



Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 in Timor-Leste Round 2 (SEIA 2.0)

RESULTS FOR MANATUTO MUNICIPALITY





Manatuto

12 July to 27 July 2021



11

Sucos



213

Households



74.8%

Agricultural activities



14.0% Households
Headed by women



903

Individual members

48.9%
Female

51.1%
Male



6 Interviewers
from Manatuto

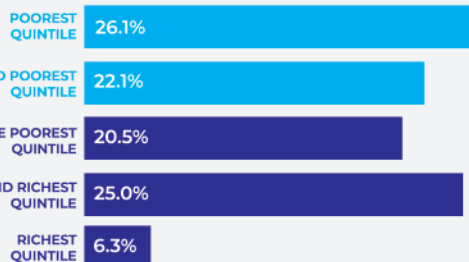
1.1% of individuals aged above 15 years old had a disability.

Data presented in this report are representative of Manatuto. The results represent the households interviewed. Caution must be applied in interpreting data. Data are reported only at municipality level- for confidentiality purposes, suco and aldeias included in the survey are not mentioned in this factsheet. For the survey analysis, sample weights were calculated to address the unequal household selection probabilities, non-response and under-coverage. Separate weights were calculated for household-level data, individual-level data and respondent-level data.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR MANATUTO

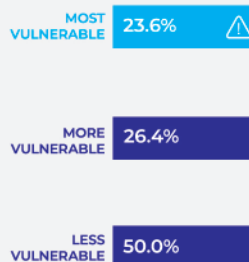
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL VULNERABILITY

WEALTH QUINTILES IN MANATUTO



The proportion of households belonging to the poorest two wealth quintiles in Manatuto was similar to the national average.

VULNERABLE GROUPS IN MANATUTO



The social vulnerability index measures the number of characteristics of persons in the household that place them at higher risk of economic deprivation, exclusion, and social isolation.

Households with members of older age, having a disability, female headship of the household and the number of children vis à vis persons in the working-age groups (the child dependency ratio) were measured. Households are divided into 3 groups – Most Vulnerable, More Vulnerable and Less Vulnerable.



23.6% most vulnerable
households in Manatuto



21.7% most vulnerable
households in the whole country



40.9%
of the persons living in **MOST VULNERABLE** households were men



59.1%
of the persons living in **MOST VULNERABLE** households were women

The majority of the people living in 'most' socially vulnerable households were women. In contrast, slightly more men were living in More and Less vulnerable households (approximately 53.0% men and 47.0% women)

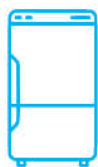
HOUSEHOLD ASSETS

Before the April 2021 Easter flood, did the household have or own one or more of the following items?



51.4%

national average 49.3%



29.3%

national average 30.4%



64.3%

national average 69.9%

Before the April 2021 Easter flood, did any member of this household have or own one or more of the following items?



5.0%

national average 16.8%



88.6%

national average 92.7%



38.8%

national average 40.3%

Digital technologies and private transportation have been heavily relied upon to mitigate the effects of physical distancing and movement restrictions. Number of households owning TV and refrigerator was higher than the national average but with access to electricity was lower than the national average in Manatuto.

WASH



64.5%

have water available
in the house

84.6%
national average



71.7%

used soap

75.7%
national average

Number of households with water and soap available in the house was high.

HOUSEHOLD FINANCE



28.6%

have some savings



49.6%

borrowed money



2.9%

member(s) with bank accounts

31.8%

national average

30.7%

national average

40.3%

national average

The proportion of households with at least one member with a bank account was significantly lower than the national average.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19 IN MANATUTO

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION



537

individuals aged 15+ years

The SEIA 2.0 asked about their employment situation during the COVID-19 pandemic.



60.0%

labour force participation rate

was higher than the national average.



51.9%

national average

Labour force participation - The proportion of the working-age population that engages actively in the labour market, either by working or by looking for work.

Proportion of employed people in the working-age population



53.7%

nationwide employment

41.7% for women



60.6%

nationwide employment

48.6% for men



57.2%

of the working-age population were employed in Manatuto



45.2%

national average

The employment rates for both women and men were higher than the national average. Slightly more men were employed than women.

