

## Media release - 16 July 2020



### **A wealth of experience on board to advise PAIR researchers in South Sulawesi**

The Australia-Indonesia Centre (AIC) is pleased to announce the establishment of the Research Advisory Panel (RAP) that will guide the development of its inaugural Partnership for Australia-Indonesia Research (PAIR) program in South Sulawesi.

The RAP is made up of influential figures from Australian and Indonesian governments, industry, research and the community, who each bring to the program extensive and invaluable experience relating to all corners of the PAIR mission. (See full list on the next page.)

“An important aspect of the AIC’s work in South Sulawesi is engaging various stakeholders in demand-driven research”, said Dr Eugene Sebastian, PAIR Program Director.

“The challenges we tackle are set in a specific geographic space – be it a neighborhood, a region or an ecosystem. At each location, we identify and work with stakeholders – from villages, towns, cities, provinces and national level – to define problems and co-create solutions.”

“By engaging stakeholders from the beginning, we increase the likelihood of ideas and solutions being implemented, and embraced, at the end.”

The PAIR program is funded by the Australian Government and supported by the Indonesian Government, the South Sulawesi Provincial Government and the AIC’s eleven university partners. It brings together policy, business, research and community leaders to find new ways for the people of South Sulawesi, especially seaweed farmers, to innovate and take advantage of new transport connectivity investments.

The program particularly focuses on young people, exploring issues such as health, wellbeing skills and enterprise development.

The RAP members will support this research with feedback and guidance and by helping navigate the local context. The outcome of their contribution will be a better quality of researched evidence, supported by community ideas and that meets the needs of policy-makers.

See the full list of names and bios below.

**Contact details and more information on next page**

## The Research Advisory Panel (RAP)

Members of the panel are below, in alphabetical order.

- **Alison Duncan**, Minister-Counsellor (Economic, Investment and Infrastructure), Australian Embassy, Jakarta
- **Budu**, the South Sulawesi Provincial Government's Development Acceleration Team TGUPP
- **Bronwyn Robbins**, Australian Consul General in Makassar
- **Elan Satriawan**, Chief of Policy Working Group, National Team for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction (TNP2K)
- **Erna Witoelar**, Former UN Special Ambassador for Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the Asia Pacific
- **Eugene Sebastian**, Executive Director, The Australia-Indonesia Centre
- **Hasnawati Saleh**, PAIR Research Coordinator, The Australia-Indonesia Centre
- **Ishak Salim**, Co-Founder Indonesian Diffable Movement for Equality
- **Jamaluddin Jompa**, Advisor for Marine Ecology at the RI Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
- **Jana Hertz**, Team Leader at the Knowledge Sector Initiative
- **Muhammad Sani Azis**, Regional Coordinator (South Sulawesi), Indonesian Seaweed Association (ARLI)
- **Musdhalifah Machmud**, Deputy Minister for Food and Agriculture, RI Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs
- **Ocky Karna Radjasa**, Director of Research and Community Services, RI Ministry of Research and Technology
- **Prakosa Hadi Takariyanto**, Technical Director PT Pelabuhan Indonesia IV (Persero)
- **Pratiwi Hamdhana**, Founder and Managing Director, Tenoon, Driver Engagement, Gojek Makassar
- **Wihana Kirana Jaya**, Special Staff to the RI Minister for Economic Affairs and Transportation Investment, Ministry of Transportation

See bios and photos of the panel [on our website](#).

## Media enquiries

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## About PAIR

PAIR is the flagship program for the AIC's new research model, supported by the Australian Government, the Indonesian Government, the South Sulawesi Provincial Government and the AIC's eleven university partners.

Focused on South Sulawesi, PAIR explores the western coastal region of the province where a new 145-kilometre railway line is being built, connecting two major cities and three regencies: Makassar, Maros, Pangkajene, Barru and Parepare. It will explore four key areas: seaweed as a major commodity; transport, logistics and supply chain; young people health and wellbeing; and young people skills and development.



Visit the [PAIR website](#) for more information.

## About The Australia-Indonesia Centre

Through its In Conversation webinars, the Australia-Indonesia Centre has dissected the impacts of COVID-19 from perspectives including public health, economics, governance, international trade and international education. PAIR research will add to these efforts as we continue to seek ways to work together towards recovery and continued development.

The AIC is a consortium of 11 leading research universities in both countries. Its mission is to advance people-to-people links in science, technology, education, innovation and culture.



Visit the [AIC website](#) for more information.

Photo: AIC