



# Program Report

## **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training 2012, Dili, Timor-Leste**

A Capacity Building Program for Community  
Advocates in the Asia Pacific Region

November 26 – December 10, 2012

## 1. Introduction

*At DTP, we have cultural night.  
We do restaurant on the beach.  
We spend the night by singing, dancing,  
We laugh and everybody is happy.*

*I try to imagine and think:  
Can we do cultural night 20 or 15 years ago in Dili?*

*I think not.*

*We can't spend the night like that. People will be afraid.*

*We can do the party because we feel secure.*

*There are no human rights violations, no military patrol.*

*On the cultural night all participants can be singing and dancing together,  
Even though we come from many countries and cultures.*

*Culture becomes a peace language, so we can celebrate human rights.*

*To celebrate human rights is to celebrate life.*

*—2012 Annual Program Participant*

2012 stands out as an important year in the history of human rights, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region. For the struggle for economic, social and cultural rights, recent years have witnessed increased opportunities for the participation of civil society in policymaking in the area of human rights, poverty and development. The growth of the human rights and development field, the recent 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption by the United Nations of the Declaration on the Right to Development, the July 2012 civil society mobilisation around the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro (Rio+20), and, significantly, the increasing momentum of debates around the global development agenda to replace the Millennium Development Goals in 2015, all signify vital opportunities for the active engagement of civil society in shaping future efforts to address the challenges of poverty, sustainable development and equality. Equally, protracted situations of denial of Indigenous rights, racial and systemic conflict, and complex issues of post-conflict justice across the region highlight the ongoing relevance of the civil and political rights movement for the people of the Asia-Pacific region.

## 2. Executive Summary

It is against this dynamic background that the Diplomacy Training Program's flagship human rights education program, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Regional Human Rights and People's Diplomacy Training, took place in 2012. Held in Dili, Timor-Leste from 26 November – 10 December 2012, the Program, bringing together leading community activists from across the region, sought to harness and enhance opportunities for civil society engagement in and influence over these pressing human rights issues. This year, twenty-one participants from 10 different countries across the Asia-Pacific region completed the 17-day intensive training program. Civil society representatives from Timor-Leste, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Southern Thailand, India's state of Nagaland, Indonesia and West Papua attended the course. The Program was notable for the participation of DTP's first ever human rights advocate from Samoa, and for the first female advocate from the Chittagong Hill Tract in Bangladesh. Importantly, the course also saw a significant representation from Pacific Island countries, and from the host nation of Timor-Leste.

The advocacy work of the Program's participants encapsulates many of the critical issues facing the Asia-Pacific region at this moment: working towards a human rights-respecting national constitution in Fiji, finding human rights-based and sustainable solutions to poverty in Timor-Leste, combating enforced disappearances, addressing entrenched patterns of violence against women, and securing the civil and political rights of Indigenous peoples in West Papua. The Program provided an important collective forum for participants to come together and forge new avenues of collaboration in mobilising around these and other issues. The rich experience and wisdom of these human rights defenders infused the group's learning during the Program.

The Program provided participants with a comprehensive and practical knowledge of international human rights standards and mechanisms and strategies to engage these mechanisms to strengthen their human rights

advocacy practices. To this end, participants were provided with opportunities to develop skills in strategic advocacy, campaigning and lobbying, and the use of video as an advocacy tool. DTP's experienced trainers, leading practitioners and academics in the human rights field nationally and internationally, guided participants to practically apply the concepts, principles, strategies and mechanisms to their own communities and issues.

The combined dedication, focus, and energy of participants and trainers contributed to a highly successful training program, acknowledged by participants, trainers, and the DTP Secretariat alike. This sense of collective achievement in the strengthening of participants' knowledge, skills and networks is clearly reflected in the participants' evaluation of the Program. These evaluations are drawn from in this report, which also offers a descriptive overview of the Program and its key learning outcomes, and key recommendations for the future.

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Program was organised in partnership with the Office of the Former President of Timor-Leste, H.E. Jose Ramos Horta, DTP's Founder and Patron. The program was made possible through the generous financial and in-kind assistance of the Office of the Former President, as well as through the financial contributions of the Scully Fund, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and Mr. Phillip Keir. DTP thanks these organisations and individuals for their role in enabling the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Program. This report was prepared by DTP Project Coordinator, Kylie Marks.

### **3. Purposes of the Program:**

- To provide training in human rights standards, the UN system, global civil society and advocacy skills for human rights defenders in the Asia-Pacific region, including specialised training for officials and NGOs of Timor-Leste;
- To enhance the capacity of community advocates and human rights defenders to access and participate in governmental and inter-governmental processes to promote and protect human rights and the rule of law;
- To develop knowledge and understanding of, and to facilitate regional mobilisation around, the relationship between human rights, poverty and development as informed by: the Declaration on the Right to Development and the human rights-based approach to development; transnational human rights advocacy; and, international solidarity;
- To encourage and facilitate the development of support networks between human rights defenders in Timor-Leste and the region.

