

Climate Smart Leaders (urban youth in action)

Background

A number of young generations in urban areas in Indonesia come from well-off family. They have good education, wide network, and high energy and initiatives. Unfortunately, in many cases they are mostly busy with formal education activities and spend their spare time for leisure. Those who would like to spend spare time to help others in community services or becoming volunteer have hard time to find the information and get involved in program that they are interested in. Schools or universities prioritize the academic activities and let the students find their own ways to work on social, culture and environmental issues.

On the other hand, many nonprofit organizations, corporate and government agencies, which have various programs in social, culture, economic development and environmental issues, have difficulties to hire staff and run their action programs. They either have limited funds to compensate staff, or difficulties to identify those who are available and willing to help them run their mission. There are also organizations that have volunteer programs but they have difficulties to reach more participants, as the focus is more on the program itself and not in marketing the program. Clearly, both parties do not connect one and other, but when they are linked, they can have a productive partnership. Internship for the urban youth can be the bridge for these two entities

Yayasan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan (YPB) has decided to be the bridging institution both to the young generation who has the potential to voluntarily contribute to action oriented program, with the organizations that provide the opportunity for volunteerism. It is expected that this young urban youth who have hands on experience will be more productive and become more effective future leaders. As YPB promotes sustainable development, that respects nature for its limits on carrying capacity, and the needs of development, it is strategic for YPB to reach out its mission through this energetic resourceful youth.

YPB role

- Bridging schools*: Link schools which have community services, internship programs, or environmental related curricula programs with organizations which have action programs related to climate change.
 - Capacity building*: YPB delivers sustainable development training with students related to climate change issues
 - Inspire new life styles*: Sharing information related to “low carbon and low ecological footprints” in concept and in actions to inspire participants with new initiatives.
 - Mass Media exposure*: Channeling the participants with mass media to promote further the climate smart life style
 - Special Award*: Present the award the best participants on annual basis
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- Target audience**:
Students at senior high school and at academic/university institution (age 17-22 years old)

Goal

To create a group of young urban (senior high school and university students) who practice climate smart life style, and are able to inspire, promote, and encourage further eco friendly practices.

Objectives

1. Develop *awareness* on climate change related issues to students of senior high school and university students in the urban areas.
2. Provide the opportunities to do *internship*: involve in existing climate change *action oriented* programs.
3. To encourage new initiatives building *climate smart life style model* that can be replicated by many, especially young urban, through the host institutions or other effective means.
4. *Disseminate* the program of Climate Smart Leaders program to public, especially young generation, in urban areas, through mass media, and other means as well.
5. Climate Smart Leaders become the leading young urban *pioneer* who can *take the lead* on climate smart life style, especially for young generation, and *inspire others* to follow.

Benefits

- Young urban can be *more active* through the involvement on action programs related to climate change solutions
- Young urban can be *more creative* by developing climate smart life style and apply it in daily life
- Young urban can *take the lead* to inspire others to mitigate the carbon dioxide through climate smart life style
- *A more efficient and effective* work as school will work with the host institutions

Outcomes

- *Climate Smart Leaders* create *climate smart life style* in partnership with the host institution program with new initiatives (improve, enlarge impacts etc.) - INITIATIVES
- *Climate Smart Leaders* promote *climate smart model* to school or other community to replicate with new initiatives (wider activities) - IMPACTS
- *Climate Smart Leaders* expose climate smart life style to public work with mass media and other means (writing, audio visual) – DISSEMINATION

Award for the best performance (delivered to participant and the school)

- The most innovative inspiring climate smart life style activities
- The most impacts made/possible because of the activities
- The widest dissemination made/possible with the most interesting and effective media and content.

YPB and Yayasan Inovasi Teknologi Indonesia (INOTEK) in partnership with the National Council for Climate Change and Earth Charter International offered a 5-day leadership and project development training or **CSL CAMP**, with the 24 finalist young leaders. This camp took place in Educamp Ancol, Jakarta, on 4-9 July 2010. CSL Camp has been supported by Bank Negara Indonesia, Kompas Daily, Ancol Taman Impian, British Council Indonesia, Hand Print CEE, Greeneration Indonesia, The Climate Project Indonesia and Green Radio.

The Climate-Smart Leaders' Camp aims to equip the finalists with more knowledge and skills that they can use to improve their project proposals. It is expected that after the CAMP session, the participants can have a more efficient and effective project implementation and in turn have larger positive impacts.

The basic elements of CSL CAMP are:

- Sustainable Development and Climate Change
Including: Sustainable Development History and Principles, Climate Change and its Impacts, Strategy to Combat Climate Change
- Leadership and Communication
Including: What is Leadership and Types of Leadership, Learn from Leaders, Team Building, Cross Cultural Communication, Getting the Message Across in Communication
- Project Management and Site Visit:
Including: Project Development and Management, Techno entrepreneurship, Site visit events to Suaka Margasatwa (sanctuary park)
- Project Presentation to the Juror

Each participant presented his/her project proposal with improvement he/she made as participant had new knowledge from the CAMP. The juror evaluated the project proposal and brought recommendations for a better implementation

Key Partners

- Selected school and universities that have internship program
- Selected host organization that have climate change related program
- Education institution/NGO/Research institution/Companies/Government Agencies to work with YPB and provide training on climate change – partnership among sectors
- Various mass media who will be partners to promote climate smart life style

Links to institutional priority

YPB programs have been in an on-going process for years. None of them have targeting urban students with specific approach. *Climate Smart Leaders* is a combination of training and action activities. YPB believes the youth who involve will be inspired and understand better through experience (internship). *Climate Smart Leaders* is a high priority program at YPB to be launched.

Climate Smart Leaders is a new program that has been on the pipeline in the last two years. Now it is time to start the program, with the right partners who have similar mission. Targeting the young generation is crucial as they will become the future leaders, and they are the ones who will heritage the planet. They need to be actively involved in the programs to ensure their sustainable future, and inspire others to assist them as the future generations also have the right to enjoy a fruitful life.

Links to sustainable development and education challenges

Young urban group usually are out of touch with environmental activities in their daily life. It will be a challenge for YPB to create such a resourceful and meaningful program. At the same time, it is an opportunity to work with the young generation who has the energy, creativity and willingness to learn more. When they are active and productive they can be proud of themselves. *Climate Smart Leaders* program is indeed expected to be an inspiring program that nurture at the beginning for the future leaders to come. Through training and internship *Climate Smart Leaders* will provide the opportunity to understand sustainable development challenges and climate change issues, where youth can take the lead to participate solve the problems with new life style, climate smart.

The Plan for longer-term sustainability of the innovation

Climate Smart Leaders will be an example of new life style in practice (climate smart) and it will be offered to students each year. With more students to join throughout the years, the awareness on the importance of sustainable development will increase, and the action program will be improved as learning process takes place.

Besides, the alumni can still involve in the program if they like through different arrangement, or they can be inspired to create other programs related to sustainable development through their creativity. The public awareness program with mass media will also generate more people to behave with care to the environment. In this process the multipliers effects can work so sustainable development will reach more and more participants.

Innovation to the program has the room to grow as the life style of climate change relates to various activities such as saving energy, manage water use efficiently, treat waste with reduction-reuse-and recycle. Innovation will take place in mitigation strategy. Not to mention if the activities will involve mitigation. Students at the university can also relate the program with their research, technology development, extra curricula activities, and other eco socio entrepreneurship as well. In other words, *Climate Smart Leaders* where the young and bright involve, it is the beginning of new activities and innovations that will lead sustainable development toward unlimited initiatives for the betterment of human life.