



JUDICIAL SYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAMME  
PROGRAMA MONITORIZASAUN SISTEMA JUDISIÁL

*Press release*  
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## **JSMP provides training in Betano-Manufahi on democracy and the role of the State's sovereign organs**

On 8 August 2013 the Judicial System Monitoring Program (JSMP) through the Parliamentary Watch Project (POP) provided training to community members in Betano Village, Same Sub-District, Manufahi District. This training covered topics such as democracy and the role of the State's sovereign organs.

There were 30 participants, comprising 15 women and 15 men. The participants were representatives of their villages and members of the village leadership at all levels, as well as representatives from the Timor-Leste Women's Organization (OPMT), representatives of young men/women and several community members.

“Through this training we can raise the awareness of the community about democracy and the role of the State's sovereign organs so the community can channel their concerns, express their views and interests, as well as raise any issues that arise in their community” said the Executive Director of JSMP, Luis de Oliveira Sampaio.

A customary elder, José da Conceição, who was representing the local village thanked JSMP in his welcoming speech for choosing his village as the site of this training. He requested for the participants to pay close attention to the material provided by the facilitators so that they could understand the information and then they would be able to disseminate this information to other members of the community who did not attend the training.

The participants were very enthusiastic and were very interested in the material provided and requested for JSMP to continue the same kind of training in other villages in the future.

In the final session of the training the deputy chief of Betano Village once again expressed his appreciation to JSMP for travelling a long way to provide this training to the residents of his village. He also requested for the participants to pass on the knowledge that they have obtained through this training to other residents, including the manual that was provided to them.

Before the end of the training JSMP distributed 230 copies of the training manual to the participants to be shared out amongst the community members.

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