



Democratic Governance Unit

UNDP Timor-Leste Newsletter

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Empowered lives.
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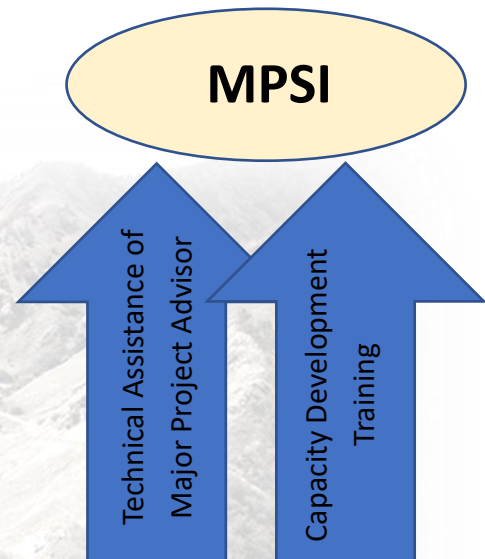
The Democratic Governance Unit (DGU) is one of the three pillars of the UNDP’s strategic involvement in Timor-Leste and supports human resource development initiatives as well as initiatives designed to strengthen the capacity of national government institutions.

The Democratic Governance Unit newsletter provides up-to-date information on the DGU’s five programmes -- Sub-National Governance and Development Programme (SNGDP), Justice System Programme (JSP), Capacity Building Support to the Policia National de Timor-Leste Project (PNTL), Support for the Institutional Development of Oe-cusse Regional Administration and Special Zones for Social Market Economy (ZEESM) and Leveraging Electoral Assistance for Regionalized Nation-Building (LEARN) -- and recognizes the generous support and meaningful contributions provided by all donors and stakeholders.

SUB-NATIONAL GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (SNGDP)

Technical Assistance and Capacity Development for MPSI

UNDP has been providing support to the Ministry of Planning and Strategy Investment (MPSI) through technical assistance for the Major Project Secretariat (MPS), such as, preparation of the Appraisal Report which examines the new infrastructure projects for funding in the upcoming year. The advisor also assisted in budget planning and participated in discussions and meetings with the Prime Minister Office and the Line Ministries regarding the Infrastructure Fund progress of the implementation of Strategic Development Plan.



In addition, UNDP arranges capacity development training within the MPSI staff through overseas training. Earlier this year, the government employees participated in a training on Leadership Development and a meeting on the development of National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), which were held in Japan. As a result of these trainings, the participants were able to apply a more effective leadership style to enhance the working efficiency of the department and gained knowledge through practical examples on how to develop NSDI and to facilitate project planning tools for better implementation of infrastructure projects in Timor-Leste. The MPSI staff will also participate in a training outside Timor-Leste in upcoming months.



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ELECTORAL PROJECT-LEARN

VII Government of Timor-Leste Officially Constituted

The President of Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Francisco Guterres 'Lu-Olo' has signed the decree to nominate Mari Alkatari as the Prime Minister of the VII Government after the successful Parliamentary Election held in July. Mari Alkatari was nominated for a five-year term (2017-2022) after his party FRETILIN and PD having twenty-three and seven seats in the Parliament respectively agreed to form a coalition government. Mari Alkatari and his members of the government have taken the oath of office and secrecy from the President of the Republic at President Palace on the 15th of September.



Journalist Training to strengthen the community radios of Timor-Leste

The UNDP, Embassy of Japan, SEPAD (Nasional Sentru Estudu ba Dame no Dezemvolvimentu) and Conselho de Imprensa Timor-Leste (Press Council) cooperated and opened the training programme as part of strengthening the community radios of Timor-Leste in the beginning of October in 2017 with the support of the Government of Japan. This training is supported by UNDP Electoral Project- LEARN with the aim of helping the journalists of community radios to identify, research and present news stories for wide range of audience in their community. The journalists after the training will be able to understand different approaches to gather political information and engage with communities to generate contents for the radio programme. The six days training is conducted by LEARN project in partnership with OPAC (Okinawa Peace Assistance Centre), TLMDC (Timor-Leste media Development Centre) and Radio Rakambia. This activity is funded with the generous support of the people and Government of Japan.