### **4. Location & Venue**

For the fourth consecutive year, DTP's Annual Human Rights and People's Diplomacy Training was held in Timor-Leste, at the invitation of former Timorese President, H.E. Jose Ramos-Horta. In the 20 plus year relationship of the Diplomacy Training Program with Timor-Leste, 2012 stood out as a particularly special year, marking notably 10 years since of the formal restoration of Timor-Leste's independence as a sovereign State in May 2002, 500 years since the first Portuguese contact and 100 years of resistance to colonial rule. The Program was timed to coincide with the country's Independence Day on 28 November. Over the first week of the Program, major anniversary celebrations took place in Same, commemorating the long struggle of Timor-Leste to achieve self-determination.

Linked to the challenges of the country's history of conflict and human rights violations are the development challenges that Timor-Leste faces for its peaceful and sustainable future, shared by the region more broadly. Faced with issues of foreign investment, natural resource management, and poverty reduction in one of the poorest countries in Asia, Timor-Leste provided a powerful and relevant location for participants to explore issues of human rights, development and poverty in the lead up to the 2015 Millennium Development Goals deadline.

Participants had the opportunity to more deeply understand the realities of poverty and social exclusion in Timor-Leste through witnessing the tangible hardship faced by the local population.

The Program was held at the Timor Plaza in Dili at the recommendation of the Former President. Day trips were held in Dare, overlooking Dili, and in the Vila Verde community on Dili's outskirts.

## 5. Participants and Trainers

*"I will definitely revise with my network how we need to work on developing a report based on what I learned from Dr. Sarah and Prof. Virginia's classes."*

*—2012 Annual Program Participant, End of Training Evaluation*

Program participants were selected through an open call, distributed through DTP's alumni networks and through social media. Sixty-five applications were received with supporting references. The selection of participants was conducted by the DTP Secretariat in consultation with DTP's program partner the Office of the Former President, as well as with other partners. The final number of participants was affected by challenges of funding and also some last minute health and family issues for some of those selected. The biographies of the human rights defenders taking part in the course are attached as an appendix to this report.

The Program training team brought together leading national and international level expert practitioners, activists and academics from Timor-Leste, Australia, the Philippines, and the United States. The Diplomacy Training Program is fortunate to draw on the skills, and expertise of its trainers who play a valuable mentoring role to course participants. Trainers on this course included NSW Senior Counsel, Dr. Sarah Pritchard; United Nations Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity, Professor Virginia Dandan; WITNESS's Ryan Schlieff; and DTP Executive Director Patrick Earle. Special guest trainers included Former President of Timor-Leste Dr. Jose Ramos Horta; Timor-Leste Minister for the Promotion of Gender Equality, Mrs. Idelta Rodriguez; Timor-Leste Minister for Natural Resources, Mr. Alfredo Pires; Australian Ambassador to Timor-Leste, H.E. Mr. Miles Armitage; Director of Forum Tau Matan, Joao Pequinho and Director of La'o Hamutuk, Mr. Charles Scheiner.

## 6. Funding

The program was made possible through grants from the Scully Fund, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Keir Foundation, as well as the financial and in-kind assistance from the Office of the Former President. In addition, DTP sought to raise funds through charging a participant's fee for the course. DTP worked with participants to try to raise funds towards some or all of their airfares and costs of participation. Regrettably, DTP was not able to secure the funding to enable all of the selected participants to attend the program.

## 7. Program Methodology and Materials

DTP's training approach is guided by the recognition of the power of individuals working together to effect social change. In seeking to implement this recognition, the Program methodology reflects a deep respect for the knowledge, experiences and perspectives that participants bring to the program. The Program balances its knowledge- and skills-based curriculum with a teaching methodology that fosters interaction and active participation among course participants. The practical application of knowledge of human rights and advocacy skills is a key feature of DTP's training methodology, and DTP encourages trainers to use participatory training methods such as simulations, role plays and advocacy exercises, and to enable participants to share their own experiences.

This approach is complemented in a less formal setting through the integration of other activities in the Program, including the welcome and closing dinners, film nights, solidarity and cultural nights. These activities are all designed to promote collaboration and networking among participants outside the formal content of the program. At the start of the program participants are divided into groups to help manage the program and this

works effectively in building links and collaboration and exchange of experiences. Participants are also encouraged to keep a daily diary for their own purposes, and each participant is asked to make a presentation during the program.

Participants are given an extensive manual consisting of a number of short chapters on the topics covered, written by experts in the field. The manual was designed to be a practical tool during the training and participants are encouraged to read relevant chapters prior to particular sessions. It is also designed to be a reference tool for participants in their work after the training. An electronic copy of materials for distribution to participants at the end of the training is also produced compiling all materials and output developed in the program.

## **8. Overview of the Program**

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Program was an intensive human rights training that took place over 17 days in Dili. The Program combined theoretical, academic-based training with practical simulation and in-country field visits. Under the leadership of Dr. Sarah Pritchard and Professor Virginia Dandan, Week 1 introduced participants to the international law of human rights, international human rights system, and to international economic, social and cultural rights law, and the human rights based approach to development. Week 2 saw participants complement this learning in practical and interactive sessions, including in video advocacy, media skills, diplomatic negotiation, and roundtable dialogue. Key themes that grew from the Program and from the experience of participants are documented below.

