

Annual Report

La'o Hamutuk

January - December 2012

Table of Contents

Background.....	1
Program activities.....	2
Public meetings, presentations, testimony and trainings	2
Website, blog and email lists	2
Research, Monitoring and advocacy	4
Petroleum dependency, economics and the “Resource Curse”	4
Greater Sunrise oil and gas field and maritime boundaries	4
Tasi Mane south coast petroleum infrastructure project	5
Petroleum revenues and transparency	6
State Budget and sustainability	7
Borrowing	8
National electricity project	9
Preventing corruption	10
Environment and climate change	10
Agriculture.....	11
Food sovereignty	11
Land rights	12
Governance and democracy	13
Elections	13
Justice for past crimes	14
United Nations.....	15
International assistance.....	16
Networking	17
Organizational situation.....	18
Results from La’o Hamutuk’s work during 2012	19
Plans for 2013	20
Appendix 1. Financial report	21
Appendix 2. Media coverage of La’o Hamutuk.....	25
Appendix 3. Presentations and programs given or organized by LH.....	30
Appendix 4. Submissions and testimony by La’o Hamutuk.....	31
Appendix 5. La’o Hamutuk Blog	32
Appendix 6. Staff and Advisory Board biographies.....	33

La'o Hamutuk

Timor-Leste Institute for Development Monitoring and Analysis

Rua Martires da Patria, Bebora, Dili, Timor-Leste

P.O. Box 340, Dili, Timor-Leste

Mobile phone: +670-77234330 Land phone: +670-3321040

Email: info@laohamutuk.org Web: <http://www.laohamutuk.org> Blog: laohamutuk.blogspot.com

In La'ó Hamutuk's vision, the people of Timor-Leste, women and men, of current and future generations, will live in peace and contentment. They will control a transparent, just and sustainable development process which respects all people's cultures and rights. All citizens will benefit from Timor-Leste's resources, and will accept the responsibility for protecting them.

Background

La'ó Hamutuk (*"Walking Together"* in English) is a Timor-Leste non-governmental organization established in 2000 which monitors, analyzes and reports on development processes in this country, including policies carried on by international institutions engaged in Timor-Leste and by our own Government. La'ó Hamutuk facilitates communication between people in Timor-Leste and decision makers, as well as establishing links with communities in other countries to explore alternative development models.

In 2012, Timor-Leste celebrated 10 years of restored independence and conducted peaceful Presidential and Parliamentary elections. We showed the world that the UNMIT mission could withdraw as planned when its mandate ended at the end of the year. While debates on security focused on how to prevent crimes and violence, La'ó Hamutuk stressed that people will only be truly secure when they have enough food to eat, adequate health services, effective education enabling a better future, and can live free of fear of arbitrary eviction and joblessness. The Prime Minister requested that Timor-Leste be taken off the Security Council Agenda, so the struggles for justice and for sustainable and inclusive development may become more challenging.

Timor-Leste continues to be dependent on oil and gas revenues and has been afflicted with a "resource curse" of rapidly-escalating, wasteful spending; failure to develop the local productive economy; neglect of non-oil sectors and capture of the policy making process by the petroleum sector. The 2013 State Budget slightly moderates budget growth and temporarily reduces withdrawals from the Petroleum Fund, but the continued pursuit of unrealistic and grandiose infrastructure projects puts the country's future at risk. In addition, Timor-Leste contracted its first foreign debt in 2012.

Timor-Leste faces many challenges, and La'ó Hamutuk has taken on an important role in research, analysis and advocacy to help the Government and other institutions prioritize the rights and benefits for all people of Timor-Leste's current and future generations.

Program activities

As a research institute, we offer independent and reliable data and analysis for Government, Parliament, civil society, community groups, journalists, academics, consultants, diplomats, international agencies and others. We are a public resource center, providing information on issues and Government policies, and use the following means to disseminate our findings:

Local and international media coverage

La'o Hamutuk often writes for local media and meets with local or international journalists. We facilitate the work of documentary crews, resulting in more accurate and balanced coverage. During 2012, we were interviewed, quoted or cited in media more than a hundred times, including by *The Economist* and *Petroleum Economist*. Many video producers interviewed us on camera, with the footage included in videos or television programs by the International Monetary Fund, SBS-TV, ABC-TV Four Corners and TVTL. Appendix 2 lists most of the coverage supported by La'o Hamutuk.

Public meetings, presentations, testimony and trainings

In addition to events La'o Hamutuk organized, 2012 saw a large increase in the number of requests and contracts we received to give presentations or trainings to other organizations. Most of these are listed in Appendix 3.

We gave three briefings on *Rights and Sustainability* for visiting journalists and election observers. We repeated this presentation for academics, diplomats and others from around the world.

We organized public meetings about justice for past crimes and the impact of UNMIT's departure, and a pre-election debate on land rights.

With Rede ba Rai, we participated in discussions on land issues with communities in Lautem, Beacu, Betano and Ermera. We also gave a briefing on the impact of the Land Laws on people's lives to 20 local leaders (*xefe suku*) from five districts.

Several organizations asked or hired La'o Hamutuk to provide training/briefings on the State Budget, Gender-Responsive Budgeting, and/or Timor-Leste's economy. We gave two trainings to the Parliamentary Research Center and others to Fundasaun Mahein and the Timor-Leste Coalition for Education, increasing civil society, advisor and policy-makers' knowledge and capacity.

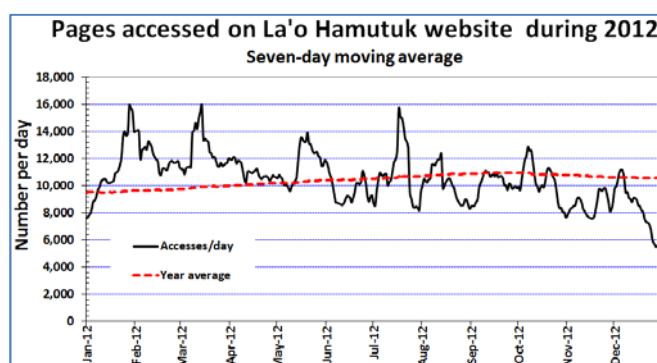
La'o Hamutuk joined a UN Women/Government study tour to India about Gender-Responsive Budgeting. UN Women hired La'o Hamutuk to give trainings on Gender-Responsive Budgeting for the State Secretariat for the Promotion of Equality (SEPI) and the CEDAW Watch Committee, Fokupers district contacts, and we did another for Members of Parliament.

In July, we shared Timor-Leste's experience in managing oil and gas projects and revenues at workshops for Burmese civil society organizations, political leaders and journalists in Rangoon.

La'o Hamutuk is often invited to present to Parliamentary Committees, and we wrote and published many submissions, letters, reports, statements, comments and analysis, and gave oral testimony to legislatures and other policy-makers. These are listed in Appendix 4.

Website, blog and email lists

La'o Hamutuk's website <http://www.laohamutuk.org/> includes information and analysis in Tetum and English, often linking to public or non-public documents. We often post items not available elsewhere, including environmental proposals, the state budget and draft legislation. We also post submissions and articles.



Many of our web pages are “briefing books,” with background information, analysis from La’o Hamutuk and others, and links to related documents. The following are key topics which we added or expanded during 2012:

- ★ [2012 original state budget](#), [2012 mid-year budget rectification](#), and [2013 state budget](#)
- ★ [2011 General State Accounts](#)
- ★ [Development partners’ meeting](#) and [Millennium Challenge Corporation](#)
- ★ [Borrowing](#)
- ★ [Revising Timor-Leste’s Consumer Price Index](#)
- ★ [Presidential and Parliamentary elections and results](#)
- ★ [Environmental legislation](#) and [Australia’s Carbon Tax](#)
- ★ [Greater Sunrise gas field and LNG plant](#) and [Kitan oil project](#)
- ★ [CMATS Treaty and maritime boundaries](#)
- ★ [Heavy oil power plants and the national electricity grid](#)
- ★ [Tasi Mane southwest coast petroleum infrastructure project](#)
- ★ [Petroleum Fund](#)
- ★ [Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative \(EITI\)](#) and [Transparency in Burma](#)
- ★ [Petroleum Production-Sharing Contracts](#) and [Overdue Taxes from Oil Companies](#)
- ★ [TimorGAP national oil company](#) and [National Petroleum Authority](#)
- ★ [Land rights](#)
- ★ [UNMIT and UN documents](#), [Universal Periodic Review of human rights in Timor-Leste](#)
- ★ [Report of the UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty on Timor-Leste](#)
- ★ [Wikileaks cables related to Timor-Leste](#)

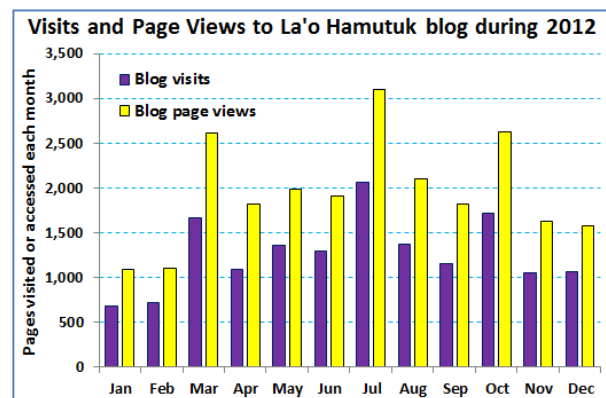
La’o Hamutuk wrote many letters and submissions which are also on our website, as are many presentations¹ we gave at public events and trainings.

Our site is accessed by people around the globe, as shown on the map. Each large dot represents more than 1,000 users, with smaller dots representing 100 or 10. During 2012, website usage increased by 11% to 10,550 average accesses/day. Data traffic went up 25%, averaging 1,263 megabytes/day. Readership peaked when we posted the 2012 mid-year budget documents and our analysis, averaging 14,000 accesses per weekday in October. Online journals, media and blogs often repost our information, so readership is much larger.



Our blog <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com> highlights upcoming events and brief articles. In 2012, we posted 48 new entries and people viewed 23,348 pages on the blog, 70% more than in 2011. Appendix 5 lists many postings.

La’o Hamutuk also circulates our materials to email lists (especially ETAN’s 3,000-subscriber “east-timor” list) and information sharing networks.



¹ Presentations are available from <http://www.laohamutuk.org/pres.htm>

Most popular La'o Hamutuk blog entries posted in 2012		
Entry	Pageviews	
How Timor-Leste got Ten Billion Dol... May 30, 2012, 5 comments	1590	
Timor-Leste is going for broke. Mar 19, 2012, 8 comments	1280	
Petroleum regulators to get better h... Mar 28, 2012, 17 comments	1141	
Wading deeper into an oily swamp Jul 13, 2012, 4 comments	1039	
Filling gaps in "Taxing Times" Oct 5, 2012, 3 comments	898	
Perceiving corruption accurately Dec 8, 2012	675	
LH reply to comments on ANP/Heaft... Apr 4, 2012, 2 comments	654	

Radio Program

La'o Hamutuk has had a weekly, Tetum-language program on Radio Timor-Leste for years (*Radio Iqualdade*) but unfortunately, our radio program was not on air during the year. However, in 2012 we trained our staff on production, preparing for the resumption of regular programming in 2013.

Bulletin

In past years, La'o Hamutuk produced regular *Bulletins* with in-depth articles and editorials in Tetum and English. We did not publish *Bulletins* during 2012, but distributed much information through media, presentations and internet. We hope to resume the *Bulletin* during 2013.

Research, Monitoring and advocacy

Petroleum dependency, economics and the "Resource Curse"

In 2012, Timor-Leste had the second-highest petroleum dependency (97% of state revenues, just below South Sudan, and 80% of GDP) and second-fastest-growing state budget (40%/year nominal since 2009) in the world. Easy money from oil and gas creates a rentier economy, inflicting a resource curse on this country. However, our oil and gas resources may last only a decade or two.

La'o Hamutuk monitors the extraction of oil and gas from under the Timor Sea, including contracting, taxes and revenue management, transparency, utilization of funds, policy decisions, agreements, and their impacts and benefits.

La'o Hamutuk has long been the leading organization in Timor-Leste providing information and alternatives for decision-makers, advisors and civil society about this risk and possible solutions, especially the environmental, social, political and economic dangers of petroleum dependency.

Greater Sunrise oil and gas field and maritime boundaries

La'o Hamutuk has closely monitored the Greater Sunrise offshore oil and gas project since our 2008 book *Sunrise LNG in Timor-Leste: Dreams, Realities and Challenges*.² This yet-to-be-developed field straddles the Timor Sea Joint Petroleum Development Area and maritime territory claimed by Australia, and is the source of great controversy and confusion. For the last 12 years, we have advocated for a maritime boundary between Timor-Leste and Australia.

Timor-Leste's Government and the Sunrise Joint Venture companies don't agree on how to liquefy Sunrise gas. Project operator Woodside Australian Energy says that a mid-sea floating LNG plant

² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/LNG/LNGReport.pdf>

would be more profitable, while Timor-Leste's Government advocates for an undersea gas pipeline to a future onshore plant in Beacu, Viqueque district.

During the 2012 election season, Sunrise became fodder for political squabbles, with Government and opposition parties blaming each other for not reaching an agreement to pipe Sunrise gas to Timor-Leste. Despite the information and misinformation circulating in Dili political discourse, there has been no progress in Sunrise development.

