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## UN Women and Partners Mark 16 Days to End Violence against Women

On 6 December 2018, to mark the 16 Days of Activism, UN Women Timor-Leste supported the NGOs Acbit, Ba Futuru and Belun to raise awareness of various issues related to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and prepare secondary school students in Baucau with scenarios to help them understand and identify responses to sexual harassment. During the workshop, 92 participants conducted role-play activities to simulate how they might respond to witnessing or experiencing sexual harassment in their schools.

A Solidarity march followed on 7 December, connecting students to the role and contributions of women during the resistance period. During the march, female and male survivors of violence during the occupation shared their experiences with participants.

***“I was taken to Otel Flamboyan [now Pousada in Baucau] by the Indonesian military. They would bring me to the bathroom and push me to take a bath. Take a bath, take a bath, they said. Then they would throw me on the bed and they would take turns to rape me”***, recounted Maria de Fatima, a survivor from Timor-Leste reflecting on her time as a captive of the Indonesian military during the occupation.

The tour to visit historic sites encouraged participants to understand and have greater recognition for the contributions of women survivors of sexual violence. The Secretary of State for Equality and Inclusion, local authorities, representatives from the National Commission for CHEGA, students and the United Nations Resident Coordinator were among those present.

The activities in Baucau were made possible by generous support from the Government of Japan.

Click [here](#) for more information

## CLOSING REMARKS



Photo: UN Women/Kyeongrang Park

As the world faces pushback on gender equality and women’s fundamental rights, in 2018 Timor-Leste achieved record numbers of women’s representation in the National Parliament

(40%). The private sector also made great strides to demonstrate its commitment to gender equality, with the Women’s Business Association establishing their Strategic Plan for the years ahead and companies such as Kmanek and Telkomcel adopting the Women’s Empowerment Principles for the first time in Timor-Leste. We also see that more efforts are being made to ensure that groups often left behind - persons with disabilities, members of the LGBTI community and domestic workers - have spaces and platforms for being heard. The year closed with the launch of the first Chatbot in Timor-Leste to support reporting of sexual harassment in the Public Administration – utilizing technology for the greater good.

As we reflect on these efforts to solidify our collective progress and partnerships for gender equality and women’s empowerment, UN Women Timor-Leste appreciates the collaboration and opportunities to contribute to these milestones. We are grateful to all of our partners - institutions and individuals - who join us and lead us in the struggle for equality every day.

**Sunita Caminha**  
UN Women Head of Office



Aligned with the exhibition, UN Women, in collaboration with UNICEF and the Swedish Embassy, organized a workshop for the featured fathers and their partners on respectful parenting to encourage men in their caregiving roles.

***“Family doesn’t consist of just women. Both men and women need to support each other and take care of children for achieving equality in families”,*** said Francisco Carmo da Costa Tilon, one of the participants.

As result of the parenting workshop, participants agreed to recommendations that they will practice in their homes and agreed to stay in contact as a support group to each other.

See more on the exhibit at [here](#)

## Promoting equitable parenting and fathers that care: Swedish and Timorese Dads Photo Exhibition

On 24 November 2018, in recognition of the importance of promoting equitable caregiving and the valuable role of fathers, the Embassy of Sweden in Jakarta, UN Women and UNICEF organized a ‘Swedish & Timorese Dads photo contest and exhibition’, where 10 participants sent a photo of themselves with their children in an everyday situation and explained how they view their role as a parent. The Embassy and UN selected 10 of the Timorese fathers to be featured in the exhibit, alongside portraits of Swedish fathers based on their submission of what fatherhood meant to them.

