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EAST TIMOR RECONSTRUCTION

Over 50 countries and international agencies have recently gathered in Tokyo to pledge US\$520 million in grant funding over the next three years to rebuild East Timor and to ensure its smooth transition to future independence. A significant part of the territory's infrastructure was destroyed when widespread violence erupted following an United Nations-sponsored referendum vote on the future status of East Timor last August. The United Nations Development Programme, UNDP, has been the lead agency in the efforts for the reconstruction of East Timor. In this edition of **World Chronicle**, J. Victor Angelo, UNDP's Special Envoy for East Timor, talks about what has been done to improve the lives of the Timorese population.

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