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**QUARTERLY REPORT:  
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2017  
USAID'S AVANSA AGRIKULTURA PROJECT**

**February 2, 2018**

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**Submitted by:**

Cardno Emerging Markets USA, Ltd.

**Submitted to:**

USAID/Timor-Leste

**Contract No.:**

AID-472-C-15-00001

**DISCLAIMER**

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## Acronyms

CCA/NRM	Climate Change Adaptation/ Natural Resource Management
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FTF	Feed the Future
GIZ	Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NRM	Natural Resource Management
STTA	Short Term Technical Assistant
TOT	Training of Trainers
TRM	Tuba Rai Metin
ZOI	Zone of Influence

## 1. Background

USAID's Avansa Agrikultura Project is a horticulture value chain activity aimed at addressing the key challenges of rural poverty, natural resource degradation, food insecurity, and under-nutrition. The value chain approach will be applied in achieving increased productivity along key horticulture value chains that include vegetables, fruits and legumes. Through the promotion of sustainable production practices, increased functionality of farmer groups and associations, improved market linkages, and increased availability and access to quality agricultural inputs and services, including access to finance, the project is stimulating and supporting increased economic activity and growth in targeted rural communities and municipalities. Sustainability of these interventions is supported by work to maintain sound policies and an enabling environment relevant to the sector, as well as efforts to increase resilience to climate change and improve natural resource management as it relates to farm systems.

The project supports the Development Objective of the USAID/Timor-Leste Mission: institutional and human capacity for development strengthened to improve the lives of Timor-Leste's citizens. The overall purpose of the USAID's Avansa Agrikultura Project is to accelerate inclusive and sustainable economic growth through increased productivity/profitability of the horticulture value chain and to support nutrition-smart agriculture interventions that support increased food production, agriculture income and women's empowerment.

This will be achieved through two project Sub-Purposes and two Embedded Themes.

### **Sub-Purpose 1 – Improved Ability of Timorese Citizens to Engage in Economic Activities**

Within Sub-Purpose 1, four activities will be implemented:

*1.1 Strengthen market linkages*

*1.2 Support development of agribusiness and agri-support service providers*

*1.3 Regulatory and trade policy improvements*

*1.4 Improving capacities of government to support horticulture development and improve nutrition*

### **Sub-Purpose 2 – Increase productivity of selected horticultural value chains**

Within Sub-Purpose 2, two activities will be implemented:

*2.1 Conduct tailored trainings to improve productivity*

*2.2 Integrate NRM and nutrition training with farmer groups*

### **Embedded Themes**

Within Embedded Themes, two activities will be implemented:

*Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture*

*Incorporating women and youth*

## 2. Highlights this Reporting Period

Significant activities were undertaken in the period of October through December 2017. The following provides a summary.

### 2.1. Project Administration and Management

- > The project hired Luis Mariano da Cunha as CCA/NRM Specialist and Agostinho Pinteus de Carvalho as Interpreter/Translation Assistant.
- > Communications and Public Relations Assistant Teresinha Santos da Costa resigned.
- > The project relocated the Bobonaro Municipal office to Aldeia Solugolo, Suco Holsa, Maliana near MAF's office.
- > The project engages various short term technical assistants (STTAs). This past quarter the following STTAs were engaged:

Name	Time Period	Purpose
Joseph Freach	Oct 15 – Oct 25	Horticulture Policy Assessment
Hiqmet Demiri	Nov 6 – Nov 11	Fertilizer Regulatory Assessment – IFDC

### 2.2. Sub-Purpose 1 – Improved Ability of Timorese Citizens to Engage in Economic Activities

#### *Output 1: Market Linkages Improved and Expanded across the Horticulture Value chain*

**Objectives:** To transition from a subsistence-based horticulture sector to a commercial sector, private sector participation in the value chain needs to increase. This includes developing linkages between farmers and final markets, strengthening linkages between input suppliers and farmers, developing new markets through value-added production and processing, and improving capacities of agribusiness service providers, including trainers, financial intermediaries and extension workers.

#### Activity 1.1: Strengthen market linkages

- > This quarter the project identified 37 new farmer groups to transition to commercial horticulture. Training plans were developed for each group, starting with farmer group formation training, which includes business group formation training, financial bookkeeping, price formation and marketing.
- > The project delivered farmer group formation training to eighteen groups, of which eight were refresher trainings to existing farmer groups.
- > A number of farmer groups complained to the project about supermarkets, stating that they felt that the supermarkets were not treating them in a professional manner. Their main points of concern were: 1) supermarkets were not conducting pick-ups on a weekly basis, 2) they would come hours later than scheduled, and 3) that supermarkets were not purchasing all products as agreed. The project held meetings with the owners of both Kmanek and Dilimart to discuss farmers' complaints. As a result, meetings were then held between the supermarkets and their farmers, with the project facilitating the discussion. The result of those meetings were:
  - The project will assist the supermarkets to develop production plans and revise the current MoUs they have with the groups. In some cases, the project will assist in drafting a new MOU where one does not exist.

- New prices now need to be negotiated, as supermarkets are no longer supplying farmers with seeds.
  - Supermarkets and farmers have agreed to have more regular meetings organized without project assistance.
  - Specific to Kmanek supermarket, farmers identified issues including lack of consistent grading systems, resulting in what they perceived as products being randomly rejected. They complained about payment delays, and uncertainty of product targets. Kmanek immediately contacted all farmers to ensure that all were paid. The misunderstandings from the grading system most likely are a result of Kmanek field staff whose knowledge about product quality is not up-to-date, despite being trained by USAID's Avansa Agrikultura staff.
  - Dilimart is committed to improving their collaboration with the farmers and plan to increase their staff in Maubisse and build a collection point.
  - The project will implement business management training for farmers to improve their management and production.
  - Dilimart met internally to discuss payment issues and then with farmers in Maubisse and it was agreed that Dilimart would pay all they owe to farmers in January.
- > The project has been working to connect new supermarkets with farmer groups in Hera and Metinaro. Jaco Supermarket is keen to connect to these farmers due to their close proximity to Dili. Jaco's strategy is to collect two beds of produce weekly for each product required. They are currently finalizing their list of required products. The project will work with the farmers on planning production. In the event that the Dili farmers are unable to supply all the product, the project will connect them with farmers in Aileu.
  - > A group of young entrepreneurs previously engaged in construction have been working with the project to enter the agricultural sector by becoming collectors. The project has assisted the entrepreneurs to register a formal business with the Ministry of Justice. They are currently working on their business plan and are looking to the project to assist them with connecting with more farmers. Being legally registered as an agribusiness also means they are eligible to apply for any potential grants issued by the project.
  - > Following the project's assessment about collectors (see table below for summary of findings of assessment), collectors in Hatu-Udo, Ermera, and Maliana have expanded their businesses and have reached out to project beneficiaries. The project has drafted a RFA to support collectors to expand their businesses. The purpose of this RFA is to improve the capacity of wholesalers to collect produce from farmers not connected to supermarkets, or from farmers who have excess produce after selling to supermarkets. Outside of Dili there are currently no

#### Market Assessment of Collectors in ZOI

- > The market in municipalities go beyond the local market and include prisons, military camps, restaurants, religious boarding houses and hospitals
- > Collectors are concerned about lack of consistency of supply of products and limited variety of products, quality is less of a problem.
- > Most traders spend \$100-\$200/week purchasing products. It takes around 10 days to sell the products.
- > Some traders order beds in advance
- > Traders in Ainaro use microlets to collect and take products to markets

#### Strawberry Expansion

Three additional farmers in Ululefa, Maubisse are now also growing strawberries following assistance from Manuel, one of the original farmers engaged with the project. Manuel is now acting as a mini-agent to provide these farmers with drip irrigation, plastic mulch, and seedlings on credit.

New strawberry farmer Maun Januario Berreto with his newly planted seedlings.



supermarkets and communities sell their products in local markets. Collectors are key players for connecting farmers to markets in all municipalities.

