

Annual Report

La'o Hamutuk

January - December 2020

La'o Hamutuk's vision

The people of Timor-Leste, women and men, of current and future generations, will live in peace and contentment. They will control a transparent, just and sustainable development process which respects all people's cultures and rights. All citizens will benefit from Timor-Leste's resources, and will accept the responsibility for protecting them.

Table of Contents

Mission and Situational Context	2
Program Activities	3
Website, blog and email lists	3
Radio programs.....	4
Research, Analysis and Advocacy.....	5
State Finances and Economy	5
Transparency and accountability	6
Petroleum and natural resources	6
Environment and Major Projects	7
Governance and Human Rights	8
Food sovereignty and agriculture	9
Land Rights	9
Networking and Coalitions.....	9
Organizational Report	10
Outputs of La'o Hamutuk's Work in 2020	11
Plans for 2021	12
Appendix 1. Financial Report	14
Balance sheet.....	14
Revenues	16
Expenditures.....	17
Appendix 2. Media Coverage	20
Appendix 3. Presentations by La'o Hamutuk.....	28
Appendix 4. Submissions and Open Letters.....	29
Appendix 5. Radio Programs.....	30
Appendix 6. Blog Articles and Website.....	30
Appendix 7. Staff and Advisory Board Biographies	31

Mission and Situational Context

Since 2000, La' o Hamutuk ("Walking Together" in English) has worked to monitor, analyze, and report on development processes in Timor-Leste, particularly the programs and policies of the national government and international agencies operating in the country. We are an independent, local non-governmental organization and believe that the full participation of all communities in the country's development decision making can help ensure that the people of Timor-Leste will benefit the most from their resources.

Timor-Leste achieved remarkable success in 2020 in preventing any fatalities or local transmission of Covid-19, and recording just 44 cases during the year - all of them in among overseas arrivals in quarantine. In March, the President declared a State of Emergency, which was renewed monthly, enabling restrictions on travel, meetings and other activities to prevent the arrival and community spread of the virus. Subsequently, other measures were adopted to lessen the economic effects of the pandemic on the population. La' o Hamutuk adjusted our work plans to join efforts to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and to monitor, analyze and provide input into these measures.

The economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic underscored the importance of our work advocating for a sustainable and just development path for Timor-Leste. The pandemic's global economic impacts caused our Petroleum Fund's investments to lose a billion dollars during the first quarter (they have since recovered), and the fall in global oil prices made our dwindling reserves even less valuable; oil revenues during the second half of 2020 were 78% lower than in the same period in 2019, and future projects have become even less financially promising.¹ These changes underline the urgency of expanding education, health care, clean water and sanitation, and the need to improve and diversify agricultural production to respond to the crisis of malnutrition and reduce import dependency.² At the same time, the pandemic's impacts have provided an opportunity to re-evaluate our dependency on unsustainable extractive industry, and to strengthen the nation's commitment to expand basic services, develop sustainable local economies, and adopt transparent and accountable governance practices.

Timor-Leste's political situation was in flux during the first half of 2020. In January 2020, Parliament rejected the second budget proposal for the year, and the splintering of the majority coalition caused Prime Minister Taur Matan Ruak to offer his resignation. After a few months, during which President Lu Olo declined to accept the resignation, a new Parliamentary coalition was formed, including Fretilin, and the CNRT party became the opposition. Most people welcomed more stability during the pandemic emergency; Ruak withdrew his resignation and most CNRT ministers resigned and were replaced by ones from Fretilin. However, it took until late October to enact the 2020 state budget, and Timor-Leste used its 'duodecimal system' for most of the year, which allows the government to spend up to 1/12th of the previous year's budget each month. The 2021 State Budget was adopted on time, in December 2020.

The Covid-19 pandemic impacted La' o Hamutuk's public activities and research, meetings with officials, and distribution of our printed materials. Each of our research teams revised their plans to consider what activities would be conducted as planned, changed to meet Covid-safe requirements, or postponed for the foreseeable future. We worked from home for several months, conducting meetings on Zoom.

Despite these challenges, we continued to engage in research, analysis and advocacy on some of the most pressing issues facing Timor-Leste. We continue to urge decision makers to act on the

¹ laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/03/global-economic-developments-hit-timor.html
laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/03/dezenvolvimentu-ekonomia-global-fo.html

² laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/11/how-credible-is-2020-global-hunger-index.html

urgency for economic diversification, and to invest effectively and transparently in the basic services that will improve the wellbeing of the majority of the population.

The following are some major results of our work during 2020:

- Government appropriations for key sectors increased in the 2021 Budget, and the Economic Recovery Plan recognizes the important of basic services to economic development.
- We continued to monitor national economic indicators and state finances, which was especially critical given the economic impacts of Covid-19.
- The Government appointed a Minister for Finance, a Minister for Petroleum and Mining, and new heads of the two key petroleum-sector institutions who are much more open to our perspectives.
- We monitored the implementation of and provided information, analysis and commentary about the Government's preventive measures and policy responses to the Covid-19 pandemic.³
- La'ó Hamutuk communicated our analysis effectively to a range of civil society, academic, community, and government groups, and was referenced or quoted 118 times in the media.
- We launched an on-line registry of materials related to environmental licensing of more than 30 large-scale projects.⁴
- After opposition from La'ó Hamutuk and others, the government withdrew a proposed law to criminalize defamation which would have infringed on free speech and freedom of the press.
- We maintained and expanded our website, published our *Bulletin*⁵ and *Surat Popular* and produced four radio programs.

Program Activities

Public events

Our ability to conduct public activities was limited by good health practice and the restrictions of successive States of Emergency. Despite this, we continued our public advocacy work through appearances on television discussion programs, online international conferences when regulations forbade public gatherings, and organized Covid-safe public events when appropriate to do so.

As State of Emergency restrictions eased toward the end of the year, we organized public meetings in Dili and in several municipalities about the proposed 2021 State Budget, the environmental licensing process, and the economic recovery plan, as well as providing briefings and trainings.

Website, blog and email lists

La'ó Hamutuk's website (www.laohamutuk.org), in Tetum and English, continues to be a primary source for reliable, independent information and analysis on many issues relating to Timor-Leste, including the state budget and government finances, large scale infrastructure projects, private investment, petroleum and extractive industries, land laws, maritime

³ www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/20Emergency.htm

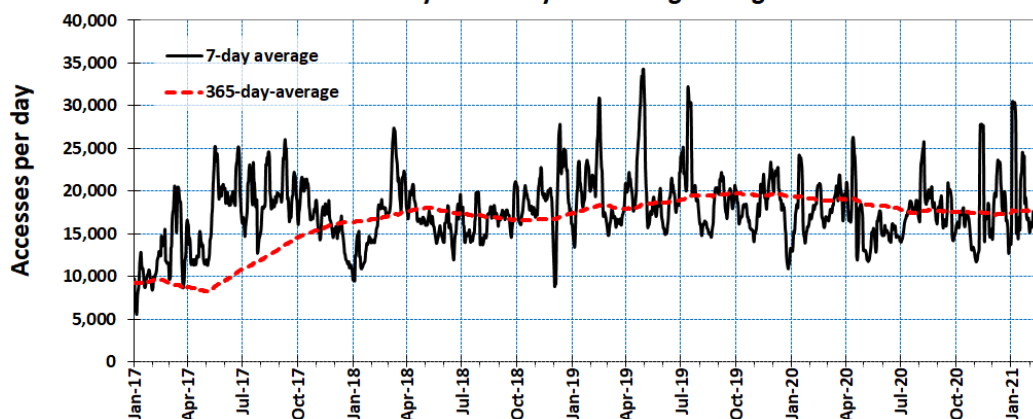
⁴ www.laohamutuk.org/Env/18EnvRegistry.htm

⁵ www.laohamutuk.org/Bulletin/2020/Dec/bulletinv21n1te.html

boundaries and sustainable development. It now contains 18 gigabytes of information in more than 18,500 files.

We continue to collect and publish documents from many different sources, and combine them with our analysis. Our ability to provide up-to-date and accurate information on the shifting regulations relating to successive States of Emergency in 2020 underscored the importance of our website as a reliable resource center.

Pages accessed on La'o Hamutuk website during 2017-2021
Seven-day and one-year moving averages



We continued to update existing pages and added new ones during 2020. We also continued to post materials to our reference page.⁶ Although the number of people using our website declined slightly in 2020, it still was visited by 5,600 people every day, accessing more than 17,400 pages. The following are some of the web pages we created or significantly updated during 2020:

- The 2020⁷ and 2021⁸ State Budgets
- Registry of Environmental Licensing Documents⁹
- The State of Emergency and related regulations¹⁰
- The proposed law to Criminalize Defamation
- The Petroleum Fund¹¹
- The Australian prosecution of Bernard Collaery and Witness K¹²

We published six blog articles in Tetum, with English translations of four of them. Blog topics included the impact of global economic developments on Timor-Leste, the credibility of the 2020 Global Hunger Index, and climate change. These articles are listed in Appendix 6.

Radio programs

We broadcast four radio programs on seven community radio stations across the country. Our radio programs are an important medium for sharing information with rural communities who

⁶ www.laohamutuk.org/DVD/DVDIndexEn.htm
www.laohamutuk.org/DVD/DVDIndexTe.htm

⁷ www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE20/19OGE20.htm

⁸ www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE21/20OGE21.htm

⁹ www.laohamutuk.org/Env/18EnvRegistry.htm

¹⁰ www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/20Emergency.htm

¹¹ www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/PetFund/05PFIndex.htm#2020

¹² www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Boundary/Collaery/20Collaery.htm

have difficulty accessing online materials and public presentations. The programs are listed in Appendix 5.

Bulletin

In December, we published our *Bulletin* with articles on the opportunities and challenges presented by Covid-19, clean water and sanitation as a basic right, and the future of agriculture in Timor-Leste. We distributed the Bulletin to 12 locations in Dili and in two other municipalities.

Research, Analysis and Advocacy

State Finances and Economy

2020 presented new and unexpected issues related to our work on state finances and the economy, due to the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on state finances, and the economic measures taken by the Government to minimize the economic impact of the prolonged State of Emergency on the population.