Sunita Caminha, UN Women Timor-Leste Head of Office, in her opening remarks, highlighted that ***“Through the exhibit, we have an opportunity to reflect on the current status and balance of caregiving in our homes, which often burdens women more than men. We also have an opportunity to inspire and encourage the future generation of children to see that both mothers, fathers and caregivers, regardless of their gender identity, have an important role in raising their children.”***



Photo: UN Women/Kyeongrang Park

## Rosa: An Innovative Chatbot to Report Sexual Harassment



Making an historical and technological leap, Timor-Leste’s Civil Service Commission proudly held a soft launch on 4 December 2018 of the first Chatbot ‘Rosa’ for reporting sexual harassment complaints in the Public Administration. The Chatbot utilizes artificial intelligence for communication, developed in partnership with the support from UN Women Timor-Leste and designed by Juridica Sosial Konsul (JU’S).

The Chatbot was developed considering the barriers to reporting and to support implementation of the Commission’s Guidelines for Addressing Sexual Harassment in the Public Administration, which were launched in December 2017, developed with support from UN Women.

Faustino Cardoso, the President of the Civil Service Commission, said ***“To have an equal treatment for all public servants, we need to prevent and combat sexual harassment and gender-based violence which happen in the government”***



Photo: UN Women/Youle Beatty

Rosa allows for people to interact and access information and reporting pathways for sexual harassment perpetrated by civil servants through the Chatbot. Individuals can report and access trusted information anonymously and safely.

Highlighting the importance of Rosa, Sunita Caminha, Head of UN Women noted, ***“We must continue to create an environment where respect is the base for all people, and sexual harassment is widely recognized as wrong. And while we continue to build this environment of zero tolerance in our workplaces, we also welcome Rosa as an important part of supporting victims of sexual harassment to make their complaints to the Civil Service Commission”.***

The Chatbot is on Facebook at (<https://www.facebook.com/RosaCFP/>) and accessible through the Commission’s website at: <https://rosa.cfp.gov.tl>



Photo: UN Women/Youle Beatty

To watch the video on Rosa, click [here](#)

## Youth Speak Out Forum: Making Universities a Safe Space for All!



Photo: UN Women/Felix Maia



Photo: UN Women/Felix Maia

In collaboration with UNFPA and UNICEF, UN Women successfully held a “Speak Out” Panel and Open Forum on making universities a safe space for all.

Drawing over 150 students from across the campus, students had an opportunity to share their ideas, using the “Safe Zone Photo Booth” set up with advocacy bubbles containing key messages encouraging young people to take action and end sexual harassment in schools. #HearMeToo, #RonaMosHau and #KampusSegura were some of many hashtags used in the event to promote the discussion on safe and inclusive areas for people to interact and study.

The students also had a chance to learn about a range of topics from diverse speakers: Teresa Verdial, UN Women’s ‘Women’s Economic Empowerment’ (WEE) Programme Officer, shared the key results of the Scoping Study on Sexual Harassment in Public Spaces; Abilio Barreto, Chief of Department of Capacity Building from Secretary of State for Equality and Inclusion (SEII), discussed information on the Law against Domestic Violence; and Mario Ximenes from UNFPA recounted their Healthy Relationships Manual.

See more on the event at: [here](#)