>

Summary of Findings of Assessment about Collectors				
Location	Number of Collectors	Collection Method	Market	Product Type
Gleno, Ermera	2 (female)	1 - Public Transportation 2 - Small car obtained through private loan	1 - Farmer and sells to Tasi Tolu Market 2 - Supermarkets (main buyer Leader)	1 - boc choy, tomato, lettuce, Chinese cabbage, water spinach, chili 2 - carrots, tomato, potatoes, lettuce, radish, Chinese cabbage, zucchini, cauliflower, broccoli
Maliana, Bobonaro	4	Motorbike	Maliana Local Market use motorbike Miguir + Atabae + Balibo - use public transportation	Long beans, bac choy, tomato, chili, cassava leaf, mustard greens, eggplant, lettuce, melon
Hatu-Udo, Ainaro	4	1 - motorbike 3 - public transport	Hatu-Udo local market, Same Villa, Ainaro Villa	Eggplant, bitter gourd, tomatoes, papaya flowers, water spinach, long beans, local greens, chinese cabbage Market needs more long bean and boc choy
Dili	2	Private Car 1 linked to market already 1 in process	Supermarkets, Taibesi Local Market, Household Subscription, Heineken, El'Legendario, and other restaurants	Broccoli, cauliflower, boc choy, lettuce, tomatoes, long bean, eggplant, bitter gourd, watermelon, Chinese cabbage, sweet peppers, sweet potatoes, carrots, parsley

- > As previously reported, the project has facilitated the development of a new loan product with Kaebauk, a leading micro-finance organization in Timor for contract farming. The first three project-assisted contract farming agreements were signed with farmers in Liuria, Aileu. The contracts stipulate what to grow, when to grow it, and what inputs to use. The required inputs are provided by Kmanek. Farmers can opt to pay for them with cash or via the Kaebauk contract loan, but the farmers must use the required inputs. The farmers were selected using a "farmer scorecard" approach that takes into account factors such as skills, land and water. Two of the three farmers used the contract farming loan to purchase the required inputs. The inputs were drip irrigation, plastic mulch, seedlings, and chicken manure. All inputs were delivered on time to put the farmers in the best position to succeed. The third farmer opted to wait until the rainy season is over before beginning production. The first farmer's harvest did not meet the quality standards stipulated in the contract and a large part of his harvest was not sold. Under the agreement, Kmanek field staff was able to provide technical assistance to the farmers and to monitor the production. After the first batch failed, Kmanek admitted that their staff are not experienced enough to provide this support (despite previous attempts by the project to engage Kmanek staff in training events). To mitigate the potential of another failed harvest, the project has now stepped into offer more hands-on technical support on a second batch of broccoli, while teaching Kmanek field staff. The second farmer planted his seedlings at the end of December. The onion trial in Fatubossa Aileu was successful and resulted in over 650kg of onions harvested. A harvesting ceremony was held, attended by buyers including Kmanek, USAID representatives and local government representatives. A drying house was constructed to store the freshly harvested onions before processing for transport to Dili. Due to heavy rains, buyers were unable to travel to the location to purchase the onions following the drying process. To assist the farmers the Project facilitated the transport of the



onions to Dili. Approximately 350kgs were sold to Leader, Jaco, Jacinto, Dilimart, and private buyers.

- > Bamboo groups in Eraulo and Estado have continued seedling production for the Bamboo Institute. An additional 4,185 seedlings have been prepared.
- > Passion fruit farmers in Fatubessi, Ermera have approximately 768 trees growing for production of fruit for selling to Timor Global. Timor Global will purchase the fruit for further processing into passionfruit cordial, using proceeds of a project grant.
- > The project is working with lead input suppliers in Timor-Leste to increase the availability of agriculture technology and reduce risk for farmers. Below is a summary of the project's collaboration with two input suppliers to increase access to tillers, drip irrigation and tunnels. The table shows number of farmers in each municipality that received the input.

Input Supplier	Farmers Benefited		
	Tillers (units)	Plastic Tunnels (set)	Drip Irrigation Package
Vinod Patel	Ermera 6 Dili 1 Ainaro 20 Aileu 13		Dili 1 Maliana 20 Aileu 1 Maubisse 12 Hatu-Udo 36 Ermera 50
Kmanek	Maliana 20	Aileu and Ainaro 70	Bobonaro 30

### ***Activity 1.2: Support development of agribusiness and agri-support service providers***

- > The project was invited to participate in the 1<sup>st</sup> Malaysian Organic Conference in Kuala Lumpur along with representatives from Vinod Patel and DiliMart. The purpose of the conference was to gather a diverse range of stakeholders, including NGOs, input suppliers, distributors, buyers, markets, farmer associations, and government agencies to discuss the potential for organic farming. Timor-Leste has the potential to export organic products, where it can have a competitive advantage to other SE Asia countries.
- > Vinod Patel has sourced new seeds from Malaysia, which are cheaper compared to current offers in the market. The project is working with Vinod to test the seeds in the demonstration plots in Ainaro and Aileu to determine which seeds were best suited to different elevations.
- > A mini assessment was conducted of mechanical workshops in Ermera, Aileu, and Maliana (Bobonaro) to determine their capability and willingness to repair the front-tine tillers distributed through the project. The project would provide training to all those interested. There were a number of motorbike repair shops that were interested. The project also met with MAF mechanics in Aileu and Bobonaro to determine their experience and skills on tractor repair. They also stated that they wanted to be involved in the training. The project reached out through Vinod Patel to QUICK Indonesia, the company providing front-tine tillers to project farmers. The company has agreed to implement trainings at no cost. The project will just reimburse accommodation and food costs to the trainer.
- > The project participated in a two-day workshop to officially launch ASNATIL/Asosiasaun Negosiu Sasan Agrikultura Timor-Leste - Timor-Leste's Input Suppliers Association. The association represents all input-suppliers in Timor-Leste. Its main goal is to coordinate activities between members and advocate to donors and governments on policy reform. The purpose of the workshop was to officially launch the association.
- > Business review meetings were held with five small-scale processors concerning how to properly utilize their new machines and increase profits. Many of the new processors have no business

background and limited capacity in running and managing a successful business. One-on-one meetings are held to identify the companies' mission statement, organizational structure, assets, products and subsequent chain of processing, identifying business opportunities, understanding markets and marketing, as well pricing, income and profitability. The team has been interviewing all business owners in order to develop a company analysis which is discussed with the respective companies to develop business plans. The project will work closely with each company for one year and then reduce support during their second business year in order for them to be more self-managing at the close of the project.

- > The project hosted a site visit for TOMAK staff and MAF extension workers from Bobonaro and Baucau to the project's trial onion site in Fatubossa, Aileu. TOMAK is currently working on an onion trial activity in Bobonaro and is looking to expand.
- > The project has been working to facilitate consignment deals throughout the project's ZOI to improve the accessibility and consistent supply of inputs. Farmers in Hatu-Udo have the most difficulty in obtaining inputs due to their remote location. Following the success of the drip irrigation and tiller cost-share package input suppliers have found a new and profitable customer base. Through project facilitation one loja in Hatu-Udo is currently finalizing an agreement with SDAL for seed supply and with Vinod Patel for agriculture equipment and fertilizer. Vinod Patel is in the process of organizing bulk imports from Baba, a Malaysian input supply company, which will allow them to provide more affordable inputs to lojas in the municipalities.

### Activity 1.3: Regulatory and Trade Policy Improvements

- > STTA Hiqmet Demiri arrived in country for the second stage of the fertilizer policy development. This was the second part of a visit to assess the regulatory obstacles to importing fertilizer in Timor. A first draft of the report was completed and the final report is expected soon. The report findings will be presented to government shortly afterwards. Main recommendations are shown in box below.
- > The project participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Timor-Leste Agriculture Census (TLAC) two day workshop as organized by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Finance, and FAO. The purpose of the workshop was to present the questionnaire as well as to present the first draft of the TLAC survey.
- > No progress was made with the pesticide decree law which is still sitting in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. It has not yet been brought before the Council of Ministers for further discussion and approval. There are suggestions to update the decree law to a law to allow for legal prosecution in the case of violation of certain clauses of the law.

