

**Report on a visit to
Timor-Leste
5-11 May 2013**

Prepared by Richard Brown



Background

In March 2013, the East Timor Project Officer, Richard Brown was invited by the Aileu District Administrator to visit Aileu District to participate in the community consultation on the establishment of elected municipal government, scheduled for 6-7 May (see **Attachment 1**). Councillors Lambros Tapinos (Moreland) and Helen Patsikatheodorou (Hume) were also invited to attend. At short notice, the community consultation was brought forward to 17 and 18 April. It was decided that Richard Brown should proceed with the planned visit as arrangements had already been made, while the councillors were unable to undertake the visit due to existing commitments..

The visit had two key objectives:

- To obtain briefings from the Timor-Leste Government and the Aileu District Administration on the progress of the process of decentralisation and to seek advice on how Australian local governments, and in particular, how Moreland and Hume Councils and the Friends of Aileu, could assist.
- To meet with representatives of the Aileu District Administration and other local partners and discuss the progress of projects supported by the Friends of Aileu and its partners and the future development of the friendship relationship.

During part of the visit to Aileu, Richard Brown was accompanied by Ben Walta, the Project Coordinator of CERES Global, who was researching the possibility of organising 'community engagement' tours to Aileu.

The visit came at an important stage in Timor-Leste's development as a nation, with the withdrawal of the international security forces in December 2012, the beginning of the rollout of the Government's decentralisation program, leading to the planned establishment of elected municipal government in 2014-15, and with many Timor-Leste organisations, including some of the Friends of Aileu's partners in Aileu, moving towards greater self-management. It also came at a time when a number of aspects of the friendship relationship with Aileu are due for review, including agreements with the Friends of Aileu's partners.

The following is an outline of the main activities undertaken during the visit and the key outcomes. A summary of Richard Brown's program is at **Attachment 2** and a list of some of the people he met is at **Attachment 3**.

Meetings in Aileu

District Administration. On 6 May, Richard Brown met with the Aileu District Administrator, Martino Matos, and the District Development Officer, Mario Soares, and inspected the new offices for the District Development Officer and his four staff, which are being constructed at the rear of the District Administration offices.

The District Administrator referred to the recent community consultation on the establishment of local government and said that a wide cross-section of the community including business, the churches, women and youth, had provided information about their capacity and readiness for the transition. He said that a 'commission' had been established in Aileu to advise on the necessary preparations and that all political groupings in the District

were united in their support for the change. He said he looked forward to the support of Moreland and Hume Councils during the transition to elected local government.



The Aileu District Administrator, Martinho Matos (l), with Richard Brown



The new offices for the Aileu District planning staff

He also paid tribute to the AVI Volunteer Don Higgins, and his wife Rosemary, who ended their assignments in Aileu and returned to Australia in January 2013. He praised the efforts of the local community and the local police, who had combined to identify and locate the culprits, who were now in jail. He said that the District Administration would like to employ another AVI Volunteer in the role of local government adviser.

The District Development Officer, Mario Soares, said that the Administration had received funding for a total of thirty-two projects in 2013-14, worth US\$ 4million, covering a wide range of infrastructure projects, such as school buildings, bridges, channels etc. Among the projects was much-awaited road construction, including the road to Laulara Sub-District. However, he was concerned that the provision of the funds had been delayed, so that projects would not commence until June/July which would mean many were not completed before the onset of the wet season. He also expected that a major international tender would be let for the main road from Dili, which could take up to two years to complete.

The administration of the Friends of Aileu scholarship programs was also discussed with the District Development Officer. As the Timor-Leste school calendar has reverted back to the Indonesian model, with the academic year beginning in October, the scholarship funds should ideally be transferred to the Aileu District Administration by September. Mario Soares undertook to obtain photos, subject details and biographies from the scholarship students before they commence their studies and to ask them to provide details of their academic results every three months.

