



Ba Distrito Project
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Acronym List

AATL	Asosiasaun Advogadu Timor-Lorosa'e
ALFeLa	Asistencia Legal ba Feto no Labarik
AOR	Agreement Officer's Representative
CBO	Community Based Organization
CCL	Local Advisory Councils
CDI	Community Development Interest
CEG	Constituent Engagement Grant
COP	Chief of Party
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DA	District Administration
DNDCAS	National Directorate for Community Development and Suco Support
DNDHC	National Directorate of Human Rights and Citizenship
DNHJL	National Directorate for Judicial Advisory and Legislation
DQA	Data Quality Assessment
DRAG	Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grant
ETAN	East Timor and Indonesia Action Network
FDG	Focus Discussion Group
FECM	Fundasaun Educacao Matebian
FFSO	Fundasaun Fatuk Sinae Oecusse
FOG	Fixed Obligation Grant
FPWO	Oecusse Women Forum
FRETILIN	Opposition Party in Timor-Leste
FY	Fiscal Year
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GOTL	Government of Timor-Leste
GTD	District Technical Group
ICC	International Criminal Court
IIMS	Integrated Information Management System
IJTL	Timor-Leste's Judicial Institute
INAP	National Institute of Public Administration
IP	Implementing Partner
JSMP	Judicial System Monitoring Programme
KMP	Knowledge Management Portal
LAAIG	Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants
LADV	Law against Domestic Violence
LTC	Legal Training Center
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAE	Ministru Administrasaun Estatal
MDI	Mata Dalan Institute
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding

MSA	Ministry of State Administration
NGO	Non-government Organization
OCP	Organizational Capacity Building
OD	Organizational Development
OPD	Office of Public Defenders
OPG	Office of the Prosecutor General
PAAS	Personnel Support to Suco Administration
PACT	Plan of Action
PDA	Pre-deconcentration Administrative
PDID	Integrated Plan for District Development
PDS	Professional Development System
PLWAD	Persons Living With a Disability
PMEP	Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PNDS	National Program for Suco Development
PQL	Program, Quality and Learning
PSA	Public Services Announcement
PNTL	National Police of Timor-Leste
RCAL	Radio Comunidade Atoni Lifau
RDTL	Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
RFA	Request for Application
RTL	Radio Timor-Leste
RTTL	Timor-Leste's Public Broadcasting Service
SEPI	Secretary of State for Promotion of Equality
SGPS	Suco Government Performance Scale
STTA	Short Term Technical Assistant
SukAT	Suku Assessment Tool
TAF	The Asia Foundation
TL	Timor-Leste
Tot	Training of Trainers
Tt DPK	Tetra Tech DPK
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training
TVTL	Television Timor-Leste
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNFDP	United National Population Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
VPU	Vulnerable Persons Unit
ZEESM	Special Zones of Social Market Economy in Timor-Leste

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2013, Counterpart International, Inc. (Counterpart) was awarded funding from USAID/Timor-Leste to implement the four-year Ba Distrito Project – Cooperative Agreement number AID 486-A-13-00007. Ba Distrito’s goal is to increase institutional and human capacity at local levels to deliver basic services more effectively in a manner that is responsive to citizens’ needs and expectations. The project seeks to contribute to a wider vision of improved decentralized governance and inclusive access to justice in Timor-Leste (TL) through the implementation of four mutually reinforcing components designed to achieve the following objectives:

Goals	Component	Objective
Improved Decentralized Governance	A. Local Governance Strengthening	Enhanced capacity of sucos to strengthen citizen participation and representation in local governance.
	B. Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions	Improved communications and linkages of sucos with district administrations, local Government of Timor-Leste (GOTL) line ministries and other providers of basic public services at the sub-national level.
Increased Access to Justice	C. Legal Organization Sustainability	Strengthened local justice sector institutions that increase access to formal and informal justice for marginalized citizens and the poor.
	D. District Court Functionality	

During this reporting period, Ba Distrito conducted the following activities:

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening

- Completed suco selection process, CSO mapping and project mapping at the suco level in two new districts of Ermera and Liquiça.
- Engaged STTA to develop suco council training modules in conjunction with Belun and DNDCAS and finalized the outline for 9 training modules.
- Completed rapid assessment of the organizational capacity of 19 out of the 40 new sucos.
- Provided technical support to 15 suco councils implementing organizational development action plans developed during the previous quarter.
- Presented organizational development assessment to implementing partner FFSO and supported them to develop an action plan to strengthen their organization.

Component B – Decentralization

- Compiled and submitted recommendations for revisions to the draft *Suco Law* which were gathered at district level consultations coordinated by Ba Distrito and the Ministry of State Administration (MSA).
- Issued two competitive Decentralization and Advocacy Grants for radio campaign and documentary film making.

Component C - Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

- Convened Ba Distrito's first Grants Committee and selected two organizations (Liberta Advocaia and Consultoria and Commisao Justisa e Paz) to conduct legal aid work in Ermera, Liquica and Baucau districts.
- Sought and received USAID approval for the Scope of Work and Budget for the proposed grants to the legal aid organizations.
- Provided technical support to JSMP and completed a thorough analysis of the legality of government and parliament resolutions on the dismissal of international judicial officers.
- Provided free legal aid assistance to a total of 28 cases involving 28 clients, including 9 female clients. 9 out of the 28 cases were resolved with assistance from FFSO.
- Conducted 11 mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions in Oecusse's remote aldeias and sucos which included 121 female participants.
- Facilitated two Legal Aid Coordination Group meetings in Oecusse to better coordinate the provision of legal aid services. The meetings were attended by representatives of Legal Aid For Women and Children (ALFeLa), Police Vulnerable Person's Unit, Ombudsman for Human Rights and Justice, Child Protection Unit of Ministry of Social Solidarity, Oecusse Women's Forum (FPWO), and other local organizations.
- Implementing partner FFSO's annual sub agreement was extended until September 30, 2015 and adjusted to conduct mobile legal aid clinic and legal information every week (4 times a month) and legal aid services to the suspects under 72-hour police detention.

Component D: District Court Functionality

- Annual extension of sub agreement with JSMP to December 31, 2015. Adjustments were made for JSMP to gather and analyze additional data on both access and quality of legal aid services in the court room in all four districts.
- Entered into preliminary negotiations with JSMP to provide justice training to a 100 suco councils under a Fixed Obligation Grant.
- Monitored a total of 56 criminal cases in Oecusse District court including 32 cases of domestic violence.
- Produced three monthly case summaries.
- Issued two press releases on cases monitored during this quarter.

II. POLITICAL CONTEXT

The overall political climate in Timor-Leste during this quarter remained relatively stable. However, at the end of the quarter martial arts group violence occurred in several neighborhoods of Dili and Baucau, some possibly related to the release of political dissident/prisoner Mauk Moruk, discussed below.

Within the justice sector, however, a series of events and developments were observed which may have an impact on the implementation of the project's justice components. Most outstanding of these events was the clear and direct interference by the GOTL with the **independence of the judicial system**. On October 24, the National Parliament passed Resolution No. 11/2014 in a closed session which urged the government to conduct a *thorough audit* of the justice sector and called for an immediate termination of contract of international judges including foreign officials working with the Office of Public Prosecution Service, the Public Defender's Office, the Anti-Corruption Commission and the Legal Training Center. On the same day and immediately after this, GOTL passed Resolution No. 29/2014 and decided to establish an audit commission to audit the judicial system "for reasons of force majeure and national interest" and urged that the relevant government ministries terminate contracts of international advisors in the judiciary. On October 31, 2014, the Government of Timor-Leste passed Resolution 32/2014 revoking the visas and work permits of eight international judicial officers (five judges, two prosecutors, and one Anti-Corruption Commission investigator) and ordered these individuals to leave the country within 48 hours.

These Resolutions have raised serious concerns about the independence of judiciary and have garnered widespread national and international attention including from JSMP, organizations within the country and from the international community such Amnesty International and UN Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights. The timing of the Resolutions, which coincided with the scheduled start of the trial of the currently serving Finance Minister, Emilia Pires, on corruption charges (now adjourned indefinitely) has not escaped the attention of many.

The long term impact of this interference is yet to be seen, but the short term impact includes the delay in admitting new magistrates for training at the Legal Training Center due to a shortage of qualified trainers which will have the long-term impact of delaying the training of new professionals to support the under-staffed justice sector. Monitoring by JSMP also revealed an immediate impact on access to justice for both victims and the accused – a number of cases have been adjourned or re-tried because of the departure of the international judges and prosecutors handling the case.

Although many were reasonably concerned by the sudden and inappropriate dismissal of foreign judicial officers, positive developments in the justice sector were also observed during this quarter. On November 26, Timor-Leste's Superior Council of Judicial Magistrates appointed 12 graduates of Legal Training Center (LTC) as **probationary judges**. The decision to appoint

these new judges was reached based on the evaluation and recommendations of the LTC's Pedagogic Council. Five out of the 12 new probationary judges are female.

In another notable event, Timor-Leste almost got elected to the **International Criminal Court** (ICC). On December 22, the Assembly of State Parties announced the final results of six new judges for the ICC. Timor-Leste's Honorable Justice Maria Natercia Gusmao came in seventh after over 20 rounds of UN voting to select six new judges to the ICC. Judge Maria Natercia Gusmao was appointed by GOTL on July 8 as Timor-Leste's candidate for the election to the ICC based in the Hague. Timor-Leste's close race on an international tribunal such as the ICC is commendable indicating the positive human and institutional growth in the country's justice sector after just over a decade of independence.

In December 2014, Paulino Gama a.k.a. Mauk Moruk was released from preventative detention where he had been held without charge since March 2014. Mauk Moruk, characterized by the government as a dangerous dissident but by others as a political prisoner, was detained earlier last year after the government declared the group he was affiliated with illegal. Mauk Moruk's release after almost 9 months in **pre-trial detention without charge**, coincided with growing attention and concern about the judicial process in Timor which permits suspects to be held without charge, for up to 12 months in prison. In two high-profile cases that occurred during this quarter, two internationals were placed in pre-trial detention suspected of fraud/money laundering and drug trafficking. Neither of them have been charged. After mounting international pressure, the woman suspected of drug trafficking was released from detention on December 25 after multiple petitions by her lawyer. These cases highlight the plight of many detainees in Timorese prisons who are being held in pre-trial detention without charge, a serious concern from an access to justice perspective.

Turning to matters of governance, the mandate of the currently elected suco councils expires in October 2015. In preparation for the upcoming elections, the Ministry of State Administration has **drafted revisions to the current community leader law**, which will expand the role of the suco and formally recognize the suco structure as a local power. Under the Constitution, these proposed revisions mean that political parties will be constitutionally required to participate in the suco election process. The participation of political parties in the suco elections is quite a divisive issue and therefore it is anticipated that the draft law will generate a large amount of discussion. During this quarter, MSA submitted the revised draft Suku Law to the Council of Ministers for discussion, which was reportedly also disseminated to the line ministries for feedback and comments. Once it is approved by the Council of Ministers (CoM), the draft Suku Law will be sent to the National Parliament for debate, and once approved, it will be forwarded to the President of the Republic for promulgation. As of the end of the quarter, the proposed law had yet to be discussed by the Council of Ministers. It is reportedly a priority for discussion by National Parliament during the next quarter. Its timely approval is required in order for the Government's Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) to have sufficient time to prepare for the logistics of the election. The proposed law puts significantly more logistical

burdens on STAE by requiring that a polling center be placed in each of the approximately 2,226 aldeias around the country on election day.

On December 1, the National Parliament commenced its debate on draft Law No.6/2014 on the **2015 General State Budget**. The Budget totaling \$1.57 Billion is allocated for the next fiscal year. The 2015 State Budget was approved on December 18 with unanimity by the National Parliament, it was promulgated by the President of Republic on December 29 and published on the Official Gazette a day after promulgation. Most of the 2015 State Budget will be financed from the Petroleum Fund. Civil Society Organizations raised concern about overspending of the Petroleum Funds, and warned that this may lead to lack of sustainability when revenues fall.

The 2015 State Budget allocated a budget of just over \$43 million for the MSA, including more than \$20 million for the PNDP and PDID programs which are working to improve service delivery by improving infrastructure at the district and suco level. This represents approximately a 17% increase over the 2014 budget. The GoTL also allocated \$8.764 million from the 2015 State General Budget to the National Electoral Commission (CNE) and \$2.1 million to STAE to support the administration of the upcoming village level elections in October 2015.

During this quarter, steady progress continued towards the devolution of competencies from the central government to the authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno. The 2015 State Budget allocates \$81.9 Million to the Authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno to accelerate inclusive economic development and to develop basic infrastructure in the enclave. This budget provides for social and economic development, by investing in vital infrastructure such as roads, schools, and health facilities among others, as well as investing in the human development of the people of Oecusse. It has been reported that by the next quarter the Central Government will transfer of power to Dr. Mari Alkatiri, the President of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse.

The State Budget allocated a total of \$26.2 million to the Ministry of Justice, which includes a total budget of around \$1.3 million for the Office of Public Defender and just over \$170,000 for the Legal Training Center (LTC). This represents an increase of just over 20% from the 2014 budget allocated to the Ministry of Justice. As noted in Ba Distrito's Legal Aid Assessment, the reliance of the Office of the Public Defender on receiving its budget from the Ministry of Justice puts a damper on its ability to be seen as an institution providing legal assistance free from influence by the Government.

Other justice institutions did not fare so well under the 2015 State Budget. The Court as a whole was allocated \$5.3 million which represents a decrease of just over 30% from last year's budget; The independent human rights institution, the Provedoria had its budget decreased by just under 30% from last year's budget; And finally, the Anti-Corruption Commission realized a decrease in budget of close to 20% compared to last year's numbers. While the decreases in the budget of the Court and Anti-Corruption Commission still represent an increase over what was actually spent by these institutions during 2014, the decrease to the Provedoria also

represents close to a 10% reduction against the Provedoria's actual expenditures during 2014. This is concerning considering the important role the Provedoria should be playing in speaking out against and investigating human rights abuses and violations in Timor-Leste. Coupled with the recent interference by the government in judicial independence, the expulsion of the international investigator who gathered evidence against the Minister of Justice, Emilia Pires, for the recently postponed trial, and the expulsion of the international judge set to hear the trial of Emilia Pires, the reduction of the budgets of the independent justice institutions in Timor-Leste could be seen as undermining a more robust check and balance system in Timor on justice, human rights and corruption.

III. ANALYSIS (DESCRIPTION OF OVERALL PROGRAM PROGRESS TOWARDS TARGETED RESULTS)

Overall during this quarter the project made significant gains in progress against the Workplan.

Key successes during this quarter included:

- Approval by USAID of the FY15 Workplan for the project
- Launch of the project in two new districts, Ermera and Liquiça
- Rapid assessment of organizational capacity of 40 sucos from Ermera and Liquiça started in collaboration with the National Directorate for Community Development and Suco Support (DNDCAS)
- Development of skeleton outline of nine training and facilitator manuals to be developed for suco councils, in collaboration with DNDCAS and the STTA Organizational Development and Training Expert
- Conducted specific assessments for selection and preparation for promoting suco networking
- Provided regular organizational development and accompaniment to FFSO and Belun focusing on human resource policy and financial management and reporting
- Submission of recommendations to MSA on the draft suco law gathered from public consultations facilitated by Ba Distrito and MSA at the district level
- Support to JSMP to publish a detailed legal analysis of the Government and Parliamentary Resolutions impact on judicial independence
- Oral recognition by MSA of the important contribution that Ba Distrito has made to the drafting of the proposed suco law and a request for additional support during 2015
- Improved cooperation between the project and the DNDCAS since MSA reactivated the Department of Mediation and Capacity Building
- Development and issuing of two decentralization research and advocacy grants
- Selection of two legal aid organizations to carry out legal aid activities in Baucau, Ermera and Liquiça by the Grants Selection Committee

A table showing progress against activities set out in the Workplan can be found at Annex 1. In addition, a table indicating cumulative progress on performance indicators can be found in Annex 2 to this report.

Some delays in activities were experienced as a result of terminating the partnership with implementing partner AATL. However Counterpart worked to incorporate the activities previously covered by AATL into the FY15 Workplan, to be implemented directly by Counterpart during this year. Planning took place during this quarter and activities will be implemented during the next quarter.

IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Media and Communications: During this reporting period, information about the project's milestones and activities continued to receive strong district and national level coverage through community radio, national radio and television, as well as through the independent print media and by distribution on an electronic listserve that reaches a national and international audience with interests in Timor-Leste.

The Ba Distrito [Facebook page](#) continues to publish information about the project and related developments in both English and Tetum. The page aims to increase awareness and provide up-to-date information about project and related activities as they happen. From the date it was launched until the end of the reporting period, the Ba Distrito Facebook page attracted 1,620 followers, 1,240 of whom are located in Timor-Leste and 39% of whom are women. The largest demographic that it is reaching is between the ages of 25 to 34.

Ermera and Liquiça Launch: The project was launched in Ermera on November 18 and in Liquiça on November 24. The launches received broad **media coverage**. On November 10 and 11 the project's Media Liaison Officer held individual meetings with journalists to brief them about the project and invite them to the launch. A press package (including the press release, the project brochure and a copy of the remarks from the Chief of Party) was prepared and distributed to the journalists at the event. The launch event in **Ermera** was attended by 10 journalists, including 5 from print media, 3 from radio and 1 from Suara Timor Lorosae Television (STLTV). Three of the journalists who attended were women. The launch in **Liquiça** Municipality also received district and national level coverage. The launch event was attended by 6 journalists including 3 from print and online media (The Dili Weekly) and 3 from radio. One of the journalists who attended was a woman.

Coverage of the launch ceremony was published in four newspapers¹ and broadcast on National Radio Timor Leste (RTL), Community Radio² and one university radio station³. The ceremony also received one minute of news coverage on STLTV, broadcasted at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19 and again at 7.00 a.m. on Thursday, November 20 (Only Ermera Launch). The press release was also released on the East Timor and Indonesia Action Network (ETAN) in Tetum and English and published on the project's Facebook page in both languages.

¹ Jornal Independente, Timor Post, Jornal Nacional Diario, Jornal Matadalan,

² Community Radio Cafe Ermera and Community Radio Tokodede Liquiça

³ Radio Akademika / University of Timor-Leste (UNTL)

A table summarizing the media coverage of the project during this quarter can be found at Annex 3 together with copies of the coverage where available.

Grants: During this quarter, the **sub-agreements** with three out of four of Ba Distrito's national implementing partners were renewed with USAID concurrence. Some changes to the scope of work and budget were made to reflect lessons learned during Year One. Amendments to the budget and scope of work were made for implementing partner FFSO, with the end date extended to Sept. 30, 2015. Belun's agreement was also extended until September 30, 2015 and JSMP was extended until December 31, 2015.

Although Counterpart provided a no-cost extension to implementing partner AATL until December 31, 2014, this was essentially an administrative extension to allow for AATL to properly close out its partnership with Ba Distrito. During this quarter Counterpart sought and received USAID approval to end its partnership with AATL as a result of problems with implementation, lack of progress in achieving milestones despite careful monitoring and support from the access to justice team and internal organizational problems that made the partnership no longer viable.

During this reporting period, the project received and evaluated applications for **Legal Aid Grants** for the districts of (1) Baucau; and (2) Ermera and Liquisa. Four applications were received by the deadline of October 10. Applications were received from Educasaun Comunidade Matebian (ECM) and Comissão Justiça e Paz Diocese de Baucau in Baucau; and JNJ Advokasia and LIBERTA Consultoria e Advocacia for Ermera and Liquiça. A Grant Selection Committee was formed consisting of 3 members: Mr. Cancio Xavier (the Office of Public Defender); Ms. Rosa Xavier of Ministry of Justice (Advisor of National Directorate for Human Rights and Justice); and Maria Veronika Da Costa (the Legal Aid Specialist for Ba Distrito).

The members have expertise in the specific topics, while the participation of the Public Defender and an advisor to the Ministry of Justice reinforces the project's objective to build collaboration between legal aid providers and build consensus about the value added by private lawyers to the legal aid landscape. The object of the Grants Committee is to make the grants selection and award process transparent and to enhance the effectiveness of the project. The Grants Committee held a meeting held on November 14 where it evaluated the proposals. After discussion and deliberation, the Grants Committee selected applications from Comissão Justiça e Paz Diocese de Baucau and LIBERTA Consultoria e Advocacia. The agreements will be signed by the grantees during the next quarter.

Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants (DRAG). During this reporting period, two competitive grant applications were developed and then issued after receiving USAID approval. Specifically, a **Request for Applications (RFA)** for a Media Outreach Campaign to Promote Citizens' Understanding of and Participation in Decentralization was developed, and an RFA to produce five short documentary films promoting best practices in community engagement were issued. These grants are drawn with the objective to develop and implement a

comprehensive information media campaign to create awareness about ongoing decentralization processes in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse.

The RFA for a **Media Outreach Campaign to Promote Citizens' Understanding of and Participation in Decentralization** was open to civil society organizations, media organizations, or coalition of any of these that are working in each of the five targeted municipalities/region. The grant is initially for a period of six months. The total amount of the grant for the 6 month period cannot exceed \$12,000. This grant will be issued as a Fixed Obligation Grant (FOG).

The RFA to produce five short documentary films promoting best practices in community engagement, project implementation, conflict resolution and other service delivery initiatives at the suco level was open to a Timorese organization to produce five short films documenting a success story from a suco and/or a suco association in promoting best practices in community engagement, project implementation and other service delivery initiatives in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse. The grant is for a period of six months. The total amount of the grant for the six month period cannot exceed \$15,000. These grant will be issued as a Fixed Obligation Grant (FOG).

The RFA for **Media Outreach Campaign to Promote Citizens' Understanding of and Participation in Decentralization** was approved by USAID and issued to the public on December 13 and the deadline for applications was January 21. The RFA for the documentary was approved by USAID and issued on December 18. The deadline for applications was January 21. The RFA was released on the East Timor and Indonesia Action Network (ETAN) in Tetum and English, published on the project's Facebook page in both languages, put on NGO Forum public information boards, and distributed by the Ba Distrito District Coordinators in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquica and Oecusse.

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening

The goal of the activities under Component A is to enhance the capacity of sucos to strengthen citizen participation and representation in local governance.

A.1 Engage and Evaluate Capacity of Participating Sucos: During this reporting period, the Ba Distrito team launched the project in 40 sucos in Ermera and Liquiça districts. Preparation for the launch began with the introduction of the Ba Distrito project to the Ermera Municipal Administrator on October 22 and the Liquiça Municipal Administrator on October 28. The launch in Ermera took place on November 18 at the Administration Aula of Directorate of Land and Property in Gleno. The program was launched by Secretary of State for Local Development Samuel Mendonça and attended by Chargé D'Affaires Sra Katherine Dueholm from the American Embassy in Timor-Leste and Municipal Administrator Mr. Vitor dos Santos. The event was attended by the DNDCAS focal point Mariano Martins and other officials from line ministries. Approximately 69 people participated in the Ermera launch (53 male and 16 female).

Similar to Ermera, the Secretary of State for Local Development Mr. Samuel Mendonça launched the project in Liquiça district. The launch in Liquiça was also attended by the Director of USAID Mission in Timor-Leste, Mr. John Seong; National Director for Municipal Installation Support of Ministry of State Administration Lino Torrezão, Liquiça Administrator Sr Domingos da C. dos Santos and official line ministries in Liquiça, included PNDS municipal coordinator and the DNDCAS focal point. The total attendees in Liquiça launch was 68, with 51 males and 17 females.

Suco selection: Following the launch ceremony, the project team met with the suco leaders to further explain the project and to assess the sucos' interest in participating in the project. The team aimed to provide further information to suco chiefs so that they would have a better understanding about the criteria and importance of participating in the project, as well as their obligations and time commitment if they were selected to participate. The Ba Distrito team also requested advice from Liquiça and Ermera with regard to suco selection. Mr. Vitor dos Santos Ermera Municipal Administrator recommended involving sucos in urban areas and close to the capital of the municipality for better efficiency and effectiveness of the project. His recommendation is based on his experience with previous projects which had difficulty securing the high participation of suco council members due to distance, bad infrastructure and transportation issues. During the initial suco selection in Ermera, 20 sucos were represented; in Liquiça only 13 sucos were represented. The project did an initial evaluation of the 20 sucos in Ermera and decided not to include suco Lisapat and Fatubolu for further assessment due to limited road access.⁴

Meanwhile, for sucos that did not participate in the launch and initial suco selection process, the Ba Distrito District Coordinators will follow up during the first month of the next quarter to assess three additional sucos in Ermera (Eraulo, Haupu and Humboi) and six additional sucos in Liquiça. Based on further assessment of the road conditions in Liquiça, the Ba Distrito team decided to exclude suco Açumano and Hatuquessi from participation in the project because there is no road access for vehicle to reach the suco. The list of participating sucos will be finalized during the next quarter.

CSOs Program/Project Mapping. Prior to the project launch, the Ba Distrito team introduced the project to CSOs including the media in Ermera on November 11. There were eight NGOs, five CBOs and four journalists present, 25 participants in total (18 male and 7 female). Additionally, the team organized CSO project mapping at the suco level in order to establish better communication and coordination among local CSOs and the Ba Distrito team. The mapping shows that only 3 sucos out of 52 total sucos in Ermera, namely Tiarlelo (Atsabe), Coliate-Leotelo and Lemia-Sorimbalu (Ermera Town) do not have CSOs operating in their areas.

⁴ One of criteria for suco selection is its accessibility.

In Liquiça on November 20 the District Liaison Officer (DLO) from the NGO Forum facilitated the introduction of the Ba Distrito project to approximately 20 NGO Forum's members from Liquiça municipality. The NGO Forum also supported Ba Distrito to distribute brochures about the Ba Distrito project to other CSOs. The CSO mapping exercise in Liquiça was conducted on the afternoon of the launch on November 24. 13 CSOs included Belun joined the mapping with 23 total attendees, 15 male and 8 female participants. The mapping shows where CSOs implement their project in all 23 sucos in Liquiça. During the project introduction and CSO mapping, the local CSOs indicated their interest in supporting Ba Distrito through small grants and participation in public consultations.

A.2 Review, Update and Create Local Governance Strengthening Tools and Resources: In the first week of December 2014, Counterpart contracted a STTA Laura Ogden to support the development of a package of training materials and manuals for suco councils. The development process will involve Belun, DNDCAS and Counterpart. The process began with a two day discussion/consultation on December 9 and 11 to draft the basic structure of the 10 training manuals. Topics to be covered include: Leadership and Communication, Roles and Responsibilities, Conflict Resolution and Women's Participation in Conflict Resolution, Community Consultation, Suco Fundraising, Project Design and Proposal Writing; Project Management, Financial Planning and Management, Administration, Referral Pathways and Women's Rights and Crisis Management⁵. In the lead up to and during the consultation, the STTA and Counterpart Capacity Building team reviewed Belun's nine existing training manuals on relevant topics, JSMP's on Referral Pathways and Women's Rights, Ba Distrito's Baseline Survey Report, Counterpart's existing training manuals, the Asia Foundation's manual on Roles and Responsibilities of Community Leadership, Ba Distrito's Quarterly Reports, PNDS training manuals and DNDCAS' Financial Standard for Suco's Incentives and Guidelines on 14 Suco Administration Books.

The STTA also produced an outline of training methodology which included the development of the manuals for suco councils and facilitators, supplementary training materials/tools to support the training delivery such as the content for flipcharts, posters, checklists, etc.; facilitation methods including discussion and group work, evaluation and checking understanding, application to support and encourage participants to be active in the training and learning visually, orally and kinetically. The team also agreed to mainstream inclusion of gender equality and inclusiveness and participation of vulnerable groups in suco councils and community activities in every topic. The consultant also proposed various activities for effective evaluation to support monitoring and evaluation data collection.

The first five training modules are anticipated to be completed during the next quarter with the remaining modules following shortly after. Some of the training modules are waiting on the

⁵ Please see previous Quarterly Report, July-September 2014 for further information on each training manual.

approval of the revisions to the draft suco law, to make sure that the trainings are relevant to the applicable legal framework.

A.3 – Design and Deliver Capacity Development Assistance to Suco Councils and Associations:

Rapid Assessment: Following the initial suco selection, the team commenced the rapid assessment of each suco council's organizational capacity in Liquiça on December 9 and December 15 in Ermera. Prior to the rapid assessment, as part of induction for new staff, the Belun Program Manager provided two days of training to Belun's new district coordinators for Liquiça and Ermera on the project, the Organizational Development for Suco Council Framework and the SuKAT (suco assessment) tools. During the first week of the rapid assessments, Counterpart's Capacity Building Officer and Baucau's District Coordinator accompanied the newly recruited Ermera and Liquiça District Coordinators to begin the rapid assessment in Liquiça in order to ensure quality and transfer of knowledge.

Ba Distrito also invited DNDCAS staff from the Department of Mediation and Capacity, Mr. Paulo Natalino Doutèl, to accompany the Ba Distrito team on the rapid assessments so that he could familiarize himself with the SuKAT tools and the assessment process. He participated in the rapid assessment for suco Railako Leten and Potete, in Ermera municipality from December 17 to 19. During this activity DNDCAS staff also had the opportunity to evaluate the usage of 14 administration books for two sucos. On December 18, the Ba Distrito team introduced the project and SuKAT tools to the DNDCAS focal point in Ermera, Mr. Mariano Martins. Mr. Doutèl from DNDCAS national level indicated that the SuKAT tools developed by Ba Distrito were useful to get adequate information in relation to the organizational development needs of the sucos.

By the end of December 2014, the team has completed rapid assessments in 6 sucos in Ermera and 13 sucos in Liquiça. The complete list of sucos where the assessment took place can be found in Annex 4 of this report.



Figure 1 Belun's Oecusse District Coordinator supported PAAS of suco Lifau to improve suco archiving system

The final findings and recommendations for the rapid assessments of the 40 new sucos will be analyzed next quarter and their human and organizational training needs identified.

Technical Assistance to Suco:

Throughout this reporting period, Belun's and Counterpart's District Coordinators provided ongoing technical assistance to a number of sucos. During this quarter, 15 sucos benefited from specific assistance from the Ba Distrito team on

administrative and financial systems including filing and archiving. A detailed list of the assistance provided can be found at Annex 5 to this report. Oecusse's District Coordinators also assisted 18 sucos to improve their Organizational Development Action Plan for their individual suco council.

During this quarter the President's office opened a competition for sucos to apply for funding for awards to support nutrition initiatives at the suco level. Counterpart's District Coordinators supported information distribution about the Presidential Nutrition Award to 100 sucos in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse to participate in the award competition. In Oecusse, Counterpart's District Coordinator discussed and coordinated the participation of sucos with administrators of post administration/sub-district level and other NGOs who regularly provided accompaniment to particular sucos. While in Baucau and Covalima, District Coordinators directly approached suco chiefs and encouraged them to participate in the competition. The project ultimately supported one suco from each of the three districts where the project was working to submit a proposal (Abani and Naimeco in Oecusse, Alaua Kraik in Baucau and Beco in Covalima). Ultimately, none of the proposals supported by the project were selected to win the award, but the process of supporting the suco councils helped the project to build important relationships with their sucos and also highlighted one of the ways sucos can identify opportunities to improve service delivery to the suco level. The amount of support Ba Distrito was able to provide to the process was limited this time around because sucos needed to be nominated by the sub-district administrator in order to participate. These nominations came close to the submission deadline. As a result the proposals were weak. Ba Distrito is currently developing a capacity building module for suco councils that will focus on how to write an effective proposal and this will help to build the skills of the councils to prepare stronger proposals in the future, with Ba Distrito support.

A.4 – Increase Capacity to Respond to Citizen Needs. In order to achieve this result, the project will be using Constituent Engagement Grants to:

- Provide opportunities for local communities to discuss their needs with the suco councils and create special opportunities for women, youth and the disabled to engage with their suco council;
- Increase communication and collaboration between participating suco councils and their community members;
- Enhance confidence among community members in the effectiveness of suco councils in local development planning and administration, infrastructure development and maintenance.

The project is in the process of designing an RFA that will maximize the benefits to sucos working in collaboration with CSOs or CBOs in their suco.

A.5 – Facilitate Networking, Exchange Visits and Joint Action among Sucos. These activities will be an effective mechanism for sucos to establish a strong horizontal relationship with each other in order to have ideas/experience/knowledge exchange, sharing common challenges, lessons learned and best practices.

During this quarter, the capacity building team including the three District Coordinators in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse started assessing sucos for their potential to participate in the activity. In particular, the project is looking for sucos with strong leadership potential to coordinate and share information, best practices and perhaps collaborate with neighboring sucos with similar needs and interests. The assessment is based on the findings and recommendations from the organizational development assessments (rapid assessments) that the team had conducted during the first year on the initial 60 sucos in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse. A table summarizing the preliminary assessment of these sucos can be found at Annex 6.

A.6 – Improve Suco and District Collaboration for Better Service Delivery. This activity is ongoing and the project is working together with district authorities, including DNDCAS focal points to keep them informed of and involved in the project's activities with sucos in order to improve collaboration between sucos and vertically with district level service providers.

Organizational Development for Implementing Partners: In addition to the specific activities listed above, the Ba Distrito team continues to support the organizational capacity development of its implementing partners, namely AATL⁶, Belun, FFSO and JSMP.

On October 28-30, the Capacity Building and Access to Justice teams presented the findings and recommendations of FFSO's organizational development assessment to the organization's Executive Director, staff and volunteers to create a one year action plan. FFSO was pleased with the findings and recommendations and collectively began to share responsibility to strengthen their organization through the



Ba Distrito District Coordinator facilitating action planning with FFSO to develop their organizational capacity action plan for 2015.

⁶ Note that support to AATL will cease on December 31 as under their sub-agreement their partnership with Ba Distrito will end on that date.

implementation of the action plan with support from the Ba Distrito team. During this reporting period, FFSO agreed to produce employment contracts for their staff and volunteers, a staff employment manual and preparation of an institutional strategic plan for the next quarter, and. Ba Distrito will support them in this process. Both also agreed that Ba Distrito and FFSO would have regular discussions to follow up on the action plan. As a first step, during this reporting period FFSO produced a draft staff employment handbook that will be consulted with FFSO's Advisory Board for comments and further follow-up before finalizing the draft.

In November and the beginning of December, Ba Distrito's capacity building team and Grants Manager continued to provide **technical financial reporting assistance** to Belun, FFSO and JSMP. Ba Distrito also supported the implementing partners in making revisions to their draft budgets for FY15, ensuring that they were reasonable and in line with USAID policies and procedures. Planning was made for two representatives from Belun, one from JSMP and one from Counterpart to participate in an upcoming training on Planning for Financial Sustainability which will be held by the UK organization Mango, in Timor-Leste in March 2015. Counterpart's participant will then deliver a similar training to FFSO and the upcoming new legal aid partners in Tetum, to begin supporting them to develop financial sustainability within their own organizations.

In terms of organizational development, Belun continued to develop its internal capacity to draft effective training materials for those at the suco level. In particular, its Program Manager and two trainers worked with the Ba Distrito STTA to actively participate in the process of designing the training manuals that will be delivered to the suco councils. According to feedback received it was very good learning process. Belun contributed various ideas to the basic structure of training manuals, the facilitation methodology and the monitoring and evaluation based on their experience from the first training and other activities in suco level.

Stakeholder Coordination: During this reporting period, the capacity building team continued building relationships with, coordinating and networking with the government in Dili at the national level, the municipal level and post-administration level. At the municipal level, Ba Distrito's District Coordinators attended informal and formal meetings with district administrators, PNDS teams, other CSOs, ZEESM, the Oecusse Region Authority, SEPI's women's congress and 16 day campaign for ending violence against women. The team also began cooperation with the district administrators in Liquiça and Ermera municipality, PNDS, DNDCAS focal points and line ministries, as well as local CSOs and media. A table summarizing key stakeholder coordination meetings that took place to support the project can be found at Annex 7 to this report.

Component B – Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions

The goal of Component B is to improve communication and links between the sucos, the district administration, local Government of Timor Leste (GoTL), line ministries and other basic service providers at the sub-national level.

Although Decree Law No.4/2014 provides that the establishment of the new Pre-Deconcentration Administrative (PDA) structure will take place in all 13 districts in Timor-Leste, the legal provision does not require that the establishment of the structure be done simultaneously. The provision allows for the gradual and consistent extension of the PDA structure throughout the national territory. Thus on October 22, the Government approved **Resolution No.28/2014** on the installation of bodies and services of the new structure of PDA in three pilot municipalities for the roll out of the new PDA structure. The municipalities of Aileu, Ermera and Liquiça have been chosen reportedly to ensure bigger and better monitoring of the implementation process by the Central Government, and to ensure a quick solution to any problems that might arise during the realization of PDA.

The Resolution also called on the District Administrators to exercise their duties until the Municipal Managers are appointed, and it grants the District Administrators additional financial compensation by adding responsibilities to their current job until their replacement by Municipal Managers. It also called on all official correspondence to start using municipality instead of district when addressing the territorial division in the country, except for the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse.

Steady progression continued towards the implementation of the new PDA structure. From September 30 to October 7, the official MSA Facebook Page⁷ posted that a Permanent Technical Group of State Secretariat for Administrative Decentralization held a series of district strategic and development plan meetings in 12 districts/municipalities. The meetings involved municipal administrators, municipal secretaries, directors of SAIM (Support Service for Municipal Establishment – *Serviço de Apoio ao Instalação do Municipio*), the chief of department for district planning and development as well as district directors of other relevant line ministries. From October 8 and 9, the Joint Technical Group for Financial Management of Pre-deconcentration Administrative (PDA) held a meeting to discuss the future financial management of the three pilot municipalities during the implementation of PDA in 2015 (GoTL-Administrative Decentralization Facebook Page, October 14, 2014).

A table summarizing all legislation passed to date relating to the decentralization process can be found in Annex 8 of this report.

On October 30-31, the State Secretariat for Administrative Decentralization hosted an International Conference on Decentralization and Local Power in Dili. The conference which brought together the municipal administrators in Timor-Leste and representatives of foreign municipal authorities from the Australian city of Adelaide and the Portuguese city of Porto, was aimed at sharing experiences in the implementation of decentralization process, identifying the successes and failures in the implementation of the decentralization process in Timor-Leste and deciding on strategies to further promote local administration reform in Timor-Leste. On the sideline of the event, State Secretary for Administrative Decentralization on behalf of the

⁷ See: <https://www.facebook.com/desentralizasaunadministrativa>

Baucau Municipality signed a cooperation agreement with a representative of the Municipality of Porto in an effort to boost the cooperation between the two municipalities in the process of administrative decentralization and promoting local power in Baucau municipality. The two day consecutive international conference on decentralization and local power included participants such as members of government, Suco Chiefs, Civil Society Organizations and Post Administrators (formerly known as sub-district administrators).

B.1. - Solicit and Preset Research on Citizens' Opinion on Decentralization Policy and Practices

On October 3, the Governance Officer finalized the compilation of recommendation from the public consultation on the draft Suco Law. The documents together with Ba Distrito's own recommendation were sent electronically to General Director for Local Development, Mr. Miguel de Carvalho, who then shared them with the drafting team.

On October 24, the Governance Officer drafted and finalized a Briefing Note on Government Resolution No. 28/2014 of October 22 on the Establishment of Structural Bodies and Services of Administrative Pre-Deconcentration and the launching of three pilot municipalities in Ermera, Aileu and Liquiça. The briefing note was then shared with all Ba Distrito staff members and directors/program managers of the implementing partners.

During the month of December, the Governance team finalized two draft briefing notes on the Special Region of Oecusse and ZEESM and the New Structure of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative. The briefing notes provide overviews of the legislation, identify some of the possible issues for discussion, and serve as a foundation to gain wider public inputs, recommendations and feedbacks to the existing legislation. The briefing notes will be given to the grantees of the two competitive grants on decentralization and also shared with partners and suco councils as a way of keeping them updated on developments.

B.2. – Provide legal advice and legislative drafting support

On October 3, Ba Distrito submitted the compilation of recommendations from public consultation on *Suco Law* in Baucau, Covalima and the Special Region of Oecusse, and its complementary recommendation on the revisions of the draft *Suco Law* to the Ministry of State Administration for consideration. Ba Distrito recommended to reword the provision that requests the members of the Suco Council, except the *Lia Nain*, to have at least senior high school graduate or comparable education with basic ability of literacy and numeracy.

From October 13 to 17, the Governance Officer worked on and finalized the identification of recommendations that have been considered and incorporated into the latest version of the draft *Suco Law*. An identification matrix was developed that can easily track the 'considered' recommendations which include those from Ba Distrito's STTA Dr. Deborah Cummin's research in June 2014, the secondary recommendations after the first draft produced, the final recommendation and the recommendations from the community. Of 46 recommendations submitted, 28 were incorporated into the draft while four were partially incorporated.

Currently, considering all of the recommendations submitted by Ba Distrito to the legal drafting committee, approximately 60% have been incorporated into the latest draft. The MSA praised Ba Distrito's support and has requested for continued assistance in the dissemination process once the bill approved into law.

B.3 – Design and Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants

On December 13, USAID's Ba Distrito project issued a RFA for a grant up to \$12,000 to implement a community radio outreach campaign in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquica and Oecusse to promote citizen's understanding of decentralization. The competitive grant was open to Timorese CSOs, media organizations, or coalitions of any of these organizations to apply. The radio outreach campaign is aimed at disseminating the policy issues and decentralization legislations, and educating constituencies about the decentralization legislations in every municipality.

On December 18, USAID's Ba Distrito project also issued a RFA for a grant up to \$15,000 to produce five (5) short films documenting a success story from a suco and/or a suco association in promoting best practices in community engagement, project implementation and other service delivery initiatives in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse. The grant was issued for Timorese organizations and civil society organizations CSOs to apply.

GoTL, Stakeholders and Counterpart Coordination: On November 21, the Governance team and the COP met with the National Director for Municipal Installation at the Office of General Director for Administrative Decentralization. The meeting was aimed at informing him about the extension of the Ba Distrito project into the municipalities of Liquica and Ermera, discussing any possible support that Ba Distrito could provide in the administrative decentralization process as well as obtaining information from the national director on the latest development in PDA process.

On November 27, the Governance Team met with the COP to discuss the work plan for Component B. An early preparation and coordination for Suco Trade Show was discussed during the meeting. Component B in collaboration with Component A will organize a Suco Competition prior to the trade show. Each suco will compete in writing their success stories in service delivery, community engagement and project implementation. A best story from each target municipalities and Special Administrative Region will be used as a base to produce five short documentary films that will be showed at the Suco trade shows. It was also decided during the meeting that the COP, in close consultation with the Governance Team, will develop a draft RFA for the production of five short documentary films that is expected to be issued before and processed in the next quarter. The governance team will also develop a PSA for the Suco Success Stories Competition.

On December 3, the Ba Distrito team held a meeting with the National Director of DNDCAS at the DNDCAS office. The meeting was aimed at requesting information on the latest development of the draft *Suco Law*. The draft *Suco Law* reportedly has been submitted to the

Council of Ministers and is expected to be discussed by the CoM in the next quarter before sending it to the National Parliament for final discussion and approval. During the meeting, Ba Distrito discussed with the Director possibilities for the project to support dissemination of information about the law once it is passed. The Director enthusiastically supported this idea and also asked whether it would be possible for the project to support civic education initiatives in preparation for the suco election in 2017 in addition to training for the members of suco councils in regards to their role and responsibilities as defined in the new law. During the meeting it was also noted that one of the important topics of the training for the members of suco councils among others are financial management and leadership and conflict resolution. In regards to the training curriculum for conflict resolution, the National Director suggested that the Ba Distrito team contact the Conflict Resolution Focal Point at the Ministry of Social and Solidarity, Mr. Rogerio Nelson Alves. The focal point is a part of the Department of Capacity Building and Mediation under the National Directorate of Peace Building and Social Cohesion.

On December 9, the Governance Team held a meeting with the Director of *Fundação Patria*, a local NGO that focuses on advocating and promoting women's role in the decentralization process in Timor-Leste. The meeting was aimed at gaining inputs for an agenda for a UN Women sponsored National Woman Conference which took place during the following week on December 16 to 17 in Dili. The two-day National Women's Conference was launched by Timor-Leste's Secretary of State for the Promotion of Equality (SEPI) and was attended by around 70 women representatives from 12 municipalities and Oecusse Special Administrative Region (SAR). Among the panel of presenters was Counterpart's Ba Distrito project Chief of Party, Carolyn Tanner, who presented on "Women's Participation in Local Governance." Ba Distrito appreciates that Fundação Patria has used the results of its baseline survey as one of their references in understanding current women participation in the decentralization process. In the sideline of the national conference, the State Secretary for Equality Promotion also launched a campaign on "100 Potential Women Candidates for Suco Chief Election".

On December 11, the Governance Team met with Mr. Hugo Fernandes and Mr. Saturnino from The Asia Foundation (TAF) at TAF Office. The meeting was aimed at discussing the reviving of the Local Governance Working Group. It was agreed in the meeting for Ba Distrito and TAF to hold another meeting in early January 2015 to discuss and share the ideas on the terms of reference (ToR), as well as mapping relevant CSOs to participate in the working group in addition to the existing potential members such as World Bank and DFAT. The team met with Mr. Edio Guterres from the World Bank two days earlier to discuss on the same issue.

On December 12, the Governance team and the COP met the General Director for Administrative Decentralization, Mr. Abilio Caetano at the General Director's Office. The objective of the meeting was to inform Mr. Caetano that Ba Distrito is aiming to issue a RFA of competitive grants for decentralization and advocacy. Mr. Caetano welcomes the idea and suggested Ba Distrito to meet the Secretary of State Administration, Mr. Tomas Cabral, for further discussion on this. A request of courtesy meeting with the Secretary of State for Administrative Decentralization has been delivered and awaits response.

On December 12, the Governance Team and the COP met the General Director (GD) for Administrative Decentralization at the General Director's Office. During the meeting, the GD informed the team that the vacancy announcement for the municipal manager was going to be issued in December 15 with 5 days deadline. It was later noticed that the deadline was extended until December 31.

On December 22, Ba Distrito Governance Manager met with Ms. Ursula de Almeida and Ms. Nelia Menezes of Search for Common Ground (SfCG). Ba Distrito has been asked to provide feedback on the comic books that SfCG is developing. One of the topics is about female youth in Suco Council. Ba Distrito shared the latest version of the draft suku law with SfCG and agreed to assist with distribution of the comic books at the suco level in the five target municipalities.

Component C – Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

The goal of Component C is to increase access to justice for marginalized citizens and the poor.

During this quarter, Ba Distrito provided technical support to partner Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP) to thoroughly analyze the legality of the recent National Parliament and Government resolutions on the dismissal and expulsion of international judicial officers including five judges. Due to the sensitive nature of the issue, the analysis was launched by JSMP on December 22 under its name and was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Justice, CSOs, local print and electronic media, as well as donor representatives including USAID. The report of the analysis has since been widely distributed to the National Parliament and the Government officials.

C.1 - Support Government to Develop Responsive Integrated and Sustainable Legal Aid Assistance Model:

In this quarter, the Project's partner Assosiasaun Advogadu Timor-Lorosa'e (AATL) experienced extended internal organizational problems leading to the departure of the two staff working on the Ba Distrito project. Consequently, no national-level working group meetings (Legal Information and Legal Aid Framework Working Groups) were held within this quarter. On October 30, Ba Distrito met with AATL Director, Mr. Januariu Martins, and explained about the ending of the partnership between Ba Distrito and AATL on December 31 through a *no-cost non-renewable* extension of the partnership sub-agreement. A no-cost non-renewable extension was intended to allow AATL sufficient time to complete all necessary handover including assets and funds transfer and final report-writing. On December 11, the motorbike bought with funds from the Project was handed over to Ba Distrito and the remaining funds were transferred back to the Project's account on December 29. The Project is still working with AATL to finalize a final summary report on its achievements in line with its Scope of Work in the sub-agreement including challenges encountered. Despite the termination of partnership with

AATL, Ba Distrito will continue to engage with AATL in a non-partner capacity such as inviting them to participate in National Legal Aid Coalition meetings coordinated at the Project's office.

C.2. - Improve Capacity and Outreach of Legal Aid and Alternative Dispute Providers:

Within this quarter, Ba Distrito's implementing partner **Fundasaun Fatuk Sinai Oecusse (FFSO)** provided free legal aid assistance to a total of twenty-eight new cases involving the same number of clients. Nine out of twenty-eight clients are female clients and eight of the twenty-eight legal aid clients assisted by FFSO are youth aged 16 to 30.

Table 1 provides monthly number of cases assisted by FFSO from October to December:

Month	New Criminal Cases				New Civil Cases		combined
	SGBV/DV		Non SGBV/DV		f	m	
	f	m	f	m			
October	0	1	0	0	3	5	9
November	0	0	0	1	2	6	9
December	0	0	1	0	3	6	10
Total	0	1	1	1	8	17	28

These legal aid services were provided in the form of legal advice, consultation, referral and mediation.

Most of the cases assisted by FFSO within this quarter involve civil cases (25/28) which included debts, land disputes, paternity, defamation, and straying cattle. On the other hand, one of the three criminal cases assisted by FFSO within this quarter involved domestic violence, which FFSO referred to the Office of Public Prosecution Services.

Moreover, 9 out of 28 cases assisted by FFSO during this quarter were resolved. All of the resolved cases are civil disputes where FFSO was asked to help mediate, including cases brought to the community leaders for resolution in which FFSO's lawyers were requested to provide legal advice and joined the community leaders in solving the disputes.

Table 2 provides the number of cases resolved by FFSO within this quarter:

Month	Resolved Criminal Cases				Resolved Civil Cases		combined
	SGBV/DV		Non SGBV/DV		f	m	
	f	m	f	m			
October	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
November	0	0	0	0	1	4	5
December	0	0	0	0	1	3	4
Total	0	0	0	0	2	7	9

In addition to the provision of free legal aid assistance to the poor and vulnerable, Ba Distrito's

implementing partner FFSO also conducted a total of **11 mobile legal information and education sessions attended by a total 315 participants, including 121 female participants**. In October, FFSO conducted two legal information sessions in aldeia (sub village) Mahata of suco (village) Lela-Ufe and suco Taiboco of Makassar sub district. A total of 85 including 36 female participants attended the sessions. In November, FFSO conducted a total of 6 legal information sessions⁸ with a total of 153 participants, including 51 female participants, attended the legal information sessions held within the month of November. In December, FFSO held three legal information sessions⁹ with a total of 77 participants, including 34 female, attended legal information sessions held by FFSO during the final month of the year. Table 3 shows the number of legal information held within this quarter including the level of participation from the community:

Date	Aldeia and Suco	Sub District	Participants		Total participants
			f	m	
October 6, 2014	Mahata, Suco Costa	Pante Macasar	25	22	47
October 27, 2014	Taibocco, suco Taiboco	Pante Macasar	11	27	38
November 6, 2014	Nua-Fafo, suco Cunha	Pante Macasar	8	16	24
November 10, 2014	Mahata, suco Lela-Ufe	Nitibe	13	12	25
November 11, 2014	Hau-Feto, suco Bana-Afi	Nitibe	8	19	27
November 17, 2014	Tumin, suco Bobometo	Oesilo	6	17	23
November 19, 2014	Kuan-Tua, suco Usi-Taco	Oesilo	10	14	24
November 24, 2014	Nibin, suco Usi- Taqueno	Oesilo	6	24	30
December 12, 2014	Maquelab, suco Taiboco	Pante Macasar	16	15	31
December 18, 2014	Sifin, suco Usi-Tacae	Oesilo	9	10	19
December 22, 2014	Fatu Bijae, Bobocase	Pante Macasar	9	18	27
Total			121	194	315

The overall objective of mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions is to increase people's general awareness about law and provide *on-the-spot* legal advice for the participants who have legal issues and/or questions. Thus, most of the sessions cover topics such as what constitutes a crime and ways to report and solve alleged crime committed; what is a civil case/dispute and ways to solve them; and what constitutes domestic violence. Moreover, these sessions are also meant to increase people's basic understanding of how a formal justice system operates – the role of judges, public prosecutors, public defenders, lawyers, and police including the role of community leaders in conflict prevention and resolution.

⁸ In November, 2014, FFSO conducted a total of 6 legal information sessions in aldeia Nuafafu of suco Cunha in Pante Makassar sub district; aldeia Mahata of suco Lela-Ufe, aldeia Hau-Tefo of suco Bana-Ufe, aldeia Kuan-Tua of suco Banafi of Nitibe sub district; aldeia Tumin of suco Bobometo and aldeia Nibin of suco Usi-Taqueno in Passabe sub district.

⁹ In December, 2014, FFSO held three legal information sessions in aldeia Maquelab of suco Taiboco, aldeia Fatu Bijae of suco Bobocase in Pante Makassar sub district and aldeia Sifin of suco Usi-Tacae in Oesilo sub district.



2 FFSO holding legal information session and mobile legal aid clinic.

References were taken from the relevant laws with their relevant codes, including Timor-Leste's Penal and Civil Codes and Law against Domestic Violence (LAV). Some interesting questions were asked by the participants throughout the sessions. For example in one session held in aldeia Houbani of suco Taibocco- one participant Mr. Lazaro Cab asked FFSO lawyers *"if I beat my wife but she never reported it to the authorities, and instead someone else reported it, would it still constitute a crime of domestic*

violence?" Domestic violence cases are predominant throughout the District Courts, including Oecusse Court. Under the Law Against Domestic Violence (Law No. 7/2010), domestic violence is a *public crime* which means the police must investigate upon the receipt of a complaint from anyone. Other questions that frequently emerged during these sessions were about the court processes. For example, in a session held in aldeia Maquelab of suco Tai-Boco, Mr. Junus D.C. Taec asked FFSO lawyers based on his experience with the court hearings *"why are some cases heard by three judges and others by one judge?"*

"Participating in socialization of laws not only increases our awareness and helps prevent crime in our neighborhood but also makes us feel part of development process, because development is not just economic".

Participants in aldeia Kuan-Tua of suco Usi-Taco commenting on the importance of legal education and information sessions

In addition to strong curiosity among the participants to learn about the laws and the process of the formal justice system, the participants also raised their concerns regarding the lack of updates on the status of their civil cases brought to the court, and the delay they experienced in processing civil disputes by the formal justice system. Among the civil disputes commonly brought to the court are land disputes, straying cattle, debts, divorce, and paternity.

Overall, the participants were very appreciative of the legal information sessions and asked that FFSO regularly hold monthly mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions in aldeias.

Most of the participants in these sessions are poor who live in the rural areas of Timor-Leste, including women, children and other vulnerable groups. Many of them cannot read and write, and as result, most of the participants list is prepared by FFSO's lawyers who go around asking their names and age. The participants are then asked to mark their signature next to their names or give a fingerprint.

Up until October 2014, the community members who participated in the Project's activities were disaggregated by sex. Starting in November, FFSO began to collect data on the level of youth participation in legal education and information sessions. Within the last two month of this quarter, a **total of 230 participants attended FFSO's mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions and 78 of them were youth between the age of 16 and 30.**

Table 4 below shows the number of youth participants who attended legal information session between November and December;

Tabel 4: Youth participants in FFSO's Legal information sessions between November and December 2014

Date	Aldeia and Suco	Sub District	Total participants	Youth Participants		Total youth combined
				f	m	
November 6, 2014	Nua-Fafo, suco Cunha	Pante Macasar	24	3	5	8
November 10, 2014	Mahata, suco Lela-Ufe	Nitibe	25	5	3	8
November 11, 2014	Hau-Feto, suco Bana-Afi	Nitibe	27	0	4	4
November 17, 2014	Tumin, suco Bobometo	Oesilo	23	3	6	9
November 19, 2014	Kuan-Tua, suco Usi-Taco	Oesilo	24	9	7	16
November 24, 2014	Nibin, suco Usi- Taqueno	Oesilo	30	1	6	7
December 12, 2014	Maquelab, suco Taiboco	Pante Macasar	31	8	6	14
December 18, 2014	Sifin, suco Usi-Tacae	Oesilo	19	7	0	7
December 22, 2014	Fatu Bijae, Bobocase	Pante Macasar	27	5	0	5
Total			230	41	37	78

In order to increase the capacity of the implementing partners, Ba Distrito's Legal Aid Specialist team also **conducted a field monitoring visit to FFSO in Oecusse from October 26-29** and observed its legal information sessions held in suco Taibocco on October 27. During the monitoring visit, the Project observed a good demonstration of legal knowledge and facilitation skills among FFSO's lawyers and facilitators. There is, however, still room for improvement which includes improved facilitation techniques to increase people's understanding as well as using a methodology to improve women and youth's active participation in these sessions. On the second day of the visit, the Legal Aid Specialist also assisted the Capacity Building team in presenting results of OD assessment and concrete action planning based on the OD assessment which was conducted in the previous quarter. The three-day monitoring visit ended with FFSO lawyers and volunteer paralegals discussing the methodology and materials that they use to reach rural communities. Since most of the community members participating in mobile legal

aid clinic and legal information sessions are illiterate, FFSO recommended that Ba Distrito help develop a generic interactive methodology to increase women's active participation.

Learning from lessons in Year One, Ba Distrito will increase its outreach of legal aid activities in Baucau, Ermera and Liquica districts through Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants. Following RFAs for legal aid advocacy and implementation grants issued in the previous quarter, a meeting was held with the external candidates for Grants Selection Committee members Mrs. Rosa Xavier from the Ministry of Justice and Public Defender Dr. Cancio Xavier of the Public Defender's Office. Ba Distrito was represented by Legal Aid Specialist, Maria Veronika. During the meetings held between October 14 and 16, both candidates were briefed on the legal aid grants, their objectives and selection procedures. After several meetings held between the Project and the two candidates, both Mrs. Rosa Xavier and Dr. Cancio Xavier agreed to voluntarily serve on Grants Selection Committee. From November 5-10, **the Grants Selection Committee began selecting grant applications** via independent revision and scoring of applications from four organizations competing for grants including Liberta Advocacia & Consultoria and Jose & John (J&J) law firm competing for grant covering Liquica and Ermera districts, while Educacao Comunidade Matebian (ECM) and Comissao Justica e Paz competing for grant covering Baucau district.

Based on the merit-based evaluation and scoring of the grant applications, a letter was sent on December 12 to each applicant organization notifying them about the result of their applications. **Liberta Advocacia & Consultoria was selected as the successful applicant to implement legal aid activities in Ermera and Liquica** for an extendable period of 12 months, while **Comissao Justica e Paz (JPC) was chosen to implement legal aid activities in Baucau** for the same duration. Activities to be implemented by these new grantees will include providing free legal aid for the poor and vulnerable in the rural areas, conducting mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions especially in the Project's targeted sucos, providing legal aid to suspects under police detention as well as in Gleno (Ermera) prison, coordinate Legal Aid Coordination Working Group at the district level, and developing and transmitting standard public service announcements on core access to justice topics via local community radio stations. On December 29, the final draft **Scope of Work and budget for both new grantees were finalized and sent to USAID for its revision and approval.**

In order to continue doing its legal aid activities in Oecusse, Ba Distrito's implementing partner FFSO signed its extended sub-agreement for Year Two. Combined with the budget allocated to FFSO in the first year, a total of \$ 31,961 has now been committed to FFSO.

C.4. – Provide Targeted Assistance on Improving the Legislative Framework for Legal Aid

While improving current legislative framework for legal aid constitutes an important long-term goal of Ba Distrito, ensuring a better coordination of government bodies and CSOs that are currently working on the provision of legal aid is equally paramount. Although no national-level Legislative Framework Legal Information Working Group meetings took place within this quarter due to AATL's internal organizational crisis, **Legal Aid Coordination Working Group**



Figure 3- Legal Aid Coordination Working Group meeting held at FFSO in November

meetings were regularly held in Oecusse to ensure better coordination among the legal aid providers including government agencies and CSOs. Within this quarter, the Project's implementing partner FFSO held two Legal Aid Coordination Working Group meetings attended by representatives from relevant government institutions and CSOs including Legal Aid for Women and Children (ALFeLa), Ombudsman for Human Rights and justice, Victim Protection Unit

(VPU) of National Police, JSMP, Oecusse Women Forum (FPWO), Child Protection Unit of the

Ministry of Social and Solidarity (MSS), the Office of Public Defender, J&J law firm and other local CSOs.

Table 5 provides the list of Legal Aid Coordination Working Group meetings held during this quarter;

<i>Table 5 : Legal Aid Working Coordination Working Group meetings held between October and December 2014</i>			
Date	f	m	Total
November 7, 2014	2	8	10
December 19, 2014	1	7	8
Total	3	15	18

During the meetings, the participants discussed the importance of coordinating and sharing relevant information about those in need of legal aid assistance - for example the police contacting legal aid lawyers should there be suspects under 72-hour detention. Commenting on the

community's concern about the lack of information on the status of their civil disputes brought to the court and the delay in court process in civil matters, Director of local NGO Maneo recommended that a representative from the Court's Civil Registry Unit not only be invited to participate in the Legal Aid Coordination Working Group meetings, but also, and where possible, to join mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions held by FFSO and other local NGOs. Moreover, participants of the Working Group also discussed the importance of having an accredited lawyer in legal information sessions to ensure that correct legal information was provided to the community.

“Development of the justice sector needs collaboration between civil society and the court actors in minimizing problems facing our nation”

Public Defender-General Dr. Sergio Hornai said during a meeting with FFSO

In addition to meetings with the members of Legal Aid Coordination Working Group, Ba Distrito’s partner **FFSO also held a separate meeting with the Office of Public Defender and the Investigation Unit of Oecusse Regional Police**. On October 29, FFSO met with Public Defender-General Dr. Sergio Hornai who was visiting the regional Office of Public Defender during which FFSO explained its legal aid services, mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions to the Public Defender-General. Commenting on FFSO’s legal aid activities in Oecusse, the

Public Defender-General said “development of the justice sector needs collaboration between civil society and the court actors in minimizing problems facing our nation.” Dr. Sergio also recommended the head of Oecusse Public Defenders’ Office to refer cases to CSOs providing legal aid. Moreover, FFSO also met with the Head of Investigation Unit of Oecusse Regional Police regarding its legal aid to the poor and vulnerable including those under 72-hour police custody. Although no suspects were found under police detention within this quarter, the head of Police Investigation Unit was positive about this initiative from FFSO and will contact FFSO lawyers should there be suspects who need legal aid in the future.

C.5. - Provide Support to Government and CSOs to Create Accessible and Effective Legal Information

In following up with the Ministry of Justice’s request for a financial support of \$10,000 for its planned research survey to evaluate the impact of MOJ’s legal outreach and information sessions on access to justice, Ba Distrito held a **meeting with the Director of National Directorate for Human Rights and Citizenship, Dr. Celito Cardoso, on October 2 to discuss the plan in greater details**. According to the Director Cardoso, the Ministry has been conducting legal outreach on a number of legal topics such as human rights, domestic violence, and land and property in the past few years and would like to evaluate and measure its impact on the access to justice in the community especially in 36 sub districts where the outreach took place. Ba Distrito believes that such a survey is in alignment with the Project’s component C.5 on *the provision of effective legal information*, and, after receiving the go-ahead from USAID, has verbally indicated its willingness to support the Ministry on the condition that the Ministry works with Ba Distrito in the development of an appropriate research methodology, and submits a budget to be approved by Ba Distrito for the use of the funds. Ba Distrito will provide technical support to the research; however the Ministry of Justice will be responsible for overseeing and implementing it.

Within this quarter, Ba Distrito also **recruited a post-graduate intern, Alejandra Villanueva, from the University of Sydney (Australia) who will work with the Ministry of Justice** to develop research methodology for the planned survey and conduct training of the Ministry’s research team members. Alejandra will arrive in Timor-Leste in the third week of January 2015.

While Ba Distrito has built a good relationship with the Ministry of Justice in the initial stages of the project, the project considers it timely to formalize collaboration with the Ministry of Justice in a Memorandum of Understanding - one that will incorporate all Ba Distrito's contributions to the justice sector, as well as activities planned to take place in collaboration with the Ministry. As a result, **a meeting was held with Director-General of the Ministry of Justice, Mr. Francisco Carceres, on December 4 to brief him on Ba Distrito's access to justice work**, and to ask his advice on how to coordinate a MoU with the Ministry. The project also invited him to be the guest of honor at Ba Distrito's launch of Legal Aid Brief planned for the next quarter. The Director-General expressed his support of the Project and underlined the importance of collaboration. On the MoU, Mr. Carceres also suggested that Ba Distrito send a draft to the Minister copying the Vice Minister, the Director-General, and all relevant directors with whom Ba Distrito plans to collaborate.

Component D – District Court Functionality

The goal of Component D is to strengthen local justice sector institutions.

In following-up with the recommendations made in the Court Functionality Brief, Ba Distrito met with the Court of Appeal President and discussed the initial proposal for technical support based on the assessment conducted in the previous quarter. The dismissal and eventual departure of international judicial officers in late October and early November prompted Ba Distrito to hold back its planned meetings and discussions regarding the possible technical support to the judiciary. Ba Distrito believes that it is important to allow sufficient time for the Court to deal with the developments which many believe to be direct government and parliament interference with the Judiciary.

In its support of an independent judiciary, Ba Distrito **supported the Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP) in conducting a thorough analysis on the legality of government and parliament resolutions**. As explained under component C1, the analysis was launched on December 22.

Outside the recent development in the judiciary, Ba Distrito's implementing partner JSMP continued to monitor Oecusse District Court regularly within this quarter. **Within this quarter, JSMP monitored a total of 56 criminal cases, including 32 domestic violence cases** (simple offences against physical integrity within the context of domestic violence). The court decisions in all 32 domestic violence cases included 21 suspended prison sentences, 10 fines, and one

<i>Tabel 6: Cases monitored at Oecusse District Court between October and December 2014</i>			
Month	Domestic Violence	Other Crimes	Total
October	18	13	31
November	7	7	14
December	7	4	11
Total	32	24	56

case was absolved as the court found that the suspect suffered mental illness at the time the crime was committed.

Table 6 provides the number of cases monitored by JSMP during this quarter:

Other crimes monitored by JSMP within this quarter include simple offence against physical integrity, traffic violation, theft, and illegal gambling. In addition, during this quarter JSMP published two monthly case summaries for Oecusse court for the months of [September](#), [October](#), and drafted case summaries for November and December that will be published during the next quarter. Two press releases were also published on October 1 ([here](#)) and October 16 ([here](#)).

In its monitoring activities, JSMP observed that suspended prison sentences and fines are most predominant among domestic violence cases. While JSMP respected the court's independent decisions, JSMP observed that suspended sentences and fines are not very effective in preventing suspected/accused persons from committing domestic violence again in the future. Similarly, a sentence of a fine for an accused person with little, if any, economic and financial means would only further victimizing the family overall and may not necessarily prevent the accused person from committing the same crime again. Given the continuous high number of domestic violence in Oecusse, JSMP also recommended Ba Distrito's partners such as FFSO and other CSOs to continue raise people's legal awareness through mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions.

An extension of JSMP's sub-agreement until December 31, 2015 was made and a total of \$32,601 has now been committed to JSMP inclusive of \$9,972 by the project in Year One. Under the extended sub agreement, JSMP will also collect extra data from its court monitoring in Baucau, Dili, and Covalima courts, including analysis of the court monitoring from the perspective of legal aid and access to justice. In addition to annual partnership grant and given JSMP's experience in legal outreach and training of community leaders on formal justice system, Ba Distrito also approached JSMP to deliver one training module to the suco councils covering women's equal rights to own property and

inheritance, spousal maintenance and child support in divorce, sexual and domestic violence, referral pathways, and formal court process. **Within this quarter, Ba Distrito finalized a draft Scope of Work and Budget for JSMP under a Fixed Obligation Grant** separate from the annual partnership budget, and was sent to the USAID on December 19 for revision and approval. This grant will constitute the first *access to justice technical grant* issued since the Project's inception.



Figure 4- JSMP Director Luis de Oliveira Sampaio (left) signing sub-agreement extension for the second year accompanied by his Deputy Casimiro do Santos (right).

D.1. Assess Needs and Design District Court Training Program

During this quarter, **Ba Distrito met with the President of Court of Appeal on October 7 to present and discuss proposed technical support** based on the initial assessment made in the previous quarter. The President of the Court of Appeal, Dr. Gulhermino da Silva, recommended Ba Distrito to review its suggested technical training topics and present back to him for further discussion. A revised technical support proposal is underway and will be presented and discussed with the Court of Appeal in the next quarter.

D.2. - Deliver Training to Justice and Accountability Institution staff

Based on feedback and suggestions from the Court of Appeal President on the Ba Distrito's proposed technical support, Ba Distrito also revised the proposed support to the Court focusing on the training priorities for the judiciary as identified during Ba Distrito's initial assessment, as well as other published reports and available sources. A revised proposed technical support will be submitted to the Court of Appeal in early next quarter.

D.3. – Introduce Professional Development System

The Professional Development System (PDS) within the judiciary was included in the initial technical support proposal to the Court of Appeal. However, the Court of Appeal President expressed his concerns about the internal nature of this activity and stated professional development which includes performance evaluation of judges are internal processes that have to be done by senior judges. During the discussion Ba Distrito had with the Court of Appeal President on October 7, Dr. Guilhermino explained that the Court is now already in the process of recruiting senior judges from Portugal to support judges in this area. However, given the recent development, it remains to be seen how and whether the Court has proceeded with the plan. We are continuing to engage with the Court of Appeal about this matter and will endeavor to have the Court incorporate the continuing legal education trainings that we are offering into their professional development system.

Other Activities Done or Supported by A2J Team during this Reporting Period

- October 2, 2014: Met with National Director of MOJ's Human Rights and Citizenship Directorate to discuss about the Ministry's plan to conduct an impact survey of its legal outreach and information sessions.
- October 9-13: Gathered and uploaded activity documents from implementing partners onto the Knowledge Management (KM) portal.
- October 28, 2014: Attended The Asia Foundation's launch of Ending Violence Against Women (EVAW).
- November 7, 2014: Supported the Capacity Building team in the interviews of District Coordinator positions for Ermera and Liquica.
- November 18, 2014: Supported the Capacity Building team in launching Ba Distrito in Ermera district.

- November 26, 2014: With the Project's M&E Specialist, delivered KM portal training to implementing partners JSMP, FFSO and Belun.

V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Adaptation of Standardized Monitoring and Evaluation Forms: During this reporting period, the M&E Specialist supported the Access to Justice team to develop a standardized monthly reporting format for FFSO and JSMP that accurately reflects the scope of work, activities and performance indicators that they are required to track each month. The M&E Specialist also initiated the process of supporting the Access to Justice team to further develop the monitoring forms for legal education activities being conducted by FFSO to ensure that sufficient data is gathered to allow for thorough monitoring and reporting on the activity against the appropriate indicators.

Knowledge Management Portal: During this reporting period, two training sessions on the Knowledge Management Portal (KMP) were conducted. On October 2, 2014 the M&E Specialist conducted KMP training for six Belun staff members, one of whom was female, on how to enter data into the KMP. As the result of the training, data for all of the activities implemented by Belun has been entered into the KMP data base. A separate KMP training was provided by the M&E Specialist on November 26, 2014 to 6 participants from FFSO, Belun and JSMP to reinforce how to enter data into the KMP. The training was practical and the participants benefited from accompaniment by the M&E Specialist as they learned how to effectively use the KMP system.

Baseline Survey: The final baseline survey report was submitted to USAID on October 2, 2014 and approved by USAID shortly after. At the invitation of USAID, on December 15 the Chief of Party and the Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist presented a summary of the findings in the baseline report to six USAID staff. There are plans to organize an event to formally launch the results of the baseline survey during the next quarter.

Monitoring by USAID of Ba Distrito Program Activities: On October 8 the USAID Mission Director, Mr. John Seong visited the Ba Distrito office. The Ba Distrito team presented the project's first year achievements and the Workplan for FY15. The Mission Director emphasized the importance of the visibility of the U.S. Government and the American people's generous contribution in the project's work. He also requested additional information about the PNDS project and roles of suco councils. The COP was on leave at the time of the visit, but followed up by paying a courtesy call to the Mission Director shortly thereafter.

On October 16, the USAID monitoring team (Dr. Theo and Germano Boavida) conducted a Data Quality Assessment (DQA) of selected Ba Distrito project indicators. The objective of the DQA was to ensure the quality of data based on the validity, integrity, precision, reliability and timeliness of data for the following four indicators:

- Indicator no. 6: Number of sub-national entities that receive USG assistance that improve their performance (Indicator corresponds to CDCS Indicator 1 under Sub-IR2-2);

- Indicator no. 12: Number of local mechanisms supported with USG assistance for citizens to engage local government (Indicator corresponds to indicator 1 under Sub-IR2-3);
- Indicator no. 14: Percentage of citizen knowledge and awareness of decentralization-related activities in targeted districts (Indicator corresponds to Indicator 3 under Sub-IR2-1); and
- Indicator no. 22: Percentage of citizens in target areas who report greater access to justice and legal aid information (Indicator corresponds to indicator 2 under IR2).

After the DQA, USAID made some suggestions to slightly change the wording of Indicator No. 14 and Indicator No. 22 in order to facilitate data collection. As a result, these indicators now read as “Percentage of” as above, rather than “Change in” as it read originally.

Post Suco Council Training Evaluation: During August and September 2014, Ba Distrito, through its partner Belun, delivered its first training to 233 suco council members from approximately 60 suco councils on the PDA structure, ZEESM and supported them to create OD action plans for their individual sucos. Pre-tests and post-tests were done at the training to measure the immediate increase in knowledge of the participants. In order to evaluate the level of knowledge retained by the participants after the training, during December 2014 the project revisited a selected number of training participants and had them re-take the post test. 60% of the training participants (139 including 83 women and 43 youth) were visited at their homes or offices and asked to participate in the monitoring exercise. A detailed breakdown of the results can be found at Annex 10. Interestingly, 3 months post Ba Distrito’s training on decentralization, the surveyed participants demonstrated overall an increase in knowledge of between 10% and 20% as demonstrated by the number of questions they were able to answer correctly. This is likely attributable to the increasing amount of information available in the media about the decentralization process in Timor-Leste.

Interestingly, youth were the only group of participants who demonstrated a reduction in knowledge at the three month post training assessment. The project was expecting a small reduction in knowledge with time, however male youth from Covalima had a 28% drop in correct answers and female youth from Baucau had an 8% drop in correct answers. It is too soon to make determinations about what could be the cause of some youth experiencing a decline in knowledge; however one possible reason could be lack of access to media and newspapers or lack of access to informational meetings taking place at the district level.

In addition to conducting post-tests for a portion of the training participants, Ba Distrito also asked the participants to rate the overall training and its relevance to their work. A table summarizing the results can also be found at Annex 10. This evaluation found that 99% of the respondents indicated that the overall quality of the training was good or excellent and the same percentage also indicated that the topic was relevant to their jobs. 26% of the training participants indicated that they had learned a good amount or a great deal, with that number increasing to 83% when responses indicating some level of knowledge increase were

considered. 71% of the respondents acknowledged having applied the new learning in their jobs. The results of this information indicates that Ba Distrito may need to work to ensure that its training is more adapted to the knowledge needs of the suco council members so that the number of participants reporting a good or excellent increase in knowledge will increase from 26% of the respondents.

The provision of ongoing technical assistance by Belun and Ba Distrito District Coordinators to suco council members is recommended to assist them in the effective, efficient, reasonable and timely implementation of their suco action plan and applying their new-found knowledge to their roles in the community.

VI. ACHIEVEMENTS

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening

- Launched project in Ermera and Liquiça.
- Completed initial suco selection in Ermera and Liquiça. 20 sucos attended in the initial suco selection in Ermera and 13 sucos in Liquiça. As scheduled rapid assessment began and completed in 6 sucos in Ermera and 13 in Liquiça.
- Presented Organizational Development Assessment and established the Action Plan for FFSO. FFSO prioritized the development of contracts for regular staff and volunteers, the development of an employment handbook and the preparation of a strategic plan. A draft employment handbook is ready for further improvement.
- Completed the basic structure of a training manual package with good participation from DNDCAS, Belun and Counterpart supported by STTA.
- Belun successfully monitored and evaluated training in sucos post 6-12 week of first training.
- Belun and Counterpart team have provided technical assistance to some sucos in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse on the establishment of a filing system, understanding 14 administration books, financial “incentives” reporting, and meeting minutes.
- Provided regular technical assistance for Belun on technical financial reporting and budget for FY15.

Component B – Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions

- Recognition by MSA and others for our important contribution to the draft *Suco Law* consultation process.
- MSA’s consideration of recommendations made by the Project on the revision of *Suco Law* no. 3/2009 which were compiled through consultative processes and inclusion of some into the draft law itself.
- Provided legislative commentary and recommendations for the revision of Law No.3/2009 on Community Leadership and Their Election.

Component C- Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

- Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants awarded to Liberta Advocaia and Consultoria to do legal aid work in Ermera and Liquica districts, and Commissao Justica e Paz (JPC) to cover legal aid work in Baucau district.
- Completion of Scope of Work and Budget for Liberta and JPC, and sent to USAID for revision and approval.
- Provision of free legal aid assistance to a total of 28 new clients, including 9 female clients. Also 9 out of 28 cases brought to FFSO within this quarter were resolved.
- Successful implementation of 11 mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions in remote aldeas and sucos in Oecusse.
- Increased total of participants in legal aid clinic and mobile legal information sessions, including increased number of women. Within this quarter, a total of 315 participated in legal aid clinic and mobile legal information sessions, including 121 female clients.
- Increased participants of youth in mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions. In November, Ba Distrito begun disaggregating participants not only by gender but also by age. Out of 230 participants, 78 were youth including 41 female youth.
- FFSO's sub agreement extended for another 12 months.

Component D – Strengthening Court Functionality

- Annual extension of sub agreement with JSMP.
- Fixed Obligation Grant (FOG) for JSMP to conduct training to total of 100 suco councils was approved by USAID but not yet issued.
- A total of 56 criminal cases monitored by JSMP in Oecusse District court including 32 cases of domestic violence.
- Three monthly case summaries and two press releases on cases monitored by JSMP were issued.
- Completion of a thorough analysis of the legality of government and parliament resolutions on and launch of the analysis by the project's partner JSMP.

VII. CHALLENGES AND GENDER-BASED CONSTRAINTS

During this quarter, the project encountered some challenges.

On the capacity building side, while doing the rapid assessment in Ermera and Liquica the lack of punctuality of suco council members impacted negatively on the project's ability to complete the assessment in an efficient way and caused the team to have to revise the schedule and initial targets for the rapid assessment. This will likely delay completion of the rapid assessment for these two new districts by a number of days. Another challenge faced was that some suco

chiefs called ordinary members of community to participate in the rapid assessment, which meant that the team was unable to properly assess the council's capacity. Additionally, the participation of the unelected, administrative PAAS in the rapid assessment was often more active in comparison to the women and youth representatives, and as a result, it was difficult to accurately assess the knowledge of the women and youth elected representatives in some cases. Finally, the rainy season also affected the movement of District Coordinators to conduct the rapid assessments, monitoring and evaluation. In order to address the issue, District Coordinators targeted only one suco per day and stayed overnight when needed in order to reduce travel time and continue the activity the next day to achieve the target.

Women's attendance in the rapid assessment in 13 sucos in Liquiça and 6 sucos in Ermera was almost equal to men. However, they mostly they were inactive addressing the question. Similar to findings of the first year's rapid assessment in 60 sucos, it seems that this is because they do not understand or actively exercise their roles and responsibilities within the council. We are addressing promotion of the equal participation of women in the suco training modules currently being developed. Specific training methodologies are being developed to encourage women's participation including all-women training sessions and focus group discussions broken down by sex. In addition, the training module on suco council roles and responsibilities will help all members of the suco council to better understand their roles and the roles of other members to allow them to more actively participate in their suco's governance.

This quarter, access to justice components encountered two major challenges that were beyond the control of the Project. The internal organizational problems within AATL led advocacy activities to a total standstill and eventual termination of partnership on December 31. The project will need to explore effective ways to meet the deliverables that were intended to be achieved by AATL, using the existing resources of the access to justice team. The parliament and government resolutions dismissing international judicial officers, including five judges and revoking their work visas prompted Ba Distrito to hold back its Component D activities to allow the Court time to deal with the evident interference with the judicial branch by the executive and legislative branches. The resumption of these activities in the next quarter, therefore, will have to be carefully planned taking into account recent developments and ensuring that an amicable relation is maintained between Ba Distrito and both institutions.

A significant increase in the number of women participating in mobile legal aid clinics and legal information sessions could be observed during this quarter. The increase in the overall level of participation including women (121) and youth (78) is largely, if not fully, attributed to the change in the sub-agreement which requires that FFSO conducts mobile legal aid and legal information sessions once a week.

VIII. EXPENDITURES

Project expenditures have been reported under a separate cover on our SF-425, submitted January 30, 2015.

IX. PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

Grants:

- Approach and form Grants Selection Committee for Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants (DRAGs).
- Award Legal Aid Grants (finalize sub-agreements), Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants (DRAGs), and FOG for JSMP.
- Complete induction of successful applicants.
- Brief OD assessment of selected grantees.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Provide technical assistance to Program Managers and staff on data collection and reporting based on indicators provided in the Project's PMEP including development of appropriate forms and formats for data collection and reporting.
- Provide KMP training to new District Coordinators of Belun and Ba Distrito's Project, and introducing KMP to the successful grantees.
- Plan and develop a calendar for both monthly and quarterly M&E visits in close coordination with Program Managers and staff.
- M&E visits to all implementing partners in close coordination with Component Managers.
- Update the FY 2015 Ba Distrito Implementation Plan.
- Coordinate and organize the launch of the baseline survey results.
- Develop monthly and quarterly narrative reports for Ba Distrito Project.

