



# QUARTERLY BULLETIN UNDP TIMOR-LESTE DARDC PROJECT



## 1st EDITION

January-March 2018

### Content

1. Minister of Social Solidarity (MSS) leads joint monitoring visit to DARDC project sites
2. Local communities produce and scatter over 203,000 Fukuoka seed balls
3. Call for proposals of community grants presented to Ministry of Social Administration (MSA)
4. Community agroforestry initiated
5. Retaining wall and small bridge project launched in Ermera
6. 4 fire warning boards installed in Aileu and Ainaro municipalities

The Dili-Ainaro Road Development Corridor (DARDC) project aims at strengthening the resilience of communities living in the Dili-Ainaro Road Development Corridor to climate-induced disasters such as floods, erosion, fire, destructive winds and landslides to reduce the risk of damage to road infrastructure and communities.



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP

## Minister of Social Solidarity (MSS) leads joint monitoring visit to DARDC project sites

Minister of Social Solidarity, H.E. Dra. Florentina da Conceição Pereira Martins Smith led a joint monitoring to DARDC project sites implemented by UNDP and World Bank from 22-25 January 2018. The Minister was accompanied by Vice Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, H.E. Deolindo da Silva, General Director of Environment, Ministry of Development and Institutional Reform, Mr. João Carlos Soares, National Director of Meteorology, Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communication, Mr. Terençio Moniz, UNDP Country Director, Mr. Claudio Providas and World Bank representative, Mr. Olivio Euclides dos Santos.

The aim of the visit was to observe and look closely at project sites and hear directly from the beneficiary communities in assessing the project progress and challenges.

The delegation visited a total of 11 UNDP and World Bank project sites in Aileu, Ermera, Ainaro and Manufahi municipalities consisting of clean water supply infrastructure, reforestation and nursery center (UNDP) and retaining wall, decker and evacuation center (World Bank).

The Minister and delegation also inaugurated two UNDP water supply projects and a World Bank evacuation center. In addition to visiting project sites, they also visited the MSS offices in the municipalities.

"I thank UNDP for helping the Government to provide clean water to the community. I ask the community to utilize this water supply facility carefully so that it can be sustained for long term use," said H.E. Smith during the inauguration of water supply project at Turisai sub-village, Madabeno village, Aileu Municipality.

This water supply project is facilitated through the top up grants mechanism to strengthen community capacity to reduce or avoid disaster risks as well as enhance climate adaptation of beneficiary communities through public investment services along the target road development corridor.

"I thank the people who have volunteered to complete this water supply project. While the Government has invested a huge budget for infrastructure, I recommend that you protect and take care of the road



and other productive infrastructure because Timor-Leste is vulnerable to climate cycles such as El-Nino and La-Nina," said Mr. Providas, UNDP Country Director.

The chief of Aisirimou village Mr. Ildio Mau-Felo, representing his community who benefits from this project, said that they had been waiting years for clean water and today the dream is realized. "Thank you to the Government and UNDP for this initiative to provide our community with clean water. We further recommended this water supply project is expanded to other sub-villages that currently face the same problem," said Mr. Felo.



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP

## Local communities produce and scatter over 203,000 Fukuoka seed balls



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) through the General Directorate of Forestry, Coffee and Industrial Plants with the support of UNDP continues reforestation at the degraded areas along Dili-Ainaro road corridor by using seed balls.

Fukuoka technique aims to reforest the degraded areas to protect vulnerable them from natural disasters such as landslides, floods and strong winds.

"Our community will benefit from this programme in the next 5 or 10 years after the trees have grown," said Mr. Silverio Amaral Barreto Felix, chief of Bandudato village in Aileu municipality. "We thank UNDP and MAF for this initiative which will protect our community from landslides and strong winds."

The Fukuoka technique using minimal human intervention is considered as a natural method of farming that requires no machines, no chemicals and very little weeding. Lands are cultivated without any preparation of soil by using seed balls. This kind of cultivation is highly useful for re-vegetation of degraded lands.

As of November 2017, over 203,000 seed balls have been produced in the municipalities of Aileu, Ainaro, Ermera and Manufahi, with a total of 356 beneficiaries participating in training. All the seed balls have been scattered at the degraded areas in the four municipalities by February 2018.



Photo: Joaico Oliveira/UNDP



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP

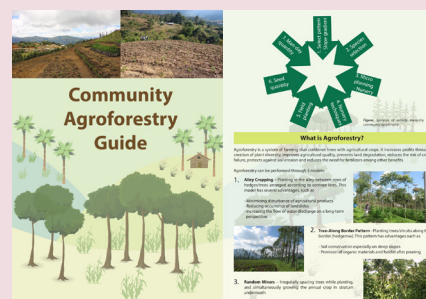


Photo: Leonel Bere/UNDP



Photo: Leonel Bere/UNDP

**New publication:**  
**Community Agroforestry Guide**  
 introduces the practice of agroforestry, including selection for agroforestry patterns and species, nursery technique and planting process.



