

Ba Futuru

2016 Annual Report





Message from the Director



Ba Futuru continues to work in Timor-Leste to build a more peaceful, positive and productive future. In 2016, we worked with partners in schools, communities and other agencies to create tangible change at the grassroots level. Ba Futuru's Co-Founder, Sierra James, was honored with an Ashoka Fellowship for her innovative use of the arts in violence prevention through her work with Ba Futuru.

Although independence was restored a decade and a half ago, Timorese women are still struggling to attain justice and equality for their rights. Ba Futuru works at the village level to help people develop respectful approaches to conflict resolution and tools to mitigate violent conflict altogether, and at the national level to integrate our outcomes into capacity development for government officials, structural change, and legislative and policy developments.

Drama took center stage in much of our work in 2016. We've learned it is an effective way to open conversations and show, rather than tell, alternative ways to resolve differences. Drama and film productions extended our reach, enabling Ba Futuru to spread our messages of peace to hundreds of thousands of people.

We thank each person who participated in or supported our activities, and look forward to your support in 2017.

Juliana 'Lica' Marcal

Director Ba Futuru



Jose Ramos-Horta's Message

Peace comes from the dedication and hard work of many people, and Ba Futuru continues to be a leader in peace-building in Timor-Leste.

This year, like those before it, Ba Futuru has helped many individuals and community leaders embrace peace and reject violence.

Ba Futuru's focus on young learners and empowering women will help us all have a strong future. These community members are the foundation of our society, and their positive approaches to conflict resolution are helping to make Timor-Leste a stable nation.

It is an honour to be a part of such a progressive organization.

Sincerely,

José Ramos-Horta

Special Representative to Ba Futuru
Former President of the
Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste
Nobel Peace Prize Winner



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.

Mission

To build a peaceful, positive and productive Timor-Leste using innovating approaches that will:

- Protect children
- Reduce violence
- Empower women
- Inspire young learners

Our Approaches

- Using interactive, collaborative, human rights-based approaches and training models
- Using the arts (including visual arts, drama, theatre and film) as a medium for transformation and a tool of engagement
- Using Timorese writers, researchers and actors to ensure Timorese situations are presented in an accurate, dynamic and respectful way on video, in community theatre presentations and in written materials
- Strengthening effective community leadership
- Seeking innovative ways to enable participation and embed change
- Delivering programs based on research, learning and evidence
- Pursuing targeted advocacy and policy development
- Building strong partnerships locally, nationally and internationally
- Ensuring empowerment is central to all our efforts

Protecting children



Ba Futuru continued to equip children with knowledge and skills to protect themselves from violence and abuse. We also worked with those who impact the lives of children—educators, parents, police, civil society actors, traditional leaders and elected community leaders. Our programs provide the knowledge and skills to implement community-based protection, access the formal justice system and increase understanding of the negative impacts of violence and physical punishment.

Highlights

Parenting Program

- Ba Futuru designed the “Strengthening Families” holistic parenting education and support program together with Rain Barrel Communications, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and supported by UNICEF.
- The program contributes to improved developmental outcomes for children.
- The design includes:
 - ◇ Baseline survey of knowledge, attitudes and practices
 - ◇ Media campaign
 - ◇ Educational materials
 - ◇ Comprehensive training manuals, and
 - ◇ Follow-up support framework.



One teacher reported that he has realized from the training that using violence towards the students is not the right way—he even changed the way he talks about and approaches misbehavior. Now he uses consequences instead of punishment.



- The parenting program design was driven by Communications for Development principles and best practices, providing parents and caregivers with new information and skills through quarterly parenting education sessions at the community level.
- Together with Ministry of Social Solidarity and local facilitators, Ba Futuru piloted the parenting program, providing a platform for parents to discuss challenges and come up with local solutions.
- Ba Futuru provided intensive child protection and positive discipline training for staff of two local organizations—Casa Vida and Uma Mahan Salele Suai—that house victims of abuse.

Initiative to Prevent Violence in School Communities

- Through this project, training on gender-based violence prevention, child protection, positive discipline, behavior management and anger management was provided to 76 parents and 74 teachers from two Dili schools.
- Ba Futuru also facilitated workshops on conflict resolution and gender-based violence with 123 students from the two schools.



Ba Futuru prevents violence against vulnerable people through outreach and education. Ba Futuru simultaneously undertook advocacy and encouraged dialogue among key players at local, municipality and national levels. Our work contributed to strengthening laws, networks and protection systems (including government policies, procedures regarding law enforcement, and protection response mechanisms), so that when violations of human or child rights occur responses are effective and justice ensues. In 2016 Ba Futuru's peace center continued to engage young people in positive sporting activities including skate boarding. Moreover, Ba Futuru held a Women, Peace and Security arts competition and performed a theater piece for the launch of the National Action Plan on Women's Peace and Security.

