Women2030 Monitoring and Review of the Sustainable Development Goals and Development Justice

Country Background

Comprising of over 17,000 islands between Asia and Australia, Indonesia is the world’s third most populous democracy, the largest Muslim-majority country, and Southeast Asia’s biggest economy. The country has seen major economic growth in the past two decades, largely due to the government’s embrace of neoliberal economic policies including trade liberalisation, which attracted foreign investment. The government’s focus on growth-driven development has resulted in land-grabbing by private industry, the monopolisation of land and resources for private-sector use, the mass displacement of peoples, poor labour conditions, enhanced militarism as the military is often deployed to secure controversial projects, and increased rates of forced migration. Further, pervasive patriarchal values and religious fundamentalisms have led to grave gender disparities such as women’s lower pay and lower rates of participation in the labour market and the government. Much work remains in delivering a model of development that fully delivers just and equitable benefits for women and other marginalised groups to advance their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Architecture for SDGs Implementation

In order to facilitate the monitoring and implementation of the SDGs, Indonesia has developed an institutional structure comprised of a Steering Committee, an Implementation Team, and four Working Groups (see diagram below). The four Working Groups consist of representatives from the government, the philanthropic and business communities, civil society organisations, and academics and experts. The Working Groups are to prepare SDG Action Plans conducting research and monitoring progress towards the SDGs in their respective areas. Indonesia’s planning efforts are rooted in a unique process called Musrenbang for negotiations between the government and non-governmental stakeholders as well as meaningful engagement by all stakeholders. However, in practice, Musrenbang is proving to reinforce the exclusion of grassroots CSOs that represent marginalised and underserved groups. To ensure the advancement of Development Justice, there is a need for ensuring stronger pathways for the meaningful participation of a broad alliance of CSOs at every stage and all levels of SDGs monitoring and implementation. According to the Indonesian government, the implementation of the SDGs is to be paid for largely through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs).

Country population: 264 million
GDP per capita: 3,846.86 USD (2017)
Palma ratio: 1.8
UNDP Gender Inequality Index Value: 0.453 (2017)
UNDP Gender Inequality Index Rank: 104 (2017)
Social Expenditure: 3.8 Billion USD (2017)

1  UNDP data shows a wide gap between Indonesian women and men in terms of gross national income per capita, which is 6,668 and 13,391 respectively. As of 2016, only 50.9 percent of women participate in the labor force, compared to 83.9 percent of men. Retrieved from: www.id.undp.org on Human development report 2016, Human Development for Everyone, Indonesia.
2  Retrieved from: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/25469INDONESIA_VNR_PPT.pdf

Are CSOs included in the mechanisms for developing the national plan and implementation of the SDGs?

Are women’s rights organisations included in the mechanisms for developing the national plan and implementation of the SDGs?

Is the information/data accessible?

This brief is a summary of Seruni’s fuller Peoples’ Development Justice Report.
**Women’s Priorities: Findings on selected targets and/or indicators**

**Goal 1:** End poverty in all its forms everywhere
140 million people earn less than 1.5 USD per day.

The Indonesian government launched an “Agrarian Reform” programme that focuses more on distributing land certifications without addressing the underlying issues of land monopolisation by big corporations or the massive number of agrarian conflicts.

**Goal 4:** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Girls drop out of school at a higher rate than boys at all educational levels.

Only 42.9% of Indonesian women complete final year of high school education, compared to 51.7% of men. Rural communities face the greatest challenges in accessing education. Teachers are very limited in number and are often underqualified.

**Goal 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

As of August 2016, the Indonesian Commission on Violence against Women reported that there are 422 discriminatory national and local regulations that specifically target women.

Women experience a dramatically lower labour participation rate than men at 50.9% and 83.9% respectively. Higher levels of unemployment and underemployment reflect the impact of women’s low educational attainment and discriminatory social norms in the job market.

The income gap between men and women has been expanding gradually. A minority of women are in managerial positions at 0.5% while this number is 1.6% for men. A majority of women living in rural areas are working in informal sectors and unpaid jobs.

Women are over-represented as migrant workers, reflecting that women are often relegated to low-paying, low-skilled jobs.

**Goal 8:** Promote sustainable, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

The Indonesian government has initiated the ‘National Movement of Discrimination in the Workplace’ and implemented Gender Neutral and Equal Wage in the Workplace Guidelines. However, many forms of workers rights violations are common including union busting and the suppression of the freedom of association, collective bargaining, and strikes. A majority of labourers work in the informal sector, which is reflective of a low coverage of social security system.

**Recommendations**

- **Meaningful CSO engagement:** The Government must renew its commitment to ensuring meaningful, broad-based CSO participation with a particular focus on participation by women’s rights organisations. Further, the government must provide adequate financial resources to support CSO engagement to ensure budgetary commitments that protect and advance the interests of poor and marginalised communities.

- **Access to and control over Resources:** The government must prioritise mobilising resources to address the needs of rural and indigenous communities and not for corporate interests, particularly for genuine agrarian reform, tackling the issue of land grabbing, forced displacement, and environmental degradation due to massive infrastructure development, and energy and extractive activities.

- **Enhanced public awareness and participation:** The government should research case studies and embark on an educational campaign to engage with marginalised communities (including rural communities, women, labourers, and others) to enhance their understanding of and participation in progress towards SDG implementation. Labourers, and others) to enhance their understanding of and participation in progress towards SDG implementation.

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Seruni is a grassroots women’s organisation in Indonesia based on provincial structure. Seruni expands the organisation and movements to advocates for gender equality and women’s rights in Indonesia. The group has advocated and campaigned on environmental justice issues, women’s access to services, gender-based violence, and labour rights. Seruni is working closely with various women from the rural, the urban, students and workers.

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This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of APWLD and Seruni and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.