

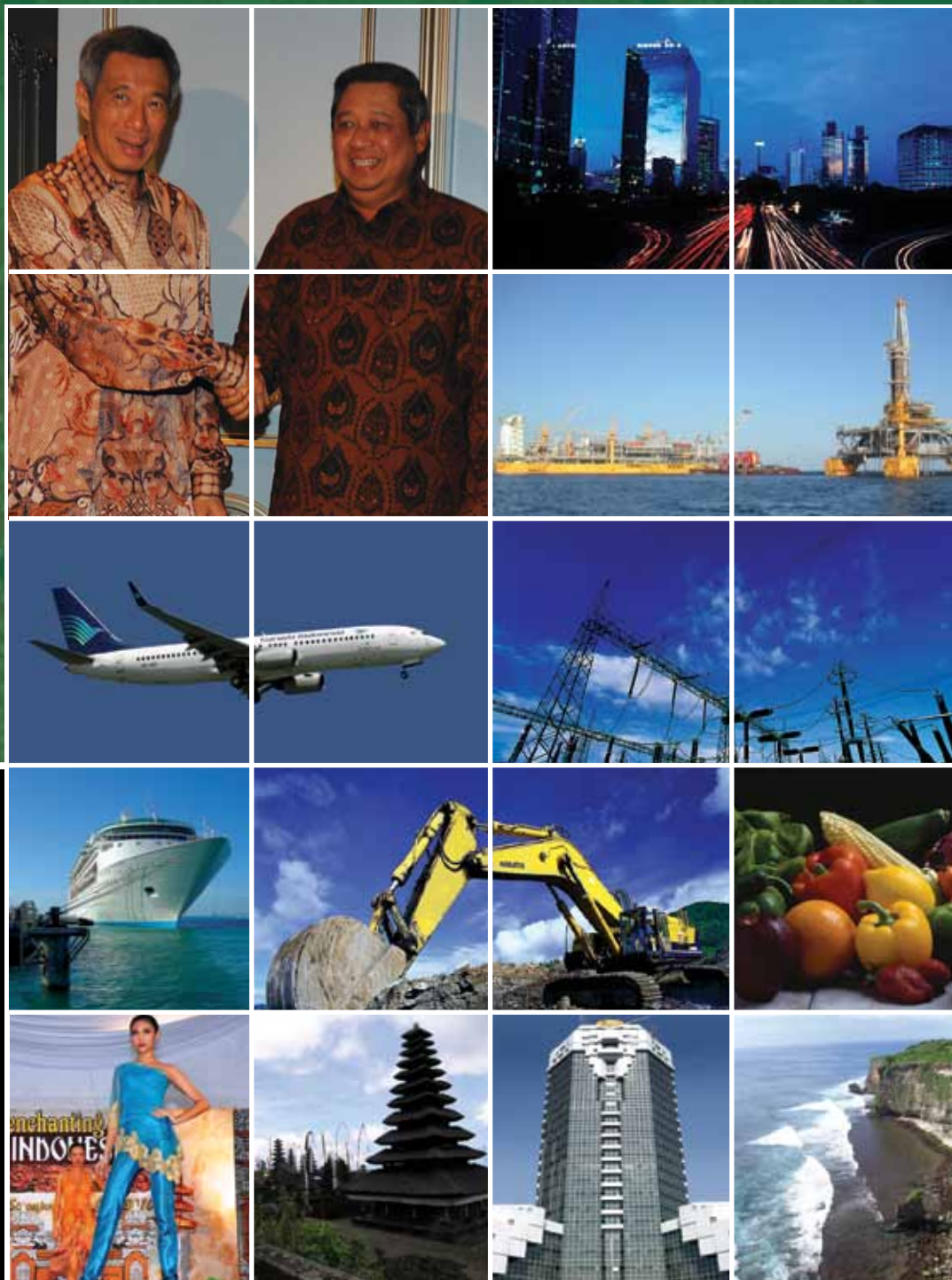
Opportunity Indonesia

PRESIDENT'S VISIT HIGHLIGHTS
ENCHANTING INDONESIA
SUMATRA ISLE OF GOLD
SEVEN REGIONAL CHAMPIONS
DIRECT FLIGHT DESTINATIONS

2010



- Bilateral Ties
- Invest in Indonesia
- Travel Networking
- Trade & Economy
- Success Stories
- Life is a Cruise



Special
Publication by
The Embassy
of Indonesia in
Singapore

Our Heartiest Congratulations and Best Wishes to The People and The Republic of Indonesia on their 65th Anniversary of Independence



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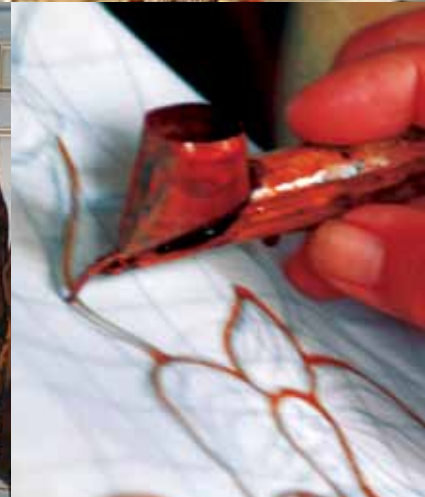
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to Indonesia on their
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Batavia Air Flies to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Batavia Air launched its maiden flight to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia on Sunday, May 23rd 2010 with its Airbus A330-200. The flight departed at 03.00 Local Time from Terminal 2D, Soekarno-Hatta International Airport in Jakarta. The flight arrived at 09.45 Local Time at King Abdul Aziz International Airport in Jeddah. Batavia Air flies non-stop from Jakarta to Jeddah 5 times a week and Jakarta-Riyadh-Jeddah twice a week on Monday and Wednesday.

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EU lifted Batavia Air from flight ban list

Batavia Air has been constantly improving its flight safety standards and has received Category One for its flight safety from the Indonesian Department of Transportation for Airlines. Batavia Air has officially received its annulment letter on the lifting of the flight ban from the European Union (EU) on July 5th 2010. This annulment certainly expands Batavia Air's opportunity to fly to several cities in Europe.

Today Batavia Air operates more than 170 flights a day to 39 destinations across Indonesia as well as International destinations such as Guangzhou (China) , Kuching (Malaysia) , Singapore and Jeddah / Riyadh (Saudi Arabia). Departing from Terminal 2, Changi International Airport, Batavia Air serves daily flights to Jakarta, 4 weekly flights to Semarang and 3 weekly flights to Pontianak.

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Publisher's Note

INVIGORATING INDONESIA

I am delighted to be able to introduce you to Opportunity Indonesia 2010, which is designed to help you better understand the people, culture and traditions of the Indonesian archipelago.

No doubt, Indonesia is vast (it is made up of more than 17,000 islands spanning over 5,000 km from east to west) and is one of the most culturally diverse countries in the world (with over 300 ethnic groups each with their own customs, cultures and local languages).

At the same time, we hope to give you practical and sensible advice on how you can do business successfully in this exciting market.

One of my first and most enduring impressions of my many visits to Indonesia is of the gentle nature of the people and the laidback atmosphere and pace of life. But beneath, this calm demeanor is a people equipped with resilience and a country energised with renewed vigour.

Singapore is one of the biggest investors in Indonesia and many of our leading companies are represented in the country.

Investment is, of course, just part of the picture, and many Singapore companies are already exporting successfully to Indonesia or are exploring the opportunities that exist across a wide range of sectors. But there are, of course, many companies that remain unaware of the extent of the market opportunity that Indonesia offers.

We hope this publication helps you to navigate the business environment in Indonesia by shedding some light into the main issues associated with initial research, market entry and getting established. Whether you are an organization which has achieved success in Indonesia or who are taking their first steps into the market, we believe the practical perspectives provided herein will help to make the most of the available opportunities.

Happy reading!

NOMITA DHAR
Editor - In - Chief



communication with soul

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Congratulations and Best Wishes to the People and The Republic of Indonesia on their 65th National Day



From the SingHealth Group

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A MOMENT WITH H.E. MR. WARDANA AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO SINGAPORE

On the eve of Indonesia's National Day, His Excellency, Mr Wardana, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Singapore shares with Nomita Dhar the various collaborative programmes and successful initiatives which have given a new impetus to the bilateral relationship between the two countries.

Your Excellency, welcome to the third edition of “Opportunity Indonesia” – a publication that was started during your tenure to chronicle opportunities in Indonesia to Singaporeans. Would you like to share with our readers some other initiatives that the Embassy has taken during the last few years to project Indonesia in Singapore?

One of the initiatives that I have promoted in the past few years, in my efforts to make Indonesia and its potentials known to Singaporeans, is our programmes in cooperation with various business organizations in Singapore. Since 2007 we have managed to carry out numerous trade and investment missions to various parts in Indonesia, to show the economic potentials of the regions beyond Jakarta. In collaboration with the Singapore Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (SCCCI) and the Singapore Malay Chambers of Commerce and Industry (SMCCI), we carried out trade missions to Yogyakarta, Solo, and Semarang. Repeated trade and investment missions—in cooperation with Singapore Agri-food and Veterinary Authority (AVA), Singapore Fruits and Vegetables Importers and Exporters Association (SFVIEA), Singapore Business Federation (SBF), Singapore Manufacturers’ Federation (SMA), and International Enterprise (IE) Singapore—have been sent to Surabaya, Bandung, Medan, Brastagi, Batam, Balikpapan, Makassar, Malang, Magelang, Boyolali, Dieng and Wonosobo. During their missions, those businessmen had the opportunity to make field visits to industrial and agri-business sites as well as to meet with local business communities and farmers and obtain first-hand information from them. Those programmes will continue in the future, and in this coming October, we plan to send a trade and investment mission to South Sulawesi, in collaboration with SMCCI and SBF.

Our collaborative programmes have also been performed here in Singapore. Together with various Singapore business organisations, we have held business matching, networking, business seminars and exhibitions. In partnership with AVA and SFVIEA, in June 2008, we hosted a business seminar on Engaging Indonesia in Agri-trade and Investment, and in May 2009 we organized The Third Indonesia Fruit and Vegetables Exhibition and Business Seminar. Early this year, the Embassy hosted a joint effort of the SFVIEA and the Association of Indonesian Fruits and Vegetables Exporters (AESBI) in organizing a business meeting and table top.

Another flagship activity that the Embassy holds every year to showcase Indonesia to Singaporeans is Enchanting Indonesia. The event gives the various regions throughout Indonesia a chance to show the Singaporean public possible destinations for their holidays beyond the big three: Jakarta, Bali and Batam. It also enables us to show the cultural aspects of Indonesia through performances of dance and music. Every year, between 25 and 30 thousand Singaporeans and expatriates in Singapore attend the event.

The Embassy also has promoted Indonesia through other various initiatives such as exhibitions of fine arts and the presentation of performing arts and contemporary cultures. Of course, we also participate in different events hosted by community groups and government institutions in Singapore. For example, in the past few

years, we have become a regular contributor to the famous Singapore Chingay parade. In 2009, we presented Reog Ponorogo in the parade; in 2010 Solo Batik Carnival, and in 2011, hopefully a float of Borobudur Temple will be displayed. From my understanding, our participation has been a great success in not only showing a part of Indonesia’s culture to Singapore, but it also created strong bonds between the performers of both countries that have led to lasting friendship.

Not less important is our programme to bring Singaporean travel agents and travel writers, journalists, students and teachers, and community leaders to different parts of Indonesia to have a direct exposure to the local cultures and daily life, and to the economic potentials of those regions.