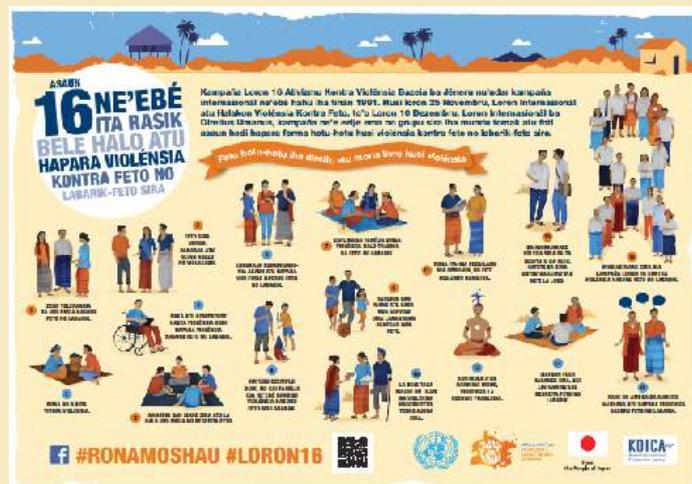
### 16 Days campaign video

Aligned with the global theme ‘Orange the World: #HearMeToo’ for 2018, UN Women Timor-Leste created opportunities to amplify the voices of the diverse women’s movement and advocate for specific changes within institutions and workplaces. During the campaign, UNiTE networks, the UN system, government partners, civil society, school and universities, private sector and individuals were invited to participate at relevant stopgaps along the way. To watch the video, click [here](#)



### 16 Steps to End Violence Against Women and Girls in Timor-Leste

Supported by KOICA and the government of Japan, UN Women created a brochure ‘16 Steps to end violence against women and girls in Timor-Leste’.



[Click here to access the web version](#)

## From Where I Stand: Pascoela dos Santos Pereira



Photo: UN Women/Kyeongrang Park

Since I was young, I really loved to watch sports. Unfortunately, I didn't know how persons with disabilities could enjoy sports, and I was afraid if there would be no way for us to join. I started to find out ways to do sports by myself. When I asked my mom to give me an opportunity to participate in sports, my family really supported me.

However, some people in the community said that I would not be able to do well, making me feel ashamed for the first time.

Motivated and encouraged by my family, I found that there is 'Paralympics', which is a major international multi-sport event involving athletes with a range of disabilities and realized that I'm not alone.

**"When I found the Paralympics, I realized I was not Alone"**

Becoming an athlete was really challenging. It is not just an issue for me, but for my table tennis team. In Timor-Leste, there are not enough places where athletes can practice table tennis, trainers, and equipment. We tend to use a place offered by a congregation of nuns and we are allowed to use it twice a week, on Saturday and Sunday.

Also, I want to highlight that we need support from trainers who have enough information and are able to teach us how to play well.

I expect that the project 'Empower for Change' will help raise the engagement of persons with disabilities in sport so that the Disability Federation creates places for us to get trained.

"If you have skills, do not be shy and hide. Let's motivate ourselves. If our friends can do something, we also can do it. Don't be afraid of failure. We can try it again."

If you are interested in her story, please click [here](#)



**4 P'S**  
**4 Peace**

## Women, Peace & Security



From  
the people of Japan

This page is dedicated to activities under the **"Enhancing women's meaningful Leadership and Participation in State Building and Development in Timor-Leste"**, project which is generously funded by the Government of Japan.

### A Budget For All: Advocating for more inclusive budgets with the National Parliament



Photo: UN Women/Camille Wauters

On 8 and 9 October, UN Women, in collaboration with UNICEF and Rede Feto, organized a workshop on inclusive budgeting, focusing on issues that children, youth and persons with disabilities have struggled with in Timor-Leste.

Participants were made up of civil society, including women's groups and organizations of persons with disabilities. The learning objective was to be better informed about the Annual State Budget process and how civil society can advocate for a more inclusive budget.

During the workshop, participants were able to directly connect with key stakeholders in the State Budget process. **"It is the first time I hear about the Government budget and funding. First time I hear about the petroleum fund. I am so happy to receive this information. It is important for organizations of persons with disabilities, especially women to be more involved. Thank you very much for organizing this workshop"**, said Victoria, one of the participants from The Leprosy Mission Timor-Leste (TLMTL).

Member of Parliament Maria Barreto, President of Parliamentary Commission on Gender and Social issues, highlighted key information on the National Parliament's role in the budget approval process. **"Ensuring that budgets are gender-responsive and inclusive is important. However, don't assume Members of Parliament will agree with you. As civil society, you need to come with strong evidence and concrete propositions that can convince the Parliament"**, said Ms. Barreto.

She also cautioned the partners **"not to wait until the budget is being announced on TV to start advocating for inclusive budgets. The Parliament has limited influence. The real work needs to be done before the budget is submitted to the Parliament with the line ministries"**.

