

Policy recommendations from GUCCI  
Indonesia

# The Covid-19 Pandemic into GUCCI

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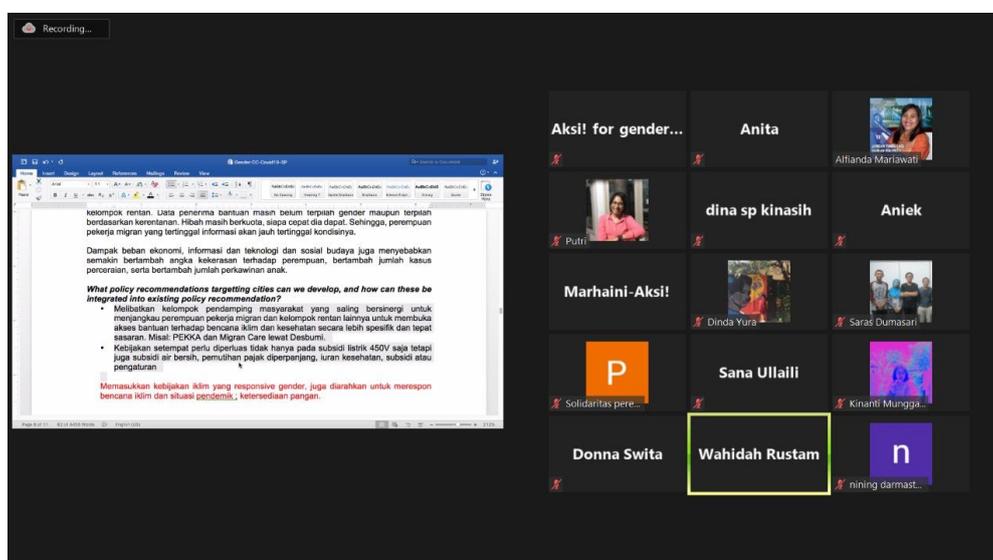
# 1. The Context

The Covid-19 pandemic since early 2020 has continued to this day with an increasingly troublesome situation, and there is no sign that this situation will end soon. The pandemic then changed many things in our daily lives, from the way we work, the way we travel to the way we interact with one another. Many working targets, programs, and projects cannot be achieved mainly because of barriers to meeting and traveling. These obstacles not only affect the continuity of economic, social, and cultural collective lives but also affect social relations and up to individual emotional and psychological situations.

The Covid-19 pandemic thus affected development goals, both national and international. Input regarding the situation from each region is important for developing future strategies, so we can adapt to live with the Covid-19 pandemic. The analysis of this situation is expected to generate recommendations and strategies for adjusting ourselves to the new situation of living with the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Gender into Climate Change Urban Initiative (GUCCI) Program in Indonesia has conducted gender assessments of climate policy and action in Indonesia at the national and city levels, i.e., Jakarta, Makassar, Yogyakarta, and Jember. Gender assessments looked at the impacts of climate change and the impacts of climate response measures on lives in those cities, particularly the lives of women. Some recommendations were put forward to address gender disparities that emerged or exacerbated due to climate change and climate response actions.

Now, gender disparities due to climate change are exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, we need an explanation regarding the relationship between the two impacts: climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic, especially for women. In the context of GUCCI, this paper produces additional recommendations to the policy recommendations that have already been submitted.



*Online discussion on Covid-19 pandemic and GUCCI on May 8, 2021*

This paper is collaborative writing by the GUCCI research teams in Indonesia, i.e., Aksi for gender, social and ecological justice, Solidaritas Perempuan National, Solidaritas Perempuan Makassar, and Solidaritas Perempuan Yogyakarta. The source came from the results of the organizing work carried out by Solidaritas Perempuan and the desk study by Aksi and Solidaritas Perempuan.

There are issues highlighted in this paper, according to the guidance provided by GenderCC, which is GUCCI's partner in Germany, are: (1) the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the pandemic response measures on women, other vulnerable and marginalized groups; (2) gender-just response measures to the Covid-19 pandemic; and (3) integration of gender-just recommendations for responding to the Covid-19 pandemic in the recommendations for climate change policies in cities that have been prepared by the GUCCI Indonesia teams. This paper addresses these three focuses according to the situation, responses, and recommendations nationally, and in 4 GUCCI cities, i.e., Jakarta, Makassar, Yogyakarta, and Jember.

