



JUDICIAL SYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAMME
PROGRAMA DE MONITORIZAÇÃO DO SISTEMA JUDICIAL

Press Release

04 Abril 2007

Training on Criminal Investigation from Gender Perspective according to Timor-Leste's Criminal Procedure Code.

JSMP's Victim Support Service (VSS) and Women's Justice Unit (WJU), in a joint effort had been carrying out a training programme in several Districts, namely Liquiça and Ailieu and most recently, on the 29th and 30th of March 2007 in Manatuto. Good coordination and collaboration between VSS, WJU and Police District Commander assures the training's successful conduction.

The main objective of the training is to introduce the participants to the process of investigation of cases based on gender violence, such as domestic violence and rape (sexual assault). In addition the training's aim is to introduce Timor-Leste's Penal Procedural Code to the trainees.

The training has chosen to focus on this cases because it is a fact that women are regularly victims of this type of crimes and no positive initiative or response has been given, so far, by the community in order to bring the cases to due process through out the existing formal judicial system.

The training is oriented to the participation of Police members working at District and Sub District level, particularly those serving in Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU) and/or Vulnerable Persons Unit (VPU). Last March in Manatuto, 35 enthusiastic participants attended the training during two days.

The training in Manatuto started it's opening session with the speech of Manatuto's District Commander. He stated that he was proud and happy to host the training and hoped that Police's members attending the training while receiving information from the facilitators, would benefit from it, increasing their skills and knowledge. He pointed out that after this training the Police will be better prepared to provide an improved service to the community in cases related to domestic violence and sexual assault.

The evaluation done by JSMP's facilitators team is positive, during the group discussion period of the training, it was noticed that the participants understood all subjects delivered, and could use new information about legal terminology, particularly the Penal Procedural Code one and that maximum active participation was achieved.

At the conclusion period the JSMP's facilitators thanked Manatuto's Police Commander, whose diligence enabled the attendance of all Manatuto's Police members, also the Police

Commander expressed his thanks to JSMP's facilitators for their initiative to organize the training improving the skills of the police working at his operation's area.

JSMP's VSS and WJU are committed to continue the training program in order to expand VPU's investigators work perspective, so they can not only open their views on investigation but also recognize the interest of domestic violence and sexual assault victims, and the importance of Human Rights as the integral part of the formal judicial system.

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