

# ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Strong Women Strong Nation

**Fundasaun ALOLA** was established in 2001 as a local women's organisation dedicated to the empowerment of women. Alola provides a wide strong of vitality important support programs for the women and children of Timor-Leste. Fundasaun Alola is organisation operating programs in support of furthering the rights of women and children of Timor-Leste.

**VISION:** WOMEN OF TIMOR-LESTE HAVE EQUAL STATUS IN ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE (access, participation, role in decision making, enjoyment of benefits of development) THROUGH EDUCATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HEALTH AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP programs in support of furthering the rights of women and children of Timor-Leste.

**MISSION:** To promote women's rights and increase women's leadership capacity, improve health status of women and children, increase access & quality of education for women and children and strengthen women's small enterprise at grassroots level

## PROGRAMS OBJECTIVES :

### MANAGEMENT

**Obj. : Effective and Efficient Management and HR Systems**

- Establish responsive system from program management and evaluation;
- Ensure transparency and accountability in financial management;
- Ensure quality facilities' management and process;
- Maintain endowment funds for future programs
- Performance appraisals annually and follow up on staff professional development;
- Strong HR systems;
- Continue to promote family friendly workspace.

### MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

**Obj. : Improve Women's and Children's Health Status**

- Program focus on reducing IMR, MMR and Under 5 child malnutrition rate;
- Promotion of exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding (through community-based groups at the village level);
- Support MOH to implement Nutrition Program and MCH Program;
- Empower community-based groups to support maternal and child health at the village level;
- Program collaboration with international and government partners at national and district level.

### EDUCATION

**Obj. : Improve Quality and Access to Education**

- Promote the importance of education and whole community involvement;
- Provide training to improve teachers' teaching ability;
- Resource development in Tetun and Portuguese and using local resources;
- Work collaboratively with MOE and other education organisations to develop holistic education program;
- Expand opportunities for education continuation;

### ADVOCACY

**Obj. : Promote Women's Human Rights**

- Campaign for women's rights;
- Strengthen women's leadership;
- Strengthen networks with all partners;
- District Support Program to empower women in all areas;
- Assist women to access information and understand their rights.

### ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

**Obj. : Strengthen Women's Economic Participation**

- Improve the status of women in enterprise;
- Increase income generating opportunities;
- Promote economic independence for women.



## CHAIRWOMAN'S STATEMENT

As we draw close to 2015 when the UN member states measure themselves up against the Millennium Development Goals, Timor-Leste can take pride in having achieved at least one of these ambitious goals. MDG 4 relating to child mortality challenged countries to reduce by two thirds the number of babies and small children dying in child-birth and the early years of life. Rates of infant and under-five mortality have declined by approximately 50% since 2001 in Timor-Leste. It is no exaggeration to say that the Alola Foundation's work in the maternal and child health field has contributed very directly to this encouraging achievement. With some 120 village-based support groups, including the Grupu Suporta Inan or Mother Support Groups which promote exclusive breastfeeding, more women than ever across Timor-Leste are being encouraged to give birth in a health facility and to make good choices about infant feeding. I am very proud of the work of the MCH team and know that they will continue to work in close partnership with the Ministry of Health to improve the health of mothers and children.




One of the highlights of my year was participation at a wonderful afternoon tea at the Windsor Hotel, Melbourne, with my dear friend, former Governor-General of Australia, Her Excellency Quentin Bryce. The event, organised by Alola Australia, brought together some 200 guests with whom Ms Bryce and I shared some reflections on challenges to women's health in Timor-Leste and the importance of exclusive breastfeeding for the health of both mothers and babies. Kate Ashmore and the team at Alola Australia did a marvellous job yet again at organizing a successful MILK campaign, Alola's annual fund-raiser in support of the Maternal and Child Health program. We are grateful to Kate and Alola Australia for the regular flow of funds and sisterly solidarity which motivate and encourage us to continue our current work and to respond to new needs.

Following my treatment for breast cancer, I established a small women's cancer support group called HALIKU. Its aim is to raise awareness in the community of the symptoms and treatment options for women's cancers, including breast cancer. With Fundasaun Alola's help, HALIKU has succeeded in producing a series of simply worded and illustrated brochures aimed at promoting early detection of cancer. Alola's MCH team has also

participated in training sessions for volunteers who are raising awareness of the causes and prevention of cancer in Dili and a number of districts. The challenges are enormous given the fledgling nature of cancer treatment services inside Timor-Leste and also traditional beliefs surrounding the diagnosis and treatment of life-threatening illnesses. Alola's vast experience of working with communities to address such problems will be vitally important as HALIKU expands its programs to reach more of the most vulnerable women and their families.

After 2014, Timor-Leste ceases to be a child. The country enters its teenage years with the confidence of youth, but also with the understanding that it still has much to learn and a lot of growing to do. I take this opportunity to thank the members of the Board, the staff, program managers, CEO and donors of Fundasaun Alola for guiding our young nation and organisation to maturity. I look forward to walking the next phase of the journey side by side with you.



Kirsty Sword Gusmão

# CEO's REMARKS

Dear: Donors, Partners and all Friends,

In 2014, the Alola Foundation focused increasingly on addressing the contexts – the social and economic conditions of the country - which contribute to maternal and child mortality, educational problems, and gender-based violence. Through Alola's Strategic Direction for 2009 - 2014 reflected the Foundation's commitment to assist in solving existing problems facing women and children, especially in the areas of maternal and child health, education, women's economic position and strengthening women's leadership capacity

On this occasion, I am very proud to present the 2014 Annual Report of the Alola Foundation. The Report, which includes the Finance Report, describes the results achieved by the Foundation last year. We are grateful to God's grace for the power given to us to take action to implement the Foundation's mission to promote and further strengthen the rights of women and children.

