"Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through Government and Universities Partnership' 

Side Event: 10th Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development  
March 28, 12:15-13:30 GMT+7  
Meeting Room H, 1st floor

Organizer
Ministry of National Development Planning/ Agency for National Development Planning (BAPPENAS), Indonesia

Co-organizer(s)
Center for Sustainable Development Goals Studies (SDGs Centre) University of Padjajaran, Bandung, Indonesia

Registration
To attend the side event, all registrants must also register on Indico to attend the APFSD by March 17 using the link here: https://indico.un.org/event/1003108/

Please register using the option “Registration for Others” and choose your side event. Those who do not register on Indico will not be able to access the United Nations Conference Center.

Background
In many countries, particularly developing countries, achieving SDGs agenda requires increasing the capacity of government in public services deliveries. In many cases, reforms should be taken, both in terms of increasing the resource capacity of public sector’s revenue mobilization and in implementing strategies and programs to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs agenda. Yet against this backdrop, there here has been a fundamental shift in the political constellation,
namely that authoritarianism is no longer the dominant regime type in the developing world. As a result, policy reforms, including those relevant to SDGs agenda, face a challenging political economy dilemma because it should work in a much-constrained domestic policy space (limited fiscal room, stronger political contestation and meeting societal demands). Indonesia too entered a very important era in its history in the early 2000s: democratization. The country now has the kind of democracy where public voices and opinions not only matter but should always be taken into account in any policy reforms. Those reforms are much needed in many aspects of its public policy and governance – from its social policies, economic policies, and regulations to institutional and administrative reforms. Those are keys to achieving SDGs. Implementing reforms need legislations, and legislations need public support.

One necessary, yet often neglected, aspect of policy reform initiatives, is credibility – especially in the eyes of the public. As Indonesians are becoming more educated, and more engaged in public debate – especially on social media, this credibility is essential. Government agencies that initiate reforms are facing this dilemma and have been finding it very challenging to improve the credibility of their policy reform initiatives. Universities – supposedly some of one country's most credible institutions – should be able to help them on that front. Universities can engage the government, and vice versa, in developing science-based or evidence-based policy reforms from conception down to design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. This will greatly improve the credibility of any policy reform initiatives. Universities are still seen by the public as possessing twin credentials: authority and independence. This can be capitalized to help countries smooth policy reforms needed in achieving SDGs agenda.

This side event will be a venue to share good practices in how university-government partnership can help countries achieving SDGs in the above-mentioned political economy constellation.

Key Questions and Outcomes

This side event, which involves bringing relevant speakers who had real experience in developing partnership between universities and government sectors aims to highlight the strategic roles of universities-government partnership in achieving SDGs through some of the best practices in Indonesia and other country(s).
It will be guided by the following questions:

- What are examples of collaboration between government and universities that help the programming of SDGs achievement?
- Is there ways to incentivize universities sectors to take actions in achieving SDGs?
- How to build local capacity to implement SDGs agenda?

Expected outcomes of the side event are the:

- Better knowledge about how partnership between academia, particularly universities and public sectors (government) can help the achievement of SDGs.
- Dialogue between different stakeholders about how to optimize partnership between universities and government to meet the challenges of achieving SDGs in 2030.

**Programme**

| Ms. Armida Salsiah Allisjahbana, Executive Secretary, ESCAP | Welcome Message | 12 min 12:15 – 12:27 |
| Dr. Vivi Yulaswati, Indonesian National Secretariat of SDGs/Bappenas |  |  |
| Prof. Rina Indiastuti, Rector of Padjadjaran University, Indonesia |  |  |

**Progress and challenges in achieving SDGs agenda and the role of government-university partnership by Dr. Vivi Yulaswati Indonesian National Secretariat of SDGs/Bappenas**

| 8 min 12:27-12:35 |

**Panel Discussion**

**Moderator:** Dr. Arriya Mungsunti (SDGs Center, Padjadjaran University)

**Panelist:**

<p>| Prof. Arief Yusuf, SDGs Center of Padjadjaran University | Directing and prioritization of SDGs actions: co-development of analytical tools | 10 min 12:35 – 12:45 |
| Dr. Yanuar Nugroho, Indonesian National SDGs Secretariat | Lesson learned from SDGs Award for University | 10 min 12:45 – 12:55 |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof. Bundhit Eua-arporn, Ph.D., President of Chulalongkorn University*</td>
<td>Building university reputation through societal impact: the case of Thailand</td>
<td>10 min 12:55 – 13:05</td>
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<td>J. Satrijo Tanudjojo, Project Board SDGs Academy Indonesia</td>
<td>Building local capacity through SDGs Academy</td>
<td>10 min 13:05 – 13:15</td>
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<td>Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>10 min 13:15 – 13:25</td>
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<td>Summary &amp; Closing Message by Dr. Yanuar Nugroho, Indonesian National SDGs Secretariat</td>
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<td>5 min 13:25 – 13:30</td>
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* Under confirmation

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