



CORE-TL | COVID-RESILIENT ELECTIONS IN TIMOR-LESTE



“ Through the UNDP Covid-Resilient Project, we promote the inclusion of underrepresented groups, such as women, youth, and persons with disabilities, to enhance their participation in elections and access to democracy.”

Munkhtuya Altangerel, UNDP Timor-Leste Resident Representative

Braille Letter Training Completed by 117 People with Visual Impairments

6th December

The two-weeks Braille Letter Training, conducted in Aileu, Lautem, and Manufahi municipalities, was successfully completed by 117 participants with visual impairments. The braille training was aimed to promote independent participation of persons with visual impairments and advocacy towards EMBs to ensure access to information including COVID-19 prevention measures for the upcoming national elections.

The closing event was held on 6th December, celebrated with representatives from UNDP, the Asosiasaun Halibur Defisiensi Matan Timor Leste (AHDMTL) and, the Government of Japan, donor of the project. At the event, Gaspar Afonso, the Director of the AHDMTL Association, expressed that “besides enabling the participants to be part of the upcoming elections, this inclusive-education space provided them with tools that can replicate in future trainings to other people with visual impairments.”



[Click to watch a video](#)



117

participants from all municipalities

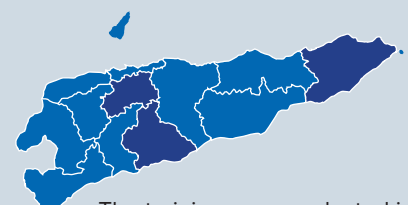


44
37%

73
63%



117



The training was conducted in Aileu, Lautem and Manufahi

Joint efforts for COVID-Resilient Elections pledged by the Government

19th April

UNDP and the Government of Timor-Leste launched the COVID-Resilient Elections in Timor-Leste (CORE-TL) project to support the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) and the National Commission of Election (CNE), ensuring a COVID-resilient and inclusive implementation of the next elections in 2022 and 2023. The Letter of Agreement for the CORE-TL project was signed by representatives, H.E. Miguel Pereira de Carvalho from Minister of State Administration, Mr. Hirashima Shusaku from Embassy of Japan, Ms. Munkhtuya Altangerel from UNDP, Mr. Alcino Araújo Barris from CNE and Mr. Acilino Manuel Branco from STAE.



CORE-TL ACTIVITIES

- COVID-Resilient Infrastructure
- COVID-Resilient Election Plan, Manual, Training, and Procurement
- Informed Citizen and Election
- Inclusive Elections
- Election Indelible Ink



Creating Synergies for Democracy

1st June

UNDP and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) announced a new partnership to assist development of Timor-Leste's Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs). Through the partnership, the CORE-TL project will provide technical support to the EMBs, establishing durable plans and manuals integrated with health and safety regulations of COVID-19 as well as compatible with electoral integrity.

At the virtual ceremony, a Letter of Agreement was signed by UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Munkhtuya Altangerel and Director for Asia and the Pacific of International IDEA, Ms. Leena Rikkilä Tamang, with participation of the Vice President of CNE, Ms. Odete Maria Belo, the Director General STAE, Mr. Acilino Manuel Branco, and Ambassador of Japan to Timor-Leste H.E. Mr. Masami Kinefuchi.

UN Women Supports Women's Rights for Forthcoming Elections

11th October

UNDP and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) launched the USD 100,000 partnership to enhance women's participation and representation in upcoming elections. The UNDP-UN Women's partnership runs until the 28 February 2022, aiming to promote equal and inclusive elections at national, municipality and suco levels. In cooperation with UN Women, the CORE-TL project promotes meaningful participation of women and gender equality in the election processes.



Indelible Ink Testing

Indelible Ink Testing events were conducted on 1st and 20th December to prove quality and reliability of the indelible ink. In accordance with the EMBs as well as approvals from the political parties, 12.600 bottles of the electoral ink will be supplied for the upcoming elections.

1st December @STAE office in Dili

UNDP hosted the first ink testing event in cooperation with STAE and CNE. The testing event was attended by UNDP Resident Representative, Munkhtuya Altangerel, the Vice President of CNE, Domingos Barreto, and the Director General STAE, Acilino Manuel Branco. Quality and reliability of election ink were demonstrated to the representatives by using an index finger of 3 testers, and the procurement of the ink for the forthcoming election was confirmed by their approvals.



20th December @CNE office in Dili

The second ink testing was held with representatives of the political parties. After demonstrating the effectiveness of the indelible ink on three testers from different political parties, as following the international testing procedures, all members of political parties agreed on using the ink for the forthcoming elections.

What is Indelible Ink?



Indelible ink is a marking system to prevent double voting at an election. It has been used in more than 100 countries all over the world, securing transparency of elections, the right to vote and democracy. Since the 2007 General Election in Timor-Leste, UNDP has been supporting the Government of Timor-Leste on procurement of election ink.

Ensuring Voter's Access to Fair and Right Information

23st December @National Press Council

UNDP and the National Press Council (Conselho de Imprensa) signed a Letter of Agreement to accelerate improvement of the national media in Timor-Leste. Through the partnership with support fund from the Government of Japan, UNDP provides technical assistance, such as training of trainers, a new National Guideline for Journalists compatible with COVID safety measures, and support for awareness-raising campaigns on the guidelines at the national and municipal levels. It is believed that safe and democratic information platform is essential not only to provide fair and right information regarding elections, but also to secure people's access to accurate measures to prevent COVID-19.






STAE National Workshop

22nd December @Timor Plaza

In the run up to the upcoming elections, STAE conducted a National Workshop for preparing the Presidential Election to be held in March 2022. The event, attended by STAE staff members from the 12 municipalities and RAEOA, had the participation of representatives from UNDP, the Ministry of State Administration, STAE, and CNE, as well as H.E. Mr. Masami Kinefuchi, Ambassador of Japan to Timor-Leste.



At the workshop, UNDP Resident Representative, Munkhtuya Altangerel expressed her gratitude to the Embassy of Japan for the great support on the COVID-Resilient project, and stated that “this national workshop will ensure to conduct more inclusive and COVID-safe elections, which will enhance the democracy and development of this country, Timor-Leste”.

 Click to watch a registration video

Meet CORE-TL Team & UNDP Resident Representative



From left to right:

Mariano Redondo (Communication Specialist)
 Manuel De Almeida (National Engineer)
 Ayumi Kimura (Communication Specialist)
 Maria Rafinda Maia (Admin/ Fin. Officer)
 Edy Ramos (Graphic Designer)
 Joao Soares (Driver & Clerk)
 Tito Filipe Da Costa (Project Manager)

Munkhtuya Altangerel (UNDP Resident Representative)
 Yuka Mamekoshi (M&E Specialist)
 Reinaldo Da Costa (Civil Engineer Officer)
 Shirajul Islam (Civil Engineering Specialist)
 Nuno Fatima (Driver & Clerk)

