

# Proposing Women Economic Empowerment

*by* Sari Lestari Zainal Ridho

---

**Submission date:** 04-Oct-2018 11:20AM (UTC+0700)

**Submission ID:** 1013527252

**File name:** CEEDING\_THE\_13TH\_MALAYSIA-INDONESIA\_INTERNATIONAL\_CONFERENCE.doc (57K)

**Word count:** 3482

**Character count:** 19377

## **Proposing Women Economic Empowerment Model to Contribute In Emerging “From local to Global” Economy**

Sari Lestari Zainal Ridho., S.E., M.Ec  
Business Administration Departement  
Politeknik Negeri Sriwijaya  
arie\_zr@yahoo.com

### **Abstract**

*This research underlines several issues concerning the empowerment of women through entrepreneurship with electronically basis or that what is so called e-commerce. The research was intended to explore the potentials or opportunities, constraints and policies dealing with the empowerment of women in Indonesia, and to formulate a model for the empowerment. Data collection consisted of internet observation and literature study. The techniques of analysis employed in this research is qualitative analysis. The aim of this research is the development of a model by way of graphics or diagrams. This research activity refers to the flow model development; Thiagarajan four-d model; define, design, develop and disseminate. However, because of the limitation of time, effort and cost of the research was conducted only in two early stages, namely: define-analyze the profile of women's empowerment and design, design a model of empowerment. The results of this research was a model named “Women Economic Empowerment for Short-Long Term Human Capital Strategy” which highlights several components including women's potentials or opportunities, constraint, policies in the form if e commerce basis entrepreneurship and human capital.*

**Keyword:** Women Empowerment, Human Capital, Economy

### **Introduction**

Millennium development goal is an attempt to fulfill the basic rights of human needs, to implement the eight development goals, namely: poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promote gender quality and empower women, reduce child mortality, improving maternal health, combat the spread of HIV / AIDS, malaria and other communicable diseases, environmental sustainability and global partnership in development of a welfare society, where a prosperous society is a society which can enjoy prosperity as a whole. Indonesia as one member of the United Nations, has participates in efforts to implement that commitment to the welfare of society.

One the millennium development goals to be achieved is to encourage the empowerment of women, in general, a program implemented to achieve these goals is to expand opportunities had increased labor force participation of women in Indonesia. Labor force participation of women in Indonesia has increased from year to year, ranging from the amount to about 38 million women in 2003 to around 42 million people in 2007 (source: Central Bureau of Statistic Indonesia) Even after the monetary crisis in Indonesia in 1998, women labor force increase of 40% per year (Amiruddin, 2007), however the provision of employment opportunities does not mean that can directly improve women's labor

participation rate, then the economic empowerment of women, because many factors affect women's labor participation rate as level of education, economic conditions, the birth rate and others.

Female labor force participation would be expected, a positive impact mainly though to contribute in economic development (Tansel, 2002), women's empowerment and gender equality creation. However, on the other hand, the increase in female labor force participation as well as the negative impact of exploitation (Sunarijati, 2007) and labor market competition is higher (Berg & Ferber, 1991). Nevertheless labor force participation of women influenced by many factors and has a different impact in each country. Economic empowerment of women through increased labor force in Indonesia led to a variety of positive effects are accompanied by negative impact in both the short and long term, in addition to the negative impact that the foregoing is also a detrimental effect due to the role of women who are multitasking, such as less active role of working women as mothers in child development and divorce (Naqiyah, 2005 in Pujiastuti, 2008), so it is necessary to build models of economic empowerment of women which are able to increase the contribution of women in the economy, with optimizing the potential and opportunities and eliminate barriers and negative impacts.

Flourishing of domestic industry is also one form of increased opportunities in the empowerment of women, because the economically powerless, women can run a variety of other roles both as a child, wife and mother. But in the implementation of the development of domestic industries are still facing many problem, such as problem in the establishment license, capital, and other operational issues including trade. Based on potential, opportunities and policies related to economic empowerment of women in Indonesia, as well as to construct or formulate a model of economic empowerment of women.

### **Woman Potential and Constrains**

Contrary to the fact that women condition in underdevelopment, women has numerous potential and opportunities to be empowered. Some of the potentials and opportunities are as we discussed below, number of women whose population is almost equal to men is a huge potential resource for development, labor force, productive age, add contributors to household income, thus creating opportunities for improved well-being of families, in other words, women are economically empowered improve the welfare of the family (Nofianti MS, 2009). Women have huge untapped potential, that useful as a media in solving various issues, such as to eradicate poverty, to achieve universal education, to reduce child mortality, to improve maternal health and to increase the quality of human capital. By investing in women we can solve those issues effectively, quality of human capital. By investing in women we can solve those issues effectively, i.e., by increase the opportunity or access to the economics, education, 'life-skills' training and networking opportunities.

