> *"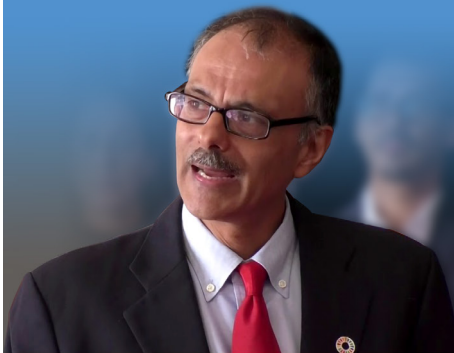The United Nations system in Timor-Leste is fully mobilised to work with Government and other partners, to support the health response and address the social and economic impacts."*
>
> **- ROY TRIVEDY**
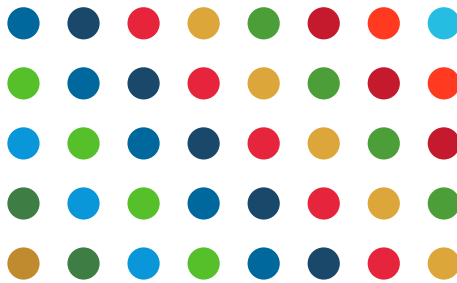> **UNITED NATIONS RESIDENT COORDINATOR, TIMOR-LESTE**

COVID19 has drastically damaged health, social, and economic systems. The response and recovery measures needed in the short to medium-term include protecting health services, ensuring social protection and basic services are provided especially for those who are most vulnerable, protecting jobs and supporting businesses as well as strengthening social cohesion and community resilience. We need to halt the economic slide, to keep markets and the economy functioning, and to safeguard the physical and economic health and wellbeing of people specially children, women and girls, people with disabilities and others around the world.

The COVID19 health crisis is unfolding fast into an unprecedented global economic crisis. The sudden reduction in economic activity has put severe stress on families, households and individuals, as well as businesses and employers.

The United Nations system in Timor-Leste is fully mobilised to work with Government and other partners, to support the health response and address the social and economic impacts. To date, the UN Timor-Leste has successfully mobilized USD 16.6 million for the COVID-19 response, and an additional USD 2.2 million worth of reprogramming has been identified and is now being implemented to help respond to the impact of COVID-19.

Currently UN agencies and partners are assisting the people and Government of Timor-Leste through various measures including implementation of COVID-19 cash transfer programme, ensuring many services continue to be provided, conducting a joint UN Socio-Economic Impact Assessment, launching the air service to ensure transportation of humanitarian cargo and workers, providing technical support on development of the Government's Economic Recovery Plan (2021-2023) and supporting the Government's participation in the 'Recover Better Together Action Forum' in New York on 26th June.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

https://web.facebook.com/UNTimorLeste

https://www.instagram.com/untimorleste
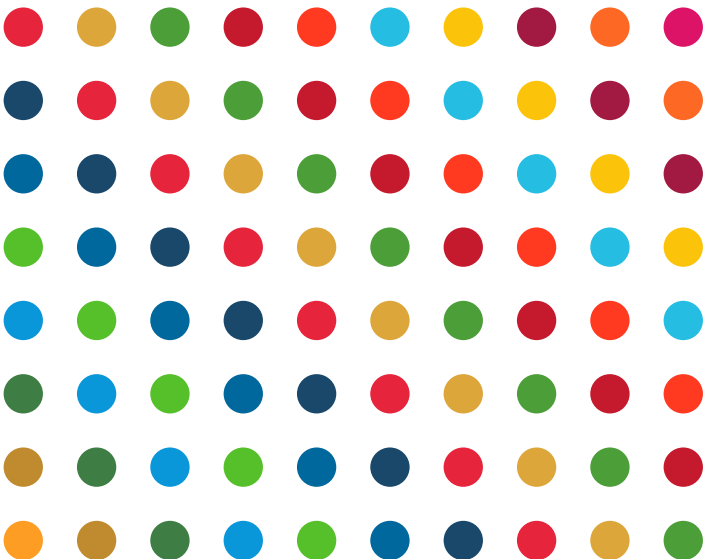
https://twitter.com/UNTimorLeste

KEEPING TIMOR-LESTE COVID FREE BY STRENGTHENING SURVEILLANCE

In the three border districts of Oecussi, Bobonaro, and Covalima WHO and IOM, with financial assistance from USAID, are supporting the Ministry of Health (MOH) on case detection, contact-tracing, quarantine, and isolation preparation.

