



Activity Report

Security Education Activities in Bobonaro and Covalima Municipalities

Reporting Period: 1 October – 30 November 2024

Hali ba Dame [HABADA]

Monitorizasaun no Advokasia ba Seguransa Komunitária

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Executive Summary

The Community Security Monitoring and Advocacy Project was implemented by the NGO HABADA during a two-month period (October–November 2024) in Bobonaro and Covalima municipalities. The project’s objective is to strengthen community participation as a vital strategy to address local security challenges, including communal conflict, violence involving martial arts groups, and limited coordination between local authorities and the community. To encourage collaboration, the project seeks to promote peace and stability in these regions.

Key Aspects of the Project

1. Type:
A combination of monitoring and advocacy activities designed to assess and address community security needs, while also raising awareness of the roles of key stakeholders, including local leaders, law enforcement, and community members.
2. Objective:
To encourage active community participation in security measures, strengthen collaboration with authorities, and promote conflict prevention in order to create a stable and peaceful environment.
3. Locations:
The project was carried out in Holsa and Balibo Vila (Bobonaro), and Lalawa and Debos (Covalima), focusing on areas that have historically been affected by violence and where police resources are limited.
4. Duration and Budget:
The initiative lasted for two months, with a budget of USD 8,940, covering logistics, training materials, facilitation, and support for field teams.

Activities and Results

1. Monitoring
On 21 October 2024, a report was published to assess the proposed 2025 State Budget allocation for the National Police of Timor-Leste (PNTL). The monitoring emphasized transparency and encouraged informed debate regarding public security budgeting.
2. Advocacy and Security Education
A total of 189 participants (104 men and 85 women) took part in workshops that addressed community-police collaboration, conflict resolution, and crime prevention. These activities helped to strengthen relationships between the police and communities through active dialogue and advocacy.

Results

1. Enhanced Collaboration:
Participants reported increased trust in law enforcement and a clearer understanding of their shared responsibilities in maintaining public security.
2. Case Studies:
Examples include community members in Lalawa proactively reporting suspicious

activities, and local authorities in Holsa initiating conflict resolution programs to reduce violence.

3. **Gender Inclusivity:**
Efforts to involve women successfully strengthened their participation and influence in community security discussions.

Challenges and Solutions

1. **Logistical Issues:**
Transportation difficulties faced by rural participants were addressed through community partnerships that provided shared transport solutions.
2. **Cultural Barriers:**
Resistance to collaboration with the police and the limited participation of women were overcome by engaging trusted local leaders and applying gender-sensitive approaches.
3. **Resource Constraints:**
Budget limitations were mitigated by using cost-effective dissemination methods, such as local radio broadcasts.

Lessons Learned

1. **Flexible Scheduling and Localized Planning:**
Adapting schedules and tailoring plans to local contexts helps maximize participation in rural areas.
2. **Inclusive Strategies:**
Approaches such as empowering women and building trust between police and communities are essential for achieving long-term success.
3. **Community-Driven Approaches:**
Dissemination and initiatives led by the community can generate significant impact, even within financial limitations.

Recommendations

1. **Strengthen Partnerships:**
Enhance collaboration between local authorities, communities, and law enforcement agencies.
2. **Promote Gender-Inclusive Initiatives:**
Expand programs focused on gender and provide training for community leaders.
3. **Scale and Adapt the Program:**
Extend the initiative to new regions facing similar challenges, adapting strategies to the local context.
4. **Ensure Sustainable Funding:**
Develop long-term financing mechanisms and integrate community security into municipal development plans.

This project demonstrates that a collaborative, community-led approach to security effectively promotes peace, reduces violence, and provides a strong foundation for future initiatives.

Introduction

The *Community Security Monitoring and Advocacy Project* is a two-month initiative implemented by the NGO HABADA in the municipalities of Bobonaro and Covalima. The project focuses on enhancing community participation as a key strategy to promote peace and stability in these regions, which face challenges such as communal conflicts, violence involving martial arts groups, and limited coordination between local authorities and communities.

