

IOM TIMOR-LESTE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JULY- SEPTEMBER 2018



HIGHLIGHTS

- **Strengthening Migration Governance:** Timor-Leste Establishes First Migration Profile Technical Working Group.
- **Enhancing Disaster Risk Management:** Launch of the Information Management System and Displacement Tracking Workshop.
- **Improving Access to Health:** Tuberculosis (TB) Screening and Training Continues in Bobonaro Municipality.
- **Countering Human Trafficking:** Timor-Leste’s First National Community Forum on Human Trafficking.

Message from the Chief of Mission

This quarter IOM Timor-Leste continued its operations in Disaster Risk Reduction, Migration Health and Counter-Trafficking. It also launched a new project to develop a Migration Profile for Timor-Leste.

We implemented a number of capacity building initiatives to ensure that our programs deliver and attain sustainable results for Timor-Leste. Some of our key achievements included the establishment of the Migration Profile Inter-Ministerial Technical Working Group; the Disaster Risk Management Governance Workshop and the launch of an information management system to collect, analyze, report and store information on disaster and displacement incidents in the country. We also continued Tuberculosis screening activities in Bobonaro and facilitated the first National Community Forum on Human Trafficking.

I hope this newsletter provides you with an update of our current programs in Timor-Leste and what is yet to come, as we continue to support the government to attain its long-term development goals and improve the lives of people on the move in Timor-Leste. Should you need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact us.

- Wonesai Workington Sithole, Chief of Mission, Timor-Leste



IOM distributes 1,000 copies of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) booklet to 20 schools in Baucau, Bobonaro, Ermera, Manatuto and Viqueque.



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Timor-Leste Establishes First Migration Profile Inter-Ministerial Technical Working Group

On 4th September, the first Inter-Ministerial Technical Working Group (TWG) comprised of representatives from several line ministries including the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Justice, was convened in Dili.

The initiative, led by the Office of the Prime Minister, in collaboration with key ministries and stakeholders working on migration and mobility, encompasses a whole of government approach to build a strong foundation for good migration governance.

The Migration Profile will contribute to an increased recognition of the development potential of migration and mobility for the benefit of migrants and society, which is part of inclusive growth and sustainable development in Timor-Leste.

The development of the Profile falls within the government's migration and youth development objectives. It is also of relevance to the strategic and policy goals outlined in the *Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030* and *Timor-Leste's*

Roadmap for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

With the establishment of the TWG, Timor-Leste will have improved access to reliable and timely information and data that will strengthen national programming, planning and policymaking in migration and development.

The active participation of the line ministries in this process will be central to the success of the Migration Profile as a practical document that addresses all aspects of migration in Timor-Leste.

Once the final document is complete, Timor-Leste will join over 80 countries that have produced Migration Profiles using a methodology designed by IOM.



Participants attend the first Migration Profile TWG meeting @IOM 2018



Participants attend the DRR awareness raising campaign in Dili @IOM 2018

Disaster Risk Reduction Awareness Campaign Brings Community Together to Promote 'Zero Plastics'

On Saturday 29th September, IOM Timor-Leste with funding from USAID hosted a Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Awareness Raising Campaign in Dili.

Themes for the event included "Zero Plastics", "Re-Use Bags," "Do Not Cut Trees" and "Do Not Build in Disaster-Prone Areas."

Participants included Dili residents, students, teachers, Red Cross volunteers, the Dili Photography Community, as well as UN staff and their families.

The campaign aimed to raise awareness of what needs to be done before, during and after disasters, specifically during the wet season, to increase community resilience to natural and man-made disasters.

The event included a march, a photo exhibition, a quiz on DRR, live music from Fela & Jovi, and the screening of a DRR movie. Teachers, students and members of the community spoke about their concerns.

IOM Timor-Leste is committed to increasing public awareness of vulnerability to disaster risks and mitigation measures. These risks include the next El Nino weather pattern, which brought a drought in 2016.

IOM DRR activities aim to strengthen disaster risk reduction and preparedness measures, and to enhance resilience at national, municipality and community levels across Timor-Leste.



IOM staff help the community to install an EWS in Ermera @IOM 2018

Community-Based Early Warning Systems Installed in Ermera and Manufahi

IOM, with funding from USAID, has installed three solar-powered Early Warning System (EWS) in three target villages in Manufahi and Ermera municipalities to strengthen community resilience to the impact of natural and man-made disasters.

Two EWS were installed in Uma-Bereioik and Betano in Manufahi between 26th – 28th September. Another was installed in Atara in Ermera on 19th September.

Both Uma-Bereioik and Betano are located on flat land that is regularly affected by floods. Atara is prone to strong winds and landslides.

