
Investment Phase: Annual Narrative Report

Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste

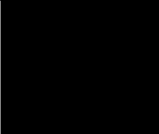
Year 2

Systematic Observations
Financing Facility

**Weather
and climate
data for
resilience**



General Information

Country	Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste	
Implementing Entity	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	
Agreement effectiveness date	25 March 2025	
Duration	60	
Anticipated end date	25 March 2030	
Reporting period	From: 25 March 2025	To: 31 December 2025
Approved amount	UNEP: USD 5,364,692 WMO: USD 392,050	
Disbursed amount	UNEP: USD 4,828,223 WMO: USD 130,670	
Signature of Implementing Entity	 Jochem Zoetelief, UNEP, 21.04.2026	

Summary

Highlights of key achievements

The SOFF Investment Phase for Timor-Leste was approved by the SOFF Steering Committee in February 2025, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) received the initial disbursement on 25 March 2025. Following approval, UNEP initiated coordination with the designated partners: the National Directorate of Meteorology and Geophysics (DNMG), under the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MoTC) of Timor-Leste, which will serve as the Executing Entity; the Meteorology, Climatology, and Geophysical Agency of Indonesia (BMKG) and the Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES), which will serve as Technical Partners; and the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI), which will serve as the Peer Advisor. During 2025, coordination efforts focused on formalizing cooperation arrangements, including the completion of Project Cooperation Agreements between UNEP and RIMES, and UNEP and BMKG, as well as the signing of the Partner Declaration with the Ministry of

Transport and Communications (MoTC) of Timor-Leste. In parallel, due diligence and validation processes related to MoTC-DNMG were completed.

To support the establishment of the legal and cooperation framework, UNEP convened a series of introductory and coordination engagements with DNMG, BMKG, RIMES, and FMI during May 2025. These engagements provided a common understanding of the SOFF Investment Phase in Timor-Leste, including implementation arrangements, roles and responsibilities, financial oversight, and the legal instruments required for partner engagement. UNEP subsequently shared the template package of legal instruments with each partner and continued follow-up coordination to support internal review and clearance processes.

The Project Cooperation Agreement between UNEP and RIMES was finalized, with UNEP signing on 12 November 2025 and RIMES countersigning on 13 November 2025. The Project Cooperation Agreement between UNEP and BMKG was also completed, with UNEP signing on 12 November 2025 and BMKG countersigning on 12 March 2026 following completion of internal review and clearance processes. The first fund disbursement from UNEP to partners will be completed within 21 working days, in accordance with established procedures.

With respect to the Project Cooperation Agreement with MoTC of Timor-Leste, MoTC has signed the Partner Declaration. Following this, due diligence and validation processes have been completed. Work is ongoing to finalize the remaining legal instruments, including the budget and implementation planning documentation. Progress at this stage is linked to confirmation of the appropriate banking arrangements required for fund transfers and financial administration. UNEP continues to coordinate with MoTC to address this requirement in line with applicable procedures.

In parallel, to support preparedness for future SOFF Investment Phase activities, MoTC-DNMG participated in a [five-day procurement capacity-building workshop](#) held at the RIMES headquarters in Bangkok from 13 to 17 October 2025. The workshop was co-organized by UNEP and RIMES and delivered by a UNEP procurement expert. It focused on procurement planning, application of UN procurement procedures, and contract management in project contexts. Participants included staff from the Maldives Meteorological Service involved in the ongoing SOFF Investment Phase in the Maldives, as well as representatives from MoTC Timor-Leste, who are expected to play a role in the forthcoming SOFF Investment Phase in Timor-Leste. The workshop provided an opportunity for practical learning and cross-country exchange relevant to both ongoing and upcoming SOFF-supported activities.

Next Steps

While the Project Cooperation Agreement with MoTC-DNMG is being finalized, UNEP will continue coordination with all partners to maintain implementation momentum. Efforts in 2026 will focus on initiating NMHS human capacity development activities in collaboration with RIMES and BMKG, where feasible and in line with the agreed project scope. In collaboration with BMKG, activities are expected to include high- and end-user engagement events to support SOFF implementation and operations, as well as basic-level training on upper-air systems and surface weather station operation and maintenance. Training on IT systems for newly recruited ICT staff will be undertaken subject to the finalization of arrangements with MoTC-DNMG and the recruitment of ICT staff. In parallel, RIMES is expected to support capacity development activities in 2026, including training on WIS 2.0. These actions are intended to support early capacity strengthening while ensuring alignment with project objectives and implementation arrangements. Once the agreement with MoTC-DNMG is concluded, activities will be further aligned and scaled in accordance with institutional roles and responsibilities.