La'ó Hamutuk's work monitoring the Petroleum Fund continued to be of critical importance during 2020, given the ongoing impact of Covid-19-related economic volatility. In March, we examined how global economic and financial market changes will affect the financial capacity and stability of Timor-Leste's government operations, especially the Petroleum Fund, and updated our analysis throughout the year.¹³ We wrote in our *Bulletin* and in the media about the opportunities that the Covid-19 crisis has created for more sustainable economic development, to ensure a resilient economy and healthy, educated, and empowered population in the future. We also regularly updated the graphs and diagrams in our *Rights and Sustainability* presentation¹⁴ (which we translated into Tetum during 2020), using them in a variety of venues.

During 2020, the Government and Parliament made two extraordinary transfers from the Petroleum Fund, highlighting how essential that Fund is to state activities. We finalized an academic paper on changes in Timor-Leste's Petroleum Fund¹⁵ and, in August, presented at a Mozambique-based webinar on lessons to be learned from its experience.¹⁶

We also continued our work on the 2020 State budget, which was not promulgated until October 2020. We made a submission to Parliament on the third proposed 2020 budget, gave a briefing to civil society and the media, and discussed with the media the need to ensure that the short period remaining for implementation does not undermine principles of transparency and good governance. We also monitored and shared information on the interim "duo-decimal" regime that defined government spending during the first ten months of 2020.

We made two submissions to Parliament on the proposed 2021 State Budget, the first covering aspects of financial sustainability, government priorities, and allocations to key sectors, and the second analyzing the budget's allocation to the agricultural sector. La'ó Hamutuk has long argued that a greater proportion of state spending should be directed towards key basic services, and so we were pleased to see the proposed 2021 budget increased the amounts

¹³ laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/03/global-economic-developments-hit-timor.html
laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/03/dezenvolvimentu-ekonomia-global-fo.html

¹⁴ www.laohamutuk.org/econ/briefing/RightSustainCurrentEn.pdf
www.laohamutuk.org/econ/briefing/RightSustainCurrentTe.pdf

¹⁵ www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/PetFund/2019/ImplicationsPetroleumFundFeb2020en.pdf

¹⁶ www.laohamutuk.org/econ/briefing/LHMozambique27Aug2020en.pdf

allocated to agriculture, health, and education compared to previous years, and increased the allocation to water compared to the 2020 budget.

Our analysis of the proposed 2021 budget revealed that the nation continues to face major risks by spending beyond its means, and faces a depleted Petroleum Fund in the near future. In our submission, we advocated for more sustainable spending, better planning, an independent analysis of the risks, benefits and costs of the Tasi Mane project, and an end to the proliferation of autonomous agencies.

To help civil society, the media, and the broader public better understand the 2021 budget and engage in discussions about its important issues, we carried out several public activities. We briefed the media and civil society in Dili, and in November we travelled to three other municipalities to help local communities understand how budget decisions affect their lives. We revised the paper we presented at the 2019 Timor-Leste Studies Association Conference on the impact of recent changes on the Petroleum Fund, and it was published in September as part of the conference proceedings. We also provided extensive and regular commentary to the media on Budget-related topics, as listed in Appendix 2.

In August, the Government published its Economic Recovery Plan for Covid-19, which includes short and medium-term measures to be adopted in the 2020 and subsequent budgets. We were pleased to note that the Plan recognizes that strong basic services like education and health are prerequisites of broader economic development, as La'o Hamutuk has long advocated. However, in October, we wrote to the Prime Minister¹⁷ expressing our concerns about some aspects of the Plan, including the possible introduction of user fees for health service, use of the education budget to fund highly selective CAFE schools, and expansion of export-oriented agriculture. We presented our analysis to members of civil society in Dili (which was reported on national television), and produced a radio program.

Transparency and accountability

Transparency and accountability continued to be key to Lao Hamutuk's work. In recent years Timor-Leste has been backsliding in this area, as the results of the 2019 Open Budget Survey (OBS) we published in 2020 demonstrated.¹⁸ In 2020 we continued serve as the Timor-Leste researcher for the International Budget Partnership, which produces the OBS. We also continued to engage with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), Central Bank, Publish What You Pay and Timor-Leste's Petroleum Fund Consultative Council (former La'o Hamutuk staffer Juvinal Dias was elected President of the Council during the reporting period) to improve the accuracy and availability of information.

The proposed 2021 budget introduced a new 'program-based' budgeting model. Our analysis found that the new model fails to consistently define programs across Ministries and agencies, and actually undercuts the principles of transparency and accountability. Our submission on the budget advocated for a clearer budgeting model that will aid the process of budget monitoring and accountability.

Petroleum and natural resources

In mid-2020, new people were appointed to replace the long-serving heads of the National Petroleum and Minerals Authority (ANPM) regulatory body and the TimorGAP national oil company, as well as the Minister of Petroleum and Minerals. In August we met separately with the new Petroleum Minister, head of ANPM, and head of TimorGAP, to share our views and learn their perspectives on current prospects for the Tasi Mane project and for the development of

¹⁷ www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/LHbaPM-PRE-8Out2020te.pdf

¹⁸ laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/04/timor-leste-unimproved-in-2019-open.html

Greater Sunrise. We used these opportunities to advocate for an independent analysis of the Tasi Mane Project, and for greater transparency. They are more open to our views than their predecessors, and our discussions will continue with them and their staff.

We continued to monitor petroleum production and revenues, using information from various state agencies and petroleum companies, attended numerous webinars and online courses, and analyzed the potential effects of global changes in the petroleum and financial industries on Timor-Leste's current and future projects. We also tracked pending new offshore and onshore projects, as well as the new wells which will be drilled to extract the last drops from Bayu-Undan. Our work helped reduce the widespread confusion among journalists, citizens and officials about these projects.

In November, we discussed the implications and risks of the Tasi Mane project in our budget presentations to local communities in three municipalities. Similarly, our invited workshop on Timor's development with the Organization for Marginalized Youth in Dili in November provided an opportunity to discuss with young people the development options facing Timor-Leste and the impacts of nonrenewable-resource-dependence. We revised the paper we presented at the 2019 Timor Leste Studies Association Conference on the implications of the Tasi Mane Project for publication in the conference proceedings.

We monitored the partly secretive bidding round for new offshore Production-Sharing Contracts (extended for a year until October 2021), as well as other developments in past, abandoned, and not-yet-producing oil projects, compiling information on our website and sharing it with journalists.¹⁹ Timor-Leste had planned to begin onshore exploratory drilling in the southwestern part of the country this year, but it has been delayed due to Covid considerations. We met with Timor Resources (the company which is implementing this project) and followed the long-delayed enactment of the Onshore Petroleum Operations Decree-Law.

We provided information to and reviewed draft articles by several international journalists who reported on Tasi Mane project developments and the changes in Timor-Leste's petroleum leadership.

In Australia, government prosecution of Bernard Collaery and "Witness K" for revealing Australian espionage against Timor-Leste during maritime boundary negotiations continue to move slowly ahead. We maintained frequent communications with their Australian supporters, and kept our webpage on their case updated with current developments.²⁰

Environment and Major Projects

La'o Hamutuk continued to monitor the implementation of environmental licensing laws, meeting regularly with Government authorities to obtain information on the status of environmental licenses for both private and public projects. After two years of research and preparation, we launched our web registry of Environmental Licensing Documents (implementing transparency requirements the government has failed to do) in August, which we continue to update.²¹ We are negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding with ANLA (National Agency for Environmental Licensing) to guide the sharing of these key documents in the future.

We participated in several public consultations on the environmental and social impact assessments for major projects, and met privately with the companies conducting the

¹⁹ www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/PSCs/10PSCs.htm

²⁰ www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Boundary/Collaery/20Collaery.htm

²¹ www.laohamutuk.org/Env/18EnvRegistry.htm

assessments for projects, including the Dili Airport expansion and the Dili Drainage Project. Together with Rede ba Rai (Land Network), we held a community meeting in Ilimanu, Manatuto municipality, explaining the environmental licensing process and distributing our new popular education leaflet (Surat Popular²²) to empower the community to respond to the proposed resumption of marble quarrying in the area. Through these process, we learned more about how existing consultation has been going, and we therefore continued to advocate for better consultation processes to ensure that the needs and concerns of impacted communities are integrated into project planning. Some of these recommendations for Dili Drainage, are described in our Bulletin.²³

Throughout 2020, we urged greater attention to the environmental problems facing Timor-Leste. On World Environment Day in June, La'ó Hamutuk wrote an open letter²⁴ to the Secretary of State for the Environment regarding environmental problems and climate change. We produced a radio program,²⁵ a video²⁶ and a blog article in Tetum on the impacts of climate change in Timor-Leste.²⁷

Governance and Human Rights

In March, La'ó Hamutuk began collecting and distributing information on the government's responses to Covid-19.²⁸ We joined with other civil society groups to help the government implement and monitor emergency measures, and issued a report on the situation at the land border with Indonesia.²⁹ We also published a Surat Popular (a popular education pamphlet) about Covid-19 prevention measures.³⁰

The successive States of Emergency helped prevent local transmission of Covid-19 in Timor-Leste, but had an impact on people's livelihoods and the broader economy. Throughout the year, La'ó Hamutuk advocated for economic relief that would benefit the entire population and strengthen local economies. In April, La'ó Hamutuk wrote to the Prime Minister, raising concerns about Covid-19's effects on informal workers and urging inclusion of vulnerable groups in the Government's economic relief measures.³¹ We also privately gave input and feedback to analysts looking at the economic impacts of the pandemic in Timor-Leste, including the World Bank, government agencies, academic researchers and development partners. Our submission on the Economic Recovery Plan called for response measures that ensure positive outcomes for all, and which commit to universal access to basic services.

In June, the Ministry of Justice floated a draft law which would make defamation a crime as a trial balloon to a few people, and La'ó Hamutuk took the issue public.³² We wrote a submission³³ to the Minister and shared it with every Member of Parliament, outlining our concerns about the impact of the law on vulnerable groups and democratic principles. This advocacy worked: the Government backed down and has shelved the proposed legislation. This

²² www.laohamutuk.org/surat/SPAmbiente2020.pdf

²³ www.laohamutuk.org/Bulletin/2020/Dec/bulletinv21n1te.html

²⁴ www.laohamutuk.org/Env/2020/LH-SEA5Jun2020te.pdf

²⁵ www.laohamutuk.org/media/2020/RadigLoronAmbienteJun2020.mp3

²⁶ www.laohamutuk.org/media/LHAmbienteJun2020LoresTe.mp4

²⁷ laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/08/hatene-impaktu-husi-atividade-umanu-ba.html

²⁸ www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/20Emergency.htm

²⁹ www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/JRDes74OrasFronteira14Aug2020pt.pdf

³⁰ www.laohamutuk.org/surat/SPCovid20Apr2020te.pdf

³¹ www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/LHKartaPMPR9Abr2020en.pdf

³² www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/defamation/2020/20DefamLaw.htm

³³ www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/defamation/2020/LHsubMJDefamasun15Jun2020en.pdf

is an important outcome for civil society, the media, and everyone with an interest in free and open discussion of the nation's future.

