

# Training the police

How to implement institutional level change to reduce gender-based violence



## ABOUT RUTGERS WPF INDONESIA

Rutgers WPF Indonesia prevents gender-based violence (GBV) and re-defines negative cultural and social norms on masculinity using positive messages. The work includes promoting the equal sharing of roles and parenting in the domestic environment and providing men with counselling services on domestic violence in order to change their behaviour.

The organisation initiated the MenCare+ Indonesia programme and has been part of the Laki-Laki Peduli's programme and campaign on engaging men to reduce GBV since 2013. Rutgers WPF Indonesia is part of the global initiative Prevention+, a five year initiative that envisions a world where healthy, respectful and equal relationships are the norm.

### TRAINING NATIONAL POLICE

In Jakarta, Rutgers WPF Indonesia collaborated with the National Indonesian Police. A total of 75 participants from three training cohorts from different provinces in Indonesia took part. The themes of the trainings included: sex and gender; masculinity; GBV; stages of behavioural changes; basic counselling skills; anger management; sexuality; caregiving; and father's legacies. The training addressed ground-breaking topics, within the context of the police, and participants shared personal insights. The sessions were formatted in role play, group discussions, exercise and pedagogy methods. **These workshops set the basis for the GBV counselling program of male perpetrators of violence in Indonesia.**

### EMPOWERING LOCAL POLICE

A Memorandum of Understanding has now been signed by the National Indonesian Police on mandatory GBV counselling at the Women and Children Unit of the police. Potential candidates for GBV counselling will be referred to the police officers who handle cases of domestic violence. It commits to providing mandatory counselling in police institutions. Nevertheless, the stagnating implementation at the national level to establish an integrated referral system is still a problem. **To tackle this, Rutgers WPF Indonesia works to empower police institutions at the local level and to improve the existing referral system with various service providers in handling GBV cases.**

### MAKING GBV COUNSELLING MANDATORY

A GBV counselling programme, with a 12 session curriculum, was initiated with the aim of counselling men who use violence in intimate relationships. It assists them in stopping the violence and becoming respectful partners. The men who participate in this programme work towards exercising control over their violent behaviour, improving relationships with their partners, becoming better fathers and avoiding more drastic punitive interventions, such as protection orders and incarceration. **Together with the National Police and Ministry of Law and Human Rights, Rutgers WPF advocated and succeeded in making GBV counselling mandatory for perpetrators.**

### THE IMPACT

There has been a lack of implementation in Indonesia of the Law on the Elimination of Domestic Violence (Law No. 23/2004), specifically article 50, which addresses the requirement of perpetrators of domestic violence to participate in the counselling programme. There was no specific implementation by the Indonesia Government to accommodate the rehabilitation of perpetrators, particularly related to the mandatory counselling.

**Rutgers WPF Indonesia, together with the local partners, were the first to pioneer the provision of GBV counselling programs across an institution. As a result of using the gender-transformative approach at the institutional and government level, the police are now implementing article 50.** This is an important step in establishing mandatory counselling across the country and one step to achieving the long-term objective of ending GBV in Indonesia.