

The Early Warning and Response System (EWER) continued to monitor violence incidents that occurred in Dili and Likisá municipalities for period May-June 2021. As usual, this system is implemented in partnership with a monitoring network that gather information about violence incidents in the field. Incidents regularly gathered by the network are sent to the municipality coordinator who enter it into the online national database. The national database manager use the data to undertake the final verification and then send it to the program manager to analyze the causes that triggered the violence. For a complete overview about Belun’s activities on conflict transformation, please visit our website at www.atres.belun.tl

The situation review for May-June 2021 covers Dili and Likisá municipalities with five administrative posts (APs) where 2 APs are located in Dili municipality and three Administrative Posts (APs) are located in Likisá municipality. There are four monitor partners (all male) involved in the monitoring and the coordinator (female) of Likisá municipality monitors directly incidents that occurred in the field in Likisá Vila AP. The incident data in the two municipalities for this period are described below:

ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ATTENTION

- ▶ Domestic violence 10
- ▶ Violence incident triggered by land dispute 8
- ▶ Abandonment and sexual violence against minors 2 and sexual harassment 1

Total number of Incidents recorded in the two Municipalities in the reporting period (May-June)	
Municipality	Total Incidents
Dili	64
Likisá	39
Grand Total	103

VIOLENCE INCIDENTS IN DILI AND LIKISÁ FOR PERIOD MAY – JUNE 2021

Belun and its EWER system, with the support of our partners from the Asia and Pacific Partnership Atrocity Prevention (APPAP) network, continued to collect incident data in Dili municipality in Dom Aleixo and Cristo Rei APs and in Likisá municipality in Likisá Vila, Bazartete and Maubara APs for period May – June 2021. Violence incidents that took place during this period amounted 103 cases. The number of incidents gathered during this period in Dili and Likisá municipalities remains high where 62% occurred in Dili municipality and 38% occurred in Likisá municipality from the total 103 incidents.

From the perpetrator’s sex, 83 incidents involved men, 6 incidents involved women, 6 incidents involved both men and women, while 8 involved people whose gender was. Concerning the Victim’s gender, in 66 of the reported episodes of violence the victims were men, in 25 cases were women, in 11 cases the victims were both men and women and in 1 case the gender of the victim was not known.

Meanwhile the social position or status of the perpetrators mostly fall under the category ‘others’ and ‘unknown’ which amounted 30 (others 26, and unknown 4). Subsequently, there were 15 incidents involving extended family members living in other households, in 12 cases the perpetrators were neighbors, in 11 cases the perpetrators were nuclear family members living in the same household, in 10 incidents involved Timor-Leste National Police, in 9 incidents the perpetrators were not known. In 8 incidents the perpetrators were unemployed person, in 5 cases the perpetrator were the farm or rice fields or cattle, in 5 incidents involved students, martial arts members in 4 incidents, village council members in 3 incidents, in other 3 cases the perpetrators were government officials and in 1 case the perpetrators was religious leaders and veterans.

Tools used in these incidents including mouth (, arguing or shouting etc.) 52, body part (ez. hands, feet, teeth, etc.) in 44 incidents, verbal or physical threat in 33 incidents, stones in 13 incidents, others in 11 incidents, club or pipe in 4 incidents and slingshot propelled arrow or other projectile in 1 case.

The most used ways of committing violence during this period was physical aggression comprised of 38 incidents, quarreling 32 incidents, stone throwing 13 incidents, threatening 7 incidents, property destruction 5 incidents, abandonment 3 incidents, provoking each other 2 incidents, insulting 2 incidents. Other ways including attacking each other, stealing, in compliance towards passengers, in compliance towards contract, suicide, forcing women to talk to the perpetrator, and forcing community members to undergo the swap test.

Overall, the causes of incidents during this period was dissatisfaction for the actions of other party (e.g. concerning words and actions, government decision about the emergency state and the sanitary lockdown, economic problems, irresponsibility of one party to look after cattle), land dispute, drunkenness, suspecting each other, disagreement, hatred and vengeance for past problems, breach of sanitary lockdown rules, abandonment or denying that the child conceived or a pregnancy is the result of the affair/adultery,, defamation and accusing each other of witchcraft, breach of traffic rules, and other minor causes including conflict over natural resource (water supply), and stealing. The causes of 13 incidents were unknown.

