

## Measuring Literacy and Numeracy Skills of Junior High School Students in Riau Province Using the CERMAT Method



Photo: SMERU

Education is a key driver of regional development, shaping human resources and ultimately fostering economic growth. To support progress in Riau Province, APRIL Group's Community Development team launched a program in 2025 to improve the quality of junior secondary education. As a first step, SMERU conducts a baseline study to provide an initial picture of the quality of education for junior secondary school students in APRIL Group's target areas. The findings will guide program implementation and help ensure tangible benefits for students. [Click the image](#) to learn more about the study.

### National Farmers Day



Photo: Indonesiana

### Deregulation of Indonesia's Interregional Agricultural Trade

In 1998, agricultural reforms dismantled monopolies and local levies that had suppressed farmers. These changes allowed farmers to enjoy fairer prices, though the impact varied across commodities. As we commemorate this year's National Farmers Day, on 24 September, we reflect on how sound policies can support farmer welfare and food justice in Indonesia. [Click the image](#) to read more.

### SMERU Video



Domestic workers keep our homes running, but their rights remain unprotected. Their jobs expose them to risks and vulnerabilities. Passing the Domestic Workers Protection Bill (RUU PPRT) is a crucial first step to safeguarding them. [Click the image](#) to learn why this issue is urgent.

### SMERU Learning Centre

#### INTRODUCTION TO IMPACT EVALUATION

##### Skills you'll gain:

- ✓ Design a strong Theory of Change
- ✓ Identify the right indicators & evaluation methods



8-9 October 2025  
Online

## Latest Publications



### The Impact of Super Apps on the Nutrition Transition in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: Evidence from Indonesia

Many developing nations are transitioning from traditional diets to high-energy, processed foods. This shift raises the risk of non-communicable diseases. Are super apps, with their food delivery and lifestyle services, influencing this shift? What does it mean for public health? This study explores the impact of super app expansion on nutritional outcomes. [Click the image](#) to read the analysis.

## SMERU in the Media



This *Kompas* article highlights the paradox of unemployment in Indonesia: the open unemployment rate has declined, yet the number of unemployed has increased by over 80,000. Beneath these figures lies a deeper issue—low job quality. Many workers remain trapped in the informal sector, earning low wages with minimal productivity. A SMERU study cited in the article also underscores the widening gap between formal workers whose wages continue to rise and informal workers whose incomes remain stagnant. [Click the image](#) to read this *Kompas* article.

## Activities



On 7 September in Jakarta, SMERU researcher Rezanti Putri Pramana joined the Teras Belajar public discussion as one of the speakers. With the theme “Teacher Leadership for Equitable Education Quality”, the event highlighted the experiences of education stakeholders in addressing equity challenges through stronger teacher leadership. Organized by *Pemimpin.id* in partnership with the Consortium of Community for Education Advocacy in Indonesia (KMPPI), the discussion was part of a broader roadshow on the National Education System Bill (RUU Sisdiknas).



On 24 September in Bogor, Ananta Fund, a special program of the KEHATI Foundation that manages an endowment fund to support the sustainability of Indonesian civil society organizations (CSOs), held the Partner Networking and Knowledge Sharing Forum. The event brought together grantees to connect, share experiences and good practices, strengthen networks, and formulate joint strategies for greater impact. SMERU was represented by Senior Researcher Heni Kurniasih, who presented findings from a study on strengthening Indonesian CSOs.



On 22 September, KMPPI presented its recommendations on the National Education System Bill (RUU Sisdiknas) in a Public Hearing with Commission X of the Indonesian Parliament at Nusantara I Building, Jakarta. The proposals included redefining Compulsory Education from 9 to 13 years, reintegrating out-of-school children into education services, and introducing regulations on preventing and addressing violence to ensure safe, inclusive, and tolerant schools. SMERU, as a member and secretariat of KMPPI in 2025, was represented by Senior Researcher Ulfah Alifia.



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