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# U.S. Assistance to Timor-Leste: Promoting Stability, Partnering for Progress

Timor-Leste Development Partners' Meeting  
April 2-4, 2009





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“To the people of poor nations, we promise to work alongside you to make your farms flourish and let clean waters flow; to nourish starved bodies and feed hungry minds.”

—U.S. President Barack Obama, January 20, 2009 inaugural address



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## U.S. Assistance Objectives

U.S. assistance aims to help Timor-Leste become a stable, secure, democratic, and prosperous country—a strong partner for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

- Enhanced Stability and Security
- Transparent and Accountable Democratic Governance
- Expanded Income-Generating and Employment Opportunities
- Improved Health



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## GoTL 2009 National Priorities & U.S. Assistance

1. **Agriculture and Food Security:** Coffee, Support for agribusiness (Horticulture, Vanilla, Cattle, Candlenut)
2. **Rural Development:** District Water, Sanitation and Hygiene; Work Preparation Program for Rural Youth
3. **Human Resources Development:** Building Agribusiness Capacity, Hospitality Industry Internship, Developing youth leadership within suco councils



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## GoTL 2009 National Priorities & U.S. Assistance

4. **Social Protection and Social Services:** Support for reintegration of IDPs, District-level support for public health system, Maternal and Child Health
  
5. **Public Safety and Security:** Community-Oriented Policing, Logistical support for FDTL, International Military Education and Training, International Narcotics and Law Enforcement



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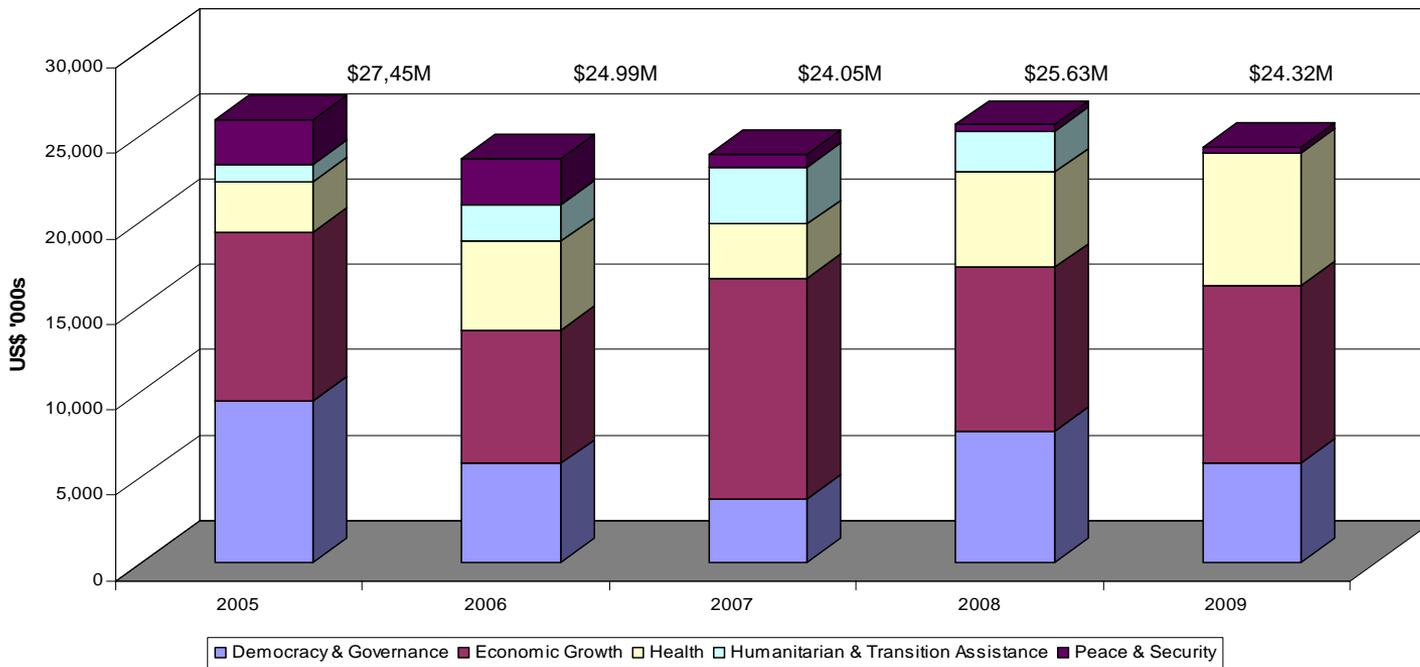
## GoTL 2009 National Priorities and U.S. Assistance

6. **Access to Justice:** Support for legal aid organizations, Strengthening Justice Institutions, Strengthening Property Rights (Ita Nia Rai), Support for development of a business enabling environment
  
