

Friends of Aileu

A partnership established in 2000

BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES IN TIMOR-LESTE AND AUSTRALIA



Friends of Aileu Annual Report 2019

A Summary of Activities and Achievements in 2019
and an Outlook for 2020

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Moreland
City Council



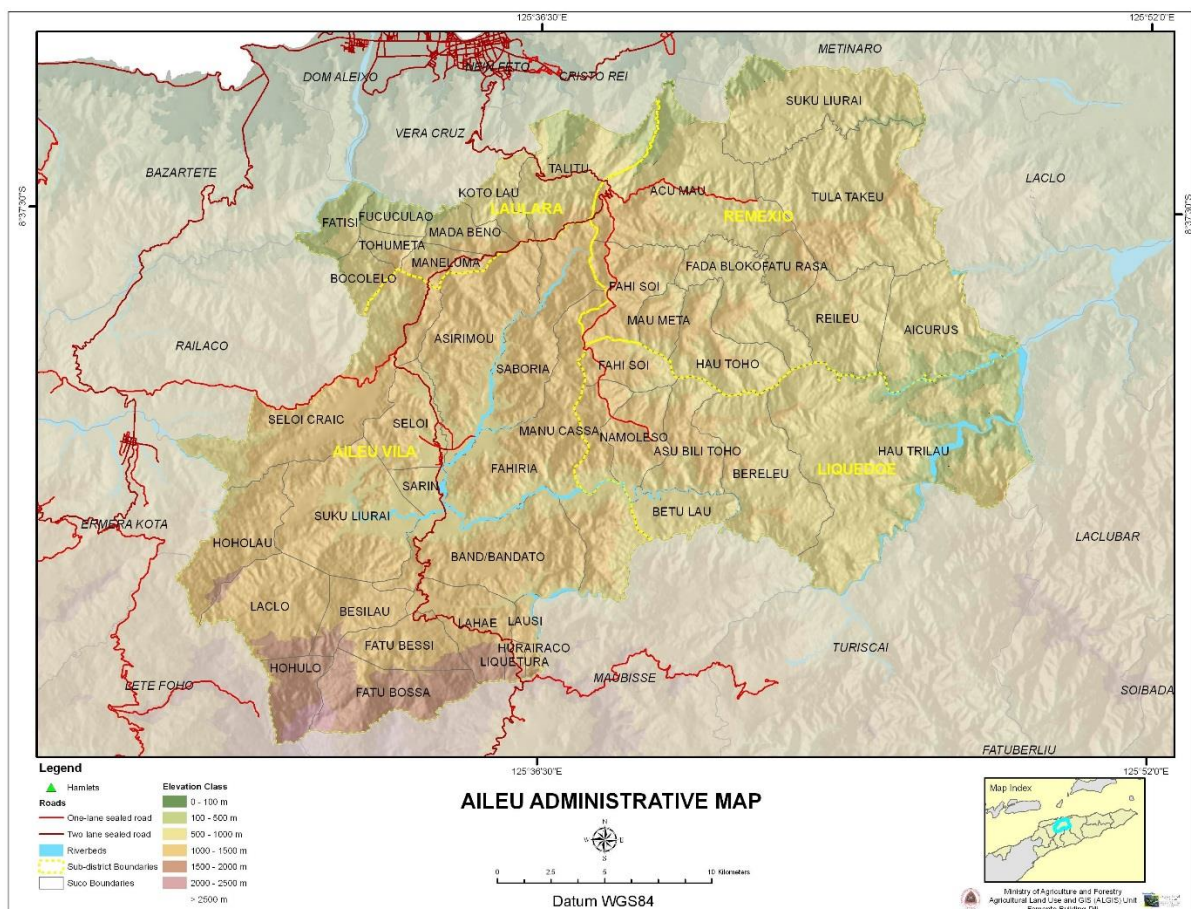
HUME
CITY COUNCIL

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Timor-Leste: one of Australia's nearest neighbours



Aileu Municipality is home to around 50,000 people living in 135 small hamlets, which are administered as 31 rural villages within four Administrative Posts (Aileu Vila, Laulara, Lequidoe and Remexio), and covers a largely mountainous, partly forested and agricultural area of 730 km²



**Guests at Annual Dinner and Forum, Hume Global Learning Centre, Broadmeadows:
Pat Walsh and Glenyys Romanes spoke on activism and friendship, 1970s to present day,
and 20th anniversary of the 1999 Popular Consultation in East Timor**



**CERES Global Timor 2019 participants, with Suku Liurai leaders and community members,
at the up-stream weir of the Dom Baumeta school and village water supply project**

FRIENDS OF AILEU STRATEGY PLAN 2016 – 2020

VISION

Our vision is of an enduring friendship between the people of the municipalities of Aileu, Hume and Moreland, based on the principles of mutual respect, cooperation and local decision-making as expressed in the Friendship Agreement (2016-2020) and the Municipal Cooperation Agreement (2016).

To realise this vision, we will work with our community organisations and local governments to contribute to a more sustainable future for our communities by sharing stories, culture, insights, expertise and resources.

GOALS

Our goals are:

Goal 1 – Communities and Friendship:

To provide opportunities for the people of Moreland, Hume and Aileu to strengthen their communities by contributing to the development of the friendship relationship

Goal 2 - People and Organisations:

To support the people of Aileu in their own development and that of their local government and community organisations

Goal 3 - Programs and Projects:

To support community development programs and projects in Aileu identified in agreement with our Aileu friends and partners

Goal 4 - Partnerships and Networks:

To develop and maintain partnerships, collaborate with others and participate in networks that support the friendship relationship, focussing on the achievement of Goals 1 to 3

Goal 5 - Capabilities and Resources:

To maintain and develop the capabilities and resources of the Friends of Aileu and individual members and supporters to contribute towards achieving Goals 1 to 4

Summary: Highlights of 2019 and Outlook for 2020

Community Events and Activities: Strengthening local networks and partnerships

During 2019, Friends of Aileu again undertook a wide range of activities to maintain and develop the community connections which are the foundation of the friendship relationship. Most of these activities were achieved in partnership with community organisations and local businesses,

Friends of Aileu worked with Australian partner organisations include Campaspe Shire Council and Campaspe East Timorese Association in Friendship, CERES, Grassroots Gathering, Merri Health, Dental Health Services Victoria, North Richmond Community Health, Moreland Community Gardening PrimeSci! (Swinburne University), Rotary Club of Greenvale, TimorLink and Wild Timor Coffee.

Friends of Aileu also collaborated with community organisations including Melbourne East Timorese Activity Centre and the East Timorese Students Association Victoria, Australia East Timor Association and Victoria University and maintained relationships with Renew (formerly ATA) and the Kangaroo Valley Remexio Partnership and Sandringham Sacred Heart Parish Social Justice Group

Major Friends of Aileu events in 2019 included the third annual Grassroots Gathering-CERES music fundraiser, the annual Dinner and Forum, the annual Trivia Night fundraiser and a film night fundraiser at Cinema Nova, Carlton. Friends of Aileu also participated in several of Moreland and Hume City Council's community festivals.



Trivia Night fundraiser, Coburg Town Hall



Arte Mambai Rai Husar exhibition at Aileu Expo

These events, donations and other activities, including the sale of Wild Timor Coffee and Kor Timor products, raised funds to support the work of our Aileu partners, including the Aileu Municipal Administration and government departments, Aileu Resource and Training Centre, Uma Ita Nian Parish Clinic, Aileu Anan Association, Rotaract Club of Aileu, Aileu Municipal Youth Centre and Arte Mambai Rai Husar.

Thank you to the many community members, performers including Mystic Trio, Damian Cowell and Tony Martin, and local community organisations and businesses, who generously donated their time, goods, services and other resources for these events.