Reducing violence

Highlights

Community Theater

- Staged community theater performances, followed by discussions with audience members, for 2,500 people in Liquica and Atauro. The themes were preventing early childhood marriage and gender-based violence prevention. The scripts were developed through discussion with community members.



- ◇ In Liquica, many people were interested in the impact of early marriage. Before the performance, 28% of the audience completing a survey could list an example of the kinds of impacts getting married early has on the family and community, whereas after viewing the film 75% could accurately list examples.
- ◇ In Atauro, 40% of the audience completing a survey could list an example of the kinds of impacts getting married early has on the family and community, where as after viewing the film 90% could accurately list examples.

Consolidating Peace and Development

In the second year of a three-year Consolidating Peace and Development Initiative, the project team held five-day training sessions in 10 communities. They empowered 109 female and 161 male youth community police officers, focal points and mediators for the National Directorate for the Prevention of Community Conflict and CBO representatives, with knowledge and skills for conflict prevention, civic education and gender-based violence prevention.

Participants have influenced the mind-set and behavior of other people and contribute to the conflict transformation and prevention within their communities.



In a follow up evaluation, a 30-year-old member of the Timor-Leste National Youth Council in Zumalai stated: ***"I have shared the important lessons that I learnt a couple months ago on conflict resolution and violence with youth in my community. Since attending the training I have changed my life. The lessons helped me to become a mediator resolving conflicts in my sub-village. I used the mediation process to facilitate a farm dispute which lead to a peaceful outcome between the two parties."***



A 56-year-old male traditional leader reported:

"This training is very unique, being facilitated by Timorese people. Sometimes I have not understood training by foreigners and a translator. This was easy for me to understand. The specific information on conflict resolution and gender-based violence will help me and my community to resolve conflict without violence."

40-year-old Maria, a saleswoman, said: "I felt very happy that you came directly to this market to share information through theater. I really liked hearing about how to start a good business from two banana trees, build it up and then deposit the money in the bank as a way of managing that money."

As a woman, too often our income is spent on food, school fees and other family needs. This performance opened my mind to ways of managing and using our assets to create business opportunities. It also reminded men that women can also earn money through business."



Empowering women



Ba Futuru built on its previous work in gender equality and reducing violence against women to further enhance women's social and economic empowerment. Ba Futuru empowers female leaders as agents of protection and change. We responded to the needs of growing numbers of Timorese women seeking opportunities to take part in decision making processes and build economic independence in an effort to support their well-being and that of their children.

Highlights

- Ba Futuru worked closely with Women's Campaign International (WCI) to adapt their curriculum for the Timorese context and provided training to 91 women in Liquisa, Dili and Baucau with amazing results. The eight-day training provides:
 - ◊ Knowledge and skills in conflict resolution, decision making, GBV and referral networks
 - ◊ Budget planning, business promotion, the importance of women's leadership, networking
 - ◊ Making economic decisions in the household.
- This project also included six community theater performances for more than 2,500 people on women's economic empowerment in Dili, Liquisa, Maubara and Baucau marketplaces:
 - ◊ The knowledge imparted can help people create and enhance their own businesses and learn how to better manage their income
 - ◊ The performance also helped people to identify their assets and change their opinion about starting their own businesses.



- Ba Futuru provides individual support to session participants. Some have shown exceptional progress on the action plans that they made as an output of the training.
- After taking part in Ba Futuru events, a total of five women in Baucau, Liquica and Dili stood as candidates as village leaders in the November 2016 elections.
- Ba Futuru began the design of the Women's Economic Empowerment Public Relations Campaign for USAID's Avansa Agriculture project. In 2017, project activities will include the development of a community theater production that will be utilized in ten women's economic empowerment field days.

An experienced teacher attending a Quality Education workshop said:
"Ba Futuru helped me, as a teacher, to prepare a good lesson plan so my students are able to learn as planned and scheduled by the Ministry of Education."



"The curriculum workshop also helped me to make learning fun and to get students more active in class."

Changes in teacher practices have increased student desire to attend school and have improved their learning experience- more than 80% of students in target schools report that they are more involved in the classroom.

Inspiring young

Ba Futuru worked with schools, students, educators and parents to decrease the use of corporal punishment, inspire young learners and improve the learning outcomes for children and young people in Timor-Leste. Our educational programs spanned from early childhood to senior high school, where we provided teacher training and mentoring to encourage the use of child-centered, play-based and participatory education strategies, among others.

