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## Partnerships with PURPOSE

Focus on Save the Children  
& Plan International

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## Focus on Save the Children & Plan International

### JAMES BAXANI:

We had two clients, Save the Children and Plan International, both organizations are focused on providing young people with access to education and insuring that all young people have the opportunity to learn.

Accenture Development Partnerships was working with Save the Children and Plan International as a product of a grant that Accenture, through its Corporate Citizenship program had given to both organizations back in 2012. The grant was intended to support their work in Indonesia in widening access to employment for underserved young people, which aligns perfectly with Accenture's own "Skills to Succeed" agenda. Through Accenture Development Partnerships, we wanted to understand which components of both of those Indonesia based programs was working and which we'd want to scale and replicate to other countries and other parts of that country, in order to achieve even greater impact in widening access to employment amongst young people.

We were based in Indonesia for 14 weeks, working in multiple locations, conducting various different site visits, working with both partners of Save the Children, as well as Plan International; at the same time trying to overcome the various cultural differences that exist in Indonesia.

The project itself was only three months long but the impact of the project I think will continue long into the future. Both organizations took away from it some really important lessons. We published a detailed report, which outlines opportunities for various organizations in the services sector in Indonesia, to make direct impact to youth unemployment by actually hiring young people, building non-traditional talent pools and actually putting skin in the game when it comes to making a dent in this issue. As businesses recognize that social challenges are actually business opportunities, what we're seeing is a greater convergence of these two sectors. That was perfectly exemplified in Indonesia, where we have businesses now working to hire beneficiaries and demographic groups that were typically considered to be the realm of the non-profit organization.

Accenture Development Partnerships is an important opportunity. I think we often are so heavily focused on our clients, that that can become our comfort zone. And through participating in Accenture Development Partnerships, you're forced out of that comfort zone to work in different environments with radically different clients, who face radically different challenges and that's important because it can provide you with a reminder of the bigger picture perspective.

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