

# PROJECT FACTS



## Gender Equity and Women Rights in Indonesia: Raising the Profile

- Total budget : USD 300,000
- Available budget : USD 150,000
- Unfunded budget : USD 150,000
- Project period : October 2008 – May 2009
- Implementing partner : Indonesia Gender Network
- Location : Nationwide

### Background

Promoting gender equity and women's rights in Indonesia is critical to achieving human development and realising the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Indonesia has a mixed track record in this area. On one hand, girls representation in schooling is high, almost equal with boys and increasing.

However, women are not well represented in politics, and their wages and status in the workplace are significantly lower than men. As well, female representation in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector is lagging.

Indonesia is a signatory to the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and the Beijing Platform. Indonesia has also put in place legislative tools to promote women's rights and gender equality including anti-trafficking laws, victim protection laws, laws on domestic violence, and an amendment to the 1945 Constitution that recognizes women's rights as human rights.

However, there remain shortfalls and gaps in the application of these conventions. And there is evidence that suggests public attitudes towards gender equity and women's rights are incongruent with the international conventions that Indonesia has signed.

UNDP, in partnership with key women's organisations and the Government of Indonesia, is highlighting critical women's rights and gender equity issues in order to raise their profile in the national political and public arenas and bring about greater policy commitment.



*Giving women a say guarantees a more equitable development process.*

### Gender Equity-Some Fast Facts

- Women constitute only 11% of the total number of national parliamentarians (62 of 549 members), 21% in the Regional Representatives' Council (27 female out of 128 members) and there are only 4 female ministers out of 36 cabinet positions<sup>1</sup>.
- Maternal Mortality Rates (MMR) are amongst the highest in Southeast Asia and Indonesia is unlikely to reach the MDG target for 2015;
- In education, the female literacy rate is 86% compared to males 94%;
- Women receive only 70% of male wages<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>Country Gender Assessment, 2006

<sup>2</sup>Country Gender Assessment (2006), Buchori (2007)



*Ensuring equal opportunity for all helps to boost local economies.*

## Objectives

The Gender Equity and Women's Rights: Raising the Profile project aims to explore popular perceptions of women's rights and gender equity issues in Indonesia in order to raise their profile and obtain greater policy traction on the issues. The opinion poll will help Indonesian policy makers and the Indonesian public see where the gaps are between Indonesia's laws regarding women's rights and gender equality, and the reality.

Raising the profile of women's rights will help UNDP, UN agencies, civil society, and Government of Indonesia sharpen their focus on Indonesia's most pressing gender equity and women's rights issues and promote greater dialogue between key government and civil society actors.

The project is supporting a national survey of attitudes and perceptions of women's rights and gender equity in Indonesia canvassing such issues as:

- Gender equity in the workplace and access to employment
- Women's political participation
- Women's access to health and education vis-à-vis men
- Women's rights in marriage, divorce and other family law related matters
- Attitudes to domestic violence and rights to protection

The project is guided by an advisory group that will shape its direction, ensure its relevance and broad appeal, and promote it as a tool to inform national and local policy settings. The advisory group comprises peak women's groups and human rights agencies, Government of Indonesia agencies, UN agencies, Indonesia's international donor partners.

Following publication of the survey, the project will translate the findings into practical policy and programme recommendations for government and other stakeholders, in order to promote policy dialogue and action based on the findings of the survey.

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