

23rd Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training for Human Rights Defenders in the Asia-Pacific



DIPLOMACY
TRAINING
PROGRAM

Dili, Timor-Leste

November 18th -29th
2013

Program Report



Executive Summary

The Diplomacy Training Program's **23rd Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training for Human Rights Defenders in the Asia-Pacific** was held in Dili, Timor-Leste from November 18th – November 29th 2013. This year, twenty-six participants, representing ten countries; Fiji, Indonesia, India, Vanuatu, Australia, Nepal, Myanmar, Cambodia, Timor-Leste, attended this two-week capacity-building program. The expertise of the participants ranged from domestic workers' rights, sustainable development to journalism and children's rights.

Since 1989 the DTP has established its reputation for delivering relevant and practical human rights training programs for human rights defenders in the Asia-Pacific region. DTP recognises the changing nature of human rights and development challenges facing the region and the need to look at the practical challenges of implementing human rights agreements and values in different political and social contexts across the Asia-Pacific.

Course content reflects the dynamic nature of human rights and advocacy practice, and focuses on developing both knowledge and skills. DTP's trainers – experienced local, regional and human rights academics, diplomats, media and UN professionals – led the intensive, interactive training sessions. The participants gained a comprehensive understanding of international human rights laws and principles, and the relationship between development, poverty and human rights. Participants developed their skills in lobbying, strategic advocacy, video advocacy and monitoring. By gaining practical skills in using UN Charter-based and human rights treaty-based system of mechanisms and procedures, the capacity of participants to engage with governmental and intergovernmental processes was also enhanced. The program also provided participants with an opportunity to share their own experiences and skills, and to network with one another, governmental officials, DTP alumni and trainers.

DTP's 23rd Annual Program was organised in partnership with local human rights organisation Forum Tau Matan, and was made possible through funding from the Australian government, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Asia Foundation and the Ford Foundation – as well as the *Friends of the Diplomacy Training Program*. DTP expresses its heartfelt appreciation for this support – and for the very generous pro-bono contribution of the trainers who gave their time and expertise.

The training program was extensively evaluated by the participants who completed anonymous questionnaires during the program and at its conclusion. This report draws from these evaluations, and provides a background to the program, its content, highlights, and recommendations for future training needs.

Program Location

"It was good to hold this program in Timor-Leste because all participants from Asia-Pacific can know our country Timor-Leste."

- Participant Evaluation

The 23rd Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training Program was held in Dili, Timor-Leste. Accommodation was provided by the Timor Lodge Hotel, and training sessions were conducted at the East Timor Development Agency (ETDA). DTP has a special relationship

with Timor-Leste; established by H.E. President José Ramos-Horta in 1989, DTP has trained many East Timorese Human Rights Defenders and has held several of its regional courses in Timor-Leste since 2005. In particular, this year's program marked the fifth consecutive year Timor-Leste hosted DTP's Annual Program.

International solidarity has played a vital role in Timor-Leste, in its struggle to regain independence and during its first decade of independence as it seeks to address multiple challenges concerning poverty and development, reconciliation, peace and justice. Considering its unique Pacific and Asian identity, its new role as leader of the G7+ which represents the interests of more than 600 million people, and its intent to join ASEAN, Timor-Leste makes an ideal location for the training program.

The Timorese and foreign participants alike found it very valuable for Timor-Leste to host the training program. The country provided a good setting for participants to learn about the right to development, the human rights based approach to development, and human rights and international solidarity. The Timorese participants had valuable insights and experience to share with other participants from the region, concerning their success in exercising their right to international solidarity and the challenges faced in building a just and sustainable future while dealing with the traumas of the past. Further, a tour at the CAVR walk-through exhibitions, a daytrip spent in Maubara and Liquiça, and Independence Day celebrations, provided significant opportunity for foreign participants to gain a greater understanding of the country's history and culture.

"Timor-Leste is a model and spirit of the struggle for independence and self-determination in terms of Human Rights."

-Participant Evaluation

Program Methodology and Materials

"The best part of the program were the practical exercises because learning through practice is more effective and efficient"

-Participant evaluation

DTP recognises and values the experiences and skills that participants bring to its programs. Consequently, active participation is strongly encouraged throughout the program. The training methodology is interactive, with an emphasis on group work, discussion, role-play and case studies. At the beginning of the program, participants were divided into smaller groups; these groups took turns to manage each day. This involved timekeeping, ensuring participants remained attentive, introducing and thanking trainers and providing feedback on the day's activities. The adaptability of the program schedule to participants' needs and suggestions was also emphasised.

I learn from other participants, their challenges and what they did.

-Participant evaluation

The opportunity to share experiences and lessons with other participants and trainers is one of the real benefits of participating in the program. All participants are encouraged to make short presentations highlighting the

human rights issues they work on. This task enables participants to develop skills and confidence to present issues of concern, whilst also reflects the diverse human rights issues of the Asia-Pacific region.

Participants are provided with an extensive and comprehensive manual to complement the training. It is comprised of a number of short chapters written in plain English. It is to be used to support the training and for future reference. Some of the chapters are also written by DTP trainers and are referred to in sessions. In other cases, the trainers used PowerPoint presentations as teaching aids.

The DTP Manual, and trainer and participant PowerPoint presentations are also copied onto a USB drive provided to the participants at the conclusion of the training.

The Participants and Trainers

Information about this program was widely distributed by DTP and its partners through NGO networks throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Participants in the training program were selected through an open and competitive selection process. As part of this selection, applicants were asked how they intended to apply the training to their local context, and to provide names and contact details of two referees in support of their application. Efforts were made to ensure gender balance in the number of participants, in addition to a balance in age and country of origin. Further, priority consideration was given to applications from women human rights defenders and to advocates from Indigenous communities. The participants worked in community-based organisations, government ministries and NGOs concerning a wide variety of human rights issues. Ultimately, twenty-six participants from across the Asia-Pacific region attended the program, including eleven Timorese participants.

DTP trainers are experienced and highly respected local, regional and international human rights leaders, academics, diplomats, media and UN professionals who understand and support DTP's philosophy of participatory training. This year, training was provided by Maria Amelia de Araujo Ximenes and Anjet Lanting from the UN Human Rights Advisor's Unit for Timor-Leste; UN Independent Expert on International Solidarity and Human Rights, Virginia Dandan; Consultant for the Asia Foundation in Dili, Carolyn Tanner; Forum Tau Matan Founder, João Pequinho; UNICEF's Fernando da Costa, Nuno Rodriguez Tchailoro; EngageMedia's Seelan Palay; Australian Ambassador to Timor-Leste H.E. Miles Armitage; DTP's Executive Director Patrick Earle, Program Coordinator André Frankovits; and DTP Alumni Yuyun Wahyuningrum and Angelina Sarmento.

Program Overview and Highlights

The program began with an Opening Ceremony with Special Guests; Executive Director of Forum Tau Matan, Ana Paula Sequeira; The Commissioner for Anti-Corruption Adérito de Jesus Soares; Toby Lendon on behalf of the Australian Ambassador to Timor-Leste; Forum Tao Matan founder João

The best parts of the program for me is economy, social and cultural Human Rights and video advocacy training because those are very important for me like a new generation or youth, so I can know my obligation such as my Human Rights.

Pequinho and UN Independent Expert on International Solidarity and Human Rights, Virginia Dandan. Issues that were highlighted included the Vienna +20 Conference that reaffirmed the principles of universality, indivisibility and interdependence of human rights, the post-2015 development agenda and the "expiration" of the Millennium Development Goals, Timor-Leste's priorities and regional relationships, and the challenge of overcoming cynicism received when using human rights discourse.