In spite have some potentials, some constrains faced women in economic activities involving, for example: exploitation (Sunarijati, 2007) and higher labor market competition (Berg & Ferber, 1991). Nevertheless labor force participation of women influenced by many factors and has a different impact in each country. Research conducted by Accenture, in Setyanti (2012), discussed some of the biggest obstacles faced by women in improving his career. Among the lack of opportunity, unclear corporate ladder at work and their family responsibilities like caring for the children and families as a barrier in a career.

There are about 20 percent of female executives who acknowledge the hampered their careers when already married and had children. This is due to the difficulty women manage the balance between work and family time. Not only that, this study also mentioned the career women tend to slow down, 40 percent due to the economic downturn in 2008. The economic crisis is in fact resulted in economic decline and women's career, if career get a larger portion of a mother, can cause a lack of active participation of working women as mothers in child development and divorce (naqiyah, 2005 in Pujiastuti, 2008), further more create its next obstacle for investing in long-term of human capital, since the working women have less time for nurturing Their children. Meanwhile the first and the best start from home education, learning by doing, children see children do.

### **Women Economic Empowerment**

Kabeer (2001) quoted form Bordat et all. (2001), define the empowerment as the following.

Empowerment... refers to the expansion in people's ability to make strategic life choices in a context where this ability was previously denied to them. Changes in the ability to exercise choice can be thought of in term of changes in three inter-related dimensions which make up choice: resources. Which form the conditions under which choices are made: agency, which is at the heart of the process by which choices are made, and achievement, which are the outcomes of choices. (Kabeer 2001,19)

According to Anderson and Chen (1988), quoted from Nikkhah et al 2012. <sup>1</sup> The lack of improvement in most women's lives is due not only to resistance to the inclusion of women in development project, but also to the persistence of looking at women only in their roles as mother, rather than as active <sup>1</sup> agents, workers, and managers of resources. Therefore, Rowland (1997) asserted that the empowerment approach arose from the gender and development debate and has become a central element of development program for the new millennium. Empowerment approaches to finding effective ways of supporting women and enable them to mobilize for change comes from within them, not from outside (quoted from Nikkhah et al. 2012).

<sup>4</sup> An empowerment perspective is grounded in the belief that increasing power and control over individual and community events is an important means to improve the life <sup>1</sup> situation of the powerless individuals and group (Schulz et al. 1993 quoted from Nikkhah et <sup>1</sup> 2012). According to Datta and Kornberg (2002), quoted from Nikkhah et al 2012, empowerment includes the process by which women gain greater power over <sup>1</sup> their own lives both within and outside of their home, and Burn, (2005) said that women <sup>1</sup> power to bring about change in situations of gender inequality (quoted from Nikkhah et al 2012). Therefore, empowerment can be considered as the process to acquire "power" individually and collectively. (Nikkhah et al 2012).

<sup>6</sup> Based on some opinions above, we can concluded that a **women empowerment** refers to the expansion in women's ability to make strategic life ch<sup>1</sup>ices in a context where this ability was previously denied to them, that increasing power and control over woman and community events is an important <sup>1</sup> means to improve the life situations of the powerless woman and groups, using effectives <sup>1</sup> ways of supporting women and enable them to mobilize. Hence the **women economic empowerment** is defined as the expansion in women's ability

1  
to make strategic life choices in an economic context, that increasing power and control over woman and community events is an important means to improve the life situations of the powerless woman and groups.

### **Entrepreneurship and Women Economic Empowerment**

In Indonesia, entrepreneurship has a very significant role in moving the nation's economy. Some positive impacts in the presence of entrepreneurship are the creation of jobs opportunities; escalate income equality and improved quality of life and welfare of the nation community. From a number of business units that exist in Indonesia. SMEs are an important part of the economy in Indonesia. Based BPS data 2008 recorded that there was an increase SME contribution to Indonesia's GDP in 2007, from 53,3% in 2006 to 53,6% in 2007. The highest growth occurred in the building sector at 9,3%, followed by trade, hotels and restaurant 8,5%, and mining and quarrying by 7,8% and the contribution of SMEs in the trade sector to GDP amounted to 14,40%. While the contribution of entrepreneurship in employment, the number of workers absorbed by SMEs increased by 1,12% from 96,13% in 2006 to 97,3% in 2007. Three of the SME sector the most manpower is the agricultural sector, 42,5% million workers, equivalent to 46,40% of total employment, trade and hospitality sector amounted to 25,18% and the industrial sector, 11,35% of total workforce (source official website of the trade department of Indonesia) The importance of entrepreneurship in a State like many developed countries like America and Japan, or the developing countries make entrepreneurship as their economic base. Various attempts were made to foster entrepreneurship. The Indonesian government has run various programs to promote entrepreneurship. Ease of credit by financial institutions, programs of partnership, empowerment education institution as implementers of business incubation programs and technology of produce entrepreneurs are some examples of programs that encouraged in order promoting entrepreneurship in Indonesia.