We continued to update our Sunrise web page³ with information and analysis from various perspectives, trying to correct frequent misreporting in the local and international media. We asked the political parties running for Parliament what they would do about Sunrise and maritime boundaries, and published their answers.⁴ All supported bringing the pipeline to Beacu and advocating more effectively for Timor-Leste's interests, including maritime boundaries.

We analyzed how Australia's new Carbon Tax will affect Timor-Leste,⁵ sharing our conclusions with Timorese and Australian media.

We are increasingly used by local, international and industry press as the most current and authoritative source. We often meet with company and government representatives to encourage them to be more forthcoming and less ideological, and to promote efforts to maximize the benefits to Timor-Leste's people, while reducing the environmental, economic and socio-cultural risks.

During 2012, as the discussions escalated about boundary and the 2007 CMATS Treaty (which enables Sunrise revenue-sharing and could be cancelled in February 2013) and confusion increased, we continued to disseminate objective information and advocate for a concrete, detailed, fact-based, public discussion of the costs and benefits of the Sunrise pipeline.

Tasi Mane south coast petroleum infrastructure project

Timor-Leste's 20-year National Strategic Development Plan is centered on the Tasi Mane project,⁶ a multi-billion-dollar petroleum infrastructure complex which includes a supply base for offshore oil operations in Suai,⁷ a refinery in Betano, an LNG plant for Greater Sunrise in Beacu and a 150-km highway along Timor-Leste's south coast. More than \$30 million has already been spent to prepare for this project, and during 2013-2017 the Government expects to spend more than \$1.3 billion on Tasi Mane, nearly one third of all Infrastructure Fund spending and nearly twice the \$0.7 billion estimated in the 2012 State Budget.

La'o Hamutuk and others doubt the project's economic viability and are concerned about its social and environmental impacts. In 2012, as appropriations and contract-signing advanced, we continued to express concerns about the project's promises, as well as the TimorGAP national oil company⁸ which is leading it.

Our work on Tasi Mane has increased societal debate and Parliamentary awareness, and people recognize the pertinence of our analysis. Our concerns are often shared by Parliamentary Committees and many seek our expertise.

We raised key questions at several conferences, workshops and seminars related to Tasi Mane, including a SERN/Haburas seminar on the Suai Supply Base.

We visited Suai to interview community members and leaders about what they expected from this project, including socio-cultural, economic and environmental benefits and risks. We learned that the very limited information they had does not enable them to make informed decisions.

³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Sunrise/10Sunrise.htm#2012>

⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/eleisaun2012/RespostaParpolTe.htm>

⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Boundary/carbon/12OzCarbonTax.htm>

⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/TasiMane/11TasiMane.htm>

⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/TasiMane/13SSBen.htm>

⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/PetRegime/NOC/10Petronatil.htm>

Petroleum revenues and transparency

At the end of 2012, the Petroleum Fund's balance reached \$11.8 billion, partly due to late payments and fines from overdue tax payments. But withdrawals also set records in 2012, and La'o Hamutuk's analysis⁹ underscored that if current trends continue, the Petroleum Fund could be entirely spent by 2018. Even with more optimistic assumptions, the Fund may be empty before Bayu-Undan production ends in 2024.

La'o Hamutuk's web page on the Petroleum Fund remains the global reference.¹⁰ We attended the Central Bank's quarterly press conferences on the fund, often raising substantive questions, and helped the Bank improve public information sharing. When we noticed inconsistent, incomplete or incorrect information on Petroleum revenues from agencies or journalists, we privately asked for explanation or corrections, which they provided.

We published information about the Fund's investments, which are gradually shifting from bonds to stocks, and analyzed Timor-Leste's past petroleum receipts. Our long experience in this area was recognized by the IMF, which included La'o Hamutuk in a video on their work in Timor-Leste.¹¹

Petroleum companies around the world skirt legality in trying to keep their tax payments as low as possible, and Timor-Leste began active tax enforcement in 2011, collecting significant additional income in 2012 (some is still under appeal). La'o Hamutuk followed this issue closely,¹² often explaining it to journalists, especially the producers of an ABC-TV *Four Corners* documentary.¹³ However, the documentary omitted key issues, so we wrote a blog to fill in the gaps.¹⁴

Timor-Leste's Petroleum Fund reached \$11.8 billion at the end of 2012, and it will take diligence to ensure that it is used as intended, especially as the TimorGAP National Oil Company and regulatory National Petroleum Authority (ANP) are exempt from budgeting and oversight processes. In contradiction with the Petroleum Fund Law which requires all petroleum-related revenue to go into the Fund, the ANP and TimorGAP receive oil income directly, outside of the state budget.

When we learned that the National Petroleum Authority was buying better health benefits for its staff than other state employees have, we warned that it could become a "petroleum elite" using oil wealth for personal benefit.¹⁵ This provoked reactions from journalists, Parliamentarians and President Ramos-Horta.

After information surfaced regarding the ethics of the Chairman of the Petroleum Fund's Investment Advisory Board (IAB), we provided background, explaining the issue when it hit the Australian press.¹⁶

The Prime Minister appointed two Timorese from the petroleum sector with no investment experience to the IAB, while the Fund was making less secure investments and the Government plans to "invest" billions on ill-advised domestic petroleum infrastructure. We asked if this was an indicator of the resource curse -- the capture of the policy making process by the petroleum sector.¹⁷ Does naming the Presidents of ANP and TimorGAP to the IAB indicate that the Petroleum Fund might be used to finance the Tasi Mane project?

⁹ Published at <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2012/03/timor-leste-is-going-for-broke.html>, which has been accessed more than 2,500 times, and many other places

¹⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/PetFund/05PFIndex.htm>

¹¹ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ojcAb7VPKdA>

¹² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/tax/10BackTaxes.htm>

¹³ <http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/stories/2012/09/27/3599022.htm>

¹⁴ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2012/10/filling-gaps-in-taxing-times.html>

¹⁵ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2012/03/petroleum-regulators-to-get-better.html>

¹⁶ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2012/07/ten-billion-dollars-is-tempting-target.html>

¹⁷ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2012/07/wading-deeper-into-oily-swamp.html>

La'o Hamutuk continues to believe that the use of published information is more valuable than transparency in itself. We follow and analyze information on the Government's new Procurement and Budget Transparency Portals, although we wrote an open letter¹⁸ encouraging the Minister of Finance to implement more effective transparency.

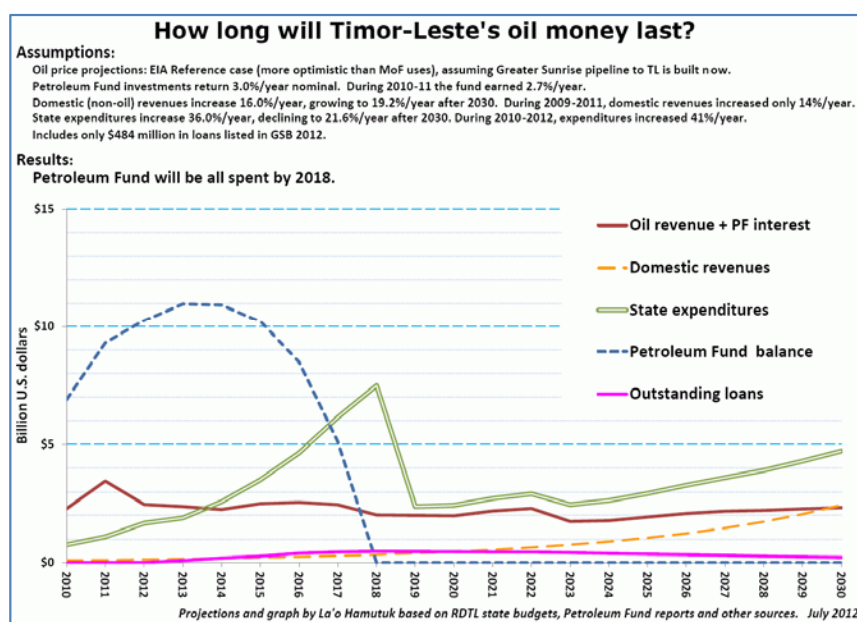
We continued to engage with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) from outside the Multi-stakeholder Working Group (MSG), supporting civil society representatives who urged independent auditing and fuller disclosure. When the MSG outvoted its oil company members to release the 2010 and 2011 EITI reports, we published the near-final drafts at civil society request. The final reports were officially released on 28 December 2012, just in time to maintain Timor-Leste's EITI-compliant status.¹⁹

In March, we helped Arakan (Burma) OilWatch prepare their report on Burma's Resource Curse,²⁰ which used Timor-Leste as a case study. In August, La'o Hamutuk presented at three workshops they organized in Rangoon (Yangon) on petroleum and revenue management.²¹ In addition to strengthening regional connections, OilWatch Network members learn from each other about the environmental and human consequences of oil and gas exploitation.

State Budget and sustainability

As in previous years, in 2012 La'o Hamutuk was the primary information source on State Budgets for civil society, journalists, agencies and many Government officials.²² After we informed the Ministry of Finance of an error in the January 2012 budget books, they quickly corrected it.

In March, we analyzed budget execution and revenues, Petroleum Fund earnings, the 2012 budget and plans for borrowing to see the implications of current trends for Timor-Leste's future. We built a model,²³ based on more optimistic assumptions than reality, which showed that Timor-Leste's Petroleum Fund could be empty by 2022. With assumptions closer to recent history, the Petroleum Fund will be used up by 2018. We continued to refine this model throughout the year.



La'o Hamutuk's expertise in understanding and explaining the complex state budget is recognized and respected. We were asked to train civil society groups, advisers and policy-makers about Timor-Leste's budget and economy. We gave two trainings to the Parliamentary Research Center

¹⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/EITI/2012/LHMoF2May2012En.pdf>

¹⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/EITI/10EITIIndex.htm>

²⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/EITI/Burma/Burma's Resource Curse Report English.pdf>

²¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/EITI/Burma/12EITIBurma.htm>

²² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE12/100JE2012En.htm>

²³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/model/LaoHamutukPFsustainabilityMar2012.zip>

(contracted by The Asia Foundation) and others to Fundasaun Mahein and the Timor-Leste Coalition for Education.²⁴

In April, La'o Hamutuk joined a UN Women/Government Study Tour about Gender-Responsive Budgeting in India. We include a gender perspective in our budget work, so that in May and June, UN Women hired La'o Hamutuk to give two trainings on Gender-Responsive Budgeting for SEPI and the CEDAW Watch Committee, and for Fokupers district contacts, and we did another for Members of Parliament in December.

High rates of inflation have plagued Timor-Leste for years, a manifestation of the "Dutch Disease" symptom of the resource curse: money in circulation exceeds the productive capacity of the local economy. In November, La'o Hamutuk participated²⁵ in a National Statistics Directorate consultation on redesigning the Consumer Price Index, urging that it reflect the impact of inflation on the impoverished majority, and many of our recommendations were adopted.

We were consulted by several officials and delegations from the World Bank as they developed their 2013-2017 Country Partnership Strategy for Timor-Leste. The final document,²⁶ adopted in February 2013, reflects La'o Hamutuk's overriding concern that Timor-Leste must move from petroleum dependency to a non-oil productive economy.

In September, the new Government announced its five-year program and proposed a mid-year budget adjustment, borrowing money from infrastructure projects to increase veterans' benefits and fund new agencies. La'o Hamutuk clarified the proposal for Parliament and suggested changes.²⁷

We also helped Parliament understand Government and Court reports on the 2011 General State Accounts, which revealed a number of problems.²⁸ La'o Hamutuk showed that infrastructure spending was lagging far behind appropriations, especially for infrastructure other than electricity.

In December, the Government proposed a 2013 state budget about the same size as 2012, responding to concerns about sustainability and inflation raised by La'o Hamutuk. However, recurrent spending was planned to increase by 20% over 2012. Due to the elections, enactment of the 2013 budget was deferred until 2013, although La'o Hamutuk's web-publication of the proposed budget documents at year-end was, once again, the only way most people could access them during the Parliamentary debate.

Borrowing

La'o Hamutuk has long advocated that Timor-Leste should remain debt-free. We believe it makes little sense to borrow (and increase spending) while we have oil revenues, incurring repayments after the oil is used up. We analyze and share information about the future impacts of loans on Timor-Leste's economy.²⁹

Nevertheless, Timor-Leste signed its first two loan contracts in 2012, with Japan (\$69 million) and the ADB (\$40 million), and the Government hopes to borrow \$80 million from the World Bank and China, \$400 million more in the next few years, and at least \$10 billion to implement the Strategic Development Plan, including the Tasi Mane project.

²⁴ Presentations from many of our trainings are at <http://www.laohamutuk.org/pres.htm> and are listed in Appendix 3 of this report.

²⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/inflation/LHsubDBECPI21Nov2012.htm>

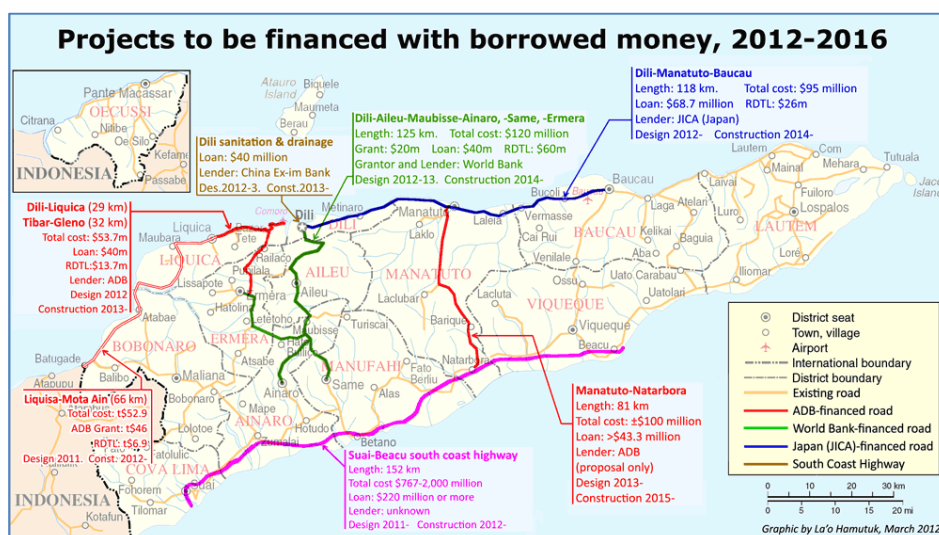
²⁶ <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2013/02/17493182/timor-leste-country-partnership-strategy-period-fy2013-2017>

²⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OR12/SubLHOR2012en.pdf>

²⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE11/CGA11/LHsubComCGSA2011Nov12.htm>

²⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/debt/12Borrowing.htm>

We collected information from lenders and officials about projects and loan terms, and calculated annual repayments.³⁰ Due to grace periods, debt service will increase to about \$45 million per year in 2023; by that time Bayu-Undan will have run out, the Petroleum Fund may have been used up, and the number of young people entering the work force will have doubled.



La'o Hamutuk is one of few analysts with a long-term view, and we feel that this country must change direction before we rush over a cliff.

National electricity project

La'o Hamutuk has monitored the national electricity project since 2008, including the (ex)-heavy oil power plants construction in Hera and Betano and more than 700 Km of high-voltage transmission lines. This is Timor-Leste first and most expensive mega-project, costing more than a billion dollars. We have exposed its poor project design, mammoth budget, cost overruns, mismanagement, the environment malfeasance and escalating fuel costs. The Hera plant began operating at the end of 2011, and its intermittent performance during 2012, as well as highly visible construction debacles, raised more questions.

Although more than \$800 million has already been spent, an additional \$900 million was budgeted for capital and fuel during 2013-2017, which is probably an underestimate. To illustrate a sustainable alternative, we estimated that installing two solar panels on every house in the country would cost less than one-fourth of the construction cost alone of the two power plants and national grid. Solar panels require no fuel and little maintenance, although their total cost would be less than two years' worth of fuel for the oil-fueled generating stations.³¹

We circulated relevant information, including reports by the Consultant supervising the construction, which portrayed an escalating debacle of sloppiness, lack of forethought, incompetence and callous disregard of the environment and public and worker safety. When the situation did not improve despite repeated warnings from the Consultant, the latter recommended that projects not be accepted and "payments should be held in abeyance until the Contractors rectify/comply with the cited deficiencies." Although that would be a good idea, La'o Hamutuk believes that it was illegal to begin construction without Environmental Impact Assessments, Environmental Management Plans and environmental licenses.

We analyzed and explained that revenue from the electricity system covers only about one-quarter of the cost of power generation, and that all capital costs are subsidized by the state, resulting in a large subsidy for affluent people who use most electricity. We also highlighted that electricity infrastructure received much more money and implementation than other infrastructure projects, resulting in ongoing neglect of rural roads, water supply, education and health care.

³⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/debt/2012/LoanGraphEn.gif>

³¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Power/2011/11PowerPlant2011.htm>

Our work underlined the high cost and low effectiveness of this project, strengthening the case for sustainable, decentralized, renewable energy. Many people now see the electricity debacle of a model of what *not* to do, and we hope that future large projects will learn from this experience.

Preventing corruption

La'o Hamutuk doesn't often investigate specific corruption cases, but we advocate for policies and institutions which prevent corruption by increasing transparency, accountability and checks and balances. We view corruption as an element of the "resource curse," afflicting most underdeveloped, oil-dependent countries.

In 2012, we participated in the Anti-Corruption Commission's (CAC) presentation of its Assessment of Corruption Prevention, but we decided not to join CAC's working group on thematic discussions, although we continued to share our views on draft documents and strategies.

We developed good relations with the recently formed Group of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC), helping them in their evaluation of corruption and discussing the global GOPAC questionnaire with members of Parliament.

The UN Convention Against Corruption's team assessing corruption prevention in Timor-Leste asked for our views, which we shared. We also joined a two-day UNDP/Parliament/European Union workshop on Corruption, raising lack of openness in the petroleum regulatory sector.

We also presented³² to the Watchdog Reporting Symposium for journalists organized by USAID/MCC's FOTI anti-corruption program, explaining corruption as part of the resource curse and stressing the role of media and civil society in preventing and combating corruption.

Transparency International reported that Timor-Leste had moved up 30 places in their annual Corruption Perceptions Index - the biggest change of any country in the world, but the Control of Corruption indicator from the World Governance Indicators (used by the Millennium Challenge Corporation) dropped Timor-Leste seven places in rank. We contacted MCC and TI, who explained their methodology, which turned out to give a misleading picture for Timor-Leste. We wrote articles on our blog³³ and website³⁴ to help people understand and use them more wisely,

As described above, we worked with Australian journalists to explore allegations of corruption by the President of the Petroleum Fund Investment Advisory Board.³⁵

In October and November, two issues emerged involving the Minister of Finance: her \$1.6 million residence being built with public funds, and a \$2 million state contract awarded to her husband's company for hospital equipment that the hospital did not ask for. La'o Hamutuk tried to focus discussion on the law rather than people, both in terms of whether existing laws were violated and suggesting legal revisions which would prevent similar malfeasance in the future.

By comparing Government Trade Statistics and Budget Execution reports, La'o Hamutuk learned that the Government paid more for fuel than the total amount of fuel imported into Timor-Leste. We wrote an open letter to the Provedor (Ombudsman) and Anti-Corruption Commissioner.³⁶ As a result, the Anti-Corruption Commission opened an investigation and the Government has changed their process of buying generator fuel, which costs approximately \$100 million per year.

Environment and climate change

As our resources are limited, environmental and climate change are not a priority for La'o Hamutuk, but we try to fill a gap in Timor-Leste civil society. La'o Hamutuk supports the principle

³² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/corruption/12JuviFotiKorupsaun9Nov12.htm>

³³ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2012/12/perceiving-corruption-accurately.html>

³⁴ <http://laohamutuk.org/econ/MCC/10MCC.htm>

³⁵ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2012/07/ten-billion-dollars-is-tempting-target.html>

³⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/trade/LHbaKAKPDHJ22Oct2012en.pdf>

of climate justice: industrialized countries who emit the most greenhouse gases are responsible to reduce their emissions, rather than obliging people in poorer countries to adapt to their recklessness. We shared our perspectives in several Government seminars on climate change.

During 2012, we stayed involved in the legislative process for the Basic Law on Environment.³⁷ Parliament delegated enactment of this law to the Council of Ministers, which passed it in April. La'o Hamutuk asked President José Ramos-Horta³⁸ to send the law back to Parliament for more open, democratic consideration, as we were concerned about the closed process on a fundamental policy issue. The Government didn't ask for Presidential promulgation until Taur Matan Ruak had become President, and in June the new President's advisors asked for our advice. When we saw that many of our 2011 suggestions had been included,³⁹ La'o Hamutuk recommended⁴⁰ that the President sign it, which he did in late June.

On the request of the National Directorate for Environment, we wrote a submission⁴¹ on the draft Biodiversity Decree-Law.

We were also consulted regarding environmental aspects (EIA processes) of projects like Tasi Mane and Suai and Tibar ports, although these projects have not yet received Environmental Licenses.

Agriculture

Food sovereignty

Although 80% of Timorese families live from farming, Timor-Leste continues to import most of its food. Timor-Leste's non-oil balance of payments deficit is much larger than our non-oil GDP. This will be impossible to sustain after the oil is exhausted, and people will starve if local agricultural and industrial production has not markedly increased. La'o Hamutuk believes that Timor-Leste's own capacity should supply our food, and we encourage productive, sustainable agricultural practices for local consumption, rather than export-oriented, high-technology farming (chemical inputs, GMOs, hybrid seeds, commoditized land).

In 2012, La'o Hamutuk continued to monitor and research the Ministry of Agriculture (MAF) and Australian Aid program "Seeds of Life" (SoL), exploring the long-term benefits and disadvantages to farmers of the use of "improved" seeds relative to local ones currently in use. We conducted preliminary research in Aileu and attended MAF-SoL's presentations in Maubisse and Loes.

As the Government and SoL lack impartial, objective data, we integrated our information with other institutions involved in seed development, including PERMATIL, KSI, OXFAM and GIZ.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Seeds of Life invited La'o Hamutuk to join the Seed Policy Working Group (SPWG) drafting Timor-Leste's Seed Policy. For several years, we had unsuccessfully tried to see the Draft Seed Law, so we appreciated this openness and cooperation. La'o Hamutuk agreed to be an observer, and we suggested that HASATIL represent Timor-Leste's agricultural organizations. We participated actively in SPWG meetings and wrote submissions⁴² to express concerns and suggest alternatives. Voluntary intellectual contributions from activists and academics here and abroad helped us advocate for seed policy which respects Timor-Leste's traditional systems and does not compel farmers to purchase inputs from overseas companies.

We monitored the Seed Policy consultation process in Liquiçá, Aileu, Suai, Manatuto and academic and national workshops in Dili. Our presence, together with other HASATIL members, led to the

³⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/EnvLaw/11EnvBasicLaw.htm>

³⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/EnvLaw/2012/LHPresEnvLaw9May2012pdf.pdf>

³⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/EnvLaw/2012/BasicEnvLawCoMApr2012En.pdf>

⁴⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/EnvLaw/2012/LHtoPREnvLaw20Jun2012.pdf>

⁴¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/EnvLaw/div/LHSubDNMABiodiversityApr2012En.pdf>

⁴² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/seeds/LHSubmissionSeedPolicy6Mar2013.pdf>

cancellation of poorly-attended workshops in several districts (averting false claims of public consultation), and also enriched debates in Dili where we mobilized various key people and distributed basic information about the Seed Policy.

In order to work more effectively and improve contact with the grassroots, we strengthened links with other organizations working on agriculture. La'ó Hamutuk organized a discussion with environmentalist Ego Lemos (Permatil) and Xisto Martins (Unitarian Service Committee of Canada) on food sovereignty and sustainable agriculture. To increase HASATIL's members' advocacy effectiveness, we gave a presentation on the Seed Policy at ETADEP.

We work closely with local and international networks including HASATIL and regional *La Via Campesina* to improve our knowledge and advocacy at the international level.

Land rights

In 2007, the Ministry of Justice signed an agreement with USAID through its *Ita Nia Rai* project to develop three laws to regulate private and community rights on land and property - the Land Law, Expropriation Law, and Real Estate Fund Law. La'ó Hamutuk has followed this issue ever since, advocating for everyone's right to access land, especially for women and vulnerable groups.

In 2012 La'ó Hamutuk continued as a principal source of information, advocacy and education regarding the proposed land laws. We play a key role in the Rede ba Rai coalition (Land Rights Network), of which La'ó Hamutuk's Inês Martins is often the spokesperson.

After extensive lobbying and community organizing by La'ó Hamutuk and Rede ba Rai in 2010-2011, Parliament delayed passing these laws for more than a year. In 2012, we participated in Parliamentary hearings, observed the debates and lobbied Members, writing a statement with Rede ba Rai to urge MPs to reject these laws. Together with Parliament Committee A, we shared our analysis with other members of Parliament. Unfortunately, Parliament approved the laws in February, and we participated in a "vote against" action there.



President José Ramos-Horta's legal advisors asked for our analysis of the land laws, and we presented to them and then to the President himself. After hearing our objections, the President vetoed the three laws in March, sending them back to Parliament for revision. La'ó Hamutuk translated and circulated his veto messages.⁴³ With Rede ba Rai, we organized a press conference to express our appreciation.

As July elections approached, we and Rede ba Rai wrote an open letter⁴⁴ urging Parliament not to hastily revise and approve the laws, but to wait for the next Government and Parliament. The new Government was formed in August, and began another round of consultation on the three laws. The Council of Ministers will probably pass revised versions in mid-2013, with Parliamentary consideration in the second half of 2013.

In cooperation with Rede ba Rai, we organized a political party debate on land rights involving 15 political parties⁴⁵ which was later broadcast on TVTL.

⁴³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/land/2012/12PNpassPRveto.htm>

⁴⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/land/2012/RbRPN2May2012Te.pdf>

⁴⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/eleisaun2012/DebateRai2Julhu2012.pdf>

In August The Asia Foundation asked La'o Hamutuk to brief 20 local leaders from Liquiçá, Dili, Ainaro, Ermera and Bobonaro districts. Following this briefing, community leaders wrote a statement which they gave to Vice President of Parliament Adriano Nascimento, who promised that Parliament would consult with communities when it debates the Land Laws to ensure they respect traditional systems.

Together with Rede ba Rai's mentor, La'o Hamutuk trained Rede ba Rai members on a legal analysis of the Land Law.

We were invited by UNTL, KSI Institute, Association HAK and Haberan Institute to discuss the impacts of the land laws on vulnerable people's land rights with communities in Vakili, suku Maubara Lisan, Be-Metan Betano, Hatolia-Ermera and Lautem-Lospalos.

Casa Produsaun Audiovisual (CPA) interviewed La'o Hamutuk for a video documentary about the effect of the land laws on people's lives.

