

# OPHI

## Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative

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Jiyem, Indonesia

### Multidimensional Poverty Index Profile



Jiyem, who lives in Indonesia is living in poverty according to the MPI. The household that she lives in is deprived in 8 of the 10 indicators. Although she can joke about her life, the situation is precarious, and troubling. “I cannot picture what wellbeing means,” says Jiyem. “This,” she said, pointing to her present surrounds, “is illbeing.” Jiyem shares her home with her blind husband (who is unable to work), her son, who is mentally handicapped, her daughter in law, and their three-year-old grandson, who is malnourished. No one in their family has ever completed primary school. Jiyem grew up in that same village, working in the fields.

Now, at about 70 (she does not remember exactly her age), Jiyem typically rises at 4-5 am. She boils water and cooks with wood some rice, cassava, eggplant or other garden vegetables, in the traditional chili sauce. The family eat fish or meat only on special occasions such

as Islamic religious days. From around 6 until 9 am, she collects some fallen rice for their own meal, then spends an hour collecting firewood. Jiyem does not earn any money, nor does she have savings. Her son goes with her and works in the rice field, or in a sugarcane field, about four hours per day. He earns about Rp10,000 per day (USD 4) and around Rp200,000 to Rp 300,000 per month (USD 85-127). When she comes home, she takes a shower and rests, or sits out in front of the house until around 3 pm when they take their afternoon meal. Jiyem’s house is sparse. There is no electricity or clean drinking water, nor TV, radio, telephone, fridge, car or motorcycle. Their toilet is a traditional toilet in which a big hole is dug on the ground.





Jiyem only socializes once every 35 days – when she gathers with the other housewives in the village. No one in the family can speak on her behalf, she said she has neither hopes nor dreams, but just accepts whatever comes. She does not pray like other Muslims, because she thinks she is too old. "But I still remember God and this is another form of prayer."

Jiyem's household is poor according to the MPI and according to the local measure, Jamkesmas. The shaded boxes of the figure below show the deprivations that her household faces.

