

Annual Report La'o Hamutuk January - December 2016

Table of Contents

Mission and situational context	1
Program activities in 2016	4
Writing for media and giving interviews.....	4
Public meetings, trainings, presentations and testimonies.....	4
Website, blog and email lists	5
Radio programs	6
Research, monitoring and advocacy	6
Economy and natural resources.....	6
Agriculture.....	13
Governance and democracy	14
Networking and coalitions	14
Organizational report	15
Results of La'o Hamutuk's work in 2016.....	16
Plans for 2017.....	19
Appendix 1. Financial Report	21
Appendix 2. Media Coverage	25
Appendix 3. Presentations and programs	34
Appendix 4. Submissions and Testimony	36
Appendix 5. Radio Programs	37
Appendix 6. Blog	38
Appendix 7. La'o Hamutuk staff and advisory board biographies	39

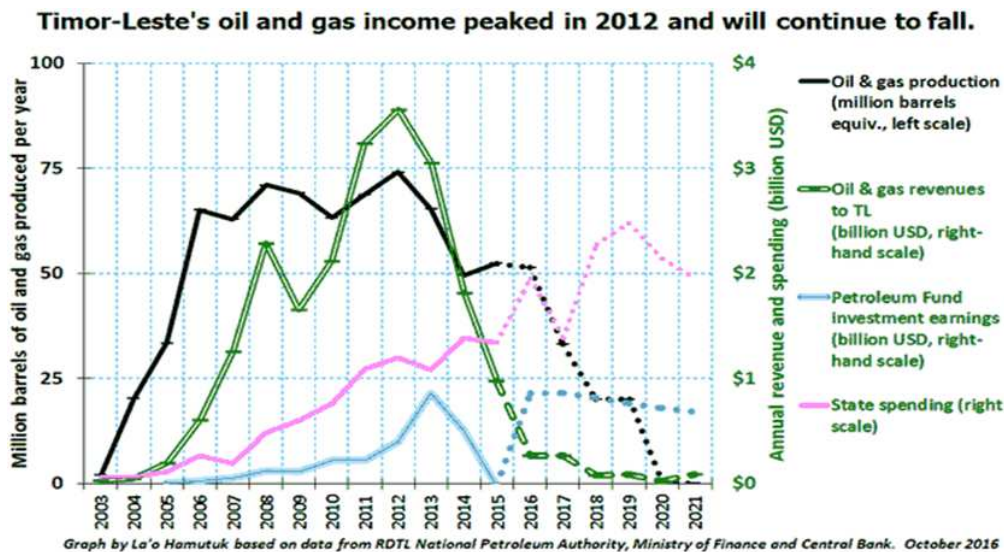
La'o Hamutuk's Vision

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 of protecting them.

Mission and situational context

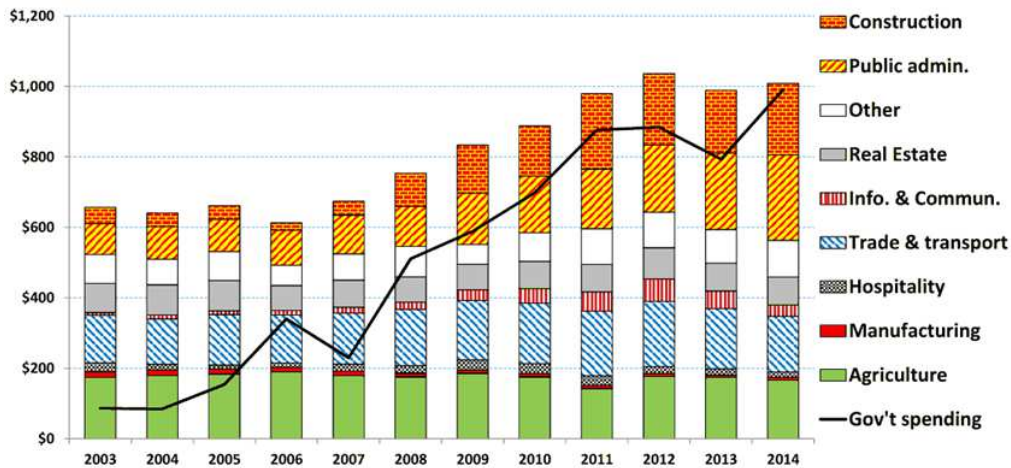
La’o Hamutuk (“Walking Together” in English) is an independent non-governmental organization which monitors, analyses and reports on development processes in Timor-Leste, particularly the programs and policies of the national government and international agencies operating in the country. La’o Hamutuk produces fact-based analysis in order to educate the public on the decisions being made by its representatives, and we consult with and lobby decision makers in government, Parliament and international agencies to advocate for more equitable, sustainable and people-focused policies.

Since Timor-Leste began receiving substantial revenues from oil and gas in 2005/2006, La’o Hamutuk has advocated for sensible, equitable policies which can use these resources to benefit current and future generations by developing high quality social services which meet people’s basic needs and creating a sustainable, diverse domestic economy which can provide adequate livelihoods for all Timorese people. Unfortunately, Timor-Leste has now fallen deeply into the ‘resource curse,’ although the era of easy money -- between 2007 and 2013, oil and gas money comprised 96% of state income and accounted for 80% of GDP – is over; by 2016, oil and gas revenues had fallen to one-ninth of their 2012 peak.



Although optimistic reports point out that there has been some modest growth in ‘non-oil’ GDP over the last few years, the majority of this growth has been fuelled by government expenditure on construction and public administration. Sectors which don’t depend as much on state spending – such as telecommunications, hospitality and retail – have barely grown or have fallen, and productive activities like agriculture and manufacturing have been stagnant since independence. In addition, limited domestic production forces Timor-Leste to import nearly everything, running a goods and services trade deficit of more than a billion dollars each year.

Fig. 1: Sectoral contributions to 'non-oil' per capita GDP
Constant US dollars

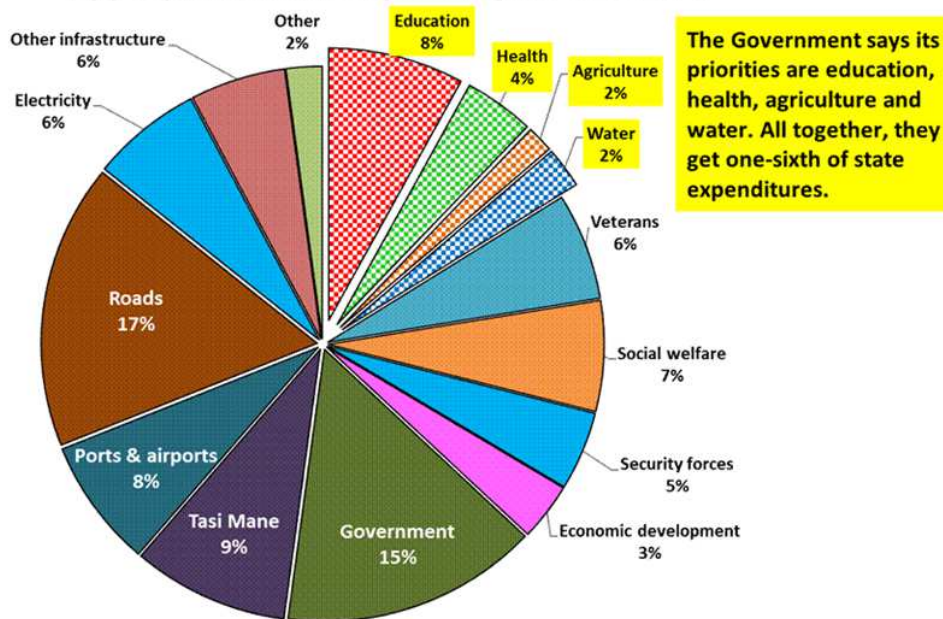


Graphic by La'o Hamutuk based on RDTL General Directorate for Statistics 'TL National Accounts 2000-2014' June 2016

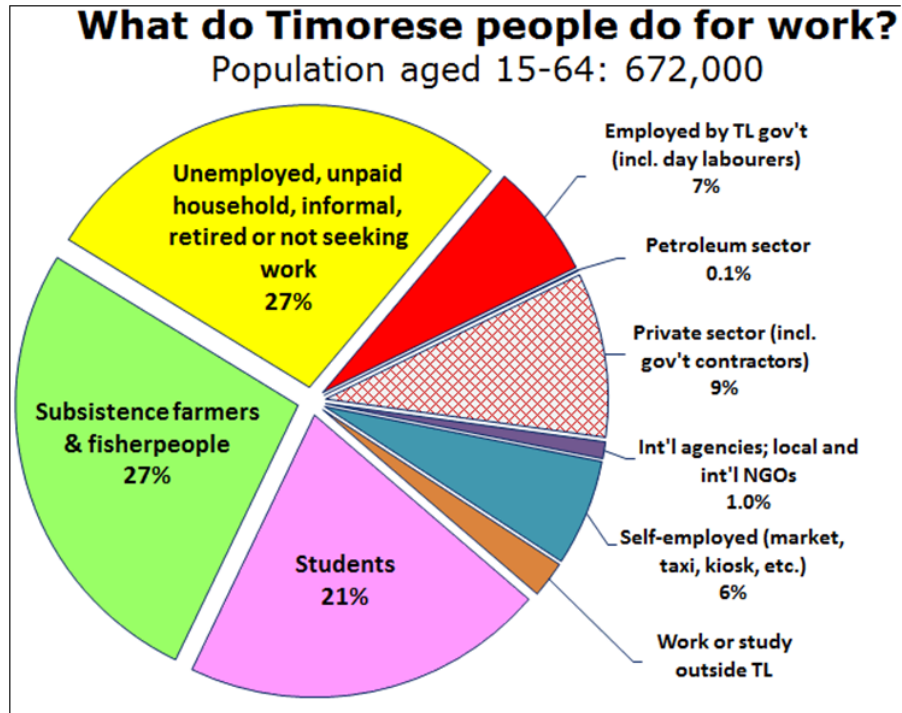
Since most of Timor-Leste's recoverable reserves have already been extracted and sold, Timor-Leste now depends on the returns on investing investment the \$16 billion in its Petroleum Fund. However, the Fund's investment earnings have failed to meet projections in seven of the last eight years, and its principal has been dropping since 2014. In addition, current plans envision withdrawing more than double the Fund's earnings over the next five years, mostly to build large infrastructure projects with dubious returns. Without an immediate, rapid increase in non-oil revenues to replace oil and gas, the Petroleum Fund could be empty ten years from now.

The Government claims that its national priorities are health, education, agriculture and basic infrastructure, but more than 80% of budget appropriations go to public administration, large physical infrastructure, and veterans' pensions. Most human development indicators reflect this: despite the state spending more than \$8 billion over the last decade, even the government acknowledges that nearly 42% of people still live in poverty, while malnutrition and poor sanitation make our children among the shortest and thinnest in the world.

Appropriated state spending in 2016-2017



Around two-thirds of Timor-Leste's population lives in rural areas, and most of them support their families by subsistence farming and fishing. Although the government says agriculture is a priority, support for this sector has been less than 3% of the state budget for more than five years, and is going down. Rural roads continue to deteriorate, and major projects take up valuable land and displace farmers. Only about one-third of working-age people are employed in the formal sector, and half of these work for the government (either as public servants or in private companies receiving government contracts).



Sadly, while there were heated exchanges between Parliament and the state petroleum agencies during the budget debates over the (now undeniable) imminent end of petroleum revenues, in the end Parliament unanimously approved the budget and the President promulgated it in late-December, allowing the Government to continue its unsustainable policy of 'frontloading' infrastructure.

In 2017, Timor-Leste will hold Presidential and Parliamentary elections, and the new government will have to resolve Timor-Leste's pending economic crisis, address the urgent needs of many citizens who still lack access to adequate basic services, and manage accession to ASEAN, settle the boundary dispute with Australia and negotiate other international agreements. This represents a crucial opportunity for the people of Timor-Leste to elect leaders with policies to move Timor-Leste towards a sustainable future.

Therefore, La'o Hamutuk continues to have an essential responsibility to educate the public about the plans of the candidates, and to research and advocate for sustainable, equitable and inclusive policies, programs and legislation that respect human rights and promote social, economic and environmental justice. In the run-up to the elections, we will push candidates to explain their positions on economic sustainability, transparency and accountability, food sovereignty, agricultural and industrial policy and environmental conservation, and we will share this information with the public and hold politicians to their word after they are elected. In this way, we hope to influence the future government, helping redirect Timor-Leste to a more just, sustainable and equitable path.

Program activities in 2016

Throughout 2016, La'o Hamutuk continued to be a vital source of reliable, fact-based information and analysis for the Government, Parliament, President, courts and other state organs, as well as journalists, academics, civil society, students, consultants, diplomats, international agencies and others.

Writing for media and giving interviews

La'o Hamutuk wrote several articles for local and international media, and our staffers were interviewed many times by local and foreign journalists and researchers. In addition to being quoted in online and print media, La'o Hamutuk staffers participated in several TV talk-shows and gave interviews on a wide range of topics. During the year, La'o Hamutuk was quoted or cited more than 130 times in local and international media, as listed in Appendix 2.