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening:

- Finalize findings and recommendations of rapid assessment in Liquiça and Ermera, training needs and framework.
- Finalize 5 training manuals and facilitations.
- Finalize draft of FFSO Employment Handbook and Strategic Plan.
- Finalize Belun and JSMP's Organizational Development one year action plan.
- Hold first suco networking meeting in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse SAR.
- Release RFA for Constituent Engagement Grants in Covalima, Baucau, Liquiça, Ermera and Oecusse to enhance governance engagement between suco councils and community
- USAID Organizational Capacity Assessment and Analysis for Belun and Action Plan.
- First training on Leadership and Communication in FY15 in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse SAR; Action Plan, Leadership and Communication in Liquiça and Ermera.

Component B – Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions:

- Review and award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants (DRAGs).

- Respond to requests for legal advice and legislative drafting from the government counterparts.
- Coordinate and co-host the revival of Decentralization Working Group with decentralization and local governance actors.
- Produce a concept note on the *Suco Law*.
- Support dissemination of the final draft *Suco Law* through community radios.

Components C - Legal Aid Sustainability:

- Complete and sign sub agreements for Liberta and JPC to undertake legal aid work in Liquica, Ermera, and Baucau.
- Support Ministry of Justice in the development methodology and training of facilitators for survey on the impact of Ministry's Legal Outreach activities.
- Continued engagement with MOJ for other possible areas of collaboration.
- Launch and publish Legal Aid Brief and Judicial Functional Assessment Brief.
- Coordinate resumption of National Legal Aid Coalition through individual meeting with former members including the Project's implementing partners.
- Develop an Access to Justice Technical grant for Covalima district.
- Support partners in the development and transmission of 6 Public Service Announcements.
- Review mobile legal aid clinic and legal information materials from the partners.
- M&E visit to each implementing partners and ongoing mentoring and technical support to new grantees and existing partners.
- Coordinate with Capacity Building team on the identification and design of ADR forms/questionnaire in collaboration with the Project's implementing partner Belun.
- Coordinate with Tt DPK headquarter in the recruitment and eventual deployment of a STTA to work on alternative dispute resolution.
- Develop concrete action plan for organizational capacity building including a brief OD assessment with new grantees.

Component D: District Court Functionality:

- Support partners in inputting data and information of their activities into KMP.
- Complete and sign Fixed Obligation Grant sub-agreement for suco council training.
- Support STTA in the development of suco training manual for JSMP.
- Present and discuss the revised proposed technical support to the Court of Appeal.
- Presentate proposed technical support to the pilot District Courts of Oecusse and Baucau.
- Coordinate with Tt DPK headquarter in recruitment and deployment of judicial training STTA as per the topic agreed upon by the Court and Ba Distrito.
- M&E visit to implementing partner JSMP and ongoing mentoring and technical support where needed.
- Develop JSMP court monitoring forms to gauge information on the access and quality of legal aid in all district courts

Annex 1 – Detailed Report of Completion of Activities Against Workplan

Note: The following tables are taken directly from the Workplan. A column has been added to update on progress.

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening

Component A.1 Engage and Evaluate Capacity of Participating Suco Councils			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Finalize district selection with USAID and the GOTL	November 2013 - December 2014	Timing of final district selection is dependent on the outcome of ongoing consultations with USAID and the GOTL	Complete
Launch Ba Distrito in selected year two districts Liquiça and Ermera	November 2014	Brief district, sub-district, and suco members on the goals, methodology and structure of the program, as well as how to complete the RFAs	Complete. Project launch events were November 18 in Ermera and November 24 in Liquiça.
Finalize selection criteria and Request for Applications (RFA) process for participation in the Ba Distrito program	November 2014	Ba Distrito senior staff will mentor sucos on an as needed basis as they prepare expressions of interest in the project's capacity building activities	Complete. It is based on suco selection criteria from the first year. Methodology changes slightly
Provide proposal preparation, technical assistance and training	November 2014	After an initial capacity assessment, project staff will provide proposal development training and technical support for suco councils as needed	Partially Complete in assistance provided in completing questionnaire
Issue RFAs for participation in the Ba Distrito program	November-December 2014	Project staff will monitor the dissemination of RFAs in conjunction with implementing partners to ensure there are equal opportunities for participation	Complete Methodology changed
Evaluate applications and select participating sucos	January 2015	MSA will recommend the final selection of participating suco councils following the identification of a short-list	Partially Complete

Component A.2 Review Update and Create Local Governance Strengthening Tools and Resources			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Collect and review existing tools, manuals and training materials	October- November 2014	Ba Distrito will maintain a clearinghouse of existing training manuals from implementing partners (IPs), TAF, and other relevant CSOs, UN Agencies (UNDP, United National Population Fund - UNFPA) and Government (MSA, the Secretary of State for the Promotion of Equality - SEPI. Lessons learned from existing training manuals focused on gender issues and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) will be mainstreamed within the Ba Distrito program	Complete
Update and synthesize tools, manuals and training materials	October- December 2014	After an initial focus on creating a tool that combines best practices from The Asia Foundation's Suco Governance Performance Scale (SGPS) and the Organizational Capacity Building Process (OCP), Ba Distrito will work to fill gaps in existing curricula and survey methodologies from a range of sources	Complete for SukAT kit; In progress for training modules
Deploy STTA Organizational Development Expert	December 2014- March 2015	The OD Specialist will assess the training tools available and assist with the field-testing and finalization of tools and methodologies to be used during year one	Ongoing STTA OD expert began work with Counterpart, Belun, JSMP, DNDCAS on December 9
Hold district government consultations on OCP/SGPS and other tools, manuals and training materials	February 2015	Consultations will ensure that Ba Distrito tools and curricula are translated appropriately, and can be adapted for use by both literate and illiterate citizens	In planning
Introduce final tools, manuals and training materials for OCP/SGPS to line ministries, district governments, sucos and CSOs	March 2015	Ensure that tools and trainings are appropriate before rolling out training programs	In planning

Component A.3 Design and Deliver Capacity Development Assistance to Sucos and Associations			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Conduct rapid capacity assessments of sucos	December 2014-January 2015	Senior Ba Distrito/Belun staff will be provided with OD and field assessment STTA during this process	Partially complete
Analyze training needs based on assessments	January 2015	Senior Ba Distrito staff will be provided with OD STTA during this process	Partially complete
Develop training framework and initial trainings	January-February 2015	Senior Ba Distrito staff will be provided with OD STTA during this process	In planning
Conduct capacity building Training of Trainers (ToTs) for Belun	March 2015	Capacity building ToTs will incorporate individual and institutional assessment into the process	In planning
Belun to provide trainings to each district (2-3 per year)	March-July 2015	Beginning July 2014, 2-3 trainings will be conducted each year within two months of one another	In planning
Regional Managers conduct mentorship activities	October 2014 to September 2015	Ongoing	Ongoing
Conduct regular site visits for sucos	October 2014 to September 2015	Ba Distrito Senior OD, M&E and Governance staff will conduct site visits	Ongoing

Component A.4 – Increase Capacity to Respond to Citizen Needs			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Issue solicitation for Constituent Engagement Grants	January to February 2015	The selection criteria will ensure that these citizen-driven initiatives could either stimulate appropriate PNDS project support or correct for non-participatory allocation and implementation of PNDS project funds and not be duplicative of efforts being funded under the PNDS. The RFA has been drafted	In planning
Review applications for Constituent Engagement Grants	March 2015	The Ba Distrito Project Steering Committee will be involved in grant application review	Not started
Award Constituent Engagement Grants	April 2015	Grant funds will be awarded to and managed by local CSOs with activity input and implementing support from the sucos	Not started
Provide mini-trainings and	April 2015	CSO Trainings will address based	In planning

technical assistance to grantees		on individual OD assessments of grantees	
Monitor and support Constituent Engagement Grantees	April to September 2015	Ba Distrito Senior OD, M&E and Governance staff will conduct site visits	Not started

A.5 – Facilitate Networking, Exchange Visits and Joint Action Among Sucos			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Provide technical assistance to suco councils to strengthen or form associations	October 2014 to September 2015	This initial technical assistance will lead into more intensive work with association through networking and trade shows in year two of the program	In planning

A.6 – Improve Suco and District Collaboration for Better Service Delivery			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Organize roundtables for suco and district officials	February to March 2015; June to July 2015	MSA, MoJ, and other line ministries will be invited to help design the program and participate	In planning
Mentoring to sucos in communicating to higher-level government institutions	October 2014 to September 2015	STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities	In planning
STTA Good Governance Advisor deployed	February to March 2015	STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities	In planning
District Administration (DA) officials attend suco exchange visits and trade shows	February to March 2015; June to August 2015	STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities but the activity will take place in Year Two	In planning
Support a target group of sucos in each district to improve service delivery	April to August 2015	STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities	In planning
Organize roundtables for suco and district officials	February to March 2015; June to July 2015	STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities	In planning

Component B – Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions

B.1 – Solicit and Present Research on Citizens’ Opinion on Decentralization Policy and Practice to GOTL and Other Stakeholders			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Draft concept papers	September 2014 and as needed	With the support of Ba Distrito’s governance advisor and STTA if and when available	Partially completed
Lead Dialogues with government officials, CSO representatives and academics	July-August 2015	Ba Distrito IP Belun’s community facilitators will lead dialogues with representatives from the District Administration, CSOs, private sector, sucos, media outlets, and other stakeholders	Not started
Compile recommendations	August to September 2015	Recommendations will be compiled, presented and reviewed at a national-level	Not started
Present recommendations	September 2015	Recommendations will be presented for comment at both the local and national-levels	Completed (for FY 1)
Participate in policy/legal framework working groups and ensure Ba Distrito participation and the inclusion of sub-district level feedback	Ongoing	Already member of the Policy Forum on revisions to suco legislation	Ongoing

B.2 – Provide Legal Advice and Legislative Commentary to GOTL			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Review decentralization legal framework	Ongoing	Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed	Ongoing
Update on developments of legal framework for decentralization	Ongoing	Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed	Ongoing
Conduct coordination planning workshops	September 2015	Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed	Not started
Respond to invitations to provide legal advice and legislative commentary	Ongoing	Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed	Ongoing

B.3 – Design and Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Issue solicitation for	October 2014	CSOs and academic institutions	Partially

Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants	(program year 2)	will be invited to submit applications to organize advocacy campaigns	completed
Review applications for Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants	December to January 2015	The Ba Distrito Project Steering Committee will be involved in grant application review	Not started
Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants	January to February 2015	Ba Distrito will award larger grants to coalitions of CSOs. Coalition grantees will develop a campaign strategy for public outreach and working with media	Not started
Monitor and support Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grantees	February 2015 – onwards	Ba Distrito Senior OD and Governance staff as well as M&E staff will conduct site visits	Not started

B.4 – Support Information Dissemination on Approved Laws			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Train CSOs and suco councils on legal framework outreach	March 2015	Training conducted by Ba Distrito Governance Manager	Not started
Engage media channels to disseminate information on decentralization laws	As needed	Engage Public Outreach staff and Governance Advisor in the design of media campaigns	Ongoing
Issue solicitation for Constituent Engagement Grants	November 2014 (FY2)	The selection criteria for these CEGs are designed to ensure that these citizen-driven initiatives stimulate discussion of the roles of PDID and PNDS at the suco-level and discussions about decentralization	In planning
Review applications for Constituent Engagement Grants	December/January 2015 (FY 2)	The Ba Distrito Project Steering Committee will be involved in grant application review	Not started
Award Constituent Engagement Grants	February 2015	Grant funds will be awarded to and managed by local CSOs with activity input and implementing support from the sucos	Not started
Monitor and support Constituent Engagement Grantees	February-onwards	Trainings will address a variety of issues based on individual OD assessments of grantees designed to determine their level of knowledge of suco-level governance and suco council roles and responsibilities within the PNDS and PDID processes	Not started

Component C – Legal Aid Sustainability

C.1 Support Government to Develop Responsive Integrated and Sustainable Legal Aid Assistance Model			
Sub Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Stakeholder consultations held with MoJ, OPD, and other GOTL, and key civil society institutions (including program partner AATL) to gain their participation in a systematic legal aid development process for Timor-Leste facilitated by Ba Distrito	Ongoing	Legal Aid Brief completed. Translation, publication and distribution of the Brief including consultation with MOJ on potential areas of collaboration in the next quarter.	In progress.
MOJ introduced to and adopts the Participatory Sustainable Legal Aid Development Guidebook process, creates implementation plan and develops a work calendar for activities	Ongoing	Access to justice manager to organize trainings	In progress.
Hold discussions MoJ, OPD and AATL and other CSOs on data-driven Legal Aid System Management.	January 2015 to February 2015	The Project will support MOJ in conducting a survey on the impact of the Ministry's Legal Outreach. An STTA is currently on the ground to support the project in developing an appropriate survey methodology with the Ministry.	In progress.
Support establishment of mechanisms for ongoing coordination of legal aid system for rational allocation of legal aid funding and donor coordination	Ongoing	Different mechanisms for the provision of legal aid and their coordination were proposed in Legal Aid Brief. Modifications were made to Scope of Work for FFSO including to Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation RFAs for Baucau, Liquica and Ermera were made for better coordination of legal aid work.	In progress.

Establish district –level Legal Aid Coordination Groups and conduct training in legal aid assessment, data collection and monitoring systems. These groups will composed of legal aid providers in the area and coordinated by legal aid grantees and implementing partners FFSO	January 2015 onward	This will be referenced on the recommendations made by Legal Aid STTA. Legal Aid Coordination Working Groups have been budgeted in the new grantees' sub agreements.	In progress.
Conduct surveys and random sampling called for in the Guide	Ongoing	Access to Justice, M&E, and Public Outreach staff.	In planning; Partially in progress.
State of Legal Aid Annual Report completed and communication strategy for findings and recommendations developed. Access to justice staff together with JSMP.	September 2015		In planning
Resuming Legal Aid Coalition formerly established by The Asia Foundation with previous USAID access to justice funds. Access to justice team to coordinate and provide technical support to the Coalition	January 2015 onward. Meeting every two months		Ongoing

C2. Improve Capacity and Outreach of Legal Aid and Alternative Dispute Providers			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Award Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants	December 2014	Liberta Advocacia and Consultoria was selected as for grant covering Liquica and Ermera districts, and Comissao Justica e Paz was selected as winner for grant covering Baucau district. Award and signing of the sub-agreement and implementation expected to begin next quarter.	In progress
Design and issue RFA and access to justice Grants	December 2014 to January 2015	Planning to develop an RFA for legal outreach in Covalima. Planning to award a FOG to JSMP for suco council training during the	In planning

	next quarter.	
OD assessments with grantees	January to February 2015 and ongoing	In planning
Complete training needs assessment for legal aid service providers and training developed for legal aid advocacy grants and access to justice technical grants	January 2015	In planning
Deliver training to legal aid providers	January to March 2015	In planning
JSMP delivers training to Suco Council members on formal justice	February 2015 to July 2015	In planning

C.3 Assess and Reinforce Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanism			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Map the ADR services available in each district of intervention	October 2014 and ongoing	Adjustments have been made to Belun sub agreement to collect data on alternative dispute resolutions at the <i>suco</i> level. Revision of Belun's existing ADR forms and coordination between Capacity Building and Access to Justice teams on ADR work is planned for next quarter.	Ongoing
Monitor ADR process	Monthly beginning January 2015	Incorporated in the sub agreement with implementing partner Belun to collect data on ADR practice in the participating Sucos	In planning
Identify possible ways to link ADR to formal justice sector and other state institutions in pilot areas to inform future	July 2015	Working with Belun and JSMP, respective work in ADR and formal justice system	Ongoing

activities		strengthening
Compile recommendations with regard to regulation of customary law and community justice and linkages to formal sector	As required	Incorporating other donor-funded studies especially those in relation to GVB, implementing partner JSMP monitoring and implementing partner Belun's monitoring
Contribute to drafting and revising laws on alternative mechanisms	As required	Part C4 below
Under Access to Justice grants, provide socialization, outreach and training to community leaders on such issues as GBV, human rights, customary law, existing referral mechanisms, and fundamental legal principals.	February to July 2015	In planning

C.4 Targeted Assistance on Improving the Legislative Framework for Legal Aid			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Legal Aid Coalition Meeting every two months	Ongoing	Ba Distrito's access to justice team taking over this activity after AATL's sub-agreement wrapped up on December 31, 2014.	In planning to begin January 2015.
Present to the Legal Aid Coalition legislative gaps and inconsistencies that can be basis for advocacy	February 2015 onward	Ba Distrito's access to justice team	In planning
Provide analysis, amendments, drafts on Legal Aid law and related legislation	As needed	A2J team and international STTA provided as needed.	

C.5 Provide Support to Government and CSOs to Create Accessible and Effective Legal Information			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Legal Information Working Group established	January 2015 onward	Legal information working group will be met once every two months coordinated at	In planning

		the Project's office by access to justice team and Communication Specialist starting next quarter.	
Working Group identifies priority areas for campaigns	January 2015 onward		In planning
Support development of Legal Information and Advocacy Guide Book produced in consultation with stakeholders	March 2015 and ongoing		In planning
Legal information capacity building training initiated with government and judicial agencies and program grantees	January 2015		In planning
Deliver training to media and develop packets on the key access to justice topics	February 2015		In planning

Component D – District Court Functionality

D.1 Assess Needs and Design District Court Training Program

Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) as needed with MOJ, Baucau and Oecusse District Courts	January 2015	Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Ba Distrito and the Court of Appeal outlining possible areas of cooperation throughout the life of the project.	Partially complete.
Monitor district courts with an emphasis on access and quality of legal aid services in the courts	January 2015 onward	The project has extended JSMP's annual sub-agreement to expire on December 31, 2015. Adjustments were made in the Year Two sub agreement for JSMP to gather and analyze access and quality of legal aid in all	In planning

		district courts.	
Conduct additional Training Needs Assessment of district court staff as needed	February 2015 and onward	Access to justice team, if agreed by the Court, with the support from in international STTA as needed.	In planning
Support LTC in design of training modules and changes to curricula for staff in District courts, adapted to their functions and based on needs	January 2015 onward	Based on the Project's Workplan and guided by Court Functionality Brief as well as previous discussions with the President of the Court of Appeal, a Proposal for Technical Support was presented to the Court of Appeal for consideration. The proposed activities include support to curriculum reform and training development and delivery to the judicial actors.	In progress
Training Needs Assessment Report updated based on any additional assessments completed. Training assessments to be done in conjunction with LTC and/or justice institution staff where possible	February 2015		In planning
Training Blueprint developed for district judges, select court staff, public defenders and private lawyers, if agreed by Court and Office of Public Defender	February 2015 to March 2015		In planning

D.2 - Deliver Training for Justice and Accountability Institution Staff			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Develop training and training program in conjunction with LTC and select justice institution staff	February 2015 onward		In planning
Training of Trainers	March 2015		In planning
Review of Training Pilots	February 2015	In planning	In planning
PACT process launched with	January 2015	In progress. Proposal for	In progress

identification of non-training interventions in district court(s), creation of framework agreement and gaining national counterpart authorization for pilot activities		Technical Support was submitted to the Court of Appeal which outlines not only areas of support but also Court of Appeal's permission/facilitation of Project to discuss and put a plan of action together with the Pilot District Court actors. This will partly be determined by what activities the Court of Appeal President agrees to in principle.	
Introduce PACT process at district court level and sign agreements	January 2015 to February 2015	See the previous explanation.	In progress
PACT action planning	February 2015		In progress
PACT implementation	February 2015 onwards		In planning

D.3 Introduce Professional Development System (PDS)			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Encourage judiciary and possibly the Public Defender's Office to strengthen the existing PDS to include job training and monitoring and evaluation linked to performance evaluation	January 2015 onward		In planning
If invited, facilitate the judiciary and possibly the Public Defender's Office to undertake a self-assessment of each institution's current professional development system and identify opportunities for developing an integrated PDS	February 2015		In planning
If agreed, initiate implementation / refinement of PDS with agreed key counterpart institution(s). Support judiciary to develop and monitor Individual	April 2015 onward		In planning

Development Plans for the senior justice personnel

D.4 Build Capacity of the LTC in its Role to Increase Human Capacity in Judicial Institutions			
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes	Status
Enter agreement with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to engage in institutional capacity building and training in conjunction with district court strengthening	January 2015 to February 2015	This will partly depended upon the agreement of the Court of Appeal to the proposed technical support.	In progress
Engage MoJ/LTC and Superior Council in OD self-assessment process using Tt DPK Judicial Training Institute Development Tool (JTIDT) and develop action plan based on findings	February 2015		In planning
Identify ways for MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to decentralize training and provide more in-service training to better meet capacity building needs of currently serving district judges, prosecutors, defenders, lawyers, clerks, notaries and registrars, translators, interpreters, etc.	February 2015 onward		In planning
Work with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to ensure that the training programs targeting district court staff are evaluated	February 2015 onward		In planning
Work with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to institutionalize an annual training review process to better meet district court needs	February 2015 onward		In planning

D.5 Flexible and Responsive Training Fund		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Quick impact training	TBD	Not started

Annex 2 – Detailed Report of Monitoring of Progress Against Performance Indicators

Component “A” Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	Year 2 Target	LOP Target	Status
Number of CSOs using USG assistance to improve internal organizational capacity (F indicator)	4	4	4	4
Number of constituent engagement initiatives implemented through joint CSO/suco council partnerships	10	15	50	In planning
Number of suco councils who report holding constituent dialogues to identify the specific needs of women in their sucos	0	30	50	In planning
Increased knowledge and understanding among Suco council members of individual and institutional roles and responsibilities	Baseline	50%	50%	Baseline established
Proportion of females (Suco council members trained) who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG supported training/program (F indicator)	4/5	4/5	4/5	88/118
Number of sub-national entities receiving USG assistance that improve their performance (F indicator)	Baseline	100	100	Baseline established
Increased performance and organizational capacity among sub-national entities that receive USG assistance	Baseline	25%	25%	Baseline established

Component “B” Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	Year 2 Target	LOP Target	Status
Number of people reached through CSO decentralization awareness campaigns	25,000	25,000	100,000	507
Number of dialogues, workshops and other events aimed at increasing local-level input into the national discourse on decentralization	6	10	36	4
Number of mechanisms developed or supported by Ba Distrito and USG Assistance to improve citizen engagement with local government	20	30	100	In planning
Number of recommendations to new and existing laws developed through consultative processes including government and non-government entities	5	5	20	46
Percentage of citizen knowledge and awareness of decentralization activities in targeted districts	Baseline	N/A	TBD	Baseline established

Component "C" Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	Year 2 Target	LOP Target	Status
Increase in the number of individuals receiving legal aid or victim's assistance with USG support (F indicator)	Baseline	20%	58%	Baseline to be established in consultation with USAID)
Number of legal information and advocacy campaigns implemented by USG-funded legal aid partners	3	2	7	To be determined
Number of legal information and advocacy campaigns focused on gender equality and/or gender based violence	1	1	3	0
Increased capacity of target legal aid organizations to plan and execute long-term financial sustainability strategies	Baseline	15%	52%	Baseline established
Increased number of cases resolved by USG-supported legal aid providers	Baseline	10%	20%	Baseline to be established in consultation with USAID
Number of laws, regulations, or amendments to laws promoting an integrated legal aid approach drafted and submitted for approval	3	3	12	2
Number of laws, regulations or amendments to laws promoting an integrated legal aid approach adopted by the GOTL	1	2	5	0
Percentage of citizens in target areas who report greater access to justice and legal aid information	Baseline	N/A	TBD	Baseline established

Component "D" Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	Year 2 Target	LOP Target	Status
Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG assistance (F indicator)	10	15	100	0
Increased knowledge of administrative, financial and case management processes and procedures among judicial personnel	Baseline	50%	50%	To be determined
Number of PACT improvements adopted that increase court functionality and administration of justice	2	2	8	0
Number of PACT improvements adopted that increase public access to information	2	2	8	0
Increased percentage of citizens in target communities who report confidence in the formal justice sector/district courts	Baseline	N/A	TBD	Baseline established

Annex 3 – Media Coverage

Date	Activity	Location	Media Type	Coverage Received
Nov. 18	Ermera Launch	Ermera	STLTV	1 minute of national news coverage on the national evening and morning news
			Radio	RTL (National Radio), Radio Komunitade Cafe Ermera (Ermera Community Radio) and Radio Akademika (UNTL) attended event
			Print Media	Timor Post, Jornal Nacional Diario, Jornal Independente, Jornal Business Timor, Jornal Matadalan attended the event
			Online Media	ETAN Listserve Timoroman
Nov. 24	Liquiça Launch	Liquiça	STLTV	1 minute of national news coverage on the national evening and morning news
			Radio	RTL (National Radio), Radio Komunitade Tokodede Liquiça (Liquiça Community Radio) and Radio Akademika (UNTL) attended event
			Print Media	Jornal Nacional Diario, Jornal Independente, Jornal Matadalan attended the event
			Online Media	ETAN Listserve

Media Matrix (October – December 2014)

Activity: USAID’s Ba Distrito Project Launched in Ermera Municipality – 18 November 2014

No	Name	Media Organization	M/F	Media Type	Coverage Received	Note
1	Joaninho Maia	Community Radio Cafe Ermera	M	Radio	Community News	
2	Bento dos Santos	Community Radio Cafe Ermera	M	Radio	Community News	
3	Micaela dos Santos	RTTL	F	Radio	1 mins National News	
4	Carlito Soares	Timor Post	M	Newspaper	Daily News	Attached
5	Juvinal da Silva	Business Timor	M	Newspaper	Weekly News	
6	Celestino	Jornal Nacional Diario	M	Newspaper	Daily News	Attached
7	Domingos da Costa	Jornal Independente	M	Newspaper	Daily News	Attached
8	Efrem Duarte Guterres	Jornal Matadalan	M	Newspaper	Weekly News	Attached
9	Guilherminha Franco	STL TV and Radio	F	TV and Radio	1 minute of national news coverage on the national evening and morning news	
10	Maria Isabel Freitas Moreira	Radio Akademika (UNTL)	F	Radio	7 mins of feature news on Buka Hatene Program (Notisias Nasional iha Programa Buka Hatene)	Attached

List of Journalists

Activity: USAID's Ba Distrito Project Launched in Liquiça Municipality - 24 November 2014

No	Name	Media Organization	M/F	Media Type	Coverage Received	Note
1	Eduardo Exposto	Community Radio Tokodede Liquiça	M	Radio	2 mins Community News	
2	Helio Lobato	RTTL	M	Radio	1 mins National News	
3	Estevao	Jornal Nacional Diario	M	Newspaper	Daily News	Attached
4	Domingos da Costa	Jornal Independente	M	Newspaper	Daily News	Attached
5	Efrem Duarte Guterres	Jornal Matadalan	M	Newspaper	Weekly News	
6	Maria Isabel Freitas Moreira	Radio Akademika (UNTL)	F	Radio	7 mins of feature news on Buka Hatene Program (Notisias Nasional iha Programa Buka Hatene)	Attached

USAID Lansa Projetu ba Distritu iha Ermera

Husi: Domingos da Costa

ERMERA: United States Agency International Development (USAID) halo lansa mentu projetu Ba Distritu, iha Sub-Distritu Glene, Distritu Ermera, Tersa (18/11), ho'isehik.

Programa Ba Distritu ne'e, atu fô kapasitasaun ba lideransa lokal sira hodi prepara unu ba iha munisipiu. Tanba, USAID halo kooperasaun ho Ministériu Administrasaun Estatal (MAE) no Ministériu Justisa para servisu hamutuk hodi bele implementa projetu ne'e.

Embaixador Estados Unidos América (EUA), Katherine Ducholme hateten, projetu Ba Distritu hala'e durate tinan hatu' (4) husi 2013-2017. Ne'e duri, total orsamentu ba programa distritu ne'e hamutuk takon unu Dolar Amerikanu (\$ 6), maibe iha projetu fô apoiu mós ba enta vuneravel sira hodi bele usasi ba justisa.

Ba Distritu sei furnese ka saportu ba dezentvolvimentu

no hakarak base kapasitasaun xefe suku ma'in atus ida (100) iha Timor-Leste.

"Ami iha esperansa boot katax projetu Ba Distritu sei hiforsa hufin kapasidade koonseho suku sira nian, ho ida ne'e hodi hametin koordinasaun, komunikasaun no partisipasaun ativu ba prosesu dezentvolvimentu iha Munisipiu Ermera," tenik Ducholme.

Nia dehan, selesun Distritu Ermera sai hanesan munisipiu ida husi munisipiu tolu ne'ebe sai hanesan piloni ba estratua pre-deskonsentrasaun administrativa. Tanba oportunidade di'ak atu fô apoiu ba komandade sira iha Ermera.

Aleinde ne'e, Sekretariu Estatalu Dezentvolvimentu Lokal, Samuel Mendonça hateten, lansa mentu programa projetu Ba Distritu sei implementa iha distritu hanesan Ermera, Likisa, Kovalima.

Programa ne'e atu fô kapasitasaun entidade governu lokal iha distritu, hanesan xefe suku, igunidade jeneru ho juventude

sira atu bele hetan kapasitasaun ne'ebe adekadeu, para hodi nune'e atu bele participa iha prosesu dezentvolvimentu iha distritu.

Tanba ne'e, husu ba autoridade lokal iha distritu, sub-distritu no suku sira atu participa ativu iha programa ne'e. Atu nune'e, hese hatene no kompriende kona-ba planu dezentvolvimentu lokal ba futuru.

Iha latin hanesan, Admistrador Distritu Ermera Vitor dos Santos hateten, lansa mentu ne'e atu fô kapasitasaun ba xefe suku. Ne'e dan, husu ba sira atu aproveita di'ak ba programa ne'e, tanba, projetu ne'e sei remata iha tinan 2017.

"Ia boot sira aproveita iha kapasitasaun hodi prepara ba dezentvolvimentu distritu nian," dehan Vitor.

Nia esplika, formasaun ne'e atu hametin relasaun no koordinasaun servisu husi base ba distritu. Tanba ne'e, xefe suku sira bele fô apoiu tomak ba iha programa hodi bele usasi iha futuru sira mai.

Lansamentu USAID nia Projentu Ba Distritu Iha Munisípiu Ermera

USAID nia projentu Ba Distritu ofisialmente lansá iha munisípiu Ermera, iha Tersa (18/11). Ba Distritu nudar projentu ida ne'ebé sei hala'ó durante tinan ha'at (4) nia laran ho apoiu jenerozu husi povu Amerikanu liu husi Ajénsia Estadus Unidos ba Dezenvolvimentu Internasionál (USAID).

"Projentu ne'e implementa dadaun husi Counterpart Internasionál ho nia parseiru Terra Tech DPK. Ba Distritu nia objeivu mak eta hametin governasaun lokal no hadia asesu ba justisa liu husi kooperasaun besik ho konsellu suku sira, organizasaun sosiedade sivil, autoridade nivel munisípiu no instituisaun justisa sira atu hasa'e partisipasaun komunidadade ba governasaun lokal, no reforza lután fomesementu servisu ne'ebé atívu iha nivel lokal", informa nota komunidadade imprensa ne'ebé mak rekassan Jornal Nacional Diário simu iha Kuarta (19/11), husi relasaun públika USAID nian iha Timor-Leste.

Nota imprensa ne'e hatutan katak, Chargé d'Affaires husi Embaixada Estadus Unidos ba Amerika, Katherine Dueholm, fó komentáriu katak, "Ba Distritu sei apoiu imi-sei tulun tau jestaun ba ita nia komunidadade sira, ita nia suku, ita nia munisípiu Ermera, no ita nia futuru ba ita ne'e sira partense lolos ba — ita ita nia liman rasik. Ami kumentu atu fó tulun atu suporta vizanu ida ne'e. Husi povu Amerikanu, ba povu Ermera — ohin loron ami lansá Ba Distritu."

"Liu husi kooperasaun ida ne'e husi ba lideransa suku sira iha Ermera atu

poliika governa nian ba pre-deskonsentrasaun. Representa Ministeriu Administrasaun Estatal no Governu, ami agrades ba povu Amerikanu", ható'o husi Sekretariu Estadu ba Dezenvolvimentu Lokál, Samuel Mendonça.

Nota komunikada hatutan katak, USAID nia projentu Ba Distritu implementa dadaun no parselia ho Ministeriu Administrasaun Estatal no Ministeriu Justisa, atu suporta planu estratéjiku Governu nian no ninia prioridade sira "Ami ita esperansa boot katak projentu Ba Distritu sei haforsa lután kapasidade konsellu suku sira nian, ho ida ne'e hodi hametin koordinasaun, komunikasaun no partisipasaun atívu ba prosesu dezenvolvimentu iha munisípiu Ermera," halo'o husi Administradór munisípiu Ermera, Victór dos Santos.

Dokumentu informasaun ne'e dehanan, koalitia kona-ba selesaan Ermera sai hanesan munisípiu ida husi munisípiu tolu ne'ebé governu nian sai hanesan pilón ba estrutura pre-deskonsentrasaun administrativa, Xefi Ekípa USAID nia projentu Ba Distritu, Sra. Carolyn Tanner husi Counterpart Internasionál hatete katak, "Ida ne'e hanesan oportunidade ida ne'ebé diak tebes atu fó apoiu ba komunidadade sira iha Ermera no sira nia representante iha konsellu suku atu hola papél atívu iha estrutura foun no atu haboot komunidadade nia partisipasaun hodi prioriza komunidadade nia nescesidade sira."

Informasaun ba média ne'e esprika mós katak,

Occusse (FPSU) USAID nia projentu Ba Distritu sei hametin governasaun lokal no partisipasaun husi sidadaun sira, no hametin asesu ba justisa, ho foka partikular atu habesik-an ba sidadaun marginalizado sira, inklui feto no joven sira iha prosesu sira ne'e.

"USAID nia projentu Ba Distritu implementa ita ona nia atividade sira hanesan asesu ba justisa no governasaun lokal iha suku 60, iha Baucau, Covalima no Occusse, no ita fulan ida ne'e sei aumenta hodi habelar lután, inklui suku 40 iha Ermera no Liquiça. Liu husi programa liadus ki'ik, projentu ne'e sei lori servisu justisa sira nia informasaun no fomesa assistensia legál ba komunidadade iha area rurál sira, sei fó apoiu lután ba governu lokal, no mós sei enkonja diskusaun informativu no fahe informasaun kona-ba prosesu desentralizasaun iha Timor-Leste. Projentu ida ne'e básikamente sei kontribui hodi hametin fomesementu servisu públiku ho vizanu ne'ebé han lután hodi hadiak governasaun desentralizadu iha Timór-Leste", dokumentu ba imprensa ne'e haktaken.

Seremónia lansamentu, ne'ebé hala'ó iha edifisio Aula Terras e Propriedade Glens (Bis Pemda), participa husi Chargé d'Affaires husi Embaixada Amerikanu, Sra. Katherine Dueholm, Sekretariu Estadu ba Dezenvolvimentu Lokál, Samuel Mendonça, Administradór munisípiu Ermera, Victór dos Santos, Autoridade nivel munisípiu, representante sira husi

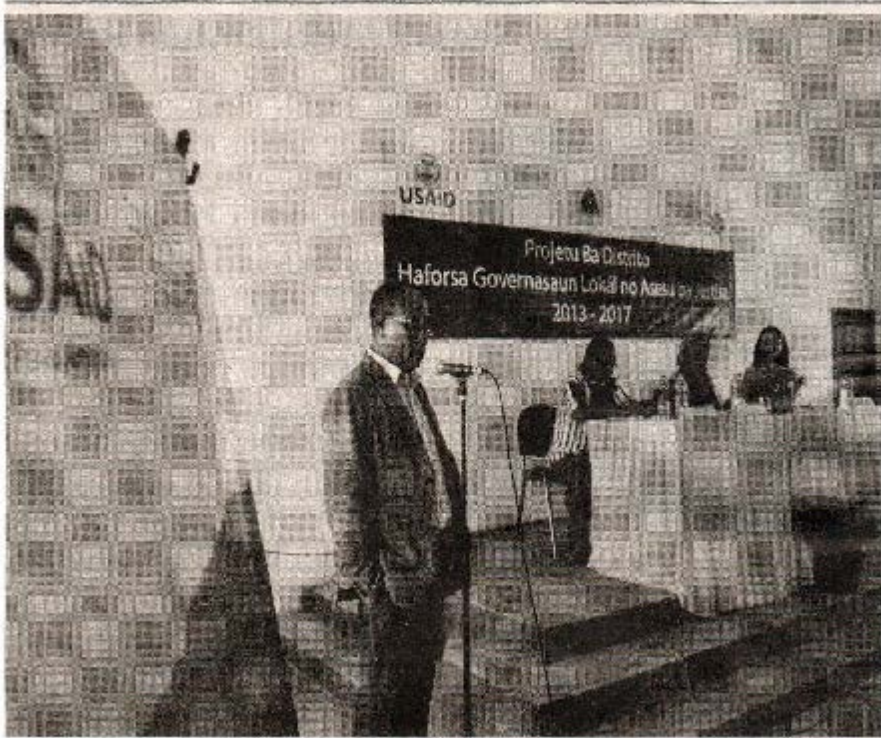
sosiedade sivil sira.

Governu Estadus Unidos Amerikanu liu husi USAID, servisu hamutuk ho governu Timor-Leste atu suporta dezenvolvimentu ne'ebé luan no efektivu. Desde 2001, USAID fomesa ona US\$ miliaun 308 rasin nia assistensia dezenvolvimentu ba Timor-Leste, no USAID fomesa US\$ miliaun 12 rasin ona atu hadia vida povu Timor-Leste iha tinan 2013. USAID suporta Timor-Leste iha ninia esforsu atu hari'inasau ida ne'ebé próspere, saudavel no demokrátiku liu tan liu husi programa sira ne'ebé haforsa kresimentu ekonómiku inkluzivu no sustentavel, especialmente setor agrikultura; hadia saude ema Timor, partikularmente feto no labarik; no hametin alisese bou governasaun — urea hotu ne'ebé realiza iha Planu Estratéjiku Dezenvolvimentu Nasional Timor-Leste 2013 - 2030.

Counterpart Internasionál maka organizasaun dezenvolvimentu global ne'ebé haforsa ema no komunidadade atu implementa solusaun ne'ebé inovativu no diak ba dezafu sosial, ekonomia no ambiente. Besik tinan 50, Counterpart ho komunidadade hodi rezolve nescesidade ba problema ne'ebé kompleksu relasiona ho dezenvolvimentu ekonómiku, seguransa iha han no nutrisaun, no hari governasaun no instituisaun ne'ebé efetivu. Ho prezensa Counterpart iha nasau hamutuk 25, loron-loron Counterpart servisu hamutuk ho ema iha mundu tomak atu estabelese solusaun ne'ebé sustentavel

Grupo de Média Nacional
GMN 12

20 Novembru 2014



USIAD Haforsa Governasaun lokal



22 NOVEMBERU 2014
SABADU
Timor Post

ERMERA – Governu Estadus Unidus liu hosi nia ajensia USAID iha projetu ida ba distritu ofisialmente lansa iha munisípiu Ermera hodi hametin governasaun lokal no hadi'a aseu ba justisa liu hosi koperasaun ho konsellu suku no organizasaun lokal sira.

Aktividade refere halo iha Gleno Ermera ho durasaun kooperasaun ba tinan 4 no projetu ne'e implementa dadauk hosi Counterpart Internasionál ho nia parseiru Tetra Tech DPK, ho nia objetivu hametin governasaun lokal no hadi'a aseu ba justisa liu hosi koperasaun besik ho konsellu suku sira, organizasaun sossiedade sivil, autoridade nivel munisípiu, no instituisaun justisa sira atu hasa'e partisipasaun komunidadade ba governasaun lokal, no refora liután forneseamentu servisu ne'ebé ativu iha nível lokal, tair esplikasaun hosi karta komunikadu ne'ebé Timor Post aseu.

Chargé d'Affaires hosi Embaixada Estadus Unidus ba Amerika, Katherine Dueholm hatete katak, apóu ba jestaun iha komunidadade sira iha suku, munisípiu futuru ba iha futuru pertense ba ida-idak nia liman rasik.

"Liu hosi koperasaun ida ne'e husu ba lideransa suku sira iha Ermera atu servisu hamutuk no aproveita oportunidade

no Governu, ami agradese ba povu Amerikano" Sekretariu Estadu ba Dezenvolvimentu Lokál, Samuel Mendonça deklara.

USAID nia projetu ba distritu implementa cadaun no parseira ho Ministériu Administrasaun Estatal no Ministériu Justisa, atu suporta planu estratéjiku Governu nian ne'nia prioridade sira.

"Ami iha esperansa boot katak projetu Ba Distrito sei haforsa liután kapasidade konsellu suku sira nian, ho ida ne'e hodi hametin koordinasaun, komunikasaun no partisipasaun ativu ba prosesu dezenvolvimentu iha munisípiu Ermera," Administradór munisípiu Ermera Vitor dos Santos dehan.

Hosi koperasaun ne'e Servisu hamutuk ho Belun, Programa Monitorizasaun Sistema Judisial (JSMP) no Fundasaun Fatuk Sinai Oecusse (FFSO) USAID nia projetu Ba Distrito sei hametin governasaun lokal no partisipasaun hosi sidadaun-sira, no hametin aseu ba justisa, ho foka partikular atu habesik-an ba sidadaun marginalizadu-sira, inklui feto no joven sira iha prosesu sira ne'e.

USAID nia projetu Ba Distrito implementa liha ona nia atividade sira hanesan aseu ba justisa no governasaun lokal iha suku 60, iha Baucau, Covalima no Oecusse, no iha fulan ida-ne'e sei aumenta hodi habelar liután, inklui suku 40 iha Ermera no Liq-

apou liután ba governu lokal, no mos sei enkoraja diskusaun informativu no fute informasaun kona-ba prosesu desentralizasaun iha Timor-Leste.

Governu Estadus Unidus Amerikano liu hosi USAID, servisu hamutuk ho governu Timor-Leste atu suporta dezenvolvimentu ne'ebé luan no efektivu. Dezde 2001, USAID fornese ona US\$ millaun 308 resin tair asistensia dezenvolvimentu ba Timor-Leste, no USAID fornese US\$ millaun 12 resin ona atu hadia vida povu Timor-Leste iha tinan 2013.

USAID suporta Timor-Leste iha nina esforsu atu hari'itasaun ida ne'ebé prósperu, saudavel no demokrátiku liu tan liu hosi programa sira ne'ebé haforsa kresimentu ekonómiku inkluzivu no sustentavel, especialmente setor agrikultura; hadia saude ema Timor, partikularmente feto no labarik; no hametin aliseise hosi governasaun – arca hotu ne'ebé realiza iha Planu Estratéjiku Dezenvolvimentu Nasional Timor-Leste 2013 – 2030.

Counterpart Internasionál maka organizasaun dezenvolvimentu global ne'ebé haforsa ema no komunidadade atu implementa solusaun ne'ebé inovativu no di'ak ba dezafiu sosial, ekonomia no ambiente, Besik tinan 50, Counterpart halo parseiru ho komunidadade hodi rezolve ne-sesidade ba problema ne'ebé ko-

USAID Lansia Projetu ba Distritu iha Likisá

Husi: Domingos da Costa

LIKISA: United State Agency International Development (USAID) halo'o lansamentu projetu Ba Distritu iha Likisá. Programa ne'e rasik betan apriu husi povu Amerikanu sira.

Projetu Ba Distritu ho objetivu atu fó kapasitasaun pam bele iha koñesmentu jestaun iha suku. Programa ne'e suportin husi USAID atu halo firmasaun ba autoridade lokal sira, lianliu iha xefe aldeia to'o iha postu administrasaun munisipiu.

"Ita rekodese katak, ita nia rekursu umanu seidauk adekuadu, ne'e duni ita prezisa tan foemasaun husi programa hirak ne'e, maibé la signifika atu fori tomak ida ne'e iha ita nian, ida di'ak ita bele halo tur no la di'ak bele dudu sa' ita," dehan Administrador Munisipiu Distritu Likisá, Domingos da Costa do Santos, iha Salaun Administrasaun Likisá, hocisehik.

Lideransa sira hem munisipiu Likisá tarna iha programa ba pilotu, liu husi projetu Ba Distritu bele responde buat balun

hodi nune'e iha futuru bele sai di'ak liu.

"Ami simu buat hotu, maibe buat bufun ne'ebé la di'ak sei dudu sai, tanba ne'e ami nia responsabilidade," tenik Santos.

Aleinde ne'e, Diretor Misau USAID, John Seong hateten, USAID finansia projetu ne'e atu haforsa kapasidade administrasaun no atu hadi'a asesu ba justisa ba sidadaun Timor-Leste iha sira rural no partikularmente ba sira ne'ebé vulneravel.

Projetu Ba Distritu ne'e atu habesik Governu Timor-Leste iha planu ne'ebé importante liu hotu. Muda rekursu no responsabilidade sira husi governu sentral. Dili sai ba distritu no suku sira.

John akresenta katak, programa ne'e sei fó pouder ba ofisial lokal sira, representante lokal no nima sidadaun hodi estabelece autoridade sira ba dezentvolvimentu no partisipu direktamente iha prosesu dezentvolvimentu.

"Tanba ne'e, ohin loron ita halo lansamentu iha Distritu Likisá, ne'ebé sai hanesan prin-

sipiu ida husi munisipiu totu ne'ebé selecionadu atu sai pilotu ba governu nia iniciativa pre-deskonsentrasaun," eaklarena John.

Nune'e, Sekretario Estado Dezentvolvimentu Lokal, Samuel Mendonça hateten, USAID halo kooperasaun ho Ministeriu Administrasaun Estatal (MAE) no Ministeriu Justisa (MJ). Hodi nune'e bele implementa programa iha distritu hanesan Suan, Arnera, Likisá, Baukau, Maibé, atu fó kapasitasaun ba Suku ne'e hamutak (100).

Samuel sulhina, kooperasaun refere atu promove hua governasaun ne'ebé di'ak, eficiente, efikasia no prestasaun servisu ne'ebé husik ba povu no mas atu rezolve justisa lokal.

"Programa PNDS ne'ebé halo'o iha Timor-Leste la susesu. Maibé, la'o nitaon sidi ne'e prezisa hadi'a," dehan Samuel.

Nia informa, USAID mai iha Likisá atu kontinua akoridu ne'ebé halo liu governu hodi bele kapasita xefe suku, xefe aldeia sira iha distritu. Ne'e duni, prezisa tur foemasaun ne'ebé sira fabe ba ita hodi sira.



INDEPENDENTE

Ini Nia Lian, Ini Nia Liberdade

25 NOVEMBRU 2014

25 Novembru 2014

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Grupo de Média Nacional

Regional

USAID nia Projetu Ba Distrito Lansa Iha Munisípiu Liquiça



Representante fetu husi Ministeriu Solidaridade Sosial visitapin Liquiça husi diela perguata religioza balansa ho jeneru iha eventu lansamentu USAID nia projetu ba Ba Distrito. Foto: António (Ba Distrito).

Huoin lansamentu susesu iha Ermera semana kotuk, horesik Segunda (24/11) United State Agency for International Development (USAID), nia projetu Ba Distrito lansu iha Liquiça.

Nota komunikadu imprensa ne'ebé rodasaun Jornal Nacional Diário simu, iha Segunda (24/11) informa katak, projetu ida ne'e, hetan apoiu jenerozu husi povu Amerikanu hihusi USAID no projetu

atu haforsa governasaun lokal no hametin asesu ba justisa.

"Promove sistema governasaun lokal ida ne'ebé kapasidade sae lokidau an identifika no responde ba nesesidade ninia sidadaun sira, projetu ne'e serbisu hamutuk ho konsellu suku, organizasaun sosiedade sivil, autoridade nivel municipal, no instituisaun judicial sira atu atinji forneselementu servisu

local", komunikadu ne'e haktuir.

Nota imprensa ne'e laklean katak, serbisu iha parceria ho Ministeriu Administrasaun Estatal no implementa husi Counterpart Internasionál ho nia parseiru lokal ONG Belun, Projetu tinan haat husi USAID ne'e atu dezenvolve kapasidade institucional no umana husi konsellu suku-sira, no liuliu kapasidade sefe suku-sira, no representante fetu no

hamutuk ho sira-nia komidade no balas sira-nia papél ne'ebé importante ba bebeik ho susesu enkuantu Timor-Leste hakat ba oin hodi entrega poder ba nivel munisipiu. USAID nia projetu Ba Distrito serbisu dadaun ho konsellu suku 100 husi Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça no Oecusse.

"Projetu ida ne'e relevante los iha kontestu Liquiça nian, ne'ebé foim dadauk ne'e identifika ona nu'udar munisipiu l husi munisipiu 3 hodi koko governu nia estrutura administrativu pre-deskonsentrasaun foun. Liuhusi nia dezenvolvemtu kapasidade no komunikasaun, atividade suporta-sira, USAID nia projetu Ba Distrito sei ulun atu haree duni katak informasaun kona-ba mudansa estrutura to'o duni ba povu no katak representa povu-sira, konsellu suku, bele kumprande lokos mudansa iha sira-nia papél no partisipa liután iha no representa prioridade husi sira-nia komidade", nota informasaun ne'e tenik tan.

Sekretariu Estadu ba Dezenvolvemtu Lokál, Samuel Mendonça hatete katak: "Governu

espera katak ho lansamentu USAID nia projetu Ba Distrito iha munisipiu Liquiça bele aselera dezenvolvemtu liu husi promove asesu ba justisa no governasaun dink iha nivel lokal. Ida ne'e diak ba munisipiu nia futuru. Liuhusi konsultasaun ba prosesu desentralizasaun no promosaun lideransa komunitaria, sei hametin dezenvolvemtu lokal ne'ebé sustentavel".

USAID nia direktór misaun ba Timor-Leste, John Seong hatete katak, "Projetu Ba Distrito sei promove interesau entre ofisial no sidadaun-sira atu nuac'e sira bele fahe informasaun no buka tur área kooperasaun-sira—Projetu Ba Distrito sei fornese apoiu importante ba governu Timor-Leste ninia esforsu-sira atu haforsa pilar democrasia sira iha nasau ne'e iha nivel sira ne'ebé fundamental tebes".

Rekofese benefisiu sira ne'ebé USAID nia projetu Ba Distrito sei lori ba povu Liquiça, administrador munisipiu hatete katak "Kooperasaun ida ne'e diak tebes tanba fó formasaun ba konsellu suku-sira atu hadia jestaun iha suku haren no bele apoiu konsellu suku-sira ba

Annex 4 – Rapid Assessments Completed in Ermera and Liquiça as of December 31, 2014

Municipality	Suco	Number of Man Participant	Number of Women Participant	Total Number
Ermera	Ponilala	3	3	6
	Matata	3	3	6
	Railaco Leten	3	3	6
	Poetete	2	2	4
	Fatuquero	3	2	5
	Tocoluli	3	3	6
	Total	17	16	33
Liquiça	Maumeta	3	1	4
	Vatuvou	2	3	5
	Vaviquinia	3	3	6
	Maubaralissa	3	3	6
	Gugleur	5	0	5
	Guiço	0	7	7
	Lissadila	2	1	3
	Metagou	4	3	7
	Loidahar	2	3	5
	Lauhata	2	3	5
	Luculai	6	1	7
	Dato	3	2	5
	Leoteala	3	1	4
	Total	38	31	69

Annex 5 – Summary of Technical Assistance Provided to Individual Sucos

Suco	Sub-district/Post Administration/municipal	Type of Technical Assistance	Participant
Naimeco	Pante Makassar, Oecusse SAR	Filling/archiving system alphabetically	PAAS only
Lifau	Pante Makassar, Oecusse SAR	Filling/archiving system of in and out letters, activity report, financial report and meeting notes	PAAS only
Costa	Pante Makassar, Oecusse SAR	Filling/archiving system alphabetically	PAAS only
Cunha	Pante Makassar, Oecusse SAR	Improving suco Action Plan and filling system	Suco chief, PAAS, male youth representative
Lalisuk	Pante Makassar, Oecusse SAR	Filling/archiving system, reporting, financial system	Suco chief, PAAS, 2 youth representative, hamlet chief (2 female and 4 male)
Nipani	Pante Makassar, Oecusse SAR	Filling/archiving system, reporting, financial system	Suco chief, hamlet chief, male youth representative, PAAS (4 male)
Abani	Passabe, Oecusse SAR	Improving suco Action Plan and filling system	PAAS
Malelat	Passabe, Oecusse SAR	Improving suco Action Plan and filling system	PAAS
Taiboco	Pante Makassar, Oecusse SAR	Improving suco Action Plan and filling system	PAAS
Oeges	Maucatar, Covalima	Filling system, 14 administration books	Suco chief, PAAS, female youth rep, 2 women reps, 4 hamlet chiefs,

				1 lian nain & 1 <i>ansiaun</i> (8 male, 3 female)
Maudemo	Tilomar, Covalima	Filling system, 14 administration books		1 female youth rep, 1 women rep, 1 female PAAS (3 female)
Cassabauc	Tilomar, Covalima	Filling system, 14 administration books		Female youth rep , PAAS (1 male and 1 female)
Samalari	Laga, Baucau	Filling system, 14 administration books		PAAS (male)
Laisorulai de Cima	Quelical, Baucau	Filling system, 14 administration books		PAAS (female)
Gariuai	Baucau Town, Baucau	Filling system, 14 administration books		PAAS (male)

Annex 6 – Suco Networking Assessment for Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse

Suco Name & Location	Suco's Capacity/Potential
Fatulia, Venilale Administrative Post, Baucau	Suco Fatulia has produced suco development plan with support from The Asia Foundation. They also have initiative and capacity to establish cooperation with CSOs working in their suco, such as GIZ and Hawaii Univeristy on proposal writing. Paz Y Desarrollo also supports women representatives of suco councils on women's participation in politics and computer training. Suco Chief Fatulia is chairman of suco association in Baucau (ALKDB). There are other NGOs operating in the suco, for instance World Vision on clean water and sanitation and GFFTL in cooperation with UNESCO on education. The community has established an association named AUDALA on Family's Saving and Credit for women, Mona Bulak agriculture group working with Seed Of Life for seed distribution. Suco councils and PAAS actively fill in 14 administration books. Fatulia's suco chief is pleased to share his experience and knowledge on producing suco development plan to other sucos.
Soba, Laga Administrative Post, Baucau	Similar with Fatulia, Soba receives assistance from the Asia Foundation to produce suco development plan. Actively Soba identifies and approach various donors and submitted proposal to them, such as SEPFOPE and ILO. They have implemented 3 PNDS project in 3 hamlets and women's participation in politics run by Paz Y Desarrollo. Soba lead by female suco chief. One of the women representatives is active member of the Evaluation and Planning Committee of PNDS project.
Alaua Karik, Baguia Administrative Post, Baucau	In cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Public Works, Alaua Kraik has been implementing the BESIK program. SISCA program also does campaign on hand washing and hygiene. Actively community organizes drainage, road rehabilitation between Defauasi and Alaua Kraik funded by ILO.
Loilubo, Vemasse Administrative Post, Baucau	PAAS and suco councils actively updating 14 administration books and good in managing monthly operation fund from MSA. World Vision works together with youth to implement Education for Early Age Children for 5 years. SISCA program and World Vision also implement Mother Class in order to improve nutrition quality for mother and children. During first training youth male representative and suco chief were active to express their ideas and asked questions.
Bahamori, Venilale Administrative Post, Baucau	Suco has been implementing Education for Early Age Children facilitated by World Vision and SISCA, similar to Loilubo. Other project with World Vision is clean water, ICM program on agriculture and food processing. With support from the GOTL suco runs fisheries activity in cooperation with local businessmen.
Nipani, Pante Makassar Administrative Post, Oecusse	Suco established food processing to improve nutrition for children, 5 sustainable agriculture groups on fisheries, saving and credit, animal husbandry and farming supported by Caritas Australia.
Costa, Pante Makassar Administrative Post, Oecusse	Alola Foundation facilitates development of suco plan. The suco also receives support from Caritas Australia to organize fisheries group, saving and credit, food processing and animal husbandry.
Cunha, Pante Makassar Administrative Post, Oecusse	BIFANO, local NGO has been supporting suco to develop suco rules approved by suco in November 2014. BIFANO and Oxfam in cooperation support sustainable agriculture group in saving and credit activity, farming and food processing.

Bene-Ufe, Nitibe Administrative Post, Oecusse	This suco receives clean water system project from Triangle in Citrana and Lamasi, and ETADEP in Baoknana and former transmigration area near PNTL Border Patrol Unit. The project began in 2013. Community participated in the in the establishment and the maintenance of the water system. They created Facility Maintenance Group and its structure to manage regular maintenance. They have an agreement with community to contribute USD\$0.50/house. It works well. In practice the Maintenance Group records all cash contribution and report to public in relation to financial expenses/transaction using that money.
Lalawa, Tilomar Post Administrative, Covalima	Suco chief Lalawa creatively submitted proposals to the company in charge to build MDGs Housing project in his village and requested them to build extra room in suco office compound, one room for suco councils and the other one for quest house. He also required the company to build a community center for one hamlet. Women representatives of suco council led a women group to produce “tempe”, tofu and vegetables and FFDTL at the border as regular customer. Income from selling their product is group’s income and the profit divided among the group’s members. Suco chief has been encouraging his community member to plant vegetable around their house for daily need, income, and better nutrition for family members. Other women group has been receiving support from Covalima Community Center on income generation too.
Maudemo, Tilomar Post Administrative, Covalima	Lead by female suco chief, suco Maudemo is farming area. Recently, the Secretary of State for Local Development Samuel Mendonça inaugurated tourism area. Suco established 7 agriculture groups: 2 groups facilitated by Covalima Community Center on income generation ; 3 groups focus on animal farming supported by Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; 2 other groups receives fund from Fokupers on livestock. They have good relationship with CSOs and receive supports from, for instance Child Fund to reconstruct maternity clinic and kindergarten, as well as finishing “uma ba lia” supported by APSCTL.

Annex 7 – Key Stakeholder Coordination Meetings

No	Activity	Date	Organizer
1	Meeting with MDI on PNDS monitoring project in Liquiça and project monitoring manual	October 2	Capacity Building Manager
2	SEPI women congress in Oecusse Region	October 6-7	SEPI
3	Meeting with Community Radio Atoni Lifau (RCAL) on accessibility area of RCAL	October 8	Counterpart's Oecusse District Coordinator
4	Meeting with municipal Administrator, Post Administrator, suco chiefs, Belun's coordinator on progress of Ba Distrito project	October 8	Counterpart's Oecusse District Coordinator
5	Coordination meeting with CECEO, Bifano and HADIAK on suco assistance on Presidential Nutrition Award	October 8	Counterpart's Oecusse District Coordinator
6	Meeting with Vice Administrator of Oecusse Region on Presidential Nutrition Award	October 9	Counterpart's Oecusse District Coordinator
7	Meeting with Administrator of Post Administration in Pantai Makassar, Oesilo and Nitibe on Presidential Nutrition Award	October 9 in Oecusse Administration Office	Counterpart's Oecusse District Coordinator
8	Meeting with Coordinator of Radio Cova Taroman on accessibility area	October 10	Counterpart's Covalima District Coordinator
9	Participate in seminar on assistance to the women and children-victims of violence	October 14	TAF, Ministry of Social Solidarity, SEPI
10	Meeting with Coordinator of Radio Community of Atoni Lifau (RCAL) on accessibility of 18 sucos to RCAL	October 14	Counterpart's Oecusse District Coordinator
11	PNDS meeting	October 14	PNDS Oecusse team
12	Meeting with Post Administrator of Baucau Villa on Presidential Nutrition Award	October 16	Counterpart's Baucau District Coordinator

13	Meeting Coordination with NGO HADIAK on health project	October 20	Counterpart's Oecusse District Coordinator
14	Participate in the meeting at municipal office on about changes of municipal's name	October 21	Counterpart's Covalima District Coordinator
15	Ba Distrito Introduction to Ermera municipal Administrator and Project Launch	October 22	Chief of Party and Capacity Building team
16	Ba Distrito Introduction to Liquiça municipal Administrator and Project Launch	October 26	Chief of Party and Capacity Building Officer
17	Participate in the meeting on preparation for decentralization in Covalima	October 29	Municipal Administrator of Covalima
18	Coordination meeting with PNDS Team	November 11	PNDS Oecusse
19	Coordination meeting with NGO CECEO	November 13	Counterpart's Oecusse District Coordinator
20	Meeting coordination with CSOs Oecusse	November 13	Fongtil/NGO Forum
21	Meeting with municipal Administrator to update the progress of Ba Distrito project	November 14	Counterpart's Covalima District Coordinator
22	PNDS monitoring meeting	November 17	Oxfam-Oecusse Region
23	Meeting with Ermera DNDCAS vocal point on brief introduction on Ba Distrito and Capacity Building for suco councils	November 18	Capacity Building Officer
24	Informal meeting with members of Committee of Evaluation and Planning and suco facilitators of PNDS in Suku Fatuleto on PNDS project implementation	November 18	Counterpart's Covalima District Coordinator
25	Meeting with PNDS's Director on monitoring findings of PNDS phase 1 in Oecusse Region	November 18	PNDS
26	Participate in the regular	November 21	Fongtil DLO,

Ba Distrito Project

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	meeting between CSO and Government		Covalima
27	Meeting with Director of DNDCAS, Sr Sebastiao Pereira on findings and recommendation of rapid assessment in 60 sucos, a package of training manuals and facilitation, further partnership between Ba Distrito-DNDCAS, project launches in Liquiça and Ermera	December 3	Ba Distrito
28	Motivator to the launch of 100 Potential Women for Village Chief Election 2015	December 10	Fundação Pàtria, Dili
29	Seminar on Strengthening Women's Political and Public Participation in the Decentralization/Local Governance	December 16-17	Fundação Pàtria< Dili

Annex 8 – Table of Decentralization Legislation Passed Until End of the Reporting Period

MINISTERIAL DIPLOMAS FOR PRE-DECONCENTRATION ADMINISTRATIVE	Date Approved/Promulgated/Published
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for District Supervisory's Agencies	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for District's Planning Agencies	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Regulation of Local Advisory Councils	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Technical Support Offices of District Managers	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Administrative Posts	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Administrative Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Supply Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Financial Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Property and supply services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Integrated Plan for District Development (PDID)	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Functioning of the Directorate General of Administrative Decentralization	July 24, 2014
GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION	Date Approved/Promulgated/Published
Government Resolution on the Installation of Structure and Services of the New Structure of PDA in Three Pilot Municipalities for the rolling out of the New Structure of PDA.	October 22, 2014
Government Resolution on the Establishment of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structures in Liquiça, Aileu and Ermera	September 30, 2014
Government Resolution on the Transition Committee for Oecusse Ambeno	September 1, 2014

Government Resolution No. 14/2014 on the Special Procedure for the Selection of the Leaders of the Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	May 14, 2014
DECREE LAW / LAW	Date approved/promulgated/published
Decree Law No. 28/2014 on Special Procurement Scheme for Special Administrative Region of Oecusse	September 24, 2014
Decree-Law No. 19/2014 that approves the Statute of the Leaders of the Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structures	July 24, 2014
Law No. 3/2014 on the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse and establishes the Special Zone of Social Market Economy	June 18, 2014
Decree Law No.4/2014 on the Organic Statute of Structures of Administrative Pre-Deconcentration	January 22, 2014
Decree Law No. 08/2013 on the National Program for the Development of Sucos (PNDS)	June 26, 2013
Decree Law No. 4/2012 on Planning of Integrated District Development (PDID)	February 15, 2012
The Law No. 11/2009 on Administrative and Territorial Division	October 7, 2009
GOVERNMENT DECREE	Date approved/published
Government Decree No. 5/2014 on the Remuneration of members of Transitional Commission for Oecusse SAR	October 15, 2014 (Published)
OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT /DISPATCH	Date approved/published
Announcement of the opening for special selection procedures of district/municipal managers for three pilot districts	December 12, 2014 (Approved); (December 18 Published/Distributed)
Despacho No. 584/MAE/SEDA/XII/2014 on the extension of the deadline for the above vacancy announcement	December 19, 2014 (Approved)



Annex 9 – Results from 6-12 week post-test monitoring

District	% Responses from participants that were correct			% Responses from women that were correct			% Responses from youth that were correct								
	Post Test 1	Post Test 2	Change	Post Test 1	Post Test 2	Change	Male			Female			Total Youth		
							Post Test 1	Post Test	Change	Post Test 1	Post Test	Change	Post Test 1	Post Test 2	Change
Baucau	53%	64%	21%	54%	60%	11%	79%	93%	18%	62%	57%	-8%	66%	66%	0%
Covalima	62%	70%	13%	52%	69%	33%	81%	59%	-28%	54%	65%	20%	64%	62%	-2%
Oecusse	46%	58%	26%	49%	56%	15%	43%	57%	33%	51%	60%	17%	48%	59%	17%
Total	54%	64%	20%	52%	62%	20%	68%	70%	8%	56%	61%	10%	59%	62%	5%

District	Total Participants	% Responses from Participants																
		% responses from all participants		General quality of training				Relevance of the training topics to your work				Knowledge					Have applied information learned in your work	
		16-30 YEAR	Older than 30	Excellent	Good	Not Great	Bad	Excellent	Good	Not Great	Bad	amount	A great	Lots	Some	A little	None	Yes
Baucau	53	21%	79%	9%	87%	4%	0%	8%	87%	6%	0%	2%	13%	68%	17%	0%	70%	30%
Covalima	56	43%	57%	9%	91%	0%	0%	18%	82%	0%	0%	4%	25%	66%	5%	0%	75%	25%
Oecusse	37	22%	78%	11%	89%	0%	0%	3%	97%	0%	0%	0%	32%	62%	5%	0%	68%	32%
Total	146	28%	72%	10%	89%	1%	0%	9%	89%	2%	0%	2%	24%	65%	9%	0%	71%	29%



Ba Distrito Project
Quarterly Report 6
Period: January 1 – March 31, 2015

Submitted To: USAID/ Timor-Leste
Cooperative Agreement Number: AID-486-A-13-00007
Grantee: Counterpart International, Inc.

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Acronym List

AATL	Asosiasaun Advogadu Timor-Lorosa'e
ALFeLa	Asistencia Legal ba Feto no Labarik
AOR	Agreement Officer's Representative
ARKTL	Asosiasaun Radio Komunitade Timor-Leste
BESIK	Bee, Saneamentu no Ijiene iha Komunitade
CBO	Community Based Organization
CCL	Local Advisory Councils
CDI	Community Development Interest
CEG	Constituent Engagement Grant
CNE	National Election Commission
CNJTL	Timor-Leste's National Council for the Youth
COP	Chief of Party
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DA	District Administration
DFAT	Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DNDCAS	National Directorate for Community Development and Suco Support
DNDHS	National Directorate of Human Rights and Citizenship
DNHJL	National Directorate for Judicial Advisory and Legislation
DQA	Data Quality Assessment
DRAG	Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grant
ECM	Educacao Comunidade Matebian
ETAN	East Timor and Indonesia Action Network
FDG	Focus Discussion Group
FECM	Fundasaun Educacao Matebian
FEEO	Fundasaun Esperanza Enclave Oecusse
FFSO	Fundasaun Fatuk Sinae Oecusse
FOG	Fixed Obligation Grant
FPWO	Oecusse Women Forum
FRETILIN	Political party in Timor-Leste
FY	Fiscal Year
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GOTL	Government of Timor-Leste
GTD	District Technical Group
ICC	International Criminal Court
IIMS	Integrated Information Management System
IJTL	Timor-Leste's Judicial Institute
INAP	National Institute of Public Administration
IP	Implementing Partner
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JPC	Commisao Justisa I Paz/ Justice and Peace Commission
JSMP	Judicial System Monitoring Programme

KMP	Knowledge Management Portal
LAAIG	Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants
LADV	Law against Domestic Violence
LTC	Legal Training Center
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOFFE-TL	Movimento Feto Foin Sa'e Timor Leste
MAE	Ministru Administrasaun Estatal
MDI	Mata Dalan Institute
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSA	Ministry of State Administration
NGO	Non-government Organization
OCP	Organizational Capacity Building
OD	Organizational Development
OPD	Office of Public Defenders
OPG	Office of the Prosecutor General
PAAS	Personnel Support to Suco Administration
PACT	Plan of Action
PDA	Pre-deconcentration Administrative
PDID	Integrated Plan for District Development
PDS	Professional Development System
PLWAD	Persons Living With a Disability
PMEP	Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PNDS	National Program for Suco Development
PQL	Program, Quality and Learning
PSA	Public Services Announcement
PNTL	National Police of Timor-Leste
RCAL	Radio Comunidade Atoni Lifau
RDTL	Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
RFA	Request for Application
RTL	Radio Timor-Leste
RTTL	Timor-Leste's Public Broadcasting Service
SAR	Special Administrative Region
SEPI	Secretary of State for Promotion of Equality
SGPS	Suco Government Performance Scale
STAE	Technical Secretariat for the Administration of Elections
STTA	Short Term Technical Assistant
SukAT	Suku Assessment Tool
TAF	The Asia Foundation
TL	Timor-Leste
ToT	Training of Trainers
Tt DPK	Tetra Tech DPK
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training

TVTL	Television Timor-Leste
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNFDP	United National Population Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
VPU	Vulnerable Persons Unit
YACTS	Youth in Action Towards Sustainability
ZEESM	Special Zone of Social Market Economy in Timor-Leste

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2013, Counterpart International, Inc. (Counterpart) was awarded funding from USAID/Timor-Leste to implement the four-year Ba Distrito Project – Cooperative Agreement number AID 486-A-13-00007. Ba Distrito’s goal is to increase institutional and human capacity at local levels to deliver basic services more effectively in a manner that is responsive to citizens’ needs and expectations. The project seeks to contribute to a wider vision of improved decentralized governance and inclusive access to justice in Timor-Leste through the implementation of four mutually reinforcing components designed to achieve the following objectives:

Goals	Component	Objective
Improved Decentralized Governance	A. Local Governance Strengthening	Enhanced capacity of sucos to strengthen citizen participation and representation in local governance.
	B. Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions	Improved communications and linkages of sucos with district administrations, local Government of Timor-Leste (GOTL) line ministries and other providers of basic public services at the sub-national level.
Increased Access to Justice	C. Legal Aid Organization Sustainability	Strengthened local justice sector institutions that increase access to formal and informal justice for marginalized citizens and the poor.
	D. District Court Functionality	

During this reporting period Ba Distrito conducted the following activities:

Component A: Organizational Development

- Finalized drafts of first three suco council training modules
- Completed strategy and foundation setting for suco exchange visits and suco/municipal administration network forums
- Engaged in Strategic Planning with implementing partner FFSO
- Completed rapid assessment analysis for 40 new sucos.

Component B: Decentralization

- Presented the draft suco law to CSOs
- Selected one suco success story from each municipality
- Pre-awarded Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants to Asosiasaun Radio Komunitade Timor-Leste (ARKTL) and to Uairawa Multimedia
- Drafted and finalized scope of work, reporting format, budget and work plan for ARKTL and Uairawa
- Finalized radio outreach campaign strategies, PMEP, reporting format and the milestone for ARKTL
- Participated in the development of proposed election component.

Component C: Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

- Coordinated legal aid partners meeting at the national level
- Delivered training to Ministry of Justice (MOJ) officials on qualitative research methodology which will be used by MOJ to gather and analyze data on the impact of MOJ's legal information sessions
- Piloted the research tools and instruments in Atabae administrative post followed by a three-day training on qualitative research methodology to MOJ staff, and handing out of certificates to all participants
- Launched *Legal Aid Brief: Legal Assistance in Timor-Leste*
- Coordinated access to justice activities to celebrate International Women's Day
- Through national implementing partner Fundasaun Fatuk Sinai Oecusse (FFSO), aired a radio talk show in Oecusse to commemorate International Women's Day, with the theme of 'Empower Women, Empower Community'
- Closed the Asosiaun Advogadu Timor Lorosa'e (AATL) grant
- Awarded new legal aid and advocacy grants to Commissao Justica i Paz (JPC) and Liberta Consultoria and Advocacia (Liberta) to undertake legal aid work in Baucau municipality (JPC), and in Ermera and Liquica municipalities (Liberta)
- Provided free legal aid assistance to a total of 66 clients including 14 women
- Conducted a total of 14 mobile legal information sessions held by legal aid partners (FFSO and JPC), attended by 400 participants including 164 women
- Provided continued support to the legal aid coordination group in Oecusse, which meets on regular basis to discuss relevant legal aid/justice related issues in Oecusse in order to better coordinate legal aid work and services among the members
- Finalized the Terms of Reference (TORs) and commenced the process of recruiting a junior legal officer.

Component D: District Court Functionality

- Received agreement from the Court of Appeal for Ba Distrito to provide training in two areas to the Courts in Baucau and Oecusse. The Court of Appeal issued a dispatch establishing a committee to work with Ba Distrito to achieve this

- Sent draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the new Minister of Justice Ivo Valente to continue the work set out in the MOU signed in July 2014 under the previous Government
- National implementing partner Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP) monitored a total of 32 civil and criminal trials within this quarter, of which 22 were domestic violence cases
- JSMP also wrote and published three press releases and two monthly case summaries focusing on issues around the increased number of domestic violence cases in Oecusse, including the pattern of court decisions in DV cases.

II. POLITICAL CONTEXT

New government. This quarter brought with it significant changes to the political landscape in Timor-Leste. The on and off debate as to whether Prime Minister Xanana Gusmão would step down and at the same time reshuffle the government was realized. On January 28, the spokesperson of the fifth Government, Minister of State Agio Pereira confirmed that restructuring would take place. The objective of the restructure of the Government was reportedly to achieve a more efficient and effective government focused on improving service delivery and stimulating and accelerating the implementation of the Strategic Development Plan to the people of Timor-Leste.

On February 6, the Prime Minister sent a formal resignation letter from the post of the Prime Minister to the President of Republic, Mr. Taur Matan Ruak. The Constitution guarantees that only the President of Republic has the competence to appoint and swear in the Prime Minister designated by the party or alliance of parties with parliamentary majority after consultations with political parties sitting in the National Parliament.

On February 9, the President of Republic announced the acceptance of the resignation of the then Prime Minister Gusmão. On February 12, through an online Press Statement by the President's Office, the new structure and composition of the sixth Government was made public. Under the new structure Dr. Rui Maria de Araújo, a prominent member of the opposition party FRETILIN, assumed the position of Prime Minister. Directly under the Prime Minister were created four Minister of State positions. The Minister of State and Presidency of the Council of Ministers was assumed by Agio Pereira¹ and three additional Ministers of State with coordinating roles were appointed: Fernando La-Sama de Araújo² as Coordinating Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Education; Estanislau da Silva³ as Coordinating Minister of

¹ A prominent member of CNRT (the holder of the most seats in the AMP coalition under the 5th Constitutional party and the spokesperson and Minister for Presidency under the 5th Constitutional Government.

² The President of PD party (part of the AMP coalition with the 5th Constitutional Government) and formerly the Vice Prime Minister under the 5th Constitutional Government.

³ A prominent member of the opposition party FRETILIN and a member of Parliament under the 5th Constitutional Government.

Economic Affairs and Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, and Dionísio Babo Soares⁴ as Coordinating Minister of Administrative Affairs and Justice and Minister of State Administration. Former Prime Minister Gusmão assumed the role of Minister in the new Ministry of Planning and Strategic Investment.

The new structure includes a Prime Minister, four Ministers of State, 11 Ministers, 11 Vice Ministers and 10 Secretaries of State, bringing the total number in the executive to 38, a significant reduction from the 55 of the Fifth Constitutional Government. The list of Government members can be found attached in Annex 1.

The restructuring surprised many by essentially handing over control of the executive power to a prominent member of the opposition party, FRETELIN. Although Xanana Gusmão is still expected to exert considerable influence from his position as Minister, the restructuring may signal that the competing political factions within Timor-Leste are ready to move past their differences and unite for the pursuit of common goals in the country's development.

The sixth Government structure has the Ministry of State Administration (MSA) now under the leadership of Minister Dionísio Babo Soares, with the former Secretary of State for Decentralization, Mr. Tomas do Rosaio Cabral, being promoted to Vice Minister, and Mr. Samuel Mendonça remaining as the Secretary of State for State Administration. It remains to see what these changes will amount to in real differences in terms of policy in relation to decentralization but it seems to signal an increased focus on decentralization implementation by this Ministry, with local development being severed and handed over to the new Ministry of Planning and Strategic Investment.

Development of the draft Suco Law. During the last quarter, it was reported that the MSA has submitted the revised draft Suco Law to the Council of Ministers for discussion and that it had also been disseminated to the line ministries for feedback and comments. As of the end of this quarter, the proposed law had yet to be discussed by the Council of Ministers. Whether the new Government will pursue the changes proposed in the draft Suco Law is still undecided but looking increasingly unlikely. Local news reported that the Government seeks a more cost effective way to conduct community leader elections in October 2015. The proposed law puts significantly more logistical burdens on the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) by requiring that a polling center be placed in each of the approximately 2,225 *aldeias* around the country on Election Day. The future role of the suco council and their method of election is an issue of increasing uncertainty.

Administrative and Financial Devolution in Oecusse-Ambeno. During this quarter steady progress continued towards the devolution of competencies from the central government to the authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno. On January 23 the Council of Ministers held extraordinary meetings in Pante Makasar, the capital of the Special

⁴ Secretary General of CNRT and Minister of Justice under the 5th Constitutional Government.

Region of Oecusse-Ambeno. The objective of the meeting was to discuss important steps taken to prioritize development of the Special Region of Oecusse-Ambeno, including the transfer of powers. During the meeting the government of Timor-Leste (GoTL) approved three resolutions in regards to the power delegation and one decree law on the status of Oecusse-Ambeno Special Administrative Region (SAR)/ Special Zone for Social Market Economy (ZEESM), which regulate the application of the principles, rights and established powers, as well as the organization and the functioning of ZEESM in Oecusse and Atauro. This is discussed in more detail in section B2 below.

On January 24, a ceremony took place in Pante Makasar marking the transfer of powers and devolution of competencies from the central government to the Authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno. Between then and the end of this reporting period the newly established Authority met with various stakeholders in Oecusse including suco chiefs and civil society groups, reportedly to look for ways to establish relationships between them and the new Authority, and to ensure that the local population is not marginalized in the process. On March 30, the President of the Authority announced that several big infrastructure projects had commenced, including construction of roads, bridges and Oecusse International Airport. Most of the projects are reportedly being carried out by Indonesian companies with the expectation that they sub-contract out to local companies, and are expected to be completed by the second quarter of 2016.

On March 12, the Council of Ministers approved the draft Law No 18/III, on the first amendment to the Law No. 6/2014 on the 2015 General State Budget. An additional \$25 million is allocated to the budget of the Special Region of Oecusse-Ambeno, in addition to the \$1.57 billion already committed for this fiscal year to Oecusse. At the end of this quarter, it was reported that the draft law has been sent to the National Parliament for discussion and approval.

On March 24, the sixth Constitutional Government presented its program in the National Parliament. It was reported that the new Government will continue policies set out in the country's Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030. Among other priorities, the Government will prioritize four areas: improving the quality of public works, reforming public administration, harmonizing and standardizing laws, and conducting tax reform.

On March 26, the National Parliament endorsed the new Government program. On the governance side, the new Government will continue focusing on decentralization policies. In the Prime Minister's remarks on the new government program addressed to the National Parliament, Prime Minister Araujo highlighted that by 2017 the Government will implement the policy on administrative decentralization and local government, reorganize local administration and decentralize competencies and services. In order to accomplish this, the Government confirmed that it will be starting decentralization pilot projects in Aileu, Liquiça and Ermera.

In the justice sector, Ivo Valente, former Vice Minister, was appointed to become Minister of Justice, replacing former Minister of Justice Dionisio Babo Soares who moved up to become

Coordinating Minister for Justice and State Administration matters. The tensions that emerged in the wake of parliament and government resolutions firing foreign judicial actors during the previous quarter have slowly ceased with courts operating as usual starting from January 16. It remains unclear when and how the audit called for under these resolutions will be executed.

Media reports indicate the government remains committed to conducting the “audit” but the language has been softened to make it more of a review to better understand where the gaps for support and capacity strengthening are, in order to ascertain the types of support needed for the judiciary. Based on the project’s informal discussions with the MOJ officials, the government remains strongly interested in receiving support and assistance from international judicial professionals, including professionals from Portugal whose judges and justice advisors were, earlier this year, asked to leave the country, as reported in the previous quarter. The international judicial professionals, however, will function mostly as mentors, no longer serving line functions in court cases as judges, prosecutors, or defenders.

At the writing of this report, all municipal and regional courts remain functional. However, delays were reported in cases where serious crimes, which required a panel of three judges, had to be reprocessed again from scratch following the departure of the international judges. JSMP, through its court monitoring, reported that some victims were re-traumatized as result of the reprocessing.

In the legislative area, no major legislation related to access to justice was discussed, or changes initiated or made to the existing laws on access to justice. The new government has, however, announced that it intends to prioritize the passage of the Bar Association law.

The overall security climate in Timor-Leste during this quarter was slightly tense as compared to the previous quarters with a joint operation between national police (PNTL) and the national defense force (F-FDTL) sent to Baucau municipality to hunt and capture the leader of Maubere Revolutionary Council Mauk Moruk and his followers. This negatively impacted on the ability of the project to conduct some activities in Baucau municipality because of the increased security threat. This is discussed further under Section VII Challenges.

