



OVERVIEW OF Timor-Leste

Overview of Timor-Leste



YEAR OF
2002
INDEPENDENCE

Languages

Tetum, Portuguese, Baikenu, Bunak, Fataluku, Kemak, Makasai, Mambai, Tokodede

POPULATION
1,201,542
MILLION

41%
Population
BELOW
poverty line

Under-five Mortality Rate: 57 per 1,000 live births.
Timor-Leste ranks 48 in the world.

Human Development Index (HDI) for 2013: 0.620
(ranked 128 out of 187, indicating medium human development).

Human Development Indicators	Human Development Indicators
<p>Life Expectancy at Birth-Female: 69 Years</p> <p>Life Expectancy at Birth-Male: 66 Years</p> <p>Infant Mortality Rate: 46 per 1000 live births</p> <p>Maternal Mortality: 557 deaths/100,000 live births</p> <p>Neonatal Mortality Rate: 24 per 1000 live births</p> <p>Malnutrition Rate: 50.2% are stunted (0-5 years)</p> <p>Immunization (DTP3) Coverage 2013: 82%</p> <p>Adolescent Fertility Rate (births per 1000 women Ages 15-19: 53</p>	<p>Gross Enrollment Rate (GER) in Preschool Education (children aged 3-5):</p> <p>Boys: 14.1%</p> <p>Girls: 14.8%</p> <p>GER in Primary Education</p> <p>Boys: 126%</p> <p>Girls: 122%</p> <p>Net Enrollment Rate (NET) in Primary Education</p> <p>Boys: 91%</p> <p>Girls: 91%</p>

Brief History of ChildFund in Timor-Leste



ChildFund came to Timor-Leste: 1990

Number of districts: 7

Number of enrolled children FY14: 11,376

Number of participants FY14: 178,383

ChildFund has been operating in Timor-Leste since 1990. A National Office was established in 2000 after the restoration of independence. During the early stages of recovery and rebuilding, ChildFund Timor-Leste focused on the most pressing needs of the people, with projects in food security and the prevention of common diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis.

During the civil unrest in 2006, ChildFund Timor-Leste worked with children and families in Internally Displaced People (IDP) camps. ChildFund provided safe havens for children by creating child centered spaces and giving young people opportunities for education and recreation.

More recently, ChildFund Timor-Leste has broadened its focus in line with the government's strategic development plan, encompassing a broad range of health, education, youth and community development projects in five districts (Bobonaro, Covalima, Lautem, Liquica and Manatuto).

Brief Program Overview

ChildFund Timor-Leste's diverse programs are designed to improve local capacity to overcome the most pressing challenges faced by children and communities: maternal and child health, education, water and sanitation, food security, and youth leadership and livelihoods.

ChildFund Timor-Leste works with children throughout their lives, ensuring children living in poverty have what they need to meet their potential. Our particular focus is on the earliest years, supporting 73 Early Childhood Development (ECD) service providers and working closely with the Ministry of Health to safeguard the health of infants and mothers. Students, parents, and teachers are actively involved in the development of schools and educated, confident children. Water, sanitation and hygiene programs help communities build clean water sources, sanitation facilities and highlight the importance of hygiene in the prevention of illness. ChildFund Timor-Leste also supports youth with a focus on building leadership and life skills and creating meaningful livelihood opportunities.

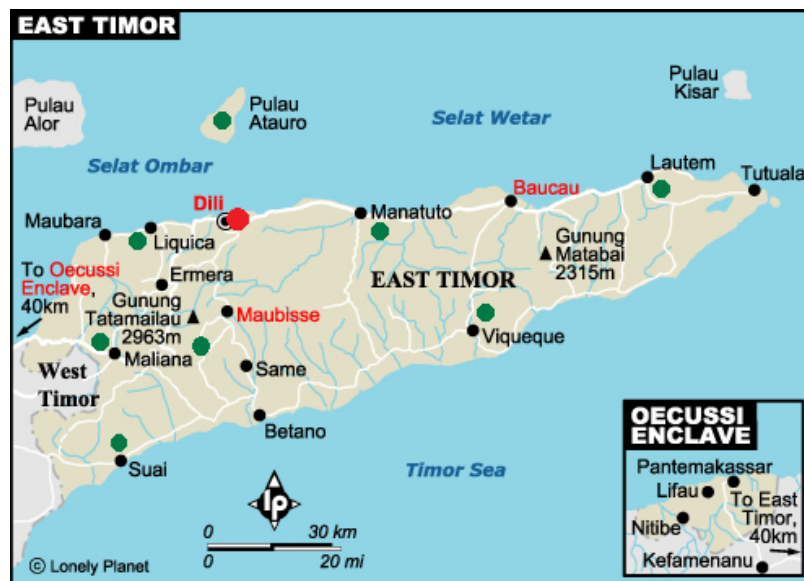


Where We Work



Districts where we work:

- Bobonaro
- Cova Lima
- Lautem
- Liqueica
- Manatuto



2014 Program Achievements

Healthy and Secure Infants

The period from birth to five years is when a child's development is fastest and most fragile and serves as a cornerstone for all the growth and development that follows. With one of the highest fertility rates in the world, there is a strong need for quality programs designed for expectant mothers and the youngest of children. ChildFund Timor-Leste works together with parents and communities to ensure that infants have the nutrition, health care, safety and stimulation they need to achieve their potential day by day.

