



**NTA**  
East Indonesia Aid

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*Note: All the items from the Pos Kupang below are summary translations from the Indonesian by the editor (Denis Fisher). Thus they should not be regarded as literal translations, though the editor takes pains not to go beyond the meaning and nuances in the original articles. The item from the Jakarta Post is a slightly edited version of the original. Any comments, suggestions or feedback on this clipping service are most welcome and should be sent to [d-fisher@homemail.com.au](mailto:d-fisher@homemail.com.au). Further information on the Nusa Tenggara Association (NTA) and its development assistance activities in NTT can be found at [www.nta.org.au](http://www.nta.org.au). Back issues of this press clipping service can be found on the NTA website.*

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### Glossary of Indonesian Acronyms in This Edition

<i>puskesmas:</i>	<i>community health centre (usually at kecamatan or kabupaten level).</i>
<i>posyandu:</i>	<i>integrated (health) service post (for pre- and post-natal and infant care/information)</i>
<i>balita</i>	<i>child/ren under five years old</i>
<i>Bulog</i>	<i>The Bureau of Logistics ( responsible for the distribution and price of basic foodstuffs)</i>
<i>BLT</i>	<i>direct cash grants (to benefit the very poor affected most by high fuel prices)</i>

## 1. Items of General Interest (Nil this issue)

## 2. General Economic and Development Issues

### 2.1 NTT's Human Development Index Ranking

*Kupang Post, 5/8/09 Opinion piece by Dr Ulu Emanuel, Belu Kabupaten staff, resident in Atambua*

*(The author first enumerates the elements of UNDP's Human Development Index (HDI) and outlines how they are calculated. He then looks at how Indonesia, NTT and NTT's kabupatens rank in HDI terms – Ed).*

In 2002 Indonesia ranked 111<sup>th</sup> out of the 175 countries listed in UNDP's HDI, with a score of 0.692. That figure rose to 0.728 in 2005 lifting Indonesia's ranking slightly to 107<sup>th</sup>. Among the ASEAN countries Indonesia ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in 2005, with Laos, Kampuchea and Myanmar ranking below it.

In terms of HDI ranking of Indonesia's provinces, Jakarta is in No 1 position down to NTT (31<sup>st</sup>), just ahead of West Nusa Tenggara (32<sup>nd</sup>) and Papua (33<sup>rd</sup>, the lowest ranked). The rankings in terms of Regional Gross Domestic Product are a bit different with Jakarta still ranked 1<sup>st</sup>, but with Papua in 4<sup>th</sup> position and NTT in 32<sup>nd</sup> place, just ahead of North Maluku on the bottom of the list. The HDI for *kabupatens* within NTT ranks Kupang as No.1 (74.7) followed by Alor (66.9) and East Flores (66.4). The bottom of the list is taken up by Southwest Sumba (58.9) and Central Sumba (58.4).

If NTT is to become a developed province, it needs continuously to improve its HDI ranking particularly in the areas of education and health, and to increase the level of the population's real per capita income. *...(more)*.

### 2.2 Sumba to Benefit from Special Program for Poor Families

*Kupang Post, 4/8/09*

Kupang: The secretary of NTT's Social Welfare Service, Piter Manuk, told *KP* on 4/8 that the *kabupatens* of East Sumba and South West Sumba would be included in this year's national PKH<sup>1</sup> program designed to assist very poor families, thereby reducing poverty throughout Indonesia. He noted that 22.4% of NTT's 4.5 m inhabitants lived in very poor households (RTSM<sup>2</sup>). In 2008 60 000 RTSM in Kupang City and the *kabupatens* of Sikka, Ende, West Manggarai, Alor, South Central Timor and West Sumba had benefitted from the program, but even so NTT had returned Rp2 billion (±US\$200 000) worth of unspent PKH funds to the central government. This year Rp90 billion (±US\$9 m) would be available for payment to 60 000 RTSM provided they met the conditions of the PKH program. The provincial government would provide support staff to administer the program and was allocating Rp250 m (±US\$25 000) to train these staff...*(more)*

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<sup>1</sup> =Program Keluarga Harapan (Program of Hope for Families), a national program, in place since 2007 and administered by the Department of Social Affairs, comprising a conditional cash transfer (CCT) system, under which cash is paid to very poor families whose members include pregnant women or *balita* and/or school age children. To receive the cash payments recipients must either access health facilities (in the case of pregnant women and pre-school age children) or be attending school (in the case of school age children) (Ed.).

<sup>2</sup> =Rumah Tangga Sangat Miskin.

