



October - November 2007 Update

"Women's Entrepreneurship Development: Strengthening BDS Providers and Improving the Market Access for Women Entrepreneurs"
(INS/06/M20/NZE)

FUNDED BY nzaid
New Zealand's International
Aid & Development Agency

1. PROGRESS

2. Project Advisory Committee Meeting:

The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) met for the second time in the ILO office in Banda Aceh on 04 Oct 2007. Due to the fact that the fasting month was about to begin the participants consisted mainly of representatives from the partner organizations and the BRR. Main points for discussion were planned activities following Ramadhan. Generally, POs agreed that they still needed organizational capacity building, which is why the project agreed to conduct a series of workshops on various topics. Also the internship initiative for staff of POs found a very positive response.

Series of ToEs on GET Ahead:

As one of the pilot initiatives POs received funding through the project to conduct Training of Entrepreneurs on GET Ahead. This had been started in early September, though was interrupted due to the commencing of the fasting month. Therefore five ToEs were conducted by ten newly trained trainers, who received guidance and feed-back from a coach, after completion of the Ramadhan in late October. Generally, it can be noted that the majority of the trainers has improved their facilitation skills immensely through this practice. The end of workshop appreciation by the women entrepreneurs, who participated, were also quite high.

Advanced Training of Trainers on GET Ahead:

Following the practical experience through conducting ToEs, an Advanced Training of Trainers was undertaken four months after the ToT from 05. to 15 November. The majority of training participants consisted of former participants of the ToT, trainers, who had conducted at least one ToE. Due to the fact that some originally selected trainers were not able to attend the AToT, remaining seats were filled with other experienced trainers.



Photo 1: AToT sharing experiences and challenges in conducting ToEs, Nov 2007

Micro Finance Linkages:

The ILO Micro Finance Component has joined forces with the ILO WED project in order to capacitate BDSP's staff and trainers to prepare proper loan applications for relevant MFIs and banks in Banda Aceh. Not only the way to a successful loan



October - November 2007 Update

application was explained and practiced during this two-days workshop, but also valuable tricks have been provided to participants by a long-time credit officer on how to present a client's loan application in an attractive light to MFIs. In addition to this contacts to suitable MFIs and banks have been provided to participants.

Series of Workshops:

As demanded by partner organizations during the second PAC meeting a series of workshops on five topics has been organized in late November continuing on into December 2007. All topics were geared towards increasing the organizational capacity of the ILO's partner organizations. Topics included: 1) Proposal Writing, 2) Organizational Transparency, 3) Annual Report Writing, 4) Monitoring & Evaluation, 5) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

Training Manuals & Tools:

In order to support the PO's trainers regarding their gender sensitivity while

organizing training courses a "Gender Guide for Enterprise Training" developed by the ILO's Gender Team in Bangkok has been translated into Indonesian language and distributed.

As a way to better promote the GET Ahead training package, a logo for the respective package, which will be used globally, has been developed by one of the partner organizations with some input from the global GET Ahead team.



Needs Assessment of IWAPI members:

The needs assessment of IWAPI members has been continuously delayed due to misinformation, low capacity of IWAPI and the fasting month. However, now this activity has gained new momentum, and it is anticipated that the final analysis will be available by Mid-December.

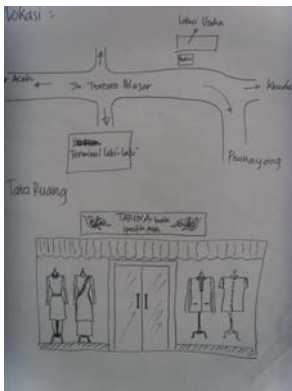


Photo 2: AToT's participant's map related to business planning, Nov 2007



Photo 3: AToT practicum estimating start-up capital for fishing business, Nov 2007

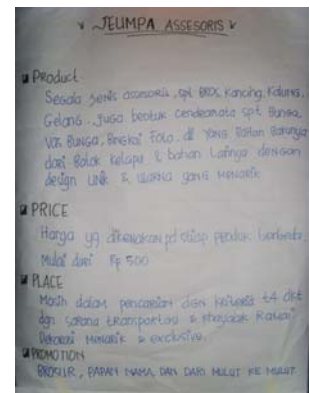


Photo 4: AToT's participant's business planning regarding 4Ps of marketing, Nov 2007



October - November 2007 Update

Table 1: Actual Progress of Capacity Building Activities

POs	Project Target				Total to date			
	Staff		Trainers		Staff		Trainers	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
IWAPI	60		32		16	1	9	0
Aceh ka Bangkit					3	0	5	1
Beujroh					3	0	7	0
Ivan Enterprise					3	5	8	7
UKM-Center					3	0	9	0
Yayasan Sejati					2	1	4	0
Others					7	14	9	8
Total by sex					37	21	51	16
Total	60		32		58		67	

Note regarding the total number of trainers: Some trainers have participated in more than one capacity building initiative. Therefore, the actual number of trainers capacitated is lower than indicated above, but at a higher quality level. The trainers, who have been participating in several capacity building initiatives, have shown a steady improvement in their capacity regarding service delivery, facilitation skills as well as knowledge about business principles.

Around 320 women entrepreneurs benefited directly through pilot activities up to November 2007, mainly through participating in an exhibition organized by IWAPI, and a series of ToEs on GET Ahead conducted by each one of the six partner organizations in Meulaboh, Sigli, Bireuen, Banda Aceh, Pulo Aceh and Aceh Besar. The impact of the implemented ToEs regarding the improvement of women's businesses will be assessed within an impact assessment in February 2008. Some of the partner organizations managed to access external funding for additional ToEs on GET Ahead on their own initiative.



Photo 5, ToE GET Ahead conducted by Beujroh in Meulaboh, Oct 2007



Photo 6, ToE GET Ahead conducted by Ivan Enterprise in Pulo Aceh, Oct 2007



Photo 7, Micro Finance linkages workshop in Banda Aceh, Nov 2007



October - November 2007 Update

2. ISSUES

Due to Ramadhan and the following Lebaran project implementation from the beginning of September until Mid-October has been slow. Following the fasting month the majority of organizations operating in Aceh have been trying to make up for lost time and therefore implemented increased programme efforts, which lead to our partner organizations being very busy conducting training courses and participating in other organizations' activities. For this reason the participation rate for the Advanced Training of Trainers conducted in November with 11 participants was lower than anticipated (it had been planned for 15 people). However, because of the small number of participants, individual people benefited more as they had to share the attention of the master trainer with fewer people.

A similar situation has to be expected for the month of December with Christmas and the end of the year coming up. In order to ensure a higher participation and increased commitment in the workshop series conducted from 25 Nov to 10 Dec, a reimbursable registration fee has been collected from each person signing up for any of the workshops. The aim of this fee is to encourage potential participants to plan their time better and commit only to

participate in workshops for which they have time available.

3. PLANS FOR DECEMBER

Activities started in November will be completed in December (series of workshops, remaining ToEs on GET Ahead).

Registration for and organization of project sponsored internships in viable BDS organizations, MFIs and companies in other provinces of Indonesia as well as other countries in South-East Asia will take place in December.

Agreements with various partner organizations regarding the up-grading and/or establishing of outlet shops will be finalized in December, so that the initiatives can start in early January 2008.

Another taskforce meeting will be held on 17 December to consolidate achievements made by local actors regarding their action plans.

4. NO-COST PROJECT EXTENSION

A request for no-cost project extension until May 2008 in order to ensure a better completion of project activities has been prepared by the ILO and will be submitted for NZAID's consideration shortly.