

Training for Visiting DSP Farmers

The Private Sector Development program uses new technology to improve the quality and quantity of horticultural product in Timor-Leste. A hydroponic greenhouse is now operational and is being used for training of visiting farmers.

Technical experts from the DSP program train farmers on the use of hydroponic growing techniques to produce high quality vegetables as required by the high value markets in Dili.



Fig.I. DSP Staff in the greenhouse introducing hydroponic growing methods to partner vegetable farmers.

Marcelino Magalhaes from Sarin, Aileu sells new products to restaurants and supermarkets in Dili. He had heard about the greenhouse from DSP technical staff.

“When we first heard about this system I could not really understand what the plants would grow in. The level of technology seemed too high for us to do ourselves,” said Marcelino. “But now that I have visited the site I can see that they are just growing in burnt rice husk which is easy for us to get.”

The farmers are also eager to work with private sector traders who are visiting the

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greenhouse to buy new products and sell them in Dili.

“We are always telling people that we do not have a market for our crops,” said Marcelino.

“I am lucky because I live on the road near Aileu but many of my friends who live further away would like for traders to visit them regularly. That way they don’t have to carry their own product to market on a bus.”



Fig.II. Farmer install rope in the greenhouse.



Fig.III. Visiting farmers learn how to tie tomatoes.

Dezenvolve Setor Privadu is a USAID project implemented by DAI. DSP supports income generation through improved business linkages within supply chains