## **2. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and its response measures on women and other marginalized groups**

This section describes the experiences of women, other vulnerable and marginalized groups facing the Covid-19 pandemic and the pandemic control measures.

The general situation for women both nationally and in those four GUCCI cities is almost the same.

### **Access to health services is increasingly difficult:**

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the government prioritizes handling the pandemic and cares less about other public health services, particularly women's reproductive health services. The Large-Scale Social Distancing Policy (PSBB) has weakened economic activities in Indonesia, from national economic activities to community and informal economic activities. Loss of work and income, and loss of livelihoods, create a new impoverishment. The money that is still left in the family, is usually used for daily family needs. The budget for women's reproductive health services are becoming increasingly disappearing.

Some referral hospitals for the Covid-19 pandemic in Jakarta are also overwhelmed with increasing number of patients<sup>1</sup>. This situation makes women face difficulty or afraid to go to the hospitals and other health services. Pregnant women are facing difficulties to access health services, according to various information from Jakarta, Yogyakarta, and Bali. Health checks for pregnant women or women who are about to give birth must be preceded by a Covid-19 test procedure, which costs them a lot. Many times they have to wait in a long queue and spend a long time for the result.

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<sup>1</sup> Gawat, RS Rujukan Covid Terancam Over Capacity; RM. Id, (14/8/2020), di <https://rm.id/baca-berita/megapolitan/44199/jika-sampai-september-kasusnya-tak-kunjung-melandai-gawat-rs-rujukan-covid-terancam-over-capacity>

There was even information from Mataram, for example, about a pregnant woman who miscarried because she was unable to pay for the Covid-19 test procedure when she wanted to check the health condition of her pregnancy.<sup>2</sup>

Hence, the Covid-19 pandemic has increased the health risk of women, especially their reproductive health. The Covid-19 pandemic and gender blind response measures have strengthened gender injustice against women, particularly against poor women.

### **Increasing domestic workload**

PSBB also requires all activities such as working, teaching, and learning activities to be carried out at home. According to Solidaritas Perempuan that monitors the situation in many cities<sup>3</sup>, under a patriarchal context that requires women to work for the household, the workload of women increases. Apart from doing domestic work, women also have to accompany their children during their school learning from home. Limited access and knowledge of internet technology make it even more difficult for women to deal with the existing situation. Moreover, household expenses also increase for paying the needs of children to study from home, for telephone and internet costs.

Water is an essential need for women, not only for daily needs at home, and for their own needs, particularly if they are having menstruation, pregnant, and caring for babies. However, water remains a problem for many women in urban areas, especially urban poor women. The privatization of water companies in urban areas means that people have to pay dearly for water, even though it is of poor quality. During the Covid-19 pandemic, which requires people to use more water, family expenses for getting clean water are getting bigger.

### **Increased domestic violence:**

Cases of violence against women and children, and domestic violence during the pandemic period have increased.

LBH Apik and the National Commission on Violence against Women (Komnas Perempuan) have shown increasing domestic violence<sup>4</sup>. According to Komnas Perempuan, it has received online reports of increasing gender-based violence from

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.merdeka.com/peristiwa/jadi-saksi-jelembayu-ceritakan-kehilangan-bayi-saat-urus-prosedur-rapid-test.html>

<sup>3</sup> Based on monitoring by Solidaritas Perempuan about the situation of women affected by Covid-19 pandemic in 19 villages in year 2020.

<sup>4</sup> Numbers of domestic violence in Indonesia increases since Covid-19 pandemic: causes and how to address it, at: The Conversation; 6 Agustus 2020, <https://theconversation.com/angka-kdrt-di-indonesia-meningkat-sejak-pandemi-covid-19-penyebab-dan-cara-mengatasinya-144001>

victims: 2017 (97 cases), 2018 (97 cases), 2019 (281 cases), 2020 (659 cases have occurred as of October 2020)<sup>5</sup>.

The Center for Integrated Services for the Empowerment of Women and Children (P2TP2A) of Makassar City stated that during January-October 2020 at least 467 cases were reported to them. LBH Apik Makassar data shows 60 cases during the Covid-19 pandemic. LBH Makassar reported 45% of cases of domestic violence during the pandemic, 8% of violence against children, and 45% of sexual violence<sup>6</sup>. Child marriage has also increased by 30% compared to the pre-pandemic period.