III. ANALYSIS

Although slightly behind the timeline projected in the FY15 workplan, during this quarter the project’s Component A – Organizational Development - made significant progress towards finalizing the analysis of the capacity assessments of the 40 sucos from newly added Ermera and Liquica municipalities. This information is being used to refine the development of training modules and facilitator’s manuals on Leadership and Communication, Women’s Rights and the Formal Justice System and Community Consultation, which respond to suco capacity weaknesses identified in the assessments. The component also refined its strategy for horizontal coordination between suco councils and vertical coordination with the municipal level administration in each municipality, with the support of a local governance expert. With

this strong foundation laid, Component A is in a strong position to begin implementing suco training and suco exchange visits in all 100 sucos during the next quarter.

During this quarter the project's Component B – Decentralization – also made significant progress towards awarding its first round of decentralization research and advocacy grants. Specifically, after a competitive process, the Asosiasaun Radio Komunidade Timor-Leste (ARKTL) was selected to implement a comprehensive radio campaign to raise awareness about decentralization policy including the pre-deconcentration administrative structure, the ZEESM and the role of suco councils.

A second in-kind grant is in the process of being awarded to Belun. A documentary film making company has been selected to develop five short films documenting best practices in community consultation and service delivery, and will feature a success story from one suco in each municipality that the project works in. The sucos that will be featured in the film were selected via a competition which invited sucos to submit their applications to be featured. A selection panel, including the Director of Municipal Administration, from the Ministry of State Administration, Mr. Lino Torreza, selected the best story from each municipality. The contract to produce the films is anticipated to be awarded next quarter. When the documentaries are completed they will be presented to Belun as an in-kind grant, which they anticipate airing at the upcoming suco expos as well as at the suco level throughout the municipalities where the project operates.

U Component C – Legal Aid Organizational Sustainability - with the departure last quarter of AATL as the project's implementing partner, the advocacy strategy for sustainable legal aid was revisited. The project hosted a legal aid partners' advocacy meeting at the Ba Distrito office, composed mostly of the project's legal aid partners as well as members from JSMP, Legal Aid for Women and Children (ALFeLa) and Educacao Comunidade Matebian (ECM). During this quarter members of the legal aid partner organizations met on several occasions to discuss the new advocacy strategy, as well as organize joint events in commemoration of International Women's Day. It was agreed that the legal aid partners would meet on an as-needed basis when there are issues worthy of discussion and advocacy. With the resumption of legal aid partners meetings, the implementation of other activities of Component C in relation to legal aid sustainability are ongoing and continue to make steady progress toward the targeted goals.

While the activities of the project's Component D – District Court Functionality – are slightly behind the timeline in the work plan, the project is hopeful and more optimistic now that the President of the Court of Appeal agreed to two areas of technical support this year. Specifically, the judge agreed for the project to provide training and capacity support to judges and judicial officers on statistical data gathering and analysis, and court management and leadership training for judges and court administrators. Signaling progress, during this quarter the Court of Appeal issued a dispatch setting up a team of judges and judicial secretaries (from Baucau and Oecusse courts) to work with the project on these agreed technical areas of support. With the development of terms of reference for relevant experts and recruitment of these positions are

underway, the project optimistically expects to roll-out more activities for Component D in the coming quarter.

IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Media and Communications

During this reporting period, information about the project's activities received strong and positive broadcast coverage at national and municipal level through national television and national and community radio. The project's activities also received strong positive coverage through national print media, including independent newspapers, online newspapers, Facebook pages, and an electronic listserve that distributes information about Timor-Leste, and has national and international subscribers.

Facebook: Ba Distrito project's key milestones and events are recorded on the Ba Distrito Facebook page, in English and Tetum. The page provides up-to-date information about the project's activities as they happen – with photos – including minor activities which may not warrant more dedicated media coverage (e.g. visit of the American Fellows to the Ba Distrito office). The project also shares the Facebook updates of partner organizations and GoTL Ministry updates. Similarly, government and partner organizations share Ba Distrito's Facebook updates, including USAID – Timor-Leste and the US Embassy Dili Facebook pages.

From the date it was launched until the end of this reporting period, the Ba Distrito Facebook page attracted 1,792 followers of whom 1,409 people are located in Timor-Leste, and 40 per cent are women. The largest demographic that it is reaching is between the ages of 25 to 34, for both men and women.

Launch of Access to Justice Brief: On February 17, Ba Distrito launched its *Access to Justice Brief: Legal Assistance in Timor-Leste* at an event at the Legal Training Center in Caicoli, Dili. The event was attended by 36 people, including representatives of MOJ and the outgoing Director General from the MOJ. The event was well attended by media, with five (5) print and radio journalists reporting on the event, two of whom were female. This was followed up by distribution of the press release and briefing by the Ba Distrito Media Officer about the launch, for those journalists who did not attend the event.

The event received coverage on Radio Liberdade, and in national newspapers – Timor Post, Jornal Independente, Jornal Nacional Diario, and The Dili Weekly (print and online).

Launch of Baseline Report: On February 26, Ba Distrito launched the Baseline Survey Report at Tower Conference Center in Marconi, Dili. The event was attended by the researcher from Social Science Dimensions, Dr. Rod Nixon, who presented the research findings and then answered questions about the data. The event was attended by 63 people including representatives from the Ministry of State Administration, and the Ministry of Justice.

The event was attended by 14 journalists, of which nine (9) were male and five (5) were female. The journalists were from Timor Post, The Dili Weekly (print and online), TVTL, RTL, STL Newspaper, STLTv, Jornal Matadalan, Radio Liberdade, Jornal Independente, and Jornal Nacional Diario.

The event received strong, positive coverage on national television news program in Tetum (2 mins 25 seconds) and Portuguese (50 seconds) on both the evening of February 26 and the morning of February 27, and included interviews from the Ba Distrito Chief-of-Party and USAID representative, Mr. Germano Boavida. The event was also covered on STLTv. Print media also covered the story. The event received coverage on national radio (RTL) and community radio (distributed to the community radio network around Timor-Leste). There was broad print media coverage, with articles in Timor Post, Jornal Independente, Jornal Nacional Diario, and The Dili Weekly (online).

First qualitative research training session with Ministry of Justice: During January and February, the Ba Distrito project worked with the Ministry of Justice to develop a training module about effective qualitative research. On March 5, the Jornal Independente (including an interview with the Ba Distrito Chief of Party) and Jornal Nacional Diario published articles about the Ba Distrito’s training for representatives from the Ministry of Justice, which took place at the Legal Training Center in Caicoli, Dili, on February 25 – 27.

International Women’s Day legal aid outreach at Gleno Prison, Ermera: Ba Distrito supported its legal aid partners to conduct legal outreach in the municipalities of Ermera and Oecusse. Ba Distrito accompanied lawyers from its funded partner LIBERTA Consultoria e Advocasia, in addition to lawyers from other legal aid organizations – ALFeLa, Educasaun Comunidade Matebian (ECM) from Baucau, JNJ Advokasia, and Jurista & Advocasia, on a visit to Gleno Prison in the municipality of Ermera for legal consultation and legal education activities for the 19 women who are currently in detention in that facility. These activities received broadcast coverage through the national radio station RTL, in addition to articles in national newspapers Jornal Independente and Jornal Nacional Diaro.

In Oecusse, Ba Distrito’s implementing partner Fundasaun Fatuk Sinai Oecusse (FFSO) coordinated a talkshow on Friday March 6, which was broadcast on community radio station Radio Atoni Lifau Oecusse, with representatives from ALFeLa, Polisa VPU (Vulnerable Persons Unit), Pradet and FFSSO to talk about women’s justice issues. The show was 45 minutes in length. The same organizations conducted a legal education session about domestic violence in the suku of Nipani on the following Monday, March 9.

A table summarizing the media coverage of the project during this quarter can be found in Annex 2 together with copies of the coverage where available.

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening

The goal of the activities under Component A is to enhance the capacity of sucos to strengthen citizen participation and representation in local governance.

A.1 Engage and Evaluate Capacity of Participating Sucos: During this reporting period, the Ba Distrito team finalized suco selection in Ermera and Liquiça municipalities. Using the selection criteria applied during the first round of selection in our three initial municipalities, and also taking into account advice received from the Municipal Administrators, 19 sucos from Ermera were selected and 21 sucos from Liquiça. With this, the selection of the 100 sucos to participate in the Ba Distrito project is complete.

A.2 Review, Update and Create Local Governance Strengthening Tools and Resources: During this reporting period Counterpart's STTA Laura Ogden continued supporting Ba Distrito, Belun and JSMP to develop a package of 10 training modules for suco councils. Each topic includes a detailed facilitator's manual together with a participant's manual. Based on the outline discussed with Belun and the National Directorate for Community Development and Suco Support (DNDCAS), from January 6 to January 12 the STTA presented and discussed the outline of the first draft of five modules with the Ba Distrito team, as well as DNDCAS, the Belun Program Manager and Belun trainers. On January 30 the STTA submitted a second draft of five modules on Leadership and Communication, Roles and Responsibilities, Community Consultation, Conflict Resolution and Project Design. Following the production of these five draft modules, on February 21 the STTA produced an outline on Project Management, Finance, Administration and Women's Rights and Access to Justice for JSMP. A final short module on Disaster Management will be developed at a later date, in consultation with the Ministry of Social Solidarity.

The facilitator's manual and participant's manual incorporate gender equality as a central theme in the materials. Specifically, for each training module suggestions are made for ways to facilitate the learning while maximizing the equal participation of both men and women in the learning. In addition, all skills learned in the training are considered in view of the legislated roles of each representative on the suco council to help the suco chiefs, the women's representatives, the youth representatives and the *lia nians*⁵ to better understand how they can practically apply the skills in their day-to-day role as a suco council member, and how they can better identify and respond to the often different concerns of both men and women in their communities.

Capitalizing on available resources in Ba Distrito's network, the project shared the first five modules with UN Women and national women's empowerment NGO Patria Foundation, and asked them to provide feedback to ensure the content and training methodology effectively incorporate best practices and support gender equality, inclusiveness and active participation of vulnerable groups in suco councils and community activities. UN Women provided positive feedback on the draft modules and their recommendations were incorporated into the final draft. Counterpart's Organization Development Specialist and Gender Specialist at headquarters also reviewed and provided comments on the modules. In this way, the project

⁵ Traditional leader and resolver of conflict. Literally translates into "Holder of the Word"

has tried to ensure that the modules will deliver quality and relevant information in a way that will maximize the equal participation of women in the process.

In order to ensure effective monitoring and evaluation of the training itself, a standardized pre- and post-test was developed in consultation with the Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist to ensure that the data collected would support effective learning.

On March 19, the three (3) modules anticipated to be delivered during FY15 on Leadership and Communication, Community Consultation and Women's Rights and Access to Justice, with additional English versions of the respective modules, were finalized. The modules were initially written to reflect the changes proposed in the draft suco law which was submitted during the last quarter to the Council of Ministers for consideration. However, with the change in Government that occurred during this quarter, it became apparent that changes to the suco law were unlikely to move ahead. Therefore, at the end of this quarter the project revised the three draft training modules to reflect the suco council roles and responsibilities currently set out in Law No. 3/2009 on Community Leadership and Their Election.

The beginning of the next quarter will be focused on completing illustrations and layout for the FY15 three training modules and continuing the consultative process of finalizing the remaining training modules.

A.3 Design and Deliver Capacity Development Assistance to Suco Councils and Associations:

During this quarter the Ermera and Liquiça coordinators from Belun and Counterpart collaborated to complete the **rapid assessments** for the 40 new sucos and analyze the findings. In total, 210 people participated in the rapid assessments in Ermera and Liquiça, of which 93 were women and 63 were youth. The total number of participants in the rapid assessment in Ermera was 98 with 49 women and 33 youth participants. Of the males who participated there were 16 suco chiefs, five (5) aldeia chiefs, 14 youth representatives, two (2) lian nains, eight (8) PAAS and three (3) suco police officers. In terms of women, 30 women's representatives and 19 youth representatives participated, and 49 female participants included 18 youth representatives and 31 women representatives. In Liquiça there were a total of 112 participants of which 44 were women and 30 were youth. Of the 68 male participants, 18 were suco chiefs, 18 were male youth representatives, nine (9) were PAAS, five (5) were lian nain, 17 were aldeia chiefs and one (1) was an *ansiao*⁶. Of the 44 females, 29 were women's representatives and 12 were female youth representatives.

On February 3 Counterpart, Belun and DNDCAS's Chief of the Department of Mediation and Capacity Building Mr. Paulo Doutél met to discuss the findings and recommendations arising out of the rapid assessment. The Department Chief acknowledged that the results provided useful and relevant information to DNDCAS about the current skill level of suco council members in relation to leadership, quality control, financial administration, planning and

⁶ Elder

management, as well as communication/external relations. During this meeting, the DNDCAS representative also provided information on the monthly financial reporting mechanism and incentive installments to help the Ba Distrito project better understand DNDCAS's administrative expectations for the suco council.

The findings of the latest rapid assessments show similarity between 40 sucos in Ermera and Liquiça and 60 sucos originally assessed in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse Special Administrative Region (SAR) during FY14. The topics for the training modules being developed are reflective of training needs identified.

There were some differences noted as well. A few sucos from within Ermera and Liquiça require additional support on advocacy and lobbying, community mobilization and organizing, monitoring and evaluation for infrastructure projects and enforcement of *tarabandu*⁷. Responding to the sucos' need to improve their skills on advocacy and lobbying, Ba Distrito has included both topics in Module 1: Leadership and Communication, and the suco councils will be supported to apply the skills they learn in this first training to their daily work. Module 3 on Community Consultation has been developed to respond to the sucos' noted interest in learning about and improving their capacity to organize and mobilize their community. In order to address the training and technical assistance needs for skills development in project monitoring and evaluation, Ba Distrito has drafted a Project Design and a Project Management training module which will be adapted to reflect the specific information needs of the sucos identified in the assessment. On the issue of *tarabandu*, the suco councils in Ponilala, Eraulo, Estado and Fatuquero in Ermera, and suco Vaviquinia in Liquiça requested that Ba Distrito facilitate them to develop methods to distribute information on on *tarabandu* throughout the municipality since *tarabandu* is part of customary law and helps to achieve justice at the suco level.

In a process similar to the previous year, during the first training on Module 1: Leadership and Communication in the next quarter, Belun will also take an extra day in Ermera and Liquiça municipalities to present the findings and recommendations of the rapid assessment to each respective suco and to support the suco councils to produce individualized Suco Organizational Development Action Plans in order to establish ownership over the plans, and to clarify the roles and responsibilities of suco chief, women representatives and youth representatives to take part in the organizational development of their suco with the Ba Distrito project. Based on lessons learned from the action planning activity in the previous year, the Belun and Counterpart teams have refined their tools to improve clarity, and will assign defined tasks to each member of the suco council so that they can be the Ba Distrito focal point and take responsibility for a particular change.

⁷ Traditional practice of prohibiting particular behaviors used to reduce conflict in communities.

Costa's Story: First Time to Produce Suco Monthly-Tentative Activity Plan

Joao da Costa, 52, is Suco Chief of Lifau, Pante Makasar, Oecusse.

Since he was elected Suco Chief in 2009 he and his team have participated in various training and other capacity building activities facilitated by national and international organizations. He personally attended some training to enhance his role, understand his responsibilities and improve his technical skills as Suco Chief.

In Oecusse there are 18 sucos. He describes his experience working as Suco Chief. Previously like other sucos he and other suco council members did not have a written activity plan. Mostly he was the only person to represent his suco at official Government meetings at the national and municipal level. In cases where he could not participate in the meeting, he would delegate his attendance to the suco's administrative support or "Personnel Support to Suco Administration"(PAAS). It was only him and PAAS who managed the suco office while responding to community needs, including meeting officials from various infrastructure project and non-governmental organizations. The office was not well-managed, with undocumented files. There was no responsibility sharing among suco council members who met once a month to have the suco council meeting, prepare the monthly report needed to collect their financial incentives. The suco data was out of date and the 14 official administration books were empty. This is similar to the majority of sucos throughout Timor-Leste

Sr. Costa and his suco council members participated in the initial suco training provided by Ba Distrito in September last year where they were provided with information about the results of the Suco Organizational Development Assessment done by Ba Distrito. At this training the suco council was

"Before my suco council members and I only discussed activities verbally and we did not take minutes. It was not really activity planning because, in fact there was no plan. Big changes in my leadership have been to create a written activity plan every month and share responsibility for this activities with other suco council members."



supported to produce a Suco Organizational Development Action Plan. The Action Plan was created by Suco Chief, women representatives and youth representatives with support from Ba Distrito project team to establish sense of ownership and commitment among suco council members to work together with Ba Distrito team. This action plan recommended that the suco to produce monthly activity plans assigning a person responsibility for a respective activity and time line.

"This is first time our suco has received direct and regular technical support. Ba Distrito's District Coordinators give us advice and suggest good examples for how to work together... This tentative monthly activity planning will help us to address official requirement from Oecusse SAR Authority. Every month we are ready to submit ours," says Sr Costa. Furthermore he says,

“We have many experiences receiving training but afterwards there is no one helping us to put into practice the knowledge from the training. The suco tentative activity plan is useful for all of suco council members because we share roles and responsibilities; it encourages us to be actively responsible for our assignment according to time line, gives us an opportunity to practice our leadership talent and skills, and encourages us to discuss the challenges and how to respond them.”

Technical Assistance/Mentoring/Regular Site Visit to Suco: Throughout this reporting period Belun’s and Counterpart’s District Coordinators in Oecusse provided technical assistance to sucos, as follows:

- Updating the Suco Organizational Development Action Plan in 15 sucos This process involved the suco chief, women and youth representatives to participate in the process of updating the plan.
- Improving the quality of meeting minutes in 16 sucos. The activity involved the suco chief and PAAS. The district coordinators supported the suco chief and the PAAS to use the template provided by DNDCAS to summarize the topic and results of each meeting.
- Supporting PAAS in 16 sucos to improve filling/archiving systems In relation to this activity, together with the PAAS, the project’s district coordinators looked at suco documentation including meeting invitations, suco data collection forms and helped them to organize the files in particular folders according to time period to improve time efficiency in searching for specific files. The majority of the participants in this activity involved the PAAS, who participated in this technical assistance, although the suco chief, women and youth representatives were also invited.
- Supporting suco councils’ regular meeting and monthly activity plan in seven sucos. In this activity the coordinators supported each suco council to identify activities within the suco, to prioritize and nominate a person in charge for each activity. The suco chief, elder, hamlet chief, women representative and youth representative participated and benefited from this technical assistance.

The total number of participants in the four types of technical assistance provided in Oecusse was 49, including 23 women and 15 youth participants. Meanwhile in Baucau, Belun’s Coordinator focused on improving the filing/documentation system in eight sucos with a total 12 participants, including four (4) women and one (1) youth representative. In Covalima 23 participants (including three women and four youth) from 16 sucos benefited from assistance.

Training of trainers: On February 25 to 27 Ba Distrito’s Capacity Building team provided support to Belun’s Program Manager and two trainers to facilitate Module 1: Leadership and Communication. Four Ba Distrito District Coordinators and five of Belun’s District Coordinators and the DNDCAS’s Chief of Department of Mediation and Capacity Building participated in the training of trainers. This provided Belun with an opportunity to pilot the first training module and identify and address any problems with facilitation prior to launching the training with the suco council members. The project’s technical specialists provided advice and support based on their observations during the training session.

Observations from the monitoring of the Training of Trainers session revealed that the Belun trainers did not have a good understanding of the Leadership and Communication materials, despite being involved in producing the materials. In addition it was clear that they did not have a clear understanding of the pre-deconcentration administrative structure or the structure of ZEESM in Oecusse. Counterpart recommended to Belun that they engage in detailed study of the training module and its tools, and provided them with summaries of the developments related to decentralization in Oecusse and the pre-deconcentration administrative to help improve their level of knowledge.

In addition, it was also recommended that the role of the district coordinators in supporting the training be clearly defined. Because of noted language barriers in Oecusse and the need to have the training take place in Baikeno to facilitate comprehension, the team decided that the Belun district coordinator and the Ba Distrito district coordinator would deliver the trainings in Oecusse because both Oecusse District Coordinators have good understanding and skills on participatory facilitation and speak Baikeno.

A.4 Increase Capacity to Respond to Citizen Needs. During this reporting period the Organizational Development Manager, with support from a governance STTA was able to produce a final draft request for applications (RFA) for Constituent Engagement Grants (CEGs) and integrate it into other activities, such as training for suco councils, suco networking and suco-municipal forum. On March 27 the RFA for CEGs was submitted to USAID for approval. The CEGs are designed to introduce a process to strengthen suco councils and its communities. It will provide a grant of up to \$750 which will be awarded to up to 25 community-based organizations who propose an activity in partnership with suco councils in any of Ba Distrito's 100 participating sucos in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse.

CEGs may support grantees on improving communication and collaboration between suco councils and community members, improving responsiveness to vulnerable groups through particular initiatives/activities, facilitating discussions to pool PNDS allocations to pay for larger projects, or as any other creative or relevant activity that will improve local development activities in the suco and strengthen the roles and responsibilities of suco councils. The Ba Distrito team will provide mini-trainings on organizational development before the awardees receive the grant. Successful CEGs awardees will have the opportunity to share best practice by sharing their experience, knowledge and advice to other sucos through the exchange visits in coming years of the project. Considering that both Liquiça and Ermera just recently joined the Ba Distrito project, a strategic decision was made that the RFA will be issued during next quarter.

A.5 Facilitate Networking, Exchange Visits and Joint Action among Sucos. In addition to technical support provided, the project's district coordinators planning the first suco exchange visit in each municipality. The Ba Distrito District Coordinators visited sucos in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera and Oecusse in order to coordinate and finalize preparations for the suco exchange visits. Sucos in Liquica were not visited as the project is finalizing the recruitment of a

district coordinator for that municipality. The point of the assessment was to identify particular/potential sucos in each of the municipalities. The exchange visits will provide an opportunity for one successful suco to present their 'success story' that demonstrates a strong capacity in providing public service to their community. Over the period of a two-day workshop, they will share their experience with lower performing sucos in order to create a space where they can learn from one another and perhaps implement new approaches and strategies. The exchanges could be focused on different issues of local governance, such as planning and project design. They may also be focused on successful sectoral initiatives, such as innovative approaches to agriculture, water management systems, education, small businesses or health services. During this quarter the suco exchange organized for Baucau had to be cancelled because of the deteriorating security situation in that municipality. Activities outside of the Baucau capital were put on hold while the project waits for the security situation to stabilize.

A.6 Improve Suco and District Collaboration for Better Service Delivery.

The Suco-municipal Network Forum: During this reporting period the Organizational Development Manager with support from the Good Governance STTA finalized and designed a plan for the Suco-municipal Network Forum. The forum aims to strengthen local governance by creating a platform for suco advocacy to government officials at the municipal level, including line ministries. It will help sucos to engage in advocacy with officials at the municipal level who are responsible for the majority of implementation and monitoring of subnational programs/projects.

The suco networking meetings and municipal administration workshop will combine two full-day meetings to maximize opportunities for discussion and sharing between suco and municipal officials. The first day of the meeting will provide an opportunity for suco representatives to discuss with each other particular issues that they want to advocate for on the second day of the meeting, which will include municipal officials and line ministries. The forum will invite two participants from each suco, ensuring that each gender is represented – the suco chief and another suco council member. The PAAS is excluded from the forum because they are an employee of the administration. The first suco-municipal network forum is scheduled to commence after the first training for suco councils on Leadership and Communication is completed by Belun. It will also provide an opportunity for suco council members to practice the principles and values of the leadership and communication skills that they have learned from the training. The first forum will be an introductory meeting for 100 sucos and municipal officials in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse. A possible topic for the second forum may be PNDS, and the third forum will likely cover the suco election.

Organizational Development for Implementing Partners: In addition to the specific activities discussed above, the Ba Distrito team continued to support the organizational capacity development of three implementing partners, namely Belun, FFSO and JSMP. During this reporting period, the Ba Distrito team, through the Oecusse district coordinator, provided regular and close accompaniment to FFSO. On February 24 to 26 the Organizational Development Manager and the Oecusse district coordinator facilitated a strategic planning session as scheduled in FFSO's Organizational Development Action Plan. The first day of the

strategic plan invited FFSO main partners, such as Pradet, YACTS, ALFeLa, FPWO, Belun, Oxfam, Bifano and FEEO to do social analysis of current situation in Oecusse.



Arsenio Bano presenting about the Oecusse administrative structure at the FFSO strategic planning session.

There was a presentation from Arsenio Bano, one of three official leaders appointed by the Council of Ministers and responsible for the health, social and education sector for Oecusse SAR and ZEESM. He presented the draft of Oecusse SAR structure, which included information about the difference between the local Oecusse SAR Authority Structure led by President Alkatiri and ZEESM as a mega project of the Oecusse SAR Authority. The presentation also provided information about the roles of civil society in new development processes of Oecusse, and proposed a specific department within the Authority to focus on promotion of gender equality, and ensure the Authority would include gender mainstreaming in

each department. It was attended by 17 participants, composed of 12 male participants from various CSOs and one Oecusse SAR official, two female participants from FFSO and three from Pradet, ALFeLa and FEEO.

The first day of FFSO's strategic planning process also called Merita de Jesus as Coordinator of potential women leaders in Oecusse SAR and the Director of FEEO to present her observations and ideas on ZEEMS and women's participation. She raised the importance of establishing a department within Oecusse SAR to focus on the promotion of gender equality and gender mainstreaming within the Authority policy, including the mega project ZEESM. On March 26 the President of Oecusse SAR Authority accepted the proposal and agreed to appoint one official to establish and lead the department. Jose Eta of YACTS was also invited to share his opinion on roles of civil society in current development.

The second day of the strategic plan process focused on internal FFSO matters and only included FFSO regular staff, board members and volunteers to discuss organizational strengths and limitations on six key functionality areas, such as leadership and strategic management, program management and quality control, human resource and its materials, external relations/communication, accounting and financial management, financial sustainability and how to improve these practices. During the next quarter, Ba Distrito will support FFSO to finalize its strategic plan based on the results of social analysis from the strategic planning process. This will become a guide the organization to move forward and seek for other opportunity from various donors.

FFSO, with support from Ba Distrito, also had the opportunity to improve their Organizational Development Action Plan and adjust the activity and time line. During this reporting period one of FFSO's Advisory Board members provided feedback to the staff employment manual. Further advice for staff employment and other human resources need to be developed. Currently all

regular staff and volunteers have an employment agreement. Additionally Ba Distrito's Oecusse district coordinator continued to provide technical support to FFSO on a weekly basis to implement the organizational development action plan.

Organizational Capacity Development support also continued to be provided to Belun, FFSO and JSMP by the organizational development team as well as the Grants Manager, particularly in relation to **technical financial reporting assistance**. On March 23 and 24 Belun's Executive Director and Financial Manager, and JSMP's Vice Director and Ba Distrito's Capacity Building Officer attended a two day training on Planning for Financial Sustainability facilitated by Mango – a United Kingdom-based organization operating in Dili. This training was provided in English but will be replicated by the Capacity Building Officer for FFSO as well as recent legal aid grantees Liberta and JPC in Tetum, so that they too can benefit from the knowledge and materials. The training focused on organizational financial planning and sustainability. JSMP found the training conceptually and theoretically very useful but recommends that the training be more practical, using references from some of the most successful CSOs from the region, especially with regards to how they ensure their financial sustainability and independence.

During this quarter, Belun's Program Manager and Ba Distrito's Organizational Development Manager and Access to Justice Manager also developed a template for Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mapping at suco level to help gather and process information about dispute resolution services available where we are operating. Belun's Program Manager trained their five district coordinators on how to use the template and how they will monitor, how often they would collect the data on ADR mechanism and target people to provide ADR data. They will commence collecting this information next quarter.

Stakeholder Coordination: During this reporting period, the capacity building team continued building coordination and networking with government institutions in Dili and at the municipal level. At the municipal level, Ba Distrito's district coordinators attended informal and formal meetings with municipal administrators, Oecusse SAR Authority/ZEESM, PNDS teams and other CSOs working on local governance. In Dili, Ba Distrito's Organizational Development team began to establish strong partnerships with the steering committee members from the Patria Foundation and Women's Caucus who are coordinating the '100 Potential Women for Suco Election' campaign. The team also established good partnership with UN Women and its partners, such as BESIK⁸ and Plan International. A table summarizing key stakeholder coordination meetings that took place to support the project can be found in Annex 3 to this report.

⁸ An Australian Aid funded water project.

Component B – Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions

The goal of Component B is to improve communication and links between the sucos, the district administration, local Government of Timor Leste (GoTL), line ministries and other basic service providers at the sub-national level.

On February 10, the governance team was invited to present the draft suco law with specific attention on the quota system and the participation of women in the coming suco elections at the first Steering Committee (SC) Meeting for ‘100 Women Candidate for 2015 Suco Election’. The meeting was co-organized by NGO Patria and Caucus at the Caucus Office in Dili. The objective of the meeting was to formally identify 100 potential female candidates to the 2015 Suco Elections and to jointly plan and coordinate steps to promote consideration of women during of the election campaign. Participants in the meeting include representatives from women’s organizations such as from Movimento Feto Foin Sa’e (MOFFE-TL), ALOLA, Rede Feto, UN Women, and State Secretariat for Promotion of Gender Equality (SEPI). The meeting was also attended by representatives from Timor-Leste’s National Council for the Youth (CNJTL), Plan, Ba Futuru, and the national director of DNDCAS.

On February 20, the governance team participated in the second Steering Committee Meeting on ‘100 Women Candidate for 2015 Suco Election’ held at NGO Plan Office in Dili. The workshop brought together members of Steering Committee from February 10 meeting and was attended by a Commissioner from the National Electoral Commission (CNE). The meeting was aimed at sharing information on each member organization’s program/project activities that are focusing on women and youth empowerment particularly in encouraging women’s participation in the electoral process. It was launched with an opening remark from the newly appointed State Secretary for Women’s Socio-economic Empowerment (previously known as State Secretary for Promotion of Gender Equality - SEPI), H.E. Ms. Veneranda Martins Lemos. The one day workshop came up with a general mapping result on each member’s current and future planned activities and their locations, especially on women electoral participation.

On February 24, the Governance Officer attended the launch of ‘Tatoli Survey Result’ held at The Asia Foundation Office in Dili. The survey was undertaken by The Asia Foundation on public perception of government service delivery across Timor-Leste in various sectors including education, health, agriculture, infrastructure (roads and bridgea), economics, and security. Other participants in the launch included GIZ, DFAT, Ba Futuru, Belun, Seeds of Life, Plan International, and the PNDS Support Project

On March 24, the MSA Decentralization Administrative Facebook page reported that the Vice Minister for MSA H.E Mr. Tomas do Rosario Cabral held a meeting with the Decentralization Administrative Director General, National Directors and advisors for the MSA. The objective of the meeting was to present the new organic law of the MSA. Among other topics discussed, the Vice Minister Cabral presented the decentralization calendar for the next three years. For this year, the MSA will focus on finalizing the decentralization legal framework including the draft laws on local power, election and voter registration, municipal finance, political parties, and the

first revision for territorial division law and six decree laws. For 2016, MSA will prioritize the secondment of civil servants to each municipality, evaluation of minimum conditions in each municipality, assure that legal frameworks for municipal elections are in place, and that the municipal elections are tentatively scheduled to take place in November 2016. In 2017, MSA will be focusing on the national general election.

On March 24, the Governance Officer attended a **Gender Mainstreaming (GM) Briefing** organized by Patria with support from UN Women. Participants in the briefing session were representatives from NGOs who took part in the Legal and Decentralization Working Group (LDWG) namely Patria, MOFFE-TL, Alola Foundation, ALFeLa, Plan International, and Caucus.

After attending the Gender Mainstream Briefing, the Governance Officer participated in the **3rd Steering Committee Meeting for 100 Women Candidates** at the Caucus Office in Dili. The MSA is reportedly in the process of preparing a concept paper on the new method of electing a Suco Chief instead of going through the election process. In this regard, the Steering Committee decided on several action points which include lobbying the MSA to involve the Steering Committee in the formulation process of the concept paper and meeting the Vice Minister for State Administration to discuss women's participation in the new suco elections, and the preparation for the municipal elections in 2016. The Steering Committee will also prepare a draft submission to the MSA on its position to maintain the direct election method. However, assuming that the government will use a new method of electing the suco chief, the Steering Committee will prepare another draft submission which proposes to ensure women participation in the new method. During the meeting it was also agreed that a National Colloquium on 100 Women Potential Candidates will be held on May 21-22, 2015 in Dili.

During the months of January and February, the Governance Manager was assigned to be a team member for the development of a new election component for the project. A number of meetings were held with officials from STAE, commissioners of CNE, and CSOs. The objective of the meetings was to seek possible collaboration between Ba Distrito with these mentioned institutions and/or organizations on election activities. The proposal was submitted on February 27 to USAID.

B.1 Solicit and Present Research on Citizens' Opinion on Decentralization Policy and Practices

Participate in policy/legislative working groups related to decentralization: On February 11, the Governance Officer participated in a DFAT-sponsored mini consultation on 'Drafting legal framework and guidelines for government's *One Village One Plan* Program' at The Asia Foundation. The objective of the meeting was to solicit inputs in order to harmonize the development programs in villages into "One Village, One Plan". Other participants in the meeting included representatives from JICA, Seeds of Life, GIZ, PNDS Support Project and The Asia Foundation.

On March 19, the Governance Officer represented Ba Distrito at the LDWG meeting which was held in NGO Patria's Office in Dili. The meeting brought in a guest speaker, Mr. João Baptista, an

advisor for the Vice Minister of State Administration, who updated the participants on changes of roles inside the MSA and the latest development in regards to the decentralization process in the country. Other participants in the working group meeting included representatives from UN Women, Alola Foundation, Patria and Ba Futuru. Some of the important points mentioned were that there will be no changes in the government's decentralization policy, and that most probably there will be no suco elections this year⁹⁹. The government is trying to find a less costly method to select and/or appoint suco chiefs.

Briefing notes on decentralization: During this quarter the Governance Manager drafted briefing notes on the concept of decentralization and its process in Timor-Leste. The briefing notes will be given to the grantees for radio campaign outreach and will also be shared with partners and suco councils as a way of keeping them updated on developments.

B.2 Provide legal advice and legislative drafting support

Update on developments to legal framework for decentralization: There were a number of legislative developments related to decentralization and local governance that occurred during this reporting period. On January 13 the Council of Ministers discussed and endorsed the **Decree Law approving the Statute of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno**. This law is proposed to regulate the application of the principles, rights and established powers, as well as the organization and functioning of the bodies of the Special Administrative Region (SAR) of Oecusse-Ambeno, which is essential for the governance and administration of the SAR and for the implementation of ZEESM in Oecusse and Atauro.

The draft Law of Local Government and Administrative Decentralization: The Fifth Constitutional Government Program recommends the effective introduction of an administrative decentralization unit called the Municipality. The Draft Law establishes the organization, composition and powers of the Local Government bodies as well as the legal framework for the administrative decentralization. The **First amendment to the Law of Territorial Administrative Division**, Law No.11/2009 on Administrative Division of the Territory, defines the administrative division of the country into 13 municipalities. The Law was approved in 2009, and with the reorganization of the local administration i.e., creation of Special Administrative Region in Oecusse-Ambeno, there has been the need to review and amend the law.

With the changes to the structure of the Government, the Draft Law of Local Government and Administrative Decentralization and the First Amendment to the Law of Territorial Administrative Division are considered expired. The Government's official website reported that the sixth Government continues to prioritize these draft diplomas and it is reported that the Government has scheduled a discussion to these diplomas in the next quarter.

⁹⁹ There have been varying and conflicting rumors about whether or not suco elections will move forward this year. At the time of writing this report the indications seemed to show that suco elections would proceed but that their method and legal framework had yet to be decided.

On January 23, the Council of Ministers held an extraordinary meeting and approved three diplomas vis-à-vis the Special Region of Oecusse-Ambeno and Special Zone of Social Economy Market of Oecusse-Ambeno and Ataúro. These diplomas include:

1. The Government Resolution approving the breakdown of the budget allocation for the Authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno and Special Zone of Social Economy Market of Oecusse-Ambeno and Ataúro. The Government has recently created the necessary legal conditions, of means and resources, for the Authority and other organs of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno to initiate their functions and activities under their respective competences.

2. Transfer of functions, means and resources to the Authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno. Through this diploma, the Council of Ministers transfers the powers, means and financial, material and human resources foreseen in Government Resolution No. 25/2014 of September 1, and considers that the conditions are in place for the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno and its deliberative and executive organs to exercise their powers.

3. Government Resolution approving the nomination of the members of the Authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno. Following a Government Resolution and the proposal from the President of the Authority, it is the Government's responsibility to nominate the members of the Authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno. Through this Diploma, the Council of Ministers nominates the members of the Authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno: Arsénio Paixão Bano, Leónia Da Costa Monteiro and Pedro De Sousa Xavier. The President of the Authority will take the initiative to propose the nomination of the remaining members of the Authority, which initially will be composed of seven members.

A table summarizing legislation related to local governance and decentralization that has been passed since Ba Distrito began operating, updated to the end of this quarter, can be found at Annex 4.

B.3 Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants (DRAGs)

DRAG for Radio Campaign: Nine applications were received in response to an RFA issued in the last quarter for a grant of up to \$12,000 to implement a community radio outreach campaign in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse. These nine applications were from Timorese CSOs and media organizations. On January 27, the Governance and Grants team assessed the applications against the essential selection criteria in the RFA. Out of nine applicants for Media Outreach Campaign, only three were considered meet the minimum essential criteria and were shortlisted.

On February 26, a **Grants Selection Committee** was formed. The grants selection committee included a representative from the government. After discussion and deliberation, the Grants Committee selected the application from Asosiasaun Radio Komunidade Timor-Leste (ARKTL) as

the preferred application. The radio outreach campaign is aimed at disseminating the policy issues and decentralization legislation, and educating constituencies about the decentralization legislation in every municipality where Ba Distrito operates, using local community radio stations to reach out to communities in their local languages, sharing information and soliciting opinions regarding decentralization developments in their communities. The duration of the grants is for approximately six months.

On March 19, the Governance, Communication and Grants teams held their **first meeting with the Director of Timor-Leste’s Association for Community Radios (ARKTL)**, Mr. Prezado Ximenes after ARKTL was selected to receive a DRAG for Media Outreach Campaign to Promote Citizens’ Understanding of and Participation in Decentralization. On March 25 the team supported ARKTL to finalize their budget, scope of work and milestones. On March 31 the scope of work and budget were sent to USAID for approval.

DRAG for a Documentary Film: The project will award an in-kind grant to Belun in the form of five short documentary films documenting one (1) suco success story from each municipality that the project operates in.

Ba Distrito in collaboration with DNDCAS opened a competition in each of the 5 municipalities where the projects works in order to identify a success story to be featured in the documentary. Using short public service announcements (PSAs) on community radio stations in each municipality the project invited sucos to submit their success story for consideration.

On 9 February, community radio stations in Baucau, Covalima, Liquiça and Oecusse started airing the PSA for suco success stories. A Baikeno version of the PSA for Oecusse was produced in the same day and was aired later during the week. Community radio in Ermera was not functioning therefore the district coordinator contacted the suco chiefs through phone calls or met them directly to inform them of the opportunity to participate in the success stories competition.

On 12 March, a joint selection team of five members including a representative from DNDCAS held a selection committee meeting. From the total of 27 applications received, the following stories were selected to be featured in the documentary films:

Municipalities/region	Suco	Success Stories
1. Liquiça	Vaviquinia	Drinking water distribution
2. Covalima	Ogues	Traditional Preventive Measure
3. Oecusse	Bobometo	Community initiative to develop health plan and build health facility in the suco
4. Ermera	Estadu	Conflict Resolution
5. Baucau	Fatulia	Road Construction

B.4 Support Information Dissemination on Approved Laws

Engage media channels to disseminate information on decentralization laws: During the second week of March, the Governance and Communication teams finalized radio outreach campaign strategies for the grant that will be awarded to ARKTL. The radio outreach campaign will support information dissemination on decentralization policy and legal framework, which includes the pre-deconcentration administrative structure in some municipalities; ZEESM (Special Economic Zone of Social Market Economy) in the Special Region of Oecusse; and changes to laws governing sucos and suco councils. The strategy includes regular airing of three PSAs on the pre-deconcentration administrative structure, ZEESM and the suco council roles and responsibilities; production of a monthly, short radio drama PSA; production of a monthly radio talk show on governance and decentralization issues; and the airing of monthly vox pops¹⁰ to solicit the opinions of common citizens. These strategies will be implemented by ARKTL, commencing in the next quarter in Ba Distrito's target municipalities of Baucau, Covalima, Ermera and Liquiça, and the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno.

Component C – Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

C.1 Support Government to Develop Responsive Integrated and Sustainable Legal Aid Assistance Model

Following the termination last quarter of the partnership with the AATL, whose main task was to lead policy advocacy at the national level, the project reformulated the advocacy approach by directly holding advocacy meetings at the project office involving Ba Distrito's legal aid implementing partners and grantees FFSO, Liberta, JPC, and JSMP. The meetings also invited two other legal aid organizations Educacao Comunidade Matebian (ECM) based in Baucau and Legal Aid for Women and Children (ALFeLa) based in Dili with offices in selected municipalities, to participate in the advocacy group meeting in non-partner capacity. These meetings will be held as needed and the participating members should lead the discussions in rotation with support from the project's access to justice team.

On January 20, a meeting was held at the project's office to introduce the new advocacy approach to the group members as well as for the members to identify what they think should be the priority of the advocacy group. During the meeting, the group agreed to three areas of priorities including (1) giving feedback



Legal aid partners advocacy group members met at Ba Distrito office to discuss an advocacy strategy and make plans to move forward.

¹⁰ An interview in which an average person is asked for his or her opinion on a matter of general interest

and comments to draft laws or amendment to existing laws on justice, including the implementation of witness protection law, draft laws on access to court, mediation, and traditional justice when they are made available to public discussion by the GoTL; (2) participating and contributing to the harmonization of legal framework for access to justice and legal aid as needed; and (3) promoting the work of organizations and lawyers doing legal aid work. In concluding the meeting the group agreed to organize an event in coordination with the MOJ showcasing the existence of the legal aid advocacy group, and to invite officials from MOJ's National Directorate for Judicial Advisory and Legislation to its meeting planned for the next quarter. The advocacy meeting was attended by a total of ten participants from FFSO, LIBERTA, JPC, ECM, and ALFeLa.

On March 3, with close support from the project's access to justice and communications teams, the advocacy group met with the director of MOJ's National Directorate for Prison Services and Social Reintegration Mr. Helder Cosme Ximenes to discuss about the possibility of visiting female inmates in Gleno prison in **commemoration of International Women's Day**. On March 5, following the positive meeting with Mr. Ximenes in Dili, the advocacy group together with the project's access to justice and communications teams, traveled to Gleno and met with the director of Gleno prison Mr. Nito do Santos to discuss the planned visit aimed at providing legal aid assistance to female prisoners during which the prison director was very supportive.



Legal aid lawyers outside Gleno prison after visiting and providing legal aid to female inmates in celebration of International Women's Day

On March 10, a **group of eight legal aid lawyers from the advocacy group, including two female lawyers, visited Gleno prison to provide legal aid assistance to the 20 female inmates are currently in custody**. Out of 20 female inmates, 17 inmates are serving sentences, while the remaining three are under pre-trial detention. During the visit, the lawyers provided direct legal consultation and advice to all the female inmates particularly those under preventive detention. Among the major concerns raised by the

inmates are limited visit by their lawyers and poor understanding of their own rights. Lawyers from the new grantee Liberta, whose work covers Ermera municipality, will visit the prison regularly to provide legal aid and consultation and will liaise with the Office of Public Defenders whose lawyers are also representing some of the inmates.

Also to celebrate International Women’s Day, on March 6, a radio talk show was organized by FFSO in Oecusse region through Atoni community radio station and transmitted directly in local dialect Baikeno. The theme of the Radio Talkshow “Hakbi’it Feto, Hakbi’it Povu” (Empower Women, Empower Community) was developed with close technical support from the project’s access to justice and communications teams. The guest speakers on the 45-minute talk show were director of FFSO Mr. Antonio dos Remedios, coordinator of ALFeLa Mrs. Ina Ana da Rosa, Deputy Commander Calisto Name of Vulnerable Persons Unit (VPU) of Timorese National Police (PNTL), and director of PRADET Mr. Sancia Bano. These organizations and their representatives are also active participants of Oecusse Legal Aid Coordination group which is coordinated by FFSO on monthly basis.



FFSO director Antonio dos Remedios (second from left) and other members of the talk show panel at Atoni community radio.

In addition to group advocacy, implementing partners JSMP also conducted individual advocacy on justice issues. On March 13 JSMP organized a meeting with the new Prime Minister Dr. Rui de Araujo to introduce the organization’s views on important issues related to judicial independence, separation of powers, access to justice, welfare of court actors, including the implications of recent parliamentary and government resolutions on the expulsion of international judicial professionals. As part of ongoing advocacy and in concluding its meeting with the Prime Minister, **JSMP handed to the Prime Minister a copy of the report on the**



Ba Distrito’s Chief of Party Mrs. Carolyn Tanner handing Legal Aid Brief to representatives from the Ministry of Justice.

“Dismissal of International Officials and Advisors in Timor-Leste’s Judicial Sector” which the project helped write and publish in the previous quarter. A press release was written in both Tetun and English about JSMP’s meeting with the Prime Minister and is currently available on JSMP’s website [here](#).

As part of the project’s targeted support to improving legal aid framework at the national level, an assessment of the current legal aid framework was conducted by Ba Distrito with technical support from an American Law Professor Christie Warren last year. The report was finalized and preliminary findings

presented to the GoTL/MOJ and donors in first fiscal year. Within this quarter, Ba Distrito's justice team held numerous coordination meetings with the Director-General of MOJ Mr. Francisco Carceres to launch the report. A separate meeting was also held with Director-General of the Legal Training Center (LTC) Mrs. Marcelina Tilman to support the project by providing venue for the launch event. On February 17, Ba Distrito **launched its Access to Justice Brief at which the outgoing MOJ Director-General who was invited as the guest of honor.** In his speech, the Director-General highlighted the importance of continuing support from international community on the provision of legal aid to the poor and vulnerable. Aside from the launching of the report, the project's Chief of Party (COP) Ms. Carolyn Tanner also took the opportunity to publicly announce the successful legal aid grantees JPC and Liberta. The launch event was attended by around 36 people including representatives from USAID, the outgoing Director-General of MOJ, Director-General of LTC, Director of National Directorate for Human Rights and Citizenship Mr Celito Cardoso, representative from the National Directorate of Judicial advisory and Legislation, representatives from Timor-Leste's Lawyers Association (AATL), the project's implementing partners and grantees, members other CSOs and donor programs, as well as the media.

C.2 Improve Capacity and Outreach of Legal Aid and Alternative Dispute Providers

Learning from the experience in the first year of implementation, the project expanded its legal aid and legal outreach activities to Baucau, Ermera and Liquica municipalities through awarding Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants (LAAIG). On March 2, **JPC and Liberta signed their sub-agreements with Counterpart.** These grants will allow both organizations to undertake legal aid and advocacy activities at administrative post and suco level focusing on providing legal information and education campaigns, providing free legal aid assistance to the poor and vulnerable, in addition to coordinating



Director of Liberta Aderito dos Reis (first from right) and Director of JPC Fr. Juliao Ximenes Belo (third from right) sign their subagreements with Ba Distrito

legal aid work at the municipal level. Based in Baucau, JPC will undertake legal aid work throughout Baucau municipality focusing particularly on Ba Distrito's targeted sucos

while Liberta will cover Ermera and Liquica municipalities. These organizations were selected following a competitive merit-based grant selection process.

During this quarter, all Ba Distrito's legal aid partners were actively implementing the project's activities as per their individual scope of work. Overall, a total of **66 clients received legal aid assistance** from all the project's legal aid partners (JPC, Liberta, and FFSO) including 14 women. Moreover, **a total of 14 mobile legal aid and information sessions were held within this quarter** out of which 13 sessions were held in Oecusse's remote sucos and aldeias by FFSO.

In the wake of signing its partnership agreement with Ba Distrito, the **new grantee JPC began providing free legal aid assistance to a total of 11 new clients**. With the exception of two cases involving document falsification and a simple offence against physical integrity which the parties agreed to process through non-litigation with JPC’s assistance, the remaining cases were received and represented in the courtroom. They include one civil case and eight criminal cases. Three of the cases brought to the court were concluded with court decisions which include two acquittals in a negligence and simple offence against physical integrity cases, and fine of \$45 excluding court administration fee in a simple offence against physical integrity case. *Table 1* provides the number clients who were assisted by JPC within this quarter.

Month	New Criminal Cases				New Civil Cases		combined
	SGBV/DV		Non SGBV/DV		f	m	
	f	m	f	m			
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
March	0	0	1	7	0	1	9
Total	0	0	1	9	0	1	11

Similar to JPC, the new grantee Liberta also began implementing project activities immediately following the signing of the agreement with Ba Distrito. Within this quarter, **Liberta provided free legal aid assistance to a total of ten clients** involving ten new cases. They include two civil cases (paternity and land dispute) and eight criminal offences including threat (1); aggravated homicide (1); attempt homicide (1); drug trafficking (1); illegal importation of goods (1); simple offence against physical integrity (1); domestic violence (1) and witchcraft (1). Five of the clients were assisted through direct representation in court, while legal aid assistance in the form of legal consultation and advice were provided in the rest of the cases. All of the cases are still being processed. *Table 2* shows the cases represented by Liberta within this quarter.

Month	New Criminal Cases				New Civil Cases		combined
	SGBV/DV		Non SGBV/DV		f	m	
	f	m	f	m			
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March	0	1	2	5	0	2	10
Total	0	1	2	5	0	2	10

In Oecusse, Ba Distrito’s implementing partner **FFSO provided free legal aid assistance to a total of 45 clients** within this quarter. Twenty-four of the total cases were criminal offences including six cases of domestic violence. *Table 3* below provides monthly number of cases assisted by FFSO from January to March. These legal aid services were provided in the form of legal advice consultation at police detention, while doing the mobile legal aid and information session as well as at FFSO’s office. In almost all criminal offences, FFSO’s lawyer met the suspects in 72-hour police detention and explained their rights to have legal representation throughout the criminal proceedings. Unless both Oecusse public defenders are absent, the court tends to refer all legal representation in the courtroom to the Office of Public Defenders. Within this quarter, 18 out of 24 clients to whom FFSO provided legal consultation and advice were in 72-hour police detention.

Table 3: New Cases Assisted by FFSO between January-March 2015

Month	New Criminal Cases				New Civil Cases		combined
	SGBV/DV		Non SGBV/DV		f	m	
	f	m	f	m			
January	0	2	3	9	4	2	20
February	0	0	0	4	4	6	14
March	0	4	0	2	0	5	11
Total	0	6	3	15	8	13	45

Nine out of 45 cases assisted by FFSO during this quarter were resolved. All of the resolved cases are civil disputes where FFSO was asked to help mediate either at FFSO’s office or at the suco/aldeia level upon request from the parties or local community leaders such as aldeia and suco chiefs. *Table 4* provides the number of cases resolved by FFSO within this quarter.

Table 4: Cases Resolved by FFSO Between January-March 2015

Month	Resolved Criminal Cases				Resolved Civil Cases		combined
	SGBV/DV		Non SGBV/DV		f	m	
	f	m	f	m			
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
February	0	0	0	0	1	4	5
March	0	0	0	0	1	3	4
Total	0	0	0	0	2	7	9

In addition to the provision of free legal aid assistance to the poor and vulnerable, Ba Distrito’s legal aid partners continued to coordinate and implement mobile legal information sessions within this quarter. **A total of 400 community members and local leaders participated in Ba Distrito’s legal information sessions** held in Baucau and Oecusse special region by JPC and FFSO

respectively. Of total participants, 164 were women. This quarter, Ba Distrito’s new legal aid grantee JPC began coordinating legal information sessions for two targeted sucos in Quelicai administrative post – suco Letemumo and Laisorulai de Cima. The coordination was done through direct visits to both sucos as well as through radio announcements on Baucau’s Matebian community radio. The radio announcement was transmitted for three consecutive days from March 27-31 for suco Letemumo and Laisorulai de Cima. On March 31, **JPC conducted its first mobile legal information session in suco Letemumo** which was attended by a total of 23 participants, including four women. Among the participants were the suco chief Pascoal D. G. Belo, three aldeia chiefs from Ruta, Laumana, and Waidora aldeias, a traditional leader, as well as youth and women representatives. Mobile legal information for suco Laisorulai de Cima will be held in the in the next quarter.

Table 5: Legal information sessions held by FFSO between January-March

Date	Aldeia and Suco	Sub District	Participants		Total participants
			f	m	
January 7, 2015	Citrana, Bene-Ufe	Nitibe	4	15	19
January 15, 2015	Qiubiselo, Bobometo	Oe-silo	11	9	20
January 19, 2015	Haemnanu, Abani	Passabe	9	18	27
February 4, 2015	Sifin Lil A'as, Usi-Tacae	Oe-silo	16	23	39
February 6, 2015	Nua-Fato, Cunha	Pante Macasar	25	22	47
February 13, 2015	Cabana, Suni-Ufe	Nitibe	10	23	33
February 16, 2015	Suco Taeboco	Pante Macasar	22	21	43
February 23, 2015	Usapibela, Lalisuc	Pante Macasar	3	17	20
February 26, 2015	Oel Ulan, Naimeco	Pante Macasar	8	19	27
March 9, 2015	Bausio, Nipane	Pante Macasar	28	5	33
March 27, 2015	Bihala, Bobocase	Pante Macasar	8	19	27
March 30, 2015	Oemelo, Lifao	Pante Macasar	8	7	15
March 31, 2015	Malelat, Malelat	Passabe	8	19	27
Total			160	217	377

Similarly, Ba Distrito’s implementing partner FFSO conducted a total of 13 mobile legal information sessions attended by a total 377 participants including 160 female participants. In January, FFSO conducted three legal information sessions. A total of 66 participants including 24 women attended these legal information sessions held in January. During the session held in aldeia Haumnanu, FFSO coordinated with the local police representative Agostinho Fraz who talked about the role of police, different types of crimes and where to report incidents. In February, a total of six legal information sessions were held. A total of 209 participants including 84 women participated in mobile legal information sessions held by FFSO during the month of February. During the last month of the quarter, the project’s implementing partner FFSO conducted a total of four legal information sessions. A total of 102 community members and local community leaders attended the legal information sessions held in March. *Table 5* shows the number of legal information held within this quarter. The overall objective of mobile legal aid clinic and legal information sessions conducted by Ba Distrito’s legal aid partners

(FFSO, JPC, and Liberta) is to increase people's general awareness about law and provide on the spot legal advice for the participants who have legal issues and/or questions to consult. Most of the legal information sessions cover basic legal topics such as what constitutes a crime and how to report and solve alleged crime committed; what is a civil case/dispute and ways to solve them; and what constitutes a domestic violence. These sessions are also meant to increase people's basic understanding of how the formal justice system operates and the role of different actors in the formal justice system. Thus, general explanations were also made on the roles of judges, public prosecutors, public defenders, lawyers, and police including the role of community leaders in conflict prevention and resolution. References were taken from the relevant laws including Timor-Leste's Penal and Civil Codes including their procedure codes and Law against Domestic Violence (LADV).



Attentive members of community during a legal information session held by FFSO in suco Naimeco

Continuous awareness raising of legal issues remains paramount as illustrated in the types and level of questions raised by the participants during the legal information sessions. For example, a female participant asked FFSO during a legal aid session held aldeia Qiubiselo, suco Bobometo of Oe-Silo administrative post, "If someone threatens me or someone's cattle damages my crops, who should I report to and what is the procedure?" Particularly in Oecusse, many participants in the legal information sessions asked questions related to domestic violence. In a legal information session a woman

participant asked, "As my husband, he has the duty to provide for our family. However, after he sold our cattle at the market, he spent all the money on alcohol and when I questioned him, he tried to hit me instead. In this case, who is wrong and what is the process?" A somewhat similar question was also asked by a female participant in a separate legal information session. FFSO lawyers were asked, "Sometimes when my husband and I fought, many people came to watch. What is the process for people who cheered my husband to continue beating me?" These type of questions highlight the pressing need to continue to educate communities about domestic violence in order to increase understanding, raise awareness about the equality of women and women's rights, and that domestic violence is a public crime, and to inform community members about the services available to assist victims/survivors.

In Baucau municipality, some interesting questions were also asked by the participants who attended legal information sessions held in suco Letemumo of Quelicai administrative post. For example one participant asked JPC lawyers, "Why doesn't the prosecution of domestic violence

depend on a victim's complaint?" Another participant asked, "According to the law, is it a crime if a man impregnates a woman but does not want to be responsible? If it is a crime, how do you report the case?" Questions were also asked about whether everyone is indeed equal before the law or not. A student asked, "Why does the court sometimes decide to declare innocent someone who was clearly guilty and convict someone who was innocent? Are laws applicable only to the small and poor people, or also to big (rich) people?" Another participant asked, "Why is a person convicted by the court sometimes given pardon?"

In all of the mobile legal information sessions held by the project's partners, participants including suco and aldeia chiefs who attended the sessions are very appreciative of legal aid

partners' legal awareness campaigns at community level. Bobometo suco chief Bento Bobo of Oe-Silo administrative post in Oecusse explained during the session, "Our suco rarely has access to legal information and we are thankful to FFSO for crossing rivers under pouring rain to come to our suco so that our community can understand and identify which is a criminal case and which is a civil case, and ways to process them". Most of the participants in these sessions are those that are poor and vulnerable,



FFSO with members of Oecusse legal aid coordination group jointly organized a legal information session targetting mostly women in commemoration of International Women's Day

living in the rural areas of Timor-Leste including women, children and other vulnerable groups. Many of them could not read and write and as result most of the participants list is prepared by FFSO's lawyers who would go around asking their names and age. The participants would then be asked to mark their signature next to their names or give a fingerprint.

Up until October 2014, the community members who participated in the Project's activities were disaggregated mostly by their sex. Since the previous quarterly report, the project's legal aid partner FFSO was asked to record the age of participants in mobile legal information sessions and other services it provides. Within this quarter a total of 54 participants attended legal information sessions held by JPC and FFSO were youth below 30 years of age. Thirty-seven (37) of the total number of youth who participated in the legal information sessions were female. *Table 6* shows the number of youth participants who attended legal information session between January and March this year.

Table 6: Youth participants Legal information sessions held by JPC and FFSO between January-March 2015

Date	Aldeia and Suco	Sub District	Total participants	Youth Participants		Total youth combined
				f	m	
January 7, 2015	Citrana, Bene-Ufe	Nitibe	19	2	1	3
January 15, 2015	Qiubiselo, Bobometo	Oe-silo	20	3	0	3
January 19, 2015	Haemnanu, Abani	Passabe	27	3	3	6
February 4, 2015	Sifin Lil A'as, Usi-Tacae	Oe-silo	39	0	0	0
February 6, 2015	Nua-Fato, Cunha	Pante Macasar	47	2	2	4
February 13, 2015	Cabana, Suni-Ufe	Nitibe	33	3	1	4
February 16, 2015	Suco Taeboco	Pante Macasar	43	9	0	9
February 23, 2015	Usapibela, Lalisuc	Pante Macasar	20	0	2	2
February 26, 2015	Oel Ulan, Naimeco	Pante Macasar	27	0	0	0
March 9, 2015	Bausio, Nipane	Pante Macasar	33	5	0	5
March 27, 2015	Bihala, Bobocase	Pante Macasar	27	3	4	7
March 30, 2015	Oemelo, Lifao	Pante Macasar	15	2	1	3
March 31, 2015	Malelat, Malelat	Passabe	27	5	3	8
March 31, 2015	Letemumo	Quelicai	23	0	0	0
Total			400	37	17	54

On February 23, Ba Distrito's judicial capacity building officer visited Oecusse to monitor the implementation of FFSO's activities. During the visit, the project staff observed a legal information session held in aldeia Oel Ulan, suco Naimeco of Pante Macasar administrative post, and supported FFSO and JSMP staff members to update the Knowledge Management (KM) portal.

In addition to the provision of free legal aid and mobile legal information sessions, the project also sees it as important to monitor the amount and quality of legal aid representation within the courtroom. Within this quarter, the project's access to justice team worked with JSMP to develop a generic legal aid monitoring format for JSMP to gather and analyze additional data on the state of legal aid in all municipal courts. On February 5, the project met with JSMP's legal research coordinator Ana Paula and Ba Distrito-funded Oecusse court legal research Paulo Nunes to discuss and finalize the format. In concluding the meeting, it was agreed that JSMP would brief its legal researchers from municipal courts on the use of the format within the month of February and the legal aid monitoring to begin in March.

During the last month of the quarter, the **implementing partner JSMP began to monitor quality of legal aid in all municipal courts**. From JSMP's monitoring and analysis, all of the cases monitored were represented by public defenders. With the exception of serious criminal offences where public defenders met with their clients prior to the trial on numerous occasions outside the court, in the majority of less serious criminal cases the public defender met their clients for the first time at the Court before the hearing began (e.g. in cases involving simple offences against physical integrity). JSMP also observed that in almost all cases involving simple

offences against physical integrity, the accused confessed to and confirmed all allegations made against them by the public prosecutor. The defense lawyers, therefore, only asked that the court's sentence be commensurate with the offence(s) being committed based on mitigating circumstances surrounding the commission of the offence. JSMP monitored that most of the clients are consistently represented by the same defense lawyer with the exception of one case in which a substitute defense accompanied the accused person during the sentence reading.

C.3 Assess and Reinforce Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanism

Timor-Leste's justice system is one that is hybrid involving formal justice mechanisms where civil disputes and especially serious criminal offences are solved through court procedures, as well as non-formal justice mechanisms through which cases are being solved through mediation and/or arbitration led mostly by local community leaders such as suco and aldeia chiefs and traditional leaders, and a small number of lawyers. Both mechanisms are recognized in the country's Constitution and other laws. Contributing to the ongoing development of this hybrid justice system through, for instance, mapping of the range of extrajudicial alternative dispute resolutions practices especially in targeted municipalities is an important part of Ba Distrito project. On February 28, the justice and capacity building teams met with Ba Distrito's implementing partner Belun to discuss its role in the mapping process including development of ADR mapping format. After several discussions held between Belun and the Ba Distrito team, a draft ADR format was put together by the project and reviewed by Belun to ensure that they are simple and easy to administer in the field. On March 10, the group met again to finalize the ADR mapping format, which will be used by Belun's municipal coordinators to map ADR practices from April onwards. It was agreed that Belun's municipal coordinators will visit a total of five sucos in each municipality and Oecusse region to administer the mapping process.

In addition to generic ADR mapping by Belun in the project's targeted sucos, the implementing partner JSMP also agreed to train the suco council training on access to justice and women's rights aimed at creating a better understanding among the local leaders about the interface/connection between the formal and informal justice systems. Thus within this quarter, Ba Distrito finalized budget and scope of work for a fixed obligation grant (FOG) award and concluded negotiation with JSMP on deliverables, timelines and costing per milestone. This grant will allow JSMP to strengthen capacity of suco council leaders on topics related to women's equal access to own property and inheritance, spousal maintenance, child support, and child custody in divorce, sexual violence and domestic violence, referral pathways, and formal court process. Moreover, as part its first set of deliverables, JSMP also supported Ba Distrito in finalizing the facilitators' and participants' training manuals for the subject. The signing of FOG agreement and eventual execution of suco council training is expected to commence in the next quarter.

C.4 Provide Targeted Assistance on Improving the Legislative Framework for Legal Aid

As reported under the component C.1, Ba Distrito's contribution towards improved legislative framework for legal aid is now being coordinated at the project's office involving mostly the legal aid partners as well as ECM and ALFeLa who participate in the advocacy group in non-partner capacity. In addition to the advocacy group meetings held in Dili, the project's legal aid

partners met at the municipal level to better coordinate work among the government bodies and civil society organizations that are currently working on the provision of legal aid. On January 27, implementing partner **FFSO held a mobile coordination meeting to discuss the main legal issues that are facing community in Oecusse** and how these organizations can work to respond to community needs within their own scope of work. Among the issues raised by individual member organizations are: the high number of domestic violence cases in Oecusse, low knowledge among the victims about the status of their cases, the importance of continuing legal education to the community in remote areas including educating suspects to understand and comply with the court's decision. Other issues identified included land disputes and straying cattle, which could cause conflict among families. The meeting highlighted the importance of government agencies and CSOs in Oecusse of doing legal aid, justice, and human rights work to regularly coordinate and share information with one another. The mobile coordination meeting was attended by Mr Anaias Co'i presenting MANEO, Mrs Dilva Araujo representing PRADET, Mr Paulo A. Lafu representing Ombudsman for Human Rights and Justice, Officer Nilda do Rosario from Vulnerable Persons Unit (VPU) of regional police, and Mr Camilo Elo representing regional office of the Ministry of Social and Solidarity (MSS) Child Protection Unit.

On February 27, the legal aid coordination group met at FFSO Oecusse to discuss about land disputes that continue to rise and are becoming one of major concerns among Oecusse residents. It was recommended that as a legal aid group, each individual organization should be responsible for raising people's awareness about mechanisms available for land dispute resolution. Recommendations were also made by some of the participating members to request the Ministry of Justice's Land and Property Directorate to socialize land registration and ownership process to the community. Ba Distrito suggested that in the future, the group should invite relevant line ministry representatives in Oecusse whose work is relevant to the topic of the discussion. Among the participants of the February coordination meeting were the Director of Maneo Mrs Ramila da Costa, Pradet's counselor Mrs Dilva Araujo, head of regional police's VPU Nilda do Rosario, representative from MSS's Child Protection Unit Mr Camilo Elo as well as three representatives from FFSO Mr Antonio dos Remedios (director), Cesaltina Freitas (lawyer) and Jacinto Anin (staff).

In the final month of this quarter, the Oecusse legal aid coordination group met to discuss how to better assist vulnerable women in Oecusse, to which representatives from relevant organizations were invited including a representative from Pradet's safe house, Legal Aid for Women and Children (ALFeLa), Ministry of Health's regional unit for mental health, Forum for Oecusse Women, Hospital (emergency unit), National Police's Vulnerable Persons Unit (VPU). Issues were raised about the increased number of vulnerable women who are victims and survivors of domestic violence. Pradet explained that it has documented more than 1,000 cases involving domestic violence and abandonment over the course of one year, but it cannot assist all of them due to resource limitations, difficult terrain, and lack of transportation. Participating organizations also raised issues about the lack timely information provided by Police VPU in situations where women victims of domestic violence need immediate help. The VPU officer Nilda do Rosario explained that her unit is also facing similar resource limitations, e.g. a lack of

transportation to respond quickly and effectively to cases as they arise. The meeting concluded with members agreeing to continue to collaborate and share information to better assist women in urgent need of assistance.

Furthermore, in following up concerns about the extended delays in paternity cases that the community members raised during mobile legal information session, FFSO lawyer Dra Cesaltina da Costa Freitas also visited the Office of Public Defender to hear factors that caused delays. The head of Oecusse Office of Public Defender (OPD) Calisto Tout explained that in many paternity cases, the OPD tried to mediate a resolution between the parties. However, mediation cannot be concluded if defendants denied impregnating the claimants or refused to recognize and support their children. As result, it is difficult to conclude these cases especially because there is currently no laboratory that can administer DNA test. Until such a facility is available, delays will be expected in paternity cases or any other cases that require DNA test.

C.5 Provide Support to Government and CSOs to Create Accessible and Effective Legal Information

After several discussions with the MOJ’s Director of National Director for Human Rights and Citizenship (DNDHS) Mr. Celito Cardoso regarding its planned research survey to evaluate the impact of MOJ’s legal outreach and information sessions on access to justice, it was agreed that Ba Distrito would support the Ministry with its research not only through provision of up to \$10,000 financial support as requested by the MOJ, but also through technical support to develop and train the MOJ staff on the qualitative survey methodology. On January 15, **a Chilean graduate student from University of Sydney (Australia) arrived in Timor-Leste to develop qualitative survey research methodology together with MOJ team.** With Ba Distrito’s close support and guidance, numerous meetings and discussions were held with MOJ team to hear and understand the research goals and expected outcomes. On February 12, **a full-day discussion was held at the project’s office to develop the appropriate qualitative research methodology together with the MOJ team.** The research methodology involves focus group discussion involving 8-10 people who have participated in MOJ’s legal education session, interviews of eight participants who have also participated in the legal information sessions, and a controlled-interview of four people who have not participated in MOJ’s legal education campaigns. On March 20, the team travelled to Atabae administrative post in Bobonaro municipality to pilot the research instruments. A total of 20 people participated in the pilot research – eight in the focus group



Alejandra Villanueva (left and standing) and the project’s legal aid specialist Maria Veronika da Costa (right and standing) led discussions on qualitative research methodology in one of the training sessions.

discussion was held at the project’s office to develop the appropriate qualitative research methodology together with the MOJ team. The research methodology involves focus group discussion involving 8-10 people who have participated in MOJ’s legal education session, interviews of eight participants who have also participated in the legal information sessions, and a controlled-interview of four people who have not participated in MOJ’s legal education campaigns. On March 20, the team travelled to Atabae administrative post in Bobonaro municipality to pilot the research instruments. A total of 20 people participated in the pilot research – eight in the focus group

discussion, eight in survey questionnaire, and four in the control group. Four out of 20 people who participated in this pilot research were women. Upon returning from the pilot trip to Atabae administrative post, the group met again at the project's office for two days (February 23 and 24) to discuss the tools in greater details and adjusted the instruments based on the pilot. Following the readjustments of the research tools and instruments, a three-day training (February 25, 26 and 27) was provided to MOJ's research team as well as staff from the National Directorate for Human Rights and Citizenship including law student interns who are currently interning at the directorate. During the training, a pre- and post-test was administered by the project's research specialist. The training ended with the award of certificate to all the participants. A total of 17 MOJ staff members and interns, including nine women, attended the training sessions. This collaboration was gained publicity in national print media, annexed to this report.



Alejandra Vilanueva handing certificate to one of the MOJ staff member accompanied by Celito Cardoso, Director of National Directorate for Human Rights and Citizenship.

Following the very positive initial collaboration between MOJ's DNDHS and the project on the development of research methodology, several discussions were held between the Ba Distrito and Director Celito Cardoso on the actual implementation of the research survey including detailed budget and research schedule. At a meeting held on March 16, director Celito Cardoso of DNDHS explained that the completion of research

implementation in six administrative posts has been incorporated into the deliverables of Ministry's First 100 Days following the government reshuffling and

appointment of the new Prime Minister. On March 27, the Ministry team conducted its first research in Lacluta administrative post of Viqueque municipality with support from the project. Upon the completion of the field research in all six administrative posts, the project will continue support the MOJ in research data analysis and report writing.

While Ba Distrito has built collaborative relations with the MOJ, the project considers it timely to formalize collaboration with the MOJ in a Memorandum of Understanding – one that will incorporate all Ba Distrito's contribution to the justice sector as well as activities planned to take place in collaboration with the Ministry. As result on March 19, a final **draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was sent to the new Minister of Justice Ivo Valente** for his consideration and feedback. Based on advice from then the Director Francisco Carceres to send a copy of the MOU to all relevant directors and DGs that the project is most likely to work with, copies of the draft MOU were also sent to Coordinating Minister for Justice and State Administration Dionisio Babo (former Minister of Justice), the new Director-General Henrique Ximenes, Director-General of LTC Marcelina Tilman, Director of DNDHS Celito Cardoso, and

Director of DNHJL Nelinho Vital. Since the submission of the draft MOU, the Ministry has been very busy with submission and defense of work plan and budget to the National Parliament and has not been able to meet with the project to discuss the draft MOU further.

Component D – District Court Functionality

During this quarter the project met with the Court of Appeal President to follow-up on recommendations for technical support to the district courts made by the project in the previous quarter. On February 2, the Ba Distrito team **met the Court of Appeal President Honorable Judge Guilhermino da Silva to discuss and agree on the areas of technical support** based on recommendations made in Court Functionality Brief. Out of a list of proposed areas of support and training presented and discussed with the Court of Appeal, the Honorable Judge President Guilhermino da Silva agreed to technical support for training development and delivery for judicial officers/court clerks on statistical data gathering and analysis and training of judges and court administration on court management and leadership. Ba Distrito explained that technical support will be coordinated closely with the Court of Appeal, and it is expected to be delivered May and August respectively.

During this meeting, the project also proposed that the court establish a team to work closely with Ba Distrito to undertake the planned technical support, which the Court of Appeal President agreed to. On February 12, **the Court of Appeal issued a dispatch No. 05/2015 forming a team to work with Ba Distrito**. The Court of Appeal team includes Baucau Court Administrator judge Afonco Carmona (team president), Oecusse Court Administrator judge Joao Ribeiro (vice president), Oecusse Judicial Secretary Amarao Joaquim (Secretary) and Baucau Judicial Secretary Sebastiao M. Soares (vice secretary). During this quarter steps were taken to begin recruitment of STTA experts to provide these technical support services.

Within this quarter, implementing partner JSMP continued to monitor Oecusse regional court on regular basis. On January 16, all Timor-Leste's courts resumed court hearings, including Oecusse regional court. **A total of 32 cases were monitored by JSMP within this quarter in Oecusse**. A total of ten cases were heard by Oecusse court in January and JSMP monitored five cases including three simple offences against physical integrity with domestic violence nature. The other two cases involved property damage and driving without a license. In February, JSMP monitored an increased number of domestic violence cases heard by Oecusse regional court where 12 out of 14 cases heard by the court were simple offences against physical integrity that occurred in a domestic setting. Decisions were made in all 12 domestic violence cases which included suspended sentences and fines. In March, JSMP monitored 13 out of 23 cases heard by Oecusse municipal court. The 13 cases monitored by JSMP in March include seven domestic violence cases, five simple offences against physical integrity, and driving without license. The court managed to hand down decisions in seven domestic violence cases which include a preventive detention in the case of maltreatment, fines in two cases, and a suspended sentence in four cases. The *Table 8* below shows cases monitored by JSMP within this quarter.

Table 8: Cases monitored between January and March 2015

Month	Domestic violence	Other offences	total
January	3	2	5
February	12	2	14
March	7	6	13
Total	22	10	32

According to JSMP’s observations, suspended sentences and fines remain the most frequent decision handed down by the Oecusse court in domestic violence cases.

While JSMP respects the court’s decisions, JSMP believes that suspended sentences are not very effective in preventing violence from recurring again against the same victims and that custodial sentences should be imposed. This is a point of advocacy that is regularly raised in JSMP’s press releases. The court’s decision to fine perpetrators of domestic violence will only put extra burden on the victim by imposing financial costs that most families cannot afford to

Table 9: Types of Oecusse Court decision in domestic violence cases

Sentence types	January	February	March	Total
preventive detention	0	0	1	1
Prison sentence	0	0	0	0
Suspended sentence	2	6	4	12
Fine	1	6	2	9
Aquittals	0	0	0	0
Total	3	12	7	22

pay. An economic impact will not likely have a preventative impact. Table 9 below shows the types of court decisions handed down in 22 domestic violence cases that were monitored by JSMP within this quarter.

Within this quarter, the implementing partner JSMP continued to widely publicize its

monitoring observations in Oecusse regional court particularly on formal justice issues that it considers require advocacy for change. Given the rising number of domestic violence cases processed by the Court in Oecusse and the common use of suspended sentences and fines in most of court decisions in domestic violence cases, **JSMP published three press releases highlighting the impact of court’s sentencing in preventing domestic violence.** They include (1) [Oecusse court hears mostly domestic violence cases in the month of February](#) (March 4); (2) [Oecusse regional court sentencing a defendant to 3 years and 6 months imprisonment in the case of simple assault and kidnapping](#) (March 31); and (3) [the Oecusse court sentences most of the defendants in domestic violence cases with fine](#) (March 31). All of these were sent out to its mailing list and are currently available on its website.

In addition to publishing its court case monitoring and analysis through media releases, JSMP also wrote and published summaries of cases it monitored in the municipal court. Within this quarter, **JSMP completed and published two case summaries for [January](#) and [February](#).** Both case summaries were sent out to its mailing list and are currently available on its website. At the writing of this report, JSMP is still completing its case summary for the cases it monitored in the last month of the quarter. Copies of the two case summaries are annexed to this report.

D.1 Assess Needs and Design District Court Training Program

Within this quarter, the project's judicial capacity building officer made a **courtesy visit to Oecusse regional court to introduce the project's planned technical support to Oecusse and Baucau courts.** On February 24, Ba Distrito's Carlos Miguel together Oecusse district coordinator Inacio Maniquin, and JSMP's project-funded legal researcher Paulo Nunes met with Oecusse Court Administrator and his judicial secretary Mr. Amaro Joaquiun. Judge Joao Ribeiro



Oecusse Court Administrator Judge Joao Ribeiro (first from left) met with the project's judicial capacity building officer Carlos Miguel (second from left) in his courtesy visit to Oecusse court.

was very positive and supportive of this initiative and said that he will inform his colleague Judge Afonco Caramona of Baucau municipal court since he is named in the dispatch a president of the team.



Ba Distrito's judicial capacity building officer Carlos Miguel verifying statistical data gathered by Oecusse court with one of its judicial officers.

The following day February 25, Ba Distrito team also met with judicial officers to **conduct a pre-training assessment focusing on the current state of statistical data gathering and analysis within Oecusse regional court.** The project, with JSMP's legal researcher, met with judicial transcriber Mr. Marcelino Sarmiento, diligent officers Elidigio Locateli Freitas, Vicente Colo, and Armindo Nascimento as well as the judicial secretary Mr. Amaro Juiquim. Discussions with these officers covered their capacity to gather and analyze statistical data and to produce monthly statistical reporting. The team was able have look at the sample monthly statistical reporting prepared by the

judicial officers. It must be noted, however, that unlike Baucau municipal court, no case management automation system has been installed in Oecusse and most of statistical records are being recorded manually on different word documents and spreadsheets.

D.2 Deliver Training to Justice and Accountability Institution staff

Within this quarter, Ba Distrito **developed and delivered three-day training to a total of 17 MOJ staff on qualitative research methodology** including nine women as reported under Component C.5. In addition to above-mentioned training, the project also finalized TORs for a judicial statistics and court administration expert and a case management expert. At the request of the Court of Appeal President the project will also be delivering training on court statistical data gathering and analysis to judicial officers during the next quarter. The Court Administration expert will be deployed during the next quarter to design and deliver this training, based on the current needs of the Baucau and Oecusse courts.

The case management expert will work primarily with the project's legal aid partners by assessing their individual state of case management upon which recommendations will be made for each legal aid organization to improve their case management systems. Those recommendations will be implemented by the legal aid partners with ongoing support from the project's field team. Similarly, the case management expert will develop and deliver training to legal aid partners and other private lawyers on the international best practice on case management.

The project commenced recruitment for these short-term technical assistant positions within this quarter. The completion of STTA recruitment and their eventual field deployments will occur in forthcoming quarters.

D.3 Introduce Professional Development System

The Professional Development System (PDS) within the judiciary was included in the initial technical support proposal to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal president, however, expressed his reluctance by stating that professional development, which includes performance evaluation of judges, are internal processes that has to be done by much senior judges and cannot be done just by anyone. He however chose two areas of technical training – the first one on statistical data gathering and analysis and the second on court administration, management and leadership.

V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Adaptation of Standardized Monitoring and Evaluation Forms. During this reporting period, the M&E Specialist supported Component A: Local Government Strengthening and Components C and D: Access to Justice to develop a standardized monthly reporting format for new grantees Liberta, and Justice and Peace Commission (JPC) and Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (PMEP) for Belun, FFSO, LIBERTA and JPC. The monthly reporting format was developed to accurately reflect each partner's scope of work, activities and performance indicators that the partners are required to report against each month.

The M&E Specialist supported Component B: Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions by providing comments and drafting the standardized monthly reporting format for Asosiasaun Radio Komunitade Timor-Leste (ARKTL).

Knowledge Management (KM) Portal. On January 16 in Dili, the M&E specialist also provided technical assistance on the KM Portal to grantee JSMP in Oecusse, about how to enter the training and Media and Outreach data into the KM Portal. Additionally on March 19 in Oecusse, the M&E specialist provided follow-up assistance to JSMP. As a result of this assistance, JSMP's field staff member is now familiar with the use of KM Portal, with a particular focus on achieving competency in entering press releases into the KM Portal. As a result of this technical assistance, eight (8) press releases have been entered into KM Portal by Paulo Nunes from JSMP in Oecusse.

Baseline Survey Launch. On February 25, the project launched the Baseline Survey report. The launch of the Baseline Survey included a presentation by Dr. Rod Nixon, the research specialist from Social Science Dimensions, which conducted the research. The event was attended by participants from National Directors and Head of Departments from Ministry of State and Administration and Ministry of Justice of Timor-Leste, representatives of USAID, international and national NGOs, academics, and national media. A total of 63 participants attended the launch including 23 females and 40 males.

A presentation was made in two languages, English and Tetum. Dr. Nixon gave the presentation in English, which was interpreted by Mr. Hector Hill. During the question and answer session, participants expressed their enthusiasm about quality and depth of the research. Representatives from other national and international NGOs working in the governance and justice sectors expressed their desire to use the research findings in their own work. One female participant recommended involving some departments in Ministry of State and Administration and Ministry on Justice to get their perspective on local governance and access to justice in Timor-Leste.