Unemployment and economically inactive people in the working-age population

UNEMPLOYED



2.0%



3.6%

INACTIVE



44.4%



35.8%

The proportion of economically inactive individuals was lower than the national average. Similar to other municipalities, more women were economically inactive than men.

Unemployed - refers to persons not in employment in the reference month of the SEIA 2.0 (March 2020), and who, at that time, were seeking employment and were available to start working if an opportunity would have been offered.

Economically inactive - The persons not actively participating in the labour market include those who are not employed and not unemployed.

Proportion of employed persons in vulnerable employment



87.5%

individuals in vulnerable employment

The categories of self-employed without employees and contributing family workers are considered as being in vulnerable employment.

The percentage of employed individuals in vulnerable employment was lower than the national average.



1.9%

self-employed (without employees)

84.0%

contributing family workers



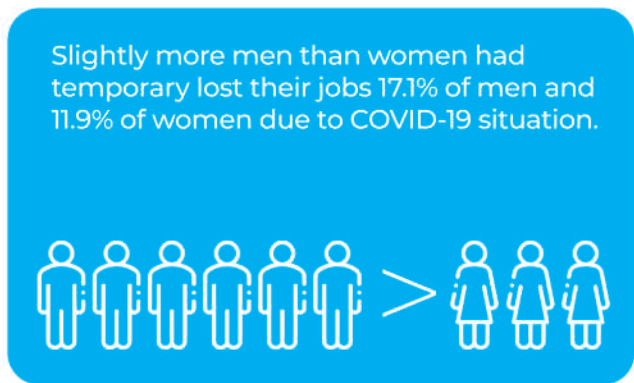
0.7%

self-employed (without employees)

88.5%

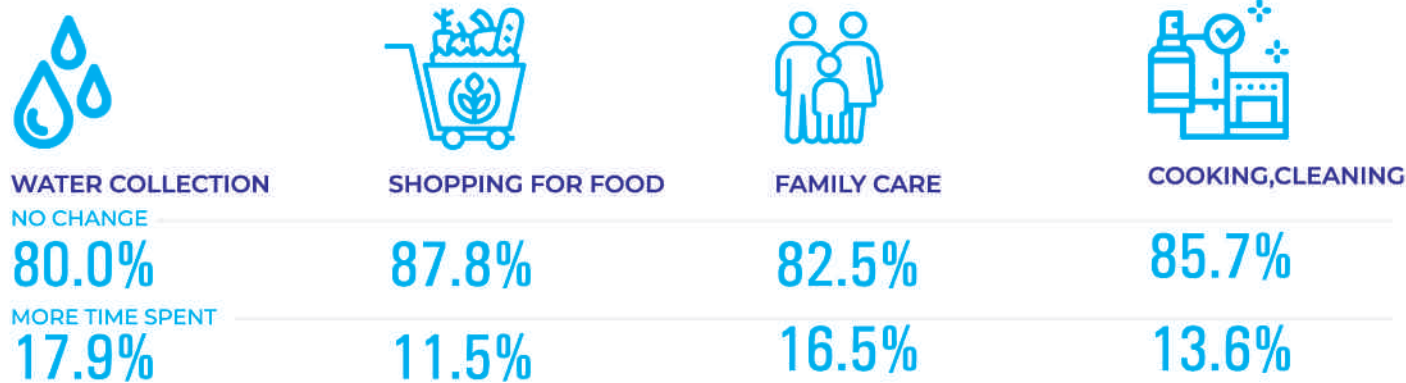
contributing family workers

86.3%
national average



In many, if not most cases, the recorded 'job loss' should be interpreted as a temporary suspension of work.