Frustration and stress due to decreased income because of layoffs, loss of livelihoods, and other economic difficulties due to the Covid-19 pandemic and on the other hand due to the pandemic response measures, are considered as the main causes of the increasing violence against women and children.

### **Increasingly vulnerable to being exposed to Covid-19.**

The slowing-down of the business sector due to the Covid-19 pandemic has caused layoffs everywhere. Women working in the formal and informal sectors experience more layoffs than men. It is estimated that there are four times as many as men<sup>7</sup>.

According to the Manpower Office in Jakarta, as many as 162,416 people were dismissed and then laid off in April 2020. In detail, 30,137 workers from 3,348 companies were laid off, while 132,279 workers from 14,697 companies were sent home without wages<sup>8</sup>.

More than 63.89% of women work in the informal sector and daily laborers in various places. Many of them lost their jobs due to the Covid-19 pandemic, especially those working in the food, beverage, and service business. Many of them were initially temporarily sent home and then laid off from work. They were in a situation of insufficient savings, no employment contracts, nor health insurance, and social security. Moreover, they do not have sufficient nutrition for themselves and their families, the quality of the environment in which they live is bad, or they do not have enough money to access health services.

The micro-business economic sector in Yogyakarta that produces goods that are not primary needs, such as handicrafts, souvenirs, has stalled during the pandemic because the tourism sector has stalled. This situation affected the production process that further has to reduce the workers, sent home first, then laid off. About 1,488

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<sup>5</sup> [Press release] The increasing online gender based violence during pandemi, at OSafeNet; 16 Sept 2020, <https://id.safenet.or.id/2020/12/rilis-pers-peningkatan-kekerasan-berbasis-gender-online-selama-pandemi/>

<sup>6</sup> Catatan Akhir Tahun LBH Makassar, 2020

<sup>7</sup> Source: <https://www.merdeka.com/uang/imbis-pandemi-perempuan-tercatat-paling-banyak-jadi-korban-phk.html?page=2>

<sup>8</sup> Source: PHK Massal di Tengah Pandemi Covid-19 dan Upaya Pemerintah Berikan Insentif, Kompas .com ( 6/4/2020), <https://megapolitan.kompas.com/read/2020/04/06/06231941/phk-massal-di-tengah-pandemi-covid-19-dan-upaya-pemerintah-berikan?page=all>

workers in Yogyakarta have experienced this situation. Losing jobs and sources of income make women more vulnerable to exposure to the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **Various experiences of marginalized and poor women**

Meanwhile, the situation of poor and marginalized women in a certain sector is as follows:

### **Women medical workers are not involved in making decisions:**

According to WHO data, the number of female nurses reaches 71%, the number of female doctors is 50%, while all midwives are women, among medical personnel in Indonesia<sup>9</sup>. They are more at risk of being exposed to the Covid-19 pandemic because they are in the hospital or interacting directly with the peoples. However, in their experience, they are not involved in decisions about planning, monitoring, detection processes, and prevention mechanisms. This non-involvement leads to the lack of gender analysis in developing response measures to the Covid-19 pandemic, both in policy and government actions.

### **Women in the formal sector**

The Jakarta City government has also implemented PSBB as one of the strategies to control the Covid 19 pandemic. This social distancing policy has affected women, who depend their lives as daily labor such as washer, market porter, mussel peeler, mobile food vendors, and others. The social distancing measure resulted in women's daily income experiencing a significant decline, and on the other hand there is lack of subsidies from the government for their daily needs. Meanwhile, many social assistance programs from the government are not well-targeted and do not match the specific needs of women, like the women's reproductive health needs<sup>10</sup>.

There are efforts made by the Jakarta City government, i.e., the Pre-Work Card program derived from the national government program. This program provides training and incentives for those affected by layoffs and unemployment. However, this program is very ineffective because it provides training without any opportunity to get jobs after training<sup>11</sup>. Furthermore, the government has not assisted informal workers<sup>12</sup>.