Municipal Cooperation Activities: Supporting the development of local government in Timor-Leste

Moreland City Council and Hume City Council again participated in the Local Government Timor-Leste Network, convened by DELWP-Local Government Victoria for the Victorian Government.



**Mrs Victoria Mesquita do Rego, Aileu Municipal Secretary:
at CERES, East Brunswick and at West Brunswick Community Garden**

A highlight of this year was a study tour and friendship visit by the Mrs Victoria Mesquita do Rego, Aileu Municipal Secretary, who spent two weeks in June getting to know more about Melbourne, Friends of Aileu and partner organisations and Moreland and Hume City Councils, including municipal and community approaches to waste management.

Friendship Activities: Working together for a more sustainable future

In 2019 Friends of Aileu again provided a range of opportunities for the people of Moreland, Hume and Aileu to share perspectives, skills and resources in support of a range of friendship and community development activities.

Council / Friends of Aileu Delegation to Timor-Leste

A Council / Friends of Aileu delegation, comprised of Cr Mark Riley, Deputy Mayor of Moreland, Cr Karen Sherry and Cr Joseph Haweil, Hume City Council representatives on the Friends of Aileu Community Committee, and the Project Officer visited Dili and Aileu for one week in June-July to maintain connections with Friendship and Municipal Cooperation partners, gain a better understanding of conditions and changes in Timor-Leste and Aileu, assess progress with current activities and identify priorities for consideration for the future.



**Council – Friends of Aileu Delegation:
At Ministry for State Administration and at Aileu Municipal Youth Centre**

CERES Global trip: Permaculture, Sustainable Agriculture, School and Community Garden

The Project Officer spent a further week following up on the business of the delegation and co-facilitating the second week of the two-week CERES Global permaculture, sustainable agriculture, school gardens and community gardens engagement in Aileu, working with the Aileu Resource and Training Centre and PERMATIL and visiting several local schools.

The first week of the CERES Global visit was spent with NGO NaTerra at Atekru on Atauro island. This visit continued the relationship and the sharing of perspectives, knowledge and resources, that has been established over the last few years with these local organisations and communities.



CERES Global participants:

contributing to Kadalak Dame garden project and discussing composting & mulching with local farmers

Community Health and Sustainable Agriculture Projects

With a donation from Merri Health, Friends of Aileu was able to support a range of community health related initiatives of the Aileu community, including:

- The Uma Ita Nian Clinic's community-based rehabilitation and nutrition program in remote villages, and the work of the St Francis Assisi Disability Workshop
- The Aileu Resource and Training Centre's Kadalak Dame community garden and Manu Casa reforestation programs, to which Campaspe East Timor Association in Friendship also contributed
- Completion of the second and final stage of a project to rehabilitate the water supply system for the Dom Baumeta school and two nearby sub-villages in Suku Liurai village, Aileu, coordinated for Friends of Aileu by Domingos de Jesus Sarmento, a past president of Aileu Rotaract, following his professional development placement with Friends of Aileu in 2018.



Uma Ita Nian Clinic's St Francis disability workshop



Manu Casa reforestation project

Friends of Aileu, assisted by Domingos Saremnto, also supported the deployment of some donated medical equipment, sourced by Cherylynn McGurgan of Royal Melbourne Hospital, with associated training provided at the Aileu Hospital by Aileu-born Dr Gustodio Alves from the Emergency Management at the National Hospital in Dili.



Dr Gustodio Alves and Domingos Sarmiento conducting training with Mr Rogerio and Aileu Hospital staff

The Aileu Oral Health Education Project, coordinated by Professor Martin Hall, LaTrobe University and Dental Health Services Victoria, in collaboration with Dr Bradley Christian, LaTrobe University, Bendigo, Professor Hanny Calache, Deakin University, Geelong, and North Richmond Community Health, continued at the six pilot schools in remote rural areas of Aileu municipality. A baseline and initial outcomes evaluation report was presented to the principal donor, Borrow Foundation (UK), and at the 2019 International Association of Dental Research conference in Vancouver, and in an original research paper accepted by the academic journal *Rural and Remote Health*.

Youth, Education, Training and Professional Development Projects

During 2019 Friends of Aileu and partners made funding contributions to:

- The Aileu Municipal Youth Centre, for a sports program held in June-July to celebrate friendship between communities of Aileu, Moreland and Hume
- Arte Mambai Rai Husar, for art training and an exhibition of art made from recycled materials for the Aileu Expo
- The Rotaract Club of Aileu, for construction of a waste separation bin at the Aileu Technical and Vocational School
- Supporting two Aileu students, Abilio Sarmento and Maria Imaculada, at the Baucau Teachers College
- The Aileu Resource and Training Centre (ARTC) Staff Development Program and the annual Aileu Expo
- A study-tour visit to Melbourne by Mrs Victoria Mesquita do Rego, Aileu Municipal Secretary.



Rotaract President Olga with School Principal - Friendship Games - Aileu Administrator opening the Expo

Using funds including the \$5,140 provided by Hume City Council for education purposes in Aileu, Friends of Aileu was also able to provide financial support for:

- The annual Science, Mathematics and Reading Contest, organised by the ARTC, the results of which are being used by the Aileu Education authorities to assess and improve school, teacher and student performance
- Further development of the biology laboratory and Vida Saudavel (Healthy Living) study program for Year 12 students, with an associated teacher training program and deployment of microscopes to three schools, an activity that Aileu's Maryknoll Sisters coordinated with local catholic and government schools.



Aileu Science, Maths and Reading Contest Vida Saudavel students and teachers with new microscopes

The Aileu Anan Association completed its report on the interview survey of past beneficiaries of the Aileu University Scholarship Program, for which funds were provided in 2018, presenting the results to a local government and community forum in April and publishing the final report in October.

Vale Gary Jungwirth (16 August 1951 - 13 July 2019)

Gary Jungwirth, former Hume Councillor and Mayor, was dedicated to family, human rights, social justice, lifelong learning and his mighty Tigers. He was instrumental in establishing the East Timor partnership between Hume and Moreland City Councils in 2000 and was active with the Friends of Aileu from its inception until he passed away in July. Over the recent years he forged strong links with the Rotaract Club of Aileu, continuing his support for the development of Aileu's younger generations.



Gary Jungwirth with Aileu Rotaract members 2016, family & friends at Gaz Fest 2019 and Abel Guterres and Anne Jungwirth in June

In June The Timor-Leste Ambassador to Australia, Mr Abel Guterres, one of Gary's many good Timorese friends, presented Gary with a certificate of recognition of his services to Timor-Leste.

Prior to his 11 years on Hume City Council (1997-2008) including two years as Mayor, Gary also served on Preston Council for seven years including as Mayor. As a Hume City Councillor Gary drove the establishment of the Social Justice Strategy and Bill of Rights, the first in Local Government in Australia, and the development of the Hume Global Learning Centre.

Gary worked in Victorian Government planning and public policy positions for many years, as an Adviser to several Labor Ministers in Federal and Victorian Governments, and as East Timor Project Officer with the Victorian Local Governance Association.

Involved in community all his adult life, Gary served on the Board of Orana Family services, including eight years as Chair, and 11 years as Chairman of Sunshine and Broadmeadows Uniting Care. He was Awarded an Australian Centenary Medal for services to local government and the community.

Gary joined Greenvale Rotary in 2013, serving on the Board from 2014-2019 and as President in 2017/18 and a District 7970 Assistant Governor in 2018/19. Particularly committed to local community and international projects in East Timor, he was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship in 2019.

Gary will be greatly missed by the Friends of Aileu and all his many East Timorese friends.

Outlook for 2020

May 2020 is a significant milestone, being the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the East Timor Partnership Project between Hume and Moreland City Councils, the Friendship Relationship with Aileu and the Friends of Aileu, as a Citizens Committee of Moreland City Council, also serving to advise Hume City Council.

