



keeping the roads open

UNDP's support to East Timor is made up of 3 components

Infrastructure Rehabilitation **Sustainable Livelihoods** **Good Governance**

Project Brief

Project No: TIM/00/54

Starting Date: July 2000

Location: Districts along the Dili
-- Ainaro -- Cassa road.

Status: ongoing

Duration: 17 months

Implementing Agency: UNDP

Budget Breakdown:

Japan: US\$ 4,700,000

Total: US\$ 4,700,000

Beneficiaries: Around 284,000 people living in the districts of Dili, Aileu, Ainaro and Manufahi.

This is about 1/3 of the population.

UNDP thanks the Government

Japan



The need

The road network that crisscrosses East Timor is in an extremely fragile state. This is as a result poor maintenance and little upgrading over many years. During the rainy season many roads become impassable, making it virtually impossible for some communities to access markets, schools or health services.

The road network was not designed for heavy traffic. Following the crisis and the increase in traffic as humanitarian agencies used the net-

work to delivered much needed supplies, further pressure was placed on East Timor's roads. One of these vital land links is that which runs between Dili, Ainaro and Cassa. It is estimated nearly one-third of East Timor's population live in the districts that are linked by this road.

UNDP's Response

To ensure this large percentage of the population could get much needed humanitarian aid, UNDP responded to a request by UNTAET to keep the Dili – Ainaro – Cassa road open.

With assistance from the Government of Japan, UNDP and UNOPS began the rehabilitation of this road. The main aims of the project are:

- √ To ensure the efficient transportation of humanitarian aid supplies.
- √ To preserve the existing road assets.
- √ To induce a revival of economic activities by giving people access to transportation.

Expected results

- √ In the design stage a needs assessment will be produced. The assessment will detail the specific sections of the Dili – Ainaro – Cassa road that need urgent rehabilitation.
- √ The report shall outline a strategy for involving communities in the future maintenance of the road.

√ Initial work will be implemented, with monthly progress reports submitted. These reports will be used to inform stakeholders and to recommend or approve major changes that are deemed necessary.

fast facts

√ East Timor's road network is made up of two main arterial roads, one that runs along the northern coast and one along the southern. These are linked mainly by five north - south roads.

√ The current state of the road network is hampering the distribution of humanitarian aid and the economic recovery of East Timor.

√ The road linking Dili – Aileu – Ainaro – Cassa totals 113 km. It is located in fragile geology and frequently closed or restricted due to landslides.

√ As of 1999, there were 6,363 kilometers of road in East Timor of which 55% was asphalt.

√ More than one third of all roads in East Timor (2332 km) were classified as damaged or seriously damaged.

√ 11% of all bridges were in poor condition.