Progress of implementation

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
1. GBON institutional and human capacity developed														
1.1 National consultations , including with CSOs and other relevant stakeholders conducted	Number of stakeholder engagement workshops	1	1	1	1	1						Not yet started		
	Percentage of female participants	49	49	49	49	49						Not yet started		
	Number of National Climate Outlook Forums (NCOF) held			1	1	1						Not yet started		
	Data sharing policy developed		X									Not yet started		
1.2 NMHS institutional capacity required to operate the GBON network developed	Add indicator as per approved funding request											Not yet started		
	Add indicator as per approved funding request											Not yet started		
	Add indicator as per approved funding request											Not yet started		
1.3 NMHS human capacity required to operate the GBON network developed	Number of technical staff paid by the project	4	4	8	8	8						Not yet started		
	Number of technical trainings conducted	2	2	2	2	2						Not yet started		
	Percentage of female participants	20	20	20	20	20						Not yet started		
2. GBON infrastructure in place														
2.1 New land-based stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations installed as per the GBON National Contribution Plan											Not yet started		

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
2.2 Improved land-based stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan			1								Not yet started		
2.3 New upper air stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations installed as per the GBON National Contribution Plan			1								Not yet started		
2.4 Improved upper air stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan											Not yet started		
3. Sustained compliance with GBON														
3.1 GBON land-based stations' commissioning period completed , country-specific standard cost for operations and maintenance established, and data sharing verified by WMO Technical Authority	# of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan					10						Not yet started		
3.2 GBON upper air stations' commissioning period completed , country-specific standard cost for operations and maintenance established, and data sharing verified by WMO Technical Authority	# of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan					1						Not yet started		

Gender

During the reporting period, no implementation activities were undertaken, as project cooperation agreements between UNEP and partners were under finalization. In line with [UNEP's Gender Equality and Environment policy](#), UNEP will work with partners to integrate gender considerations and support progress towards gender targets through national consultations, stakeholder engagements, and human capacity development activities under the SOFF investment phase in Timor-Leste.

Social and environmental safeguards

UNEP, as the Implementing Entity, will apply its [Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework \(ESSF\)](#) to ensure that all project activities comply with international best practices and institutional safeguard standards throughout the project cycle. The UNEP ESSF provides a structured approach for identifying, assessing, and managing potential environmental and social risks, and will guide the integration of safeguard considerations into project implementation. As no implementation activities were undertaken during the reporting period, no environmental or social risks or impacts were identified or reported.

Civil society and private sector participation

During the reporting period, no implementation activities were undertaken and, as such, no direct engagement with civil society or the private sector took place. UNEP, in collaboration with partners, will promote the inclusion of civil society organizations and private sector actors during implementation, including through national consultations and stakeholder engagements.

Complementary financing and leverage

The SOFF Investment Phase in Timor-Leste and the ongoing Green Climate Fund (GCF) project 'Enhancing Early Warning Systems to build greater resilience to hydro-meteorological hazards in Timor-Leste', with UNEP as the GCF Accredited Entity, complement each other. The GCF project, with a total value of approximately USD 21.7 million over a five-year period, supports the expansion and upgrading of the surface-based observation network, including Automated Weather Stations (AWS) and AWOS, and strengthens end-to-end multi-hazard early warning systems. In parallel, SOFF focuses on complementary areas, particularly the establishment of new upper-air observation capacity, validation of GBON requirements, and strengthening institutional and technical readiness for compliance. SOFF is also expected to support the sustained operation and GBON compliance of AWS and AWOS installed under the GCF project, as

well as the continuation of key activities initiated under GCF, including the National Climate Outlook Forum and technical staffing support. Together, these efforts contribute to a more complete and sustained observation and early warning system, linking infrastructure investments with long-term operational continuity and compliance.

Implementation of grievance redress mechanism

The grievance redress mechanism will follow UNEP's [Environmental and Social Sustainability Framework \(ESSF\)](#), providing stakeholders with an avenue to raise concerns related to project activities. The mechanism will be aligned with [UNEP's Stakeholder Response Mechanism \(SRM\)](#), managed by the Independent Office for Stakeholder Safeguard-related Response (IOSSR). As no implementation activities were undertaken during the reporting period, no grievances had been reported as of 31 December 2025.

Success stories

- [five-day procurement capacity-building workshop](#)

Attachment: [Timor-Leste Semi Annual Report Jan 2026](#)