

Indonesia



The Asia Foundation first established an office in Indonesia in 1955 and has since developed and sustained deep relationships with hundreds of local civil society organizations. We work with the Indonesian government and our partners to improve public service delivery, advance justice sector reform, enhance environmental sustainability, strengthen democratic resilience and social equality, and expand economic opportunity.

Project Highlights

Fairer, more just, and more accessible legal systems, services, and decision-making

Trained 716 paralegals who worked with legal aid organizations to address 16k cases affecting 20k people from marginalized communities from 2016-2021.

More effective strategies, approaches, and mechanisms to mitigate conflict

Trained 122 community leaders and 27 community groups to counter radical narratives and support community resilience to extremist messaging.

Increased opportunities for women's education, employment, and entrepreneurship

Trained 20k women entrepreneurs, young job seekers, and 1.7k people with disabilities in digital skills.

Increased attention to the environment and climate change in national and local development strategies

Supported 9 national and subnational policies promoting sustainable forest and land management while ensuring access and management rights for forest-dependent communities.

Increased societal benefits through entrepreneurship, partnerships, and innovation

Increased incomes for indigenous people engaged in sustainable agriculture by forming 36 community groups to share agriculture and marketing practices.

More inclusive and participatory governance mechanisms

Trained 540 grass roots activists on democratic values, inclusive development, and governance.

2022 Snapshot



300k+ hectares of forest accessed & managed by forest-dependent people



572 people trained in local governance and service delivery



34k+ entrepreneurs and jobseekers received digital literacy training



Flagship Initiatives



Improving public service delivery

The USAID-funded Effective, Efficient and Strong Governance (USAID ERAT) initiative, implemented by The Asia Foundation, works with the central and subnational governments to strengthen policy implementation and service delivery at the subnational level. It better aligns national and subnational policies, enhances public service delivery, and improves local budget allocation and execution. USAID ERAT is a five-year project that promotes gender equality, social inclusion, and private-sector engagement in local governance and public service delivery.

Advancing prison reform

For more than a decade, the Foundation has worked with the Directorate General of Corrections to digitize prison systems, improve management and security, and promote the welfare of inmates. We have developed a national prison inmate database, reducing overcrowding by making parole more transparent and accessible. The database has also strengthened oversight and procedures for managing high-risk inmates, including detainees convicted of terrorism.

Supporting survivors of gender-based violence

The Foundation assists local governments and civil society service providers in expanding inclusive legal, psychological and other support services for women survivors of gender-based violence in Papua, where one in three partnered women have experienced violence. We support local governments to strengthen service provision to expand protection and work closely with civil society partners to promote awareness and access to services. We also boost prevention efforts by strengthening community and legal frameworks to better protect women at risk.

Strengthening environmental governance

The Foundation's environmental governance programs support the government in strengthening transparency and accountability in the land use and forestry sector, which is key to reducing deforestation and land degradation and ensuring Indonesia can meet its climate commitments. We empower civil society and local communities to play a greater role in forest and land-use decision-making and promote forest-friendly policies. Our partners support the government in delivering its flagship social forestry program, strengthening local and indigenous community management of land and forests.

Promoting democratic resilience

In an age of global democratic decline, Indonesia's democracy remains among the most robust in the region. However, it is threatened by deepening polarization. The Foundation works with civil society partners, journalists, and local communities to build bridges across political divides and promote community resilience against divisive narratives.

The Asia Foundation is a nonprofit international development organization committed to improving lives across a dynamic and developing Asia-Pacific. Informed by six decades of experience and deep local expertise, our work across the region is focused on good governance, women's empowerment and gender equality, inclusive economic growth, environment, and climate action, and regional and international relations.