May 2020 is also the 20th anniversary of the signing of the *Statement of Principles for Victorian Local Governments Working in East Timor*, which provided a guiding framework for friendship relationships between many Victorian Councils and communities and their Timor-Leste counterparts.

The signing of these agreements took place in conjunction with delivery of the 13th Maurice Blackburn Oration on *The Importance of Community Alliances in the Re-Building of East Timor*, by Xanana Gusmão (then President of the National Council for Timorese Resistance) at Coburg Town Hall on 4 May 2000.



Seloi lake and agricultural area - Newly reconstructed highway through Aileu - Lequidoe drier highlands

During 2020 Friends of Aileu plans to:

- Celebrate its 20th anniversary, including with an invitation to Mr Joao Tilman do Rego, Aileu Municipal Administrator, to make a study tour visit in May
- Renew its Strategy and Action Plan and Communications Plan for the period 2020-2025, providing the opportunity for a renewal of the Friendship Agreement for a similar period
- Continue its support for youth, education, training and professional development activities in Aileu, including the Aileu University Scholarship Program, with funding from the annual Trivia Night, Hume City Council and other fundraising and donations, including donations in lieu of travel benefits made by Moreland City Council on behalf of Cr Natalie Abboud (Mayor 2018-19) and Cr Lambros Tapinos (Mayor 2019-20)
- Continue its support for Community Health and Sustainable Agriculture activities in Aileu, with funding from Merri Health and other fundraising and donations, and through the further development Aileu Oral Health Education Project
- Develop plans for an audit of health equipment and an assessment of equipment and training needs for the Aileu Municipal Health Centre and Hospital, with support from Dr Gustodio Alves and Melbourne nurse Cherylynn McGurgan and colleagues.

*Obrigada barak (A big thank you) to all who have contributed
to the positive outcomes for Friends of Aileu in 2019*

1 About this report

The purpose of this report is to report on the activities of Friends of Aileu during the calendar year 2019, and to provide a brief outlook for 2020 and beyond. This report has been prepared by the Project Officer, in consultation with the Friends of Aileu Community Committee.

2 Introduction

The friendship relationship with Aileu, which has been in place since 2000, was last renewed in 2016, with the signing of an updated Friendship Agreement with the Timor-Leste Vice-minister for State Administration and the Aileu Municipal Administrator.

In 2016 Moreland and Hume City Councils also signed complementary Municipal Cooperation Agreements with the Timor-Leste Vice-minister for State Administration.

The Friends of Aileu works with Moreland and Hume City Councils, community and business organisations, residents and other interested individuals to implement the friendship and cooperation relationships with Aileu by:

- Supporting a range of awareness raising and fundraising activities which provide opportunities for participation in community life
- Engaging with the Aileu Municipal Administration and community organisations in Aileu to:
 - Develop the links between our communities
 - Contribute to the development of Aileu as a sustainable community
 - Support the development of local government in Aileu.

Representatives of the two councils participate in the East Timor Partnership Project Liaison Group, which meets at least once a year. The Liaison Group includes:

- Moreland: Director Community Development, Manager Community Wellbeing and Unit Manager Aquatic & Leisure, Community Venues and East Timor Project
- Hume: Director Community Services, Manager Community Strengthening and Unit Coordinator Community Capacity Building.

The two councils are advised by the Friends of Aileu Community Committee (FACC), which, while established as a Citizens' Committee by Moreland City Council, has a mandate and membership reflected in its Terms of Reference, which embraces Hume City Council and community as well as Moreland City Council and community. Membership of the FACC is shown at [Attachment 1](#).

Each council provides at least one councillor representative to the FACC, with the following Council representation for the periods covered by this report:

- From November 2019 - October 2020:
 - Chair Cr Karen Sherry (Hume City Council)
 - Deputy Chair Cr Joseph Haweil (Hume City Council)
 - Representative Cr Annalivia Carli Hannan (Moreland City Council)

Governance and Relationships of the Friends of Aileu in the context of the Friendship and Cooperation Relationships are illustrated at [Attachment 2](#).

3 Friends of Aileu Activities 2019

Significant activities undertaken in 2019 to implement the Friendship and Municipal Cooperation Agreements, in accordance with the Friends of Aileu Strategy and Action Plan 2016-2020, are summarised below.

3.1 Governance

Key activities of the Friends of Aileu Community Committee (FACC) and East Timor Partnership Project Liaison Group during 2019 are outlined below.

- 3.1.1 The FACC met six times, in March, May, July, September, October (special strategy planning workshop) and November, with the meetings hosted alternately at Moreland and Hume City Council venues.
- 3.1.2 The FACC Project Reference Group of three community members met with the Project Officer three times in April, August and September, discussing plans for the 2019 and 2020 program of activities and for video and media project to help celebrate the 20th anniversary of Friends of Aileu in 2020.
- 3.1.4 The East Timor Partnership Project Liaison Group of Moreland and Hume City Council met once in October.
- 3.1.5 The Project Officer reported through Moreland City Council and Hume City Council processes, including a range of formal Reports to Council, Committee to Council Reports (Moreland), Hume Strategy and Policy Updates, Reports to the Moreland Executive Group and the Hume Executive Management Team, and Reports to CEOs/Directors of both Councils.

3.2 Information Sharing, Awareness Raising and Fundraising

Friends of Aileu undertook information sharing, awareness-raising and fundraising activities including those outlined below.

- 3.2.1 Grassroots Gathering conducted the third annual fundraiser for Aileu youth art and sustainability activities at CERES (Centre for Education and Research in Environmental Strategies) in Brunswick in March.



Grassroots Gathering fundraiser at CERES



Guest speakers and Councillors May Dinner & Forum

- 3.2.2 The annual fundraising Dinner and Forum was hosted at the Hume Global Learning Centre, Broadmeadows in May, and featured presentations and discussion on the events around the Popular Consultation of August 1999 and the lead up to it and subsequent developments, with:
 - Pat Walsh speaking on *The Day Hope and History Rhymed*
 - Glenyys Romanes *Why We Should Never Give Up*
 - Other contributions from FACC members Carlo Carli (as moderator) and Joe Caputo, ETSA members Elsa Pinto, Isidoro Correia and Moreland resident Robin dos Santos, who, with Joaquim Borges, also videoed and photographed the event

- Other invited guests, including the Moreland and Hume Councillors, members of the East Timorese community and ETSA Victoria.
- 3.2.3 In May, the Project Officer and Ben Walta CERES Global coordinator were interviewed about the CERES-Friends of Aileu partnership and the Global visits to Timor-Leste live on air at the LaTrobe University Agora media hub for the Sustainability Show
- 3.2.4 The annual Trivia Night fundraiser for the Aileu University Scholarship Program in August, with:
- Comedians Damian Cowell and Tony Martin as MCs
 - Invited guests including Kirsty Sword, members of the East Timorese community and the East Timorese Students Association (ETSA) Victoria
 - Friends of Aileu members, particularly Richard Brown, again excelling in the collection of items for auction and raffle as part of the event.
- 3.2.5 A Friends of Aileu film fundraiser screening of *Ride Like A Girl* at Cinema Nova, Carlton, in October for Aileu youth activities
- 3.2.6 Friends of Aileu Community Committee members and supporters participated in Council festivals and community events including Sydney Road Street Party (with CERES Global), Broadmeadows Street Party, Coburg Night Market and Coburg Carols by the Lake (with Jon Argyle, Coffee United).



