



FACT

AIM

SHEET

**Project Name**

Programme for Access Improvements to Markets in the Eastern Region (AIM) (TIM/03/032)

RDTL Department

Ministry of Public Works, Directorate of Road, Bridges and Flood Control

Budget

USD8,008,478

Implementing Agencies

UNDP/UNOPS

Source of Funding

European Commission

**Duration**

2.5 Years

**Location**

Districts of Viqueque and Lospalos

Objective

The ultimate objective of Programme for Access Improvements to Markets in the Eastern Region (AIM) is to promote socio-economic development in Viqueque and Lautem Districts as a means of reducing poverty in the two districts. The programme will support this through the reconstruction of 5 major bridges along the Viqueque – Los Palos Road.

The five bridges will be rehabilitated taking into consideration the objective of National Development Plan and the recognized agricultural development potentials of the eastern region, in particular the districts of Viqueque and Lautem, with a primary focus on improving access to potential growth centers.

- AIM will promote the participation of qualified national construction companies in the implementation of the rehabilitation and construction works.

**Expected outcome**

The reconstruction of the 5 bridges under AIM will enable population residing along the main roads to readily access other markets, settlements, services and information. Traveling to economic and social capitals such as Viqueque, Lospalos, Baucau, Manatuto and Dili will take shorter time. It is expected that the traffic flow will gradually grow. Building of feeder roads, through the government and community efforts subsequently, and having them connected to the main road will enlarge the area covered and eventually increase traffic load. This will provide the farmers in the southeastern agriculture belt with an incentive to invest more in agricultural production, stimulating economic activities. Flow of other goods, services and information would also grow.

Strategies

- The Programme will facilitate the capacity building of the staff of Directorate of Road, Bridges & Flood Control, the government counterpart responsible for overseeing the programme, through on-the-job practical training during the implementation process.
- AIM will adopt a labor-intensive construction method in order to provide short-term employment opportunities to the communities living near the project sites mainly as unskilled labor, semi-skilled workers, equipment operators and supervisors; and

Five bridges to be reconstructed:

- Bebui (90 m span in Viqueque district)
- Wekain (30 m span in Viqueque district)
- Irabere (220 m span in Viqueque/Lautem districts)
- Mauma'a or Rorolai (120 m span in Lautem district)
- Lihulu (45 m span in Lautem district)

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