

Help support the village schools in remote rural regions of Indonesia and allow children to have a good education!

In Indonesia's remote rural regions, children have fewer education opportunities than in cities. Village schools often lack teachers or the right equipment. The Protestant Church in South East Sulawesi is creating new prospects by starting a boarding school.

Most of the area served by the Protestant Church in South Sulawesi (GEPSULTRA) is rural. 80% of its congregation are farmers. They mainly support themselves and their families by growing rice. To augment their meagre income, some of them additionally grow vegetables or raise poultry; others also rear pigs or cattle. Those who own no land work as carpenters or are paid low wages to work in the fields of other farmers.

Education for a better future

There are very limited education opportunities in rural areas. Christian education also suffers. In some cases, the pastor of the community works as a religious education teacher on a voluntary basis. Usually there is only a primary school and possibly a

secondary school but they are generally poorly equipped and have too few teachers. Secondary schools are mostly very far away and difficult to reach for many pupils. Some young people therefore move to the city but there they have to work late into the night to pay for school.

Investment in the future of children and rural communities

Since 2023, GEPSULTRA has been increasing opportunities for young people living in remote rural areas with a well-equipped boarding school in the provincial capital of Kendari. There, pupils can attend the "Ecumenical School" and receive a good, competitive education from qualified teaching staff. Great importance is also attached to education in the Christian faith. The young adults live and reside together in the boarding school and are also looked after outside school hours. They do not have to work for a living and can fully concentrate on studying in the protected space of the school. The teachers attach great importance to the young adults maintaining contact with their home communities and to passing on what they have learned as well as the Christian faith.

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