The first week of training aimed at providing participants with a solid understanding of international human rights standards and the UN System. Led by Anjet Lanting and Amelia de Araujo Ximenes from Timor-Leste's Human Rights Advisor's Unit, the first sessions introduced participants to the human rights concept and its role within the UN system. The key values and principles, human rights

standards, the obligations of duty bearers, implicit in international human rights instruments, and how they can be used in the participants' work was outlined. It was emphasised that human rights hold the promise that everyone can live in dignity.

The majority of the week's training sessions were conducted by Virginia Dandan, the UN Independent Expert on International Solidarity and Human Rights and former Chair of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR). She provided an introduction to economic, social and cultural rights by outlining the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and its articles, and explored the responsibilities of the state, including the concept of progressive realisation, core obligations that have an immediate effect, and non-derogable rights. She also explained the purpose of General Comments and NGO participation in CESCR activities. In particular, group work demonstrated the importance of using international human rights instruments in community and development work, in analysing and understanding the situation and the particular human rights and non-compliance with corresponding obligations, and the importance of constructive engagement, that is offering recommendations and solutions rather than solely criticism.

Virginia Dandan's training sessions also focused on human rights and development. She discussed the Declaration on the Right to Development (1986), which identifies the human person as the central subject of development- an active participant and beneficiary of the right to development. The Declaration confirms development as a human right, and that development policies should incorporate and prioritise the human-centred and participatory elements defined in the Declaration. The notion that a human rights framework places the human being, and dignity at the centre of development was consequently reinforced.

A session led by Carolyn Tanner focused on Human Rights Monitoring, Fact-finding and Investigation. Drawn from the OHCHR Training Manual for Monitoring, participants were introduced to the Principles of Monitoring, the phases of information gathering and the type of information required to document cases of human rights violations. The significance of monitoring was emphasised, in order to promote state accountability and as the foundation for effective advocacy work. This session was complemented by Virginia Dandan's session on human rights accountability. Stressing that accountability transforms aspirational goals into human rights entitlements with corresponding obligations, the concept of the State as the primary duty-bearer was explored in greater depth, along with UN-level mechanisms in particular the Optional Protocol communications procedures of the human rights treaty bodies, the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council as well as its Complaints Procedure.

Virginia then concluded the week's training with an informal dialogue with the participants concerning her current mandate and the task of elaborating the Draft Declaration on the Right of Peoples and Individuals to International Solidarity. During this dialogue, the significance of the right to international solidarity, human rights education and training, human rights and sport, the post-2015 development agenda (MDGs/SDGs), climate change, environmental degradation, extreme weather events and disasters were discussed. The perspectives, suggestions, experiences and contributions of the participants were greatly valued. Important issues were identified including the difficulty of promoting both international solidarity and national interests, the need for commitment

by countries of the North and South, the selective implementation of human rights obligations by some States, and the need for global partnerships to address global challenges.

João Pequinho and Fernando da Costa presented sessions on alliance building and seeking international support. The evolution of the nature of alliances during the Timorese independence struggle, and the strategies of national resistance and student mobilisation were explored. Participants were also encouraged to reflect on how they build alliances in their own work. A tour through the CAVR exhibitions was also organised, with Eugenia Lopes as a tour guide, whilst a daytrip during the weekend, with visits to the site of Ai Pelo prison, Maubara beach and markets, Liquiça church and the Cristo Rei statue, also provided the participants with a significant opportunity to learn more about Timor-Leste's history and culture. It also allowed Timorese participants to further share their knowledge and experience with other participants.

The second week of the program was characterised by very practical training sessions, which complemented the skills and knowledge, gained during the first week of training. The first sessions, led by Program Coordinator André Frankovits and DTP Executive Director Patrick Earle, focused on human rights advocacy and campaigning.

"The best session for one is the practical exercise on lobby and advocacy with the Australian Ambassador. He really helps me build capacity and enhance my knowledge about lobby."

-Participant evaluation

Participants were encouraged to brainstorm their views and experiences on how to effect change in society, community and governments, and to identify and discuss the challenges and obstacles faced when bringing about change in their work. Common issues identified included: the need for community support, lack of resources and lack of collaboration between various sectors of society. The sessions then focused on Strategic Advocacy, emphasising the need for advocacy campaigns to be systematic, the need for analysis, setting specific objectives, planning and constant evaluation.

Yuyun Wahyuningrum (DTP alumna 2005) who currently works as a Senior Advisor on ASEAN and Human Rights at Indonesia's NGO Coalition for International Human Rights Advocacy (Human Rights Working Group) in Jakarta, ran a session on human rights in ASEAN. She acknowledged part of the challenge she faces is that human rights is still sometimes seen as a contentious issue among member states and that some member states representatives still argue it is a Western concept. She outlined the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, its positive attributes and limitations; recognising that whilst it reaffirms many rights, including the right to development, it also contains articles conditioning and even limiting human rights – largely because of ASEAN traditions on consensus and non-interference. Yuyun was able to draw on her knowledge of other regional mechanisms on human rights, to put the recently established ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) into perspective. Currently AICHR has a very limited promotional mandate – but civil society advocates and sympathetic government officials are hopeful that this is just a beginning and that it will be possible to build a more effective institution – able to investigate abuses, issue findings and hold perpetrators to account.

There was some discussion of Timor-Leste's prospective entry as a member of ASEAN – with some expressing the hope that Timor-Leste can help to strengthen human rights in ASEAN, while others in Timor-Leste in particular were concerned that it might undermine commitments to human rights –

particularly in respect to seeking justice and accountability for the crimes against humanity that took place in 1999.

The following session picked up on the issues of women's rights and gender in the context of Timor-Leste and its struggle for self-determination. Angelina (Lita) Sarmiento, (DTP alumna 2005), Secretary General of the UNESCO National Commission and the Liaison Officer of HIVOS presented the current legal provisions encouraging women's empowerment in Timor-Leste, and the existing issues concerning their implementation, including their quality and the capacity of civil society. Lita had been a young leader in the clandestine movement in the 1990ies and spoke of the aspirations of the people – including for education as a means of personal development and fulfilment – and how hard it was to sustain this aspiration in practice. Nuno Rodriguez Tchailoro, who is currently researching the role of women in the Timorese resistance, then provided a historical outline of the issue. He identified the change that had taken place from the time of the resistance and to following Independence, when the discourse has become male-centred, placing women as victims and forgetting their acceptance as equals during the long years of struggle. Consequently this legacy of the resistance, primarily recognising male efforts, currently defines and hinders women's participation in Timor-Leste.

Patrick and André also led sessions drawing on Yuyun's experience, focusing on human rights lobbying, they briefly outlined the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders and participants shared their lobbying experience. This was then followed by very practical exercises. In a role-play, participants lobbied trainer Yuyun Wahyuningrum who played the role of an ambassador, she also provided helpful tips and feedback to the participants. This prepared the participants well for a lobbying exercise with the actual Australian Ambassador to Timor-Leste, H.E Miles Armitage, who also gave a brief talk on the role of the embassy and Australia's aid program and foreign policy. In the evening, participants were invited to attend a reception at the Australian Embassy, providing them with a significant opportunity to meet and even informally lobby ambassadors, commissioners, journalists and former DTP alumni.

Two days were then dedicated to very practical sessions on Video Advocacy, led by trainer Seelan Palay from EngageMedia based in Singapore. Participants viewed several videos and were prompted to reflect upon their main message, target audience and the change they were calling for, they were guided through the best practices when filming. In small groups, all participants practiced taking photos of 5 basic shots and conducting and filming short interviews. These recordings were then viewed and critiqued by the participants and trainer. Complementing earlier sessions during the week, the Video Advocacy training also emphasised the need to be specific when planning an advocacy video; in particular, when identifying its goal, target audience, tools, promotion techniques and timeline.

