Chathura Welivitiya, Chairman / Chief Executive, HELP-O

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HELP-O PROFILE

Description of the Organization

HELP-O is an organization aimed at developing and balancing human and environmental progress in rural as well as urban areas, focusing on the low-income community. Even environment conservation with many stakeholders is one of other goal of the organization. The organization is working in all over the country specially we could expand the service to the Eastern Province and implemented many programs with many stakeholders of eastern province.

Vision of the Organization

The vision of our organization is to implement systematic resource management programs for improving environmental sensitive areas and the biodiversity of Sri Lanka, and focusing human rights issues so as to move towards protect and ensure human as well as children rights for creation of an overall social developed community with maximum human right protection, and minimizing ethnic conflicts in order to encourage sustainable peace by using the participatory development approach and to move towards the physical developed of the community through livelihood, psychosocial conditions and health development.

Objectives of the Organization

- Approaching society towards development emphasizing of protecting & ensuring human and children rights through depriving the violence and awareness rising.
- Leading low income people and disaster victims for a sustainable development process with raising awareness, providing training and facilitating potential environment by reintegrating and initiating income generating activities.
- Strengthen the local level community base societies for enabling them to be meeting strong and independent entities within the development process and create an appropriate environment for the exchange of ideas, information and materials between the city stakeholders. Disseminate the information on development issues support communities to organize small groups, youth federations to ensure maximum community participation participatory implementation of project irrespective of ethnic diversity to enjoy equal opportunities to live as one Sri Lankan nation.
Organizational Membership

HELP-O is currently holding the membership of the following national as well as international organizations:

- CITYNET, Japan, Sri Lanka Member;
- TUGI, Malaysia UNDP, Sri Lanka Member;
- Asia Pacific – 2000 Programme, Manila, UNDP Sri Lanka Member;
- United Nations Development Program, Colombo;
- SEVENTH A – Urban Resource Centre, Colombo;
- Green Movement of Sri Lanka;
- Waste net, Colombo, Secretary;
- Stromme Micro Finance Asia (Guarantee) Ltd.

Board of Directors

1. Chairman: Mr. Chathura Welivitiya
2. Mrs. K.K Abeywickrama
3. Mr. Amarasinghe Kudagallara.
4. Mr. Thilak Kariyawasam.
5. Dr. Jayasiri Lokuge.
6. Advocate. Mapalagama Wimalarathna Godagama

Fundamental Principals

* To treat the poor community and learn from them.
* To accept that community development is with human & child right protection.
* To accept that the community is aware & refrain from party politics.
* To accept that the community cannot be classified by their religion, race, caste and the social status.
* To accept the position that the community should be given the leadership when preparing programs.
* To refrain from party politics
* To help the community and learn from them.
Focus Areas

Environment Conservation
HELP-O has excellence about environment conservation during last few decades able to implement many programs with highly effects also able to focus on many sectors. Implementing climate change adaptation or mitigation projects are best examples that carried out in past with significance results. The expertise of the organization has been spread to many areas such like Biogas, Advocacy programs, technical researches and technical improvement and tree planting are some of them.

P.P.P for Social Responsible
Organization could implement many programs in public private partnership for many sectors such like infrastructure development and increase the accessibility among community and government institutions are key things have implemented. HELP-O got involve to secure the social responsible. Participatory development process is the main process that applied. Develop Preschool, Public Park, Canal development are few example for public private partnership for social responsible.

Community Development
Many motivational or community based development projects have implemented. Women Empowerment, Community Finance Program, Develop community leadership are few of thing that carried out. After Tsunami devastation many sectors to be developed and HELP-O got the leadership for community empowerment. Finally organization could develop community movement which spread in many areas. Later on this movement has been developed as women’s co-operative.

Relief Assistance
HELP-O could make active contribution for many relief works such like Tsunami Devastation, Floods or drought. During the past HELP-O actively got involve with many relief works. On Tsunami time people got huge assistance from organization to develop and rebuilt their lost livelihood. This was a large diversity of program which could help people in many ways. Not even that it included advocacy program, psychosocial activities are few major components.
ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION

CLIMATE CHANGE

HELP-O implemented many programs for climate change adaptation or mitigation programs. In 2004 started first biogas unit at Karapitiya Teaching Hospital and it was the Asia’s First Biogas unit and it is function. It was a real challenge to implement biogas unit at hospital and with base of that HELP-O could developed sustainable process in many sectors. It could expand to community biogas, industrial biogas, and domestic biogas concepts. This concept was significantly developed by the technical team of HELP-O and highly affected to minimize methane gas emission.

