Healthcare

During FY2022, ERIA’s Healthcare Unit published one book and three research project reports, including *Older People and COVID-19 in Indonesia* (2022 edition), which reports the results of a telephone survey to identify the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on older people’s lives. This survey was proposed by Indonesia’s Ministry of National Development Planning (BAPPENAS).

A memorable event handled by the Healthcare Unit was the announcement of the winners of the third Healthy Aging Prize for Asian Innovation award, which was co-organised with the Japan Center for International Exchange. Four winners were selected from 10 countries by the international advisory committee, which consisted of leading experts on population ageing throughout the region.
Through Japan’s Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the unit has been expanding its research focus to include areas such as clinical trials. A memorandum of understanding with the National Center for Global Health and Medicine in Tokyo was signed in 2022. These research activities will result in evidence-based policy paper recommendations after discussions with regional country experts, alongside their national health databases and published data from multiregional clinical trials. These activities are expected to improve the capacity of clinical trials in the region and to support a region-wide network and capacity building to organise well-managed multiregional clinical trials for drugs and medical devices even during future pandemics.

In addition, the unit has collaborated with the World Health Organization through a secondee from ERIA, assigned to the WHO department in charge of the list of essential in-vitro diagnosis device research activities.