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Eraulo Village in Ermera District received training on access to formal justice for the first time

On 15 January 2015 the Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP) facilitated training on "justice for all" for community members in Eraulo Village, Letefoho, Ermera District. There were 30 participants in the training, comprising 15 women and 15 men.

The aim of this training was to continue disseminating legal information to the community, especially for those who find it difficult to get information about the formal justice system and its processes.

"This training is a continuation of activities that were previously carried out by JSMP in remote villages to disseminate legal information to the community on access to formal justice, to give the community a better understanding of how to process criminal cases or crimes through formal mechanisms", said the Executive Director of JSMP, Luis de Oliveira Sampaio.

JSMP observed that Eraulo Village had not yet received information about access to justice. Therefore, through this program JSMP was able to disseminate information about the law and justice to the community, in particular, through the village leaders so they can understand how to resolve their problems based on the laws of Timor-Leste.

Mr. Agostino, who is a member of the community police, participated in this event on behalf of the Eraulo Village Chief, and in his welcoming speech expressed gratitude to the JSMP team for coming to their village to share information about formal justice. In addition, he added that this training will prepare them for the future, and in particular will enable them to gain an understanding about the legal process and the formal justice process in Timor-Leste.

Many community members in Eraulo Village have not yet received adequate information about the justice sector, especially the issue of domestic violence and how to make a complaint when this crime happens. In relation to this question, JSMP took the opportunity to explain about the justice process in cases of domestic violence and cases of sexual violence, according to the provisions in the Law Against Domestic Violence and the Penal Code.

JSMP observed that the participants actively asked questions about things they didn't know during the discussion.

JSMP plans to conduct similar training in Aileu and Suai districts this week, with the financial assistance of the Canadian Embassy in Indonesia.

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