We have many years’ experience about biogas construction field. The first biogas unit we have implemented in Karapitiya Hospital in year 2004 from, that day we implemented biogas units in different sectors as follows:

- Domestic level
- Community level
- Hospital sector
- Forces camp
- Hotel sector & factories
- Schools
- Government offices
- Municipal Council & Urban Council
- Religious places
- Market places

Make Galle Bio Energy City

Galle is the capital city of the Southern Province and it has an ancient history and this is filling with many natural resources. Many organization has been constructed many biogas units in Galle city and many people are using the biogas for their daily use. HELP-O and GMC has jointly implement program for Make Galle Clean and Green Bio Energy City because we implement and conducting many biogas units and waste management programs in the city even many other organizations also implement this kind of programs.

Green Industrial Sectors

MAS Holding Koggala

MAS Holdings converted into eco-friendly process and stated waste management program in factory. Able to minimize methane generation and managed the generated waste. In the year 2013 constructed biogas unit with 22m³ capacity. Use for boiling water and other purposes. Was Conducted several awareness programs for the management and for the workers for proper implementation. Several technical adjustments were made in the biogas unit for increasing the efficiency.
Sri Lankan Airline
There was a huge problem about organic waste of Sri Lankan Airline. Waste carrying process was not success and faced many difficulties. Therefore HELP-O able to solved this massive issue and minimizes the methane gas emission. Methane gas converted into usable energy source. Constructed 35m³ biogas unit. Organization conduct awareness programs as well about proper maintenance. Produce 5.2m³ methane gas usually and methane gas use for boiling water.

Youth Centre
One of major place is for youth development in Sri Lanka. They had to face a critical issue of waste. The perishable waste was the huge problem and there was no proper solution to dispose correctly. Not even that energy consumption was very high and needed sustain solution. Therefore was constructed 22m³ biogas unit at 2013. Hence, they got huge benefits. The most important thing is they could recover the spend cost by saving LP Gas.
**Evergreen Tea Factory – Talgaswala Galle**

One of large scale factory locates in Galle District and daily collected huge amount of waste. On the other hand waste became one of very critical issue for the factory and able to implement biogas unit at their factory. 35m³ biogas unit constructed their factory in 2012 now use biogas for cooking purpose in the factory. HELP-O conducted many awareness programs for the management and for the staff of the factory.

**Kalpitiya Navy Camp - Ellueankulama**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Elluwankulama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year of Implemented</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity of Biogas</td>
<td>45 m³</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact No</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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**For more details – Video Documentary**

The Island’s

HELP – O hand in setting-up standards for bio-gas plants

www.island.lk/index.php?page_cat=article-details&page...code...
**Fonterra Brands Lanka (Private) Limited**

In Pannala area constructed biogas unit for Fonterra Brands Lanka Company. The main purpose of the biogas unit was boiling water for washing cows before milk feeding. It was one of major necessary thing of the company. Biogas unit reached the highest technical improvement in here to gain maximum efficiency. The raw material for biogas feeding was cow dung of farm.

**Karapitiya Teaching Hospital Biogas Program**

This is the first biogas unit that constructed in a hospital AISA. In order to address the massive problem of unsystematic disposal of solid waste in Karapitiya Hospital’s inability to address this problem, the doctors refused to work in the hospital.

HELP-O took the initiative to find a solution for the waste problem. As a result of that a Bio-gas plant was initiated. Normally hospital could save more than Rs.40, 000 monthly by reducing the LP Gas consumption. As a result of this project, the hospital is now experiencing the benefits of the bio-gas plant.

- Bio-chemicals is been used to produce bio-gas.
- Plastics and polythene is been sold for recycling.
- Organic garbage is been used for fertilizer.

This program benefits to reduce the wastage issues in “Karapitiya” Hospital. Thus, they save 4 cylinders fuel that used in hospital kitchen and use bio-gas instead of it. Through this biogas unit hospital can earn money from cooking previously they used LP Gas they use this extra energy for their daily requirement. This was a total solution for the waste problem of the hospital now Hospital earns from the throwing waste. The program sponsored by USEAP.
**Community Bio-gas Programs**

HELP-O has implemented many environment programs before we done program to sort the waste house wise after end this program we implemented the second phase of waste management program through this we are constructing biogas plants in village wise; those villages are dustbins distributed areas previous project. Through this program we are constructing 09 biogas plants. We are construct 12m³ that can dump 100 K.G per day from this biogas plant we can provide biogas for 05 houses. The capacity is 22 m³ constructed biogas for “Mahamodara” teaching hospital.

