

SITUATION REVIEW APRIL-MAY 2019

The Early Warning Early Response (EWER) System was established in 2008 and since then it is used in monitoring incidents of violence in the municipalities of Timor-Leste. This system uses a monitor partnership network at the village level to collect information on the incidents. The monitors are trained to verify and send incidents of violence data to municipality coordinators who then send it through online tablet computers to the national database system. Every two months Belun prepares a Situation Review. If you are interested in the incidents of violence data in Timor Leste, please visit www.Atres.belun.tl.

The situation review for period April-May 2019 included the municipality of Dili. On April 2019 the monitoring continued at 6 Administrative Posts (AP) in Dili municipality. The EWER system for this period covered 16 APs in 4 municipalities, including Baukau, Covalima, RAEOA and Dili. There are in total 16 volunteer monitors (11 women and 5 men), one monitor for each AP. The EWER system collects incidents of violence data in 4 municipalities, with the addition of Dili municipality, therefore the number of incidents increased in the period April-May 2019 compared to the number of incidents for period February-March 2019.

ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ATTENTION

- ▶ 50 cases of Domestic Violence (DV);
- ▶ 60 incidents caused by of and revenge and hatred;
- ▶ 17 cases of incidents of violence involving former members of Martial Arts Groups (ex-MAGs)
- ▶ 4 cases of Gender-based violence (GBV)

Total incidents for period April-May 2019	
Municipality	Incident
Covalima	21
Baukau	50
RAEOA	40
Dili	47
Total	158

158 INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE COLLECTED DURING APRIL-MAY 2019

Belun gathered general incidents of violence data with its EWER system for period April-May 2019. The number of incidents was 158 cases and it showed a 20% increase compared to 96 cases for period February-March 2019. The increase for this period is due to the reactivation of the EWER system in Dili Municipality.

From total number of incidents, 32% occurred in Baukau, 30% in Dili, 25% in RAEOA and 13% in Covalima. From these 158 incidents 123 involved men, 16 involved women, and 10 involved both men and women as perpetrators and in 9 cases the perpetrators were unknown. In 60 incidents the perpetrators were family members, in 42 were neighbors, in 42 incidents involved farms and animals, 39 involved family members living separated, 22 involved students, and 20 involved ex-MAG members, 15 involved unemployed people, 3 incidents involved PNTL members, 1 involved veterans, 3 involved government officials, 1 involved a foreigner and 4 perpetrators were unknown. The victims in 75 incidents were men, in 48 incidents were women, and in 31 incidents were both men and women. There were 4 incidents where the victims were unknown (in the case of destruction of goods and property). The violent incidents showed and increased trend during the monitoring period. The type of violence including GBV and encompassed domestic violence, sexual harassment, rape, revenge and

hatred, and past issues. In some incidents both the victims and perpetrators were intoxicated, others were fight between ex-MAG members, accusations of witchcraft and magic, defamation, cultural issues (*fetosa-umane*), and problems related with animals. There were also incidents related with politics, etc. As a consequence of these incidents 2 men and 2 women were killed, 18 men and 1 woman were heavily injured and 29 men and 19 women were slightly injured. In 8 incidents people were forced to abandon their homes. In other incidents houses, goods, and vehicles were destroyed and 4 animals were killed.

50 CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV)

Incident data related with DV continue to occur in Baukau, Covalima, RAEOA and Dili municipalities, with a total of 50 incidents. This number of incidents increased 13% compared with period February-March 2019, which amounted 38 incidents as reported by the Situation review for that period. The majority of DV incidents (21) occurred in Baukau, 17 incidents occurred in RAEOA, 7 in Dili and 5 in Covalima. In regard to DV, authorities based on Law 7/2010 Against DV process almost all cases. This suggests that local authorities are aware of the law against DV to handle DV cases. The following are DV incidents occurred during period April-May 2019:

- ▶ On May 03, 2019 at 23:00at the AP Cristo Rei, Dili. hours a man was arguing with his wife because she refused to cook a chicken for dinner. She then took a shovel and hit her husband, but he took it away from her and used it to beat her. She screamed and her son came out of the bedroom to help his mother. He then beat his father on the head with a crowbar and his father died instantaneously. The suspect was captured along with his mother and the case is registered with police. She was released after 24 hours but her son is detained at the Bekora prison and is waiting for the further investigation and trial.
- ▶ On May 26, 2019 at 22:50, at the AP Suai, Covalima. hour a drunk man beat his wife to death with a motorcycle suspension rod and heavily injured his son on the head. The perpetrator then surrendered himself at the Covalima police station. Police rushed to the scene and brought the corpse to Suai referral hospital for autopsy. They also brought the son for treatment of his injuries. The incident is being processed by police according to the law.

