








**JEMBATAN GANTUNG TUVA
PETRA**



A RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT OF UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)
FUNDED BY FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY THROUGH KfW

STORY

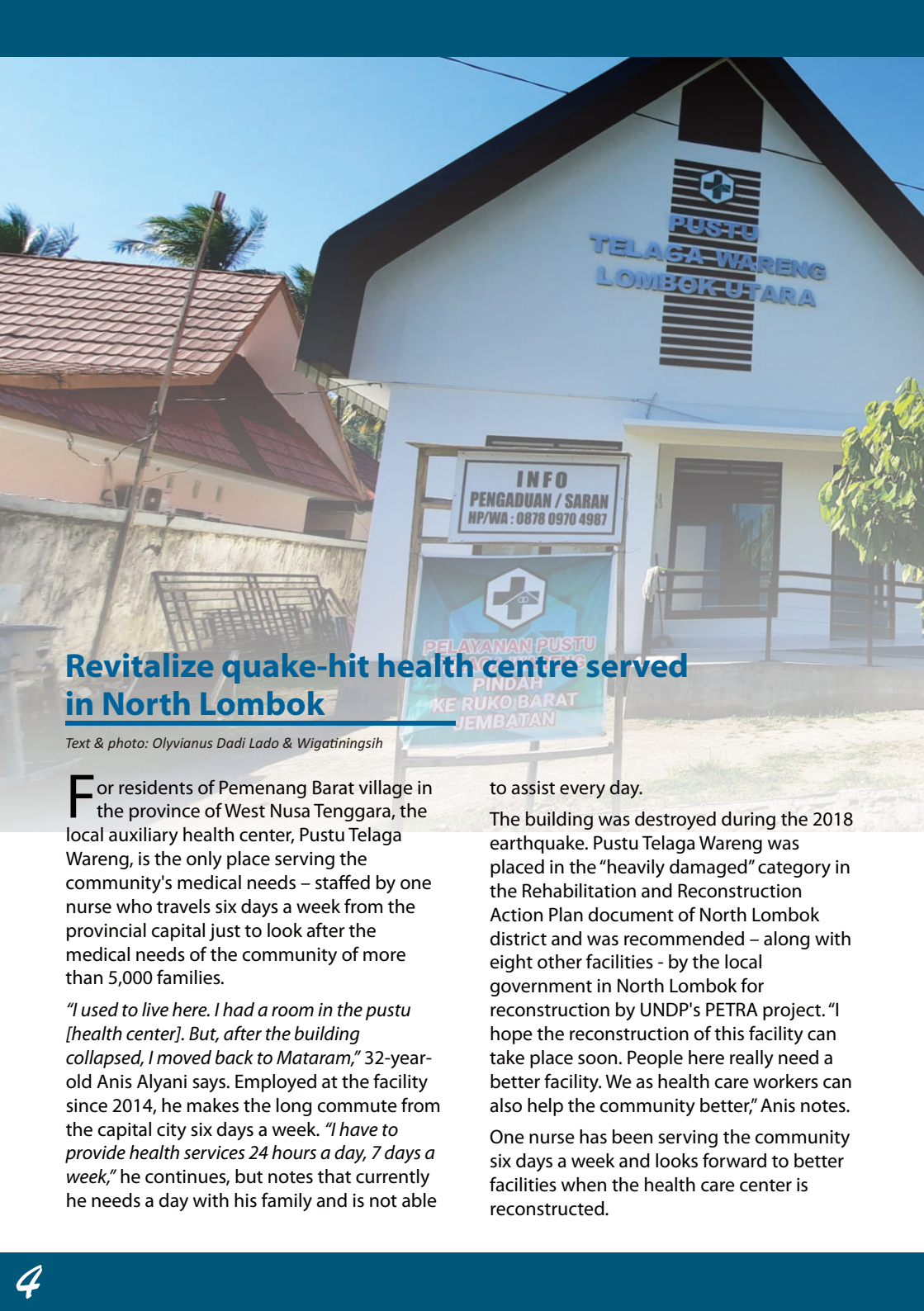
FROM THE FIELD





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Revitalize quake-hit health centre served in North Lombok

Text & photo: Olyvianus Dadi Lado & Wigatiningasih

For residents of Pemenang Barat village in the province of West Nusa Tenggara, the local auxiliary health center, Pustu Telaga Wareng, is the only place serving the community's medical needs – staffed by one nurse who travels six days a week from the provincial capital just to look after the medical needs of the community of more than 5,000 families.