One of the way in raising women empowerment effort is through the entrepreneurship program (Pamarty, 2009), since there are some problems if women totally join the economic sector toward labor market. Setyanti (2011) mentioned 3 problem faced by women in entrepreneurs, i.e.: I. Lack of entrepreneurship, various factors is needed, access to education (Swarna, 1997), including training, access to capital especially for women and policy that supported women to easily get those access that we have mentioned previously.

Women's Entrepreneurship Development (WED) underlines the role of Women agency and organizations in development – the view that women are agents of social changes rather than passive participants. From this perspective. Women's Entrepreneurship Development derives from women' greater overall power and influence at different levels – Micro-Meso and Macro. Economic development and Economic growth provide Economic empowerment to women through Entrepreneurial development skills. (Adopted from Pamarty, 2009)

### **E-Commerce and Global Market Economy**

Perkembangan teknologi informasi, khususnya era internet saat ini, brought up an alternative wave in international trade. Transaksi berskala lokal mampu memperluas wilayahnya menjadi global, karena keberadaan dunia internet yang memungkinkan dilakukannya e-commerce membuat wilayah perdagangan dapat menjangkau seluruh dunia. In other world, using e-commerce, the trade and hence the market economy are broadened from

local to global. The global market economy take place, the business become. Borderless, fast, efficient, cost effective and easy. Even though, there are abundant benefits by doing the e-commerce, walaupun masih juga terdapat banyak permasalahan yang menciptakan kerugian bagi pelaku e-commerce. (Gaetner dan Smith (2001) quoted from Rofiq (2007)).

Development of information technology, especially internet era today, brought up an alternative wave in international trade. Local-scale transactions are able to expand is territory to be global, because the existence of the internet that allow for e-commerce to make the trade area can reach the entire world. In other world, using e-commerce, the trade and the market economy are broader from local to global. The global market economy takes place, the business Become: borderless, fast, efficient, cost effective and easy. Even though there are abundant benefits by doing the e-commerce, although there are still many problem that create harm to the perpetrators of e-commerce. (Gaertner and Smith (2001) quoted from Rofiq (2007)).

In development e-commerce for women entrepreneur, a system supporting this effort is needed, i.e.: the legal reforms, access to capital, and education training. On the issue of legality is often mistrust by consumers to conduct electronic commerce is the absence of legality that protect consumers in case of violation of consumer right, for example if the goods received do not match what promised and if the goods purchased are not delivered by the merchants.

### **E-Commerce, Investment on the Next Generation Human Capital and Global Economy**

Human capital is considered to be an important factor of economic growth and development, as well as one of the sources of competitive advantages. In order to attain highly skilled human capital, countries should improve their labor market competitiveness and increase investment in education, science and technology. (Matovac, Bilas & Sanja, 2010) In emerging and the global economy, investment on human capital is a requirement. Since human capital did have a significant effect on any business performance, specially, the export performance of goods and services. (Contractor & Mudambi, 2008)

Children nowadays are the next human capital, investment on children by families coming from its available resources, which resources include human and material resources, the result of these investments in quality child manifests itself. But the quality of children is not solely due to socioeconomic factors alone but the investment of time for the child, family environment, family structure, nutrition attitudes, characteristics of students, and the school determines the quality of the child. The quality of the child includes both physical (nutrition status), non-physical (emotional intelligence and intellectual intelligence. Then the quality of children education and the environment determine a child's academic achievement.

### **Research Design**

According Winardi in Fadel (2001) in Hastuti and Respati (2009) there are several ways to make the model, namely verbal way to explain something in words, diagrams and a graphical way with mathematical way. The aim of this research is to develop model by way of graphics of diagrams. This research activity refers to the four-d flow model development; define, design, develop, and disseminate (Thairagajan et al, 1994), quoted in Mulyani (2009). However because of limitation of time, effort and cost of the research was conducted only in two early stages, namely define-analyze the profile of women's empowerment and design, a model of empowerment.

Profile analysis phase includes analysis of the profile of women's empowerment in Indonesia; opportunities, constraints, policies that affect women's access and control and the analysis of any impact arising from the activities of women based on the results of previous studies. Design phase of the model include the preparation of draft model of economic empowerment of women.

### Data Description

In this part we going to discuss some additional data from what we have been discussed above that are used analyze the women profile thath needed in order to empower them. Below is a table presenting the labor force by sex, suggesting the potential number of women in working age from the year 2004-2008.