"HRV/UPR was very good as that is a new area that I look forward to getting involved. Similarly the sessions on media advocacy were useful."

-Participant evaluation

The final sessions of the program focused on the Universal Periodical Review (UPR). In these sessions André and Patrick presented the principles of the UPR, preparing participants for a UPR role-play. This practical exercise provided the participants with a deeper insight into the dynamics of the UPR, the importance of engaging with government

representatives and the role NGOs can play in influencing the outcomes of UPR process as part of their broader human rights advocacy strategies.

There was a final closing evaluation session with participants that was attend by the UN Resident Representative, Knut Ostby who shared his own reflections about the value of the program – and of the central importance of human rights to the UN’s work, to sustainable development and good governance.

Participant Evaluations; Reflections and Suggestions

Participants have the opportunity to evaluate the training program through a variety of methods. Anonymously, they complete evaluation forms at the conclusion of individual trainers’ sessions, whilst at the conclusion of the program itself, participants complete an extensive evaluation questionnaire. Several quotes from this questionnaire are interspersed throughout this report. At the conclusion of each day, participants sit with the organisers to informally reflect and provide feedback on the day’s activities, whilst at the conclusion of the program, participants are also given the opportunity to share their reflections with the whole group.

The evaluation questionnaire was predominantly qualitative in nature, and asked participants to provide general feedback on their program experience. The questions prompted them to reflect on what they considered were the best and worst parts of the program, the sessions they found most and least useful, and how they intend to apply the training to their work. See below. (A complete copy of the transcribed evaluation questionnaires is available upon request)

What were the best parts of the program for you? Why?

- “The best part of this programme was the practical session-which enabled the participants to implement/clarify and learn-what was taught in theory.
- The mix & richness of the participants.
- All sessions were good & knowledge worthy. The practical exercises during the training were excellent because they will be useful practically in my day to day work.
- This program is very useful for me because.. it helps me understand and be across a range of issues and problems faced by the country. This program is very good.
- The best parts are developing strategies and setting objectives and the ICESCR and video advocacy and UPR. These are new for me and very useful for human rights defender and learned a lot how to promote and write letter to the UN
- Advocacy/lobbying/video advocacy because I did it so I understand what the trainer said and what I should do after back to my organisation, and then we can get the better result of our work.”

What was the most useful session or sessions for you? Why?

- “The most useful session are the UPR, Human Rights lobbying and video advocacy cos (because) it really gives me a firsthand experience of the practicality of these sessions.
- International legal binding such as ICESCR and video advocacy because I can learn much and if it is very much involved with my work.
- Sessions of Virginia, role play with Australian Ambassador and some exemplary sessions. They were important because I got crucial chance to know the issues and advocacy style with high level delegates.

- Human Rights, Advocacy and Campaigning. Developing strategies and setting objectives. Reason I need these skills in my organisation. I find new skills particularly in setting objectives.
- ICESCR, UPR. Human rights fact finding monitoring and investigation, human rights, and development, human rights advocacy and campaigning because it is more related to me and practical use in my organisation”

How will you be able to apply this training to your work/the work of your organization? Could you give an example?

- “I will (our org.) get involved in the process of H.R. violation & reporting. I will use the technology & network for advocacy.
- Investigate further the UN procedures, develop more strategic approaches to lobbying particularly those concerning & supported by treaties.
- Advocacy strategy and lobbying. Example which person/organisation would be my main target to lobby with in order to get more support to achieve my goal. Before this training approached was not used at work.
- Next year I will conduct training for civil society organizations CSOs on economic social and cultural rights.
- The session about monitoring, fact finding, advocacy (National & international) helps the work of my organisation. We are always part of preparing shadow reporting to the UN and this cause helps us to make these reports more effective and systematic.
- To advocacy and delivery workshop for women and children, children and women groups should understand about CEDAW and CRR.
- I’ll be able to apply this training to my work/the work of my organisation through developing a good and proper strategy of advocacy on past human rights violations.”

Participants were also asked to rate the extent to which they believe the program objectives were fulfilled, on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being “Very Good” and 5 being “Very Poor.”

1) To enhance the capacity of human rights advocates to advocate for economic, social and cultural rights and to engage effectively with key state actors and stakeholders for the positive realization of these rights					
	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Number of Participant Responses	14	9	0	1	0
2) To strengthen protection for human rights defenders and their work and facilitate collaboration and networking among human rights defenders across the region					
	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Number of Participant Responses	11	9	4	0	0
3) To provide an opportunity and a forum for participants to share perspectives and experiences and identify key issues for further work in the area					
	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Number of Participant Responses	13	9	2	1	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please comment on the length of training program 					

	Too short	Short	Right Length	Long	Too Long
Number of Participant Responses	1	6	13	3	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please comment on the degree of difficulty of this training program 					
	Very easy	Easy	Right Level	Difficult	Very Difficult
Number of Participant Responses	0	6	16	2	0

The evaluation questionnaire is valuable for the Diplomacy Training Program to gauge how successful the program was in meeting expectations and achieving objectives. The evaluation process is also significant in order to reflect upon lessons learnt, how DTP can further assist program alumni and topics that may be included in subsequent program syllabus.

What was the worst part of the program for you? Why?

- “Sometime the attention in the class room was not good as members got engaged in personal interests while session was on with their cell, computer etc.
- Long days, heavy information filled sessions.
- Language barrier-very unclear discussions.
- Nothing-but transport management was not practical.
- Lack of facilities like microphone and copy paper”

Having the training location separate from the training venue created logistical problems, particularly with transport and these took some days to work out. There was limited wireless internet connectivity in the room – and this provides some advantages but also distractions for participants. At the beginning of the program, as a group the participants established and agreed upon house rules, which included turning mobile phones off, not interrupting one another and punctuality. Breaks and group energisers were also utilised in order to ensure participants remained attentive during training sessions. There was a great range in levels of English language – speaking and comprehension. There were a number of Bahasa Indonesia speakers and those with stronger English were generous in assisting those with less English to follow and participate in the program. Varying confidence in English also affected to some degree the level of discussion in some groups.

Do you have any suggestion for other sessions or issues that the DTP should include in the program?

- “More information/sessions on regional bodies like ASEAN, etc. Look at Development AID and Diplomacy
- Human Rights issue which are caused by corruption.
- Most of the countries as passing through the Transitional phase-from one situation to other. I feel missing the session about the ‘Transitional Justice’.

Do you have any suggestions for how DTP could provide further assistance to help you apply what you have learned in this course?

- “I would like a synthesis of the programme - some at the practical session which can help me look back to clarify the process, steps, methods sequence and tasks & organizations that can work on H.R. reporting.
- Exchanging information updates and maybe there should be a global chat with DTP participants about the progress made.
- By providing opportunity to participate on series of DTP training, supporting to get support and making networks with likeminded organizations & authorities.
- Share information such as newsletter, news and others that regard to human rights issues to all alumni.
- Continue to provide information about human rights; New material (send to us);Contact members/alumni.
- I would like DTP to provide all of information for the DTP alumni so that we can contact and share knowledge and experience.”

Conclusions and Recommendations

The program was successfully delivered. As a result the knowledge, skills and support networks of 26 participants, and their organizations, have been strengthened. Some have found new motivation and inspiration for their work.