Public meetings, trainings, presentations and testimonies

During 2016, La'o Hamutuk held two public meetings and our staff gave more than thirty-five presentations, briefings and testimony to Government, Parliament, foreign diplomats, international agencies, students, civil society and others. Some of the most important examples are listed below, and a more complete list can be found in Appendix 3. Many of the presentations can be downloaded at <http://www.laohamutuk.org/pres.htm>.

- ★ La'o Hamutuk presented to civil society organizations about the legal history of the maritime boundary dispute with Australia at a workshop for the Movement Against the Occupation of the Timor Sea (MKOTT).¹
- ★ Juvinal Dias spoke at a seminar on budget auditing organized by the Chamber of Accounts, in which we discussed fiscal sustainability and falling petroleum revenues.
- ★ Charles Scheiner gave a web-presentation on the consequences of Timor-Leste's dependency on oil and gas to Timor-Leste: Development Issues and International Relations conference to Flinders University, Australia (collaborating with Swinburne University in Australian and Malmö University in Sweden).²
- ★ Juvinal Dias represented MKOTT at the ASEAN People's Forum and gave a presentation explaining Timor-Leste's maritime boundary dispute with Australia.
- ★ La'o Hamutuk organized a public discussion as a side-event to the ASEAN People's Forum in Dili and presented an analysis of the potential implications of ASEAN trade and investment rules for Timor-Leste.
- ★ La'o Hamutuk held a public meeting on the proposed VAT Law and presented our analysis of the law's potential negative impact on the poor.
- ★ Juvinal Dias presented on maritime boundaries to the University of New South Wales' Diplomacy Training Program.
- ★ La'o Hamutuk presented to civil society about the relationship between Government and NGOs.³
- ★ La'o Hamutuk testified before Committee C of Parliament and members of the Democratic Party on the proposed 2017 State Budget.⁴

¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Boundary/2016/CMATS17Feb2016te.pdf>

² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/briefing/ScheinerFlindersApr2016presentation.pdf>

³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/Obstakulu-SC-Govemu2Nov2016.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/LHSubPNOJE2017-7Nov16en.pdf>

- ★ La'o Hamutuk presented our analysis of the proposed 2017 State Budget at Parliament's *Panorama Orsamentál* budget workshop,⁵ along with the Ministry of Finance, Central Bank, World Bank, EU and Rede Feto (Women's Network). All speakers shared our concerns about the unsustainability of current spending and the need to develop alternative sources of revenue and improve basic services.
- ★ La'o Hamutuk organized a public meeting on the 2017 State Budget and presented our analysis of the budget and Timor-Leste's economy.⁶

In addition, we wrote fourteen submissions and letters to government agencies and other officials, and testified to three Parliamentary hearings, as listed in Appendices 3 and 4.

Website, blog and email lists

La'o Hamutuk's website, <http://www.laohamutuk.org/>, continues to be a vital independent source of information on many topics relating to Timor-Leste, including agriculture, petroleum revenues, state budget, maritime boundaries, major infrastructure projects and governance and democracy issues. We collect and publish documents from a wide variety of sources, as well as posting our own analysis, articles and submissions in English and Tetum.

During 2016, more than 2,000 people visited our website each day on average, accessing more than 9,000 pages per day. In addition, people viewed 99,564 articles on our blog during the year, or 272 on an average day, a 46% increase over 2015.

Many of our web pages serve as "briefing books", as we collect and publish documents from many different sources, and combine them with our analysis and that of others. The following are some of the web pages which we added or significantly updated during 2016:

- ★ 2016 State Budget⁷
- ★ 2017 State Budget⁸
- ★ Reports and data on Timor-Leste's Petroleum Fund⁹
- ★ The maritime boundary dispute with Australia¹⁰
- ★ Proposed Private Investment Law and Policy¹¹
- ★ Proposed law on employment in extractive industries,¹²
- ★ Implementation of the new Media Law¹³
- ★ Environmental impacts of the proposed Betano oil refinery¹⁴
- ★ Public-Private Partnership for Tibar Port¹⁵
- ★ 2016 TL and Development Partners Meeting¹⁶
- ★ Revision of the Lifetime Pension Laws¹⁷
- ★ Proposed tax reform¹⁸

⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/ParlSem/LHObsPreIComCPNte.pdf>

⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/PubMtg/LHEnkPubOJE2017-6Dez2016Te.pdf>

⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE16/15OGE16.htm>

⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/16OGE17.htm>

⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/PetFund/05PFIndex.htm>

¹⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Boundary/CMATSindex.htm>

¹¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/invest/16InvestPolicy.htm>

¹² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/EILabor/16EILaborLaw.htm>

¹³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/MediaLaw/14MediaLaw.htm>

¹⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/TasiMane/Betano/EIA/16RefineryEIA.htm>

¹⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/PPP/Tibar/TibarIndexEnTe.htm>

¹⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/16TLDPM/16TLDPMindex.htm>

¹⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/pension/16PensaunVitalisia.htm>

- ★ Street Vending: Threat to Social Order or Employment Opportunity?¹⁹
- ★ Bobby Boye corruption case, including background, sentence and appeal²⁰
- ★ Repayment of over-collected petroleum taxes²¹
- ★ Second UN Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights in Timor-Leste²²

We also have pages linking to presentations²³ and radio programs²⁴ produced by La'o Hamutuk, as well as to reference materials²⁵ from a wide range of sources.

Radio programs

We produced eleven Tetum-language radio programs which were broadcast on Radio Timor-Leste and seven community radio stations in the districts. The radio programs are an important way to share information with rural communities. The programs we produced are listed in Appendix 5.

Research, monitoring and advocacy

Economy and natural resources

State budget, economy and fiscal sustainability

During 2016, La'o Hamutuk continued to report on the State Budget process, analyze reports on petroleum production and revenues from state agencies and advocate for sustainable, sensible expenditure on projects which address people's basic needs and develop the non-oil economy.

In late 2015, President Taur Matan Ruak responded to suggestions from La'o Hamutuk and others and vetoed the 2016 budget. We reported on the Parliamentary override, as well as the budget's execution.²⁶ When the Government proposed to add \$400 million in infrastructure spending in a mid-year budget rectification, we circulated the information²⁷ and wrote submissions to Parliament²⁸ and the President²⁹ arguing that the budget increase was unsustainable and also unnecessary due to the money saved from the cancellation of the Suai Supply Base contract. As in previous years, La'o Hamutuk was the only publicly available source of detailed information on budget processes.

We also collected and published information on the drafting of the 2017 State Budget³⁰ and called on policy makers to recognize the imminent end of oil and gas income and to re-assess the major projects and excessive spending plans contained within the proposed Budget through submissions³¹ and testimony³² to Parliament and interviews with journalists. In December, we

¹⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/tax/16TaxReform.htm>

¹⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/vendors/16StreetVendors.htm>

²⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/corruption/Boye/14BoyeCase.htm>

²¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/tax/10BackTaxes.htm>

²² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/UPR/12UPRIndex.htm>

²³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/pres.htm>

²⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/media/radio.htm>

²⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/DVD/DVDIndexEn.htm>

²⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE16/15OGE16.htm#pres>

²⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE16/15OGE16.htm#rev>

²⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE16/Ret/LHSubmissionPNOR12Jul2016En.pdf>

²⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE16/Ret/LHSubmissionPresRep28Jul2016En.pdf>

³⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/16OGE17.htm#process>

³¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/LHSubPNOJE2017-7Nov16en.pdf>

organized a public meeting where we and the Central Bank presented on the budget,³³ followed by a discussion the Petroleum Fund and government policy.

We regularly updated our website on petroleum revenues and reserves,³⁴ and wrote a blog highlighting the urgent need to develop non-oil sectors.³⁵

In February Juvinal Dias spoke at a seminar on budget auditing organized by the Chamber of Accounts, highlighting fiscal sustainability and falling petroleum revenues.

We also shared our perspectives on unsustainable state spending, falling petroleum revenues and the need to diversify the economy with many journalists, students and researchers, as well as raising these issues in discussions with the Prime Minister, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, President's office, TimorGAP, the IMF, World Bank, ADB, several ambassadors and many others.

In March, we updated our web page on petroleum taxes when Timor-Leste made a secret out-of-court agreement to repay oil companies for taxes that were over-collected in 2010-2012.³⁶ Although the government has refused to release details, we calculated from other data that Timor-Leste repaid \$152 million in 2016, with more to come. We also continued our reporting and advocacy on Bobby Boye's fraud conviction, reminding the prosecutor that Boye's crimes caused far more damage to Timor-Leste than the amount he has been ordered to repay.³⁷ We continued to update our web page with the denial of his appeal and his new motion to vacate his sentence.³⁸

We are concerned that the Government's proposed revisions of the Private Investment Law and Policy do not adequately reflect the needs of Timor-Leste's people and domestic producers, protect our environment and natural resources and encourage the development of sustainable industries. Therefore, we participated in public consultations, and wrote a web page,³⁹ blog post⁴⁰ and two submissions.⁴¹ We also collected information on Timor-Leste's application to join the WTO, organized a public discussion on the trade and investment implications of ASEAN and collected information on laws relating to investor-state dispute settlement which were passed during the year.

In June, La'o Hamutuk helped to organize a civil society conference on the Sustainable Development Goals which synthesized diverse views to create recommendations for the Government on the national development plan and implementation of the SDGs. We also advised several consultants employed by the Government and international agencies on the implementation of the SDGs.

When the Prime Minister's office began a review of the national Strategic Development Plan, their team asked to meet with La'o Hamutuk, and we offered many suggestions on improving and re-evaluating the plan. We will continue to participate in this process and recommend that certain major projects be scaled back to more realistic levels, with increased investment in long term programs vital for people's wellbeing and livelihoods.

³² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/ParlSem/LHObsPrelComCPNte.pdf>

³³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/PubMtg/LHEnkPubOJE2017-6Dez2016Te.pdf>

³⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/PetFund/05PFIndex.htm>

³⁵ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2016/03/indicators-have-consequences.html>

³⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/tax/10BackTaxes.htm#collect>

³⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/corruption/Boye/Appeal/LHBoyeProsecutor25Jan2016.pdf>

³⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/corruption/Boye/14BoyeCase.htm#appeal>

³⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/invest/16InvestPolicy.htm>

⁴⁰ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2016/04/private-investment-is-road-not.html>

⁴¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/invest/LHSubMECAEInvestLaw29Mar2016en.pdf> and
<http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/invest/LHSubMECAEInvestPolicy13Apr2016en.pdf>

We continued to research lending by multilateral agencies, updating our debt sustainability model with loan disbursement information obtained from lenders and communicating with the Ministry of Finance's Debt Management Unit and other agencies responsible for overseeing Timor-Leste's debt. When the 2017 State Budget revealed that the Government plans to borrow more than \$1.5 billion over the next five years, we warned in our submission and presentations that Timor-Leste should not go into debt just as the oil revenue which finances most state expenditures is ending.

In 2016, after sustained public pressure, Parliament re-opened discussions on the Lifetime Pension Law which had been in place since 2007.⁴² La'o Hamutuk testified at a Parliamentary hearing and wrote a submission⁴³ which recommended that pensions be more sustainable and equitable. Parliament then approved a revised version of the law which reduced the benefits contained in the earlier law.

Transparency and accountability

La'o Hamutuk continued to collect and disseminate information on the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), and circulated the 2013 report, noting that it had less transparency than in previous years.⁴⁴ In July, we participated in the EITI Validation process in Dili, to assess the program's progress in Timor-Leste. We also collected information from TimorGAP and ANPM reports.

We also helped Timor-Leste's Core Group on Transparency to develop a plan to strengthen itself and conduct research into several government projects, including PNDS, PDID and ZEESM.

We continued to communicate with the government about the Transparency Portal, pointing out gaps or problems. We also convinced international lenders to release information on their loan agreements with Timor-Leste, including loan contracts and disbursement information.

We continued to participate in international budget transparency initiatives relating to Timor-Leste, such as the International Budget Partnership's Budget Tracker and Open Budget Survey projects, the Natural Resources Governance Institute's index, and the World Bank's Open Budget Portal initiative.

Maritime boundary dispute

La'o Hamutuk was a leader of the Movement Against the Occupation of the Timor Sea (MKOTT), which organized two peaceful protests across from the Australian Embassy in Dili to protest the Australian government's refusal to respect Timor-Leste's sovereign right to a maritime boundary. The demonstrations in February and March attracted thousands of demonstrators from many segments of society. Additional protests were held in solidarity with those in Dili, including in Australia, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines, bringing the issue to international attention and generating widespread media coverage.

⁴² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/pension/16PensaunVitalisia.htm>

⁴³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/pension/LHSubPensVital30Jun2016te.pdf>

⁴⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/EITI/10EITIndex.htm>



Before the demonstrations, La'o Hamutuk – together with other members of MKOTT – organized a workshop to help people understand historical, legal, political and strategic aspects of the boundary dispute. We frequently updated our comprehensive web site, which is the principal global reference on this issue⁴⁵ La'o Hamutuk staffers gave many interviews to local and international media, and we gave numerous presentations, briefings to academics, students and civil society throughout the year. When Australian Governor-General Peter Cosgrove visited Dili in March, La'o Hamutuk helped MKOTT write him an open letter.⁴⁶

In August, La'o Hamutuk collaborated with other civil society organizations to organize the ASEAN People's Forum civil society conference, and Juvinal Dias gave a presentation at the conference which explained the history and principles of the maritime boundary dispute.



