



# GREEN TL TRACEL



## GREEN TL / TRACEL Cup Oesilo Final Report 2016

<b>Project Title:</b>	GREEN TL / TRACEL Cup GREEN Games	
<b>Name of Implementing Organisations:</b>	GREEN Timor Leste (TL) OzGREEN Training Centre Lifau, TRACEL	
<b>Contact person:</b>	Judy Charnaud Program Manager OzGREEN, East Timor	Luis Armando Director GREEN TL
<b>Phone:</b>	+67078410422: +61 040720777	
<b>email:</b>	jcharnaud@ozgreen.org.au	
<b>Date of GREEN Games:</b>	July - August 2106	
<b>Total cost of the GREEN GAMES</b>	\$8700	

This year the games changed – different venue, different organising committee, smaller number of teams but never-the-less the same great success. To be part of the games, see the boisterous crowds, watch the skills and thrills of the players feel the excitement in the air and the joy on the faces of so many people is a real privilege. The state of the soccer field was something that had to be seen to be believed - think gravel, boulders, trenches and an overlying volley ball court - but the excitement of the games overcame all this!

**A visiting team of Rotarians from Sydney clubs made the following comments:**

*“The organisation which went into the games was outstanding and made for their success.”*

**Representatives from each of the participating teams took part in the Opening Ceremony.**



*“Congratulations to Luis for his skill in looking at both the overall picture and the smallest detail which ensured that everything fell precisely into place.”*

*“The soccer skills shown by the junior teams – 8 to 12 years – was outstanding – they could give any team in Sydney a run for their money.”*

*“How the small kids played on the gravel field in bare feet I do not know – their feet must be made of steel.”*

*“The excitement from both the players and the crowd was amazing to see and be part of.”*

*“A great day and a very humbling experience.”*

**Comments from local leaders included:**

*“These games are very important as our youth do not have a lot to do and as a result can get into trouble and cause problems.”* Chefe de Succo. (Chief of the District)

*“This is the very first time we have had such an extensive competition in our district. All the students are very excited and happily took part in cleaning the field.”* School Principal.

*“Maybe we will be lucky enough to have the games again next year and fix the soccer field properly.”* A teacher.

*“It is important to have young people involved in games such as these – these are our leaders of the future.”* Luis Armando.

*“Thank you very much to Luis Armando of GREEN TL and Judy Charnaud of OzGREEN for giving us the opportunity of running these games. The entire community is very happy.”* Director TRACEL.



One of the things which worried me, but nobody else, was the state of the soccer field. Think gravel, dust, trenches, large boulders and an overlapping volleyball court with cement blocks supporting the metal poles and you have an idea as to what the soccer field was like. When I said we take no responsibility for broken bones or gravel rash all the players simply laughed! I guess they breed them tough in Oecusse. Several of the younger players played in bare feet or thongs.

There were no human problems but six soccer balls were punctured and destroyed during the games.

The crooked blue line seen in the pictures is the sideline and I think the bends in it were due to the terrain!



## Why do we run the Games?

The idea for the games came about, in 2007, when Luis Armando, Director of GREEN TL, and Judy Charnaud were discussing the fact that so many young people in Oecusse have little opportunity for healthy, worthwhile activities – many have finished school, cannot afford to go onto further education, have little opportunity of employment and are becoming disenfranchised and despondent – the potential for destructive behavior.

Interesting that these same sentiments were expressed by the Chefe de Succo of Pune.

Civil tension in Timor Leste is building up, particularly in Dili as there are many unemployed people, (11% of the population is the official figure but whether this takes in the isolated sub-districts is doubtful), who are becoming frustrated at the slow rate of progress and the lack of improvement in their lives. Sixteen years after the referendum for Independence the general population is still not seeing the improvements they expected and were promised. This has led to some destructive gang behavior. The problems are compounded in Oecusse by the lack of communication between ZEESM and the populous and the large number of imported workers coming into the enclave.

***“In times of conflict, post conflict and emergencies, sport, recreation and play can provide children and adolescents with a sense of hope and normalcy. Sport is a universal language that can help bridge divides and promote the core values necessary for lasting peace. Building international relationships is an important role sport plays in fostering dialogue in global solidarity.”*** From Sport, Recreation and Play, UNICEF, 2004.



### Why the change of venue this year?

When Luis and I realised that organising the games in Oecusse town was going to be difficult due to Oecusse Administration we were disappointed as were the thousands of people who have taken part in the games for the last 8 years. Once we got underway in Pune our disappointment was replaced by joy as we realised how much more important the games

are for isolated districts such as Pune.