Volunteers and partner organisation representatives at Sydney Road Street Party and Coburg Carols

- 3.2.7 Funds were raised through the sale of coffee from Aileu handmade soaps and other products at Council and Friends of Aileu events, at Council Citizen Services Centres, and through Moreland Community Gardening (by Richard Brown of West Brunswick Community Garden) and Merri Health (by Colleen Finlay of Merri's Coburg office). The products were sourced from social enterprises Kor Timor in Dili (through the Rotary Club of Kew) and Wild Timor Coffee, both of whom provide generous wholesale prices.
- 3.2.8 Two editions of the Friends of Aileu Update Newsletter were published, in March and November.
- 3.2.9 The Friends of Aileu Report for the 2018 was published in May.
- 3.2.10 The Update Newsletters and the Annual Report were shared with partner organisations in Australia and Timor-Leste.
- 3.2.11 A web presence was maintained by frequent updating of the Council and Community Events pages and the Friends of Aileu pages hosted on the Moreland City Council website, along with targeted use of the two councils' intranet.
- 3.2.12 A social media presence was maintained through the Friends of Aileu Facebook page, targeted use of the Moreland City Council and Hume City Council Facebook pages. The Friends of Aileu Facebook presence also served as a convenient mode of information sharing

and direct communication, especially with younger people and community organisations both in Melbourne and across Australia, and in Aileu and across Timor-Leste.

- 3.2.13 A summary of the Friends of Aileu Fundraising Income and Expenditure for the calendar year 2019 is included as [Attachment 3](#).

3.3 Collaboration with Melbourne's East Timorese Community and Students, Friendship Groups and other Support Networks

Relationships with the East Timorese community and supporter networks were strengthened by the community members active with Friends of Aileu and Project Officer participating in activities including:

- 3.3.1 Several of the monthly Melbourne East Timorese Activity Centre (METAC) welcome dinners in Richmond, the East Timorese community's celebration of the Restoration of Independence in May at Collingwood Underground in May



Timorese students at Independence Day celebration



School Gardens workshop with Ego Lemos

- 3.3.2 The Victoria University/Australia East Timor Association (AETA) reception for newly arrived tertiary students from Timor-Leste in February
- 3.3.3 Other activities of the East Timorese Students' Association (Victoria), including their recognition day for graduating students in December
- 3.3.4 The AETA AGM in February
- 3.3.5 Timorese community receptions for Parliamentary Delegations from Timor-Leste in February and June, the latter accompanying the visiting Aileu Municipal Secretary, Mrs Victoria Mesquita do Rego
- 3.3.6 The CERES Harvest Festival in March, where Ego Lemos performed, and Friends of Aileu helped promote the Tropical Permaculture Handbook
- 3.3.7 A Victoria University/AETA permaculture and school gardens workshop in March with Ego Lemos, founder and Executive Director of PERMATIL
- 3.3.8 The Australian Timor-Leste Friendship Network forum in March
- 3.3.9 A meeting with Mr Peter McMullan, Honorary Consul for Timor-Leste in Victoria in April
- 3.3.10 Celebrations of the life of Gary Jungwirth, former Hume Councillor and Mayor, founder and continuing Friends of Aileu Community Committee member, including the GazFest April, the presentation of his certificate of recognition of service from Timor-Leste Ambassador Abel Guterres in June and Gary's funeral in July
- 3.3.11 The Victorian pre-retirement event acknowledging Ambassador Abel Guterres at Queens Hall, Parliament House in June

- 3.3.12 An informal gathering of members of the Friends of Aileu and supports with East Timorese community, with the visiting Aileu Municipal Secretary, Mrs Victoria Mesquita do Rego, at Wild Timor Coffee, Coburg in June
- 3.3.13 The West Brunswick Community Gardening Spring Plant and Produce Day in November
- 3.3.14 The Victorian University (VU) Youth in Sustainable Development seminar in November, which addressed the recommendations of the Sustainable Development Goals Conference organised by VU with the National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL) and held in Dili in July



Guests at reception for Ambassador Abel Guterres



One of the Friends of Aileu tables AETA dinner

- 3.3.15 Australia East Timor Association dinner on 28 November for the anniversary of the Timor-Leste Proclamation of Independence, with speakers Gizela de Carvalho, Kirsty Sword and Peter McMullan, where Friends of Aileu had the strongest representation amongst friendship groups, filling two tables
- 3.3.16 Professor Helen Hill, formerly of Victoria University and others, mainly to network over issues and developments in education in Timor-Leste
- 3.3.17 Several Friends of Baucau committee meetings held in Yarra and Darebin.

3.4 Municipal Cooperation Activities

- 3.4.1 Friends of Aileu and Moreland and Hume City Councils hosted a visit by the Aileu Municipal Secretary over two weeks in June (see 3.7 below)
- 3.4.2 Members of the Council / Friends of Aileu July delegation to Timor-Leste (see 3.8 below) had several meetings with the Vice-minister for State Administration, the Director-General for Urban Organisation and the Aileu Municipal Administrator
- 3.4.3 The Project Officer participated in the two meetings of the Local Government Timor-Leste Partnership Network, convened by DELWP in October and December.

3.5 Collaboration with Friends of Aileu Partners

A range of other activities were undertaken by the Project Officer including:

- 3.5.1 A presentation to the Merri Health Board on the outcomes from its 2017-2018 donation to Friends of Aileu
- 3.5.2 Meeting throughout the year with partner organisations Dental Health Services Victoria, North Richmond Community Health, CERES, Merri Health, Greenvale Rotary, Wild Timor Coffee and West Brunswick Community Gardening, including with the visiting Aileu Municipal Secretary, Mrs Victoria Mesquita do Rego
- 3.5.3 Discussions with partner organisations on joint activities and renewal of the MOUs with Moreland and Hume City Councils with respect to Friends of Aileu, with progress to date being outlined below:

- The Merri Health MOU was renewed and signed off in 2018

- An updated draft MOU has been provided for consideration by the Campaspe East Timor Association in Friendship and Campaspe Shire Council
- Discussions on draft MOUs are continuing with representatives of CERES, Dental Health Services Victoria and North Richmond Community Health

3.5.4 Maintaining relationships with:

- Campaspe East Timor Association in Friendship (CETAF), who, with Campaspe Shire, have a Friendship Relationship with Lequidoe Administrative Post of Aileu Municipality
- Kangaroo Valley Remexio Partnership (KVRP), East Timor Midwives Australia (ETMA), Rotary Club of Erina, NSW, and the Sacred Heart Social Justice Group, Sandringham, who work with partner groups in Remexio Administrative Post.

3.6 Support for Community Development Activities in Aileu

Support for community development activities in Aileu included:

3.6.1 Oral Health Education Project

- Dental Health Services Victoria, North Richmond Community Health and other partners continued to support the oral health education activities being conducted in six primary schools in Aileu
- In June North Richmond Community Health's Sally Vong visited the Municipal Administration and participating schools with Timor-Leste dental nurse graduates including Ana Tilman
- A baseline and initial outcomes evaluation report was present to the principal donor, Borrow Foundation (UK), and at the 2019 International Association of Dental Research conference in Vancouver, and in an original research paper accepted by the academic journal *Rural and Remote Health*.



Oral Health team, North Richmond Community Health



Uma Ita Nian Clinic Fuel efficient stoves

3.6.2 Community Health, Disability Support, Nutrition and Agricultural Livelihood activities, with the donation from Merri Health was used to provide financial contributions to:

- The Aileu Parish Clinic, Uma Ita Nian (Your House) for its Community Based Rehabilitation and Nutrition Programs and the St Francis Assisi Disability Workshop, this year focussing on construction of small, safe, fuel-efficient wood-fired stoves and their deployment to households where family member lives with a disability
- The Aileu Resource and Training Centre for:
 - The continued development of the Kadalak Dame community garden project, which now includes rehabilitation of the adjacent coffee plantation

- The annual maintenance and supplementary planting activities at the Manu Casa Reforestation and Water Source Protection project, where the community is now developing their own local nursery
- The second and final stage of a community project to rehabilitate the spring fed water supply system for the Dom Baumeta School and two adjacent sub-villages in Suku Liurai, with the work coordinated on behalf of Friends of Aileu by Rotaract past president Domingos de Jesus Sarmento.



