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WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

Impact evaluation of the 'BASIC START' project

Effectiveness Review Series 2018/19

Credit: Eleanor Farmer/Oxfam

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Oxfam GB's Global Performance Framework is part of the organization's effort to better understand and communicate its effectiveness, as well as enhance learning across the organization. Under this framework, a small number of completed or mature projects are selected each year for an evaluation of their impact, known as an 'Effectiveness Review'.

During the 2018/19 financial year, one of the projects selected for an Effectiveness Review was 'Building Autonomous and Stable Institutions and Communities through Socially Cohesive, Transparent, Accountable and Responsive Transition in the Bangsamoro (BASIC START)'. Bangsamoro refers to a region in the Philippines, as well as the people and their identity – it literally translates to mean 'nation of the Moro' (Gutierrez, 2019). The project was carried out in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), which was replaced by the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) with the ratification of the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) following the 21January 2019 plebiscite.

Implemented between April 2015 and August 2017, by Oxfam together with four partners – Al Mujadilah Development Foundation (AMDF), United Youth of the Philippines – Women (UnYPhil-Women), Tarbilang Foundation and Women Engaged in Action on 1325 (WE Act 1325) – the project aimed to promote women's empowerment and peacebuilding in the region. Activities focused on ensuring people recognize the identity, diversity, unique needs and aspirations of the Bangsamoro, working with local leaders and citizens to develop and implement inclusive development plans and achieve greater social accountability, prioritizing and resourcing essential services to support human development and gender equity to benefit women in the Bangsamoro.

EVALUATION APPROACH

The Effectiveness Review, for which data collection was carried out in February 2019, aims to evaluate the impact of this project in increasing women's empowerment at the individual level, using Oxfam's Women's Empowerment (WE) index. It also seeks to further understand impacts on women's political participation in the peace process, whether women's economic participation in livelihood activities has reduced conflict, social norms, and exposure to violence.

Using a quasi-experimental evaluation design, we assess impact among individuals in rural and urban communities where the project was active in comparison to households in similar communities where no similar projects were known to have been implemented. We expected similar baseline characteristics in intervention and comparison communities. Using this approach, the Effectiveness Review identifies effects of the project at the individual level and allows us to make causal statements about the project. Any impacts of broader activities conducted across the entire region (e.g., research publications, campaigns) are not explicitly evaluated.

The evaluation was carried out in three provinces in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) – Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao and Tawi-Tawi – where Oxfam was the implementing organization, together with partners Al Mujadilah Development Foundation (AMDF), United Youth of the Philippines – Women (UnYPhil-Women), Tarbilang Foundation and Women Engaged in Action on 1325 (WE Act 1325). The intervention group included all accessible project participants from 35 barangays. The comparison group consisted of 18 barangays across the three provinces, which were selected in consultation with project staff based on their knowledge of NGO, CSO and government activities in their provinces and to minimize the risk of spillovers.

Survey interviewees in the intervention group were identified using project participant lists provided by the implementing partners. In the comparison areas, no similar project lists existed. Instead, in each barangay in the comparison group, we sought out local leaders and used a random walk method to select ordinary citizens to invite for interviews. A total of 1,256 interviews were completed – 537 in the

intervention group and 719 in the comparison group. During analysis, propensity-score matching (PSM) and multivariate regression were used to control for apparent baseline differences (using recalled baseline data) between the groups.

RESULTS

The primary aim of the evaluation was to investigate the impact of the project on Women's Empowerment. We used Oxfam's Women's Empowerment (WE) index to assess this complex and hard-to-measure concept (Lombardini, et al., 2017). The measurement framework recognizes three levels where change can take place – personal, relational and environmental. Alongside the Women's Empowerment index, we also consider women's political participation in the peace process, whether women's economic participation in livelihood activities reduced conflict, and to what extent the project has influenced social norms or affected exposure to violence.

The results of the Effectiveness Review are discussed below and summarized in Table 1. Positive impacts are highlighted in light green if positive, red if negative and yellow if mixed (i.e., both positive and negative impacts). Note that 'limited' evidence of impact refers to cases where impact is only observed among certain subgroups or for sub-indicators (i.e., individual questions), but not overall.

We find the project had a positive impact on ***Women's Empowerment*** (0.03, $p<0.10$), particularly in the **Relational level** (0.04, $p<0.01$), where the indicators for *Participation and influence in community affairs* and *Equal say in household decision-making regarding unpaid care work* are both significant. We also see a significant positive impact for the *Enabling social norms* indicator in the **Environmental level**. In addition, we look for differential impacts for subgroups by province, interviewee type and age.

- **By province**, significant differences include (1) in Lanao del Sur, in the **Relational level**, a positive impact for the *Equal say in household decision-making regarding unpaid care work* indicator and a negative impact for the *Control over her own body including SRH and GBV* indicator, (2) in Tawi-Tawi, a positive impact in the **Relational level** including *Participation and influence in community affairs* and *Control over her own body including SRH and GBV*, and (3) in Tawi-Tawi, in the **Environmental level**, a positive impact for the *Enabling social norms* indicator and a negative impact for the *Participation and influence in political affairs and peace process* indicator.

- **By interviewee type**, we find a significant positive impact in the **Personal level** for ordinary citizens, which we do not see overall (if the sample also includes elected, appointed, religious and traditional leaders), with two indicators showing significance as well – *Personal autonomy* and *Recognizes women's political role*. In the **Environmental level**, we also see positive impacts for the subgroup of ordinary citizens for two indicators – *Supportive laws and policies* and *Enabling social norms*.

- **By age**, we see that younger women (less than 40 years old) experience a significantly larger impact for the Women's Empowerment index, compared with the overall impact (if the sample also includes those aged 40 years and older). This trend persists across all three levels, although the differential impact is only significant for the **Relational level**. Indicators showing significant differential impacts for the younger women include *Recognizes women's political role* in the **Personal level** and *Supportive laws and policies* in the **Environmental level**.

Beyond the index, we review the following four topics in more depth:

- **Political participation in the peace process:** We see higher levels of political participation in the intervention group, but this was already the case before project implementation. As also indicated through the index, the project did increase recognition of women's political role, having indicated that women have the right to participate in civil society and have a role in peacebuilding and reconciliation.

- **Economic participation in livelihood activities:** Overall, the only significant finding is negative – women in the intervention group are less likely to report a decrease in conflict related to their business activities. By province, we see two significant impacts in individual provinces – a positive impact on starting a business in the last three years in Lanao del Sur and a negative impact on continuing new businesses in Tawi-Tawi.

- **Social norms:** Reviewing descriptive statistics in more depth shows that areas of social norms with the lowest levels of agreement are (1) Men should not get priority over women in accessing jobs, (2) Women's salaries should be the same as men's salaries, and (3) Women can mediate between conflicting groups and warring clans. These levels of agreement are lowest for the first two statements in Lanao del Sur and for the third statement in Maguindanao.

- **Exposure to violence:** Overall, women in the intervention group report experiencing violence at a higher rate than those in the comparison group and report knowing another woman who has experienced violence at a higher rate, although these differences are not statistically significant. In Lanao del Sur, there is a significant difference in women reporting exposure to psychological violence themselves; we do not see any significant impacts in Maguindanao and Tawi-Tawi.

Table 1: Summary of Effectiveness Review results.

Personal		Evidence of Impact?
	**Self-confidence** – she (the woman interviewed) feels she has many good qualities	No
	**Knowledge and skills** – she seeks knowledge on women's rights and gender justice and feels she has leadership skills	No
	**Personal autonomy** – she can make decisions about herself on her own	Yes (limited)
	**Recognizes women's political role** – she believes women have the right to engage in civic and political action, peacebuilding and reconciliation, and other political activities	Yes (limited)
	**Recognizes women's economic role** – she believes women have the right to engage in economic livelihood activities, equal to that of men	No
	**Non-acceptance of gender-based violence (GBV)** – she considers all forms of violence (psychological, physical and sexual) against women unacceptable	No
Relational		**Evidence of Impact?**
	She participates in and feels she has **influence over community affairs**	Yes
	She has an equal say in **decision-making regarding household income**	No
	She has an equal say in **decision-making regarding household assets**	No
	She has an equal say in **decision-making regarding household unpaid care work**	Yes
	She has an equal say in **other household decisions**	No
	She has **control over her own body** including sexual and reproductive health **(SRH)** and gender-based violence **(GBV)**	Mixed (limited)

Environmental		Evidence of Impact?
	She **believes that laws and policies are supportive of women**	Yes (limited)
	She **participates and has influence in political affairs and the peace process**	Negative (limited)
	She **believes that social norms open spaces for women** to freely participate in social, political and economic activities	Yes
	**She feels that she can influence social norms**	No
	**Economic support and services are available for women**	No
	Sexual and reproductive health **(SRH)** and gender-based violence **(GBV) support and services are accessible**	No

PROGRAMME LEARNING CONSIDERATIONS

Explore new ways to recruit project participants who are not currently involved in community groups, political affairs and public events.

This evaluation did find significant positive impacts related to the project. Participants were recruited through existing women's rights networks and community groups. Therefore, we find that women who participated in the project were already relatively active in community and political affairs prior to the project itself. It would be worthwhile to understand how to better engage with those who may not yet be active citizens in order to achieve a broader impact.

Develop strategies to work more with ordinary citizens and younger women.

The results indicate more and larger impacts for ordinary citizens (rather than elected, appointed, religious and traditional leaders) as well as for younger women (in comparison to women over 40 years old, which is roughly the median interviewee age in this evaluation). On many of the indicators, these subgroups have lower averages, meaning lower women's empowerment overall and perhaps more progress to be made. This does not preclude also working with leaders and older women.

Consider mitigation activities for unintended effects, such as gender-based violence.

We find limited evidence that that the project increased gender-based violence, namely exposure to psychological forms of violence. All future projects working with women's empowerment are advised to closely, but carefully, monitor gender-based violence and take additional measures to support victims.

Address social norms for gender equality in job opportunities and salaries.

Among the social norms reviewed, across all three provinces, agreement is lowest for statements regarding equal opportunity for accessing jobs and equal salaries. While this theme was not the main focus of this particular project, and we are not saying it is more important than the other social norms reviewed, it appears to be something that can be addressed more and carried forward in other programmes in the region.

1 INTRODUCTION

Every year since 2011, Oxfam Great Britain (GB) has conducted rigorous impact evaluations known as Effectiveness Reviews (ERs) as part of its Global Performance Framework. For these reviews, we randomly select projects that have been active for at least two years and have a minimum budget of £200,000. We look for evidence of a cause–effect relationship between the project activities and any observed outcomes and impacts to understand whether our work leads to positive changes in the lives of the women and men with whom and for whom we work.

For the financial year 2018/19, we selected from projects under five thematic areas – Livelihoods, Women's Empowerment, Resilience, Good Governance, and Sustainable Water and Sanitation. The 'Building Autonomous and Stable Institutions and Communities through Socially Cohesive, Transparent, Accountable and Responsive Transition in the Bangsamoro (BASIC START)' project in the Philippines was selected for an ER under the thematic area of Women's Empowerment. Throughout this report, this project is referred to as the 'BASIC START' project.

The BASIC START project operated in three provinces in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) – Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao and Tawi-Tawi – from April 2015 to August 2017 (see Figure 1.1). We refer to the ARMM here, as this is what it was called during project implementation but note that the ARMM was replaced by the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) with the ratification of the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) following the 21January 2019 plebiscite. Bangsamoro refers to this region as well as people and their identity – it literally translates to mean 'nation of the Moro' (Gutierrez, 2019).

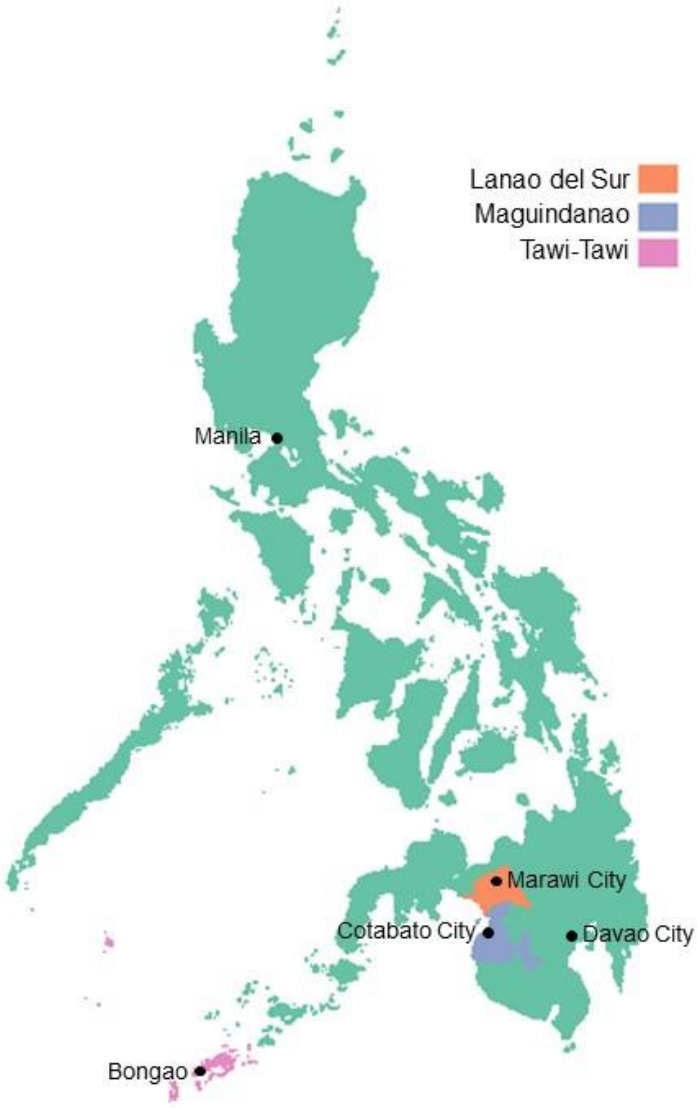
The project was designed to support the transition from the ARMM to the BARMM, with the peace process succeeding a long history conflict in the region (Gutierrez, 2019). Oxfam worked in collaboration with four implementing partners. Three of these, Al Mujadilah Development Foundation (AMDF), United Youth of the Philippines – Women (UnYPhil-Women) and Tarbilang Foundation, each implemented the project in a specific geographic area: Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao and Tawi-Tawi, respectively. In addition, Women Engaged in Action on 1325 (WE Act 1325) conducted project activities across the region and at the national level. The total project value was equivalent to £436,842.

The ER data collection phase (February 2019) took place one year and six months after the end of the project in August 2017. During this time, the Bangsamoro was simultaneously filled with excitement over the outcome of the plebiscite on 21 January and newly aggrieved by deadly terrorist attacks. The bombing of a church in Jolo killed at least 22 people on 27 January and an explosion at a mosque in Zamboanga City killed two people on 30 January (UCA News, 2019). Despite the increased tension, we were still able to complete all data collection activities, which involved conducting household surveys with women in project and comparison areas across the three provinces where the project operated, with a focus on evaluating the impact of community-level project activities.