Both the District Administrator and the District Development Officer emphasised that the Friendship relationship was highly valued by the Aileu community and looked forward to it continuing into the future. They also expressed interest in a representative from the District participating in the proposed Conference on Timor-Leste to be held in Melbourne in March 2014.

Laulara Birthing Centre. On 6 May, Richard Brown visited the Laulara Birthing Centre. A number of women with their babies were at the Centre. He inspected the interior of the building, which appeared to be in good condition, although the path from the road to the front

door of the building was in need of repair, and was being bypassed by the women with their babies as they entered the Centre.

On 8 May, Richard Brown and the CERES Global Project Coordinator, Ben Walta, met with the doctor in charge of the Laulara Birthing Centre, Dr Natalia de Araujo Lopes. At present, approximately eight babies a month are being born at the Centre, with around twenty-five mothers visiting the Centre each day for pre- or post-natal consultations. There are currently four nurses and five mid-wives working at the Centre, with three other staff, plus two security personnel and a cleaner, a total of thirteen.

Dr Lopes reported on the lack of some equipment at the Centre, and the delay in supply of equipment by the Health Department. In particular, there is a need for an autoclave and a fetal doppler, plus more orthoscopes, stethoscopes, and sphygmomanometers. She also identified a need for an additional birthing bed and a sleeping bed. Richard Brown undertook to investigate whether the Disability Workshop could manufacture these.

Dr Lopes also referred to the need for English language training for staff, which was available from specialist English for health workers trainers.



Laulara Birthing Centre



(l-r) Security guard, Sub-District Community Development Officer, Martinho Dos Reis, Deputy Sub-district Administrator, Luis Belo, Richard Brown, work experience students.

Laulara Sub-District Administration. On 6 May, Richard Brown visited the Laulara Sub-District Administration offices and spoke to the Deputy Sub-District Administrator, Luis Belo, and the Community Development Officer, Martinho dos Reis. There were also a number of Year 12 students at the Sub-District Office doing compulsory work experience.

They said that the health clinic and the two health posts in Laulara all lack equipment and there is a shortage of nursing staff. However, the addition of the Birthing Centre had improved health services in the area and was attracting clients from the nearby Sub-District of Dare, and even as far away as Dili.

They also referred to the poor condition of the roads in Laulara, which prevented the farmers getting their produce to market. They were expecting some improvement soon, with the imminent letting of a construction contract to rebuild the road leading to the main Dili-Aileu highway.

Remexio Sub-District. On 8 May, the Friends of Aileu Project Officer, accompanied by the CERES Global Project Coordinator, Ben Walta, and the Aileu Vila Sub-District Community Development Officer, Camilo da Costa, who is from Remexio, visited Remexio Sub-District.

They met with the Sub-District Administrator, Carlos Alberto Araujo, who described the local community, which has grown to around fourteen and a half thousand, as 'harmonious', due to effective collaboration between the police, the sub-District Administration and the church.

They also met with the local parish priest, Padre David Alves de Conceicao, at the parish church. He described his plans for the development of a computer training centre at the church and a meeting room, where musical instruments could be taught. He also referred to plans for a new library at the local high school, which could also serve the whole community, and a proposal to herd local cattle, using a solar-powered electric fence, to prevent them wandering into domestic gardens and destroying food plants there. He was looking forward to the visit by the volunteers of the Alternative Technology Association and the Kangaroo Valley-Remexio Partnership in July, to complete work on the village lighting systems in three villages.

Padre David responded positively to the proposal for a community engagement tour by CERES Global in September 2013, and suggested some activities that the participants could be involved with in Remexio, including a water supply and tree-planting project involving young people, and support for computer training.

Padre David discussed the Friends of Aileu scholarship programs, which are also supported by the Kangaroo Valley-Remexio Partnership. He stressed the importance of monitoring the activities of the scholarship holders and ensuring that they are making progress with their studies. He also expressed the wish to be more closely involved in the selection process for the scholarships for students from Remexio.



