

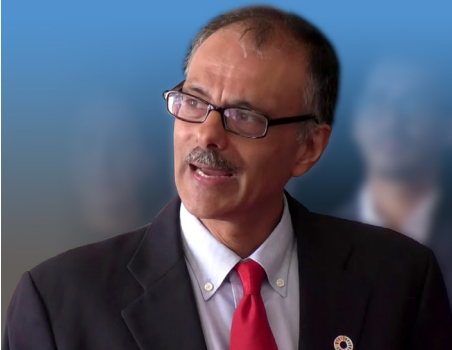


August 2020



“COVID-19 has caused huge damage to human life and economies worldwide by creating an unprecedented global crisis. If we don't act now in the right ways, more than half a billion more people risk falling into poverty, especially women and children.”

- ROY TRIVEDY
UNITED NATIONS RESIDENT
COORDINATOR, TIMOR-LESTE



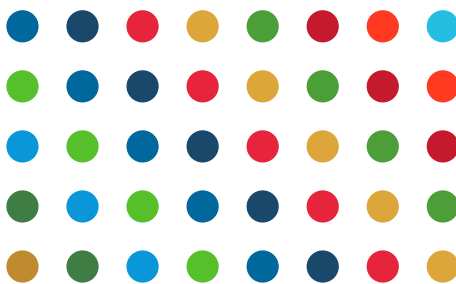
More than eight months into the pandemic, families, people and the Government of Timor-Leste, as in other countries, are under considerable stress. All are working to re-establish normal routines, keeping people safe, and helping businesses and economies to move ahead again.

This is what the United Nations, in Timor-Leste and other countries, is also working to achieve. The UN fully supports efforts to re-open economies and societies. We are investing resources to see children returning to schools and people returning to their workplaces, safely and securely within the prescribed guidelines of the World Health Organisation.

At the same time, however, we all know that pandemic is far from over. For millions of people across the globe, the reality remains challenging. The COVID-19 virus has spread fast and it can be fatal to people of all ages.

The UN urges the Government and people of Timor-Leste to take a comprehensive approach aligned to their circumstances – with containment as the central pillar.

We must remain conscious of the fact that COVID-19 is affecting health systems and socio-economic fabric of all countries. We are working to support Timor-Leste in implementing preparedness and response plans by drawing attention to the fact that whatever we do, must include a strong focus on building more equal and inclusive societies that are resilient to the crises and challenges that face our world.



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HEALTH

THE WHO PROCURED AND PROVIDED ESSENTIAL MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO REACH TIMOR-LESTE'S HEALTH NEEDS BEYOND COVID-19



- Measles and Rubella IgM and IgG test kits provided to the National Health Laboratory (NHL)
- 50,700 Warfarin tablets procured and handed over to SAMES
- 18,000 Dolutegravir tablets, the latest antiretroviral treatment for HIV to the National AIDS Programme (NAP), MoH. This represents 6 months supply for 100 patients
- 180,000 masks to the MOH, donated by the Alibaba Foundation
- WFP's humanitarian air service delivered medical supplies and essential health services like immunization to prevent disease outbreaks

HEALTH



PROTECTING TIMOR-LESTE WITH ONE OF THE LARGEST CONSIGNMENTS OF PPE

- UNICEF provided the MoH with over 100,000 items. The equipment will be used for case management of Covid-19
- The 100,000 items include masks, face shields, safety goggles, surgical and examination gloves, protective coveralls and recyclable shoe covers. To be distributed to isolation centres and frontline health workers in more than 70 healthcare centres across the country
- The shipment was funded by the Asian Development Bank, UNICEF Australia, the EU & GAVI
- UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO and other development partners are supporting the MOH to conduct reviews of essential RMNCH services to understand and assess the impact of Covid-19 on essential health services
- WHO along with partners, Menzies School of Health Research and Cuban Medical Brigade, supported MoH in updating the National Guideline for Surveillance and Contact Tracing. Incorporating the latest scientific and medical developments in Covid-19 management
- WHO, with financial aid from USAID, supported the Instituto Nacional Saude (INS) designing a course for students in Covid-19 prevention for 18 higher education institutions in Dili

HEALTH



VITAL NATIONWIDE SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION CAMPAIGN