We used our submissions on proposed state budgets and the Economic Recovery Plan to advocate for investments into programs that ensure equity and promote access for all, and in September the Ministry of Justice invited us to present³⁴ to a roundtable discussion on the implementation of the UN Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in which we also raised these issues.

Food sovereignty and agriculture

The importance of food sovereignty and strengthening agriculture in Timor-Leste was underscored by the Covid-19 pandemic, and the results of the 2020 Global Hunger Index, which found that Timor-Leste experiences alarming levels of malnutrition, at the second-highest rate of all countries surveyed. In response to widespread doubt about the Global Hunger Index, we published a blog article³⁵ explaining the methodology of the Index and urging more public investment in agriculture.

During 2020, La'o Hamutuk continued to research agriculture and food processing industries in rural areas. This research will advance new policies to support entrepreneurs in food processing, which is a strategic way to diversify the economy away from oil dependency. The Report was launched in February 2021.

We continued to advocate for a better and more sustainable path to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition in Timor-Leste, reduce dependence on imported food, and improve people's lives. In June, we published an article in the national media, explaining the agricultural and food security situation today, and advocating for small-scale, family agriculture as a sustainable solution that also reflects Timor-Leste's local context.³⁶ We also wrote a submission³⁷ on the proposed 2021 State Budget, which analyzed the allocations to agriculture and continued to call for more effective and sustainable state interventions in agriculture.

Land Rights

We continued to monitor the implementation the Land Laws, which were enacted in 2017, as well as the development of complementary laws and policies. Together with the land network Rede ba Rai, we met with affected communities in October to discuss their rights to land.

We finalized the paper we presented at the 2019 Timor-Leste Studies Association Conference on the land registration system for publication in the conference proceedings. We also presented a paper at the Timor-Leste Studies Association of Portugal's virtual conference in September, analyzing the land registration system.

Networking and Coalitions

La'o Hamutuk participates in many national and international coalitions and networks, to strengthen our own work and to contribute to broader research and advocacy efforts. Networks in which we participate include:

³⁴ www.laohamutuk.org/econ/briefing/AprezMezaRedondaMJ10Sep2020te.pdf

³⁵ laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/11/how-credible-is-2020-global-hunger-index.html

³⁶ www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/2020/AgrFamComplete25Jun2020te.pdf

³⁷ www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE21/LHHasatilSubAgrikulturaOJE2021-18Nov2020te.pdf

National networks

- Rede ba Rai (Land Network)
- HASATIL (Sustainable Agriculture Network)
- Core Group on Transparency
- National Alliance for an International Tribunal (ANTI)
- FONGTIL (Timor-Leste NGO Forum)
- MKOTT (Movement Against the Occupation of the Timor Sea)
- Human Rights Defenders Network
- Klibur Hadomi Ambiente
- Rede Feto
- Advocacy Network for Education

International networks

- International Budget Partnership
- Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)
- International solidarity and human rights organizations, including ETAN, APCET, IKOHI, TAPOL, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch
- Timor Sea Justice Campaign, Australia
- Timor-Leste Studies Association (TLSA)
- OilWatch (especially in Southeast Asia)
- Publish What You Pay (PWYP)

Organizational Report

Our organization has undergone significant changes during the reporting period. One staff members resigned, and another finished her contract. At time of writing, we are recruiting new staff.

Like other organizations, we adapted the structure of our work to the Covid-19 pandemic. For the majority of the activity period, we have continued to work in the office, albeit with masking, restrictions on meeting numbers and appropriate social distancing. We have worked from home when this has been mandated by the Government or good health practices. We have made use of the expanded online working environment and used online meeting software to conduct meetings, trainings, and to present the results of our work.

We also installed a hand-washing station in front of our office to help our neighboring community stay healthy.

As of December 2020, La' o Hamutuk staff are Bree Ahrens, Marta da Silva, Martinha Fernandes, Mariano Ferreira, Eliziaria Gomes, Celestino Gusmão, Ricarda Martins, Charles Scheiner (in New York), Maxi Tahu, three security staff and one cleaner.

Outputs of La'o Hamutuk's Work in 2020

In our 2019 Annual Report, we identified new and quantifiable activities to be completed in 2020, as follows:

Target	Outcome
Continue as the Timor-Leste researcher for International Budget Partnership's Open Budget Survey, and disseminate results of the 2019 survey in Timor-Leste.	Yes -, we expanded our work with the IBP by working with them to collect data on the Government's Covid-19 response measures. We disseminated results of the 2019 survey on our website and blog, and via our Bulletin.
Continue to collect and analyze data on petroleum revenues, state finances, trade, inflation, employment and other economic statistics, engaging with analysts and producers of these reports.	We continued to collect and analyze relevant data, and updated the information and graphics we used in many web pages submissions and presentations. We communicated privately with the Central Bank, the National Petroleum and Minerals Authority, EITI and the General Directorate for Statistics when they published inaccurate, incomplete or confusing information, which they usually corrected after we brought it to their attention. We also monitored publications from the World Bank, UNDP and other agencies on Timor-Leste's economy, reviewing drafts and engaging with the agencies and local and international journalists to try to improve the accuracy of published information.
Monitor and advocate on legislative processes for the Anti-Corruption Law, as well as laws related to mining, petroleum, and land rights.	We continued to monitor implementation of the Anti-Corruption Law, and the Land Law. We also analyzed and advocated to deter enactment of a proposed law to Criminalize Defamation
Finish our research into small-scale agricultural processing industries.	Yes - we completed this research in 2020 and we launched the report in February 2021.
Continue to monitor environmental licensing for large infrastructure projects and publish documents related to environmental licensing.	Yes - we launched an online registry of environmental licensing documents, and continue to monitor licensing processes for major projects.
Deepen our research and analysis on petroleum-related policies, prospects plans and legislation, as well and other major private and public infrastructure projects, and report about their prospective financial, economic, social and environmental impacts.	Yes - we continued to monitor state agencies, press reports and documents from oil companies, and to publish information on various petroleum projects, including Bayu-Undan, Buffalo, Greater Sunrise, Chuditch, Laminaria-Corallina and onshore. We also monitored legal changes made to enable TimorGAP to supply fuel to the national electricity company EDTL. We continue to monitor the Dili Airport Expansion and Dili Drainage projects, and participated in consultative processes, while advocating for improved consultative mechanisms.
Monitor, educate and advocate on the implications, risks and legal machinations for Timor-Leste to buy into and develop the Greater Sunrise and Tasi Mane projects.	Yes - We met with new leadership in relevant institutions to monitor developments and continue our advocacy. We provided information to and reviewed draft articles from international journalists who reported on Tasi Mane project and on changes in Timor-Leste's petroleum leadership. We used our various workshops and presentations to further our advocacy and public education.

Target	Outcome
Monitor the revenues, investments and spending of the Petroleum Fund, and their implications for the sustainability of state finances.	Yes - we created a new webpage to monitor the impacts of global economic developments on the petroleum fund, and continued to monitor the sustainability of state finances through our analyses of state revenues and spending.
Write at least ten submissions or letters to decision-makers in government and international agencies on proposed legislation and policies.	We wrote nine submissions and open letters.
Organize at least five public meetings to share information with the public, media, government and civil society, including at least two meetings outside of Dili.	We held six public meetings: four outside of Dili (three on the budget and the nation's development trajectory, and one on land rights and environmental licensing) and two in Dili.
Give at least two paid trainings to other organizations, plus eight free or at-cost trainings or presentations to students, journalists, civil society or local communities.	We gave two training sessions, and 19 other presentations, despite pandemic-related restrictions
Post at least 20 updated webpages and 12 new blog entries.	We published nine blog articles and updated 22 web pages, most multiple times. We also launched five new web pages.
Produce at least one edition of La'o Hamutuk's <i>Bulletin</i> , and one edition of <i>Surat Popular</i> .	Yes - we produced and distributed one edition of each
Produce at least six radio programs.	We produced four radio programs
Recruit at least one new Timorese researcher.	No - we delayed the recruitment process for much of 2020, because working from home during the pandemic would have made it difficult to bring on new staff.

Plans for 2021

In early 2021 we will conduct a strategic planning process to guide our work over the next three-year period. This will enable us to determine how to translate our vision into an actionable and effective pathway, including refining our internal monitoring and evaluation processes.

We will continue to engage in research, analysis, and advocacy in relation to state finances and economy, governance and human rights, land rights and agriculture, and petroleum and natural resources. Guided by our strategic plan, we will continue to implement a range of advocacy and public education strategies to communicate effectively with a range of target groups.

Our specific goals for 2021 are:

- Analyze and explain evolving information on oil production and revenues, trade, inflation, employment and other economic statistics.
- Write at least eight submissions or letters to Parliament, policy makers and international agencies on proposed legislation and policies such as the state budget and public finances, offshore and onshore petroleum activity, contracting and other issues.
- Organize at least three public meetings to share information and alternative perspectives with the public, media, government and civil society.
- Disseminate results of our research on small-scale agricultural activities to advocate for more effective interventions.
- Deepen our analysis and produce written articles or add to our existing information on major infrastructure projects, including the Tasi Mane project.

-
- Follow the 2022 State budget process, including written and oral testimony to Parliament, briefings for MPs, the media and civil society in Dili and Municipalities.
 - Monitor and provide input into the Government's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, including its economic, health, and other repercussions
 - Give at least six trainings to other organizations, civil society, schools, media, or local communities.
 - Post at least 10 new webpages, 20 updated webpages and 12 new blog entries.
 - Produce at least one edition of La'o Hamutuk's Bulletin.
 - Produce at least five Radio Igualdade programs.

As the Covid-19 pandemic will continue, we will conduct our work in compliance with Government regulations and adapt our plans as necessary, as well as monitoring the development and implementation of Covid-19 responses by Government and other institutions.

In terms of organizational structure, in 2021 we will recruit two or three new Timorese staff members.

