OCHA/UNMIT Integrated Humanitarian Coordination Team

# HUMANITARIAN UPDATE TIMOR-LESTE

**REPORTING PERIOD FROM 10 - 30 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/UMMIT IHCT in Dili, Focal Points: Louisa.medhurst@undp.org (+670 7365578) and hadin@un.org, (+670 7311643).

#### OF NOTE

- <u>20 May:</u> The Norwegian Minister for International Development and the Environment, Mr. Erik Solheim, visited IDPs living in the Becora Market transitional site during a two-day visit to the country. Minister Solheim was in the country to meet with the President of Timor-Leste, the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, as well as to sign a new Memorandum of Understanding between Norway and Timor-Leste.
- <u>20 May</u>: Timor-Leste celebrated the Restoration of Independence Day. A full programme of events took place in Dili throughout the week and attracted many people.
- <u>21 May</u>: Movement out of Jardim Camp started. To date over 500 families have left the camp.
- <u>29 May</u>: The United Nations celebrated the International Day of Peacekeepers.

# HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE UPDATE

# FOOD AID/SECURITY

The Government of Timor-Leste (GoTL) is subsidising rice in order to keep rice prices stable in view of the global hike in food prices. Over the last weeks price increases have occurred as there does not seem to be enough subsidised rice on the market, therefore GoTL is looking into increasing the amount of subsidized rice being made available to the market through the Ministry of Commerce. The shortfall is likely due to reduced stocks and uncertainty with regard to ensured imports.

Available stocks: GoTL has some rice available in stock (exact figures not available) and 5,100 mt of rice is available from private traders to the Government, 3,400 mt of rice is due to arrive from Vietnam next week. With an estimated 1,000 mt subsidised rice needed per week, the current estimation is that the available quantities could ensure sufficient subsidised rice for the next 2-3 months. However, it depends on the accuracy of reported figures and on actual weekly requirements, which may be higher than 1,000 tonnes.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is continuing its regular School Feeding and Maternal and Child Health Programmes. GoTL is continuing the rice distribution to IDPs in camps (4 kg of rice / person / month) and is also providing a one-off assistance of 16kg of rice as part of the recovery package for IDPs who are making use of one of the options of the Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru / National Recovery Strategy (the rice distributed as part of the recovery package is provided by WFP). WFP will reimburse the rice that is part of the return package, as soon as its shipments arrive since MSS have been using their own stocks while WFP waits for more rice to arrive.

#### In this Update:

- Humanitarian assistance update
- Recovery process update
- Monitoring of IDP returns
- Public outreach meetings on humanitarian support
- Security update
- Funding update
- Map on area of return of IDPs



### Second Crop Planting and Reduction of Post-Harvest Losses

The GoTL is planning to encourage the planting of second crops. FAO is assisting the Government in providing maize and rice seeds, fertilizers, and potato / sweet potato seedlings to support farmers to plant a second crop, as well as to provide grain storage facilities in order to reduce post-harvest losses. These measures could support 30,000 families engaged in subsistence faming and could increase local production by 30,000 mt and therefore reduce pressure on the need of imported rice. FAO is procuring high quality rice seeds from local farmers for distribution by mid June to farmers who are lacking of seeds for the second cultivation. With the support from NZAID and Spain, FAO will expand silo production for additional 6,000 silos nationwide during this fiscal year. GoTL is planning to commit to buying this additional rice from farmers at a guaranteed price.

# 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, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Oxfam, HealthNet, Triangle GH, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and International Organization for Migration (IOM).

The WWG has been actively commencing the decommissioning camps process in camps that have closed by removing or gifting WatSan infrastructure and ensuring that the installed infrastructure is left in a satisfactory and safe condition. In camps that are likely to close in the near future, work is ongoing to ensure that clear roles and responsibilities for decommissioning are established between stakeholders, especially the WatSan agency, Site Liaison Support (SLS), Camp Management and GoTL. Plan commenced decommissioning of WatSan facilities at Jardim Seaport IDP camp beginning with the removal of three water tanks (one still remaining) and partial decommissioning of one latrine block (one still remaining).

