Protection of Human Rights

- **Awareness resign workshop on Human Rights**
  Police officers Training
  Prison officers Training
  Awareness workshop for parents, teachers, pupils, Grama Niadari, Media Person
  Awareness workshop for networking of all CBO’s, NGO’s

The Training Process for Voluntary Human Rights Care Guards

We have trained 60 voluntary Human Rights Care guards in Gall district. They have given 2 training programs on following topics.

Law and Social Obligation
Civil & Criminal Law
Technical & Training on communication talent and training for challenges to be faced

Rehabilitation Program for Prisoners

- Scholarship for children of poor prisoners
- Assist them with their self-employments

We have conducted some professional training programs for the prisoners to train them for their development.
Schools and City Greening Program

We have conducted lots of programs for planting trees in schools and by the roads. Also hold many awareness programs in schools on environmental care.

Many awareness and Training programs have been done regarding peace. This programs awarded people about peace process and encouraged them to persuade the government toward peace the process.

Constraints for Human Rights under prevailing circumstances in Sri Lanka

1. Due to party politics people are subject to various forms of victimizations.

2. The arrest of the wife for offences committed by husband when the offender is absconding.

3. Political protection for illegal businessmen leads to deprive poor people to ignore their human rights been helpless.

4. Due to securing employment especially in the Middle East by women the Members of such families cannot enjoy human rights and such families are subject to various disputes who are confronted with human rights and children of such families become victims of various unfortunate incidents.

5. Ejection of street vendors without prior notice and bring false allegations in a court of law.

6. As certain entrepreneurs deliberately ignore labor regulations the Employees are deprived of legitimate remunerations where maternity Leave of women employees are concerned the privileges enjoyed hitherto Are likely to be cut down due to requests from foreign investors.
Weekly Radio Program through Lakhanda under the caption “Kadathurawa”

Their initiative is fruitful to capture voice cut of the villagers to be broadcast over the “Lakhanda " 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. Through formulation of circles of the community opportunities are afforded for them to voice their liberal views. So far through the Radio Program of “Kadathurawa” regarding the political disagreement the following categories of the community were afforded the chance to voice their views.

- Farmers
- Doctors
- Entrepreneurs
- Members of voluntary associations
- School / University students
- Youth of either sex
- Three Wheel drivers
- House Wives

“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 p.m. 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.
Protect the Environment
Sustainable Solid Waste Management

Implementation of Bio-Gas in “Karapitiya” Hospital under Galle Municipal Council

In order to address the massive problem of unsystematic disposal of garbage 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 garbage problem. As a result a Bio-gas plant was initiated.

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 1 cylinder of fuel (13.5 kg) that used in hospital kitchen and use bio-gas instead of it.

We are seeking to place another 2 bio-gas plants in Galle district to assist Municipal council with the garbage issue.

The poster for Garbage Sort out system that exhibit in the Hospital.

Sponsored by: USAEP
REHABILITATION PROJECTS

CLEANING PROJECT

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.

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.

No of Employees worked in Galle........................................10,000
No of Employees worked in Matara......................................6,000
No of Employees worked in Ahangama.................................6,000

This performance was helped people to initiate their rehabilitation and assisted other organizations to work in the cleaned areas.
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.

1. Micro business
2. Handicraft
3. 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 there 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 undertake 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 every one 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.

No of Micro businessman …….320

USAID/Revive project

No of Micro businessman ……900
No of Handicrafts………………210
No of street vendors…………….568

This distribution have been considering as the 50 % grant and 50 % loan program. Thus the beneficiary who are having tool kits for their livelihood, have to pay 50 % of the value. This 50% will not be paid to HELP-O or any of our grants.

We have been planning to start a Corporative Society in every community and hope to start a Housing Corporative Bank by gathering all of them.

This Housing Corporative Society enables people to apply loans for housing, Livelihood and education.

