



PRESENTATION

**QUALITY EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY
TOWARDS GREEN INDUSTRY**

By Hon. Dr. NURHAYATI ALI ASSEGAF

Chairperson of the Committee for
Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
The House of Representatives of the
Republic of Indonesia

**The 2nd World Parliamentary Forum on
Sustainable Development**

Wednesday, 12 September 2018
14:00 – 16:00 pm

*Bismillahirrahmanirrahim,
Assalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb.*

*Honorable Chair,
Fellow speakers,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,*

Good afternoon and May Peace Be upon Us all.

It is a privilege to speak before you on quality education and technology towards green industry. The previous speakers have delivered interesting presentations on this subject. I will try to complement their opinions from my perspective, both as a woman and a political figure.

I will start by expressing two underlying points: *First*, gender equality is the foundation for quality education and technological innovation; and *second*, green industry should reflect not only the capability of businesses in environmental protection, but also in empowering the surrounding communities.

We are fully aware that quality education is at the heart of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Education enables people to recognize and realize the necessary means for better livelihood. It creates economic opportunities, generates growth, fosters democracy and good governance. Further, education is more than just a critical element in the attainment of the SDGs, but it also interlinked with other SDGs goals and targets.

Lack of education causes skill and knowledge gaps, the source of inequality and poverty. These gaps are found not only among the developed and the developing nations, but also, between men and women.

It leads to women under-representation in economic activities. The International Labour Organization estimated last year that 865 million women have the potential to contribute more to their economies. In 2016, the McKinsey Global Institute estimated that \$28 trillion could be added to the annual global GDP if women participate in the workforce at the same level as men. Improving women's skill and knowledge will have a strong impact on our economy. This will empower them to be creative, productive, and competitive, and lead to innovation and progress.

Coupled with technology, quality education can resolve many global challenges. These include climate change, pollution, environmental degradation, biodiversity loss, terrorism, poverty, famine, conflicts and discrimination. Quality education can ensure the creation of green, affordable technology that can be utilized widely, creating better living condition for all.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

I completely agree with the previous speakers that the shift towards a greener economy needs behavior and mindset change of the people. People need reason, inspiration, and guidance. In this regard, we have to be leaders, not only for other people but also for ourselves. Change comes from within. Give a good example by doing simple things, such as sorting out organic and inorganic waste, and start to rethink, reduce, reuse, recycle, and recovery (5R). Further we could support the development of greener transportation infrastructure.

Since 2013, under the leadership of former Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, we have been implementing the Green Growth Program as a means of

achieving sustainable and inclusive development. It recognizes that a country's lasting growth and prosperity are reflected not only by its GDP, but also on the quality of the environment, healthy and productive ecosystems, resilient society, and socially inclusive and equitable communities.

To support green industry, we have been promoting food resilience and sustainable agriculture, sustainable forestry management, efficiency and renewable energy usage, clean technology support, waste management, efficient and low carbon transportation management, and vast infrastructure development which are environmentally friendly.

Indonesia is also reforming our economic and fiscal policy to meet the objectives of green economy. We have taken a number of national measures, including: 1) innovative financing mechanisms and policy reforms to create enabling domestic conditions; 2) strengthening public and private partnership in establishing green investment funding mechanisms; and 3) putting green investment at the core of the stimulus packages, including in regular government budget.

As an addition, Indonesia is committed to reduce the use of conventional energy up to 20% by 2030.

Parliamentarians have significant roles to play, too. In line with the efforts made by the government, the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of the Indonesian House of Representatives has established an SDGs Task Force. Among others, this Task Force provides recommendations as well as budgeting and legislative supports in achieving the SDGs and promoting green economy.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

Stronger political will, accompanied with sound legislations, adequate budget, and effective monitoring mechanism are important to promote green economy and green industry. A comprehensive solution will transform our way of doing business. Allow me to emphasize several ideas regarding this matter.

First, we have to be more innovative in developing strategies which offer balance in the economic, social and environmental dimensions.

Second, green economy requires behavioral change across all sectors. We need to devise policies that would transform the way we live, produce, work, and travel, by placing the environment and climate change at the heart of public and corporate policies.

Third, we need to continue strengthening public private-partnership.

Fourth, we have to remain committed to further support the work under the UNFCCC, based on the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities. Further, we strongly urge the developed countries – through their parliaments - to stay committed and act in accordance with the Paris Agreement .

Fifth, parliamentarians must encourage financing and research and development (R&D) for low carbon or cleaner technologies with a view to stimulating technological advances and reduce costs.

And sixth, we need to call for a transparent, locally adjusted and sustainable support for capacity building and technical assistance to enable developing countries

to face the challenges brought by climate change and environmental degradation.

Again, and to conclude, as a woman MP, I would like to highlight that women empowerment and education are essential to support inclusive economy and sustainable development. More engagement of women in energy policy debate, renewable energy research, and green economy discussion are things that we need to promote at all levels - from local to international. Gender equality must be put at the center of green economy policies formulation and decision-making.

Thank you.

Wassalamu'alaikum Wr. Wb.