The questions guiding this evaluation were:

1. What impact did the project have on women's empowerment at the individual level?
2. What impact did the project have on the political participation of women in the peace process?
3. What impact did the project have in terms of women's economic participation and, more specifically, have livelihood activities reduced conflict?
4. How do impacts differ…
    a. By type of interviewee? (e.g., ordinary citizens, community leaders)
    b. By geographic area?
    c. By interviewee age?

Figure 1: Map of the Philippines with the three provinces of Lanao del Sur, Maguindanao, and Tawi-Tawi highlighted (OCHA, 2019)



2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Project activities focused on ensuring that young people recognize the identity, diversity and unique needs and aspirations of the Bangsamoro, working with local leaders and citizens to develop and implement inclusive development plans and achieve greater social accountability, and prioritizing and resourcing essential services that support human development and gender equity to benefit women in the Bangsamoro. Project planning and national-level research was the focus during the initial phase of the project, from April 2015 to October 2016, while partner-led activities at the community level took place later, from October 2016 to August 2017. The project worked through existing women's rights networks, including community groups. Individuals were invited to participate in project activities if they were (a) active in these networks or groups (i.e., ordinary citizens) or (b) serving in a community leadership role (i.e., elected, appointed, religious and traditional leaders).

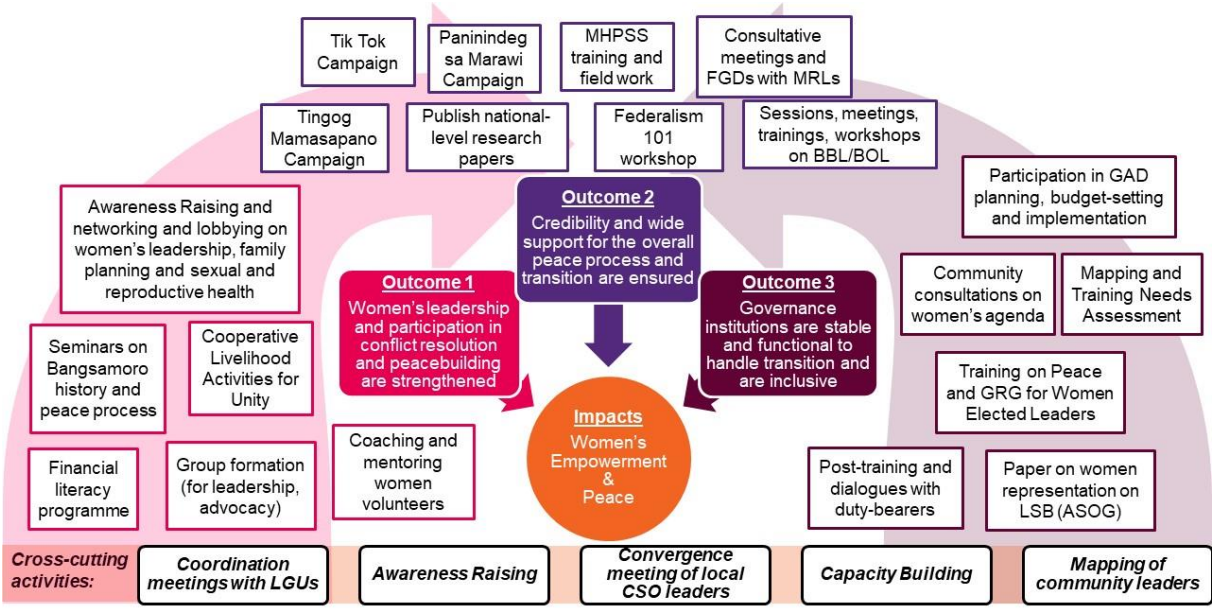
The project activities involved coordination with Local Government Units (LGUs), a convergence meeting of local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), awareness raising, capacity building and mapping of community leaders. In detail, the activities were as follows:

1. Formation of groups for leadership and advocacy
2. Coaching and mentoring for women volunteers
3. Awareness raising and networking and lobbying on women's leadership, family planning, and sexual and reproductive health (SRH)
4. Seminars on Bangsamoro history and the peace process
5. Cooperative livelihood activities for unity
6. Financial literacy programme
7. Sessions, meetings, trainings and workshops on the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) and the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL)
8. Federalism 101 workshop
9. Consultative meetings and focus group discussions (FGDs) with Muslim Religious Leaders (MRLs)
10. Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) training and field work
11. Multiple national-level campaigns (e.g., Tik Tok, Tingog Mamasapano, Paninindeg sa Marawi)
12. Publication of multiple research papers at the national level
13. Community consultations on women's agenda
14. Mapping and training needs assessment (TNA)
15. Training on Peace and Gender Responsive Governance (GRG) for women elected leaders
16. Participation in Gender and Development (GAD) planning, budget-setting, and implementation
17. Post-training and dialogues with duty-bearers
18. Publication on women's representation on Local Special Bodies (LSBs) (i.e., school, health, and procurement boards)

2.2 THEORY OF CHANGE

The project aimed for three main outcomes through its activities – (1) women's leadership and participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding are strengthened (linked to activities 1 to 6 above), (2) credibility and wide support for the overall peace process and transition are ensured (linked to activities 7 to 12 above), and (3) governance institutions are stable and functional to handle transition and are inclusive (linked to activities 13 to 18 above). The project outcomes aimed for impact – positive change in the lives of individual women and within their households and communities. It was expected that, in combination, these outcomes would contribute to increased women's empowerment and peace in the region.

Figure 2: The project's Theory of Change (recreated with Oxfam, AMDF, UnYPhil-Women, Tarbilang and WE Act 1325) during a workshop held January 29–30, 2019 in Davao City, the Philippines)



Assumptions: (1) Duty-bearers will become more accountable when claim-holders demand their rights including (a) the political will is there and (b) resources are available for use; (2) BBL will be passed; (3) Collective effort will be sustained; (4) MRLs, LGUs and other community leaders will be supportive of the role of women and engaged in gender justice and the position of these different leaders will be aligned; (5) Women will have time to participate in groups and activities

The Theory of Change made assumptions about how change would happen. Any invalid assumptions may reduce the impact of the project. The key assumptions raised during the workshop were (1) duty-bearers will become more accountable when community members (i.e. claim-holders) demand political will, (2) government resources will be made available for use to meet these demands, (3) the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) will be passed, (4) collective effort for the peace process will be sustained, (5) MRLs, LGUs and other community leaders will support gender justice, including women's leadership, (6) there will open spaces for women to participate in political actions, and (7) women will have time/interest/capacity to participate.

During the workshop, it was discussed that these assumptions were valid in part, but not fully, nor within the timeline of the project. For example, the BBL failed to pass, although the subsequent Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL) was ratified in January 2019 (Gutierrez, 2019). Many cases were also shared to highlight increases in accountability and gender-responsive budgeting leading to increased resources, although not to the extent demanded. Finally, collective effort for the peace process was considered to have been sustained, and in many cases community leaders were supportive and women participated (although in some cases limited by time/capacity).

3 EVALUATION DESIGN

The central problem in evaluating the impact of any programme is understanding what changes are attributable to project activities versus *what would have happened otherwise.* In this Effectiveness Review, the situation in project areas was examined through quantitative household surveys, but clearly, we could not directly observe what the situation would have been without the project. This 'counterfactual' situation can only be estimated.

Given the large number of direct project participants, we followed the common practice of estimating the counterfactual by comparing those who were part of the project (intervention group) to those who were not (comparison group). Assuming these two groups are the same except for the project, observing the situation in both groups provides a good estimate of the counterfactual.

In the case of such interventions, an ideal approach from an evaluation prospective is to randomly assign individuals (or households, communities, etc.) to the intervention and comparison groups. Random selection minimizes the probability of systematic differences between the groups and maximizes the confidence that any observed impacts were caused by the project. However, this approach is often not ideal for large-scale implementation.

Thus, we adopted a 'quasi-experimental' evaluation design using *propensity-score matching (PSM)* to answer the evaluation questions for individuals in the intervention group in contrast to similar individuals in the comparison group. The matching process was done with a pre-defined set of baseline characteristics, including information about the interviewee, group, event, political participation, household demographics, income sources and wealth. To ensure sufficient data for the matching process, we interviewed three comparison interviewees for every two intervention interviewees.

The baseline data needed for PSM were not available, so survey interviewees were asked some basic questions about their situation from 2015 (the first year of the project, before community-level project activities began in 2016), thereby creating recall data (Nicola & Giné, 2012; Godlonton et al., 2018). While recall data may not be completely accurate, we do not expect it to bias the evaluation results because systematic variation between the intervention and comparison groups is unlikely. Using recall data to recreate a baseline is not the ideal approach (methodologically); we opted to use it as a second-best option (pragmatically) when sufficient baseline data is not available.

Overall, the chosen evaluation design allows us to see project impacts at the individual level, and therefore focuses on aspects of the project that were carried out with communities, households and individuals. Any impacts of broader activities conducted at the national or regional level (e.g., campaigns, research and publications) are not explicitly evaluated because of the likelihood of impacts across both the intervention and comparison groups. To do so would require a different evaluation methodology, which was not possible to integrate into this evaluation at the desired level of confidence, given resources available.

4 DATA

4.1 INTERVENTION AND COMPARISON

For this evaluation, the intervention group included all accessible project participants residing in 35 barangays (lowest geographical sub-division in rural and urban areas) across the three provinces where the project operated. One barangay in Guindulungan was not included in the intervention group due to challenges accessing the area at the time of data collection. Through discussions with project staff, it was revealed that the project originally decided to work with individuals and communities based on existing community groups and links to women's rights networks. Individuals were invited to join project activities through community groups and based on leadership roles. Within the intervention group, the vast majority (95%) had participated in activities with AMDF, UnYPhil-Women and Tarbilang. The remaining women (5%) had participated in activities with WE Act 1325, as elected and appointed leaders in their communities.

The comparison group included 18 barangays across the three provinces. These selections were made in consultation with project staff based on their knowledge of NGO, CSO and government activities in their provinces. The comparison areas selected were those with similar characteristics in terms of demographics, livelihoods and wealth, but with no known activities like those of BASIC START, particularly in terms of women's rights and agenda building, gender justice, women's issues, cooperative livelihood projects, etc.

Table 1 shows the intervention and comparison groups in detail by province and municipality. Barangay names are not shared to protect the interviewees' privacy. However, the barangays included in the intervention versus the comparison group were selected in a way to minimize the risk of spillovers (at least one other non-intervention barangay situated in between, geographically). Note that in 19 of the intervention barangays only a few people were interviewed (i.e., 1 to 4 women), based on their participation in WE Act 1325 activities.

Table 1: Intervention and comparison group details.

Group	Province	Municipality	Number of Barangays	
			Total	WE Act 1325
Intervention	Lanao del Sur (AMDF)	Balindong	1	-
		Buadipuso	2	-
		Bubong	2	-
		Marantao	2	1
		Marawi	2	3
		Saguiaran	10	6
	Maguindanao (UnYPhil-Women)	Datu Odin Sinsuat	2	2
		Guindulungan	3	2
		Mamasapano	2	1
	Tawi-Tawi (Tarbilang)	Bongao	9	4
Comparison	Lanao del Sur (AMDF)	Balindong	1	-
		Buadipuso	3	-
		Marantao	1	-
		Marawi	1	-
	Maguindanao (UnYPhil-Women)	Datu Odin Sinsuat	1	-
		Guindulungan	2	-
		Mamasapano	2	-
	Tawi-Tawi (Tarbilang)	Bongao	7	-

4.2 INDIVIDUAL SURVEYS

Following a three-day joint training course in Cotabato City, a team of 24 interviewers and three supervisors (contracted and managed by our evaluation consultants, Dr Estrella Cantallopez and Ahmed Harris Pangcoga) conducted the individual surveys from 7–15 February 2019. The data collection teams consisted of three groups of eight interviewers and one supervisor each, who were from each of the three provinces where they were responsible for conducting surveys. The questionnaire was reviewed in English and Filipino languages during the training for translation quality and to develop a common understanding of all questions among the team. All surveys were conducted digitally with SurveyCTO on mobile devices (with daily uploading); paper questionnaires were available as a backup. While the surveys were conducted with individual women, we also asked questions about their household.

The sampling strategy differs between the intervention group and the comparison group. Survey interviewees in the intervention group were identified using project participant lists provided by the implementing partners (AMDF, UnYPhil-Women, Tarbilang and WE Act 1325). In the comparison areas, no similar project lists existed. Instead, in each barangay in the comparison group, we sought out local leaders and used a random walk method to select ordinary citizens to invite for interviews. Selection bias is a concern, although we account for this as much as possible in the propensity-score matching process (e.g., using baseline information on participation in groups, political entities and events).

We aimed for a sample size of 1,000 women (600 comparison, 400 intervention), stratified by province (approximately 334 women per province). In total, the interviewers completed 1,268 surveys (727 comparison, 541 intervention). Twelve observations were dropped due to irreconcilable data quality issues. The final sample of interviewees who consented to and completed the survey (minus the 12 just mentioned) is shown by province in Table 2. Details by municipality and WE Act 1325 participation are no longer shown separately to protect privacy.

Table 2: Number of surveys by group and province.

Group	Province	Number of Interviewees
Intervention	Lanao del Sur	269
	Maguindanao	100
	Tawi-Tawi	168
	All (intervention total)	*537*
Comparison	Lanao del Sur	164
	Maguindanao	289
	Tawi-Tawi	266
	All (comparison total)	*719*
Total	**All (total)**	**1,256**

Note that the number of women on the participant lists varied by province, while the data collection team had equal capacity in each province (and the three provinces are far apart). For this reason, the proportion of intervention and comparison interviewees is not balanced across the provinces. While we expect some (probably small) differences in the characteristics of women living in different provinces, they are all part of the Bangsamoro, which means most of them share that unique identity. We also relied on the propensity-score matching process to account for observable differences.

4.3 MATCHING PROCESS OVERVIEW

An overview of the most pertinent information from the PSM process and other descriptive information is provided below. Further details on how we do PSM and full specifications for this evaluation are available in Appendix 2. In short, before matching, we find several significant differences between intervention and comparison as shown in Table 3 (significant differences are highlighted in blue). By using PSM, with clustering by barangay, we adjusted for these differences when estimating impacts; when we checked the balance variables after matching, no significant differences remained.

One of the key variables we used for matching is a wealth index, which is based on household-level ownership of various assets (e.g., furniture, livestock, equipment) and housing conditions in 2015. When generating the index, we first verified internal consistency using Cronbach's alpha, following the guidance of Bland and Altman (1997), and then used a data reduction technique called principal component analysis (PCA) to assign appropriate weights to each variable in the index, following the approach of Filmer and Pritchett (2001). We ensured comparability of the wealth indexes from 2015 (based on recall data) and 2019 (based on the situation at the time of the survey), by pooling data by time period before undertaking PCA. We used wealth index quintiles for PSM to avoid over constraining the matching process (i.e., households are matched based on *similar* wealth in 2015 – in the same quintile – along with other matching variables, such as participation in groups, events, and political entities, interviewee age, household head gender and age, etc.).

