

## PROJECT SUMMARY

**Project title:** FORMULATION OF A TOURISM POLICY

**Country:** TIMOR LESTE

**Region:** EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

**Current status:**  Ongoing  Concluded

**Duration (est./)dates:** June 2008 – August 2008

**Category:**  Tech. Cooperation  MDG-F

**Partner entities:** The Ministry of Tourism, Commerce and Industry /National Directorate of Tourism

**Main project objectives:**

The Government of Timor-Leste has identified tourism as one of the priority sectors for promoting economic growth. To meet the needs of Timor-Leste's tourism industry, the National Directorate of Tourism entrusted UNWTO to formulate a Tourism Policy which is to guide all tourism development, management and promotion so as to meet the Government's immediate and long-term objectives for tourism. The tourism policy is to be set in line with international best practices to ensure the competitiveness of the tourism Timor Leste's tourism industry within a regional and global framework, attempting to diversify tourism products so as to have a greater impact and spread of the economic benefits of tourism to all layers of the society and to all parts of the country. It is also to make recommendations for the sustainable and responsible use of tourism resources, creating a conducive environment for investment, local business and participation of the local community.

**Project focus (Choose all applicable):**

- Policy Planning & Economic Development**
  - Tourism Policy/Master Plans & Strategic Development Plans
  - Legislation & Regulation
  - Physical Planning/Infrastructure/Resort Development
  - Institutional Strengthening & Public-Private Partnerships
  - Economic Impact/Value Chain Analysis & Local Development
- Human Resource Development**
  - Manpower Planning
  - Capacity Building Programmes/Hospitality Skills & Tourism Business Development
- Statistics**
  - Statistical Strengthening
  - Development of Tourism Satellite Account (TSA)
- Quality Standards**
  - Hotel Classification
  - Destination Quality Performance
- Product Development, Marketing and Promotion**
  - Marketing & Promotion Planning
  - Product Development & Diversification

**Main project outputs/deliverables:**

The process of drafting of the policy adopted a consultative approach. An Issues Paper was drafted encompassing a detailed review and assessment of the tourism scenario in TL, based on the review of existing policies, strategies and plans, and exhaustive discussions with all stakeholders. A series of regional consultations was held through organization of two workshops in Dili and another town to disseminate the Issues Paper and obtain inputs. Based on the outcomes, a draft Tourism Policy was formulated and shared for review and comment. The process resulted in the formulation of a Tourism Policy for Timor Leste and its presentation to the Council of Ministers.