From this project we can aware the community about important of sorting waste before we implement this program wastes don’t have a value community dump the waste near the road now they collect it for dump to biogas plant now they are seeking waste the best thing is waste has a market now. Through this program we can decrease the village waste inside of the village. All beneficiaries pay Rs.500 per every month to People’s Company from that money we have planned to construct more biogas plant and expand our program to various place.

Collected money only uses for construct more biogas plants in various areas. This program is Public Private Partnership Program which implementing Central Environment Authority (CEA), Galle Municipal Council and People’s Movement. They are the main steak holders of the program. In early the total waste collection of the city was 55 tons but now it has decreased to 25Tons per day.

One of the best products of the biogas unit is Organic Compost Manure. This automatically comes from the biogas unit. This is highly effective for cultivation. At this moment we have printed a label and it has a market value. The one of organic compost bottle they sell Rs.50.00 and this is one of good income for the village people’s company branch. We have enough requests for this compost manure from the cultivators. Even people started the organic agriculture in many places.

Now people are using this extra energy for their cooking purposes. Many people have started new self-employments from this support because they could able to get the biogas energy for low price. We implement this program with Public Private Partnership (PPP) program and we could able to expand this with people’s movement that we formed before. We established an environment fund for expand this program in future according to that every beneficiary should pay Rs.500 every month for getting biogas except the land donated person for construct the biogas unit. On the other hand this is a good solution for the grass root level community because they could able to get energy for low price.
Home Garden Programs

HELP-O started new program within the grass root level that is home gardening with base of Biogas unit. At the beginning level started this in Totagamuwa under the USAID SARI Energy program we constructed biogas unit in Totagamuwa area. As the second stage of that we are carrying organic cultivation. The program is totally community based. Now that program expanded to many places with base of the Biogas units. Now many of house wives started the cultivation with using the organic manure of the biogas. HELP-O promoted the organic cultivation through

01. Domestic Level
02. Community level
03. Institutional Level
04. School level

The other fact is most of people do animal husbandry. There is a huge possibility to carry on this program. Currently people started the cultivation but we need to promote the organic cultivation. HELP-O gets the support of People movement to carry on and monitor this program. Under this program village people movement branch start the selling bio fertilizer. On the other hand this is one of income generating activity in ground level and has multi benefits. The program monitor by two stages one is CBO level and second is village level branch. We have provided the seeds for the people who wish to cultivate in lands.

Home garden program in China Garden

After the awareness program Help-o started the Home garden program. China Garden people didn’t plant any vegetable or fruit tree due to they haven’t any space to plant. Therefore we introduced the home garden plant system and also trained how to plant that seeds and plants using small buckets and pots without more spaces at their home. And we supplied,

- Vegetable seeds
- Vegetable plants
- Fruit plants from Government agriculture farm. Then we gave this compost fertilizer, seeds and plants among the people.

They interested this program, because of that they collected Plastic Bottles, Plastic Boxes, Rain Fall (water trap), and Plastic Bags.
**Tree Planting Programs**

During the last few decades HELP-O could implement many tree planting programs. The first program implemented under UNDP SGP GEF grant and second tree planting program implemented under USAID SARI ENERGY Program. The first program implemented in 1994 and second program implemented on 2010. When HELP-O implemented second program could develop city level program. It is called Make Galle Clean and Green Energy City. It was one of significant thing in HELP-O to convert organization into city level program. Under this component have been conducted many awareness programs, campaigns, experience exchange programs implemented. Not even that able to construct many biogas units in city level where highly waste generate areas.

**School Environmental Program**

“Our Bio Diversity is Our Life”

Amid growing concern over urban pollution in cities across Sri Lanka, there is a dire need for active based environmental education targeting young students. In response and under the auspices of City Net Yokohama, a programme to bring unique learning and lifelong environmental awareness in students between the ages of 8 –12 years was conducted over a two year period. A curriculum directed by the Yokohama based Tsurumi River Network with the close coordination of City Net civil society partners, Colombo-based Sevanatha and Galle based, HELPO, was developed and implemented for students belonging to Eco Societies and Clubs in selected schools. Approximately 160 students participated in the programme that focused on the collection of bio-diversity through field work followed by observation and discussion in the classroom.
The activity based knowledge gathering process has raised deep curiosity and awareness among the participating youth and has resulted in students taking their own actions to conduct environment protection measures. For example, conducting active discussion with the community and parents about their neighborhood bio-diversity and appreciating the importance of that flora and fauna for their living. Other actions taken by students included cleaning waste in the school neighborhood, growing herbal plants in the school and also a project to develop a landscape for their school garden through the selection of native plants to protect the natural eco system.

