NEWSLETTER MARCH 2012

LOW CARBON CITY

BIOGAS

HOME GARDEN
Editorial

We are warmly welcome you on HELP-O March Newsletter & expected to share many new experiences of HELP-O activities in different sectors. Environmental protection & management is one of the main working areas of the organization & it has demonstrated by new projects in everywhere.

Concept of “Green Bio Energy Village” is practicing in Puttalam-Palavi area by HELP-O during this month. As a rural area there was no proper waste management mechanism in Palavi village. Because of that HELP-O introduce biogas technology as one of the sustainable solution for waste management of the area. Project initiation part was completed by constructing five biogas plants in Palavi area.

Renewable energy is the main topic of the world today. Many people & organizations are finding most appropriate energy source to face the future challenges of energy sector. HELP-O has introduced the one of the best alternative energy solution –Biogas technology in community level, industrial sector & business community. We have achieved many productive & success implementations of biogas projects.

HELP-O was celebrate World Women’s Day by opening HOLDE Women’s Co-op in officially on 9th March 2012 at Galle Town Hall with the participation of many distinguish guests. It can be consider as one of the most important milestone of the People’s Moment & expand the community empowerment to eradicate the poverty of grass root level people.

We would like to appreciate you as a partner of our success by giving valuable ideas on Newsletter & our activities. We cordially invite you to put your hands on the process of environment conservation as a global need.

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When we are looking at city it has many problems with waste management in public places like market & hospital. As urban council area Gampola city also consisted with waste problem few months ago. Gampola urban council was practice good lesson for other local authorities by contributing funds through Ministry of Local Government & Provincial Council to construct biogas plants as solution for waste management of Gampola market & hospital.

HELP-O was handover the couple of biogas units in Gampola market & hospital at the end of February 2012. Two shops are using biogas for cooking purposes from market biogas plant & hospital is using biogas for their kitchen. Gampola urban council indicated the profit of these plants by calculating monthly economic profit comparing LP gas daily usage.

In addition to that they were highlighted the environmental benefits through methane burn per day by assuming as 16.5m3 & 1000kg organic waste reduce per day. It is considerable amount of waste reduction in total urban council waste collection. They have accepted that biogas technology as one of the sustainable solution for waste management & expected to expand the biogas users.
Mitigation of Climate Change

National mid-term GHG reduction target

Korea set its mitigation goal at a 30% reduction in greenhouse gases relative to BAU by 2020, the highest level advised by IPCC for the non-Annex 1 countries. Korea’s aggressive target reflects its will to driven green policy, and to participate in the global efforts to mitigate climate change.

Target Management Scheme for GHG Emission and energy consumption

Introduction in 2010, this scheme is designed to set GHG emission and energy consumption reduction targets for significant emitters. About 70% of roughly 600 major GHG emitters have been brought into the scheme. This scheme will also entail a systematic management of a national GHG information system.

Emission Trading Scheme

Korea is preparing to introduce the Emission Trading Scheme in 2015. It is designed to allow GHG emitters to trade emission allowances to lower the overall national cost of emission reduction.

Solution for waste & energy in Household

With the new house construction of Mr. Shrilal who is the owner of Galle Print House in Karapitiya was implement biogas plant as a solution for waste & energy problem.

It has planned to convert toilet as feeding waste for biogas plant with the size of 15m3. After the finishing of this biogas plant it will create most favorable living environment for them. It will reduce their energy cost for kitchen purposes & increase more environmental benefits.
Bio Energy village will realize in Palavi

Palavi area in Puttalam district was selected to create bio energy village by Lanka Orix Leasing Company (LOLC) & HELP-O. It was domestic level biogas plant construction project as a sustainable solution for waste management & energy conservation. At now there were constructed five biogas plants in five houses & will hand over to community within this month.

People of the area are more interested & waiting for the environmental, economic, social benefits of biogas plants. As a rural community they are spending lot of money for energy sources. Due to the biogas technology they can save that money & they can cultivate by using bio fertilizer. In addition to that these biogas plants will contribute to reduce the waste collection over 3000kg per month & methane emission to the environment by 30m³ per month. When we consider these factors Palavi village will a modal city as bio energy village.
HELP-O is a leading organization that implements newly things and demonstrate many programs to the world. With the financial assistance of Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO) we launched a school home gardening program among the ten schools of Galle district on last August 2011.

The selected schools cultivated many vegetables in large scales & schools assign all children to work together in their school gardens to make a best garden enrich with all qualities. The student contributed much for cultivation & with the assistance of Education department we selected the best school from them. In this way children were aware about the gardening concept & it was much important to spread this gardening habit to the society. Winner got the financial assistance from the FAO during the last October 2011.