- UNFPA delivered 85 dignity kits to quarantine facilities and border police units in Maliana
- WHO provided 22,500 surgical masks, 375 goggles, 18000 gloves, 1125 gowns and 500 respirator masks
- IOM, WHO, with funding from USAID, support PNTL and MoH broadcasting COVID-19 messages to border communities through local radio and audio recorded messages on car-mounted PA systems
- IOM, WHO, with USAID, supported UPF to set up 30 flow monitoring sites along the land border and points of entry
- IOM in partnership with WHO and funding from USAID is training 40 border patrol officers who will be responsible for data entry at 30 irregular crossing sites using 30 tablets with KOBO flow monitoring system
- IOM, WHO and USAID distributed 176 hygiene kits to border police, local health clinics and quarantine centres in Covalima and Bobonaro
- IOM provided 13 Non-Food Items to 11 Vietnamese and 2 Indonesian migrants intercepted at Jaco Island

HEALTH

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

- **WHO with INS/MOH, Maluk Timor, St John of God, USAID, John Snow Inc. (JSI) and Health Alliance International (HAI) is training health staff in case management and clinical response**
- **WHO and UNFPA trained MOH surveillance staff and healthcare workers in Maliana on preventing gender-based violence (GBV)**
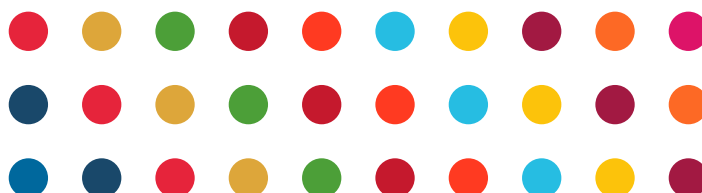
NUTRITION

- **WFP is working with MOH and partners to urgently reactivate the Supplementary Feeding Programme to improve nutrient intake for under-5 children, pregnant and lactating women**
- **UNICEF and WFP supported MOH to train enumerators for the Timor-Leste Food and Nutrition Survey 2020. A team of 64 enumerators started data collection on 4 June for 90 days**

HEALTH

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF COVID19

10,000 testing kits for COVID19 were provided by WHO to the National Health Laboratory boosting the country's capacity to fight the disease.

- **UNICEF provided 275 infrared thermo scanners to the MOH**
- **UNFPA with MOH organized nationwide distribution of family planning materials and maternal health medicines**
- **IOM with KOICA and National Health Lab agreed to procure additional testing equipment**
- **UNFPA provided 125 Dignity Kits to the MOH for use in quarantine facilities**