### **8.1. Human Rights and Development**

The relationship between human rights advocacy and development policy and practice emerged as a key issue in the Program. The United Nations Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity, and the former Chair of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), Professor Virginia Dandan provided participants with an interactive overview to the international law of economic, social and cultural rights and the human rights-based approach to development. Professor Dandan explained how the HRBA can identify asymmetries of power, and how it can equip vulnerable groups to become agents of change. Participants consolidated their learning and benefitted from Professor Dandan's personal expertise in a day-long intensive simulation of NGO reporting to the CESCR Committee. This learning was also reinforced by a visit to Vila Verde village on the outskirts of Dili. Participants were introduced to the leaders (chiefs) of the suco (local government), and shared a roundtable discussion about the village's structure, innovative social security system, and the role of women and youth in village governance. Poverty and development stands as a pressing challenge for Timor-Leste, with over 50% of the population living in conditions of poverty. Efforts were made in the Program to involve Timorese civil society in its discussions on poverty, opening a day of sessions to the public. Charles Scheiner from leading Timorese NGO La'o Hamutuk and Timorese Minister for Natural Resources (and DTP Alumnus) Mr. Alfredo Pires offered participants insights into the role of oil and energy resources in Timor-Leste's development policy, while also stressing the need to anchor development policy in human rights.

### **8.2. International Solidarity**

*"I have confidence to talk loud and loud about human rights, with all the materials I learned [...] is the change of my mindset about how we can build the strategy of international solidarity."*

*—2012 Annual Program Participant, End of Training Evaluation*

Human rights challenges such as development, poverty reduction, and climate change often occur on such a mass scale that they transcend the capacity of any one community or national government to address these structural issues. International solidarity describes the recognition that collective action between States is essential in addressing these global challenges. Participants were privileged to have the opportunity to engage with the world's leading authority on international solidarity, the UN Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity, Professor Virginia Dandan. Currently mandated to develop a Draft Declaration on the Right of Peoples and Individuals to International Solidarity, Professor Dandan emphasised a central element of

the concept of solidarity as the need for constructive partnerships between governments and civil society and communities if global challenges, including poverty and climate change, are to be successfully addressed. In Professor Dandan's words "what happens to one of us, happens to all of us". The global civil society movement, The World We Want, born out of the 2012 Rio+20 Sustainable Development Conference was highlighted as an example of transnational solidarity.

Professor Dandan outlined her personal conviction that solidarity has its basis in compassion, empathy, love, and the essence of being human. She explained how solidarity is a process, and that it has to be built. This message was lived by participants as they took their own unique steps towards building solidarity among each other during the Program.

*Almost two weeks, I already live in Dili.  
I learn many things.  
One thing that I learned about was forgiveness.*

*Last week, when I visit CAVR, I met Joao.  
I quite surprised to know that he was prisoner.  
Joao share that someone give information about him to Indonesia military.  
The person got US\$ 1500.*

*After he released, Joao search the people who sell him.  
He came and said I'm already released.  
Joao forgive him.*

*It needs a big heart to forgive someone that hurt you.*

*I have to ask you a question:  
How does Timor Leste see Indonesian people?  
You said, Timor Leste people have no hurt feeling with Indonesia people.  
And its true...*

*—2012 Annual Program Participant, Email Correspondence*

### **8.3. Civil and Political Rights Violations and the Situation of West Papua**

*"Through the DTP course I have been able to build networks with DTP participants, DTP trainers including Timorese human rights activists who are supporting me and who give me motivation to speak up for Papuan people."*

*—2012 Annual Program Participant, End of Training Evaluation*

Presentations and input from the participants also highlighted the extent of the ongoing relevance and urgency of struggles for civil and political rights in the region—and the need for skills to defend these issues. The widespread and ongoing denial of civil and political rights is the daily reality of many of the program participants, and their work can place them at great risk – of imprisonment for peaceful protest, torture and extrajudicial execution or "disappearance". These violations are a reality in West Papua but some or all are also occurring in Southern Thailand, Nagaland, and the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Dr. Sarah Pritchard introduced the international human rights instruments and mechanisms that could be used strategically to increase international awareness and action on these situations.

The opportunity to be in Timor-Leste, to connect with Timorese advocates, and to learn from the historical experience of the Timorese people and their struggle for independence was valued by the participants who experience continuing severe human rights violations - as well as those who are seeking to resolve conflict and to build peace and reconciliation. The visit to the Timor-Leste Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation (CAVR) was powerful in allowing deeper understanding of Timorese history and patterns of conflict. Former political prisoner Joao Pequinho shared his personal experience with participants.

