

# Voices of Community

What's happening in East Java and NTB?

UNICEF Surabaya Newsletter  
is prepared monthly in order to share views / concerns of  
beneficiaries with partners and to develop common  
understanding of how UNICEF-assisted projects bring about  
positive changes in day to day life of community.

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## "I refused the formula milk for my little sister, she deserved the best, my mom' breast-milk"

This is said by Ms. Baiq Liza Daniarni, a young radio announcer of Suara Praya. She is also a member of District Breastfeeding Support/Care Forum of Lombok Tengah. In Indonesia the forum is called Forum Peduli Air Susu Ibu or FPA. She added her experience in promoting breastfeeding: "After I being trained as breastfeeding motivator, I have given tips on breastfeeding on air 3 times a week. I have quoted breastfeeding messages from training module.



FPA of NTB Province, Dr. IGD Jelantik disseminated Governor Decree and handed over Breastfeeding Counseling kit to a private clinic

Ms. Daniarni is one of activists in Lombok Tengah who promoted breastfeeding and early initiation. This action started with Provincial Workshop on Breastfeeding, early initiation and International Code on Breastmilk Substitute on 23 February 2008 in Mataram.

Snowball effect had been happened. A series of meeting, seminar and workshop were conducted from province until community level. At provincial level, Governor endorsed a Governor Decree. It consists of 5 key messages, each is for formula milk companies and distributors, husbands and parents including parents in law, pregnant mothers, lactating mothers, and health workers. At community level, FPA members conducted breastfeeding education and counseling through religious events, community meeting, group activities, learning process at school and Youth Red Cross and other forms of activities in supporting breastfeeding.

Using its own budget, Dharma Wanita -- women organization of wives of civil servants -- held a seminar on a theme "Through Exclusive Breastfeeding, We Save Our Next Generation" in March 2008. Ms. Nurmawati Iimbang, coordinator of this seminar said on how she practiced in promoting breastfeeding: "Beside through Dharma Wanita, as a teacher at Senior High School, I also inserts breastfeeding messages in my teaching-learning process. I said to students that to become a good child, the child should be given breast milk and not formula milk. I also have 5 mothers from surrounding of my house, whom I monitored since they were in pregnancy until they are now lactating their child. Thank God, all of them exclusively breastfeed their babies until now".

Ms. Ni Komang Yuniati from WHDI, a Hindu woman organization explained her experience in promoting breastfeeding: "I have promoted breastfeeding to members of WHDI especially in a WHDI group in Pagutan, Mataram City. This group consists of 50 women". While PW Salimah, a Moslem woman organization also conducted a seminar on breastfeeding during celebration of its anniversary. It was participated by 400 member of its Qur'an lesson group. The theme of this seminar was "Breastfeeding from Islam perspective". The seminar was facilitated by a resource person from Jakarta. Ms. Erry Sufriany from PW Salimah said: "Besides promoting

breastfeeding to members of PW Salimah, I have also educated teacher colleagues and showed them the video on early initiation. One of my teacher colleague delivered my suggestion to her friend. Then her friend followed her suggestion to refuse the formula milk and breastfeed her baby".

Another member of FPA Lombok Tengah, Ms. Baiq Mardhiaty Mungguh, a housewife explained: "I'm interested to join FPA after I participated in A Seminar on breastfeeding conducted by PW Salimah in March 2008. It is a valuable experience for me being a Breastsfeeding Motivator. I feel confident to educate people surrounds me and people I met".

Indonesian Doctor's Wives Association or IIDDI has conducted a seminar on 7 March 2009 in celebrating IIDDI's anniversary, with a theme "Lactating Management and Early Initiation on Breastfeeding". It was facilitated by Dr. Dewi Sangawati and Dr. Agus Rusdhy who are also Breastfeeding Counselor and was participated by 150 persons. Each participant contributed Rp. 25,000.

A student of Health College in Mataram, Mr. Slamet Fitrajaya mentioned: "I've participated in seminar on Breastfeeding twice. I disseminated the hand-out to other members of College Executive Board. I thought this information is valuable".



Ms. Yuliati, a housewife refused the formula milk

Head of Provincial Health Office, Dr. Mochammad Ismail explained: "I heard a wedding sermon by Mr. Fahrir Rahman from Indonesian Ulama Council who is also a member of FPA of NTB Province. I amazed that he was delivered message to the couple that they should prepare for early initiation. Some latest surveys were shown that number of mothers gave exclusive breastfeeding is increasing".

A forum on 23 February 2008 which was participated by representatives from professional organizations, religious organizations, government institutions and woman organizations have already disseminated breastfeeding messages to the community. Statement of Mr. Khaerul Anwar, Chairperson of FPA of NTB Province will close this VoC edition: "We should keep it moving forward. Next step we would like to develop Governor instruction to limit distribution of breast milk substitutes in health facilities. It is a part of Governor's vision to increase the Human Development Index of NTB. We will facilitate government to form a similar forum in all districts/cities in NTB".\*\*



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