Although La'o Hamutuk and other civil society organizations have been pushing for cancellation of the CMATS Treaty (including its gag rule preventing negotiations, diplomacy or adjudication of

⁴⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Boundary/CMATSindex.htm>

⁴⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Boundary/2016/KartaMKOTTGG3Mar2016gen.pdf>

maritime boundaries) since before it was signed in 2006, Timor-Leste's government took up the cause only in 2014. In early 2017, the two governments announced that CMATS was cancelled, and that they are finally negotiating a permanent maritime boundary, hopefully by September. La'o Hamutuk will continue to monitor, educate, agitate and organize, helping people in Australia, Timor-Leste and elsewhere read between the lines of these complex, disinformation-plagued, issues.

Tasi Mane Project and state petroleum agencies

Throughout 2016, La'o Hamutuk continued to gather information on the various elements of the Tasi Mane petroleum infrastructure project and incorporate our analysis of the project's many shortcomings into our advocacy and publications. We updated our web pages with new information on the Suai Supply Base,⁴⁷ south coast highway and⁴⁸ Betano refinery.⁴⁹ We also encouraged international agencies – many of whom agree with La'o Hamutuk's view that the project is not viable – to express their opinions more clearly in their advice to the government, and several reports and presentations from the World Bank, IMF and ADB recommended re-evaluating certain major projects to determine their costs and benefits, and to reduce state spending to a more sustainable level.

In March, La'o Hamutuk wrote a submission recommending that the draft Decree-Law on Employment in the Extractive Activities conform to international human rights covenants. We suggested that the same labor standards should apply to all workers, rather than just those working in extractive industries.⁵⁰

Also in March, La'o Hamutuk attended a ceremony for the handover of seismic data collected by the Chinese company BGP for TimorGAP, and we raised questions about the lack of Environmental Impact Assessment in advance of the research.⁵¹ We also attended TimorGAP's public consultation on the environmental impacts of the Betano refinery project, and we raised questions about their failure to consider major potential problems. We wrote a ten-page letter to TimorGAP, urging them to seriously analyze the risks from constructing the refinery, as well as asking for a realistic cost-benefit analysis of the project's returns.⁵²

In June, after the winning bidder – Hyundai E&C – pulled out of the Suai Supply Base project following the rejection of the contract in 2015 by Timor-Leste's Chamber of Accounts, we urged that the project be cancelled once and for all.⁵³ We also questioned the inclusion of the project in the 2016 Rectification Budget,⁵⁴ and wrote a press release calling on the Anti-Corruption Commission to investigate the failed tender process for the Supply Base project.

La'o Hamutuk went to Suai to research the status of the airport and highway components of the Tasi Mane project, and we spoke to many local people who were dissatisfied with the relocation process and the compensation they had received for giving up their homes and land. We reported the results of this field research to TimorGAP, asking them to address the complaints of the local communities.⁵⁵

⁴⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/TasiMane/13SSBen.htm>

⁴⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/TasiMane/11TasiMane.htm#hwytender>

⁴⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/TasiMane/Betano/EIA/16RefineryEIA.htm>

⁵⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/EILabor/16EILaborLaw.htm>

⁵¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/PetRegime/NOC/10Petronatil.htm#2016>

⁵² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/TasiMane/Betano/EIA/16RefineryEIA.htm>

⁵³ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2016/06/suai-supply-base-contract-cancelled-its.html>

⁵⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE16/15OGE16.htm#rev>

⁵⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/TasiMane/SSB/PeskizaSuaiOct2016.pdf>

As the Government continued to prioritize the Tasi Mane project in the proposed 2017 State Budget, we urged Parliament – through our submission and testimonies – to ask the project proponents for clear cost/benefit analyses, and we brought the issue up in many media interviews.

In our submission on the proposed 2017 Budget, we also criticized the doubling of the state subsidy for the state-owned oil company TimorGAP, and questioned the need to continue spending millions of dollars every year on the two state petroleum agencies – TimorGAP and ANPM – when petroleum revenues are falling and the likelihood of finding more oil is small.⁵⁶ As a result of the new petroleum revenue projections published in the proposed budget – which we highlighted in our submission – Deputies sharply questioned the petroleum agencies during the Parliamentary budget debates and accused them of lying when they had previously promised that petroleum revenues would last for many years.

Public-Private Partnership for Tibar port

La'o Hamutuk analyzed the Tibar container port project in depth,⁵⁷ raising questions about the port's economic viability, risk-sharing in the Public-Private Partnership (PPP), potential impact on Timorese producers (especially farmers), environmental and social impacts and lack of competition in the bidding process. We also gathered many important documents relating to the design, planning, legal framework, procurement, environmental licensing, land appropriation and community consultations.

Since the article's publication, some of these concerns have been addressed by the project proponents; however, some key issues remain, such as how the port is likely to increase import dependency by making goods cheaper and more plentiful, which may damage domestic production as local producers are forced to compete with cheaper imports. There will also be serious impacts to the local environment and the livelihoods of local people who use the bay for fishing and other activities.

The social and environmental impact assessments are ongoing, and the project is due to begin construction in 2017. La'o Hamutuk will continue to follow the implementation of the project, update our web page and advocate for the local community's rights to fair compensation for lost land and livelihoods.

Environment

La'o Hamutuk incorporates an environmental perspective into most of our work, and we regularly communicate and meet with National Directorate for Controlling Pollution and Environmental Impacts (DNKPIA, formerly DNMA) to obtain documents and information on the licencing status of major projects, and to encourage them to enforce Timor-Leste's environmental licencing laws more effectively.

We also participated in private and public consultations in relation to environmental and social impact studies. For example, in January, we consulted with WorleyParsons, the company preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan for the planned Baucau cement factory and limestone mine, offering recommendations for improving the study. In December, we met with WorleyParsons again, this time to discuss the Environment Impact Survey for the Tibar port project. As mentioned above, we participated in a consultation and sent written recommendations regarding the EIS for the proposed Betano oil refinery and pipeline. We also participated in consultations on several other government-supported projects, recommending that the rights of local communities to land, livelihoods and a clean, safe environment be included in environmental impacts studies.

⁵⁶ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/LHSubPNOJE2017-7Nov16en.pdf>

⁵⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/PPP/Tibar/TibarIndexEnTe.htm>

In June, we sent a letter to the Provedor for Human Rights and Justice detailing systematic violations of the environmental licensing law by many large projects,⁵⁸ urging them to investigate why the law was not being enforced. We also published a blog based on the letter.⁵⁹

Statistics and data on Timor-Leste

La'ó Hamutuk communicates frequently with governmental and international agencies which collect and publish data on Timor-Leste, in order to improve their accuracy and to persuade them to be more direct when they make recommendations to government on economic sustainability and other issues. Several reports and presentations from international agencies and state bodies during 2016 echoed points La'ó Hamutuk has been making for years.

The IMF met with us while conducting their 2016 Article IV Consultation, and their press release highlights the risk of high public spending on projects with unclear returns and the need to develop non-oil sectors. ADB's new five-year Country Partnership Strategy also warns about unsustainable state spending, the lack of development in the non-oil economy and the poor prospects for developing the onshore petroleum industry. The World Bank's presentation at the *Panorama Orsamentál* Parliamentary budget seminar echoed La'ó Hamutuk's concerns about the sustainability and quality of current state spending, and recommended an evaluation of planned projects to ensure that all government programs produce clear social and economic benefits.

In October, the Consultative Council on the Petroleum Fund hosted a conference, and presentations by the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank shared La'ó Hamutuk's concerns about the impact of government policy on the Fund's sustainability. However, the heads of TimorGAP and ANPM continued to raise unjustified hopes of additional offshore oil reserves, which La'ó Hamutuk seriously questioned.

On our suggestion, the Directorate-General of Statistics (DGE) corrected errors in their March report on international trade. We also attended a DGE consultation on their 2016 Demographics and Health Survey and suggested improvements to the questionnaire, and re-published their *National Accounts 2000-2014, Business Activities Survey 2014* and other documents to our reference page.⁶⁰ In addition, ANPM added missing information on petroleum revenues to their website when we brought it to their attention.

In November, the Government published a propagandistic press release which exaggerated Timor-Leste's economic health by quoting selectively from an IMF/World Bank report. In response, La'ó Hamutuk published a blog debunking the claims of strong economic growth and increases in private investment,⁶¹ and quoted the report's warnings in the original context, along with our own critique of the IMF's overly optimistic GDP growth projections.

Finally, we provided suggestions and information for international research and assistance projects, including the World Bank's Open Budget Portal, UNDP's SDG Preparedness Assessment, Aid Data / Development Gateway researchers, UNDP's Development Finance Assistance project, Asia Foundation research on budgeting for urban services, and international students seeking information on Timor-Leste's economy, including briefing a study group from Victoria University.

⁵⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/EnvLaw/2016/LHbaPDHJIAI31May2016te.pdf>

⁵⁹ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2016/06/lh-husu-pdhj-atu-ha-forsa-implementasaun.html>

⁶⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/DVD/DVDIndexEn.htm>

⁶¹ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2016/11/spinning-straw-into-gold.html>

Agriculture

Food sovereignty and sustainable agriculture

During 2016, La'o Hamutuk continued to advocate for food sovereignty principles in Timor-Leste agriculture. We initiated a program working with the Sustainable Agriculture Network (HASATIL) members around the country to research the implementation of Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries programs. As part of the strategy, we briefed the members about the MAF action plan and budget for the current year. We also researched and shared information about the *Toos Eskolár* (school garden) program which is part of the new elementary school curriculum.

Through our submissions and testimony on the 2017 State Budget, Private Investment Law and other policies, we encouraged the government to allocate more resources to sustainable agriculture to promote food sovereignty and reduce our dependence on imports. We participated in the revision of Timor-Leste's Food Security Policy in 2016, and persuaded the team to agree to include the principle of food sovereignty. In addition, the Ministry of Agriculture's plan for 2016 included several ideas that we had recommended, such as a program to support young farmers. We also wrote an article on the importance of the participation of women in agriculture activities which was published on the semi-official blog of the President's office.⁶² Finally, we met with several international agencies, researchers and donors looking for information on agriculture in Timor-Leste.

Land rights

During 2016, La'o Hamutuk continued to closely follow the land legislation process and advocate for inclusive and fair land laws for all Timorese. In June, we wrote two submissions to National Parliament to express our concerns about the new drafts of the Special Regime of Property Titling and the Expropriation law.⁶³ Our submissions highlighted the laws' limitations in protecting community and customary land, and protecting human rights during eviction and expropriation. We were invited to present our comments to Committee A of the National Parliament, and the revised draft of the Land Laws included protections for public areas and vulnerable land owners who face eviction. We also worked with Rede ba Rai (the Land Network) to advocate on these issues, and La'o Hamutuk staff participated in interviews for television, radio and print media.

Parliament passed the land laws early in 2017, and some of the worst aspects of earlier drafts had been improved due to many years of civil society advocacy. For example, the final version included an article recognizing informal land ownership for the first time, as well as an article which recognizes collective land ownership as a right which allows communities to use land for their collective interest.

One aspect of the approved Law which was worse than the previous version was the chapter dealing with evictions – the final version removed the provisions which required the Government to prepare the conditions for relocation and compensation before any evictions took place, instead saying that evictions will be regulated by a Decree-Law (which will be created after the Land Law is promulgated), and that this Law will mandate that evictions and compensation will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. However, the article also says that human rights, social security and the dignity of the people must be respected by the Decree-Law on evictions. La'o Hamutuk, in collaboration with our networks, will continue to monitor the process and advocate for the laws to respect people's rights and to protect vulnerable communities.

⁶² <https://aitaraklanlive.wordpress.com/2016/09/14/adapta-programa-agrikultura-ho-feto-sira-nia-responsabilidade-dupla-sei-hadiak-liu-timor-leste-nia-produsaun-agrikola/>

⁶³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/land/2016/LHSubLeiTitularidade8Jun2016te.pdf>
<http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/land/2016/LHSubLeiEspropriasoun8Jun2016te.pdf>

Governance and democracy

Solidarity and human rights

In 2016, La'o Hamutuk continued to strengthen solidarity links with groups and individuals working on human rights and fighting for justice and accountability in Timor-Leste and abroad. During the ASEAN People's Forum held in Dili in August, we met with human rights defenders from Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines to share information and learn about the challenges and struggles they face.

In January, when Indonesian President Jokowi visited Timor-Leste, we helped the National Alliance for an International Tribunal (ANTI) write a letter calling on him to end impunity for crimes committed during the Indonesian occupation.⁶⁴ Also, in collaboration with ETAN, we wrote an article on justice for past crimes which was published by *Counterpunch* and *Common Dreams*,⁶⁵ as well as circulated on Timorese blogs. In November, our blog commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Santa Cruz massacre reminded readers that the struggle against impunity is still incomplete.⁶⁶

We helped prepare the Timor-Leste civil society submission for the UN Human Rights Council's Second Universal Periodic Review (UPR), which urged the Indonesian and Timor-Leste governments to implement their human rights obligations and called for the revival of the Special Panel for Serious Crimes to investigate and prosecute crimes committed during 1975-1999.⁶⁷ La'o Hamutuk also contributed to Amnesty International's report to the UPR, which included information on disappeared people and the progress of human rights in Timor-Leste.

