**Objective**
The overall goal of the joint programme (JP) is to strengthen institutional capacity and service mechanism to protect women and girls against poverty and gender-based violence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Partners</th>
<th>Budget (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UN WOMEN, and UNICEF Ministry of Social Solidarity (MSS)</td>
<td>$4,955,000 Total - $888,780 UNDP Component</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Background**
The MDG Spanish Trust Fund under its Gender stream has approved a three-year programme “Supporting Gender Equality and Women's Rights in Timor-Leste”, to be implemented cooperatively by five UN agencies (IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, and UNWOMEN). This proposal was cleared by the National Steering Committee co-chaired by the Minister of Economy and Development. The Program Document was signed on 6th November 2008. The Signed programme documents (translated in Tetum) have been shared with MSS.

**UNDP’s Role**
Under the above programme, the UNDP is the concerned UN agency responsible for the following outputs:

Output 2.1: Technical support provided for improving the design and implementation of on-going conditional cash transfer (CCT) schemes of the Ministry of Social Solidarity.

Under this specific output the UNDP is working together with the Ministry of Social Solidarity to provide technical assistance to the government’s existing Conditional Cash Transfer programme - Bolsa da Mãe, in the following areas:

a. Development of a database of beneficiaries and potential beneficiaries enabling cross checks of information on families benefiting from other schemes to reduce duplicity.

b. Development of participatory methods for identification of the target women (as prescribed in the programme policy documentation).

c. Putting in place a system of monitoring and evaluation and impact analysis including links to a feedback mechanism.

d. Supporting the drafting of a legal framework for social protection schemes to ensure sustainability and enforceability.

e. Improving the implementation of existing Conditional Cash Transfers (CCT) through innovative means of cash payment, coordinated delivery of social services (health and education) and simple but reliable means of verification of conditions.

Based on the technical support provided, the Government of Timor-Leste will implement a strengthened Bolsa da Mãe scheme which will provide the direct transfer of cash to vulnerable women in 13 districts conditional upon their child’s attendance at school and health clinics.

The improved programme will be closely monitored in the identified districts of Covalima, Bobonaro, Oecussi, Baucau, and Dili, where the JP will be implemented.

For more information please contact

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