

LEADING WITH PURPOSE: JOAQUIN DE ARAUJO'S CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Joaquin de Araujo, a 28-year-old Network President of CJMA, took part in a Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptation (DRR-CCA), and Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) training in February 2024, held in Leolima, Ainaro. The training was facilitated by NAFOFILA and MAHARU, focusing on enhancing the capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs) and communities to better manage disaster risks and promote resilience.

As the leader of a CSO network, Joaquin recognized the importance of the technical knowledge he gained from the training. He felt that the sessions provided him with the skills necessary to further facilitate training for CSOs and the Suco Disaster Management Committees (SDMCs) in Leolima and Manutasi. *"Nu'udar presidente rede OSS iha munisípiu Ainaro ha'u partisipa ona iha treinamentu RRD-AMK GEDSI ne'ebé fasilita husi MAHARU iha Maubisse Vila ba membru OSS sira treinamentu ne'e ajuda tebes ha'u no membru rede sira seluk. Ha'u aprende ona koñesimentu tékniku no abilidade kona-ba RRD-AMK PDRA no GEDSI. Ha'u sente ha'u bele fó treinamentu liután ba OSS sira no ba comunidade liuliu estrutura KJDS sira iha Leolima no Manu-tasi."* ("As the president of the CSO network in Ainaro municipality, I participated in the DRR-CCA and GEDSI training facilitated by MAHARU in Maubisse Villa for CSO members. This training has been very helpful to me and other network members. I have learned technical knowledge and skills on DRR-CCA, PDRA, and GEDSI. I feel I can now provide further training to CSOs and the community, especially the SDMC structures in Leolima and Manutasi.")

REFLECTIONS ON THE TRAINING

Joaquin appreciated the quality of the training and how it helped strengthen the technical capacity of local CSOs. He emphasized that ongoing support and learning would ensure that CSOs could continue their efforts even after the DRR projects have concluded. *"Ha'u kontente no apresia treinamentu ne'ebé fornese husi MAHARU no NAFOFILA ba OSS sira ne'ebé dí'ak tebes atu haforsa kapasidade téknika OSS nian iha área RRD-AMK no GEDSI hanesan parte ida husi iniciativa lokalizasaun nian. Ha'u fiar katak ho apoiu no aprendizajen kontinua OSS bele kontinua esforsu maske depois projetu RRD remata."* ("I am happy and appreciate the training provided by MAHARU and NAFOFILA to CSOs, which is very helpful in strengthening the technical capacity of CSOs in DRR-CCA and GEDSI as part of the localization initiatives. I believe that with continuous support and learning, CSOs will be able to continue their efforts even after the DRR project is completed.")

Joaquin has already started applying the knowledge gained from the training, particularly by sharing it with the SDMC of Leolima and his own organization's staff. His aim is to motivate his team to actively participate in the DRR-CCA learning process. *"Ha'u kontente atu fahe, ha'u fiar katak ha'u bele aplika koñesimentu ne'ebé hetan husi treinamentu ne'e ba KJDS Leolima nu'udar parte husi aplikasaun no prátika sira. Liu tan ha'u mós fahe koñesimentu ne'e ba ha'u-nia funsionáriu organizasaun sira atu motiva sira atu hola parte iha prosesu aprendizajen RRD-AMK nian."* ("I am happy



to share that I feel confident in applying the knowledge I gained from this training to the SDMC in Leolima as part of the application and practices. Furthermore, I have also shared this knowledge with my organization's staff to motivate them to participate in the DRR-CCA learning process.”)

CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES

One challenge Joaquin faced was time constraints among staff, which limited their active involvement in capacity-building activities. However, he remains committed to encouraging them to participate in future DRR-CCA and other capacity-building



initiatives. *“Iha nivel rede OSS nian ha’u haka’as an atu enkoraja funsionáriu sira atu envolve ativu iha atividade kapasitasaun maibé sira hetan dezafiu ho tempu limitadu. Ha’u sei kontinua enkoraja sira atu partisipa iha atividade RDR-CCA no mós iha inisiativa atu harii kapasidade seluk.”* (“At the CSO network level, I have made efforts to encourage the staff to be actively involved in capacity-building activities, but they are challenged by limited time. I will continue to encourage them to participate in DRR-CCA activities and other capacity-building initiatives.”)

Joaquin observed that the SDMC members demonstrated a strong commitment to resilience-building activities within the community, particularly in addressing the key risks identified during the training. *“Ha’u-nia feedback pesoál ba treinamentu ne’e ha’u apresia*

tebes treinamentu ne’ebé hala’o ona ne’ebé folin-boot ba ha’u-nia an rasik relasiona ho koñesimentu RRD-AMK. No durante ha’u-nia fasilitasaun ba formasaun KJDS ha’u observa katak membru KJDS hatudu ona kompromisu maka’as atu hala’o atividade reziliensia iha nivel comunidade hodi promove reziliensia comunidade relasiona ho risku prinsipál sira identifika tiha ona.” (“My personal feedback on the training is that I greatly appreciated it, as it was very valuable to me in relation to DRR-CCA knowledge. During my facilitation of the SDMC training, I observed that SDMC members have shown a strong commitment to carrying out resilience activities in the community, particularly to promote resilience concerning the key risks that were identified.”)

Joaquin hopes for more intensive training to continue building the technical and institutional capacities of CSOs, particularly in DRR-CCA and other development sectors. He sees great value in the safe learning spaces provided by the project, which allow participants to engage with a wide range of topics related to community development.

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