(l-r) Remexio Sub-District Administrator, Carlos Araujo, Richard Brown, Padre David, Ben Walta



Richard Brown and Ben Walta with the sister in charge at the Catholic Primary school in Remexio

Richard Brown and Ben Walta visited the local Catholic primary school, run by a Portuguese Dominican nun, and inspected craft work which had been made locally.

Besilau Village Lighting Project. On 7 May, Richard Brown and the District Development Officer, Mario Soares, met with Augusto Tilman, the maintenance technician for the Village Lighting Project in Besilau *aldeia*. The lighting project is a joint project of the Friends of Aileu partners, Moora Moora Community and the Alternative Technology Association, with the local Besilau community. Sr Tilman advised them that the community appeared to no longer want to support the project through the payment of monthly maintenance fees and nearly 50% of the systems were not operating or in need of repair. Richard Brown suggested that they consult with the convenor of the ATA's International Project Group, Michael O'Connell, when he comes to Aileu in July.

Following the meeting, the Aileu Vila Community Development Officer, Camilo da Costa, met with the Chefe de Suco for Aisirimou (where Besilau is located) and the Besilau Chefe de Aldeia, who advised him that the project was no longer supported by the community and that the funds held in the maintenance account (some US\$1,700) should be 'returned'.

Richard Brown asked Mario Soares to meet with the chefes as soon as possible and ensure that the Besilau community supports that decision, and to ask them for suggestions for future projects for Besilau.

While the Besilau lighting scheme way not have achieved all of its objectives in a technical sense, it was a valuable pilot project, which has provided benefits to the local community, and has subsequently been used as a model for successful village lighting projects elsewhere in Aileu, and in other Districts. It has also provided the Besilau community with experience of working with outside organisations, and of managing a community project.

Uma Ita Nian Clinic. On 7 May, Richard Brown visited the Uma Ita Nian Clinic and met with Sister Susan Gubbins and AVI Volunteer, Paul Coghlan.

Sister Susan expressed appreciation of the funding support which had been provided by Merri Community Health Services for a community health project, and undertook to provide progress reports on the implementation of the project.

She and Paul Coghlan discussed progress in developing a plan for the transition of the Clinic to Timorese management over the next three years. Paul reported that all of the job descriptions at the Clinic had been re-written. In order to develop skills among staff in creating partnerships, they are developing a training program for staff based on making a funding application. Paul offered to provide a presentation on the transition planning process to the Friends of Aileu Community Committee when he returns to Melbourne at the end of his assignment in September 2013.

Sister Susan also expressed thanks for the donation of medical supplies by the Echuca-Moama Rotary Club, and said that the Clinic would be happy to receive further supplies. Richard Brown also gave her a number of spare printer ink cartridges which he had purchased for the Clinic in Melbourne



Sister Susan Gubbins and Paul Coghlan



Sra Silvina Sarmento and Sister Susan
unpacking medical supplies from Echuca

St Francis of Assisi Disability Workshop. On 7 May, Richard Brown and the CERES Global Project Coordinator, Ben Walta, visited the St Francis of Assisi Disability Workshop with Paul Coghlan. It is a project of the Parish Clinic and which produces disability aids for the local community. They met some of the workshop staff, including the Production Manager, Cristiano Marema, the Maintenance Manager, Luis Garcia, and the Finance and Sales Manager, Abril de Oliviera. They inspected some of the products being manufactured at the workshop, including ladders, bed frames, hand-cranked tricycles and portable, folding dental chairs.

Paul Coghlan outlined plans to establish the workshop as a sustainable, stand-alone business within two years, which involves attracting orders from both the government and the local community. Richard Brown advised them that the Aileu Oral Health Project includes the manufacture of five more portable dental chairs by the workshop in 2013-14.



A steel-framed handcart manufactured at the Workshop



Paul Coghlan (I) with Workshop staff

Paul Coghlan welcomed the proposal for a community engagement tour by CERES Global, which could include a visit to the Workshop in September.

Aileu Resource and Training Centre. On 8 May, Richard Brown and Ben Walta visited the Aileu Resource and Training Centre and met with Sister Rosalva Sandi and Sra Maria Diamantina Martins.