Credit: © Yuich Ishida/ UNDP

Figure 1 More than 20 journalists gathered for the training to enhance the capability of presenting news stories to public.



Credit: © Yuich Ishida/ UNDP

Figure 2 The Country Director of UNDP, Claudio Providas was delivering the opening speech to the participants.



AJCs Seminar Delivered Inclusive Information to Municipalities

UNDP's Justice System Programme, together with the Public Defender's Office (PDO), organized workshops in Suai and Manatuto in September, Ainaro and Same in October on the role of Access to Justice Clinics (AJCs). Participants at the seminar included sub-district administrators, xefe de sucos and community policing officers of the PNTL. The participants had the opportunity to hear from the Public Defender Coordinator, the PDO Adviser and representatives from partners (including Belun, the Justice and Peace Commission



Figure 1 The xefes de sucos were asking questions to the representatives from NGOs.

and JNJ Advokasia) on the various functions of the AJCs, such as free legal consultations, referrals and alternative dispute resolution, alongside the existing criminal and civil functions of the Public Defender's Office (PDO). This seminar, with the same topic, will be conducted in Lospalos, Viqueque and Maliana in upcoming months.

Providing Training Support for Public Defenders

Justice System Programme (JSP) together with the Public Defender Office (PDO) are conducting a five-day training on civil law from 11-15 September 2017 for approximately 30 Public Defenders in Timor-Leste.

The content of the training covers family law, the law of obligations, property law and the extrajudicial work of the PDO, including the Access to Justice Clinics initiative in Suai and Baucau and the Application of Constitutional Law in Civil Proceeding. The trainers for this training are Ms. Alessandra Quines and Mr. Estevao Couto from the Brazilian Public Defender's Office and Mr. Alexandre Coelho and Ms. Isabel Silva from the Legal Judicial Training Center.



Figure 2 The five-day training ended successfully with the effort and participation from both international advisors and the public defenders.

Continue Legal Education Held in Oecusse

The Legal Judicial Training Center (LJTC) and the Justice System Programme (JSP) travelled to Oecusse to conduct a five-day training on land and property law and the law on combatting drug trafficking. The training was delivered to judges, prosecutors, public defenders and justice officials. The objective of the training was to improve and update the legal knowledge of the participants and to strengthen the capacity and increase the quality and efficiency of the justice institutions in resolving relevant cases.



Figure 3 The team travelled to Oecusse to relaunch the Continuing Legal Education Programme to deliver training to legal professionals.

Seminar on Human Rights Protection Brought Public Defenders Together

Justice System Programme (JSP), together with the Public Defender's Office (PDO), hosted a seminar, "The Role of the Public Defender's Office in Safeguarding Human Right in Timor-Leste" on 9 – 10 October 2017. Participants at the seminar heard from guest speakers from Brazil, public defenders and attorneys specializing in human rights, who addressed on the duties of public defenders with respect to protecting the rights of criminal suspects and victims, the application of criminal law, the enforcement of criminal sentences, and anti-corruption.



Credit: © Nicole Man/ UNDP

In the opening remarks of UNDP's Country Director, Claudio Providas, highlighted the partnership between the Ministry of Justice, the Public Defender's Office, the Brazilian Cooperation Agency and the Governments of Korea and Japan with the Justice System Programme of UNDP. He stated his hope that this partnership would contribute to the debate on how to improve human rights through the mechanism of the Public Defender's Office as well as further strengthening the capacity in the justice sector. The Vice-Minister of Justice, H.E. Sebastiao Dias Ximenes, stated his appreciation for all the organizers and hoped that attendees could make good use of the opportunity to learn from both the Brazilian and Timorese perspectives.