Monitoring visit to FFSO, national implementing partner. On March 16-20, 2015, the Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist conducted the **Data Quality Assessment (DQA)** for Fundasaun Fatuk Sinae Oecusse (FFSO) in Oecusse. Through DQA the M&E Specialist met with the Director of FFSO and staff members to discuss the quality of the data being recorded by FFSO when implementing their activities. Through the DQA process, the M&E Specialist determined that there was not enough data recorded about legal information sessions that FFSO has been conducting on a monthly basis. As a result, it was determined that FFSO needs to provide documents that relate to the legal information sessions at the suco/aldeia level, such as implementation plan, agenda, lists of invitees, participants, reports, photos and other documents.



The M&E Specialist of Ba Distrito Project conducted Data Quality Assessment (DQA) to FFSO on March 16-20, 2015 in Oecusse Special Region.

In relation to indicator 17, FFSO conducted Mobile Legal Aid Clinics, visited the office of Public Defenders to coordinate client representation, provided legal aid assistance to victims in both litigation and non-litigation cases, and provided legal assistance to suspects who were detained by Police over the 72 hour detention period. Ba Distrito has recommended that FFSO create a tool to record information pertaining to these activities, recording such information as date of legal consultation, names of clients, types of cases, and what result or actions were taken, etc. This document should be arranged by activities per month, and by cases.

Indicator 18 refers to Component A: Local Governance and Strengthening. With regards to this indicator, in October 2014, the Ba Distrito project presented the results of FFSO's Organizational Capacity Assessment conducted by Ba Distrito in early 2014.

Indicator 19 relates to increasing the number of cases resolved by USAID-supported legal aid providers. Regarding the numbers of cases resolved, the M&E Specialist recommended that FFSO provide a short narrative record for each case resolved.

For non-litigation cases, FFSO should document the agreement letter from the concerned parties about the resolution of the case. These documents should be kept on record per month and also by case (litigation and non-litigation cases).

Regarding Indicators 20 and 21, FFSO was not required to provide data for this period. Indicator 22 relates to the percentage of target areas who report greater access to justice and legal information. During this quarter, FFSO provided data on their activities through its monthly report, which shows that FFSO conducted four (4) legal aid information sessions with 25 participants in each session, per month.

On March 19, after the finalization of the DQA, the M&E Specialist conducted a more thorough site visit to FFSO. The goal of the site visit was to identify the progress, lessons learned, challenges, and action taken to respond to the challenges encountered during the implementation of the project to date. During the site visit, the M&E Specialist met with the Director of FFSO and three (3) staff members (two (2) women and one (1) man). The M&E specialist discussed FFSO's activity plan and monthly narrative report. It was noted that some activities planned for March 2015 – four legal aid clinics – were not implemented, however, FFSO did go on to implement those activities in April (these will be reported in the next quarterly report).

During the discussion, the Director mentioned two great lessons learned by the FFSO during grant implementation. *First*, through the USAID funded project, FFSO is regaining the trust of the community as a civil society organization that works to defend the rights of the vulnerable people on justice issues. *Second*, through free legal aid assistance and legal aid information sessions, the vulnerable people are trusting FFSO to assist them on how to access to justice in both litigation and non-litigation cases. It was noted that the participation of rates of women and youth in the legal aid information sessions is lesser than that of men and older participants,

which is consistent with the findings about community information sessions in the project's baseline survey.

Some challenges have been encountered by FFSO during the implementation of programs such as: delays in the transfer of advances has resulted in some activities being postponed; lack of reliable transport to conduct mobile legal aid clinics and legal aid information sessions in the rural areas, and problems accessing the internet makes it challenging to update the KM Portal. FFSO suggested that Ba Distrito work on speeding up the transfer for the funds request after it is received, that Ba Distrito assist FFSO to produce or develop posters, pamphlets and photos for some topics on legal aid information sessions such as gender equality, domestic violence, etc; and Ba Distrito continue to have a regular monitoring visit to FFSO to guarantee the quality of the services in all activities. At the end of the site visit, the M&E Specialist recommended FFSO to provide and file all documents that relate to each activity by: activity name, month, the type of activity, and case. All the activities that FFSO has done should be entered into KM Portal with the attachment of relevant documents. The M&E Specialist also recommended FFSO to look for ways to better reach women and youth with their during legal aid information sessions in the rural areas.

Training Monitoring. During this reporting period, the M&E Specialist conducted monitoring of two training sessions: (1) on Research Methodology conducted for the Ministry of Justice officials on February 26, 2015; and (2) the Training of Trainer (ToT) on Leadership and Communication that conducted by Belun in collaboration with Component A: Local Government Strengthening to Ba Distrito's and Belun's district coordinators on March 26, 2015.

The overall management of the MOJ's Research Methodology training was good. The trainer has good skills and the capacity to facilitate an effective training session. She used various methods to attract and involve participants during training sessions. Participants participated actively during discussion sessions. The trainer gave an opportunity to each participant to practice, and used examples that were relevant to them on how to lead a group when they do research in the future. At the end of the training participants gave their comments and suggestions through evaluation forms. Most of them were appreciative of the training indicating that they learned a lot about how to do research, how to be a good leader when leading a group, and also how to be a good researcher. One recommendation from the participants was that it would be better if the trainer is the person who speaks Tetum because it would be easier to understand them rather than using a translator. Participants recommended that the training be repeated in the future for other participants.

The Training of Trainer (ToT) on Leadership and Communication was facilitated by Belun's trainer and accompanied by Component A: Local Government Strengthening staff from the project. The overall management of the raining was good. However the venue was too close to the road and the movement of the traffic disturbed the concentration of the participants during training. The condition of the venue was also too hot especially during the middle of the day, which made it difficult for the participants to concentrate. Based on observations, the quality of the training needs to improve; specifically, the trainers need to explain in more detail about

roles of suco leaders in Pre-Deconcentration Administrative structure and ZEESM in Oecusse. In addition it was suggested that the trainers make an effort summarize the opinions of the participants during the discussion sessions.

In both trainings, participants completed pre- and post-tests to measure the increase in knowledge. Eighteen people participated in the Research Methodology training however only six of these completed pre- and post-tests. Eight people participated in the Belun training on Leadership and Communication and all completed the pre- and post-tests. The results of pre- and post-tests in both training shows in the table below:

Percentage of Change in Knowledge between Pre-Test and Post Test Training Results				
Training	TOT		MOJ	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
Total Correct Answers	40	40	72	72
Total Correct Answers	4.9	31	11.68	27.29
% of Correct Answers	12%	78%	16%	38%
% cumulative change in scores	65%		22%	

The table indicates that there was a significant change on participants’ knowledge in TOT for Leadership and Communication conducted by Belun before and after training – at total increase in knowledge of 65%. Although there was only a 22% increase in knowledge after the Research Methodology training, the majority of participants did not complete the training so it is possible that this number is slightly misrepresented. Based on the comments from the participants it seems that the translation may not have been of sufficient quality to allow the training to be effective.

VI. ACHIEVEMENTS

Component A: Local Governance Strengthening

- Completed suco selection and rapid assessment in Ermera and Liquiça. There are 19 selected sucos in Ermera and 21 sucos in Liquiça.
- Completed initial FFSO Strategic Plan, and final draft of the employment handbook is ready for further improvement.
- Drafted first three training and facilitation modules on Leadership and Communication, Women’s Rights and Access to Justice, and Community Consultation.
- Completed first training of trainers – in Leadership and Communication – for Belun team in a training session that included Belun’s district coordinators, two trainers, and Ba Distrito’s district coordinators.
- Completed the RFA for CEGs and submitted to USAID for approval.
- Assessed sucos for participation in suco exchanges.

Component B: Decentralization and Input of Local Organizations

- Pre-awarded DRAGs to ARKTL.
- Finalized the Scope of Work, budget and the milestones for ARKTL and Uairawa.
- Finalized radio outreach campaign strategies.
- Selected the best success stories to be featured in Ba Distrito's Documentary Film.

Component C: Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

- Legal aid implementation and advocacy grant sub-agreement with JPC and Liberta fully executed and activity implementation started this quarter.
- Completion of TOR and recruitment of case management expert to be deployed in June
- Qualitative research methodology, tools, and instruments, developed with MOJ and tested in Atabae administrative post of Bobonaro municipality.
- MOJ staff trained on qualitative research methodology and certificates awarded to the training participants.
- Legal Aid Brief launched and attended by the Ministry of Justice representatives, lawyers, donor programs, implementing partners, and the media.
- Conducted a radio talk show and supporting legal information session in the suco of Nipani through national partner FFSO with the theme of 'Empower Women, empower Community –to commemorate International Women's Day.
- Developed draft suco council training modules on women's rights and the formal justice system.
- Increased the number of poor and vulnerable people who received free legal aid assistance from the project's implementation partner FFSO and new grantees JPC and Liberta, with 66 clients including 14 women receiving legal aid assistance this quarter.
- Increased the number of mobile legal information sessions held at the suco level by implementing partners FFSO and JPC, with 400 participants in total attending these sessions, including 164 women.

Component D: District Court Functionality

- Court of Appeal selected two training areas to be supported by the project.
- MOJ staff trained on qualitative research methodology. See completed activity 5 (above).
- Court of Appeal established a team to work with Ba Distrito project on the agreed areas of collaboration through an official Court of Appeal Dispatch No. 05/2015.
- Conducted pre-training visit to Oecusse court.
- Implementing partner JSMP monitored a total of 32 cases within this quarter, of which 22 are domestic violence cases.
- JSMP published three press releases and two monthly case summaries underlining issues around the increased number of domestic violence cases including the pattern of court decisions as well as two case summaries of all cases it monitored.

VII. CHALLENGES AND GENDER-BASED CONSTRAINTS

The largest challenge to the project's implementation of activities was the deteriorating security situation in Baucau due to the PNTL and F-FDTL joint operation to capture Mauk Moruk. During this reporting period there were a number of altercations between the police and Mauk Moruk supporters resulting in PNTL officers being taken hostage and gunfire resulting in injury. Numerous check points have been set up and a curfew is in place, restricting movement at night in Baucau municipality. Various human rights abuses and violations have been reported in the media.

Because of security concerns, especially in the administrative posts of Laga, Baguia and Quelicai, travel to these areas has been banned by the project. As a result all activities planned to take place in those areas were canceled. In addition, a planned courtesy call to the Court had to be postponed two weeks in a row because of the situation, and planned support to the Ministry of Justice's research in Viqueque was also postponed. As a result, activities in Baucau were not as plentiful as planned.

With the exception of Baucau municipality – particularly Laga and Baguia administrative posts – the implementation of project activities in other areas of Baucau as well as Dili and the project's other targeted municipalities and region are ongoing, while taking extra precautions are advised.

One problem noted by the team is the difficulty in getting equally active participation by women in the project's activities. The capacity building team continued to encounter this challenge during the finalization of the rapid assessments in Ermera and Liquica. In some sucos, the rapid assessment was attended by participants not targeted by the project such as the aldeia chiefs, "tarabandu officials", *lian nain* and the appointed administrative PAAS. The team also observed that even when women did attend, they did not participate as actively or demonstrate a strong interest in the process. In order to address these issues, Ba Distrito will try to emphasize the goals of the project to five targeted suco council members and strengthen their commitment through training activities, suco exchange visits and suco networking/suco-municipal network forum. The participatory training facilitation manual and tools have been designed to encourage the equal, active and meaningful participation of women and include strategies to help the facilitators promote and engage them, making the learning relevant to their roles in the suco.

Another challenge to the project has been in relation to the draft changes to the suco law that were developed during 2014 and submitted to the Council of Ministers. Last quarter it seemed quite likely that the draft law would be approved and training manuals were developed based on the anticipated changes. However with the change of government this quarter it seems that the policy and ideas about suco elections are changing too. As a result draft training modules need to be revised so that the roles and responsibilities of the each of the suco council members reflect what is in the current law, as it stands. Ba Distrito team with support from the

STTA made some changes of the content to adjust it to the existing legal basis, especially on Suco Law.

In relation to draft Suco Law 2014 and uncertain changes within the Ministry of State Administration as an impact of new Government, the production of training modules particularly on legal basis of suco councils' roles and responsibilities, administration and financial management as well as consultation mechanism among suco council members as part of the content of the modules, has been affected

With new approach to, and resumption of, legal aid partners' advocacy meeting and the Court of Appeal agreement to work with Ba Distrito on two technical areas within this year, no other programmatic constraints were observed during this quarter. **Programmatic constraints and challenges** surrounding the implementation of the project activities however were reported by implementing partners FFSO and JSMP this quarter. FFSO's major concerns included deteriorating condition of the motorbikes it uses to implement the project's activities. Despite monthly budget of \$150 that is allocated for motorbike maintenance for 12 months, all of the motorbikes were from USAID's previous justice program implemented by The Asia Foundation (TAF) and were purchased in 2005. Considering the terrain within which FFSO works and the road conditions, FFSO thinks that these bikes will not last much longer even if they are repaired on monthly basis. The main laptop that FFSO currently uses to implement the project was personal laptop of a TAF volunteer who decided to donate his laptop to FFSO before he left FFSO. The computer also has many problems and at times is totally non-functional in which circumstance, FFSO sought help from the project's Oecusse district coordinator Inacio Maniquin to use his computer for sending emails and reports.

Similarly, JSMP's legal researcher Paulo Nunes in Oecusse is also using an old laptop which was purchased many years ago with support from other donor project. JSMP's legal researcher is also facing similar issues where his computer would not operate. Attempts have been made by JSMP to send the computer to Dili for maintenance and send back to Oecusse. There has not been any purchase of new motorbikes or laptops for the staff of the implementing partners who work to implement the project's activities on full time basis.

On women and youth representation, a significant increase in the number of women participated in mobile legal aid clinics and legal information sessions could be observed during this quarter as well as in the previous quarter. Within this quarter, a total of 164 women participated in legal information sessions. Although slightly less youth participants in this quarter (54), the project observes an increased female youth participation (37) out of the total number of youth who participated in the project' legal information sessions. Moreover, 14 out of 66 clients who received free legal aid assistance from the project's legal aid partners are women. The project will continue support its partners and grantees with strategies to increase women and youth participation in the upcoming quarters.

VIII. EXPENDITURES

Project expenditures have been reported under a separate cover on our SF-425, submitted April 29, 2015.

IX. PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

Component A:

- Finalize draft of FFSO Strategic Plan.
- Finalize Belun and JSMP's Organizational Development one year action plan.
- Organize suco exchange visits and the suco/municipal forum.
- Finalize Belun's Organizational Capacity Assessment and Analysis and its Action Plan.
- Release RFA for CEGs in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse SAR to enhance governance engagement between suco councils and community.
- Hold first training on Leadership and Communication and second training on Women's Rights and the Formal Justice System.

Component B:

- ARKTL and Uairawa to sign off the sub-agreement for Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants (DRAGs).
- ARKTL to train Journalists at municipal/special region level on decentralization legislation.
- Radio outreach programs to kick off in Ba Distrito's five target municipalities/special region.
- UAIRAWA to finalize documentary film scripts and to start shooting in the selected sucos.
- Review decentralization legal framework.
- Update on developments to legal framework for decentralization.
- Participate in policy/legal framework working groups and ensure Ba Distrito participation and the inclusion of sub-district level feedback.

Component C: Legal Aid Sustainability

- Develop and broadcast public service announcements (PSAs) for legal aid partners for transmission on community radio.
- Support MOJ field research in six administrative posts including providing technical support to analyze data gathered and write research report.
- Deploy case management expert to support legal aid partners.
- Develop a Request for Application (RFA) and award of a legal aid/information grant for legal outreach activities in Covalima.

Component D: District Court Functionality

- Finalize Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Justice.
- Finalize and fully execute fixed amount agreement with JSMP for suco council training.

- Monitoring of JSMP's suco council training on gender equality, women's rights and access to justice.
- Support JSMP in finalizing a thematic report on Oecusse court based on its one-year of regular court monitoring.
- Together with the Court of Appeal's team, coordinate launch of Court Functionality Brief.
- Deploy judicial statistics and court administration expert to assess current state of judicial statistics and administration including implementable recommendations to individual courts and deliver training
- Develop PACT agreement with Baucau and Oecusse Court for agreed areas of improvement and support.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Conduct Data Quality Assessment (DQA) and Site Visit to Belun.
- M&E visits for trainings conducted by Belun, JSMP and ARKTL.
- Develop PMP for JSMP.
- Provide KM Portal training to LIBERTA, JPC, new District Coordinators of Belun and Ba Distrito's Project.
- Conduct weekly monitoring of KM Portal database input for partners.

Annex 1: List of Members of 6th Constitutional Government

Role	Name
Prime Minister	Rui Maria de Araújo
Minister of State and Presidency of the Council of Ministers	Agio Pereira
Minister of State, Coordinating Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Education	Fernando La-Sama de Araújo
Minister of State, Coordinating Minister of Economic Affairs and Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries	Estanislau da Silva
Minister of State, Coordinating Minister of State Administration Affairs and Justice and Minister of State Administration	Dionísio Babo Soares
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	Hernâni Coelho
Minister of Finance	Santina Cardoso
Minister of Justice	Ivo Valente
Minister of Health	Maria do Céu Sarmento Pina da Costa
Minister of Social Solidarity	Isabel Amaral
Minister of Commerce, Industry and the Environment	António da Conceição
Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture	Francisco Kalbuady Lay
Minister of Public Works, Transport and Communications	Gastão de Sousa
Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources	Alfredo Pires
Minister of Defence	Cirilo Cristóvão
Minister of the Interior	Longinhos Monteiro
Minister of Planning and Strategic Investment	Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão
Vice Minister of Education I	Dulce Jesus Soares
Vice Minister of Education II	Abel da Costa Ximenes
Vice Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries	Marcos da Cruz
Vice Minister of State Administration	Tomás do Rosário Cabral

Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation	Roberto Sarmento de Oliveira Soares
Vice Minister of Finance	Hélder Lopes
Vice Minister of Health	Ana Isabel Soares
Vice Minister of Social Solidarity	Miguel Marques Manetelu
Vice Minister of Commerce, Industry and the Environment	Constâncio da Conceição Pinto
Vice Minister of Public Works, Transport and Communications I	Januário da Costa Pereira
Vice Minister of Public Works, Transport and Communication II	Inácio Moreira
Secretary of State for the Council of Ministers	Avelino Maria Coelho da Silva
Secretary of State for Parliamentary Affairs	Maria Teresinha Viegas
Secretary of State for Social Communication	Nélio Isaac Sarmento
Secretary of State for the Support and Socio-Economical Promotion of Women	Veneranda Lemos Martins
Secretary of State for Youth and Sports	Leovigildo Hornay
Secretary of State for Employment Policy and Vocational Training	Ilídio Ximenes da Costa
Secretary of State for Institutional Strengthening	Francisco da Costa Soares
Secretary of State for State Administration	Samuel Mendonça
Secretary of State for Land and Property	Jaime Xavier Lopes
Secretary of State for Arts and Culture	Maria Isabel de Jesus Ximenes

Annex 2 – Media Coverage

Date	Activity	Location	Media Type	Coverage Received
Feb 17	Access to Justice Brief launch	Dili	Radio	Radio Liberdade Daily News
			Print Media	Timor Post The Dili Weekly Jornal Independente Jornal Nacional Diario
			Online Media	The Dili Weekly ETAN Listserve Facebook – Ba Distrito, Facebook – USAID Timor-Leste
Feb 26	Ba Distrito Baseline Survey launch	Dili	TV	TVTL – Broadcast on 8.00pm on Tetum (2 min 25 secs) and 8.45pm on Portuguese (50 secs) on evening of 26 February. Both were re-broadcast the morning of 27 February at 7.30am STL – Broadcast on the daily news on the evening of 26 Feb at 7.30pm
			Radio	STL RTL Lorico Lian (community radio)
			Print	Jornal Independente Jornal Nacional Diario STL
			Online	The Dili Weekly Facebook – Ba Distrito Facebook – USAID Timor-Leste ETAN Listserve
Feb 25 - 27	First Qualitative Research Training	Dili	Print	Jornal Independente Jornal Nacional Diario
			Online	Facebook – Ba Distrito Facebook – USAID Timor-Leste Ministry of Justice website
Mar 10	International Women’s Day legal outreach	Ermera and	Radio	RTL Radio Academica

		Oecusse		Radio Atoni Lifau Oecusse – talkshow
			Print	Jornal Independente Jornal Nacional Diario
			Online	Facebook – Ba Distrito

Annex 3 – Key Stakeholder Coordination Meetings

Component A

No	Activity	Date	Organizer	Topic
1	NGO Forum's municipal meeting in Suai	January 6	NGO Forum	NGOs registration to the Ministry of Justice
2	Meeting with Covalima's PNDS Coordinator	January 9	Covalima's District Coordinator	Project quality
3	Coordination meeting with Oecusse SAR Administrator	January 16	Counterpart's Oecusse SAR District Coordinator	US Ambassador visit
4	CSOs-Oecusse SAR Authority Coordination meeting	January 19	Oecusse SAR & ZEESM	Roles of civil society in ZEESM project
5	Meeting with Local Governance Coordinator of The Asia Foundation	January 22	Capacity Building Manager	Training for women and female youth representative on conflict resolution; current situation of Suco Association in Baucau, Ermera and Oecusse SAR
6	Meeting with former Covalima's District Development Officer (DDO) and current DDO	January 23	Counterpart's Covalima District Coordinator	Suco projects in suco Maudemo and Lalawa in Tilomar Post Administration
7	Attending Search for Common Ground's book launch	January 28	Search for Common Ground	Two comic book series on stop domestic violence
8	Meeting with FFSO's Executive Director and Lawyer	January 29	Counterpart's Capacity Building Manager and Oecusse District Coordinator	Preparing agenda and discussion format for FFSO strategic plan
9	Meeting with Local Governance Official and Community Development Officer of Suai Town	February 3	Counterpart's Covalima District Coordinator	Discussing a work place for Ba Distrito municipal team

10	Meeting with Women's Caucus and Patria Foundation	February 10	Director of Patria Foundation and Women's Caucus	Establishment of steering committee and presentation of draft suco law by Ba Distrito's Governance team
11	Participate in Suco Ida Planu Ida project	February 11	DFAT	Suco Plan throughout the country
12	Meeting with Oxfam Covalima's Coordinator	February 24	Counterpart's Covalima District Coordinator	Suco Success Story
13	Participate in the PRA tools presentation	February 24	BESIK	PRA tools developed by BESIK
14	Coordination meeting between Oxfam and other CSOs	February 27	Oxfam in Oecusse SAR	Oxfam Strategic Plan, 2015-2020
15	Participate in the coordination meeting between municipal Administrator and PAAS of 30 sucos in Covalima	March 13	Covalima's municipal administrator	PAAS' training needs on Administration and Financial Reporting
16	Participate in Oecusse CSOs Network, REINO	March 16	REINO Secretariat	REINO Statute and its Organizational Structures
17	Meeting DNDCAS' Director Sr Sebastiao Pereira	March 23	Counterpart's Capacity Building Manager	Update on result of rapid assessment, training modules and training of trainers for DNDCAS' focal points and Belun team; request support to have a meeting with Director General Miguel Carvalho

Component B

DATE	Participants	Description
6 January	Radio Academica (Journalists)	The Governance Officer met with two female journalists discuss on the overall content of the PSA for Suco Success Stories Competition prior to the recording.
8 January	National Director of DNDCAS, Mr. Sebastião Luis	The meeting was aimed at discussing on the content of PSA for Suco Success Stories Competition.
10 February	Patria, Caucus, Movimento Feto Foin Sa'e (MOFFE-TL), ALOLA, Rede Feto and UN Women and State Secretariat for Promotion of Gender Equality (SEPI), Timor-Leste's National Council for the Youth (CNJTL), Plan, Ba Futuro, FKSH and DNDCAS.	1st Steering Committee (SC) Meeting for '100 Women Candidate for 2015 Suco Election'
11 February	DFAT, JAICA, Seeds of Life, GIZ, PNDS Support Project, The Asia Foundation	Mini consultation on "drafting legal framework & guidelines for government 'One Village One Plan'
20 February	Patria, Caucus, Movimento Feto Foin Sa'e (MOFFE-TL), ALOLA, Rede Feto and UN Women and State Secretariat for Women Socio Economic Empowerment (Previously known as SS forP romotion of Gender Equality – SEPI), CNJTL, Plan, Ba Futuro, FKSH and CNE.	2 nd Steering Committee (SC) Meeting for '100 Women Candidate for 2015 Suco Election'/ Organizational mapping workshop
24 February	GIZ, DFAT, Ba Futuro, Belun, and Plan, The Asia Foundation, Seeds of Life, PNDS Support Project	The launching of 'Tatoli Survey Result' was held at Asia Foundation Office in Dili.
19 March	Legal & Decentralization Working Group (LDWG); including representatives from UN Women, Alola Foundation, Patria and Ba Futuro	The meeting brought in a guest speaker, Mr. João Baptista, an advisor for the Vice Minister of State Administration, who updates the participants on changes of roles inside the MSA and latest development in regards the decentralization process in the country.

24 March	Legal & Decentralization Working Group (LDWG); including Patria, MOFFE-TL, Alola Foundation, AIFeLa, Plan, and Caucus.	Gender Mainstreaming (GM) Briefing organized by Patria with support from UN Women.
	Members of Steering Committee for '100 Women Candidates for Suco Chief Elections'	3rd SC Meeting for 100 Women Candidates at Caucus Office in Dili. It was informed during the meeting that the MSA is in the process of preparing a concept paper on the new method of electing a Suco Chief instead of going through the election process.

Components C and D

Date	Description
January 26	Met with LTC Director-General Marcelina Tilman about the project's plan to provide training to private lawyers (including legal aid lawyers) and the coordination support the project would need from the LTC
February 2	Attended swearing-in ceremony of new Public Defenders graduating from the LTC
January 27	Met with then the Director-General of MO to discuss about launch event and invite him as guest of honor.
February 10	Reviewed and submitted AATL's final narrative report
February 24	Met with UNDP's assessment team that is currently reviewing UNDP's justice program.
February 26	Meeting with David Cohen and Leigh-Ashley of Stanford University in their research about access to justice in Timor-Leste.
February 26	Monitored FFSO's mobile legal information session in suco Naimeco of Pante Macasar administrative post in Oecusse.
March 9	Courtesy visit from the Baucau court administrator judge Afonco Caramona and his judicial secretary representing the Court of Appeal team established to work with Ba Distrito on proposed technical support.
March 9:	Met with legal aid lawyers to do technical debriefing prior to visiting Gleno prison on March 10 to provide legal aid assistance and consultation to female inmates in commemoration of International Women's Day.
March 17:	Provided guidance and mentoring to new legal aid grantees Liberta and JPC as they were preparing their first four-month budget and workplan.

Annex 4: Decentralization legislation in force in Timor-Leste

MINISTERIAL DIPLOMAS FOR PRE-DECONCENTRATION ADMINISTRATIVE	Date Approved/Promulgated/Published
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for District Supervisory's Agencies	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for District's Planning Agencies	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Regulation of Local Advisory Councils	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Technical Support Offices of District Managers	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Administrative Posts	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Administrative Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Supply Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Financial Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Property and supply services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Integrated Plan for District Development (PDID)	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the functioning of the Directorate General of administrative decentralization	July 24, 2014
GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION	Date approved/promulgated/published
Government Resolution No.9/2015 on the Breakdown of the budget allocation for the Authority of Special Administrative Region and Special Zone of Social Economy Market (ZEESM) of Oecussi and Atauro	January 23, 2015
Government Resolution No.8/2015 on the transferring of the function, means, and resources to the Authority of Special Administrative Region of Oe-Cusse Ambeno	January 23, 2015

Government Resolution No.7/2015 on the appointment of members of Special Administrative Region Authority	January 23, 2015
Government Resolution on the Establishment of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structures in Liquiça, Aileu and Ermera	September 30, 2014
Government Resolution on the Transition Committee for Oecusse Ambeno	September 1, 2014
Government Resolution No. 14/2014 on the Special Procedure for the Selection of the Leaders of the Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	May 14, 2014
DECREE LAW / LAW	Date approved/promulgated/published
Decree Law No.5/2015 on the Status of Special Administrative Region of Oe-Cusse Ambeno	January 22 , 2015
Decree Law No. 28/2014 on Special Procurement Scheme for Special Administrative Region of Oecusse	September 24, 2014
Decree-Law No. 19/2014 that approves the Statute of the Leaders of the Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structures	July 24, 2014
Law No. 3/2014 on the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse and establishes the Special Zone of Social Market Economy	June 18, 2014
Decree Law No.4/2014 on the Organic Statute of Structures of Administrative Pre-Deconcentration	January 22, 2014
Decree Law No. 08/2013 on the National Program for the Development of Sucos (PNDS)	June 26, 2013
Decree Law No. 4/2012 on Planning of Integrated District Development (PDID)	February 15, 2012
The Law No. 11/2009 on Administrative and Territorial Division	October 7, 2009

Annex 5 – Detailed Report of Completion of Activities Against Workplan

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening

Component A.1 Engage and Evaluate Capacity of Participating Suco Councils		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Finalize district selection with USAID and the GOTL	November 2013 - December 2014	Complete. Timing of final district selection is dependent on the outcome of ongoing consultations with USAID and the GOTL
Launch Ba Distrito in selected year two districts Liquiça and Ermera	November 2014	Complete. Project launch events were on November 18 in Ermera and November 24 in Liquiça. Brief district, sub-district, and suco members on the goals, methodology and structure of the program, as well as how to complete the RFAs
Finalize selection criteria and Request for Applications (RFA) process for participation in the Ba Distrito program	November 2014	Complete. It based on suco selection criteria from the first year. Methodology changes slightly. Ba Distrito senior staff will mentor sucos on an as needed basis as they prepare expressions of interest in the project's capacity building activities
Provide proposal preparation, technical assistance and training	November 2014	Complete. After an initial capacity assessment, project staff will provide proposal development training and technical support for suco councils as needed
Issue RFAs for participation in the Ba Distrito program	November-December 2014	Complete, methodology changed. Project staff will monitor the dissemination of RFAs in conjunction with implementing partners to ensure there are equal opportunities for participation
Evaluate applications and select participating sucos	January 2015	Complete. MSA will recommend the final selection of participating suco councils following the identification of a short-list
A.2 Review Update and Create Local Governance Strengthening Tools and Resources		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Collect and review existing tools, manuals and training materials	October-November 2014	Complete. Ba Distrito will maintain a clearinghouse of existing training manuals from implementing partners (IPs), TAF, and other relevant CSOs, UN Agencies (UNDP, United National Population Fund - UNFPA) and Government (MSA, the Secretary of State for the Promotion of Equality - SEPI. Lessons learned

			from existing training manuals focused on gender issues and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) will be mainstreamed within the Ba Distrito program
Update and synthesize tools, manuals and training materials		October-December 2014	Complete for SukAT kit; Complete for training modules. After an initial focus on creating a tool that combines best practices from The Asia Foundation’s Suco Governance Performance Scale (SGPS) and the Organizational Capacity Building Process (OCP), Ba Distrito will work to fill gaps in existing curricula and survey methodologies from a range of sources
Deploy Organizational Development Expert	STTA	December 2014-September 2015	Ongoing STTA OD expert has produced three final modules on Leadership and Communication, Women’s Rights and Access to Justice and Consultation with Community. The OD Specialist will assess the training tools available and assist with the field-testing and finalization of tools and methodologies to be used during year one.
Hold district government consultations on OCP/SGPS and other tools, manuals and training materials		February 2015	Partially complete. Consultations will ensure that Ba Distrito tools and curricula are translated appropriately, and can be adapted for use by both literate and illiterate citizens
Introduce final tools, manuals and training materials for OCP/SGPS to line ministries, district governments, sucos and CSOs		March 2015	Partially complete. Ensure that tools and trainings are appropriate before rolling out training programs

A.3 Design and Deliver Capacity Development Assistance to Sucos and Associations		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Conduct rapid capacity assessments of sucos	December 2014-January 2015	Complete. Senior Ba Distrito/Belun staff will be provided with OD and field assessment STTA during this process
Analyze training needs based on assessments	January 2015	Complete. Senior Ba Distrito staff will be provided with OD STTA during this process
Develop training framework and initial trainings	January-February 2015	Complete. Senior Ba Distrito staff will be provided with OD STTA during this process
Conduct capacity building Training of Trainers	March 2015	Complete. Capacity building ToTs will incorporate individual and institutional

(ToTs) for Belun		assessment into the process
Belun to provide trainings to each district (2-3 per year)	March-July 2015	In planning (rescheduled). Beginning July 2014, 2-3 trainings will be conducted each year within two months of one another
Regional conduct activities	Managers mentorship October 2014 to September 2015	Ongoing.
Conduct regular site visits for sucos	October 2014 to September 2015	Ongoing. Ba Distrito Senior OD, M&E and Governance staff will conduct site visits

Component A.4 – Increase Capacity to Respond to Citizen Needs		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Issue solicitation for Constituent Engagement Grants	January to February 2015	In planning (waiting for approval from USAID). The selection criteria will ensure that these citizen-driven initiatives could either stimulate appropriate PNDS project support or correct for non-participatory allocation and implementation of PNDS project funds and not be duplicative of efforts being funded under the PNDS. The RFA has been drafted.
Review applications for Constituent Engagement Grants	March 2015	Not started. The Ba Distrito Project Steering Committee will be involved in grant application review
Award Constituent Engagement Grants	April 2015	Not started. Grant funds will be awarded to and managed by local CSOs with activity input and implementing support from the sucos
Provide mini-trainings and technical assistance to grantees	April 2015	In planning. CSO Trainings will address based on individual OD assessments of grantees
Monitor and support Constituent Engagement Grantees	April to September 2015	Not started. Ba Distrito Senior OD, M&E and Governance staff will conduct site visits

A.5 – Facilitate Networking, Exchange Visits and Joint Action Among Sucos		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Provide technical assistance to suco councils to strengthen or form associations	October 2014 to September 2015	Partially complete. Assessment for suco exchange visits are done for Oecusse SAR, Baucau, Covalima and Ermera. First suco exchange in Baucau was postponed due to security issues. This initial technical assistance will lead into more intensive work with association through networking and trade

shows in year two of the program

A.6 – Improve Suco and District Collaboration for Better Service Delivery		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Organize roundtables for suco and district officials	February to March 2015; June to July 2015	In planning. MSA, MoJ, and other line ministries will be invited to help design the program and participate
Mentoring to sucos in communicating to higher-level government institutions	October 2014 to September 2015	In planning. STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities
STTA Good Governance Advisor deployed	February to March 2015	Complete. STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities
District Administration (DA) officials attend suco exchange visits and trade shows.	February to March 2015; June to August 2015	In planning (2nd week of April). STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities but the activity will take place in Year Two
Support a target group of sucos in each district to improve service delivery	April to August 2015	Complete for STTA Good Governance. While the coordinators continues doing assessment and prepare each suco to consider their potential and their presentation. STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities.
Organize roundtables for suco and district officials	February to March 2015; June to July 2015	Ongoing (through assessment Ba Distrito’s coordinators discussed suco potential, presentation methods and tools for suco presentation in creative ways. STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities

Component B – Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions:

B.1 – Solicit and Present Research on Citizens’ Opinion on Decentralization Policy and Practice to GOTL and Other Stakeholders:		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Draft concept papers.	September 2014 and as needed	Partially completed. With the support of Ba Distrito’s governance advisor and STTA if and when available.
Lead Dialogues with	July-August, 2015	Not started. Ba Distrito IP Belun’s community

government officials, CSO representatives and academics.		facilitators will lead dialogues with representatives from the District Administration, CSOs, private sector, sucos, media outlets, and other stakeholders.
Compile recommendations.	August-September 2015	Not started. Recommendations will be compiled, presented and reviewed at a national-level.
Present recommendations.	September 2015	Not started. Recommendations will be presented for comment at both the local and national-levels.
Participate in policy/legal framework working groups and ensure Ba Distrito participation and the inclusion of sub-district level feedback.	October 2013	Ongoing. Already member of the Policy Forum on revisions to suco legislation.

B.2 – Provide Legal Advice and Legislative Commentary to GOTL:		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Review decentralization legal framework.	January - September 2014	Ongoing. Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed.
Update on developments of legal framework for decentralization.	May 2014	Ongoing. Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed.
Conduct coordination planning workshops.	July 2014	In planning. Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed.
Respond to invitations to provide legal advice and legislative commentary	July-September 2014	Ongoing. Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed.

B.3 – Design and Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants

Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Issue solicitation for Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants.	December 2014 - January 2015	Completed. CSOs and academic institutions will be invited to submit applications to organize advocacy campaigns.
Review applications for Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants.	February 2015	Completed. The Ba Distrito Project Steering Committee will be involved in grant application review.
Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants.	April/May 2015	In planning. Ba Distrito will award larger grants to coalitions of CSOs. Coalition grantees will develop a campaign strategy for public outreach and working with media.
Monitor and support Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grantees.	April 2015 – onwards	Not started. Ba Distrito Senior OD and Governance staff as well as M&E staff will conduct site visits.

B.4 – Support Information Dissemination on Approved Laws:

Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Train CSOs and suco councils on legal framework outreach.	April 2015	In planning. Training conducted by Ba Distrito Governance Manager.
Engage media channels to disseminate information on decentralization laws.	As needed	Ongoing. Engage Public Outreach staff and Governance advisor in the design of media campaigns.
Issue solicitation for Constituent Engagement Grants.	November 2014 (FY2)	Submitted to USAID for approval before issuing. The selection criteria for these CEGs are designed to ensure that these citizen-driven initiatives stimulate discussion of the roles of PDID and PNDS at the suco-level and discussions about decentralization.
Review applications for Constituent Engagement Grants.	December/January 2015 (FY 2)	In planning. The Ba Distrito Project Steering Committee will be involved in grant application review.
Award Constituent Engagement Grants.	February 2015	In planning. Grant funds will be awarded to and managed by local CSOs with activity input and implementing support from the sucos.
Monitor and support Constituent Engagement Grantees.	February-onwards	In planning. Trainings will address a variety of issues based on individual OD assessments of grantees designed to determine their level of knowledge of suco-level governance and suco council roles and responsibilities within the PNDS and PDID processes.

Component C – Legal Aid Sustainability:

C.1 Support Government to Develop Responsive Integrated and Sustainable Legal Aid Assistance Model		
Sub Activity	Time Frame	Status
Stakeholder consultations held with MoJ, OPD, and other GOTL, and key civil society institutions (including program partner AATL) to gain their participation in a systematic legal aid development process for Timor-Leste facilitated by Ba Distrito	Ongoing	In progress. Legal Aid Brief launched in both Tetun and English at MOJ/LTC attended by representatives from USAID, MOJ, implementing partners, lawyers, media, and other donor programs. The project will continue engage with the government counterpart on the development of a systematic legal aid system as needed.
MOJ introduced to and adopts the Participatory Sustainable Legal Aid Development Guidebook process, creates implementation plan and develops a work calendar for activities	Ongoing	In progress. At the launch of Legal Aid Brief, the project made another presentation of the findings and recommendations which include different models of legal aid that TL may consider given its current context and realities. While recognizing the current gaps, no expression of interest in recommended legal aid models were seen. The project will continue to engage with the government counterpart in the event that any measures are taken to respond to the gaps identified.
Hold discussions MoJ, OPD and AATL and other CSOs on data-driven Legal Aid System Management.	January 2015 to February 2015	In progress. Although not necessarily on the legal aid system management, the project support the MOJ in the development of qualitative research tools that will help the MOJ to gather data via credible and tested methodology. With MOJ staff, the research instruments and tools were piloted and MOJ staff was trained on how to properly administer a qualitative research survey. The Ministry is currently conducting research to evaluate the impact of its legal information sessions using the research tools and instruments co developed with the Ministry.
Support establishment of mechanisms for ongoing	Ongoing	In progress. Oecusse legal aid coordination regularly meets on monthly basis to discuss

<p>coordination of legal aid system for rational allocation of legal aid funding and donor coordination</p>		<p>legal aid and access to justice related issues that need better response and coordination from all relevant government institutions and local CSOs. Within this quarter, various relevant government institutions continue attend Oecusse based legal aid coordination working group including National Police's VPU, ALFeLa, Forum for Oecusse Women, Pradet, MOJ, Court, Ombudsman for Human Rights and Justice, Ministry of Social and Solidarity, Health Ministry and other CSOs.</p>
<p>Establish district –level Legal Aid Coordination Groups and conduct training in legal aid assessment, data collection and monitoring systems. These groups will composed of legal aid providers in the area and coordinated by legal aid grantees and implementing partners FFSO</p>	<p>January 2015 onward</p>	<p>In progress. See the commentary in the previous column.</p>
<p>Conduct surveys and random sampling called for in the Guide</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>In planning; Partially in progress. Access to Justice, M&E, and Public Outreach staff.</p>
<p><i>State of Legal Aid Annual Report</i> completed and communication strategy for findings and recommendations developed. Access to justice staff together with JSMP.</p>	<p>September 2015</p>	<p>In planning.</p>
<p>Resuming Legal Aid Coalition formerly established by The Asia Foundation with previous USAID access to justice funds. Access to justice team to coordinate and provide technical support</p>	<p>January 2015 onward. Meeting every two months</p>	<p>Ongoing. The legal aid partners' advocacy meeting resumed in January and organized its first group event by visiting Gleno prison to provide legal aid for female inmates in commemoration of International Women's Day. The group composed of mostly the project's legal aid partners with ALFeLa and ECM participating in non-partners capacity.</p>

to the Coalition	During its first meeting in January, it was agreed that the group would meet only based on needs to advocate for an issue or organize an event
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C2. Improve Capacity and Outreach of Legal Aid and Alternative Dispute Providers		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Award Legal Aid and Advocacy Implementation Grants	December 2014	Completed. Liberta and JPC were announced as the project's new grantees during at the Legal Aid Brief launch event. Both grantees signed their individual sub agreements with Ba Distrito and started to implement project activities within this month.
Design and issue RFA and access to justice Grants	December 2014 to January 2015	Partially completed and ongoing. Two grants have been awarded to JPC and Liberta to undertake legal aid work in Baucau, Ermera, and Liquica. The project in in the process of discussing the development and award of another legal aid grant for legal outreach activities in Covalima municipality.
OD assessments with grantees	January to February 2015 and ongoing	In progress. The project has conducted action planning with FFSO within this quarter to identify priority areas to work on. JSMP action planning as well as initial assessments for new grantees expected to happen in the next quarter.
Complete training needs assessment for legal aid service providers and training developed for legal aid advocacy and implementation grants and access to justice technical grants	January 2015	In process. The project has finalized case management TOR and recruitment of case management expert expected to be deployed in June and will be on ground until mid-July. She will assess the current state of case management within each legal aid partners, identify their case management needs as well as recommendations on ways to improve their case management. Training will be developed and delivered to private lawyers from legal aid partners as well as other practicing lawyers.
Delivers training to legal aid providers	January to March 2015	In Planning.
JSMP delivers training to Suco Council members on formal justice	February 2015 to July 2015	In process. Manuals for suco council training have been finalized. Illustrations, workplan, and training schedules will be completed in

coordination with Belun's suco training schedule within the next quarter including the signing of fixed amount award with JSMP. The training is expected to commence in mid-May.

C.3 Assess and Reinforce Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanism

Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Map the ADR services available in each district of intervention	October 2014 and ongoing	Ongoing. A generic format for ADR mapping was completed in close collaboration between the project and Belun. ADR mapping will begin in the next quarter with Belun's municipal and regional coordinators expected to collect data on ADR practices at the suco level in monthly basis.
Monitor ADR process	Monthly beginning January 2015	Ongoing. See the commentary in the preceding column
Identify possible ways to link ADR to formal justice sector and other state institutions in pilot areas to inform future activities	July 2015	Ongoing. Working with Belun and JSMP, respective work in ADR and formal justice system strengthening
Compile recommendations with regard to regulation of customary law and community justice and linkages to formal sector	As required	Incorporating other donor-funded studies especially those in relation to GVB, implementing partner JSMP monitoring and implementing partner Belun's monitoring
Contribute to drafting and revising laws on alternative mechanisms	As required	Part C4 below.
Under Access to Justice grants, provide socialization, outreach and training to community leaders on such issues as GBV, human rights, customary law, existing referral mechanisms, and fundamental legal principals.	February to July 2015	Ongoing. Implementing partner JSMP will be conducting training to suco council members in the next quarter on gender equality, women's rights and access to justice.

C.4 Targeted Assistance on Improving the Legislative Framework for Legal Aid

Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Legal Aid Coalition Meeting every two months	Ongoing	Ongoing. After a short curtailment due to the project ex-partner AATL, the advocacy meeting resumed this quarter with the first meeting held in January to discuss about new advocacy approaches including a group event to commemorate International Women's Day.
Present to the Legal Aid Coalition legislative gaps and inconsistencies that can be basis for advocacy	February 2015 onward	Ongoing. The legal aid partners advocacy meeting in January identified a number of legislations to advocate for whenever they are discussed by the GOTL including the implementation of law on witness protections, draft access to court law, and draft traditional justice law.
Provide analysis, amendments, drafts on Legal Aid law and related legislation	As needed	Ongoing. A2J team and international STTA provided as needed.

C.5 Provide Support to Government and CSOs to Create Accessible and Effective Legal Information

Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status.
Legal Working Group established	January 2015 onward	Ongoing. This group consist the same legal aid partners group excluding ALFeLa and ECM to develop public service announcements packages on identified legal topics. These radio PSA packages will then be synergized with the legal aid partners' legal mobile legal information session to reinforce each other. The development of PSA and its synergy with current legal aid information materials will happen in the next quarter.
Working Group identifies priority areas for campaigns	January 2015 onward	In process.
Support development of Legal Information and Advocacy Guide Book produced in consultation with stakeholders	March 2015 and ongoing	In planning.
Legal information capacity building training	January 2015	In planning.

initiated with government and judicial agencies and program grantees		
Deliver training to media and develop packets on the key access to justice topics	February 2015	Ongoing.

Component D – District Court Functionality:

D.1 Assess Needs and Design District Court Training Program		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) as needed with MOJ, Baucau and Oecusse District Courts	January 2015	Partially complete. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Ba Distrito and the Court of Appeal outlining possible areas of cooperation throughout the life of the project. A draft MOU was sent to the MOJ within this quarter for their comments and feedback.
Monitor district courts with an emphasis on access and quality of legal aid services in the courts	January 2015 onward	Ongoing. Within this quarter, Ba Distrito finalized a legal aid quality monitoring format with JSMP and JSMP started to use this format in the last month of the quarter to gather data on the quality of legal aid in the courtroom.
Conduct additional Training Needs Assessment of district court staff as needed	February 2015 and onward	In progress. Within this quarter, the Court of Appeal agreed on two technical areas with the project and established a team to work with Ba Distrito on the agreed areas of support. Within this quarter, the progress staff also visited Oecusse court both as a courtesy visit as well as for pre-training assessment. Same visit will be done for Baucau court in the next quarter. These pre training assessments will be followed up with the technical assistant in greater detail prior to providing recommendations, developing and delivering training to the judicial officers and judges.
Support LTC in design of training modules and changes to curricula for staff in District courts, adapted to their	January 2015 onward	In progress. A judicial statistics and court administration expert has been recruited within this quarter and is due to be deployed within the next quarter to work with individual pilot courts as well as LTC to develop and delivery

functions and based on needs			training to judges and judicial officers.
Training Assessment updated based on any additional assessments completed. Training assessments to be done in conjunction with LTC and/or justice institution staff where possible	Needs Report	February 2015	In planning.
Training developed for district judges, select court staff, public defenders and private lawyers, if agreed by Court and Office of Public Defender	Blueprint for district	February 2015 to March 2015	In planning.

D.2 - Deliver Training for Justice and Accountability Institution Staff			
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status	
Develop training and training program in conjunction with LTC and select justice institution staff	February 2015 onward	In progress.	A judicial statistics and court administration expert has been recruited within this quarter and is due to be deployed within the next quarter to work with individual pilot courts as well as LTC to develop and delivery training to judges and judicial officers.
Training of Trainers	March 2015	In planning.	
Review of Training Pilots	February 2015	In planning.	
PACT process launched with identification of non-training interventions in district court(s), creation of framework agreement and gaining national counterpart authorization for pilot activities	June to September 2015	Ongoing.	The Court of Appeal agreed to two areas of support within this year (2015)- a training statistical data gathering and analysis planned for May/June, and court management and leadership training planned for August/September. The judicial statistics and court administration expert will assess the current state of statistical data gathering and analysis within each court upon which recommendations will be made for each court to consider and implement with technical support from Ba Distrito
Introduce PACT process at district court level and	January 2015 to February 2015	In progress.	See commentary in the preceding column

sign agreements		
PACT action planning	February 2015	In progress.
PACT implementation	February 2015 onwards	In planning.

D.3 Introduce Professional Development System (PDS)

Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Encourage judiciary and possibly the Public Defender's Office to strengthen the existing PDS to include job training and monitoring and evaluation linked to performance evaluation	January 2015 onward	In planning.
If invited, facilitate the judiciary and possibly the Public Defender's Office to undertake a self-assessment of each institution's current professional development system and identify opportunities for developing an integrated PDS	February 2015	In planning.
If agreed, initiate implementation / refinement of PDS with agreed key counterpart institution(s). Support judiciary to develop and monitor Individual Development Plans for the senior justice personnel	April 2015 onward	In planning.

D.4 Build Capacity of the LTC in its Role to Increase Human Capacity in Judicial Institutions

Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Enter agreement with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to engage in institutional capacity	January 2015 to February 2015	Ongoing.

building and training in conjunction with district court strengthening		
Engage MoJ/LTC and Superior Council in OD self-assessment process using Tt DPK Judicial Training Institute Development Tool (JTIDT) and develop action plan based on findings	February 2015 onward	In planning.
Identify ways for MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to decentralize training and provide more in-service training to better meet capacity building needs of currently serving district judges, prosecutors, defenders, lawyers, clerks, notaries and registrars, translators, interpreters, etc	February 2015 onward	Partially started.
Work with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to ensure that the training programs targeting district court staff are evaluated	February 2015 onward	In planning.
Work with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to institutionalize an annual training review process to better meet district court needs	February 2015 onward	In planning.

D.5 Flexible and Responsive Training Fund		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Quick impact training	TBD	Not started.

Annex 6 – Detailed Report of Monitoring of Progress Against Performance Indicators

Component “A” Performance Indicators	Year 2 Target	LOP Target	Status
Number of CSOs using USG assistance to improve internal organizational capacity (F indicator)	3	4	3
Number of constituent engagement initiatives implemented through joint CSO/suco council partnerships	25	50	In planning
Number of suco councils who report holding constituent dialogues to identify the specific needs of women in their sucos	0	50	In planning
Increased knowledge and understanding among Suco council members of individual and institutional roles and responsibilities	Baseline	50%	Baseline established
Proportion of females (Suco council members trained) who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG supported training/program (F indicator)	4/5	4/5	In planning
Number of sub-national entities receiving USG assistance that improve their performance (F indicator)	Baseline	100%	Baseline established
Increased performance and organizational capacity among sub-national entities that receive USG assistance	Baseline	25%	Baseline established

Component “B” Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	Year 2	LOP Target	Status
Number of people reached through CSO decentralization awareness campaigns	25,000	25,000	100,000	507
Number of dialogues, workshops and other events aimed at increasing local-level input into the national discourse on decentralization	6	10	36	4
Number of mechanisms developed or supported by Ba Distrito and USG Assistance to improve citizen engagement with local government	20	30	100	In planning
Number of recommendations to new and existing laws developed through consultative processes including government and non-government entities	5	5	20	46
Percentage of citizen knowledge and awareness of decentralization activities in	Baseline	N/A	TBD	Baseline established

targeted districts

Component "C" Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	LOP Target	Status
Increase in the number of individuals receiving legal aid or victim's assistance with USG support (F indicator)	Baseline	58%	66
Number of legal information and advocacy campaigns implemented by USG-funded legal aid partners	3	5	14
Number of legal information and advocacy campaigns focused on gender equality and/or gender based violence	1	3	14
Increased capacity of target legal aid organizations to plan and execute long-term financial sustainability strategies	Baseline	52%	To be determined
Increased number of cases resolved by USG-supported legal aid providers	Baseline	20%	12
Number of laws, regulations, or amendments to laws promoting an integrated legal aid approach drafted and submitted for approval	3	12	0
Number of laws, regulations or amendments to laws promoting an integrated legal aid approach adopted by the GOTL	1	5	0
Increase in number of citizens in target areas who report greater access to justice and legal aid information	Baseline		400

Component "D" Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	LOP Target	Status
Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG assistance (F indicator)	10	100	0
Increased knowledge of administrative, financial and case management processes and procedures among judicial personnel	Baseline	50%	To be determined
Number of PACT improvements adopted that increase court functionality and administration of justice	2	8	0
Number of PACT improvements adopted that increase public access to information	2	8	0
Increased percentage of citizens in target communities who report confidence in the formal justice sector/district courts	Baseline	TBD	To be determined

Annex 7 – Press Releases from Newspapers

Please see the press releases from newspapers below.

Government media coverage of justice activities

Ministériu Justisa Servisu Hamutuk ho USAID Hodi halo diskusaun Meza redonda (accessible on MOJ website at : <http://www.mj.gov.tl/?q=node/823>)

DNDHC-MJ Halao Programa Peskiza Kona-ba Asesu ba Justisa iha Postu Administrativu Atabae Munisipiu Bobonaro (February 20, 2015. Accessible on MOJ website at : <http://www.mj.gov.tl/?q=print/834>)

11 MARSU 2015

FETO

PÁJINA 7

INDEPENDENTE
Ini Nia Lian, Ini Nia Liberdade

USAID-ONG LIBERTA Selebra Loron Mundial Feto Ho Prizoneiru Gleno

Husi: Domingos da Costa

ERMERA: United States Agency International Development (USAID) ho organizasaun Asistencia Legal LIBERTA selebra loron mundial feto hamutuk ho prizoneiru sira iha prizaun Gleno, Munisipiu Ermeca.

Representante USAID projektu ba Distrito, Antonio Soares dehaan, sira hakarak selebra hamutuk feto fali loron internasional ba feto ho prizoneiru feto sira iha prizaun Gleno.

Taun nia, USAID suportu orsamentu hamutuk rihun \$17 ba LIBERTA ne'ebe fo asistencia legal ba prizoneirus iha Prizaun.

"LIBERTA mak hala'e atividade durante tinan fida nia lauan hodi hakbesik aan ba iha prizoneiru sira iha prizaun lauan turba sira ba ntu fo existencia legal ba prizoneiru sira," dehaan nia iha Prizaun Gleno, Munisipiu Ermeca, Tersa (10/03).

Iha tinan hancan, Advogadu LIBERTA, Natalino L. da Costa Letro dehaan, iha vizita ne'e LIBERTA mai hamutuk ho Educasaun Komunidade Baikan (EKB) re Aflieta nta haree prizoneiru sira



FOTO: Ilustrasaun

iha prizaun lauan.

"Ami mai hakarak halo konsultasau gratuita ba prizoneiru sira iha Gleno, tamba emi servisu hamutuk ho USAID atu implementa programa vizita ba prizaun ne'e," katak Natalino.

Nia huene, sira roma buar barak hira prizoneiru sira, ne'e duni sira hakarak ntu hasoru malu ho sira nia advogadu, tamba sira la komprende prosesu hirak ne'ehé la'o durante ne'e.

Natalino hatutan, prizoneiru balun hira Indonezia mós hato'o kestaun katak sira iha dificuldade koma-ba lingua tetun ne'ebe susar uitean atu komprende klean, ba prosesu hirak ne'e.

11 Marsu 2015 **Jornal Nacional**



Diário

GMN-Grupo Média Nacional
Hamutuk Haldaken Lia Los www.jndiario.com

Maluk Feto-sira iha Prizaun Gleno hetan Asisténsia Legál



Grupu advogada no advogada-sira ne'ebé fô konsultasaun legál no edukasaun legál ba prizoniera-sira. Photos Ba Distrito

Advogadu nain hitu (7) husi organizasaun lokal ba asisténsia legál lima (5) liu husi grupu advogada no advogada-sira halo vizita ba prizaun Gleno atu fô asisténsia legál ba prizoniera-sira hamutuk nain 19 hodi komemora Loro Mutukel Feto, iha Prizaun Gleno Ermera, Tersa (10/03).

Grupu ida ne' e ba prizaun hodi fô konsultasaun legál no edukasaun legál ba prizoniera-sira. Konsultasaun legál ne' e fô oportunidade ba prizoniera atu halo konsultasaun legál direita ho advogadu no advogada sira kora-ba sira nia direitu no 'udar arguidu ku hatete katak, "Atu fô asisténsia legál ba prizoniera-sira no mos ajuda-sira hodi prosesu sira nia direitu la'o lalais liu tan (direitu ba asisténsia legál)."

Vizita ne' e hali o husi organizasaun asisténsia legál-sira hanesan LIBERTA Consultoria e Advocacia, ALFeLa, Educação Comandade Matebian (ECM) Baucau, Jurista & Advocacia, no JNF Advocacia, ho objetivu atu hafonsa asesu ba justisa ba ema vuneravel-sira.

"Ami grupu advogadu no advogadu-sira ne' ebe servisu ba asisténsia legál nia prezensa iha ne' e importante lebes, hodi fô informasaun legál ba prizoniera- Koordenador programa LIBERTA, Natalino da Costa Letto.

Reprezentante grupu advogadu no advogadu-sira servisu asisténsia legál husi ECM, Alexandrina de Sousa Soares, hatete katak, "Apoia ida ne' e atu tulun prizoniera-sira nia preocupasaun kora-ba komunikasaun ne' ebe ladin efektivu entre prizoniera ho sira nia defensor."

Semuna rua liu ba LIBERTA foin asina akordu ho USAID nia projetu Ba Distrito atu fô asisténsia legál ba ema vuneravel-sira iha munisipiu rua hanesan Ermera no Liquiçá. Ba oin,


INDEPENDENTE 26 FEVEREIRO 2015
PÁGINA 2 *Ini Nia Lian, Ini Nia Liberdade*

Haforsa Governasaun Lokal, USAid Lana Estudu Konprensivu

Husi: Domingos da Costa

DILI: United States Agency International Development (USAid) halo lansa mentu ba estudu konprensivu hodi haforsa governasaun lokal iha Munisipiu sira.

Xefi Ekipa USAid Projeta ba Distritu, Carolyn Tanner hatete, estudu konprensivu ne'e sei halo liha kordenasaun kona-ba projeta ba Distritu atu reforsa autoridade lokal no hadia assistensia hodi asesu justisa iha Timor-Leste.

Projeta ba distritu ita'o estudu iha munisipiu tolu hanesan Munisipiu Baukai, Kovalima no Oekusi. Sira hala'o ona survey iha bulan Marsu to'o Maio 2014.

"USAid projeta ba Projeta Distritu nia baseline survey ne'e fornese baze ida ba projeta ho darasaun tinan hant, hodi fo atensaun liu ba envolve ema sira ne'e ebe marginalizadu (hanesan) feto, jovan no ema difisiente sira," dehan Tanner ha jornalista sira iha Fatu-Hada, horischik.

Iha fatin hanesa, espesialista ba Jestaun Projeta ba Demokrasi no Governasaun, Germano Beavida hatete, baseline survey fornese baze ida ba USAID nia projeta ba distritu no instituisaun governu ne'e ebe relevante atu dezerta intervensiaun ba nescesidade ne'e ebe responsiva ba sidadaun sira nia prezokupasaun.

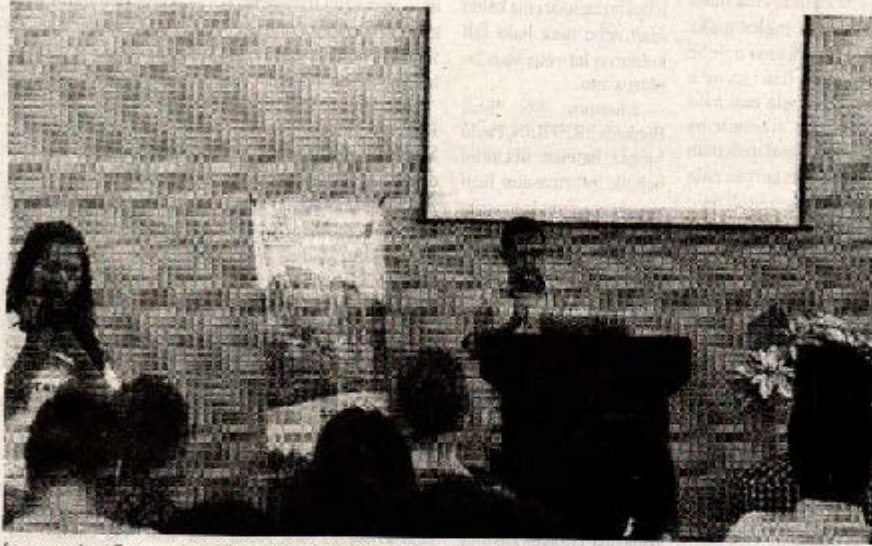
"USAid sente koartente atu apou krunar importante ida ne'e," dehan Germano.

Entretantu, Sosial Siensia Dimensioens, Rod Nixon hatete, rezultadu estudu hirak ne'e hatudu rezilensia no popularidade sistema justisa ka rezulasaun disputa iha nivel suku.

Ne'e duni prezisa atu hadia lida'ok jereeru no direitu ema nian ne'e ebe relevante ho sistema iha suku.

Rod dehan, iha estudu hatudu rezultadu ne'e ebe di'ak, ka opunista kama ba envolvimentu komunidadade ba desizium sira iha suku, ho gorventu 95,3 husi respondente sira katak, sira sente iha abilidade atu partisipa, enkontra iha suku hodi deskute prioridade sira ba dezenvolvimentu, maibe iha mos menus konsensia kona-ba avanta importante iha suku.

Ba Distrito Nia Rezultadu Peskiza Fó Vizaun Ba Oin



Luá menon hui Germano Boavida (USAID-nia Espesialista ba Jestaun Projeto ho Demokrasiá no Governasaun) iha lansaamentu Ba Distrito nia Baseline Survey. FOTO BA DISTRITO

USAID nia projeto Ba Distrito horesik, Kuarta 25 Febreiru 2015, iha Tower Famihada, kursa ona estudu kongriensivu ida ne'ebé sei torna liu-de-baze ba projeto ne'e nia servisu iha futuru atu hafensa governasaun lokal no hadia hutin asisensu asesu ba justisa iha Timor-Leste (TL).

Estudu ne'ebé hala'o durante Marsu to'o Maiu 2014 iha suku 22 iha Baucau, Covalima no Oecusse, halo peskiza kona-ba nivel-de-konsiensia ba asuntu-sira ne'ebé liga ba área prinsipal servisu Ba Distrito nian, governasaun

iha nivel suku, prosesu desentralizasaun, no asesu ba justisa.

"USAID nia Projeto Ba Distrito nia *Baseline Survey* ne'e fornese laze ida ba projeto ho durasaun tinan haat, hodi fó atensaun liu ba involve ema-sira ne'ebé marginalizadu-feto, joven no ema defisiente-sira," hateten Carolyn Tanner, Xefe Ekipa USAID nia projeto Ba Distrito, ne'ebé finansiadu ho apoiu jenerozu husi povu Amerikanu.

Husi levantamentou ne'ebé halo ba ema hamutuk 958, na'in 483 mak feto, ema ho idade 16-30 (joven)

hamutuk 467, no ema ne'ebé identifika-an moris ho kondisaun defisientia fizika mente no intelektualmente hamutuk 55.

USAID-nia Espesialista ba Jestaun Projeto ba Demokrasiá no Governasaun, Germano Boavida hatete katak, "*Baseline survey* ne'e fornese baze ida ba USAID nia projeto Ba Distrito no insituisaun governu ne'ebé relevante atu dezeña intervensaun-sin ba nesidade ne'ebé responsivu ba sidadaun-sira nia preokupasaun, nesidade no espetativa sira. USAID

sente kontenti atu apoiu kraír importante ida-ne'e."

Rod Nixon husi Social Science Dimensions, ne'ebé hala'o *Baseline Survey* ne'e hateten, "Rezultadu sira husi estudu ne'e hatudu rezilénsia no popularidade sistema justisa/rezoluasaun disputu iha nivel suku, nune'e más importánsia atu hadia lala'ok jeneru no direitu ema nian ne'ebé relevante ho sistema iha suku."

Estudu ne'e hatudu rezultadu ne'ebé di'ak ou optimista kona-ba involvimentu komunidadade ba desizaun sira iha suku, ho porsentu 95,3 husi

respondente-sira hateten katak sira sente iha abilidade atu participa enkontru-sira iha suku hodi diskute prioridade sira ba dezenvolvimentu, maibé iha mos menus-de-konsiensia kona-ba asuntu importante seluk iha suku.

"Rezultadu estudu ne'e indika katak, maske iha involvimentu aas iha suku no jestaun suku nian, maibe respondente sira seidauk iha koñesimentu diak kona-ba líder no membru konsellu suku sira nia responsabilidade bazein ba lei," Carolyn Tanner hatete.

"Signifika katak konsellu suku sira karik labele hetan benefisiu husi komunidadade nia sugestaan ne'ebé diak ba asuntu oi-ein, no komunidadade iha suku laran la ezerseluzu sira nia direitu atu hola parte iha prosesu planeamentu suku nian".

Iha konsiensia nivel aas kona-ba servisu asisensia legál, maibé menus iha utilizasaun. Liu tres kuartu (3/4) husi respondente sira indika katak sira buka ona informasaun kona-ba oinsá asesu ba informasaun legál iha pasadu, liuliu husi sira nia xefi suku ka polisia komunitaria. Maibé, iha falta-de-utilizasaun husi apoiu legál ne'ebé iha ona-tantu husi advegnu privadu ka servisu defensoria publiku.

Regional

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USAID Nia Projetu “Ba Distrito” Lansa Rezumu Asesu ba Justisa

Kumpriensaun no asesu ba sistema legál agora besik liután ona ba povu Timor-Leste, ho lansamentu relatóriu foun ida ehin loron ne'ebé halo rekomendasaun atu hadiák servisu justisa iha munisípiu sira.

Ajénsia Estados Unidos ba Dezenvolvimentu Internasionál (USAID) nia projetu Ba Distrito ne'e, lansá nia rezumu asesu ba justisa, *Asisténsia Legál iha Timor-Leste*, iha Centro de Formação Jurídica, Caicoli Dili, Tersa (17/02).

Iha rezumu asesu ba justisa nia relatóriu ne'e hetan katak, Timor-Leste nia sistema asisténsia legál prezisa solusaun sustentavel ida hodi kontinua suporta povu kiak no vulneravel sira ne'ebé prezisa servisu asisténsia legál.

Diretór Jeral Ministériu Justisa, Francisco Cáceres, hatete katak, iha prosesu dezenvolvimentu Timor-Leste nian prezisa apoiu husi Komunitade Internasionál.

“Ha'u agradece ba Povu Amerikanu liu husi USAID nia “Projetu Ba Distrito” ne'ebé koopera di'ak nafatin hodi tulun komidade kbi'it laek iha área rural sira atu hetan asesu ba justisa. Ho ida ne'e, ita bele la'o hamutuk ba oin iha prosesu dezenvolvimentu”, hateten Francisco Cáceres iha nia diskursu lansamentu relatóriu ne'e.

Iha eventu ne'e USAID mós entrega relatóriu, ne'ebé inklui



Franco Belo Ximenes nu'udar Jektor asesu ba Justisa-projetu Ba Distrito, apresenta hela Rezumu Asesu Ba Justisa foun hono-ba Analiza Sistema Servisu Asisténsia Legál iha Timor-Leste. FOTO BA DISTRITO

representante.

Diretóra Departamentu ba Dezenvolvimentu Jeral husi USAID, Lisa Whitley hatete katak, “Relatóriu ida ne'e bele forñese dalan ida ba instituisaun justisa sira Timor-Leste mian atu garante katak Timor-oan hotu bele asesu sira nia direitu legál sira. USAID orgullu tanba bele ona suporta servisu importante ida ne'e.”

Relatóriu ne'e hetan katak asisténsia legál ne'ebé finansiadu sei menus iha área barak. Ida ne'e aumenta volume servisu Defensória Públika ne'ebé tenke representa parte rua husi kazu ida.

“Iha menus kumpriensaun kona-ba sistema legál iha Timor-Leste iha nivel baza, especialmente iha munisípiu sira, inklui oinsa atu asesu servisu legál sira, oinsa atu uza sistema justisa formál no direitu saida mak povu sira iha,” hatete Xefe Ekípa Ba Distrito, Carolyn Tanner

Carolyne Tanner

kompriensivu atu representa povu sira ne'ebé laiha kbiit ba representasaun ka asisténsia legál, atu suporta no komplementa servisu Defensória Públika no atu evita konfliktu interese.

Rekomendasaun husi relatóriu ne'e katak, Timor-Leste ninia advogadu privadu sira prezisa atu iha papél ativu iha estabelesimentu sistema asisténsia legál ne'ebé garante sustentabilidade, no identifika modélu asisténsia legál ibridu/ kahur-malu balun ne'ebé bele la'o iha kontestu Timor-Leste.

Iha eventu lansamentu relatóriu ne'e, Ba Distrito mós ununsia katak LIBERTA no Comissão Justiça e Paz sei sai nu'udar parseiru iha 2015 atu implementá servisu asisténsia legál no kampania informasaun legál iha munisípiu Ermera no Liquiça, no Baucau. Organizasaun ida-idak sei simu fundus maiz ou menus \$ 15.000 atu implementa atividade hink

Amerikanu liuhusi Ajénsia Estados Unidos ba Dezenvolvimentu Internasionál (USAID) no implementa husi Counterpart International ho nia parseiru Tetra Tech DPK, projetu ne'e implementa daudaun atu haforsa governasaun lokal ho hamelin asesu ba justisa iha suku 100 iha Timor-Leste.

“Konstituisaun Timor-Leste garante direitu ba asesu ha konsellu no asisténsia legál, no LIBERTA no Comissão Justiça e Paz sei tama hamutuk ho ami nia parseiru asisténsia legál selak hanesan FTSO husi Occusse atu desamina informasaun kona-ba lei sira no direitu legál iha nivel baze,” Carolyn Tanner hatete tan.

Relatóriu ne'e, ne'ebé halo peskiza area legál atuál iha Timor-Leste ho foku partikular ba Baucau no Occusse, hetan dezafiu hubuk-ida ne'ebé impede asesu ba justisa no impede mós efetividade sistema legál, inklui língua, pobreza, distánsia ba





Husi Domingos da Costa

DILI: United States Agency International Development (USAID) hala' o lansamentu rezumu ba ema hot-hotu bele asesu ba justisa iha Timor-Leste.

Iha seremonia lansamentu ne'e, Xefi Ekipa ba Distritu USAID, Carolyn Fouser hatete, programa ba disritu sira au hale avalliasan kona ba situasan no assistensia legalis iha Timor-Leste, lihu ba munisipiu Baukau no Zona especial ekonomia Oekusi.

Objetivu atu namatin enkuadramentu legalis kona ba assistensia legal iha Timor-Leste. Ne'e duni USAID bakarak promove atu asesu justisa, maibe bazeia ba avalliasan sira haree kona ba enkuadramentu legal sidada kompletu.

"Ami mos haree ba avalliasan ida ne'e katak, negosiasiun kona ba assistensia legalis, dala ruma ladan han malu bele hanesa konfliku, isabu ne'e

ami sereu ba Ministeriu Justisa buki dala au hamoniza negosiasiun ne'ebé ejiste," hatete Carolyn ba INDEPENDENTE, iha sentru juridika Kaikoli, foin lalais.

Carelyn dehan, Ministeriu Justisa bele dezenvolve legislasiun foin kona ba assistensia legalis ne'ebé bele estabelece mekanismu hodi kompletamentu servisu defensoria publiku no assistensia legalis.

Aleinde ne'e, nia esplika katak, prosasa atu asesu justisa sai han tempu ne'ebé nirik. Tanha ba rekursu umanu ne'ebé limitadu, ne'e duni USAID fokus ba munisipiu Baukau, Oekusi.

"Ami nia projeta sai hanesan piletu hodi suporta Lembaga Bantuan Hukum (LBH) ne'ebé hala' o servisu iha Tribunal Distritu Baukau, Oekusi, Likisa no Ermera, atu f5 assistensia legalis ba gratuitu ba povu ne'ebé hela ita distritu sira ne'e," tenik Carolyn.

USAID mos lahele promove katak, atu asesu justisa la'os

ema hot-hotu, maibe liu husi programa fondasiun bakarak suporta LBH sira ne'ebé ejiste hodi kontinua servisu iha baze.

Maske nune'e, Diretor Jeral Ministeriu Justisa, Francisco Cáceres hatete, iha prosesu dezenvolvimentu Timor-Leste prezisa apuia husi comunidade internasiona.

"Ha' o egrades ba povu Amerika liu husi USAID nia projeta ba distritu ne'ebé koopera di'ak nafatin hodi tulun komunidade kb'i'it taek iha zona rural sira au hetan asesu ba justisa. Ha' ida ne'e, ita bele la' o hamonik ba nia iha prosesu dezenvolvimentu," dehan Francisco.

Aleinde ne'e, Diretora Departamentu ba Dezenvolvimentu Jeral, Lisa Whitley hatete, relatoria hirak ne'e bele forneso dala ida ba instituisaun justisa sira Timor-Leste atu garante ba sidadaun hotu asesu sira nia disritu.

"USAID sente orgallu, tuma bele suporta servisu importante ida ne'e," subliha Lisa.

Counterpart provides funds for legal assistance to rural communities

By Paulina Quintão, TDW

According to the Country Director of Counterpart, an international organization with funds from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Carolyn Tanner, her organization is providing communities in rural areas with free legal assistance. The assistance is funded by Counterpart but delivered through local partners including the Fatu Sinal Oecusse foundation (FFSO) and the Baucau Justice and Peace Commission and LIBERTA in Dili.

She said, the communities in rural areas in particular vulnerable people do not have access to fair justice because they are economically vulnerable, do not have information and do not receive proper legal guidance and expert counsel.

"We support them in becoming legal assistance providers for the communities in rural areas especially the vulnerable and so they can access the formal justice system," said CD Tanner during the launch of a report on access to justice in Timor-Leste, held in Kaikolá, Dili.

She urged the government of Timor-Leste to develop a policy that supports mechanism for free legal assistance services for vulnerable people.

Counterpart will be funding implementing partners for three years, from 2015 until 2017, with every legal assistance service provider receiving up to



Counterpart's Country Director Carolyn Tanner presenting the report on Access to the Justice System in Timor-Leste and funds to implementing partners that will provide free legal assistance to vulnerable rural communities.

\$15,000 in funds to be used to disseminate information about laws, legal rights, and to provide legal assistance to vulnerable Timorese so they can access the formal legal system.

The Program Coordinator of the Legal Assistance (LRH), NGO LIBERTA Palában Natalino D.C. said so far lack of funds has made it difficult for them to provide pro-bono assistance for vulnerable people.

"We have been providing free legal assistance for a long time but many of our members quit because we could not pay them," said LIBERTA Coordinator Palában.

He added, the assistance that is provided by LIBERTA for the community is solely dependent on donor support so when those funds dry up they can no longer represent clients and this has a negative

impact on the legal community and there is a general loss of trust in lawyers.

In the meantime, the representative of the Ministry of Justice Francisco Carceres acknowledged the situation of both public and private lawyers and that there are lots of challenges ahead for the justice sector including lack of human resources and the facilities.

"But you need to be patient and providing legal assistance to the community should not be about money," said Carceres.

He also thanked the international organizations that so far have supporting the justice sector in Timor-Leste and that make it possible for legal assistance to reach the community and that increases the engagement with the formal legal system. ■



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Ba Distrito Halo Formasaun Métodolojia Peskiza Kualitativu



Partisipante sira rona bele instrusaun husi treinador Alejandra Villanueva (hamrik lusa lisan karik) atu pratika halo focus group ne'ebé sei implementa lha terenu. FOTO BA DISTRITO

USAID nia projeta Ba Distrito servisu hamutuk ho Ministériu Justisa, halo Formasaun Metodolojia Peskiza Kualitativu duranti loron tolu, lulu dia 25-27 Febreiru 2015, iha Centro de Formação Jurídica (CFJ), Caicoli. No Formasaun ne'e partisipa husi ekipa Ministériu Justisa hamutuk ema noin 18.

Ba Distrito fo treinamentu ida ne'e ho apoiu téknika husi especialista peskiza Alejandra Villanueva, husi

Universidade Sydney-Australia.

Formasaun ida ne'e atu prepsira ekipa peskiza Ministériu Justisa hodi halo peskiza kualitativu ne'ebé tentativamente platu atu hala'o iha lulan Abril.

Formasaun duranti loron tolu nia laran ne'e, partisipantes sira halo aprezentasaun no diskusao grupu hodi dezenvolve simulasaun bu peskiza. Partisipante sira nés peritika instrumentu sira ne'ebé sei uza no

anlika lha terenu hanesan, halo entrevista (informal, semi-estruturado, no klein lhu), dezenvolve kestionariu no peskiza.

"Ho programa divulgasaun no desiminasao lei-sira ba sidadaun sira iha Timor-Leste (TL), lhu husi peskiza ida ne'e, ita [Ministériu Justisa] bele sukak to'o lha ne'ebé ona sidadaun sira nia asesu ba justisa," hatete Celso Cardoso Diretor Nasionál ba Direitu Humanis no Sidadaun, Ministériu Justisa.

USAID Ba Distrito dezenvolve modulu formasaun nian lhu husi servisu hamutuk ho Ministériu Justisa. Ho ida ne'e Ministériu bele hatene impaktu husi aktividade divulgasaun sira ne'ebé Ministériu halao ora, no nés bele ajuda Ministériu atu haree fila fali mekanizamu no stratejia divulgasaun hodi bele responde komunidadade nia direitu atu asesu bu justisa.

Xeli Ekipa Ba Distrito, Carolyn Tanner hateten, "Ba Distrito kontenti atu servisu hamutuk ho Ministériu Justisa hodi bele habelar lhu tan informasaun bu sidadaun sira iha baze."

"Treinamentu ne'e importante no lha benefisu boot mai ami ne'ebé servisu iha Ministériu Justisa (MJ) hodi bele uza metodu peskiza ne'ebé lós atu sukak kofoesimatu komunidadade nian konaha lei sira no informasaun ne'ebé mak Ministériu sosializa ba komunidadade sira", hateten João da Costa partisipantes ida husi Ministeriu Justisa.

USAID nia projeta Ba Distrito, ne'ebé hetan apoiu jeneriza husi povu Americanu lhu husi Agência Estados Unidos ba Dezenvolvimentu Intonasional (USAID) no implementa husi Co-aterpart International ho nia puseiru Tetra Tech DPK, projeta ne'e implementa daudaaun atu haforsa governasaun lokal no hametin asesu bu justisa iha suku 100 iha Timor-Leste.ixo

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SESTA, 27 FEVEREIRU 2015



USAID Lansa Projektu ba Distritu Baseline Survey

DILI - *United States Agency International Development (USAID)* halo lansamentu ba projektulu distritu *Baseline Survey* ho objektivu husi servei nee atu bele identifika preokupasaun no despetativa husi komunidadu nia.

"Ohin ami halo lansamentu koraba peskiza ba asesu Justice no governasaun local iha Munisipiu Baucau Covalima no mos Zona Especial Oecuse. Rezultadu husi peskiza nee fo dalan ba ita hotu atu komprende liu tan komunidadu nia hanoin husi Munisipiu tolu nee," dehan Xefi Ekipa USAID Counterpart Internasional, Carolyn Tanner ba Jornalista iha salun konferensia Tower Fanchada Dili, Kuarta (25/2/2015). Tuir Carolyn Tanner, sira sei uza rezultadu husi peskiza nee hodi halo dezenvolve ba ami nia aktividade. Nunee mos bele hafesa fli fali komunidadu sira nia koineserensia kona ba direitua humanus iha hazi. Nunee mos liu husi peskiza nee identifika komunidadu sira falia de informasaun kona ba prosesu desentralizasaun no rekomenda ba sira katak buka dalan atu fo oportunidade ba sira atu hatu'o sira nia preokupasaun, dehan Carolyn.

Iha fatin hanesan Especialista Jestaun Gestau, Germano Boavida hatete, lansamentu ohin kona ba projektulu distritu baseline nee atu halo identifikasaun saida sai hanesan preokupasaun no despetativas nebe mak komunidadu nian liu ba iha area servisu nian nebe mak ami nia projektulu ba distritu volka liu. Nune, mos Social Science Dimensions, Rod Nixon hatete rezultadu

survey husi sira nia estudu nee hatudu rezilensia no popalaridade sistema Justice ga rezolusaun disputa iha nivel suku, tamba importante atu hadia lalok jeneru no direitua ema nia nebe relevante ho

sistema suku nia. "Estudu nee hatudu rezultadu nebe diak ou optimista kona ba involvimentu komunidadu nia ba desizaun sira iha suku, ho porsesitu 95,3 husi respondente sira hatete katak, sira semu katak, iha abildade atu

partisipa enkontro iha suku hodi diskute prioridade dezenvolvimentu kona ba asuntu importante iha suku," dehan Rod.

