Enhancing Intercultural Learning through Community of Practice

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Who We Are:

- **Faridah Ohan**
  - Academic staff at UNM (Faculty of Educational Science),
  - afs returnee (’90-91 AFS YP Belgium)
  - Volunteer for Bina Antarbudaya Chapter Makassar since 1991 - present

- **Rini Indrayanti**:
  - Executive Director of Cocoa Sustainability Partnership
  - Volunteer for Bina Antarbudaya Chapter Makassar since 1994 - present

- **Ilham Alimuddin**
  - Academic Staff at Universitas Hasanuddin (Department of Geology)
  - afs returnee (‘88 - 89 AFS YP Australia)
  - Volunteer for Bina Antarbudaya Chapter Makassar since 1989 - present
Where is Makassar?
Bina Antarbudaya

- A non-governmental and not-for-profit organisation
- Volunteer based organization
- Committed in building a better world through international exchange program
Community of Practice

• “Communities of practices are groups of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly” (Etiene Wenger)
• Learning can be the reason or can be an incidental/intentional outcome
Characteristics of Community of Practice

- The Domain - interest of the community
- The Community - identity of the community
- The Practice
Bina Antarbudaya Chapter Makassar as Communities of Practice

• *The domain*: intercultural program, shared values, shared identities
• *The community*: returnee and volunteers, host family, schools, students parents
• *The practice*: sharing knowledge and experiences as an organizing committee, as a volunteer, as ex exchange students
The Structure of the Organisation

- Hosting Department
- Sending Department
- Fund Raising Department
Reflection

- Does intercultural learning also occur inside the organisation?
- If yes, where and how does it occur?
- How is the value of intercultural learning promoted outside the community in particular?
The Challenges

- Volunteers (returnee and non-returnee)
- Host parents
- Host schools
- Students

BINA ANTARBUDAYA CHAPTER
MAKASSAR (IN GROUP COMMUNITY)

OUT GROUP
What we Learned

- We need to redefine the term 'intercultural learning', beyond organising international exchange program as a Community of Practice.
- Intercultural learning is about understanding the differences, not only about being understood, not only between nations, but also between people.