During the year some innovative efforts were made by Alola through its program implementation strategy. The Foundation established a holistic approach in some districts to responding to needs of women and children in the areas of education, health, economic development and advocacy. A short term evaluation of this strategy showed that target groups were positive about capacity of the holistic approach to strengthen their communities

In addition to the innovations described above, all of Alola's programs have continued to contribute to the development of women and children, as the following summary demonstrates.

To promote the rights of women and strengthen women's leadership, the Advocacy Program again conducted a study on the situation of women workers and the implementation of the Labor Code in the municipalities of Oecusse and Covalima during 2014. The study showed that full implementation of the Labor Code has not been achieved; the rights of women workers are still violated because of lack of knowledge, understanding and commitment in the workplace, and, in particular, because there is no encouragement to report sexual harassment and other violence. Women continue to fear losing their jobs if they report. This matter will be a priority for the Alola Foundation to discuss with SEPFOPE in order to better respond to the issues that face women workers in the private sector.



In terms of strengthening women's leadership, Alola continued to provide capacity-building assistance to village leaders in 4 municipalities (Viqueque, Lautem, Baucau and Liquica); and strengthen the ability of young women at national and regional levels to become activists in order to advocate for their own issues. A total of 30 young women from 13 districts benefited from Alola's support.

To improve child and maternal health outcomes, the Maternal and Child Health Program expanded the Birth Preparedness Plan initiative, especially in Oekusi where we focused on 12 villages in the four administrative areas of Nitibe, Pante Macassar, Oesilu and Pasabe, with the aim of supporting pregnant women to develop their own plans for childbirth, and encouraging the community to support women to give birth in health facilities

In addition, the Program continues to increase awareness amongst mothers, families and communities of the importance of exclusive breast-feeding for the newborn; and provide support to mothers at the community level, before and after giving birth in health facilities, through encouraging the establishment of Mothers' Support Groups or and Village Loves Mother and babies.

To improve Education Quality and expand opportunities for girls, the Education Program continued provide training to the pre and primary teachers from 13 municipal and following with the monitoring to the implementation of training in schools. The monitoring process involves teacher, students and other teachers to see the direct and indirect impact of this training.

Apart from that, we continue to provide scholarships to poor students from primary school to university level, and also provide a mobile library service which extends to 8 municipalities.

In most cases poor or the weak economy could be a problem in a family which could contribute to violence in the household therefore this year economic program is more focused to strengthen women's economic through providing market opportunities and small grants. In regarding to support their home base business we had established cooperative for the 14 groups in 3 municipal (Viqueque, Manaturo and Bobonaro) .

This year is the last year of our current Strategic Plan. Our Plan for the next year will define our new strategic directions, shaped by the problems faced by women and children in Timor Leste.

I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to donors, work partners, and all the friends of the Alola Foundation, who support us directly and indirectly at all times.

On this occasion I also want to thank Ms. Kirsty for all her support although she is now far from us. And I thank managers, all staff and all board directors who work together as a solid team to support each other, and who feel that the Alola Foundation's mission is a part of the mission of their own lives.

**"STRONG WOMEN STRONG NATION"**



Alzira Reis  
CEO Fundasaun Alola



# MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM (MCH)



In Timor-Leste out of 1,000 live births 45 children will not reach their first birthday. This is considered the highest infant mortality rate in South East Asia. Mortality is consistently higher in rural areas than urban areas. The infant mortality rate (under 1 year) was 61 deaths per 1,000 live births in rural areas compared with 42 deaths per 1,000 live births in urban areas. To reduce the maternal and infant mortality rate Fundasaun Alola conducts health facility based and community based Maternal and Child Health Programs (MCH).

In 2014, the MCH program maintained its strong focus on:

- Promoting infant and young child feeding (breastfeeding and complementary feeding);
- Supporting newborn care programs;
- Distribution of maternity packs;
- Safe Motherhood Initiative - Implementing Birth Preparedness Plan;
- Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM).

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014 WERE AS FOLLOWS.

### **FACILITY-BASED AND NATIONAL PROJECT**

Fundasaun Alola's Maternal and Child Health program implements facility-based and national level activities that focus primarily on the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) statute, Supporting Newborn Care Program, promoting breastfeeding, and the distribution of Maternity Packs.

### **SUPPORTING NEWBORN CARE PROJECT IN HOSPITALS**

The Newborn Care program promotes skin-to-skin contact and early initiation of breastfeeding in the first hour post-partum. The key aims of the skin-to-skin contact are to promote exclusive breastfeeding and minimise problems associated with breastfeeding such as breast engorgement and mastitis that impact on mothers' morbidity. Alola officers also address babies' morbidity such as jaundice and diarrhea that can result from the incorrect use of formula and bottle-feeding.



In addition there were 1 national hospital and 3 referral hospitals (Oecusse, Baucau & Maubesi districts) where Mothers' Support Group members were hired as Hospital Liaison Officers to support initiation of breastfeeding and provide assistance to mothers who are experiencing problems with breastfeeding .

### **MATERNITY PACKS**

In support of the new born care project Fundasaun Alola distributed maternity packs, which provide clothing for mothers and babies, to three referral hospitals in Baucau, Oecusse and Ainaro districts in Timor-Leste.





In 2014, 5908 mothers gave birth at a health facility (4111 mothers at Dili, 1223 mothers at Baucau, 305 mothers in Oecusse and 269 in Maubisse hospitals). A total of 376 mother and their babies received maternity packs at three referral hospitals. A further 640 women received maternity packs distributed by MCH staff to a health facility in Liquica District and 126 packs distributed to Hatulia Sub district of Ermera District. A total of 1133 packs were distributed in 2014.

## COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECT

This year Fundasaun Alola's MCH program expanded the community birth preparedness pack to 12 new villages in four sub districts (Nitibe, Pante Makasar, Oesilo and Pasabe) of Oecusse. Alola's MCH program activities were also extended to strengthen existing CBGs (MSG/SHIO) in 120 villages in 11 districts to promote the Safe Motherhood Initiative, Birth Spacing, New Born Care and Infant and Young Child Feeding promotions. Additional activities were IYCF and CMAM refresher training.

Details of the program implementation process are described below:

## BIRTH PREPAREDNESS PLAN (BPP)

The aims of BPP are to support pregnant women to have a birth plan, and encourage community participation in helping and supporting women to reach professional childbirth care with organized transport to a health facility when labor begins.

In 2014 the Birth Preparedness Plan project expanded to Oecusse district in 12 new villages in four sub districts (Nitibe, Pante Makasar, Oesilo and





Pasabe). Before the implementation of BPP there was a project to increase awareness and engage the support of Local authorities, Community Health Managers, General Doctors, Midwives, PSF/MSGs and the heads of the villages in supporting BPP implementation in their respective villages.

Apart from the orientation meeting, the BPP team also collected some baseline data and assessed four CHC to establish the number of women accessing health facilities for safe delivery along with the number of births assisted by the health workers from each CHC. The baseline data

collected by the BPP team at the four CHC levels showed that the number of women giving birth at home was very high compare to the number of women who attended the health facility for delivery. The BPP team found several barriers that prevented women from accessing a health facility for safe delivery. These included problems at the health post level in which the delivery room and the labour bed were too small.

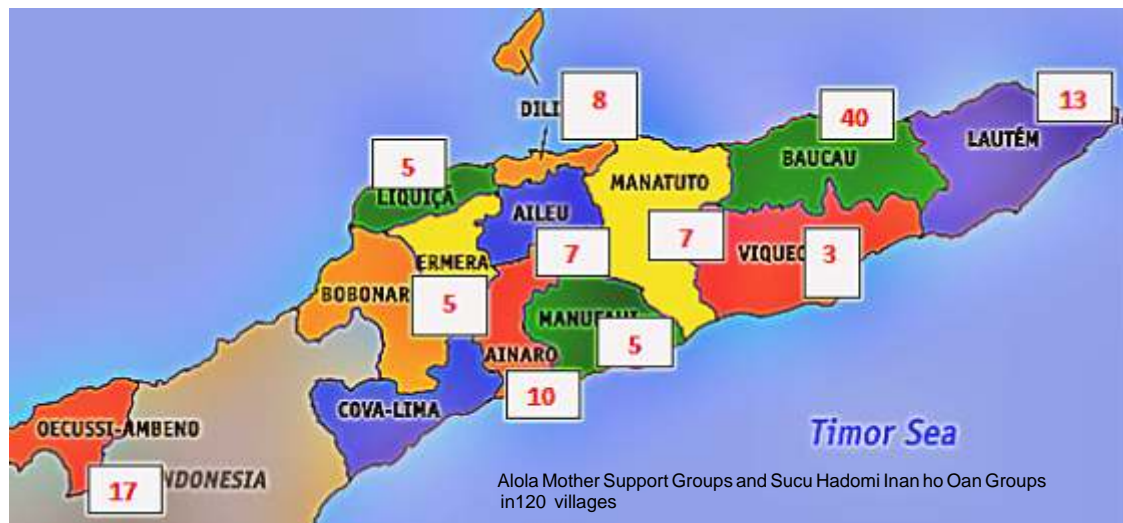
To engage the community to participate in the Birth Preparedness plan, each head of village organized a community meeting in their respective village, assisted by the Alola Field Officer and in collaboration with the CHC manager and health posts. The meeting was conducted in 12 villages in the Oecusse district.

## **IYCF, SAFE MOTHERHOOD, NEWBORN CARE AND BIRTH SPACING REFRESHING TRAINING TO MSG/SHIO MEMBERS**

The course, which consists of 18 sessions, was conducted twice in clinical practice through home visits to lactating women whose baby is less than two weeks of age. This enables MSG/SHIO members to practice the knowledge and skills gained during the training. IYCF training sessions include breastfeeding, complementary feeding, counseling skills, infant feeding with mothers who are HIV positive and infant feeding in emergency situations as

well as maternal nutrition. The Safe Motherhood training covers the importance of antenatal care, recognizing danger signs during pregnancy, delivery and postpartum as well as the advantages of delivering at facilities. The family planning training is about types of modern contraceptives, natural contraceptives, and the advantages and disadvantages of each contraceptive method. This knowledge will help MSG members to provide counseling to women and their families and disseminate information to their village communities. The MCH team conducted four days of training on IYCF, safe motherhood and family planning to the members of the CBGs in 20 villages across two districts (Baucau and Lautem).

#### Exclusive Breastfeeding supported by Mother Support Groups and Sucu Hadomi Inan ho Oan Groups in villages



The Global Strategy on Infant and Young Child Feeding (WHO 2002) details that, 'Exclusively breastfeeding' means giving the infant nothing but breast milk (no water, no other liquids or foods) from 0 to 6 months. To support this, the initial actions of MSG/SHIO members were to provide counseling to women on exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months. Their involvement contributes

significantly to the development of the health sector in Timor-Leste. Based on the 2009-10 Demographic Health Survey, 52% of babies were exclusively breastfed for the first six months, however the 2013 Timor-Leste Food and Nutrition survey data showed that the figure has increased to 62.3%. A large number of exclusive breastfeeding mothers became members of the MSG/SHIO and in turn provided breastfeeding counseling to their friends. Mothers reported that exclusive breastfeeding requires ongoing support from family, husbands and neighbors so mothers could not be influenced to give other food and drinks to their babies before 6 months of age.

In 2014 there were 1,319 babies who were exclusively breastfed for the first six months in MSG/SHIO areas. The total numbers only come from households who are member of MSG/SHIO.



