

Chapter 3

Policies and Initiatives Supporting Women Entrepreneurs in Indonesia

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After having provided an overview of the global, regional, and national trends affecting women-led MSMEs in Indonesia and a data overview covering the eastern provinces, this section provides a summary of key policy initiatives and developments relevant to women-led MSMEs in Eastern Indonesia.

1. Overview of Key Public Policies

Indonesia's commitment to promoting gender equality mainstreaming has been reflected in the Roadmap of SDGs Indonesia 2030. The roadmap set by the Ministry of National Development Planning serves as a fundamental guide for other ministries. The Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection in partnership with the Ministry of Law and Human Rights as well as the Ministry of Home Affairs of Indonesia put forth a gender equality parameter in 2011. This policy has been introduced because discrimination against women persists throughout some existing policies at the national and provincial levels, including women's right to socio-economic activity. This parameter approach streamlined four gender approaches to be included in policy formulation across Indonesian government bodies at both the national and provincial levels: access, participation, control, and benefits.

One of the key indicators to measure the success of development is to balance the participation between men and women in socioeconomic activity. Over years, the national government in coordination with the provincial-level governments also aim to improve and harness the performance of MSMEs in provincial areas. However, MSMEs across Indonesia still face issues in production, marketing, and financing. It is, therefore, essential to improve their technical capacities in production, marketing, and financing through several policy programmes.

To support MSMEs, the Indonesian government has issued several programmes and regulations to resolve the abovementioned barriers. However, stakeholders at the national level and the provincial governments need to work together to tackle several barriers for MSMEs in Eastern Indonesia. This section underpins several existing policies and data in Indonesia. For a detailed overview of the relevant Indonesian policy programmes, see Annex 3.