

## ***Empowering Women and Increasing Access to Justice in Timor-Leste***

*Submitted to:*



### **FINAL REPORT**

*October 211 –  
October 2013*

**Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

*Prepared and Submitted By*

**Search for Common Ground**

Date of Submission: January 31, 2014

*For further information, please contact:*

Jose De Sousa

Timor-Leste Country Director

Search for Common Ground

Rua Martires da Patria

Mandarin, Dili - Timor-Leste

Tel: +670 3313312

[jdesousa@sfcg.org](mailto:jdesousa@sfcg.org)

## ***List of Abbreviations***

AATL	Asosiasaun Advogadu Timor-Leste
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBV	Gender Based Violence
KII	Key Informant Interviews
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
POSA	Public Outreach Service Announcements
RTL	Radio Timor-Leste
SECOMs	Secretary of State for Communications
SEPI	Secretary of State for Promotion of Equality
SFCG	Search for Common Ground
SGBV	Sexual and gender-based violence
TLMDC	Timor-Leste Media Development Centre
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
VPU	Vulnerable Persons Unit (of National Police Timor-Leste)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. PROJECT OVERVIEW .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3. SUMMARY OF MAIN ACTIONS.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.1 Stakeholder Meeting .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.2 Baseline Assessment.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.3 Curriculum Summit .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3.4 Training in Media and Gender .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3.5 Production Progress: Episodes and Talk Show.....</b>	<b>7</b>
Episodes.....	7
Talk show .....	8
<b>3.6 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs).....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>4. ASSESMENT OF PROJECT.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>4.1 Actual Outputs vs. Planned Outputs .....</b>	<b>10</b>
Output 1: Message Development Stakeholder Meetings.....	10
Output 2: Training of AATL Staff in Justice and Conflict Transformation.....	11
Output 3: Production of Radio Oral “Herstory” series .....	11
Output 4: Production and Broadcasting of Interactive Talk Shows and Quizzes .....	11
Output 5: Publicity and Promotion Campaign to Promote Listenership.....	11
Output 6: Listener Groups (LGs) and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) .....	11
Output 7: Compiling and Reporting Feedback.....	11
<b>4.2 Use of Funds Compared to Budget.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>4.3 Project Efficiency and Effectiveness .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>4.4 Project Adjustments and Deviations .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>4.5 Project Problems and Risks.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.6 Project Impact (Summary of Monitoring and Evaluation Results) .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.7 Project Sustainability.....</b>	<b>14</b>
Working with UN Women on UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan .....	15
<b>4.8 Success Stories .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>4.9 Lessons Learned .....</b>	<b>16</b>
Projects .....	16
DM&E.....	16
<b>4.10 Conclusion.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>5. APPENDIX.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>5.1 Output Summary Report.....</b>	<b>17</b>

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Search for Common Ground (SFCG) Timor-Leste, with support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has been implementing **Women's Empowerment and Access to Justice** Project since two years. . With an aim of improving access to the formal justice system through the dissemination of information and the training of local organisations, the project has promoted legal awareness and responsiveness for marginalised groups -principally young women--and strengthened the capacity of civil society organisations (CSOs) and the media in Timor-Leste in regards to gender and media, as well as hosting talkshows and facilitating FGDs (with funds from other projects). The activities were originally undertaken with a budget of NOK 1,099,999.

Timor-Leste is a new nation that gained independence in 1999. As a fledgling republic, there are big challenges that the country needs to address. It is still struggling to put in place a system of participatory democracy governed by the rule of law. Addressing the patriarchal system that impedes women from having the same respect and value as men within their society, is one of them. Women are a key sector of society that must be involved in the justice and social reconstruction process. However, Timorese women have grown up in an atmosphere of fear, violence, intimidation and injustice. Though the existing legal system does provide the means to resolve disputes, many Timorese are unaware of relevant laws and their rights to have grievances redressed. In places where customary law (*adat*) still predominates, people often turn to traditional forms of dispute resolution rather than bringing their case to the state judicial system.

SFCG has thus designed the Empowering Women's Access to Justice Project to empower women so that they seek access to justice that is fair to them. The media component of the project is a tool to encourage and inspire the community to support disempowered and vulnerable women to believe in themselves and be informed on choosing the right path to justice.

Over the past few years, Timor-Leste Government has been struggling to put in place a judicial system that is understood and accessible by all segments of the population. Corruption is also a growing problem. The lack of laws and rights enforcement, despite being constitutionally enshrined, has made the people believe that justice is purchased in Timor-Leste. Furthermore, instability, economic hardship and weak institutions serve as a source of frustration for the population. Women and youth being the hardest hit, feel marginalized and disenfranchised.

Amidst these challenges, the Women's Empowerment and Access to Justice Project is contributing to achieve equal and timely access to justice for men, women and children. It has contributed to building the capacity of the justice sector, particularly CSOs working to complement State justice institutions.