60 INCIDENTS CAUSED BY REVENGE AND HATRED

During the period April-May 2019, 60 incidents based on revenge and hatred because of past time issues occurred in the country. The number of incidents increased 27% compared with only 33 incidents in the period February-March 2019. This increase is attributed to the reactivation of the EWER system in Dili Municipality. Incidents based on revenge and hatred because of past time issues continue to occur with an increasing trend:

- ▶ On May 4, 2019 at about 09:20 am at the Sub-region Pante Makassar RAEOA, three young men insulted and physically assaulted another young man. The incident happened because they were jealous of the young man while competing for dancing partners during a *kore-metan* party two days before the incident. As they were unhappy after the fight for girls that night, the three young men argued with and assaulted the other young man. As consequence of the assault the young man suffered injuries on his mouth and swelling on

his face. When PNTL arrived at the scene but the perpetrators run away. This case is already referred to PNTL and it is now being processed.

- ▶ On May 30, 2019, at about 12:30 pm at aldeia São Jose Aimeti Laran, suku Comoro, Administrative Post (AP) Dom Aleixo, a number of students caused a trouble scene due to acts of revenge and hatred. During this incident a member of F-FDTL became a victim. His car was hit with stones when he passed by the scene while the fight between students at a public road was going on. Unhappy and enraged with the student's behavior, he took action and captured about 10 students and then hand them over to police. This case is being processed according to the law.

It is recommended that PNTL continue to patrol regularly at nighttime, act professionally to enforce law and order, and ensure that community members find justice and truth. Especially because in 15 incidents the perpetrators were unknown and unable to detect, due to lack of police presence. It is also recommended that justice acts more promptly, because pending cases at the court, unresolved past issues, and slow legal processes can increase revenge and hatred among those implicated. Community members and the whole Timorese society are encouraged to continue inform security agents and promote a peace culture and strengthen unity, stability, and security to pave the way for development in the country.

17 VIOLENT INCIDENTS INVOLVING FORMER MEMBERS OF MARTIAL ARTS GROUPS (ex-MAGs)

Violent acts involving ex-MAG members still occur and the number of incidents increased 41% during period April-May 2019. The Situation Review for period February-March 2019 reported only 3 incidents. ex-MAG members continue to make trouble in 17 separate incidents during this period. From these 17 cases, 9 occurred in Baucau, 5 in Dili and 3 in Covalima. In the meantime, RAE OA is free from incidents related to ex-MAGs members. The following incidents are related to ex-MAGs:

- ▶ On May 25, 2019, at 9:00 am at Oralan market, Suku Vemasse, AP Vemasse, Baucau a young man went to the market to buy vegetables. There he met another man and asked him, "We are all colleagues, why do you guys hate me?" The other man replied, "I know nothing". The young man immediately assaulted the other man. The case is registered at Vemasse police station and is being processed according to the law.
- ▶ On May 25, 2019, at 4:00 pm at Aldeia Bahamori, Suku Cai-Cua, AP of Vemasse, Baucau ex-MAG members from IKS and PSHT assaulted each other for reasons of revenge and hatred due to unresolved past issues related to martial arts groups. As consequence 1 person died, 2 women were injured, 1 house was burned, and 4 houses were destroyed. Other consequences of the incident are that people cannot carry out their daily activities and students cannot go to school because of security concerns. This case is registered with Vemasse police and several perpetrators have been investigated.
- ▶ On May 25, 2019, at about 4:30 pm at Aldeia Bahamori, Suku Cai-Cua, AP of Vemasse, Baucau a former member of IKS assaulted 2 former members of PSHT because of revenge

and hatred issues. As consequence a worker of a Chinese company was injured. This case is registered at Vemasse PNTL station for further investigation.

The impact of this incident is that community members were frightened, and students could not go to school. This case is registered at Vemasse Police station to be processed according to the law.

