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BAUCAU'S FIRST VENDOR FORUM

Sharing the power of networking and knowledge from UN Women PNG's Port Moresby Safe City Program to Timor-Leste

In September, UN Women Timor-Leste, in partnership with the DFAT-funded nutrition-sensitive agriculture initiative TOMAK and Baucau Municipal Authority, organized the first vendor forum with market vendors, line ministries and municipal development partners. The two-day forum presented findings from a mapping of vendors, and shared experiences and knowledges from UN Women's Safe Port Moresby and Safe Market initiative in Papua New Guinea.

The result of the mapping of vendors' experiences in marketplaces identified the need for strong collaboration with local government to improve women's economic empowerment and security, recognizing the leadership role of local authorities in any city-based initiative.

Through the south-south collaboration between UN Women Timor-Leste and UN Women Papua New Guinea (PNG), vendor Sana Dokopa travelled from Port Moresby, PNG to Baucau, Timor-Leste, for the Forum. UN Women's Safe Port Moresby and Safe Market initiative in PNG has been a success, organizing over 2,000 vendors into market

associations and supporting a variety of capacity development support, including leadership and business management training. In the Forum, Sana shared her experiences as President of a women's vendor association, and how collaboration between local government and vendors through the Safe Market initiative has helped to reduce violence against women and girls in public spaces, by integrated women's safety in gender sensitive infrastructure and social planning.

The Forum discussed the future of Baucau Market and identified the implementation partners for a Safe Baucau and Safe Market initiative. It created an opportunity for vendors to imagine their roles contributing to marketplace management and offered space for them to advocate for their priorities.

"A big lesson learned from Sana; vendors are together mobilizing themselves, their

market space and were able to bring change. You (vendors) have to be the owner of the markets and learn to manage, bring the solutions and together, we will take action," said President of Baucau Municipal Authority, Mr. Antonio Guterres.

President Guterres has committed to promotion of gender equality and zero tolerance for sexual harassment in public spaces, including in markets. He signed a Commitment for creating safe public spaces for a Safe Baucau and an Memorandum of Understanding with UN Women to promote gender equality in Baucau in 2019. Partnership with the municipal authority in promoting gender equality and embracing zero tolerance for sexual harassment in public spaces will strengthen administration and local governance, and lead to better development outcomes for all.

“ We don't wait for government. We volunteer with UN Women to coordinate activities with the local authority. We attended trainings and now I am an advocate for vendors. We just want to solve our problem as vendors. In the past, before we had an association, we didn't know what to do. But now, we learn a lot and have more access to supports. We can do a lot,” stated Ms. Dokopa.



Photo: Melquiades_PNTL

REMEMBERING VICENTA MARIA CORREIA

UN Women Timor-Leste dedicates this issue to one of our long-serving and dedicated members of UN Women's family in Timor-Leste. Mana Vicenta Maria Correia joined the organization over 10 years ago under UNIFEM, and as a Programme Officer for Women, Peace and Security (WPS), was the force behind much of our work on advancing progress on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and related resolutions in Timor-Leste.

Vicenta was synonymous with WPS in UN Women Timor-Leste. She was our champion in taking forward efforts to advance women's participation and leadership in all areas related to peace and security. She gave her heart to this work and slowly and steadily nurtured and walked with partners and the community alike in giving life to the National Action Plan on 1325. She had a quiet power – wise and insightful, a kind heart and always genuine with her words. She always thought of others first and her human spirit was most alive when she was with the community, demonstrating her resolute commitment to the post-conflict struggles of Timorese women.

Vicenta passed away on 19 October 2019, after a sudden two months of illness, leaving her husband, two sons, and many loved ones. With her passing, the entire UN Women team, UN Family and wider community of gender equality advocates in Timor-Leste have lost a dear colleague, sister and friend. In the coming months ahead, as we grieve her loss, we will also remember the many wonderful memories we have with her across the years, her countless contributions and the many lessons she taught us here in Timor-Leste as they will continue to remain alive. We will miss her smile and humour, her calm approach to the unexpected dynamics of life, her dedication to partners and her unwavering commitment to the women and girls of Timor-Leste.

May Vicenta, our colleague, our sister, our friend, rest in power and peace.

MOU SIGNING: A COMMITMENT FOR A SAFE BAUCAU

On August 23rd 2019, UN Women and Baucau Municipal Authority signed a Memorandum of Understanding for collaborating for gender equality and eliminating sexual harassment in public spaces.

