



**KEMENTERIAN PENDIDIKAN, KEBUDAYAAN,  
RISET, DAN TEKNOLOGI**

**Education Transformation in Indonesia:  
Curriculum Merdeka & Platform Merdeka  
Mengajar (PMM)**

**TIESEA Workshop**

at BETT Asia, Bangkok  
11 October 2022



From  
the People of Japan

**TIESEA PROJECT**



**Learning Possibilities**

## Context of Indonesia in Brief



1. Indonesia has 17,499 islands; land area of 1,904,345 square kilometres.
2. Indonesia is one of the most populous countries in the world. Its total population is 180 million. More than 60% of the population live on the island of Java. The Indonesian population consists of more than 300 ethnic groups which speak 500 different languages, but most of them understand the national language, Bahasa Indonesia.
3. Total schools: 519061 (Kindergarten, Primary and Secondary Schools)

# Learning Crisis in Indonesia

## Poor K-12 learning outcomes evident through PISA assessment results



### K-12 learning outcomes trends and issues

#### PISA Score and Ranking (#; 2000-2018)



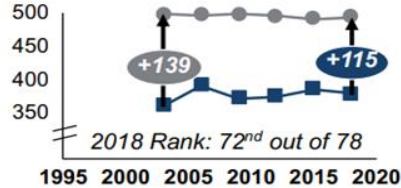
##### Reading



70% of students are below minimum competency level



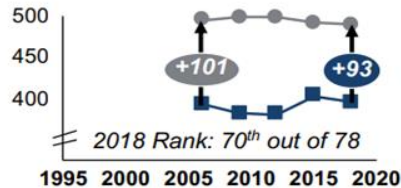
##### Mathematics



71% of students are below minimum competency level



##### Science



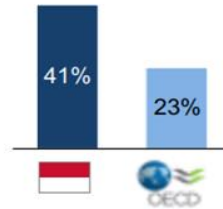
60% of students are below minimum competency level

—●— OECD —■— Indonesia

- Consistently ranked as one of the lowest performing countries in PISA
- Stagnant PISA scores over the last 10-15 years
- However, score gap with OECD average has slightly improved

#### Bullying

(% of students; 2018)

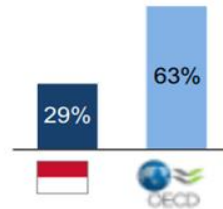


41% of Indonesian students reported being bullied a few times a month (vs. 23% OECD average)

Frequently bullied students scored 21 points lower in reading<sup>1</sup>, felt sad, scared and less satisfied with their lives. They were also more likely to skip school

#### Growth mindset

(% of students; 2018)



ONLY 29% of Indonesian students disagree that 'intelligence is something that cannot change very much' (vs. 63% OECD average)

Students with growth mindset scored 32 points higher in reading<sup>1</sup>, expressed less fear of failure, are more motivated and ambitious, set greater importance to education

# Education Transformation in Indonesia

An education system that creates competent, thriving lifelong learners with strong character traits based on Pancasila, the Indonesian ideology



## Commit to foundational learning

1. Measure learning better: replace high-stakes national exam with diagnostic **national assessment**
2. Introduce a more flexible **curriculum** framework
3. Replace subject-based **public university entrance test** with an aptitude based test



## Support teaching

4. Select **master teachers** as the next generation of **school leaders**
5. Redesign the pre-service **teacher education**



## Open up tertiary education

6. Allow university students to spend up to three semesters **out of their major**
7. Encourage **practitioners** to teach alongside academics



## Utilize technology to scale up and accelerate progress

8. Provide high quality digital **teaching resources**
9. Assist principals in managing the **school budget**
10. Provide **matchmaking** platform between university students and industries
11. Provide **matchmaking** platform between universities and industries



## **Hyperfocus** for this presentation:

Episode 15 Merdeka Belajar  
(Freedom to Learn) Policy  
11-02-2022

- 1. Curriculum Merdeka**
- 2. Platform Merdeka Mengajar**

  
**MERDEKA BELAJAR**  
EPISODE KELIMA BELAS:  
**KURIKULUM MERDEKA DAN  
PLATFORM MERDEKA MENGAJAR**

BERSAMA:  
**NADIEM ANWAR MAKARIM**  
MENTERI PENDIDIKAN, KEBUDAYAAN, RISET, DAN TEKNOLOGI

JUMAT, 11 FEBRUARI 2022  
PUKUL 10.00 WIB

 **LIVE STREAMING  
KEMENDIKBUD RI**

1.25.45



# Introduce a more flexible **curriculum** framework



## 1 Depth more than breadth

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More focused on foundational skills. Fewer topics but deeper engagement. Learning becomes less rushed, more meaningful, and more joyful.