Governance and democracy

Elections

During 2012, Timor-Leste held two Presidential elections and one Parliamentary election. Common discourse saw the elections as a "Festa Demokrasi" celebration or a security problem. La'o Hamutuk viewed them as an opportunity for citizens to decide what policies their leaders will follow for the next five years. We observed all three processes and tried to deepen the discussion and enhance people's participation in the campaigns.

In March, we wrote an article⁴⁶ in local newspapers explaining that elections are about democratically choosing leaders and policies, rather than merely avoiding violence.

During the Presidential and Parliamentary elections, we asked each candidate and party for their policy positions and published the results⁴⁷ to help voters make informed choices. During the Parliamentary election, we circulated a pamphlet⁴⁸ with questions for voters to ask Parliamentary campaigners, and we joined with Rede ba Rai to organize a debate on land rights.

We briefed several election observer delegations, deployed our own staff as election observers for the Presidential and Parliamentary polls, and published election observation reports.⁴⁹

The East Timor and Indonesia Action Network (ETAN) from the United States also organized observers for the Parliamentary election, and we provided office space, training and other support.

La'o Hamutuk was the first public source on the make-up of the new Parliament,⁵⁰ and we published contact information for members of the new Parliament and Government.

We wrote to each of the new Parliamentarians to offer to collaborate,⁵¹ and have developed good relationships with several newly-constituted Parliamentary committees, which are all led by members of the majority "Bloko" coalition. We also explained why a "national unity" government (with no political opposition) would be bad for democracy,⁵² and it did not come to pass.

⁴⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/fragile/GuteSeguransa19Mar2012.pdf> (Tetum)

⁴⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/eleisaun2012/RespostaPRbaLHEn.pdf> and <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/eleisaun2012/RespostaParpolTe.htm> (Tetum)

⁴⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/eleisaun2012/PreguntaParPolEn.pdf>

⁴⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/eleisaun2012/ElecObsReport30Apr12En.pdf> and <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/eleisaun2012/LHParlElectionReportJuly2012Te.pdf> (Tetum)

⁵⁰ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2012/07/seats-resulting-from-parliamentary.html>

⁵¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/eleisaun2012/LHtoPN23Jul2012te.pdf> (Tetum)

⁵² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/eleisaun2012/12ElecGUN.htm>

Justice for past crimes

Thirteen years later, no effective processes have held perpetrators accountable for crimes against humanity during Indonesia's occupation of Timor-Leste between 1975 and 1999.

The La'o Hamutuk-drafted civil society statement to the Development Partners' Meeting, pointed out that "We will be able to say goodbye to conflict only when individuals and nations are held responsible for the international crimes they have committed against us, and when the government of Indonesia and the member states of the United Nations accept their responsibility to end impunity."⁵³ This can best be done via an international tribunal established by the Security Council.

We raise justice concerns at many opportunities, including with visiting UN missions and government officials, prior to UN Security Council meetings on Timor-Leste, at inter-parliamentary conferences and during commemorations of massacres and other crimes.



In February, as the UN Security Council prepared to discuss UNMIT, we urged its members⁵⁴ to consider CAVR's recommendations for the international community and the 2005 report of the independent UN Commission of Experts, and reminded them of unfulfilled obligations to end impunity.

In March, President José Ramos-Horta asked Parliament to pass an Amnesty Law for serious crimes from 1975-1999. ANTI disagreed in a press release, La'o Hamutuk wrote an open letter asking the President consider ANTI's concerns, and we organized a discussion with civil society organizations. No Amnesty Law was tabled during 2012.

After repeated delays, Parliament began to discuss the laws on Reparations Program and Memory Institute in February, but the process failed due to lack of quorum and did not resume in 2012.⁵⁵

We organized one public meeting at UNTL to raise awareness about justice and to remind UNMIT about UN's unmet responsibility, and another six months later at UNDIL, assessing the consequences of UNMIT's departure for Timor-Leste.

We publicized the first quadrennial UN Human Rights Commission's Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Timor-Leste.⁵⁶

ANTI wrote an open letter to visiting UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon, urging international action for justice for 1975-1999 crimes, and La'o Hamutuk raised this issue during the visit of United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to Dili.⁵⁷

⁵³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/12TLDPM/FONGTILtoTLDPM14May2012En.pdf>

⁵⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/reports/UN/LHtoUNSC15Feb2012En.pdf>

⁵⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/Reparations/10ReparIndex.htm>

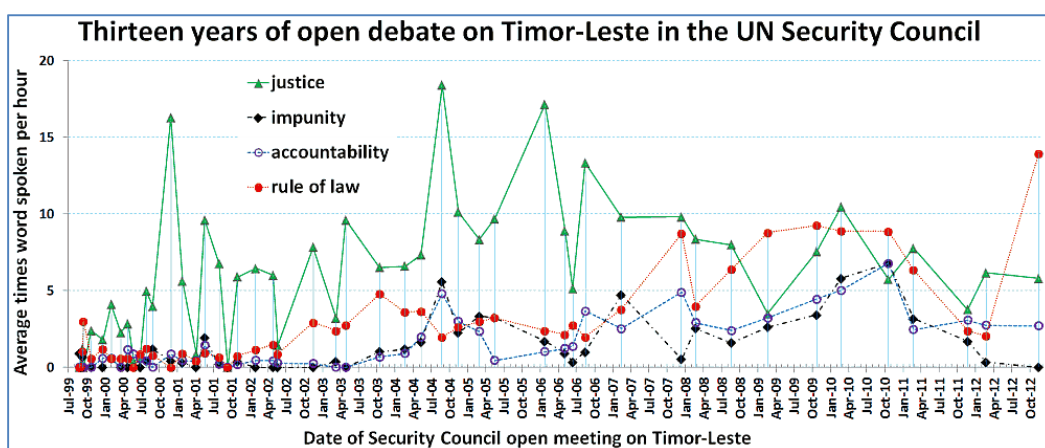
⁵⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/UPR/12UPRIndex.htm>

⁵⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/LHClinton5Sept2012en.pdf>

Timor-Leste dropped off the UN Security Council agenda at the end of 2012, so we wrote our ultimate letter⁵⁸ to the Council in

November,

urging the UN not to forget Timor-Leste and to support justice and sustainable development. We also analyzed the debate during 13 years of Security Council meetings on Timor-Leste.



UN officials and others privately welcome La'o Hamutuk's consistent raising of the consequences of impunity, as it helps keep the topic in people's minds.

We met with HAK, JSMP, FONGTIL and ICRC to strategize on lobbying the new Government and Parliament to ratify the International Convention against Enforced Disappearances.

In order to strengthen our struggle for justice while contributing to democratization in Indonesia, we organized a Dili meeting with IKOHI and KONTRAS to discuss issues around disappeared people and justice. While participating in a November ICTJ training in Jakarta, La'o Hamutuk strengthened ties with Indonesian justice and human rights groups. We continue to cooperate with other international human rights organizations and networks which focus on justice and accountability, including ETAN/US and the Australian Coalition for Justice for East Timor (ACJET).

United Nations

Since 2000, La'o Hamutuk has monitored the activities of international organizations in Timor-Leste, including the United Nations. Our UNMIT web page⁵⁹ includes new documents, reports and submissions, as does our page on the Universal Periodic Review of human rights in Timor-Leste.⁶⁰

We shared our perspectives with many visiting and resident UN officials, including outgoing UNMIT chief Ameerah Haq. In January, we organized informal meetings with a high-level mission from UN headquarters about the UN's presence after UNMIT leaves Timor-Leste, including the economic impact, human rights presence, and other aspects. In December, we met three times with a delegation from the Executive Committee which oversees UNDP, UNOPS and other agencies.

Following her 2011 visit to Timor-Leste, the UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights Magdalena Sepulveda reported to the Human Rights Council in June 2012,⁶¹ and La'o Hamutuk joined with international NGOs to present a written submission on her report,⁶² as well as the first-ever video statement from a civil society organization to a UN Human Rights Council interactive dialogue.⁶³

La'o Hamutuk wrote twice to the Security Council, advancing justice and sustainable development issues, and urging the United Nations not to forget Timor-Leste even if it is removed from the

⁵⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/LHUNSC4Nov2012en.pdf>

⁵⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/reports/UN/06UNMITcreation.html#docs>

⁶⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/UPR/12UPRIndex.htm>

⁶¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/SRPOverty/12SREP.htm>

⁶² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/SRPOverty/LHFIWILPFPovertyTL4June2012.pdf>

⁶³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/SRPOverty/MADRE-HRC20-Ag3-SREP.mov>

Security Council Agenda. We noted that at the last Security Council meeting on Timor-Leste, held on the 21st anniversary of the 12 November Santa Cruz massacre, the word “impunity” was not uttered by a single participant for the first time in nine years of debates on Timor-Leste.

As a member of the UN Country Team’s Civil Society Advisory Committee, La’o Hamutuk shared our views on elections, human rights, justice and the expiring UN mandate. As mentioned above, we organized a public meeting on the impacts of UNMIT’s departure. We also helped UNMIT’s Democratic Governance Unit improve the effectiveness and dissemination of their information.

Solidarity

In solidarity with the people of West Papua, we organized discussions for visiting Papuan leader Jakob Rumbiak with activists and students from UNTL, UNITAL and UNDIL to share information about human rights violations in West Papua and continuing unpunished crimes by Indonesian police and military. We raise these issues when opportunities arise, as we did in our letter to U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.⁶⁴

In Burma, we discussed common challenges with several pro-democracy organizations.

International assistance

Each year, approximately 20 times as many Timorese children under 5 years old die from preventable conditions as the number of people killed by violence. Yet many donors continue to prioritize the “security sector” over “human security.” La’o Hamutuk continued to urge donors and others to give more attention to human security, rather than focusing on police, military and courts. As mentioned above, we wrote to the UN Security Council⁶⁵ and published an article in local newspapers about the distorted perception of security in the election process.⁶⁶

Although donor assistance had declined to less than 20% of Timor-Leste’s Combined Sources Budget, it is still important. Therefore, we took the lead in preparing the civil society submission⁶⁷ to the annual Timor-Leste and Development Partners meeting, met with many donor representatives, and circulated materials relating to the meeting.⁶⁸ Throughout the year, donors and diplomats, including those not resident in Timor-Leste, sought our expertise and advice.

Timor-Leste’s Finance Minister has become a global leader in the Aid Effectiveness movement, heading the “g7+” group of fragile states, and we encouraged donors to see aid as more than a state-building and peace-building exercise. We participated in several consultations and wrote a submission to the National Directorate for Aid Effectiveness on the draft framework to assess Timor-Leste’s fragility.⁶⁹

We continued to publish Timor-Leste MCC scores and graphed⁷⁰ the evolution of Timor-Leste’s indicators for 2010-2013. Unfortunately, for most indicators have gotten worse.

In December, UN Women invited LH staffer Inês Martins to Juba, South Sudan, where she participated in a civil society g7+ conference on the New Deal for engagement in fragile states. She shared her experiences with women rights activists during thematic sessions on Gender and the New Deal and contributed to the submission to the International Dialogue Steering Group.

⁶⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/LHClinton5Sept2012en.pdf>

⁶⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/reports/UN/LHtoUNSC15Feb2012En.pdf>

⁶⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/fragile/GuteSeguransa19Mar2012.pdf>

⁶⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/12TLDPM/FONGTILtoTLDPM14May2012En.pdf>

⁶⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/12TLDPM/12/12TLDPMindex.htm>

⁶⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/fragile/LHCommentFSA8Aug2012Te.pdf> (in Tetum)

⁷⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/MCC/MCC2013.gif>

Networking

To share information, strengthen advocacy and reinforce civil society, La'o Hamutuk often joins coalitions or networks. During 2012, we worked with:

Timor-Leste coalitions

Core Group on Transparency

La'o Hamutuk helped found the Core Group on Transparency (CGT) in 2005 to monitor the RDTL state budget and advocate for transparency and accountability, especially regarding oil and gas revenues. CGT includes about 10 local NGOs and works with international organizations and networks. We resigned from CGT in 2011 after it sought funding from Timor-Leste's Government, but we continue to collaborate with CGT members on transparency and related issues.

Rede ba Rai (Land Rights Network)

Rede ba Rai includes more than 20 local and international NGOs, unions and community groups across Timor-Leste. It supports grassroots people to set the agenda on land issues through popular education, monitoring eviction processes, mobilizing people, action-research and by lobbying Government, Parliament, international institutions and donors. La'o Hamutuk plays a leading role in strategy, analysis and public relations.

National Alliance for an International Tribunal (ANTI)

La'o Hamutuk is one of the most active members of this coalition of Timor-Leste human rights NGOs who work to end impunity for crimes against humanity committed as part of the Indonesian occupation. We worked with ANTI on several letters, statements and actions during 2012.

HASATIL (Sustainable Agriculture Network)

HASATIL includes more than 40 local organizations: NGOs, community groups and the agriculture faculty of the National University of Timor-Leste, working to strengthen sustainable agriculture. In 2012, we worked closely with HASATIL members and supported their participation in the Seed Policy drafting and socialization processes. HASATIL is closely linked to Mokatil (Timor-Leste Peasants Movement), a member of La Via Campesina.

Advisory committees

La'o Hamutuk is a member of the UN Country Team's Civil Society Advisory Committee, an observer on the Seed Policy Committee, and an unofficial participant in several others.