PNTL PROJECT

Post-Election Security Workshop Across Timor-Leste

In order to maintain stability and peace after the elections, it is necessary to enhance the collaboration amongst all municipalities so that Timor-Leste can continue to enjoy democratic governance. Therefore, the office of the PNTL general commander is working together with UNDP through “Strengthening Governance and Service Delivery Project” by conducting workshops on “Strengthening Coordination and Corporation among Local Authorities, Political Parties and PNTL after 2017 Election in Timor-Leste” in 12 municipalities and 1 Special Administrative Region across Timor-Leste from August to October 2017.



Credit: © PNTL Project / UNDP

Figure 4A wide range of the participants including PNTL officers, xefe de sucos, community members and students.

During the workshop in Oecusse on the 13th of September, participants in attendance were, police officers of Oecusse, PNTL Municipality commanders and members, xefe de sucos from Oecusse and, also youth representatives from various secondary schools. Participants heard from the inspector of PNTL Dili about the Martial Arts Law that forbids specific weapons and violence. The District Commander of Oecusse, Arnaldo Almeida, pointed out that the security workshops are a significant involvement to the democratic process and appreciated the coordination of PNTL Project of UNDP. The Manager of PNTL Project of UNDP, Sebastiao Freitas, also highlighted that the success of the post-election workshops thanks to the cooperation between the local authorities and the PNTL. During the workshop, the xefes de sucos from Oecusse, police officers of Oecusse and students also presented their opinions and suggestions on recent violence-related such as the Martial Arts and other safety concerns to the PNTL Commanders.

Gender Driving Training and Consultation Workshop

To promote gender awareness, along with strengthening the governance and service delivery role of the Timor-Leste National Police, the PNTL Bacau Municipality organized a workshop on consultation PNTL - Vulnerable Person Unit (VPU) and Gender Annual Work Plan 2018 with the support of UNDP's PNTL Project. It aimed to improve the services of referral system and the network between service providers, which support the assistance of medical, safe accommodation and legal matters to the victims of Gender-Based Violence. In addition, a gender driving training was delivered to the PNTL members in Bacau from 18th to 29th of September. This training was organized by UNDP in cooperation with PNTL in Bacau municipality and Police Training Centre in Dili with the support from Centro Formasaun Policia (CFP). The participation of the women members was a step towards gender balance and equality in PNTL especially at the municipality and administrative post level.



Photo: Mafaiades do Nascimento

Credit: © PNTL

Figure 2 There were four women members out of sixteen PNTL participants to take part in the driving training.



OBI Workshop Encouraging New Entrepreneurs

The Oe-cusse Business Incubator(OBI) is keen on supporting innovation and mindset change among the local business and providing entrepreneurs an encouraging environment for starting up by promoting access to capital, markets and knowledge. In the lead up to this goal, more than hundreds of existing entrepreneurs and who conceived ideas for a new business had gathered in the workshop conducted by Oe-cusse Business Incubator(OBI) on the 18th of September. Participants were given opportunity to develop innovative for their new business or re-examine the current business.



Figure 1 The acting ZEESM TL President Arsenio Bano speaking at the launch of the OBI event.



Figure 2 Facilitator and entrepreneur, Silvia. De Araujo was giving guidance to participants while conducting a learning activity at the workshop.

Between the 18th to 28th of September, three camps were conducted to train the entrepreneurs in business plan preparation, creation of new inventive products, and market access. OBI's technicians were working with entrepreneurs to help them assess their challenges and prepare new innovative business plans. They were also encouraged to submit the business plans to the "Competition of Ideas". The sound proposals will be selected to receive mentoring, resources and equipment and specialized training during October 2017 in order to implement the proposal. The Motivation, Sustainability and Innovative Products will be the frame of criteria to determine if the candidates are qualified to receive ZEESM's support.

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