

# UNDP Timor-Leste ELECTORAL PROJECT

Newsletter

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## Comprehensive Journalism Training Graduation



Rochan Kadariya/UNDP Timor-Leste

The Press Council and UNDP Electoral Project on 15 August organised a graduation ceremony for 26 Timorese journalists including 12 women who completed the courses provided through a five-month long “Comprehensive Journalism Training” programme. The training was conducted between February and July consisting different thematic courses like developing and covering stories, data journalism, video and photo journalism, media law, court reporting and many other associated topics provided by international and national journalism experts. The training was also possible due to the efforts made by Press Council and UNDP

Electoral Project thereby establishing partnerships with RTTL, Southeast Asian Press Alliance, Indonesian Press Council, Senior Australian Journalists, various Government Ministries, PNTL, and NGOs.

The journalists during the training were able to conduct TV debate every week through National Television Channel (RTTL) as practical sessions on different themes like health or education with the thematic experts and concerned government authorities raising issues and challenges faced in the country with reference to facts and figures.



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From the People of Japan



Republic of Korea



Electoral Project  
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The journalists were felicitated by Ambassador of Japan to Timor-Leste H.E. Hiroshi Minami, President of Press Council Mr. Virgilio da Silva Guterres and UN Resident Coordinator Mr. Roy Trivedy on the completion of the training programme.

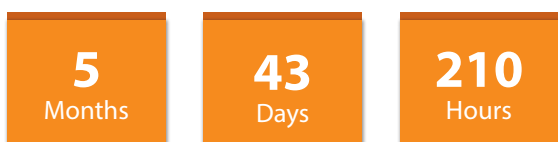
After the successful implementation of the training programme, the project in collaboration with the Press

Council will organise an advanced level of training programme for the journalists for the period of three months. The training narrows its focus in areas where the journalists during the evaluation of the training have seek more support on topics like data journalism, video journalism etc.

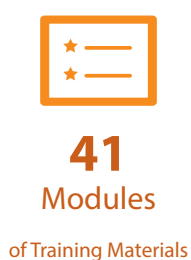


# Facts & Figures

## Comprehensive Journalism Training 2018, Timor-Leste



of Comprehensive Journalism Training



## Project meets new Vice-Minister of State Administration

Chief Technical Adviser of the project called on the Vice-Minister of State Administration Mr. Abílio José Caetano to discuss the support and partnership of the UNDP Electoral Project- LEARN with STAE. The Vice-Minister appreciated the support provided by the project throughout 2017-2018 electoral period. He mentioned that the project can assist STAE and Ministry of State Administration based on Government Programme in civic education, voter registration, electoral legal framework and also for municipal elections. He expressed the government interest in maintaining and strengthening partnership between UNDP and the Government in Electoral Assistance through LEARN project.



## “Project Newsroom” workshop Organised for Journalists

UNDP Electoral Project and Press Council organised a three-day workshop “Project Newsroom” on 23<sup>rd</sup> July to the journalists who are part of five months Comprehensive Journalism Training programme. The journalists in the workshop received training from Mr. Robert Howarth, a senior and highly recognized journalist from Australia and the person behind the establishment of Timor-Post in the year 2000. These journalists were assigned different themes to produce different media formats- newspaper, video,

documentary etc. The journalists for data collection visited different institutions and centres to gather information for developing the media project.

As part of the evaluation of their capacity, the journalists presented their findings and analysis during the course of training. Their analysis of reporting on health, education, environment and economy of Timor-Leste which was later published in a booklet form as media reporting with the support from the project.



## De-briefing on 2018 Parliamentary Elections Conducted

In an electoral cycle approach debrief is always important for planning for next elections. The project held its debriefing sessions with its staff after the electoral processes for the 2018 parliamentary elections were completed. During the sessions the staff provided the strengths and challenges of project’s support to electoral processes.

Some of the key highlights were the communication strategy for voter registration and voter education and technical assistance to EMBs on different levels. Training to journalists for electoral reporting has given visibility of the project’s contribution to the electoral processes of Timor-Leste. Capacity building of stakeholders like Press Council, Disability Organisations, Women

NGOs etc. have contributed journalists, people with disabilities, women and young voters to participate in the democratic process.

There are still some areas where the project need to focus while providing further support to the EMBs. One of the important areas is the legal framework where the project can assist EMBs in identifying inconsistencies



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and further improving it. There should also be more cohesive planning in executing voter education programmes targeting voters of remote areas. The debriefing on 6 June ended with the activities that the project is planning to conduct in a post-election scenario and the areas that it intends to focus.



## Voter Education Assessment for Platform Commenced

UNDP Electoral Project- LEARN is conducting an assessment covering Voter and Civic Education (VE/CE) programmes and campaigns used in 2018 national elections and providing preliminary results and recommendations. This assessment is following a qualitative approach; covering all aspects of the VE/CE programme. This assessment will also provide preliminary information for the further studies on VE/CE

and developing SDG platform for Voter Education that perhaps could be replicated in other electoral projects. The main objective of the study is to ascertain the effectiveness of voter education for the 2018 national elections. Through this study the project will provide comprehensive reference materials to the EMBs in developing VE/CE related strategy for municipal level and future elections.



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

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