RADIO TAROMAN
COVALIMA FGD

23 AUGUST 2013

FGD FACILITATORS: ZEVONIA VIEIRA

PARTICIPANTS: 19 PARTICIPANTS (8 WOMEN, 11 MEN), AGED 19-26
FGD Content analysis
When the FGD was held in Covalima district, we found out none of participants have listened to HerStory radio program. All of them stated that ‘they didn’t listen’ and also they were not able to provide the answers for the questions from the facilitator. They also confessed that they would prefer to listen to the Radio of Timor-Leste and Radio of Maubere instead of listening to Community radio of Taroman. The reason was because they could listen to the program clearly; these two radio stations have various programs and they didn’t know that community radio also broadcast the NGOs programs that actually benefiting them.
To start the discussion, the team then decided to play the episode on land dispute-equal rights on land. They started to understand this issues little by little and they also discovered that they never know the existence of equal rights because in their custom Bunak and Terik there are always differences between man and women and most of the time discrimination happens between these two gender identities. In the implementation process they also discover that all people (men and women) have the same right and culture shouldn’t be as a hinder to this right. They’ve decided to bridge this information to their family in order to reduce the discrimination.

Legal issues discussed by AATL
AATL started the discussion by linking the laws to the issues produced by SFCG in HerStory radio program, the aim were to get participants to pay more attention and also to get them to have a better understanding on the issues related to law and formal justice.
During the discussion participants asked the questions on women right to be the land owner. One participant thought that Bunak culture gives more right to women to be the land owner, while in Covalima district men get more rights to use Tetum Terik custom, how to change these cultures based on the law’s points of view?
In Law there is no explanation on which culture should be followed. Culture is a different part that has no relation to the law that has created by government. Most of the time culture only put more values one part while the Human Right and Constitution considered this as discrimination. People were born form a womb of a mother whether men or women, they all are human being with the same rights.
Based on the observation, some participants started to realize that they’ve been discriminated women so far. There’s law to teach people to respect one
another, based on AATL’s explanation. On the other hand, many participants haven’t understood clearly on public and civil crimes, AATL tried to show different pictures on the public and civil crimes.

The participants understood that if only pulling someone’s hair and yelling to a family member are considered as public crime, only if family members killed one another then it will included in the public crime. AATL tried to explain that civil crime is a crime without violence and it doesn’t happen in a household. Civil crime happened often to the case or problem related to the land issues, such as the status of land is not clear, case of divorce when the couple wants to divorce through the formal justice without committed any form of violence. Public crime that happens in a household by involving the family members we call it Domestic violence, pulling the hair, yelling to someone, getting angry, verbal abuse these all included in the public crimes.

Based on the observation, participants started to think on how to differentiate the public and civil crimes, AATL tried to review these explanation. ne’e.

**Challenges**
The community radio facilitator has no skill to facilitate the FGD because he didn’t participate the training run by SFCG in Dili, however he tried to facilitate it and got the support from media team. At the beginning the participants were not active in participating the discussion because they have no idea about the programs and on the other hand, the community radio didn’t make any efforts to introduce these programs to the community members.

**Success Story**
No success story was found in Covalima, however the change happened to the FGD participants, they’ve got the knowledge and especially they have the flexibility in implementing Bunak and Terik customs.

**Participants’ Suggestion**
Need to bring these kinds of programs to the rural areas, the places with no access to the radio frequency, so that all people will have access to the information on these issues.
Next steps

- Community radio needs to do a campaign on their own programs through announcements and other means so that it will increase the number of listeners.

- When the FDG will be run again, the main target to run FGD will be in rural places and the target participants will be chiefs of villages, young people, women and people that work for church.

- Radio Community will facilitate the next FGD.