"I used to live here. I had a room in the pustu [health center]. But, after the building collapsed, I moved back to Mataram," 32-year-old Anis Alyani says. Employed at the facility since 2014, he makes the long commute from the capital city six days a week. *"I have to provide health services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week,"* he continues, but notes that currently he needs a day with his family and is not able

to assist every day.

The building was destroyed during the 2018 earthquake. Pustu Telaga Wareng was placed in the "heavily damaged" category in the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Action Plan document of North Lombok district and was recommended – along with eight other facilities – by the local government in North Lombok for reconstruction by UNDP's PETRA project. "I hope the reconstruction of this facility can take place soon. People here really need a better facility. We as health care workers can also help the community better," Anis notes.

One nurse has been serving the community six days a week and looks forward to better facilities when the health care center is reconstructed.



"Most patients here suffer hypertension and Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI), especially after the disaster," Anis says as he reviews his patients' paperwork.

Pustu Telaga Wareng plays important role in the community for the access it provides. *"Many times, we have emergency cases at night. If we are unable to deal with them, we refer them to the nearest health center," Anis says.*

Health services in Pustu Telaga Wareng are constrained by the lack of adequate facilities.

"Of course, we are grateful for the temporary building because we can continue to serve the community, but it is far from it how it should be. For example, we do not have proper storage areas for medicine, we need clean patient examination rooms and proper rest rooms for both staff and patients."

Pustu Telaga Wareng is one among 14 public service facilities— nine auxiliary health posts, one community health center, and four primary schools in both North and East Lombok district of West Nusa Tenggara- province — that have been reconstructed by KfW funded UNDP - PETRA project.



Restore lifeline in quake-hit Indonesia's Sulawesi

Text & photo: Olyvianus Dadi Lado and Yeka Kusumajaya

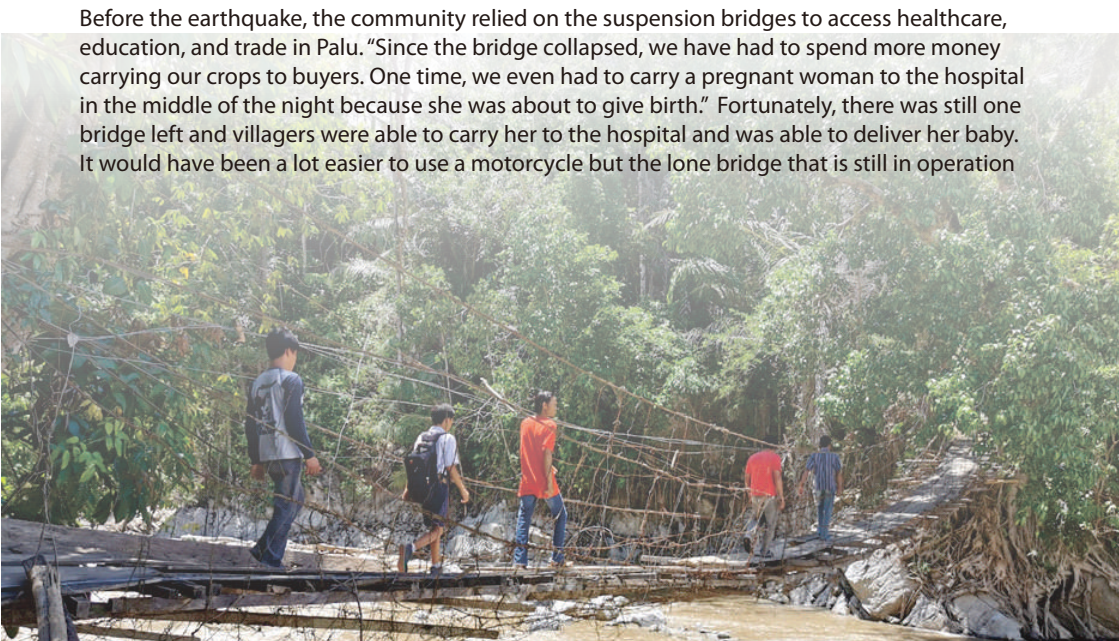
The collapse of two suspension bridges in quake-hit Tuva Village has rubbed salt into the wound for the farming community.

In September 2018, like the rest of villages in Indonesia's Central Sulawesi, Tuva village was hit by the 7.4-magnitude quake, causing damages to much of the community's infrastructure. Since then, villagers have been forced to partially travel on foot to sell their produce in nearby towns. They have also been struggling to get access to critical healthcare.

Markus Buntu has been a farmer in Kampong Toraja-Tuva village since 1977. For years, he has transported his produce – copra, corn, and cocoa across the Miu River to the provincial capital Palu on his motorcycle via a suspension bridge. The destruction of two of the main bridges during the earthquake and tsunami of 2018 has forced Markus and his community of farmers to carry their produce to the city on foot. But there is hope in sight. UNDP's PETRA project has recently completed the design of the new bridge and construction is set to begin in a few weeks, which will restore efficient connectivity.

