

Rains bring death, destruction to Timor island

Officer Khalil Mahat of the United Nations Civilian Police (CivPol) was driving to Viqueque from Dili on the night of 11 May when suddenly he discovered that the bridge he was about to cross was no longer there.

"The Four Kilometers bridge, it's simply disappeared!" he yelled into his radio to the CivPol base in Viqueque, referring to the main over-pass leading into town. "I can't see it!"

Like Officer Mahat, who sought shelter in his car to pass the night, thousands of people throughout East Timor had to contend with distressing circumstances because of the collapse of the nation's road network, which has literally been swept away by heavy rains and flash floods.

Given the pivotal role that road transport plays in East Timor, it needs no gainsaying the wider ramifications of the roads' disaster on the country economy and the communities most immediately affected by the destruction.

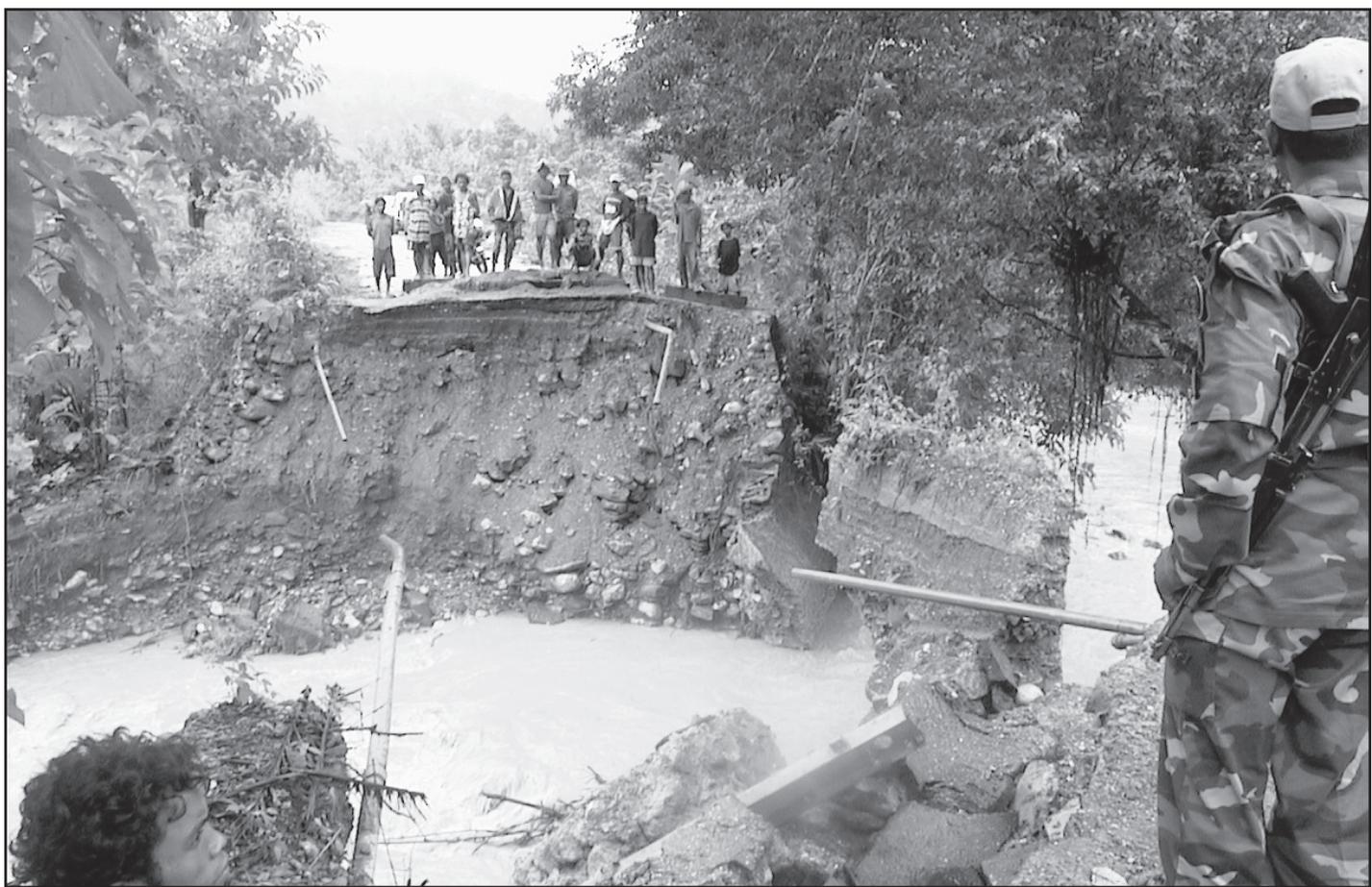
"We have never had this kind of rain in 22 years," said Mateus Soares, an elderly resident of Viqueque, echoing sentiments shared by a number of sources, including the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) which is now coordinating emergency evacuation for flood victims in West Timor (see side bar).

The UN Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) quickly mobilized resources to address the problem. "All the engineering elements of PKF are currently working to rehabilitate the roads," said Col. Imtiaz Ahmed, the Deputy Chief of Staff, Engineering Unit of the UN Peacekeeping Force (UN-PKF).

Sector West, which encompasses the area along the West Timor border and includes Oecussi, is worst affected, Col. Ahmed said. "Los Palos in the East is also cut off," he added. "PKF engineers have already been deployed to Suai, Zumalai, Bobonaro and Maliana, while others will soon go to Ermera and Viqueque."

In fact, the Bangladesh military engineering battalion led by Lt. Col. Arif has already conducted reconnaissance in Viqueque and promises to be on the ground as soon as all the separate parts of the "Bailey bridge" are delivered to the site. (A Bailey bridge is a long-lasting metal bridge that comes in sections and will be built to replace the Four Kilometers crossing.) "Fixing the bridge should not take more than seven days," Lt. Col. Arif said.

