

TIMOR LESTE

Joint programme on promoting sustainable food and nutrition security in Timor Leste (MDGF- 2040)

Children, Food Security and Nutrition



Total Budget:	USD 3,500,000		
Budget by Agency:	UNICEF: 2,277,856	FAO: 447,999	
	WFP: 720,645		
	WHO: 53,500		
Participating Gov. Entities:	Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), Ministry of Education (MoE), Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry (MTCI), Ministry of Social Solidarity (MSS)		
Start Date:	17 December 2009		
End Date:	17 December 2012		
Extension:			
Disbursements:	First Disbursement:	17 December 2009	USD 1,741,960
	Second Disbursement:	13 April 2011	USD 1,143,432
	Third Disbursement:		
In Brief:	The proposed joint programme is expected to have an impact on access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food, at all times, to meet dietary needs for an active and healthy life and the information and counselling on improved feeding and caring practices by women and children by 2012. The programme's focus will be on infant and young child feeding, nutrients commodities and micro-nutrients supplementation, community management of acute malnutrition linked with supplementary feeding, and establishment of a food security and nutrition surveillance system. The programme will also endeavour innovation of implementation modalities as basis for scaling-up effective interventions such as multiple micronutrients (Sprinkles) supplementation and salt iodization.		

Outcomes:

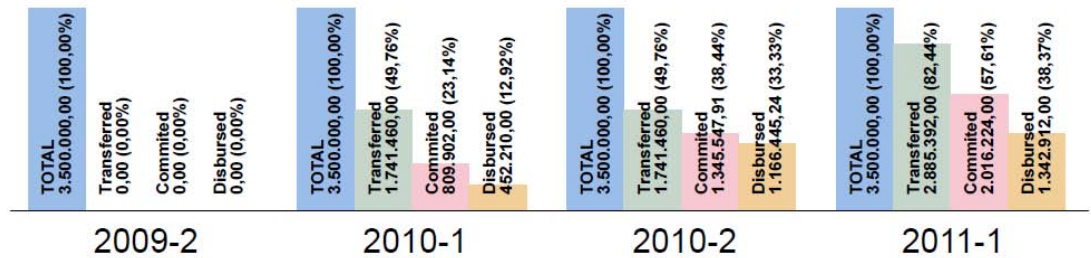
- Improved health and nutritional status of pregnant and lactating women and under-five children in 4 selected districts.
- 20 percent more children access, and 25 percent more children complete, free compulsory quality basic education in 4 selected districts.
- Food Security and Nutrition surveillance systems established and functioning at all sub-districts in 4 districts.



Regions of Intervention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aileu, Baucau, Manatuto and Oecusse 	
MDGs	1C (of particular importance as it is currently off track in the country); and 2A	
Beneficiaries to date	Direct	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No. Institutions • No. Women • No. Men • No. ethnic groups 		
Project coordinator:	Wahyu R. Mahanani (Annet)	
RCO Focal Point:	Nadia Hadi	
Status	Overall programme is advancing towards outputs and outcomes; particularly outcome 1, as the other	

2 are at early stages of implementation. Some difficulties, including high turn-over of staff and capacity issues have affected the pace of implementation.

Financial execution status as of the June 30, 2011 biannual report:



Main Achievements:

Outcome 1: Implementation of Community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) has been expanded from 6 districts to 13 districts. Since 2010 up to the first half of 2011, a total of 2,235 cases of severe acute malnutrition were identified and treated using Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF). In total to date there are 57 mother support groups (MSGs), of which 10 have been established with support of the JP in 2010. A total of 5,820 pregnant women and 6,972 lactating mothers received IYCF counseling by MSGs since January 2010. Formative research on MNP supplementation has been completed in 2 districts. Vitamin A supplementation coverage reached 42%. The local factory has produced 666.23 metric tons of fortified blended food that has been distributed as part of the supplementary feeding programme in 7 districts. Training and sensitization to strengthen community mobilization have been conducted in 2 districts. Small livestock promotion has started in Baucau. In addition, training of trainers for home garden has been delivered in Oecusse for MAF extension workers.

Outcome 2: School garden activities are on-going in twelve schools in Baucau district, and will soon be replicated in the other 3 areas of intervention.

Outcome 3: Food Security Information and Early Warning System (FSIEW) indicator matrix has been refined, sensitization meetings in 4 districts conducted, and operational guidelines and forms being finalized.

Does the JP incorporate gender considerations in the **activities/outputs/outcomes?** (example)

Yes. The JP has mainstreamed gender issues since its planning and inception phase with strategy formulation, interventions design and delivery and reporting where important focus is girl children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women.

Observations

Paris Declaration

Leadership of national and local governmental institutions:

NSC and PMC are functional; The NSC is co-chaired by the government (Ministry of Economy and Development) and the UN (Resident Coordinator). The PMC is co-chaired by the government (MAF) and UNICEF (lead agency). The PMC has been constituted by expanding the membership of the National Food Security and Nutrition Working Group.