Acknowledging and aware of gender inequalities and unsafe public spaces for women and girls, the President of the Baucau Municipal Authority committed to take action against these challenges and aimed to turn Baucau to a prosperous community for all.

In his remarks, President of the Authority Antonio Guterres called for all Baucau community members to join him and contribute to implement the initiative.

“We present a commitment, even if it's happening slowly. Now is the time for the Baucau community to come together to build a safe Baucau. And a safe market certainly shows an image of a safe city,” said President Guterres.

Through this partnership, UN Women and Baucau Municipal Authority agree to cooperate for improving gender equality in local governance through gender mainstreaming in analysis, planning and budgeting, in addressing sexual harassment at workplace and public spaces, strengthening women's economic empowerment and leadership, and broader promotion of gender equality through knowledge sharing and capacity development, stakeholder consultation, policy and institutional support.



Photo: Helio Miguel_UN Women



Photo: Amy Child_UN Women

GOVERNMENT, ACADEMIA, CIVIL SOCIETY AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS DISCUSS THE PROGRESS AND POTENTIAL OF GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING IN TIMOR-LESTE

UN Women Timor-Leste and the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (UPMA) of the Prime Minister’s Office, organized three workshops in August 2019 for lead actors on gender-responsive budgeting (GRB). Participants were presented with current GRB practices in Timor-Leste and other countries, including methodologies and tools, and given the space to discuss areas of progress in GRB implementation, challenges, and future endeavors.

Timor-Leste is committed to advance gender equality in the Constitution as well as through the adoption of international and national commitments, including ratification of CEDAW, UNSCR 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS), a National Action Plan (NAP) on GBV, Maubisse Declaration on rural women’s empowerment and SDGs. The Government’s Strategic Development Plan pledges that by 2030, Timor-Leste will be “a gender-fair society where human dignity and women’s rights are valued, protected and promoted by law and culture”. To achieve this, the country

is mainstreaming gender equality into its policies and programmes at national and local levels.

The country officially introduced GRB through a parliamentary resolution in July 2009. As of 2017, the Prime Minister’s Office has increased emphasis on GRB implementation and mainstreaming in the Budgetary Governance Reform Roadmap, Medium-Term Expenditure Framework and programme budgeting. However, there is often a large gap between gender responsive policies and legislation and their full implementation. One reason for this is insufficient public resources being allocated and spent on gender equality priorities.

Ms. Maria Marilia da Costa from a conflict prevention CSO called Belun shared her concern over the insufficient budget. She said “The budget allocation from government is not enough. For 2019, \$2 million cannot cover the all gender issues, and for 2020, there needs to be a higher amount.”

National budgets can be structured in ways that either reinforce or redress gender inequalities. Integrating gender equality into planning and budgeting contributes to progress towards national gender equality objectives. Since 2003, countries with GRB have made more progress on the Gender Development Index, a measure of overall gender equality, than countries without gender budgeting.

UN Women has been a main international development partner over the past ten years supporting implementation of GRB as a strategy to incorporate gender equality into government planning and budgeting. Efforts have involved policy advocacy to develop GRB tools and guidelines for government planning and budgeting, technical assistance and capacity development with government, civil society, and parliament, south-south collaboration and efforts to increase gender data and analysis with various stakeholders.

GENDER STATISTICS: PRODUCING AND USING GENDER DATA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Photo: Helio Miguel_UN Women

UN Women collaborated with the General Directorate of Statistics, Secretary of State for Equality and Inclusion (SEII) and UNFPA through a series of workshops on Producing and using gender statistics for SDG monitoring in Timor-Leste. Aimed to increase data literacy toward more inclusive SDG monitoring and reporting, the workshops in July 2019 reached 158 participants from government, civil society, academia and media outlets.

Recognizing the importance of strengthening capacity to generate data for key SDG indicators, the workshops covered methodologies for multi-level disaggregation to produce SDG data to meet the 2030 agenda commitment of “Leaving No One Behind.”

“Participants were motivated and care of gender issues, but people don’t know where to find official statistics. People don’t really understand the difference between official and non-official data and how difference sources can be used,” said UN Women facilitator and Gender Statistician Sara Duerto Valero.