## 2 More freedom

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No more natural science, social science, and language tracks in high school. Achievement standards are designed in phases spanning multiple years.



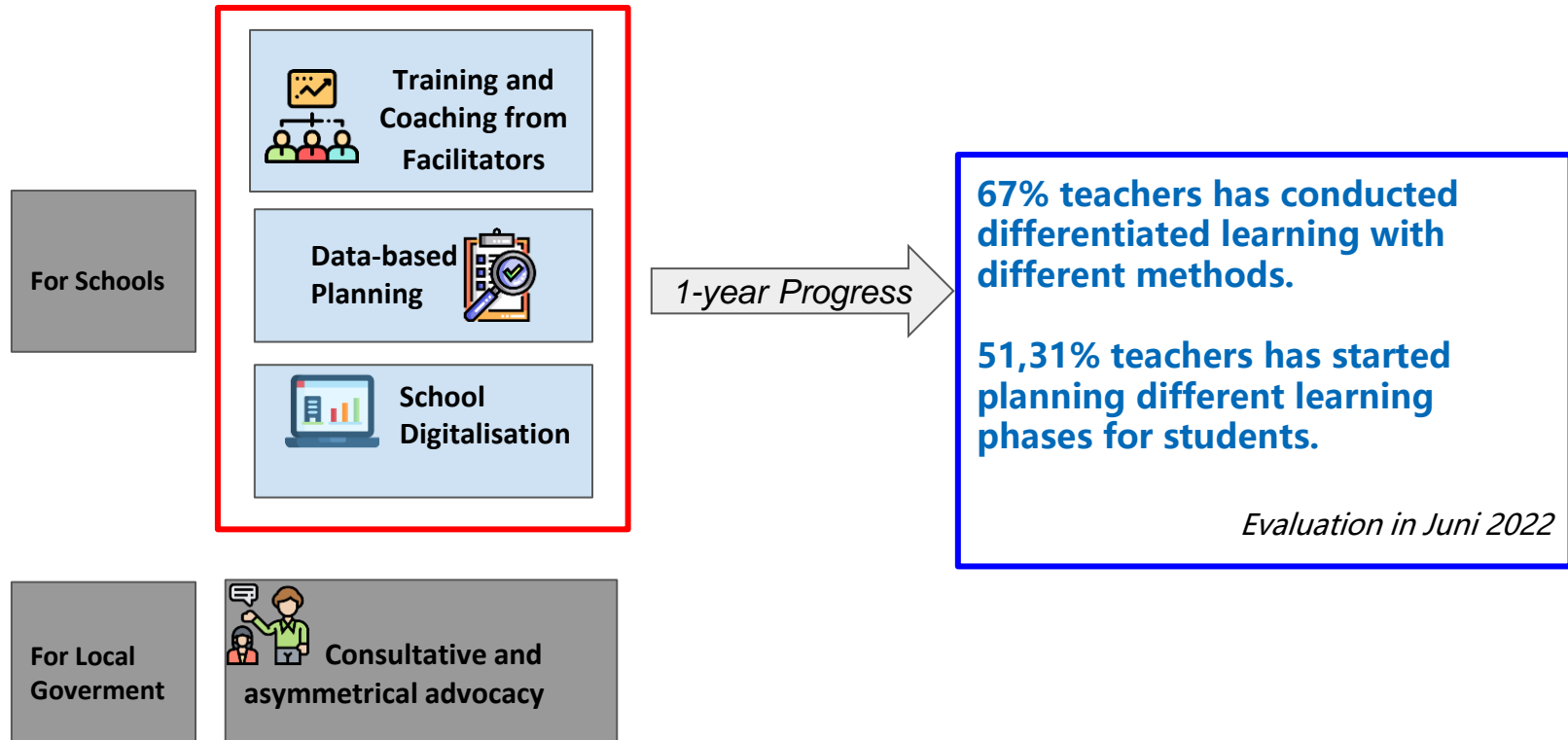
## 3 Relevant and interactive

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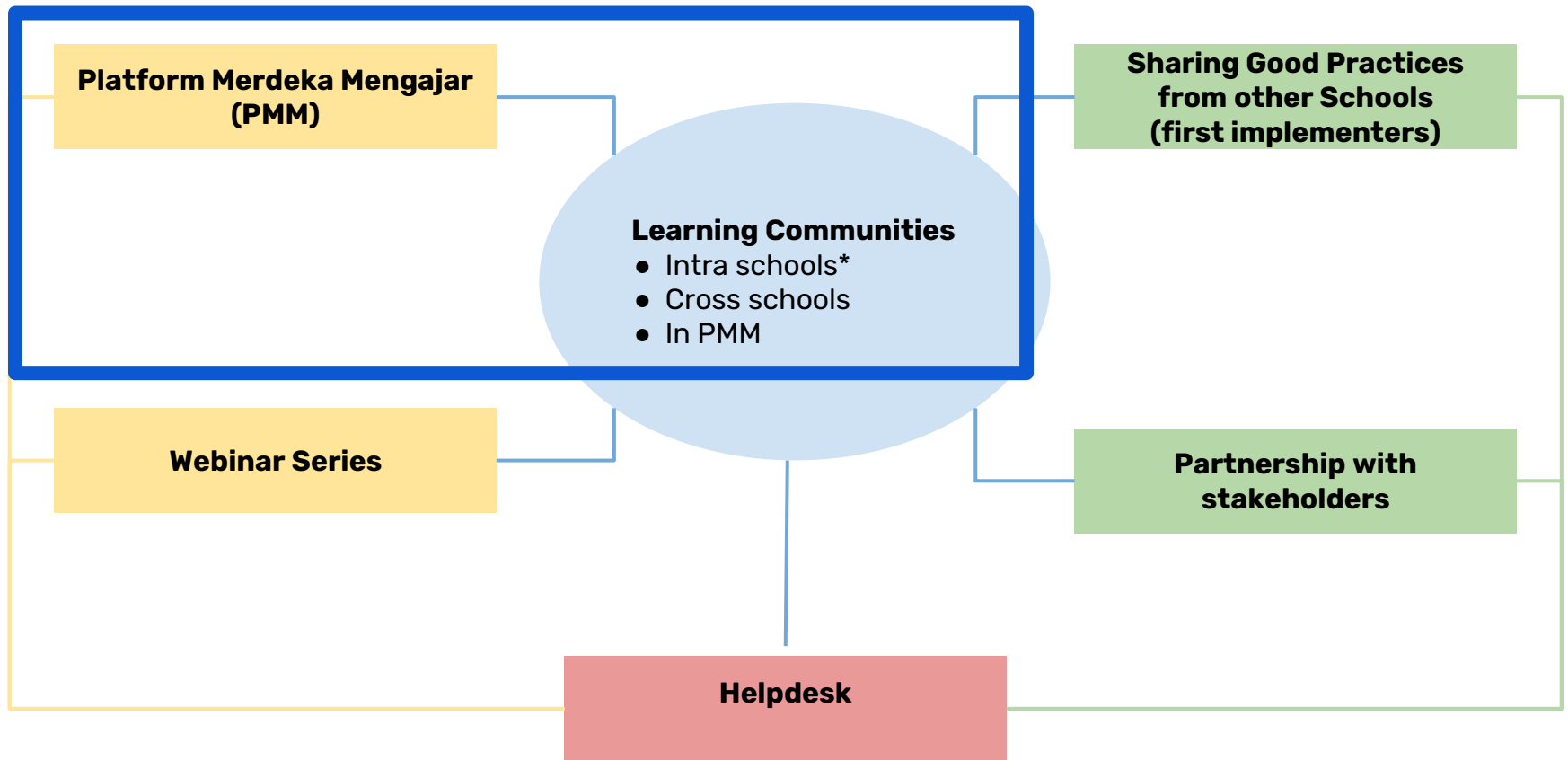
Project-based learning gives more opportunities to students to actively explore issues relevant to them such as environmental degradation, the pandemic, etc.

152.000 schools have willingly registered for implementing Curriculum Merdeka in 2022/2023

# First Implementer of Curriculum Merdeka in 2021 with “High Touch” Approach: Lighthouse schools Program (Sekolah Penggerak)-2472 schools



# “Low Touch” Strategy for Preparing & Implementing Curriculum *Merdeka*





## Our Vision

Build a technology ecosystem as an enabler and accelerator of irreversible transformation in Indonesia's education system, particularly in increasing student learning outcomes

