

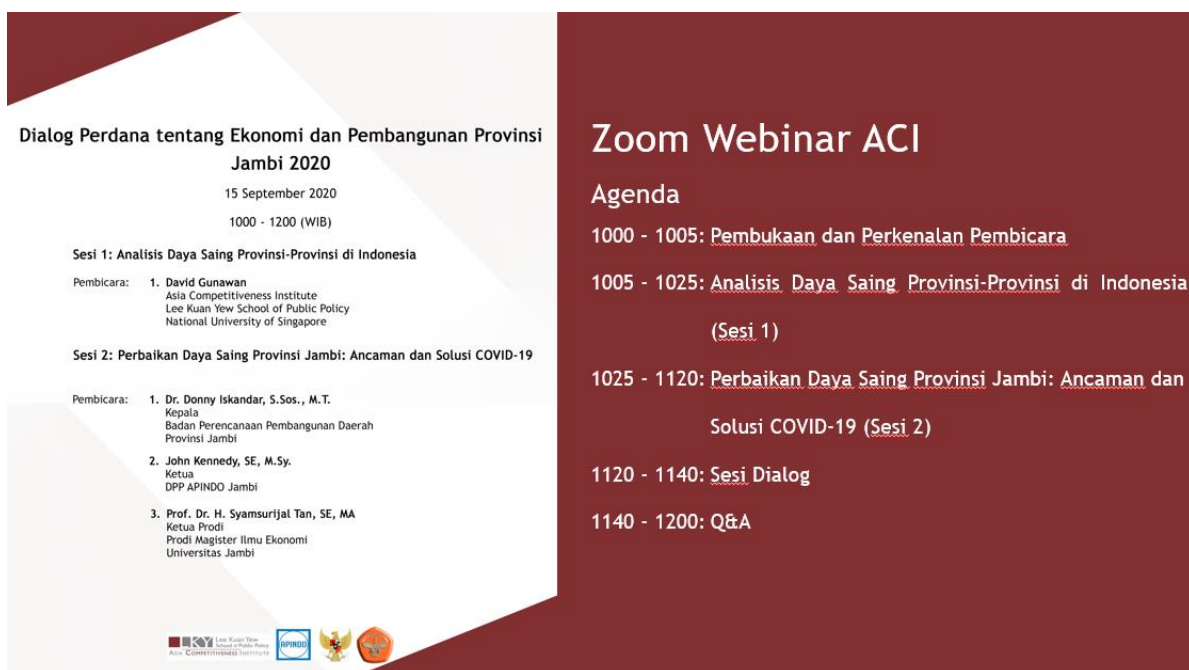
## Webinar Report

### Jambi's Competitiveness Recovery: Threats and Solutions for COVID-19

ACI conducted the Webinar for Jambi province on Tuesday, September 15 2020, under the Subnational Competitiveness Webinar Series. The webinar was titled "The Inaugural Provincial Dialogue on the Economy and Development 2020 for Jambi". Amongst those in attendance included senior officeholders from various government agencies from Jambi province, members of Indonesian Employers' Association (APINDO) of Jambi and academics from University of Jambi.

#### **Webinar 1: The Inaugural Provincial Dialogue on the Economy and Development 2020 for Jambi 2020**

Tuesday, 15 September 2020  
10.00 – 12.00 (GMT+7)



The image shows a Zoom Webinar agenda and speaker list for ACI. The background is dark red with white text. The agenda is on the right, and the speaker list is on the left. Logos for ACI, APINDO, and the Indonesian government are at the bottom.

**Dialog Perdana tentang Ekonomi dan Pembangunan Provinsi Jambi 2020**  
15 September 2020  
1000 - 1200 (WIB)

**Sesi 1: Analisis Daya Saing Provinsi-Provinsi di Indonesia**  
Pembicara: 1. David Gunawan  
Asia Competitiveness Institute  
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy  
National University of Singapore

**Sesi 2: Perbaikan Daya Saing Provinsi Jambi: Ancaman dan Solusi COVID-19**  
Pembicara: 1. Dr. Donny Iskandar, S.Sos., M.T.  
Kepala  
Badan Perencanaan Pembangunan Daerah  
Provinsi Jambi  
2. John Kennedy, SE, M.Sy.  
Ketua  
DPP APINDO Jambi  
3. Prof. Dr. H. Syamsurijal Tan, SE, MA  
Ketua Prodi  
Prodi Magister Ilmu Ekonomi  
Universitas Jambi

