



# HUMANITARIAN UPDATE TIMOR - LESTE

REPORTING PERIOD FROM 15 FEBRUARY TO 4 APRIL 2008

## HIGHLIGHTS

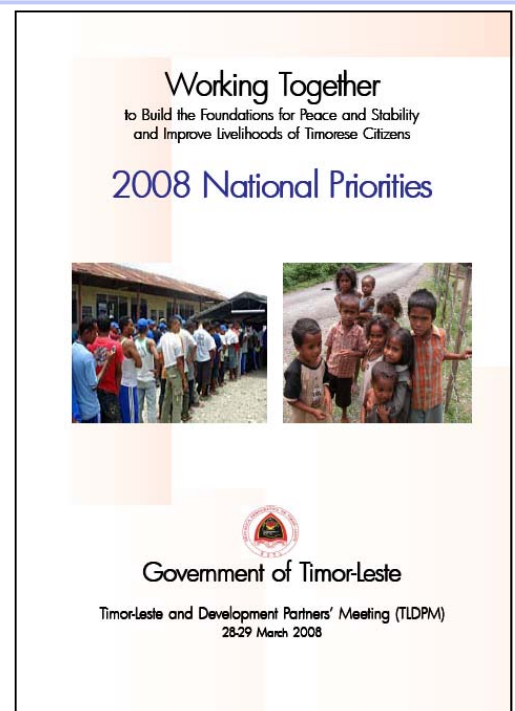
- **On the 3rd April, 137 Transitional Shelter Units at Bekora Market were completed and handed over to the Government.** These shelters will be assigned with priority to IDPs, who are currently sheltering at the Dili National Hospital, in order to mitigate public health risks at the hospital and to offer a safer and friendlier environment to the IDPs. (Page 10)
- **As of the 2nd April 450 families have returned to their place of origin.** To date the Ministry of Social Solidarity has registered 6,453 families (39,118 people) from 16 camps throughout Dili. MSS expects to finalise registration by June 2008. (Page 8)
- **On the 28<sup>th</sup> February, the Government held a successful retreat with its international and local development partners.** The participants discussed the progress and implementation of the Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru, National Recovery Strategy. (Page 2)
- **Between the 27th and 29th March, the Government convened the Timor-Leste and Development Partners' meeting (TLPDM)** at which, pledges of assistance were made by donors. (Below and Page 4)
- **The World Food Programme (WFP) has completed the March cycle of half ration food distributions.** This is the last general food distribution cycle that is facilitated by WFP. The Government has decided to continue half ration rice distributions for the month of April from Government rice stocks. (Page 5)
- **On the 25th February, the UNMIT Mandate was extended to February 26th 2009 by the UN Security Council.**

## POLICY UPDATE

The Timor-Leste and Development Partners' Meeting (TLDPM) took place from 27 to 29 March 2008 and was well attended at the highest level of the Government, as well as resident and non-resident development partners. It focused on the 6 National Priorities:

1. Public Safety and Security,
2. Social Protection and Solidarity,
3. Addressing the Needs of the Youth,
4. Employment and Income Generation,
5. Improving Social Service Delivery,
6. Clean and Effective Government.

The Government, through the Minister of Finance, intends to set up a structured coordination mechanism around these six National Priorities. The Transitional Strategy and Appeal 2008 was launched during the TLDPM on Saturday, 29 March 2008.



*The Humanitarian Update aims at providing a snapshot analysis of current humanitarian issues, facts and policy developments in Timor-Leste with special attention given to internally displaced people. The Humanitarian Update is based on voluntary information inputs from UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes and NGO members of the Humanitarian Coordination Committee. It also uses information gathered from a variety of sector coordination meetings involving Timorese authorities. The Humanitarian Update is issued by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)/United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) Integrated Humanitarian Coordination Team (IHCT), usually on a fortnightly basis.*

Contributions and comments can be sent to the OCHA/UNMIT IHCT in Dili, POC: [hadin@un.org](mailto:hadin@un.org), mobile telephone: +(670) 7311643.



## HAMUTUK HARI'I FUTURU: THE GOVERNMENT'S NATIONAL RECOVERY STRATEGY

On the 28<sup>th</sup> February, the Government held a successful retreat with its international and local development partners to discuss the progress and implementation of the Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru, National Recovery Strategy. The Strategy consists of five pillars:

- Hamutuk Hari'i Uma (Transitional Shelter and Housing);
- Hamutuk Hari'i Protesaun (Social Protection);
- Hamutuk Hari'i Estabilidade (Security and Stability);
- Hamutuk Hari'i Ekonomia Social (Local Socio-Economic Development); and
- Hamutuk Hari'i Konfiansa (Confidence Building and Community Reconciliation).

At the retreat, working groups were established to facilitate each pillar of the Strategy and also to begin with, to work on including these pillars in the Recovery section of the Transitional Strategy and Appeal.

