

# Development in Southeast Asia: Opportunities for donor collaboration

## Chapter 5. Women's empowerment and gender equality

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SDG 5: *Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.*

*“The achievement of full human potential and of sustainable development is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied its full human rights and opportunities. Women and girls must enjoy equal access to quality education, economic resources and political participation as well as equal opportunities with men and boys for employment, leadership and decision-making at all levels.”<sup>1</sup>—UNESCO*

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<sup>1</sup> UNESCO. 2018. *Meeting our commitments to gender equality in education*. Global Education Monitoring Report Gender Review. p

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## About the project

This research project—**Development in Southeast Asia: Opportunities for donor collaboration**—entails six related papers exploring development opportunities in Southeast Asia and potential areas of collaboration among donors to increase and accelerate their impact. The analysis focuses on seven principal development partners in Southeast Asia—Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam.<sup>2</sup> The donor countries are principal donors to these seven countries—the United States, Korea, Japan, Germany, and Australia. As six of the seven countries are lower-middle-income countries (LMIC) according to World Bank categorization, and Indonesia only recently graduated from that status, the two benchmark references will be data on LMICs and on Southeast Asia.<sup>3</sup>

The policy overview paper sets out the overall framework, reviewing relevant donor policies, and different modalities that donors might consider as ways to collaborate. It is accompanied by a set of five papers that analyze needs and opportunities in specific sectors. The topics of the sector papers are digital, education, health, women’s empowerment/gender equality, and governance/public administration. The sector papers address: why the sector is important to human and national development; how the seven countries rank on key indicators so as to identify gaps where assistance might be most relevant; levels of donor assistance and activities in the sector; and potential areas for collaboration.

An apparent shortfall in the five sector papers is the incompleteness of information on current donor assistance projects. While information on some projects is found through the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), using the USAID portal Development Cooperation Landscape,<sup>4</sup> the IATI platform does not report the full array of agency projects nor is it always up-to-date and does not reveal projects under consideration. For this study, this is not a significant limitation on the findings, as decisions on collaboration will be determined by the priorities of the specific donors at the point in time of such discussions, not by an independent study, and current projects (presented in the appendices of the sector papers) serve simply as useful, notional guides as to potential areas for collaboration.

These papers were written during the early phase of the COVID-19 pandemic when its manifestations were still emerging and yet to be fully understood, so the papers should be read with that caveat. Donors are still coming to terms with how programming needs to be adjusted in response to the pandemic,<sup>5</sup> beyond the obvious critical need for PPE and other health interventions. They are grappling with how to respond to the broad ramifications of the crisis—retraction in economic growth, increased poverty, rising food insecurity, and the loss of educational opportunities, especially impactful for women and girls. The crisis has brought to

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<sup>2</sup> Note, Thailand also is a development partner, but development assistance to Thailand has been declining in recent years, so is not included in the study.

<sup>3</sup> The list of countries of Southeast Asia varies, but generally includes, in addition to the seven developing partners listed, Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand.

<sup>4</sup> <https://explorer.usaid.gov/donor>

<sup>5</sup> USAID, for example, has recently reported the initial findings of its Over the Horizon project that seeks to adjust the Agency’s approaches to the realities of COVID-19 fallout.

light the glaring need for enhanced resilience to future shocks—health, social, economic, political, and environmental.

There are both short-term and long-term impacts that are becoming clear. Fortunately, the negative impact on economic growth and poverty in the seven partner countries is projected to be short-lived. As projections by Brookings in Table 1 reveals, COVID-19's negative impact on growth and poverty rates are likely to largely dissipate after 2020. These projections show that, after enduring negative or minimal economic growth and increased poverty rates in 2020, the seven countries will return in 2021 to positive economic growth and declining poverty rates, as they had prior to the crisis (with the exception of an essentially static poverty level in Timor-Leste and the Philippines returning to lower poverty rates two years later in 2023).

Table 1. COVID-19 Growth and Poverty Impacts in Southeast Asia

Country	GDP growth (%)			Poverty (\$1.90) Headcount Rate		
	2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Cambodia	7.0%	-2.8%	6.8%	1,566	4,715	1,339
Indonesia	5.0%	-1.5%	6.1%	7,370,163	9,047,098	6,023,305
Lao PDR	5.2%	0.2%	4.8%	788,705	836,958	752,975
Myanmar	6.5%	2.0%	5.7%	554,074	520,103	404,468
Philippines	6.0%	-8.3%	7.4%	4,509,436	8,044,238	6,148,002
Timor-Leste	3.1%	-6.8%	4.0%	269,988	273,376	276,746
Vietnam	7.0%	1.6%	6.7%	998,576	988,960	850,240

Source: Brookings (2020) based on IMF World Economic Outlook (Oct. 2020) and World Bank PovCal (Sept. 2020). Poverty is defined as those living below \$1.90 per person per day in 2011 purchasing power parity (PPP) terms.

Longer term ramifications wrought by the pandemic are programmatic and vary by economic and social sector. It seems certain that considerably more attention will be paid to health policy and increased funding will be targeted toward disease surveillance and prevention, both to resolve the current pandemic and to stem the next one so it is not as devastating as COVID-19. Some portion of children who have been locked out of school, especially girls, will not return and will live a life cut short of formal education. Hopefully on the positive side, education will deploy lessons from its hyper speed foray into digital learning and integrate digital into non-pandemic learning structures in actions to build back stronger.

COVID-19 has accelerated the essential role of digital connectivity in all aspects of social and economic life, prioritizing massive investment in digital infrastructure and the digitization of previously analog sectors, a trend likely to continue long after the pandemic is over. COVID-19 has demonstrated the value of digital for public services and communications, and leaders with foresight will understand that adoption of e-government can make governance and public administration more transparent, more accountable, more efficient, and less corrupt.

The burden of the pandemic is bearing down more heavily on women, girls, marginalized populations, and those at the lower levels of the economic pyramid. The pandemic has made more evident economic and social inequities that have long existed and in recent times become starker. This provides an opportunity for national and international bodies and institutions to respond forcefully and unequivocally to reduce these inequities, rather than restore the veil that too often hides them—but taking such action is not a certainty.

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## Why women's empowerment and gender equality?

### Overview

2020 is the 25th anniversary of the historic Beijing Conference (the UN Fourth World Conference on Women) and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UN Resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security. Gender equality and women's empowerment are development objectives in their own right, as embodied in SDG 5: *Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*.

The gains made by women and girls across the globe over the past several decades are unprecedented. Between 2000 and 2017, the worldwide maternal mortality rate dropped by 38 percent. Women's life expectancy has increased from 68 years in 1990 to 75 years today.<sup>6</sup> Ninety-four percent of preventable maternal deaths are in low- and lower-middle-income countries.<sup>7</sup> In the political arena, a majority of countries now have legal guarantees on the rights and equality for all citizens. As of 2020, women were foreign ministers in 34 countries, ministers of trade in 84, and ministers of defense in 20.<sup>8</sup>

Unfortunately, despite the notable progress over time, advancing women's equality has been slow, erratic, and in certain areas has suffered reversal. They are relegated to economic occupations that are considered "female" and garner lower pay, they are not represented proportionally in positions of governance, and women and girls are subject to violence in and outside the home.

Furthermore, 2020 will likely be known as the year of COVID-19 that set back progress in women's advancement. Women are bearing the brunt of the burden of the pandemic—as 70 percent of front line workers in hospitals, clinics, and homes for the aging; as working mothers balancing home and childcare with work responsibilities; as the first to be laid-off and last to be called back to work; as performing service functions that have to be performed in-person rather than remotely.<sup>9</sup> But perceptive assessment may also view 2020 as an advancement of women in at least one arena—as activists and leaders. Female heads of state have aggressively tried to contain the coronavirus,<sup>10</sup> women are running for elected office in record numbers,<sup>11</sup> and women activists have mobilized across the world to protest government corruption,<sup>12</sup> police brutality,<sup>13</sup> and sexual assault.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> World Development Indicators. 2020. World Bank.

<sup>7</sup> World Health Organization. 2020. Fact Sheet on Maternal Mortality

<sup>8</sup> Vogelstein

<sup>9</sup> UN. *Impact of COVID-19 on Women*.

<sup>10</sup> Taub. 2020. Why are Women-Led Nations Doing Better with Covid-19?

<sup>11</sup> Farmer. 2020. Want to see Black women making history? Look to Congress.

<sup>12</sup> Nechepurkenko. 2020. In Belarus, Women Led the Protests and Shattered Stereotypes.

<sup>13</sup> Wortham. 2020. How a New Wave of Black Activists Changed the Conversation.

<sup>14</sup> Walsh. 2020. The 22-Year-Old Force Behind Egypt's Growing #MeToo Movement.

## Economic

The economic rationale for gender equality is simple and overwhelming—how does a community, a nation, the world, reach full economic potential if large cohorts of the population are not allowed to perform at their full capability? Exclude women and you have written off half the productive power of a country. Women participate in the labor force at lower rates than men in all regions of the world.<sup>15</sup> Women comprise 40 percent of the global workforce and 43 percent of agricultural workers.<sup>16</sup> Gender equality brings economic efficiency and productivity gains and feeds development outcomes that undergird economic performance (e.g., health). If that labor is underused, misallocated, inefficiently engaged, the result is economic advancement forgone not just for women but for everyone.

FAO has estimated that equalizing access for men and women to productive resources would raise agricultural productivity in developing countries by 2.5—4 percent.<sup>17</sup> On a broader scale, McKinsey has estimated that employing women productively would raise global economic output by \$12-28 trillion annually by 2025.<sup>18</sup>

Women face restrictions on registering a business, inheriting property, owning land, accessing credit. They have difficulty accessing productive economic opportunities because of legal and structural barriers, social norms, and competing demands on their time such as domestic responsibilities. Women are more likely than men to be employed in low paying, labor-intensive, and part-time work and in the informal sector. They work more hours and are three-times as frequently engaged in unpaid work.<sup>19</sup> Women are much more likely to experience sexual harassment and gender-based discrimination in the workplace. An estimated 600 million women of working age are unable to take on paid work because of unpaid care responsibilities.<sup>20</sup>

Women engage in critical but uncompensated burdens such as toting safe drinking water, gathering cooking fuel, cooking meals, caring for children, and aging relatives. In agriculture, they operate smaller plots and farm less remunerative crops. As entrepreneurs, they own and manage smaller firms and are concentrated in less profitable sectors. They are overrepresented in informal employment and have lower membership in formal and informal networks that are important instruments of access to information and resources such as credit.

## Health, education, next generation

Education of women narrows the income gap between women and men and increases the likelihood that women will be gainfully employed. The benefits grow exponentially as girls

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<sup>15</sup> World Development Indicators. 2020. World Bank.

<sup>16</sup> World Bank, 2012

<sup>17</sup> World Bank, 2012, p 5

<sup>18</sup> McKinsey

<sup>19</sup> UN. *Impact of Covid-19i on Women*.

<sup>20</sup> Georgetown, p.5



achieve more education. By one study, for each additional year of schooling, a woman's earnings increase 11 percent at the level of primary education, 9 percent for secondary, and 17 percent for tertiary.<sup>21</sup> Educated women and girls marry later, have fewer children, and are less likely to contract HIV/AIDS. They are more likely to ensure their own daughters receive an education. Girls in developing countries who complete seven years of education will, on average, marry four years later and have two fewer children, thereby helping to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

### **Women politically engaged and as leaders**

Women's agency—exercising the power of political participation and decisionmaking—can shape institutions, social norms, and behavior. Women leaders influence the priority given to gender equality in policy and practice.<sup>22</sup> Women leaders tend to favor more equitable distribution of resources. Parliaments with a higher share of women members are more supportive of health, education, and social welfare.<sup>23</sup> Women's participation in decisionmaking can improve management of family and national resources. According to research, women's active participation in community forest groups in areas subject to overexploitation in South Asia resulted in more sustainable usage and greater priority to local needs.<sup>24</sup> It is not up to women alone to promote women's leadership or to prioritize gender equality and inclusive policies. Efforts to build societal support for these practices as well as the support of all leaders, including men, is essential for long-term, sustained change.

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<sup>21</sup> Montenegro, p 8

<sup>22</sup> UN Women. (2013). "[In Brief: Women's Leadership and Political Participation](#)"; Inter-Parliamentary Union, (2008). "[Equality in Politics: A Survey of Men and Women in Parliament](#)."

<sup>23</sup> UNESCO, p 21

<sup>24</sup> Agarwal

## Barriers in Southeast Asia

### BOX 1—Linkages

*“While fully understanding the complex, bi-directional relationship between gender inequality and extreme poverty is difficult, we can identify some of the key links between the two. These links include: time burdens imposed on women by unpaid household work; the inability of women to acquire and retain assets; gender-based violence; and child, early, and forced marriage (CEFM), among others.” (USAID. “Gender Equality and Extreme Poverty”, p 2)*

### Cultural and legal

Barriers to women and girls’ empowerment are multifold and reinforcing. They can flow from cultural and social norms and be enshrined in law and practice. Social norms can limit women’s mobility and ability to network and work, restrict their access to health care and representation in politics, and be reflected in unequal power relationships within households and society with broad economic and social effects. As of 2019, 182 countries had at least one legal difference between men and women, including 43 countries establishing different inheritance rights and 21 countries requiring a man’s consent for a woman to work.<sup>25</sup>

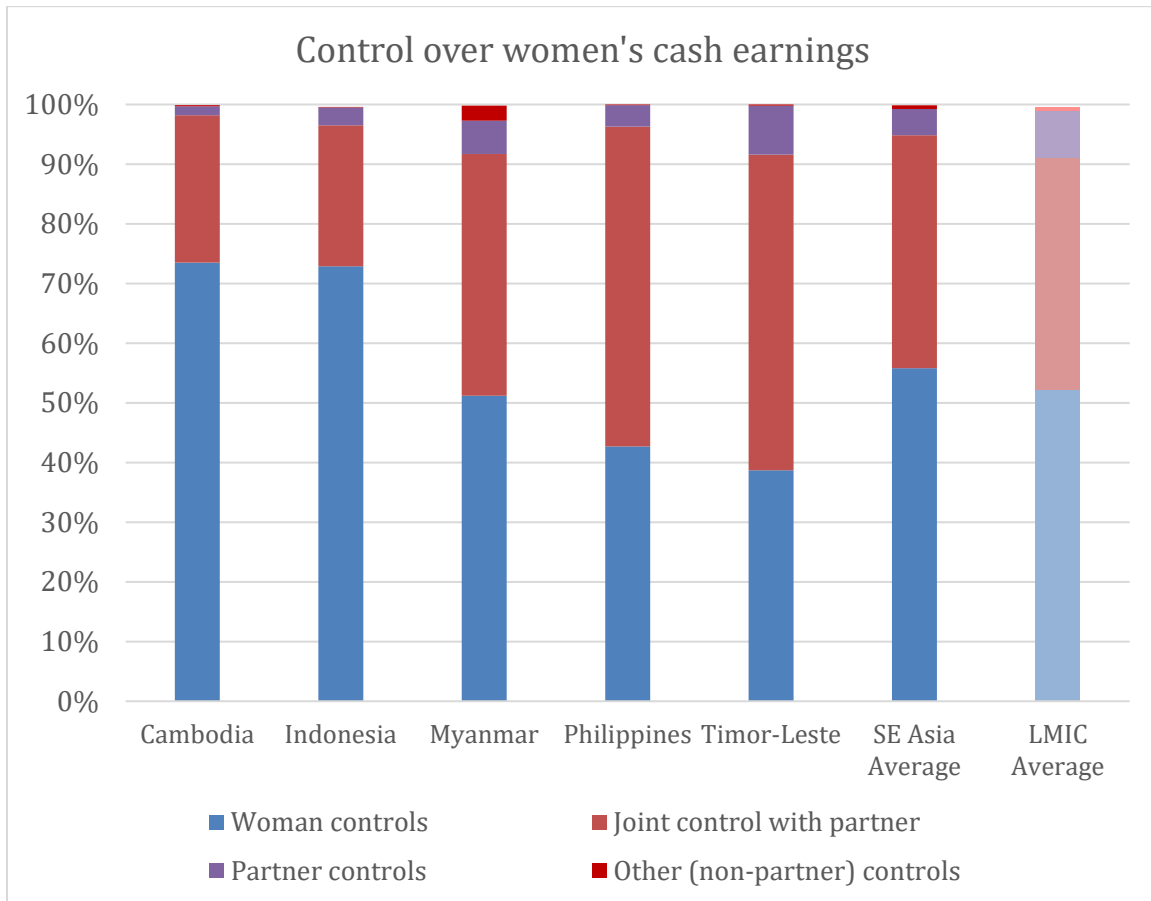
Whereas women comprise 43 percent of the global agriculture labor force, they represent fewer than 20 percent of agricultural landholders, including fewer than 5 percent in many countries in Africa and Asia.<sup>26</sup> When they do earn an income, they may not control it, as evidenced in Figure 1. The figure indicates this is a challenge particularly in Philippines, Timor-Leste, and Myanmar.

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<sup>25</sup> Women, Business and the Law (2020).

<sup>26</sup> USAID, p 5

Figure 1. Women's control of earnings



Source: Demographic and Health Survey (2018).

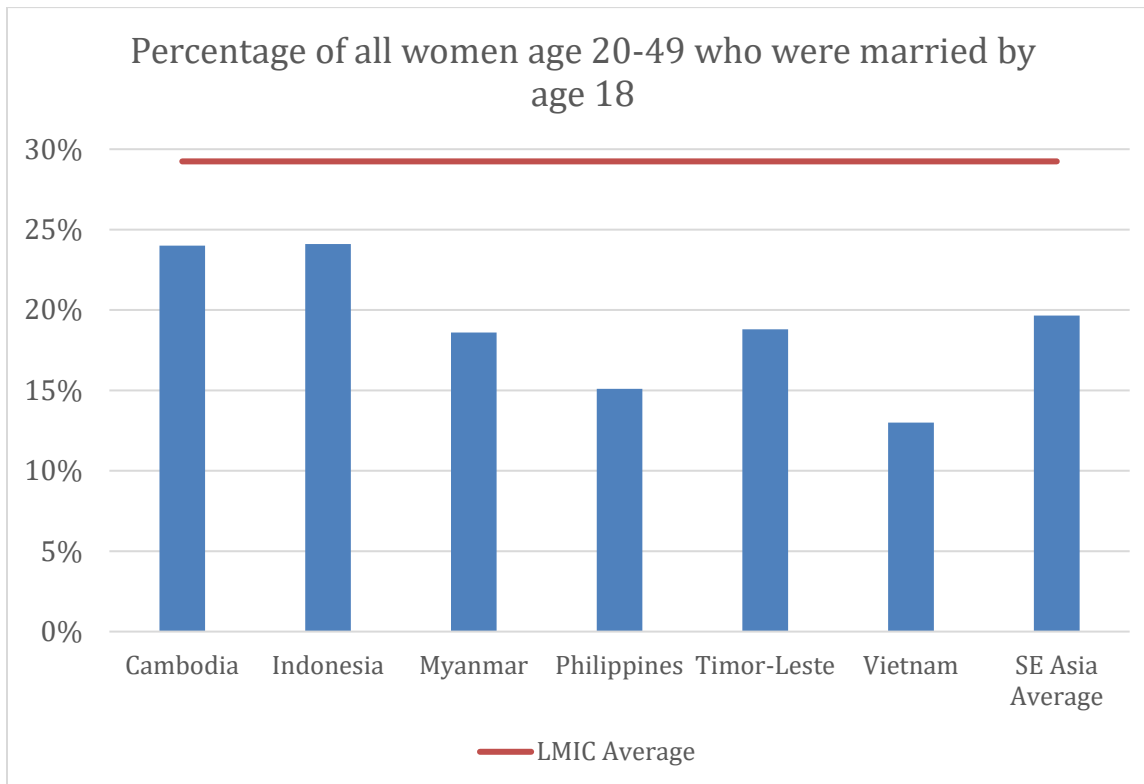
### Early marriage and reproductive rights

Unequal gender norms and policies in many developing countries limit the power women and girls have over their reproductive health, resulting in high fertility rates and transmission of diseases. Culture and economics often force girls into early marriage. Some 12 million girls enter marriage every year before the age of 18 globally<sup>27</sup>. Adolescent girls (age 15-19) give birth to 7.3 million children annually, making it less likely they will stay in school and at work.<sup>28</sup> Figure 2 indicates that early-age marriage is not as much an issue for the seven countries of interest to this study as they all score well below the average for all LMICs.

<sup>27</sup> UNICEF (2020). "[Child marriage around the world.](#)"

<sup>28</sup> UNFPA. (2020). "[Adolescent pregnancy.](#)"

Figure 2. Early Marriage



Source: Demographic and Health Survey (2018).

## Violence

Women and girls are subject to the threat of sexual and gender-based violence, much of which goes unreported and unpunished. Sexual harassment in the workplace is a significant barrier to women's economic participation. One-third of women worldwide experience some form of physical or sexual violence in their lifetime, often by someone in their own immediate network.<sup>29</sup>

The problem of trafficking in persons, particularly an issue for women, has, according to the most recent annual Department of State report *Trafficking in persons report 2020*, increased in recent years. Of the seven Southeast Asian countries, only Philippines stands out for its efforts in combating trafficking, scoring a tier 1 rating for meeting the minimum U.S. TVPA (Trafficking Victims Protect Act) standards for eliminating trafficking in persons. Indonesia and Laos are ranked as tier 2, meaning they do not meet the TVPA standards but are making significant efforts to come into compliance. Cambodia, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam are on the tier 2 watch list, as they do not meet the minimum standards and there is lack of evidence they are trying to

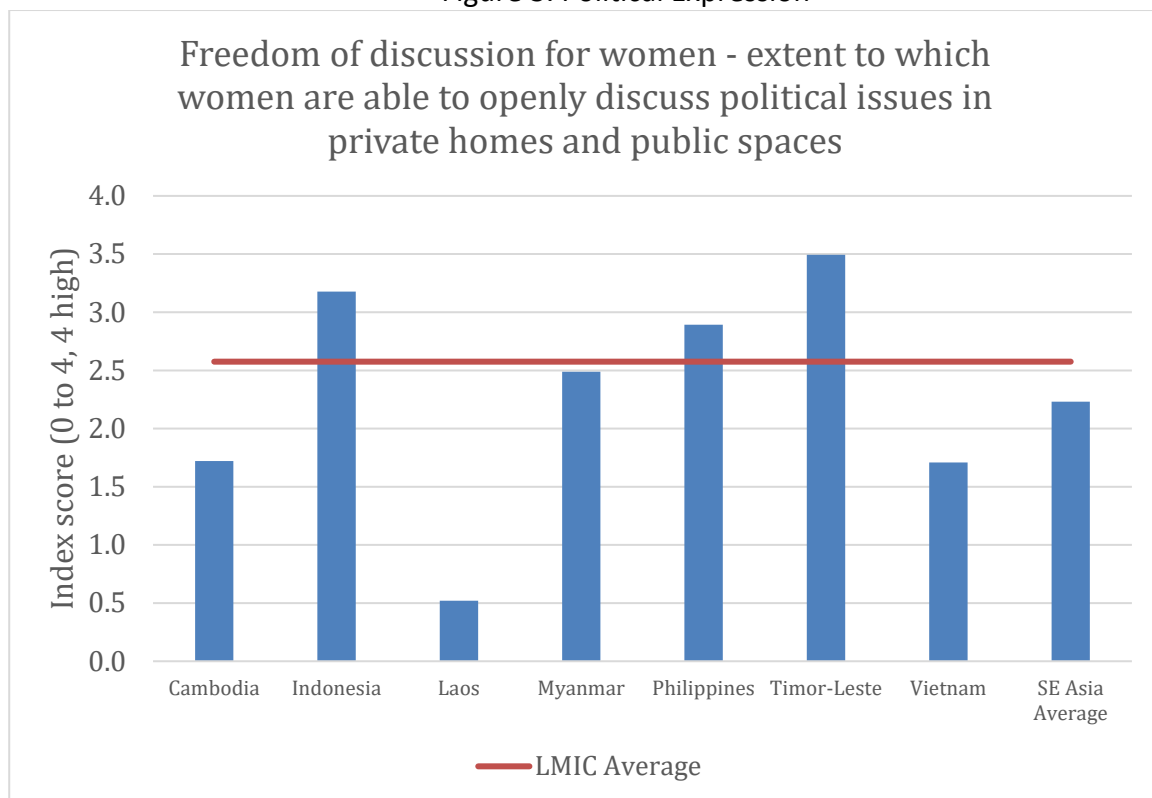
<sup>29</sup> WHO. (2013). ["Global and regional estimates of violence against women."](#)

do so. Myanmar is on the tier 3 list as neither meeting the standards nor making significant efforts to combat trafficking.<sup>30</sup>

### Political power

While the role of women at the political level has increased over the past several decades, they remain underrepresented in positions of authority. Of 193 UN members, 19 had women heads of state or government as of 2020.<sup>31</sup> Only 25 percent of parliamentary seats are held by women globally<sup>32</sup> and in 2019 only 5 percent of mayors were women.<sup>33</sup> Figure 3 reveals that in Southeast Asia expression of political views by women—the extent to which women are able to openly discuss political issues in private homes and public spaces—is particularly an issue in Laos and Cambodia. Laos’ low score is driven by overall restrictions of civil liberties and freedom of expression in the country, thus is less of a gender issue than one of democracy and human rights.<sup>34</sup>

Figure 3. Political Expression



Source: Varieties of Democracy, v10 (2020)

<sup>30</sup> Department of State, 2020.

