

1. Project Data:	Date Posted : 08/07/2001				
PROJ ID	: P070517		Appraisal	Actual	
Project Name :	Dili Community Employment Generation Project	Project Costs (US\$M)	.5	.5	
Country:	East Timor	Loan/Credit (US\$M)	.5	.5	
Sector(s):	Board: UD - Other social services (60%), Solid waste management (37%), Sub-national government administration (3%)	Cofinancing (US\$M)			
L/C Number:					
		Board Approval (FY)		00	
Partners involved :		Closing Date	09/30/2000	12/31/2000	
	,				
Prepared by :	Reviewed by:	Group Manager :	Group:		
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2. Project Objectives and Components

a. Objectives

This was a low cost project of a short-term emergency nature, which reflected the priorities of the Bank's Transitional Support Strategy for Timor. Following Indonesian withdrawal in 1999 virtually the entire pre-independence governance structure had disappeared, and the loss of physical infrastructure was pervasive, reaching as high as 100% in major towns, including Dili. The objective was to generate short -term employment and alleviate poverty by raising urban incomes . A secondary objective was to build social capital through community-managed environmental clear-up.

b. Components

There was one component - for labour intensive activities of debris collection and solid waste management . During preparation the Bank clarified that the project was focused on labour intensive employment creation, not waste management, which would require much more extensive technical inputs .

c. Comments on Project Cost, Financing and Dates

The project costs were financed by an IDA grant and comprised 61% for wages and 32% for goods (primarily for tools, equipment and materials to supplement manual labour.) The implementing agency UNDP (on behalf of UNTAET, the UN Transitional Administration in East Timor) charged a \$20,000 administration fee, which later proved to be inadequate for the management inputs required.

3. Achievement of Relevant Objectives:

- 1. Generate Employment a total of 12 work-teams, rotating workers on a monthly basis, were employed totalling 4500-4600 unskilled laborers employed in Dili (the capital of East Timor.) This compared to a target of 600 workers
- Income Creation 61% of the budget was used for payment of wages (c.f. an SAR target of 50%.) 2.
- Building of social capital : {a) One out of three community sites/worker groups reported being consulted to some 3. degree and informed about project structures, selection for recruitment and payment mechanisms; and (b) The ICR assessment mission concluded that communication between the local Dili District Administration (DDA) and the communities had been improved and could be cited as an achievement .

4. Significant Outcomes/Impacts:

- 1. The rotation of workers was a creative solution to the problem created by considerable excess demand for the available jobs. These jobs were offered at a wage below unskilled market rates and were supposed to result in self-selection of approximately 600 workers. Instead demand was many times as great and included those who were not traditional unskilled labourers - 25% of those employed subsequently took white collar jobs after project completion.
- The government and implementing agency's preference for reallocating funds to increased spending on wages 2.

showed the project's commitment to the poverty alleviation objective .

3. The DDA took on much of the task of community liaison and future civil servants learned the importance of democratic processes and consultation throughout implementation .

5. Significant Shortcomings (including non-compliance with safeguard policies):

- 1. Because of the time pressure there was no lengthy pilot phase and subsequently less time for community consultation. Tensions arose between different neighbourhood teams who had a history of community rivalry and required several mediated discussions between community team leaders for resolution.
- Communication and transparency were important elements of the design but were not satisfied by the implementing agency, which should have posted information such as recruitment procedures and wages paid.
- There was no exit strategy and the opportunity to establish a sustainable waste management program was lost due to lack of coordination both between donors and within government. Thus there were no waste management services for two months after the project's closing.
- 4. Contrary to project design, supervision was often conducted by DDA instead of the implementing agency, which was better equipped to implement effective anti-corruption measures and other quality assurance processes. As a result the government ended up being overburdened.
- 5. Inappropriate equipment was procured and there was a shortage of handcarts, slowing rubble collection. This contributed to delays and to the extension of the project from 6 to 9 months. Not all of the factors causing the procurement problems were within the implementing agency's control.

6. Ratings:	ICR	OED Review	Reason for Disagreement /Comments
Outcome:	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
Institutional Dev .:	Modest	Modest	
Sustainability :	Likely	Likely	In the sense that the government and implementing agency have improved their ability to mount a similar operation, and there was a beneficial impact on community-government linkages.
Bank Performance :	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
Borrower Perf .:	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	
Quality of ICR :		Satisfactory	

NOTE: ICR rating values flagged with '*' don't comply with OP/BP 13.55, but are listed for completeness.

7. Lessons of Broad Applicability:

The project generated important lessons for future safety -net projects in a post-conflict context, and insights into important aspects of implementation, amongst which are:

- 1. Spot-checks and other supervisory mechanisms, and transparency in and communication of recruitment procedures and wages, are critical to controlling corruption risks.
- 2. Transition to regular operations requires attention to the development of a longer -term waste management plan.
- 3. In future projects which have as a secondary objective a positive impact on social capital, urban beautification and vocational training for youth could be added, and should be considered provided they do not reduce the total budget spent on wages.
- 4. At the outset of implementation, clear team management structures and responsibilities are required : (a) within implementing agencies; (b) between municipal government, implementing agency, donors and community leadership; (c) across government departments; and (d) between government and parallel community leadership/counterparts.
- 5. Simple procurement procedures, such as national /international shopping for the purchase of immediate and necessary equipment and supplies, are crucial to ensuring speedy emergency project delivery

8. Assessment Recommended? 🔿 Yes ● No

9. Comments on Quality of ICR:

Satisfactory.