

# CARE NEWS



Welcome to CARE in Timor-Leste's quarterly newsletter! In this first edition, we are proud to present the milestones that our team has achieved from July – September 2022. Our team works in four priority areas; Education, Women's Economic Empowerment, Health and Women's Voice. Find out more on how we are supporting women and girls and their communities in these areas. Happy reading!

## Recent Highlights (July – September)

### HATUTAN

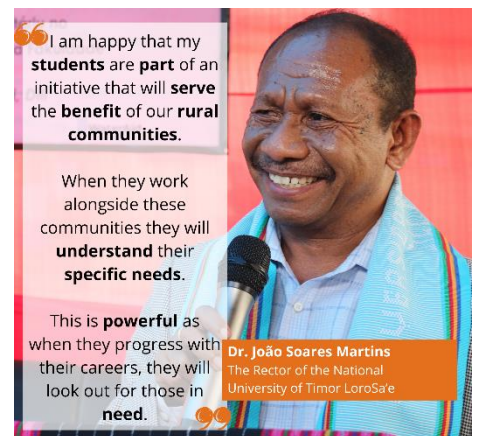
🎉 The National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL) Departments of Community and Social Inclusion and Community Development under the Faculty of Social Science have further extended their partnership with CARE on the HATUTAN Education and Nutrition Program. This project is funded by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the partnership with UNTL is for the practical work experience of up to 160 finalist students. Selected students will be placed in 20 different rural villages in Ainaro, Ermera and Liquiça.

The partnership with HATUTAN will support the students to work in communities to prevent gender-based violence, and promote positive health behaviors in nutrition, hygiene and sanitation at the household level.

### HAFORSA 2

The fruits of your own labour are the tastiest! 😊  
Meet this farmers group, who are part of HAFORSA 2 project, selling their fresh produce at the recent Japan Festival!

We are SO proud to see how well these diligent farmers are increasing their harvest this year, particularly men who recognise the importance of female participation and leadership in their farmers group.



## LAFAEK

We are proud of how children and communities in Timor-Leste are eager to look after the Lafaek magazine. 🙌

The primary school EBF 1.2 in Laline in Viqueque recently organised a Tara Bandu ceremony for the protection of their Lafaek magazines. Tara Bandu protection is a community mechanism to ban damaging their magazines, representing their perception of the Lafaek magazine as a national learning resource.



## Water for Women

Every person has the right to access clean water and sanitation in Timor-Leste, including women, girls, people with disabilities and minority groups.

To ensure that these vulnerable groups are at the forefront of these activities, CARE's Water For Women project recently conducted a gender equality and social inclusion institutional capacity assessment which highlighted the need for increased investment in ensuring equal access, as well as improved coordination amongst stakeholders in water and sanitation sector. At a recent workshop, the findings were presented to key government and local partner organisations who committed to increasing efforts to increase funding and collaboration in future.



## Disaster READY

Climate change is increasingly contributing to extreme weather events and the frequency of natural disasters. Deep-rooted gender norms can create major barriers to women's leadership and participation in Disaster Risk Reduction and emergency preparedness activities. This can result in women's needs and priorities being missed from the disaster planning cycle.

Julmira is a member of the Suco (village) Disaster Management Committee in the municipality of Viqueque and she has been actively involved in the Australian Humanitarian Partnership Disaster READY Project activities.

[Read more](#) about how the Disaster READY project has supported her to challenge gender norms and demonstrate the value of including women in DRR and disaster preparedness processes.

## COVID-19 and Health Systems Strengthening Support project

🎉 It is another exciting new project announcement! CARE, together with the World Bank, launched the "COVID-19 and Health Systems Strengthening Support" project, with the mission to support the capacity of health workers to deliver services and responses as well as strengthen preventive measures in hard-to-reach areas.

COVID-19 has shown how vulnerabilities in health systems can have serious implications on health, economic progress and livelihoods, particularly on women who are already impacted by existing structural inequalities.

With funding support from the Government of Japan, this project is expected to work with 33,000 people in Covalima and Viqueque municipalities.