

"Recognize women's skills and leadership and they will raise their voice for a culture of resilience."

Anastasia Maylinda Titilestari

# Women's groups: a structured response to disaster risk in mountain, landslide-prone areas

Project start: 2015, Award year: 2016

YEU empowered grassroots women in Central Java to adapt to the threats of landslide and water scarcity caused by deforestation. At the beginning, 5 local groups were structured to apply participatory approaches, rehabilitating traditional knowledge to ensure the supply of drinkable water and to restore mountain agriculture. Aguaponics farming was introduced to provide food security with a wider nutritional scope (fish and vegetables). Women conducted field assessments with regional authorities, contributing to local decisions on water saving and filtration techniques and ecological sanitation. They developed a gender-responsive emergency preparedness program targeted at women.







## **CONTACT**



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### **UNIQUE VALUE**

# What's special about this project

- YEU applied a replicable associative structure, ensuring effective governance in 49 groups of over 1,000 grassroots women in Central Java and in Yogyakarta provinces. 100 leaders serve as trainers and multipliers of tested resilience practices.
- ► This project was recognized by the government as a model of climate resilience, gender responsive community-based action. A local woman was invited by the Min. of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection to contribute to a public program aimed at ending violence against women and child, human trafficking, and economic gender discrimination.

#### **AWARD IMPACTS**

► The grant allowed YEU to initiate aquaponic systems using a participatory approach for the initial design, operation and maintenance strategy, as well as the distribution of harvests. This aquaponics model spread in 20 communities, improving their food sovereignty, climate and Covid resilience. YEU received additional public support and funding, joining in large CSO consortia.

#### TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES



49 grassroots women groups created to structure disaster risk management and water-food supply



611 women improved their livelihoods via the sale of aquaponic products and waste recycling activities



Increased efficiency in water use reducing risks related to climate disasters



Improvement of waste recycling and reduction of waste produced



**Contribution to local and national** policies on climate disaster and gender-based violence