In 2015, La'o Hamutuk interne Janice Leung conducted research on the working conditions of Dili street vendors, and in 2016 we published an article on it.⁶⁸ Following a particularly egregious incident of state security abuse of vendors' rights, our article was circulated by Timorese blogs and then picked up by local media. La'o Hamutuk staff then helped to organize the affected vendors to submit a complaint to the Ombudsman for Human Rights and Justice about their treatment at the hands of the police and military. As of early 2017, the process is ongoing, and the issue of the mistreatment of street vendors has been reported by many national media – including a TV talk show in which La'o Hamutuk were invited to participate – and discussed at the highest levels of government.

Networking and coalitions

To share information, strengthen advocacy and reinforce local, regional and global civil society movements, La'o Hamutuk often joins with other organizations who work on issues with links to our own work. During 2016, we collaborated with the following:

Timor-Leste coalitions

- ★ Rede ba Rai (Land Network)
- ★ National Alliance for an International Tribunal (ANTI)

⁶⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/ANTI/KomImpJokowi25Jan2016en.pdf>

⁶⁵ <http://www.counterpunch.org/2016/06/28/time-to-end-impunity-for-suharto%C2%92s-crimes-in-indonesia-and-timor-leste/>
<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2016/06/27/time-end-impunity-suhartos-crimes-indonesia-and-timor-leste>

⁶⁶ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2016/11/remembering-santa-cruz-massacre.html>

⁶⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Justice/UPR/2016/NGOUPRMar2016en.pdf>

⁶⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/misc/vendors/16StreetVendors.htm>

- ★ HASATIL (Sustainable Agriculture Network)
- ★ Mokatil (Timor-Leste Peasants Movement)
- ★ MKOTT (Movimentu Kontra Okupasaun Tasi Timor)
- ★ Core Group on Transparency
- ★ FONGTIL (Timor-Leste NGO Forum)

International coalitions and agencies

- ★ OilWatch, especially in Southeast Asia
- ★ International solidarity and human rights organizations, especially ETAN/U.S.
- ★ International Budget Partnership
- ★ Publish What You Pay (PWYP)
- ★ Timor Sea Justice Campaign, Australia
- ★ Focus on the Global South
- ★ Timor-Leste Studies Association
- ★ Amnesty International
- ★ UN Women

Organizational report

At the beginning of 2016, La'ó Hamutuk staffers were Mariano Ferreira, Maxi Tahu, Celestino Gusmão, Adilson da Costa, Niall Almond, Charles Scheiner, Juvinal Dias, three security people and one cleaner. We have also retained our intern from Dili Institute of Technology, Martinha Fernandes, as a part-time finance and administration assistant.

In May, Charles went on leave to the United States, but continued to work remotely part-time, and returned for two weeks in October/November.

Also in May, we recruited a new researcher, Marta da Silva, and a new finance officer, Mavia Martins. However, Mavia left us after less than two months, and we recruited another finance officer, Ricarda Martins, who began work in July.

We continue to tighten our internal systems and control, learning from the experience of malfeasance by the former finance staffer we fired in 2015. We submitted a criminal complaint to the Dili District Prosecutor in 2015, and in December 2016 the District Court suspended a custodial sentence on the condition that the former staff member repays all the money she embezzled from La'ó Hamutuk.

From April to May, we hosted an intern from the University of Dili, Paulino de Almeida, who conducted research on the petroleum industry in Timor-Leste.

During the reporting period, we conducted our annual internal evaluation, updated our team action plans and finalized our Annual Report for 2015⁶⁹ and our 2016 mid-year report⁷⁰

We continued to increase our capacity by attending trainings: in January, three of our staff attended a three day session on Monitoring and Evaluation given by Misereor; in February, Maxi Tahu participated in the two-week Pacific Research Colloquium provided by ANU's State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program; Celestino continued to attend English courses at LELI; and we

⁶⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/ARept/2015/LHAR2015.pdf>

⁷⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/ARept/2016/LHMidyearreport2016en.pdf>

conducted several internal learning sessions on economics concepts, research methods, Excel and statistics.

Results of La'o Hamutuk's work in 2016

During 2016, major results of La'o Hamutuk's work included:

- **More members of the public, policy makers and civil society understand that Timor-Leste's oil reserves are almost depleted** and are discussing the need to diversify Timor-Leste's economy.
- **Members of Parliament strongly questioned Timor-Leste's petroleum agencies about petroleum revenue projections** in the proposed 2017 State Budget, which La'o Hamutuk had drawn attention to in our submissions and testimony.
- **Local and international media cited or quoted our staff and materials** on Tibar Port, petroleum economics and maritime boundaries, including *Forbes*,⁷¹ *The Economist*,⁷² *Channel News Asia*,⁷³ *Al Jazeera*,⁷⁴ *BBC*⁷⁵ and many Australian and regional broadcast, on-line and print publications.
- **Counterpunch and Common Dreams published an article by La'o Hamutuk** calling for an end to impunity for Indonesian crimes in Timor-Leste from 1975 to 1999.⁷⁶
- Demonstrations organized by La'o Hamutuk and others, involving tens of thousands of people, drew international attention to the maritime boundary issue, and Australia reversed its long-standing policy by agreeing to totally terminate CMATS and negotiate a permanent boundary.⁷⁷
- **Many members of Parliament and Government agreed with many points in our submissions** on the Private Investment Law and Policy,⁷⁸ Environmental Licensing,⁷⁹ Land Laws,⁸⁰ 2016 Rectification Budget,⁸¹ 2017 State Budget,⁸² Lifetime Pension Law,⁸³ tax revision⁸⁴ and Employment in Extractive Industries,⁸⁵ and **our suggestions improved the quality of many of these laws and policies.** For example:
 - Following our suggestions the Human Rights and Justice Ombudsman agreed to open an investigation into projects which violated the Environmental Licensing Law.

⁷¹ <http://www.forbes.com/sites/damonevans/2016/12/07/east-timor-is-going-for-broke-as-oil-runs-out/#13f4060a6325>

⁷² <http://www.economist.com/news/asia/21696544-trying-squeeze-money-last-drop-oil-line-sand>

⁷³ <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/maritime-border-dispute/2586896.html>

⁷⁴ <http://stream.aljazeera.com/story/201701180025-0025361>

⁷⁵ <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-36502891>

⁷⁶ <http://www.counterpunch.org/2016/06/28/time-to-end-impunity-for-suharto%C2%92s-crimes-in-indonesia-and-timor-leste/>

<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2016/06/27/time-end-impunity-suhartos-crimes-indonesia-and-timor-leste>

⁷⁷ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Boundary/CMATIndex.htm>

⁷⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/invest/LHSubMECAEInvestLaw29Mar2016en.pdf>

<http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/invest/LHSubMECAEInvestPolicy13Apr2016en.pdf>

⁷⁹ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2016/06/lh-husu-pdh-j-atu-ha-forsa-implementasau.html>

⁸⁰ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/Land/2016/LHSubLeiTitularidade8Jun2016te.pdf>

⁸¹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE16/Ret/LHSubmissionPNOR12Jul2016En.pdf>

⁸² <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/LHSubPNOJE2017-7Nov16en.pdf>

⁸³ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/pension/LHSubPensVital30Jun2016te.pdf>

⁸⁴ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/tax/LHSubIVAKRF15Aug16en.pdf>

⁸⁵ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/EILabor/16EILaborLaw.htm>

- The benefits in the Lifetime Pensions Law were reduced to 60% of their original amount and the provision on tax-free car imports was eliminated.
 - The approved Land Law contained new articles which recognized informal land rights and the rights of communities to use collectively-owned land for their interests.
- **La'o Hamutuk was invited to present on various issues at several conferences and events**, including the Timor-Leste: Development Issues and International Relations conference at Flinders University, the *Panorama Orsamentál* Parliamentary budget seminar and the ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ASEAN People's Forum.
 - **Hyundai Engineering & Construction gave up on the Suai Supply Base project**⁸⁶ after its contract was ruled invalid by the Court of Appeal. La'o Hamutuk continues to collect and publish information on the project and call for its cancellation.⁸⁷
 - After we criticized the Timor-Leste Development Partners Meeting for excluding civil society,⁸⁸ **the Vice-Minister for Finance invited La'o Hamutuk to join a panel** in one of its workshops.
 - **La'o Hamutuk was invited by the Prime Minister's Office to participate in the revision of the national Strategic Development Plan**, and we shared our many concerns and suggestions for improving the plan with his team.
 - **Many Parliamentarians and international partners agreed with La'o Hamutuk's presentation at Parliament's *Panorama Orsamentál* budget seminar**, including the unsustainable dependency on petroleum and need to develop the non-oil economy.⁸⁹
 - **La'o Hamutuk's research helped to bring the human rights abuses faced by Dili street vendors to national attention**, and we helped vendors bring their case to the Ombudsman, who is conducting an investigation.
 - **International research and reports about Timor-Leste are more accurate** as a result of our many consultations and frequent communication with international agencies.
 - **International volunteers with AVI and Peace Corps understand Timor-Leste's context better** due to our briefings on economic, political and historical issues.

With our donors, we have established specific indicators to quantify some results from our work, as follows:

Indicator	Examples of results (more in the text and appendices)
Key policymakers who accept LH ideas and inputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 100 people in different Government agencies Prime Minister's office SDP revision team President of the Republic Members of Parliament from Committee C, D, Partidu Demokrátiku and others IMF Article IV team More than 200 people in international agencies, including UN, researchers, donors, advisors, diplomats and others

⁸⁶ <http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20160617000118>

⁸⁷ <http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/2016/06/suai-supply-base-contract-cancelled-its.html>

⁸⁸ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/16TLDPM/LHCommentTLDPM4Jul2016en.pdf>

⁸⁹ <http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/ParlSem/LHObsPrelComCPNte.pdf>

Indicator	Examples of results (more in the text and appendices)
Alternative proposals/policies are reviewed considered and/or adopted by officials in Government, Parliament and international agencies	President of the Republic agreed with many of LH's concerns about sustainability and budget Parliament Committees A, C, D Ministry of Finance (budget and sustainability) Central Bank (PF sustainability under threat) ANPM (missing data on petroleum revenues) D-G for Statistics (international trade report, Demographics and Health Survey) National Directorate for Environment WorleyParsons (recommendations on community rights in EIS for Baucau Cement / Tibar port) World Bank on fiscal sustainability, budget, debt risk ADB on economic diversification, sustainability IMF on fiscal sustainability, budget, debt risk PD MPs (Petroleum Fund, ESI) PDHJ (environmental licencing, vendors) PD MPs (Land Laws, Lifetime Pensions)
Number of people who participate in LH trainings, presentations and other public events	Appendix 3 lists thirty events, which involved more than a thousand people (plus thousands more at maritime boundary demonstrations). Events which attracted 50 or more participants included: 50 at training for activists on maritime boundaries More than 10,000 people at two demonstrations in Dili protesting Australian gov't policy 50 at seminar on budget audit organized by Audit Court 50 at seminar on maritime boundaries at UNDIL 100+ at presentation to Flinders University conference via Skype 50 at workshop during TLDPM 150 at SDG civil society conference 50 at LH / Focus on the Global South side-event on ASEAN 500+ at LH presentation on maritime boundaries during APF 80 at LH public meeting on draft VAT Law 150 at Panorama Orsamentál Parliamentary budget seminar 60 at LH public meeting on proposed 2017 State Budget We also participated in five nationally broadcast TV programs (as well as several global ones): RTTL talk-show on maritime boundaries RTTL talk-show on Land Laws STL-TV talk-show on education and Lifetime pensions RTTL talk-show on health RTTL talk-show on Vendors
Number of organizations, policy makers and journalists who request LH's expertise	More than 300 organizations and people, including journalists, academics, civil society organizations, researchers, advisors, diplomats, activists, aid agencies, economists, oil company representatives, consultants, government officials, politicians, and IFI and UN representatives. This number includes those who contact us in person or by email, but not everyone who attends our events or uses our website, blog or other publications.
New funding sources are accessed	We did not sign any new contracts, but we submitted a proposal to Misereor for funding for 2017-2019 and were approached by two new potential donors.