To attain its objectives, SFCG used a national public awareness media campaign as the centrepiece of the project. It utilised radio program "HerStory", Public Outreach Service Announcements (POSAs), and interactive talk shows and contests to provide Timorese women, men and youth with information and practical examples on how to address justice challenges. The project also helped create positive attitudes towards and among women. SFCG facilitated structured focus group discussions (FDGs) and media advocacy activities to enhance outcomes.

SFCG Timor-Leste drew upon the expertise of SFCG global in the use of media for peace-building, justice, and conflict transformation. SFCG has been producing and distributing innovative and popular radio programmes across Asia and Africa for years. For this project, SFCG Timor-Leste also built on its 'Youth Radio for Peacebuilding' project. The programme targeted marginalised women and provided

them with practical ways to address legal challenges and conflict factors in a proactive, cooperative and non-violent way.

SFCG developed the monitoring, service delivery, and public engagement capacities of a legal aid NGO, and key media institutions with this project. Programme activities were implemented in close partnership with Asosiasaun Advogadu Timor-Leste (AATL), the Timor-Leste Media Development Centre (TLMDC), Radio Timor-Leste (RTL), and 15 community radio stations. By supporting local CSOs, SFCG directly contributed to the Norwegian strategic priority, namely: promoting women's empowerment, and improving access to justice.

## **2. PROJECT OVERVIEW**

The project expressly intended to provide public information considered essential to using the judicial system, while also providing alternative responses through the non-formal sector. SFCG's experience over nearly three decades has shown that the media can change how citizens behave when it comes to settling their legal disputes; and it assumes the media can change public perceptions about how the judicial system functions. Based on its previous intended-outcomes media productions, SFCG's media campaign for this project inverted the pyramid of assumptions, working incrementally from increasing public knowledge, to bolstering public confidence, to promoting new behavioural habits.

The WEA2J project contributed to increase the potential for women to use the formal justice system by disseminating information concerning individual rights, the current state of laws and the different legal avenues available, and by expanding the referral pathways that enhance the ability of women to pursue these legal avenues. The project focused on several key thematic areas: land rights, labour rights, combating violence against women and children, abortion, juvenile justice, and property and inheritance rights.

The specific objectives of the project are as follows:

- To increase public awareness of basic rights to seek legal remedies to legitimate grievances; that is, to increase public knowledge and change public perceptions and attitudes regarding the workings of the Timorese judicial system
- To support the creation of referral pathways for Timorese women to access legal advice
- To enhance the capacity and sustainability of Timorese CSOs to play a more active role in justice, women's rights and peace building processes.

With these objectives in mind, SFCG produced 15 radio programs and 1 POSA, conducted a baseline survey and carried out 32 FGDs in total as activities. A public outreach campaign was also conducted to create awareness about the radio program, and community radio were also tasked with hosting three talk shows each. Training and capacity building for the media sector as well as in-studio coaching for selected community radio partners were also parts of the project. An external evaluation completed the project, the report of which is under way.

## **3. SUMMARY OF MAIN ACTIONS**

### **3.1 Stakeholder Meeting**

To further the knowledge of the context we were intervening in, SFCG conducted a number of meetings with stakeholders, specifically civil society organisations working in the sector of women's empowerment and/or access to justice prior to the baseline assessment.

The meetings aimed at mapping existing organizations working on women's issues, their work and identifying gaps. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) played a lead role in this process. The meetings took place in the first three months of program implementation, allowing ample time to develop the media campaign. The meetings included the Justice System Monitoring Program (JSMP), the Asia Foundation, Rede Feto ('Women's Network on Timor-Leste'), UNDP, Alola Foundation, and Justice Facility.

### **3.2 Baseline Assessment**

SFCG began the project with an initial baseline assessment that determined the degree of knowledge about legal issues, conflict transformation, as well as attitudes towards justice institutions, conflict and the role of marginalised groups in building peace. Using surveys (which will include attitude measurement scales), the baseline was conducted on a sample of the target population. The findings both served as comparison points to show change at the end of the programme and also feed into the development of the radio programming. SFCG conducted the baselines survey in five districts: Baucau in village of Venilale, Bononaro in village of Ritabou, Covalima in village of Debus, Oecusse in village of Pante Makasar and Dili in village Vera Cruz. All of these districts have a courthouse, except Bobonaro.

A short literature review of the methodology from existing Access to Justice projects in Timor-Leste, as well as existing SFCG projects, was conducted to inform the design of the data collection tools. Sources such as The Asia Foundation's 2008 Law and Justice Survey, and SFCG's Baseline Report on Radicalisation in Indonesian Pesantrens were consulted. Based on the research findings, project objectives and project indicators, the baseline team decided to implement a mix-methods data collection strategy. The three tools that were developed were: (1) Surveys that were distributed amongst a random sample of the population in each of the six districts, (2) Focus Groups discussions for youth (15-25) and women, and (3) Key Informant Interviews with stakeholders.

