



FUNDAÇÃO LAFÆK DIAK

UPDATE

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Dear friends and supporters of Lafaek Diak,

We are writing this letter to share some news with you since the election and subsequent unrest on 6 August 2007. Timor again experienced unrest. We were distressed that Baucau this time was the center of the violence and was under siege for 2 days. Significant government and NGO buildings were destroyed including Caritas Baucau and Catholic Relief Service buildings, and various regional government buildings such as the agricultural department, the social affairs department and others. Over 500 buildings were destroyed in Viqueque, including many personal homes. During the following week the primary school of Oestiko, the neighboring village of Triloka, was also burnt down. Fundasaun Lafaek Diak's Clinic in Triloka survived because the staff were able to negotiate with the trouble makers. After telling inquirers that Clinic Triloka belonged to the community of Triloka and served the people of Triloka and surrounding viallges, and that a combination of many efforts had made it possible to come into existence and serve the community, and that it was not a government clinic but had to work in partnership with any government in power in order to be able to operate, the community responded by setting up a 24 hour security protection for their clinic. Fundasuan Lafaek Diak is grateful for this sign of ownership and commitment the community of Triloka showed. Nevertheless Lafaek Diak are now up and running with most programs and it is exciting that the rains have just come and everyone is planting and hoping for a good crop.

Solar Panels for Community Health Clinic in Triloka

The Clinic is fully functioning with opening times each day from 8.30am until 5pm. The clinic is closed on Wednesday as Paediatrician, Dr Christiane Seip, travels 15kms to conduct a paediatric clinic at the Government's Regional Hospital at Baucau, while the Timorese nurses prepare health education materials and do statistics and other needed work. Recently a team of volunteers from Melbourne, working with Mick Harris and The Environment Shop came and installed a Solar Power system. Hilfe Fuer Brueder Germany donated the money for the solar panels, and Rotary Melbourne transported them for free from Melbourne to East Timor. This has enabled better cooling and storage of pharmaceuticals. Fundasaun Lafaek Diak would like to thank all parties involved who helped make this possible!



The staff are developing skills in health promotion by planting out an experimental garden, to then teach and encourage better nutrition amongst the local people. The average number of patients per day at the clinic is 60. With the new rains there has been an increase in the number of children with Malaria and Dengue which has increased the client load. Plans for another building are being discussed, as the clinic is already bursting at the seams. It has become clear that it is not

always possible to transport people to Baucau Regional Hospital overnight and is sometimes becomes necessary to monitor patients overnight. Currently there is no space to do this adequately. So more building space is needed.

Health Education

Staff training was held for three days during the visit of Felicity Wever-Norris from Baptist World Aid Australia in July, in Result Based Management, planning, report writing, evaluation and basic financial planning. Also units were provided on computer record keeping and work practice.

Staff at Triloka have recently had the in-service education enhanced by the delivery of an anatomical model, which is helpful to describe anatomy and illness as communication across several different languages is often challenging!



Participation in International Training

Idalina Pereira Guterres, Fundasaun Lafaek Diak's financial and health education staff, attended a five-day training on Disaster Risk Management in Yogyakarta, Indonesia in November 2007 upon invitation by Baptist World Aid Australia. Besides learning skills about Disaster Risk Management, the trip offered wonderful opportunity to network with other Asian partners from Indonesia and Cambodia.

Women in Leadership Program

Women have been taking part in leadership training workshops including village level illiterate women, women in leadership at local village level and leadership of professional women from Triloka clinic and CTID's Follow-up program. The women are also being trained in peace building and reconciliation work. The first section of the training was held in Home village near Los Palos in September 2007, and in December 2007 the second workshop was held for women at local village leadership level for Triloka, Oestico and Bucloi villages. Participants so far have been enthusiastic and eager to be involved, traveling long distances to attend. Discussions and presentations are lively and engaging. The workshop for professional women is planned for early January 2008 to be held at CTID, Canossian college in Baucau.



Continued Emergency Relief Assistance

The situation experienced in the last few months has not assisted people to return to their homes. The political crisis is far being resolved. In December 2007 another relief distribution of rice , cooking oil and some clothing has taken palce in Triloka. While people have planted again, the crops will not be harvested until May 2008. There are still about 450 internally displaced families in Fundasaun Lafaek Diak's target area. The rice which was distributed was purchase off of farmers with rice in excess in Uatu Kerbau, where Fundasaun Lafaek Diak assisted in agriculture in former years. Fundasuan Lafaek Diak supplied the bags and transport and hence this rice distribution assisted two groups of people, the internally displaced in need of food, and the farmers with income from selling their excess rice.



