



HUMANITARIAN UPDATE

TIMOR-LESTE

REPORTING PERIOD FROM 21 APRIL TO 9 MAY

The Humanitarian Update (HU) aims at providing a periodic analysis of current humanitarian issues, facts and policy developments in Timor-Leste with special attention given to internally displaced people (IDPs). The HU is based on voluntary information inputs from UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes, NGO members of the Humanitarian Coordination Committee (HCC) and other partners. It analyses information from a variety of sector coordination meetings involving Timorese authorities. The HU is coordinated and issued by OCHA/UNMIT Integrated Humanitarian Coordination Team (IHCT), usually on a fortnightly basis. Contributions and comments are most welcome and can be sent to the OCHA/UNMIT IHCT in Dili, Focal Points: Louisa.medhurst@undp.org (+670 7365578) and hadin@un.org (+670 7311643).

OF NOTE

- On 23 April, the State of Siege and State of Emergency (States of Exception) ended for all districts with the exception of Ermera District where the State of Siege will continue for a further 30 days until Friday 23 May 2008.
- To date, a total of 8,692 families (60,177 individuals out of the estimated 100,000 persons who were internally displaced in 2006) have registered with the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MSS) giving detailed information about their families and their wishes for resettlement. The registration is expected to be completed by the end of the month. The total number of IDP families who have participated in movements supported by the National Recovery Strategy in 2008 is 1071, and a total of 1012 families received a recovery package.
- Since 30 April, there have been movements out of two of the larger IDP camps in Dili: Fatumeta Seminario Maior IDP camp (173 families who have received the recovery package from MSS have mainly returned to Bairo Pite aldeia), and the National Hospital IDP camp (423 families have registered to move – the majority to Becora and Bidau succo).
- According to NRC, more than 103 families have moved into Becora Market transitional site during the movement from the Hospital IDP camp on 7 and 8 May. Of those families, at least 19 allegedly tried to go back to their homes of origin but faced obstacles (e.g: occupied houses).
- On 30 April, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) welcomed a donation of € 300,000 from the people of Spain mainly towards school feeding and the Food for Work activities. This is the second donation from Spain within half a year.
- On 2 May, the Minister of Social Solidarity, Maria Domingas Fernandes Alves, visited the people of Aldeia Mauk, to view the progress they have made on rehabilitating their houses since they left Canossa Has Laran IDP camp on 25 March.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE UPDATE

FOOD AID/SECURITY

- Food For Work Assets (FFW/A): A total 4,722 FFW/A participants in 3 districts of Baucau, Lautem and Ermera received 183,400 MT of rice for payments for their work.
- School Feeding, Mother Child Health: WFP continues to support Timor-Leste through regular School Feeding, Mother Child Health and identified Food For Work programmes.
- Food Security: Prices for imported rice which is subsidised by the Government of Timor-Leste (GoTL) have been stable at around 50 cents/kg but this rice is limited in quantity, while the non-subsidised rice price has increased from 65 cents/kg to around 83 cents/kg this week. Preliminary data from a Crop and Food Supply Assessment Mission conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture and partners including WFP and FAO indicate that despite locust and rat problems in some areas, this year's maize crop is better than last year's.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

- The Water and Sanitation Working Group (WWG) members continue with ongoing activities such as trucking water and monitoring water quality, cleaning septic tanks, partnering with health and hygiene promotion and the ongoing maintenance of water and sanitation facilities in the IDP camps. These services continue to be provided or coordinated by DNSAS, Plan Timor-Leste, UNICEF, Oxfam, HealthNet, Triangle GH, CRS and IOM.
- The WWG have updated that camp closure priority rankings to contribute a voice, based on professional technical opinion, to the Government's process in managing IDPs (especially in relation to priorities for the recovery strategy which may lead to camp closure). Due to recent flooding and landowner restrictions on building further infrastructure, Hera Port IDP camp has moved from moderate risk to high risk on the ranking. The la Nina wet season has led higher rains, this combined with high tides has led to extensive flooding in the camp. Due to the high flooding risk and resulting risk of loss of assets, injury or death, this camp is recommended for urgent implementation of the recovery strategy and closure. Other camps recommended for urgent closure include the national hospital (in process), Jardim and the Airport.
- DNSAS is using monitoring forms to follow up on water and sanitation needs in camp. It requested the SLSs to provide an estimate numbers of IDPs residing in each camp as soon as possible.
- UNICEF is organising a WASH training in India. The courses will be in English and opened to Timorese national WASH staff. Interested participants should contact UNICEF directly.
- Plan Timor-Leste's ECHO-funded Emergency project ended in April 2008. However, Plan Timor-Leste has submitted a proposal to ECHO for a 12-month project, beginning in June 2008, to continue their work in the IDP camps. For the month of May, IOM is supporting Plan Timor-Leste to continue water trucking and other WatSan activities as needed in Metinaro IDP camp.
- Additional activities were conducted during the reporting period in the following camps:

Hera Port: Oxfam has transformed 8 bathrooms into combined latrines and bathrooms.

Metinaro: Plan Timor-Leste started to test the water quality of tube wells, they conducted protection work on five tube wells to prevent seepage of surface water to the underground source. Plan Timor-Leste monitored the water trucking which it is continuously conducting and monitored the toilet construction activities and provided technical advice. Plan Timor-Leste met with the camp management and discussed improvement of camp conditions, especially water and sanitation. Plan Timor-Leste monitored the ongoing latrine construction works and provided technical advice to the contractor and the community for the improvement and timely progress of the work. They worked to prevent contaminated surface water from penetrating the under ground water sources (ie tube wells).

Jardim: Plan Timor-Leste drained out the surface water from the soak pits.

Motael: Plan Timor-Leste drained out the surface water from the soak pits.

HEALTH

- Disease Surveillance in IDP camps: The Disease Surveillance Unit reported that from 30 March to 3 May, the most frequent health issues in the three main IDP camps were: upper respiratory tract infection, suspected malaria and worms. This was interpreted as a normal incidence and there are no indications of outbreaks or unusual events. In addition, dengue continues to be reported in Timor-Leste in general. During the last two weeks, there were three cases of dengue reported to the Ministry of Health (MoH). Thus, since January 2008 to date, the total number of dengue cases reported to the MoH was 171 nationally. This constitutes a threat to the population, even if it has not reached an alarming level.
- Drug supplies: During the Health Coordination meeting held on 8 May, the MoH reported that the drug management and supply system in Timor-Leste had been improved. Out of stock drugs have been gradually provided (more drugs are expected to reach the country in June 2008). However, the MoH acknowledges that a few health facilities may face some issues related to the delay in submitting the requisition from the health facilities; and the delay in the distribution system from the district to the respective health facilities.

CHILD PROTECTION

- On 28 and 29 April, the MSS and UNICEF conducted an intensive training for all staff of the MSS Women and Children's Units on Child Protection as well as Case Management. This training aimed to enhance the skills and knowledge of social welfare workers to better address the needs of vulnerable children, including victims of violence, exploitation and abuse. The training package is a new one, soon to become an official MSS training on Child Protection in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Timorese Constitution and national and international policies on child protection such as the MSS policy on separated and unaccompanied children in emergencies.
- As from 28 April, Plan Timor-Leste has been conducting daily social and recreational activities in transitional shelters, previously held 3 times per week. Planning is now underway for the construction and installation of seven sets of basic play equipment in transitional shelters.

GENDER

- On 22 April, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the national NGOs Victim Support Services (VSS), PRADET and FOKUPERS was launched. The memorandum aims to strengthen collaboration between key actors in Timor-Leste in order to provide timely and effective survivor-centered services (legal, health, psychosocial) to all victims of sexual and gender-based violence, including domestic violence. It also plans enhanced service provision for victims of gender-based violence together with the Secretary of State for the Promotion of Equality and the Minister of Social Solidarity. For more information please contact FOKUPERS at: +670 - 3321 534

LIVELIHOODS

- As part of the livelihoods training program of Plan Timor-Leste and Alola Foundation, women in Metinaro IDP camp are now producing products for display in the Alola shop. They have received an additional two sewing machines, as well as capital to purchase raw materials to produce handicrafts including tais and sewn products.

