

SITUATION REVIEW PERIOD OF FEBRUARY-MARCH 2019

The Early Warning and Early Response System (EWER) is established 10 years ago to carry out monitoring on day-to-day violence incidents in Timor-Leste. This system uses a monitor partnership network at the village level to collect information on violence incidents. The monitors are trained to verify and send violence incident data to Municipality Coordinators who then send it through online tablet computers to the national data base system. Every two months Belun drafts a Situation Review report. Should you are interested in the violence incident data taken place in Timor-Leste please visit www.atres.belun.tl.

The Situation Review for period of February-March 2019 continues to focus only on 10 Administrative Post from 3 Municipalities namely Baucau, Covalima and RAEOA. There are 10 monitor partners (8 women and 2 men) where one monitor is allocated to each Administrative Post. The EWER system collects incident data only in 3 municipalities, therefore the number of data decreased significantly because the data collected by Belun no longer cover 10 municipalities since September 2017, due limited financial support. Nevertheless, the monitoring is reactivated in Dili on April 2019, and if financial resources are sufficient Belun will also reactivate it in other municipalities.

ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ATTENTION

- ▶ **38 cases of Domestic Violences (DV);**
- ▶ **33 cases of Revenge and hatred;**
- ▶ **3 cases of Violence incidents involving former members of martial arts groups (MAGs)**
- ▶ **6 cases of Gender-based violence (GBV);**

VIOLENCE INCIDENTS COLLECTED DURING FEBRUARY-MARCH 2019 AMOUNTED 96 CASES

Belun with its EWER system gathered 96 cases of general violence incident data for period February-March 2019. This number decreased 11%, compared to period of December, 2018-January 2019 which totaled 122 cases. The number of incidents decreased during February-March 2019 because the National Police of Timor-Leste (PNTL) and Army Timor-Leste (F-FDTL) carried out joint operations, including intensive patrols during the violent incidents that occurred in Municipality of Baucau as well as other municipalities. This joint operation contributed positively to the security situation and has prevented further conflicts and violence. The community is happy and appreciated security and defense institutions and demanded that this patrol activity be performed regularly.

From the total incidents in the table, 51% occurred in RAEOA, 31% occurred in Baucau and 18% occurred in Covalima. The perpetrators detained by authorities amounted 96 people, where 71 people were men and 15 women, 7 men and women and 3 unknown perpetrators. The victims of these incidents were 40 men, 49 women, and 6 women and men. The perpetrators are mainly farmers, family members, neighbors, students, PNTL members and former members of MAGs. Domestic violence still persists during this period and amounted 3

Total Incidents February - March 2019	
Municipals	Incidents
Covalima	17
Baucau	30
RAEOA	49
Total	96

cases. There were 33 cases of avengement and hatred and 3 cases involving former members of MAGs. There were 6 cases of GBV. These incidents resulted in the death of 2 men, while 4 people, including 3 women, were heavily injured. Meanwhile 11 men and 19 women suffered light injuries, and in 2 cases the perpetrators abandoned the scene where the incident took place. The incidents also involved property destruction including houses, goods, vehicles and killing of 2 animals.

38 CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV) HAPPENED

38 domestic violence incidents happened in Baucau and Covalima municipalities and RAEOA. This number dropped 19% comparing with period of December 2018-January 2019 which amounted 47 cases as reported by the Situation Review. The majority of domestic violence cases (23 cases) occurred in RAEOA, Baucau 10 cases and Covalima 5 cases. Authorities continue to process domestic violence cases based on the existing DV law 7/2010. The following are incidents of DV that occurred during February and March 2019:

- ▶ On March 11, 2019, at about 15:00 hours at hamlet Fatiliri, Soba Village, Laga administrative post, Municipality of Baucau a man killed his father because of family dispute. The killing happened when the victim returned to his house from the market. He was attached with a machete on the way home while the reason is obscure. After killing the victim, the perpetrator contacted his family members by telephone and said, "I have killed the old man on the way home". Family members rushed to the location and found the victim dead on the spot while the perpetrator surrendered himself to police at Laga Police Station. He is being subject to investigation by the Prosecutor according to the law.