ARTC and Manu Casa community nursery



Dom Baumeta community laying pipes for water project

3.6.3 CERES Global sustainable agriculture, school and community gardens trip (see also 3.9), with this year's visit including:

- Further development of the Kadalak Dame (Peaceful Stream) garden, working hands-on with the Aileu Resource and Training Centre (ARTC) and the Aileu Catechists, building on the concept plan developed during the 2016 CERES Global engagement visit to Aileu, and subsequent work by the local partners and the activities undertaken during the 2018 CERES Global trip
- Other learning and exchange activities, including with:
 - The gardens and other enterprises of Projeto Montanha NGO in Aileu
 - Rui and Emerlita Sarmento's organic family farm in Aileu and their agriculture cooperative in Suku Liurai
 - PERMATIL in Dili and at school gardens in Aileu, Selo Craik, Montane and Suku Liurai
 - NaTerra at its permaculture training centre in Atekru, Atauro



CERES Global visitors working on Kadalak Dame garden project and at Rui & Emerlita's organic farm

3.6.4 Rotary Club of Greenvale support for the Rotaract Club of Aileu including:

- Funds for the construction of a rubbish bin by at the Technical and Vocational High School in Aisirimou, Aileu
- Fundraising for a future public toilet project

- 3.6.5 Contributions for the community development work of the Aileu Resource and Training Centre (ARTC):
- The ARTC staff development program for Ana Maria Marques to continue an Accounting degree at UNDIL
 - The annual Aileu Expo in November
- 3.6.6 Funding contributions from the Hume Aileu Education Grant supported:
- Continuation of an extra-curriculum Healthy Living/Biology program for Year 12 students, organised by Sisters of the Maryknoll community in conjunction with teacher training for staff and deployment of microscopes at the Aileu Reference School (CAFÉ School), and the Aileu government and Parish High Schools
 - The annual Aileu Science, Mathematics and Reading Contest conducted through the second half of 2019
- 3.6.7 A donation to the Baucau Teachers College to support two Aileu students, Abilio Sarmento (for his second-year studies) and Maria Imaculada (for her first-year studies)
- 3.6.8 Completion by the Aileu Anan Association (AILA) to conduct a program of interviews aiming to reach most of the 110 recipients of assistance under the Aileu University Scholarship Program, analyse the data and report on the findings early in 2019, which were presented to the Aileu Municipal Administrator and discussed at a public forum April with the final report published in October
- 3.6.9 A funding contribution to the Arte Mambai Rai Husar group to support their voluntary provision of free art tuition to younger school students, including an art exhibition using recycled waste materials for the Aileu Expo in November
- 3.6.10 A funding contribution to the Aileu Municipal Youth Centre to support a program of friendship games recognising the relationship between our communities.

3.7 Study-tour visit by Aileu Municipal Secretary

Aileu Municipal Secretary, Mrs Victoria Mesquita do Rego, spent the period 14-28 June on a study-tour visit with Friends of Aileu, Moreland City Council and Hume City Council. A summary of activities and outcomes is included in the report included at [Attachment 4](#)

3.8 Council/Friends of Aileu Delegation to Timor-Leste

A Council/Friends of Aileu delegation of Moreland Deputy Mayor Cr Mark Riley, Hume City Councillors Karen Sherry and Joseph Haweil and the Project Officer, visited Dili and Aileu over the period 1–7 July. A summary of activities and outcomes is included in the report included at [Attachment 4](#)

3.9 CERES Global sustainable agriculture, school and community gardens trip

A CERES Global group visited Dili, Atauro and Aileu over the period 1-13 July. A summary of activities and outcomes is included in the report included at [Attachment 4](#)

Friends of Aileu Community Committee Membership June 2019
Attachment 1

Membership category Name	Representing	Membership status
Council representatives		
Cr Annalivia Carli Hannan	Moreland City Council	Council appointments Nov 2016 (Cr Natalie Abboud replaced Cr Annalivia Carli-Hannan during her period of leave in 2019)
Cr Joseph Haweil	Hume City Council	
Cr Karen Sherry	Hume City Council	
Partner organisation representatives: Up to 13 partner organisation representatives		
Ben Walta (alt. Jane Burns, Paul Adams)	CERES	Partner organisation nomination
Joe Caputo (alt. Carlo Carli)	Merri Health	Partner organisation nominations
Martin Hall	Dental Health Services Victoria	Partner organisation nominations
Sally Vong (alt. Rachel Martin)	North Richmond Community Health	Partner organisation nomination
Patricia Vickers Rich	Prime Sci!, (Swinburne and Monash Universities)	EOI appointment 2016
Tom Mahon (alt. Cameron Wheelehen)	Wild Timor Coffee	Partner organisation nomination
Katrina Langford	Timorlink	Partner organisation nomination
Community members: Up to 12 no. community member positions		
Heather Bridges	Moreland community	Nomination to committee 2016
Richard Brown		EOI appointments 2016
Mark Higginbotham		
Paul O’Sullivan		Nominations to committee 2016
Glenyys Romanes		
1 vacancy		
Anne Jungwirth	Hume community	Nominations to committee 2016
Gary Jungwirth		
John Rutherford		Nominations to committee 2018
Helen Patsikatheodorou		
2 vacancies		
Special interest members: Up to 4 positions for persons with professional or personal interest in or connection to Timor-Leste		
Andrea Spinoso	International Development &Youth	Nomination to committee 2017
3 vacancies		
Persons co-opted by the Committee: Up to 4 persons may be co-opted		
4 vacancies		

The friendship relationship with Aileu was established in 2000 and has been renewed with the signing of 5-year Friendship Agreements with the Aileu District Administration in 2005 and 2010, and with the Aileu Municipal Administration and the Timor-Leste Ministry of State Administration in 2016.

Municipal Cooperation Agreements were signed with the Timor-Leste Ministry of State Administration in 2016 to assist Aileu in the decentralisation process and its transition to responsible local government.