**Solid Waste Management Program**

*Community Based Solid Waste management in China Garden - Pilot Project (2016 -2018)*

With the experience of Yokohama City, CITYNET-Yokohama Project Office and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Galle City and the HELP-O have been implementing a community-based solid waste management project to achieve waste free city in Galle. The main objectives of the project are: It’s a program with involve with all related stakeholders in Galle city for waste management. Under this provided two recycle bags for perishable and nonperishable waste.

According to this project we did,

- To organize an Awareness program  
  - School Awareness Program
  - Community Awareness Program

- To organize Cleaning Program
- To organize Stakeholders Meetings
- To conduct the Sticker Campaign
- To Exporting the collected Glass Waste
- To Diploid hand – cart for village
- To Assigned the green leaders
- To Distribution of waste collection bags
- To Made a private public partnership
- To strengthen the partnership among stakeholders,
- To mobilize the community,
- To established monitoring systems.

**Galle Fort Cleaning Program “Shramadhana Campaign”**

Aiming to Aware the Galle City people, the cleaning program and Awareness campaign were launched in the Galle City with fort area for waste management project. And also we organized two activities such as,

- An awareness campaign (Walk)
- Beach clean-up program near the sea bath area in Galle fort.
60 volunteers was participated those activities. Several companies got the partnership and sponsored to this program. These organizations sponsored those things. They are,

- HELP-O Eco Green Limited
- Galle municipal Council
- Lion Club of Galle Akmeemana Centennial
- Virtubil Solution (Pvt.) Limited

First was held the awareness campaign as a Walk in Galle Town and gave the waste free Green city and waste management message to the people. All participants joined with the walk and then went to the Galle fort beach. This “Sharamadana” campaign cleaned the Galle fort Beach area. Accordingly the cleanup program,

- We collected two waste plastic bottles tractors
- We gave good message for the world, so many foreigners and Sri Lankans appreciated to us.
- Newspapers reporters reported our activities their newspapers and they appreciated to us.
**Tsunami Recovery – Waste Management through Clean – Up Galle Program**

Project Code Number – DAI 648

We along with USAID/OTI have set up a program in Galle City to find a solution for Solid Waste management in the city with the corporation of Galle Municipal Council. Tsunami Recovery – Waste management through Clean – Up Galle program was focused on “Cleaning – Up” the Galle district and helping the local authorities and citizenry of Galle to establish systems and techniques in order to ensure their waste is disposed in a hygienic and environmentally friendly way.

This program is consist of several activities such as, Awareness raising information campaign, Training on best practice, Shramadana clean-up effort and exposition, Distribution of garbage disposal bins within target communities and key public areas to promote concepts of waste management through reduction and sorting. Additionally, this program is comprises of Series of planning meetings with local government authorities, community leaders in the selected locations, and private entrepreneurs in the field of reuse and recycling to formulate an action plan for sustainable implementation of solid waste management program in Galle. This program attempted to address both physical and psychosocial aspect with regards to Solid Waste management. Awareness programs were planned before implementation of activities through training community mobilizing officers and house to house awareness. This program has planned to implement in 5 following selected villages. Dadalla, China Fort, Kaluwalla, Galwadugoda, Thalapitiya.

Training on best practice  Shramadana clean – up effort and exposition

Distribution of garbage disposal bins  Awareness raising information campaign
**Technical validation for planned infrastructure rehabilitation**

Project Number - DAIC537

This grant will fund the technical validation for repair and rehabilitation of one mosquito control unit, two community health centers and one public toilet complex in the Galle Four Gravets Division Of the Galle District, which were damaged by the 2004 Asian tsunami. This validation will provide accurate information for follow up construction and will assess the sites of the damaged infrastructure and provide a detailed plan, rated bill of quantities, material flow chart, and a time line for renovation. This activity, which was identified by citizens and local authorities as a priority need, will enable the grantee to coordinate the repair and rehabilitation of damaged public health centers and toilet complexes.

