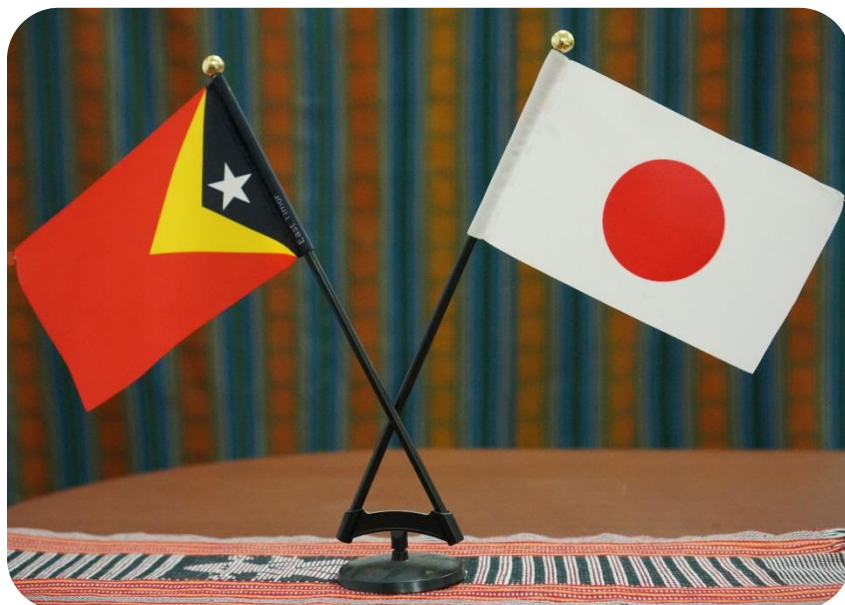


# JICA

Japan International Cooperation Agency

## Cooperation in Timor-Leste



# Message from JICA Timor-Leste Office

Loron Di'ak! (Hello!)

Bem vindu iha JICA Timor-Leste Office! (Welcome to JICA Timor-Leste Office!)

Timor-Leste is a nature-rich country with a population of 1.36 million and a land area of 15 thousand square kilometers.

Becoming independent restoration in May 2002, Timor-Leste is the first nation to be born in the twenty-first century.

The dispatch of UN missions which aimed at stability, safety, and establishment of political and administrative foundation ended at the end of year 2012. After the recent rapid improvement of the security situation, the Government of Timor-Leste has started full-scale nation-building.

JICA has continued to support the Government of Timor-Leste since the referendum which determined the substantial independence in 1999 through the activities by Japanese NGOs in rehabilitation of infrastructure, human capacity-building, improvement of people's living, health conditions etc. These projects have contributed to improvements for the lives of Timorese people at the beginning of this new nation.

20years after its independence, Timor-Leste is now facing a new phase of full-scale development and nation building, moving on from the phase of rehabilitation and reconstruction after the conflict. However, there remain numerous challenges to be addressed.

Although efforts since the restoration of independence to the present are being rewarded, improvement of governance is needed towards full-scale nation building, sustainable and autonomous administrative management, and basic service delivery for the welfare of the people. The present situation in some sectors, such as education, health, and sanitation still has a long way to be fully adequate.

The Government of Timor-Leste has established a mid and long-term development plan from 2011 to 2030, "Strategic Development Plan (SDP)", and is trying to move on to the stage of full-scale development. On the other hand, the Government of Japan issued the joint press release "Advanced Partnership towards Growth and Prosperity" when the then President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, H. E. Mr. Taur Matan Ruak visited Japan in March 2016. In this statement, the importance of developing the bilateral relationship from "cooperation for post-conflict reconstruction" into a new phase of "cooperation for growth and prosperity" was emphasized.

Also, the current economic structure of Timor-Leste heavily depends on oil and gas revenue. Therefore, promotion of industry diversification is very necessary for sustainable nation building. Furthermore, to promote economic activities, developing quality infrastructure including maintenance and management is needed.