Participants:

Participants were selected from quite a narrow pool and the relatively low number of applications may be a result of lack of certainty re program location (related to funding), limited promotion (principally through mention in DTP’s E-newsletter), or advertised costs. It is also possible that the need for a general introductory course to human rights and advocacy is diminishing as advocacy areas become more specialized (e.g. Disability, Migrant Workers, LGBTI Rights, Indigenous rights etc.)

The final balance of participants was affected by the availability (and late confirmation) of funding that was beyond the control of DTP and the funding agencies. Last minute complications, including communication difficulties prevented participation of selected participants from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Burma/Nepal.

There was a good balance of age, gender, experience and different human rights concerns. The facilitators and trainers were impressed by the participants, in particular the younger participants. Another positive was the mix of participants from the Pacific and Asia – enabled by the support of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

A strength of this program is the cross-fertilization that occurs between activists/advocates working on a range of concerns: that work on a specific human rights issue, such as the rights of Indigenous peoples is linked to the efforts of others who are challenging poverty, marginalization and limitations on religious freedom and freedom of speech. The encouragement to step outside a local, national or sectoral focus is enabling and empowering.

Recommendations:

- DTP should decide on the location and dates of the program as early possible to enable effective promotion of its Annual Regional Human Rights Defenders Program – the oldest established such program taking place in the region.

- DTP should work more actively through its partners in the region – including development agencies in Australia and regional partners such as Migrant Forum Asia and Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact to more effectively promote the program
- DTP should continue to seek a balance of participants working in different countries, on different issues – with efforts continuing to ensure representation from the Pacific.

Schedule:

This year's program was reduced to two weeks. Participant feedback on length was mixed and it is difficult to draw conclusions on the basis of this feedback. Reducing the length of the program meant difficult decisions and compromises about what was cut and what was retained had to be taken. In a program of any length these decisions have to be made. As the human rights agenda, standards and mechanisms, including at the regional have grown these decisions have become more difficult. DTP's Annual Program aims to cover a lot of ground, in some areas at the cost of going into depth. Making time to ensure that the most is made of the program location and drawing out the lessons from Timor's experiences and history is difficult in these circumstances.

Questions of program schedule and participants are linked. In recent years there has been some discussion about giving this Annual Regional Human Rights Defenders Program a specific focus. It is timely to have review of the schedule in preparation for future programs – and the review should include consultations with regional human rights NGOs, DTP's established trainers and others including DTP's alumni.

Recommendations:

- DTP's Training Committee will conduct a review of the curriculum for the Annual Program which will provide recommendations on program length and content
- DTP will initiate consultations with regional and national NGOs in Asia and the Pacific seeking advice and input to ensure DTP's courses best meet the needs of human rights defenders in Asia and the Pacific

Training Materials:

DTP's course is supported by an extensive and comprehensive program manual that includes many reference documents. There has been positive feedback on the value of the DTP Manual, although its content goes beyond the content of specific sessions and it is perhaps more useful overall as a reference document than as a support to teaching of many of the specific sessions. As DTP invites different trainers to teach on its courses, these trainers teach their sessions in their own way – and sometimes with their own materials. DTP is in the process of reviewing its core training materials and the core DTP Manual.

Recommendations:

- Reduce the size of the core training Manual

Location:

This was the fifth consecutive year that DTP's Annual Program was held in Timor-Leste, a country of great significance for the human rights movement in the region. The country owes its existence to the effectiveness of its advocates – in using the international system, seeking solidarity, resisting repression and building alliances with those seeking democracy and human rights in Indonesia. Lessons learned from this struggle are relevant to others in the region. Issues of human rights and development, peace, transitional justice and reconciliation confront Timor-Leste – and help make Timor-Leste a good location for these contemporary human rights issues to be explored. Timor-Leste also links and connects Asia and the Pacific in a way that other countries do not.

DTP has a long association with the human rights movement in Timor-Leste, and some of its early alumni are now leading figures in its government and political parties. There is a strong sense from these alumni, and from individuals involved in the human rights movement, the UN and others that there is great value in a continuing engagement by DTP with the civil society and the human rights movement in Timor-Leste. There were discussions about the possibility of DTP being engaged in more specific issues such as support for a DTP alumni association, focused training on the rights of persons with disabilities (Timor Leste has committed to ratifying the Convention).

Recommendations:

- DTP should explore options for continuing engagement with capacity building of civil society in Timor-Leste – both Timor specific programs and regional capacity building initiatives

Logistics:

Logistical issues in Timor-Leste have been consistently challenging for these programs. This program was held in Dili, although the lateness in confirming program funding meant choices of venue and accommodation were limited. DTP appreciates the support and involvement of Forum Tau Matan, the assistance of OHCHR staff and acknowledges the efforts of the DTP team of André Frankovits, Katalée Sikharangkura and Kelly Onato.

Recommendations:

- If possible in future if training and venue should be held in the same location.

Follow-Up:

The evaluations of the program were positive. The impacts of the training on the work of the individuals and on their organizations are more difficult to assess. This program involved at least three alumni of previous programs returning to teach and to share their experiences. DTP will conduct a follow-up survey within six months with participants to seek feedback from the participants about the value of the training – and specific examples of impact.

Annexes

1. Program Schedule
2. Resource Persons Biographies
3. Participant Biographies

WEEK 1	Monday 18 November	Tuesday 19 November	Wednesday 20 November	Thursday 21 November	Friday 22 November	Sat/Sun 23-4 November
8:30 – 9:00am		Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations		
Morning 1 9.00 to 10.30	Opening Ceremony – DTP 23 rd Annual Program Agio Pereira, Minister of State and of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (TBC) Prof. Virginia Dandan Vienna +20	Recap Introduction to Economic, Social and Cultural Rights - The ICESCR and the concept of State Obligations	Recap Visit to the Commission on Reception, Truth and Reconciliation (CAVR)	Recap Human Rights Fact Finding, Monitoring and Investigation	Recap Human Rights & Development: Using Human Rights to Analyse Development Challenges Guided Practical Exercise - continued	Sat 1 Dec Community & Historical Visit
Trainer(s)	DTP	Prof. Virginia Dandan	Joao Pequinho	Carolyn Turner	Prof. Virginia Dandan	
Break 10:30-10:45						
Morning 2 10:45-12:30	Participant Introductions – Human Rights Challenges, Expectations, Course Outline and Logistics	The ICESCR - The work of Treaty Bodies and ICESCR - Holding States accountable – the Reporting Process	Visit to CAVR Visit to Santa Cruz Cemetary	Human Rights accountability: Special procedures/individual complaints/country visits and more Guided Practical Exercise	Human Rights & Development: Using Human Rights to Analyse Development Challenges Exercise – group reports	
Trainer(s)	DTP	Prof. Virginia Dandan		Prof. Virginia Dandan	Prof. Virginia Dandan	
Lunch 12:30-2:00						
	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	
Afternoon 1 2:00-3:30	Introducing Human Rights - What are Human Rights - Values and Principles - The International Bill of Rights	The Work of the UN Committee on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights, General Comments, & OP- ICESCR Guided Practical Exercise	Alliance Building and Seeking International Support – Reflections and Tips Group work	The Right to Development: An Introduction	Presentation by and Dialogue with the Independent Expert: The Draft Declaration : the Right of Peoples and Individuals to International Solidarity: A Work in Progress	Sunday – Free Time
Trainer(s)	Amelia de Araujo, UNDP	Prof. Virginia Dandan		Prof. Virginia Dandan	Prof. Virginia Dandan	
Break 3:30-3:45						
Afternoon 2 3:45-5:30	Introducing Human Rights - Human Rights in the UN System - Vienna + 20 etc	The Work of the UN Committee on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights, General Comments, & OP- ICESCR (cont.)	Truth, Reconciliation and Justice – Building a Peaceful Future – Reflection and Sharing Challenges	Human Rights & Development: Using Human Rights to Analyse Development Challenges Guided Practical Exercise	Continuation of Dialogue	
Trainer(s)	Anjet Lanting, UNDP	Prof. Virginia Dandan		Prof Virginia Dandan		
	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	
Evening	Welcome Dinner			Dinner in Dili		