<sup>31</sup> Council on Foreign Relations. (2020). "[Women's Power Index](#)."

<sup>32</sup> World Development Indicators. 2020. World Bank.

<sup>33</sup> World Bank World Development Indicators (2020); National Democratic Institute (2020). "[The Women Mayors' Network \(WoMN\)](#)."

<sup>34</sup> Human Rights Watch (2017). "[Laos: No Progress on Rights](#)"; Freedom House (2020). "[Freedom in the World 2020: Laos](#)."

## Women, Peace, and Security

Women and girls are at a particular disadvantage in situations of crisis and conflict, which in the past decade have become more complex and protracted. They are subject to forced displacement, to taking care of children in dire circumstances with no resources, and to violence and sexual assault. Promoting the protection of women and girls, including their safety from violence and exploitation and their access to aid in crisis and conflict situations, is essential.

Women have much to contribute to crisis management and peace-building efforts, as evidence demonstrates that when women are involved in peace processes, results are longer lasting.<sup>35</sup> Bringing a wide array of voices into the peacemaking process is crucial for gaining community buy-in and credibility. Women bring different voices and communities to the table, building a more inclusive dialogue about both underlying causes and potential solutions, which increases the likelihood that peace agreements hold. One study finds that women's inclusion in the peace process makes the agreement 64 percent less likely to fail, while another finds that meaningful female participation makes it 35 percent more likely that the peace deal will last 15 years.<sup>36</sup>

While their participation has increased somewhat in recent years, those in power seldom recognize the complexity of roles and interplay of women and men in conflict and recovery and women remain severely marginalized. From 1992 to 2011, women made up just 4 percent of signatories and 9 percent of negotiators on peace agreements.<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> UN Women. (2020). [“Conflict prevention and resolution.”](#); Bigio and Vogelstein (2016). [“How Women’s Participation in Conflict Prevention and Resolution Advances U.S. Interests.”](#) Council on Foreign Relations Discussion Paper.

<sup>36</sup> Nilsson. (2012). [“Anchoring the Peace: Civil Society Actors in Peace Accords and Durable Peace.”](#) International Interactions 38(2): 258; Stone. (2015). [“Quantitative Analysis of Women’s Participation in Peace Processes.”](#) In Annex II in O’Reilly et al. *Reimagining Peacemaking: Women’s Roles in Peace Processes*. International Peace Institute, p. 34.

<sup>37</sup> Diaz and Tordjman. (2012). [“Women’s Participation in Peace Negotiations: Connections Between Presence and Influence.”](#) UN Women.

## Gender approach

### Box 2. What is gender equality?

*“Gender refers to the social, behavioral, and cultural attributes, expectations, and norms associated with being a woman or a man. Gender equality refers to how these aspects determine how women and men relate to each other and to the resulting differences in power between them.” (World Bank. 2012. p.4)*

Gender inequalities are pervasive. Approaches to development must be grounded in rigorous gender analysis in planning, budgeting, decisionmaking, evaluation, and learning. The above presentation, demonstrating the widespread inequalities and inequities faced by women and girls, reveals that institutions, laws, and social norms are not gender-neutral and can be gender-equitable only if full consideration is given to how they impact both women and men.

Efforts at reducing poverty, building wealth, and bridging inequalities need to be undertaken through a gender lens to ensure that both women and men are the beneficiaries. While women and girls bear the brunt of most inequalities, that is not always the case. For example, for the seven countries, success rates at completing secondary schooling for girls and boys vary by country and for tertiary education girls consistently outperform boys<sup>38</sup>. The role of gender analysis is to reveal and find explanations for such inequities for both genders and inform policies and action.

For example, the quote in Box 3 reveals that infrastructure is not gender neutral and often does not work to the benefit of women, but can if the design is preceded by analysis of how the infrastructure impacts both women and men.

Infrastructure is an example of why taking a gender approach is essential. The analysis in box 3 shows how infrastructure, or the lack of appropriate infrastructure, affects the lives of women. However, If properly designed and built with careful consideration to how it impacts both women and men, it can benefit both. Each stage of the infrastructure project must address the safety and accessibility needs of all users. Gender mainstreaming considers the diverse needs of women and other populations in various roles, including as active stakeholders, employees, entrepreneurs, contractors, decision- makers, and users of infrastructure. The design of infrastructure must take into consideration how women, men, girls, and boys access and use it, as well as identify opportunities to empower and transform individual lives and communities.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> See companion paper in this series on education.

<sup>39</sup> Women: Asia and Pacific. “Guides on integrating gender into infrastructure development in Asia and the Pacific”.

### Box 3. Gender and Infrastructure

*“Key infrastructure bottlenecks may affect women more than men due to women’s time poverty. Without electricity or piped water, women spend more time each day gathering firewood and water, which limits the time they have available for paid work. Low-quality roads and transportation services, as well as safety concerns along these corridors, restrict women’s ability to access markets, education, and labor force opportunities, as women are more likely to rely on public transportation or travel by foot than men (World Bank 2012). Poor ICT infrastructure (exacerbated by gender gaps in access to technology and digital skills) limits entrepreneurs’ ability to gather information about markets, prices, and deliveries. Thus, infrastructure constraints can interact with information and network failures, making these market failures more binding for women than for men. Additionally, low mobile phone penetration and connectivity may hamper financial inclusion through mobile money providers, which may be particularly impactful for women who face additional barriers in accessing traditional financial services.”*

*Fontana and Natali (2008) find that women disproportionately benefit from infrastructure investments. Investments in water and sanitation, transportation, and energy can reduce women’s unpaid care burden and increase child health outcomes, giving women more time to engage in paid labor.” (Revenga & Dooley)*



## How women and girls fare in Southeast Asia

A useful way to gauge how well the seven countries do on women and gender issues, and identify where the gaps are, is to review relevant data and indexes, both the aggregate score and the scores on the indicators that comprise the index. This section reviews three such indexes:

- *Georgetown Women, Peace, and Security Index 2019/20*<sup>40</sup>
- *World Bank Women, Business, & the Law 2020*<sup>41</sup>
- *Equal Measures 2030*<sup>42</sup>

Following are summary findings of each of the three indexes, the detailed data for which is presented in Appendices I, II, and III.

### Georgetown WPS Index

The *Georgetown Women, Peace, and Security Index* (WPS Index) assesses 167 countries (representing 98 percent of the world's population) along three categories of women's well-being:

- inclusion—economic, political, and social
- justice—formal laws and informal discrimination
- security—at the level of the individual, community, and society

Overall, as presented in Figure 4, six of the seven countries, the exception being Myanmar, do relatively well on the WPS Index composite index, just above the average of all LMICs. Myanmar falls below the average for all LMICs.

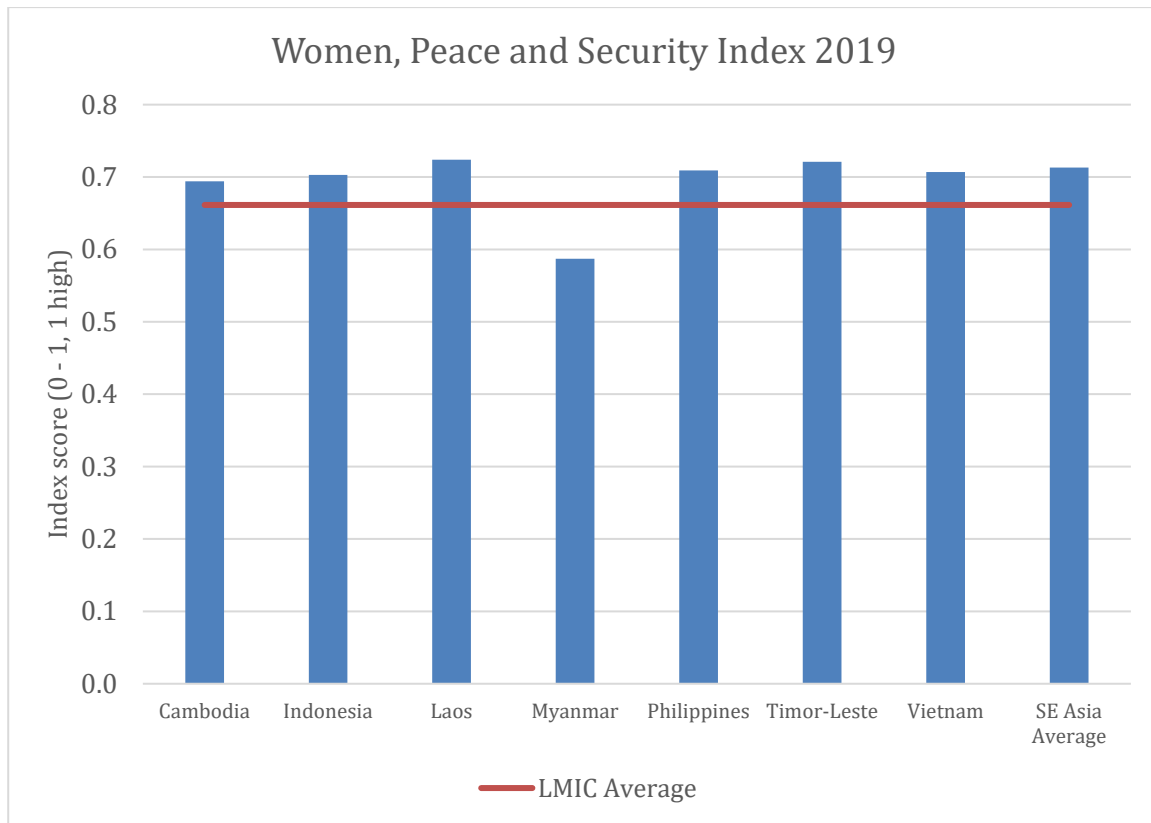
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<sup>40</sup><https://giwps.georgetown.edu/the-index/>

<sup>41</sup><https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/32639/9781464815324.pdf?sequence=10>

<sup>42</sup><https://data.em2030.org/#>

Figure 4. Composite Score



Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).

But this aggregate score is not the whole story. Looking at the components<sup>43</sup> of this composite index reveals considerable variation and areas in which individual countries have specific shortcomings. The individual indicators presented in appendix I tell a more complex story than the single composite score in figure 4. The composite score would indicate that in six of the seven countries all is relatively well—overall, women would appear to enjoy well-being that is better than the average for LMICs. But the individual indicators show specific gaps in individual countries that might guide donor collaboration.

Looking at how each country scores on the individual indicators shows the specific challenges faced by women. Of the ten indicators, Cambodia performs worse than the LMIC average on five—education, legal discrimination, financial inclusion, cellphone use, and parliamentary representation. Myanmar also scores below the LMIC average on five—education, financial inclusion, women’s employment, discriminatory work norms, and parliamentary representation.

Laos, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam fall below on four—Laos on education, legal discrimination, financial inclusion, and community safety; Timor-Leste on education, legal discrimination,

<sup>43</sup> Two of the component indicators are not presented here as they lacked data for all seven countries.

women's employment, and intimate partner violence; and Vietnam on legal discrimination, financial inclusion, son bias, and cell phone use.

Philippines preforms worse than the LMIC average on three,—legal discrimination, son bias, and women's employment. Indonesia is below on three—discriminatory work norms, cellphone use, and parliamentary representation.

Looking at the indicators, five countries perform worse than the LMIC average on legal discrimination. Four countries perform worse on women's education and financial inclusion. Three indicators —women's employment, cell phone use, and parliamentary representation—are worse than the average for three countries. The other four indicators—discriminatory work norms, son bias, community safety, and intimate partner violence—fall short for only one or two countries.

It is important to note that, while low levels of education are a problem for women 25 years and older, which restricts their economic opportunities, health, and outcomes for families, among the younger cohort, girls are catching up to boys and even outperforming boys at the secondary and tertiary level<sup>44</sup>.

This data would suggest that Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, and Timor-Leste are the countries that require engagement on women's empowerment and gender equality. The issues most in need of attention are women's education, legal rights, financial inclusion, employment, and parliamentary representation.

### **Women, Business, and Law 2020**

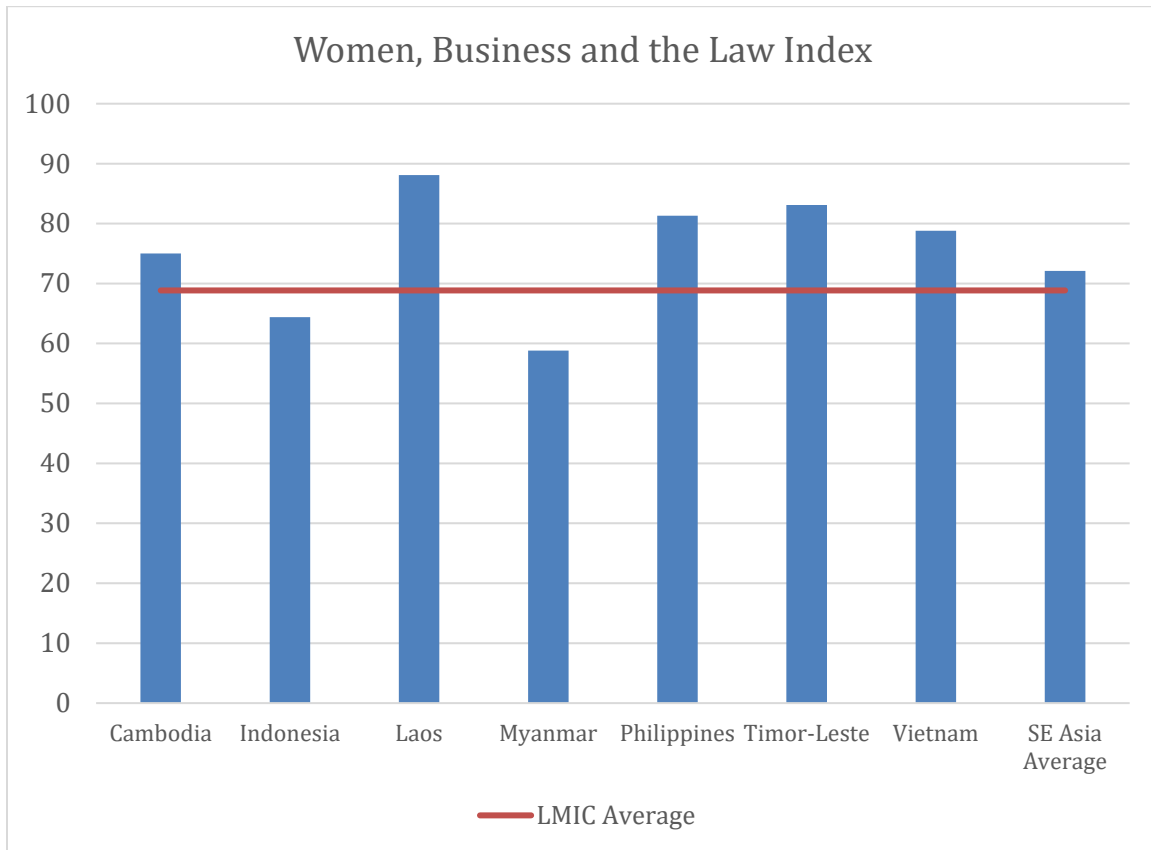
Turning to the issue of women's legal welfare, the World Bank "Women, Business, and The Law 2020" (WBL) ranks 190 countries along eight indicators that assess 35 aspects of how the law treats women. The composite score is presented in Figure 5 below.

The composite score shows women in five countries—Cambodia, Laos, Philippines, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam— being treated better by the law overall than the average for LMICs, and relatively worse in Indonesia and Myanmar.

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<sup>44</sup> See data in companion paper on education.

Figure 5. Women, Business, and the Law Composite Score



Source: World Bank Women, Business and the Law (2020)

Appendix II explains the scope of the eight indicators that comprise the composite index and presents data figures for each indicator. The eight indicators are shown in Box 4.

#### Box 4

**Mobility** - Examining constraints on women's freedom of movement  
**Parenthood** - Evaluating laws affecting women's work after having children  
**Entrepreneurship** - Examining constraints facing women starting and running a business  
**Workplace** - Analyzing laws affecting women's decisions to enter and remain in the labor force  
**Pay** - Measuring laws and regulations concerning job restrictions and the gender wage gap  
**Assets** - Analyzing gender differences in property and inheritance laws  
**Marriage** - Assessing legal constraints related to marriage  
**Pension** - Assessing laws affecting the size of women's pension

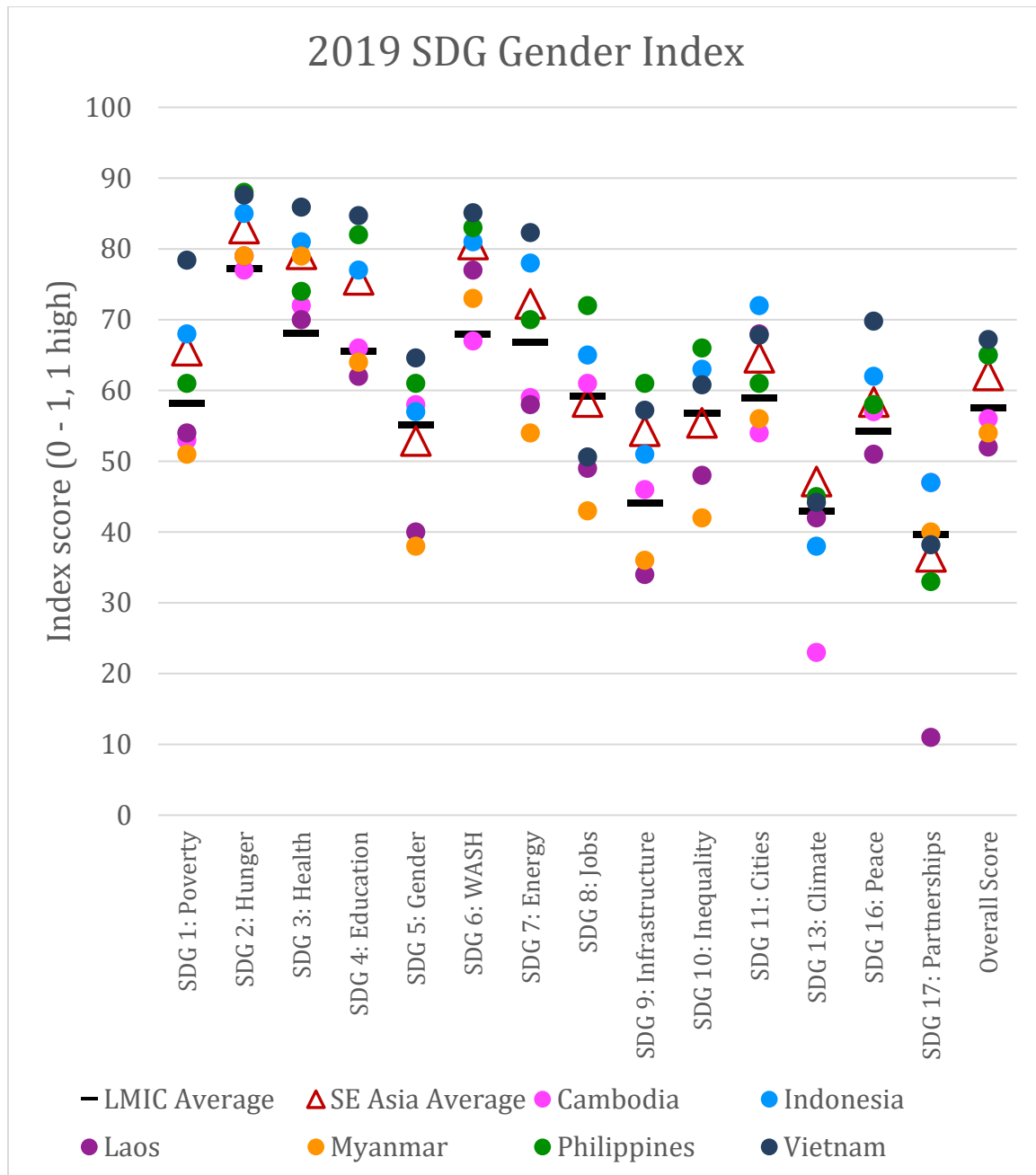
The rankings on the individual indicators are fairly consistent with the composite index. Myanmar and Indonesia, the only two countries to score below the LMIC average on the composite index, rank below the LMIC average on five of the individual indicators—Myanmar on mobility, entrepreneurship, workplace, pay, and pension, and Indonesia on parenthood, entrepreneurship, workplace, assets, and marriage. The Philippines scores below the LMIC average on mobility, assets, and marriage. Cambodia falls below the LMIC average on two, parenthood and pension. Vietnam also falls below average on two, pay and pension. Timor-Leste and Laos score the highest on the composite index, with each scoring below average on only one of the individual indicators—Laos on pension and Timor-Leste on entrepreneurship.

The indicators on which the seven countries perform the worst are pensions, with four countries scoring below the LMIC average, and entrepreneurship, three countries scoring below the LMIC average. Six indicators—mobility, parenthood, workplace, assets, marriage, and pay—have five countries scoring above the LMIC average and two below.

### **Equal Measures 2030**

Equal Measures 2030 is an organization that tracks gender equality progress on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It compiles a yearly SDG index that measures the state of gender equality for 14 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals for 129 countries based on 51 indicators. Figure 6 presents the findings on the 14 goals for six of the seven countries (data not available for Timor-Leste) . The data for each of the 14 SDG objectives is presented in appendix III.

Figure 6. Equal Measures 2030 Composite Index



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Looking across the 14 SDGs (refer either to figure 7 or the individual data figures in appendix III), the countries score particularly poorly on climate, with only Philippines and Vietnam scoring above the LMIC average. For another five SDGs—poverty, energy, jobs, inequality, and partnerships—only three countries surpass the LMIC average. Four SDGs—education, gender, infrastructure, and cities—have four countries scoring above the average. Hunger and the peace

indicator record five countries as above the LMIC average. All six countries score above the average on health.

Looking at each of the six countries, two—the Philippines and Indonesia—rank particularly well, scoring better than the average LMIC on 13 of the 14 SDGs. Vietnam likewise does well, scoring above average on 12. Cambodia scores above the LMIC average on 7 SDGs and falls below on 6 (data missing for one indicator). Laos and Myanmar rank below the LMIC average on 9 and 8 SDGs, respectively.

The Philippines falls below the LMIC average only on partnerships, and Indonesia only on climate. Vietnam falls below on jobs and partnerships. Cambodia falls low on poverty, hunger, WASH, energy, cities, and climate. Laos and Myanmar both score above the LMIC average only on hunger, health, and WASH, plus cities for Laos and peace and partnerships for Myanmar.

This suggests that Laos and Myanmar are the two countries most in need of donor policies and programs focused on women and gender. Climate, poverty, energy, jobs, and inequality are the SDGs in particular need of attention.

### Composite of the indexes

Looking across the three indexes, there is a clear picture for three countries—Myanmar, the Philippines, and Vietnam—and a mixed picture for the other four.

The three consistent scorings are the Philippines and Vietnam ranking in the upper range on all three indexes, and Myanmar in the lower range on all three. Cambodia, Indonesia, and Laos each score low on one of the indexes but well on the other two. Cambodia and Laos score relatively well on the Women, Peace and Security Index and the World Bank WBL, but Laos poorly and Cambodia mixed on the Equal Measures 2030. Indonesia scores well on Women, Peace and Security and Equal Measures 2030 but below average on World Bank WBL. Timor-Leste scores in the upper range on the two indexes on which it is ranked.

Looking at all the individual indicators that comprise the three indices, presented in box 5, the configuration is similar. Myanmar scores below the LMIC average on 18 indicators, followed by Laos on 15, Cambodia on 13, Indonesia on 9, Vietnam on 8, Philippines on 7, and Timor-Leste on 5 (albeit no data on the Equal Measures index).

These tallies indicate that Myanmar, Laos, and Cambodia are most in need of overall support for programs that promote women's empowerment and gender equality, and the other four countries in specific targeted areas.

Looking across all the indicators, the ones that stand out as needing the most attention for women and girls' advancement are education, legal discrimination, financial inclusion, employment, parliamentary representation, pension, and entrepreneurship. Most of these fall

under the category of women's economic empowerment, but political empowerment is also an issue.

