

EXPANDING FINANCIAL ACCESS TO THE EDUCATION ECOSYSTEM IN INDONESIA

JAKARTA – February 21, 2020 – Nusantara Bina Artha (NBA) and Bank Nusumma Group (rural banks in Indonesia) and **Opportunity International EduFinance** announce a collaboration focused on increasing access to education financing for key stakeholders in the education eco-system, including school owners, principals, parents, and suppliers.

By financing the supply and demand needs of the education eco-system, Bank Nusumma Group and Opportunity EduFinance hope to equip schools and educators with the ability to improve the learning environment for students and the quality of education provided, and help parents keep children in school, avoiding absenteeism and drop-out resulting from lack of fee payments.

Recent market research conducted by Opportunity EduFinance reported that nearly 50 percent of parents interviewed were interested in taking a loan for education-related expenses, if available. Of those interviewed, 84 percent also stated they were interested in an educational savings product, as well, to save for school fees as well as books, uniforms, computers, and other necessities.

Bank Nusumma Group currently offers a large percentage of loan to teachers, with the purpose of financing consumptive needs such as vehicles, electronics, house renovations, professional development, etc. with the expectation it will eventually impact their productivity as a teacher. Through this collaboration, Bank Nusumma Group and Opportunity EduFinance will increase the positive impact in the education sector by testing the potential to design and launch education lending and savings products in Singaparna, West Java. The product development initiative is targeted for school improvements, school fees and expenses, working capital, and educator professional development and resources.

Andrew McCusker, Head of Opportunity EduFinance, explains why the collaboration with NBA – Bank Nusumma Group is aligned with the EduFinance mission. “Opportunity EduFinance is focused on identifying the best models across different markets to increase access to education through finance. Through our collaboration with NBA and their new strategic focus on the full education ecosystem in Indonesia, we will have the opportunity to test the demand for education lending across the range of stakeholders and better understand how an ecosystem approach can contribute a sustainable education lending portfolio.”

Chief Operating Officer of Nusantara Bina Artha, Eky Amrullah, believes collaboration with Opportunity EduFinance will bring exciting initiatives to provide more suitable products in education. “Their commitment and professional approach will give us another perspective on how to learn more about the market in education. In this project implementation we will gain many experiences for our team to explore more opportunity and do much more to impact society.”

ABOUT NUSANTARA BINA ARTHA (NBA) AND BANK NUSUMMA GROUP

Nusantara Bina Artha (NBA) is the holding company of Bank Nusumma Group, with headquarters in Jakarta. Bank Nusumma Group has 21 offices spread across West Java, Central Java, Yogyakarta, and East Java. Bank Nusumma Group is currently serving 57,072 people through lending and saving in Indonesia and will open new 3 branches in East Java in this 2020. NBA is committed to providing innovative and reliable services to the communities in which they lend, positively impacting community development and contributing to the overall economic development of Indonesia. As part of this commitment, NBA is eager to pursue new innovative products and services to benefit the education eco-system in Indonesia and ultimately improve access and quality of education for students.

ABOUT OPPORTUNITY INTERNATIONAL EDUFINANCE

Opportunity International EduFinance, with headquarters in London, United Kingdom, partners with financial institutions around the world to help them develop, launch and manage sustainable education lending portfolios. EduFinance’s technical assistance services enable financial institutions to launch or improve their education lending activities, focusing on the development of two flagship education lending products: School Improvement Loans and School Fee Loans. EduFinance currently has more than 53 financial institution partners in 22 countries, through which more than 12,000 schools and 103,000 parents are currently borrowing, benefiting an estimated 5.2 million children globally.