In addition, the Government of Timor-Leste is aiming to become the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN member state, and the Japanese Government is giving its full support for the acquisition of the membership.

Based on the present development situation in Timor-Leste and considering these frameworks such as the SDP and the Advanced Partnership as well as the development guideline in the international communities, "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)", JICA continues to support Timor-Leste in order to contribute to its nation-building and human capital development. We hope and believe that Timor-Leste will not only be recognized as a successful case of "peace building", but also of "nation building".

Obrigadu barak! (Thank you very much !)

All the staff of JICA Timor-Leste Office  
(March, 2023)



# JICA's Approach

## What is JICA?

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is an Incorporated Administrative Agency which aims to contribute to the promotion of international cooperation as well as the sound development of Japanese and global economy by supporting the socioeconomic development, recovery or economic stability of developing regions.

JICA is in charge of implementing Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) and supports developing countries through a flexible combination of various types of assistance methods, such as Technical Cooperation, Grants and Loan Aid. JICA is the world's largest bilateral aid agency and operates in over 150 countries and regions of the world.

## Technical Cooperation

Technical Cooperation supports the development of human resources that will promote the socioeconomic development in developing countries, the improvement of technical standards and the establishment of administrative systems by utilizing the knowledge, experience and technologies of Japan. By accepting training participants in Japan and dispatching Japanese experts, JICA promotes developing countries' capabilities in tackling issues that hamper development.



## Loan Aid

ODA Loans support developing countries above a certain income level by providing low-interest, long-term and concessional funds to chiefly develop the area of socioeconomic infrastructure. Private Sector Investment Finance (PSIF), on the other hand, provides financial support for private-sector activities in developing countries.



## Grant Aid

Grants provide funds to developing countries with low-income levels without the obligation of repayment. It is used to finance the development of infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, water-supply facilities and roads, as well as the procurement of medicines, equipment and other supplies.

# JICA's Approach

## Disaster Relief



In cases where large-scale disasters occur overseas, JICA supports the affected countries in two ways; dispatch of Japan Disaster Relief (JDR) teams and provision of emergency relief supplies. JDR is composed of five units: rescue team, medical team, infectious diseases response team, expert team and the Self- Defense Force unit. They are dispatched in response to requests from the governments of affected countries or from international organizations.

## Citizen Participatory Cooperation

JICA cooperates in diverse ways with Japanese NGOs, local governments, universities and other organizations that participate in international cooperation activities. JICA dispatches volunteers such as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) as a part of its Citizen Participatory Cooperation.



## Private Sector Investment Finance

JICA has relaunched the Private Sector Investment Finance (PSIF) operation in 2012. PSIF aims to support private sector to address the following three key development challenges: (1) Infrastructure development; (2) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and poverty alleviation; and (3) Conservation and prevention for climate changes. There are products of PSIF, Loan (Project Finance, Corporate Finance, and Bank Loan), and Equity (Private Equity Investment and Fund Investment).

## JICA's Partnership with the Japanese Private Sector

JICA supports to solve development challenges which developing countries are tackling by introducing outstanding knowledge, techniques, technology and products of Japanese Private Sector through activating them to expand their field into developing countries. JICA supports Japanese Private Sector to conduct verification survey, feasibility survey and technology dissemination program.



# JICA and Timor-Leste

## History of JICA's Cooperation in Timor-Leste

- 2000  
Opening of JICA office in Dili
- 2002  
Independence of Timor-Leste
- 2006  
Nation Crisis
- 2010  
The First dispatch of JOCV
- 2011  
Launch of SDP
- 2016  
Opening of the new JICA Timor-Leste office
- 2017  
Training participants reaches to 1,000
- 2018  
Dispatched JOCV reaches to 100
- 2019  
Establishment of JICA Alumni Association
- 2022  
20th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relationship between Timor-Leste and Japan

### 2000 – 2006 Support for reconstruction and rehabilitation of the nation

JICA is one of the oldest development partners of Timor-Leste and its office was opened in Dili in March 2000, before the independence of Timor-Leste. In the early days of the cooperation, JICA concentrated its support on nation-building through urgent rehabilitations of various infrastructures, such as national roads, ports, electricity distribution network, irrigation systems, water supplies and power supplies.

