



JUDICIAL SYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAMME  
PROGRAMA MONITORIZASAUN BA SISTEMA JUDISIÁRIU

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**JSMP facilitates training on Transformative Leadership for Political Party members in the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno**

On 15 August 2024, JSMP, through the Support Office for Civil Society Services (SASS), under the Office of the Second Deputy Prime Minister, held training for the first time on transformative leadership for members of those political parties that have seats in parliament, namely CNRT, Fretilin, PD, PLP and KHUNTO, at the ALFeLa Palaban Meeting Room.

This training was aimed at increasing and reinforcing the knowledge of members, leaders and the administrative structure of political parties in the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno on transformative leadership, so that when they have the opportunity to assume a role or function in the public sector, or as a member of parliament or member of Government, they will be able to exercise these roles with quality, merit, professionalism and accountability.

"This type of event or training is important, because these training materials emphasise quality leadership inspired by experience or examples or good practices as references from other countries that we seek to reflect in our context, to integrate aspects and qualities of leadership that reflect values such as integrity, honesty, accountability and anti-corruption for all leaders to understand and obey", said Mr. Casimiro dos Santos, Acting Executive Director of JSMP.

JSMP values and thanks the IX Constitutional Government, through the Support Office for Civil Society Services (SASS), under the Office of the Second Deputy Prime Minister, as financial support has facilitated this training for members of political parties that have seats in the national parliament.

During the opening session, His Excellency, MP Firmino Taequi, who is also the Coordinator of the CNRT Party in Oecusse, said that training on transformative leadership is crucial for leaders and the administrative structure of parties in the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno so they can have sufficient knowledge about these issues. Mr. Taequi also stated that as a person from Oecusse who sits in the National Parliament, he is aware that this is the first time that these themes and targets have been organised and shared with the members and administrative structure of political parties in the Special Administrative Region of Oecusse-Ambeno. Often parties just talk about politics, however when we are part of the State

system everything has to be done in accordance with the laws and rules of the State.

The materials covered during these sessions concentrated on issues in relation to the concept of transformative leadership, starting with an explanation about what is leadership, and leadership according to the thoughts/teachings of experts, the differences between leaders, managers and bosses, types of leadership, quality leadership that integrates values relating to integrity, honesty, accountability, anti-corruption as key elements in the concept of leadership during the current era. All of these materials were set out in a manual distributed to the participants financed from SASS funds through this project.

A central issue that was emphasized and touched on during this training concentrated on the role of leadership that has the power or capacity to inspire, guide, organize and mobilize individuals or groups to fight for common interests. Leaders are associated with action (work) and accountability; not an opportunity to obtain a position or post.

During the sessions from morning to afternoon, in addition to listening to explanations, the participants also conducted exercises in order to understand these concepts, to ask questions and make critical reflections and try to examine these concepts in line with our current reality.

These sessions stimulated open discussion and dialogue between the participants when they discussed and explored transformative leadership with quality or values that relate to integrity, honesty and accountability. In particular, there was deep discussion about the characteristics of quality leadership that emphasized aspects (leaders) that are consistent; the difference between words and behaviour, leaders who don't compromise dignity for personal or family benefits, groups or women, money and position, leaders who accept bribes and corruption, strong adherence to morals and ethics that guide governance.

The participants also examined these qualities to make comparisons with our reality, and they concluded that most of these qualities are absent and missing from our leaders. The participants recalled that most of our leaders make promises that are not consistent with reality, they don't feel ashamed or bad when they make a mistake. They were also concerned with political appointments which is a major challenge to achieve these qualities, and policies of "*dismantling*" are a serious threat to the quality of our current public administration.

Therefore, they recommended for these trainings to cover leadership at the high level or at the very least political parties need to have a space to have a session to share these qualities to those who have been entrusted to assume a post or position in relevant sectors of the State.

This activity was attended by members of five political parties in the national parliament with a total of 18 participants, comprising 14 men and 4 women, from an initial plan to have 20 participants.

For more information, please contact:

Casimiro dos Santos

Acting Executive Director of JSMP

Email: [casimiro@jsmp.tl](mailto:casimiro@jsmp.tl)

Telephone: (+670) 33238883 | 77257466

Website: <https://jsmp.tl>

info@jsmp.tl

@pengikut@sorotan