



EMPLOYMENT AND RE-INDUSTRIALISATION IN POST SOEHARTO INDONESIA

A Book Seminar

**5:30-7 PM, Thursday 11 October,
Parramatta South Campus EB.G.22**

This book studies the challenges for Indonesia, once a miracle economy, as it faces premature deindustrialisation, rising inequality, and domestic and external impediments impacting its export-oriented industrialisation. Since the fall of Soeharto, Indonesia has undergone a far-reaching systemic transition from centralised and autocratic governance to a highly decentralised and democratic system. Complicated by regional variations, the country is now being called upon to respect labour rights and, amidst slow global economic recovery, is facing increased competition from other low-labour-cost countries, especially within the ASEAN Economic Community. Tadjoeeddin and Chowdhury posit that Indonesia cannot recreate its past miracle based on cheap labour and suppression of labour rights. It will need to move quickly to high value-added activities driven by productivity growth and to develop its domestic market.

Book presentation: Zulfan Tadjoeeddin (HADRI) and Anis Chowdhury (HADRI)

Discussant: Professor Michele Ford (University of Sydney)

Professor Michele Ford is the Director of the Sydney Southeast Asia Centre and an ARC Future Fellow. Her research focuses on Southeast Asian labour movements, labour migration and trade union aid. She has also been involved in extensive consultancy work for the ILO, the international labour movement and the Australian government.

Zulfan Tadjoeeddin is Senior Lecturer in Development Studies, Western Sydney University. He held visiting research appointments at the Queen Elizabeth House (Oxford University) and at the International Institute of Social Studies (Erasmus University) and was a Technical Advisor at the United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP) in Indonesia. His research focus includes development and conflict, employment and labour market, and poverty and inequality.

Anis Chowdhury is Adjunct Professor, Western Sydney University and the University of New South Wales, Australia. He held several senior United Nations positions, including Director of the Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division, and Director of the Statistics Division of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. His areas of expertise include socio-economic issues, such as sustainable development, macroeconomic policies, social protection, employment & wages policies, industrial policies and Asia-Pacific economies.