The significant differences before matching indicated things that varied between the intervention group and the comparison group before the project started. The largest differences are in group and event participation and income sources. Women in the intervention group were more likely to have already been participating in community groups, political entities, and public events in 2015, prior to joining any project activities as shown in Figure 3. This trend is not surprising since the project worked with existing women's rights networks, including community groups and local leaders.

In terms of income sources, women in the intervention group were more likely to report household income from agricultural activities and support sources, such as remittances, pensions and government cash transfers. They were less likely to report household income from the service industry and labour, utility and construction work. Additionally, women in the intervention group were slightly older, more educated, and wealthier, on average, and more likely to be in woman-headed and (slightly) larger households.

Figure 3: Proportion of interviewees participating in *at least one* community group, public event, political entity in 2015 (left) and the respective number of groups, events, entities participated in on average in 2015 (right) (after matching).

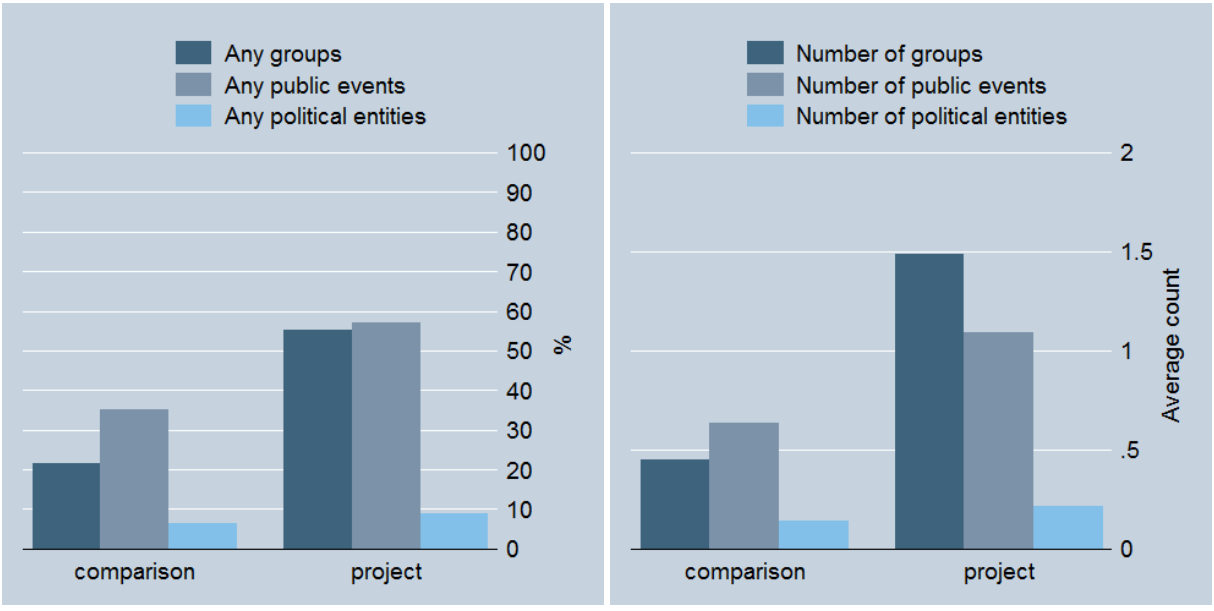


Table 3: Selected balance variables with significant differences before matching.

Variable	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference	Standard error
Number of household (HH) members	6.01	5.25	0.76***	0.15
% of HHs that were in the same community in 2015	98.70	91.38	7.32***	1.28
% of HHs that owned their home in 2015	84.54	81.92	2.62	2.14
% child HH members (<18)	42.24	39.87	2.37	1.37
% school aged HH members (6-18)	31.33	27.12	4.20**	1.32
% youth HH members (<30)	65.30	65.16	0.13	1.39
% elderly HH members (65+)	4.03	3.69	0.34	0.72
% women HH members	53.51	53.89	-0.38	1.06
% HH members fit to work	64.00	66.55	-2.55	1.86
% seriously disabled or chronically ill HH members	0.85	0.75	0.10	0.33
HH head age	45.02	41.76	3.26***	0.78
HH head, % women	43.20	35.74	7.46**	2.78
HH head, % fit for work	77.28	84.84	-7.56***	2.20
HH head, % completed high school	47.30	44.78	2.52	2.84
Interviewee age	42.44	39.42	3.02***	0.77
Interviewee, % fit for work	77.09	84.98	-7.88***	2.20
Interviewee, % completed high school	56.42	46.73	9.69***	2.84
Interviewee, % married	77.84	82.06	-4.22	2.27
Number of languages the interviewee uses	1.41	1.34	0.07	0.04
Interviewee's share of HH income in 2015 (%)	31.84	32.26	-0.42	1.09
HH, % in lowest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	14.34	24.48	-10.14***	2.27
HH, % in second lowest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	16.95	22.11	-5.17*	2.27
HH, % in second highest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	24.02	16.97	7.05**	2.27
HH, % in highest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	22.35	18.22	4.13	2.28
Interviewee, % that participated in a community group in 2015	55.68	20.31	35.37***	2.54
Interviewee, % that participated in a political entity in 2015	9.12	6.12	3.01*	1.49
Interviewee, % that participated in a public event in 2015	57.54	34.08	23.47***	2.76
HH, % that earned income from agricultural activities and/or products in 2015	80.82	59.94	20.87***	2.58
HH, % that earned income from a salaried job (e.g., private company, government, NGO, teaching, etc.) in 2015	9.50	10.29	-0.79	1.71
HH, % that earned income from manufacturing (weaving, wood carving, etc.) in 2015	1.30	0.56	0.75	0.53
HH, % that earned income from the service industry (driver, hairdresser, etc.) in 2015	7.82	13.35	-5.53**	1.78
HH, % that earned income from labourer/utility/construction work in 2015	4.66	9.87	-5.22***	1.51
HH, % that earned income from any other activity not listed above in 2015	14.15	12.66	1.50	1.94
HH, % that received support (remittances, pensions, government cash transfers – 4Ps, etc.) in 2015	60.34	40.89	19.45***	2.80
Observations	**1256**			

Variables dated 2015 are estimates, based on recall data. * p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01. Significant effects are highlighted in blue.

5 MEASURING WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

The project under review aimed to promote gender justice and women's rights, especially political and economic participation, including women's leadership in conflict resolution and peacebuilding and cooperative livelihood activities. To evaluate the impact of the project against these aims, we used Oxfam's Women's Empowerment (WE) index – a measurement tool designed to assess this complex and hard-to-measure concept (Lombardini, *et al*., 2017). The tool is based on the framework shown in Figure 4, which remains unchanged. However, the characteristics and indicators that make up the index can be adapted to capture the characteristics of an 'empowered woman' in the context of analysis. The index provides a concise, but comprehensive, measure of women's empowerment. At the same time, we can also understand in detail which characteristics and indicators are driving any changes observed in the overall index.

Figure 4: Women's Empowerment index framework.

Women's empowerment is defined as the process whereby women's and girls' lives are transformed from a situation where they have limited power to a situation where their power is enhanced. The measurement framework recognizes three levels where change can take place – personal, relational and environmental. Changes at a personal level refer to changes taking place within the person, including how she sees herself and how she views her role and that of other women in society (e.g., their political and economic roles, their confidence in deciding and taking actions concerning themselves). Changes at the relational level refer to changes in relationships and power relations within the woman's surrounding network (e.g., changes within the household and community, at markets, and with local authorities). Finally, changes at environmental level take place in the broader context and can be informal (e.g., social norms, attitudes and the beliefs of wider society) and formal (e.g., in the political and legislative framework).
The evaluation team, together with project staff from Oxfam and the partner organizations (AMDF, UnYPhil-Women, Tarbilang, WE Act 1325), identified 18 characteristics that describe an empowered woman in the Bangsamoro. Each of the three levels – personal, relational, environmental – is associated with six characteristics. Each characteristic represents an indicator to be measured based on an individual questionnaire. Table 4 shows a summary of these indicators by level of change. Note, while not all characteristics for measuring women's empowerment are directly linked to project activities, all were deemed important for describing an empowered woman in this context.

To combine all 18 indicators to into a composite index, a threshold was defined for each characteristic to identify what it means for a woman to be empowered in relation to the characteristic in question. The WE index measures the proportion of characteristics for which a woman scores positively across the 18 indicators. Details of the threshold used for each indicator are provided in Appendix 1. Further details of the measurement approach can be found in the Oxfam publication *A 'How to' guide to measuring women's empowerment*. (Lombardini, *et al*., 2017).

Alongside the index, in this evaluation we also assessed project impact for the following indicators:

- Participation in trainings (project exposure).
- Political participation of women in the peace process (participation and influence in political entities, participation in relevant public events and trainings, and voting behaviour).

- Economic participation, specifically in cooperative livelihood activities (making a business plan, participation in relevant trainings, starting and running a business, whether such activities have decreased conflict).
- Perceived social norms.

Table 4: Women's Empowerment indicators in the Bangsamoro

Personal	
	**Self-confidence** – she feels she has many good qualities
	**Knowledge and skills** – she seeks knowledge on women's rights and gender justice and feels she has leadership skills
	**Personal autonomy** – she can make decisions about herself on her own
	**Recognizes women's political role** – she believes women have the right to engage in civic and political action, peacebuilding and reconciliation, and other political activities
	**Recognizes women's economic role** – she believes women have the right to engage in economic livelihood activities, equal to that of men
	**Non-acceptance of gender-based violence (GBV)** – she considers all forms of violence (psychological, physical and sexual) against women unacceptable
Relational	
	She participates in and feels she has **influence over community affairs**
	She has an equal say in **decision-making regarding household income**
	She has an equal say in **decision-making regarding household assets**
	She has an equal say in **decision-making regarding household unpaid care work**
	She has an equal say in **other household decisions**
	She has **control over her own body** including sexual and reproductive health **(SRH)** and gender-based violence **(GBV)**
Environmental	
	She **believes that laws and policies are supportive of women**
	She **participates and has influence in political affairs and the peace process**
	She **believes that social norms open spaces for women** to freely participate in social, political, and economic activities
	**She feels that she can influence social norms**
	**Economic support and services are available for women**
	Sexual and reproductive health **(SRH)** and gender-based violence **(GBV) support and services are accessible**

6 RESULTS

Here we present the results from the household survey data described in Section 4.2. Here, all quantitative information is based on a final dataset of responses from 982 women, after propensity-score matching (PSM) (i.e., the sample is restricted to those on common support for both intervention and comparison). In the matching process four intervention and 38 comparison interviewees were dropped because no adequate matches existed. Table 5 shows the final sample sizes by province for the intervention and comparison groups. Throughout this section, significant impacts are highlighted in light green if positive and red if negative. Insignificant results are not highlighted.

Table 5: Final sample size, with details by group and province

Group	Province	Number of Interviewees
Intervention	Lanao del Sur	266
	Maguindanao	100
	Tawi-Tawi	167
	All (intervention total)	*533*
Comparison	Lanao del Sur	160
	Maguindanao	266
	Tawi-Tawi	255
	All (comparison total)	*681*
Total	**All (total)**	**1,214**

6.1 PROJECT EXPOSURE

In this section, we look at participation in activities and trainings for women in the intervention and comparison groups. Each interviewee was asked if she had participated in specific types of activities and trainings (based on project implementation, but without any direct reference to the project) during the period when implementation was happening at the community level (i.e., 2016 to 2017). From this information, we can better understand the project exposure – in which types of activities did they participate and did women in the comparison group also participate in similar activities (e.g., with another organization)?

Overall, in the intervention group, around 34 percent of women said they participated in at least one type of activity during the period of project implementation (80 percent if time periods before and after the project are also included), with the number of activity types per woman averaging 0.9 (3.5 for all time periods). In the comparison group, around 15 percent of women participated in at least one type of activity (55 percent for all time periods), with the number averaging 0.3 (1.6 for all time periods). We also see differences in the types of activities in which they participated (see Figure 5). More women in the intervention group indicated participation in each of the listed activities and trainings during the period of project implementation.

Table 6 provides descriptive statistics on participation in the listed activities and trainings for the intervention group by province. Overall, in the intervention group, the proportion of women who said they participated in at least one type of activity or training during the period of project implementation is 29 percent in both Lanao del Sur and Maguindanao and 43 percent in Tawi-Tawi. The number of activity types per woman in the intervention group is 0.87 in Lanao del Sur, 1.05 in Maguindanao and 0.83 in Tawi-Tawi, on average.

Figure 5: Proportion of women in the intervention and comparison groups (after matching) that participated in different types activities and trainings in 2016 and 2017

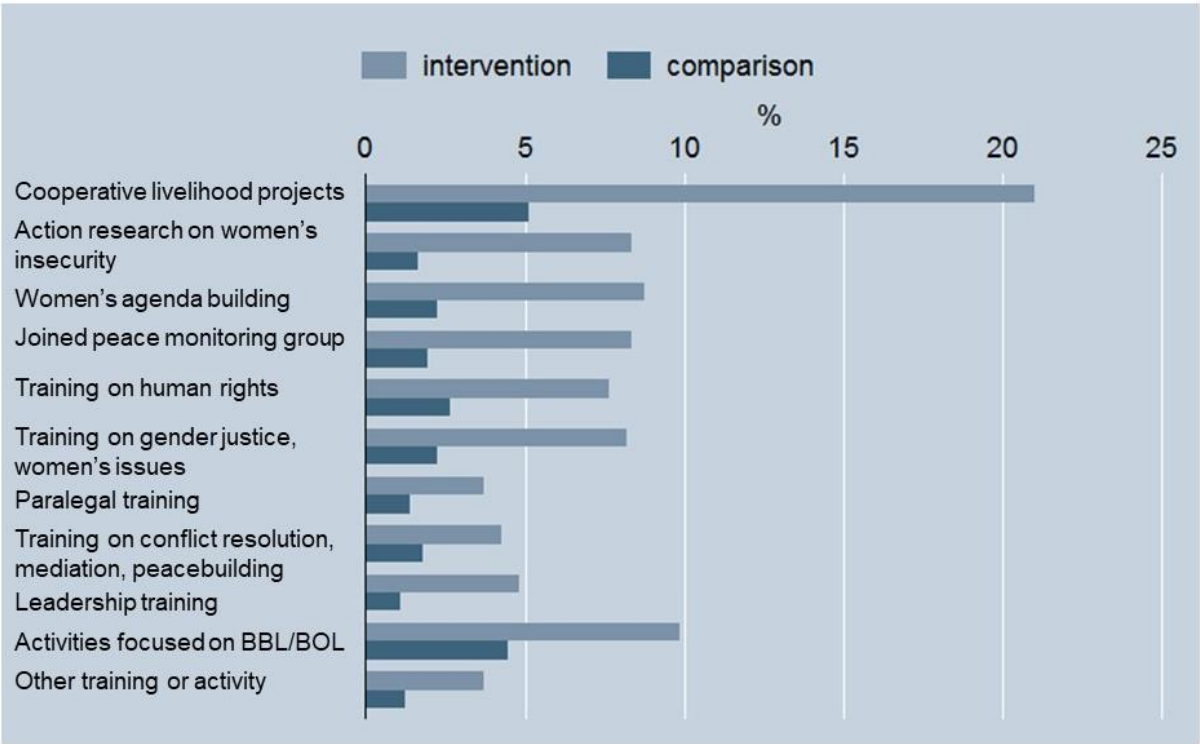


Table 6: Descriptive statistics showing the proportion of women in the intervention group who participated in different types of activities and trainings in 2016 and 2017, by province.