### 2.3 **Camat on Sumba Concerned about Food Supplies for Dry Season**

*Kupang Post*, 4/8/09

Waikabubak: Melkianus Bili, the *camat* of Tanah Righu *Kecamatan*, West Sumba *Kabupaten*, told the *KP* on 31/7 that he was concerned about the security of food supplies in his *kecamatan* for the dry weather in the wake of damage being caused to crops by rats particularly in the east. He suspected that information he had sought and received from his 11 village heads was a bit hit-and-miss and thus he was this week sending a special team out to assess the situation. He wanted accurate data so that correct strategies could be devised. He acknowledged that the people were currently benefitting from a number of government programs (*raskin*, *BLT* and *PKH*<sup>3</sup> in particular) and that the community could to some extent fall back on cashew nuts as a source of income to purchase food. So far no one had gone hungry, because of supplies of other food (edible tubers, bananas and nuts). ...*(more)*.....

### 2.4 **Governor: Don't Obstruct Investment in NTT**

*Kupang Post*, 5/8/09

Kupang: NTT Governor Lebu Raya has called on everyone in NTT not to obstruct investment in NTT's economic development. He said that NTT had become know as a place for "would be investors", i.e. investors who say they will invest, but in the end are deterred from doing so by obstacles placed in their path. Classic problems for investors in NTT were bureaucratic delays in processing permits, problems relating to infrastructure (fresh water, electricity and roads) in targeted areas, and issues relating to land ownership. To try to overcome these problems a "one stop investment shop" had been set up, which would hopefully encourage more investment. But the cooperation of everyone was needed. He hoped that the MOU on manganese just signed with an international consortium in Kupang<sup>4</sup> would give a fresh start to investment in NTT...*(more)*

### 2.5 **Stocks of Basic Items Secure**

*Kupang Post*, 5/8/09 report by Frans Krowin

Kupang: According to a press release by the Provincial Inflation Monitoring and Control Team (TPID<sup>5</sup>) received by *KP* on 3/8 a number of steps are being taken to keep inflationary pressures down in the coming months. The release said that NTT's Industry and Commerce Service and the local Bulog office were coordinating with the private sector to secure the supply of basic foodstuffs for the community. Because of the importance of sea transportation in that regard, the cooperation of the national Indonesian ports authority (Pelindo) had been secured and necessary warehouse space would be available. The delivery of rice under the *raskin* program would also be accelerated. Other strategies to control inflation would be put to the governor, as necessary. For his part, the governor, Lebu Raya, has underlined the importance of keeping prices stable both for community welfare and economic growth generally....*(more)*...

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<sup>3</sup> See item 2.2 above (*Ed.*)

<sup>4</sup> See item 5.2 below (*Ed.*)

<sup>5</sup> =*Tim Pemantau dan Pengendali Inflasi Daerah*

### **3. Health Issues**

#### **3.1 Parents Must be Proactive on Child Nutrition Issue**

*Kupang Post*, 5/8/09

Kupang: The head of Kupang *Kabupaten*'s Health Service, Dr Messe B Ataupah, has stressed the important role of parents in overcoming problems of child malnutrition. Speaking to *KP* on 4/8, Dr Ataupah said that all parents (not just poor parents) needed to be proactive and make full use of *posyandu* located in their village or *kecamatan*. They should bring their children in regularly to be weighed so that cases of undernourishment (easily managed with extra food) could be identified before malnutrition set in. Parents also needed to pay attention to their children's diet and ensure that their children were not neglected for whatever reason. With parents 100% involved, malnutrition would disappear....(*more*)...

#### **3.2 Advocacy Teams to Promote Maternal and Infant Health Program**

*Kupang Post*, 3/8/09

Kupang: Teams of health workers and community leaders are to be formed and trained in Kupang and in *kabupatens* throughout NTT to act as advocates of the Health of Mother and Baby Revolution<sup>6</sup> now being launched by the NTT government. One such team underwent training in Kupang on 1/8 under the tutelage of the provincial government and the Jakarta-based NGO *Penala Hati Nusantara (PHN)*<sup>7</sup>. One of the recommendations of that training session was that the City of Kupang should enact regulations on maternal and infant health so that the level of funding allocated for this purpose could be increased. The director of PHN-Jakarta, Dicky Lopulalan, said that at present only 0.01% of Kupang's budget was dedicated to promoting maternal and infant health. It was hoped that in the future that percentage could rise to as much as 5%.