The above-mentioned incidents suggest that ex-MAG members continue to make trouble although the government already bans them. As consequence of these incidents people were killed and injured, property was destroyed, relationships were harmed, and community members are frightened and traumatized. Although law 5/2017 on martial arts and steel (*arma branca*) is already in place, and ex-MAG members are already banned and have no more activities, their former members continue to unfollow the law and fight each other.

4 CASES OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

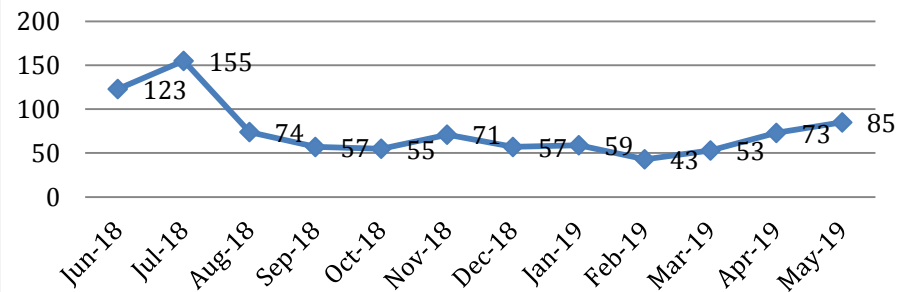
Incidents related to GBV during period April-May 2019 amounted 4 cases, 2 happened in Baucau, and the 2 others in Dili and RAE OA. All perpetrators in these incidents were men. GBV incidents decreased 17% compared with period February-March 2019. The following are GBV incidents occurred during this period:

- ▶ On April 23, 2019 at about 07.00 am, at sub-region Passabe, RAE OA a man was arguing with his nephew after watching adult-content movies with 2-5 minors. The incident started when the perpetrator showed pornographic movies to minors from his mobile phone in the bedroom. While watching they were not aware that the perpetrator's nephew came in and realized that they were watching adult-content movies. He was not happy with that and asked his uncle to hand over the mobile phone, but the kids and his uncle as owner of the mobile phone refused. He then reported the case to the police who then captured his uncle and brought him for investigation. He is now waiting for the next proceedings.
- ▶ On May 02, 2019, at about 09:00 am at PA Baucau a married man sexually harassed a married woman. This incident took place when the woman was walking on the street side. A man passed by with his car near the woman and uttered vulgar words to the woman. This case is registered at police and is awaiting the legal process.

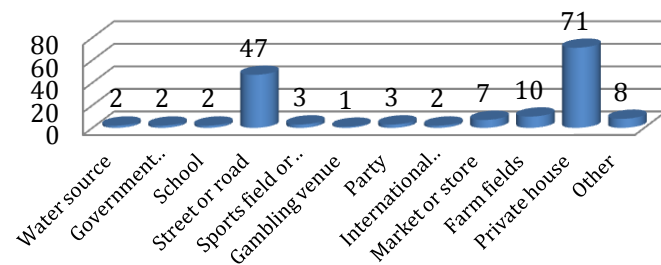
GBV cases involving women, girls and minor boys occur frequently. People feel insecure because many cases of GBV occur within the household. The majority of community members do not know how to fill complaints and they have no courage to report or refer GBV cases to the authorities. Although the government has created the policy on GBV and the civil society continue fighting against GBV, some community members are not aware of this. It is suggested to continue disseminating information to community members so that people have enough knowledge and awareness to fight GBV. Family or community members must be aware that GBV is a crime and they should report to the authorities whenever they witness or hear about it. They should never consent it to take place even if the perpetrator is a family member.

CHARACTERISTIC OF INCIDENTS

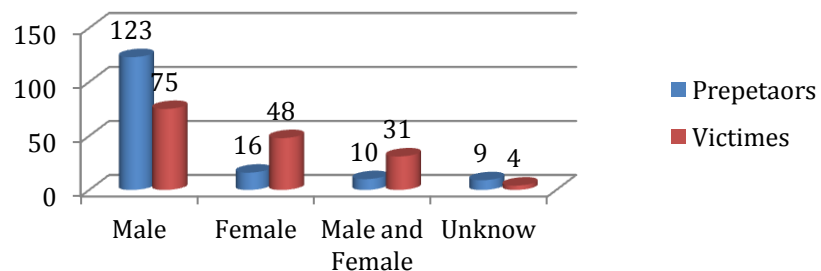
Incident data for period June 2018-May 2019



