

Diplomacy Training Program

19th Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training Program
Program Report

A Training Program for Advocates

in partnership with
Forum Tau Matan

23 November–11 December 2009

Timor-Leste





DTP is the longest established independent, NGO providing training in human rights advocacy in the Asia-Pacific region. It seeks to advance human rights and empower civil society in the Asia-Pacific region through quality training, and by building skills and capacities in non-government organisations.

DTP was founded in 1989 by HE José Ramos-Horta, President, Timor Leste, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and has since trained over 1500 human rights defenders from more than 30 countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

DTP is a non-profit organisation that relies on grants, donations and fees. In 2009 DTP received DGR status through special listing in Parliament. Trainers provide their services pro bono. In-kind support is provided by the Faculty of Law, UNSW. Funders include Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NZAID, Caritas Australia, Oxfam Australia, Fred Hollows Foundation, and Friends of the Diplomacy Training Program. To become a "Friend of the Diplomacy Training Program" visit: <http://www.dtp.unsw.edu.au/support-us.htm>

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DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM

AFFILIATED WITH THE FACULTY OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
A training program for peoples of the Asia-Pacific region

19th Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training Program

Held in partnership with Forum Tau Matan

Date November 23rd to December 11th

Timor Leste

Program Report

Executive Summary:

"The opportunity to meet and listen to the President of Timor-Leste was especially inspiring because of the kind of visionary he is and made me want to believe that we as human rights defenders can indeed make seemingly impossible things possible and make the world a better place to live in."¹

The Diplomacy Training Program's **19th Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training Program for Human Rights Defenders from the Asia-Pacific Region and Indigenous Australia** was held in Timor-Leste from 23rd November to December 11th, 2009 at the invitation of President José Ramos-Horta, the Diplomacy Training Program's Founder and Patron.

This annual comprehensive human rights and advocacy training course is the longest established human rights capacity building program in the region. Participating in this course were 28 human rights defenders from India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, the Philippines, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, Australia, Solomon Islands, Indonesia, and Timor-Leste. The pressing human rights issues they work on include police violence, torture, disappearances and extra-judicial executions, the rights of migrant workers, the rights of Indigenous peoples to land, livelihood and culture, issues of poverty and discrimination, forcible evictions and displacement, the death penalty, issues of accountability and impunity of those responsible for human rights violations.

It is difficult to capture the richness of this course simply in a description of its content. Bringing together dedicated human rights defenders from 13 countries for three weeks of learning, sharing of experiences and reflection makes for an experience that is more than the sum of its parts. Add to this mix the inspiring, engaged and experienced trainers and facilitators who gave generously of their knowledge and the result is a memorable and powerful capacity building program.

"This program has changed everything for me. It has changed my perspective and now gives me the directions to go on like never before."

The course itself provides participants with a solid foundation of knowledge of the international human rights framework and the UN system, as well as building skills in human rights research and strategic advocacy, including the capacity to engage with governmental processes at the national and international level. In addition participants learn much from each other's experiences and perspectives of seeking to defend and promote human rights, and of seeking positive change in their societies. Participants also gain from the opportunity to reflect on their own experience away from the pressing daily demands of their human rights work on the frontline. Lasting bonds of friendship

¹ This and subsequent bold quotes are taken from participant evaluations at the end of the program. Some quotes are edited slightly for English and grammar, but the meaning is kept.

and solidarity were made over the period of the course, bonds that can play a practical role when individuals return to their own organisations and communities, long into the future.

Niranjala is a member of the minority Tamil community in Sri Lanka and is a human rights advocate working for the Centre for Human Rights and Development (CHRD). She is editor of their flagship publication 'Sentinel' and is also involved in the Campaign against the repressive anti- Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA). In 2009 one of Niranjala's colleagues was abducted and remains "disappeared", believed to be held in a secret detention centre.²

The Diplomacy Training Program has a long association with East Timor's struggle for independence and self-determination, a struggle for human rights waged effectively through international forums by mobilizing international solidarity. Holding the program in Timor-Leste enabled participants to learn from those who worked successfully to achieve East Timor's independence, to witness the difficult challenges that the new nation faces and to work with the new generation of human rights defenders in Timor-Leste.

Mualimin is the Head of the Legal and Advocacy Bureau for the South Sumatra Alliance of Indonesian Indigenous Peoples. Since 2000 the Alliance assisted local communities in 200 land disputes, many involving palm oil producing corporations.

The program was intense and rich, packing many years of learning into three weeks. The contribution of many experts and practitioners was enhanced and supplemented by the generous sharing of knowledge by participants. The Diplomacy Training Program expresses its gratitude and appreciation to *Professor Virginia Dandan, Dr Sarah Pritchard, Dr Clarence Dias, Professor Paul Redmond, Sam Gregory, Philip Chung, Luiz Vieira, Abel Guterres, Pat Walsh, Angelina Sarmento, Fernando da Costa, Signe Poulsen, Johnny da Cunha, James McIntyre, and Peter Heyward.*

The program was held in partnership with Forum Tau Matan (Eyes on Human Rights) and was made possible with funding from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the New Zealand Agency for International Development and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. On the ground support was provided by the Office of the President, IOM and OHCHR. DTP's thanks and appreciation are extended to Luiz Vieira (IOM) and Louis Gentile(OHCHR) and their colleagues.

DTP also acknowledges and thanks Eduarda Martins Goncalves (FTM) and Imelda Deinla DTP Coordinator, and DTP volunteers Amy Rogers and Olivia Girard. This report aims to describe the program, and to capture some of its richness. It draws on participant's evaluations completed anonymously at the end of the program.

Program Overview

The content of this 19th Annual Regional Human Rights Defenders Program³ was developed to take advantage of the location of the program in Timor-Leste. The program was held over three weeks in three separate locations in the capital, Dili and in Maubara.

Suan Moi is the Secretary General and one of the founding members of the Zomi Human Rights Foundation in North East India. Suan has been involved in campaigns on anti-landmines, for health security in his local area of Churachandpur and on Indigenous peoples' rights issues.

² This and subsequent excerpts are taken from the Participant Biographies which are written by DTP and distributed to participants and trainers.

³ The final program schedule is attached as Appendix 1.

The first week of the program focussed on providing participants with a solid introduction to international human rights standards and the UN system. The second week was held in a convent in Maubara and had a focus on the relevance of human rights standards to issues of poverty and development policy and practice, followed by sessions on developing skills in human rights monitoring and investigation, and to building strategic skills in advocacy and video advocacy. The final week of the program included sessions dedicated to developing skills in using the internet and in lobbying and advocacy, as well as time spent learning about contemporary human rights challenges such as the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, the rights of migrant workers and business and human rights. The program concluded with an extended role play exercise focused on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) – a relatively new international process in which each member of the United Nations participates in a review of its human rights record and commitments.

“In future we would be able to carry out our campaign and advocacy work more effectively. And also contribute effectively to the UPR. Making both individual and collective submission to treaty bodies, rapporteurs and working groups.”

Among the highlights of the program were the Opening Ceremony hosted by DTP’s Founder and Patron H.E. José Ramos-Horta at the Presidential Palace, and the participation in the program of Professor Virginia Dandan of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights who brought to the program her wealth of experience as a member of a human rights treaty body, as well as her experience as a human rights practitioner in the Philippines. In addition to DTP’s regular trainers, participants also had sessions with Abel Guterres, Ambassador Peter Heyward, Luiz Vieira (Director of the IOM office in Timor-Leste), and James McIntyre, Director of the Human Rights Unit in the Irish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. DTP participants were also able to participate in East Timor’s celebration of international human rights day.

“In my new portfolio that I hold in my organisation- I have to quote UN instruments and have a good understanding of the whole UN system and that has really been taken care of in this program. It will make my work more refined/informed I hope. I also hope to be able to take back learning on advocacy skills for sharing with colleagues back in my organisation.”