In FY14, a total of 3,340 children aged 3-5 years were provided access to ECD services through 35 home-based playgroup sites (1,278 children) and 41 preschool centers (2,062 children) that ChildFund Timor Leste supports as part of its ECD program. ChildFund, through its local partners, continuously provides support to these programs by allocating resources to train preschool teachers and volunteers, doing minor repairs of the existing facilities, and providing learning materials.

2014 Program Achievements (continued)



In improving the quality of ECD services through home-based ECD (or playgroup program) and center-based ECD (through preschool centers), ChildFund trained 117 ECD service providers such as playgroup facilitators and preschool teachers on different relevant topics such as play-based learning sessions, classroom management, child rights and child protection. According to preschool children interviewed during the Joint Monitoring Activity about how they feel about going to preschool center every day, children said they are happier now because they can play a lot. Preschool teachers have also observed that children have become more interactive after integrating the play-based learning session into their classroom management.

As part of quality improvement of ECD, ChildFund supported the construction of two units, (7 meters by 16 meters), two-classroom child-friendly ECD centers in two different remote villages. This has provided a quality preschool program for more than 100 children living in hard-to-reach villages. Also, ChildFund supported minor repairs of 22 preschool centers, as well as provided appropriate learning materials and playground equipment for children to enjoy and support their learning and development.

One preschool now has clean running water after construction of a water tank and pipe line. This benefits 82 children who also participated in child-friendly hand washing and hygiene promotion activities.

A total of 328 parents have attended and completed the sessions on Child Rights and Child Protection. Apart from training ECD service providers, ChildFund provides support in raising the awareness of parents as partners for the ECD program. The orientation conducted for parents helped them improve their knowledge on parenting roles and responsibilities and about the ECD programs where their children take part.

More than 300 people, including government officials from the Ministry of Social Solidarity, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Justice, as well as embassy officials and humanitarian agencies, participated in the ECD Professional Forum organized by ChildFund, in collaboration with World Vision and Plan International. The forum, which was titled "The First Six Years: The Most Important Years in a Child's Life," drafted an action plan that included continuous alliance work of the non-government sector to work with the government to improve collaboration and ECD integration in the delivery of quality ECD services, and in establishing a system for ECD service delivery.

The end of the project survey on Maternal and Child Health (MCH) knowledge, practice, and coverage in Covalima district revealed that: (1) 96% of caretakers took their children age 0-23 months with a fever to visit a health worker within 48 hours after recognizing the symptoms; (2) 67% of mothers with children less than 2 years now know at least two occasions to wash hands (baseline was at 40%); (3) 50% of mothers with children less than 2 years were attended to by a skilled health

2014 Program Achievements (continued)



worker during the delivery of their last child (national average is 30%); and (4) 73% of mothers now have their newborn take breast milk within 1 hour of birth.; (5) ChildFund supported the training of 20 medical doctors from Covalima district on safe motherhood standards—they work closely with midwives on skilled deliveries; (6) 122 Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) were trained on key messages of breastfeeding/nutrition and disability awareness using Behavior Change Communication methods; (7) water systems at two health posts renovated by ChildFund were repaired; (8) over 30 CHVs participated in peer-to-peer learning exchange meetings to share best practices and also met with district and sub district health staff.

Other FY14 achievements included:

- Health education: Trained over 598 CHVs, local village leaders, and community mobilisers in 5 districts on prevention of HIV, diarrhea, disability, malaria, malnutrition, and other common childhood illnesses using Behavior Change Communication methods. The CHVs disseminated these MCH messages.
- Home visits: 4,900 community members, including enrolled families, received home visits by CHVs in 4 districts on basic maternal and child health promotion, including prevention of malaria, nutrition (cooking demonstrations), and hygiene training
- Community mobilization: 4,133 community members, including 50 enrolled children, from 36 villages were mobilized by CHVs from ChildFund to attend monthly government public health outreach events in their communities, including baby weighing, immunization and food supplementation, cooking demonstrations.
- Collaboration with Government: Provided support to national government staff to conduct 4 quarterly supervision visits with over 15 government health staff (midwives and nurses) on proper use of national MCH standards of care. Support also provided to 4 community health centers in a central district for hygiene kits, scales, and registration books; additional support was given for rehabilitation of the water systems at 2 rural government health posts and for expanding the fence for 1 health center.
- Health and hygiene: Conducted refresher training to 2,572 students across 20 primary schools on basic health and hygiene practices and good nutrition, including distribution of hygiene kits to each student.