Achievements in 2016

In our proposals and Annual Report for 2015, we identified new and quantifiable activities to accomplish during 2016, as follows:

Activity	Implemented?
----------	--------------

Continue as the primary Timor-Leste researchers for the International Budget Partnership's Budget Tracker.	Done.
Analyse and explain evolving information on oil production and revenues, trade, inflation, employment and other economic statistics.	Done; collected and analysed data and incorporated into blogs, articles testimony, presentations and submissions.
Write at least ten submissions or letters to Parliament, policy makers and international agencies on proposed legislation and policies such as the state budget, offshore and onshore petroleum activity, contracting and other issues.	Done; wrote 2 budget submissions, one submission to TLDPM, 2 submissions on Private Investment, one submission on employment in extractive industries, 2 submissions on Land Laws, one submission on Lifetime Pension Law, one submission on proposed tax reform, 4 letters. Total: 14
Organize at least two public meetings to share information and alternative perspectives with the public, media, government and civil society.	Done; organized public meetings on the draft VAT Law and the proposed 2017 State Budget.
Give at least six paid trainings to other organizations, plus four free or at-cost trainings for civil society, schools or local communities.	Partially done; seven paid briefings to international agencies and two free trainings to civil society.
Post at least 10 new webpages, 20 updated webpages and 20 new blog entries.	Done; 9 new webpages, more than 40 updated webpages and 25 blog entries.
Produce at least one edition of La'o Hamutuk's Bulletin.	Not done.
Conduct field visits to research the use of local seeds.	Not done.
Continue to monitor and participate in discussions around the Land Law.	Done.
Deepen our analysis and produce written articles or add to our existing information on ZEESM, Tibar port, Tasi Mane project, and others.	Partially done; published articles on Tibar port and Tasi Mane project.
Produce at least 12 Radio Igualdade programs, and explore the possibility of expanding our programming to more community radio stations.	Partially done; produced 11 radio programs.

Plans for 2017

Most of our work in 2017 will continue the research, public education and advocacy on the topics discussed above, as most of the issues are ongoing. Specific plans for the coming year include:

- ★ Continue as the primary Timor-Leste researchers for International Budget Partnership's Budget Tracker.
- ★ Continue to collect and analyse data on petroleum revenues, trade, inflation, employment and other economic statistics.
- ★ Write at least ten submissions and letters to decision makers in government and international agencies on proposed legislation and policies such as agriculture, land rights, state budget, international trade/investment treaties, public-private partnerships, environmental licencing, petroleum activity, contracting and other issues.
- ★ Organize at least four public meetings to share information and alternative perspectives with the public, media, government and civil society.
- ★ Give at least five paid trainings to other organizations, plus five free or at-cost trainings and presentations for students, journalists, civil society or local communities.
- ★ Post at least 8 new webpages, 20 updated webpages and 20 new blog entries.
- ★ Produce at least one edition of La'o Hamutuk's *Bulletin*.

-
- ★ Conduct field visits to research agricultural programs, cooperatives and other grassroots economic activities in the districts.
 - ★ Continue our analysis of ZEESM, Tasi Mane project and other major private and public infrastructure projects (including field research at project sites), and produce written articles of their economic, social and environmental impacts.
 - ★ Produce at least 10 radio programs.

Appendix 1. Financial Report

All amounts are specified in U.S. 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 \$700 dollars per month during 2016, plus a "13th month" in December. All staff receive benefits that include health insurance, some of which is self-insurance funded from a 'Health Reserve' 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 receive \$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.

2016 was a difficult year for La'o Hamutuk financially, although we minimized the impact on our programmatic work. As described in our 2015 Annual Report and on page 15 above, in late 2015 we learned that our financial manager was stealing money, leading to her firing, court processes and a guilty plea. Although we immediately initiated internal management and financial reforms, this case prolonging the time for donor contract approval and grant disbursement. To keep doing our work, we borrowed \$35,000 from our operational reserve and spent \$53,000 from our unrestricted savings.

Balance sheet

This table indicates our total cash and bank account balances at the start and end of 2016, amounts of money set aside for specific purposes and from particular donors, and unrestricted money available for general operations.

	Total Cash and Bank Balances	Readjustment reserve	Health Reserve ⁹⁰	Sustainability reserve ⁹¹	Operational Reserve ⁹²	Building fund ⁹³	Development & Peace ⁹⁴	Unrestricted funds
Balance 31 Dec. 2015	226,725	2,400	17,200	55,000	45,000	12,280	11,358	83,487
Income during 2016	29,115	-	4,796	-	-	-	23,394	924
Expenditure during 2016	116,809	-	4,796	775	35,000	113	23,394	52,731
Balance 31 Dec. 2016	139,031	2,400	17,200	54,226	10,000	12,168	11,358	31,681

⁹⁰ This is a self-insurance fund for medical expenses for staff and their families who do not have corporate insurance.

⁹¹ The Sustainability Reserve is to replace and repair computers, motorcycles and other capital assets.

⁹² The Operational Reserve includes approximately three months' worth of expenses, to avoid cash flow problems. We borrowed from this reserve during 2016 and hope that one of our donors will allow us to replenish it.

⁹³ This fund was established to build and furnish La'o Hamutuk's new office in 2011. The balance will be applied to future repairs and equipment for our building.

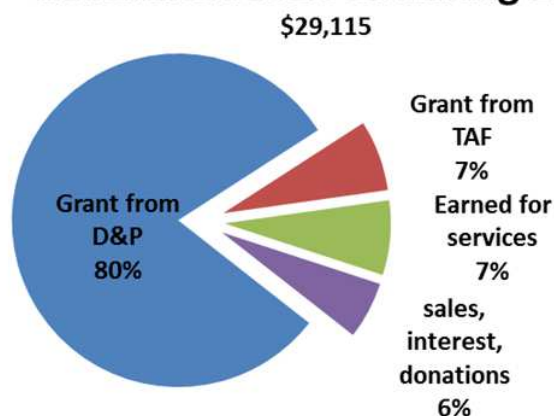
⁹⁴ Our two-year contract with Development and Peace covers mid-2015 to mid-2017, but the transfer for each 12-month period is made during the first part of it, so half the balance is carried over to the next calendar year.

Revenues

The following table shows income received by La'o Hamutuk during 2016.

We received \$23,394 from Development & Peace (D&P, Canada) and \$2,000 from The Asia Foundation (TAF). We also earned \$2,104 for trainings and consulting services we provided to international NGOs and agencies, and \$1,616 from sales, bank interest and small donations.

Revenues received during 2016



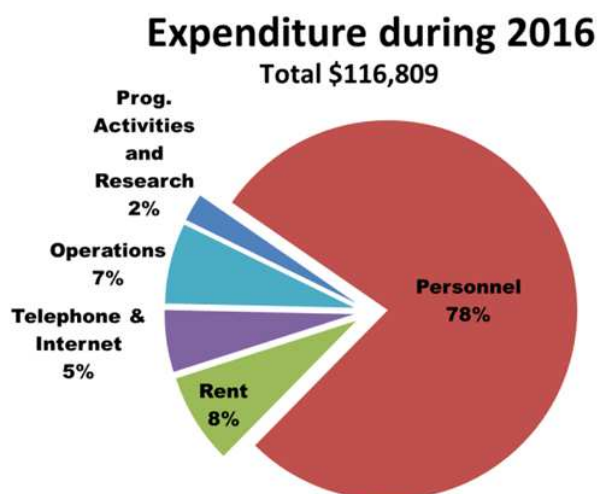
Source	Budget 2016	Actual	Difference	Explanation
Grant from Development & Peace	23,700	23,394	-306	
Grant from The Asia Foundation	20,000	2,000	-18,000	Transfer of the remainder was deferred while La'o Hamutuk improved our financial management.
Project support grant from Misereor	50,000	0	-50,000	Delayed until 2017 or 2018
Grant from Norway or new donor	45,000	0	-45,000	Norway is expected to provide support during 2017.
Earned for services	4,000	2,104	-1,896	Briefings and trainings provided by LH, as well as research for Int'l Budget Project. We also gave many briefings without charge to local organizations and educational institutions.
Sales, interest, donations	700	1,616	916	
Total received in 2016	143,400	29,115	-114,285	Because revenues were much lower than expected, we had to borrow and spend from our reserves.

Expenditure

The table below and graph at right show the money budgeted and spent by La'o Hamutuk during 2016 for different aspects of our work, totalling \$116,809.

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

Because none of our processes with donors resulted in grants during 2016, we reduced our expenses and spent \$30,000 less than we had budgeted.



Expenditure	Budget	Actual	Difference	Explanation
Capital Equipment	500	600	-100	
Personnel	111,200	90,859	20,341	
Staff training	-	1,901	-1,901	Mango Financial Training
Bulletin	1,600	-	1,600	Not published
Public meetings	1,100	477	623	
Radio programs	4,300	1866	2,434	We broadcast on community radio, but not the more expensive RTTL.
Research	3,000	139	2,861	Most activities done in Dili
Resource Centre	800	1141	-341	<i>Jornál da República</i> on line version delayed; had to purchase paper copies.
International Conference	500	285	215	Most expenses covered by organizer
Operations & Supplies	4,000	3902	98	
Office rent	9,000	9000	-	
Office building	100	113	-	
Transportation	800	365	435	More staff using their own transport
Telephone and internet	7,600	6159	1,441	Saved by changing internet provider
Auditor	2,000	-	2,000	To be paid in January 2017
Miscellaneous expenses	500	-	500	
Total	147,000	116,809	30,191	

2017 Budget

This is a combined budget for all of La'o Hamutuk's activities, some of which are part of projects funded by particular donors.

Category	Total	
1. NON-RECURRENT EXPENDITURE		
Capital Equipment	225	Computer monitor
2. STAFF COSTS		
Personnel	111,787	Salaries, visa, health insurance, housing, readjustment.
Training for staff	1,000	
3. PROJECT ACTIVITIES		
Bulletin	1,400	Printing and distribution. One issue in 2017.
Public meeting	1,400	Space rental, publicity, refreshments
Radio Programs	3,175	Air time and fuel for community and national radio stations
Research	4,000	Travel and accommodation during field research (Small industry, ZEESM)
Resource center	780	Newspapers, books and other materials
International conferences	2,000	To attend and present at the ASEAN Peoples Forum in Manila
Special activities related to election	4,000	Monitoring the campaigns and election processes, civic education on issues, producing report
4. ADMINISTRATION		
Operations	6,553	Electricity, supplies, photocopying, bank fees, etc.
Office rent	9,000	
Office building	100	Maintenance, furniture and equipment for office building
Transportation	720	Transport and motorcycle maintenance, in Dili and nearby
Telephone and Internet	7,865	Internet, landline, hand phone and website
Auditor	3,000	Including delayed payment from 2016
Miscellaneous expenses	500	Contribution to students/community and solidarity activities
Total	157,506	

The following table contains our expected revenues in 2017.

Revenues		Explanation
Norway/Hivos	70,000	Expected to sign one year contract with Norway/HIVOS
The Asia Foundation	15,000	Not yet finalized
Misereor	58,148	Project grant, will apply to only part of 2017
Carried over from previous Development and Peace grant	11,358	Not new revenue, carried over from previous grant.
Sales and donations	1,000	Sales of books and donation
Earned for services	2,000	Training and briefings provided by La'o Hamutuk
Total	157,506	

Appendix 2. Media Coverage

La'o Hamutuk is frequently interviewed by Timorese and international journalists to comment on current events or share findings from our research and articles, and our online information is accessed and cited regularly by journalists and academic researchers.

The following table lists some of the coverage of La'o Hamutuk's work in international and local media during 2016, as well as citations of our work in academic journals, and articles written by La'o Hamutuk and published elsewhere. It leaves out most publications not in English or Tetum, and does not include many of our articles or releases which were copied or referenced by journals, online publications or websites.

Title / topic	Date	Medium	Authors	URL	Comments
Ukun rasik an, dezentvolvimentu no prosesu harii paz Indijena iha Timor-Leste	2016	Timor-Leste: The local, the regional and the global (academic book published by TLSA)	Sophia Close		Cited La'o Hamutuk article on land justice from 2010 Bulletin
Expectations of development: The Tasi Mane project in Suai-Covalima	2016	Timor-Leste: The local, the regional and the global	Judith Bovensiepen Monis Filipe and Flaviano Freitas		Cited LH information on Tasi Mane project and petroleum revenues
Timor-Leste's complex geopolitics: the local, the regional and the global	2016	Timor-Leste: The local, the regional and the global	David Willis		Cited LH webpage on maritime boundary dispute
TMR: Merese ka lae OGE 2016 hetan Veto husi prezidente	07-Jan	Independente			Quote Juvinal on Presidential veto
Via bilidade ekonomia ba projetu Tasi mane no ZEESM la klaru	11-Jan	STL	Joao Anival		Interview Juvinal on Tasi Mane / ZEESM
Hari armajen iha Batugade no Salele la fo benefisio	12-Jan	Independente			Interview Mariano Ferreira
Fronteira Maritima, duke Faka Osan ba Pipeline	14-Jan	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
Oinsa seitor privadu tenki prepara an didiak ba ASEAN	15-Jan	RTL	Amina Duru		Interview Juvinal
LH Konsidera 9 Billaun, dezentvolvimento laiha	19-Jan	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
Stetment ANTI - Lao Hamutuk hodi simu JOKOWI iha Dili	25-Jan	ETAN			Letter from LH/ANTI to Jokowi on past crimes
Folin mina fo impaktu negativu ba Ekonomia TL	25-Jan	Business Timor			Interview Juvinal
Bandu halo Manifestasaun, HAK kondena PNTL	26-Jan	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
"Konstrui Influensiasaun Jeopolitika Enerjia"	26-Jan	Tempo Semanal	Fernando Ximenes		Uses info from LH 10/15 public meeting on Tasi Mane Project
Maritime boundaries	Feb	RTTL			Juvinal was a speaker on RTTL talk show

