

Taman Siswa Leadership: Redefining Women's Participation in Leadership on Disaster Preparedness and Response in ASEAN

CASE STUDIES: INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES

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Where are you, ASEAN women?



Source: (Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Indonesia, 2016)

Available Tools in Measuring Women's Participation in Leadership on Disaster Preparedness and Response

Tools	Priority/Target	Indicator
Sendai Framework	Priority of Action Number 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to «Build Back Better» in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.	No indicator available
Sustainable Development Goals	Target 5.5: <i>Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, and public life.</i>	5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments 5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions
Gender Gap Index (World Economic Forum)	Benchmarks countries on their progress towards gender parity across four thematic dimensions: Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, and Political Empowerment	Women in high-skilled jobs such as legislators, senior officials and managers

Problem with ASEAN?

ASEAN Member States	Gender Gap Index 2017 Rank
Philippines	10
Lao PDR	64
Singapore	65
Viet Nam	69
Thailand	75
Indonesia	84
Myanmar	83
Cambodia	99
Malaysia	104

It takes **163 years** to close the gap between women and men in East Asia and the Pacific.

Source: (World Economic Forum, 2017)

Or Problem with the Tools?

- ▶ No legal binding, voluntarily basis
- ▶ Economic driven (GDP) rather than addressing gender equality.
- ▶ Obsessive with numbers, lack of qualitative measurement.
- ▶ Focus on women in high-skill jobs including legislative and managerial positions in public organisations.

What about these women's contribution? Why are they invisible?



Spatial Data Unit Staff from National Disaster Management Authority of Indonesia

Source: (AHA Centre, 2016)



Women in Indonesian Red Cross: Working as Community Based Disaster Preparedness Volunteers in Aceh planting Mangrove.

Source: (Indonesian Red Cross, 2017)

Research Location and Participants

► Indonesia

Jakarta (ASEAN regional and national disaster management organisations)

Yogyakarta (community members live nearby Mount Merapi)

► The Philippines

Manila (national disaster management organisation)

Tacloban, Eastern Visayas (Typhoon Haiyan affected community members)

Women Leadership in National and Provincial Disaster Management Offices– In numbers

Position	Indonesia (BNPB)	The Philippines (OCD)
Director Level (professional appointment)	20% (4 from 20 Director positions)	40% (2 from 5 National Director position)
Head of Provincial level (professional appointment)	3% (1 from 32 Provincial Director positions)	47% (8 from 17 Regional Director positions)
Ministry Level (political appointment)	0%	
Deputy Level (professional appointment)	0%	

Sources: (Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana, 2017; Office of Civil Defence of the Philippines, 2017)

Reframing Gibson-Graham Diverse Economy Framework to Women Participation in Leadership on Disaster Preparedness and Response in ASEAN

► **Re-reading Technique to uncover or excavate the possible**

Alternative economies being practiced by non-economic actors, such as the Gleaners, the Scavengers, *Arisan*, etc → open many uncovered women's participation in leadership forms.

► **Women's Politics of Ubiquity and Politics of Space:**

"if women are everywhere, a woman is always somewhere, and those places of women are transformed as women transform themselves"

"its localization in places created, strengthened, defended, augmented, and transformed by women" → everywhere these women negotiating gender relations during and post disaster within their space and intersectionalities.

Kimberlé Crenshaw's Intersectionalities

Intersectionality is a framework to understand and identify how gender identity intersects with, and is formed by other social factors, such as **age, race, religion/belief, ethnicity, sexual orientation and parental status.**

Excavating from local knowledge : Taman Siswa and its core principal

- Ki Hajar Dewantara, the first minister of education of Indonesia, established Taman Siswa Foundation to provide equal education to commoners as a protest towards Dutch colonial education where gender, race and class discrimination applied.
- **Care (among)** is the main core of education to nurture the children to follow their freewill in the search of knowledge by providing safe environment to grow vs Dutch's patronistic education.

Excavating from local knowledge : Taman Siswa Leadership

Taman Siswa has three features of leadership that have to be in place all together (nothing more important than the others):

1. ***Ing Ngarso Sung Tuladha*** → At the front, providing good example, inspiration and recognition for others participating in leadership
2. ***Ing Madya Mangun Karsa*** → In the middle, becoming the engine of change and motivate others around them to participate in leadership
3. ***Tut Wuri Handayani*** → At the back, providing support to the to grow and necessary safety nets to ensure others have the confidence to elevate their capacity in leading.

Finding 1 : Types of Leadership Participation made by women in Indonesia and the Philippines

1. **Leading at the front** by holding formal positions with decision making roles on disaster preparedness and response → more visible in the Philippines
2. **Leading in the middle** by participating as community disaster preparedness and response agents and entry to mid-level officers providing technical and non-technical expertise to the organisations → both visible in Indonesia and the Philippines
3. **Leading from the back** (private sphere), includes family and neighbourhood preparedness and response focal points → both visible in Indonesia and the Philippines.

No matter where the position of leadership is, **care** is the main feature of leadership that expected to be shown by those who is participating in leadership on disaster preparedness and response → women are perceived better in providing such approach.

Finding 2 : Gender Roles are negotiable and changed during and after disaster

Disaster not only open up the reality of women as the victims of patriarchy but also provides the window of possibility to gender roles negotiation and changes which has to be recognised.

“While we were on the evacuation place during Merapi's eruption in 2010, I learned that my wife has been doing so many tasks in managing our household. I feel obligated to help her in house chores and we keep this equal arrangement until today”-- (man from Merapi community, 2018).

“My husband lost his job as a fisherman after Haiyan since we had no money to fix the fishing boat. Since then I have been the breadwinner in the family and he stays at home doing household chores. We learned that both of us are good on it” – (woman from Tacloban, 2018)

Findings 3 :

Place-based Intersectionalities

- Pre-existing social system prior colonialism (external patriarchy and internal matriarchy mostly in majority of the Philippines' area; patriarchy mostly in all area of Indonesia)
- Beliefs and Religions (Hindu and Islam in Indonesia, Roman Catholic in the Philippines)
- Access to education for women during colonial period

What Next?

- ▶ Gender Equality Strategy applied in each ASEAN country should be based on the local-based indicator using community based approach → doable and sustainable
- ▶ Proliferating the possibilities that gender roles negotiation has been made by women within their intersectionalities during disaster preparedness and response. It will not only convincing women to continue their gender negotiation process but also encouraging men, boys and girls for taking part actively in the process too.