Box 5. Tally of all indicators

Each of the countries falls below the LMIC average on the following indicators:

**Cambodia**—WPS: education, legal discrimination, financial inclusion, cellphone use, parliamentary representation; WBL: parenthood, pension; Equal Measures: poverty, hunger, WASH, energy, cities, climate.

**Myanmar**—WPS: education, financial inclusion, women's employment, discriminatory work norms, parliamentary representation; WBL: mobility, entrepreneurship, workplace, pay, pension; Equal Measures: poverty, education, gender, energy, jobs, infrastructure, inequality, cities.

**Laos**—WPS: education, legal discrimination, financial inclusion, community safety; WBL: pension; Equal Measures: poverty, education, gender, energy, jobs, infrastructure, inequality, climate, peace, partnerships.

**Indonesia** - WPS: discriminatory work norms, cellphone use, parliamentary representation; WBL: parenthood, entrepreneurship, workplace, assets, marriage; Equal Measures: climate.

**Philippines**—WPS: legal discrimination, son bias, women's employment; WBL: mobility, assets, marriage; Equal Measures: partnerships.

**Timor-Leste** - WPS: education, legal discrimination, women's employment, intimate partner violence; WBL: entrepreneurship.

**Vietnam**—WPS: legal discrimination, financial inclusion, son bias, cellphone use; WBL: pay, pension; Equal Measures: jobs, partnerships.

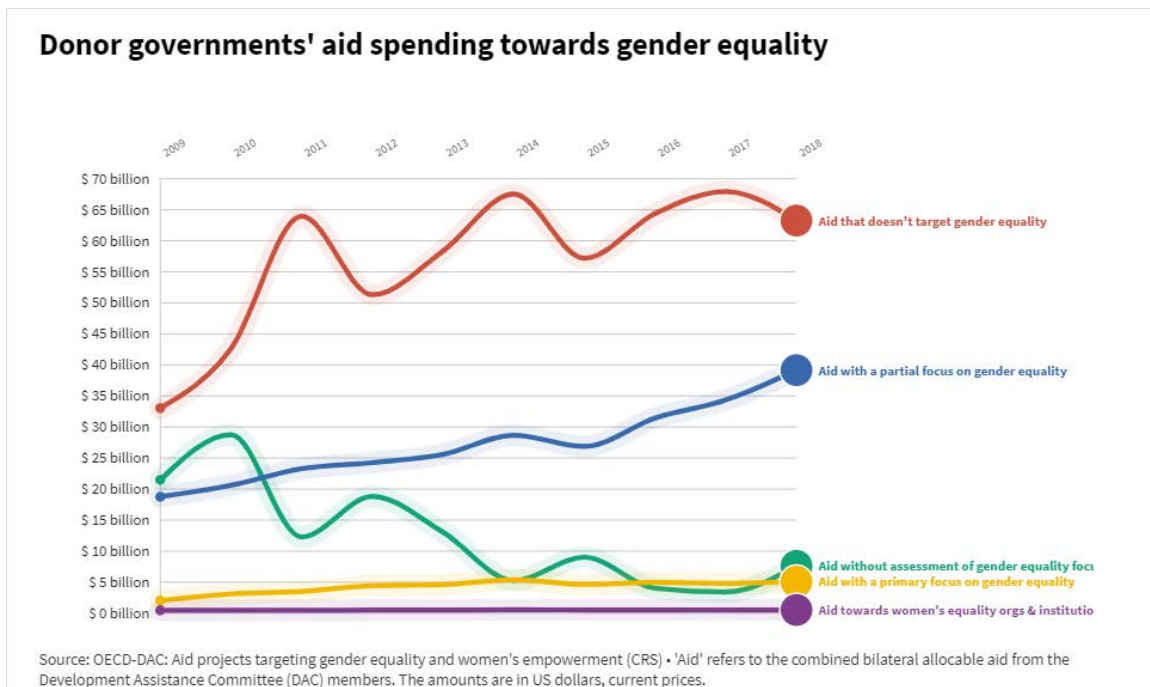


## Donor assistance

### Funding priorities

Figure 7 provides an overview of global trends in linking donor assistance to gender equality. It reveals that while there has been a modest increase over the past decade in assistance with at least some gender equality purpose, assistance that directly targets gender equality as its core objective is minimal.<sup>45</sup>

Figure 7



<sup>45</sup> Figure from Jamie Holton. "Aid for gender equality: ten-year trends the development community should know".

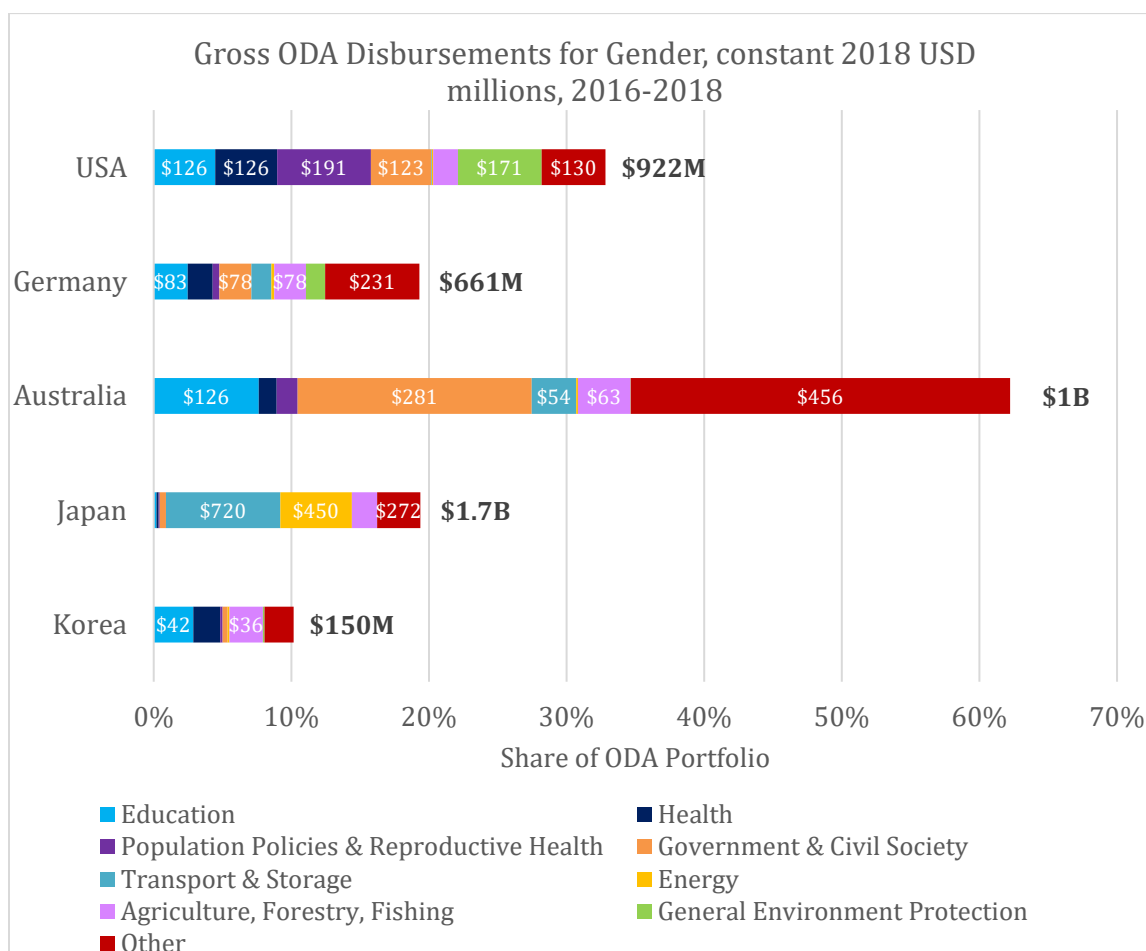
Figure 8 provides the overall level and subsector breakdown of donor funding to the seven countries for programs on women and gender<sup>46</sup> for the most recent period for which OECD-DAC data is available, 2016–2018. Japan far surpasses other donors at a level of \$ 1.7 billion targeted to women and gender, followed by Australia at \$1 billion, the U.S. at \$922 million, Germany at \$661 million, and Korea at \$150 million. Looking at gender funding as a share of each country’s total assistance portfolio to the seven countries, 63 percent of Australia’s funding in the region has a gender component, followed by the U.S. at 33 percent, Germany and Japan at 20 percent, and Korea at 10 percent.

What is striking is the diversity as to where the donors place their gender-based funding. Japanese funding for women and gender is concentrated in economic infrastructure such as transportation and energy. Assistance from Australia, Germany, Korea, and the United States is more spread out across the sectors. Australian assistance is spread among education and government & civil society; Germany on education, health, governance, and agriculture; the U.S. on education, health, population services, governance, and climate; and Korea on education, health, and agriculture.

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<sup>46</sup> Cautionary note on this data: donors can “tag” (categorize) projects as “gender” that have a gender component, but are not necessarily primarily a project about women and/or gender. Recent research by Oxfam concludes: “Unfortunately, while self-reported gender equality funding figures have increased, it is unclear if the funding is actually for gender equality work. Evaluations of donor equality policies suggest the policies are inconsistently implemented, and until recently, it was difficult to link the reported funding figures to more detailed project information necessary to assess the quality of gender equality projects. (Grabowski). The data here is for funding where gender is indicated as the “principal” or “significant” objective of the project.

Figure 8. Donor Assistance for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment



Source: OECD CRS (2020). All prices in 2018 USD, millions.

Table 1 presents data for each of the seven recipient countries on the level of gender tagged assistance by each of the five donors and the percentage that funding represents of total bilateral donor gender tagged assistance to the country. Japan accounts for the largest share at 25 percent of total bilateral gender assistance to all seven recipient countries, followed by Australia (15 percent), the United States (13 percent), Germany (10 percent), and Korea (2 percent). These five donors account for the bulk of gender-tagged funding in six of the seven countries, ranging from around 80 percent of all gender funding to Vietnam and Indonesia; 65 percent for the Philippines and Timor-Leste; 60 percent for Laos; 50 percent for Cambodia; and 40 percent for Myanmar. At the individual donor level, Japan accounts for a high share of all gender tagged funding in Vietnam (61 percent) and the Philippines (26 percent), Australia in Timor-Leste (42 percent) and Indonesia (34 percent), Germany in Laos (22 percent) and together with the U.S. in Cambodia (17 percent and 16 percent, respectively), and the United States in Myanmar (13 percent).

**Table 1. Gross ODA disbursements for Gender, 2016-2016, to 7 Southeast Asian countries**  
(in millions and as share of total gender funding to country by all DAC donors\*)

Donor	Total	Cambodia	Indonesia	Laos	Myanmar	Philippines	Timor-Leste	Vietnam
Australia	\$1,049	\$62	\$502	\$65	\$132	\$88	\$118	\$83
	15%	9%	34%	17%	9%	11%	42%	5%
Germany	\$661	\$115	\$148	\$83	\$106	\$48	\$20	\$140
	10%	17%	10%	22%	7%	6%	7%	8%
Japan	\$1,705	\$46	\$209	\$41	\$120	\$217	\$11	\$1,060
	25%	7%	14%	11%	8%	26%	4%	61%
Korea	\$150	\$16	\$3	\$31	\$34	\$22	\$10	\$35
	2%	2%	0%	8%	2%	3%	3%	2%
United States	\$922	\$106	\$302	\$6	\$206	\$178	\$23	\$102
	13%	16%	21%	1%	13%	22%	8%	6%
Total 5 Donors	\$4,487	\$345	\$1,164	\$226	\$597	\$553	\$182	\$1,420
	65%	51%	79%	59%	39%	67%	65%	82%

Source: OECD CRS (2020). All prices in constant 2018 USD. Gender here refers to projects tagged in CRS where gender is a principal or significant project objective.

\*Shares reflect donor funding for gender relative to all DAC bilateral donors. Gender funding totals from all donors not available.

## Donor Strategic Priorities

The 2016 gender strategy of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade commits to integrating gender equality across its development programs, prioritizing enhancing women's voice in decisionmaking, leadership, and peace-building; promoting women's economic empowerment; and ending violence against women.<sup>47</sup> Germany's GIZ issued a gender strategy in 2019 establishing gender equality as a benchmark feature of GIZ's programs and committing to ensure that GIZ and its commissioning parties and clients are working to advance gender equality.<sup>48</sup> KOICA's 2016-20 mid-term strategy puts priority on women's economic empowerment, social status, and basic rights.<sup>49</sup> USAID's 2012 gender policy<sup>50</sup> commits to integrating gender equality and female empowerment into USAID's work and prioritizes reducing gender gaps, reducing gender-based violence, and empower women.<sup>51</sup> JICA promotes gender equality in areas such as organizational and institutional strengthening, girls' education, women's entrepreneurship, and trafficking and through working with men and religious leaders to support women's empowerment.<sup>52</sup>

<sup>47</sup> DFAT. Gender equality and women's empowerment strategy.

<sup>48</sup> GIZ. Gender reloaded.

<sup>49</sup> KOICA. KOICA's Mid-term Sectoral Strategy:2016-2020 .

<sup>50</sup> As of October 2020, USAID had a new gender policy in draft that has not been finalized.

<sup>51</sup> Gender Equality and Female Empowerment Policy.

<sup>52</sup> JICA. *Gender Mainstreaming: Inclusive and Dynamic Development*; JICA "Gender and Development".

## Donor collaboration

Areas of potential collaboration can be identified by needs as revealed by the data for specific areas and countries, by donor funding and policy priorities, by activities in which donors have comparable funding and programming, and by identifying a common global initiative.

### Gaps

Donors could coordinate around a particular gap in women's empowerment and gender equality, particularly in supporting capacity building and local women's groups. Available data indicates that there are particular needs in legal discrimination, financial inclusion, employment, parliamentary representation, pension, and entrepreneurship.

### Country

A second approach is for donors to target specific countries. The data suggests that Cambodia and Myanmar have the broadest needs in advancing women's empowerment and gender equality, followed by Laos and Indonesia.

### Donor Priorities

A third approach is to coordinate where donors have comparable funding and program priority. All five donors put priority on women's empowerment and gender equality generally. Australia, Korea, Japan, and the U.S. could coalesce specifically around women's economic empowerment, and Australia, Japan, and the U.S. on women's rights and violence. Australia and the U.S. could work together on building civil society and advancing women's rights. Japan and Korea could collaborate on a particular technical program.

### Donor Activities

As to commonality in specific projects, the information found on the IATI platform (reported in appendix IV) is not complete, nor up-to-date, and what is available shows a scattering of programs. Most of the projects reported are for Australia and the United States. There is overlap in programming by those two countries in Cambodia, Indonesia, and Myanmar in the areas of women's rights and empowerment, particularly economic empowerment, which could serve as the basis for collaboration. The projects identified via IATI confirm the tendency shown by the funding levels that Japan and Korea tend to target funding on technical areas, whereas Australia and the U.S. also fund programs that verge into the more political arenas of government, civil society, human rights, and women's rights and empowerment.

### W-GDP

A fifth approach is to find a program that is global in scope with a structure amenable to operating in multiple countries and to multi-donor participation. The Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative<sup>53</sup> advances women's economic empowerment,

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<sup>53</sup> W-GDP Annual Report 2020 <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/WGDP-2019-Annual-Report-02102020.pdf>

with 10 U.S. government departments and agencies<sup>54</sup> working toward the goal of reaching 50 million women by 2025. The W-GDP Fund at USAID, funded at \$200 million in its first two years, leverages the Agency's work in women's economic empowerment by integrating women into the economy to improve their status. The initiative partners with more than 450 private sector, nongovernmental, and local organizations, as well as host-country governments, to work across more than 60 countries. To-date, W-GDP has reached more than 12 million women, nine million of which were beneficiaries of USAID programming. USAID uses its extensive field presence and experience to advance the three foundational pillars of the W-GDP Initiative:

- **Women Prospering in the Workforce:** Increase women's global labor force participation and advancement in the workplace by providing women with quality education, training, and support, so they can secure and thrive in well-paying jobs in their local economies.
- **Women Succeeding as Entrepreneurs:** Increase the access of women entrepreneurs and business owners to financing, market opportunities, and training to establish and grow their businesses.
- **Women Enabled in the Economy:** promote an enabling environment that increases women's economic empowerment by reducing barriers and enhancing protections in policies, laws, regulations, and practices (public and private) to facilitate women's participation in the economy.

As of 2020 the program is operating in 60 countries, including Cambodia, Indonesia, and the Philippines.<sup>55</sup> Either several or all of the five donors working together in this program, or collectively establishing a comparable program, could take the effort at women's economic empowerment to Laos and Myanmar, each with a significant need for advancing women's rights.

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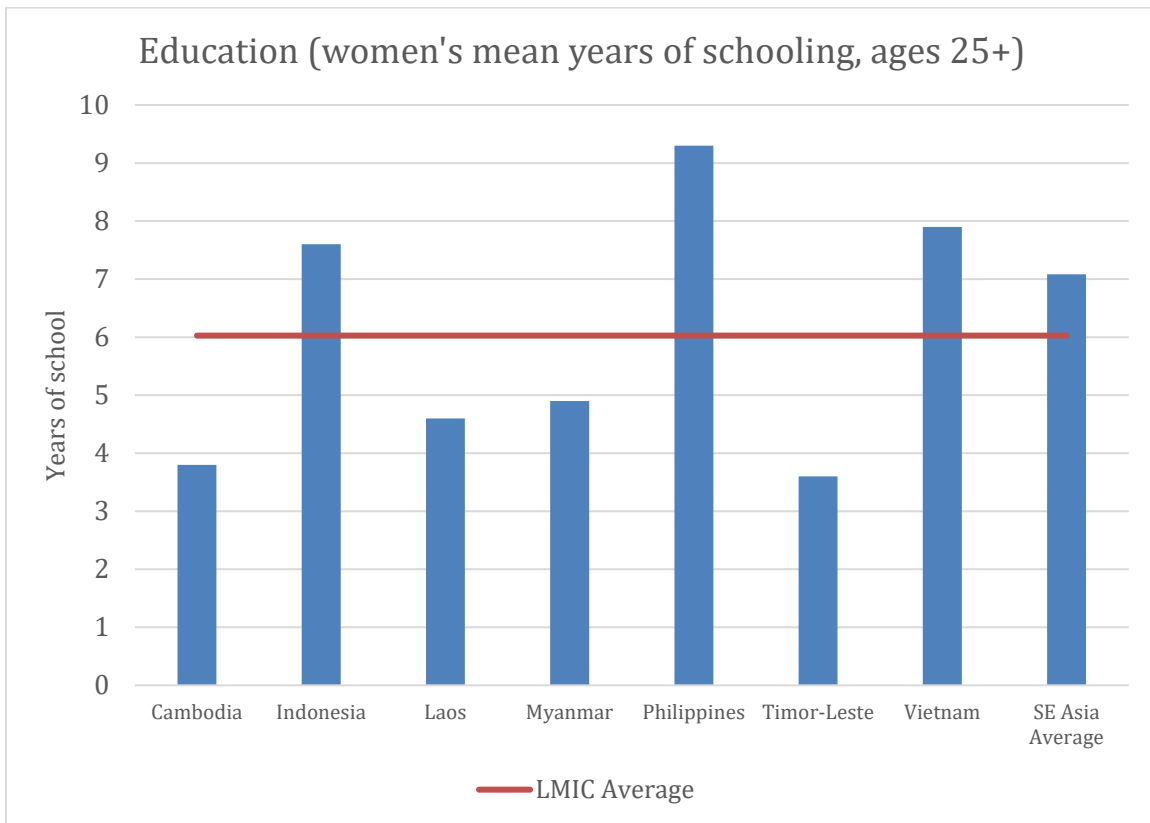
<sup>54</sup> Department of Commerce, Department of Labor, Department of State, Department of Treasury, Inter-American Foundation, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Peace Corps, U.S. Africa Development Foundation, USAID, and U.S. International Development Finance Corporation.

<sup>55</sup> W-GDP Annual Report 2019-2020.

## Appendix I. Georgetown Women, Peace, and Security Index 2019/20

Figure 9. Education

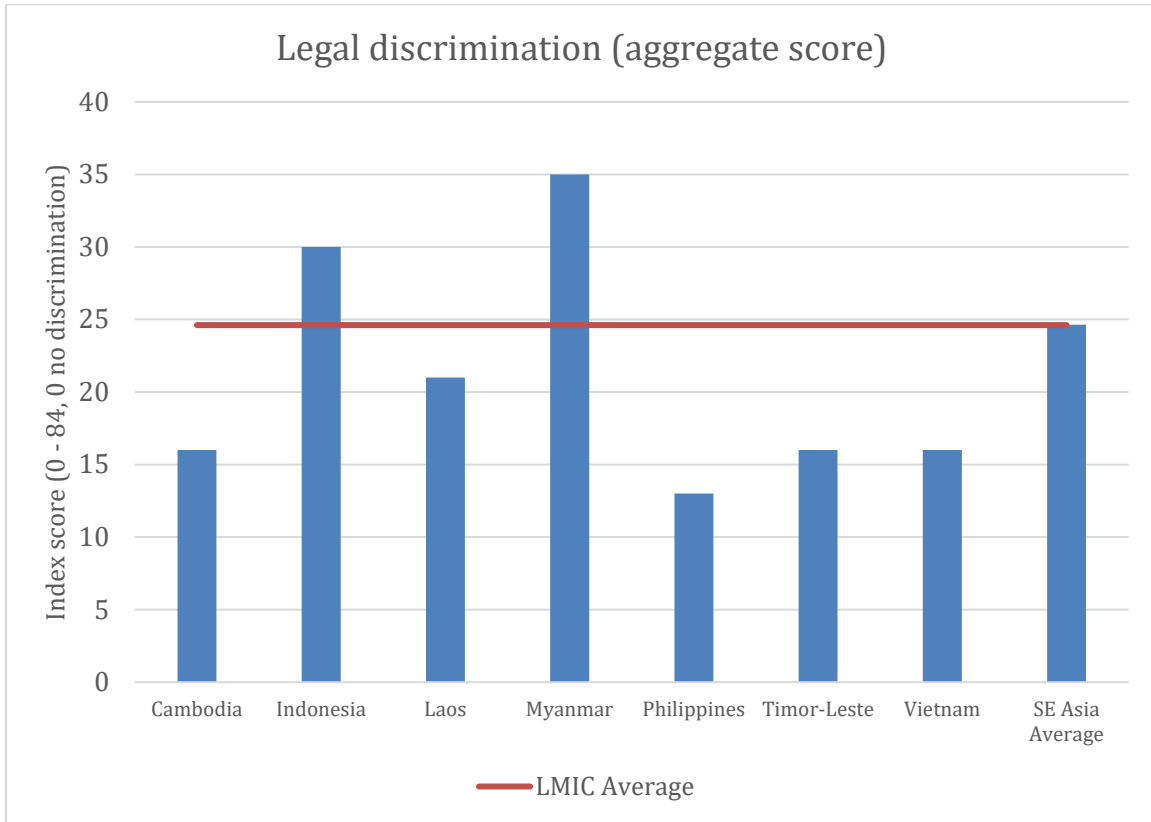
Whereas the Philippines, Indonesia, and Vietnam score well above the average for all LMICs on women's education, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Timor-Leste fall considerably below.



Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).

Figure 10. Legal discrimination

On legal discrimination, Indonesia and Myanmar score better than the average LMIC, and Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, and Vietnam score considerably below.

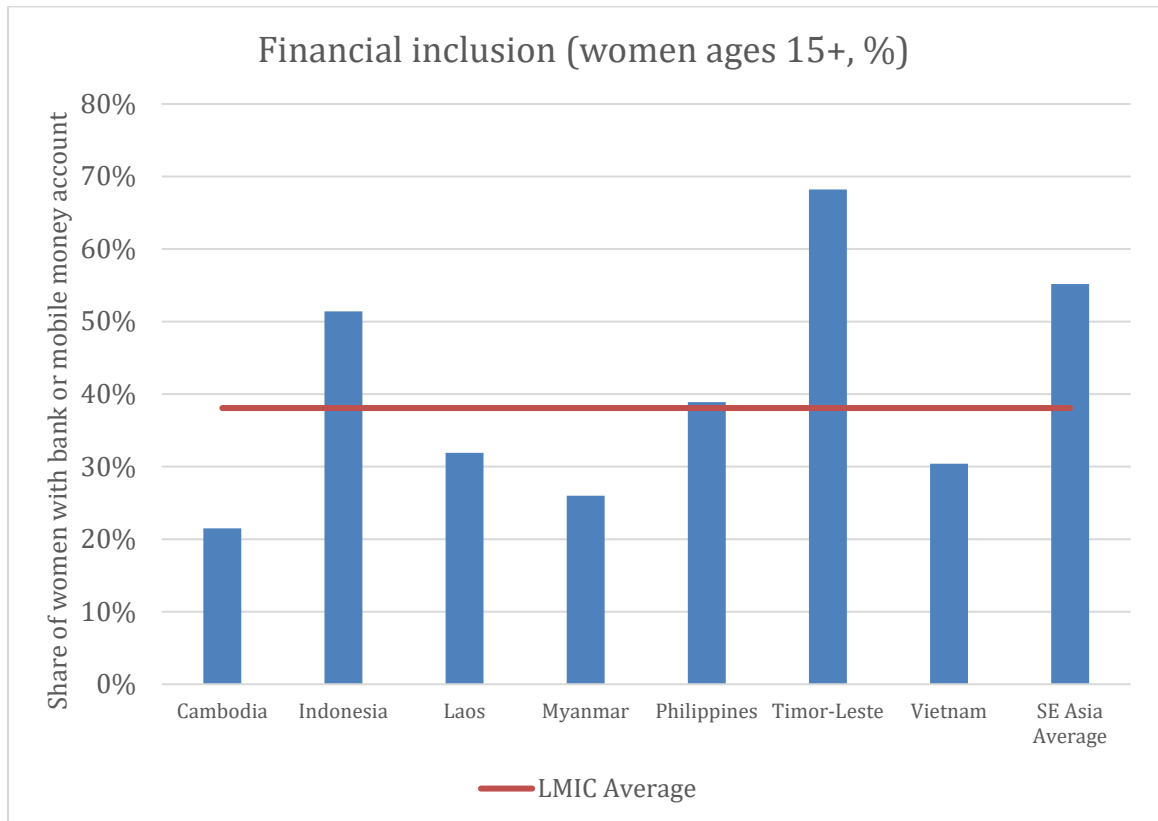


Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).