WEEK 2	Monday 25 November Day in Dili	Tuesday 26 November	Wednesday 27 November (Public Holiday)	Thursday 28 November (Public Holiday)	Friday 29 November (Public Holiday)	
8:30 – 9:00am	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	
Morning 1 9:00-10:30	Recap Human Rights advocacy and campaigning	Recap Human Rights – Regional contexts - Human Rights in ASEAN and the ASEAN Human Rights Charter - Emerging human rights issues	Recap Video Advocacy Training	Recap Video Advocacy Training	Recap The Universal Periodic Review UPR	Participants Return Home
Trainer(s)	DTP	Yuyun Wahyuningrum	Seelan Palay EngageMedia	Seelan Palay EngageMedia		
Break 10:30-10:45						
Morning 2 10:45-12:30	Developing strategies and setting objectives	The Role of the CEDAW Cttee and Governments in advancing women’s rights	Video Advocacy Training	Video Advocacy Training	UPR Practical Exercise	
Trainer(s)	DTP	Nuno Rodriguez	Seelan Palay EngageMedia	Seelan Palay EngageMedia		
Lunch 12:30-2:00						
	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	
Afternoon 1 2:00-3:30	Developing strategies and setting objectives Practical exercise	Human Rights Lobbying – practical exercise - Rehearsal for next session	Video Advocacy Training	Video Advocacy Training	Feedback and Evaluations	
Trainer(s)	DTP	Yuyun Wahyuningrum/DTP	Seelan Palay EngageMedia	Seelan Palay EngageMedia	DTP	
Break 3:30-3:45						
Afternoon 2 3:45-5:30	Advocacy/Media/Lobbying	The UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, the EU Guidelines and the Role of Diplomats in Defending and Promoting Human Rights Practical Exercise	Video Advocacy Training	Video Advocacy Training	Closing ceremony	
Trainer(s)	DTP	HE Miles Armitage	Seelan Palay EngageMedia	Seelan Palay EngageMedia)	DTP	
		Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	

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RESOURCE PERSON BIOGRAPHIES

Patrick Earle

Patrick Earle has over 20 years experience working in the human rights movement, both in Australia and internationally. Since 2003 Patrick has been the Executive Director of the Diplomacy Training Program, and in this role has developed and facilitated human rights courses thematic courses focussing on human rights business, human rights and migrant workers and the rights of Indigenous peoples. 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". Prior to that Patrick worked for Amnesty International in London and produced their first International Campaigning Manual on human rights. 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, a member of the Human Rights Council of Australia, and Visiting Fellow at the Faculty of Law at UNSW.

Professor Virginia Dandan

Virginia Dandan is a former Chair of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. In these roles Virginia was responsible for monitoring state performance on economic, social and cultural rights, and engaging in dialogues with senior state officials, NGOs and independent experts on the matter. She has an enduring commitment to human rights education as a tool for social transformation and has conducted extensive research on issues concerning the right to take part in cultural life. Currently, Virginia serves as UN Independent Expert on International Solidarity and Human Rights. She also serves as National Program Manager for the Human Rights Community Development Project, a bilateral program between the Philippine Commission on Human Rights and the New Zealand Human Rights Commission that works with grassroots Indigenous communities in the Philippines. In addition to her academic and practical human rights work, Virginia is also an accomplished artist having delivered solo exhibits of her paintings and sculptures both in the Philippines and abroad. She was the former Dean of the College of Fine Arts at the University of the Philippines.

André Frankovits

André Frankovits is a former Campaign Director for Amnesty International and a former Executive Director of the Human Rights Council of Australia. Since 1998 he has worked as a consultant for the UN, for bilateral donor agencies and for numerous NGOs. He is the co-author with Eric Sidoti and Patrick Earle of *The Rights Way to Development: Policy and Practice* (including the 'Manual for a Human Rights Approach to Development Assistance'). This volume has become influential in development debates, particularly within the UN. He has facilitated workshops and seminars for donors and NGOs in Australia, Canada, Cambodia, Denmark, Finland, India, Japan, Nepal, Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Zambia. His publications have appeared in numerous books and

journals including Praxis, Organization, Food Policy, Development Bulletin and the web sites of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and UNESCO.

Aderito Soares

Aderito Soares is an East Timorese human rights lawyer and Director of the Dili-based Sa'he Institute for Liberation. While based in Indonesia, Aderito defended political prisoners and represented indigenous West Papuans seeking justice from the U.S.-based mining giant Freeport MacMoRan. Aderito has written numerous articles on international law and human rights in Indonesia and East Timor. He is on the Board of Directors of La'o Hamutuk (Walking Together), a joint East Timorese-international organization monitoring the activities of global institutions in East Timor's reconstruction process. He has considerable international experience having represented East Timor at the Vienna +5 Human Rights Conference in Ottawa in 1998 (with Jose Ramos Horta), was one of seven international judges for the Peoples' Tribunal in Puerto Rico in November 2000, and had an internship with OMCT, a NGO focussing on Torture in Geneva for three months in 1998. He comes from Maliana District, and speaks Kemak (the local language), Tetum, English, Bahasa Indonesian and Portuguese and has a degree in Law from University of Salatiga in Central Java.

HE Miles Armitage, Ambassador

Mr Armitage is a senior career officer in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and was most recently Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary and Media Branch. Prior to that, Mr Armitage was seconded to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. He has served overseas in Manila, Australia's Mission to the United Nations in New York and Islamabad. Mr Armitage holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with honours and a Diploma of Museum Studies from the University of Sydney and a Graduate Diploma in Foreign Affairs from the Australian National University. Mr Armitage speaks Portuguese and Tetum. He has two children.

Anjet Lanting

Anjet Lanting is the UN human rights adviser to the UN in Timor-Leste, seconded by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). She was part of the human rights component of different peace mission in Timor-Leste from 2003-2012, involved in monitoring, transitional justice and capacity development of the national human rights institution, government and civil society. She facilitated sessions for the Diplomacy Training Programme several years ago on human rights monitoring. Anjet has a law degree from The Netherlands and a master's degree in international relations in the UK. She is a member of Amnesty International, and has worked with Human Rights Watch in Cambodia, as well as the OHCHR in Cambodia on monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation.

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.

Katalee Sikharangkura

Katalee Sikharangkura had been actively engaged in the human development and human rights fields. She was the associate director of strategic networking at the Asian Center for the Progress of

Peoples (ACPP, Hong Kong), a former member of the Pax Christi International Executive Committee (Belgium) and was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP, Thailand). She was involved in developing the Asian Justice and Peace Workers Network. She was active in co-facilitation and co-design several human rights workshops and training for the justice and peace workers in Asia.

Yuyun Wahyuningrum

Yuyun Wahyuningrum currently works as Senior Advisor on ASEAN and Human Rights at Indonesia's NGO Coalition for International Human Rights Advocacy. In this role, she designs the overall, long-term advocacy strategy for the organisation. She also engages with the government at a regional and national level, particularly concerning areas of agenda and standard setting. She was also previously the Southeast Asia Coordinator of the Child Workers in Asia (CWA) organisation based in Bangkok, Thailand. In 2010, she created ASEANCats an e-group dedicated to discussing and sharing information concerning ASEAN and related issues. She intends ASEANCats to be a platform where people receive information regarding their work and also connect to wider groups in addressing their concerns.

