

"I could never get heavy construction materials to my house, apart from what I could carry myself. Now I can finally repair my house."
Dominggos da Costa, Baucau District



Maliana-Saburai rehabilitated road (Maliana District):
people now have year-round access to markets and other services such as health services and public transport facilities.



Jacinto Lopez

Success Story

Aldeia Taz Masak, Suco Saburai, District Bobonaro
Increased Local Business Opportunities after the road rehabilitation.
Before R4D road rehabilitation, this village at the top of the Maliana-Saburai road, was accessible only by pedestrians in the dry and rainy season, because of the difficult road conditions and the lack of public transport facilities. The community had to walk to the District capital, Maliana, up to 3 hours to access main socio-economic services, including the main market to sell agricultural products and buy local materials for own consumption and re-selling. Jacinto Lopez, owner of a kiosk in the village, used to carry on his shoulders the products to be sold in his kiosk. The products available in his kiosk were therefore limited to small and lighter items. Now, with the newly rehabilitated road, he can transport higher volumes and heavier products, and sell for example rice bags and fuel for the motorbikes. His daily income has increased from 30 US \$ to 50 US \$. He is currently building a new bigger kiosk and has the plan in the future to open as well a small restaurant if the rehabilitation of the road will be continued and will connect the Aldeaia to Lolotoe Sub-District.



With improved roads more products become available, including fuel for motorbikes

Implementing Agency:
Ministry of Public Works
Directorate of Roads, Bridges and Flood Control

Technical Assistance:
International Labour Organization (ILO)

Duration:
Phase 1: 4 Years (March 2012-February 2016)

Geographical coverage:
National (all 13 Districts of Timor-Leste)

Donor:
Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

Budget:
US\$ 50.6 million
(DFAT US\$ 31.6 million and Government of Timor-Leste US\$ 20 million)

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Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS

**ROADS FOR
DEVELOPMENT**



Current Condition of the Rural Roads

Travelling along the more than 3,000 km of rural roads in the predominantly mountainous country of Timor-Leste is a unique experience. This is not only because of the beautiful sceneries but unfortunately more so because of the very bad condition of the rural road network.

Many roads are not even passable for motorized traffic and hardly any maintenance or improvement has been undertaken over the last 15 years. Because of this, hardly any public transport is available and most of the time people have to walk. An R4D survey done in 2013 shows that rural households spend about 40% of their productive time in travelling to markets or other places for social or economic reasons.



Rural roads are in poor condition



Poor road condition makes it hard for farmers to access markets

R4D Objectives and Activities

The Roads for Development Program (R4D) was launched in March 2012 – initially for a period of 4 years – to lead and coordinate all rural road development and maintenance activities in Timor-Leste.

R4D is aligned with, and contributes to, the Government of Timor-Leste’s Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030, the Fifth Constitutional Program of the Government of Timor-Leste and the Ministry of Public Works’ Five-Years Action Plan. Australian Aid provides financial support to the Program.

R4D’s development objective is:

Women and men in rural Timor-Leste are getting social and economic benefits from improved rural road access.

To achieve its development objective, R4D is working on the following immediate objectives:

Rehabilitate and maintain 300 km of priority rural roads and strengthen capacities of the Ministry of Public Works and local civil works contractors for the planning and delivery of investments in rural road works.

R4D’s capacity development activities include a wide range of initiatives, including:

- Training of the staff of the Ministry of Public Works in planning, designing, contracting, supervision, quality control and monitoring of the rural road works;
- The development, testing and mainstreaming of required supporting systems and procedures;
- The provision of accredited and certified formal training of contractors, in combination with on-the-job training and coaching;
- The development of a Rural Roads Master Plan & Investment Strategy for the whole country;
- The introduction of social and environmental safeguards framework in the design and implementation of the rural road works;
- Advocacy activities that aim at mainstreaming and institutionalizing R4D’s approaches, systems, procedures and standards. Activities include the production of a feature movie about R4D and the establishment in August 2013 of a multi-stakeholder Rural Roads Working Group to coordinate activities and to develop good practices for planning and delivering investments in the rural roads sector in Timor-Leste.

ILO is providing technical assistance to R4D and this is embedded within the structure of the Ministry of Public Works. It combines implementation support with capacity development activities.

R4D Physical Progress and Impact

Progress as of 30 June 2014

Activity	Progress
Pre-qualification, tendering and bid evaluation	Contracts awarded to 65 local contractors
Value of works contracted	US\$ 13 million
Rehabilitation works undertaken	15 rural roads, total length 92 km (progress 90%)
Maintenance works undertaken	22 rural roads, total length 145 km (progress 75%)
Provision of local employment opportunities	370,000 labour-days work provided (30% women)
Cash transfers in local economy through wages	US\$ 2.2 million



Labour-based methods are used, where appropriate



Equal employment opportunities are promoted



Rehabilitated road

Already Experienced Benefits from Improved Rural Road Access

Indicator	Impact
Travel time	Considerably reduced travel times
Travel costs	Decreased cost of transportation
Income	Increased income (through sales of products)
Access to facilities	Improved access to health services
Employment	Increased job opportunities (new businesses)
Access to materials	Improved access to construction materials