Educated and Confident Children

In FY14, ChildFund Timor-Leste strengthened its support to promote child agency in the schools and communities. Through a consultation in which 80 children in four schools in one district participated, ChildFund Timor-Leste developed a child agency capacity building program, responding to the thematic issues that children articulated during the consultation—corporal punishment, bullying, poor health and nutrition, low academic competencies and low reading skills. This capacity building program was executed in close coordination with the 10 school directors (out of 95 covered schools) where child agency has been initiated. Three groups were piloted in this program—health scouts, children against violence club and peer tutors.

2014 Program Achievements (continued)



A total of 124 children completed the three series of customized training for child agency—80 health scouts, 30 children against violence club participants, and 24 peer tutors. Selected and mobilized by school directors and teachers, these children form part of the core leaders of the three agency groups organized in 10 schools. As a result, these children have gained deeper understanding on the issues and improved their social skills, such as communication, inter-personal relationship building, and leadership. They are applying these skills through school- and community-wide campaigns (for health scouts and CAV club) and after-class tutoring sessions (for peer tutors). Using active learning methods such as drama play, poetry and music, storytelling and language arts activities, the three agency groups conducted campaigns in the schools and communities. A total of 1,057 children/peer had been reached out by the campaigns conducted by the groups and learned lessons about rights and responsibilities, different forms of abuse and violence against children, malaria, dengue and diarrhea prevention, as well as proper hygiene and sanitation. This activity helps build not only the life skills of children participating in the different agency groups, but also fosters good fellowship among children.

A total of 1,695 children attended health and hygiene sessions while 126 participated in reproductive health sessions covering prevention of early marriage and HIV/AIDs disease. All sessions were both conducted by adult health volunteers. Also, 306 children were trained by staff on gardening and are now maintaining school gardens.

A total of 4,246 received a pair of shoes from TOMS Shoes Company. This has enabled children to walk more comfortably to school and boost their attendance. Also, 420 children in 2 primary schools benefited from 76 sets of tables and chairs.

Skilled and Involved Youth

Youth Employment

ChildFund provided entrepreneurial training through a youth employment project, with an aim of providing youth with a sustainable livelihood, earning a fair wage. ChildFund linked with training institutions to provide specialized livelihood training, mentoring, and work placements in key sectors such as carpentry, agriculture, hospitality, and construction. The project was launched through a start-up workshop organized by ChildFund New Zealand, ChildFund Timor-Leste, and local partners in two districts.

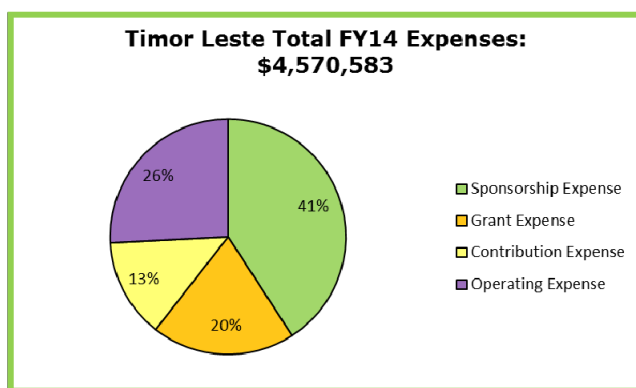
Through a partnership with the Agriculture Technical School, one of ChildFund Timor-Leste's Local Partners provided a three-month basic horticulture training for 18 student interns. Technical support was provided every week, through developing a demonstration plot, and knowledge and skills in planting distance, and use of organic fertilizer. The internship, where the Local Partner helped students build their knowledge and skills, and also acquire hands-on experience, enhanced the students' work-readiness for future employment.

Challenges



Lack of planning and coordination among ministry agencies and NGOs has posed certain challenges to project implementation. In the last fiscal year, NGOs and their projects, including a ChildFund project focused on improving basic education, were not advised that the Ministry of Education would distribute tables and chairs to all schools in the country. It thus replaced all the tables and chairs purchased by the project. Improved coordination among government and NGOs is needed so that programs and projects can align with the strategic direction of improving basic education in Timor-Leste.

Financial Report



Timor Leste FY14

Sponsorship Expense	1,867,666	41%
Grant Expense	899,530	20%
Contribution Expense	622,834	14%
Operating Expense	1,180,553	26%
Total Expense	4,570,583	100%

ChildFund Alliance

Sponsorship: At the end of FY14, ChildFund Timor-Leste had 8,817 active sponsorships from the following Alliance members: (1) ChildFund International—2,897; (2) ChildFund Australia – 2,507; (3) ChildFund New Zealand – 1,925; (4) Taiwan Fund for Children & Families – 950; (5) ChildFund Korea – 348; (6) BORNEfonden – 112; (7) Barnfonden – 49; (8) ChildFund Deutschland – 25; (9) Un Enfant par la Main – 2; and (10) ChildFund Ireland –2.

