

The Early Warning and Response System (EWER) continued to monitor violence incidents that occurred in Bobonaro, Baukau, Covalima, Dili and Manufahi municipalities in the period April – May 2022. As usual, this system is implemented in partnership with a monitoring network that gathers information about violence incidents. Information (or data) on violence incidents is gathered and sent to the Municipality Coordinator who enters it into the online national database. The national database manager uses the data to undertake the final verification and then sends it to the program manager to analyze the causes that triggered the violence. If you are interested in receiving more information about the conflict situation in Timor-Leste, please contact Belun at www.atres.belun.tl.

The situation reviews for April – May 2022 covers 5 municipalities (Bobonaro, Baukau, Covalima, Dili and Manufahi) and 15 administrative posts. Baukau Municipality covers 3 administrative post (Baukau, Laga and Vemassee administrative posts), Dili municipality covers 5 administrative posts (Dom Aleixo, Cristo Rei, Nain Feto, Metinaro and Vera Cruz administrative posts), Covalima municipality covers 3 administrative posts (Tilomar, Suai and Zumalai administrative posts), Bobonaro municipality covers 3 administrative posts (Maliana, Balibo and Atabae administrative post), Manufahi municipality covers 3 administrative posts (Same, Fatuberliu and Alas administrative post). There are 17 monitoring partners (10 male and 7 female) involved in monitoring violence or incidents.

The incidents data in the 5 Municipalities for this period are described below:

ISSUES THAT REQUIRE ATTENTION

- ▶ **29 Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Incidents**
 - **18 Domestic Violence Incidents**
 - **Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment, Disposing of a Baby and Suicide**
- ▶ **6 Land Dispute Incidents**
- ▶ **6 Electoral Violence during the Presidential Election Period**

Total Incidents	
Baukau	42
Bobonaro	2
Covalima	7
Dili	61
Manufahi	12
Grand Total	124

INCIDENT VIOLENCES IN 5 MUNICIPALITIES IN PERIOD APRIL - MAY 2022

Belun’s EWER system is supported by USAID through Timor-Leste NGO Advocacy for Good Governance Activity which is implemented by Counterpart International and it is called an USAID Activity and Centro Nacional Chega! I.P. The EWER system collects violence incidents data in Dili, Baukau, Covalima, Bobonaro and Manufahi municipalities for the period April – May 2022. Violence incidents that took place during this period amounted to 124 cases; from the total incidents, almost half (49%) of the incidents happened occurred in Dili municipality, 34% occurred in Baukau municipality, 10% occurred in Manufahi Municipality, 6% in Covalima municipality and 1% occurred in Bobonaro municipality.

Regarding the perpetrator’s sex, 102 incidents involved men, 12 incidents involved women, 6 incidents involved both men and women, while in 4 incidents the gender of the perpetrator was unknown. For the sex of the victims, 71 incidents involved males, 41 incidents involved females and 10 incidents involved both men and women, while in 2 incidents the sex of the victim was unknown.

Based on the ages of the perpetrators who were involved in the incidents, 45% of incidents involved perpetrators aged 25-34, 30% involved people aged 18-24, 10% involved people aged 35-44 and 8% involved people aged more than 45 years old. For the ages of victims involved in the incidents, 30% were 18-24 years old, 41% were 25-34 years old, 8% involved 35-44 years old as victims, 10% involved victims who were more than 45 years old, 3% involved children aged under 11 as victims, and 5% involved 12-17 year-olds as victims. As general view, in this period 75% of incidents involved youth.

With regard to the social position or status of the perpetrator, most of the perpetrators were farmers, with a total of 41 incidents, while 30 incidents involved the perpetrator as a neighbor, 26 incidents involved the perpetrator as a family members who lived in the same household, 18 incidents involved family members who lived in other households, while 1 incident involved members of a political party, 22 incidents involved perpetrators as a student, 10 incidents involved members of a Martial Art Group, and 5 incidents involved unknown perpetrators. There was also 5 incidents involving government members, 1 incident involving a teacher as a perpetrator, 2 incidents involving PNTL members as perpetrators, 1 incident involving a private security guard and 1 incident involving a veteran.