They inspected the library, which has a large collection of Portuguese language books which are heavily used by local teachers and students, as well as some in English. They also saw a collection of university-level, English language text books donated by the Asia Foundation. Sister Rosalva said that the English collection would be sorted by local Year 12 students who are on compulsory work experience at the Centre.

They inspected the internet cafe at the Centre, which has been funded and equipped by Timor Telecom, and a computer training room. Sister Rosalva said that they have acquired five new computers, equipped with *ubuntu*, open-source software for use in training teachers. The PCs used for training students would have Windows 7 operating systems installed and a new training manual prepared. There are also six computers at the community training centre operated by the Centre at Manucasa, in Lequidoe Sub-District. She also referred to the need for bathroom facilities to be installed at the Manucasa centre.

Sister Rosalva provided a report on the 2012 school reading contest, together with copies of receipts for the funds supplied by the Friends of Aileu. She expressed appreciation for the

funding support provided by the Friends of Aileu for the 2013 contest, which will be held over four days in July. This year, there will be a smaller program, and there will also be an attempt to assess the adequacy of teaching materials supplied by the Education Department to the twenty-one schools involved in the contest.

Sister Rosalva reported on the progress of the two staff undertaking studies at universities in Indonesia, Guida Periera and Natalia da Conceicao Ximenes. Guida is due to complete her management course and return to Aileu this year. Natalia is continuing her training in financial management, with support from the Friends of Aileu. Sister Rosalva also referred to proposed studies by two other members of staff: Joanino dos Reis, who is in charge of computer training at the Centre and hopes to study agriculture, and Sabino, who hopes to do computer studies.

Sister Rosalva said that the geology display, which was designed and installed by the Monash University Science Centre in the foyer of the Centre, together with books on the subject which they provided, have been well-used by local teachers and students.

She welcomed the funding support from the Friends of Aileu for the 2013 Craft and Produce Expo, which will be held over three days in November. Richard Brown suggested promoting it to tour companies and other groups in Dili.

She also welcomed the proposal by CERES Global for a community engagement tour and said that the Centre would be happy to have a visit by the tour group.



Sister Rosalva Sandi (l) and Ben Walta



The geology education display at the Aileu Resource and Training Centre

Sister Rosalva referred to a youth group which performs traditional songs and dances, the *Grupo Lian Babadok Aileu* (the Aileu 'voice of the drum' cultural group), and asked Friends of Aileu to consider providing funding support for a traditional song and dance competition, planned for the May 20 Independence Day celebrations in Aileu.

She also spoke about the role of the Centre as a 'bridge' between the community and government, and of the importance of facilitating dialogue with the bureaucracy. She referred to plans for the Centre to transition to a full-Timorese management and said that the Board of Management of the Centre needed to be expanded to meet 'the difficult times ahead'. She asked whether the Friends of Aileu would consider being represented on the Board, or could play some sort of advisory role in the Centre's future development.

Aileu Dental Service. On 7 May, Richard Brown visited the Dental Clinic at the Aileu Health Centre and spoke to the dental nurse, Sra Maria Santana da Silva, who is involved in delivering the oral health awareness training in schools as part of the Aileu Oral Health Project. He gave her some Tetum-language posters instructing children to brush their teeth every day and the Tetum-language guidelines for the tooth brushing program for teachers and dental staff. He also gave her some boxes of toothpaste, purchased in Dili, to make up for the temporary shortfall of supplies at the schools.

They discussed the provision of tooth-brush racks for the schools involved in the oral health awareness training, and the production of school readers with an oral health theme, which are planned to be produced.

Aileu Science and Technology Institute. On 9 May, Richard Brown and Ben Walta visited the recently-established Aileu Science and Technology Institute. They met the Rector, Cesar Melito and the Vice Rector, Aloysius Luis Enrique, at the Institute's temporary premises in Aileu Vila, and addressed a meeting of about two hundred and fifty students and members of the teaching staff.

