



For Immediate Release

For information, contact:

Lisa Rogers, USAID

Development Outreach & Communications Officer

Tel: + 670 332 2211

Major New Partnership Targets Corruption and Immunization Rates

Dili, 14 January 2011 -- Today Timor-Leste gains a new partner in two top priority development areas: fighting corruption and improving children's health. A special ceremony today at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs highlights a new program with the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC). MCC will provide financial and technical support from the Government of the United States of America to help the Government of Timor-Leste build a strong coalition to fight corruption and boost immunization rates for children across the country. The MCC Country Threshold Program will be managed by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), which has been a key development partner working on important projects since 2000.

The specific MCC activities were proposed by the Government of Timor-Leste following the country's inclusion in the MCC Threshold Program. The program will seek to reduce corruption by supporting the Government of Timor-Leste's critical work building a network of effective anti-corruption institutions and actors through strengthening capacity, increasing coordination, and improving processes and procedures to deter and detect instances of corruption.

The MCC program will also improve access to immunization services by supporting the creation of a more capable and effective community health system in Timor-Leste through strengthening the local community health units, improving immunization management and vaccine-preventable disease surveillance capacity, strengthening service delivery, and increasing the number of qualified health service providers.

Vice- Minister of Foreign Affairs Alberto Carlos, U.S. Ambassador Judith Fergin, USAID Acting Mission Director Cheryl A. Williams, MCC Vice President James Parks, and Director for MCC Threshold Countries Malik M. Chaka attended today's ceremony. This three-year Threshold Program brings \$10.5 million to focus on these two vital development challenges.

"The Government of Timor-Leste has made the fight against corruption one of its top priorities with efforts to make government institutions more transparent and accountable," said USAID Acting Mission Director Cheryl A. Williams. "In health, the focus on boosting immunization rates will help improve the overall health and survival rates for Timor-Leste's children. USAID/Timor-Leste looks forward to working with its partners and MCC to build on the progress already being made in these areas."

The MCC works directly with the governments of more than 40 countries to help them tackle important development challenges through country-led solutions for reducing poverty through sustainable economic growth. Its 17 policy indicators help developing countries evaluate their development successes and highlight areas that still need further work.

"The MCC Threshold Program is further proof of the friendship and cooperation between the United States and Timor-Leste," said U.S. Ambassador Judith Fergin. "The United States and Timor-Leste are permanent partners. This program adds a rich new dimension to our partnership. The United States is proud to help Timor-Leste as it tackles its most pressing and complex challenges."

The MCC is an independent U.S. Government agency through which substantial development assistance is provided to those countries that are committed to good governance, economic freedom, and investments in their citizens. Qualification for MCC is a mark of excellence that encourages investment and reinforces growth by supporting countries whose governments have demonstrated their successful commitment to development.

----- ends -----



Additional MCC Timor-Leste Threshold Program Information

Anti-Corruption Program

The anti-corruption program will strengthen organizations that are leading in the fight against corruption in Timor-Leste so that everyone can become better at detecting and preventing corruption. The following Timorese organizations will be strengthened by this program:

- The Office of the Prosecutor General and the Anti-Corruption Commission
- Offices involved in Government procurement/purchasing, audits and investigations
- Parliament and its staff, to improve fiscal oversight skills and capacity
- Civil society organizations, including the media and academia, that monitor corruption, publish corruption information and advocate reform.

Immunization Program

Increasing immunization rates will improve the health of Timor-Leste's children and ensure that more of them survive to become healthy and productive adults. The program will strengthen health care delivery systems by working with the following Timorese organizations:

- The Ministry of Health's Integrated Community Health Services Units (SISCa) so they can provide full immunization services in villages across the country
- Community health center staff so they can identify areas where immunization rates are low and then improve rates in those areas
- Ministry of Health and hospital staff so they can monitor vaccine-preventable disease rates
- District and community health center staff so they can improve basic health care operations.

MCC's Threshold Program is designed to help countries in becoming eligible for long-term MCC Compact status. The Threshold Program enables a country to demonstrate results in the broad policy areas underlying MCC eligibility criteria. Individual country threshold programs support specific policy and institutional reforms identified together with country partners. Successful implementation of these reforms under a country threshold program is an important factor in assessing the potential of an eventual MCC compact to stimulate long-term growth and poverty reduction.



Komunikadu ba media

Ba informasaun, kontaktu:

Lisa Rogers, USAID

Development Outreach & Communications Officer

Tel: +670 332 2211

Parseria Foun Bot Tarjetu ba Nivel Korupsaun no Imunizasaun

Dili, 14 de Janeiro 2011 – Ohin loron Timor-Leste hetan parseiru foun iha area dezvoltamentu prioridade rua mak hanesan: luta kontra korupsaun no hadia labarik nia saude. Serimonia espesial nebe halao ohin loron iha Ministerio Negosiu Estranjeiru foka kona ba programa foun ho Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC). MCC sei fornese suporta finanseiru no tekniku husi Governu Estados Unidos Amerika atu ajuda Governu Timor-Leste hodi forma koligasaun nebe forte atu luta kontra korupsaun no hadia imunizasaun ba labarik iha nasaun nia laran. Programa foun ne sei maneja husi Ajensia Estados Unidos ba Dezenvolvimentu Internasional (USAID), nebe sai ona hanesan parseiru dezvoltamentu importante nebe servisu iha projeitu importante hahu iha tinan 2000.

Aktividades spesifiku MCC nian tuir proposta nebe mai husi Governu Timor-Leste depois de Timor-Leste tama iha programa MCC Threshold. Programa ne sei buka atu hamenus korupsaun liu husi hari rede institusaun anti korupsaun nebe funsiona ho efektivu liu husi hametin nia kapasidade, hametin koordenasau, no hadia prosesu no prosedimentus atu detekta no desenkoraja kazu kona ba korupsaun.