Figure 11. Financial inclusion

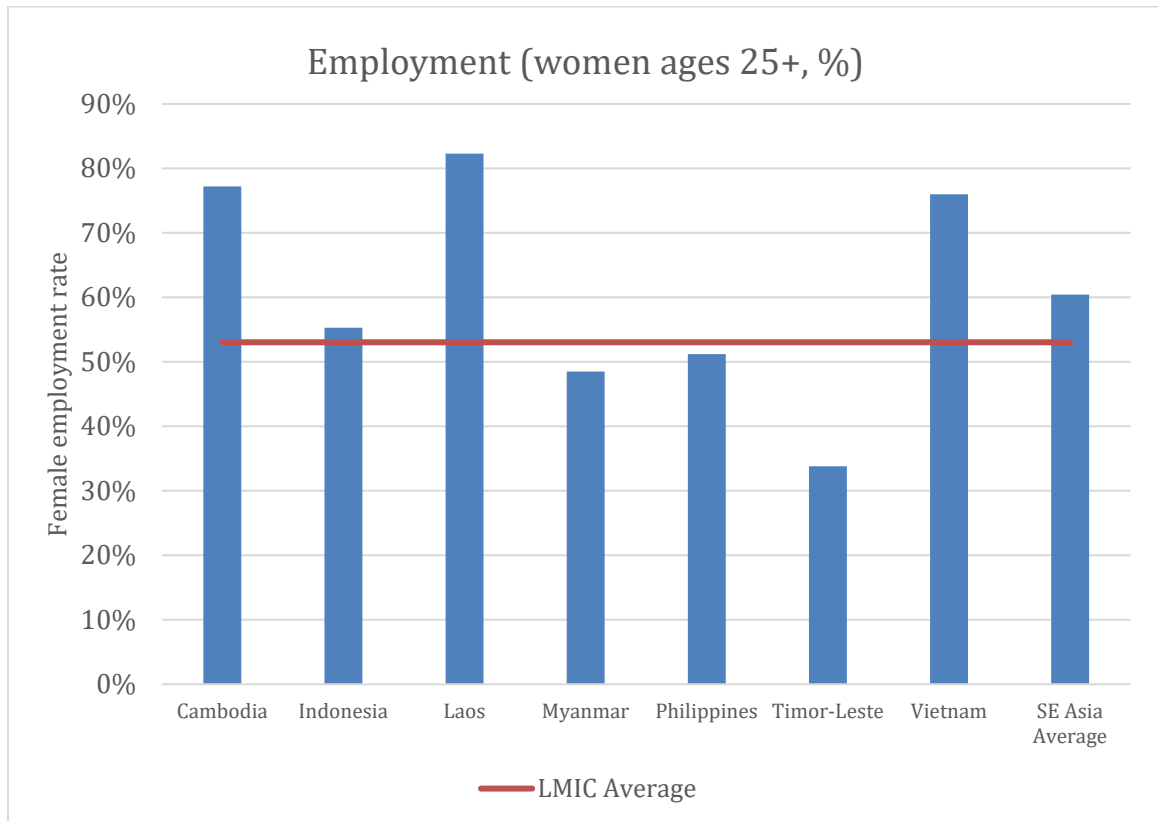
On financial inclusion, Timor-Leste and Indonesia score above the LMIC average, the Philippines is right at the average, Laos and Vietnam are below, and Cambodia and Myanmar score substantially below the LMIC average.



Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).

Figure 12. Women's Employment

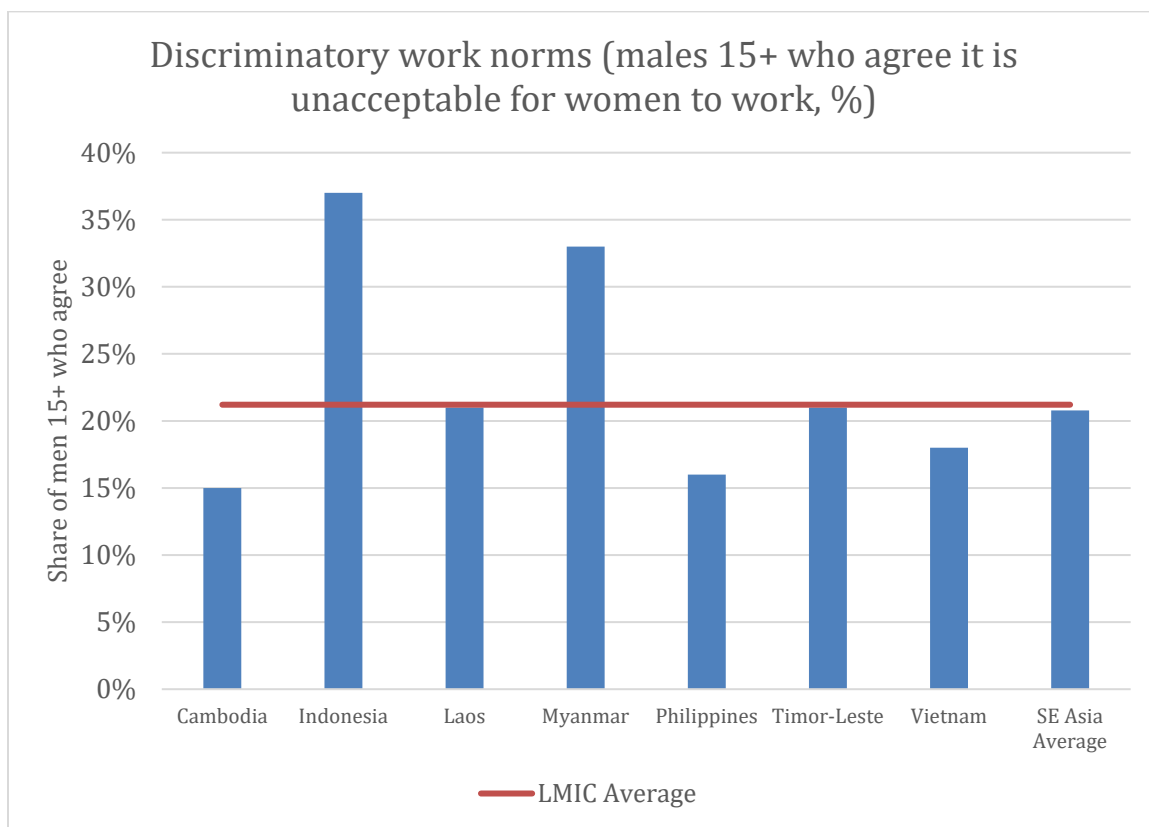
On employment, women score considerably well in Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam, right at the LMIC average in Indonesia and the Philippines, and below average in Myanmar and Timor-Leste.



Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).

Figure 13. Discriminatory Work Norms

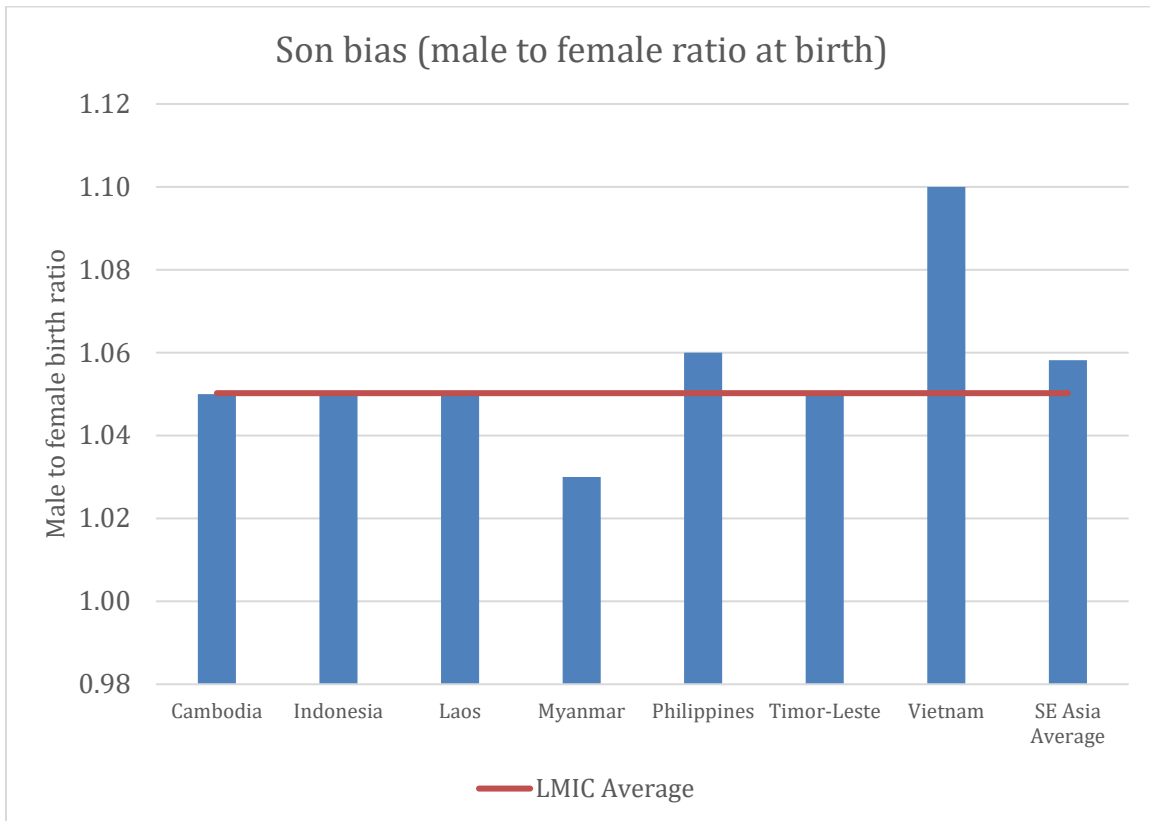
With respect to discriminatory work norms, women face considerable challenges in Indonesia and Myanmar, about the LMIC norm in Laos and Timor-Leste, and relatively less challenges in the Philippines, Vietnam, and Cambodia.



Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).

Figure 14. Son Bias

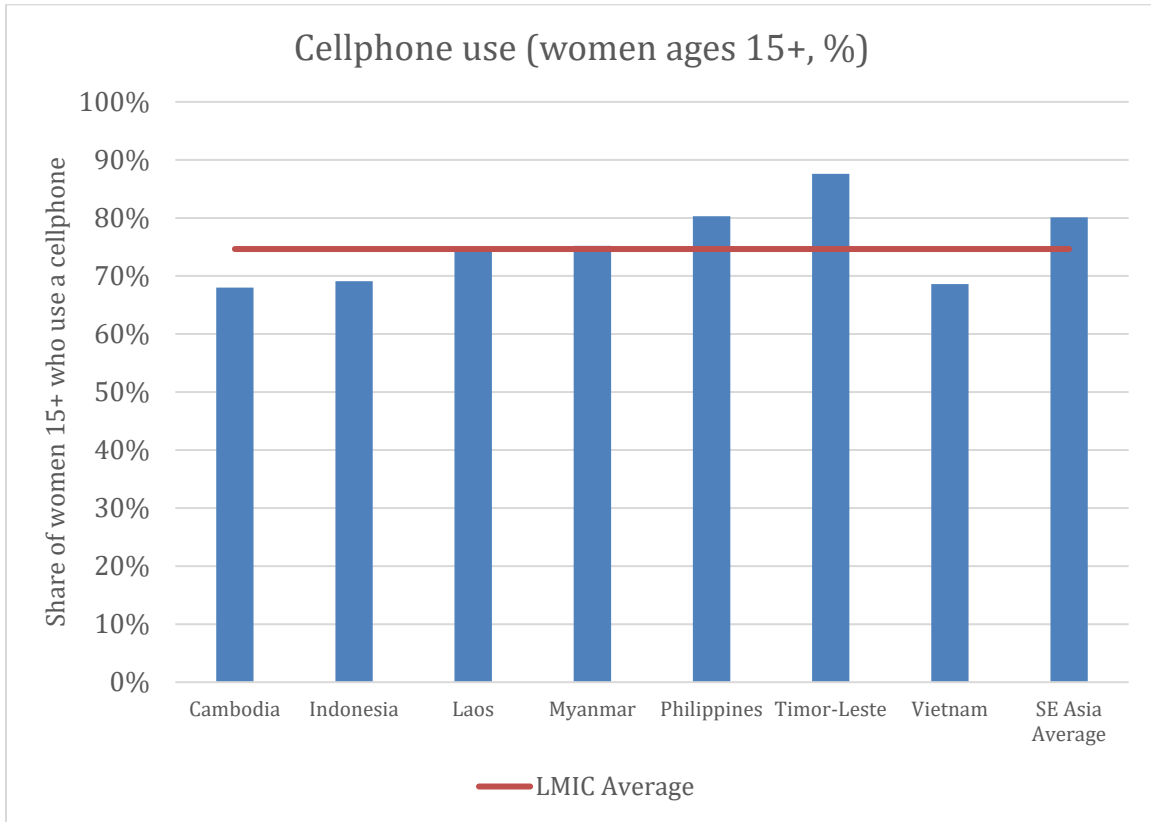
On whether families discriminate in favor of sons over daughters (Figure 14), four of the countries are right at the LMIC average, the Philippines and Vietnam score above average (greater son preference) and Myanmar is below (less son preference, birth ratio closer to even at 1.0).



Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).

Figure 15. Cellphone use by women

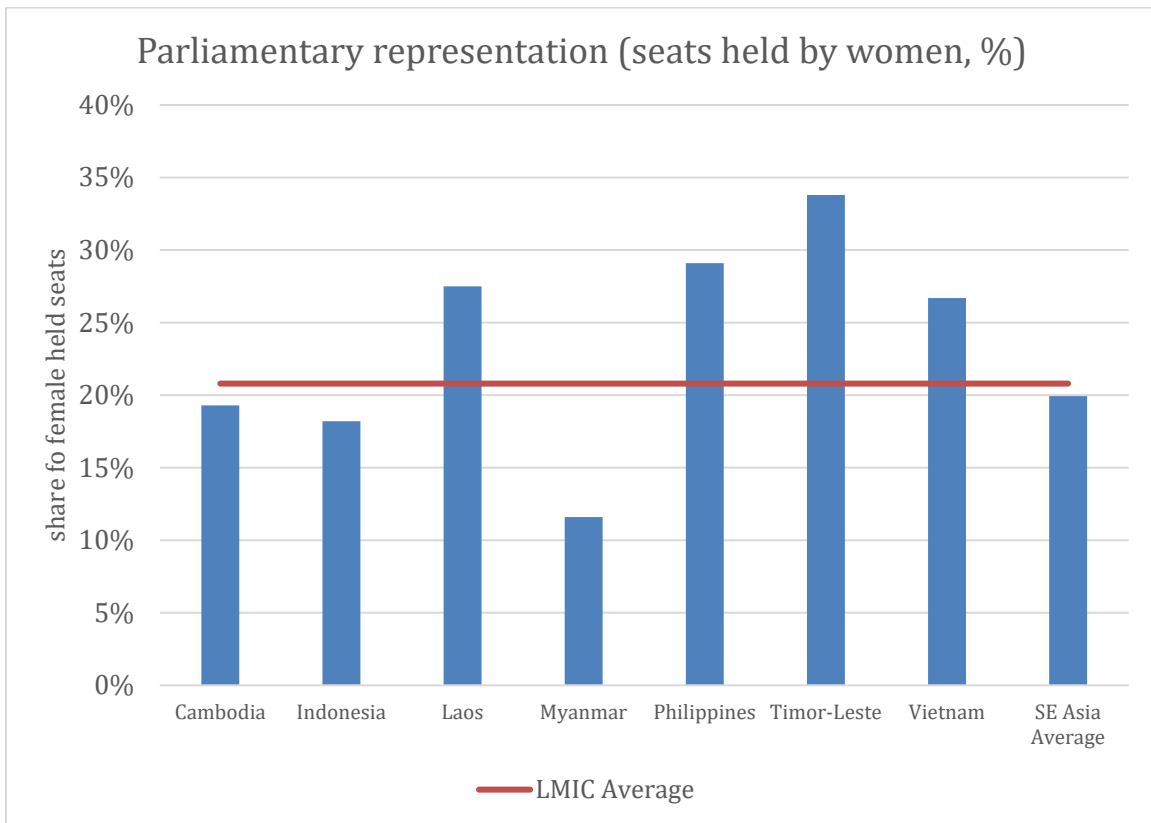
Cellphone use (Figure 15) by women in Laos and Myanmar hovers in the range of the LMIC average, is above average in the Philippines and Timor-Leste, and below average in Cambodia, Indonesia, and Vietnam.



Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).

Figure 16. Parliamentary Representation by Women

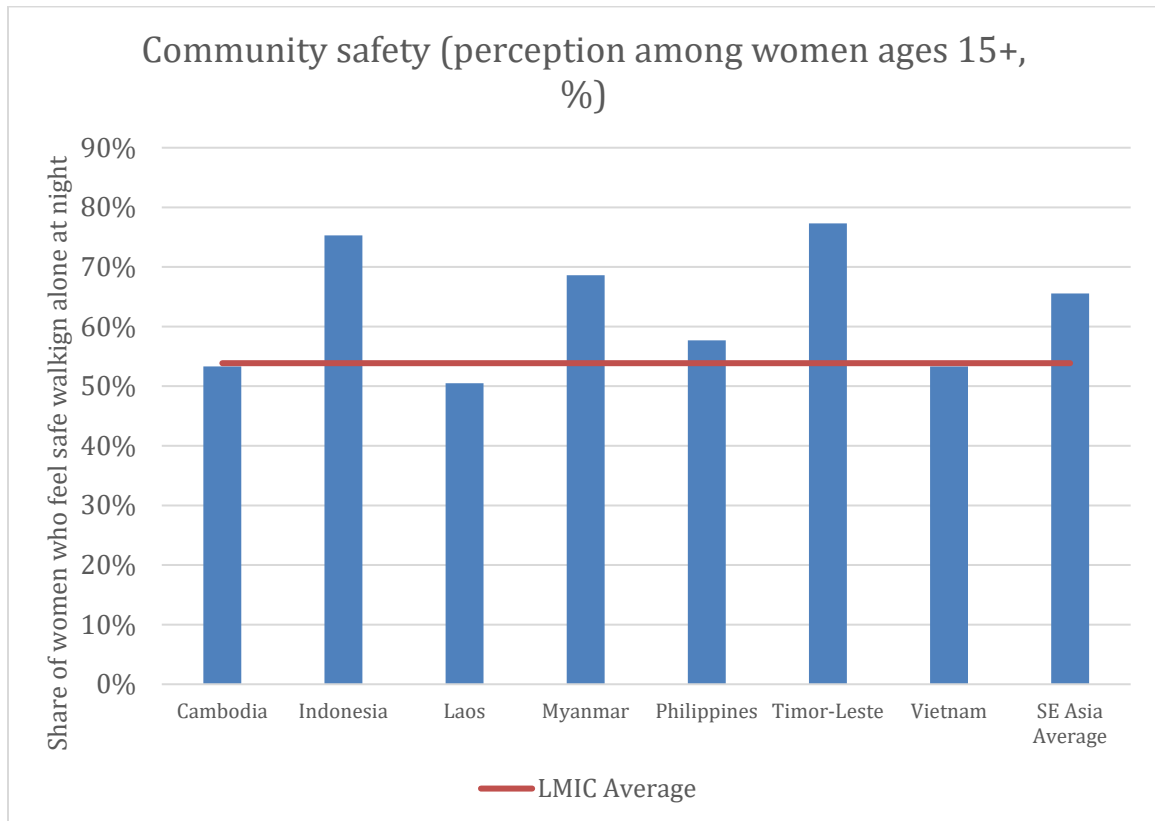
Except for Myanmar, women score relatively high in terms of the representation on the parliament indicator, especially in Laos, Timor-Leste, Vietnam, and the Philippines.



Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).

Figure 17. Community Safety

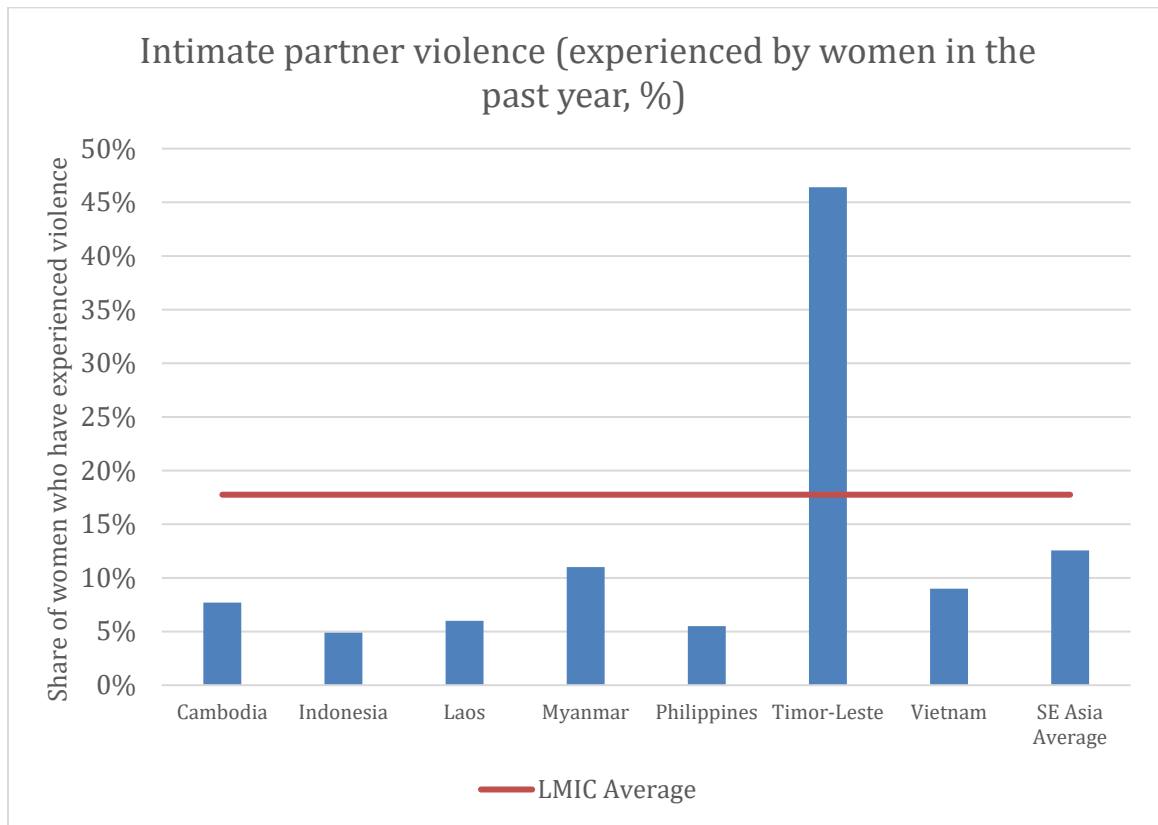
Women perceive themselves to enjoy relative greater safety in communities in Timor-Leste, Indonesia, and Myanmar and to face danger about the LMIC average in Laos, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Cambodia.



Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).

Figure 18. Intimate Partner Violence

On facing intimate partner violence, all seven countries fall well below the LMIC average except for Timor-Leste, where partner violence appears to be a particular problem.



Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security (2019).



