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BA FUTURU

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

USING INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO  
PROTECT CHILDREN, REDUCE VIOLENCE,  
INSPIRE YOUNG LEARNERS AND  
EMPOWER WOMEN IN TIMOR-LESTE

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Av. Pres. Nicolau Lobato  
Golgota, Comoro  
Dili, Timor-Leste

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Colleagues, Members, and Friends of Ba Futuru,

For many reasons this has been a very challenging but satisfying year for me. As the sole Chief Executive, I have continued to develop my governance and management skills navigating this important transition period for the organization. I have learned a lot about dealing with the unexpected, remaining calm in times of crisis, being patient with others, and taking care of myself and my family whilst in a demanding role. I am proud of the staff who have coped amazingly well taking care of themselves and one another as well as the broader community. We have shown a level of resilience that has been a benchmark for others to follow.

No one envisioned the global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and we had to learn quickly how to deal with different daily circumstances. Our staff rose quickly to the challenge, carrying out their work on existing projects – and new, urgent COVID-19 response information campaigns – throughout various lockdown levels and states of emergency. This was only possible through pivoting our facilitation skill sets and using social media channels to communicate well with our communities.

Our donors have been very understanding of our circumstances and through honest dialogue supported us in our endeavors to do what we could to keep progressing their work as well as keeping both staff and project beneficiaries safe. Our preschool has flourished and through providing online learning opportunities has led the way in remaining connected to students and parents despite the lack of face-to-face contact. We continued to pursue the goals of our Strategic Plan 2015 – 2020 and in most respects have accomplished many of the goals we set ourselves. Moving forward we will develop a new strategic plan, although we are conscious that until the pandemic is under control we can only plan in the short-term.

Our financial position was managed prudently, and we focused on cost reduction and operating at basic levels. We maintained dialogue with existing donors and were able to generate income from new fee-for-service projects. Overall, we came through the year within a revised budget.

I would like to acknowledge the assistance the Ba Futuru Board has provided to me and how through regular internet communication they have been there to support me and help direct my decision-making. We are working together to maintain high governance standards and to form a Board that consists of wholly Timorese members so that we will become a truly Timorese organization in the future.

I look forward to continuing my work as Chief Executive of this awesome organization, especially with the help of all those who believe in the work of Ba Futuru. I thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Juliana "Lica" Marçal  
Executive Director

# Our Work in 2020

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## Protecting Children

- Children for Change (ChildFund)
- Hametin Familia Parenting Program Endline KAP Survey (UNICEF & MSSSI)



## Reducing Violence

- Classroom Management (GIZ)
- Youth-Led Campaign to Stop Covid-19 Fake News (with local partner CPA)



## Inspiring Young Learners

- Youth Leading Together (Oaktree)
- Inspiring Young Changemakers (ChildFund)
- Ba Futuru Preschool
- Circus workshops (cover image)



## Empowering Women

- Women Driving Peace & Economic Development (MISEREOR)
- Mangrove Conservation Community Theater & Radio Play (UNDP)

As the global pandemic emerged in March 2020, we quickly took action to help our community.

- Produced 5 film episodes and 3 public service announcements on COVID-19 prevention
- Trained 40 women on COVID-19 prevention
- Taught Youth Changemakers how to make videos on TikTok and use Canva, and they used this to design and share info about COVID-19 prevention on social media
- Provided remote learning support to our preschool students and their families

**Our Work  
to Fight  
COVID-19**

# CHILDREN FOR CHANGE

## Manatuto & Liquisa Municipalities

Through this project, funded by ChildFund, Ba Futuru has worked with teachers, parents, students, school leadership and community members to create lasting change in 14 primary schools. We provided training on child protection, conflict resolution, non-violent positive discipline, and governance and leadership roles to build Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) groups.

The PTAs worked together with school principals to develop a school-wide Code of Conduct for each school. Their ongoing involvement demonstrates the PTAs' commitment to holding each other accountable and reinforce long-term change.

# 96%

of students increased their knowledge of types of child abuse and anger management strategies



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This training was truly valuable for me to develop my skills on child's rights and responsibilities, child protection, positive discipline, conflict analysis and the steps of conflict resolution. I also learned how to manage my anger and stress when I face a problem.

*- Female student, age 15*

### Project Beneficiaries:

- 14 primary schools
- 232 students  
(105 female, 127 male)
- 79 PTA members  
(34 female, 45 male)





# PARENTING PROGRAM ENDLINE KAP STUDY

## Ermera, Lautem, Liquisa & Viqueque Municipalities

In 2015–16 Ba Futuru partnered with U.S.-based Rain Barrel Communications for the Design and Piloting of a Parenting Program, funded by UNICEF and in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion (MSSI). This initial endeavor included a baseline survey of parents' knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) around 10 important aspects of parenting, such as nutrition, hygiene and education. The results of the survey informed the design of the parenting program, called Hametin Familia (Strengthening Families). MSSI has been rolling out the program to target municipalities over the last five years.