In my view, these initiatives have forged person-to-person relationships and understanding between our two countries. And in this regard, I have to underline here that Indonesian communities in Singapore, including students, are pivotal partners of the Embassy in the planning and execution of these initiatives.

How would you characterise recent developments in the bilateral relations between Indonesia and Singapore?

Bilateral relations between Indonesia and Singapore have been strong and robust in the past few years. Its basis remains solid and strong. Indeed, the leaders of the two countries are close to each other, being friendly, collaborative, constructive, and pragmatic in terms of identifying opportunities for taking our bilateral cooperation to a higher level. With the visit of President Yudhoyono to Singapore in May 2010, new avenues to enlarge the bilateral cooperation in critical fields have been endorsed. I am optimistic that with this renewed commitment of both sides, we will have more opportunities to strengthen the existing bilateral cooperation and enlarge its scope.

Would you care to share some thoughts about Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono’s recent visit to Singapore? What positive results in bilateral relations will we see coming out of this visit?

The President’s recent visit was a success, and it was a great boost to the relationship between our two countries. President Yudhoyono and PM Lee held a one-day retreat and the two leaders agreed to establish six working groups focusing on agribusiness, investment, manpower, civil aviation, tourism, special economic zone in Batam, Bintan and Karimun, and one working group on counter-terrorism cooperation.

I believe that the establishment of those working groups will pave the way for the enhancement of cooperation between Indonesia and Singapore in the future.

What steps are now being taken to enhance the ties between Singapore and Indonesia and/or what additional steps are planned for the near future?

First of all, the Embassy will do its utmost to help ensure the

realization of the Working Groups and its effective operation. We continue to coordinate with relevant agencies both in Singapore and Indonesia in that regard.

We will continue with the initiatives as I explained above, while exploring new avenues for the strengthening of bilateral cooperation between Indonesia and Singapore.

Indonesia has rebounded enviably well from the sharp global economic downturn of late 2008-2009. How do you see the next five years for the Indonesian economy? What do you think will be its major areas of strength?

Indonesia's economy is currently on track. With the President's focus on building and strengthening the economy, Indonesia's economy will continue in a positive direction, which is reflected by the 6.2% year-on-year economic growth shown in the second quarter of this year. The stock market in early August 2010 was among the best-performing equity market in Asia this year, rising more than 20 per cent since January 2010. Liquidity has also gone to bonds and capital markets. The Indonesian currency has appreciated almost 5 percent against the US dollar. This all makes Indonesia as one of the most interesting destinations in the world for foreign trade and investment in the next five years.

Where do you see the greatest opportunities for trade between the two countries?

Singapore is one of the most important trade partners to Indonesia. The total value of bilateral trade in 2009 reached S\$58.5 billion. In the first quarter of 2010, the realization value of bilateral trade reached S\$27.8 billion. We see the opportunities in the future to increase export to Singapore of electronic components, ship spareparts, chemical substances, and hotel equipments.

Another area that we have been focusing on is the agricultural sector. Singapore offers great opportunity for Indonesian fruits and vegetable export. As of now, our share is only 6.1 percent of 95 percent of Singapore's fruits and vegetable international demand. In order to increase our share, we are planning to promote bilateral technical cooperation with Singapore in post-harvest processing, logistics, cold storage and packaging as well as entrepreneurship training for Indonesian agri-business industries.

How would you characterise the investment climate in Indonesia today? Where do you see the greatest opportunities for investment in Indonesia? What new projects in Indonesia might especially entice Singaporean investors?

Circumstances for investment in Indonesia are very conducive nowadays. Indonesian politics is stable, its economy is robust, and human resources are abundant. Investment climate has been improved through facilitation and de-bureaucratization measures. The Indonesian Investment Coordinating Board has recently decreed seven investment regional champions beyond Jakarta, that include

Riau, South Sumatra, West Java, East Java, East Nusa Tenggara, East Kalimantan, and Papua. Condition in Batam, Bintan and Karimun (BBK) also remains favourable for investment.

As far as Singapore's investment in Indonesia is concerned, it is in fact the largest. Despite the global crisis, the realization of Singapore's investment in Indonesia ranked the largest with the value reaching US\$4.3 billion for 189 projects in 2009. As of July 2010, the realization value of Singapore's investment in Indonesia reached US\$1.6 billion for 156 projects.

In the future, we would hope for greater Singapore's investment in infrastructure projects, in addition to investment in manufactures, tourism, medicines and chemical industries, and industrial parks.

Could you tell us more about some of the prime tourist destinations in Indonesia which remain secrets to people here in Singapore?

There are so many places that you can visit in Indonesia. It is difficult to just name a few. Jakarta, Bali, Batam and Bintan are the big three but there are more visitors going to other destinations such as Yogyakarta, Solo, Bandung, Surabaya, Makassar, Manado, Lombok and Medan. There are, of course many more destinations throughout Indonesia, and depending on what you are interested in, you can experience many different cultures and cultural icons, as well as different scenery such as beaches, mountains and so on. This is why Enchanting Indonesia is such an important aspect of what we are doing here. It gives people more options to explore in Indonesia.

Many people are still unaware of just how diverse a country Indonesia is. Would you like to discuss this diversity a little and how it contributes to the texture and strength of Indonesia as a nation?

Indonesia's diversity is definitely one of its strengths. There are well over 100 distinct ethnic groups and each one has its own culture and language. This diversity enriches the country and means that every time you visit Indonesia you can have a completely different experience to the last time you went, even if you're only 30 minutes away, the culture of the area can be different and give new and exciting experiences.

How do you see areas such as social and cultural exchanges, and mutual efforts on human resource development strengthening the relationship between the two countries?

Social and cultural exchanges are probably one of the most important things we can do. It is one thing to have a close relationship on a government to government basis, but the more important thing is for the people of the two countries to have a personal relationship and mutual understanding. It is through this people to people relationship that true bonds are made between countries, and it is important that we continue to support and encourage these exchanges and programs.

PRESIDENT YUDHOYONO

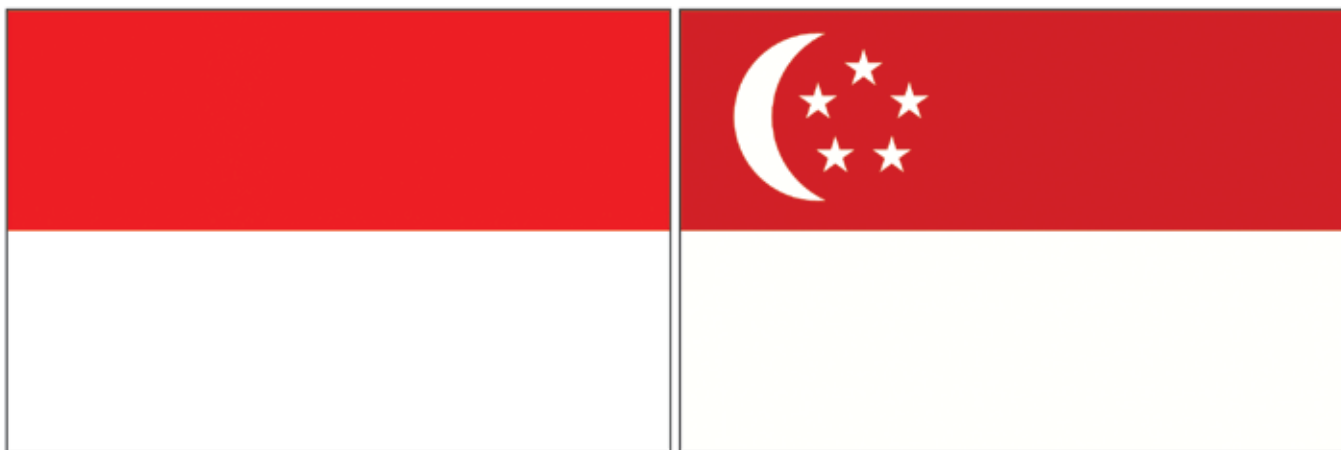
A MOST WELCOME GUEST IN THE LION CITY



Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono recently made a short official visit to Singapore for a series of substantive talks with Singapore leaders. The visit was eventful and successful, further cementing the already strong relations between the two countries. Here we look at some of the highlights of that visit.

Indonesia is the largest country in ASEAN, Singapore the smallest. Yet they both rank as two of the most important countries in the alliance. Which is why the official visit of an Indonesian leader to Singapore always carries significance.

In May, President Yudhoyono came to Singapore to meet with the leaders of the Singapore Government. Relations between these two ASEAN powers have been cordial and solid for several decades now, and the two countries have actually grown closer and relations warmer during the years of President Yudhoyono's presidency.



This visit came not too long after his successful re-election in July 2009, an election that saw the President taking a solid majority of the votes cast in the first round, making a runoff election unnecessary.

President Yudhoyono's last previous visit to the city-state was actually in November 2009, for the APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) meetings. At that meeting of 21 nations, it was agreed to meet for a short retreat here to focus on bilateral relations and some questions outside the APEC agenda. In mid-May, President Yudhoyono was here again for a two-day visit during which a wide range of topics was discussed.

The Indonesian president and his entourage were honoured guests of PM Lee and the Singapore Government at a lunch held in a popular French restaurant in the Botanical Gardens. The two leaders then moved to Halia Villa in the Gardens to hold their more formal discussions. Also present at these discussions were Singapore's Foreign Minister and Deputy Foreign Minister and, on the Indonesian side, the Speaker of the Regional Representation Council, Irman Gusman, and Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs Djoko Suyanto. That same evening, the President was the PM's guest at a dinner.

At the top of the agenda for these discussions were economic ties between Singapore and Indonesia. As mentioned by Prime Minister Lee and others, Indonesia was Singapore's fifth largest trading partner in 2009, while

Singapore came in as the largest foreign investor overall in Indonesia. Singapore investments for this most recent year totalled round US\$4.3 billion*.

The two leaders reviewed plans to boost economic cooperation. Foremost in these discussions were plans for economic cooperation in the Riau Islands and specific economic sectors with high potential, such as cruise tourism and civil aviation.

Another key topic covered in the two-day talks was how to strengthen ASEAN. The discussions also led to an agreement suggesting that major powers United States and Russia be invited to meet the regional grouping as dialogue partners on the sidelines of the APEC meetings.

Another point of agreement was support for the proposal put forward by the Vietnamese government (which holds the ASEAN chair this year) regarding the ongoing political turmoil in Thailand. This proposal had called for restraint from all sides in the Thai protests and a call to reach a compromise leading to a peaceful solution to the troubling situation.

On the key issue of terrorism, the President and the Prime Minister agreed to set up a working group to strengthen efforts in combating terrorism. This working group will be the seventh for the two countries, following agreements on setting up six working groups to explore areas for economic cooperation. Amongst these other working groups are units on the Batam, Bintan and Karimun special

economic zones as well as cruise tourism and agro-business.

The Government leaders also took up the major topics of investments, trade, maritime borders and joint patrols in the vital Malacca Strait. Again, progress was made on all these matters.

However, two issues remained on hold at the end of President Yudhoyono's visit: a proposed Extradition Treaty and a Defence Cooperation Agreement first signed by the two leaders a few years back. As PM Lee characterised it, "Those, as you know, have been put aside for a while because it depends on the political mood, whether Indonesia is ready to move yet, and I think it will be some time before we are ready to move on those issues."

