Objective
The main objective of this project is to enable Timor-Leste to fulfil its commitments and obligations, as required by Articles 4.1 and 12.1 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), by preparing and reporting its Initial National Communication (INC) based on the recommended guidelines.

To achieve these objectives, the project will generate, analyze and communicate information relevant for the preparation and submission of Timor-Leste’s INC that includes (a) compilation of the national Greenhouse Gas Inventory; (b) analysis of potential measures to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions; and (c) a vulnerability assessment and analysis of adaptation options.

Through the process, Timor-Leste, as a Least-Developed Country, will build its institutional, scientific, technical, informational and human capacity at all levels so as to facilitate the country’s effective implementation of the Convention in a sustainable manner.

Duration
36 months (August 2009 – November 2013)

Location
National

Partners
Ministry of Economy and Development
(State Secretariat for Environment)

Background
In January 2007, Timor-Leste acceded to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). As part of its obligations to the Convention, Timor-Leste is required to develop its Strategy and Action Plan to mitigate its production of Green House Gases (GHG) and also submit its Initial National Communication to the convention secretariat.

Being a Non-Annex I Party, the Government of Timor-Leste is eligible to receive financial support from GEF to undertake these Enabling Activities. As a precursor to receive funding for these activities, the country undertook a Self-Assessment Exercise to prepare for the development of the proposal and to identify and engage relevant stakeholders to participate in the National Communication process. This self-assessment exercise also involved a stocktaking exercise and stakeholder consultation to build upon existing activities, institutions and knowledge. More information on this process can be requested from the contact persons listed.

There are 11 key components to be worked on through 7 Technical Working Groups which together form the National Study Team:

1. Establishment of the Project Management Team and National Study Team
2. National Green House Gas Inventory
3. Programmes Containing Measures to Facilitate an Adequate Adaptation to Climate Change
4. Programmes Containing Measures to Mitigate Climate Change
5. Development and Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies (ESTs)
6. Research and Systematic Observation
7. Education, Training and Public Awareness
8. Integration of Climate Change Concerns into Sustainable Development Plans and Programmes
9. Information and Networking
10. Capacity-Building
11. Preparation and presentation of the Initial National Communication on Climate Change

Timorese Landscape - Photo courtesy UNMIT CPIO
Expected Outcomes

The INC will provide an initial comprehensive national report and build national capacity on the following:

(1) Develop a comprehensive inventory of the national greenhouse gas (GHG).

(2) Develop a vulnerability assessment, as well as an adaptation and mitigation analysis.

(3) Develop and transfer Environmentally Sound Technology (ESTs) in the country.

(4) Gradual development of research and systematic observation on climate change, including early warning systems for climate-related hazards.

(5) Strengthen national education curricula and enhance public awareness on climate change issues in the country.

(6) Increase networking among project team members and other experts in the region or other regions.

(7) Integrate climate change concerns into the future National Development Plan.

(8) Strengthen the capacity of the country on climate change issues at all levels.

For more information please contact

Bernadete da Fonseca
Project Manager
bernadete.dafonseca@undp.org