Inclusive access for teachers across the archipelago

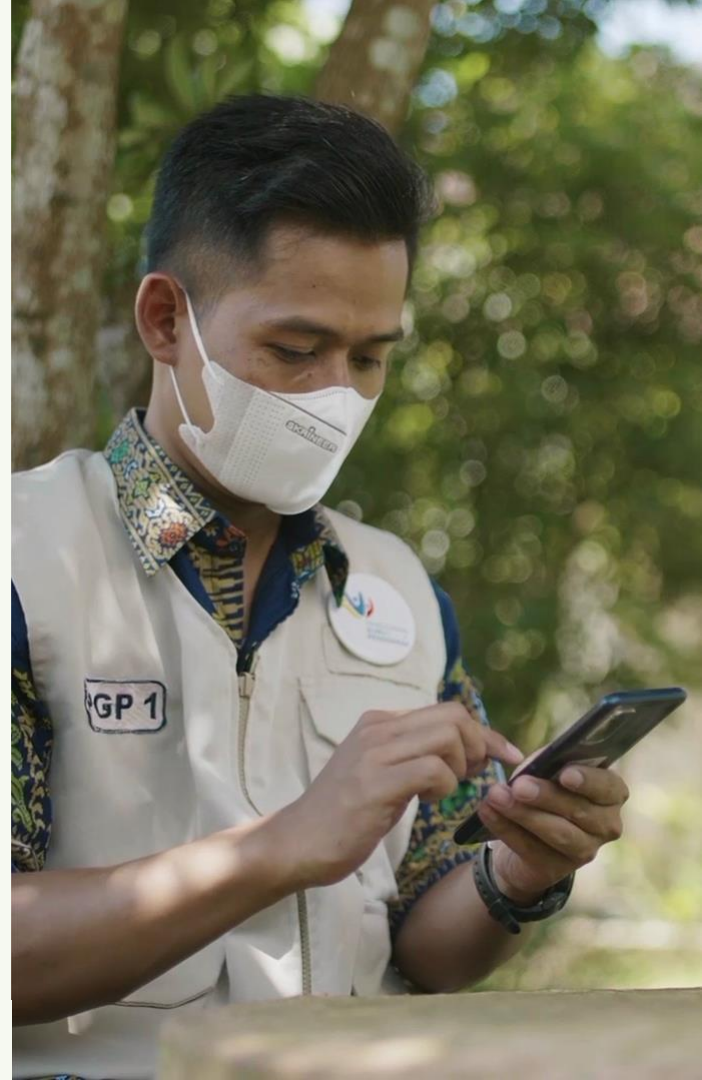
Empower an independent/ self-development spirit and unite nationwide teacher communities to achieve **student-oriented** curriculum

Enable data-driven decision-making in schools

Schools that focus on student needs, have simpler & transparent administrative processes and able to **make data-driven decision**

Strengthen collaboration between Universities, Industries, & Graduates

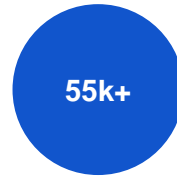
Increase industry involvement and **quality of university graduates** according to industry needs



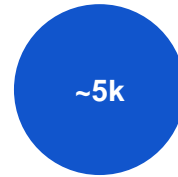
# Platform Merdeka Mengajar : a learning platform enabling teachers to upskill themselves, get context-specific teaching materials and share best practices.



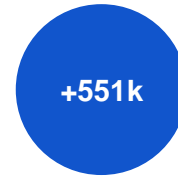
The Emancipated Teaching platform (*platform Merdeka Mengajar*) provides **differentiated learning modules**, tutorials on the new **curriculum** framework, curated **teaching materials**, as well as space for teachers to share **best practices** and find **inspiration from peers** on how to improve their teaching quality.