### 2006 – 2011 Sustainable development for building a self-reliant nation

When the Government succeeded in restoring security and created confidence in the country after the crisis of 2006, JICA increased the cooperation in capacity development through technical cooperation projects, such as road maintenance, rice production and support towards the faculty of engineering, the National University of Timor-Leste.

### 2012 – 2016 Cooperation towards development from rehabilitation

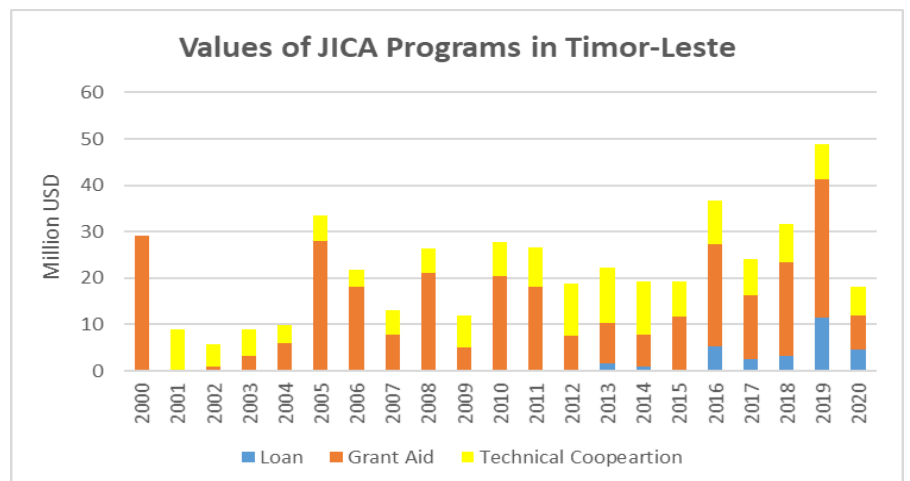
As the Government of Timor-Leste launched “the Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030 (SDP)” in July 2011, the Government of Japan reviewed its country assistance policy for Timor-Leste in April 2012 to support the plan. In alignment with the SDP and the Japanese government policy, JICA continues its assistance for constructing important infrastructure facilities with the technical assistance to maximize the benefit of the facilities. Combining technical cooperation with infrastructure projects is one of the characteristics of JICA’s cooperation.

### 2017 – For Establishing the Foundation of Sustainable Development

Japanese Government renewed its assistance policy in 2017 by viewing Timor-Leste as it has achieved to maintain stable peace after 15 years since its independence and has been advancing towards full-fledged nation-building as well as industry diversification. The Government of Japan, aligning with the SDP as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), sets “Development and Improvement of Infrastructure”, “Promotion of Industry Diversification” and “Improvement and Expansion of Social Service Delivery” as priority areas for assisting Timor-Leste.

Since the opening of JICA Timor-Leste Office in Dili in 2000, JICA has implemented various cooperation projects and assistance towards Timor-Leste, contributing from its rehabilitation to development. Technical Cooperation and Grant Aid have been implemented every year from the beginning. In 2012, the very first loan in Timor-Leste was agreed between the two countries to upgrade the Road No.1 which is now co-financed with Asian Development Bank (ADB).

## JICA's Cooperation at a Glance



# Japan's Country Assistance Policy for Timor-Leste

Timor-Leste has achieved to maintain stable peace after 20 years from its independence and has been advancing towards full-fledged nation-building as well as industry diversification based on the SDP launched in 2011.