**Develop the Dharmapala Children Park and Recycling for a clean city, Galle.**

Project Name – Solid waste management in Dharmapala Children Park in Galle.

This project funds donated by USAID.

Since the Municipal Council has faced the garbage management, they are assisted to reduce the problem. Therefore, a mini-bioweeper is being built in the gardens for garbage collection. This is being constructed by a trained team of professionals.

In order to provide raw material to the biogas power station, a district time was taken to find waste. Specialized lanes have introduced a method to diversify garbage. Five projects will be implemented for a sustainable operation. They reduced the garbage issue to the city to familiarize themselves with their waste in their own land. Then they were brought to the park. Then the biomass used to produce bio gas

To assist to reduce garbage in the market in Galle, we need to have built another bio- gas plant by the vegetable market and the bio- chemical garbage will be discarded to that biogas plant.

While implementing this procedure for particular lane, Street Vendors Association also have to get together involved in the procedure to introduce them “Garbage sort out system” and to keep the street clean. Then we would be able to take suitable garbage to bio- gas plant in the park as same as in the vegetable market.

The organic sum used to produce fertilizer and waste paper used to produce hand paper. The bio- gas transed to produce electricity. The lamps of the park lighted by the bio- gas that reduced by the plant.

The lavatory system of the park will be constructed to provide lavatory facilities. And the responsibility of maintain the lavatory will be given to Municipal Council and also HELP-O will be follow- up the maintaince. There three toilets will be repaired and another one will be constuced.

There exists a demand for toilets in the ceremony garden in the park, where ceremonies and special programs have been taking place. Therefore, two more new standard toilets have to be constuced in the site.
Also we hope to distribute some media demonstration papers in the park and outside of the park on solid waste management. This will influence people to use their garbage in an effective and efficient way.

To enhance the quality of the project, the training for officials who working for this project is necessary. Therefore, we hope to conduct a training workshop for officers with the help of university lecture. As our intention is to demonstrate public on the use of garbage, we need to give priority for school children to be aware the procedure and effectiveness of recycling. About 10 awareness program for 20 schools have to be conducted based on one awareness program for two school.

**Solid Waste Collection Program**

**Produce and Distribution of Separate Waste Collection Bags in the China Garden**

We are conducting the waste separate collection system in China Garden ward at Galle. For that we introduced waste separate collection bag producing by out handy bags. There have two types of bags named Organic waste bag and non – Organic waste bag. These are Rice bags and can be reuse to collect waste again. It has a cover inside of the bag. First we held the awareness program to the people of China Garden ward. We discussed how to collect the bags and to get their views. Then we found the women who living at China Garden for sewing the bags as a self-employed. We paid 50 rupees per bag to her. So we think this is a win-win situation of the project.

As the main activity of the project we have distributed the separate waste collection bag to community of China garden in Galle. It is very useful thing for build the new waste collection system.

The uses of this bag are,

- People can reuse this bag
- People can put garbage according to two categories such as organic waste and inorganic waste
- Can reduce the amount of waste that dumping to the yard
- This can be also developed as a self-employment

As the first step of the new waste collection system, distributed Organic Waste Separation Bag.
Collected and Exported Glass Waste Program in the Galle City.

At the present, our society faced a huge problem due to not properly waste management system. These glass wastes are helping to growth health problems. So we offered a solution to the Glass waste Galle Municipal Area. HELP-O able to lead the program. Community basis and Municipal basis collect glass and collect in a one place, then shift to China. Now people bring glass waste and during the past there is no proper process for glass recycling but HELP-O could bring this solution to the Galle city. During waste sorting process there was no solution to glass but we could bring sustain solution for it. Not even that unrecyclable glass was one of main reason for spreading Dengue threat but now we could solve this issue in city level.

“Karapitiya” hospital Solid Waste Management Program

The Karapitiya hospital which is rendering immense service is going to a large mass of people daily and collects a large number of solid wastes. As this was a big problem, we were able to build a waste collection center to manage this solid waste management.

Local Action to Mitigate E-waste

The growing amount of E-waste is creating a major impact on the society. Although the total amount is 1-2% it has the higher potential in polluting 75% of drinking water. The Southern province environment Authority has initiated the E-waste Collection Program and the HELP-O has taken action under the CITYNET funded Community based Waste Management Project to encourage the project by providing side support in collecting E-waste and encouraging small businesses and households with potential in waste generation.
Human Rights Program

Human Rights Awareness Raising in Galle.