- UNICEF, WHO and MoH are continuing with the catch-up immunization campaign in schools across the country, making sure that children's vaccination records are up to date
- On 19 August UNDP transferred medical equipment to MOH/SAMES, including VG70 Ventilators (40), Video Laryngoscopes (5) and biological substance containers (1000)
- UNDP has delivered a total of 35 different medical products to SAMES at a total cost of US\$ 1.4M. Including three types of PPE, 23 types of medicines, six types of medical equipment and three types of medical consumables (safety boxes)

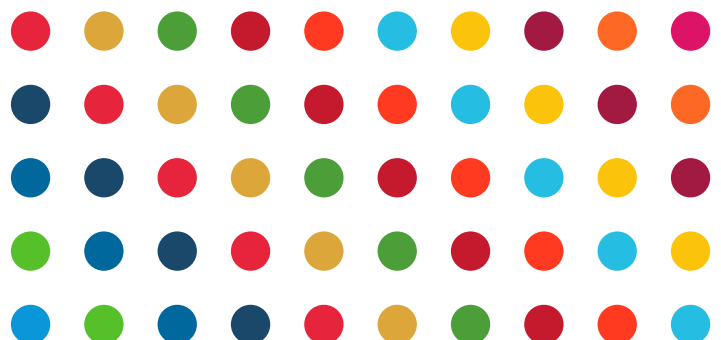


FOOD SECURITY



EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION TO SAFEGUARD FAMILIES

- 263 households were reached benefiting approximately 1300 people. Emergency food distribution was funded by \$1 million from MoF, Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Government of Japan. UNDP, in partnership with MoF and MAP, are working to reach and protect vulnerable communities
- WFP Timor-Leste in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport (MoEYS) distributed 'Take Home Rations' to 189 students. The rations will last 30 days
- A partnership was formed between WFP and the General Directorate of Statistics to develop a digitalized platform for Consumer Price Index data collection
- WFP, with FAO and line ministries, is supporting MAF to reactivate the Food Security Bulletin. This will collect food security information and combine it with agro-climate data



NUTRITION



WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK MARKED BY MEDIA CAMPAIGN

- WFP, WHO, and UNICEF broadcast breastfeeding information through local media (GMN& RTTL), ensuring that maternal health messaging is maintained

- With EU funding, UNICEF supported MOH to update the infant and young child feeding counselling card so it provides the correct information for mothers testing positive for Covid-19
- With EU funding and UNICEF implementation, vital nutritional messaging reached over 50,000 households through community radio. WFP provided video messages on anaemia among adolescent girls which was broadcast by GMN & RTTL
- WFP is finalizing food safety guidelines for school feeding. It is also developing advocacy materials with MoH and MoEYS

EDUCATION



ESKOLA BA UMA OR 'SCHOOL GOES HOME'

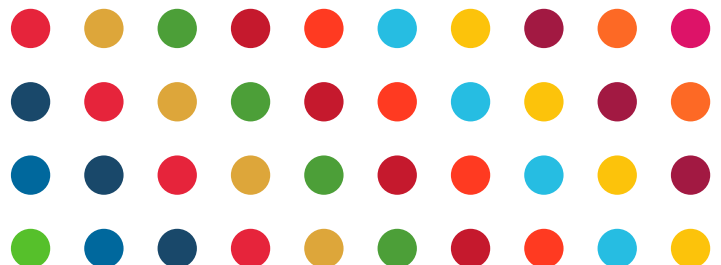
- 74 episodes of the home schooling program have been produced to date
- The Restore Learning Safely or Back to School Campaign event promoted key Covid-19 messaging and the importance of continued learning. It encouraged parents and teachers to work together to ensure students engage fully in their schooling and catch up on lost time
- 95% of schools are now open

EDUCATION



MAKING SCHOOL REOPENING SAFE

- UNICEF and partners provided materials for school reopening including 13,000 handwashing buckets
- With UNICEF support 239 schools without regular water were provided with water tanks





