



Embassy of the United States of America

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam

Public Affairs Office

<http://brunei.usembassy.gov>

Press Release

July 31, 2015

U.S. Embassy Hosts Networking Session with YSEALI Alumni

On July 31, 2015, U.S. Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, Craig Allen, met with alumni of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) at a special event at the Radisson Hotel in Bandar Seri Begawan hosted by the U.S. Embassy.

Attended by 40 alumni members, the event provided an opportunity for the Ambassador and Brunei's growing YSEALI community to discuss topics of interest to youth such as cultural exchange, environmental awareness, academic and career development, education, leadership, entrepreneurship and more.

During the event, Ambassador Allen said: "Since it was launched about two years ago, the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative, or YSEALI, has helped to empower young people throughout the ASEAN region by giving them the skills, resources, and networks they need to turn their ideas into actions. The initiative offers workshops, online networking, exchange opportunities, professional development and hands-on training. Today, the YSEALI network includes nearly 35,000 young people from all of the countries of Southeast Asia, including Brunei. It is very encouraging for me to hear from YSEALI alumni in Brunei about the projects and action plans they are developing to help their local communities."

During the event, three YSEALI alumni shared their experiences and project ideas with the group. They were: Mohamad Khalid Mohamad Khairullah from Institut Teknologi Brunei, who participated in an Academic Fellowship in the United States; Lina Salwana Hussin from the Ministry of Education, who attended a Women's Leadership Workshop in Jakarta; and Amal Kasibah Bahari, who attended various YSEALI Workshops.

The event concluded with a group photo and a networking session.

Launched in 2013, the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) is U.S. President Barack Obama's signature program to strengthen leadership development and networking in ASEAN. The YSEALI community consists of bright young leaders 18–35 years old from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Burma, Philippines, Laos, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. YSEALI focuses on critical topics identified by youth in the region: education, civic engagement, environment and natural resources management, and entrepreneurship and economic development.

To register as a YSEALI member and receive information about these and future opportunities, visit <http://youngsoutheastasianleaders.state.gov/>. For more information, please also visit <http://brunei.usembassy.gov/yseali.html>.

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Media Inquiries:

Public Affairs Officer – Edward Findlay - Tel: 2384616 ext 2154; Fax: 2384604; Email: FindlayEF@state.gov

Media Liaison – Dian Idris - Tel: 2384616 ext 2127; Fax: 238-4604; Email: IdrisD@state.gov