

BINUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

Take the Lead

FUTURE LEADERS FROM FIVE COUNTRIES MET IN JAKARTA TO FOCUS ON OVERCOMING SOCIAL ISSUES.







Students from throughout the region gathered recently at BINUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS in Jakarta to discuss solutions to global issues while at the same time making new friends.

The school's Serpong and Simprug campuses were the host of the 36 participants of the 2012 International Young Leaders Forum (IYLF) on September 10, 2012.

IYLF is an international network of like-minded youth who share common interests in developing and supporting global communities. In line with this year's theme, "Life in 2012: Sharing Our Planet", the five-day forum engaged participants in various discussions and educational activities on topics of sustainable economy, infrastructure, environment and public health.

First held in 2009, the IYLF was initiated by Suzhou Foreign Language School (China), Hwa Chong Institution (Singapore), Bugil Academy (Korea), Brisbane Grammar School (Australia) and BINUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS (Serpong and Simprug) here in Indonesia.

A field trip to five different locations in Jakarta was the highlight of the 2012 forum. Organized by HOPE Worldwide, the IYLF participants visited Ciincing, Kalibaru, Cijayanti, Tangerang and Depok.

The field trip allowed the participants to witness and comprehend the social issues faced by many people in the developing world – and to find ways to deal with them.

"It's great that we can learn about the lives of the less fortunate in Indonesia, because as a global leader you need to be aware of what's going on in other countries," said South Korean Dongjae Lee, 16.

Meanwhile, Indonesian delegate Pritta Wibisono believes an international discussion among youngsters is crucial in resolving global issues.

"We had people from different backgrounds giving different opinions on the same issue," said Pritta. "The forum gives us a chance to look at a problem from different perspectives and find a good compromise as a solution. The event is a great eye-opener for young people to be more aware of the issues around them."

Apart from the discussions, the participants also enjoyed cross-cultural activities that involved music, dance and food. A visit to the Taman Mini Indonesia Indah theme park – a must for any visitor to the capital – marked the end of the forum and the productive sharing of ideas.