



Deputy Minister of Education, Fasli Jalal

Deputy Minister Pushes for DBE Dissemination

'CONTINUOUS innovation in learning is essential,' stated Prof. Fasli Jalal, Ph.D in his speech at the National Conference organized by USAID and the Government of Indonesia (GOI).

According to the Deputy Minister of Education, Indonesian teachers talk 25 times as much as their students. In other countries, he said, teachers speak on average only 5 times as much. That is why we need to start using better approaches and practices to raise the quality of education in Indonesia so that the students have the opportunity to become active learners.

"We need to find new models and innovations and learn to understand these innovations. We need to identify which learning activities can be considered best practices based on our own experiences. These best practices must be contextual and relevant to the socio-cultural conditions where the ideas have been developed," said the Deputy Minister.

When we have identified the best practices, we need to promote them among education stakeholders - starting with teachers, supervisors and district government staff, who should be supported by the province, the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Religious Affairs and the Coordinating Ministry for People's Welfare. Although the locations of USAID assisted projects are limited in number, we need to keep developing the innovations in those places and present the ideas to new schools and districts or from the center to new provinces. "That is what we aspire to," said the Deputy Minister enthusiastically.

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DBE3 Partners at National Conference

On APRIL 7, 2010, USAID and the Government of Indonesia organized a National Conference involving all the education projects being funded by USAID. At the conference the Deputy Minister of National Education, Prof. Fasli Jalal, Ph.D said that the government valued the USAID programs and will encourage their sustainability and dissemination (see the article on the left).

During the conference, each of the USAID-funded programs had the opportunity to present their activities. DBE3 was represented by *ibu* Lia Windari, a teacher from MTsN Binjai, *ibu* Yani Herliani, the school principal and two students from SMPN 8, Bogor, and Bpk. Mansyur Eppe, a district facilitator from Pangkep, South Sulawesi.

Outside the meeting room there were exhibitions from the USAID programs. The DBE3 exhibition included materials from all the program's partner provinces. You can read more about DBE3 contribution to the national conference on pages 2 and 3.



Nadya and Nur Ramadhan, students at SMPN8 Bogor, speaking at the conference



The DBE3 Display at the National Conference

Showcase Meetings in Districts

MOST DBE3 districts in six provinces have conducted district showcase meetings to show the progress made in both partner and non-partner schools which are implementing the DBE3 program. The participants included representatives of local government and schools not yet implementing the program.

In several districts, the showcases were held the District Head's or Mayor's meeting hall and opened by the District Head or Mayor themselves.

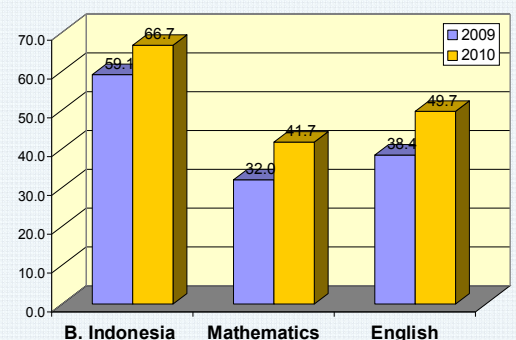
There were exhibitions of students' work, learning media, lesson plans and pictures of lessons taking place in the schools. There were also presentations by school principals, teachers, district facilitators and students about the changes that have taken in their schools. In some district there were also visits to partner schools to observe directly lessons taking place. You can read short reports of the showcases in two districts on page 5.



The Principal and Teachers of MTs YPMI in front of their school display in Tanjung Balai, North Sumatera

Impact on Students

DBE3 has conducted tests with students in 54 partner schools in 25 districts to assess their competencies in the subjects of Bahasa Indonesia, Mathematics and English. From 2009 to 2010 there was a significant increase in scores as can be seen in the chart on the right. You can read more about this on page 4.



USAID
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USAID-GOI National Conference

School Principal, Teacher, Students and District Facilitator Presenting Good Practices

A National Conference was organized jointly by USAID and the Government of Indonesia at the Ministry of Education on April 7, 2010. DBE3 presented its achievements in promoting the adoption of good practices in junior secondary schools. A school principal, a teacher, a district facilitator and even two students shared their experiences of the impact of the DBE3 program. Below are a number of extracts from the presentations of the school principal, teacher, district facilitator and students.

Lia Windari, S.Pd, Science Teacher at MTsN Binjai, North Sumatera

Changes in My Teaching



Lia Windari S.Pd.

SINCE participating in DBE3 training, there have been big changes in my teaching. Now my students are more active and enthusiastic in their learning. The students sit in small groups. Displays of students' work fill the classrooms as well as the display boards outside the class-rooms. Each classroom also has a reading and learning resource corner. Based on the classroom action research I am currently taking part in, 50% of my students have become more creative and their performance has improved. This has made me all the more determined to improve myself. Now I spent a lot of time searching for new information from various sources and discussing with my colleagues at the science teachers working group (MGMP).



A Student of MTsN Binjai doing a science experiment organized by Lia Windari.

Drs. Mansyur Epe, Mathematics Teacher and District Facilitator in Pangkep, South Sulawesi

Supporting Teachers and Doing it Myself



Drs. Mansyur Epe.