MJ6/mj7/CSM



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Acronym List

AATL	Asosiasaun Advogadu Timor-Lorosa'e
ADTL	Asosiasaun Difisiensia Timor Leste
ALFeLa	Asistensia Legal ba Feto no Labarik
AOR	Agreement Officer's Representative
ARKTL	Asosiasaun Radio Komunitade Timor-Leste
BESIK	Bee, Saneamentu no Ijiene iha Komunitade
CBO	Community Based Organization
CCL	Local Advisory Councils
CDI	Community Development Interest
CEG	Constituent Engagement Grant
CNE	National Election Commission
CNJTL	Timor-Leste's National Council for the Youth
COP	Chief of Party
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DA	District Administration
DFAT	Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DG-DA	Directorate-General for Administrative Decentralization
DNAAS	National Directorate for Suco Administration and Support
DNDCAS	National Directorate for Community Development and Suco Support
DNDHS	National Directorate of Human Rights and Citizenship
DNJAL	National Directorate for Judicial Advisory and Legislation
DQA	Data Quality Assessment
DRAG	Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grant
ECM	Educacao Comunitade Matebian
ETAN	East Timor and Indonesia Action Network
FDG	Focus Discussion Group
FECM	Fundasaun Educacao Matebian
FEEO	Fundasaun Esperanza Enclave Oecusse
FFSO	Fundasaun Fatuk Sinae Oecusse
FOG	Fixed Obligation Grant
FPWO	Oecusse Women Forum
FRETILIN	Political party in Timor-Leste
FY	Fiscal Year
GACOROA	Coordinating Office for Relations with the Special Administrative Region Authority of Oecusse Ambeno
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GOTL	Government of Timor-Leste
GTD	District Technical Group
ICC	International Criminal Court
IIMS	Integrated Information Management System
IJTL	Timor-Leste's Judicial Institute

INAP	National Institute of Public Administration
IP	Implementing Partner
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JPC	Commissao Justisa I Paz/ Justice and Peace Commission
JSMP	Judicial System Monitoring Programme
KMP	Knowledge Management Portal
LAAIG	Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants
LADV	Law against Domestic Violence
LTC	Legal Training Center
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOFFE-TL	Movimento Feto Foin Sa'e Timor Leste
MAE	Ministru Administrasaun Estatal
MDI	Mata Dalan Institute
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSA	Ministry of State Administration
NGO	Non-government Organization
OCP	Organizational Capacity Building
OD	Organizational Development
OPD	Office of Public Defenders
OPG	Office of the Prosecutor General
PAAS	Personnel Support to Suco Administration
PACT	Plan of Action
PDA	Pre-Deconcentration Administrative
PDID	Integrated Plan for District Development
PDS	Professional Development System
PIMD	Planning of Integrated Municipal Development
PLWAD	Persons Living With a Disability
PMEP	Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PNDS	National Program for Suco Development
PQL	Program, Quality and Learning
PSA	Public Services Announcement
PNTL	National Police of Timor-Leste
RAEOA	Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno
RCAL	Radio Comunidade Atoni Lifau
RCLM	Radio Komunidade Lian Matebian
RCT	Radio Comunidade Tokodede
RDTL	Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
RFA	Request for Application
RHTO	Ra'es Hadomi Timor Oan
RTL	Radio Timor-Leste
RTTL	Timor-Leste's Public Broadcasting Service
SAR	Special Administrative Region

SEPI	Secretary of State for Promotion of Equality
SGPS	Suco Government Performance Scale
STAE	Technical Secretariat for the Administration of Elections
STTA	Short Term Technical Assistant
SukAT	Suku Assessment Tool
TAF	The Asia Foundation
TL	Timor-Leste
ToT	Training of Trainers
Tt DPK	Tetra Tech DPK
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training
TVTL	Television Timor-Leste
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNFDP	United National Population Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
VPU	Vulnerable Persons Unit
YACTS	Youth in Action Towards Sustainability
ZEESM	Special Zone of Social Market Economy in Timor-Leste

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2013, Counterpart International, Inc. (Counterpart) was awarded funding from USAID/Timor-Leste to implement the four-year Ba Distrito Project – Cooperative Agreement number AID 486-A-13-00007. On April 29, 2015 the Cooperative Agreement was modified, adding an additional \$1,000,000 to the ceiling of the project and including a new component to support voter and civic education initiatives in support of the anticipated suco and municipal elections. On June 16, 2015 the Cooperative Agreement was modified adding an additional \$750,000 to the ceiling of the project. Ba Distrito’s goal is to increase institutional and human capacity at local levels to deliver basic services more effectively in a manner that is responsive to citizens’ needs and expectations. The project seeks to contribute to a wider vision of improved decentralized governance, inclusive access to justice and strengthened civic and voter education in Timor-Leste through the implementation of five mutually reinforcing components designed to achieve the following objectives:

Goals	Component	Objective
Improved Decentralized Governance	A. Local Governance Strengthening	Enhanced capacity of sucos to strengthen citizen participation and representation in local governance.
	B. Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions	Improved communications and linkages of sucos with district administrations, local Government of Timor-Leste (GOTL) line ministries and other providers of basic public services at the sub-national level.
Increased Access to Justice	C. Legal Aid Organization Sustainability	Strengthened local justice sector institutions that increase access to formal and informal justice for marginalized citizens and the poor.
	D. District Court Functionality	
Increased Civic and Voter Education and political participation of women, youth	E. Elections	Strengthened the capacity of Government of Timor-Leste (GOTL), in particular its Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) namely National Electoral Commission (CNE) and Technical Secretary for Electoral Administration (STAE), to hold fair, transparent, inclusive local

and people with disabilities in the electoral process		elections and facilitate voter engagement in preparation for the national general election.
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During this reporting period Ba Distrito conducted the following activities:

Component A: Organizational Development

- Developed 40 Organizational Development Action Plans with 40 suco councils who joined the project in FY15
- Finalized three training modules for suco councils on Leadership and Communication, Access to Justice and Women’s Rights, and Community Consultation
- Delivered two-day training to 426 people (260 women) from 96 suco councils on Leadership and Communication
- Convened first in a series of Suco-Municipal Forum involving sucos and municipal level administration
- Convened first in a series of Suco Exchange Visits between sucos in each municipality
- Created short-list of 22 community based organizations who applied for micro grants to promote citizen engagement in local governance

Component B: Decentralization

- Sub-awarded Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grant to Asosiasaun Radio Komunitade Timor-Leste (ARKTL) to initiate a decentralization radio campaign in 4 municipalities and Oecusse
- Contracted with Uairawa Multimedia to produce a short documentary film production on one suco success story from each municipality
- ARKTL kicked off trainings for journalist on decentralization/RAEOA/ZEESM in five Ba Distrito target municipals/Special Administrative Region Oecusse Ambeno

Component C: Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

- Coordinated 3 legal aid information and advocacy meetings at the national level and 5 legal aid coordination meetings at the municipal level
- Reached 920 community members including 325 women in 34 sucos through legal information sessions
- Provided training to 86 suco council members (32 women) on Access to Justice and Women’s Rights in 26 sucos
- Provided free legal assistance to 105 people of which 36 were women
- Produced 6 radio drama public service announcements for community radio on different access to justice themes

- Engaged an international legal aid expert who will provide training to legal aid lawyers on case management
- Monitored the quality of legal aid in 70 court cases
- Facilitated Ministry of Justice to engage in field research into the effectiveness of its legal information outreach and analyze the results of the research

Component D: District Court Functionality

- Monitored 68 court cases in Oecusse of which 38 involved domestic violence
- Launched the Court Functionality Assessment together with the Court of Appeal
- Engaged an international Court Administration expert who provided training to 22 judicial officers on the effective gathering and use of judicial statistics
- Reached agreement with district Courts in Baucau and Oecusse to work 5 key areas to improve statistical gathering within the Courts

Component E: Elections

- USAID awarded Election Add-on to Ba Distrito Project
- Coordination and negotiation meeting with CNE and STAE for activities under election component
- Drafted Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for consideration by CNE and STAE respectively
- Held a number of negotiation meetings with new local NGOs election partners namely Ba Futuru, Women Caucus, Fundação Patria, Raes Hadomi Timor-Oan (RHTO) and National Youth Council (CNTL)
- Drafted and finalized scope of work, budget and work plan to the project new partners for election component
- A desk review on barriers to women, youth and people with disability to the electoral process and recommendations for advocacy

II. POLITICAL CONTEXT

The country is continuing to settle in and adapt its policies to suit the new government that took power during the previous quarter. This quarter brought with it significant changes to the structure of the Ministry of State Administration and less significant, but still progress, towards achieving a decentralization policy framework for the municipalities and realizing the devolution of administration and financial competencies to RAEOA.

Structure of Ministry of State Administration. On April 21, the Council of Ministers discussed and approved the Decree Law approving the Organic Structure of the Ministry of State Administration (MSA). Although the government approved the law on April 21, it was not promulgated by the President until May 25 and publication was delayed until June 3. This delay

caused a period of confusion about what was actually happening within the Ministry and made it difficult to coordinate with it effectively until the structural changes were made public.

The Decree Law defines the MSA as the central body responsible for coordinating and evaluating government policy on local government, administrative decentralization, the organization and implementation of electoral processes and referendums, promotion and urban hygiene and organization, and classification and conservation of official documents with historical value. The law removes responsibility for the management of public programs to promote local and rural development; these responsibilities have now been transferred to the newly established Ministry of Planning and Strategic Investment.

As a result, the Directorate General for Local Development which previously oversaw the functioning of DNDCAS and suco councils has now been eliminated from MSA's structure. DNDCAS, which is now called the National Directorate for Suco Administration and Support (DNAAS) now falls under Directorate General for Decentralization Administration.

Additionally, the approved MSA structure recognizes the National Institute of Public Administration, the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration and the National Archives autonomous bodies however still under "indirect" administration of MSA.

The new MSA structure is under the leadership of Mr. Dionisio Babo who now holds three positions concurrently: (1) Minister of State; (2) Coordinator for the Affairs of State Administration and Justice; and (3) Minister for State Administration. Mr. Tomas do Rosario Cabral was promoted from Secretary of State for Decentralization to Vice Minister for State Administration. The Secretary of State for State Administration remains Mr. Samuel Mendonça. The new structure identified seven core services within the MSA, namely:

- 1) The Directorate General of Corporate Services;
- 2) The Directorate-General for Administrative Decentralization (DG-DA);
- 3) The Directorate General for Urban Organization;
- 4) The General Inspectorate of State Administration;
- 5) The Procurement Decentralized Unit;
- 6) The Legal Support and Technical Assistance Unit;
- 7) The Information and Communication Technology Unit;
- 8) The Coordinating Office for Relations with the Special Administrative Region Authority of Oecusse Ambeno – (GACOROA);

The Organic Decree Law provides additional power to the Directorate-General for Administrative Decentralization (DG-DA) compared to the previous structure. The DG-DA under the continued leadership of Mr. Abilio Caetano will be responsible for implementing the national program for administrative decentralization and the implementation of the administrative decentralization and local government policy. Under DG-DA, there are five (5) National Directorates and a Secretariat established namely:

- 1) National Directorate for Local Administration (DNAL) – Established to ensure the technical and administrative support to the organization and functioning of the decentralized services of MSA.
- 2) Secretariat for Installation of Municipalities Support – The Secretariat is responsible for the implementation of administrative decentralization policies. Although the Secretariat is structurally under the DG-DA, the remuneration offered is equal to the Director General level.
- 3) National Directorate for Municipal Financing – Mission is to provide technical and administrative support to the decentralized services of MSA in the field of their financial management.
- 4) National Directorate to Support Sucos Administration (DNAAS) – The mission of DNAAS is to study, to design, to coordinate and to implement programs to support the Traditional Community Leaders and to strengthen the cooperation between the traditional community leaders with local and central government. Under the previous structure this directorate was named the National Directorate to Support Community Development and Suco Administration (DNDCAS).
- 5) National Directorate for Administrative Modernization – This directorate is established to conceptualize, to study, coordinate and execute qualification measures and modernization of the local administration services.

It is interesting to highlight that under the new organic law the community leaders are defined as “Traditional Community Leaders” - this change sheds some light on the ongoing discussion about the status of the suco council. The Government on different occasions has indicated the intention to reform the community leadership structure that is closer to the traditional standard of Timor-Leste.

Another change is that the new organic structure established municipal administration as direct decentralized service under MSA. The municipal administration is responsible for implementing Government policies, the promotion and guidance of economic and social development, and the provision of public services in the municipality. The municipality will be led by the Municipal Manager, who is considered a representative of the Government and is responsible for directing the municipal administration and ensuring the functioning of the local administrative services. Under the new structure, MSA also established a Secretariat to support the installation of the municipalities and a coordination body with the Special Administrative Region for Oecusse Ambeno (RAEOA).

As mentioned above, the Organic Structure of MSA created a specific coordinating office GACOROA at MSA to deal with the Special Administrative Region Authority. The Coordinating Office is tasked with ensuring coordination between MSA and RAEOA in expanding the administrative autonomy of the region. GACOROA is obligated to maintain relations, coordinate

efforts and promote collaboration. It is headed by a Coordinator, who in terms of remuneration is equivalent to that of National Director.

Administrative Decentralization in the Municipalities. The government continues to promote discussion around the idea of administrative decentralization. On May 18, the official Facebook page of the Ministry of State Administration reported that MSA hosted the 4th International Conference Administrative Decentralization and Local Government at Hotel Timor, Dili. The conference, which brought in Portugal's Secretary of State of Local Administration, António Leitão Amaro, and Australia's Victoria Deputy Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Water, Land and Property, Terry Garwood, was officially launched by the Prime Minister Dr. Rúi Maria de Araujo. Official note from the government states that the international conference aims to "enrich Timor-Leste's process of administrative decentralization through contact with the realities of local governments from Portugal and Australia".

During the month of June, the Minister of State, Coordinator for the Affairs of State Administration and Justice, and the Minister for State Administration, H.E Dionisio Babo announced that the Government intends to jump past the "pre-deconcentration" phase initiated by the previous government and move immediately into the deconcentration phase instead. With this stated policy change, the existing Decree-Law No. 4/2014 on the New Structure of Pre-Deconcentration Administration will be overridden by new legislation that is reportedly being drafted by the Ministry of State. At the end of this quarter, the draft legislation has yet been approved by the Council of Ministers.

During this quarter, the newspaper also reported that the National Parliament has included the first amendment of the Law No. 11/2009 on Administrative and Territorial Division that was approved in October 7, 2009, the draft Law on Municipal Election and the draft Law on the Administrative Municipal in the agenda for discussion and approval for the next quarter.

Devolution of Power to RAEOA. This quarter's slow but steady progress continued towards the devolution of competencies from the central government to the authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno. On May 12, the Council of Ministers issued a Resolution approving the appointment of members of Authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno. The Authority now has seven members namely:

- Arsénio Paixão Bano, as Regional Secretary for Education and Social Solidarity;
- Leónia da Costa Monteiro, as Regional Secretary for Finance;
- Pedro de Sousa Xavier, as Regional Secretary for Territorial Planning and Cadastre;
- Francisco Xavier Marques, as Regional Secretary for Administration;
- Régio Servantes Romeia da Cruz Salu, as Regional Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development;
- Lusía Taeki, as Regional Secretary for Health, and;
- Inácia da Conceição Teixeira, as Regional Secretary for Community Tourism.

The Resolution retains the planning and infrastructure portfolio under the direct responsibility of the President of the Authority. It also approved the remuneration package of the members

of the Authority setting the remuneration of a Regional Secretary on par with that of a Secretary of State.

Role of Suco Council and their Election. On April 14, the local media and a press release by the official Government portal reported that The Minister of State, Coordinator for the Affairs of State Administration and Justice and the Minister for State Administration, H.E Dionisio Babo, presented a proposal on the reform of community leadership structure to the Council of Ministers. It is reported that the proposal intends to review the model of community leadership in order to establish a model which is closer to the traditional standards of Timor-Leste and to seek a more cost effective way to conduct community leader elections. It reportedly also includes the fundamental principles that will guide the revision of the legal framework for community leadership. At the end of this quarter, the second amendment had not yet been discussed and approved by the Council of Ministers. The future role and responsibilities of the suco council and their method of election will likely be determined by these two draft amendments and will have a significant impact on the course of the project.

On May 12, the official portal of the Council of Minister published a press release informing that the CoM has approved the first amendment to the Law No.3/2009 on Community Leaders and Their Election. The amendment is reportedly aimed at ensuring the practicality of the reform of the legal framework currently in place for community leaders, setting the date of the election of community leader from October 2015 to December 2015, and therefore extending their mandates for two more months. The first amendment also establishes the responsibility of the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) to propose the election schedule, which must be approved by the National Elections Commission (CNE), up to 60 days before the election. It is reported that the approved first amendment has been sent to the National Parliament for approval. At the end of this quarter, the first amendment has yet to be approved by Parliament. Once it is approved by the National Parliament, the draft first amendment will then be sent to the President of Republic for promulgation.

The lack of certainty about when and if there will be suco elections and municipal elections has made it difficult to plan with certainty the direction our activities will be moving across the project's A, B and E components.

Justice Updates. As in the previous quarter, the overall political climate in Timor-Leste during this quarter is relatively calm although there continued to be sporadic outbreak of violence in Baucau, particularly in Laga administrative post. A joint operation by the National Police and the Defense Force remains active in its efforts to capture leader of Maubere Revolutionary Council (KRM) Mauk Moruk and his followers. Throughout this quarter, identification and vehicle checks were common along the Dili-Lospalos route, as well as in the capital Dili.

In the justice sector, developments within this quarter include Timor-Leste government hosting an international conference for Ministries of Justice from Portuguese-speaking countries which the Project's Chief of Party attended. In this quarter, a Decree Law was passed by Council of Ministers approving new timeline for judicial holiday. Under the Decree Law No. 15/2015, the courts will go into recess for one and a half month starting in August until middle of September.

In addition, the Council of Minister also approved the draft Law on Bar Association and sent to Parliament for discussion. At the writing of this report, the draft Law on Bar Association is still before the parliament for discussion and debate.

III. ANALYSIS

Despite the change in government during the last quarter which resulted in uncertainty in relation the Ministry of State Administration's structure and policy relating to decentralization generally, as well as the role of the suco council, during this quarter Components A, B, C and D made significant progress in achieving the milestones set out in the FY15 Workplan. The ground work was also laid to rapidly implement Component E, which was awarded through a modification to the Cooperative Agreement on April 29.

Ba Distrito's target sucos benefited from the implementation of its full range of complementary activities to support their organizational development. Component A finalized 3 suco council training modules which were endorsed by the Ministry of State Administration, and its implementing partner Belun successfully provided training to 5 representatives from Ba Distrito's 100 target sucos. The project's other partner JSMP successfully started the delivery of a second training on Women's Access to Justice to three members of the suco council in Liquica and Ermera and plans were made to start delivery of the third training on Community Consultation modules during the next quarter.

In addition to the training, Component A also provided regular technical support to the suco councils and reinforced horizontal communication through suco exchanges and vertical communication through the successful launch of the Suco-Municipal Forum initiative. Preparations were made for the upcoming suco exposition and the award of community level grants to organizations working with their suco councils to promote citizen participation.

Component A is on track to achieve the goals set out in the FY15 Workplan; however, ongoing changes to both the Ministry of State Administration's structure, its policies in relation to the role and responsibilities of the suco councils, and the government's policy on the timing and form of suco elections has the potential to impact negatively on the project's progress and cause delays and/or impede progress towards achieving goals.

The project's Component B also made significant progress by signing an award agreement for its first round of decentralization research and advocacy grants with Asosiasaun Radio Komunidade Timor-Leste (ARKTL). After a competitive process, the ARKTL was selected to implement a comprehensive radio campaign to raise awareness about decentralization policy, the ZEESM and the role of suco councils.

A second in-kind grant is in the process of being awarded to Belun. A documentary film making company was selected to develop five short films documenting best practices in community consultation and service delivery at the suco level. During the quarter, the contractor travelled to the selected sucos of four targeted municipalities and special administrative region to shoot

the success story videos. The contract to produce the film was awarded in the beginning of the quarter. When the documentaries are completed, they will be presented to Belun as an in-kind grant, which they anticipate airing on TVTL and at the upcoming suco expos as well as at the suco level in the areas where the project operates.

Plans are underway for municipal level consultations during the next quarter to gain the input from suco chiefs, women's representatives and the broader community of stakeholders at the municipal level on changes to the government's decentralization policy. Component B is tracking well to deliver most of its deliverables under the workplan, although the awarding of some of the decentralization, research and advocacy grants may be delayed until early FY16.

With two additional legal aid grantees (JPC and Liberta) joining the Ba Distrito project at the end of the previous quarter, the Project's Component C on legal aid sustainability is now in full implementation phase in Baucau, Ermera, Liquica and Oecusse. The Suco Council training on access to justice and women's rights will also be conducted in Covalima while the Project prepares a Request For Application (RFA) for a legal aid advocacy and implementation grant that covers Covalima, taking into account potential difficulties which include, but not limited to the absence of Covalima-based legal aid organization and/or law firms as well as high cost of project implementation. Although Legal Aid for Women and Children (ALFeLa) currently works in Covalima, the informal discussion with its director showed that the organization is currently fully funded by Australian government aid agency and is reluctant to take on small grants. In addition, ALFeLa's legal aid work focuses on children and women *victims* to domestic, sexual and gender-based violence. This leaves the project with lack of a potential legal aid partner in Covalima.

The implementation of the Project's Component D activities is gradually coming up to speed after months of uncertainty in the wake of the Parliament and government resolutions passed at the end of 2014 which terminated the contracts of international court actors and brought into question international assistance in the area of justice. The Project continues to maintain a strong relationship with the Court of Appeal which established, through an official Dispatch, a Court of Appeal's team to work with the Project. This quarter, the Court of Appeal jointly launched the project's Court Functionality Brief which is based on an initial assessment of Baucau and Oecusse courts conducted during the last fiscal year followed immediately by a follow-up needs assessment and related training for justice officials on judicial statistics by a senior international Court Administration specialist. This technical support resulted in the district courts agreeing to 5 areas of ongoing collaboration for technical support and complementary training for judges is planned for the judicial break during the next quarter.

Similar to the Courts, the Project has continuously maintained a strong relationship with the Ministry of Justice, including its relevant directorates such as the National Directorate for Judicial Advisory and Legislation (DNAJL), the National Directorate for Human Rights and Citizenship (DNDHC) and the Legal Training Center (LTC). The Project continues to support the Ministry's research surveys in this quarter with research analysis, report writing and coordination with the LTC on trainings provided to the judicial personnel. Additionally, the

Project also expects to sign an MOU with the MOJ in the next quarter, formalizing the current partnership with MOJ. Component D is moving steadily towards achieving many of the goals set out in the FY15 Workplan and those not achieved should be achievable early in FY16.

The political dynamic and uncertainty surrounding the anticipated suco elections in 2015 and the municipal elections in 2016 resulted in rumors flying about potential postponement and cancellation. As a result, the project has been cautious about rapidly beginning activities that should strategically not in fact be started until an election date is known. Consequently, during this quarter the project focused on developing draft Scopes of Work and budgets with potential partners so that they are ready to move forward on short notice. The project also worked on developing draft MOUs with STAE and CNE that reflect agreed upon activities and ensure the necessary ownership and buy in of the institutions to the process. Finally, the project laid the necessary ground work for implementation by completing procurement of large items and advertising for staffing and technical support. The project continues to monitor the changing electoral environment on a daily basis to ensure that we are equipped and able to respond in a flexible and meaningful manner to its demands.

IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Media and Communications

During this reporting period, information about the project's activities received strong and positive broadcast coverage at national and municipal level through national television and national and community radio. The project's activities also received strong positive coverage through national print media, including independent newspapers, online newspapers, Facebook pages, and an electronic listserv that distributes information about Timor-Leste, and has national and international subscribers.

Facebook: Ba Distrito project's key milestones and events are recorded on the Ba Distrito Facebook page, in English and Tetum. The page provides up-to-date information about the project's activities as they happen – with photos – including minor activities which may not warrant more dedicated media coverage (e.g. implementation of an activity that will take place multiple times, such as Suco Exchanges). The Project also shares the Facebook updates of USAID/Timor-Leste, partner organizations and GoTL Ministries. Similarly, government and partner organizations share Ba Distrito's Facebook updates, including USAID/Timor-Leste and the US Embassy Timor-Leste.

From the date it was launched until the end of this reporting period, the Ba Distrito Facebook page has attracted 1,842 page likes, a 2.75% increase from 1,792 people at the end of the Jan-March quarter. Of the 1,842 people who like the Ba Distrito Timor-Leste Facebook page, 1,447 people are located in Timor-Leste, 40% are women, and the largest demographic of fans are between the ages of 25 – 34, with 47% of page readers aged in this bracket (male and female).

During this quarter, the following Ba Distrito activities were covered on Facebook:

- Training of trainers – Ba Distrito delivered ToT to Belun, in preparation for commencing the first suco training in “Leadership and Communication”
- Development of Legal Aid drama series – Ba Distrito and its legal aid partners developed scripts for legal aid public service announcements / radio drama
- Signing of agreement with JSMP, for the development and delivery of training on Access to Justice and Women’s Rights
- Launch of Suco Exchange activities – including photos from Baucau, Ermera and Oecusse
- Monitoring of the MoJ qualitative research in the municipality of Manufahi
- Launch of the “*Access to Justice Brief: Court Functionality in Timor-Leste*”. (Shared by USAID – Timor-Leste and Counterpart International)
- Ba Distrito conducted ToT with JSMP in preparation for commencing delivery of the training module “*Access to Justice and Women’s Rights*”
- Radio Akademika and Ba Distrito conducted a workshop to continue development of the Legal Aid drama series
- The Ba Distrito Governance Team signed an agreement with the Association of Community Radio Timor-Leste to provide a radio outreach campaign around decentralization; and with Uairawa film production organization to create a documentary about best practices in local governance
- Ba Distrito and a working group from the Court of Appeal participated in a workshop about statistics gathering and file management, facilitated by international expert Mr. Richard Callanan (shared by USAID Timor-Leste)
- USAID Mission Director Mr. John Seong visited Ba Distrito training at the Administrative Post of Railaco in Ermera (shared by Counterpart International and USAID Timor-Leste)
- Training of IT and court officials from the Court of Appeal, and the District Courts, in ‘Collection and Analysis of Statistics and Case Management Reporting’ by Mr. Richard Callanan (shared by Counterpart International)
- Launch of the JSMP and Ba Distrito training on Access to Justice and Women’s Rights in the Administrative Post of Maubara, Liquica municipality
- Follow-up post, including observations from a beneficiary, about the Access to Justice and Women’s Rights training in Liquica
- Workshop/ToT with Ba Distrito Legal Aid providers on how to conduct effective legal education and outreach
- Ba Distrito’s documentary production partner Uairawa about filming in Covalima, Ermera and Liquica
- Ba Distrito radio outreach campaign partner ARKTL provided briefing to journalists in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera and Liquica about issues related to the GoTL’s plans for decentralization
- Ba Distrito radio outreach campaign partner ARKTL provided briefing to journalists in Oecusse about issues related to the GoTL’s plans for decentralization including information about ZEESM, and then conducted a talk show about these issues.
- Ba Distrito facebook page shared the Ministry of Justice website’s news update, and Minister Ivo Valente’s facebook page update, about the meeting between Ba Distrito

and the Ministry of Justice on ways the two entities are working together currently and will continue to work together in the future

- Photos from ARKTL and Ba Distrito journalist briefing in Oecusse
- Update about first Suco Exchange to be held in Liquica

MEDIA ACTIVITY

Launch of ‘Access to Justice Brief: Court Functionality in Timor-Leste’: On May 5, Ba Distrito’s access to justice team launched the second report in the *Access to Justice Brief* series, titled “*Court Functionality in Timor-Leste*”. Before the event took place, the Ba Distrito Outreach Manager conducted a media briefing with the following print outlets: Timor Post, Jornal Nacional Diário, Independente and Dili Weekly; and to broadcast: Radio Liberdade. The launch event took place at the Court of Appeal in Dili and was attended by representatives from the Court of Appeal, the District Courts, representatives from the Ministry of Justice, President’s legal advisor, USAID and local NGOs. The event was attended by 12 journalists, with 5 print, 3 radio and 4 television journalists, of which 5 were women. The press release was distributed at the event, and resulted in the following media coverage: Evening and morning news on TeleJornal in Tetum and Portuguese, and coverage in the following national newspapers: Jornal Nacional Diário, Timor Post, Jornal Independente, Jornal Semanal Matadalan and The Dili Weekly, and received coverage on national radio: RTL, Radio Liberdade and Radio Akademika (UNTL).

Signing of agreement with The Judicial System Monitoring Programme: On April 15, Counterpart and The Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP) signed a funding agreement for JSMP to develop a training module on Women’s Rights and Access to Justice, and to deliver the training to Ba Distrito’s 100 target suco councils. The signing took place in the Ba Distrito office. While journalists were invited to the event, the Ba Distrito communications team distributed a press release and a photo, and the event was covered by two national newspapers: Timor Post on April 21, and Jornal Nacional Diário April 22.

First Suco Exchange (Interkambiu Suku): In the week commencing April 13, Ba Distrito started facilitating suco exchanges, which involve suco council members from three or four neighbouring sucos meeting to share ideas and experiences. During that week, three suco exchanges took place: Baucau on April 15-16, Ermera on April 16-17, and Oecusse April 15-16. The Ba Distrito communications team attended the Ermera Suco Exchange in the suco of Estado, for its second day, on April 17. The team took three journalists from Radio Akademika (UNTL) and Jornal Nacional Diário, and invited local Ermera correspondent from Timoroman, of which 2 were woman. The event was covered by Radio Akademika, Jornal Diário Nacional, Timor Naroman and RTL. The suco exchange in Oecusse, was attended by 3 journalists, with 1 print and 2 radio.

USAID Field visit to projects in Ermera: On May 28, USAID/Timor-Leste Mission Director Mr. John Seong, and other members of the USAID team visited Ba Distrito’s suco training at the Administrative Post of Railaco, as part of their “Journalist Outreach” initiative. The training was

delivered by Belun, and the module was “Communication and Leadership” – the first of 10 training modules that will be delivered by Ba Distrito through Belun.

The Ba Distrito communications team helped to organize the visit, including sourcing beneficiaries for interviews with newspapers, radio and television, and working with implementing partner Belun to organize for USAID Mission Director, Ba Distrito Chief of Party and the Post Administrator to officially open the training. The Ba Distrito communications team did not record coverage of this event as it was a USAID event, and USAID managed all media activities on the day.

Launch of JSMP training on Access to Justice and Women’s Rights: On June 9, JSMP and Ba Distrito launched the second suco training module, “Access to Justice and Women’s Rights”. The launch took place in the suco of Vaviquinia in the administrative post of Maubara. The training took place over three days (June 9-11). The Ba Distrito communications team coordinated with the JSMP media outreach team to attend the first day of training, and invited radio journalists from RTL, Radio Akademika and Radio Komunitade Tokodede (Liquica) to cover the event. The event received coverage on all three stations. As a follow-up activity, the Ba Distrito communication team provided an audio news recording to community radio in Dili and Baucau to broadcast. The Ba Distrito communications team also provided a press release and photo to Jornal Nacional Diário, who subsequently covered the event.

First Suco Exchange to be held in the municipality of Liquica: With the appointment of a Ba Distrito district coordinator to be permanently based in Liquica in May, there were a lot of activities taking place there in a short period of time. One of these was the first Suco Exchange. To promote the commencement of Ba Distrito’s activities in Liquica, the Ba Distrito communications team distributed a press release and photos of the first Suco Exchange in the municipality. The event received coverage in Jornal Nacional Diário (June 26) and Independente (June 29).

Activities in Covalima: The Timor Post correspondent in Covalima covered a number of Ba Distrito events. On May 30, Timor Post published an article about the Suco Exchange that took place in suco Tashilin on May 25. On June 16, Timor Post published an article about Belun and Counterpart’s partnership to deliver suco training in Covalima.

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening

The goal of the activities under Component A is to enhance the capacity of sucos to strengthen citizen participation and representation in local governance.

A.1 Engage and Evaluate Capacity of Participating Sucos: The baseline for organizational capacity assessment for all 100 sucos was completed during previous quarters. The assessment will be repeated to measure progress during the first quarter of Fiscal Year 16.

A.2 Review, Update and Create Local Governance Strengthening Tools and Resources: During this reporting period, Counterpart’s STTA Laura Ogden continued to support Ba Distrito, Belun

and JSMP to finalize suco council training modules; the facilitator and participant's manual for (1) Women's Rights and Access to Justice; and (2) Community Consultation training modules were finalized. These modules were also presented to and endorsed by the Ministry of State Administration's Director General for Local Development Mr. Miguel De Carvalho and Director Sebastião Pereira from the National Directorate for Community Development and Suco Support (DNDCAS)¹. Feedback from both was incorporated into the modules. Director Pereira also approved the upcoming training topics including Suco Council's Roles and Responsibilities, Financial Management and Administration.

On April 17, responding to an invitation from national NGO Patria Foundation and international NGO Plan International, the Organizational Development Manager facilitated a refreshment training on Leadership for women leaders who are preparing themselves to submit their candidature for the upcoming suco council election. The training was delivered using part of Ba Distrito's Leadership and Communication Manual. We requested and received feedback from Patria's Executive Director Laura Pina and participants of the training on the training contents, method and tools. Patria Foundation and Plan International requested permission to use the Leadership and Communication facilitator's and participant's manual for their future trainings for women's leaders on leadership and communication.

On June 23, the National Directorate of Disaster Risk Management within the Ministry of Social Solidarity invited Ba Distrito and other institutions to provide feedback and suggestions on the Draft Disaster Risk Management Decree Law, which they started drafting in 2014. It was a good chance for Ba Distrito's Organizational Development team to learn about the draft decree law and the role of Suco Council within the structure of Disaster Risk Management at the municipal level. Ba Distrito used the opportunity to consult with the Senior Officer for the Department of Preparedness and Training of National Directorate of Disaster Risk Management Mr. Laurentino do Carmo about the development of Ba Distrito's training manual on crisis management for the Suco Council. Mr. do Carmo suggested a follow-up meeting with the team within the Ministry of Social Solidarity who has been developing the Disaster Risk Management and Conflict Resolution training for Suco Councils. Next quarter, the team will follow-up in order to finalize the draft module on Crisis Management.

As planned during this reporting period, the team successfully finalized original illustrations for three training modules. The team will continue to consult with DNAAS and the Administration of the Special Administrative Region (SAR) of Oecusse as it finalizes the remaining training modules, ensuring that they continue to adapt and respond to the changing policies to ensure their relevance.

¹ Note: These approvals were received prior to the passing of Decree Law No. 12/2015, which sets out the new Organic Structure of the Ministry of State Administration. The new organic structure eliminated the Local Development Directorate General and replaced DNDCAS with the National Directorate for Suco Administration and Support (DNAAS). The leadership of DNAAS also changed with Director Celestino Marques now leading the Directorate.

A.3 Design and Deliver Capacity Development Assistance to Suco Councils and Associations:

Building on lessons learned from last year to improve their facilitation techniques, between May 11 and May 30 Belun presented the findings and recommendations from the rapid assessment of 19 sucos in Ermera and 21 sucos in Liquica that was completed during the previous quarter.

During the process, Suco Council members were given the opportunity to reflect and provide feedback on the findings and recommendations from the rapid assessment. It was noted that the majority of the Suco Council members agreed with the result of the assessment of each of their sucos. During the full-day long workshop, Belun supported each of the suco councils to develop an individual Organizational Development Action Plan focusing on improvements in first key sustainability areas: Leadership and Strategic Management; Service, Representation and Quality Control; External Relations/ Communication; Financial Sustainability; and Administration. The Organizational Development Action Plan provides the framework for the technical assistance and follow-up provided by the Ba Distrito district coordinators. Some of the suco representatives were unable to finalize their action plan on the day of the workshop because of the absence of key suco council members; however, the Ba Distrito team will follow up with these sucos to provide them with assistance in finalizing their plan.

Technical Assistance/ Mentoring/ Regular Site Visit to Suco: During this reporting period, Belun's and Counterpart's District Coordinators based in Oecusse SAR provided technical assistance to sucos on meeting note/minutes taking, as follows:

- Suco Naimeco, Pante Makassar Sub-Region with the presence and participation of two women representatives and one women youth representative, two male Hamlet Chiefs, Suco Chief, elder representative and PAAS;
- Suco Cunha, Lalisuc, Usi-Taquo, Bene-Ufe attended by four male PAAS and two women representatives; and
- Suco Bobokase with participation of two women representatives and one female and male youth representative, Suco Chief, Hamlet Chief and one male PAAS.

The District Coordinators of Oecusse SAR supported the sucos mentioned above to use the template provided by DNDCAS to summarize the results of each meeting and write it down into Meeting Minute Book, one of DNDCAS's 14 books. This is the first time technical assistance has been provided to these sucos to teach them to properly record information in the Meeting Minute Book provided by DNDCAS. Until now, the Meeting Minute Book has been blank. This assistance also complements the project's support to Suco Councils in Oecusse to produce a monthly work plan for each suco, which is required by Oecusse SAR Authority in order to receive the monthly incentive and suco operational fund.

In Covalima, Belun's Coordinator supported suco Dato and Lactos in Fohorem Administrative Post to strengthen their filing/documentation system. It is the first time technical assistance has been provided to these two sucos on creating an effective filing system. Together with the

Coordinator, suco Dato's PAAS (male) and two youth representatives learned how to improve their documentation system. In suco Lactos the Suco Chief, PAAS and one female youth representative received this technical assistance.

Meanwhile, after the Leadership and Communication training was completed in Liquiça, the Belun Coordinator provided technical assistance to suco councils to finalize 21 Suco Organizational Development Action Plans. The 21 sucos produced a draft of the Action Plan during the workshop that took place at the beginning of the quarter and needed support in order to finalize and share it in consultation with the suco council members.

In addition to providing support to finalize each suco's Action Plan, the Coordinators in Liquica and Ermera also interviewed suco leaders about their Alternative Dispute Resolution practices (discussed under C. 3. below) learning about their individual models for decision making, and helping each suco to update their suco's contact list, communication and coordination methods using skills learned from the Leadership and Communication training. The Coordinators also provided technical support on proposal requirement and proposal writing in order to help them to submit applications for the Constituent Engagement Grant Request for Applications that were circulated this quarter in every suco.

Training on Leadership and Communication:

On May 11, Belun with support from Counterpart's Organizational Development team launched the first training for FY15 on Leadership and Communication. During this quarter, 19 sucos in Ermera, 21 sucos in Liquiça, 20 sucos in Covalima, 22 sucos in Baucau and 18 sucos in Oecusse benefited from participating in this two day training module. During the first week of the training, Counterpart's Organizational Development team supported Belun's facilitators in Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse to help ensure the quality and effectiveness of the training. Feedback was provided to the Belun trainers to help them improve their delivery skills.



Leadership and Communication training in Guico, Liquica for suco chiefs, women's representatives, male and female youth representatives.

The objective of the Leadership and Communication training module is to help the suco council members understand how more effective Leadership and Communication skills can enhance their legislated roles and responsibilities. It also gave them practical skills to help make their leadership and communication more inclusive. The training took place at the post administration level and targeted the Suco Chief, two women representatives and two youth representatives from each of the selected sucos. Counterpart's District Coordinator monitored the delivery of the training and provided support to ensure the quality. In addition,

Counterpart's Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist observed the training in Fatululic and Fatumea in Covalima and Chief of Party opened the training in Railaco Administrative Post in Ermera together with USAID's Mission Director and his team.

As reported previously, a repeated challenge to activities in Oecusse is the language barrier. A number of Oecusse's suco council members are not able to understand Tetum. Last year, to address this issue Belun's trainer received support from the two Oecusse-based Coordinators to facilitate the training in Baikeno. In the previous training, the translation/interpretation process from Tetum to Baikeno, and *vice versa* took too much time and made communication between trainers and participants less interactive. To address this issue, the Baikeno speaking District Coordinators based in Oecusse were given the responsibility to facilitate the training on Leadership and Communication. Both Coordinators participated in the training of trainers held in March and familiarized themselves with the content of the module, objective, method and training approaches. The participants gave good feedback on the training, indicating that this method to address the language barriers in Oecusse is a winner.

Always working to strengthen the spirit of collaboration and coordination between our project and the Government, Belun and Counterpart's Coordinators invited the Municipal Administrators, Post Administrators, DNDCAS/DNAAS Focal Points, the President of Oecusse SAR and ZEESM, and Secretary of Region for Administration to attend, observe and participate in the training. Meanwhile, at the national level the Ba Distrito team also shared the training schedule with the Director of DNDCAS and invited the DNDCAS staff to participate in delivering the training. The majority of Post Administrators, Community Development Officers (CDO) and Local Governance Officers at the municipal/SAR level attended the first day for a few hours, launched the training and received the training module as well as regular update activity from Ba Distrito's District Coordinators.

Unfortunately, although invited, the DNDCAS team from the national level and their focal points at the municipal level did not join in². This is reportedly because of lack of interest combined with the absence of per diems to support their participation. Given the recent change in leadership within DNAAS, during the next quarter the project will take the opportunity to reintroduce the project to the new Director, reemphasize the value that the project can offer to the DNAAS objects and try to work with DNAAS to encourage it to adopt the project's methods and practices to encourage national ownership and sustainability.

Ba Distrito invited 100 Suco Chiefs, 200 women representatives, 100 female and 100 male youth representatives from Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse to participate in the training. In total, 426 participants attended, 206 male and 220 female. Of those who attended, there were 56 male and four female Suco Chiefs, 144 women representatives, 61 female youth and 70 male youth representatives and an additional 91 participants composed of PAAS, hamlet chiefs, lian nain, elder and other non-target participants.

² With the exception of the DNDCAS Focal Point in Ermera who participated.

This indicates a participation rate of targeted participants as follows:

- 60% of the suco chiefs invited, attended;
- 72% of the women’s representatives invited, attended;
- 61% of the female youth representatives invited, attended;
- 70% of the male youth representatives invited, attended.

In addition, approximately 21% of the people who attended the training were not our targeted audience but did include people who were relevant to the good administration of the suco – other suco council members and PAAS who are appointed by the municipal administration to support the administration of each suco. The project observed a tendency of Suco Chiefs to request that the PAAS attend in their stead if they were occupied with another activity.

Overall, it was noted that 4 sucos³ did not send anyone to participate in the training. Upon enquiry as to why they did not attend, the Project’s Coordinators were told that the Suco Chief in each of these sucos is not interested in participating and did not pass on information about the training to the respective suco council members. However, based on the Project’s experience already working with members of these suco councils, the Coordinators observed that in fact many members of these suco councils are quite motivated to participate in activities. Therefore, for the next training the Project Coordinators will issue the invitations directly to the individual suco council members rather than relying on the suco chief to distribute the information and then re-evaluate the outcome and strategy for the way forward. The following table provides detailed information about the participants in the Leadership and Communication training sessions:

Municipality	Suco Chief		Wo-men Rep	Youth		PAAS		Hamlet Chief		Lian Nain	Elder	Others		Total
	M	F		F	M	F	M	F	M			F	M	
Baucau	12	3	33	11	15	1	0	0	5	1	0	3	1	85
Covalima	9	0	26	12	9	1	9	0	10	1	1	1	1	80
Ermera	9	1	27	13	15	2	7	0	7	1	1	0	3	86
Liquiça	16	0	31	13	17	1	5	0	4	0	2	0	3	92
Oecusse	10	0	27	12	14	2	12	0	5	0	1	0	0	83
Total	56	4	144	61	70	7	33	0	31	3	5	4	8	426

At the end of the training, participants had the chance to evaluate and fill in training evaluation forms, composed of four main section covering (1) logistics and the overall quality of the training; (2) facilitation methods and the quality of the training modules; (3) objective of the training and the quality of facilitator/trainer; and (4) how well they understood the training.

The results of the training evaluation completed by the 426 participants indicated that 71% reported that they learned a “Good” or “Great” amount from the training that they would apply in the future; 20% reported only learning “Some”; and the remainder reported learning only a little bit of information that they would use in the future. When asked to assess the

³ (1) Bucoli, Bagaia, Baucau; (2) Samalari, Bagaia, Baucau; (3) Tashlin, Covalima; and (4) Taroman, Covalima

quality of the training, only 5% of the participants did not consider the training to be of good quality. Finally, there was an 88% satisfaction rate with the facilitation skills and knowledge of the Belun trainers. Counterpart will continue to work to support Belun to incorporate the feedback received to continually improve the standard of the training that they are providing to the suco council members. More detailed analysis of the results of this training can be found in Section V on Monitoring and Evaluation.

Training on Access to Justice and Women’s Rights: A second training for suco council members was launched after the conclusion of the training on Leadership and Communication referenced above. This justice training was led by JSMP and is discussed in detail at section C.2. below. More detailed analysis of the results of this training can be found in Section V on Monitoring and Evaluation.

A.4 Increase Capacity to Respond to Citizen Needs. During this reporting period, the project issued a Request for Applications (RFA) for Constituent Engagement Grants (CEGs) with a value of approximately \$750 each to 100 sucos in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse SAR. For Ermera and Liquiça, Belun’s Coordinator has been supporting us to circulate the RFA and providing consultation to Suco Councils and community-based organizations (CBOs) to prepare their proposal. At the end of this quarter, the team had received 33 proposals, of which 14 were submitted by CBO/Suco Councils from Ermera, eight (8) from Baucau, six (6) from Liquiça, four (4) from Oecusse and one (1) from Covalima. Of those submitted, 23 met the minimum criteria set out in the RFA and will proceed for further consideration by the Grants Selection Committee which will be convened during the next quarter.

The 23 short-listed proposals involve some sort of community activity done in collaboration with Suco Councils in order to improve their communication and engagement with the suco council. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and the project intends to award approximately 50 grants in total.

A.5 Facilitate Networking, Exchange Visits and Joint Action among Sucos. During this reporting period, the team successfully launched **suco exchange visits** in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse. Oecusse and Ermera completed three (3) suco exchange visits during this quarter and have now met the target set out in the annual workplan. Baucau organized three suco exchange visits during this quarter but unfortunately only one was able to go ahead. The security situation in Baucau has been an ongoing challenge to the project. No participants showed up for one of the exchanges because of the changing dynamic among the three suco participants, namely Bucoli, Tiriloka and Gariuai. It is reported that these three sucos have an unresolved suco border issue that has negatively affected community members and resulted in the recent murder of a community member from Gariuai suco. Since that incident, relations between the three sucos are not good. The third exchange scheduled for May 29 was cancelled the evening before the event because of an eruption in violence in the district one day before the event, which resulted in the authorities banning travel between sucos. This is related to the ongoing security operation that is in effect to locate and arrest Mauk Moruk (a man accused of leading armed attacks against authorities) and who is reportedly hiding in the



Suco Exchange Visit in Fatulia, Baucau focusing on the development of a Suco Development Plan.

mountains of Baucau municipality. In Covalima and Liquiça during this reporting period each municipality held one suco exchange visit.

The method used for the suco exchange is to have one (1) individual higher performing sucos as role models and invite three (3) different lower performing sucos for the same municipality/ SAR to come together as a group to learn from each higher performing

sucos. The suco exchange visit includes the Suco Chief, one women’s representative and one youth representative from each selected suco. Its goal is to provide an opportunity for participants to share information with one another and to learn and benefit from similar experiences, possibility resulting in the implementation of new strategies in their own suco. A table summarizing the suco exchange visits that took place during this quarter can be found in Annex 1.

The suco exchange visit explored the success of the suco role model in five keys areas of functionality for public service: Strategic Management; Programming and Quality Control particularly on Monitoring and Evaluation of project implementation and maintenance; External Relations/Communication; Administration; and Financial Sustainability. It is also an opportunity for the participating sucos to put into practice the tools and knowledge gained from the Leadership and Communication training. During the day, the participants discussed how to identify and address problems at the suco level; the main actors responsible for planning, implementing and sustaining the action and the roles and division of responsibility amongst them; effective coordination and communication among the actors including with relevant government institutions/officials; community involvement/participation and contribution; documentation/archiving and publishing it to the public on information board and other engagement strategies; and rules to maintain sustainability of the public service/infrastructure and its management mechanism within suco.

A.6 Improve Suco and District Collaboration for Better Service Delivery. On May 29-30 the Organizational Development team held its first Suco-Municipal/Administration Forum in Pante Makassar, Oecusse. The Forum was attended by 26 participants, including 11 Suco Chiefs (all male), 10 women representatives and five (5) PAAS (1 female, 4 male) over two full days. In order to guarantee the Forum achieved its objectives, Counterpart’s Oecusse Coordinator led the introduction and provided a briefing about the Forum to the SAR officials before inviting them to the Forum. The first day was an introductory meeting to help participants understand the objectives of the Forum, the discussion method and their roles during the two-day meeting.

Counterpart then facilitated a discussion between the participants to identify key challenges that they were facing in the areas of health, water and sanitation, education and land and property. The participants worked on a strategy to effectively present these concerns to the Authority of the SAR the following day. During the second day the participants were provided with an opportunity to share and discuss their concerns and challenges with representatives of the Authority of Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno responsible for health, water and sanitation, education and land and property. Some of challenges and strategies proposed by Suco Councils at the Oecusse Suco-SAR Forum are set out in Annex 2 to this report.



Suco – Municipal/SAR Forum in Pante Makassar, Oecusse advocating for health, education, water and sanitation and land and property.

Counterpart's experience implementing the first Forum in Oecusse SAR showed that both the participants and government officials were comfortable contributing ideas, challenges and opinions in health, education, water and sanitation and land property during the meeting. The Forum in Oecusse SAR was facilitated in both languages, Baikeno and Tetum. According to participants, the facilitation method was strategic and

appropriate and helped to encourage everyone to speak out and reflect on daily issues that the community faces in health, education, land property and water-sanitation sector and advocate about these issues to the officials.

Interestingly from the officials' presentation and interactive discussion afterwards, all participants noted that the Oecusse SAR Authority is aware of the challenges that they presented and had already produced a long-term program and plan to respond to them. At the end of the Forum, a woman representative from suco Bobometo said that it was first time for them to have a clear explanation about the government's program and its plan on health, education, water and sanitation and land property in Oecusse.

During the next quarter, Baucau, Covalima, Ermera and Liquiça will also organize their first forum. To lay the foundation for a successful forum, the District Coordinators in four municipalities have been approaching and briefing the officials including existing line ministries about the forum and its objectives. In the last month of this reporting period, the Coordinators were also consulting with Suco Chiefs, Post Administrators and Municipal Administrators about issues in various development sectors in order to prioritize which sectors the Suco members would like to discuss at the Forum.

Suco Expo: During this reporting period, the Organizational Development team finalized the list of 10 sucos from each of Baucau and Oecusse that will be invited to prepare a presentation for

the Suco Expo, scheduled to take place during the next quarter. Assessments are underway in Covalima, Ermera and Liquiça to do the same. The team also identified CSOs which are implementing successful projects/programs at the suco level to support Suco Councils to confidently present their successes at the upcoming Suco Expo. Oecusse has identified and categorized 10 sucos and their presentation, namely: Suco Usi-Taco, Usi-Tasae, Ban-Afi, Cunha and Bobokase will present their success on micro-credit; Bene-Ufe on clean water management system; Lela-Ufe and Usi-Taqueno and Malelat on suco rules/regulations, Abani on their success building school and Bobometo on suco plan on health sector. The project is planning for the Suco Expo to take place during the next quarter.

Organizational Development for Implementing Partners: In addition to the specific activities discussed above, the Ba Distrito team continued to support the organizational capacity development of three implementing partners, namely Belun, FFSO and JSMP and two additional legal aid grantees Liberta and Justice and Peace Commission based in Baucau. On May 26, the team did an organizational development assessment for Liberta and Justice and Peace (JPC). The assessment for JPC will continue next quarter focusing on Strategic Management, Programming and Quality Control (especially on Monitoring and Evaluation), External Relations/Communication, Administration and Finance, Financial Sustainability and Human Resource and its Materials. The assessment for Liberta is complete and during the next quarter the team will write up their main findings and recommendations for them.

The Oecusse District Coordinator continued to provide regular and close accompaniment to legal aid partner FFSO. Particularly during this reporting period, FFSO had the opportunity to apply for a grant from Oxfam to engage in advocacy on land issues. Counterpart's District Coordinator supported FFSO to fill in the capacity assessment requirements and other documents for submission to Oxfam. The District Coordinator also helped FFSO through a transition period when their Administration and Finance Officer left the organization to join the government administration. On financial issues, the Grants Manager in coordination with the Organizational Development team regularly provided technical financial reporting assistance to Belun, FFSO, JSMP, Liberta and JPC.

Stakeholder Coordination: During this reporting period, the capacity building team continued strengthening our partnership with government institutions and administrations at the national, municipal and post-administration level. Since the change in the Organic Structure of the Ministry of State Administration, the project is working to build relationships with new officials working on areas relevant to the project.

Component B – Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions

The goal of the activities under Component B is to improve communication and links between the sucos, the district administration, local Government of Timor-Leste (GoTL), line ministries and other basic service providers at the sub-national level. A detailed discussion of developments affecting decentralization is found in the section II on the Political Context, above.

B.1 Solicit and Present Research on Citizens' Opinion on Decentralization Policy and Practices.

Participate in policy/legislative working groups related to decentralization: On June 26, the Governance Officer participated in the "100% Hau Pronto" – Steering Committee meeting hosted by NGO Women's Caucus. The meeting aimed at updating activities that have been carried out by "100% Hau Pronto" campaign since its inception six months ago, and to discuss successes and challenges that the Steering Committee has gone through so far. The participants were also informed on the outcome of meeting with the Prime Minister a day before and that the Prime Minister is very supportive of the initiative. The meeting was concluded with a presentation on total budget spent for the last National Seminar on 100 Women Candidate.

B.2 Provide legal advice and legislative drafting support. With the exception of the request from the Fifth Constitutional Government to support the drafting of proposed amendments to the Community Leaders and their Elections law, there have been no requests from the Sixth Constitutional Government to provide legal advice or legislative drafting support.

The project has been monitoring very closely evolving developments in relation to decentralization and particularly in relation to the role of suco councils in the government's decentralized vision. Since the change in government the project has been seeking opportunities to meet with the new Minister of State Administration to offer its support to the government to help ensure that legislation and policies developed in a consultative way, are inclusive of community members' opinions and create mechanisms that will allow citizens to engage with their local governance structures.

There were a number of legislative developments related to decentralization and local governance during this reporting period. On April 8, the Council of Minister approved three pieces of legislation relating to decentralization.

By way of background, the draft law on Local Power and Administrative Decentralization, Municipal Election and the Law on Territorial Division were originally part of a package of decentralization legislation approved by the Council of Ministers of the Fourth Constitutional Government in 2009 and submitted to National Parliament for debate and approval. Although the Law on Territorial Division was approved by Parliament at that time, the remaining two pieces of draft legislation were not yet debated at the time the Fifth Constitutional Government came into power. This necessitated the re-approval of the package of laws by the new Government.

In 2014, the package of draft decentralization laws, including the draft law on Local Power and Administrative Decentralization, the Municipal Election and the first amendment to the Law on Territorial Division were reintroduced by the Fifth Constitutional Government and passed by the Council of Ministers. However, the laws had not yet been debated by Parliament at the time of the change in Government and therefore the Council of Minister's approval of the draft laws became null and void.

The approval of the package of three decentralization laws by the Council of Ministers for the Sixth Constitutional Government on April 8 signals this Government's approval of the policies contained therein and sets the stage for debate, and perhaps approval, by National Parliament.

The draft law on local power and administrative decentralization determines the organization, composition and competencies of the Local Government bodies, as well as the legal framework for the administrative decentralization of the State. The law proposing the first amendment to the Law on Territory Division responds to the administrative division of the territory into the 12 municipalities and the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno and reintroduces the administrative post into the law. The draft law on Municipal Election regulates the election municipal holders, i.e., Municipal President and members of the Municipal Assembly. In the previous quarter, it was reported that the Government had suggested the municipal election agenda will take place at the end of 2016.

In addition to the decentralization package, on June 26 the Council of Ministers also approved the First Amendment to Decree-Law No.8/2013 on the General Framework of the National Suco Development Program. With this amendment, the new government intends to proceed with a thorough evaluation of the PNDS and, if justified, the program may be cancelled pending the establishment of the Municipalities. However, the government recognizes that there are still several projects are still being financed by PNDS with contracts already signed with the government. This amendment allows necessary measures to harmonize the legal framework of this Program with the new government's organic structure to ensure the continuity of the ongoing projects. At the end of the reporting period, this amendment was awaiting promulgation by the President.

On June 30, the first amendment to Decree Law No.4/2012 on Planning of Integrated Municipal Development (PIMD) was also approved by the Council of Ministers. The PMID had been under the Ministry of State Administration until the new government took office. The amended Decree-Law attributes the coordination and the development of PIMD to the new Ministry of Planning and Strategic Development. This amendment was also awaiting promulgation by the President at the end of the reporting period.

A table summarizing legislation related to local governance and decentralization that has been passed since Ba Distrito began operating, updated to the end of this quarter, can be found in Annex 3.

B.3 Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants (DRAGs). On May 18, after a competitive grants selection process, the Director of the Community Radio Association of Timor-Leste (ARKTL), Mr. Prezado Ximenes, signed a sub-agreement with Ba Distrito to implement a media outreach campaign to promote citizens' understanding of and participation in decentralization. The community radio outreach campaign is aimed at disseminating information about policy issues and decentralization legislation and educating community members in every municipality where Ba Distrito operates. Using local community radio stations to reach out to communities in their local languages, through a series of talk shows, informational public service announcements, radio dramas and vox pops, ARKTL will help to

empower local communities with knowledge about matters that are important to them locally and provide an opportunity for them to engage on issues that matter to them and share their opinions. The duration of the grants is for approximately six months.

After an extensive period of negotiation, on May 11 the project signed a contract with Uairawa Multimedia Company to produce 5 short documentaries that will promote positive stories of change at the suco level in each municipality/SAR. The films will focus on telling the story of the inclusive process that the suco used to achieve an improvement for their community at the local level. The films will be used to motivate other sucos to model the best practices demonstrated in the five positive change stories in order to enhance the capacity of suco councils to strengthen citizen participation and representation in local governance. The films will be aired on TVTL and will be given by Counterpart as an in-kind grant to its implementing partner Belun to promote more inclusive and effective local governance. The following stories were selected after a competitive process involving the Ministry of State Administration to be featured in the documentary films:

Municipalities/Region	Suco	Success Stories
1. Liquiça	Vaviquinia	Drinking water distribution
2. Covalima	Ogues	Traditional Conflict Prevention (Nahe Biti Bo’ot)
3. Oecusse	Bobometo	Community initiative to develop health plan and build health facility in the suco
4. Ermera	Estadu	Conflict Resolution
5. Baucau	Fatulia	Road Construction

On June 12, Ba Distrito and Uairawa Multimedia had a coordination meeting with the USAID-funded Health Improvement Project (HADIAK). The objective of the meeting was to enrich the draft script on community initiative to develop health plan and build health facility in the Suco Bobometo in Oecusse that HADIAK has been providing supporting for the past years. HADIAK provided feedback and footage from their work in Bobometo to Uairawa Company.

B.4 Support Information Dissemination on Approved Laws. On April 23, the Governance team provided one day training to the staff members of ARKTL on the current decentralization policy and legal framework, which includes the pre-deconcentration administrative structure in some municipalities; Special Economic Zone of Social Market Economy (ZEESM) in the Special Region of Oecusse; and changes to laws governing sucos and suco councils. The objective of the training was to familiarize ARKTL team with relevant topics and issues regarding decentralization and law on community leaders and their elections. ARKTL team then conducted a similar training for local journalists in Ba Distrito’s targeted municipalities and Special Region of Oecusse to enable them to engage in accurate news reporting and to create local programs that share information accurately.

On May 28, the Governance Officer and ARKTL team travelled to Ermera and conducted one day training for journalists at Ermera community radio station on decentralization policy and

legal framework and changes to laws governing sucos and suco councils. There were 18 participants including the volunteer journalists at community radios, journalist from Business Timor and student journalists from local secondary schools including three young female volunteer journalists at the community radio station.

Participants in the training and the community radio manager found the training very relevant and useful. The Community Radio Manager was very appreciative of the training and promised good collaboration with ARKTL to ensure the success of the outreach campaign program. Following the training in the afternoon, the Community Radio Kafé Ermera conducted a talk show on decentralization with two main guest speakers: the Municipal Administrator and a Representative of civil society group from NGO Hametin Demokrasi no Igualidade Ermera.

On June 2, Ba Distrito and ARKTL team conducted the training for local journalists in Baucau. The training took place at Baucau's Radio Komunidade Lian Matebian (RCLM) radio station with four participants; two of whom were female. Due to a technical problem with RCLM transmitter, the talk show on decentralization was canceled. However, ARKTL and RCLM Radio Station conducted a recorded talk show in the middle of June with two main guest speakers namely the municipal administrator and a representative from local NGO – Comissão Justiça e Paz.

On June 4, ARKTL concluded one day training session for journalists in Liquiça. The training took place at Radio Comunidade Tokodede (RCT) with 10 participants, half were youth female. Most of the training participants were volunteer journalists at RCT while the rest (4 participants) were interns at RCT from the local secondary high school.

Following the training session in the evening, with the assistance from ARKTL, RCT hosted a talk show on Decentralization with two guest speakers namely the head of Sekretariadu Apoiu Instaladora Munisípiu Liquiça and a representative of local NGO in Liquiça. The talk show started and was run successfully. The talkshow was still on air when the team of Ba Distrito and ARKTL left for Dili.

On June 9, ARKTL concluded the same training for journalists in Covalima. This time, the training was conducted at Covalima Community Radio Station -



Radio Cova Taroman with 9 participants; two of whom are women. Two staff

ARKTL and Ba Distrito team together with journalists trained at Radio Cova Taroman in Covalima.

members from Centro Juventude Covalima (Suai Youth Center) also participated in training. The talk show, originally scheduled to take place around June 9 was postponed until June 15 because the panelists were not available. However, on June 15 the Municipal Administrator was once again unavailable. Radio Cova Taroman then invited the administrator of Suai

Administrative Post and a representative of Civil Society Groups in Covalima. The two were available to participate in the talkshow which was produced and broadcast in the last week of June.

On June 15, ARKTL and Ba Distrito team travelled to Oecusse to conduct the training for the journalists at Radio Comunidade Atoni Lifau (RCAL). The one day training was concluded at the community radio station on June 17 with five participants who mainly are the volunteer journalists and staff at the community radio station.

On June 19, RCAL hosted a live talk show at the community radio station with two main guests Mr. Regio Salu, Regional Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development, and Mr. Jose Eta, Head of Local NGO's Information Network (RENO) in Oecusse. The talk show marked the last working day for the team who returned back to Dili in the afternoon. By the last week of June, ARKTL was able to finalize the recordings of PSAs, and dramas as well as one recorded talk show (Baucau Community Radio Station), and has since doing regular airings of them.



His Excellency Regional Secretary for Agriculture and Rural Development, Regio Da Cruz Salu, and Chief of NGO's Information Network in Oecusse (REINO), Mr. Jose Eta, during a live talkshow at Radio Comunidade Atoni Lifau (RCAL) on the new regional government structure in Oecusse.

In general, participants find the training very helpful as it provides them more information and updates on government decentralization policies, the legal base for the establishment of Special Administrative Region and Special Economic Zone of Social Market Economy (ZEESM), and roles and responsibilities of Suco Chiefs and members of Suco Councils according to Law No.3/2009. The knowledge and information they gain during the training serve as the basis for developing questions and investigation for their news program either at community radios or local newspapers. Detailed analysis of the training results can be found Section V on Monitoring and Evaluation.

Comments from the journalists who participated in the training indicated that most agree that community members do not really understand the decentralization policy changes that are taking place and need more information on decentralization developments. They felt that the training gave the journalists a better background to understand the changes. Interestingly, it was observed that in the overall trainings mostly half of the participants are female volunteer journalists.

Several participants in the training stated that the information provided during the training was too dense and that more training days were needed in order to make the training more effective.

A challenge faced by the project is that recent changes in government decentralization policy resulted in some of the training content becoming irrelevant. The team, Ba Distrito and ARKTL did not have sufficient time to make changes to the content of the training materials, instead informing the training participants directly of changes during the training session itself. The project is looking for practical ways to keep its journalist partners up-to-date with the ever changing government decentralization policies.

Component C – Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

The goal of the activities under Component C is to strengthen local justice sector institutions that increase access to formal and informal justice for marginalized citizens and the poor.

C.1 - Support Government to Develop Responsive Integrated and Sustainable Legal Aid

Assistance Model. As reported in the previous quarter, the Project has reformulated its advocacy approach by directly holding advocacy meetings at the project office involving mostly Ba Distrito’s legal aid implementing partners and grantees including JPC, FFSO and Liberta, as well as other legal aid organizations including ALFeLa and FECM. During this quarter, two meetings were held at Ba Distrito’s office to discuss an advocacy strategy around the existing and/or draft laws with potential impact on legal aid and access to justice. On April 10, the Legal Aid Partners met at the project’s office to introduce itself to the MOJ’s National Directorate of Judicial Advisory and Legislation (DNAJL). Although the representative from DNAJL had confirmed to attend the meeting which was coordinated by Liberta with support from the project’s staff, the group was informed that the person assigned to the meeting got sick and was unable to attend. Nevertheless, the group continued with the discussion of an advocacy strategy around draft Law on Bar Association which was sent to the Council of Ministers following its approval by the Minister of Justice. At the end of the meeting, the participants agreed to meet again in order for Ba Distrito to present its *Legal Aid Brief* which includes assessment in the current legislative gaps including in the draft Law on Bar Association.

On June 10, members of the Legal Aid Partners group met at the project’s office during which Ba Distrito’s legal aid specialist presented findings from Legal Aid Brief including recommendations for mandatory legal aid provision by the private lawyers as a condition to gain entry into the Bar and license renewal. While the participants agreed to the idea of private lawyers also providing legal aid to the poor and vulnerable, issues were raised about the potential for further marginalization of the Timorese private lawyers who are already struggling to get paying clients. At present, only a very small group of the just over 70 private lawyers who have graduated from the Legal Training Center (CFJ) actually practice law. According to the participants, this is not only because majority of them do not have the capital to set up their own law firms, but also because individual legal practice can be very challenging in the presence of foreign law firms whose lawyers speak multiple languages. Thus participants in the group meeting said that the word mandatory pro-bono might be *too strong* especially when the government has established the Office of Public Defenders whose lawyers are meant to provide free legal aid. At the end of the meeting, the group members agreed to read and prepare

comments to the draft Law on Bar Association. Legal aid partner Liberta will compile the comments from the participating members and discuss them at the next meeting.

C.2. - Improve Capacity and Outreach of Legal Aid and Alternative Dispute Providers:

Following the award of Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants to JPC and Liberta in the previous quarter, the project’s justice component now has three legal aid partners including FFSO. During this quarter, all three legal aid partners were actively providing *free* legal aid assistance to poor and vulnerable people in Baucau, Ermera, Liquica and Oecusse.

A combined total of 105 people received free legal aid assistance from Ba Distrito’s legal aid partners this quarter including 36 women and 26 youth. From the total youth who received legal aid assistance from Ba Distrito’s legal aid partners within this quarter, 18 of them are female youth. The table below provides the number of people who received legal aid between April and June 2015:

<i>Number of People Who Received Legal Aid Assistance Between April-June 2015</i>							
Implementing Partner	Type of Criminal Case				Civil Cases		combined
	SGBV/DV		Non SGBV/DV		f	m	
	f	m	f	m			
Commissao Justica e Paz	3	0	6	14	3	7	33
Fundacao Fatuk Sinae Oecusse	0	1	4	7	11	9	32
LIBERTA Advocacia and Consultoria	1	2	3	13	5	16	40
Total	4	3	13	34	19	32	105

Cases handled by the legal aid organizations included criminal cases involving domestic and sexual violence, assault, threats and theft; and civil cases involving abandonment, divorce, paternity, bad debts and property issues. Most cases involved providing legal advice and consultation, referral to an appropriate service provider and accompaniment to the client as they follow up on the process. A small number involved representation in Court. A small number also involved the lawyers providing support to the attempted resolution of land disputes by community leaders. In general, the majority of requests for legal advice and consultation followed immediately after legal awareness raising sessions. Most of the clients came to ask legal advice on ways to process their cases before the formal justice system, who to ask for assistance and what institutions to go to. For victims of criminal cases who asked for assistance, lawyers accompanied them in reporting their cases to the local police or the Office of Public Prosecution. Referrals were also made to specialized service providers such as ALFeLa which specializes in providing legal aid to women and children who are victims of domestic violence.

Within this quarter, a total of 11 cases were resolved by the legal aid partners through litigation (4) and non-litigation (7) processes. The table below provides the number and type of cases resolved by the project's legal aid partners JPC, FFSO and Liberta within this quarter:

<i>Cases Resolved by Legal Aid Partners Between April-June 2015</i>							
Implementing partner	Resolved Criminal Cases				Resolved Civil Cases		combined
	SGBV/DV		Non SGBV/DV		f	m	
	f	m	f	m			
Commissao Justica e Paz	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Fundacao Fatuk Sinae Oecusse	0	1	1	1	3	2	8
LIBERTA Advocacia and Consultoria	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Total	0	1	1	2	3	4	11

In addition to the provision of free legal aid assistance to the poor and vulnerable, Ba Distrito's legal aid partners continued to coordinate and implement mobile legal awareness campaigns. During this quarter, legal awareness sessions were held in 34 sucos and were attended by a combined total of 920 members of community members and local leaders including 325 women in Baucau, Ermera, Liquica, and Oecusse. Liberta did not track youth participation in their legal awareness campaigns, but reported that according to their observations most (if not all) of the participants are older than 30 years of age. The project will work with them to start formally tracking youth participation during the next quarter. A detailed breakdown of where and when the legal information sessions were held is attached in Annex 4. A summary of the information is found in the table below:

<i>Combined Total of Participants in Legal Awareness Campaigns Held by Legal Aid Partners Between April-June 2015</i>					
Implementing Partner	Youth		Participants		Total participants
	f	m	f	m	
Commissao Justica e Paz	66	88	125	74	199
Fundacao Fatuk Sinae Oecusse	9	3	81	176	257
LIBERTA Advocacia and Consultoria	0	0	119	345	464
Total	75	91	325	595	920

The legal information sessions delivered by the legal aid partners were organized in conjunction with the suco leadership. The overall objective of mobile legal awareness campaigns is to increase people's general awareness about law and provide *on-the-spot* legal advice for the

“Our lands taken occupied by the Indonesian government throughout the occupation, they’re now being used by our own government as well. What do we do to process the land re-ownership because it was illegally occupied?” Female participant in Ulmera Suco, Liquica

participants who have legal issues and/or questions. Most sessions cover basic legal topics such as what constitutes a crime and how to report and solve alleged crime committed; what is a civil case/dispute and ways to solve them; and what constitutes a domestic violence. In addition, these sessions are also meant to increase people’s basic understanding of how the formal justice system operates and the role of different actors in the formal justice system. General explanations were also made on the role judges, public prosecutors, public defenders, lawyers, and police including the role of community leaders in conflict

prevention and resolution. References were taken from the relevant laws including Timor-Leste’s Penal and Civil Codes including their procedure codes and Law against Domestic Violence (LADV).

The community members were given an opportunity to comment and ask questions and receive advice after the session. The response from the community leaders was overwhelmingly positive with calls for the American people to continue to serve and work with the community and in particular those with limited access to justice. Those from the areas of Baucau where security operations are currently underway were particularly grateful for the fact that this activity took place despite the ongoing feeling of insecurity in the villages.

In addition to the strong collaboration that the project’s legal aid partners are gaining from community leaders in the sucos where they bring their services, they have also been building strong working relationships with other legal aid service providers and justice actors. On May 14, JPC held a *joint* legal education campaign in suco Loilubo, Baucau with a lawyer from ALFeLa specializing in women’s and children’s law. The information session was targeted at women. A total of 23 women including one man attended the session. During the session, which was observed by the Ba Distrito’s access to justice manager, participants were very active in discussion and raised critical questions.



Legal aid partner JPC and ALFeLa jointly held an awareness campaign in Suco Loilubo targeting mostly women in May.

“My daughter showed up in the morning at my house with bloody and swollen face after her husband hit her the night before. I immediately brought her to the police station to report the case. But later on, my daughter decided to go back her husband because she missed her kids who stayed with their father. How do I go about processing this case?” Female participant in Liquiça municipality.

Overall, the community members who participated in the information sessions had questions about a broad range of issues including domestic violence, divorce, paternity, and land disputes. In Baucau, JPC reported questions being asked about how to ensure police neutrality when cases are brought to them. In Liquica, lawyers from Liberta observed that questions about land disputes were predominant, followed closely by questions about domestic violence. In Oecusse FFSO observed that cases about straying cattle were common. Legal outreach will take place in Ermera district during the upcoming quarter as

Liberta is alternating its outreach between Ermera and Liquica municipalities.

To complement the provision of free legal aid to the poor and vulnerable and mobile legal awareness campaigns undertaken by the legal aid partners, Ba Distrito also supported its partner JSMP to monitor legal aid service provision in the Courts. Starting in March this year, the information collected through this monitoring will form the basis of an upcoming State of Legal Aid Report for Timor-Leste.

During this quarter JSMP monitored quality of legal aid and legal representation in a total of 79 criminal cases and interviewed a total of 60 criminal defendants. Based on its observation, JSMP found that private lawyers and public defenders made reasonably good efforts to defend their clients by holding meetings and discussions with their clients prior to court hearings, arguing for lighter charges and sentence, and submission of appeals against the decisions from the court of first instance.

JSMP also noted that private lawyers tend to visit and spend more time with their clients than the public defenders. According to JSMP, this is partly attributed to public defenders’ high work volume and limited resources. Moreover, JSMP observed last minute changes of the public defenders in the courtroom, reportedly insufficient time spent with the clients when meetings did occur, and multiple defendants with conflicting interests represented by just one lawyer. For example in a case JSMP monitored at Dili municipal court, it was observed that 11 defendants were being represented by a single public defender hence bringing to question the question of conflict of interest and the quality of representation.

In all interviews conducted with 60 criminal defendants, almost all defendants explained that they were satisfied with the legal aid they received from the lawyers and public defenders did not charge any fees. Some of the defendants, however, mentioned that their meetings with lawyers in most cases are limited by distance to Office of Public Defenders and private lawyers. Many also reported that they did not know who public defenders and private lawyers are and what they do until they received legal representation. The table below summarizes the cases

JSMP monitored for quality of legal aid and legal representation in the courtroom within this quarter:

Monitoring of quality legal aid and legal representation in the courtrooms by JSMP between April-June 2015			
Month	Court	Cases monitored	Defendants interviewed
April	Baucau	5	5
	Covalima	0	0
	Dili	2	1
	Oecusse	15	13
May	Baucau	6	6
	Covalima	5	5
	Dili	2	1
	Oecusse	17	11
June	Baucau	5	5
	Covalima	5	5
	Dili	2	0
	Oecusse	15	8
Total		79	60

During this quarter the project also entered into an agreement with JSMP to train the suco council members on access to justice and women’s rights. A part of the Project’s series of suco council trainings, the *Module 2 on Access to Justice and Women’s Rights* is aimed at creating a better understanding among the local leaders about the interface/connection between the formal and informal justice systems focusing on domestic violence, women’s land ownership, property, alimony and maintenance. The training is targeted at suco chiefs, women’s representatives and lia nains from each of the 100 sucos where the project operates. The goal of the training is to provide these local level decision makers with basic legal information that will help them to facilitate resolutions at the community level that are fairer and more respectful of women’s legal rights and to make referrals on to the formal justice system as appropriate.



Training of Trainers for JSMP facilitators on interactive ways to facilitate the Access to Justice and Women’s Rights training module for suco councils.

During this quarter the project finalized justice training manuals for participants and facilitators and provided a three-day Training of Trainers (TOT) to

JSMP’s trainers as well municipal and regional coordinators from May 6-8. The TOT was led by the Project’s Legal Aid Specialist Maria Veronika da Costa and attended by a total of 17 people including 6 women from JSMP, Belun, and Ba Distrito staff.

On June 9, the training was launched in Suco Vaviquina, Liquica. The launch was officially opened by the administrator of Maubara administrative post and attended by JSMP’s Executive Director Luis Sampaio Oliveira as well as Ba Distrito Access to Justice Manager. The training launch was well covered by local media including the radio station Radio Tokodede and print media.

The table below summarizes the trainings that took place during this reporting period. The analysis of the training results for the entire 100 sucos will be reported in the next quarterly report.

Date	Location	Number of Sucos	Participants		Total
			f	m	
June 9 - 11	Vaviquina, Liquica	7	7	15	22
June 15 - 17	Liquica Vila, Liquica	7	8	16	24
June 18 - 20	Bazartete, Liquica	7	8	8	16
June 25 - 27	Railaco, Ermera	5	9	12	21
	TOTAL	26	32	51	83



Administrator of Maubara Administrative Post Mr. Laurindo dos Reis and Executive Director of JSMP launching the Access to Justice and Women’s Rights training.

Interesting discussions were observed during the suco council training. Among the issues that participants raised throughout the discussions are role of suco council in civil disputes such as paternity, right to alimony and maintenance in divorce cases as well as in criminal cases such as domestic violence. On issues related to domestic violence, many of the participants explained that both victims and perpetrators tend to go to the local authorities for resolution because they cannot afford to go through the lengthy formal justice system which

can be costly in addition to the fact that local authorities such as suco chiefs and traditional leaders are the closest to the community.

In addition to the issues surrounding domestic violence, many participants who attended the suco council training also frequently raised questions regarding women’s right to inheritance and property ownership. This was a particularly active discussion because of the difference

between the legal position (women can be property owners and can inherit under the law) and the customary position which is that property passes down through the men in the family (except for in the small number of matrilineal groups in the country).

Overall, participants were very participative throughout the training and recognized the importance of such training. In almost all of the training sessions, the participants gave very positive review of the training and asked JSMP to continue providing similar training. For example in a training held in suco Vaviquina, participants asked that similar training should be provided to youth group especially those who are not in school. Due to the importance of training on access to justice and women's rights, others requested that the participation should be extended to include participation from the community members, and not just suco council members and/or their representatives.

Detailed analysis of the results of the training can be found in Section V on Monitoring and Evaluation.

C.3. Assess and Reinforce Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanism. Timor- Leste has a hybrid justice system involving formal justice mechanisms as well as non-formal justice mechanisms where cases are mediated or arbitrated by local community leaders such as suco and aldeia chiefs, traditional leaders (*lia nain*), and local authorities. Both formal and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms are recognized in the country's Constitution and other laws.

In order to focus its activities and leverage the work that Ba Distrito is doing with community leaders, the project has chosen to assess and reinforce the alternative dispute resolution activities being conducted by the suco council members. Working with Belun to develop a monitoring form, the project is seeking to gain information to obtain a general understanding of who the ADR providers are in the community, who accesses the ADR process, and what type of cases are being brought to ADR providers and the result.

Belun began collecting data on the ADR practices in the four targeted municipalities and Oecusse during the last quarter. During this quarter, Belun collected data on ADR practices by the community leaders including suco and aldeia chiefs, traditional leaders/*lia nain*, and women representatives. From the data gathered by Belun indicates that land disputes followed by the domestic violence are among the cases most frequently brought to the community leaders for alternative resolution. The table below provides the number of disputes/cases brought before the ADR providers within this quarter:

Alternative Dispute Resolution Reported by Community Leaders						
Municipality or Special Region	Community leaders who led the ADR processes					
	Suco chiefs	Aldeia chiefs	Adat Leaders	Women reps	Beneficiaries	Total Cases
Baucau	3	0	3	3	0	9
Covalima	5	0	5	5	0	15
Ermera	3	0	3	3	0	9
Liquica	9	0	9	6	2	26
Oecusse Region	3	0	2	0	0	5
						64

C.4. – Provide Targeted Assistance on Improving the Legislative Framework for Legal Aid. As reported under the component C.1. above, Ba Distrito’s legal aid partners group met twice within this quarter to discuss advocacy strategy and draft Law on Bar Association. In addition to these meetings, the project’s legal aid partners JPC and FFSO also continued to hold monthly legal aid coordination meetings in Baucau and Oecusse respectively. Liberta plans to hold its first legal aid coordination meeting in the next quarter.

The following legal aid coordination meetings were held this quarter by the project’s partners:

On April 16, legal aid partner JPC held its first Legal Aid Coordination meeting in Baucau municipality attended by representatives from ALFeLa, JSMP, FECM, child protection representative from the Ministry of Social and Solidarity (MSA), and Baucau safe houses. During the coordination meeting, JPC introduced its scope of work with Ba Distrito and asked for continued coordination with the member organizations. Representatives from participating organizations welcome JPC’s new partnership with the Project and expressed their willingness to collaborate with JPC in the implementation of the Project’s activities as necessary. During the meeting, participants highlighted the importance of ongoing coordination to ensure an effective service delivery and avoid duplication. Representative from ALFeLa, for example, suggested that JPC’s provision of legal aid and legal representation should mainly focus on the suspects as ALFeLa’s work focuses on the provision of legal aid to the victims especially women and children.

May’s Legal Aid Coordination Meeting in Baucau resulted in a joint legal awareness campaign being conducted by JPC and ALFeLa on domestic violence in suco Loilubo, described above at C.2. above. The June 24 meeting was also attended by a police officer from the community policing section of the PNTL and indicated their willingness to support JPC in their legal aid outreach work at the suco level.

In Oecusse, FFSO held its legal aid coordination meetings on May 5, and June 30. These meetings are generally attended by JSMP, representatives from PDHJ and other local NGOs. During the coordination meeting, the participating organizations shared, among others,

allegations of police abuse. The representative from the Ombudsman Office said he will share the information with his colleagues and look into the allegation. During the meeting, participants also recommended that representative from the PNTL's Victims Persons Unit (VPU) and Suco Police Unit (OPS) be invited to the future meetings.