Activity or Training	**Intervention group mean**			
	Overall	Lanao del Sur	Maguindanao	Tawi-Tawi
Cooperative livelihood projects	**21.0%**	18.6%	12.0%	30.4%
Action research on women's insecurity	**8.4%**	7.8%	14.0%	6.0%
Women's agenda building	**8.8%**	7.1%	11.0%	10.1%
Joined peace monitoring group	**8.4%**	8.9%	10.0%	6.5%
Training on human rights	**7.6%**	5.9%	11.0%	8.3%
Training on gender justice, women's issues	**8.2%**	6.7%	14.0%	7.1%
Paralegal training	**3.7%**	4.5%	4.0%	2.4%
Training on conflict resolution, mediation, peacebuilding	**4.3%**	5.6%	4.0%	2.4%
Leadership training	**4.8%**	4.5%	4.0%	6.0%
Activities focused on BBL/BOL	**9.9%**	11.9%	16.0%	3.0%
Other training or activity	**3.7%**	5.2%	5.0%	0.6%
At least one of the above activity or training type	***33.7%***	*29.4%*	*29.0%*	*43.5%*
Average number of the above activities or training types	***0.89***	*0.87*	*1.05*	*0.83*

6.2 WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Now we move on to look at the impact of the project on the Women's Empowerment index, as described in Section 5. Table 7 shows PSM estimates for the overall index, as well as for each level. The results indicate that the project had a significantly positive impact on the overall index. Across the three levels – Personal, Relational, Environmental – the intervention group mean is more than the comparison group mean (i.e., there is a positive difference), although this impact is only significant for the Relational level.

Table 7: Impact of the project on the Women's Empowerment index and for each level.

	Women's Empowerment Index	**Personal level**	**Relational level**	**Environmental level**
Intervention group mean	**0.61**	0.58	0.58	0.66
Comparison group mean	**0.58**	0.54	0.54	0.64
Difference (Impact)	**0.03***	0.04	0.04***	0.02
Standard error	**(0.02)**	(0.02)	(0.01)	(0.02)
Observations (intervention group)	**533**	533	533	533
Observations (total)	**1213**	1213	1213	1213

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01; PSM estimates are bootstrapped with 1,000 repetitions.

Results by province are provided in Appendix 3 (see Table A3.1 to Table A3.12), based on separate PSM results from each (i.e., matching was done separately within each province). Most differences observed for individual provinces are not statistically significant, but we do see the largest overall impact in Maguindanao, which includes larger differences for the **Personal level** and **Environmental level**. We also see that impact for the **Relational level** is largest in Tawi-Tawi (0.06, p<0.05).

Within each level, we also reviewed the individual indicators to understand better what is driving the results. Table 8 shows results for the six indicators in the **Personal level**. We find no significant impacts for these indicators. We also do not see any significant impacts for individual provinces, but we do observe relatively large differences in Maguindanao across several indicators, including *Knowledge and skills*, *Personal autonomy*, and *Recognizes women's political role* (see Table A3.5).

Table 8: Impact of the project on each indicator in the Personal level.

	Self Confidence	*Knowledge and skills*	*Personal autonomy*	*Recognizes women's political role*	*Recognizes women's economic role*	*Non-acceptance of GBV*
Intervention group mean	0.75	0.68	0.63	0.55	0.49	0.37
Comparison group mean	0.74	0.62	0.54	0.48	0.50	0.38
Difference (Impact)	0.01	0.06	0.09	0.07	-0.01	-0.01
Standard error	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.07)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.03)
Observations (intervention group)	533	533	533	533	533	533
Observations (total)	1213	1213	1213	1213	1213	1213

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01; PSM estimates are bootstrapped with 1,000 repetitions.

Table 9 shows results for the six indicators in the **Relational level**. Two of these show significant positive impacts – *Participation and influence in community affairs* and *Equal say in decision-making regarding household unpaid care work*. Overall, participation in community groups is higher in the intervention group than in the comparison group. While this trend also existed before the project was implemented – women were invited to participate in project activities through existing groups and

networks – the project also significantly increased participation in specific types of groups, including women's rights associations (17 percentage points, p<0.01) and NGOs (9 percentage points, p<0.05). The project also had a positive impact regarding the amount of influence women reported having in community groups overall, and specifically for women's rights associations, NGOs and cooperatives.

For the **Relational level**, we do find significant results for indicators in Lanao del Sur and Tawi-Tawi. In Lanao del Sur, there is a large positive impact for the *Equal say in household decision-making on unpaid care work indicator* (0.16, p<0.10) but also a large negative impact on *Control over her own body including SRH and GBV* (-0.14, p<0.05) (see Table A3.7). In Tawi-Tawi we see large positive impacts for two indicators – *Participation and influence in community affairs* (0.14, p<0.10) and *Control over her own body including SRH and GBV* (0.16, 0<0.05) (see Table A3.9).

Table 9: Impact of the project on each indicator in the Relational level.

	Participation and influence in community affairs	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Income*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Assets*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Unpaid care work*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Other matters*	*Control over her own body including SRH and GBV*
Intervention group mean	0.55	0.35	0.73	0.58	0.8	0.47
Comparison group mean	0.46	0.35	0.72	0.47	0.76	0.48
Difference (Impact)	0.09**	0.00	0.00	0.11**	0.04	-0.01
Standard error	(0.04)	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.04)	(0.06)
Observations (intervention group)	533	533	530	533	533	502
Observations (total)	1213	1213	1205	1213	1212	1153

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01; PSM estimates are bootstrapped with 1,000 repetitions.

Finally, Table 10 shows results for the six indicators in the **Environmental level**. The *Enabling social norms* indicator shows a significant positive impact. In Tawi-Tawi we find a significant negative impact for the *Participation and influence in political affairs and the peace process* indicator (-0.11, p<0.10) (the data suggest this may be related to women in the intervention group reporting less influence over their district representative) and a significant positive impact for the *Enabling social norms* indicator (0.11, p<0.05) (see Table A3.12). We also observe a relatively large negative effect for the *Access to SRH and GBV support and services* in Lanao del Sur (the data suggest this may be related to women in the intervention group being less likely to say they would report to a health/social worker and/or police in cases of violence against them) and relatively large positive effects for the *Supportive laws and policies* and *Enabling social norms* indicators in Maguindanao, although these are not statistically significant.

Table 10: Impact of the project on each indicator in the Environmental level

	Supportive laws and policies	*Participation and influence in political affairs, peace process*	*Enabling social norms*	*Influences social norms*	*Access to economic support and services*	*Access to SRH and GBV support and services*
Intervention group mean	0.93	0.71	0.51	0.90	0.36	0.57
Comparison group mean	0.88	0.69	0.44	0.87	0.41	0.58
Difference (Impact)	0.05	0.02	0.07*	0.03	-0.05	-0.01
Standard error	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.02)	(0.07)	(0.09)
Observations	533	533	533	533	533	533

(intervention group)						
Observations (total)	1213	1213	1213	1213	1213	1213

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01; PSM estimates are bootstrapped with 1,000 repetitions.

6.3 POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN THE PEACE PROCESS

In this section, we review political participation of women in the peace process in more detail using descriptive statistics and PSM results for participation and influence in political entities, participation in public events, and voting behaviour. Table 11 shows the proportion of women who were members of different political entities in the intervention group, overall and by province. Table 12 shows the same for women who participated in different public events during the last 12 months.

Table 11: Descriptive statistics showing the proportion of women in the intervention group who were members of different political entities, overall and by province

Political Entities	**Intervention group mean**			
	Overall	Lanao del Sur	Maguindanao	Tawi-Tawi
Political party	**3.4%**	2.6%	2.0%	5.4%
City or Municipal Development Council	**2.8%**	2.6%	2.0%	3.6%
Barangay Development Council	**8.9%**	9.7%	4.0%	10.7%
Local Special Body (LSB) (e.g., school, health)	**4.5%**	1.1%	5.0%	9.5%
Provincial or Regional government	**1.1%**	0.0%	2.0%	2.4%
Congress or Parliament	**0.2%**	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%
Other political entity	**1.9%**	0.7%	2.0%	3.6%

Table 12: Descriptive statistics showing the proportion of women in the intervention group who participated in different public events during the last 12 months, overall and by province

Public Events	**Intervention group mean**			
	Overall	Lanao del Sur	Maguindanao	Tawi-Tawi
Bangsamoro Organic Law plebiscite	**70.4%**	82.2%	80.0%	45.8%
Barangay assemblies	**60.3%**	63.9%	61.0%	54.2%
Demonstrations or other collective actions	**7.8%**	5.2%	6.0%	13.1%
Conferences, public presentations, public meetings	**8.4%**	4.5%	9.0%	14.3%
Strategic development for NGOs	**34.8%**	47.6%	13.0%	27.4%
Preparation of documents, policy briefs, flyers	**3.4%**	1.1%	3.0%	7.1%
Media appearances	**2.0%**	0.7%	0.0%	5.4%
Other public events	**4.8%**	3.3%	3.0%	8.3%

For political entities and public events, we also asked that if they had influence, to what extent they were involved in organizing, managing and/or taking important decisions. In terms of voting behaviour, we asked several questions about voting in the BOL plebiscite. PSM results for political participation in the peace process are shown in Table 13. We see some small differences, but none are significant.

Table 13: Impact of the project on political participation in the peace process

Indicator	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference (Impact)	Standard error	Observations (intervention group)	Observations (total)
Participated in at least one political entity in 2019	0.11	0.11	0.00	(0.03)	533	1213
Had influence in at least one political entity in 2019	0.11	0.10	0.00	(0.03)	533	1213
Number of political entities interviewee is a member of in 2019	0.23	0.20	0.03	(0.09)	533	1213
Number of political entities in which interviewee had influence in 2019	0.21	0.19	0.03	(0.08)	533	1213
Participated in at least one public event during the last 12 months	0.82	0.82	0.00	(0.05)	533	1213
Had influence for at least one public event during the last 12 months	0.75	0.76	-0.01	(0.05)	533	1213
Number of public events interviewee participated in during the last 12 months	1.92	1.83	0.09	(0.10)	533	1213
Number of public events interviewee had influence in during the last 12 months	1.75	1.62	0.13	(0.09)	533	1213
Voted in the BOL plebiscite	0.97	0.96	0.00	(0.01)	531	1206
(Of those who voted) Participated in any events or activities focused on the BOL/BBL beforehand	0.61	0.64	-0.03	(0.09)	507	1130
(Of those that participated in any events focused on the BOL/BBL before voting) It influenced their decision to vote	0.88	0.86	0.02	(0.03)	306	607
(Of those that participated in any events focused on the BOL/BBL before voting) It influenced how they voted	0.73	0.71	0.02	(0.05)	306	600

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01; PSM estimates are bootstrapped with 1,000 repetitions.

PSM results by province are provided in Appendix 3. We do not see any significant impacts in any individual province, although the mean values vary somewhat between provinces (for both the intervention and comparison groups).

6.4 ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION IN LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES

In this section, we review economic participation of women in livelihood activities in more detail using descriptive statistics and PSM results for business activities and income. We also explore the relationship between business activity and conflict. Table 14 shows the proportion of women in the intervention group who reported that their household earned or received income from different sources, as well as from which sources they personally earned or received income. Table 15 shows this information by province.

Table 14: Descriptive statistics showing proportion of earned or received income from different sources for (a) households and (b) interviewees in the intervention group

Sources of income	**Intervention group mean**	
	(a) Household	(b) Interviewee
Buying and selling agricultural products	53.1%	47.7%
Buying and selling non-agricultural products	48.4%	43.4%
Farming, with own land	23.6%	19.9%
Farming, tenant only	41.1%	33.9%
Fishing or fish farming	9.8%	7.1%
Employee in a private company	2.4%	1.3%
Government worker, national or local	7.1%	5.6%
Manufacturing (weaving, wood carving, etc.)	2.1%	1.3%
Processing of agricultural products	3.0%	1.9%
Service industry (driver, hairdresser, etc.)	8.6%	5.2%
Labourer/utility/construction worker	5.3%	2.2%
Professional (teacher, engineer, doctor, etc.)	5.8%	3.4%
Any other activity not listed above	15.4%	10.8%
Receive remittances or family help	26.8%	25.7%
Receive pensions	4.3%	3.0%
Receive cash transfers from the government or another source (4Ps, etc.)	55.0%	53.3%

Table 15: Descriptive statistics showing proportion of earned or received income from different sources by province for interviewees in the intervention group

Sources of income	**Intervention group mean (Interviewees)**		
	Lanao del Sur	**Maguindanao**	**Tawi-Tawi**
Buying and selling agricultural products	79.2%	18%	14.9%
Buying and selling non-agricultural products	71%	25%	10.1%
Farming, with own land	25.7%	6%	19%
Farming, tenant only	36.4%	20%	38.1%
Fishing or fish farming	12.3%	3%	1.2%
Employee in a private company	0.4%	3%	1.8%
Government worker, national or local	3%	8%	8.3%
Manufacturing (weaving, wood carving, etc.)	1.1%	0%	2.4%
Processing of agricultural products	0.7%	0%	4.8%
Service industry (driver, hairdresser, etc.)	5.6%	2%	6.5%

Labourer/utility/construction worker	2.2%	1%	3%
Professional (teacher, engineer, doctor, etc.)	3%	4%	3.6%
Any other activity not listed above	4.8%	7%	22.6%
Receive remittances or family help	35.3%	31%	7.1%
Receive pensions	2.6%	6%	1.8%
Receive cash transfers from the government or another source (4Ps, etc.)	49.4%	60%	55.4%

We also asked the women about any business activity in terms of making a business plan, starting a business, continuing that business, and any influence on conflict in their communities. Table 16 shows the proportion of women in the intervention group that reported doing such activities, overall and by province, which are closely linked to the cooperative livelihoods activities of the project.

Table 16: Descriptive statistics showing the proportion of women who did different business activities in the last three years by province

Business Activities	**Intervention group mean**			
	Overall	Lanao del Sur	Maguindanao	Tawi-Tawi
Made a business plan in the last 3 years	**75.0%**	86.5%	60.0%	65.9%
Started a business in the last 3 years	**26.5%**	27.1%	37.0%	19.2%
(Of those that started a business in the last 3 years) Still continuing the business now	**71.6%**	70.8%	70.3%	75.0%

PSM estimates for economic participation in livelihood activities are shown in Table 17. For income sources, we include the number of household income sources and what share of household income interviewees said was their own. The only significant finding observed is negative – women in the intervention group were less likely to report a decrease in conflict related to their business activities.