The President followed up his visit to Singapore with a two-day visit to Malaysia. He had also piggy-backed visits to the two countries during his previous, November 2009, visit. Following the meetings, President Yudhoyono told a group of Indonesian journalists that he was hoping closer ties between the two countries would allow more skilled Indonesians to find work in Singapore and he also expressed his belief that the working groups agreed to here would help both countries come together to overcome obstacles. This positive view was shared by Prime Minister Lee and the other Singapore leaders. **OI**

* Source - Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board

ENCHANTING INDONESIA 2010

SHOW ENTHRALLS WITH RICH TRADITIONS AND CULTURES

The annual event showcasing Indonesia's trade, tourism and investment potential is warmly received by Singaporeans and visitors, providing a snapshot of the many wonders of Indonesia and promoting deeper understanding and camaraderie between the people of the two nations



The fourth edition of Enchanting Indonesia was held at Ngee Ann City in the heart of Singapore's major shopping district on 3 - 4 July 2010. Enchanting Indonesia 2010 showcased a rich variety of traditional dances and cultural performances.

The event presented a wide choice of products including handicrafts, agricultural products, an Indonesian food gallery, batik merchandise and traditional clothes as well as fashion shows. Also on hand were airline representatives offering discounted airfares to Indonesia.

The event was open to the public with free admission to encourage as many people as possible to attend and join the celebration.





Participants from the tourism sector and other industries came from various provinces throughout Indonesia; including North Sumatra, West Sumatra, South Sumatra, Riau Islands, Riau, West Java, Jakarta, Central Java, Yogyakarta, East Java, Bali, Lombok, South Sulawesi and North Sulawesi, most of which have direct flight connections from Singapore.

Enchanting Indonesia is the flagship integrated promotion held annually by the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore. It encompasses tourism, product showcase, food exhibition and cultural performances.

Enchanting Indonesia is a significant event on the Embassy's calendar for the promotion of Indonesian culture and tourism. Over the last few years, Singapore has been the largest source of tourists, with about 1.4 million arrivals last year, which has made them an important part of Indonesia's tourism industry. For this reason, Indonesia Embassy, Singapore has initiated Enchanting Indonesia event.

As well as increasing the number of Singaporean tourists who visit Indonesia each year, Enchanting Indonesia is also aimed at encouraging foreign tourists who visit Singapore to continue their onward journey to Indonesia.

The event is designed not only for the promotion of Indonesia, but also to develop the relationship between the people of Indonesia and Singapore by creating an environment where people can see and experience the different cultures, and so develop understanding and friendship between the two nations.

The event was a great experience for everyone involved, from those who are new to what Indonesia offers to those who have been there and wish to experience a part of Indonesia again.

OI



SINGAPORE, INDONESIA TOURISM PLAYERS NETWORK FOR WIDER HOLIDAY CHOICES

In conjunction with Enchanting Indonesia, a Table Top meeting was held on 2 July 2010 to match Indonesian and Singaporean travel agents. More than a hundred Indonesian and Singaporean stakeholders in the tourism industry met for a positive business matching session.



As part of the annual integrated promotion Enchanting Indonesia 2010, the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia organized “Table Top and Travel Exchange 2010” in the Embassy’s hall. This business matching activity has been held annually since 2007 in close cooperation with the National Association for Travel Agents Singapore (NATAS).

This year, 70 stakeholders from the Indonesian tourism industry consisting of travel agents, tour operators, hoteliers, and tourism destinations from various regions of Indonesia, which enjoy direct connections with Singapore, participated in the event, including famous tourism destinations such as Bali, Bintan, Jakarta and Jogjakarta.

In addition, North Sumatera, West Sumatera, South Sumatera, West Java, Jakarta, Central

Java, East Java, Lombok, North Sulawesi, South Sulawesi, Aceh, Banten, and Ternate, which offer beautiful and relaxing getaways but are not widely known to Singaporeans, also participated.

On the buyers’ side were 49 travel agents in Singapore which have been actively promoting travel to Indonesia and seeking new holiday destinations for their consumers in Singapore.

Through this activity, both buyers and sellers can reap the benefits of promoting tourism destinations in Indonesia and providing alternative getaways for Singaporeans and foreigners who would like to spend their weekends or holidays in a nearby destination that offers a holistic holiday experience as well as specific interests such as spa and diving.

Moving display of South Sulawesi

In conjunction with the event, the Embassy and the provincial Government of South Sulawesi also launched a promotion on South Sulawesi tourism destinations on Smart Taxis. There are 100 taxis driving around Singapore, sporting four different designs depicting the beautiful scenery and tourism icons of South Sulawesi such as Toraja and Bugis ship. This taxi wrap promotion is generously supported by Smart Cab Pte Ltd Singapore owner, Mr. Johnny Harjhanto. The promotion will run for six months starting from August 2010.

ESTABLISHING A PRESENCE WITH IIPC

The Indonesian Investment Promotion Centre started its Singapore office in 2007 and in a few short years has achieved remarkable success in facilitating investment from the region

RANK OF INVESTMENT REALIZATION FROM SINGAPORE BY SECTOR (2009)

No.	SECTOR	VALUE OF INVESTMENT (US\$. Million)	NUMBER OF PROJECT
1	Transportation, Storage and Communication	2,989.23	10
2	Trade and Reparation	266.73	61
3	Electricity, Gas And Water	177.47	1
4	Rubber and Plastic Industry	152.99	12
5	Food Industry	147.92	9

RANK OF INVESTMENT REALIZATION FROM SINGAPORE BY LOCATION (2009)

No.	PROVINCE	VALUE OF INVESTMENT (US\$. Million)	NUMBER OF PROJECT
1	DKI JAKARTA	3,355.79	73
2	BANTEN	236.44	11
3	WEST JAVA	228.65	21
4	EAST JAVA	129.24	14
5	RIAU	108.38	3

Setting up a business in Indonesia does involve a considerable amount of paperwork, but good advisors will help you to steer your way through the minefield. In this respect, the Indonesian Investment Promotion Centre Singapore (IIPC) goes a long way in assisting companies looking to invest in Indonesia.

According to Mr Nurul Ichwan, head of IIPC, the centre is mandated to pave the way for Singapore and regional firms to set up operations in Indonesia. To set up a joint venture, the corporate entity required is 'penanaman modal asing' (or PMA). PMA companies may be either publicly listed on the stock exchange or privately owned.

To set up a company with foreign equity, a letter of approval must first be obtained from the Investment Co-ordinating Board (BKPM). A deed of establishment and articles of association are also necessary. It is standard practice to employ the services of a notary public to draft the articles of association, who will then undertake the steps to obtain the necessary legal documents.

IIPC promotes investment options in all 33 provinces of Indonesia. To this end, the centre works hand in hand with the Singapore Business Federation and IE Singapore to organize seminars, business meetings exhibition and the opportunity for one on one marketing.

Apart from Singapore, the IIPC handles applications from Malaysia, Thailand and the Southeast Asia region, as well as countries operating with a Singapore base. "The advantage of working with IIPC is that it is possible to submit

paperwork through Singapore office for set up in any of Indonesia's 33 provinces," said Mr Nurul.

"Typically an application for the services industry can be processed in a day while that of the manufacturing industry would take 7 days. The period for set up would be according to the investors time line within a 24 month period," he added.

According to Mr Nurul, Indonesia has a lot going for it as the ideal investment destination. The country has abundant natural resources, a young and technically trained work force and a large and growing domestic market. Added to that is a rapidly improving investment climate and a higher global profile.

Indonesia experienced a surge in foreign direct investment in the first half of the year, creating expectations that the total for the year may exceed earlier forecasts indicated by BKPM.

"The abundance of natural resources, long term stability, availability of skilled manpower and the fact that it is the biggest market in Southeast Asia makes Indonesia an attractive investment destination. Working hand in hand with Singapore's core strength in marketing, excellent branding and inherent language ability makes for an unbeatable combination."

- Mr Nurul Ichwan
Head
The Indonesian Investment Promotion
Centre Singapore

Investors from Singapore topped the list, according to figures released by IIPC, which comes under the purview of the BKPM.

The value of investments originating from Singapore for the first half of 2010 is US\$1.6 billion spread over 156 projects. This is a positive result compared with the same period last year, raising hope of surpassing the overall 2009 figure of US\$4.34 billion with 189 projects.

These include 10 transportation, storage and communication projects which accounted for US\$2.99 billion of investment, 61 in the field of trade and reparation amounting to US\$266.73 million, one electricity, gas and water project (US\$177.47 million), 12 in the rubber and plastic industry (US\$152.99 million) and nine in the food industry (US\$147.92 million).

The investments were mostly in the capital city of DKI Jakarta with 73 projects valued at US\$ 3.36 billion. The provinces were well represented with 11 projects in Banten (US\$236.44 million), 21 projects in West Java (US\$228.65 million), 14 projects in East Java (US\$129.24 million) and three projects in Riau (US\$108.38 million).

The last 10 years of vibrant democratic rule has laid the groundwork for a solid foundation of stability in Indonesia. Looking beyond the horizon, it is fair to say the country's vast economic potential is primed for takeoff.

OI

WHY INDONESIA?

THE SEVEN PILLARS OF INVESTING SUCCESS

There are great reasons why you should choose to invest in Indonesia, and the operative word here is NOW! We've bunched some of the leading reasons for investing in this fast-growing economic power into seven categories and offer these here as a handy guide for those eager to jump on board.

Investors throughout this region are drawn to Indonesia because the country boasts abundant natural resources, a young and technically trained work force and a large and growing domestic market, combined with an improving investment climate and a higher global profile. These are just a few of the country's salient strengths. With stability now firmly planted after over 10 years of vibrant democratic rule, Indonesia's vast economic potential is primed for takeoff. And very important: the Indonesia Government welcomes foreign investors as partners in reaching for a more prosperous future. Below are details about why Indonesia is the place to go right now for investors.

Sound Economy

With a GDP of nearly US\$ 550 billion in 2009, Indonesia is the third fastest growing economy in Asia and the largest

economy in Southeast Asia. Much less affected by the global financial crisis than neighbouring countries, Indonesia's economy grew by 4.5% last year and this is forecast to climb to 5.6% in 2010 and further still to 6% in 2011, providing a case for Indonesia's inclusion in the so-called BRIC economies.

A large part of the country's economic success is a result of prudent fiscal stewardship that focused on reducing the debt burden. Indonesia's debt to GDP ratio has steadily declined from 83% in 2001 to 29% by the end of 2009. Today, it is actually the lowest among ASEAN countries, aside from Singapore, which has no government debt. The country is ranked 1st among Asia-Pacific sovereigns by Standard & Poor's for best fiscal balance.

Healthy Investment Climate

In January 2010, Fitch Ratings upgraded

Indonesia's credit rating to BB+ with a stable outlook. The rating upgrade is in line with Indonesia's strong and sustained growth and improving fiscal position. This is an especially enormous vote of confidence for investments in Indonesia. Indonesia is now on the right path towards attracting larger pools of fixed income and capital flows, as well as drawing in those funds which had previously shown caution in investing in countries with such encouraging ratings.

These achievements have increased the frequency with which Indonesia is being compared to middle-income developing nations like Brazil, India and Mexico. Economically strong, politically stable and reform-minded, Indonesia is an emerging global powerhouse in Asia.

Natural Resources

Indonesia is a renowned market for

resource extraction, generally seen as even more attractive than, for instance, South Africa, Australia and Canada in terms of mineral prospects, as per PricewaterhouseCoopers.

The country is home to a biodiversity that is second only to Brazil. These resources provide tremendous investment opportunities. Moreover, development potential is far from saturated, particularly in the area of renewable energy.

The country is also a world leader in such natural resources as crude oil, natural gas, thermal coal, geothermal reserves, palm oil, cocoa and tin.