Title / topic	Date	Medium	Authors	URL	Comments
LH Apoiu Governu Estabelese programa "povu kuda governu Sosa"	04-Feb	Independente			Interview Mariano
Timor-Leste iha "Perigu"	09-Feb	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
Australia Okupa Tasi Timor ho ilegal, Ekonomia iha perigu laran	09-Feb	Diario			Interview Juvinal
Fundu Minarai tun fo "risku ba krize Ekonomia"	09-Feb	Independente	Florencio		Interview Juvinal
Negosiasaun Fronteira Maritima, TL persisa hakbesikan ba povu Australia	15-Feb	Diario			Interview Adilson
Minarai Bele Hotu, Rikuso in la Hotu	17-Feb	STL	Joao Anibal		Interview Juvinal
Impaktu mudansa Klimatika ba Agrikultura	17-Feb	Radio Rakambia	Judas Araujo		Radio interview with Mariano
Politika governu ba reforma Fiskal	19-Feb	STL-TV News			Interview Juvinal
Movimento Tasi Timor nia preparasaun ba demo hasoru gov. Australia	20-Feb	STL-TV News			Interview Juvinal
Aban asaun kontra Asutralia, Veteranus balun laiha Koñesimento	22-Feb	Diario			Interview Juvinal
Aban, asaun pasifiku kontra Australia	22-Feb	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
Governu Australia Moe Laiha	23-Feb	Independente			Interview Juvinal as MKOTT spokesperson
Ohin, Asaun kontra Australia "Timor-Leste tenki hetan nia Direitu"	23-Feb	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
Ejijensia manifestantes Australia tenki Respeita Soberania TL	23-Feb	Diario			Interview Juvinal
Ejijensia haat Hasoru Australia	23-Feb	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
TL Reafirma Pozisaun kontra Australia	23-Feb	STL			Interview Juvinal
Demo kona ba Fronteira maritima ho MKOTT	23-Feb	STL-TV News			Broadcast Charlie's speech during demo
Protesters in Dili want Australia to settle oil dispute with East Timor	23-Feb	SMH	Daniel Flitton	http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/protesters-in-dili-want-australia-to-settle-oil-dispute-with-east-timor-20160223-gn1dri.html	Quote Juvinal on Maritime Boundary demo
Timor-Leste protesters urge Australia to settle boundary dispute	24-Feb	UCA News	Thomas Ora	http://www.ucanews.com/news/timor-lesteprotesters-urge-australia-to-settle-boundary-dispute/75303	Quote Juvinal on Maritime Boundary demo
Timorese protestors demand 'good faith' from Australia over oil dispute	24-Feb	Asia-Pacific Report NZ	PMC Editor	http://asiapacificreport.nz/2016/02/24/timorese-protesters-demand-good-faith-from-australia-over-oil-dispute/	Quote Juvinal on Maritime Boundary demo

Title / topic	Date	Medium	Authors	URL	Comments
Australia 'Naok Timor besik billaun \$5'	24-Feb	Independente			Quoted Charlie's speech during demo
Australia tenki Respeita Soberania RDTL	24-Feb	Timor Post			Quoted Juvinal's speech during demo
Australia Okupa ilegal tasi Timor, MKOTT sei luta hadau fali nia Soberania	24-Feb	Diario			Quoted Juvinal's speech during demo
PR Hatudu Check and Balance	26-Feb	STL	Joao Anival		Interview Juvinal
"Governu Australia ... Na'ok-Teen" - Scare tactics and peaceful demonstrations in Timor Leste	27-Feb	Crikey / The Northern Myth	Bob Gosford	https://blogs.crikey.com.au/northern/2016/02/27/governu-australia-naok-teen-scare-tactics-and-peaceful-demonstrations-in-timor-leste/	Re-blog LH article on demo
Dezempregu iha Timor-Leste	27-Feb	STL			Interview Juvinal
Fronteira Maritima, liga ho MKOTT	29-Feb	STL			Interview Juvinal
La'o Hamutuk and Timor-Leste's development challenges: a case study in human rights and collaborative journalism	Mar	Media Asia 2016	David Robie	http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01296612.2016.1142247 http://www.pmc.au.ac.nz/research/la-o-hamutuk-and-timor-leste-s-development-challenges-case-study-human-rights-and-collabora	Academic article about La'o Hamutuk
Timor Sea protest group calls for GG's help in maritime dispute	03-Mar	Asia-Pacific Report NZ		http://asiapacificreport.nz/2016/03/03/timor-sea-protest-group-calls-for-ggs-help-in-maritime-dispute/	Report on and post MKOTT letter to GG Peter Cosgrove
MKOTT nia karta aberta ba Governador Geral Australia, Peter Cosgrove.	04-Mar	Radio Akademia			Interview Juvinal as MKOTT spokesperson
Maritime border dispute with Australia a 'second fight for independence' for Timor-Leste	09-Mar	Channel News Asia	Samantha Yap	http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/maritime-border-dispute/2586896.html	Interview Juvinal
Governo Australia hakarak ko'alia Relasaun bilateral ho TL	11-Mar	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
Preparasaun MKOTT demo kontra okupasaun Australia ba tasi Timor	18-Mar	STL-TV News			Interview Juvinal
Despaisu ME ba Universitariu Demo kontra Australia	19-Mar	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
UNCLOS tulun rezolve konfliktu fronteira maritima	21-Mar	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
Timor Oan rihun ba rihun kontra Governu Australia	23-Mar	Diario			Interview Juvinal
Labele Impede Manifestasaun Popular	24-Mar	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
Nain ulun goja osan Mina, povu halerik bee-mos no saude	24-Mar	STL			Interview Juvinal

Title / topic	Date	Medium	Authors	URL	Comments
Asina tratadu Tasi Timor iha 2001, Lao Hamutuk mos Protesta	30-Mar	Timor Post			Interview Charlie
Australia bele ulun toos, MKOTT mos luta la para	30-Mar	STL			Interview Juvinal
MKOTT sei kontinua organiza asaun kontra Australia	31-Mar	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
Australia seidauk resposta TL nia Ejjensia	08-Apr	STL	Joao Anibal		Interview Juvinal
Line in the sand: Trying to squeeze money from the last drop of oil	09-Apr	The Economist	Jon Fasman	http://www.economist.com/news/asia/21696544-trying-squeeze-money-last-drop-oil-line-sand	Used LH estimate of PF running out
What's behind Timor-Leste's approach to solving the Timor Sea dispute?	18-Apr	The Conversation	Rebecca Strating	https://theconversation.com/whats-behind-timor-lestes-approach-to-solving-the-timor-sea-dispute-57883	Uses LH as an (unattributed) source for oil running out
Fronteira Maritima	18-Apr	STL			Interview Juvinal
Tribunal Internacional mekanismu diak liu rezolve FM	19-Apr	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
Hakotu Tratadu ho Australia	19-Apr	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
Disputa fronteira maritima, MKOTT ONU tenke imparsial	19-Apr	Diario			Interview Juvinal
Tranzisaun ekonomia menus depende ba petroleu sei debate iha TLS	27-Apr	Sapo TL /Lusa (reprinted in Diario)			Use LH information on petroleum revenues
Petrolifera Australianu Woodside faan kampu Lamina ria Carolina iha Tasi Timor	03-May	Sapo TL /Lusa			Use LH information on petroleum contracts
Sosiedade Civil apresia governu Australia aseita pedidu TL	05-May	Independente	Florencio		Interview Charlie
Kontente ho resposta Australia	06-May	Timoroman			Interview Charlie
MKOTT prontu halo ta n manifestasaun hasoru Australia	10-May	STL	Thomas Sanches		Interview Juvinal
Alkatiri sei haka s emprezario halo remata projetu ZEESM iha tina n nee	11-May	Independente			Interview Juvinal
Projetu pilotu ZEESM sei fo benefisiu ba TL	11-May	STL	Madalena Horta		Interview Juvinal
Lao hamutuk konsidera ZEESM la transparente	12-May	Independente			Interview Juvinal
Australia simu TL hodi negosia FM	18-May	STL	Thomas Sanches		Interview Juvinal
No end to Timor-Leste's political infighting	20-May	Southeast Asia Globe	David Hutt	http://sea-globe.com/19146-2-timor-politics/	Cites LH on Petroleum dependency, short field life

Title / topic	Date	Medium	Authors	URL	Comments
East Timor pins prosperity on pipe-dream of gushing oil revenue	21-May	The Australian	Paul Cleary	http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/world/east-timor-pins-prosperity-on-pipe-dream-of-gushing-oil-revenue/news-story/a93c79c419998f3b1d27c19e4fc3a3bc	Quote Juvinal on CMATS and cites LH that petroleum fund will run out
Australia row hampers East Timor's oil ambitions	13-Jun	BBC	Tim McDonald	http://www.bbc.com/news/business-36498163	Quote Juvinal on CMATS
East Timor in new oil and gas investment	13-Jun	BBC Television	Tim McDonald	http://www.bbc.com/news/business-36502891	Interview Juvinal
Estadu deve TT tanba fraku iha jestaun	16-Jun	STL	Thomas Sanches		Interview Juvinal
Jestaun fraku, Estadu deve TT	16-Jun	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
La'o Hamutuk: Is the Tibar container port what Timor-Leste really needs?	19-Jun	Asia-Pacific Report NZ / Evening Report		http://asiapacificreport.nz/2016/06/19/lao-hamutuk-is-the-tibar-container-port-what-timor-leste-really-needs/ http://eveningreport.nz/2016/06/19/lao-hamutuk-is-the-tibar-container-port-what-timor-leste-really-needs/	Re-blog LH blog on Tibar port
Empresa coreana sai de projecto de 720 MUSD no sul de Timor-Leste por atrasos	21-Jun	Lusa / SAPO		http://noticias.sapo.pt/portugues/info/artigo/1477661.html http://noticias.sapo.pt/tetum/info/artigo/1477679.html https://pontofinalmacau.wordpress.com/2016/06/22/atrasos-judiciais-levam-hyundai-abandonar-projecto-em-timor-leste/	Cites LH on no need for rectification budget
Empreza Koreanu sai husi projetu ho folin 720 MUSD iha Sul TLS nian	22-Jun	Diario			Cite LH info on Suai Supply Base
Hano in balun kona ba Proposta Lei ba rai (rejime espesial bens i moves)	21/22-Jun	Independente			Printed LH blog article based on Land Law submission
LH husu KAK investiga ajudika saun kontratu ba Hyundai E&C	23-Jun	Independente			Interview Juvinal and use LH press release
KAK tenki investiga projetu Suai supply base	24-Jun	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
How Australia is screwing East Timor	25-Jun	Green Left	Tony Iltis	https://www.greenleft.org.au/node/62005	Use LH figure of \$5 billion in revenues stolen by Australia

Title / topic	Date	Medium	Authors	URL	Comments
Time to End Impunity for Suharto's Crimes in Indonesia and Timor-Leste	27-Jun	Common Dreams / Counterpunch	Celestino Gusmão	http://www.commondreams.org/views/2016/06/27/time-end-impunity-suhartos-crimes-indonesia-and-timor-leste http://www.counterpunch.org/2016/06/28/time-to-end-impunity-for-suharto%C2%92s-crimes-in-indonesia-and-timor-leste/	Article by Celestino
Sosiedade sivil no Plan halo konferensia	01-Jul	Diario			Interview Juvinal Dias on SDG civil society conference
Projetu tasi mane ladiak	01-Jul	Diario			Interview Juvinal
Susar dezenvolve ekonomia kuandu depende deit ba Mina	02-Jul	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
ONG alerta ba iha sustentabilidade hosi kontapublika TLS ne'ebé boot	04-Jul	Lusa / SAPO TL		http://noticias.sapo.tl/tetum/info/artigo/1478670.html http://www.timorhauniandoben.com/2016/07/ong-a-lerta-ba-ih-sustentabilidade-hosi.html	Based on LH statement circulated to donor meeting
ONG alerta para elevadodrisco de sustentabilidade das contas públicas de Timor-Leste	04-Jul	Lusa / SAPO TL		http://noticias.sapo.tl/portugues/info/artigo/1478671.html	Based on LH statement circulated to donor meeting
LH kestiona estudu Viabilidade projetu ZEESM	05-Jul	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
O MKOTT de Timor Leste continua preokupar com o governo de Australia	05-Jul	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
MKOTT apresia vontade Australia ba konsiliasaun	05-Jul	Independente	Florencio		Interview Juvinal
ONG timoroan reitera preokupasaun ho impaktuorsamentu retifikativu ba 2016	13-Jul	LUSA / SAPO TL		http://noticias.sapo.tl/tetum/info/artigo/1479248.html	Based on LH submission to PN
ONG timorense reitera preocupação com impacto do orçamento retificativo para 2016	13-Jul	LUSA / SAPO TL		http://noticias.sapo.tl/portugues/info/artigo/1479247.html	Based on LH submission to PN
Governu hasa i besik billaun \$2 iha OJE 2016	18/24-Jul	Business Timor			Interview Juvinal
Sosiedade sivil husu PR Taur veto OR US\$ 390,7 milloens	19-Jul	Diario			Interview Juvinal
Juvinal: Governu tenki hano rin kompañia sira (projetu barak a banda na)	19-Jul	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
East Timor playing high stakes gas game	20-Jul	Interfax Natural Gas Daily	Damon Evans	http://interfaxenergy.com/gasdaily/article/21161/east-timor-playing-high-stakes-gas-game	Quote Charlie on Tasi Mane Project