Table 17: Impact of the project on economic participation in livelihood activities

Indicator	**Intervention group mean**	**Comparison group mean**	**Difference (Impact)**	**Standard error**	**Observations (intervention group)**	**Observations (total)**
Number of income sources among all HH members	2.11	2.00	0.12	0.22	533	1213
Interviewee's share of total HH income during the past 12 months	31.73	32.43	-0.71	3.87	533	1213
Made a business plan in the last 3 years	0.75	0.77	-0.02	0.04	533	1213
Started a business in the last 3 years	0.26	0.25	0.02	0.05	533	1213
Still continuing the business now	0.72	0.81	-0.09	0.07	141	290
This business activity has increased conflict in the community	0.27	0.34	-0.05	0.07	141	290
This business activity has decreased conflict in the community	0.14	0.25	-0.13*	0.07	141	290

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01; PSM estimates are bootstrapped with 1,000 repetitions.

PSM results by province are provided in Appendix 3. We see two significant impacts in individual provinces – a positive impact on starting a business in the last three years in Lanao del Sur (10 percentage points, p<0.10) (see Table A3.16) and a negative impact on continuing new businesses in Tawi-Tawi (-23 percentage points, p<0.01) (see Table A3.18).

6.5 SOCIAL NORMS

In this section, we review social norms in more detail using descriptive statistics. Table 18 shows how women in the intervention group, overall and by province, responded to seven questions related to social norms. These responses are based on their own opinions (some statements have been reworded for consistent – positive – framing).

Table 18: Descriptive statistics showing the proportion of women in the intervention group who agreed with statements related to social norms by province

Statements	Intervention group mean			
	Overall	Lanao del Sur	Maguindanao	Tawi-Tawi
Women can approach and engage religious leaders to discuss women's rights	**73.7%**	68.4%	66.0%	86.8%
A woman like me can ask questions to our leaders	**56.8%**	55.3%	56.0%	59.9%
Men should not get priority over women in accessing jobs	**40.3%**	34.9%	46.0%	45.5%
Women's salaries should be the same as men's salaries	**19.1%**	15.0%	30.0%	19.1%
Women have the right to participate in civil society	**94.2%**	94.7%	88.0%	97.0%
Women have a role in peacebuilding and reconciliation	**90.6%**	92.5%	84.0%	91.6%
Women can mediate between conflicting groups and warring clans	**25.3%**	30.5%	13.0%	24.6%

Next, Table 19 and Table 20 show how women in the intervention group responded to five questions based on their own opinion, what they think other women in their community would say, and what they think men in their community would say. These questions were phrased as a choice between two statements; the alternative statement is shown in parentheses for reference.

Table 19: Descriptive statistics showing the proportion of women in the intervention group who agreed with statements related to social norms and how they thought other women and men would respond

Statements	Intervention group mean		
	Own opinion	Other women	Men
A woman can be a leader, just like a man can (vs. Men are better leaders than women)	60.6%	60.4%	46.7%
A woman can run a business, just like a man can (vs. Men run businesses better than women)	76.4%	77.7%	63.4%
Girls should wait until they are at least 18 before they get married (vs. It is acceptable for girls to marry before they are 18 years old)	83.3%	82.2%	79.2%
Women can participate in political affairs and the peace process (vs. The real place for women is in the household)	78.0%	77.1%	64.4%
In cases of sexual violence, the woman is a victim (vs. In cases of sexual violence, the woman is responsible)	97.6%	98.1%	98.1%

Table 20: Descriptive statistics showing the proportion of women in the intervention group who agreed with statements related to social norms and how they thought other women and men would respond by province

Statements	Lanao del Sur			Maguindanao			Tawi-Tawi		
	Own opinion	Other women	Men	Own opinion	Other women	Men	Own opinion	Other women	Men
A woman can be a leader, just like a man can (vs. Men are better leaders than women)	47.3%	45.5%	33.5%	51.0%	57.0%	49.0%	87.4%	86.2%	66.5%
A woman can run a business, just like a man can (vs. Men run businesses better than women)	71.8%	73.3%	62.0%	89.0%	91.0%	76.0%	76.0%	76.6%	58.1%
Girls should wait until they are at least 18 before they get married (vs. It is acceptable for girls to marry before they are 18 years old)	81.2%	78.6%	76.7%	86.0%	83.0%	84.0%	85.0%	87.4%	80.2%
Women can participate in political affairs and the peace process (vs. The real place for women is in the household)	72.2%	74.8%	60.2%	83.0%	72.0%	68.0%	84.4%	83.8%	68.9%
In cases of sexual violence, the woman is a victim (vs. In cases of sexual violence, the woman is responsible)	98.5%	98.5%	98.5%	99.0%	100%	100%	95.2%	96.4%	96.4%

Finally, we show descriptive statistics regarding the extent to which women interviewed think that they can influence other women and men in their communities (see Table 21).

Table 21: Descriptive statistics showing the proportion of women in the intervention group who think they can influence the opinions of others in their community

Statements	Intervention group mean			
	Overall	Lanao del Sur	Maguindanao	Tawi-Tawi
I can influence other women in my community	92.3%	95.1%	90.0%	89.2%
I can influence men in my community	91.4%	95.9%	90.0%	85.0%

6.6 EXPOSURE TO VIOLENCE

In this section, we review exposure to violence in more detail. This indicator has been found to be significant across our portfolio of Women's Empowerment Effectiveness Reviews (Lombardini and McCollum, 2018). Here we review both descriptive statistics and PSM results for exposure to violence in three forms – psychological, physical and sexual (questions derived from the DHS Program).

We consider both the experience women report having themselves and whether they know another woman who has experienced violence. Neither of these measures is perfect and must be interpreted with caution. For example, instances of self-reported violence may increase as women's empowerment increases, which might mean violence has increased in reaction to this increase in empowerment, but it could also mean empowered women are more likely to report their experiences of violence. Despite these concerns, the self-reporting questions are the best measure we have on the prevalence of violence in this case.

In terms of reporting knowing another woman who has experienced violence, this figure has the same concerns as described above self-reporting, but with an additional challenge – it is possible for multiple women to report knowing another woman who has experienced violence, when in fact they are all referring to one woman (i.e., one case of violence can be counted multiple times). Therefore,

these questions cannot be interpreted as the prevalence of violence. However, we include this information simply to understand the extent to which the women interviewed know other women who have been exposed to violence.

Table 22 shows the proportion of women in the intervention group who reported experiencing violence themselves and knowing another woman who has experienced violence, overall and by province. Women in Lanao del Sur and Tawi-Tawi report higher rates of violence compared with women in Maguindanao.

Table 22: Descriptive statistics showing the proportion of women in the intervention group who reported exposure to violence themselves and knowing another woman who has experienced violence

Statements	**Intervention group mean**			
	Overall	Lanao del Sur	Maguindanao	Tawi-Tawi
Women reporting exposure to psychological violence themselves	**3.6%**	4.1%	2.0%	3.8%
Women reporting exposure to physical violence themselves	**1.6%**	1.7%	2.0%	1.3%
Women reporting exposure to sexual violence themselves	**0.8%**	0.4%	1.0%	1.3%
Women reporting exposure to any of the above forms of violence	***4.4%***	*4.9%*	*3.0%*	*4.5%*
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced psychological violence	**4.3%**	5.3%	1.0%	5.5%
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced physical violence	**2.0%**	2.2%	2.0%	1.6%
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced sexual violence	**1.0%**	0.5%	1.0%	1.6%
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced any of the above forms of violence	***5.1%***	*6.2%*	*2.0%*	*6.0%*

Table 23 presents the PSM results, showing the impact of the project on women reporting exposure to violence and knowing another woman who has experienced violence. We see small differences in violence in the intervention group, but none of these differences is significant. When we look by province, we find in Lanao del Sur that the increase in women reporting exposure to psychological violence themselves is significantly higher in the project group (see Appendix 3, Table A3.19). We do not see any significant impacts in Maguindanao and Tawi-Tawi.

Table 23: Impact of the project on exposure to violence and knowing another woman who has experienced violence

Indicator	**Intervention group mean**	**Comparison group mean**	**Difference (Impact)**	**Standard error**	**Observations (intervention group)**	**Observations (total)**
Women reporting exposure to psychological violence themselves	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.02	497	1145
Women reporting exposure to physical violence themselves	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	494	1139
Women reporting exposure to sexual violence themselves	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	495	1141
Women reporting exposure to any of	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.02	501	1156

the above forms of violence						
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced psychological violence	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02	415	988
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced physical violence	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.02	408	978
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced sexual violence	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	413	981
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced any of the above forms of violence	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.02	428	1015

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01; PSM estimates are bootstrapped with 1,000 repetitions.

6.7 DIFFERENTIAL IMPACTS BY SUBGROUP

We also looked for differential impacts by subgroup to see who experienced the effects of the project more or less. Beyond analysis by province (included in Section 6.2), in this section, we use propensity-score weighting to review how impacts differ by the type of interviewee and the interviewee's age.

For the type of interviewee, we compared ordinary citizens and leaders – with the 'leaders' subgroup being comprised of elected, appointed, religious and traditional leaders and the 'ordinary citizens' subgroup consisting of everyone else (see Table 24). For the overall WE index, we do not see a significant difference in the impact of the project between ordinary citizens and leaders.

However, for ordinary citizens as a subgroup we find significant positive impacts in the **Personal level** (0.05, p<0.05) that we did not see for the overall sample, with two indicators showing significance as well – *Personal autonomy* (0.09, p<0.10) and *Recognizes women's political role* (0.09, p<0.10). In the **Environmental level**, we also see positive impacts for this subgroup of ordinary citizens for two indicators – *Supportive laws and policies* (0.05, p<0.05) and *Enabling social norms* (0.08, p<0.10).

Table 24: Impact of the project by interviewee type

	Women's Empowerment index	Personal level	Relational level	Environmental level
Effect of being a leader in the comparison group	0.09** (0.04)	0.13** (0.06)	0.08** (0.04)	0.03 (0.06)
Effect of the project on ordinary citizens	0.04** (0.02)	0.05** (0.02)	0.04** (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)
Differential impact between ordinary citizens and leaders[+]	-0.04 (0.05)	-0.10 (0.07)	-0.01 (0.04)	0.02 (0.07)

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01; PSM estimates are bootstrapped with 1,000 repetitions.

[+]Elected, appointed, traditional and religious leaders

To understand impact by age, we used two subgroups based on the median interviewee age of 40 years old (i.e., 40+ years old and less than 40 years old) (see Table 25). For the overall WE index, we observe a significant difference between these age subgroups – the younger women experience a significantly larger impact (0.06, p<0.01), compared with the overall impact (0.03, p<0.10). This trend persists across all three levels, although the differential impact of age is only significant for the **Relational level**.

Indicators showing significant differential impacts for the younger women include *Recognizes women's political role* (0.13, p<0.01) in the **Personal level** and *Supportive laws and policies* (0.10, p<0.01) in the **Environmental level**.

Table 25: Impact of the project by interviewee age

	Women's Empowerment index	Personal level	Relational level	Environmental level
Effect of being 40+ in the comparison group	0.02 (0.02)	0.03 (0.03)	0.05** (0.02)	-0.00 (0.02)
Effect of the project among those under 40	0.06*** (0.02)	0.06** (0.02)	0.08*** (0.02)	0.04** (0.02)
Differential impact of age	-0.03** (0.02)	-0.04 (0.03)	-0.05** (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)

* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01; PSM estimates are bootstrapped with 1,000 repetitions.

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 CONCLUSIONS

Overall, we find the project had a positive impact on ***Women's Empowerment*** (0.03, p<0.10), particularly in the **Relational level** (0.04, p<0.01), where the indicators for *Participation and influence in community affairs* and *Equal say in household decision-making regarding unpaid care work* are both significant. We also see a significant positive impact for the *Enabling social norms* indicator in the **Environmental level**.

We note the following differential impacts by province, interviewee type and age:

- **By province**, significant differences include (1) in Lanao del Sur, in the **Relational level**, a positive impact for the *Equal say in household decision-making regarding unpaid care work* indicator and a negative impact for the *Control over her own body including SRH and GBV* indicator, (2) in Tawi-Tawi, a positive impact in the **Relational level** including *Participation and influence in community affairs* and *Control over her own body including SRH and GBV*, and (3) in Tawi-Tawi, in the **Environmental level**, a positive impact for the *Enabling social norms* indicator and a negative impact for the *Participation and influence in political affairs and peace process* indicator.
- **By interviewee type**, we find a significant positive impact in the **Personal level** for ordinary citizens, which we do not see overall (if the sample also includes elected, appointed, religious and traditional leaders), with two indicators showing significance as well – *Personal autonomy* and *Recognizes women's political role*. In the **Environmental level**, we also see positive impacts for the subgroup of ordinary citizens for two indicators – *Supportive laws and policies* and *Enabling social norms*.
- **By age**, we see that younger women (less than 40 years old) experience a significantly larger impact for the Women's Empowerment index, compared with the overall impact (if the sample also includes those aged 40 years and older). This trend persists across all three levels, although the differential impact is only significant for the **Relational level**. Indicators showing significant differential impacts for the younger women include *Recognizes women's political role* in the **Personal level** and *Supportive laws and policies* in the **Environmental level**.

Beyond the index, we review the following four topics in more depth:

- **Political participation in the peace process:** We see higher levels of political participation in the intervention group, but this was already the case before project implementation. As also indicated through the index, the project did increase recognition of women's political role, having indicated that women have the right to participate in civil society and have a role in peacebuilding and reconciliation.
- **Economic participation in livelihood activities:** Overall, the only significant finding is negative – women in the intervention group are less likely to report a decrease in conflict related to their business activities. By province, we see two significant impacts in individual provinces – a positive impact on starting a business in the last three years in Lanao del Sur and a negative impact on continuing new businesses in Tawi-Tawi.
- **Social norms:** Reviewing descriptive statistics in more depth shows that areas of social norms with the lowest levels of agreement are (1) Men should not get priority over women in accessing jobs, (2) Women's salaries should be the same as men's salaries, and (3) Women can mediate between conflicting groups and warring clans. These levels of agreement are lowest for the first two statements in Lanao del Sur and for the third statement in Maguindanao.

- **Exposure to violence:** Overall, women in the intervention group report experiencing violence at a higher rate than those in the comparison group and report knowing another woman who has experienced violence at a higher rate, although these differences are not statistically significant. In Lanao del Sur, there is a significant difference in women reporting exposure to psychological violence themselves; we do not see any significant impacts in Maguindanao and Tawi-Tawi.

7.2 PROGRAMME LEARNING CONSIDERATIONS

Explore new ways to recruit project participants who are not currently involved in community groups, political affairs and public events.

This evaluation did find significant positive impacts related to the project. Participants were recruited through existing women's rights networks and community groups. Therefore, we find that women who participated in the project were already relatively active in community and political affairs prior to the project itself. It would be worthwhile to understand how to better engage with those who may not yet be active citizens in order to achieve a broader impact.

Develop strategies to work more with ordinary citizens and younger women.