On June 30, FFSO held another legal aid coordination meeting at Ministry of Social and Solidarity office in Oecusse which was also attended by Oecusse court judge administrator Dr. Joao Ribeiro, the Public Prosecutor Dr. Ambrosio Rangel and representatives from ALFeLA, Oecusse Women's Forum (FPWO), Mental Health Unit, and Ombudsman's office. This coordination meeting provided a forum for the participants to discuss a perceived increased in cases involving husbands abandoning their wives and children. It is noted by the project that many of the legal aid partners incorrectly identify cases of abandonment as a crime, which in fact, most cases are not. This could indicate an area of technical training the project could address down the road. This coordination meeting was aimed at how the participating member can better coordinate to provide assistance to children and mothers at risk including provision of legal aid and legal awareness campaigns.

C.5. - Provide Support to Government and CSOs to Create Accessible and Effective Legal Information. To ensure effective legal awareness campaigns by the legal aid partners, Ba Distrito supported the legal aid partners to improve their facilitation skills and techniques. From April 8-9, the Project held a facilitation methods workshop led by the project's legal aid specialist. The objective of the two-day facilitation workshop was to strengthen the legal aid partners practical facilitation skills in order to improve people's participation in their mobile legal awareness sessions. These sessions are normally attended, for most part, by community members with little to no education. At the end of the training, each legal aid partner was given tools for participative facilitation techniques to use in their legal awareness sessions.

In order to reinforce the legal awareness information provided by the Ba Distrito's legal aid partners at legal outreach sessions and to reach a broader cross-section of the population, six, standardized, radio public services announcement (PSAs) were produced and recorded by the legal aid partners with close support from the Project. Working with the Radio Academica of Timor-Leste National University (UNTL) and its actors, the PSAs were recorded and produced within this quarter in Tetun and Baekeno, the language of Oecusse. The PSA topics include role of judicial actors (judges, prosecutors, defenders/lawyers, and police), right to alimony and maintenance, the penal and civil codes, domestic violence, women's rights to property, and alternative dispute resolution. The PSAs are a series of short dramas using simple language and examples for the listener to understand.

On June 30, Ba Distrito's justice PSAs were launched in suco Maumeta, Liquica. A total of 39 people including 20 women enthusiastically participated in the event. These PSAs will be aired on the local community radio stations in all project's areas of interventions including on Radio Komunidade Lian Matebian (Baucau), Radio Komunidade Cova Taroman (Covalima), Komunidade Café (Ermera), Radio Komunidade Tokodede (Liquica), and Radio Komunidade Atoni Lifau (Oecusse).

Both the legal outreach sessions held at the grassroots level and the radio PSAs are designed to form a legal awareness campaign where community members who go to the outreach session or listen to the radio will get similar and reinforcing legal information.

This quarter, Ba Distrito also continued to work with and support MOJ's research survey into the effectiveness of the Ministry of Justice's legal outreach efforts. After supporting the MOJ with the development and piloting of the research methodology, the project supported the Ministry as it undertook qualitative field research in five administrative posts including in Lospalos, Same, Hatubuiliku, Atsabe, and Suai. On April 23, Ba Distrito accompanied one of the field research focus group discussions in Same. During this quarter the field research focus group discussions and surveys were completed and the results transcribed.

The project provided an international intern Ashley Johnson – a law and public policy graduate student from William and Mary College in the United States - to support the Ministry of Justice to analyze the transcripts and survey results. This support will continue into the next quarter and will result in a report for the Ministry of Justice detailing the successes, challenges and recommendations for improvements to their format for legal outreach.

Component D – District Court Functionality

The goal of the activities under Component C is to strengthen local justice sector institutions that increase access to formal and informal justice for marginalized citizens and the poor.

Within this quarter, implementing partner JSMP continued to monitor Oecusse regional court on regular basis. During the first month of the quarter, JSMP monitored a total of 17 criminal cases out of 18 trials scheduled for the month. From the 17 cases monitored by JSMP in the first month of the quarter, 15 of them were heard by a panel of three judges and 12 of the cases monitored involve women and children as victims. In May, JSMP monitored a total of 33 criminal cases from 42 case hearing scheduled for the month. Out of the total cases monitored by JSMP, 18 cases were simple offences against physical integrity within the nature of domestic violence and 22 of the cases monitored involved women and children as victims. From the 33 total cases monitored, the court was able to conclude 30 cases. During the last month of the quarter, JSMP monitored 18 criminal cases out of 32 case trials held by Oecusse court. 15 of the cases monitored by JSMP are domestic violence in the form of simple offenses against physical integrity. Hence, within this quarter the implementing partner JSMP monitored a total of 68 criminal cases including 38 domestic violence cases. Out of 68 criminal cases JSMP monitored within this quarter, the court was able to conclude 59 cases. The table below summarizes the number of cases monitored by JSMP and concluded by the court during this quarter:

Number of Cases Monitored by JSMP and Concluded by Oecusse Court Between April and June 2015				
Month	Domestic violence	Other offences	Total cases JSMP monitored	Total cases Court concluded
April	5	12	17	15
May	18	15	33	30
June	15	3	18	14
Total	38	30	68	59

Similar to past quarters, JSMP continued to observe that the use of suspended sentence and fine remain as the most common sentence handed by Oecusse court in domestic violence cases. While JSMP respects the court’s decision, JSMP advocates that suspended sentences are not effective in preventing violence from recurring again to the same victims. The court’s decision to fine perpetrators of domestic violence will only put extra burden to the those who could barely sustain their families on daily basis, nor would fining those with sufficient economic means prevent them from repeating similar offence in the future.

Within this quarter, the implementing partner JSMP continued to widely publicize its monitoring activities in Oecusse regional court especially on formal justice issues that it considers important for raising public awareness and in contributing to policy advocacy for changes. A total of five press releases including one on the quality of legal representation were released by JSMP this quarter on its website, through its mailing list, in the local newspaper as well as through East Timor Action Network (ETAN) mailing list. They include [1] Oecusse Court hearings were suspended for one week for the court to prepare hearings of serious cases by a panel of three judges (released April 10, in Tetun only); [2] Oecusse court heard 15 collective cases and 3 single-judge cases within two weeks period (released April 27, in Tetun and Bahasa Indonesia); [3] Oecusse court issued a 20-year prison sentence in an incest case (Released May 18, in Tetun only); and [4] Oecusse court issued a 5-year prison sentence in an attempt murder with domestic violence nature (released June 10, in Tetun only). In addition, JSMP also published a press release based on the quality of its legal representation entitled “No Difference Between the Final Argument Presented by Public Defender for Defendants Who Totally Accepted the Legal Facts and a Defendant Who Partially Accepted the Legal Facts” released on June 24 in Tetun, Bahasa and English. All of these press releases are available on JSMP’s website at: <http://jsmp.tl/en/press-releases-2015/>. JSMP’s monitoring of quality legal representation in the courtroom has been reported under sub component C2.

In addition to publishing its court case monitoring and analysis through media releases, JSMP also wrote and published summaries of cases it monitored in the municipal court. Within this quarter, JSMP completed and published two case summaries covering April and May which were sent out to its mailing list, and are currently available on its website at: <http://jsmp.tl/en/case-summary-2015/>. At the writing of this report, JSMP is still completing its case summary for the cases it monitored in the last month of the quarter.

D.1. Assess Needs and Design District Court Training Program. Following the discussion and approval of two proposed areas of technical support⁴ by the Court of Appeal President Honorable Judge Guilhermino da Silva in the last quarter, Tetra Tech DPK recruited and deployed a Court Administration and Judicial Statistics expert during the first month of the quarter. In preparation for the deployment, on April 14 and 15, the project’s senior judicial capacity building officer made a courtesy visit to Baucau court to discuss the provision of technical assistance to improve judicial statistical data gathering and analysis with the president of Court of Appeal’s team Judge Afonso Carmona, the Judge Administrator for Baucau Court. During the two day visit, the project met with the head of the civil, criminal and central divisions to discuss the current case statistical data gathering in Baucau court as well as to review the current judicial statistical reporting produced by the court.

On May 5, the project jointly **launched the Court Functionality Brief** with the Court of Appeal President Honorable Judge Guilhermino da Silva, Ba Distrito Chief of Party, Ms. Carolyn Tanner, and the USAID Director of the Office of General Development, Ms. Lisa Whitley. Participating in the launch event at the Court of Appeal were also the Judge Administrator from Baucau Judge Afonso Carmona,



Judge Administrator for Oecusse Judge Joao Ribeiro, judges and court personnel from the Court of Appeal, representative from the President of Timor-Leste’s office, Ba Distrito’s implementing partners including JSMP, Liberta, Belun, and other donor programs such as the Asia Foundation and UNDP.

President of the Court of Appeal, Justice Guilhermino Da Silva receiving a copy of the Court Functionality Brief from USAID’s Director of the Office of General Development, Ms. Lisa Whitley at the launch of the assessment.

On May 18 a senior American court administrator with extensive experience in court administration and judicial statistics both in the USA and with USAID-funded projects throughout the world was deployed to Timor to prepare and deliver training on improved use of statistics to manage the courts. Mr. Callanan travelled to both Baucau and Oecusse courts to conduct a pre-training assessment in order to ensure the training would meet the needs of the judicial officers.

⁴ 1. Technical training for judicial officers on improved statistical case management. 2. Technical training for Judges on Leadership and Case Management.



Court administration and judicial statistics expert Rick Callanan looking the case statistics data gathering process with a judicial officer during a pre training assessment in Oecusse court.

Following the completion of the training a workshop was held on May 21 – 22 for the Court of Appeal team to review the findings of the assessments, the gaps in current statistical data gathering and analysis and suggestions for how both courts could improve. During the workshop, a list of five recommendations for improved court statistics was presented to the Court of Appeal team including (1) a uniform collection of

postponement rate; (2) redesign the existing Excel tracking database with the capability to produce

management statistics reports on pending cases, age and pending case list by judges and time to disposition by type of case; (3) a uniform age of pending case report; (4) calendar clearance statistics added to the current monthly statistics report; and (5) time to disposition closed case data collection.

After discussing each of the recommendations at great length, the Court of Appeal team president Judge Afonso Carmona and his team members agreed, in principle, to all five recommendations for improved court statistical data gathering, analysis and reporting. The Project and the Court of Appeal team agreed at the end of the two-day workshop to train judicial officers from pilot courts and other municipal courts on five recommendations.

Participants in the two-day workshop include Baucau Court Administrator and president of Court of Appeal's team Hon. Judge Afonso Carmona, Superior Judicial Secretary from the Court of Appeal Mrs. Malena Piedade, Oecusse Judicial Secretary Mr. Amaro Joaquim, Baucau Judicial Secretary Mr. Sebastiao M. Soares, Dili Judicial Secretary Mrs. Maria de Fatima, and the Judicial Officer from the Court of Appeal Mr. Leonel Sarmiento.

D.2. Deliver Training to Justice and Accountability Institution staff. Following the two-day workshop with the Court of Appeal's team, more elaborative training materials were developed by Rick Callanan for a two-day training for judicial officers. On May 28 and 29, a total of 22 judicial officers from Baucau, Oecusse, Covalima, Dili, and the Court of Appeal attended the training on improved judicial statistics held by the project at the Legal Training Center (CFJ). In addition to learning about current gaps in the court statistics and ways to improve them, this training also enable the judicial officers to understand and realize the importance of presenting evidence-based data to the court management team and help them make sound decisions that increase court effectiveness and improve access to justice. The training was opened by Ba Distrito's Chief of Party Carolyn Tanner and President of Court of Appeal's team Judge Afonso

Carmona from Baucau court. After the training, a draft plan of action (PACT) for the implementation of each of the recommendations was developed and submitted to the Court of Appeal team on June 24 for its feedback and comments. Ba Distrito is expecting to have the Plan of Action signed by the president of the Court of Appeal's team prior to the implementation of recommendations. Detailed analysis of the results of this training can be found in Section V Monitoring and Evaluation.



Judicial officers receiving training on recommendations for improved court statistics data gathering, analysis and reporting at the Legal Training Center

In addition to the training of the judicial training, the Project also finalized recruitment of a case management expert to train legal aid and private lawyers on best practice for legal aid case management this quarter. An Australian legal aid lawyer, Ms. Alison Ryan with extended experience in Timor-Leste's legal and justice sectors was recruited. On June 28, Alison arrived in Timor-Leste and will undertake a case management assessment of the legal aid partners and provide training to the legal aid and private lawyers in the beginning of the next quarter.

D.3. – Introduce Professional Development System

The Professional Development System (PDS) within the judiciary was included in the initial technical support proposal to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal president, however, expressed his reluctance for the by stating that professional development which includes performance evaluation of judges are internal process that has to be done by much senior judges and cannot be done just by anyone. The project, however, is progressing forward with the provision of technical assistance to improve court statistics within this quarter and it continuing to strengthen its collaboration with the Legal Training Centre in relation to continuing legal education activities for lawyers and to facilitate professional development training for other judicial professionals.

Component E – Elections

The goal of the activities under Component E is to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Timor-Leste (GOTL), in particular its Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) namely National Electoral Commission (CNE) and Technical Secretary for Electoral Administration (STAE), to hold fair, transparent, inclusive local elections and facilitate voter engagement in preparation for the national general election.

Note: In early July, at the request of the AOR the advancement of activities by the project was put on hold in order to allow the project and the USAID mission to develop an implementation

strategy that is reflecting of the ever-changing electoral policy in the country. In early July Parliament passed an amendment extending the mandate of the current suco council from October 2015 until October 2016 thus opening up the possibilities that suco elections will not take place in 2015 as originally anticipated and required by the law.

On April 29, USAID awarded an Election Add-on to the Ba Distrito project. This new component seeks to build the capacity of Government of Timor-Leste (GOTL), in particular its Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs), to hold fair, transparent, inclusive local elections and facilitate voter engagement in preparation for the national general election. Ba Distrito will achieve this component through the following activity areas: 1) Strengthening voter education through the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE); 2) Connecting political parties to their constituents; and 3) Civic education and inclusive participation, particularly through support to the National Election Commission (CNE) and through women, youth and people with disability organizations.

An intern, Ms Kahurangi Graham is currently interning at the project to do a desk review on barriers that prevent the full participation of women, youth and people with disabilities in the electoral process, in particular in Timor-Leste. Recommendations will be drawing from the desk review and will be used to help direct the messaging on the project's new partners when they try to engage women, youth and people with disabilities in the electoral process.

E.1. Strengthening voter education through STAE. During this quarter, a number of meetings were held between the project with STAE's Director General Mr. Alcinio Manuel Branco. The meetings were aimed at nailing down the activities for cooperation between STAE and the project. STAE and the project's component on Election will collaborate to implement activities that include: increasing STAE's communications capacity; developing a communications/marketing needs assessment tool; and developing and implementing a communications strategy for STAE; updating the voter education manual; creating inclusive voter education video and posters; and supporting voter education through Ba Distrito's suco network.

During the second week of May, the project drafted and submitted an Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) already signed between Counterpart International and the Ministry of State Administration in 2014. The Addendum is aimed at promoting cooperation and coordination between the parties to strengthen the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration's (STAE) capacity to conduct effective and inclusive voter education activities. In particular the project and STAE will work together to build STAE's communication outreach capacity and to promote voter education and inclusive participation in the suco and municipal elections. The draft MoU was sent to the Ministry of State Administration in the first week of June to seek for comments and feedback. Towards the end of June, the project was informed that The Minister of State, Coordinator for the Affairs of State Administration and Justice and the Minister for State Administration, Dionisio Babo agreed with the content of the addendum and requested Counterpart to sign the Addendum in advance before handed over it to the Minister for a signature. Counterpart signed the Addendum and forwarded it back to STAE for

onward forwarding to the Minister. As of the end of this quarter the Addendum has yet to be signed by the MSA.

E.2. Connecting Political Parties to Their Constituents. On June 23, a meeting took place at Belun's office to discuss collaboration between Belun and the Ba Distrito Project on a **voter priority survey**. The survey will be conducted in Ba Distrito's five target municipals/RAEOA to ask voters who are women, youth, people with disabilities and the general population about key issues that matter to them in the elections. Belun agreed to conduct voter priority survey and a modification to the current sub-agreement will be made in the next quarter, once the electoral landscape is more settled. In addition, in the next quarter Ba Distrito will engage a Short Term Technical Assistance (STTA) to assist with the development of the methodology and analysis of this survey. The results of the survey will be used to create key platform questions for candidates in the debates for suco elections and to develop information campaigns to provoke interest in the electoral process.

E.3. Civic Education and Inclusive Participation. A number of meetings were held during this quarter with National Electoral Commission (CNE) on the proposed activities on civic education and inclusive participation where the project will work in partnership in CNE. Among other agenda items discussed and approved included finalizing proposed election activities that the project will support and finalizing the cooperation between USAID-funded Ba Distrito Project with CNE through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

During the second week of May, the project submitted a draft MOU to CNE for its consideration. The draft MOU highlights collaboration between CNE and the project in order to achieve the expected outcomes including: a) developing and implementing a communication strategy for CNE; b) Updating civic education training manual and related materials, including a video; c) Strengthening communication and outreach capacity of CNE, particularly in relation to civic education at the national, municipal, post administrative and suco level; d) Promoting elections that are more inclusive of women, youth and people with disabilities; and e) Connecting candidates to their constituents.

The draft MOU was sent to CNE for considerations and feedback. Due to uncertain decision of whether the election will be taking place in October this year in accordance to the law, CNE has not been willing to meet with the project to finalize the draft MOU. We anticipate better collaboration once the electoral landscape is more certain as CNE agreed in principle with the activities proposed in the MOU.

During this quarter, the Governance team held a number of meetings with two women-focused organizations namely Women Caucus and Fundação Patria. The meetings were aimed at finalizing the proposed activities to be included in the scope of work, negotiating budget and proposing a timeline for implementing activities to support women's participation in the electoral cycle. The total amount of US\$ 38,600 will be sub-awarded to both organizations. The strategy is that Pátria and Caucus will lead a process updating the existing Women's Steering Committee's 2012 Strategic Framework about elections, in order to apply it to the 2015 to 2017

electoral cycle. The framework will define a coordination mechanism among NGOs and serve as a roadmap for a consistent approach to increasing women's civic participation across the country. Pátria, in collaboration with Women's Caucus, will jointly organize coordination group meetings at the national level.

In addition, it is planned that both organizations will develop and implement a national radio and television public service announcement (PSA) campaign aimed at encouraging women's participation in the electoral process. The PSAs will advocate for, and encourage women to actively participate in the electoral process prior to the election, including seeking information about the elections, the electoral process, the candidates, and their policies; Advocate for, and encourage women to actively participate in the election by voting on election day; Inform women of their rights to participate in the election process and that their involvement can make a difference in local governance leadership; Inform women that election can determine what will happen to their community. There will be two separate yet similar sub-agreements prepared for each of the organization. The sub-agreements are expectedly to be signing off in the next quarter once more certainty around the electoral calendar is clear.

A number of negotiation meetings took place during this quarter with Ba Distrito's other proposed election partner, Ba Futuru. Ba Futuru is a national NGO intended to support the project to deliver two community theater productions at markets and secondary schools in 24 administrative posts where the project operates in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça, and Oecusse. The theater productions will focus on promoting women's and youth participation in the electoral process. These productions should be supported by STAE and CNE's focal points at administrative post level. In addition Ba Futuru will also support the development of a short video aimed at addressing barriers that prevent women from participating in the electoral process.

During the months of April, in close coordination with Ba Futuru the project finalized draft strategies for a short video production, the SoWs, the work plans and budget for Ba Futuru. The sub-agreements will be signed by the next quarter once there is more certainty about the electoral calendar.

During this quarter a few meetings also took place during the last quarter with the National Youth Council for Timor-Leste (CNJTL).⁵ The project will collaborate with CNJTL to lead a national coordination mechanism to promote youth involvement in the electoral process. This will include radio and television messaging, community radio programming, a song competition targeting youth in the 5 municipalities where Ba Distrito operates and a national "Take 5" campaign that will encourage youth to take 5 of their friends to the polls when they go to vote. The Governance team with closed coordination with CNJTL has concluded the draft scope of work and is working on budget and the work plan towards the end of this quarter. A

⁵ CNJTL is the highest body of Timor-Leste national youth organization and is a youth organization that draws its membership from all the youth in Timor-Leste. CNJTL has a nation-wide reach represented at all 65 Administrative Posts across Timor-Leste.

combination of fixed obligation grant and in kind grants will be sub-awarded to CNJTL in the next quarter once there is more certainty around the election.

When Ba Distrito design the Election Add-on proposal, the Association of People with Disability (ADTL)⁶ expressed their interest to collaborate with the USAID-funded project Ba Distrito to establish a working group to promote the engagement of people with disabilities in the electoral process. A number of meetings took place after USAID awarded the election add-on to the Project with ADTL. However, during the negotiation process, the project has learned that the Manager of ADTL has a conviction against him for abuse of power involving misuse of money while working with a local NGO. For this reason, in consultation with the AOR the project decided not to continue the collaboration with ADTL and starting to seek possible partnership with other existing PwDs organizations.

Raes Hadomi Timor Oan (RHTO)⁷ was identified as an active PwDs organizations and is interested in collaborating with the project to establish PwD engagement Working Group and encourage civic engagement of PwDs. A couple of meetings were conducted with RHTO on possible collaboration and proposed activities for election, finalizing budget and work plan. It is planned that RHTO will lead a policy forum and promote the civic engagement and inclusion of people with disabilities in the electoral process. Representatives of these NGOs will be supported to monitor polling stations and polling centers on Election Day for accessibility. A fix obligation grant with the total amount of US\$ 25,000 will be sub-awarded to RHTO to conduct activities mentioned above. The sub-agreement is expectedly be signing by the next quarter once there is more certainty around the election.

V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Adaptation of Standardized Monitoring and Evaluation Forms. During this reporting period, the M&E Specialist supported the Access to Justice team to develop a Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (PMEP) for the Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP) that accurately reflects to their scope of work, activities and performance indicators, which they are required to track each month. The draft of the PMEP will be presented to USAID for final approval.

Knowledge Management (KM) Portal. On May 11, the M&E Specialist conducted monitoring on KM Portal with the Ba Distrito Coordinator for the Special Region of Oecusse-Ambeno, via teleconference. The discussion focused on data for the suco exchange, and how to enter this into the KM Portal. As a result of this monitoring call, the data for three suco exchanges in Oecusse was entered into the KM Portal.

⁶ ADTL is the umbrella organization for all of the disability organizations.

⁷ Raes Hadomi Timor Oan (RHTO) is a national organization with representatives in all 13 municipalities/Special Administrative Region around Timor-Leste. The organization was formed in 2006 and focuses on working with people with physical disabilities. It has previous experience engaging in outreach promoting the participation of people with disabilities in the 2012 general elections and also monitored the polling centers for accessibility issues.

On June 1, the Ba Distrito M&E Specialist gave orientation to Liberta's staff on how to enter data from their activities into the KM Portal. Liberta's users used M&E's usernames during orientation processes because they could not access KM Portal with their KM Portal usernames. The orientation focused on Events and Media and Public Outreach. At the end of the orientation session, it was decided that on June 5, Liberta would bring their documents to the Ba Distrito office to upload to the KM Portal, due to problems with internet in the Liberta office. However, the plan didn't eventuate because the staff from Liberta had to attend to some legal cases in Liquica municipality on June 5.

On June 12, the Ba Distrito M&E Specialist provided technical assistance to JSMP's Program Coordinator for the Ba Distrito project, Ana Paula Marçal, on how to enter the JSMP training data and press releases produced by JSMP into the KM Portal. As result of the technical assistance, the JSMP program coordinator is familiar with the KM Portal database. To the end of this reporting period, data from one of JSMP's training sessions from Liquica municipality, for the module Women's Right and Access to Justice, had been entered into the KM Portal.

On May 29, the Ba Distrito M&E Specialist presented the results of Baseline Survey from a women's perspective to women who are potential candidates for the position of Chefe Suco in upcoming suco chief election. The presentation took place in Tower Meeting and Conference Room, Dili, Timor-Leste. This event was organized by Women's Caucus, Patria, UN Women, and Alola Foundation. The participants were women who are potential candidates for Chefe Suco from the 12 municipalities and Special Region of Oecusse-Ambeno. The M&E Specialist gave a 15 minute presentation, and participated in a 15 minute discussion session. According to anecdotal feedback, the participants appreciated the opportunity to participate in the session, because this information will help them to prepare programs to respond to the problems in the community, especially on local government strengthening and access to justice.

On April 28-29, the Ba Distrito M&E Specialist conducted Data Quality Assessment (DQA) for Belun in Dili. Through the DQA process, the M&E Specialist met with the Belun Program Manager for the Ba Distrito Project and two of Belun's trainers, to discuss the quality of the data that was produced by Belun about their activity implementation. Through the DQA processes, the M&E Specialist determined that the documentation was not sufficient for the following activities: trainings, technical assistance, events and rapid assessments to 100 suco councils that Belun has conducted on monthly basis, and/or based on activities that they have planned, implemented and reported through quarterly reporting.

As a result, Belun is required to provide the documents that relate to training activities, technical assistance, events and rapid assessments to 100 sucos such as: implementation plan, agenda, list of invitees, list of participants, photos, the results of rapid assessments for each suco/sub-district/municipality, and other documents. The DQA for Belun focused on six PMEP indicators: Numbers 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 11.

Indicator 3 relates to numbers of suco councils who report holding dialogues, meetings, events, etc. to discuss the needs of women in their sucos. These activities haven't previously been implemented by Belun until now.

Indicators 4 and 5 refer to training activities that are conducted by Belun to members of 100 suco councils Baucau, Covalima, Ermera and Liquiça municipalities including Oecusse Special Region. The majority of the training data had been reported through narrative quarterly reports submitted by Belun, and have been entered into the KM Portal. The Ba Distrito M&E Specialist recommended providing and uploading the documents that relate to the training, such as activity plan, agenda, list of invitees, list of participants, photos and other documents, into the KM Portal. Additionally, Belun is also required to record these documents by period or year, municipalities and by topics of the training.

Indicators 6 and 7 refer to the rapid organizational capacity assessments that were conducted by Belun, on the 100 suco council in four municipalities and the Oecusse Special Region. Belun has shown the results of rapid assessment of the 100 suco councils which were conducted in 2014, but the project believes this wasn't organized optimally. Ba Distrito recommended to Belun to record the results of rapid assessments based on each municipality. Belun already entered the results of the rapid assessments for 60 sucos in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse in the KM Portal, but is still missing the results of rapid assessments for 40 sucos in Ermera and Liquica municipalities. Belun and Ba Distrito is waiting on Michael Smith to fix this problem.

Indicator 11 refers to the public consultations, dialogues and workshops that aim to increase local-level input into the national discourse on the decentralization. Belun has entered data relating to these events into the KM Portal but the organization needs to record these documents for its own internal archiving.

During this reporting period there were four different trainings delivered to suco councils members and community radio stations in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquica and Oecusse, around various topics. Leadership and Communication training was delivered to suco councils by Belun in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, and Liquica municipalities and Oecusse Special Region; Training of Trainers (TOT) on Women's Rights and Access to Justice to JSMP in Dili by the Ba Distrito Access to Justice team; Women's Rights and Access to Justice Training was delivered to suco councils by JSMP in Ermera and Liquica municipalities; and training on Decentralization, Suco Law and ZEESM was delivered to community radio by Asosiasaun Radio Komunidade Timor-Leste (ARKTL) in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera and Liquica municipalities and Oecusse Special Region.

From the training mentioned above, the Ba Distrito M&E Specialist conducted monitoring of five (5) training sessions: (1) on Training of Trainer (TOT) on Women's Rights and Access to Justice to JSMP (which included Belun and Ba Distrito coordinators for each municipality/region) on May 14, 2015; (2) the Leadership and Communication training to suco councils that was conducted by Belun in Ermera administrative post, Ermera municipality on May 25-26, 2015; (3) the leadership and communication training to suco councils that was

conducted by Belun in administrative post of Bazartete of Liquica municipality on May 27, 2015; (4) the Leadership and Communication training to suco councils that was conducted by Belun in the administrative post of Fatululik of Covalima municipality on June 15-16, 2015; and (5) the Leadership and Communication training to suco councils that was conducted by Belun in the administrative post of Tilomar, Covalima municipality on June 17, 2015. The other training monitoring was conducted by Ba Distrito's district coordinators, Ba Distrito Chief of Party and the Ba Distrito Governance Officer.

The training on Leadership and Communication to suco council members in four municipalities and Oecusse Special Region was facilitated by four trainers from Belun: Fortunato Carmona, Maria de Jesus, Antonio Seran and Miguel Mau Soares. The Leadership and Communication training was monitored by the Ba Distrito M&E Specialist, and Ba Distrito's District coordinators. At the end of the training, participants were given the opportunity to provide their observations about what worked well and what improvements are needed regarding the management of the training, the quality of the training, and also the skill and capacity of the training.

Through the monitoring visits and the evaluation of the participants, the Ba Distrito M&E Specialist concluded the following:

- Overall the implementation of the training of suco councils was conducted well in all municipalities. Elements such as venue selection, agenda, module content, meals and snacks for participants, was well organized.
- Belun's trainers have good skills, capacity and knowledge of the content of the training. The trainers used various methods such as group works, discussions, presentation, hands-on tools and illustrations in order to explain different elements of the topics of the training.
- Most participants who attended the trainings participated actively in the training sessions.

However the Ba Distrito M&E Specialist, staff members from Ba Distrito's Component A team including the district coordinators, and through insights provided through the evaluation tools, Ba Distrito recommends the following improvements for future trainings:

- More icebreakers are needed to involve participants more actively during the training.
- The training needs to start on time – the training often starts late and this affects the agenda.
- The way participants are invited to the training needs to be adapted. Currently invitations are given directly to the Suco Chief with instructions for them to bring representatives from the council. In future it is recommended that an individual invitation letter for each representative of the suco council be prepared, and delivered directly to each individual. It is also recommended that the post administrator signs each invitation letter. It is further recommended that participants are also invited by text message where possible and that a reminder text message is sent just prior to the actual training.

- Belun and Ba Distrito need to cross check and collaborate with the municipal administrator, the church and any other sectors in the municipality and administrative posts before determining the training date, in order to anticipate other activities that may affect attendance numbers of the trainings.
- The M&E Specialist recommends changing the pre and post-test from open ended answers to a multiple choice questionnaire in the future. It's believed this will make the pre- and post-test more straightforward for the participants to complete and will streamline analysis of the results.
- The M&E Specialist recommends that the participants not be permitted to use the training materials when they are answering the post-test questions to ensure that any correct answers are based on actual knowledge.

Participants completed pre- and post-tests to measure their increase in knowledge about leadership and communication through the training. The result of the pre- and post-tests in all five municipalities are showing as follows:

ANALYSIS OF PERCENTAGE OF CUMULATIVE INCREASE OF PARTICIPANTS' KNOWLEDGE SHOWN IN POST TEST										
Training Location	% of Cumulative Increase for ALL Participants					% of Cumulative Increase for WOMEN participants				
	Total Correct Answer		% of Correct Answers			Total Correct Answer		% of Correct Answers		
	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increase	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increase
Baucau	57	312	15%	84%	69%	34	190	15%	84%	69%
Covalima	14	361	3%	87%	84%	8	191	4%	87%	83%
Ermera	89	324	22%	79%	57%	45	165	21%	77%	56%
Liquica	83	309	20%	74%	54%	37	158	18%	75%	58%
Oecusse	9	298	2%	74%	71%	5	141	3%	72%	69%
Total	252	1605	12%	79%	67%	129	845	12%	79%	67%

The results in the table above indicate that there was a very good increase in participants' knowledge of leadership and communication after training. The overall participants' knowledge in all five municipalities increased up to 67 percent for both genders, and also increased by 67 percent for female attendees. The fact that the results are so uniform across the genders and across each municipality/SAR is some cause for concern. It could indicate that the participants are collaborating on their test taking for both the pre- and post- test. It could also indicate a reliance on the training materials in completing the post test. We will recommend to the facilitators that they ensure participants are taking the tests individually, not sharing or discussing answers and not using the training reference materials in order to ensure that results from future tests reflect actual gain in knowledge.

The training for community radio station staff members about decentralization, Suco Law and ZEESM in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, and Liquica municipalities and Oecusse Special Region was facilitated by Prezado Ximenes from ARKTL. These trainings were monitored by Felix da Silva, Ba Distrito Project's Governance Officer.

At the end of each training session, the participants had the opportunity to evaluate the overall management of the training, including the capacity of the trainer. From the monitoring results

of each session, Ba Distrito concluded that the overall management, the quality of the training and capacity of trainer on decentralization, Suco Law, and ZEESM training in five municipalities were good. The participants appreciated the training and they recommended Ba Distrito and ARKTL that, should further training on these subject areas take place in the future, that the training be extended, as they didn't feel they had enough time to cover these subject areas in depth. Some participants suggested training on this subject area would require up to two or three days. The participants also recommended preparing additional training materials such as flipchart, whiteboard, etc.

Below are the results of the pre- and post-test from ARKTL's training to community radio in five municipalities on decentralization, Suco Law and ZEESM:

ANALYSIS OF PERCENTAGE OF CUMULATIVE INCREASE IN KNOWLEDGE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE DECENTRALIZATION TRAINING FOR JOURNALISTS										
Training Location	% of Cumulative Increase for ALL Participants					% of Cumulative Increase for WOMEN participants				
	Total Correct Answer		% of Correct Answer			Total Correct Answer		% of Correct Answer		
	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased
Baucau	20	29	42%	60%	19%	12	15	50%	63%	13%
Covalima	26	57	24%	53%	29%	4	11	17%	46%	29%
Ermera	53	89	34%	57%	23%	20	28	42%	58%	17%
Liquica	43	73	36%	61%	25%	23	35	38%	58%	20%
Oecusse	23	40	32%	56%	24%	6	17	25%	71%	46%
Total	165	288	33%	57%	24%	65	106	36%	59%	23%

The result of the training in the table above indicates that there was a sufficient change in the participants' knowledge about decentralization, Suco Law and ZEESM. The increase of knowledge in female participants reflects the increase of knowledge of the participant group as a whole. The Ba Distrito M&E Specialist assumes the increase in knowledge is not too significant because the duration of the training was too short (only one day) as mentioned by participants through their evaluations.

On May 6-8, Ba Distrito's Access to Justice team conducted Training of Trainers (TOT) on Access to Justice and Women's Rights, in preparation for the implementation of the suco council training on the same topic. The Ba Distrito M&E Specialist observed that the management of the training was of a high quality. The participants were very receptive to the training and the content of the training. The trainers used various methods such as role plays, group discussions, and presentations during the three day training session to actively involve participants. Through the evaluation from participants, they mentioned that the training was very good, the trainers had a high level of skill facilitation, experience and knowledge of the subject. However the participants also mentioned that duration of the training was not enough, and they recommended that it should be more than three days in the future.

Before and after training, trainer provided pre- and post-tests to measure the increase in participants' knowledge of the subject matter. The results of pre- and post-tests are as follows:

ANALYSIS OF PERCENTAGE OF CUMULATIVE INCREASE IN PARTICIPANTS' KNOWLEDGE AT THE TOT TRAINING FOR JSMP ON ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS										
Training	% of Cumulative Increase for ALL Participants					% of Cumulative Increase for WOMEN participants				
	Total Correct Answer		% of Correct Answer			Total Correct Answer		% of Correct Answer		
	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased
TOT to JSMP	52	112	41%	88%	47%	20	36	50%	90%	40%
Total	52	112	41%	88%	47%	20	36	50%	90%	40%

The results table above indicates that there was a significant increase in participants' knowledge after training, with an increase of up to 47 percent in the 16 participants who completed pre- and post-tests. The knowledge of women increased up to 40 percent.

The training on Women's Right and Access to Justice to suco councils in Liquica and Ermera municipalities was conducted by JSMP in collaboration with Ba Distrito's Access to Justice Team from June 9 to July 6, 2015. Monitoring for these training sessions was conducted by Ba Distrito's Access to Justice manager Fausto Belo Ximenes on June 9-11 in the administrative post of Maubara, Liquica municipality, and the Ba Distrito Coordinators for Liquica and Ermera, the overall conclusion is that the quality of the training is good. The training was facilitated by two trainers from JSMP. From monitoring visits, it was concluded that the trainers have good facilitation skills, knowledge of the content, and capacity to facilitate this training.

Consistent with training delivered by Belun, Ba Distrito recommends that more icebreakers and games be used to involve participants more actively in the training sessions. Through the monitoring it was also concluding that the author of the training, JSMP and the trainers need to simplify some judicial terms that are used.

The Ba Distrito Chief of Party attended the training in Ermera municipality, and recommended that JSMP to review the method and content of the pre- and post-tests used by JSMP to measure the knowledge of the participants before and after training. She recommended that for pre- and post-tests, it is better use multiple choice questions rather than open-ended questions which take longer to complete and may be more confusing for participants.

Below are the results of the pre- and post-test for the training conducted by JSMP to suco councils:

ANALYSIS OF CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE IN PARTICIPANTS' KNOWLEDGE ON ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS										
Training Location	% of Cumulative Increase for ALL Participants					% of Cumulative Increase for WOMEN participants				
	Total Correct Answer		% of Correct Answer			Total Correct Answer		% of Correct Answer		
	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased
Ermera	156.5	493	27%	85%	58%	50.5	189.5	22%	82%	60%
Liquica	254	533	41%	86%	45%	80	190.5	35%	83%	48%
Total	410.5	1026	34%	86%	51%	130.5	380	28%	83%	54%

The table above indicates that there was a definite increase in the participants' understanding of the subject matter after the three day training. The increase of women's knowledge on this

topic was slightly higher, at 54 per cent, than the overall increase of all participants' knowledge, at 51 percent.

During this reporting period, Ba Distrito, through the Access to Justice team, conducted training on Court Statistic and Information Management to staff members from the Ministry of Justice and district courts on May 26-27 at the Legal Training Center, Caicoli, Dili. This training was facilitated by Mr. Richard Callanan, an international expert in court statistics management. Participants received pre- and post-tests to measure their increase in knowledge as a result of the training. The results of pre- and post-tests are as follows:

ANALYSIS OF PERCENTAGE OF CUMULATIVE INCREASE IN KNOWLEDGE OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS PARTICIPATING IN TRAINING ON COURT STATISTICS AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT										
Training	% of Cumulative Increase for ALL Participants					% of Cumulative Increase for WOMEN participants				
	Total Correct Answer		% of Correct Answer			Total Correct Answer		% of Correct Answer		
	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased
MoJ	29	58	32%	64%	32%	14	21	40%	60%	20%
Total	28.5	57.5	32%	64%	32%	14	21	40%	60%	20%

The table above indicates that there was a sufficient increase in participants' knowledge after the training. The results of pre- and post-tests to all participants increased up to 32 percent and the female participants' knowledge increase up to 20 percent.

VI. ACHIEVEMENTS

Component A: Local Governance Strengthening

- Completed 40 draft Organizational Development Action Plans for the suco councils that joined the project in FY15
- Successfully coordinated and delivered first training for suco councils, achieving an overall increase in knowledge of the participants of an overwhelming 67%
- Successfully launched suco exchange visits and suco-municipal forums to promote horizontal and vertical communication between sucos and the administration
- Short-listed 23 potential grantees to engage in community level consultation in the sucos where we work

Component B: Decentralization and Input of Local Organizations

- Sub-awarded Decentralization, Research and Advocacy Grant to ARKTL to start kick off the radio program on decentralization in the project's five target municipals/RAEOA.
- A contract with Uairawa Multimedia Company was signed to start producing the documentary film on the success stories for each of the suco in Ba Distrito's target municipals/RAEOA.

- Trainings to the journalists on decentralizations and the devolution of power in Baucau, Covalima, Liquica, Ermera and Oecusse.
- ARKTL first and second milestones completed – three electronic versions of PSA scripts approved and produced and two drama scripts approved and produced.

Component C: Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

- New legal aid grantees JPC and Liberta are fully operational with support from USAID's Ba Distrito project
- Increased number of poor and vulnerable people received free legal aid from Ba Distrito's legal aid partners. A combined total of 105 people received free legal aid assistance from the Project's legal aid partners including 36 women
- A combined total of 11 new cases were resolved by Ba Distrito's legal aid partners within this quarter
- Increased number of people participating in legal awareness campaigns held by the Project's legal aid partners. A total of 920 local community members and local leaders attended legal awareness sessions held in some of the most remote areas in Timor-Leste
- Increased women participation in the legal awareness session. A total of 325 women participated in Ba Distrito-funded legal awareness session within this quarter
- Ba Distrito's legal aid partners JPC, FFSO and Liberta reached 34 targeted sucos in their legal awareness campaigns within this quarter
- An increased youth participation in legal awareness campaigns held by the Project's legal aid partners with a total of 104 youth participating in the campaign sessions including 66 female youth
- The Project's implementing partner JSMP began monitoring quality of legal aid and legal representation in a total of 79 criminal cases and interviewed a total of 60 criminal defendants
- JSMP entered into an agreement with the Project to provide training to suco council members on access to justice and women's rights. A Fixed Obligation Grant was signed between the Project and JSMP for a total budget of \$35,832.50
- Justice training manuals and illustration for facilitators and participants completed and printed by JSMP
- A TOT delivered to JSMP's trainers as well as coordinators from the Project and Belun
- Suco council training on access to justice and women's rights launched in suco Vaviquina of Maubara administrative post in Liquica municipality
- Within this quarter, JSMP completed suco council training in Liquica municipality and relocated to Ermera municipality
- Legal aid Partner JPC launched the its legal aid coordination working group meeting in Baucau attended by the local CSOs and relevant government agencies
- Radio public service announcement (PSA) messages in the form of drama series recorded and produced. The drama series cover six topics on access to justice and women's rights

- MOJ research team finalized all the targeted 6 focus group discussions (FGDs) in six administrative posts and begun transcribing them from the tape recorder

Component D: District Court Functionality

- Court Functionality Brief jointly launched at the Court of Appeal by the President of Court of Appeal Hon. Judge Guilhermino da Silva, the Project's Chief of Party Carolyn Tanner, and USAID Director of the Office of General Development Ms. Lisa Whitley
- JSMP monitored a total of 59 criminal case hearings of which 38 cases involved domestic violence
- JSMP wrote a total of five press releases,- four on Oecusse court functionality and one on the quality of legal aid and legal representation in the courtroom. JSMP also wrote two case summaries for April and May within this quarter. Both press releases and case summaries are widely distributed nationally and internationally
- Recruitment and deployment of Court Administration and Judicial Statistics STTA Rick Calannan
- Pre-training assessments to Baucau and Oecusse courts to assess the current state of court statistics completed
- Recommendations for improved court statistics developed and agreed upon by the Court of Appeal's team, in principle
- An elaborative training on the recommendations for improved court statistics developed and delivered to a total of 22 judicial officers from all Timor-Leste's courts including the Court of Appeal
- Plan of Action (PACT) for implementing recommendations drafted and submitted to the Court of Appeal's team
- A case management STTA Alison Ryan recruited and deployed to conduct cases management assessment of the Project's legal aid partners and provide training on international best case management practice for legal practitioners

Component E: Election

- Election Add-on was awarded to the project
- MoUs for CNE and STAE drafted and submitted to the institutions for considerations
- Good progress made on finalizing grants to NGO partners (in particular the Scope of Works and the work plan for Ba Futuru, Women Caucus, Fundação Patria, and RHTO)

VII. CHALLENGES AND GENDER-BASED CONSTRAINTS

Changes with Political Landscape – The changes of policy on decentralization with the new Government affected the implementation of Component B and E's activities. The training materials for the trainings to journalist at municipal/RAEOA's level were prepared based on the government existing policy on decentralization prior to the changes. The changes happened

while the team, Ba Distrito and ARKTL, was conducting the training in one of the municipalities. The team did not have sufficient time to make changes to the content of the training materials, instead informing directly the training participants during the training sessions on the most recent changes in the government decentralization policy.

The change in government is also affecting coordination between the project and MSA, and could impact on the sustainability of the project, particularly in relation to Component A. The General Directorate that the project was working with has been dissolved and the Director of the Directorate supporting sucos has changed. The project must work to rebuild relationships within MSA and reintroduce the project's accomplishments, objectives and areas of collaboration to ensure the future sustainability of the initiative.

Community Leaders Role and Election – The uncertainty of whether the community leaders election will take place in October, 2015 affected the timeline design for the election component. While a potential delay in the community leader's election is a challenge to Component E, it is a benefit to Component A. The extended mandate of the current suco council gives Component A an opportunity to build upon gains already made in organizational development and allows for continuity of technical support to the existing local council members.

However, rumor surrounding the proposed changes to the role of community leaders is also a challenge to Component A. The package of 10 training modules have been written and designed based upon the current roles and responsibilities of the suco council. Each training module identifies ways the various suco council members can incorporate what they are learning into their daily activities as a suco council members, based on their current legislated roles. Any changes to the roles of suco council members will require the training modules to be adapted and re-written which could cause delays in implementing future trainings.

The Project's justice components C and D activities are in heavy implementation phase this quarter including in Baucau, Ermera, Liquica, and Oecusse despite the lingering security tension in Baucau. Although JSMP's suco council training will cover Covalima within the next quarter, expanding the legal aid assistance and legal awareness campaigns to Covalima municipality, remains challenging. Unlike Baucau, Ermera, Liquica, and Oecusse where there are CSOs and legal aid organizations for the Project to forge a partnership with, Ba Distrito observes no legal aid organization working in Covalima apart from ALFeLa. Although ALFeLa has some presence there, ALFeLa is already fully funded and might not be able to take on another donor project. In addition to the fact that ALFeLa's work focuses mostly on women and children victims of sexual, domestic, and gender-based violence, and the cost of supporting a Dili-based CSO and/or legal aid organization to work in Covalima is just not practical given the distance from the capital. Ba Distrito, however, intends to issue a Request for Application (RFA) in the next quarter to see whether any CSOs or legal aid organizations will apply. On legal awareness campaign, the Project is presently still in negotiation with Cova Taroman community radio to air justice PSAs in Covalima. While different alternatives could and should be explored to expand justice activities

in Covalima, careful consideration should also be made about the risk of spreading resources thin.

In addition, constraints and challenges surrounding the implementation of the project activities were also reported within this quarter, such as impediments faced by FFSO, as well as legal aid partner Liberta also reported similar challenges including poor motorbike condition and lack of computer. Liberta covers legal aid work in two municipalities including Ermera and Liquica and is currently using an old scooter which has limited power to travel to the targeted 40 targeted sucos in two municipalities. In addition, issues were also raised about the need for a laptop and a digital camera to take photos of the events. Both lawyers working on Ba Distrito project are not able to take good quality photos with their cellphones.

JSMP's court monitor in Oecusse also raised serious concerns about the importance of having a new and decently functioning laptop computer. On many occasions, the computer cannot be switched on to write up notes from the court monitoring, draft press releases or send and exchange emails. Several attempts have been made by JSMP to fix the laptop used by its court monitor in Oecusse, but the problems seem to persist.

Addressing implementation challenges by the Project's partners FFSO, Liberta, and JSMP remains important priority in the upcoming quarter.

The overall women and youth participation increased rather substantially as compared to the previous quarter. When looking at the individual organization, the legal aid partner JPC of Baucau appeared to have the highest participation of women in their legal awareness campaigns as compared to Liberta and FFSO. The Project team will continue working with each legal aid partner on strategies to increase youth and women participation in the next quarter(s).

VIII. EXPENDITURES

Project expenditures have been reported under a separate cover on our SF-425, submitted July 30, 2015.

IX. PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

Component A:

- Complete second training for suco councils on Access to Justice and Women's Rights
- Begin third training for suco councils on Community Consultation
- Engage with the new leadership of DNAAS in MSA together with the DG of DG-DA to familiarize them with Component A activities and seek their endorsement and support
- Coordinate Suco Expo in each of the 5 municipalities/SAR
- Issue Constituent Engagement Grants to community based organizations working with project sucos

- Continue with suco exchange visits and suco-municipal forums, focusing on getting them off the ground in the more challenging municipalities of Baucau and Covalima

Component B:

- Development of concept note for public consultation
- Public consultation to be taking place in the project target municipalities/RAEOA
- Uairawa to wrap up the documentary film on success story of each of the suco in each municipalities/RAEOA
- ARKTL to meet the third and fourth milestone
- Update on developments to legal framework for decentralization
- Participate in policy/legal framework working groups and ensure Ba Distrito participation and the inclusion of sub-district level feedback

Component C: Legal Aid Sustainability

- Possibly issue a legal aid and advocacy grant to Fundacao Educacao COmunidade Matebian (FECM) - a long partner of USAID in Baucau whose lawyers remain actively participate in Ba Distrito's events and trainings
- Issue Request For Application for legal aid advocacy and implementation work in Covalima
- Case management assessments of legal aid partners and training development and delivery to legal aid and private lawyers by an STTA
- Monitoring the implementation of an effective case management system by legal aid partners based on individual plan of action
- Come into agreement with Covalima Radio Community to broadcast Ba Distrito's legal and justice Public Announcement Services (PSAs) in Covalima
- Recruitment and deployment of an STTA/intern to support JSMP in writing up the First State of Legal Aid Report
- Recruitment and deployment a STTA/intern to continue support Ministry of Justice in research analysis and report-writing
- Finalize recruitment of junior legal officer to support access to justice team
- OD assessment with JPC and Liberta
- Make recommendations for the adjustments of narrative Workplan and PMEP for Component C for Fiscal Year 2016
- Signing of MOU with the Ministry of Justice
- Induct new legal aid partners about the Project's goals as they come on board
- Make budget readjustments and sub agreement extension to the implementing partners for FY16
- With the Legal Training Center, looking into the possibility of hiring a senior Timorese lawyer to continue provide case management training using tools that will be developed by the international STTA

Component D: District court functionality

- Follow up with the Court of Appeal's team on the draft Plan of Action submitted.

- Getting the Court of Appeal to sign the Plan of Action prior to implementation
- Coordinate advanced Excel training for the judicial officers and judges
- Recruitment and deployment of an international STTA to train judges on court administration, management and leadership
- Coordinate management and leadership training to the judges
- Provide comments and feedback to JSMP's Oecusse Court Thematic Report
- Make adjustments to Narrative Workplan and PMEP for component D as deemed necessary for Fiscal Year 2015
- Continue to support JSMP in its implementation of suco council training

Component E: Elections

- MoUs are signed with CNE and STAE
- Sub-awarding election grants to Ba Distrito new national election partners
- Modification of Belun sub-agreement and to add an activity on voter priority survey
- Development of a terms of reference for a STTA to support Belun with the development of methodology and analysis of the voter priority survey

Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Recruitment of M&E Assistant
- Revision PMEP indicators
- Provided KM Portal orientation to JPC and new Ba Distrito staff
- Conducted monitoring of JSMP training on Women's Right and Access to Justice, and Belun's training on Leadership and Communication in the municipalities.
- Developed and finalized tools for each PMEP indicators
- Provided weekly monitoring on KM Portal database to partners
- Conducted site visits to Ba Distrito partners in Dili and the municipalities
- Analyzed the training data that was produced by JSMP and Belun

Annex 1
Summary of Information about Suco Exchanges

Municipality /Region	Theme to Share	Suco Role Model	Suco Participant	Total Individual Participants			
				Suco Chief	Women Reps	Youth	Other
Baucau	Suco Development Plan	Fatulia (Venilale)	Loilubo, Uatolari Uaigae (Vemasse)	3 (M)	3	4 (M); 1 (F)	1 PAAS (M); 1 Hamlet Chief (M)
	Suco Administration	Loilubo (Vemasse)	Tiriloka, Bucoli Gariuai	-	-	-	-
	Suco Administration	Loilubo, Vemasse (Cancelled for Security Reason)	Soba, Sagadate, Samalari	-	-	-	-
Covalima	Suco Administration and Project Administration.	Tashilin (Zumalai)	Raimea, Zulo (Zumalai) Beco (Suai Villa)	1	-	4 (2F, 2M)	2 Hamlet Chief, 1 lian nain (3M), 1 PAAS (M), 1 journalist (M)
Ermera	Water Facility Maintenance Community Group (GMF) and Tarabandu.	Estado (Letefoho)	Hauptu, Goulolo, Eraulo (Letefoho)	3 (M)	4	6 (3M, 3F)	2 PAAS (F)
	Suco Strategic Development Plan	Talimoro (Ermera)	Lauala, Mertuto, Fatuquero	3 (M)	6	5 (2M, 3F)	1 PAAS (F); 1 DNDCAS (M)
	Suco Administration	Poetete (Ermera)	Ponilala (Ermera), Lauana Catrai Leten (Letefoho)	3 (M)	2	5 (4M, 1F)	1 CDO (M)
Liquiça	Suco Fences (5 hamlets)-PNDS	Vaviquinia (Maubara)	Vatuvou, Maubara-Lissa, Guguleur (Maubara)	2 (M)	4	4 (2F, 2M)	3 PNDS suco team (F); 4 students (3F, 1M); 4 Hamlet Chiefs (M), 1 Lian Nain (M)
Oecusse	Water Facility Maintenance Community Group (GMF) and Tarabandu	Bene-Ufe (Nitibe)	Lela-Ufe, Suni-Ufe, Usi-taco (Nitibe)	2 (M)	1	3 (2M, 1F)	3 lian nain, 6 others (2F, 4M), 1 PAAS (M)
	Suco Regulation	Bobometo (Oesilo)	Usi-Tasae, Usi-Taqueno (Oesilo),	4 (M)	4	4 (F)	1 lian nain, 1 other (M)

		Ban-Afi (Nitibe)				
School/ Education	Abani (Passabe)	Malelat (Passabe), Bobokase, Cunha (Pante Makassar)	1 (M)	5	4 (2M, 2F)	3 PAAS (M), 1 Hamlet Chief (1M), 1 other (M)
Total participant			22 (M)	29	21 M, 19 F	8 PAAS (3M, 5F); 8 Hamlet Chief (M); 6 lian nain (M); 1 CDO (M); 1 DNDCAS (M); 1 journalist (M); others 11, 3 PNDS team.

Annex 2
Summary of Information about Suco Advocacy Points from
Oecusse Suco-Administration Forum

Sector	Challenges	Strategy Proposed by Suco Council	Response from Government Representative
Health	Need to have more ambulance service and vehicle	Additional ambulance vehicle. Suco Chief in engagement with community to take patient to closest health centre/post during rainy season and when there is no ambulance available.	The Secretary of Region for Health, Lucia Tae'ki mentioned that the RAEOA Authority has a plan for the 2016 to get four multi-function vehicles for ambulance and other health emergency needs.
	High rate of malnutrition	Provide supplementary food to women and children Share health information with families about the importance of good nutrition for women and children	RAEOA Authority has a plan to provide high quality of school feeding program; campaign on nutrition for children.
	Reactivate SISCa Health Post	Coordinate services with authorities when doing SISCa activities	RAEOA has plans to establish Health System in the Region, hospital, health centre and health post in suco, included SISCa, Community Case Management, Mobile Clinic, Immunization Post, etc.
Education	Language policy on mother tongue, Tetum and Portugues at school.	For the learning process, RAEOA needs to have language policy.	Currently the RAEOA Authority is focusing on 235 existing teachers for capacity evaluation. The Education representative stated

			that the Authority is aware about the language issues and reduced capacity of existing teachers in teaching skills.
Access to school and the distance.	To transfer branch school into basic school in suco Bobometo, Bobometo, Banafi, Costa, Cunha, Bobocase, Taiboco, Usitasae, Abani, Nipani. To establish more school rooms in existing basic school. Establish new branches school in suco Malelat, Lela-Ufe, Naimeco.	Director of Region for Education and Social Mr. Antonio Boquifai said the RAEOA Authority planned to establish basic/main school in particular sucos, build new school and more rooms. In order to support this plan, currently the Authority evaluates the 235 existing teachers in RAEOA.	
Land and Property	Impact of current development/part of ZEEMS mega project.	Good policy development to be shared with community affected by the development and provide fair payments for kiosks, housing, land affected etc. Better socialization process on development policy, included master plan to community to have better understanding and knowledge.	Currently the structure within the RAEOA Authority for Land and Property is doing land measurement and would establish a master plan for the RAEOA. Director for Land and Property Mr. Celestino Casenube agree with the idea from Suco Council to have better socialization on development plan and its policy. Furthermore The Director shared the Government project on Land Measurement as a continuation of Ita

		Accelerate the establishment of Land Law.	Nia Rai project. There is no specific response on this input.
Water and Sanitation	Access to clean water in 14 sucos, except for suco Cunha, Taiboco, Usitasae, Bobocase, Malelat (one hamlet does not access to water provided by the Authority.	Community contribution to water distribution, management and maintenance through Facility Maintenance Community Group.	Chief of Water and Sanitation Department shared the challenges faced by the Authority to improve the existing water infrastructure and its management. He acknowledged the water issues in suco mentioned and would consider their proposal to provide access to clean water.
	Good maintenance for sucos that have been receiving water service.	Contribution from the community of \$.25 per household for maintenance.	Chief of Water and Sanitation Department appreciated the contribution from the community. He emphasized the importance for the Government institutions and its project to have integrated approach, for example PNDS and Water & Sanitation (SAS) project of Ministry of Infrastructure.

**Annex 3:
Decentralization legislation in force in Timor-Leste**

MINISTERIAL DIPLOMAS FOR PRE-DECONCENTRATION ADMINISTRATIVE	Date Approved/Promulgated/Published
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for District Supervisory's Agencies	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for District's Planning Agencies	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Regulation of Local Advisory Councils	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Technical Support Offices of District Managers	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Administrative Posts	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Administrative Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Supply Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Financial Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Property and supply services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Integrated Plan for District Development (PDID)	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the functioning of the Directorate General of administrative decentralization	July 24, 2014
GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION	Date approved/promulgated/published
Government Resolution No. 21 on the appointment of seven (7) members of Authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno	May 12, 2015/May 19, 2015
Government Resolution No.9/2015 on the Breakdown of the budget allocation for the Authority of Special Administrative Region and Special Zone of Social Economy Market (ZEESM) of Oecussi and Atauro	January 23, 2015

Government Resolution No.8/2015 on the transferring of the function, means, and resources to the Authority of Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno	January 23, 2015
Government Resolution No.7/2015 on the appointment of members of Special Administrative Region Authority	January 23, 2015
Government Resolution on the Establishment of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structures in Liquiça, Aileu and Ermera	September 30, 2014
Government Resolution on the Transition Committee for Oecusse Ambeno	September 1, 2014
Government Resolution No. 14/2014 on the Special Procedure for the Selection of the Leaders of the Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	May 14, 2014
DECREE LAW / LAW	Date approved/promulgated/published
First Amendment to Decree-Law no. 4/2012, of 15 February, on Planning of Integrated Municipal Development (PMID)	June 30, 2015
First Amendment to Decree-Law no.8/2013, of 26 June, on the General Framework of the National Programme on Suco development	June 30, 2015
Decree Law no. 12/2015 on Organic Structure of Ministry of State Administration	April 21, 2015/ May 25,2015/ June 3, 2015
Decree Law No.5/2015 on the Status of Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno	January 22 , 2015
Decree Law No. 28/2014 on Special Procurement Scheme for Special Administrative Region of Oecusse	September 24, 2014
Decree-Law No. 19/2014 that approves the Statute of the Leaders of the Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structures	July 24, 2014
Law No. 3/2014 on the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse and establishes the Special Zone of Social Market Economy	June 18, 2014
Decree Law No.4/2014 on the Organic Statute of Structures of Administrative Pre-Deconcentration	January 22, 2014
Decree Law No. 08/2013 on the National Program for the Development of Sucos (PNDS)	June 26, 2013
Decree Law No. 4/2012 on Planning of	February 15, 2012

Integrated District Development (PDID)	
The Law No. 11/2009 on Administrative and Territorial Division	October 7, 2009

Annex 4
Summary of Legal Aid Information Sessions held by Legal Aid Organizations

Date	Suco (village)	Administrative Post	Participants		Total Participants
			F	M	
<i>Legal information sessions held by Liberta between April-June 2015</i>					
April 21, 2015	Suco Mota-Ulun	Bazartete	13	27	40
April 21, 2015	Suco Ulmera	Bazartete	3	22	25
April 22, 2015	Suco Lauhata	Bazartete	7	18	25
April 29, 2015	Suco Tibar	Bazartete	2	19	21
May 6, 2015	Suco Dato	Liquica Vila	4	19	23
May 11, 2015	Guguler	Maubara	3	27	30
May 12, 2015	Vaviquina	Maubara	7	18	25
May 13, 2015	Maubaralisa	Maubara	1	24	25
May 14, 2015	Vatuboru	Maubara	7	16	23
May 15, 2015	Suco Guico	Maubara	4	16	20
May 18, 2015	Vatuvou	Maubara	4	9	13
May 19, 2015	Lisadila	Maubara	7	19	26
May 27, 2015	Fahilebo	Bazartete	24	37	61
May 28, 2015	Fatumasi	Bazartete	4	15	19
May 29, 2015	Leorema	Bazartete	2	23	25
June 29, 2015	Loidahar	Liquica Vila	7	17	24
June 30, 2015	Mau Meta	Bazartete	20	19	39
Sub-Total			119	345	464
<i>Legal information sessions held by JPC between April-June 2015</i>					

April 1, 2015	Suco Lasorulai de Cima	Quelicaï	9	18	27
April 22, 2015	Suco Macalaco	Quelicaï	2	14	16
April 23, 2015	Suco Lacoliu	Quelicaï	7	8	15
April 27, 2017	Suco Abafala	Quelicaï	6	13	19
May 14, 2015	Suco Loilubo	Vemasse	22	1	23
May 27, 2015	Suco Samalari	Laga	19	6	25
May 28, 2015	Suco Sagadate	Laga	20	6	26
June 25, 2015	Suco Waigae	Vemasse	25	5	30
June 26, 2015	Suco Uatulari	Vemasse	15	3	18
Sub-Total			125	74	199
<i>Legal information sessions held by FFSO between April-June 2015</i>					
April 14, 2015	Suco Lela-Ufe	Nitibe	2	15	17
April 17, 2015	Suco Usi Taco	Nitibe	9	18	27
April 21, 2015	Suco Bana-Afi	Nitibe	13	31	44
April 24, 2015	Suco Taiboco	Pante Makassar	4	27	31
May 15, 2015	Suco Suni-Ufe	Nitibe	8	20	28
May 25, 2015	Suco Bobocase	Pante Mkasar	11	10	21
May 27, 2015	Suco Bobo Meto	Oe-Silo	15	32	47
May 28, 2015	Suco Taiboco	Pante Makassar	19	23	42
Sub-Total			81	176	257
TOTAL			325	595	920

Annex 5
Detailed Report of Completion of Activities against Work plan

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening

A.1 Engage and Evaluate Capacity of Participating Suco Councils		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Finalize district selection with USAID and the GOTL	November 2013 - December 2014	Complete.
Launch Ba Distrito in selected year two districts Liquiça and Ermera	November 2014	Complete. Project launch events were on November 18 in Ermera and November 24 in Liquiça.
Finalize selection criteria and Request for Applications (RFA) process for participation in the Ba Distrito program	November 2014	Complete. It based on suco selection criteria from the first year. Methodology changes slightly.
Provide proposal preparation, technical assistance and training	November 2014	Complete.
Issue RFAs for participation in the Ba Distrito program	November-December 2014	Complete, methodology changed. Project staff will monitor the dissemination of RFAs in conjunction with implementing partners to ensure there are equal opportunities for participation
Evaluate applications and select participating sucos	January 2015	Complete.

A.2 Review Update and Create Local Governance Strengthening Tools and Resources		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Collect and review existing tools, manuals and training materials	October-November 2014	Complete.
Update and synthesize tools, manuals and training materials	October-December 2014	Complete for SukAT kit; In-Process for training modules. Consultant has finalized three training modules and drafted the remaining 7. The remaining 7 drafts cannot be finalized until the role of the suco council is determined. The

			government is proposing significant changes.
Deploy Organizational Development Expert	STTA	December 2014-September 2015	Ongoing. STTA OD expert has produced three final modules on Leadership and Communication, Women's Rights and Access to Justice and Consultation with Community.
Hold government consultations on OCP/SGPS and other tools, manuals and training materials	district	February 2015	Partially complete. Municipal Administrator and Administrator of Post Administration have received the first training module on Leadership and Communication. Consultations need to be redone with the new leadership in MSA.
Introduce final tools, manuals and training materials for OCP/SGPS to line ministries, district governments, sucos and CSOs		March 2015	Partially complete. Three final modules for this year on Leadership and Communication, Women's Rights and Access to Justice and Community Consultation have been introduced to DNDCAS within Ministry of State Administration and approved.

A.3 Design and Deliver Capacity Development Assistance to Sucos and Associations			
Sub-Activity		Schedule	Status
Conduct rapid capacity assessments of sucos		December 2014-January 2015	Complete. Senior Ba Distrito/Belun staff will be provided with OD and field assessment STTA during this process
Analyze training needs based on assessments		January 2015	Complete. Senior Ba Distrito staff will be provided with OD STTA during this process
Develop training framework and initial trainings		January-February 2015	Complete. Senior Ba Distrito staff will be provided with OD STTA during this process
Conduct capacity building Training of Trainers (ToTs) for Belun		March 2015	Complete. Capacity building ToTs will incorporate individual and institutional assessment into the process
Belun to provide trainings to each district (2-3 per year)		March-July 2015	In process. First training completed. Second training underway by JSMP. Third training will take place during upcoming quarter.
Regional conduct Managers mentorship activities		October 2014 to September 2015	Ongoing.
Conduct regular site		October 2014 to	Ongoing. Ba Distrito Senior OD, M&E and

visits for sucos	September 2015	Governance staff conduct site visits
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A.4 – Increase Capacity to Respond to Citizen Needs		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Issue solicitation for Constituent Engagement Grants	January to February 2015	Complete. The team continues to receive new proposal for next award selection. The selection criteria will ensure that these citizen-driven initiatives could either stimulate appropriate PNDS project support or correct for non-participatory allocation and implementation of PNDS project funds and not be duplicative of efforts being funded under the PNDS. The RFA has been drafted.
Review applications for Constituent Engagement Grants	March 2015	In process. The Ba Distrito Project Steering Committee will be involved in grant application review
Award Constituent Engagement Grants	April 2015	In planning for next quarter. Grant funds will be awarded to and managed by local CSOs with activity input and implementing support from the sucos
Provide mini-trainings and technical assistance to grantees	April 2015	In planning for next quarter. CSO Trainings will address based on individual OD assessments of grantees
Monitor and support Constituent Engagement Grantees	April to September 2015	Not started. Ba Distrito Senior OD, M&E and Governance staff will conduct site visits

A.5 – Facilitate Networking, Exchange Visits and Joint Action Among Sucos		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Provide technical assistance to suco councils to strengthen or form associations	October 2014 to September 2015	Partially complete through suco exchange visits. Ermera and Oecusse complete three suco exchange visits; Baucau, Covalima and Liquiça in planning to complete second and third suco exchange visit. Third suco exchange visit in Baucau was postponed due to security issues.

A.6 – Improve Suco and District Collaboration for Better Service Delivery		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Organize roundtables for suco and district officials	February to March 2015; June to July	Ongoing. First Suco-Municipality Forum was held in Oecusse SAR. MSA,

	2015	MoJ, and other line ministries will be invited to help design the program and participate
Mentoring to sucos in communicating to higher-level government institutions	October 2014 to September 2015	Ongoing. STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities
STTA Good Governance Advisor deployed	February to March 2015	Complete. STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities
District Administration (DA) officials attend suco exchange visits and trade shows.	February to March 2015; June to August 2015	Ongoing.
Support a target group of sucos in each district to improve service delivery	April to August 2015	Complete for STTA Good Governance; Complete the Assessment for Baucau, Ermera and Oecusse SAR; ongoing to prepare their presentation. While the coordinators in Liquiça and Covalima continue doing assessment and prepare each suco to consider their potential and their presentation. STTA Good Governance Advisor will provide assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities.

Component B – Decentralization

B.1 – Solicit and Present Research on Citizens’ Opinion on Decentralization Policy and Practice to GOTL and Other Stakeholders:

Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Draft concept papers.	October 2014 and as needed	Ongoing. Concept papers drafted and distributed to ARKTL.
Lead Dialogues with government officials, CSO representatives and academics.	July 2015 to August 2015	In planning. Ba Distrito IP Belun’s community facilitators will lead dialogues with representatives from the District Administration, CSOs, private sector, sucos, media outlets, and other stakeholders.
Compile recommendations.	August to September 2015	Not started. Recommendations will be compiled, presented and reviewed at a national-level.
Present	September 2015	Not started. Recommendations will be

recommendations.		presented for comment at both the local and national-levels.
Participate in policy/legal framework working groups and ensure Ba Distrito participation and the inclusion of sub-district level feedback.	Ongoing	Ongoing. Member of the Policy Forum on revisions to suco legislation and member of decentralization working group.

B.2 – Provide Legal Advice and Legislative Commentary to GOTL:		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Review decentralization legal framework.	Ongoing	Ongoing. Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed.
Update on developments of legal framework for decentralization.	Ongoing	Ongoing. Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed.
Conduct coordination planning workshops.	September 2015	In planning. Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed.
Respond to invitations to provide legal advice and legislative commentary	Ongoing	Ongoing. Ba Distrito Governance Manager will lead with limited support from STTA if needed.

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B.3. Design and Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes
Issue solicitation for Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants	December 2014 and September 2015	Partially Complete. Two RFAs issued. CSOs and academic institutions will be invited to submit applications to organize advocacy campaigns
Review applications for Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants	January 2015	Partially Complete. Two RFAs reviewed. The Ba Distrito Program Steering Committee will be involved in grant application review
Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants	February 2015	Partially Complete. 1 DRAG awarded to ARKTL. 1 contract awarded to Uairawa to make a documentary. Ba Distrito will award larger grants to coalitions of CSOs. Coalition grantees will develop a campaign strategy for public outreach and working with media.
Monitor and support Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grantees	February 2015 onwards	Ongoing. Ba Distrito Senior OD and Governance staff, as well as M&E staff, will conduct site visits

B.4. Support Information Dissemination on Approved Laws		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Notes
Issue solicitation	December 2014	Complete. Using DRAG to ARKTL above for information dissemination on approved laws. The selection criteria for grants are designed to ensure that these citizen-driven initiatives stimulate discussion of the roles of PDID and PNDS at the suco-level and discussions about decentralization
Review applications	February 2015	Complete. Using DRAG to ARKTL above for information dissemination on approved laws. The Ba Distrito Grant Steering Committee will be involved in grant application review
Award grants	February 2015 to March 2015	Complete. Using DRAG to ARKTL above for information dissemination on approved laws. Grant funds will be

		awarded to and managed by local CSOs with activity input and implementing support from the sucos
Train CSOs and suco councils on outreach about new decentralization framework	March 2015	Complete. Provided training to Belun and ARKTL. Training conducted by Ba Distrito Governance team as needed
Monitor and support grantees	February 2015 onwards	Ongoing. Trainings will address a variety of issues based on individual OD assessments of grantees designed to determine their level of knowledge of suco-level governance and suco council roles and responsibilities within the PNDS and PDID processes
Engage media channels to disseminate information on decentralization laws	As needed	Ongoing. Using community radio outreach through DRAG with ARKTL. Comms team is regularly engaging community radio, RTTL and print media. Engage Public Outreach staff and Governance team in the design of media campaigns

Component C – Legal Aid Sustainability:

C.1 Support Government to Develop Responsive Integrated and Sustainable Legal Aid Assistance Model		
Sub Activity	Schedule	Status
Stakeholder consultations held with MoJ, OPD, and other GOTL, and key civil society institutions (including program partner AATL) to gain their participation in a systematic legal aid development process for Timor-Leste facilitated by Ba Distrito	Ongoing	In progress. Legal Aid Brief launched in both Tetun and English at MOJ/LTC attended by representatives from USAID, MOJ, implementing partners, lawyers, media, and other donor programs. The project will continue engage with the government counterpart on the development of a systematic legal aid system as needed.
MOJ introduced to and adopts the Participatory Sustainable Legal Aid	Ongoing	In progress. At the launch of Legal Aid Brief, the project made another presentation of the findings and

<p>Development Guidebook process, creates implementation plan and develops a work calendar for activities</p>		<p>recommendations which include different models of legal aid that TL may consider given its current context and realities. While recognizing the current gaps, no expression of interest in recommended legal aid models were seen. The project will continue to engage with the government counterpart in the event that any measures are taken to respond to the gaps identified.</p>
<p>Hold discussions MoJ, OPD and AATL and other CSOs on data-driven Legal Aid System Management.</p>	<p>January 2015 to February 2015</p>	<p>In progress. Although not necessarily on the legal aid system management, the project support the MOJ in the development of qualitative research tools that will help the MOJ to gather data via credible and tested methodology. With MOJ staff, the research instruments and tools were piloted and MOJ staff was trained on how to properly administer a qualitative research survey. The Ministry is currently conducting research to evaluate the impact of its legal information sessions using the research tools and instruments co developed with the Ministry.</p>
<p>Support establishment of mechanisms for ongoing coordination of legal aid system for rational allocation of legal aid funding and donor coordination</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>In progress. Oecusse and Baucau legal aid coordination regularly meets on monthly basis to discuss legal aid and access to justice related issues that need better response and coordination from all relevant government institutions and local CSOs. Within this quarter, various relevant government institutions continue attend Oecusse based legal aid coordination working group including National Police's VPU, ALFeLa, Forum for Oecusse Women, Pradet, MOJ, Court, Ombudsman for Human Rights and Justice, Ministry of Social and Solidarity, Health Ministry and other CSOs.</p>

Establish district –level Legal Aid Coordination Groups and conduct training in legal aid assessment, data collection and monitoring systems. These groups will be composed of legal aid providers in the area and coordinated by legal aid grantees and implementing partners FFSO	January 2015 onward	In progress. See the commentary in the previous column.
Conduct surveys and random sampling called for in the Guide	Ongoing	In planning; Partially in progress. Access to Justice, M&E, and Public Outreach staff.
<i>State of Legal Aid Annual Report</i> completed and communication strategy for findings and recommendations developed. Access to justice staff together with JSMP.	September 2015	In planning.
Resuming Legal Aid Coalition formerly established by The Asia Foundation with previous USAID access to justice funds. Access to justice team to coordinate and provide technical support to the Coalition	January 2015 onward. Meeting every two months	Ongoing.

C2. Improve Capacity and Outreach of Legal Aid and Alternative Dispute Providers		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Award Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants	December 2014	Completed. In consultation with and at the approval USAID, the Project will give a second legal aid advocacy and implementation award to FECM- a long-time USAID partner in Baucau. Another RFA will also be issued for legal aid work in Covalima municipality

Design and issue RFA and access to justice Grants	December 2014 to January 2015	Partially completed and ongoing. See the previous column
OD assessments with grantees	January to February 2015 and ongoing	In progress. See Component A progress report.
Complete training needs assessment for legal aid service providers and training developed for legal aid advocacy and implementation grants and access to justice technical grants	January 2015	Ongoing. The Project has finalized recruitment of a case management expert Alison Ryan who arrived in Dili on June 28. She will begin conducting assessments of the legal aid partners and provide case management training to the legal aid partners and private lawyers in the next quarter.
Delivers training to legal aid providers	January to March 2015	Ongoing. Legal aid partners and private lawyers will receive case management training from Alison Ryan followed by action planning of the Project's legal aid partners. The implementation of action plans by the partners will be closely monitored by the Project team.
JSMP delivers training to Suco Council members on formal justice	February 2015 to July 2015	Ongoing. Suco council training launched. Training of targeted suco council members in Liquica has been concluded. JSMP's trainers began relocating to Ermera municipality where they will continue their training after which the trainers will relocate to Oecusse and other municipalities.

C.3 Assess and Reinforce Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanism		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Map the ADR services available in each district of intervention	October 2014 and ongoing	Ongoing. Implementing partner Belun has begun collecting ADR practice starting in April. Only a few data was collected in the last two months of the quarter due to Belun's preoccupation with the suco training. The Project, however, will continue work with Belun to gather more information on ADR resolution that takes place at the suco level
Monitor ADR process	Monthly beginning	Ongoing. See the commentary in the

	January 2015	preceding column
Identify possible ways to link ADR to formal justice sector and other state institutions in pilot areas to inform future activities	July 2015	Ongoing. Working with Belun and JSMP, respective work in ADR and formal justice system strengthening
Compile recommendations with regard to regulation of customary law and community justice and linkages to formal sector	As required	Incorporating other donor-funded studies especially those in relation to GVB, implementing partner JSMP monitoring and implementing partner Belun's monitoring
Contribute to drafting and revising laws on alternative mechanisms	As required	Part C4 below
Under Access to Justice grants, provide socialization, outreach and training to community leaders on such issues as GBV, human rights, customary law, existing referral mechanisms, and fundamental legal principals.	February to July 2015	Ongoing. JSMP's training of the suco council is ongoing.

C.4 Targeted Assistance on Improving the Legislative Framework for Legal Aid		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Legal Aid Coalition Meeting every two months	Ongoing	Ongoing. The legal aid partners convened two meetings at Ba Distrito project office to discuss strategy for advocacy as well as draft Law on Bar Association. Although raising concerns about mandatory probono for the private lawyers, the group plans to make a submission to the draft Bar Association Law about the importance of legal aid work by the private lawyers.
Present to the Legal Aid Coalition legislative gaps and inconsistencies that can be basis for advocacy	February 2015 onward	Ongoing. See the previous column

Provide analysis, amendments, drafts on Legal Aid law and related legislation	As needed	Ongoing. A2J team and international STTA provided as needed.
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C.5 Provide Support to Government and CSOs to Create Accessible and Effective Legal Information		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Legal Information Working Group established	January 2015 onward	Ongoing. Working with UNTL’s Radio Academica, six radios PSA drama series were developed and produced in both Tetun and Baekeno by the legal aid partners with close support from the Project. Legal aid partners have also entered into agreement with community radios in Baucau, Ermera, Liquica and Oecusse to broadcast the justice PSA drama series on weekly basis Monday to Saturday.
Working Group identifies priority areas for campaigns	January 2015 onward	Ongoing. See the previous column
Support development of Legal Information and Advocacy Guide Book produced in consultation with stakeholders	March 2015 and ongoing	In planning.
Legal information capacity building training initiated with government and judicial agencies and program grantees	January 2015	In planning.
Deliver training to media and develop packets on the key access to justice topics	February 2015	Ongoing.

Component D – District Court Functionality:

D.1 Assess Needs and Design District Court Training Program		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) as	January 2015	Partially complete. The Project and USIAD representatives met with the

<p>needed with MOJ, Baucau and Oecusse District Courts</p>		<p>new Minister of Justice Dr. Ivo Valente this quarter. Ba Distrito expects to sign the MOU in the next quarter.</p>
<p>Monitor district courts with an emphasis on access and quality of legal aid services in the courts</p>	<p>January 2015 onward</p>	<p>Ongoing. Within this quarter, the implementing partner JSMP actively monitoring the quality of legal aid in all municipal and regional court of Timor-Leste as well as interviewing the defendants on the quality of legal aid they received. JSMP's monitoring of Oecusse court is ongoing and currently JSMP is putting together a draft thematic report on its Oecusse court monitoring</p>
<p>Conduct additional Training Needs Assessment of district court staff as needed</p>	<p>February 2015 and onward</p>	<p>In progress. Within this quarter, the Project with technical assistance from a court administration and judicial statistics expert Rick Callanan undertook two assessments in Baucau and Oecusse by looking into the current state of judicial statistics data gathering and analysis which will form the basis for training development and delivery for the judicial officers.</p>
<p>Support LTC in design of training modules and changes to curricula for staff in District courts, adapted to their functions and based on needs</p>	<p>January 2015 onward</p>	<p>In progress.</p>
<p>Training Needs Assessment Report updated based on any additional assessments completed. Training assessments to be done in conjunction with LTC and/or justice institution staff where possible</p>	<p>February 2015</p>	<p>In planning.</p>
<p>Training Blueprint developed for district judges, select court staff, public defenders and</p>	<p>February 2015 to March 2015</p>	<p>In planning</p>

private lawyers, if agreed by Court and Office of Public Defender

D.2 - Deliver Training for Justice and Accountability Institution Staff

Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Develop training and training program in conjunction with LTC and select justice institution staff	February 2015 onward	In progress. Within this quarter, an American Court Administration and Judicial Statistics expert Rick Callanan supported the Project in developing training on judicial statistics improvement in the pilot courts. The delivery of the training was held at and coordinated with the Legal Training Center and attended by a total of 22 judicial officers from all courts of Timor-Leste including from the Court of Appeal
Training of Trainers	March 2015	In planning.
Review of Training Pilots	February 2015	In planning.
PACT process launched with identification of non-training interventions in district court(s), creation of framework agreement and gaining national counterpart authorization for pilot activities	June to September 2015	Ongoing. The Court of Appeal's team agreed to five recommendations for improved statistical gathering at the two-day workshop with the team. Based on that, a Plan of Action (PACT) consisting of 5 recommendations for court statistics improvement was developed and sent to the Court of Appeal's team president judge Afonso Carmona of Baucau court to give his feedback and comments. The Project expects to finalize and sign the Plan of Action in the next quarter prior to implementation.
Introduce PACT process at district court level and sign agreements	January 2015 to February 2015	In progress. See commentary in the preceding column
PACT action planning	February 2015	In progress.
PACT implementation	February 2015 onwards	In planning.

D.3 Introduce Professional Development System (PDS)

Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
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Encourage judiciary and possibly the Public Defender's Office to strengthen the existing PDS to include job training and monitoring and evaluation linked to performance evaluation	January 2015 onward	In planning.
If invited, facilitate the judiciary and possibly the Public Defender's Office to undertake a self-assessment of each institution's current professional development system and identify opportunities for developing an integrated PDS	February 2015	In planning.
If agreed, initiate implementation / refinement of PDS with agreed key counterpart institution(s). Support judiciary to develop and monitor Individual Development Plans for the senior justice personnel	April 2015 onward	In planning.