Nationwide, 50 roads are said to be in deplorable states and UN officials said they hope that those thoroughfares should benefit from the current emergency rehabilitation plan.



Curious residents of Viqueque stare at the ruins of the Four Kilometres Bridge. The floods washed away the bridge, effectively cutting off District from the rest of the territory. The Bangladesh Peacekeeping engineering battalion, however, is installing a new "Bailey bridge" expected to last nover 50 years. Meanwhile, an Australian construction company undertaking road rehabilitation projects in the region has already established by-pass for the area.

Experts say, however, that the unprecedented rains pose great challenges. "The roads are collapsing badly and will continue to collapse as long as the rainy season lasts," said Diego Zorilla, the Deputy Chief of the UN's Infrastructure Unit. "Weak soil geology, the lack of financing and maintenance, as well as the use of heavy equipment on the roads are all to blame." The last point, he pointed out, was inevitable given the need to transport heavy military and humanitarian supplies across the country.

Mr. Zorilla was cautious not to prescribe an intervention strategy that was neither viable nor sustainable in the long-term. "It is important to ask ourselves whether it's normal to have this situation in East Timor during the rainy season," he said.

On the present rehabilitation work, Mr. Zorilla said the UN would try to attend to the crisis by only carrying out emergency work during the rainy season. "The rest will be done in the dry season," he continued, "but the long-term development strategy should be dictated by the country's economic and manpower potential.

"Adopting Western road standards in East Timor simply cannot work because this would require us to spend much more money than East Timor has the capacity to support," he said.

Tanka Gautam, a Civil Affairs Officer attached to the UNTAET Water Authority, noted that through the Quick Impact Projects

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Dili markets getting much needed facelift

The Dili Central Market was thoroughly destroyed last September but is now alive and bustling. Its myriad vendors - hawking fruit and vegetables and canned goods and beer, clothing and cooking oil - amply demonstrate that the Timor economy is on the rebound.

However, the market itself is currently a place of wretched sanitation where few rules apply. Its vendors, many of whom come from far off districts, vie for the choicest spots in burned out structures and on footpaths and sleep in their stalls overnight to protect their goods and secure their sites. Sellers occupy every inch of ground - even overflowing into surrounding streets, clogging them and often bringing traffic to a standstill.

Officials fear that in its current state the market is ripe for crime and corruption and a breeding ground for social tension. This was given weight by the 30 April incident in which five people were injured during gang clashes in the market area, and by the seizure of numerous weapons during subsequent security sweeps.

But a long-term project is now underway to change all that. It promises to bring some order and efficiency not only to the Central

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Language classes help make communicating easier

For Kenyan Sammy Mwiti, learning Tetun was a matter of survival.

"I was living with a family and I needed to be able to communicate to them," says Mr. Mwiti, who has been in East Timor for ten months and speaks the local language fluently. "I owe my Tetun skills to the children of Viqueque who taught me while we were playing together.

"Speaking Tetun has opened a whole world of opportunities for me and given me the freedom to socialize with people from various backgrounds," he adds.

In East Timor, where currently several languages are spoken, knowing one of them opens doors to new friendship, new cultures.

A number of language courses have sprung up throughout East Timor to facilitate better

communication between Timorese and international staff working in East Timor. students who graduated from Indonesian universities often do not have any knowledge of Portuguese, so they have been taking intensive language courses. "It seems that the courses have received positive responses from the participants," he says. "We had planned for 100 students but more than 300 are listed to attend courses."

As for UNTAET, the first six English language training courses for its Timorese staff started on 15 May at the new UNTAET Language and Training Centre. About 100 participants in the four-week course attend two-hour classes four days a week.

"We designed a course for beginners and intermediates, one for administrative staff and another one specifically for security people," says Michael Emery, Head of the Language Training Unit. He says that many East Timorese have passive knowledge of English, as it was part of the curriculum in East Timor during Indonesian times, but they are not used to speaking actively. "It is a matter of confidence," he notes. Soon, UNTAET will also teach such English language courses in the districts.

At the Civil Service Academy in Comoro, English courses are now being taught by teachers from the Australian group AusAid to civil servants, particularly the East Timorese Border Control officers. "Portuguese classes are also planned to start soon," says Tony Lapsley, Acting Head of the Civil Service Academy.

Timorese have not been the only ones brushing up on their language skills. Many interna-



UNTAET's head of Training, Michael Emery (left), and student Filomena do Rego play a common word game during a beginner's English course.

Photo by OCPH-UNTAET

tionals have also taken advantage of studying Tetun.

Since January, TimorAid has been offering individual and group courses. Seven East Timorese, whose knowledge of English is limited, teach about 60 international students.

"This programme is very successful because finally people realize that they need to learn a language if they want to be able to communicate successfully," says Catharina Maria, the Project Coordinator of the TimorAid courses.

TimorAid has encountered various problems, such as limited room space, lack of transportation at night for its teachers, which is the most popular time for classes; and class interruptions because students are called to work. Despite these difficulties, TimorAid is preparing a second book for the next planned course, as many requests keep pouring in from UNTAET staff working in the districts, UN Civilian Police (CivPol) and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to continue Tetun classes.

Where to find information about courses:

- For the **CNRT Portuguese** course, talk to Antonio Cardoso at the Senior High School SMA II building (behind the former UN compound).
- For **TimorAid's Tetun** courses, call Catharina Maria at +61-(0)407-797-803.
- For Portuguese courses in **specific professional** areas, contact The Instituto Camões, Centro de Língua Portuguesa, Edifício ACAIT, Rua António de Carvalho, no 10-2o, Díli. (Telephone: 0409 03 973 or 0407 966 6154).

communication between Timorese and international staff working in East Timor.

