

UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator

## Inter-Agency Standing Committee Timor-Leste

Tuesday, 14 April 2009, 1100-1230  
UNMIT Conference Room C

### SUMMARY

#### 1. Introduction and adoption of the agenda and matters from the previous meeting

Briefing by DSRSG/RC/HC Reske-Nielsen

- The IASC-TL Secretariat role has shifted from the Humanitarian Unit to the RC Unit.
- Vincent Fung has joined the RC Unit and Early Recovery as Information Management Specialist.
- UNDP CPR Unit recently added 3 new staff to their Disaster Risk Management (DRM) project.
  - James Hardman, Project Manager
  - Merrick Chatfield, DRM Operations Specialist
  - Sidney Tupper, Disaster Risk Management Analyst
- Ms. Petra Demarin, Early Recovery Advisor, will join the RC Unit at the end of May.
- Introduction of Mr. Alfredo Zamudio as the co-chair of the IASC-TL.

#### 2. Political Update

Briefing by Preston Pentony, UNMIT Political Affairs

- The President was recently in the media saying that FRETILIN has given up on the idea of a Peace March. However, Mr. Mari Alkatiri responded by saying that the President's comment was only government rhetoric. Ultimately, the Peace March is something to be considered for the future and does not currently have a definite date.
- Mr. Alkatiri left last Saturday as a special envoy to Guinea-Bissau and will be away for the next several weeks.
- The Parliament is currently interested in the formation of the suco elections. There has been political movement from the national to local levels, however it is unclear what form participation will take given that election laws have yet to be approved. A new political party has formed – the PDN (National Development Party), a break-away group from the PSD (Social Democratic Party). The party is mainly comprised of people from Ermera, Bobonaro, and Ainaro. The group should pose no danger to the AMP coalition given its small size.

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- During a trip to Oecusse, the President made an announcement in the media about dissolving parliament. The President would like to improve the operations of parliament, which struggles in terms of meeting a quorum for committee and plenary meetings.

**Action: UNMIT Political Affairs to update on the media law.**

**3. Briefing on Post-Return Monitoring (IOM)**

Presentation by Angela Sherwood, IOM

- House reconstruction and general development needs, rather than a lack of security, were most frequently cited as challenges to return. Availability of reconstruction assistance in 2008 has been a strong influencing factor on decisions to return. Strong support for enhanced reintegration programming given differences in perception of acceptance and inclusion in community life.
  - See attached presentation entitled “Community and IDP Surveys: Round 2 Monitoring”
- Methodologies in collecting data differ between round 1 and round 2 of this research. Focus group discussions are underway to look at the qualitative nature of the data. The study did not disaggregate the data based on gender.
- There were interests and concerns about the methodology in conducting the research and collecting the IDP return data. There needs to be more specific and targeted questions about the use of the recovery package and effectiveness of those questions to address the underlying causes of conflict and tensions. There were requests for IOM to give an idea of the extent to which the survey is representative of the overall population, since data collection takes place at certain times in the day which may skew the results.
- The Early Recovery Cluster may be able to address recovery package use. UNDP and IOM are collaborating under the SERC project to identify root causes of conflict and reintegration.
- IOM mentioned that the government plans to implement a phase 2 of the recovery package to provide additional support for IDPs who have lost their possessions.
- Participation of UNPOL in the Hamutuk Harií Konfiansa (HHK) meetings has been very useful to share information and data on conflict.

**Action: (1) UNPol to appoint a permanent participant to the HHK meetings, possibly from Community Policing Unit, and provide a regular report on incidents/ conflict at the community level as part of the agenda; (2) the relevant partners should continue to consult on the methodology to be used for collecting data about the return and reintegration process with a view to achieving a harmonized approach.**