#### A Rapid Assessment of the Fertilizer Regulatory Framework for Timor-Leste: Main recommendations:

- > Develop fertilizer strategy to support the growth of domestic production of organic fertilizer
- > Draft Fertilizer Law to enable supervision and control of sales of fertilizer
- > A fertilizer law is also needed to support soil and environment conservation
- > Establish Committee to oversee product registration approval for issuing fertilizer business license, approval of brand bag/label
- > Better controls of fertilizers being imported
- > Establishment of a National Fertilizer Register to avoid seeking approval for each import

### Activity 1.4: Improving capacities of government to support horticulture development and improve nutrition

- > STTA Joseph Freach arrived in country to support the project to develop a Horticulture Policy. He conducted several meetings with GoTL representatives, donors and input suppliers. A workshop was held to jointly identify obstacles to the development of the sector and propose policy solutions. The main conclusion from the workshop was that a policy was not necessary but rather an action plan. As an agriculture policy is under development, most stakeholders felt there was no need to develop a separate strategy, rather action plans that were aligned with the agricultural policy. The project had previously provided comments to MAF regarding the agricultural policy to increase emphasis on horticulture. MAF informed project staff that all the

project's recommendations were taken into consideration; however they are not willing to share the new draft of the agricultural policy with donors.

- > During the project's last project steering committee (PSC) meeting, the National Director of Agribusiness at MAF requested that the project support a national Agribusiness Association Conference. The goal of the conference was to bring together associations across the country to develop a model for other associations to follow. The project, along with other donors, supported this conference. The newly formed national horticulture association, ASHORTIL, completed a presentation about their association. Presentations were also done by FAO, GIZ, and JICA.
- > The project is providing support to the National Horticulture Association ASHORTIL to develop their strategic plan. The plan will identify areas where ASHORTIL should focus their work. A meeting was held with one member to discuss their annual action plan.
- > The project has also been supporting the establishment of municipal level horticulture associations in Ermera and Bobonaro. The project collaborated with Ermera municipal MAF to present a statute for the association to potential members during a general assembly meeting.
- > The project has continued to offer support to MAF with the planning and running of the Horticulture Technical Working Group. However, progress is slow as the National Director for Horticulture does not seem interested to know what donors are doing in this sector.

### 2.3. Sub-Purpose 2 – Increased Productivity of Selected Horticultural Value Chains

#### *Output 2: Sustainable Horticulture Productivity Improved at the Farm Level*

**Objectives:** In Timor-Leste, farmers must improve production to transition from subsistence to commercial farming. This requires significant uptake of new technologies, including new seed varieties, plastic mulch, compost, agricultural equipment, and drip irrigation. Subsistence farmers spend long hours working small plots of land, yet with the introduction of one technology, production results have increased more than three times.

#### Activity 2.1: Conduct tailored trainings to improve productivity

- > Sub-contractor IADE was engaged to deliver financial literacy training to farmers. As of the end of 2017 they trained 470 individuals. The purpose of the training was to teach farmers basic bookkeeping, separating household expenses from their farming revenues and expenses to get a better idea of whether they are making money from the sales of their produce.
- > The training module for Safe Chemical Use was finalized by sub-contractor World Education and was translated into Tetum. Project field staff conducted trainings in Gleno, Ermera and Bobonaro.
- > Training on product pricing and booking-keeping were delivered by project staff to farmers in Aileu, Ainaro, and Bobonaro. The purpose of these trainings is to build farmer capacity in managing their farms as commercialized businesses. Following initial trainings the project's field staff conducted weekly monitoring visits with farmers to assess their progress and determine what additional assistance the groups require. Refresher trainings are also conducted as necessary.
- > Monitoring was conducted for eight farmers who had received drip irrigation packages from Vinod Patel in Atabae and Miguir. As a part of the monitoring visits, project staff wanted to identify any missing materials required for completion of drip irrigation packages and to ensure the systems are installed and are working well. As this is new technology farmers require additional assistance in understanding and knowing how to correctly use these systems. These monitoring visits also provide an opportunity for famers to speak to and ask questions of staff.
- > In addition to the brown onion trial, the project has been trialling new vegetable seed varieties at the project's demonstration farms in Dili and Aileu. Different varieties of peppers, tomatoes, long chili, and onions have been trialled using techniques including planting under a tunnel,

applying plastic mulch and raw material mulch, as well as planting in open areas in both low and mid elevations during the rainy season. Following the trial the project will be able to inform farmers which technique will be most suited for the different seeds.

- > The project's field staff conduct daily trainings with farmer groups on various topics as needed as well as provide weekly monitoring to identify issues and problems faced by farmers. Due to the low education and capacity of many farmers, field staff work closely with various groups, organizing them to work on improving their farms. The following is a breakdown of assistance provided by municipality (note: this does not include already reported activities):

***Ermera:***

- Refresher training on organic pesticide training was held in Ermera with Riheu farmer group.
- Strawberry farmers in Mertuto met with field staff to discuss their strawberry production, issues with pests and disease and how to improve productivity during the wet season. Some farmers are utilizing low tunnels as provided on credit by FarmPro and have been able to produce consistently. Others are not yet implementing this technology and are struggling with their production.
- Training on IPM, liquid organic fertilizer, seedling production, and mechanization were held with farmers from Haburas Bera, Lemorai, GJSS, and Gusain.
- IPM training and monitoring was conducted for farmer groups in Ermera
- Safe chemical use training was delivered to the following groups: Tuguluru Sasikat, Tabaku Laran, Geo-Luli, Demplot, Buka Tuir, Hamoris Tosnain, Gusian, Maudio 2, Dilimart.
- Training on liquid and solid organic fertilizer was delivered for four farmers groups: GJSS, Tabako laran, Tuguluru Sasikat and Lemorai-Ermera.
- Training on mechanization, raised beds and mulching for seven farmers groups: Hamoris to'o's nain, Tabako laran, Gusian, GJSS, Haburas Guhei, Moris Foun and Tuguluru Sasikat-Ermera.
- Refresher training for IPM was delivered for Hamoris To'os nain, Buka Tuir, Gusian, Tabako Laran and Haburas Bera-Ermera.
- Six groups received training on drip irrigation and mini dam, they were Maudio 1, Maudio 2, Tuguluru Sasikat, Buka Tuir, Guana-leun and demo plot.
- Training on media sterilization, seedling production and organic pesticide were conducted for eight farmers groups: Gusian, Hamoris To'os Nain, Tabako laran, Haburas Guhei, Buka Tuir, Ai horis, Tuguluru Sasikat and GJSS-Ermera

***Aileu:***

- Farmers in Lahae were organized to install plastic mulch and construct a nursery for seedling production. Plastic mulch was installed on eight seedbeds. Farmers have continued to germinate broccoli, cauliflower, Chinese cabbage, and lettuce. Additionally, they have planted 600 strawberry seedlings across four seedbeds.
- Hadia Moris group in Liurai were organized for seed germination.
- In Ailulihun farmers constructed three medium tunnels and set up seedbeds.
- Monitoring was done with Mudansa, Hakiak Moris and Foin Kman farmer groups, and farmers from Selo Kraic.
- In Saboria, nutrition training was conducted for farmers and community members.
- Training on tunnel, solid and liquid organic fertilizer for farmers group of Habelar fini farmers group was conducted.
- Conducted training on SALT for Foin Kma'an farmer group with 15 farmers.

## **Dili**

- Farmers from FOSTAL group constructed seedbeds for planting watermelon, bitter gourd, and tomatoes. In December the group harvested water spinach, mustard and eggplant all of which was sold to markets. Revenue earned from the sale was \$2,671.
- Farmers from Hadia Moris at the demo plot prepared six seedbeds for cauliflower and long chili (intercropping). Farmers have harvested bitter ground, eggplant, long bean, bak choy white, tomato, water spinach, and sweet corn, earning \$401.92.
- Training on plant nutrition, solid and liquid fertilizer, nursery management, and mechanization for farmers from Buka Moris and Halibur farmer groups.
- Project socialization was done in Suco Ailo'ok during which 39 individuals participated. Two new farmer groups were formed.
- Training was provided on mechanization, drip irrigation including sprinkler irrigation mulch, organic pesticide, plant nutrition, and solid and liquid organic fertilizer for FOSTAL farmer group in Hera-Dili with 10 participants.
- Fiar Malu farmer groups received training on nursery establishment, mechanization, plant nutrition, and solid and liquid organic fertilizer.
- Fo Liman ba Malu-Dare received training on mulch and seedling production.
- Training on nursery management, plant nutrition, solid and liquid fertilizer and mechanization was delivered for farmers group Halibur and Buka Moris

### **Commercial Nurseries**

Millennium Green Agro (MGA) received a grant from the project in February 2017 to expand their nursery. MGA is one of the few nurseries that can graft trees, which has enabled them to offer fruit seedlings. Through the grant, MGA has been able to more than double their production. As a result, they were able to commit to providing Heineken with \$30,000 worth of fruit trees. MGA has had to hire ten additional staff to help implement this contract which includes maintenance of the trees.