The National Council of Timorese Resistance (CNRT) is coordinating Portuguese classes, offering intensive and repetition courses. Teachers who were recruited from Portugal on a voluntary basis currently teach about 60 students in individual and group classes.

According to Antonio Cardoso, the organizer of the Portuguese courses, East Timorese stu-



Photo by UN Military Observer

Remnant of the Hatimuk Bridge in Belu District, West Timor, after heavy rains washed away roads and flooded homes. One hundred twenty-seven people — mostly East Timorese women and children living in refugee camps in West Timor — died as a result of the storm. In East Timor, transport was cut off to Viqueque and other districts suffered extensive damage.

Torrential rains on the border with West Timor have caused tremendous devastation and precipitated a significant humanitarian crisis. The deluge, accelerating on May 12 and lasting a couple of days, left in its wake 127 confirmed deaths and 37 people reported missing. All casualties occurred in West Timor. Most of the dead and missing were women and children.

The figures for the number of people displaced by the rain varied. A local government official in the border town of Atambua was quoted as saying that as many as 10,000 people had lost their homes.

Independent sources, including the media and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) pointed out that the figure should be much higher, probably closer to 20,000. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said the floods have directly affected a total of 57,000.

A majority of the victims, mainly East Timorese refugees living across the western border, perished on Tuesday, 16 May, when the nearby Benenai River in Betun burst its banks, razing houses and farmlands of the trapped population living in makeshift camps. Tree stumps and washed out vegetation cover exacerbated the destruction by clogging bridges spanning the river, thereafter breaking loose into formidable flash floods.

The emergency rescue operation was hailed a success. It was a concerted effort involving the Government of Indonesia working in close collaboration with the UN Civilian Police (CivPol) and Peacekeeping Forces (UN-PKF), as well as UNHCR, other UN agencies and NGOs. However, reports said the intervention effort was bogged down by communication problems. With bridges missing and floodwaters remaining high, access to the needy proved extremely problematic.

Rain...continued from page 1

(QIPs) substantial progress has been made on the roads, targeting debris clearance, improving drainage and grass cutting, among a host of other labour-intensive tasks.

As well, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), which is sponsoring the Transitional Employment Projects (TEPs), is providing US\$100,000 per district, much of it targeted at labour-intensive road repair and improvement.

Ultimately it will take a major rehabilitation effort to get the nation's roads back in decent shape. "The first phase of the project starts in early June," Gautam noted, referring to a US\$29.8 million Asian Development Bank (ADB) project that would target five zones in the country to rehabilitate infrastructure, including roads and port systems.

At the same time, an ambitious infrastructure project sponsored by the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) will focus on roads and bridges, among other things. JICA has been a major player in creating jobs through QIPs, employing well over 13,000 Timorese daily during the projects' peak.

"We are carrying out the initial surveys for the project," said Yukihiko Ejiri, JICA's East Timor Resident Representative. "This is expected to end in July when we formulate the rehabilitation programme for the next three years."

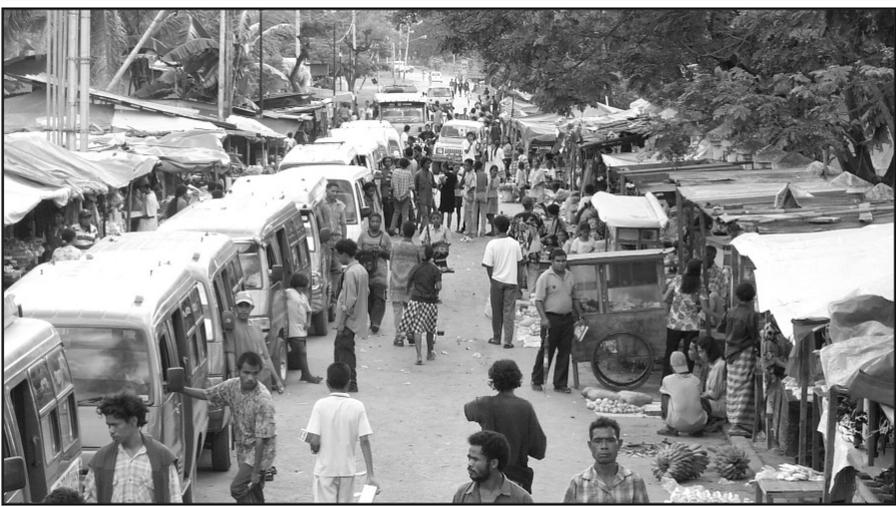


Photo by OCPI-UNTAET

UN and aid agency officials hope renovation of the Becora and Comoro markets will help alleviate some of the overcrowding at the Dili Central Market.

market story...continued from page 1

Market but to those in Becora and Comoro and several smaller ones as well. Known as the Dili Market System Rehabilitation Programme, it is a comprehensive plan to renovate the markets and to establish market management committees at the markets. These committees would help develop ways in which space for the sellers is rented on a fair and equitable basis and to ensure that produce is kept at reasonable prices. The committees will also stay on top of routine services, making sure that water and electricity is supplied and that market areas get cleaned and rubbish removed.

The project was the idea of the Dili District Subcommittee on Markets and Cooperatives, which meets weekly and includes long-time sellers, the CNRT and UNTAET officials. They turned to the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to fund the initial stages of the project. JICA in turn enlisted the help of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), a Japanese non-governmental organization (NGO) working in East Timor.

Phase one of the programme started in mid-May when the Dili District Administration enlisted the help of engineers from the Bangladeshi and Portuguese contingents of the UN Peacekeeping Force (UNPKF). They were tasked with demolishing all remaining structures and the foundations in the two huge, and heavily destroyed, market areas of Becora and Comoro.

