CSOs and NGOs working for Human Rights

Name of Organisation: The Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP), Timor Leste, 2001
Website of Organisation: www.jsmp.tl
Facebook of Organisation: https://www.facebook.com/timorleste.jsmp/?fref=ts
Organisation of DTP Alumni Y/N: Yes

The Judicial System Monitoring Program (JSMP) was established in 2001 in Díli, Timor-Leste to monitor the processes of the Ad Hoc Human Rights Tribunal in Indonesia and the Special Panels for Serious Crimes in Timor-Leste. JSMP is a Timorese led not-for-profit organisation working to improve the judicial and legislative systems in Timor-Leste.

JSMP's mission is to advance and protect democracy, law, justice and human rights through court monitoring, legal education and advocacy. JSMP is often the sole source of published case summaries, legal reporting and commentary in Timor-Leste. The Legal Research Unit (LRU) monitors all court cases, undertakes critical analysis of court decisions and provides substantive and practical recommendations on issues that arise during the trial. LRU produces in-depth legal analysis and reports on general issues that impact on the development of the justice sector. JSMP also conducts important legal research and law reform activities.

JSMP also has a Women’s and Child Justice Unit (WCJU) and the objective is to evaluate women’s experience of the formal justice sector and provide support on issues that affect their access to the formal justice system. WCJU conducts activities to ensure women’s participation and consultation in developing the justice sector; increase women’s understanding of their human rights, gender based violence and discrimination; build the capacity of female lawyers and encourage female students to work in the judicial system.

The Outreach Unit is responsible for all JSMP publications, advocacy activities and dissemination of information about JSMP’s work to media organisations and the general public. And the Parliament Watch Project (PWP) objective is to monitor the activities of the National Parliament of Timor-Leste in order to guarantee that parliament fulfils its obligation to the people according to the Constitution and democratic principles.

DTP had the privilege of hosting the 26th Annual Program in Timor Leste with JSMP. JSMP provided extensive and effective support to DTP staff. Staff from JSMP also benefitted from attending the DTP training program.

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1 The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is an NGO affiliated with the Faculty of Law at UNSW in Sydney. Since 1990, it has provided training to over 2600 human rights defenders and community advocates. These individuals work for a wide range of organisations working to promote shared values of human rights – in different ways. This profile is part of a series developed by DTP (www.dtp.unsw.edu.au) to illustrate the richness and diversity of the organisations working to promote human rights more broadly.