My story of BINTANG MUDA

Having business in young age is not easy, especially when you are a woman. It is not only because the risk that you have to take but the skill that you need to acquire. Being an entrepreneur is not my dream. Previously, I don’t have any knowledge and skills in business. I spent my entire career as an employee and teacher. My life was totally changed when I joined BINTANG MUDA. It is a program held by CARE International in which the participants had opportunity to explore business idea and acquire knowledge about entrepreneurship. In this program, I learned a lot of things starting from various training includes basic entrepreneurial and financial literary skills, business plan, production and access to market.

I am truly grateful for being a part of BINTANG MUDA program. It creates opportunities for me to learn new skills about entrepreneurship and use creativity as a means for economic empowerment and community transformation. During my time at BINTANG MUDA program, CARE has provided much needed motivation and support through providing facilities, mentoring program, and networking opportunities. Joining in this program has afforded me the privilege to learn from an expert in business, meet and work with government, professional entrepreneur, and other stakeholder that gave me opportunity to change experience and knowledge on how to improve business and find solution to economic problem.

I experienced a new career as entrepreneur. I started my own business in food industry and experienced an amazing opportunity to join in several entrepreneur competition. I was selected as a finalist of entrepreneur competition held by Department of Economy and Cooperation. I had privileged to make collaboration with government and business expert to improve my business including quality product improvement and access to market.

The valuable learning experience from BINTANG MUDA also brought me for being selected as a participant from ASEAN countries to join YSEALI Professional Fellows Program in United Stated for the next October 2016. It is a President Obamas program signature program to strengthen leadership development and networking in ASEAN, deepen engagement with young leaders on key regional and global challenges and strengthen people to people ties between the United States and Young Southeast Asian Leaders.

In the selection process, I shared my experience about Bintang Muda Program including training and mentoring program, the contribution of the program to the society, and how it can be advanced by join in YSEALI program. I explained that by participating in this program, I will improve my community and learn to better address the problem of community. In YSEALI program, I will learn about social entrepreneurship and how American people address the global development challenge and find sustainable solution in economic issue. This program provides a month-long fellowship at US based non-profit organization and other organization in which the participants will have opportunity to work in the field of economy community.

In this program, I will present about BINTANG MUDA community supported by CARE International and find the best solution with other participants from ASEAN countries to the development of our community. I will learn practical expertise, leadership skills and professional for six weeks with other community leaders from ASEAN countries. We will have an opportunity to develop a mutual beneficial project with US in economic empowerment. After joining in this program, I have plan to make a project with BINTANG MUDA community called House of Entrepreneur. It is a project targeting young entrepreneur that aims to encourage the economic improvement. In this project, we will involve councilors, volunteer, facilitator and government. The benefit which is perceived by society is it will improve the community prosperity particularly through the increasing of economic value toward the existed local resources, and the importance of multi-stakeholder collaboration by the regional government support, market networking whether local or regional market.