

CARE NEWS



Welcome to CARE International in Timor-Leste's quarterly newsletter! Quarter 1 has come to an end and it has been an eventful period for our team. In this edition, we are excited to present the latest updates from our development and humanitarian programmes.

Happy reading!

Recent Highlights (January – March 2023)

HATUTAN

On 24th February, we were honoured to join the President of Timor-Leste, H.E. José Ramos-Horta on his visit to a school in the municipality of Manatuto that is supported by the HATUTAN Education and Nutrition program, as part of his official visit to the community.

In this brief visit, the President learned about the support provided to the school including the close collaboration between the program, school officials, and their communities such as:

- ✓ Establishing reading corners for schoolchildren to read and borrow books
- ✓ Supporting the "Love to Read" group to promote reading outside of the classroom
- ✓ Supporting teachers through the Teacher's Working Group
- ✓ Supporting teachers with fun and interactive extra-curricular activities
- ✓ Promoting good water, sanitation and hygiene practices
- ✓ Supporting the school feeding program and the procurement of local produce for school meals.



HAFORSA 2

The leadership of women amongst farmers groups supported by CARE's HAFORSA 2 project has been instrumental to the success of the community in increasing agricultural production, building the skills of women farmers to take up leadership roles, and the sharing of equitable workloads between men and women.

The value of their leadership is reflected in the project's success last year, which saw seven farmers groups installing drip-irrigation systems introduced by the project to enable year round production including during the dry season.

[Find out about examples of women's leadership](#) from the project.



COVID-19 and Health Systems Strengthening Support project

On 8th March, the COVID-19 and Health Systems Strengthening Support project, together with the representatives of the Secretary of Equality and Inclusion and local authorities of Viqueque celebrated International Women's Day with rural communities in the Viqueque municipality. Aligned with this year's national celebration theme 'Women are ready to lead', the project convened local leaders and their communities to raise the awareness on the importance of this celebration and the value of women's leadership in health emergency preparedness and response and how they can support to create an enabling environment where women can undertake these roles.



Lafaek

On 30th January, CARE's Lafaek team undertook a visit to a school in Aileu with senior representatives from the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (MoEYS) and the New Zealand Embassy in Timor-Leste to monitor how the magazines are used for teaching and learning in rural communities. Coinciding with the visit, representatives from the Embassy and MoEYS reviewed and approved the content for this year's special edition of Lafaek for Teachers magazine edition 2/2023, which will be distributed in May. This special edition features a compilation of previously developed educational content in the Lafaek magazines, intended to support teachers to plan their classes throughout the year using innovative teaching methodologies.

[Read more](#) about how the Lafaek magazine is supporting teachers and schoolchildren in remote, rural areas across Timor-Leste.

Disaster READY

In Timor-Leste, the Disaster READY project is implemented through a consortium of partners including; CARE International in Timor-Leste, Caritas Australia, Oxfam Timor-Leste, PLAN International Timor-Leste, World Vision Timor-Leste and in collaboration with Ra'es Hadomi Timor Oan.

The first phase of the project was implemented from January 2018 to June 2022 and aimed to increase local community capacity in disaster risk mitigation, preparedness and resilience to hazards with a focus on health and livelihoods. During its operational period, the project supported a total of 29,924 vulnerable communities in 65 sucos (village), 242 aldeias (sub-village) and 52 schools. Following its successes, the consortium has been awarded phase two of the project with the period from July 2022 to December 2026.



[Find out more](#) about our project and the remote, rural communities we work with in Timor-Leste.