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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.

DRM training completed in all municipalities

Between July and August 2017, the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MSS) through National Disaster Management Directorate (NDMD), National Institute for Public Administration (INAP) and Center of Climate Change and Biodiversity (CCCB-UNTL) has successfully trained 285 municipal and post administrative officers and staff of line ministries on Disaster Risk Reduction/ Disaster Risk Management (DRM)/Climate Change Adaptation. The trainings have built capacities of cross sectoral municipal officers and decision makers within infrastructure, agriculture, forestry, and DRM sectors.

“Knowledge for technical staff on disaster risk management is necessary especially for decision makers on how to make good integrated planning and prevention to respond to disasters,” said Mr. Rui Manuel Gago Exposto, Director General of Corporate Services-MSS.

At the moment, Timor-Leste’s ability to respond to disasters is limited. The sectoral development frameworks are not clear on response strategies to both climate and human induced-disasters despite both affecting infrastructures and the national and local economies.

“I hope that after the training you are not just keeping all the materials in your office shelves but you must apply what you have learned in your daily work, especially when you do planning and implement municipal activities, you need to be aware of the impact of disaster risks,” said Dr. Shyam Paudel, CTA of DARDC Project.

This year UNDP successfully completed DRM trainings in the Eastern region (Baucau, Manatuto, Lautem, Viqueque), Southern region (Manufahi, Aileu, Ainaro, Covalima), Western region (Dili, Bobonaro, Ermera, Liquiça) and Special Administrative Region of Oecusse. A DRM manual was developed and endorsed by the Minister of MSS.

“Most of us are farmers, and most of the time we used slash and burn to open new farm. After this training I will forward this information to my community to stop slash and burn to avoid landslide,” said Mr. José Marques, Chief of Malelat village, a participant of DRM training in Oecusse.



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP
DRM training in Baucau Municipality Authority



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP
DRM training in Special Administrative Region of Oecusse



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP



Photo: Marino Mouzinho/UNDP
DRM training in Bobonaro Municipality

Capacity assessment of DRM institutions completed



Photo: Joanna Wong/UNDP



Photo: Joanna Wong/UNDP



Photo: Joanna Wong/UNDP

DARDC Project consultant met communities and officials in four municipalities where findings were presented.

A study report on Capacity Assessment and Strategy on focused DRM areas in Aileu, Ainaro, Ermera and Manufahi Municipalities was presented to the national and municipal counterparts on 19 September 2017 in Dili.

This study on “Capacity Assessment and Development of Capacity Building Strategy and Action Plan of DRM Stakeholders in Timor-Leste” is commissioned by DARDC Project in collaboration with MSS, with the aim of building the capacity of DRM stakeholders working at national and sub-national levels.

“This workshop is important so we all need to give feedback and opinions to improve this document for the better project

implementation in the future,” said Mr. Agostinho Cosme Bele, National Director of NDMD.

The Capacity Assessment focused on four major aspects – a) institutional capacity; b) organizational capacity; c) human resource; and d) financial management and financial resource capacity.

Mr. Lucio R. Ribeiro, Director of MAF in Ainaro, gave his suggestions regarding to the Assessment, “We are requesting the Project to coordinate with ministries to do capacity building on meteorology for our technical staff in municipality, because data from most of the 46 stations in Timor-Leste is collected manually by Dili staff every three months, and sometimes it takes time to do analysis.”

Workshop on Standardization of Watershed Management in Timor-Leste held for MAF

The 3-day workshop was held on 27-29 September 2017 for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), especially the National Directorate of Reforestation, Coffee, Industry and Plantation. 23 technical staff from MAF (Forestry and Watershed Management Department), and participants from GIZ, JICA and HIVOS attended the workshop. The objective was to collate feedback of the initial findings for the watershed management guidelines, namely Standard Operational Procedures (SOP) that has been developed by Gadja Mada University consultants.



Photo: Joanna Wong/UNDP

MAF staff and partners agencies were exchanging opinions on watershed management guidelines.

implementation guideline for MAF staff and other agencies who are working on watershed management. This will enhance climate resilience while minimizing potential damage to road infrastructure.

“The SOP is necessary for MAF because it will guide us to more improved quality of project implementation in the future,” said Mr. Manuel Mendes, General Director of Forestry, Coffee and Plantation Industry-MAF.



Photo: Joanna Wong/UNDP

(left) Dr. Shyam Paudel, CTA of DARDC Project, (middle) Mr. Manuel Mendes, General Director of Forestry, Coffee and Plantation Industry, and (right) Mr. Claudio Providas, UNDP Country Director

“Water is one of the important issues that Timor-Leste is facing today. El-nino and La-nina constantly affect the country, therefore to have a common guideline of standard watershed management for this country is very important,” said Mr. Claudio Providas, UNDP Country Director.

The SOP for watershed management will become an



“The Ministry (MAF) doesn’t have any SOP for watershed management. We hope this SOP will be ready soon as a guideline for the better project implementation,” said Mr. Vicente Sanches Soares, a workshop participant.



MAF staff in Aileu Municipality have learnt to make seed balls following the instruction from consultant.



Manufahi Municipality



Ermera Municipality

Fukuoka seed balls help reforestation

In August 2017, 126 MAF staff and community members in four municipalities - Ermera, Aileu, Ainaro and Manufahi were trained on Fukuoka seed balls planting. This simple, low-cost and effective organic farming method was developed by the late Japanese farmer and philosopher Mr. Fukuoka. It will enhance reforestation, and also protect soil from erosion and other climate risks in Timor-Leste.