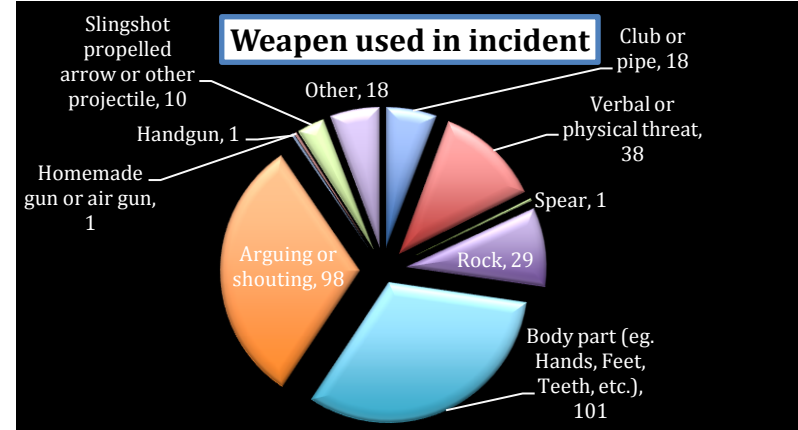
Place of the Incident



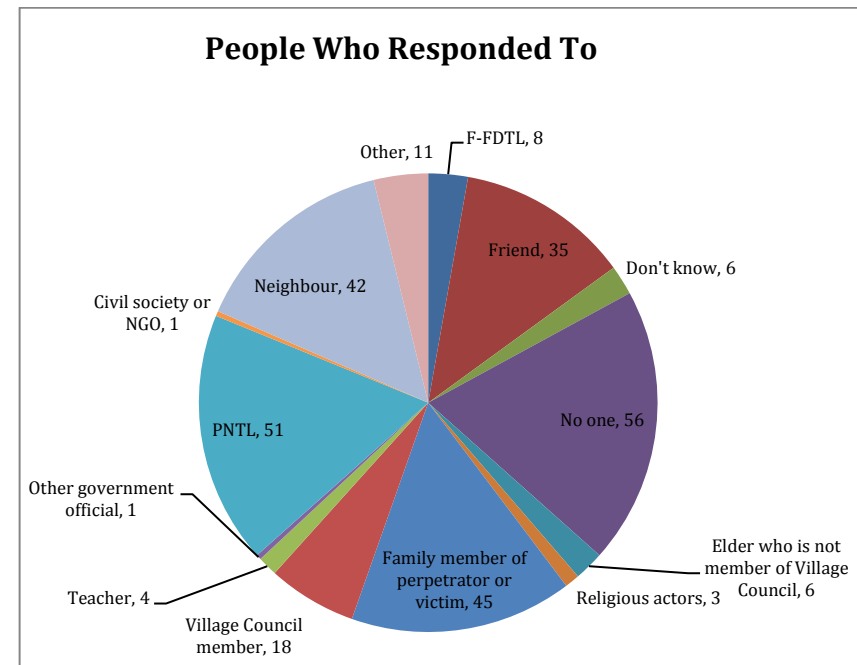
Sex of Perpetrators and Victims



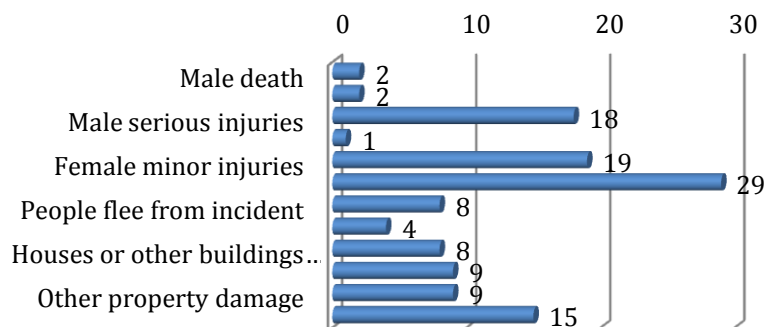
Weapon used in incident



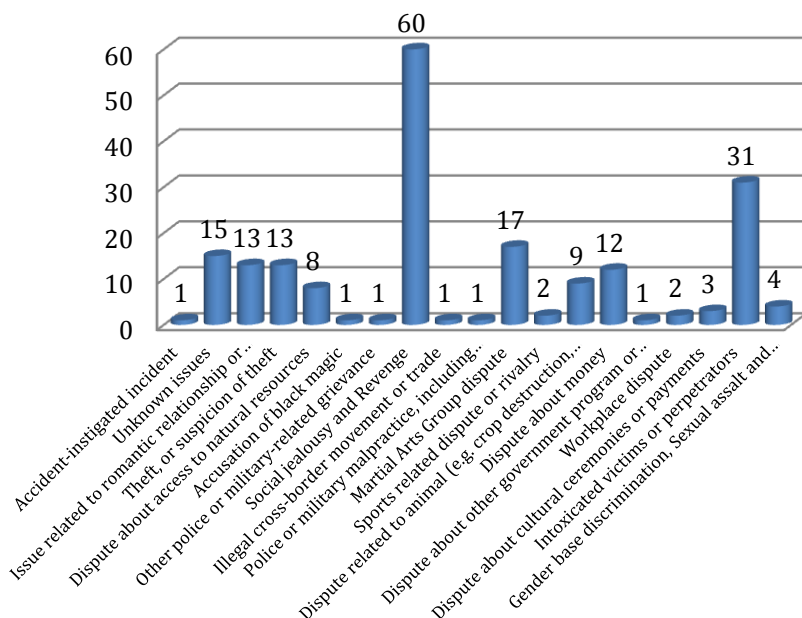
People Who Responded To



Impact of the Incident



Cause of the Incidents



CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Activities of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) program:

community capacity building. The WPS program facilitated training on Conflict Resolution Skills for target group participants in Baucau, Covalima and RAEOA. The objective of the training was: 1) to provide participants with the ability and knowledge on how to be an independent and sensitive mediator for gender; 2) to strengthen the cooperation with partners and facilitate mediation for conflicts that may arise in their communities; 3) to increase women participant's confidence and creativity in finding solutions and to participate in conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities. The training target were members of women's groups, women community policing council (women CPC), and members of Conflict Prevention and Response Network (CPRN). Total participants in the training were: 1) In RAEOA the training was conducted on 09 to 11 April 2019 and 25 people attended, comprised of 21 women and 4 men; 2) In Covalima Municipality it was conducted on 09 to 11 April 2019 and 29 people attended, 21 women and 8 men; 3) in Baukau Municipality on 23 to 25 April 2019, with 20 participants, 17 women and 3 men.