Table Percentage of Labor Force by Gender, 2004-2008

Sex	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Men	86,0	84,9	84,2	83,7	83,5
Women	49.2	48.4	48.1	50.2	51.1
Total	67,6	66,8	66,2	67,0	67,2

Sources: sakernas, data and information on employment, the official website of the ministry of women's empowerment and child protection,  
<http://menegpp.go.id/V2/index.php/datadaninformasi/ketenagakerjaan#>

Based on the census in 2010-the Central Bureau of Statistics on Indonesia, Indonesia's population of 237 641 326, 118 010 413 are women, and 119 630 913 are men. Women, whose population is nearly as large as a man is a human resource with huge potential for development in Indonesia, when comparing the data of the labor force by sex, especially related to the involvement of women in the workforce, women tend to be more involved in activities that are at the boundary between economic value and non-economic, compared to the economic activities of men. In a favorable economic conditions, women are also likely to work part-time of seasonal work.

Character Indonesia business women basically make a living while trying to maintain their role as housewives. Ministry of Cooperatives and SME 2010 Data shows, in 2009, a total of 52,768,280 units of economic enterprises, 98,88% are micro business with the amount of 52, 176, 795 units. More than half of the micro business care takers in Indonesia are women. And most of them do it in the form of home industry with the global of building a family economy. Women micro-entrepreneurs Indonesia also has a strong maternal character, the greater the income, the allocation for the welfare of their children will undoubtedly increase, increasing women's microenterprises, will undoubtedly impact the improved quality of life of children and the generations of the nation's expectations. (Susanto, 2011)

In the case of the use of information technology, according, to Minister of Communication and Information. Tifatul Sembiring, (antaranews.com, 2012), from 2000 to present the development of Internet in Indonesia reaches more than 400 percent. Internet users grew rapidly, from just 2 million people had been, to 28 million and grew 5748 sub-districts in Indonesia are connected to the internet. This is certainly a huge potential that can

be used in economic activities, including developing electronic-based business or e-commerce.

### **Model for the Women Economic Empowerment**

In order to empowering women economically, firstly we have to define, or analyze what is the strength, constrains, need and want of women. Based on those profile we developed a model that can accommodate all the need, want and strength and eliminate constrains faces. We suggested the maximization of women entrepreneurship with electronically basis or e-commerce as the solution of the problem faced, optimization of women strength and potentials and to fulfill the want and need of women to be empowered.

In order to fulfill the women need in involving actively in the economic sector, while take care of the family business, e-commerce is the answer, of course some regulations or legal need to reform, such the legal certainly in information technology, especially in term to access to capital for women in doing business, since so far in providing access to credit, banking and other financial institutions are still stressed the head of the family (male) as beneficiaries. Furthermore, education, including various training is needed, especially in term on information technology.

E-commerce capabilities in create the market easily and widely of globally, are expected to provide more leisure time for women in managing and raising their children while increasing family income, which ultimately boils down to improving the quality of the children they are raising.

### **Conclusion**

The results of this research was a model named "Women Empowerment for Short-Long Term Human Capital Strategy" We called it "Women Empowerment for Short-Long Term Human Capital Strategy", since in short term, women itself a potential human capital that productive when she is empowerment economically. In long term, not only the women, the current generation, but also the next generation, their children, will be a better human capital since they growth in a good circumstances, they got a better education, nurture and care. With the economic empowerment of women increase household productivity, thereby increasing the welfare of the family. We have discussed before that this model is developed as a problem solver for obstacles that occurred and as an optimizer in order women to be empower economically. The policy implications from this model are that the government should increasing their role as the policies makers and the care taker in supporting women economic empowerment program. Through various ministry or the non-government organizations, by making a new regulations or reforming some current legal and implementing politicizes and programs in education or training that can raising the knowledge and skill for women in Indonesia.



# Proposing Women Economic Empowerment

---

## ORIGINALITY REPORT

---

11%

SIMILARITY INDEX

11%

INTERNET SOURCES

8%

PUBLICATIONS

9%

STUDENT PAPERS

---

## PRIMARY SOURCES

---

1

[ccsenet.org](http://ccsenet.org)

Internet Source

5%

2

[www.futureofeducation.com](http://www.futureofeducation.com)

Internet Source

2%

3

[ef.sve-mo.ba](http://ef.sve-mo.ba)

Internet Source

1%

4

Submitted to Bridgepoint Education

Student Paper

1%

5

[www.odt.org.do](http://www.odt.org.do)

Internet Source

1%

6

[wrap.warwick.ac.uk](http://wrap.warwick.ac.uk)

Internet Source

1%

---

Exclude quotes  On

Exclude matches  < 20 words

Exclude bibliography  On