"I was the first one to set up a home in this neighborhood," he says. But now there are 20 households here, each holding between four and six hectares of farmland to cultivate corn, cocoa, and copra. The crops can also be seen along the main roads in the village. "We rely on dried cocoas and copra. We sell corn, but we also save some for cattle feed," Markus says.

Before the earthquake, the community relied on the suspension bridges to access healthcare, education, and trade in Palu. "Since the bridge collapsed, we have had to spend more money carrying our crops to buyers. One time, we even had to carry a pregnant woman to the hospital in the middle of the night because she was about to give birth." Fortunately, there was still one bridge left and villagers were able to carry her to the hospital and was able to deliver her baby. It would have been a lot easier to use a motorcycle but the lone bridge that is still in operation



cannot bear the weight of vehicles.

UNDP's PETRA, project has recently completed the design of the new bridge and construction is expected to commence in August on what many consider the "treasure of the Tuva community".

UNDP is collaborating with YKMI, a national CSO working in Central Sulawesi for post-disaster recovery. YKMI has been working with the Tuva community to rebuild suspension bridges and irrigation canals. The PETRA project works on reconstruction projects via community consultation and has heard the community's concerns in a series of public meetings. "More than 80 per cent of our economic resources are across the Miu river. This collapsed bridge makes us even harder to transport our harvest," Bachtiar, the Village Head said.

The reconstruction of Tuva bridge is set to begin in August 2020. "We hope that this bridge can be rebuilt soon. It will help us save more money," Luther, a Kamong Toraja resident said.

Luther as well as Markus have had to spend more money to transport their harvest to market. They had to spend IDR 100,000 (approximately USD 8) per laborer to transport 5.8 tonnes of corn per day. 23 laborer have been assisting with this task "This is low, actually, as the workers are from our community. It would have been much higher if we sought assistance from people outside our village" Luther says.

The reconstruction of Tuva bridge helps Markus, Luther and their community access the market, health care and other facilities in Tuva. The reconstruction of Tuva bridge is akin to the return of a valuable community asset.



Encourages Women in Construction Work

Text & photo: Whisnu Y. Anggono & Zaenudin

Seated before a pile of steel materials and a cement mixer, construction worker Rohmiati looks every bit as strong as someone who has spent a good year of their life in hard labor. "You cannot underestimate us. Women are capable of constructing infrastructure," said the 21-year old during her break at the construction of Pasar Geggelang in quake-hit Indonesia's Lombok island.

Her sweat-soaked skin glistened under the scorching sun, and the glow served to define her muscles even more. Her seemingly strong physique is a result of her 'daytime' job working in the coffee and cocoa plantations near the village.

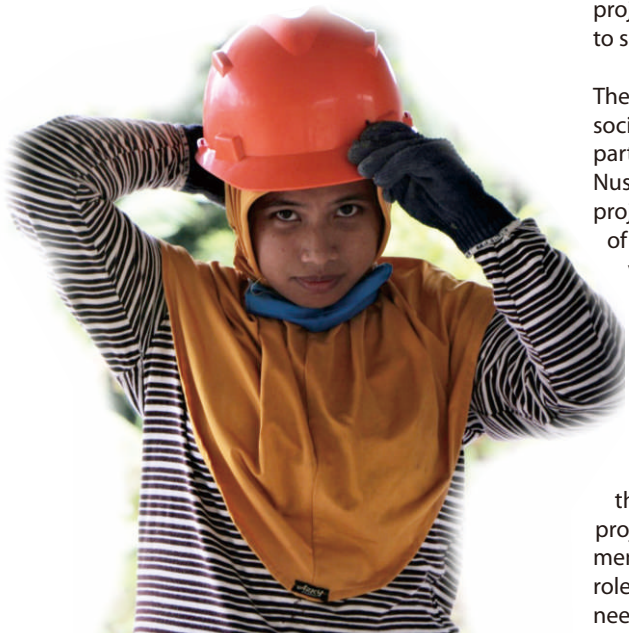
She is among six women involved in a project that encourages women's participation in the reconstruction of a central market under UNDP's Programme for Earthquake and Tsunami Infrastructure Reconstruction Assistance (PETRA) Project.

The Project has been helping women defy stereotypes and develop new skills in construction.

Another female participant in the programme is 50-year old Johan Kuni and she is the main wage earner in her family. Like Rohmiati, she works as a daily laborer in farms near the village and earns IDR 80,000 (approximately USD 0.55) to mow the lawn on the plantation, IDR 40,000 per sack of coffee beans she packs and IDR 20,000 per bucket of cocoa beans picked. She was interested in joining the construction project as she wanted to earn extra money to support her family.

