

A GENDER-PERSPECTIVE EMPOWERMENT AND STRENGTHENING MODEL IN TTU DISTRICT BY YABIKU

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.30742/juispol.v6i1.4969>

Received: 8 Januari 2026

Revised: 19 Februari 2026

Accepted: 15 Maret 2026

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini mengkaji tentang “Model Pemberdayaan dan Penguatan berprespektif gender di Kabupaten TTU oleh Yabiku”. Alasan penulis mengkaji tentang ini karena dilihat dari fenomena angka kekerasan terhadap perempuan di Kabupaten TTU cukup tinggi dan fenomena kekerasan terhadap perempuan dikategorikan dalam permasalahan global. Secara teori berdasarkan penelusuran penelitian terdahulu belum ada yang meneliti permasalahan kekerasan terhadap perempuan yang dikaji melalui “Model Pemberdayaan dan Penguatan berprespektif gender di Kabupaten TTU oleh Yabiku”. Urgensi dari penelitian ini memperluas studi tentang kekerasan terhadap perempuan, dan hasil penelitian ini dapat dijadikan sebagai referensi bahan pertimbangan dalam pengambilan keputusan maupun program pencegahan dan penanganan kekerasan terhadap perempuan. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori pemberdayaan “ACTORS” yang dikemukakan oleh Sarah Cook dan Steve Macaulay sebagai mata pisau dalam mengkaji fokus penelitian, dan menggunakan metode penelitian kualitatif dengan metode pemilihan informan secara purposif yaitu anggota LSM Yabiku, para peserta pemberdayaan, serta beberapa informan yang berkaitan dengan penelitian ini. Pemilihan informan ini di pilih secara sengaja dengan pertimbangan informan ini lebih mengetahui tentang fokus penelitian yang dikaji. Teknik analisis data menggunakan teknik yang dikemukakan oleh Sugiyono yaitu mengumpulkan data, menyajikan data, mereduksi dan menarik kesimpulan. Hasil penelitian menemukan bahwa terdapat 3 model pemberdayaan berprespektif gender yang dilakukan oleh LSM Yabiku yaitu model pemberdayaan pendampingan korban berprespektif gender, 2) Pemberdayaan Ekonomi berprespektif gender, 3) Pemberdayaan politik berprespektif gender. Ketiga model pemberdayaan ini memiliki caranya tersendiri dan sangat unik serta mampu mengatasi kasus kekerasan terhadap perempuan di Kabupaten TTU, akan tetapi masih ditemukan beberapa kendala dalam pelaksanaannya karena masyarakat yang dinamis.

Kata Kunci: Model Pemberdayaan; Teori ACTORS; Sarah Cook dan Steve Macaulay

ABSTRAC

This study examines the "Gender Perspective Empowerment and Strengthening Model in TTU Regency by Yabiku". The author's reason for studying this is because it is seen from the phenomenon of violence against women in TTU Regency which is quite high and the phenomenon of violence against women is categorized as a global problem. In theory, based on previous research searches, no one has studied the problem of violence against women which is studied through the "Gender Perspective Empowerment and Strengthening Model in TTU Regency by Yabiku". The urgency of this study expands the study of violence against women, and the results of this study can be used as a reference for consideration in decision-making and programs for preventing and handling violence against women. This study uses the "ACTORS" empowerment theory put forward by Sarah Cook and Steve Macaulay as a knife in examining the focus of the study, and uses a qualitative research method with a purposive method of selecting informants, namely members of the Yabiku NGO, empowerment participants, and several informants related to this study. The selection of these informants was chosen deliberately with the consideration that these informants are more knowledgeable about the focus of the research being studied. The data analysis technique used was Sugiyono's method: collecting, presenting,

reducing, and drawing conclusions. The study found that the Yabiku NGO implemented three gender-based empowerment models: 1) Victim Assistance, 2) Economic Empowerment, 3) Political Empowerment. These three empowerment models have their own unique approaches and are capable of addressing cases of violence against women in TTU Regency. However, several obstacles remain in their implementation due to the dynamic nature of the community.

