

Indonesia



Spread across an archipelago of thousands of islands between Asia and Australia, Indonesia has the world's largest Muslim population. Ethnically it is highly diverse, with more than 300 local languages. The people range from stone-age hunter-gatherers to a modern urban elite.

INDONESIA FACTS

Population: 219.9 million (UN, 2003)

Capital: Jakarta

Major languages: Indonesian, 300 regional languages

Major religion: Islam

Life expectancy: 65 years (men), 69 years (women) (UN)

Monetary unit: 1 rupiah (Rp) = 100 sen

Main exports: Oil and gas, plywood, textiles, rubber, palm oil

Average annual income: US \$690 (World Bank, 2001)

Internet domain: .id

International dialing code: +62

Current issues include: alleviating widespread poverty, implementing IMF-mandated reforms of the banking sector, effecting a transition to a popularly-elected government after four decades of authoritarianism, addressing charges of cronyism and corruption, holding the military and police accountable for human rights violations, and resolving growing separatist pressures in Aceh and Papua.



Flag Description: two equal horizontal bands of red (top) and white; similar to the flag of Monaco, which is shorter; also similar to flag of Poland, which is white (top) and red. To listen to the Indonesian national anthem go to http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/country_profiles/1260544.stm