International coalitions

Much of La'o Hamutuk's research and advocacy is done with informal partners in other countries. These are the coalitions we relate to more formally:

Climate Justice Now! Network

La'o Hamutuk has participated in the Climate Justice Now! Network since it started in 2007, joining meetings in Bangkok and Copenhagen. The CJN! Network coordinates civil society groups fighting for just adaptation and mitigation on climate change, including NGOs, popular organizations, indigenous people, farmers, fishers, and people living on small islands. We draw on its members to inform our work.

International solidarity and human rights organizations

La'o Hamutuk works closely with the U.S.-based East Timor and Indonesia Action Network (ETAN), the Australian Coalition for Justice in East Timor, TAPOL (U.K.), Focus on the Global South, Amnesty

International, the Center on Housing Rights and Evictions (Cambodia), and many other organizations which support justice and equitable development. We try to help them make their work more effective and responsive to the people of this country.

OilWatch

OilWatch began in Ecuador and is based in Nigeria, and includes organizations in tropical forest countries that resist oil industry activities and the resulting underdevelopment, environmental damage and social degradation. La'o Hamutuk joined OilWatch in 2002. In 2010, La'o Hamutuk hosted as OilWatch Southeast Asia conference and participated in the OilWatch international conference in Ecuador in 2011. In 2012 we presented at Arakan OilWatch conferences in Burma.

Publish What You Pay (PWYP)

Publish What You Pay (PWYP) is a global civil society campaign for transparency in oil, gas and mining revenues. It has 300 members from 50 countries, who call for laws requiring companies and governments to disclose all such payments and revenues, broken down by company and type. La'o Hamutuk is a member of PWYP. We also collaborate with related international organizations including Transparency International and Jubilee Australia.

Organizational situation

During the reporting period our staff included Inês Martins, Odete Moniz, Alexandra Arnassalon, Charles Scheiner, Juvinal Dias, Mariano Ferreira, Celestino Gusmão, Guteriano Neves, Tonilia de Fatima dos Santos and Adilsonio da Costa Junior, as well as three security people and one cleaner. Tonilia and Adilsonio joined our staff in May 2012.

At the beginning of 2012, Guteriano left to work at the Foreign Ministry and is now an advisor to President Taur Matan Ruak; and towards the end of 2012 Tonilia left to focus on her studies. We continue to seek qualified and motivated Timorese women to work with us. Appendix 6 has brief biographies of our staff and Advisory Board.

During the year, La'o Hamutuk staffers broadened their experiences by participating in conferences, workshops and trainings in Indonesia, India, Burma and South Sudan.

Our office in Beborra has a library/resource center, where we hosted seven interns from the Dili Institute of Technology (DIT) for two months. This was an opportunity to share our experience and knowledge and to help educate Timorese students, while benefiting from the interns' support. We will continue such programs with DIT and other universities.

We enhanced the capacity of our staff, most of whom participated in a week-long radio production training given by ABC journalists Steve Holland and Helene Hoffman, who volunteered their time. Towards the end of 2012, former La'o Hamutuk staff and current Board member Pamela Sexton also started to give informal writing trainings to facilitate future publication of our *Bulletin*.

In January, we finalized our Strategic Plan for 2012-2014, taking into account our external evaluation last year and looking at medium and long term.

We met regularly with our Board and Donors, updating them about our activities and discussing our financial sustainability. Two of La'o Hamutuk's three long-term donors (Irish Trocaire and Canadian Development and Peace) have decided to stop working in Timor-Leste, so we began approaching potential new funders. We hope to maintain our longstanding policy of not accepting contributions from institutions with a significant vested interest in Timor-Leste. We also increased our earned income, being paid for five trainings for other institutions.

From April through July, La'o Hamutuk provided office space and networking support to ETAN election observer volunteer staffer Elice Higginbotham.

In May, we celebrated our 12th anniversary with ETAN Coordinator John Miller with a big party during which we exhibited pictures reflecting our advocacy topics.

We published our audited annual report for 2011,⁷¹ as well as our six-month report for 2012.

In December, we conducted an evaluation of the four newest La'ó Hamutuk staffers, and we plan to evaluate all staff during 2013.

Results from La'ó Hamutuk's work during 2012

Preceding pages describe many results of our work, and this section lists a few specific outcomes.

- ★ **Blocking land laws which violate traditional and community rights.** After La'ó Hamutuk and Rede ba Rai urged President José Ramos-Horta to veto three unjust proposed land laws passed by Parliament, he did so. Revised versions will be discussed in 2013.
- ★ **Stronger Basic Law on Environment.** Timor-Leste enacted a Basic Environmental Law which incorporates many recommendations from La'ó Hamutuk's two submissions.
- ★ **More accurate data on economic impacts on the poor.** Following La'ó Hamutuk's suggestions, the National Statistics Directorate revised its Consumer Price Index (inflation) measurements to better reflect the situation faced by the impoverished rural majority.
- ★ **More sustainable state spending.** At least in 2013, the State Budget will not overspend the Estimated Sustainable Income from the Petroleum Fund, a welcome response to concerns that La'ó Hamutuk has raised since 2008.
- ★ **La'ó Hamutuk graduates are now decision-makers.** Two former La'ó Hamutuk staffers are policy advisors to the new President, and a third is now Vice-President of Parliament.
- ★ **World Bank will work for non-oil development.** The World Bank's 2013-2017 Country Partnership Strategy for Timor-Leste⁷² prioritizes La'ó Hamutuk's concern that Timor-Leste must move away from dependency on temporary oil revenues.
- ★ **Improved Government transparency.** In part to divert people from using La'ó Hamutuk as a source of official documents, several Government agencies have increased the information they make available to the public.
- ★ **Improved accountability and efficacy for state fuel purchases.** Following La'ó Hamutuk's discovery that the Government is being overcharged for fuel (which absorbs more than 10% of the recurrent budget), the Anti-Corruption Commission began an investigation and the Government changed its supplier and procurement process.
- ★ **Official recognition.** President Taur Matan Ruak awarded the nation's highest honor, the Order of Timor-Leste, to La'ó Hamutuk staffer Charles Scheiner.
- ★ **Increased awareness and use of our work.** During 2012, media cited La'ó Hamutuk's more than 100 times. UN agencies, embassies, international financial institutions, aid agencies, iNGOs and others asked us to present, and they incorporated many of our suggestions in their strategies and programs. When researchers and managers visit from afar, they usually ask to meet with La'ó Hamutuk, and often use our internet publications.
- ★ **More people understand Timor-Leste's fragile non-sustainability.** La'ó Hamutuk has long warned about non-sustainability of Timor-Leste's macro-economy. Our conclusion that Timor-Leste does not have enough oil and gas to sustain this country for more than 12 years is accepted by many knowledgeable people, and policies are moving to address it.
- ★ **Greater awareness of fundamental issues.** The NGO Forum asked us to write the joint civil society statement to the Development Partners meeting, which highlighted equity, sustainability and responsibility and was accepted by civil society. Our briefings for international journalists and election observers informed their coverage and reports.
- ★ **Wider scope for discussion.** Our fact-based input to public processes, such as the Fragile States Aid Effectiveness Process, environmental legislation, state budget and finances,

⁷¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/ARept/2011/LHAR11.pdf>

⁷² <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/timor-leste/overview>

agriculture policy and the Greater Sunrise gas controversy bring diverse, public-oriented perspectives to the debate, often widening the discussion.

- ★ **Empowering diverse constituencies.** Civil society, Parliament, political parties, journalists, academics, activists, agency staff and others have been empowered and educated by La'o Hamutuk trainings, presentations and publications. Consequently, institutions often ask or hire La'o Hamutuk to give trainings or briefings.

Plans for 2013

In 2013, we do not anticipate major changes in priorities or direction from our 2012-2014 strategic plan. Most of the activities and issues discussed above will continue. However, we do plan some specific measures to strengthen our effectiveness, better use our available human resources and ensure La'o Hamutuk's sustainability.

During the next year, we will:

- ★ Continue gathering information and facts and deepening our analysis on our research topics, and produce an updated reference DVD-ROM.
- ★ Increase people's knowledge and capacity and to advance our analyses and policy, giving at least six trainings or presentations for institutions, civil society, universities and local communities; two in-depth briefings for journalists and civil society; four public meetings (seminars) in Dili and the districts;
- ★ Disseminate our findings by writing 15 new web pages, 25 updated web pages and 25 new blog entries; responding to around 100 local and international media requests; and writing 15 articles for local newspapers and our *Bulletin*.
- ★ Advocate for better legislation and policies, writing at least 15 submissions or letters to Parliament, policy makers and international agencies on pending legislation, reports, conferences or issues.
- ★ Deepen our analysis of the Tasi Mane project and other questionable large development projects, while advocating for more equitable, sustainable, beneficial policies.
- ★ Refine and enhance our model of Timor-Leste's macroeconomic sustainability, with updated data and more complex methodology, to demonstrate future outcomes with different assumptions and budgetary decisions.
- ★ Reinforce our collaboration with the National Statistics Directorate and other institutions engaged in or supporting fact-based policy making.
- ★ Encourage Timor-Leste Government to increase transparency to enhance citizen participation in the democratic process, solicit civil society participation in hearings and lobby decision-makers. Demonstrate the usefulness of transparency to state and civil society organizations by highlighting key aspects of available information.
- ★ Strengthen alliances with people, organizations and coalitions advancing human rights, social, environmental and economic justice, by participating in at least one national campaign and 30 meetings.
- ★ Restart our *Bulletin* and radio program, producing at least two issues of the *La'o Hamutuk Bulletin* and 12 radio programs.
- ★ Present at the Timor-Leste Studies Association and other academic conferences, writing at least five academic papers.
- ★ Reorganize, enrich, better manage and share our resource center, acquiring about 20 new books or audiovisual materials; recruiting a volunteer; and receiving 15 student interns.
- ★ Accelerate skills transfer among staff and increase our capacity through formal training.
- ★ Concretize new sources of funding to ensure La'o Hamutuk financial sustainability.

Appendix 1. Financial report

All amounts are specified in United States dollars. La'o Hamutuk's fiscal year is the calendar year.

The organization has a flat wage structure; both local and international staff received take-home salaries of \$600 dollars per month, plus a "13th month" in December. All staff received benefits that include health insurance, some of which is self-insurance funded from the 'Health Reserve' in the balance sheet below. International staff receive one return airfare from their home country, as well as a 'readjustment allowance' of \$200 for each month worked up to the end of the first year, payable after they finish working with La'o Hamutuk. Staff members who must move to Dili to work at La'o Hamutuk received \$200/month toward house rental costs.

In order to preserve La'o Hamutuk's independence, we maintain our policy of not accepting contributions from institutions with a significant interest in Timor-Leste: the UN and its agencies, the World Bank, ADB, IMF, major multilateral and bilateral donors to Timor-Leste, the Timor-Leste Government, and transnational corporations operating here.

Since 2006, three generous donors have supported nearly all of La'o Hamutuk's activities, and we are grateful for their confidence and assistance. Events beyond our control prevent their support from continuing at the same level:

- ◆ Trocaire is closing in Timor-Leste in 2013 due to the weakened Irish economy.
- ◆ The Canadian government slashed their support for Development and Peace by two-thirds, including for all projects in Timor-Leste, so D&P is withdrawing from Timor-Leste.
- ◆ Hivos has supported us since 2001 and does not often fund an organization for more than ten years. However, they have agreed to make an exception for La'o Hamutuk, at least for the next two years.

Therefore, La'o Hamutuk is seeking new partners. We submitted a proposal to the Norwegian Embassy in Jakarta at the end of 2012 and met with other potential donors.

Balance sheet

This table indicates our total cash and bank account balances at the start and end of 2012, amounts of money set aside for specific purposes, and unrestricted money available for general operations.

	Total cash & bank balances	Readjustment Reserve	Health Reserve ⁷³	Sustainability Reserve ⁷⁴	Operational Reserve ⁷⁵	Building Fund ⁷⁶	Transitional funding ⁷⁷	Unrestricted Funds
Balance 31 Dec. 2011	205,094	1,000	21,000	55,000	45,000	13,640	0	69,454
Income during 2012	194,838	1,400	3,772	-	-	-	60,400	129,266
Expenditures during 2012	118,306	-	3,772	-	-	-	-	114,534
Balance 31 Dec. 2012	281,626	2,400	21,000	55,000	45,000	13,640	60,400	84,186

⁷³ Fund for self-insurance for medical expenses for staff and their families who lack corporate insurance.

⁷⁴ To replace and repair computers, motorcycles and other capital assets.

⁷⁵ Approximately three months' worth of expenses, established to avoid cash flow problems.