At the Comoro market alone 40 Bangladeshi engineers spent five days taking down the structures. "We brought in stone

crushers, a bulldozer and a road grader and lots of large dump trucks," said Lt. Col. Arif of the Bangladeshi engineering battalion. After carting away 150 truckloads of rubble, the three-hectare market space was completely clear and made ready for a new foundation and market structures to be built.

Already, at both Becora and Comoro, the reconstruction process is well underway, with the market foundation being

reinforced and large, modern toilet facilities being built by a local contractor using Timorese labor. One small setback occurred at Comoro when thieves made off with some new tiles and roofing for the toilets, but the local community promptly stepped in, providing security to protect their future market.

Over the next four months, Timorese contractors are expected to build numerous modern market buildings and sales stalls — even tiled areas where vendors can sell fish, meat and poultry in sanitary conditions. Tenders went out for the work in late May.

The Dili Market Committee is hopeful that as the Comoro and Becora markets near completion, their much improved and more secure conditions will act as a magnet, drawing sellers away from the overcrowded Central Market. They are also planning to renovate three smaller markets in the Dili area as added incentive for vendors to at least temporarily leave the chaos of the Central Market.

A key component of the overall rehabilitation plan is to create a market cooperative management system. During the last 24 years, more than 90 per cent of businesses in the main markets were owned by Indonesians. Out of 200 management staff, only 15 were Timorese. Today the challenge is to help the Timorese manage their own stalls and their own market system. Local committees are already established at Becora and Comoro and several other small Dili markets.

One big challenge is to begin bringing some order to the Central Market chaos. Officials are planning to move many of the vendors who clog the edges of the market at least temporarily

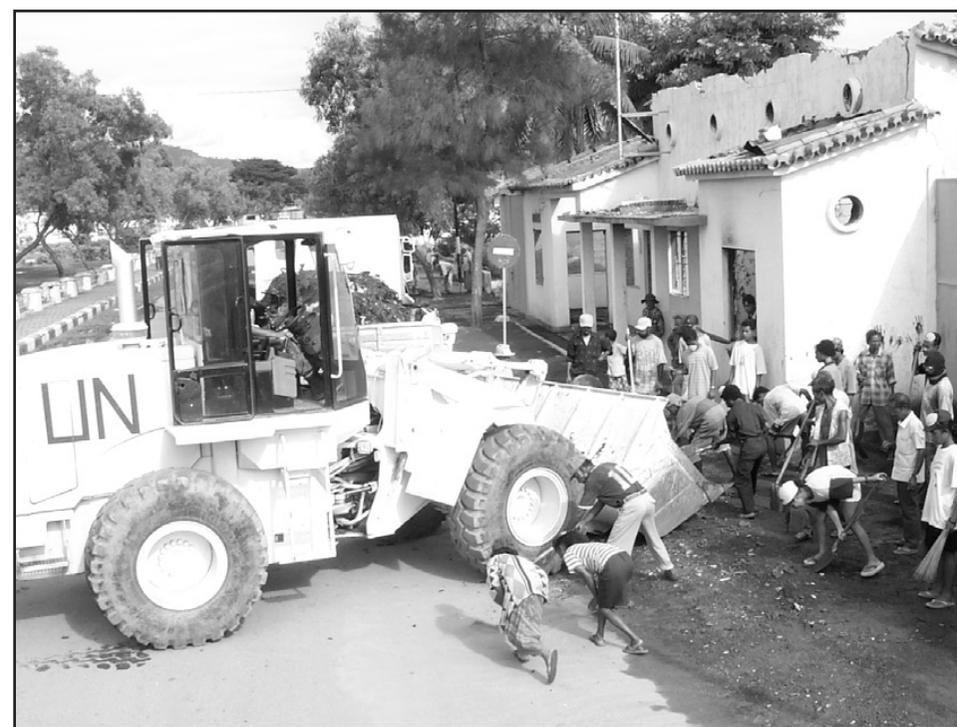
into interior sections where there is available space, and to begin a major clean-up of the entire market. It's essential that this clean-up process take place. It's all part of a scheme to make the Central Market a more inviting and secure place for Timorese and internationals alike, many of whom currently avoid venturing into the middle sections because of fear of crime and the general uncleanliness.

The final phase, of course, is to begin a major renovation of the Central Market itself. This would include temporarily closing it, shoring up the foundation, which has experienced significant sinking, and then renovating and rebuilding all market structures and stalls. Stage one of the final phase of the Dili Market Rehabilitation Programme, is already underway — that is a search for an international donor to underwrite the project costs. In the long-run, however, the Dili Administration will establish a fund for all the Dili markets, the money coming from government taxes on purchases and registering and rental costs from traders.

Cleaning up the rubble of the huge Comoro Market was light work for the Bangladeshi Engineering Battalion, commanded by Col. Faruque. The 531-man battalion "was hand-picked for its expertise in things like structural and foundation design," says one of the Company commanders, Lt. Col. Arif, who himself served in the UN Peacekeeping Mission in Cambodia. "We're capable of repairing and stabilizing just about anything," he boasts.

Their specialty, according to Lt. Col. Arif, is "vertical" and "horizontal" engineering feats — constructing and working on tall structures, and spanning the wide ones. In East Timor these days, following massive rain storms and flooding, that means mostly replacing bridges and roads that have been washed away.

The Bangladeshi engineers, who deployed to East Timor in February and work out of a former convention center on the road to Tibar, west of Dili, do most of their work in Liquica, Ermera, Baucau and Oecussi Districts, as well as around Dili. But they were called in after the major bridge collapse that closed down traffic in and out of Viqueque on 11 May. Now they are working full time to construct a Bailey bridge so that humanitarian and commercial traffic can once again move in and out of that isolated city.



