Indonesia Women’s Empowerment 2013/14

Papua women’s empowerment

The overall objective of the project was to improve women’s awareness and participation in the decision-making and implementation of a large-scale national community-driven development programme called PNPM Mandiri/RESPEK. This was to be achieved by a combination of a grant programme and the training of 50 local facilitators (‘cadre members’) whose mandate was to provide gender training to beneficiary women’s groups and local government officials. The grant programme provided funding to women’s groups to organise women’s capacity building activities (e.g. training on business economic planning, proposal writing, financial record keeping, vocational skills, and gender issues, etc.). In addition to this, the project also provided support to women’s groups to design project proposals and run group activities. This project was funded by the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF), supervised by the World Bank and implemented by Oxfam in six districts in Papua Province and four districts in West Papua Province.

This diagram presents how the project was expected to achieve change, through project activities and outcomes that were expected to contribute to the overall goal of the project. Outcomes and goals that found evidence of positive impact are highlighted in green, those where evidence of positive impact was not clear or not found are shown in white.
Evaluation Method

Household surveys were carried out in order to compare members of women’s groups in Jayapura, Merauke and Biak-Numfor district that had been supported by the project with those in neighbouring villages. A ‘quasi-experimental’ evaluation design was used whereby data from interviews with members of the women’s groups and with women’s groups of neighbouring villages where the project had not been implemented were analysed using propensity-score matching and multivariate regression.

See the document ‘How are effectiveness reviews carried out?’ for more information on evaluation design. Full details about the specific evaluation design used in this case are contained in the full report of the Effectiveness Review.

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project outcome</th>
<th>Evidence of positive impact</th>
<th>Commentary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awareness of and participation in PNPM MANDIRI/RESPEK</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>Women participating into the project are more aware of the PNPM Mandirri/RESPEK project. They are more likely to have applied to PNPM Mandirri/RESPEK funding and participated in village meetings where activities of PNPM Mandirri/RESPEK were discussed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vocational and entrepreneurial skills</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>Women participating into the project are more likely to be participating in group activities and they feel more confidence about their group’s skills activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability to make decisions and influence</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>There is some evidence suggesting that intervention women are less likely to be involved in household decision making on expenditure and management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-perception</td>
<td>To some extent</td>
<td>There is some evidence suggesting that women that participated into the project present higher measure of self-confidence and ability to overcome difficulties. There are no evidence suggesting changes in attitudes toward women’s rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Freedom</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Beneficiary women appear to be more acceptable towards domestic violence than comparison women, and scored lower on the freedom of movement indicator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to and control over resources</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>There is no evidence suggesting higher independent income or higher ownership of strategic assets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support from social networks</td>
<td>To some extent</td>
<td>Women participating into the project present higher group enrolment than women in the comparison group.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The PAWE project was implemented in six districts (kabupaten) in Papua Province (Jayapura, Keerom, Biak-Numfor, Jayawijaya, Merauke and Boven-Digoel) and four districts in West Papua Province (Manokwari, Teluk Wondama, Teluk Bintuni and Sorong Selatan). Because of security concerns at the time of the Effectiveness Review, however, it was deemed impossible to visit the project areas in West Papua Province and those in Keerom in Papua Province. Furthermore, due to the dispersion of the intervention communities in Papua Province, it was logistically and financially infeasible to visit Boven-Digoel and Jayawijaya. In light of these constraints the decision was made to focus the review on, and results apply to three of the ten districts where the project was implemented: Jayapura, Merauke and Biak-Numfor.

Going forward

The review highlighted the importance of having knowledgeable team in place who understand the context. However, it also identified a need for capacity building to strengthen project design and implementation. Building on improved assessments of partner capacity, Oxfam in Indonesia will therefore invest in building the capacity of partners and project staff on gender and power analyses, project cycle management, and theory of change. In addition, future projects will more clearly define pre conditions for success, establishing good quality baselines, including mechanisms for impact monitoring, more closely monitoring key milestones during implementation, and embedding reflection and learning mechanisms as a key part of strengthened project monitoring, evaluation and learning framework.