Key Aspects of the Project

- **Project Type:**
This initiative combines monitoring and advocacy activities to assess and address community security needs, while raising awareness of the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders, including local leaders, law enforcement, and community members.
- **Objective:**
The primary objective is to ensure that communities actively participate in security measures and collaborate with authorities to address risks and prevent conflicts, thereby promoting a stable and peaceful environment.
- **Locations:**
The project is implemented in two municipalities:
 - Bobonaro: including sub-districts such as Maliana and Balibo
 - Covalima: covering sub-districts such as Suai and Tilomar

These areas were selected based on their historical security challenges, including martial arts group violence and limited local police resources.

- **Duration:**
The project runs over a two-month period, from October to November 2024, and consists of field activities and active stakeholder engagement.
- **Budget:**
The total project budget is USD 8,940, covering expenses such as logistics, educational materials, facilitation, and field operations.

Activity

1. Monitoring

On 21 October 2024, a monitoring report was published focusing on the submission of the 2025 State Budget Proposal to the National Parliament's Budget Committee. The report specifically assessed the resources allocated to the National Police of Timor-Leste (PNTL), addressing issues such as budgetary needs, strategic priorities, and implications for both national and community security. This activity aimed to enhance transparency and foster informed debate on the public security budget, while highlighting areas for improvement and prioritization within government planning.

2. Advocacy for Community Security

a) Bobonaro Municipality

Participants

Date	Location	Activity	Participants	
			Female	Male
19/11/2024	Suku Holsa	Community Security Education	28	26
20/11/2024	Suku Balibo Vila	Community Security Education	23	30
Total			51	56

Holsa Village

An event was held in Bobonaro Municipality, specifically at the Maliana Sub-District (Suku Holsa), on 19 November 2024. The session focused on community engagement and addressed critical local security issues, particularly violence linked to martial arts groups. This issue has posed a significant challenge in the region, contributing to tensions and risks to public safety. The event brought together local authorities, law enforcement, and community members to discuss practical strategies and collaborative approaches to enhance security.

Key Speaker and Topics

The Secretary of Social Affairs of Bobonaro Municipality highlighted the rising violence in the region, particularly tensions between martial arts groups, which have contributed to social instability. He acknowledged the severity of the situation and emphasized the need for a multi-faceted approach to address the root causes of these conflicts. This approach includes promoting social cohesion and implementing initiatives aimed at establishing lasting peace, with a strong focus on community-based solutions.

The Administrator of Maliana Sub-District emphasized the importance of community advocacy in supporting security measures. He highlighted the role of local leaders and community members in actively participating in security initiatives. His message reinforced that security is not solely the responsibility of the police, but requires community involvement—including families, local organizations, and youth groups—to create a safer environment.

The Commander of Maliana PNTL Station presented a collaborative policing strategy, emphasizing that building trust between the police and the community is essential for effective crime prevention. He discussed specific strategies, including community policing, in which officers engage directly with local populations to identify issues, share information, and work together to prevent crime. His observations highlighted the importance of establishing communication channels between the police and local residents, particularly concerning violence associated with martial arts groups.

The Executive Director of HABADA emphasized the importance of community participation in maintaining security. He highlighted the broader role of communities in conflict resolution and the need for cooperative solutions to prevent violent confrontations. His message stressed that security is not solely the responsibility of the state or the police but requires collective efforts

from all members of society. He encouraged residents to take a proactive role in resolving disputes and working together to mitigate violence. The key takeaway was to empower the community to play a central role in ensuring long-term peace and security.

Key Discussion Themes

Violence Among Martial Arts Groups: The event specifically addressed how violence linked to martial arts groups has affected community security. Speakers identified underlying causes, including cultural tensions, limited youth involvement, and inadequate conflict resolution mechanisms.

Community Advocacy for Security: The event emphasized the role of local authorities and community members in advocating for measures to strengthen security. It served as a platform for community leaders to promote collaboration with the police and work together to ensure safer neighborhoods.