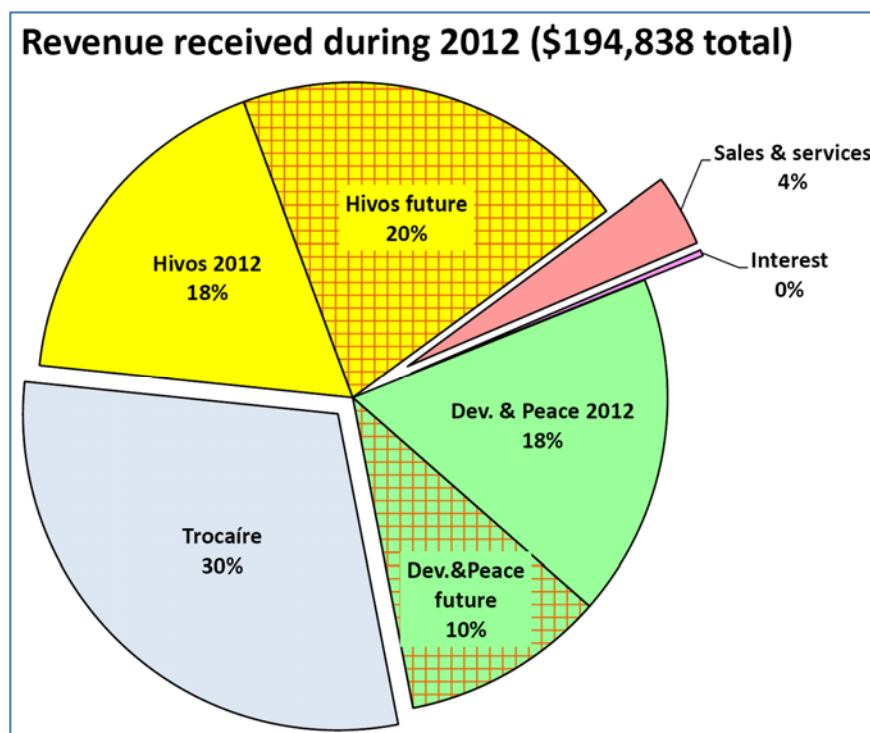
⁷⁶ This fund was established to build and furnish a new office and resource center for La'o Hamutuk, on which construction was completed during 2011 but some rehabilitation is pending.

⁷⁷ Because they are withdrawing from Timor-Leste or their budget year is different from ours, donors gave up to \$106,541 during 2012 which may be spent in later years. We have elected to carry over \$60,400.

Revenues received during 2012

The following table shows income received by La'o Hamutuk during 2012.

Some donors transferred money to La'o Hamutuk during 2012 which is intended to be spent in 2013 and beyond, as part of their transitioning out of Timor-Leste or because their financial year extends beyond December. We have shown this "future reserve" as separate slices in the pie chart and in the table below.

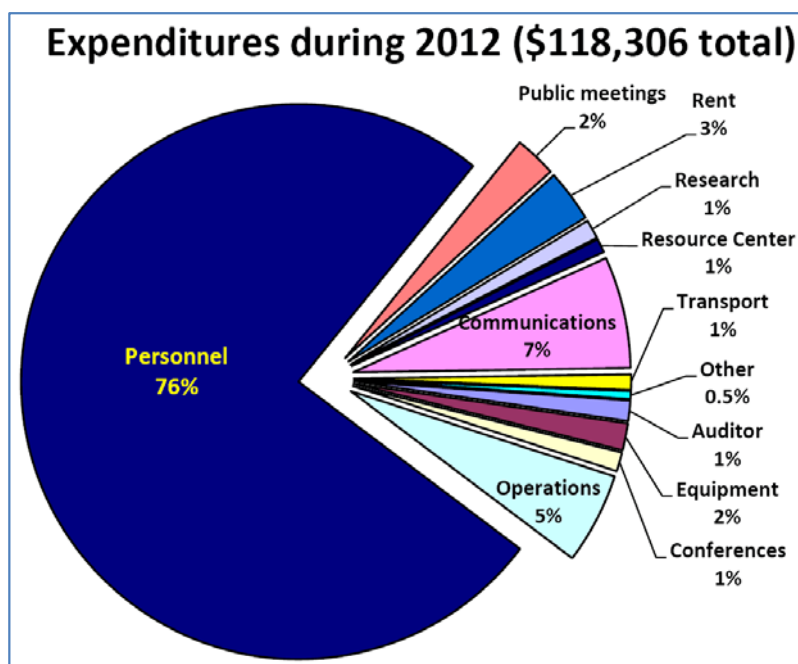


Revenue	Budgeted	Actual	Difference	Explanation
Program grants to be spent during 2012	128,000	126,671	-1,329	Includes Trocaire (\$57,878), Hivos (\$74,561) and Development & Peace (\$54,631) general support received during 2012. Much of it can be carried over until 2013 and 2014.
Program grants for use in future years	--	60,400	60,400	
Earned by LH for services provided	5,000	6,962	1,962	The Asia Foundation, UN Women, Fokupers, and other organizations hired LH to give trainings or presentations.
Donations	200	0	-200	We do not actively solicit donations.
Sales of books, DVDs and other materials	300	200	-100	We also distribute many materials at no charge.
Bank interest	400	605	205	Grant money was received early, increasing bank balances and interest.
Total received		194,838		Includes up to \$106,541 which could be spent in future years; we are carrying over \$60,400.
Total received for 2012	133,900	134,438	538	Excluding the second line of this table

Expenditures during 2012

The table below and graph at right shows the money budgeted and spent by La'o Hamutuk during 2012 for different aspects of our work, totaling \$118,306.

Personnel costs are the largest component because the research, analysis and advocacy that form the core of our work rely on our human resources.



Item	Budgeted	Actual	Diff.	Explanation
Auditor	1,200	1,400	200	
Office building	1,500	0	(1,500)	Repairs deferred to 2013
Bulletin	1,900	0	(1,900)	None published
Capital equipment	2,500	1,847	(653)	Computer prices lower than anticipated
Int'l conferences	1,500	1,320	(180)	\$1,230 will be reimbursed by UN Women in 2013. Others were paid by hosts or sponsors.
Operations	7,200	6,280	(920)	
Personnel ⁷⁸	90,500	89,389	(1,111)	
Public meetings	3,200	2,885	(315)	
Radio program	1,800	150	(1,650)	Program not on air, due to new structure of Radio-Television Timor-Leste. Discussions continue.
Rent	5,100	3,600	(1,500)	
Research	3,300	1,320	(1,980)	Fewer staff and no international research.
Resource Center	1,200	968	(232)	
Surat Popular	900	0	(900)	None published.
Telephone and Internet	8,800	7,684	(1,116)	
Training for staff	900	0	(900)	In-house training without costs.
Transportation	1,400	1,064	(336)	
Miscellaneous expenses	1,000	399	(601)	
Total	133,900	118,306	(15,594)	

⁷⁸ Salaries, benefits, health costs, wage taxes, visa fees, housing allowances, etc.

Projected budget for 2013

Expenditure	Explanation / comments
Auditor	1,500 Probably moving to a new auditor
Office building	1,500 Maintenance, repairs and furniture for our office building
Bulletin	2,000 Printing, translation, distribution of two issues
Capital equipment	3,600 Computers, motorcycles, appliances etc.
International conferences	1,000 Non-reimbursed costs to attend international conferences
Operations	8,000 Electricity, supplies, photocopying, bank fees, advertising etc.
Personnel	110,000 Salaries, wage tax, visa fees, health insurance, transport for international staff, housing allowance, readjustment, We hope to add two Timorese and one international staff during 2013.
Public meetings	3,800 Space rental, publicity, refreshments
Radio & TV programs	3,000 Production costs and fuel for community radio stations and RTTL
Office rent	7,200
Research	3,500 Travel and housing in Timor-Leste to conduct field research
Resource Center	1,300 Books, videos, and other materials
Surat Popular	800 Popular education publication
Telephone and internet	9,000
Training for staff	900 Language and other classes
Transportation	1,400 Transport and motorcycle maintenance, in Dili and nearby
Miscellaneous expenses	800 Contributions to issue-based campaigns and other small costs
Total	159,300

Revenues	Explanation
Already received in 2012	10,400 Multi-year grants already paid to LH (see "revenues" page). We will carry over \$50,000 to 2014.
General support from Hivos	75,000
General support from new donors	67,000
Designated grants	-- We may seek additional funding for special projects.
Earned by LH	6,000 Trainings, consulting, writing papers, etc.
Bank interest	500
Sales	300 Sale of books, DVD-ROMS, and other materials produced by LH
Donations and other	100
Total	159,300

Appendix 2. Media coverage of La'o Hamutuk

La'o Hamutuk is frequently interviewed by journalists and international organizations for background information, comments on current events, or findings from our research.

This lists some of the coverage of La'o Hamutuk in local and international media during 2012, as well as articles by La'o Hamutuk staff published elsewhere. It does not include many articles and releases which were copied or referenced by on-line publications and other websites.

Date	Title	Publication	Authors	comment
11 Jan	Pipeline Negotiations	RTL news		Interview with Charlie
1 Feb	Woodside's triple LNG trial	Petroleum Economist	Damon Evans	Cites LH information on cost of Tasi Mane project, events relating to Sunrise negotiations
3 Feb	Lei ba Rai	RTL		Interview with Ines
7 Feb	Will Timor-Leste avoid the resource curse?	Lowy Interpreter	Gordon Peake	Extensively cites LH information on resource curse
8 Feb	Eletrisidade sei domina infraestrutura	Timor Post		Interview with Juvinal
Feb	Challenging the Therapeutic Ethic: A Victim-Centred Evaluation of Transitional Justice Process in Timor-Leste	The International Journal of Transitional Justice	Simon Robins	Cites LH, "the only literature on CAVR that comes from Timorese who did not work with the Commission," on CAVR reliance on international support
Feb	Sustainable Development in Timor-Leste	TL National Report to UN Rio+20 conference	TL Ministry of Economy & Development, UNDP, UN DESA	Cites LH as source of information; uses or references LH materials on non-green practices, heavy oil project, Sunrise LNG, Balance of Trade, oil companies, and farmers' wisdom.
22 Feb	Oil in Timor-Leste – A Kick-Start or a Kick-Back?	In Asia: Weekly Insight and Analysis from The Asia Foundation	Silas Everett	Cites LH as "repeatedly warning" political leaders about the consequences of spending oil money quickly.
Mar	Burma's Resource Curse: The case for revenue transparency in the oil and gas sector	Report published by Arakan OilWatch	Jockai Khiang and others	Draws extensively from LH material on EITI and TL's petroleum revenue management system (seven footnotes reference LH materials).
10 Mar	Small Country, Big Year	The Economist	[Richard Cockett]	'More important, argues Charles Scheiner of the local Institute for Development Monitoring and Analysis, over-reliance on oil "crowds out the policy space" for other ways to increase national income. Oil still accounts for 95% of government revenues—and production has peaked.'
15 Mar	Wealth gap growing in East Timor	SBS-TV	Brian Thomson	TV Interview with Charlie
16 Mar	Justisa Timor-Leste & masa lalu Indonesia	BBC Indonesia		Interview with Celestino
17 Mar	Peaceful Elections a Symbol of Timor's Maturing Democracy	Voice of America	Kate Lamb	Quotes Charlie on peaceful election, oil dependency
18 Mar	East Timor's Oil Not Enough	AFP	Anwar Faruqi	Based on LH information, quotes Charlie
19 Mar	East Timor's road: to riches or ruin?	The Global Mail	Aubrey Belford	Based on LH information, quotes Charlie
19 Mar	Eleisaun no distorsaun atensaun públiku ba seguransa	Timor Post and Independente	Guteriano	Article by Guteriano
25 Mar	TL enfrenta krizi ekonomia tanba folin sasán aas	Business Timor		Misquotes Charlie on inflation
26 Mar	Concerns raised over East Timor's spending	Australia Network TV	Sara Everingham	Interviews Charlie on wealth gap

Date	Title	Publication	Authors	comment
26 Mar	Benefísiu boot ba TL ekidade Fundu Minarai ba 20%	Business Timor		Charlie & Gute on PF diversification
28 Mar	Sosiedade sivil husu konsulta kle'an Lei Rai	Independente		Quotes Ines
28 Mar	La'ó Hamutuk: Petroleum regulators to get better health care	<i>Petroleum Reviews</i> blog		Reposted La'ó Hamutuk blog article
29 Mar	Deve osan husi Japaun "sosiedade sivil konsiénsia tusan ba jerasaun foun"	Diario Nasionál		Quotes Juvinal
30 Mar	Prezidente veto Lei ba Rai Support President's veto of land laws	TVTL news		Press conference, Ines speaking for Rede ba Rai
2 Apr	Privileged health care services for ANP staff	TVTL news		Interviewed Charlie on ANP health care issue
2 Apr	East Timor's Future Without Gusmão	New Matilda	Tim Anderson	Cites LH on low priority for education and health in state budget
2 Apr	Tanba la fó benefísiu ba comunidade, PR entrega fali Lei Rai nian ba PN	Dili Weekly		Interview with Ines
3 Apr	ANP Kria Grupo Sosiál Elitu MPs Oppose ANP Plan for Special Health Treatment	Independente		Based on LH press release (front page), interview with Charlie
4 Apr	Estudantes: ANP Kria Política Deskriminativu ba Povo Ki'ak. Editorial: Povo Barak Ki'ak, ANP Goza Diak	Independente, TP		Initiated by LH press release, interview with Juvinal. Article and editorial, over many days
5 Apr	FH husu PN debate Lei Rai	Timor Post		Ines statement on presidential veto of land law
5 Apr	Mina folin sa'e tuir merkadu global	Diario Nasionál		Interview Charlie about impact of oil prices
11 Apr	ANTI Komemora Masakre Liquiça "Ejj harii Tribunal Internasional"	Diario Nasionál		Interview with Celestino
13 Apr	Duel de guérilleros pour la présidence du Timor-Oriental	Le Monde	Marie le Moël	Quotes Charlie on need for non-oil development
12 Apr	PR Horta Trata Saude iha ONGV, ANP iha Klinika Espesial National Hospital Good Enough for President but not for ANP	Independente		Quotes LH's blog article
13 Apr	Sintoma Malisan Rikusoin sei mosu iha ANP	Independente		Interview with Juvinal
13-15 Apr	LH questionnaire of Presidential candidates Resposta husi kandidatu Prezidente nain rua	Timor Post		Publication of LH questionnaire and answers (in three parts)
	LH questionnaire of Presidential candidates	Linked from several blogs		Reprints or links to LH questionnaire
17 Apr	Timor-Leste to choose new President (in French)	Radio France, Grand Reportage	Marie le Moel	Interviews Juvinal on economic development, Charlie on justice.
18 Apr	Tougher line expected on Timor oil and gas	The Age	Michael Bachelard	Quotes answer from LH questionnaire
20 Apr	Família Masakre Likiza Eziji Justisa	Tempo Semanal		Interview with Celestino
26 Apr	ANP Gasta \$2000 kada fulan ba saúde espesial. Clinics Reveals ANP Already Spends \$2000 a month on Health Care	Independente		Quotes LH's blog article
27 Apr	ANP halo krimi	Timor Post		Quotes LH's blog article
27 Apr	PR Horta husu hapara Tratamentu Saude Espesial iha ANP	Diario Nasionál		Quotes LH's blog article
27 Apr	PR Konsidera ANP halo pratika krimi	Independente		Quotes LH's blog article

