



The Embassy of Sweden in Jakarta and Wikimedia Indonesia take action to make the internet more gender-equal

The Embassy of Sweden in Jakarta cooperated with Wikimedia Indonesia to highlight women profiles, experts and role models on 24 March 2019 in Bandung. The initiative aimed to increase the number of women represented on Wikipedia and to help create more gender-equality on the internet.

Wikipedia is the world's largest online and user-generated encyclopaedia. Its content influences and colours users' knowledge about the world. But there is great imbalance on the website, like in society at large. Ninety per cent of the content is created by men, and there are four times as many articles about men as there are about women. The figures vary regionally, but the picture is the same all over the world: the information about women is not only less extensive than that about men, it is also more negative and different in character.

WikiGap in Bandung is the third Wikigap event that was held in Indonesia. The Embassy's Head of Trade and Promotion Linda Backteman inaugurated the event at Eduplex Coworking Space Bandung, and 29 female participants from Bandung contributed their writings to Wikipedia about women figures, experts and role models in various fields.

"Sweden continues pursuing a feminist foreign-policy agenda with focus in gender equality. We realised that there are now more information about women profiles on Wikipedia – thanks to WikiGap initiative. And we believe that this initiative could create a new platform for engaging female writers around the world," said Linda Backteman.

The first WikiGap in Indonesia was held in Yogyakarta last year, as part of the global #WikiGap campaign, a joint global action by Wikimedia Sweden and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, which aimed at increasing the number of women on Wikipedia. And the second WikiGap Indonesia was in Padang, where the participants also contributed their writings on Wikipedia in both Indonesian and Minangkabau language – a local language in Padang.

So far, almost 60 countries have taken part in #WikiGap. More than 1 800 participants have added or updated more than 13 000 Wikipedia articles on prominent women in more than 30 different languages. Together, we want to improve women's representation on the internet and help create a more gender-equal world.

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For more information please contact our communication officers: Amreta Sidik | amreta.sidik@gov.se Chantya Aretina | chantya.aretina@gov.se