



AUSTRIAN RED CROSS

TIMOR-LESTE / EAST TIMOR



AutRC project area:
Bobonaro, Ermera, Liquica

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| | East Timor | Austria |
|--|---|---|
| Area in km ² | 18,889 | 83,871 |
| Population (millions) | 1.1 | 8.3 |
| Rural population in % | 73 | 33 |
| UNDP Human Development Index | 162 | 14 |
| Society | | |
| Languages | Tetum and Portuguese, also Indonesian and English | German Regional languages: Slovenian, Croatian |
| Religions | 95% Catholic, furthermore Muslim, Protestant, Buddhist, Hindu | 73.6% Catholic, 4.7% Protestant, 4.2% Muslim, 2.2% Orthodox, 0.1% Jew, 12% without religious denomination |
| Health | | |
| Life expectancy | 60.7 | 79.9 |
| Doctors per 10,000 inhabitants | 1 | 37 |
| Infant mortality per 1,000 babies | 40.6 | 4 |
| Child malnutrition (< 5 years) in % | 40.6 | 0 |
| Adults with HIV/AIDS in % | no date | 0.2 |
| Access to safe drinking water in % | 62 | 100 |
| Access to sanitary facilities in % | 41 | 100 |
| Education | | |
| Literacy rates in % | 58.6 | ~ 100 |
| Economy | | |
| Main export products | Coffee, sandalwood, marble. Potentially oil and vanilla | Machines, automotive industry, paper, metal, iron, chemicals, textiles |
| GNP/capita/year in USD | 717 | 37,370 |
| % of the population living on < 1,25 USD/day | 52.9 | 0 |
| Unemployment in % | 20 | 3.9 |
| Inflation in % | 7.8 | 3.2 |

Sources: UNDP United Nations Development Report 2009, German Federal Foreign Office, www.cia.gov, www.who.int



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In 2002, after many years of serious armed conflict, East Timor became an independent state facing major challenges with regard to reorganisation of infrastructure, administration, healthcare etc. East Timor is the poorest country in Asia. The majority of the population live in rural areas and rely on subsistence farming.

The Austrian Red Cross (AutRC) has been cooperating closely with the Red Cross Society of East Timor (CVTL) since 2005. The programme includes the following key points:

Water systems

Above all, the AutRC aims to continue to strengthen the core competences of the CVTL. There is a significant overlap in the area of water and hygiene. This is both a focal point of the AutRC programme and a main field of activity of the CVTL. With reference to the Millenium Development Goal of improved access to clean drinking water (MDG 7), the AutRC is supporting the construction of water systems in 13 communities in the north-western districts of Bobonaro, Ermera and Liquica. This should significantly reduce the risk of disease caused by unclean water. In addition, all households in the project region will be given a latrine, in order to reduce diarrhoea illnesses through improved hygiene.

Health and hygiene education

Health and hygiene education is provided to additionally improve the general health conditions in

rural communities. Certain people in the villages are trained and they pass on the basic knowledge they acquire about hygiene, health and maintenance of water supply facilities to all families in their villages.



Capacity building

Through this cooperation project, the AutRC is also supporting the capacity building of East Timor's civil society. In order, above all, to have better access to the neglected rural regions, the AutRC is helping to organise local CVTL structures, rebuild destroyed infrastructure and coordinate volunteer work in the districts and villages.

Project duration 2007-2012
Cost approx. € 1,9 mio.

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