MARCH 2026
PERMATIL LOCAL PROJECT

ACCOMPLISHED

THE KIWA INITIATIVE IS FUNDED BY:
European Union, France AFD, In partnership with Canada, Australian Aid, New Zealand Foreign Affairs & Trade

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
Pacific Community Communauté du Pacifique, SPREP, IUCN

KIWA INITIATIVE

Scaling up climate adaptation strategies, including water resource restoration, environmental rehabilitation, and sustainable food systems

Permatil, Permatil GLOBAL

Project coordinator : Permacultura Timor Lorosa'e (Permatil)

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

August 2023 – March 2026

AMOUNT OF FUNDING

€ 177,015

Theme

Agroforestry and Sustainable Agriculture

Main co-benefits, in addition to climate change adaptation

- Water resource availability and quality
- Food security

In Timor-Leste, sustainable water management and food production are crucial for communities to adapt to climate change on the long term.
The overall goal of the project is to increase knowledge, skills, and attitude around **water source management and conservation**, environmental rehabilitation, and **resilient food systems.**

Specific objectives:

- **Promote permaculture** and food sovereignty by securing water and soil resources.
- Equip **young people** with educational resources that build long-term climate adaptation and resilience skills.

Terrace construction in Timor-Leste
Permatil © Kiwa Initiative - 2024

Subregion: ■ Melanesia/Timor-Leste ☐ Micronesia ☐ Polynesia

Timor-Leste

2 municipalities in Timor-Leste:

- In Baucau: Sagadate, Atelari, Libabua, Nunira, Samalari, and Saelari villages
- In Aileu: Asumau, Hautoho, Fadabloko, Faturasa, Tulataque, and Maumeta villages

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Beneficiaries:
Over 1000 inhabitants of the 12 villages, including teachers, parents and students (school program) benefit from project activities.

Key results:

Baseline Assessment and Community Engagement

- A baseline survey was conducted in the 12 villages:
  - Twelve springs and catchment areas were identified, to capture water during the dry season, as well as vegetation, which can be supportive of water conservation or invasive around the spring areas;
  - Farming and raising livestock were identified as livelihood activities that are highly dependent on year round water in streams.
- Four community-based organizers were recruited through the project, respecting gender balance in the two municipalities (one man and one woman each).

Water Source Conservation

- Conservation of water sources was conducted in all sites, through catchment management like digging retention ponds, terraces, or digging small streams using local resources.

Capacity buillding

- Capacity building was conducted throughout the lifetime of the project, benefiting to a total number of 83 direct beneficiary participants of which 27 were women. Training workshops focused on skills transfer activities for food systems.
- Additionally, a national '**PermaYouth in Action**' 5-day camp event focusing on climate adaptation, environment, water restoration, and permaculture, was organized in October 2024 at Ermera municipality. This major event gathered **683 participants** (35% of women) from Timor-Leste, including 100 youth from Ailieu and Baucau.
- On top of the related trainings, **12 school gardens were installed** and resilient food system models set up in 12 households. 126 additional households have been provided with 2,760 fruit tree seedlings, and 175 conservation trees were planted in each of the 12 villages to reforest their catchment area. 2 seedbanks were established in Baucau and Aileu.

Communication and Visibility

- Key milestones of the project were broadcast through social media and national TV, and 3 **educational videos on permaculture** topics were published on the Permatil Global website.

DATA UNDER IUCN-ORO VALIDATION

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