The recovery needs outlined by the Government are based on the following figures:

Area	Number of displaced persons
Dili	30,000 (estimate)
Districts	70,000 (estimate)

Area	Number of Camps
Dili	51
Baucau	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>

Source: Ministry of Social Solidarity Information Centre, as of 26 Feb 2008

The arrangements for the working groups under the pillars are as follows:

Pillar	Government Lead	International Lead
Transitional shelter and housing (Hamutuk Hari'i Uma)	Ministry of Social Solidarity, Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Justice	NRC
Social protection (Hamutuk Hari'i Protesaun)	Ministry of Social Solidarity	IOM
Security and stability (Hamutuk Hari'i Estabilidade)	Ministry of Security and Defense	Belun / UNDP
Local socio-economic development (Hamutuk Hari'i Ekonomia Social)	Ministry of Economy and Development	UNDP
Confidence building and community reconciliation (Hamutuk Hari'i Konfiansa)	Ministry of Social Solidarity	UNDP



## SPECIAL FOCUS: A TRANSITIONAL STRATEGY AND APPEAL FOR TIMOR-LESTE IN 2008

On 29 March 2008, NGOs and UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes launched a transitional strategy and appeal (TSA) to support the Government's efforts to assist internally displaced persons' (IDPs) humanitarian needs, to carry out return, resettlement and relocation schemes and to address immediate gaps linked to natural disaster management.

The TSA was recognised by the Government of Timor-Leste as a complement humanitarian and recovery assistance framework, provided by its partners, to its own recovery efforts. A National Recovery Strategy was endorsed by the Government in December 2007 and finds its roots in the six broader priorities identified for 2008. As such, the TSA was launched during the Timor-Leste and Development Partners' Meeting (TLDPM).

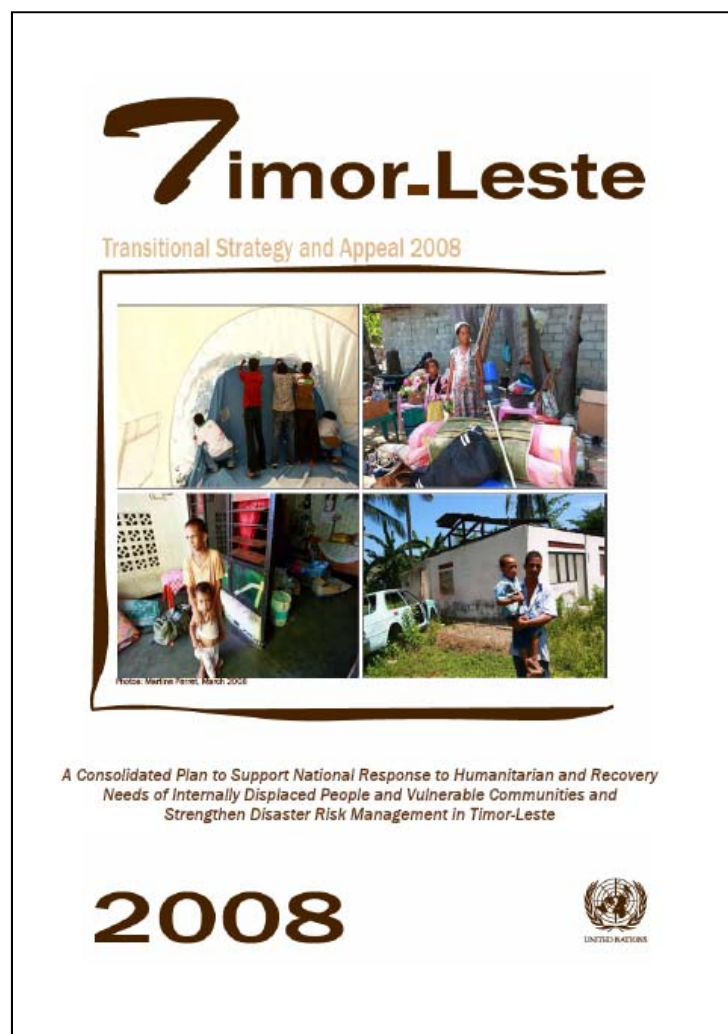
The TSA, by definition, embraces the abstract concepts of transition, planning, strategy and appeal. It assesses and analyses the needs, rights and response mechanisms required in a **transition period from emergency to development**. The needs and rights are complex and concern both the displaced populations during the 2006 crisis, and groups of the population displaced in 2007 following sporadic violence in the country. The needs and rights of the communities of origin or potentially of return, resettlement or relocation of IDPs have also to be taken into account. Finally, communities affected by natural disasters and chronic vulnerabilities have also been considered as some of them may become subject to further displacement, multi-displacement or simply humanitarian disaster.

Therefore, planning a consolidated and coherent response to this mixed variety of needs has been a real challenge. However, external assistance, institutionally, financially and technically, is still crucially needed to support Government's efforts to simultaneously respond efficiently and build its capacity in a sustainable way.

The concepts of **recovery and crisis management strengthening** are at the heart of the TSA. They are merging understanding and actions towards the symptoms and the root causes of the 2006 crisis.

The TSA is therefore organised in three modules:

**Module 1** focuses on humanitarian assistance in the IDP camps. A large number of camps remain in Dili and in Baucau with an estimated number of over 30,000 IDPs. A large and quite diffuse number of affected people (estimated at 70,000) went to take refuge within Dili and in the districts mainly relying on family networks; hence, another strong rationale for having an integrated approach to the displacement crisis targeting communities and livelihoods at large.





**Module 2** focuses on activities supporting the National Recovery Strategy. The “*Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru*” strategy includes five pillars from transitional shelter and re-housing to trust and security building, from laying the ground for social protection systems to community-based initiatives for socio-economic development.