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<sup>9</sup> Source: Kompas tv, Beban Ganda Tenaga Medis Perempuan di Tengah Pandemi, 18 Desember 2020, di:

<https://www.kompas.tv/article/131691/beban-ganda-tenaga-medis-perempuan-di-tengah-pandemi>

<sup>10</sup> Pemprov DKI Berbagi Wilayah Penyaluran Bansos Tahap III, Investor.id,

(22/4/2020) <https://investor.id/national/kemensospemprov-dki-berbagi-wilayah-penyalaran-bansos-tahap-iii>

<sup>11</sup> Analisis efektifitas kartu pra kerja di tengah Pandemi Covid-19, Adalah, Buletin Hukum dan Keadilan,

<http://journal.uinjkt.ac.id/index.php/adalah/article/view/15479/7242>

<sup>12</sup> Apakah pekerja sektor informal juga bisa mendapatkan subsidi BLT ini? Website Kemenaker, Sept 2020

<https://bantuan.kemnaker.go.id/support/solutions/articles/43000595946-apaakah-pekerja-sektor-informal-juga-bisa-mendapatkan-subsidi-bl-t-ini->

## Women migrant workers

The Covid-19 pandemic response measures also affect women migrant workers in Jakarta. According to Solidaritas Perempuan, the handling of cases of women migrant workers in Jakarta is even more hampered. Many officers have to work from home without a system that ensures the sustainability of handling cases of migrant workers<sup>13</sup>. Moreover, the Jakarta City government also does not have a specific policy to ensure the sustainability of the lives of women migrant workers after their return during the pandemic. Amid a climate crisis that has not been resolved, the Covid-19 pandemic occurred. The women migrant workers have lost their livelihoods and home businesses due to the floods that hit early 2020. Then it continued with a pandemic crisis. The Jakarta City government did not issue policies to accommodate the needs of women migrant workers during floods and the pandemic.

The fate of Indonesian migrant workers in Malaysia is getting worse. Workers have not been able to leave the oil palm plantations since the Malaysian government enacted the Government of the Kawalan Movement (PKP) policy in 2020. However, this policy was not accompanied by a solution to meet the needs of those trapped in the oil palm plantations, nor assistance from representatives of the Indonesian government in Sarawak, Malaysia. It was reported that a pregnant woman migrant worker had to give birth inside the oil palm plantation<sup>14</sup>.

The returning of Indonesian migrant workers is due to the response measures from the receiving country for those, who are found the Covid-19 positive. Migrant workers are sent home by plane and ship from Singapore, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Italy, Taiwan, and others; mostly, from Malaysia. 69% of them are women<sup>15</sup>. However, due to the policy of the Indonesian government, the return procedure was delayed.

Most of the repatriation is carried out without fulfilling their rights for the work before Covid-19, particularly those who worked for family care, such as looking after the elderly or household assistants. As a result, remittances to families at home are reduced and there is also uncertainty in expenses while waiting for the repatriation process.

The returnees face job insecurity at home and many layoffs due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. They are then unemployed. Returning migrant women also find it difficult to meet their daily needs, such as the obligation to pay for electricity, water, health insurance, or paying for loans for family business capital. Not to mention that they face the stigma of carrying the virus because they are sent back from their workplaces abroad, such as the incident in Jember. Their villagers tend to be anxious about interacting with them.

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<sup>13</sup> Based on the experience of Solidaritas Perempuan in handling cases of violence and human rights violation against the women's migrant workers in 2020

<sup>14</sup> Based on a report of a fact finding mission about the condition of the deported Indonesian migrant workers during Covid-19 pandemic from Sabah, Malaysia. Koalisi Buruh Migran Berdaulat, 2020.

<sup>15</sup> Source: <https://pcnujember.or.id/2020/04/23/pekerja-migran-dan-kebijakan-pemerintah-di-lingkaran-pandemi-covid-19-2/>

It is difficult for women migrant workers in Makassar to find food, social assistance packages, and health services<sup>16</sup>. Government assistance has not reached this group. The government data in its related ministries do not have comprehensive data and are not disaggregated by gender nor pandemic vulnerability.

### **Women human rights defenders**

Women who are fighting for their rights to land and livelihoods due to climate disaster and climate response measures, and at the same time hit by the Covid-19 pandemic, often do not have enough income or food. They become dependent on the Covid-19 pandemic aid assistance package or aid for emergency response. Many companies donate aid packages, including the one that is in a conflict over land and resources with the communities, including the women. Some companies collaborate with the village elites to use these aid packages to silence the communities' resistance<sup>17</sup>.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, women's human rights defenders living on the coast of Makassar City also experienced economic difficulties. They must adapt to uncertain weather conditions and face restricted access to the sea due to harbor construction activities for goods and services business in their fishing areas. Those construction activities led to decreasing fish catches. Moreover, the fish catches from the sea are sold at low prices because the fish processing industry, which they usually supply, has closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The coastal communities opposing the harbor construction activities, organize and defend their villages and fishing areas. Now they are experiencing a discrimination by the government in distributing Covid-19 social assistance.