INCIDENTS OF AVENGEMENT AND HATRED AMOUNTED 33

Incidents of avengement and hatred for period of February-March 2019 amounted 33 cases. This number decreased 10% compared to period of December 2018-January 2019. These incidents occurred in Baucau (19 cases), Covalima (13 cases) and RAEOA (6 cases). The number of incidents decreased because PNTL no F-FDTL carried out joint operations including regular patrols. This joint operation showed positive results and the community and society appreciates it. Despite these operations, avengement and hatred incidents still happen, including:

- ▶ On February 12, 2019, at about 22 hours, at neighborhood Fatu-ahu, hamlet Lale, Zulo village, Zumalai Administrative Post, Covalima municipality unknown people killed the Zumalai Post Administrator. This incident took place after the victim and his married wife returned from a family visit at Lour village. When they arrived at home, the victim drove out to meet someone who called him repeatedly which he failed to answer. Later on the body of the victim was found under the Mola river bridge at about 06:56 a.m. in the proximity of the highway. This incident is under investigation of PNTL Covalima and Zumalai Police Station to find out the suspects who will be referred to Prosecutors.

- ▶ On March 1, 2019, at about 15:20 hours at Administrative Post Sub-Region Pante Makasar, RAEOA defamation and discrimination case took place because the actors fought over an inheritance from their parents. The victim's older sister who insulted him incited the incident. The victim lives with his parents. The reason for the insult was the perpetrator felt zealous for the parents' riches that are being in the possession of her younger brother. She felt that as the oldest daughter her parents ignored her because she got married and live separated from them. During the quarrel the younger brother stated that all the parents' riches including tractor, cattle, house, land, etc. could not be distributed among them because their parents are still alive and have the right to use them. The sister got angry and continued to insult him. The elderly and village Police Officer resolved this case and it was decided that all the parent's riches must stay under the responsibility of the younger brother.

Unknown people continue doing violence, destroying property, cattle and killing people. The most well known case was the killing of the Zumalai Post Administrator. It is expected that PNTL work in a professional way to ensure law and order and to guarantee that the community find the truth because in many cases it was difficult to identify perpetrators. Moreover, many cases in the court are progressing very slowly. This has contributed to avengement and hatred for those implicated and may incite people to commit violence. In the other hand, families adopting patriarchal system usually distribute wealth unequally between their sons and daughters and this may be the source of conflict, avengement and hatred within the family

3 INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE INVOLVING MEMBERS OF MARTIAL ARTS GROUPS (MAGs)

Violent actions involving former members of martial art groups (MAGs) still occur. The number of incidents dropped 40% during period of February-March 2019, compared with period of December 2018-January 2019 totaling 5 cases as reported in the previous edition of Situation Review. 3 incidents of violence involving former members of MAGs occurred during this period in Baucau municipality. Meanwhile RAEOA and Covalima municipality are free from incidents involving former members of MAGs. Violent incidents that occurred including:

- ▶ An incident took place on February 12, 2019 at about 13:20 hours at bairru Asiwai, Hamlet Kaikasalari, Tequenomata village, Laga Administrative Post, Municipality of Baucau where former members of MAGs assaulted a teacher. The reason was hatred and avengement. The perpetrators committed their act when the victim was on the way home from school and did not say the reason. As result of the assault the victim suffered injuries on his back because the perpetrators beat him. One of the assailants also suffered injuries, because the victim reacted in self-defense. The case has been reported and Laga Police Station processed and submitted it to the Prosecutor Office.
- ▶ Another incident involving former members of GAMs happened on February 21, 2019, at about 13:00 hours at neighborhood Marabubu, Hamlet Lutumutu, Tirilolo village, Baucau Administrative Post, Baucau municipality. In these incident 4 former members of a MAG

assaulted a young man without stating the reason. The incident happened when the victim drove the Uaitame chief of village from Quelicai Administrative Post to a meeting in Baucau municipality. At about noon he went to a restaurant to buy food and was assaulted by MAG members in the street. As result, the victim suffered heavy injuries on his head and hands because of stone throwing. The case has been processed by the Prosecutor's office at Baucau municipality.