CHANGES IN TIME SPENT DOING HOUSEHOLD ACTIVITIES DUE TO COVID-19



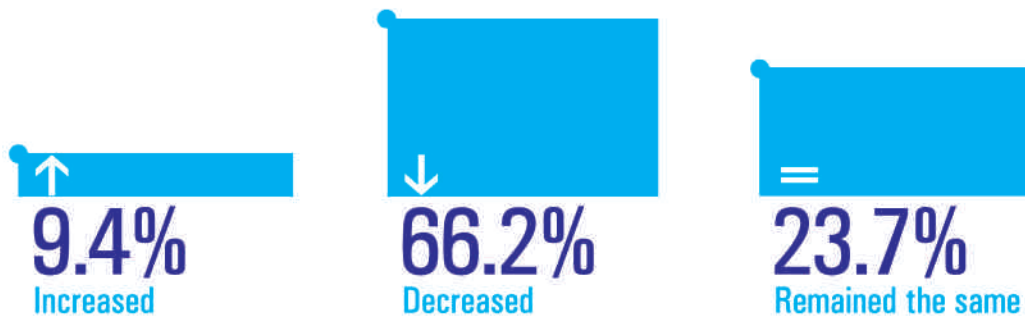
Majority of the households had not experienced change in the amount of time spent on various household chores because of the COVID-19 Emergency. Among the households that experienced change, women were the most affected household members except in family care.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

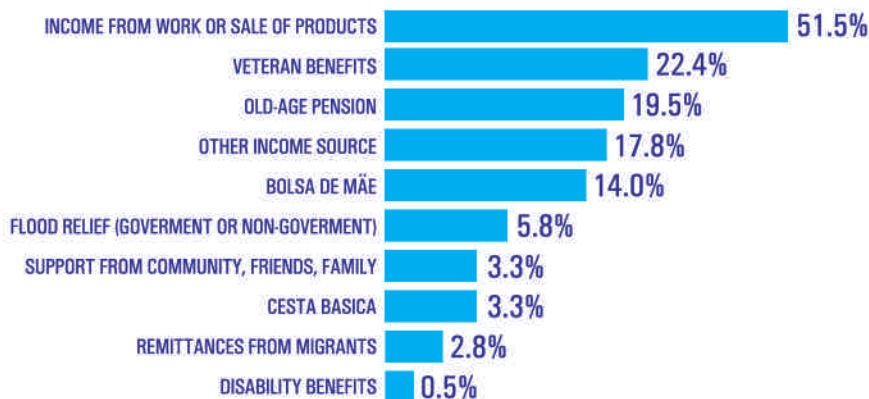
Has the level of your household expenditures increased or decreased due to the corona situation, or did it remain the same?

Majority of the households' expenditure was affected by COVID-19.

Most of them had to reduce their expenditure.



HOUSEHOLD SOURCES OF INCOME DURING COVID-19



39.5% of the individuals who had an earning said their income was affected by COVID-19 (national average 24.6%)

More men (42.9%) were affected by the change in income than women (36.6%).

The most common source of income was income from work or sale of products. Compared to other municipalities, the proportion of households mentioning veteran benefits as a source of household income was higher.