# SITE LIAISON SUPPORT (SLS)

Over the past three weeks, SLS agencies have continued their assistance to the GoTL in the implementation of the return and reintegration component of its National Recovery Strategy in three of the country's 47 remaining camps: Fatumeta Seminario Minor, the National Hospital and Jardim camps. During this period, SLS agencies worked closely with the Government, local leadership structures and other partners to prepare both IDP and their receiving communities for the return process. IOM supported the process through dialogue, transportation, logistical and returns monitoring assistance to the 1030 families that benefited from programme's return component in these camps, in addition to the management of transitional shelters by NRC, locations receiving many IDPs.

As of 30 May 2008, both Fatumeta and National Hospital are closed, whilst the process in Jardim continues. For the most part, IDPs returned to their former places of residence or relocated to transitional shelters.

In addition to the assistance provided to the Government in the safe, dignified and orderly return and reintegration of IDPs, SLS agencies are also continuing their long-standing camp management support in the remaining camps, including the coordination of water and sanitation, food and other services, and serving as a liaison between IDPs and the Government.



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# PROTECTION

The following are areas of concern related to Protection that have been discussed in the Protection Working Group:

- Some Sucos have indicated that they intend to start enforcing "Adat" customary laws and have requested assistance from Police Nacional Timor-Leste (PNTL) in enforcing them. Concerns were voiced on the effectiveness of the customary laws specifically on issues related to Gender-Based Violence. It was noted that in most of the cases arbitrated using "Adat" laws, rights of the victims are not adequately addressed.
- Protection concerns have been raised regarding the IDP return/resettlement/reintegration process relating to: the level of coordination between MSS and other related ministries; the amount of dialogue between IDPs and return communities prior to movement from the camp; and the registration of IDP movements to Transitional Shelters (prior to the movement).

# CHILD PROTECTION

On 29 May, 13 Child Protection Officers representing the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MSS) were officially launched, together with a Memorandum of Understanding between Ministries, the Police and the Church for collaboration on child and family welfare in the districts.

The Ministry of Social Solidarity (MSS) established a Department for National Social Reinsertion as the foundations of a system to keep children safe. Now they are expanding their specialist response services to protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation across the country. The Child Protection Officers will support communities to identify problems and work with children and families to solve them. Their work will be guided by the Constitution of Timor-Leste and an upcoming Child Protection Policy which has been discussed at the Council of Ministers.

UNICEF, together with partners, has supported the concept and roll-out of child protection networks, representing a community-based system for child protection in every district. UNICEF has also helped the Government to develop the relevant legal and policy framework for this work, including numerous training packages on child protection and case management of child victims of violence, exploitation and abuse.

# **GENDER**

A second Gender-Based Violence Investigations Training of Trainers (ToT) Course, organised by UNPOL, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Timor-Leste Police Development Programme (TLPDP) is scheduled to take place at the National Police Academy in Comoro, Dili, from 9-20 June 2008. The course has been developed using the manual devised by UNFPA and TLPDP in its original ToT course held at the Academy in 2005, which was subsequently halted due to the socio-political crisis the following year.

A total of 36 police officers are expected to attend the training, including 26 from the districts, ranging from sub-Inspectors to Agents and from PNTL divisions such as the Vulnerable Persons Unit (VPU), the National Investigations Division and the Police Academy. Lessons include the nature of gender-based violence in Timor-Leste, exploring myths and attitudes, the legal framework in relation to crimes of gender-based violence, investigation techniques including forensics, children in conflict with the law and handling child abuse cases and emergency medical support services for survivors of gender-based violence. Further follow-up training for PNTL VPU staff nationwide is planned in 2008.

# YOUTH

Plan's youth programme mobilised young people from Becora host community to help repair a house at the Bhakita Orphanage. The works involved the preparation of sand and painting of the kitchen and study.

