



# Berita NTA

## NEWSLETTER

June 2022 Issue

**Berita** is Indonesian for News. A good name for this Newsletter

In this issue.

1. "Don't forget the mid-year appeal"
2. Report that we have at long last returned to Indonesia to meet with our partners and community groups.
3. Report on the success of the fund raising dinners in Canberra and Sydney.

### 1. Our End of Financial Year Appeal

#### DONATE NOW - to support Teacher Training

[www.givenow.com.au/organisation/public/1706](http://www.givenow.com.au/organisation/public/1706)



Education is a key step in lifting people from the poverty cycle. Good teachers are critical. Sixty percent of teachers in NTA supported schools are unqualified or have limited experience. Your support is required to provide these teachers

with the basic practical training to help them be effective teachers. NTA is planning to expand its successful program in West Timor to now assist teachers in Flores.



## 2. NTA team from Australia is back in Eastern Indonesia for a joint field visit with its implementing partner NTA-Indonesia



For the first time since Covid-19 hit the world, the Australian NTA team was able to meet face to face with its local partner organization NTA-Indonesia in Eastern Indonesia.

*Welcome Lunch with NTA-Indonesia and NTA Australia*  
Colin, Ria and Stephanie were welcomed with the warmest smiles at the Kupang airport. There were many stories to be told after such a long time.

Together the Australian-Indonesian Team started with monitoring activities in West Timor, where again the joy was great to meet with local facilitators and community leaders in the field.



*Joint field visit in Enoneten: Warm welcome from the community in front of the latest NTA-Water tank (providing water for 25 families)*

### Community Meetings (Musyawarah)

NTA facilitates 3 large community meetings every year: one in the highlands of West Timor (TTS), one in Kupang and one in Maumere/Flores. In these meetings 50-150 representatives

of supported farmer groups and schools come



together to discuss and evaluate the progress of NTA's programs. Since 2020 these meetings were on hold, due to covid-19 restrictions on large gatherings. On May 28<sup>th</sup> the first Community meeting (Musyawarah) since covid was facilitated and 59 beneficiaries from the region came together to share their thoughts and provide the NTA with valuable inputs and feedbacks. These inputs are important, as they enable the NTA to make sure their programs are in line with the community's priorities and needs. There are 2 more of these meetings scheduled in mid-June and at the beginning of July.



### Volunteers joining the Team in Semau, Kupang Barat and Kupang Timor

*Tom Moore (left) and Rebekah Smith (right) with Urgenes Laitbaun from Boa Illi, South Semau*

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of May, two Australian volunteers arrived in Kupang. On the 29<sup>th</sup> of May, two Australian volunteers arrived in Kupang and joined the NTA team to travel to Semau Island for

some further monitoring. Rebekah Smith and Tom Moore accompanied the NTA to many project locations, provided some training introducing the "Teacher-in-a-Box" in a pilot school in South Semau and collected information for valuable Impact stories.

*The Teacher in a Box is a pilot project. It is a huge interactive Library which is installed on a laptop, which can be accessed by the students and their teacher without internet in a range of 100metres by using their Phones, Laptops or Tablets. This is a **Rotary Project** (<https://teacherinabox.org.au/>) and it has been welcomed with great enthusiasm in the first school on Semau (SMPN2 Akle, Semau Selatan). If this pilot project is successful, the NTA aims to expand it to other schools in the area.*

Rebekah and Tom have experience living in Indonesia and speak the language fluently, which made it easy for them and the communities to build a connection quickly.



Tom and Rebekah providing "Teacher in a box" training



## Irrigation Tanks and Fencing material to support farmers with one of their main crops on Semau: Red Onions

Access to water is very difficult in many areas of Semau. During the long period of drought, farmers have to water their fields manually if they want to grow more than just cassava and peanuts.

NTA supports them to build irrigation tanks close to their productive fields. These open water tanks are filled with a pump and piping from the closest Spring or Well. This saves a lot of time and effort from the farmer. But besides the difficult access to water, it is crucial



Red onion field, fenced in with "living fence" to protect the crop from free roaming Cattle, goats and pigs. Semau Island

to protect the fields from free roaming livestock, such as cattle, goats and pigs, as they can cause a lot of damage if they manage to enter the productive fields. The NTA supports the Farmer groups in building stronger fencing around these productive fields with living fences (a combination of Barbed wire and a certain kind of shrubs which start to grow and provide lasting protection from these animals). This has been very successful and popular among the communities and is now also replicated by the local government.

### We need your support

to expand this critical work. Please consider donating now.

[LEARN MORE](#)

### 3. Canberra FUN-D Raising Dinner

The NTA Fund Raising dinner was held at the Canberra Southern Cross Club on 14 May. It was attended by 116 people and raised \$8000. These funds are critical for maintaining our efforts. The Indonesian Ambassador welcomed guests and Professor James Fox entertained guests with his outline of poetry in eastern Indonesia and its connection to culture. We enjoyed the Indonesian food prepared by the Club and Ibu Iis Dunbar, Pak Krys Adoe and Ibu Betsy Phillips entertained us with music from eastern Indonesia.



A Really BIG Thank you to our presenters Professor James Fox and the Indonesian Ambassador.

Thanks also to those providing the Indonesian music, the Rotary Clubs that assisted, those



that donated prizes and to our generous guests. These funds are critical for us to maintain our efforts with poor farming communities in Eastern Indonesia. This build on the success of the fun-d-raising dinner run by Rotary in Sydney just a week earlier.

### Sydney Fundraising Dinner

A few Rotary Clubs from Sydney, Rotary-District 9685, hosted an Indonesian Dinner with entertainment to raise funds for the NTA. The Rotary Clubs are amongst NTA's biggest supporter in Australia. The NSW Rotary Clubs of West Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook, Northbridge, Lane Cove, North Sydney Sunrise and Chatswood – Roseville have worked together and organized a phantastic Fundraising event at the Golf



Club in Lane Cove on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2022. The room was full with 141 Guests from 7 different Rotary Clubs, representatives of the Indonesian Consulate NSW and other supporters of the Nusa Tenggara Association. An astonishing total of 12.000 AUD has been raised, which will go straight into NTAs activities



in rural farmer communities in Eastern Indonesia to improve their access to water and sanitation, increase their income through agriculture and weaving and improve the learning environment of their children. Special Thank go to the organizing committee: Peter Stanton, Andre Hariman, Tony Coote and our honoured guests joining from the Indonesian Consulate in Sydney: The Consulate General Vedi Kurnia Buana and his wife Ibu Fanny Erlita Buana, Pak Abdul Nazar, Pak Ahmad Firman Sejati and Pak Joseph Rustam from the Indonesian Business Council.



**Thank you to the donors for the Fund-Raising Dinners**



**Read On!!!!**



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**THANK YOU for your continuing Support.**