FOOD INSECURITY DURING THE PANDEMIC



64.6%
households in Manatuto
were affected by moderate
or severe food insecurity

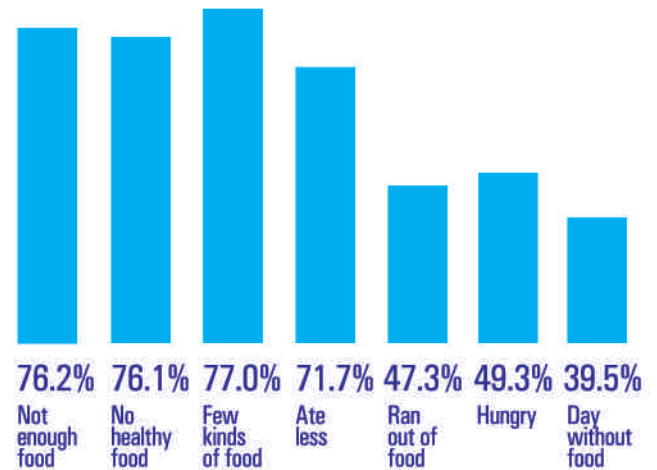
41.4%
national average



34.9%
were affected
by severe food
insecurity

19.3%
national average

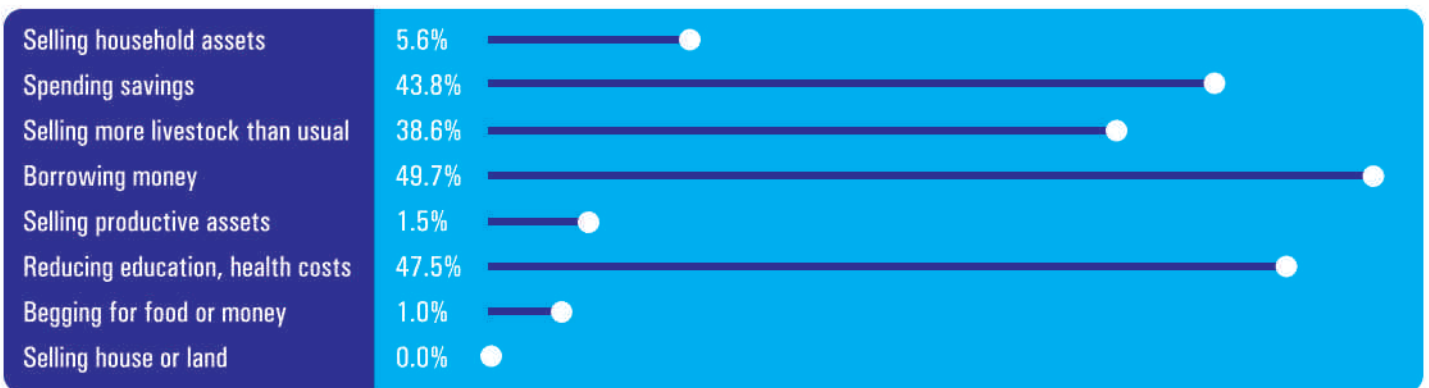
Food concerns experienced in the last one month



The number of households affected by moderate and severe food insecurity was the highest in the country. This higher proportion of moderate and severe food insecurity could be due to several compounded factors including COVID-19 restrictions, increased food prices and significant damage and loss caused by the Easter Floods on farmlands

LIVELIHOOD COPING MECHANISMS

Because of a lack of food or a lack of money to buy food, did your household in the last one month had to ...?



Manatuto and Bobonaro had highest number of households(49 percent and 39 percent) using crisis coping strategies such as reducing education and health costs and borrowing money.



69.1%
households mentioned they faced major
difficulties or shocks affecting their lives
since the COVID-19 State of Emergency



27.1%
experienced
poor harvest



25.1%
experienced Floods,
heavy rains, landslides



20.0%
experienced Erratic
rainfall / dry spells

When asked to reveal their major worries during the COVID-19, majority of respondents mentioned 'lack of money or food' as the main concern over other concerns.



What is your main
concern about COVID-19?

46.0% lack of
money or food

35.3% health

Further 7.2% said they were worried
about growing unsafety or unrest.
Only 2.9% said they are not worried.

EASTER FLOOD

Over the Easter weekend in the beginning of April 2021, Timor-Leste suffered devastating floods and landslides. The combination of the pandemic and the Easter Flood created a perilous situation that posed a direct threat to people's health and livelihood. Manatuto was heavily affected by the natural disaster.



20.7%
households had their dwelling damaged by the Easter Flood



74.3%
agricultural households interviewed harvest destroyed due to Easter flood (one of the highest percentages in the country)



70.4%
persons who had an income indicated that their income had changed because of the Easter Flood (national average 62.8%)

SOCIAL IMPACT OF COVID-19 IN MANATUTO

HEALTH



88.6%
households interviewed needed medical treatment national average 60.8%



64.2%
could access health services ALWAYS



33.3%
could access SOMETIMES



2.4%
household mentioned they are NEVER able to access health services

As a result of the COVID-19 situation, what has been the change in your household's utilization of health services?



75.6%
No change



3.3%
Increased



21.1%
Decreased

Have any of the children below age 10 in this household missed vaccinations (immunization) since the start of the COVID-19 State of Emergency?



33.9%
missed child vaccination (immunization)
national average 20.3%



Did any female members of the household aged between 15-49 miss family planning or any other reproductive health service since the start of the COVID-19 State of Emergency?