The results indicate more and larger impacts for ordinary citizens (rather than elected, appointed, religious and traditional leaders) as well as for younger women (in comparison to women over 40 years old, which is roughly the median interviewee age in this evaluation). On many of the indicators, these subgroups have lower averages, meaning lower women's empowerment overall and perhaps more progress to be made. This does not preclude also working with leaders and older women.

Consider mitigation activities for unintended effects, such as gender-based violence.

We find limited evidence that that the project is associated with higher levels of gender-based violence, namely exposure to psychological forms of violence. All future projects working with women's empowerment are advised to put in place measures for closely, but carefully, monitor gender-based violence and take additional measures to support victims.

Address social norms for gender equality in job opportunities and salaries.

Among the social norms reviewed, across all three provinces, agreement is lowest for statements regarding equal opportunity for accessing jobs and equal salaries. While this theme was not the main focus of this particular project, and we are not saying it is more important than the other social norms reviewed, it appears to be something that can be addressed more and carried forward in other programmes in the region.

APPENDIX 1: DETAILED INDICATORS, QUESTIONS AND THRESHOLDS

The following set of tables provide the detailed indicators, questions and thresholds for each level of the Women's Empowerment index. Note that in some cases thresholds are (approximately) based on the median to maximize variation. However, in some cases (e.g, *Non-acceptance of GBV*), the threshold is kept at 100% for theoretical reasons (i.e., an empowered woman does not accept GBV for *any* reason). The table also shows if each indicator is directly (highlighted in green) or indirectly (highlighted in yellow) linked to the BASIC START project's Theory of Change (ToC).

Personal level = average of 6 indicators

Indicator	Variable	Question or statement	Threshold	ToC link?
Self-confidence	*opinion1*	Agrees with the statement: I handle new situations with relative comfort and ease	Responds positively to at least 2 out of 3	**Indirect**
	opinion2	Agrees with the statement: I feel positive and energized about life		
	opinion5	Disagrees with the statement: It is difficult for a woman like me to stand up in public meetings held in my community and voice any concerns		
Knowledge and skills	*opinion3*	Disagrees with the statement: It feels impossible to take an active leadership role in my community	Responds positively to at least 3 out of 5	**Direct**
	opinion4	Agrees with the statement: I feel that my leadership skills have improved during the last 3 years		
	opinion6	Agrees with the statement: Women can approach and engage religious leaders to discuss women's rights		
	opinion7	Disagrees with the statement: It is not appropriate for a woman like me to ask questions to our leaders		
	opinion13	Chooses the statement: A woman can be a leader, just like a man can (rather than the alternative statement: Men are better leaders than women)		
Personal autonomy	*Who normally makes most of the decisions about…*		She has a role (sole or joint) in decision-making for all 8 (100%)	**Indirect**
	hhdm_3	Whether you personally can participate in group activities from NGOs, associations, political parties, etc.?		
	hhdm_4	Whether you personally can run in elections?		
	hhdm_5	Who you vote for in elections?		
	hhdm_6	Whether you can do income-generating activities?		
	hhdm_7	Whether you can start your own business?		
	hhdm_9	Whether you can travel outside?		
	hhdm_14	Whether you can personally travel to visit relatives outside your community?		
	hhdm_15	When to go to the health centre?		

Recognizes women's political role	*opinion10*	Agrees with the statement: Women have the right to participate in civil society	Responds positively to at least 3 out of 6 (50%)	**Direct**
	opinion11	Agrees with the statement: Women have a role in peacebuilding and reconciliation		
	opinion12	Disagrees with the statement: Men should be the ones to mediate between conflicting groups and warring clans		
	opinion22	Chooses the statement: Women can participate in political affairs and the peace process (rather than the alternative statement: The real place for women is in the household)		
	rights1	Answers yes to the question: Can you request support from the local government?		
	rights2	Answers yes to the question: Can you request support from the national government?		
Recognizes women's economic role	*businessplan*	Answers yes to the question: Have you made a business plan in the last 3 years?	Responds positively to at least 3 out of 6 (50%)	**Direct**
	businesstart	Answers yes to the question: Have you started a business in the last 3 years?		
	opinion8	Men should get priority over women in accessing jobs		
	opinion9	Women's salaries should be the same as men's salaries		
	opinion16	Chooses the statement: A woman can run a business, just like a man can (rather than the alternative statement: Men run businesses better than women)		
Non-acceptance of GBV	*opinion25*	Chooses the statement: In cases of sexual violence, the woman is a victim (rather than the alternative statement: In cases of sexual violence, the woman is responsible)	Responds positively to opinion25 AND says no to all 7 acceptgbv (100%)	**Direct**
	In your opinion, is it acceptable for a woman to be beaten or cursed by her husband, father or brother if…			
	acceptgbv_1	She disobeys her husband or other family members?		
	acceptgbv_2	He suspects that she has been unfaithful?		
	acceptgbv_3	She neglects the children?		
	acceptgbv_4	She spends money without permission?		
	acceptgbv_5	She goes out without permission?		
	acceptgbv_6	He is drunk?		
	acceptgbv_7	Any other case not mentioned above?		

Relational level = average of 6 indicators

Indicator	Variable(s)	Question or statement	Threshold	ToC link?
Participation and influence in community affairs	*anygroups_now*	She is a member of at least one community group	Both are true	**Direct**
	groupdm (1–8)	She is involved in managing and taking important decisions in at least one community group		

Equal say in decision-making regarding household income	*incomeresp_now (1–15)*	She personally earns or receives income from at least one source	Both are true	**Indirect**
	i_incomeshare	Her share of the total household income is at least 30%		
Equal say in decision-making regarding household assets	*dmassets (1–15)*	For each of the assets that the household owns: Who can decide to sell, buy more or replace [the asset] if necessary?	She has a role (sole or joint) in decision-making for all assets (100%)	**Indirect**
Equal say in decision-making regarding household unpaid care work	*cwmen (1–3)*	For each type of care work, help has increased: In the last 3 years, has the amount of help from your husband (or other men/boys in the household) changed?	Responds positively to at least 4 out of 7	**Indirect**
	cwdiscuss (1–3)	For each type of care work, she says yes: In the last month, have you discussed sharing the responsibility of this activity with your husband (or other men/boys in the household)?		
	hhdm_13	She has a role (sole or joint) in decision-making regarding: Who normally makes most of the decisions about who cooks, cleans the house, or cares for other household members?		
Equal say in decision-making regarding other matters	*Who normally makes most of the decisions about…*		She has a role (sole or joint) in decision-making for all 5 (100%)	**Indirect**
	hhdm_1	How to spend money?		
	hhdm_2	How much of the crops harvested should be kept for consumption in the household?		
	hhdm_10	The education of your children?		
	hhdm_11	Whether your daughter will marry before she is 18?		
	hhdm_12	Whether your husband will marry another partner?		

Control over her own body including SRH and GBV	*hhdm_8*	She has a role (sole or joint) in decision-making regarding: Who normally makes most of the decisions about whether and when you get pregnant?	Responds positively to at least 70% of hhdm_8, hhdm_15, opinion19, gbvresources (1 to 12) AND all gbvexpself are true (100%)	**Direct**
	hhdm_15	She has a role (sole or joint) in decision-making regarding: Who normally makes most of the decisions about when to go to the health centre?		
	opinion19	Chooses the statement: Girls should wait until they are at least 18 before they get married (rather than the alternative statement: It is acceptable for girls to marry before they are 18 years old)		
	gbvresources (1–12)	She would ask family, friends, or community/traditional/religious leaders for support in cases of violence against her		

	gbvexpself_1	She has not personally experienced any form of psychological violence in the past 12 months		
	gbvexpself_2	She has not personally experienced any form of physical violence in the past 12 months		
	gbvexpself_3	She has not personally experienced any form of sexual violence in the past 12 months		

Environmental level = average of 6 indicators

Indicator	Variable(s)	Question or statement	Threshold	ToC link?
Supportive laws and policies	*rights4*	To what extent do you think laws and policies promote women's political participation?	To some extent or to a large extent	**Direct**
Participation and influence in political affairs and the peace process	*anypolentity_now*	She is a member of at least one political entity	Is true/responds positively to at least 3 out of 6 (50%)	**Direct**
	politicaldm (1–7)	She is involved in managing and taking important decisions in at least one political entity		
	anyevents_now	She participated in at least one public event in the last 12 months		
	eventdm (1–8)	She was involved in organizing, managing or taking important decisions for at least one public event in the last 12 months		
	rights3	Responds to some extent or to a large extent: To what extent do you think you can influence your district representative?		
	rights5	Responds yes to: Regarding the Bangsamoro Organic Law plebiscite – did you go to vote?		
Enabling social norms	*cwsocnorm (1–3)*	For each type of care work, help has increased: In the last 3 years, has the amount of help from your husband (or other men/boys in the household) changed?	Responds positively to at least 10 out of 14 (70%)	**Direct**
	opinion14	She thinks other women in her community would choose: A woman can be a leader, just like a man can (rather than the alternative statement: Men are better leaders than women)		
	opinion15	She thinks men in her community would choose: A woman can be a leader, just like a man can (rather than the alternative statement: Men are better leaders than women)		
	opinion17	She thinks other women in her community would choose: A woman can run a business, just like a man can (rather than the alternative statement: Men run businesses better than women)		
	opinion18	She thinks men in her community would choose: A woman can run a business, just like a man can (rather than the alternative statement: Men run businesses better than women)		

	opinion20	She thinks other women in her community would choose: Girls should wait until they are at least 18 before they get married (rather than the alternative statement: It is acceptable for girls to marry before they are 18 years old)		
	opinion21	She thinks men in her community would choose: Girls should wait until they are at least 18 before they get married (rather than the alternative statement: It is acceptable for girls to marry before they are 18 years old)		
	opinion23	She thinks other women in her community would choose: Women can participate in political affairs and the peace process (rather than the alternative statement: The real place for women is the household)		
	opinion24	She thinks men in her community would choose: Women can participate in political affairs and the peace process (rather than the alternative statement: The real place for women is the household)		
	opinion26	She thinks other women in her community would choose: In cases of sexual violence, the woman is a victim (rather than the alternative statement: In cases of sexual violence, the woman is responsible)		
	opinion27	She thinks men in her community would choose: In cases of sexual violence, the woman is a victim (rather than the alternative statement: In cases of sexual violence, the woman is responsible)		
	acceptgbvmen (1–7)	Says no to all 7 acceptmengbv: In your opinion, would men in your community consider it acceptable to beat or curse his wife if… (see acceptgbv1–acceptgbv7 in Personal level)		
Influences social norms	*opinioninfluence_women*	To what extent do you think you can influence the opinions of other women in your community?	To some extent or to a large extent for both	**Direct**
	opinioninfluence_men	To what extent do you think you can influence the opinions of men in your community?		
Access to economic support and services	*Imagine you need 5,000 pesos to invest in a business opportunity. Do you think you would you be able to borrow this money from…*		Responds yes to at least 1 out of 5	**Indirect**
	hhdm_1	A cooperative?		
	hhdm_2	A group, association or organization?		
	hhdm_10	An informal money lender?		
	hhdm_11	A bank or formal institution (SSS, GSIS, Pag-ibig, etc.)?		
	hhdm_12	Do you think you would be able to get a loan for a motorcycle or car if you wanted to?		
Access to SRH and GBV support and services	*gbvresources (1–12)*	She would report to a health/social worker and/or police in cases of violence against her	Responds positively to at least one of the gbvresources (1–12)	**Direct**

APPENDIX 2: PROPENSITY-SCORE MATCHING METHODOLOGY

The results presented in Section 6 of this report have been estimated using propensity–score matching (PSM). PSM is a statistical technique that allows the effect of an intervention to be estimated by accounting for other factors that predict receiving the intervention, or 'treatment'. The idea behind PSM is to match households in the intervention group to similar households in the comparison group, based on baseline characteristics. After each participant is matched with a non-participant, the average treatment effect on the treated (those who benefited from the intervention) is equal to the difference in average outcomes of the intervention and the comparison groups after project completion. This appendix describes and tests the specific matching procedure employed in this Effectiveness Review. The approach follows the guidance provided by Caliendo and Kopeinig (2008).

Estimating propensity scores

Finding an exact match for treated individuals, based on various baseline characteristics, is very hard to implement in practice. Rosenbaum and Rubin (1983) demonstrate that a 'propensity score' can summarize all this information in one single variable. The propensity score is defined as the conditional probability of receiving the intervention given background variables. Specifically, propensity scores are calculated using a statistical probability model (e.g., probit or logit) to estimate the probability of participating in the project based on a set of characteristics.

Table A2.1 shows the variables used to estimate the propensity score in this report, alongside marginal effects at the mean, standard errors, and p-values by compound. Note that the propensity score could not be calculated because of one or more missing values for one interviewee in the comparison group. Following Caliendo and Kopeinig (2008), only variables that influence the participation decision, but which are not affected by participation in the project, have been included in the matching model. In the table, the dependent variable corresponds to whether the woman received the intervention (i.e., it is equal to one if she participated in the project, and zero otherwise). The coefficients in the table correspond to the marginal effects, which are the change in the probability of receiving the intervention if the independent variable is increased by one. Significant effects are highlighted in blue.

Table A2.1: Variables used for propensity-score matching with marginal effects, standard errors and p-values.

Variable	Marginal effect	Standard error	p-value
Interviewee age (years)	0.00	0.00	0.84
Interviewee completed high school	0.11**	0.04	0.01
Interviewee is married	-0.01	0.05	0.81
Number of languages the interviewee uses	0.00	0.02	0.87
Interviewee is an elected or appointed leader	0.06	0.11	0.55
Interviewee is a religious or traditional leader	-0.05	0.10	0.63
HH head is a woman	0.00	0.04	0.93
HH head age (years)	0.00	0.00	0.57
HH head completed high school	-0.10*	0.04	0.02
Number of HH members	0.01*	0.01	0.05
HH lived in the community in 2015	0.24*	0.09	0.01
Length of residence in the community (ordinal scale 1 to 4)	0.07	0.08	0.37
HH owned their home in 2015	-0.08	0.04	0.08
Interviewee's share of HH income in 2015 (%)	0.00	0.00	0.61
HH was in the lowest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	-0.10*	0.05	0.04
HH was in the second lowest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	-0.06	0.05	0.18
HH was in the second highest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	-0.02	0.05	0.71
HH was in the highest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	-0.00	0.05	0.96
Interviewee participated in a community group in 2015	0.29***	0.03	0.00

Interviewee participated in a political entity in 2015	-0.07	0.06	0.22
Interviewee participated in a public event in 2015	0.13***	0.03	0.00
HH earned income from agricultural activities and/or products in 2015	0.10**	0.03	0.00
HH earned income from a salaried job (e.g., private company, government, NGO, teaching, etc.) in 2015	-0.10*	0.05	0.04
HH earned income from manufacturing (weaving, wood carving, etc.) in 2015	0.32*	0.13	0.01
HH earned income from the service industry (driver, hairdresser, etc.) in 2015	-0.17***	0.04	0.00
HH earned income from labourer/utility/construction work in 2015	-0.12*	0.06	0.03
HH earned income from any other activity not listed above in 2015	0.04	0.05	0.41
HH received support (remittances, pensions, government cash transfers – 4Ps, etc.) in 2015	0.14***	0.03	0.00
Observations	**1255**		

The construction of the wealth index is described in Section 4.3. Variables dated 2015 are estimates, based on recall data. The dependent variable is binary, taking 1 for project participants, and 0 otherwise.
* p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01.

