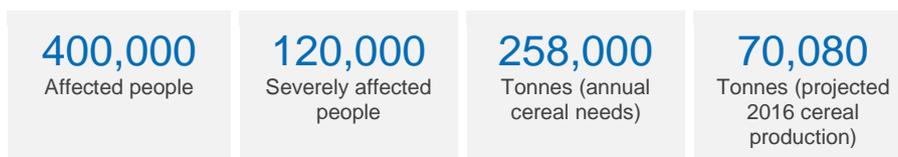




This report is produced by the Office of the Resident Coordinator in Timor-Leste in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 29 April to 2 September 2016.

Highlights

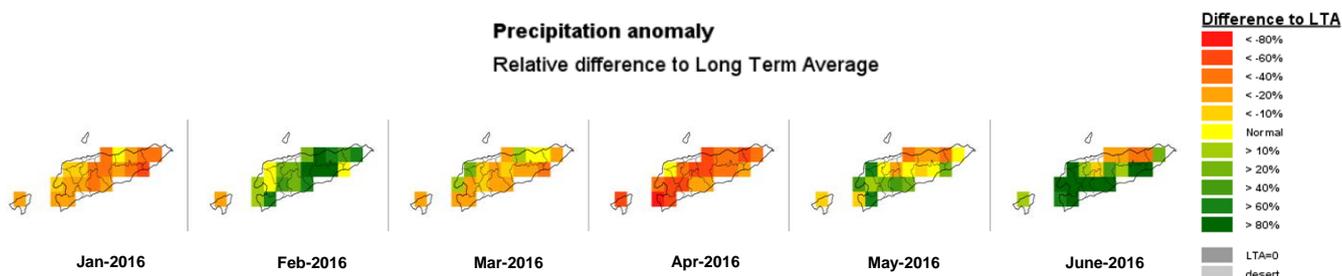
- In the aftermath of the 2015 to 2016 *El Niño*-induced drought, 120,000 people remain severely affected in Lautém, Viqueue, Baucau and Covalima municipalities and Oe-Cusse Special Economic Zone.
- Food, water and sanitation, health, nutrition, livelihood and education support are priority needs.
- Rainfall levels remain below historical annual average. Erratic weather has resulted in a significant decrease of cereal production which may further strain the food security and coping capacities of already vulnerable rural households.
- The Government of Timor-Leste continues to coordinate the *El Niño* response to address the food security situation. Humanitarian partners are providing targeted support to the local response.
- The Emergency Relief Coordinator allocated US\$846,700 from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund to enable partners to respond to the nutrition needs of nearly 21,000 people.



Situation Overview

In the aftermath of the 2015 to 2016 *El Niño*-induced drought, 120,000 people across the municipalities of Lautém, Viqueue, Baucau and Covalima and the Oe-Cusse Special Economic Zone continue to need food, water and sanitation, health, nutrition, livelihood and education support.

Since the beginning of 2016, the amount of rainfall remains below the long term annual average according to historical data from FAO. During the past four months, inland mountainous areas received more rain than the coastal areas on the north, east and south of Timor-Leste and Oe-Cusse. The varied weather condition has resulted in pockets of remaining needs in remote areas which are difficult to access and continues to constrain recovery efforts.



The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries recorded more than 70,000 animal deaths between November 2015 and March 2016 amounting to a total loss of around \$13 million. WFP and FAO also reported that irregular rainfall has resulted in the reduction of maize and rice yields. Ongoing dry weather conditions in some areas is a concern as it may significant impact the planting of secondary season crops.

Between 2011 and 2015, the annual cereal production in Timor-Leste was 162,000 tonnes – the production level in 2015 decreased to 129,000 tonnes. In 2016, it is projected that the production will further decrease to 70,080 tonnes. With the annual cereal needs of 258,100, a gap of 188,000 tones is expected this year.

With the significant gap in cereal production for two consecutive years, the ongoing drought is putting critical pressure on the limited resources of rural households. On a regular year, the coping capacities of communities are already severely stretched, with very high incidences of malnutrition reported (50 per cent of stunted children under age-5 and the 27 per cent of underweight women).

According to World Meteorological Organization, there is a probability (50 to 65 per cent) that a weak *La Niña* event may develop in the third quarter of 2016. *La Niña* generally has the opposite weather effects to *El Niño* – areas that experienced drought are at risk of higher rainfall. If a *La Niña* event affects Timor-Leste in the coming months, communities recovering from *El Niño* will remain at heightened risk.

Humanitarian Response

In line with priorities identified in the [Emergency Response Plan for El Niño](#) launched in April, local authorities supported by humanitarian partners continue to implement programmes to mitigate the effects of *El Niño*.

The Government of Timor-Leste imported additional rice subsidized sale and distribution to selected vulnerable households. It has also distributed 219 tonnes of seeds, pesticides and fertilizers to several municipalities including Baucau, Viqueque, Covalima and Lautém.

The international community mobilized a limited amount of funding for longer term support targeting over 10,000 households in six municipalities, including the worst affected areas. Please refer to the table below outlining ongoing *El Niño* response activities.