“We produce a lot of data, but mostly do not disaggregate it by sex and do not put importance on it. From now on, we have to use data for our advocacy and reference”, stated President of Rede Feto, Judite Dias Ximenes.

Acknowledging the role of universities and existing commitment for gender issues, a workshop dedicated to the National University of Timor Lorosa’e (UNTL) social science students gave them an overview of how data is used to monitoring the 2030 Agenda and also how students could understand gender data use and communicate gender data in their studies.

“This workshop helped us understand the impact and factors that influence women and their roles, which is different from

men in the society”, said Mariana Georjina, UNTL student.

Current challenges identified the need for more exchanges on data, greater understanding about the process for decisions on what data to produce, increased investment in systematic data dissemination and use of data to contribute to evidence-based decision-making in Timor-Leste.

The workshops were organized within the framework of UN Women’s “Making Every Woman and Girl Count” programme, a flagship initiative to enhance gender data production and use globally. [Read more here.](#)

FROM WHERE I STAND: “BEING PART OF THE LGBTI COMMUNITY IN TIMOR-LESTE...”



“It was full of pressure in the past, but now I’m comfortable about my identity and want to help others to feel the same way. I see more Timorese are now moving toward accepting diversity.”

“I hated to look at myself in the mirror because I was a pretty girl but had a male attitude. Then I decided to devote myself to the church to change. I asked a pastor: Have I committed a sin in behaving as a man? He said no, it’s because of the chromosomes. Then I went to ask a doctor at a clinic, and he told me the same answer. Then I stopped blaming myself. [Read more 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



Photo: Cipriano Mesquita _ Ministry of Interior

MEDIATION TEAM AT THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR REACHED GENDER PARITY

Women represent 18 of the 39 mediators from the Ministry of Interior since July 2019. The team includes 10 women initially recruited with support from UN Women, who are now funded under the State Budget. UN Women supported the recruitment and training of the 39 mediators, the revision of the mediators’ strategy, strengthening capacity of the Mediation Unit at the Ministry of Interior on gender equality and human rights, and is

finalizing gender responsive mediation guidelines and training material. UN Women support to systematic data collection and management of the mediation unit is ongoing to improve monitoring of access to justice for community members. These efforts contribute to the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (Pillar on Conflict Prevention) and are funded with the generous support of the Government of Japan.



**“NOW I TAKE THE DECISIONS...
I DON’T WAIT FOR MY
SUPERVISOR TO APPROVE
EVERYTHING.”**

Becoming a leader can be challenging for women living in Timor-Leste, especially in rural areas. However, the non-government organisation (NGO) Ba Futuru with the support of UN Women, and generous funds from the Government of Japan, have been planting seeds in this area that, with support from families, friends and the community, are starting to bear fruit.

Covalima, Timor-Leste - Hilaria Amaral do Carmo is the only female Programme Coordinator of the Covalima Community Centre, which is in south-western Timor-Leste. We recently visited Amaral do Carmo in her community. Amaral do Carmo radiates confidence and she is determined to improve the conditions for women in her community. “I wasn’t always like that,” she recalls. Laughing, she remembers how she used to seek approval of her supervisor for even the smallest of decisions.

[Read more here.](#)

ORGANIZATIONS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES USING THE POWER OF FACILITATION TO DRIVE CHANGE



The Community-Based Rehabilitation Network (CBRN), one of the few women-led organizations of Persons with Disabilities (DPOs), is leading a process of developing a toolkit for prevention of gender-based violence (GBV) for women and children with disabilities.

Over the past months, 11 representatives, including 10 women and 1 man, of which 6 have a disability, were selected to train as lead facilitators for the toolkit roll-out.

As part of the facilitation preparation, they have started a 6-month programme to further develop their facilitation skills and expertise on adult learning techniques. After an initial assessment, 11 candidates were selected to participate from 26 people and completed a 9-session training of trainers (ToT) in August, totaling 36 hours.

Facilitators used part of the GBV toolkit being developed to test out their facilitation skills and piloting the different sessions to their peers. They have continued weekly sessions to further their training skills and knowledge on GBV. Among the facilitators, nine women (including 3 with a disability) completed a 3-day training on introducing gender, human rights and GBV in preparation for their first training of other organizations of persons with a disability in November.

From the three days training facilitated by

UN Women and Human Rights Advisor's Unit, the lead facilitators have stated that they are now ready to lead.