Photos by OCPI-UNTAET



THE CLEAN TEAM — With masks for protection from the dust and with the aid of heavy equipment from the Bangladeshi and Portuguese UN Peacekeepers, Dili residents were working full time the last week of May to clean up rubble and debris off the sidewalks and streets of the capital.

Please Post in Visible Spot in Your Community — at the School, the Church, the Hospital, the Market, or Anywhere People Congregate

Don't Be at a Loss for Words in

There is, perhaps, no moment when it is more urgent to communicate effectively than when one has a health problem and is in need of medical assistance. "Thank God I have my health!" It's an old expression that sums up the paramount value of good health. As the second in a series of useful lan-

Tetun English

Ha'u hakarak hetan tulun mediku lalais
 Hau sente moras
 Ita boot sente moras oinsa?
 Hospital/klinika iha nebe?
 Hakarak hau bolu doutor ka?
 Hau nia ulun/kabun moras
 Hau dada iis ladun diak
 Hau sente moras iha hirus matan
 Ita boot sente isin manas?
 Ita boot muta beibeik?
 Hau sente oin nakukun
 Ita boot sente laran sa'e?
 Hau nia nehan moras
 Hahu moras horibainhira?
 Hau sente moras semana ida ona
 Labele hanoin barak ita tenke kalma
 Klinika ida nee iha doutor?
 Agora hau sente diak liu tan
 Hau sente aat liu tan
 Favor ida ita prenze reseita ne'e ba hau
 Hau sei sona/fo injasaun ba ita boot
 Hau tenke hasai nehan ne'e
 Ne'e moras?
 Hau nia isin rua
 Ita boot isin rua?
 Ita boot hemu aimoruk ruma ona?
 Hau iha moras fuan
 Hau moras asmha/malaria
 Hau moras diabetik
 Ita moras malaria ka dengue dala ruma ona?
 Ita boot hemu aimoruk malaria ruma?
 Ita boot presiza ba ospital
 Hau iha problema isin katar
 Ita boot me'ar?
 Hau me'ar ran
 Ita boot kosar bainhira toba?
 Ita tafui me'ar tasak bainhira ita boot me'ar?
 Ita boot nia me'ar tasak akompanha ho ran ka?
 Ita boot hemu aimoruk tradisional ruma?
 Ita boot hetan isin manas no malirin?

I need immediate medical assistance
 I feel sick/ill
 What are your symptoms?
 Where is the hospital/clinic?
 Do you want me to call a doctor?
 I have a head/stomach ache
 I am having trouble breathing
 I have chest pain
 Do you have a fever?
 Have you been vomiting?
 I feel dizzy
 Do you feel nauseous?
 I have a toothache
 When did the pain start?
 I have had pain for a week
 Try to stay calm
 Does the clinic have a doctor?
 I feel better now
 I feel worse
 Please fill this prescription for me
 I will give you an injection
 I must pull out that tooth
 Does that hurt?
 I am pregnant /
 Are you expecting a baby?
 Are you taking any medication?
 I have a heart condition
 I am suffering from asthma/malaria
 I am a diabetic
 Have you ever had malaria or dengue?
 Do you take malaria pills?
 You need to go to the hospital
 I have an itching problem
 Are you coughing?
 I am coughing blood
 Do you have night sweats?
 Do you produce mucus when you cough?
 Do your sputum(mucus) contain blood?
 Are you taking any traditional treatment?
 Do you get fever and chills?



a Health or Medical Emergency

guage phrases and expressions, Tais Timor offers here a listing, in four languages, of key phrases regarding health and medical concerns. Take some time to learn them, post them at schools, clinics and other sites. At some point, knowing them may prove invaluable to your well-being, or that of others.

Portuguese Indonesian

Preciso de assistência médica com urgência	Saya membutuhkan bantuan medis secepatnya
Estou-me a sentir mal/doente	Saya merasa sakit
Quais são os sintomas?	Bagaimana gejala sakit anda
Onde é o hospital/clínica?	Dimana rumah sakit/klinik
Quer que eu chame um médico?	Anda mau saya panggil dokter
Tenho uma dor-de-cabeça/estômago	Saya merasa kepala/perut sakit
Não consigo respirar	Saya susah bernafas
Tenho dores no peito	Saya merasa sakit di dada
Tem febre?	Anda merasa badan panas
Tem vomitado?	Anda merasa mual dan munta
Estou com tonturas	Saya merasa pusing
Sente náusea?	Saya merasa mual
Tenho dor-de-dentes	Gigi saya sakit
Quando é que a dor começou?	Kapan anda merasa gigi anda sakit?
Tenho dores há uma semana	Saya merasa sakit sudah satu minggu
Tente acalmar-se	Jangan banyak pikiran, harus sabar
Esta clínica tem médicos?	Apakah di klinik ini ada dokter?
Já me sinto melhor	Sekarang saya sudah merasa lebih baik
Sinto-me pior	Saya merasa lebih buruk
Por favor, pode preencher esta receita	Mohon anda memberikan resep obat ini kepada saya
Vou dar-lhe uma injeção	Saya akan menyuntik anda
Tenho que arrancar esse dente	Saya akan mencabut keluar gigi itu
Esta a doer?	Sakit?/Anda merasa sakit?
Estou grávida	Saya hamil/Saya sudah hamil
Está à espera de bebé?	Apakah anda sedang hamil?
Está a tomar algum remédio?	Apakah anda sudah melakukan pemeriksaan?
Tenho uma doença cardíaca	Saya menderita penyakit jantung
Eu sofro de asma/malária	Saya menderita penyakit asma/malaria
Sou diabético	Saya penderita diabetes
Alguma vez teve malária ou dengue?	Apakah anda menderita malaria atau demam berdarah?
Está a tomar remédios contra a malária?	Apakah anda sudah minum obat malaria?
Precisa de ir para o hospital	Anda perlu pergi ke rumah sakit
Estou com comichão	Saya ada penyakit kulit (gatal).
Tem tosse?	Apakah anda batuk?
Estou a tossir sangue	Saya menderita batuk berdarah
Sua muito à noite?	Apakah anda berkeringat waktu tidur?
Tem expecturação quando tosse?	Apakah anda mengeluarkan lendir ketika batuk?
A expecturação tem sangue?	Apakah lendir anda disertai darah?
Está a tomar algum remédio tradicional?	Apakah anda sedang menjalani pengobatan tradisional?
Sente febre ou calafrios?	Apakah anda menderita penyakit panas dan mengigil?