On last 9th March 2012 the coordinator of Food & Agricultural Organization (FAO) of school home grading program visited our organization to have an onsite visit for the selected schools for their program.

It was a nice opportunity for the rural schools to show their progress to their funders. Hiyare Maha Vidyalaya as well as Pitadeniya Maha Vidyalaya was visited during this visit. The school children as well as school staff could share their experiences with the FAO team & the all other 9 schools received a certificate & a gift from FAO for the participation of the program.

Their present situation of gardening, how they utilize their gardening income as revolving fund to continue the cultivation process, the drought & animals threatens which are the critical situations they are facing, the parents & children’s contribution for this gardening program was discussed with the FAO team.

Finally all the school children expressed their idea that now they are ability to do gardening in their homes which will helpful for them to contribute for their daily consumer foods requirements even.
Ayurveda Medical Awareness Programs in Bombekasalwatta & 47 Settlements

Ayurveda Department in Southern Province Ayurveda community Health Unit has conducted fifth & sixth awareness program in Bombekasalwatta and 47 settlements in Galle. HOLDE Women’s Co-Op members were participate for this awareness programme.

Two ayurveda doctors were participated & conduct the lectures about the effects of artificial spices & coloring of foods in Bombekasalwatta awareness programme. There were good discussions related to the present market attractions for inappropriate food for human body. They were very clearly explained about the importance of local food habits flowing from generation to generation.

In 47 settlements awareness programme was about cholesterol and diabetic. Doctor was explained that need of awareness to keep the good health condition. As a people living in village there are more possibilities to prevent from illness by using local foods.

They were discussed about the bad effects of food habit changes & its effect for human life. At the end of the programme they said that ayurveda methods may solutions for these bad effects & community was interested about the programme. They were aware with new knowledge of ayurveda medicine.
HELP-O has great proud of history by working with grass root level community from the organization initiation period & it was developing day by day with new achievements by facilitating to community in Sri Lanka.

HELP-O was formed small groups societies in village level in past ten years ago & it was developed as people’s movement after few years with huge community contributions. Then it was constitute women’s banks to serve for the poor communities by providing several facilities such as savings, loans, home gardening, biogas projects health & sanitation programmes etc.

Today women’s banks develop as Housing & Livelihood Development Women’s Co-Operative. Official opening of HOLDE Women’s Co-Op was held in 9th of March 2012 at Galle Town Hall by celebrate World Women’s Day.

The Ministry of Fisheries, Cultural, Food Supply and Distribute, Trade and Co-Operative Development, Hon. Minister Mr. D.V. Rohana Priya Upul, and Secretary of Minister Mr. Asoka Siriwardana, Commissioner of Co-Operative Development in Southern Province, Former Deputy Chief Secretary Planning & Monitoring in Southern Province Mrs. K.Kumuduni Abeywickrama, Director of Karapitiya Teaching Hospital Ms. Dr.Priyani Senadheera, Assistant Commissioner of Co-Operative in Galle District Ms. J.De.S.K.Amitha & HELP-O Chairman Mr. Chathura Welivitiya was participated for the opening ceremony as chief guests.

HELP-O Chairman/chief executive Mr.Chathura Welivitiya addresses the community by explained works and experiences of people’s movement to reach this level as a community. He explained objective of the function. Also, he said that “our main purpose was introduced method of saving & to manage the income to develop as community in rural areas.

Mr.Asoka Siriwardena, Mrs.Kumuduni Abeywickrama & other guests also addressed the gathering & wish to the success of the HOLDE Women’s Co-Op for the development of community. They were appreciate the all leaders & their dedication of this process.
Elected chairman of HOLDE Women’s Co-Op Mrs. Chandralatha make public booklet named “Rallen Upan Diriya Kathun” to sharing six year experience of the community programme. This publication was serving for guests.

For the success of these ceremony there were leading & dedicative people Ms. Ayoma Thennakon, Ms. Sagarika, Mrs. Dulmini Wickramasinghe, Mr. Sampath Athukorala, Mr. Janaka Chandrajith & other HELP-O officers.

We highly appreciate the mayor of the Galle Municipal Council Mr. Methsiri De Silva for his great support.
The Effort to stand on my own legs

E.M.D Kanthi is a mother of four children & she is a member of Kadurudoowa HOLDE Women’s Co-Operative from the beginning time of the branch. She is the wise chairmen of that branch & she engage with this social work to do some for her villages as well as for herself also. During this month one of our reporters shared the ideas with her in their branch meeting.