Project Code Number – CLMB/2014 2015/15

This project funds donated by Australian High Commission.

The Project of Human Rights Awareness Raising in Galle has been started successfully as planned on 27th of July 2015. We started this project as steps. As the first step, we organize the discussion with commissioner in Prison of Galle and Prison welfare officers. We planned that how to proceed the project and create the Time Frame and manage the Budget in first week. Then arrange all required things (Stationery, equipment, Banners & stickers, Furniture) for this Vocational Training project.

Description of major components, According to Project we started Awareness programs in Galle area as second step. Awareness workshops are brief fundamental human rights for combination of prison officers, Police officers, Teacher & Pupils, Private Sector, Government sector and Media. Then according to the proposal opened the New Vocational Training Center under the courses named with Barbers Training: and Beauty culture, Wood crafting, Masons Training, Sewing, Shoe Making, and Aluminum Fittings. We supplied the equipment for all the trainings.

Under the project context we distributed the tool kits for several released prisoners. Other tool kits will be distributing end of the training. We are continuing some activities in present. They are: few awareness programs, few toolkit distributions and supervise about released prisoners’ progress.
Peace Building Programs

Tsunami Displaced Celebrate the New Year.

This particular New year Festival was held on 17th of April 2006 is specially held for the Tsunami victims. This festival mainly organised for the people who resides between Ambalangoda and Goviyapana, Help-O community groups who were affected by this Tsunami disaster. The time which allocated for this new year Festival was insufficient. First of all we had to make the community aware of this. Therefore through community leaders we made the communities aware of this and we had to exhibit the posters. Further we had to seek the volunteer's support as well. Their assistance was essential. Usually the new year festival is being celebrated by, Sinhalese and Tamil people but this time new year festival was for all four religions Sinhala, Tamil, Muslim, Burghar and Malay. All four religions participated for this festival. This New Year Festival unexpectedly a massive crowd was present.

“Celebrate Poson Festival with all Religious”

HELP-O conducted Poson festival with the participation of all Nations in Sri Lanka. The vision of the program is any religious can celebrate poson festival for implement this program every religion members involved actively. As a part of the program we conduct Buddhist carol songs with participation all religions. Through this program we could able to increase the mutual understanding between all nations and through this they learn how to work cooperatively. Other religions could able to get clear idea about what this festival and its worth.
When we implement this program country needs peaceful situation but it was very hard work to do it. Our organization could able to use this program as a platform to fill this gab. As a result of the program we could able to establish a community network with involvement of all religions and after this program people are working very friendly and peace. Every religious presets were participate to this event and they appreciate this program according to their comment this is best way to improve the peace between other nation involving children and elders like this program.

Channel construction at Katugoada

Lack of proper formation of infrastructure plan raise many issues that face people into difficulties. People in subjective area had been facing lots of problems due to waste water discarding channel system in Katugoda village in Galle district. There was no proper water flow in the channel due to several facts so that the waste water which gathered from several parts of the village was steadfast for many weeks. Therefore, people have been facing various serious problems with mosquitoes, bad smell, risk of diseases, flooding and soil erosion by the channel due the above conditions of the water flowing. It was one of program that implements with Galle Municipal Council and IUCN. The community also contributed to this program in a very active way. Many threats have been solved through this way able to increase the infrastructure facility of people.
Reconstruct Project of “Dharmapala Park”

After the Tsunami disaster many assesses were destroyed the major assesses is Dharmapala Park this is the main park of the Galle Town. After destroyed the park the peoples of Galle had to face many problems. Those problems we identified and Galle Municipal Council too so we made a plan to reconstruct this beautiful park for the peoples of Galle. The USAID was helped to rebuild it. Through this program we have planned to develop the child as well as elders through this we could able to forget their bad memories which happen because of the tsunami.

Weekly Radio Program through Lakhanda “Kadathurawa”

Their initiative is fruitful to capture voice cut of the villagers to be broadcast over the “Lakinda “ Kadathurawa program aired every Friday at 3.30 p.m to enable people of all walks of life to express their independent views about the ethnic conflicts and the peace process. Three of our trained peace care guards on a goodwill mission to Jaffna when afforded the opportunity through the voice cut of the above program express the views of the Tamil community whom they converse with the people of Jaffna irrespective of age or sex are anxious about a sustainable peace and peaceful co-existence. Our peace care guards are expected to take part in their cultural and religious activities in Jaffna and encourage the youth of Jaffna to join cultural ceremonies in the South.