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Briefing by Ben Larke, UNDP

- Dialogue activities - coordination of all preparatory activities is done by MSS through regular coordination meetings. Coordination amongst dialogue actors before, during and after is done through HHK.
- There are 2 approaches to identifying cases:
  - The SLS pre-movement survey
  - Sharing MSS lists with partners and local authorities
- There are various types of cases related to secondary occupancy, land and property issues, renters or those who never lived in Dili, and interpersonal 'issues' with host communities.
- MSS/UNDP teams are often required to formalize agreements brokered in mediation and to provide information about current government policy. They have a range of partners, some of whom have discreet geographical coverage:
  - CARE – Bairo Pite
  - CRS – Comoro and Baucau
  - Austcare – Viqueque
  - Belun – Vila Verde and Hera
  - IOM – broad coverage over Dili and outlying districts
- The teams also work with local NGOs when possible. Some of these NGOs are linked through the UNDP small grants to do complimentary activities such as training, peace games, and reflection seminars – these tend to compliment dialogue activities and are flexible to direct programming into sensitive areas.
- Presentations to HHK by IOM and PDHJ networks facilitate monitoring and feedback. CARE recently joined as an independent monitoring agency for these activities.

Presentation by Valentina Bacchin, IOM

- Within the suco of Camea, 2 out of 13 villages are opposed to returning IDPs. The two communities are Terminal and Buburlau/Fatuk Francisco. Terminal refuses to accept returned IDPs because of conflicts over land claims and behavior of some groups who fled. In Buburlau/Fatuk Francisco, the reason is because of IDPs behavior before and during the crisis. Communities don't want the IDPs to return, but the Government said that if families want to go back, the Government will accompany them back to the community.
  - See attached presentation entitled "Return and reintegration situation in the suco of Camea"
- Following the presentation, it was mentioned that MSS announced May 1<sup>st</sup> as the date for the movement of Metinaro.

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Briefing by Philippe Schneider, HCU

- Service provision to camps will be reduced in the following months. Triangle and Plan will stop their water distribution by end of April and end of May, respectively. NRC and IOM will stop camp management by the end of June and end of July, respectively. There are discussions to handover responsibilities to MSS. MSS will be organizing a second meeting soon to discuss services delivery issues.
- A large number of families living in TS and additional cases from the Metinaro camp will have difficulties in returning and resettling. Reasons include: lack of house ownership, rejection from receiving communities, or land disputes. In light of this, a strategy needs to be designed to provide durable solution to these cases.

**Action: Propose to the Government to hold a 4<sup>th</sup> national workshop to address the remaining policy issues regarding residual humanitarian issues (i.e. camps, IDPs and Transitional Shelters), developing strategies forward, and division of labour.**

**5. Establishment of Sub-committee to screen applications for IASC-TL membership**

- Volunteers for the selection sub-committee will be Jason Belanger (CRS), Luiz Vieira (IOM), and Vincent Fung (Office of the RC).

**6. Next steps regarding Clusters**

- The HC said that the government is open to engage in the cluster system though they will not be leading the clusters. Participation will possibly be at the Director or Deputy Director level for each cluster. This was welcomed by the IASC-TL members.
- HCU said that government involvement is crucial for contingency planning. The contingency planning workshop will be postponed and the Cluster Task Force will arrange a new date for the workshop. In the meantime, all International Cluster Leads agreed to start working on their respective contingency plan.

**7. AOB**

- CRS expressed concerns about fast driving by UN staff. UNPOL said that a safety driving campaign started last month – training and advocacy was given to UNPOL, UN staff and PNTL. UNPOL plans to setup check points in the

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future. DSRSG/RC/HC noted that the issue is of serious concern to the UN system, and cases are dealt with as a matter of priority.

- CARE indicated that reporting issues with UN vehicles is not very easy, as it often requires the person to go to the investigations unit to file the complaint.

**Action: UNMIT to review the procedure for filing complaints and report back to the IASC T.L., with a view to simplifying it.**

- HCU informed the group that the agreed upon proposal from Oxfam to evaluate the humanitarian response of the 2006 crisis was approved for funding by AusAid. However, the evaluation will cost approximately AUD\$80,000 (USD\$50,000) and AusAid is providing AUD50,000.
- The DSRSG/RC/HC indicated that the RC Unit could provide up to USD\$10,000 to fill the gap. Resident embassies will also be approached, as they may have discretionary funds to cover small funding requests.

**Action: Oxfam to review the proposal and send to DSRSG/RC/HC to approach donors regarding the remaining gap.**

- HCU brought up the issue of the UNICEF Rapid Assessment form. A specialist from Bangkok will be coming to review the form on the May 14<sup>th</sup>. Cluster leads are requested to review and finalize form.
- The DSRSG/RC/HC indicated that the memo to NGOs regarding use of UN flights is not finalized. There are still some administrative and logistical issues that need to be sorted out with UNMIT.