The EWS initiative aims to help community leaders to share early warnings on impending natural disasters to minimize risk to the most vulnerable including elderly people, people with disabilities, pregnant mothers, women and children.

Disaster Risk Management Governance Dili Workshop

IOM facilitated a USAID-funded Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Governance Workshop in Dili at the Ministry of Social Solidarity on September 27-28.

The event brought together government and DRR partners to discuss the current situation and the policy and legal nexus in global and regional policy processes and commitments; donor interest in disaster risk governance; management and planning; cross-cutting and linked programs; challenges in governance and planning at sub-national level; and the challenges of DRR governance development.

The workshop provided an important opportunity to enhance capacity in DRR and DRM policy and programming in Timor-Leste, particularly at national and municipal levels.

Information Management System and Displacement Tracking Matrix Workshop in Dili

IOM, working in close partnership with the government through Municipality Disaster Management Committees (MDMC) and the Civil Protection department, has developed an Information Management System (IMS) that will be used to collect, analyze, report and store information on disaster and displacement incidents.

The IMS tool will enable MDMCs and Civil Protection to strengthen evidence-based responses to natural and man-made disasters through improved planning, decision making and reporting on emergencies and disasters.

IOM delivered an IMS and Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) training on 25-26 September to 31 participants selected from Civil Protection and Disaster Focal Points from all 13 municipalities. Representatives from the World Health Organization also attended the training.

Disaster preparedness, management and response in Timor-Leste continues to be a challenge, largely owing to a lack of empirical data.

The use of the IMS will greatly assist MDMCs and Civil Protection to more effectively target responses to disaster-affected communities.

It will also help to maintain accurate records of those who have been displaced as a result of natural and man-made disasters.

The IMS will be rolled out in all 13 municipalities in the country. In support of the rollout of the IMS, IOM provided Civil Protection partners with 14 laptops, 14 Ipad, 14 mobile phones and a server to facilitate data gathering and management through the IMS at national and sub-national levels.



Participants attend the first IMS training in Dili @IOM 2018



IOM Migration Health Team train health care workers and volunteers in Bobonaro @IOM2018

Tuberculosis Screening and Training for Health Workers and Volunteers in Bobonaro

This quarter IOM Timor-Leste continued to screen for Tuberculosis (TB) under its 'Systematic Screening for TB among High Risk Groups in Timor-Leste' project. Some 4,862 people were screened between July and September, bringing the total number screened in 2018 to 6,768.

Most of the screening during the period was in Bobonaro municipality. In addition to screening, a further 2-day

training session was held for 50 (20 male, 30 female) health workers and community volunteers.

Timor-Leste is the highest TB burden country in Southeast Asia, with an estimated prevalence of TB cases of 820/100,000 population.

IOM is aiming to improve TB health seeking behavior through TB awareness sessions and increased case detection in high-burden TB-affected populations.

It also aims to build the capacity of health services personnel and community representatives to identify and refer probable TB cases for diagnosis through training.

IOM is also committed to improving awareness of TB for all screening participants and training health service personnel and community representatives.

Over the coming months, IOM Timor-Leste's Migration Health team will continue to support the Ministry of Health's National Tuberculosis Program with the screening of military personnel, prisoners and university students, primarily in Ermera and Dili.

First National Community Forum on Human Trafficking Launched in Timor-Leste

On 21 September IOM supported by the US State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP) launched Timor-Leste's first National Community Forum on Human Trafficking.

The forum provided an opportunity to identify challenges, opportunities and gaps in protection, prevention and prosecution; a venue for networking and sharing of information; and a space to pool tools and strategies to better meet the needs of victims and potential of trafficking in Timor-Leste.

The event was attended by representatives from several line ministries including Foreign Affairs, Social Solidarity and Justice, as well as representatives from Embassies including the United States and the Philippines. Local and international NGO's, Timor-Leste's National Police (PNTL) and university students also took part.

Guest speakers from government, civil society and the private sector provided insights and discussed issues related to human trafficking and migration flows in Timor-Leste. The root causes of trafficking, the impact of policy/legislation and victim protection were also raised.

IOM Timor-Leste's counter trafficking program, with the support of J/TIP, is involved with prevention, technical cooperation, direct assistance and research.

The National Community Forum on Human Trafficking aims to strengthen institutional capacity to combat human trafficking in Timor-Leste, improve victim identification and increase public awareness.



Participants attend the National Community Forum on Counter-trafficking in Dili @IOM 2018

Contact Us:
IOM Mission in Timor Leste
UN House, Caicoli Street, Dili, Timor-Leste, P.O. Box 15
Tel: +670 331 3038 Fax: +670 331 3245
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/iomtimorleste>