**Module 3** focuses on disaster risk management. It presents selected projects related to the impact of current disasters as well as institutional and community-based strengthening activities. It stems out of the overall goals related to enhanced awareness, preparedness and crisis management capacity in Timor-Leste.

The TSA presents 67 project proposals by a total of 21 organisations (13 international NGOs, 6 National NGOs, 8 UN agencies, funds and programmes and IOM). The total amount of the Appeal is US\$ 33.5 million. It represents a slight decrease from the 2007 Appeal (US\$ 36 million), more importantly, the internal balance between humanitarian and recovery focused activities has shifted. Indeed, the amount appealed for humanitarian assistance (module 1) is US\$ 8.5 million, while the amount appealed for recovery activities (module 2) is US\$ 17.9 million. The amount appealed for disaster risk management (module 3) is US\$ 5.8 million and for overall coordination and information management support is US\$ 1.3 million.

During the launch of the Transitional Strategy and Appeal at the Timor-Leste and Development Partners' Meeting on 29 March 2008, representatives of Norway, USA, Australia, the European Commission, and Japan made positive statements regarding the Transitional Strategy and Appeal and the pledges below were made:

*Pledges made on 29 March 2008:*

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount (in USD)</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Appealing Agency</i>
USA	520,000	IDP camp management and support services for Dili and Baucau	CRS
Australia	1,000,000	Food assistance to women and children	WFP
	200,000	Assist the Government to efficiently manage and deliver emergency assistance in Dili and the Districts	WFP
	1,500,000	Community Reconciliation and Peace Building	UNDP, national agencies and NGOs
	1,500,000	Disaster Risk Management	IOM and others
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,720,000</b>		

*On behalf of the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator, DSRSR Finn Reske-Nielsen, the OCHA/UNMIT Integrated Humanitarian Coordination Team would like to most cordially thank all partners from the Government of Timor-Leste, national and international NGOs, and UN agencies for their excellent cooperation and hard work in the Transitional Strategy and Appeal Process 2008!*

*For the purpose of financial tracking, please report any pledges, commitments, or contributions for humanitarian and recovery projects in Timor-Leste, and particularly for projects under the Transitional Strategy and Appeal 2008 to the OCHA/UNMIT IHCT Dili,*

*POC: Nadia Hadi ([hadin@un.org](mailto:hadin@un.org), mobile telephone: +(670) 7311643).*



## IDP CAMP ASSISTANCE UPDATE

### GENERAL FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS (GFD)

In February, GFD half ration (Rice 4kg/pax, Oil: 0.4 liter/pax) was implemented throughout all IDP camps in Dili. In general the implementation went well. After a problematic start, the February distribution could be considered a success in that 64,360 IDP's accepted and 791 refused (98.8% acceptance). IDPs in general expressed their views to the Government of Timor-Leste as the relevant authority as opposed to WFP and SLS field teams.

WFP completed the March Cycle of half ration food distributions, which constitutes the **final** General Food Distribution facilitated by WFP. The acceptance rate stands at 99% with a total of **63,567 rations distributed to IDPs**.

The Government decided to continue half food ration distributions in the camps beyond March (WFP is not distributing food in the camps at this time). If the Government decides to continue food distributions, they are seeking to remove civil servants and returnees from the recipients list.

According to the findings of the September 2007 Emergency Food Security Assessment in Dili, around 50% of IDPs in camps are not food insecure while 50% of the population in communities are food insecure. Therefore, mechanisms are being developed to identify extremely vulnerable individuals in Dili IDP camps and communities in order to be able to better target food handouts. An application process has been designed by a Working Group under the leadership of WFP and proposed to the Ministry of Social Solidarity.

### WATER AND SANITATION

- Repair and Maintenance of Facilities in IDP camps

**Airport IDP camp:** From 24 March to 4 April, UNICEF contracted Salu Corporation to install four shallow tube wells at Airport and Meteorological IDP camp. Testing of shallow tube well was completed. The depth of the bore hole is 12m and a hand pump has been installed. A water sample will be taken and sent to DNSAS laboratory for quality test. The DNSAS maintenance team was able to fix a leakage from the water supply system. A number of new taps have been installed to replace broken and missing taps. Kasmani Irons has been contracted by UNICEF for the work on, repair and maintenance of latrines and bathroom structure at Airport IDP camp.

**Bombeiros and ex-CVTL IDP camps:** UNICEF contracted Salu Corporation for the construction of latrines and bathrooms.

**Plan supported IDP camps:** Plan replaced the metal water tank in Jardim/Seaport IDP camp with a 2,200-litre capacity plastic tank, as it was leaking water and repaired the taps in Primary School, CRS and Fokupers IDP camps. Regular repair maintenance of Watsan infrastructure was conducted during the week of the 27th February (latrines and tube wells) especially in Jardim, Motael and Metinaro camp. Plan visited Metinaro IDP camp with DNSAS officials and conducted an assessment of WatSan infrastructure. During the week of the 13<sup>th</sup> March, Plan updated the infrastructure matrices of all Plan supported IDP camps and prepared up dated maps, with information including all infrastructure, latrines already constructed or under construction, all functional tube wells and tube wells yielding potable water. During the week of the 20<sup>th</sup> March, Plan completed its assessment of Metinaro camp infrastructure and developed a matrix for repair and maintenance. They met IOM to discuss how to fill the gap in between the upcoming cessation of WatSan activities under current ECHO grant and confirmation of a new grant. They also met with DNSAS to discuss alignment of future activities with government policies and plans. Plan assessed environmental sanitation conditions in Motael camp and made plans to make some improvements required, and continued with construction of latrines in Metinaro camp.