Defining the region of common support

After estimating the propensity scores, it is necessary to verify that potential matches exist for the observations in the intervention group with those from the comparison group – checking that there is *common support*. The area of common support is the region where the propensity score distributions of the intervention and comparison groups overlap. The common support assumption ensures that each 'treatment [intervention] observation has a comparison observation "nearby" in the propensity score distribution' (Heckman, LaLonde & Smith, 1999). Figure A2.1 shows the propensity score density plots for both groups. It can be observed that, although the distributions of propensity scores are clearly different between the intervention and comparison groups in each case, there is a reasonably good area of overlap between the groups. However, in constructing the model for outcomes, 42 observations have been dropped (38 comparison, 4 intervention) for lacking a suitable match.

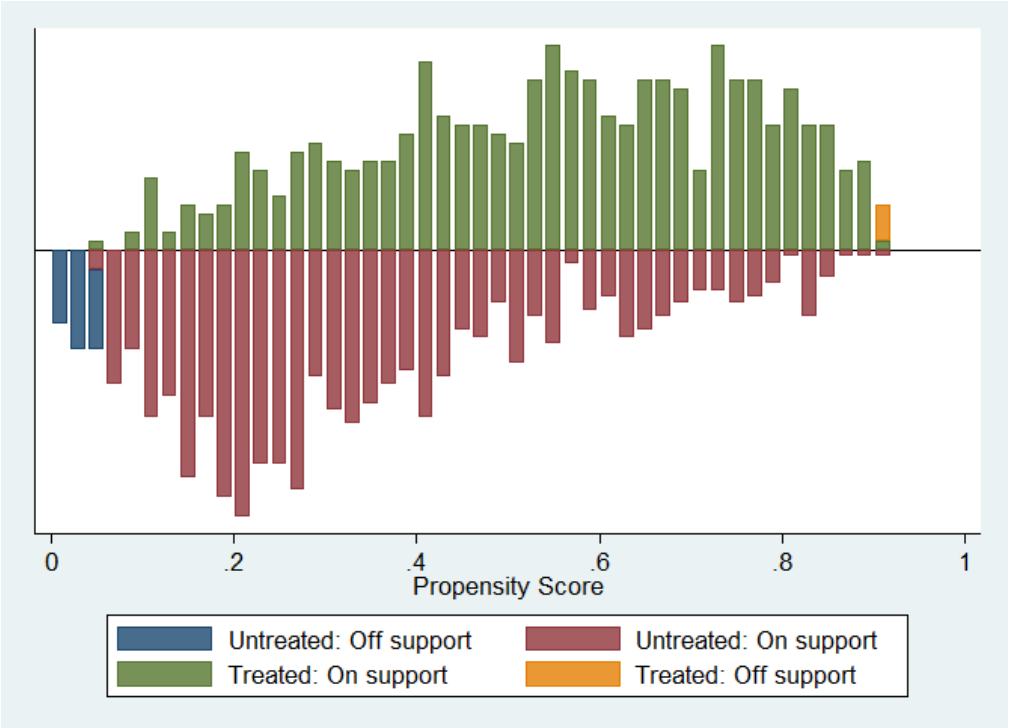


Figure A2.1: Common support histogram of propensity scores for intervention ('Treated') and comparison ('Untreated') interviewees.

Matching interviewees from intervention to comparison

Following Rosenbaum and Rubin (1983), interviewees are matched based on propensity scores using a kernel matching algorithm, which assigns more weight to the closest comparison group observations that are found within a selected 'bandwidth'. Thus 'good' matches are given more weight than 'poor' matches. The *psmatch2* module in Stata (Leuven & Sianesi, 2003) was used with a bandwidth of 0.06 and the analysis was restricted to the area of common support. When using PSM, standard errors of the estimates were bootstrapped using 1,000 repetitions to account for the additional variation caused by the estimation of the propensity scores.

Checking balance

For PSM to be valid, the intervention group and the matched comparison group need to be balanced. In other words, the intervention and comparison groups need to be similar in terms of their observed characteristics. The most straightforward method of doing this is to test whether there are any statistically significant differences in baseline covariates between both groups in the matched sample. The balance of each of the matching variables after kernel matching is shown in Table A2.2. There are no statistically significant differences between intervention and comparison in the matched sample for any of the matching variables. For these variables, the *p*-values for the difference in means tests are large; although the lowest value is 0.14, most are more than 0.60. It can therefore be concluded in each case that a satisfactory match has been found for the intervention group in the sample, according to this set of matching variables.

Table A2.2: Variable balance check after propensity score matching.

Variable	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	p-value
Interviewee age (years)	42.38	42.29	0.93
Interviewee completed high school	0.56	0.58	0.60
Interviewee is married	0.78	0.78	0.89
Number of languages the interviewee uses	1.40	1.46	0.37
Interviewee is an elected or appointed leader	0.03	0.03	0.94
Interviewee is a religious or traditional leader	0.02	0.02	0.93
HH head is a woman	0.44	0.42	0.74
HH head age (years)	45.03	45.29	0.78
HH head completed high school	0.48	0.53	0.14
Number of HH members	5.97	6.04	0.73
HH lived in the community in 2015	0.99	0.99	0.53
Length of residence in the community (ordinal scale 1 to 4)	3.99	3.99	0.96
HH owned their home in 2015	0.85	0.85	0.87
Interviewee's share of HH income in 2015 (%)	31.76	31.43	0.80
HH in the lowest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	0.14	0.13	0.57
HH in the second lowest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	0.17	0.16	0.64
HH in the second highest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	0.24	0.24	1.00
HH in the highest 20% of wealth distribution in 2015	0.22	0.26	0.19
Interviewee participated in a community group in 2015	0.55	0.55	0.86
Interviewee participated in a political entity in 2015	0.09	0.09	0.95
Interviewee participated in a public event in 2015	0.57	0.59	0.67
HH income from agricultural activities and/or products in 2015	0.81	0.80	0.83
HH income from a salaried job (e.g., private company, government, NGO, teaching, etc.) in 2015	0.10	0.12	0.30
HH income from manufacturing (weaving, wood carving, etc.) in 2015	0.01	0.02	0.80
HH income from the service industry (driver, hairdresser, etc.) in 2015	0.08	0.09	0.72
HH income from labourer/utility/construction work in 2015	0.05	0.05	0.93
HH income from any other activity not listed above in 2015	0.14	0.15	0.62
HH received support (remittances, pensions, government cash transfers – 4Ps, etc.) in 2015	0.60	0.59	0.85
Observations	**1214**		

APPENDIX 3: SUBGROUP ANALYSIS

The following set of tables provide the detailed questions and PSM estimates for subgroup analyses – by province, interviewee type and interviewee age. Significant impacts are highlighted in green if positive and red if negative. Insignificant results are not highlighted. Note for all tables: * p < 0.1, ** p < 0.05, *** p < 0.01; PSM estimates are bootstrapped with 1,000 repetitions. Robust standard errors are shown in (parentheses).

Impact by province

Table A3.1: Impact of the project on Women's Empowerment in Lanao del Sur

	Women's Empowerment index	Personal level	Relational level	Environmental level
Intervention group mean	0.61	0.58	0.58	0.66
Comparison group mean	0.60	0.56	0.58	0.65
Difference (Impact)	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.01
Standard error	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.03)
Observations (intervention group)	234	234	234	234
Observations (total)	387	387	387	387

Table A3.2: Impact of the project on Women's Empowerment in Maguindanao

	Women's Empowerment index	Personal level	Relational level	Environmental level
Intervention group mean	0.57	0.53	0.56	0.62
Comparison group mean	0.52	0.47	0.54	0.56
Difference (Impact)	0.04	0.06	0.02	0.05
Standard error	(0.06)	(0.07)	(0.08)	(0.07)
Observations (intervention group)	97	97	97	97
Observations (total)	349	349	349	349

Table A3.3: Impact of the project on Women's Empowerment in Tawi-Tawi

	Women's Empowerment index	Personal level	Relational level	Environmental level
Intervention group mean	0.62	0.60	0.58	0.69
Comparison group mean	0.61	0.59	0.52	0.71
Difference (Impact)	0.02	0.01	0.06**	-0.02
Standard error	(0.02)	(0.02)	(0.03)	(0.04)
Observations (intervention group)	162	162	162	162
Observations (total)	407	407	407	407

Table A3.4: Impact of the project for each Personal level indicator in Lanao del Sur

	Self Confidence	*Knowledge and skills*	*Personal autonomy*	*Recognizes women's political role*	*Recognizes women's economic role*	*Non-acceptance of GBV*
Intervention group mean	0.77	0.65	0.74	0.53	0.47	0.29
Comparison group mean	0.73	0.66	0.72	0.50	0.41	0.33
Difference (Impact)	0.04	-0.01	0.02	0.03	0.05	-0.04
Standard error	(0.07)	(0.08)	(0.07)	(0.09)	(0.12)	(0.07)
Observations (intervention group)	234	234	234	234	234	234
Observations (total)	387	387	387	387	387	387

Table A3.5: Impact of the project for each Personal level indicator in Maguindanao

	Self Confidence	*Knowledge and skills*	*Personal autonomy*	*Recognizes women's political role*	*Recognizes women's economic role*	*Non-acceptance of GBV*
Intervention group mean	0.64	0.57	0.60	0.37	0.53	0.48
Comparison group mean	0.67	0.45	0.49	0.28	0.48	0.47
Difference (Impact)	-0.03	0.12	0.10	0.09	0.04	0.02
Standard error	(0.12)	(0.13)	(0.15)	(0.12)	(0.20)	(0.12)
Observations (intervention group)	97	97	97	97	97	97
Observations (total)	349	349	349	349	349	349

Table A3.6: Impact of the project for each Personal level indicator in Tawi-Tawi

	Self Confidence	*Knowledge and skills*	*Personal autonomy*	*Recognizes women's political role*	*Recognizes women's economic role*	*Non-acceptance of GBV*
Intervention group mean	0.77	0.79	0.48	0.66	0.49	0.41
Comparison group mean	0.78	0.77	0.45	0.62	0.57	0.37
Difference (Impact)	-0.00	0.02	0.02	0.04	-0.08	0.05
Standard error	(0.04)	(0.05)	(0.08)	(0.07)	(0.06)	(0.06)
Observations (intervention group)	162	162	162	162	162	162
Observations (total)	407	407	407	407	407	407

Table A3.7: Impact of the project for each Relational level indicator in Lanao del Sur

	Participation and influence in community affairs	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Income*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Assets*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Unpaid care work*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Other matters*	*Control over her own body including SRH and GBV*
Intervention group mean	0.58	0.27	0.78	0.69	0.83	0.30
Comparison group mean	0.55	0.25	0.87	0.53	0.81	0.44
Difference (Impact)	0.03	0.03	-0.09	0.16*	0.03	-0.14**
Standard error	(0.09)	(0.09)	(0.06)	(0.09)	(0.05)	(0.07)
Observations (intervention group)	234	234	233	234	234	219
Observations (total)	387	387	386	387	387	358

Table A3.8: Impact of the project for each Relational level indicator in Maguindanao

	Participation and influence in community affairs	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Income*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Assets*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Unpaid care work*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Other matters*	*Control over her own body including SRH and GBV*
Intervention group mean	0.43	0.56	0.73	0.32	0.85	0.45
Comparison group mean	0.36	0.60	0.71	0.31	0.81	0.44
Difference (Impact)	0.07	-0.04	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.02
Standard error	(0.17)	(0.09)	(0.10)	(0.12)	(0.07)	(0.13)
Observations (intervention group)	97	97	96	97	97	97
Observations (total)	349	349	345	349	348	346

Table A3.9: Impact of the project for each Relational level indicator in Tawi-Tawi

	Participation and influence in community affairs	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Income*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Assets*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Unpaid care work*	*Equal say in HH decision-making: Other matters*	*Control over her own body including SRH and GBV*
Intervention group mean	0.49	0.36	0.63	0.56	0.71	0.75
Comparison group mean	0.36	0.31	0.67	0.57	0.66	0.59
Difference (Impact)	0.14*	0.05	-0.04	-0.01	0.05	0.16**
Standard error	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.08)	(0.08)	(0.07)	(0.07)
Observations (intervention group)	162	162	161	162	162	150
Observations (total)	407	407	405	407	407	384

Table A3.10: Impact of the project for each Environmental level indicator in Lanao del Sur

	Supportive laws and policies	*Participation and influence in political affairs, peace process*	*Enabling social norms*	*Influences social norms*	*Access to economic support and services*	*Access to SRH and GBV support and services*
Intervention group mean	0.97	0.84	0.41	0.94	0.31	0.49
Comparison group mean	0.94	0.80	0.34	0.95	0.28	0.61
Difference (Impact)	0.04	0.04	0.08	-0.01	0.03	-0.12
Standard error	(0.03)	(0.07)	(0.06)	(0.02)	(0.07)	(0.08)
Observations (intervention group)	234	234	234	234	234	234
Observations (total)	387	387	387	387	387	387

Table A3.11: Impact of the project for each Environmental level indicator in Maguindanao

	Supportive laws and policies	*Participation and influence in political affairs, peace process*	*Enabling social norms*	*Influences social norms*	*Access to economic support and services*	*Access to SRH and GBV support and services*
Intervention group mean	0.94	0.72	0.54	0.87	0.33	0.30
Comparison group mean	0.79	0.63	0.38	0.87	0.37	0.32
Difference (Impact)	0.15	0.10	0.15	-0.00	-0.04	-0.02
Standard error	(0.09)	(0.14)	(0.12)	(0.10)	(0.13)	(0.08)
Observations (intervention group)	97	97	97	97	97	97
Observations (total)	349	349	349	349	349	349

Table A3.12: Impact of the project for each Environmental level indicator in Tawi-Tawi

	Supportive laws and policies	*Participation and influence in political affairs, peace process*	*Enabling social norms*	*Influences social norms*	*Access to economic support and services*	*Access to SRH and GBV support and services*
Intervention group mean	0.86	0.49	0.62	0.85	0.48	0.84
Comparison group mean	0.90	0.60	0.51	0.86	0.53	0.84
Difference (Impact)	-0.04	-0.11*	0.11**	-0.01	-0.05	0.00
Standard error	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.13)	(0.06)
Observations (intervention group)	162	162	162	162	162	162
Observations (total)	407	407	407	407	407	407

Table A3.13: Impact of the project on political participation in the peace process in Lanao del Sur

