

RESPOND

SUCCESS STORY – SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION

INDOHUN Develops Leadership Among Future Health Practitioners



Margaret Morehouse (Training Resources Group) conducted interactive exercises with students on public speaking, behavior development, and communication



A student shares health information with patients waiting for treatment at a medical check-up organized by the military and the local health office of Gowa District

January 2014, Indonesia. Adoption and implementation of One Health approaches require buy-in from future leaders who are effective at communicating and deploying the framework at the local and national levels in the field, government, and academy.

To meet these needs, 92 students and 22 young professionals from Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, and the Philippines participated in a five-day leadership program called Global Health True Leaders (GHTL). It increased their academic understanding of health issues and leadership skills through workshops and then applied those acquired skills in the field. This structure helped students connect education and practical leadership.

Academic activities focused on global health and disease control. To give those skills context at both local community and national levels, students participated in table-top exercises and field activities focused on leadership, interpersonal skills, and developing networked partnerships.

In order to see how these lessons can be deployed in their own communities, students participated in activities including “mini-lectures” for 286 Gowa District patients at a local health drive. Demonstrating exceptional leadership, other students conducted a zoonotic disease and waste management seminar for 200 adults, presenting material and fielding audience questions. Still another cohort shadowed veterinarians and helped administer nutrient supplements to livestock.

One participant shared, “[The] Global Health True Leaders program taught me a lot about things needed to become a leader in the health sector... teamwork, public speaking, leadership, as well as the concept of One Health,” adding that it enabled him to meet and network with other future health practitioners from across Southeast Asia. That reaction demonstrates that the training effectively connected One Health and needed leadership training to support the approach’s ongoing use.