

Briefing

The importance of young people in Timor-Leste's civil society



Mariana Baptista, Senior Lawyer

According to World Bank, about 60 percent of Timor-Leste's 1.2 million people are under 25-years-old.

Like many developing countries, Timor-Leste has faced an increase in youth, where improvements in maternal and infant mortality rates led to a population with a high percentage of children and young adults.

This reality imposes many challenges, namely in the fields of education, health and employment.

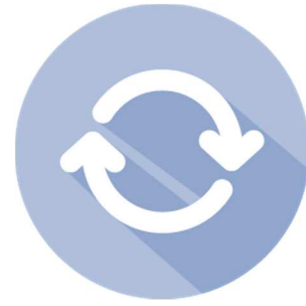
Under the right conditions, the young people of Timor-Leste have an immense potential to positively contribute to the nation progress.

In fact, this young generation is the most educated Timorese ever. The young Timorese are driven and many are organized into associations and community organizations.

Timorese decision-makers must recognize that an active citizenship and encouraging civic engagement among the youth is a long-term investment in the social and political stability of the country and that with greater access to information and training, young people are able to contribute and add value to important decision making.

Young people need to have greater involvement in politics and in building the future of the country, as they represent the agents of change.

Legal Update



- **Government Decree No. 2/2018 of 21 February** – Establishes supplementary regulations for the implementation of the New Private Investment Law No. 15/2017 of 23 August, which regulates, among others, the minimum investment and reinvestment amounts for the granting of special benefits, as well as the procedure for requesting and issuing the declaration of benefits and conclusion of the special investment agreement.
- **Decree-Law No. 10/2018** – Establishes the Statute of the Institute for the Quality of Timor-Leste.
- **Decree-Law No. 11/2018** – Provides support to employers within the contributory social security scheme.



Analysis

Special Economic Zones – Did you know?



Paulo Oliveira, Lawyer

Timor-Leste has two special economic areas: Oé-cusse Ambeno, an enclave in Indonesia, and Ataúro, an island very close to Dili. Both areas are considered by the Law nº. 3/2014 as Special Social Market Economy Zones (SSMEZ) and have administrative and financial autonomy, which means that both have independent finances, independent tax system, own procurement system, own financial market and own customs system.

While Ataúro Island was established as special zone to be a pole of a tourist nature, the area of Oé-cusse Ambeno was designed to be a trade and industrial pole and has attracted large investments in infrastructure.

Oé-cusse Ambeno offers, in its own territorial limits, exemption from payment of customs duties and respect for the principles of the social market economy as a model of economic growth. A Special Development Fund is set for the region, which is intended to finance the implementation of strategic social and economic projects, including road infrastructures, ports and airports, water and sanitation facilities, energy and telecommunication distribution networks, as well as hospitals and other social and tourism infrastructures.

Speed Notes >>>>

- Represented by the alpine skier Yohan Goutt Gonçalves, Timor-Leste participated in the 2018 Winter Olympics held in Pyeongchang, South Korea.
- Timor-Leste and Australia signed a new border agreement on 6 March in New York.
- The Issuance of Identity Card is now extended to all Timor-Leste's Municipalities.
- Timorese Government launches an integrated information and financial management system. This system will allow the Central Bank, the National Bank of Commerce of Timor-Leste (BNCTL) and the Ministry of Planning and Finance to interconnect, automating state payments and State revenues.
- On March 12th, the Prime Minister Marí Alkatiri, together with the Minister of Tourism, Manuel Vong and the Vice Minister of Tourism, Rui Menezes da Costa, inaugurated the first Tourism Information Center of Timor-Leste.
- On March, the Government delivered the environmental license for the construction of the Tibar Port.
- On March 16th, the Prime Minister, Marí Alkatiri, signed a memorandum of understanding for the construction of a technical school for aviation.
- Timor-Leste's parliamentary elections on May 12 have returned Xanana Gusmão to the Government Palace in Dili.

Who's Who



Timor-Leste's Youth

In this issue, we pay tribute to the country most valuable asset: its people, more specifically its youth.

As highlighted in our Briefing, about 60 percent of Timor-Leste's 1.2 million people are under 25-years-old.

In 2018, is expected that 30,000 young people will join the working age population and the market.

We wish them all the luck! You are the future!



Calendar

Upcoming Events:

- 9th International Infrastructure Investment and Construction Forum (IIICF), 7-8 June, in Macau.
- Lisbon Investment Summit 2018, 6-7 June, in Lisbon, Portugal.
- FIN Portugal – Feira Internacional de Negócios (Business International Fair) 14-16 June, Lisbon, Portugal.

CRA multi-awarded in 2018

We are delighted to announce that our firm was elected by Corporate Insider the **Most Outstanding Law Firm of Timor-Leste in 2018**.

In this early 2018, CRA was also acknowledge in Portugal as the **Arbitration & Mediation Law Firm of the Year** by Corporate Intl Global Awards and by International Advisory Experts Award.

And there is more. In Sports, CRA Portugal was awarded **Most Outstanding Sports Law Firm 2018** by AI's 2018 Global Excellence Awards.



International Advisory Experts

CorporateINTL
GLOBAL AWARDS
WINNER 2018





CRA and Trade Invest in Macau at the 15th Anniversary of the Establishment of Forum Macau and the Platform between China and other Portuguese Speaking Countries

CRA Timor, represented by our Partner Rui Botica Santos and our Associates Duarte Simões Carneiro and Gonçalo Lestro, took part in the celebrations of the 15th Anniversary of the Establishment of Forum Macao and the Platform between China and other Portuguese Speaking Countries, along with TradeInvest Timor-Leste Delegation, composed by its Executive Director, Mr. Arcanjo da Silva, and its Senior Adviser, Mrs. Cristina Costa, and Executive Assistant, Mr. João Baptista.

