



ANU, november 6, 2008: undermi ni ng empowerment?

# undermi ni ng empowerment? gendered empl oyment i n I ndonesi an mi ni ng

kari n astri d si egmann, i ss  
november 6, 2008





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## outl i ne

1. bi rd' s eye vi ew of I ndonesi a' s mi ni ng sector
2. mi ni ng data...
3. gendered mi ni ng i n East Kal i mantan
4. Gendered empl oyment i n I ndonesi an mi nes: what rol e for empowerment?



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## mi ni ng hi story: bi rd' s eye vi ew

- 1967: mi ni ng i nvestment fi rst type of FDI i n Soeharto era
- si nce 1970s: oi l & gas sub-sector domi nant after oi l boom
- si nce 1996: mi ni ng i nvestment decl i ni ng
- 2001: 14%/22% of GDP/exports



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## mi ni ng sub-sectors (1999)

	Output (IDR billion)	Contract workers (person days)
Oil & gas	91,820.97	2,052,069
Copper	36,435.01	20,578
Coal	12,442.85	275,257
Gold & silver	3,236.50	386,551
Nickel ore	2,587.76	224,363
Tin	2,100.95	346,373
Granite	407.87	10,428
Bauxite	98.97	108,890
Manganese	70.24	23,859
Iron sand	17.96	85,426
Asphalt	1.93	4,732

Source: BPS (2001)



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## mi ni ng data. . .

- objective: FDI effects on gendered labour markets in rural Indonesia
- questions: gendered recruitment? wage differentials? working conditions?
- data: BPS mining statistics, FGDs East Kalimantan
- analysis: regression, decomposition, thematic analysis

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### 3 M' s of mi ne work

- *mi ni mal* - i n compari son wi th economi c si gni fi cance of the sector
- *mi gratory* - l arge number of mi ners from Java/Sul awesi
- *mal e* - . . .



## a male's job?

- male-typed employment: "The work requires strong muscles [...]"
- formal entry barriers for women: high school certificate required
- practical problems: who cares for a mining migrant's child?
- ...and informal discouragement: female miners femininity questioned

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## gendered labour markets

	Female	Male
	Mean (SD)	Mean (SD)
Monthly wage (IDR thousand)*	216.25 (426.16)	524.00 (706.54)
Total hours worked*	33.11 (15.30)	45.21 (14.31)
Formal schooling (years)*	4.42 (4.12)	6.14 (3.91)
Experience (years)*	25.07 (11.66)	19.62 (11.90)
FDI (USD thousand/provincial population)*	0.06 (0.18)	0.01 (0.06)

\*Independent samples t-test for means equality is significant at 95% level

Source: BPS (2001)

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## gendered wages

- foreign rather than domestic mines provide employment to female miners with income-earning opportunities...
- ... but 'reproductive constraint' prevents women from seizing them



## quality of work

- vocal trade unions  $\Leftrightarrow$  women absent
- mining with care?  $\Rightarrow$  female miners less prone to accidents ...
- ... but at greater risk regarding involuntary labour turnover



## precarious progress

- more say for women in intra-household decision-making & challenges to conventional gender division of work

⇔ precarious progress:

- constant negotiation of 'reproductive constraint'
- women miners challenge heart of masculinities

thanks !

