conservation Volunteers Australia**; understanding the circular economy with **Cleanaway** and **Brisbane City Council Resource Recovery Centre**; working towards a zero-waste society with the **United Nations Centre for Regional Development**; collaboration between organisations to tackle marine pollution with **WWF Australia**; and commercial plastics recycling at **Resitech Industries**.

Site visits (Melbourne):

Separation of food waste and packaging at **Cleanaway Melbourne** facilities; the science behind a plastic ocean with **Plastic Oceans Australasia**; a demonstration of recycled plastic products at **Replas Environmental Centre**; road construction using recycled plastics and glass at **Downer Group**; how recycling toners and cartridges feeds into the circular economy with **Close the Loop**; and waste management and recycling in multi-unit developments with **Sustainability Victoria**.

Pre-Course Workshop:

The pre-course workshop took place in Tangerang, Indonesia between 30 July – 1 August 2019. The pre-course was designed to introduce the program objectives and expectations to the participants as well as provide them with context of the problem.

In addition to the course leaders Professors Herat and Rundle-Thiele, presentations from guest lecturers included Prof Enri Damanhuri (ITB) and Dr Haruki Agustina (MoEF), who provided a summary of the challenge facing Indonesia in terms of marine pollution and policy response in place to address this.

Participant Projects:

Course participants were required to prepare a Return to Work research project, tailored to their workplace, to be implemented upon their return to Indonesia. These projects were inspired by the many Australian recycling programs participants were exposed to during their stay and will serve as a means for participants to continue sharing their newfound knowledge and skills.

Post-Course Workshop:

The post-course workshop was undertaken in Surabaya, Indonesia between 14-16 January 2020. The post-course provided a final opportunity for participants to address any content not included in Australia, clarification of content, confirmation of networks and linkages with Australian institutions and hone their presentation skills. The participants gave a formal presentation of their Return to Work research projects, providing an opportunity for peer feedback and potential collaboration.

A networking dinner provided an ideal opportunity for the local industry representatives to learn about the projects conducted by the participants.



The participants and facilitator of the course visited PT Polindo Utama as part of the pre-course workshop activities.



Marine debris collection and analysis on Queensland's Sunshine Coast with Conservation Volunteers Australia South East Operations Manager Doug Mackenzie



Participants at the Cleanaway Packaged Food Waste Recycling Facility in Melbourne



The closing ceremony at the post-course workshop marked the end of the course.

Examples of Project Outcomes:

- Webri Valina and Fatmawati Arisuddin have met with Foudner and Director of the Australian Indonesian Business Council, David Widjaja in Brisbane to discuss funding opportunities.

- Ricki Hersburgh from Plastic Oceans Australasia has shared their education curriculum with Abid Kamalsyah (The Green School) and Webri Valina; piloting of these materials has commenced in Indonesia.

- Abid Kamalsyah has corresponded with Dr Michelle Blewitt and Dr Scott Wilson from AUSMAP regarding the establishment of AUSMAP activities in Indonesia, including a visit to conduct a sustainability audit.

Testimonies:

"I gained a lot of key insights from the course including an understanding of effective collaborations between the Australian Government, private sector and community; it's really inspired me to do more in Indonesia. The institutional visits and lectures were really useful to learn about how new waste management programs are implemented and reasoning behind policies."

Swietenia Puspa Lestari

Executive Director, Divers Clean Action Indonesia

"A highlight of the course for me was micro-plastics sampling and analysis at Dicky Beach on the Sunshine Coast. I want to bring this knowledge to my students in Bali and help them identify micro-plastics at the beaches there, so they can have a better understanding of how our oceans are being polluted."

Abid Kamalsyah

Recycling Centre Manager at The Green School

"I met a lot of people from different backgrounds who had different ideas but with the same vision of tackling plastic pollution. I think the most useful aspect of the course was the expert presentations. They provided us with new ideas and perspectives on waste management."

Fazri Putrantomo

Policy Analyst, The Ministry of Environment and Forestry Republic of Indonesia

For further info about the program, please contact:

Mr James Morse
Project Coordinator
Griffith University
Email: j.morse@griffith.edu.au