Planning a program with the participation of beneficiaries in different Communities

This one of our main procedure that we are concerning with implementing a project. This method enables us to ensure the satisfaction of beneficiaries.
CRAFT FAIR 2005

“CRAFT FAIR 2005” was held in collaborating of the three main organizations Human and Environment Link Progressive Organization, Arthacharya Foundation and Environmental Protection Foundation on December 10\textsuperscript{th} and 11\textsuperscript{th} of 2005 at Light House Hotel in Galle. It commenced at 10.00 a.m. and continued till 6.30 p.m. About 300 beneficiaries of Craft Fair exhibited their products and graced the occasion; Besides the USAID had donated the necessary support to make their products in a very successful way.

Objective

- To introduce local trade and especially for the foreign trade to the people who lost their main income due to Tsunami tidal wave.
- To bring hidden creative workers to forefront.
- To make available a wide range of learning opportunities.
- To introduce our local products to the visitors such as foreigners and make them understand the skills of our producers.
- To show live demonstrations on how crafts are made.
FISHERIES PROJECT

Rehabilitating the exhausted Fishery affected by Tsunami catastrophe

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 lost 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

No of Boats with Engines & Nets… 25
No of bicycles with tools…………. 100

Sponsored By: British High Commission
HOUSING PROJECT

Housing-1

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. Non residential 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 home less 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.

Sponsored by: ANPAS, Italy

Housing-2

Another housing project has taken place in Galle district for affected people who lost their houses. These houses were constructed in their own land. There were five houses have constructed with the help of ACHR. Construction of these houses has taken place a different way than the other. That is, providing installment payment for the head of the house and monitoring the construction. Then we have issued the next installment according to the performance of the head of the house.
SANITARY PROJECT

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.

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.
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY CENTRE

We have been constructing a community centre to provide an opportunity for people to develop their mentality and to perform social activities within their village.

We are planning to place about four Community Centers in different areas. Those are as follows.

- Katugoda
- Unawatuna
- Walahanduwa
- Dangedara

Following programs will be taken place in that Community Center.

- Children Clubs
- Community Meetings
- Sport Activities
- Montessori
- Functions and Ceremonies
- Small savings group meetings

Two community centers have been constructing as the pilot projects. One of those two community centers will be used to conduct above activities. We are planning to start some vocational training programs in other Community Centers such as

- Computer Training
- Sewing training
- Wood Cutting
- Lace weaving
- Carpet weaving
- Language courses

If anyone interested in this, we always welcome their involvement.
ARALIYA PROJECT
SAMAGIYE UDANAYA COMMUNITY CENTRE

Aim of the intervention logic:

The overall objective is the improvement of social, psychological and economic conditions of the weakest categories of the community in Thotagamuwa. The project will support the community through the following actions:

I. Rehabilitation and support of victims of post-traumatic disorders.
II. Increase the knowledge relating to emergency psychology, psycho-traumatology and psychotherapy.
III. Action to reactive microeconomics. The beneficiaries will be local entrepreneurs and people who would like to start a micro enterprise.
IV. Increase the knowledge of children and adolescents in informatics subject and English language.

Specific Objectives:

I. To start Community Centre including psychology assistance, psychology and self-help groups.
II. To form local operators and experts in emergency psychology, psycho-traumatology and psychology.
III. To promote the economic recovery and to strength micro enterprises.
IV. To create a free course of informatics and a free course in English language addressed to the children and the adolescents of the community of Thotagamuwa.
We have renovated a house for a community centre in Thotagamuwa, Hikkaduwa. The Italian Ngo ANPAS Solidarieta Internazionale has been donated by renovating this centre and providing us all the equipments for the Coir rugs, Sewing, English courses and Computer courses. The money we have sufficient only for the main purpose such as to pay Electricity, Water and Telephone bill only for this year. Project will over by end of this year. But further we don’t have any financial assistance to proceed with as we conduct this community centre legally for ten years. If anyone interest on doing a activity in this “Samagiye Udanaya” Community Centre we always welcome them.

