

▶ HAMETIN

ERA Agro-Forestry Project Newsletter

Partnership for Sustainable Agro-Forestry (PSAF)



International
Labour
Organization



Issue 3 | September | 2020

▶ Welcome to the Fourth Edition of our ERA Agro-Forestry (ERA-AF) Newsletter "HAMETIN".

This bulletin provides information on the activities of ERA-AF project, funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the International Labour Organization (ILO) as a component of the Partnership Support for Agro-Forestry (PSAF) Ai ba Futuru. This edition, as with others, continues to update stakeholders 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 September 2020:

▶ 01. Community Maintenance Group Trainings



Maintenance activities have commenced in Baguia with training of Community Maintenance Groups (CMGs) held between 2nd – 4th September 2020

with the objective of equipping community members recruited by the Maintenance Contractors on how to effectively implement routine maintenance works on the rehabilitated Baguia Road. A total of 21 participants were trained, including 9 group leaders who were trained on various aspects that would help them carry out their tasks.

▶ 02. Mobilization Meeting for Batch 3 in Lautem and Manatuto Municipalities

Following award of trial contract roads to ERA-AF 3rd batch of trained contractors to be implemented in Lautem and Manatuto, the ERA-AF team and contractors from 9th – 11th September 2020 held Community engagement and community mobilisation meetings to seek support, co-ordination and collaboration within 7 Sucos of Caenlio, Souro, Leoro, Tirilolo, Manufahi, Fatumaquerec, & Hohorai. The meetings besides seeking support, ownership and raising public awareness on project activities, also serve to ensure targeted interventions (eg. gender, people with disability, youth) are earmarked, while addressing potential implementation challenges such as competition with farming activities. The mobilization meetings are important in ensuring the involved communities,



through labour-based road works, will benefit directly through part-time employment and on-the-job skill training. Also, the meetings lay a process and conditions for community workers to be recruited and registered by the contractors in close consultation with the local leaders and in accordance with decent work conditions.

▶ **03. Local Administrator Workshop for Public Work Staffs from Municipalities and Local Authorities.**

A Local Administrator’s Workshop involving 52 Local Government Officials (LGO) from Manatuto and Viqueque Municipalities was held on 14th and 17th September 2020. The 2 workshops held in Manatuto and Viqueque aimed to share knowledge and skills on the role and responsibilities of the LGO’s in effective implementation and maintenance of infrastructure projects.

▶ **04. Road Managers’ Training**

Two Training Sessions for Road Managers were held on 15th & 18th September 2020 in Manatuto and Viqueque Municipalities and which were attended by 12 participants. The training sessions were carried out with the objective of capacitating technical supervisors from Public Works and Municipalities to effectively supervise labour-based road works, including those implemented by ERA-AF, in accordance with agreed standards and specifications.

▶ **05. Final inspection to Lariguto – Builale Road Linking Agro-Forestry Communities.**

Final Inspection of the Lariguto – Builale Road which links agro-forestry communities was conducted on 18th September 2020 by the ERA-AF project. The final inspection was conducted on 3 (of 4) completed sections of the 9 kms road and aimed to ascertain completion of roads, and identify any defects prior to the handing over of the road. Meanwhile, improvements on the road have led to increased traffic of goods and people.



▶ **06. The ERA Agro-Forestry Project closes 3rd Batch Training Programme**



The third and final batch of 34 contractors’ training programme was formally closed during a ceremony on 23 September 2020 at Suco Caenlio, Ilomar – Lautem attended by Mr. Paolo Toselli, EU Delegation Representative and Mr. Albert Uriyo, Oic Head of Mission and Project Manager of ERA-Agro-Forestry Project. Nine contractors were trained under Batch 3, which completes the target of 34 contractors to be trained under the ERA-AF Project which seeks to rehabilitate more than 77 Kms of rural roads in the Municipalities of Baucau, Viqueque Manatuto and Lautem. The training course involved 41 participants, including Directors, Engineers and Supervisors of the contractors who were capacitated through a comprehensive classroom and practical training from 27th January to 18th July 2020 in Dili and Iliomar, Lautem. Among the participants were 4 women from “FETO Enginhera” (Tetun for “Women In Engineering). Don Bosco Training Centre (DBTC) and Institute for Business Development Support (IADE) which are accredited training institutions, provided the training.



► **07. The ERA Agro-Forestry Project Launches New Trial Contracts for Manatuto and Lautem Municipalities**

A road launch event was officiated by Mr. Paolo Toselli - European Union Representative, Mr. Jeferino dos Santos Sequiera - Municipal Administrator of Lautem and witnessed by Mr. Albert Uriyo, ILO OiC Head of Mission and Project Manager of ERA-Agro-Forestry Project, at Suco Caenlio, Iliomar – Lautem on 23rd September 2020. The third batch of trial contracts were launched as part of the training to be implemented in Manatuto and Lautem Municipalities, where 9 contracts have been awarded and will involve the community in constructing six roads with a length of 24.36 kms to be completed within 9 months, and which will result in the creation of 64,240 worker days of employment. The roads to be rehabilitated will enhance not only access, but market linkages, employment, skills, and income within the rural communities, and the 7 Sucos (villages) and 14 Aldeias (hamlets) in Manatuto and Lautem Municipalities covered by the project. The project also promotes inclusiveness among the vulnerable youth, women, and people with disabilities. It is expected to realize 30% women participation.

► **08. ERA Agro-Forestry 2nd Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting**

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.



► **09. ToT for Road Construction Resource Planning and Site Tools Held for Don Bosco Coaches**

As part of the ongoing Capacity Building arrangements for Don Bosco Training Centre Staff, ERA-AF project on 28th September 2020 capacitated 2 Training Engineers and 5 DBTC Field Coach/ Mentors on effective application of Resource Planning Tools and other Site Tools.

The training was aimed at equipping the staff to effectively guide contractors on planning of resources (materials, equipment, labour, finance) and other tools that will ensure that contractors deliver within time, cost and specified quality.

► **10. Stakeholders Implementation Workshop**

The Workshop aimed at team-building, reviewing, brainstorming and planning of strategies for ERA-AF and Don Bosco Training Centre staffs in order to enable effective implementation of project deliverables. The Workshop noted the achievements made on realization of project targets, while also noting challenges impacting on project delivery. Strategies were worked out to consolidate on strengths, while also developing strategies to ensure catch up of activities that were lagging. Team-building activities were also done to seek cohesiveness of the team. In respect to resource mobilization, brainstorming was also done on future direction of the project, with a consensus to focus on sustainable green jobs, works and employment creation. The project team met with its stakeholders on September 24 & 25, 2020 in Lospalos, Lautem Municipality.



This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the ILO and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.