In 2020 Ba Futuru was very happy to partner a second time with Rain Barrel for the endline KAP survey to measure the results of the program's first implementation phase. This objective of the new research was to learn lessons from the implementation of Hametin Familia over a five-year period and enable all stakeholders to improve parenting practices for the benefit of Timorese children. With this knowledge, UNICEF, government and other partners will be in a better position to replicate the program's successes at scale.

Learn more about our partner at their website: <https://www.rainbarrelcommunications.com/>.

# TEACHER TRAINING ON POSITIVE DISCIPLINE & CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

## Lautem & Viqueque Municipalities

This project, funded by GIZ, was part of a larger initiative, GIZ-ENDIGO. Ba Futuru worked with four technical vocational schools throughout the project, beginning with an assessment at each school. We then provided trial trainings and mentoring with teachers to help increase their capacity in teaching with participatory methods and classroom management using positive discipline principles. Ba Futuru then consulted with education sector stakeholders to finalize the training materials.

# 83%

of teachers trained said using participatory teaching methods will help students develop critical thinking skills, compared with 36% before training.



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The lesson planning guideline introduced by Ba Futuru is very simple, easy to use and it helps [the teachers] prepare their lessons planning more effectively, especially on time management and make the classes more fun.

*- Male Vice-Director of one of the 4 technical vocational schools where Ba Futuru provided training*

Ba Futuru presented the finalized training materials to the Ministry of Education. The materials focus on teaching teachers about participatory teaching methods to engage students and develop critical thinking and non-violent communication.



# YOUTH-LED CAMPAIGN TO STOP COVID-19 FAKE NEWS

## Dili Municipality

As COVID-19 began spreading across the world, so did rumors and disinformation about the virus, how it is transmitted, and treatment options. Ba Futuru teamed up with local documentary filmmaking group Casa de Produção Audiovisual (CPA). The project was aptly titled "Youth-Led Campaign for Stopping the Spread of Fake News and Rumours of COVID-19 in Rural Communities Throughout Timor-Leste."

One of the most exciting components of this project was the cross-mentoring and skill exchange between Ba Futuru and CPA. Five of our staff members gained knowledge and experience about civic journalism and how to use a camera or other device in making



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The exchange was a good opportunity for me to learn from Ba Futuru's team, especially on fiction film script development, and it will help me in developing my career going forward.

*- Female documentary filmmaker from Casa de Produção Audiovisual*

documentary and animation films. Six CPA staff about developing a script for a fiction film, recruiting actors, auditioning for each character, rehearsal and filming. Together, we produced three short films on preventing COVID-19.

Watch here:

<https://bit.ly/BaFuturuPreveneCovid>

Or check out the videos section of our Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/BaFuturu](https://www.facebook.com/BaFuturu)

# INSPIRING YOUNG CHANGE MAKERS

## Bobonaro & Covalima Municipalities

The Inspiring Young Change Makers project, funded by ChildFund, ran from July 2019 to June 2020. We provided five types of training to 54 Youth Changemakers: Life Skills, Leadership, Economic Empowerment, Theater and Script Development, and PeaceJam. We also put on a national PeaceJam Conference, bringing together youth leaders to share ideas and build relationships.

In 2020 Ba Futuru worked with Child Fund to pivot activities in efforts to combat the spread of COVID-19. We created a series of five short films to help people learn about what COVID-19 is and how to prevent its spread through social distancing, wearing masks, and hand washing. The final episode was a music video, which was shared widely on social media. Watch the Kombate Korona series: <https://www.facebook.com/BaFuturu/videos/2624461387802217>



### Project Beneficiaries:

- 53 Youth Changemakers (29 female, 24 male)

# 92%

of Youth Changemakers gave examples of times when they used their knowledge and skills from our training with their friends, family and community







# YOUTH LEADING TOGETHER

## Manufahi & Lautem Municipalities

Supported by Oaktree, Ba Futuru worked with an additional 54 youth changemakers through the Youth Leading Together project. We provided training to the youth changemakers, and after training they ran an event themselves. They became more confident and showed positive changes in public speaking, felt more comfortable sharing information and talking

to community leaders. They created a peer support group through WhatsApp. The project also enabled cross-

# 90%

of parents, community leaders and youth who attended events organized by the Youth Changemakers said they have the capacity to make changes to their families and communities.