Keywords: Empowerment Model; ACTORS Theory; Sarah Cook and Steve Macaulay

1. Latar Belakang

Violence against women is a serious issue that has been raised as a global problem. Globally, 243 million women and girls aged 15-49 have been victims of sexual and/or physical violence perpetrated by an intimate partner. Furthermore, 71% of all victims of human trafficking worldwide are women and girls, and 3 out of 4 of these women and girls are sexually exploited (Woman, 2021). In 1979, an international agreement was issued by the UN known as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (Chinkin et al., 2023). Indonesia is one of the countries that supports this convention with the presence of Law Number 7 of 1984.

Cases of violence against women are also quite high in Indonesia. One of the contributors to the number of cases of violence against women in Indonesia is TTU Regency, East Nusa Tenggara Province. In 2022, the number of cases of violence against women and children was 50, and increased to 100 cases in 2023, indicating a 50% increase in cases of women and children in TTU Regency. Violence against women in TTU Regency is dominated by domestic violence cases and has resulted in child neglect. (Benu, 2024). Cases of violence against women in TTU Regency have attracted the attention of researchers across various scientific fields. In his research, Cahyo identified several contributing factors to violence against women in TTU Regency, including alcohol addiction, economic factors, and jealousy (Cahyolahmadan, 2023). Apart from that, Okto's research found that one of the factors that significantly influences violence against women in TTU Regency is

the patriarchal cultural factor (Beti et al., 2023).

The attention given to cases of violence against women in TTU Regency is not limited to academics and not limited to research, but the emergence of attention from various parties such as the local government through the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Service (DP3A) of TTU Regency, the Social Service of TTU Regency, in addition to attention also came from NGOs such as save children, and also local NGOs namely Yabiku NGO. Various actions have been carried out by academics to socialize the forms of violence to the TTU Regency community (Rade, S. D., Wohon, E. U., Lobo, F., Pedo, Y., Samara, F., Sogara, Y. U., ... & Arman, 2023). From the Save Children NGO, we are implementing a cultural approach, campaign and partnership strategy (Nurak, 2022b), In addition, real action was carried out by the local NGO Yabiku by encouraging and overseeing the presence of Regional Regulation No. 14 of 2016 concerning the Implementation of Protection for Women, and Regional Regulation No. 15 of 2016 concerning the Implementation of Protection for Children. (Bayo & Tanaya, 2020b). Based on previous research, it shows that the existence of yabiku exceeds the local government's involvement in the realm of violence against women in TTU Regency.

Yabiku stands for the Amnaut Bife "Kuan" East Nusa Tenggara Foundation (YABIKU NTT) is an NGO that prioritizes equal rights for women, with a service model on empowering and strengthening women with a gender perspective. Various actions and strategies have been carried out to realize gender equality which makes it

always exist in the scope of preventing and handling violence against women. This has opened a gap for researchers to examine the empowerment model carried out by the Yabiku NGO in empowering and strengthening gender-based women in TTU Regency which makes it always exist. Researchers use the empowerment theory "ACTORS" proposed by Sarah Cook and Steve Macaula as a knife in this study. The urgency of this research is to expand the study of violence against women, and the results of this study can be used as a reference for consideration in decision-making and programs for preventing and handling violence against women.

1.2 Formulation of the problem

Cases of violence against women in TTU Regency increased by 50% in 2023. This is a serious problem. In TTU Regency, there is an NGO called Yabiku (an abbreviation of the Amnaut Bife "Kuan" Foundation of East Nusa Tenggara (YABIKU NTT). This NGO is active in preventing and addressing violence against women, using a gender-based empowerment and empowerment model. However, with the increasing number of cases of violence against women in TTU Regency, researchers want to examine the gender-based empowerment and empowerment model and the challenges faced in implementing this model. Based on the background and problem formulation, the research questions in this paper are:

1. How does the Yabiku NGO implement the gender-based empowerment and empowerment model?
2. What challenges does the Yabiku NGO face in implementing the gender-based empowerment and empowerment model?