*“The Centre (CAVR) stands as an indictment against hatred, greed, discrimination and as a warning about the unprecedented tragedy of [what happened] in Timor-Leste. The Museum tells the story of the human tragedy through the eyes, voices and possessions of those few who survived the invading forces. A museum that speaks of Timorese people’s strength, wisdom and passion for recognition as a people.”*

—2012 Annual Program Participant, Follow-Up Email Correspondence

#### 8.4. Video, Media, and Communicating the Human Rights Message

In his dialogue with participants, Timor-Leste’s Former President Jose Ramos Horta offered the following advice: “An idea only has power if you are able to transmit it to the rest of the world.” Dr. Ramos Horta’s words touched on a central theme of the Program—the critical role of innovative communication in leadership and in human rights advocacy. The capacity to engender social change, including through human rights advocacy, is often dependent on the effectiveness of the advocate in communicating and mobilising public interest around their vision of change. As highlighted by Dr. Ramos Horta, information technology has dramatically opened up the potential for civil society to influence national and international decision-making. Ryan Schlieff from WITNESS, an organisation dedicated to using video and storytelling to communicate and generate action to address human rights abuses, introduced participants to the practice of video advocacy as a powerful tool through which to mobilise support for their cause. This message was reinforced in the sessions on media and human rights led by Tracey Carpenter, who discussed strategies for promoting video and other campaigns in traditional media as well as in new forms of social media. Communication, and the way in which advocates present their ideas was also an important message imparted by the Australian Ambassador to Timor-Leste Mr. Miles Armitage. Participants engaged with Mr. Armitage in a real life practical advocacy exercise that highlighted the role that governments – and their diplomatic representatives - have in promoting and protecting human rights and human rights defenders. The session also developed participants’ skills and confidence as human rights defenders to engage with diplomats.

#### 9. Participants’ Evaluation

*“All the sessions were very useful to me because they enhanced my knowledge and improved my ability of how to develop my skills and self confidence.”*

—2012 Annual Program Participants, End of Training Evaluation

Overall, the Program received very positive feedback from course participants. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Program was evaluated through extensive and detailed questionnaires completed by participants. Participants were given the opportunity to assess the Program through three separate mechanisms: completing a written trainer’s evaluation following every session of the course; completing an anonymous extensive written qualitative and quantitative program evaluation at the conclusion of the course; and the collection of oral feedback in a group setting on the final day of the program.

Program Objective <sup>1</sup>	1 (Very Good)	2 (Good)	3 (Average)	4 (Poor)	5 (Very Poor)
1. To build the capacity of community advocates and human rights defenders in the Asia-Pacific region to apply human rights instruments, principles and standards to the different challenges and issues they face in their advocacy work.	8	9	2		

<sup>1</sup> These objectives are the ones set by DTP in preparation for the program, rather than the participants own objectives.

2. To enhance capacity of advocates to engage effectively with international processes and regional mechanisms to promote, protect, and fulfill human rights.	7	10	2		
3. To enhance the capacity of human rights advocates to advocate for economic, social and cultural rights and to engage effectively with key state actors and stakeholders for the positive realization of these rights.	6	12	1		
4. To strengthen protection for human rights defenders and their work and facilitate collaboration and networking among human rights defenders across the region.	6	9	2	2	
5. To provide an opportunity and a forum for participants to share perspectives and experiences and identify key issues for further work in the area.	6	9	4	1	

Qualitatively, participants' evaluations reflected very positively on the course, its structure and content. Excerpts from these evaluations are interspersed throughout this report.

## 10. Outcomes, Reflections and Recommendations

*"I have a plan to share what I learned in this training with others. I have a plan to open a human rights club in Dili. We want to make like socialization to the community."*

*"When I stay here, I discuss with my friend every night about the knowledge I received. Now my friend is already preparing for making a project in our community."*  
—2012 Annual Program Participants, End of Training Evaluation

**10.1. DTP Objectives and Participant Expectations:** Analysis of the program evaluations indicates that the Program was successful in meeting both the expectations of participants and DTP's objectives for the Program. The level of mutual respect, support and solidarity among participants, and the overall group dynamic was a feature of the program

### 10.2. Outcomes and Impacts:<sup>2</sup>

The training aims to build the capacity of committed individuals working in organizations committed to improving the human rights situation in their societies. The benefits of the training extend beyond the individuals in the program, to their organizations and to the vulnerable and marginalized communities and individuals they serve. Participants return to their organisations and communities, disseminate their learnings, networks, and experiences with these broader groups. Most participants indicated at the end of the training that they will implement a plan for sharing their learning and the program materials with their organizations/colleagues.

The impact of the Program on the ongoing work and advocacy strategies of individual participants and their organisations will necessarily take longer to evaluate. A key objective of DTP's programs is to equip human rights defenders with the skills necessary to hold governments and institutions accountable. This is central to any sustainable strategy to building better governance – and to ensuring that issues of poverty, marginalization and discrimination are addressed. DTP will work with participants through follow-up surveys and email communication to monitor the enduring impact of the Program, and to offer ongoing support. All of the participants become part of DTP's alumni network.

<sup>2</sup> Information here is gathered from the program activities, participants' end of training evaluations, and a follow-up survey of participants conducted 6 weeks post-training.



