



TOMAK- FARMING FOR PROSPERITY (TIMOR-LESTE)

Expression of Interest

Oxfam Australia

Organisation

Business Name:	Oxfam Australia
Address:	132 Leicester Street, Carlton VIC 3053 Australia
Contact Person:	Wayne Gum
Position:	Portfolio Manager
Telephone:	0435 994 985
Email:	wayneg@oxfam.org.au

ORGANISATION PROFILE/AREAS OF RELEVANT EXPERTISE/LINK TO WEBSITE

Oxfam delivers strategic programs focusing on community-led rural development, particularly through agriculture and access to markets, women's economic empowerment, and mainstreaming of Oxfam's disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation approach. Oxfam's strategic plan 2015-2020 delivers three key programmes: Humanitarian Preparedness; Integrated Rural Development; and Land and Inclusive Development.

Oxfam Australia is a legal entity registered in Timor-Leste with the NGO Forum and Ministry of Justice. Oxfam has offices in Dili, Oecusse and Covalima and implements its program through partner organisations in Ainaro, Bobonaro, Covalima, Dili, Ermera and Oecusse.

Oxfam's team of experienced national and expatriate staff deliver a high standard of program and project management in line with Oxfam and donor standards. Oxfam in Timor-Leste has sound financial systems that ensure transparency, accountability and efficient financial processes. Oxfam's Program Support Unit leads on Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning, partner management and organisational capacity training (particularly financial management).

See <https://www.oxfam.org.au/what-we-do/about-us/countries-where-we-work/timor-leste/>
<https://www.facebook.com/oxfamtimorleste>

BRIEF SUMMARY OF RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Oxfam has been active in Timor-Leste for 40 years, with in-country offices since 2000. We currently work across six districts (Dili, Ainaro, Bobonaro, Covalima, Ermera and Oecusse) in partnership with 30 international and local partners, to improve the livelihoods of more than 20,000 direct beneficiaries.

Oxfam is part of the DFAT program in Timor-Leste through the ANCP program (focusing on rural development) and management of the Humanitarian Partnership Agreement – Humanitarian Needs Assessment (HPA/HNA) project. Oxfam currently manages the NZ\$1.7m NZAID-funded Improving Marketing and Production through Agricultural Cooperatives project (IMPACT) and recently managed the \$1.7m DFAT-funded Community-based Climate Change Adaptation (CBCCA) program in consortium with Caritas and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) 2012-2015.



Oxfam's flagship Rural Development Program has achieved tangible improvements in income and food security of project beneficiaries through:

- Technical training in sustainable agriculture and horticulture, terracing, sloping agricultural land techniques, intercropping, livestock fodder, use of organic fertilisers, composting and rice-intensification.
- Introduction of climate-resilient practices: soil and water conservation, crop diversification, drip irrigation, permanent house gardens.
- Support to community planning and use of customary laws governing the use of communal land to reduce erosion, protect water sources and prevent destructive land use practices.
- Promoting improved post-harvest techniques: food and seed storage, food processing.
- Support to farmers to link to and sell their produce at markets, through improved marketing and participation in cooperatives.
- Gender awareness, increased women's participation (40% in community level activities) and leadership (30% of savings and loans group office bearers).

Oxfam is one of the biggest supporters of savings and loans groups in Timor-Leste, supporting communities (particularly women) to bridge the gap between household immediate needs and the development of small-scale enterprises.

Oxfam is the largest development agency in Oecusse with excellent relationships with community, local organisations and the Oecusse Regional Authority.

Historically in Timor-Leste, Oxfam has implemented activities and research related to nutrition, food security, WASH, gender, livelihoods, permaculture, market overviews (rice, coffee, traditional handicrafts, district of Oecusse) and disaster risk analysis, reduction and response. Through the EC-funded Cope for Life program Oxfam has supported food security and nutrition focusing on improved feeding practices for children (first 1,000 days) and improved production/use of nutritional crops.

Working through Local Partner Organisations:

With long-term experience in working through partners, Oxfam has developed robust partner management systems to identify, assess and manage risks related to funding partner organisations at national and suco levels, balancing capacity strengthening support with delivery of program outcomes. Partner Capacity Assessment and Appraisal processes are used to identify risks, including capacity, knowledge, controls, and governance.

Working with Government

Oxfam has strong relationships with the Government of Timor-Leste, including key support for the National Disaster Management Directorate in the Ministry of Social Solidarity, close liaison with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Oecusse Regional Commission for Rural Development and Integrated Agriculture, and regular support for Municipal Disaster Management and Suco Disaster Management Committees that are responsible not only for disaster preparedness and response but also for the Zero Hunger Campaign.