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The second round of the Suco Elections



On Sunday, 13 November 2016, the second round of Suco Elections took place in 312 sucos in order to decide on a winner between the two most voted-for candidates who could not achieve a victory in the first round. The second-round polling started at 9:00am. The procedures were improved with the use of the Voters List to verify the identifications of the voters for a particular suco.



Women-in-the-Suco-Elections

21 Women Suco chief elected

While the Suco (village) Elections in 2010 resulted only in 10 female Suco Chiefs out of 442 seats being elected, the Suco Elections this year more than doubled this figure to 21. Analysis of the results shows that three municipalities -Baucau, Aileu and Dili - elected the most female Suco Chiefs, closely followed by Manatuto and Same. In more remote areas like Lautem and Bobonaro, no women were elected to this post.

Women candidates faced a tough electoral contest, with 319 female Suco candidates compared to 1,752 men.

In Aileu municipality, women's organisations have been training female electoral candidates in public speaking and advocacy to help change this perception. This work has seen an increase in the number of female Suco Chiefs elected in Aileu Municipality from just one of 31 seats in 2010 to four of 31 seats in 2016.





Suco-Elections-concluded-without-major-incident

Prime Minister Rui Maria de Araujo has praised the conduct of the first and second rounds of the Suco Elections, commenting that the elections were held successfully with a good understanding of democracy and without major incident.

The Prime Minister told journalists at Presidential Palace in Aitarak Laran in Dili on 16 November 2016: "Everything was well organized, and then we have seen the political maturity of candidates who participated in the election because those who did not win

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have accepted the result and pledged to cooperate with the village chief-elected to develop their villages."

(Source: Timor-Leste Media Development Center, News Subscription, 17-11-2016)

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UNDP's support on a public information campaign for the second round

Minister-Babo-led-a-ceremony-of-delivering-electoral-material-for-the-second-round-

On 10 November 2016, STAE held a ceremony to deliver electoral materials such as ballot papers and ID cards to the municipal representatives for the second round of Suco Elections. The ceremony was led by Minister of State, Coordinator of State Administration Affairs and Justice, and Minister of State Administration, H.E. Dr. Dionisio Soares Babo.



Voter's voice





Credit: ©Yuichi Ishida /UNDP

"I came here to vote because I didn't want to waste my right to vote, which I want to use to realize a better society for disabled people."

Mr. Afonso at Dili





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