

New Zealand Media
Observation Mission

Stage One Report

Misaun Observasaun
Media Nova Zelandia

Reportagen Estagiu Priemeiru



2007 Timor-Leste
Presidential Elections

Eleisaun Presidensial
2007 Timor-Leste

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Agradesimentus

Misaun observasaun media hato'o agradesimentus nebe maka boot tebes ba assistensia, peritus no laran k'ma'an husi Embaisada Nova Zelandia iha Dili, Jornalista Timor oan sira, lokal no Internasional Organizasaun Nao Governamentais, ba sira nia azudus durante ami hala'o ami nia servisu. Partikularmente ami hakarak hato'o ami nia obrigadu ba Ambaixadora Ruth Nuttall no Segundu Sekretariu, Michael Appleton, nebe maka ho korazen boot fahe ona sira nia hatene konaba esperiensia lokal no antisipasaun tomak relasiona ho situasaun presente, ba Chefe Interpreter, Zeferino Tilman no sofer Antonio Monteiro; staffs no treinadores sira iha International Center for Journalism; Jornalista sira iha Timor-Leste Media Development Centre; televisaun, radiu no jornalista sira seluk nomos staff ba edukasaun votantes, observadores lokal sira ba elisaun, no gestor campanha politiku; Estadus Unidus nia Personalialia no staff international sira hotu. Misaun mos agradese ba suporta husi Ministeriu Negosiu Estranzeiru no staff NZAID iha Wellington no obrigadu ba Ministru Negosiu Estranzeiru Rt. Hon Winston Peters, tanba aprova ona misaun ida ne'e. Obrigadu ida nebe maka especial mos hato'o ba Peter Northcote, komisaun eleitoral Nova Zelandia, nebe maka inisiu ona projetu no organiza ona team ne'e ho efisiensia no nakonu ho humoria.

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Summary

- The Timor-Leste media have covered the 2007 Presidential elections as well as could be reasonably expected for a fledgling industry in an emerging country with very poor infrastructure and few resources.
- The media contributed positively to free and fair elections to the extent that they were able given the evolving political and socio-economic environment in which they exist.
- Greater investment, improved resourcing, and stronger and more consistent capacity building through education and training are required to properly develop the media's special role in the reporting of democratic elections
- The Mission's assessment of coverage in the presidential election run-off between Jose Ramos Horta, an independent candidate using the National Council of Timorese Reconstruction's (CNRT) political machinery and the Fretilin Party's Francisco ("Lu-Olo") Guterres, showed that the media adopted a technical approach to basic issues such as equal access and balance.
- The media appeared to take its responsibility for providing voter education seriously and therefore helped provide the

Sumariu

- Media Timor-Leste halo ona kobertura ba eleisaun Presidensial 2007, e nomos iha esperansa boot ba futuru industrial iha Nasaun nurak nebe maka foin hari'i dadauk ho ninia infrastrutura nebe maka ki'ik no rekursu nebe maka menus ou limitadu liu.
- Media kontribui ho positivu ba eleisaun nebe maka livre no justu ba kontestu hirak nebe maka sira bele foo sira nia dezvoltamentus politika no ambientes sosio-ekonomi nebe maka sira hotu existi ba.
- Investimentu nebe maka boot ou ass, ba dezvoltamentu rekursu, no haforte liu tan konsistensia konaba hasa'e kapasidade liu husi edukasaun no treinamentus ne'e sei prezisa duni hodi nune'e bele dezvoltave media ho didiak, liu-liu regras iha reportazen ba eleisaun nebe maka demokrasia.
- Misaun nia asesmentu ba kobertura iha segunda ronda eleisaun presidensial ba candidatu independenti, Jose Manuel Ramos Horta nebe maka uza Conselho Nacional Reconstrusaun Timorense (CNRT) hanesan base politika no candidatu husi Partidu Fretilin Sr. Francisco Guterres "Lu-Olo", hatudu katak, media adopta ona aprosimasaun teknika ba iha baze husi issue hanesan egualdade ba asesu no balansu.
- Media isisti ho ninia responsabilidade hodi aranza edukasaun ba votantes ho seriu hodi nune'e azuda

information that is necessary for free and fair elections.

- In general, though, the media showed little initiative in providing coverage beyond publishing or broadcasting claims and counter-claims made by politicians and political parties.
- The media appeared to be largely reliant on electoral agencies for information and results and concentrated unduly on the in-fighting of those agencies about election and voting information.

aranza informasaun nebe maka neserariu ba eleisoens nebe maka livre no justu.

- Maibe, enzeral media hatudu inisitiva nebe maka ki'ik atu hala'o kobertura hodi halo publikasaun no broadcasting (transmisaun) claims no counter-claims nebe maka relasiona ho politiku nain sira nomos partidu politiku sira.
- Media barak liu depende ba azensia eleitoral atu hetan informasaun no resultadu eleisaun, no konsentra liu ba konfliktus entre azensia eleitoral hirak ne'e.

Conclusion

The Timorese media contributed positively to free and fair first and second rounds of the Presidential elections to the extent they were able to given the very serious constraints under which they operate and their own stage of development.

The universal call for the better training of journalists to cover election campaigns in Timor-Leste is both a challenge and an opportunity.

During the proposed second visit in June the Mission can discuss and consider the best options of a sustainable model of on-going journalism training and development.