## Appendix II. World Bank—Women, Business, & The Law 2020

### Scope of the Indicators

<b>TABLE 2.1      <i>WOMEN, BUSINESS AND THE LAW</i> INDICATORS</b>	
<b>Mobility (0–100)</b>	
1.	Can a woman choose where to live in the same way as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
2.	Can a woman travel outside her home in the same way as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
3.	Can a woman apply for a passport in the same way as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
4.	Can a woman travel outside the country in the same way as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
<b>Workplace (0–100)</b>	
1.	Can a woman get a job in the same way as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
2.	Does the law prohibit discrimination in employment based on gender? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
3.	Is there legislation on sexual harassment in employment? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
4.	Are there criminal penalties or civil remedies for sexual harassment in employment? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
<b>Pay (0–100)</b>	
1.	Does the law mandate equal remuneration for work of equal value? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
2.	Can women work the same night hours as men? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
3.	Can women work in jobs deemed dangerous in the same way as men? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
4.	Are women able to work in the same industries as men? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
<b>Marriage (0–100)</b>	
1.	Is there no legal provision that requires a married woman to obey her husband? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
2.	Can a woman be head of household in the same way as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
3.	Is there legislation specifically addressing domestic violence? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
4.	Can a woman obtain a judgment of divorce in the same way as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
5.	Does a woman have the same rights to remarry as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
<b>Parenthood (0–100)</b>	
1.	Is paid leave of at least 14 weeks available to mothers? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
2.	Does the government administer 100% of maternity leave benefits? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
3.	Is there paid leave available to fathers? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
4.	Is there paid parental leave? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
5.	Is dismissal of pregnant workers prohibited? (Yes = 1, No = 0)

<b>TABLE 2.1    <i>WOMEN, BUSINESS AND THE LAW</i> INDICATORS</b>	
<b>Entrepreneurship (0–100)</b>	
1.	Does the law prohibit discrimination in access to credit based on gender? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
2.	Can a woman sign a contract in the same way as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
3.	Can a woman register a business in the same way as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
4.	Can a woman open a bank account in the same way as a man? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
<b>Assets (0–100)</b>	
1.	Do men and women have equal ownership rights to immovable property? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
2.	Do sons and daughters have equal rights to inherit assets from their parents? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
3.	Do female and male surviving spouses have equal rights to inherit assets? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
4.	Does the law grant spouses equal administrative authority over assets during marriage? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
5.	Does the law provide for the valuation of nonmonetary contributions? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
<b>Pension (0–100)</b>	
1.	Are the ages at which men and women can retire with full pension benefits equal? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
2.	Are the ages at which men and women can retire with partial pension benefits equal? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
3.	Are the mandatory retirement ages for men and women equal? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
4.	Are periods of absence due to child care accounted for in pension benefits? (Yes = 1, No = 0)
<i>Source: Women, Business and the Law database.</i>	

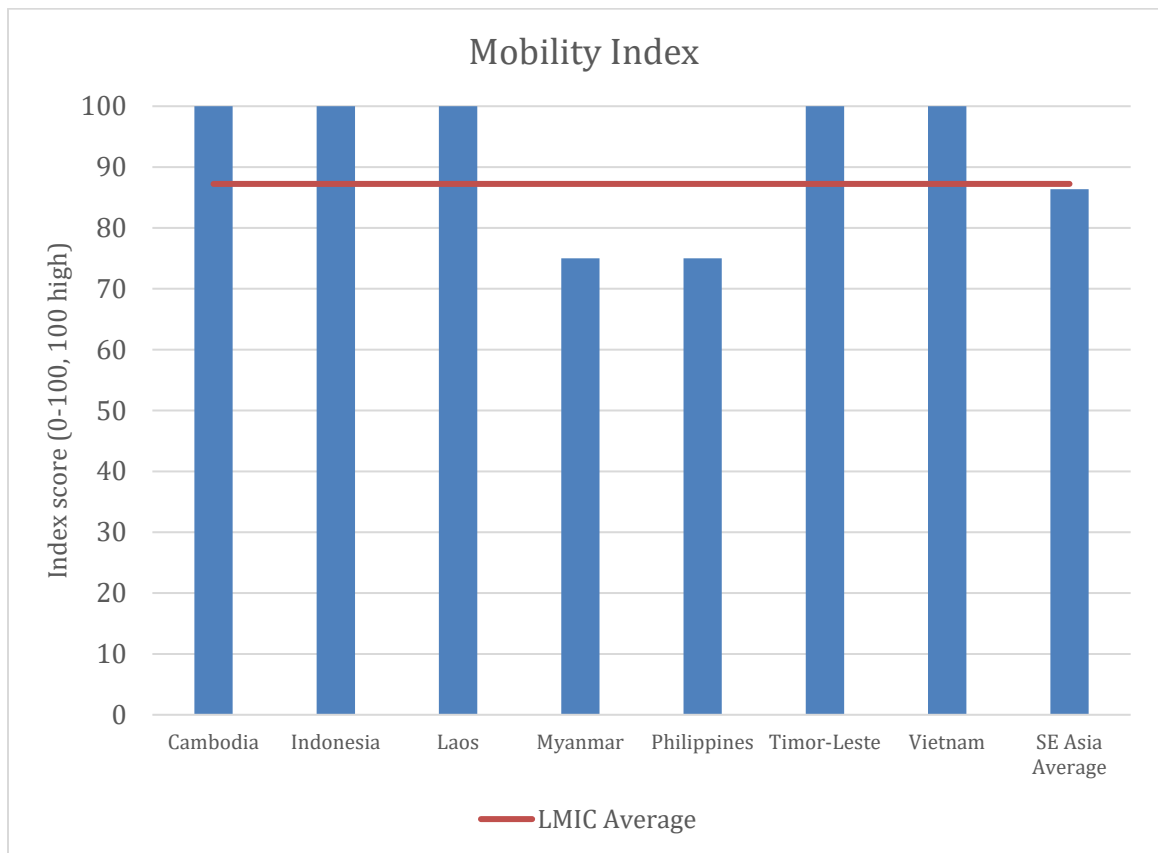
*Source: World Bank, Women, Business, and The Law 2020.*

## Individual indicators

Figure 19. Mobility

Examining constraints on women's freedom of movement

Women are freer to move in Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam than in the majority of LMIC, but less free in Myanmar and the Philippines.

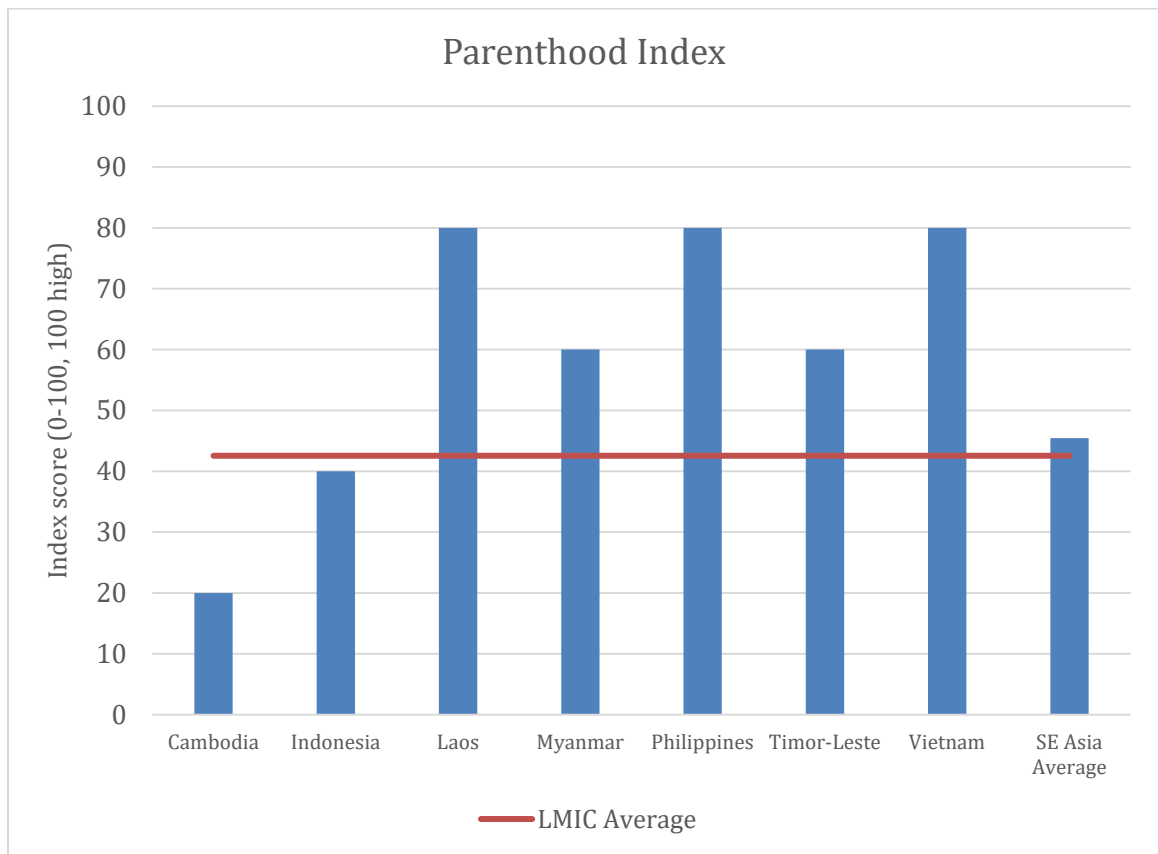


Source: World Bank Women, Business and the Law (2020)

Figure 20. Parenthood

Evaluating laws affecting women's work after having children

In five countries—Laos, Myanmar, the Philippines, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam—women are freer to enter work after having children than in the average LMIC, and in Indonesia and Cambodia less free.

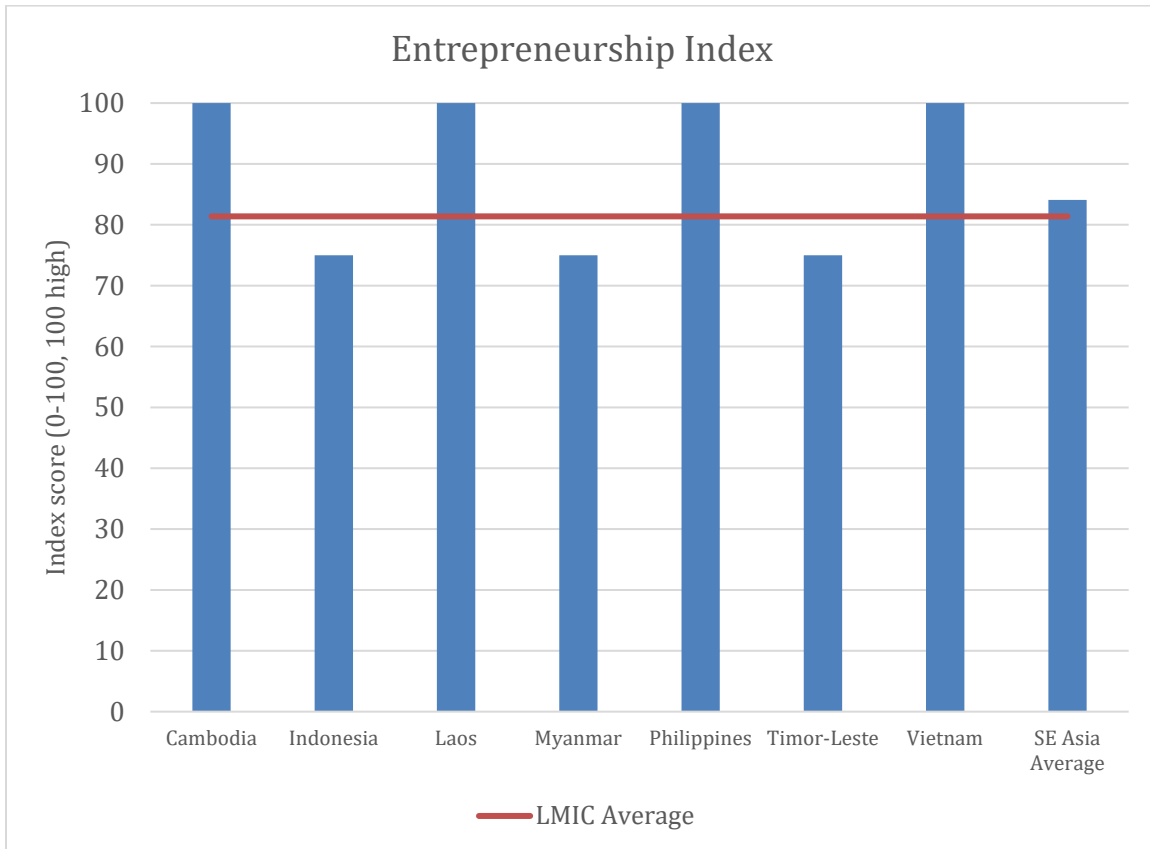


Source: World Bank Women, Business and the Law (2020)

Figure 21. Entrepreneurship

Examining constraints facing women starting and running a business

Constraints on women's entrepreneurship are greater in Indonesia, Myanmar, and Timor-Leste than the LMIC average, and in Cambodia, Laos, the Philippines, and Vietnam they have easier access.

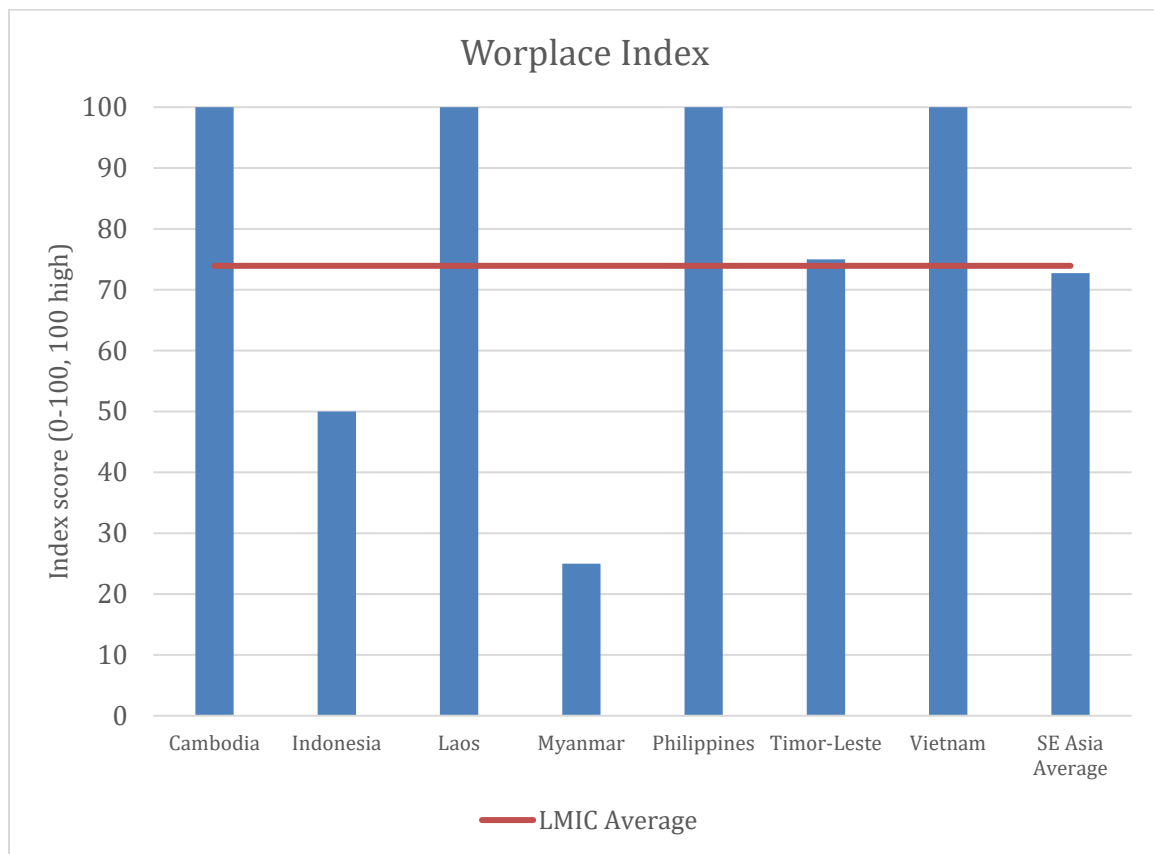


Source: World Bank Women, Business and the Law (2020)

Figure 22. Workplace

Analyzing laws affecting women's decisions to enter and remain in the labor force

Women are more readily able to enter the workplace in Cambodia, Laos, the Philippines, and Vietnam. Timor-Leste hits about the LMIC average, and women are more constrained in Indonesia and Myanmar.

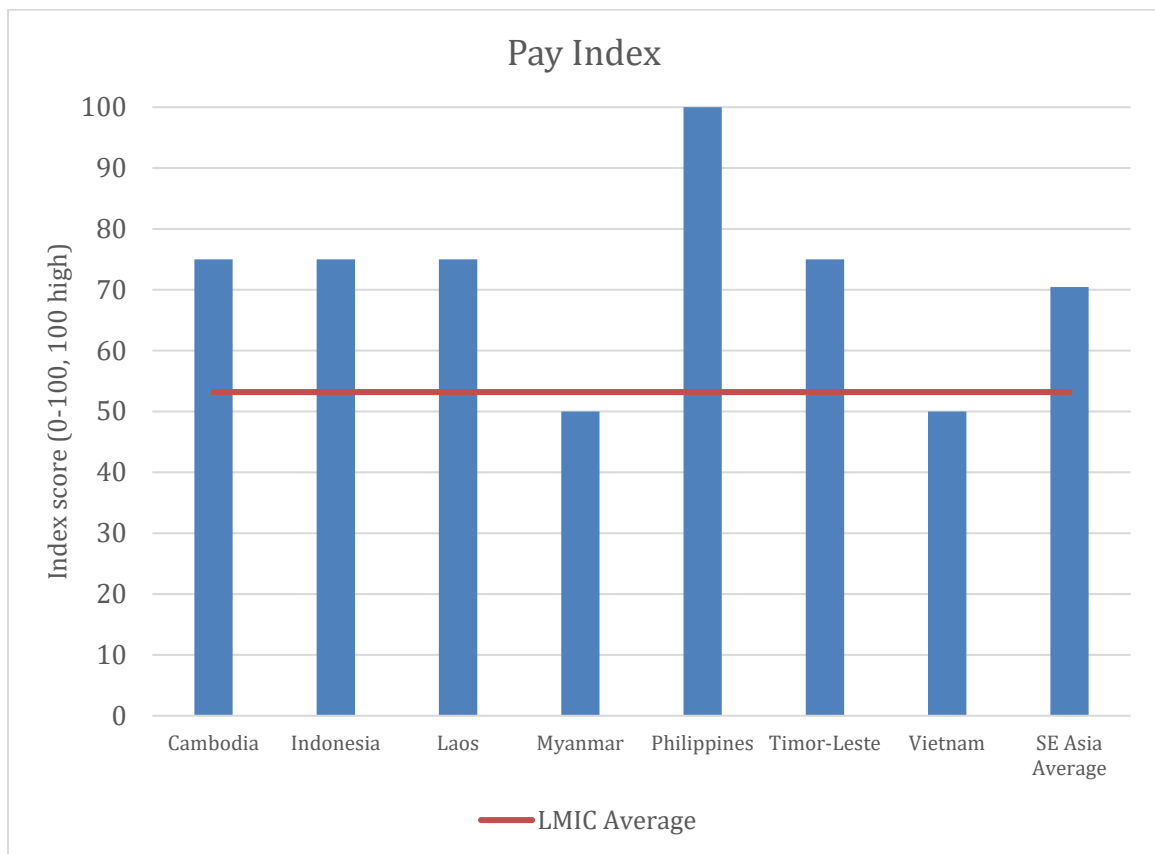


Source: World Bank Women, Business and the Law (2020)

Figure 23. Pay

Measuring laws and regulations concerning job restrictions and the gender wage gap

Of the seven countries, Myanmar and Vietnam are slightly more restrictive on pay for women than the LMIC average. The other five countries are more favorable on women's pay, with the Philippines being considerably better.

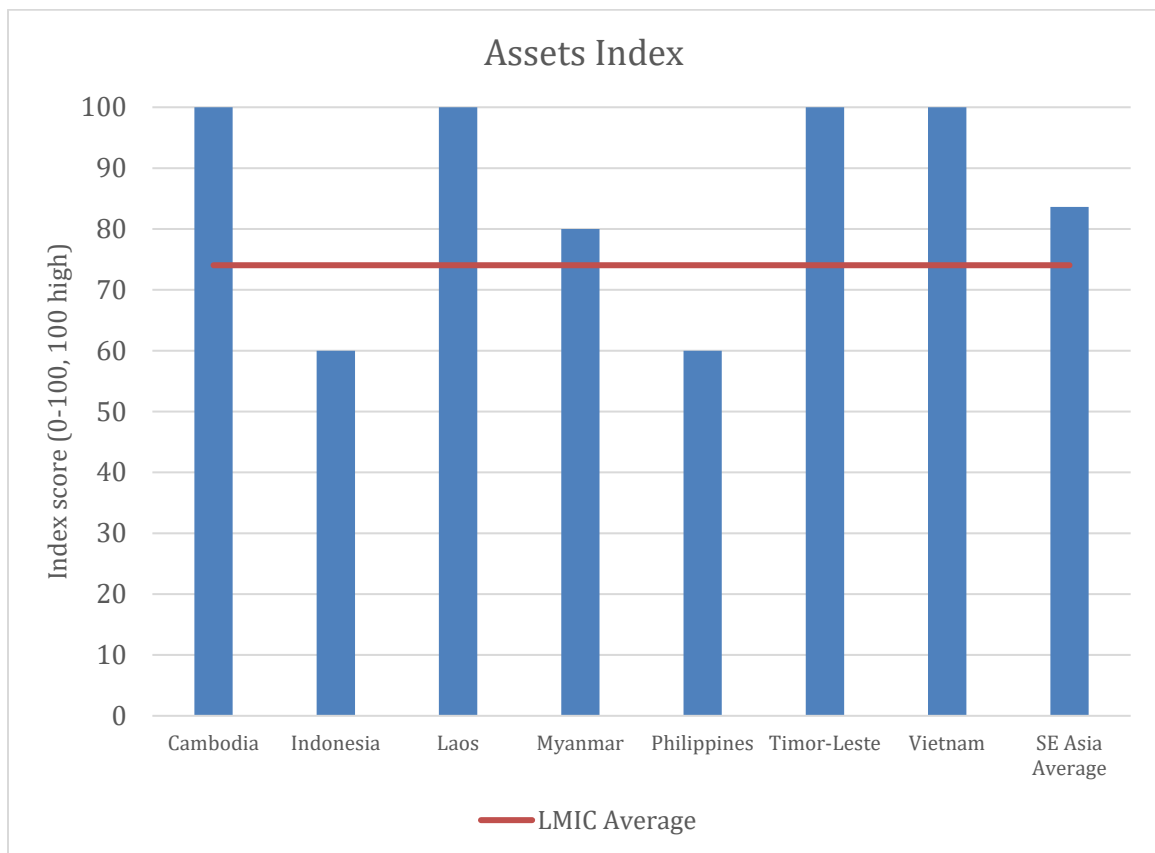


Source: World Bank Women, Business and the Law (2020)

Figure 24. Assets

Analyzing gender differences in property and inheritance laws

Cambodia, Laos, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam have few gender differences in property and inheritance rights than the LMIC average; Myanmar is just above the average; and women in Indonesia and the Philippines have fewer rights.