There is an increasingly strong ownership at the national level. The Nutrition Department at MoH is the main implementer and focal point for all of the service-based and most of the community-based nutrition activities of the JP. MTCL is the implementing line ministry for salt iodization program. MAF is the main government institution implementing home gardens, and also taking the lead in the Inter-Ministerial Task Force of Food Security and Nutrition, and MoE is the main partner in school gardens.

Involvement of CSOs and citizens:

NGOs play vital roles at community level. With support from UNICEF, Alola Foundation (a national NGO) is the main driving force of MSGs, and the Pastoral da Crianca (PdC) supports in information dissemination, follow-up and referral support at community level and organizes monthly "Celebration of Life" where children are weighed and provided with nutritious food; and Kailalo and Caritas implement the 12 school gardens in Baucau in coordination with FAO and the school committees.

Alignment and Harmonization:

The JP is aligned with the UNDAF and government JP sectorial plans and programs. The Inter-Ministerial Task Force of Food and Nutrition Security has been revitalized to coordinate the implementation of FSIEWS. The MDG Secretariat established within the Ministry of Finance, as the focal body to coordinate MDG-related activities in the country, also provide guidance for harmonization JP support.

Innovative elements in mutual accountability:

The JP has bolstered collaboration among UN agencies, various government institutions and civil

	<p>society, and revitalized existing coordination mechanisms, e.g. the National Food Security Working Group. In addition to the NSC's oversight function on policies and strategic directions, JP also receives guidance from the government's MDG National Steering Committee chaired by Minister of Finance.</p>	
Delivering as One	Innovative elements in harmonization of procedures and managerial practices:	
	<p>Role of the RCO and synergies with other MDG-F JPs: MDG-F two joint programmes (Gender and Nutrition) are sharing information regularly (as and when needed). Both JPs are contributing in implementation of the MDG-F M&E and Advocacy and Communication initiatives as well as benefiting from these two initiatives. MDG M&E working group, MDG Advocacy working group, inter agency meetings on JPs and joint meeting with government and stakeholders also enabling effective coordination. The RC encourages coordination among the MDG-F joint programmes as well as others joint programmes in Timor-Leste.</p>	
	<p>Inter-agency coordination: Throughout the implementation of the JP, the agencies have made an effort to coordinate the different components in the areas of intervention; conducting joint assessments and meeting regularly to join forces in advocacy efforts.</p>	
Sustainability (concrete actions and strategic partnerships)	<p>Sustainability Plan in place? Continued advocacy has put nutrition and food security high in the political agenda. In April 2011 the National MDG Steering Committee selected nutrition as their top priority. In the spirit of the Comoro Declaration (signed in 2010), the Committee recommended that a high-level inter-ministerial committee be established to develop a plan of action to accelerate progress on nutrition. The National Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030 has been launched, and serves as the country's primary medium to long-term framework. It contains specific targets on food security and nutrition to be achieved by 2015, 2020 and 2030 respectively. JP's capacity building efforts are also expected to strengthen sustainability.</p>	
Innovation and Scale-up	<p>The JP support innovation efforts of the implementation approaches of several interventions including MNP supplementation. The JP works in synergy with similar initiatives, financed by AUSAID, JICA, and AECID facilitating its outreach and replicability. Recently a concept note has been submitted to the EU, building on the JP, to expand high-impact nutrition package focusing on infant and young children.</p>	
External Factors and mitigation		
Communication and Advocacy	<p>C&A plan in place? As one of the MDG-F Focus Countries, the C&A working group and the MDG Secretariat based at the Ministry of Finance are working to develop an advocacy strategy that will highlight the MDGs based on the two MDG-F Joint Programmes that are being implemented in Timor-Leste. The MDG-Focus Country Initiative supported the production of MDG factsheet on Timor-Leste and the progress towards MDG achievement. The C&A working group is also supporting MoH in implementing the Government-led National Nutrition Advocacy Campaign. The JP advocacy and communication objective aims to advocate on importance of nutrition in human capacity development and improve the appropriate practices to utilization and diversification of local food.</p>	
M&E	<p>The M&E Working Group serves as a platform to support the implementing partners (line ministries and UN agencies) in developing local M&E capacity through an integrated and joint approach.</p> <p>The JP is revising the monitoring framework to better reflect achievements of the JP. This revision is being further reviewed for availability and validity of data.</p> <p>MTE scheduled for September 2011</p>	
Missions from MDG-F Secretariat:	<p>Dates: September 2009</p> <p>March 2011</p>	<p>Members: Sophie de Caen, Paula Pelaez, Layla Saad</p> <p>Members: Layla Saad</p>
Mid Term Evaluation:	<p>Evaluator: Frank Noij</p> <p>Period: September – October 2011</p>	