Date	Title	Publication	Authors	comment
27 Apr	East Timor and Australia's Carbon Tax and follow-up	ConnectAsia, Radio Australia	Liam Cochrane	Interviews Charlie about maritime boundaries, climate change
28 Apr	Scarred leader seeks healing role	Brisbane Times and other Australian newspapers	Lindsay Murdoch	Cites LH on government spending not developing economy
30 Apr	Abandona Agrikultór, Estraga Futuru Nasaun	Independente		Interviews Charlie on need to prioritize agriculture
Apr	Security Sector Reform in Timor-Leste: Missed Opportunities and Hard Lessons in Empowering the Host-Nation	Paper published by US Army Peacekeeping and Stability Operations Institute (PKSOI)	Nicholas J. Armstrong Jacqueline Chura-Beaver Isaac Kfir	References LH on UNMISSET police training
5 May	Land reform in Timor-Leste Country plots: Reassuring the little coffee growers proves hard	The Economist	Brendan Brady	LH helped the journalist understand land issues
11 May	Karta husi La'o Hamutuk ba Ministra Finansas Emilia Pires kona ba Transparensia	Independente		Printed open letter from LH
16 May	East Timor's gas legacy - Will it benefit future generations?	ABC Radio Australia (Asia Pacific)	Liam Cochrane	Interviews Charlie on non-oil development
17 May	'Two Sharp Eyes' For Timor	New Matilda	Meagan Weymes	Cites LH survey of presidential candidates
18 May	Justice issue	TVTL		Interview with Mariano
19 May	East Timor's oil sector 'no solution' to poverty	AFP/Reuters, Taipei Times		
19 May	Shadow of the past haunts nation's future	Sydney Morning Herald	Lindsay Murdoch	Quotes Charlie on limited oil reserves, import dependency
19 May	Cooking Up a Deal across the Timor Sea	The Age (Australia) Opinion	Hamish McDonald	Cites LH on limited benefit from Sunrise LNG
21 May	Asuntu Pipeline TL-Woodside Mantén ida-idak nia Pozisaun	Business Timor		Interview with Juvinal and Charlie
24 May	Report of the Mission to Timor-Leste	UN Human Rights Council, Doc. A/HRC/20/25/Add. 1	UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty	Cites LH on unsustainability of TL's petroleum-dependent economy.
28 May	Ten years on, the myths of East Timor independence stand exposed	World Socialist Web Site	Patrick O'Connor	Cites LH on Petroleum Fund being empty in a few years
May	Climate Change and Energy Poverty in Timor-Leste	Report published by University of Melbourne	Jeremy Moss & Michael McGann	Makes extensive use of LH materials on heavy oil and other topics.
1 Jun	Investment in Timor-Leste	ABC Radio Asia Pacific	Helene Hoffman	Interviews Juvinal on investment
8 Jun	Timor-Leste: the parliamentary campaign begins	Inside Story	Michael Leach	Cites LH on unsustainable spending policies
8 Jun	Sentrál Elétrika fó ameasa ba comunidade	Independente		Interview with Juvinal
13 Jun	Governu foin gasta OJE \$431 Millaun	Independente; Time Timor		Interview with Charlie
13 Jun	Povu iha direitu ba rai	Tempo Semanal		Interview with Ines
15 Jun	Trip of a lifetime to Timor Leste	Bega District News	Claire Lupton	Lists LH to brief upcoming delegation
3 Jul	Problema rai sai preokupasaun ba povu: "Rede ba Rai halo debate públiku ho partidu polítiku"	Diario Nasionál		Interview with Ines

Date	Title	Publication	Authors	comment
4 Jul	Timor fund chief makes light of \$10.5bn account	The Age	Michael Bachelard	Extensive quotes from Charlie about the danger of TL's oil wealth being stolen.
4 Jul	Talk is cheap on East Timor's financial future	Sydney Morning Herald	Michael Bachelard	Extensive quotes from Charlie about the danger of TL's oil wealth being stolen.
4 Jul	ETAN Volunteers Support Timor-Leste Groups Electoral Work	ETAN Blog	Elice Higginbotham	Describes LH briefing for observers
6 Jul	Voting to escape the past	Irish Examiner	Simon Roughneen	Quotes Juvinal
6 Jul	East Timor is Changing, but not fast enough	Global Post	Helen Hoffman	Quotes Tonilia on unemployment
9 Jul	For new East Timor gov't, poverty is prime challenge	The Daily Tribune (Philippines)	AFP	Quotes Charlie on need for non-oil economy.
9 Jul	Xanana close to victory in Timor poll	Sydney Morning Herald	Michael Bachelard	Quotes Charlie on limited future oil revenues
10 Jul	Post-election Timor-Leste: the parties enter negotiations	Inside Story	Michael Leach	Cites LH concerns about "national unity government pluralistic state"
11 Jul	The Partido Socialista de Timor and the 2012 Timor-Leste elections – "Even if we lose we win"	Crikey.com "The Northern Myth"	Bob Gosford	Cites the "very informative La'ó Hamutuk website."
11 Jul	Parties haggle on East Timor government	The Age Sydney Morning Herald	Michael Bachelard	Quotes LH as "a key civil society group" warning against gov't of national unity
12 Jul	Sr. Presidente da República, Não Permita um Governo de "Unidade Nacional"	Timor Ha'u Nia Doben blog	Zizi Pedruco	Cites LH as a "credible NGO" and quotes our statement on national unity gov't. (they also reprinted our statement in two languages)
17 Jul	Dire economic straits for Timor-Leste after 2012 elections also Part 2 and Part 3	Latin Radical radio	Warwick Fry	Three half-hour programs from interviews with Charlie and Juvinal
19 Jul	ConocoPhillips should pay the taxes that it owes to Timor-Leste	Radio Timor-Leste		Interview with Charlie
1 Aug	Visit to La'ó Hamutuk	Georgetown Univ Qatar ZCZP blog		Report on student delegation visit to La'ó Hamutuk office
6 Aug	Safeguard natural resources: NGOs	Myanmar Times	Juliet Shwe Gaung	Quotes Charlie participating in Rangoon workshop
9 Aug	East Timor: President Rejects Woman Defense Minister	Global Voices Online	Janet Gunter	Quotes Juvinal from Facebook
13 Aug	Hoban-an kle'an liu iha tahu mina-rai	Business Timor		Quotes LH's blog article
14 Aug	Dadus ba rai barak la kualifikadu	Timor Post		Interview with Ines
15 Aug	Ministériu Justisa tenke evalua projetu "Ita nia rai"	Timor Post		Interview with Ines
18 Aug	Timor filmmakers launch 'guerrilla' style campaign to finish legacy film	Pacific Scoop	Cassandra Mason	Quotes LH letter to UN SC about impunity
20 Aug	Osan hira mak Australia naok ona husi Timor-Leste?	Business Timor	Juvinal	Article by Juvinal
20 Aug	Kampu minarai Laminaria-Coralina, Australia billaun \$2 Timor-Leste zero	Business Timor	Juvinal	Article by Juvinal
20 Aug	Taxa husi ConocoPhillips foin millaun \$200	Business Timor	Juvinal	Article by Juvinal
12 Sept	Povu nia Matenek: Dezempregu	TVTL	CPA	TV documentary; includes interviews with Mariano and Juvinal
24 Sept	Met hulp aan baby's kun je scoren (in Dutch)	NRC Handelsblad	Elske Schouten	Quotes Charlie on most aid to TL going abroad.

Date	Title	Publication	Authors	comment
1 Oct	Taxing Times in Timor	ABC TV Four Corners (documentary)	Peter Cronau et al.	Interviews Charlie; LH provided extensive support and advise to the producers, and the internet version has many links to our website.
5 Oct	Estranjeiru laiha direitu sai nain ba rai	Diario Nasional		Quotes Ines
10 Oct	Distino Conocco Philips-Woodside	Timor Post (p1)		Interview with Charlie explaining oil companies' tax obligations. Also cited in editorial and "quote of the day"
10 Oct	Deskonfia ConocoPhilips Manipula Dokumentu; "FONGTIL Ameasa Halo Demonstrasau"	Independente (p1)		Quotes Juvinal
10 Oct	Organized Crime Operating in Timor Leste	Fundasaun Mahein	Nelson Belo	Cites LH on Asian Champ Investment attempted scam
Oct	Partnerships for Change: Timor-Leste	Video	IMF	Interviews Charlie
20 Oct	FRETILIN Husu Investigasaun Klean Kona ba Mina Estadu	Fretilin press release	Maria Angelica Rangel	Based on LH information and press release
23 Oct	Deskonfia Mall Gastu ba Uzu Kombustivel	Independente		(mis) quotes LH on difference between fuel imports and gov't spending on fuel
Oct	Several op-ed pieces on "Tratado Tasi Timor"	STL and other newspapers	Vicente Mauboci	Cites LH on costs of Tasi Mane project, etc.
7 Nov	LH letter to UN Security Council	Diario; ETAN press release		Printed LH press release
14 Nov	Investigasaun jornalística importante ba dezvoltamentu nasaun nian	Gov't press release, several newspapers	Nelio Isaac	Based on program which included Juvinal Dias as speaker
19 Nov	Konta Jerál Estadu loke informasaun hakfodak no tristeza	STL	Juvinal Dias	Printed LH press release
26 Nov	Timor-Leste: resolve of a fragile nation	Guardian (UK)	Charlotte Maugham	Cites LH on oil and Fund being exhausted in 12 years
12 Dec	Pratika korupsiun iha TL sei a'as	Diario Nasional		Quotes Juvinal on MCC scores analysis
14 Dec	Article from La'o Hamutuk: Perceiving Corruption Accurately	Independente	Charlie Scheiner	Reprinted article from La'o Hamutuk blog
14 Dec	Measuring Corruption in East Timor (also in Bangla)	Global Voices Online	Mong Palatino	Summarizes and links to LH blog
28 Dec	A new chapter in East Timor's independence	Radio Deutsche Welle	Edith Koesoemawiria	Quotes Juvinal on UN and referendum

Appendix 3. Presentations and programs given or organized by LH

During 2012, La'o Hamutuk organized and provided speakers for many events, as well as conducting several trainings.

Topic	Date	Speaker	Event / audience
State Budget and Economy	Feb- March	Charlie, Juvinal, Guteriano	Training for the Parliamentary Research Center (5 half-days)
Rights and Sustainability in Timor-Leste's Development	March, May & July	All LH staff	Three briefings for international journalists and others
Gender Responsive Budgeting	March	Guteriano	Training for Fokupers
Foreign aid	March	Guteriano	Discussion at Liceu, UNTL
Land Laws	March	Ines	Presentation to RDTL President's Legal Advisers
Land Laws	March	Ines	Presentation to President José Ramos Horta
Land laws' impact on vulnerable people's rights	March	Ines	Discussion with communities in Maubara Lisan (organized by KSI)
Sustainable Economic development	April	Charlie	Speaker at Luta Hamutuk seminar
Food sovereignty and sustainable agriculture	April	Ego Lemos (PERMATIL) & Xisto Martins (USC Canada)	Discussion at PERMATIL organized by LH
Civil society statement	14-15 May	LH wrote FONGTIL statement	Written presentation to TL and Development Partners meeting
Justice and Impunity	May		LH Public meeting
The current situation in West Papua	May	Jacob Rumbiak	Discussion for students and others at La'o Hamutuk
Gender Responsive Budgeting	23-24 May	Juvinal	Training for SEPI (organized by UN Women)
Gender Responsive Budgeting	5-6 June	Juvinal and Charlie	Training for Fokupers
Land Laws	June	Ines	Communities in Lautem
Briefing on Timor-Leste	June	Charlie	Study group from Victoria University
Report of UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty on Timor-Leste	June	Ines (by video)	UN Human Rights Council in Geneva
Briefing on Timor-Leste	27-30 June	Charlie	Briefings for EU, FOM and ETAN election observer projects
Briefing on Timor-Leste	18 July	Charlie	Study group from Georgetown/Qatar
Managing oil and gas for transparency, equity and sustainability, Experiences from T-L	Aug	Charlie	Three presentations to media, civil society, political parties in Burma
UNMIT and Sustainable Development	Oct	Ines (at DIT)	LH Public meeting on UNMIT's departure (500 students attended)
Supply Base's socio-economic impacts	Oct	Ines	Presentation at SERN/Haburas Supply Base Seminar
Petroleum Taxes	Oct	Charlie	Briefing to students and NGOs
Timor-Leste Seed Policy and its implication for people's lives	Nov	Alexandra	Presentation to Hasatil
Resource Curse and Corruption	Nov	Juvinal	Presentation to FOTI-TL Corruption Watchdog Symposium
Extreme Poverty	Nov	Charlie	Lecture to Diplomacy Training Program
State Budget and Education	Dec	Charlie	Briefing to TL Coalition for Education
Gender Responsive Budgeting	Dec	Juvinal	Briefing to members of Parliament

Appendix 4. Submissions and testimony by La'o Hamutuk

During 2012, we wrote submissions to public consultations, conferences and decision-makers, in addition to informal or bilateral meetings with people developing policies.

