

# CARE NEWS



Welcome to the second edition of the CARE International in Timor-Leste quarterly newsletter!

As 2022 sprints to a close, we are thrilled to share our project achievements to illustrate how successful this year has been through our collective effort. In this edition, discover the latest news on project extension, partnership development and more!

## Recent Highlights (October – December 2022)

### Disaster READY

In Timor-Leste, CARE and the Secretary of State for Civil Protection led the formal launch of the second phase of the Disaster READY project. Reflecting the programme's redesign and significant shift towards increased partnership with local civil society and women's rights groups, the next phase will be implemented by an expanded network of local partners, who gathered for the launch on 5th December.

[Read](#) our press release to find out more.



### Water for Women

December this year, we concluded the 5-year Water for Women project. The project was implemented by CARE and WaterAid and funded by the Australian Government to improve health, gender equality and wellbeing of rural communities in Liquiça and Manufahi of Timor-Leste. During its operational period, the project worked to ensure inclusive, sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services for women, girls, people with disabilities and the LGBTQI+ community, as well as tackling harmful social norms and providing support for survivors of Gender-Based Violence.



## HAFORSA 2

Great news coming from community groups in Atsabe 🎉

On 10<sup>th</sup> October, representatives of the Government of Japan and CARE International Japan and Timor-Leste inaugurated an agricultural water supply system, which had been built with support from CARE's HAFORSA 2 project and aims to increase agricultural productivity in the Atsabe area. 🇯🇵🇹🇱🇯🇵

With community-led effort, the system provides farmers with a drip-irrigation water supply, enabling them to grow vegetables throughout the year, and requiring fewer hours of manual labour. The project also addresses the issue of unequitable power relations between women and men farmers, and empowers women's leadership in community decision-making.



## LAFAEK

Through the Lafaek project's Jornalista Ki'ik activity, we are witnessing a generation of young schoolchildren enhancing their skill in public speaking and confidence building. This activity engages them to take over the role of being a journalist for a day, to interview inspiring women leaders and public figures.

On 15<sup>th</sup> December, young Toninha and Graciano interviewed the Director of Asosiasaun Esperansa Feto Defisiénsia, Mrs. Madalena da Costa, to talk about her experience being a leader as a person with a disability and the importance of disability inclusion in our society.

Remember their names, because the interview conducted by these two bright stars will feature on the second edition of the Lafaek Prima magazine next year. 🙏



## HATUTAN

CARE and the Universidade Oriental Timor Lorosa'e (UNITAL) developed a partnership to promote quality education and reduce Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in rural communities, with support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) through by the HATUTAN Education and Nutrition Program.

Based on a common commitment to enhance rural education and promote gender equality in Timor-Leste, the two entities signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in December for the placement of UNITAL students from Education and Sociology department to undertake practical fieldwork in rural villages of Ainaro, Ermera, and Manatuto. Whilst enhancing their skills during their practical fieldwork, the students will also work closely with CARE to improve their understanding on child protection, gender roles and the prevention of GBV, whilst also raising awareness of rural communities on these issues.

## COVID-19 and Health Systems Strengthening Support Project

We are excited to have launched the new COVID-19 and Health Systems Strengthening Support Project! With 24 team members based in Dili, Covalima and Viqueque, the project socialisation has been conducted with key partners at the national level, with municipal authorities and with targeted communities.