1.3 Research purposes

This study aims to examine the gender-based empowerment and strengthening model for women implemented by the Yabiku NGO. By knowing the model implemented, we can identify the challenges faced in implementing the

empowerment, mentoring and strengthening model for women in TTU Regency.

2 Empowerment Theory

2.1 Development of the concept of empowerment

Many experts have talked about community empowerment, empowerment comes from the French "pouair" which in the thirteenth century meant strength, ability and power which was associated with ownership and control (Hermann, 2003). In the 17th century, the word empowerment evolved and was classified as a verb, "to empower," meaning to delegate power to achieve a specific goal or purpose. In the 1960s and 1970s, the concept of empowerment expanded in contemporary times and was used in socio-political movements. It became increasingly popular, even in the women's movement of the 1970s (Fortunati, 2014).

The concept of empowerment has experienced very rapid development. Initially, empowerment meant equitable sharing of power, thereby increasing the political awareness and power of weak groups and increasing their influence on the development process and results (Mustanir et al., 2023). However, over time, the concept of empowerment, which means power, has created two spaces that are difficult to reconcile: the space of power (empowerment) and the space of powerlessness (powerlessness). So that in the end, the meaning of empowerment tends to lead to a concept and approach to transferring power and empowerment to the powerless so that they are able to survive, as explained in Ildikó's research (Vojtek, 2021). Based on this research, the concept of empowerment has developed into aspects of development, economic strengthening, and this concept is used as an approach to resolving various social conflicts in society (Hardina, 2021).

With the development of the concept of empowerment, several experts, including Zimmerman, Rapaport, Robert

Adams, Sarah Cook, and Steve Macaulay, have developed empowerment theories. Zimmerman proposed a theory of empowerment that identifies with the process and outcomes of empowerment. Rapaport proposed a theory of empowerment that identifies with the levels of empowerment (Kamin et al., 2022). Sarah Cook and Steve Macaulay put forward a theory of empowerment called ACTORS (Mustanir et al., 2023). In this study, the researcher examines the research focus using the "ACTORS" theory put forward by Sarah Cook and Steve Macaulay on the grounds that this theory is more relevant to seeing the empowerment model carried out by Yabiku.

2.2 The theory of empowerment “ACTORS”

The "ACTORS" empowerment theory was put forward by Sarah Cook and Steve Macaulay. This theory views society as a subject capable of making changes by freeing individuals from rigid control and giving them the freedom to take responsibility for their ideas, decisions, and actions (Maami, 2011). The empowerment theory offered here emphasizes the concept of social and ethical/moral delegation, which includes: (a) encouraging resilience; (b) delegating social authority; (c) managing performance; (d) developing organizations (both local and external); (e) offering cooperation; (f) communicating efficiently; (g) encouraging innovation; and (h) resolving problems that occur. (Ananda et al., 2024).

The ACTORS theory has 6 (six) main indicators which are used as a reference in empowerment, these 6 (six) indicators include: (Maami, 2011):

Tabel 1

INDKATOR TEORI ACTORS

A	authority (wewenang).
C	confidence and competence (rasa percaya diri dan kemampuan).
T	trust (keyakinan).
O	opportunities (kesempatan).
R	responsibilities (tanggung jawab).
S	support (dukungan)

The ACTORS theory is used as a tool for this research in examining the empowerment and strengthening model of women from a gender perspective in TTU Regency by Yabiku. This theoretical framework includes (Mustanir et al., 2023): A = authority, which examines the distribution of authority granted to a group. This research examines the empowerment model implemented by the Yabiku NGO in terms of distributing authority from a gender perspective.

C = confidence and competence, which emphasizes ways to instill self-confidence by assessing their ability to change circumstances. This research examines the empowerment model implemented by the Yabiku NGO to instill self-confidence by assessing potential from a gender perspective.

T = trust, which emphasizes instilling confidence in the empowered group. This research examines the model used to convince empowered groups from a gender perspective.