The opportunity to learn more about East Timor, and the history of the East Timorese was also a highlight of the program. There were sessions with experienced East Timorese advocates – some now in government, others still working in civil society organisations. Some memorable sessions were held at Dili’s Comarca Prison, the former Portuguese and Indonesia prison that now hosts the Commission on Reception, Truth, and Reconciliation (CAVR). The Prison has been restored and acts as a museum and archive and currently hosts the exhibition of *Chega!* the report of CAVR’s work to document East Timor’s struggle for self-determination and the human rights violations that took place from 1975 until independence (www.cavr-timorleste.org/). The work of the CAVR plays a vital role in East Timor’s efforts to honour the victims of the past and to build a culture of respect for human rights. The participants received a tour of the prison and *Chega!* exhibition with Pat Walsh who has been Secretary of CAVR since its establishment in 1999 and is on the DTP Advisory Council.

Amarylis is the Program Manager of PACT (Philippine Action Concerning Torture) run by the Medical Action Group, an NGO which promotes health and human rights for Filipinos, in adherence to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. PACT actively provides health care services to victims of human rights violations, in particular to torture victims. Central to this role is the investigation of incidents of torture using the Istanbul Protocol to assist political prisoners in pursuing compensation, damages and remedies. In addition the program provides education and campaigning on health and human rights issues, focusing on the adverse effects of torture and improving gaol conditions.

The time spent in Maubara during the second week of the program provided insights into the challenges of daily life in one of the poorest countries in the world, while the late afternoon games of football with the young people of the local villages highlighted the ease with which sport can help transcend boundaries of language and culture.

Program Location

“I think it is good to hold the program in Timor Leste. It can help other participants to see the reality of human rights during Portuguese occupation, Indonesian occupation up to now, as a new country.”

This program was held in Timor-Leste for the first time since 2006. Although the Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) was established at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Timor-Leste is very much DTP’s second home. DTP’s Founder and Patron is now the President of an independent Timor-Leste, and DTP has a 20 year history of engagement with East Timorese human rights defenders. Some of DTP’s alumni now occupy senior positions within the government, while others remain active in civil society. The very possibility of holding this program in Timor-Leste is a testament to the change that can be achieved by skilled, knowledgeable and committed advocates working together.

Sonia Fernandes is the Monitoring Officer for the Human Rights Department of the Timor-Leste Provedor for Human Rights and Justice (PDHJ), the national ombudsman institution, based in Dili. In this role Sonia monitors human rights in relation to police custody, prisoners, public gatherings, rallies and emergency situations, as well as those issues specific to vulnerable groups such as women and children.

The struggle of the East Timorese in gaining their independence and the success of exiled East Timorese advocates in building effective international solidarity is a significant and inspirational success story. It is a story with lessons for many others who also require international support to protect and realise their human rights. Holding the program in Timor-Leste enabled participants to gain valuable insights into that story, as well as to meet with some of its key actors.

“The country’s history of colonial oppression and the peoples zeal for freedom and independence are very much related to the program and provided practical learning for participants.”

The country is resource-rich with the discovery of off-shore oil and gas reserves, but this is no guarantee of economic development. In so many developing countries this richness of mineral resources has proved a curse with a rush to exploit the resources by overseas interests contributing to corruption, environmental degradation and conflict. As the youngest, and one of the poorest, members of the United Nations, emerging from decades of human rights violations, conflict and division, East Timor is also grappling with some of the key human rights challenges of our region and our times. These challenges include developing functional and accountable institutions – including government bureaucracy, judicial institutions, the police and army, health services, schools and universities. East Timor has a young and rapidly growing population – young people with a right to an education, who need and want work. Providing schools, universities and employment opportunities challenges the capacity and resources of the government.

The scale and nature of the development challenges facing Timor-Leste are evident in the districts beyond the capital, Dili. Holding the program in Timor-Leste highlighted for participants and trainers the difficulties of realising human rights, of ensuring that the processes and outcomes of development transform the lives of the poorest.

Laurensius Amir Lein is the Project Coordinator for Youth Development at the Commission of Justice and Peace and is a member of the secretariat of the Timor Leste Peace-building Institute (TLPI). Amir facilitates annual peace education training to youth and other vulnerable community sectors, including key peace actors in Timor-Leste. At the Commission of Justice and Peace, he coordinates youth activities within Dili relating to peace-building and human rights and empowers active non-violent activity in response to community rights issues. His work with parish youth, refugees and gang groups is very important to changing the culture of violence that is the legacy of the past.

Organising the program in Timor-Leste at this time of year poses practical and logistic difficulties. More than a few of the participants found the heat and humidity difficult, especially given the lack of air conditioning in the accommodation and most training venues used. The conditions during the second week, where there were limited facilities also meant that it was more difficult for participants to feel comfortable, although the physical beauty of the location and the hospitality of the Sisters at the Convent compensated for the heat, and were greatly appreciated. It was in relation to the internet training that the problems of infrastructure were keenly felt. It was not possible to find a venue with 30 computers with sufficiently fast access to the internet, for these sessions to be as useful and productive as they usually are, although it should be noted that the facilities available this year were a marked improvement on 2006.

“the conditions especially during the second week which made me drained and unfit for internalising most of the information that was provided. Nevertheless I also recognise the efforts put in by DTP to better it”.

It is easier to learn when comfortable, and this was not always achieved in this program. The organisers feel a real sense of appreciation for the understanding and patience of the participants, and for their willingness to assist each other and the organisers in making the best of the conditions. At the same time some the factors that made the learning environment challenging were the very things that many of the participants cited as positives in their learning experience. As it was described by some of the participants – it was a training program with no walls between theory and practice and the warmth and generosity of the Timorese people won East Timor many new friends.

“The struggles and triumphs of the Timorese people is inspirational. The logistics would be hard to organise but we got through it.”

Program Methodology

“I would like to say thanks DTP to bring all of us from different places to Timor and provided real situation of human rights in Timor and special trainers and facilitators with different teaching methods.”

DTP is committed to a participatory approach to teaching, recognising the knowledge, skills and experience of the participants in its programs and the value of their different perspectives. Learning the content of international legal standards, and developing understanding of UN structures can be of great practical value to human rights defenders. It is equally important to explore how these standards relate to the challenges and issues that the participants work on, drawing from the frontline experiences of the participants. There is therefore a heavy emphasis on small group exercises, case studies, real life scenarios and role plays. It is in these small working groups through the program that sharing of knowledge and experience is richest.

Emphasising the participatory nature of the program, participants work in small groups to help organise and manage the program, with groups taking it in turns to manage each day – to provide feedback on the day before, to ensure participants stay energised, and to introduce and thank the

guest trainers. Many of the participants come to the program experienced as facilitators and organisers and this approach encourages them to share their skills in a very practical way.

During the program, all participants are encouraged to make short presentations about the human rights issues they work on. These presentations are an opportunity to build skills and confidence to present issues of concern, they are also vital to sharing knowledge and experience and to building networks. These presentations provide a unique insight into the varied human rights issues in countries across the Asia-Pacific region.

Monica is a founding member, international advocate and researcher for the Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations, a confederacy of 10 First Nations of the Murray River Basin, South Eastern Australia. Monica has been a devoted activist in the area of Indigenous Peoples rights to traditional land and waters since 1994 – and has recently been appointed to position in Amnesty International Australia.

To make the program as practical as possible, efforts are also made to incorporate opportunities to put the training into practice during the program – through meetings with diplomats, government officials and parliamentarians. For many participants such meetings might be their first with any kind of official, and this opportunity to practice skills is particularly valuable in building confidence.

“I feel more confidence to lobby and dialogue with the local authorities in related with the human rights issue.”

Course Materials

The Diplomacy Training Program prepares an extensive and comprehensive program manual⁴ to support the training. Most of the chapters are around 12 pages long and written in plain English. The Manual is used both to support the training and to be a source for future reference. Some of the Manual’s authors are also DTP’s trainers and the chapters are referred to in the sessions. In other cases the trainers often use PowerPoint presentations as teaching aids.

