

▶ HAMETIN

ERA Agro-Forestry Project Newsletter

Partnership for Sustainable Agro-Forestry (PSAF)



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▶ Welcome to the Fifth Edition of our ERA Agro-Forestry (ERA-AF) Newsletter “HAMETIN”.

Welcome to HAMETIN, a monthly bulletin of the ERA-AF project, funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the ILO as a component of the Partnership Support for Agro-Forestry (PSAF) Ai ba Futuru. This edition will continue to update you on efforts being made to improve access to markets through rural roads, capacity building of institutions, contractors and the resulting impact on improved roads, decent employment, improved livelihoods, skills development and community empowerment. Our aim is to inform you on how the project is being implemented together with the people and for the people, its impact and other every day issues. We welcome your feedback. Hoping you enjoy this issue of HAMETIN....

Enhancing Rural Areas Agro-Forestry (ERA-AF) Project Activities in October 2020:

▶ 01. Traffic Count Activities in Lautem & Baguia

Traffic counts are conducted to provide information to facilitate the proper design of roads and also assess the impact of roads before and after construction. Conducting of traffic counts involves recording of vehicular and pedestrian traffic volume, circulation and movements on the roads during different periods eg. before, during and after construction.

ERA-AF project recently conducted traffic counts on the roads implemented under Batch 3 Contracts in Lautem and also the completed roads implemented by Batch 1 Contractors in Baguia, Baucau. The process involved recruiting and training of 16 observers who were youth from the communities, which involved collaboration with village chiefs. The traffic count surveys were done on 4 roads in Lautem, namely:

- i. Nairete-Iraroco-Leuro,
 - ii. Leuro-Luturula-Cenomata,
 - iii. Caidavalarin-Liafalun,
 - iv. Apatmutu-Larimi-Canfuro,
- and 3 roads in Baguia, Baucau, namely:
- i. Defawasi-Alaua Leten-Alaua Kraik,
 - ii. Defawasi Junction 2 - Alaua Leten,
 - iii. Defawasi Junction 1 to Uacala.

All roads were surveyed for 7 days and had 2 enumerators except for Defawasi – Alaua Leten-Alaua Kraik which had 4 enumerators at the start and finish.



▶ **02. Workers and Business Surveys in Manatuto and Viqueque**

The project team carried out Community Satisfaction Surveys involving 70 participants and a Business Survey that involved 35 participants within 3 roads of Manatuto municipality, namely: Boroasmanu – Fatumaquerec, Aicurus – Hatu Ermera, and Ainicolau – Robae which provide access to 4 Sucos/villages: Manufahi, Fatumaquerec, Hohorai and Tulataqueo. 2 roads in Viqueque were also covered including Lariguto-Builale which provides access to 2 sucos: Ossu de Cima & Builale and Nunteri – Digamasi-Bubulita-Nahae road which links Suco Macadique.

The surveys are aimed at identifying people benefiting from improved access to markets and social services due to rehabilitated/maintained roads under this programme. The analysed findings are to be consolidated in assessing the impact of the road interventions.

▶ **03. Provision of Tools for Planning & Monitoring of Site Works, Resources & Financial Management**



The project training team has worked closely with the field coach and mentors to review and develop planning and monitoring tools that integrate various forms to plan, record and document activities and challenges faced by contractors on the field.

Three different tools have been developed for Planning, Resources Management and Financial Management. Planning tools include integrated planning, daily, weekly, monthly planning and reporting forms including Occupational Safety and Health - OHS management. The Resources management Tools plans and records handtools, equipment, materials, labour, workers used among others. Financial Management Tool projects estimated cash flow and compares it to actual expenditure, so as to monitor and control costs of different resources, and provide early warning in event of deviations. The use of the tools will ensure that contractors maintain proper records, while monitoring progress, and identifying challenges encountered on the field. Management is then able to strategize on how to resolve problems faced or even avoid problems from occurring.



▶ **04. Conducting meetings with DBTC & IADE Training Centres for improved training**



Meetings were conducted to enhance training activities conducted by Don Bosco Training Centres (DBTC) and Institute for Business Development Support (IADE). The meeting with IADE discussed on improvement of business mentoring activities, and the meeting with DBTC strategized on how best to implement Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks aligned to the Business Plan of DBTC.

05. Environmental Assessments Conducted by National Authority for Environmental Licensing (ANLA)

From 28 – 30 October 2020, the project team accompanied a team from the National Authority for Environmental Licensing (ANLA) to conduct environmental assessments of 4 roads to be built in Lautem Municipality, namely: Souro - Luturula (2.3 Km), Souro - Nairete – Leuro (3.25 Km), Apatmuto – Larimi – Canfuro (10.78 km) and Caenliu – Caidavalarin – Liafalun (1.4 km). The assessment was a process in obtaining environmental licences in compliance of of Decree-Law no. 05/2011 as regulated by the Secretary of State responsible for Environment so as to safeguard the environment impact on construction projects.



06. TV Talk-Show aired on ERA-AF Activities and its impact on stakeholders

A TV talkshow on ERA-AF activities was prepared and produced by RTTL and aired on 21 October 2020. The programme involved stakeholders who had benefited from the project including: Mr. David Manuel Freitas Brites – Village Chief of Uacala, Baguia Post Administrative, Baucau Municipality; Mrs. Joantina da Costa Soares, Director of Contracting Company Tula Eli Unipessoal Limitada; Mr. Rui Teles, who is a Community Maintenance Group Gang Leader despite having living with a physical disability and Andre Faria who works with the Era-AF project. The talkshow managed to outline project activities including: benefits and impacts of the project in terms of improving rural access, capacitating local entrepreneurs, women empowerment, employment creation, inclusiveness of PWDs, local resource approaches, market linkages, access for inputs, outputs from agro-forestry activities, and access to health centres and educational facilities amongst others.



07. ERA-AF Project Presentation to 2nd Steering Committee on Rural Development

A Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting was held in Caenlio, Iliomar, Lautem Municipality on the afternoon of 23 September 2020, which was attended by main stakeholders for the project including EUD, Municipalities, and implementation Agencies. During the PAC Meeting, which forms part of the governance arrangements under the project, stakeholders were informed on project achievements, challenges, where they provided strategic guidance for the project going forward.



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