Dili diaries

Singaporeans who have moved to Timor-Leste share their success stories

Keeping it real

Sang have a history of living, working and volunteering in Timor-Leste, and they are committed to contributing to the development of the country. At 38, she is now a registered nurse in the public service. She has been working in Timor-Leste for three years. Her role is to support the local community by providing healthcare services. She has been working on various projects, including improving access to healthcare, promoting healthy lifestyles, and providing mental health support. Her work has been recognized by the local government and other organizations. She is passionate about her work and is dedicated to making a positive impact on the community.

What was the hardest times and how did you overcome them?

The hardest times were the first three years when I had to learn new things every day. I had to adapt to a new culture, new language, and new ways of doing things. It was challenging, but I learned to be patient and persistent. I focused on my work and on building relationships with my colleagues and clients. I worked hard to understand the local context and to find solutions that were appropriate for the situation.

What are your goals and challenges now?

My current goal is to continue to grow a robust and sustainable business. I am always looking for new ways to improve my work and to find new opportunities. My biggest challenge is to maintain the growth and sustainability of my business. I need to be proactive and adaptive to the changing market conditions. I need to stay focused and committed to my work.

Whether you are a government official, a business owner, or a humanitarian worker, the key to success is to be proactive and adaptive to the changing market conditions. I need to stay focused and committed to my work.

Mr. Janus, operations director of the Jaga Group, said that his group has advanced from securing political stability to now economic development.

Our city centre development project is an example of this approach. We have been working on developing a new commercial building in the center of the city. The building will have shops, offices, and residential units. We have been working with local authorities to ensure that the project is sustainable and meets the needs of the community. We are committed to making a positive impact on the local economy and to improving the quality of life for the residents of Dili.
The Olympian

There is no snow or winter in the country he represents, but that has not deterred Yohan Goncalves, 19, from competing for Timor-Leste as the country's first and only Olympic skier.

BOHN of a French father and Timorese mother, Yohan Goncalves grew up in France, Australia, Brazil, and Timor-Leste. He had Red Lion at the age of 12 when Indonesia annexed the former Portuguese colony in 1975. He finished school in Australia before meeting Goncalves' father, Pierre Goncalves, during a year of travel, and settled in France. By the age of 13, his mother taught him about his country and its people, so he has always felt close to Timor-Leste. It is part of me," Goncalves said.

When it was time, I could have chosen to represent France, but I really wanted to achieve something for Timor-Leste. I wanted to be able to show our young country.

Goncalves had been skiing even before he could walk. "I was six or seven years old, about age two, and my mom brought me to a ski resort," he said. "She wanted me to drive a car, not even to ride motorcycles, but they are flying machines.

After moving to Timor-Leste for 10 years, he and his father moved back to France. "I loved skiing. I am going to give my best to show my country," he said. "I want to be an ambassador for my country and for the sport of skiing."

The teen is now training to be a freestyle skier at the French National Skiing Center in the French Alps. "The biggest challenge is to compete and be at the top of the podium," he said. "I want to be the best skier in the world."

Ambassador Lee with Prime Minister Xanana Gusmão.

Ambassador Lee

Lee Chiong Glam is set to retire

After 10 years as Singapore Ambassador to Timor-Leste, veteran diplomat Lee Chiong Glam is set to retire.

A special friendship

RELATIONSHIPS between nations are built by people. Mr Lee Chiong Glam, 73, has served as Singapore’s Minister of Education and Sports (MEd) since 1988, and has been based in the country for more than 30 years. He is known for his dedication and hard work, as well as his kindness and gentle demeanor.

"I am truly grateful to the Ministry and the staff for their support," Mr Lee said. "I have always been welcomed by their friendly and warm welcome."

"And stay calm," added Mr Lee. "If you have any questions, you can ask me."

"It’s true that it’s unusual to see a woman pilot but actually, when you jump into the cockpit, the plane doesn’t care if you’re a woman or man."

Ms Cristina Amaral