



# ASBESTOS

NOT HERE. NOT ANYWHERE.

## Ban Asbestos in SE Asia: Solidarity Tour 2018

Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA is running a solidarity tour in September 2018 to give Australian unionists and members the opportunity to observe the campaign and meet key activists and leaders in the movement to ban asbestos in Vietnam and Indonesia. The campaign is at an exciting point in the region and there has been progress towards bans and the recognition of the dangers of asbestos.

### When? [UPDATED DATES]

24 September to 3 October 2018 starting in Hanoi and ending in Jakarta

#### Vietnam

In January 2018 the Prime Minister of Vietnam announced that the country must ban asbestos in the construction sector by 2023 at the latest. This is a fantastic step that has spurred momentum across the Mekong Region. Unfortunately the asbestos industry is pushing back by lobbying governments on the 'safe use' of asbestos. Campaigners in Vietnam are trying to bring the ban forward to 2020.

#### Indonesia

In 2016 Indonesian campaigners successfully supported a worker in an asbestos factory to win compensation for Asbestos Related Diseases for the first time. Union Aid Abroad's partner organisation LION (Local Initiative for OSH Network) and Indonesia Ban Asbestos Network (Ina-Ban) are campaigning to raise awareness of the dangers of asbestos and win a ban across the country. The campaign is growing; however activists and unions face opposition and misinformation from the asbestos lobby.

### Study tour aims to

- Connect Australian unionists with campaigners and unionists in our region
- Develop understanding of the campaigns to stop asbestos
- Support the campaigns in the Mekong region and Indonesia
- Build international solidarity

### Activities during the study tour include:

- Meeting with frontline unions and community organisations that are campaigning to ban asbestos in the Mekong region and Indonesia.
- Having a close look at campaigns in Vietnam and Indonesia by visiting victims' groups (Indonesia), unions, campaigning organisations, Ministry representatives and attending local events
- Observing local alternatives to asbestos and projects that have replaced dangerous asbestos products to make buildings and workplaces safer.

### Who

Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA is inviting key unions around the country to be involved in the Solidarity tour by nominating a participant. There will also be opportunities for activists or members who have an interest in learning more and supporting the campaign.

### Overview of Tour Program

Date	Location	Activities
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Hanoi	Meet with Union Aid Abroad Hanoi Office staff Welcome dinner with Vietnamese Ban Asbestos Network members
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Hanoi	Meeting and exchange with VN BAN Network members and meet with media Meet with VGCL leader and OHS Department
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Nghe An (Overnight Stay)	Visit asbestos roofing replacement project site and VGCL Provincial Office, Nghe An Federation of Labour
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Hanoi	Ministry of Health
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Hanoi	Free Day
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Transit Hanoi to Bandung	
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Bandung	Bandung Car Free Day
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Bandung	Local asbestos workers union – SERBUK Visit organisation for Victims of Asbestos Related Diseases
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Jakarta	Meetings with national Indonesian trade unions
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Jakarta	Indonesian Ban Asbestos Network Meeting

There will be free time opportunities in the program. Details are subject to change

### Cost

The estimated cost for the Solidarity Tour is AUD\$1,650. This includes accommodation during the tour, some meals and the flights between Vietnam and Indonesia.

Flights to Hanoi and from Jakarta at the beginning and end of the tour are **not included** and should be factored into the cost separately. You will also need to budget for some meals and tourist activities or souvenirs (if you choose to purchase them).

To confirm your spot, please send through the following information to [ebacon@apheda.org.au](mailto:ebacon@apheda.org.au).

1. Are you being sponsored to participate?
2. Do you work for a union or are you a union member? (Please provide name of union)
3. Do you have a current passport valid til at least July 2019?
4. Have you travelled to Asia before?
5. Why would you like to participate in the solidarity tour?

Please can email or call Emma Bacon on (02) 9264 9343 if you have any questions.