Collaborative Policing: The importance of collaborative policing was a central theme of the event. The PNTL emphasized that community members need to work closely with the police to prevent crime and enhance security. Both parties must maintain clear communication, share information, and cooperate effectively to address criminal activities.

Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding: The event also addressed the role of conflict resolution within the community. HABADA's Executive Director emphasized the importance of local involvement in resolving disputes before they escalate into violence. He highlighted that peacebuilding is an ongoing process that requires the participation of all stakeholders—including the police, local leaders, and community members—working together to foster harmony and prevent violent confrontations.

Balibo Vila Village

The session held at the Balibo Sub-District, Balibo Vila Village, on November 20, 2024, focused on critical issues related to community security. It highlighted the increasing collaboration between local authorities, community members, and the police. The event emphasized the importance of a unified approach to ensure safety and effectively combat crime at the community level.

The discussions highlighted the central role of collaborative policing, in which the police work closely with local authorities and community leaders. The session aimed to empower residents and leaders, particularly at the village level (sub-village), to take an active role in identifying and addressing security concerns. The objective was to cultivate a sense of shared responsibility between law enforcement and the public, ensuring that crime prevention efforts are not solely the responsibility of the police but a collective endeavor supported by the community.

The Balibo Village Chief: Discussed the role of community leaders in maintaining security. He emphasized that local leaders should actively promote peace and safety within their communities.

By initiating projects and setting positive examples, these leaders can inspire others to engage proactively and help address growing security concerns.

The Balibo PNTL Station Commander: Highlighted the importance of collaborative policing. He explained that while the police play a crucial role in maintaining law and order, collaboration with the community enhances the effectiveness of policing strategies. By involving community members in security planning, the police can better understand and adapt to the unique challenges faced in different areas. This partnership is essential for ensuring long-term public safety.

The Secretary of the Balibo Sub District: Focused on the concept of advocacy in promoting security through local involvement. He emphasized the need for ongoing dialogue between the police, community leaders, and citizens to ensure that security strategies align with local needs. Such local involvement fosters a sense of ownership and strengthens the community’s commitment to peace.

The Executive Director of HABADA: Emphasized the vital role of community participation in ensuring security and sustaining peace. He highlighted that engaging the community is essential not only for preventing crime but also for resolving conflicts and maintaining a harmonious environment. Through collaboration, both the community and authorities can proactively address challenges and ensure a safe and secure future for all.

Key Discussion Themes:

- **Community Empowerment:** Encouraging local authorities and citizens to take initiative in ensuring a safe environment.
- **Collaborative Policing:** Reinforcing the concept that police officers must work together with the community in planning and implementing security measures.
- **Sustaining Peace:** Creating long-term solutions for security based on trust and mutual respect between the police and the community.

b) Covalima Municipality

Participants

Date	Location	Activity	Participants	
			Female	Male
23/10/2024	Suku Lalawa	Community Security Education	31	31
24/10/2024	Suku Debos	Community Security Education	3	17
Total			34	48

Debos Village

The community security education session held in Suku Debos on October 24, 2024, aimed to strengthen collaboration between the local police force (PNTL) and the community. The session highlighted the importance of building strong partnerships to ensure public security and prevent crime. The main focus was on the role of the community in supporting security initiatives, particularly through advocacy and active local involvement. This approach fosters a

collaborative environment where community members actively contribute to maintaining safety and resolving security issues.

Key Topics and Speakers

According to the Deputy Commander of the PNTL Covalima District, the session highlighted the importance of cooperation between the police and local authorities in ensuring community safety. He emphasized that effective partnerships are essential for enforcing the law and responding proactively to potential security challenges. His message reinforced the idea that public security is a shared responsibility, and collaboration between the police and the community is a critical factor in maintaining peace and stability.

