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The Asia Foundation (TAF)

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#genderpp
Introduction

• A case of a Program Peduli: implemented by TAF (DFAT-funded) supports social inclusion of man-to-woman transgender (waria) community in Banjarmasin, Indonesia

• Research objective: to deepen understanding of how thinking and working politically (TWP) and gender analysis can interact during program implementation

• Methodology: field research and secondary data analysis: 9 FGDs and 11 key informant interviews, covering 46 people (12 waria, 12 men, 22 women)

• Conducted by 5 TAF staff – 1 directly involved in the program
General Situation of waria in Banjarmasin

• The people of the city are fairly tolerant, although some ‘Islamic regulations’ exist
• Although facing stereotypes and social exclusion, some success in business – ‘no waria, no wedding’; limited waria became street entertainers and sex workers
• Most of the waria are still living with their families, although some of them are not accepted (tried to be ‘normalised’)
• Harassment and violence from local law enforcer, as well as broader government and social discrimination
• Started organised themselves in 2009: Association of Banua Banjarmasin Transgender Community Solidarity (IWB-Banjaratyi); mainly to implement HIV/AIDS program
Local program strategy: Focus on social acceptance

- Facilitate Social Acceptance
- Access to Services
- Improve Policy
The program outcomes

- No discrimination against waria based on their sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI)
- Access to information of government services (training, grants, scholarships); invitation to government events; access to gov’t facilities and legal identity with their SOGI
- Improved acceptance of families and communities – interfaith leaders, women’s groups, volley ball community
Program Activities

- Meeting with the government
- Family Forum Fast Breaking
- Make-up training
- Donation to orphanage
- Koran reading with communities during fasting month
- Playing volley ball
- Lead Zumba exercise
- Cross learning with waria program implementers in other locations

Photos: PKBI South Kalimantan/PEDULI
Program management and wide group of local change agents involved

- Chair of IWB
- A Senior “Ideologist”
- A Successful Entrepreneur
- Junior Waria
- A Public Figure
- IWB Banjaraty
- Program Officer 1
- Program Officer 2
- TAF
- PKBI Headquarters
- PKBI South Kalimantan
- Program Peduli Management
- Forum of Gov’t Offices
- Local NGO
- Women’s groups
- Volley ball community
- General Public
- Families Accepting Waria
- Families Rejecting Waria
- Family Forum
- Junior Waria
- A Public Figure
- A Senior “Ideologist”
- A Successful Entrepreneur
- Chair of IWB
Use of simple tools to support flexible, participatory approach

- Local theory of change (ToC) workshops
  - Simplified ToC template: identification of exclusion problems, social changes expected, stakeholders map, program approaches and strategy, assumptions and pre-requirements
  - Both program implementers and beneficiaries involved

- National gender workshop
  - Confirming the findings of the ToC workshop: emphasising on addressing stereotypes
  - Brought gender analysis down to the local level for the unique situation in Banjarmasin

- Cross learning among waria pillar implementers and beneficiaries in 6 locations

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Flexible and adaptive program management

TAF and PKBI Headquarters set out high level outcomes, local implementers decided emphasis on which outcomes and how to pursue them.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Actual</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Build coalition with the national human rights and women commissions</td>
<td>Not implemented – considered not necessary</td>
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<tr>
<td>MoU with the local government and police office</td>
<td>Not implemented – considered not necessary and politically sensitive</td>
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<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>Engage with volley ball communities as opportunity arises</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engage with moderate religious leaders at the national and local levels</td>
<td>Engage with community-level religious leaders and interfaith forums</td>
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Politically informed program implementation

- Strong understanding of power dynamics down to community, household and individual levels
- Decision to focus on waria’s integration and acceptance – rather than demanding special rights or recognition – based on political economy considerations (legitimate fear of backlash)
- Incremental approach in engaging wider communities at the small scale rather than confrontational
Lessons for integrating TWP and gender programming (1)

• Extending the definition of TWP to individual, household and community transformations might include:
  – Articulates how household and community transformations will lead into improved conditions for beneficiaries
  – Articulate work on policy does not offer transformative impact
  – Start from sound (incl. gender) analysis of power at the individual, household and community levels
  – Analyse the interests and network of stakeholders who influence the beliefs and behaviours of individuals, household and communities
  – Take a flexible, adaptive, and context-driven approach
Lessons for integrating TWP and gender programming (2)

- Gender analysis and TWP can work well together for this kind of program
- Potential tensions between TWP and gender-focused approaches – scaling and timeframes
- An incremental approach may risk tacitly condoning gender inequality to achieve short-term objectives
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Thank you for listening.