Drawings by student artists with the UNTAET/Community Empowerment Project Workshop

News Briefs

East Timor reconstruction conference: A conference on East Timor reconstruction will be held in Tibar, outside Dili, from 30 May to 2 June.

According to the conference spokesperson, Milena Pires, the conference, which is sponsored by CNRT, will be on "Reconstructing East Timor: Analysis of the Past and Perspectives for the Future".

Ms. Pires said that, "the recognition and acceptance by Timorese of the important challenges ahead need to establish the close understanding and the aspiration of the people is fundamental to participatory democracy."

CNRT President Xanana Gusmão will open the conference, while Vice President Jose Ramos Horta will address East Timor's transition to a sovereign nation where he will indicate East Timor's progress on the world stage. Transitional Administrator Sergio Vieira de Mello will review East Timor's domestic progress.

Falintil to help UN Peacekeepers: To build future collaboration between the Falintil and the UN Peacekeeping Force (UN-PKF), four members of Falintil started serving as liaison officers at the end of May. Each of the officers is armed with a pistol. One is posted in UN-PKF Headquarter in Dili, while the other three are in UN-PKF command zones.

Journalists at NCC meetings: For the first time, journalists were invited to attend the first part of a meeting of the National Consultative Council (NCC) where UNTAET briefed members on current issues, such as the Civil Service, the reconstruction program, judicial affairs and prisons.

Australia concerned over Timor illnesses: The Australian Federal Police Association is concerned about the wide array of illnesses affecting officers who served in East Timor, according to a report by the British Broadcasting Corporation. Up to an estimated 40 per cent of those who serve in East Timor could be suffering illnesses as well as malaria, dengue fever and post traumatic stress syndrome.

Bishop visits Republic of Korea: Bishop Carlos Filipe Ximenes Belo went to the Republic of Korea on 16 May to participate in an international conference commemorating the 20th anniversary of the democratic uprising in Kwangju.

Bishop Belo then gave a closing speech the next day on "the direction of the human rights movement in the third millennium." Before leaving for Taiwan on 18 May, the Bishop also gave a special lecture in Kwangju and met President Kim.

August trial for Suharto: Former Indonesian President Suharto, who is suspected of embezzling millions of dollars during his 32 years in power, is expected to be brought to trial in August, the country's top prosecutor said on 19 May.

Attorney General Marzuki Darusman also warned that the government would end the massive police presence if the former president's family started cooperating with investigators.

In a related development, thousands of demonstrators demanding Suharto be brought to trial ended in a riot near the downtown villa. Mr. Darusman said in a press conference that, "Suharto's case will be brought to court before August 10," but President Abdurrahmann Wahid had also instructed Mr. Darusman to make clear to the family that the government had no obligation to guarantee their safety.

District News Round-up

Aileu: The District Administration has launched the so-called combined Law and Community Development workshops as a means of "initiating participatory discussions with specific interest groups and communities on the rule of law and social order as pre-conditions to participatory, bottom-up and community-driven development."

Ermera: There is what seems to be literally a storm in a coffee cup in Ermera following the imposition of a 5 per cent export tax on coffee beans. Farmers attribute the declining value of their product to the levy. However, global coffee prices have been plunging, a situation linked to myriad variables, among them the proliferation of cheaper products on the international beverages market. UNTAET District officials have called for a consensus over the issue, urging that the tax question be reconsidered.

Lautem: The devastating effects of the recent flash floods in the country put the safety of many people in jeopardy. Seventeen major roads in the District were damaged and access to District headquarters was impossible via road transport, placing severe limitations on the delivery of social services like health.

A similar situation exists in Ainaro where many road surfaces have been scooped off, leaving a treacherous passage that hangs precariously on the precipice. Suai, Lospalos and Oecussi have also experienced acute deterioration of roads.

However, an emergency roads rehabilitation program is underway to improve road conditions within East Timor.

Same: A vaccination campaign against polio, measles and DPT (diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough) had benefited well over 200 children by the middle of May. Conducted by Nurse Julio Mendonca, the program extended to the sub-districts of Letefoho, Holarua, Betano, Daisua, Same, Tutulru, Maniko and Grotu.

The polio vaccination is an oral vaccination, administered once a month over a period of four months while DPT is an intra-muscular injection administered once a month for a period of three months. The measles vaccination is an injection administered once only to children above the age of nine months.

Viqueque: The World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed that two recent deaths were linked to the deadly Japanese encephalitis virus. Fearing the outbreak of an epidemic, WHO, in collaboration with UNTAET, CNRT community leaders and the Church have been conducting awareness campaigns throughout the District. MSF-France, the only medical non-governmental organization operating in the region has been treating the sick and playing a major role in the awareness programme.

Preventive measures advocated by medical experts include cleaning up the environment to minimize damp conditions where the vector thrives. "We are advising people to clean up the drainage systems near their homes and clear the stagnant waters because they provide breeding grounds for the disease causing organism," said Shafiqur Rahman, a Social Affairs Officer (Health) based in Viqueque. Isolating pigs from human beings is also recommended because it has been proven that the encephalitis-carrying mosquito is likely to bite unsuspecting victims after carrying the germs from infected pigs.

