



## **Sidrotun NAIM**

**Home Country**  
Indonesia

**Degree**  
PhD in Environmental  
Science and  
Pathobiology

**Expertise**  
Aquaculture

**Research Focus**  
Reducing Viral and  
Bacterial Disease in  
Shrimp Farming

**Host University**  
University of Arizona,  
United States

**Fellowship Awarded**  
2010

Sidrotun Naim was born and raised in Solo City and moved to Bandung City, Indonesia to pursue higher education. She comes from a long line of teachers in her family, and she feels lucky that her parents created a supportive environment for learning. In the spirit of traditional wisdom she likes to quote a native American proverb: “We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.”

After graduating in 2002 from Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB), Sidrotun worked as an environmental consultant for Freeport Indonesia in Papua, Indonesia. In 2005 she earned a Master of Marine Studies degree from the University of Queensland in Australia with the dean’s commendation for high achievement, and in 2006 she began working as a marine program consultant for World Wildlife Fund Indonesia in Aceh – the epicenter of the devastating 2004 tsunami and considered one of the best shrimp broodstock areas in the world.

While working in Aceh she became involved in tsunami reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts, which proved to be a turning point in her life. After receiving a 2009 UNESCO-L’Oréal Award For Women in Science, she began studying for her PhD in Environmental Science and Pathobiology at the University of Arizona in the United States, where her research focuses on sustainable aquaculture. In 2010 she won an Alltech Young Scientist award, and she will represent Indonesia in 2011 for an international fellowship with the UNESCO-L’Oréal Award For Women in Science program.

Aquaculture contributes to Indonesian food security, income and employment and it generates foreign exchange earnings. An important livelihood for coastal fishery communities (more than 6 million people in Indonesia, most of them women) it also contributes to reducing the pressure on marine natural resources. Sidrotun is researching the potential of a polyculture between shrimp and tilapia to reduce viral and bacterial disease in shrimp farming.

Using a green water technique of stocking tilapia in reservoirs to stimulate the production of microalgae may help in reducing disease due to the presence of antibacterial and antifungal properties on the skin mucus of tilapia. She hopes that her aquaculture research will help improve the quality of life in coastal communities throughout her country.

When she returns to her home country, Sidrotun plans to teach at the Bandung Institute of Technology.