Maria Amelia de Araujo Ximenes

Maria Amelia de Araujo Ximenes is the National Human Rights Officer of the UN Human Rights Adviser's Unit for Timor-Leste, seconded by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). She was part of the human rights component of different peace missions conducted in Timor-Leste from 2003-2012, involved in capacity development of the civil society organizations and government. Amelia has a Political Science Degree from the Timor-Leste National University.

Carolyn Tanner

Carolyn Tanner has vast experience as a Legal Officer, and the Head of Mission for several Avocats Sans Frontières programs. She currently works as a Consultant for The Asia Foundation in Dili. Her responsibilities in this role have included working with national legal aid lawyers to develop an advocacy strategy and analysing draft legislation for impact on access to legal aid by vulnerable people, and impact on the private legal profession. She has also had experience as a Human Rights Officer for the UN Mission in Timor-Leste's Human Rights and Transitional Justice Section, where she developed and implemented monitoring, reporting and advocacy strategy for issues including: access to justice, child protection, women's justice and human rights violations.

Seelan Palay

Seelan Palay has been an artist, filmmaker and activist since 2005. For the past 6 years, he has campaigned on human rights issues in Asia, with a focus on Singapore and Burma. He has produced over 100 videos, and was one of the first contributors to EngageMedia. He has organized numerous exhibitions, demonstrations, forums and workshops to raise awareness and encourage action to bring about positive change in Asia. He is also part of the organizing committee of the Freedom Film Festival in Singapore. As the current Editorial and Outreach Coordinator for EngageMedia, he is working to broaden public access and communication on critical human rights and environmental stories from Southeast Asia. He also manages the Crossroads project on migrant workers, refugees and stateless people.

Nuno Rodriguez Tchailoro

Nuno Rodriguez Tchailoro was a student activist in Jakarta during the Indonesian occupation of East Timor. With his friends from the student movement known as RENETIL established a small magazine called Talitakum to keep people aware of the conditions inside Timor and was constantly under surveillance by the Indonesian authorities. After independence formed an organization called Sahe Institute for Liberation and since 2010 he has been researching and documenting the role of

Timorese women in the resistance. His research goes on to show how women continue to feature in the realization of human rights in Timor-Leste. Based in the Commission for Research on Timorese Women's Resistance Movement. He hopes that the report will be published in 2014.

Angelina (Lita) Sarmento

Lita Sarmento, former DTP participants (2004), presently as the Liaison Officer of HIVOS (a Dutch Humanist Development Organization) and recently joined UNESCO National Commission as Secretary General. Her previous involvement as a Student Activist back in 1998 engaged her more deeply with civil society organization and the Chair of the NGO FORUM in 2005 when she played a very crucial role in contributing to prevent further escalation of the 2006 political crisis. She was elected by the Parliament as the Election Commissioner for 6 years, contributing significantly to the smooth electoral process which took place in 2007 and 2012. She organized two Presidential elections (first and second round) in 2007 and 2012, two Parliamentary elections in 2007 and 2012 as well as the Local Authorities election in 2009. She is part of long-time International solidarity network of Asian groups (Asia Pacific Coalition for East Timor). She has been a regular resource person for the DTP Annual Training program.

Fernando da Costa

Fernando da Costa has eight years' experience working on conflict transformation and peace building. He has worked with national NGOs, UN agencies and Government Institutions in various fields, including policy development, youth development, civil society and good governance. He obtained his Master's Degree in Policy and Administration from Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia. He currently works with UNICEF as an Adolescent and Youth Participation Officer; previously he served as a Political Adviser to the Secretary of State for Youth and Sport. He has also served as a member of the Central Committee of RENETIL and as Secretary General to the Timor-Leste National Olympic Committee. Fernando has vast experience and great facilitation skills in providing training and workshops related to peace building, conflict resolution, leadership, strategic planning and project management.

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PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

AUSTRALIA

Allen Reid, Kaurareg Aboriginal Land Trust (Male, 59)

Allen is the Chief Executive Officer of the Kaurareg Aboriginal Land Trust, which is responsible for using current and future land and sea resources held in the trust for the benefit of the Kaurareg Aboriginal Community and Kaiwalagal region. Allen's work includes engaging with decision makers at local subnational and national government departments and agencies on Thursday Island in order to advance the interests (including food security, sea and land based developments) of the Kaurareg Aboriginal Community. He also engages with indigenous and non-indigenous decision makers in order to defend the need for system-wide changes to indigenous policy. His human rights experience includes working with the Working Group on Indigenous Population in 1992 and 1993 for input to what is now UNDRIP and with the World Health Organisation concerning trachoma and related eye health challenges for remote indigenous Australian populations. This program will assist Allen's work regarding the implementation of UNDRIP, particularly in reviving indigenous culture, tradition, custom and lore. He believes attending this program will bring new ideas and strengthen the pursuit towards self-determination.

Willie A Wigness, Kaurareg Aboriginal Land Trust (Male, 50)

Willie is a Chairperson of the Kaurareg Aboriginal Land Trust. He engages with indigenous and non-indigenous decision makers in order to help bring meaningful changes to Indigenous Policy. He would like to attend this training program in order to learn new ways of upholding indigenous peoples' rights, and to gain new methods of lobbying decision makers and creating real change. He is also eager to meet other indigenous human rights activists and learn from their experiences.

CAMBODIA

Seang Hak Hun, Cambodian Human Rights Action Committee (CHRAC), (Male, 36)

Hak works for the Cambodian Human Rights Action Committee (CHRAC) as a Project Officer. CHRAC is a coalition of twenty-one NGOs working in the areas of human rights, legal aid and democracy. In addition to managing a project which engages in outreach and victim participation in the Khmer Rouge Tribunal, Hak also works on legal and judicial reform and monitors some high profile human rights cases particularly concerning freedom of expression, land grabbing and peaceful assembly. He considers mainstreaming international and national human rights laws and principles and a judicial system reform to be the greatest opportunities for promoting human rights in Cambodia. He would like to participate in this program in order to gain knowledge of new human rights instruments developed at the international level and new advocacy skills. He also views it as a significant opportunity for professional capacity-building and formulating good practice in his work with CHRAC.

FIJI

Adelene Mereoni Chung, Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF), (Female, 28)

Mereoni works as a project support officer for the Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF) an organisation which advocates for leadership based on democratic principles and human rights. Mereoni's role within CCF involves promoting active citizenship, good governance and multiculturalism by assisting various programs and advocacy campaigns focused on leaders and the youth. She also writes reports for internal and external stakeholders and assists with monitoring and evaluation procedures for CCF projects. Mereoni has a keen interest in advocacy for human rights and civil rights, particularly concerning the youth, and has been involved in projects such as Fiji Youth for Democracy- Civil Rights for Young People, and Civic Education on Constitution Making. She views this program as a great opportunity to gain awareness of effective practices from the Asia-Pacific region and around the world concerning sustainable development and human rights-based governance. She also believes that skills and knowledge gained from the program will benefit her work in project planning, activities and monitoring. She intends to share knowledge gained with young advocacy leaders and to contribute to the development of a Youth Advocacy Agenda in the lead up to Fiji's 2014 elections.