The DTP Manual and the PowerPoint presentations of both trainers and participants are copied to CD and are provided to participants at the conclusion of the training.

The Trainers

“I have learned of many international instruments from many interesting professors. Before I knew little about these international laws, in particular the diplomacy skill which shared by distinguished guests, such as ambassadors.”

The Diplomacy Training Program is fortunate in being able to draw on the skills and knowledge of a wide range of experienced academic leaders and human rights practitioners⁵ to train on its courses. Some, including Dr Sarah Pritchard, Clarence Dias, Professor Paul Redmond and Philip Chung have taught on many of the Diplomacy Training Program’s courses. Indeed Clarence Dias taught on DTP’s first course in 1990 and has taught on most of DTP’s annual regional human rights defender training programs since. Sam Gregory from WITNESS in New York has also become a regular contributor to this training and again joined the program for two days to teach the skills of video advocacy, part of a continuing collaboration between DTP and WITNESS⁶.

⁴ See appendix 2 for DTP Manual’s Table of Contents

⁵ See appendix 3 for Trainer Biographies

⁶ www.witness.org

This year for the first time Professor Virginia Dandan taught on the program. Virginia has served on the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights since 1990, and was its Chairperson for nine years. This period has seen very significant advances in understanding and acceptance of economic, social, and cultural rights as human rights, and of the nature of government obligations in relation to these rights.

Luiz Vieira, Country Director of IOM, Signe Poulson and Jony da Cunha of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, James McIntyre, Director of the Human Rights Section in the Irish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Peter Heyward, Australian Ambassador to Timor Leste all led very practical sessions informed by their experiences of working in different roles to promote and protect human rights.

At the Official Opening of the program, President José Ramos-Horta shared some experiences, insights and practical tips for human rights advocacy based on his experience. Other East Timorese advocates who led sessions through the program include Joao Pequinho, Abel Guterres, Angelina Sarmento, and Fernando da Costa.

“like president José Ramos Horta to stated we must learn to take one step forward and take two steps to the sides, when there are obstacles and again move forward.”

The Participants

DTP aims to have a maximum of 30 participants on its programs. On this occasion there were 28 participants, as two of the selected participants were unable to attend at the last moment for different reasons. There were 13 female participants and 15 male participants, with a range of ages from early 20s to early 50s.

Rupa Upreti is the Secretary of Youth Action Nepal. She is responsible for providing human rights training to youth in Nepal and drives rights based advocacy and lobbying campaigns. Rupa is currently coordinating a programme on sexual and reproductive health rights, ‘My Body, My Right’.

The Diplomacy Training Program seeks applications for its programs through an open selection process – distributing the call for applications through its network of 1500 plus alumni and partner organisations. In selecting participants, consideration is given to applicant’s experience, the case they make for the training being relevant to the issues they focus on, and their capacity to apply the training to their work, as well as their capacity to participate effectively in English. Consideration is also given to achieving gender balance in the program, and to the inclusion of participants who identify as Indigenous. It is also DTP’s experience that including both younger and older participants with a range of experiences adds considerably to the dynamics of the program.

Serey Long is the Executive Director of Non-Timber Forest Products, a Cambodian NGO which seeks to support indigenous communities to exercise their rights, in using their land and natural resources to their sustainable livelihoods and cultural preservation. In addition, he manages and leads staff in the Indigenous Community Support Organisation (ICSO) and the Community Forestry International (CFI), as well working with CARE on their anti-trafficking project and the Mine Advisory Group (MAG).

Mojibul is in charge of the Safe Migration Facilitation Centre Project and Manager of the Advocacy and Human Rights Unit of BRAC- Bangladesh. BRAC is one the largest NGOs in Bangladesh, providing assistance to people whose lives are dominated by extreme poverty, illiteracy, disease and other handicaps.

Participant Expectations of the Program

“the program provided comprehensive learning experience for a development worker like me who is not working directly on human rights violations but integrating human rights based approach in the course of my work.”

At the beginning of the program participants are asked to identify their expectations of the program. These expectations included wanting to learn more about the human rights challenges faced by others, developing understanding of the international human rights environment, learning more about how the UN functions in practice, what UN treaties are and what they mean for their countries.

Sumiati is an Indonesian migrant worker in Hong Kong who works unpaid for the Coalition of Indonesian Migrant Workers in Hong Kong, where she heads the migrant workers advocacy program and is Chair of the Coalition of Migrant Rights, Hong Kong, which consists of migrant groups in Hong Kong from different nationalities. In these roles, Sumiati assists migrant works to defend their human rights in and out of court. She also advocates for migrant rights through campaigns, training and thematic events.

Participants also expected to learn how to monitor human rights more effectively, how to apply international standards to national legal regimes, the skills to mobilise and coordinate people in campaigns, and the skills of diplomacy to advance human rights. There was also a hope that out of the program they would establish networks of support that they could call on in the future and that they could use *“to achieve a different world for human rights.”*

During the program the expectations are revisited to monitor progress, and the program is adjusted to the extent that is possible to meet these expectations.

“It supercedes my expectations. The training gives me the ability to carry on. The content is very relevant.”

“The knowledge and willingness to share of participants and trainers exceeded my expectations. I will recommend the Annual DTP Program to other people.”

Program Description

*“The best thing the program provided me is its content. This will improve my analytical skills i.e. using the human rights framework in understanding various peace and development issues in Mindanao. I also appreciated the human rights values emphasised by the speakers (human rights laws are important but the values enshrined in the human rights **laws are the most important**)”*

Week 1—Dili

On the first afternoon of the program Clarence Dias, leading academic and activist from India, explored some key human rights value. These key values include *non-discrimination, universality, interdependence* and *accountability*. Clarence Dias emphasized that recognition of human dignity was found in every religion, value system and culture.

The recognition by the governments of the world that “*All human beings are born with equal and inalienable rights and fundamental freedoms*”⁷ was central to the creation and mission of the United Nations which was established following the Holocaust and WW II, the bloodiest conflict in history.

Dr Sarah Pritchard followed these sessions with an introduction to international law, the UN Charter and the UN system. The relationship between human rights, development, peace and security was recognized in the UN Charter, and was emphasized in the UN Reform process initiated by Kofi Annan.

The relevance of international law and the UN to human rights advocacy was compellingly illustrated with the story of East Timor’s struggle for self-determination, beginning with the UN auspiced process of decolonization in 1960 and continuing with the UN Mission in East Timor today. This story emphasizes the vital role civil society advocacy played in ensuring that international law, and human rights standards were eventually upheld – and the importance of advocates understanding the role that *realpolitik* plays in determining international responses to violations of human rights.

Teresa Bernardo Barros is a Human Rights Officer for the Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section of UNMIT. She is responsible for carrying out thorough investigations of rights cases and formally referring matters to the police prosecutors, the court officer, Police Vulnerable Persons Unit (VPU) and to human rights organisations where relevant. Teresa also works in gender based violence for the Vulnerable Persons Unit in Court and the Prosecutor’s Office to assist with cases of gender based violence.

Dr Pritchard’s sessions developed knowledge and understanding of the international human rights framework built since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948. Emphasizing the dynamic nature of human rights there are now eight core human rights treaties that have come into force, and that bind the governments that have ratified them. They include the Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as well as specific treaties addressing particular violations of human rights such as Torture and Racism, and the rights of specific groups that are vulnerable, and that experience particular abuses – treaties on the rights of women, of migrant workers, of persons with disabilities and the rights of children. The Convention on the Rights of the Child has been ratified by the governments of every country with the exception of the United States and Somalia – the latter not having a government.

Dr Pritchard also explored the nature of government obligations to respect, protect and fulfill human rights as well as the particular obligations that come with adoption of specific treaties, including reporting regularly to, and having their record publically examined by, an independent committee of experts – **UN Treaty Bodies**. The reporting process to UN treaty bodies has become a significant focus for NGO human rights advocacy in recent years.