Financial Report (continued)



Grants: During FY14, ChildFund Timor-Leste managed eight grants from three Alliance members: (1) ChildFund New Zealand – two grants totaling \$2,044,649 (expended \$353,190 in FY14); (2) ChildFund Australia – four grants totaling \$1,814,599 (expended \$382,559 in FY14); and ChildFund Korea – two grants totaling \$961,643 (expended \$134,893 in FY14).

ChildFund New Zealand: One grant, Skills for Success, a three-year grant that ends in August 2017, provided entrepreneurial training with an aim of helping youth obtain a sustainable livelihood that earns a fair wage. The second grant, the Rural Water and Sanitation project provided access to clean water and promoted good hygiene.

ChildFund Australia: One grant, ChildFund Connect, funded a global education program that connects children in communities in Australia, Laos, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste and Vietnam with the aim of providing children the opportunity to connect and learn from each other. A second grant, Learning for Life Primary Schools assisted ChildFund Timor-Leste with promoting child agency in the schools and communities. A third grant, provided malaria prevention in the Lautem District while the fourth grant Maternal and Child Health provided a cadre of services to support ChildFund's Life Stage 1, Healthy and Secure Infants in the Covalima district.

ChildFund Korea: One grant, providee maternal and child health services in the Lautem, Timor. This is a two-year grant, which is scheduled to end December 2016. The other grant supported the Lautem Early Start Project.

Contributions: During FY14, ChildFund Timor-Leste received \$40,698 in contributions for its projects and



Community Engagement

Why Sponsorship is Important

Zacarias is a typical Timorese boy who loves sports, particularly football. He has two sisters and one brother. He is in grade one now. "I love school," says Zacarias, who dreams of becoming a famous sports player someday. Zacarias attended hygiene promotion in his school, where he learned how to wash his hands and body after playing outside.

During school holidays, Zacarias and his siblings help their parents do daily chores. For Zacarias this means he has more time to play his favorite sports activity. It also means there will be more tasks for his parents to do.

Zacarias's family lives in a village called Odomau in Bobonaro district. His parents, Guilhermino and Nazaria, are farmers who do not earn a fixed income to support their family. Planting corn, cassava, potatoes, and raising livestock such as pigs and goats are daily activities that most of the community in Zacarias's village are doing, including his parents.

Paul from ChildFund New Zealand is seen here sharing his family photos with Zacarias's family, and is happy to give the photos to his sponsored family. He has been with ChildFund for years and has met a number of children all around the world, but never met his sponsored child.

Paul shares a warm and friendly moment with his sponsored family by introducing his newest family member, a pet. *"We are very pleased to meet Zacarias's sponsor,"* says Guilhermino.



Why Sponsorship is Important (continued)

Angelina, 18 years old, received her first letter from her sponsor when she was six years old, in grade two. She has three sisters and four brothers. As farmers, Angelina's parents do not have enough financial means to send all their children to school. As a result, some of her siblings have dropped out of school to help their parents earn an income.

She attended the letter writing training and hygiene promotion provided by ChildFund, and learned to write to her sponsor. *"I feel very happy when I receive the sponsor's letter. The pictures I receive make me feel close to my sponsor,"* says Angelina with a smile. In her daily life, she helps her parents with taking care of the house, cooking, cleaning, and washing.



They plant corn, cassava, and banana as their main crops. During the planting period, Angelina helps her parents with planting and takes care of the crops, digging, trimming, putting in fertilizer, etc. *"I've been focused on planting activities, and now I'm aware that I should wash my hands properly before preparing meals and before eating. Before, I wasn't aware that I could get sick if I don't wash my hands after helping in the farm,"* she says.

Angelina wants to become a teacher. To pursue her dreams, she goes to school and doesn't feel tired or bored even if she has to walk for an hour every day, Monday to Friday, to come to class. She believes that going to school is important so she can gain more knowledge.

She adds that the training is important to her, and that the participants can share with others how to take care of themselves, particularly those who work mostly on the farm.

Some time ago, Angelina's family received a cow from a local partner through ChildFund. Her family raised the cow and now they have four. To sustain their family's income, they sold one cow. The income they earned was used to buy items to meet family needs as well as Angelina's school materials, like stationery, books, and clothes. Some months ago, her sponsor sent money so Angelina could celebrate her 18th birthday. *"I want to thank my sponsor for their kind support. I feel very happy that I can celebrate my birthday not only with my family but also with my friends,"* says Angelina.