# FAREWELL TO OUR KOICA VOLUNTEER



Photo: UN Women/Youle Beatty

**Kyeongrang Park**, also known in our office as Stacey, is about to finish a fourteen-month volunteer placement at UN Women Timor-Leste as Communications Officer. Stacey is from Korea and one of the several **KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency) volunteers** placed in the UN. Before she leaves for her next adventure as a graduate student in Korea, hear what Stacey has to say about her experience creating newsletters, publications and other communications products for UN Women Timor-Leste.

**What are 3 words to describe UN Women?**

**Lovely. Nice. Dedicated.**

**Q: If you could switch your job with anyone else within UN Women, whose job would you want?**

**A:** Oh, that's interesting. If I could change the position in the UN Women, I would like to change position with Mana Alita because she is the head of the Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE). From my academic background, I am interested in how to improve women's lives through economic benefits. I want to experience organizing workshops and to manage programs such as this one, as I have a real passion for WEE.

**Q: What has been your favorite project at UN Women?**

**A:** In 2018, we had our first partnership with Asosiasaun Defisiensiia Timor-Leste (ADTL) and the Leprosy Mission Timor-Leste (TLMTL) to advance the rights of the persons with disabilities. The reason why I feel interested the most because I had an interview with Mana Pascoela dos Santos Pereira who attended the Paralympics, winning both a gold and bronze medal in the third edition of the Asia Para Games.

**Q: Why is this interesting to you?**

**A:** Pascoela was saying that there were people within her community saying that she can't do it, but then overcame these hurdles. It was interesting that I had a chance to hear her personal story. I love hearing personal stories.

**People would be surprised if they knew**

That I can communicate with Timorese people in Tetum.

*With generous support from KOICA*



## RESOURCES ON GENDER EQUALITY

### A Brief on Transformative Leadership for Gender Equality



In 2017-2018, with support from the Government of Japan, UN Women Timor-Leste conducted training on 'Transformative Leadership for Gender Equality', covering 48 hours of individual and group skills-building spread across a 12-month period. Through the initiative, 40 participants from Secretary of State for Equality and Inclusion (SEII), the National Police of Timor-Leste, and the National Women's Network Rede Feto gained knowledge on how to strengthen their capacity to become a leader and advance gender equality.

The brief can be accessed [here](#).

### Safe Cities Scoping Study

Following years of advocacy from the women's movement on the problem of sexual harassment and violence against women in public spaces, UN Women conducted a safe cities scoping study with diverse partners in the capital Dili, with exploratory discussions for conducting a safety audit in 3 Dili sites and the Baucau central marketplace. The Study was conducted and validated between November 2017 and July 2018. The Scoping Study report provides an overview of key findings and recommendations, which will inform future interventions to improve women's safety in public spaces.

The report can be accessed [here](#)

### Gendered Market Assessment

Australian Government's TOMAK program and UN Women, would like to share with you the final report of the **Gendered Marketplace Assessment: Marketplace vendors' voice & aspirations for change**. This report explores how well local marketplace facilities and operations meet the needs of vendors, particularly female vendors and traders. This report provides context and recommendations in the following areas: 1. Marketplace governance and management, 2. Marketplace infrastructure, 3. Security and safety, and 4. Service provision.

To read more please follow this [link](#)

### Connect with Respect



Connect with Respect is a curriculum tool to assist teachers across the Asia-Pacific region. It is based on evidence around violence prevention, changing gender norms and school-based interventions in the region and beyond. UN Women is working in partnership with the Timor-Leste Ministry of Education and three selected schools in Dili to adapt the Connect with Respect Toolkit for extra-curricular educational programming in the Timorese context, complementing the existing curriculum.

The project will focus on developing skills and networks to change harmful social norms, through arts and educational programmes, engaging male and female students, their teachers, parents and the wider community.

The brief can be accessed [here](#)