In parallel to facilitating the negotiation and adoption of specific human rights treaties, the UN has also developed **Special Procedures** for the promotion and protection of human rights. These may be called Working Groups such as the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, or more commonly Special Rapporteurs – such as the Special Rapporteurs on Torture, and on the Right to Health. The effectiveness of these **Special Procedures** is heavily reliant on the work of NGOs confronting human rights on the ground.

⁷ Charter of the United Nations

Chan is the Land and Livelihoods Programme Legal Officer for the NGO Forum on Cambodia. The NGO Forum operates to share information, debate and advocacy on priority issues affecting Cambodia's development. Chan works for Land and Livelihoods Programme, providing legal assistance in projects covering resettlement and housing rights, land policy, forestry and plantation and indigenous and minority rights. Chan also conducts investigations into human rights abuses.

Dr Pritchard's final sessions were held at the Comarca Prison, which has been turned into a museum and place of remembrance for victims of human rights violations over the past forty years, and now hosts the Commission on Reception, Truth and Reconciliation. These final sessions focused on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the effective and inspirational advocacy of Indigenous peoples to gain recognition of their rights, to establish new forums in the UN to have their voices heard, and to enable action to respond to human rights violations against Indigenous peoples.

Following the conclusion of Sarah's sessions, DTP's participants were taken on a guided tour of the Comarca Prison and the ***Chega!*** Exhibition which tells the story of East Timor's struggle for self-determination, and the violations of human rights that took place during this period. After viewing the prison's "dark cells" which were notorious, the visit finished in a small garden courtyard with a discussion about East Timor's past and how the lessons from this past can be used to build a human rights culture in the future.

The final session of the day was a fascinating panel presentation from three East Timorese independence activists who had variously been involved in mobilizing international solidarity, developing solidarity among the student movement in Indonesia, and working with the underground resistance. Lita Sarmiento, Abel Guterres and Fernando da Costa shared reflections and stories, and practical advice from their different experiences. The panel was chaired by Joao Pequinho. It emerged that all of the panellists were DTP alumni.

Dr Clarence Dias' next sessions built on the foundations that had been laid in the earlier sessions to explore how human rights have become recognized as being of great practical value to the pressing issues of poverty and development. The UN has many specialized agencies such as the UN Development Program (UNDP), UNICEF, UNIFEM, and WHO, which are present and run programs in most developing countries. These agencies now officially recognize the value of human rights as a common analytical and planning framework for their programs – and as the basis of Common Country Assessments (CCAs) and UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF's).

The integration of human rights into the work of the UN's specialized agencies, and the expanded presence of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has opened up new possibilities for NGOs and human rights defenders to engage with the UN system – with UN Country Teams - and to press for development programs and policies that address their human rights concerns.

Peter Ramafolo oversees the advocacy department for the Citizen Right Advocacy Network Solomon Islands' (CRANSI). He is responsible for the dissemination of human rights education through training programs and workshops in local communities and schools and organising political lobbying and campaigns. Peter sees illiteracy as a major barrier to human rights in the Solomon Islands.

Dr Clarence Dias then took participants through some of the more recent developments on human rights in the UN system, and accountability mechanisms for holding states accountable. This

included the establishment of the **UN Human Rights Council** in 2006 to replace the UN Commission on Human Rights, the establishment of the **International Criminal Court** and the **Universal Periodic Review** (UPR) process that takes place under the auspices of the UN Human Rights Council.

In exploring how advocates could practically engage with these processes, Dr Dias emphasized the need to understand the politics that surrounded their creation, and the *realpolitik* that determines how the UN Human Rights Council and UPR process operate in practice. The reengagement of the new US administration in the UN Human Rights Council was seen as a positive sign, and the example of how the UPR process operated in relation to the review of Bahrain's human rights record was examined as a good example of the potential of the process to engage government, civil society and the international community in human rights reform.

NGO advocacy has played a vital role in the development of the current machinery that exists to hold governments accountable for human rights, and to promote awareness, knowledge and implementation of human rights. In doing so, NGOs have consistently found ways to work effectively and productively with the officials of many different governments – including diplomats in Geneva, and members of Foreign Affairs staff in their capital cities.

The human rights accountability mechanisms remain very weak. In the area of human rights many governments keenly guard their sovereignty – even where they have ceded sovereignty in areas of trade and economic policy. There are concerted efforts by some governments to undermine the current accountability mechanisms with the potential for very negative impacts on the work of frontline human rights defenders who depend on effective international scrutiny and action.

The formal sessions for the first week finished on the Friday with a sharing of experiences and methodology on strategic advocacy. These sessions were led by DTP's Director, Patrick Earle. Participants identified a vast range of tools and tactics that human rights advocates could use in their efforts to protect and promote human rights and seek change. The range of tactics is not static, and participants identified the importance of being creative – as well as being determined. Participants also shared their understanding of what was important for effective *peoples' diplomacy* – clear messages, building positive relationships, active listening, patience and persistence. Participants shared practical tips on how to mobilize others to participate in advocacy campaigns – building alliances based on common interests, finding ways to connect people with particular issues, making it easy to take action, and setting clear and achievable goals with timeframes.

“The sessions on the UN bodies and treaties, discussion on the ESCR, and the video advocacy and internet as platform for human rights advocacy are the most useful to me because there are sessions which I have understood the most and imbibed necessary learnings that I should get as a development and human rights worker. These sessions also relate to my work.”

Week 2—Maubara

The second week of the program was held in a convent near the small village of Maubara, on the coast, west of Dili. The Convent is on a hillside overlooking the sea and surrounded by beautifully maintained gardens, providing a peaceful and tranquil setting for the program.

The first two days of the program were led by Professor Virginia Dandan, who has served on the expert committee that supervises the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) since 1991. This period has seen growing understanding of the content of these rights –through the adoption by the Committee of what are called General Comments. Most recently an Optional Protocol to the Treaty has been agreed that allows for individual complaints to be taken to the Committee.

Professor Dandan guided participants through the content of the rights included in CESC - such as the right to housing, the right to food, and the right to education, the right to equality and to just and favourable conditions of work. These rights have particular relevance to processes of economic development and to poverty – and the resources that are available to governments (including through international aid). Governments have particular obligations in relation to these rights and Professor Dandan’s sessions were enriched by her extensive involvement in dialogue with government officials who have appeared before her Committee over the past 18 years. The group exercise in this session involved participants being asked to identify the core obligations of governments in relation to specific rights, and having to justify their positions.

The Committee recognises poverty as a denial of human rights, and has outlined how human rights can provide a framework for understanding the different dimensions of poverty and responding to poverty more effectively. Understanding poverty as a denial of human rights has encouraged the adoption of what has become known as the human rights based approach to development. This approach emphasises the participation of the poor and vulnerable, their human right to development and the duties of governments to ensure, for example, that all children receive an appropriate education, and that no one goes hungry.

Professor Dandan then shared her experiences of working with Indigenous communities in the Philippines to apply human rights in development programming – and outlined the approach adopted. The process starts with initial consultations with communities to inform them and discuss their human rights. Communities then identify human rights issues – such as lack of access to clean water and/or domestic violence. This is followed by a process of priority and goal setting, community organisation and implementation.

“Human rights monitoring, online research and corporation sessions are most useful because we can put the technic and knowledge in our Human Rights advocacy work.”

The following sessions focussed on human rights fact finding and monitoring and were led by Signe Poulson and Jony da Costa who work with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in the UN Mission for East Timor. Using very practical exercises these sessions took participants through the methodology for gathering and effectively communicating information about human rights situations. Participants were introduced to the elements of the monitoring cycle and developed knowledge and skills in planning and conducting interviews. Insights from the experiences of participants and practical tips were shared.