**Activities which has been finished:**
- Computer Course – I
- English Course – I
- Counseling Program

**Activities on going:**
- Computer Course – II
- English Course – II for the children
- English Course – I for the adults
- Sewing training
- Coir carpets training

*Sponsored by: ANPAS Solidarieta Internazionale (Italian Ngo)*
NEW YEAR FESTIVAL.
Excellence through Diversity.

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.

Objective of the programme.

1. Due to the current situation of our motherland Sri Lanka this way of programming a celebration among the nations brings unity and integrity among the nations.

2. Without any cast distinctions among the nation rather than working individually work in unity is appreciated.

3. The festival which was celebrated by Tamil Sinhalese in the past was transformed into one nation’s common cultural festival.
Activities.
This new year festival had been filled with various kind of cultural activities. Among the activities there were special items for competitions that were very particular for Hindus and Muslims named as Pallamkuli and Kolam. The item Pallamkuli was played in a piece of plank with seven holes in each side and each holes with seven seeds. This has to be played by two people in either side of the plank. As we created all the games groupwise. So this Pallamkuli game also participated by five competitions. As the pictures showes we made all the games represent by all four relegion. We made this compulsory.

Hindu game Kolam was a design decorated with different kind of colourful dye. This has to be done by each competitors. Even this game we made four participants represent by all four religions. By different communities among these competition most special and fascinating ones were the competition that were performed by the Hindus and Muslims.
“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 religious. 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 gap. 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.

Now people don’t have misunderstood about others. Our organization main theme was poson is common festival for all religion. When children sing Buddhist carol song there was Christians, Muslims and Hindu children. They did it like it is their festival. We could able to get the support of Government and other organization help to conduct it we conduct this program in “Paraliya to Ahangama” area of Sri Lanka.
HOUSING AND LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PEOLE’S COMPANY LTD. (HLDPC)

We have been instructing people to form a major Society that will capable of helping people to fulfill their needs any time. Therefore we have community groups in Galle as well as Matarata. All together there are more than 5000 HELP-O Community groups’ members. This Society called “HOUSING AND LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PEOLE’S COMPANY LTD. (HLDPC) consists of many simple societies.

HLDPC enable members to take loans for Housing, Land purchasing, livelihood development and Welfare activities.

The main aspects of HLDPC are Small Savings Groups. This savings groups consist of maximum 15 members who should be trustworthy to each other. There are three leaders leading a group as President, Secretary and Treasurer. These groups gather once a week in a particular place and do savings of fixed amount in the groups per week.

All of these small savings groups form the HOUSING AND LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PEOLE’S COMPANY LTD. (HLDPC). We have formed more than 500 Small Savings groups in Galle district and Matara district which consist of 5600 members. The total branches are more than 27 and we hope to open 30 more branches in this year.
As we have been implementing a Housing project, we also provide them the land on loan basis. That is, people have to pay the value of the land to the HOUSING AND LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PEOPLE’S COMPANY LTD. (HLDPC).

The reason to provide lands to the people is because of the following situation. The Tsunami affected people lived in coastal area within 100 meters from the sea, were not given permission to rebuild their houses in their lands as Sri Lankan government prohibited building houses in that particular boundary for people’s safety. Government has identified lands to built houses for them inside the country. But, most of the people don’t like to transfer their houses to those lands as it is too far from their past residents.

Therefore, we have purchased few land blocks from a private land owner and put up houses. Few houses will be given to beneficiaries with the sponsorship of ANPAS. But still there exist a demand for houses.

The value of the land will be given to Housing Corporative Society by the beneficiaries and that amount will be used as a revolving fund.
CHILDREN PROGRAMS

Children’s programs are one of the key areas of our activities as, in fact, it will be the real future investment. We have formed children societies in every community to improve their mentality and physical ability.