As a result of these incidents a woman died, 7 people were heavily injured (6 men and 1 woman), 20 people were slightly injured (17 men and 3 women), in 3 incidents, people feel insecure and flee from their home, house or construction destroyed or burned 7, house or construction damaged or burned 6, vehicle destroyed, burned or damaged 1 and other items damaged 5.

From these incidents, EWER monitors and municipality coordinators think that 7 incidents are likely to recur in the future because they were not properly handled by security authorities and other competent parties. Hatred and vengeance will continue to exist among those implicated, and may trigger new incidents may recur in the future.

THERE WERE 10 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENTS IN DILI AND LIKISA

Domestic violence that occurred during this period at Cristo Rei Administrative Post amounted (6), Maubara AP 2 cases, Likisá 1 and Bazartete 1. Violence between intimate partners amounted 7 cases and between family members living in the same household amounted 3 cases. These violence happened because of dissatisfaction for the behavior of the parties including, jealousy over adultery, intoxicated), household economy problems, prohibition by one party to the other to attend martial art training at night, and one party caused the loss of other party's stuff. From these 10 incidents, only one got the intervention of PNTL, while 3 other incidents got the intervention of family members of the perpetrator and well as the victim. Two incidents were intervened by neighbors and village council members while in 2 other incidents nobody intervened. Factors that contributed to these violence incidents including jealousy, money and hatred.

VIOLENCE INCIDENTS TRIGGERED BY LAND DISPUTE: 8 CASES

Violence incidents triggered by land and property dispute during this period amounted 8 cases in Likisá municipality (3 cases in Likisá Vila, 2 cases in Maubara and 1 case in Likisá Vila). Land dispute incidents in Likisá municipality are related to residential land, inherited land, land handed over to the church by ancestors but their descendants intend to take it back, dispute on land border and dispute on community land between villages. Meanwhile, land dispute incidents in Dili municipality are related to land border between the disputant and inherited land.

The majority of perpetrators in these incidents were men (6), while in two other incidents the perpetrators were both men and women. Victims in the land dispute were all men. From the eight incidents, PNTL and village council members intervened in 2 incidents, while village council members and neighbors as well as family members of perpetrators and victims intervened in other 7 incidents, while in one incident nobody intervened.

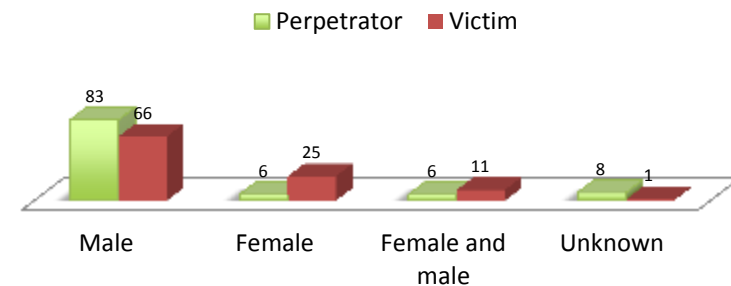
ABANDONMENT AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST MINORS: 2 CASES - SEXUAL HARASSMENT: 1 CASE

There were 2 cases of abandonment and sexual violence against minors during this period and 1 case of sexual harassment in Likisá municipality, Likisá Vila and Maubara Administrative Posts (Aps). The first two incidents occurred as result of adultery committed by the victim. In one incident the perpetrator agreed to take responsibility for the baby he fathered but refused the women with whom he had a relationship. In the other case the perpetrator denied that he fathered the baby when the women informed and demanded him to take responsibility for his acts. An incident of sexual harassment happened when the perpetrator pursued and forced the victim to talk at the street which the victim refused.

