

### Issues to watch – August 2014

- ▶ **Community members in Oekusi District argue with Border Patrol Unit over border line**
- ▶ **Two young men wounded by rocks thrown at community sporting event in Lautem District**
- ▶ **Two families attack each other in dispute over livestock in Manufahi District**

#### Community members in Oekusi argue with Border Patrol Unit over border line

On 24 August, in Bobometo village, Oesilo Sub-district, Oekusi District, 8 fully armed members of the Indonesian army (TNI) from the Indonesian Border post in Inbate Village crossed into Timor-Leste to stop road rehabilitation work near the Timor-Leste Border Patrol Unit (BPU) post in Faotbasin area. The TNI members entered Faotbasin area and told the BPU commander to stop the road rehabilitation work, as they believed that the status of the area on which the rehabilitation was being done had not yet been agreed between the governments of Indonesia and Timor-Leste. The BPU commander immediately stopped the work, which was being carried out by construction workers and community members. This upset community members, who then argued with the BPU commander, saying that the status of the area was determined in July 2014 to be Timor-Leste territory.

#### Two young men wounded by rocks thrown at community sporting event in Lautem

On August 28, at a community sport event in Parlamentu Suku, Lautein sub-district, two groups of young males, who were fans of opposing football clubs, fought each other. The two groups threw rocks at one another and then engaged in a fistfight. PNTL members then fired 15 shots in the air to disperse the groups. The organizing committee and PNTL immediately detained some of the young men for questioning and the incident ended. Two young men were seriously wounded in the head as a result of the rock throwing.

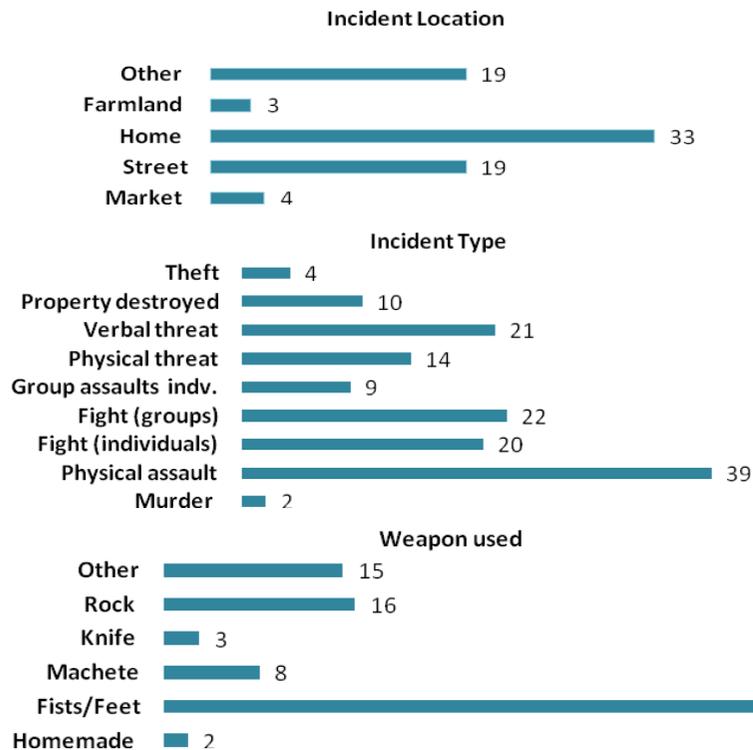
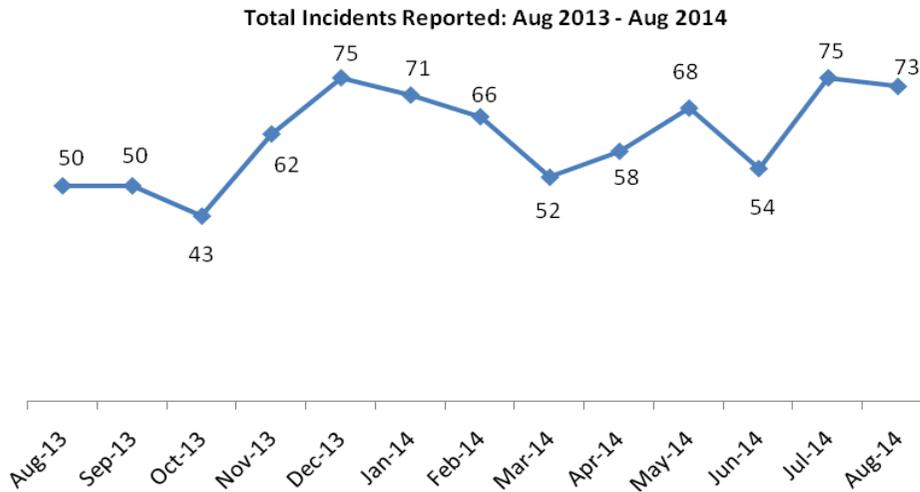
Total Number of Incidents by district in August 2014	
District	Incidents
Aileu	2
Ainaro	3
Baukau	5
Bobonaro	3
Covalima	1
Dili	14
Ermera	4
Lautein	4
Likisá	14
Manatuto	0
Manufahi	5
Oekusi	8
Vikeké	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>