The virtual breakdown of the road transport network in Viqueque has cut off many residents from basic social services, including health, raising fears that an epidemic outbreak such as Japanese encephalitis would pose critical humanitarian challenges. However Mr. Rahman said that the situation was under control, allaying doubts about an emergency scenario.



Graphic arts got a warm reception at the new Cultural Centre and Museum on 20 May as East Timorese artists exhibited the fruits of their work after attending a two-week training workshop in design and visual aids for community development.

The workshop is part of the ongoing Community Empowerment Project to develop local artists and cultural workers.

Photos by UNTAET-OOPi



**RADIO
UNTAET
99FM**

For the latest news and information about East Timor, tune in to Radio UNTAET.

- News at 6 am, 1pm, 6pm
- Halibur ba Loron Foun / The New Day Program (live) 6-7pm, Monday to Friday
- Radio UNTAET programs at 6-7am, 1-2pm everyday with Timorese, English, Portuguese and World Music



Olé! European Cup final set to be an all-Spanish affair

Real Madrid will be facing Spanish cohorts Valencia in an all-Spanish final despite losing 2:1 to Bayern Munich because of an away goal scored in the away game in Munich Olympic Stadion.

According to FIFA rules Real Madrid's away goal gave them three goals in all, one better than Bayern Munich. For rookie coaches Del Basque of Real Madrid and Hector Raul Cuper of Valencia, it's a great end to their first year at the helm of both clubs, taking the two clubs to the finals of the top European clubs final on 20 May in Paris.

Galatasaray writes new chapter in Turkey's football history while fans clash in Copenhagen

Galatasaray made history by becoming the first Turkish club to win one of the European club competitions, coming through in a penalty kick shootout to capture the UEFA Cup after playing to a scoreless tie with Arsenal.

In the penalty shootout, Davor Suker and Patrick Vieira failed to cash in on their opportunities to give Arsenal a second title like they did before when the Gunners beat Parma in the 1994 Cup Winner Cup.

Former Brazilian goalkeeper Claudio Taffarel, who was "the man of the match," made several important saves during the match on scoring chances by Marc Over Mars and Thierry Henry of Arsenal. Hakan Sukur, George Hagi and Popescu also created a lot of important chances for Galatasaray but were turned away by Arsenal goalie David Seaman.

On 17 May there was a clash between the fans of the two clubs in Copenhagen which left another two fans stabbed, one from each side.

European Football League Standings

Italian Serie A

Team	GP	W	L	D	Pts
xLazio	34	20	4	9	72
Juventus	34	20	5	8	71
AC Milan	34	16	5	13	61
Inter Milan	34	17	10	7	58
Parma	34	16	8	10	58

x denotes League Champion

May 14 games: Lazio 3, Reggina 0; Juventus 0, Perugia 1; AC Milan 4, Udinese 0; Parma 4, Lecce 1; Cagliari 0, Inter Milan 2; Fiorentina 3, Venezia 0; Verona 2, AS Roma 2; Bari 1, Bologna 1; Torino 2, Piacenza 1

English Premier League

Team	GP	W	L	D	Pts
xMan.United	38	28	3	7	91
Arsenal	38	22	9	7	73
Leeds Unit	38	21	11	6	69
Liverpool	38	19	9	10	67
Chelsea	36	18	9	11	65

x denotes League Champion

May 2 & 14 games: Arsenal 2, West Ham United 1; Middlesbrough 2, Newcastle 2; Bradford 1, Liverpool 0; Southampton 2, Wimbledon 0; Aston Villa 0, Man United 2; West Ham United 0, Leeds United 0; Newcastle 4, Arsenal 2; Chelsea 4, Derby County 0; Everton 0, Middlesbrough 2; Sheffield Wednesday 4, Leicester 0; Tottenham Hotspur 3, Sunderland 1; Watford 1, Coventry 0

Spanish First Division

Team	GP	W	L	D	Pts
xDeportivo C	38	21	11	6	69
Barcelona	38	20	12	6	66
Real Zarag	37	16	6	15	63
Real Madrid	37	16	8	14	62
Valencia	37	17	10	10	61

x denotes League Champion

May 13 & 14 games: Atletico Madrid 1, Sevilla 1; Real Betis 0, Real Madrid 2; Real Zaragoza 3, Malaga 2; Real Sociedad 0, Barcelona 0; Racing Santander 0, Deportivo Coruna 0; Valladolid 2, Mallorca 1; Celta Vigo 0, Valencia 0; Alaves 2, Numancia 2; Espanyol 0, Athletic Bilbao 0; Rayo Vallecano 1, Oviedo 2

Dutch League

Team	GP	W	L	D	Pts
xPSV	32	25	4	3	78
Heerenveen	32	21	8	3	66
Feyenoord	32	17	6	9	60
Vetesse Arnhem	32	17	7	8	59
Ajax Amst	32	17	8	7	58

x denotes League Champion

April 30 games: PSV 7, RKC 1; Vitesse 3, Ajax 0; Feyenoord 5, AZ 3; Cambuur 0, Heerenveen 2; MVV 2, NEC 0; De Graafschap 2, Sparta 3; Den Bosch 0, Fortuna 2; FC Utrecht 1, Willem II 1; Roda JC 3, Twente Enschede 2