YOUTH

- On 19 April, Plan Timor-Leste held a second youth retreat with the theme of 'Peaceful youth, peaceful nation'. This retreat included presentations and discussions on gender and equality; peace and morals; the security situation and hopes for Timor's future. It attracted around 60 participants (more than the targeted 50), among which were 20 women. The participants came from the IDP camps of Obrigado Barracks, Jardim, Motael, Farol and Becora; the transitional shelter of Karantina; the communities of Becora, Comoro, Aimutin and Bairopite; and the Saint James group from Becora Church. The participants requested that further such programmes be arranged to increase their knowledge, share information, develop ideas and get to know each other. A further such session will be held next soon with a similar number of young people, who have not yet participated in these youth retreats. Photos are available on request (contact Plan)
- Plan Timor-Leste also conducted research into the views of youth on the current political and security situation, so as to update the information already published in its book, 'Stepping Stones: Youth Perspectives on the Crisis'.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO IDPS

- Since October 2007, Avocats Sans Frontières (ASF) with its "Access to Law" programme, has been conducting legal awareness raising activities in IDP camps and transitional shelters in the Dili area. Primarily ASF has been conducting interactive public information sessions to improve access to justice. During these sessions the ASF-produced film "Dalan ba Justica" ("The road to justice") is shown, followed by information and clarification on the criminal process and participatory activities. Most recently, together with the Women's Justice Unit from JSMP, ASF conducted a two day training session on the laws relating to Domestic Violence. Five training sessions were conducted in total, for the Women's Committees from 10 different camps, as well as other women leaders. Altogether approximately 100 women participated in the training sessions. After each session the IDPs are offered an opportunity to request legal advice.



Members of the Women's Committee in Hera and Metinaro camps participating in domestic violence training



Woman receiving free legal advice in Tasi Tolu Transitional Camp

These public awareness sessions are complemented by free mobile legal clinics. IDPs are offered the opportunity to receive free legal advice from the Avocats Sans Frontières' legal team. ASF lawyers can be contacted on telephone number +670 730 1881 in order to arrange for a free legal consultation. Legal advice is offered to each client on a one by one basis and under confidentiality. To date, ASF has provided free legal consultations to 169 IDPs.

Within this reporting period, the legal team followed up on the cases of its existing 43 clients. ASF also conduct Public Information sessions on the criminal process in IDP Camps and Transitional Shelters. Within the reporting period four Public Information sessions were held in the following IDP camps: Quarantina, Becora 1, Madre Canossiana Lecidere and Igreja Becora.

- In addition, two women leaders from the IDP camp of Seminario Minor and the Hospital graduated on 30 April as Community Legal Liaisons after 25 full days of comprehensive training in mediation and the law, over the course of six months. Their role will be to help mediate disputes in their community before they escalate into violence and to refer complex disputes and crimes on to the formal justice system for resolution. They will join a network of 120 other community leaders who have already received this training from ASF in Dili, Baucau, Liquisa and Covalima.

RECOVERY PROCESS UPDATE

UPDATE ON IDP MOVEMENTS

Seminario Maior Fatumeta:

On the 30 April, 173 IDP families from Seminario Maior Fatumeta received the recovery package from MSS and mainly returned to Bairo Pite

National Hospital:

- A movement for the return and relocation of IDPs residing in the National Hospital camp took place on 7 and 8 May. Around 400 families were expected to return home or be temporarily relocated in Transitional Shelters. According to NRC, more than 103 families have moved into Becora Market transitional site during the movement. Of those families, at least 19 allegedly tried to go back to their homes of origin but faced obstacles (e.g: occupied houses).

- The decommissioning process was led by Oxfam. In depth consultation occurred with SLS, IDPs, Camp management, Hospital Administration and the hospital contractor on the disposal of assets and cleaning of the site. Roles and responsibilities of stakeholders were defined and key decommissioning messages socialised with IDPs. It is anticipated that the decommissioning process will be completed next week.
- The Dili District Administrator provided a truck and 10 labourers to work on decommissioning the water and sanitation structures at the Hospital IDP camp. Oxfam provided masks, gloves and lunch to the labourers. It is not clear whether this service will be available for other sites. Siko Xavier at the District Administration is the contact person (+670 724-9768).