Tammy is the Managing Solicitor of the Law and Advocacy Unit of the Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia (ALSWA) and the Secretary of NAIDOC Perth. Tammy is a descendent of the Nyikina people of the Kimberley of Western Australia. Tammy has worked on significant human rights cases in her role at ALSWA and has been involved in writing human rights submissions, providing policy advice, working with Aboriginal communities and NGOs, and facilitating training and seminars.

The last two days of this week were spent with Sam Gregory from WITNESS in New York exploring how video and other new information technologies can be used as part of strategic advocacy initiatives. Sam’s sessions emphasise the need for advocates to think carefully about their objectives, about who they need to influence in order to obtain desired change, and how these individuals and organisations might be influenced through different media. The possibility of using photos and videos to document, to expose and to communicate has grown hugely in recent years. It was the filming of the Dili massacre that brought the reality of human rights violations in East Timor to light and which transformed international solidarity for East Timor. Advances in technology – the possibility to shoot pictures and video on mobile phones, and to upload images instantly to the

internet via websites such as You Tube have significant implications for advocacy. In recent years video has been used to document, to educate and build awareness, and as evidence in tribunals.

Sam is a leading expert in this field and encouraged participants, through use of examples and case studies, to think through the issues involved in using video and new media – including issues of representation, voice, and personal security - at the same time as building their skills in using images to communicate messages. The emphasis of these sessions is also on being strategic in advocacy – including making difficult choices about priorities.

Week 3—Comorro—Dili

In the final week of the program participants returned to Dili. The first day of the program was dedicated to internet training – using the internet for effective research, addressing issues of privacy and personal security, and using the internet for advocacy – including building basic websites. These sessions were led by Philip Chung, who has the capacity to deliver the training under the most trying of circumstances. On this occasion a training venue with 30 connected computers had been located, and the appropriate software loaded and internet speeds checked. However, Philip had to battle both inadequate air conditioning and internet speeds that slowed as each new computer connected to the web. It is a testament to Philip’s teaching and the interest he generates in how to use this very practical tool that participants made it through the day.

On the Tuesday Signe Poulsen, working with OHCHR, returned to the program to introduce participants to the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. This Declaration, which is not legally binding, was adopted in 1998. It recognises the vital and legitimate role played by individual human rights defenders in the promotion and protection of human rights, and responds to the reality that human rights defenders are often targeted by governments and others who may feel threatened by their work. There is a wide definition of human rights defenders – encompassing the work of trade unionists, journalists, academics, lawyers, and NGO activists. The post of UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders was also created to help protect human rights defenders. The Special Rapporteur can issue urgent actions – communications of concern – when human rights defenders are at risk, and can conduct country visits and make recommendations for changes in law and policy.

James McIntyre, Director of the Human Rights Unit at the Irish Ministry of Foreign Affairs then presented on the EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders. James emphasised the positive and legitimate role that human rights defenders play in their societies, and highlighted the risks they face from governments – ranging from repressive laws, restrictions on freedom of information, harassment, threats, detention, “disappearance”, torture and extra-judicial execution. Since human rights have been recognised as a legitimate focus of international concern and action, diplomatic representatives have a legitimate role to play in raising concerns and seeking to uphold the rights of human rights defenders, and to take practical measures to protect them. Ireland played a significant role in the development and adoption of guidelines that outline the steps diplomats from EU countries can and should take to offer practical support to human rights defenders.

“Most of the organisations in our country would easily give up on certain issues when the first door closes, but now there are different doors and strategies in the UN system to knock on. In future, we will be able to try consistently and be more persuasive.”

Human rights defenders do not have to go to Geneva or New York to raise their human rights concerns, or seek international action. It is possible for them to approach the diplomats of countries that have a clear commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights – countries such as Norway, Australia, Canada, Ireland and other EU countries.

The next session was led by Abel Guterres, an alumnus of DTP and Director of Bilateral Relations at Timor Leste's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr Guterres was previously Consul General to Australia and for many years an effective human rights advocate. Mr Guterres shared practical advice and tips based on his experience of approaching diplomatic representatives and lobbying for international support – the need to develop relationships, to be consistent, credible – and persistent. There was a practical exercise which involved participants in small groups preparing for a lobbying meeting with Ambassador Guterres.

Participants were then joined by Australia's Ambassador to Timor-Leste, Peter Heyward. Ambassador Heyward outlined some of the rules and conventions governing bilateral diplomatic representations on human rights. He shared some personal reflections from making such representations in his different postings, from his time representing Australia at the UN Commission on Human Rights and as Director of the Human Rights Section in the Department of Foreign Affairs. The Ambassador shared very practical advice for engaging with diplomats constructively – emphasising the need to prepare carefully, to be accurate and to be clear in the action you are seeking. Peter Heyward also led a group exercise for participants to make and receive representations in relation to three real cases.

“Human rights monitoring and some sessions like EU commission and corporation are very good topics but time are very limited to learn all in short time. Also some resources are very limited.”

Human rights and globalisation provided the theme for the following day's sessions. Professor Paul Redmond, Chair of the DTP Board, outlined some of the challenges posed by the rapid growth over recent decades in the number, size, power and reach of corporations – in particular trans-national corporations (TNCs). One of the key issues is accountability. Under international law, governments are accountable for human rights, but corporations are not.

There is ample evidence of governments being unable or unwilling to hold corporations accountable when their actions lead to violations of human rights – directly and indirectly – and particularly when governments are competing for the foreign direct investment that is seen as essential for economic development. This has led to a major “governance” gap and growing frustration and concern among victims and their advocates. These concerns have grown as states have increasingly “contracted out” and privatised traditional state activities – blurring the lines of accountability further.

Professor Redmond traced these developments, and outlined the framework of *protect, respect and remedy* developed by the UN's Special Representative on Human Rights and Business, John Ruggie, and that has been adopted by the UN Human Rights Council. This refers to the responsibility of governments to protect human rights, for corporations to respect human rights and for there to be avenues of effective remedy and redress for victims.

It is this area of redress that is still least developed. Advocates have limited tools to use, particularly in relation to foreign based corporations – there is no UN body they can take a complaint to, for example. If the company concerned has a US link they may be able to use the Alien Torts Claim Act (ATCA). If the issue concerns an OECD linked company then advocates may be able to use the OECD Guidelines on Multi-National Enterprises – which can lead to a mediated outcome. Participants were given a number of case studies to work through to develop their knowledge and understanding of how these tools can be applied to real examples.

The growth of TNCs is related to rapid growth in global financial flows, and a push for deregulation, promoted by TNCs, has sought to facilitate these flows. At the same time the number of people moving across borders, including as migrant workers in search of work, has grown rapidly – but governments have responded by making such movements more difficult.

Luiz Viera has followed these developments closely as the Country Director in Timor Leste for the International Organisation of Migration for the past eight years. Following the Indonesian invasion in 1975 many East Timorese became refugees, and following their vote for Independence in 1999, thousands more had to flee, either across the border or were internally displaced. In the political violence of 2006 tens of thousands again fled their homes. Today Timor-Leste faces the challenges of labour migration and people trafficking both into and from Timor-Leste.

Luiz outlined the different kinds of movements that raise human rights issues requiring responses from governments – and the relevant international legal standards that should guide these responses. There are a growing number of internally displaced people – both displaced by conflict and by natural disaster. The numbers were estimated at 28 million in 2009. There are also 14 million refugees – people who have fled across borders because of a well-founded fear of persecution. Growing numbers of people are also moving across borders in search of decent work, as globalisation has failed to create decent jobs where people live and has widened the gap between rich and poor. For a range of reasons, including domestic politics, growing economic insecurity and fears of crime and terrorism, barriers to migration have grown stronger – and willingness to apply internationally agreed standards of human rights to policy and practice has diminished.

In a practical exercise to examine these issues, participants were divided into small groups and were asked to take on different roles, from government and NGO perspectives in relation to the development of a new legal regime for asylum and immigration. It was a very useful exercise and in wrapping up Luiz emphasised the need for advocates to look for common ground and allies, and to understand that officials may not always agree with the policies they are implementing, and may be personally sympathetic and helpful.