- END -



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## In Attendance

Name	Organization	Mobile	E-mail
1. Finn Reske-Nielsen	DSRSG/RC/HC Chair		<a href="mailto:Finn.reske-nielsen@undp.org">Finn.reske-nielsen@undp.org</a>
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10. Valentina Bacchin	IOM	723-1578	<a href="mailto:vbacchin@iom.int">vbacchin@iom.int</a>
11. Angela Sherwood	IOM	723-1576	<a href="mailto:asherwood@iom.int">asherwood@iom.int</a>
12. Margherita Capellino	Office of the DSRSG		
13. Colin Collettranrooyen	Oxfam	723-0831	<a href="mailto:colinc@oxfam.org.au">colinc@oxfam.org.au</a>
14. Penny Jones	Plan International	723-0348	<a href="mailto:penny.jones@plan-international.org">penny.jones@plan-international.org</a>
15. Geraldine Arias	RC Unit	723-0447	
16. Vincent Fung	RC Unit	745-4490	<a href="mailto:vincent.fung@undp.org">vincent.fung@undp.org</a>
17. Arnaud Loutoby	Triangle Génération Humanitaire	741-6820	<a href="mailto:admin.timorleste@trianglegh.org">admin.timorleste@trianglegh.org</a>
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22. Philippe Schneider	UNMIT/HCU	731-1736	<a href="mailto:schneider6@un.org">schneider6@un.org</a>
23. Luis Carrilho	UNPOL	731-1527	<a href="mailto:carrilhol@un.org">carrilhol@un.org</a>
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# Community-Based Return Monitoring:

Community and IDP Surveys: Round 2  
Monitoring

November 2008-January 2009



# Introduction

## *Objectives*

- a) identify specific geographical areas where the return of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) may have increased the potential for violent conflict
- b) capture both broad and community-specific information on reintegration challenges and dynamics

## *Round Two*

- 586 surveys with community member households (persons not displaced during the 2006-2007 crises)
- 206 surveys with returned IDP households



## *Return Movements: Stated Living Status of IDPs 2006-2008*

	Entire Family Residing Outside the Aldeia (in IDP Camp or with host family)	Part of the Family Residing in the Camp or with Host Family/ Part of the Family living in original aldeia	Entire Family Residing in Original Aldeia
<b>2006</b>	82.4%	11.6%	6.0%
<b>2007</b>	66.5%	17.7%	15.8%
<b>2008</b>	1.7%	3.5%	94.8%

-79.1% percent reported that they had received the GoTL recovery package (85% of this number stated they returned in 2008).

-Both returned IDPs and community members stated housing conditions (68% and 45.7%) as the primary challenges to return, followed by occupied houses, sufficiency of water, and land and property issues

-Facilitating/Absorbing returns:

- More Mediation*: returned IDPs (54.9%) and community members (45.6%)
- Creation of more jobs*: returned IDPs (40.3%), community members (22.4%)

# Receptivity, Inclusion and Participation

## **Acceptance in the Community**

- 94.7% (195) of returned IDPs surveyed perceived that community members were in favour of their return to the village
- 79.1% (447) of community members perceived that they favoured the return of IDPs and **55.8% favourable to future returns**
- 69.4% of chefes de aldeias stated that they were favourable to the return of IDPs and **60% favourable to future returns**

## **Inclusion/Participation**

- 67.8% (387) community members perceived that returnees take part in village life
- 89.3% (183) of returned IDPs responded that they feel included in village life
- With the exception of water programmes, returned IDPs were less likely than community members to identify existence of community programmes within the aldeia

# General Stability

## ***Reported Issues After Return***

-18.7% (37 HH) of returned IDPs and 10.7% (61 HH) of community members responded that there had been a dispute after return or resettlement in the aldeia

- *land and property, jobs, private disputes*

-Both groups identified police and chefe de aldeias as primary problem solvers within the aldeia

-97.1% of returned IDP households and 98.1% community households stated decreased risk of violence in since April-May 2006

-Mediation was consistently identified as an effective mechanism to solve community issues, though state law was also perceived to be an effective dispute resolving mechanism for issues related to land and property, martial arts, political divisions, and violence