Women-Weavers in Home

A fifth group of weavers has been established following a request from the neighboring village to Home of Leourro. They are experts in weaving liturgical stoles and are open for orders! The groups at Home supported the new group's establishment in a true example of how community development should work. They are happy to share their potential market with others who also need to generate income.



Agricultural Program

Wet season planting has started in Baucau and Viqueque. The tractor has had a breakdown in its electrical system and has a mechanical problem with the rotary hoe attachment. Repairs for such machines are difficult and we are hoping for a resolution soon. The Australian Army contingent of the International Stabilisation Force at Baucau received our request for assistance kindly and we are hopeful that they will provide the necessary expertise in the form of a mechanic and/or an auto electrician shortly. In the mean time the ground is being prepared manually. The ½ hectare plantation of Paulonia and Mahogany timber trees planted 2 years ago are coming on well.



Thriving Orange-trees in Ossohuna & Afaloicai Villages

Another year of growth and the Tangerines and other Pomelo fruit trees are bearing fruit and providing much needed nutrition for the community. New seedlings are ready to be planted with the wet season.

Tool Library

A recent delivery of tools has brought our dream of a mobile repair shop and tool library closer to reality. More tools are needed in the mechanical line and more training as well. Technical and trades education is not strong in the Baucau region and the need for ongoing maintenance of the agricultural machinery is very great

Maternidade in Baucau

Following the falling of a coconut tree on the roof of the maternity ward, Lafaek Diak facilitated a grant of €1,000 from the German East Timor Association (DOTG). The repairs have been delayed with the unrest in Baucau but plans are now in place to make the repairs soon.

Visitors

On 5 November 2007 the German Ambassador for Indonesia and East Timor, Freiherr von Maltzahn, residing in Jakarta, visited Triloka clinic. Thanks to a grant from the German Embassy in 2006 Fundasaun Lafaek Diak purchased all furniture and some equipment for Triloka clinic. This was great opportunity to show the clinic functioning and serving the people of Triloka and to be able to thank him directly on behalf of the community of Triloka.



Also in November Fundasaun Lafaek Diak hosted visitors from Australia. Rosemary Hudson Miller from the Uniting Church in Australia, WA Synod, accompanied by her husband Greg Miller came up from Perth and Kaye Bradshaw visited for the first time since she assisted East Timor in the emergency phase of 2000/2001. Greg brought all sorts of tools and it was great to have a handyperson to fix many little problems! Along the way he showed the staff and some of the young boys how to use some of the wood working tools. They visited the clinics, the war widows weaving project, Agricultural project, dry rice planting, health clinic Maternidade and the plantation project.



Interested in volunteering...?

Lafaek Diak is looking for two long-term volunteers (two years). One is to assist with organizational capacity building doing hands-on day-to-day training with Lafaek Diak staff in correspondence, proposal and report writing, budgeting, scheduling, cycles of program and projects, donor liaison and accounting (includes some English training of staff as well); the other position is to assist in developing the community health education program (nurse preferable). Short term opportunities exist for skills/trades training – 2 or 3 months duration. Please contact us if you are interested at the email address given above.

Boas Festas and Obrigado Wain! -

Merry Christmas and Many thanks on behalf of the communities we serve!

During this Christmas season and at the turn of the year, Fundasaun Lafaek Diak wishes to express gratitude to all friends and partners, both individual and institutional, for supporting community development in East Timor through partnering with Lafaek Diak.

The work of Fundasaun Lafaek Diak is made possible through partnerships with: Baptist World Aid Australia, Bede Polding College Windsor, NSW; the Bush Regeneration Group Lane Cove Sydney; Christliche Fachkräfte International Germany; Deutsch-Osttimor Gesellschaft (DOTG) Germany; DIFAEM; the German Embassy Jakarta; Hilfe für Brüder Germany; Melville Uniting Church, WA, the National Council of Churches Australia; Pitt Street Uniting Church, Sydney; Rotary Melbourne; Rotary in Western Australia, Melville, Booragoon and Victoria Park, Sommerville Darwin Australia; Trinity Lutheran Church Lancaster, PA, USA; Uniting Church Synod, WA; and many friends and individuals around the world.



Further Donations can be made through international bank transfer to:

Account Name:	Fundasaun Lafaek Diak
Name of Bank:	Bank Mandiri
	Dili Branch
	Timor Leste
Account No.:	601-00-0014221-9
Swift Code:	BEIHDJA
Correspondent Bank:	CHASUS 33 JP Morgan Chase Bank of New York