Title / topic	Date	Medium	Authors	URL	Comments
Healthcare spending in Timor-Leste	August	RTTL			Juvinal was invited by the Secretary of State for Social Communication to be a speaker on RTTL talk show
When granddad is a croc	04-Aug	Nikkei Asian Review	Hamish McDonald	http://asia.nikkei.com/magazine/20160808-20160821-THINGS-COME-TOGETHER/Tea-Leaves/When-granddad-is-a-croc	Quote Niall on crocodiles
Now or never - revisiting some difficult choices Timor-Leste has to make	05-Aug	Timor-Leste Bele blog	Cosme da Costa Araujo	http://timorlestebele.blogspot.com/2016/08/now-or-never-revisiting-some-difficult.html	Response to LH letter to Parliament
Fundu Petroliferu Tun Tanba Rezerva Mina-rai Menus no Uza ba OJE	05-Aug	ANTIL	Maria A.X. Fernandes	http://antil.tl/fundu-petroliferu-tun-tanba-rezerva-mina-rai-menus-no-uza-ba-oje/	Based on interview with Juvinal
Ramos Horta: Solidaridade APF bele ko nvense politika Australia	08-Aug	Diario			Interview Juvinal
APF husu Australia respeita Tasi Timor	09-Aug	Diario			Interview Juvinal
Apoi u Sosiedade sivil ASEAN hafor sa konfiansa TL	09-Aug	Diario			Interview Juvinal
Govemu gasta osan FP 7.7 Billoens la iha Rejultadu	09-Aug	STL	Madalena		Interview Juvinal
Timor-Leste economy: Another white elephant?	11-Aug	Economist Intelligence Unit			Unattributed use of LH article on Tobar port
Timor Leste to set up its national network on Social and Solidarity Economy	13-Aug	RIPES Asia blog	Jun-E Tan	https://www.ripessia.org/en/articles/timor-leste-to-set-up-its-national-network-on-social-and-solidarity-economy/	Describes discussion at LH about Social and Solidarity Economy
Komentari husi La'o Hamutuk ba ezbosu Lei Impostu ba Valor Akresentadu	29-Aug	Business Timor			Re-print LH submission on VAT Law
UN hearing puts spotlight on Timor Sea	01-Sep	Interfax Global Energy	Damon Evans	http://interfaxenergy.com/gasdaily/article/21748/un-hearing-puts-spotlight-on-timor-sea	Cite LH that PF could be empty by 2025
Juvinal Dias apresia esforsu govemu TL negocia FM	01-Sep	Diario			Interview Juvinal
CMATS la'osa kordu permanente	01-Sep	Timor Post			Interview Juvinal
Talk show on Land Laws	01-Sep	RTTL			Mariano appeared as a speaker
Australia laiha juridisau n diskute frontera maritima, TL lakohi hakiduk	02-Sep	Diario			Interview Juvinal
La'o Hamutuk konsidera OR benefisia eleisaun 2017	02-Sep	Diario			Interview Juvinal

Title / topic	Date	Medium	Authors	URL	Comments
La'o Hamutuk konsidera argumentu Australia la forte	02-Sep	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
Sosiedade sivil sujere OR Tenke Nakloke Ba Publiku	02-Sep	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
Luta ba fronteira maritima ukun nain labele fahe malu	03-Sep	STL	Carmen Ximenes		Interview Juvinal
Timor-Leste backing oil development before Hague ruling	03-Sep	The Saturday Paper	Hamish McDonald	https://www.thesaturdaypaper.com.au/world/2016/09/03/timor-leste-backing-oil-development-before-hague-ruling/14728248003689	Quote Niall on economic fragility
Timor Leste la hakfodak ho manobra Australia	05-Sep	Timoroman			Interview Juvinal
Adapta programa agrikultura ho feto sira nia responsabilidade dupla sei ha di'ak liu Timor-Leste nia produsaun agrikola	14-Sep	Life at Aitarak Laran ~ Semi-official blogging from the Office of the Presidency – RDTL	Maxi Tahu	https://aitaraklanlive.wordpress.com/2016/09/14/adapta-programa-agrikultura-ho-feto-sira-nia-responsabilidade-dupla-sei-ha-diak-liu-timor-leste-nia-produsaun-agrikola/	Article by Maxi on importance of women's participation in agriculture
The State of Timor-Leste	15-Sep	Channel News Asia - Between the lines			Juvinal interviewed on TV panel on economic sustainability
Konsiente Projeitu fo ba ema liur, La' Hamutuk husu CAC halo Investigasaun	16-Sep	Diario			Interview Celestino Gusmão
Australia faces court for stealing East Timor's oil and gas	17-Sep	Green Left Weekly	Tony Iltis	https://www.greenleft.org.au/content/australia-faces-court-stealing-east-timor%E2%80%99s-oil-and-gas	Used LH figure of \$5b in stolen oil revenues
Time running out for Timor-Leste	19-Sep	Policy Forum (reprinted in New Mandala)	Rebecca Strating	http://www.policyforum.net/time-running-timor-leste/ http://www.newmandala.org/time-running-timor-leste/	Cite LH on Bayu-Undan and PF running out
ONG Timorenses querem cortes nas pensões vitalicias de cargos publicos	23-Sep	Timoroman / Lusa			Use LH information on Lifetime Pensions Law
Enontru Publiku diskute kona ba Lei IVA	23-Sep	Timor Post			
East Timor's development dilemma	25-Sep	Nikkei Asian Review	Hamish McDonald	http://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Economy/Economy/East-Timor-s-development-dilemma	Quote Niall on spending, TMP, Tibar
Timor Leste Ambisaun Tama ASEAN bele fo ameasa ba povu	26-Sep	Diario			Interview Juvinal
Komentariu husi LH ba Impostu Lei IVA Timor Leste	26-Sep	Business Timor			LH comments on VAT Law
Timor Leste sei manan Australia ba akordu FM	01-Oct	STL			Interview Juvinal

Title / topic	Date	Medium	Authors	URL	Comments
Buat barak la los iha desizaun hili Hyundai kaer Projeitu SSB	05-Oct	Independente	Martino Gusmão		Cite LH info on Suai Supply Base
Povu konsumu alkohol no tabaku as tebes	05-Oct	STL			Interview Juvinal
Kombate pratika korupsaun no subornu hosi ema estrangeiru ba ofisial Timor oan sira iha Timor-Leste	06-Oct	Timor Post			
Vizita PR Taur ba suku sira: peskizador LH lisa un diak ba membru Governu sira	19-Oct	Independente	Do mingo s da Costa		Interview Juvinal
Governu ambisiozu demais ba dezvoltimentu railaran	07-Nov	Diario			Quote Adilson on government spending
Estadu gasta ona \$8 bilhoens ba dezvoltimentu	08-Nov	Diario		http://timoragora.blogspot.com/2016/11/estadu-gasta-ona-u-8-bilhoens-ba.html	Interview Charlie on money being spent
Fundu minaraiameasadu, gove mo tenki gasta ho kuidadu	09-Nov	Business Timor			Interview Charlie on petroleum fund sustainability
Panorama Orsamento Estado 2017	09-Nov	STL-TV News			Interview Juvinal
Alokasaun orsamentu estadu importante atu tauosan ba manutensaun Ro Nakroma	16-Nov	STL-TV News			Interview Juvinal
Is China's influence in Timor-Leste rising?	19-Nov	The Diplomat	David Hutt	http://thediplomat.com/2016/11/is-chinas-influence-in-timor-leste-rising/	Quote Charlie on TL-China relations
Pressure rising on East Timor to make a deal	21-Nov	Interfax Global Energy	Damon Evans	http://interfaxenergy.com/gasdaily/article/22882/pressure-rising-on-east-timor-to-boost-revenues	Used LH submission on OJE2017
CGT-TL husu Gove mo Investe maka'as ba Setor Produtivu	25-Nov	Independente			Quote Juvinal as spokesperson of Core Group on Transparency
East Timor is going for broke as oil runs out	07-Dec	Forbes	Damon Evans	http://www.forbes.com/sites/damonevans/2016/12/07/east-timor-is-going-for-broke-as-oil-runs-out/#326e83286325	Quote from LH blog 'Spinning straw into gold' and LH submission on 2017 budget, quote Charlie on sustainability
PN a prova OJE 2017 US\$ 1.4 billoens, prioridade laos setor produtivu	12-Dec	Diario Nasional		http://www.jndiario.com/2016/12/12/pn-a-prova-oje-2017-us-1-4-billoens-prioriedade-laos-setor-produtivu/	Quotes Juvinal
Dili street vendors	20-Dec	RTTL			Juvinal was a speaker on RTTL talk-show

Appendix 3. Presentations and programs

During 2016, La'o Hamutuk organized and provided speakers for many events, as well as conducting briefings and trainings for groups of students, researchers and civil society. Many of our PowerPoint presentations are available at <http://www.laohamutuk.org/pres.htm> in English and/or Tetum. The following list includes lectures and briefings given to organized groups; we gave many others to individual journalists, diplomats, researchers and others.

Topic	Date	Speaker(s)	Event or audience
Sustainability of Timor-Leste's economy	24 Jan	Charles Scheiner	dinner with global Board of The Asia Foundation
Petroleum dependency and economic sustainability	11 Feb	Charles Scheiner	Presentation to five European ambassadors
State budget audit	Feb	Juvinal Dias	Presentation at seminar organized by Audit Court
Maritime boundaries	17-Feb	Juvinal Dias	Presentation at MKOTT civil society workshop
Maritime boundaries	23-Feb	Juvinal Dias	Spokesperson for MKOTT at demonstration
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' plan for 2016	09-Feb	Mariano Ferreira	Briefing given to HASATIL members
Rights and Sustainability	18-Feb	Niall Almond and Adilson da Costa	Australian Volunteers International
Maritime boundaries	22-Mar	Juvinal Dias	Spokesperson for MKOTT at demonstration
Maritime boundaries	Mar	Juvinal Dias	Seminar with UNDIL students and academics
Rights and Sustainability	12-Apr	Niall Almond and Adilson da Costa	Australian Volunteers International
Consequences of Timor-Leste's Dependency on Oil and Gas	19-Apr	Charles Scheiner	Flinders University conference on TL development
Introduction to Timor-Leste	21 June	Charles Scheiner	ETAN interns
Land Laws	June	Mariano Ferreira	Speaker on RTTL talk-show
Land Law submissions	08-Jun	Mariano Ferreira	Testimony before Committee A
Rights and Sustainability	16-Jun	Niall Almond and Adilson da Costa	Victoria University study group
Lifetime Pension Law	30-Jun	Celestino Gusmão	Testimony to Parliamentary Ad-Hoc Committee
Sustainable Development Goals	30-Jun	Juvinal Dias, Maxi Tahu and Adilson da Costa	MC and led thematic workshops at civil society SDG conference
Sustainable Development Goals and industrial development	04-Jul	Juvinal Dias	Workshop during TLDPM
Rights and Sustainability	08-Jul	Niall Almond and Adilson da Costa	Australian Volunteers International
Impacts of the Tasi Mane project	July	Juvinal Dias	CUNDTL seminar on LNG pipeline at Tibar Training Centre
Rights and Sustainability	21-Jul	Niall Almond, Maxi Tahu, Adilson da Costa	CCFD – briefing to discuss TL context and potential future collaboration between LH and CCFD
National Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030: Vision, Implementation, Revision	26-Jul	Niall Almond, Maxi Tahu, Mariano Ferreira, Adilson da Costa	Team from PM's office working on revision of TL SDP

Topic	Date	Speaker(s)	Event or audience
Timor-Leste & ASEAN: mutual partnership or limiting local development?	01-Aug	Niall Almond	Side-event to ASEAN People's Forum (APF) at UNTL
Timor-Leste's maritime boundary with Australia	04-Aug	Juvinal Dias	Presentation to APF main event
2016 rectification budget	August	Juvinal Dias	Presentation to FOKUPERS / ACBIT seminar on rectification budget
Petroleum Fund and falling revenues	August	Juvinal Dias	Presentation at training organized by Patria / UN Women
Rights and Sustainability	21-Sep	Niall Almond and Adilson da Costa	Peace Corps volunteers
Proposed VAT Law's impacts on the poor	22-Sep	Juvinal Dias	La'o Hamutuk public meeting on proposed VAT Law
Education and Lifetime Pensions	26-Sep	Juvinal Dias	Speaker on STL-TV talk show
TL economic sustainability	September	Juvinal Dias	Briefing to students organized by Haburas
Maritime boundaries	October	Juvinal Dias	Presentation at Diplomacy Training Program organized by University of New South Wales Faculty of Law
ZEESM	28-Oct	Juvinal Dias	Briefing to UNTL students and academics
Government-NGO Relations in Timor-Leste	04-Nov	Juvinal Dias	Discussion at FONGTIL
Proposed 2017 State Budget	07-Nov	Juvinal Dias	Testimony to Committee C of Parliament
Proposed 2017 State Budget	07-Nov	Juvinal Dias	Presented LH analysis on proposed 2017 State Budget to Democratic Party members
Observasaun Preliminaria, Proposta Orsamentu Estadu 2017	09-Nov	Juvinal Dias	Presentation to Parliamentarians, Government, civil society and donors at <i>Panorama Orsamentál</i> budget seminar
Rights and Sustainability	05-Dec	Niall Almond and Adilson da Costa	Australian Volunteers International
Proposed 2017 State Budget: impact on TL's sustainability and people's lives	06-Dec	Juvinal Dias	La'o Hamutuk public meeting on proposed 2017 State Budget

