

KID DOK – Interviews zum Projekt

doxs! im Gespräch mit Petra van Dongen (KidsFfest Indonesia, Projektleitung KID DOK)

How did you experience the workshop personally? What was it like to work with your Indonesian colleagues?

We had a 3-day workshop in Jakarta in April 2012 with German documentary filmmaker Bettina Braun. She gave a masterclass in children's documentary filmmaking to a group of 5 selected film teams, each team consisting of a director, DoP and editor. It was an eye opener for all of us as we did not know much about documentary filmmaking for children in Indonesia. Bettina gave a lot of good examples and we also discussed her own experiences.

I have been working in Jakarta since 2008 for a film production company and was already used to working with Indonesians. I also knew most of the workshop participants from other film projects, so it was very fun to be in a workshop together.

In which aspects have the Indonesian filmmakers profited from the project?

Three selected filmmakers were able to make a short documentary for children with funds from Goethe-Institut and the Dutch Embassy. It was a great experience for them to learn about documentaries for children and also work with children.

What differences did you recognize considering the working structure und production conditions compared to Netherlands? Is there a specific Indonesian approach to documentary filmmaking?

Normally, Indonesians make documentaries about a drama or injustice for adults. This was the first time that they could make something more fun and entertaining for children.

What is your overall opinion to the outcome? How do you estimate the project in relation to your knowledge of the Indonesian circumstances?

I think the overall outcome is much better than expected. All teams did a very good job, especially because it is sometimes difficult to make a film in Indonesia. There are so many sensitive issues that people don't talk about, especially not in front of a camera. The teams had to choose kids and subjects that were easy to shoot, but still faced some difficulties as it was sometimes not allowed to shoot in certain locations, for example in school.

How did the audience react to the KID DOK films at the KidsFfest?

Very good. We showed all three films in an elementary school for children aged 8-12, in their classrooms. They loved the CHOCOLATE COMEDY the most and were laughing non stop. They thought FAREWELL MY SCHOOL was really sad and some of the kids and teachers were almost crying out of sympathy for Lintang the drummer. When they were watching GRADY THE HEALER, they had many questions for the director asking him about the special powers of Grady and how he can heal sick people.

Is there a market for documentary film making for children and young adults in Indonesia?

Yes, there is definitely a market, especially for TV stations and school teachers who would love to have short documentary children's film as education material.

How would you evaluate the general interest for children film and documentary filmmaking?

This is the first time that children's documentaries have been produced in Indonesia. There has been a lot of interest for the three KID DOK films: from the press, schools, companies and TV. The films have been broadcast on TV six times already, have been shown in schools in Jakarta and there is also interest from companies with CSR programs for elementary school throughout Indonesia.

In your opinion, do you think there is a future for documentaries for children and young adults in Indonesia? Will projects like KID DOK be continued?

There can be a future, but as there is no government film funding in Indonesia, that's all depending on local corporate sponsoring, and funding from institutes like the Goethe-Institut.

Without their support it will not be possible to develop documentaries for children in Indonesia. We are hoping that we can receive support to start a second round of Project KID DOK next year.

What is your overall opinion to the outcome? How do you estimate the project in relation to your knowledge of the Indonesian circumstances?

The overall outcome is very inspiring for children. It's a great experience for them to see children of their own culture and age with these problems so they can relate to it and also learn from it.

docs! im Gespräch mit Karin Sohns (Goethe-Institut, Jakarta)

Was hat das Goethe-Institut dazu bewogen, das Projekt KID DOK zu unterstützen?

Das Goethe-Institut unterstützt im Rahmen der Initiative „Kultur und Entwicklung“ seit vielen Jahren die Dokumentarfilmbildung in Südostasien. Im Rahmen von zahlreichen Workshops ist in der Region eine Reihe von außergewöhnlichen Filmen entstanden, die auch auf internationalen Filmfestivals gefeiert wird.

Das Konzept von KID DOK hat uns überzeugt, da es sich einer neuen Zielgruppe zuwendet: Kindern. In einem Land wie Indonesien, wo ca. 28% der Bevölkerung unter 14 Jahren ist, ist dies eine sehr wichtige Zielgruppe. Interessant war für uns auch der Ansatz, indonesische und europäische Experten zusammenzubringen, welche die Dokumentarfilmprojekte während des ganzen Projektes begleitet haben.

Warum sind dokumentarische Filme für Kinder in Indonesien wichtig?

Meines Wissens gibt es derzeit kaum einen Markt für dokumentarische Filme in Indonesien. Das Genre „Dokumentarfilm“ etabliert sich generell erst langsam.

Welche Bedeutung hat der Kinderfilm in der indonesischen Film- und Medienkultur?

Der Fernseher spielt in indonesischen Familien – wie in den meisten Teilen der Erde – eine wichtige Rolle. Die Beiträge werden jedoch zu einem großen Teil importiert. Dabei handelt es sich vorrangig um „Cartoons“ und „Animations-Filme“. Weder im Kino noch im Fernsehen spielen Kinderfilme eine große Rolle.

Dennoch gibt es schöne Beispiele: Nia Dinata organisiert seit vielen Jahren das „KidsFfest“, welches herausragende internationale Filme nach Indonesien bringt. Im letzten Jahr ist auch ein bezaubernder Kinderfilm von Eugene Panji entstanden: CITA - CITAKU SETINGGI TANAH (DURCH FLIEGENDES GRAS). Dieser Film wurde auch auf der diesjährigen Berlinale gefeiert.

Das Goethe-Institut hat in der Region eine weitere Initiative: Das Wissenschaftsfilmfestival, welches jedes Jahr internationale Wissenschaftsfilme präsentiert. Mit dieser Initiative sollen Kinder spielerisch mit naturwissenschaftlichen Fragestellungen in Berührung gebracht werden. Hier bin ich immer wieder überwältigt von der großen Resonanz in allen Ländern Südostasiens. Im letzten Jahr nahmen 365.000 Kinder daran teil.

Würden Sie es begrüßen, wenn auf diesem Feld mehr Initiativen vor Ort entstehen?

Ich würde dies sehr begrüßen. Ich denke die Zielgruppe „Kinder“ ist sehr interessant, dankbar, aber auch wichtig! Ich beschränke mich hier jedoch nicht nur auf Film: In meinen Augen berühren auch andere Bereiche wie Kunst oder Musik.