The women have defied the norms in a society that is deeply patriarchal. In partnership with local CSO Paluma Nusantara in North Lombok, the PETRA project has advocated for the dismantling of stereotypes about the role of women via a community-based reconstruction program which is part of PETRA's long term Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Plan involving community participation.

Since the planning phase, UNDP has encouraged its partners to strengthen the element of inclusion in all aspects of project implementation to ensure all members of the community have an equal role in voicing their ideas based on their needs.



The head of Genggelang village noted that women in North Lombok have never been involved in construction work, appreciated PETRA's inclusive engagement. He added that it can be a good practice in the village development program and could be replicated.

Although the project has included women's participation, there are concerns about the unfair burden women experience with household responsibilities too. Therefore, disseminating information about the segregation of responsibilities at home is one step towards creating a more equal, inclusive environment.

PETRA's CSO partners have been mindful of the issue of gender-based violence and have informed project supervisors, heads of villages and participants of the programme about possible situations that women may encounter that are considered violations of their rights. They have provided examples of GBV that could occur both at work and in the domestic sphere.

UNDP's PETRA project, funded by Germany's development bank, KfW contributes to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of key infrastructure to support the resilient recovery of disaster-affected communities in Central Sulawesi and West Nusa Tenggara. It addresses the need to accelerate the restoration of critical public services, improve economic livelihood opportunities for affected communities while, at the same time, enhancing resilience to future shocks in both provinces.

"You cannot underestimate us.

Women are capable of constructing infrastructure."

Rohmiyati, 21





The recovery of cashew farmers in North Lombok

Text & photo: Nurjanah

In the weeks after the earthquake that destroyed much of the village of Sambik Elen in Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara in 2018, cashew farmers Sarimah and Rahmiatun were left homeless– and without livelihoods. The 7.0 magnitude earthquake destroyed much of the cashew farms and left a sluggish market for the crop in its wake.

Two years on, the women – recipients of UNDP's post-earthquake livelihood recovery programme for families affected by the earthquake – have regained their livelihoods and acquired additional technical skills.

"The earthquake had taken away everything we owned," Sarimah said. "We were living in tents. I didn't have the courage to go to the farm anymore. I was afraid of landslides and aftershocks," the 32-year-old cashew farmer continued.

"We lost everything and had to rely on food donations. Even if we wanted to go back to selling cashews, there wouldn't have been any buyers," reflected her friend, 31-year-old Rahmiatun.

The pair are among the more than 700 women from Sambik Elen whose family depends on earnings from their work in the cashew farms.

Two years after the disaster, the impact is still being felt by the 500 cashew farmer households in Sambik Elen.

"These days we only sell cashew fruit but we'd like to sell the nuts themselves, but we don't know how to shell them," Sarimah says, noting the lack of shelling tools. Cashew farmers in Sambik Elen usually sell their cashews whole, unshelled at IDR 15,000 per kilo. On average, 100 farmers pick 200-300 kilos per day during harvest, and are paid IDR 2,000 per kilo.

With limited resources, it may take a while for the community to recover lost income and is particularly challenging during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

To increase the added value of the cashew products, the PETRA Project provided five shelling tools, locally called Kacip, to the farmers. 10 women farmers were included

in a pilot project called the “Cashew Flower” group. Group members were then trained on cashew shelling techniques. To ensure that the equipment is used properly and helps contribute to an increase in income, each member of the group agrees to invest an initial capital of IDR 50,000 and a monthly fee of IDR 5,000. Capital contributions are used to buy cashew nuts which they then peel using the tool.

“I was a housewife and only stayed at home, but after joining the group, I learned how to use the kacip tool which has helped others in my community, said village resident Nurhidayah.

Now the “Cashew Flower” group sells shelled nuts. Now, four kilos of raw kilos of raw cashew nuts that are harvested yield one kilo of shelled cashews. Whole nuts are sold at IDR 200,000 per kilo while halves are sold at IDR 175,000 per kilo. Nuts that have been broken to smaller pieces are sold for IDR 100,000 per kilo.

“We hope that in future, we can use good packaging for our nuts and increase the value of the cashew nuts, Rahmiatun said.





Access to Water is Essential

Text & photo: Zaenudin

Every morning housewife Ernawati has to wait for her turn to get a bucket of clean water for her family in water-stricken Sambik Elen village in Indonesia's quake-hit North Lombok.