1,900 PORTABLE HANDWASHING BUCKETS WERE PROVIDED FOR SCHOOL REOPENING

- The WASH in Health Facility Improvement program was finalized. This will aid Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) in health facilities
- One community health centre was provided with a 15-piece IPC package
- Twenty standalone handwashing stations with 1,100 litre capacity were installed in two municipalities
- Ten WASH facilities near Indonesian Border were updated and improved through partnership with a CSO
- Four additional WASH engineers were recruited
- UNICEF provided 15 water tanks to the Special Administrative Region of Oe-cusse Ambeno for handwashing in public places and health care facilities
- UNICEF engineers have been working to ensure a safe water supply at the quarantine facility in Batugade
- UNICEF is supporting the MoH to undertake healthcare facilities assessments to improve WASH facilities. The assessment will be conducted in five municipalities (Baucau, Manatuto, Dili, Covalima and Ermera). To date, four community health centres in Dili have completed the assessment
- WASH services in 10 critical facilities near the Indonesian border are being upgraded with UNICEF support and through a partnership with a CSO
- IOM delivered 100 hygiene kits to the Suai Quarantine Centre. The hygiene kits consisted of a toothbrush, toothpaste, sanitary pad, hand sanitizer, soap, and bucket with a tap. The official handover of the hygiene kits, in partnership with USAID, took place on 7 September



PROTECTION



ENSURING THE SAFETY OF VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN QUARANTINE

- As part of the EU-funded Spotlight Initiative UN Women and UNFPA, with Maluk Timor, developed literature for people in quarantine to highlight mental health considerations and VAWG prevention. 1,000 copies were printed in Tetum (500 by UN Women and 500 by Maluk Timor). They were distributed by MoH as part of the quarantine dignity kits. This was facilitated by UNFPA
- The English version was shared with the WHO for publication and distribution
- Flow monitoring of people's movements continues at 20 key border transit points capturing more than 430 movements since starting in July 2020
- IOM distributed 610 hygiene kits to health posts, quarantine and isolation facilities, village offices and border patrol
- Training was provided to young people from partner organization (Alumni of Youth Parliament: APFTL)
- 23 care facilities were assessed for Covid-19 preventative measures

PROTECTION

- RCCE materials including protection issues, such as violence, stigma and discrimination at schools, produced as part of the 'Restore Learning Safely' campaign
- UN Women coordinated with CSOs on VAW service use data collection
- UN Women are monitoring the women vendors' situation in Baucau Market. They provided pulsa for the Safe Market and Safe Baucau technical working groups so they can visit the market and report on the women vendors situation
- With support from UNICEF, the Alumni of Youth Parliament (APFTL) conducted Life Skill Based Education sessions at Residential Care Institutions. This included sewing masks, cooking with local products, and discussions on self-awareness. APFTL also worked with a young artist to produce an original music video about Covid-19 prevention and protection
- UNICEF has procured thermo-scanners for 30 Residential Care Institutions.
- The UNICEF supported telephone hotline for mental health continued to operate, receiving calls for clients with Covid19 concerns. PRADET, the implementation partner for UNICEF's mental health and psychosocial support work, launched a Facebook page Hamutuk Ita Forsa (Together We Are Strong), sharing information about emotional and psychological self-care, psychosocial support, and Covid-19 in Tetum



