



 WaterAid/ Jerry Galea

# Water for Women: Timor-Leste

Improving the health, equality and wellbeing of communities in Timor-Leste through *Beyond Inclusion*: realising gender transformational change and sustainable WASH systems

Access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is essential to health and wellbeing.

Water for Women is partnering with WaterAid to deliver *Beyond Inclusion* to address the multiple dimensions of inequality in access to WASH services, reaching an estimated 11,600 people.

Gender equality and social inclusion are central to Water for Women. Actively involving all people within communities (women, men, marginalised groups, people with disabilities) ensures more equitable and inclusive processes, which lead to more effective and sustainable outcomes in WASH.

Water for Women is the Australian Government's flagship WASH program and will be delivered over five years from 2018 to 2022.

Partnering with **WaterAid**

Sanitation Water Hygiene

Benefitting an estimated **11,600+** people

## Timor-Leste



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# Beyond Inclusion: realising gender transformational change and sustainable WASH systems

The Australian Government is committed to delivering effective and sustainable WASH access. Water for Women will contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG6), water and sanitation for all.

While Timor-Leste has made significant progress in increasing water supply coverage, sanitation progress has lagged behind. Coverage of water and sanitation services will need to accelerate rapidly in order to reach the target set by the Government of 100% of people by 2030.

With a population of 1.3 million people, there are significant urban-rural disparities, with a majority of the population (approximately 68%) living in rural areas. At a local community level, inequalities exist between poor and rich, women and men and people with disabilities and those without.

*Beyond Inclusion* will support opportunities and benefits in WASH for everyone in the community, with its emphasis on gender equality and social inclusion.

*"Inequalities and limited institutional capacity are some of the major difficulties in Timor-Leste. Water for Women funding will allow us to address these challenges, building on our previous work to support marginalised groups to gain access to WASH as well as working with government to strengthen the WASH sector and improve the sustainability of these services."*

- Edmund Weking, Program Director, WaterAid Timor-Leste

social norms for greater gender equality. The Project aims to reach approximately 11,600 direct beneficiaries.

The benefits of improved, safe access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are clear. Not only does access to WASH prevent disease and death, but it also has profound, lasting socio-economic impacts on a community and its ability to prosper, particularly for women and girls.

Australia understands that equitable WASH access is crucial in developing countries. Water for Women and our partners will provide innovative solutions to WASH delivery in Timor-Leste, and contribute to global WASH evidence and research.

This Project aims to improve water, sanitation and hygiene services in Likisa (Liquica) and Manufahi municipalities of Timor-Leste and in the process, influence



The Australian aid program is investing in Timor-Leste over a five-year period. Water for Women is proud to be partnering with WaterAid and other partners including the Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology Sydney, CBM Australia, Water Services Association of Australia, Engineers without Borders, Hafoun Timor Lorosa'e, Naroman Timor Foun, Luta Ba Futuru, Feto Asaun ba Sustentabilidade, Ra'es Hadomi Timor Oan, Asosiasaun Grupu Maneja Fasilidade and Municipal Government Departments.



### Research Partner

*Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in WASH & Climate Change Response for Inclusive WASH*