Some of the more specific activities that participants committed to included:

- I. Participating and helping to coordinate a coalition of Indonesian and West Papuan NGOs making a parallel report to be submitted to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights ahead of the examination of Indonesia by the Committee within the next two years.
- II. The participant from Fiji has committed to prepare a submission to the UN Special Rapporteur on Water and Sanitation on the enjoyment of the right to water in parts of Fiji.
- III. Engaging in human rights lobbying through meetings at the UK Embassy in Indonesia;
- IV. Develop, producing and disseminating three short videos in 2013 focused on human rights in West Papua
- V. A participant from PNG will incorporate skills and knowledge from the Program in conducting training for several government agencies and NGOs in the area of Police and Corrective Services in 2013-14.
- VI. Applying DTP's training content and methodology to his activities promoting peace, conflict resolution and reconciliation in the conflict areas of Southern Thailand
- VII. The linking of participants from PNG and Samoa, representing NHRIs, with representatives of Timor-Leste's Office of the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice.
- VIII. Participants established an online network using social media tools to provide support to longer-term collaboration. Participant use of the network has been very active in the months following the Program.

**10.3. Program Content:** The Program evidenced overall a good balance of content. The 2012 Annual Program piloted a shortened version of the Program, which was reduced from 21 days to 17 days in duration. As DTP's flagship comprehensive training course, the Program schedule covered a lot of ground. The thematic focus of the Program ensured that the course was able to go into further depth on specific issues, including poverty and development. DTP will review the Program and supporting program materials before the next annual course is held. Several Timorese participants suggested the need for specialised training for future Timorese diplomatic representatives, with the view to enhancing the effectiveness of Timor-Leste at the international level.

**10.5. Program Location and Venue:** Timor-Leste provided a good location for the Program. Located between Asia and the Pacific, Timor-Leste provided an excellent location for fostering solidarity among course participants. Overwhelmingly, participants highlighted the value to their work and advocacy of undertaking their learning in Timor-Leste, as a country with a powerful, relevant and inspirational history. Many participants also underscored the value in the contribution of the Program to Timorese civil society and local economy. Logistically, holding an extended training in Timor-Leste can be challenging, and more costly than other locations. The accommodation and training venue in Timor Leste's first major shopping plaza development was comfortable, however other venues might have encouraged a closer connection to the country and its people.

**10.6. Program Participants:** DTP's training model is based on attracting advocates who have the requisite knowledge and experience to both contribute to the program, and who are committed and in a position to apply their learning to their work. DTP was able to bring 21 participants to the Program, however four others were unfortunately either not able to commence or complete the program due to illness or family circumstances. Yet other selected individuals missed out on attending the Program because neither DTP nor these individuals were able to raise sufficient funds. Efforts were made to ensure both regional diversity and gender balance in the course, and this was achieved.

**10.7. Program Funding:** This Program was made possible with the support of the Office of the Former President of Timor-Leste, H.E. Jose Ramos Horta, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Scully Fund, and The Keir Foundation. It was also subsidised through the use of DTP's own resources.

*"After I came back from Timor-Leste, I shared my knowledge to my friends and to other groups making a project as I find in Timor. So many NGO groups in Patani, Southern Thailand are interested in Timor-Leste. That program is very very important and useful because we can apply and produce a new thing in our work."*

*—2012 Annual Program Participant, Follow-Up Email Correspondence*

## 11. Annexes

1. Participant Biographies
2. Program Schedule



# DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM

AFFILIATED WITH THE FACULTY OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

A training program for peoples of the Asia-Pacific region

**Annual Human Rights and People's Diplomacy Training Program**  
**26 November – 10 December 2012, Dili, Timor-Leste**

## **ANNEX 1: Participant Biographies**

### **BANGLADESH:**

#### **Chanchana Chakma (F), *Kapaeeng Foundation & Hill Women's Federation***

Chanchana, as a member of the Changhma community of Bangladesh, is responsible for coordinating and supervising organisational works of the Hill Women Federation. In particular monitoring the human rights situation of indigenous Jumma women in general, and conducting workshops, seminars, human chains and demonstrations against violation of women's rights and human rights in the Chittagong Hill Tract. Chanchana is particularly devoted to protect women from sexual violence and to addressing Indigenous rights and discrimination issues in Bangladesh. Both the Kapaeeng Foundation and Hill Women's Federation are undertaking significant work on human rights issues for indigenous people of Bangladesh, with relatively low budgets. As strong advocacy bodies, the organisations play a critical role in Bangladesh, and act as a network for other NGOs working on similar issues.

### **INDONESIA / WEST PAPUA:**

#### **Aminatun Zubaedah (F), *AKSARA***

Aminatun is a facilitator and Head of the Gender and Local Governance Division at AKSARA, which is currently working with vulnerable groups, especially women and children. She works to ensure the inclusion of gender and human rights in all projects, including in relation to local governance and disaster risk management. She develops programs, conducts studies, and develops media campaigns relating to rights fulfilment, with a focus on socio-economic rights, and community concerns about health, education and the economy. She hopes that the program will strengthen her advocacy work and teach her how to efficiently and effectively assess policies, as well as better utilise the media as a tool for advocacy, with the ultimate aim of increasing the mainstreaming of human rights in national policy-making.

