The project is designed to complement and support other ongoing decentralization/local government projects and programmes, this UNDP project will support the Ministry of State Administration by providing technical assistance, including long-term national experts and short-term international consultants, in the following 2 areas as requested by the DG Decentralization, Ministry of State Administration: 1) Enhancing the legal, policy, and institutional framework for decentralization, 2) ‘One-stop-shop (OSS)’ for selected public services at the municipal level.

**National Priorities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NDUCED OUTPUT 1: Improved deconcentration and decentralization policy, institutional and legal framework, and inclusion of gender balance and women empowerment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INDUCED OUTPUT 3: Mechanism for improving local governance (e-procurement) and public services delivery (‘loja do cidadão – Uma Sidadaun’) established.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Main Activities**

- Review and update of the existing mapping and roadmap of Timor-Leste’s legal, policy, and institutional framework for Decentralization to be utilized to harmonize Laws, Regulations, and SOPs pertaining to political, fiscal, and administrative decentralization.
- Establish and operate ‘Technical Assistance Coordination Unit (TACU)’ for the MSA and the Municipal Administrations, providing support on legal advice, socialization of law/policy, SOP development, capacity building, enforcement and monitoring of the decentralization legal framework.
- Laws, Regulations, and SOPs developed or amended to accelerate the decentralization process and address gender and youth issues for both MSA and the Municipal Administrations.
- Feasibility study on OSS conducted and utilized to pilot OSS in a one-municipality.
- Inter-ministerial coordination and harmonization mechanisms developed at the national level as well as municipal levels to create enabling environment to operationalize the selected OSS model.
- Capacity developed for OSS staffs and mechanisms in place to monitor quality of service.

**Quick Facts**

- **Project Title**: Strengthening Integral Local Development by Building The Capacities of Municipal Authorities in Timor-Leste (MSA)
- **Duration**: January 2021-December 2022
- **Total Budget**: $1,167,000
- **Government Counterparts**: Ministry of State Administration
- **Beneficiaries**: Ministry of State Administration, Municipal Authorities, Municipal Administrations

**Co-Funded by**

**SDG alignment**
Voices

“One-Stop Shop itself means that to integrate all services of institutions to facilitate citizens when they seek to find out information”

Tomas do Rosário Cabral, Minister of State Administration (MSA)

Key Development Challenges

70% of Timor’s population lives in rural areas with limited access to public services.

47% Poverty rates in rural areas are at 47% - compared to 28% in urban areas.

Key Results

MSA civil servants and Municipal Administrators and Presidents have received high-quality technical assistance in assuming their responsibilities in drafting, interpreting, and implementing new/amended legal, policy, and institutional frameworks for decentralization.

The Project facilitated the development of three SOPs, through technical assistance:

- Induction and orientation
- Selection criteria for Municipal Services Directors and Department Chiefs by the Presidents and Administrators
- Rules for the recruitment process and panel Member

A feasibility study and a roadmap were successfully concluded by the e-Governance Academy of Estonia (eGA).

The Project developed seven ToRs and a concept note for the recruitment of Public Financial Management Officers (9 persons per municipality) and ToRs for engineer positions (9 persons per municipality).

Project Map

Bruno Lencastre, bruno.lencastre@undp.org Project Manager

Issued February 2024