The Government of Japan, in alignment with the SDP as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and with the perspective of ensuring stability, prosperity, and human security in Southeast Asia region, sets “Development and Improvement of Infrastructure”, “Promotion of Industry Diversification”, and “Improvement and Expansion of Social Service Delivery” as priority areas for assisting Timor-Leste.

## Strategic Development Plan (SDP) of Timor-Leste



### Japan's Basic Policy for Assistance:

Assisting the Process for Establishing the Foundation of Sustainable Development of the Country

#### Priority Area 1

##### Development and Improvement of Socioeconomic Infrastructure

In order to promote economic activities in Timor-Leste, JICA will focus on developing quality infrastructure including its maintenance and management.

#### Priority Area 2

##### Promotion of Industry Diversification

In order to support Timor-Leste in diversifying its industry and shifting from the current economic structure which heavily depends on oil and gas revenue, Japan assists Timor-Leste's efforts in developing industries including agriculture and fishery, enhancing efficiency, and developing industrial human resources.

#### Priority Area 3

##### Improvement and Expansion of Social Service Delivery

In order to support the Government of Timor-Leste to develop human resources capable of providing social service delivery which benefits each individual throughout the country, JICA will mainly assist capacity-building on government's policy planning and implementation.

# Japan's Country Assistance Policy for Timor-Leste

## Priority Area 1

### Development and Improvement of Socioeconomic Infrastructure

#### The Project for the Capacity Development of Road Services in Timor-Leste

Timor-Leste is carrying out road rehabilitation across the country with loans and grants from the ADB, the World Bank (WB), and JICA as well as the national budget. However, roads are frequently damaged because they are mostly located in mountainous terrain and are frequently affected by natural disasters such as heavy rains, landslides and flooding. Road maintenance is crucial to keeping roads in a good condition. JICA provides technical assistance to develop human resources and institutional capacity of road maintenance in both technical aspect and management aspect including budgeting.



#### The Project for Urgent relocation of Ferry Terminal in Dili Port

The sea routes are frequently used when people travel between Dili and remote areas such as Oecusse and Atauro. Timor-Leste will increase the number of ferries from one to three, but the current condition of the port is dangerous because cargos and passengers are using the same place. In order to solve this issue, with Japan's Grant Aid, the ferry terminal will be relocated to a new place with a new jetty which can accommodate two ferries.

#### The Project for Construction of Upriver Comoro Bridge

Currently, Dili has about 20% of the total population of the country, and the population distribution of the capital is expanding. Accordingly, the east-west traffic within the city is rapidly increasing. In addition, it is expected that Timor-Leste will build a new big port and conduct additional development projects in the Tibar bay. With serious concerns over the increasing number of traffic and congestion on the existing Comoro Bridge in the future, a new bridge with access road has been constructed by Japan's Grant Aid and named as "Hinode Bridge".



#### Capacity Development of Faculty of Engineering, Science and Technology, UNTL Phase II

Through the long history of cooperation with Faculty of Engineering, Science and Technology (FEST) at UNTL, FEST has started four-year bachelor program since 2012. As the second phase of the project, we are focusing on contribution to the society in Timor-Leste, therefore, the purpose of this project is, "Education and Research functions corresponding to Social Needs are Enhanced". A Grant Aid project, Construction of New Buildings of the Faculty, is completed to improve quality of education and training.

# Japan's Country Assistance Policy for Timor-Leste

## Priority Area 2

### Promotion of Industry Diversification

#### The Project for Increasing Farmers Households' Income through Strengthening Domestic Rice Production in Timor-Leste

Agriculture is one of the potential industries in Timor-Leste. However, most of the farmers are engaged in subsistence farming even though the demand for local rice is high. The purpose of this project is to generate farmers' income through improvement of : (1) rice cultivation techniques; (2) irrigation management; (3) market access ; and (4) rice purchasing system and storage management of the National Logistic Center.