#### **Yuliana 'Justicia' Lantipo (F), *Nasional Papua Solidaritas (NAPAS)***

Yuliana works as a Media Officer with Nasional Papua Solidaritas (National Solidarity for Papua). As part of her role at NAPAS, Yuliana conducts research on human rights issues in West Papua and cooperates with national and international human rights organisations. Yuliana is actively engaged in the situation of West Papua, working to build networks among national and international NGOs and solidarity groups, and monitoring the situation of the scores of political prisoners in the Moluccas and West Papua. Yuliana hopes the program will better equip her to advocate these abuses as violations of international human rights law, and to engage the international human rights system in their investigation.

#### **Wiwince Pigome (F), *Free West Papua Campaign***

Wiwince Pigome is an active member, translator and spokeswoman for West Papuan human rights issues for the Free West Papua Campaign. Currently based in Western Australia, Wiwince's activism in this area is closely connected to her first-hand experience of human rights abuses in her home country. Facing significant risk to her personal safety, left her homeland now Wiwince works in Australia to raise

awareness about past and current human rights abuses in West Papua through a range of media, including public talks in schools and universities, door-knocking, and translating reports of current incidents of abuse for distribution to Australian politicians. Building on her work in Australia, the program offers important opportunities for Wiwince to strengthen transnational engagement around the West Papuan cause.

**Edy Michelis Rosariyanto (M), *Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Franciscans Papua***

Edy serves as Director of JPIC Franciscans Papua, and oversees program preparation, monitoring and reporting in the Jayapura diocese. Edy also plays a key advocacy role in developing JPIC's local, national and international networks. Edy has experience engaging with international human rights mechanisms, including United Nations bodies, to raise awareness of the human rights situation in West Papua. A particular focus of JPIC's activities has recently been on social and economic rights issues. In 2011, JPIC conducted research on school fees and economic accessibility of education in local government areas. Edy also advocates around Indigenous peoples' rights, including on issues of land acquisition by a private palm oil company.

**Yohannes Sembiring (M), *Compassion Indonesia***

Yohannes works for Compassion Indonesia as a Partnership Facilitator (PF) with 17 local churches to build capacity for holistic child development. With the focus of eradicating poverty for children Yohannes responsibility is design and fund a Child Sponsorship Program to empower the children; it is so called as CDSP (Child Sponsorship Program). Yohannes plans to develop engagement with human rights issues within Compassion Indonesia and a new human rights program for the broader community. He currently holds film and discussion nights to generate awareness of human rights. He is concerned that awareness and commitment to human rights maybe declining in Indonesia according to recent media surveys. Yohannes believes a legal framework is necessary to investigate human rights violence that has occurred in the post Soeharto era. He is planning to disseminate his skills and knowledge from the course through mentoring and discussion and believes media and social media are important influences on social attitudes and awareness which he plans to employ in his work.

**Jonathon Serum (M), *West Papua Interest Association***

Jonathon serves as WPIA Representative of the Star Mountain with the West Papua Interest Association. As the local representative of WPIA, Jonathon works to undertake the socialisation and dissemination of human rights information among the grassroots community. He works particularly with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Jonathon sees the increased awareness of and engagement with human rights instruments and principles as essential to the self-determination process in West Papua. He hopes that by enhancing his own knowledge of international human rights law that he will be able to improve the promotion and effectiveness of human rights work among the Star Mountain community. Jonathon is looking forward to learning from the experience of the East Timorese.

**Fiji:**

**Analaisa Nacoladaubota (F), *Citizens Constitutional Forum***

Analaisa works as an Education Support Officer with the leading Fijian human rights organisation Citizens Constitutional Forum (CCF). In planning, coordinating and facilitating community workshops on human rights, good governance and multiculturalism issues, Analaisa's work takes her into multi-ethnic rural and urban communities across Fiji. CCF has played a prominent advocacy role in enhancing public education on democracy and multiculturalism issues in Fiji, and is a key actor in current national dialogue around a new Fijian constitution. Through their grassroots workshops, CCF is undertaking innovative work to empower communities to exercise their right to take part in the government of their country, though the making of submissions to the Constitution Commission. CCF also works to assess social development needs of grassroots communities. Analaisa's participation in the program represents a valuable opportunity to strengthen/ensure the incorporation of human rights principles in Fiji's future constitution at this important juncture.

## **INDIA:**

### **Chubasenla Asen (F), *Dialogue on Indigenous Culture and Environment (DICE) Foundation***

Asen belongs to the indigenous Ao Naga community, and works as a Research Associate at the DICE Foundation, which is based in Nagaland. Asen is responsible for evaluating, monitoring and conducting research on unregulated tourism and its impact on Indigenous people, culture and the environment. Her work is carried out in a region of north-East India that has a history of conflict between local communities and the Government over natural resources, and which has been marked by human rights violations, such as custodial deaths, rape and torture carried out by non-commissioned officers of the armed forces. Asen hopes the Program will enhance her knowledge of human rights redress mechanisms and build her capacity to develop programs on the rights of Indigenous communities, especially women and children. This is critical to address the significant negative effect of unregulated tourism, which has subjected women and children to prostitution, increased child labour and violence against women and neglected the needs of the poor.