Appendix 1. Financial Report

All amounts are specified in U.S. dollars. La'o Hamutuk's fiscal year is the calendar year.

The organization has a flat wage structure; local and international staff received take-home salaries of \$840 per month from January to December 2020, plus the legally-mandated 13th month salary at the end of the year. According to Timor-Leste law, 10% of pre-tax salaries must be paid into the government's social security program; the organization pays 6% and the employee pays 4%. International staff receive one return airfare from their home country, as well as a readjustment allowance of \$200 for each month worked up to the end of their first year, payable after they finish working with La'o Hamutuk. According to Timor-Leste's Labor Code, Timorese staff who have worked for more than one year are entitled to severance pay when they leave the organization. Staff members who must move to Dili to work at La'o Hamutuk receive \$200/month toward house rental costs.

Our work in 2020 was funded by Misereor/KZE, the Norwegian Embassy in Jakarta (administered by Hivos), *Comité Catholique contre la Faim et pour le Développement* (CCFD) and The Asia Foundation (TAF). La'o Hamutuk also received payments from the International Budget Partnership and other organizations for services rendered.

In order to ensure that everyone perceives La'o Hamutuk as independent, we maintain our long-standing policy of not accepting contributions from institutions with a significant interest in Timor-Leste: the UN and its agencies, the World Bank, ADB, IMF, major multilateral and bilateral donors to Timor-Leste, the Timor-Leste government, and transnational corporations operating here.

Balance sheet

This table indicates our total assets at the end of 2019 and 2020.

Calendar year	2020	2019
Cash and bank accounts at start of year	93,373	58,194
Receivables (salary and program advances)	24,622	21,212
Total assets at start of year	117,995	79,406
Income during year	159,865	204,058
Expenditure during year	166,158	165,470
Cash and bank accounts at end of year	88,396	93,419
Receivables at end of year	23,306	24,576
Total assets at end of year	111,702	117,995

Some funding we received in 2020 is intended for our work in 2021, as our contracts with our current donors run through 2021 (2022 for Misereor).

These accounts also include money put aside for future severance and readjustment payments, and health self-insurance for national and international staff.

Readjustment and severance

The following table includes future obligations that La' o Hamutuk will have to pay in severance and readjustment when staff leaves the organization. These depend on length of service, and are required by law (for Timorese staff) and by policy (for internationals). At the end of each year, these accrued obligations were:

2019	2020
18,852	20,897

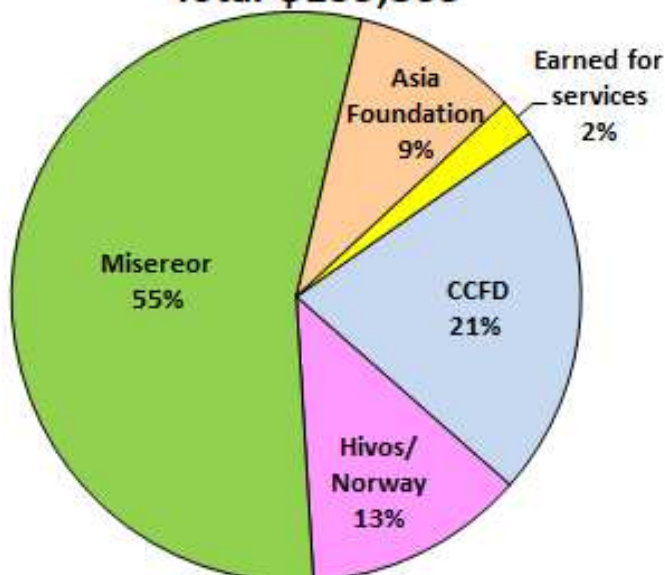
The following table shows the balances in our cash and bank accounts, according to our commitments to donors, not including receivables and liabilities:

	Total Cash & bank balances	General support donors	Project donors (Misereor)	LH assets
Assets 31 Dec 2019	117,995	25,402	51,358	41,235
Income Jan-Dec 2020	159,865	68,777	87,060	4,028
Expenses Jan-Dec 2020	166,158	79,294	86,864	0
Assets 31 Dec 2020	111,702	14,885	51,554	45,263

Revenues

This table shows revenues received by La'o Hamutuk during 2020 from the Norwegian Embassy (through Hivos), *Comité Catholique Contre la Faim et pour le Développement* (CCFD), The Asia Foundation (TAF), Misereor/KZE and services performed by La'o Hamutuk, totaling \$159,865.

Revenue received in 2020
Total \$159,865



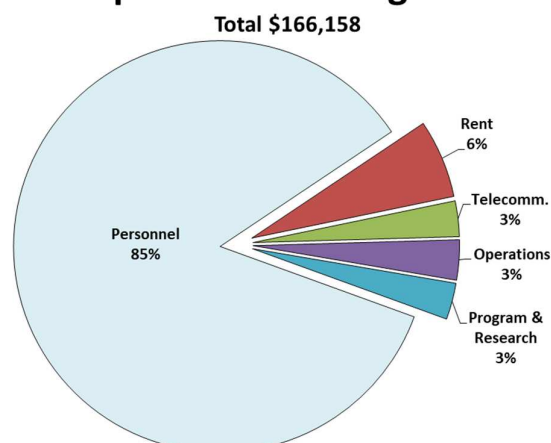
Source	Budget 2020	Actual received	Difference	Explanation
Norway/HIVOS grant	45,000	20,000	-25,000	The \$25,000 difference was received in 2019, outside of this reporting period.
CCFD grant	34,000	33,777	-223	
The Asia Foundation grant	1,000	15,000	14,000	We signed a new contract in mid-year. Most of this money is allocated for work during 2021.
Misereor project grant	110,100	87,060	23,040	Some was received during 2019.
Earned for services	4,900	3,478	-1,422	Work on Open Budget Survey and giving briefings, which were fewer due to the pandemic.
Sales and interest	2,400	550	-1,850	Bank interest and sale of used motorcycles
Total	197,400	159,865	37,535	

Expenditures

During 2020 we spent \$166,158, of which \$79,594 was from general support funds and \$86,864 was for the Misereor/KZE-supported project.

Personnel costs are the largest component of our expenses because the research, analysis and advocacy that form the core of our work rely on our human resources.

Expenditure during 2020



Category	Budgeted 2020	Actual			Difference	Explanation
		General support	Misereor project	Total		
I Non-recurrent expenditure						
Capital Equipment	515	145	320	465	50	Laptop maintenance.
Office Furniture	309	0	80	80	229	Maintenance for furniture
II Staff costs						
Personnel	156,815	67,843	71,951	135,952	14,009	Salaries, wage tax, social security tax, health insurance, housing allowance, international staff air fare and severance. New hiring was delayed due to Covid-19.
Training for staff	515	375	653	1,028	-513	English and QuickBooks online training
III Project activities						
Bulletin	2,060	662	613	1,275	785	One issue published.
Public meetings	2,472	694	1,409	2,103	369	Organized public meetings in three municipalities and Dili
Radio programs	1,648	270	450	720	928	Fewer than we planned, adding the difficulties of distributions to radio community due to Covid-19
Research	4,120	10	0	10	4,110	Field research was impossible due to Covid-19. No field research was done due to COVID-19. Most of the research work in 2020 was (home) office based.
Resource center	1,323	259	374	633	690	
International Conference	1,500	0	0	0	1,500	Due to Covid-19, all conferences were virtual.
IV Project administration						
Operations & Supplies	4,179	2,354	1,895	4,249	-70	
Office Rent	10,500	4,080	6,120	10,200	300	
Transportation	556	123	181	303	253	
Telephone and Internet	5,566	2,217	2,417	4,634	932	
Audit	5,562	0	0	0	5,562	Audit is ongoing. No payment made yet
Misc. Expenses	515	262	403	665	-150	
Grand total	198,155	79,294	86,864	166,158	31,997	

Projected Budget for 2021

This is for all of La'o Hamutuk's activities and operations. Misereor's funding is for the project on 'Economic diversification and sustainability'. Fund-raising and other donors fund the rest of our work.

Category	Misereor project	General support	Total	Explanation
I Non-recurrent expenditure				
Capital equipment	0	1,400	1,400	Laptops for staff
Computer stand	0	800	800	for resources room
Office maintenance	300	900	1,200	rehabilitation ba Office LH
II Staff costs				
Personnel	94,752	68,166	162,918	Salaries, wage tax, social security tax, health insurance, housing allowance, international staff air fare and visa fees. We will add three national staff in 2021, two of whom replace staff who left in 2020.
Training for staff	1,000	1,100	2,100	
III Project activities				
Bulletin	1,061	1,061	2,122	Printing and distribution of one issue
Public meetings	1,273	1,273	2,546	Space rental, publicity, refreshments
Radio Programs	1,188	509	1,697	Production and fuel for community radio stations.
Research	2,970	1,273	4,244	Travel and accommodation for conducting field research in Timor-Leste (after Covid)
Resource center	817	545	1,362	Books, videos and other materials
Short video production	0	1,500	1,500	Public education videos or Videos for advocacy
Publication	0	1000	1000	To pay for local newspaper which publish LH article
Int'l conference	0	1,500	1,500	Non-reimbursed costs to attend international conferences
IV Project administration				
Operations & Supplies	2,545	2,158	4,703	Electricity, supplies, bank charges, photocopying, etc.
Office rent	6,300	4,200	10,500	
Transportation	315	329	644	Transport and motorcycle maintenance in Dili and nearby
Communication	3,166	2,567	5,733	Telephone, internet and website
Auditor	3,971	2,758	6,729	Two audits for the Misereor project and one for the whole organization
Miscellaneous	318	292	610	
V Evaluation				
Evaluation	2,000	2,000	4,000	
Total	121,976	95,331	217,300	

Projected revenues to be received during 2021

During 2020, La'o Hamutuk received some revenues on multi-year grant contracts that are allocated for expenditures during 2021, including \$21,103 from Misereor and \$12,000 from TAF. As we had similar balances carried forward between 2019 and 2020, we have not included them in the following table.

If expenses for the Misereor-funded project exceed the amount of the grant from Misereor, we will pay the difference with funds from other sources.