- Water Testing

Plan International conducted water test analysis during the week of the 20th February on the wells in Metinaro camp, from the 8 water samples collected only two tube wells showed traces of e-coliform.

- Preparedness

Oxfam and IOM continued discussions about conducting community preparedness focus groups at Hera Port to facilitate IDPs to prepare for further flooding. DNSAS continue to wait for clear information on the status of their funding pro-





posals aiming at increasing their capacity to work in IDP camps and prepare for disasters.

During the reporting period, Plan pumped the excess water out of Jardim, Motael and Farol Primary School camps, drained out the stagnant water in other drainage areas within the camps and applied vector control measures. They also constructed a channel to drain out the excess water in Metinaro camp on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008. Protection work as well as general repairs and maintenance on the wells in Metinaro camp was conducted to help prevent water contamination.

Central Pharmacy IDP camp: Gravel, sand and boulders were delivered to be spread around the camp in order to avoid stagnant water in the rainy season. IOM is negotiating with IDPs to undertake the work on a voluntary basis.

- **Baucau Camps**

Four septic tanks in three of the Baucau camps have been emptied. The main challenge remained the current lack of funds available in DNSAS. Water trucking services provided by DNSAS stopped the last week of August 07 reportedly because of lack of funds. IDPs are purchasing water themselves from a local provider.

- **Camp Closure Update**

Since the approval of the National Recovery Strategy (mid December 2007) 2 camps have been closed: Canossa Has Laran and Jardim Borja.

## HEALTH AND HYGIENE

Plan partner HealthNet conducted health promotional activities, focusing on prevention of dengue, malaria and diarrhoeal diseases and including children's animation activities in Motael, Jardim, Metinaro and Farol Primary School camps. On 15<sup>th</sup> February, Plan handed over First Aid Kits along with certificates to 9 participants from Metinaro camp, who had completed a Basic First Aid Training from 12 – 14 December 2007. During the week of 27<sup>th</sup> February Plan conducted a health and hygiene assessment at Jardim IDP camp. During the week of 13<sup>th</sup> March, Plan together with partner HealthNet, mobilised residents to clean Metinaro, Jardim and Farol Primary School IDP camps.

## SLS UPDATE

The Ministry of Social Solidarity formally requested site liaison support (SLS) in nine IDP camps where SLS service was discontinued by former SLS organisations, but IDPs remained living at the sites. At the time of the discontinuation of SLS service, IDPs and the former service provider thought that, due to the size and nature of their camps, regular SLS services were not needed. However, after six months camp managers in some of these camps decided that a resumption of regular SLS service is once again appropriate. SLS organisations (Catholic Relief Services, Concern, the International Organization for Migration and the Norwegian Refugee Council) completed assessments in all of the camps, spoke with IDPs and camp management and liaised with the Water and Sanitation Working Group and DNSAS to ensure a resumption of wat/san support. Only seven of the camps remain open, and each will now have SLS and wat/san support, including liaison support for Government's return and reintegration programme.

In February and March CRS SLS team conducted a camp survey in Cathedral, Hosana and Police Academy camps, aimed at collecting data on the displacement, including the status of former houses, presence of pregnant women, widows, disabled, and other vulnerable persons. The exercise aimed at better targeting the initiatives of CRS peace - building programme. Most of the people surveyed have shared concerns related to security in aldeias in Comoro and Bairo Pite. During the reporting period, with funds provided by MSS, CRS has procured and delivered materials to raise 37 tents in Cathedral and 29 in Hosana camp to avoid further discomfort caused by rain of the current season.

The SLS Working Group continues to liaise regularly with the Ministry of Social Solidarity regarding the *Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru* National Recovery Strategy. Government representatives now attend the Working Group regularly, and SLSs continue to relay issues raised by IDPs directly to Government. Recently, the SLS WG has made recommendations to Government regarding the provision of public information to the IDPs about the return and reintegration programme and has advocated to Government regarding some of the most common issues and concerns from IDPs about this process.

## GENDER

The IOM Gender Mobile Team organised the participation of 120 women from eight different camps (Airport, Hera Port, Metinaro, Hospital, Canossa Lecidere, Camara Lecidere, Motael and Escola Primaria) at a training on gender based violence, implemented by ASF and JSMP. The training was designed to help women recognise domestic violence and sexual assault as a crime, to understand the legal processes involved once a crime has been reported and to learn where to go for help if they, or someone they know, become victims of domestic or sexual violence. Each SLS agency



has expressed interest in increased gender programming in camps, and the IOM Gender Team is liaising directly with other SLS organisations to facilitate such programming in more camps.

