

Information on the country strategy Indonesia

For each partner country of VLIR-UOS, a country strategy has been developed. The country strategy represents the strategic niche for VLIR-UOS cooperation in a country, with specific **thematic areas** and an institutional and/or regional focus, based on the needs and national priorities of the country with regard to higher education and development. The [Indonesia Country Strategy](#) fits with the national development strategy and its focus on innovation and research as an important factor for development. This is translated in the country strategy by means of 3 central themes: **'environment'**, **'government & civil society'** and **'food security & agriculture'**. **'Gender'** and **'research support'** have been identified as crosscutting themes. There are no limitations of **regional** or **institutional** nature in possible future cooperation models in Indonesia. Experience with Indonesia should be built up in the short term, which makes it important to leave all possibilities open. However, a focus on the outer islands is recommended because of the regional inequalities in the country. As such, collaboration can be sought by linking A-ranking universities (see annex 1 of the Country Strategy) with higher education institutes in outer areas ("twinning"). Existing links between elite and outer universities can already create opportunities for twinning. Cooperation with the A-ranking institutions in and around Java should then be translated to a supportive role or could only be considered in projects that tackle national level development issues.

Information for potential synergy and complementarity

Synergy and complementarity (S&C) can improve the impact of development cooperation interventions and is a top priority of the Belgian minister of Development Cooperation and encouraged by the reform of non-governmental cooperation in 2016. In order to promote S&C, all Belgian non-governmental development actors were invited to elaborate a Joint Strategic Framework (JSFs) per country in 2016. These JSFs provide information about the goals to which the actors want to contribute, and also indicate potential for synergy and complementarity. In the table below, a general overview of relevant information from the **Joint Strategic Framework** Indonesia is provided for each **thematic area** of the VLIR-UOS **country strategy**. The Joint Strategic **Goal** relevant for each theme is listed, together with the **Belgian non-governmental actors** which are active in **Indonesia** with funding of the Belgian development cooperation. By providing this list, VLIR-UOS wants to facilitate **synergy** and/or complementarity with programmes of other Belgian actors. Synergy and complementarity will also be integrated as an element in the **selection** of interventions, more in particular when discussing the (developmental) relevance of project proposals. The last updated version of the JSF Indonesia can be found [here](#).

Thematic area of the VLIR-UOS country strategy	Potential match with Joint Strategic Goal of the Joint Strategic Framework	Belgian Non-Governmental Actors active in this area
ENVIRONMENT	(3) A sustainable management of natural resources guided by the respect of human rights, local needs, and of the needs of future generations	11.11.11
GOVERNMENT/CIVIL SOCIETY	(4) Support CSOs to promote access to justice for vulnerable populations (Decent work) Creating jobs and sustainable livelihoods , guaranteeing labour rights , extending social protection and promoting social dialogue for all	11.11.11, ASF FOS-IFSI-SOLSOC (country level), IIAV-WSM-BIS (regional level)

FOOD SECURITY and AGRICULTURE	(1) Sustainable agriculture becomes an attractive business, providing sustainable and improved livelihoods for farmers and people who are dependent on the sector	Ricolto, 11.11.11
Crosscutting themes for HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH and INNOVATION	(2) Ensure and improve access to knowledge , improve research and stimulate innovation in order to contribute to development	VLIR-UOS

More information about the other Belgian actors active in **Indonesia** with funding of the Belgian development cooperation can be found in the table below. Their own suggestions for possible cooperation with academics are also provided, but this should not be seen as an exhaustive list. Academics and ICOS elaborating a project proposal are invited to contact relevant organisations for more information and/or to enquire them on potential collaborations.

NGA	Short description of the activities in Indonesia	Name of the local partner(s)	Region(s)	Suggested research topics	Contact person
11.11.11	11.11.11 engages in partnerships with Indonesian Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) that are advocating for a more social and sustainable economy. They challenge with the current policies in their country, which are leading to a widening gap between rich and poor and makes people more vulnerable for ecological disasters, in which the most vulnerable groups in society are the first victims. The program will help to increase the pressure on governments and private sector to ensure human rights related to ecological justice.	Jatam – Mining Advocacy Network Sawit Watch – Palm Oil Watch Walhi – Forum for Environment in Indonesia Solidaritas Perempuan – women’s Solidarity KontraS-Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence	National level, but partners based in Jakarta		Kris Vanslambrouck
Avocats sans Frontières (ASF)	The goal of ASF’s proposed programme is to strengthen rule of law in Indonesia by anchoring efforts in access to justice that promote sustainable development. It seeks to contribute to the ongoing efforts in access to justice by empowering community based legal aid service providers (LASPs) to provide quality, holistic services by building linkages with a range of development service providers. The programme aims to promote the vital	Indonesian Legal Resource Center (ILRC) Lembaga Bantuan Hukum Jakarta (LBH Jakarta)	Jakarta Yogyakarta Bali		Pascal Vandenberghe