### **Women affected by climate change:**

Climate disasters and crises that occur amid a pandemic exacerbate the impacts on women, particularly the poor women and those living in disaster-prone areas. However, the government is not well prepared to a comprehensive handling of the yearly floods, especially if it occurs at the same time as other disasters, such as the Covid-19 pandemic.

The handling of Jakarta's yearly floods, whether caused by tidal floods or flooding from 13 rivers in Jakarta, have never been considered optimal by the communities. Floods in Jakarta at the time of Covid-19 occurred in 2020 and 2021. In 2020, the number affected by the Jakarta floods was 151,337 and forced 52,093 people to go to

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<sup>16</sup> Source: Monitoring and Advocacy of cases of violence and violation of the rights of migrant workers, Solidaritas Perempuan Anging Mamiri, 2020

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.solidaritasperempuan.org/pandemic-covid-19-reklamasi-proyek-mnp-terus-beraktivitas-nelayan-tradisional-dan-perempuan-pesisir-menuntut-tanggung-jawab-negara/> dan <https://www.mongabay.co.id/2020/09/17/dampak-pandemi-di-pesisir-makassar-terpuruknya-warga-pulau-lumu-lumu-bagian-4/>

temporary shelters, and 25 deaths<sup>18</sup>. Meanwhile, 5 deaths and 3,311 refugees in 2021<sup>19</sup>. The severe flood occurring during the Covid-19 pandemic has added to the heavy burden on the urban poor, especially women. Women experience multiple burdens because of their gender role, which is to take care of the family.

The Makassar City government during a flood disaster amid the Covid-19 pandemic did not provide shelter tents for flood victims specifically for pregnant, breastfeeding women, children, and the elderly. Moreover, the shelters were overcrowded, and ultimately did not meet the health protocol standards.

Women living on the coast of Pari Island, in the Jakarta City bay area, also face this situation. In the uncertainty of life due to the Covid-19 pandemic, tidal floods hit Pari Island, and according to local people, it was the worst tidal flood ever. Amid the declining tourism business managed by the local communities, fishers also find it problematic to go to sea due to unpredictable weather. Government assistance is also slow to reach coastal communities due to difficult logistical access to islet communities.

The number of women managing urban farming has increased during the pandemic. This activity is an attempt by the women to adapt to the pandemic and meet the food needs. However, this situation is not easy because it coincides with a long drought that leads to a lack of water. Some plants cannot adapt to hot weather due to the extreme dry season, so many plants die. Many wells are dry, so access to water is difficult and limited. Hence, women have to spend more time caring for plants, such as a long way to fetch water because the water flow from the springs is getting smaller, and the well is getting deeper. Usually, it is enough to water plants once a week to 3 times a week, now the plants have to be watered once a day.

Women experience difficulties in accessing clean water during the dry season. This situation adds to the burden on women to get access to water. They have to buy water, so it automatically adds to the financial burden on women. Women who depend on water from wells, but during the dry season wells become dry, coupled with groundwater pollution, so they have to buy water drinking water. Each person needs 5-7 gallons of clean water for an average of IDR 5,000 -7,000.

## **Women victims of eviction**

Jakarta River Normalization Program still conducts evictions during the Covid-19 pandemic in the densely populated urban residential area of Menteng Dalam in March 2021. Women face multiple difficulties during the eviction and the same time a

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<sup>18</sup> Jakarta Open Data, BPBD, Data Rekapitulasi Kejadian Banjir tahun 2020, <https://data.jakarta.go.id/dataset/rekapitulasi-kejadian-banjir-pertahun/resource/8ab1b8ccbed6e2555e577bc487f0981b>

<sup>19</sup> Kumparan (22 Feb 2021), <https://kumparan.com/kumparannews/banjir-jakarta-2021-dalam-data-pemprov-dki-cepat-surut-korban-sedikit-1vE23svG1jJ>

pandemic. The poor, particularly women, whose gender role is caring for the family, is devastating due to lack of access to food, health, and finance.