The representative of the Suai Sub-District Authority discussed the concept of community advocacy, explaining how engaging the community in security initiatives enhances overall public safety. Community-level advocacy was emphasized as a vital tool for raising awareness about security issues, fostering trust between the police and residents, and ensuring local security concerns are addressed collaboratively. By involving community members in advocacy efforts, they are empowered to actively participate in maintaining law and order.

The Executive Director of HABADA NGO emphasized the central role of the community in maintaining its own security. He highlighted the significance of community-based initiatives, noting that citizen participation in security efforts contributes not only to crime prevention but also to the promotion of peace and stability in the area. His remarks reinforced the idea that community involvement is essential for creating a safe and resilient environment.

Key Discussion Themes

Collaboration Between Police and Community: The need for close cooperation between local police (PNTL) and the community emerged as a central theme. Speakers emphasized that the partnership between police officers and community members is essential for ensuring security, implementing community policing practices, and responding effectively to security concerns. This approach fosters mutual trust and opens communication channels between the police and local residents, encouraging active community involvement in security initiatives.

Advocacy and Community Empowerment: The discussion emphasized the pivotal role of community advocacy in promoting security and public protection. Participants explored how community members can actively advocate for their own safety and hold local authorities accountable. It was highlighted that advocacy efforts help bridge the gap between the community and the police, fostering a well-informed and engaged population. This approach strengthens collaboration and ensures that the community remains central to the security process.

Importance of Security and Community Stability: Several speakers emphasized the importance of maintaining peace and stability within the community. They discussed how a secure environment is essential for community development, including access to vital resources such as education, healthcare, and local infrastructure. The discussions highlighted that security issues directly affect daily life, and participants were encouraged to recognize community security as an integral part of

overall well-being and sustainable development. This perspective promotes a holistic understanding of security, where stability contributes to the broader growth and prosperity of the community.

Community Involvement in Crime Prevention: Discussions also highlighted the role of community members in preventing crime. Strategies discussed included organizing local events, educational programs, and regular community meetings to address crime trends, local concerns, and preventive measures. It was emphasized that active community participation in crime prevention efforts strengthens overall security and helps reduce crime incidents in the area. Engaging local residents in these initiatives fosters a more resilient environment, promoting greater safety and community cohesion.

Support for Local Authority Responsibility: A clear appeal was made for stronger backing from local authorities to ensure that community security initiatives remain sustainable and effective. Participants highlighted the need for regular communication and active support from local authorities, including the police and municipal government, in implementing security initiatives. Emphasis was placed on the importance of transparency, accountability, and consistent support from these authorities to address community concerns. Prioritizing these elements helps build trust and encourages greater community participation in security efforts.

Lalawa Village

The session held on October 23, 2024, in Suku Lalawa, Tilomar Sub-District, aimed to promote community participation in crime prevention and ensure local public security. The session emphasized strengthening the relationship between the community and law enforcement, focusing on collaborative strategies to address security challenges and enhance safety in the area. Discussions highlighted the importance of a united approach between local authorities and the community to achieve effective and sustainable solutions to security issues.

Speakers and Key Topics

The representative of the Covalima District Administrator, during the session, emphasized the importance of community involvement in local security efforts. He encouraged community members to take an active role in ensuring safety and preventing crime. The key message highlighted the need for everyone to contribute to creating a safer environment, stressing the value of mutual support and collaboration.

The Deputy Commander of PNTL in Covalima Municipality highlighted the importance of fostering collaborative relationships between the police and the community. He emphasized that partnerships between law enforcement and local residents play a crucial role in enhancing crime prevention and ensuring public safety. The Commander also stressed the value of shared responsibility, where both the police and community members work together to address security concerns and prevent criminal activities.

The Tilomar Sub-District Administrator discussed the role of community advocacy in enhancing local security. He emphasized that initiatives led by the community can effectively raise

awareness about security issues and mobilize local actions to prevent crime. In this context, advocacy is recognized as a vital tool for strengthening the community, fostering resilience, and encouraging active participation in ensuring its own safety.