Political Stability

Underlying Indonesia's vibrant economy is its political stability. A decade ago, many analysts believed that certain break-away provinces would bring about Indonesia's "balkanization". But in 2001, Indonesia embarked on an ambitious and well-planned decentralization effort. While it has been a challenging journey, Indonesia today stands as one of the most decentralized countries in the world with substantial funds and authorities devolved to the regions.

Significantly, Indonesia is one of those bright examples of an emerging country where democracy is not in trouble. In fact, democracy is today blossoming in a country that was ruled with an iron fist for some 30 years. Indonesia has gracefully transformed from an authoritarian state to a regional role model.

Recently, and for a third time in a row, Indonesia completed another round of a peaceful and successful legislative and presidential elections. The election confirmed the people's confidence in the leadership of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, who won more than 60% of the votes from an electorate of 176 million. President Yudhoyono's party, Partai Demokrat, controls over 25% of plenary votes, providing him with an even stronger mandate to lead Indonesia through the next five years.

Demographics

Indonesia is the fourth most populous nation in the world. Apart from its remarkable fiscal and political transformations over the last decade, Indonesia is also undergoing a major structural shift in terms of demographics. Of the 240 million people, over 50% of the population is under 29 years old, with the same percentage living in urban areas. This provides for a dynamic labour market participation, currently growing at 2.3 million per year. A rapidly urbanizing population also provides for strategic pools of labour force in centres of investment.

Coupled with this demographic bonus is Indonesia's commitment to improve productivity and the education level of its youth, with 16% of total government expenditure on education. This

expenditure is higher than any other sector. Currently, the majority of university graduates are trained in technical fields such as finance and economics (28%) or engineering and sciences (27.5%). Labour cost is still relatively low in urban centres, even as compared to investment magnets China and India.

With a population of 240 million people, Indonesia also has a large domestic market, over 50% of which lives in urban areas and adopts a modern lifestyle. A growing and affluent middle class supports GDP growth with approximately 70% of GDP accounting for private consumption. These statistics bode well for many industries, including retail and consumer products, food processing and the automotive industry.

Strategic Location

Indonesia lies at the intersection of the Pacific Ocean, along the Malacca Strait and the Indian Ocean. Over half of all international shipping goes through Indonesian waters.

Expanding Global Influence

Increasingly, Indonesia is playing a more dominant role in global affairs. It is Southeast Asia's only member of the G-20, the latest global grouping for transnational economic policy. Standard Chartered sees Indonesia's inclusion in the G-7 by 2040, provided that growth achieves its potential by 2012, moving the economy ahead of South Korea by 2016 and Japan by 2024.

Indonesia is also a leading member of ASEAN, shaping integrative approaches in the region for security, trade and commerce, and will be an integral part of the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015.

Finally, Indonesia is emerging as a key player on cross-cutting international policy issues such as climate change, which will have direct and indirect impacts on business and investment decisions.

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INVESTMENT SUCCESS STORIES AROUND IN INDONESIA

Indonesia is the ideal investment destination. Abundant natural resources, a young and technically trained work force and a large and growing domestic market are just a few of the salient strengths. Combined with an improving investment climate and a higher global profile, it makes for a winning formula.

Testimonials from successful enterprises

"In 2008 when Qtel decided to expand beyond the Mena region to achieve our vision of becoming a world class telecommunications company, we acquired a controlling stake in Indosat. Indonesia fulfills our investment criteria on every level; a young, growing and upwardly mobile population, an increasingly sophisticated customer base, strong GDP growth and a sufficient diversified economy."

Sheikh Abdullah Bin Mohammed Bin Saoud Al Thani
Chairman

Qatar Telecom and Indosat

"Danone group made a strategic alliance in 1998 with AQUA Golden Mississippi, the pioneering bottles water company in Indonesia. The history of the Aqua brand has spanned over 30 years, with its first factory in Bekasi. Today, Danone Aqua has expanded into 14 factories throughout Indonesia, and we wish to build more to meet the growing demand for Aqua brand. Our commitment to serving the people of Indonesia is reflected in our far-reaching services throughout the archipelago, available in more than 1,500,000 outlets."

Bernard Ducros
President Director

PT Tirta Investama (Danone Aqua)

"Indonesia's abundant natural resources is one of the main reasons we invest in Indonesia, but more than that, we plan to play a role in enhancing the standard of living of the local communities in Indonesia. MEC's US\$5 billion infrastructure and integrated industrial development in East Kalimantan will create 5,000 new jobs by 2015. This will provide a strong platform for Indonesia to attract future investment of an estimated US\$20 billion and 10,000 jobs by 2030."

Madhu Kaneru

Group CEO of MEC Holdings

"Having invested in Indonesia for over 75 years and being one of the first listed companies there, Unilever knows what it means to do business in Indonesia. Our deep roots in the local culture has built strong relationships with consumers, customers, and the communities

in which we operate. Throughout the years, our company has built up a family of more than 3,800 employees, and operates eight factories in West Java and East Java."

Maurits Daniel Rudolf Lalisang
President Director

PT Unilever Indonesia Tbk

"Coca-Cola has been operating in Indonesia since 1927, and started to produce locally since 1932. Indonesia's large population includes a growing and affluent middle class; a demographic that has certainly provided us with a robust domestic market. Moreover, Indonesia's unparalleled diversity has allowed us to expand our market share by introducing products specifically tailored to its numerous local markets."

Peter Kelly

President Director

PT Coca Cola Bottling Indonesia

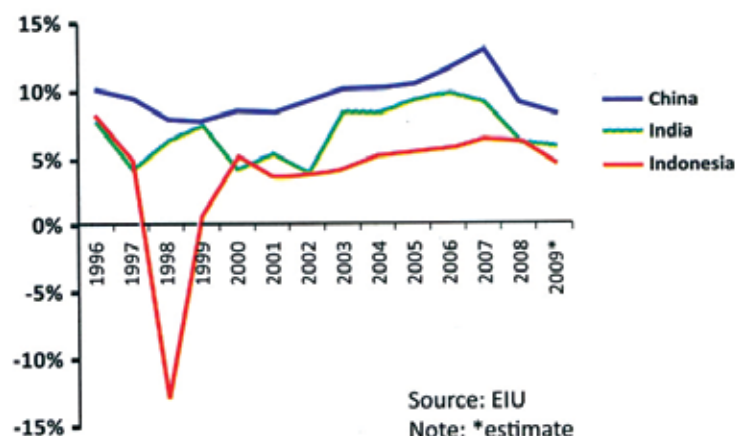
"Indonesia's economic and political transformation over the last 12 years has been remarkable. It has created the foundation and the ingredients for Indonesia as one of the strong and dynamic economic forces of Asia alongside China and India. Indonesia's economy has proven resilient in midst of the global financial crisis and its Doing-Business ranking has improved steadily each year."

Joachim von Amsberg

Country Director for Indonesia

The World Bank Box Copy

Real GDP Growth



Select Investment Drivers and Sound Economic Fundamentals

- At around USD 550 billion in 2009, Indonesia is one of three of the world's larger economies (along with China and India) to have had significant economic growth amid the global financial crisis.
- Ranked 1st among Asia-Pacific sovereigns by Standard & Poor's for best fiscal balance
- In January 2010, Fitch Rating upgraded Indonesia's credit rating to BB+ with a stable outlook, putting Indonesia only one notch below investment grade – an enormous vote of confidence for investments.
- 83% total debt/GDP in 2001 was reduced to 29% by the end of 2009
- Listed as one of the top 10 most attractive destinations for foreign direct investment (FDI) as per UNCTAD World's Investment Prospects Survey
- Nominal per-capita GDP is expected to quadruple by 2020 as per Standard Chartered

Stronger Investment Climate

- An updated investment law offers equal treatment to all investors and allows for the unimpeded repatriation of capital

- Recent reforms include the establishment of a one-door integrated service (PTSP) and a national single window for investment (SPIPISE), enhancing investment coordination and facilitation
- Listed as one of ten countries improving investor protections as per Doing Business Report 2010 by IFC

Abundant Natural Resources

- Renowned market for resource extraction, seen as more attractive for instance than South Africa, Australia and Canada in terms of mineral prospectively as per Pricewaterhouse Coopers
- Development potential is far from saturated, particularly in renewable energy

Dynamic Demographic Base

- Of the 240 million people in Indonesia, over 50% of the population is under 29 years old
- Education spending accounts for 16% of total government expenditures, higher than any other sector, and university graduates are trained in technical fields such as finance and economics (28%) or engineering and sciences (27.5%)
- Labor cost is relatively low, even as compared to investment magnets China and India.

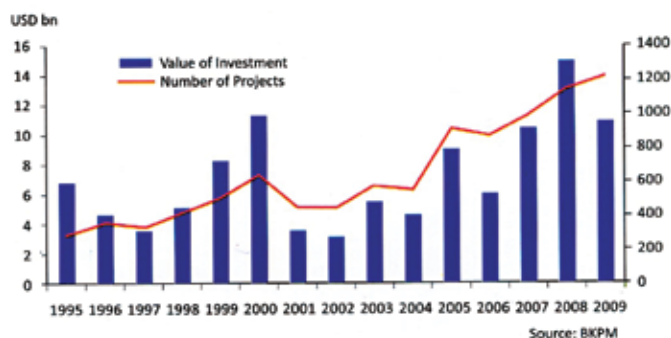
OI

Total Debt/GDP



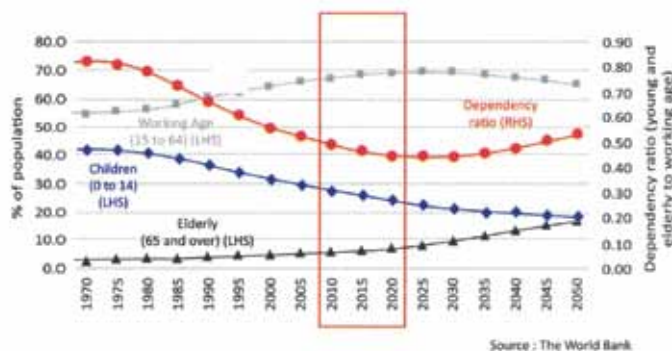
Source: EIU
Note: *estimate

Realized Foreign Direct Investment



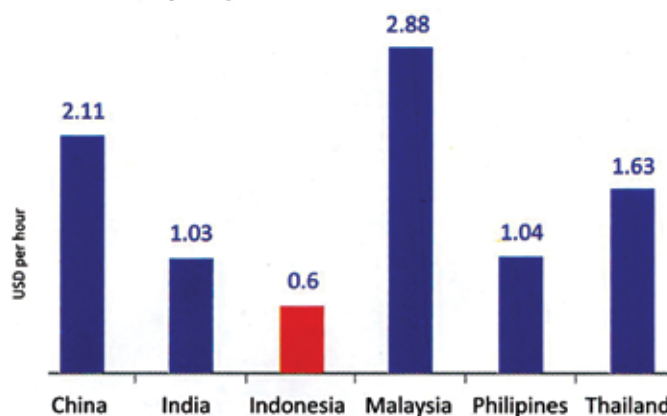
Source: BKPM

Indonesia's Demographic Dividend



Source: The World Bank

Labor Cost (2009)



Source: EIU

INDONESIA SEEKS SPEEDY INVESTMENT SUCCESS FOR 'REGIONAL CHAMPIONS'

The Regional Champions program is the Indonesian government's effort to identify provinces that are geared to boost investment. This is important to build a base for the country's economic growth in the future.

As part of its efforts to attract inward investment, the Government of Indonesia has designated certain provinces as Regional Champions, making it easier for investors to identify regions that have the potential and ability to facilitate foreign investment.