Programa MCC mos sei hadia asesu ba serbisu imunizasaun liu husi kria kbi'it nebe diak liu no efektivu ba sistema saude komunitaria iha Timor-Leste liu husi dalan hodi hametin unidades saude komunidadade lokal, hadia jestaun imunizasaun no vasina hodi prevene no fo kbi'it ho hases an husi moras, hametin liu tan serbisu no hasae liu tan numeru ema kualifikadu hodi fo tratamentu saude.

Vice-Ministru Negosius Estrangeirus Alberto Carlos, Embaixadora Estados Unidos Judith Fergin, Acting Diretor Misaun USAID Cheryl A. Williams, Vice Presidente MCC James Parks, ho Director MCC Threshold Countries Malik M. Chaka atende serimonia ida ne'e. Serimonia ne marka katak programa MCC Threshold hahu ona iha Timor-Leste. Programa Threshold ba tinan tolu lori hamutuk osan \$10.5 milhoes nebe sei foka liu ba area importante rua ne.

"Programa ne refleta Timor-Leste nia komitimentu atu hamenus korupsaun publiku no hadia saude labarik sira," dehan Acting Diretor Misaun USAID Cheryl A. Williams. "Governu Timor-Leste halao tia ona luta kontra korupsaun hanesan prioridade importante ida ho esforsus atu kria institusaun governu atu sai transparante no responsavel liu tan. Iha saude, foka liu ba hadia imunizasaun sei ajuda hadia saude tomak no labarik Timor-leste sira nia moris. USAID/Timor-Leste ba oin sei servisu hamutuk ho nia parseiru Governu Timor-Leste ho MCC atu hadia/dezenvolve progresu nebe halao tia ona iha area rua ne.

MCC serbisu direktamente ho governu nasaun 40 liu atu ajuda nasaun sira kombate obstaklu importante iha dezvoltamentu liu husi solusaun nasaun atu hamenus kiak liu husi kresimentu sustentavel husi ekonomia. Nia politika indikadores 17 ajuda nasaun sira halo avaliasaun ba sira nia susesu iha dezvoltamentu no foka ba area nebe mak iha futuru persiza hadia.

"Programa MCC Threshold nebe ita asina ohin loron hanesan prova/hatudu amizade no kooperasaun entre Estados Unidos ho Timor-Leste," dehan Embaixadora Estados Unidos Judith Fergin. "Estados Unidos ho Timor-Leste hanesan parseiru permanente. Programa ne aumenta dimensaun foun nebe riku ba ita nia parseria. Estados Unidos orgulho atu ajuda Timor-Leste atu hadia dezafiu nebe urjenti no kompleksu.



MCC hanesan institusaun independenti iha Estadus Unidus nia Governu, liu husi MCC mak fornese assistensia dezenvolvimentu substansial ba nasaun sira nebe iha komitimentu ba boa governasaun, liberdade ekonomia, no investimentu ba sira nia sidadun. Kualifikasaun ba MSS hanesan marka exselensia nebe enkoraja investimentu no reforsa kresimentu hodi suporta governu sira nebe nia governu hatudu komitimentu susesu ba dezenvolvimentu.

----- Remata -----

Informasaun Adisional Programa MCC Timor-Leste Threshold

Programa Anti-Korupsaun

Programa anti korupsaun sei haforsa organizasaun sira nebe serbisu luta kontra korupsaun iha Timor-Leste ho nune'e ema hotu sei hatene diak liu tan atu detekta no prevene korupsaun. Organizasaun iha okos ne mak sei atu haforsa liu tan husi programa ne:

- Prokuradoria Geral no Komisaun Anti korupsaun
- Departementu nebe involve iha kontratus/sosa sasan, audit no investigasaun
- Parlamentu no nia staff, atu hasai skill hare/avalia fiskal no kapasidade
- Organizasaun sosiadade sivil, inklui media no akademia, nebe halo monitorizasaun ba korupsaun, publika informasaun kona ba korupsaun no reforma advogado

Programa imunizasaun

Hasae nivel imunizasaun sei hadia labarik Timor-Leste nia saude no garantia katak labarik barak mak sei moris ho saude nebe diak no produktivu. Programa ne sei haforsa sistema fo tratamentu saude hodi serbisu hamutuk ho organizasaun Timor-Leste tuir mai ne:

- Ministerio Saude ho nia programa integradu Community Health Services Units (SISCa) ho nune'e sira bele fornese servisu imunizasaun maximu iha suku iha Timor laran
- Staff sentru saude komunidadade ho nune'e sira bele identifika area ida nebe mak nivel imunizasaun kiik no depois hasai nivel iha area sira ne.
- Staff Ministerio Saude no hospital ho nune'e sira bele halo monitorizasaun ba nivel vaksina atu prevene moras
- Staff distritu no sentru saude komunidadade ho nune'e sira bele hadia operasaun tratamentu saude baziku.

Programa MCC Threshold ne halo atu ajuda nasaun sira atu bele hetan kategoria MCC Compact ba longu prazu. Programa Threshold permite nasaun ida atu hatudu rezultadu iha area politika nebe luan bazeia ba MCC nia kriteria elijibilidade. Programa threshold iha nasaun idak-idak suporta politika esfesifiku no reformas institusionais nebe identifika hamutuk ho nasaun parseiru. Implementasaun susesu reforma sira ne husi programa country threshold sai hanesan fator importante ida atu avalia potensia atu hetan MCC Compact atu estimula kresimentu longu prazu no hamenus kiak.