The Executive Director of HABADA highlighted the crucial role of the community in maintaining security. He emphasized that peace and safety are not the sole responsibility of law enforcement but require the active engagement of both the police and the community. His remarks reinforced the importance of community cohesion and active participation in sustaining peace, underlining that a collaborative approach to security is essential for achieving long-term success.

Key Discussion Topics

Collaboration Between the Police and the Community for Crime Prevention: A key theme discussed was the collaboration between law enforcement and the local community in preventing crime. The PNTL Commander of Covalima Municipality emphasized that a strong community–police partnership is essential for effective crime prevention. Discussions focused on ways the community can support police efforts to reduce crime, and how the police can engage more proactively with residents to identify potential risks and implement preventive measures.

Community Advocacy for Strengthening Local Security: Another significant theme was the role of community advocacy in enhancing local security. The Tilomar Sub-District Administrator emphasized the importance of community-driven initiatives aimed at improving security at the local level. Advocacy was highlighted as a key tool for raising awareness about security issues, fostering a sense of shared responsibility, and encouraging actions that prevent crime. The discussion stressed the necessity of active community participation in advocacy efforts, collaboration with security measures, and the creation of a safer and more secure environment.

Role of Local Authorities in Supporting Community Security: Local authorities, representing the President's Representative for Covalima Municipality, play a central role in facilitating collaboration and promoting community participation in security initiatives. They are seen as key mediators between the police and the community, working to establish clear communication channels and ensuring that community concerns regarding security are addressed promptly and effectively. Their involvement is crucial for fostering trust, improving coordination, and enhancing the overall effectiveness of local security efforts.

Vital Role of the Community in Ensuring Security and Peace: The Executive Director of HABADA emphasized the critical role of the community in ensuring security and promoting peace. He highlighted that security is a shared responsibility, requiring active participation from community members in both maintaining safety and supporting peacebuilding efforts. This discussion reinforced the idea that communities are central not only in reporting crimes but also in taking preventive actions and fostering a culture of security through mutual support and collaboration.

Building Stronger and Safer Communities through Involvement and Cooperation: The discussions also highlighted the theme of community empowerment. The session emphasized the

importance of active involvement and collaboration among all stakeholders—police, local authorities, community leaders, and residents—in creating an environment where security is a top priority. This theme demonstrated how fostering trust between the police and the community can lead to safer neighborhoods and more effective outcomes in crime prevention and the reduction of violence.

Encouraging Active Participation in Crime Prevention: This theme, strongly emphasized during the event, highlighted the critical need for active community involvement in crime prevention. Speakers and representatives encouraged individuals to take responsibility for their own safety and participate in initiatives that contribute to a safer environment. The discussion also underscored key preventive measures, including neighborhood vigilance, crime prevention education, and collaboration with local law enforcement to address community security concerns effectively.

Results and Impact

The advocacy and community security education sessions held in the Bobonaro and Covalima Municipalities produced significant outcomes, fostering stronger community engagement, enhanced collaboration with the police, and a deeper understanding of security-related issues. The overall impact of these activities can be assessed through measurable success indicators and case studies, which demonstrate tangible benefits for both individuals and their communities.

Success Indicators

1. Number of Participants Reached

The sessions in the two municipalities attracted a significant number of participants, reflecting strong interest and active engagement from local communities in discussions related to security.

- Covalima Municipality:
 - Debos Village (Suai Sub District): 20 participants (17 men, 3 women)
 - Lalawa Village (Tilomar Sub District): 62 participants (31 men, 31 women)
- Bobonaro Municipality:
 - Holsa Village (Maliana Sub District): 54 participants (26 men, 28 women)
 - Balibo Vila Village (Balibo Sub District): 53 participants (30 men, 23 women)

Total Participants from Both Municipalities: The total number of participants from the two municipalities was 189, including men and women from diverse demographic backgrounds. This broad participation demonstrates the community's strong interest and engagement in matters related to community security.