	role of community based LASPs particularly paralegals in cultivating the agency of people to claim their basic human rights.				
Ricolto, former VredesEilandCountry Office (VECO)	Ricolto Indonesia and its partners are committed to reach a critical mass of producers through the collaboration with commodity platforms and government institutions. Our program is in touch with consumers providing the link for farmers towards domestic urban and international premium markets. We focus on continuous innovation of practices which enable farmers to economically grow in a healthy environment. The program looks at the landscape in which farmer organizations operate, identifying ecosystem services and payment models which ensure that these ecosystem services are maintained for future generations.	Yayasan Lembaga Konsumen Indonesia Perkumpulan Indonesia Berseru Aliansi Petani Indonesia Yayasan Gita Pertiwi Asosiasi Petani Organik Boyolali Aliansi Petani Padi Organik Boyolali Koperasi Gapoktan Simpatik Sustainable Coffee Platform of Indonesia Cocoa Sustainability Partnership Tani Sakti Alam Kerinci Amanah Cooperative Masagena Cooperative Cahaya Sehati Cooperative Perhimpunan Petani Kopi Toraja Benteng Alla Masyarakat Perlindungan Indikasi Geografis-Arabica Flores Bajawa Asosiasi Petani Kopi Manggarai Koperasi Produksi Agro Niaga Asosiasi Petani Kakao Nangapenda Jaringan Tani Wulang Gitang - Cooperative Sikka cocoa farmers	Java Sumatra Sulawesi Flores	See page 5-8	Dominique Vanderhaeghen
Waardig Werk	The intervention of IFVI in Indonesia has as objective the employment conditions of the employees in the textile, clothing, shoe and leather goods sectors. These sectors set in Indonesia many employees work and are characterized by low wages and a lack of safety standards. The ISVI program supports and strengthens the trade union	IndustriALL (IA) IndustriALL South East Asia (IA SEA) Serikat Pekerja Nasional (SPN) Federasi Garment Tekstile, Kulit, Sepatu & Sentra Industri (Garteks) Gabungan Serikat Buruh Indonesia (GSBI)	North Sumatra Riau/Bata Banten Jakarta West Java Central Java		Frederik Cappelle

	<p>movement in these sectors and companies in their efforts to improve working conditions.</p> <p>At regional level, WSM wants to strengthen partner organisations from the civil society to promote and claim the Right to Social Protection towards political decision makers. Trade union partners will be strengthened for improving social dialogue to promote workers' rights of workers in precarious labor situations within Multinationals (MNC) operating in Asia and their supply chains</p>	<p>Konfederasi Serikat Buruh Sejahtera Indonesia (K-SBSI) Federasi Garmen Tekstil, Kulit dan Sentra Industri (GARTEKS) Serikat Buruh Migran Indonesia (SBMI)</p>	<p>Yogyakarta East Java</p> <p>National-Regional</p>		
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More information can be found on our [Indonesia page](#) of the website or by contacting the programme manager of VLIR-UOS [Inge Vandevyvere](#)



2019 – Research topics proposed by Rikolto in Indonesia

Remarks:

- Rikolto in Indonesia welcomes and facilitates researchers in relevant areas of research. The topics are mainly formulated within the current DGD-programme (Belgian Development cooperation scheme, 2017-2021) consisting of five commodity-related programmes (cacao, coffee, rice, cinnamon and seaweed) and two theme-based programmes (Food Smart City (FSC) and Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)). Research on cross-cutting themes is recommended: Inclusive Business (Rikolto-theme of the year 2019), (eco-)sustainability, certification, gender, youth, access to finance (A2F), landscape approach, adoption, climate-smart farming, plastic-free farming etc. As a learning organization conducting pilot-projects within the respective programmes, the scientific basis and evidence of the work and the results of Rikolto in Indonesia provided by local and international/Belgian researchers are very important;
- Researchers showing an interest in one or more topics, are requested to fine-tune the research question(s) in close collaboration with Rikolto in Indonesia as many topics are formulated in a rather general way;
- Rikolto in Indonesia is operating as an iNGO in close collaboration with the national and local governments. The programmes, activities and geographical areas are strictly determined in an MoU and any research under the umbrella of Rikolto will have to be conducted in line with this framework. Research by foreign researchers should be approved and reported in advance by and to the government and a foreign research permit/visa is strictly required. This process can take several months, so Belgian candidate-researchers should get in touch with Rikolto in Indonesia and the Indonesian Embassy in Brussels well in advance and start the procedure, while checking the requirements on-line as well.

