



Photo: UN Women//Putra Djohan

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Jamshed Kazi

UN Women
Indonesia
Representative
and Liaison
to ASEAN



We are pleased to bring you the second edition of our newsletter this month, capturing a series of initiatives in support of International Women's Day (IWD), which usually turns out to extend throughout March. This year's commemorations were almost entirely online but no less vibrant or less intense. For many families and communities, it continues to be an extraordinarily difficult time, along with the increasing realization that gender equality has become even more important in a COVID-19 world where we see a disproportionate impact on women and girls. The seeds of opportunity often stem from adversity, hence this may be the perfect moment to invest even more in women and girls' leadership as the best option to build back better more equally and stronger.

During this critical time, UN Women has worked closely with the Government of Indonesia to ensure that provision of services for women subjected to violence does not stop during the pandemic. We have collaborated with the private sector for data collection and analysis on the gendered impact of COVID-19 to inform policy decision makers and in mobilising the business sector on advancing gender equality. We have listened to and worked with the civil society organizations to empower

women affected by COVID-19. These efforts reflect the importance of multisectoral collaboration as the key enabler to overcome socioeconomic challenges and to ensure that no one is left behind in Indonesia's COVID-19 response and recovery. Meanwhile, we have strengthened our partnership with ASEAN on gender mainstreaming, gender responsive data analysis and on promoting the Women, Peace and Security agenda, with generous support from the Government of Canada and other partners.

International Women's Day might be over, but our collective efforts for transformative action on gender equality and women's rights must continue. Even small steps go a long way – for example, **the 'No Manel Pledge' for Indonesia initiated by the UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Valerie Julliard and endorsed by not only the whole UN system, but also by more than 40 Ambassadors and senior officials in the Government, creating a force multiplier. Let's keep working together to ensure that gender equality will be at the forefront of recovery, so that we can make accelerated progress for an inclusive and equal world.**

Cash-for-Work Programme Empowers Women Impacted by COVID-19



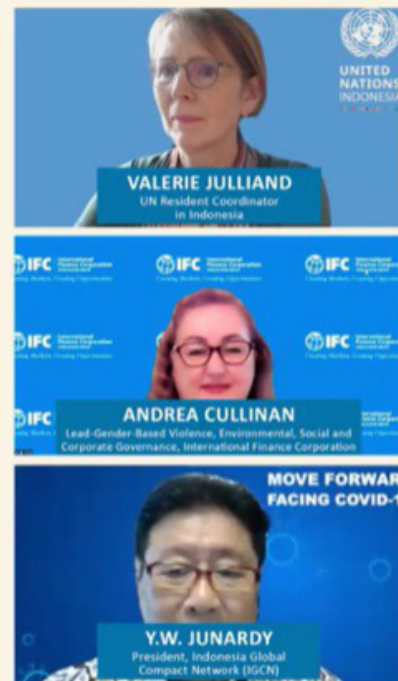
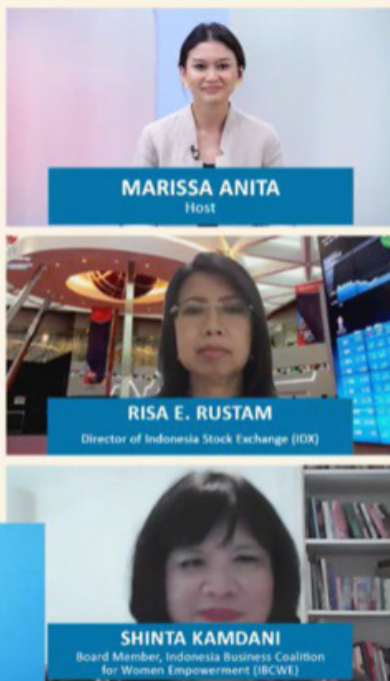
Since the COVID-19 pandemic hit Indonesia, export-oriented manufacturing, including the garment sector, has been badly impacted. A lot of women lost their jobs and livelihood due to the fact that women make up approximately 80 per cent of the garment sector workforce in Indonesia.

