
PRESS RELEASE

The Government of Timor-Leste through the Ministry of Planning and Territory with the Government of Australia Launch the Report on Gender and Social Inclusion in Public Infrastructure Projects in Timor-Leste

Dili, Maubara Room, on October 11, 2022 – The Government of Timor-Leste launched the report on *Gender and Social Inclusion in Public Infrastructure in Timor-Leste*. The report highlights the centrality of Timor-Leste’s public infrastructure sector in delivering economic growth and sustainable development outcomes, including linking people with critical public services in education, health, markets, and to jobs.

The report provides a comprehensive review of the infrastructure lifecycle alongside tangible recommendations based on international best practice and the existing challenges and opportunities specific to Timor-Leste. These recommendations include short- and long-term actions. This approach allows the Government of Timor-Leste to consider short-term efforts while considering longer-term interventions.

The report’s recommendations on Gender and Social Inclusion will contribute to the Government of Timor-Leste’s goal of “**leaving no one behind**” in the delivery of public infrastructure. ‘Leaving no one behind’ means the Government will support people from different backgrounds and cultures in the country’s development process. This includes vulnerable groups such as women, girls, people with disabilities, and the elderly.

The report reinforces the Government of Timor-Leste’s commitment to the two Maubisse declarations. In 2015, the Government of Timor-Leste committed under the First Maubisse Declaration to advancing the socio-economic empowerment of women. In October 2018, the Government of Timor-Leste adopted the Second Maubisse Declaration that included commitments to improve the lives of women in rural area by 2023, including through infrastructure development.

Preparation of the report on *Gender and Social Inclusion in Public Infrastructure in Timor-Leste* was led by the Ministry of Planning and Territory through the National Development Agency (ADN, I. P.) and Secretary of State for Gender Equality and Inclusion. The Australian Government, through the Partnerships for Infrastructure (P4I) Program, is proud to have supported the Government of Timor-Leste to prepare the report.

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