

UNDP Timor-Leste **ELECTORAL PROJECT**

Newsletter

May 2018 | Issue 16

2018 National Parliament Elections Ends Peacefully



With a highest voter's turnout of 80.98% in any parliamentary elections in the history of Timor-Leste, this fourth legislative election ended peacefully. All three phases (pre-election, Election Day and post-election) of the election cycle for the parliamentary elections have been completed after the Supreme Court of Justice (Court of Appeal) validated and proclaimed the final results on 28th May. Out of four coalitions and four political parties running for the elections only two each could secure seats in the parliament after crossing the 4% threshold.

Parliamentary Elections were held on 12 May with 784,286 as registered voters through 48.2% women and

51% young people aged 17-30. There were a total of 885 polling centres deploying 11,600 polling staff including 50% women as stated by law in 12 municipalities, one autonomous region of Oe-Cusee and abroad. Out of country voting was conducted in nine locations of Australia, Republic of Korea, Portugal and the UK. Polling was also conducted in six hospitals and three prisons.

Elections for National Parliament was decreed by the President of Republic in January 2018 after the government elected through 2017 parliamentary elections failed to convince the Parliament for approval of the Government Program and State Budget for 2018.



From
the People of Japan



Republic of Korea



KOICA
Korea International
Cooperation Agency



Electoral Project
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Empowering
Institutions



High voter's turnout was recorded in this election where 48.6% were female voters. The invalid ballots were much lower than any elections of the past with just 1.19%. Aileu municipality saw the highest voter's turnout of 87.49% followed by Manatuto municipality with 83.92%. Dili municipality witnessed the lowest turnout of 78.66% in comparison to other municipalities despite having the highest registered voters.

UNDP Electoral Project- LEARN has been providing technical assistance to the Election Management Bodies

of Timor-Leste- National Electoral Commission (CNE) and Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) through a long-term strategy in an electoral cycle approach. This parliamentary election was not anticipated in the initial plan of the project however falling under the electoral cycle approach, it was able to provide technical support in all three phases- in the areas such as electoral legal framework, voter education, training and capacity building, planning and operations, national tabulation and results management system.



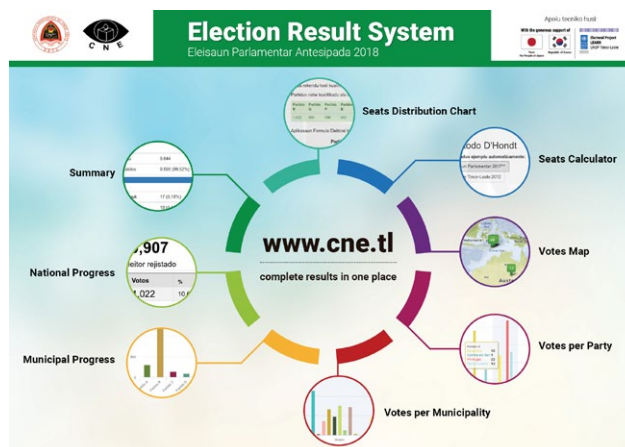
Technical Assistance Provided to National Tabulation and Results Management Systems

The election result management system requires accuracy, speed and integrity. It is a process where the votes are counted and tabulated providing results of an elections. In Timor-Leste, National Tabulation are conducted by CNE after electoral materials are retrieved from municipalities and abroad. CNE verifies the municipal provisional results, allocates claimed and disputed ballots (598) and revises all documentations received from municipalities and abroad.

The project supported CNE in developing simplified real-time Results Tabulation System for elections featuring calculation of seats, votes per party or coalitions/municipality and many others. This also

provided information to the viewers to analysis and filter according to their needs.

The features can be accessed through the link: www.cne.tl



The seats in the parliament are calculated only after the National Tabulation is completed by CNE and results are announced by Supreme Court of Justice. The project as part of support to CNE developed a video showing how distribution of seats is calculated using (D'Hondt) method based on the votes acquired by party/coalition for 65 members' Unicameral Parliament.

