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HERSTORY

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We are pleased to bring you the first issue of UN Women Indonesia’s newsletter in 2022. As we welcome the new year, let me take this opportunity to thank our donors and our partners for their unwavering support and contribution over the course of the year. Your continued engagement has been integral to our work and the communities we serve.

The year 2021 continued to be an extraordinarily difficult time for everyone. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted nearly every aspect of life. While it is easy to get discouraged by all the setbacks and challenges, there has been commendable milestones which must be acknowledged. The issuance of Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology Regulation (Permendikbud) No. 30/2021 on Preventing and Addressing Sexual Violence in the Universities and the Indonesian government’s commitment to women, peace, and security through National Action Plan for the Protection and Empowerment of Women and Children in Social Conflict II, were some of the examples and consistent with Indonesia’s international and national commitments.

Looking back at the last three months, we have come a long way. We worked closely with the Government of Indonesia to call for concerted action to accelerate progress on women, peace, and security. We created a new partnership with the Government Investment Center to accelerate the economic empowerment of women’s ultra-micro businesses in Indonesia. We strengthened our engagement with the private sectors and the state-owned enterprises to advocate for gender equality in the workplace, marketplace, and community. We continued to work with civil society organizations to empower more women and explored more creative ways to increase awareness on ending violence against women during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

This year will be special as Indonesia holds the presidency of G20, which is a strategic opportunity to use this momentum to advocate for the advancement of gender equality and women’s empowerment among the largest economies in the world and ensure this vision is translated into all the policy recommendations of G20.

The pandemic is not over yet, but our journey continues. We look forward to counting on the support, partnership, and continued engagement of our national partners, donors, and UN sister agencies to further drive towards gender equality and women’s empowerment and ensure that no one will be left behind.
Indonesia Holds Peace Festival to Reaffirm its Commitment to Women, Peace and Security

The Government of Indonesia has reaffirmed its commitment to protecting and empowering women and children in social conflict through a Peace Festival (Kenduri Perdamaian).

The festival was held earlier this month in the capital Jakarta and online, co-organized by the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection and the Coordinating Ministry for Human Development and Cultural Affairs, in collaboration with UN Women Indonesia and the Asian Muslim Action Network (AMAN) Indonesia.

The event brought together officials from the central and provincial governments, civil society organizations (CSOs), women activists, UN agencies, and development partners to call for concerted action to accelerate the implementation and coordination of the country’s second five-year National Action Plan (NAP) for the Protection and Empowerment of Women and Children in Social Conflict (2020-2025). The NAP implements Indonesia’s commitments under the global Women, Peace and Security (WPS) framework.

Read more
Watch the event
Indonesia’s Government Investment Center and UN Women Launch Partnership to Empower Women Ultra-Micro Businesses

UN Women and The Public Service Agency (BLU) of Government Investment Center (PIP), a fund coordinator of The Ultra Micro Financing (UMi) and is overseen by Indonesia’s Ministry of Finance, on Tuesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to accelerate the economic empowerment of women ultra-micro businesses in Indonesia. The UMi from PIP is a social assistance program that assists micro-businesses, especially those who are not bankable to become independent business owners. The MoU aimed to further expand partnership in advocating for women’s rights to equal economic opportunities.

The partnership includes three key areas of work: (1) Supporting women ultra-micro entrepreneurs through capacity development and knowledge sharing; (2) Supporting Account Officers, BLU-PIP’s field officer, through capacity building on gender equality and entrepreneurship; and finally (3) Promoting Women’s Empowerment Principles to stakeholders on integrating gender equality into business practices and culture.

Read more
Indonesian Companies Pledge to Advance Gender Equality in Businesses at the 2021 Women’s Empowerment Principles Awards

Six Indonesian companies have received Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Awards in recognition of their contribution to the advancement of gender equality and women’s empowerment. The awards are organized by the WeEmpowerAsia programme of UN Women with support from the European Union.

This year’s WEPs Awards received 228 applications from 138 companies, nearly quadruple last year’s number. Among the applicants are state-owned enterprises along with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) across different sectors.

H.E. Bintang Puspayoga, Minister of Women Empowerment and Child Protection of the Republic of Indonesia expressed her support for women’s empowerment in her closing remarks. “Eliminating all discrimination against women and closing the gap in gender inequality is a priority for the Government of Indonesia. That being said, we strongly support the WEPs Awards, which appreciates companies that contribute to women’s empowerment and gender equality.”

Read more
Watch the awards ceremony
The UN in Indonesia is Holding a ‘Comedy for Equality’ Showcase with Award-Winning Comedian Sakdiyah Ma’ruf

On 11 December 2021, the United Nations (UN) in Indonesia hold its inaugural Comedy for Equality showcase, featuring performances from 10 Indonesian comedians mentored by the multi-award-winning Indonesian comic Sakdiyah Ma’ruf.

UN Women and UNFPA Indonesia opened applications for Comedy for Equality on 30 October 2021. Of more than 40 applicants, the panel selected 20 comedians to participate in five workshops Ma’ruf hosted through November and December. Following a graduation show, the UN in Indonesia selected 10 comedians to perform at the 11 December showcase.

Read more
Watch the stand-up comedy show

Not in My Company: Ending Violence against Women in the Workplace

UN Women’s WeEmpowerAsia programme, funded by the European Union, held a webinar to highlight the best practices on preventing violence and sexual harassment in the world of work and promoting ILO Convention 190. The “Not in My Company” webinar, organized with Magdalene.co, invited speakers from The Body Shop®️ Indonesia, Digiserve, and Women in Tourism Indonesia. The webinar focused on how the private sectors could play their part in ensuring effective workplace responses to violence against women and a workplace culture that supports equality and respect.