INDONESIA

Tongam Panggabean, Institute for Legal Consultation and People Advocacy of Sumatera Utara (BAKUMSU), (Male, 29)

Tongam currently works on the study and advocacy staff at the Institute for Legal Consultation and People Advocacy of Sumatera Utara (BAKUMSU) whose work focuses on strengthening democracy through the rule of law and respect for human rights, and the development and strengthening of civil society in North Sumatra. Tongam's responsibilities in BAKUMSU include legal drafting for local regulation of indigenous people land rights, and monitoring and investigating on human rights violations especially concerning the state security sector. In particular, Tongam's work has primarily concerned civil and political rights advocacy, including the criminalisation of peasants, especially Indigenous people, and torture by police. He would like to participate in this program in order to gain deeper knowledge of advocacy strategies at national and international levels. Further, by building networks with other human rights defenders and learning of experiences and practical skills concerning human rights advocacy, he believes the training program will enable him to become more effective in promoting human rights,

Stefanus Akim, Tribun Pontianak Daily Newspaper, (Male, 36)

Stefanus is the editor and coverage manager of Tribun Pontianak Daily Newspaper. He currently leads approximately twenty journalists located in all districts and cities across West Kalimantan. Whilst working as a journalist, human rights issues often arose when dealing with the government or local authorities. Issues Stefanus has covered include conflicts due to religious differences, and land grabbing by oil companies, a prevalent problem in West Kalimantan. Consequently, as West Kalimantan has had a long history of social and communal conflict; along with human rights issues related to the expansion of palm oil plantations, Stefanus would like to participate in this program in order to gain knowledge of civil society advocacy, human rights and social issues. He believes such knowledge will benefit his work, particularly in raising awareness of human rights violations, and the importance of human rights and government obligations.

Elisabet Asrida Sulastri, Yayasan Teratai Hati Papua (YTHP), (Female, 26)

Asri currently works as the program coordinator and secretary for community-based organisation, Yayasan Teratai Hati Papua (YTHP) which is involved in human rights advocacy networks and monitoring the human rights condition in Papua. Asri is responsible for administrative operations,

data collection and analysis. She is also currently coordinating the “Kampung Damai” (Peace Community) program focusing on the elimination of violence, especially against women and children. Asri is interested in creative ways of human rights advocacy and is currently in the process of learning how to make a documentary. Considering the complexity of human rights issues in Papua, by participating in this program, Asri is eager to gain practical skills, particularly concerning the human rights system and advocacy strategies.

Ruth Ogetay, Pantau Foundation, (Female, 29)

Ruth currently volunteers for the Pantau Foundation which organises humanitarian assistance for political prisoners who are often mistreated by Indonesian soldiers. As a volunteer, Ruth has helped sick political prisoners in Papua with their treatment, medication and general health condition. She would like to participate in this program in order to learn of how human rights issues are developing in other countries. She views the protection of victims of religious conflict as a particular human rights challenge in Indonesia; and consequently would also like to learn of how human rights violations are treated in other countries in order to apply the lessons and approaches to her own work in Indonesia.

INDIA

Lizzy Joseph, Domestic Workers Movement- AP, (Female, 48)

Lizzy is the Founder and State Coordinator of Domestic Workers Movement- Andhra Pradesh, which works in 10 districts of the state of Andhra Pradesh to organise domestic workers to promote their labour rights and social protection. Her organisation also works with children out of school, many of which are migrants and child labourers; and migrant overseas workers to enable informed migration and protection of their rights. Lizzy has played a major role in the recognition of domestic work in Andhra Pradesh, and consequently have it included in national legislation such as the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act and Minimum Wage Act. Her current responsibilities include following up violations against the rights of domestic and migrant workers and children, and organising pre-departure orientations for prospective overseas migrant workers. As her work concerns victims of violence, Lizzy is interested in learning of strategies adopted by other activists. Her participation in this training program is consequently a significant opportunity for her to network with other human rights defenders whilst also gain a deeper understanding of international laws protecting the rights of marginalised people, particularly women, child and migrant workers.

MYANMAR

Nyo Mar Than, Spectrum – Sustainable Development Knowledge Network (Female, 40)

Nyo Mar Than is a Program Officer at Spectrum – Sustainable Development Knowledge Network. In particular, she works as a trainer and organiser for human rights training. Spectrum promotes human rights and indigenous peoples’ rights through training programs and workshops focusing on business and human rights issues. It is currently promoting REDD+ and Free, Prior and Informed Consent and deals directly with government ministries and local authorities, in promoting transparency, peoples’ economic rights and access to basic services. Nyo Mar Than considers this training program as a significant opportunity to learn from and network with other human rights activists. She intends to apply the skills and knowledge gained from the program to then create greater awareness of human rights in the local community, especially concerning the private sector.

Lian Khan Suum, Spectrum – Sustainable Development Knowledge Network (Male, 28)

Lian Khan Suum is part of the Program Staff at Spectrum, he works on Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) Projects with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. He advocates for the respect of local peoples’ rights and promotes the importance

women's activities in the forest. At a community level, he also provides training on human rights, in particular, concerning Free, Prior and Informed Consent and Indigenous Peoples' Rights. Lian Khan Suum would like to participate in this training program in order to learn from the experiences of fellow participants regarding the promotion of human rights in their respective countries. He is consequently eager to create networks with other participants and share information concerning their human rights work.

NEPAL

Nirmal Kumar Upreti, Pravasi Nepali Coordination Committee (PNCC), (Male, 30)

Nirmal currently works as a Deputy Program Director for the Pravasi Nepali Coordination Committee (PNCC), an organisation established by returnee Nepali migrant workers for the protection, promotion and assurance of the rights of Nepal migrant workers. He is responsible for the overall coordination, evaluation and monitoring of the organisation's programs and projects, and often provides support and legal assistance to Nepali migrant workers. Nirmal also volunteers and participates in several youth and human rights organisations; he believes this training program will enable him to be more effective and efficient in his human rights advocacy work. In particular he believes this will be a significant opportunity for him to gain insight from international experiences of human rights campaigns and gain a deeper understanding of human rights issues and mechanisms.

Yagya Taj Thapa, Democratic Freedom and Human Rights Institute, (Male, 31)

Yagya Raj is the Executive Director of the Democratic Freedom and Human Rights Institute (DFHRI) based in Nepal and is consequently responsible for the organisation's overall coordination. He provides leadership to its programs and also researches for the television talk show, " *Whose Accountability?*" which challenges the culture of impunity in Nepal. In particular, he has worked as the Coordinator in the Dialogue Group for Constituent Assembly, focusing on areas of eastern Hill and Tarai, faced with significant ethnic conflict. As a result he became aware of the significant gap between community-level problems and national-level understanding of these problems. He consequently considers the absence of the state at the local level to be a challenge in promoting human rights. This training program will significantly benefit Yagya Raj's work by providing him with in-depth knowledge on human rights. He will in turn share this directly to communities in Nepal, in order to empower them to exercise their political power in promoting their cultural, social and economic rights.

VANUATU

Elizabeth Tari, Transparency Vanuatu (Female, 28)

Elizabeth is a Legal Officer working for Transparency Vanuatu's Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC); she receives clients who have issues related to corruption and assists them in forming complaints to relevant public agencies. She also attends meetings with such agencies in order to reach a resolution. She is also currently coordinating ALAC's Education Project investigating the use and effectiveness of Vanuatu's School Fee Grant aimed to ensure all primary school children have access to education. Complaints Elizabeth receives often involve breaches of the UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the Constitution of Vanuatu. She would consequently like to participate in this program in order to better understand and address human rights issues, and to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for advocating for human rights. This would then assist her work in dealing with complaints received at ALAC and dealing with higher levels of government more effectively.

