



# Maubisse Declaration Phase Two 2018 – 2023

## Improving Rural Women's Lives

The building of a modern, economically and socially developed society, can only be founded on the principles of inclusion, tolerance and gender equality. It is very ambitious to concretise this principle, but we can progress towards this goal when all agents, public and private, work together and collaborate towards the achievement of the objectives set forth in the National Strategic Development Plan (2011-2030), and those reflected in the Program of the 8<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Government, as cross-cutting issues for action from the whole of government.

The agents involved in this Declaration, public and private, commit themselves to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and people with disabilities living in rural areas, in order to encourage their participation in and contribution to economic development in Timor-Leste.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Government has adopted this Declaration on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2018 and makes an ongoing commitment for the implementation of the Maubisse Declaration for a five-year period (2018-2023).

### IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THIS DECLARATION BY 2023:

#### THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES (MAF) MUST:

- Commence implementation of a gender equality policy to provide support to increase women's participation in the development of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Forestry and Fisheries, and also provide support for the mainstreaming of a gender perspective at the national and municipal levels.
- Women must be 40% of the beneficiaries of agricultural development programs and further assistance must be provided to women agri-business groups;
- Provide support for the creation of 30% target for young women's groups in the area of horticulture in order to increase production for increased incomes, and to improve the quality of food consumed and family nutrition in Timor-Leste;
- Provide opportunities so that women comprise 30% of the MAF agricultural extension workers in their own municipalities and strengthen their skill to provide assistance to farmers to increase the quality and quantity of local products;
- Improve the capacity of the MAF to provide data disaggregated by sex, and by categories including women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth;
- Increase the skills and promote rural women at the decision making level in the agriculture sector and support rural communities in the production of food and other consumables;
- Increase sustainable agriculture and fish production, and ensure food security and nutrition for rural women and their communities, including those affected by climate change, natural disasters and environmental degradation.

#### THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (MTCI) MUST:

- Increase to 30% the number of women beneficiaries of industry grants;
- Improve access to markets through building and improving the conditions of six (6) markets, with installations in Aileu, Ainaro, Liquica, Baucau, Dili (Bechora), and Ermera (Glono), completion of markets' water and sanitation facilities, and guarantee security, and women's participation in the leadership of market management;
- Coordinate with IADE to guarantee that 30% of beneficiaries are women receiving training in management, accounting, marketing and advertising;
- Create opportunities for and promote women entrepreneurs (including women in micro-businesses with 30% participation of women in rural areas and involve women's groups in national and international fairs;
- Provide financial and technical support for 200 women from the cooperative, micro and small business sectors in rural areas;
- Improve the capacity of the Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth;
- Provide support for the development of sustainable and inclusive ecotourism in Timor-Leste, and involve rural women and women's groups in this process;
- Increase rural women's participation in economic and productive sectors in tourism, commerce and industry, through access to markets, financial management and opportunities for developing their own businesses;

#### THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (MOTC) MUST:

- Improve the capacity of the Ministry of Transport and Communications to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth;
- Increase the capacity of those in head of department roles to develop Information and Communications Technology (ICT) initiatives for rural women and unmarried women and ensure sustainable investment to meet the needs of rural women;
- Develop a program to promote rural women's access to ICT and improve their skills and capacities in IT development to support their access to information and to facilitate markets for agriculture and technology;
- Ensure that there is safe public transport for people with disabilities including pedestrian (zebra) crossings, traffic lights that use sound, and bridge crossings designed for accessibility;
- Ensure that public transport terminals are safe for women, girls and people with disabilities and include adequate facilities for electricity, water and sanitation.

#### THE NATIONAL COMMERCIAL BANK OF TIMOR-LESTE (BNCTL) MUST:

- Improve the condition for providing credit services to facilitate women's access to credit from the BNCTL in order to be able to pursue their own business activities;
- Improve the delivery of banking and credit services to provide access to financial services to Timorese people and for micro, small and medium businesses in rural areas;
- BNCTL must provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, and small businesses belonging to Women's Groups in the 12 Municipalities and the Oe-Cusse and Atauro Regional Authority.

#### THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS (MPW) MUST:

- Develop and approve a gender strategy for the Ministry of Public Works that guarantees that rural infrastructure projects receiving support and financing from the Government, provide work in rural areas with a target of at least 30% women;
- Ensure that 4000 families in remote areas have access to renewable energy and give the highest priority to vulnerable families, and families headed by women;
- Ensure that 500 kilometres of rural roads are rehabilitated and that 2000kms of rural roads are maintained;
- Ensure that 85% of rural aldeias have access to clean water supply systems, and continue to provide support for the participation of women in Water Management Groups (Grupo Maneja Fasilidade – GMF);
- Ensure that 50% of communities in rural areas throughout Timor-Leste have potable water and sanitation facilities;
- Ensure that the construction of roads and bridges guarantee access and use by people with disabilities;
- Develop and approve a policy that guarantees that rural infrastructure projects (using a labour intensive approach), are supported and financed by the Government and that at least 2% of this work-force is provided by people with disabilities in rural areas;
- Improve the capacity of the Ministry of Public Works to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth.

#### THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (MoH) MUST:

- Guarantee good access to primary health care services, particularly to family health programs in rural areas;
- Improve access to maternal, neonatal and family planning health care services for women in rural areas;
- Guarantee that 80% of health facilities (ambulance and communications line) and medicines in clinics and hospitals through the country are in good condition and sufficient to be able to provide services to patients particularly women and children;
- Guarantee that 95% of service delivery by health staff to patients are improved particularly services to birthing mothers;
- Guarantee that rural women victims of gender-based violence have immediate access to health assistance, including gender-sensitive forensic examination, medical treatment, and counselling;
- Improve the capacity of the Ministry of Health to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth.

#### THE MINISTRY OF STATE ADMINISTRATION (MoSA) MUST:

- Guarantee equal access for women to obtain employment in municipal administrations (and services);
- Empower, promote and support the participation of women with a target of 30% participation of women in political and decision-making roles in rural areas;
- Collaborate with the National Institute for Public Administration (INAP) and the Secretary of State for Equality and Inclusion (SEII) to promote training courses for rural women in the areas of public administration and leadership;
- Ensure that participation of women and girls (including women with disabilities) with a target of 30% participation in design or planning processes, decision-making and implementation of physical construction within the National Suco Development Programa (PNDS) at the municipal level;
- Guarantee the allocation of funding for training and comparative studies for women and people with disabilities to support and facilitate the implementation of the PNDS, at the suco, administrative post and municipal levels;
- Collaborate with the Secretary of State for Equality and Inclusion (SEII), and civil society to promote and strengthen the participation of women in the PNDS, particularly at the decision-making level in rural aldeias;
- Ensure that construction projects built by the PNDS provide guarantees for access and use by women and people with disabilities;
- Improve the capacity of the Ministry of State Administration to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth;
- Support and create space for civil society organisations, businesses and cooperatives to involve rural women, and support their voices and representation in political and economic decision-making processes;
- Promote and improve the capacity building and education of rural women and girls through appropriate training, and increase their mentoring skills to respond to their needs;
- Promote capacity building for women suco council members to exercise their roles and responsibilities in accordance with the Suco Law No. 9/2016.

#### THE MINISTRY OF STRATEGIC PLANNING AND INVESTMENT (MSPI) MUST:

- Develop and approve a policy that guarantees that rural infrastructure projects supported and financed by the Government provide employment with a target of 30% women in rural areas;
- Ensure that construction led by women receives preferential treatment in the process of soliciting for Government infrastructure projects;
- Improve the capacity of the Ministry of Strategic Planning and Investment to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth.

#### THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, YOUTH AND SPORT (MEYS) MUST:

- The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport is able to establish Pre-Schools with 25% coverage through the country to facilitate children aged 3-5 being able to enjoy their right to access to education;
- Create a policy for the use of local foods produced by women's groups in the municipalities to be provided to the school feeding program, and thus be able to increase family incomes;
- Coordinate with the Ministry of Health to integrate Sexual and Reproductive Health (SSR) in the pre-secondary and secondary school curricula to be able to prevent early pregnancies;
- Adopt and implement a school re-entry policy to minimise discrimination against women and school aged girls;
- All school including private schools are able to apply the policy of ZEROTOLERANCE to violence in the learning process in order to prevent violence against students;
- Guarantee a 30% participation rate for women in agricultural schools;
- Create adequate facilities (including in support of learning processes) in schools including water, toilets with separate entrances for girls and boys, electricity and other important facilities for girls and boys and that are accessible for children with disabilities;
- Ensure 30% participation of rural women in community sporting activities and develop their talents for participation in high-level sports competitions;
- Create sports events and accessibility for involve rural women and people with disabilities;
- Improve the capacity of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth.

#### THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE (MHESC) MUST:

- Improve the capacity of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Culture to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth;
- Work with public and private universities to support rural women to be able to access existing universities and higher education vocational schools;
- Promote rural women's access with a target of 30% to the Human Capital Development Fund (FDCH);
- Promote traditional cultural products made by Timorese women, including national cultural heritage and provide support to groups producing traditional hand-crafts to become economically viable.

#### THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COOPERATIVES (SSC) MUST:

- Ensure a participation rate in cooperatives of 30% from rural women from the 12 municipalities and the Oe-Cusse and Atauro Regional Authority;
- Ensure a participation rate of 30% from rural women in the 12 municipalities and the Oe-Cusse and Atauro Regional Authority in technical training and programs to increase their understanding to be able to manage their own cooperatives efficiently and effectively;
- Improve the capacity of the institution to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth.

#### THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR LAND AND PROPERTY (SSLP) MUST:

- Guarantee that 50% of rural women have obtained information regarding the Laws governing Land and Property;
- Guarantee that a 20% participation rate for rural women regarding access to land and property and ownership of land;
- Improve the capacity of the institution to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth.

#### THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (SSE) MUST:

- Guarantee a participation rate of 30% from rural women in access to renewable and clean energy;
- Provide support to 2000 families to commence using alternative energy sources (Fugaun Foun Timor) in order to reduce indoor pollution;
- Increase the awareness of rural women regarding the impacts of climate change, natural disasters and environmental degradation and promote a gender perspective in climate change policies;
- Ensure that 50% of rural women have participated in training or received information about environmental management and promote rural women's participation in environmental impact assessments for large scale projects in rural areas;
- Ensure that a participation rate of 30% from rural women in access to work opportunities in Protected Areas and National Parks and Biodiversity Conservation to be able to support their livelihoods;
- Improve the capacity of the institution to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth.

#### THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT (SEFOPE) MUST:

- Increase its capacity to collect and process data regarding rural women's employment and skills to be able to ensure the employability (ability to obtain employment/work) and the integration of women in the labour market;
- Ensure that young women and rural women are 50% of the beneficiaries of employability training to enable them to obtain work in rural areas;
- Create a rural employment program with a minimum of 30% participation from women as the beneficiaries;
- Ensure a participation rate of 50% from rural women, unmarried women and women with disabilities in various trainings for increasing skills and empowerment in the areas of leadership, administration, conflict resolutions, critical thinking and social analysis, and civic values;
- Supervise and provide information regarding the implementation of the Labour Law, in relation to ensuring resolution of matters regarding health, hygiene and safety in the workplace;
- Create a legal framework for domestic labour contracts and ensure its implementation throughout the country;
- Improve the capacity of SEFOPE to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth;
- Approve and implement a law on Domestic Workers in order to protect women's rights to salaries, benefits and conditions.

#### THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EQUALITY AND INCLUSION (SEII) MUST:

- Coordinate and provide technical assistance to key partners including the SEFOPE, MAF, IADE regarding the socio-economic capacity building for women;
- Collaborate with the Ministry for Social Solidarity and Inclusion to provide support for and promote capacity building in the areas of leadership and management for young women and women with disabilities in rural areas;
- Conduct activities in rural areas to promote healthy and respectful relationships and the use of power through positive means to prevent the occurrence of violence against women in rural areas;
- Increase the number of rural women beneficiaries including women with disabilities who are able to access the Public Transfers Fund to for women's economic empowerment, and for ongoing promotion and support for rural women through training and assistance programs;
- Establish a committee for conducting socialisation, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Maubisse Declaration;
- Improve the capacity of the institution to provide data disaggregated by sex, and into categories for women and men, people with disabilities, geographic location (urban and rural), age and so forth.

#### THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SOLIDARITY AND INCLUSION (MSSI) MUST:

- Guarantee that rural women and people with disabilities (at least 30%) who are victims of gender-based violence (GBV) receive financial support and economic assistance to support and improve their livelihoods;
- Develop a program of specialised and integrated rehabilitation program to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities in rural areas;
- Invest in food relief programs to support victims of natural disasters and vulnerable individuals and families;
- 50% of communities in the country have received training and have increased awareness regarding the prevention and mitigation of and response to natural disasters.