### 3. The need for gender-just Covid-19 response measures

#### **The Covid-19 pandemic response measures that are not gender-responsive:**

Bank Indonesia (BI) noted that Indonesia's foreign debt at the end of February 2021 amounted to US\$ 422.6 billion, or around Rp. 6,169.96 trillion. This position increased by 4.0% on an annual basis, higher than the growth in the previous month of 2.7% on an annual basis. This increase is in line with efforts to deal with the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic since 2020 and the acceleration of vaccination and social protection programs in the first quarter of 2021<sup>20</sup>. The increase in debt came from international financial institutions such as the World Bank, ADB, AIIB, KfW, and others. As in the experience with foreign debt so far, the burden of debt will be transferred to the people with various burdensome policies such as taxes, cutting subsidies for health services, education, and so forth. The bigger the debt burden, the greater the burden that will be borne by the poor who are already affected by climate change and the pandemic.

The Indonesian government issued various policies and measures responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as addressing the emerging economic crisis. It provides direct social assistance to those most affected, namely the poor and marginalized. Due to various reasons, many also find it problematic to get the provided aid packages. Apart from that, the response has not been gender-responsive. For example, distributed social aid package (for staple food) did not include the need for women, children, the elderly, such as sanitary napkins, diapers for children and the elderly, masks.

In Yogyakarta, for example, the City government has issued various policies to assist the communities in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, including:

- Accelerating services for victims of domestic violence, ID cards, and reproductive health in an integrated manner, namely medical services, counselors, psychologists through a Family Learning Center Program, and educational Mobile Gender Corner for services, which are closer to the communities<sup>21</sup>
- Fast service for the fulfillment of nutrition for children, the elderly, and pregnant women through Mobile Posyandu<sup>22</sup> (community clinic)

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<sup>20</sup> Bisnis.com, "Utang Luar Negeri Indonesia Naik hingga Rp6.169 Triliun di Februari", Klik selengkapnya di sini: <https://ekonomi.bisnis.com/read/20210416/9/1381988/utang-luar-negeri-indonesia-naik-hingga-rp6169-triliun-di-februari>

<sup>21</sup>Source: <https://warta.jogjakota.go.id/detail/index/12914>, dan wawancara dengan Kepala Dinas DP3AP2KB

<sup>22</sup> Source: <https://warta.jogjakota.go.id/detail/index/12914>

- Installing wifi in public green open space and worship houses as part of the Jogja Smart Service (JSS) that provides free internet access for the communities and school children during the pandemic<sup>23</sup>.
- Issuing stimulants for businesses to solve economic problems. Moreover, it has made a special program that combines the Tourism Office with the Environmental Service, the Women Empowerment and Child Protection Service, Population Control and Family Planning (DP3AP2KB), and others.
- Strengthening the economic sector of the communities, including women through a collaborative economic policy. This concept involves various sectors, academics, humanists, NGOs, and others to work together to carry out economic activities and support the lives of marginalized people<sup>24</sup>.
- The integrated tourism integration policy in home-based businesses to promote home-based products through a Program of '*Ayo Do Dolan, Ayo Dodolan, Ayo Dodol Kampung program*' (let's play, let's sell, let's sell in the villages).

The results of updating GAMMA 1 in Makassar City show that the shift of priority to the handling of the Covid-19 pandemic has reduced the gender budgeting allocation for climate programs that have run since 2016. The effort of the Makassar City government to increase the resilience of its communities to face climate change, which is based on the needs and welfare of women and children in climate disaster-prone areas, also decreased in 2020-2021 during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The handling of the Covid-19 pandemic in Jember Regency City has not specifically paid attention to the returning migrant workers and vulnerable groups. Data on aid packages recipients are still not disaggregated by gender or by the vulnerability. The distribution of aid packages is by a quota, and on a first-come-first-serve basis. Thus, the returning women migrant workers, who are lack information, are left behind.

### **The needs of gender-just response measures to the Covid-19 pandemic**

Gender injustice also strengthens in various forms and ways during the Covid-19 pandemic as previously described. Thus, gender-just Covid-19 response measures, not only in the form of social assistance and other gender-sensitive assistance but also require efforts to address emerging gender injustices.