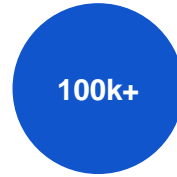
self-learning content available



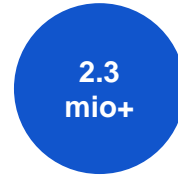
teachers communities across the nation



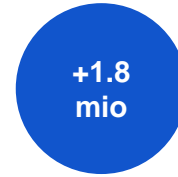
teachers downloaded teaching tools



content uploaded by teachers

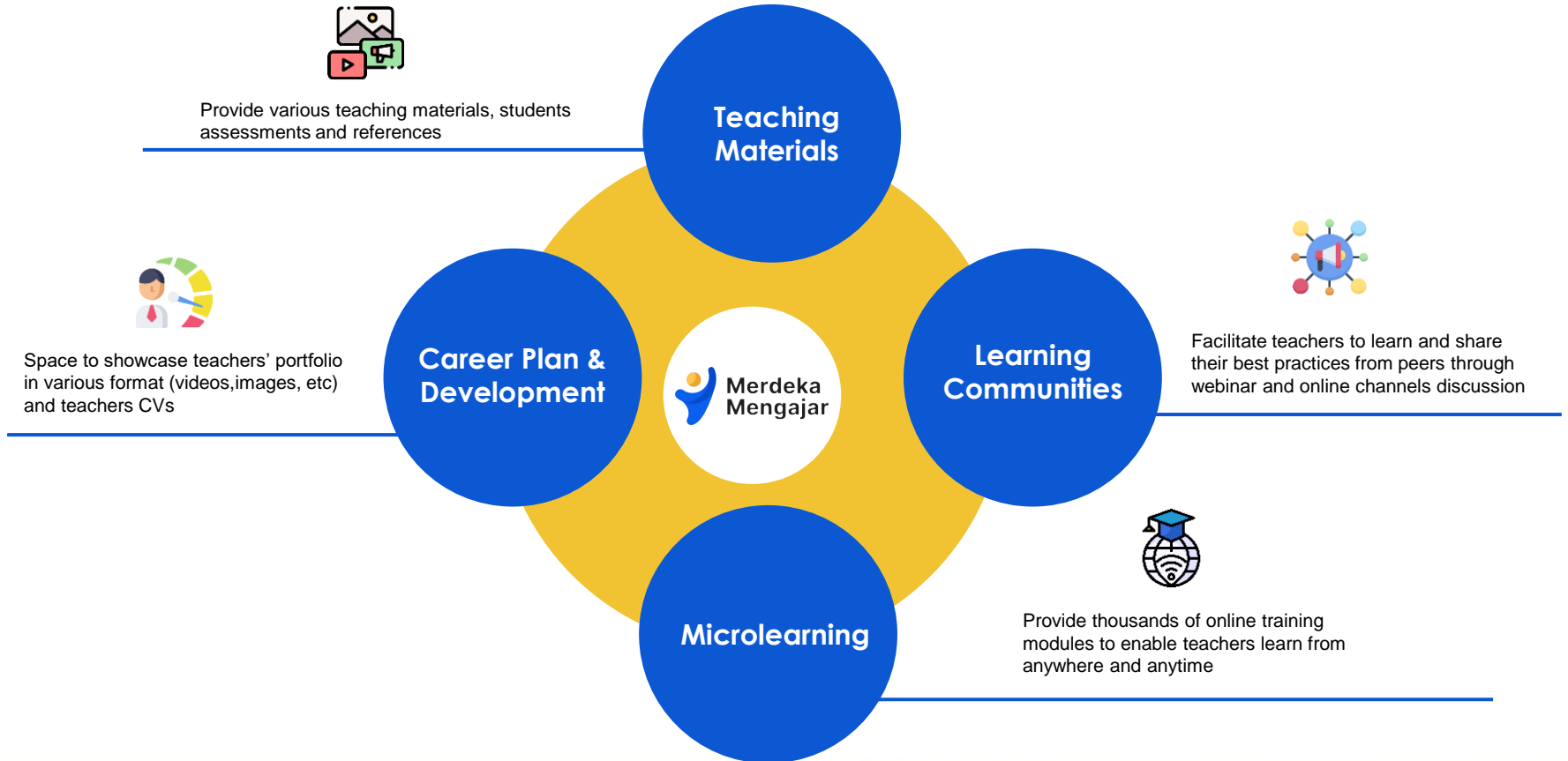


total apps downloads after 6 months launched



teachers have used the platform

# With these current and upcoming features Platform Merdeka Mengajar enable teachers to **Learn, Teach, and Create**



There are **~152K schools** in Indonesia volunteered to implement ***Curriculum Merdeka*** in 2022

**97%** schools successfully accessed to Platform Merdeka Mengajar

**78%** schools are using teachers micro-learning feature

**65%** schools has finished at least 1 topic of microlearning

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**~5,000**

Active learning communities registered in Platform Merdeka Mengajar from 463 cities

**~100K**

Best practices and learning materials uploaded by teachers all over Indonesia

# In the implementation, we found these learnings which will be our areas of improvement

01

**Teachers motivation:** teachers need external motivation in order to do independent learning

- Provide certificates for every microlearning topic completed
- Conversion of certificates to *teachers credit score* as reward
- Peers / Social validation and feedback

02

**Teacher paradigm shift :**

- From teacher-centered to student-centered
- Dependency on face-to-face training

- Encourage *master-teachers* (Guru Penggerak), lighthouse school programs (Sekolah Penggerak) to do sharing good practices on Curriculum Merdeka with support of PMM
- Empowering MOE units in 33 provinces of Indonesia to conduct routine discussions with schools and district office on the importance of **self-study and learning communities**

03

**Accessibility:** Poor internet connection in rural areas

- Provide offline feature
- Distribute content in flash drive to under development areas





# Closing Remarks

## Quotes from Joko Widodo, President of Indonesia

*“We have to find a new model, strategies and values to solve our problems with INNOVATIONS ...”*

We believe that technological innovations in education will bring about changes for whole education system in Indonesia for the betterment of all Indonesian students' learning to prepare them for future-ready citizens