## **PAPUA NEW GUINEA:**

### **Patrick Niebo (M), *Ombudsman Commission of Papua New Guinea***

Patrick is a senior investigator in the complaints division of the Anti-Discrimination and Human Rights Unit (ADHRU) of Papua New Guinea. His role consists in protecting and investigating every type of discrimination, human rights violations, and cross-cutting issues within the country and seeking redress for each complaint. Patrick was also committed in promoting human rights as a team leader, supervising the ADHRU and also responsible for two United Nations Development Programmes; in 2005 he firstly focused on capacity building, by forming trainers for Police Officers, and raising awareness amongst marginalised groups including women and children in local communities. Similarly in 2009, he centralized its attention in strengthening human rights mechanisms in place and in the training of lawyers and journalists.

## **PHILIPPINES:**

### **Caroline Sevilla (F), *Families of Victims of Enforced Disappearances (FIND)***

Caroline works as the Psychosocial Rehabilitation Program Coordinator with Families of Victims of Enforced Disappearances (FIND). This non-government organisation works across the Philippines to provide services to the victims and families of enforced disappearances, a major human rights issue in the Philippines. Caroline works to make interventions for victims and their families, assessing their psychosocial needs, coordinating rehabilitation programs including counselling and debriefing. She also works to assist surfaced victims and their families to attain economic sustainability through engagement in cooperatives and small-scale livelihood. Caroline hopes the DTP training will strengthen and complement her work with victims, both in generating new advocacy strategies and in the provision of human rights education.

## **SAMOA:**

### **Vaiao Eteuati (M), *Office of the Ombudsman***

Vai is the Principal Investigation Officer with the Samoan Office of the Ombudsman. In this role, Vai works to investigate public complaints in relation to the administration of government agencies to foster good governance. He also works in the Law and Justice Sector Programme in connection with the Attorney General's Office, Ministry of Police and the Ministry of Justice. 2013 marks an important moment for Samoa

which will see the commencement of work of the country's first Human Rights Commissioner. With the National Human Rights Commission to be based in the Office of the Ombudsman, Vai's work will take on enhanced and important human rights dimensions. He hopes that the Program will provide him with the necessary training to ensure the effective operation of the NHRC, particularly in the context of the rights to education, health and adequate standard of living.

## **THAILAND:**

### **Hasan Yamadibu (M), *People's College of Non-Violence***

Hasan works with the *People's College of Non-Violence* in Pattani, Southern Thailand, a region badly affected by civil conflict, human rights abuses and violations. The college was established by a DTP alumnus, inspired by his experience of the DTP participatory human rights training model. The People's College was created to develop a range of curricula for training youth, NGO staff, and students in southern Thailand including in the areas of peace processes, human rights and people's forum. Managing the peace process curriculum, Hasan works to raise awareness of human rights in the school system and among the public. Based in southern Thailand, Hasan also serves as an interpreter for organisations that visit this region. He also reports data and information about human rights violations to be shared with other human rights organisations. In addition, Hasan is in the process of establishing a school for poor and orphaned children. Hasan is looking forward to learning about the Timorese experience with human rights following independence, and to implementing the Program's participatory learning methodology into the People's College.

## **TIMOR LESTE:**

### **Joana Veneranda Amaral (F), *Fundação dos Veteranos das FALANTIL***

Joana is a director of the Fundação dos Veteranos das FALANTIL who provides strategic planning in developing human resources for the organisation as well as capacity development, management systems and performance evaluation. Her role in the organisation is to foster ethics and good relationships, respect the dignity of every individual and to enhance gender equality. She has worked for social justice since her youth championing voiceless people and the orphanages of Timor Leste during the Timorese Struggle for liberation and Independence. As a university student she was involved in seminars on human rights organised by KOMNAS of Indonesia in Jakarta. She also participated in a Peace Camp in South Korea in 2006. She has a Master of Management of Science from Beragama University, Jakarta. She plans to continue to promote peace and reconciliation between Indonesia and Timor-Leste.

### **Ismael Da Costa (M), *Polisia Nacional Timor-Leste***

Ismael is with the Timor Leste National Police and is responsible for the security to President of Timor-Leste. As the deputy General Commander he is supervisor of all issues in operations of the PNTL and has been involved in negotiations of land border demarcation and delineation between the Republic of Democratic of Timor-Leste and Republic of Indonesia. His role includes orientation of all PNTL members for respect of human rights on law enforcement. He has been involved in the human rights program conducted by UN Police and Australia Federal Police through Timor-Leste Police Development Program (TLPDP). Human Rights in Timor Leste has been impacted by the history of Portuguese and Indonesian occupation, which he believes has caused a mentality based on violence among the people of Timor-Leste. He is taking part in the course to support and improve his knowledge and skills on human rights and diplomacy issues in regard to his role with the Polisia Nacional.