Responding to these challenges, UN Women and Yayasan Care Peduli have formed a partnership to support groups of women garment workers in Sukabumi, West Java province – major hub for the Indonesian garment sector – along with other groups of women impacted by COVID-19 through the provision of cash based interventions, which include cash-for-work as well as cash and voucher assistance with the support of the United Nations COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund (UN COVID19 MPTF) and the Government of Japan.

The innovative design of the programme focuses on women's empowerment approach and addressing the gender dynamics within the household by engaging men and promoting gender awareness. It also focused on the use technology to provide electronic food voucher assistant and explored the linkages between cash assistance and violence.



[Read more](#)



Indonesia's 'Ring the Bell' Highlights Women's Leadership in Business during COVID-19 Crisis

UN Women, Indonesia Global Compact Network (IGCN), and Indonesia Business Coalition for Women Empowerment (IBCWE), with the support from the Indonesia Stock Exchange and the International Finance Corporation, and funded by European Union held a virtual "Ring the Bell for Gender Equality" to mobilize the business sector on advancing gender equality, particularly during this challenging time.

The initiative is part of global bell-ringing events held at more than 100 stock exchanges all over the world and in conjunction with the commemoration of International Women's Day 2021 with the theme 'Women in Leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world'.

[Read more](#)

[Watch the event](#)





ASEAN, Canada and UN Women jointly launch a 5-year programme to advance Women, Peace and Security Agenda

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Canada and UN Women jointly launched today a 5-year programme to expand and strengthen women's leadership and participation in conflict prevention, resolution and recovery in South-East Asia.

The CAD 8.5 million (US \$6.36 million) programme, "Empowering women for sustainable peace: preventing violence and promoting social cohesion in ASEAN", is funded by Global Affairs Canada with the support of UN Women as a lead UN partner.

The new programme reflects the commitment of ASEAN and Canada to promote gender equality and to respond to an increasingly widespread calls across the globe for women to be empowered to lead and participate in peace and development.

ASEAN includes Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

[Read more](#)

Siti Rohmah : A Mother's Courage, A Village's Hope



Photo: UN Women/Putra Djohan

Siti Rohmah has always been a self-starter. In the working-class village of Pondokkaso Tonggoh in West Java, #Indonesia, Siti, a mother of three, quit her factory job and built a small kiosk that caters to the neighborhood's daily needs.

But when the #COVID19 pandemic hit, her revenues cut by half because of restricted movement amid the health crisis. A new opportunity came when

UN Women, in partnership with the Yayasan CARE Peduli with funding from the Japanese government and United Nations COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund, brought a cash-for-work program.

Here, Siti's natural leadership shines through: she brought together other trainees to start a business making the in-demand masks in bulk.

[Read more](#)



Photo: UN Women/Ali Lutfi

Liza Yuvita Sikku : Writing Her Own Destiny

Liza Yuvita Sikku knew the strength of her hand lay in stringing together words in prose. Six years ago, her writing skills were recognized, opening doors to many opportunities, including her current role as library manager and website and social media administrator at the peace village of Nglinggi in Klaten, Central Java. Recognized as among the community's women leaders, Yuvita was tapped for project led by the Wahid Foundation, in cooperation with UN Women and the village government, which established a COVID-19 prevention and response task force, ensuring that residents receive timely and accurate information on COVID-19 prevention.

