



UNEST



UNITED NATIONS ELECTORAL SUPPORT TEAM IN TIMOR-LESTE

ISSUE 8

UNEST Team

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The UN Electoral Support Team (UNEST) is an integrated initiative from the UNDP Support to the Timorese Electoral Cycle Project and the UN Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT). With more than 30 national and international professionals, UNEST provides the Timor-Leste Electoral Management Bodies, CNE and STAE, with advisory and support in the areas of Electoral Planning, Legal, Logistics, Information Technology and Data Base, Civic and Voter Education, Public Information, Management, Finance, Administration and Graphic Design.

2010 Training for Political Parties

The 2010 UNEST Training and Capacity Building Program for Political Parties is being implemented to support the consolidation of the political parties as key agents of change in the democratization process and in preparation for the next Municipal and National elections. There is an urgent need to strengthen their institutional capacities and, through this, to improve their credibility amongst the population.

The Program will be developed and implemented in partnership with the International Republican Institute (IRI) and will be running in 3 Phases, starting in Baucau District (January) and ending in Dili District (May).

Primarily these phases aim to enhance the knowledge and understanding of the political parties on the following areas:

1. Role and responsibilities of the four pillars of power in a democratic society;
2. Election results for the 2007 National and 2009 Community Elections;
3. 2010 Voter registration update: procedure, importance and calendar;
4. Planning for future electoral processes.



Photo: Vicente Ximenes /UNEST



Photo: Rodrigo Elias/UNEST

Training Schedule

Phase 1

District	Date
Baucau	26–27 January
Oecusse	1–2 February
Bobonaro	9–11 February
Ainaro	17–19 February

Phase 2

District	Date
Viqueque	10–12 March
Lautem	17–19 March
Manatuto	23 March
Ermera	30–31 March

Phase 3

District	Date
Aileu	6 April
Manufahi	13–15 April
Covalima	27–29 April
Liquica	5 May
Dili	12 May



Photo: Filippo Caruso/UNEST

The Program it will be implemented through a four-part strategy consisting of: training sessions and workshops; round tables on different themes; video presentations and workshops at central and district level with the women party organizations focused on women participation in elections as candidates and voters.

2010 Voter Registration

On the 1st of February began the new Voter Registration process to register newly eligible voters, replace old cards with new ones and issue replacement cards for voters who lost or damaged their cards. STAE is the institution responsible for this update that will last until the 30th of April.

Aktualizasaun Baze Dadus Eleitoral

Hahú husi dia 1 de Fevereiro to'o 24 Abril 2010 STAE sei lake fila fali Aktualizasaun Baze Dadus no Recenseamentu Eleitoral iha Terrítório Timor-Leste tomak ho objetivu atu hadia dadus sira nian.

Kalendáriu Aktualizasaun Baze Dadus Eleitoral mak hanesan tuir mai ne'e:

DISTRITU	DATA
Liquiça, Oecusse no Manufahi	01 – 06 Fevereiro
Bobonaro no Lautem	15 – 20 Fevereiro
Ermera no Baucau	01 – 06 Marsu
Viqueque no Ainaro	15 – 20 Marsu
Manatuto no Covalima	29 Marsu – 03 Abril
Dili no Aileu	12 – 24 Abril

Sê Dait Mak Bele Ba Tuir Aktualizasaun Baze Dadus?

Sidodoun Timor Leste ne'ebe:

1. Hirak nebe tinan 16 ba leten, iha loron eleisau nia tinan 17;
2. Kartan eleitoral lakon ka luon no kartan mutin nebe sei fura;
3. Seidok tuir reaseamentu eleitoral.

Keta haluha lori ho ita ba'of sira nia Dokumentu hanesan:

1. Sertidoun Boplamu/Sesudo Original ba sira nebe rejistu ioun no sira nebe atu hadia'ia sira nia dadus;
2. Sira nebe lakon sei iho surat husi chefe de sucos nomos surat lakon husi PNLT;
3. Sertidoun Katolika ka Religio seluk original atu ba rejistu;
4. AFFIDAVID nebe STAE prepara ona sei heton asin husi lider komunitáriu.

The 2010 Voter Registration Calendar

District	Date
Liquiça, Oecusse and Manufahi	From 1 to 6 of February
Bobonaro and Lautém	From 15 to 20 of February
Ermera and Baucau	From 1 to 6 of March
Viqueque and Ainaro	From 15 to 20 of March
Díli and Aileu	From 12 to 24 of April
Manatuto and Covalima	From 26 to 30 of April



Photo: Renato da Costa /UNDP

New UNDP Country Director visits UNEST HQ

On the 3rd of March, from 14:00 to 15:00, Ms. Mikiko Tanaka, the new UNDP Country Director, visited the UNEST HQ.