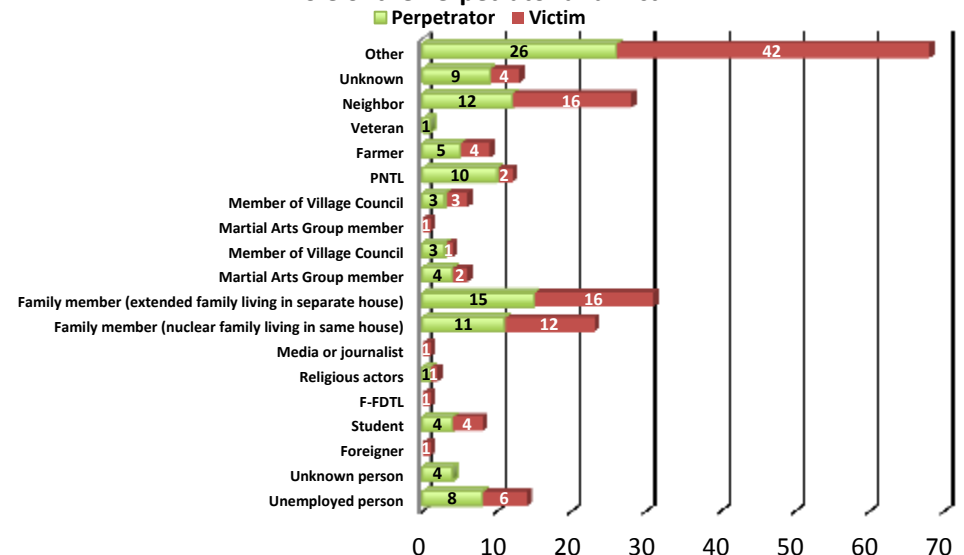
There were various causes of these incidents, including dissatisfaction over the behavior of other parties, men considered women weak and have no courage to defend themselves and give them the chance to dominate. From three incidents that occurred, village council members and the PNTL intervened in 2 incidents while in another incident only village council members intervened.