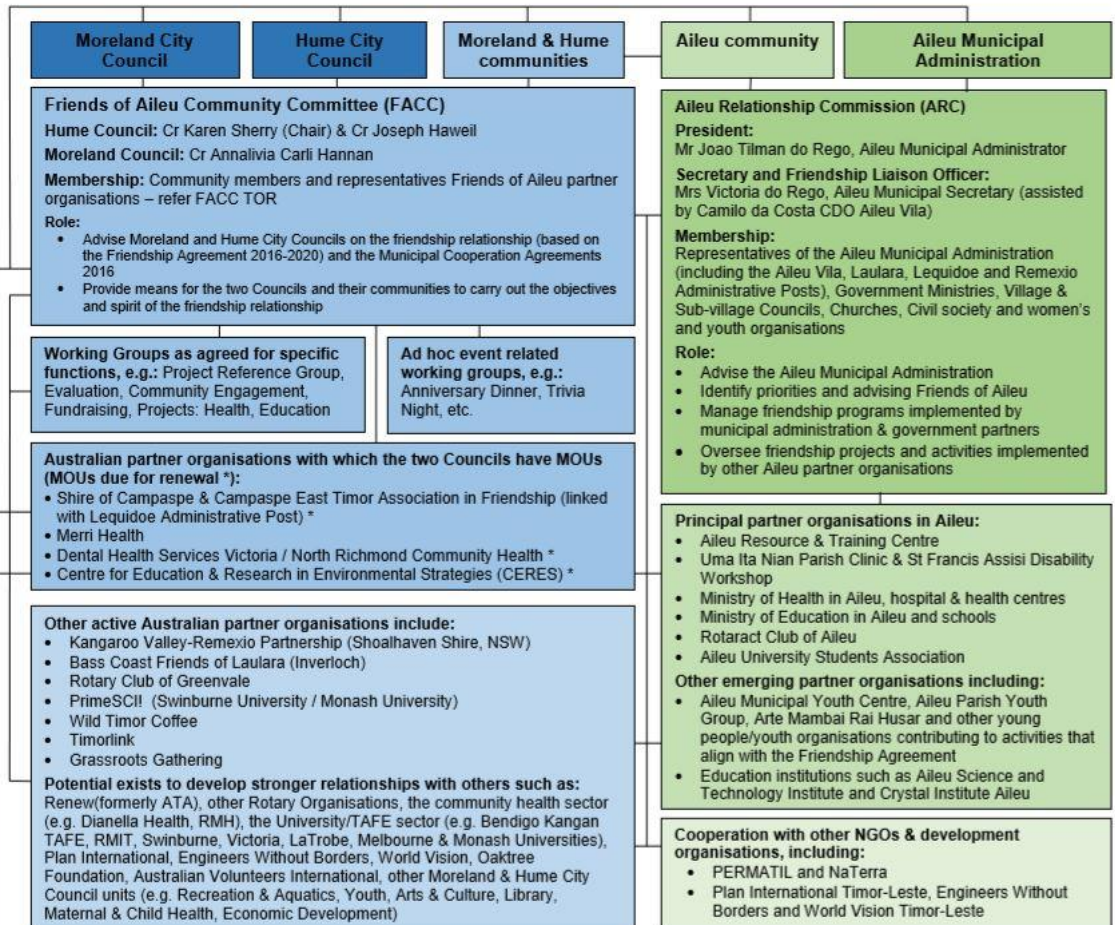
East Timor Partnership Project Liaison Group
 Moreland Council:
 Director Social Development (+ Manager Community Wellbeing and Unit Manager Aquatics, Venues & ETP)
 Hume Council:
 Director Community Services (+ Manager Community Strengthening and Unit Coordinator Community Capacity Building)

East Timor Project Officer
 Chris Adams

Related groups and networks, including:

- Local Government Timor-Leste Network (coordinated by DELWP)
- Australia Timor-Leste Friendship Network and other friendship groups
- METAC, TAV, ETSA & other East Timorese groups in Melbourne
- Australia East Timor Association (AETA)
- Church groups (including Sacred Heart Social Justice Group, Sandringham-Remexio connection)
- Midwives East Timor Australia
- Friendship schools

FRIENDS OF AILEU – GOVERNANCE & RELATIONSHIPS (June 2019)



FRIENDS OF AILEU - BUDGET & FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2019

	Brought forward	into 2018	into 2019		
	GL account 1.3159	\$24,547	\$6,383.53		
	GL account 1.3160	\$9,818	\$11,603.34		
	Total Moreland FOA Accounts	\$34,364	\$17,986.87		

Income and Expenditure Items	Actuals 2018	2019 Original Budget	Actuals to date (31/12/19)	Commitments or Dedicated funds 2020
INCOME				
Fundraising events				
Friends of Laulara	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	
Anniversary Dinner	\$2,887	\$2,500	\$1,784	
Film night	\$0	\$1,500	\$486	
Bowls afternoon/evening	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	
Trivia Night	\$7,559	\$10,000	\$10,303	
Giving Circle Dinner (for ARTC balance)	\$0	\$3,400	\$0	
Fundraising School Garden	\$1,231	\$0	\$0	
Fundraising Youth Arts & Permaculture	\$1,300	\$3,000	\$4,200	\$0
Wild Timor Coffee event and/or other donation/contribution	\$655	\$1,000	\$0	
	\$13,632	\$24,400	\$16,773	
Donations				
Hume City Council (Education Grant 18/19)	\$0	\$5,140	\$5,140	
Merri Health donation (18/19)	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	
KVRP University scholarships	\$2,070	\$0	\$0	
CETAF (for ARTC reforestation)	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	
CETAF (for Oral Health)	\$330	\$0	\$0	
Greenvale Rotary (Rotaract rubbish bin project)	\$0	\$0	\$1,100	
Refund CERES	\$0	\$0	\$644	
Individuals	\$1,374	\$2,500	\$3,333	
Individuals Gary Jungwirth	\$0	\$0	\$2,170	\$2,170
Donation in lieu of Councillor travel as part of delegation to Aileu	\$0	\$0	\$3,600	\$3,600
Donation in lieu of Mayoral vehicle allowance	\$0	\$0	\$0	
IMT refund	\$12,050	\$0	\$0	
IMT exchange rate reimbursement	\$631	\$0	\$0	
	\$42,455	\$34,640	\$42,987	
Fundraising sales				
Coffee, Soap, Tais etc. (FOA and Council Events events)	\$1,547	\$1,500	\$518	
Coffee, Soap, Tais, etc. (Council offices and FOA meetings)	\$2,262	\$2,000	\$1,145	
Coffee (MCG, Merri Health)	\$0	\$500	\$747	
	\$3,809	\$4,000	\$2,410	
INCOME TOTAL	\$59,896	\$63,040	\$62,169	

Fundraising Income and Expenditure 2019

Attachment 3 (page 2 of 3)