Konkulsan

Media Timor nian kontribui ho positivu ba eleisaun presidensail iha priemera ronda no segunda ronda nebe maka livre no justu, hodi hare katak sira bele foo ona *constrains* nebe maka seriu tebes relasiona ho sira nia operasaun no sira nia dezemvolvimentu estagiu.

Proposta nebe maka universal atu hala'o treinamentu nebe maka diak liu tan kona ba jornalismo (ba jornalista sira) relasiona oinsa atu halo kobertura ba kampanha eleisaun iha Timor-Leste ne'e hanesan *challenge (tantangan)* nomos henesan oportunidade ida.

Durante prosesu ba segunda visita, iha Fulan Junho oin mai, Misaun bele halo diskusaun no konsidera opsoens nebe maka diak liu hotu-hotu husi modelu *sustainable (kontinuadu)* konaba *on-going* treinamentu ba jornalismo no dezemvolvimentu.

A critical element in the model's development will be the co-ordination with Timorese and international NGOs working in the area of media development.

The following elements of a sustainable model need to be considered:

- fostering professionalism through journalists' organisations and editorial leadership
- enhancing Timorese leadership in a stronger media
- developing a sustainable model of journalism education
- the role of the international community-media agencies, international press and broadcast organisations and traditional donors
- mentoring and long term relationship development for individual Timorese journalists
- promoting, protecting and supporting editorial management at an organisational level

The Mission believes there is a need for a specific media accountability mechanism, both to regulate complaints about and from the media with respect to both political and election processes and other issues.

The accountability mechanism should have representation of both state and private sector media and members of

Elementu ida nebe maka kritikal iha modelhu dezenvolvimentu, maka hanesan kordenasaun ho Organizasaun Nao Governamental ou NGO local (Timorese) no NGO International sira nebe maka servisu iha area dezemvolvimentu ba media nian.

Elementus tuir mai ne'e, nebe maka relasiona ho modelu *sustainable* (kontinuadu), presiza hetan konsiderasaun:

- hanorin ho profesionalismu tuir organizasaun jornalista no *leadership* editorial nian.
- atu hasae valor husi *leadership* ba Timor oan iha media nebe maka forte liu tan.
- dezenvolve modelu *sustainable* (kontinuadu) ba edukasaun jurnalismu.
- regra ba azensia media comunidade internasional, *press* internasional, no organizasaun *broadcast* sira no doadores tradisional sira.
- mentorizasaun (hanorin) no relasaun dezenvolvimentu ba tempo maka kleur (long term) ba individual jornalista Timor oan.
- promove, proteza, no suporta gestaun editorial iha nivel organizasaun ida.

Misaun ne'e fiar katak, iha presizu ida ba mekanismu espesifiku ba akuntabilidade media nian, hodi regula *complaint* sira konaba media no husi mos media rasik relasiona ho politiku no prosesu eleisaun nomos *issues* sira seluk

Mekanismu akuntabilidade ne'e tenke iha representasaun husi seitor privadu no governu/estadu nian, e

civil society. It should also have a leadership role in ethical guidance and the development of guidelines for practice.

There are some practical activities the Mission can undertake before the parliamentary elections. These could include:

- a workshop on reporting of election days, which was requested during the journalists' workshop.

Long term, Timor-Leste's existing media infrastructure needs to be a priority for the next government and others. The urgent infrastructure issues include:

- ensuring the survival of community radio,
- extending television and radio transmission,
- strengthening journalism organisations and professional leadership,
- and ensuring the international media watch community promotes and defends freedom of expression.

It is important that Timor-Leste's first independent election should be used as a springboard for an on-going consistent editorial training programme. The Timorese media themselves want to improve and are appropriately aware of their own needs. The continuing growth in the professionalism of Timorese journalism for the 2012 elections is a legitimate and achievable aim.

nomos membru husi sosiedade sivil sira. Ida ne'e mos prezisa regra lideransa konaba matadalan ba etika no dezemvolvimentu ba guidelines atu hala'o pratika.

Iha atividade pratikal balu maka Misaun bele halo antes husi eleisaun parlamentar. Atividades hirak ne'e inklui:

- workshop ida konaba reportazen iha loron elisoens, bazeia ba proposta durante hala'o workshop ba jornalista sira.

Longo prazu, infrastrutura media Timor-Leste nebe maka ezisti, prezisa halo hanesan prioridade ida ba governu foun no sira seluk tan. Issue infrastrutura nebe maka urgente inklui:

- garantia ezistencia no kontinuasaun radiu komidade
- estende (haluan) tan transmisaun televisaun no radiu
- hametin organizasaun jornalismo no lideransa profesional, no
- garantia ba promove media komidade internasional no defende livre ba espresaun.

Importante duni katak, priemeira eleisaun independente tenke uza hanesan matadalan ba kontinuasaun konsistencia editorial programa treinamentu. Media husi Timor oan sira ne'e rasik hakarak atu improve no sira ne'e rasik hatene ho apropiadu saida maka sira prezisa. Kontinuasaun ba moris dezemvolvimentu (*growth*) profesinalismu husi jornalismo Timor nian ba eleisaun 2012 ne'e hanesan legitimsaun ida no buat hirak ne'e hanesan objetivu nebe maka bele atinji.