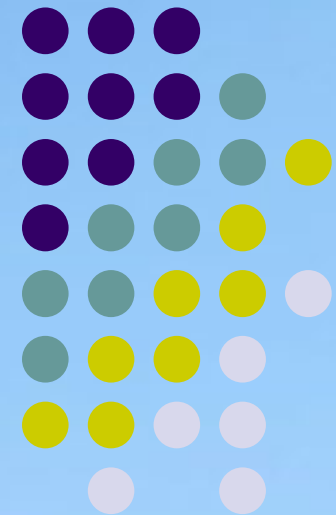


# **BRIDGING RESEARCH AND POLICY (BRAP): SMERU's Experience**

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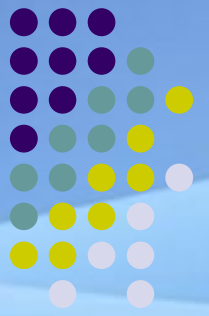
**Research Communication Workshop**  
**AIGRP – SMERU - ODI**  
**Jakarta, 13-14 October 2008**





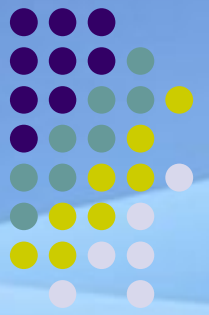
# How does SMERU do BRAP?

- SMERU engages in policy dialogues and provides evidence-based research findings
- SMERU organizes workshops, seminars, and discussions as part of the sharing and networking process
- SMERU publishes policy briefs, memoranda, papers, research reports, newsletters; develops models and tools; and maintains a website to disseminate research findings



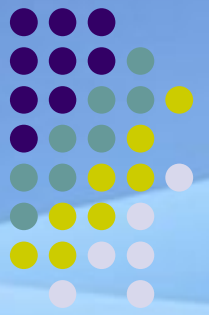
# Lessons Learned from SMERU's Experience in BRAP (1)

- Evidence-based findings need to have practical applications
- Multi-entry points and strategies: government, non-government organizations, as well as donor communities
- Impact on decision making can be restricted due to its voluntary nature



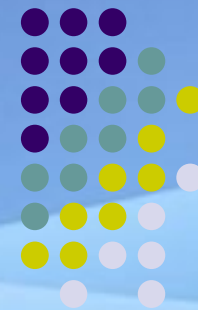
# Lessons Learned from SMERU's Experience in BRAP (2)

- Direct participation in policy making is more effective, it offers the opportunity to convince the policymakers
- Openness and political will from policymakers and lawmakers are essential to assure research findings get translated into actual policy change



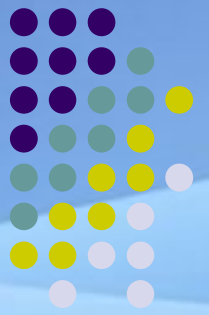
# Lessons Learned from SMERU's Experience in BRAP (3)

- Strong evidence and the urgency of issues may speed up the political process towards the adoption of research findings and recommendations
- Institutional integrity, objectivity, capacity, and research quality are paramount
- Building up the trust and reputation through better research quality



# Lessons Learned from SMERU's Experience in BRAP (4)

- Policy capacity of executive, legislative, researchers, and other stakeholders needs to be strengthened
- There's need to establish convening network to develop systemic and sustainable linkages between researchers, policymakers, lawmakers, and practitioners



# Constraints Faced in BRAP

- Political leverage
- Lack of lobbying skills and opportunities
- Lack of tools to understand the political context of policy change
- Lack of resources (human and financial) and time to monitor and follow up policy decision making process
- Misunderstanding with other stakeholders especially if research results have bearing on their interests