

Ms. SANTINA JOSE RODRIGUES FERREIRA VIEGAS CARDOSO

Vice-Minister of Finance
V Constitutional Government
Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste

Ms. Santana Jose Rodrigues Ferreira Viegas Cardoso was born on 24 November 1975.

She finished her University Degree in Economics with specialization in Economic Sciences and Development Study in October 2000 from the University Widya Mandira in Kupang, Indonesia.



Ms. Cardoso's professional career started immediately after her university stint when she joined the Children Recovery and Resilience Program, a non-government organization focused on Timorese children's issues. This was followed by her involvement with the Constituent Assembly in 2001 as part of its Working Secretariat.

Ms. Cardoso's planning and monitoring background including her exposure in project/program design, implementation and management led her to enter the East Timor Public Administration (ETPA) in late 2001. With the establishment of the First Constitutional Government of Timor-Leste in 2002, Ms. Cardoso moved on to assume the post of Programme Officer in the Planning & Monitoring Division of the National Directorate for Planning and External Assistance Coordination (NDPEAC) of then Ministry of Planning and Finance (MPF).

Due to her gained experience and excellent performance delivered in dealing with donors and coordinating donor programs while in the MPF, Ms. Cardoso was appointed as *Program Implementation Officer (PIO)* of the *Planning and Financial Management Capacity Building Project (PFMCBP)* when the IV Constitutional Government came into power in 2007. The PFMCBP is a 5-year multi-donor funded PFM project implemented by the Ministry of Finance and supervised by the World Bank.

As PIO of the PFMCBP, Ms. Cardoso was charged with overseeing the

implementation of the program, liaised with donors and ensured that project assistance is provided in a timely and transparent manner to the Ministry of Finance. Under her skilled leadership and management, the PFMCBP contributed considerably to the sustainability of the Ministry of Finance's reform strategy through the timely provision of technical advisory services and other capacity building initiatives.

Likewise, Ms. Cardoso's knowledge and experience in financial operations, human resources processes and asset management, along with a focus on establishing transparent processes and procedures merited her subsequent appointment as Director-General for Corporate Services in the Ministry of Finance during the IV Constitutional Government.

As Director-General for Corporate Services, Ms. Cardoso supervised the departments and units of the directorate general, including satellite units established in other directorates. She has overseen the technical accuracy of the implementation of policies, plans and programs based on regulated standards and approved procedures of the public service.

Ms. Cardoso also led in the work to produce the strategic plan of the MoF, including the planning of its human resources as well as in the execution of the annual budget of the ministry.

She also supervised the services of DGCS to the other units and entities of the MoF; coordinated and directed their activities in accordance with the public service law and under the guidance of the Minister of Finance.

Similarly, she ensured the monitoring and just implementation of all Ministry-established policies, plans, programs and other related administrative rules and instructions needed to run the DGCS-MoF during her incumbency.

On 8 August 2012, Ms. Viegas-Cardoso was appointed as Vice-Minister of Finance under the V Constitutional Government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.