PROTECTION

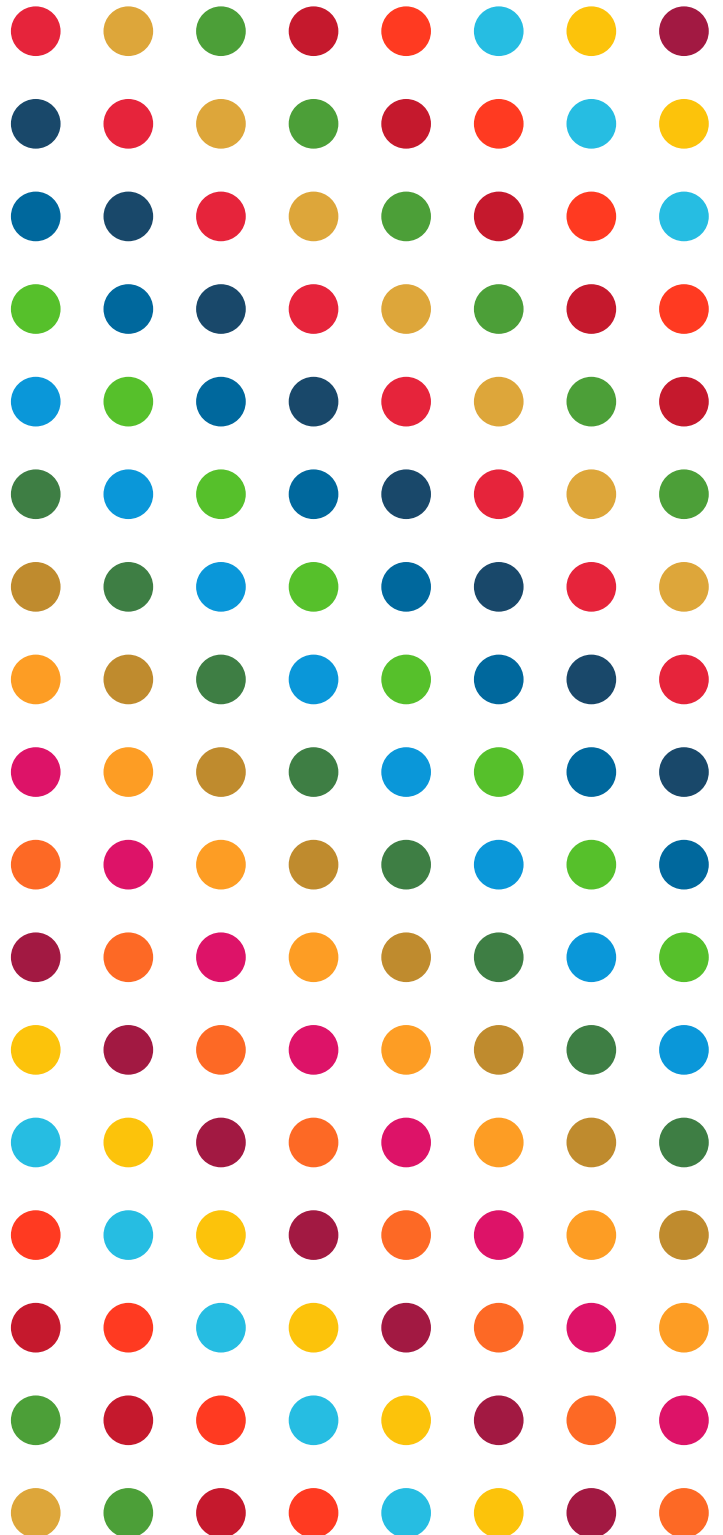
- The ILO, through the ACTION programme, continues to provide technical support to MSSI on the last stages of the Uma Kain Subsidy programme
- ILO is leading the programme's financial reconciliation process, comparing the different sources of data available and ensuring data consistency
- MSSI has requested ILO to take the lead preparing the report that summarizes the programme, both in terms of procedures and results. This includes collecting and organizing inputs from other UN agencies and development partners involved in the programme

ECONOMIC RECOVERY



KEEPING TRAFFIC MOVING SAFELY AND SECURING INCOME

- ILO RBSA are funding road maintenance, providing jobs and income for those feeling the economic pressures of Covid-19
- ILO has secured \$550,000 to support GoTL's Covid-19 economic recovery plan offering employment opportunities for rural communities. This is implemented through ERA Agro-Forestry (EU funded) and R4D-SP (DFAT funded) projects. The 15 month programme covering 12 municipalities, will provide employment and income to 1,850 beneficiaries. These will include 50% women and 2% living with disabilities. This will also improve 275 km of core rural roads



LOGISTICS



HUMANITARIAN FLIGHTS CONTINUE AS TIMOR-LESTE LIFELINE

- Since 14 June, WFP Aviation Service has operated seven flights between Kuala Lumpur - Dili-Kuala Lumpur carrying 302 humanitarian passengers and 3,979 kilograms of humanitarian cargo. Three more flights are planned for September
- One additional Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) was donated to SAMES, strengthening their warehousing capacity to store Covid-19 and other medical supplies. With engineering support from Shanghai Construction group they constructed the MSU within the SAMES compound
- IOM is supporting the Ministry of Interior to strengthen cross-border mobility. Monitoring 20 Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) in Covalima and Bobonaro Municipalities. Trained Border Officers have been engaged in data collection and updating the Flow Monitoring Dashboard. This analyses trends in population mobility observed at FMPs, improving surveillance. The Flow Monitoring Dashboard can be accessed by everyone and is available online