The main goal of this meeting was to discuss the Action Plan in 2017 and 2019 which has been agreed upon by the Forum of Macao and getting other perspectives from all other participants.

It was an important event for Timor-Leste that will strengthen the relationship between China and Portuguese Speaking Countries, especially in investment and financial sectors.



CRA and Trade Invest Presented the New Investment Legal Framework in Macau

On March, during the celebrations of the 15th Anniversary of the Establishment of Forum Macao and the Platform between China and other Portuguese Speaking Countries, CRA and Trade Invest presented the New Investment Legal Framework of Timor-Leste.

Our Managing Associate Duarte Simões Carneiro represented the Firm and spoke to the public along with the Executive Director of TradeInvest Mr. Arcanjo da Silva.

Both explain to the public the provisions of the new Private Investment law No.15/2017 and the Government Decree Law No. 2/2018 on the regulations and procedures of private investment to the private sectors, including the minimum investment and reinvestment amounts for the granting of special benefits, the procedure for requesting and issuing the declaration of benefits and the conclusion of special investment agreements.





CRA Timor took part in the celebration of a Memorandum of Understanding for the construction of a World Class Touristic Complex in Oé-Cusse

Conducted by our Managing Partner Rui Botica Santos, the CRA team advised a company of Hong Kong and the Government of Timor-Leste on the negotiations for the signing of a memorandum of understanding for the construction of a tourist complex in Oé-cusse.

The project, now supported by the Government, aims to internationalize and expand the touristic market of Timor-Leste and has an estimated investment of USD 30 million.



CRA TIMOR – A Local Team with a Global Mindset

CRA Timor is loyal to an idea of being a Law Firm that enriches the economy of Timor-Leste. In this extent, within the service breaks of ‘this path’ it is necessary the assembly of these ‘mandatory meetings’ by the leadership of the most veteran, in particular, from our Dr. José Faria Neves to the newest members of CRA Timor.

We go beyond through the growth of a multi-cultural team (e.g. Portugal, Angola and Timor in the picture) among CRA to strive for the success of its counterparts and our long-term partners.

TRADEINVEST – Moving Forward Together

As an investment and export promotion agency in Timor-Leste, TradeInvest regularly performs physical training among its employees and we encourage this measure, as we know the importance of a strong team that is established on a perfect balance between a professional and personal life.

With our ‘pivot’, Pedro Alexandre Silva, one of our most recent and important enrolments in CRA Timor, we believe in the future of TradeInvest's objectives, which is a diversified and solid economy



BE GLOBAL FOR LOCAL – Enhancing Oe-Cusse Ambeno

Our most recent CRA member, Daniel Manaia, assisted Director David Hernandez (left) and Manager Diego Ortiz Ortega (right), members of a Hong Kong company, to visit the Special Administrative Region of Oe-Cusse Ambeno with the government support of H.E. The Prime Minister, Dr. Mari Bim Amude Alkatiri, and H.E. The Minister of Tourism, Dr. Manuel Vong.

EMPLOYEE in focus



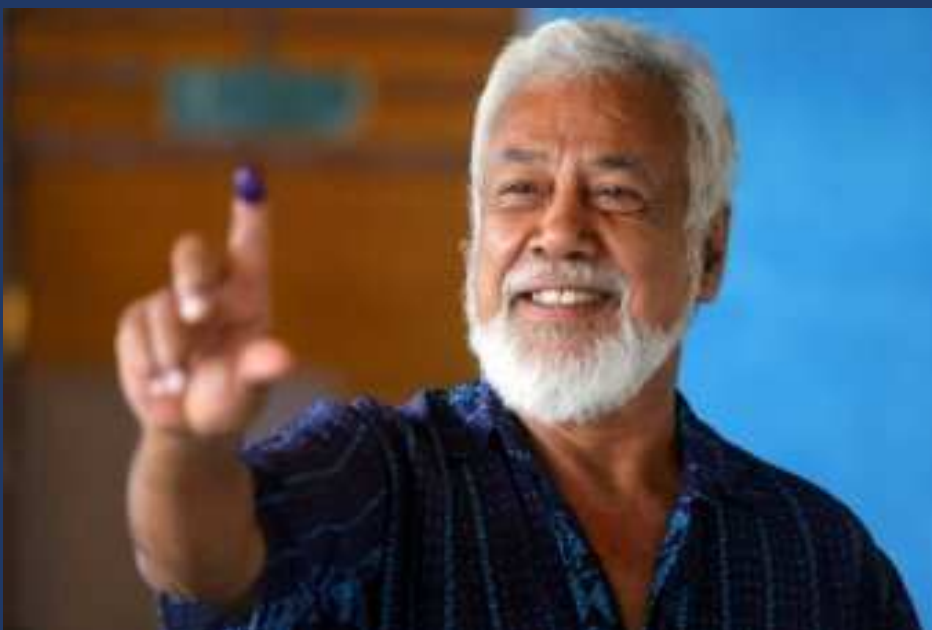
Deolinda or simply “Deo” works at CRA since its early stages.

As one of our most experienced employees, Deo have helped us to shape the firm as it is today. Her kindness and joy captivates all.

She is the first to get in the office every day and the first to deal with the clients, always with a big smile.

CRA Timor is grateful for all the commitment and hard work Deo has showed since the beginning! Thank you Deo for being part of the Family! We wish you all the best!

Timor in Pictures



Led by Xanana Gusmão, AMP won the last parliamentary elections, held on May 12, and now a new Government is to be formed.

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