#### Industrial Development Advisor

Transforming Timorese petroleum-reliant economy into private sector-led economy through industrial diversification is essential for sustainable industrial development in Timor-Leste. This advisor assists the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MTCI) in developing concrete action plans to make success models for industrial development and taking necessary initiatives for execution of the action plans.

#### The Project for Community-Based Sustainable Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) Phase II

Industrial development through sustainable use of natural resources is one of the key issues when addressing petroleum-reliant economy and accomplishing sustainable economy in Timor-Leste. This project promotes community- based natural resource management (mainly forestry and watershed management) through participatory land use planning. In addition, based on the future land use plan, various micro programs (e.g. conservation agriculture , food processing, etc.) are implemented.



#### Policies and Countermeasures against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishery (Country Focused Training)

Annual economic loss through IUU fishery in Timor-Leste is estimated to be approximately US\$ 40 million. Therefore, it is important to combat IUU fishing in order to achieve sustainable fishery development. Through this training course, government officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) and National Police of Timor-Leste (PNTL) learn Japanese policies and experience related to IUU fishery as well as how to utilize the monitoring system for fishing activities.



### Improvement and Expansion of Social Service Delivery

#### Improvement of Water Supply Management of Bee Timor-Leste

In need of facility operation and maintenance management, tariff collection, and human resource development, JICA supports to improve the organization capacity of BTL with sharing the results of the guidance on 24-hour water supply and operation technology of water purification plant. Additionally, JICA supports to increase water tariff income and strengthen the capacity of water supply through water distribution blocks (hydraulic separation).



#### Rehabilitation and Improvement of Water Supply System

JICA has been supporting the water sector since 2000 through rehabilitation and improvement of Water Supply System including Water Treatment Plants and capacity development of National Directorate for Water Services (DNSA). "Capacity Development for Water Supply System" project was conducted from 2008 until 2010. Water Supply Improvement Advisor has been working with DNSA since 2012 in collaboration with the Chiba Prefecture Waterworks Bureau, Japan.

#### Capacity Development for Legal and Judicial Systems

Previously Capacity Development of Community Policing was implemented between 2013 and 2016. This project included trainings in Japan followed by ones in Indonesia as well as dispatch of short-term Japanese Advisors to Timor-Leste. JICA now provides supports for the process of strengthening legal and judicial systems with the aim of improving governance to ensure social stability and sustainable development.



#### Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS)

Started in 2018, JDS offers scholarships for Master's and PhD degree courses conducted in English language environment at Japanese Universities. By the end of 2021, total of 22 fellows have been sent to Japan and 7 had obtained a Master's degree. JDS fellows will get a special opportunity for directly gaining cutting-edge knowledge in various fields as well as for building a professional network among Japanese and international students from all over the world. JDS is a Grant Aid project mainly for mid-career public officials who are expected to continue contributing and leading social and economic development in Timor-Leste upon return.

# Knowledge Co- Creation Program (KCCP)

The Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP), formerly called the Training Program, is an essential tool of JICA's technical cooperation. It utilizes Japan's knowledge, skills, and development experiences to promote human resource development and to solve development issues in partner countries.

**By inviting officials from developing countries** and with cooperation from domestic partners, the KCCP provides technical knowledge and practical solutions for development issues in participating countries. JICA hosts approximately 11,000 participants every year in cooperation with its 14 domestic offices across Japan.

Up to March 2019, **a total of 2,223** Timorese people have participated in this program held either in Japan or in a third country.

## Timorese JICA Alumni Association (TJAA)

JICA started training programs for Timor-Leste in 2000, and more than a thousand Timorese people have since participated in these programs. Those ex-trainees have formed an association called Timorese JICA Alumni Association (TJAA). The main objectives of this association are: to strengthen the relationship among ex-training participants; to promote and transfer knowledge and skills among all members of the association; and to implement the activities of ex-trainees after returning from training courses.

TJAA is now preparing for the implementation of activities such as seminars, sports activities, training programs and other social activities based on the plan that they have discussed together.