KIIs followed the FGDs. They were also conducted in the same five districts. The team interviewed the community leaders on their actions to socialise justice issues and formal justice system. SFCG conducted the interviews with the village chief, elected women members of the village council, female youth, district administrator, members of Rede Feto (Women's Network), VPU (Vulnerable Persons Unit, Police), district police commanders, female activists, FOKUPERS, Prosecutors, lawyers and female victims of domestic violence, land disputes and divorce.

### **3.3 Curriculum Summit**

SFCG held a curriculum summit for the HerStory radio program 24 through 25 July 2012. The workshop convened 22 Timorese men and women to discuss the design and production of the radio series. The radio project's goal is to strengthen marginalized groups, particularly women, in understanding and accessing justice through sharing the experiences of Timorese men and women regarding women's rights and issues.

The two days summit saw the participation of subject experts and programme advisors, community radio stations, journalists and Government media officers. It defined the learning objectives, or ‘intended outcomes’ that informed the contents of the radio PSAs and oral “herstory” programme. The summit gave some major outcomes in order to identify issues relevant to women.

Based on the mapping done with the participants, it was agreed that there were 5 issues that drew public attention to women in Timor-Leste. The five main issues are: domestic violence, land dispute, divorce, prostitution and women and children’s labor rights. Participants noted that the fifth issue has not had much serious attention from the government and NGOs, and therefore the Timorese public would really benefit from increased awareness on the serious issue of child labour and trafficking.

SFCG then designed the project based on the findings of the baseline, the stakeholders’ meeting and the curriculum summit, so that the interventions are apt and effective. The assessment showed that women have been systematically marginalised in the communities. For this reason, SFCG carved the project in a way that it specifically targeted women. It aimed at empowering women and facilitate their access to justice. The assessments also showed that media is very effective in the communities. Hence, SFCG designed the project with a strong focus on media activities that can reach vulnerable and marginalized women with information on accessing justice.

On the one hand, the project motivated vulnerable women to speak up and on the other hand, it encouraged media to research and cover women’s issue in a way that it becomes an issue of national concern. The project also engaged male members of the community to support and facilitate vulnerable women’s’ access to justice in cases of violence.

### 3.4 Training in Media and Gender

SFCG, in coordination with Association of Journalists Timor-Leste (AJTL) and with the SFCG Indonesia office, conducted media training on the area of empowering media to promote women’s access to justice. In this training conducted on 13-15 September, there were participants from community radio from 13 districts, Government media officers and national media such as newspapers and national radio. The objective of the training was to increase media’s knowledge and interest in covering women’s issues. The training also included sessions on CEDAW and UNSCR1325.

### 3.5 Production Progress: Episodes and Talk Show

#### Episodes

The project team produced 15 episodes beginning October 2012. Out of the 15 episodes, 12 were produced by SFCG media team and 3 by TLMDC. The audio CDs of 15 episodes distributed to 16 radios on the day of launching and were well received. They aired it starting May through August 2013. Some of them are still broadcasting it, even though the project has ended, as they find the content helpful for their community. Two university campus-based radios stations also participated to broadcast these episodes. Each major issue (domestic violence, land dispute, divorce, prostitution and women and children’s labor rights) had three sub topics for broadcast as below:

No	Main issue	Topics
1.	Land dispute	Equality right to be owner; follow the law to avoid conflict; legal process for land dispute
2.	Domestic violence	Legal process for DV case; Violence is not the solution; legal

		assistance for the victims
3.	Divorce	Legal process for divorce case; formal justice vs traditional justice; difference is not to divide
4.	Prostitution	Violence based profession-how to protect them; take young people out of prostitution; is there a place for prostitutes who change their life
5.	Women + Juvenile labor	Violence & labor protection; the importance to invest in women labor; my time before and after school time

### Talk show

As part of the project, each community radio organized and broadcast 3 radio talk shows. These occurred after the broadcast of the 5<sup>th</sup> episode, 10<sup>th</sup> episode and 15<sup>th</sup> episodes. Issues that were brought to the studio were framed around the five main issues from HerStory radio magazine but the talk show issues depended on burning issues in their districts. Sixteen (16) community radio stations produced the talk shows. University radios did not produce them because of the limited



**Talkshow in Suai**

listenership. So during the period 15 community radios produced 43 talk shows. A total of 3 of the 15 did not produce the 3rd talk show; and 2 talk shows did not go on air.

The guests/speakers invited to the discussion included: domestic violence survivors, women's rights activists (from local NGOs), VPU police officers, community leaders such as church employees, traditional leaders, village council members, government representatives such as director of land and property, legal aid workers such as lawyers and prosecutors at district level, and other relevant people. Please see the table below for details of talkshow topics hosted and broadcast by each community radio partner.