2. Improved Knowledge and Skills (Based on Feedback)

Following the sessions, feedback indicated a positive shift in participants' awareness regarding the importance of community security and crime prevention. Participants reported an enhanced understanding of:

- The role of collaboration between the police and the community in strengthening local security.
- Community advocacy as an effective tool to raise awareness about security concerns and prevent crime.
- The importance of active community involvement in supporting the police and ensuring the safety of all residents.

Participants reported feeling more confident when engaging with local authorities and the police to discuss security issues, reflecting improved trust between the community and law enforcement. The gender-inclusive design of the sessions ensured that both men and women developed valuable skills to advocate for security and communicate effectively with authorities, thereby promoting gender equality in local security governance.

3. Case Studies: Brief Examples of How Activities Have Benefited Individuals and Communities

Case Study 01: Lalawa Suco (Tilomar Administrative Post – Covalima)

Background: In Lalawa Suco, a few weeks after the session, a community member approached the police to report a suspicious activity in a certain area. This action was a direct result of the increased awareness and trust in the police that had been built during the session.

Impact: Encouraged by the session’s focus on collaboration and active participation, the community member felt more confident in sharing this information with the police. The authorities were able to respond quickly, preventing a potential crime. This incident underscores the importance of the session in enhancing communication between the community and the police and in reinforcing the shared responsibility for security.

Result: This case illustrates how the sessions translated into practical, real-life actions that contributed to improving community security.

Case Study 02: Holsa village (Maliana Sub District - Bobonaro)

Background: In Holsa village, during the session, the Secretary of Social Affairs for Bobonaro Municipality discussed the issue of ongoing violence among martial arts groups. Following the session, local authorities and the police collaborated on a community outreach program that focused on promoting peaceful conflict resolution and providing alternative activities for young people.

Impact: The outreach program, supported by the community and local leaders, resulted in a significant reduction in violent incidents among martial arts groups. The session in Maliana laid the necessary foundation for this initiative by fostering discussions on solutions driven by the community and by emphasizing the important role of youth in peacebuilding.

Result: This case illustrates the long-term impact of the advocacy sessions in fostering lasting peace and effective conflict resolution within the community.

The sessions in the municipalities of Bobonaro and Covalima had a positive impact, as reflected in the responses from the communities. Through increased participation, enhanced knowledge and skills, and real-world case studies, the advocacy and educational activities demonstrated the value of community-police collaboration in creating safer environments. These activities successfully strengthened community trust, improved communication, and supported the development of long-term security solutions. The results were evident in both the direct benefits to individuals and the collective enhancement of security, underscoring the effectiveness of community-guided security initiatives.

Challenges and Solutions

During the implementation of advocacy and educational sessions on community security in the municipalities of Bobonaro and Covalima, various challenges were encountered. Despite these obstacles, targeted strategies were applied to overcome them, ensuring the success of the activities and their positive impact on the communities.

1. Challenges

Logistical Challenges

Transportation and Accessibility: A major logistical challenge during the sessions was ensuring that participants from remote areas, particularly those in rural villages, could attend the events. Distances between administrative posts and villages were considerable, and transportation infrastructure was limited. **Time Conflicts:** Many community members faced difficulties attending the sessions due to agricultural work, seasonal obligations, or other local responsibilities, especially in rural areas where farming serves as the primary means of subsistence.

Cultural Barriers

Gender Participation: In some villages, there was an initial imbalance in gender participation, with fewer women attending the sessions. In certain communities, cultural norms made it challenging for women to actively engage in discussions on security, law enforcement, and advocacy. **Resistance to Police Collaboration:** In some communities, members were initially reluctant to engage with the police due to historical tensions or a lack of trust in law enforcement. This resistance was particularly pronounced in areas with past conflicts between local groups and the enforcement of local laws.

Resource Limitations

Limited Resources for Outreach: Budget constraints limited the availability of promotional materials, such as posters, pamphlets, and other educational resources that could help raise

awareness about the sessions. This restriction affected the reach of the program and the ability to attract a larger audience, particularly in remote areas.