On 24 April 2019, Belun participated as a panelist in the Workshop ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM, and presented "EWER program From Theory to Practice: The Importance of Civil Society Engagement in Early Warning". During the event, regional stakeholders discussed how to promote peace and security through dialogue and cooperation in the Asia pacific, the role of preventive diplomacy and Early Warning and the linkages for conflict resolution. The event

took place at the Salao New Tourism in Dili and gathered 85 representatives from 26 countries including Timor-Leste. During the last day of the event, the delegation visited the municipality of Liquiça and engaged in dialogue with the community and the members of the Conflict Prevention and Response Network (CPRN) which Belun is part of. MNEC, Embassy of Australia, the Indonesian Embassy and the Embassy of New Zealand organized this event.

Belun received the opportunity to be a member of the "Regional Peace Monitoring" together with NGO partners from Myanmar, Thailand, Nepal, and Bangladesh in cooperation with the Asia Foundation (TAF) Bangkok regional office. Belun Director, Mr. Luis da Costa Ximenes attended the first meeting and had the privilege to present Belun's work in conflict prevention, particularly Belun's Early Warning and Early Response System (EWER) and Dispute Mediation and Resolution Project. It was a great honor for Belun to join this partnership. This regular meeting is facilitated by our partner TAF at the Sukothai Hotel, Bangkok, 7-8 May 2019. The meeting was attended by 21 civil society

activists (8 women and 13 men) and focused on strengthening the partnership using the EWER system as instrument for monitoring and on using social media for advocacy. This event was supported by the International Development Research Center (IDRC) of the government of Canada.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES IN DILI