Richard Brown described the friendship relationship between Moreland and Hume Councils and the Aileu District Administration, and explained how the Friends of Aileu raises funds from its communities to support the development of the Aileu community. Ben Walta outlined the proposed study tour by CERES Global.

Both teachers and students expressed interest in developing a relationship with the Friends of Aileu and outlined some of the needs that the Institute has for assistance, including funding for new premises, equipment and help with IT and English teaching. Richard Brown and Ben Walta visited the site on the outskirts of Aileu town, which has been set aside for the new premises.



Temporary premises of ASTI



Richard Brown and Ben Walta (c) with staff and students of ASTI

USAID Agriculture Project. On 9 May, Richard Brown and Ben Walta, with Mario Soares, met with Catherine Johnston, Head of Party for the USAID agriculture project in Aileu, and consultant Ryan Talmage, who is a 'value change adviser' to the project. Catherine Johnston described the four year project, which involves support for three hundred farmers in Aileu who are growing vegetables to supply two supermarkets in Dili. The supermarkets provide seed and fertilizer and guarantee to purchase the produce at a fixed negotiated price. The farmers receive training in production and marketing. And the produce is transported to Dili by refrigerated truck each week. The project also assists the farmers to build organisations

to manage shared production facilities and negotiate terms and conditions with buyers. Catherine Johnston expressed interest in the CERES Global community engagement group visiting the project in 2013.

Meetings in Dili

Timor-Leste Government. Prior to arriving in Dili, Richard Brown had arranged a meeting with the Timor-Leste Minister for State Administration, Jorge Teme, to discuss the decentralisation process. Unfortunately, the minister was not available, however on 9 May, Richard Brown was able to arrange meetings with three other senior officials of the Ministry; two Directors General in the Office of the Secretary of State for Decentralisation, Miguel Carvalho, and Abilio Caetano, and the Director of Local Administration, Barros Hermes.

The officials provided a briefing on the community consultations which had been held in the Districts, including in Aileu, to advise local communities about the decentralisation process and the establishment of local government. They said that local communities had said that they were 'ready' for local government, however the officials' view was that they 'had only just begun thinking' about the concept.

The Directors General described the legislative steps which were still required, including the passing of five pieces of legislation through the National Parliament, on

- The legal powers of the local government
- The election process
- Local finances
- Procurement , and
- Taxation

It is expected that legislation will be passed by October 2013.

The importance of involving the private sector, which was encouraged to see the process as offering 'new economic opportunities', was also stressed.

The support of Australian local governments in assisting their local counterparts during the transition process was looked forward to. The opportunity to participate in the conference on Timor-Leste's future development, including the establishment of local government, which is planned to be held in Melbourne in March 2014 was also welcomed.

A copy of the draft legislation (in Portuguese) and the plan for decentralisation (in Tetum) was provided to Richard Brown.

AVI Country Manager. On 10 May, Richard Brown met with the AVI Country Manager, Cathy Molnar, and discussed the possible engagement of another volunteer for Aileu. She advised that she would be meeting with the Aileu District Administration to discuss the matter, including the assignment brief and the provision of secure accommodation. Richard Brown said that the Friends of Aileu would be willing to support a new volunteer.

Permatil. On 9 May, Richard Brown and Ben Walta met with Ego Lemos, the founder and director of Permatil, Timor-Leste's leading permaculture organisation. Ego Lemos described Permatil's current projects in Turiscai (Manufahi District), and Laga (Baucau District). He spoke about his work with youth and referred to a planned permaculture youth festival in

2014. He also talked about his involvement with the sustainable agriculture program at the Aileu Science and Technology Institute.

He expressed interest in the planned CERES Global community engagement tour and invited the group to visit Permatil's headquarters in Dili.