Sam Iapatu, Transparency Vanuatu (Male, 35)

Sam is a Legal Officer at Transparency Vanuatu's Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre. His role involves interviewing people regarding their corruption complaints. This involves assessing the complaints, providing legal advice and composing formal complaints to the governments or private institutions involved. Particular complaints Sam has dealt with include those concerning violence against women, education, ill-treatment and excess use of force by the police. Sam also currently works as a Researcher for Transparency Vanuatu's National Integrity System Research Project, examining the capacity, governance, and role and providing recommendations for Vanuatu's main institutions, including the executive, legislature, judiciary, media and electoral management body. He believes participating in this training program will significantly benefit his work in Transparency Vanuatu as it would help him understand different human rights issues in the Pacific Region, whilst gain knowledge and skills to deal with such issues in his own country.

TIMOR-LESTE

Manuel Dos Santos, PRADET, (Male, 39)

Manuel is the Director of PRADET, an organisation which provides assistance to people who have mental illness or have experienced mental trauma. Its work focuses on ensuring they receive treatment. PRADET also provides information and community education concerning the nature and impact of mental illness and trauma in order to ensure safe, sustainable reintegration into the community. As the Director of PRADET, Manuel is responsible for four programs, including a counter-trafficking program providing psychosocial support for those who have been trafficked, and a program providing support for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse. He believes that mental health care is seriously under-resourced in Timor-Lest. Considering this as a serious human rights issue, greater dialogue with the government for promoting greater responsibility for these issues is a priority for Manuel's work. He would consequently like to participate in this program in order to gain a better knowledge of Human Rights Standards, and to learn more about advocacy, particularly media skills in order to promote PRADET's work.

Leonel Ximenes Barbosa, Fo Naroman Timor-Leste (FNLT), (Male, 35)

Leonel is the Executive Director of FNLT, a national, not-for-profit eye health organisation providing health promotion, vision screening, and cataract referrals. It operates an optical workshop in Dili and a mobile outreach program throughout Timor-Leste's districts. Profits gained by its optical shop are then used to operate the store and subsidise spectacles for those unable to afford them. Leonel is responsible for FNLT's management and operations and often works with rural and remote communities to ensure their access to eye care services.. In addition to his current work Leonel has also worked with street children to advocate for their right to education and has also facilitated the reunification of children with their families. Considering the importance of the awareness and ability to access eye health care options, he would like to participate in this program in order to improve his knowledge of human rights to then apply to the work of FNLT. He would also like to learn new advocacy skills and techniques, and consequently re-institute discussions with the Ministry of Health and District of Health Services for improved promotion and implementation of eye health services.

João Maupelo da Costa, (Male, 39)

João is a Public Relations Officer at the Department of Public Relations, which carries out outreach for Timor-Leste's national laws and international human rights law to communities in rural areas. His main tasks as a public relations officer are organising and coordinating with local authorities regarding all activities related to outreach to rural areas, which have included land, unemployment and housing issues. After programs are implemented he then prepares full reports. He is eager to participate in this program in order to improve his knowledge in the area of human rights and diplomacy, which would in turn benefit his outreach and public information work on laws in rural areas. By gaining greater knowledge of human rights he would thus be able to emphasise the

promotion of human rights principles in Timor-Leste laws.

Benyamin Adrianus Dos Santos, Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies (Male, 22)

Benyamin volunteers for the Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies. He has helped organise women capacity building activities, gender issue discussions; and programs and events concerning human rights and corruption in Timor-Leste. He considers domestic violence, poverty and conflict between communities as the biggest human rights challenges in Timor-Leste. He believes this training is very important for his aspiration to become a good leader in Timor-Leste and to learn about the human rights experiences of other countries. He intends to apply the information gained in the program to his own community and to improve his personal and organisation's capacity.

Bete Fatima, Ba Futuru (Female, 25)

Bete works as a Facilitator of Early Childhood Education and Preschool Teacher at Ba Futuru. She conducts early childhood education training and has also facilitated first aid training for parents with Red Cross Timor-Leste. She also previously worked as the organisation's Facilitator of Transformative Arts and Human Rights Education, where human rights, conflict resolution, child protection and gender and peace building was taught. She would like to participate in this program in order to improve her capacity as a facilitator of human rights education. In particular she would like to gain deeper knowledge of human rights law and principles, practical skills concerning accountability mechanisms, strategic advocacy and the media. She would subsequently like to create a better understanding of human rights amongst Timorese youth.

Carlinho Moreira Martins, Dili Retract Club (Male, 28)

Carlinho has been a member of the Retract Club of Dili since 2008. He assists the club's Leadership Sector by providing training and courses for Timorese youth concerning transformational leadership for capacity building. He also teaches English and in 2010 he began a program to teach basic English for youth aged 12-15 in the Taibessi deposito penal sub-village. He views access to education and corruption as considerable human rights challenges in Timor-Leste. Carlinho consequently views this training program as a significant opportunity for him to improve his ability in lobbying, and developing a strategy on human rights affairs and negotiations.

Nelia Pereira Belo, Junior Chamber International, (Female,)

Nelia volunteers as a basic English tutor for Junior Chamber International (JCI), an organisation which encourages young people to create positive change. She would like to participate in this program in order to improve her knowledge of human rights issues. Consequently she would like to contribute to discussions and create greater awareness of human rights in Timor-Leste.

Angela Tavares De Jesus, Retract Club of Dili (Female, 22)

Angela is the Coordinator of Professional Development at the Dili Retract Club, she plans and implements capacity building programs concerning issues such as environmental advocacy and campaigning and women empowerment for club members and other young people. She volunteers for the NGO Community Development Interest by helping with English Language Courses for the youth. She researches and discusses the impact of Timorese policies on economy and education and also researches human rights violations in Burma, Western Sahara. She would like to participate in this program in order to learn from the knowledge and experience of other participants, and gain a greater understanding of human rights issues at a national and international level, which would then benefit her work concerning access to education and women's rights and empowerment.

Juliao Amaral Dos Santos, The Movement of Adolescents and Children- Children United (MAC-CU) (Male, 23)

Juliao is the Vice Coordinator of MAC-CU, he often develops and implements group activities for the

youth including English and Capoeira classes. From 2001-2004 he was involved in a radio program promoting Children's Rights and Stopping Violence Against Children. He has also helped organise MAC-CU's sanitation and rural education programs and festivals such as Capoeira for Peace and Music For Peace. He strongly believes this training program would assist him in defending children's rights as he would like to gain a greater understanding of human rights and diplomacy and then apply such principles at the local, national and international level.

Jose Pereira, Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP), (Male, 39)

Jose is a Legal Researcher at the Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP); he works with three other colleagues in the Parliament Watch Project (PWP) Unit which focuses on monitoring the National Parliament, conducting legal research and analysis, and promoting public participation in legislation process. He is also responsible for communications with international partners such as Forum-Asia and Amnesty International concerning human rights violations and conducts community training on democracy and legislation process. He considers the misuse of tradition to discriminate against women and youth, and the role of the police force as significant human rights challenges in Timor-Leste. Consequently, he believes this training program will enable him to contribute more to JSMP, Timor-Leste and globally in promoting human rights and justice for all people. He also believes this DTP Training will assist JSMP in promoting national and international relations and communications with state and non-state institutions.

Maria Amelia de Araújo Ximenes, Human Rights Adviser's Unit, (Female, 44)

Maria is a National Human Rights Officer working at the Human Rights Adviser's Unit. Her responsibilities include assisting in the coordination of training for human rights club students, mentoring partner civil society organisations concerning drafting grant proposals and helping organise human rights events. Her work also involves assisting the Timorese government in implementing international human rights instruments. Consequently, Maria would like to attend this training program in order to increase her knowledge of international human rights law and principles and practical skills in strategic advocacy and the media.