The 2018 earthquake destroyed the village's only remaining access of clean water supply which used to connect the farming village to the water springs in Rinjani forest area, about 4 km away. More than 850 families relied on the water pipeline for their source of water but accessing clean water has become a daily struggle since the quake.

"Life became very difficult when there was no clean water available at home for months. We had to wait in line every morning and afternoon to receive the supplies distributed by the government or humanitarian agencies. We had to compete with others because there were shortages," said the 31-year-old mother of two.

The 7.0 magnitude earthquake that struck Lombok in August 2018 destroyed the system, fracturing pipes and burying them in a landslide. With water getting harder to get, tension has also built among community as they jostle to get the limited supply of water.

Others like 41-year-old village resident Azizah, have to travel by foot for 2.5 km to the nearest river, Kali Putih river, to perform daily chores involving clean water.

"For bathing and washing our clothes, we need to travel 2.5 km to the Kali Putih river," added Azizah.

The reconstruction of a 2 km clean water installation system which will provide social and economic benefits to 600 households in the village. At least 34 residents, including 4 women and 30 men, will benefit economically from training as construction workers. The work will be carried out following strict physical distancing protocols in line with requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic.

During a groundbreaking ceremony, Regent Najmul Akhyar, who was accompanied by local leaders and government officials said "The water installation is an essential asset for the community today and for future generations. We must maintain its sustainability"

The village government has established a regulation that will allow the management of the facility to be overseen by the village entrepreneur platform via a specially assembled committee. He hopes that the construction of the irrigation system will help provide clean water for the community needs and strengthen social cohesion in the process.

Defying Stereotypes Women in Construction Works

Text & photo: Wigatiningsih, Nurjannah and Zaenudin

For many women affected by the 2018 earthquake in Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara, rebuilding their lives was a solitary effort.

UNDP's Programme for Earthquake and Tsunami Reconstruction Assistance (PETRA) has opened new opportunities for women who have defied stereotypes and have helped their community build forward better.

"I have six years of experience in construction, but I don't make as much money as men despite doing the same work," said Sriwahyuni, noting that her community considered construction largely the realm of men. "It's unfair, but there is nothing I can do about it because I need to support myself and my child," said the 35-year old single mother of one.

The gender pay gap has impacted the area's most vulnerable women. UNDP, through the PETRA project, has helped these women defy stereotypes and use their construction skills in the project's reconstruction of vital infrastructure in the region.

PETRA has worked with local government stakeholders at the district level and women's organizations, such as the Social Affairs Agency, Indonesian Women Headed Households (Pekka), Indonesia Women Coalition (KPI) and Women's School (Sekolah Perempuan) to promote gender equality and social inclusion.

"My family's finances were affected by the earthquake and then the COVID-19 pandemic," said Marhamah, referring to the double burden the community is experiencing currently. "But I'm glad that we have the opportunity for women to work in

construction and help improve the family's income" she added. Marhamah is among 31 women working on the reconstruction of the one of the schools in the area.

"I am happy that our wages for the work we do as part of the reconstruction of Pemenang school are the same as men. I can save for my children's education," Sriwahyuni said.

In addition to promoting gender equality, PETRA has also advocated for their rights, particularly with regard to equal pay. "The PETRA project has done well in terms of mainstreaming GESI in the construction sector.

The government of North Lombok is committed to designing specific policies to ensure women actively engage in the construction sector in the future," said Danny Karter Febrianto, Vice Regent of North Lombok.

The head of the Department of Social Affairs, Women's Empowerment and Child Protection noted its commitment to increasing women's capacity through training for women working in all sectors.

"As part of our commitment to increasing the capacity of women workers and providing protection under our watch, we guarantee that they will not experience gender-based violence or harassment at the construction sites" said Irvan Bengu, project coordinator PT. Ervan Prima Abadi JV. The contractors have also committed to increasing the number of women workers at these construction sites.





Eco-prints canvas green opportunity for women's community in quake-hit Lombok

Text & photo: Wigatiningsih and Zaenudin

For the quake-hit communities in Indonesia's North Lombok, the COVID-19 pandemic has given them a rare business opportunity to revive their livelihoods through sustainable fashion with eco-prints.

Using leaves and natural dye techniques, a group of nine women in Genggelang village has been producing eco-prints materials to be sold and marketed at shops in North Lombok and beyond. The eco-prints initiative was introduced after the women produced 7,000 masks in response to the pandemic.

The nine women of Nina Genem, as the group is called, was among dozens of community groups who have received support under UNDP's livelihood and reconstruction PETRA project. With funding from German development bank KfW, the Project aims to support communities in Lombok and Central Sulawesi, following the 2018 quakes and tsunami.