Highlights

Early childhood education

- This year Ba Futuru's Early Childhood Facility became more sustainable in its financing through restructuring.
- Ba Futuru provided 16 low-income children with free high-quality preschool education through an enriching and stimulating learning environment focusing on the most important stage of development for brain growth, laying the foundation for their success in life.
- Ba Futuru, in partnership with Child Fund, provided early childhood education training and mentorship to 27 home-based and preschool teachers in Lospolos and Manatuto, with a focus on:
 - ◊ Using local materials to make toys;
 - ◊ Play-based learning, developmental milestones, teaching strategies and classroom management.

Quality Education

- In the first year of a three-year project, Ba Futuru focused on creating film modules for a teacher trainers' toolkit that integrates conflict-resolution and non-violent communications skills into everyday lessons.
- Two sets of three-day training sessions were provided in vocational high schools in Baucau and Covalima.
- Ba Futuru's educational staff supported eight schools through positive teacher training and demonstrations, delivering curriculum workshops and mentoring teachers and a school director.

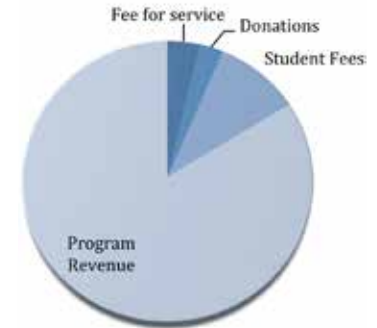
learners

Financial Summary

Balance Sheet

	2016	2015
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	310,542.91	196,019.53
Trade and other receivables	11,949.11	83,584.60
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	322,492.02	279,604.13
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant & equipment		
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	322,492.02	279,604.13
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	5,139.92	5,994.61
Grant Commitments	127,157.88	94,550.51
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	132,297.80	100,545.12
TOTAL LIABILITIES	132,297.80	100,545.12
NET ASSETS	190,194.22	179,059.01
EQUITY		
Funds Available for future use	179,059.01	170,018.03
Prior Year Adjustment		
Funds Available for future use	11,135.21	9,040.98
TOTAL EQUITY	190,194.22	179,059.01

Revenue and Other Income



Income Statement

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Program Revenue	622,273.54	547,837.76
Program Costs	686,447.21	756,860.77
Gross Income	-64,173.67	-209,023.01
Other Revenue	120,320.45	205,737.33
Occupancy Costs	4,211.80	1,171.19
Administration Expenses	129,361.33	104,817.39
Project Support Contribution	88,561.56	118,315.24
Excess of revenue over disbursements	11,135.21	9,040.98

Vote with Peace



Innovative approaches

In 2016, Ba Futuru enjoyed great success by utilizing innovative communication tools for behavior change in many projects:

- Ba Futuru supported USAID's Ba Distrito Project by producing a new film titled 'Your Vote is Your Voice' in order to encourage and motivate women's participation in the village elections.
- Ba Futuru began the Eradicating Violence Against Women and Girls miniseries with an award-winning Australian film maker supporting our film production team. This three-part series for television aims to shift attitudes in order to help reduce violence against women and children in Timor-Leste.
- Community theater productions on early marriage prevention and women's economic empowerment reached thousands of audience members.
- Teacher training films were developed to be used to help teachers improve teaching methods, classroom management and non-violent conflict resolution.





Thank You Ba Futuru Supporters

Our main 2016 partners:

- Misereor, Oaktree and Women's Campaign International
- Global Women Peace & Security Initiative of the US Dept of State
- The Asia Foundation
- Government of Australia, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- UNICEF & the Government of Timor-Leste's Ministry of Social Solidarity

Other 2016 donors: British Embassy, Canada Fund, GIZ, ILO, Casa Vida, UN WOMEN, Child Fund and USAID via Ba Distrito and Avansa

- Capacity building support from the STARS Award, AGEH, VSA and AVI
- Parents of students attending Ba Futuru's Early Childhood Facility

Ba Futuru thanks its donors and supporters:

- Sponsors and guests in the 2016 Bollywood Gala at Timor Plaza
- Donors through GlobalGiving.org
- Many individuals and companies who helped us throughout the year

Ba Futuru / For the Future


Peace Center
Avenida Presidente Nicolau Lobato
Golgota, Comoro
Dili, Timor-Leste
Tel. +670 3322437
www.bafuturu.org

Donate

A gift today will empower a young person to build a brighter future!

Visit: www.bafuturu.org/donate
Email: bafuturu@bafuturu.org
Call us: +670 7724 6022

Activate

 www.youtube.com/bafuturu/
 www.facebook.com/bafuturu/

Become a volunteer
www.bafuturu.org/volunteer-2/