## CHILD PROTECTION

Plan International report that by the week of the 27<sup>th</sup> February, four Child Friendly Spaces were completed in Metinaro IDP camp. Plan animators are currently supporting animation activities across 9 IDP camps. 1 week of on-the-job animator training was conducted for 15 animators in Metinaro IDP camp during the week of the 27<sup>th</sup> February, with a view to commencing animation activities the following week in the four child friendly spaces which have recently been constructed. Following discussions with organisations involved in the Child Protection Support Team (CPST) the number of CPST monitoring teams was reduced from five (5) to two (2). This was necessary due to human resource and logistical constraints. Resource commitments (staff, transportation) have already been made by Plan, UNICEF, IOM, NRC and CCF. Interested organisations are encouraged to allocate a staff member for 1 day each week (ideally, with transportation) to work with existing CPST staff. Please contact [paul.waite@plan-international.org](mailto:paul.waite@plan-international.org) for more information. Four Plan staff are now visiting IDP camps as part of the restructured 2-team Child Protection Support Team. Five Plan community facilitator staff are now visiting 5 transitional shelters and 4 IDP camps 3-5 times per week to conduct psycho-social activities. Two mobile libraries with books, toys and games are now visiting around 600 children in 20 IDP camps per week. A Child Friendly Space is being constructed by Plan in Jardim Seaport. Plan is distributing UNICEF recreational kits to Jardim Seaport, Motael and Farol Primary School IDP camps.

## YOUTH PARTICIPATION

On 19 and 20 February, Plan International held focus group discussions with young men and women in three IDP camps to discuss their daily activities, contribution and role. This information will be used to ensure Plan's programmes meet the needs of young IDPs. During the week of the 2<sup>nd</sup> April Plan made preparations for its April retreat for 100 young people from the communities of Bekora, Comoro, Bairo Pite, Kampung Alor and Aileu; the IDP camps of Metinaro, Motael, Farol, Jardim and Bekora; and the transitional shelters of Karantina and Obrigado Barracks. They supported youth to assist the Bhakita Orphanage in Bekora to repair the kitchen and study rooms and improve overall cleanliness and delivered basketball, volleyball and soccer equipment to youth in Bekora community.

## LIVELIHOODS

Plan International and Alola Foundation continued their livelihoods training programme for women in Metinaro IDP camp during the week of the 6<sup>th</sup> March. The programme focused on the basics of palm weaving and techniques of dyeing finished products. Women who were earlier trained on loom weaving have now started receiving orders for various woven products and samples are now on display in the Alola showroom. Further, a forum which focused on the issue of women's participation in society was attended by the 32 women participants and their husbands. Such integration of gender-related discussions in livelihood trainings aims to heighten awareness on the importance of women's participation in all levels and areas of society. During the week of the 13<sup>th</sup> March, Plan and Alola Foundation also continued this training programme. This week, 7 weavers continued to produce work for display in the Alola shop while 20 women attended the palm weaving training held for 2 days which focused on the process of dyeing and various designs and techniques of weaving bags, baskets and mats. Further, 11 women continued to enhance their skills in sewing, specifically on making measurements, cutting the fabric and using a sewing machine. As part of Alola Foundation and Plan Timor-Leste's women's livelihoods programme in Metinaro IDP camp, the 40 participants received training on basic book keeping as well as the regular training on loom weaving and handicrafts making during the week of the 2<sup>nd</sup> April. The book keeping training included segments on record keeping and financial planning, and used daily experiences and simulated activities to simplify accounting concepts.

## COMMUNICATIONS

WFP FITTEST Team (Emergency Field Communications) has been deployed in Timor on Mission to upgrade Communication Facilities and to Train UN Agencies, NGOs and SOC radio operations staff.

## DISTRICT ASSISTANCE UPDATE

On 14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February, CRS Emergency team members coordinated with regional MSS officials, the District Social Economic Officer, two districts Administrators, the sub-district Coordinator, various chefe de sucos and aldeias and distributed NFIs to 47 families, representing 298 persons affected by strong winds in Lautem. 141 cooking sets of three pieces, 470 plates, 470 plastic glasses, 600 assorted spoons and 47 tarpaulins were distributed to these families.



## RECOVERY UPDATE

### RETURN ORGANISED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF TIMOR-LESTE

As of the 04 April 2008, the government of Timor-Leste has assisted the return of 450 families from diverse camps located in Dili, Liquica and Gleno.

Reminder: On the 29 December 2007, 181 families returned to Ermera, mainly Lisapat village.

During the reporting period the following returns were organised:

On the 11 March, 43 families from Dominican Sisters IDP camp returned to Beto.

On the 25 March 2008, 92 families left Canossa Has Laran for Mauk Aldeia, 3 families left Bombeiros IDP camp, 1 family left Bairro Pite and 1 family left CARE IDP compound camp.

On the 29 March 125 families from Liquica, Dili and Gleno returned to Urahou, Fatuessi Lisapat, Mau Ubu and Poetete.

On the 1 April, 4 families remaining in Canossa Has Laran camp left for Mauk Aldeia.

### REGISTRATION UPDATE

To date the Ministry of Social Solidarity has registered 6,453 families (39,118 people) from 16 camps throughout Dili. (including Obrigada Barracks, Hospital, Hera Port, Airport and Jardim). MSS expects to finalise registration by June 2008. More than 1/3 of the families affected by the 2006 and 2007 crisis have been registered by MSS in Baucau, Lautem and Viqueque Districts. MSS reported that all IDPs affected by the crisis of 2007 (post election) previously residing in Ermera, have returned to this district.

*IDPs from Canossa Has Laran Camp move back to their former houses. Courtesy of Philippe Schneider*







## PLANNED RETURNS

The next return organised by MSS targets IDPs from National Hospital. During the registration exercise it was clear that most of the IDPs leaving in the camp have expressed their willingness and ability to return to their former houses. For those unwilling and/or unable to go back to their former houses the Government of Timor-Leste will provide units at the newly completed Transitional Shelter in Bekora Market.

