The 2010 Census proved to be very useful in promoting a census in a place where most people live in hard-to-access rural areas, where a large portion of the population is illiterate, where the population speaks more than 30 different languages and dialects and where the reach of mass media is extremely limited and the census challenge looms even higher.

Yet Fredrick Okwayo, UNFPA's Chief Technical Adviser of the Census Project, is optimistic. “With the help of aerial photos we have created a lot more than 2,000 maps of the Timorese territory, and the census field staff will be using GPS (Global Positioning System) equipment to make sure that every household is found and counted”, he says.

Approximately 4,000 people, including 2,630 interviewers and 615 GPS coordinate takers, will be working in the field to make the 2010 Census a successful one. Some key field staff members, like the Publicity Messengers, are already making their indispensable contributions in the 13 districts of Timor-Leste. Their task is to create census awareness in the country’s many remote sucos, and there is only one way of doing it. “In some isolated places you can’t even listen to radio, which means that the only way to inform the villagers is to go there and organize community meetings”, says Antonio Freitas.

In 2004 Timor-Leste had 923,198 inhabitants. Six years later, the estimated population is 1,155,000, with 43.2 per cent being under 15 years old.
**Film on hope and determination enthusiastically received by audience**

The movie, ‘A Barefoot Dream’, premiered at the Dili Convention Center, on 24 June with an enthusiastic audience of around 300 people, ranging from the Vice Prime Minister, key UN officials, Timorese parents and the Timorese children who appeared in the Korean-produced movie. The audience could not help but clap and cheer every time familiar scenes and faces appeared on the screen – including when Prime Minister Xanana appeared in his role as President of Timor-Leste.

‘A Barefoot Dream’ is a full length Korean film based on the real life of a young Korean and Timorese children who achieved their dreams through hard work and commitment. A Korean football player, who has failed in many businesses in the past, comes to Timor-Leste in the hope of having better opportunities for work. He sees children without shoes playing football and thinks he can sell football shoes to the children. Soon, the pressure of his past debts and the realization that the children do not have enough money to buy his shoes, make him decide to close his small store. But since he has started teaching kids how to play football, he eventually decides to stay. Within a year, through their commitment and hard work, the Timorese team will go on to win an international youth soccer event in Japan. Both the Korean coach and the children realized their dream.

The film premiere with English subtitles was sponsored by the Secretary of State for Youth and Sports, in cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Korea and UNICEF.

**MTV EXIT rocks Dili**

With the support of the local government, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Indonesian rock stars ‘Superman is Dead’ delivered an unforgettable performance in Dili on Friday to thousands of screaming fans, kicking-off the “MTV EXIT Live in Timor Leste” tour.

It was one of the largest crowds ever to attend a concert in Timor-Leste’s capital city. The event was produced by MTV EXIT to raise awareness about human trafficking, a crime that affects millions of people worldwide. The concert provided youth with the key information and tools necessary to help protect them from being exploited. The event was also an opportunity to sensitize the local youths on HIV/AIDS prevention and raise awareness against domestic violence.

**Support to flooded areas**

More than 230 families in Viqueque, Uatulari and Uatucarbu have been affected by the heavy rains, with some communities cut off by flooding. On Saturday, 3 July, UNMIT helicopters helped support relief efforts by the Timor-Leste National Disaster Centre. Four UNMIT flights delivered 4.1 metric tonnes of vital supplies to the districts for onward distribution to the affected areas. The supplies were contained in individual family packs, each made up of approximately 25kg of rice and 4 kgs of cooking and household items.

**In Memoriam**

UNMIT announces with regret the untimely death of Master Sergeant Marques as a result of a car accident.

Sergeant Major Marques was the Team Leader of the Equipa de Inactivacao de Engenhos Explosivos, (Explosives Ordnances Disposal Team), responsible for identifying and disarming explosive ordnances.

He is survived by his wife Helena do Carmo Almeida de Jesus Marques, a daughter Andreia Filipa and a son Marco André.

**Maritime security**

Timor-Leste’s unprotected coastal borders leave it vulnerable to offshore threats such as smugglers, illegal immigration, illegal fishing, human and drug trafficking, piracy, and money laundering. Enforcement is a challenge in Timor-Leste’s Exclusive Economic Zone due to a lack of resources. The UN Police are advising the national police coast-guards to strengthen their maritime security capacity.

**Timor-Leste economic growth**

Countries in the Pacific region are expected to post overall average economic growth of 3.7 per cent this year, according to a forecast by the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The ADB attributes this increased growth rate to resource-rich Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste. Other island nations, including Fiji, Solomon Islands and Samoa are still feeling the impact of the economic slowdown.

**Listen to Futuru Nabilan**

UNMIT’s regular radio programme every Saturday at 5:30pm and Sunday at 6:00pm on RTL and 15 community radios

**Watch ba pás**

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

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