Water for Women: Indonesia

Improving the health, gender equality and wellbeing of communities through WASH and Beyond – Transforming Lives in Eastern Indonesia

Access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is essential to health and wellbeing.

Water for Women is partnering with Plan International Australia to benefit over 450,000 people, including the most marginalised within communities, by delivering WASH and Beyond.

Gender equality and social inclusion are central to Water for Women. Actively involving all people within communities (women, men, marginalised groups, people with disabilities) ensures more equitable and inclusive processes, which lead to more effective and sustainable outcomes in WASH.

Water for Women is the Australian Government’s flagship WASH program and will be delivered over five years from 2018 to 2022.
The Australian Government is committed to delivering effective and sustainable WASH access. Water for Women will contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG6), water and sanitation for all. 

*WASH and Beyond* will support opportunities and benefits in WASH for everyone in the community, with its emphasis on gender equality and social inclusion.

The Project will work in rural and urban areas of Manggarai district in Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) province and Sumbawa district in Nusa Tenggara Bara (NTB) province.

The Indonesian Government has created a strong enabling environment for WASH delivery at the national level, including a quality and evidence-based sanitation and hygiene policy (called the STBM policy).

However, there is still some way to go in ensuring water and sanitation for all, particularly in the more remote and rural areas of Indonesia:

- 40% of Indonesia’s population still practice open defecation or use an unimproved toilet;
- Only 31% of NTT’s population are living in STBM-declared communities that meet the standards set out in the STBM policy;
- Only 9% of NTB’s population are living in an STBM-declared community.

The Project will benefit over 450,000 people (227,000 females, 223,000 males) including the most marginalised within these communities, who in this context have been identified as women/girls, people with disabilities and sexual and gender minorities.

Australia understands that equitable WASH access is crucial in developing countries. Water for Women and our partners will provide innovative solutions to WASH delivery in Indonesia, and contribute to global WASH evidence and research.

“The Water for Women Project in Indonesia sets a new milestone on the country’s attempt to achieve the 6th Goal of the SDGs, sanitation for all. Sanitation for all is not just an idea or a dream anymore, but a work in progress to the reality of truly inclusive WASH.”

- Silvia Landa, Water for Women Project Manager, Plan International Indonesia.

The Australian aid program is investing in Indonesia over a five-year period. Water for Women is proud to be partnering with Plan International Australia, Plan International Indonesia and other local partners to deliver *WASH and Beyond*.

**Research Partner**

*Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in WASH & Climate Change Response for Inclusive WASH*