"Eco-print is our way of life now" said Mayani, the leader of the Nina Genem group adding "(the Project) has helped us recover our livelihoods after the earthquake". UNDP works with a local community group called

PALUMA who facilitated the women to form the Nina Genem sewing group. In 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic ravaged the region, the group produced around 7,000 masks which were sent to the North Lombok COVID- 19 Task Force.

In the months since the group produced masks, they were introduced to the eco-print technique, involving the use of leaf patterns on cloth. The group has since produced various fashion items including tejong (traditional cloth), masks and headscarves.

They also received business support from PALUMA with a detailed marketing plan to the local government, "When we first started working with the group, I noticed they were shy. Over time, they developed confidence in their abilities and have now been empowered to voice their opinions to the government too," said Umami Azizah, program manager PALUMA.

The North Lombok government has taken notice. The Regional Development Planning Board has ordered 67 eco-print fabrics and regional leaders have used eco-print fabrics

during their recent Development Planning Meeting. "Eco-print products are very creative. We are committed to supporting women's groups to be more resilient" said Yuni Kurniati, secretary of the North Lombok Regional Development Agency.

To build sustainability in their business, the women were taught comprehensive know-how on small businesses. "We meet twice a month, discussing opportunities and product marketing. We continue to innovate according to market trends" Mayani said.

By using natural dyes with zero industrial waste, the women have also made meaningful contribution to protect their surrounding environment.

Their modest success has triggered interest from other women's groups. A local cadre has facilitated eco-print training involving 12 women participants in other villages. It is hoped that the group can continue to develop their products and inspire other women to be empowered and rebuild their livelihood.

Groups like Nina Genem reveal the importance of empowering women to build socio-economic resilience and to help communities returning to normalcy after a disaster.

The eco-prints initiative also helps maintaining the balance between humanity and nature, as we work towards building forward better.

"Eco-print products are very creative. We are committed to supporting women's groups to be more resilient"
Yuni Kurniati



In North Lombok, a Community Helps Rebuild their Market

Text & photo: Wigatiningsih and Zaenudin

When a village in North Lombok lost their central market when an earthquake ravaged the area in 2018, they lost the focal point of their community.

Now, with financial assistance from UNDP's PETRA project, residents of Genggelang village in Indonesia's West Nusa Tenggara Province are coming together to help rebuild their community's central stomping grounds.

The Genggelang village market in North Lombok sold everything from food to children's toys. For the 11,530 residents of this village, it was more than a place to shop for everyday needs and the occasional treat.

It was where the community gathered to catch up on local gossip, to check on the well-being of their neighbours and to spend time with friends. The earthquake may have destroyed the physical structure that brought

the community together, but it didn't destroy the spirit of camaraderie.

The PETRA project, in partnership with local CSO Paluma Nusantara will bring the community together between August and November and help in the reconstruction effort.

Community leaders and officials gathered for the official groundbreaking ceremony on July 30 to mark the start of the reconstruction of what North Lombok Regent dr H. Najmul Ahyar described as a critical asset to the local economy.

The reconstruction will provide employment for 20 workers – 13 men and seven women- and will include training in construction including workplace safety and security. The work is expected to provide short term income for these families who are also experiencing the





devastating economic impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The work has given hope to IbuKasyuni, who has been unemployed since the disaster. For years she helped her sister harvest her cacao tree and lived off the limited income it produced. "I have been given an opportunity to work in construction," she says. "Now I will gain a new experience and skill set. More importantly, I will get a good income to support my family," adds the mother of three and grandmother of six.

For 55-year old Zaki, who is a skilled construction worker by trade, reconstructing the market will give him the opportunity to head the team. "I am happy that the planning process of market construction went well. Our voices were heard," he says.

Construction is expected to be completed by November 2020 and will be managed independently by village-owned enterprise, Badan Usaha Milik Desa.



Clean water for all!

Text & photo: Wigatiningsih and Zaenudin

Since the 2018 earthquake, residents in Sambik Elen village in Indonesia's North Lombok province had been struggling to gain access of clean water. Not only did the quake destroy the water pipelines, but it almost destroyed the fabric of the community who had been jostling to get their share of clean water.

"I was often woken up at night by communities who were fighting over the lack of clean water," village leader Pak Sahnun said, noting that it became especially difficult for the community of over 850 families after the earthquake.

Following the recent installation of a new water pipeline, the farming community has regained their peace and normalcy in improving their livelihoods and social relations.

After the quake, residents had been forced to line up every morning for basic supplies—including water—which was distributed by the government or humanitarian agencies. With demand exceeding supply, some residents fought with their neighbors over access. Some of them had to walk over two kilometers to the nearby river to wash clothes and collect water for household use.