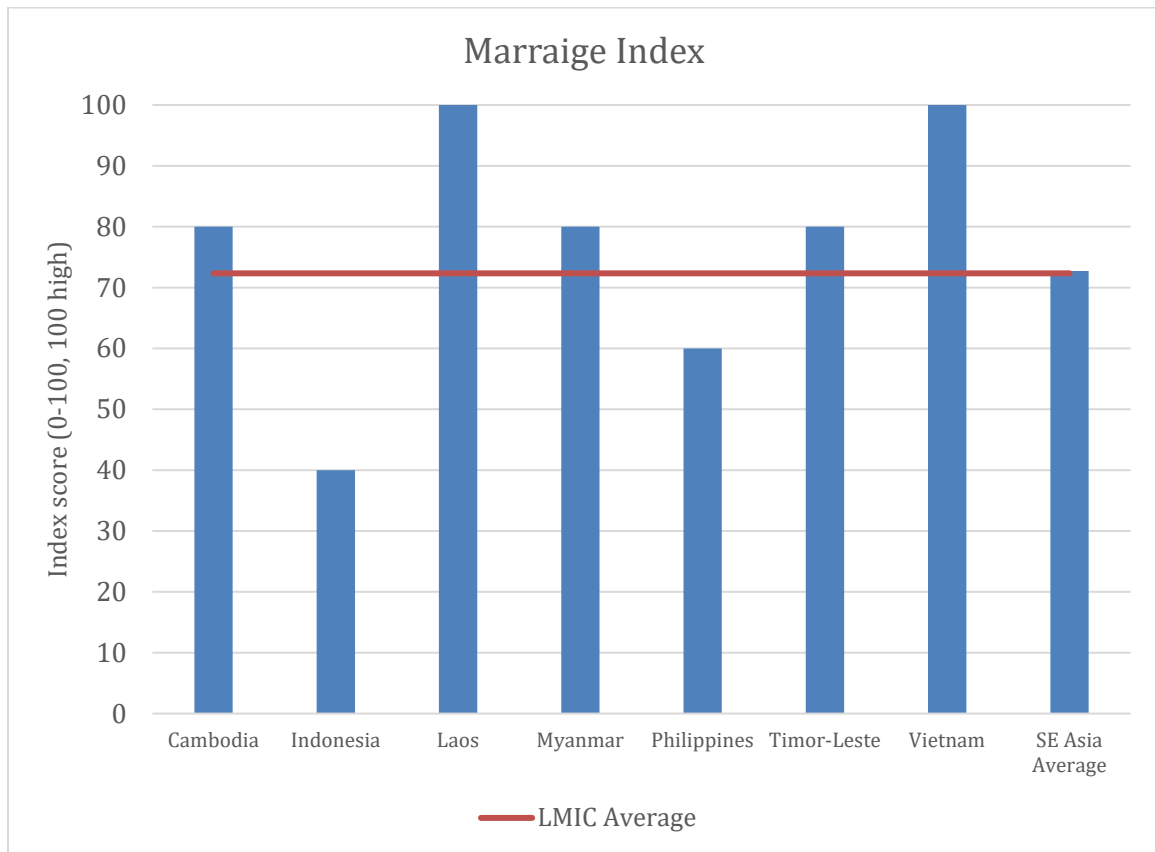
Source: World Bank Women, Business and the Law (2020)



Figure 25. Marriage

Assessing legal constraints related to marriage

Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam have women's marriage rights greater than most LMIC countries, and in Indonesia and the Philippines women have fewer marriage rights.

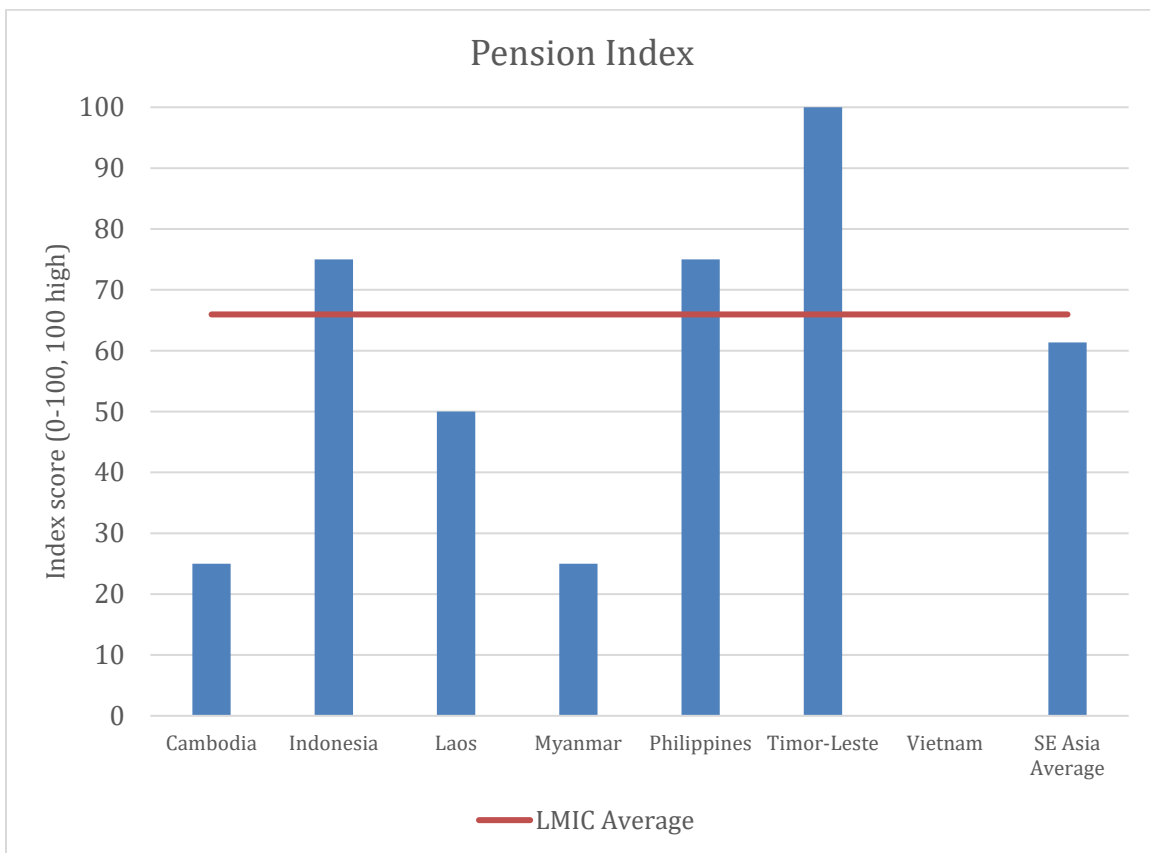


Source: World Bank Women, Business and the Law (2020)

Figure 26. Pension

Assessing laws affecting the size of women's pension

Women have better access to pension benefits in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Timor-Leste than the LMIC average and not as favorable access in Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar. Women in Vietnam are treated unequally under the law on all pension matters examined in this index, earning it a score of 0.



Source: World Bank Women, Business and the Law (2020)

## Appendix III. Equal Measures 2030

### Scores

Indicator	Cambodia	Indonesia	Laos	Myanmar	Philippines	Vietnam	SE Asia Average	LMIC Average
SDG 1: Poverty	53	68	54	51	61	78	66	58
SDG 2: Hunger	77	85	79	79	88	88	83	77
SDG 3: Health	72	81	70	79	74	86	79	68
SDG 4: Education	66	77	62	64	82	85	76	66
SDG 5: Gender	58	57	40	38	61	65	53	55
SDG 6: WASH	67	81	77	73	83	85	81	68
SDG 7: Energy	59	78	58	54	70	82	72	67
SDG 8: Jobs	61	65	49	43	72	51	58	59
SDG 9: Infrastructure	46	51	34	36	61	57	54	44
SDG 10: Inequality		63	48	42	66	61	55	57
SDG 11: Cities	54	72	68	56	61	68	65	59
SDG 13: Climate	23	38	42		45	44	47	43
SDG 16: Peace	57	62	51	58	58	70	58	54
SDG 17: Partnerships	47	47	11	40	33	38	37	40
Overall Score	56	65	52	54	65	67	62	58

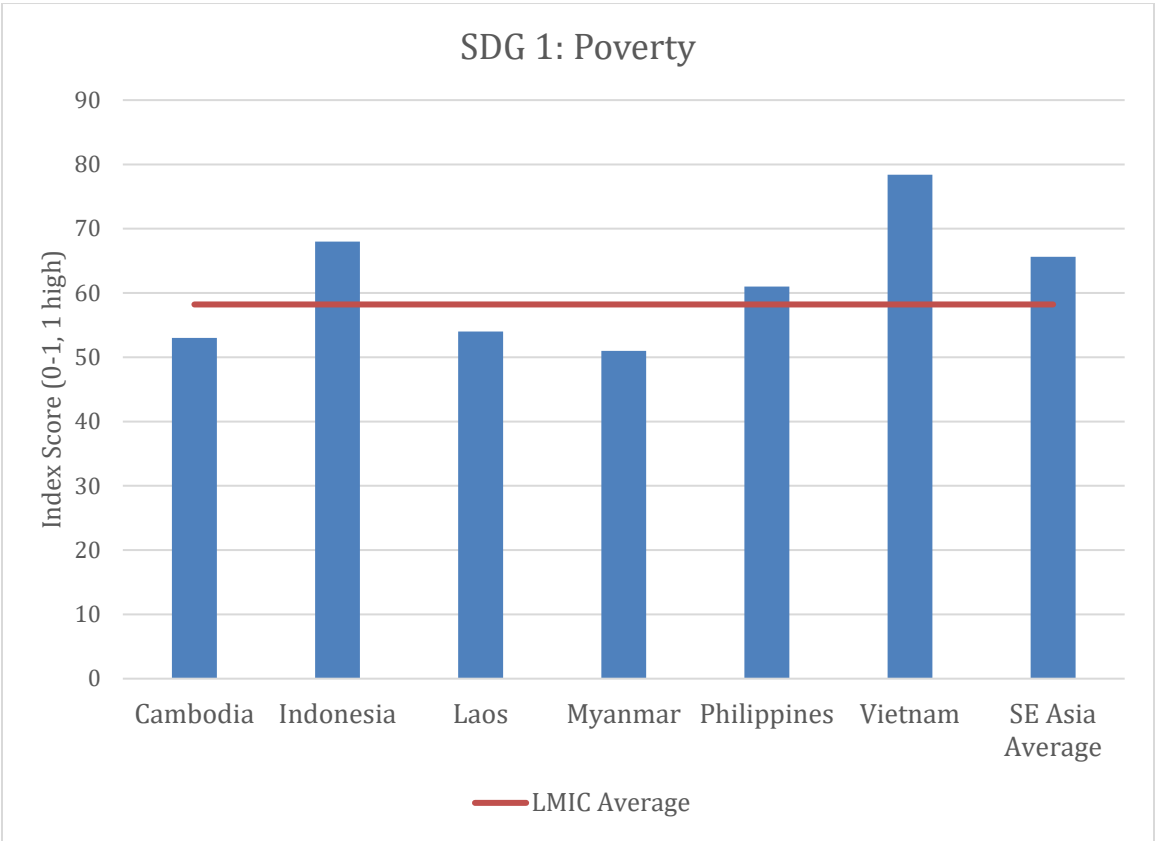
Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

NOTE: There is no data for Timor-Leste.

Individual SDG figures

Figure 27. Poverty

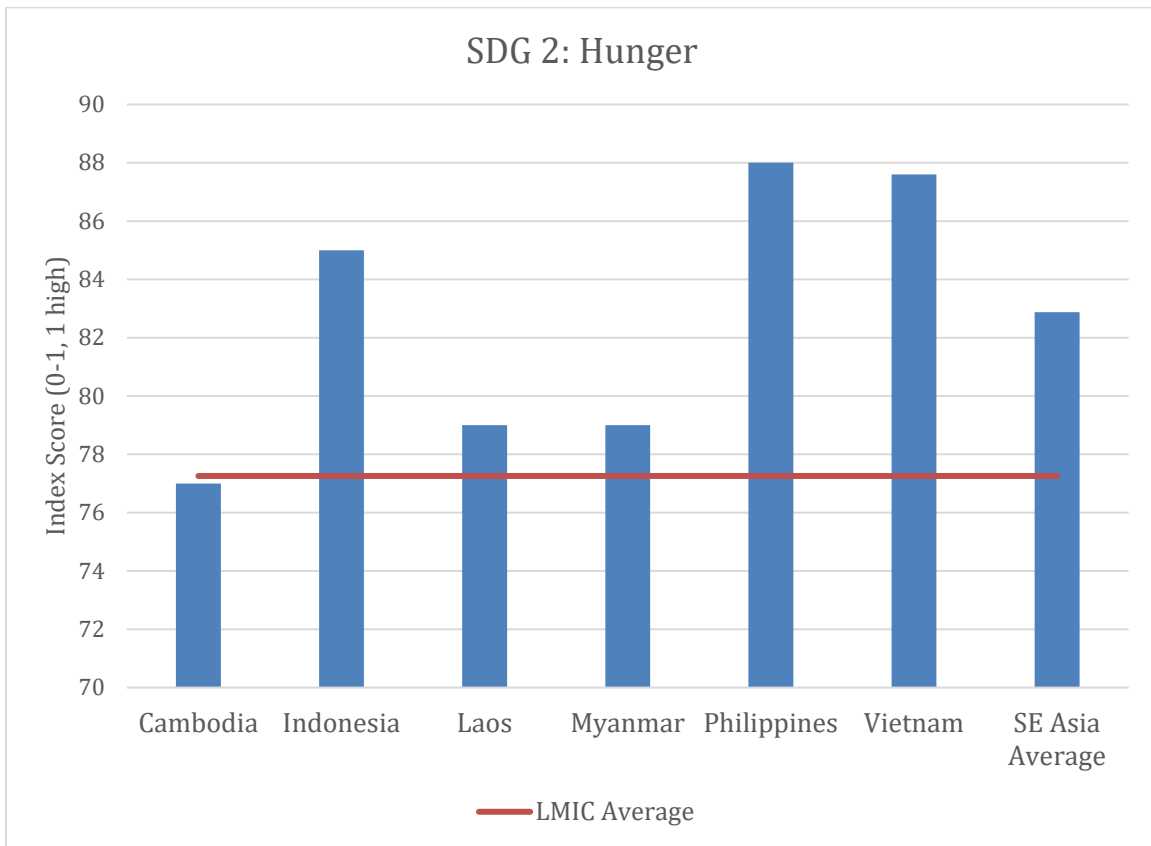
Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam are above LMIC average on poverty, the Philippines just barely, and Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar fall below.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 28. Hunger

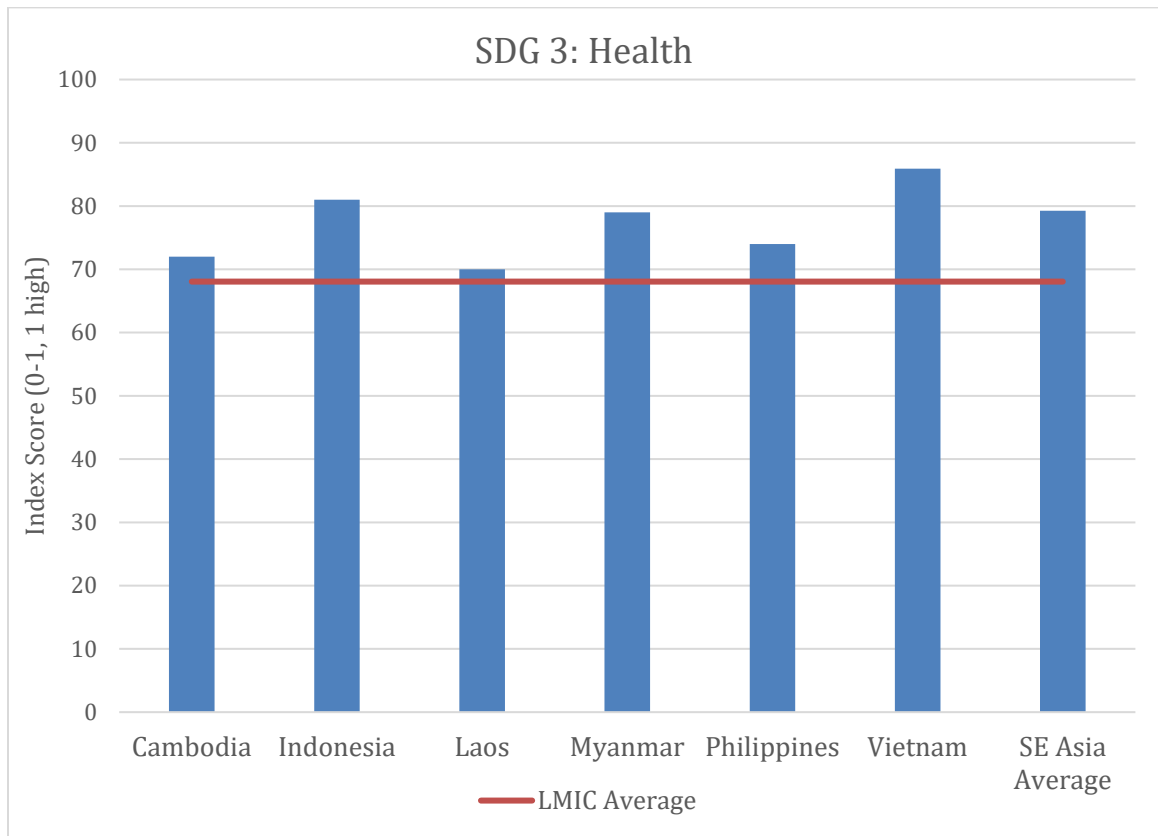
Five countries are at or above the LMIC average, but Cambodia is just below the average, and Laos and Myanmar are only slightly above.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 29. Health

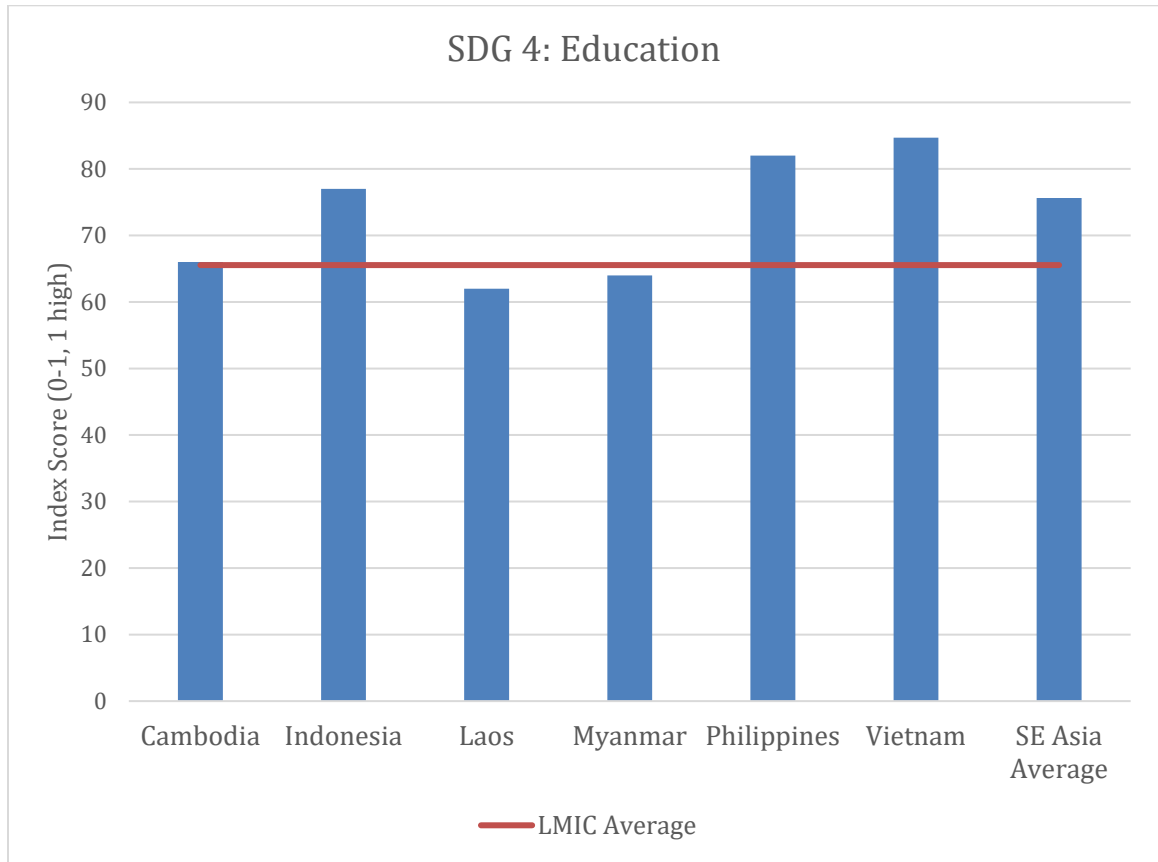
All six countries score above the LMIC average, with Laos, Cambodia, and the Philippines just above.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 30. Education

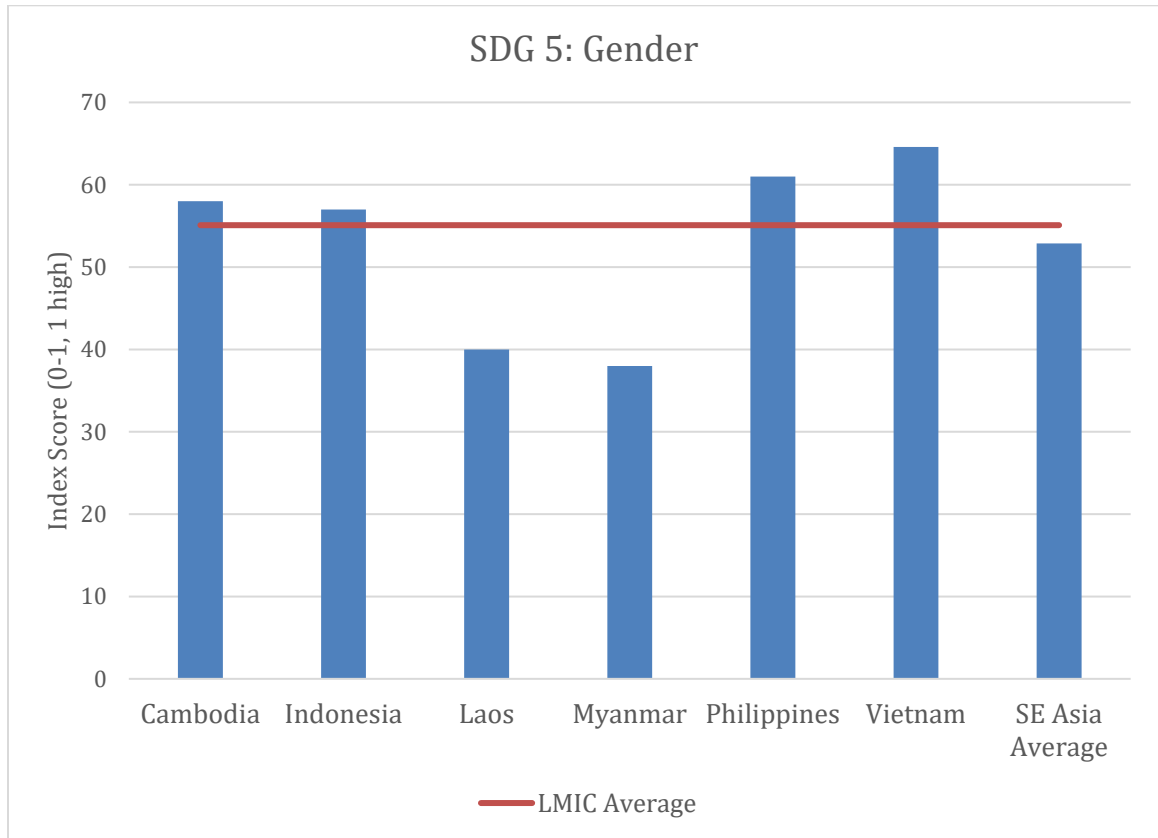
Laos and Myanmar just miss the LMIC average. Cambodia hits the average. Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam are well above.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 31. Gender

Laos and Myanmar substantially miss the LMIC average, and Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam are just a little above.