Diak Printing. On 10 May, Richard Brown visited the premises of Diak Printing, in the Dili Plaza shopping centre (see <http://timorplaza.blogspot.com.au>), a business owned by Deolinda de Cunha, formerly of Meadow Heights in Melbourne. Deolinda told him that the local economy had been affected by the departure of the UN and the ADF. In order to build her business, she is planning to enter into a partnership with a Darwin-based machine embroidery business and is considering importing embroidery machinery to establish a local manufacturing business in Dili.



Deolinda da Cunha, owner of Diak Printing

Conclusion

The visit to Timor-Leste was successful in meeting its key objectives.

It enabled the East Timor Project Officer to get an up-to-date briefing on the progress of the decentralisation process and community consultations on local government held in each District, including Aileu. It also provided confirmation that the East Timorese are looking towards Australian local governments for support during the transition process and enabled the identification of some practical ways in which assistance could be provided.

The visit provided an opportunity to strengthen the relationships with key officials in the Timor-Leste government in Dili and with the Aileu District Administration and with representatives of community organisations in Aileu.

It also enabled the identification of ways of developing existing projects in Aileu District and provided an opportunity to establish new partnerships. The prospect of developing a possible partnership with CERES Global, in particular, opens up the possibility of increased engagement by members of the Hume and Moreland communities with communities in Aileu.

Finally, the visit enabled the reconfirmation of the importance to partner organisations in Timor-Leste of the Friendship relationship and their commitment to maintaining the relationship in future.

ATTACHMENT 1



REPÚBLICA DEMOCRÁTICA DE TIMOR LESTE
 Ministério da Administração Estatal
 Direcção Nacional da Administração Local
 Administração do distrito de Aileu

Aileu, March 2013-03-16

His excellency Mr. Richard Brown
 Friends of Aileu Coordinator
 Moreland and Hume City Council
 Melbourne, Australia

Dear Mr. Brown,

I am Marthino Sequeira Alves Matos, The Aileu District Administrator and the President of Friends of Aileu Commission, would like to invite you to participate in the Aileu public consultation which plan to held on 6 - 7 May 2013.

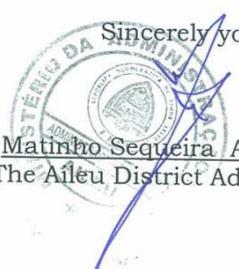
This public consultation will be directly lead by Mr. Xanana Gusmao, Prime Minister Timor Leste.

The objective of this consultation is for us to know the process and preparation toward municipal status.

I convey my thought of the importance of your presense in this consultation and to be one of the witnesses of the Aileu future, road toward municipal status.

This is all I have to say, on behalf of the Aileu District Community I thank your participation.

