



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Banco Central de Timor-Leste Launches the Financial Inclusion Report 2018**

**Dili, 30 April 2019**

Banco Central de Timor-Leste (BCTL) launched today the **“Financial Inclusion Report 2018 – Measure, Strategize and Innovate”**. The report is part of a series of publications developed by BCTL to drive financial inclusion in Timor-Leste. The first Financial Inclusion Report was published in 2016 with a comprehensive set of financial inclusion indicators and long-term goals. In 2017, BCTL developed the National Strategy for Financial Inclusion 2017-2022 defining action plans to harness and align the stakeholders’ efforts to achieve the desired outcome of inclusive and sustainable financial sector development.

The Financial Inclusion Report 2018 is based on extensive and updated supply-side data to assess the dimensions of the measurement framework. It outlines the findings on the current state of financial inclusion and the degree of progress the country has attained since 2016. The report details the 36% increase of access points, the uptake of the different types of financial services, the new e-wallet services, the implementation status of the National Strategy for Financial Inclusion and the National Strategy for Financial Literacy, among other financial inclusion indicators and activities. The report theme “Measure, Strategize and Innovate” is intended to update the understanding of factors which influence financial inclusion to form recommendations for future policy direction and cultivate innovation.

BCTL will continue to champion and strengthen the advocacy for inclusive finance through innovative approaches to increase access points, modernize payments systems, enhance usage of financial services and intensify financial literacy programmes in the country.

BCTL wishes to express appreciation to all our partners from the public and private sector, including Government Agencies and financial service providers that contributed to the report. BCTL believes that the availability of real, tangible financial inclusion data provides the knowledge and awareness to develop practical, achievable and evidence-based policies which will bring positive changes to all Timorese in the years to come.

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The complete report is available on the BCTL website at <https://www.bancocentral.tl/en>  
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