Apart from bringing Indonesian and non-Indonesian scholars together and stimulating labour research in Indonesia, this project also sought to make the Indonesian labour history during different periods of the twentieth (and twenty-first) century. In addition, the conference examined how different interests and political agendas (those of nationalism, liberalization, decentralization, and decolonization) interface with workers’ interests, both at national and local levels, and explored the state of theorizing within Indonesian labour studies.

The "Scientific Programme Netherlands - Indonesia" aims to stimulate the establishment of long-term scientific cooperation between the Netherlands and Indonesia, this programme is also supported by Wageningen-UR in the Netherlands and the Indonesian Biotechnology Consortium (IBC) in Indonesia.

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