## **Bobonaro:**

- The following farmer groups were monitored: Renova Corluli, Anaka-luhan, demo plot, and raemlarum. Fruit flies were identified in Anaka-luhan and staff recommended the group install traps.
- Peanuts grow well in Bobonaro and there are local markets keen to purchase peanuts for processing. The project assisted two groups with planting peanuts to help meet this demand.
- Farmers from Matan Foinsa'e group were organized to build a nursery for seedling production.
- Crop rotation cycle training and refresher training on seedling production and media sterilization were held with Haburas Familia, Anakau Luhan, Unidade, and Amizade farmer groups.

### **Success in Atabae**

Transiting from subsistence farming to commercial farming is both expensive and risky. By working with private sector input suppliers the project is helping minimize the cost and risk for farmers wanting to invest in modern technologies. Through the cost-share scheme with Kmanek and Vinod Patel 163 irrigation systems and 60 mini tillers have been sold to farmers. For Maun Leonito in Atabae, this credit scheme has allowed him to both double his production and income this past dry season. Farmers are becoming more confident in their ability to produce quality products and manage their funds which is allowing them to reinvest in their farmers. Moving forward the project is working with input suppliers and micro-finance institutions to transition the cost-share scheme to a credit based system.



- Farmers from Serhana Hali group were organized to repair their mini-green house.
- Crop rotation cycle training was held for nine farmers groups: Gagaplaun, Matak, Mata, Tali laran, Gaem, Aiasa, Bialapeng, Haburas familia and Anakau Luhan
- Mechanization training was delivered for two farmers groups: Meligo and Sordoli.
- Conducted training on low tunnel, medium tunnel and mulching for farmers groups over two days for the Renova Corluli group
- Conducted SALT training for two farmers groups: Lourba Leten and Gomer in Bobonaro
- Solid organic fertilizer training was delivered for farmers group Anakau Luhan-Maliana
- Supported the Renova corluli group-Maliana to set-up two mini dams to store 34000 litres of water
- Conducted two days training on Safe Chemical Usage for two groups: Renova Corluli and Anakau Luhan-Maliana.

#### ***Ainaro:***

- Conducted monitoring of activities of two farmer groups, Selatan and Carbest, in Aitutu, Ainaro. The farmers' land is very dry with less access to water and no irrigation systems in place however the soil quality is good. Farmers are planning to obtain irrigation material on credit.
- Project staff monitored the strawberry production groups in Maubisse. More farmers are joining the Ululefa group to produce strawberries. More tunnelling is being installed through the cost-share initiative with Kmanek.
- In Casa, Ainaro farmers from Nakukun group were organized to build a nursery for seedling production as were farmers from Lulin group in Hatu-Udo.
- Ulfirma group members in Wekatar, Hatu-Udo were organized to finalize land preparation and set up seedbeds.
- Compost training was conducted for Nuset farmer group. Group members have continued gathering materials for on-going production.
- Farmers from Nuno Boco 1, Nunu Boco 2, and Nuset farmer groups have germinated the following seeds: 896 bok choy, 48 tomatoes, and 36 eggplant.
- Refresher training was conducted on seedling production, plant nutrition, mechanization, post-harvest handling for 16 farmers groups: Haburas Maubisse, Maubisse, Hakmatek 1, Hakmatek 2, Slata, Recaf, Karbes, Strawberry, Hunmet, Nunuke, Beno, Aimerpu, Haburas demo plot, HUPI, Kanua and debu-Leuk. All farmers groups coming from Maubisse, Ainaro and Hatu-udo
- Training on mechanization, seedling production, plant nutrition was held for Tarabul and Tetinaru farmer groups in Hatu-udo
- Nursery management, mechanization, watering/drip irrigation, crop maintenance, plant protection, crop rotation cycle training was held for five farmers groups: Sehabur, Laho (new group), Lulin, Mesak, Nunu Boco Ana
- Conducted training on solid organic fertilizer for Gloham company staff.
- Three farmer groups received support to construct a nursery: Ulfirma, Sehabur & Laho in Foho-Ailico

#### **Activity 2.2: Integrate NRM and Nutrition training with farmer groups**

- > Mini-dams are a more cost effective storage option for farmers compared to above-ground plastic tanks. It costs approximately \$6.00 per cubic meter versus \$90.00 per cubic meter. The mini-dam constructed in Dili measured 7.5 meters long by 3 meters wide and 1.4 meter deep, with a holding capacity of 31,500 litres. Ten litres of water are required per day per square meter of planted crops. During this quarter, the project supported farmer groups in Dare, Malilat, Hatlau, Lourbai to introduce mini-dams.

- > Gunmer farmer group in Lourba, Bobonaro prepared 130 polybags for seedling production. The group was identified by the project as a suitable community for communal nursery production.
- > Through collaboration with MAF the project received 15,000 seedlings for free to distribute to communities across the project's ZOI. Farmers that have land that is more prone to erosion and landslides were selected to receive seedlings for reforestation activities.
- > Malbou farmer group in Soru Kraik, Ainaro were mobilized to begin a plantation of shading trees for vanilla production. The seedlings were grown by Tokenela, the largest nursery producer in the country. Tokenela received a grant from the project to open their commercial nursery business. The project connected the Malbou farmers to CCT who are exporting vanilla.
- > The project supported the Malilait group to plant 600 seedlings of mahogany on 2 hectares of land in Bobonaro.
- > Rambutan seedlings were distributed to 19 farmers from Goulau group, Leolima, Hatoudo, Ainaro.

## 2.4 Embedded Themes

### *Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture*

- > Expansion of the project's nutrition training has resulted in signing four contracts with four local NGOs to implement 8 weeks of nutrition training to all project farmer groups. Each week, participants will cover a new topic related to nutrition and sanitation. Project staff will train NGO staff in January.
- > Lesson seven of the school gardening program was completed in all targeted schools. Lesson eight (cooking demonstration) will not be completed due to the end of the school year and the students graduating and moving to high school.
- > The script of the new 1000-day film was finalized and submitted to the vendor in order to finalize a film schedule. Filming will commence in January.
- > All field staff received a three-day nutrition training. The training covered the following topics: basic nutrition, malnutrition, food safety, anaemia, breastfeeding, hygiene and sanitation, and worms.

### *Incorporating women and youth*

- > The project hosted a two day bazaar bringing together women led businesses from across the country to launch a series of activities as planned by SEGIS, Rede Feto, UN Women, TOMAK, PHD, and the project. This event was opened by the President's spouse and then followed by community dialogues in a number of municipalities. The dialogues concluded with a meeting with the Prime Minister and rural representatives from Baucau, Bobonaro, Covalima, and Viqueque and other donors and staff members from Rede Feto. At the meeting with the Prime Minister, the representatives presented their issues and recommendations identified from their communities during the community consultations. The main issues presented included the low number of female and youth extension workers and lack of quality irrigation systems. It was recommended to MAF to increase the number of female and youth extension workers and to improve capacity of extension workers to dispense information on modern farming systems. The attendees also urged the new government to continue taking action in response of the implementation of the Maubisse Declaration. The Prime Minister will call for a meeting with all line ministries for a follow-up internal meeting and incorporate the recommendations into the national action plan.
- > The project participated in a national workshop organized by Rede Feto and facilitated by SEGIS and TOMAK. The purpose of the workshop was to present findings of the mapping and

comparative studies on gender and agriculture completed by Rede Feto in Aileu and Covalima. This event was opened by the Prime Minister along with SEIGIS, followed by a press conference. The National Director of Agro-Commerce from MAF; Mr. Fernando credited the project twice for our excellent work on drip irrigation. This workshop is also a symbolic “end of campaign” event for 16 days campaign violence against women and children.