7. **Clean and Effective Government:** Support for Local Governance and Civil Society, Developing quantitative research/public survey capacity, Support for oversight institutions (Provedor and Office of Inspector-General), Strengthening Independent Media



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## U.S. Assistance to Timor-Leste 2005-2009

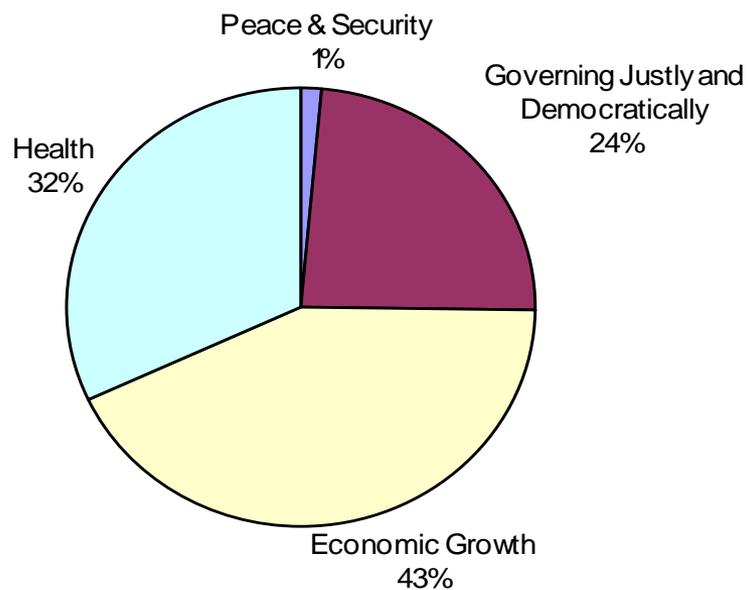




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## Distribution of U.S. Assistance by Objective 2009, Preliminary Estimates

Including \$5m Earmark for Water/Sanitation





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## Results of Assistance to Enhance Stability and Security

- Honolulu workshop to support the development of Timor-Leste's first national security policy.
- Deployment of a unit of U.S. Navy Seabees to rebuild schools and clinics.
- Specialized training at ILEA, FBI Academy for law enforcers. Logistical support and training for military.
- A senior DOJ attorney to focus on strengthening relationship between police and prosecution.

*National Security Policy workshop at APCSS in Hawaii in September 2008*



*U.S. Navy Seabees at work and some of their outputs following the 2008 Mercy Mission visit.*



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## Results of Assistance

### Expanded Income-Generating and Employment Opportunities



- Lequitura greenhouse enables farmers to produce high-quality vegetables year-round, tripling their income.
- Hospitality industry internship provides on-the-job training to 100 youth following successful pilot which saw 20 out of 26 trainees get jobs.
- Over 600 land claims registered in 2 pilot districts, Liquica and Manatuto. Activity to expand to other districts.

*Photos: (Above) Farmers welcoming visitors to Lequitura greenhouse; (Below, left) HIIP internship landed Florinda da Costa (left) a job as assistant chef; (Below, right) Madalena Soares da Silva, from Manatuto, is one of the first to register a land claim.*



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## Results of Assistance for Transparent and Accountable Democratic Governance

- Establishment of network of 5 regional media houses across the country, expanding news coverage of Timor-Leste.
- Legal aid partners have handled 3,552 cases since 2003.
- Post election civic education campaigns reached tens of thousands of people across the country.



*Administrators of key justice institutions benefited from USAID's specialized 2-year training course on budget planning and execution.*



*Evaluation of IFES face-to-face awareness training sessions showed that 94 percent of respondents got the key messages right about the formation of Government.*



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## Results of Assistance Improving the Health of the Timorese People



*(Above) USNS Mercy in Dili; (Below) Mothers and children receiving bednets*



- In July 2009, USNS Mercy treated almost 10,000 patients & performed 270 complex surgeries.
- Support for public health system in six districts resulted in: skilled birth attendance increased from 16% to 32% and exclusive breastfeeding rose from 29% to 67%.
- Seven districts covered by USG's distribution of over 80,000 bednets topped list of districts for share of population that slept under a bednet in 2007.



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## Guiding Principles (Strategy Development)

- Support GoTL National Priorities
- Build Timorese Capacity
- Support Rural Development
- Do No Harm/Mitigate Conflict



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## “Goodbye, Conflict; Welcome, Development”

The U.S. Government is a strong partner of the Government of Timor-Leste in:

- strengthening democratic institutions
- providing security and stability for its people
- encouraging economic growth
- improving the health of the Timorese people

U.S. foreign assistance seeks to help Timor-Leste move on from “rebuilding” or post-conflict to a steadily “developing” country.

