RESEARCH & COLLABORATION PROPOSAL

The Blue Contract Chronicles: Existence, Stigma, and Reality of Indonesian Migrant Workers in Hong Kong

An Empirical Study on Contractual Realities, Domestic Power Dynamics, and Socio-Economic Mobility

Principal Investigator: Felicia Haliman, S.E., M.HI.

Affiliation & Status: Independent Researcher & Analyst

Research Locations: Jakarta, Indonesia & Hong Kong SAR

Project Timeline: Oct 2026 – Mar 2027

Target Output: Monograph & Ph.D. Proposal

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This research project investigates the complex, multifaceted lived experiences of Indonesian migrant domestic workers in Hong Kong. Moving beyond single-dimensional narrative models, this study addresses both sides of the domestic labor spectrum: systematically documenting structural challenges, contractual discrepancies, and social stigmas alongside positive employment dynamics, mutual respect, personal agency, and upward socio-economic mobility. Grounded in empirical fieldwork, qualitative interviews, data analytics, and interdisciplinary policy analysis, the project will produce a monograph titled *"The Blue Contract Chronicles"* by **March 2027**, while establishing an empirical foundation for the Principal Investigator's upcoming Ph.D. dissertation in International Relations and Migration Sociology.

2. DUAL PILLAR RESEARCH SCOPE

PILLAR I: STRUCTURAL CHALLENGES & GAPS

- **Contractual Discrepancies:** Unregulated hours, unwritten duties, and privacy boundaries.
- **Dispute Dynamics:** Contract terminations, power imbalances, and legal hurdles.
- **Social Stigma:** Cultural friction, class isolation, and socio-economic vulnerability.

PILLAR II: POSITIVES & EMPOWERMENT

- **Exemplary Relations:** Cross-cultural bonding, fair work terms, and mutual trust.
- **Economic Mobility:** Higher education funding, home business creation, and family support.
- **Resilience & Agency:** Community networks, skill enrichment, and self-advocacy.

3. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- How do Indonesian migrant workers navigate both contractual discrepancies and socio-economic opportunities within Hong Kong households?
- What underlying household dynamics foster mutually beneficial employer-worker relationships versus severe domestic disputes?
- How can empirical field data and civil society advocacy inform international policy frameworks regarding diaspora welfare and labor rights?

4. MONTH-BY-MONTH TIMELINE BREAKDOWN (OCT 2026 – MAR 2027)

MONTH	PHASE & FOCUS	KEY OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES & MILESTONES
October 2026	Phase 1: Outreach	Initiate formal NGO correspondence, schedule preliminary Zoom consultations from Jakarta.
November 2026	Phase 1: Alignment	Conduct Zoom meetings with NGO case officers; refine interview protocols, ethical guidelines, and respondent sampling frameworks.
December 2026	Phase 2: Data Collection	Execute qualitative interviews with migrant workers and field collaborators in Hong Kong; begin anonymized thematic data logging.
January 2027	Phase 2: Case Analysis	Synthesize comparative case studies (legal dispute cases vs. successful empowerment stories); conduct data analytics on contract trends.
February 2027	Phase 3: Writing & Review	Draft main monograph chapters for *"The Blue Contract Chronicles"*; conduct expert review and data validation sessions with NGO partners.
March 2027	Phase 4: Completion	Finalize monograph manuscript; complete and launch first book of Ph.D. requirements research portfolio.

5. METHODOLOGY & ETHICAL STANDARDS

This study utilizes a qualitative, empirical, and data-driven approach across Jakarta and Hong Kong. Data protection and ethical integrity remain paramount:

- **Complete Anonymity:** Pseudonyms and redacted identifiers protect all workers, employers, and NGO case details.
- **Balanced Representation:** Equal analytical weight given to structural vulnerabilities and positive mobility outcomes.
- **Secure Data Handling:** Encrypted, restricted storage of all interview notes, audio records, and analytical sheets.

6. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR PROFILE

Felicia Haliman, S.E., M.HI. holds a Master of International Relations (M.HI.) from Universitas Pelita Harapan (Thesis on KJRI Hong Kong trade diplomacy) and a Bachelor of Management (S.E.) from Universitas Nusa Bangsa. Her background integrates diplomatic research as a former R&D Assistant Internship at the Consulate General of Indonesia in Hong Kong with certified Data Science credentials (Algoritma) and enterprise management experience as Founder of PT Broaden Tambang Nusantara and PT Broaden Creative Indonesia.