# Access to Basic Services

- *No significant differences in perceptions of access to community resources*
- *No returned IDP households reported discrimination by health care providers/prevented access to health services*
- *Over 90% of returned IDP and community households reported that they seek health services within the suco.*
- *Negatively viewed ('not good,' 'poor'): access to electricity and water*
  - *Water: (59.4% - community; 66.3% - returned IDP)*
  - *Electricity (46.4% - community; 47.4% - returned IDP)*

## Water

- *Slightly less than half of each group surveyed perceived that a majority had satisfactory access to water; 54.4% of returned IDPs/54.7% of community members perceived only 'some, very few, or none' had access to water*

Disputes over Water	Returned IDP households	Community households
Never	54.6	56.9
Sometimes	34.6	34.7
Frequently	6.3	4.1
Always	0.0	0.9
Don't know	4.4	3.4



# Conclusions

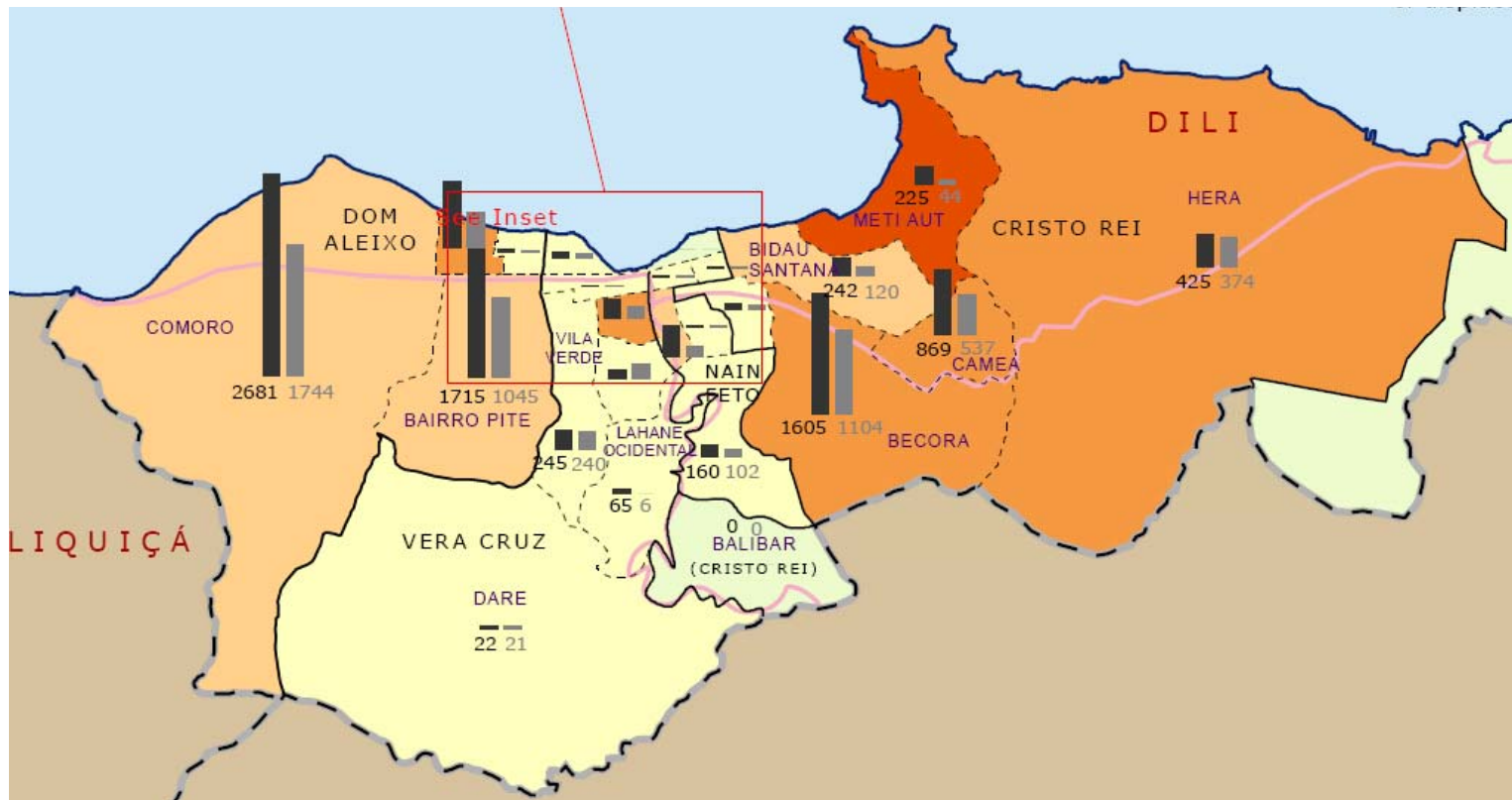
- house reconstruction and general development needs, rather than a lack of security, were most frequently cited as challenges to return
- availability of reconstruction assistance in 2008 has been a strong influencing factor on decisions to return
- strong support for enhanced reintegration programming given differences in perception of acceptance and inclusion in community life