Indicator	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference (Impact)	Observations (intervention group)	Observations (total)
Participating in at least one political entity in 2019	0.11	0.10	0.00	234	387
Had influence in at least one political entity in 2019	0.10	0.09	0.01	234	387
Number of political entities interviewee is a member of in 2019	0.18	0.22	-0.03	234	387
Number of political entities in which interviewee had influence in 2019	0.18	0.20	-0.02	234	387
Participated in at least one public event during the last 12 months	0.93	0.93	0.00	234	387
Had influence for at least one public event during the last 12 months	0.85	0.83	0.02	234	387
Number of public events interviewee participated in during the last 12 months	2.08	2.09	0.00	234	387
Number of public events interviewee had influence in during the last 12 months	1.81	1.68	0.13	234	387
Voted in the BOL plebiscite	0.98	0.99	-0.01	232	385
(Of those who voted) Participated in any events or activities focused on the BOL/BBL beforehand	0.81	0.84	-0.03	227	375
(Of those that participated in any events focused on the BOL/BBL before voting) It influenced their decision to vote	0.87	0.85	0.02	183	299
(Of those that participated in any events focused on the BOL/BBL before voting) It influenced how they voted	0.68	0.73	-0.06	183	299

Table A3.14: Impact of the project on political participation in the peace process in Maguindanao

Indicator	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference (Impact)	Observations (intervention group)	Observations (total)
Participating in at least one political entity in 2019	0.09	0.03	0.06	97	349
Had influence in at least one political entity in 2019	0.09	0.03	0.06	97	349
Number of political entities interviewee is a member of in 2019	0.18	0.04	0.13	97	349
Number of political entities in which interviewee had influence in 2019	0.18	0.04	0.13	97	349
Participated in at least one public event during the last 12 months	0.80	0.86	-0.06	97	349
Had influence for at least one public event during the last 12 months	0.80	0.86	-0.06	97	349
Number of public events interviewee participated in during the last 12 months	1.70	1.58	0.12	97	349
Number of public events interviewee had influence in during the last 12 months	1.67	1.55	0.12	97	349
Voted in the BOL plebiscite	0.92	0.92	0.00	97	345
(Of those who voted) Participated in any events or activities focused on the BOL/BBL beforehand	0.66	0.72	-0.05	89	309
(Of those that participated in any events focused on the BOL/BBL before voting) It influenced their decision to vote	0.88	0.88	0.00	59	189
(Of those that participated in any events focused on the BOL/BBL before voting) It influenced how they voted	0.76	0.59	0.16	59	183

Table A3.15: Impact of the project on political participation in the peace process in Tawi-Tawi

Indicator	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference (Impact)	Observations (intervention group)	Observations (total)
Participating in at least one political entity in 2019	0.12	0.20	-0.08	162	407
Had influence in at least one political entity in 2019	0.10	0.20	-0.10	162	407
Number of political entities interviewee is a member of in 2019	0.30	0.43	-0.12	162	407
Number of political entities in which interviewee had influence in 2019	0.26	0.40	-0.14	162	407
Participated in at least one public event during the last 12 months	0.64	0.63	0.00	162	407
Had influence for at least one public event during the last 12 months	0.53	0.59	-0.06	162	407
Number of public events interviewee participated in during the last 12 months	1.67	1.60	0.06	162	407
Number of public events interviewee had influence in during the last 12 months	1.52	1.48	0.04	162	407
Voted in the BOL plebiscite	0.98	0.96	0.01	162	407
(Of those who voted) Participated in any events or activities focused on the BOL/BBL beforehand	0.20	0.28	-0.08	153	381
(Of those that participated in any events focused on the BOL/BBL before voting) It influenced their decision to vote	0.93	0.90	0.09	29	69
(Of those that participated in any events focused on the BOL/BBL before voting) It influenced how they voted	0.90	0.90	0.05	29	69

Table A3.16: Impact of the project on economic participation in livelihood activities in Lanao del Sur

Indicator	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference (Impact)	Observations (intervention group)	Observations (total)
Number of income sources among all HH members	2.81	2.56	0.26	234	387
Interviewee's share of total HH income during the past 12 months	26.27	24.57	1.70	234	387
Made a business plan in the last 3 years	0.87	0.81	0.06	234	387
Started a business in the last 3 years	0.27	0.17	0.10*	234	387
Still continuing the business now	0.73	0.69	0.05	63	96
This business activity has increased conflict in the community	0.35	0.22	0.07	63	96
This business activity has decreased conflict in the community	0.13	0.26	-0.10	63	96

Table A3.17: Impact of the project on economic participation in livelihood activities in Maguindanao

Indicator	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference (Impact)	Observations (intervention group)	Observations (total)
Number of income sources among all HH members	1.37	1.46	-0.08	97	349
Interviewee's share of total HH income during the past 12 months	46.06	46.48	-0.42	97	349
Made a business plan in the last 3 years	0.59	0.67	-0.08	97	349
Started a business in the last 3 years	0.36	0.26	0.10	97	349
Still continuing the business now	0.71	0.87	-0.15	35	106
This business activity has increased conflict in the community	0.17	0.33	-0.12	35	106
This business activity has decreased conflict in the community	0.06	0.12	-0.08	35	106

Table A3.18: Impact of the project on economic participation in livelihood activities in Tawi-Tawi

Indicator	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference (Impact)	Observations (intervention group)	Observations (total)
Number of income sources among all HH members	1.38	1.34	0.04	162	407
Interviewee's share of total HH income during the past 12 months	31.55	31.53	0.02	162	407
Made a business plan in the last 3 years	0.65	0.71	-0.07	162	407
Started a business in the last 3 years	0.20	0.30	-0.11	162	407
Still continuing the business now	0.75	0.99	-0.23***	32	71
This business activity has increased conflict in the community	0.19	0.45	-0.13	32	71
This business activity has decreased conflict in the community	0.22	0.22	-0.16	32	71

Table A3.19: Impact of the project on exposure to violence and knowing another woman who has experienced violence in Lanao del Sur

Indicator	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference (Impact)	Standard error	Observations (intervention group)	Observations (total)
Women reporting exposure to psychological violence themselves	0.04	0.00	0.04**	(0.02)	213	351
Women reporting exposure to physical violence themselves	0.01	0.01	0.01	(0.01)	213	350
Women reporting exposure to sexual violence themselves	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.00)	214	352
Women reporting exposure to any of the above forms of violence	0.05	0.01	0.04**	(0.02)	215	353
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced psychological violence	0.06	0.05	0	(0.04)	161	266
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced physical violence	0.02	0.00	0.02	(0.01)	158	262
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced sexual violence	0.01	0.00	0.01	(0.00)	165	268
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced any of the above forms of violence	0.07	0.05	0.01	(0.04)	169	276

Table A3.20: Impact of the project on exposure to violence and knowing another woman who has experienced violence in Maguindanao

Indicator	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference (Impact)	Standard error	Observations (intervention group)	Observations (total)
Women reporting exposure to psychological violence themselves	0.02	0.00	0.02	(0.01)	97	345
Women reporting exposure to physical violence themselves	0.01	0.00	0.01	(0.01)	97	348
Women reporting exposure to sexual violence themselves	0.01	0.00	0.01	(0.01)	96	345
Women reporting exposure to any of the above forms of violence	0.02	0.00	0.02	(0.01)	97	348
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced psychological violence	0.01	0.02	-0.01	(0.07)	97	345
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced physical violence	0.01	0.02	-0.01	(0.06)	97	344
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced sexual violence	0.01	0.02	0.00	(0.03)	96	343
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced any of the above forms of violence	0.01	0.04	-0.03	(0.06)	97	347

Table A3.21: Impact of the project on exposure to violence and knowing another woman who has experienced violence in Tawi-Tawi

Indicator	Intervention group mean	Comparison group mean	Difference (Impact)	Standard error	Observations (intervention group)	Observations (total)
Women reporting exposure to psychological violence themselves	0.04	0.02	0.01	(0.03)	152	385
Women reporting exposure to physical violence themselves	0.01	0.00	0.01	(0.01)	147	376
Women reporting exposure to sexual violence themselves	0.01	0.03	-0.01	(0.03)	148	380
Women reporting exposure to any of the above forms of violence	0.05	0.05	0.00	(0.04)	152	389
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced psychological violence	0.05	0.05	-0.01	(0.04)	124	321
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced physical violence	0.02	0.03	-0.02	(0.03)	121	318
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced sexual violence	0.02	0.03	-0.01	(0.02)	120	318
Women reporting that they know another woman who has experienced any of the above forms of violence	0.05	0.08	-0.03	(0.05)	128	335

APPENDIX 4: RISK OF BIAS

Not all quasi-experimental impact evaluations are the same. Choices made during sampling, selection of the comparison group, and at the analysis stage are crucial in assessing overall confidence in the results. Table A4.1 uses our standard framework to assess the risk of bias against ten predetermined parameters for this Effectiveness Review. This framework is specifically for ex-post quasi-experimental impact evaluations. Lower overall risk provides higher confidence in the results.

Table A4.1: Risk of bias table.

	Title	Description	Assessment	Description
Sampling				
1	Random sampling	Score LOW risk if: • Sampling is conducted using probability random sampling methods on a clearly established sample frame. Score MEDIUM risk if: • Sampling is conducted using probability random sampling methods at geographical level (e.g., village level), and using random sampling to select interviewees within the geographical area. Score HIGH otherwise.	MEDIUM	Interviewee sampling was done using stratification by province, municipality and barangay. All listed project participants were sampled. Comparison area interviewees and additional project area interviewees were sampled using a random walk protocol (see Section 4.2 Individual Surveys).
2	Representativeness of project participants	Score LOW risk if: • Project participants have been involved for the entire duration of the project and have been involved in the project with the same level of exposure. • Project participants have been exposed to a variety of different activities, some may have dropped out from some activities, but sampling is conducted on the entire list of project participants. Score MEDIUM risk if: • Project participants have been exposed to a variety of different activities. Sampling is conducted only among those project participants that have been enrolled for the entire duration of the project or that have been enrolled in all the activities. These are not less than 80% of the entire list of project participants OR it is clear the results apply only to a particular group of project participants.	MEDIUM	Different participants were engaged in different activities (e.g., WE Act 1325 participants were all local leaders). We also included additional randomly selected project participants within project areas who were not on the project participant lists to achieve a large enough sample.

		Score HIGH otherwise.		
3	Selection survey interviewees	Score LOW risk if: • Identification of survey interviewees is not determined by project participation (the same protocol for identifying the interviewee(s) within the household is applied in intervention and comparison group). • The resulting selection of survey interviewees is not affected by project participation (based on observables). Score MEDIUM risk if: • Identification of survey interviewees is not determined by project participation (the same protocol for identifying the interviewee(s) within the household is applied in intervention and comparison group). • The resulting selection of survey interviewees is affected by project participation (based on observables). Score HIGH otherwise.	MEDIUM	For each household, we interviewed the listed project participants when possible. If not possible, we interviewed another woman in the household. In the comparison areas we interviewed local leaders within the household if relevant, and otherwise any woman within the household.
Selecting comparison group				
4	Potential for contamination (spillovers)	Score LOW risk if: • The units for the comparison group are selected in geographical areas where it is not reasonable to expect for the project to have had spillover effects. • The project also implemented some activities (which are not considered the most relevant under analysis) which are expected to have had an impact also in the comparison group. (e.g., the project implemented campaigns using radio and other digital media, but these are only a minor component of the activities implemented). The report makes clear which impact is assessed (added-value of other components, taking into account exposure to those minor components). Score HIGH risk if: • Units for the comparison group are selected within the same geographical area as the intervention group, and it is reasonable	LOW	Comparison areas were selected to avoid potential spillovers (nearby but not immediately adjacent to project areas). The project did implement various national and regional campaign and research activities. For this evaluation, we will look only at impact of the local-level activities, which were the main focus of the project. This will be clear in the report.

		to expect that project activities had spillover effects. (e.g., comparison observations within the same village, for awareness raising projects).		
5	Self-selection of project participants	Score LOW risk if: • The comparison group is exploiting an experiment or natural experiment. • Units are randomly selected at community level both in the intervention and comparison group. • The selection process for the comparison group is mimicking the same selection process used by the project. Score MEDIUM risk if • If the self-selection is corrected during the matching procedure (e.g., controlling for group participation at baseline). Score HIGH risk if: • Project participants were selected or self-selected based on idiosyncratic or unobservable characteristics, and the selection of comparison interviewees is done randomly from neighbouring geographical sites.	MEDIUM	Project participants were selected based on their participation in existing groups and current leadership roles within communities. We will control for group participation at baseline and other characteristics (e.g., leadership status) during analysis to mitigate this as much as possible.
6	Other interventions in the comparison group	Score LOW risk if: • There are no other actors in the area (e.g., INGOs, NGOs, governmental programmes). • Other actors are conducting activities that are not linked to the project's Theory of Change. Score MEDIUM risk if: • Other actors are conducting similar activities linked to the project's Theory of Change in both the intervention and the comparison group Score MEDIUM-HIGH risk if: • Other actors are conducting similar activities linked to the project's Theory of Change in the comparison group only, but the evaluation purposefully chooses to compare these activities to the intervention making it clear that the impact is compared with these other activities (e.g., as a natural experiment).	MEDIUM	Given the national and regional importance of the Bangsamoro Basic and Organic Laws, many other actors had been conducting related activities at those levels. However, we are not aware of any related activities that targeted the project and comparison areas differently.

		Score HIGH risk if: • Other actors are conducting similar activities, in the comparison communities only. • Other actors are conducting activities in the comparison communities, which are not the same, but are partially related to the project's Theory of Change.		
Analysis				
7	Representativeness	Score LOW risk if: • During analysis or matching procedure less than 10% of the sample in the intervention group is excluded. Score HIGH risk if: • During analysis or matching procedure more than 10% of the sample in the intervention group is excluded.	LOW	During PSM, 0.7% of the intervention group was excluded (off common support).
8	Robustness checks	Score LOW risk if: • Magnitude and statistical significance of the results are approximately consistent with different econometric models. Score HIGH risk if: • Results are not consistent with different econometric models.	LOW	
9	Triangulation	Score LOW risk if: • Results are triangulated and consistent with other evaluation methods within the same evaluation. • Results are triangulated and consistent with other data on the same project but from different evaluations. Score HIGH risk if: • Results are not consistent or triangulated with other evaluation methods.	LOW	No other impact evaluations were available for comparison for this project. The scope of this evaluation only included a quantitative, quasi-experimental approach. However, other programme monitoring and evaluation data are consistent (descriptively) with the data observed in this evaluation.
10	Multiple hypothesis testing	Score LOW risk if: • Multiple hypothesis tests apply Benjamini or Bonferroni tests. • The evaluation drafted a pre-analysis plan prior to data analysis, and followed the plan. Score MEDIUM risk if: • The evaluation drafted a pre-analysis plan prior to data analysis and made significant changes that are clearly justified. Score HIGH otherwise	LOW	This evaluation drafted a pre-analysis plan prior to data analysis and followed the plan.

11	Clustering	Score LOW risk if: • Clustering is applied. • Clustering was tested but rejected as providing higher standard errors than non-clustering estimates. Score HIGH otherwise.	LOW	Clustering is applied at the barangay level.
Other				
12	Other	Any other issue reported by the evaluator.	N/A	

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