

Media Update

July 18, 2024

Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration for a Healthy Papua: Combating Malaria and Preventing Stunting

Mimika, Central Papua 18 July 2024 - The Mimika Regency Government and PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) have collaborated with various parties to launch the Integrated Health Program for a Healthy Papua through malaria control and stunting prevention.

"Controlling malaria and addressing stunting are priority programs for the Mimika Regency Government. We welcome this collaboration to reduce the number of malaria sufferers and prevent stunting so that the shared goal of achieving a Healthy Papua can be realized," said Mimika Regent Johaness Retto in his remarks during the launch of the Integrated Public Health Program Through Malaria Control and Stunting Prevention held at the Mapurujaya Health Center, Mimika, Central Papua, on Thursday.

Johaness mentioned that in the 2022 Basic Health Research conducted jointly by the Mimika Regency Government and Freeport Indonesia, high incidences of malaria and stunting among infants and toddlers were found in Mimika Regency. Data from the Mimika Health Office in 2023 recorded 145,000 people suffering from malaria, with a trend that has been increasing over the past four years. Meanwhile, according to the 2023 Indonesian Health Survey (SKI), the prevalence of stunting in Mimika reached 24.7%, higher than the national average of 21%.

It is known that stunting and malaria are closely related in the context of public health. Children who frequently contract malaria are at a higher risk of experiencing stunting because their bodies do not receive sufficient nutrients needed for optimal growth. Additionally, malaria can worsen the condition of pregnant women, increasing the risk of giving birth to babies with low birth weight, which can subsequently develop into stunting.

"Through the cooperation of all parties, we hope to accelerate malaria control and stunting prevention so that public health is protected," he said.

Claus Wamafma, Director and Executive Vice President of Sustainable Development of PTFI, stated that Freeport Indonesia is committed to improving the quality of life for communities around the mining area, particularly through health initiatives. Through this integrated health program and multi-stakeholder collaboration, access to and quality of healthcare for the community are enhanced.

Claus explained that PTFI, in cooperation with the Mimika Regency Government and supported by PT AEA (ISOS), is implementing a three-year malaria control program starting this year.

The program consists of three phases: Control, Pre-Elimination, and Elimination, targeting more than 30 thousand people in 8 villages, including Koperapoka, Nawaripi, Nayaro, Tipuka, Ayuka, Omawita, Fanamo, and Ohotya.

"We are implementing this program gradually with the ultimate goal of making Mimika a certified malaria-free area by 2030," said Claus.

Preventing Stunting

For the stunting prevention program, Claus continued, PTFI has partnered with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to launch the Partnership to Accelerate Stunting Reduction in Indonesia for Papua (PASTI-Papua) program.

"The aim of this program is to improve children's nutritional well-being and address stunting in children," he said.

PASTI-Papua will be implemented over two years and eight months. In 2024, the program will be conducted in Mimika Regency and Asmat Regency, and in 2025 in Nabire Regency. This year, PASTI-Papua will provide support to 11 villages across six districts in Mimika Regency and four villages in Jetsy District, Asmat Regency.

PASTI-Papua will be carried out by Wahana Visi Indonesia (WVI) with several actions, including promoting behavior changes suited to the local context, strengthening health services for mothers, children, and adolescents, and enhancing institutional capacity and governance to realize the RAN PASTI at the local level.

"The United States, through USAID, is proud to support Indonesia's National Action Plan for Stunting Reduction through the PASTI program," said Enilda Martin, Director of the USAID Indonesia Health Office. "Together, we are preparing the growth and development of Papuan children to reach their full potential."

This multi-stakeholder collaboration include PT Freeport Indonesia, the Mimika Regency Government, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), PT AEA (ISOS), and Wahana Visi Indonesia (WVI).

FOTO	KETERANGAN
	<p>Launch of the Integrated Health Program for a Healthy Papua through Malaria Control and Stunting Prevention. This multi-stakeholder collaboration includes PT Freeport Indonesia, the Mimika Regency Government, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), PT AEA (ISOS), and Wahana Visi Indonesia (WVI).</p>
	<p>Mimika Regent Johaness Rettob carried out indoor spraying during the launch of the Integrated Public Health Program Through Malaria Control and Stunting Prevention.</p>
	<p>The Mimika Regency Health Office team explained food diversification to mothers participating in the Integrated Public Health Program Through Malaria Control and Stunting Prevention.</p>

	<p>Director, Executive Vice President Sustainable Development PTFI Claus Wamafma, stated that Freeport Indonesia is committed to improving the quality of life for communities around the mining area, particularly through health initiatives. This integrated health program and multi-stakeholder collaboration facilitate access to and enhance the quality of healthcare for the community.</p>
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About PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI)

PT Freeport Indonesia (PTFI) is a mineral mining company affiliated with Freeport-McMoRan (FCX) and Mining Industry Indonesia (MIND ID). PTFI mines and processes ore to produce copper concentrate, which contains gold and silver.

PTFI markets its concentrate worldwide, primarily to the domestic copper smelter, PT Smelting. PTFI's mining operations are located in the Grasberg mineral district in Papua, Indonesia. Currently, PTFI operates the world's largest underground mine using the block-caving method. In conducting its operations, PTFI prioritizes responsible business practices.