- > Grantees PUTLEO and FHM participated in the Women’s Entrepreneurship Day Expo. All their products were sold out at the event and they earned US\$364.40. PUTLEO and FHM are now both regularly selling their products to Jaco Supermarket and Centro Supermarket.
- > LoFasaus was awarded a grant to make tomato sauce. The project has assisted the grantee with project packaging and labelling.
- > Methods to increase active female participation in both training and business opportunities has led to the project to invest time in the feasibility of hosting a food preservation training. Meetings were held with Agora Food Studio, PARCIC, and HIAM Health to assess what type of training is feasible. All three companies have suggested a needs assessment be conducted to determine if people are doing any methods of food preservation, what food or vegetables available, when is the season, how many times, what they need, taste they prefer, way of preserving the food (if they have been doing so), how they eat it and would the community be interested in doing it. A RFQ for the training is underway. This will be followed by a RFA which will be open to any women who received the food preservation training, that are interested in starting a business to sell preserved food.
- > A survey of the attitudes of university students towards agriculture was conducted, during which 100 students were surveyed. The findings indicated a lack of understanding of commercial agriculture, with students viewing agriculture as a low-income, physically demanding career option compared to being a civil servant. The objective of the survey was to strategically develop activities and grant opportunities for the project to better support and engage young people throughout the agriculture value chain. A RFA for youth in agribusiness is being developed.
- > The project is planning to increase interest of youth in horticulture through a video featuring four youth who are successfully earning a living from farming and the horticulture value-chain. The purpose of the video is to inspire other young people to realize they can live in their sucos while earning and living through agriculture versus moving to Dili as many do.



### 3. Communications and Media Outreach Activities

- > The project hosted a journalist site visit to Fatubossa, Aileu for the onion harvest event. Six journalists from five news agencies participated. During the event interviews were held with project staff, farmers, and other attendees, which were used during a special radio and TV broadcast through the national stations.
- > Filming for the Youth in Agriculture video was finalized and editing has begun. The film is expected to be finalized in January.
- > All eight training videos were submitted for review to USAID. Four were approved. The four pending final approval are GAP, pest management, crop protection, and crop nutrition.
- > The quality grading posters were finalized. They are currently being translated into Tetun.
- > The product revamp for Supolaim, FHM, Putleo, Faramfat, MGA, and Tokenela was completed. All companies have received copies of their new logos and labelling.
- > Posters for climate change awareness training were finalized in English and are being translated into Tetun. The corresponding animation is in final stages of completion for review by the project.
- > The watering guidelines brochure was finalized and approved in English and submitted for translation.
- > Facilitated interview of two project beneficiaries to participate in USAID's 56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations.



#### 4. Environmental Reviews

No environmental reviews were conducted during this month.

## 5. Grantee and Sub-Contractor Progress

- > **Tuba Rai Metin (TRM) (PO#020):** Final technical report was submitted for final bamboo training as well as financial report.
- > **Fundasaun Haburas Moris (FHM) (G-2016-005):** Sale records were submitted for review by the project. FHM is currently sourcing new packaging while waiting for their large order of bottles to clear through customs.
- > **AIBA (G-2016-003):** Contract was extended for three additional months. As a part of their grant contract, AIBA must be purchasing inputs for processing from 100 farmers, which they have not been able to do. They have been given an additional three months to finalise this, and if they cannot their contract will be terminated.
- > **Figus Sol Nascente (G-2016-006):** The grantee completed their milestones and is currently finalizing their sales report to submit to the project. They are currently selling products in seven supermarkets in Dili and 100 boxes of tea have been sent to Singapore and China. Grantee participated, with the support of MCIE, in a trade fair in Oecussi and is planning to expand their activities there.
- > **PUTLEO (G-2016-007):** The grantee was connected to an additional two supermarkets in Dili where their product will be sold on a trial basis.
- > **SUPOLAIM (G-2016-010):** The grantee participated in an expo hosted by MCIE in Suai; the project covered certain costs for Supolaim to attend this event. The grantee is having issues with purchasing coconuts however they were able to secure 350 raw coconuts and produce 95 bottles of VCO. A total of 35 were brought to the expo of which 17 were sold. The project is currently working on developing a better cost and supply plan for the grantee to improve their supply as well as options to improve relations with coconut suppliers.
- > **GLOHAM (G-2016-011):** The grantee received their two machines, one shredder and one mixer, and began test production. They sourced raw materials from neighbouring places but have no formal agreement with a potential middleman to supply raw materials and are currently gathering organic matter such as banana tree stems, rice straw, corn stalks and bat manure. The project is working closely with the grantee on compost production to ensure the correct amounts of raw material are included to get the right balance of each nutrient. The grantee has undergone training on bookkeeping and other business related activities. A cost and production plan is being developed to better assist the grantee with managing their business.
- > **TOKENELA (G-2016-012):** The grantee is in the process of testing their machine in order to get good quality de-shelled candlenuts. A different process of drying has been trialled but no further updates have been provided to the project. The grantee currently has supply contracts in place with two companies to sell the de-shelled product to Tuli Sart and Comico Maliana Diak. The grantee has collected 8 tonnes of candlenuts from farmers in the area.
- > **Timor Global (G-2016-014):** The passion fruit processing machine arrived and was delivered to the Timor Global site in Fatubessi, Ermera. Production will not start yet as the trees are not yet fruiting. Fruit is expected in May.
- > **Timorganic (G-2016-018):** Cancelled due to non-compliance issues.
- > **Kmanek Agricultura (G-2016-019):** Kmanek field staff conducted site visits to farmer locations in Maliana and Aileu for plastic tunnel installation and have organized with farmers to prepare land for tunnel construction. A total of 60 tunnels have been installed to date.
- > **Nova Casa Fresca (G-2016-021):** Grantee submitted quotations for a vacuum frying machine from Indonesia and three locally sourced freezer boxes. The project is looking into procurement of the Indonesian equipment while the locally products are being sourced.
- > **Vinod Patel (PO#021 and 29):** Subcontractor has continued distributing drip irrigation packages to farmers. However, due to limited staff there has been a delay in distribution. To date a total of 141 farmers have received drip irrigation package and a total of 40 tillers have been distributed.

- > **Kmanek Agrikultura (PO#024 and 30):** Subcontractor has continued working to identify farmers interested in cost-share scheme for drip irrigation. Two farmers in Maliana raised issues concerning their irrigation system, which are being addressed by Kmanek staff. A total of 22 farmers have received a drip irrigation package from Kmanek and 20 tillers were distributed.
- > **IADE (PO#48):** Subcontractor has almost completed all financial literacy and booking keeping training sessions, five were completed in December.
- > **ACAMORI (G-2016-022):** ACAMORI, the private sector business branch of the foundation FHM, which was created by the NGO to assist with generating profits for the NGO, is currently in the process of establishing an organic compost production company. A site visit was conducted to the potential organic compost production site as part of their grant submission review. The project is currently waiting for ACAMORI to submit their organizational structure and justification letter from FHM's board, which allows staff to lead ACAMORI as a private sector company.
- > **Faramfat (G-2016-008):** Drip irrigation and water tank was installed. Seedlings were prepared that include: 1315 rambutan, 170 tonne serena, 156 teak, 1104 black pepper, 136 tangerine, 365 saria, 136 mahogany, and 74 longan. Faramfat has earnings of \$700 from the sale of rambutan seedlings.
- > **Tokenela (G-2016-013):** The grantee has expanded the size of their nursery. They also prepared seedlings include: 20 mahoni, 16000 cocoa, 10000 saria, 15000 moringa, 15000 tangerine, 200 black pepper, 1000 candlenut, 1500 soursop, 1000 nut, 8 clove, 50 leucaena, and 2000 pomelo. The project is working to connect this nursery to more buyers.
- > **Millinium Green Agro (MGA) (G-2016-004):** Over 100,000 seedlings have been prepared by the grantee, of which 33,000 are grafted trees. Nine thousand dollars of mango and orange seedlings were sold (\$3 per seedling). The grantee has been proactive in seeking buyers for their product, including obtaining a contract with Heineken. The grantee is working with the project to identify other tender opportunities.
- > **MAHON (G-2016-020):** Nursery development is on-going, so far 3,097 seedlings have been produced consisting of casuarina, jack fruit, mahogany, papaya, candlenut, caliandra, and soursop.
- > **Raebia (G-2016-002):** Grantee contract is set to expire in December, however in order to complete monitoring, they have requested an extension of their contract. Water drilling at the SALT centre is on-going as is planting and harvesting of vegetables. The grantee conducted monitoring and evaluation of the community engaged in PLUP activities in Hera, Dili following the Tara Bandu ceremony. The community has been following the agreed upon regulations including a reduction in illegal fires and tree cutting in several aldeias.
- > **Santalum (PO#023):** In Suco Edi, Ainaro staff support Santalum with distribution of trees. A no-cost extension have been agreed to allow for seedlings to better develop during the rainy season and to ensure adequate monitoring of activities. Santalum has produced and distributed 5,614 seedlings in Tokoluli, Ermera to plant with farmers that live in areas that are prone to land erosion.
- > **Malaedoi (PO #38):** TOT for NGOs on nutrition gardens. Community members in Tokoluli, Tatar, and Railaku Leten (Ermera) have continued with planting produce despite the heavy rains. They have been growing bok choy, eggplant, carrot, and corn. The project has recommended they grow other crops more suited to the rainy season such as peanuts and beans. The distance and road conditions between their location and the local wet market make it difficult for them to bring their products. They have requested the project connect them to supermarkets.
- > **HADER (PO #37):** TOT for NGOs on nutrition gardens. Community members in Metinaro have continued planning produce such as long beans, eggplant, and bok choy. They have requested they receive assistance with accessing buyers.