#### Two families attack each other in dispute over animal in Manufahi

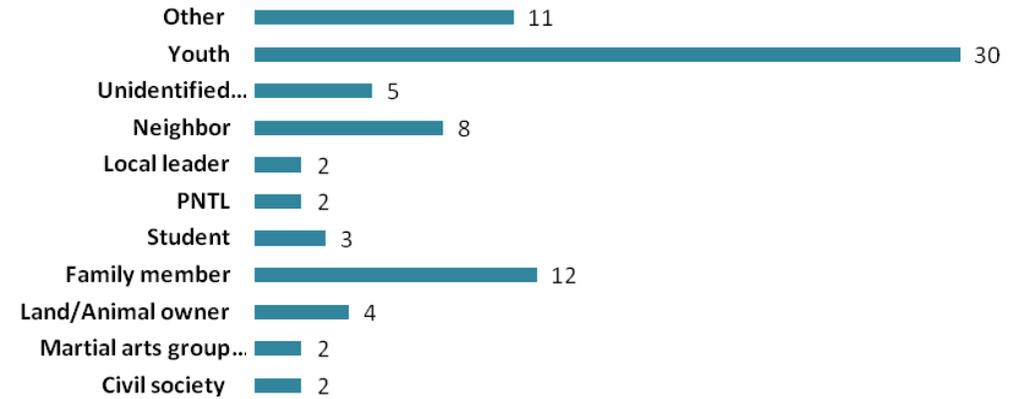
From 3-8 August, two families in Uma-Berloik village, Alas Sub-district, Manufahi District attacked each other in a series of incidents over a pig. The incident started on 22 July when one family's female pig entered into the other family's male pig shelter. The owners of the male pig were aware that the other pig had entered their shelter, but did not inform the other pig's owners, as the two families did not get along well. On 3 August, a lady owner of the female pig found her pig in the other family's shelter and asked the other owner to release it, but the other owner rejected the request by saying that the pig went into the shelter on her own. She then became upset and started yelling "pig thief" in the street. Later on, the male pig owner's two daughters heard of the accusation and attacked the other owner physically. The next day, the son of the male pig's owner and his friends tried to provoke the other owner. On 7 August, two women from the male pig owner's family physically attacked the owner of the other pig, until she called her husband, who came to her defense with a wooden stick with nails on it. However, before the husband reached the attackers, he was confronted by a young man and the young man was stabbed in the hand with nails from the wooden stick. A group of young men from the male pig owner's family then physically attacked the husband, which led the female pig's owners to flee their house and land. Early the next morning, on 8 August, a mikrolet full of people and 7 motorbikes, suspected to be from the family of the lady owner, attacked the family of the male pig owner. Alas Sub-district Conflict Prevention and Response Network (CPRN) focal point and Aldeia Chief called the police, but they didn't come immediately as the light on their motorbike was not working. The police finally came with an ambulance two hours later to take the wounded victims to hospital. Two young men were seriously wounded in the attack.

The village chief settled the matter later in the day and returned the female pig to its rightful owner. Police detained 13 people for questioning at the Alas Sub-district police station. The detainees were then sent home and the investigation results were sent to PNTL Manufahi to be passed on to public attorney office in Covalima district for due process. Incidents that stemmed from disputes over animals also occurred in other districts, including 1 each in Oekusi and Lautein and 5 in Manufahi.

## INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS



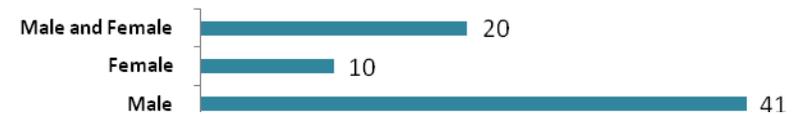
## Who Initiated the Incident?



