Objective
The overall objective of this project is to strengthen the government’s capacity for peace-building and social cohesion both at the national and community level.

Duration
October 2010 to October 2013

Location
National

Partners
National Directorate for Social Assistance
Ministry of Social Solidarity

Budget ($US)
$3,089,653

Sources of Funding ($US)
$1,500,000 - UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery
$100,000 - UNDP Core Resources
$211,646 - UN Women/EU
$1,278,007 - Unfunded (as of November 2012)

Background
As a result of the 2006/7 crises, more than 150,000 people fled their homes and resided in 65 IDP camps in Dili, and in the districts. The Government, through the implementation of the National Recovery Strategy (NRS), and working in collaboration with partner organisations, has facilitated the reintegration of Internally Displaced Person (IDPs).

By the end of September 2009, all IDP camps have been closed and IDPs have either returned or relocated to communities. However, sources of conflict remain in communities: social resentment towards returned IDPs, disputes over resources and land and property, large youth population and high unemployment rate, rivalries among martial arts groups, political and regional divisions and local conflicts.

These tensions are experienced differently by women and men, and inclusion of women’s perspectives and experiences in addressing these issues is largely absent.

In order to address these issues, a trust-building pillar was implemented as an integral part of the NRS. However, recognizing that peace building and social cohesion are long-term processes, the Government of Timor-Leste decided to establish the Department of Peace-Building and Social Cohesion under the Ministry of Social Solidarity.

Key Intended Outputs
Output 1 – Institutionalising peace-building mechanisms and procedures in the national government: This component of the project will support the Government to develop its capacity and institutionalise the conflict resolution mechanisms and procedures within the government structure through the establishment of the Department of Peace-Building and Social Cohesion under the Ministry of Social Solidarity.

Output 2 – Strengthening conflict resolution capacity and mechanisms at the community level: This component of the project will focus on strengthening peace-building capacities at the community level with the intention of empowering them to deal with their own conflicts without always relying on external interventions.

Output 3 – Enhancing women’s participation and role in peace-building: This component will focus on socialising and increasing women’s participation in peace-building processes and providing empowerment and space to raise their issues both at the community and national level to influence policy.

Output 4 – Conflict sensitive development: The focus of this component is to ensure that the development process in Timor-Leste is conflict sensitive.

For more information please contact
Masako Yokoyama
Programme Officer
masako.yokoyama@undp.org