**Zoom Webinar ACI**  
**Agenda**  
1000 - 1005: Pembukaan dan Perkenalan Pembicara  
1005 - 1025: Analisis Daya Saing Provinsi-Provinsi di Indonesia  
(Sesi 1)  
1025 - 1120: Perbaikan Daya Saing Provinsi Jambi: Ancaman dan Solusi COVID-19 (Sesi 2)  
1120 - 1140: Sesi Dialog  
1140 - 1200: Q&A

#### **Opening Remarks**

The Webinar began with Opening Remarks from Professor Paul Cheung, the Director of Asia Competitiveness Institute. In his Opening Remarks, Professor Cheung highlighted the importance of economic resilience and the availability of socio-economic protections against current and future shocks. Given the rapid transformation in economic structure and work dynamic in Indonesia and globally, Professor Cheung hopes that the Webinar will become a continuing platform for key policymakers and stakeholders in the province to engage in meaningful discussion on the economic condition and strategic direction for the province moving forward.

## Session 1

### 2020 Annual Update of ACI's Competitiveness Rankings and Simulation Studies of Jambi

Speaker: David Gunawan  
Research Assistant  
Asia Competitiveness Institute, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy  
National University of Singapore

ACI research provides a quantitative framework to track the competitiveness level of all the provinces across Indonesia. Key notable findings are as follows

- In 2020, Jambi's overall ranking has increased from 18<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> placing, out of 34 provinces.
- Out of 10 provinces in the Sumatra region, Jambi is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in Overall Competitiveness.
- Compared to 2019, East Java's rankings in 2020 for the four environments have undergone the following changes:
  1. Macroeconomic Stability: Increased from 20<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> rank
  2. Government and Institutional Setting: Increased from 15<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> rank
  3. Financial, Business and Manpower Condition: Increased from 15<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> rank
  4. Quality of Life and Infrastructure Development: Increased from 20<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> rank
- Top three strongest indicators:
  1. Government Efficiency
  2. Provincial Governing Capacity
  3. Government Progress and Expectation
- Top three weakest indicators:
  1. Government Performance Evaluation
  2. Crime Rate
  3. Public Reports of Corruption per Government Expenditure

Based on the 2020 results, ACI identifies key areas of improvement for Jambi, including increasing the province's access to technology to improve quality of life and business efficiency, and developing technological infrastructures to increase investment.

## Session 2: Jambi's Competitiveness Recovery: Threats and Solutions for COVID-19

Speaker: Dr. Donny Iskandar, S.Sos., M.T.  
Head  
Regional Development Planning Agency  
Province of Jambi

John Kennedy, SE, M.Sy.  
Head  
DPP APINDO Jambi

Prof. Dr. H. Syamsurijal Tan, SE, MA  
Head of Study Programme (Masters of Economic Science)  
University of Jambi

### **COVID-19 Situation in Jambi**

As of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020, Indonesia had 200,342 cumulative COVID-19 cases. Jambi, with 302 cases, had the fourth lowest COVID-19 case count in Indonesia, out of 34 provinces. With an average weekly COVID-19 case count amounting to below 10, Jambi is one of the few provinces in Indonesia that is classified as a yellow zone by the World Health Organization (WHO).

However, Prof. Dr. Syamsurijal from the University of Jambi signalled that the COVID-19 case count is not a determinant of the economic impact of COVID-19 on the province. Even with relatively low COVID-19 numbers in the province, Jambi's forward and backward linkages with the rest of Indonesia mean that it has also felt the nationwide COVID-19 economic impact. To illustrate the extent of this impact, Prof. Dr. Syamsurijal presented Jambi's GDRP growth in the second quarter of 2020, which has negative growth of -1.72%.

### **Business Impact of COVID-19**

Dr. Donny Iskandar, the head of the Regional Development Planning Agency of Jambi, noted that the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted Jambi's economy in various sectors. The travel industry took the biggest hit with 95% revenue drop in Q2. Other than the travel sector, some of the most impacted sectors include, but not limited to, transportation, accommodation, and services.

To provide a context of how COVID-19 has impacted Jambi's economy, Mr John Kennedy, head of DPP APINDO Jambi, presented the rubber industry as an example. Mr John mentioned that the ongoing pandemic has caused rubber demand to plunge. As rubber purchasers either halt or cancel their purchases, Jambi's export-oriented rubber firms have faced issues with excess inventory. Due to the low demand, Mr John iterates that the price of rubber is likely to fall in the near future, further dampening business outlook in this sector.

### **Economic Strategies Moving Forward**

Moving forward, Dr Donny presented three government approaches to restore Jambi's economic growth. The first approach is educating the public on COVID-19 and COVID-19 prevention methods. In the second approach, the government intends to introduce economic incentives to encourage MSMEs' investment in technological advancements. Finally, the third approach seeks to utilize fiscal and monetary policies to stimulate the agricultural economy.