

Progress in Timor-Leste country in 2023

Data as of:
17 July 2024

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-TLS_D_2.1

By 2025, institutions and people throughout Timor-Leste in all their diversity, especially women and youth, benefit from sustainable economic opportunities and decent work to reduce poverty.

Rural women represent 31.22% of the population in Timor-Leste and are amongst those furthest behind in accessing their economic rights and livelihood opportunities. In 2018, the Government of Timor-Leste adopted the second Maubisse Declaration to improve the lives of rural women and girls over a five-year period (2018-2023). Declaration targets include policies that ensure 30% of those employed on public infrastructure projects in rural areas are women, greater participation of women-owned businesses, and improved disaggregated data for better monitoring of public infrastructure project implementation. Recognizing that Tais weaving is a sector with potential to enable rural women to be economically empowered, UN Women has consistently invested in supporting women weavers as a sub-group particularly marginalized. The network includes 600 rural women from across the country organised in municipal subgroups that now access to organised capacity building, business orientation, marketing, and other forward linkages. These forward linkages include a range of upskilling initiative such as access to gender responsive production infrastructure, upmarket commercial retail spaces and a coalition of global designer as advisory group to support product diversification. The weaver's group has its own following on social media that includes the honourable President of Timor Leste. Further, the women weaver's economic collective with the support of UN Women launched the first ever upscale retail space completely owned and managed by Women Weavers in the heart of Dili, the capital city generating a total revenue of 33,432.50 USD from August - December 2023. The store, first of its kind, is a critical milestone in the efforts of government and development partners in the country to strengthen women's associations, while at the same time safeguarding and promoting the traditional art of Tais in Timor-Leste.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-TLS_D_3.1

By 2025, the most excluded people of Timor-Leste are empowered to claim their rights, including freedom from violence, through accessible, accountable and gender responsive governance systems, institutions and services at national and subnational levels (UNSDCF OUTCOME 5)

The 40th UPR recommendation provided to Timor-Leste under the thematic area of discrimination against women - Promote gender equality and better protect the rights of vulnerable groups, such as women and children and address issues of gender inequality by implementing policies and practices to reduce domestic violence and other discrimination against women and girls. UN Women (UNW) is supporting the government in operationalising this recommendation by leveraging its UN coordination mandate. In 2023 UN led the joint UN effort to contribute to accelerating efforts for gender equality to bring about transformative change. Specifically, in Timor-Leste, as part of SDG 5, UNW supported the national partners to integrate and implement the Connect with Respect (CWR) Framework. UNW in Timor influenced the education system towards changing and harmful social norms engaging men and boys and women and girls, to challenge stereotypes and foster respectful relationships. 28 schools in Timor-Leste adopted Connect with Respect curriculum. The curriculum is a set of extracurricular programs that focus on

developing skills and networks to change harmful social norms engaging students (both boys and girls), teachers, and parents. The curriculum has thus far reached out to 923 students (499 girls and 424 boys) and 113 teachers (47 female and 66 male) in the 28 schools and 848 parents of the students consisting of 546 women and 302 men, promoting gender equality and nurturing respectful relationships among students. In a first of its kind Federation of Basketball Timor Leste's (FNBTL), adopted a comprehensive code of conduct that manifests a commitment to preventing gender-based violence and fostering secure and respectful environments. The National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL) established a counselling service to specifically address Sexual Harassment (SH) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV). The establishment of a counselling room facility has reduced the structural barrier for women and girls in need of essential services. This achievement is further bolstered by quarterly mock sessions that ensured the quality and availability of counseling services, demonstrating a proactive approach that contributed to effective communication and enhanced accessibility. The CwR framework has been operationalised through partnership with educational institutions, nodal government agency - State Secretary for Inclusion (SEI) and Ministry of Education, civil society organisations - plan international and FOKUPER and UN Agencies - UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA. The CwR framework is being implemented as part of the Joint Programme - Together for Equality (T4E) and it brings together 4 partnering UN Agencies. Through the T4E coordination committee UNW pushes the agenda of EAW through social behaviour change in the UNCT. The results of the programme contribute directly to outcome 2 and 5 of the UNSDCF.