## Grantee Progress Chart: Status of each grant and purchase order.

Contract/ Solicitation #	Implementer/Partner	Total Amount Committed	Total Amount Actual payment	Detailed explanation	Location in Timor-Leste	Start date	End date	Status
<b>Grants</b>								
G-2016-002	RAEBIA-Timor Leste	\$61,318.00	\$33,640.75	Implementation of Participatory Land Use Plan and Sloping Agriculture Land Technology	Dili	9/23/2016	7/31/2018	Activity in progress, contract extended to July 31, 2018
G-2016-003	Arcamaten Indsutria Bebidas e Alimantar (AIBA)	\$13,566.50	\$6,696.00	Dehydrated Food Processing	Dili	12/2/2016	2/28/2018	Activity in progress; extended to February 28, 2018
G-2016-004	Milinium Green Agro	\$10,780.00	\$7,339.00	Fruit nursery and grafting	Dili	2/1/2017	1/31/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-005	Fundasaun Haburas Moris (FHM)	\$2,219.45	\$1,335.80	Women of Lahomea peanut processing	Bobonaro	4/4/2017	4/3/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-006	Figus Sol Nascente	\$9,992.80	\$6,499.18	Expanding Production of Fig Trees in Timor-Leste	Dili	2/2/2017	2/1/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-007	PUTLEO Unipessoal, Lda	\$2,844.00	\$2,038.00	Banana and Cassava Processing	Ermera	3/15/2017	3/14/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-008	FARAMFAT Unipessoal, Lda	\$16,480.00	\$9,490.65	Tree Nursery in Fatukeru - Ermera	Ermera	3/15/2017	3/14/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-009	Comico Maliana Diak Unip.Lda	\$9,883.00	\$6,147.00	Adding Value-added production for candlenut, copra, peanut, conjac, chili pepper, and turmeric	Bobonaro	3/15/2017	3/14/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-010	SUPOLAIM Unipessoal, Lda	\$6,574.50	\$5,377.00	Virgin Coconut Oil Production	Ainaro	3/15/2017	3/14/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-011	GLOHAM Unipessoal, Lda	\$7,850.00	\$4,800.00	Establish Organic Fertilizer Factory	Ainaro	3/15/2017	3/14/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-012	TOKENELA Unipessoal, Lda	\$9,800.00	\$2,734.00	Candlenut Processing in Hatu Udo	Ainaro	3/15/2017	3/14/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-013	TOKENELA Unipessoal, Lda	\$16,500.00	\$11,282.50	Establishing Tree Nursery in Hatu-Udo, Ainaro	Ainaro	3/15/2017	3/14/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-014	Timor Global, Lda	\$10,000.00	\$9,725.37	Passion Fruit Cultivation and Processing	Ermera	4/21/2017	4/20/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-015	Instituto Matadalan Integradu (IMI)	\$36,979.00	\$29,794.00	Expanding Production Training	Ermera	4/24/2017	4/23/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-016	Rural Yout Action (RYA)	\$37,500.00	\$15,832.15	Expanding Production Training	Aileu	4/25/2017	4/23/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-018	Timorganic, Lda	\$24,449.50	\$0.00	Strengthening Linkage between Timorganic and farmers	Aileu	4/21/2017	4/20/2018	Cancelled
G-2016-019	Kmanek Agriculture	\$11,450.00	\$0.00	Strengthening Linkage between Kmanek Agriculture and farmers	Aileu, Ainaro & Bobonaro	4/21/2017	4/20/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-020	MAHON Foundation	\$16,390.00	\$5,481.75	Seedling the fruit and tree nurseries for horticulture development and climate change impact adaptation and prevention	Dili	7/27/2017	7/26/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-021	NCF	\$12,625.00	\$960.00	Support Small Scale Processing and Business Service Development	Aileu	7/11/2017	7/10/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-022	Acamori Unipessoal, Lda	\$9,440.00	\$0.00	Establish Organic Fertilizer Factory	Bobonaro	9/24/2017	9/25/2018	Activity in progress
G-2016-023	Fasaus Unipessoal, Lda	\$6,310.00	\$0.00	Small scale tomato sauce production startup business	Ermera	12/11/17	10/15/2018	Activity in progress
RFA#006	tbd	tbd	tbd	Training to improve productivity with refresher training	Aileu, Ainaro, Bobonaro, & Ermera	tbd	tbd	Closed on November 10, 2017; four applications received; finalizing budgets with awardees

Contract/ Solicitation #	Implementer/Partner	Total Amount Committed	Total Amount Actual payment	Detailed explanation	Location in Timor-Leste	Start date	End date	Status
RFA#007	Tbd	Tbd	Tbd	Support to Collector Businesses	Aileu, Alnaro, Bobonaro, Ermera, & Dili	Tbd	tbd	Closes on February 9, 2018
		\$332,951.75	\$159,173.15					

Contract #	Implementer/ Partner	Total Amount Committed	Total Payment to Date	Detailed explanation	Location	Start date	End date	Status
<b>Contract - Technical</b>								
AvansaPO#017-R	ARKTL	\$5,000.00	\$1,419.00	Radio Broadcasting of USAID's Avansa Agrikultura news	Dili & Ermera	9/2/2016	12/31/2017	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#019-R	Radio Liberdade	\$1,000.00	\$480.00	Radio Broadcasting of USAID's Avansa Agrikultura news	Dili	9/7/2016	12/31/2017	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#020	Tuba Rai Metin	\$22,972.00	\$22,955.15	Bamboo high and low tunnels	Ainaro, Aileu, Dili & Ermera	3/1/2017	9/30/2017	Closed
AvansaPO#021	Vinod Patel	\$60,000.00	\$10,865.88	Distribution of Drip Irrigation package	Ainaro, Aileu, Dili & Ermera	2/1/2017	4/30/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#023	SANTALUM NGO	\$48,425.00	\$43,582.45	Development and Implementation of Suco (village) level NRM Planning	Ainaro, Aileu, Bobonaro, Dili & Ermera	10/17/2016	3/31/2018	Activity in progress; Contract amended because seedlings need to be planting during the rainy season and monitored for three months
AvansaPO#024	Kmanek Agriculture	\$30,000.00	\$4,319.83	Distribution of Drip Irrigation package	Bobonaro	2/1/2017	4/30/2018	Activity implementation in progress
AvansaPO#025	Ba Futuru	\$26,215.00	\$9,656.00	WEE Public Relations Campaign Designer and Implementer	Ainaro, Aileu, Bobonaro, Dili & Ermera	12/1/2016	12/1/2018	Cancelled
AvansaPO#027	MDP Media	\$3,437.50	\$0.00	WEE Brochure and Flyer Designer	Dili	2/1/2017	12/1/2018	SOW change pending
AvansaPO#028	Ba Futuru	\$14,400.00	\$10,080.00	WEE Radio Drama Script Developer	Dili	2/1/2017	12/1/2018	Scripts being reviewed by USAID; activity pending
AvansaPO#029	Vinod Patel	\$27,900.00	\$22,612.50	Distribution of FrontTine Tiller Package	Ainaro, Aileu, Dili & Ermera	2/1/2017	4/30/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#030	Kmanek Agriculture	\$18,000.00	\$9,000.00	Distribution of FrontTine Tiller Package	Ainaro, Aileu, Bobonaro, Dili & Ermera	2/10/2017	3/10/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#037	Fundasaun HADER	\$36,000.00	\$28,800.00	TOT for Nutrition Garden for Local NGO	Ainaro, Aileu, Bobonaro, Dili & Ermera	3/20/2017	3/19/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#038	Fundasaun Malaedoi	\$25,000.00	\$20,760.00	TOT for Nutrition Garden for Local NGO	Bobonaro & Ermera	3/20/2017	3/19/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#045	Saving and Loan Field Agent	\$2,016.00	\$820.00	Saving and Loan Field Agent	Bobonaro	4/5/2017	4/4/2018	Activity in progress