Thematic						Intervention	Municipality	Beneficiaries		Duration (months)	Implemented by
					HHs			Total			
Food	Wash	Nutrition	Health	DRR	Livelihoods	Provision of food, unconditional cash, safe water and sanitation, and hygiene promotion interventions, relief and recovery assistance	Baucau, Viqueque, Lautem	4,000	20,000	10	CVTL & IFRC
Food	Wash	Nutrition		DRR		Improved water management; water containers and filters for HH's; improved community water storage; malnutrition screening and referral; seed distribution and improved agricultural methods.	Covalima, Viqueque	1,674	8,460	11	CARE Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Food	Wash			DRR	Livelihoods	Improved food processing and storage; rehabilitated water systems; improved kitchen gardens.	Manufahi	454	2,720	11	Caritas & LBF
	Wash	Nutrition	Health	DRR		Analysis of community coping strategies; water safety planning, protection and O&M plans; water supply improvements; water source protection; water tankering and storage, GMF training, Hygiene, Sanitation and El Nino messaging and follow-up, food security (tree seedlings, kitchen gardens)	Lautem	2,700	13,500	6	Plan International Fratema Ministry of Public Works DNSA
	Wash		Health	DRR	Livelihoods	Water source protection; water conservation and safety; hygiene; drip irrigation systems; promote crop diversification and drought resistance; seed distribution; tree seedlings distribution; nutrition education.	Baucau	3,552	18,679	11	Wold Vision, Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries
				DRR	Livelihoods	Awareness raising on differing impacts of El Nino on males and females; mitigation activities; seed distribution; training on soil and water conservation; rehabilitation and or construction of climate-resilient low cost high impact small scale water infrastructures.	Oe-cusse, Covalima, Baucau, Manufahi, Manatutu, Ermera and Bobonaro	2,478	14,374	11	OXFAM Fini Esperansa, CCC, ALEBAO, BIFANO, FPWO
				DRR	Livelihoods	Rehabilitation and / or construction of climate-resilient low cost high impact small scale water infrastructures in two sucos.	Baucau, Covalima, Manufahi, Manatutu, Ermera, Bobonaro			2	KONSSANTIL +, and UNDP
				DRR	Livelihoods	Recovery and Resilience Plan	Baucau, Covalima, Manufahi, Manatutu, Ermera, Bobonaro		8,878	6	KONSSANTIL +, and UNDP
								14,858	86,611		

General Coordination

Ministry of Interior (Mol) continues to coordinate the in-country response and facilitate exchange of information. Partners' support is coordinated through the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), co-led by the Minister of Interior, the Minister for Social Solidarity, the UN Resident Coordinator and the Country Director of Plan International.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, as secretariat of the National Council for Food Security, Sovereignty and Nutrition in Timor-Leste (KONSSANTIL), is planning to conduct a post-*El Niño* and *La Niña* Watch assessment in coordination with other line ministries and supported by FAO, WFP, UNDP and Humanitarian Partnership Agreement partners.

On 21 June, a meeting of the Technical Permanent Secretariat of KONSSANTIL and development partners was held. It was agreed that an integrated assessment will be conducted, covering more sectors in addition to agriculture, food security and nutrition. A follow-up assessment planning meeting was conducted on 29 July.

From 3 to 5 July, the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for *El Niño* and Climate, Ambassador Macharia Kamau, visited Timor-Leste. Ambassador Kamau met with government line ministries, UN agencies and development and humanitarian partners to assess the situation and identify immediate and long-term steps that can be taken to alleviate suffering and improve the resilience and human security of affected communities. The RCO supported the coordination of his visit on the ground, including a visit to affected communities in Baucau. The mission press release is available through the following link: <http://bit.ly/29qcgVM>

Funding

Following the Special Envoy's visit, the RCO in collaboration with the HCT developed and submitted a proposal to the UN Central Emergency Response Fund to implement emergency nutrition activities to nearly 21,000 people in three of the worst affected municipalities (Lautém, Baucau and Viqueque). The Emergency Relief Coordinator has approved a grant of \$846,700 for critical life-saving nutrition programmes.

Please refer to the table below for an overview of funding received for the Timor-Leste *El Niño* response.

No.	Donor	Amount	
		US\$	Other Currency
1	DFAT	\$ 722,030.00	AUS\$ 1,000,000
2	SIDA	\$ 270,000.00	SEK 2.5m
3	EU	\$ 109,957.00	EUR 98,000
4	CARE International	\$ 75,000.00	
5	Swedish RC	\$ 64,000.00	SEK 550,000
6	PLAN UK	\$ 51,000.00	
7	World Vision	\$ 50,000.00	
8	JOAK (UK)	\$ 39,300.00	GBP 30,000
9	Japanese RC	\$ 26,674.00	CHF 26,400
10	Canadian RC	\$ 26,740.00	CAD 35,000
11	CARE Australia Appeal	\$ 17,500.00	
12	UNDP	\$ 75,000.00	
13	Others	\$ 113,198.00	
	TOTAL (US\$)	\$ 1,640,399.00	

All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing: adelina.lourdes@one.un.org

DISCLAIMER: This document is a compilation of information gathered from various sources, including relevant UN agencies, Government sources, INGOs, IOs, church-based organizations and the media.

For further information, please contact:

Ms. Adelina Lourdes, Head of the Office of the Resident Coordinator, adelina.lourdes@one.un.org, Tel: +670 7731 2419

For more information, please visit www.hct-timorleste.com www.unocha.org/el-nino www.reliefweb.int.