2. Solutions

Solution of Logistical Challenges

Local Partnerships for Transportation: To address transportation challenges, partnerships were established with local community groups and leaders to provide transportation options (e.g., using vehicles from local authorities). This ensured that participants from remote villages could attend the sessions. **Flexible Scheduling:** To accommodate the schedules of community members, especially farmers, sessions were planned around agricultural activities. Additionally, some sessions were coordinated with local community events or market days to minimize disruptions and make it easier for people to attend without affecting their daily routines.

Cultural Solutions

Encouraging Gender Equality in Participation: To address gender disparities in attendance, special efforts were made to invite female community leaders to speak at the sessions and to promote greater participation by women. This included creating spaces where women could share their concerns and ideas alongside men. Gender-sensitive language and approaches were employed during discussions to ensure inclusivity and respect for all participants.

Building Trust and Bridging Distrust: To overcome resistance to collaboration with the police, community leaders and trusted local figures were engaged as key speakers and facilitators. Their involvement helped bridge the gap between the police and the community, as people felt more comfortable hearing their local leaders discuss the importance of working together to ensure community security. Additionally, small group discussions and the sharing of personal experiences were used to foster an environment of trust and openness, strengthening connections among participants.

Resource Solutions

Due to budget constraints, communication for these sessions relied primarily on word-of-mouth through local leaders, religious groups, and schools, which helped disseminate the information effectively. National media outlets, including Tatoli, Radio, and Televizaun Timor-Leste (RTTL), also played a key role in publicizing the efforts. Despite the challenges encountered during the implementation of advocacy and security education sessions in the municipalities of Bobonaro and Covalima, the solutions applied proved effective in overcoming these barriers. Community participation, trust in local authorities, and collaboration with law enforcement were significantly strengthened as a result. The ability to adapt to logistical, cultural, and resource limitations has established a solid foundation for sustaining security initiatives in these municipalities in the future.

Financial Overview Summary

Category	Budget (USD)	Actual Expense (USD)	Balance (USD)	Remarks
Program				
1. Community Security Monitoring	3,700	3,700	0	
2. Advocacy and Community Security Education				
Snack	720	720	0	
Lunch	1,680	1,680	0	
Per Diem	360	360	0	
Accommodation	300	300	0	
Car Rental	900	900	0	
Fuel	280	280	0	
Print Materials	400	400	0	
Administration				
Bank Fees	50	50	0	
Communication	60	60	0	
Office Supplies	100	100	0	
Utilities	50	50	0	
Office Furniture	340	340	0	
Total	8,940	8,940	0	

Summary: The budget and actual expenses align perfectly across all categories, demonstrating that the project was managed within its financial plan without any overspending.

Key Lessons Learned

The activities in the municipalities of Bobonaro and Covalima have provided valuable insights to inform future community engagement initiatives. A key lesson learned is the importance of flexible planning to accommodate local schedules and logistical constraints. Scheduling sessions around agricultural activities and using transportation options coordinated with the community have proven effective in ensuring higher participation, particularly in remote areas. This approach should be replicated in future activities to maximize attendance and promote meaningful community involvement.

Another important lesson is the need for inclusive approaches to engage both men and women. Gender-sensitive strategies, such as involving female leaders and providing care for children, significantly increased female participation. Moving forward, greater emphasis should be placed on gender equality and targeted outreach to ensure balanced community involvement.

Furthermore, building trust between the community and the police remains a central challenge. Utilizing local leaders to bridge gaps between the police and the community helped overcome resistance to police involvement. Future programs should continue prioritizing this collaborative approach to foster trust and transparency.

Lastly, resource constraints played a significant role in overcoming financial limitations. Leveraging community networks and media platforms allowed for effective outreach despite limited resources. This lesson will inform future strategies, ensuring cost-effective approaches while maintaining strong community engagement.