Contract #	Implementer/ Partner	Total Amount Committed	Total Payment to Date	Detailed explanation	Location	Start date	End date	Status
AvansaPO#046	Saving and Loan Field Agent	\$2,016.00	\$389.00	Saving and Loan Field Agent	Ermera	4/5/2017	4/4/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#047	Saving and Loan Field Agent	\$2,016.00	\$375.00	Saving and Loan Field Agent	Ermera	4/5/2017	4/4/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#048	IADE	\$66,535.00	\$33,270.00	Financial Literacy and Accountability Training	Ainaro, Aileu, Bobonaro, Dili & Ermera	4/25/2017	2/28/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#051	Crokfaek	\$76,800.00	\$48,000.00	Training Video Developer	Dili	5/15/2017	3/31/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#054	MK3 Design	\$45,550.00	\$20,475.00	Brand development expert	Dili	6/8/2017	1/31/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#056	MDP Media	\$8,800.00	\$3,520.00	Climate change campaign	Dili	6/23/2017	3/31/2018	Activity in progress; contract amended
AvansaPO#062	Nuno Ferreira e Costa, Design and Illustrations, Unipessoal, Lda	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00	Graphic Designer on retainer for project related materials	Dili	8/29/2017	8/28/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#066	Adams Amaral Consulting	\$5,800.00	\$0.00	Development of film based on awareness of links between food, consumption, health and good nutrition practices	Dili	9/15/2017	2/28/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#067	Wide Vision	\$11,500.00	\$0.00	Agriculture Youth Video Production	Dili	11/6/2017	3/31/2018	Contract signed; activity in progress
AvansaPO#068	Hader	\$20,846.00	TBD	Nutrition training for farmer groups	Dili & Ermera	12/15/2017	9/30/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#069	Malaedoi	\$29,344.00	TBD	Nutrition training for farmer groups	Bobonaro	12/15/2017	9/30/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#070	SHC	\$45,129.00	TBD	Nutrition training for farmer groups	Ainaro	12/20/2017	9/30/2018	Activity in progress
AvansaPO#071	Talata	\$29,590.00	TBD	Nutrition training for farmer groups	Aileu	12/15/2017	10/31/2018	Activity in progress
RFQ#034				Strengthening Agriculture Techniques through increased access to Hand Tractors and Plastic Tunnels via increased access to finance at the suco level				Due February 12, 2018
		\$669,291.50	\$299,779.81					

## 6. Sustainability

Activity Areas	Sustainable Partners	End Goal	Progress
<p><b>Enabling Environment:</b> (1) Developing and improving policy that will remain in place once the project ends. (2) Creating mechanisms for public private dialogue through the horticultural working group and horticultural association, and (3) Modeling evidence based and transparent policy reform processes (e.g. pesticides, fertilizer, SPS)</p>	<p>Government Horticulture Association</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Government staff capable of implementing policies to develop the sector</li> <li>› Improved policies which support the enabling environment for agriculture</li> <li>› Government has better understanding of evidence based policy reform done with private sector input</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Little progress was made in terms of policy development as there has been no government in place;</li> <li>› The National Horticulture Association is receiving support to develop their strategy, an expert will be engaged shortly to improve their capability to advocate to GoTL</li> </ul>
<p><b>At the Farm Level</b> (1) Improve farmer knowledge of good agricultural practices and climate smart agriculture. (2) Improve quality and reliability of production through extension services and (3) Ensure farmers and households increase understanding of nutrition, and nutrition sensitive agriculture</p>	<p>NGOs, input suppliers, extension workers,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Input suppliers provide extension advice to farmers, local NGOs are skilled in latest horticulture techniques and are contracted by international donors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Supermarket and input company staff participate in project training activities;</li> <li>› Training plans developed for new farmer groups; training regularly delivered to old farmer groups</li> <li>› Local NGOs selected to deliver nutrition training for farmers</li> </ul>
<p><b>Linkages to Markets:</b> (1) Strengthen market linkages through the creation of farmer groups around specific market opportunities codified in buyer agreements (2) Improve access and quality of input supplies by strengthening private sector based input supply system</p>	<p>Collectors, supermarkets, input suppliers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Producer groups have increased access to markets and are commanding fair prices for products</li> <li>› Buyers and input suppliers are providing extension advice to farmers on seed selection, input selection, production techniques etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› New supermarkets introduced to farmers in Ermera. Production plans from supermarkets were provided to the project to coordinate production with farmers</li> <li>› Vinod Patel accessing cheaper seeds and entering into consignment deals with municipal lojas to sell products</li> </ul>
<p><b>Non-Agricultural Services:</b> (1) Strengthening data collection, (2) providing business &amp; financial literacy training, training.</p>	<p>Training providers, universities</p>	<p>Capacities of service providers are improved to deliver training, or conduct activities.</p>	<p>CEEPAZ staff received training on completing the agribusiness survey</p>



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## 7. CLA

Information sharing in Timor-Leste continues to be difficult due to far-flung communities living in remote areas, minimal access to radio and television, intermittent phone services and more. For project staff communicating with each other across municipalities tends to be limited to organized meetings in the head office. To combat this, management decided to trial the use of a popular free messaging service WhatsApp in order to improve communications between staff. WhatsApp has allowed staff to share photos and videos of pests and diseases with one another to obtain advice on how to treat the plants. Other information is shared as well, including surplus product and other issues farmers are having with technology. For example, several farmers purchased medium tunnels from a private sector input supplier and the plastic was not the best quality. WhatsApp allowed the farmer through the project's field staff to inform the project's contact person with the input stores immediately. The plastic was quickly replaced.

## 8. Key Activities Planned for Next Quarter

Key activities for next quarter include the following:

- > Local NGOs to implement nutrition training
- > Fourth Project Steering Committee Meeting
- > Develop production plans with buyers
- > Conduct regular training with farming groups
- > Issue tunnel and hand tractor grant
- > Co-host tiller repair training with QUICK
- > Conduct training for input suppliers
- > Coordinate successful farmer site visits to struggling groups
- > Climate adaptation graining
- > Host an International Women's Day event
- > Host Journalists breakfasts
- > Upcoming STTAs: Ismawardi (QUICK), Daniel Fyffe (Agronomic), Kristin Beyard (SSG)