O = opportunities, which provide opportunities for communities to choose their desires so they can develop themselves according to their potential. This research focuses on examining the empowerment model implemented by the Yabiku NGO in providing opportunities for empowered groups from a gender perspective. R = responsibilities. Implementing change requires management, ensuring it is carried out responsibly and for the better. This study examines the empowerment model implemented by the Yabiku NGO in terms of gender-based responsibility.

S = support. Support from various parties is needed to achieve improvement. In this case, the expected support includes not only economic, social, and cultural aspects, but also support from various stakeholders, implemented simultaneously without being dominated by any one party or factor. This study examines the empowerment model implemented to gain support from various parties.

3. Metode Penelitian

3.1 Types of research

This type of research is qualitative research. According to Creswell (1998) in his book Eko Murdiyanto, a qualitative approach is a research and understanding process based on a methodology that investigates social phenomena and human problems (Murdiyanto, 2020). The social phenomenon that occurred was the high number of cases of violence against women in TTU Regency, which researchers needed to examine by examining the role of the community institution, Yabiku. This research also used a case study approach. A case study approach means exploring the problem with detailed boundaries, using in-depth data collection, and including various sources of information (Murdiyanto, 2020). Using a case study approach, researchers will explore and collect data about the Yabiku NGO in gender-based women's empowerment and strengthening in TTU Regency.

3.2 Research Focus

This research focus is used to facilitate researchers in assessing a problem based on its urgency, based on its occurrence. Urgency is measured by the extent to which the problem occurs and its impact on society. Therefore, this research focuses on the chosen theme, namely Yabiku's model of empowerment and strengthening of women from a gender perspective in TTU Regency.

3.3 Informant Determination Techniques

The technique for determining informants is based on the research subject, namely the Yabiku NGO. Informants are people interviewed, asked for information by the interviewer, who are thought to have mastered and understood the data, information, or facts about a research object (Nurdiansyah & Rugoyah, 2021). There are two types of informants used in this research, namely: key informants: those who provide clear and reliable information related to the information to be obtained (Khosiah, Hajrah, 2017). The key

informant was the Yabiku NGO. The second informant was a regular informant: someone who could provide in-depth information on the issues being researched, but only on specific matters (Khosiah, Hajrah, 2017). And the regular informants are the TTU Regency community who are under the auspices of the Yabiku NGO.

3.3 Data Analysis Techniques

In this qualitative research, the data analysis used is inductive, that is, an analysis based on the data obtained, which is then developed into a hypothesis. (Sugiyono, 2016). Based on this hypothesis, further in-depth analysis will be conducted to reach conclusions. Researchers will go into the field to obtain data for the study, including visits to the Yabiku NGO and the TTU community, particularly women. The goal is to obtain valid data and information to use in the study to draw conclusions from the previously formulated hypothesis.

4. Discussion

4.1 A gender-based model of women's empowerment and strengthening

Women's Empowerment is a model applied in the lives of women in various regions. This empowerment is expected to lift women out of the various inequalities that exist in society due to various forms of discrimination against women. Women are often considered weak and unable to participate in various social settings, thus being seen as merely domestic workers. This assumption then leads to women being denied space to engage in activities, even to pursue an education. Furthermore, patriarchal culture places women in a weak bargaining position, and women's voices in fighting for their interests are not channeled through formal decision-making mechanisms (Marwanti et al. 2012).

Women's empowerment has become an effort to realize equal roles for women and men in the social environment. Women no longer occupy backroom positions, such as the kitchen, but can

occupy important positions in government. The roles of women and men in social life are essentially the same. Men are capable of holding positions in government, as are women, so there is no assumption that women are incapable of leadership. The empowerment process is certainly not easy, especially related to the culture and mindset of society that has been constructed for generations. This empowerment effort emerged as a result of women's protests regarding gender equality. Gender equality in Indonesia was marked by the Women's Emancipation Movement, whose figure was R.A. Kartini. This female figure was able to break through the old idea that women were only capable of being housewives. In her thinking, Kartini wanted to increase the dignity and status of women and demanded the rights that were due to women (Wahidah et al., 2024). These rights include getting an education, being involved in political activities and becoming a leader in the system.m kenegaraan.