In general:

- Each registered IDP leaving a camp receives 16kg of rice, even if relocated to a Transitional Shelter.
- The WWG revised the decommissioning guidelines to define clear roles and responsibilities between stakeholders, especially the Water and Sanitation (WS) agency, SLS, Camp Management and Government.
- Talks are ongoing between the WS agencies and landlords regarding the decommissioning of the Water and Sanitation structures in camps. Assets will be mapped and gifted, removed or repaired.
- The socialisation of the decommissioning process should be a joint effort by the WS agencies and the SLS's.
- The humanitarian community is encouraging the Government to maintain the comprehensive approach and multi-dimensional components of the National Recovery Strategy, endorsed last December. These include the necessity to have the five pillars of the strategy conducted at the same speed and with the same government's attention. In particular, the return, resettlement, and reinsertion options need to be offered in a systematic, timely and verified way to the IDPs, to allow them to choose well informed. The process need to allow enough time and anticipation to allow appropriate and triangulated communication, socialization, and trust building between the Government, the IDP families and the communities.

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE TSA

- To date, the TSA is 8% funded with US\$ 2,783,054 received from private donors of US\$ 36 million requested.
- Among the sectors funded are Education, Shelter, and Health. Agriculture, Food, and Economic Recovery have not received any funds yet.

	Original requirements	Revised requirements	Funding	% Covered	Unmet requirements	Uncommitted pledges
	A	B	C	C/B	B-C	D
AGRICULTURE	1,672,000	1,672,000	0	0%	1,672,000	0
COORDINATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES	11,395,075	11,395,075	650,000	6%	10,745,075	0
ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE	6,784,252	6,784,252	0	0%	6,784,252	0
EDUCATION	1,985,904	1,985,904	788,342	40%	1,197,562	0
FOOD	5,929,500	5,929,500	0	0%	5,929,500	0
HEALTH	1,687,869	1,687,869	378,505	22%	1,309,364	0
MULTI-SECTOR	334,318	334,318	0	0%	334,318	0
PROTECTION/HUMAN RIGHTS/RULE OF LAW	2,538,338	2,538,338	396,171	16%	2,142,167	0
SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS	1,555,036	1,555,036	410,036	26%	1,145,000	0
WATER AND SANITATION	2,425,223	2,425,223	160,000	7%	2,265,223	0
Grand Total:	36,307,515	36,307,515	2,783,054	8%	33,524,461	0

SECURITY UPDATE

The overall security situation has been generally calm during the reporting period, the situation remaining tense in Ermera as Joint Command operations continued prior to, and following, the surrender of the Salsinha group on 29 April.

There was, however, a slight increase in the number of incidents in Dili after 22 April. Most of the reported incidents were minor in scope and non-political in nature. Two notable exceptions were an incident in Baucau where a feud between PSHT and 77 gang members resulted in the deaths of two people¹, and a number of incidents in Dili and Baucau where Chinese merchants were attacked.

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

- During a speech in Parliament, President Ramos Horta announced that Rogerio Lobato and 80 others would receive Presidential Pardons on 20 May to coincide with Independence Day celebrations. In a Radio Australia interview on 30 April, the President stated that “the Joint Command will continue indefinitely” until he decides, in consultation with the Prime Minister, Parliament and others, that conditions exist to end Joint Command activities.
- FRETILIN and PSD, in separate statements, reflected negatively on the manner in which Salsinha and his group were treated on 29 April. Both have called for the end of the State of Siege and FRETILIN stated that the Joint Command should be stood down.
- Reports of abuses by members of the Joint Command continued to surface, particularly from Ermera District. The Joint Command recently announced it had 28 cases under investigation, and that ‘apologies’ would be made to the communities who had to suffer during the Apprehension Operation.
- On 29 April, Gastao Salsinha and ten members of his group officially surrendered to the authorities near Gleno, Ermera. The surrender comes after three days of negotiations. Salsinha voluntarily cantoned himself while awaiting the arrival of the remaining members of his group. They were transported to Dili by a combined military/police convoy on 29 April and a ceremony was conducted at Government Palace, followed by a press conference at the Joint Command HQ.
- Joint Command operations have switched focus towards finding small arms and light weapons (SALW). The new operation will encapsulate the entire country, with F-FDTL deployments in all Districts (with the possible exception of Oecusse).
- In a meeting with UNMIT, Prime Minister Gusmao indicated that the Joint Command and State of Siege would end on 10 May, after efforts to locate illegal weapons have been concluded.
- In an interview broadcast on TVTL on 1 May, a spokesman for the Joint Command stated that the Joint Command will put its energies into controlling the Martial Arts Groups, and will continue to operate static posts in Dili to provide a presence during the return and resettlement process for the IDPs.
- Recent reports indicate that the Joint Command plans to conduct a nation-wide operation to search for illegal weapons.
- F-FDTL told INGO staff in Bobonaro sub-District that they would be conducting operations in the area for up to three months.
- A young woman was injured by a bullet fragment in the early hours of 5 May in Letefoho sub-District of Ermera. She was reported to have been present at a gathering of locals and Joint Command troops. Information is unclear, however, it appears that a weapon was discharged following an argument and a fragment or ricochet struck the woman in her lower face.

