



## HIGHLIGHTS

On Friday November 4, 2016, Hal Hill, Budy Resosudarmo and Arianto Patunru visited the Indonesian Minister of Finance, Dr Sri Mulyani, who was accompanied by the Head of the Fiscal Policy Office, Dr Suahasil Nazara. The team updated Dr Mulyani on the Project's activities, in particular the recurrent **High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD)**, and a discussion followed regarding key issues to be tackled at the upcoming HLPD in March 2017. These include improving the central-regional fiscal transfer, maritime connectivity, the service sector, and public-private partnerships.



» [find out more](#)

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On 16 and 17 September 2016, the ANU Indonesia Project held the **34th Indonesia Update Conference on the theme Digital**

## OTHER ACTIVITIES



[BIES Economic Dialogue and Forum](#)



[Update book launches in Canberra and Sydney](#)



[Hal Hill appointed as Honorary Board Member of Bank Indonesia Institute](#)

## Indonesia: challenges and opportunities of the digital revolution.

The conference addressed urgent questions surrounding 'digital Indonesia', such as what exactly is the digital economy, and can it live up to its promise? What challenges and opportunities does digitalisation bring to Indonesian governance, politics, policy, culture and society more broadly? How can Indonesia bridge the 'digital divide'?

Download and watch the presentations from [the 2016 Indonesia Update](#) page.

» [find out more](#)

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Also on 19 September, 2016, The Digital Indonesia conference in Perth was a collaborative project between the ANU Indonesia Project and the [Asia Research Centre](#) at Murdoch University and attracted 100 participants. Seeing one of the Centre's research interests is cultural and media studies, collaborating with the ANU Indonesia Project to host a Mini-Update on Digital Indonesia at Murdoch University was a natural match.

» [find out more](#) and you can watch the [video](#) of the presentations.

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[The 2016 Hadi Soesastro Awards](#) ceremony was held at Parliament House, Canberra, on 8 November. The Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, **The Hon Julie Bishop MP**, presented the Awards to Ms Dewy Syahidah from James Cook University for her PhD research on aquaculture and to Mr Riznaldi Akbar from the University of Western Australia for his research on debt management.

Foreign Minister Bishop reiterated the importance of higher education in the Australia-Indonesia relationship. Ms Bishop also announced the Australian Government's renewed commitment to the ANU Indonesia Project. According to the Minister, the Indonesia Project has been a remarkable for its work on the economy and society of Indonesia (see video from 2:55).



[The 1st Thee Kian Wie Lecture Series](#)



[Indonesia Study Group Roadshow in Melbourne](#)

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[Forum Kajian Pembangunan \(FKP\) in review](#)

[Indonesia Study Group \(ISG\)](#)

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### March 2017

High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) in Jakarta and FKP Roadshow in three cities outside Java on the topic of rural development.

### May 2017

Tuesday 9, Sadli Lecture by Professor M Chatib Basri in Jakarta with LPEM FEB Universitas Indonesia.

Wednesday 10, Mubyarto Public Policy Forum in Yogyakarta with Gadjah Mada University.

### July 2017

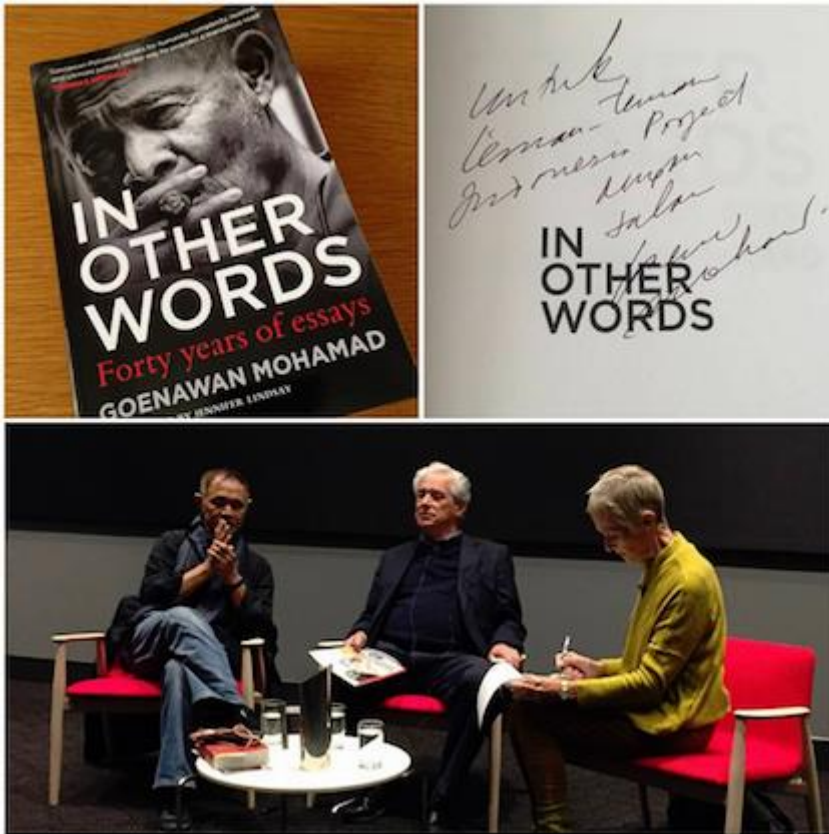
Hadi Soesastro Policy Forum and Update Book Digital Indonesia Launches

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» [find out more and watch the Foreign Minister's speech.](#)

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The Indonesia Project together with the ANU and The Canberra Times held a **Meet the author event with Goenawan Mohamad** on 5 September 2016.

