



# Local Governance Monthly Bulletin

Volume III, Edition I  
January 2010

*Local Governance as the key to Development*

## MSATM announces 2010 budget allocation for the Local Development Programme in 13 districts



Photo: Duarte Santos, MSATM

Minister of State Administration, Dr. Arcângelo Leite, DNDLOT Director, Mr. Miguel de Carvalho and Mr. Jacinto Gusmão, Director of National Graphic, at the ceremony for the LDP fund announcement in Ermera

composed of Suco Council representatives and district officers. These Assemblies will be able to use this fund to finance activities and small-scale infrastructure projects that have a direct impact on the communities. "For the past five years the LDP has been implemented to build schools, health clinics and small bridges, among other projects. These are good examples of how the

From 13 to 22 January the Ministry of State Administration and Territorial Management (MSATM) officially announced the allocation of the 2010 budget for the Local Development Programme (LDP) in 13 districts of Timor-Leste and an additional fund to 4 districts from the Youth Development Programme (YDP).

Discussions to expand the LDP to all districts started in 2009 but the approval of the 2010 State budget by the National Parliament marked an important milestone for the LDP as from now on the programme will no longer be a pilot but a nationwide government owned development program.

The five new districts incorporated in the LDP are Dili, Ermera, Liquiça, Oé-cusse and Viqueque.

According to the Minister of State Administration, Dr. Arcângelo Leite, the Local Development Fund will be allocated to the local Assemblies, which are

establishment of local governments is benefiting the people", stated the Minister.

Dili and Liquiça will not receive funds from the State budget during 2010 but instead will use the regular budget to support activities for the establishment of the Sub-district Development Commission and the District Assemblies. This initiative will serve to monitor future planning and implementation processes.

In addition to the Local Development



Photo: Thaiza Castilho, UNCDF

Market in Manufahi built by the LDP in 2009 to benefit the local community

District	Capital Budget (\$)
Bobonaro	293,000.00
Lautém	202,000.00
Aileu	133,000.00
Manatuto	135,000.00
Ainaro	187,000.00
Baucau	181,346.40
Covalima	196,000.00
Manufahi	158,002.00
Dili	-
Ermera	247,972.80
Liquiça	-
Oé-cusse	138,278.40
Viqueque	157,077.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,028,677.20</b>

Fund the MSATM also allocated budget for the Youth Development Programme, an initiative supported by the World Bank, which follows the LDP approach and is already being implemented in Bobonaro and Lautém and this year expanded to Manufahi and Aileu. The YDP will also finance small-scale projects but directed to the youth of Timor-Leste, with the construction of sport fields, music equipment and IT training. In 2009 the LDP implemented 127 projects in the eight pilot districts in the areas of health, water and sanitation, education among others and provided a series of training at district level to members of the local Assemblies.



## MSATM Minister invites development partners to discuss Joint National Decentralization Programme

On 28 January the MSATM organized a meeting with key stakeholders to discuss the Joint National Programme (JNP).

The objective of the meeting was to present and discuss the JNP that will serve as a single platform for support to the decentralization process.

The Joint National Programme will provide support to decentralization reforms and set-up of municipalities on capacity development, policies and procedures and finance.

“For decentralization to become a success and to reach its objective of bringing government closer to the people, improving public service delivery as well as strengthening accountability of the government, international support plays a key role”, stated the Minister.

“We hope that the Joint National Programme will assist in strengthening coherence, helping to avoid any overlap and duplication, and supporting the alignment of donor support with government activities”, stated Mr.



Photo: Thaiza Castilho, UNCDF

More than 75 participants attended the JNP meeting at Arbiru Hotel

Beresford, acting UNDP Country Director. At the event were present the Minister of State Administration, Dr. Arcângelo Leite, Director-General, Mr. Carlito Martins, MSATM National Directors, acting UNDP Country Director, Mr. Nick Beresford, Mr. David Jackson, UNCDF Regional Technical Adviser, Mrs. Susanne Kuehn, LGSP Chief Technical Adviser, members UN agencies, the donor community and development partners.

The JNP has also been widely discussed with key stakeholders from 21 to 31 January in a series of meetings that UNCDF Regional Technical Adviser had during his visit to Timor-Leste.

### In our next Edition

#### In February:

- Training for Local Assemblies on Subdistrict Development Commission

Local Government as the key to Development



Ministry of State Administration and Territorial Management

Jacinto Cândido Street

Dili, Timor-Leste

Phone: 3317202

E-mail: [komunikasaun@estatal.gov.tl](mailto:komunikasaun@estatal.gov.tl)

#### Support provided by:

Local Governance Support Programme and



Ministério da Administração Estatal e Ordenamento do Território

Visita o nosso website on-line!



[www.estatal.gov.tl](http://www.estatal.gov.tl)

## DNDLOT Evaluates Minimal Conditions of the Local Development Programme in the 8 pilot districts

On 7 and 8 January the technical team from the National Directorate of Local Development and Territorial Management (DNDLOT) of the MSATM conducted an annual evaluation of the district assemblies functioning in the eight LDP pilot districts. This evaluation assesses the minimal conditions that the local assemblies need to ensure in order to receive budget allocation for the following year.

The Minimal Evaluation Condition is based on a Ministerial Directive that regulates the LDP and it is also an exercise for the government staff to identify challenges faced by the local assemblies.

Helio Francisco da Costa, member of the DNDLOT technical team, explained that the objective of this evaluation is also to monitor the LDP implementation for 2009. “The main criteria for evaluating each

district are accountability, transparency, contribution made in terms of the planning and implementation process, when procuring items and in finance”, stated.

So far the results of this evaluation indicate that additional training on decision making and local planning processes should be provided to Local Assembly members as well as incentives to increase women participation.



Photo: Duarte Santos, MSATM

LDP staff discusses the criteria for Minimal Evaluation Conditions