D.4 Build Capacity of the LTC in its Role to Increase Human Capacity in Judicial Institutions		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Enter agreement with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to engage in institutional capacity building and training in conjunction with district court strengthening	January 2015 to February 2015	Ongoing.
Engage MoJ/LTC and Superior Council in OD self-assessment process using Tt DPK Judicial Training Institute	February 2015	In planning.

Development Tool (JTIDT) and develop action plan based on findings		
Identify ways for MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to decentralize training and provide more in-service training to better meet capacity building needs of currently serving district judges, prosecutors, defenders, lawyers, clerks, notaries and registrars, translators, interpreters, etc	February 2015 onward	Partially started.
Work with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to ensure that the training programs targeting district court staff are evaluated	February 2015 onward	In planning.
Work with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to institutionalize an annual training review process to better meet district court needs	February 2015 onward	In planning.

D.5 Flexible and Responsive Training Fund		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Quick impact training	TBD	In planning.

For Component E – No approved Work Plan yet. The following is based on the activities in the modification.

E.1 – Strengthening voter education through STAE		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Increase STAE’s communications capacity	August 2015	In planning.
Develop a communications/marketing needs assessment tool and a communications strategy template for the	August/September 2015	In planning.

STAE and CNE communications specialists		
Develop voter education manual	September 2015	Not started.
Create inclusive voter education video and posters	August/September 2015	Not started.
Support voter education through Ba Distrito suco network	August/ October/ November 2015	Not started.

E.2 – Connecting Political Parties to Their Constituents		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Conduct voter priority survey	July/ August 2015	In planning.
Host candidate debates	November 2015	Not started.

E.3 Civic Education and Inclusive Participation		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Develop CNE Communication Strategy	July/ August 2015	In planning.

Develop a communications/marketing needs assessment tool and a communications strategy template for the STAE and CNE communications specialists	August/September 2015	In planning.
Develop civic education training manual	July-September 2015	Not Started.
Create civic education media products	August-September 2015	In planning.
Support national coordination mechanism for women's participation	July 2015	In planning. The negotiation process is going on. The new grant will be signed by the next quarter.
Encourage women's engagement in elections	July/August 2015	In planning.
Establish national youth engagement coordination mechanism	July/August 2015	In planning.
Support youth-focused civic engagement campaign	September/October 2015	In planning.
Support youth voter turnout	October-December 2015	In planning.
Establish PWD Engagement Working Group	July/August 2015	In planning.
Encourage civic engagement of PWDs	July/August 2015	In planning.

Annex 6

Detailed Report of Monitoring of Progress Against Performance Indicators

Component “A” Performance Indicators	Year 2 Target	LOP Target	Status
Number of CSOs using USG assistance to improve internal organizational capacity (F indicator)	5	4	5
Number of constituent engagement initiatives implemented through joint CSO/suco council partnerships	25	50	Ongoing
Number of suco councils who report holding constituent dialogues to identify the specific needs of women in their sucos	0	50	In planning
Increased knowledge and understanding among Suco council members of individual and institutional roles and responsibilities	Baseline	50%	Baseline established
Proportion of females (Suco council members trained) who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG supported training/program (F indicator)	4/5	4/5	In planning
Number of sub-national entities receiving USG assistance that improve their performance (F indicator)	Baseline	100%	Baseline established
Increased performance and organizational capacity among sub-national entities that receive USG assistance	Baseline	25%	Baseline established

Component “B” Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	Year 2	LOP Target	Status
Number of people reached through CSO decentralization awareness campaigns	25,000	25,000	100,000	507
Number of dialogues, workshops and other events aimed at increasing local-level input into the national discourse on decentralization	6	10	36	6
Number of mechanisms developed or supported by Ba Distrito and USG Assistance to improve citizen engagement with local government	20	30	100	In planning
Number of recommendations to new and existing laws developed through consultative processes including government and non-government entities	5	5	20	46

Percentage of citizen knowledge and awareness of decentralization activities in targeted districts	Baseli ne	N/A	TBD	Baseline established
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Component “C” Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	LOP Target	Status
Increase in the number of individuals receiving legal aid or victim's assistance with USG support (F indicator)	Baseline	58%	105
Number of legal information and advocacy campaigns implemented by USG-funded legal aid partners	3	5	34
Number of legal information and advocacy campaigns focused on gender equality and/or gender based violence	1	3	34
Increased capacity of target legal aid organizations to plan and execute long-term financial sustainability strategies	Baseline	52%	To be determined
Increased number of cases resolved by USG-supported legal aid providers	Baseline	20%	11
Number of laws, regulations, or amendments to laws promoting an integrated legal aid approach drafted and submitted for approval	3	12	0
Number of laws, regulations or amendments to laws promoting an integrated legal aid approach adopted by the GOTL	1	5	0 0
Increase in number of citizens in target areas who report greater access to justice and legal aid information	Baseline		920

Component “D” Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	LOP Target	Status
Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG assistance (F indicator)	10	100	0
Increased knowledge of administrative, financial and case management processes and procedures among judicial personnel	Baseline	50%	To be determined
Number of PACT improvements adopted that increase court functionality and administration of justice	2	8	0
Number of PACT improvements adopted that increase public access to information	2	8	0

Increased percentage of citizens in target communities who report confidence in the formal justice sector/district courts	Baseline	TBD	To be determined
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Ba Distrito Project
Quarterly Report 8
Period: July 1 – September 30, 2015

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Acronym List

AATL	Asosiasaun Advogadu Timor-Lorosa'e
ADTL	Asosiasaun Difisiensia Timor Leste
ALFeLa	Asistencia Legal ba Feto no Labarik
AOR	Agreement Officer's Representative
ARKTL	Asosiasaun Radio Komunitade Timor-Leste
BESIK	Bee, Saneamentu no Ijiene iha Komunitade
CBO	Community Based Organization
CCL	Local Advisory Councils
CDI	Community Development Interest
CEG	Constituent Engagement Grant
CNE	National Election Commission
CNJTL	Timor-Leste's National Council for the Youth
COP	Chief of Party
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DA	District Administration
DFAT	Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DG-DA	Directorate-General for Administrative Decentralization
DNAAS	National Directorate for Suco Administration and Support
DNDCAS	National Directorate for Community Development and Suco Support
DNDHS	National Directorate of Human Rights and Citizenship
DNJAL	National Directorate for Judicial Advisory and Legislation
DQA	Data Quality Assessment
DRAG	Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grant
ECM	Educacao Comunidade Matebian
ETAN	East Timor and Indonesia Action Network
FDG	Focus Discussion Group
FECM	Fundasaun Educacao Matebian
FEEO	Fundasaun Esperanza Enclave Oecusse
FFSO	Fundasaun Fatuk Sinae Oecusse
FOG	Fixed Obligation Grant
FPWO	Oecusse Women Forum
FRETILIN	Political Party in Timor-Leste
FY	Fiscal Year
GACOROA	Coordinating Office for Relations with the Special Administrative Region Authority of Oecusse Ambeno
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GOTL	Government of Timor-Leste
GTD	District Technical Group

ICC	International Criminal Court
IIMS	Integrated Information Management System
IJTL	Timor-Leste's Judicial Institute
INAP	National Institute of Public Administration
IP	Implementing Partner
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JPC	Commissao Justisa I Paz/ Justice and Peace Commission
JSMP	Judicial System Monitoring Programme
KMP	Knowledge Management Portal
LAAIG	Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants
LADV	Law Against Domestic Violence
LTC	Legal Training Center
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOFFE-TL	Movimento Feto Foin Sa'e Timor Leste
MAE	Ministru Administrasaun Estatal
MDI	Mata Dalan Institute
MOJ	Ministry of Justice
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSA	Ministry of State Administration
NGO	Non-government Organization
OCP	Organizational Capacity Building
OD	Organizational Development
OPD	Office of Public Defenders
OPG	Office of the Prosecutor General
PAAS	Personnel Support to Suco Administration
PACT	Plan of Action
PDA	Pre-Deconcentration Administrative
PDID	Integrated Plan for District Development
PDS	Professional Development System
PIMD	Planning of Integrated Municipal Development
PLWAD	Persons Living With a Disability
PMEP	Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PNDS	National Program for Suco Development
PQL	Program, Quality and Learning
PSA	Public Services Announcement
PNTL	National Police of Timor-Leste
RAEOA	Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno
RCAL	Radio Comunidade Atoni Lifau
RCLM	Radio Komunidade Lian Matebian
RCT	Radio Comunidade Tokodede
RDTL	Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste

RFA	Request for Application
RHTO	Ra'es Hadomi Timor Oan
RTL	Radio Timor-Leste
RTTL	Timor-Leste's Public Broadcasting Service
SAR	Special Administrative Region
SEPI	Secretary of State for Promotion of Equality
SGPS	Suco Government Performance Scale
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
STAE	Technical Secretariat for the Administration of Elections
STTA	Short Term Technical Assistant
SukAT	Suku Assessment Tool
TAF	The Asia Foundation
TL	Timor-Leste
ToT	Training of Trainers
Tt DPK	Tetra Tech DPK
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training
TVTL	Television Timor-Leste
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNFDP	United National Population Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
VPU	Vulnerable Persons Unit
YACTS	Youth in Action Towards Sustainability
ZEESM	Special Zone of Social Market Economy in Timor-Leste

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2013, Counterpart International, Inc. (Counterpart) was awarded funding from USAID/Timor-Leste to implement the four-year Ba Distrito Project – Cooperative Agreement number AID 486-A-13-00007. Ba Distrito’s goal is to increase institutional and human capacity at the local level to deliver basic services more effectively, and in a manner that is responsive to citizens’ needs and expectations. The project seeks to contribute to a wider vision of improved decentralized governance, inclusive access to justice and strengthened civic and voter education in Timor-Leste, through the implementation of five mutually reinforcing components designed to achieve the following objectives:

Goals	Component	Objective
Improved Decentralized Governance	A. Local Governance Strengthening	Enhanced capacity of sucos to strengthen citizen participation and representation in local governance.
	B. Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions	Improved communications and linkages of sucos with district administrations, local Government of Timor-Leste (GOTL) line ministries and other providers of basic public services at the subnational level.
Increased Access to Justice	C. Legal Aid Organization Sustainability	Strengthened local justice sector institutions which increase access to formal and informal justice for marginalized citizens and the poor.
	D. District Court Functionality	
Increased Civic and Voter Education and political participation of women, youth and people with disabilities in the electoral process	E. Elections	Strengthened the capacity of Government of Timor-Leste (GOTL), particularly Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) and namely National Electoral Commission (CNE) and Technical Secretary for Electoral Administration (STAE), to hold fair, transparent, inclusive local elections and facilitate voter engagement in preparation for the national general election.

During this reporting period, Ba Distrito conducted the following activities:

Component A: Local Governance Strengthening

- Finalized training module on Community Consultation
- Delivered two full days of training to 369 suco council members (195 women) on Community Consultation
- Delivered three full days of training to 181 suco council members (72 women) on Access to Justice and Women's Rights (also linked to Component C)
- Provided follow up organizational development technical support on the training to 48 sucos in 4 municipalities and RAEOA
- Coordinated 3 exchanges between sucos to share best practices in service delivery and improve horizontal communication
- Coordinated 3 forums between sucos and municipal level authorities to increase vertical communication between suco councils and municipal and regional level government
- Conducted organizational capacity assessments of 2 legal aid NGO partners
- Provided 2 days of TOT to national partner Belun on how to effectively deliver the training on Community Consultation

Component B: Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions

- Local NGO ARKTL implemented a decentralization community radio campaign in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse results in the broadcast of community opinion Vox Pops 295 times, one live talk show per month per municipality/region aired a total of 32 times, 4 different Public Service Announcements aired a total of 1170 times and a radio drama aired a total of 120 times.
- Concluded the production of five short films featuring one suco success story from each target municipality/region.

Component C: Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

- Conducted a detailed case management assessment of 3 legal aid organizations
- Recruited Junior Legal Officer to support the project's legal aid activities,
- Supported Ministry of Justice to analyze field research results on their legal outreach.
- Delivered case management training to 18 lawyers (9 women) in coordination with the LTC and the Management and Disciplinary Council for Private Lawyers.
- Supported 3 legal aid partners who participated in training to develop and implement case management action plans and provide technical support for same.
- Coordinated with the LTC potentially including Ba Distrito's case management training into the LTC curriculum.
- Met with the Coordinating Minister of Justice and State Administrator to brief him on the planned MoU signing with MOJ

- Issued an Request for Application (RFA) for a legal aid grant in Covalima
- Supported Legal Aid Advocacy Working Group to prepare submissions on the draft Bar Association law
- Conducted legal information sessions in a total of 34 sucos, attended by 848 people, including 389 women and 271 youth.
- Provided legal aid assistance to a total of 103 clients, including 31 women and 22 youth.
- Resolved a total of 12 cases, including 9 civil cases and 3 criminal cases.

Component D: District Court Functionality

- Finalized 7 Plans of Action (PACT) for improved statistics data gathering signed by the Court of Appeal.
- Monitored JSMP's suco council training on access to justice and women's rights.
- Recruited and deployed short-term technical assistance (STTA) to train Timorese judges on court administration, management, and leadership.
- Delivered a three-day training workshop for 24 Timorese judges (9 women).
- Monitored a total of 17 court cases including 8 cases involving domestic, sexual and gender based violence.
- Issued two press releases on court monitoring in Oecusse.

Component E: Elections

- Revised the Election Add-on work plan on the request of USAID as electoral landscape is changing
- Coordinated and negotiated meeting with CNE and STAE for activities under election component
- Signed Addendum 1 to the MOU with the Ministry of State Administration to reflect the election add on activities
- Completed a desk review on barriers to women, youth and people with disability to the electoral process and recommendations for advocacy

II. POLITICAL CONTEXT

During this quarter, the National Parliament and the government (in particular the Ministry of State Administration and the Council of Ministers) continued to push along proposed changes to the laws governing community leaders and their elections.

First Amendment to the Law No.3/2009 on Community Leaders and Their Elections – After receiving the approved first amendment of the Law No.3/2009 on Community Leaders and Their Election from the Council of Ministers in the last quarter, on July 8, the official Facebook page of MSA reported that Parliament's Committee A on Constitutional Affairs, Justice, Public Administration, Local Power and Anti-Corruption started the discussion of the first amendment

in Tibar, Liquiça. On July 13, the National Parliament discussed and approved the first amendment of the Law No. 3/2009 on Community Leadership and their Election with unanimity. The amendment is reportedly aimed at ensuring the practicality of the reform of the legal framework currently in place for community leaders. Their main amendments include the extension of the mandate of community leader from October 2015 to October 2016 (extending the office terms of the Community Leaders until the new elected leaders in the next elections are sworn-in), and the establishment of the responsibility for convening the election and electoral calendar to the Government upon a proposal from STAE. This amendment resulted in the revocation of the responsibility previously held by CNE to call the election upon a proposal from STAE at least sixty days prior to the elections to the Government of Timor-Leste; in this case, the Ministry of State Administration.

The Draft Suco Law – On July 21, the official portal of the Council of Ministers (CoM) reported that the CoM has approved the draft suco law put forth by the Ministry of State Administration. If approved by the National Parliament and promulgated by the President of Republic, this law will replace the existing Law No.3/2009 on Community Leaders and Their Election. This draft law received criticism from political parties and CSOs due to the lack of consultation with the public or the community leaders prior to the CoM’s approval. This draft law defines the nature of sucos, in accordance with the definition provided by the Court of Appeal (CoA) in Proc. n.º 02/Const/2009/TR; sucos continue to be public associations rather than local powers or part of the Government administration. The draft law introduces changes in the election process of community leaders with the community directly electing an Aldeia Chief together with a male and female representative from each aldeia. The suco’s elected aldeia representatives then elect a lia nian and a suco chief. This means the community will not be able to directly choose their preferred suco chief. The draft law clarifies the framework of supervisory tasks and powers, and establishes rules to ensure their transparency, impartiality and responsibility towards the members of their communities. These amendments to the legal framework of Sucos reportedly seek to endorse and strengthen their authority, define their role towards the institutions of the State and Local Power entities, and avoid the overlapping of functions between the organizations, the Special Administrative Region Authority of Oecusse Ambeno and the municipalities. The draft law has been reportedly forwarded to the National Parliament for discussion and approval. Until the end of this quarter the draft law has not been included in the agenda to be debated in the National Parliament. The future role and responsibilities of the suco council and their method of election will likely be determined by this draft Suco Law.

Preparation for General State Budget for 2016 – During this quarter, the official portal of the Government reported that CoM has started preparation and analysis of the General State Budget for 2016. The Government’s official portal reported that the GoTL seeks to elaborate a sustainable General State Budget without unnecessary expenditures, ensuring an effective, efficient and fair service provision. It is reported that the Government and the National Parliament will establish priorities onto the 2016 State Budget discussion during the next quarter. It is interesting to note that the Ministry of State Administration electoral body STAE

indicated in a meeting with the project that no budget has been allocated in the 2016 Budget for suco elections, which brings into question how the elections will take place.

Administrative and Financial Devolution in Oecusse-Ambeno – During this quarter, steady progress continued towards the devolution of competencies from the central government to the authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno (RAEOA). On August 4, the CoM approved Resolution No.28 that commands the transfer of competencies regarding the provision of services and respective budget to the Special Administrative Region Oecusse Ambeno Authority. The Resolution was published in the Official Gazette on August 5 and enters into force a day after its publication.

During this quarter, a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Counterpart and RAEOA was shared with RAEOA's authority for consideration. As under Law No.3/2014 which establishes Oecusse Ambeno as a Special Administrative Region (RAEOA), the region has complete autonomy except in national security and international relations matters; thus the MOU with RAEOA is essential. The objective of the MOU is to promote cooperation and coordination between the parties and to support each party in their efforts to accomplish mutually beneficial objectives. Mutually beneficial objectives may include strengthening citizen participation in local governance, strengthening the capacity of local governance organizations to respond to citizens' needs, strengthening links between local governance bodies and regional level service providers, promoting inclusive participation in local level elections, and strengthening access to justice. Towards the end of this quarter, the MOU was still under consideration by the RAEOA authority.

In the justice sector during the quarter, the Government of Timor-Leste (GoTL) also passed Resolution No. 30/2015 to establish a Legislative and Justice Sector Reform Committee with the mandate to analyze and identify the main legislative framework challenges and to make recommendations to the government for legislative improvements. As per the Resolution, the Committee will have up to three permanent and three non-permanent members nominated by the Prime Minister, Council of Ministers, Coordinating Minister for State Administration and Justice Affairs, the Court of Appeal President, a member designated by the Bar Association and one designated by the Ministry of Justice. The Committee is meant to make relevant recommendations and prepare semi-annual reports to assist the government in both legislative and justice sector reform. The Committee's mandate is set to correspond with the mandate of the 6th Constitutional Government.

Although Ba Distrito had a productive discussion with Minister of Justice Dr. Ivo Valente and Coordinating Minister State Administration and Justice Affairs Dr. Dionisio Soares Babo regarding the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in the previous quarter, during this quarter the project was advised by the cabinet chief of the Ministry of Justice that the signing of agreements with aid programs, including the MOU with our project, will be postponed pending establishment of the Legislative and Justice Sector Reform- whose tasks

include, but are not limited to, creating synergies between both legislative work and activities of the aid projects in line with the government priorities. Although a government resolution for the establishment of the committee was passed by the Council of Ministers, the project was informed at the writing of this report that the actual establishment of the committee is still underway.

During this quarter, the government also passed Decree Law No. 20/2015 on judicial holidays. Under this Decree Law, the courts' annual recess ran from August 1 to September 15. Many of the judges took the opportunity to participate in continuing legal education trainings provided by Ba Distrito and the US Embassy.

Other developments in the justice sector in this quarter include the introduction of the draft Bar Association Law to the National Parliament for discussion and revision by Committee A prior to plenary discussion. Ba Distrito's legal aid partners made a submission to the draft law highlighting the importance of establishing a reasonable pro-bono legal aid requirement for private sector lawyers.

III. ANALYSIS

The project's Component B made slow progress against the overall activities in Year 2's work plan. Lack of interest by the Government in undertaking public consultations on draft legislation continued, with the Minister of State Administration clearly turning down an offer to support consultation on the draft suco law in a meeting this quarter. The government's priority remains on information dissemination rather than consultation, making it difficult for the project to make a meaningful contribution to the legislative process through public consultation.

Similarly, while the project continues to engage in existing working groups and platforms relating to decentralization and elections in Timor-Leste and to respond to requests for technical assistance, the project has been consistently advised by the Government not to create additional working groups as a sufficient number are already in existence.

On the flip side, Component B made significant progress towards information dissemination about the decentralization process through its Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants. During this quarter, the project kicked off a comprehensive radio program on decentralization, devolution of power/ZEESM and the role of the suco council in Ba Distrito target municipalities and RAEOA. Under this grant, a series of public services announcements, talk shows and community voices and opinions on decentralization are broadcasted each month on the community radio stations in each municipality and RAEOA.

A second in-kind grant is in the process of being awarded to Belun. In previous months, a documentary filmmaking company was selected to develop five short films documenting best practices in community consultation and service delivery at the suco level in each of the

municipalities where the project operates, including RAEOA. During this quarter, the final cut of the documentaries was made. The films will be launched next quarter, broadcasted on national television, aired at the project's suco expositions and then officially handed over to our national partner Belun to be used for the technical support they are providing to suco councils through the Ba Distrito project.

During this quarter, the advancement of activities under Component E continued to be on hold at the request of the AOR. At the request of USAID, the project has been revising the work plan to reflect the current changes to the electoral timeline for the suco election that is now postponed from October 2015 up to October 2016. The project will wait to kick off Component E activities until the AOR indicates we should move ahead. In the meantime, the project has continued to liaise with potential Component E grantees and partners to allow for a smooth start up once the go-ahead is received.

On the justice side, steady progress continues to be made towards the timely achievement of activities set out in the workplan. During this quarter, the project's AOR approved a Request For Application (RFA) for legal aid activities in Covalima. Supporting legal aid services in Covalima will complement the training to the suco council on access to justice and women's rights, and the broadcast of radio public service announcements (PSAs) on justice topics already underway in that municipality. A similar package of activities is already underway in Baucau, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse and together these activities should be contributing not only to better access to legal aid service provision at the grass roots level as well as increased legal literacy.

During this quarter, implementing partner JSMP continued to roll out its training on access to justice and women's rights for suco council members. The suco chief, women's representative and lia nain (traditional conflict resolution elder) from each suco were invited to participate. The three day long training continued to progress smoothly and is expected to conclude in early Fiscal Year Three.

The implementation of the project's activities aimed at strengthening court functionality also paced up this quarter. After the completion of the court administration and judicial statistics training in the last quarter, the project, working in close consultation with Court of Appeal's team, finalized a PACT implementation plan for improved judicial statistics. The seven PACTs have been identified to support 5 key recommendations to improve judicial statistical collection and analysis was finalized and signed by the Court of Appeal's team president and the project's COP this quarter. An important first step to implementing PACT improvements for court statistics is to train judicial and IT officers from the trial courts on advanced Excel training which will take place early in the next quarter. Coordinating closely with the Court of Appeal's team, Ba Distrito also delivered training to judges on court management, administration, and leadership. A PACT and implementation plan for improved court access will be developed and presented to the Court of Appeal team in the first quarter of Year Three.

Similar to the Courts, the Project has continuously maintained a strong relationship with the Ministry of Justice including its relevant directorates such as National Directorate for Judicial Advisory and Legislation (DNAJL), National Directorate for Human Rights and Citizenship (DNDHC) and the Legal Training Center (LTC). The Project continues to support the Ministry's research survey into the effectiveness of its legal education outreach during this quarter with research analysis and report writing and coordinate with the LTC on trainings provided to the judicial personnel.

IV. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Media and Communications

During this reporting period, information about the project's activities received strong, positive broadcast coverage at national and municipal level through national television and radio and local level community radio. The project's activities also received strong positive coverage through national print media, including independent newspapers, online newspapers, Facebook pages, and an electronic listserv that distributes information about Timor-Leste, and which has approximately 3,500 national and international subscribers.

Facebook: Ba Distrito project's key milestones and events are recorded on the Ba Distrito Facebook page, in English and Tetum. The page provides up-to-date information about the project's activities as they happen – with photos – including minor activities which may not warrant more dedicated media coverage (e.g. implementation of an activity that will take place multiple times, such as Suco Exchanges). The Project also shares the Facebook updates of USAID/Timor-Leste, partner organizations and GoTL Ministries. Similarly, government and partner organizations share Ba Distrito's Facebook updates, including USAID/Timor-Leste and the US Embassy Timor-Leste.

From the date it was launched until the end of this reporting period, the Ba Distrito Facebook page has attracted 1,973 page likes, a 6.87% increase from 1,846 people at the end of the May - June quarter. Of the 1,973 people who like the Ba Distrito Timor-Leste Facebook page, 1,542 people are located in Timor-Leste, 41% are women, and the largest demographic of fans are between the ages of 25 – 34, with 47% of page readers aged in this bracket (male and female).

During this quarter, the following Ba Distrito activities were covered on Facebook:

- USAID Head of Mission's visit to observe Suco Council Training on *Access to Justice and Women's Rights* at the administrative post of Railaco
- Launch of Legal Aid PSAs, which took place during a legal education outreach session conducted by LIBERTA, in Liquiça
- Workshop with officers from the Ministry of Justice on analysis of qualitative research
- Case management training for Legal Aid partners

- Signing of an Action Plan with the District Tribunal working group for Ba Distrito to deliver training on case management and data collection
- Live update during set up of the first Suco-Municipal Forum in Liquiça
- Live update during the presentation of Sra. Ana Rosalia, a women’s representative in a village council, during her presentation to line ministry representatives from the Administrative Post of Liquiça
- Wrap-up of the first Suco-Municipal Forum in Liquiça including photos from the day
- Update about Ba Distrito’s participation in the Secretary of State for Vocational Training, Policy and Employment’s Careers Day in Oecusse
- Audio link to SoundCloud website with news about Ba Distrito Suco-Municipal Forum in Liquiça
- Shared JSMP’s post about Access to Justice and Women’s Rights training in Oecusse
- Shared Belun’s post about the commencement of training in the third module – “Community Consultation”
- Post about the request for application, in English and Tetum, for a legal aid partner in Covalima
- Shared Belun’s post about suco training in Atsabe, Ermera
- Commencement of training on “Community Consultation” in Ermera, Liquiça and RAEOA
- Update about training for Legal Aid partners on how to create a Facebook page for their organization
- Update about training at Tibar for Timor-Leste judges, which was delivered by Ba Distrito
- Shared Counterpart International’s post featuring a blog post about Ba Distrito on the Counterpart webpage
- Posted an update about JSMP’s training in Ermera
- Audio post from SoundCloud website with news clip about the Judges training in Baucau
- Shared Belun’s post about Community Consultation training in Baucau
- Post about Suco Exchange in Liquiça
- Live update from JPC in Baucau, where Ba Distrito was conducting an organizational development assessment
- Post about the American Deputy Ambassador’s visit to the Ba Distrito office
- Post about monitoring JPC’s Legal Education activities in Baucau

MEDIA ACTIVITY

Launch of the Legal Aid Radio Drama/Public Service Announcements: On June 30, Ba Distrito partner LIBERTA, with assistance from the, launched a series of six (6) public service announcements (PSAs) in the form of radio drama, about legal issues. The event was attended by three radio journalists – 2 from Radio Akademika (UNTL) (2 x female) and 1 from Community Radio Tokodede Liquiça (1 x male). The Station Manager from Community Radio Tokodede, Mr. Eduardo Exposto, took part in the launch event, and during his speech he emphasized the role of community radio in broadcasting important information about legal education to the public,

especially in Liquiça. While this activity took place in the last reporting period, the project received media coverage about the event in July, in *Jornal Independente* on July 3, and in the *Timor Post* on July 6. The event was also covered on Radio Tokodede and Radio Akademika on June 30 and July 1.

Case Management Training for Legal Aid Partners: From 13 – 15 July, the Ba Distrito access to justice team facilitated case management training for private lawyers at the Legal Training Center in Dili. The communications team distributed a press release and photos at the conclusion of the training, and the event received coverage in two newspapers – *Jornal Independente*, and *Timor Post*.

Suco Municipal Forum in Liquiça: On 29 – 20 July, Ba Distrito hosted the first Suco-Municipal Forum in Liquiça. The Director of the Office of General Development from USAID, Ms Lisa Whitley, also attended the event. The communications team from Ba Distrito invited four journalists to attend the event – 2 x TV-Education (1 x male, 1 x female), 1 x Radio Akademika (1 x female), and 1 x Community Radio Tokodede, Liquiça, who attended and reported on the event on both days (1 x male). The Ba Distrito communications team also distributed a press release to press who did not attend. News about the event was published in *Jornal Independente* on August 3, and *Timor Post* on August 4. The Ba Distrito communications team also distributed an audio news clip to the following community radio stations for broadcast: Cova Taroman – Covalima, Atoni Lifau – Oecusse, Lian Matebian – Baucau.

Monitoring of Training and Media Briefing in Covalima: The Ba Distrito communications team worked with the new Ba Distrito Coordinator in Covalima to facilitate coverage of implementing partner JSMP’s training on *Access to Justice and Women’s Rights*, in the suco of Zulo, administrative post of Zumalai. A *Timor Post* correspondent journalist who is based in Covalima (1 x male) and a journalist from Community Radio Cova Taroman (1 x male) attended the event. The event was covered in the “Districts” section in *Timor Post* on September 1, and news was broadcast on community radio.

Training for Timor-Leste Judges: From September 8 – 11, Ba Distrito delivered training to Timor’s Judges and intern Judges at Tibar Beach Resort. The training, about leadership and management, was delivered by visiting retired Superior Court Judge from the State of California in the USA, the Hon. Harlan Grossmann. The Ba Distrito communications team organized the following media outlets to attend the opening of the training.

- RTL – 1 x female
- TVTL – 1 x female, 1 x male
- *Timor Post* – 1 x male (first day), 1 x female (final day)
- *Independente* – 1 x male
- TV-Education – 1 x male
- *Jornal Nacional Diario* – 1 x male (first day and final day)
- Radio Akademika (UNTL) – 1 x female

The event was covered in covered in four newspapers: Jornal Independente on September 9, Timor Post on September 9, Timor Post on September 12, and Jornal Diario Nacional on September 12. It was also covered on the national news on TVTL on both the Tetun and Portuguese news, and was covered in the daily news on RTL.

Timor Post Feature Series: During this period, Timor Post provided the project with the opportunity to provide feature articles about the project and partner's activities in the Sunday edition of the paper (which is distributed with the Monday edition). On July 26, a full page feature was published about the project's access to justice activities. On August 2, a full page feature was published about the project's suco council advocacy and training. On August 9, a full page feature was published about governance and the project's work to support the government of Timor-Leste's plans for decentralization through public consultation and outreach activities. On August 16, a half page feature was published about the activities and success stories from Ba Distrito's implementing partner in Oecusse, Fundasaun Fatuk Sinai Oecusse (FFSO).

News coverage can be listened to and read on Counterpart's Knowledge Management Portal: https://mande.counterpart.org/portal/_layouts/missite/Outreach/List.aspx

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening

The goal of the activities under Component A is to enhance the capacity of sucos to strengthen citizen participation and representation in local governance.

A.1 Engage and Evaluate Capacity of Participating Sucos. The team did an evaluation of the activeness, level of interest and participation of 100 sucos based on their attendance, communication and coordination with Ba Distrito team and its activities, such as technical assistance and suco council training. The team confirmed two sucos in Baucau (Bucoli in Baucau Villa and Samalari in Baguia Administrative Post), one suco in Ermera (Goulolo in Letefoho Administrative Post) and one suco in Covalima (Taroman, Fatululic Administrative Post) were inactive, as they showed little interest and participation. On the other hand, two sucos in Liquiça that were not part of the original sucos selected to participate in the project have demonstrated their interest in participating by voluntarily attending Ba Distrito activities. The team, including Belun, decided to replace four inactive sucos with suco Açumano and Hatuquessi in Liquiça, and Catrai Leten and Riheu in Ermera. The Liquiça and Ermera Coordinators completed an initial assessment of the four new sucos during this reporting period. The Organizational Development rapid assessment will be conducted during first quarter of Fiscal Year 2016.

A.2 Review, Update and Create Local Governance Strengthening Tools and Resources. During this reporting period the Ba Distrito team, with support from Counterpart's STTA Laura Ogden, produced the facilitator's and participant's manual for Community Consultation. The manual

was used for the suco council training that took place during this reporting period. The STTA also continued to finalize the upcoming training module on Conflict Resolution. The draft version of this module was reviewed by UN Women during the previous quarter to ensure female inclusiveness in conflict resolution processes. It was also reviewed and approved by former DNDCAS Director Sebastiao Pereira.

At the municipal level, the Coordinators presented the Community Consultation manual and the schedule of the suco council training to the Municipal Administrators in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera and Liquiça and the Regional Secretary for Administration, Mr. Francisco Marques in RAEOA, all of whom were positive about the training. The Regional Secretary for Administration in RAEOA was interested in learning more about Ba Distrito's activities including the suco council training, technical assistance, the modules, Organizational Development tools for suco councils, and team approaches, and seemed interested in the idea of perhaps incorporating them into the administration's approach in RAEOA. The Regional Secretary also informed Ba Distrito team about his activity schedule in August to visit 18 sucos throughout the region. The visit of 18 sucos was organized by seven (7) Secretaries of Region within RAEOA Authority in order to inform the sucos about their program activity and introduce RAEOA Authority structure and its officials in charge.

On the national level, although the team met with the new Minister of State Administration, during this quarter, it did not manage to meet the newly named Director in charge of the National Directorate for Suco Administration and Support (DNAAS) (formerly known as DNDCAS) to introduce the Ba Distrito project and its team. This is a priority for the next quarter.

The finalization of the remaining training modules continues to be delayed because of the uncertain policy with regards to Suco Law. The training modules are written to capture what each participating suco council member's legislated responsibilities are in relation to the training topic. Therefore, finalization of each training module will be delayed until just before the training module is needed, or until a new law has been passed. Modules that have been delivered to date reflect roles and responsibilities as legislated in Law No. 3/2009 on Community Leaders and Their Election.

A.3 Design and Deliver Capacity Development Assistance to Suco Councils and Associations.

The team and Belun plan to conduct a follow-up assessment of the capacity of the 100 participating suco councils during the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2016. The assessment was completed when each suco joined the project. The FY16 assessment will re-evaluate the organizational capacity of 100 targeted sucos to assess their organization development progress.

On August 6 and 7, Ba Distrito facilitated training of trainers (ToT) for two Belun trainers and five Belun Coordinators, as well as five Ba Distrito Coordinators to increase their facilitation skills and good understanding of the suco council training module on Community Consultation.

Belun trainers were assisted by Ba Distrito's organizational development team to become familiar with the content of the module and training tools, to discuss particular sessions, to prepare training resources and tools to be used in the suco level trainings, and to develop session plans for the upcoming suco level training. Particular support was provided to individual trainers to improve their facilitation skills, according to their needs.

The team also prioritized the improvement of the Belun trainers' facilitation skills in order to promote active women's participation and inclusion of people with low literacy skills in the training sessions. All Coordinators were also supported to better understand the technical content of the training module to allow them to co-facilitate the training when necessary, support group discussions, and provide higher quality technical follow-up for suco councils after the training.

Technical Assistance/Mentoring/Regular Site Visit to Sucos: During this reporting period, Belun and Ba Distrito Coordinators provided technical assistance to sucos to continue developing their action and learning plans, and to develop a suco contact list. This follow up is directly related to action points and skills arising from the Leadership and Communication training completed last quarter. The Coordinators also provided technical support for developing Constituent Engagement Grants (CEGs) applications, Suco Exchange Visits and Suco Expo preparation. Please see Annex 1 for a summary of technical assistance provided this quarter to sucos.

The Ba Distrito Coordinators reported similar challenges to providing follow up technical support in Covalima and Baucau. The suco chiefs reported that because of other priorities within their communities such as on administrative issues and conflict/legal cases, they delegated other suco council members to implement the action points arising from the training. In the Coordinators' experience, the majority of the suco councils needed to be reminded and regularly assisted and monitored.

In Oecusse however, since the establishment of RAEOA Authority, the 18 sucos are required to submit monthly work plans supported by meeting minutes in order to receive their operational funds and incentive. This is supervised closely by the Regional Secretary for Administration. This mechanism has encouraged the 18 sucos to continue practicing the technical assistance facilitated by Ba Distrito Coordinators, e.g. maintaining filing/documentation systems, producing meeting report/minutes, using effective communication and coordination skills to coordinate with various Government officials, creating work plans, and dividing roles and responsibilities among suco council members.

Training on Community Consultation: On August 17 Belun launched its second training for FY15 – Community Consultation – in Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse, followed by Baucau and Covalima on September 7. Ba Distrito's organizational development team assisted the first two days of training to ensure the objectives, methods and approaches used by Belun trainers were

of a high quality, and also supported them to address any issues noted. Twenty (20) sucos in Baucau, 17 sucos in Covalima, 18 sucos in Ermera, 21 sucos in Liquiça and 15 sucos in Oecusse attended the full two-days training. Suco Nipani, Oecusse did not attend the training as the suco had just received materials for the construction of houses for people who have been displaced by infrastructure development. Two sucos in Passabe – Abani and Malelat – failed to participate, reportedly due to the distance from the sucos to Oesilo Administration Post where the training was held. The project will look for ways to address this issue for future trainings.

The team used the first two day training in Liquiça as a pilot. They noticed that the participants were having difficulty understanding a few of the examples in the training manual, so the team worked with the trainers to find a simple way to explain the concepts in Tetum. This was then incorporated into the future training session. The organizational development team also provided on-the-spot feedback to the Belun’s trainers and Coordinators to help maximize the participation of the participants and to monitor the attendance of non-target participants. Ba Distrito’s Coordinators continued their role of monitoring the training, and provided technical assistance to ensure a better quality of training.

The Community Consultation training aimed to reinforce to suco council members the importance of inclusive consultations about suco development, that involve women, youth, people with disability, and people with low levels of literacy. It also aimed to provide sufficient technical knowledge to suco council members to enable them to effectively manage community consultation by encouraging the active participation of all participants, as well as the active listening by the suco council members, to the different ideas and opinions raised by the suco’s community members. A guideline for effective public speaking skills was also provided and the community consultation training module was linked to the suco councils’ legislated roles and responsibilities under Law 3/2009.

Responding to the language challenges in Oecusse, Belun’s Program Manager facilitated the training in Tetum with full support from the two Baikeno speaking Oecusse Coordinators from Ba Distrito and Belun, who translated into Baikeno and co-facilitated the session. In an effort to streamline resources, a decision was made to incorporate suco Abani and Malelat into a training at Oesilo training post, who were previously trained in a different place. Unfortunately, Abani and Malelat did not attend the training, reportedly due to the distance. In order to address this challenge the project will try to continue to combine the trainings but to host the training in a location closer to these two sucos.

Similar to previous trainings, in order to promote coordination and encourage government ownership and participation in the process, the project invited the Municipal Administrator and the Regional Secretary for Administration in RAEOA to launch, observe and participate in the training. The DNAAS Focal Points in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, and Liquiça were also invited. The training schedule was shared with the Post Administrators. Despite these attempts at coordination, the project was not able to secure the participation of government

representatives in the training. In Oecusse, the training overlapped with suco level visits by the Regional Secretary so he was unavailable. In the remaining municipalities the job descriptions of the DNAAS Focal Points do not clearly include supporting sucos and assisting them with their financial and administration management and monthly reports. Ba Distrito has attempted to approach and engage the Focal Points around this issue but has not gained traction. This will be discussed with new DNAAS leadership in a meeting next quarter, and the project will seek ways to strengthen collaboration with the DNAAS Focal Points.

A detailed breakdown of the participants in the Community Consultation training can be found in the table below:

Municipality	Suco Chief	Women Rep	Youth	PAAS	Aldeia Chief	Lian Nain	Ansiaun / Elder	Other	TOTAL
Baucau	11	27	24	2	1	1	0	10	76
Covalima	8	25	17	4	3	0	0	1	58
Ermera	6	23	23	9	13	3	3	9	89
Liquiça	8	27	28	6	12	2	1	1	85
Oecusse	8	23	18	8	4	0	0	0	61
Total	41	125	110	29	33	6	4	21	369

Participation rate in the training was 73.8% of the targeted number overall. Of the 100 suco chiefs targeted, only 41 participated in the training (41% of target). Of the 200 women targeted, 125 participated (62.5% of targeted participants). Of the 200 youth targeted, 110 participated (55% of targeted participants). 18.6% of the training participants were not from the project's target group. These numbers indicate that the suco chief continued to delegate his/her participation to the PAAS, lia nain, aldeia chief and ansiaun (elder), and university students who are not target of the training. The project will attempt to improve the participation rate by following up formal invitations to training with direct phone calls to the targeted participants to encourage their participation.

Training on Women's Rights and Access to Justice: During this reporting period JSMP continued to provide training to suco council members on Access to Justice and Women's Rights. The detailed discussion of the results of this training can be found under C.2 below.

A.4 Increase Capacity to Respond to Citizen Needs. During this reporting period the organizational development team continued to distribute Requests for Applications (RFA) for Constituent Engagement Grants (CEGs) and support non-applicant sucos/CBOs or unselected

sucos/CBOs from the first round to submit their applications. Twenty-three (23) proposals from the 33 initial applications were selected and are in the process of being awarded.

During this reporting period the team received six new proposals from Covalima, four proposals from Liquiça, four proposals from Baucau, and two from Oecusse. As of today, the total number proposals received during the second round are 16. The project expects to receive additional proposals between now and December 2015.

A.5 Facilitate Networking, Exchange Visits and Joint Action among Sucos. During this reporting period the project facilitated three suco exchanges; one in Covalima and two in Liquiça. The suco exchange visits during this quarter focused on successful suco role models in five key functionality areas of public service: Leadership and Strategic Management; Programming and Quality Control particularly on Monitoring and Evaluation of project implementation and maintenance; External Relations/Communication; Administration; and Financial Sustainability



Suco Exchange visit in Fahilebo, Liquiça

On July 24, suco Darulete in Liquiça hosted a suco exchange to share their experiences, lessons learned, and best practices relating to suco council and PNTL community policing with sucos from Lukulai, Leotela, and Loidahar. From the suco exchange, suco Lukulai has learned to establish Community Policing Council composed of Suco Chief, PNTL and community members, as well as the challenges faced by suco Darulete and Leotela. Both sucos stated that they were doubtful with the

sustainability of the Council because there are no funds available for the Council to do their roles and functions. They also reflected that the roles of the Council are overlapping with the roles of suco council in addressing a conflict among community members. On September 15, suco Fahilebo, Liquiça hosted Leorema, Fatumasi, and Metagou on to share their experiences in relation to a community based saving and loan scheme. After attending and learning from suco Fahilebo, suco Fatumasi has taken initiative to start establishing a Community Based Saving and Local Scheme in their village with technical assistance from Counterpart's coordinator. They would propose CEG to fund it and invite suco chief from Fahilebo to assist the process. While suco Leorema has similar ideas, but they have not yet followed-up.

On September 3, suco Maudema in Covalima hosted and shared their experience on the establishment of clean water supply and management using local materials to suco Besseuc, Casabauc, from Tilomar, Administrative post and Oges, Maucatar Administrative Post. Suco Besseuc's chief stated that he would try to establish water supply and management for eight (8) families, which have limited water supply during the dry season, which is possible because the distance between the water resource and the eight (8) families is about 500 meters. Suco chiefs from Oges and Casabauc states stated that suco Maudemo has inspired them to use bamboo to distribute water to a group of community in their sucos. They also suggested to Ba Distrito project to organize more suco exchanges among suco neighborhoods to learn from each other and identify common concerns and problems, and to find solution with other sucos. Three (4) participating sucos also acknowledged strong leadership from female suco chief of Maudemo, who used good approaches, successfully identified suco's natural resource and used it, invited women and youth to participate in the establishment of water supply and management, as well as ownership among the community towards the project.

Women's participation and youth representation in the three suco exchange visits met the targets as set out in the work plan FY15. The table below summarizes the participation:

Municipality/Region	Theme to Share	Suco Role Model	Suco Participant	Total Individual Participants			
				Suco Chief	Women Reps	Youth	Other
Covalima	Establishment of clean water supply using local materials	Maudemo (Tilomar)	Besseuc, Casabauc, Oges (Maucatar)	1 (F), 2 (M)	4	3 (2F, 1M)	-
Liquiça	Suco Councils and Community Policing	Darulete (Maubara)	Maubara Lissa, Vatuvou, Guguleur (Maubara)	2 (M)	3	4 (2F, 2M)	2 PAAS (M), 4 Aldeia Chiefs (M), 1 lian nain (M), 1 ansiaun (M)
	Community based Saving and Loan Scheme (UBSP)	Fahilebo	Leorema, Metagou, Fatumasi	2 (M)	4	3 (1F, 2M)	1 lian nain (M), 2 others (1M, 1F)
Total participants				7 (1F, 6M)	11	10 (5M, 5F)	2 PAAS (M); 4 Hamlet Chief (M); 2 lian nain (M); 1 ansiaun, 2 others (1M, 1F)

Suco Expo. During this reporting period, preparations continued towards the first suco exposition in each municipality and RAEOA. The project will facilitate two expos in each municipality/RAEOA over the course of the project. The first was planned to take place during this quarter but due to a full program calendar has been postponed until early in FY16, with the

first one taking place in Oecusse. The theme for the Suco Expo is Come Celebrate Our Sucos' Successes. The Oecusse expo will also hold a speech competition among youth from eight (8) non-participant sucos and four (4) senior high schools, dialogues between sucos and the RAEOA Authority on how the new structure of RAEOA will support sustainability of their success and how sucos will be managed by new Authority, the launch of the Ba Distrito documentary film on the Suco Health Development Plan from Bobometo suco and presentation of suco success stories and its process to achieve the success.

During this quarter preparations continued for this event. In Ermera 12 sucos were evaluated for potential selection to present at the upcoming Ermera suco expo in FY16. The following is a summary of the sucos assessed:

Municipality/ Region	Suco	Suco Success to be Presented
Ermera	Poetete, Ermera Villa	Administration Suco; Archiving/Filing system.
	Estado, Ermera Villa	Clean Water Distribution System.
	Riheu, Ermera Villa	Suco Plan on Health Sector.
	Talimoro, Ermera Villa & Haupu, Letefoho	Natural disaster emergency response.
	Lauala, Ermera Villa	Bridge reconstruction.
	Eraulo, Letefoho	Community housing reconstruction supported by community fund.
	Lauana, Letefoho	Winner of Suco Saudavel 2015 facilitated by the Office of President of Republic.
	Railaco Leten, Railaco	Result of Suco-Municipal Forum organized by Ba Distrito Project: clean water installation.
	Lihu, Railaco	Women's group on local product.
	Fatuquero, Railaco	MDG housing for poor community members.

A.6 Improve Suco and District Collaboration for Better Service Delivery.

The Suco-Municipal Network Forum: The target in the workplan was to accomplish 3 suco-municipal forums in each municipality and region over the course of the year. During this quarter 3 Suco-Municipal Forums took place; 1 in Liquiça, 1 in Ermera, and 1 in Baucau. No forums took place in Covalima or Oecusse this quarter however one did take place previously in Oecusse. Competing activities at the municipal level and lack of availability of government officials to participate in the activities contributed to the slower implementation. However the success of the initial event from both the perspective of the suco participants and the municipal officials will hopefully help to build greater buy-in during the upcoming fiscal year.

On July 29-30 the project with support from Belun conducted a two-day Suco-Municipal Network Forum in both Ermera and Liquiça. A subsequent Forum took place in Baucau on September 1 and September 2. Similar to the first Suco-Municipal Network Forum in Pante Makassar, Oecusse which took place during the previous quarter, the Municipal Coordinators

held meetings with the Municipal Administrators and line ministries based at the municipal level to brief them about the objectives of the forum and invite them to participate.



Suco Municipal Forum in Baucau

During the first day of the Forum, the project facilitated sucos to discuss challenges faced at suco level in the health, education, land and property, water and sanitation and agriculture sectors. These sectors were selected based on a priority needs assessment done by the Municipals Coordinator.

On the first day the project facilitated the sucos to develop a strategy to address the challenges faced. The second day, representatives from the relevant authorities at the municipal level attended to hear the sucos' challenges and discuss their proposals and strategy for potential solutions. The second day represented an opportunity for the suco councils to advocate to the municipal level authorities about their needs.

In Liquiça, the Forum was attended by nine (9) suco chiefs (male), six (6) women representatives, five (5) youth representatives (3 female, 2 male), two (2) PAAS and Government officials from the Directorate of Water and Sanitation, the Deputy Director of Health Alberto Conceicao, the Director of Education Laurentino de Jesus Lopes, and the Chief of Department of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). In Ermera 13 suco chiefs (one female, 12 male), seven (7) women representatives, seven (7) youth representatives (4 female, 3 female) and four (4) PAAS; the Director of Education Joaquim Martins Babo, the Director of Water and Sanitation Tomas de Deus, the Director of Land and Property Afonso de Deus and the Chief of Human Resources of the Directorate of Health Clementino Soares Martins attended the event. The Baucau Forum was attended by 16 suco chiefs (4 female, 12 male), 11 women representatives, 3 youth representatives (3 male), five (5) PAAS; the Director of Water and Sanitation Vicente Freitas, the Director of MAFF Martinho Ximenes, the Director of Education Augusto Ornai and the Director of Land and Property Bernardino Correia.

Similar to the Forum in Oecusse, the project's facilitators aimed to create an opportunity for interactive and open discussion between officials and suco chiefs. Previously in Oecusse land

and property was the most debated issue while the most debated issue in Liquiça and Baucau was the agriculture sector and with water and sanitation topping the list in Ermera. The following table summarizes the outcome of each of the events this quarter:

Municipality	Main Challenges/Sector	Strategy Proposed by Suco Council	Line Ministries Representatives	Response from Government Representatives
Baucau	Agriculture: there is no water irrigation, limited tractor, there is no seeds stock available or it is just late to distribute it. (Concern from suco Uaigae, Triloka, Gari-wai, Macalaco, Uma Ana-ulo, Sagadati, Soba)	Proposal writing to get enough tractor and seed; establishment of integrated irrigation.	Director Martinho Ximenes	The plan is to distribute the seeds from Seeds of Life. Association ANAPROFIKO will prepare 20 tons of corn seeds and 30 tons of rice seeds. Government needs 200 more tractors, procurement processes are slow and must use tenderization processes.
Ermera	Water & Sanitation: Access to water limited due to broken pipeline (Concern from Railaco Leten, Catrai Leten)	Submit proposal to SAS and community is ready to work voluntary to fix the pipe.	Director Tomas de Deus	Director Tomas de Deus indicated he would deliver the pipe. Pipe was delivered and community has access to water now.
Liquiça	Agriculture: Lack of support and attendance of MAFF Field Technical Staff	Suco councils are ready to improve line communication with MAFF	Director Victor de Conceicao	Director will improve internal management within MAFF to manage and supervise Field Technical Staff, possibly to add more staff to particular sucos.

A notable success story came out of the Suco-Municipal Forum in Ermera. The female Suco Chief of Railaco Leten used the opportunity to raise concerns her community had about lack of access to water with Director of Water and Sanitation. It had reportedly been raised previously through other channels without success. At the Forum the Director promised to send his team to fix and install new pipeline in the suco shortly after the Forum this was achieved. Now the community in suco Railaco Leten has better access to clean water and sanitation.

The first Forum will take place during the next quarter in Covalima and planning is already underway for the next round of Suco Municipal Forums which will focus on issues of coordination, and complaints mechanism that are available to suco councils.

Organizational Development for Implementing Partners: Additionally, the Ba Distrito team continued to support the organizational capacity development of its national NGO partners Belun, FFSO, JSMP, Liberta and the Justice and Peace Commission (JPC) in Baucau. The

Organizational Assessment for Liberta was conducted by the project on June 26, and during this quarter the project team produced a score list, findings and recommendations. The assessment team found Liberta needs technical assistance on establishing an advisory board, organizational regulation for staff and board members, organizational strategic plan, media report tracking mechanism and monitoring and evaluation system. In addition, the assessment for JPC was completed during this reporting period and the score list, findings and recommendations were finalized. The initial recommendation for JPC is to provide technical assistance in order to strengthen financial management and their monitoring and evaluation system and skills. Both organizations, JSMP and Belun, in the next quarter will produce organizational development action plans to identify and prioritize technical assistance supported by the Ba Distrito team. The team also will meet with FFSO to reflect on achievements from the previous action plan and next priorities for technical assistance.

The project continued to work to support the financial sustainability of partner FFSO. Oxfam has been identified as a potential partner for FFSO on land advocacy issues. On July 29-30 FFSO was invited by Oxfam in Dili to participate in the program development and work plan on its land advocacy program. The project's Oecusse Coordinator continued to support FFSO to explore this possibility. On financial capacity building matters, the Grants Manager in coordination with the organizational development team regularly provided technical financial reporting assistance to Belun, FFSO, JSMP, Liberta and JPC. In addition Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist regularly in coordination with Organizational Development Manager continued to guide and supervise the quality and achievement of Belun and other partners according to their scope of work and requirements to compete thorough monitoring and analysis of data.

On September 17, the organizational development team met JSMP's Vice Director Casimiro dos Santos to set up schedule for Organizational Development Action Plan.

Stakeholder Coordination: During this reporting period, the project continued to strengthen our partnership with government institutions and administrations at the national, municipal and post-administration level. Since the change in the Organic Structure of the Ministry of State Administration, the project is working to build relationships with new officials working on areas relevant to the project. Belun and Counterpart's Coordinators regularly update Municipal Administrators on overall future activity, suco council training modules and Suco-Municipal Network Forum. Line ministries from various sectors, such as water and sanitation, education, infrastructure, land and property, health and agriculture in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera and Liquiça have better knowledge about the project through coordination resulting from the Suco Municipal Forums and other activities.

In Oecusse on July 23-24 SEPFOPÉ invited the project to participate in the Professional Career Expo. It targeted grade 3 of Senior High School Students. At the expo, the project team presented the project's activities to the public and high level officials including the President of

RAEOA Mari Alkatiri, seven (7) Regional Secretaries, Secretary of State SEPFOPE and the Director of Regions for various issues, which are all a part of RAEOA Authority.

To promote uptake by the RAEOA authority, the project also presented two (2) suco council training modules on Leadership and Communication, Community Consultation and Organizational Development Assessment tools to the Regional Secretary for Administration who has the responsibility for managing the 18 sucos in Oecusse. The Regional Secretary was interested in the trainings and thought them useful for suco councils. To facilitate coordination the project also regularly updated municipal/regional level authorities and post administration authorities about upcoming activity schedules.

Component B – Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions

The goal of the activities under Component B is to improve communication and links between the sucos, the district administration, local Government of Timor-Leste (GoTL), line ministries and other basic service providers at the subnational level. A detailed discussion of developments affecting decentralization is found in section II on the Political Context, above.

On August 19, Ba Distrito's new Governance Officer Ms. Elsa Pinto started her duty replacing Mr. Felix da Silva. For the first and second week of working, she attended the induction from all team of the project.

B.1 Solicit and Present Research on Citizens' Opinion on Decentralization Policy and Practices.

On September 8, Ba Distrito governance team held a meeting with Mr. Edio Guterres, Liaison Officer for Civil Society Affairs & Interim Coordinator for Social Audit Unit and the team at the Office of Prime Minister in Dili. The meeting followed up on the request by the Office of the Prime Minister to Ba Distrito to support the initiative of the PM Rui Araujo for Social Audit. The objectives of Social Audit is to create a space for the community to share their feedback related to the implementation of government's programs in four focus main areas namely education, health, agriculture and basic infrastructure. The project intends to support CSOs to participate in the social audit of service delivery programs through the Decentralization, Research and Advocacy Grants in FY16.

Municipal level consultations aimed at gaining the input from suco chiefs, women and youth representatives, and the broader community of stakeholders at the municipal level on changes to the government's decentralization policy were initially planned to be conducted during this quarter in Ba Distrito target municipalities and RAEOA. The plan however, was postponed after H.E Minister Dionisio Babo Soares rejected the idea of a public consultation and instead requested that the resources be used to disseminate information about changes to the suco law after it is passed by National Parliament and promulgated by the President. The Minister's goal is to promote a greater understanding amongst the population about what the new laws mean and how they can use them to maximize their participation in local governance. The

consultation in RAEOA was also postponed to await signature of the project's MOU with RAOEA and to coordinate around upcoming celebrations around the 500th anniversary of the landing of the Portuguese in Lifau, Oecusse.

The project intends to support RAEOA to hold one municipal-level consultation on the new structure of RAEOA/ZEESM in Oecusse and to seek citizens' inputs on its implementation. The consultation will involve members of RAEOA, civil society organizations, and suco council members including the suco chief and a council member of the opposite gender of the suco chief. It will help to set a platform for meaningful engagement on any recommendations arising from the discussion, and will be compiled and shared with the administration.

The project will continue to explore ways to solicit citizens' opinions on decentralization policy in a meaningful way, even if the government is not supportive of direct consultations on draft laws and policies.

Participation in Policy/Legislative Working Groups Related to Decentralization: On September 4, the Governance Officer participated in the "100% Hau Pronto" Steering Committee meeting hosted by NGOs Women's Caucus and Fundação Patria. The meeting was attended by 19 Steering Committee members from Women's Caucus, Fundação Patria, Rede Feto, UN Women, PyD, MOFFETL, Alola Foundation and Counterpart. The meeting discussed two main agenda items which were: 1) presentation and discussion of the draft Suco Law that was approved by the Council of Ministers on July 21; and 2) development of strategy for advocacy and to highlight any possible issues regarding representation of women.

The Steering Committee identified the need to analyze the impact of the draft law on women considering how their needs should be a fundamental principle entrenched in all local initiatives including service delivery in the draft law. During the meeting the Steering Committee's Secretariat encouraged the members to consider strategies to engage in advocacy with the National Parliament and to the Government of Timor-Leste. Based on this, the project agreed to work in collaboration with the Steering Committee's Secretariat to bring in short term technical assistance (STTA) to support the Steering Committee members to analyze the draft suco law. Towards the end of this quarter, Ba Distrito identified an STTA, Dr. Deborah Cummins to do analysis on the new draft suco law to look into gaps, strengths and weaknesses, and particularly the issue of how it impacts on women, PwDs and youth's equal participation in both local governance and the suco election, and to support national civil society partners to develop submissions about this draft suco law for consideration by the National Parliament during their upcoming debate. It is expected to have Dr. Cummins on board to do the assignment by the beginning of the next quarter.

On September 14, the governance team participated in the National Diagnostic Meeting being conducted by the GoTL of MSA. The National Diagnostic is an exercise conducted by the GoTL to evaluate the effectiveness of each ministry in the implementation of government programs

against the GoTL annual work plan and the national strategy/program. The one day meeting was a chance for MSA's civil society counterparts to "evaluate" the performance of MSA and its staff. The objective of the National Diagnostic is to create a workforce within the national institutions that will fully assume their roles and responsibilities.

Briefing Notes on the Draft Suco Law: During this quarter, the Governance Manager drafted a briefing note on the draft suco law. The briefing notes will be given to the grantees for radio campaign outreach and will also be shared with partners and suco councils as a way of keeping them updated on developments.

B.2 Provide legal advice and legislative drafting support.

Update on Developments to Legal Framework for Decentralization: There were a number of legislative developments related to decentralization and local governance that occurred during this reporting period.

On July 15-16, the official Facebook page of MSA reported that Parliament's Committee A on Constitutional Affairs, Justice, Public Administration, Local Power and Anti-Corruption with MSA started the discussion and approved the law proposing the first amendment to the Law on the Administrative Division of the Territory in Tibar, Liquiça. The amendment is aimed at responding to the administrative division of the territory into 12 municipalities and the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno and reintroduces the administrative post into the law. It also reported that Parliament's Committee A will submit the amendment to Parliament's plenary for discussion and approval before sending it off to the President of Republic for promulgation. Towards the end of this quarter Parliament's plenary has not yet included the draft amendment in plenary agenda for discussion.

First Amendment to Decree-Law No.8/2013, on the General Framework of *Programa Nacional de Desenvolvimento dos Sucos* (PNDS - the National Program on Suco Development): Towards the end of last quarter, the CoM approved the first amendment to Decree Law No.8/2013 on the General Framework of the National Program on Suco Development (PNDS). As stated in the Project Quarterly Report No.7, the new government intends to carry on with a thorough evaluation on the PNDS and, if justified, the program may be cancelled pending the establishment of the Municipalities. However, the government recognizes that there are still several projects being financed by PNDS with contracts already signed with the government. The amendment allows necessary measures to harmonize the legal framework of this Program with the new government organic structure, and to ensure the continuity of the ongoing projects. On August 14, the first amendment was promulgated by the President of Republic and the amendment entered into force a day after its publication in the Official Gazette.

A table summarizing legislation related to local governance and decentralization that has been passed since Ba Distrito began operating, updated to the end of this quarter, can be found at Annex 2.

B.3 Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants (DRAGs).

DRAG for Radio Campaign – During this quarter the Community Radio Association of Timor-Leste (ARKTL) began to implement a community radio outreach campaign in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse. ARKTL kicked off a comprehensive radio program that included the production of public service announcements (PSAs), radio dramas, talk shows, and Vox Pops in both Tetum and Baikeno languages in Ba Distrito target municipalities and RAEOA. The radio outreach campaign is aimed at disseminating the policy issues and decentralization legislation and educating constituencies about the decentralization legislation including the devolution of power and ZEESM in RAEOA. The goal is to reach out to communities in their local languages, sharing information and soliciting opinions regarding decentralization and/or devolution of power developments in their communities. A detailed summary of the number of the various types of radio broadcasts can be found at Annex 3.

In Kind Grant for a Documentary Film: During the last quarter, Uairawa Multimedia signed a contract with Ba Distrito Project to produce 5 short documentaries to promote positive stories of change at the suco level in their capacity to deliver basic services effectively, and in a manner



Title screen from one of the five short films produced about best practice at suco level

that is responsive to citizen needs and expectations. The films will be used to motivate other sucos to model the best practices demonstrated in the five positive change stories in order to enhance the capacity of suco councils to strengthen citizen participation and representation in local governance. The films will be aired on TVTL and will

be used by Counterpart’s implementing partner Belun to promote more inclusive and effective local governance. The following stories were selected to be featured in the documentary films:

Municipalities/Region	Suco	Success Stories
1. Liquiça	Vaviquinia	Drinking water distribution
2. Covalima	Ogues	Traditional preventive measure

3. Oecusse	Bobometo	Community initiative to develop health plan and build health facility in the suco
4. Ermera	Estadu	Conflict resolution
5. Baucau	Fatulia	Road construction

During this quarter, the contractor started the editing process for the film and towards the end of this quarter the contractor finalized the final version of the documentary film. Upon the completion of the documentaries, they will be presented to Belun as an in-kind grant to reinforce the technical support they are providing at the suco level. It is planned the documentaries will be launching in the next quarter. The Documentaries will also be airing at the upcoming suco expos as well as the suco level throughout the municipalities where the project operates.

B.4 Support Information Dissemination on Approved Laws.

Engage Media Channels to Disseminate Information on Decentralization Law: The grant to ARKTL to work with community radio stations to share information about decentralization is discussed under B.3 above.

The radio program has been receiving positive feedbacks from the community in Ba Distrito’s target municipalities and RAEOA. In their narrative report, ARKTL highlighted affirmative reactions of Municipal Administrator of Ermera who praised the project’s media outreach program. According to the Administrator, the dissemination of information on the above mentioned issues has helped the Municipal Administration to disseminate correct and up-to-date information to the community. Additionally, with this program community also has the chance to ask questions and/or to express concerns regarding issues around decentralization by participating in the live talk show and in Vox Pop which promote interactive participation and opinion sharing by community members. Positive feedback was also expressed by Baucau’s Municipal Administrator about the Ba Distrito radio program. He said: “through this program, Ba Distrito has helped the municipal administrator to disseminate up to date information to community”. He also encouraged community in general and community leaders in particular to stay tuned in to this program and to actively engage in the talk show and vox pop programs.

Component C – Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

The goal of the activities under Component C is to strengthen local legal aid and legal information service providers and the legal framework in which they operate as a means to increase access to formal and informal justice for marginalized citizens and the poor. Ba Distrito continues to build the capacity and skills of legal aid and legal information service providers and increase access to legal aid services through combined grants and capacity building programs.

C.1 Support Government to Develop Responsive Integrated and Sustainable Legal Aid

Assistance Model. Ba Distrito has continued to offer support to the MOJ in developing and administering and monitoring a sustainable network of publicly funded and non-governmental legal aid services customized to Timor's specific conditions. A draft MOU outlining areas for cooperation was submitted to the MOJ for consideration in March, 2015. However, in August Ba Distrito was informed by the Chief Cabinet of the Justice Minister that all MOUs are on hold pending the Council of Ministers' establishment of a Legislative Reform and Justice Sector Committee which will be responsible for evaluating and aligning donor projects with government priorities. The establishment of the Committee is called for in the resolutions passed at the end of the last calendar year by the government and the national parliament. There is no public information available about the proposed establishment of the Committee. The project will re-engage with MOJ on the signing of the MOU in the next quarter.

Ba Distrito is instead focusing efforts at the municipal and post administration level to coordinate and strengthen the range of legal aid services available to create best practice and model legal aid systems in the districts. The following legal aid coordination meetings were held this quarter by Ba Distrito's Timorese CSO partners:

Commissao Justisca e Paz (JPC) - Baucau: On July 30, JPC held a legal aid coordination group during which lawyers discussed the importance of continuing to improve coordination among the legal aid organizations to avoid duplication. The meeting was attended by legal aid lawyers from FECM, ALFeLa, and child protection officers. In August, no legal coordination meeting was held due to other work commitments. A subsequent meeting was held on September 17.

Liberta - Ermera and Liquiça: Legal aid partner Liberta launched its first legal aid coordination meeting on July 31, 2015 in Ermera attended by participants from the Investigating Police Unit, head of Gleno prison, Ermera's Women's Association, and AATL representatives. The meeting focused on legal aid and outreach sessions Liberta provides to the community in Ermera municipality and the importance of coordination to better provide legal aid services to those in prison and police detention, especially the poor and vulnerable. At the conclusion of the meeting, both the participants agreed to contact Liberta should there be suspects, accused persons and convicts needing legal aid assistance. The Head of Gleno prison also recommended that Liberta conduct a legal outreach session in prison regarding execution of prison sentences. On August 31, Liberta held another legal aid coordination group Liquiça attended by representatives from Fokupers, AATL, and Investigating Police Unit. The meeting emphasized the better coordination among these organizations including case referral to Liberta for legal aid assistances especially from the poor and vulnerable.

FFSO – Oecusse: Legal aid partner FFSO, held 3 legal aid coordination meetings during this quarter. On July 20, FFSO led a coordination meeting focused on the increased number of paternity and divorce cases reported and assisted by FFSO and the role of the government and CSOs in Oecusse. Some of the participants explained that many of the paternity and divorce

cases resulted from domestic violence, and the victims, most of whom are women, continue to be severely affected. The participants all agreed that the work of legal aid lawyers, safe houses, government-funded mental health intuitions are crucial to support affected women and children. The meeting was attended by representatives from safe houses, ombudsman, Oecusse Women’s Communication Forum, J&J law firm, and mental health department of the regional government. Later in the month on July 31, another meeting was held to discuss the presence and role of suco police operation, which FFSO observed to have caused confusions among the local authorities. The meeting concluded with recommendation to invite a representative from the suco police to the next meeting. The meeting was attended by representatives from Provedoria, Ministry of Social and Solidarity, safe houses, and ALFeLa. In September FFSO held and additional two meetings on September 9 and September 28 respectively.

In addition to the coordination meetings between the legal aid partners and relevant stakeholders, the legal aid partners also visited the Office of Public Defenders, police stations, and prison to coordinate on legal aid provision, and supported these institutions through provision of legal consultation or advice where needed.

C.2. - Improve Capacity and Outreach of Legal Aid and Alternative Dispute Providers.

Legal Aid and ADR Outreach: Legal Aid implementing partners JPC, Liberta, and FFSO continue to expand their outreach to provide legal aid assistance in Baucau, Ermera, Liquiça, and Oecusse. A combined total of 103 people received free legal aid assistance from Ba Distrito’s legal aid partners this quarter including 31 women and 22 youth. From the total youth who received legal aid assistance from Ba Distrito’s legal aid partners within this quarter, 19 of them are female youth. The table below provides the total number of people who received legal aid assistance from the all project’s partners between July and September 2015 and identifies how many of those cases involving sexual or gender based violence:

<i>Number of People Who Received Legal Aid Assistance Between July-September 2015</i>							
Implementing Partner	New Criminal Cases				New Civil Cases		<i>combined</i>
	SGBV/DV		Non SGBV/DV		F	m	
	<i>f</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>M</i>			
Commissao Justica e Paz	2	2	2	17	2	6	31
Fundacao Fatuk Sinae Oecusse	0	2	4	4	7	10	27
LIBERTA Advocacia and Consultoria	1	0	5	8	8	23	45
Total	3	4	11	29	17	39	103

Below is the detailed summary of free legal aid assistance provided by each of the legal aid partners this quarter:

Commissao Justica e Paz (JPC): Between July and September, a total of 31 clients including 6 women received free legal aid assistance from JPC. In July, JPC provided aid representation, advice and consultation, referral, and/or accompaniment to a total of 16 male clients. Thirteen of these clients are involved in criminal cases, including three cases of domestic violence. In August, a total of seven people received legal aid assistance from JPC including one young female victim of domestic violence who came to JPC to ask for legal advice. Others who received legal aid from JPC are involved in aggravated property damage, aggravated larceny, simple attack against physical integrity, and a land dispute. In the last month of the quarter, JPC assisted a total of 8 people, including 5 women and provided assistant in 1 domestic violence case.

Fundasaun Fatuk Sinae Oecusse (FFSO): Within this quarter, FFSSO provided legal aid assistance to a total of 27 clients including 11 women and 9 youth. Among the cases assisted by FFSSO are 10 criminal cases and 17 civil cases. 2 of the total criminal cases involve domestic violence case. In July, a total of 10 people received legal aid assistance in the form FFSSO involving five criminal and five civil cases. Five of the clients who received legal aid within this month are women including four youth below the age of 30. Most of the legal aid assistance provided was legal consultation provided both at the FFSSO office as well as during their legal outreach sessions held in the sucos. In August, FFSSO provided legal aid assistance to a total of eight clients in civil cases including four women. Cases assisted by FFSSO within this month are predominantly civil cases involving debt, divorce, and land dispute cases. In September, a total of 9 people received legal aid assistance from FFSSO including 3 women. Cases assisted include 4 criminal 5 civil cases.

Liberta Advocacia and Consultoria: During this this reporting period, Liberta provided legal aid assistance to a total of 45 clients including 14 women and 13 youth. In July, Liberta lawyers provided legal aid assistance to a total of 15 clients including three female clients involving 12 civil cases and three criminal cases. With the exception of three cases in which Liberta provided legal representation in the courtroom, all other clients received legal aid in the form of legal consultation. Three of the legal aid recipients are female youth under 30 years of age. In August, a total of 15 people received legal aid assistance from Liberta including four women. Cases assisted by the Liberta within this month include six criminal cases and nine criminal cases. Five of those who received legal aid are women. During the last month of the quarter, Liberta provided legal aid assistance to a total of 15 clients including 6 women..

Legal aid assistance took place in many forms including legal representation, legal advice and consultation, accompaniment and referral, and dispute resolution or mediation. Therefore, resolution of the cases and legal disputes is not entirely up to and/or determined the project's legal aid partners. Nevertheless, within this quarter, a total of 12 cases were resolved by the

legal aid partners include 5 women. The table below provides the number and type of cases resolved by the Project's legal aid partners JPC, FFSO and Liberta during this quarter:

<i>Cases Resolved by Legal Aid Partners Between July-September 2015</i>							
Implementing partner	Resolved Criminal Cases				Resolved Civil Cases		<i>combined</i>
	SGBV/DV		Non SGBV/DV		<i>f</i>	<i>m</i>	
	<i>F</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>m</i>			
Commissao Justica e Paz	0	0	0	2	0	1	3
Fundacao Fatuk Sinae Oecusse	0	1	0	0	5	2	8
LIBERTA Advocacia and Consultoria	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	0	1	0	2	5	4	12

Capacity Building Activities

Organizational Development Activities: Ba Distrito remains committed to developing institutional and human resource capacity of its implementing partners. Within this quarter, legal aid implementing partners JPC, FFSO, Liberta and another long-established Baucau legal aid organization ECM took part in case management assessment conducted by short term technical assistant Alison Ryan. From July 2-7, the project conducted a case management assessment with FFSO (in Oecusse), JPC and FECM (in Baucau) and Liberta in Dili. Following the assessments, a three-day training was organized at the Legal Training Center (LTC) and jointly opened by the project's Chief of Party, President of private lawyers' disciplinary council Dr. Nelinho Vital, and LTC Director General Dr. Marcelina Tilman. The training was attended by a total of 18 private lawyers including 8 female lawyers from both legal aid and private law firms. In addition to the delivery of the training, the LTC director also expressed her interest in incorporating the case management training in into the training curriculum for new private lawyers' training. Within the next quarter, Ba Distrito will continue discuss and coordinate with LTC on the development and incorporation of a case management course into the overall curriculum of LTC.

In addition to the specialized training, the project also continued to support the implementing partners to strengthen their internal capacity. On August 25, the project held full-day workshop during which Ba Distrito's M&E specialist and justice component manager discussed ways to improve narrative report and data collection.

Monitoring visits by Ba Distrito staff to the implementing partners to ensure appropriate execution of the activities is integral of the project's overall implementation. Within this quarter, the project justice team conducted several monitoring visits to observe activity implementation of the legal aid partners. On September 18, the project justice team undertook a monitoring visit to Ermera to monitor Liberta's legal outreach session held in suco Lauala, Ermera post administrative, of Ermera municipality. In the following week on September 21, 2015, another monitoring trip was undertaken in Baucau where the project monitored JPC's legal outreach session held in suco Fatulia of Venilale administrative post.

Monitoring of Legal Aid Representation: Ba Distrito's subgrantee JSMP continues to monitor the amount and quality of legal aid representation within the courtrooms to inform training and capacity building activities for legal aid providers. The quality of legal aid and representation monitoring, which JSMP started in March this calendar year, will form the basis for the *First State of Legal Aid Report* expected to be developed in Year Three.

Between July and September, Ba Distrito's implementing partner JSMP monitored the quality of legal aid and legal representation in a total of 43 criminal cases and interviewed a total of 12 criminal defendants in Baucau, Covalima, Dili and Oecusse courts. JSMP observed limited contact between the defenders and their clients prior to the court hearings. In four of the five cases monitored by JSMP, defenders only met their clients once and most often immediately prior to court hearings and no witnesses were called from both defense and prosecution sides. One reason given for lack of pre-trial meetings was difficulties faced by clients in travelling to the Office of the Public Defender. Clients interviewed were generally satisfied with the legal representation. All cases monitored by JSMP within this quarter were represented by the state-funded public defenders.

Suco Council Training: This activity also links to A.3 above. Implementing partner JSMP also continued to provide training to selected suco council members (suku chief, *lia nain*, and women representative) during this quarter. The Chief and the *lia nain* were selected because of their traditional role in dispute resolution. The women's representatives were selected to strengthen their awareness of women's rights and to encourage them to support other women in their community to make informed decisions when deciding how to best access justice. As part of the project's series of suco council training, the *Module 2 on Access to Justice and Women's Rights* is aimed at creating a better understanding among the local leaders about the interface/connection between the formal and informal justice systems focusing on domestic violence, women's land ownership, property, alimony and maintenance. Within this quarter, JSMP held a total of 11 trainings in 62 targeted sucos attended by 181 total participants. The table below summarizes the trainings that took place during this reporting period:

Date	Suco and administrative post	Municipality	# of Participants		Total
			f	m	
June 29-Jul 1, 2015	Talimoro, Ermera	Ermera	8	13	21
Jul 3-5, 2015	Lauana, Letofoho	Ermera	5	11	16
Jul 27-29, 2015	Costa, Pante Makasar	Oecusse	6	10	16
Jul 31-Aug 2, 2015	Usitako, Nitibe	Oecusse	3	13	16
Aug 5-7, 2015	Bobometo, Oesilo	Oecusse	7	8	15
Aug 19-21, 2015	Ogues, Suai	Covalima	6	7	13
Aug 24-26, 2015	Lalawa, Tilomar	Covalima	7	10	17
Aug 28-31, 2015	Zulo, Zumalai	Covalima	4	8	12
Sept 15-17, 2015	Baucau,	Baucau	13	10	23
Sept 21-23, 2015	Cuelikai	Baucau	6	8	14
Sept 29.-1 Oct, 2015	Laga, Bagaia	Baucau	7	11	18
Total			72	109	181

Overall, the suco council training has had a positive reception from the local authorities from the municipality to the suco level. Most of the trainings were opened by the municipal or post administrator, all of whom giving encouraged the participants to share the knowledge and information gained from the training to their families, neighbors, and communities. For example, in a training session held in suco Zulo, administrator of Zumalai post administrative Mr. Manuel Freitas said “I am very happy with USAID because I know they deliver training on many different topics, and this topic is important because it's about access to justice and women’s rights. Although we used to get shot at or put in jail for talking about rights, now that we live in democratic country people need to know what their rights and responsibilities are”. Within this quarter, JSMP also issued and published four press releases on the access to justice and women’s rights training it delivered in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, and Oecusse. All of these press releases are available on JSMP’s website at: <http://jsmp.tl/en/press-releases-2015/>.

These press releases highlighted collaboration and support from the suco leaders and active participation from the training participants. They also underline the importance of access to justice and women’s rights training to the suco council members including women representative and recommendations by the participants and the suco leaders not only to continue such training, but also to expand the training to youth and community at large.

C.3. Assess and Reinforce Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanism. Timor- Leste has a hybrid justice system involving formal justice mechanisms where civil disputes and especially serious criminal offences are solved through court proceedings as well as non-formal justice mechanisms where cases are mediated or arbitrated by local community leaders such as suco and aldeia chiefs, traditional leaders (*lia nain*), and local authorities. Both formal and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms are recognized in the country’s Constitution and other laws.

In contributing to the ongoing development of an integrated justice system, the project has chosen to assess and reinforce the alternative dispute resolutions activities conducted by the suco council members. During the past two quarters and working with Belun, the project began collecting data on the ADR practices in four targeted municipalities and the Oecusse Special Economic Region. This quarter, Belun continued to collect data from the local leaders who provide conflict resolution including from suco chiefs (24), aldeia chief (1), adat leaders (7) and women representatives (8). The table below provides information about the leaders interviewed this quarter:

Traditional or Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Practices Generically Mapped Belun Between August and September 2015						
Month	Municipality or Special Region	Community leaders who led the ADR processes				
		Suco chiefs	Aldeia chiefs	Adat Leaders	Women reps	Beneficiaries
August	Baucau	3	1	0	4	0
	Covalima	4	0	1	2	0
	Ermera	0	0	0	0	0
	Liquiça	0	0	0	0	0
	Oecusse Region	3	0	0	0	0
September	Baucau	1	0	1	2	0
	Covalima	0	0	0	0	0
	Ermera	9	0	1	0	0
	Liquiça	0	0	0	0	0
	Oecusse	4	0	4	0	0
Total		24	1	7	8	0

In addition, the project also supported Belun in finalizing a format to assess alternative dispute resolutions provided by government institutions and CSOs such as Ministry of Social and Solidarity, Ministry of Justice, legal aid organizations, and other CSOs. The actual collection of data will begin in the next quarter.

C.4. Provide Targeted Assistance on Improving the Legislative Framework for Legal Aid. The Legal Aid Advocacy Working Group met twice this quarter to conduct advocacy around legislation that has impact on legal aid and access to justice. The group consists of the project's legal aid partners as well as Fundacao Educasaun Kominidade Matebian (FECM) and Legal Aid for Women and Children (ALFeLa). Facilitated by Ba Distrito, the group discussions are led by the legal aid partners on a rotation basis. On August 25, the working group members representing JPC, Liberta, FFSO and FECM met at Ba Distrito office to discuss the group's submission to National Parliament on the draft law on the establishment of Bar Association.

During the meeting, the group reviewed the submission on the draft law with some additional inputs from the justice team manager. Building on the findings of the legal aid framework assessment the project conducted in Year One, the submission highlighted the importance of private lawyers' contribution to community through pro bono legal aid service and recommended that the draft law dedicate an additional Article to require provision of pro-bono legal aid for private lawyers including foreign lawyers working within the Timor-Leste court jurisdiction. On September 29, the group submission to draft Bar Association Law was delivered to the National Parliament Committee A.

C.5. Provide Support to Government and CSOs to Create Accessible and Effective Legal Information.

Grant Supported Legal Awareness Activities: In addition to the provision of free legal aid assistance to the poor and vulnerable, Ba Distrito's legal aid partners also continued to coordinate and implement legal awareness campaigns. Within this quarter, a combined total of



JPC legal education session in Venilale, Baucau

848 members of community and local leaders including 389 women and 271 youth (170 female) attended Ba Distrito's legal awareness campaigns held in Baucau, Ermera, Liquiça, and Oecusse. Together, Ba Distrito's legal aid partners reached a total of 34 targeted sucos in their legal awareness campaigns with Liberta reaching 11 sucos followed by JPC and

FFSO each reached 7 and 16 sucos respectively within this quarter. A detailed list of the sucos reached can be found at Annex 4 to this report.