Gender equality leads to improvements in work practices, increased education for women, reduced wage gaps and women's participation in political decision-making structures (Efendi, 2020).

This improvement relates to women's efforts to change their mindset and actively participate in various activities previously confined to men. Equality does not mean eliminating men's roles, but rather equalizing their roles in everyday life, from kitchen chores, social activities, and even involvement in government decision-making.

The struggle for gender equality is inseparable from the involvement of various international organizations and non-governmental organizations, such as YABIKU. This NGO works to mobilize women and children experiencing domestic violence in North Central Timor Regency. Violence against women typically occurs during pregnancy. This can have various impacts, including maternal and child mortality. However, other women and

children continue to experience violence due to economic reasons. Given the various reasons and acts of violence against women and children, YABIKU has developed a gender-based empowerment and strengthening model as follows:

4.2 Gender-based victim assistance by the Yabiku NGO

Women and children who have been victims of violence in the family or elsewhere need assistance. In cases of violence against women in TTU Regency, viewed from an authority perspective, Yabiku views women as a vulnerable group due to the limited authority granted to them. Women in TTU Regency are immersed in a patriarchal culture that limits the authority given to women in running their lives. Consequently, most women experience limitations in reaching various aspects of life. One example is limited access to education due to the preference for sons, which extends to economic weakness, resulting in women's scope being limited to household management. This limitation leaves women powerless and targets of violence. Furthermore, violence thrives in TTU Regency due to a social environment that supports the lack of unity among women, as evidenced by the perception of domestic violence or sexual violence as a disgrace and the subject of gossip. Consequently, cases of violence thrive and remain hidden from the surface. In response to this, the Yabiku NGO implemented an initial empowerment model, namely victim assistance. The victim assistance provided by the Yabiku NGO is more agile, forming communities and collecting data on victims of violence in each village. Furthermore, the Yabiku NGO transfers authority by providing education on violence through outreach and empowering victims by accompanying them according to procedures, including reporting to the authorities if the violence reaches a critical level.

An interview with Steko, a Yabiku staff member in the women's empowerment

division, revealed how Yabiku supports victims of violence. She stated:

"Women who experience violence are supported until they report to the appropriate authorities. YABIKU then visits villages to collect data on victims of violence against women to provide support, including support for their mental health."

Furthermore, an interview with Frida Ikun, a member of the legal division, asked the same question:

"The support process is not only about how victims recover physically and mentally, but the support provided by the YABIKU NGO also extends to litigation and non-litigation processes. This support is a way to connect with victims and provide them with a space to share their experiences. This support includes individual, group, and family counseling to help them understand their rights to a just life."

This research shows that the Yabiku NGO provides agile and responsive support. This support goes beyond transferring authority through education, but also includes individual counseling, family counseling, and the surrounding community. This fosters confidence and competence, with the hope of fostering self-confidence in victims to change the environment of violence that has occurred. In this personal counseling, victims are assured that every problem has a solution through the trust built between the Yabiku NGO and the victim.

The counseling process also emphasizes prevention efforts, ensuring that women who have experienced violence by their husbands or anyone else have the opportunity to report any incidents they have experienced as a way to take responsibility and prevent further violence. Female victims of violence need not fear, as their families and social communities receive specialized counseling and support in every process chosen to resolve violent conflict.

The impact of the gender-based victim empowerment model, led by the NGO Yabiku, has been positive: female victims

of violence are empowered through experience, education, and training, and are willing to volunteer as "paralegals" handling cases of violence against women in TTU Regency. This paralegal community has spread to every village in TTU Regency. These paralegals actively collect data and provide assistance to victims of violence in TTU Regency. This makes Yabiku's empowerment and assistance program much more agile and responsive.