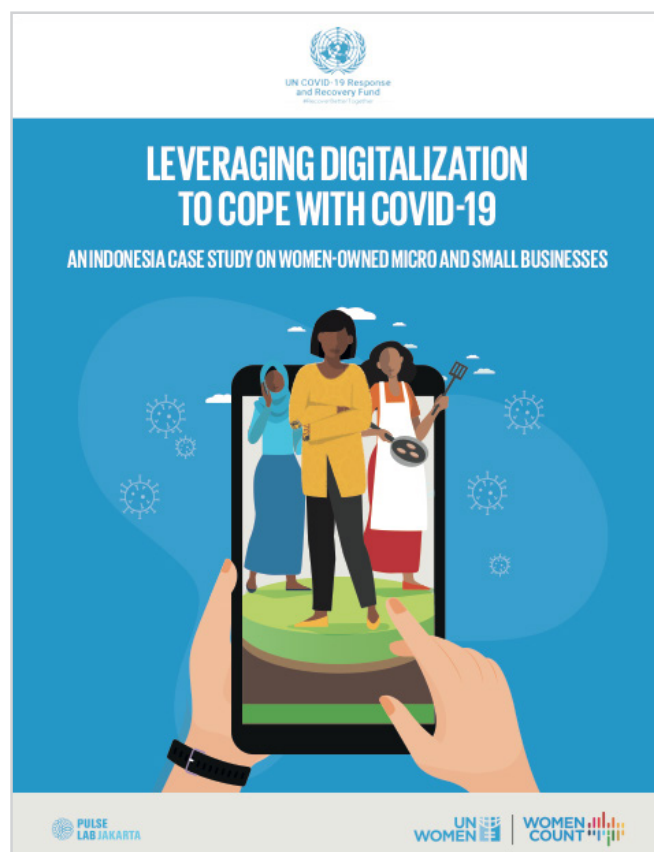
[Read more](#)

Digitalization Supports a Boon for Women-owned Micro and Small Businesses Coping with COVID-19

The economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the micro and small businesses (MSBs) in Indonesia. Half of MSBs, which are considered as the backbone of the Indonesian economy, are either owned by women or operated by women. However, digitalization and the use of technology has helped them survive, according to a new report by UN Women in partnership with Pulse Lab Jakarta and Gojek, with the support of the National Council for Financial Inclusion of Indonesia (S-DNKI).

Conducted during September to October 2020, the policy research combined big data analysis with traditional quantitative and qualitative methods. It demonstrates the importance of data innovation and the use of technology in providing evidence to better understand the gender impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on MSBs.

[Read the report](#)



New UN Report Unveils the Heavy Toll on Women and Girls Left Behind During COVID-19

Addressing the gender impact of COVID-19 is key to sustain progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls in Indonesia.

The report "Counting the Costs of COVID-19: Assessing the Impact on Gender and the Achievement of the SDGs in Indonesia" by UN Women in collaboration with Indosat Ooredoo, reveals how COVID-19 is exposing women's vulnerabilities to economic shocks and deepening the pre-existing inequalities in Indonesia, and therefore may be reversing the progress towards the achievement of SDGs.

[Read the report](#)





Women's Empowerment Principles Awards Puts the Spotlight on Indonesian Businesses in Advancing Gender Equality

UN Women announced the winners from Indonesia for UN Women 2020 Asia-Pacific Women Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Awards. The National WEPs Awards, supported by the European Union, are presented to Indonesian business leaders and companies for their contribution to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in their businesses.

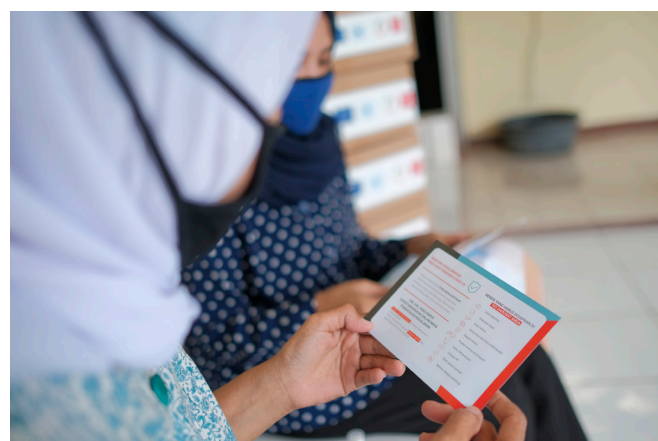
The UN Women 2020 Asia-Pacific WEPs Awards recognized private sector initiatives in Indonesia for the first time for their outstanding approach to address gender imbalances and reach ambitious corporate targets for women's representation.

