



# INNOVATION FOR YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Innovation for Youth Entrepreneurship initiative combines innovation and service delivery to transform unemployed Timorese youth into social entrepreneurs who create jobs and livelihoods oriented toward broader economic development.

The project is part of the one-stop shop named 'Knua Juventude Fila-Liman' which brings together the government of Timor-Leste, public and private institutions as well as development partners to provide services to engage, empower, and employ youth through social innovation and entrepreneurship.

## Development Challenges



Rural population accounts for 70% of the population (1.2 million), with 64% dependent on subsistence farming



80% of youth are not formally employed and 25% discouraged by the difficulty of finding employment



Limited skills development support for youth in innovation and entrepreneurship



20% of youth aged between 15 to 24 years are not engaged in education, employment or training

## What we have achieved

- 1 **Established** the 'Innovation Lab' at Knua Juventude Fila-Liman, equipped with 3D printers, filaments and materials
- 2 **Trained** 60 youth in coding, 3D design and printing, leading to prototype development
- 3 **Trained** 500 youth in business skills, **70 of whom are now entrepreneurs**
- 4 **Launched** an innovation challenge through the UNDP Youth Co:Lab platform. 53 teams participated. 30 shortlisted teams attended a 3-day bootcamp on business models and pitching. Two winners will attend a regional summit in Malaysia in 2020
- 5 35 youth are **now employed** as the results of their engagement in trainings and internship
- 6 **Strengthened** the capacity of the youth hub 'Knua Juventdue Fila-Liman', where more than **6000 youth from Dili and other municipalities** have benefitted from employment and training services

## Quick Facts

### Project Title

Building an Innovation Ecosystem for Youth Entrepreneurship in Timor-Leste

### Duration

August 2017 – June 2020

### Government Counterparts

State Secretary for Youth and Sport

State Secretary for Professional Training and Employment

### Total Budget

\$ 355,711

### Beneficiaries

Over 6,000 Timorese youth

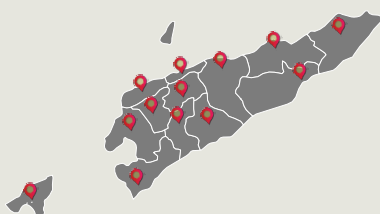
### Funded by



### SDG alignment



## Project Map



## Voices



"KNUA is inspiring Timorese young people like me to become 'Job-creators' not 'job seekers'".

Ms. Elvi Trindade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the Timor-Leste Youth Co: Lab challenge (Start-up)