

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR LESTE MINSTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES Seeds of Life - PO Box 221, Dili Timor-Leste





# El Niño Timor-Leste Update: Wet season wrapping up for many farmers.

1/04/2016 - 15/04/2016

The rain continues to fall across the country although it is declining in a number of places such as Baucau, Covalima and Liquica. Other areas such as in Betano and Viqueque along the south coast received good rainfall.

It looks like the end of the wet season now especially for north coast locations such as Oecusse and Atauro which received very little rain again.

Many farmers have harvested their corn or are about to harvest it. Some good rains were received along the

south coast during the first half of April and this may trigger some more planting of maize. Traditionally, farmers in agro-ecological zones 5 and 6 can plant a



Maize in Liquica mountains harvested and drying. Photo: Samuel Bacon, SoL

second crop as the monsoon draws moisture and rainfall from the south-east. For these farmers, May can be the month of highest rainfall with the wet season ending around July.

Many farmers across the country have been working hard in their rice fields to prepare the land. A lot of planting has been occurring especially in the west and eastern areas. However, it is likely that the total area under cultivation will be less than normal. A number of farmers still have not started

preparation, notably, along the south coast from Same through to Viqueque and also Atabae.

Please refer to the maps and rainfall graphs for further information.

The El Niño monitoring process conducted for this report will finish in April as the El Niño period draws to an end.

Regards,

Samuel Bacon Cropping Systems Advisor Seeds of Life <u>samuel.bacon@seedsoflifetimor.org</u>



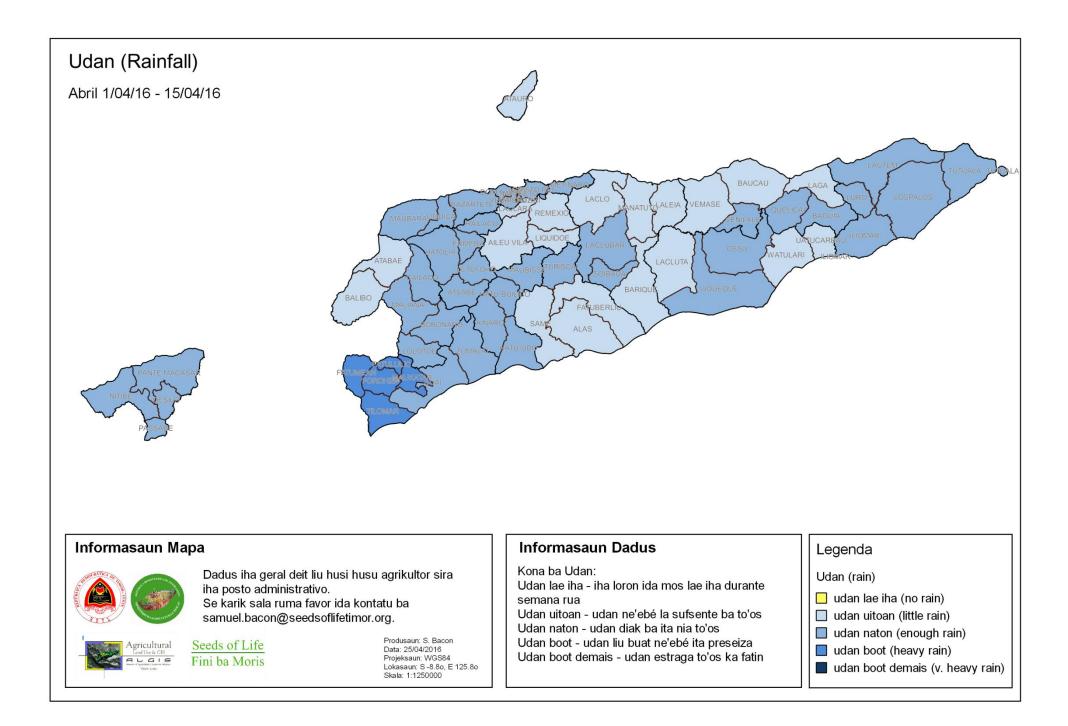
Maize crop showing poor development in suco Tequino Mata, Laga. Photo: Stephen Kearney, WFP

