



**Press Release**  
**12 October 2018**  
**Covalima District**

### **Community members in Zulo Village, Zumalai Sub-District were grateful for training activities conducted by JSMP in their village**

On 10 October 2018 JSMP facilitated training for community leaders and community members in Zolu Village, Zumalai Sub-District, Covalima District which was attended by 30 participants, comprising 20 women and 10 men.

This training was aimed at increasing the knowledge of community leaders and community members about children's rights, crimes against children, how to report a crime and relevant legal procedures relating to the formal justice system.

The materials provided during this training session focused on the rights of the child, relevant actors who have the obligation to protect children, child protection in accordance with national and international law, and the work of social services. Other topics discussed included crimes against children, and their impact, relevant articles in the Penal Code that protect children and the age of criminal responsibility and sentences for juvenile delinquents.

“Children often face a range of violent practices in their home, in the school environment and in society, because most community members believe that violence is an acceptable way to apply discipline and educate children. This activity is a response aimed at increasing the knowledge of community members in rural areas to understand what is set out in the law about minors and what needs to occur when a crime is committed against minors,” said Luis de Oliveira Sampaio, Executive Director of JSMP.

JSMP believes that it is important to continue disseminating information to communities, especially to women in rural areas, in relation to criminal acts committed against minors. Therefore, the materials can provide guidance to help women and men and community leaders to collaborate to look after children and protect children from any form of violence.

A representative from Zulo Village, Ms. Odete Soares, who was delegated by the village chief, said during the opening ceremony that this was the first time that the village was given training like this. She added that these materials are really important, especially for women and mothers in rural areas who take on the role and responsibility of providing for and looking after children.

Ms. Odete Soares really appreciated JSMP's visit to their village, because JSMP provided information that they have not been able to access to date. She added that the participants in the

training will pass on this information to other community members, especially to women or mothers who were not able to utilise an opportunity like this one.

During this training community members showed their high level of interest in listening to the explanations given by JSMP. Also they were very happy because this was the first time that they received training like this.

Estaquie Barreto, who is the Sub-Village Chief of Zulo, stated that he has a significant responsibility as the Sub-Village Chief to ensure security for children in the village. Also, he is responsible for looking after or finding solutions or alternatives for minors involved in criminal activities in the village or those who are victims of crime.

The Sub-Village Chief added that this training increased their basic knowledge on how to provide protection and process cases in accordance with the law. Mr. Bareto also said that in society mothers spend more time with children, and for this reason they organised more women to come together because this information is very important for them.

This training was made possible through the financial support of the Canadian Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia.

For more information please contact:

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