



EDUCATION

IMPROVING LITERACY, NUMERACY + LEARNING

Founded in 1945, CARE's programming extends around the globe—working to save lives, defeat poverty, and achieve social justice. One of the largest poverty-fighting organizations in the world, CARE works in over 100 countries, directly reaching more than 69 million people (73% women and girls) annually. Globally, CARE has more than 160 education projects reaching more than 10 million people.

CARE INTERNATIONAL IN TIMOR-LESTE

CARE has been operating in Timor-Leste since 1994. CARE works in all 13 municipalities and reaches 47% of Timorese households with our nationwide education, maternal health, disaster preparedness and rural livelihoods programming.

CARE's programming, focused on education, sexual reproductive health and rights, women's economic empowerment, life free from violence, humanitarian assistance, and food, nutrition and climate change resilience, reaches over 102,000 people (45% women and girls) directly and over 560,000 people (49% women and girls) indirectly across Timor-Leste each year.

CARE International in Timor-Leste excels in education sector support and works to facilitate improved literacy, numeracy, and learning. We have partnered closely with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports as well as schools nationwide since 2002.

This work has centered on CARE's long-term Lafaek Learning Media Project, which reaches school children, teachers, and families nationwide through production of school-material learning magazines, strengthening of Parent and Teacher Association (PTA) community dialogues, direct teacher training, and capacity-building support of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and local government.

OUR MISSION

CARE works around the globe to save lives, defeat poverty and achieve social justice.

OUR VISION

CARE seeks a world of hope, inclusion and social justice, where poverty has been overcome and all people live with dignity and security.

OUR FOCUS

CARE puts women and girls in the centre because we know that we cannot overcome poverty until all people have equal rights and opportunities.



LAFAEK LEARNING MEDIA PROJECT

Partnering with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, and with ongoing support from the Australian, Japanese and New Zealand public, CARE has supported an entire generation of students to improve learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy through our nationally recognized, child-friendly Lafaek Learning Media Project.

Through school and community distributions of two children's magazines, a teacher's professional development magazine and a parent's magazines, Lafaek directly reaches some 390,000 students and adults annually, covering all Timor-Leste pre- and primary schools, with quality supplementary education materials. Lafaek also strengthens Parent Teacher Association dialogues, provides direct teacher training, and supports capacity-building for the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and local government to deliver learning materials to schools across the country.

Operating since 2000, the Lafaek Learning Media Project is today one of the most recognized and influential brands in Timor-Leste. The project is currently primarily funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs New Zealand

HATUTAN

HATUTAN (Hahán ne'ebé Atu Fó Tulun ho Nutrisaun no Edukasaun, or Continue and Support Food for Nutrition and Education) is a program funded by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) McGovern-Dole Food for Education initiative in Timor-Leste. HATUTAN seeks to improve literacy outcomes and improve health, nutrition and dietary practices for primary school children in 440 schools and surrounding communities in the municipalities of Ainaro, Ermera, Liquica and Manatuto.

HATUTAN is being implemented by CARE, Mercy Corps and Water Aid in partnership with the Ministries of Education, Youth and Sports, Health, Agriculture and Fisheries and KONSANTIL, between 2018 and 2023. HATUTAN uses a quasi-experimental evaluation design to assess the impact of its intervention on education, health and nutrition outcomes in treatment schools, compared to the regular progress observed through time in a set of matching comparison schools not exposed to similar interventions. HATUTAN's baseline study, conducted in February-April 2019, collected data from 189 schools and respective communities, including 99 treatment and 90 comparison schools.



LITERACY AND SPORTS PROJECT

Over a three month period in 2015, the Literacy and Sports Project, funded by Charles Kendall and Partner Ltd, sought to expand and develop the quality of extra-curricular sports activities and general literacy through the development and distribution of sports books and school materials to all 1,370 schools in the country, including pre, primary, and secondary schools, during a three-month period.

HANDS PROJECT

Under the HANDS project, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs New Zealand in 2015-2016, CARE successfully managed the procurement and distribution of student and teacher learning materials to all 307 preschools in Timor-Leste in support for early childhood education.

SCHOOL DROPOUT PREVENTION PILOT PROGRAM

Under the \$9.8 million USAID-funded School Dropout Prevention Pilot Program (2010 to 2015), CARE supported the establishment of dropout prevention programs across the country. The project successfully intervened to train teachers and volunteer community groups and develop extracurricular activities across 97 schools to lower dropout rates by addressing early signs of risk like poor attendance, tardiness, low performance, and behavior issues.

Community-centered Parent Teacher Associations were established, strengthened, and mobilized to work with teachers to track individual cases of absenteeism and dropout through home visits. Over 16,000 students were reached by the project—with statistically significant effects in increasing student attendance over and above control groups, as well as progression rate.

