

Press Release

Citi Indonesia and Kopernik Held Bamasak Hai Mnahat Festival to Support Local Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture Practices

SoE, March 25, 2024 – Kopernik Foundation and Citi Indonesia held a festival titled 'Bamasak Hai Mahat' in Soe, East Nusa Tenggara, in order to support local food security and sustainable farming practices. This event is a festival celebrating the abundant local food of Soe and the strength of indigenous farming practices.

The Bamasak Hai Mnahat Festival aims to increase awareness and knowledge among the Soe community about the importance of sustainable indigenous farming practices in preserving nature and biodiversity. This program will be implemented from 2023 until 2025 and will collaborate with farmers as program participants, involving sustainable agriculture and food activists across sectors, including local governments and stakeholders in the creative sector.

Puni Ayu Anjungsari, Director & Country Head of Public Affairs at Citi Indonesia, said, "The availability of high-quality local food is a crucial foundation in building a resilient, healthy, and high-quality communities, especially to achieve Indonesia Gold 2045 / Indonesia Emas 2045. Through Hai Mnahat program, we hope that the Soe community can actively involve in supporting the sustainability of local food and strengthening climate-resilient agricultural system through various innovative and creative food processing methods to meet nutritious food needs."

Ewa Wojkowska, COO and Co-Founder of Kopernik said, "The long-term goal of this program is to support communities with sustainable and climate-adaptive food systems. By consuming and utilizing nutritious local food, and re-engaging in indigenous sustainable agricultural practices, it is hoped that the food security of the community in Timor can become stronger, moving towards food sovereignty."

The 'Bamasak Hai Mahat' Festival is part of 'Hai Mnahat' program, translates as 'our food'. Initiated by Kopernik and funded by the Citi Foundation, this program aims to address food insecurity issues in East Nusa Tenggara, especially in Soe. A problem that is exacerbated by the climate crisis and resulted in reduced crop yields and livestock production, impacting the underserved and marginalized communities. As a result, 34% of the population in the region experiences food insecurity, with a high prevalence of stunting at 48.3%.

The Hai Mnahat program will implement activities including experiments with solar dryer houses and seed storage, utilizing Black Soldier Fly (BSF) for processing harvest waste into animal feed and compost, and strengthening micro-scale agribusiness to support sustainable economic growth. In addition to improving local food security, the program also strengthens micro-agribusinesses and local products, promoting environmentally sustainable economic growth in the community.

This program is expected to build a sustainable food system that is adaptive to climate change, so it can improve the food availability and providing good nutrition.

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About Kopernik:

Kopernik is an organization focused on research and development to find effective solutions that have the potential to address social and environmental issues. Kopernik collaborates with various partners in the development, public, and private sectors to promote innovative products, services, and approaches that support underserved communities, as well as creative actors advocating for social and environmental issues in Indonesia. For more information, visit www.kopernik.info.

About Citi Foundation:

The Citi Foundation works to promote economic progress and improve the lives of people in low-income communities around the world. We invest in efforts that increase financial inclusion, catalyze job opportunities for youth, and reimagine approaches to building economically vibrant communities. The Citi Foundation's "More than Philanthropy" approach leverages the enormous expertise of Citi and its people to fulfill our mission and drive thought leadership and innovation. For more information, visit www.citifoundation.com.

About Citibank N.A., Indonesia:

Citibank, N.A., Indonesia (Citi Indonesia) is a full branch of Citibank, N.A., a wholly owned subsidiary of Citigroup, Inc., which is based in New York, United States of America. Citi is a preeminent banking partner for institutions with cross-border needs, a global leader in wealth management and a valued personal bank in its home market of the United States. Citi does business in nearly 160 countries and jurisdictions, providing corporations, governments, investors, institutions and individuals with a broad range of financial products and services.

In Indonesia, Citi was established since 1968 and is one of the country's largest foreign banks. Citi Indonesia now operates with a refined focus, maintaining four branches in four major cities in Indonesia, namely Jakarta, Bandung, Surabaya, and Medan. Additionally, the Bank sustains a robust corporate distribution network, with approximately 776 locations spread across 38 provinces.

In 2024, Citi Indonesia received prestigious recognitions as Digital Bank of The Year, Best Bank for Sustainable Finance, Best Bond Adviser, Best Green Bond, and Best Convertible Bond from The Asset Magazine.

Additional information may be found at www.citigroup.com | Twitter: @Citi | YouTube: www.youtube.com/citi | Blog: <http://blog.citigroup.com> | Facebook: www.facebook.com/citi | LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/citi. To enjoy a digital banking experience, please visit www.citibank.co.id.

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