Video Link: <https://youtu.be/04qYGM5ycrc>



RESULTADU

Eleisaun Parlamentar Antesipada 2018, Timor-Leste



TASA PARTISIPASAUN

80.98% (635,116)



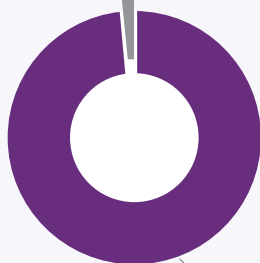
326,272
Mane

51.4%

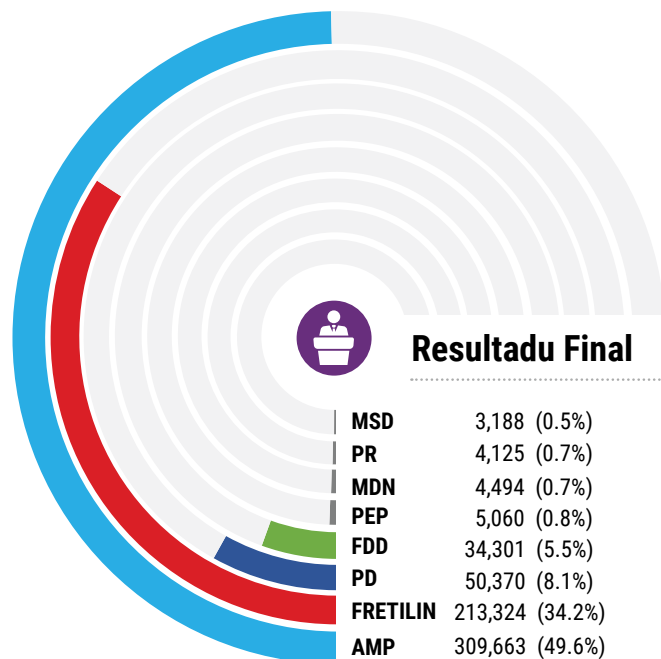
48.6%

308,844
Feto

1.19%
Votus Nulos

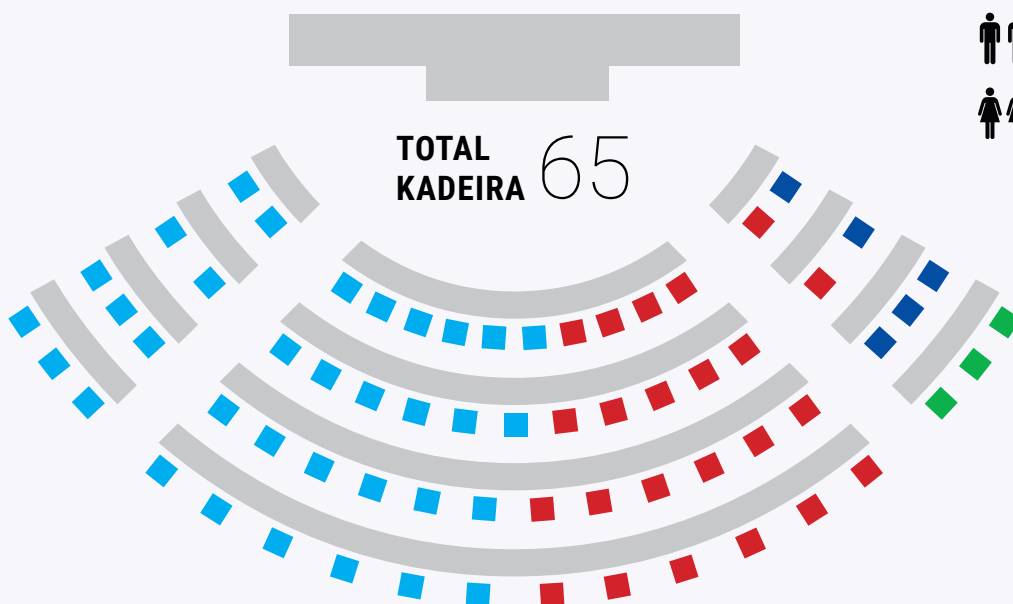


Votus Validus
98.33%



Resultadu Final

MSD	3,188	(0.5%)
PR	4,125	(0.7%)
MDN	4,494	(0.7%)
PEP	5,060	(0.8%)
FDD	34,301	(5.5%)
PD	50,370	(8.1%)
FRETILIN	213,324	(34.2%)
AMP	309,663	(49.6%)



