

# VISIT TO JAKARTA FOR 'BRUNCH HUDDLE' WITH KUMPUL AND **TECH INDONESIA ADVOCATES**

**On Tuesday, 10th February, I joined the team from Kumpul who run Tech Indonesia Advocates for their 'Brunch Huddle' session, which focused on tech and innovation for the next decade.**

The team led by Faye Wongso, Ester Widya and Mega Prawati brought together founders, corporate innovators, ecosystem partners and community builders. The room was split into four breakout groups to look at the current 'state of play', identify opportunities and challenges and then consider what the next decade will look like.

Faye and I kicked off the Huddle with a fireside chat. We discussed what the potential blind spots are and how to identify 'exportable innovation' opportunities. Faye discussed the 'hyper-localisation' focus across Indonesia as it presents a unique challenge as the largest archipelago in the world with over 17,000 islands.

The breakout groups covered a variety of topics including how the country can do a better job of derisking the regulatory environment and unblock scaleup potential. Kumpul plays an active role in the ecosystem helping startups with capacity building and assessing product market fit. Kumpul has also rolled out a training programme to train over 10,000 Indonesians on AI.



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In talking with the leaders, my sense is that Indonesia can succeed in achieving the following: helping the business sector with further digitalising the economy. There is a significant opportunity for Indonesia to close the digital divide by investing in infrastructure, providing support for small businesses, identifying a deeper pool of funding and training more of the work force with digital and AI skills.

In parallel, Indonesia has an opportunity to build more depth in deeptech and supporting startups and scaleups in this sector. Many nations have identified AI as a key driver of growth; Indonesia has an opportunity to leapfrog the current playing field of AI natives and determine how it builds a stronger foundation on which to innovate in deeptech and to support an entrepreneurial base ready to build.

There was a good level of optimism in the room, but also a realistic view on the challenges which need to be addressed. Private and public sector collaboration will be the key ingredient for success (I thought that the approach to the Indian Government's approach to India Stack is an interesting parallel).

A big thank you to Faye, Mega and Ester along with Ehdo for organising the event and hosting me.