# **RECOVERY PROCESS UPDATE**

### **IDP** Movement

- As of 22 May 2008, a total number of 1,276 families had been assisted with the recovery package and as of 26 May a total of 3551 families had been registered into the Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru database (see map attached). An estimated total number of 13000 IDPs have registered under the Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru registration (9,000 from IDP camps and 4,000 from host families)."Since the last Humanitarian Update, movements out of the Jardim Camp has started, with over 500 families who have left to date.
- Plan provided support to IOM during the first three days of the move out of the Jardim camp with conducting children's activities in the camp, two staff to consult with families in the camp regarding their situation and their readiness/ability to leave the camp; two staff to support the actual return of IDPs back to their chosen community, and two cars and drivers to support MSS "go see" visits.

### Transitional shelter update

- <u>Becora Market</u>: IDPs from Jardim have moved into Becora Market transitional housing, with the assistance of IOM. Currently 131 of 137 rooms in Becora Market are occupied by IDPs from Fatumeta Seminary, Dili National Hospital and Jardim. Five family sized rooms remain available for future tenants. Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has developed a data base with photographic verification linked to signed tenancy agreements outlining the rules and responsibilities of IDPs living in Transitional Shelter Sites. Works are rapidly ongoing to construct a further 27 sheter units on the site.
- <u>Other Transitional Shelters</u>: Discussions continue with MSS to prioritise other Transitional Shelter Sites for processing as part of GoTL's ongoing commitment to return and reintegration – it is hoped that any vacancies created will be available for IDPs from other camps unable or unwilling to return to their former residences.

### **RETURN MONITORING**

- IOM has begun the recruitment process for its community-based return monitoring project, which is expected to begin in June. IOM continues to consult with partners for input into the return monitoring form and methodology, and on possible participation in activities. The community based return monitoring project aims to collect standard-ised information from 222 aldeias in Dili relevant to the impact of returns (with relation to conflict and community dynamics, livelihoods and basic services). IOM continues to participate in the Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru meetings in which partners are discussing coverage and strategy for individual family return monitoring. Thus far IOM has conducted pre-return assessments, mediation in coordination with the Government, and follow-up monitoring of critical cases from the Fatumeta, Hospital, and Jardim movements.
- UNMIT Integrated Humanitarian Coordination Team (IHCT) is assisting MSS in the design and implementation of the Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru database. This is done in collaboration with the national database administrator so as to build national capacity and hence sustainability. The database monitors the different parts of the Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru implementation from registration through to the payment /disbursement of the recovery package. IHCT also advises on the information products that can be produced by collecting this information to help in humanitarian/ early recovery programming.
- UNMIT Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section (HRTJS) has created an IDP monitoring cell. The ultimate goal of the the IDP monitoring cell's work is to help ensure that the protection needs of IDPs are addressed through an effective response mechanism. The IDP cell's work is primarily action oriented and is designed to conduct moni toring vsits to IDP camps/IDP settings on a quasi daily basis and to conduct interviews with IDPs, community repre-





senttatives, relevant authorities, NGOs and service providers as necessary. The IDP cell schedule will include visits to all camps in Dili plus IDP settings in Gleno and Eastern districts; Report systematically findings after each IDP camp visit, according to established guidelines, and produce updates on the main findings; Refer protection is sues of concern and key protection developments to the HRTJS IDP team for follow up and advocacy; Refer individual protection cases or issues of concern to the relevant services for urgent responses (DNSS, pertinent NGOs, child protection monitoring group etc).

• The WWG is developing an information package to provide to returning IDPs with technical advice on how to build a latrine at your home and outlining the health benefits with correct latrine use. Once the package is developed it will be socialised with IDPs and practical demonstrations and training on latrine building will be piloted.

#### AGENCY UPDATE

- Plan celebrated International Children's Day at UIR compound on Sunday 1 June, and on Monday 2 June at Obrigado Barak and Policia Academia IDP camps in partnership with Christian Children's Fund (CCF). On Tuesday 3 June - Thursday 5 June celebrations will be conducted at Tibar Ismaik, Quarantina, F-FDTL/Tasi Tolu, Becora One and Two and Becora Market transitional shelters in partnership with NRC and Arte Moris.
- Oxfam has initiated discussions on the camp decommissioning process with landowners and IDPs and all sites Oxfam holds WatSan responsibility.
- Additional activities were conducted by Oxfam during the reporting period in the following camps:

- <u>National Hospital</u>: Oxfam completed the decommissioning process. In depth consultation occurred with SLS, I DPs, 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. A final site inspection occurred last week with the hospital administration who were very happy with the decommissioning process and the result.

