

JSMP holds second consultation on the preparation of draft Tara-Bandu rules in Naimeko Village

On 15 August 2024, through the Community Security Support Program (PASK), a second consultation was held on the preparation of draft Tara-Bandu rules in Naimeko Village, Pante-makasar Sub-Region, Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno (RAEOA).

The aim of this consultation was to continue listening to ideas, suggestions and good cultural practices to resolve conflicts and the living culture of community members in Naimeko Village from the village administrative structure and community members, to help JSMP prepare draft Tara-Bandu rules for Naimeko Village to be used in resolving community disputes in the aforementioned village or for community members in other villages who have committed an infraction in the territory of the aforementioned village.

During his speech, the Naimeko Village Chief, Mr. Marcos Liu, on behalf of the entire administrative structure and the community in Naimeko Village, expressed deep gratitude to JSMP for selecting Naimeko Village as a target village for the JSMP program and for supporting the preparation of the Tara-Bandu rules for the community in Naimeko Village. The Village Chief also stated that “JSMP is an NGO that is interested in improving this country, and specifically provides safeguards for the community in Naimeko Village. Today we continue discussing our Tara-Bandu rules, and therefore I ask the entire village administrative structure to pay attention, and to provide good ideas, suggestions and recommendations to make it easier for the facilitator to finalize our Tara-Bandu rules”. The Village Chief also asked JSMP to provide ongoing support for the approval, launch and implementation of these Tara-Bandu rules in the future.

During this consultation the participants managed to discuss and approve important issues such as forbidding people from committing violence against another person, forbidding shifting cultivation, forbidding the planting of crops in protected areas, obligation to build fences around plantations and rice fields, obligation to tie up and confine animals, forbidding the incorrect disposal of rubbish, obligations that apply to Catholics on Sundays and holy days, mechanisms to present complaints, conflict resolution, reports on the use of money from fines, administrative costs, subsidiary norms and the date to approve these rules.

During this consultation there were 20 participants, comprising 3 women and 17 men. The participants included the Village Chief, Sub-Village Chiefs, customary elders, delegates, neighbourhood catechist, Village Police Officer (OPS) and community members from Naimeko Village.

This activity was conducted by JSMP through the Community Security Support Program (PASK), through collaboration with The Asia Foundation (TAF) which is financed by the Embassy of New Zealand in Timor-Leste.