Source	Amount	Explanation
Norway (Hivos) grant	55,000	Contract that continues until July 2021.
CCFD grant	34,000	Expected new contract
The Asia Foundation grant	12,000	Balance of 2020 contract and expected new contract.
Misereor project grant	110,100	Part of three-year contract
Earned for services	5,500	
Sales, interest, donations	700	
Total revenue	217,300	

Appendix 2. Media Coverage

Topic	Date	Media	Link	Summary
KM aprova dekretu duodesimal millaun USD 116.4 La'o Hamutuk: Povu sakrifikadu ba politika Governu nian	14 Jan	GMN-TV	gmtv.tl/id/politika/2020/01/km-aprova-dekretu-duodesimal-millaun-usd-116-4-%E2%96%A0lao-hamutuk-povu-sakrifikadu-ba-politika-governu-nian/	Interviews Celestino on the duodecimal budget
La'o Hamutuk Konsidera Redusaun Proposta OGE 2020 La Koresponde Nesesidade Povu	14 Jan	RTL	rttlep.tl/id/radio-news/read/20200114/052038/82896/lao-hamutuk-konsidera-redusaun-proposta-oge-2020-la-koresponde-nesesidade-povu.html	Interviews Celestino on the budget
Government Criticised for Prioritising Oil Projects over Clean Water	17 Jan		www.tatoli.tl/en/2020/01/17/government-criticised-for-prioritising-oil-projects-over-clean-water/	Quotes La'o Hamutuk budget submission
La'o Hamutuk Aseita Muda Projetu LNG Ba Natarbora sei Hamenus Kustu	22 Jan	Independe nte		Quotes Celestino on proposed LNG Plant
Situasaun Atual Impaktu ba TL Labele Adere ba ASEAN	31 Jan	Timor Post		Quotes Mariano on TL's economic situation
Investor 'Tauk' Investe iha TL	31 Jan	Dili Post		
Hama dan penyakit dari Atambua menyerang jagung di Timor-Leste	31 Jan	RTL		Quotes Mariano on TL's economic situation
Vendedór pentolan, ekonomia no oinsá indústría kí'ik	3 Feb	RTL		Interviews Mariano on small industries and economic development
Auto Promosaun City Features Eps. 33	12 Feb	GMN-TV	advox.globalvoices.org/2020/06/22/timor-leste-plans-to-restore-criminal-defamation-law-amid-concerns-about-its-free-speech-impact/#	Interviews Adilson about construction of Dili drainage system
Report of Australian Senate	27 Feb	Senate FADT Comm.	www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Foreign_Affairs_Defence_and_Trade/EastTimor/Report	Six citations of La'o Hamutuk's submission
Persaingan CNRT dan Fretilin Berujung Krisis Politik di Timor Leste	29 Feb	Tempo Magazine	majalah.tempo.co/read/internasional/159816/persaingan-cnrt-dan-fretilin-berujung-krisis-politik-di-timor-leste	Quotes LH data on budget allocations
Murdered Journalists a "Hurdle" in Concealing TL Invasion, book says	6 Mar	Tatoli	www.tatoli.tl/en/2020/03/06/murdered-journalists-a-hurdle-to-be-got-over-in-concealing-tl-invasion-book-says/	Quotes Celestino
Programa RTTL - CAFE DADER	11 Mar	RTTL		Interviews Adilson on LH history and contribution to decision-making
Fundo petrolífero timorense pode perder 1,32 mil ME este ano -- ONG	13 Mar	LUSA/SAPO	noticias.sapo.tl/portugues/lusa/artigo/28430657.html	Summary of LH paper on global economic impacts on Petrol. Fund

Topic	Date	Media	Link	Summary
Valor hosi fundu petrolíferu timoroan tuun dolar millaun 343 iha Feveireu, haktuir Banku Sentral Valor do fundo petrolífero timorense caiu 343 milhões de dólares em fevereiro, segundo Banco Central	14 Mar	LUSA/ SAPO	noticias.sapo.tl/tetum/info/artigo/1533518.html noticias.sapo.tl/portugues/info/artigo/1533517.html	Cites LH on how far the balance could fall
Petroleum Fund Dips 10 per cent as Economic Downturn Bites	31 Mar	Tatoli	www.tatoli.tl/en/2020/03/31/petroleum-fund-dips-10-per-cent-as-economic-downturn-bites/	Quotes Charlie on impact of economic downturn on TL
Celestino Gusmão Pereira	8 Apr	Suara Timor Lorosae		Profile of LH staffer Celestino
Karta aberta La'ó Hamutuk ba PM, Taur Matan Ruak	12 Apr	Tatoli	www.tatoli.tl/2020/04/12/karta-aberta-lao-hamutuk-ba-primeiru-ministru-taur-matan-ruak/	LH's submission to the PM on Covid-19 economic response
COVID-19: La'ó Hamutuk pede apoios prioritários para mais vulneráveis	13 Apr	LUSA	noticias.sapo.tl/portugues/info/artigo/1533681.html	Based on LH letter to Prime Minister
COVID-19: La'ó Hamutuk husu apoiu proprietáriu sira ba ema sira ne'ebé fraku liu	14 Apr	Lusa	noticias.sapo.tl/tetum/info/artigo/1533684.html	Discusses LH's submission to the PM
Timor-Leste: ONG La'ó Hamutuk pede apoios prioritarios para os necessitados	14 Apr	Lusa	e-global.pt/noticias/lusofonia/timor-leste/timor-leste-ong-lao-hamutuk-pede-apoios-prioritarios-para-os-necessitados/	Discusses LH's submission to the PM
Economic impacts of Covid-19	21 Apr	RTTL-TV Ita Nia Bainaka	www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=632694884178658&ref=watch_permalink	Febe on TV talk show
LH Kontra Hasoru Política MJ	11 Jun	Lafaek News	lafaek.news/lh-kontra-hasoru-politika-mj/	Quotes Adilson on Defamation Law
Submisaun ba Ministériu Justisa Husi La'ó Hamutuk Kona-ba Proposta Alterasaun ba Kódigu Penal hodi Kriminaliza Defamasaun	11 Jun		diariutimorpost.com/2020/06/11/submisaun-ba-ministeriu-justisa-husi-lao-hamutuk-kona-ba-proposta-alterasaun-ba-kodigu-penal-hodi-kriminaliza-defamasaun/	References LH submission on the Defamation Law
Timor-Leste plans to restore criminal defamation law amid concerns about its free speech impact	20 Jun	Global Voices	globalvoices.org/2020/06/20/timor-leste-plans-to-restore-criminal-defamation-law-amid-concerns-about-its-free-speech-impact/	Draws extensively from LH submission and web page
Lagi, Timor Leste Berlakukan Pasa Pencemaran Nama Baik	21 Jun	Mata Politik	www.matamatapolitik.com/lagi-timor-leste-berlakukan-pasal-pencemaran-nama-baik-news/	Quotes LH Submission on the Criminalization of Defamation Law
TIMOR-LESTE Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) Assessment 2018	Jun	PEFA report by World Bank and others	www.pefa.org/node/256	Includes two references to LH in the text, and more than a dozen in reference lists and links to our website.
Dalan ba Soberania Ai-han iha Timor-Leste	29 Jun	Independente		Opinion article by LH

Topic	Date	Media	Link	Summary
Economic Challenges for East Timor	Aug	Working Paper from Lund Univ., Sweden	swopec.hhs.se/lunewp/abs/lunewp2020_014.htm	Refers to La'ó Hamutuk about 2020 budget process.
La'ó Hamutuk husu Governu tenke jere di-di'ak FP	11 Aug	GMNTV	gmtv.tl/en/economia/2020/08/lao-hamutuk-husu-governu-tenke-jere-di-diak-fp/	Interviews LH on the need for good management of the Petroleum Fund
LH hasoru PR Lu Olo, Laiha nesesidade TL aplika LKD	11 Aug	GMNTV	gmtv.tl/en/sosiedade/2020/08/lh-hasoru-pr-lu-olo-laiha-nesesidade-tl-aplika-lkd/	Reports on LH's meeting with the PM to discuss the Criminalization of Defamation Law
La'ó Hamutuk: Lei Kriminaliza Defamasaun Sei Estraga Imajen Timor-Leste Iha Mundu	12 Aug	Timor News	timornews.tl/TL/Notisia/3807	Interviews LH on the Criminalization of Defamation Law
LH hasoru PR Lu Olo, Laiha nesesidade TL aplika LKD	12 Aug	Jornal Nacional Diario		Reports on LH's meeting with the PM to discuss the Criminalization of Defamation Law
Bee Fo'er iha Bayu Undan La'ós Segredu	12 Aug	Independe nte		Interviews LH staff on environmental impacts of Bayu Undan drilling
LH Lori LKD Ba PR	12 Aug	Suara Timor Lorosa'e		Reports on LH's meeting with the PM to discuss the Criminalization of Defamation Law
PR Garante Governu Sei La Prioritiza Esbosu LKD	13 Aug	Timor Post		Quotes LH on the Criminalization of Defamation Law
Women of Timor Leste: Unyielding in the fight against oppression and violence	19 Aug	Focus Timor-Leste in Stiftung Asienhaus, German version in <i>Südostasien</i>	www.asienhaus.de/uploads/tx_news/Blkwechsel_Women_of_Timor-Leste_-_Weavers_of_Memory.pdf	Article by LH
Governu Seidauk Dezenvolve Setor Produtivo ho Di'ak	25 Aug	Independe nte		Quotes LH on failure of Gov't to invest in productive sectors
LH Konsidera Governu "Halimar" ho Povu Nia Moris	27 Aug	Dili Post		Interviews LH on Government development priorities
La'ó Hamutuk Konsidera Governu "Halimar" ho Povu Nia Vida	27 Aug	Tempo Timor		Interviews LH on Government development priorities
Concerned citizens petition Timor-Leste authorities to drop planned revival of defamation law	30 Aug	Global Voices		Quotes LH on proposed criminalization of defamation law