WASH

- **UNICEF is conducting WASH technical assessments and providing buckets with taps for infection prevention and control measures at land ports of entry**
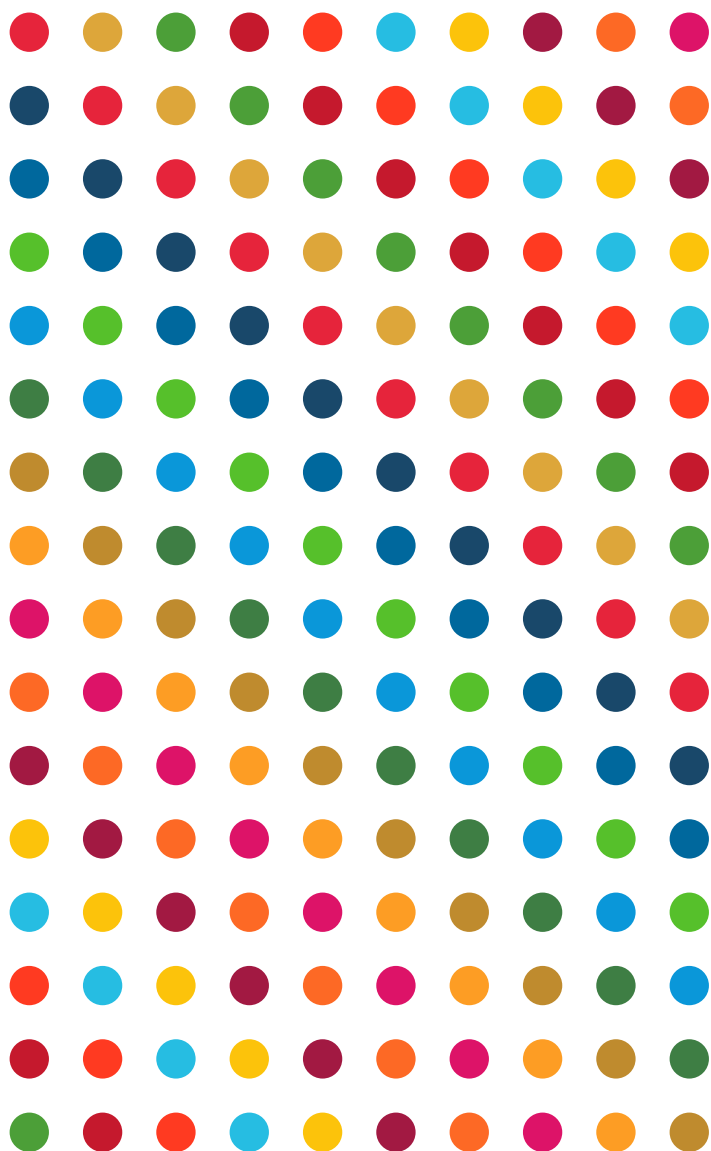
EU-UN SPOTLIGHT TEAM LEADING PROTECTION FOR THOSE THREATENED BY GBV

At a time of heightened pressure on families, protecting Timor-Leste's women and children is being prioritised by UNDP, through EU-UN Spotlight Programme, delivering PPE to the National Police Vulnerable Persons Unit. Making their services more accessible and safer for those threatened by GBV.

- UN Women and UNICEF continue the Gender and Protection Working Group prioritising inclusive support services for marginalized groups as well as monitoring the government's Monetary Support Program
- IOM conducted protection assessment at three quarantine facilities in Covalima and Bobonaro
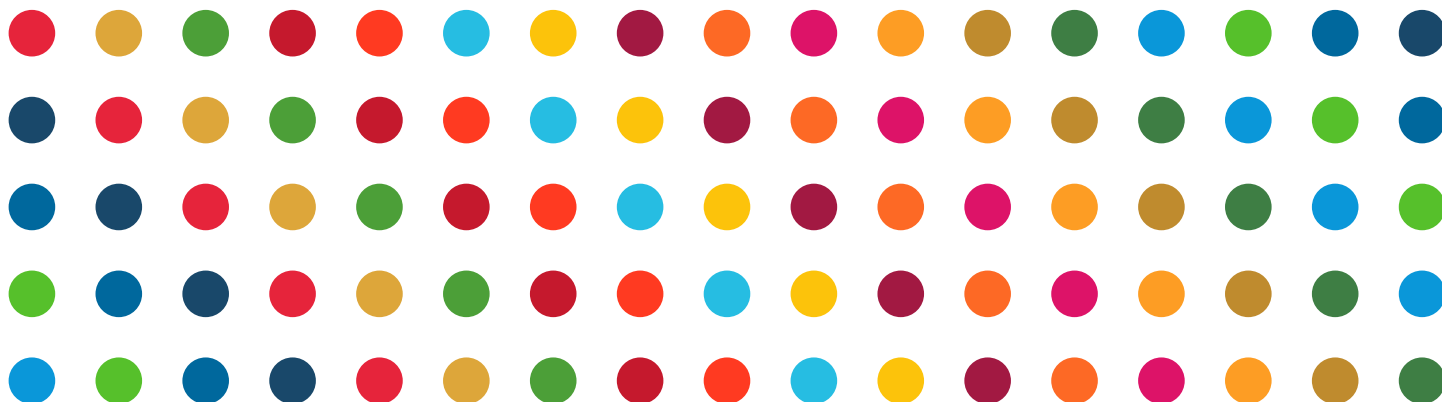
PROTECTION