Income and Expenditure Items	Actuals 2018	2019 Original Budget	Actuals to date (31/12/19)	Commitments or Dedicated funds 2020
EXPENDITURE				
Fundraising purchases				
Wild Timor Coffee	\$1,816	\$2,000	\$1,996	
Soap and other Kor Timor & Kew Rotary items	\$602	\$500	\$0	
	\$2,418	\$2,500	\$1,996	
Project expenditure in Australia				
Aileu Visitor to Melbourne	\$1,574	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
O Mundo Perdido educational materials	\$0	\$150	\$0	
Timorlink Livru Timor book	\$0	\$150	\$0	
Rotary DIK shipping	\$991	\$750	\$630	
	\$2,565	\$4,050	\$630	
Project funds transferred to Timor-Leste				
Aileu Interviews and Video	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Aileu Friendship Relationship Commission	\$0	\$750	\$0	
Aileu University Scholarship Program	\$0	\$7,168	\$0	\$19,258
Baucau Teachers College	\$1,108	\$1,000	\$1,004	\$1,000
KVRP University Scholarships Remexio	\$0	\$2,070	\$0	\$2,070
Laulara projects (health and education)	\$0	\$1,862	\$0	\$1,862
Total University Scholarships		\$12,100	\$0	\$1,004
Education Project Xanana Rdg Rm O Mundo Perdido at ARTC (HCC)	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	
Maryknoll Vida Saudeval Education Project Science & Library (HCC)	\$1,056	\$2,140	\$1,564	
PERMATIL Perma Kids Camp (HCC)	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	
Total expenditure from Hume City Council Education Grant 18/19		\$5,140	\$5,326	\$0
ATA Village Lighting Scheme & monitoring Besilau	\$619	\$0	\$0	
ARTC staff development Ana Marques	\$0	\$0	\$0	
ARTC Science & Reading Contest (staff costs)	\$2,787	\$2,750	\$0	
ARTC Science & Reading Contest (expenses)	\$3,706	\$3,750	\$0	
ARTC Expo	\$3,774	\$3,750	\$0	
ARTC salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	
ARTC carry over from 2018	\$0	-\$11,500	\$0	
ARTC staff development (Merri Health)	\$40	\$2,000	\$0	
ARTC permaculture training Kadalak Dame (Grassroots Gatherings)	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	
ARTC Urgent building repairs	\$2,370	\$0	\$0	
ARTC Manu Casa reforestation (CETAF)	\$500	\$2,000	\$2,000	
ARTC Manu Casa reforestation (Merri Health)	\$4,680	\$2,000	\$2,153	
ARTC Kadalak Dame (Merri Health)	\$2,090	\$2,500	\$2,615	
ARTC Kadalak Dame or Manu Casa reforestation (WTC)	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	
ARTC IMT subsequently refunded	\$12,681	\$0	\$0	
ARTC IMT for 2019 projects	\$12,850	\$0	\$0	
ARTC total funding	\$21,491	\$9,250	\$6,768	
NRCH Oral Health Project (own funding plus \$330 from CETAF)	\$330	\$0	\$0	
School Garden fundraising	\$1,231	\$0	\$0	
School Garden (Merri Health)	\$2,239	\$0	\$0	
School Garden evaluation (Merri Health)	\$750	\$0	\$0	
PERMATIL facilitators	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	
PERMATIL facilitators (Merri Health)	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	
ARTC staff development (Merri Health)	\$1,044	\$0	\$0	
Perma Youth Camp (Merri Health)	\$1,069	\$0	\$0	
Perma Youth Camp CETAF	\$500	\$0	\$0	
Rui Sarmiento organic farm training (Merri Health)	\$0	\$2,500	\$0	
Uma Ita Nian St Francis Assisi training for stoves (Merri Health)	\$2,711	\$3,500	\$2,515	
Uma Ita Nian disability program distribute stoves	\$0	\$0	\$1,257	
Uma Ita Nian nutrition & disability program (Merri Health)	\$2,034	\$2,000	\$0	
Dom Baumeta water supply project (Merri Health)	\$2,753	\$6,000	\$6,273	
Aileu District Health (equipment, assessment visit, training)	\$0	\$6,000	\$0	
Total expenditure from Merri Health 18/19 donation plus carry over	\$20,170	\$26,500	\$14,814	\$11,687
Dom Baumeta water supply project (FoA and WTC)	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	
Aileu Anan Assoc. (AILA) Scholarship interviews	\$4,479	\$0	\$0	
Rotaract / Aileu University Students Assoc.	\$1,224	\$1,000	\$1,835	
Ancillary activities Dom Baumeta water project	\$0	\$0	\$1,502	
AMRH youth art development (Grassroots Gatherings)	\$1,300	\$500	\$1,888	
Municipal Youth Centre (Grassroots Gatherings and film night)	\$2,094	\$500	\$800	\$1,200
Mira Fonseca from Mrs Attwater	\$0	\$256	\$253	
	\$73,019	\$52,496	\$25,659	
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	\$78,002	\$59,046	\$28,285	
BALANCE	\$16,258.83	\$21,980.87	\$51,870.92	\$45,847.00

Overall Position 31 December 2019

GL account 1.3159	\$41,080.77
<u>GL account 1.3160</u>	<u>\$13,079.04</u>
<u>Total Moreland FOA Accounts</u>	<u>\$54,159.81</u>
Spreadsheet balance	\$51,871.00
Variance	\$2,288.89
<u>Stock on hand</u>	<u>\$195.00</u>
Overall position 31/12/19	\$54,354.81
<u>Commitments and Dedicated funds 2020</u>	<u>\$45,847.00</u>
Discretionary funds carried forward 2020	\$8,507.81

Summary Report on:

- **Aileu Municipal Secretary study-tour June 2019**
- **Visit to Timor-Leste, June-July 2019 by the Project Officer as part of:**
 - **A Hume and Moreland City Council / Friends of Aileu delegation to Timor-Leste**
 - **The CERES Global Timor 2019 sustainable agriculture, school and community gardens visit**

1 Purpose

This report provides a summary of the visit to Timor-Leste, in June-July 2019, undertaken by Chris Adams (Friends of Aileu Project Officer) as:

- Part of a Council / Friends of Aileu delegation comprising Friends of Aileu Community Committee members Hume Cr Karen Sherry (Committee Chair), Hume Cr Joseph Haweil (Committee member) and Moreland Deputy Mayor Cr Mark Riley
- Co-facilitator for the CERES Global Timor 2019 engagement visit on local agriculture, permaculture and school and community gardens.

The report also outlines activities refers to the friendship and study tour visit to Moreland and Hume undertaken by Mrs Victoria Mesquita do Rego, Aileu Municipal Secretary, in June 2019.



**Delegation members with the Aileu Municipal Administrator (centre rear row),
Municipal staff and Directors of Government Departments**

2 Introduction

The Friends of Aileu Project Officer undertook the trip as part of his 2019 work plan, developed from the Friends of Aileu Strategy and Action Plan 2016-2020. The Strategy and Action Plan supports implementation of the Friendship Agreement 2016 and the Municipal Cooperation Agreement 2016.

The Councillor delegates undertook the trip in their capacities in relation to the Friends of Aileu Community Committee.

The Project Officer's travel was for the period Friday 28 June to Monday 15 July 2019:

- Friday 28 June: Accompanying Mrs Victoria Mesquita do Rego, Aileu Municipal Secretary, returning to Timor-Leste after her two-week friendship and study tour visit with Friends of Aileu and Moreland and Hume City Councils (14 to 28 June)
- Friday 28 June to Tuesday 9 July: Facilitating the visit of the Council / Friends of Aileu delegation of Councillors Mark Riley, Karen Sherry and Joseph Haweil (accompanying the councillors while they were in Dili 1 & 2 July, in Aileu 2 to 6 July and in Dili 6 & 7 July)
- Tuesday 9 July to Monday 15 July: Continuing the work of the Friends of Aileu delegation and co-facilitating the CERES Global group during their visit to Aileu 8 to 13 July.



CERES Global participants first evening meal together



Mrs Victoria with homestay hosts Glenyys & Graham Romanes

3 Aileu Municipal Secretary's study tour visit to Moreland and Hume

Mrs Victoria Mesquita do Rego, Aileu Municipal Secretary and Friends of Aileu contact person, visited Moreland and Hume for a two-week friendship and study tour visit in June. Mrs Victoria was provided homestay accommodation by Glenyys and Graham Romanes as a guest of Friends of Aileu.

Mrs Victoria gained an appreciation of the functions of local government in Australia and of the operation of the Friends of Aileu as a Council partnership project and community initiative, through personal interactions, meetings and site visits with:

- Councillors, managers and staff at both Moreland and Hume, including in the areas of community development and environmental sustainability and waste management, with visits to Council depots, Sunbury Landfill, Killara Primary School (a Resource Smart School Award finalist), Fawkner Neighbourhood House and Fawkner Community Grocer
- Friends of Aileu Community Committee members and partner organisations including Merri Health, North Richmond Community Health, Rotary Club of Greenvale, Wild Timor Coffee, CERES, including participants in the upcoming CERES Global Timor 2019 engagement, Moreland Community Gardening and other organic permaculture gardening practitioners
- A visiting Timor-Leste parliamentary delegation, an APHEDA Union Aid Abroad seminar on Timor-Leste Seasonal Workers Program, members of Melbourne's resident East Timorese community, including the Melbourne East Timorese Activity Centre and East Timorese Students Association in Victoria.

Mrs Victoria also participated in several community and sightseeing activities, including a Koorie Heritage Trust workshop and tour, a murnong (indigenous yam daisy) planting day at Joe's Garden,

Merri Creek, Coburg, the Reclink community Cup at Victoria Park, visits to Woodlands Park, Victoria Market and St Kilda Beach and services at St Patrick's Cathedral and St Francis' Church, Melbourne.

While in transit in Darwin, on the return trip to Timor-Leste, Mrs Victoria met with Heather McGrath of the Sandringham Sacred Heart Parish Social Justice Group and discussed their activities in the Remexio Administrative Post, Aileu.