HOW are district facilitators trained? The process itself is an example of practical training which supports active learning. For example, in the training, the participants are encouraged to work cooperatively, present their own work and review the work of other groups. The aim is for participants to experience directly an example which they can then apply in the classroom.

After the training, these facilitators support teachers through mentoring while they are teaching their classes. Starting with the preparation of good lesson plans through to the implementation of these plans in class, the facilitators are involved with the teachers. This is to ensure consistency in implementing the results of the training, to support the sustainability of the program and to support the development of active learning in class.

In addition to training and mentoring teachers and supporting them at the subject teachers working group (MGMP), district facilitators also have to apply the skills they have learned in their own classrooms. This is in order that they experience things for themselves before training other teachers how to do them.



Students interviewing a pedicab driver as part of a Mathematics lesson organized by pak Mansyur

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Dra. Yani Herliani, School Principal of SMPN 8 Bogor, West Java Committed to Change at School Level



Dra. Yani Herliani.

THERE are five things that I have done since our school became a partner of DBE3. (1) I have asked the teachers who participated in DBE3 training to implement the skills they had learned and share them with other teachers at meetings and in the school level subject teachers working groups (MGMP). (2) I have provided the materials teachers needed in order to teach. (3) I have conducted supervision by saying to the teachers, "I would like to see the new models of learning, how the students learn alongside the teacher and how the lesson is organized." (4) I have encouraged teachers to observe how their colleagues teach different subjects. (5) I have replicated the DBE3 training for all the teachers in the school using our own funds.



Teachers observe their colleagues teaching different subjects.

M. Nur Ramadhan dan Nadya, Students of SMPN 8 Bogor who spoke at the National Conference



M. Nur Ramadhan and Nadya giving their presentation at the conference. They showed work done in a Bahasa Indonesia lesson and used as a learning resource for other students.

Getting Better Marks

M. NUR Ramadhan and Nadya were the only students invited to give presentations at the National Education Conference about the changes that have taken place at their school. Ramadhan feels that the relationship between teachers and students has become closer. The lessons are very varied and keep the students interested. The seating arrangements in class make it easy for them to share their ideas with their friends. Both the students said that, as a result, their examination marks have improved.

Ramadhan and Nadya also feel they can express themselves more freely and there is more variety in the work they produce. "Previously, we only had opportunities to be creative in writing poems or making handicrafts. Now in almost every subject we have the opportunity to be creative," said Nadya. SMPN 8 Bogor has only been a partner of DBE3 for one year. But there are already many visible changes in the school, which now often receives visits from other schools.



Pak Eko, a Mathematics teacher from Purworejo, explaining some of the items exhibited at DBE3 stand to one of the participants in the national conference.



Teachers, a district facilitator and staff of DBE3 who helped prepare the DBE3 exhibition at the National Education Conference organized by USAID and GOI.

DISTRICT SHOWCASES Show the Progress in DBE3 Partner Schools

Most of the 25 DBE3 extension districts in six provinces have conducted district showcases to show the progress in DBE3 partner and non partner schools. The participants in the showcase meetings included representatives of district government and of non-partner schools. Students' work, learning media, lesson plans and photographs of lessons were displayed. School principals, teachers, district facilitators and students made presentations about the changes that have happened in their schools. Besides this, in many districts, there were visits to partner schools for participants to observe the learning processes. Below are brief reports about the showcases in two districts.

Strong Supports from Local Government in Tanjung Balai

THE District Showcase in Tanjung Balai, North Sumatera, was held on April 26 at Mayor's meeting hall. The event was opened by the Mayor, the Head of Education Office and the Leader of the District Parliament. After the opening they all found time to visit DBE3 partner schools to see lessons taking place. Below are a number of pictures of the event.

1. The school principal of MTs YPMI, Hj. Zainibah, BA with two teachers in front of a display of their students' work at the showcase.
2. A strength in a number of Tanjung Balai schools is the students' capabilities in English. Ibu Meliyati, an English teacher at SMPN 1 Tanjung Balai is seen in front of a display of her students' work.
3. Mega, a student of SMPN2, giving a presentation on the changes at her school since joining DBE3. The presentation was *all in English!*
4. Students are used to writing in English. The writing in this picture is about 'My Idol.'
5. The Mayor of Tanjung Balai, Sutrisno Hadi, SpOg (right) and the Head of Education Office, Hamlet Sinambela (left) taking part in a school visit.
6. The Leader of the District Parliament, Eka Hadi S, SE, observing students' activities during a mathematics class at SMPN 5 Tanjung Balai. He is accompanied by Tustu Reni, S.Pd, the teacher.



Disseminating Innovation in Indramayu

THE District Showcase in Indramayu, which was held on March 18 and organized by the district facilitators (picture 2), showed the wide ranging impact of DBE3 activities on the 10 DBE3 partner schools in Indramayu. In picture 1 below, you can see the display from SMPN 1 Indramayu. The event was opened by the District Secretary and the Head of Education Office and included presentations from principals, district facilitators, teachers and students. There were also visits to DBE3 partner schools. Picture 3 shows a students reading out her work to other students during a visit to one of the classrooms.