Topic	Date	Media	Link	Summary
Implikasaun Husi Projetu Greater Sunrise no Projetu Tasi Mane ba Sustentabilidade Finansa Estadu	Sep	Proceedings of 2019 TLSA Conf. Vol. 1	tlstudiesorg.wordpress.com/conference-proceedings/2019-conference/	Paper by LH researchers Febe Gomes and Bree Ahrens
Analiza ba Impaktu Rejistrasaun Rai husi Sistema Nasionál Cadastro (SNC)	Sep	Proceedings of 2019 TLSA Conf. Vol. 1	tlstudiesorg.wordpress.com/conference-proceedings/2019-conference/	Paper by Mariano Ferreira
Implications of Recent Changes to Timor-Leste's Petroleum Fund	Sep	Proceedings of 2019 TLSA Conf. Vol. 1	tlstudiesorg.wordpress.com/conference-proceedings/2019-conference/	Paper by Charles Scheiner
Solidariedade iha Kampu – Prosesu Observasaun ba Timor-Leste nia Referendu	Sep	Proceedings of 2019 TLSA Conf. Vol. 2	tlstudiesorg.wordpress.com/conference-proceedings/2019-conference/	Paper by Charles Scheiner and Pam Sexton
Asegura Finansas Estadu ho Fundu Petrolíferu Tenke Hadi'a Estrutura Orsamentu	14 Sep	Business Timor		Quotes LH on financial sustainability
Is there a resource curse in Timor-Leste? A critical review of recent evidence	15 Sep	Development Studies Research journal	www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/21665095.2020.1816189	Cites LH on disproportionate spending on Tasi Mane project
PN Aprova Ona Pedidu Karakter Urjensia OJE 2020	18 Sep	Timor Post		Quotes LH on the 2020 Budget
Timor-Leste laiha mudansa ba klasifikasaun internasional	22 Sep	Independente		Quotes LH on Timor-Leste's development indicators
Timor-Leste laiha mudansa ba klasifikasaun internasional	23 Sep	Independente		Quotes LH on Timor-Leste's development indicators
Peneliti Jumpai Ladang Minyak Mulai Kering, Timor Leste Bakal Bangkrut	24 Sep	Warta Ekonomi	www.wartaekonomi.co.id/read305734/peneliti-jumpai-ladang-minyak-mulai-kering-timor-leste-bakal-bangkrut	Quote LH on future of Petroleum income and state finances
Sumber Keuangannya Amburadul, Timor Leste Diprediksi Akan Bangkrut Tahun 2027 Keuangan Negara Itu Disebut Bergantung Pada Akar yang Rapuh	25 Sep	Intisari	intisari.grid.id/amp/032352737/sumber-keuangannya-amburadul-timor-leste-diprediksi-akan-bangkrut-tahun-2027-keuangan-negara-itu-disebut-bergantung-pada-akar-yang-rapuh	Quote LH on future of Petroleum income and state finances
ONG timorenses pede ao Governo que verifique capacidade de execução orçamental	28 Sep	Lusa	www.lusa.pt/article/HZ87HADlsv~jhd7KShKS WjMSZM5iuS11/ong-timorenses-pede-ao-governo-que-verifique-capacidade-de-execu%C3%A7%C3%A3o-or%C3%A7amental	Summarizes LH submission on 2020 state budget
La'o Hamutuk husu ba Governu atu verifika kapasidade hosi ezekusaun orsamental	28 Sep	Lusa/SAPO	noticias.sapo.tl/tetum/info/artigo/1534607.html	Summarizes LH submission on 2020 state budget
LH: To'o oras ne'e transferensia publika ba RAEOA-ZEESM taka ba públiku	30 Sep	Journal Diario		Quotes LH on transparency of ZEESM budget

Topic	Date	Media	Link	Summary
Pursentu 46 Povu TL Sei Moris Kiak	30 Sep	Dili Post		Quotes LH on poverty and TL's development priorities
Gasta Biliaun \$12, Povu Kiak	30 Sep	Suara Timor Lorosa'e		Quotes from our media briefing on the budget
Publika Presiza Hatene Tusan Futuru	30 Sep	Suara Timor Lorosa'e		Quotes from our media briefing on the 2021 budget, specific to loans
LH: OJE 2020 Tenke Benefísuiu ba Povu	30 Sep	Independente		Quotes from our media briefing on the budget
LH Konsidera Governu Seidauk Dezenvolve Setor Produtivu	30 Sep	Independente		Quotes from our media briefing on the budget
La'ó Hamutuk: Situasaun TL iha kondisaun inserteza finansial	30 Sep	Journal Diario		Quotes from our media briefing on the budget
Governu Tenki Kumpri Nafatin Prinsipiu Transparensia	30 Sep	Dili Post		Quotes from our media briefing on the 2021 budget, specific to transparency
Projetu Tasi Mane Pasu Pozitivu	30 Sep	Dili Post		Quotes LH on the Tasi Mane Project
Publika Presiza Hatene Tusan	30 Sep	Dili Post		Quotes from our media briefing on the 2021 budget, specific to loans
Populasaun TL 36% Moris iha Inseguransa Ai-han	30 Sep	Timor Post		Quotes LH on food insecurity and priorities
Setor Produtivu Seidauk Dezenvolve	1 Oct	Dili Post		Quotes TL on why productive sectors have failed to develop
OJE 2020 Susar Atu Gasta Hotu	1 Oct	Dili Post		Quotes TL on Gov't capacity to execute the 2020 Budget
Luta Hamutuk: 36% de timorenses vivem em inseguranca	1 Oct	Timor Post		Quotes LH on food insecurity and priorities (incorrectly attributed to Luta Hamutuk)
Timor-Leste Needs to Prioritize Combating Poverty, La'ó Hamutuk	1 Oct	Independente		Quotes LH on food insecurity and Government development priorities
Lao Hamutuk: To'ó Ohin Loron Seidauk iha Avaliasaun Independente ba Projetu Tasi Mane	2 Oct	Neon Metin	neonmetin.info/buletin/2020/10/02/lao-hamutuk-too-ohin-loron-seidauk-ihavaliasaun-independente-ba-projetu-tasi-mane/	Quotes LH on Tasi Mane project
OJE 2021	5 Oct	GMNTV	youtu.be/tGI-EDP90Nw	LH staff discuss 2021 Budget
TL Gasta ona Fundu Minarai Billaun \$12, Povu 46% Kontinua Moris Kiak	5 Oct	Business Timor		Quotes La'ó Hamutuk on the Petroleum Fund and Gov't development priorities

Topic	Date	Media	Link	Summary
Berkah Bagi Negara Kaya Kutukan Bagi Negara Miskin, Lembaga Timor Leste Ini Ungkap Fakta Mengejutkan Minyak Bumi di Negaranya, 'Akan Lebih Baik Tidak Pernah Ditemukan'	6 Oct	Intisari	intisari.grid.id/read/032369475/kerap-dipandang-negara-termiskin-di-dunia-timor-leste-bantah-dan-sebut-hal-itu-hanya-isu-belaka-sosok-asal-timor-leste-ini-bongkar-situasi-asli-di-dalam-negaran?page=all	Quotes LH on sustainability of oil dependency and the resource curse
Bukannya Bikin Sejahtera, Ladang Minyak di Negara Miskin Justru Jadi Kutukan, Lembaga Timor Leste Ini Ungkap Fakta Mengejutkan, 'Lebih Baik Tidak Pernah Ditemukan'	13 Oct	Sosok	sosok.grid.id/read/412380140/bukannya-bikin-sejahtera-ladang-minyak-di-negara-miskin-justru-jadi-kutukan-lembaga-timor-leste-ini-ungkap-fakta-mengejutkan-lebih-baik-tidak-pernah-ditemukan	Quotes LH on sustainability of oil dependency and the resource curse
Berkah Bagi Negara Kaya Kutukan Bagi Negara Miskin, Lembaga Timor Leste Ini Ungkap Fakta Mengejutkan Minyak Bumi di Negaranya, 'Akan Lebih Baik Tidak Pernah Ditemukan'	13 Oct	Intisari	intisari.grid.id/amp/032380073/berkah-bagi-negara-kaya-kutukan-bagi-negara-miskin-lembaga-timor-leste-ini-ungkap-fakta-mengejutkan-minyak-bumi-di-negaranya-akan-lebih-baik-tidak-pernah-ditemu?page=2&_ga=2.203331601.1658890045.1602725989-510513891.1602725989	Quotes LH on sustainability of oil dependency and the resource curse
FONGTIL rekomena hasa'e produsaun agrikultura iha planu rekoperasaun ekonomika	13 Oct	Tatoli	www.tatoli.tl/2020/10/13/fongtil-rekomena-hasa-e-produsaun-agrikultura-ihaplenu-rekoperasaun-ekonomika/	Reports on our analysis of the Economic Recovery Plan
Lao Hamutuk: Rekuperasaun Ekonomika Tenke Realistiku	13 Oct	Tempo Timor	www.tempotimor.com/ekonomia/3811-lao-hamutuk-rekuperasaun-ekonomika-tenke-realistiku	Reports on our analysis of the Economic Recovery Plan
FONGTIL e LH defendem melhorias em seis setores do plano de recuperaçãõ económica	16 Oct	Timor Post		Reports on our analysis of the Economic Recovery Plan
Rekopera Ekonomia Tenke Ho Planu Realistiku No Bazeia ba Nesesidade Povu	19 Oct	Business Timor		Reports on our analysis of the Economic Recovery Plan
LH: Laiha duvida Governu foti osan husi FP	20 Oct	GMN-TV	gmtv.tl/id/sosiedade/2020/10/lh-laiha-duvida-governu-foti-osan-husi-fp/	Quotes LH on the Petroleum Fund
Results from the Global Hunger Index (IGH) 2020, raise questions about data sourcing	29 Oct	Tatoli	www.tatoli.tl/en/2020/10/29/results-from-the-global-hunger-index-igh-2020-raise-questions-about-data-sourcing/	Quotes LH on the GHI
Sudah Diperingatkan Tapi Masih Jor-joran Ambil Utangan Demi Proyek Ambisiusnya padahal Sumber Pendapatannya Hampir Habis, Inilah Penderitaan yang Bakal Ditanggung Rakyat Timor Leste	30 Oct	Intisari	intisari.grid.id/read/032405427/sudah-diperingatkan-tapi-masih-jor-joran-ambil-utangan-demi-proyek-ambisiusnya-padahal-sumber-pendapatannya-hampir-habis-inilah-penderitaan-yang-bakal-ditanggung?page=all	Quotes LH on the resource curse and future of the Tasi Mane Project
LH Konsidera OJE 2021 iha Tendência "Hamout" Fundu Minarai	5 Nov	Tempo Timor	www.tempotimor.com/politika/4011-lh-konsidera-oje-2021-iharendencia-hamout-fundu-minarai	Interviews Atino on overspending the Petroleum Fund
LH Nia Hakat I: LH Nia Analiza Ba Garantia Sustentabilidade Finansa Estadu	15 Nov	Tempo Timor	www.tempotimor.com/ekonomia/4124-lh-nia-hakat-i-lh-nia-analiza-ba-garantia-sustentabilidade-finansa-estadu	Publication of the first part of our submission on the State Budget