In December 2020, UNDP via its PETRA project, in partnership with local civil society organization (CSO), PALUMA, began construction on this vital piece of infrastructure. Local residents were encouraged to participate, which helped contribute to their livelihoods. From assisting with checking locations for installation to monitoring of the facility, residents noted a heightened sense of community ownership.





"I was happy to be involved in the work. I realized the complexity of the construction process and the challenges in the wake of the damage caused by the earthquake. But our efforts have paid off," said local resident, home maker Wiliana Fajriah.

After six months of construction, the water pipeline was completed in December 2020. The two kilometer clean water facility has benefitted the entire community, supporting them in their farming and household needs. The reconstructed water facility has also bolstered economic activity in the village. A community group, Al-Hidayah, a largely women's farming co-operative developed a nursery business, planting vegetables for daily use to help minimize household expenses while also supplementing income. The now-reliable water supply has also encouraged the Tunas Timur youth group to open a small coffee shop in the village.

Communal ownership of the clean water facility is critical for sustainable water management in the future. The village government has installed 300 water meters to ensure sustainable water governance and will be overseen and managed by village-owned enterprises.

UNDP has helped bridge communications with local government stakeholders at provincial and district levels to scale up the benefit and impact of the water installation project.

As a result, the development planning board of North Lombok has allocated IDR 671 million (around USD 47,000) to replicate the clean water system aiming to benefit other communities in the village. The West Nusa Tenggara province disaster management agency, through the public affairs agency, has allocated IDR 200 million to build ground wells and water pumps. These ongoing collaborative efforts are currently in the technical planning and design phase.

"UNDP, through the PETRA project, has developed a good model of community-based project planning and implementation. We will adopt it to reconstruct clean water management system in the village," said Mr. Heriyanto, Head of Bappeda North Lombok.



On-the job training for Vocational School Students

Text & photo: Wigatiningsih and Zaenudin

While the lush green fields of the vocational school (SMKN 1) grounds in Gangga, North Lombok in Indonesia's West Nusa Tenggara province provide a space for students working towards their vocational certification as part of their on-their-job training programme, is far from ideal. The earthquake destroyed their school building in 2018 forcing students to study in makeshift classrooms around the area. UNDP's Programme for Infrastructure Reconstruction Assistance (PETRA) is working in the region and is rebuilding this school among other vital infrastructure.

The vocational training programme, sponsored by PETRA- itself funded by Germany's development bank, KfW has also helped these students fulfill a critical phase of their studies which is designed to link theoretical knowledge with practical skills needed to help them begin their vocational careers following completion of mandatory schooling.

Students were excited about the opportunities provided, noting that they were motivated by the work. The school offers

several technical competencies which includes design and building electrical installation, computer networking and motorcycle repair.

"I am very happy, I have learned to calculate foundational work, and structural engineering of earthquake resilient buildings, through the programme," said Ms. Fitria Angelina, a vocational student. "I hope to build a career in this field and help construct safe buildings which will help more communities," she continued.

The PETRA project welcomed 46 vocational students, including 13 women from SMKN 1 Gangga of studying architecture to follow a three month training programme at 12 PETRA construction sites in North Lombok from January to March 2021. The programme is part of the PETRA project's aim to help develop the knowledge and skills of the local community in support of UNDP's "build back better" principles applied in its reconstruction projects. It is expected upon completion the job-training the students will have better understanding

to promote build back better principles in their own community.

"It has been very difficult to find suitable placements for our students to complete the on-the-job-training component during the COVID-19 pandemic, so we are thankful for UNDP's PETRA project for the cooperation in helping provide this opportunity for our students", said Mr. Andi Munif, the head of school.

"On-the-job training is beneficial for our students and has increased our students' awareness of "build back better" principles in construction," noted Ms.Yentri, an engineering teacher at SMKN Gangga.

Under the guidance and supervision of the Project Manager of PT.Ervan Prima Abadi JV, Mr .Henry Siagian, students have developed technical and practical competencies on-site including land measurement, drafting detail

engineering design, structural engineering guidelines and and management of building materials. . "We are committed to recruiting students who have followed job training here with good performance to work join us in Jakarta" said Site Manager PT.Ervan Prima Abadi JV, Mr. Irvan Bengue. .

The head of the Education and Culture Office of West Nusa Tenggara appreciated the KfW supported PETRA project's work in the province. "UNDP has been promoting the principle of "build back better" and this is a great opportunity to equip them with technical knowledge on disaster resilient buildings" said Dr. H. Aidy Furqan, the head of the educational and cultural office of West Nusa Tenggara.