## Youth Leading Together (continued)

mentoring for the youth changemakers with community leaders and CBOs. An important result of the project was that the youth changemakers learned how to make videos using TikTok and how to use Canva for social-media friendly graphic design. They then used what they learned to design and share info about Covid-19 on social media.

### Project Beneficiaries:

- 54 Youth Change Makers  
(29 female, 25 male)

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Before participating in the FoLiHa project, I was very shy and had low confidence. I had no experience in coordinating with people to facilitate trainings or organize events. However, through the trainings and activities, I gained skills in setting up meetings with community leaders and community-based organizations, public speaking, and event organization. These skills helped build my confidence, and now I can use what I learned to contribute to the development of Manufahi.

- Female Youth Changemaker

# BA FUTURU PRESCHOOL



# WOMEN DRIVING PEACE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Bobonaro & Dili (Atauro) Municipalities



In 2020 Ba Futuru completed the third and final year of this innovative project, funded by MISEREOR. A cohort of 20 women from remote Atauro Island received two types of training: first, a women's economic empowerment workshop, and second, a workshop on gender-based violence prevention. Later in the year, the project team leveraged their facilitation skills to provide additional COVID-19 prevention training to 40 women total (two project cohorts).

Other project activities included an innovative business plan competition on Atauro Island and a national forum in Dili with 45 participants.

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In follow-up evaluations with the women who received training:

- 94% of women gave an example of how they have accessed services they learned about through our training - whether community networks, organizations that support businesses, and/or places that provide assistance for GBV/DV survivors.
- 94% of women increased their business income after training.
- 100% of women reported feeling comfortable to make decisions and to use the skills they learned in training for conflict prevention and mitigation in their families and communities.



# COMMUNITY THEATER & RADIO PLAY PROMOTING MANGROVE RESTORATION

Dili, Liquisa, Manatuto & Viqueque Municipalities

This project was funded by UNDP through their initiative, "Building Shoreline Resilience of Timor-Leste to Protect Local Communities and their Livelihoods." Ba Futuru and UNDP chose coastal communities that were ideal for reaching large groups of women, men and youth living near mangrove forests. The objective was to increase awareness of the impacts and challenges that climate change poses to individuals and communities, and knowledge of tools to use in order to improve resiliency – such as better sustainable land management practices, mangrove planting and restoration, and water conservation. Ba Futuru's drama team wrote and performed community theater in eight sucos (villages), for a total of nine performances reaching 1,628 audience members. They also recorded a radio play, which was aired 60 times on four local radio stations reaching coastal communities.





## Financial Summary

### CURRENT ASSETS

	2020	2019
Cash and Cash Equivalents	225,899.51	228,477.06
Trade and Other Receivables	56,605.40	19,914.85
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>282,504.91</b>	<b>248,391.91</b>

### NON-CURRENT ASSETS

Property, Plant and Equipment	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

### CURRENT LIABILITIES

Trade and Other Payables	11,817.76	15,675.41
Grant Commitments	71,208.01	25,048.08
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>83,025.77</b>	<b>40,723.49</b>

### TOTAL LIABILITIES

<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>199,479.14</b>	<b>207,668.42</b>
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### EQUITY

Retained Earnings	207,668.42	217,787.55
Funds Available for Future Use	-8,189.28	-10,119.13
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>199,479.14</b>	<b>207,668.42</b>





## Income Statement

INCOME	2020	2019
Program Revenue	434,058.52	637,928.43
Program Costs	-454,790.94	-668,695.76
<b>Gross Income</b>	<b>-20,732.42</b>	<b>-30,767.33</b>
Other Revenue	60,795.91	111,194.28
Occupancy Costs	0.00-	0.00-
Administration Expenses	-190,122.54	-194,010.15
Project Support Contribution	141,869.77	103,464.07
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>-8,189.28</b>	<b>-\$10,119.13</b>

Note: The financial summary (balance sheet) and income statement taken from the organization's annual independent audit. All figures are in US dollars (USD). Please request the full report for details and notes.

# ABOUT BA FUTURU

Ba Futuru provides women, young people and children in Timor-Leste with knowledge and skills to protect themselves from violence. We also offer opportunities for self-expression, education, and job and leadership preparedness that can help them overcome the negative effects of conflict and gain the skills to create a positive, peaceful and productive future. We work to develop the skills of those who impact the lives of women, young people and children. We are helping to build the structures, systems and legal frameworks in the areas of conflict mitigation, protection, and education. Our name means "For the Future."

## MISSION

To build a peaceful, positive and productive Timor-Leste through using innovative approaches that will: protect children, reduce violence, empower women and inspire young learners.

## VISION

To create a Timor-Leste free of violence, where all citizens, especially women, children and young people, can engage meaningfully in the country's development in a peaceful, positive and productive way.