French League

Team	GP	W	L	D	Pts
xMonaco	34	20	9	5	65
Paris S-G	34	16	8	10	58
Lyon	34	16	10	8	56
Bordeux	34	15	10	9	54
Lens	34	14	13	7	49

x denotes League Champion

German Bundesliga

Team	GP	W	L	D	Pts
xBayern Munich	34	22	5	7	73
Bayer Leverkusen	34	21	3	10	73
Hamburger SV	33	16	7	10	58
TSV 1860 Munich	33	14	9	10	52
Hertha Berlin	32	13	9	11	50

x denotes League Champion

May 13 games: SSV Ulm 2, VfL Wolfsburg 0; Bayer Leverkusen 4, Eintracht Frankfurt 1; Arminia Bielefeld 0, Bayern Munich 3; Borussia Dortmund 1, Schalke 04 1; SC Freiburg 2, Kaiserslautern 1; TSV 1860 Munich 2, Hertha Berlin 1; Hamburg SV 3, Unteraching 0; Hansa Rostock 1, VfB Stuttgart 4; Werder Bremen 4, MSV Duisburg 0

Portuguese League

Team	GP	W	D	L	Pts
Sporting	30	20	8	2	68
FC Porto	30	20	6	4	66
Benfica	30	18	6	6	60
Gil Vicente	30	13	9	8	48
Guimaraes	30	14	5	11	47

Tiu answers questions about... East Timor's official language

Dear readers, it seems like everywhere I go now, people keep asking, "Tiu, what's the official language going to be in Timor Lorosa'e?" They still seem quite confused as to whether it will be Tetun, Portuguese or Indonesian.

Just yesterday, three young Timorese friends stopped by looking for answers. Let's listen in:

Sico: Bondia Tiu, Diak ka la'e (how are you)?

Tiu: Di'ak (good), but how are you my friends? I haven't seen you with such long faces in some time. How come?

Sico: It's just that we're a bit upset about all this uncertainty as to what language we are going to speak. You know it's a very sensitive issue for the people of Timor Lorosa'e at the moment.

Tiu: You're certainly right, but tell me what you're thinking, and I'll see if I can help you.

Sico: Tiu, you know there've been all these rumors swirling around about the official language. It's going to be Portuguese or Tetun. It might even be Indonesian. Clear up the confusion, Tiu, what's it going to be?

Tiu: Well, it is confusing. But what I can tell you is that Xanana Gusmao, the CNRT president, has addressed the issue on a number of occasions in press conferences and the like. In fact, I was at a town meeting in Baucau recently when he was asked by a priest if there would be a vote to decide the country's official language.

Antoneta: What did he say?

Tiu: He said that Portuguese was going to be the official language and that it was a

political decision. Xanana added, of course, that Tetun is our mother tongue. It's just that Tetun is not yet developed enough to be the official language. You know, it currently doesn't have a lot of technical and scientific terms. And, Antoneta, there just aren't a lot of books available in Tetun. But Xanana also said that if Tetun really develops as a language in the next decade, then there's the real possibility that it would be adopted as the official language of Timor Lorosa'e.

Domingas: Who ultimately decides on which language we use?

Tiu: It hasn't been formally decided yet because it's a very sensitive and difficult decision. But as I told you, for the interim, until we have an independent government, Xanana, as the President of the CNRT has indicated that the official language is Portuguese. Eventually, perhaps, representatives of all the different Timorese groups and political parties will hold a national meeting to debate the merits of each language — why it should be Portuguese or Tetun — or even Indonesian, for that matter.

It's interesting, Domingas, even when the President of Portugal, Jorge Sampaio, was here he said "it is a big decision to decide that Portuguese should be the official language, but it is also important that the decision be made by the people."

Sica: You think he's right, Tiu?

Tiu: Absolutely. You know the country now has lots of East Timorese who are Indonesian university graduates. They feel the Indonesian language is important. They're comfortable with it. And lots of peo-

ple want Tetun, even with its limitations, because it's the dominant national language. There are even people who think it should be English given that it is the language of international commerce.

Sico: Tiu, is there any on-going discussion on the official language?

Tiu: Well, recently there was a language conference run by a local NGO called Fundasaun Naroman with the cooperation of IMPETTU. The conference was called "The Official Language for the New Timor Lorosa'e." As you might expect, there was both criticism and support for Portuguese, as there was for Tetun. It was also suggested that the Portuguese language be the temporary official language until Tetun is ready to be adopted as the official language. And then, of course, there was a suggestion to retain the Indonesian language as the official language since so many people in East Timor speak it, and a proposal that a national vote ultimately determine the language.

Sico: So much opinion, so little decision, eh Tiu?

Tiu: True enough my friend, but remember, I haven't told you anything more about the official language than that Xanana thinks it should be Portuguese in the interim, as, by the way, did the Fretilin national congress recently. But the National Consultative Council (NCC), the highest decision-making body in East Timor, hasn't even taken a decision yet on the question, so don't go spreading rumors.

Sico: Okay, Tiu, that's wise advice and thanks for the help on clearing things up.

Tiu: Adeus, and I look forward to chatting with you guys again soon, and, hopefully, it'll be in the official language of Timor Lorosa'e, whatever that turns out to be.



Photos by OCPI-UNTAET



East Timorese Prison Staff in Training

Prisons at Becora and Gleno are now renovated and operating, and a vigorous training program is underway to train prison officers. On 18 May, six prison officers on loan from the New Zealand Corrections Department began a one-week training course for 26 new Timorese at Becora prison in Dili. All officers will continue to get four hours of additional training per week while on the job. Mark Fletcher, a prison officer with the New Zealand training group teaches control and restraint measures (above) to East Timorese newest prison staff. Six other New Zealanders are scheduled to train East Timorese in Baucau.



The name Tais Timor conjures the image of the careful, time-honoured process that goes into making the traditional Timorese cloth used in all important life events. As the different "ingredients" that make up East Timor come together during the transitional period to rebuild the country, Tais Timor aims to record and reflect those events that weave the beautiful tapestry that is Timor Lorosa'e.

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