Mother Support Groups and Suku Hadomi Inan ho Oan Groups have continued to support safe motherhood and newborn care in 120 sukus with the following activities:

- Counseling on IYCF and basic safe motherhood at Health Facilities and SISCa post by community based members in 8 districts
- Community Discussion Forum in Village Level in 9 districts in which 6889 community members participated.
- Celebration of World Breastfeeding Week conducted in 41 villages in 6 districts
- Complementary Feeding Cooking Demonstrations using local food (for the baby after six months of exclusive breastfeeding) in which 7514 children and pregnant and lactating women participated in 9 districts.
- Breastfeeding and Safe Motherhood Film shown in villages attended by 5,306 community members in 9 districts.
- In 2014 the CBGs referred 181 pregnant women in remotes areas to give birth at health facilities, and referred 42 malnourished children and 13 sick children to health facilities.
- Distribution of Wheelchair & birthing kits

## Number of Beneficiaries

Counseling at Health Facilities and SISCa post Pregnant & lactating women	26,550
Maternity Packs	1,133
Complementary Feeding Cooking Demonstrations	7,514
Community Discussion Forum	6,889
Breastfeeding and Safe Motherhood Film shown	5,306
Celebration of World Breastfeeding Week	1,121
Babies who were exclusively breastfed for the first six months in MSG/SHIO areas	1,319
Poster Distribution	2,266
Promotes skin-to-skin contact for mothers and babies	3,555



# EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Fundasaun Alola Education Program focuses on building capacity and expanding opportunities for women and children to access quality education in Timor-Leste. The program consists of three main projects: the female focussed Scholarships Project that offers long-term comprehensive support to disadvantaged students at primary school and university; the Teacher Training Program that provides training and support to teachers across Timor-Leste in educational curriculum and methodologies including resources development; and the Mobile Library Project that promotes the importance of early reading to the whole community supported by literacy packs. In addition the Educational Resource Centre models a quality learning environment and serves as a base for the development of local teaching materials.

The program is assisted by Fundasaun Alola's strong existing relationship with the Ministry of Education (MoE), local Authorities and relevant national and international NGO (non government organization) communities across Timor-Leste. The implementation of the program builds on existing strengths and relationships.

The program is focused on three projects dedicated to students, teachers, community, children and parents. The three main projects are:

## SCHOLARSHIPS PROJECT

The main objective of the Scholarship Project is to assist students from an economically disadvantaged background to continue their education. In 2014 the scholarship project increased enrolment for girls at all levels of education to address disadvantage experienced by young women particularly those from remote areas, single-parented or







orphaned families, gender based violence survivors, large families and other situations of risk. This support enables students to complete three years of secondary school and tertiary education. In 2014 the project continued support for 254 young girls and boys through provision of scholarship from primary to university level which meet the standard criteria. The collaboration and support of donors plays an important role in promoting access to education for all.

Along with the Alola student scholarship program there is an innovative integration program that has been implemented since 2013 to increase student awareness of life skills including Reproductive Health, Sexually Transmitted



Diseases, Domestic Violence, Gender Based Violence and Human Trafficking. 71 girl awardees who are currently studying the third grade of secondary level benefitted from the life skill training.

## TEACHER TRAINING PROJECT



The key objective of the Teacher Training program is to increase teaching ability and confidence using a variety of methodologies and strategies. The project targeted Pre- and Primary School teachers from 13 districts. In partnership with Ministry of Education as well as Superintendents and School Inspectors across Timor, Alola has delivered units of training to 41 Preschool teachers and 163 primary school teachers across the country.

Training for Preschool teachers covers ten units comprised of: 101 - Literacy for Young Children; 102 – Practical Music and Songs for Preschool; 103 – Numeracy Through Games and Activities; 104 – Classroom Management 1; 105 – Games to Develop Gross Motor Skill; 106 – Understanding Child Development; 107 – Professionalism – of the Teacher; 108 – Activity Centers; 109 – Art and 110 – Professional Standards. Six out of the ten units were delivered in 2014 according to the plan. Training for Primary teachers focussed on Literacy and Numeracy for young children in order to increase teachers' ability in teaching using a variety of methodologies and strategies.

Number of beneficiaries			
	Scholarships		Teacher Training
 Women	236		117
 Men	18		87
TOTAL	254		204



Following the training monitoring visits were conducted to 15 (F: 12 & M: 3) pre-school teachers who completed 10 units, and 64 (F: 38 & M: 26) primary teachers who completed Literacy and Basic Numeracy training in 2013-2014. The monitoring was undertaken in nine districts being: Aileu, Ainaro, Baucau, Dili, Ermera, Manufahi, Manatuto, Oecusse and Viqueque through collaboration with the Ministry of Education.

The findings from the monitoring show that there were changes in the teachers' implementation and they have shown improvement in the methodology of teaching. Of the total 64 primary teachers monitored 60% implemented the training methodology and strategy and used the resources.

"Our teacher read to us story books, we count using beads, pop sticks and we sing songs." Said the children

## MOBILE LIBRARY PROJECT

Fundasaun Alola's Mobile Library is designed as a transportable facility containing comprehensive reading and literacy resources to deliver educational programs for teachers and students in the pre-primary and primary age group. The Library models best practice and inclusive participatory learning by engaging broader communities to support early education through exposing them to materials and activities that are relevant in their local context and accessible for all.



Throughout 2014 the project worked in strong collaboration with the Ministry of Education and in integration with Alola's Maternal and Child Health Program to promote the importance of reading to schools and communities. The mobile library visited 15,238 (M: 7823 & F: 7415) children in communities and early grade school children in eight districts namely Ainaro, Covalima, Dili, Liquisa, Lautem, Manufahi, Oecusse and Viqueque. The project reached this target through the support of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and Make A Mark Australia (MAMA).



