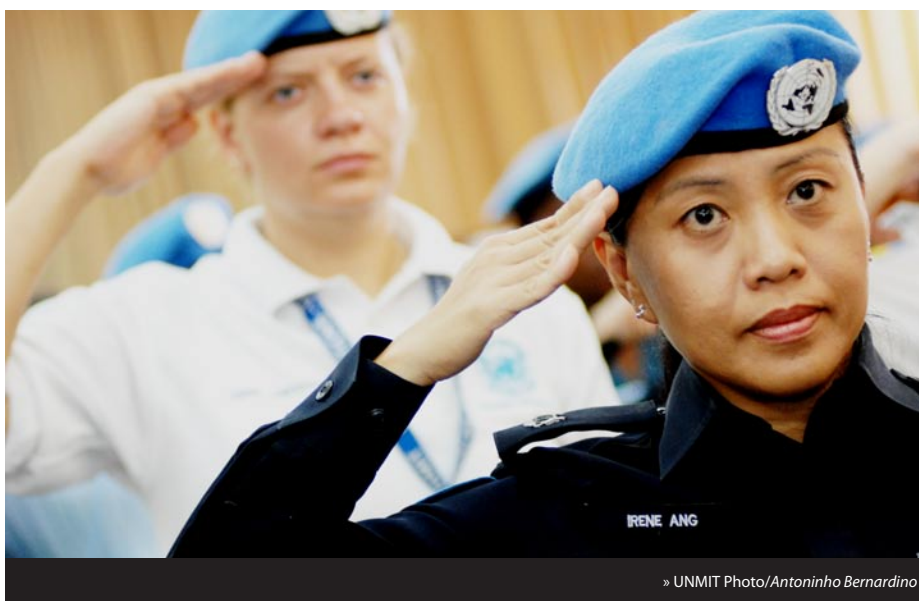




International Day of UN Peacekeepers



» UNMIT Photo/Antoninho Bernardino

“We pay tribute to the more than 122,000 military, police and civilian personnel who serve with distinction in our operations across the world. Their efforts directly help millions of people by providing security, promoting reconciliation, clearing land-mines, demobilizing combatants, strengthening institutions and the rule of law, delivering aid, repatriating refugees and displaced persons, supporting democratic elections and reforming the security sector. Peacekeeping is an indispensable part of the UN’s work for a better world. Let us give it the support it needs to succeed,” said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to mark the International Day of UN Peacekeepers, observed on 29 May.

Public campaign for 2010 Census launched

The information campaign for the 2010 Population and Housing Census was launched on 14 May. Implemented by the National Statistics Directorate and supported by UNFPA, the campaign is to raise awareness of the Census which will take place between 11-25 July. While nations normally undertake censuses every ten years, the changes to the population in Timor-Leste since the first census was taken in 2004 have been great enough to warrant a new census this year. Preliminary results will be available in October.

The Census in numbers

- Total budget of the Census: 4.2 million US dollars.
- Estimated total number of Census staff in the field: 4,000.
- The Census mapping section has produced approximately 2,600 different Census maps.
- Timor-Leste has been divided into 1,860 Enumeration Areas (EAs).



» UNMIT Photo/Martine Perret

- These are the areas that will be covered by the 2010 Census.
- The 2010 Census questionnaire contains 65 questions and has been translated into four languages: Tetun, Bahasa Indonesia, Portuguese and English.
- Preliminary Census results will be available at the end of October 2010. The Main Census Report is due in April 2011.
- Estimated population of Timor-Leste in 2010: 1,155,000
- The Timorese population is made up of approximately 205,000 households.
- Estimated annual population growth in Timor-Leste: 3.2 per cent; with the current annual growth rate, the Timorese population will double in 21.6 years.
- The median age of the Timorese population is 18.3 years. 43.2 per cent of the population are under 15 years old.

Results of 2004 Census

- Population of Timor-Leste: 923,198



WHO goodwill ambassador for leprosy elimination visits Timor-Leste



» UNMIT Photo/Martine Perret

Mr Yohei Sasakawa, the WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, arrived in Timor-Leste on 19 May to support national efforts to eradicate this disease. Leprosy, the oldest disease known to humankind, is one of the few infectious diseases to meet the strict criteria for global elimination. It is a leading cause of permanent disability in the world and predominantly affects poor and marginalized people. If left untreated, it can lead to progressive and permanent damage of nerves, leading to a loss of sensation

and paralysis of muscles in the hands, feet and face.

The Leprosy Elimination Programme has detected and registered in excess of 1,600 leprosy cases in Timor-Leste. Of these, approximately 85% have been cured. All districts have reduced the rate of leprosy since the programme's inception. There are currently 160 people receiving treatment. The district of Oecusse has the highest numbers and rates of disease in the country, although it has significantly reduced between 2004 and 2009 from 52.5 to 6.5 per 10,000 population, respectively.

International Children's Day

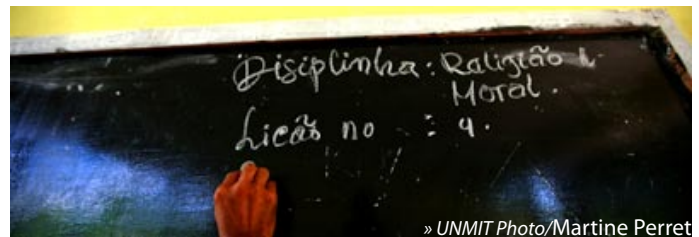
Violence, illness, neglect and poor nutrition in the early years of childhood can be devastating to a child's physical and mental development. This year's International Children's Day,



» UNMIT Photo/Martine Perret

celebrated on June 1st, calls on governments to protect the human rights of all children and to invest in their future.

First National Conference on Inclusive Education



» UNMIT Photo/Martine Perret

The 1st National Conference on Inclusive Education was held in Timor-Leste from 11-12 May. The workshop aimed to teach education practitioners how to reduce stigma and discrimination by incorporating disabled students into ordinary schools- as opposed to special needs schools- and training teachers on how to educate these students. The conference was organized by the Ministry of Education and supported by UNICEF, UNESCO, and Plan International.

On 20 May, Timor-Leste celebrated



» UNMIT Photo/Antoninho Bernardino

of the United Nations and rising of the flag of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, marking the end of the UN's transitional administration. Over 100,000 people attended the celebrations in Dili.

On 20 May, Timor-Leste celebrated the eight anniversary of the Restoration of Independence. On this day in 2002, there was a lowering of the flag

World Day of Cultural Diversity



» UNMIT Photo/Martine Perret

The World Day of Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, observed on 21 May, is an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity. UNESCO continues to promote greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development and the important role of information and communication technologies in this relationship.

FAO



» UNMIT Photo/Cesaltino Ximenes

FAO recently launched 15 Farmer Field Schools (FFS) in Baucau district to promote the adoption of best practices into local farming systems, including Integrated Crop Management for rice. FFS is based on the adoption of a plot of land as the main learning material. Farmers meet to witness and participate in all farming activities and compare new methods with their own traditional ones and then use this increased knowledge in their own farming practices.



Listen to Futuru Nabilan

UNMIT's regular radio programme every Saturday at 5:30pm and Sunday at 6:00pm on RTL

Watch ba pás

UNMIT's regular TV programme every two weeks on Monday at 7:30pm on TVTL