Appendix 4. Submissions and Testimony

During 2016, La'o Hamutuk wrote submissions and letters to the President, Government, National Parliament, international donors and others, as described below:

Topic	Date	URL	To
Letter on Australian maritime boundary policy	03-Mar	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/Boundary/2016/KartaMKOTTGG3Mar2016en.pdf	Peter Cosgrove, Governor-General of Australia
Submission on draft Private Investment Law	29-Mar	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/invest/LHSubMECAEInvestLaw29Mar2016en.pdf	Minister for Coordinating Economic Affairs (MECAE)
Submission on draft Private Investment Policy	13-Apr	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/invest/LHSubMECAEInvestPolicy13Apr2016en.pdf	MECAE
Submission on draft Law on employment in extractive industries	22-Apr	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/EILabor/LHSubmisaunLeiTraBallulESEPFPOPE22Apr2016te.pdf	Secretary of State for Professional Training and Employment (SEPFPOPE)
Open letter calling for more thorough environmental impact study for Betano refinery	10-May	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Oil/TasiMane/Betano/EIA/KartaLHTimorGAPBetanoEIA10May2016en.pdf	TimorGAP
Open letter urging more rigorous enforcement of environmental licensing laws	31-May	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/EnvLaw/2016/LHbaPDHJAIA31May2016te.pdf	Provedor for Human Rights and Justice
Submission on draft law on Land Titles	08-Jun	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/land/2016/LHSubLeiTitularidade8Jun2016te.pdf	Committee A of Parliament
Submission on draft Expropriation Law	08-Jun	http://www.laohamutuk.org/Agri/land/2016/LHSubLeiEspropriaun8Jun2016te.pdf	Committee A of Parliament
Submission on revision of Lifetime Pension Law	30-Jun	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/pension/LHSubPensVita30Jun2016te.pdf	National Parliament
LH comments to Timor-Leste Development Partners Meeting	04-Jul	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/16TLDPM/LHCommentTLDPM4Jul2016en.pdf	International agencies, Government
Submission on 2016 Rectification Budget	12-Jul	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE16/Ret/LHSubmissionPNOR12Jul2016en.pdf	National Parliament
Letter asking President not to approve 2016 Rectification Budget	28-Jul	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE16/Ret/LHSubmissionPresRep28Jul2016en.pdf	President of the Republic
Submission on proposed tax reform	15-Aug	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/tax/LHSubVAKRF15Aug16en.pdf	Fiscal Reform commission, Ministry of Finance,
Submission on proposed 2017 State Budget	07-Nov	http://www.laohamutuk.org/econ/OGE17/LHSubPNOJE2017-7Nov16en.pdf	National Parliament

Appendix 5. Radio Programs

La'ó Hamutuk's Tetum-language *Radio Igualdade* program is broadcast nationwide on (state) Radio Timor-Leste, as well as on seven community radio stations across the country. Podcasts of each program can be downloaded from <http://www.laohamutuk.org/media/radio.htm>

Month	Topic	Speakers
January	Borrowing and economic sustainability in Timor-Leste	Cesaltina Soares (Academic - UNDIL), Arsenio Pereira (FORUM-NGO) and Juvinal Dias (LH)
February	Sustainable agriculture policy	Agostu da Silva (Academic-Ph.D. Candidate at Queensland University), Germizio Achon Carseres (Coordinator of Perma-Youth TL) and Maxi Tahu (LH)
March	Maritime Boundary between TL and Australia	Juvinal Dias (LH), Manuela Pereira Leong (ACBIT), Faustino Soares (Student at UNTL), Maria Imakulada Soares (Student at UNTL), Manuel Monteiro (HAK Foundation)
April	Tibar bay port project with PPP model	Bento da Conceção (Community Leader at Tibar), Adriano Dos Santos Almeida (Fisherman at Fatunia-Tibar) and Niall Almond (LH)
May	Draft Land Law	Roberto Aleixo da Cruz (Land Network Coordinator), Zelia Fernandes (Forum Tau Matan) and Luis Sampaio (JSMP)
June	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Januario Pereira, (Academic at UNTL), Junko Ito (PARCIC-TL) and Niall Almond (LH)
July	2016 Rectification Budget	Maria Lourdes Bessa (Head of Democratic Party of Parliament), Juviano Xavier (Head of Development Studies Department, Institute of Business (IOB), Juvinal Dias (LH).
August	<i>Toos eskolár</i> (school garden)	Eugenio Lemos (Permaculture Activist involved in writing the national primary school curriculum), Belchior Maria Almeida B. Guerra (National Director of Social Scholar Action, Min. Education), Rosentina Pereira de Carvalho Martins (Coordinator of Konsin affiliated primary schools, Aileu District (schools which practice the school garden model)
September	Campaign for Justice for Past Crimes	Grigorio Saldanha, (President 12 November Committee), Manuela Leong Pereira (Diretor Acbit) no Celestino Gusmão (LH)
October	Timor-Leste prepares to enter ASEAN	Januario Correia (Lecturer in Community Development Department, Social Science Faculty, UNTL), Marilia Alves (Director FOKUPERS), Julio Fernandes (President Assembly CCITL), Maximus Tahu (LH)
November	Draft VAT Law	Fernanda Borges (Coordinator of Fiscal Reform Commission, MoF), Estevão Fernandes (Academic from UNTL), Juvinal Dias (LH)

Appendix 6. Blog

The most substantive postings on La'o Hamutuk's blog (<http://laohamutuk.blogspot.com/>) during 2016 include the following:

Date	Title
22-Jan	Boye in prison, appeals sentence
23-Feb	MKOTT Deklarasaun ba Governu Australia
27-Feb	Solidarity should be shown
10-Mar	Indicators have consequences Sinál perigu sei iha konsekuénsia
22-Mar	MKOTT Statements to Australia and TL Deklarasaun husi MKOTT ba Governu Australia no Timor-Leste
20-Apr	Private Investment is a road, not a destination Investimentu privadu – dalam la'ós objetivu
26-Apr	Health and safety for all workers, not just those in mining and petroleum
06-Jun	LH husu PDHJ atu haforsa implementasaun Lei Lisensamentu Ambientál
18-Jun	Is the Tibar container port what TL really needs? TL presiza duni Portu Tibar ka lae?
24-Jun	Hano in balu kona ba proposta Lei ba Rai
29-Jun	Suai Supply Base contract cancelled; it's time to cancel the project
13-Jul	LH to PN: Don't approve budget rectification! LH husu ba Parlamentu atu rejenta Orsamentu Rektifikativu
10-Nov	LH asks Parliament to take a better budget path
12-Nov	Remembering the Santa Cruz Massacre, the Movement seeks Justice and Equality Memória Masakre Santa Krús, Movimentu buka Justisa no Igualdade
23-Nov	Spinning Straw in to Gold: Facts remain in true, regardless of public relations Hafalun fatuk ho osan mean: Faktus mak faktus nafatin, maske relasaun públiku konta buat seluk

Appendix 7. La'o Hamutuk staff and advisory board biographies

During 2016, La'o Hamutuk's staff included eight Timorese and two foreigners, three women and seven men. Our organization is non-hierarchical and makes decisions collectively, with two rotating coordinators. Staff share administrative and program responsibilities and work together to transfer skills. La'o Hamutuk also hired Mavia Martins as a finance officer, but she left after less than three months. Former staffer Pelagio Sarmento Doutel completed his graduate studies in London and returned to La'o Hamutuk in January 2017.

The following people were on our staff during 2016:

Adilsonio da Costa Junior

Adilson is from Lore, Los Palos, and was born in Dili. He speaks Fatuluku, Tetum, Indonesian and English. Adilson studied Law at Pasundan University, Bandung, where he was also a facilitator at Clinical Legal Education. He joined La'o Hamutuk in 2012 and focuses on governance, justice, environmental and economic issues. Between 2013 and 2015, Adilson served on our coordination team, and he is also a member of the fundraising team.



Celestino Gusmão Pereira

Celestino is from Laga, Baucau district, and studied 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. Atino joined La'o Hamutuk in 2011, and he focuses on justice, democracy, solidarity and economics issues. He is active in MKOTT and is our focal point in the National Alliance for International Tribunal (ANTI) and is a member of our coordination team.



Charles Scheiner

An engineer and long-time Timor-Leste solidarity activist, Charlie worked at La'o Hamutuk in Dili from 2001 until 2004, and then alternated between New York and Dili, working part-time. He returned to work full-time from 2007 to 2015, before resuming part-time work. 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'o Hamutuk's finances, website and blog.



Juvinal Dias

Juvinal studied Agriculture at the National University of Timor Leste. He was born in Tutuala, and speaks Fataluku, Tetum, Indonesian and English. Juvinal joined La'o Hamutuk in 2009, and works on Natural Resources, Economy and Governance. Since 2013, he is the principal Timor-Leste researcher for the Open Budget Survey. During 2016, he represented La'o Hamutuk at the APF conference, and was the main spokesperson for MKOTT for several events and media appearances. Juvinal also serves on our coordination and fundraising teams.



Mariano Ferreira

Mariano studied economic management at the University Negeri Jember in Indonesia. Born in Dili, Mariano speaks Tetum, Indonesian and 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 and serves on the personnel team.



Marta da Silva

Marta was born in Gariuai, Baucau, and grew up in Lospalos. She studied social and political science at the National University of Timor-Leste, where she was also part of the FORAM students' movement. She joined La'o Hamutuk in May 2016, having worked previously with the Australian-supported water and sanitation program BESIK and UNFPA. Marta speaks Fataluku, Tetum, Indonesian and English. Currently Marta works on natural resources, good governance and justice.



Martinha Fernandes

Martinha is from Atsabe, Ermera district. She studied petroleum engineering at DIT, and joined La'o Hamutuk as a volunteer through a SEPFOPE program in 2015. She is now employed as an administration and finance assistant. Martinha speaks Kemak, Tetum and Indonesian.



Maximus Tahu

Maxi was born in Selo Kraik, Aileu district. He studied philosophy and theology in Major Seminary Dili. Maxi worked at La'o Hamutuk from 2007 to 2011, having previously worked at Radio Timor Kmanek. From 2011 to 2014, Maxi studied agriculture at New England University in Australia, and he returned to La'o Hamutuk in November 2014. Maxi speaks Tetum, Mamba'e, Indonesian, Portuguese, and English. Maxi works on agriculture, climate change, governance and trade. He also served as La'o Hamutuk's interim finance officer in 2015-2016 until Ricarda Martins joined our staff.



Niall Almond

Niall first came to Timor-Leste from Ireland in 2014 as an independent volunteer and started working at La'o Hamutuk in early 2015. Niall has a Bachelor's degree in Media and Cultural Studies and a strong interest in social justice, economics and political issues. He speaks English, Irish, Tetum, and some French and Indonesian. He works on international trade/investment issues, economic sustainability and megaprojects. He is also a member of La'o Hamutuk's personnel and fundraising teams.



Ricarda Martins

Ricarda joined La'o Hamutuk in May 2016 as finance officer, having worked previously at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. Ricarda is from Laclubar, Manatuto District. She speaks Didate, Tetum, Indonesian and English.



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. Selma has worked as a Political Affairs Officer in UNMIT, a UNDP Climate Change project, and with Action Asia, Fokupers, JSMP, CAFOD, USAID, Ba Distritu and other organizations. Selma writes articles and poetry.

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, where he currently chairs the Board of Directors), program manager in Concern, staff for Save the Children and now works for Water Aid.

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 Laçlo Manatuto District), Laulara (Aileu District) and Ataúro (Dili District).

Andrew de Sousa

An activist with the U.S.-based East Timor and Indonesia Action Network (ETAN), Andrew worked at La'ó Hamutuk from 2001-2003. He has worked in Washington for the Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala and with Yayasan Palung in West Kalimantan, Indonesia. From 2012-2014, he was in Bangkok with Focus on the Global South, and now works with Peace Brigades International in Indonesia. Andrew has continued to help La'ó Hamutuk throughout this journey, and he joined our board in 2012.

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 May 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). Pam moved back to Timor-Leste in 2012 and works in the Ministry of Education. She cooperates closely with La'ó Hamutuk on capacity development and other issues.

Adérito de Jesus Soares (on leave)

Adérito is a lawyer and human rights advocate. 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 NYU, returning to Dili in 2003, and left in 2006 for a Ph.D. program at Australian National University. In 2010, Adérito returned to head the Anti-Corruption Commission, and took a leave of absence from La'ó Hamutuk's board. After finishing his mandate, he returned to ANU in 2014, but came back to Timor-Leste to help establish the Popular Liberation Party.

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 worked at the Peace and Democracy Foundation. She was on La'ó Hamutuk's staff from 2005- 2008. In 2010, she completed her Masters on gender and development studies at Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand and now works as a Program Officer for Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Responsive Budgeting at UN Women.