Intellectuals such as clergy; Principals of schools including leaders of NGO network through the above program appreciated the notion of HELP-O. That political party difference should be minimized for the sake of National Peace. In remote locations of Tissamaharama where either Television or National News Papers are not within the reach of the low income villagers’ radio is the most popular media of information. As the Kadathurawa program specify the most vital issue of our areas. We find this Radio Program is of paramount importance to impress the importance of the Peace Process.

“Hiru FM” A Minute for Peace Program

There is an ongoing radio program through Hiru FM channel under the caption of A Minute for Peace four times per day on week days at 7.15 am, 12.15 noon and 7.15 pm & 10.15 pm. Scripts from the public are invited to be broadcasted through this channel. News Paper Advertisements and Stickers relating to contribution of scripts have become a very popular program. About 20 letters day are being received elaborating scripts to be broadcast from people of all walks of life, including Professor, Army personnel and students expressing their liberal views about the Peace Process.
Rehabilitation Project & Cleaning Project

In 2004 many of districts were badly affected by the Tsunami. Galle and Matara are two districts badly affected. HELP-O implemented cleanup program with the affected people and we able to rebuild their mind for a positive way and this is psychosocial program activity. Cleaning the city was very essential and necessary task that we had to undertake prior to start relief and rehabilitation programs.

We have organized a cleaning program with a large number of employees to secure health of the people and to rehabilitate people those who affected by Tsunami. This performance was helped people to initiate their rehabilitation and assisted other organizations to work in the cleaned areas. This program was funded by the USAID OTI. It was a great opportunity for affected people to have an income for their survival after the disaster as this was a “Cash for Work” project. There are about 16,000 people employed in the project.
Community Development

Livelihood Development Project
Lives and properties have sacrificed to the Indian Ocean due to recent Tsunami disaster. Livelihoods of citizens in Sri Lanka have destroyed against their sights. Therefore, we had to go towards them to assist with their survival. Thus, HELP-O started, initially, to collect real information of affected people and property. Then, they are divided into two separate categories in order to distribute relevant benefits.

- Micro business
- Handicraft
- Street vendors

Then we have formed small groups including 15 maximum numbers of members in each group. And they are encouraged to save their income for sustainable development. This small savings groups will instruct to form a co-operative society called “Micro finance & Housing co-operative Bank society”. We have distributed goods 645 people for Micro business and 400 vendors and Street vendors they have started their own business. HELP-O has been following a special procedure of distributing goods. That is to provide training programs for beneficiaries before distribute aid. Those are as follows:

Awareness program on,

- Marketing Strategies
- Book keeping and managing their day to day finances
- Invention of new products
- Savings System
- Expand the business
- Marketing of sales items and presentation
- How to get loans and repay them?

People will receive tool kit to restart their livelihood only after successfully completing those trainings. Another special procedure that HELP-O under take is “follows up” after donation. 50% of the values people have received for their livelihood have to be repaid to their small savings group that we have formed. They will be able to take loans for their livelihood development or housing necessary.

We also involved forming Street vendors Association in Galle city and distributing tool kits for them to develop their business. Street vendors Association have been conducting weekly meetings in their business place to discuss their issues and needs. HELP-O also assists to
conduct exhibition in order to introduce International Market for everyone who receive aid from HELP-O.

We are seeking to expand this program for other districts too. Handicraft makers who benefited by livelihood projects is being instructed to form “Handicraft Association”. Local and International buyers are capable of ordering crafts through this Association, so that they can ensure the quality of the products.

**Fisheries Project for Livelihood Development**

The people living in coastal area were the seriously affected community by the Tsunami disaster on 26th of December 2004. It is about 60% of them subjected to fisheries. Their one and only source of living was destroyed. Their Land, resident and properties were destroyed and also some of valuable lives of family members. Despite all of these, the loss of their source of income and insistence of lives were directed to raise a numerous issue on break down their mentality. Having observed all those issues that fishermen faced, British High Commission and HELP-O started a process to assist fisheries to enhance their development.

- **Bicycles Donation**
  The fish sellers affected due to tsunami had no way to start their business. Therefore, we decided to distribute 100 bicycles with tools and fish selling box.

- **Boats Donation**
  We have distributed 25 boats with nets in order to assist fishermen, who affected by tsunami disaster, in order to initiate their source of income.