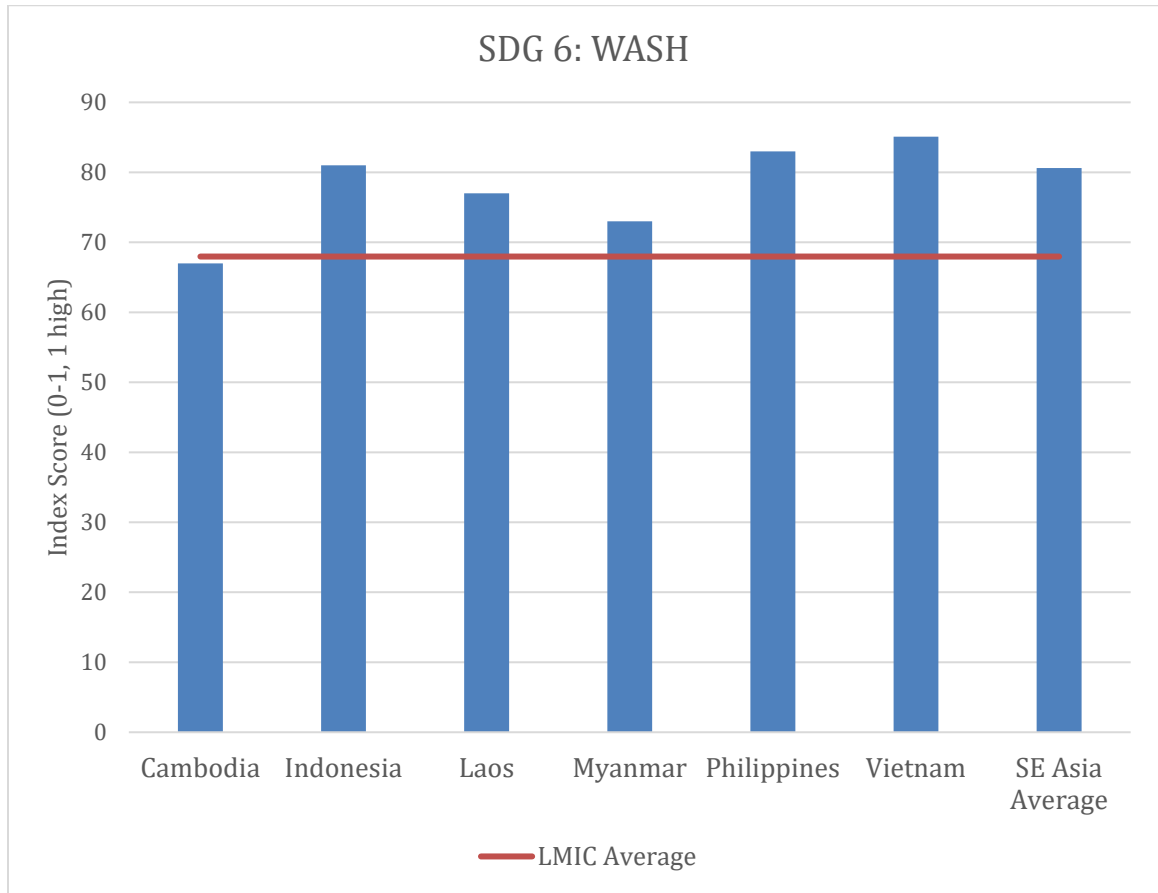


Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)



Figure 32. WASH

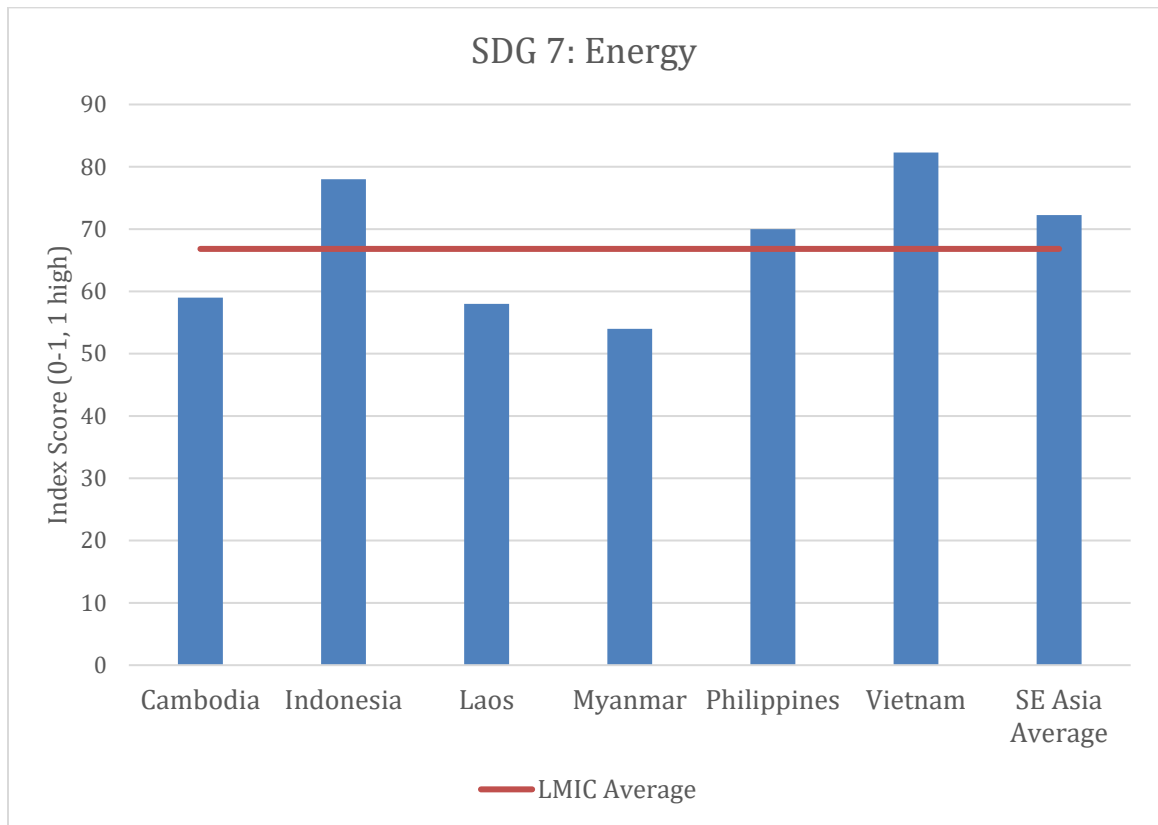
All beat the LMIC average, with the exception of Cambodia just barely missing the mark.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 33. Energy

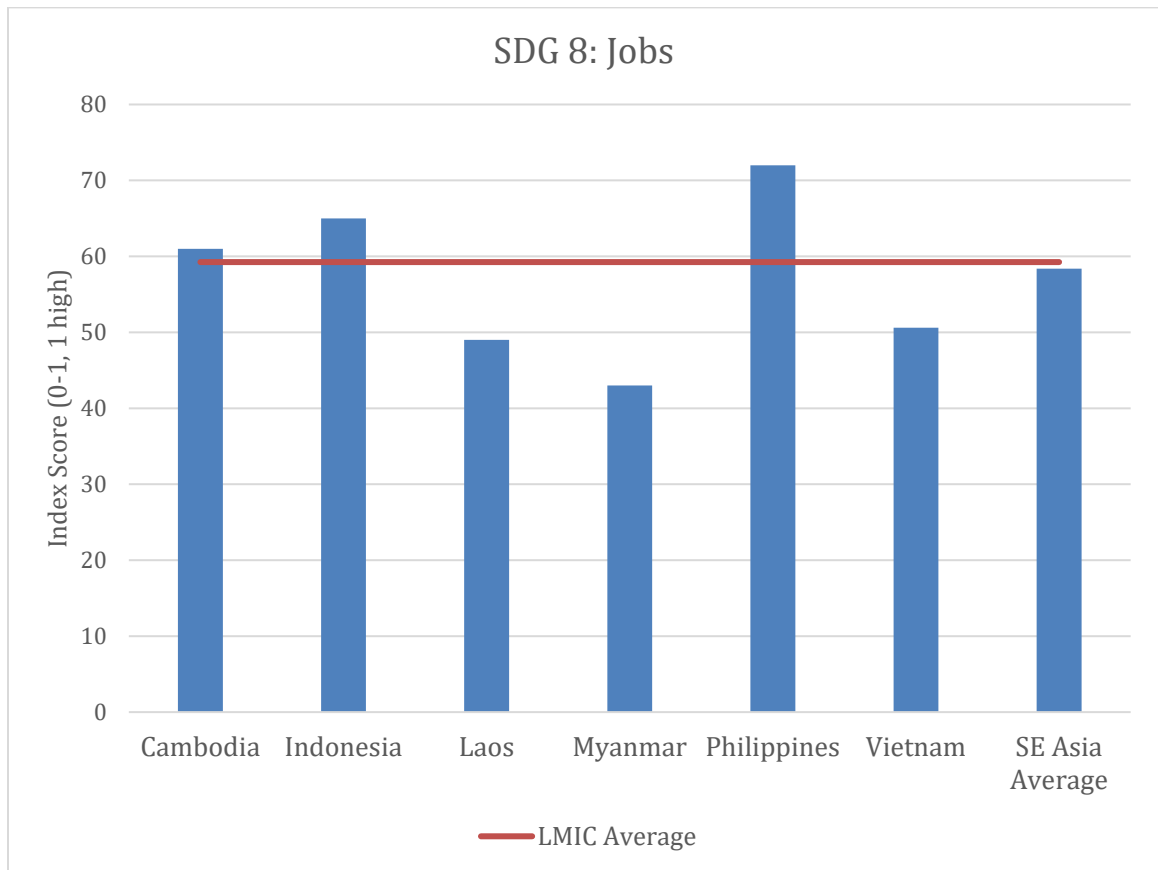
Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam surpass the LMIC average, and Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar fall substantially below.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 34. Jobs

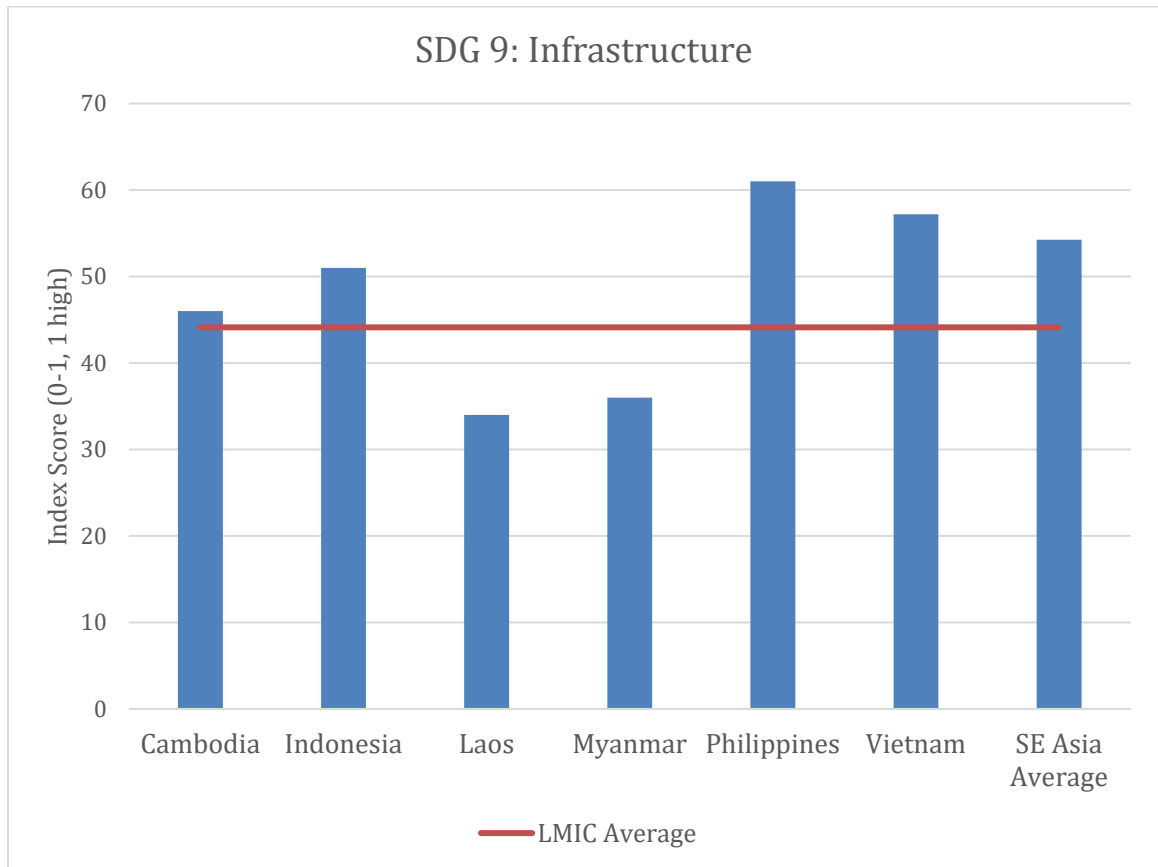
Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam fall below the LMIC average, and Cambodia, Indonesia, and the Philippines surpass it, though Cambodia only just.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 35. Infrastructure

Laos and Myanmar fall substantially below the LMIC average, and Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam surpass it.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 36. Inequality

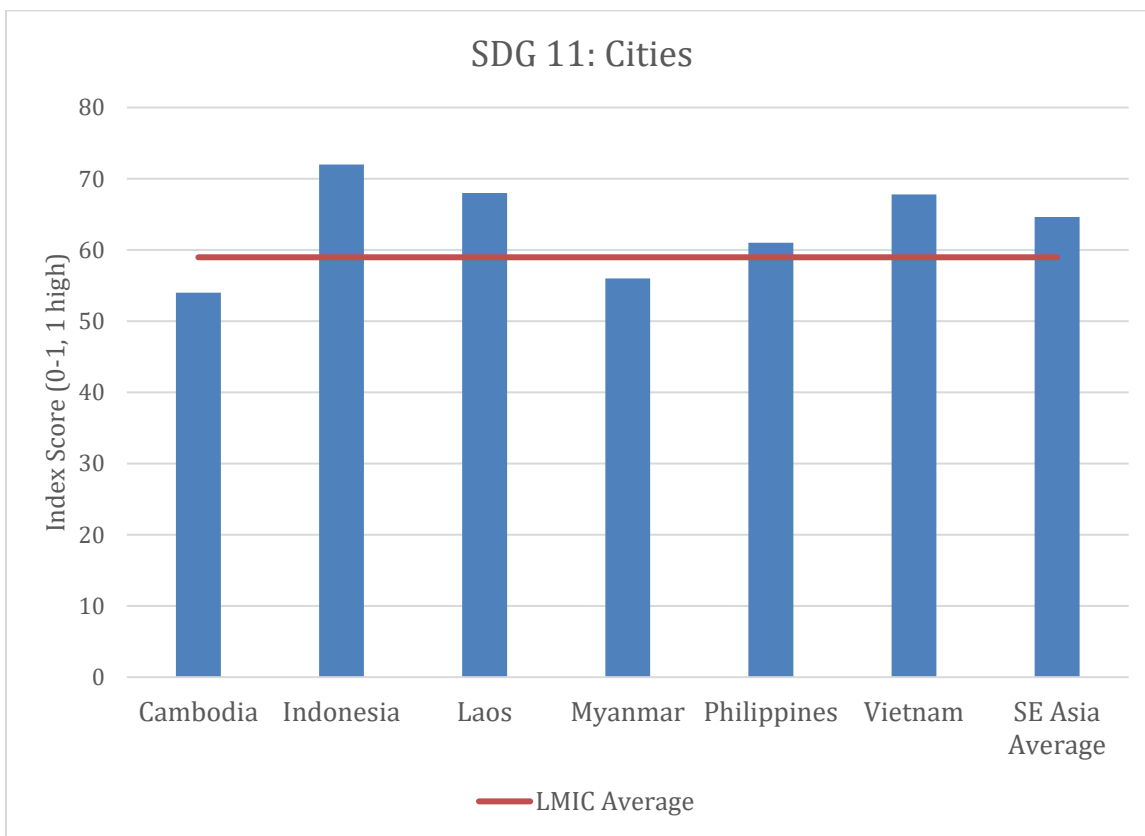
Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam surpass the LMIC average, Laos and Myanmar fall below, and there is no data for Cambodia.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 37. Cities

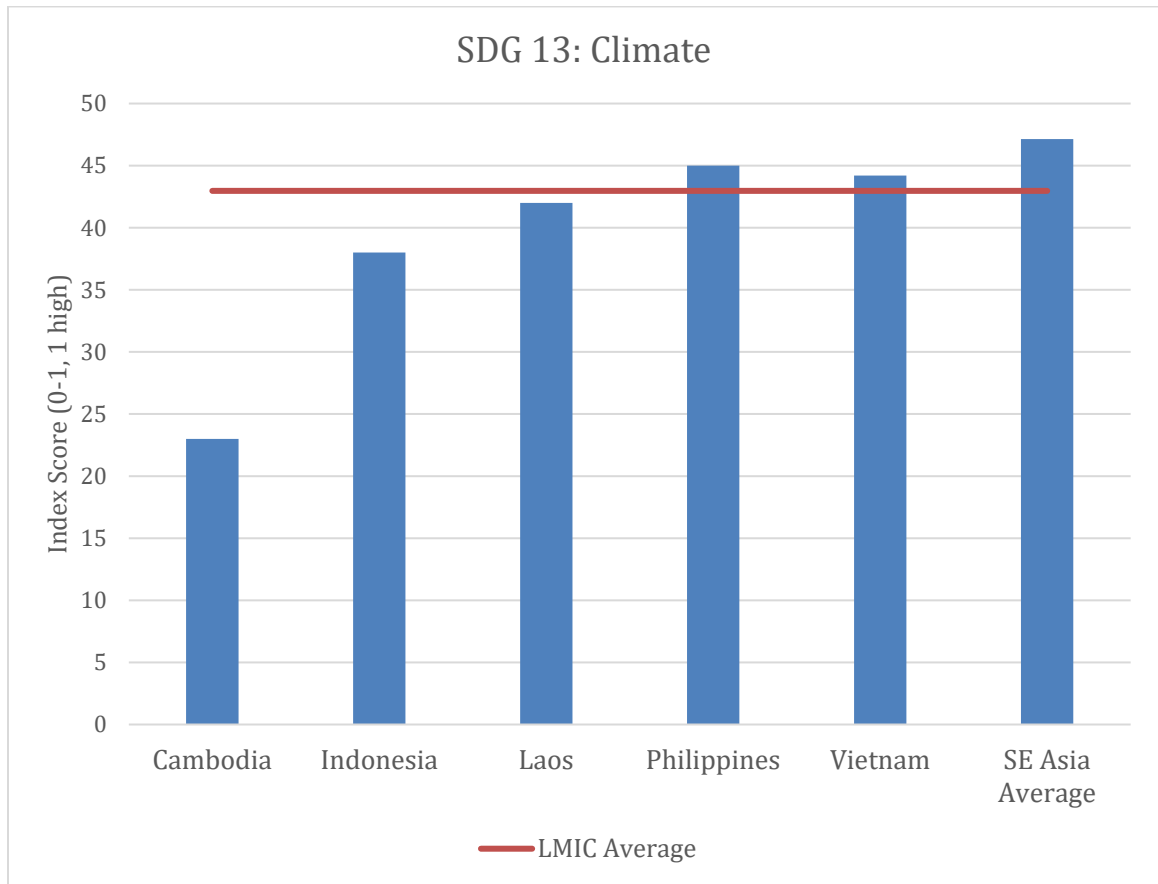
Cambodia and Myanmar just miss the LMIC average, and Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, and Vietnam score above it.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 38. Climate

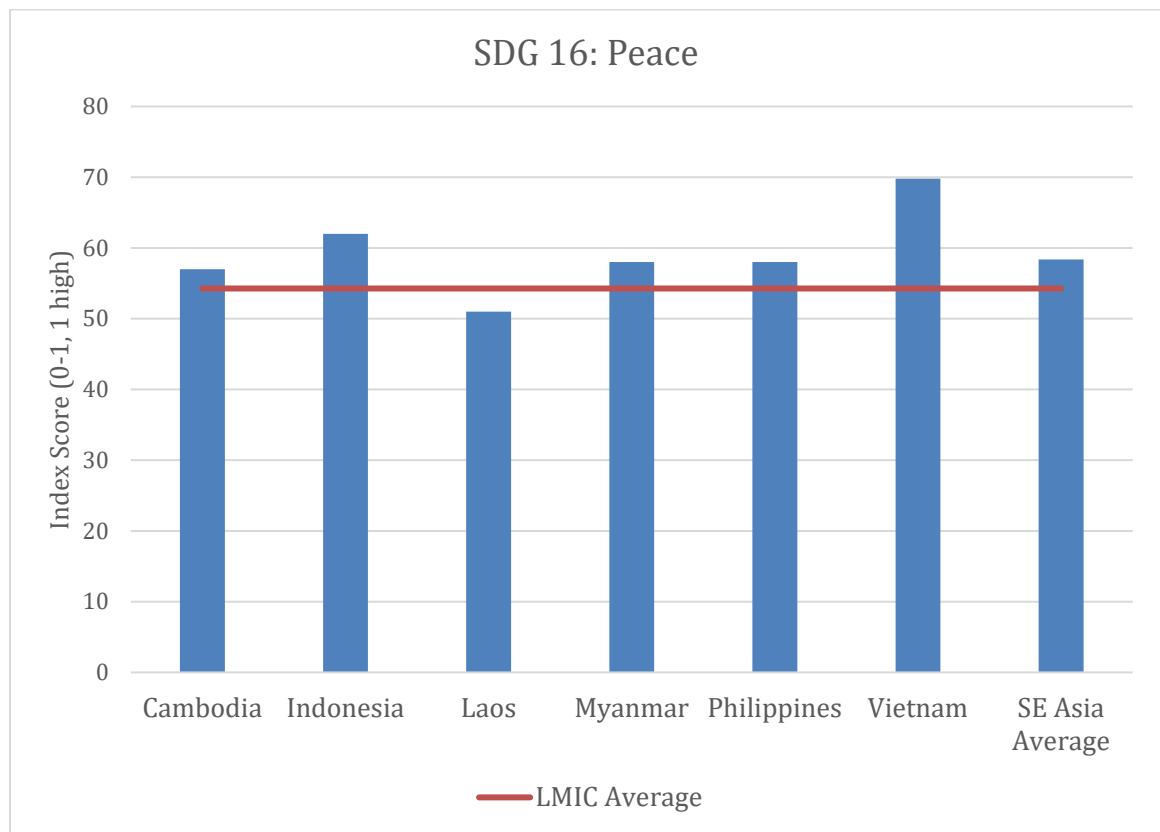
The Philippines and Vietnam are the only countries that rank above the LMIC average, and only just barely (no data for Myanmar).



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

Figure 39. Peace

All of the countries surpass the LMIC average on peace except for Laos.

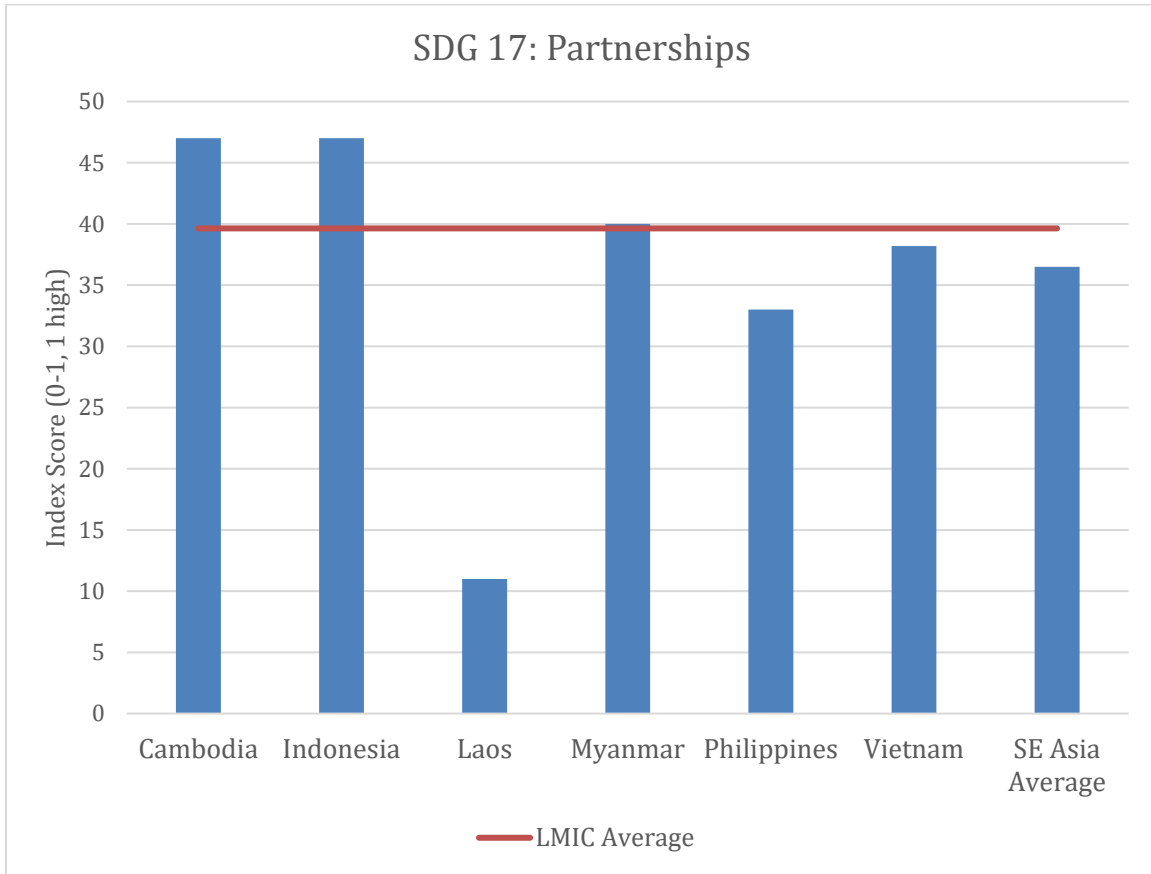


Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)



Figure 40. Partnerships

Laos, the Philippines, and Vietnam miss the LMIC average, and Cambodia, Indonesia, and Myanmar score at or above it.