When the return/relocation of National Hospital IDPs has been completed, the Government of Timor-Leste is planning to organise the return of IDPs living in Fatumeta Seminario camp.

## MEETINGS

On the 4<sup>th</sup> April his Excellency Mr Jose Luis Guterres, Vice Prime Minister and Mr Finn Reske Nielson, DSRSG, organised a meeting with the participation of the Minister of Economy & Development, representative of MSS and of the Ministry of Infrastructure, donors, diplomatic corps, UN agencies and NGOs representatives in order to launch the local economy pillar of the National Recovery Strategy. The meeting followed up on priority programmes and focus areas, whilst also highlighting the Government's financial gaps requiring further international support, outside of the Transitional Strategy and Appeal.

## HAMUTUK HARI'I KONFIANSA

At the HH Konfiansa (trust building pillar) the group raised their concerns regarding the involvement of the Joint Command (JC) during dialogue with receiving communities. The HHK has received reports that the JC was requesting people currently occupying houses to move before the return had taken place otherwise the JC could use force to move them. The HHK is recommending an active role/involvement of the Community Police instead of the JC.

## MONITORING

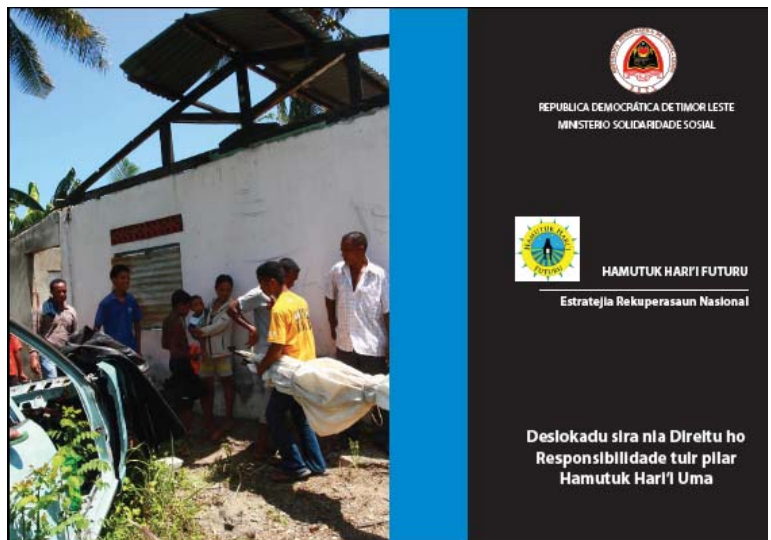
While the ongoing dialogue activities between the IDPs and the host communities are welcomed, there is need for further assessment of the environment (water, sanitation, electricity etc) in the areas proposed for the returnees in order to ensure sustainable return. There is further need for a more regular monitoring throughout the process of return including of dialogue activities.

## LATEST NEWS

An MoU has been signed between the UNDP and MSS to support a rapid data gathering exercise being undertaken to identify each IDP family's wishes and ability to return to their former homes. The total amount of UNDP support being provided is \$28,580 in a cost-sharing arrangement which anticipates a total Government of Timor-Leste contribution of \$39,040. These funds will support a two-month project involving the recruitment of up to 50 personnel to gather data from across all of the IDP camps and in four static locations in Dili.

Supporting this undertaking is a public information campaign explaining the options being offered to IDPs and their consequences. This exercise was undertaken through consultation with MSS and technical support from UNDP and UNMIT PIO.

As well as gathering data about IDP wishes and ability to return, the project will support the temporary recruitment of technical staff to double the size of teams involved in verifying the pre-Crisis occupants of houses, a vital step in the IDP resettlement programme.



**UPDATE ON TRANSITIONAL SHELTER UNITS****137 Transitional Shelter Units at Bekora Market completed**

On 3 April 2008, 137 new transitional shelter units of the Bekora Market Transitional Shelter site were handed over to the Government of Timor-Leste. These shelters will be assigned with priority to IDPs, who are currently sheltering at the Dili National Hospital, in order to mitigate public health risks at the hospital and to offer a safer and friendlier environment to the IDPs.



All shelters are equipped with electricity. Cooking facilities, latrines, and tap stands are provided on the site, with two families sharing one bathroom. A police station is housed within the site in order to ensure the safety and security of the inhabitants. Funding for the construction had been provided by the Government of Timor-Leste, Norway, the European Commission, and France. The construction of the units within the former Bekora Market was undertaken by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). The water and sanitation infrastructure was provided by Triangle Génération Humanaire (TGH). A second phase of shelter unit construction



at Bekora Market is envisaged, which could bring the number of units to 205.

*Photos: Left: Alfredo Zamudio, Norwegian Refugee Council and Romain Sztark, Triangle Génération Humanaire open the handover ceremony; Right: Transitional Shelter Units (Photos by Florentina Debling)*

**Update on Occupancy of Transitional Shelter Units (as of 18 March 2008)**

Transitional Shelter	Room Occupancy	Number of Individuals	Latrines	Water points
Tibar (built by NRC)	123 / 123	≤ 500*	50	61
Quarantina (built by GoTL)	71 / 72	451	32	46
FFDTL (NRC)	96 / 100	497	50	58
Bekora I (NRC)	94 / 96	663	27	44
Bekora II (NRC)	62 / 60	388	30	36
Hera (NRC)	0 / 53	0	N/A**	N/A**
<b>Total</b>	<b>446/504</b>	<b>2,499 IDPs</b>	<b>≥189</b>	<b>≥245</b>
	<b>Approx. 88% occupancy</b>			

The table above shows an update on the occupancy of the transitional shelters on March 18 (prior to the completion of Bekora market).