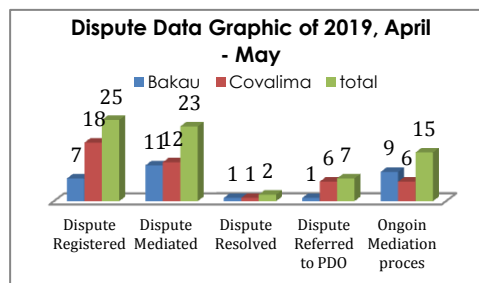
From 2019 the EWER System received funds from the Asia Pacific Partnership for Atrocity Prevention (APPAP) and Direct Aid Program (DAP), DFAT succeeded in organizing several peace activities including, informing the reactivation of the EWER program in Dili to six AP administrators in Dili and also to PNTL VPU Unit. In general, the authorities were happy with the reactivation of the system as they are already familiar with Belun's work and were part of the system for several years in the past. Following the reactivation of the program, Belun monitors restarted the monitoring for violence incidents and changes of situation in six APs, namely Dom Aleixo, Vera Cruz, Cristo Rei, Nain Feto, Metinaro and Atauro and also RPRK.

SPECIAL VISIT OF THE WFUNA'S SECRETARY GENERAL TO BELUN

On April 27, 2019 Belun and its team received a special visit from the WFUNA Secretary General, Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi and his official for Peace and Security Madame Margaret Williams. The objective of the visit was to share information about Belun's work in conflict prevention, security and peacebuilding. They also shared information about the WFUNA program and the plan for the Sustainable Development Objective (SDO) 16+ III Annual Showcase Forum that will held on November 2019 in Timor-Leste. On the other hand there were discussions about civil society's perspective on the forum based on their experience with implementing partners and NGOs. There is also a plan to visit communities where community members have resolved their problems peacefully thanks to peacebuilding activities. The director for International Development at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Mr. F. Corbafo and his officials also attended the meeting and supported the annual showcase forum plan III 2019 in Timor-Leste.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE CLINIC PROGRAM

Through the Land Mediation and Dispute Resolution program, Belun works in cooperation with the Public Defender to implement the Access to Justice Clinic (AJC) program in the Judicial Municipalities of Baucau and Covalima. AJC program activities include mediation for 23 land disputes and civil disputes for period April-May 2019 where 11 cases occurred in Baucau (9 land, 2 other civil case) and 12 (11 land, 1 other civil) in Covalima. The outcome of



Municipality.

Through this mediation the parties came to an agreement and decided to resolve their dispute. The defendant agreed to pay US \$500.00 for a piece of land-measured 5x20m that he acquired at the roadside. The plaintiff agreed to receive the money and hand over the land to the defendant. Following the agreement, the Belun mediator for Access to Justice Clinic located at the Public Defender office; Covalima Judiciary municipality helped the disputants sign the extra judicial agreement documents, which marks the resolution of the dispute on Wednesday, May 8, 2019.

THE BELUN TEAM

Belun received an opportunity to be a member of the Regional Peace Monitoring with NGO partners from Myanmar, Thailand, Nepal and Bangladesh in cooperation with the Asia Foundation (TAF) Regional Office in Bangkok. Belun's representative, Luis Ximenes attended the first meeting and had the privileged to present Belun's work in conflict prevention, particularly Belun's Early Warning Early Response System (EWER) and dispute mediation and resolution. It was a great honor for Belun to join this partnership facilitated by TAF.

This regular meeting was facilitated by our partner, TAF at the Sukothai Hotel, in Bangkok, from May 7 to 8, 2019. The meeting was attended by 21 representatives (8 women and 13 men) of civil society activists' organizations. The meeting focused mainly on strengthening the partnership in the EWER system with their respective instruments for monitoring and how to use social media for advocacy. The discussion on peacebuilding was supported by the International Development Research Center (IDRC) and the Government of Canada.

ABOUT THIS REVIEW

This is a situation review on key issues related to incidents of violence and trends of monitoring data through the Early Warning and Response System (EWER) Timor-Leste. For the period April-May 2019 the Situation Review covers Dili and also four other municipalities namely Baucau, Covalima, Dili no RAE OA. The nine remaining municipalities are not covered yet by Belun monitoring because of insufficient financial resources to support data gathering and monitoring. Belun is striving to share up-to-date, accurate and current information with all stakeholders. It is expected that this situation will change in the near future and we are grateful for all information provided to us to clarify or update the data through EWER.

For more information please visit www.EWER.belun.tl

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