# JICA Partnership Program (JPP)

The JICA Partnership Program (JPP) was introduced in 2002 to support and cooperate with the implementation of projects formulated by **Japanese NGOs, Japanese local governments, and Japanese universities** to utilize their accumulated knowledge and experience in assistance activities for developing countries. JPP is a technical cooperation program implemented by JICA to contribute to the social and economic development of partner countries at the **grass-roots level**.

## The main three goals of JICA Partnership Program (JPP)

1. Meeting the diverse needs of developing countries by utilizing the knowledge and experience of Partners in Japan for international cooperation activities
2. Strengthening collaboration between communities in both developing countries and Japan by promoting the participation of Japanese citizens in international cooperation activities
3. Encouraging local citizens in Japan to employ their knowledge, experience, and technologies for international cooperation activities, which in turn revitalize Japanese communities



# Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV)

JICA's volunteer program supports activities by citizens who wish to cooperate in the economic and social development as well as reconstruction of developing countries. This volunteer program is widely recognized as one of representative programs of Japan's international cooperation and is highly praised by partner countries.

As summarized in the phrase **“together with the local community”**, JOCV live and work together with communities in the country to which they are sent, speak the language of the community and carry out activities with an emphasis on raising self-reliant efforts while fostering mutual understanding.

As of March 2022, 116 volunteers from Japan are dispatched to Timor-Leste for cooperation in the following four areas : Agriculture , Tourism, Health and Social Welfare, and Education and Sports.

Areas and Fields of JOCV programs in Timor-Leste (as of January 2022)

| Areas of Cooperation    | No. of JOCVs | Fields of Cooperation   |   |
|-------------------------|--------------|---|---|
| Agriculture             | 9            | Community Development<br>Marketing  | Horticulture  |
| Tourism                 | 23           | Cooking<br>Ceramics<br>Dress Making<br>Environmental Education<br>Handicrafts                             | Marketing<br>Museology<br>Photography<br>Program Production<br>Tourism                                      |
| Health / Social Welfare | 37           | Assistive Products<br>Community Development<br>Therapy<br>Laboratory Technology<br>Marketing<br>Nutrition | Occupation Therapy<br>Pharmacy<br>Computer Technology<br>Physical<br>Public Health<br>Public Health Nursing |
| Education / Sports      | 31           | Aikido<br>Elementary Education<br>Physical Education  | Soccer<br>Volleyball  |

2019 is the 10th anniversary of dispatching JOCV.  
The 100th volunteer arrived at Timor-Leste in January 2019.



JICA Volunteers  
Timor-Leste



Cumulative Total of JOCV in Timor-Leste (as of March 2020)



# JOCV Activities

Field: Aikido

Host Organization: Police Training Center, Dili

The volunteer loves Aikido so much that he wanted to help people overseas through teaching Aikido. He taught trainees at Police Training Center and more than 50 students from adults to children at private dojo in GMT. The local instructors were also his students. With the volunteer's support and assistance, Aikido club was established in March 2019 and has been run ever since.