The programme gives due recognition to the fact that different regions are at different stages in their economic development and are at different levels of readiness in terms of their capacity to attract and facilitate investments. This makes it necessary to adopt different approaches.

In an attempt to cut red tape to facilitate investment, the central government also urged regional administrations to adopt a one-stop service system. In turn, the government has pledged all necessary assistance for regional administrations to establish such a system.

Seven provinces have been named as regional champions based on their highly developed ability to attract and cater to foreign and domestic investments. These seven provinces have done a lot to create a more conducive climate for investment and will be aggressively promoted as local and foreign investment destinations.

The seven provinces are Riau, South Sumatra, West Java, East Java, East Kalimantan, West Nusa Tenggara and Papua.

These provinces have labour-intensive investment projects, general infrastructure projects and integrated infrastructure projects. East Kalimantan and South Sumatra are planning to build railway tracks integrated with ports, smelter plants, and power plants.

West Nusa Tenggara intends to develop an integrated tourist resort, and Papua wants to build more infrastructure facilities in support of energy industry in the region. Meanwhile, Riau and West Java are offering investment projects related to their natural resources.

Regional Champions is an integral part of Investment Co-ordinating Board (BKPM) promotion programme, specifically developed to unlock the potential value of select regions in Indonesia. The selection process was based on a number of criteria related to readiness for investment, including infrastructure, investment climate and natural and human resources.

Under the program, BKPM will develop targeted, comprehensive joint promotion activities for these regions, with a goal to attract a larger pool of FDI. The program will focus on bringing in strategic investments that would serve as catalysts for the region's economic growth. It is hoped that the success stories coming out from these regional champions could motivate and inspire other regions to replicate such successes.

EAST JAVA

Capital City: Surabaya
Area: 47,799.75km²
Population: 37,286,200
International Airport: Juanda International Airport
Seaport: Tanjung Perak International Harbor
Roads: 3,906.26km

Investment Potential

Geothermal Energy

In line with its renewable natural resource potential, the East Java government plans to optimize geothermal development activities for 11 potential geothermal sites in East Java. These sites can be found in Pacitan, Ponorogo, Madiun, Mojokerto, Probolinggo, Sumenep, Banyuwangi, Bondowoso, and Situbondo. According to data from the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, the area located in the Arjuno-Welirang region in Mojokerto has been estimated to hold energy reserves of 92 Megawatt Electric (MwE), while the Ngebel-Wilis area in the Madiun-Ponorogo border region has a potential of reaching more than 120 MwE. Indonesia is the biggest geothermal energy reserve in the world.

Tanjung Bulupandan Port

Studies have shown that more and more direct transportation of container business in Asia, both internally and from the United States, India, Middle East and the EU's long-distance container transportation increases the need for deep-water berths to handle Panamax and larger vessels, with a container port to handle an annual 270 million TEUs. The proposed port is located at Bangkalan Regency, about 15km from Surabaya, with a scope of 2550m in length equipped with 8 berths, built at a cost of US\$869.7 million.



EAST KALIMANTAN

Capital City: Samarinda

Area: 204,534.34 km²

Population: 3,164.800

International Airport:

- Sepinggan in Balikpapan
- Juata in Tarakan

Seaport:

- Semayang Balikpapan
- Samarinda

Roads: 8,584.81 km

Investment Potential

Priority Project

East Kalimantan is proposing to build a toll road connecting the three main cities that is Balikpapan, Samarinda and Bontang. The route from Balikpapan to Samarinda is 87 km and estimated at US\$600 million while Samarinda to Bontang is 84 km at US\$420 million. In addition the government has pledged US\$41 million for land clearance.



PAPUA

Capital City: Jayapura

Area: 3319,036.05 km²

Population: 2,097,500

International Airport:

Sentani Airport

Frans Kasiepo

River Harbour: Membaramo

Roads: 15,327.36 km

Investment Potential

Gold Mining Wabu and “Son of Grasberg”

Grasberg, considered the world's largest open-cut copper and gold mine, is located in Lorentz National Park, a UNESCO world heritage site in the easternmost province of Indonesia. Geologists have dubbed Mamo, a potential mining area, the “Son of Grasberg” because of its immense copper and gold deposits. The size of the deposit has not been determined because exploration has yet to be conducted but geologists have tested a sample.

Oil and Gas Prospects

The potential for oil and gas in Papua is large but has yet to be tapped. To date exploration and extraction have focused on Bintuni and Salawati. In 1990, Nations Petroleum (Canada) conducted exploration in Waropen but this was halted due to financial constraints. The value of the project is estimated at US\$100.48 million.



RIAU

Capitol City: Pekanbaru

Area: 87,023.66 km²

Population: 5,306,500

International Airport: Sultan Syarif Kasim II

Seaport: Dumai

Roads: 1,126.11 km

Investment Potential

Total Railway System Development

The Riau plan for a Total Railway System Development covers a length of 831 km at an estimated cost of US\$ 2.03 billion. A Priority Feasible Railway System Development from Rantau Prapat to Dumai traversing 252 km is estimated at US\$ 377 million.

SOUTH SUMATRA

Capital City: Palembang

Area: 91,592.43 km²

Population: 7,222,600

International Airport: Sultan Mahmud Badaruddin II

River Harbour: Boom Baru

Roads: 10,938.45 km

Investment Potential

Tanjung Api-Api Integrated Port Facilities

South Sumatra has many natural resources and is particularly rich in coal, accounting for 48% of Indonesia's total deposits. Most of this coal is located inland and in the districts of Muara Enim and Lahat. Developing an integrated port facility and double track railway access would allow South Sumatra to raise its production for the export market. An industrial park located near the port for processing of coal, aluminum, fertilizer and crude palm oil would increase the port's value in transporting goods to a wider array



of markets. The estimated cost for the project is estimated at US\$7.86 billion.

WEST JAVA

Capital City: Bandung

Area: 35,377.76 km²

Population: 41,501,500

International Airport: Husein Sastranegara Airport

Seaport: Cirebon

Roads: 3,339.81 km

Investment Potential

Kertajati International Airport

The Majalengka Regency decided to structure a new international airport in West Java in order to provide better service for investors and visitors. The provincial government of West Java has provided land for the venture and various investment schemes will be considered. The estimated cost is US\$300 million.



Geothermal Investment in West Java

West Java has the largest consumption of electricity in Indonesia. There are 43 locations of geothermal manifestation in West Java accounting for a total 6101 MWe distributed in 11 regencies. The tender process calls for 3 locations in 2010 at Mt. Ciremai, Mt. Papandayan and Mt. Gede-Pangrango. Preliminary survey assignment offer to third party for 10 locations at Mt. Galunggung, Mt. Guntur, Cilayu, Mt. Pancar, Mt. Sawal, Tanggeung, Ciseeng, Subang Cibingbin, Cipanas Cipacing and Jampang.

Regional Integrated Recycle Plant

West Java requires an environmentally sound and sustainable regional integrated waste treatment and final disposal system. The primary serviced area includes Bandung City, Cimahi City, Bandung Regency, West Bandung Regency and all regencies and cities at the northern coast of West Java. The estimated project cost is between US\$ 600 billion to US\$ 650 billion and expected to provide its beneficial services by 2015.

Southern Ocean Fishery Centre

The West Java provincial government recognizes the need to modernize existing fishery ports, fishery fleets and ocean based food processes that encompass standardization, technological capacity, hygiene and management.

WEST NUSA TENGGARA

Capital City: Mataram

Area: 18,572.32 km²

Population: 4,434,000

International Airport:

- Selaparang Airport
- Lombok International Airport

Seaport: Lembar Seaport in West Lombok

Roads: 601.83 km

Investment Potential

Hu'u Geothermal Power Plant

The Hu'u geothermal area is located in the Dompu Regency, 70 km from Salahuddin Airport. Geological, geochemical and geophysical surveys recognize a geothermal prospect of about 10 km² in area. The resource potential is estimated as 69 MW (Research by Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, 2007) suitable for domestic consumption in Sumbawa Island consisting of 4 regencies and 1 municipality. The estimated cost is US\$400 million.

Sembalun Geothermal Power Plant

The Sembalun Bumbung area is located in the East Lombok Regency about 140 km from Selaparang Airport. The geothermal area covers 14 km² with a total of 6 sites for a small-scale geothermal power plant with a resource potential of 70MW suitable for meeting the energy demands of Lombok Island consisting of 4 regencies and 1 municipality. Estimated cost is US\$ 410 billion.

OI





ISLE OF GOLD EXHIBITION DISPLAYS RICH TRAIL OF CULTURES

Like Singapore, the island of Sumatra stands at the crossroads of international trade as a busy port and a meeting point for cultures from all over Asia. The Sumatra: Isle of Gold exhibition is a golden opportunity for Singaporeans to discover the richness of Sumatra's history and culture, and the historical links between Singapore and one of its closest neighbours

The dizzying array of objects exhibited includes a diamond-studded crown worn by the Sultan of Siak, silk and gold-threaded textiles, beadwork, sculpture, and a glorious trove of jewelry and ornament. They bring to life the story of the Indonesian island of Sumatra, an ancient crossroads of Asia.

Sumatra: Isle of Gold, which runs to 7 November 2010 is the latest exhibition at the Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM) and features over 300 objects that showcase the unique culture and identity of Sumatra, especially the cross-cultural influences that have shaped the island from ancient times to the present day.

Co-organised by the ACM, the National Museum of Indonesia and the Museum Volkenkunde (National Museum of Ethnology), Leiden, Sumatra: Isle of Gold is the first international travelling exhibition on Sumatran culture. The exhibition first opened in Jakarta last year and then travelled to Leiden.

For the show in Singapore, the ACM has incorporated over 100 additional objects from its own collection and private collections. Sumatra Isle of Gold is also the highlight of the National Heritage Board's Fokus Indonesia Festival.

"This cross-cultural exhibition is especially significant for Singapore. Sumatra was a point of arrival for new ideas and beliefs, which gives the island a significant place within Southeast Asia's history. The exhibition reveals to our audiences Sumatra's rich cultural legacy through an

array of beautiful objects in many media," said Dr Alan Chong, Director of the Asian Civilisations Museum.

"Sumatra: Isle of Gold" examines how various cultures in Sumatra have influenced and, in turn, shaped others through interaction with foreign traders and colonists. The exhibition has been structured into five main sections to reflect the main streams of cultural influence - Indian, Chinese, Islamic, European and regional.

Crossroads of Asia

Sumatra's strategic location and its wealth of natural resources, including gold and pepper, made it a natural trading crossroads for Indian and Chinese merchants. As early as the third century B.C., Indian records mention Suvarnadwipa or "Gold Island" in reference to Sumatra's rich gold deposits, especially in the central Minangkabau highlands.

The island's strategic location and wealth of natural resources, including gold, pepper and aromatics, made it a busy entrepot for trade. These interactions gave rise to the diverse cultures, customs and peoples found on the island today.

By the seventh century, the largest of 17,000 islands in what is now Indonesia had become the seat of power for the mighty Hindu-Buddhist Srivijaya kingdom, which dominated much of Southeast Asia for over 400 years.

The Hindu-Buddhist traditions of Sumatra's Srivijayan rulers are reflected in a number of religious icons from Palembang, where the empire was based. Trade with India also left its mark in textiles as gold leaf was added to hand-painted cloths arriving from the Coromandel Coast of India, a wearable form of investment for the nobility.