- ▶ On February 03, 2019, at about 07:00 a.m. at Hamlet Data-ua, Caibada village, Baucau Administrative Post, Municipality of Baucau 3 former members of a MAG assaulted a student. The reason for the assault was hatred as is related to martial arts. The incident took place when the victim left his home to buy telephone recharge voucher and assaulted when he was on the way home. The victim suffered injuries on his back and hands because he fell down when the perpetrators pursued and threw stones at him. This case has been processed by Baucau Police Station and submitted to the Prosecutor Office.

The decrease in the number of incidents is affected by the decision of the security authorities to carry out a joint operation involving PNTL and F-FDTL in 12 municipalities and RAEOA. This operation has shown positive results. The community appreciated it and suggested to PNTL command to carry out these operations regularly in order to give them a sense of security.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) CONTINUE TO HAPPEN

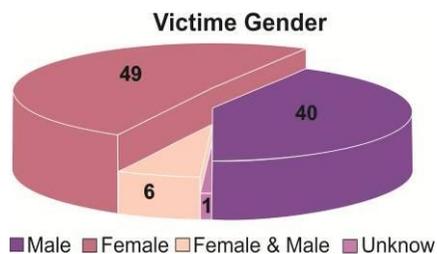
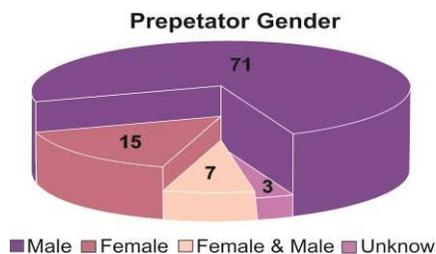
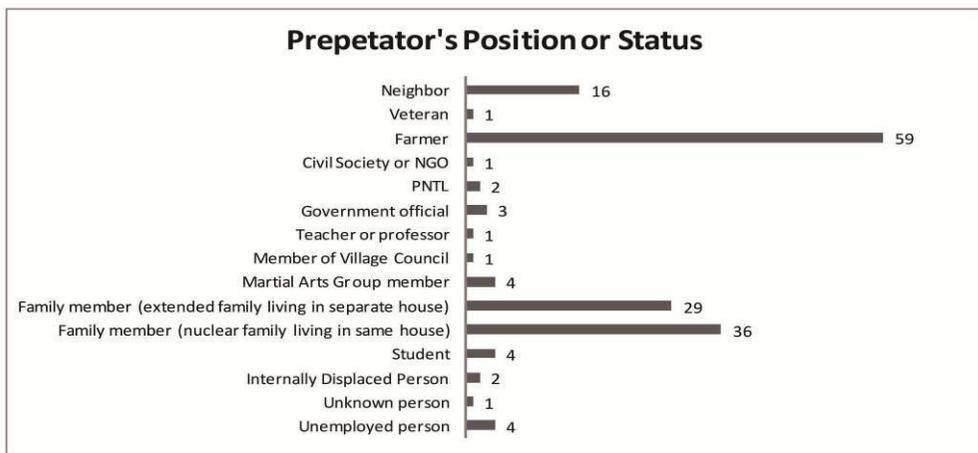
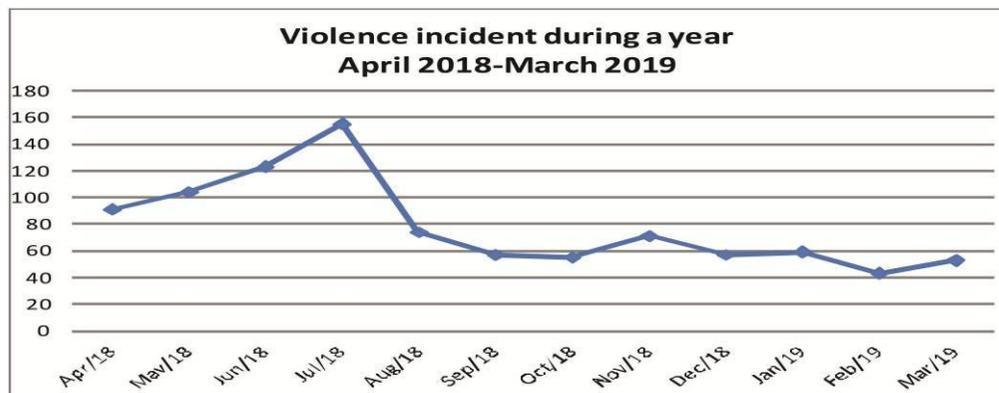
Incidents related with Gender-based Violence (GBV) during February-March 2019 amounted 6 cases. 4 incidents happened in RAEOA and 2 in Baucau. All perpetrators are men. The GBV increased 17% compared with period of December 2018-January 2019. These incidents including:

- ▶ A sexual violence incident happened on March 09, 2019 at about 16.00 hours at Nitibe Sub-Region, RAEOA when the victim returned home from the paddy field. At halfway, the victim met two young men and they walked home together. It rained when they were nearby the victim's house so both entered the house. Once in the house, the victim and the cousin of the offender went to the kitchen to boil water, but the offender just stood I front of the victims bedroom. The offender called the victim to offer a bunch of flowers and when she came close to him, he dragged, pressed her mouth and pushed her into the bedroom and raped her. After the rape, the offender run away and the victim informed her parents at the paddy field. Family members and relatives of the victim followed the offender to his home but did not find him. After a week, on March 15, 2019 victim's family reported the case to PNTL Nitibe Station and on the same day PNTL referred the case to PRADET's safe house and the victim is waiting for the legal process to take place.

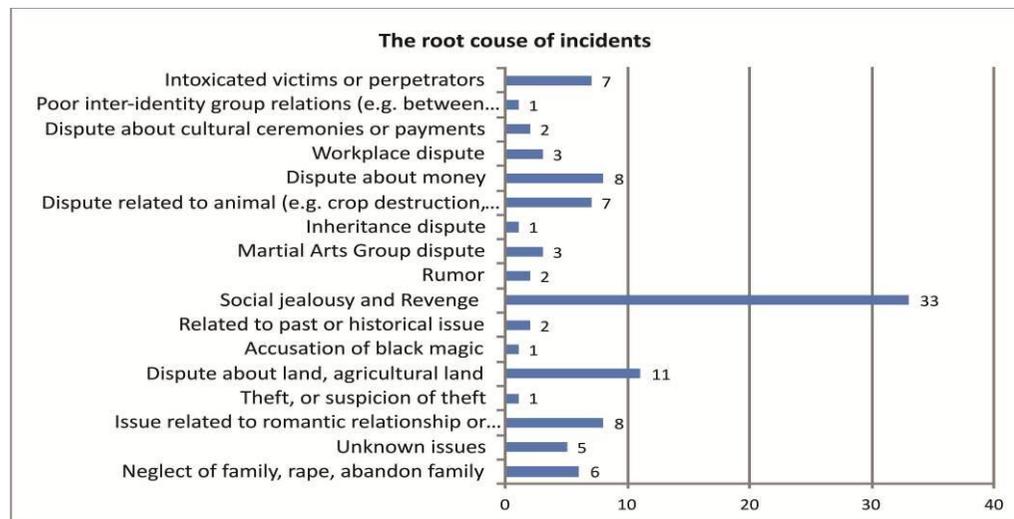
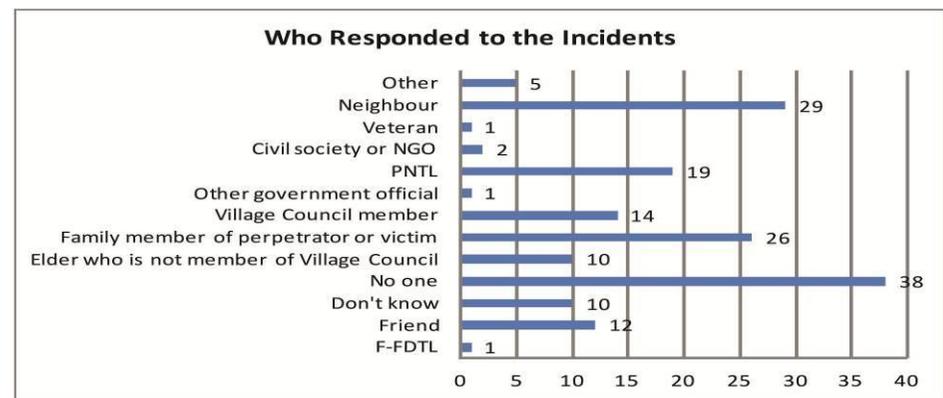
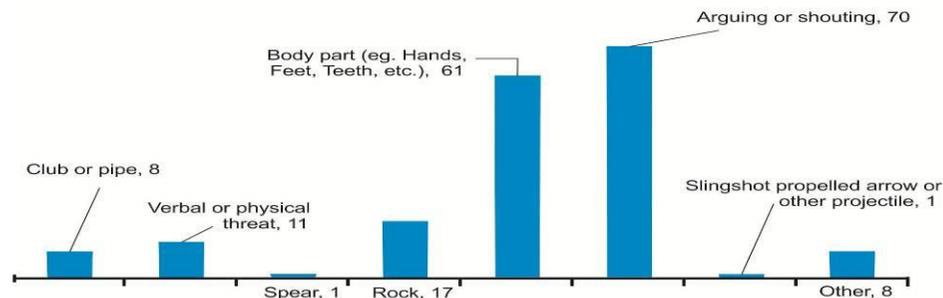
Taking the GBV into account, women are still feeling insecure because they face various kinds of violence within the family and the society. The majority of community members do not know how to file a complaint or refer GBV cases to relevant authorities. Even though the