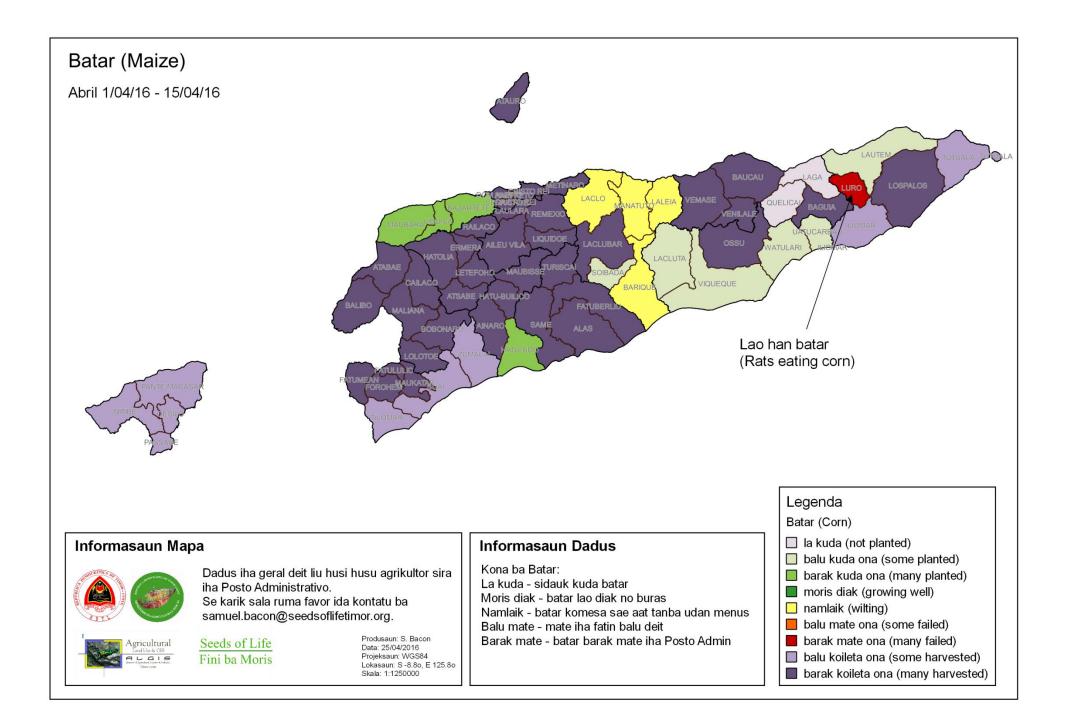


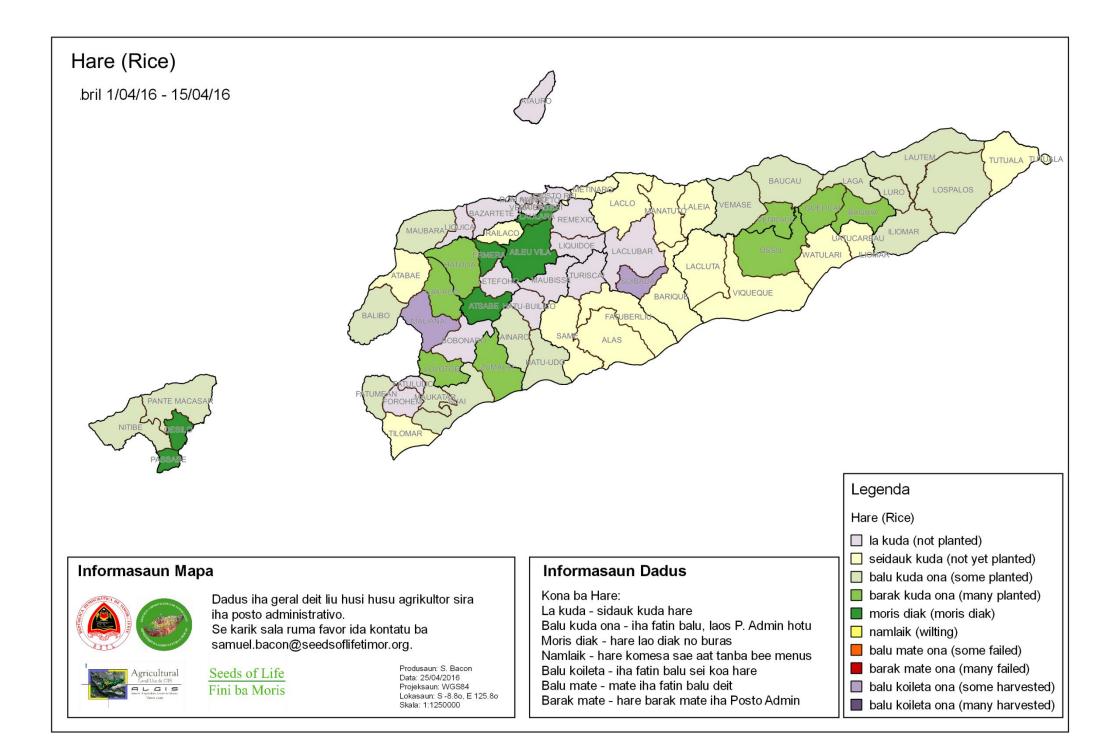


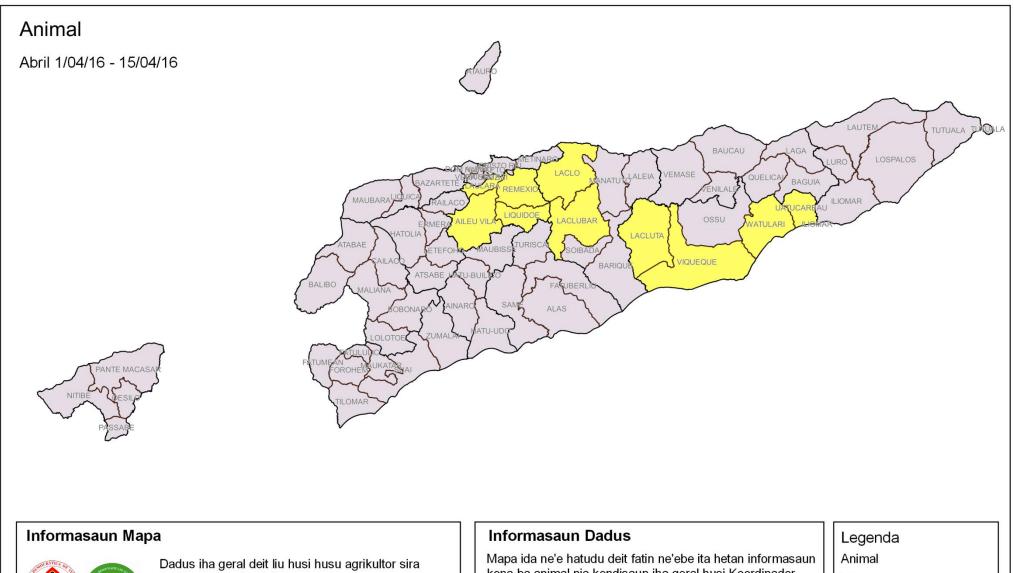


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iha Posto Administrativo. Se karik sala ruma favor ida kontatu ba samuel.bacon@seedsoflifetimor.org.