After the decline of Srivijaya, Islamic sultanates established themselves in the coastal areas from the 13th to 16th centuries, developing a tradition of court arts and royal regalia, some of which are on display. Ottoman Turkish craftsmen sent to Aceh in the 16th century left a legacy of jewellery-making techniques, reinforcing Islamic influences. However, Hindu-Buddhist features could still be seen in royal regalia such as the elaborate Crown of the Sultan of Siak, made of gold with diamonds, rubies and other gems.

Chinese settlers came to Sumatra over the centuries, resulting in sizeable Chinese communities by the 19th century, where they worked as artisans, businessmen, administrators and tax collectors, among other professions. Their cultural influences on design can be seen in the use of many traditional Chinese symbols and decorative motifs, such as the phoenix and dragon (representing the empress and emperor), fish (fertility) and Buddhist emblems.

The island's rich natural resources also attracted European traders and colonists. The Portuguese and the Dutch started to arrive in the 16th and 17th centuries, respectively, and European influences left their mark on the royal courts as well as remote tribal communities.

"The exhibition examines how the various cultures in Sumatra have been influenced, and in turn shaped others, through interactions with the many foreign influences that arrived at the island. Just like Singapore, this 'Island of Gold' was a busy port and a meeting point for cultures from all over Asia. Through this exhibition, we hope that many Singaporeans will discover the richness of Sumatra's history and culture, and the ancient links between Singapore and one of our closest neighbours," said Ms Heidi Tan, Senior Curator (Southeast Asia), Asian Civilisations Museum.

Exhibition Storyline and Highlights

The exhibition opens with an introduction to Sumatra's pre-history, and then breaks into sections on Indian, Chinese, Islamic, European and regional influences.

Pre-history

A key exhibition highlight is one of the oldest exhibits on show – a Bronze Age vessel from Jambi in East Sumatra. This vessel dates back over 2000 years and is elaborately decorated with motifs of hooks and spirals, which are iconic motifs found among many early Southeast Asian artefacts from that period.

Indian

The Hindu-Buddhist traditions of Sumatra's Srivijayan rulers are reflected in a number of religious icons from Palembang, where the empire was based. An impressive sculpture of Avalokiteshvara, the Bodhisattva of Compassion, which weighs over 470 kg, is one of the highlights in this section.

Chinese

Peranakan or 'local born' communities which resulted from inter-marriages between the Chinese and locals helped to spread their traditions, seen through the cross-adoption of both Chinese and local designs and techniques in textiles, clothing, jewellery and other materials on display in this section. The rebana, a type of local hand-drum, incorporates traditional Chinese symbols such as the Chinese phoenix and qilin motifs.



Islamic

A resplendent gold crown that once belonged to the Sultan of Siak is testament to the powerful Islamic sultanates of Sumatra. Set with diamonds and rubies imported from West Asia, this famous crown still retains Hindu-Buddhist influence in the form of three lotus flowers. Royal regalia, such as this crown, were treasured heirlooms that symbolised the sultans' royal power and the right to rule.

Regional

While international trade flourished, regional trade also took place between the people of Sumatra such as the Minangkabau, the Nias and the Batak. A highlight in this section is a glittering gold necklace, which

would have been worn by Nias nobility, who traded slaves for gold from mainland Sumatra.

European

Increasing European presence in Sumatra in the century is seen in items displaying a curious mix of European influences and local motifs created for local use and for export. Of special note is a tirai, a ceremonial hanging with Mughal Indian origins, and full of surprising details drawn from various cultures. Its central motif is a European coat-of-arms, flanked by women in European dress and cavorting dogs. Floral motifs sewn in gold thread, typical of Islamic embroidery, decorate the entire hanging, which is made of velvet, a popular local material.

OI



Nation Employment



- Deployment of New FDW
- Deployment of Transfer FDW
- Direct Hire of FDW
- Application of Work Permits
- Renewal of Work Permit
- Cancellation of Work Permit
- Liaison with Embassies
- Medical Check-up
- Safety Awareness Course and Entry Test required by MOM
- Comprehensive Insurance Coverage
- Waiver of Security Bond
- Booking of Return Passages

Jurong Branch (Headquarters/Training Centre of 1.8k Sq Ft in size)
 135 Jurong East St.13, #05-317, Singapore 600135
 Tel: 6665 8199 Fax: 6665 0969 Email: jurongeast@nation.sg

WAXING ELOQUENCE

Indonesian Batik is recognised the world over as the most intricate and developed form of the art. In the country it regales as much in its glorious past as in its bold future

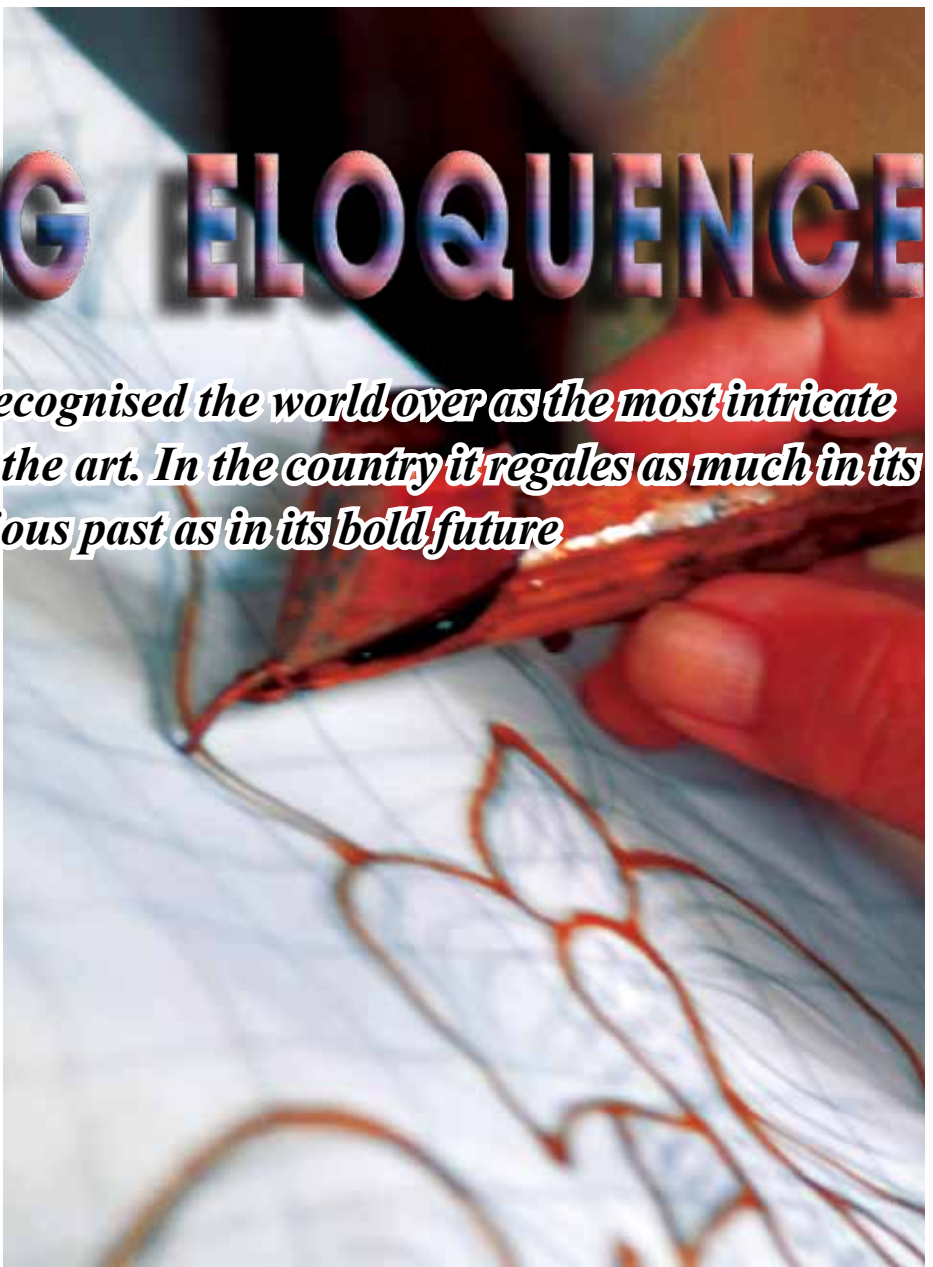
To truly appreciate batik, one has to see the creation of this beautiful art form from scratch. Artists at work, creating beautiful motifs through painstaking application of wax, dyeing of the cloth, and repeating the process till the final product is achieved. It is amazing what a little wax and some dyeing can do to a piece of cloth. The white fabric transforms into something surreal, a burst of colours and patterns.

In no place has Batik developed with such multi-faceted designs, vibrant colours and form than in Indonesia. Batik, in many ways, reveals the country's chaotic history. It is a testimony to the Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim and colonial cultures that have left a strong influence on its shores. Although its origin is much debated, and historians say that Batik is not solely Indonesian, with samples of the art found in Egypt, Turkey, Middle East and India about 1500 years ago, it is in the Indonesian archipelago that Batik developed into an intricate art.

Now Batik is an intrinsic part of Indonesian culture and lifestyle. The Indonesian government promotes the fabric, calling on civil servants and the public to wear it frequently. It also encourages fashion designers to find more appealing uses for it. It is a custom in many offices in Indonesia to observe "Batik Fridays."

In fact, on October 2, 2009 the United Nations recognized Indonesian batik as one of the world's important cultural traditions. The craft was added to the UN's Intangible Cultural Heritage list.

"Batik is Indonesia and Indonesia is batik," says Paul Goh, project director of Alleira Batik, a premier fashion house that has a boutique in Singapore. Goh believes that



while Batik is an ancient art, Indonesians have managed to develop it into a form that fits the current times. He asserts that in today's modern world Batik is best expressed and communicated through fashion. "It adds a new dimension and creativity for the designers, providing new arena of fashion wardrobe for men, women and children," he says. "Batik has now become a part of the fashion world due to its exquisite uniqueness of colours, motifs and fabric combinations. It has gained prominence with designers around the world."

The prints and designs on the cloth convey a lot more than just artistry. Batik is often worn to communicate status, or indicate occupation. Some designs are specific to royalty and cannot be worn by others. The cloth is often offered to the Gods to appease them. The most expensive batik is completely handmade, using organic dyes.

Young Indonesians experiment with Batik fabric in western outfits. Many fashion houses catering to this trend have sprouted around the country. The popularity of Batik around the world has also allowed them to explore business opportunities abroad.

An example of that is Alleira Batik, which will soon take its business to about 38 countries through its Trademark registration movement and duplicating "Alleira Galleria" starting 2011.

"Alleira is expanding on a worldwide basis through equity partnership, business collaboration, distributorship and wholly-owned entity," says Goh.

It is no wonder that Indonesian Batik is often referred to as the fabric of enchantment and it is ready to create waves worldwide.

The Art of Batik

Batik is derived from the Indonesian word 'ambatik' meaning a 'cloth with little dots'. The making of a Batik masterpiece is a process that requires expert hands and a lot of patience. It follows a seven-step procedure once the fabric has been selected.

- Keteli - Preparing of the fabric by washing it clean of the starch so the fabric can absorb the wax and the colouring agent. It is common to use a mixture of beeswax and paraffin wax. The beeswax holds onto the fabric and the paraffin wax allows cracking, a characteristic of the art.
- Japlak - Drawing of the batik pattern on the fabric
- Mbathik - Drawing the pattern with batik wax, using canthing (a hand-writer tool)
- Nembok - Covering the parts of patterns that will be left white with batik wax
- Nyelup - Dipping the fabric into colouring agents repeatedly to achieve the desired colour
- Lorod - Dipping the fabric in boiling water to wash away the wax
- Jemur - Drying the finished fabric under the sun to even out the colour and avoid discoloration. The process may be repeated as often as two dozen times to create intricate multicoloured designs.