Under Spotlight Initiative, UN Women and Secretary of State for Equality and Inclusion (SEII) signed a letter of agreement to accelerate Timor-Leste's efforts to end violence against women and girls. In addition, UN Women promoted key messaging regarding support services and actions to address violence against women and girls in the context of COVID-19.

RISK COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TIMOR-LESTE'S COVID CHAMPIONS

UNDP Timor-Leste Accelerator Lab team launched an interactive game aimed at engaging young people and other social media users. The data generated will be used to analyse public awareness of the virus so UN agencies can ensure young people are fully engaged in COVID19 prevention.

- **WHO with financial support from USAID launched videos on COVID19 preventive measures featuring the Former President of Timor-Leste and Nobel Laureate Dr Jose Ramos-Horta**
- **WHO produced a series of videos debunking myths about COVID19**
- **UNICEF provided 350,000 brochures on COVID-19 prevention and infant and young child feeding that were distributed during the national cash-transfer programme**
- **WHO, IOM, together with MOH, distributed 2,910 posters and 2,163 stickers in local languages to ensure clear communication to marginalised communities**
- **EU and ILO, with the support of DFAT and Ministry of Works, distributed COVID19 best practice guidelines to contractors working on the ILO ERA Agro-Forestry Project**

EDUCATION

PRIORITISING SCHOOLING DURING THE STATE OF EMERGENCY

UNICEF with the Ministry of Education are ensuring schooling continues. Delivering an additional 30 episodes of 'Eskola Ba Um', a TV series for kids, as well as distributing printed materials and adding resources to its learning platform.

- **With the Global Partnership for Education UNICEF announced US$3.5. million allocation under the COVID Accelerated Funding Window**
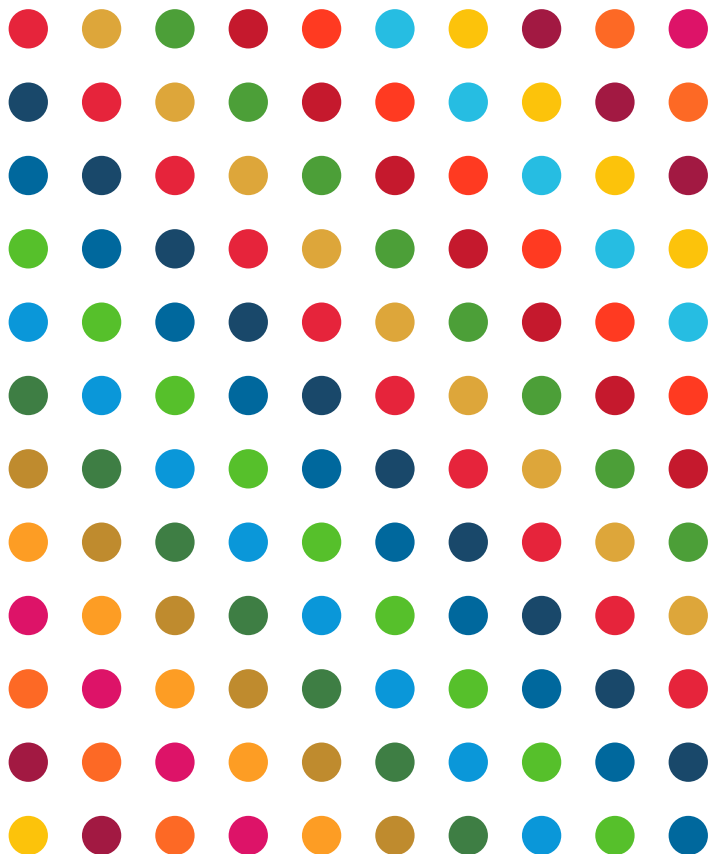- **WHO is supporting the MoH and MoE providing 40,000 IEC materials to ensure the safe reopening of over 2,000 schools**
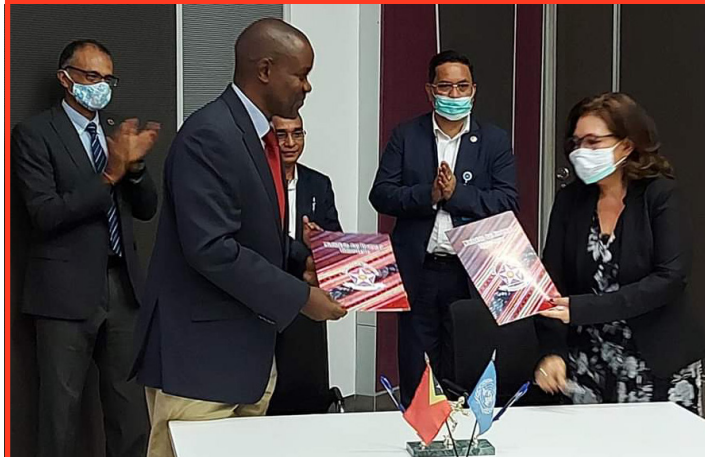
HUMANITARIAN FLIGHTS FROM KUALA LUMPUR BEGIN