Recommendations

Based on the activities and challenges identified in the Bobonaro and Covalima municipalities, the following recommendations are proposed to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of community security initiatives:

1. Community Partnership - Application of Law

Formalize the collaboration between the community and the application of the law by creating a joint task force for community security. These structures can focus on efforts that are ongoing and ensure accountability. Regularize dialogue sessions between the police, local leaders, and residents to build trust and address their concerns.

2. Develop Inclusive Strategies for Gender

Develop initiatives with specific objectives to increase women's participation in security programs. Provide training for women on advocacy and conflict resolution to ensure their voices are actively represented in community discussions.

3. Provide Training and Build Capacity

Offer comprehensive training programs for community leaders and police officers on topics such as collaborative policing, advocacy, and crime prevention. Focus on conflict resolution mechanisms to address tensions related to martial arts group violence, a persistent issue in two municipalities.

4. Ensure Logistic Planning and Accessibility

Arrange transportation options for groups to assist participants from remote areas, ensuring inclusive attendance. Align session schedules with agricultural activities and local markets to minimize disruptions to daily routines.

5. Strengthen Advocacy and Outreach

Use low-cost outreach methods, such as local radio, schools, and religious groups, to raise awareness about program activities. Incorporate digital platforms like SMS notifications and social media to broaden reach and engage a younger audience.

6. Develop Monitoring and Evaluation System

Implement regular feedback surveys and evaluations to assess the program's impact and identify areas for improvement. Use data from these evaluations to adapt and develop strategies in real-time.

7. Implement Activities in New Regions

Replicate the program in other municipalities facing similar security challenges, prioritizing areas with high violent incidents or limited police resources. Customize approaches based on local contexts to address specific challenges and leverage existing strengths.

8. Promote the Engagement of New Leaders

Create alternative activities for youth, such as sports programs and skill-building training, to reduce their involvement in violent groups and promote community cohesion.

9. Promote Sustainability for the Long Term

Encourage communities to establish their own security funds to support ongoing initiatives. Integrate community-led security initiatives into municipal development plans to ensure long-term government support.

By implementing these recommendations, the program can effectively address current gaps, increase community involvement, and promote sustainable solutions for community security in Bobonaro, Covalima, and beyond.

Annexes

Annex 01: Activities covered by the media during the implementation of this project.

Data	Titulu	Media	URL	Komentariu
21/10/2024	HABADA husu Governu investe iha rekursu umanu liu husi formasaun ba PNTL	Tatoli	https://tatoli.tl/2024/10/21/habada-husu-governu-investe-iha-rekursu-umanu-liuhusi-formasaun-ba-pntl/	Abel Amaral
21/10/2024	Hali Ba Dame husu Komisaun B PN atu fó atensaun ba orsamentu ne'ebé aloka ba PNTL iha OJE tinan 2025	GMN TV	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBAgrpvURtE	Abel Amaral
23/10/2024	HABADA husu investe iha maka'as ba PNTL – sei submeter Submisaun ba Komisaun B Parlamentu Nasional	Jornal Independente	https://www.independente.tl/nasional/habada-husu-investe-makaas-ba-pntl-sei-submete-submisaun-ba-komisaun-b-pn	
25/10/2024	Auroridade lokal sira tenke komprende asuntu seguransa	RTTL (Lian Munisipiu)	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jk2AzEyAGtE	Abel Amaral
19/11/2024	HABADA motiva comunidade Holsa “seguransa ema hot unia responsabilidade	Tatoli	https://tatoli.tl/2024/11/19/habada-motiva-komunidade-holsa-seguransa-ema-hotu-nia-responsabilidade/	Abel Amaral

Annex 02: Figures

Press Conference on the Submission to the National Parliament Commission B Regarding the 2025 State Budget Proposal for the National Police of Timor-Leste (PNTL), October 21, 2024.



Community Security Education in Bobonaro Municipality

Holsa Village – Maliana Sub District



Balibo Village – Balibo Sub District



Community Security Education in Covalima Municipality

Lalawa village – Tilomar Sub District



Debos village – Suai Sub District