- <u>Balide Igreja</u>: Oxfam conducted significant improvements to the water supply and drainage. 110 metre of drainage were constructed, rehabilitation of a water tower, water tank, taps and distribution line from tower to tap stand were undertaken.

- <u>Hera Port:</u> Oxfam engaged in the digging of an infiltration trench and rising up of a foot place for 8 latrine units to upgrade the evacuation of waste water in this area of high ground water.

- <u>National Archives</u> and <u>RTTL</u>: Oxfam provided technical assistance and maintenance works in these 2 ex-CVTL camps. This involved the repairing of a septic tank, provision of new tap stand and repair to bathrooms; construction of a new washing area, repairs to tap stand and filling of an area to prevent ponding water.

# PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS

Over the last three weeks, Public Outreach Meetings on humanitarian support in Timor-Leste were held in Dili and the Districts. These meetings, organised by UNMIT's Public Information Office, are an opportunity for the civil society, NGOs, and Timorese stakeholders to be briefed on the activities of the international community in the field of humanitarian assistance and to interact and raise concerns, in particular at the district level.

(Continued on page 6)



Such meetings have already taken place in Dili and the four Regional Public Outreach Offices in Baucau, Maliana, Oecussi and Suai. Around 20 to 30 participants were gathered each time from local and international NGOs, UN agencies as well as local authorities (Suco chiefs). Participants took the opportunity to ask many questions to the representative of the Integrated Humanitarian Coordination Team who made the presentation.

The main concern repeatedly raised across the visited districts related to food. Participants regretted the absence of food distribution to IDPs and host communities in the districts since 2007. Moreover, the fact that food distribution was still occurring in Dili was perceived as unfair and unjustified. Access to food in the Districts was emphasised as being difficult and the major concern of the population. Furthermore, the high price of rice was underlined, as well as its consequences, such as the restricted access to rice for many people who cannot afford it. In this regard, insufficient access to subsidised rice in the Districts was also pointed out by participants.

The inadequate access to clean water was also underlined by participants as a general problem in the Districts. IDPs as well as host communities must walk sometimes several kilometers to the few water points available. Consequently, sanitation facilities are also poor which could lead to issues in terms of health.

In general, participants wished to emphasise the necessity for GoTL and the international community to pay as much attention to the people living in the Districts as to those in Dili. Furthermore, some participants were under the impression that assistance was solely provided to IDPs and not the most vulnerable, such as orphans, widows and pregnant

# NATURAL HAZARDS

<u>On 24 May</u>, an earthquake of a magnitude of 5.3 on the Richter scale occurred at 1644 hours local time, epicenter at 45.6 km depth, 75 km West of Dili. No tsunami warning was issued.

### FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE TRANSITIONAL STRATEGY AND APPEAL (TSA)

• The TSA is currently 8.4% funded with US\$ 3 million received out of the US\$ 36 million requested. Education, Shelter and Health are the sectors that have received the most funding (40%, 26% and 22% respectively).

Compiled by OCHA on the basis of information provided by donors and appealing organizations.

	Original requirements	Revised requirements	Funding	% Covered	Unmet requirements	Uncommitted pledges
	А	В	С	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	901,102	8%	10,493,973	1,700,000
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	847,536
FOOD	5,929,500	5,929,500	0	0%	5,929,500	1,150,000
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	3,034,156	8%	33,273,359	3,697,536

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# SECURITY UPDATE

The overall security situation across Timor-Leste during the reporting period remained relatively calm although several security incidents occurred in Dili following the return of IDPs. (Sources: Joint NGO Security Office, UN Security Operation Centre, East Timor Legal Information Site and International Center for Transitional Justice).