On 14 June WFP Aviation launched a weekly air route, Kuala Lumpur - Dili to provide a cargo and passenger air service for humanitarian and health workers.

- **WFP in collaboration with Civil Protection and MSSI provided transport support for relief items to those affected by recent floods**
- **IOM supported MOH with transport to distribute COVID19 supplies to remote border health centres**

UN SUPPORTS GOVERNMENT IN DISTRIBUTING $54 MILLION (AS OF 23 JUNE) TO 270,000 NEEDY AND VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS

ILO, UN Women, WFP, UNICEF, and other UN agencies are supporting the Government and partners in implementing a social protection programme by deploying resources from the UN COVID19 Response and Recovery Fund to provide assistance to more than 270,000 families.

- **UN Women with ILO are assisting the Government in ensuring gender-aware COVID19 responses and recovery efforts. UN Women is monitoring the impact of policy to guarantee that women and diverse groups are not marginalised**
- **UNDP are training interviewers to carry out a socio-economic impact assessments of 400 households in Timor-Leste. The information from the survey will inform future Covid-19 response. UNFPA are preparing to assist them**
- **UNICEF and MOH launched the country's first national hotline dedicated to mental health and psychosocial support. It can be accessed by calling 12123**

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

- UN Timor-Leste is jointly providing technical support on development of the Government's Economic Recovery Plan (2021-2023) through newly setup Commission for the Preparation of the Economic Recovery Plan

- The UN is supporting the Government of Timor-Leste to contribute to the 'Recover Better Together Action Forum' in New York on 26th June

- The training of enumerators for the UN joint Socio-Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) was completed by UNDP, together with UNFPA and other UN agencies. Data collection from 400 sample households in selected municipalities and Oecusse is planned to start the week of 22 June

- UN Women, along with the Australian TOMAK programme, are documenting changes in economic response during COVID19. This will contribute to more inclusive and sustainable responses to market changes

FOOD SECURITY

CHECKING FOR INFLATIONARY PRESSURES ON TIMOR'S POOREST

WFP, together with (MAF), and the General Directorate of Statistics (GDS), are monitoring prices in Díli.
The team recorded the weekly commodity price of sixteen staple food items. This information is used to monitor price fluctuations to protect Timor-Leste's poorest.