Research topics and questions:

- ✓ **Main topic of research for 2019 (Rikolto-theme of the year worldwide): Inclusive Business models in favour of smallholder farmers and farmer organizations in Indonesia;**

- ✓ Challenges and effectiveness of (co)fundraising for iNGOs in general and Rikolto in Indonesia in particular;
- ✓ Reliability/traceability of sustainability labels in cocoa and coffee (UTZ / Rainforest Alliance): effectiveness of ICS (Internal Control System)/IMS (Internal Management System) models;
- ✓ Advantages and disadvantages for farmer cooperatives of certificates (biolabels, fair trade labels etc.) owned by third parties (e.g. companies);
 - Sub-topic: specific research on the profitability of certification for farmers with small economies of scale and added value from cocoa as an unstable, fluctuating commodity;
- ✓ "Adoption" problem: which are the obstacles that small-scale farmers encounter to apply good practices: which are the reasons and what should be done to promote `adoption` in order to enhance the quality of the farming system and the livelihood?
 - Sub-topic: specific research on adoption via demo-plots for the System of Rice Intensification (SRI), rice-fish farming and Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in premium rice (in Central- and West-Java provinces);
- ✓ What is the impact of plastic, and other non-compostable waste, on the soil, the plant and the end product in cocoa, rice and coffee cultivation. Similar research is needed for seaweed cultivation;
- ✓ Sustainable waste prevention and processing (especially plastic) at the level of the small-scale farmer;
 - Sub-topic: specific research on successful transformation of plastic waste into commercial products at village-level, for example in collaboration with Village-Owned Enterprises (BUMDes);
- ✓ `Direct seeding` method in rice cultivation: possible advantages and disadvantages, especially concerning sustainability, use of pesticides, impact on labour;
- ✓ The implementation of the global SRP (Sustainable Rice Platform)- standard to improve the soil quality and increase the income of rice-farmers;
- ✓ Effective methodologies in enhancing sustainable seaweed cultivation and marketing and in empowering seaweed smallholder communities (project areas: Nusa Penida island in Bali province and Sikka district in Flores, East Nusa Tenggara province);
- ✓ Payment for Ecosystem Services: which are the effective models to compensate small-scale farmers who do sustainable agriculture in the periphery and in high-quality nature reserves / parks;
- ✓ Food Smart Cities: effective policies in providing sustainable, healthy food to the growing urban population (pilot-cities in Indonesia: Solo, Bandung and Depok);

- ✓ Food Smart Cities: effective policies in avoiding food waste and enhancing food sharing in cities (pilot-cities in Indonesia: Solo, Bandung and Depok);
- ✓ Project management in practice: methodologies to promote the quality of the interventions and aftercare;
- ✓ Distributed leadership & decision making at iNGOs: possible consequences of the implication of this management model on entities in Asia and in Indonesia in particular;
- ✓ Gender: effective methods / means of action in the field to promote the position of women in small-scale agriculture and in farmers' cooperatives;
 - Sub-topic: specific research on the effectiveness of the establishment of female-only farmer groups (Kelompok Tani Wanita, KTW) in terms of the promotion of women in farming, agricultural inclusive business and in the management of farmer organisation/cooperatives;
- ✓ Youth: effective methodologies / means of action in the field for attracting youth (<35 years) in small-scale agriculture, in agro-entrepreneurship and in the governance of farmers' cooperatives;
 - Sub-topic: specific research on the effectiveness of five year of youth empowerment in rice farmer organizations in Central- and West-Java by specific business development initiatives such as the marketing and sales of rice on local markets and the production, marketing and sales of seeds and fertilizer;
- ✓ Access to capital/credit for smallholder farmers: what is a good balance between (re)investment with own means and attracting outside capital (loans, often expensive) and the role of banks, off takers and other capital/credit providers?
- ✓ What is the farmers' perception of climate change and agricultural adaptation strategies?
- ✓ What is the impact of cash crop agriculture to rural socio-economic development?
- ✓ What are the incentives and obstacles for individual farmers to (1) become member of a farmer organization and (2) to take up roles in its governance?
- ✓ What are the challenges of farmer organizations to synergize with central and local government programs?
- ✓ What are the ideal exit strategies to be implemented towards farmer organizations by rural development NGOs?

- ✓ What are the key limitations of Rikolto`s Planning, Learning, and Accountability (PLA)-system as an M&E tool?
- ✓ To what extent do the Farmer Field Schools (FFS) graduates retain and share what they learn to other farmers?
- ✓ What are the beneficial effects of multiple plantation patterns in coffee/ cocoa farms?
- ✓ What is the Indonesian (local) buyer`s perception of product certification?
- ✓ How do smallholder farmers determine the type of inter cropping in their farms and how can it be optimized?
- ✓ What factors determine the buyer in buying a premium rice product?
- ✓ How do product packaging have an impact on the sales volume of cooperatives?
- ✓ How is the relationship between farmer organizations and their respective national commodity platforms (such as SCOPI or SCAI for coffee or CSP fo cacao)?
- ✓ Do farmers cooperatives in Indonesia conduct the principle of social solidarity economy?
- ✓ What is the impact to smallholder farmers of collective marketing at the farmer organizations level?