



PRESIDENCY OF THE  
**COUNCIL OF  
MINISTERS**

EIGHT CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT



**Office of the  
Spokesperson**

September 17, 2020

**Press Release**

**Government congratulates East Timor Hearts Fund on their tenth anniversary**

The Government of Timor-Leste wishes to extend their most sincere congratulations and thanks to the East Timor Hearts Fund, when this non-governmental organization celebrates ten years, since, thanks to their efforts, the necessary funds, to perform cardiac surgery in Australia to two young East Timorese patients, were gathered.

East Timor Hearts Fund, created based on the volunteer work of cardiologist Dr Noel Bayley, has the mission of providing cardiac treatments to young East Timorese, allowing them a second chance in life.

Since September 2010, the East Timor Hearts Fund has performed 80 surgeries and cardiac screening for thousands of patients. They ran a program to prevent rheumatic heart disease (RHD) with penicillin for more than 300 patients and distributed personal protective equipment for COVID-19.

Prime Minister, Taur Matan Ruak, on behalf of the Government and the Timorese People, expresses his deep appreciation and recognition for the work of the East Timor Hearts Fund, over the past ten years, in the treatment and prevention of heart disease in Timor-Leste. **END**