4.3 Gender-Perspective Economic Empowerment by Yabiku

As time goes by, several studies such as (Nurak, 2022a); (Bayo & Tanaya, 2020a) that violence in TTU Regency is not only rooted in patriarchal cultural status but extends to the weakening economic conditions of families which support the occurrence of violence against women in the household. (Serli Mariani Sanbein, Adeodata Laniria Charla Barros Mbiri, 2025). Similar things happen not only in TTU Regency but in almost every Regency, economic problems are a contributing factor to violence against women and children (Putri & Suherman, 2024). Reviewing this development, the Yabiku NGO has several gender-perspective economic empowerment programs, namely establishing Women Farmers Groups, Women Fashion Groups, Women Livestock Groups, and Local Food Women Groups.

In an interview with Frida Ikun, she explained the gender-based economic empowerment model implemented by Yabiku:

"The empowerment model is not rigid, but very flexible, tailored to the interests and talents of the victims. The first step we take is to create a platform for the victims by forming groups. So far, the groups we have formed are the Women Farmers Group, the Women Fashion Group, the Women Livestock Group, and the Women Local Food Group. Yabiku then provides training and continues to support them through demonstrations of their products, such as the Women Vegetable

Farmers Group, the Women Weaving Jackets Group, the Women Livestock Group, the Women Farmers Group, the Women Pig Farmers Group, and the Women Local Food Group, which produces products such as lakotobe, boiled corn, and cassava chips."

Yabiku's economic empowerment model is tailored to the skills and interests of the victims of violence. The NGO Yabiku found that most women victims of violence are women in economically disadvantaged positions. In reality, women who do not earn an income are considered powerless to make their own choices in life and are often viewed as mere accessories. Considering this phenomenon, there's a need to redistribute authority from those with more power to those less empowered, such as women victims of violence. Yabiku's authority distribution involves grouping them according to their skills and interests, ensuring a focused and responsive empowerment process.

Being a victim of violence not only results in physical disability but can also have an impact on mental disability, becoming insecure when dealing with the surrounding environment, this makes the victims lose their self-confidence and even lose their faith in themselves. (Azhar et al., 2023).

Facing this reality, Yabiku has a unique model of confidence and competence, providing training and mentoring in developing skills of interest. Among the trainings provided are proper nursery practices and biocompost production for the Women's Farmers Group. Designer sewing courses are provided for the Women's Fashion Group and yarn dyeing in the weaving process, using environmentally friendly dyes using organic materials from the surrounding environment. The Women's Farmers Group is trained in superior livestock breeding, vaccination of pigs, cattle, and poultry, and the production of feed for pigs, cattle, and poultry. Furthermore, the Women's Local Food Group is trained in local food

production, such as lakotobe (milk paste), corn bosc (corn), various cakes, and natural food preservation methods, such as smoked beef, fish floss, beef floss, anchovies, and salted fish. Yabiku's approach to victims of violence involves assuring them that they have the opportunity to emerge from their slump by developing themselves using their existing potential.

In the initial stage, Yabiku embraced these victims by conducting data collection, conducting counseling sessions (see in figure 6) and providing initial assistance such as distributing seeds, distributing chickens, pigs, fertilizer materials, feed, then providing training and mentoring and the impact is to fulfill family food needs and even to the level of home-scale businesses, thus by themselves, women victims of violence have confidence or trust in themselves that they are able to change the circumstances or environments of violence they face. The results of the mentoring of the Women Farmers group can be seen in figure 1, the results of the Women Fashion group can be seen in figure 2 and figure 3. The results of the Women Livestock group can be seen in figure 4 and 5.

Figure 1.

Results of planting vegetables in the yard



Figure 1 shows the results of training and mentoring for women's farming groups, and their impact on meeting local family food needs, even enabling businesses to stabilize household

economies. Yabiku goes beyond mentoring at this stage; it provides further support by partnering with the women's farming group to supply fresh vegetables for the MBG (Free Nutritious Meals).

Figure 2.
Weaving process for trade



Figure 3
Sewing course



Figures 2 and 3 show the training process for the Women's Fashion team, including weaving and sewing courses. Yabiku also supports this group by helping market their woven and sewn products, even collaborating on sewing the weaving into school uniforms for elementary, middle, and high school students, and even office attire for civil servants.