\* Figures have been previously inflated by the camp population due to lack of a proper registration. NRC estimates the camp population to be ≤ (less or equal to) 500.

\*\* Facilities to be upgraded / repaired if and when residents move in, on ratios similar to above.



## NATURAL HAZARDS

The National Policy for Disaster Risk Management was approved by the Council of Ministers on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March. This Policy guides the government in comprehensive development of disaster risk management that aligns to decentralisation policy of government services, the constitution meeting international standards including the Hyogo Framework. An English version of the Policy is planned for release in the coming weeks. UNDP Timor-Leste's Crisis Prevention and Recovery Unit is presently assisting the National Disaster Management Directorate to draft a national disaster risk management development strategy that will guide immediate to longer term programming.

Late March and early April has seen a third active monsoonal cycle of storms bringing heavy and long rainfall periods resulting in further crop, housing and infrastructure damage. Winds have not been as strong as the January and February, although an increase in the numbers of fatalities has been reported with 4 people drowning over the last week. Ground saturation also continues with landslides and sediment filling river and drainage systems, increasing flood risk to many communities.

Another significant factor for human and national security is and will be those areas with infrastructure damage and isolation. Many secondary roads in to sub-districts remain cut and there is a high risk of further secondary and primary national roads being cut for many months in 2008.

**Reported House Damage in 13 Districts between November 2007 and 3 April 2008**

No	District	Type of House Damage					Total
		Wind	Flood	Fire	Conflict	Landslide	
1	Aileu	84					84
2	Ainaro	740	4				744
3	Baucau	812					812
4	Bobonaro	6	66				72
5	Covalima	55			15		70
6	Dili	21	350	3		3	377
7	Ermera	170		4	2	21	197
8	Liquica	245	345				590
9	Lautem	203		2	40		245
10	Manatuto	7	45	11	1		64
11	Manufahi	7					7
12	Oecusse	20					20
13	Viqueque	218		1			219
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,588</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>3,501</b>

A fourth active phase of monsoonal systems is forecasted for late April. The 2007-8 La Niña is showing signs of weakening, although conditions remain typical of a mature event in the Timor region. La Niña may remain as late as August 2008, leaving a month before the next wet season. La Niña is assisting many farmers with higher crop yields aiding agricultural food and livelihood security and recovery. Unfortunately there are a high number of farmers who have had crop failure from erratic rain patterns, locust, wind, flood and landslide damage. It will be a significant challenge to identify which families have had losses from those with increased production and how seed assistance may support recovery. The Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission ( Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, WFP, FAO, Care, Concern, GTZ, Oxfam, Seeds of Life, Peace Winds, AusAid.) will address the gaps in present information of losses forecasted for a high proportion of the national population. The CFSAM was launched on 28 March and is scheduled to last until June 2008.



**SECURITY UPDATE**

Overall, the security situation in Timor-Leste remains calm although some minor tensions have been reported in the Western Districts where military operations are ongoing in an attempt to apprehend those involved in the attacks on the 11th February.

Prior to the Easter weekend, there were 685 Petitioners reported to be at the Aitarok Laren site, this number has decreased to 561 as of the 4th April.

The State of Emergency and State of Siege as detailed below, remain in effect until the 22nd April:

State of Siege applies to:	Liquica, Bobonaro, Covalima, Manufahi, Aileu, Ainaro and Ermera	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curfew applies 10.00pm until 6.00am</li> <li>• Joint Command (F-FDTL leading) will conduct operations including right to conduct house searches by night upon presentation of a warrant.</li> <li>• Suspension of the right to demonstrate and assemble</li> </ul>
State of Emergency applies to:	Dili, Manatuto, Lautem, Baucau and Viqueque	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curfew applies 11.00pm until 5.00am</li> <li>• Operations (F-FDTL participating) to include right to conduct house searches by night upon presentation of a warrant.</li> <li>• Suspension of the right to demonstrate and assemble</li> </ul>
No Restrictions apply to:	Atauro and Oecusse	

Below are security incidents of note during the reporting period (Source: Joint NGO Security Office and the UN Security Operation Centre):