**Nationally**, the Indonesian government needs to take the following actions so that the Covid-19 pandemic control policy is also gender-responsive:

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<sup>23</sup> Source: <https://warta.jogjakota.go.id/detail/index/13353>

<sup>24</sup> Source: <https://warta.jogjakota.go.id/detail/index/14434>

- Ensure access to health services for women in public health services
- The Ministry of Education and Culture and its regional offices need to make adjustments to the curriculum and learning methods that pay attention to the situation of women and children to ease the burden of students and the accompanying person at home, the majority of whom are women.
- The government, in this case, the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, as well as its regional offices, need to have a roadmap to prevent and handle domestic violence and gender-based violence during a pandemic, or disaster, and other extraordinary events. Furthermore, providing inclusive services in legal and psychological assistance for girls or women victims of domestic violence to live properly and safely during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Representatives of the Indonesian government in countries receiving migrant workers have to monitor the conditions of Indonesian migrant workers. The primary attention needs to those trapped in lockdown in oil palm plantations, including ensuring fulfillment of their needs and protection through actively coordinating with the Malaysian government. National and local governments need to ensure the financial sustainability of women migrant workers who are repatriated, particularly amid extraordinary situations such as disasters or pandemics, by accommodating their needs based on the situation and experiences of women migrant workers.
- Promote gender equality practices in households by encouraging the division of labor for men and women

**The Jakarta City government** needs to do the followings for gender-responsive measures against the Covid 19 pandemic, including:

- providing social assistance tailored to the specific needs of women during extraordinary events such as disasters or pandemics
- ensuring access to water fit for consumption for all people, especially in the urban poor areas

**The Makassar City Government** needs to do the following so that the Covid-19 pandemic response measures are gender-responsive:

- developing a gender-responsive data collection system to ensure the distribution of gender-just social assistance and to meet the special needs of women, children, and the elderly.
- providing internet in service places in the village, for example, the village office, community clinics, houses of worship that can be accessed by school children and students.

- developing strategies to respond to flood disasters, such as providing special tents for pregnant women, nursing women, children, and the elderly, and ensuring the implementation of health protocols.
- specifically strengthening the economy of vulnerable groups of women, the urban poor who are affected by the climate disaster, and the implementation of the PSBB policy.

#### 4. The Additional Recommendations on COVID-19 to the Recommendations that have been Delivered by GUCCI Indonesia

The GUCCI team in Indonesia has provided recommendations on gender-responsive urban and national-level climate policy based on the findings of gender assessments conducted since 2016 in 4 cities in Indonesia. During the ongoing climate crisis, the Covid-19 pandemic took place

From the results of discussions regarding the Covid-19 pandemic and climate disaster among the GUCCI Team in Indonesia on May 8, 2021, it was concluded that the government also did not have a comprehensive scheme for handling the COVID-19 pandemic amid the climate disaster that occurred in Indonesia. Disaster management - both climate and health - is still in silos. For example, throughout 2021, from January 1 to April 15, 1,125 natural disasters occurred in Indonesia<sup>25</sup>, with 476 floods, 308 tornadoes, 218 landslides, 90 forest and land fires, tidal waves, and 15 abrasions, as well as an event of drought. Most of the disasters occurred are climate disasters. However, the handling of the climate disaster was not complemented with the handling of the Covid-19 pandemic. Climate refugee shelters were not equipped with health protocols, masks were not provided, and living arrangements did not maintain distance. Thus, climate disaster refugees are vulnerable and have the potential to contract Covid-19.

**The national research team** proposes several recommendations for dealing with emerging gender disparities from the impacts of climate change and the COVID19 pandemic<sup>26</sup>, which are as follows:

1. Ensure that Presidential Instruction no. 9/year 2000 on gender mainstreaming applies to the revised National Action Plan to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (RAN GRK), the National Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation (RAN API), the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), and the Low Carbon Development bill, including addressing the impacts of climate change and ***the pandemics***.

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<sup>25</sup> Source: <https://nasional.kompas.com/read/2021/04/15/17354991/sepanjang-2021-sebanyak-1125-bencana-alam-terjadi-di-tanah-air#:~:text=Sepanjang%202021%2C%20Sebanyak%201.125%20Bencana%20Alam%20Terjadi%20di%20Tanah%20Air,-Kompas.com%20%2D%2015&text=%22Sampai%2015%20April%202021%20pukul.15%2F4%2F2021>.

<sup>26</sup> The additional recommendations on Covid-19 pandemic are inserted to the existing policy recommendations in **bold** and *italics*.