### List of talk show production and on air

No	Community Radio	Data	Issue
1.	Rádiu Lorico Lian	28/06/13	TS1 -The impact of the patriarchal culture
		20/09/2013	TS2 - Prostitution
			<b>TS3 - did not produce</b>
2.	Rádiu Liberdadei	17/05/13	TS1 - Domestic violence
		06/07/2013	TS 2 - Women labor
		21/08/13	TS3 - Land Dispute



3.	Rádiu Jojo FM	13/08/2013	TS1 - Domestic Violence
		25/08/2013	TS2 - Divorce
		03/09/2013	TS3 - Women labor
4.	Rádiu Tokodede-Liquiça	03/05/2013	TS1 - Domestic violence
		01/06/2013	TS2 - Land dispute
		05/07/2013	TS3 - Divorce
5.	Rádiu Comunitadi Maliana	28/05/13	TS1 - Domestic violence
		26/06/13	TS2 - Divorce
		06/08/13	TS3 - Land dispute
6.	Rádiu Cova Taroman-Suai	29/07/2013	TS1 - Divorce
		01/08/2013	TS2 - Land dispute: equality right to be owner
		22/08/2013	TS3 - Domestic violence
7.	Rádiu Tatamailau-Ainaro	16/07/2013	TS1 - Land dispute: culture perspective (did not on air)
		17/07/2013	TS2 - Domestic violence: how to report the case (did not on air)
			TS3 - did not produce
8.	Rádiu Mauloko-Maubise	7/06/2013	TS1 - Land dispute
		12/07/2013	TS2 - Domestic Violence
		16/08/2013	TS3 - Divorce
9.	Rádiu Comunidade Aileu	31/05/2013	TS1 - Domestic violence
		28/06/2013	TS2 - Divorce: traditional justice
		15/11/2013	TS3 - Divorce (produced after deadline)
10.	Rádiu Boaventura-Same		Did not produce any talkshows
11.	Rádiu Atoni Lifau-Oecusse	06/07/2013	TS 1 - The right of women labor
		09/08/2013	TS 2 - Domestic Violence
		06/09/2013	TS 3 - The right to be land owner
12.	Rádiu Matebian-Baucau	10 & 12/06/13	TS 1 - Domestic Violence
		24/06/2013	TS 2 - Land Dispute
		08/07/2013	TS 3 - Divorce
13.	Rádiu Suku Bucoli	21/05/2013	TS1 - Domestic violence
		25/06/2013	TS2 - Land dispute
		30/08/2013	TS 3 - Prostitution
14.	Rádiu Voxpopuli-Lospalos	19/06/2013	TS1 - Domestic Violence
		28/06/2013	TS2 - Land Dispute
		13/08/2013	TS3 - Divorce
15.	Rádiu Povu Viqueque	16 & 18 & 28/09/13	TS1 - Domestic violence
		14 & 16 & 19/10/13	TS2 - Divorce
			TS3 - did not produce
16.	Rádiu Iliwa'i Manatuto	23/05/2013	TS1 - Domestic Violence
		25/06/2013	TS2 - Divorce
		16/08/2013	TS3 - Women right for land

### 3.6. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

The project supported 16 community radios to conduct FGDs at the middle and the end of project. The 16 community radios facilitated 32 FGDs in their districts. A total of 7 of 16 community radios conducted legal discussion with AATL after the FGDs.

The FGDs showed that the listeners found the radio program useful. The legal discussion with the AATL was useful in increasing people's understanding on law and its use in real life. Some of the FGD participants also suggested that more episodes be added to the radio program. It was also evident in more than 200 short messages (sms) sent by the listeners. The best listeners responses received prizes which included clocks and t-shirts, produced as part of outreach campaign materials.



FGD Participants in Viqueque

The FGDs were split into two groups. The first group comprised of women aged 31-50, and second group had youth aged 16-30. The objective of the FGDs was to measure their understanding of women's rights, equality between men and women, and experiences of vulnerable women in accessing the formal justice system. The FGD conductors also explored the target groups' knowledge on formal and traditional justice mechanisms in Timor-Leste.

Information and stories from the FGDs, as well as sms feedback and talkshows from HerStory radio programs, has been compiled into the People's Justice Report.

## 4. ASSESSMENT OF PROJECT

### 4.1 Actual Outputs vs. Planned Outputs

SFCG tracked numerous quantitatively measurable output measurements (which can be grouped together into output groups) to measure progress during the implementation. Below are the seven output groups and statuses. Please see a detailed list of the outputs and log frame in 5.1.

#### **Output 1: Message Development Stakeholder Meetings**

As mentioned above, prior to the baseline assessment, SFCG conducted a number of meetings with stakeholders, specifically civil society organisations working in the sector of women's empowerment and/or access to justice.