Regarding the social position or status of the victims, 38 incidents involved farmers, 27 incidents involved a neighbor, 27 incidents involved a family member who lived in the same household, 17 incidents involved family members who lived in other households, 8 incidents involved Martial Art Group members as victims, 17 incidents involved an unemployed person, 26 incidents involved students, 1 incident involved an unknown person, 1 incident of destruction of property involved a person whose social position could not be identified, 1 incident involved a member of a political party, 3 incidents involved members of government, 1 incident involved a veteran, 1 incident involved a member of PNTL as victim and 1 incident involved a private security guard.

Tools and materials used in these incidents included 81 cases in which body parts were used (e.g., hands, feet, teeth used to bite, etc.), 71 cases involved verbal arguments (brawl, quarreling, arguing with each other, etc.), 29 cases involved use of stones, 20 cases involved verbal threats, and in 2 cases, a club or iron pipe was used, 1 case used an arrow and there were 34 incident for which the material used in the incidents could not be identified.

The majority of the incidents in this period were caused by hatred and vengeance over past issues, with 72 cases. There was also 31 cases where we do not really know the cause, 12 cases occurred because the perpetrator and victims were intoxicated, 4 cases occurred because of government

politics or other programs, 1 case occurred because of unhappiness with the result of the election, 6 cases occurred because of adultery, 8 cases occurred because of disputes about lending money, 7 cases occurred because of disputes about farming land and housing land, 3 cases occurred because of an accident, 9 cases occurred because of problems among Martial Arts Groups (MAGs), 2 cases occurred because of a cultural ceremony, 3 incidents occurred because of suspicions of robbery. In addition, there were 26 cases of gender-based violence, including 2 incidents of sexual harassment, 1 incident of human trafficking, 3 incidents of family abandonment, 18 incidents of domestic violence, 1 incident of throwing a baby into a dumpster, and 1 incident of an accusation of black magic.

These incidents resulted in intervention from family members, neighbours, and friends, as well as the PNTL and local authorities. The majority of the incidents were reported to the PNTL and continue to be investigated and then may proceed to court. Some of the incidents were resolved by the mediation process.

Regarding the consequences of these incidents, 4 males died, 2 men and 1 female were heavily injured, 24 people (23 men and 1 woman) were slightly injured, 8 people ran away from the place where the incident occurred because they felt insecure, 4 houses or buildings were damaged, and 6 vehicles were damaged or destroyed.

29 INCIDENTS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) IN 4 MUNICIPALITIES

There were 33 violent incidents due to gender-based violence during the period April – May 22, 16 incidents occurred in Baukaku, 1 incident occurred in Covalima, 8 incidents occurred in Dili and 4 incidents occurred in Manufahi municipalities. The characteristics of those incidents are as follows:

- **Domestic Violence Incidents**

The objective of the law against domestic violence is to prevent domestic violence and to provide protection and assistance to the victims of domestic violence. Articles 2 and 3 of the law against domestic violence are breached every year, and it has also become a social problem which is very difficult at the moment. Based on the EWER data monitoring for the period of April-May 2022, there were 18 domestic violence incidents; 12 incidents occurred in Baukaku municipality, 5 incidents occurred in Dili and 1 incident occurred in Manufahi municipality. Those domestic violence incidents occurred because of dissatisfaction about the behaviours of family members living in the same household, such as mutual suspicions of cheating, brothers accusing each other of stealing money within the household, fathers not giving money for children's education, not doing household chores, drunkenness, household economic problems, not participating in a cultural ceremony (funeral ceremony) and in one case, the parents beat their daughter because she worked at one of the bars in Dili.

The majority of violence started with arguing and swearing, leading to physical assaults. The majority of those domestic violence incidents were reported to the National Police of Timor Leste (PNTL) by the victims to continue the process of investigation.

- **A Mother Killed Her Baby**

A mother killed her newborn baby in a private house and then disposed of her baby in a dumpster in the Dili Municipality area. There is still no main reason for this case and it is the subject of an ongoing investigation by the National Police.

- **4 Incidents of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment**

Results of monitoring in this period showed that in Dili Municipality an attempted sexual assault occurred, and there were 3 incidents of sexual abuse which are still being heard in the Court. These incidents occurred in Dili Municipality (1), Covalima (1) and Manufahi (2).