51.2%
missed reproductive health services
national average 29.3%

60.0% of the households that missed child vaccination cited COVID-19 State of Emergency as the main reason.

67.2% said women missed reproductive health services because of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

99.3%
have heard about COVID-19 vaccines national average 91.7%

64.1%
had concerns about COVID-19 vaccines national average 50.4%

64.5%
were worried about health side effects of the COVID-19 vaccines

28.2%
were worried COVID-19 vaccines could cause death or serious illness

Vaccine advocacy and socialization programmes should continue to keep the economy open and protect the people.

EDUCATION

The SEIA 2.0 tried to identify the impact of COVID-19 on education services in the country by looking at missed in-person learning opportunities and sources of distance learning. Education-related questions were asked to all 460 persons aged between 4 and 25 years in Manatuto.



460

persons aged 4-25 years in the survey in Manatuto



50.4%

male



49.6%

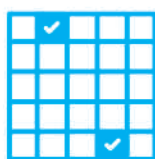
female

Educational attendance after school reopening in 2021



71.4%

students were attending schools regularly



10.4%

attending schools irregularly



18.2%

did not attend at all when schools reopened



75.0%

students continued studying at home on a daily basis during school closures
national average 62.6%



2.3%

used student workbooks of the Ministry of Education
national average 48.6%



4.3%

used online material 'Learning Passport' of the Ministry of Education
national average 13.3%



10.4%

used TV programme 'Eskola Ba Uma'
national average 10.4%

A high number of students had used other learning materials. This suggests that students in Manatuto might have continued schooling rather than studying at home.

11.8%

studied irregularly

13.2%

did not continue studying at home during school closures

52.6%

mentioned 'Lack of printed learning materials at home' as the main reason for not continuing studying at home.

Whilst focusing on improving digital learning, the Government should also support different platforms and methods of distance learning. Improving the production and distribution of printed learning materials across the country, reaching the poorest households, and remote locations is important.

There was no significant difference based on gender of the students.

TRUST AND SUPPORT



97.4%
strongly trust or trust others
in their community
national average 89.6%

There was no difference in
the response by gender.



96.4%
of all respondents said
people's trust in each
other got better since the
start of the COVID-19
State of Emergency
national average 72.9%



98.4%
of the households
received help of
some kind
national average 68.1%



62.4%
of the households
had given help of
some kind to others
national average 30.2%

The percentages of households that received help and that helped others were highest in Manatuto compared to other municipalities.

Top 2 types of support received by households

From the households that received support



Food

95.2%



Cash

58.1%



Food

84.3%



Cash

51.4%

Top support provider to the households



92.8%

National
government



Among the households that received support, national government was the main source of support during the COVID-19 Emergency.

SUBJECTIVE WELL-BEING

How people view their life and how they feel is important to understand the social conditions of the society. Therefore, the SEIA 2.0 asked how people evaluate various aspects of their lives and how they felt just a day before the interview.

Overall, how satisfied
are you with life as a
whole these days?



male

81.6%



female

86.7%

In total, 83.9% of the
respondents said they are
satisfied with their life as
a whole these days.

Proportion of the respondents saying they felt... yesterday



sad

17.5%



worried

6.7%



tired

48.5%



felt happy

48.5%

23.3%

17.8%

38.9%

43.8%

Overall, the percentage of respondents who felt sad,
worried and tired was lower than the national
average. Slightly more women had felt sad and
worried than men. More men had felt tired.

SATISFACTION WITH THE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE AND RECOVERY MEASURES

The results show the satisfaction of the people in Manatuto with the government response and how the national and local Government worked closely with the communities to disseminate information about COVID-19 and relevant support measures.



