

▶ HAMETIN

ERA Agro-Forestry Project Newsletter

Partnership for Sustainable Agro-Forestry (PSAF)



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▶ Welcome to the Seventh Edition of our ERA Agro-Forestry (ERA-AF) Newsletter “HAMETIN”.

Welcome to HAMETIN, a monthly bulletin of the ERA-AF project, funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the ILO as a component of the Partnership Support for Agro-Forestry (PSAF) *Ai ba Futuru*. This edition will continue to update you on efforts being made to improve access to markets through rural roads, capacity building of institutions, contractors and the resulting impact on improved roads, decent employment, improved livelihoods, skills development and community empowerment. Our aim is to inform you on how the project is being implemented together with the people and for the people, its impact and other every day issues. We welcome your feedback. Hoping you enjoy this issue of HAMETIN

Enhancing Rural Areas Agro-Forestry (ERA-AF) Project Activities in December 2020:

▶ 01. Another Final inspection to a Section of Lariguto – Builale Road Linking Agro-Forestry Communities.



The final inspection for Lolito Unip. Ltd Section completes the four sections of Lariguto – Builale Roads that will be ready for inauguration. The newly rehabilitated roads are expected to bring new opportunities to the community providing connections to the market as well as indirectly facilitating students' mobility and health services to the rural communities. The project continues to promote inclusiveness among the vulnerable youth, women, and people with disabilities. The project has strived to give to women and men equal opportunities for seeking employment, provided with work that suits their abilities.



▶ 02. Assessing the Project

Following field visits and interviews by the ILO Mid-Term Evaluation Team in November, the ERA-AF team continues to collaborate with the evaluators in facilitating the project evaluations. This Light Midterm Evaluation is an independent assessment carried out by ILO as part of the monitoring, evaluation and governance mechanisms of ILO's projects.

This Mid-Term Evaluation of the ERA Agro-Forestry Project commenced in early November with the objective of documenting and assessing achievements, challenges, lessons learnt and providing recommendations so as to guide future project implementation. The evaluation has been implemented within the COVID-19 pandemic situations that required a number of adaptations including virtual meetings and compliance to COVID-19 measures.



► **03. Assessing Community Satisfaction Along Lariguto – Builale Road**



An Endline Community Satisfaction Survey was conducted from December 1-3, 2020 on 4 sections of Lariguto – Builale road in Viqueque Municipality. This endline survey was intended to gather feedback on the impact of the road to the community along the roads compared to a baseline survey conducted prior to the road being built in early 2019. The surveys provided opportunity for the communities to give feedback on the benefits and its effect on their livelihoods, including market linkages, access to education, health, entrepreneurial activities and other sustainable interventions. The Community Satisfaction Survey also documents stories of interest that have impacted the community.

► **04. Annual Planning Session 2021**

The ERA Agro-Forestry project held an Annual Planning Session 2021 from 9 to 10 December 2020 at the Don Bosco Audio Visual Room with the objective of reviewing Performance for 2020, Reviewing Preliminary Feedback from Mid-Term Evaluation, Planning for 2021 Activities and Addressing Pertinent Implementation Issues. As such, all unit teams were requested to prepare short implementation reports to be shared, which focused on main achievements, main challenges and solutions, things to do better in 2021.

Further, there was also brainstorming on planned activities for 2021 that sought to ensure completion of the project’s deliverables. Each Unit was also responsible for preparing a Team Building Activity that aimed to strengthen the bonds of the team to facilitate the effective delivery of outputs. The sessions resulted in fruitful evaluation of the planned works in 2020 and activity plans of each unit for 2021.

► **05. End of Year Gathering for 2020.**



It has been an interesting, challenging and eventful Year 2020. The ERA-AF team and the ILO Timor-Leste gathered as a family to bid farewell to the year 2020 and welcome 2021. The gathering was an opportune moment to celebrate the successes and express appreciation to all the project teams for the achievements accomplished in 2020. While recognizing challenges and obstacles encountered in the year 2020, but there were also accomplishments that need to be celebrated. It was thus a time for ERA-AF team and entire ILO Timor-Leste Teams to gather, review and assess the achievements, challenges and ponder on the way forward in 2021.