[See the winners](#) [Watch the event](#)

New Guidelines Launched to Protect Women Migrant Workers' Rights from Violence during COVID-19

The Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection with the support from UN Women launched the Guideline on the Protection of Women Migrant Workers during COVID 19 and the Protocol for Handling Gender-Based Violence and Trafficking during COVID-19.

The guideline and protocol emphasize the importance of a victim-centric approach that empowers victims and puts them as the main subject of the services. It also aims to serve as references for the government, service providers, community-based organizations or consular



services to ensure a more coordinated quality services and to better support women migrant workers throughout the migration cycle, especially during the pandemic.

[Read the article](#)

ASEAN Gender Outlook

The publication brings into focus the paucity of gender data and calls for greater investment and prioritization of data for tracking progress towards gender equality and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in ASEAN in line with the ASEAN Complementarities Initiative between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This report is the result of the collaborative efforts and partnership of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW), ASEAN Secretariat, and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women).

[Read the report](#)

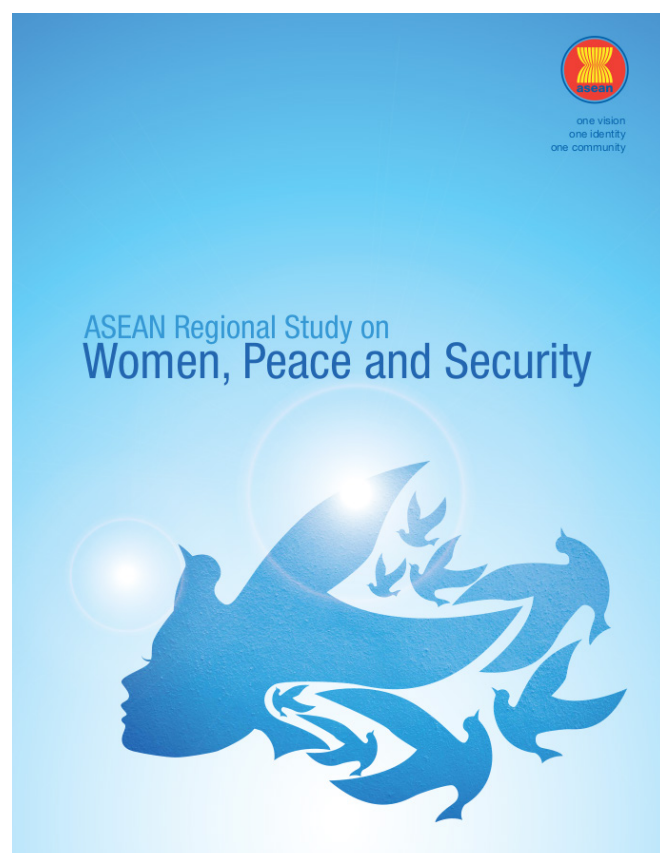


ASEAN Regional Study on Women, Peace and Security

The ASEAN Regional Study on WPS is the first regional flagship publication that examines the development and implementation of WPS in the context of ASEAN. It aims to consolidate good practices and lessons learned on WPS, including key recommendations that have emerged from ASEAN-owned experiences and context to pave the way forward. The Study provides a strong foundation to establish a common understanding on WPS and how it has been localised at the regional, national and local levels within the ASEAN region.

The publication is a product of a joint effort led by the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) and ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and supported by the ASEAN Secretariat, ASEANUSAID Partnership for Regional Optimization within the Political-Security and Socio-Cultural Communities (PROSPECT), and the United Nations.

[Read the report](#)



Winning Artworks of “Perempuan dan COVID-19” Comic and Illustration Competition

A competition held by UN Women, the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection (MOWECP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) with the support from the Government of Japan, that highlights the experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic from the perspective of women and girls in Indonesia.



LIDYA PERMATA SARI
CAT I - FIRST WINNER



MARCELLINA MONICA
CAT I - SECOND WINNER



FIRLAN MAULANA
CAT I - THIRD WINNER



RAHMAWATI YAYU NINGSIH
CAT II - FIRST WINNER



REZZA RAINALDY
CAT II - SECOND WINNER



NUR FITRIANA
CAT II - THIRD WINNER