



# Putting women in the centre of rebuilding efforts - Key findings

Dr. Joy Spiliopoulos

Research Fellow for IAPS China

Teaching Fellow for School of International Studies

University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC)

## Putting women in the centre of rebuilding efforts - Key findings

- ▶ Welfare and risk management
- ► Livelihoods and employment
- Micro-lending and microfinance schemes
- ▶ Policy take-away



### Welfare and risk management

► Vulnerability and health care needs

▶ Risk management during and post-disaster situations



### Needs and opportunities to invest more in women

'The women in the villages are sitting around doing nothing [....] We would be grateful if there are some kind of livelihood options available to us, such as an investment to buy an oven so we can start a bakery cooperative, or a weaving cooperative, so we can weave and watch over our kids, and make money at the same time [....]' (Barangay captain, November 2016)



### Livelihoods and employment

- ► Importance of diversifying household income
- Care responsibilities and opportunities for employment and training in the community
- ► Good practices but limited examples of programmes focusing on women led mostly by NGOs (local and international)



### Micro-lending and microfinance schemes

Increased popularity of microfinance schemes post-Yolanda

► Gender stereotyping - 'most of them are women because they are the ones tasked by their families or husbands to join these facilities' (Barangay captain, June 2017)

▶ Benefits (training) and challenges (poverty trap)



#### Policy take-away in supporting women

- ► Education for women and the general population about the risks of using microfinance services
- ► Knowledge exchange in terms of best practices from one community to another on gender-focused programmes and need for regulation
- ► Additional support for women in the community such as day care schemes and also support from governmental bodies in terms of capital, know-how and drawing up viable and sustainable business plans

