



UNITED NATIONS MISSION OF SUPPORT IN EAST TIMOR



AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE
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MEDIA RELEASE

UNMISSET OPENS NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL IN TIMOR LESTE

Story by: Capt John McPherson

UNMISSET and the Australian Government have ensured that children high in the hills of Timor Leste now have greater access to early education through the opening of two new AUSAID funded primary schools in the villages of Bulo and Salasa this weekend. The Bulo Primary School was officially opened on Friday and the Salasa Primary School on Saturday - both in the Ainaro District.

In opening the Bulo Primary School, the UNMISSET Commander of Sector West, Australian Colonel Jim Bancroft, said: "Education will play a huge role in the re-development of Timor Leste. The construction of this school building is a significant investment in the future of this district and this country."

The schools were built with individual AUSAID grants of \$US15,000 by local contractors under the guidance of Sector West Project Managers. They are identical in that they both have three classrooms, an amenities room, six toilets (three male and three female) and a teachers' room. Each classroom seats 22 students on chairs, and at desks, also provided through the AUSAID grant.

Work on the schools commenced in early September in time to have them finished before the onset of the tropical wet season.

Photos available

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