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

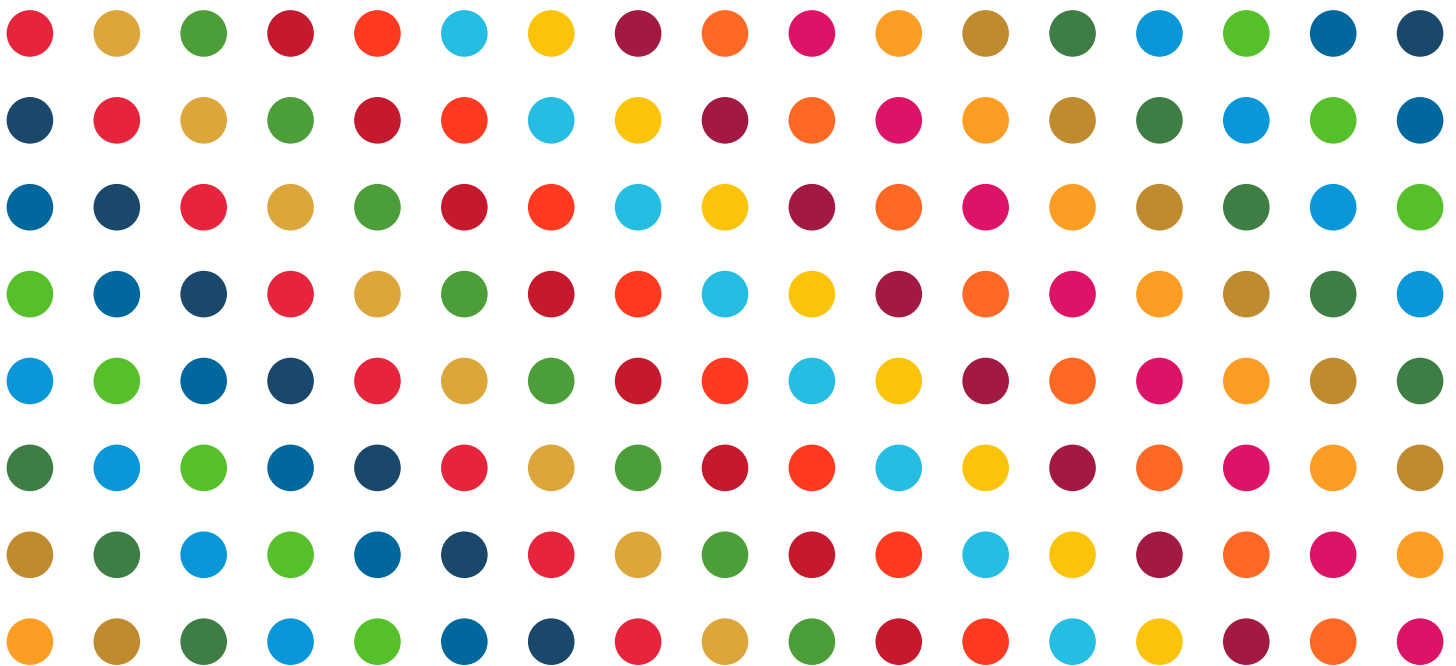


TAIS COMPETITION PROVIDES FOOD AND ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES FOR VULNERABLE OECUSSE COMMUNITIES

- 475 female Tais weavers benefited from the UNDP Tais competition program in Oecusse. Each receiving food baskets and online advertising promoting their Tais. UNDP used the opportunity to promote Covid-19 safety as well as Timor-Leste's traditional culture
- UN joint Socio-Economic Impact Assessment, led by UNDP in collaboration with UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, and FAO, completed and shared a draft with UN agencies for feedback. It includes 419 interviews with Timor-Leste households
- The UNDP Coastal Resilience Building Project provided cash transfer to 119 people, including 63 women, to set up nurseries for mangrove seedlings and constructed protective coastal fencing
- UNDP supported the Unit for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (UPMA) under the Prime Minister's (PM) Office and Commissioner to PM, to develop Timor-Leste's economic recovery plan and State Budget

RISK COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- UNICEF revised a Covid-19 prevention poster. Sharing it with MoH and other partners for re-printing and posting it on Facebook
- UNICEF supported the MoH to revise key messages around Covid-19. The messages have been re-recorded and distributed to community health centres in all 13 municipalities
- UNICEF developed, pre-tested and finalized Covid-19 prevention brochures. These included messaging on maternal health, immunization, infant and child feeding and child protection at school



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