Number of beneficiaries (children)



Women 7,415



Men 7,823

**TOTAL 15,238**

Alola also initiated and conducted after-school and school holiday activities in the sub-district of Turiscae and districts of Manufahi and Covalima. This project takes a whole of community approach to engage parents and children, and uses the strategy of selecting and involving youth as facilitators during the activities. The games implemented were aimed at extending vocabulary and developing motor skills.

### LITERACY PACK 2014

Alola developed, published and distributed learning materials to use in the classroom to respond to the requirements and needs of children and teachers. The materials were composed of five small books, 40 packs of flashcards and 10 stimulus posters. The printing process was run by one trusted printing company in Hong Kong with a well-budgeted quality result. These resources were only distributed to kindergarten and elementary school teachers who have been trained by Alola as they have been introduced to the ways of using the resources.



Following to the book identifications in 2013, in 2014 Alola had ordered and collected 464800 books representing 45 titles in Tetum and Portuguese. Alola recognized that most of the books were on status of delayed as printed and shipped internationally. Therefore the packing process will be starting in beginning of 2015. The books and the sport equipments will then launch by Ministry of Education.





# ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM



The Economic Empowerment program continued its activities in the areas of cultural preservation and livelihood. These programs maintain the goal of strengthening women's economic participation.

In 2014 the economic empowerment program focused on two areas being handicraft development and livelihood including micro credit and agriculture. The program also contributed to the support of cooperatives.



## HANDICRAFT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

During the year the handicraft development project worked with 54 producer groups from 13 districts. The project objective is to raise local and international awareness of valuable Timorese handicrafts as well to increase income generation for producer groups and achieve livelihood sustainability.

The Alola Foundation continues to provide capacity building for new producer groups in order to increase their knowledge of business management, increase product quality, provide training on natural dyes and invite producer groups to participate in the National fair and annual Easter and Christmas fairs that the Alola Foundation organizes. Alola's annual fair benefits around 1,080 handicraft and micro credit producer groups from 13 districts. The total income gained by the producer groups during the Alola fair in 2014 was USD\$ 29,900. This project is supported by AFAP, MILK, SEPI and Mana Jill



## ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROJECT FOR VICTIMS AND VULNERABLE

This project works with vulnerable women including victims of gender based violence in order to increase their access to income generation opportunities and promote women's economic independence. The project was implemented in Bobonaro district (Atabae), Baucau (Seiçal), Dili and Ermera (Lauala). Alola field officers (FO) and Ministry of Social Solidarity (MSS) representatives in district and local authorities chose these districts due to the very high social risk that women have limited access for economy opportunity as well as high risks of gender based violence and human trafficking.

Working together to understand community needs, Alola's staff and FOs have identified that most women face economic problems due to limited financial resources and lack of knowledge of financial management. In response to this problem Alola provided training on simple bookkeeping and delivered incentive funds of USD\$1,000 to each group for a saving and loans program in the village. Through this initiative women now have access to loans for running their business either as an individual or in a group. This project also provided training



on gender based violence; human trafficking and finance management to a total of 111 women across four groups in each of four districts. This project applied a cross-sector approach by integration with the Advocacy program including gender, human rights and human trafficking to increase their awareness of target groups. MSS-DNRS supported this project.

## **STRENGTHENING VULNERABLE WOMEN'S CAPACITY THROUGH SMALL BUSINESS SKILLS TRAINING**

This project continued from 2013 however in 2014 Alola expanded the micro credit component to other villages in the Bobonaro sub district. The program's objective is to support vulnerable women in Atuaben village by giving them access to loans for running their livelihood activities. Alola provided business management training to one group consisting of 15 women from Atuaben village to increase their capacity and knowledge to manage their own funds. Alola also delivered incentive funds of USD \$500. Mr. Justinho S. Barreto as chief of village of Atuaben participated in this project and the incentive fund itself was supported by the Thailand Embassy with the objective of opening opportunity for vulnerable women to participate in the economic development process in Timor-Leste. These funds also facilitated group access to loans for running livelihood or business activities in their village.

## **FOOD SECURITY AND WOMEN'S LIVELIHOOD**

This project is designed with the objective to increase knowledge of food security as well as to increase women's income generation through horticultural activities. The areas chosen for pilot projects were Viqueque district (Uatucarbau sub district) and Manatuto (Natabora and Soibada sub district). The project beneficiaries were members of SHIO group established by the MCH (maternal and child health) program. Alola collaborated with Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries extension staff in Viqueque and Manatuto districts to facilitate the food security and agricultural training. Topics included land identification/selection, land preparation, nursery, raised vegetable bed, seed selection, seed germination, transplantation, weed control and seed conservation.



# ADVOCACY PROGRAM



**T**he Advocacy Program Continues To Maintain Its Activities In Order To Promote Human Rights For Women In The Areas Of Education, Health, Politics And Decision-making Through Its Women's Resource Center Project, District Support Project And Equality & Justice Project. Types Of Activities Carried Out During The Year Included Capacity Development, Raising Awareness On Womens Human Rights, Gender Based Violence And Laws Against Domestic Violence, Consultation And Advocating Policy Changes To Ensure Protection Of Women And Rights Of The Child.



Achievements in 2014 include:

### **WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE (WRC)**

The key objective of the Women's Resource Centre is to provide women with a public space and opportunities to increase their capacity and access information on health, education and economic and political rights. The Women's Resource Center continues to increase services to target groups by providing support to victims of Gender Based Violence, forum discussion on issues affecting women as part of the advocacy strategy, capacity building for young boys & girls including life skill training & public speaking and raising awareness in the target group on women's human rights, gender based violence, human trafficking and laws against domestic violence.



