









## Journey in the Youth Leadership and Volunteerism

	<p>I have done work in the space of humanitarian, charity or youth works at 11 different countries. Namely Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Cambodia, Japan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Palestine, Lebanon and Turkey. That being said we have probably touched about 22,000 hearts.</p> <p>I started my humble journey, after I got back from The Ship for South East Asian and Japanese Youth Program (SSEAYP) more than a decade ago. In 2009, I was fortunate enough to be selected and represented Brunei Darussalam for SSEAYP. That program is a life changing experience. I will need at least half a day to share about that experience. You can always ask me about the program.</p>	<p>Slide 2</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Slide</p> 
<p>3</p>	<p>The definition and scope of being in the space Volunteerism is wide. I personally like to break it down in to 6 area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Humanitarian</li> <li>2. Community</li> <li>3. Education</li> <li>4. Environment</li> <li>5. Animal</li> <li>6. Sports.</li> </ol> <p>People always ask me, how do I start to be a volunteer? Find your interest/ passion. Look for people with the same interest and just do it. The world is so massive and scary, dont do it alone.</p>	<p>Slide 3</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Just like in an office environment, What is the important pull for you the keep on coming to office everyday, getting out of the comfy bed, even if you are still sleepy? Besides money, the main pull factor is that you enjoy doing the work.</p> <p>Thats exactly same too with strategy for implementing youth-led initiatives. One of my formula is to make sure the activity/ program or projects is Fun, Fun and Fun . Once the volunteers have so much fun, there will be Addicted and I can sure you that there will Come back for more and more.</p> <p>With that being said, implementing youth-led is not only empowering the youth the to do more and led but also to give them the opportunity to led. I dont believe youth are the leaders of the future. Youth are the current leader. Youth should be given the opportunity/ platform to lead with proper guidance from the not-so-youth.</p>	<p>Slide 4</p>	

10	<p>Being a leader doesn't necessarily mean leading a huge number of youth. Leading a team of 2 or 3 people is also considered as a leader. To be an effective leader and volunteer, there is no particular skillset that you must have. A mixture of all the skillsets and being able to mix and match all the good useful skillsets will differentiate you from the others. Having a different kind of skillsets in a team should always be seen as complementing each other.</p> <p>The 2 skillsets that I think are very important nowadays especially with the conquering of social media in our life are Adapting to Changes and Accepting Changes. Changes are always good but just make sure to be firm in your outcome but flexible in the process.</p>	Slide 5	<p>....</p> <p><b>ADAPTING TO CHANGES</b></p> <p><b>ACCEPTING CHANGES</b></p>
8	<p>In volunteering work, it is actually a world of finding solutions to a problem or situation. Be it a volunteering work with benefits or not, self-satisfaction is and will always be the best benefit you can ever get. For me, self-satisfaction is always the feeling that I get addicted to, especially seeing the smile of beneficiaries. On top of that, the satisfaction of achieving the expected impact is also very very addictive.</p> <p>The opposite of satisfaction is disappointment. Disappointment is always closely tied with challenges. Along the journey of my volunteerism and humanitarian relief work, I come across hundreds of challenges. But that's the beauty of being in this kind of work, you are always exposed to challenges but you will always be ready to overcome it. The biggest and hardest challenge for me is from people who put you down. You cannot control how people think, act, and react so most of the time (or maybe the only way) is to just ignore them and prove them wrong.</p>	Slide 6	<p>....</p> <p><b>CHALLENGES</b></p> 
11	<p>I want to share about my experience in receiving the ASEAN Prize 2022. I was announced the recipient of this prestigious award in 2022 by the then Cambodian Prime Minister, Mr. Hun Sen during the closing of the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summit in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. If you all remember, that was towards the end of the Covid-19 pandemic and travelling was limited. I was told that I was to receive my award the following year (2023) in Jakarta, Indonesia.</p> <p>Fast forward 2023, I was told I was going to receive my ASEAN Prize award on the 5th September in Jakarta, Indonesia.</p>	Slide 7	<p>....</p>  <p><b>ASEAN Prize 2022</b></p>

<p>13</p>	<p>I was told to be at the hall, 1 hour before the event start. Within that 1 hour, I went to the toilet 5 times. I have never gone to the toilet that many times in an hour ever in my life. It was a mixture of nervous, excited, happy, u name it, it was all in me that morning.</p> <p>On the stage, the trophy was handed to me by President Joko Widodo, with all the other Head of States from ASEAN State members were also there.</p> <p>The best feeling ever.</p> <p>There was a 5 mini steps going up the stage from where I was seated. The only thing that was going through my mind when the Emcee was reading my citation, I was ... 'Don't fall, don't fall'</p>	<p>Slide 8</p>	
<p>16</p>	<p>The 3 pillars of ASEAN are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ASEAN Political - Security Community</li> <li>2. ASEAN Economic Community</li> <li>3. ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community</li> </ol> <p>Im not an expert in this matter as I I took this from ASEAN's website.</p> <p>What I want to talk about is ASEAN is all about Community Building and I believe that community building mostly networking. In this kind of work, 90% of your skillset is about networking (include how to talk to people, leveraging on your resources)</p> <p>Winning the ASEAN Prize has helped me to expand my network particularly in this ASEAN region</p>	<p>Slide 9</p>	
<p>15</p>	<p>Hope everyone is still awake and are not bored listening to my sharing session. I would like to end this to share with you all what I want to do next?</p> <p>From ASEAN level, I hope to Create or be a mentor of 10 more 'Iqbal Damit'. I hope this 10 not only be an 'Iqbal Damit' but be a better than me in trying to make this world particularly ASEAN a better place.</p> <p>The second one is do an 'ASEAN PROJECT' that include 1 million youth participation. I hope I will get to share with you all soon and please please keep me in your prayers so that I will always be given the health and persistence to keep on doing this work</p>	<p>Slide 10</p>	

17	If Not Us ... Who If Not Now ... When Thank you	Last slide	
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