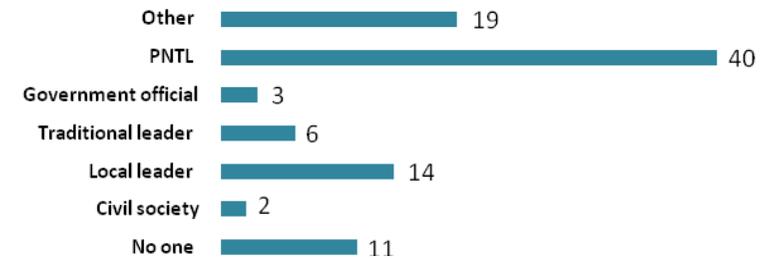
## Gender of Initiator



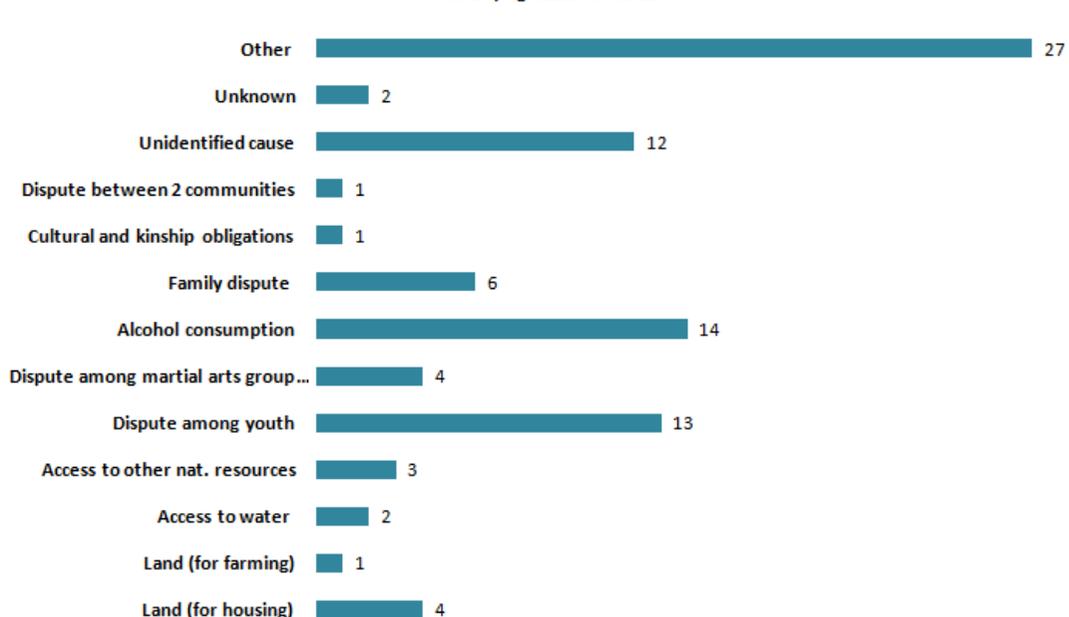
## Gender of Victim



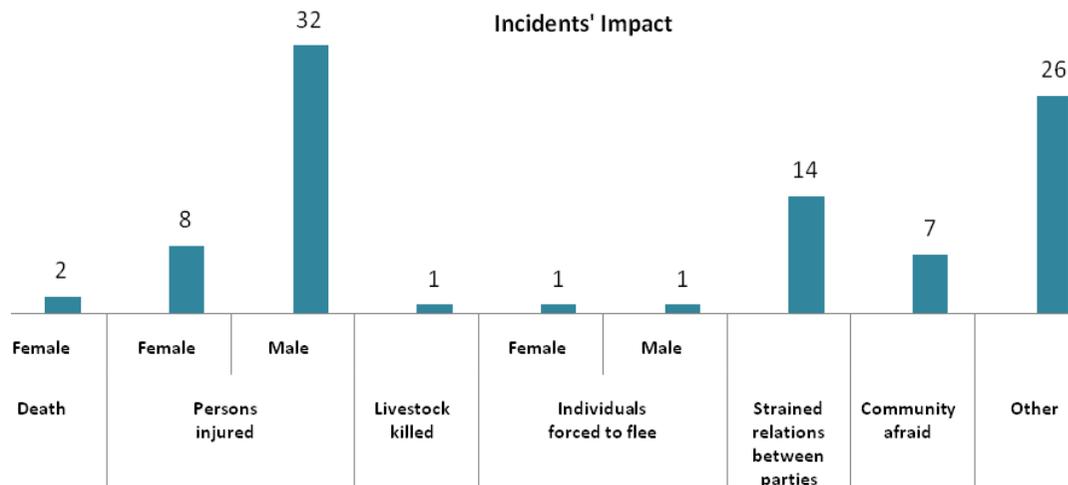
## Who Responded to the Incident?



Underlying Cause of Incident



Incidents' Impact



## CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

### By the Democracy and Development in Action through Media and Empowerment (DAME) team

- ▶ From August 12-15, the team delivered mediation and proposal-writing training sessions to 42 Sub-district Conflict Prevention and Response Network members from Baukau and Vikeké Districts.

### By the Early Warning, Early Response (EWER) team

- ▶ On 27 August, the team held a roundtable discussion to solicit feedback from key stakeholders on an upcoming Belun Policy Brief that examines the deficiencies in the process for delivering pension payments to elderly persons in Timor-Leste. Speakers at the event included the Secretary of State for Social Security, Mr. Vitor da Costa, Timor-Leste's Commerce National Bank Director, Mr. Sergio Spiritu Santos, World Bank Social Protection Specialist, Ms. Rita Fernandes, and Belun's Research and Policy Development Specialist, Mr. Constantino Brandao. The event was attended by representatives from various government departments, civil society, UNTL, local leaders, youth representatives and others.

### By the Land Mediation and Dispute Resolution (LMDR) team

- ▶ On 29 August, the team facilitated a mediation session between siblings in Manatuto District, who had a dispute over land that they consider sacred, and which was left to them by their parents. No solution was reached, so further mediation continued in September.

## ABOUT THIS SITUATION REVIEW

This situation review reports on violent incidents and trends in Timor-Leste that were identified by Belun's Early Warning, Early Response (EWER) monitoring system during August 2014. Belun strives to share up-to-date and verified information. Considering that situations change rapidly, we appreciate receiving information to clarify or update our EWER monitoring data.

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