



Local Governance Monthly Bulletin

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Local Government as the Key to Development

LDP BENEFICIARIES HIGHLIGHT IMPACT ON SOCIAL SERVICES

Aileu, November 2010 - The Local Development Programme has traditionally prioritized social services as a key outcome for a successful decentralization process. In 2010, more than 50% of the total projects approved and implemented have focused on this component, in areas such as education, health and water and sanitation, providing a tangible improvement for the life of the communities.



Adriana is a midwife in the M a u m e t a Village, in the Aileu District. Since February 2010 she has been in charge to run a maternity house built in 2009 under the Local

Development Programme with a budget of 13,000\$. More than 80 women delivered in the center since its opening in February, marking a major difference for the 13 aldeas of the area, which before had no access to such a service. "Before the construction of this maternity house, I have organized some meetings with members and leaders of the communities— explained Adriana—, to promote the initiative, since I am the only midwife assisting more than 5,000 people in this area".

"I used to walk from one village to another to provide assistance to childbearing women and it was a very difficult time, because while I was away from the health post many patients had to wait for me for long hours. But after the construction of this maternity house, women are coming straight to this place". "Although this maternity house is in fully operational - she added - we still face some difficulties such lack of water supply, so next year I will present an additional project proposal to the Local Assembly counting on their support".

According to the LDP regulations, for each approved project an agreement is required between the line ministries in order to guarantee that both the operational and maintenance components are taken into account. The new integrated LDP-DDP regulations, which are expected early next year, will better address possible gaps on the matter.

In the Laularwe Sub-District of Aileu, a secondary school is being rehabilitated as part of the 2009 Local Development Fund, costing no more than 13.000 USD. Overcrowded classes and old, poor facilities were significantly affecting the proper functioning of the school, so the community decided to propose its restructuring. The active participation of the local community has been crucial to identify the main gaps and priorities, submit the project proposal and speed up the implementation process, so that the ultimate beneficiaries were at the same time the mobilizers and the active implementers of the project.

Francisco is a student at the secondary school :

"I have been studying in this school for three years, but I felt unhappy with our school condition because we had to share a class room with more than 50



students. With the rehabilitation of the building, I hope in future our brothers and sisters who want to study here will not face the same situation. This will help them to enjoy the school and benefit from learning activities". **Aurelio** Martins is a secondary school teacher "I am proud of the our local leader, the village chief and the Sub-District Administrator, they have voiced out the our needs, and the result is here, visible for everybody".

DISTRICT PROFILE



The **Aileu** district comprises of four sub-districts: Aileu Kota, Remexio Liquidoe and Laulara, with a total population of 36,369, 50% of which is living in Aileu Kota. There are 31 official sucos,.



Decentralization

In Brief

Activities in January:

- Announcement of 2011 Local Development Fund
- Minimum Condition Assessment of the Local Assemblies
- Revised LDP-DDP integrated regulations

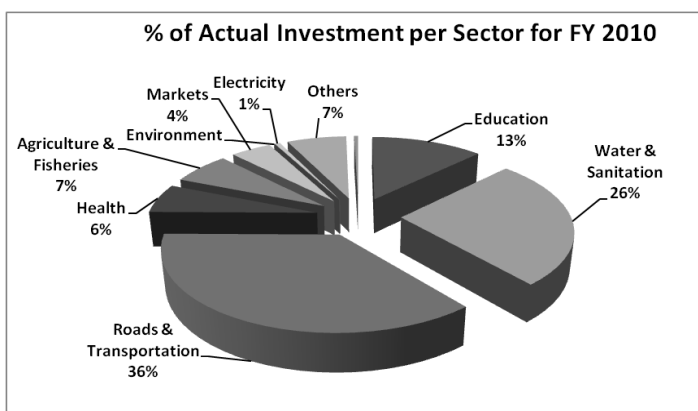


Ministry of State
Administration
and Territorial
Management

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2010 WAS A MILE STONE FOR THE LOCAL GOVERNANCE SUPPORT PROGRAMME

2010 marked an historic expansion of the Local Development Programme (LDP) to all the 13 Districts of the country, now also including Viqueque, Ermera and Oe-cusse. Dili and Liquica started the planning process in 2010, following the LGSP training module, and will receive the first budget allocation in 2011.



Started as a pilot in 4 Districts in 2007, the following year the LDP was extended to 8 Districts reaching 51% of total population. The key purpose was to pilot new procedures applicable to local planning, budgeting, procurement, implementation and decision-making on service delivery. In 2010 Local Assemblies successfully implemented and monitored 141 small-scale projects with a total budget of \$ 2 million, and an average budget per project of \$ 14,319. Comparing 2009 and 2010, it is interesting to notice a significant increase of the infrastructure projects, raising from 20% to 36% of the total actual investment, and the increased demand for the water and sanitation sector, which passed from 14% to 26%. Education related projects decreased from 39% to 26%, with an expectation to follow a similar pattern in 2011. Sectors such as agriculture and health care did not present substantive changes, ranging between 7 and 10%. All the trends reflect autonomous decisions of the Local Assemblies, where representatives of the Suco Council play an active role.

In early 2011, a joint assessment team will conduct a Minimum Conditions Evaluation to assess the management of projects implemented by Local Assemblies, measuring accountability, transparency and local contributions made to the projects. For the first time, the evaluation team will be composed also by university students and local NGOs, who will join LGSP and MSATM. The assessment is particularly important since it is a pre-condition for districts to receive an allocation from the Local Development Fund in the following year.

Still at the beginning of next year, the Minister Arcangelo Leite will officially announce the 2011 allocation of the Local Development Fund, with an expected increase of the LDP budget. Moving toward a more integrated approach for the project planning and implementation, new LDP-DDP regulations are expected to be finalized and launched soon, with the objective to harmonize the local governance projects mechanism. The new regulations are intended to respond to the call for a simplification of the planning and submission procedures expressed by the local communities.

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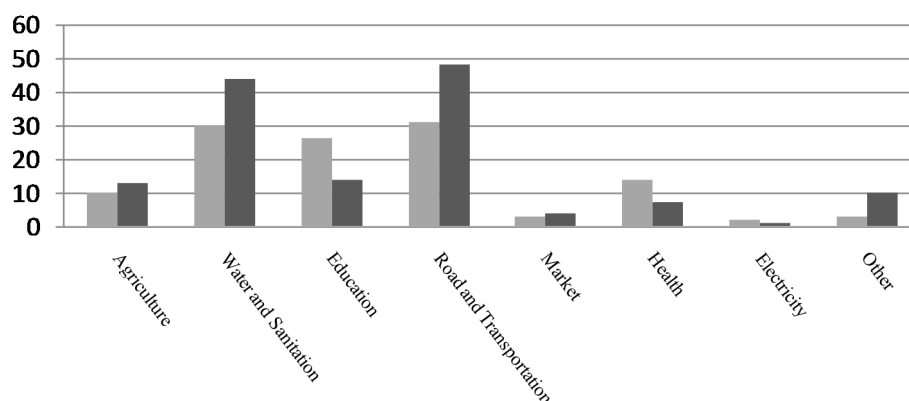


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has a website!



% of the number of Project per Sector for FY 2009 and 2010



LISTEN TO OUR MONTHLY RADIO PROGRAMME "Develop with Decentralization"

IN DILI: RADIO RAKAMBIA, FM 99.5 Mhz

AND ON THE 16 COMMUNITY RADIOS IN TIMOR LESTE