Watch the webinar
DELILA, Online Database System for Women Living with HIV who are Victims of Violence

Ikatan Perempuan Positif Indonesia (IPPI), supported by UN Women, launched DELILA, an online database and reporting system for women living with HIV who are victims of violence. DELILA which stood for Dengar (Listen), Lindungi (Protect), and Lapor (Report), was established to record, collect and analyze data on violence incurred by women living with HIV. The launch of DELILA aimed to contribute to the protection and policy advocacy on the rights of women living with HIV.

Learn more

Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health Education to Indonesian Youth

Sexual and reproductive rights are indispensable for women and girls’ empowerment. However, perceived stigma, social norms, and fear of judgmental attitudes influence women, and young women's decision-making are the main barriers to accessing sexual and reproductive services and seeking critical information around the issues.

On 2 December 2021, a public debate “Sexual and Reproductive Health for Youth in Indonesia,” was organized by the French Embassy, Institut Français d’Indonésie, UN Women, and UNFPA Indonesia. The public debate aimed to create a more open discussion on sexual and reproductive health rights and end violence against women and girls. The event features speakers from youth activists, a representative from the National Population and Family Planning Board and civil society organization, academia, and social media influencer, moderated by columnist and gender equality campaigner Kalis Mardiasih. The panel shared the challenges in tackling this critical issue and called for more collaborative action.

Watch the public debate
Angeline Eugenia is a passionate researcher and community organiser in the field of gender equality. Her experience spans from being the Head of Programs of Girl Up Southeast Asia, National Youth Gender Activist for UN Women Indonesia, an organiser for local grassroots movements and a mutual aid organiser.

“Ever since I was a kid, I have seen many types of gender-based violence. It broke my heart seeing the people around me suffer because of the abuse they were subjected to. I learnt that violence comes in many forms; physical, psychological, financial, sexual, verbal and many more. When I was 16, one of my friends became pregnant from abuse and grooming and was forced to carry the child. I realized then that something inherently wrong is deep-rooted in our society, which makes women into lifelong victims,” said Angeline.

Now, she consults and spreads awareness to other youth all around the globe regarding the areas of her expertise; feminist movement and leaderships, gender-based violence and community care work. Angeline believes that endeavours to achieve sustainable gender equality requires broad participation of all spectrums of society.

Read her story.

Sugih Hartini, a Community Case Worker and a long-time member of Sapa Institute, has been working to provide education and conduct advocacy in villages across West Java on violence against women, sexual and reproductive health rights, and financial independence. In the communities where she worked, the pandemic has intensified financial and social stresses across the villages, and poverty and debts made many women more vulnerable to being taken advantage of and being recruited as migrant workers without receiving information on safe and procedural migration.

At this time, she received capacity building on the protocol for handling gender-based violence and trafficking and guidelines on the protection of women migrant workers during COVID-19. The guidelines and protocol came in handy for Sugih. It helped her and other SAPA volunteers assist women migrant workers, especially those with complex cases.

“Now we are more confident in going out and providing our assistance directly to the women migrant workers. We know what to do now and the steps that we must follow.”

Read her story.
Peace Village: Women-led Initiative to Promote Peaceful and Resilient Communities in Indonesia

Since 2017, UN Women has partnered with the Wahid Foundation to develop the “Peace Village” concept on Indonesia’s Java Island. To become a Peace Village, the village has to agree to a set of commitments designed to prevent violence, promote tolerance, and advance social cohesion. Recognizing economic empowerment as a foundation for change, the Peace Village initiative promotes women’s voice and agency, increases women’s access to economic opportunities, and builds their capacity to resolve communal conflict. In Peace Villages, women also sit with their local government to explore and identify ways to promote tolerance and sustain peace in their village and push for change in village government policy and processes. This community-based approach fosters mutual understanding, social cohesion, and peace in the village for all.

Supported by UN Women and the Wahid Foundation under the Guyub Project, the villages of Prancak, Sidomulyo, Candirenggo, and Guluk-Guluk evidence strong outcomes and impacts stemming from the empowerment and inclusion of women.

Read more stories in Peace Villages

Media-Friendly Glossary on Migration

Media-friendly glossary on migration: Women migrant workers and ending violence against women (EVAW) edition serves as a guide for journalists, researchers, trainers, and other stakeholders who conduct training or write about women’s labor migration, and who write about violence against women in the context of migration. This glossary presents rights-based terminology, which is based on international law and internationally agreed guidance wherever possible. This media-friendly glossary is available in Indonesian and English.

Download the media-friendly glossary
Minister Bintang Puspayoga Visited Sinduharjo Peace Village to Highlight Women’s Essential Role in Promoting Community Peace and Diversity

On 18 November 2021, the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection visited Sinduharjo Village - one of the 17 Peace Villages in Indonesia - to learn how to build an equal and prosperous village by empowering women and girls. UN Women and Wahid Foundation representatives shared lessons learned and good practices from the Peace Village initiative with the Ministry. Minister Bintang Puspayoga found the Peace Village project inspiring, and mentioned that the Ministry’s initiative on “Women-and-Children-Friendly Village” should synergize with the good practices of Peace Village. She also appreciated the efforts and experience of the women peace actors in Peace Villages.