¹ It is unclear whether the fighting was two separate incidents spurred by the murder of one gang member. It is possible that the second homicide was retaliation for the first.

SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

- NGOs continue to be stopped at Joint Command checkpoints outside of the State of Siege area. They have been ordered to exit their vehicles, their vehicles and equipment have been searched (including personal items) and they have been questioned concerning the purpose of their trip and their planned activities. This includes the checkpoint near Tasi Tolu.

COORDINATION AND POINTS OF CONTACT

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.

Sector /Pillar per Module	Point of Contact (Organisation)	E-mail
Emergency Assistance / Module I		
Child Protection	Tim Budge (Plan Timor-Leste)	tim.budge@plan-international.org
Communications	Greg Kintz (UNMIT CPIO)	kintz@un.org
Education	Augusto Pereira (Ministry of Education)	agus_educ@yahoo.co.id
	Elke Krause-Hannak (UNICEF)	ekrausehannak@unicef.org
Food Aid	Phil Brewster (IOM / MSS)	brewsterphil@yahoo.com.au
Gender Based Violence	Caroline Meenagh (UNFPA)	meenagh@unfpa.org
Health Coordination	Augusto Pinto (Ministry of Health)	lacurubic_78@yahoo.com
Health Promotion	Apolinario dos R.G.(Ministry of Health)	apolio79@yaho.co.uk
	Faviola Monteiro (WHO)	favy20@yahoo.co.uk
Nutrition	Cecily Dignan (AusAid)	cecily@fwi.net.au
Protection	Lauren Rumble (UNICEF)	lrumble@unicef.org
Shelter	Phil Brewster (IOM / MSS)	brewsterphil@yahoo.com.au
Site Liaison Support	Tracey Morgan (IOM)	tracey_morgan@yahoo.com
Water and Sanitation	Virginia Dawson (Oxfam)	virginiad@oxfam.org.au
Dialogue	Jammie Hanjam (Ministry of Social Solidarity)	j_hanjam@yahoo.com.au
Geographic Information Group	Tinago Chikoto (OCHA)	data.ocha@undp.org
Security Focal Points	Anton Boshoff (UNDSS)	anton.boshoff@undp.org
Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru / Module II		
Hamutuk Hari'i Estabilidade	Anacleto Ribeiro	Anacleto.ribeiro@gmail.com
Hamutuk Hari'i Konfiansa	Ben Larke (UNDP/MSS)	ben.larke@undp.org
Hamutuk Hari'i Uma	Philippe Brewster (IOM/MSS)	brewsterphil@yahoo.com.au
Disaster Risk Management / Module III		
NDMD Coordination	Lourenco Xavier Cosme	Doc.ndmd@gmail.com

SELECTED WEBSITES

Financial Tracking System: www.reliefweb.int/fts

Humanitarian Reform: www.humanitarianreform.org

IASC: www.humanitarianinfo.org

IRIN news: www.irinnews.org

OCHA Regional Office Asia Pacific: <http://ochaonline.un.org/roap>

ReliefWeb: 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

UNMIT: www.unmit.org