- **6 Incidents Regarding Gender-Based Violence (GBV)**

There were 6 incidents categorized as Gender-Based Violence; 4 incidents occurred in Baukaku Municipality, 1 incident occurred in Dili municipality and 1 incident occurred in Manufahi municipality. There was one incident where the man beat his girlfriend because she was dating another man. One man threatened women and girls because they took coconuts from his garden. Another man physically threatened a woman because her cat ate his chicken, and a man went into a house and the owner of the house saw him and screamed but the objective of the man is unknown. A young man abandoned his wife and children. Those incidents were reported to the PNTL.

INCIDENTS TRIGGERED BY LAND DISPUTES, BORDER OF LAND AND LAND FOR HOUSES

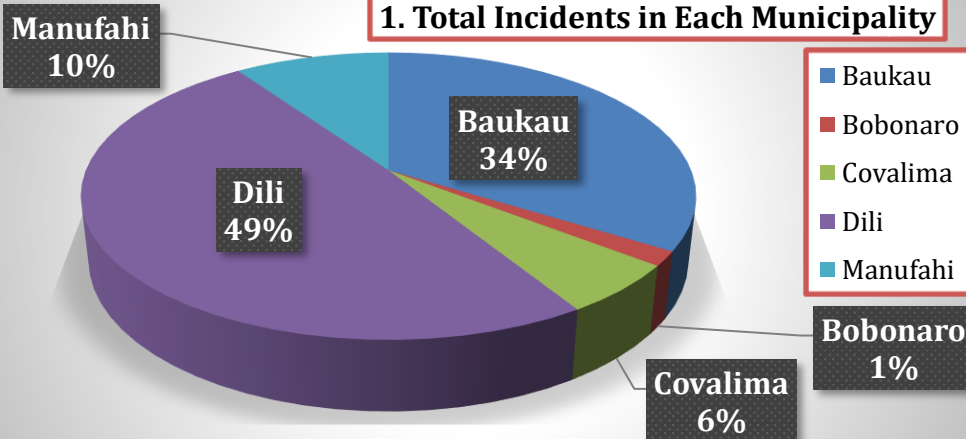
There were 6 incidents related to land disputes in this period, including cases due to disputes about the borders of garden and land for houses, which occurred in Covalima and Manufahi municipalities. Other causes of these incidents were disputes about the land borders of gardens and rice fields. The perpetrators and the victims were family relations and neighbours. It is anticipated that these land dispute cases will be resolved by cultural processes, including mediation at suku level, however they continue to be reported to PNTL to continue with legal processes.

6 Incidents Regarding Election Violence during the Period Presidential Election Period

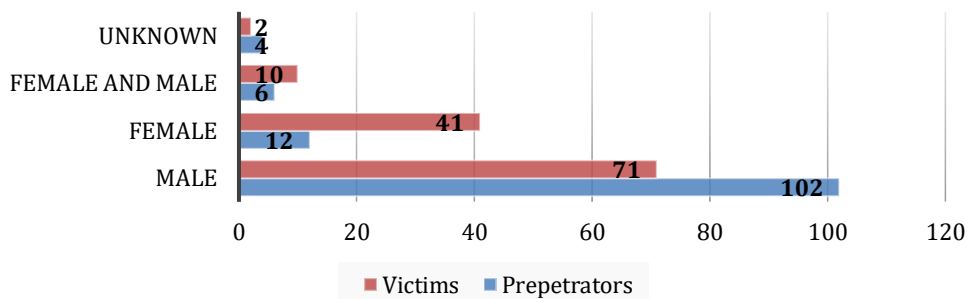
There were 6 incidents in Dili municipality among militants of political party members. This period also covered the period of presidential elections during which time all political parties conducted election campaigns, and the militants of political parties used the opportunity to competitively mock and throw rocks at each other. Some of the voters tried to create commotions at the polling centers and some militants tried to destroy public transport in the east of East Timor because they were unhappy with the outcome of the election. Although the PNTL intervened in these acts, some people were injured and there was damage to community property. Those cases are continuing to be investigated by PNTL and will proceed based on the laws of East Timor.