<http://www.tl.undp.org/content/timor-lesste/en/home/library/resilience/community-agroforestry-guide.html>



## Call for proposals of community grants presented to Ministry of Social Administration (MSA)

A call for proposals for community grants was presented to the Ministry of State Administration (MSA) at MSA Office Caicoli on 27 February 2017. The objective is to enable NGOs, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and community groups to implement community action plan in line with the objectives of developing integrated bioengineering and complementary land management measures, reforestation, agroforestry, bamboo reforestation and nurseries that increase vegetation coverage of watersheds and landscapes against climate induced risks.



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP

Director General Decentralization Administration, Mr. Abilio José Caetano mentioned that the Minister of State Administration is happy and appreciates the top up grants projects implemented by community so far in Aileu, Ainaro, Manufahi and Ermera municipalities. Mr. Caetano hopes that for the next phase, the project quality can be further improved, and the capacity of the community will be built through the project.

"I hope we will improve more in the future to benefit the community. The community must be the key focus of the project and most importantly, they must have the ability to plan and do construction by themselves by the end of the project implementation," said Mr. Caetano.

As a result of the Community Vulnerability Capacity Assessment (CVCA) conducted few months ago, these community grants are proposed by villagers to support them to carry out action plan in response to identified hazards. "We have implemented the first phase of the project and now we are entering the second phase. I ask municipal colleagues to approach and clearly inform community how this project will benefit them," said Dr. Shyam K. Paudel, Chief Technical Adviser of the UNDP-DARDC project.

Proposed activities should be completed within a period of 12 months from the date of award of the grant. The duration should be contingent on the allocated budget, capacity of the community grant recipient and nature of the proposed activities to be implemented.

## Community agroforestry initiated



Photo: Julio Rinto/MAF

Socialization for community agroforestry has been conducted for 21 target villages in Aileu and Ainaro municipalities during 05-16 March 2018. This agroforestry activity will contribute to soil conservation, land restoration and disaster prevention. It will also support livelihoods of the local communities living along the corridor in both the short and long term.

A total of 45,000 seedlings have been distributed to 210 households covering 21 hectares of community lands in Aileu and Ainaro municipalities, benefitting 17,717 people.

"I really hope that you plant these trees as it will benefit you in the future. You must be responsible to take care of these trees," Mr. Silverio Amaral



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP

Barreto Felix, chief of Bandudato village in Aileu municipality, said to the villagers.

Agroforestry is a system of farming that combines trees with agricultural crops. It increases profits through creation of plant diversity, improves agricultural quality, prevents land degradation, reduces the risk of crop failure, protects against soil erosion and reduces the need for fertilizers.

Communities are enthusiastic with this initiative and requested MAF to produce more seedlings. "We need more production trees like sandalwood that give more benefits to us in the future, and fruit trees which can benefit us in the short term," said Mr. Fransisco Barros, a community member of Bandudato village.



# Retaining wall and small bridge project launched in Ermera



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP

A new top up grant project to construct a retaining wall and small bridge was launched by the Minister of State Administration, H.E. DR. Valentim Ximenes and UNDP at Duhuho sub-village, Haufu village, post administrative Letefoho in Municipal Ermera on 23 March 2018.

The main functions of the retaining wall and small bridge is to protect communities and their infrastructures from landslides and to link the community road from Letefoho village to the main road.

“We have been suffering from landslides and strong winds in this village. We thank the Ministry of State Administration (MSA) and development partners for helping us with this project,” said Mr. José de Deus, a community member of sub-village Duhuho.

H.E. DR. Ximenes asked UNDP to continue support specially to reforest the area soon in order to protect the construction from landslides. “UNDP funded this project, and more projects will come soon, especially reforestation as this place is prone to landslides,” said Mr. Ximenes.

This project is implemented under the top up grants mechanism for a period of 6 months.



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP

## 4 fire warning boards installed in Aileu and Ainaro municipalities



Photo: Harun Boavida/UNDP

Madabeno village, Aileu



Talitu village, Aileu



Photos: Harun Boavida/UNDP

Aitutu village, Ainaro



Photo: Harun Boavida/UNDP

Manutasi village, Ainaro

### UNDP-DARDC Project 2018

Office : MSS-NDMD, Bemori, Dili, Timor-Leste

CTA/PM : Dr. Shyam K. Paudel  
E-mail : shyam.paudel@undp.org  
Telephone : +670 7795 2899

Director DNGRD: Mr. Agostinho Cosme Belo  
E-mail : agostinhocosme.belo@gmail.com  
Telephone : +670 7732 6917

