



RADIO COMUNIDADE MALIANA FGD



28 AUGUST 2013

FGD FACILITATORS: JOAO DA COSTA & DULCIA XAVIER

PARTICIPANTS: 20 PARTICIPANTS (9 WOMEN, 11 MEN), AGED 15-41

FGD Content analysis

The FGD activity was held in the Maliana Community Radio, in Bobonaro district. Most of the participants were young people and there were 2 married women. From 18 participants, two groups were formed, yet most of them didn't listen to the episodes of HerStory. To start the discussion, the team decided to play one episode on "land dispute: what is more important, family or a piece of land?" The culture of most population in Bobonaro is matrilineal that gives more right to women than men. During the discussion women confessed that their matrilineal culture has proven that only women have the rights on the parent's wealth. Their brother will follow his wife and will get nothing. Yet, Mery Monis as one participant stated that after listening to the episode, it started to raise her awareness to consider the information to also share the land to her brothers. The culture has to be considered still, but she found out that family is more important and it is a need to put more attention related to same right's issues. On the other hand, Lourdes Oliveira also provided a witness on what has happened to her family. She has shared that although they live in the community with matrilineal culture but before her father passed away, he already shared the land to his children, men and women have got equal land.

Legal issues discussion by AATL

AATL had maximum participation, after the FGD session they continued immediately with the topic on how men and women have the same right according to law. They also explained that the land belongs to parents; it is the right of all children to get it also. It is also valid for the woman who was left behind by her husband or got divorced to have the right on this land also. AATL suggested that if they have any cases they can report it to the Ministry of Public. The participants also used this chance to ask the question on how to get the right on land after divorced with their partner? In responds, AATL tried to link this case to the religion by saying that it's possible to get divorced but don't forget about the religion, culture and law because they are interconnected. Civil Registration stated that people can get divorced and polygamy, however it's not so good from the culture point of view, and related to the religion, it's not allowed to get married to two men or women and divorce is not allowed. In the law stated that it's allowed to marry to more than one person as long as you are able to feed them.

Success Story

The success that have achieved is changed in the community members especially for women to consider the rights of their brothers. A commitment has been made to make a change on the culture that prevents community members to have equal rights.

Challenges

The facilitators from community radio have been trained to facilitate the FDG process but it has shown that they haven't done a good responsibility yet. Based on the observation of the team they have found out the even when they have prepared some guide questions yet the facilitators didn't take the chance to learn seriously and didn't show their willing to do their jobs.

Participants' Suggestion

The participants suggested to also involving the traditional leaders in order to make them understand the gender's rights, as they are the one who always defend the culture. The participants requested to SFCCG and RC to actively campaign on the related issues so that community members will get better understanding on the these issues related to the law.

Next step

In branding part: we can give the CD of HerStory to the State Secretary of Promotion and Equality (SEPI) to integrate it to their program when they make the socialization for the citizen. We can also give it to the local authority and community leaders as a discussion material for them. If it's possible, in order to get people have a better understanding, it is suggested to produce the stories in Bunak and Kemak languages.