Source: Equal Measures 2030 (2019)

## Appendix IV. Donor projects

### ACTIVE WOMEN AND GENDER PROJECTS

International Aid and Transparency Initiative (IATI) data collected from d-portal.org. Last accessed 7/14/2020

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
USAID	IDN	BERSAMA— Gender-based Violence Prevention Program in Eastern Indonesia	30-Jun- 16	30- Jun- 21	BERSAMA is a five-year project grounded in locally driven strategies to reduce the acceptance of gender-based violence (GBV); improve services to GBV survivors; and strengthen local civil society organizations to increase their voice in the fight against GBV. In FY 2018, BERSAMA will strengthen the coordination and technical capacity of local and national government actors to jointly plan and better implement services for survivors of GBV, as well as enhance the capacity of local networks to advocate for increased GBV commitments at the sub-national level. BERSAMA will also develop the technical capacity of organizations, community leaders, religious organizations, journalists, and other local stakeholders to increase positive discourse and dialogue around GBV and reduce family and community acceptance of GBV. BERSAMA activities are implemented in Papua and West Papua, with limited engagement in Maluku and North Maluku on an as-needed basis.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
USAID	KHM	Collective Action to Support Women's Rights (GADC)	30-Sep-18	31-Jul-21	With FY 2018 funds this activity seeks to mobilize women and youth at the commune and sub-national levels in order to increase civic participation and leadership around women's rights issues. Implemented in six provinces, this activity will train grassroots organizations and lead information exchanges in coordination with commune councils. The activity supports Mission Objective 1.2 (CDCS DO1) "Strengthen credible voices to promote fundamental democratic principles and human rights" by strengthening human rights protections. It advances the Administration priority "Prioritizing Transformational Potential" in that its scope, which includes leading women's rights advocacy campaigns is wide ranging and potentially transformative. The activity also falls under the Administration priority to "Advance American Influence" (National Security Strategy, Pillar IV) by addressing human rights violations in Cambodia.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
USAID	IDN	eMpowering Access to Justice (MAJU)	14-Mar-16	13-Mar-20	MAJU addresses human rights issues facing poor and marginalized groups, particularly women, children, indigenous groups, religious and ethnic minorities, disabled persons and LGBTI groups. The program works closely with relevant Government of Indonesia agencies and reputable Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), including Legal Aid Organizations (LAO) and university partners. MAJU is being implemented through a multi-dimensional approach that combines social and gender inclusion, technology solutions and a provision of grants to LAOs and CSOs. In FY 2018, MAJU will continue to strengthen the pro bono legal aid movement with cooperation from private practitioners; engage in strategic interventions with academia and government stakeholders to connect victims with redress mechanisms; and support the government with expanding the number of accredited legal aid organizations serving target groups, increasing access to legal services and to promoting human rights. Additionally, in light of Indonesia's low supply of lawyers, building the country's community-based paralegal system will link poor and marginalized citizens with legal aid organizations and broaden access to legal support and justice.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
USAID	KHM	Empowering Marginalized Communities	11-Dec-14	10-Dec-20	Using FY 2018 funds, the activity will educate community members and representatives about land and natural resources rights, freedom of expression, civil rights, indigenous rights, and advocacy skills. The activity will provide venues for affected communities and authorities to devise fair and peaceful solutions to human rights violations. This activity will promote participation of community members—especially women and youth—in decisionmaking and planning at the commune level. The activity will also provide protection to community representatives and activists who are judicially harassed. The activity supports the Mission Objective 1.2 (CDCS DO1)—"Strengthened credible voices to promote fundamental democratic principles and human rights" by advancing the respect for and protection of human rights of the Cambodian people. The activity falls under the Administration priority to "Advance American Influence" (National Security Strategy, Pillar IV) by addressing human rights violations in Cambodia.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
Republic of Korea	PHL	Job creation program for the urban poor women in the relocation area in the Philippines, Bulacan (Phases2)	1-Mar-18	31-Dec-20	Project location is Towerville, where people are relocated due to the development and the nature disasters. The main problem, absence of jobs in the area forces the breadwinner of the family to look for work, usually unskilled labor, in a different city or province. Hence they are forced to leave their homes during the week and return home in the weekend. There are an increasing number of cases in which the breadwinner, usually the father of the family, starts a new family and does not come back. It causes consecutive social issues in the community. CAMP have implemented several projects in the area such as the job training and job creation with sewing center. However, the centralized sewing center has the limitation of the creating jobs due to infrastructures, and the people who have the problems with going to the center because of health or the child concern, are exclusive of the any program benefits. The project's objective is the reduction of the poverty and the economic stimulation through the job creation by home based sewing and organizing the cooperatives.
USAID	MMR	Private Sector Development Activity	1-Jul-15	30-Jun-20	Increase broad-based economic opportunities in Myanmar through more inclusive economic governance rules and processes; and increase access to finance for emerging economic actors, such as microfinance lenders, benefiting primarily women-owned small and medium enterprises.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
USAID	KHM	Promoting Entrepreneurship and Constructive Civic Engagement in Cambodia	15-Aug-18	14-Aug-23	With FY 2018 funds, this activity will strengthen advocacy of human rights principles, in accordance with universal values and international norms, by helping women and girls access the knowledge, tools and resources necessary to succeed in the marketplace or labor force and increasing constructive civic engagement of Cambodians. Interventions will consist of trainings and workshops focused on improving business skills, as well as sub-grants to Cambodian local organizations helping to promote women's entrepreneurship. This activity will advance democratic culture in Cambodia through digital literacy training for youth, particularly for young women and girls, to access and exercise their human rights as expressed in Cambodian law.
Australia—Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	IDN	AIP Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment MAMPU II	1-Jul-16	31-Dec-20	Australia-Indonesia Partnership for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (MAMPU II) aims to improve the access of poor women in Indonesia to essential services and other government programs in order to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment and support the achievement of relevant GOI's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets. The purpose of the Activity is to improve policies, regulations and government services through a partnership between inclusive coalitions of civil society organizations, and other institutions that are concerned with and committed to helping resolve gender issues in development, and GOI. The program will focus on five thematic areas where reform would make a significant difference for poor women: increasing women's access to jobs and removing workplace discrimination; improving women's access to government programs for social

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
					protection; improving conditions for women's overseas labour migration; strengthening women's leadership for better health
USAID	KHM	Commune Level Organized Service & Engagement Gender Advancement Program (CLOSE-GAP)	1-Aug-18	30-Nov-18	Commune Level Organized Service & Engagement Gender Advancement Program (CLOSE-GAP) aims to improve gender equality in decisionmaking at the sub-national level in five target provinces in Cambodia. This program will work to enhance capacity and leadership of Women and Children Consultative Committee Councilors at a 50 communes in the five target provinces to effectively respond to the needs of women and girls in their jurisdiction through commune investment planning and resource allocation at the sub-national level.



Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	TMP	Ending Violence Against Women in Timor-Leste	2-Oct- 12	30- Jun- 22	Funding under this initiative supports the implementation and monitoring the towards ending violence against women (EVAW) in Timor-Leste program. The program aims to reduce violence against women and increase the well-being of women and children affected by violence in Timor-Leste. The program works with government and NGO partners and is framed around three interlinked pillars: (i) prevention (ii) services and (iii) access to justice. The initiative also covers costs associated with two other activities, being (i) development of the EVAW concept and design and (ii) a bridging activity from 1 January 2014 for up to six months to support Timorese civil society organizations (CSOs) providing critical services to women affected by violence in advance of the new program. Funding under this proposal provides support to civil society organizations providing critical services to women affected by violence. The total value of this initiative is \$23.4 million over 5 years, starting 2012-13.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	MMR, TMP, KHM, LAO, VNM	Gender Action Platform (the GAP)	1-Apr- 17	31- Dec- 20	The Gender Action Platform (the GAP) is a competitive grants program for Australian Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) accredited under the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) to strengthen gender equality programming in the Indo-Pacific. ANCP NGOs will have the opportunity to submit a proposal for a grant between \$0.5 million and \$3.0 million for a new or existing project addressing gender equality that scales up good practice or trials innovation. The proposals must align with Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's (DFAT) Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy. DFAT has also identified country/regional gender equality challenges

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
					to create collective action around key gender challenges. The objective of the GAP is to strengthen NGO projects to enhance gender equality outcomes in developing countries through the delivery of innovative or transformational NGO projects that reduce violence against women, increase women's economic opportunities and more.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	MMR, IDN, PHL, VNM	Investing in Women initiative	17- Nov-14	31- Jul- 23	The Investing in Women initiative is an innovative, long term approach to improving women's economic participation as employees and as entrepreneurs, and influencing the private and public sector environment to promote women's economic empowerment. The initiative works directly with the private sector and focuses on formal businesses. The overall goal is to contribute to women's economic empowerment in South East Asia with the understanding that this will contribute to continued inclusive economic growth in the region. Investing in Women intends to do this by achieving the following four outcomes: 1) more businesses achieve gender equality in their workplaces; 2) increased Impact Investment into women's small and medium enterprises; 3) removing policy and regulatory barriers to women's economic empowerment; and 4) public attitudes are more supportive of women's economic empowerment. The program operates in Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam and Myanmar.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	MMR, KHM, VNM	Mekong Women's Empowerment Project (Empower)	5-Feb- 18	2022- 09-30	The Mekong Women's Empowerment Project (Empower) will expand the Marie Stopes' Ladies program in Vietnam and introduce the program in Cambodia and Myanmar. The concept is to train people with relevant health experience to become quality sexual and reproductive health information, service and commodity providers. Training is provided by Marie Stopes International (MSI), and continuous monitoring and evaluation to ensure services are rights based and comply with MSI's international standards. The project will have a Women's Economic Empowerment approach and will also deliver sexual and reproductive health outcomes to women in Cambodia, Vietnam and Myanmar. The total value of the agreement is \$10.3 million over four years, starting 2017-18.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	MMR	Myanmar Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	28-Jul- 17	30- Jun- 22	Funding under this investment supports women's political participation in Myanmar. As part of the Myanmar Women Parliamentarians' Mentoring Program, six Myanmar women Members of Parliament (MPs), the 'mentees', undertake an exchange to Australia to engage face-to-face with their 'mentors', Australian women MPs and former MPs. The total value of this investment is \$0.2 million over 2 years, starting 2017-18.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	MMR	Safety, Humanitarian & Women's Empowerment (SHWE)	5-May- 16	31- Dec- 20	The Safety, Humanitarian and Women's Empowerment (SHWE) program supports activities to address education, protection and sexual and gender-based violence in Myanmar and in the Thai-Myanmar border refugee camps. Activities will identify and address evolving development and protection needs on both sides of the border to improve conditions for refugees returning to Myanmar, improve the quality of education inside the refugee camps, and preparing refugee students for possible return to Myanmar, empower women through increased awareness of human rights and increasing access of women and girls to a comprehensive, rights-based package of Gender Based Violence services in Kachin, Northern Shan and Rakhine State, deliver protection, shelter and livelihoods assistance to people in central Rakhine State, and respond to the needs of displaced persons and vulnerable communities in conflict areas, and support physical rehabilitation centers for mine survivors and other patients with a disability.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	MMR, LAO	Women's Economic Empowerment	1-Jul- 09	30- Jun- 22	The Women's Economic Empowerment initiative supports various activities aimed at women and adolescent girls to improve gender equality to: assist adolescent girls to transition effectively from school to paid employment; improve the collection of gender statistics through the Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE) program; develop and implement a Monitoring and Evaluation system for use at country and regional levels; support the preparation and dissemination of the World Development report 2012: Gender Equality and Development, and a companion report on gender equality and development in East Asia and Pacific. In 2016, DFAT has also joined DFID,

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
					USAID and the Nike Foundation to contribute to 'SPRING: A business incubator to improve the lives of girls living in poverty', a program that supports businesses in Africa and South Asia to get assets (products / services) to adolescent girls, at scale. The total value of this investment is \$29.4 million over 10 years, starting 2009-10.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	IDN, PHL	Women's World Banking 2016-20	1-Dec- 16	30- Jun- 24	Women's World Banking (WWB) is a leading global organization on women's financial inclusion, giving low-income women increased access to financial tools and resources. WWB has researched and analyzed market opportunities and the capacity of financial institutions to serve low-income women in Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Cambodia. WWB focuses on 1) understanding women's needs, behaviors and preferences; 2) developing and scaling financial products; 3) strengthening institutions and leadership to better meet women's needs; and 4) advocating for women's financial inclusion. The total value of this investment is \$10.5 million over 4 years, starting 2016-17.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	KHM, VNM	Women's World Banking 2016-24	1-Dec- 16	30- Jun- 24	Women's World Banking (WWB) is a leading global organization on women's financial inclusion, giving low-income women increased access to financial tools and resources. WWB has researched and analyzed market opportunities and the capacity of financial institutions to serve low-income women in Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Cambodia. WWB focuses on 1) understanding women's needs, behaviors and preferences; 2) developing and scaling financial products; 3) strengthening institutions and leadership to better meet women's needs; and 4) advocating for women's financial

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
					inclusion. The total value of this investment is \$10.5 million over 4 years, starting 2016-17.
Republic of Korea	MMR	UNICEF Creating Quality, Inclusive, Safe and Healthy Learning Environment for Girls in Myanmar	31-Aug-18	31-Jul-21	The goal of the proposed project is to improve the life of girls in Myanmar by providing them with, and involving them in creating, quality, inclusive, safe and healthy learning environments. Strengthening technical and organizational capacity of the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health for building, operating, maintaining and monitoring the water and sanitation services of Shan and Kachin schools
Republic of Korea	KHM	Establishment of IT based Job Incubation Center in Cambodia	1-Jan-19	31-Dec-23	Constructing and designing of the incubation center at RUPP and ITC; Strengthening of startup competitiveness; Consulting and capacity building for operation of business incubation centers; Promoting of startup incubation support program
Republic of Korea	IDN	Integrated Trunked Radio System for Indonesian National Police Project	1-Dec-11	30-Jun-21	To develop the Integrated Trunked Radio System for Indonesian National police by procuring of goods and works, training, and relevant consulting services

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
USAID	IDN	T-Digital Finance-NetHope (buy-in)	30-Sep-10	29-Sep-20	This activity is now known as Women and the Web. It is a public-private partnership among USAID, NetHope, Intel Corporation, World Pulse, World Vision, UN Women, and Women in Technology in Nigeria. Alliance partners will combine efforts to transform the lives and livelihoods of girls and women in Africa through digital literacy training, relevant content, policy work, and online social networks. The Alliance will introduce girls and women to the transformative benefits of the Internet. All partners share a common interest in increasing access to and use of the Internet to realize the socio-economic benefits for all of bringing more girls and women online. This effort will expand opportunities for young women to generate greater income, receive a quality education, increase their sense of empowerment and equality, extend their support networks, and increase their political participation. Funding to support this activity comes from the Women's Leadership initiative.
Republic of Korea	PHL	Better Life for Out-of-School Girls to Fight Against Poverty and Injustice in the Philippines	1-Jan-17	31-Dec-20	Implement basic education through the development of alternative education centers and development of alternative education modules and teaching materials for teachers and students in areas affected by the typhoon Haiyan, and expand the provision of high-quality educational opportunities for out-of-school girls.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	TMP	Timor-Leste Human Development Program	14- Dec-15	30- Jun- 21	The Timor-Leste Human Development Program will deliver assistance in health, water, education, nutrition, gender equality, disability and social protection. It will work towards strategic objective 2 of Australia's Timor-Leste Aid Investment Plan: enhancing human development. Improved human development will ensure that coming generations of Timorese people are better able to lead, contribute to and benefit from their nation's economic and social development. The Australia Timor-Leste Partnership for Human Development (ATLPHD) is valued up to AU\$120 million over five years and is scheduled to commence in June 2016. The program will include an option to extend for a further five years, subject to program effectiveness, continued relevance, contractor performance and available funding. This investment will enhance human development in Timor-Leste by investments in four Pillars: Health; Water; Education; Nutrition—gender equality, disability and social protection.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	VNM	Australia-Asia Prog Combat Trafficking in Persons	01- July- 2013	30- Nov- 2020	The Australia-Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons (AAPTIP) will provide: technical assistance to improve national and regional criminal justice capacities and improve policy formulation; a research fund to bolster policy formulation and a new coordination, partnerships and advocacy role; and chair the regional dialogue and policy table. The total value of this initiative is \$50.0 million over 5 years, starting 2013-14.



Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	VNM	ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking Program	8-Octo- 2018	30- June- 2028	ASEAN-Australia Counter-Trafficking is a 10-year (2018–28) AUD 80 million investment intended to continue Australia’s work in enhancing the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons, the implementation of ACTIP among ASEAN Member States, and supporting partnership and cooperation at the regional and national levels. The program will engage all 10 ASEAN Member States to some extent, and establish national-level programming in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	VNM	Economic diplomacy fund 2015-2020			The Economic Diplomacy Fund supports Vietnam’s economic development focusing on private sector engagement, and women’s leadership or economic empowerment. The program promotes cross-agency collaboration where strategic objectives of each agency intersect, and partnership expectations. The total value of this investment is \$2.8 million over 4 years, starting 2015-16.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	VNM	Oxfam-Civil Society Engagement in Water Governance	01-Jul- 2013	31- Dec- 2020	Australia through Greater Mekong Water Resources Program provides a grant funding of A\$9,244,500 to Oxfam Australia to manage and implement Strengthening Mekong Civil Society Engagement in Water Governance Program. The investment aims to support greater inclusion of civil society in water governance and decision making in the Mekong region. It focuses on three practical outcomes: increasing civil society and women participation and engagement in water resource governance; strengthening civil society capacity to manage water resources and effectively participate in related decisionmaking processes; and convening and promoting policy dialogue.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
Korea International Cooperation Agency	VNM	Development of female workforce and service training system through service-specialized training in Vietnam	31-Oct-2017	2-Nov-2020	Public-Private-Partnership project for vocational training program, employment support program, service lecture and consulting program
Republic of Korea	VNM	Building a support model to respond and prevent violence against women and girls in Viet Nam	01-Dec-2015	02-Nov-2020	Building support model for the victims of violence against women and girls; capacity building program; public campaign against sexual harassment at workplace
Republic of Korea	VNM	Strengthening Sustainable Reintegration of Returning Women Migrants and their households in Vietnam	8-Dec-2018	2-Nov-2021	Roadmap Recommendation for Future Policy and Program Development, including baseline study and building roadmap for future policy development, Capacity Empowerment of VWU staff, including trainings at policy level, Training of Trainers, and roll out training for One Stop Service Office (OSSO), and development of guidelines for OSSO management.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
Republic of Korea	VNM	Rural Development Programme in Tuyen Quang Province	1-Dec-2018	2-Nov-2022	Improve livelihoods by rural infrastructure and income generation activities; Empower women through gender-equality trainings, happy family management and income activities; Promote local residents' health by building capacity of healthcare professionals and improving facilities; Improve the quality of education by enhancing educational facilities and building capacity of educational staffs; Enhance the quality of public administration services and governance by improving public policies and building capacity of public officials
USAID	VNM	Social Services	1-Oct-2017	30-Sept-2020	Assist special populations which may be vulnerable or at-risk on a temporary or chronic basis whose needs are not addressed under emergency humanitarian assistance or other programs. These include groups such as the disabled; orphans, children and at-risk youth; victims of trafficking; victims of gender-based violence; refugees, returnees, ethnic minorities, internally displaced or other socially excluded groups; the elderly; and female heads of household. Depending on circumstances, services may intend to protect groups; mitigate adverse conditions they face, or to remove barriers to help integrate them into society. Components may include measures to increase the capacity of local service and advocacy NGOs and/or professional social workers; to establish public/private service delivery partnerships as well as family and community focused service models; to establish effective referral networks; to develop appropriate service protocols and methods for screening prospective recipients; or to improve public understanding and sensitivity to the needs of the vulnerable. While services provided should not

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
					exclude victims of trafficking in persons, programs designed specifically for this group fall under the Peace and Security Objective under the Transnational Crime Area and the Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling Element.
USAID	VNM	Enhancing Worker Rights	1-May-2017	30-Apr-2021	The Enhancing Worker Rights activity aims to strengthen workers' capacity and increase their access to information so that workers can effectively represent their interests and advocate for protection of their rights. With FY 2019 funds, USAID will work with the Industrial Relations Department and the Women Affairs Department of the Vietnam General Confederation of Labor (VGCL) to implement activities in Tay Ninh and Khanh Hoa provinces, which support export-oriented industries where women constitute majority of the workforce. The Enhancing Worker Rights activity is expected to strengthen the capacity of trade unions to represent workers in export-oriented industrial zones to ensure workers benefit from economic gains associated with increased international trade and investment.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	VNM	SO1: Human Resource Development Facility	1-Feb-2016	31-Dec-2020	The Human Resource Development Facility is a tool to implement a renewed investment by the Australian Government to the human resource development in Vietnam. The investment, aligning closely with Australia's Aid Investment Plan and is aimed at strengthening the level professional and technical knowledge, skills and competencies in Vietnam. Its outcomes include strengthening contributions made by male and female alumni through using new skills and knowledge; strengthening workplace enabling environments for skills utilization in selected priority areas; and stronger,

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
					sustainable links between Australia and Vietnam in selected priority areas. The activities are designed to extend our assistance beyond more traditional forms of education support, such as long-term scholarships, and diversify across other forms, such as short courses, support for technical and vocational training, women's leadership training, etc.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	KHM, LAO, MMR, VNM	Shaping Inclusive Finance Transformations (SHIFT)	19- May- 2014	30- June- 2021	In 2014, the Shaping Inclusive Finance Transformations (SHIFT) in the Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) was launched by the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) with the support of the Australian Government. SHIFT addresses the needs of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Middle-Income Countries (MICs) in emerging ASEAN markets, with a focus on Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam (CLMV). SHIFT contributes to inclusive regional economic growth by supporting individuals on low incomes, particularly women, to use money more productively through increased access to products and services (i.e. credit, savings and insurance). SHIFT supports challenge fund projects with private sector; data mapping of national financial inclusion—banking data analysis to improve client services; regional (ASEAN) and national policy / advocacy technical assistance; and learning activities—training banks to be more inclusive.

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	VNM	Human Rights 2017—2021	1-July- 2017	30- June- 2021	This investment supports capacity building in the human rights space for both government and non-government partners in Vietnam. Human rights engagement is a long-standing priority of the Australian Government's political engagement with Vietnam. This investment provides material support for this political priority.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	VNM	AusForWater	31- Mar- 2016	30- June- 2022	The Aus4Water program aims support the Government of Vietnam to develop and increase private sector engagement in rural water supply, to replicate successful models across Vietnam and to increase economic opportunities for women. The investment builds on the ten-year engagement between Australia and Vietnam on rural water and sanitation. The program is expected to bring innovative and low-cost technology to the sector. The anticipated total value of this investment is \$24.5 million over 7 years, starting 2015-16.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	KHM, IDN, VNM	ILO Better Work Programme Stage III	1-Apr- 2016	30- June- 2022	The International Labour Organization's Better Work Programme helps improve labour standards and reduce gender discrimination in garment factories in developing countries, in partnership with the private sector. Funding under this investment will be used to improve and expand the programme including increasing the support for existing factories and bringing additional factories into the programme in countries within Australia's region of strategic interest, namely: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia and Vietnam. Some factories that supply Australian companies and brands will be included. The programme works directly to improve the lives of a large number of women. It targets the garment industry, of

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
					which 75 per cent of workers in developing countries are female. In this investment, between 65 and 90 per cent of worker programme participants will be female, depending on the target country. The investment's total value is \$8.3 million over 7 years, starting 2015-16.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	VNM	Australia World Bank Partnership Phase 2 (ABP2)	14- March- 2016	30- June- 2022	The Australia World Bank Strategic Partnership Phase 2 (ABP2) aims to share knowledge and strengthen policies and programs for key development priorities in Vietnam, with a particular focus on gender equality. The expected outcomes of the partnership are: strengthened development policies; strengthened development programs; and shared knowledge with Government of Vietnam (GoV) and other stakeholders. ABP2 focuses on six thematic areas or "pillars" with the following expected objectives: trade and Competitiveness; transport; Mekong Delta Climate Resilience; gender; ethnic minorities; and Vietnam 2035. The total value of this investment is \$25.0 million over 5 years, starting 2016-17.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	VNM	Aus4Equality	11- Nov- 2015	30- June- 2022	The third pillar of Australia's Aid Investment Plan 2015-2020 for Vietnam commits to 'Promoting women's economic empowerment, focusing on ethnic minorities'. This directly contributes to Gender Equality Strategy, specifically: enhancing women's voice in decision making, leadership and peace-building; and promoting women's economic empowerment; as well as indirectly supporting the third priority of ending violence against women. This program will support women starting businesses, building their skills to support taking on leadership roles. The program will target (but not limited to) female-headed

Agency	Country	Proj. Title	Start	End	Project summary
					households, in Vietnam's disadvantaged remote northern areas to break out of the cycle of poverty and become active participants in economic development. It will not target the poorest of the poor who may be better reached by social assistance measures; rather, it will aim to identify those who are already economically active, such as those women engaged with commune-level markets.
Australia— Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	VNM	Water for Women	1-Jan- 2017	30- June- 2023	Funding under this investment supports 'Water for Women' an initiative to improve sustainable access to water, sanitation and hygiene services in the Asia Pacific region with a focus on women and girls. The initiative follows input from the High-Level Panel for Water in New York and the Civil Society WASH Fund. The total value of this investment is \$111.5 million over 7 years, starting 2016-17.



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