GRAPHIC OF GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INCIDENTS

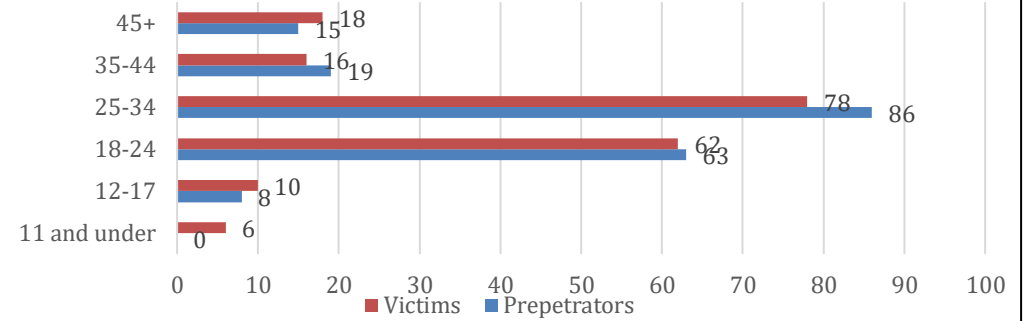
1. Total Incidents in Each Municipality



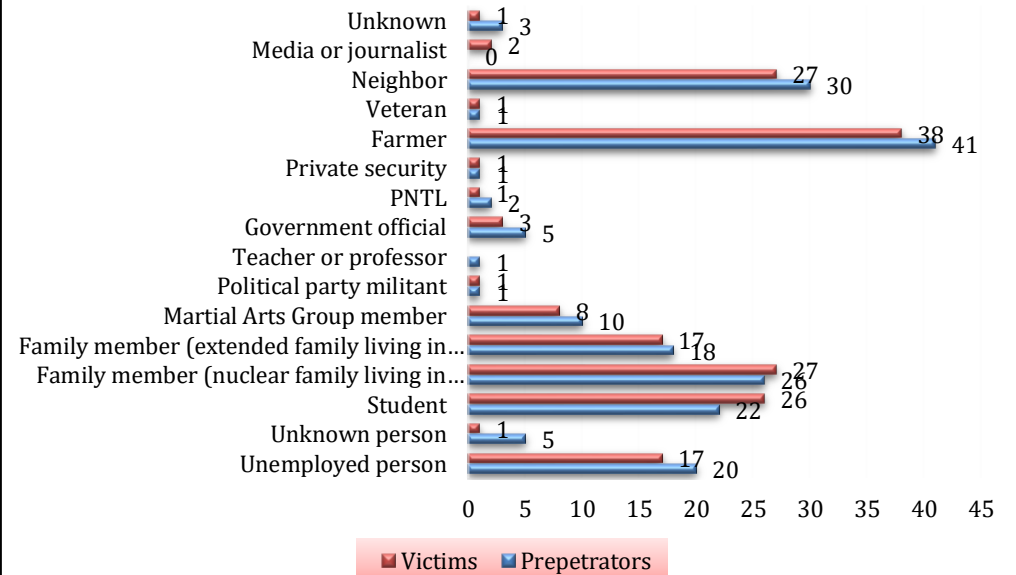
2. Gender of Prepetrators and Victims



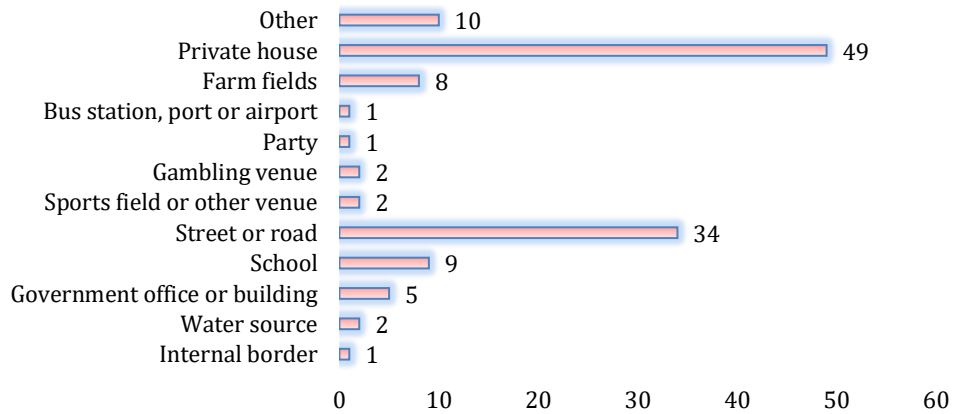
3. Age of prepetrators and Victims



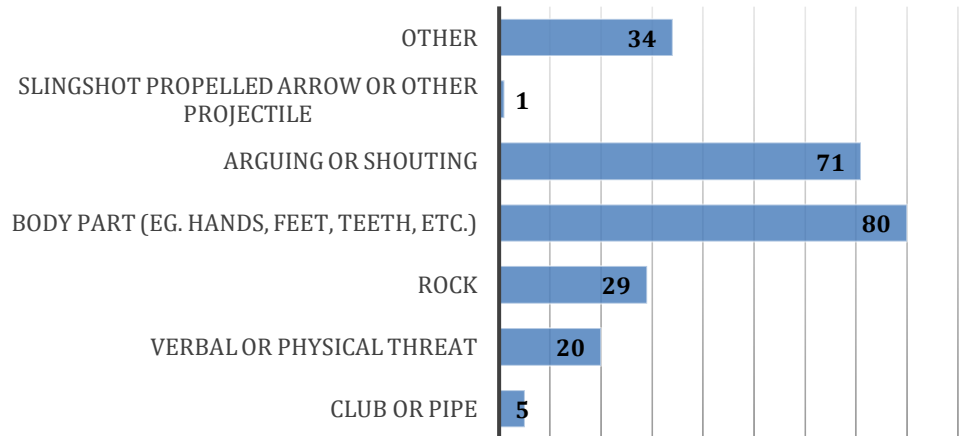
4. The prepetrator and Victims pozit



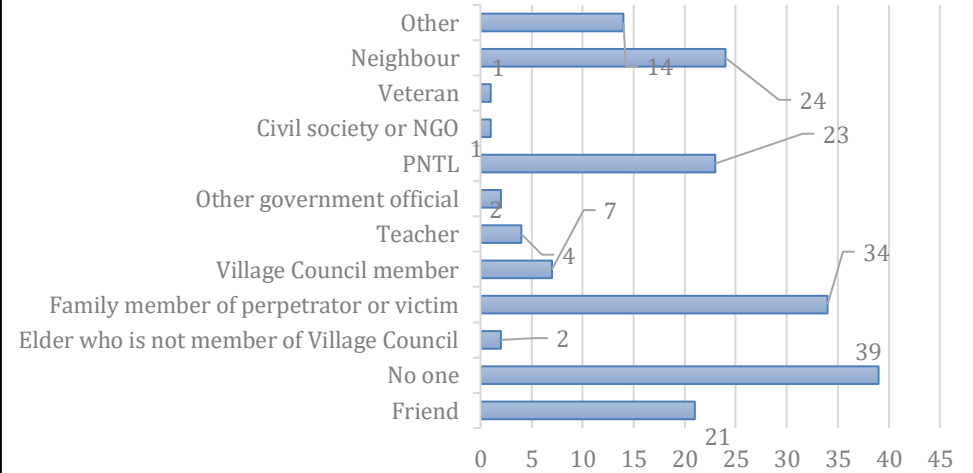
5. THE PLACE OF INCIDENTS



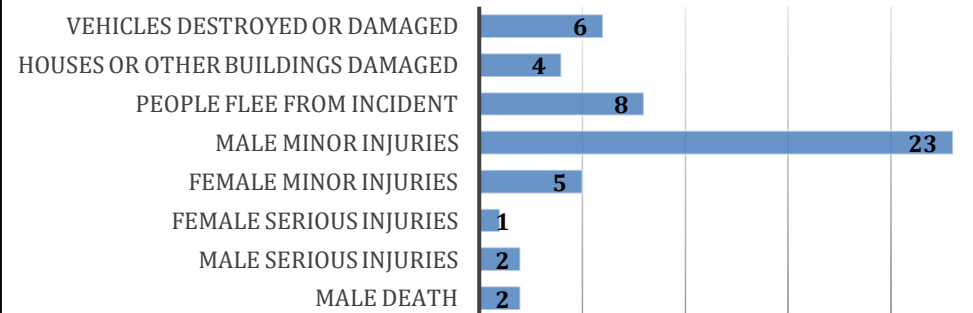
6. The Tools Used in Incidents



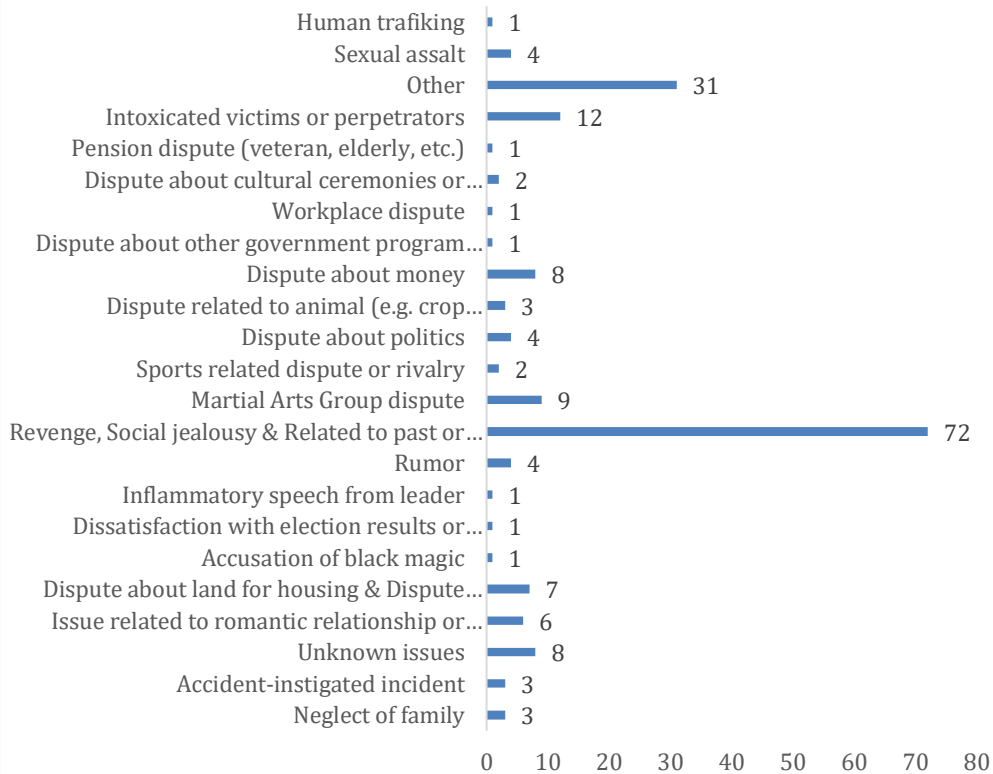
7. People Who Respond to Incident



8. The Impact of Incidents



The Factor of Incidents



CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACEBUILDING ACTIVITIES

EWER System

Belun, through its program called Early Warning and Early Response system (EWER), receives financial support from USAID/Timor-Leste's NGO advocacy for good governance activities to implement survey activities in Baukau municipality which focus on "mechanism of dispute resolution in the community in Baukau Municipality". The survey was conducted in 3 administrative posts (Laga, Baukau and Vemasse) with 191 respondents (115 females and 76 males). The respondents were from 12 hamlets and were selected randomly. The survey was conducted over 5 days with 5 enumerators (3 females and 2 males). The objective of this survey was to contribute evidence to support community mediation of dispute resolution mechanisms in communities in Baukau municipality.



Tree for the Future

In April – May 2022, Belun through Tree For The Future in partnership with GIZ, conducted training on conflict analysis and mitigation to community leaders in 6 villages, including Cairui village in Laleia administrative post and municipality of Manatuto, Uailaha village in Venilale administrative post and Sagadate village in Laga administrative post and municipality of Baukau, Dilor village in Lacluta administrative post and municipality of Vikekem and Ililai village in Lautem administrative post and municipality of Lautem. The training was attended by 104 community leaders (38 females and 66 males). The objectives of the training were: 1) To increase community leaders' knowledge of conflict analysis and mitigation; 2) To increase communities' participation in conflict analysis and mitigation of land conflicts and for natural resource management; and 3) To strengthen relationships for prevention of land conflicts and for natural resource management. Tree For The Future is funded by the European Union and the Government of Germany through GIZ and in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.



Community Awareness Activity and Campaign

On 21 April – 30 May 2022, Belun delivered training to youth, community members and the local authority on gender awareness, conflict transformation and leadership, as well as communication skills. The total participants were 105 (47 females including 1 female with a disability, 58 males including 3 males with a disability and 3 LGBTIQ people) from Bobonaro municipality (Balibo, Atabae and Cailaco) and Ermera municipality (Railaco and Atsabe). This activity was supported by UNFPA and the European Community (EC). The objective was to strengthen knowledge and community capacity (of men and women) and youths to be able to respond to and prevent conflict. The activity was conducted from April to August 2022.