Topic	Date	Process	Activity	Web link (English)
Justice and sustainable development	Feb	UN Security Council	Letter prior to UNSC meeting	http://www.laohamutuk.org/reports/UN/LHtoUNSC15Feb2012En.pdf
Draft Biodiversity Decree-Law	April	Consultation by National Directorate for the Environment	Submission	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/EnvLaw/div/LHSubDNMABiodiversityApr2012En.pdf
Civil Society Statement	May	Timor-Leste and Development Partners' Meeting	LH drafted joint statement	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/12TLDPM/FONGTILtoTLDPM14May2012En.pdf
Timor-Leste Transparency Model	May	Minister of Finance	Letter urging more effective Transparency Portal	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/EITI/2012/LHMof2May2012En.pdf
Basic Environmental Law	May	Outgoing President of the Republic	Letter suggesting reconsideration	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/EnvLaw/2012/LHPresEnvLaw9May2012pdf
UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty report on Timor-Leste	Jun	UN Human Rights Council	Written and video submissions	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/SRPoverty/LHFIWILPPFPovertyTL4June2012.pdf and http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/SRPoverty/MADRE-HRC20-Ag3-SREP.mov
Basic Environmental Law	Jun	New President of the Republic	Letter suggesting promulgation	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/EnvLaw/2012/LHtoPREnvLaw20Jun2012.pdf
Government of National Unity	July	Press Release	Statement explaining our concerns	http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/eleisau2012/National Unity Government.pdf
Draft framework on Review of Fragility	Aug	National Directorate for Aid Effectiveness, Ministry of Finance	Comment (Tetum)	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/fragile/LHCommentFSA8Aug2012Te.pdf
Impunity and human rights violations	Sept	Visiting U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton	Letter	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/LHClinton5Sept2012en.pdf
Proposed Budget Rectification	Oct	Parliament	Submission	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OR12/SubLHOR2012en.pdf
TL Government paying more fuel than received	Oct	Provedor and Anti-Corruption Commissioner	Letter	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/trade/LHbaKAKPDHJ22Oct2012en.pdf
Justice, sustainable development	Nov	UN Security Council	Letter	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/LHUNSC4Nov2012en.pdf
General State Accounts for 2011	Nov	Parliament Committee C	Testimony and Submission	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE11/CGA11/LHtoComCGSA2011En.pdf
Consumer Price Index revision	Nov	National Statistics Directorate	Submission	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/inflation/LHtoDNEreCPI21Nov2012en.pdf

Appendix 5. La'o Hamutuk Blog

The most substantive postings on our blog (<http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/>) during 2012 include the following; many are also in Tetum.

Date	Title
24 Jan	Final 2012 Budget Documents online
14 Feb	Human Right Review for TL coming up
16 Feb	LH urges UN SC to focus on justice and sustainability
1 March	If you spend \$400 million, you don't have it any more
3 March	LH Media Briefing 9 March
12 March	Borrowing from next generation
14 March	Where do the candidates stand on the issues?
19 March	Timor-Leste is going for broke
28 March	Petroleum regulators to get better health care
4 April	LH reply to comments on ANP/health care postings
12 April	Answers from two Presidential Candidates to LH's questions
3 May	LH urges more effective TL transparency Model
9 May	LH observations on President Election, Round 2
11 May	Come to LH Media Briefing on 18 May
18 May	Celebrating ten years of restored independence
30 May	How Timor-Leste got ten billion dollars...and how quickly we will spend it all
13 June	Questions for voters to ask political party campaigns
24 June	UN discusses poverty in Timor-Leste
25 June	Join pre-election briefing and debate on land rights
4 July	Ten billion dollars is a tempting target
8 July	Seats resulting from Parliamentary Election
13 July	Wading deeper into an oily swamp
20 July	Infrastructure for Timor-Leste's people
11 Sept	Members of Parliament
19 Sept	OrsRec2012: Borrowing from ourselves
5 Oct	Filling gaps in "Taxing Times"
16 Oct	Public meeting: What does Timor-Leste need after UNMIT?
17 Oct	TL gov't also pays too much for fuel
5 Nov	What interests in the UN Security Council?
9 Nov	TL's MCC scores getting worse
26 Nov	Measuring inflation more effectively
28 Nov	Transparency, over company protest
8 Dec	Perceiving corruption accurately
18 Dec	State Budget moves toward sanity

Appendix 6. Staff and Advisory Board biographies

At the close of 2012, La'o Hamutuk staff included seven full-time Timorese and two foreigners, three women and six men. Our staff is non-hierarchical and makes decisions collectively, with two rotating coordinators. Staff share administrative and program responsibilities and work together to transfer skills. The following people were on our staff during most of 2012:

Alexandra Arnassalon

Alexandra was born and grew up in Paris, and comes from the French Caribbean Islands. She holds a Master Degree in Economic Analysis and Sustainable Development. Alex speaks French, English, Indonesian, Spanish, Creole, Tetum and some Greek. Before joining La'o Hamutuk, she worked as a translator and free-lance researcher in Paris, volunteered in Madagascar and Indonesia, and interned with the WWF in Sulawesi. She joined La'o Hamutuk in 2011 and works on agriculture, land, poverty and sustainable development. During 2012, Alex was part of La'o Hamutuk's Coordination Team.



Adilsonio da Costa Junior

Adilson is from Lore, Los Palos, and was born in Dili. He speaks Fataluku, Tetum, Indonesian and English. In 2011, he obtained a Bachelors in Law from Pasundan University, Bandung, where he was a facilitator at Clinical Legal Education. Before, he co-founded the NGO Community Development Interest (CDI), where he worked as Program Manager of the Child Protection Division. He joined La'o Hamutuk in May and focuses on governance, justice and economic issues.



Juvinal Dias

Juvinal studied Agriculture at the National University of Timor Leste. He was born in Tutuala, and is fluent in Fataluku, Tetum, Indonesian and English. Since 2006, he did popular education with the Association of Men Against Violence and worked with the Bibi Bulak theatre group. Juvinal joined La'o Hamutuk in 2009, and works on Natural Resources, Economy and Governance and is on our donor relations team. In 2011 Juvinal participated in the OilWatch Conference in Ecuador and a meeting in Cambodia on Systematization of Experience, and in 2012 visited India to study Gender Responsive Budgeting.



Mariano Ferreira

Mariano studied economic management at the University Negeri Jember in Indonesia. Born in Dili, Mariano is fluent in Tetum, Indonesian and some English. During his youth, Mariano worked as a fisherman and sold food to market stalls. Since 2003, Mariano was on the Board of Hasatil, and he worked at the HAK Association, focusing on fisherfolk and researching agriculture. Mariano joined La'o Hamutuk in 2009, where he works on agriculture and justice. During 2012, Mariano was part of La'o Hamutuk's Coordination Team.



Celestino Gusmão

Celestino is from Laga-Baucau and studied in public administration at the National University of Timor-Leste. He speaks Tetum, Indonesian, Makasae and is learning English. He has been a leader of the Student Movement (Front Mahasiswa TL). Atino interned and volunteered at La'ó Hamutuk before joining us as staff in 2011, focusing on justice, democracy, solidarity and economics issues. He is also our focal point in the National Alliance for International Tribunal (ANTI) and participated in a training in Jakarta in 2012 organized by the International Center for Transitional Justice.



Inês Martins

Inês was studying economics at the University of Timor Leste before the Indonesian military destroyed it in September 1999. Born in Bobonaro, Inês is fluent in Tetum, Portuguese, Indonesian and English. Inês has worked with La'ó Hamutuk since 2000, researching many issues including aid and the coffee sector. She participated in exchanges to Brazil and Cuba, and took part in a conference on Gender and the New Deal in South Sudan in 2012. Inês works on agriculture and land rights and coordinates our personnel team.



Odete Moniz

Odete joined La'ó Hamutuk in 2007 as office manager and finance manager. She previously worked as finance auditor in Regional Inspectoral (before independence), finance and administration in Espada and the NGO Forum Working Group on Voters Education. She is completing courses at the International Institute of Business. Odete speaks Tetum, Indonesian and Bunak. Odete is responsible for day-to-day office management, bookkeeping and financial oversight.



Guteriano Nicolau Soares Neves

Guteriano was born in Laclubar, Manatuto. He studied international relations at Dili University and was on LH staff for three years before receiving a scholarship in 2008 to study at the University of Hawaii. After receiving his Bachelor's, Gute returned to LH in August 2011 to work on economic development, and foreign aid. He speaks Tetum, Indonesian, English, Portuguese and Idate. He left La'ó Hamutuk in April 2012 and is an advisor to President Taur Matan Ruak.



Tonilia de Fatima dos Santos

Tonilia was born in Dili and is from Liquiça. She speaks Tetum, Indonesian, and some English and Portuguese. She is studying at the School of Petroleum Studies, Dili Institute of Technology (DIT). In 2011, she followed a course on Petroleum exploration in Gadjah Mada University (UGM), Yogyakarta, Indonesia. While continuing her study, she joined La'ó Hamutuk in May, working on economics and natural resources issues, and left in December to better focus on her education.



Charles Scheiner

An engineer and long-time Timor-Leste solidarity activist, Charlie worked at La'ó Hamutuk in Dili from 2001 until 2004. After alternating between New York and Dili and working part-time for La'ó Hamutuk, Charlie returned to work full-time in 2007. He speaks English, Tetum and some French and Spanish. Charlie's main foci are natural resources, economics, justice, international solidarity and governance, as well as La'ó Hamutuk's finances, website and blog.



Advisory Board

Selma Hayati

An Indonesian human rights activist, Selma has worked in Timor-Leste since 2001, including with Concern, Care, Oxfam, La'ó Hamutuk (2003-2004), NGO Forum and UNTAET. In 2008-9 Selma worked as a Political Affairs Officer in UNMIT, and is a member of Action Asia on Conflict Transformation. Since 2010 she worked with NAPA, Fokupers, JSMP, CAFOD and other organizations, and currently is an independent consultant. Selma writes articles and poetry.

Joseph Nevins

During 1999, Joe served in Dili as one of the coordinators of the IFET Observer Project, and had visited Timor-Leste three times previously. He volunteered with La'ó Hamutuk in Dili during 2000, 2001 and 2005. Joe has written three books and numerous articles on Timor-Leste, including *A Not-So Distant Horror: Mass Violence in East Timor*, published in 2005. After teaching at UCLA and Berkeley, Joe has been a professor of geography at Vassar College, USA since 2003.

Justino da Silva

Justino da Silva was born in Hato-udo, Ainaro district. Justino worked as facilitator for Civic Education in UNTAET and for the National Democratic Institute (NDI). He was leader of the Advocacy Division of the Timor-Leste NGO Forum (Fongtil) until mid-2008, program manager for Concern until 2010, and now works for Save the Children. Justino remains involved in civic education, research and advocacy conducted by Fongtil and its members, and was elected President of FONGTIL's Board of Directors.

Oscar da Silva

Oscar da Silva was born in Uatu-karbau, Viqueque District, works as a consultant for UNDESA (UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs) and teaches Social Economics at the National University of Timor-Leste. He previously worked for Association HAK and HASATIL. He designed the Community Development Concept Plan and Community Action Plan which were implemented in La'lo (Manatuto District), Laulara (Aileu District) and Ataúro (Dili District).

Pamela Sexton

From the USA, Pamela has extensive experience in Indonesia and Timor-Leste. In 1999, she was U.S. coordinator for the IFET Observer Project, and observed the referendum in Suai. In 2000, Pam helped set up La'ó Hamutuk and served on our staff until 2002, focusing on popular education, gender issues, and international exchanges. When Pam returned to California, she became a member of our board, returning to Timor-Leste for most of 2009 (working in the Ministry of Social Solidarity), in 2010 and again in 2012, helping us to increase staff writing and research skills.

Adérito de Jesus Soares (on leave)

Adérito is a lawyer and human rights advocate. Born in Maliana, Adérito has served as director for ELSAM, a Jakarta-based human rights organization. In 2002, Adérito was elected to Timor-Leste's Constituent Assembly where he took a leading role writing the Constitution. He resigned from Parliament to study at New York University. He returned to Dili in 2003, and left in 2006 for a Ph.D. program at Australian National University. In 2010, Adérito returned to Timor-Leste to head the Anti-Corruption Commission, and has taken a leave of absence from La'ó Hamutuk's board.

Santina Soares

Santi was born in Beaçu, Viqueque district. She graduated from the Social Welfare University in Bandung. On returning to Timor-Leste in 2002, she volunteered at the Denore Foundation and worked at the Peace and Democracy Foundation. She was on La'ó Hamutuk's staff from 2005-2008, before joining the Government's Sunrise LNG Taskforce. In 2010, she completed her Masters on gender and development studies at Asian Institute of Technology and now works as a Program Officer for Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Responsive Budgeting in UN Women.