# Return and reintegration situation in the suco of Camea

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# Geographic location





*Within the suco of Camea, 2 out of 13 villages are opposed to returns*

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1. **TERMINAL** is opposed to returns within the aldeia
2. The community of **BUBURLAU** fled during the initial phase of the crisis to the hills surrounding the aldeia, all the families returned back together. Now **BUBURLAU** is opposing returns to the neighbouring aldeia of **FATUK FRANCISCO**





# Community Position

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## TERMINAL

The main reasons the community refuses to accept the return of the IDPs are conflicting claims over part of the land in the aldeia and the behaviour of some groups of the population who fled.

## BUBURLAU/FATUK FRANCISCO

The main reason for Buburlau's refusal to allow the IDPs to return to Fatuk Francisco is their behaviour before and during the crisis. While land issues are presented to justify this position, according to the information available the land in Fatuk Francisco was all previously owned by a Portuguese company, and is now mainly Government land.



## IDPs position

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During 2008, the majority of the IDPs were unable to return to the community. In some cases they returned and were attacked during the night, in other cases they were persuaded to move directly to the Transitional Shelters.

When Hera Port camp was closed, the 38 families that were originally from these aldeias refused to move to transitional shelter and settled temporarily in Hera. When they realized that no quick solution was to be found, 5 families settled permanently in Hera and rebuilt their houses there. Through extensive negotiation, one family was able to return to Fatuk Francisco.

The majority of the families now living in Metinaro are determined to return to these aldeias, regardless of the community's refusal. Families still living in Hera and in the Transitional shelters declare that they will return as soon as the people from Metinaro are back.



# Dialogues and other key meetings between Government and community

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- **Early 2007**  
Dialogue between Minister of Labour and Community Reinsertion and the community of Camea
- **17 May 2008**  
Dialogue between the VPM, Camea community and IDPs
- **19 September 2008**  
Dialogue between the President of Parliament, community and IDPs
- **29 September 2008**  
Dialogue to be facilitated by the Minister of Social Solidarity. It was cancelled as a result of an attack on the dialogue place the night before the dialogue.
- **3 April 2009**  
Meeting between the Secretary of State for Social Assistance and Natural Disasters and the communities of Terminal and Buburlau to explain the Government's position vis-à-vis the returns to the community



## Present Situation

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Aldeia	No. of families residing in the aldeia before 2006	No. of families residing in the aldeia as of February 2009
Buburlau	60	65
Terminal	94	38
Fatuk Francisco	110	7

### METINARO

The majority of the families that fled from the two aldeias in 2006 and both the elected chefes de aldeia are now living in Metinaro.

### HERA

32 families that moved out of Hera Port camp are still living in precarious and temporary accommodations in Hera.

### TRANSITIONAL SHELTERS

The families from other camps that were closed during 2008 and were unable to return or were rejected by the community upon return are living in the shelters.



## Conclusion

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During the last meeting between the Secretary of State for Social Assistance and Natural Disasters and the communities of Buburlau and Terminal no agreement was reached. The Government has explained to the population the rationale behind the decision of supporting the return of the IDPs. The community has expressed once again their concerns and have reiterated their position: no one is allowed to return.

As a result of the above mentioned discussion, preparations are ongoing to the organization of a dialogue to take place in these aldeias and to be facilitated by the President of the Republic.