



JUDICIAL SYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAMME
PROGRAMA MONITORIZA SAUN BA SISTEMA

Press Release
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Bobonaro Municipality

JSMP conducts “Training of Trainers’ (TOT) for village leaders and community members in Batugade Village

On the 26th and 27th September 2023 JSMP conducted “Training of Trainers” (ToT) on Transformative Leadership. This training took place in Batugade Village, Balibo Administrative Post, Bobonaro Municipality.

The aim of this training was to increase the knowledge of community leaders about how they can provide a transformative style of leadership to be able to inspire and make positive changes in the community and in society. Also, to increase their knowledge about how to pass on information or become facilitators to community members on human trafficking, gender equality and gender based violence.

The materials presented in this training on transformative leadership also included materials on gender equality, gender based violence, human trafficking and referral networks.

“JSMP thanks the village administrative structure for providing another opportunity to JSMP to continue the second phase of training that focuses on training of trainers (ToT) to prepare them for transformative leadership in their society in relation to issues of gender equality, prevention and combatting gender based violence and human trafficking. Also JSMP hopes that in these sessions the participants can learn a lot about how to be a good leader and JSMP also thanks the village administrative structure for organising the participants, who were mostly women and also a representative of the LGBTIQ+ community” said Ms. Ana Paula Marçal, Executive Director of JSMP.

A representative of the Batugade Village Chief, Mr. Moises Wilhemus Lelo, thanked the Director and also the team for the second round of training and requested for the participants to fully participate and listen carefully to the information provided by the facilitators so that ultimately they can help their families and the community to prevent acts linked to gender based violence, especially human trafficking, so that they don't occur in the future in Batugade Village because they live close to the border with Indonesia.

During the training the participants ask some main questions such as the issue of traffickers managing to take victims out of Timor-Leste, and if a complaint can be made in such cases or not. JSMP explained that crimes of human trafficking are considered public crimes, therefore any person who has knowledge can make a report because the provisions of Article 113 of the Penal Code set out the maximum penalty for each crime, so community members don't need to be concerned about

the timing of the complaint, but what is important is to make a report and the police and the Public Prosecution Service will examine the timing allowed to make a complaint.

Also, in relation to perpetrators who manage to take victims to other countries, it is important for community members to accurately report the identity of the victim as well as the suspects if they have knowledge and the Public Prosecution Service with its full competence will use a range of measures to find out the whereabouts of the victim and also how to prosecute suspects.

During the presentation of materials on transformative leadership, the participants enthusiastically listened to the information provided by the facilitators and in this session the leader of youths provided general observations that these materials were very new. He said that the explanations provided were a type of reflection on how to be a good leader. This is because to date as the leader of youths he has organised many activities in the village and has involved a range of groups and he believes that he has not yet performed this role optimally. After hearing the explanations about transformative leadership, he found out to be a good leader means providing opportunities to members to develop themselves, to listen all the time and to give time to others to express what they feel. Another thing that was interesting in this session was “leaving no person behind” which means that it is necessary to involve everyone in all activities, namely men, women, members of the LGTBI community and persons with disabilities, and especially members of the LGBTIQ+ community.

During the last session of this training JSMP distributed a pamphlet on the definition of human trafficking, contact numbers for the referral network and how to make a complaint in cases of human trafficking and gender based violence.

The participants in this training included representatives of the community and the village administrative structure, comprising the sub-village chief, leader of youths and member of the LGTBI community. There were 23 participants, comprising 13 women and 10 men.

For more information, please contact:

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