Leadership and Management in Decentralisation for Development and Democratisation

Program Overview and Guide

Asia Research Centre and Executive Education Centre
School of Management and Governance
Murdoch University
1. Program overview

President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo recently outlined his economic reform priorities as: simplification of business licensing; tax reform; reduction of fuel subsidies; and improving physical and social infrastructure. President Jokowi noted that this was essential for Indonesia to avoid the middle-income country trap and accelerate growth over the next five years. His reform priorities are in-line with Indonesia’s long-term plans detailed out in The Masterplan for Acceleration and Expansion of Indonesia Economic Development 2011-2025. This master plan has as its end goal, the transformation of Indonesia into a developed country that is independent, well developed, equitable and prosperous.

**Effective decentralisation** underpins these reforms. It is a key factor to the success of the political, economic, and social reforms planned. Indonesia’s aspiration of being a developed country by 2025 is contingent (among several key factors) on the **effectiveness** of its decentralisation program.

Like in Indonesia, decentralisation strategies are being implemented worldwide to ensure efficient and accountable service delivery and governance. Australia itself has a long tradition in successful decentralisation. In this *Professional Education Program (the program)*, these varied experience both in Australia and in other countries, are synthesised and brought together for the participants to compare and contrast with Indonesia’s experience; and to develop the expert knowledge (ideas, tools and techniques) for the participants to implement, and where required, initiate decentralisation to enhance further the democratisation and development process in Indonesia.

The cross-cutting issue that stands out as being of particular strategic importance in the decentralisation process to meet the short, medium and longer term objectives is **resource allocation and management**. Optimally allocated and managed resources are a “public good” that impacts on all areas/sectors and all levels of government activity. It also provides a clear performance indicator on the effectiveness of the decentralisation program.

Through a combination of lectures, presentations, case studies, simulations, reflections, discussions, ND site-visits, this intensive 10 day *program* will provide participants with the theory and practise of decentralisation in three key areas: **political, administrative and fiscal**; and the role of government (at the different levels) in the movement towards more autonomous, accountable and efficient governance and public service delivery in the cross-cutting issue of **resource allocation and management**.

*The program* leverages on the deep expertise and research capacity of the faculty of Murdoch University’s School of Management and Governance which includes the Asia Research Centre (ARC), an internationally-recognised centre for the study of political and economic transformations in Asia. The ARC has well-established expertise particularly on Southeast Asia, China and Japan but most notably Indonesia. *The program* is also complemented by experts from Murdoch University but also from the region to ensure the best possible mix of skills and expertise to deliver a program of the highest standards.
The program is based on the specific needs of the regionally and some of the best:

- a framework for democratisation
- knowledge of "knowsom"
- insights into the strengths and weaknesses of some of the best
- knowledge (idem)
- knowledge (idem) towards inclusion
- knowledge (idem)
- effectiveness of decentralisation
- opportunities and challenges facing the program
- a Learning Approach from the program
- a return-to-work participant’s "(w)

2. Relevance of

The program is relevant to Indonesian civil servants, with effectiveness of over.

The design of the program involves a network of leaders, who are needed for Indonesian civil servants. It is recognised that training for skills without catalysis