**13–20 February**

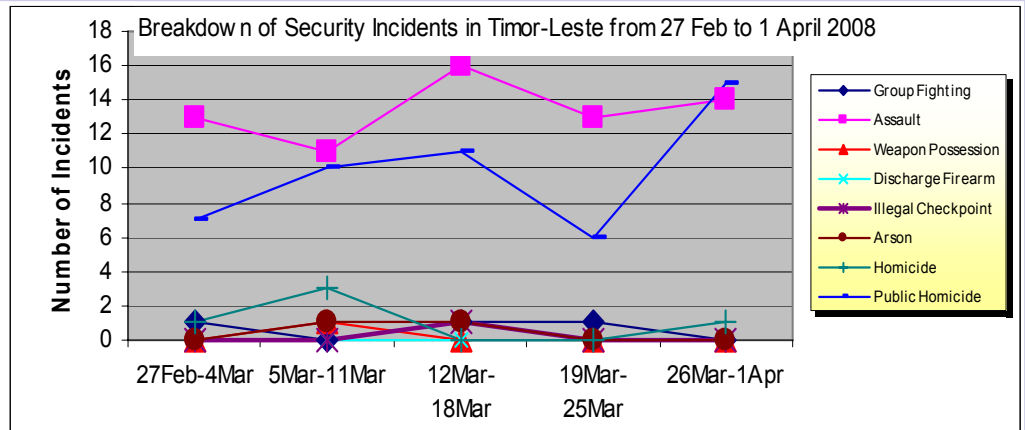
- On 13<sup>th</sup> February, the National Parliament extended the state of siege to 23<sup>rd</sup> February.
- On 15<sup>th</sup> February, the Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd visited Timor Leste where he met with acting President Araujo, Prime Minister Gusmao, Brigadier Taur Matan Ruak, Mari Alkatiri and UN SRSG Atul Khare.
- On 17<sup>th</sup> February, the Council of Ministers adopted a resolution which created a joint command of F-FDTL and PNTL for the purpose of implementing “the operations of security arising from the declaration of a state of emergency”. This joint command would be led by the commander of the F-FDTL, Brigadier Taur Matan Ruak

**20-27 February**

- On 22<sup>nd</sup> February, the National Parliament extended the state of siege to 23<sup>rd</sup> March. The curfew timings changed to 10pm to 6am and the ban on demonstrations was continued. In addition, the legislation allowed the security forces to execute arrest warrant at a person’s residence after dark. Fretilin and PUN parties voted against the legislation in Parliament.

**27 Feb-5 March**

- Ramos-Horta was visited by the acting President Fernando "Lasama" De Araujo, Secretary-General of Fretilin Mari Alkatiri and SRSG Atul Khare this week. He was transferred to the Darwin Private Hospital on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. His doctors estimate that it will be two months before he



can return to Timor-Leste. The President issued a press statement this week in which he declared that he forgave Alfredo Reinado for the actions at his residence on the 11<sup>th</sup> February.

- In a statement this week, the Joint Headquarters claimed to have 1305 PNTL/F-FDTL involved in operations and that it could increase this number to 3000 if required. In response to complaints about human rights abuses, it stated its "strong intention to respect the law".

**5-12 March**

- At a press conference on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, the Joint Headquarters stated that they were operating in Bobonaro district, specifically in the Cailaco, Atsabe and Bobonaro sub-districts. They stated that they had a company of soldiers (approximately 100 troops) in each sub-district.

**12-19 March**

- President Ramos Horta left the Darwin Private hospital but will remain under outpatient care. While in Darwin, he will be staying in a private apartment.
- In a press release on 18<sup>th</sup> March, the Council of Ministers stated that they proposed that the President of the Republic extend the State of Emergency (not State of Siege) by thirty days. This was changed to State of Siege by the Prime Minister after he took legal advice.

**19-26 March**

- The National Parliament voted to extend the State of Siege over Liquica, Ainaro, Bobonaro, Manufahi, Ermera and Cova Lima districts. The curfew in those areas runs from 2200hrs to 0600hrs.
- In the same vote, a State of Emergency was passed for Dili, Baucau, Lautem, Manatuto and Viqueque. The curfew here is from 2300hrs until 0500hrs.
- Atauro and Oecussi have been returned to normal governance.
- There were reports of fighting in Atembua in Indonesia on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March. This fighting left one man dead and many injured. It is understood to have taken place between Timorese refugees and local persons. The Indonesian government has increased its security presence in the town. Media and UN sources indicate that the town is now calm but tense.

**26 March-1 April**

- The operations by the Joint Command Centre (JCC) continue, primarily focused in Ermera but also active in the surrounding districts.
- Again a number of senior political/military/religious figures including President Ramos-Horta and Brigadier Taur Matan Ruak called on Salsinha and his men to surrender.

**SECTOR / PILLAR WORKING GROUP CONTACTS**

Please find below the list of focal points and their contact details for each one of the Sector Working Groups. For updates/ corrections please contact [adelina.lopes@undp.org](mailto:adelina.lopes@undp.org).

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**SELECTED WEBSITES**

- Financial Tracking System: [www.reliefweb.int/fts](http://www.reliefweb.int/fts)
- Humanitarian Reform: [www.humanitarianreform.org](http://www.humanitarianreform.org)
- IASC: [www.humanitarianinfo.org](http://www.humanitarianinfo.org)
- IRIN news: [www.irinnews.org](http://www.irinnews.org)
- OCHA Regional Office Asia Pacific: <http://ochaonline.un.org/roap>
- ReliefWeb: [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)
- The Human Development Report 2007-2008: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2007-2008/>.
- The Humanitarian Policy Group: <http://www.odi.org.uk/hpg/index.html>
- The Millennium Goals Indicators: <http://millenniumindicators.un.org/unsd/mdg/Data.aspx?cr=800>
- The Sphere Project: [www.sphereproject.org](http://www.sphereproject.org)
- UNMIT: [www.unmit.org](http://www.unmit.org)

**Recently released:**

- International Crisis Group Report , Asia Report No. 148, 31 March 2008, Timor-Leste's Displacement Crisis  
[http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/asia/timor/148\\_timor\\_lemeste\\_displacement\\_crisis.pdf](http://www.crisisgroup.org/library/documents/asia/timor/148_timor_lemeste_displacement_crisis.pdf)

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