International Human Rights Day—December 10

The human rights defenders on DTP's course were invited to participate in Timor-Leste's celebrations to mark international human rights day – which celebrates the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These celebrations began in the morning at the Presidential Palace with the presentation of the Presidential human rights awards. The awards were given to some of the “forgotten heroes” of the human rights movement – to those working to support the survivors and relatives of the Santa Cruz massacre of 12th November 1991, to combat domestic violence, and to look after and educate some of East Timor's many orphans. At the conclusion of the ceremonies, two of the DTP participants presented President José Ramos-Horta with a special framed copy of the UDHR featuring pictures of many of DTP's alumni from the last 20 years.

Participants were also invited into Parliament where a special session and debate had been dedicated to the anniversary, and to the culmination of activities to combat violence against women. While the debate was in Tetum and Portuguese, participants were welcomed into the Parliament by the President of the Parliament and it was clear that international human rights day is seen as an important day of commemoration, but also as a time to focus on the continuing human rights challenges in East Timor.

The 10th of December also marks the anniversary of President José Ramos Horta receiving the Nobel Peace Prize with Bishop Bello in 1996 – and in his speech President Horta offered his congratulations to this year's winner, President Barack Obama.

Participants then returned to Comarca Prison for the afternoon sessions. The first of these sessions, led by Imelda Deinla, DTP program coordinator focussed on recent developments in the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and their implications for human rights advocates.

Asia is the only region without a regional body, such as the European Union, and without a regional human rights instrument. There are a number of looser sub-regional groupings, including ASEAN. Imelda outlined how ASEAN traditionally worked on a consensus basis, with members reluctant to let ASEAN offer criticisms of other members. At the same time ASEAN recognises that it cannot be a credible regional organisation unless it addresses human rights. In 2009 ASEAN adopted a formal legal charter and also announced the establishment of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR). It had previously established committees focussed on migrant workers and on women and children. These are significant developments for the region, and NGOs and human rights defenders are exploring how best to react to them.

The final session of the day, Chaired by Professor Paul Redmond, focussed on the issues of reconciliation, truth and justice – and how societies can transition from a history of human rights violations to a future that is respectful of human rights and dignity. Discussions were led by panel presentations by Pat Walsh and DTP participants from East Timor, Cambodia and Australia - and drew on the experiences and perspectives of other participants. There can be tensions between the need for accountability, the need for justice for the victims and survivors, and the need to heal wounds and bridge the divisions that conflict deepens. There was a sense that there are no easy answers to these questions, with responses partly determined by the political realities of each situation, but that it was important to keep the debate grounded in respect for human rights standards and values.

The final day of the program was dedicated to a recap of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), before the final exercise of the program – a role play focussed on the UPR with participants taking on the roles of different governments and national and international NGOs, culminating in a session of the UN Human Rights Council.

“The UPR and campaigning was really good and also the exposure on HR and United Nations.”

With the formal program sessions over, time was made for the evaluation process. Participants were given time to fill in the forms and then there was an opportunity for participants to share their final comments and reflections with each other. Coming at the end of an intense three-week program, where solid friendships had been made, the final session was a deeply moving occasion. Deep thanks were expressed to the DTP team and particularly to Imelda and Amy and to colleagues in Forum Tau Matan. What came through particularly strongly was the value of learning about the struggles of other people, and the strength that this provided to return to their own struggles, renewed with inspiration, new information and skills.

The final formal part of the program was the formal presentation of DTP certificates, and DTP would like to express its appreciation to Abel Guterres and Luiz Viera for their participation in the closing ceremony of the program.

Participant Evaluations

“I have a much deeper and relevant understanding of the UN and its failings (e.g. problems with corporations). I think it has also been character building and has given me greater empathy for my Asian neighbours. I will be a better advocate because of DTP.”

The training is formally evaluated at the conclusion of the program when participants are asked to anonymously complete an extensive evaluation questionnaire. Quotes from these evaluations have been interspersed through this report. A complete copy of the transcribed participant evaluations is available on request.

After participants have completed their evaluation forms there is also an opportunity to share reflections on the program with the other participants in the group.

“This is a wonderful program and I would like to congratulate all involved.”

These evaluations are important to DTP and participants are encouraged to be honest and frank, to share both what was good and positive about the program and what could have been better. Most of the questions are qualitative in nature, seeking information about what was most useful about the program, which sessions were most and least useful, and participant’s plans to apply the training on the return to their organizations. There are also some questions where participants are asked to give a numeric value to their judgements of the training program – see below.

Participants were asked to rate the level at which the following program objectives were met on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being “very good” and 5 being “not achieved.”

1. To build the capacity of community advocates and human rights defenders in the Asia Pacific region to apply human rights instruments and principles to the different challenges they face in their advocacy work.					
	Very Good	Good	Achieved	Achieved A Little	Not Achieved
Number of Participant Responses	11	13	0	1	0
2. To enhance capacity of advocates to engage effectively with international processes and dialogues to promote and protect human rights.					
	Very Good	Good	Achieved	Achieved A Little	Not Achieved
Number of Participant Responses	9	12	3	1	0
3. To facilitate collaborations and networking among human rights defenders across the region and facilitate the strengthening of links between the human rights and development community in Australia and the Asia- Pacific region.					
	Very Good	Good	Achieved	Achieved A Little	Not Achieved
Number of Participant Responses	8	10	3	2	0
4. To provide an opportunity and a forum for participants to share perspectives and experience and identify key issues for further work in the area.					
	Very Good	Good	Achieved	Achieved A Little	Not Achieved
Number of Participant Responses	7	15	2	0	0

Venus is the Program Officer of the Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding Program of the Alternate Forum for Research in Mindanao (AFRIM). The program works towards the sustained integration of peace education in Mindanao schools. Venus oversees education and lobbying activities in schools and civil society and seeks to build support for the peoples' agenda for peace and development.

Both the anonymously completed written evaluations and group reflection sessions were very positive, affirming the practical value of the program to the work of the participants.

"DTP is very helpful for my future work of human rights advocacy for my country and regional and I will change some strategic plan for human rights work in networking and lobbying."

"International engagement will be more systematic and informed because of the program."

"I believe that I will bring change in my work and advocacy."

"Yes, the program will strengthen my work in peace building and conflict transformation using the human rights based approach. This will also improve my tools of analysis using the human rights Framework."

"Yes, this program can help me to alliance building, how to do international campaign, and strengthen human rights analysis with the international instrument."

*"As per my expectation I think it will help my future work. At least I will think before **implementing my work on the basis of human rights activist's eyes** whose rights are violated and why? Will start from my family, office staff, community and so on."*

The major negatives that came through in the program evaluations were the heat and the deficiencies of the training venue and accommodation, particularly in the second week and in relation to the internet training.

*"**Apart from the unbearable hot weather which was beyond DTP's control everything went smoothly and usefully.**"*

"Situation and condition (accommodation) not good enough for education/training,"

DTP has been invited by the President to host DTP's 20th Annual Regional Human Rights Defenders Program in Timor Leste in 2010. It will review with its partners and alumni how it can address some of the issues raised by participants in relation to training venues/facilities.

Conclusions, Next Steps

*"This is one of the most powerful training program for human rights defenders to enhance their **knowledge and skill. Therefore, if DTP will take any follow up action and its implementation it's help to participant to conduct their knowledge in this regards and link and share experience and DTP could play bridge role for some funding and networking across the region.**"*

This was the 19th Annual Regional Human Rights Defenders Program facilitated by the Diplomacy Training Program and the third time the program has been held in Timor-Leste. The Diplomacy Training Program was fortunate to work with another excellent group of human rights defenders. The program was very positively evaluated by the participants as a rich, deep and useful learning experience.

As part of the evaluation process it is important for the Diplomacy Training Program to reflect and learn the lessons from each different program.

“Organise to support participants during the sessions. Some participants may not have a lot of information or experience and difficulties in English language.”