Below are security incidents of note during the reporting period:

### Period: 7-13 May

- <u>On 8 May</u>, at a meeting of the Committee on High Level Coordination, the President of Timor-Leste signed a decree to end the State of Siege in the District of Ermera with immediate effect.
- <u>On 12 May</u>, the Prime Minister shared the results of the Government survey with the Petitioners. According to the survey, 49% of the Petitioners chose to return to the F-FDTL (this option requires them to start over with the recruitment process) and 51% chose to leave the military (with three years' worth of wages). A subsequent letter from a group of Petitioners to the Government indicated that a large number of those who initially chose to return to the F-FDTL now wish to become civilians.
- The "Reinado" trial on the Fatu Ahi Commission of Inquiry case at the Dili Court of Appeals has been further postponed to 11 June.
- According to UN incident statistics, there were 36 recorded incidents across Timor-Leste in the reporting period. Majority of these were assaults and public disturbances. This is a slight increase from the last reporting week (30) due to the IDP return process. UN Police (UNPOL)/PNTL made 96 arrests.

### Period: 14-20 May

- <u>On 19 May</u>, the Office of the President issued a decree granting a presidential pardon to 94 Timorese convicts. Ten prisoners received a full pardon and the remainder received a partial pardon of their sentence. In all, nine persons convicted of serious crimes from 1999, including the former Minister of Interior, Rogerio Lobato, will have a reduction in their sentence.
- According to UN incident statistics, there were 36 recorded incidents across Timor-Leste in the reporting period. Majority of these were public disturbances and assaults. UNPOL/PNTL made 68 arrests (mainly curfew related).

### Period: 21-27 May

- On <u>2 June</u>, the Commission for Truth and Friendship will release its final report on human rights violations committed during the 1999 independence vote in Timor-Leste.
- The Prosecutor General announced that he expects the investigation into the events of 11 February to be concluded by July. Trials in relation to those events are to follow, beginning in August.
- The Petitioners remain at Aitarok Laren, although a considerable number are reportedly assisting the coffee harvest in the districts.
- According to UN incident statistics, there were 36 recorded incidents across Timor-Leste in the reporting period. UNPOL/PNTL made 55 arrests.

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# 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 <u>adelina.lopes@undp.org</u>.

Sector /Pillar per Module	Point of Contact (Organisation)	E-mail		
Coordination, Information and Su	ipport Services			
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Geographic Information Group	Tinago Chikoto (OCHA/UNMIT IHCT)	data.ocha@undp.org		
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Emergency Assistance / TSA Mo	dule I			
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Education	tion Augusto Pereira (Ministry of Education) Elke Krause-Hannak (UNICEF)			
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Hamutuk Hari'i Futuru / TSA Mod	ule II			
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Hamutuk Hari'i Protesaun	Tbd	n/a		
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Disaster Risk Management / TSA	Module III			
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DRM Capacity Support	I Capacity Support Alissar Chaker (UNDP) Kevin Austin (UNDP/NDMD)			
Response Preparedness Support	Florentina Debling (OCHA/UNMIT IHCT)	Debling-unmit@un.org		

#### SELECTED WEBSITES

- Financial Tracking System: <u>www.reliefweb.int/fts</u>
- Humanitarian Reform: <u>www.humanitarianreform.org</u>
- IASC: <u>www.humanitarianinfo.org</u>
- IRIN news: <u>www.irinnews.org</u>
- OCHA Regional Office Asia Pacific: <u>http://ochaonline.un.org/roap</u>
- ReliefWeb: <u>www.reliefweb.int</u>

#### **OF INTEREST**

 Brookings Institution: Addressing internal displacement in peace processes, peace agreements and peace-building. Available at: <u>http://www.brookings.edu/~/media/Files/rc/reports/2007/09peaceprocesses/2007\_peaceprocesses.pdf</u>



# Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs IDPs Area of Return under the Government's HHF Program (Dili District) and Camp Closure Progress

Based on Registration Information from the Hamutuk Harií Futuru (HHF) Database (as of 26 May 2008)