**Reporter:** How you engage with this Co-Operative branch?

I was aware to make a small group of 5-10 members & to select a leader for it. Members selected me as their group leader & then I got the opportunity to participate our branch Co-Operative meetings on behalf of my group members. I was aware about financial & other social assistance of HOLDE Women’s Co-Op in this way.

**Reporter:** What is your present situation?

Now I’m living happily with my family. Especially, I like to remind the financial assistance I got when our small taxi met with accident. We lean our lives through hiring our small taxi for passengers & when it was damaged by an accident we all were disappointed. We haven’t large sum of money at once, to repair it again. I got the Rs.50, 00.00 as a loan & it was a great help for me that time. With in short period I could repair our taxi & could use it for hires like earlier. When I got that assistance I was doing my mushroom business as self-employment from the financial assistance of our Kadurudoowa HOLDE Women’s Co-Operative & now I’m earning from it also. In this way I could contribute some to my home expenses also.

**Reporter:** What you feel about this Co-Operative system?

Really this system is so much helpful for the people like us when the time of emergency specially. Financial assistance as well as the unity of our villages is the main strength we got from this system. I think this type of assistance need for every society to fight against the poverty specially. Like me many of our members got assistance from our HOLDE women’s Co-Operative & all of us now working together to get sustain our selves together.
Experiences from Bala Vikasa Training Programme

Bala Vikasa Social Service Society is a registered, non-profit, non-governmental community development organization, based at Warangal, Andhra Pradesh; India. People Development Training Center (PDTC) was initiated with an objective of sharing knowledge and experience of Bala Vikasa, in “Community Development”, to the likeminded NGOs, Individuals and Institutions through need based capacity building activities. Bala Vikasa PDTC has designed a number of training modules basing them on its own grass root experience and keeping them relevant to the needs of the development sector. The objective of training programs is mainly to provide knowledge, impart skills and change attitudes of the agents of change towards development.

HELP-O works as Sri Lankan representative for this programme & gave opportunity to participate for many people for the training programme in continuously. We try to share the experience of participants for the Bala Vikasa Training Programme from this newsletter.

Galle District coordinator of Non Government Secretariat in Defense Ministry Ms. Rupika Rajakaruna was participates for Bala Vikasa Training Programme & she will share her ideas through this page.

“I was participated for Bala Vikasa Community Drive Development Training Programme in year 2011 & it was more valuable for my profession as district NGO coordinator. It was my first foreign training.

Through this training I learned many new concepts & subject matters much valuable for our life. Among that all the concepts I can well remember about the Assets Based Community Development concept.

Related to my subject area it was more helpful to get well comprehensive knowledge for managing the NGO activities as a collective work. In addition to that it was a good tool to study the way of managing foreign NGO’s within their countries.

There was a good concept of “3H”; it was tell about the power of our Head –Hands-Heart. It was a good lesson to work hard & to use our capacities to achieve the expected outcomes. Actually the combination of this 3H will create a person for work or do not work. When I compare with my working area I have to handle & monitor NGO’s with different goals & objectives. So balance on this “3H” is more important for that task.

In addition to that there were new concepts of five pillars of the development “Economic-Environment-Good Governance-Social & Cultural. This is also much important to work out for the development of any sector.

4D model “Discover-Dream –Design-Deliver” was important concept to fulfill our targets in success manner. However this training programme was more important for my profession & willing to participate this kind of training in future as well.
Trincomalee Green Bio Energy City

HELP-O has started “Application of green bio energy city in Trincomalee” with the financial support of UNEP AFPED programme.

Through this project we expected to start the construction work of biogas plants in Trincomalee within next month. Now we have identified the suitable places for the biogas plant construction within Trincomalee Urban Council area.

This is the second Green Bio Energy City we developing by using Biogas technology. First one was Galle Clean & Green Bio Energy City. HELP-O will share updates of the Trincomalee project in future with new data & information.

Community Biogas Plant for Walawwathe

To construct biogas plant has identified in Walawwathe-Galle as a combined project of HELP-O, Galle Municipal Council & Netherland. Netherland team was visited the place & construction work will start next month.

Workshop in Jeju –South Korea

Related to ‘Enhancing Human Security: Developing Capacities to Protect and Assist Victims of Human Trafficking” workshop to be held from 28-30 March 2012 in Jeju, Republic of Korea, organized by UNITAR CIFAL Jeju.

Attorney at law, Director of ITN Director of HELP-O Mr.Godagamage Wimalarathne will participate for this workshop by representing Sri Lanka.

Bala Vikasa Training in India

Training programme to be held on “Leadership Skills & Personality Development” organized by the Bala Vikasa Social Service Society, Warangal Andra Pradesh, India from 30-31st March 2012.

WE ARE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS .................

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