### **Juvenal Dias (M), *La'o Hamutuk, Timor Leste Institute for Development Monitoring and Analysis***

Juvenal is currently a researcher on economic, natural resources and good governance issues at La'o Hamutuk. La'o Hamutuk's philosophy and principles support social and economic justice. His role is to analyse and monitor government and international policies related to these issues with the aim of helping Timor-Leste's policy-makers to avoid the 'resource curse', or over dependence on a single commodity - as Timor-Leste's economy is heavily dependent on oil exporting. He is also an activist working on people's rights in Timor-Leste as well as working for international solidarity for human rights in West Papua and Burma. He has also had experience in the campaign for an international tribunal for serious crimes committed during the Indonesian occupation and against impunity in Timor-Leste. He wants to learn more about the mechanisms for and advocacy of human rights.

**Juvita Faria (F), *Law Student***

Juvita is a university student studying law. She also works with her community as a volunteer to address community needs. She works mostly with young people motivating them and teaching skills for their future development. She has worked with the Minister of Justice and UNICEF in the area of children's rights. She is interested to extend her knowledge of human rights and advocacy in order to assist in addressing hunger and educational needs.

**Felicidade de Sousa Guterres (F),**

Felicidade is an adviser to the Minister of Commerce Industry and Environment of Timor-Leste and Investment Promotion. She advises on trade and investment promotion matters including investment policy formulation, investor servicing and mentoring to improve the business climate including border trade. She was a Commissioner of the Commission of Truth and Friendship Indonesia-Timor-Leste which revealed the violation of human rights which occurred in Timor Leste in 1999. She also has a background in the delivery of programs to deliver access to justice and social development. She has participated in numerous official government delegations as well as speaking spoken on women's voices and conflict resolution at conferences and universities internationally.

Felicidade was active throughout the Timor-Leste struggle for independence from October 1975 as a youth leader, political assistant, activist, campaign trainer and organiser. She was a leader of the resistance in the mountains where there was no food, now houses, no education, no medicine and no assistance at all during the struggle for Independence. She graduated in Social and Political Sciences from East Timor University in 1997 She established the East Timor Women's Movement Against Violence in 1998 and represented the organisation at the first Indonesian Women's Congress. In Nov 1999-2000 she was appointed a member of the Consultative Council at the first CNRT conference in Darwin, a quasi legislative body of Timor Leste's political leadership. Felicidade was appointed secretary of the National Dialogue Team established by the President where she conducted dialogue between the UN mission, the Government and different entities such as CPDRTL. She has won numerous awards in recognition of her role in the formation of the nation of Timor Leste and her advocacy for the people of Timor-Leste. Felicidade plans to work for human rights both nationally and internationally.

**Ana Benigna das Dores Ximenes Guterres (F), *University of Peace, Dili***

Ana is studying International Relations at the University of Peace, Dili. She plans to work in diplomacy and is very grateful for this training opportunity. Ana is taking part in the training in Human Rights and Diplomacy through the Rotary Leadership Awards.

**Leopoldo Dos Santos Leite (M), *Insight***

Leo believes that as a new country East Timor faces many challenges and problems one of which is the protection of human rights, but the country lacks human resources in the area. As a Timorese youth he wants to contribute his skills and knowledge to build justice, peace and integrity of creations in his country. He wants to help other youth to respect the rights of the people and help them to use their creativity and all their potential for the betterment of their society.

**Francisco Da Silva Mendonca (M), *Rotary/ Rotaract***

Francisco is serving as an international relations coordinator for Dili Rotaract and immediate past President of the club who plans to work in the diplomatic field. With Rotaract he maintains communications with other national and international support organisations to enable Rotaract's community work in Dili. A key project is a volunteer program teaching English to elementary school students which he coordinates locally as well as the coordinating the program sponsorship by the Canberra Rotary Club. He is also a student organiser who is part of raising human rights issues including access to food as well as the lack of access to education and health in rural areas. He has also worked on a community water project in Bazerete Liquica for the delivery of clean water. Francisco is studying Education and English at the University of Timor Leste.

**Justino Da Silva (M), *Save the Children***

Justino works with Save the Children in two main roles, as Program Director and as Child Rights, Protection and Governance Program Manager. As Program Director, Justino is responsible for supporting and supervising Program Managers in the design, implementation and monitoring of their respective projects. As Child Rights, Protection and Governance Program Manager, Justino works to support staff and partners in integrating child rights programming principles across all programs and advocacy initiatives. As a component of this work, Justino has served to support the establishment of Child Clubs in the Manufahi and Ainaro districts, and the strengthening of the national-level Child Rights Coalition. Justino also supports national human rights submissions processes, including reporting to the UN Universal Period Review mechanism. He plays an essential role in cementing advocacy links between the community, district, national and international levels, and in ensuring the inclusion of community voices in national and international forums.