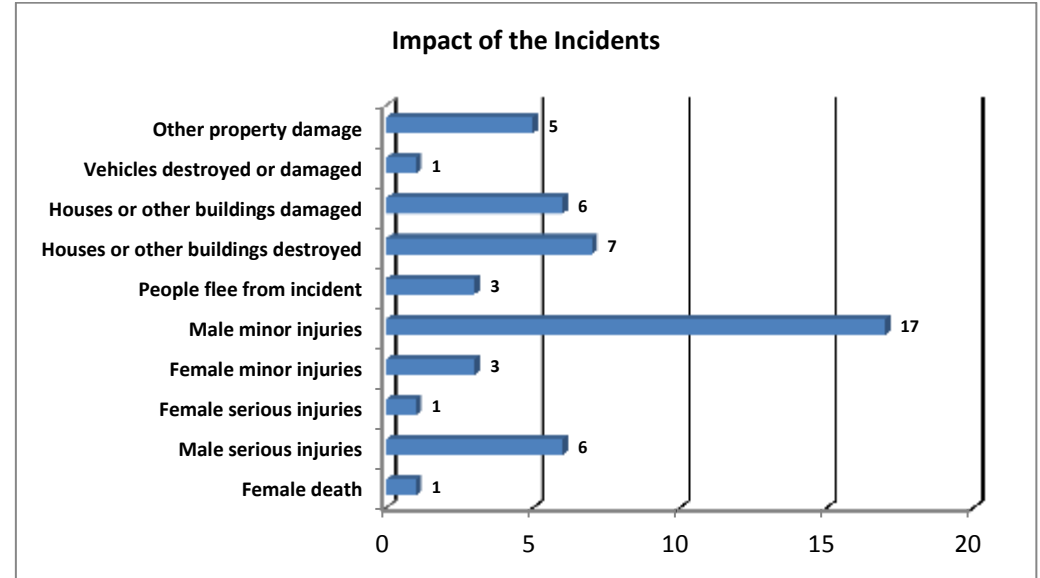
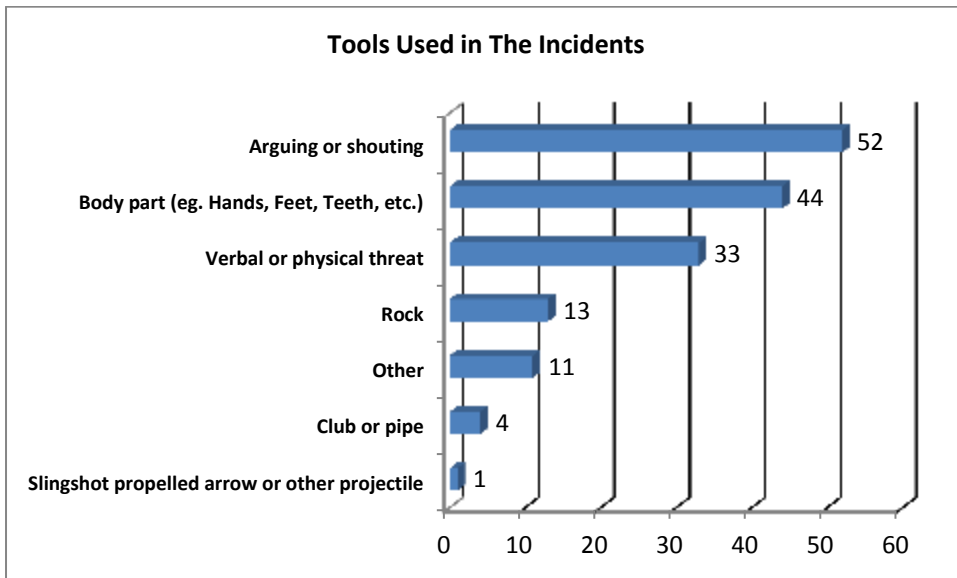
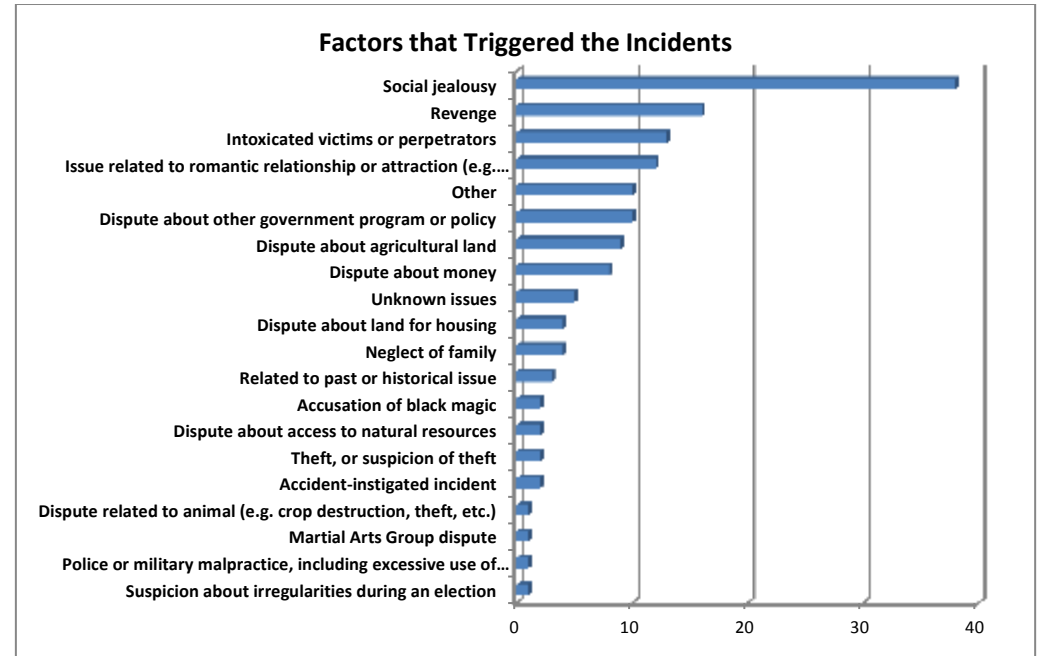
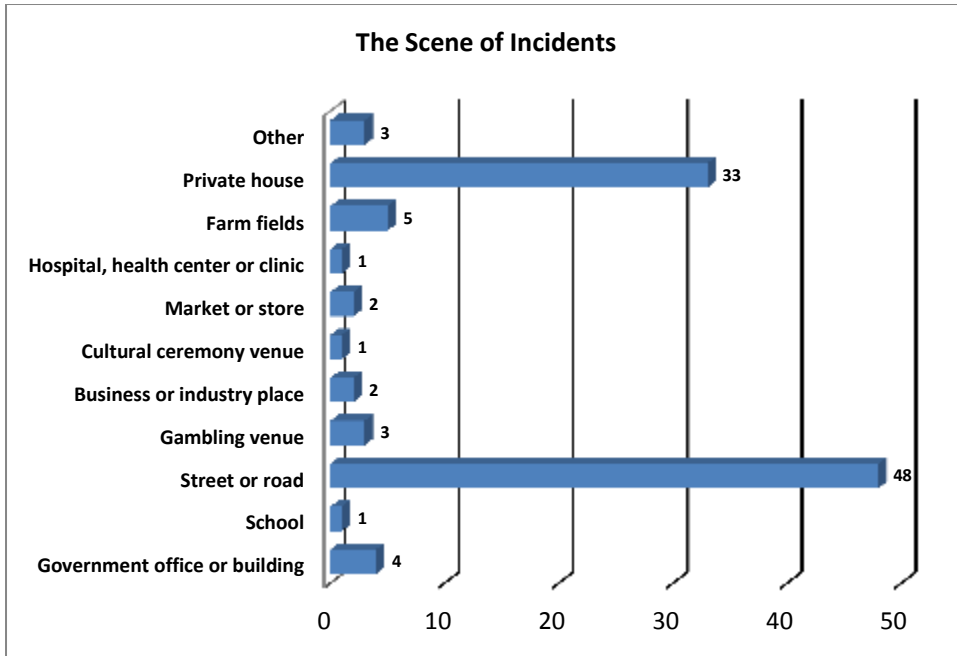
GRAPHIC OF GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INCIDENTS