Each year, since their beginning in 2008, the games have been a resounding success with over 1000 participants in the disciplines of soccer, volley ball, basketball, table tennis and a half marathon, over 30,000 spectators and a committed organising team and volunteer helpers. Since Regional Administration Oecusse and the Economic Zone (ZEESM) have taken over control of the enclave it has been difficult to organise the games in Oecusse town. For some reason ZEESM has put obstacles in our path, ignoring requests for meetings, not allowing us to use the accredited referees nor the soccer field in town, generally stalemating any plans we have made. I am not sure why this has happened but the reasons are probably political.

GREEN TL has been working in Pune for the last twelve months and are building a strong relationship with the community. It is a very poor and neglected sub-district of Oecusse so they probably need the games more than Oecusse town. There is a local NGO, TRACEL, in Pune, run by a young man, Agostinho Bahan, whom we know quite well so we enlisted his help.

#### **Brief description of TRACEL.**

TRACEL, (Training Centre Lifau) is a local NGO in Pune and Lifau run by a very capable young man, Agostinho Bahan. As we had met him several times previously we knew he would be a great help in running the games and as we needed a new venue we enlisted his help. Rotary Club of Epping is in the process of helping the village of Pune – which is in great need of help in many ways so holding the games in Pune seemed like a natural fit.

TRACEL is also supported by the Catholic Parish of Yass, Australia and its aim is to teach English and computing to young people in order to build their skills in a work related capacity. TRACEL also helps in the leprosy Mission in Oesilo.



This goal was saved – pushed over the top!

#### **From the TRACEL proposal. (google translation)**

Agostinho went to a lot of trouble writing the proposal to submit to GREEN TL, he did a google translation from Indonesian to English which is priceless!

“The foundation of a building is the cornerstone of a very vital role, the more solid the foundation is created, and buildings thereon will be stronger and safer course. Likewise, the physical and mental foundations of Human Resources if the younger generations is strong and solidly built, will undoubtedly be able to carry out the functions and duties in the filling and continue development in all fields that will not be hollow and rotted with age, though the storms and the waves of life hit them. Implementation of this activity is useful intended to cultivate the budding nation to be a better generation, which is capable of holding the reins of responsibility and independence in accordance to fill their potential.”

If that does not bring tears of joy to your eye then you are hard-hearted!

#### **Brief Description of OzGREEN/GREEN TL**

OzGREEN, is a non-government, not for profit, charitable organisation, established in 1993 by Sue and Col Lennox. The organisation is strongly committed to positive change in the environment, sustainability and social equity through **community based projects** which seek to build the capacity of the community to be informed and active participants in adopting ecological sustainable ways of living.

*“We empower people and communities to make a unique contribution to building a society that is socially and ecologically sustainable.”*

Judy Charnaud, Program Manager OzGREEN has been working in the enclave of Oecusse since January 2001. Our environment and youth orientated projects have been well received by schools, District Administration and the Youth Network, and our methodology of working – participatory action and community empowerment - is a role model for others.

In 2004 East Timorese staff established GREEN Timor Leste which now continues the community based social and environmental projects initiated by OzGREEN. GREEN TL currently employs three staff and has a volunteer group of twenty five whom we call on when needed.



## Outcomes of the Youth in Action GREEN Games 2016

When the *Youth in Action* GREEN Games were first introduced in Oecusse in 2008 the objectives were to:

- ◆ provide a sporting competition in which as many young people as possible could take part and so channel some of their energy into worthwhile, character building and enjoyable action.
- ◆ provide opportunity for a team of young people to learn skills such as office management, organisational tactics, public speaking, financial accountability, leadership and teamwork.

These objectives have been met each year since the games were introduced.

Once again we had visitors from Rotary Australia who attended a few of the games.

They were not here for the Grand Finals but did see a soccer 8 – 2 years age group game. Several of the Rotarians were school teachers and one a sports coach so they were very impressed to see how the games were so well run and the skills shown by the young players.

**“One of the best days of my life”** said one of the visitors.

All visitors were impressed by the dedication shown by the TRACEL and GREEN TL staff and committee, the professional way the games were run and the standard of play and refereeing. They commented on the size of the spectator crowd and the enthusiasm shown by everyone.



I particularly enjoyed watching the younger children play – they demonstrated very advanced skills, even in bare feet!



### Beneficiaries

This year, the games were quite different to the usual – as discussed previously. However they were as successful as other games and probably even more so because of their location in one of the more isolated sub-districts of Oecusse. The entire community of Pune and the surrounding district, Oesilo, supported the games and helped in one way or another - organising, cleaning the fields, cooking, carrying water, refereeing, playing or being enthusiastic and noisy spectators – over 20,000 people at the very least!

Teams entered from the entire sub-district of Oesilo – from schools, the church, police and other NGOs. The excitement engendered throughout the games was amazing, particularly from the boisterous crowds of spectators, as this was the first competition of this type in the district. The entire community gave their support – the *Chefe de Succo*, *Chefe de Aldiea*, teachers who played in the teams with their older students, the police and the church leaders. I recognised many of the teams from watching them play in previous GREEN Games.