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-TLS_D_4.1

WPS (UNSDCF Outcome 5) By 2025, the most excluded people of Timor-Leste are empowered to claim their rights, including freedom from violence, through accessible, accountable and gender responsive governance systems, institutions and services at national and subnational levels

The national mediation machinery i.e. National Directorate for Community Conflict Prevention (DNPCC) of Ministry of Interior in the country show increased capacity in 2023. DNPCC mediators resolved 164 cases in 2023 (out of 313 cases registered – 52.3% of cases resolved) as compared to 146 cases in 2022 (out of 319 cases registered – 45.8% of cases resolved) in multiple areas, including land & property disputes, martial arts issues, social conflict, and disputes over natural resources. The number of women national mediators in DNPCC increased from 32% of 31 mediators in 2019 to 47% of 40 mediators in 2023, reaching towards gender parity. Timor-Leste has a dual justice system – both customary and non-customary Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). The ADR is still a popular means to resolve community disputes primarily because of the structural barriers in accessing formal justice system, including time concern, language barrier, geographical accessibility and long distance to travel to courts and the expense associated. Through UN Women's technical support, the first National Mediation Network of Timor-Leste (“Rede Nasion´l Mediasaun”) was officially established on 31 July 2023. Contributing to the Participation and Prevention Pillars under the National Action Plan on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (NAP 1325), the Network promotes participation and representation of women in all aspects of mediation and negotiation, and other peacebuilding processes of the country. UN Women in partnership with DPNCC also developed the Gender Responsive Mediation Guideline and the Case Management System, to build capacity of DPNCC in providing gender-responsive state-facilitated mediation services to local communities and promote improved access to justice for all through mediation, particularly rural women. The mediators were provided training “Transformative Leadership for Gender Equality” to develop skills and knowledge of understanding needs and challenges of women and girls in accessing justice, and to proactively address gender discrimination and stereotyped behaviors towards women in the ADR processes. The enhanced capabilities and achievements of the DNPCC in 2023, with UN Women's support, has played a significant role in contributing to the SDG 16. “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at

all levels” specifically Target 16.3 “Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all”, as well as the UNSDCF Outcome 5 (Sub-Outcome 5.1: Rule of law and access to justice).

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-TLS_D_6.1

Government and non-governmental stakeholders’ capacities strengthened to assess and report on progress on the 2030 Agenda and other global normative and policy frameworks for GEWE and government accountability is strengthened (Contributes to UNSDCF Outcome 5)

UN Women significantly increased the capacity of the national mediation, machinery i.e. National Directorate for Community Conflict Prevention (DNPCC) of Ministry of Interior in the country. Through UN Women’s technical support, the first National Mediation Network of Timor-Leste (“Rede Nasion”/Mediasaun) was officially established on 31 July 2023. Contributing to the Participation and Prevention Pillars under the National Action Plan on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (NAP 1325), the Network promotes participation and representation of women in all aspects of mediation and negotiation, and other peacebuilding processes of the country. Additionally, the DNPCC mediators resolved XX cases in 2023 as compared to 146 cases in 2022 (out of 319 cases registered in 12 municipalities and 1 special administrative region – 45.8% of cases resolved) in multiple areas, including land & property disputes, martial arts issues, social conflict, and disputes over natural resources. The number of women national mediators in DNPCC increased from 32% of 31 mediators in 2019 to 47% of 40 mediators in 2023, reaching towards gender parity. With the technical and advisory support of UN Women, the Ministry of Interior and the NAP 1325 Secretariat have demonstrated increased capacity in evaluating the results and reviewing the lessons learnt of the first National Action Plan on the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (NAP 1325) through consultations and validation workshops in 2021–2022, which later informed the drafting of second NAP. The second NAP 1325 has been approved by the council of ministers.