Sex of the Perpetrator and the Victim



Role of the Perpetrator and Victim





CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACE BUILDING ACTIVITIES

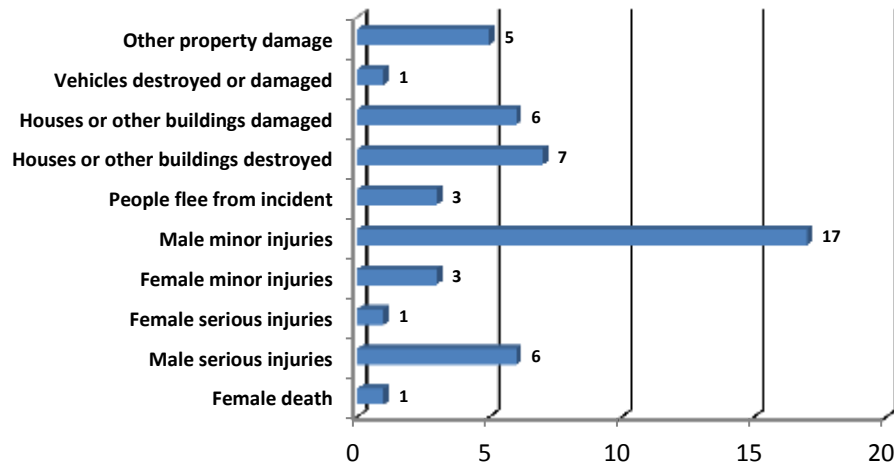
The SI-UNW Program

► Activity Preparation for the Impact of the Implementation of the Law against Domestic Violence Survey in Dili Municipality

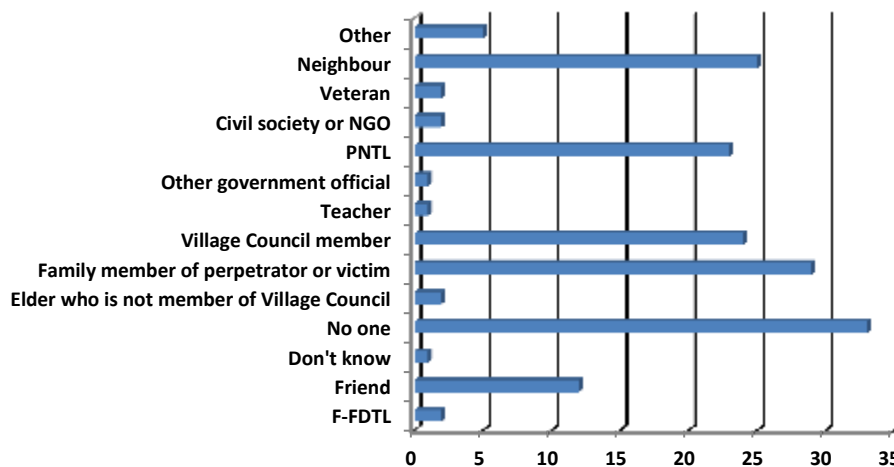
The Belun, with the support of the European Union funds provided through the UN Women Timor-Leste partnership, participated in a training about the objective and research methodology on the Impact of the Law Against Domestic Violence (LADV) Implementation Survey and Advocacy and Social Norm Survey. The training was conducted through Zoom for 5 days, on May 30, June 1st to June 3 and on June 8 facilitated by technical team from the NOSSAL Institution under Melbourne University.