“Fukuoka is a great method for reforestation in risky and deforested areas, I will therefore use materials provided by UNDP to not only practice and promote this method in Aileu, but also ask my staff to apply this method in communities during the rainy seasons,” said Mr. Galliene S. F da Costa Galhós, Director of MAF in Aileu Municipality.

About 15 MAF staff and 15 community members from each municipality were trained. Ms. Monica Soares from Ainaro village, Ainaro Municipality said, “Usually we practice slash and burn and plant directly, but do not achieve good result because seeds are dry and die due to lack of rain and water. This new method is very good and we will share with our community groups to start trying this method in the future.”

Mr. Felisberto Soares and Ms Zelia da Conceição who live in Lahae Villa village, Aileu Municipality, said that this training will enable them improve their livelihoods by conserving soil conservation in their gardens while planting rambutan, moringa and vegetables.



Ainaro Municipality



For more information about making seed balls, read our flyer on UNDP DARDC webpage:

http://www.tl.undp.org/content/timor-leste/en/home/operations/projects/environment_and_energy/disaster-risk-reduction-and-climate-change-adaptation-in-the-dil.html

Community-based Early Warning System (EWS) in Dili-Ainaro Road Corridor

DARDC Project has developed a community-based early warning system (CBEWS) for four municipalities in the Dili-Ainaro road corridor. The Community-based EWS addresses four different type of hazards namely flood (flash-flood), landslide, strong wind and fire. The system will be run by the local communities with necessary technical support from National Directorate of Meteorology. The EWS is expected to benefit at least 5000 households.

Early warning system (EWS) is an essential and cost-effective component of disaster preparedness and response. Based on the identified hazards and risks and consultations with the local communities in the corridor, a model of EWS tailored to specific conditions faced by rural communities has been developed. The model has four components namely risk assessment, monitoring and warning, communication and dissemination, and response for the effective functioning of EWS.

Based on risks assessments and consultations with the local communities, the hazard specific locations of CBEWS are initially proposed to be stationed at the following villages.

DARDC Project is in the process of procuring necessary equipment for the EWS and is planning to communicate risks and escape plans with the local communities as soon as by the end of this year.

No.	Villages	Municipalities	EWS for specific hazards
1	Ainaro	Ainaro	Strong Wind and Fire EWS
2	Aituto	Ainaro	Landslide and Strong Wind EWS
3	Aissirimou	Aileu	Flood and Fire EWS
4	Cassa	Ainaro	Strong Wind, Fire and Flood EWS



Photos: NESAS SRL

Water projects launched to improve livelihoods

In September 2017, three water supply projects were respectively launched in Sabago village, Ainaro Municipality; Aisirimou and Madabeno villages, Aileu Municipality; and Poetete village, Ermera Municipal. The water projects were funded by Top-Up Grants of UNDP DARDC Project.

In Sabago village, Ainaro, water supply project includes rehabilitation of water source and two water tanks which are under construction. More than 1550 people will be benefited in the community.



Photo: Leonel Bere/UNDP

Water supply project in Ainaro was launched on 7 September with 35 participants.



Photo: Joanna Wong/UNDP



Photo: Joanna Wong/UNDP



Photo: Shabari Nunes/UNDP

(left photo) The Community together with Administrator of Aileu Municipality was viewing the water tank site before the launching ceremony on 15 September.

In Aileu, the water project will benefit more than 4000 people in Aisirimou and Madabeno villages. “With support from UNDP my family will access clean water after drinking only rain water during last year’s rainy season , and I will not spend many hours to fetch water,” said Ms. Marina da Silva who resides in the village. “This project will help particularly women and children to improve health and access to clean water,” said Mr. Domingos Pedro Siqueira, another beneficiary.

“Water is life and sanitation is health. Health is important for life, so we need clean water. We are therefore here to support this water project,” Dr. Shyam Paudel, CTA of DARDC Project said. On the other hand, Mr. João Tilman do Rego, the Administrator of Aileu Municipality, encouraged the community to work together on reforestation of the water sources in order to preserve their sustainability.



Photo: Joanna Wong/UNDP



Photo: Joanna Wong/UNDP



Photo: Joanna Wong/UNDP

(left photo) The President of Ermera Municipal Authority (left) led the launch on 21 September.

Meanwhile in Poetete village, Ermera, a rehabilitated water source and three new constructed water tanks connected with 1.1km long pipes will improve access to clean water for 1122 people in three sub-villages - Berbetulu, Poefu and Takelela. “This project is requested by you through proposal and will be constructed by you as you are the owner of this project. Therefore, you all have to take care and be responsible so that this water supply will be durable for long term use,” Mr. Jose Martinho dos Santos, President of Ermera Municipal Authority appealed to the community.



“We have been waiting for a long time. Water is one of the prior preoccupations for us because we really need water for our lives, our children and sanitation purposes,” said Mr. Mario Fatima de Deus, Chief of Takelela sub-village.

“In the future, we don’t need to walk 1km to take water from the river. And children can save time and go to school because there is water,” said Ms. Maria Exposto, who lives in Takelela sub-village.



The three water projects are expected to be completed within six months and the communities will manage and maintain the water systems on their own.

UNDP-DARDC Project 2017	
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