

PROJECT TITLE

Strengthening Leadership among the Benteng Chinese Minority Women to Build Stakeholder Collaboration in Integrating GEDSI Perspectives into Village Planning, Budgeting, and Development

BACKGROUND

This program, proposed by PPSW Jakarta, aims to ensure the **Benteng Chinese community** gains recognition and access to opportunities for meaningful participation in decision-making processes. The goal is to enable them to represent their interests and receive benefits from development initiatives. While the government plays a primary role in fulfilling the rights of the Benteng Chinese group, its implementation requires support and oversight from other stakeholders.

Collaboration among local government, civil society, and the Benteng Chinese community serves as a strategic stakeholder model to ensure the fulfillment of ethnic minority rights—particularly for women—through GEDSI-oriented planning, budgeting, and development programs.

The program's main beneficiaries are **Benteng Chinese women**, an ethnic Chinese community residing in **Belimbing Village, Kosambi Subdistrict, Tangerang Regency**. This community has lived in the area since 1740, following the Batavia massacre. Due to colonial policies, they were isolated in the area, which hindered their assimilation. Today, they still preserve ancestral customs and traditions such as ancestor altars, ritual practices, Chinese inscriptions above doorways to ward off evil spirits, and traditional wedding ceremonies known as *Ciatou*.

Why focus on women?

Benteng Chinese women have strong potential to serve as bridges of social acceptance through social interactions, domestic work, community activities, and intermarriage. However, traditional patriarchal norms within Chinese culture place women in subordinate roles, limiting their ability to act as change agents. Women are traditionally expected to obey men—first their parents, then their husbands, and eventually their children when widowed.

In times of anti-Chinese violence, women have often borne the brunt, suffering from sexual harassment and abuse. In addition, Benteng Chinese women face a **double burden**: fulfilling domestic duties while also earning a living under economically limited conditions. Unregistered marriages and divorces leave them without legal rights to inheritance, reinforcing their marginalization within the legal system.

OBJECTIVES

General Objective:

To increase the participation of Benteng Chinese women in GEDSI-oriented planning, budgeting, and development in the economic, socio-cultural, and political spheres.

Specific Objectives:

- To strengthen the capacities of PPSW Jakarta, Benteng Chinese women leaders, and local government actors in GEDSI, monitoring, and advocacy—helping the community gain access to legal identity services, social protection, social assistance, and economic empowerment programs.

- To build the collective power of Benteng Chinese women leaders, enabling them to participate in inclusive village development planning and budgeting, and to collaborate with stakeholders.
- To develop microenterprises among Benteng Chinese women collectively, based on digital platforms and cooperative-based economic institutions that are democratic and GEDSI-oriented.

WORKING AREA

Belimbing Village, Kosambi Subdistrict, Tangerang Regency

PROGRAM FOCUS

- **Women's Leadership Empowerment:** Through community organizing and critical awareness building, Benteng Chinese women are encouraged to take collective action and engage in decision-making processes.
- **Advocacy and Lobbying:** Using village-based data to reinforce GEDSI issues related to social services, economic recovery, and political participation of ethnic minorities. Advocacy is carried out through village women's forums, village planning meetings, and district-level multi-stakeholder forums.
- **Knowledge Development and Learning Dissemination:** Drawing on lessons from ESTUNGKARA-INKLUSI and PEDULI programs to broaden community participation among the Benteng Chinese.

The intervention begins with developing **GEDSI-sensitive village data** and data on the pandemic's impact on the community. PPSW Jakarta will enhance collaboration between government actors, civil society, and the Benteng Chinese group to incorporate GEDSI perspectives into village planning and budgeting.

This program supports the **National Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMN)**, particularly in improving the quality of life for women and children, and contributes to **SDG Goals 1 and 3** (targets 3, 7, and 8), which ensure that all people—especially the poor and vulnerable—have access to economic resources and basic services.

PARTNERS

Tangerang District Government:

- Women Empowerment and Child Protection Office (P3A)
- Civil Registration Office (Dukcapil)
- Health Office
- Cooperatives and MSMEs Office
- Village Community Empowerment Agency (DPMPD)
- Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda)
- Belimbing Village Government
- FITRA West Java

BUDGET

- 2022: IDR 490,365,000
- 2023: IDR 550,000,000
- 2024: IDR 586,000,000
- 2025: IDR 600,000,000

PROGRAM DURATION

- **Phase I:** 2022 – 2025
- **Phase II:** 2026 – 2028