Acclaimed Indonesian writer and man of letters, Goenawan Mohamad, conversed with Emeritus Professor James Fox about his new book, *In Other Words*, a volume of essays edited and translated by Jennifer Lindsay, who also participated in the conversation. Goenawan's essays, written between 1968 and 2014, demonstrate the breadth of his perceptive and elegant commentary on literature, faith, mythology, politics, history and Indonesian life.

» [find out more](#)

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The Thee Kian Wie distinguished visiting professorship is a joint initiative by DFAT and ANU to honour the contributions of Dr Thee Kian Wie. A highly distinguished Indonesian economist is invited to take up a visiting position each year in the Arndt-Corden Department of Economics for up to three months during the period of appointment. The Second appointee is **Professor Muhamad Chatib Basri**. He is one of Indonesia's most eminent and highly regarded economists and the leading public policy economist of his generation in Indonesia.

While serving in this role, he delivered the 15th H W Arndt Memorial Lecture – How to do reform in a 'second-best world': the case of Indonesia. Listen to the [podcast](#).



Details of his public engagements and publications during this term are available [here](#).

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## RESEARCH RELATED

The August 2016 issue (52.2) of *the Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies (BIES)* opened with a [Survey of Recent Developments focusing on demographic change and social spending](#). The issue also included articles on the [2014 village law](#), [land distribution](#), [Indonesia's poverty profile](#), and the [effect of resource export booms on workers' earnings](#).

The December 2016 issue (52.3; forthcoming) features a Survey on the challenge of restoring competitiveness and the search for fiscal space, as well as articles on Jokowi and the new developmentalism, Indonesia's macro forecasting record, consistency between the National Labour Force Survey (Sakernas) and the Indonesia Family Life Survey, and the development of inequality and poverty in Indonesia between 1932 and 2008.

The journal also publishes book reviews and, on [BIESjournal.org](#), abstracts of recent doctoral theses on the Indonesian economy. It has been published continuously since 1965.

To read, submit, or subscribe to *BIES*, visit [Taylor & Francis Online](#). You can also follow the journal on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), or the *BIES* [blog](#).

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## Research network and grants

During the second half of 2016, six of the eight **Research Grant** recipients from the 2015-2016 grants round have completed their project and submitted their research reports. Another two of them will finish in the first half of 2017. The project for the 2016-2017 grants round are still on-going and we expect to receive research reports from them by mid-2017. Papers that resulted from the 2015-2016 projects were submitted to academic journals, including the *Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies*, in the second half of 2016. The group led by Clint Cameron also expects to turn their report on mangrove carbon into a policy brief for the Indonesian government.

There were six recipients in **the sixth round of Research Travel Grants** provided by the ANU Indonesia Project; all of them honour's students. Three grantees are from the University of Queensland: Stephanie Pearson, who is studying the migration-development nexus in Indonesia; Bryanna Wilson, whose research is on modern women in contemporary Indonesian media; and Melanie Kilby, who is working on refugee and asylum seeker minors in Indonesia. Two grantees come from the ANU: Maighdlin Doyle is working on Indonesian influence in Timor Leste and Jacob Wray on the Japanese occupation of the Netherlands East Indies. Another recipient is from Monash University and is looking at the music of the Talo Balak Ensemble of Lampung, Indonesia.

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## OTHER ENGAGEMENT

On 15 September 2016, the ANU Indonesia Project held a pre-Indonesia Update discussion with a group of Indonesian digital entrepreneurs and start-ups. The group of 30 people was in Canberra to attend the 2016 Indonesia Update conference on Digital Indonesia and to participate in a two week program facilitated by the Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

» [find out more](#)

A large group of ANU Indonesia Project members and affiliates participated in the **15th East Asia Economic Association Convention** held in Bandung on 5-6 November 2016, presenting papers and serving a chairs and as discussants. The theme of the convention was sustainable and inclusive development in Asia and the global economy. More than 250 economists representing 21 countries contributed to the convention. Ross Garnaut, Professorial Research Fellow in Economics at the University of Melbourne and Associate at ANU Indonesia Project, presented a keynote speech on Asia and the global response to climate change on the second day of the convention.

» [find out more](#)

Aiming to strengthen the Project's link with partners in Indonesia, the Head of the Indonesia Project, **Budy Resosudarmo, visited the Faculty of Economics and Business-University of Indonesia (FEB-UI)** in July to deliver the public lecture, "Development in remote areas of Indonesia: cases of the Tual and Sumba Islands", and to talk to the Dean of FEB-UI and Professor Iwan Jaya Azis about how the Indonesia Project could support FEB-UI in setting up online course lecture materials for the Introduction of Development Economics course in their undergraduate programs. He revisited in November to observe the process of developing the materials. Professor Ralph Christy (Cornell University (CIIFAD)) gave courses on The role of agriculture in development.

Budy also visited Mataram University in Lombok, Nusa Tenggara Barat, to introduce the Project's activities to its faculty members and students. While there, he also conducted a seminar on Climate change policies in Indonesia and in the United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference (COP 22) in Marrakesh.

» [find out more](#)

In October, Arianto Patunru presented his research at Hasanuddin University, Makassar, to an audience of more than 170 graduate students and faculty members. His study, co-investigated with Professor Ari Kuncoro from the University of Indonesia and Budy Resosudarmo from ANU, looks at the relationship between trade liberalisation and household nutritional intakes in Indonesia from 1993 to 2011.

» [find out more](#)

This year, the ANU Indonesia Project supported the **Indonesian Regional Science Association (IRSA)** in conducting its 13th IRSA Conference in Malang, East Java, on 25 and 26 July. The Faculty of Economics, Brawijaya University, hosted the conference and the theme was Demographic change and regional development.

» [find out more](#)

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**The complete version of this newsletter is available on the ANU Indonesia Project [blog](#).**