The visit started with a brief meeting with UNEST management team and finished with her presentation to all the electoral team.

3rd Anniversary of CNE

On the 15th of January, CNE celebrated the 3rd Anniversary in Delta Nova, Dili. The ceremony started with the National song and a welcome speech headed by CNE President, Mr. Faustino Cardoso and followed by the speech of the President of Timor-Leste, Mr. Ramos Horta.

CNE took this event to launch its official march and two publications written by its chairman: "Atlas Eleitoral – Eleicoes Presidenciais" and "Atlas Eleitoral – Eleicoes Parlamentares". These two publications present all the information about the 1999 referendum, presidential and parliamentary elections already held, with election results, statistical data in a national and district level (territorial dimension; number of population; number of voters, etc.) as well as models of ballot papers used.

The celebration included a seminar with the theme: "Electoral participation: projection for the municipal elections and 2012 general elections".

The seminar was attended by the President of the National Parliament, Fernando Lasama de Araujo; the President of the Women Group from the National Parliament (GMPTL), Maria Paixao; the CNE President, Faustino Cardoso and a special guest from Australia, Prof. Dennis Shoesmith, senior lecturer in Political Science.

This was an important opportunity to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the electoral system of Timor-Leste; the electoral participation since 1999, balance of the participation of women as voters and candidates; goals and strategy for future municipal and 2012 general elections.

The closing ceremony was chaired by the Organizing Committee that thanked the presence of all guests and emphasized the importance of projecting the electoral participation in future elections.

Mrs. Maria Paixao, President of the Women Group from the National Parliament (GMPTL) stressed the importance in ensuring women's participation in future municipal elections. How? Intensifying the training for women into the national, district and suco level; planning civic education for voters and candidates stressing the importance of women rights and participation; disseminating information and guarantying that political parties promote political quotas to increase women's political participation.



Photos: Jessie Lagrosas/UNEST

Bernardo Cardoso in Australia as an electoral observer

From 15 to 20 of March, Bernardo Cardoso, UNEST Senior Trainer for Political Parties and 3 other local colleagues conduct an official trip to observe the Legislative Council Election in Adelaide and Tasmania, as well as campaign process. Besides Timor-Leste, there were representatives from other countries, such as Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Moldova.

From 16-18 of March, the team observed the campaign process in Adelaide and from 19 to 22 of March the campaign and counting process in Tasmania Hobart. The Election Day took place in 20 of March.

During the visit, the team had a campaign briefing with Mr. Julian Sheeze, State Director for Liberal Party and with Ms. Vickie Chapman MP, member and candidate for Bragg and Shadow Attorney-General, who explained how to deliver the message to the voters in city and village area. They also visited a voting centre in Adelaide and Hobart and had the opportunity to visit the House of Assembly (ABA House) in both states and to be briefed by MPs about their work and the mechanism in this institution and in Legislative Council.

During campaign, posters, pamphlets, banners, magazine, newspaper and stickers on bottles of water were used with the motto "Real Change".

As Bernardo reported, the election went successfully in South Australia and Tasmania. South Australia has registered 3 political parties for this election: Labor party, Liberal party, Green party and also independent candidates. In Tasmania, the independent candidates did not exist. The political parties registered were similar. Mandate of legislative council elected in Adelaide is 4 years while in Tasmania is only 1 year.

Figures:

Adelaide

Total population - 1.2 million
Number of voters – 560.000

Tasmania

Total population – 520.000
Number of voters – 27.000



UNDP Donates IT equipment to STAE



Last March as part of the UNEST support to the electoral Management Bodies in Timor-Leste UNDP donated IT equipment for the office of the Director of STAE. The hand over of the material was done in ceremony in

STAE with the presence of Mr. Tomas Cabral Director of STAE and Andre del Castillo UNEST CTA. This assistance is part of a larger program on IT support for STAE including material and technical assistance to the institution.

UNEST GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- To enhance capacity of the National Electoral Management Bodies (STAE and CNE) to fulfill their administrative and supervisory mandates and organize and conduct free and fair elections.
- To support electoral processes and the revision of the legal framework.
- To enhance participation and credible elections.
- To assist and support in the development of the political parties capacity.
- To support the implementation of comprehensive public awareness strategy focused on civic and voter education.
- To promote gender equality and empowerment in the electoral processes.