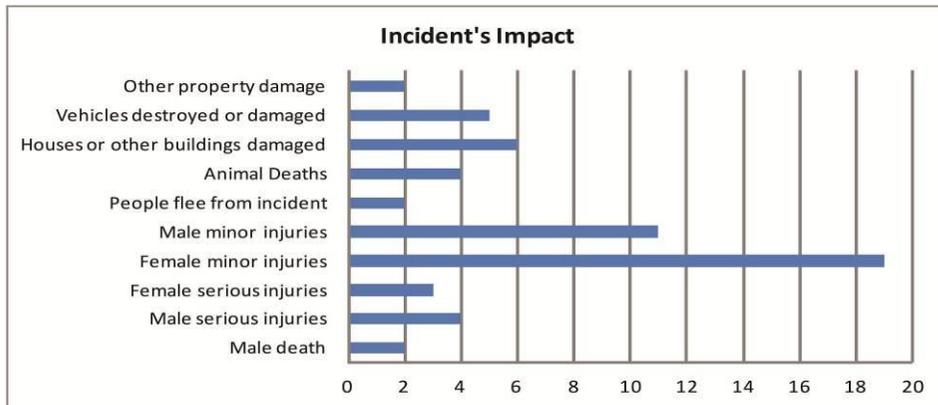
government has created policies and the society is against GBV, but community members still lack the awareness on this issue. It is expected that all parties contribute with information dissemination to the community, particularly in rural areas to increase their awareness about GBV.

CHARACTERISTICS OF INCIDENTS



Weapons Used or Form of Violence





CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Activities of the woman peace and security (WPS):