During the project implementation, SFCG held meetings with National Directorate of Land and Property and Secretary of State for Promotion of Equality (SEPI) to discuss project effectiveness and relevance for rural communities, especially women's empowerment and access to justice.

### **Output 2: Training of AATL Staff in Justice and Conflict Transformation**

AATL is not yet registered by the government as a legal firm, due to strict regulations that require lawyers to complete judicial courses delivered in Portuguese language. However, most lawyers have been trained in Bahasa Indonesia language which has been an ongoing challenge for legal practitioners in Timor-Leste. Therefore the team developed the strategy to invite AATL along to some of the FGDs in rural districts to provide a short talk about civil and public crimes.

### **Output 3: Production of Radio Oral “Herstory” series**

Production achieved 100%. The radio program broadcast by community radio achieved 88%. There were a few problems of community Radio station not cooperating well. The project’s effectiveness was reflected poorly in the interviews and survey results from the final evaluation due to this lack of cooperation. There was a direct and consistent correlation between the level of project engagement of the community radio and the project’s effectiveness at the grassroots level.

### **Output 4: Production and Broadcasting of Interactive Talk Shows and Quizzes**

The percentage of radio talk-show produced and broadcasted is 76%. Previously SFCG produced talk-shows and distributed to community radio for broadcasting. So this was a new experience for community radio to host, produce and broadcast. Some of the community radios were able to deliver all outputs while others struggled, due to technical or internal issues. Community radio also reported that it was difficult to organise guest speakers as they preferred speakers from National Government. However, SFCG was able to overcome some of these difficulties by providing on-site and in-studio coaching.

### **Output 5: Publicity and Promotion Campaign to Promote Listenership**

Only 1 from 5 POSAs was completed as key messages were integrated into radio program/magazine Her-Story and other publicity material such as Posters, Banners and stickers was 100% achieved according to the number of the indicators. The final evaluation survey respondents totaling 52% reported that they saw the publicity materials and this encouraged them to listen to the radio program “Her-Story”. It was also discovered by SFCG that community radio partners prefer to produce their own POSAs and in the future SFCG will continue this activity. Some community radio partners have begun to produce their own POSAs, however support is needed to provide them with support to produce POSAs on women’s empowerment and justice issues.

### **Output 6: Listener Groups (LGs) and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)**

At times the target number of FGD participants was not met because some people weren’t interested in participating in FGDs or didn’t have time. The FGDs were organized by community radio so sometimes participants were friends and family or people from the neighborhood. It may be more productive to hold FGDs during time when people, particularly women, are back from working on the farms or formal employment.

### **Output 7: Compiling and Reporting Feedback**

Compiling and reporting feedback has been compiled into the People’s Justice report.

## **4.2 Use of Funds Compared to Budget**

For the project, SFCG Timor-Leste received a total of \$347,188.47 USD (after conversion from NOK) of which 316,107.96 was spent according to the financial report, which indicates spending of 91.05% of the project budget.

A large amount of the spending occurred in the Travel and Per Diem (109.92%) as it was found that the project team needed to carry out extensive coaching and monitoring of activities with community

radio partners. However, feedback from community radio partners informed that they preferred to have the on-site training rather than having to travel to Dili just to attend training. Also extra support was needed from the SFCG Asia Regional Office for this project in the area of monitoring and evaluation, such as carrying out the baseline survey and mid-term report as the DM&E Coordinator was not recruited until August 2013. The previous DM&E Coordinator was promoted to another role and the gap was not filled immediately afterwards.

Overspending also occurred in Office Supplies (108.88%) in order to pay for other items such as food in order to fill gaps from other budget lines

The Contractual field had overspending due to unforeseen costs in broadcast and talk show as well as in training activities. The fee for radio had increased from previous projects as SFCG tasked partner community radios with producing talk shows whereas in a previous project, talk shows were produced by SFCG and CDs were distributed for broadcasting and radio presenters received a small fee as did the field reporters. SFCG decided to take a different approach and give a package payment to community radio to work on HerStory and two other projects and payments were made to the community radio manager. There are also internal problems within community radio and volunteers do not stay long with the community radio as they do not receive any incentives so this posed to be a problem for talkshows. There were also logistic difficulties in obtaining outreach material which was ordered from Jakarta, including artwork, but transportation of the materials to Timor-Leste proved to be difficult.

In general, most of the spending of the project budget was for project activities rather than personnel and operational costs, which shows that the project had wide outreach with frequent travel to all districts of Timor-Leste. The project was also able to strengthen relationships with community radio partners where other organizations have failed to build relationships with them.

Payments are still to be made for the final evaluation (to be completed in March 2014), project audit, printing and dissemination of the People's Justice Report and radio program CDs, as well as other projects reports, pending approval.