Aileu Municipal Secretary, Mrs Victoria:
at Fawcner Community Grocer & Food Bowl with Hume staff at Sunbury Landfill and Recycling Centre

4 Council / Friends of Aileu delegation

All planned outcomes for the delegation's visit were achieved, principally via meetings, site inspections and other activities with:

- Timor-Leste Vice-minister for State Administration, Ministry Directors and staff
- Australian Ambassador to Timor-Leste
- Staff at Xanana Gusmao Reading Room and Alola Foundation
- Timor-Leste Prime Minister, Minister for Education, Youth and Sports and Minister for Public Works, during the Prime Minister's official visit to Aileu
- Aileu Municipal Administrator, other staff of the Aileu Municipal Administration and its administrative Posts, and representatives of various Government Ministries in Aileu
- Managers and staff at the Aileu Hospital and Aileu Agriculture office
- Mr Ilidio Maufelo, Village Chief of Aisirimou Suco, Aileu Vila Administrative Post
- Representatives of various community-based partners and other organisations in Aileu, including:
 - Aileu Resource and Training Centre (ARTC)
 - Uma Ita Nian Clinic and St Francis Assisi Disability Workshop
 - Aileu Anan Association, together with former Friends of Aileu scholarship recipients, members of the Rotaract Club of Aileu, Aileu University Students Association and Aileu Municipal Youth Centre
 - Projetu Montanha NGO, a youth training and development activity in Aileu
 - Dili Vanilli vanilla farm in Aileu
- ARTC staff and members of the satellite Manu Casa Resource and Training Centre, travelling to Manu Casa Suco, Lequidoe Administrative Post, visiting the community centre and their reforestation and water source protection project
- Aileu Municipal Youth Centre members and participants in friendship games organised to mark the delegation's visit and the upcoming 20th anniversary of the friendship relationship.



Delegation members with staff of Uma Ita Nian Parish Clinic



Returning to Aileu from Manu Casa, Lequidoe (in distant hills)

As part of its orientation to Timor-Leste, the delegation also visited:

- In Dili: Santa Cruz Cemetery, Chega! Exhibition, Cristo Rei statue and the Cathedral
- In Aileu: St Peter and St Paul Church, Das Flores School and the local market
- In Dili and Aileu: a range of local cafes and restaurants, including Delicious Timor (with the CERES group) and Agora Food Studio, which both showcase innovative use of local ingredients.

In Dili, the Project Officer also:

- Participated in an event for the Timor-Leste launch of several books authored by speakers at two conferences being held at the Timor-Leste National University and at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs building
- Met again with the Vice-minister for State Administration
- Met with others including:
 - The Timor-Leste facilitator for the Australia Timor-Leste Friendship Network
 - Members of the Anan Association, Aileu Rotaract, Aileu University Students Association, Dili Rotaract and Dili Rotary
 - Several former Timor-Leste alumni of Australia Award scholarships.

5 CERES Global sustainable agriculture, school and community gardens visit

With the CERES Global group, the Project Officer:

- Helped coordinate consultation with the Aileu Resource and Training Centre (ARTC), local village leaders, farmers and other community members and participation in hands-on working bees for the Kadalak Dame garden site.
- Accompanied by Domingos Sarmento, Aileu Rotaract past president, Joaquin dos Reis of ARTC and Luis Pereira Amaral of PERMATIL (Timor-Leste's permaculture NGO) travelled to Suco Liurai, Aileu Administrative Post:
 - Visited Mantane Primary School, Aileu, inspecting the school garden
 - Met with the Mr Elidias Gomes, Village Chief of Suco Liurai, visiting:
 - Dom Baumeta Central School inspecting the school garden and the nearly completed water supply rehabilitation project for the school and nearby sub-villages, both funded by Friends of Aileu
 - Ai-Kleu cultural and historic site
 - A local informal organic agriculture and marketing cooperative coordinated by Aileu resident Ermelita Sarmento.
- Accompanied by Domingos and Joaquin visited Rui and Ermelita Sarmento's family farm in Kabis Fatin, Aileu, which they operate on organic principles.

- Accompanied by Joaninho and Luis, travelled to Suco Selo Craik, Aileu Administrative Post visiting:
 - Cotobauro Primary School and Lion Catholic Primary School, inspecting their school gardens
 - A local farm and nursery in operated by Mr. Leopoldino, one of the village leaders who works with ARTC.
- Visited Aileu CAFÉ Reference School, in Aileu town, inspecting the school garden and the science laboratory, for which Friends of Aileu had contributed to obtaining the microscopes.
- Visited the organic garden at the home of Gisele and Eduardo, managers of Projeto Montanha.
- Visited the Hardie-Mesquita Dili Vanilli vanilla farm, attending an evening musical event of Timor-Leste culture and resistance history presented by Ros Dunlop.



CERES Global at Mantane School Garden



CERES Global and Mana Emelita at Suku Liurai organic farm coop.

The CERES group also spent the previous week 1 to 8 July:

- In Dili, participating in two conferences
 - The Victoria University / Timor-Leste National University Sustainable Development Goals conference
 - The Timor-Leste Studies Association conference
- On Atauro Island with NaTerra, a permaculture training and local development NGO.



Preparing catalpa (rice cakes) in Atekru, Atauro



Maize and cassava field in dry season, Atekru, Atauro

6 Outcomes

During the visit the Aileu Municipal Administrator:

- Was presented with copies of the Friends of Aileu Annual Report for 2018, including a summary report in Tetun language.

- Commended the Friends of Aileu and Moreland and Hume City Councils for their active and beneficial friendship engagement.
- Advised his support for:
 - Renewal of the friendship relationship in 2020
 - Friends of Aileu's proposal to record video interviews with Aileu officials and community members, for use as part of:
 - Activities proposed to mark the upcoming 20th anniversary of the friendship relationship.
 - Ongoing communications and promotion for the friendship relationship
- Indicated his interest in considering an invitation to undertake a friendship and study tour visit to Melbourne in May 2020, to help mark the 20th anniversary.
- Re-iterated his desire to work with Friends of Aileu to re-establish the University Scholarship Program with improved criteria and processes to achieve a better targeted, and more transparent, equitable and effective program for the development of the talents of young people from Aileu, taking account of the report on the interview survey of previous scholarship recipients.

The councillor members of the delegation gained valuable first-hand experience of the conditions, development challenges and progress in Timor-Leste and Aileu, including in relation to Friends of Aileu sponsored activities. They also developed personal connections amongst partner organisation representatives and community members, and gained a better understanding of their lives, work and aspirations for the future.



Delegation members at Aileu Resource and Training Centre library, presenting:
Educational materials from Prime Scil (Swinburne and Monash) and Stories of Friendship Groups and Australian East Timorese families

7 Proposed Further Action

The Project Officer and Councillors reported at the Friends of Aileu Community Committee meetings on 23rd July and 3rd September on:

- The visit by the Aileu Municipal Secretary
- The Council / Friends of Aileu delegation to Timor-Leste
- The CERES Global visit.

The Project Officer will continue work with:

- The Friends of Aileu Community Committee to prepare:
 - A draft Friendship Agreement 2020, for Moreland and Hume City Councils and the Aileu Municipal Administration to consider as a basis for renewing the friendship relationship
 - Proposals to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the friendship relationship in May 2020 and a potential study tour visit by the Aileu Municipal Administrator

- An updated Strategy and Action Plan and a new Communications Plan for Friends of Aileu for the period beyond 2020.
- The Aileu Municipal Secretary and others on:
 - Re-commencing the Friends of Aileu university scholarship program
 - Improvements to waste management in Aileu.
- Other relevant partners as required to support the above activities and to continue collaborations for the proposed CERES Global engagement in 2020, and other sustainable livelihood, education and training, youth development and community health initiatives.