

JUSTICE SYSTEM PROGRAMME [JSP]

Special Edition for the Access to Justice Clinics, Timor-Leste, June 2018



With the generous support of the governments of Japan and Korea, UNDP, in close collaboration with the Public Defender's Office, has been able to provide extrajudicial legal aid services in the name of the Access to Justice Clinics in the pilot judicial districts, Baucau and Suai. This special edition, dedicated to the AICs, presents an overview of the processes of its establishment, performance, and results.

Timeline Supported by Japan BERA Fund and Korea SDG Fund (April 2016-Present)

20

16



CSO Grant
(Belun)

20

17



CSO Grant
(JNJ, JPC)



Inauguration
(Suai)



Inauguration
(Baucau)

20

18



Consultation



Institutionalization



Training



Outreach
Campaign



Mediation

CONSULTATION

A series of preparatory processes were completed in 2016, after commencing with various consultation meetings with the Ministry of Justice, other relevant justice institutions, and civil society organizations. The partnership was formed with the PDO to strengthen its extrajudicial work in providing legal information and mediation to economically disadvantaged people.



CSO GRANT

UNDP signed agreements with partnering Civil Society Organizations, Belun, Justice & Peace Commission, and JNJ Advocacy on 13 December 2016 and 10 April 2017. Specializing in mediation and/or legal education for the public, they assist the PDO to mediate civil cases and conduct awareness – raising campaigns in the rural and remote areas.



INSTITUTIONALIZATION

Decree Law No. 10/2017 (Article 22), the Statute of the PDO, entered into force on 29 March 2017, institutionalizing the AICs as the extrajudicial division of the PDO mandated for the provision of legal information and consultation services to citizens across the country.

INAUGURATION

UNDP and PDO held inauguration ceremonies of the AICs, celebrating the completion of the new office buildings constructed within the premises of the PDO in Suai and Baucau on 19 June and 14 November 2017 respectively. H.E. Dr. Dionisio Babo Soares, then Minister of State Administration, expressed his appreciation to UNDP and the development partners and stressed the significance of bringing the state's legal aid services to local municipalities.



TRAINING

UNDP co-organized a two-day induction training with the Public Defenders' Office for Belun, public defenders, and judicial officials based in Dili on 9-10 February 2017. Three induction trainings for JPC, JNJ, and public defenders based in Baucau and Suai were also conducted during April—May 2017.

Capacity development training for PDO and AJCs continued during the project period. UNDP and PDO hosted workshops on 'The Role of Public Defenders in Civil Cases' and 'The Role of Public Defenders in Safeguarding Human Rights and Social Public Policies,' participated in by 25 and 60 legal professionals in September and October 2017 respectively.



CASE REGISTRATION & BENEFICIARIES

As of February 2018, a total of 127 cases were registered at the AJCs, disaggregated by 92 land disputes, 30 other types of civil cases, and 5 criminal cases. 251 beneficiaries (52 women and 199 men) were able to access justice by registering their cases at the AJCs.



- Land Dispute: 92
- Other Civil Cases: 30
- Criminal Cases: 5



- Women: 52
- Men: 199



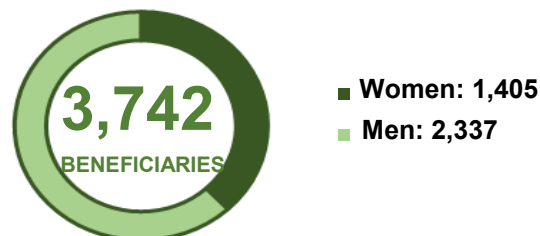
OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

The **AJCs** have significantly improved access to information on the formal justice system and laws. Various community outreach campaigns were held in remote areas of the Baucau and Suai judicial districts covering eight municipalities.

Awareness-raising campaigns targeting the general public cover types of laws and cases and justice institutions. The Alternative Dispute Resolution training aims to assist suco chiefs and community leaders to mediate conflict in line with international human rights standards. UNDP conducted its campaigns informing district administrators and community policing officers of the free legal aid services of the AJCs.



Up until February 2018, a total of 3,742 people (2,337 men and 1,405 women) have participated in the campaigns.

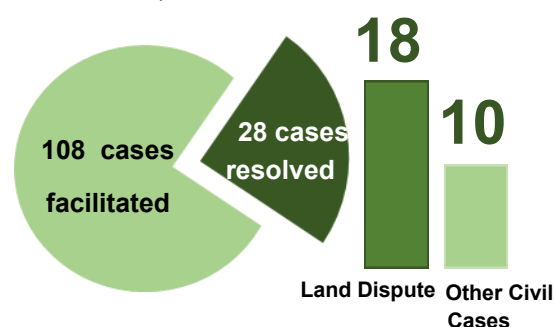


MEDIATION

As the **extrajudicial** division of the PDO, the AJCs have facilitated mediation processes to resolve the registered cases. Mediating land disputes, in particular, has been proven effective as compared to the judicial processes.



As of February 2018, the AJCs facilitated 108 mediation cases (44 in Baucau, 64 in Suai), 28 cases of which were resolved. The resolved cases consisted of 18 land disputes and 10 other types of civil cases, involving a total of 56 beneficiaries (18 women and 38 men).



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Republic of Korea



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