Below is a detailed summary of legal awareness campaigns conducted by Ba Distrito's legal aid partners JPC, FFSO, and Liberta:

Commissao Justice e Paz (JPC) - Baucau: Within the first month the quarter, JPC held two legal education sessions in Suco Bucoli and Triloca of Baucau administrative post. On July 27, JPC held a legal outreach session in suco Bucoli attended by a total of 27 people including 20 women. On July 31, JPC held another legal outreach session in suco Triloca of Baucau

administrative post attended by 31 people including 13 women. In August JPC also held two legal outreach sessions. On August 21, JPC held a legal outreach session in suco Bercoli Uma-Ana-Ulo of Venilale administrative post and attended by a total of 27 participants including 20 women. Twenty of the participants including 18 women are female youth under 30 years of age. On August 31, JPC held another legal outreach session in suco Gari-Uai of Baucau administrative post attended by a total of 17 people including 15 women. Six of the participants including five women are female youth. In September, JPC held 3 legal outreach sessions attended by 67 people including 47 women and 19 youth.

Fundacao Fatuk Sinae Oecusse (FFSO) - Oecusse Special Economic Region: Within the month of July, FFSO conducted eight legal outreach sessions in Oecusse Special Region. The number of legal outreach sessions held this month is double the amount of its monthly requirement to fill the shortfalls. A total of 189 people including 103 women participated in eight legal outreach

sessions held in July in suco Bene-Ufe and Suni Ufe of Nitibe administrative post, suco Bobocase, Naimeco, Lifao, Cunha, Nifane, and Taiboco of Pante Makassar administrative post. Moreover 39 of the total participant are youth under 30 years of age including 25 female youth. In August, FFSO held four legal outreach sessions in four sucos including in suco Usi-Tacae and Bobometo of Oesilo administrative post and suco Taiboco



FFSO legal education session in Bobocase, Oecusse

and Costa of Pante Makassar administrative post. A total of 144 people participated in these legal outreach sessions including 98 women. 47 of the total participants are youth below 30 years old including 37 female youth. In September, FFSO conducted 4 legal outreach sessions attended by a total of 113 people including 39 women and 27 youth below the age of 30.

**Liberta Advocacia and Consultoria-
Emera and Liquiça Municipalities:**

During the first month of the quarter, Liberta held the four legal outreach sessions in Letefoho, Atsabe and Ermera administrative posts attended by a total of 129 participants including 34 women. The legal outreach sessions were held in suco Catrai Leten and Lauana of Letefoho administrative post, Tiarlelo and Malabe of Atsabe administrative post and Limea of Ermera administrative post. 36 of the participants are below the age of 30 including 15 female youth. The following month in August, Liberta held three more legal outreach campaigns in Letefoho administrative post including in suco Haupu, Eraulo, and Gaulolo. A total of 83 people participated in the outreach sessions including 30 women and 41 youth. 21 of the youth are female youth. In September, Liberta conducted 3 legal information sessions attended by 72 participants including 23 women and 45 youth.



Liberta legal education in Luala, Ermera

Legal Information Working Group: The Legal Information Working Group's members continue to include the project's legal aid partners (JPC, LIBERTA, FFSO) as well as ECM and ALFeLa. Within this quarter, Ba Distrito's legal aid partners continued to ensure that the public service announcements (PSAs) focused on agreed priority areas are broadcast regularly by the community radio stations in the target municipalities and region. The six radio PSA topics include 1) Role of Formal Justice Actors; 2) Right to alimony and maintenance; 3) Penal and Civil Code; 4) Women's property rights; 5) Law against domestic violence; and 6) Alternative dispute resolutions. Ba Distrito's implementing partners in each municipality reported active broadcast of access to justice radio public service announcements on local community radios. The access to justice PSAs were broadcast up to 212 times on local community radios including on Radio Komunitade Matebian (Baucau), Radio Komunitade Kafe (Ermera), Radio Komunitade Tokodede (Liquiça), and Radio Komunitade Atoni Lifau (Oecusse). The Legal Information Working Group also met this quarter to discuss social media communication strategies, especially using Facebook. On August 26, members of the working group consisting of legal aid partners and ECM attended a workshop on the use of social media to promote the organizational work. At the end of the workshop, the legal aid partners worked with the project's communications team in creating their Facebook pages. Liberta's can be found [here](#).

Ministry of Justice Legal Information Research Project: In its efforts to support government to create effective and accessible legal information, Ba Distrito also continued to work with and support MOJ in its research to understand the impact of its legal outreach sessions. After

supporting the MOJ with the development and piloting of the research methodology in the last quarters, this quarter the project continue working with the MOJ team in analyzing the research data. As an important first step, a full day workshop on analyzing qualitative data was provided by the project's intern Ashley Johnson- a law and public policy intern from William and Mary College. Throughout the month of July, numerous workshops were held at Ba Distrito where the MOJ team and Ba Distrito worked side by side in analyzing research transcripts gathered from the focused discussion groups. On July 31, Ashley Johnson presented the preliminary findings of the research to the MOJ team based on the joint analysis, which brings the research to the report-writing stage in the next quarter.

The overall preliminary findings show that the outreach sessions conducted by MOJ within 2010-2014 were effective in educating people about laws and in all focus group discussions, participants were able to detail what was discussed at the sessions. Participants also felt that the sessions helped increase their understanding of laws including laws on domestic violence, civil registration, and land and property. Issues and challenges raised by the participants throughout the research were the format of the outreach sessions which generally did not allow adequate time for participants' questions and discussions. Venue of the outreach sessions was also identified as a challenge for people's participation.

In order for the project to continue provide technical support to the MOJ on the research report-writing, a legal fellow from William and Mary Law School, Mr. Atif Choudhury, will support MOJ with the research-report writing. On September 17, the project introduced the graduate fellow to the MOJ team and begun coordinating the report-writing process. The MOJ research survey report is expected to be finalized and launched in the next quarter.

Component D – District Court Functionality

The goal of the activities under Component D is to address targeted capacity building needs of the municipal courts as part of the overall strategy to increase access to formal and informal justice for marginalized citizens and the poor. Work under this component is in part guided by the MOU with the Court of Appeal signed July 2014 that outlines training areas and subsequent Action Plans agreed to implement pilot court functionality improvement activities (PACTs).

D.1. Assess Needs and Design District Court Training Program. Ba Distrito has conducted training needs assessments as part of the work conducted by international STTAs deployed in the past quarters. The findings have been published in Ba Distrito Access to Justice Briefs on *Legal Aid and Court Functionality* and have informed the design and delivery of training provided to judges and court staff in subsequent quarters. For example, last quarter, training needs assessments were also conducted with Baucau and Oecusse court staff prior to inform training of judicial officers on improved court administration and judicial statistics.

Court Monitoring by JSMP and Training Recommendations: Within this quarter, training needs continue to be identified by our implementing partner JSMP as part of their ongoing monitoring of the functioning of the Oecusse district court and the effectiveness of legal aid services in all other district courts. During the first month of the quarter, JSMP monitored a total of 14 criminal cases out of 24 trials scheduled for the month. From the 14 cases monitored by JSMP in the first month of the quarter, none of them were heard by a panel of three judges and 7 of the cases monitored involve women and children as victims. No cases were monitored by JSMP during the second month of the quarter due to the court recess.

In September, JSMP monitored 3 criminal cases out of 11 case trials held by Oecusse court. One of the cases monitored by JSMP involved domestic violence. Hence, within this quarter the implementing partner JSMP monitored a total of 17 criminal cases, including 8 domestic violence cases. The table below summarizes the number of cases monitored by JSMP and concluded by Oecusse court during this quarter:

<i>Number of Cases Monitored by JSMP and Concluded by Oecusse Court Between July and September 2015</i>				
Month	Domestic violence	Other offences	Total cases JSMP monitored	Total cases Court concluded
July	7	7	14	13
August	0	0	0	0
Sept	1	2	3	3
Total	8	9	17	16

JSMP's identification and analysis of gaps identified in the court process and legal aid representation process continue to inform capacity building activities both for the lawyers, judicial officers and judges. From their monitoring of the quality legal aid, capacity building is needed to improve quality of legal representation including evidence and witness cross-examination, and legal research and analysis. Moreover, through its court monitoring, JSMP also identified the importance of deepening court actors's understanding of criminal code and criminal procedure codes especially in areas related to legal opinion writing, evidence/witness cross examination, and sentencing.

Within this quarter, implementing partner JSMP also continued to widely publicize its monitoring activities in Oecusse regional court particularly in relation to issues it identifies as a priority for advocacy such as sentencing in domestic and gender-based violence cases, . Ba Distrito continues to seek to create synergies between Component C legal aid advocacy activities and the work of JSMP under Component D. A total of two press releases about Oecusse court functionality were produced and published by JSMP this quarter on its website, through its mailing list, in the local newspaper as well as through East Timor Action Network (ETAN) mailing list. They include *Oecusse Court imposes an effective sentence of 6 months jail*

against defendant in case of domestic violence (Aug 5, 2015) and Oecusse Court postponed five domestic violence cases (Sep 29, 2015). All of these press releases are available on JSMP's website at: <http://jsmp.tl/en/press-releases-2015/>.

D.2. Deliver Training to Justice and Accountability Institution staff. In this quarter, Ba Distrito continued to deliver formal and informal training to justice sector institution staff. Subgrantee Tt DPK deployed Hon. Justice Harlan Grossman from California's Contra Costa District Court to deliver a three-day professional training on improving access to justice through court management, leadership, and administration to judges. Training was delivered to 24 judges, including 9 female judges, from all courts of Timor-Leste. The training took place September 8-10 in Tibar Beach Resort. Hon. Justice Harlan has 40-years of experience working in the criminal justice system, including over twenty-years combined experience as municipal and superior court justice. The training was jointly opened by Lisa Whitley and Hon. Judge Deolindo do



The Hon. Judge Harlan Grossman from USA presents certificates to a Timorese judge who participated in the Leadership training

Santos representing USAID and the Court of Appeal respectively. A list of the judges who attended the training can be found at Annex 5.

The main training topics were (a) court access, fairness and diversity; (b) quality of justice and public outreach; (c) education for branch-wide professional experience; (d) modernization of management and administration innovative ideas; (e) independence

and accountability; (f) branch-wide infrastructure for service excellence; and (g) adequate, stable and predictable funds. The judges actively participated in the general discussions, small break away groups, and group presentations. A pre- and post-test was administered, graded and analyzed. The results are summarized in the Monitoring and Evaluation section below.

Within this quarter, Ba Distrito also entered into agreement with a local IT consulting firm Info Timor to develop and deliver formal training in advanced Excel to approximately 17 key judicial and IT officers predominantly from the project's focus Courts in Baucau and Oecusse. On August 25, Info Timor signed a contract with Ba Distrito to deliver the training on Sept. 28-30,

but the training has been postponed for delivery until October 2015. This training is an important step towards implementing the judicial statistics PACT activities described below.

Capacity Building/Informal Training through PACT Implementation: On July 28, the Court of Appeal's team president Judge Afonso Carmona and Ba Distrito's COP Mrs. Carolyn Tanner signed a Plan of Action (PACT) Agreement that lays out seven agreed PACT activities to improve court statistics data gathering, analysis and reporting. Ba Distrito has worked this quarter to implement the Plan of Action which is the result of the judicial statistics assessments completed in the Baucau and Oecusse courts and the delivery of three-day training to judicial officers on court administration and judicial statistics held last quarter. The seven PACT activities and their status are described in the following:

1. **Establishment of a standing Court Statistics Working Group** comprised of District Court IT staff, Judicial Secretary representatives and the Court of Appeals Superior Secretary and IT staff (Complete). Formation of the group is underway. The pilot courts agreed in principle and said the establishment of working group is expected to complete in next quarter.
2. **Adopt new data requirements and sensitize staff to their importance.** The court agreed to the areas of improvement, and a two-day training was delivered to the judicial officers from all four courts of first instance sensitizing them about the importance of the new data requirements and how to go about gathering them.
3. **Improve base manual recordkeeping and data entry systems, especially uniform collection of Postponement Rates and Reasons for Postponement** in manual registry. Underway and will be completed after a training on Advance Excel is provided to selected judicial officers from pilot courts in the next quarter.
4. **Enhance ability of the existing semi-automated excel tracking database** to produce uniform statistical reports by developing additional coding, formulas and reporting templates/graphics for case management statistical reports. Underway and will be completed after Excel training.
5. **Develop and issue new recordkeeping, data collection, data entry and reporting Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)/manuals/guidelines.** In process. As a starting point, the training module will be developed into a guideline for the judicial officers. Guidelines will be printed and distributed.
6. **Improve court staff's computer/Excel/numeracy skills and train on new manual/SOPs/guidelines and develop ongoing training capacity in this area.** Following on the two-day judicial statistics improvement training to the judicial officers, an Excel training is underway and will be delivered in the next quarter to a selected number of judicial secretaries, IT, and judicial officers from the pilot courts. The Excel training is needed prior to implementation of recommendations for improved court statistics
7. **Implement new regular case management statistical reporting to better inform court management.** In process. Anticipated reports to be developed include Age of Pending

Case Report and Time to Disposition Closed Case Report. In process. After the judicial officers have received Advance Excel training, the Pilot courts will begin implementing recommendations for improved court statistics.



The Hon. Judge Afonso Carmona and Chief of Party Carolyn Tanner, sign Plan of Action (PACT) setting out 7 points of action to strengthen case management in Baucau and Oecusse Courts.

In addition to the court statistics PACTs mentioned above, Ba Distrito and Justice Harlan worked with the judge administrators in the pilot courts in Baucau and Oecusse to develop a bullet-point plan of action (PACT) for small scale activities that could be implemented to improve court outreach to their communities and delivery of more accessible and client centered services. A PACT Agreement and

implementation schedule for improved access will be developed and discussed with the Court of Appeal this next Quarter. Once PACT activities are the access to justice team will support implementation.

D.3. Introduce Professional Development System. Developing a robust Professional Development System (PDS) within the judiciary was included in the initial technical support proposal to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal President has expressed reluctance in working with Ba Distrito project in this area. Ba Distrito will continue to engage in soft advocacy with the Court of Appeal on the importance of developing a PDS as a way to enhance the professionalism of the justice career within existing resources, with particular emphasis on the need for in-service training and monitoring and evaluation linked to performance evaluation.

D.4. Build the capacity of the LTC and other Justice Sector Institutions. In addition to PACT activity implementation with the Court of Appeal and municipal courts described in D2 above, Ba Distrito continues to identify opportunities to build the capacity of other justice sector institutions. Specifically, Ba Distrito has focused on building its relationship with the LTC, the Superior Council of the Judiciary (through its President, the President of the Court of Appeal, and the Public Defender's Office) to identify areas of cooperation and capacity building. The LTC

continues to maintain that it does not have the resources to provide continuing education to existing justice sector professionals and as such Ba Distrito's capacity building role with this key training body has been significantly curtailed. Ba Distrito is however working with the LTC to deliver ad hoc, largely donor-funded complementary training for in-service personnel (as described above). This quarter also saw joint planning for design and delivery of case management training for new lawyers studying at the LTC. Ba Distrito is working to second a Timorese private lawyer, Dr. Jose Pedro Camoes, to the LTC to work with Tt DPK's international expert, Alison Ryan, to provide future training of private lawyers on case management. This case management training will be the first initiative for Ba Distrito to strengthen the existing curriculum and develop and deliver training modules with closer LTC involvement, opening up the possibility of skills transfer. Ba Distrito also continued soft advocacy with the Court of Appeal to establish a Judicial Training Committee and with other responsible justice sector institutions on the need for development of in-service training programs for currently serving judges, prosecutors, defenders, lawyers, clerks, etc.

D.5 Flexible and Responsive Training Fund: Nothing to report for the current quarter.

Component E

The goal of the activities under Component E is to strengthen the capacity of the Government of Timor-Leste (GOTL), in particular its Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) namely National Electoral Commission (CNE) and Technical Secretary for Electoral Administration (STAE), to hold fair, transparent, inclusive local elections and facilitate voter engagement in preparation for the national general election.

Note: In early July, at the request of the AOR the advancement of activities by the project was put on hold in order to allow Ba Distrito and the USAID mission to develop an implementation strategy that is reflective of the ever-changing electoral policy in the country. In early July, Parliament passed an amendment extending the mandate of the current suco council from October 2015 until October 2016, thus opening up the possibilities that suco elections will not take place in 2015 as originally anticipated and required by the law. In August the project met with the AOR and Ms. Lisa Whitley the then Acting Mission Director and agreed in principle upon changes to election activities and delays to the implementation of election activities. A document was then submitted by Counterpart to the AOR in early September summarizing the results of that discussion. The FY16 workplan was submitted at the end of this quarter and is awaiting approval. In the meantime the AOR has advised the project to delay all election activities until the FY16 workplan is approved.

On August 20, an intern Ms. Kahurangi Graham concluded her internship with Ba Distrito. During her three months internship, Ms. Graham produced a report with recommendations on ways to address barriers to women, youth and people with disability in the electoral process.

Recommendations will be used to help direct the messaging on the project's new partners when they try to engage women, youth and people with disability in the electoral process.

E.1. Strengthening Voter Education through STAE. During this quarter, two meetings were held between Ba Distrito and STAE's Director General Mr. Elcinio Branco. The objective of the meetings is to follow up on the signed Addendum 1 to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Counterpart International and the Ministry of State Administration. The Addendum is aimed at promoting cooperation and coordination between the parties to strengthen the Technical Secretariat onward forwarding to the Minister for Electoral Administration's (STAE) capacity to conduct effective and inclusive voter education activities. In particular, the project and STAE will work together to build STAE's communication outreach capacity and to promote voter education and inclusive participation in the suco and municipal elections. The Addendum 1 of the MOU was signed by the Minister of State, Coordinator for the Affairs of State Administration and Justice and the Minister for State Administration, Dionisio Babo Soares during the first week of August. During the meeting, Mr. Branco informed that despite the electoral calendar for suco election has been postponed up to October 2016, STAE would like to start the collaboration with Ba Distrito. Collaboration between the project and STAE is expected to start once there is more certainty about the modality of the election for suco council and the electoral calendar.

E.2. Connecting Political Parties to their Constituents. Given amendments to the existing suco law and based on public comments made by the Ministry of State Administration and an individual meeting with the Minister of State Administration this quarter, political parties will not be involved in the suco elections and municipal elections will likely be delayed until after the national elections in 2017. As a result, the project is proposing that this activity be changed to focus on connecting suco councils to their constituents.

E.3. Civic Education and Inclusive Participation. A meeting was held during this quarter with the National Electoral Commission (CNE) on changes of the electoral landscape in the country. The meeting also touched upon the need to revise proposed activities on civic education and inclusive participation that the project will work in partnership with CNE and the content of the MoU that was prepared during the last quarter. Due to lack of clarity of the modality of election and whether CNE will still play important role in the suco election, there has not been a follow-up discussion with CNE.

V. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

During this reporting period, the project continued to make steady progress towards achieving the indicators set out in the PMEP. Although revisions to the PMEP (discussed below) are currently underway, Annex 6 to this report summarizes the project's cumulative progress to date against the indicators.

Adaptation of Standardized Monitoring and Evaluation Forms – During this reporting period, the M&E Specialist supported the communication team to develop the monitoring forms that will be used by Legal Aid Grantees and Ba Distrito municipal coordinators to monitor the Public Service Announcements (PSAs) on various topics for access to justice through community radio. The monitoring form will be used to record broadcast of PSAs, radio dramas, interactive talk shows, and “vox pops” through community radio in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse.

Knowledge Management (KM) Portal – On August 6-7 the M&E Specialist conducted a KM Portal induction to three (3) staff members who are responsible for Ba Distrito project activities from the Justice and Peace Commission (JPC) in JPC’s office in Baucau. The induction focused on ways to incorporate all legal education activities and legal aid work that is delivered by JPC in Baucau municipality, into the KM Portal. As a result of the induction, all data related to JPC’S legal education and legal aid activities since March 2015 have been entered into the KM Portal.

On August 28 the M&E Specialist conducted KM Portal induction to new staff of Ba Distrito project (M&E Officer, Governance Officer, Capacity Building Officer, and Junior Legal Aid Officer). As a result of the induction, Ba Distrito’s new staff members understand and know how to enter all the data into the KM Portal.

Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (PMEP) – During this period, with support from the Senior M&E Specialist from Counterpart headquarters, the project began the revision forces for its PMEP indicators to more accurately reflect the context of its implementation and to better measure the project’s progress, as well as updating to include indicators for Component E. The PMEP revision process will be finalized during the next quarter.

USAID TrainNet Database – During this reporting period, Ba Distrito’s M&E team were provided with access to USAID TrainNet in order to enter data for training that is two days or longer. The M&E team entered relevant data for FY14 and data for FY15 will be entered next quarter.

Monitoring Visit to the Partner – On September 2-5 the M&E Specialist monitored a suco exchange in Maudemo, Covalima, which was conducted by Belun. The suco shared their experience about using natural resources such as bamboo to access to clean water, with three visiting sucos: Casabauk, Biseuk and Ogues. The participants were engaged during the exchange and participated actively in the discussions. During the exchange, it was observed that participants from other sucos also had experience using natural resources in their sucos. The M&E team recommended that future suco exchanges will be more beneficial if participating sucos were selected because of a gap in knowledge about a particular issue so they can learn from the suco demonstrating the best practice.

On September 16 the M&E team and the Baucau municipal coordinator visited JPC to introduce the forms for monitoring the Access to Justice PSAs, which are being broadcast on Matebian

Community Radio. The M&E team met with the Program Coordinator, one lawyer and one volunteer. JPC agreed to use the M&E forms to monitor PSAs that are broadcasted by Matebian Community radio daily.

On September 17 the M&E team visited the Matebian Community Radio in Baucau to brief the Program Coordinator of Matebian community radio to use the monitoring form that records the broadcast time and frequencies for the Access to Justice PSAs. At the end of each month, Matebian Community Radio will submit their report to JPC, which will be included in JPC's monthly narrative report to Ba Distrito.

On September 18 Ba Distrito's M&E team monitored JPC's legal education session in suco Badoho'o, Baucau. The session focused on the formal and traditional justice systems, criminal and civil cases, and how to resolve them. JPC used illustrations to help convey different types of legal cases, and group discussions to engage participants. From 30 participants, three (3) were men. During monitoring, it was observed that only a few female participants were actively engaged in the session, and the lawyers did not follow a standard format when leading the information sessions. The M&E team recommended that JPC develops a guideline for legal outreach to ensure consistency, quality, and better participation by the community in the sessions.

Training Monitoring – During this reporting period, Ba Distrito delivered several trainings: Belun delivered training on *Community Consultation*, and JSMP delivered training on *Access to Justice and Women's Rights* to suco council members, and benefited from a two day TOT session from Ba Distrito before implementing each training module. Additionally, international STTAs, Ms. Alison Ryan from Australia, and the retired Hon. Judge Harlan Grossmann from the USA, delivered training: *Case Management for Private Lawyers* and *Court Leadership and Management for Judges* respectively

Training was monitored during this quarter by the M&E team, component managers, and the project's municipal coordinators. The Access to Justice Manager monitored *Access to Justice and Women's Rights* training in the administrative post of Zumalai, Covalima on August 28-29. The M&E team monitored three training sessions: (1) *Court Leadership and Management for Judges* in Tibar on September 9, (2) *Women's Rights and Access to Justice* in Baucau-Villa on September 15, and (3) *Community Consultation* in the administrative post of Laga (Samalari), which was facilitated by Belun on September 17. Other training was monitored by municipal coordinators in each municipality.

The M&E Specialist concluded the following in relation to suco council training:

Overall, the suco council training facilitated by Belun was well done, with good quality venues, agenda, training materials, and meals and snacks for the participants. Belun's trainers have good skills, capacity and knowledge of the content, enabling them to facilitate well. Trainers

used various methods such as group work, group discussions and presentations, to engage participants in the content. Most participants who attended the training participated actively in the sessions.

However, the following issues need to be addressed by Ba Distrito and Belun:

- The training often started late; it needs to start on time.
- Belun and Ba Distrito need to check with relevant local authorities including the Administrator, the Diocese and other sectors prior to setting dates for training, to ensure there are no schedule conflicts for the suco council members.

Participants were given pre- and post-tests to measure their increase in knowledge. The result of the pre- and post-tests for *Community Consultation* and *Access to Justice and Women's Rights* in all five municipalities are shown as follows:

% OF CUMULATIVE INCREASE ON COMMUNITY CONSULTATION TRAINING IN FOUR MUNICIPALS AND OECUSSE SPECIAL REGION DURING JULY-SEPTEMBER 2015								
Training	Total Participants	Women participants	% Correct Answer of All Participants			% Correct Answer of WOMEN Participants		
			Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased
		Baucau	66	39	48%	72%	23%	50%
Covalima	58	36	53%	84%	30%	52%	83%	31%
Ermera	91	44	45%	65%	20%	47%	66%	19%
Liquiça	77	40	48%	75%	27%	48%	76%	29%
Oecusse	62	34	44%	80%	36%	39%	79%	40%
Total	354	193	48%	75%	27%	47%	75%	28%

The result of the pre- and post-test in the table above indicated that there was good increase of participants' knowledge on community consultation after the training, increasing overall by up to 27%. The female participants' increase in knowledge averaged slightly higher than overall, at 28% after training.

The *Women's Rights and Access to Justice* training was delivered by JSMP in in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse Special Region during August and September 2015. The M&E team concluded that the quality of the training was good. Results of the monitoring visits indicated

that both trainers have good skills, knowledge and capacity to facilitate effective training. However, there are some issues that need to be improved: more icebreakers and games to involve participants more actively in the training sessions, and training started late.

Below are the results for the pre- and post-tests for *Access to Justice and Women's Rights*.

% OF CUMULATIVE INCREASED ON WOMEN'S RIGHT AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE TRAINING DURING JULY-SEPTEMBER 2015								
Training	Total Participants	Women participants	% Correct Answer of All Participants			% Correct Answer of WOMEN Participants		
			Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased
		Baucau	55	23	80.73%	94.36%	13.64%	90.87%
Covalima	42	17	78.10%	93.33%	15.24%	84.71%	96.47%	11.76%
Oecusse	46	15	75.22%	95.22%	20.00%	79.33%	95.33%	16.00%
Total	143	55	78.01%	94.30%	16.29%	84.97%	96.69%	11.72%

The table above indicates that there was no significant increase of participants' knowledge after the training in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse, because participants may have already known about issues relating to access to justice and women's rights. From an M&E perspective, this may also have happened because the pre- and post-tests used were too simple or too easily gave away correct answers.

Ba Distrito's training about *Case Management Training to Private Lawyers* on July 13-15, 2015 at the Legal Training Center, Caicoli, Dili was facilitated by Ms. Alison Ryan. The results of pre- and post-tests are as follows:

% OF CUMULATIVE INCREASED ON CASE MANAGEMENT TRAINING TO PRIVATE LAWYERS IN JULY 2015								
Training	Total Participants	Women participant	% Correct Answer of All Participants			% Correct Answer of WOMEN Participants		
		Pre- Test	Post- Test	Increased	Pre- Test	Post- Test	Increased	
MoJ	14	8	41.07%	63.93%	22.86%	42.50%	65.00%	22.50%
Total	14	8	41.07%	63.93%	22.86%	42.50%	65.00%	22.50%

The results indicate an increase of participants' knowledge after training by up to 22.86%, with women's knowledge increasing up to 22.50%. The facilitator used English, which was translated by the interpreter during the training. From an M&E perspective, there was no impact on the effectiveness of the training because of language issues

On September 8-10, Ba Distrito conducted *Court Leadership and Management Training for Judges* in Tibar. The training was facilitated by the retired Hon. Judge Harlan Grossmann from California, USA. During the monitoring visit to the training, the M&E team observed that the management was very good, and the participants responded well to the content; however equipment used for the training, such as wireless earphones for simultaneous translation, need to be tested further in advance to avoid noise disturbances.

The evaluation from participants showed they thought the training was very good, the trainer had good facilitation skills, experience, and knowledge to facilitate the training. The comparative study on court management overseas was highly praised by the participants, who believed this increased their knowledge.

The results of pre- and post-tests for *Court Leadership and Management for Judges* are as follows:

% OF CUMULATIVE INCREASED ON COURT LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING TO LAWYERS IN SEPTEMBER 8-10, 2015								
Training	Total Participants	Women participants	% Correct Answer of All Participants			% Correct Answer of WOMEN Participants		
			Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased			
		Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased	Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased	
Liquisa	23	9	36%	83%	46%	37%	86%	49%
Total	23	9	36%	83%	46%	37%	86%	49%

The results in the table above indicate a significant increase in participants' knowledge, with an increase of up to 46%. The knowledge increase amongst female participants was almost 50%. The increase shows that the content of the training was relevant, well organized, and beneficial to the participants.

On August 7-8 Ba Distrito conducted TOT to Belun and Ba Distrito municipal coordinators on the module *Community Consultation* in the Ba Distrito office. The purpose of including Ba Distrito's municipal coordinators was to give them the skills to co-facilitate the *Community Consultation* training. Below is the result of pre- and post-tests of TOT on community consultation:

Analysis of the percentage of increase in training of the all the training participants				
Training	Total Participants	% Correct Answer of All Participants		
		Pre-Test	Post-Test	Increased
Dili	9	58%	85%	27%
Total	9	58%	85%	27%

All participants in TOT were male participants. Participants' knowledge after the training increased up to 27%.

VI. ACHIEVEMENTS

The project has realized a significant number of achievements this quarter and has managed to achieve many of the targets set out in the FY15 workplan. A summary of the project's progress against the FY15 workplan is set out in Annex 7. A list of the most important achievements is summarized below. Importantly, the project's activities are resulting in changes to the lives of the beneficiaries. A story of significant change from Teresa Soares who is one of the suco council's elected women's representatives benefiting from our project's training and technical support is attached at Annex 8. This is in addition to the notable success that came out of the Suco Municipal Forum in Ermera that resulted in a community being restored access to clean water. The success is described in more detail above at A.6.

Component A: Local Governance Strengthening

- Finalized training module on Community Consultation
- Delivered two full days of training to 369 suco council members (195 women) on Community Consultation
- Delivered three full days of training to 181 suco council members (72 women) on Access to Justice and Women's Rights (also linked to Component C)
- Provided follow up organizational development technical support on the training to 48 sucos in 4 municipalities and RAEOA
- Coordinated 3 exchanges between sucos to share best practices in service delivery and improve horizontal communication
- Coordinated 3 forums between sucos and municipal level authorities to increase vertical communication between suco councils and municipal and regional level government
- Conducted organizational capacity assessments of 2 legal aid NGO partners
- Provided 2 days of TOT to national partner Belun on how to effectively deliver the training on Community Consultation

Component B: Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions

- Local NGO ARKTL implemented a decentralization community radio campaign in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse results in the broadcast of community opinion Vox Pops 295 times, one live talk show per month per municipality/region aired a total of 32 times, 4 different Public Service Announcements aired a total of 1170 times and a radio drama aired a total of 120 times.
- Concluded the production of five short films featuring one suco success story from each target municipality/region.

Component C: Legal Aid Organization Sustainability

- Conducted a detailed case management assessment of 3 legal aid organizations
- Recruited Junior Legal Officer to support the project's legal aid activities,
- Supported Ministry of Justice to analyze field research results on their legal outreach.
- Delivered case management training to 18 lawyers (9 women) in coordination with the LTC and the Management and Disciplinary Council for Private Lawyers.
- Supported 3 legal aid partners who participated in training to develop and implement case management action plans and provide technical support for same.
- Coordinated with the LTC potentially including Ba Distrito's case management training into the LTC curriculum.
- Met with the Coordinating Minister of Justice and State Administrator to brief him on the planned MoU signing with MOJ
- Issued an Request for Application (RFA) for a legal aid grant in Covalima
- Supported Legal Aid Advocacy Working Group to prepare submissions on the draft Bar Association law
- Conducted legal information sessions in a total of 34 sucos, attended by 848 people, including 389 women and 271 youth.
- Provided legal aid assistance to a total of 103 clients, including 31 women and 22 youth.
- Resolved a total of 12 cases, including 9 civil cases and 3 criminal cases.

Component D: District Court Functionality

- Finalized 7 Plans of Action (PACT) for improved statistics data gathering signed by the Court of Appeal.
- Monitored JSMP's suco council training on access to justice and women's rights.
- Recruited and deployed short-term technical assistance (STTA) to train Timorese judges on court administration, management, and leadership.
- Delivered a three-day training workshop for 24 Timorese judges (9 women).
- Monitored a total of 17 court cases including 8 cases involving domestic, sexual and gender based violence.
- Issued two press releases on court monitoring in Oecusse.

Component E: Elections

- Revised the Election Add-on work plan on the request of USAID as electoral landscape is changing
- Coordinated and negotiated meeting with CNE and STAE for activities under election component
- Signed Addendum 1 to the MOU with the Ministry of State Administration to reflect the election add on activities

- Completed a desk review on barriers to women, youth and people with disability to the electoral process and recommendations for advocacy

VII. CHALLENGES AND GENDER-BASED CONSTRAINTS

In next quarter, Oecusse will be occupied with the celebration of 500 years of the arrival of the Portuguese in Timor-Leste. The celebration activity started in August and will go through the end of November 2015. The celebration mobilizes suco chiefs and other suco council members, and the Ba Distrito team will assist in organizing suco council training and suco-region network forum, particularly Pante Makasar and municipal level. Oecusse's Coordinators will consult with the RAEOA Authority to understand the celebration's schedule and the target for each activity.

Belun's and Counterpart's coordinators reflected that suco councils had actively participated in suco council training and suco exchange visit. However, the team is also aware that it is quite challenging to have targeted suco council members to participate in technical assistance according to the action plan/learning plan and they tend to rely on suco chief and PAAS to implement the activity. Belun's and Counterpart's coordinators are aware that they need to encourage suco chiefs to exercise their leadership by regularly visiting suco and continue to provide technical assistance.

With the modification of sub agreements for Liberta and FFSO to include motorbike and computer purchase as well as increased salary percentage to the staff working on Ba Distrito project, no particular challenges with potential impact on the project implementation has been identified by the partners thus far beside JSMP's concerns about the need to purchase a laptop computer for the staff working on the project in Oecusse. JSMP had reported in past quarters the lack of computer for its court monitors and requested Ba Distrito to update the budget and provide a laptop computer for the staff monitoring Oecusse court on daily basis. With JSMP's simplified agreement coming to an end at the end of this calendar year, the project will try to address this issue with JSMP in due time.

VIII. EXPENDITURES

Project expenditures have been reported under a separate cover on our SF-425, submitted October 27, 2015.

IX. PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES

Component A: Local Governance Strengthening

- Complete follow-up rapid assessment of 60 sucos in Baucau, Covalima and Oecusse.
- Finalize training module on Conflict Resolution

- Complete JSMP, Liberta and JPC's Organizational Development one year action plan.
- Hold suco expo in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse.
- Hold suco exchange visit in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse.
- Hold suco suco-municipal network forum in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, and Oecusse.
- Issue CEGs in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse.
- Hold suco council training on Conflict Resolution.
- Coordinate with Access to Justice Belun on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mapping and governance team on public consultation.

Component B: Decentralization and Input of Local Institutions

- Bring in an STTA to do analysis to the draft suco law.
- Coordinate a public consultation in RAEOA.
- Launch the five short documentary films on suco success stories and deliver as an in-kind grant to Belun.
- Issue solicitation for Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants.

Component C: Legal Aid Sustainability

- Award of legal aid grant to cover Covalima municipality.
- Award of an additional legal aid grant to ECM to cover Baucau municipality and Baucau court jurisdiction.
- Complete and launch of MOJ research report.
- Draft State of legal aid report.
- Continue ADR mapping with state institutions, legal aid organizations and other CSOs.
- Compile Legal Information Guidebook.
- Develop and incorporate case management course into LTC training curriculum.
- Issue second legal aid and advocacy grant to Fundacao Educacao Comunidade Matebian (FECM) - a long partner of USAID in Baucau whose lawyers remain actively involved in Ba Distrito's events and trainings.
- Provide training to new lawyers at the LTC on case management.

Component D: District court functionality

- Advance Excel training for judicial training organized and fully executed.
- Support the judicial and IT officers in establishing a Judicial Statistics Committee group to advise and supervise PACT implementation for improved judicial statistics.
- Provide technical support to Baucau and Oecusse court and the Judicial Statistics Committee throughout the PACT implementation for improved judicial statistics.

- Support PACT for improved court access and its implementation schedule fully developed and agreed between the project and the Court of Appeal's team, and where possible begin implementing them.
- Support JSMP in finalizing and launching its Oecusse Court Thematic Report.

Component E: Elections

- Activities on hold until USAID gives approval of the work plan.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Finalize the revision of PMEP indicators.
- Continue to conduct weekly KM Portal monitoring of the activities implemented by the Ba Distrito component teams and grantees.
- Update KM Portal for grant reports.
- Conduct monitoring visit to the trainings that are facilitated by Belun.
- Conduct site visits to implementing partners and grantees in municipalities and in Dili.
- Update USAID TraiNet database for Ba Distrito training activities.
- Assist JSMP to update training data in the KM Portal.
- Provide M&E training to Belun.

Annex 1
Summary of Technical Assistance Provided to Sucos by Belun and Counterpart

Municipal/Region	Suco	Technical Assistance Provided	Target	
Baucau	Tiriloka	Distributing RFA and proposal writing for CEGs	CBO Fetri	
	Soba	Proposal writing for CEGs	Suco Management Team	
	Abafala	Distributing RFA and proposal writing for CEGs	Suco Management Team	
	Samalari		Suco Management Team	
	Uma na Ulu	Completing suco contact list	Suco chief, 1 woman rep	
	Uatolari		Suco chief, 1 woman rep, 1 male youth	
	Abafala		1 male youth	
	Loilubo		1 suco chief, 1 woman rep, 1 PAAS, 1 male youth rep, 1 <i>lian nain</i>	
	Fatulia		2 women reps	
	Defauasi		2 women reps	
	Alawa Kraik		2 women reps, one female youth	
	Ossu Huna		Suco chief, 1 PAAS, 1 male youth rep	
Covalima	Belulic Leten		Completing Suco Contact List and distributing RFA for CEGs	
	Beiseuc			Suco chief, 1 woman rep, 1 male PAAS, 1 male aldeia chief
	Maudemo	Assisting suco Maudemo to prepare suco exchange visit presentation and facilitate the discussion during the suco exchange visit	Suco chief (female), 1 woman rep, 1 male youth rep	
	Fohorem	Completing Suco Contact List	Suco chief, 1 male PAAS	
Ermera	Estado	Improving Suco Declaration Format for Bilette de Identidade and Electoral ID	PAAS	
	Tokoluli	Improving Suco Declaration Format for Electoral ID	PAAS (male)	
	Railaco Leten	Monitoring and documentation of clean water supply as follow up of Suco-Municipal Forum and Water and Sanitation Department of Ermera, completing suco contact list	Suco Chief and PAAS (male), 1 <i>lia nain</i>	
	Lihu	Establishing Suco Activity Plan and challenges, and link them with particular line ministries in municipal level; completing suco contact list	Suco chief, 2 women reps, 1 <i>lian nain</i>	
	Matata	Completing suco contact list	1 woman rep, PAAS (male), 1 <i>lian nain</i>	

Municipal/Region	Suco	Technical Assistance Provided	Target
	Tokoluli	Establishing Suco Activity Plan and challenges, and link them with particular line ministries in municipal level and completing Suco Contact List	Suco chief, 1 woman rep
	Lauala	Establishing Suco Activity Plan and challenges, and link them with particular line ministries in municipal level and assisting Suco Chief to arrange a meeting with the Director of Water and Sanitation in municipal	Suco Chief, PAAS
	Hauptu	Completing suco contact list	1 woman rep, PAAS, 1 male youth rep, 1 <i>lian nain</i>
	Eraulo		2 woman rep
Liquiça	Lissadili	Learning plan (follow up Leadership and Communication training)	Suco chief, 1 woman rep, PAAS
	Guiço		2 women reps, PAAS, 2 aldeia chiefs
	Vatuvoro		2 women reps, PAAS, 2 aldeia chiefs
	Maubalarissa	Completing suco contact list, preparation for suco expo and suco councils' meeting schedule	Suco chief, 1 woman rep, PAAS, 1 female & 1 male youth reps
	Vaviquinia		Suco chief, 1 aldeia chief
	Vatuvou		Suco chief, 1 woman rep
	Fahilebo	Completing suco contact list, suco councils' meeting schedule, community consultation plan, preparation for suco expo	Suco chief, 1 woman rep, 2 aldeia chiefs, 1 <i>lian nain</i>
	Leotela'a	Distributing CEGs RFA	Suco chief, PAAS
	Fatumassi	Suco councils' meeting schedule, community consultation plan	Suco chief, 1 male youth rep, 1 <i>lian nain</i>
	Lauhata	Completing suco contact list, suco councils' meeting schedule, community consultation plan, CEGs (submitted)	Suco chief, PAAS
	Maumeta	Suco councils' meeting schedule, community consultation plan	Suco chief, 1 woman rep, 1 female youth rep
	Leorema	Suco councils' meeting schedule, community consultation plan, CEGs (submitted)	PAAS, 1 woman rep
	Tibar	Suco councils' meeting schedule, community consultation plan, suggestion box	PAAS, 1 female youth
Oecusse	Bobokase	Completing Suco Contact List and information distribution about suco visit by Secretary of Region for	Women Representative, 2 (two) Hamlet Chiefs, PAAS

Municipal/Region	Suco	Technical Assistance Provided	Target
		Administration	
	Bene-Ufe	Completing Suco Contact List and Suco Expo Preparation	2 (two) woman representatives and PAAS
	Bobometo	Completing Suco Contact List (complete), schedule for Community Consultation training and Suco Expo Preparation	Suco Chief, woman representative and PAAS
	Lela-Ufe	Completing Suco Contact List and information distribution about suco visit by Secretary of Region for Administration	Suco Chief and woman youth representative
	Nipani		Suco chief, 1 female and male youth reps
	Naimeko		Suco chief, 1 woman rep, 1 male youth rep
	Lifau		Suco chief, 1 woman rep, 1 male youth rep
	Usitaco	Completing suco contact list	Suco chief, PAAS, 1 male youth rep
	Usitaqueno	Completing suco contact list	Suco chief, PAAS, 1 male youth rep
	Usitaçae	Completing suco contact list (complete)	2 women reps, 1 PAAS, 1 <i>lian nain</i>

Annex 2
Decentralization Legislation in Force in Timor-Leste

MINISTERIAL DIPLOMAS FOR PRE-DECONCENTRATION ADMINISTRATIVE	Date Approved/Promulgated/Published
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for District Supervisory's Agencies	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for District's Planning Agencies	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Regulation of Local Advisory Councils	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Technical Support Offices of District Managers	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Administrative Posts	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Administrative Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Supply Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Financial Services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Property and supply services of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the Organic Statute for Integrated Plan for District Development (PDID)	July 24, 2014
Ministerial Diploma on the functioning of the Directorate General of administrative decentralization	July 24, 2014
GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION	Date Approved/Promulgated/Published
Government Resolution No. 28 on the transfer of competencies regarding the provision of services and respective budget to the Special Regional Administrative Oecusse Ambeno Authority	August 4 2015/August 5, 2015
Government Resolution No. 21 on the appointment of seven (7) members of Authority of the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno	May 12, 2015/May 19, 2015
Government Resolution No.9/2015 on the Breakdown of the budget allocation for the Authority of Special Administrative Region and Special Zone of Social Economy Market (ZEESM) of Oecussi and Atauro	January 23, 2015
Government Resolution No.8/2015 on the transferring of the function, means, and resources to the Authority of Special Administrative Region of Oecusse Ambeno	January 23, 2015
Government Resolution No.7/2015 on the	January 23, 2015

appointment of members of Special Administrative Region Authority	
Government Resolution on the Establishment of Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structures in Liquiça, Aileu and Ermera	September 30, 2014
Government Resolution on the Transition Committee for Oecusse Ambeno	September 1, 2014
Government Resolution No. 14/2014 on the Special Procedure for the Selection of the Leaders of the Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure	May 14, 2014
DECREE LAW / LAW	Date Approved/Promulgated/Published
First Amendment to Law No.3/2009 , on Community Leaders and Their Election	July 13, 2015/ August 6, 2015/August 12, 2015
First Amendment to Decree-Law no. 4/2012, of 15 February , on Planning of Integrated Municipal Development (PMID (used to be called PDID))	June 30, 2015
First Amendment to Decree-Law no.8/2013, of 26 June , on the General Framework of <i>Programa Nacional de Desenvolvimento dos Sucos Dezenvolvimentu Suku</i> (PNDS - the National Programme on Suco development	June 30, 2015/August 26, 2015
Decree Law no. 12/2015 on Organic Structure of Ministry of State Administration	April 21, 2015/May 25,2015/June 3, 2015
Decree Law No.5/2015 on the Status of Special Administrative Region of Oe-Cusse Ambeno	January 22 , 2015
Decree Law No. 28/2014 on Special Procurement Scheme for Special Administrative Region of Oecusse	September 24, 2014
Decree-Law No. 19/2014 that approves the Statute of the Leaders of the Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structures	July 24, 2014
Law No. 3/2014 on the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse and establishes the Special Zone of Social Market Economy	June 18, 2014
Decree Law No.4/2014 on the Organic Statute of Structures of Administrative Pre-Deconcentration	January 22, 2014
Decree Law No. 08/2013 on the National Program for the Development of Sucos (PNDS)	June 26, 2013
Decree Law No. 4/2012 on Planning of Integrated District Development (PDID)	February 15, 2012
The Law No. 11/2009 on Administrative and Territorial Division	October 7, 2009

Annex 3
Summary of Radio Broadcasts Related to Decentralization

ARKTL's Achievement from June-Sept		Monthly Broadcast					Total Broadcasts
Vox Pops	Questions for Vox Pops	Baucau	Covalima	Ermera	Liquiça	Oecusse	
Vox Pops	What do you know about the Pre-Deconcentration Administrative (PDA)?	59 times within 3 months	59 times within 3 months	59 times within 3 months	59 times within 3 months	59 times within 3 months	295
	Do you agree, that community members should involved in determining municipal priorities?						
	Do you think it is important for community members to participate in the development of the municipal annual plan?						
	If you have a chance, what would you like to say to the Municipal authorities?						
	What do you see as the obstacles to implementing the pre-deconcentration administrative structure in your municipality?						
	Questions for Vox Pops in RAEOA						
	What do you know about RAEOA?						
	What do you know about ZEESM?						
	Do you think ZEESM benefits the people of Oecusse?						
	Do think the changes that are taking place in Oecusse were consulted beforehand with the people of Oecusse? Do you think that the people of Oecusse have been given the chance to say what they think and express their concerns						
If you were asked your opinion, how do you think that we could improve the implementation of ZEESM in Oecusse?							
Talk Show	RAEOA	2 times within a month x 3 months =6	2 times within a month x 3 months =6	2 times within a month x 3 months =6	2 times within a month x 3 months =6	2 times within a month x 3 months =6 plus 2 extra broadcasts = 8	32
	Community involvement in RAEOA/ZEESM						
	Participation of local small business in RAEOA/ZEESM						
	Land and property issue in RAEOA/ZEESM						
	Women and youth participation in RAEOA/ZEESM						
	Community's thought on the new draft law						
	Baucau, Covalima, Ermera and Liquiça;						
	Community involvement in local governance in Baucau, Covalima, Ermera and Liquiça;						
	Community participation to enhance municipal revenue						
	Decentralization plan and where it is now;						
Women and youth participation in local governance							

	Community's thought on the new draft law						
PSA	Pre-Deconcentration Administrative Structure (PDA)	78 broadcas t per month within 4- month	78 broadcas t per month within 4- month	78 broadcas t per month within 4- month	78 broadcast per month within 4- month	78 broadcast per month within 4- month	1170
	Decentralization and the devolution of power in RAEOA						
	ZEESM						
	Suco Councils as community's messengers						
Radio Drama	The theme of radio drama was around the issues of decentralization and the devolution of power in RAEOA including ZEESM.	8 broadcas t per month within 3- month (July/Aug ust/Sept)	8 broadcas t per month within 3- month (July/Aug ust/Sept)	8 broadcas t per month within 3- month (July/Aug ust/Sept)	8 broadcast per month within 3- month (July/Augu st/Sept)	8 broadcast per month within 3- month (July/Augu st/Sept)	120

Annex 4
Sucos where Legal Awareness Campaigns took place

<i>Sucos Reached by Ba the Legal Aid Partners During Legal Awareness Campaigns Held Between July-September 2015</i>				
Implementing Partner	Date	Suco	Administrative post	Municipality
JPC	July 7 2015	Bucoli	Baucau	Baucau
	July 7 2015	Triloca	Baucau	Baucau
	August 21 2015	Bercoli	Venilale	Baucau
	August 31 2015	Garu-Uai	Baucau vila	Baucau
	Sept 18 2015	Bado-Hoo	Venilale	Baucau
	Sept 21 2015	Fatulia	Venilale	Baucau
	Sept 23 2015	Baha-Mori	Venilale	Baucau
Fundacao Fatuk Sinae Oecusse	July 3 2015	Bene-Ufe	Nitibe	Oecusse Special Region
	July 8 2015	Bobocase	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	July 9 2015	Naimeco	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	July 15 2015	Lifau	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	July 23 2015	Cunha	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	July 24 2015	Nifani	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	July 28 2015	Taiboco	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	July 29 2015	Suni-Ufe	Nitibe	Oecusse Special Region
	August 7 2015	Taiboco	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	August 13 2015	Usi-Tacae	Oesilo	Oecusse Special Region
	August 14 2015	Bobometa	Oesilo	Oecusse Special Region
	August 21 2015	Costa	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	Sept 17 2015	Bobocase	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	Sept 18 2015	Naimeco	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	Sept 21 2015	Cunha	Pante makasar	Oecusse Special Region
	Sept 25 2015	Suni-Ufe	Nitibe	Oecusse Special

				Region
LIBERTA Advocacia e Consultoria	July 22 2015	Catrailete	Lete Foho	Ermera
	July 23 2015	Lauana	Lete Foho	Ermera
	July 24 2015	Lemea	Ermera	Ermera
	July 27 2015	Tiarlelo	Atsabe	Ermera
	July 28 2015	Malabe	Atsabe	Ermera
	August 19 2015	Haupu	Lete Foho	Ermera
	August 24 2015	Era-Ulu	Lete Foho	Ermera
	August 27 2015	Goulolo	Lete Foho	Ermera
	Sept 15 2015	Poetete	Ermera	Ermera
	Sept 18 2015	Lauala	Ermera	Ermera
	Sept 21 2015	Estado	Ermera	Ermera

Annex 5

List of Judges who Attended Court Management, Leadership, and Administration Training

List of Judges attending Court Leadership and Management training Sept. 8-10,2015				
No.	Name	Sex	Municipality	Position
1.	Afonso Carmona	M	Baucau	Judge Administrator
2.	Antonio Fonseca	M	Baucau	permanet judge
3	Hugo D.C Pui	M	Baucau	permanet judge
4	Ivan Patriciano Antonino	M	Baucau	Probationary judge
5	Albertina C Neves	F	Baucau	Probationary judge
6	Arjentino L Nunes	M	Covalima	permanet judge
7	Sribuana da Costa	F	Covalima	Judge probationary
8	Maria Modesta	F	Covalima	Judge probationary
9	Nason Sarmiento	M	Covalima	Judge probationary
10	Duarte Tilman Soares	M	Dili	Judge Administrator
11	Antonino Gonsalves	M	Dili	permanet judge
12	Jacinta Correia da Silva	F	Dili	permanet judge
13	Francisca M Cabral	F	Dili	permanet judge
14	Jumiati M Freitas	F	Dili	permanet judge
15	Zulmira Da Silva	F	Dili	permanet judge
16	Jose Maria de Araujo	M	Dili	permanet judge
17	Jose Q.S Celestino	M	Dili	Probationary judge
18	Eusebio X Victor	M	Dili	Probationary judge
19	Benjamin Baros	M	Dili	Probationary judge
20	Ersila de Jesus	F	Dili	Probationary judge
21	Jose Escurial	M	Dili	Probationary Judge
22	M.Solene Fernando	F	Dili	Probationary judge
23	Samuel Da Costa P	M	Dili	Probationary judge
24	Joao Ribeiro	M	Oecusse	Judge Administrator

Annex 6
Detailed Report of Monitoring of Progress Against Performance Indicators

Component “A” Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	Year 2 Target	LOP Target	Status
Number of CSOs using USG assistance to improve internal organizational capacity (F indicator)	4	3	4	5 (2 new)
Number of constituent engagement initiatives implemented through joint CSO/suco council partnerships	10	25	50	23 selected grantees
Number of suco councils who report holding constituent dialogues to identify the specific needs of women in their sucos	0	0	50	In planning
Increased knowledge and understanding among Suco council members of individual and institutional roles and responsibilities	Baseline	Baseline	50%	Baseline established
Proportion of females (Suco council members trained) who report increased self-efficacy at the conclusion of USG supported training/program (F indicator)	4/5	4/5	4/5	TBD
Number of sub-national entities receiving USG assistance that improve their performance (F indicator)	Baseline	Baseline	100%	Baseline established
Increased performance and organizational capacity among sub-national entities that receive USG assistance	Baseline	Baseline	25%	Baseline established
Number of participating suco councils reporting increased communication and collaboration with district and/or national government officials.	0	50	100	TBD
Increased confidence in the effectiveness of suco councils in local development planning, infrastructure development and maintenance, and conflict mitigation in target communities.	Baseline	N/A	TBD	Baseline established

Component “B” Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	Year 2 Target	LOP Target	Status
Number of people reached through CSO decentralization awareness campaigns	25,000	25,000	100,000	507
Number of dialogues, workshops and other events aimed at increasing local-level input into the national discourse on decentralization	6	10	36	6
Number of mechanisms developed or supported by Ba Distrito and USG Assistance to improve citizen engagement with local government	20	30	100	In planning
Number of recommendations to new and existing laws developed through consultative processes including government and non-government entities	5	5	20	46
Percentage of citizen knowledge and awareness of decentralization activities in targeted districts	Baseline	N/A	TBD	Baseline established

Component "C" Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	Year 2 Target	LOP Target	Status
Increase in the number of individuals receiving legal aid or victim's assistance with USG support (F indicator)	Baseline	20%	58%	Baseline set
Number of legal information and advocacy campaigns implemented by USG-funded legal aid partners	3	2	5	34
Number of legal information and advocacy campaigns focused on gender equality and/or gender based violence	1	1	3	34
Increased capacity of target legal aid organizations to plan and execute long-term financial sustainability strategies	Baseline	TBD	52%	Baseline set
Increased number of cases resolved by USG-supported legal aid providers	Baseline	10%	20%	Baseline set
Number of laws, regulations, or amendments to laws promoting an integrated legal aid approach drafted and submitted for approval	3	3	12	2
Number of laws, regulations or amendments to laws promoting an integrated legal aid approach adopted by the GOTL	1	2	5	0
Increase in number of citizens in target areas who report greater access to justice and legal aid information	Baseline	N/A	TBD	Baseline set

Component "D" Performance Indicators	Year 1 Target	LOP Target	Status
Number of judges and judicial personnel trained with USG assistance (F indicator)	10	100	TBD
Increased knowledge of administrative, financial and case management processes and procedures among judicial personnel	Baseline	50%	To be determined
Number of PACT improvements adopted that increase court functionality and administration of justice	2	8	7
Number of PACT improvements adopted that increase public access to information	2	8	0
Increased percentage of citizens in target communities who report confidence in the formal justice sector/district courts	Baseline	TBD	To be determined

Annex 7

Detailed Report of Completion of Activities against FY15 Work Plan

Component A – Local Governance Strengthening

A.1 Engage and Evaluate Capacity of Participating Suco Councils		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Finalize district selection with USAID and the GOTL	November 2013 - December 2014	Complete.
Launch Ba Distrito in selected year two districts Liquiça and Ermera	November 2014	Complete. Project launch events were on November 18 in Ermera and November 24 in Liquiça.
Finalize selection criteria and Request for Applications (RFA) process for participation in the Ba Distrito project	November 2014	Complete. It based on suco selection criteria from the first year. Methodology changes slightly.
Provide proposal preparation, technical assistance and training	November 2014	Complete.
Issue RFAs for participation in the Ba Distrito project	November-December 2014	Complete – methodology changed. Project staff will monitor the dissemination of RFAs in conjunction with implementing partners to ensure there are equal opportunities for participation
Evaluate applications and select participating sucos	January 2015	Complete.

A.2 Review Update and Create Local Governance Strengthening Tools and Resources		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Collect and review existing tools, manuals and training materials	October-November 2014	Complete.
Update and synthesize tools, manuals and training materials	October-December 2014	Complete for SukAT kit; in process for training modules. Consultant has finalized three training modules and drafted the remaining. The remaining drafts cannot be finalized until the role of the suco council is determined. The government is proposing significant changes.
Deploy STTA Organizational Development Expert	December 2014-September 2015	Ongoing. STTA OD expert has produced three final modules on Leadership and Communication, Women's Rights and Access to Justice and Community Consultation. The remaining work will be completed remotely.
Hold district government consultations on OCP/SGPS and other tools, manuals and training materials	February 2015	Partially complete. Municipal and Post Administrators and Administrator of Post Administration have received the first training module on Leadership and Communication. Consultations need to be redone with the new leadership in MSA.

Introduce final tools, manuals and training materials for OCP/SGPS to line ministries, district governments, sucos and CSOs	March 2015	Partially complete. Three final modules for this year on Leadership and Communication, Women's Rights and Access to Justice and Community Consultation have been approved by DNDCAS (now DNAAS) within Ministry of State Administration. Remaining modules to be finalized and approved by DNAAS and RAEOA as needed.
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A.3 Design and Deliver Capacity Development Assistance to Sucos and Associations		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Conduct rapid capacity assessments of sucos	December 2014- January 2015	Complete. Senior Ba Distrito/Belun staff will be provided with OD and field assessment STTA during this process
Analyze training needs based on assessments	January 2015	Complete. Senior Ba Distrito staff will be provided with OD STTA during this process
Develop training framework and initial trainings	January-February 2015	Complete. Senior Ba Distrito staff will be provided with OD STTA during this process
Conduct capacity building Training of Trainers (ToTs) for Belun	March 2015	Complete. Tot for Belun and for JSMP was provided by the project prior to training implementation at the suco level.
Belun to provide trainings to each district (2-3 per year)	March-July 2015	Complete. Belun conducted training on (1) Leadership and Communication and (2) Community Consultation. JSMP provided training on (3) Access to Justice and Women's Rights.
Regional Managers conduct mentorship activities	October 2014 to September 2015	Ongoing.
Conduct regular site visits for sucos	October 2014 to September 2015	Ongoing. Ba Distrito Senior OD, M&E and Governance staff will conduct site visits

A.4 – Increase Capacity to Respond to Citizen Needs		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Issue solicitation for Constituent Engagement Grants	January to February 2015	Complete. The selection criteria will ensure that these citizen-driven initiatives could either stimulate appropriate PNDS project support or correct for non-participatory allocation and implementation of PNDS project funds and not be duplicative of efforts being funded under the PNDS. The RFA has been drafted.
Review applications for Constituent Engagement Grants	March 2015	Complete. The Ba Distrito Project Steering Committee selected 23 successful applications. A rolling application period is still open and new applications are arriving regularly for the next round.
Award Constituent Engagement Grants	April 2015	In planning for next quarter. The applications were all deficient and require a substantial amount of support from Ba Distrito in order to have the activities clearly set out and the budget accurate. This is currently in progress but requires one on one support and takes considerable time because

		of the rural location of the applicants.
Provide mini-trainings and technical assistance to grantees	April 2015	In planning for next quarter. A simple training module is being developed to hit key concepts of financial management, the key elements of the grants, rules and how to effectively engage in community consultation.
Monitor and support Constituent Engagement Grantees	April to September 2015	In progress. The project is regularly supporting CSOs to develop their applications and to revise the applications for more clarity.

A.5 – Facilitate Networking, Exchange Visits and Joint Action Among Sucos		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Provide technical assistance to suco councils to strengthen or form associations	October 2014 to September 2015	Partially complete. Because we are not working in every suco in every municipality the strategy has been adjusted to promote stronger associations between our network of sucos. This is being cultivated through a combination of activities: suco exchanges, suco and municipal forums, municipal level dialogues and the suco expo. The project is supporting the sucos within its network to strengthen their association with one another.
Suco Exchange Visits	February 2015, September 2015 (3 times per year per municipality and region)	Partially complete. This year the project experienced delays for various reasons. In Baucau, the security situation impacted on mobility between sucos. In Covalima a change in staffing resulted in some delays to activities. During Q3 3 suco exchanges took place (Ermera, Baucau, and Oecusse). During Q4 3 suco exchanges also took place (Covalima (1) and Liquiça(2)). The total number of suco exchanges achieved this year was 6 of the intended target of 15.
District Trade Show/Suco Expo	August 2015 (one per year per district)	In planning. The suco expo did not take place as planned in FY15 but preparations are underway for the first to take place in early FY16.

A.6 – Improve Suco and District Collaboration for Better Service Delivery		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Organize roundtables for suco and district officials	February to March 2015; June to July 2015	Partially Complete. One Suco-Municipal Forum has been held in Baucau, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse in FY15. One was not held in Covalima. The project's new municipal coordinator for Covalima is working to coordinate a similar event in Covalima during the first quarter of FY16. Suco council members and municipal level service providers participated.
Mentoring to sucos in communicating to higher-level government institutions	October 2014 to September 2015	Ongoing. This is being achieved through the Suco-Municipal Forums and through the training on Leadership and Communication and technical follow up from Belun and Counterpart. Preparations for suco expo/tradeshows began.
STTA Good Governance	February to March	Complete. STTA Good Governance Advisor

Advisor deployed	2015	provided assistance in mentoring and designing exchange and trade show activities
District Administration (DA) officials attend suco exchange visits and trade shows.	February to March 2015; June to August 2015	Ongoing. Municipal level officials and sub-municipal level officials are always invited but do not often attend the suco exchanges. The project is working to get municipal level buy in on the upcoming suco exchanges.
Support a target group of sucos in each district to improve service delivery	April to August 2015	Ongoing but partially incomplete. Suco exchanges are a way to promote information and skill sharing, but to date have not extended to resource sharing. Suco Municipal Forums have been promoting joint advocacy around service delivery issues. The resource sharing to improve service delivery angle is no longer possible in the face of the moratorium on new rounds of PNDS funding to the village level.

Component B – Decentralization

B.1 – Solicit and Present Research on Citizens’ Opinion on Decentralization Policy and Practice to GOTL and Other Stakeholders:		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Draft concept papers.	October 2014 and as needed	Ongoing. Briefing notes for Ba Distrito partners have been prepared on the PDA structure, ZEESM and RAEOA. They are regularly updated.
Lead Dialogues with government officials, CSO representatives and academics.	July 2015 to August 2015	Not Complete. The government has refused the project’s offers to coordinate public dialogues on draft legislation related to decentralization. They have instead requested that the project support information dissemination after new laws are passed. The Suco-Municipal Forums until A.6 contribute somewhat to getting dialogues going between sucos and municipal administration on service delivery.
Compile recommendations.	August to September 2015	Not complete. Recommendations have not been compiled because dialogues have not taken place. Recommendations arising from Suco Municipal Forums have been compiled after each event.
Present recommendations.	September 2015	In process. Recommendations are presented at the suco-municipal forums. Formal recommendations have not occurred because of the lack of dialogues.
Participate in policy/legal framework working groups and ensure Ba Distrito participation and the inclusion of sub-district level feedback.	Ongoing	Ongoing. Member of the Policy Forum on revisions to suco legislation and member of decentralization working group.

B.2 – Provide Legal Advice and Legislative Commentary to GOTL:		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Review decentralization legal framework.	January 2014 - ongoing	Ongoing. Legislative developments are continually monitored.
Update on developments of legal framework for decentralization.	January 2014 - ongoing	Ongoing. Legislative developments are continually monitored.
Conduct coordination planning workshops.	December 2015	In planning. This has not been possible in the current context. However the Suco-Municipal Forums are achieving this somewhat.
Respond to invitations to provide legal advice and legislative commentary	July-September 2014 and as needed	As needed. There were no requests for advice during FY15.

B.3 – Design and Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Issue solicitation for Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants.	December 2014 and September 2015	Partially Completed. A grant of approximately \$12,000 was awarded to ARKTL to coordinate a 6 month long community radio campaign on decentralization. An in-kind grant valued at \$15,000 will be made to Belun of 5 short documentaries highlighting best practices at the suco level. The goal to award DRAGs valued at \$50,000 was not realized as the total value of the amount committed was \$27,000. A solicitation for a third grant was not realized.
Review applications for Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants.	January 2015	Completed. The Grants Committee selected ARKTL. An in-kind grant will be made to Belun of 5 short documentaries highlighting best practices at the suco level. The documentaries are being finalized.
Award Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grants.	February 2015	Completed. Awarded to ARKTL for its community radio campaign. An in-kind grant will be made to Belun of 5 short documentaries highlighting best practices at the suco level. The documentaries are being finalized by the selected vendor. Two grants were essentially awarded (although the in-kind grant to Belun is pending completion of the documentary by the Vendor). A third was not.
Monitor and support Decentralization Research and Advocacy Grantees.	February 2015 onwards	Ongoing.

B.4 – Support Information Dissemination on Approved Laws:		
Sub-Activity	Time Frame	Status
Issue solicitation	December 2014	Partially Complete. The project made a strategic decision that because of the low level of capacity of the organizations submitting applications for CEGs, that the small grant CEG mechanism is not the proper mechanism for doing information dissemination on complex decentralization laws and policy. The project will use DRAGs instead to engage in information dissemination about the changing policies. CEGs will be used to promote suco-community interaction.
Review applications	February 2015	Partially Complete. The project made a strategic decision that because of the low level of capacity of the organizations submitting applications for CEGs, that the small grant CEG mechanism is not the proper mechanism for doing information dissemination on complex decentralization laws and policy. The project will use DRAGs instead to engage in information dissemination about the changing policies. CEGs will be used to promote suco-community interaction.
Award grants	February 2015 to March 2015	Partially Complete. The project made a strategic decision that because of the low level of capacity of the organizations submitting applications for CEGs, that the small grant CEG mechanism is not the proper mechanism for doing information dissemination on complex decentralization laws and policy. The project will use DRAGs instead to engage in information dissemination about the changing policies. CEGs will be used to promote suco-community interaction.
Train CSOs and suco councils on outreach about new decentralization framework	March 2015	Ongoing. Training conducted by Ba Distrito Governance team as needed
Monitor and support grantees	February 2015 onwards	Ongoing.
Engage media channels to disseminate information on decentralization laws	As needed	Complete. Through DRAGs to ARKTL.

Component C – Legal Aid Sustainability:

C.1 Support Government to Develop Responsive Integrated and Sustainable Legal Aid Assistance Model		
Sub Activity	Schedule	Status
Stakeholder consultations held with MoJ, OPD, and other GOTL, and key civil society institutions (including project partner AATL) to gain their participation in a systematic legal aid development process for Timor-Leste facilitated by Ba Distrito	Ongoing	In progress. Within this quarter, an intern from William and Mary Law School was deployed to support JSMP in the development of the state of legal aid report.
MOJ introduced to and adopts the Participatory Sustainable Legal Aid Development Guidebook process, creates implementation plan and develops a work calendar for activities	Ongoing	In progress. At the launch of Legal Aid Brief, the project made another presentation of the findings and recommendations which include different models of legal aid that TL may consider given its current context and realities. While recognizing the current gaps, no expression of interest in recommended legal aid models were seen. The project will continue to engage with the government counterpart in the event that any measures are taken to respond to the gaps identified.
Hold discussions MoJ, OPD and AATL and other CSOs on data-driven Legal Aid System Management.	January 2015 to February 2015	In progress. Although not necessarily on the legal aid system management, the project supports the MOJ in the development of qualitative research tools that will help the MOJ gather data via credible and tested methodology. The research is currently at report writing stage with support from an intern from William and Mary Law School deployed this quarter.
Support establishment of mechanisms for ongoing coordination of legal aid system for rational allocation of legal aid funding and donor coordination	Ongoing	In progress. Oecusse and Baucau legal aid coordination regularly meets on monthly basis to discuss legal aid and access to justice related issues that need better response and coordination from all relevant government institutions and local CSOs. During this past quarter, various relevant government institutions continue to attend Oecusse based legal aid coordination working group including National Police's VPU, ALFeLa, Forum for Oecusse Women, Pradet, MOJ, Court, Ombudsman for Human Rights and Justice, Ministry of Social and Solidarity, Health Ministry and other CSOs.
Establish district –level Legal Aid Coordination Groups and conduct training in legal aid	January 2015 onward	In progress. See the commentary in the previous row.

assessment, data collection and monitoring systems. These groups will be composed of legal aid providers in the area and coordinated by legal aid grantees and implementing partners FFSO		
Conduct surveys and random sampling called for in the Guide	Ongoing	Partially in progress. Access to Justice, M&E, and Public Outreach staff.
<i>State of Legal Aid Annual Report</i> completed and communication strategy for findings and recommendations developed. Access to justice staff together with JSMP.	September 2015	In progress. Implementing partner JSMP is presently gathering data on the quality of legal representation from all trial courts. Analysis of the data is scheduled to begin in the first quarter of FY16 with technical support from Ba Distrito.
Resuming Legal Aid Coalition formerly established by The Asia Foundation with previous USAID access to justice funds. Access to justice team to coordinate and provide technical support to the Coalition	January 2015 onward. Meeting every two months	Ongoing.

C2. Improve Capacity and Outreach of Legal Aid and Alternative Dispute Providers		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Award Legal Aid Advocacy and Implementation Grants	December 2014	Completed.
Design and issue RFA and access to justice Grants	December 2014 to January 2015	Completed. See the previous column
OD assessments with grantees	January to February 2015 and ongoing	Completed. See Component A progress report.
Complete training needs assessment for legal aid service providers and training developed for legal aid advocacy and implementation grants and access to justice technical grants	January 2015	Completed. A case management expert Alison conducted assessments of the legal aid partners and provide case management training to the legal aid partners and private lawyers in the next quarter.
Delivers training to legal aid providers	January to March 2015	Completed. Legal aid partners and private lawyers received case management training from Alison Ryan followed by action planning of the Project's legal aid partners.
JSMP delivers training to Suco Council members on formal justice	February 2015 to July 2015	Completed. At the close of Q4 only one day of training for the last group of sucos remained. It was completed on October 1.

C.3 Assess and Reinforce Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanism		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Map the ADR services available in each district of intervention	October 2014 and ongoing	Ongoing. Implementing partner Belun has begun collecting ADR practice starting in April. Only a few data was collected in the last two months of the quarter due to Belun's preoccupation with the suco training. The Project, however, will continue to work with Belun to gather more information on ADR resolution that takes place at the suco level
Monitor ADR process	Monthly beginning January 2015	Ongoing. See the commentary in the preceding column. The project is focusing ADR monitoring on getting a snap shot of what cooperating suco council members are doing in terms of non-formal dispute resolution.
Identify possible ways to link ADR to formal justice sector and other state institutions in pilot areas to inform future activities	July 2015	Ongoing. Working with Belun and JSMP, respective work in ADR and formal justice system strengthening
Compile recommendations with regard to regulation of customary law and community justice and linkages to formal sector	As required	In progress. Incorporating other donor-funded studies especially those in relation to GVB, implementing partner JSMP monitoring and implementing partner Belun's monitoring
Contribute to drafting and revising laws on alternative mechanisms	As required	As needed.
Under Access to Justice grants, provide socialization, outreach and training to community leaders on such issues as GBV, human rights, customary law, existing referral mechanisms, and fundamental legal principles.	February to July 2015	Complete. JSMP is providing training to suco council members on these topics. FFSO, JPC and Liberta are also doing legal education at the suco level.

C.4 Targeted Assistance on Improving the Legislative Framework for Legal Aid		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Legal Aid Coalition Meeting every two months	Ongoing	Ongoing. The legal aid partners convened two meetings at Ba Distrito project office to discuss strategy for advocacy as well as draft Law on Bar Association. Although raising concerns about mandatory pro bono for the private lawyers, the group plans to make a submission to the draft Bar Association Law about the importance of legal aid work by the private lawyers.
Present to the Legal Aid Coalition legislative gaps and inconsistencies that can be	February 2015 onward	Complete.

basis for advocacy		
Provide analysis, amendments, drafts on Legal Aid law and related legislation	As needed	Ongoing. A2J team and international STTA provided as needed.

C.5 Provide Support to Government and CSOs to Create Accessible and Effective Legal Information		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Legal Information Working Group established	January 2015 onward	Ongoing. Working with UNTL's Radio Academica, six radios PSA drama series were developed and produced in both Tetun and Baekeno by the legal aid partners with close support from the Project. Legal aid partners have also entered into agreement with community radios in Baucau, Ermera, Liquiça and Oecusse to broadcast the justice PSA drama series on weekly basis Monday to Saturday. Broadcast started in Covalima as well during this quarter.
Working Group identifies priority areas for campaigns	January 2015 onward	Ongoing. See the previous column
Support development of Legal Information and Advocacy Guide Book produced in consultation with stakeholders	March 2015 and ongoing	In planning.
Legal information capacity building training initiated with government and judicial agencies and program grantees	January 2015	In planning.
Deliver training to media and develop packets on the key access to justice topics	February 2015	Ongoing.

Component D – District Court Functionality:

D.1 Assess Needs and Design District Court Training Program		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Sign Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) as needed with MOJ, Baucau and Oecusse District Courts	January 2015	Partially complete. Although the project had very positive discussions with the Minister of Justice Dr. Ivo Valente last quarter and Coordinating Minister on State Administration and Justice Matters this quarter, the project was informed by the MOJ cabinet chief that the MOU signing between MOJ and Ba Distrito will be put on hold until a Legislative Reform and Justice Sector Committee has been established. See political context section for more information.
Monitor district courts with an emphasis on access and quality	January 2015 onward	Ongoing. Within this quarter, the implementing partner JSMP actively

of legal aid services in the courts		monitoring the quality of legal aid in all municipal and regional court of Timor-Leste prior to and after the judicial holidays. A draft Oecusse court thematic report was finalized and revised by the project.
Conduct additional Training Needs Assessment of district court staff as needed	February 2015 and onward	Completed and Ongoing. The additional assessment completed by STTA Rick Callanan contributed to this during this FY15 as did JSMP's monitoring. .
Support LTC in design of training modules and changes to curricula for staff in District courts, adapted to their functions and based on needs	January 2015 onward	Ongoing. The project, within this quarter has held several discussions with the director of LTC Dr. Marcelina Tilman to develop and deliver a case management course to be incorporated in the LTC curriculum for private lawyers.
Training Needs Assessment Report updated based on any additional assessments completed. Training assessments to be done in conjunction with LTC and/or justice institution staff where possible	February 2015	In planning.
Training Blueprint developed for district judges, select court staff, public defenders and private lawyers, if agreed by Court and Office of Public Defender	February 2015 to March 2015	In planning. The project is limiting this to its work with the judicial officers and judges and focusing it on areas in relation to the work agreed under the PACTS. The CoA has been reluctant to discuss a training blueprint for its entire staff.

D.2 - Deliver Training for Justice and Accountability Institution Staff		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Develop training and training program in conjunction with LTC and select justice institution staff	February 2015 onward	Partially Complete. The Court will not agree to a training program but is open to ad hoc training. During Q4 American Justice Harlan (Ret) of California's Contra Costa district court was deployed to the field. Based on the agreement with the Court of Appeal, the training on Court Management, Leadership, and Administration was developed and delivered to a total of 24 judges including 8 female judges.
Training of Trainers	March 2015	In planning. There are no Timorese professional judicial trainers. The LTC still uses international trainers. The project in Q4 held several discussions with the director of LTC Dr. Marcelina Tilman to develop and deliver a case management course to be incorporated in the LTC curriculum for private lawyers. As per the initial agreement, the development and delivery of this training will be jointly done by

		a pair of international and national STTAs in the hope that they to prepare a national trainer who can continue provide the training in the future
Review of Training Pilots	February 2015	In planning.
PACT process launched with identification of non-training interventions in district court(s), creation of framework agreement and gaining national counterpart authorization for pilot activities	June to September 2015	Ongoing. After agreeing to seven recommendations for improved court statistics, the project finalized the PACT activities including a detailed PACT implementation schedule for improved courts statistics within this quarter. Similarly, the training for judges on court management, leadership and administration also resulted in the development of generic PACT activities for improved access which were discussed with Baucau and Oecusse judge administrators at the end of the training.
Introduce PACT process at district court level and sign agreements	January 2015 to February 2015	Complete. PACT activities and detailed implementation plan for improved court statistics was signed by Ba Distrito and the Court of Appeal's team president within this quarter. As an important next step to implementing these PACT activities, Ba Distrito entered into contract with a local IT firm Info Timor to provide Advance Excel to the judicial officers. The training materials are currently under development and the training delivery is expected to happen early next quarter. On the improved court access, the project is still developing a detailed PACT implementation schedule which will be presented to the Court of Appeal's team president. The project expects to have the PACT activities for improved access to court agreed and signed within the next quarter to begin implementation.
PACT action planning	February 2015	Ongoing. See preceding column
PACT implementation	February 2015 onwards	Ongoing. See preceding column

D.3 Introduce Professional Development System (PDS)		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Encourage judiciary and possibly the Public Defender's Office to strengthen the existing PDS to include job training and monitoring and evaluation linked to performance evaluation	January 2015 onward	In planning.
If invited, facilitate the judiciary and possibly the Public	February 2015	In planning.

Defender's Office to undertake a self-assessment of each institution's current professional development system and identify opportunities for developing an integrated PDS		
If agreed, initiate implementation / refinement of PDS with agreed key counterpart institution(s). Support judiciary to develop and monitor Individual Development Plans for the senior justice personnel	April 2015 onward	In planning.

D.4 Build Capacity of the LTC in its Role to Increase Human Capacity in Judicial Institutions

Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Enter agreement with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to engage in institutional capacity building and training in conjunction with district court strengthening	January 2015 to February 2015	Ongoing. The role of the LTC in judicial continuing legal education is nominal only, not substantive. The LTC is substantively involved in training new lawyers waiting to be qualified.
Engage MoJ/LTC and Superior Council in OD self-assessment process using Tt DPK Judicial Training Institute Development Tool (Baucau) and develop action plan based on findings	February 2015	In planning.
Identify ways for MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to decentralize training and provide more in-service training to better meet capacity building needs of currently serving district judges, prosecutors, defenders, lawyers, clerks, notaries and registrars, translators, interpreters, etc	February 2015 onward	Partially started.
Work with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to ensure that the training programs targeting district court staff are evaluated	February 2015 onward	In process.
Work with MoJ/LTC and Superior Council to institutionalize an annual training review process to better meet district court needs	February 2015 onward	In planning. There is little buy in on this from the CoA but the project will continue to engage in soft advocacy.

D.5 Flexible and Responsive Training Fund		
Sub-Activity	Schedule	Status
Quick impact training	TBD	Not yet required.

Component E

At the request of the AOR election related activities have been put on hold until we receive approval of the FY16 workplan. During Q4 election activities were limited to relationship building with named partners, preparation of draft scopes of work and budgets in anticipation of future sub-grants and monitoring of the ever changing election context.

Annex 8

Success Story from Women's Representative Suco Samalari, Baucau, Teresa Soares



Teresa Soares, Elected Women's Representative, Suco Samalari, Baucau.

I am Teresa Soares. Before I participated in activities supported by Ba Distrito, I normally just exercised my roles and responsibilities as a Women's Representatives to the best of my ability. Sometimes in my village I wasn't given the opportunity to speak, to say something about suco issues related with my role as an elected member of the suco council. A member elected to represent the women in the community. This was because I had only limited capacity to exercise my role. It was big challenge for me to try to address.

After I was elected in 2010, I imagined my role being to serve official guests; I did not have idea what I should be doing. Every time I received an invitation from the municipal or administrative post level I lacked the confidence to represent my suco to discuss issues related to women's needs in my suco.

The activities I have done with Ba Distrito project have taught me things. Personally I feel I have changed my perspective and strengthened my personal capacity. I have learned from three different training modules delivered by Ba Distrito. I also received one on one technical assistance from Belun's and Counterpart's Coordinator in Baucau for our suco council members. Now I feel I confident to stand up in public and raise women's needs. I am able to join a meeting with other women and I feel like I have more opportunity to express my ideas in suco meetings. I am confident to represent the suco and the women in our suco at the municipal level too. I also can help and support my female colleagues to explain about Suco Law No 3/2009 in relation to suco council's roles and responsibility and my role as the women's representative. I can mention article 5, 11 and 14 of Community Leadership Law No. 3/2009. Before joining the training facilitated by Belun, I did not understand what the law said about the suco council's roles. Maybe we were performing our roles according to the Law No. 3/2009 but maybe perhaps we have done something against what the regulation said. In the past we called our community for consultations and meetings, but we did not actually know exactly what we wanted to consult about, or how we could do effective consultation with community members. The training on Community Consultation has given me ideas how to conduct consultation with various member of community and how to make women active in the process.

I cannot wait to participate in next training. I look forward to reading and learning from the remaining training modules that Ba Distrito will offer as it increases my knowledge. Even though our mandate is almost ended, I hope Ba Distrito will finalize the training module as soon as possible and continue to provide training for us.