Topic	Date	Media	Link	Summary
LH Nia Hakat II: Fundu Petrolíferu La'ós atu Garante Tusan sira	15 Nov	Tempo Timor	www.temptimor.com/ekonomia/4125-lh-nia-hakat-ii-fundu-petroliferu-la-os-atu-garante-tusan-sira	Publication of the second part of our submission on the State Budget
LH Nia Hakat III: Presiza Análiza Risku No Benefísu Husi Projetu Tasi Mane	15 Nov	Tempo Timor	www.temptimor.com/ekonomia/4126-lh-nia-hakat-iii-presiza-analiza-risku-no-benefisu-husi-projetu-tasi-mane	Publication of the third part of our submission on the State Budget
Investe ba Ema Hodi Hametin Dezenvolvimentu TL	15 Nov	Tempo Timor	www.temptimor.com/politika/4127-lh-nia-hakat-iv-investe-ba-ema-hodi-hametin-dezenvolvimentu-tl	Quotes LH on Gov't development priorities and the 2021 budget
ONG timorensa preocupada com vários elementos da proposta do OGE para 2021	16 Nov	Lusa		
Government's economic measures to address Covid-19	16 Nov	GMN Telejournal kalan	www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BHmU8bauz	Interview with Atino on economic recovery measures is first item in evening news
Lao Hamutuk: Governo iha dever proteje sidadaun hosi risku COVID-19	17 Nov	GMN-TV		Quotes LH on the government's response to Covid-19
Orsamentu Ba Edukasaun, Saude, Agrikultura, Saniamentu Kiik	18 Nov	STL News	stlnews.co/ekonomia/orsamentu-ba-edukasaun-saude-agrikultura-saniamentu-kiik/	Reports on LH presentation to FONGTIL
Timor-Leste EITI report for 2018	Dec	EITI Report	eiti.org/document/2018-timorleste-eiti-report	Four references to LH, also quotes our submission calling for more prudent forecasts of investment returns.
Sustentabilidade Finansa Estadu no Fundu Petroliferu	1 Dec	Tatoli	www.tatoli.tl/2020/12/01/sustentabilidade-finansa-estadu-no-fundu-petroliferu/	Article by LH
Sustentabilidade Finansa Estadu no Fundu Petroliferu	2 Dec	Independente		Article by LH
Sustentabilidade Finansa Estadu no Fundu Petroliferu	2 Dec	Tempo Timor		Article by LH
LH "Alarma" Governo Tau Atensaun ba Agrikultura iha OJE 2021	2 Dec	Tempo Timor		Quotes LH on agricultural allocations on 2021 Budget
La'o Hamutuk husu kansela no suspende projetu Tasi-Mane	2 Dec	Oekussi Post	www.oekusipost.com/tl/politika/746-la-o-hamutuk-husu-kansela-no-suspende-projetu-tasi-mane	Quotes LH on Tasi Mane Project
Sustentabilidade Finansa Estadu no Fundu Petroliferu	2 Dec	Independente		Article by LH
Sustentabilidade Finansa Estadu no Fundu Petroliferu	3 Dec	Dili Post		Article by LH
Relasiona ho Sociedade Sivil Konsidera OGE Kada Tinan La Benefisia Povo	3 Dec	RTTL Live		LH staff discuss OJE 2021
Sustentabilidade Finansa Estadu no Fundu Petroliferu	3 Dec	GMN		Article by LH
Sustentabilidade Finansa Estadu no Fundu Petroliferu	4 Dec	Independente		Article by LH

Topic	Date	Media	Link	Summary
Time for a Cross Party Consensus on Oil and Gas in Dili?	9 Dec	Asia Link	asialink.unimelb.edu.au/insights/time-for-a-cross-party-consensus-on-oil-and-gas-in-dili	References LH on TMP and unsustainable spending
Timor Leste nafatin depende ba Produtu Importasaun	9 Dec	GMNTV	https://youtu.be/BUhNnkBWB84	LH discusses dependency on imports and Gov't development priorities
HASATIL konsidera montante OJE 2021 ba setor agrikultura sa'e dulpa	9 Dec	Tatoli		Quotes LH on 2021 Budget allocations to agriculture
Vantajen Programa cesta bazikanian ba seguransa ai-han iha Timor-Leste	11 Dec	Tatoli	www.tatoli.tl/2020/12/11/vantajen-programa-cesta-bazikanian-ba-seguransa-ai-han-iha-timor-leste/	Quotes LH on the Government's response to Covid-19
MAP Aloka OGE Boot Liu ba Ben Servisu Duke Ba Hasae Produsaun	16 Dec	Neon Metin	neonmetin.info/buletin/2020/12/16/map-aloka-oge-boot-liu-ba-ben-servisu-duke-ba-hasae-produsaun/	Quotes LH on allocation to agriculture in the 2021 Budget
Finding a Balance in Timor-Leste's Blue Economy	22 Dec	Only One	only.one/read/finding-a-balance-in-timor-lestes-blue-economy	Quotes LH on the importance of Timorese people controlling their future
How tiny Timor-Leste kept the coronavirus at bay	29 Dec	Al Jazeera	www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/12/29/how-tiny-timor-leste-kept-the-coronavirus-at-bay	Quotes LH on Gov't's response to Covid-19
Timor Leste Catatkan 41 Kasus Covid-19 dan Nol Kematian, Ini Strategi Mereka	29 Dec	Kompas	www.kompas.com/global/read/2020/12/29/105746770/timor-leste-catatkan-41-kasus-covid-19-dan-nol-kematian-ini-strategi?page=all	Quotes LH on Gov't's response to Covid-19

Appendix 3. Presentations by La'o Hamutuk³⁸

Topic	Date	Speaker	Event	Attendees
Revised Budget Proposal 2020: What is the Government Priority?	Jan	Adilson	Public Meeting	300
Economics of Education	Mar	Berta	Public seminar on the Economics of Education at IOB	200
Timor-Leste's Economic Situation During Covid-19	April	Febe	RTTL Discussion Panel	Televised
The impact of the Covid 19 on the Informal Economic Sector	April	Marta	RTTL Discussion Panel	Televised
The Risks of the Tasi Mane Project to the Environment and Public Finances	July	Adilson	Briefing to Fundasaun Mahein	10
Can a Sovereign Wealth Fund Prevent the Resource Curse?	Aug	Charles	Webinar for the Centre for Democracy and Development, Mozambique	Online
Economic Recovery from the Impacts of Covid-19	Aug	Adilson	Fongtil TV Talk show	Televised
Allocations to Water and Sanitation in the Proposed 2020 State Budget	Sep	Marta	Plataforma Bee no Saneamentu (NGO)-organized event	280
Land Registration in Timor-Leste, analysis of the impact of SNC	Sep	Mariano	Virtual conference of the Timor-Leste Studies Association/Portugal	online
2020 State Budget Briefing	Sep	Multiple	Briefing organized by Fongtil	40
2020 Budget Implementation	Sep	Febe	Fongtil-organized talk show ³⁹	Televised
Timor-Leste's Progress in Implementing the Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	Sep	Adilson, Marta	Ministry of Justice Roundtable Discussion	20
The Proposed 2020 Budget	Oct	Febe	Appearance on GMNTV ⁴⁰ Grande Entrevista panel discussion.	Televised
Timor-Leste's Development Directions	Nov	Febe	Seminar organized by Organization for Marginalized Youth	50
The Proposed 2021 Budget and Sustainability of State Finances, including for Agriculture	Nov	Febe and Marta	Community Meeting in Gleno, Ermera Municipality	75
The Proposed 2021 Budget and Sustainability of State Finances	Nov	Febe	Community Meeting in Manatuto municipality	20
The Proposed 2021 Budget and Sustainability of State Finances	Dec	Febe	Community Meeting in Liquiça municipality	25
The Economic Recovery Plan	Oct	Atino	Meeting of civil society, hosted by Fongtil	20
Environmental Licensing Processes and Community Rights	Oct	Adilson	Public Meeting during field visit to Ilimanu, Manatuto	40
Budget Sustainability and Sectoral Allocation Analysis	Nov	Febe	PFMO Civil Society Training (x2)	20
La'o Hamutuk Analysis and Perspective about Budget 2021	Nov	Febe	CSOs and Media Briefing at FONGTIL	15
2020 Budget Execution and Benefits for The People	Dec	Febe	Appearance on RTTL national television ⁴¹	Televised

³⁸ Most of these can be downloaded from www.laohamutuk.org/pres.htm

³⁹ www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=723145434936766&ref=watch_permalink.

⁴⁰ www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGI-EDP9ONw

⁴¹ www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBchsztgpy

Appendix 4. Submissions and Open Letters

Date	Topic	Detail	Link
Jan	2020 State Budget (December)	Submission to Committee C	www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE20/second/LHSubOJE2020_10Jan2020en.pdf
April	Covid-19 Response	Open letter to the Prime Minister	www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/LHKartaPMPr9Abr2020en.pdf
April	The State of Emergency	Open letter to the President, written as part of the Human Rights Defenders Network	www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/RDDUReIObsEE22Abr2020en.pdf
May	Situation at the Land Border with Indonesia	Joint press-release with Fongtil	www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/InfoVizitaFrontiera22May2020en.pdf
June	Environmental Problems and Climate Change	Open letter to the Secretary of State for the Environment	www.laohamutuk.org/Env/2020/LH-SEA5Jun2020te.pdf
June	Criminalization of Defamation Law	Submission to the Ministry of Justice	www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/defamation/2020/LHsubMJDefamasaun15Jun2020en.pdf
July	The Economic Recovery Plan	Open Letter to the ERP coordinator	www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/LHRuiGomes6Jul2020en.pdf
Sep	The 2020 State Budget	Submission to Parliament Committee C	www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE20/third/LHSubOJE2020baPN24Set2020en.pdf
Oct	Dili drainage system, phase 2	Submission to the Secretary of State for Environment (together with Rede ba Rai)	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Env/DiliDrainage/LH-RbRPareserDiliDranajen6Oct2020te.pdf
Oct	The Economic Recovery Plan	Open Letter to the Prime Minister	www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/2020/RDDUReIObsEE22Abr2020en.pdf
Nov	Proposed 2021 Budget	Submission to Parliament Committee C	www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE21/LHSubOJE2021-13Nov2020en.pdf
Nov	Proposed 2021 Budget - Agricultural Perspective	Analysis and recommendations developed in conjunction with HASATIL	www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE21/LHHasatilSubAgriculturaOJE2021-18Nov2020te.pdf

Appendix 5. Radio Programs

Recordings of all radio programs produced by La'ó Hamutuk on accessible on our website at www.laohamutuk.org/media/radio.htm

Date	Topic	Guests
Mar	Petroleum Fund Investments	Elizaria Febe Gomes (La'ó Hamutuk) and Celestino Gusmão (La'ó Hamutuk)
May	Water and Sanitation	Gustavo da Cruz (Director General of Water and Sanitation within the Ministry of Public Works), Dulce Soares (Coordinator of the Women in Engineering group) and Marta da Silva (La'ó Hamutuk).
June	World Environment Day	Antonio Lelo Tasi (Director of the National Environmental Licensing Authority), Herminia Pinto (PERMATIL) and Adilsonio da Costa Jr. (La'ó Hamutuk)
Nov	The Economic Recovery Plan	Guteriano Neves (policy and economics observer), Kiera Zen (ecotourism entrepreneur) and Maximus Tahu (La'ó Hamutuk)

Appendix 6. Blog Articles and Website

Blog articles published during 2020 are listed below; most are also in Tetum. A list of more than 300 postings and updates to our website is at www.laohamutuk.org/updates.htm.