A new idea introduced this year was to have soccer played in two age groups – 8 to 12 years and youth. I am very pleased with that

as we have often wanted to get the younger kids involved. Seeing the younger children play was inspirational as these are the leaders of the future “East Timor’s future” as Luis so aptly said.

Another new idea, which I am not quite so sure about was to give religious statues to the prize winners, I’m sure these will find a suitable, revered, niche in various homes throughout the district!

The Games cost us \$8700 this year and Luis suggested that if we could get \$20000 we could have the games in three subdistricts next year – Oesilo, Nitibea and Passabe, – places ZEESM does not get to. Luis believes in dreaming big.

### Direct Beneficiaries

Games	Teams	Members	Total
Soccer 8 – 12 years	8	18	144
Soccer Youth	12	18	216
Volley Ball Men	8	10	80
Volley Ball Women	6	10	60
Team officials			32
Referees			10
Linesman & ball boys			8
Organising Committee			18
Commentators			2
Labour to clean field			50
GREEN TL			6
Cooks			12
Stall holders			6
<b>Total</b>			<b>644</b>



Add to that the number of spectators and supporters who turned up, full of enthusiasm and loud of voice, each day, we must have impacted over 20,000 people – the entire population of Oesilo!

### Indirect Beneficiaries

It is not only the players and their club officials who benefit from the games –



- ◆ local stall holders and families who cook and sell delicacies such as spicy pancakes, fried bananas, sweets and ices make good income during the games in fact probably the best income they make all year.

- ◆ Community spirit is enhanced as supporters cheer on their teams by waving flags, wearing team colours and yelling their support. It is most amusing to watch the crowd surge onto the field each time a goal is scored, then to be rushed off by players and referees!

- ◆ Youth of Oesilo gained invaluable experience in seeing how well a large

event such as this can be run. They are already seeking funding for the next games.

- ◆ Literally thousands of people were entertained, seven days a week for one month as they came to watch the games, cheer on their teams and practice their skills during the half time break. The players become role models and heroes for the youngsters.
- ◆ School teachers tell us that school spirit is enhanced as students support their teams - students, parents and teachers turn out to watch and cheer. Many of the students walk for 2 hours each way to get to school and happily stayed on to watch the games even though it meant walking home in the pitch dark!



## Winners

Soccer	8 to 12 years	Youth
First Place	Estasaun	Estasaun
Second Place	Nonquikan	Lil-As
Third Place	Lil-As	Nonquikan
Fourth Place	Boqui	Boqui

Volleyball	Men	Women
First Place	Boqui	St Thomas Nonquikan
Second Place	Estasaun	Eschola Mambai
Third Place	Tasaebeno	Eschola Tasaebeno
Fourth Place	Nonquikan	Senior School Oef Mambia

Prizes included religious statues, medallions, t-shirts and money.

Judy Charnaud, OzGREEN Program Manager and Luis Armando, Director GREEN TL, present prizes to the winning teams.



### Thank you donors.

On behalf of the people of Oesilo I would like to thank the sponsors of the 2016 **GREEN Games / TRACEL CUP**. They can be assured that their donations are very much appreciated by the entire community and everyone is well aware of the Australian and Rotary connection. To be part of the games is truly inspiring and to stand on the sidelines and know that this community excitement is all due to GREEN TL and our donors swells my heart with pride and gratitude. Especially so this year as the games were held in a very isolated district of

Oecusse, one which has not received a lot of outside help and, for the first time, we had juniors (8 to 12 years) taking part.

Thanks to Manly Council, Manly Friends of Oecusse, the Penn Foundation, Rotary Clubs (Epping, Brookvale and Rotary International) individual donors and especially Peter Fitzsimons from the Sydney Morning Herald who always gives much appreciated support.



**Thank you to the Organising Committee.**  
The effort and attention to detail which went into organising the games has to be commended. The fact that the games were so successful this year is particularly incredible considering the isolation of Pune and the state of the soccer and volley ball fields. TRACEL and GREEN TL under Luis' leadership did an incredible job in getting these games up and running so successfully. The entire community helped out in one way or another to ensure success - no matter the task to be done, chopping scrub, rooting out stumps, collecting rocks, chipping away at the boulders on the field, painting the sidelines, cooking feasts of rice, vegetables, goat and and chickens, writing invitations, handing out boxes of water, weaving tias for the visitors – all done with good grace and large smiles!

**Congratulations to Luis Armando, Director GREEN TL and his staff, Nelis and Felix, to Director of TRACEL, Augustinho Bahan and**

**his staff for the organisation, running and success of the Games.**

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\*Donate online by going to <http://www.ozgreen.org.au/donate.php> and selecting East Timor from the drop down menu

\*Direct debit BSB 032 293: Acc No 113 864.

\* via the Rotary Australia World Community Service, (RAWCS) website. Click the donate button and search for project 50 years 11-12.