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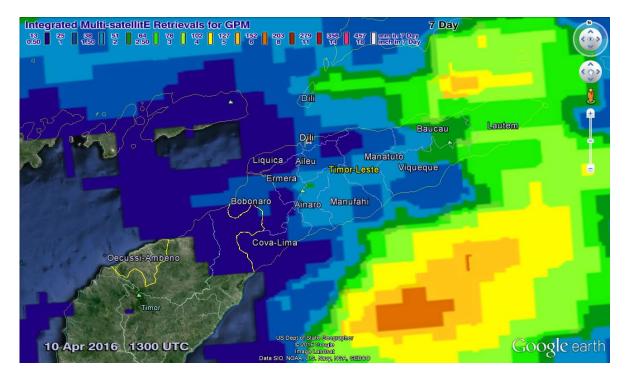
Produsaun: S. Bacon Data: 25/04/2016 Projeksaun: WGS84 Lokasaun: S -8.8o, E 125.8o Skala: 1:1250000 Mapa ida ne'e hatudu deit fatin ne'ebe ita hetan informasaun kona ba animal nia kondisaun iha geral husi Koordinador Extensionista (se informasaun iha). Dala ruma animal problema lae iha entaun ami husik hanesan "Dadus lae iha". (This map only shows information that has been received about animal condition usually from the Extension Coordinator. In some cases there is no problem with animals reported so it is left as "no data")

- Dadus lae iha (no data)
- Krekas (low condition)
- Balu mate (some died)
- Barak mate (many died)

## Integrated Multi-Satellite Data for Rainfall

The monsoon moving into the northern hemisphere draws up rain from the south-east resulting in a second peak in rainfall for south and south-east regions.

Rain in first half of April, 2016:

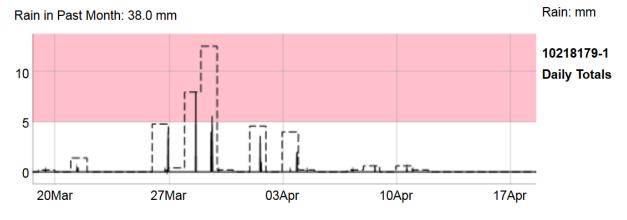




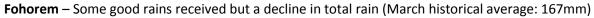
Source: <a href="http://pmm.nasa.gov/data-access/google-earth">http://pmm.nasa.gov/data-access/google-earth</a>

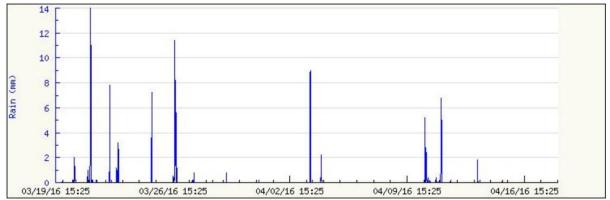
Rainfall in March/April (note, scale on left hand axis varies, period starts from mid-March)

Oecusse – Note only 38mm, very low rainfall (March historical average: 203mm)

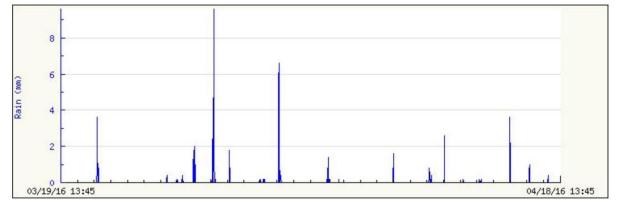


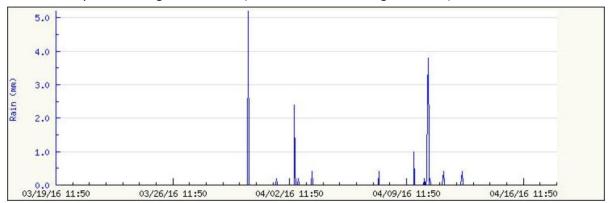
Graphs from Sites with Data Garrison Stations:





#### Fazenda Algarve – Less rain in Liquica, light and patchy (March historical average: 256mm)



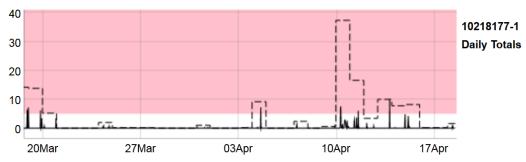


#### Atauro – Very little rain again in Atauro (March historical average: 124mm)

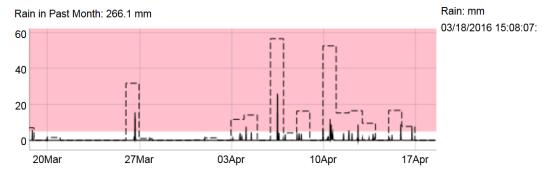
#### South Coast - note the long dry period

 Betano – Some good rains received in mid-April after dry spell (March historical average: 127mm)
 Rain in Past Month: 134.6 mm

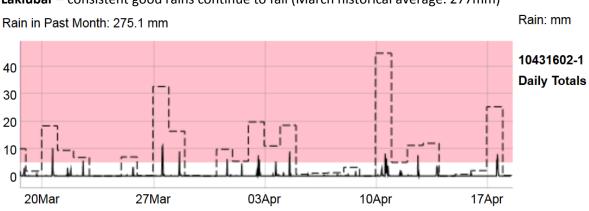
 Rain in Past Month: 134.6 mm
 Rain: mm



Viqueque – At last some good rain for Viqueque (March historical average: 192mm)

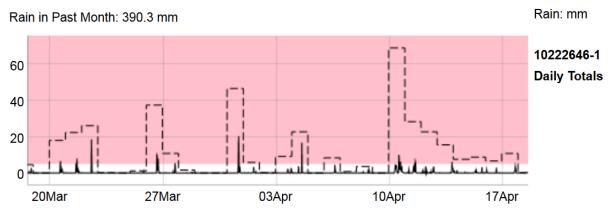


### **Central Mountains** – showing consistent and sufficient levels of rainfall

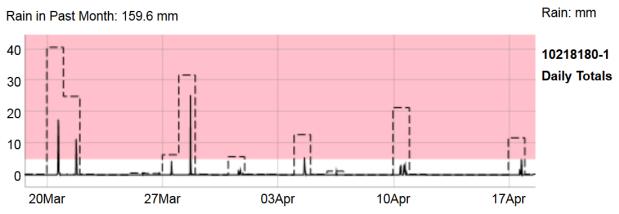


Laklubar – consistent good rains continue to fall (March historical average: 277mm)

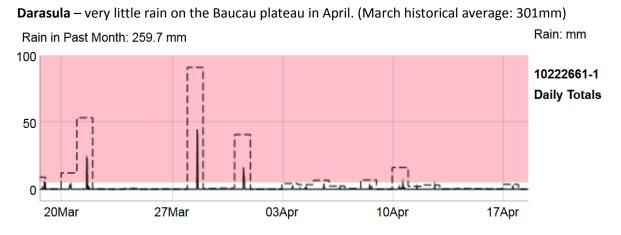
Flexia - good rains also in the central mountains around Fleixa (Maubisse March historical average: 211mm)



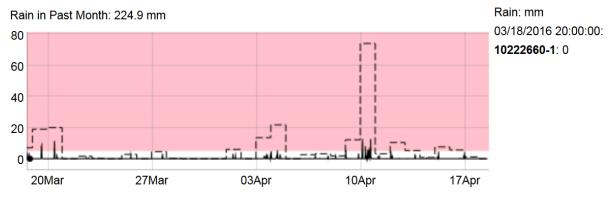
Quintal Portugal – rainfall declining in Aileu (Historical average: 202mm)



## Eastern Plateaus -



Los Palos – low daily rainfall with one big rainfall event on 10/4. (March historical average: 194mm)



More Climate Data at: <u>http://timoragriresearch.weebly.com/</u>