Covering a total area of 1,877 km², Municipio Viqueque is one of five ATSEA-2 sites on the island of Timor Leste. The municipality is home to around 76,033 people (according to the 2015 census), comprised predominantly of coastal communities who use double outrigger canoes and fibre-glass mono-hull vessels to catch fish. Additional home-based small businesses, generally run by women, are an additional cultural feature common to households in the region.

The GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA ATSEA-2 Programme will focus its activities on an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) with regards to red snapper fisheries and women’s cooperatives for post-harvest livelihood improvements. This will be supported by the establishment of new – and improvement of existing – small businesses led by women’s groups. This approach is expected to promote buy-in and ownership of the Programme, thereby helping its contributions to long-term regional sustainability.

The Directorate General Peska (DG-Peska) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, alongside representatives of municipality officials, have been conducting a series of activities in initiating an EAFM. This includes fisher surveys, supply chain analyses, coordination with stakeholders and the provision of fishing gear.

Viqueque Biodiversity Objectives:
- EAFM, red snapper
- Women’s cooperative for post-harvest livelihood improvements
Municipio Manatuto is located in Timor Leste, covering a total area of 1,782 km² and with a population of around 46,619 people (according to the 2015 census). The GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA ATSEA-2 Programme will focus on designing and supporting the designation of the Betano to Claluc Marine Protected Area (MPA), while also developing Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) plans. This will incorporate climate change adaptation through the promotion of alternative livelihoods and capacity building, along with the development of an Ecosystem Approach Fisheries to Management (EAFM) for sustainable fish feed production.

The Manatuto municipality is dominated by mangroves, with 19 species identified, including Rhizophora, Sonneratia, Ceriops, and Avicennia/Lumnitzera. Local communities have traditionally relied upon these mangroves for fuel, while also clearing land for agriculture. To counterbalance these negative impacts, mangrove restoration activities will be carried out in collaboration with local communities. Meanwhile, the EAFM programme will focus on providing fish feed in order to support sustainable protein supply through aquaculture.

Manatuto Biodiversity Objectives:
- CCA, ICM - coastal vegetation restoration, drought mitigation
- EAFM, sustainable fish feed production
Lautem is one of the municipalities on the eastern end of the island of Timor. It has a population of 65,240 (census 2015) and an area of 1,813 km². In 2007, Nino Konis Santana National Park (NKSNP) officially became Lautem District's first National Park, covering a total area of 123,600 ha. This includes rugged forested ranges, the large salt water Lake Ira Lalaro, coastal beaches and offshore reefs, plus exquisite Jaco Island. NKSNP officially gained NP status with the Resolusaundo Governo No. 8/2007 Kria & UNTAET 19/2000 declaration by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). With the resolution, NKSNP was established as an IUCN Category V Protected Area, comprising 68,000 ha of terrestrial habitat and 55,600 ha of marine habitat. The region is home to a population of approximately 10,000 people.

The location of NKSNP is important, as it is situated within the Coral Triangle; an epicentre of global marine biodiversity that supports more than 3,000 reef fish species, along with whale sharks, manta rays, dolphins and myriad other marine species. In Timor-Leste’s Lautem municipality, the GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA ATSEA-2 Programme will focus on strengthening Nino Konis Santana MPA management, supporting a locally managed marine area in the adjacent waters and promoting alternative livelihoods for local people.

Lautem Biodiversity Objectives:
- MPA-strengthening
- LMMAs at Nino Konis Santana (livelihood improvements)
Covalima Biodiversity
Objectives:

- Oil spill response and preparedness

Going from west to east along the southern Timorese coast, the western-most munícipio on the southern coast, bordering Indonesia, is Cova Lima. It had a population of 65,301 in 2015, living on an area of 1,226km². Cova Lima munícipio comprises the posto administrativo of Fatululik, Fatumean, Fohorem, Zumulai, Maucatar, Suai, and Tilomar.

Nevertheless, the marine debris survey four sites in Covalima as vulnerable to oil spills occurring in the Timor Sea. The study is just an initial step, but a crucial one as it can provide valuable baselines for the development of a pollution control and management plan, especially for responding and mitigating oil spill incidents in Covalima which has been designated as the logistical port for oil and gas activities in the Timor Sea based on Timor-Leste 2010-2030 National Strategic Development Plan.

In an effort to address pollution impacting the ATS region, the GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA ATSEA-2 Programme will provide training and facilitate knowledge exchanges related to oil spill response and preparedness.
Manufahi had a population of 53,691 in 2015, living on an area of 1,325 km². It comprises the posto administrativo of Alas, Fatuberliu, Same, and Turiscai. The municipality stretches from the central mountains to the southern coast.

National activities in Timor-Leste will focus on extending the MPA Network for the Lesser Sunda Seascape to include an approximate 90,000 ha new MPA in Betano to Clacuc (Klakuk) in Município Manufahi, extending along 40 km coastline and out to 12 nautical miles. This area has been identified as a key biodiversity area under the Lessor Sunda seascape program, but is yet to be surveyed.

The GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA ATSEA-2 Programme is supporting the Government of Timor-Leste, particularly Directorate General for Fisheries in strengthening institutional and human resource capacity in the management of existing MPA and establishment of new MPA in Betano to Klakuk in Município Manufahi through protection of habitat and species towards integrated approaches in coastal and marine biodiversity conservation. Activities will also strengthen the capacity of communities in Nino Konis Santana (NKS) National Park to establish or strengthen existing Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs).

**Manufahi Biodiversity Objectives:**
- Designation of Betano Clacuc MPA
- CCA, ICM - coastal vegetation restoration, drought mitigation
- EAFM, sustainable fish feed production