86.4%
found the information timely

national average 44.9%



12.1%
found the information somewhat timely

national average 36.8%



91.4%
found the information useful

national average 55.6%

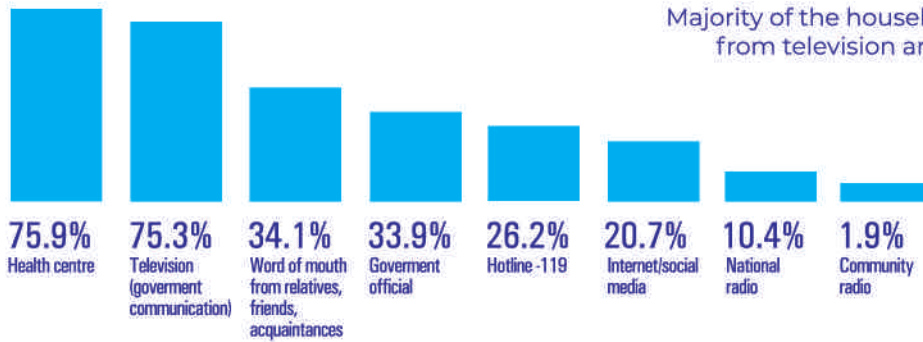


8.6%
found the information somewhat useful

national average 40.9%

Manatuto had the highest proportion of households that receive information in a timely manner and found it useful.

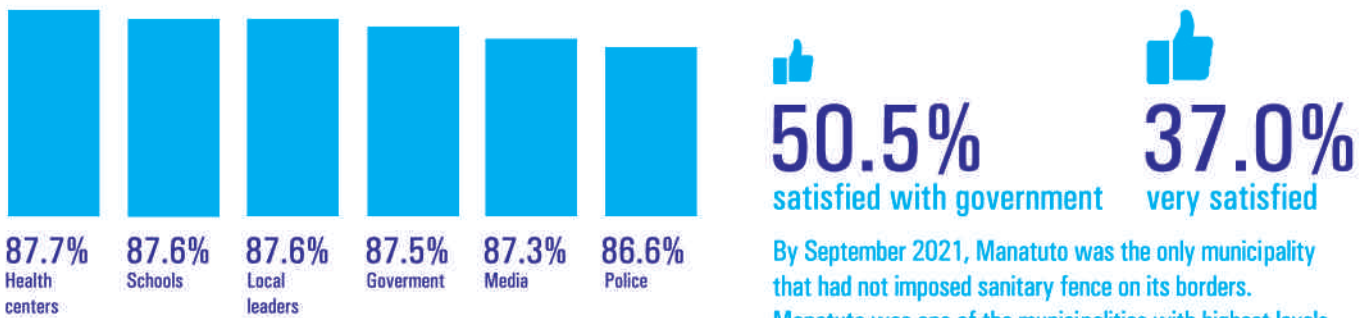
Households' sources of COVID-19 information



Majority of the households lag in terms of getting information from television and internet/social media; in contrast they rely on word of mouth more than those in other municipalities.

How satisfied are you with the response of the <following institutions> to COVID-19 in supporting citizens?

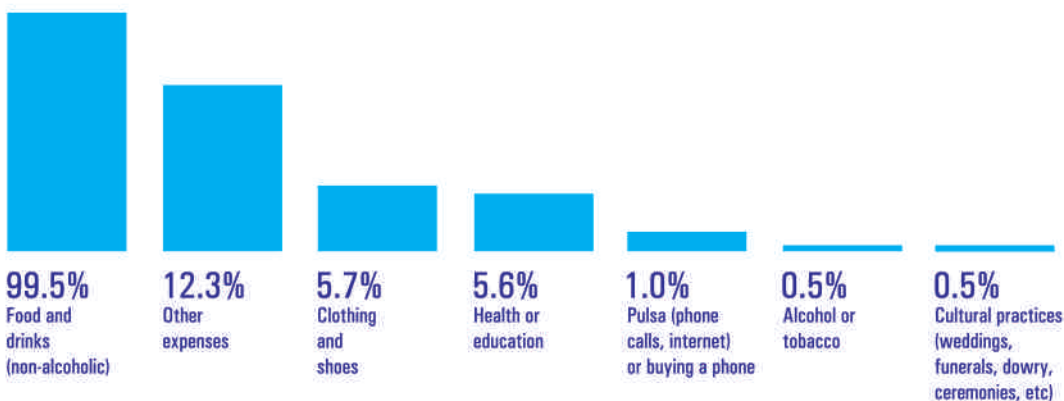
Proportion of respondents satisfied with institutions' responses to COVID-19



By September 2021, Manatuto was the only municipality that had not imposed sanitary fence on its borders. Manatuto was one of the municipalities with highest levels of satisfaction with different institutions' COVID-19 responses.