### 4.3 Project Efficiency and Effectiveness

The project has been effective in raising awareness about land, and DV issues and the means with which to address these. According to anecdotal evidence, there has been an increase in the number of referrals of DV cases to the police since 2010, but a reduction in the amount of DV cases generally and that the project has in part contributed to this. (*See success story from Leni Marquita Guterres, Venilale*)

According to findings from the final evaluation surveys, in most districts, respondents indicated that the programs were useful and interesting, and that it had increased their trust in the formal justice system. The survey found that 55% from 335 surveyed have listened to the radio program Her-Story. The respondents belonged to different age groups, male and female. For the talk-shows 42% of the surveyed had listened to the talk-show and some reported providing feedback to the program. Of those surveyed, 56.40% had listened to three or more episodes. They reported preferring to listen to issues on women's rights to land, domestic violence and divorce.

From the survey conducted for the final evaluation in four districts, Bucoli and Liquica had the highest percentage of listenership, 90% and 83% respectively, while Aileu and Dili had the lowest, 39% and

49%. This data shows the importance of community engagement. During the final evaluation survey interview with police commandant of Aileu District he said that the community radio was not active in community engagement and this was reflected in the percentage of listenership. To improve listenership SFCG has made efforts to socialise the radio program by providing CDs of the radio program to national radio network, and also through socialization in youth events from other SFCG projects as well as socialising through events with stakeholders such as UN Women and Secretary of State for Security.

#### 4.4 Project Adjustments and Deviations

After SFCG conducted the stakeholder meeting and baseline survey, a number of questions regarding project design was brought forth. This was relevant because the project was designed a year before it was funded and therefore, changes in relation to women's empowerment and access to justice in Timor-Leste should have been taken into consideration in moving forward with the implementation. The adjustments were:

- Additional activities with a focus on building the capacity of media professionals (radio, television and print) in gender and media are needed. More specifically, the assessments showed that they needed to cultivate the skills of seeking constructive solutions. Considering this and the fact that media can also play an important role in socializing legal reform, SFCG carried out number of trainings to the journalist from diverse regions on practices pertaining to Gender and Common Ground Approach. The trainings especially focused on issues ranging from the challenges women in Timor-Leste experience when trying to access the country's justice system - to the challenges local journalists encounter when endeavouring to cover gender-specific issues. It also ranged from training on how to facilitate talk show with a focus on women issues to workshop with journalist and other stakeholders upon the development of Her story through curriculum summit workshop, and engage with AATL at the final stage of the project specifically to disseminate law to the community radio and FGD participants in 10 Districts.
- Facilitators of gender and media training also covered issues pertaining to women, peace and security and explored opportunities to build peace through media work. At the conclusion of the workshop, several of the women in attendance requested further follow-up trainings on women's human rights and on how to work more effectively within the media on gender-specific issues. This dialogue then expanded into a discussion of plans to develop a unique network of women journalists from all 13 districts in Timor-Leste where the group could come together, share experiences and undergo further capacity strengthening.
- Partnership with Asosiasaun Advogadu Timor-Leste (AATL) including activities related to building the capacity of staff from AATL in key areas of justice and conflict transformation was considered to be less relevant because they have no regular activities and they have a lack of presence in all 13 districts. Most of the AATL members were engaged in private practice or work with National NGOs in the justice sector as well being employed within Government, through the Ministry of Justice.
- Lawyers Association of Timor-Leste (AATL) has been formed but its law has only been

regulated recently. The current legal framework is, nevertheless, transitional and still does not grant lawyers the right to be self-regulated by a Bar Association or similar body. Thus increasing capacity of the AATL will go beyond key justice and conflict transformation such as Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and Code of Civil Procedure, etc.

#### 4.5 Project Problems and Risks

TLMDC produced 3 episodes of HerStory instead of 15. They did not follow the deadline production as expected. This caused delay in the program to go on air. To overcome this, SFCG media team produced the remaining radio episodes. However, TLMDC have uploaded Herstory episodes to their website.

Some of community radios such as Boaventura-Same Manufahi; Tatamailau-Ainaro; and Taroman-Suai Covalima did not participate well doing radio talk show even though they received training and coaching before the production. Some of them produced but did not follow the deadline such as Rai Husar-Aileu and Povu-Viqueque. The team had to persistently persuade them for the production. To overcome this SFCG will develop a deeper capacity building plan for community radio in future projects, some of which is already underway such as signing Memorandum of Understanding with Secretary of State for Communications (SECOMs) in November 2013 and working with Community Radio Centre to organize Community Radio Conference which was held in December 2013.

Bar Association AATL had not been able to secure legal registration by the time of project implementation. By the end of the project, SFCG involved them in FGD activities as many FGD participants wanted detailed information about law and work of courts in Timor Leste. This proved to be an effective strategy and participants were able to have their questions on legal issues answered.