Impact of the Incidents



Entities that Responded to the Incidents



On June 23, the Pilar I team about policy and legislation from Spotlight Initiative program realize the survey on the Impact of the Law Against Domestic Violence Implementation in Dili municipality aiming at listening the voice of the community and partners on the Survey on the Law Against Domestic Violence Implementation Impact for the society in Timor-Leste.

The Research started with relevant partners in Dili, including LGBTI community from CODIVA NGO and Arcoiris, by undertaking focus group discussion (FGD). Participants in the interview amounted 18 people (12 women and 6 men) from Casa Vida, State Secretary for Equality and inclusion, Timor-Leste National Police -VPU, ALFeLa, Rede Feto (Women Network), Justice System Monitoring Programm, Ministry of Social, Solidarity and Inclusion Public Defender, Fokupers, Pradet, Arcoiris, CODIVA, Provedor for Human Rights and Justice and Association for the Disable Person in Timor-Leste. Total participants of the focal group discussion with the LGBTI community were 21 people (12 from CODIVA and 9 from Arcoiris). The research was conducted in cooperation with the NOSSAL Institution and UN Women.

The UNFPA Social Norm Program

► Social Norm Survey Activity in Dili, Ermera, Bobonaru and Vikéke Municipalities

In the framework of the UN Spotlight Initiative Program, Belun has **carried out a Survey on Social Norms** focusing on the “*Impact of the Access to Pornography on Violence Against Women and Children in Timor Leste*” in partnership with the UNFPA for period June – July 2021. The objective of the survey is to gather public opinion on how to strengthen and develop the social norm and policy to prevent violence against women and children in Timor-Leste. The method used in the survey was focal group discussion.

🚩 Survey Activity in Dili

Activity in Dili municipality started on June 24, with 10 participants (3 women, 5 Men, and 2 transgender men) representing 7 civil society organizations working in gender-based violence prevention (CODIVA 2, ALFeLa 2, Hak 2, ACbit 1, Rede Feto, 1, Raes Hadomi Timor Oan 1, and Fokupers 1).



🚩 Survey Activity in Ermera

Survey Activity in Ermera municipality started on June 28 – June 30, 2021, covering two Administrative Posts in Ermera and Railaco with a total of 8 Focal Group Discussions (FGDs) and a total of 70 participants (32 women, 38 men and 31 people with disability) distributed in three categories (female and male youth aged 18-24, adults aged 34 and above and people with disability).

ABOUT THIS SITUATION REVIEW

The EWER System was established by Belun in 2008. Between 2008 and 2017 the System was implemented in all the Municipalities in the Country, before being dismissed in 2017 due to lack of funds..

The system was reactivated in 2018 with the support of UN Women and the Women Peace and Security Program which covered only three municipalities namely, Baukau, Covalima, and RAEOA.

In mid-2019 (May-September) it also covered Dili municipality (with 6 APs) with financial support from the DAP-DFAT. In the same year, with the support of the German Government and GIZ, EWER was also reactivated in four other municipalities including Dili, Baukau, Lautem and Viqueque (two APs for each municipality). In 2020 the system was reactivated in Likisá municipality with the support of G7+ Secretariat and in Covalima municipality with the support of the UNDP. In 2020 the system was temporarily inactive from July to December and in 2021 with the support of the Asia and Pacific Partnership Atrocity Prevention (APPAP) Network it was reactivated in two municipalities namely, Dili (2 APs) and Likisá (3 APs)

This situation magazine reports on key issues related to violence incidents and the trend of monitoring data through the Timor-Leste Early Warning and Response System (EWER) for period May-June 2021 in Dili and Likisá municipalities. Actually this magazine should have been published in May but due to technical issues faced by Belun website, the emergency state and the sanitary lockdown related to the COVID-19 pandemic in Dili municipality and unstable Internet connection for the EWER service in the field has had an implication over the delayed publication of this magazine. These activities were financially supported by the Asia Pacific Partnership Atrocity Prevention (APPAP) Network.

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

Or contact:

Luis da Costa Ximenes, Belun Director luis.belun@gmail.com
Romaldo Caetano, EWER Database Manager romaldo.belun@gmail.com
Jesuína Maria do Rosário Abel, EWER Manager jesuina.belun@gmail.com