#### **3.3 22 Children Suffering Malnutrition in West Timor**

*Kupang Post*, 3/8/09

Oeteta: Yacobis Manafe, Secretary of Oeteta village, Sulamu *Kecamatan*, Kupang *Kabupaten*, told *KP* on 1/8 that 22 *balita* (children under 5) were currently being treated for malnutrition at the *pustu* in Oeteta. As none of the children was assessed to have complications, they were simply being given whatever additional food was available and were not being transferred to hospital. Manafe went on to say that the village *pustu*, which lacked funds and was staffed by just one nurse, was not up to the health challenges confronting Oeteta. Apart from nutritional issues, malaria was a serious problem, given that the surrounding swamps were an ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes. He was to the *kabupaten* Health Service for help, particularly in educating the villagers on health issues.

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<sup>6</sup>=*Revolusi Kesehatan Ibu dan Anak*. For earlier reports, see *Press Clippings Ed 21, 3.5 and Ed 24, 3.3*. A critical element of this joint AusAID-NTT Government partnership/program, aimed at reducing the death rate among birthing mothers and newborns in NTT, is to have mothers deliver their babies in one of NTT's health service facilities, where they can receive treatment if needed, rather than in their own homes or elsewhere. (*Ed.*)

<sup>7</sup> Describing itself with the words "Enlightenment and Empowerment", *Penala Hati Nusantara* (lit. Fine Tuner of the Heart of the Archipelago) was founded in June 2007 and concentrates on facilitating, motivating and team building across a range of issues. It has worked with a number of donors including AusAID, USAID and UNDP.

#### 4. Education Issues (Nil this issue)

#### 5. Primary Industries (Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock, Mining)

##### 5.1 Manganese Mining in NTT

*Kupang Post, 6/8/09 Editorial*

NTT offers many opportunities for mining, with manganese standing out as a potentially good investment. NTT is certainly blessed with considerable mineral resources and those resources are meant to benefit the people – Article 33 of our Constitution is very clear on that point. But do mining operations return a commensurate benefit to the people of NTT? In response to that question, it has to be acknowledged that, in its handling of mining ventures, the government does not yet take the welfare of the people fully into account. It is clear that mining companies make several times more profit than that returned to the people. Thus it is no surprise that, in manganese rich areas, there is widespread community opposition to mining ventures. Their gripes are simple: they don't want their environment destroyed by mining; nor do they want the physical mess and social problems which accompany mining ventures. Certainly, the ordinary people can derive benefits from mining ventures, some of them direct (employment with the ventures themselves), others indirect spin-offs which can benefit the economy. The government has it within its power to anticipate community concerns about mining by putting in place good regulations and taking firm action against companies violating them. The provincial government also has the power to enact regulations which would make mining of more benefit to the community. NTT needs investors – that can't be denied. But we need trustworthy investors, not just would-be investors who make empty promises. Nor do we need investors who merely seek profits and leave problems behind them...*(more)*....

##### 5.2 Manganese Consortium to Invest Rp650 Billion in NTT

*Kupang Post, 6/8/09*

Kupang: A consortium of several South Korean and Indonesian companies and the Governor of NTT signed an MOU in Kupang on 5/8 in relation to an investment of Rp650 billion (±US\$65 m) in the mining and processing of manganese in NTT. The investment will encompass mining for the mineral, facilities in several *kabupatens* (each with a 1 000 tonne per month capacity) to purify and separate the product mined, and finally a smelting factory (with a 60 000 tonne p.a. capacity) to be developed in the Bolok Industrial Area, West Kupang *Kecamatan*, Kupang *Kabupaten*. The Consortium chose NTT as a place to invest because of NTT's very large reserves of the best quality manganese in the world. Given the rising demand for manganese products, it was a good time to make this sort of investment. A spokesman for the Consortium said that the Consortium would take great pains to conduct their operations in a way which involved the community and would attach priority to preservation of the environment. Bambang Setiawan, a senior official of the Indonesian Department of Mining and Energy, present at the signing, noted that, as Law No.4/2009 on the Mining of Minerals and Coal did not permit the export of raw materials from Indonesia for processing<sup>8</sup>, this particular investment was very appropriate...*(more)*.....

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<sup>8</sup> See Section 103 of (*Indonesian title*) Undang-Undang RI Nomor 4 2009 Tentang Pertambangan Mineral dan Batubara (*UU Minerba*) (*Ed.*)

### 5.3 NTT to Build Rp 650 Billion Smelter

*Jakarta Post*, 8/8/09

JAKARTA: Two regional governments in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) province have signed an agreement with consortium Mangan JSK International Co. Ltd and PT AGB Mining, to establish a Rp 650 billion (US\$65.5 million) manganese smelter. An email statement from the Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry said the NTT provincial government and the Kupang regency government had signed the agreement on Wednesday. "The smelter will produce Ferro Manganese, Silicon Manganese and Ferro Nickel Chrome, among others," the statement said. The products can be used for steel, batteries, ceramics and the production of chemicals. The plan will cover activities in surrounding regencies with a volume of about 1,000 tons a month, and a smelter construction with an installed capacity of 60,000 tons a year. The Mangan consortium includes local and foreign companies: PT. AGB Mining, PT. Pusaka Pertambangan Mina, PT. Berkah Kencana Sakti, CV. Jasindo Utama and South Korea's J.S.K. International Co. Ltd.