MOTORING AHEAD

Growing from strength to strength, Johnny Harjanto, Chairperson of an umbrella forum for Indonesian communities in Singapore as well as the Indonesian Entrepreneurs Association in Singapore (IEAS) has been working closely with the Embassy of Indonesia in Singapore to promote communications and interaction among Indonesians here in Singapore. He shares his success story with Opportunity Indonesia.



“Wherever your heart is, that is where you’ll find your treasure,” says Johnny Harjanto. These words certainly ring true for the successful Indonesian entrepreneur who married his Singaporean sweetheart and resettled his business to be close to his wife. The rest, as they say, is history. As an Indonesian who has made Singapore his home, Mr Harjanto, the Managing Director of Smart Automobile Pte Ltd, recounts the days when he started with diesel vehicles for his taxi company. He was convinced that with the growing economy, there would be more vehicles on the road and inevitably, pollution. Starting with just three vehicles, the SMART Cab service has mushroomed into a fleet of 800 taxis. Recently, the company scored a world first operating Singapore’s first ever Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) powered taxis, leading the way for a clean and green city initiative.

SMART Cab launched the first CNG run taxi in Singapore (and the world) in 2005 and also set up two CNG stations in the city-state. This has made Mr Harjanto a pioneer in the use of CNG, taking up the green challenge to support the environment and create a clean city for healthy living. Today, SMART Cab continues its pioneering status with inaugural quality class SUPREME Limousine Service that runs on CNG. However, Mr Harjanto is mindful of his humble beginnings and credits his success to hard work and determination. “I start working very young. After my high school graduation, I didn’t have the opportunity to go to the University as the expensive higher education was unaffordable,” he says.

He took up his first job in a nuts and bolts factory but left within a few months because of the deplorable working conditions. He tried unsuccessfully to find another job in Jakarta. His businessman uncle came to his rescue, taking the young man of 17 under his wings. “My uncle, an importer of stationery items, said he would help me start something on my own. He introduced me to his customers. I would buy the goods from him and then sell to customers. I rode my motorcycle all around Jakarta and came back in the evening with my face all black,” he says.

His ambition was further ignited when he would visit the air-conditioned offices of the customers. “I would think to myself that if others can be successful in their business, so can I. I decided that I would go to Singapore and bring back goods to sell in Indonesia,” he says. At the age of 20, with his new passport in his hand, Mr Harjanto arrived in Singapore. The city

overwhelmed him but the Indonesian had made up his mind to not be intimidated. Thus began the journey of his success.

He worked in the import business for about two years and in between made trips to Europe to broaden his perspective. “When I came back to Singapore, I decided to shift from the stationery business to office automation like fax and photocopy machine,” he recalls.

Propelled by the love for his wife and his own desire to succeed, he moved to Singapore lock, stock and barrel. Starting from scratch was not easy and Mr Harjanto spent a lot of time meeting people and sniffing out business opportunities. A friend who was in the cruise liner business suggested he started a car rental agency to cater to guests once the ships dock in Singapore.

The company was registered in 1991 and he started with three cars. But Mr Harjanto’s business really took off when the Singapore government decided to open up the taxi industry. “Not many people took the plunge but I did. And my company has now become one of the biggest privately owned taxi companies in the country,” he says. SMART taxis got the license to operate in 2003 and operations started in 2004. Within six years it has grown from a fleet of 100 to about 800 taxis.

Quite soon after, another opportunity presented itself. “The government approached me asking if I would be interested in running my cars on CNG. It was a really good thing so I decided to give it a shot,” he says.

The problem was the lack of CNG stations on the island. “You talk to the gas station operator and he wants a signed document which says that there will be 2000 taxis using CNG. And taxi operators say unless you have the CNG station we won’t convert. It’s a chicken and egg situation. So, finally I told them, I’ll own the farm and the chickens,” he says. “I had launched my CNG taxis, the first in the world, in 2005, following which the government gave me land to setup my own CNG station in 2008”.

Despite setbacks, Mr Harjanto’s business has grown by leaps and bounds, which is a testament to his hard work and never-give-in attitude. Young entrepreneurs can learn a lot from the man whose humble beginning didn’t deter him from achieving great heights. He wants to now help and promote businessmen from his country.

“I think Singapore is a very good platform for our younger entrepreneurs from Indonesia. I am always ready to help any Indonesian who wants to setup a business here in Singapore,” he says. Currently as Chairperson of an umbrella forum for Indonesian communities in Singapore as well as the Indonesian Entrepreneurs Association in Singapore, he has been working closely with the Embassy of Indonesia in Singapore to integrate the Indonesian community through cultural activities and also mentoring the newcomers.

Mr Harjanto’s belief in his country of birth shines through when he cites Indonesia as the place where the potential for growth really lies. “I feel that many Singaporeans can go to Indonesia and explore those opportunities. If you ask me which is the best place to invest I would say it is no longer China, but Indonesia,” he says with confidence.

NETWORKING THE IBC WAY

Indonesian Business Centre plays a significant role in facilitating business between Indonesia and Singapore

Are you a Singaporean who wants to invest in some of Indonesia's large reserves of natural resources? Or an Indonesian planning to bring your business to Singapore? Your one-stop shop for expert advice, guidance and help is the Indonesian Business Centre (IBC), a community of eminent businessmen, entrepreneurs, government representatives and professionals drawn from both countries.

Founded 10 years ago, IBC facilitates business among Indonesian businessmen, their Singaporean counterparts and expatriates residing in both Singapore and Indonesia. It does this through the organisation of business and cultural trips, forums, weekly activities and social gatherings. With 3000 database including the who's who of Singapore and Indonesia business circles, it has played a crucial role in strengthening business ties between the two countries.

Now, it wants to take those ties to the next level. It plans to open offices in all 33 of Indonesia's provinces in the next few years. Mr. Setyadi Ongkowidjaja, chairman of the board of advisors of IBC said, "We aim to open at least three representative offices every year. So we can probably reach 30 in ten years or sooner. Then IBC would have its presence in every capital city of every province in Indonesia. It would help further improve the network between the two countries."

Indonesia and Singapore have had strong economic ties in the past. Singapore is one of the largest investors in Indonesia. Recent data released by the Singapore government stated that in the first quarter of 2010, Singaporean investment into Indonesia was US\$678.8 million*. The forecast for the entire year is a projected growth of 10-15 % over the 2009 figure of US\$4.3 billion*.

With bilateral trade and investment looking set to grow, IBC's role assumes more significance. From providing basic support to



The IBC Business Forum on 12th May 2010 in Singapore was graced by (from right to left) Mr. Budi Mulya, Deputy Governor of Indonesia's Central Bank, Bank Indonesia, Mr Darmawan Djajusman, Deputy Chairman of the Indonesian Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM); IBC Chairman Mr Setyadi Ongkowidjaja, and Mr. Jean Anes, Minister Counsellor in Economic Affairs of the Embassy of Indonesia in Singapore.

entrepreneurs such as helping them find the right financiers, to connecting the right people to give birth to a new opportunity, it has and will continue to orchestrate business dynamics.

Membership is open to Indonesians in Singapore and Indonesia, Singaporeans and expatriates who are interested in business dealings with Indonesians. Its current membership base comprises 60% Indonesians, 30% Singaporeans and 10% expatriates. According to chairman Mr Ongkowidjaja, who is also the founder and managing partner of Singapore-based architects and interior designers Atelier East, IBC has been successful in achieving the goals it had set for itself when it was set up in 2000. "The membership has increased. The involvement of corporate houses has increased, as has the sponsorship we are getting. From around 100 database in 2000, we have now grown to 3000. People can see the benefits of joining our organisation."

As bilateral trade, investment, tourism and cultural ties between the two countries grow, IBC is looking forward to an active and rewarding time ahead.

OI

* Source - Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board

**Indonesian
Business
Centre**

*Promoting Business
Network Between
Indonesia & Singapore*

Profitable partnerships begin with Indonesian Business Centre (IBC)

Indonesian Business Centre (IBC), now in its 10th year, synergises business network among Indonesian businessmen, their Singaporean counterparts and expats residing in both Singapore and Indonesia respectively. The database of IBC, currently stands at 3000, comprises primarily eminent businessmen, entrepreneurs and professionals. 20% of the memberships are also those from diversified background and nationalities. Representatives of various business associations and counselors (economic & trade sections) of various high commissions who have business relationship with Indonesia are also represented.

Website: www.ibc-club.sg Tel: 6235 1163 Fax: 6234 3013 Email: ibciarc@singnet.com.sg



LIFE'S A CRUISE

If you want to enjoy Indonesia to the fullest, in the lap of total luxury, opt for cruise to the mystical islands

Few pleasures of life can match lying bareback on the deck, a flute of champagne for company and listening to the gentle sounds of the waves. As you soak in life, your ship sails gently in the pristine waters, towards mystical Indonesia. Sounds like a dream? Singapore based Stamford Discovery Cruise Centre, an IATA and NATAS certified agency, is making it come true for you. The company, set up in 1970, has links with over 33 cruise liners from which visitors can pick and chose the destination and the itinerary that suits them. Companies like Costa Cruises and the Yachts of Seabourn have Indonesia specific trips ranging from 10 days to 25 days, exploring the archipelago. On a typical 22-day trip, you will cruise through the South China Sea, touching Borneo on the way, visiting Karimunjawa, a chain of 27 small islands, the commercial port of Semarang, Lombok and of course, travellers' favourite, Bali.

Choice of cruise liners

Cruises to Indonesia are very popular among international travellers. Not only do they provide the best of sea travel, but also the inimitability and mysticism of Asian culture.

The Yachts of Seabourn, a top-rated, ultra-luxury cruise line that visits over 600 ports of call in the world's most desirable destinations, has three specific cruises that visit Indonesia: Gems of Java Sea; Bali, Borneo and Beyond; and Bali and Great Barrier Reef.

"We have done a number of cruises to Indonesia in recent years. We have sailed regularly between Singapore, Java, Bali, Sulawesi and Borneo. The Bali-Singapore cruises are very popular among our guests," says Bruce Good, Director of Corporate Communications, Yachts of Seabourn. The liners offer the best of world-class luxury. Seabourn suites are a haven of sophistication and luxury. Each suite offers all the modern conveniences combined with the old world charm of ocean travel. It offers a variety of dining experiences and spas. Not only can guests enjoy the beauty and charm of Indonesia but on-board entertainment while at sea.

Some stops that cruises make are at Karimunjawa, a designated national marine park. Its 27 islands include Karimunjawa Island, Kemujan Island, Menjangan Besar Island and Menjangan Kecil Island. It is a haven for anglers because of its many species of fish.

Semarang is another stopping point along Java's north central coast. Because of its accessibility to the island's interior, it is an ideal gateway to the mystic Borobudur, one of the largest Buddhist pilgrim sites in the world. In Lombok, cruise travellers can enjoy the mountainous terrain and unspoiled beaches, and even shop for the most potent cloves, nutmeg, pepper and coriander. Finally Bali, which creates an impression on everyone. Known for its woodcarvings, paintings, festivals, dances and temples, visitors will find the stop at Bali one of the most enchanting experiences of the entire cruise. Cruises are priced anywhere above \$9000 for trips of 10 days. Luxury suites are priced higher. Most cruise liners have a loyal following and rely on repeat guests for their business. "On average about 40-50 percent of guests are repeaters. They are the best advertisement we have because they love to tell their friends and families about what a great vacation they had. Most of our guests book through a professional travel agent, so that is an important link for us. We do a lot of email and direct mail promotion," says Good.