Women Farmers Contribute to Quake-hit Canal Reconstruction

Text & photo: Ranjit Jose and Olyvianus Dadi Lado

When the earthquake destroyed a vital irrigation canal in Indonesia's Jono village in 2018, Ibu Olfen's world turned on its head. The farmer also lost the critical lifeline to her farmland which had supported her family for years.

Thanks to the ongoing reconstruction of the canal by UNDP's Programme for Earthquake and Tsunami Reconstruction Assistance (PETRA), however, the coconut farmer has secured a temporary job and earned a living to support herself and three young children

When the PETRA project began working in the region with local partner Imunitas, and reached out to the community offering job opportunities, Ibu Olfen said she jumped right in.

"I had been making good money as a farmer, but the damaged irrigation canal hindered the harvest, so there were some difficulties. When we were offered the opportunity to work, I decided to take the job so I could earn extra cash in addition to my income from my farming products. It was a good decision as I have been able to save money for myself and help my children too. One of them is still in school," said Ibu Olfen who also heads the local Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises Cooperative.

"I enjoy the work. There are a few women I work with here and we feel well-respected. We have not experienced any problems in our work. Men and women have different responsibilities in the project and we work together as a team," she said.

Imunitas, a Palu-based CSO is no stranger to UNDP's PETRA project. The CSO had previously collaborated with UNDP on a



Cash for Work (CfW) program, in which workers report their hours using a mobile app that is immediately linked to a bank account where their wages are deposited. “Workers check in twice a day,” said Rahmat Hidayat, Project Coordinator at Imunitas, adding “This has helped to guarantee that they will be paid each month. The accounts are held in each worker’s name which has especially helped the women working here as they have autonomy over their income and can decide how to spend or save their earnings.”

In addition, local banks frequently organize workshops on financial planning to inform workers about savings and investment opportunities.

“Thanks to this project, I have a steady income, so I can plan for the future,” Ibu Olfen noted, adding that she plans to fully return to farming once the reconstruction project

ends later this year. “The new irrigation system will be stronger and better. It will help our community’s harvest,” she said. “I have some money saved up, so my future income from farming will just add to that. I hope that the future won’t be as difficult with this new facility.”

Working to rebuild this vital irrigation channel has given the 51-year old widow her a moral boost. “Like many women in my community, I have had many struggles and obstacles, but I’m thankful for the opportunities that have come by which have helped me immensely,” she said.

“Knowing that I made a major contribution to rebuilding my community after the earthquake destroyed so much, that gives me so much pride —and hope —for myself, my children and my community,” she beamed.

A Rebuilt Market, Holds Hope for a Brighter Future

Text & photo: Ranjit Jose and UNDP-PETRA team

As construction gains ground on a market in Indonesia's Sibado village, a farming community awaits a fresh start following the 2018 devastating earthquake hitting the Central Sulawesi province which took the lives of many of their neighbors.

The 7.5 magnitude earthquake and tsunami damaged the only market that the community had used, rendering it completely unusable. The community has since had to rely on temporary facilities that are often flooded in the rains and are inadequate to meet their needs.

UNDP's Programme for Earthquake and Tsunami Reconstruction Assistance (PETRA) has been working in the region on reconstructing a more stable, permanent structure for the community. The project, funded by the German Development Bank (KfW), has also been working to rebuild vital infrastructure in another quake-hit province of West Nusa Tenggara (NTB).

The market's inclusive reconstruction process, which is expected to be completed in late 2022, also incorporates green design elements by using environmentally friendly materials and involving local community members. "We are so grateful for the PETRA project's work here," said Azan Septiawan, the head of the village of just over 3,000 people.

The new market – built to resist disasters including earthquakes – will be used by approximately 120 vendors. Many of the needs of women's communities are being incorporated into the rebuilt market. Many of the market's traditional sellers and consumers are women, therefore it's critical to guarantee that their needs are met. Women make up 35 percent of the construction workers currently working on various projects under PETRA. Women are also included in the decision-making process to ensure that gender concerns are addressed at all levels.



“We plan to begin using the facility twice per week and provide an opportunity for our community to market their produce and other goods,” Septiawan noted, adding that neighboring communities, whose marketplaces continue to be flooded during the rainy season and suffer other consequences due to weather patterns, will also be allowed to use the space.

The farming village of Sidabo lies about two hours north of provincial capital Palu where the villagers receive most of the household items and daily needs. The market is more than a business hub; it is also a gathering place for social events, where locals strengthen their links in order to support their community.

With running water and sanitation facilities provided as part of the reconstructed market, Septiawan hopes the community will help keep the market clean throughout the year.

Farmers will be required to pay a modest rent to the village administration, which Septiawan notes, will be used to develop the area and help improve the village’s living conditions.