One of the public space beneficiaries said “I personally appreciate and thanks to Fundasaun Alola because I have received a lot of benefit include knowledge and capacity building relate human right, gender, violence against women, domestic violence, human trafficking, reproductive health. And the important thing is I now understanding the different of gender and sex, not only the information but Alola have strength women and young people through provided special space of resources centre as a secure and friendly space (Natalino E. Da Costa – UNDIL Student)



### **CEDAW COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORK PROJECT**

As a group coordinator to advocate women's labour rights in the private sector, Alola conducted the second preliminary study on the situation of women's labour in the private sector. The objective of the study is to analyse and collect information about women's labour in the private sector according to the implementation of labour laws in Covalima and Oecusse districts.

Findings indicated that women's knowledge of labour laws is lacking, which is a contributing factor to work right violations such as no working contract & unclear job description, no overtime, sexual harassment and consideration of maternity

leave as leave without pay. Mostly the worker does not have encouragement to report those cases with the reason that they will lose their job.

One respondent said “Life demands me to work hard, that's why I'm doing it even some of requirements are more than my capacity and I experienced violence to my right. Sometimes I'm giving up for my life, but when I'm thinking of my children I talk to myself 'I should do whatever for their brilliant future' because they are my everything”.

Our recommendation from this report will be presented to SEPFOPE (Self Employment in the Districts) and SEPASEM to establish mechanisms for ensuring that women are free from violence in their workplace.

## DISTRICT SUPPORT PROJECT (DSP)



The focus of the district support project is strengthening women's local leadership and women's potential participation in national and local development.

In 2014 the District Support Project implemented activities include capacity building for community leaders and community discussion forums, and worked in unison with the government program SEPFOPE.

Training was provided to community leaders including Basic Finance Management, Gender Responsive Budgeting and Basic Advocacy training covering four sub-municipalities from each of the four municipalities of Viqueque, Lautem, Baucau and Liquiça. 208 people participated in the training from head of village, chief of hamlet, women's representative, youth representative of suku council and other potential community leaders both men and women.

As a strategy to assess and find out ways to respond to issues affecting women and children, under this project there were regular discussions held quarterly at the village level involving village leaders, community members and women. In 2014 Alola conducted activities in 9 districts covering 14 villages (Liquiça: Dato, Viqueque: Bahalarwain, Ermera: Lauuala & Peotete, Aileu: seloi kraik, Ainaro: Cassa, Oecusse: Naimeco, Covalima: Debos, Lautem: Maina I, Bobonaro: Leolima, Baucau: Terilolo, Bahu, Buibau, Manatutu: Aiteas) in which 373 people (F=235, M=138) participated.



Number of Beneficiaries	
Community discussions	
 Women	235
 Men	138
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>373</b>

One of the beneficiaries of the District Support project said “ Before Alola conducted their activities in our village , we are lack of information on gender , law against domestic violence etc and our ability on public speaking, proposal writing and skill to asses our needs are still low but after we trained by Alola staff we our capacity are improved and we practice what we learn and result is our proposal to Secretariat State of Promotion & Equality /SEPI was approved with the total fund \$2,000. Now I got sewing machine and from that I earn money to support my kids” (Rita Sarmento Suco: Selo Malere, Male)

In addition, monitoring of the SEPFOPE's Self Employment group aims to identify the benefits of self-employment and impact in the community. Diverse areas covered by the self employment group include tailoring, carpentry, brick factory workers, milled coffee group, confectionery wokers, sewing /embroidery workers, juice, swimming pool operation, ceramics and beauty shop.

Findings indicated that the resources provided by SEPFOPE are utilized in their group in effective ways and the community gains benefit from the activities of the group.

The first phase of monitoring in 2014 covered 14 self-employed groups in 10 districts (Dili: Fatunaba & Dare, Aileu: Lausi & Selo Malere, Ainaro: Manelopas, Bobonaro: Manapa & Odomau, Ermera: Fatubesi leten & Fatubesi karaik, Viqueque: Caraubalo, Covalima: Dais, Manatutu: Manehaat & Soibada, Liquisa: Tibar & Ulmera and Baucau: Laga. The total beneficiaires of self employment group are 105 (F= 23 & M: 82).

## EQUALITY AND JUSTICE

The objective of the Equality and Justice Sub-program is to raise community awareness on human trafficking and provide capacity building to young women to be activists of gender equality. Under this project there were two main activities implemented to achieve the objective of the project.

Empowering young women activists included experienced advocacy in international event (Asean People Forum & Beijing +20 report), Regional Training of Trainer (ToT), National Skill Building Training and Intergenerational Dialogue. There were 30 people selected as young women activists based on the criteria of 'Young Women Making Change' project. The target group is comprised from one Youth Parliament and one National Youth Council representative of each municipality.





Under this sub project the young women activists produced their position paper and also identified priority issues, targets and strategies for their further advocacy and campaign action. To follow up those plans they were divided into groups that focussed on campaign and advocacy for the identified issue of 'Early Pregnancy that contributed to dropping out of school'.

The slogan of young women activists is: 'Invest to young people, Invest for the future of the country – End Violence against Young Women and Girls'.



Apart from that, raising community awareness of human trafficking through group discussion, training and media campaign was conducted in 8 villages of 7 municipalities being: Baucau, Bobonaro, Covalima, Dili, Ermera, Viqueque and Oecusse in which 310 people participated.

To ensure that appropriate laws and policies are in place to guarantee the right of the victims, Fundasaun Alola served as coordinator for the Combating Human Trafficking working group and conducted Human Trafficking stakeholder meetings with different organizations and members to share experience and ideas in counter human trafficking in Timor-Leste. The stakeholder members were from different institutions of government and national and international organizations working in human rights, women's rights, child rights and service providers. These included Ministry of Social Solidarity, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vulnerable Unit Police, Secretary of State for Promotion of Equality, Secretary of State for Vocational Training Policy and Employment, Service Migration, UNICEF, International Organization for Migration, The Asia Foundation, Forum Komunikasaun ba Feto Timor/FOKUPERS, Justice System Monitoring Program, Asosiasaun Legal ba feto no Labarik/ALFeLA, HAK Association, PRADET, Casa Vida, Forum Comuição Juventude/FCJ, Forum Tau Matan, Forum NGO Timor-Leste, Rede Feto Secretariat, Asosiasaun Advogadu Timor-Leste, Mane ho Vizaun Foun, Asosiasaun Mane Kontra Violência, Asia Justice and Right and Fundasaun Mahein.