2. Develop a Gender Action Plan and gender indicators to guide the formulation of all climate change policies and actions at the national and regional levels. ***The vulnerability of women in the context of a pandemic also needs to be one of the gender indicators. Thus handling the impacts of climate and pandemic will complement each other.***
3. The revision of the Indonesia's NDC, the Roadmap for the Implementation of Climate Change Adaptation Strategies and Actions, and the Roadmap for Implementing Climate Change Mitigation Strategies and Actions, has to ensure (a) the involvement of KPPPA, gender experts, women's organizations, environmental organizations, community-based organizations, women's groups and vulnerable groups in the entire review process; (b) an assessment of the risks and vulnerabilities of women and other marginalized groups, (c) an increase of capacity in gender and climate change, and ***(d) defining vulnerability also in the context of women's vulnerability to climate impacts during pandemics.***
4. Develop a gender-sensitive and responsive complaint mechanism for the community, especially for women who face adverse impacts from the implementation of policies and climate change mitigation and adaptation actions, ***as well as from to the handling of pandemics that harm the efforts to address the impacts of climate change and action.***

**The Jakarta Research Team** provides recommendations to address challenges in climate change policy and gender disparities in Jakarta City as follows:

1. A Regulation of the Jakarta Governor regarding Green Open Space Master Plan based on the principles of respecting human rights and women's rights, integrating gender, without carrying out evictions, developing to meet emission reduction targets, and at the same time strengthening urban resilience to climate change, ***disasters, pandemic, and other extra-ordinary events.***
2. Implementation of national and provincial policies on gender mainstreaming (Presidential Instruction no.9/year 2000, Presidential Regulation no. 5/year 2010, Presidential Regulation no. 61/the year 2011, and Jakarta Governor Regulation no. 37/the year 2012) into climate change policies and actions in Jakarta City, develop specific measures to pursue the full participation and involvement of women and other vulnerable groups in policy planning and implementation, and evaluation of climate change actions.
3. ***Implementation of national and provincial policies on gender mainstreaming in handling the Covid-19 pandemic, by building pandemic response measures that consider the particular needs and situations of women, and ensures that various pandemic response measures by the government do not add to the burden on women or strengthen gender injustice***
4. Forming a special unit for City Government to handle climate change action that is gender-responsive.

**The Makassar research team** recommends the city government to:

1. Making local regulations on gender mainstreaming in climate policy and action that will provide a legal basis for climate policies and actions in Makassar City;
2. ***The understanding on community resilience in facing the impacts of climate change also needs to integrate the resilience to pandemics that occur in climate disaster-prone areas.***
3. Establish a gender-sensitive and responsive Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Task Force that ensure the integration of gender mainstreaming into climate action and its implementation. ***Moreover, the Task Force must develop a pandemic management strategy in climate disaster-prone areas.***
4. ***Provide budget allocations for disaster response, including climate disasters, pandemic disasters, and others in regional planning and budgeting, so as not to interfere with gender budgeting allocations and other efforts for climate resilience, especially for women and children.***

**The Yogyakarta research team** proposes addressing the gender gap in a climate disaster and pandemic situation as follows:

1. Create local climate change policies that are gender and *pandemic responsive*.
2. Conduct gender assessments on climate change actions and full involvement of the communities, especially women and other vulnerable groups, in every stage of planning, implementation, and evaluation of climate change actions. ***The gender assessments also included considerations of pandemics in climate disaster areas and the vulnerability of women in climate disaster-prone areas to pandemics.***
3. Develop strategic programs or actions that can build and strengthen knowledge and awareness of the importance of gender integration in climate change-related actions, policies, and institutions so as not to create gender inequality, ***as well as the link between gender and pandemics in climate disaster areas.***
4. Provide water subsidies to help women managing urban agriculture so that they can cope with the climate change situation, especially if the drought is long, ***as well as having a source of food and a source of income during a pandemic***

**The Jember Research Team** proposes to address the gender gap in the climate disaster and the pandemic situation in Jember as follows:

1. Building climate change policies that are gender-responsive and ***pandemic responsive***.
2. Involving women and other vulnerable groups in a meaningful way in policy planning, implementation, and evaluation of climate change actions.
3. ***The implementation of national and provincial policies on gender mainstreaming in handling the Covid-19 pandemic in Jember by building a pandemic response that sees the special needs and situations of women, and ensures that the various responses to handling pandemics carried out by the government do not add to the burden on women or strengthen gender injustice.***

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