The SEIA 2.0 asked how the households used the Uma Kain subsidy. (One household can choose several options)

Households' spending of the Uma Kain subsidy



Nearly all households that received the Uma Kain subsidy have used it to buy food and non-alcoholic drinks.

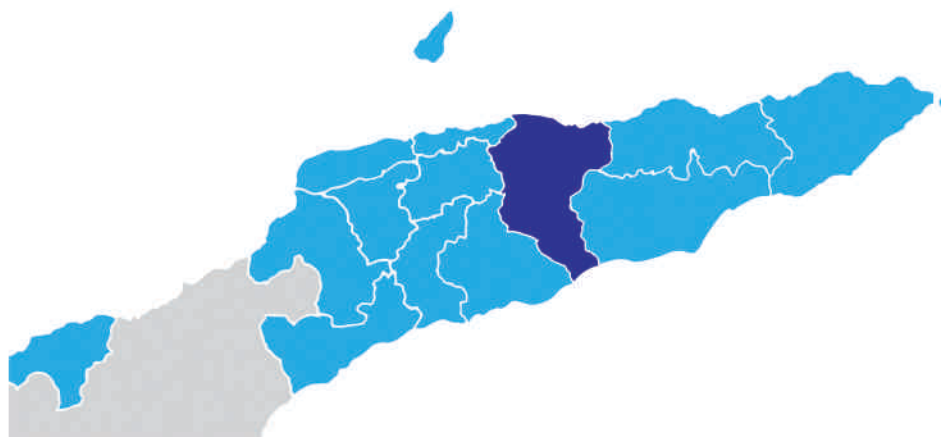
Cesta Básica satisfaction



Number of respondents that are very satisfied with the Cesta Basica programme was high

In your opinion, what are the most important measures the government should implement to support household livelihoods or micro businesses?

Top 2 preferred livelihood support measures



The study shows how the COVID-19 situation has exacerbated underlying issues within the country, including large gaps in development between different income groups, rural and urban settings, the effects of climate hazards, and limited access to education, health services, social protection programmes and markets.

To cope with the confluence of the pandemic, Easter Flood and major difficulties, households have employed coping strategies that hinder further improvement in their lives.

The study also finds resilience among communities, the important role of the national government in social support, and continued efforts of various government and civil society organisations to reduce these negative impacts.

During the entire COVID-19 pandemic period, the Government of Timor-Leste has taken proactive measures to protect the population from spread of the virus and has implemented concrete steps to counteract the worst socio-economic consequences of twin shocks.

Using the SEIA 2.0 findings, a series of recommendations for policymakers to consider in developing strategy for a robust socio-economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic are proposed in the full report.

ABOUT THE SEIA 2.0 PROJECT

This Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 in Timor-Leste, Round 2 (SEIA 2.0) was led by UNDP and UNFPA and conducted in collaboration with UN Women, UNICEF, UN Timor-Leste Resident Coordinator's Office, and the General Directorate of Statistics of the Ministry of Finance in Timor-Leste.

The nationwide SEIA 2.0 was conducted between April 2021 and October 2021 covering 4292 households with 23,362 members from 13 municipalities in Timor-Leste. The SEIA 2.0 seeks to inform what livelihood, healthcare, and other essential services are necessary to allow planners and practitioners from all sectors to target their responses to the needs of the population.

Full reports and executive summaries in English and Tetum can be accessed here:

https://www.tl.undp.org/content/timor_lemte/en/home/library/poverty/socio-economic-impact--assessment-of-covid-19--in-timor-lemte--r.html



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CONTACT

UNDP Timor-Leste

UN House, Caicoli Street (Obrigado Barracks)

P.O. Box No. 008 Dili, Timor-Leste

Email: media.tl@undp.org

Website: www.tl.undp.org

General Directorate of Statistics

Rua de Caicoli, Apartado 10/PO Box 10, Dili, Timor-Leste

Email: dge@mof.gov.tl

Website: www.statistics.gov.tl