Sincerely yours


Matinho Sequeira Alves Matos
 The Aileu District Administration

ATTACHMENT 2.**RICHARD BROWN - VISIT TO TIMOR-LESTE, 5-11 MAY 2013 --- PROGRAM**

Date/Time	Activity
Sunday 5 May	Travel Melbourne – Darwin Dinner with Rob Wesley Smith (Kangaroo Valley-Remexio Partnership)
Monday 6 May	Travel Darwin-Dili Meeting with Sally Chapman, Child Protection Officer – International Volunteers Program, Red Cross and Dr Chris Fenton, CEO, Bairo Pite Hospital Travel to Aileu Meeting with Mario Soares, District Development Officer Visit Laulara Birthing Centre Meeting with Laulara Sub-District Deputy Sub-District Administrator, Luis Belo and Community Development Officer, Martinho Dos Reis Meeting with Frankston Rotary representative, Chris Angere
Tuesday 7 May	Meeting with District Administrator, Martinho Matos Meeting with Aileu District Planning Officer, Domingos Vidigal Meeting with Besilau Village Lighting Project technician, Augusto Tilman Meeting with Aileu Dental Nurse, Sra Maria Santana da Silva Meeting with Sister Susan Gubbins, Uma Ita Nian Parish Health Clinic and Paul Coghlan, AVI Volunteer Visit to St Francis of Assisi Disability Workshop and meeting with Production Manager, Christiano Marema, Maintenance Manager, Luis Gracia and Finance & Sales Manager, Abril de Oliveira Meeting with Aileu Vila Sub-District Community Development Officer Meeting with Chair of the Committee for the Establishment of the Municipality, Moises Fernandes
Wednesday 8 May	Meeting with Sister Rosalva Sandi, Aileu Resource and Training Centre, and Sra Maria Diamantina Martins Travel to Remexio Meeting with Remexio Sub-District Administrator, Carlos Alberto Araujo Meeting with Remexio Parish priest, Padre David Meeting with Dr Natalia de Araujo Lopes, Laulara Birthing Centre Meeting with Sister Mary Anne Dwyer, Ismaik ashram
Thursday 9 May	Visit to Aileu Science & Technology Institute Meeting with Rector, Cesar Melito and Vice-Rector, Aloysius Luis Enrique, students and teachers Visit to new site for Institute Meeting with ASTI teachers Meeting with Chief of Party, USAID community agriculture project, Catherine Johnston, and Project Marketing Adviser, Ryan Talmage Travel to Dili Meeting with Ministry of State Administration Decentralisation Adviser, Alfonso Candido Meeting with Director of Permatil, Ego Lemos
Friday 10 May	Meeting with Directors General in the Office of the Secretary of State for Decentralisation, Miguel Carvalho & Abilio Caetano and Director of Local Administration, Barros Hermes Meeting with Manager of Diak Printing, Deolinda da Cunha Meeting with AVI Country Manager, Cathy Molnar
Saturday 11 May	Travel Dili-Darwin-Melbourne

ATTACHMENT 3

PEOPLE MET DURING THE VISIT

Abilio Caetano, Director General in the Office of the Secretary of State for Decentralisation, Ministry of State Administration

Abril de Oliveira, Finance and Sales Manager, St Francis of Assisi Disability Workshop

Aloysius Luis Enrique, Vice Rector, Aileu Science and Technology Institute

Alfonso Candido, Adviser on Decentralisation, Ministry of State Administration

Augusto Tilman, maintenance engineer, Besilau *aldeia*

Barros Hermes, Director Local Administration, Ministry of State Administration

Camilo da Costa, Aileu Vila Sub-District Community Development Officer

Carlos Alberto Araujo, Sub-District Administrator, Remexio

Catherine Johnston, Chief of Party, USAID Agriculture Project

Cathy Molnar, AVI Country Manager

Cesar Melito, Rector, Aileu Science and Technology Institute

Dr Chris Fenton, CEO, Bairo Pite Hospital

Cristiano Maremo, Production Manager, St Francis of Assisi Disability Workshop

Padre David Alves de Conceicao, parish priest, Remexio

Deolinda de Cunha, owner, Diak Printing, Dili

Domingos Vidigal, District Planning Officer, Aileu

Ego Lemos, founder and director, Permatil

Luis Belo, Assistant Sub-District Administrator, Laulara

Luis Gracia, Maintenance Manager, St Francis of Assisi Disability Workshop

Maria Diamantina Martins, Aileu Resource and Training Centre

Maria Santina da Silva, dental nurse, Aileu Dental Service

Mario Soares, District Development Officer, Aileu

Martinho Matos, District Administrator, Aileu

Martinho dos Reis, Laulara Sub-District Community Development Officer

Sister Mary Anne Dwyer, Ismaik ashram, Aileu

Miguel Carvalho, Director General in the Office of the Secretary of State for Decentralisation, Ministry of State Administration

Moises Fernandes, Chair, Committee for the Establishment of the Municipality, Aileu

Dr Natalia de Araujo Lopes, Laulara Birthing Centre

Paul Coghlan, AVI Volunteer, Aileu

Ryan Talmage, adviser, USAID agriculture project

Sister Rosalva Sandi, Aileu Resource and Training Centre

Sally Chapman, Child Protection Officer – International Volunteers Program, Red Cross

Sister Susan Gubbins, Uma Ita Nian Parish Clinic, Aileu