**Objectives of the Project**

01. Strengthen the fisheries community
02. Assist to rehabilitate several families instead of rehabilitating one family
03. Strengthen them to successfully face disasters
P.P.P Social Responsibility

Housing Project for Upgrade the Living Conditions

We have been constructing about 29 new houses in Galle district for homeless families who have affected due to the tsunami disaster. We are oriented the affected people who don't have land or property ownership. Government and Some Non-Government Organizations have been providing houses for some affected people. Nonresidential house owners, whose houses were destroyed, will receive houses. But people, who didn't have their own land and destroyed their rented house by the disaster, will not receive houses.

Therefore, we hope to assist that homeless people by providing them house and the land. The land also will be given to the beneficiaries on loan basis. The value of the land will be used as the revolving fund in the community through savings group. The funds of the land will be used in the future among saving groups that we have formed, for providing housing loan.

Japanese Housing Association, ACHR also assists to purchase a land. This land will be used to construct about 29 houses. These 29 houses will be constructed by HELP-O with the sponsorship of ANPAS.

Extent of the land.............131.40 perches
No of Houses....................29
No of families....................35

Plan, estimates and design of houses would prepare with the beneficiaries. The construction is taking place under the supervision of HELP-O. Only labors are contracted, raw materials have been providing to the site. There are some spaces to construct more houses.

Sanitary Project for Better Life

Most of infrastructural facilities in Galle district have destroyed by Tsunami disaster. Roads, Channels, Water supply, Electricity & many other common needs were demanded for people. The main issue that arisen through all of these is the difficulties of providing water and sanitary facilities. Therefore we have been implementing projects to facilitate these necessaries. This was an integrated effort for providing the best sanitation facilities for the grass root level community.
HELP-O PROFILE

No of Toilets.............300 (ANPAS)
No of Toilets............. 33 (ACHR) complete
No of toilets...............08 (Japanese Housing Association) No
of common well.......18 (ANPAS)
No of Tube well............46 (ANPAS)

More than 200 toilets have been constructing in Tsunami affected areas. Construction would take place on installment payment basis. Many of this Toilets have been constructing in tsunami affected areas and some of them in Housing Scheme.

As people couldn’t find pure water in many Villages, we wish to construct Common Wells and Tube Wells in particular Communities. The Sanitary facilities for private use have been providing on half loan basis. This is just to train people to make familiar with savings. Any of these payments will not be granted to HELP-O; these grants will be the capital and property of people.

Micro Finance Program for Community Empowerment

HELP-O’s microfinance unit issues small loans to the rural poor who cannot qualify for traditional banking credit. Micro-finance is often seen as the only way they can establish a business and lift themselves out of poverty. In 2006, we received two loans from Norwegian NGO, The Stromme Foundation, totaling 12.2 Million rupees. As a result of this, we have issued loans to 884 individuals this year and our default rate is less than 1% so far.

To be eligible for a micro-finance loan from HELP-O, individuals must be members of a small community saving group, part of the Housing and Livelihood People’s Company, set up by us. The individual applying for the loan needs to be certified by other members of the small savings group who act as guarantors if the individual fails to repay the loan. They then undergo a needs assessment to determine the financial risk associated with the loan. Loans are issued in amounts of 5,000, 10,000, 15,000, 20,000 and 25,000 rupees to the villagers and are generally used to buy equipment or raw materials for their business. If someone defaults on the loan, everyone in the savings group is responsible. The microfinance project has been implemented in Matara and Weligama and is run through the HLDPC.

Alongside the loans, the Stromme Foundation provides funding for resource officers to assess the financial status of an applicant. They fund workshops to build up the skills and capacity of HELP-O staff in areas such as office management, technical aspects of micro-finance and project reporting and writing.
Project Case Studies

Community – based Solid Waste management in Galle City

(A Pilot Project in China Garden)

- They made hand – cart by their own self

Into village roads are very small also municipal council vehicle cannot travel on the roads. Also we gave the hand – cart. After few days that hand – cart getting the damage. But villagers re-made by their own self, because of that they feel this project as their project not only our project. It is a one of the measurement in the project. Because of that community people being with project.


The campaign was conducting by School Green leaders
Our Publications

To see the publication please go through the links...


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7QxYFUwiR1Y

CITYNET Yokohama Office

CITYNET Yokohama Office, Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa. 273 likes. CITYNET Yokohama Office provides support and assista...
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