Community information awareness. From 29 April to 30 May 2022, Belun continued sharing information with youth, communities and local authorities with key partners including Criminal Investigation Section (CIS) of VPU-PNTL, duties and responsibilities and ratification of the UN Convention for the Rights of Children from INDDICA, Youth National policy from SEJD and law against domestic violence from SEII. The activity was attended by representatives of villages in Bobonaro municipality (Atabe no Cailaco) and Ermera municipality (Railaco and Atsabe). The total number of participants was 63 (19 females including 1 person with a disability and 54 males, including 1 LGBTIQ person and 1 person with a disability). This activity was supported by UNFPA and financially supported by the EC. The objective of this activity was to strengthen participant's knowledge of and commitment to responding to gender-based violence and preventing violence against woman and children.

Research on Sanitation in Dili Municipality

On 23rd of May 2022, Belun conducted a 4-day training workshop on sanitation research. Belun strengthen its partnership with FHI360 which is a non-profit Human Development Organization based in North Carolina, U.S., which is working for 5 months to conduct research to collect data on Dili's sanitation. The training was facilitated by a technical team from FHI360 via Zoom. The objective of the research is to design a program to promote the utility and maintenance of flush toilets, linked to the new evaluation system in Dili, and also to minimise diarrhea and other diseases caused by unhygienic sanitation, through the use of dirt mixed with soil and water. The participant were 10 enumerators (6 females and 4 males) and 2 supervisors (both males), 1 program coordinator, 1 management member and consultant of FHI360.

Training for youth regarding on “Inclusive Election for New Voters”.

Belun, through its community capacity development pillar, is receiving financial support from the JGovernment of Japan through the United Nation Development Program (UNDP) in Timor-Leste for implementing training on youth inclusivity in election processes, election policies and also how to prevent electoral violence and COVID-19. The activity was implemented in 9 municipalities (Baukau, Ermera, Ainaro, Manufahi, Lautem, Vikeke, Bobonaro and Special Zone Oecusse (RAEOA). The objective of the training was to strengthen the capacity and knowledge of youth to actively participate in elections and contribute to the stability of election processes. The activity in this program included training in “Inclusive elections for new voters”. The activity was implemented from April to May 2022. The total number of participants was 173 (97 females and 76 males) who were students from senior high schools, universities, youth councils, youth representatives from villages, youth centers, and local NGOs in the municipality. The activities were delivered in collaboration with local authorities, the National Election Commission, PNTL, Youth Council and youth representative from each municipalities.



ABOUT THIS SITUATION REVIEW

Since the establishment of the EWER system in Belun in 2008 to 2016, the system has covered all municipalities in 43 Administrative Posts, but due to financial limitations being faced by the organization, the system became temporarily inactive in 2017. The system was reactivated in 2018 with the support of UN Women and the Women Peace and Security Program which covered only three municipalities (Baukau, Covalima and RAEOA).

In mid-2019 (May-September) it also covered Dili municipality (6 Administrative Posts) with financial support from the DAP-DFAT. In the same year, with the support of the German Government and GIZ, the EWER system was also reactivated in four other municipalities including Dili, Baukau, Lautem and Viqueque (two administrative posts for each municipality). In 2020 it reactivated the system in Likisá municipality with the support of the G7+ Secretariat and it also reactivated the system in Covalima municipality with the support of the UNDP.

In 2020 the system was reactivated in Likisá municipality with the support of the g7+ Secretariat and in Covalima municipality with the support of the UNDP's Justice Program. 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 Administrative Posts) and Likisá (3 Administrative Posts). From July 2021 the EWER system received funding from the Civil Society Grant under the Prime Minister's office to continue data monitoring in Baukau, Covalima, Dili and Likisá municipalities (3 Administrative Posts in each municipality) up to December 2021. From October 2021, the Centro Nacional Chega! I.P. provided further support for the extension of the AtReS system for Ainaro Municipality (3 Administrative Posts), Bobonaro (3 Administrative Posts) and Manufahi (3 Administrative Posts) until December 2021. The current monitoring is supported by the American people through USAID/Timor-Leste NGO Advocacy for Good Governance Activity which is implemented by Counterpart International, with the coverage area being Baukau and Dili municipalities.

This situation review reports on key issues related to violence incidents and the trends of monitoring data through the Timor-Leste Early Warning and Response System (EWER) during April-May 2022 in Bobonaro, Covalima, Baukau, Manufahi and Dili municipalities.

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

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