TOTAL KADEIRA 65

43 Mane
22 Feto



Representasaun Feto iha Parlamentu Nasionál

33.8%

AMP 34 Kadeira

Mane 22
Feto 12

FRETILIN 23 Kadeira

Mane 15
Feto 8

PD 5 Kadeira

Mane 4
Feto 1

FDD 3 Kadeira

Mane 2
Feto 1

Bazeia ba dados ne'ebé valida no proklama husi Tribunal Rekursu iha 29 Maiu 2018. Representasaun Feto iha Parlamentu Nasionál bazeia ba resultadu ne'ebé anunsia husi tribunal supremu de justisa no numeru ne'e bele iha mudansa hafoin formasaun governu no mos sesaun dahuluk parlamentu foun.



With the generous support of



Electoral Project LEARN UNDP Timor-Leste

Infographic design by Rochan Kadariya

Short Video on Parliamentary Elections Developed



PSA Link: <https://youtu.be/POwgF8u95og>

UNDP Electoral Project in collaboration with STAE and CNE produced a short video capturing the events of the voting process of Timor-Leste's Parliamentary Elections that took place on 12 May. The video summarises the process of Election-Day from opening of the polling, overwhelming participation of voters, closing of the polling, observation, counting process etc. This video is produced for the purpose of capturing the historic moments and concurrently archiving for future references. The video is produced in English, Tetun, Korean and Japanese languages.

Resource Centre Organises Orientation Programmes for Elections

STAE and Resource Center for the Parliamentary Elections with the support of UNDP Electoral Project-LEARN jointly organised several trainings and orientation programmes to national and international observers, youth groups, university students, people with disabilities and diplomatic communities.

The resource centre with facilitators from STAE and the project managed to provide training and orientation programme to more than 400 participants of observers, media, local NGOs, university students and first-time

voters out of which 32.5% and 14.7% were women and people with disabilities respectively. International observer groups including Australian observers, Ibero-American observers and Thailand Electoral Commission visited the resource centre for orientation on observation for the parliamentary elections.

STAE accredited a total of 3010 national and observers and 171 international observers including 265 national media 6 international media for the parliamentary elections.



Institutional Development Through Knowledge Product

UNDP Electoral Project- LEARN handed over Handbook **Kartilla Journalistika Timor-Leste 2018** to Press Council of Timor-Leste. The handbook was developed by Press Council in collaboration with UNDP. Journalists Handbook consists Media legal framework including media law, code of conducts, and ethics of journalists. The publication of this handbook is the second edition after high numbers of incoming request from institutions like PNTL, FDTL and municipal administration offices. The new edition of handbooks were handed over by the project to the President of the Press Council.



Increased Youth Participation in Political & Electoral Processes



" 12 Maiu 2018: Ita nia Votu Konta "

Young people of Timor-Leste aged 17-30 involvement in the electoral processes is important as they represent 51% of total registered electorate. As part of continuous strategy to increase their participation in the electoral processes and reach this percentage of the voters, the project conducted extensive youth-focused activities for the 2018 parliamentary elections.



media. Joven Vota page on facebook was launched by the project for focusing on youth and dissemination of electoral information. Contents disseminated through this page reached more than 90,000 where 45% were young people aged 18-24.

Project has provided grants to two women organizations (CAUCUS and MOFFE) with the objective of increasing the participation of women in political and electoral processes. A training programme for 34 young women members representing eight political parties and coalitions was organised for encouraging them to participate in 2018 parliamentary elections as candidates and party agents. One of the participants have been elected as a Member of Parliament for the next five-year term.