Figure 4
Animal feed production training



Figure 5



Figure 4 shows training in making pig feed from rice bran and plants and Figure 5 shows superior breeding of pigs which will later be used as males and females as breeders for the artificial mating process.

Figure 6
Counseling session with female victims of violence



Figure 6 shows the counseling process conducted by Yabiku for female victims of

violence. The counseling process is not limited to the initial stage but continues routinely and serves as a space for growth for the victims. The counseling process provides a space to discuss violence in detail, often in a context of dialogue, and to determine problem-solving strategies from a woman's perspective.

4.4 Gender-perspective political empowerment by Yabiku

Discussing violence against women cannot be separated from the political aspect. The political sphere is a complex space that is also intertwined with violent conflict because it is categorized as a social pathology. Rooted in patriarchal culture and supported by weak economic conditions, women are a vulnerable group in cases of violence. Cases of violence against women will flourish if they are not addressed by stakeholders such as the government and the House of Representatives. In responding to this reality, referring to the ACCTORS theory: authority, confidence and competence, trust, opportunities, responsibilities, and support, it was found that Yabiku plays an active role in gender-based political empowerment.

The Yabiku empowerment model, based on the Yabiku authority indicator, provides victims of violence with an understanding of political education regarding women's role in shaping gender-based policies. This means that policies must be tailored to women's needs. To achieve gender-based policies, women must actively participate, both as voters and as elected representatives. The reality is that confidence and competence are not found in the victims of violence in TTU Regency to appear as participants selected by Yabiku has a different strategy model, namely by providing comparative education with several neighboring districts such as Belu Regency which has a high level of women's participation in practical politics which has an impact on the number of violence against women which is lower compared to TTU Regency. Thus, this comparative education

method gives trust to the victims to dare to appear in practical politics such as becoming a candidate for village head, even daring to take part in local government such as becoming a village official. Some of the assisted villages that are categorized as successful are Taekas Village, TTU Regency, Letneo Village, TTU Regency.

4.5 Challenges Faced by Yabiku NGO in Implementing a Gender-Based Model of Women's Empowerment and Strengthening

The conflict of violence against women is likened to a chain of interrelated links that are very complex in nature. Various methods have been used to minimize this problem, such as those carried out by Yabiku, namely empowerment and strengthening with a gender perspective. The empowerment and strengthening carried out include: 1) Assistance to Victims with a gender perspective, 2) Economic Empowerment with a gender perspective, 3) Political Empowerment with a gender perspective. The implementation of these 3 models of empowerment with a gender perspective is running well, but various obstacles are encountered, namely in assisting victims, there is often a lack of support from the family because they are still considered a disgrace and gossip material. This has not been very effective in dealing with counseling for the families of victims and perpetrators due to patriarchal culture. In economic empowerment with a gender perspective, it has also been running well, but a few obstacles have been faced, a new disease has emerged, namely sometimes unprofessional business management, namely the results of the business are not used effectively but are used for lifestyles that are not in accordance with needs such as gambling, until finally trapped in loan shark debt which makes them run businesses but only to pay debts which results in them remaining trapped in the scope of repeated violence. Furthermore, in gender-based political empowerment,

several obstacles were encountered, including support from husbands, families, and the environment, which did not provide enough space for women to dare to appear in practical politics.

5. Conclusion

This research focuses on the Empowerment and Strengthening Model with a gender perspective in TTU Regency by Yabiku, using the "ACTORS" theory as a knife in analyzing the focus of the research. The results of the study show that the empowerment with a gender perspective applied by Yabiku is centered on 3 models, namely 1) Victim Assistance with a gender perspective, 2) Economic Empowerment with a gender perspective, 3) Political Empowerment with a gender perspective. The results of this empowerment have a significant impact on reducing cases of violence against women in TTU Regency and as a trigger for other victims to dare to get out of the cycle of violence. However, in the implementation of these 3 empowerment models, various obstacles were encountered and these obstacles were not considered as problems but were considered as input for the Yabiku NGO to improve the empowerment project to be more responsive.

6. Thank-you note

The author would like to thank LPPM Timor University for funding this research and also thanks to all parties who have helped in this research.

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