Date	Title	Link
Mar	Economics of Education	laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/03/economics-of-education-ekonomiku.html
April	Results of the Open Budget Survey	laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/04/timor-leste-unimproved-in-2019-open.html
July (and updated regularly thereafter)	Global Economic Developments Hit Timor-Leste Hard	laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/03/global-economic-developments-hit-timor.html
Aug	Hatene Impaktu husi Mudansa Klimátika	laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/08/hatene-impaktu-husi-atividade-umanu-ba.html
Nov	How Credible is the 2020 Global Hunger Index?	laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2020/11/how-credible-is-2020-global-hunger-index.html

Appendix 7. Staff and Advisory Board Biographies

Staff

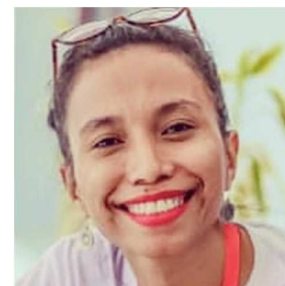
Adilsonio da Costa Junior

Adilson is from Lore, Lospalos, and was born in Dili. He speaks Fataluku, Tetum, Indonesian and English. Adilson studied Law at Pasundan University, Bandung, where he was also a facilitator at Clinical Legal Education. He co-founded the NGO Community Development Interest in 2006, and then joined La'ó Hamutuk in 2012 with a focus on governance, justice, environment and large infrastructure projects, and also works on fund-raising. Adison resigned from La'ó Hamutuk in November 2020.



Berta Antonieta

Berta is from Betano, Manufahi. She studied International Studies and Political Economics at Luther College. She is also the founder of Grupu Feminista iha Timor-Leste, a feminist network that advocates for gender equity. Berta's contract with La'ó Hamutuk ended in October 2020.



Celestino Gusmão Pereira

Celestino is from Laga and studied public administration at the National University. He speaks Tetum, Indonesian, Makasae and English. Atino joined La'ó Hamutuk in 2011, and he focuses on justice, democracy, solidarity, economics, and state finances and is on our coordination team. He is active in MKOTT and is our focal point in the National Alliance for an International Tribunal (ANTI).



Charles Scheiner

An engineer and long-time Timor-Leste solidarity activist, Charlie worked at La'ó Hamutuk in Dili from 2001 until 2004, and then alternated between New York and Dili, working part-time. He returned to work full-time from 2007 to 2015, before resuming part-time work from New York, and full-time in Dili for a few months every year. Charlie's main foci are natural resources, economics, justice, solidarity and governance, as well as La'ó Hamutuk's finances, website and blog.



Elizaria Febe Gomes

Febe was born in Dili. She graduated from the Institute of Technology Sepuluh Nopember-Surabaya in 2017 with a Bachelor's in Urban and Regional Planning. She started working with La'ó Hamutuk in 2018 on state finance and economics. She speaks Tetum, Portuguese, English, and Bahasa Indonesia, and serves on the personnel team.



Mariano Ferreira

Mariano studied economic management at the University Negeri Jember in Indonesia. Born in Dili, Mariano speaks Tetum, Indonesian and English. Since 2003, Mariano was on the Board of Hasatil and worked at the HAK Association, focusing on fisherfolk and researching agriculture. Mariano joined La'ó Hamutuk in 2009, where he works on agriculture, land rights and justice, and serves on the personnel team.



Marta da Silva

Marta was born in Gariuai, Baucau, and grew up in Lospalos. She studied social and political science at the National University of Timor-Leste. She joined La'ó Hamutuk in 2016, having worked previously with the Australian-supported water and sanitation program BESIK and UNFPA. Marta speaks Fataluku, Tetum, Indonesian and English. Currently Marta works on freedom of expression, good governance and justice, and is one of La'ó Hamutuk's coordinators.



Martinha Fernandes

Martinha is from Atsabe, Ermera district. She studied petroleum engineering at DIT, and joined La'ó Hamutuk as a volunteer through a SEPFPOPE program in 2015. She now works full-time at La'ó Hamutuk as an administration and finance assistant. Martinha speaks Kemak, Tetum and Indonesian.



Maxi Tahu

Maxi was born in Seloi Kraik, Aileu district. He worked at La'ó Hamutuk from 2007, having previously worked at Radio Timor Kmanek. Maxi studied agriculture at the University of New England in Australia, and took a sabbatical in 2018 to earn a Master of Science degree in Food Security and Development from the University of Reading, in England, before returning to La'ó Hamutuk in September 2019. Maxi works on agriculture, climate change, and trade, and is on our fund-raising team.



Bree Ahrens

Bree holds a BA (Indonesian and History) and MA (Asian Societies) from the University of Melbourne. She has worked as a researcher, translator, instructor, and organizer in Australia, Indonesia, and Timor-Leste. She works with La'ó Hamutuk's State Finances and Economy and Major Projects and Environment teams, and speaks English, Indonesian, and Tetun.



Ricarda Martins

Ricarda is from Laclubar, Manatuto District. She studied development at UNTL, and then worked in finance for the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources for three years. Ricarda joined La'ó Hamutuk in May 2016 as finance officer. She speaks Didate, Tetum, Indonesian and English.



Advisory Board

Selma Hayati

An Indonesian human rights activist, Selma has worked in Timor-Leste since 2001, including with Concern, Care, Oxfam, La'ó Hamutuk (2003-2004), NGO Forum and UNTAET. Selma has worked as a Political Affairs Officer in UNMIT, a UNDP Climate Change project, and with Action Asia, Fokupers, JSMP, CAFOD, USAID, Ba Distritu and other organizations. Selma writes articles and poetry. For the last few years, Selma has been working in Indonesia and West Papua with civil society projects.

Inês Noronha Martins

Inês was studying economics at the University of Timor Leste before the Indonesian military destroyed it in September 1999. Born in Bobonaro, Inês is fluent in Tetum, Portuguese, Indonesian and English. Inês joined La'ó Hamutuk staff in 2000, where she worked on agriculture and land rights and coordinated our personnel team. Fifteen years later, she left La'ó Hamutuk to manage Oxfam's new land rights project, and joined our Board in 2017.

Pamela Sexton

An educator and long-time solidarity activist from the USA, Pam has extensive experience in Indonesia and Timor-Leste. In 2000, Pam helped set up La'ó Hamutuk and was on our staff until 2003, when she returned to the USA and joined our board. In 2017 she rejoined La'ó Hamutuk's staff in Timor-Leste, focusing on gender, environment, governance, education and human rights. Pam went back to the USA at the end of 2018 and continues to serve on our board.

Justino da Silva

Justino da Silva was born in Hato-udo, Ainaro district. Justino worked as facilitator for Civic Education in UNTAET and for the National Democratic Institute (NDI). He was leader of the Advocacy Division of the Timor-Leste NGO Forum, and also served as chair of their Board of Directors. He also worked for Concern and Save the Children, before joining Water Aid, where he is now Country Representative in Timor-Leste.

Oscar da Silva

Oscar da Silva was born in Uatu-karbau, Viqueque District, works as a consultant for UNDESA (UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs) and teaches Social Economics at the National University of Timor-Leste. He previously worked for Association HAK and HASATIL. He designed the Community Development Concept Plan and Community Action Plan which were implemented in Lacló Manatuto District, Laulara (Aileu District) and Ataúro (Dili District). In 2015, he began studying for a Master's degree in Portugal, and is a lecturer at UNTL.

Andrew de Sousa

An activist with the U.S.-based East Timor and Indonesia Action Network (ETAN), Andrew worked at La'ó Hamutuk from 2001-2003. He has worked in Washington for the Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala and on environmental justice and orangutan conservation with Yayasan Palung in West Kalimantan, Indonesia. From 2012-2014, he was based in Bangkok with Focus on the Global South, and since then is working with Peace Brigades International in Indonesia. Andrew continued to help La'ó Hamutuk throughout this journey, and he joined our board in 2012.

Santina Soares

Santi was born in Beaçu, Viqueque district. She graduated from the Social Welfare University in Bandung. On returning to Timor-Leste in 2002, she volunteered at the Denore Foundation and worked at the Peace and Democracy Foundation. She was on La'ó Hamutuk's staff from 2005-2008, before joining the Government's Sunrise LNG Taskforce. In 2010, she completed her Masters on gender and development studies at Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand and now works as a Program Officer for Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Responsive Budgeting at UN Women.

Adérito de Jesus Soares (on leave)

Adérito is a lawyer and human rights advocate. Born in Maliana, Adérito has served as director for ELSAM, a Jakarta-based human rights organization. In 2002, Adérito was elected to Timor-Leste's Constituent Assembly where he took a leading role writing the Constitution. He resigned from Parliament to study at New York University. He returned to Dili in 2003, and left in 2006 for a Ph.D. program at Australian National University. In 2010, Adérito returned to Timor-Leste to head the Anti-Corruption Commission, and took a leave of absence from La'ó Hamutuk's board. In 2014, after finishing his mandate, he returned to ANU to complete his Ph.D.