“it enhanced my knowledge on the toolkit content, and now I can contribute to develop of the prevention toolkits,” said Veronica Tilman, a Lead Facilitator from the Timor-Leste Disability Association.

CBRN Director and lead facilitator Norberta Soares, concurred and shared, *“it's helped me to have better understanding on gender, privilege and power, and use power to make change.”*

UN Women, through the Joint UN Partnership for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), is supporting CBRN and The Leprosy Mission- Timor-Leste, with technical and financial support for finalizing the Toolkit.

REFLECTING ON RESPECT AND WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACHES

Following 5 months of implementing the Connect With Respect extra-curricular initiative in 3 piloted schools, UN Women in collaboration with Ministry of Education conducted a Mid-Term Reflection to share the best practices, challenges and action for building whole-school initiatives to prevent gender-based violence.

From the reflections, teachers from the 3 pilot schools recognized the value of the lessons and experience students gained through the implementation of CWR in Timor-Leste, and suggested to have CWR materials included in curriculum as pre-secondary core materials, to have teachers trained and be taught in formal class to prevent school related gender-based violence.

“Teachers are the reflection of their students. In order to change students' attitude, teachers need to set the example first. This programme creates attitude change for Timorese youth and we expect it to be extended to the whole territory,” reflects Mr. Antoninho Pires, General Director from Ministry of Education for Political, Planning and Partnership Affairs.

Faustino S. de Carvalho, a teacher facilitator from Technical Vocational School Becora, also has stated the change after taking part of the program, *“Now I'm aware that violence is not the way to educate, but through respect.”* On a visit to his school, his students also shared the change he made has given them opportunity to approach him.

CWR creates a space for all generation to work together and creating a movement for equality and respect. The process was facilitated through the coordination between UN Women and the Ministry

of Education, which initiated through a Training of Trainers with 20 facilitators from the three schools and the Ministry of Education, as well as opening sessions with each school, involving students, teachers, school administrators, and Ministry staff, parents, and the wider community. With the generous funds from the Governments of Korea and Australia through UN Women's Regional Stepping Up Initiative, UN Women remains committed to supporting the Ministry and involved schools to continue their efforts to create safe and happy schools for all.



Photo: Helio Miguel_UN Women

UPCOMING EVENTS

25 → 29 NOVEMBER



Asia-Pacific Regional Review of the 25th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action: Beijing+25 Review:

<https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/events/2019/11/beijing-25-review>

25 → 10 NOVEMBER – DECEMBER



2019 16 days Campaign

What is the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence?

An international campaign that is used as an organizing strategy by individuals and organizations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls.

It commences each year on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December, Human Rights Day.

In Timor-Leste, the 16 Days Campaign has been used to raise awareness of various issues related to gender-based violence, launch new policy and research developments as well as increase skills for shifting the harmful social norms that contribute to gender inequality and perpetuate gender-based violence.

Key Objectives of the 16 Days 2019

In order to build a momentum in engaging the diversity of partners working to end violence against women in Timor-Leste, the United Nations will collaborate with key partners and host events with local and national, women's movements, survivor advocates and women human rights defenders in order to:

- **Amplify the voices of survivors and diverse advocates within the women's movement**, providing a platform for raising visibility of gender-based violence and ways to prevent it;
- **Encourage behaviours and skills to promote respectful relationships**, especially among youth;
- **Advocate for institutions and workplaces** to take actions for promoting gender equality and zero tolerance of violence against women and girls, in line with national gender equality commitments.

EVENT CALENDARS

Kick-off event 'Walk the Talk' and Self-defense class

DATE: Saturday, 23 November, 6:00 – 10:00 am
VENUE: Largo Lecidere to Cristo Rei

World Children's Day March and Display Information Material in the Booth

DATE: 25 November
VENUE: SEJD

Public Debate on Violence against Women and Girls with Disabilities in Timor-Leste

DATE: 3 December 2019
VENUE: Dili (via RTTL)

Volunteers to the Streets for a Violence-free Dili

DATE: 5 December 2019
VENUE: Dili

Youth Led Activities to prevent and respond to SH in public spaces - Ba Futuru

DATE: 6 December (4-6PM)
VENUE: Ba Futuru Office

Celebrating A Future Free of Violence

DATE: 10 December (5:30pm-7:30pm)
VENUE: Knuu Juventude

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