While the capacity to communicate effectively in English is a criteria for participation in this course, inevitably there is a range of English competency among participants, and the range of English accents among participants and facilitators can add to the difficulties experienced by some. The focus on small group work and practical exercises encourages participants to help each other through difficulties, and where participants are struggling, the facilitators offer assistance, but DTP will give consideration to how it might give additional support to participants when necessary.

“Maybe DTP can help us facilitate network. For example: email group.”

“Can DTP help the participants provide some assistance in helping to find donors for their participants work.”

As a small NGO, focussed on the delivery of training programs, DTP has limited capacity to follow-up the training, or to offer further individual follow-up support to individuals. Following each training program, an e-group of the participants is established. DTP has also established a regular E-Newsletter that is distributed amongst its alumni. This E-News provides information on other capacity building initiatives, funding opportunities, new resources for human rights education and advocacy and human rights updates across the region. Wherever possible it also follows up individual requests for information/advice from its alumni.

DTP is currently exploring the possibilities of using survey software to enable post-program follow-up with participants, to learn more about how the training is applied after participants return to their organisations and countries. Such surveys may suggest follow-up steps DTP could take to enhance the impact of its training. DTP is also exploring whether it could use social networking websites such as *Facebook* to enhance its work and the networking of its alumni across the region.

“We have always the tendency to give up when the going gets tough but DTP training has taught us never to give up and until we have exhausted all available mechanisms and strategies.”

Appendix 1: Program Schedule

WEEK 1	Monday November 23	Tuesday November 24	Wed, November 25	Thur, November 26	Fri, November 27	28/29
8:30 – 9:00am		Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	
Morning 1 9.00 to 10.30	Opening – Welcome Ceremony Human Rights and the Right to Self- Determination – the East Timorese Struggle - Key Note President Jose Ramos-Horta	Feedback An Introduction to Public International Law and the UN Charter	Feedback Recap and Overview of UN Human Rights System -	Feedback Reform of the UN – Human Rights as a Central Purpose – New Openings for Advocates – UN Specialised Agencies and Country Teams	Feedback The UN Treaty Body System – and Human Rights Advocacy	Sat - Travel to Maubara via Liquica
Trainer(s)	With Dr Sarah Pritchard and Patrick Earle	Dr. Sarah Pritchard,	Dr Sarah Pritchard	Dr Clarence Dias	Dr Clarence Dias	
Break 10:30-10:45						
Morning 2 10:45-12:30	Participant Introductions, Expectations, Outline of Training, Logistics	International Law, Human Rights, and the UN – Lessons from East Timor	The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	The UN Human Rights Council –	The UN Treaty Body System – Practical Exercise Cont'd	Sunday – Free Day
Trainer(s)	Patrick Earle, Joao Pequinho & FTM/DTP	Dr. Sarah Pritchard	Dr Sarah Pritchard	Dr Clarence Dias	Dr Clarence Dias	
Lunch 12:30-2:00						
Afternoon 1 2:00-3:30	What are Human Rights - Standards, Values and Principles	The International Bill of Rights – Practical Exercise	Tour of CAVR – Followed by Discussion with Panel of East Timorese Human Rights Advocates	The UN's Special Procedures on Human Rights – Practical Exercise	Advocacy and Campaigning – Developing Strategies – Practical Exercise	
Trainer(s)	Dr Clarence Dias	Dr Sarah Pritchard	Pat Walsh	Dr Clarence Dias	Patrick Earle	
Break 3:30-3:45						
Afternoon 2 Topic 3:45-5:30	What are Human Rights, Standards Values and Principles – Government Obligations	The Human Rights Framework – The International Bill of Rights.	Reflections on Practical Advocacy - Human Rights and International Solidarity: East Timor's Experience: Angelina Sarmenton, Abel Guterres	The UN Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review	Advocacy and Campaigning – Developing Strategies & Setting Objectives	
Trainer(s)	Dr. Clarence Dias	Dr. Sarah Pritchard	FTM	Dr Clarence Dias	Patrick Earle	
	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	
Evening	Participant Presentations and Discussion	Film – The Diplomat	Internatl Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women – Commemoration Day	Solidarity Night	Indian Meal at Timor Lodge	

WEEK 2	Nov 30	Dec 1st	Dec 2rd	Dec 3rd	Dec 4th	Dec 5/6 (Weekend)
8:30 – 9:00am	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	
Morning 1 9:00-10:30	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – an Introduction	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Development – Practical Exercise	Feedback Human Rights Fact-Finding and Investigations	Feedback Video Advocacy	Feedback Video Advocacy	Sat - Travel – Maubara – Dili
Trainer(s)	Professor Virginia Dandan	Professor Virginia Dandan	Signe Poulsen	Sam Gregory	Sam Gregory	
Break 10:30-10:45						
Morning 2 10:45-12:30		Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Development – Practical Exercise	Human Rights Fact Finding and Investigations	Video Advocacy	Video Advocacy	Sun – Free Day
Trainer(s)	Professor Virginia Dandan	Professor Virginia Dandan	Signe Poulson & Jony da Counha	Sam Gregory	Sam Gregory	
Lunch 12:30-2:00						
Afternoon 1 2:00-3:30	Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – The General Comments	Human Rights in Development -		Video Advocacy	Video Advocacy	
Trainer(s)	Professor Virginia Dandan			Sam Gregory	Sam Gregory	
Break 3:30-3:45						
Afternoon 2 3:45-5:30	Putting the Human Rights in Development – an introduction	Human Rights in Development -	Field Trip or Free Time	Video Advocacy	Video Advocacy	
Trainer(s)	Professor Virginia Dandan	Professor Virginia Dandan		Sam Gregory	Sam Gregory	
	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	
Evening						

WEEK 3	Dec 7	Dec 8	Dec 9	Dec 10	Dec 11	Dec 12 (Saturday)
8:30 – 9:00am		Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	
Morning 1 9:00-10:30	Feedback Using the Internet for Human Rights Research and Advocacy	Feedback The UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders & The EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders	Feedback Human Rights and Globalisation – Corporations and Human Rights	Presidential Human Rights Day Awards - Presidential Palace	End of Training – Role Play Exercise - UPR	Participants return Home
Trainer(s)	Philip Chung	Signe Poulsen, OHCHR James McIntyre, Director of the Human Rights Unit	Professor Paul Redmond		Patrick Earle	
Break 10:30-10:45						
Morning 2 10:45-12:30	Using the Internet for Human Rights Research and Advocacy	Lobbying exercise preparations	Human Rights and Globalisation – Corporations and Human Rights	Human Rights Day Events – Parliament	End of Training – Role Play Exercise - UPR	
Trainer(s)	Philip Chung	Abel Guterres	Professor Paul Redmond		Patrick Earle	
Lunch 12:30-2:00						
Afternoon 1 2:00-3:30	Using the Internet for Human Rights Research and Advocacy	The Role of Diplomats in the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights – The EU Guidelines and Beyond – Lobbying Exercise	Human Rights and Globalisation – The Rights of Refugees, Migrant Workers, and Victims of Trafficking	Human Rights in the Region – the new ASEAN Human Rights Commission	Feedback and Evaluation	
Trainer(s)	Philip Chung	Abel Guterres	Luiz Vieira	Imelda Deinla	Patrick Earle	
Break 3:30-3:45						
Afternoon 2 3:45-5:30	Using the Internet for Human Rights Research and Advocacy	Lobbying Exercise	Human Rights and Globalisation – The Rights of Refugees, Migrant Workers, and Victims of Trafficking	‘The Road to Peace and Development in East Timor: voices from the past and transition to the present and the future’	Feedback and Evaluation	
Trainer(s)	Philip Chung	Peter Heyward, Australian Ambassador	Luiz Vieira	CAVR		
	Diary Exercise	20th Anniversary of the DTP – Alumni day event – President JRH	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	
Evening	Free	Soccer 5.30pm – 8.30pm			Closing Ceremony, Abel Guterres, Luiz Vieira	

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DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM

AFFILIATED WITH THE FACULTY OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
A training program for peoples of the Asia-Pacific region

19th Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training Program,

22 November-11 December 2009, Timor-Leste

Trainer & Staff Biographies

Trainer Biographies

Dr. Sarah Pritchard

Dr. Pritchard is an experienced international human rights lawyer. She is currently practicing in Sydney as a Barrister, following a distinguished academic career at the University of New South Wales where she was also Director of the Australian Human Rights Centre. Dr Pritchard is a Board Member of the DTP and has taught on many DTP courses over more than a decade. She is, and has worked extensively with issues regarding Indigenous rights and human rights in Australia and internationally. She addressed the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva when it held a special session on East Timor and has played an important supportive role in the development of Indigenous issues at the UN.