#### 4.6 Project Impact (Summary of Monitoring and Evaluation Results)

The project has garnered some significant achievements in building the capacity of the community radio stations, and using community radio as a mechanism for awareness raising and empowerment. According to the final evaluation report, SFCG is the first NGO in Timor Leste to effectively use this medium to educate the national population on human rights, access to formal justice, and gender issues.

The project has contributed to individuals being aware of accessing formal justice and human rights. Based on the interviews and survey results collected during the project, a number of people expressed a developed interest in using the formal justice system to ensure gender equality and a reduction in household violence (*See success story from Bahu-Baucau*). Some have been convinced of (1) the formal justice system's effectiveness in protecting individual rights (*See success story from Bucoli*) and (2) why women deserve equal rights as men (*See success story from Venilale*), others were still confused and unsure, as observed during FGD Maubara-Liquica. This was because people still rely on the traditional justice mechanisms and the concept of women's rights contradicts traditional structure of the family and society. Based on the findings from the final evaluation, the project's cultural impact is mixed. Some men had said they felt left out and did not feel the radio program was for them. Therefore, more work is needed to develop a strategy in projects similar to this which promote gender equality including men – i.e., in adopting a more holistic definition of 'gender' (not to be defined as just an women's topic) – and which promote access to formal justice for considering more seriously the values and processes of traditional justice.

#### 4.7 Project Sustainability

SFCG was invited to share its experience working for women's access to justice in a workshop organized by Ba Futuru, a national NGO that works for women's issues on 10 December 2013. The NGO requested SFCG that we continue to collaborate with it to reach the community by providing CDs

of the radio programs. Participants suggested future activities for Ba Futuru or SFCG was to continue working with media which is very important to promote women in all areas not just to publicise the issues that involve mostly men and to conduct activities on Atauro island as majority of the community don't have access to media and the media themselves are not interested to cover information from their community in Atauro, especially vulnerable women.

As mentioned above, SFCG has signed an MoU with SECOMs which has opened doors for working more closely with the Government. This agreement also includes access to SECOM and Community Radio Centre studios and to mobile radio equipment as well as coordinating key messages with other Government Ministries and State Secretariats through SECOMs.

SFCG are also in the process of coordinating with the Ministry of State Administration, Ministry of Education and SEPI to distribute CDs to district gender working groups and to sub-District community learning centres.

### **Working with UN Women on UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan**

SFCG works closely with UN women, especially to share HerStory content with their partner organizations such as Alola Foundation, Asia Foundation, Fokupers, JSMP, Rede Feto, Pradet, NGO ba Futuru, Asosiasaun Mane Kontra Violensia (AMKV), Fundasaun Timor Harii (FTH), etc. In October 2013 Her Story team shared how the team assessed women in rural areas and encouraged them to speak up about problems that they face.

The coordination with UNWomen has resulted in HerStory CDs being a part of ToT toolkits that UNWomen in coordination with the Secretariat of State for Security will be distributing to facilitators who conduct community consultations for the UNSCR1325 National Action Plan for Timor-Leste.

## **4.8 Success Stories**

Leni Marquita Guterres lives in Baucau district of Venilale village. Leni's is a story of a woman speaking up after being inspired by HerStory. Being born in a patriarchal culture, Leni faced discrimination at home. Her parents treated her unequally in comparison to her brothers. Inspired by an episode of HerStory that focused on women's access to land, Leni decided to ask the community radio to broadcast her story. She made a point that her parents listened to the radio while her story was being broadcast on 15 June 2013. The results were overwhelming! Leni's father, now aware of the damage he had done to Leni, decided that Leni too is a shareholder of the paddy that grows in their land.

Maria Madalena da Costa, from Baucau district is a stellar example of how SFCG's work touches people's lives. Being born in a family that thought of domestic violence as an "internal" problem of the home, she herself never realized that it is a publishable crime. Listening to HerStory made her realize that seeking formal justice can criminalize domestic violence.

She believes that conflict can be handled in a way that it does not resort to violence. She thanks HerStory for giving her that awareness. She has learnt that we have to change the ways we respond to conflict. She is thankful that both she and her husband listen to the radio program and that they both know that domestic violence is a punishable crime.

Ermelita Rosalia da Costa Silva, lives in Baucau district and is yet another example of how SFCG has helped people access justice. Ermelita is divorced and is a survivor of domestic violence. While

speaking to SFCG, she disclosed that she did not have an idea on where she can go and report the violence that she was going through. Now, as she listens to the radio program, she is happy that other women have a forum to speak about what happens to them. As Ermelita divulged her story in the radio program, she found ways to report her story to a formal justice system. Her case has now been reported to the Prevedor (Ombudsman) for human rights and justice in order to be processed to the court.

More success stories can be found in the People's Justice Report factsheets as attached.