### 5.4 Anti Mining Activists Protest against Mining on Flores

*Kupang Post*, 5/8/09

Labuan Bajo (Flores): Geram<sup>9</sup> members have again demonstrated in the streets of Labuan Bajo, calling on the *bupati* of West Manggarai to cancel the mining permit issued to PT Grand Nusantara to explore mineral reserves around Batu Gosok<sup>10</sup>, Komodo *Kecamatan* (a commercial tourist area). The demonstrators accused the *bupati* of a cover up, riding roughshod over landowners' rights and favouring business interests ahead of community and environmental interests. For his part, the *bupati* told *KP* that PT Grand Nusantara was only engaged in exploratory work, so how could one talk of stopping the venture before the outcome of the exploratory process was known....(*more*)..

### 5.5 Bishops Conference Calls for Food Self-Sufficiency

*Kupang Post*, Selasa, 4/8/09 by Eman J Embu, staff member, Caritas, Maumere Diocese.

The theme of the Conference of the Bishops of Nusa Tenggara, held in Maumere 20-24 July, was "The Church of Nusa Tenggara: Concerned to See Farmers Achieve Food Self-Sufficiency". The governor of NTT made an appearance at the conference. While acknowledging that the church did not have relevant technical expertise in relation to food, the conference noted that the church was "an expert on humanity". On the food issue, its task was to be an advocate of individual and community rights (of which the right to sufficient food was one) and a motivator of people to work to achieve food self-sufficiency. The continuing reports of malnutrition in NTT represented violations of people's rights and a failure of government to protect those rights. Farmers alone could not continue to be blamed for the food situation. The Conference issued 31 recommendations. In essence they indicated that the church would develop a concrete pastoral plan in support of achieving food self-sufficiency, the implementation of which would be monitored and evaluated against practical and measurable guidelines....(*more*)

<sup>9</sup> *Gerakan Masyarakat Anti Tambang* (People Against Mining Movement) (*Ed.*)

<sup>10</sup> Further reports on this controversy in *Press Clippings Ed. 19, 5.4 and Ed.23, 5.4 (Ed.)*

## 6. Infrastructure (Water, Communications, Roads, Electricity)

### 6.1 IT Facilities For Remote Villages

*Kupang Post, 3/8/09 Report by Obby Lewanmeru*

Kupang: The Director-General for Posts and Telecommunications, Basuki Y Iskandar, said in Kupang on 30/9 that as part of developing the nation's information and communications systems, the central government was currently preparing for the development of the fibre optic infrastructure necessary to bring Indonesia's remotest villages into the nation's communication network through the Internet and other services.<sup>11</sup> Amendments to law No 6/1984 on the Postal Service were currently being considered in the national Parliament and it was hoped that those amendments would introduce a greater degree of competition into that sector.....(more)..

### 6.2 UNICEF Helps Villagers With Water Tanks

*Kupang Post, 5/8/09*

Ba'a: 65 households in Inaoe village, South Rote *Kecamatan*, Rote Ndao *Kabupaten*, can now afford to build rainwater storage tanks at each of their homes thanks to funds contributed by UNICEF. The tanks will resolve a longstanding problem with fresh water experienced by these household located in a hilly areas where sinking wells is not possible. But they will still need to take care to purify (boil) the stored water before use. There are still a number of households experiencing problems getting water, who are not benefitting from the UNICEF funds.....(more)...

### 6.3 Villagers in Kupang Plead for Help with Water and Road Repair

*Kupang Post, 7/8/09*

Kupang: The residents of Banoha village, *Kelurahan* Kolhua, *Kecamatan* Maulafa, Kupang Municipality, are asking the City of Kupang to sink a bore hole for them to overcome their water problems and to asphalt the road to their village which is currently barely passable on a motorbike. The villagers have to walk over 1 km, especially in the dry season, to fetch water from a well near the Banoha river, while other villages in the *kelurahan* have one or more wells/bore holes. Motorbike is the only transport available to the villagers, including for marketing their produce in Kupang..(more).

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<sup>11</sup> The *KP* has previously reported on this policy development. See *Press Clippings Ed. 21, 6.3 (Ed.)*