In addition, Fundasaun Alola conducted several consultations in collaboration with counter human trafficking stakeholder members with the objective of analysis and production of recommendations to the draft law of human trafficking for the Ministry of Justice.



## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The principle responsibility of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) in Alola Foundation is to support all staff to increase their knowledge on m&e to ensure the project quality ranging from the design to the program implementation and also increase the knowledge on how to support directly or mentoring staffs for realizing m&e activity in the field and guide staffs how to use tools that offered to them.

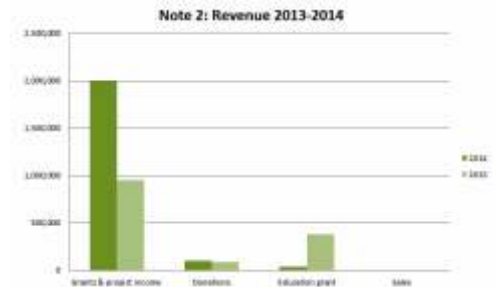
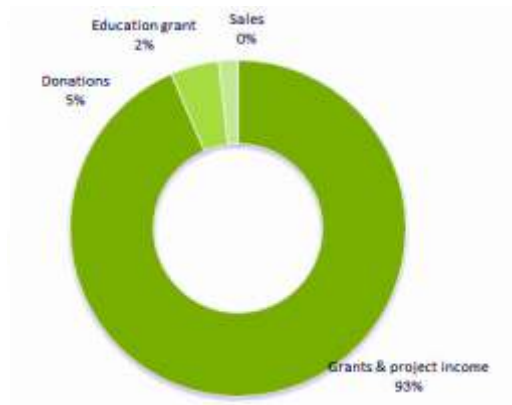
In 2014, M&E team had been provide several capacity building activities and support project in monitoring and evaluation in field. The capacity building activities was covered project designed, monitoring and evaluation and finalized m&e tolls to support program evaluation.

During the year, M&E team had been conducting evaluation to the project of Alola. The result shows that program staff knowledge on important of m&e are increased and ability to measure the success and identified the obstacle of project implementation to improve in the future.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

	Note	2014	2013
		\$	\$
Revenue		2,133,092	1,417,705
Other revenue		-	-
Administration expenses		-245,516	-196,661
Project costs		-1,767,145	-1,263,332
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax		120,431	-42,288
Note 2: Revenue			2013
<b><u>Revenue from Government and Other Grants</u></b>			
Grants & project income		1,994,362	950,013
Donations		99,269	90,537
Education grant		39,461	377,155
		<b><u>2,133,092</u></b>	<b><u>1,417,705</u></b>
<b><u>Other Revenue</u></b>			
Sales		0	0
		0	0
<b><u>Total Revenue</u></b>		<b><u>2,133,092</u></b>	<b><u>1,417,705</u></b>





## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2014

	2014	2013
<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<u><b>CURRENT ASSETS</b></u>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,080,179	898,006
Trade and other receivables	15,591	22,999
<u><b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b></u>	<u>1,095,770</u>	<u>921,005</u>
<u><b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b></u>		
Property, plant and equipment	26,175	41,741
<u><b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b></u>	<u>26,175</u>	<u>41,741</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,121,945</b>	<b>962,746</b>
<u><b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b></u>		
Trade and other payables	875,191	826,955
Short term provisions	15,971	25,439
<u><b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b></u>	<u>891,162</u>	<u>852,394</u>
<u><b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b></u>		
<u><b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b></u>	<u>891,162</u>	<u>852,394</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>230,783</b>	<b>110,352</b>
<u><b>EQUITY</b></u>		
Funds available for future use	230,783	110,352
<u><b>TOTAL EQUITY</b></u>	<u>230,783</u>	<u>110,352</u>

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

	2014	2013
<u><b>CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b></u>	<u><b>\$</b></u>	<u><b>\$</b></u>
Receipts from customers	2,140,500	1,453,006
Payments to suppliers and employees	-1,958,327	-1,605,340
Net cash generated from operating activities	182,173	-152,334
<u><b>CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b></u>		
Net cash generated from (used in) financing activities		-
Net increase in cash held	182,173	-155,529
Cash at the beginning of the financial year	898,006	1,053,535
Cash at the end of the financial year	1,080,179	898,006

# SUMMARISED INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

## TO THE MEMBERS OF FUNDASAUN ALOLA

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Fundasaun Alola, which comprises of the balance sheet as at 31st December 2014 and the income statement, statement of recognised income and expenditure and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion. In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements. We confirm that the independence declaration provided to the directors of Fundasaun Alola, would be in the same terms if provided to the directors as at the date of this auditor's report.

In our opinion, the financial report of Fundasaun Alola, including;

- a. giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2014 and their performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b. comply with East Timorese regulations.