## 4.9 Lessons Learned

### Projects

- One issue that arose during project implementation was the question of AATL's legality to operate in Timor-Leste. Though an unfortunate set back, it is a reminder of the importance of prior research when designing a project to insure feasibility.
- It was displayed in section 5.1 (Actual Outputs vs. Planned Outputs) that not all output goals were reached. With proper program planning and increased foresight during the process, we believe it is possible to reach even more outputs goals.
- Listenership of community radio needs to be increased as well as listener group activities in rural and remote communities. SFCG has begun to address this by working with the Secretariat of State for Communications (SECOMs) to hold a three day community radio conference in December 2013 where topics such as engagement of community and role of community radio board was covered and discussed. SECOMs will also be receiving mobile radio equipment donation from the Government of Japan and there is an opportunity for SFCG to use this equipment to implement activities in rural and remote areas.

### DM&E

- Project implementation was late and listener group surveys were not done regularly. Additionally, the project logframe was not updated regularly, causing difficulties in deciding what to focus on.

## 4.10 Conclusion

Though the project was small in scope, the impact was considerable but could have been more as success of the radio programs and listenership is dependent on the role the community radio takes. While there is a lot of interest from women, a challenge for Timor-Leste is getting men on board to discuss and analyse their role in women's issues, women's empowerment and access to justice. The next steps are to continue working with the Government and stakeholders to encourage them to use the media and community radio to disseminate information, particularly on women's issues, gender equality, laws and services available to the public. SFCG will continue working in this area should we be able to secure funds to do so; however, activities can still continue through the Herstory radio programs, which continue to be broadcast by some community radio partners, The "Her Story" could be tools to disseminate issues facing by women in Timor Leste while the "Her Story" will be use by the Secretary of State for Security (and UN WOMEN) as a resources for the discussion among the community on the development of the National action plan for the UN Resolution of 1325 on the Women, Peace and Security.



## 5. APPENDIX

### 5.1 Output Summary Report

<b>Output 1: Message Development Stakeholder meetings</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Prev. Status</b>	<b>Total achieved to date</b>	<b>Rate of progress in %)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
# of formal stakeholder meeting	1	1	1	1	100%	
<i>Indicator 1: Number and type of participants that attend the stakeholder meetings</i>		12	12	12		No target
<i>Indicator 2: Number of informal meetings</i>	10	15	8	8	80%	
<b>Output 3: Production of radio oral “Herstory” series</b>		<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Prev. Status</b>	<b>Total achieved to date</b>	<b>Rate of progress in %)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<i>Indicator 1: # and type of participants that attend the training</i>	36	20	20	20	56%	# of indicator more 50% from target-data sources complete (Participant list, report)
		0		0		

<b>Output 3: Production of radio oral “Herstory” series</b>		<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Prev. Status</b>	<b>Total achieved to date</b>	<b>Rate of progress in %)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<i>Output 3: Production of radio oral “Herstory” series</i>	15	15	0	15	100%	Achieved target-data source complete 100%
<i>Indicator 2: # of episode produced and distributed to CR and RTL</i>	240	270	0	270	100%	Complete ( more than target achieved)
<i># Radio oral Broadcast</i>	240	211	0	211	88%	Activity report, attach with schedule of broadcasting , invoices
<b>Output 4: Production and broadcasting of interactive talk shows and quizzes</b>		<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Prev. Status</b>	<b>Total achieved to date</b>	<b>Rate of progress in %)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<i>Indicator 1: # interactive talk shows produced and broadcast by radio stations</i>	45	34	0	34	76%	
<i>Indicator 2: # of Quiz produced and broadcast (Question, Winner and Data compiling)</i>	240	270	0	270	100%	

<b>Output 5: Publicity and promotion campaign to promote listenership</b>		<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Prev. Status</b>	<b>Total achieved to date</b>	<b>Rate of progress in %)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<i>Indicator 1: # promotional materials produced and distributed</i>						
<i>POSA</i>	5	1	0	1	20%	Key messages integrated into radio program
<i>Posters</i>	1000	1000	0	1000	100%	Activity report completed
<i>Banners</i>	26	26	0	26	100%	Activity report completed
<i>Stickers</i>	5000	5000	0	5000	100%	Activity report completed
<b>Output 6: Listener Groups (LGs) and Focus group discussions (FGDs)</b>		<b>Current Status</b>	<b>Prev. Status</b>	<b>Total achieved to date</b>	<b>Rate of progress in %)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<i>Indicator 1: Number and type of participants that attend LGs and FGDs</i>	195	121	0	121	62%	Activity report complete
<i>Indicator 2: Types of feedback generated during FGDs</i>	5	0	0	0		All 5 topics were discussed albeit in different districts
<i>Indicator 3: # of FGD - LGs conducted</i>	26	32	0	15	58%	

Output 7: Compiling and Reporting Feedback		Current Status	Prev. Status	Total achieved to date	Rate of progress in %)	Notes
Indicator 1: Number of People's Justice View Reports prepared	1	1	0	0	100%	To be approved before being distributed together with CDs of radio programs