Dr. Clarence Dias

Clarence Dias is President of the International Centre for Law and Development (ICLD) based in New York. ICLD is a Third World NGO concerned with human rights and the development process. Dr. Dias holds extensive training experience, having conducted the human rights component for a number of UNDP workshops. He has consulted widely for various intergovernmental organisations such as the UNDP, UN Human Rights Centre, OECD and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Dr, Dias has attended all DTP Annual Programs since its inception and has gained a vast knowledge of effective international work conducted by NGO for human rights protection.

Prof. Virginia Bonoan-Dandan

Virginia Dandan is a member of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (UNCESCR) and was previously the Chair of the Committee. Professor Dandan has in these capacities been involved in the monitoring of state performance on economic, social and cultural rights over many years engaging in dialogue with state officials, NGOs and independent experts. This has been a period of considerable advance in understanding and acceptance of economic, social and cultural rights, including the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the Covenant. Professor Dandan has an enduring commitment to human rights education as a tool for social transformation, particularly in promoting economic, social, and cultural rights. She has conducted extensive research and published on the dimension of the right to take part in cultural life. She was part of the committee that drafted the General Comment No. 3 on the Convention on the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, particularly on the right to take part in cultural life. Professor Dandan is also an accomplished artist having done solo exhibits for her work on paintings and sculptures both in the Philippines and abroad and was the former Dean of the University of the Philippines College of Fine Arts. Professor Dandan also serves as National Program Manager for Human Rights Community

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Development Project, a bilateral program between the Philippine Commission on Human Rights and the New Zealand Human Rights Commission.

Prof. Paul Redmond

Professor Redmond is currently the inaugural Sir Gerald Brennan Research Professor at University of Technology Sydney. He is also Emeritus Professor of Law at the University of New South Wales and a former Dean of the Faculty of Law. He is Chair of the Board at DTP. Having corporate law as his major area of specialization, Professor Redmond has been a member of a number of professional and government bodies concerned with corporate law reform and development, legal education and the provision of legal services both in Australia and abroad. His research is devoted to the development and implementation of human rights standards governing international business in developing countries, corporate governance and corporate responsibility.

Philip Chung

Philip is Executive Director of the Australasian Legal Information Institute (AustLII). AustLII is one of the most informative websites in the world providing free access to legal materials. Apart from lecturing in the computerization of law, Philip has computerized legal research and cyberspace law at the University of Technology, Sydney. Philip is a member of the international consultant team for the Asian Development Bank which works on the project of Internet Development for Asian Law. His work on this latter project has led him to many Asian countries where he took part in training judicial and legal professionals. He has also provided training to DTP Annual Programs since 2003 and has composed a specialized DTP Internet training manual provided to participants.

Sam Gregory

Sam is a human rights activist, advocacy trainer and video producer. He is currently the Program Director of WITNESS (www.witness.org). WITNESS uses video and online technologies to open the eyes of the world to human rights violations. Sam has worked in collaboration with WITNESS partners in Indonesia, the Philippines, Guatemala, Argentina, Burma, and USA, supporting advocacy and outreach campaigns centered around videos including 'Behind the Labels: Garment Workers on US Saipan' (2001), 'Rule of the Gun in Sugarland' (2001), 'Following Antigone: Forensic Anthropology and Human Rights' (2002), the Henry Hampton Award-winning 'Forgotten People' (2000), 'Entrenched Abuse: Forced Labour in Burma' (2004), 'Season of Fear: Internally Displaced People in Burma Call for International Action' (2006) as well as the recent 'Shoot on Sight: The Ongoing Military Junta Offensive against Civilians in Eastern Burma' (2007). He is the lead editor on 'Video for Change: A Guide for Advocacy and Activism' (Pluto Press) and in 2007 he designed the curriculum for WITNESS' first two-week global Video Advocacy Institute. His videos have been screened at the US Congress, the United Nations and at film festivals worldwide.

Luiz Vieira

Luiz Vieira was born in Brazil and completed his studies in Political Science in the United States. Mr. Vieira has since 1994 worked in a variety of post-conflict and development settings on displacement, migration and human-rights related issues. He has since 2002 been charged with management responsibility of the mission of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Timor-Leste. He has in that regard been responsible for the development and management of IOM programming activities in a variety of areas, including: support to the return of former East Timorese refugees during the post-referendum crisis, demobilization of the Falintil, community stabilization and development initiatives and efforts to combat the trafficking in human beings. Mr. Vieira is a guest

lecturer at Columbia University where he contributes to a Master's-level seminar on the linkages between development and conflict resolution.

Joao Pequinho

Joao Reis Pequinho is the founder and Executive Coordinator of the Forum Tau Matan (Eye on Human Rights, FTM). FTM has undertaken a range of activities since it was set up in 2003, such as conducting human rights and child rights education in six villages of Oecussi, Covalima, and Liquica and taking part in the reporting and consultation for seven human rights treaties organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. Joao has extensive experience on human rights education and advocacy, joining Hak Association in 1999 working on the humanitarian crisis in Timor-Leste and later on joining the UN to work on the country in various capacities after the peace negotiations.

Patrick Earle

Patrick Earle has been the Executive Director of DTP since 2003 and has over 20 years of experience working in the human rights movement, both in Australia and internationally. From 1996 until 2003, Patrick worked with the Human Rights Council of Australia on its groundbreaking project on the relationship between human rights and development and is co-author of "The Rights Way to Development – Policy and Practice". Patrick previously worked for Amnesty International and produced Amnesty International's first International Campaigning Manual. Patrick is on the Steering Committee of UNSW's Initiative on Health and Human Rights, a Board Member of the Asia Pacific Regional Resource Centre on Human Rights Education and is a member of the Human Rights Council of Australia and a Visiting Fellow at the Faculty of Law at UNSW.

Imelda Deinla

Imelda Deinla has recently completed her PhD dissertation at the Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales (UNSW) in Sydney. She has researched on the development, problems and prospects of the rule of law in regional integration, in the context of ASEAN and in comparison with the European Union and other models of regional integration. Prior to her postgraduate studies, Imelda worked as a corporate legal counsel and as Senior Attorney in the areas of family law, property law, and corporation law. She has been involved on advocacy and research work involving violence against women (VAW) in the Philippines with the Women's Legal Bureau Inc. and collaborated with friends to develop a free web-based legal resource centre on Philippine business and trade, biztradephil.com. She currently works with the Diplomacy Training Program and as a Research Assistant with Professor Adam Czarnota on transitional justice and the rule of law. She completed her BA in Political Science (minor in Economics) and Bachelor of Laws from the University of the Philippines and Master of Laws (LLM) at the UNSW.

Other Staff & Volunteers

Eduarda Martins Goncalves: An alumna of DTP, Eduarda, coordinates the human rights education program at Forum Tau Matan (FTM), which works on human rights and prison monitoring.

Amy Rogers: Amy is a Law student at the University of New South Wales and a volunteer at the Diplomacy Training Program.

Olivia Girard: Olivia has been a volunteer for the Diplomacy Training Program and also a coordinator of special projects for the organization, including producing publications.