Name of Firm: HOUSTON & CO PTY LIMITED



Owen Houston

Name of partners: Owen Houston Registered Company Auditor No 4548

Dated 3rd July 2015

## ALOLA FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **MS. KIRSTY SWORD GUSMAO (CHAIR)**

*Former First Lady of Timor Leste; Founder and Chair of Alola Foundation, Founder and President of Dili Institute of Technology, Founder of Xanana Reading Room, President of the Advisory Committee of the National Director of Linguistics, Member of the Board of Directors of Moris Rasik, Andrew McNaughton Trust, Patron of the Blair Forster Memorial Trust, and Goodwill Ambassador for Education, Timor- Leste.*

### **MS. CHRISTINE CARBERRY B.BUS CPA AICD (TREASURER)**

*CC Business Solutions Lda, Former Financial & Systems Manager, Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia and Accountant in Timor-Leste.*

### **MADRE AURORA PIRES**

*Vigariu Provincial Timor-Leste-Canossa  
(Appointed 25/5/2013)*

### **MS. MARINA BRAZ DA COSTA**

*Coordenador General of Alola Esperansa*

### **MS. ANNE TURNER**

*Freelance Public Relations Advisor and Social Media Publicist  
(Appointed 28/10/2013)*

### **MS. LURDES BESSA**

*Member of National Parliament*

### **MR. SILVERIO BAPTISTA PINTO**

*Ombudsman for Human Rights Division*

### **MS. CARMEN CRUZ**

*National Director of Social Services, Ministry of Social Services*

### **MS. PAMELA JAPE**

*Operations Manager at Jape Group International, Darwin – Australia*



# ALOLA'S STAFF IN 2014



Thank you for our staff for their hard work and comitment:

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Alzira Reis

## **MANAGERS**

Angelina Fernandes  
Maria Imaculada Guterres  
Maria Bareto  
Ema de Sousa  
Jose Ximenes  
Adalziza Dias Ximenes  
Victor Ximenes

## **MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM**

Albertina de Rosa  
Maria I Guterres  
Moises da Silva  
Beatriz Ximenes sequeira  
Justina Pereira  
Liliana pires  
Lizeti Ribeiro Moura  
Graziela Mendes Ribeiro  
Mafalda Cabral  
Luiza Meluiza

Alberto Brites  
Pascuela J.Handayani  
Joao Ornay  
Flavia Maria  
Amelia Amaral  
Pasquela Soares  
Santina Araujo  
Neneng Alkatiri  
Celestina Oliveira

## **EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Linda Iva Isa B. Belo  
Ivonia D. Gusmao  
Nuni Maria Nobre  
Abilio Luciano Guterres  
Dulce Pereira Lopes  
Luis Moniz Cardoso  
Lucena Allen  
Joaninha Quintao  
Carmelita Do Rego  
Jovita Da Costa Soares  
Juliana Barreto  
Maria Rosa  
Triponio Verdial  
Esternina Purificacao

## **ADVOCACY PROGRAM**

Apolonia M. da Costa  
Francisca Alves Taolin  
Maria fatima Pereira  
Jacinta da Cruz  
Elisita Roserio  
Pascoal da Cruz Gomes  
Paulina Assis Belo  
Manuela Soares Brites  
Joana Dos Santos  
Joanina da costa  
Josefina Quintao  
Luciana Guterres  
Maria Monteiro  
Yolanda p. Gusmao  
Juventina Siquera  
Beatriz Sarmento

## **ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM**

Maria Lurdes G. Ferreira  
Mario Barreto  
Ilda Maria da Cruz



## **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

Corey Williams  
Romaldo Da Costa Junior

## **OFFICE SUPPORT**

Abrao Lorencio  
Canisio Bareto  
Domingas Alves  
Domingos Soares  
Domingos Marques  
Eugenio Marcal  
Fransiskus Sumaryono  
Filomena da C. Pacheco  
Francelina Branco  
Geronimo Gama  
Helen Esmeralda C. Gomes

Henrique Ornay  
Jacinto de Carvalho  
Juliana Carvalho  
Cristina Martins Santos  
Joao Bosco  
Leonita Ximenes  
Margarida Sarmento  
Manuel Sarmento  
Pascoal Martins  
Paulino Ximenes  
Paul do Rosario P. Gama  
Rui Manuel Belo  
Rosita Dos Santos  
Rosalina Dos Santos  
Rosa Boavida  
Thomas Fatima  
Immanuel Skera

# 2014 DONOR LIST

## THANK YOU

On behalf of the women of Timor-Leste we would like to thank all our partners, donors and stakeholders for their support, dedication and generosity in 2014, which enable us to deliver our program to our community.

### ADVOCACY:

Civil Societies Fund-Government  
SEPFOPE  
UNFPA via SEPI  
BELUN  
Ministry of Social and Solidarity  
Australian Foundation for People of Asia and the Pacific (AFAP)  
Start Foundation  
Alola Australia  
IWRAP  
IWDA

### MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH:

Conoco Phillips  
Assisi Aid Project/ Rotary Club of Melbourne  
Australian Foundation for People of Asia and the Pacific (AFAP)  
Start Foundation  
Alola Australia  
UNFPA  
STAR Campaign  
Global Giving  
Woodside  
Viera de Almeida

### ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT:

Ministry of Social Solidarity  
Australian Foundation for People of Asia and the Pacific (AFAP)  
MILK Fund  
MJ Fund  
Alola Australia  
Gift Certificate  
Thai Embassy  
UNDP

### EDUCATION :

AusAID /DFAT  
Make A Mark Australia (MAMA)  
Rotary District 9820  
Friends of Ballarat  
The Asia Foundation (funded by USAID)  
Nelson Bay Rotary  
Blair Foster Memorial Trust  
Alola Australia  
Individual Donors  
Friends of Lacluta  
Norway Certificate  
Indigo Shine Atauro Island Friendship









***Fundasaun Alola provides a wide range of vitally important programs in support of furthering the rights of women and children of Timor-Leste.***

***The programs include :***

- Maternal Child Health (MCH)***
- Education***
- Economic Empowerment***
- Advocacy***

***Programs take place across the 13 districts of Timor Leste and are supported by a management team.***





Alola Annual Report 2014  
Graphic Design by Alola media Fransiskus, XS



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