Field : Physical Therapy

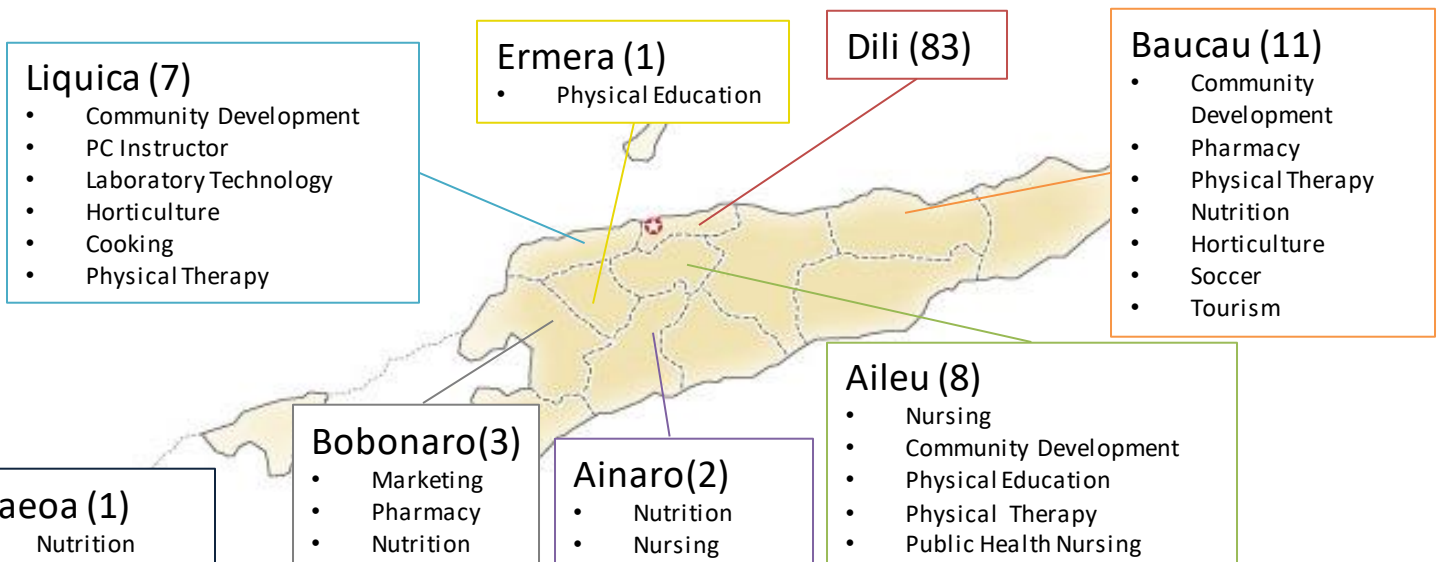
Host Organization: Eduardo Ximenes Regional Hospital, Baucau

The volunteer daily activities were to conduct physiotherapy treatment and to teach home exercise to patients. She also taught elderly people and children in how to exercise to improve quality of life and to promote general well-being. She said, "In our workplace, we always help each other, and we will continue to support each other to contribute to the development of the Health Sector in Timor-Leste".

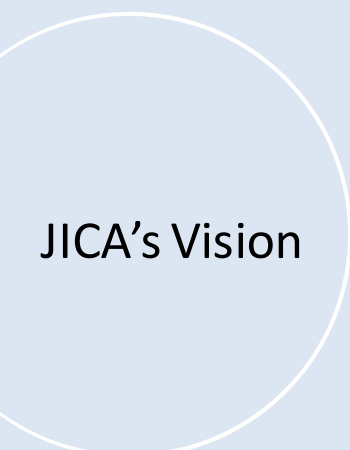
Field: Public Health

Host Organization : Red Cross Timor-Leste, Dili

After graduating from university, the volunteer worked as a nurse at the pediatrics department in a hospital in Japan. Having worked in Youth Department in Red Cross, she promoted inclusive activity in communities, making people aware of disabilities and accept the differences and diversity, including the physical and gender issues. She said, "I not only share my knowledge with local people, but I can also learn by working together with them."



Cumulative Numbers and Activities of JOCVs dispatched in each area (as of March, 2020)



## Mission

JICA, in accordance with the Development Cooperation Charter, will work on human security and quality growth.

## Vision : Leading the world with trust

JICA, with its partners, will take the lead in forging bonds of trust across the world, aspiring for a free, peaceful and prosperous world where people can hope for a better future and explore their diverse potentials.



## Actions

1. **Commitment:** Commit ourselves with pride and passion to achieving our mission and vision
2. **Gemba:** Dive into the field ("gemba") and work together with the people
3. **Strategy:** Think and act strategically with broad and long-term perspectives
4. **Co-creation:** Bring together diverse wisdom and resources
5. **Innovation:** Innovate to bring about unprecedented impacts

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