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Citibank, N.A., Indonesia
September 26, 2023

Citi Foundation Announces Recipients of Inaugural Global Innovation Challenge to Improve Food Security

50 organizations, including two from Indonesia, granted a total of \$25 million or around Rp384 billion to pilot or expand catalytic solutions to improve food security globally.

Jakarta, September 26, 2023 – Citi Foundation announced the grant recipients of its first-ever Global Innovation Challenge, a new model to identify and provide philanthropic support to community organizations that are developing innovative solutions to social and economic challenges facing low-income communities.

Initially previewed at the Global Citizen Festival in New York, USA, last weekend, the inaugural Global Innovation Challenge is providing a total of \$25 million or around Rp384 billion to 50 community organizations working to improve food security and strengthen the financial health of low-income families and communities around the world.

As recipients of this inaugural Global Innovation Challenge, each organization has been granted \$500,000 or amounting to about Rp7,6 billion to support programming across four key areas: food access, availability, affordability and community resilience.

“Philanthropic capital plays a critical role in the marketplace of social solutions and the Citi Foundation’s Global Innovation Challenge is designed to help new ideas grow and scale,” said Brandee McHale, President of the Citi Foundation and Head of Citi Community Investing & Development. “From providing immediate relief to those in crisis to longer term interventions, the organizations that make up our first-ever Global Innovation Challenge cohort are delivering life-changing solutions that strengthen the health of low-income communities.”

The grants span two years and over the course of the initiative, grantees will have access to technical assistance and a learning community facilitated by IDEO.org, a non-profit design studio. Through these wrap-around services, grantees will have the opportunity to collaborate, share lessons learned and exchange best practices.

Batara Sianturi, CEO Citibank, N.A., Indonesia said, “Food insecurity is one of today’s top global challenges. A [recent study](#) from Citi (Global Perspective & Solutions) GPS found that the estimated economic impact of malnutrition on the global economy could be as high as \$3.5 trillion per year — or close to \$500 for every individual on the planet – stemming from record high food prices and other macro-economic. Citi and the Citi Foundation are helping address this challenge by leveraging our business, our people and our philanthropy to support innovative solutions globally through mobilizing capital and financing the global food system.”



On the same occasion, Ewa Wojkowska Chief Operating Officer of Kopernik, recipient of the Global Innovation Challenge grant added, “We are delighted to be selected as one of the recipients of the Citi Foundation Global Innovation Challenge and to join its learning community. This grant will enable us to further our mission and collaborate with smallholder farmers in West Timor, with a particular emphasis on revitalizing indigenous farming practices and experimenting with innovative food preservation technologies. In the long term, our aim with this initiative is to cultivate a more resilient and self-sustaining food system in the region, ultimately fostering a climate-resilient community.”

Dini Widiastuti, Executive Director of Plan International Indonesia also echoed the statement, saying "As an organization with about 20 years of experience in the South-Central Timor Regency, East Nusa Tenggara, Plan Indonesia views this collaboration as an opportunity to help secure food security and strengthen the economic capacity of young farmers, particularly women, in the region. With support from the Citi Foundation, we aim to scale up the young farmers' quality of life and ability to produce healthy agri-food products to help reduce stunting problems in the region."

Indonesia is one of the countries with the largest population in the world. Therefore, ensuring adequate food supplies for the entire population is a serious challenge. According to data from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), in 2022, there were approximately 16.2 million people in Indonesia who still experienced hunger or food insecurity.

In February 2023, the Citi Foundation issued this global RFP, the first in its history. Over 1,000 submissions from organizations working in more than 80 countries were submitted.

The Citi Foundation’s Global Innovation Challenge initiative on food security complements Citi’s strong track record in the space – from [working with clients](#) to develop digital payment solutions to [extending financing](#) to organizations that help smallholder farmers increasing productivity and more.

For more information on the Global Innovation Challenge and a complete list of grant recipients, please visit citifoundation.com/challenge

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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 operates 9 branches in four major cities – Jakarta, Bandung, Surabaya, and Medan. In Indonesia, Citi has a corporate distribution network of around 776 locations in 38 provinces. Citibank N.A., Indonesia is connected to the ATM Bersama and ATM Prima network with more than 197,000 ATM terminals spread across various locations throughout Indonesia.

In 2023, Citi Indonesia received prestigious awards as Best Bank for Sustainable Finance, Best Bond Adviser, Best Social Loan and Digital Bank of The Year from The Asset Magazine. Citi Indonesia was also named the Best Credit Card, Best Debit Card, Best Wealth Management, 2nd Best Saving Account for Foreign Bank categories and The Trailblazers Bank of Service Excellence by Infobank magazine, as well as Best Foreign Bank by Bisnis Indonesia.

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