- On February 20, 2019, Belun team carried out a presentation on the outcome of the violence incident monitoring at its quarterly meeting for period of February-March 2019. The audiences including g7+ partners and the Conflict Prevention and Response Network (CPRN) for Oesilo sub-Region. Other entities who participated in the meeting including the catholic church, KPK members, village council members, community groups, Belun monitors, Health Center, civil security, Oesilo Sub-Region Administration Manager, etc. The participants totaled 27 people, including 9 women and 18 men. The same kind of meeting was also held at Pante Makasar sub-region, RAEOA, on February 21, 2019. Participants of the meeting including G7+ partners, the Belun team, RPRK members, Pradet, village council members, Vulnerable Police Unit (VPU), DNPCC-MoI, Mediators, NGO Ba Futuru representatives, Civil Security, etc. The participants totaled 23 people, including 7 women and 16 men.
- Belun organized an International Workshop in conjunction with APPAP on February 27-28 and March 1, 2019, at the Maubara Room, Timor-Plaza, Dili, Timor-Leste. The objective of the workshop was sharing experience from the Timor-Leste's Early Warning and Early Response System. The three-day event started on February 27, 2019 with the gender-working group to discuss about violence against women and physical violence. The second day workshop took place on February 28, 2019 in the form of a roundtable to discuss violence that took place abroad and in the country. Speakers in the workshop came from Belun, ACbit, UN WOMEN, National Commission of Chega! (CNC), Indonesia, Philippines, Myanmar and Singapore. Participants of the workshop came from 6 countries, including Australia, Myanmar, Singapore, Bangladesh, Indonesia, the Philippines, government institutions, the civil society, Belun Councils members, etc.



Following the round table, the gender-working group visited the CNC and met the executive director Mr. Hugo Fernandes. On the third day, March 1, 2019, a visit was also made to Likisa Administrative Post, Likisa municipality to meet the Conflict Prevention and Response Network (CPRN), to learn about the community's situation and to share experience on violence incidents and how to handle the cases and build peace and prevent conflict

ACCES TO JUSTICE CLINIC PROGRAM

In cooperation with the Public Defense Attorney of Baucau and Covalima municipalities, Belun carried out mediation for 23 cases of land dispute during the period of February-March 2019 through the Access to Justice Clinic Program (AJC). From the 23 cases, 10 were from Baucau and 13 cases from Covalima. The mediation successfully resolved 2 cases in Baucau and 3 cases in Covalima. 4 cases were referred to the Public Defense Attorney. 14 cases are still in the mediation process.



On March 11, 2019, Belun, through the AJC program, facilitated mediation for 2 cases of donated land dispute, which involved 18 disputants who disputed over the same land parcel. In the morning, mediation on land dispute between two men who disputed over a donated land located at Hamlet Uaidau, Loi-Lubo Village, and Vemasse Administrative Post, Baucau municipality. This is the third round of mediation and a solution acceptable by both parties was reached. The disputing parties then sign a peace agreement. As result of this agreement, the claimant agreed and accepted to handover a parcel of land with the dimensions 12m x 10m for the second party to be owner of the land and to build a house. Participants of the mediation were 11 people (3 women and 8 men).

Women involvement in the mediation process is positive because they contributed with ideas and options which were accepted by all parties. This activity is carried out in cooperation with Baucau Public Defense Attorney with financial support from the UNDP.

Belun PARTNERS WITH SEARCH FOR COMMON GROUND (SFCG)

On February 25, 2019, representatives of Belun met with a consultant from Search for Common Ground (SFCG) to focus on a survey "Stopping as Success" for the transitional time from the cooperation with international organizations with Belun to assess its progress so far. The national consultant, Sofia Miranda, accompanied the consultant, David Yamron. The other objective was to elaborate a plan to meet with Belun partners, including representatives of Belun founders and council members. The meeting was carried out at the Belun meeting room at Faról.

ABOUT THE SITUATION REVIEW

This Situation Review reports on key issues related to violence incidents and trends of monitoring data through the Timor-Leste Early Warning and Early Response System (EWER) for period of February-March 2019. This Situation Review covers only 3 municipalities, namely Baucau, Covalima and RAEOA, due to the insufficient resources to support monitoring and data gathering in other municipalities during those months. Belun is striving to share up-to-date information and certainty of actual data. It is expected that this situation will change quickly. We thank and accept other information that can clarify or update the data through EWER System.

For more Information www.atres.belun.tl

Luis da Costa Ximenes, Director, luis.belun@gmail.com

Marilia Oliveira da Costa, EWER's Program Manager, bylah.belun@gmail.com

For details please accsses at www.atres.belun.tl