## 9. PMEP

Indicator ID	Indicator with Unit of Measure	Explanation of results
	<b>DO level: Human and Institutional Capacity for Development Strengthened to Improve the Lives of Timor-Leste's Citizens</b>	
1	Percent change in agriculture GDP	Collected annually in September via agribusiness survey
1.1	Value of incremental sales (collected at farm-level) attributed to Feed the Future implementation (RiA)	Reported annually in September
1.2	Prevalence of HHs with moderate to severe hunger	Collected annually in September via agribusiness survey
	<b>Sub-Purpose 1: Improved ability of Timorese Citizens to Engage in Economic Activities</b>	
2	Value of <b>new</b> private sector investment in agriculture sector or food chain as a result of USG assistance (USD)	Collected annually in September via agribusiness survey
2.1	Number of rural households benefiting directly from USG interventions	Households are primarily counted via production group members. The plan in year 4 is to form any new groups required earlier in the year and then concentrate on providing ongoing training to these and groups formed in previous years. This is why the Quarter 1 result of 464 is nearly half of the Year 4 total.
	<b>Outcome 1: Policy and Enabling Environment Supported and Aligned</b>	
3	Number of policies analyzed, reviewed or consulted on by USG	15 – No change as planned
	<b>Outcome 2: Market Linkages Improved and Expanded Across the Horticultural Value Chain</b>	
4	Number of MSMEs, including farmers, receiving business dev't services from USG-assisted sources ( <i>BDS = planning, procurement, TA in production techniques, quality control and marketing, loans, etc.</i> )	The Quarter 1 result of 464 is made up of the new farmer households joining groups as micro-enterprises. This result is as expected in the timeframe, as throughout the remainder of the year, new households will be joined by other small enterprises through the grants program to bolster numbers.
4.1	Percentage increase in sales for the targeted farmer groups and associations	Reported annually in September
4.2	Number of youth participating in USG-supported programs designed to transfer life skills	This indicator was aligned to meet the Timorese Government definition of 'youth' which expanded the age range. Resultantly, the indicator is already close to being met through adjusting current members of production groups and training participants.
4.3	Value of sales by agricultural input supply companies	As expected, sales slowed during the wet season and the holiday season. The cost-share agreements have not yet been included in this total.
4.4	Number of farmers, input suppliers, and agribusiness trained in safe chemical use and certified	While some Safe Chemical Use trainings were conducted in December 2017, these were focussed on refreshing participants whom had already previously attended Safe Chemical Use trainings. The required 500 new participants is expected to be attained over the next 3 quarters.

Indicator ID	Indicator with Unit of Measure	Explanation of results
4.5	Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producers' organizations, water users' associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance (RiA) (WOG)	New production groups have meant this target was met early in the year. However, as this indicator requires groups to be currently active, there is an expectation that some previously formed groups will become inactive so the total will fluctuate throughout the year.
<b>Sub-Purpose 2: Increased productivity of Selected Horticultural Value Chains</b>		
5	No. of farmers and others who have applied improved technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance	The Quarter 1 total of 800 is low as data for this indicator was not collecting in this quarter. The M&E team has a plan to collect this data from February 2018 onwards and achieving this target.
5.1	Number of hectares to which improved technologies have been applied	Technology adoption, hectares, adoption to climate change and hectares of disaster risk reduction are all collected simultaneously; see indicator 5 for planned data collection.
<b>Outcome 3: Sustainable Horticulture Productivity and Natural Resource Management Improved at the Farm Level</b>		
6	Number of individuals who have received USG-supported <u>short-term</u> agricultural sector productivity or food security training	At 1,026 new participants reached out of a target of 2500, the team is on track to meet this target over the next 3 quarters.
6.1	Number of hectares for which disaster risk reduction practices are applied	Technology adoption, hectares, adoption to climate change and hectares of disaster risk reduction are all collected simultaneously; see indicator 5 for planned data collection.
6.2	Number of members of producer organizations & community based orgs receiving USG assistance	At a quarter of the target total, this indicator will be reached by the end of Year 4. Please note that due to changes in group membership, this total fluctuates.
6.3	Number people supported by the USG to adapt to the effects of climate change	Technology adoption, hectares, adoption to climate change and hectares of disaster risk reduction are all collected simultaneously; see indicator 5 for planned data collection.
6.4	Percent increase in household savings and/or investment in productive assets (150%)	Collected annually in September via agribusiness survey
<b>Cross- cutting themes: Improved nutritional practices and behaviour change</b>		
7	Prevalence of children 6-23 months receiving a minimum acceptable diet (Percent)	Collected annually in September via agribusiness survey
7.1	MDDW, Min Dietary Diversity Indicator for Women of reproductive age. Could replace 7.2 mean number of food groups.	Collected annually in September via agribusiness survey

Indicator ID	Indicator with Unit of Measure	Targets Year 3 (FY17)	Year 3 Results (FY17)	Targets Year 4 (FY18) CUMULATIVE	Results Quarter 1 CUMULATIVE	Targets Year 4 (FY18) NON-CUMULATIVE	Results Quarter 1 Non-CUMULATIVE
	<b>DO level: Human and Institutional Capacity for Development Strengthened to Improve the Lives of Timor-Leste's Citizens</b>			<b>September-18</b>	<b>December-17</b>	<b>September-18</b>	<b>December-17</b>
1	Percent change in agriculture GDP	20%	20%	25%	20%		
1.1	Value of incremental sales (collected at farm-level) attributed to Feed the Future implementation (RiA)	\$1,600	\$1,738.50	\$1,800	\$1,738.50		
1.2	Prevalence of HHs with moderate to severe hunger	3.90%	7.50%	3.65%	7.50%		
	<b>Sub-Purpose 1: Improved ability of Timorese Citizens to Engage in Economic Activities</b>						
2	Value of <b>new</b> private sector investment in agriculture sector or food chain as a result of USG assistance (USD)	\$500,000	\$2,195,098	\$3,700,000	\$2,195,098	\$1,500,000	
2.1	Number of rural households benefiting directly from USG interventions	3,000	5357	6360	5821	1000	464
	<b>Outcome 1: Policy and Enabling Environment Supported and Aligned</b>						
3	Number of policies analyzed, reviewed or consulted on by USG	8	15	15	15		
	<b>Outcome 2: Market Linkages Improved and Expanded Across the Horticultural Value Chain</b>						
4	Number of MSMEs, including farmers, receiving business dev't services from USG-assisted sources ( <i>BDS = planning, procurement, TA in production techniques, quality control and marketing, loans, etc.</i> )	1,400	2169	3,420	2,633	1,250	464
4.1	Percentage increase in sales for the targeted farmer groups and associations	50 groups and 1500 farmers, increase by 150%	242% (49 groups and 448 farmers)	75 groups and 2250 farmers, increase by 200%	242% (49 groups and 448 farmers)		
4.2	Number of youth participating in USG-supported programs designed to transfer life skills	2,000	1996	3,000	3,442		

Indicator ID	Indicator with Unit of Measure	Targets Year 3 (FY17)	Year 3 Results (FY17)	Targets Year 4 (FY18) CUMULATIVE	Results Quarter 1 CUMULATIVE	Targets Year 4 (FY18) NON-CUMULATIVE	Results Quarter 1 Non-CUMULATIVE
4.3	Value of sales by agricultural input supply companies	\$450,000	\$675,543.27	\$600,000	\$693,543.27		\$18,000
4.4	Number of farmers, input suppliers, and agribusiness trained in safe chemical use and certified	250	372	500	372		
4.5	Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producers' organizations, water users' associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance (RiA) (WOG)	147	196	147	222		
<b>Sub-Purpose 2: Increased productivity of Selected Horticultural Value Chains</b>							
5	No. of farmers and others who have applied improved technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance	2500	8,184	21,180	8,984	13,000/45% female	800
5.1	Number of hectares to which improved technologies have been applied	1250	3,274	3,800	3,393		
<b>Outcome 3: Sustainable Horticulture Productivity and Natural Resource Management Improved at the Farm Level</b>							
6	Number of individuals who have received USG-supported <u>short-term</u> agricultural sector productivity or food security training	6,000	6,882	9,380	7,908	2500/45%female	1,026
6.1	Number of hectares for which disaster risk reduction practices are applied	500	2,761	750	2,880		
6.2	Number of members of producer organizations & community based orgs receiving USG assistance	2,000	2,663	4,460	3,086	1800/45%female/7% non producers	423
6.3	Number people supported by the USG to adapt to the effects of climate change	1,200	3,515	6,515	4,315	3,000	800
6.4	Percent increase in household savings and/or investment in productive assets (150%)	275% increase	178%	295% increase	178%		

Indicator ID	Indicator with Unit of Measure	Targets Year 3 (FY17)	Year 3 Results (FY17)	Targets Year 4 (FY18) CUMULATIVE	Results Quarter 1 CUMULATIVE	Targets Year 4 (FY18) <b>NON-CUMULATIVE</b>	Results Quarter 1 Non-CUMULATIVE
	<b>Cross-cutting themes: Improved nutritional practices and behaviour change</b>						
7	Prevalence of children 6-23 months receiving a minimum acceptable diet (Percent)	44%	63.60%	45%	63.6%		
7.1	MDDW, Min Dietary Diversity Indicator for Women of reproductive age. Could replace 7.2 mean number of food groups.	10% women consuming 5 or more groups	69.0%	15% women consuming 5 or more groups	69.0%		

# 10. USAID's Avansa Agrikultura Project Office Organogram