Costa Cruises

Costa Cruises is another European cruise group, which has two cruises from Singapore to Indonesia. On board the Costa Romantica, you can enjoy a 14-day trip to Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia. It visits the Sulawesi (or Celebes) islands, east of Borneo. The island is extremely mountainous with peaks of over 3000 metres and several lakes. Its second stop in Indonesia is the capital city of Jakarta, the country's main commercial port, and a continually expanding centre in both demographic and economic terms. It is a megalopolis brimming with contradictions, but also full of attractions for tourists from all over the world. So what are you waiting for? Get on board and cruise to Indonesia for the experience of a lifetime. For more information, log on to www.stamfordtravel.com.sg

Uniquely Indonesia

Direct Flight Destinations

As the world's largest archipelago, Indonesia is a holiday destination with diverse cultures and scenic sights. With daily flights connecting Singapore to many regions, an Indonesian getaway is just a short flight away.



Indonesia offers holidaymakers a wide array of activities from dining and shopping to nature and trekking

West Java

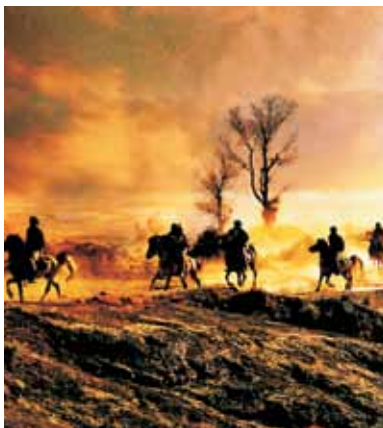
From lush, mountainous landscapes, stark yet stunning volcanic peaks to the sprawling golf courses, West Java has something for every kind of traveller. You can hike to the rim of a crater in Lembang, stand a few feet away from a steam geyser in Garut, or enjoy the architectural beauty of the capital city of Bandung.

West Java is the most densely populated province of Indonesia. Bandung, nestled in the mountains, is a charming capital city, also known as the Paris of Java. It has a strong colonial influence, while maintaining a perfect balance between European sophistication and Indonesian culture. The city is worth a visit not just for its marvels in stone, but also for the remarkable 2076 m high volcano, Tangkuban Perahu, which means an overturned boat. Just 16 kilometres north of Bandung is situated the resort town of Lembang, which has a

heavy Dutch influence. One of the biggest attractions of the place is the hike to the rim of the crater Tangkuban Perahu. You can stand mesmerized by the sight or choose to descend into one of the 12 craters of the volcano.

The areas surrounding Lembang are a trekker's delight and spa haven with mineral water pools to cure your skin problems. For the adventure enthusiasts, Maribaya and Garut are a must-visit for white water rafting, trekking and coming in close proximity to steaming geysers and sulphurous lakes. A boat trip to Anak Karakatoa, a young active volcano, is definitely worth making.

In the southwestern tip of West Java is Ujung Kulon peninsula, a beautiful tropical rain forest and wildlife reserve. It is the home of the endangered one-horned rhinoceros, only 50 of which are remaining. The dense forest is also the natural habitat of many species of wild ox, deer, wild boar, panthers, crocodiles, snakes and birds. No visitor to Indonesia should give West Java a miss, for its abundance of natural beauty and charm, stunning locales, intriguing culture and friendly people who will provide you with an experience of a lifetime.



East Java

If you look at a geographical map of East Java, detailing its physical features, you will see it is peppered with volcanic peaks all over. Its landscape is spectacularly rugged and barren.

The region is best known for the Bromo-Tengger-Semeru National Park. The Semeru and Bromo volcanic peaks are the most iconic images of Indonesia for every traveller to these parts.

Some of the peaks are higher than 3000m and the volcanic activity has created a very fertile area, where verdant agriculture is a prominent feature. The national park is named after its two mountains, Mount Semeru (the highest in Java at 3676 metres), Mount Bromo (the most popular) and the Tengger people who inhabit the area. Mount Semeru, also known as Mahameru (Great Mountain), is one of Indonesia's most active volcanoes. While the Semeru is often closed due to its highly active nature, there are many opportunities for trekking in the



Central Java

Considered the heart of Javanese culture, Central Java is the third most-populated province in Indonesia. It is probably one of the most visited places in Indonesia for its rich religious and cultural heritage.

It is home to the majestic Borobudur and Prambanan temples, which are among the largest Buddhist and Hindu religious structures in the world. A UNESCO world heritage site, Borobudur is a famous Buddhist temple, dating from the 8th and 9th centuries. It was built in three tiers: a pyramidal base with five concentric square terraces, the trunk of a cone with three circular platforms and, at the top, a monumental stupa. It is the single most visited attraction in the whole of Indonesia, drawing thousands of visitors every year.

The temple was partially buried by a massive eruption of nearby Mt Merapi volcano in the 10th century, and then fully buried by the local Buddhists to hide it from the marauding Hindus, only discovered again in the 1800s. The majestic structure is bound to make you feel like a dwarf.

Another site you must not miss is the Parambanan, a complex of 16 Hindu temples, also a UNESCO world heritage site. It isn't as well known as its more illustrious neighbour, the Borobudur, but almost as awe-inspiring. Built around the 8th century, it is dedicated to Lord Shiva, Brahma, Vishnu and other deities. Intricate carvings and prayer rooms are some of the highlights of the structure.

Central Java is also known for its exquisite batik. Visitors will find some of the most beautiful and elaborate patterns in Batik from Pekalongan, Surakarta and Yogyakarta.

Although better known for its temples, Central Java also boasts of spectacular conical volcanoes, steaming sulphurous pools and eerie mountain lakes. It is a surreal blend of past mysteries and present-day wonders, sure to leave you overwhelmed.



park. If you are coming to these parts, you have to see the sunrise from the top of Mount Penanjakan. It's worth waking up for even at the unearthly hour of 4am. Visitors can also do the climb to the rim of Mount Bromo to have a peak at the bubbling active crater. But be careful not to get too close to the rim. While volcanoes are the biggest attractions of East Java, there are some pristine and sandy beaches to the north and south of the province. About 30 km south of the city of Malang, there are three beaches in close proximity of each other: Balekambang, Ngliyep and Sendangbiru. Though not considered ideal for swimming, these beaches offer visitors a relaxing time where a tan can be worked on. East Java also has two national parks - Alas Purwo and Meru Betiri. The parks are made up of mangroves, savannah, lowland monsoon forests and coral-fringed beaches. You can get a glimpse of some endangered flora and fauna. One of the biggest attractions of the parks is the Javanese bull.

Lombok

Lombok is experiencing a tourism boom. The island in the West Nusa Tenggara province of Indonesia is fast becoming a favourite with travellers who are charmed by the undiscovered beauty of the area. Its quiet rural villages, virgin beaches and spectacular waterfalls

are attracting visitors by the dozen. The Gili Islands, a threesome of islands skirted by coral reef on the northwestern coast of Lombok, are scuba diving and snorkelling enthusiasts' paradise. The Gili Air, Gili Meno and Gili Trawangan are perfect for tourists who are looking for tranquility and seclusion, yet at the same time provide enough attractions to keep them entertained. Budget travellers can find easy accommodation in these parts. One of the highlights is the bamboo and thatch huts for rent. However, there are enough luxury villas and bungalows for those who want to live in comfort in this tropical heaven. Senggigi, on the west coast of Lombok, is the main beach resort and the most developed tourist region of the island. It is dotted with hotels and top-notch luxury accommodations by beach stretches. There's a lot to do in the area and visitors can choose from trekking, diving, snorkelling and surfing. One can also relax those muscles by indulging in traditional therapeutic massages given by the locals on the beaches. Lombok is one of the prime destinations for surfers from around the world. The best surfs can be caught on the Roti Island in Nusa Tenggara. Sekotong and Bangko-Bangko also see a steady stream of surfers who are drawn to the ultra-challenging surf breaks. However, there are surf breaks that are suitable for all levels of surfers. Another big tourist attraction of Lombok is the Kuta beach. It is a splendid stretch of powdery white sand and blue water, with craggy mountains in the backdrop. It is a relatively quiet beach, which only comes alive during an annual fishing festival.

Aceh

Located on the northern tip of the island of Sumatra, Aceh is a special territory with the highest proportion of Muslim population in the country. It has had a volatile past and for many years, travel to this



region was restricted by the government because of rebel activities. More recently, in 2004, the region was devastated by an earthquake, followed by a tsunami that took more than 160,000 lives. However, Aceh has risen from the debris and the aftermath. A visit there will surely restore your faith in the human spirit. You will hear countless stories of bravery. While tourism was always ignored in this region, after the disasters there are more efforts being made to bring in visitors. In its capital city of Banda Aceh, the emphasis is on spiritual, cultural and tsunami tourism. Tourists can visit the city's many mosques and spiritual sites. To get an idea about the magnitude of disasters, there is the option of seeing some monuments that stand as testimony to nature's wrath. Some of these are PLTD Apung, an offshore power station ship carried 3km inland by the tsunami wave, mass graves, and the boat on top of a house. Not everything is as heartbreakingly dramatic in the region. There are some spectacular hiking and mountain biking trails in Bukit Lawang and Tangkahan. Sabang can be called the centre of marine tourism in the region with Weh and Rubiah Islands known for its scuba-diving sites.

Banten

Banten was separated from the West Java province in 2000. It is a culturally rich region that guards its traditions and values. Banten city has a lot to offer to those with an eye for history. The ruins of Surosowan Palace, Kaibon Palace, Great Mosque of Banten, Speelwijk fortress and Chinese temple Avalokiteshvara speak volumes of its past glories and rich cultural heritage. The province has a lot of tourist attractions, from the wildlife reserve of Ujung Kulon and the isolated communities of the mysterious Baduy to unspoiled beaches. One of the highlights of this region is the existence of the Baduy tribe, a traditional people that embrace a culture which prohibits modern lifestyle. They are an utterly unique and closed society. However, visitors can get a chance to understand their lifestyle by visiting them from either the Cibolegar or Cibungur village in Leuwidamar district. In April and May, the Baduy community is closed to outsiders, in order to conduct certain ceremonies. Lovers of bird watching can visit the Pulau Dua/Pulau Burung (Bird Island) in the province. It is home to many kinds of birds, and also coral reefs and fish. Between April and August every year, thousands of migratory birds from around the world make this island their home. About 60 species of birds from Australia, Asia, and Africa are spotted here.

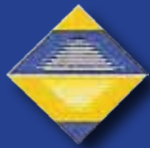
Ternate

The tiny volcanic island of Ternate is one of the four historic sultanates of North Maluku. It was once the world's only source of cloves and attracted traders from across the globe. Today Ternate is the capital of, and the main gateway into North Maluku province. The island has numerous historical sites and great volcanic scenery on offer to the tourists. The highlight, of course, is the Gunung Gamalama volcano which is still active. The island is worth a visit to get a feel of its rich historical past. You can visit several restored forts and palaces. The island shares a unique history with the neighbouring states of Jailolo, Tidore and Bacan. The four islands were part of a cosmic whole, suggesting a separate universe or kingdom. In this kingdom, each state played a unique role.

Ternate, with its wealth of cloves and natural reserves, was the most important part of the whole kingdom, almost like the seat of the king. Its ruler was called the Kolano ma-Luku (ruler of the Moluccas). This and other such mysteries of the past come to live on the island. Ternate is also home to many unique species of plants and animals, making it a paradise for flora and fauna enthusiasts.

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