As the electoral processes for the parliamentary elections have been completed, the project will continue to focus on increasing the participation of youth through different electoral outreach activities.

After the announcement of the elections, voter education campaign was commenced by STAE and the project provided technical support throughout the electoral processes. Voter education materials were produced targeting this age group through information dissemination- posters, billboards, public service announcements and TV programmes from voter registration to voting process.

A dedicated page on social media (facebook) has been an effective way of reaching the young people. In Timor-Leste more than 400,000 people are internet users out of which 95% are active users of social



TV Programmes Supplement Voter Education

VOTA BA FUTURU

The Project as part of support to STAE for parliamentary elections has produced 22 episodes of TV programme "Vota Ba Futuru" for parliamentary elections. This 10 minutes animated TV programme every week has been able to provide voter education to the people of Timor-Leste on political and electoral processes such as democracy, importance of elections, social inclusion in the electoral processes, voter registration, voting information, voting processes, election results and tabulation process etc. The TV programmes are broadcasted through national TV, Radio and Television of Timor-Leste (RTTL) which has 67% coverage in the country and also disseminated through social media for wider reach.



Youtube Channel Link: bit.ly/2JvoaBp

Voter Awareness Through Outdoor Communication Mediums

During elections period, many effective communication mediums need to be enabled to target and reach voters in particular, young and first-time voters. The mediums should be relevant and contextual for the seekers. In this regard, the project developed several communication mediums for voter education programme of 2018 parliamentary elections as part of support to STAE.

Posters on voter registration and update in voter's list, voting process and process explaining using of the indelible ink on election-day were developed for STAE for the purpose of providing information to voters on election-day reducing any problem at polling centres/stations including possibilities of occurrence of multiple voting.

Similarly, installation of billboards which is still considered as a traditional form of outdoor communication is still effective for Timor-Leste as it provides a visual understanding of the information especially for people who are less literate. Therefore, the project developed and installed many billboards on voter registration, election-day information, voting process etc. to contribute on increasing the participation of voters in elections.



PSAs for Voter Education Developed

A public service announcement (PSA) has been produced by the project to inform voters about the election-day regarding time, polling centres, things that a voter has to bring before casting their ballots and other important messages. The PSA was also broadcast by national Television RTTL and other private TV channels for amplifying messages for election-day. This PSA was produced as part of the ongoing technical support provided to STAE.

PSA Link: https://youtu.be/LWnp3zvt3_8



In another short-animated PSA, voters were informed on the structure of the ballot paper that they would be voting on election day showing the list of political parties and coalitions based on the draw made by the Court of Appeal. The project supported STAE in developing the PSA and was broadcasted in RTTL, and other private channels.

PSA Link: <https://youtu.be/PDyi2Nph2Bo>

Project Continues Capacity Development Programmes for Journalists

UNDP Electoral Project- LEARN and Press Council have been providing a long-term capacity development programmes for journalists from all media sectors- print, TV, community radio and social media. The journalists have had the opportunity to be trained on several issues such as gender, importance on media coverage during election period, youth issues and many pertaining issues of Timor-Leste where media should play an important role for development.

In order to reinforce the capacity of journalists, TV programme “Liberdade Imprensa Ha’u Nia Liberdade” is also organised after every issue in which they are trained (every week) and conducts a debate with personnel expertise in that particular issue. The TV programme is broadcasted in RTTL every week.




Opinion



“

I am really proud to come to the polling station and cast my ballot. I am voting for the first time in this parliamentary election and very pleased to be part of the process.

I wanted to participate in this election as I am the citizen of this country and I feel I can contribute to the development of Timor-Leste. This is a great opportunity for me to exercise my rights and choose a party that can address issues of young people like me.

.....

Dirce de Fatima Tavares, 22, Dili

UNDP Leveraging Electoral Assistance for Regionalized Nation-Building (LEARN)

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