Lots of children activities have been implementing through these children societies. They have conducted in those societies such as:

- Dancing competition
- Drawings presentation
- Art exhibition

We initiate programs for children to enhance their talent, abilities and mentality.

No of children groups formed............... 35
No of children in groups.................... 1,450

We have been planning to distribute sport materials and library books for 20 children societies.

Sponsored by: ANPAS
Infrastructure

Channel construction at Katugoada

Lack of proper formation of infrastructure plan raise many issues that face people into difficulties. Some of the infrastructural issues that people facing are as follows.

Filling off natural channels
Improper channel constructions
Lack of formal roads
Demand for water

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.

Main causes for the issue

1. Destruction of that channel due to Tsunami
2. Steadfast of water in the stream
3. Static solid waste in the channel and unusual depth of the channel

Channel with waste water

Objectives

1. Improve the infrastructure and health of villagers
2. Assist with the environmental protection and finance of the people.
3. Create awareness among villages on environment protection and waste management.

Approaches and strategies

Construction of the channel was made by employing villagers by the channel side to assist with their income generation. It is proposed to construct 75 meters of the Channel from the Akuressa Road culvert towards the direction in to the village. It has constructed with 4 feet width and about 1.5 feet up from the road level.
Even it proposed to construct only 75 meters, HELP-O has constructed about 120 meters of the channel and planning to construct whole channel. Since the Human & Environment Link Progressive Organization (HELP-O) formed to care environment and Human rights, a column on the wall of the channel has constructed in order to plant some flower for a green view. About 150 families directly benefit from this construction.

Water flow of the channel in the constructed portion has regulated by filling clayey on surface. It would be better if we could lay concrete on the bottom of the channel. But due to the limited budget available, HELP-O was taken that activity back to make it in the future. Additionally, HELP-O was able to put concrete foot bridge to some houses near the channel for their up and down movement and transportation for their houses.

**IUCN**

The World Conservation Union

*Sponsored by: IUCN – World conservation union*

**SPF Project**

*Project for rehabilitate Tsunami victims in Galle district by Developing their Livelihood, Infrastructure and Health*

This is one of the most important as well as rapid program which we have implemented in 2006. This program was managed by a French organization called Secours Populaire Francais with the corporation of HELP-O. The particular project consists of following activities which were successfully implemented.

1. Providing toolkits for 140 micro businessmen for their livelihood.
2. Construct 30 toilets for victims in Thalpe & Goviyapana
3. Provided 5 wheel chairs for disables in pereliya & Hikkaduwa.
4. Provide sport materials and books for 400 children
**Major objectives achieved**

1. Lend a hand for tsunami affected micro businessmen to restart their source of income for their development.
2. Provide sanitary facilities for a healthiness environment and infrastructure.
3. Assist with disabilities for their survival and formality.
4. Assist children to improve their knowledge and physical ability

Tsunami; the catastrophe which peoples in South Asia had to incur on 26th of December 2006 cause thousands of deaths, injuries and displaces. Among the injuries more people were face long term illnesses such as handicap, sight invisibility, inaudibility, etc. Concerning these issues we have planed to provide 20 pair of spectacles, 5 wheel chairs and 5 hearing machines for tsunami victims in Galle district.

**Programs:**

1. Donation of 213 Spectacles was taken place at “Butterfly Ground” in Galle with the participation of Mr. G. Hevawitharana, Representative of RADA in Galle & Mr. H Y De Silva, and Economic recovery officer of RADA in Galle.

2. Wheel chair & Hearings machine donation program was taken place at Pereliya village.5 wheelchairs and 5 hearings equipments for selected people.

3. Sport and stationerries for 400 selected children were distributed through this program. During the donation session several events were organized such as drama, poems and games.
4. Also 130 micro business toolkits were distributed to selected beneficiaries in Habaraduwa division. Sewing machines, other equipments, retail food items, food making tools, etc have distributed. As it was mentioned in former pages, these beneficiaries will be connected with “HLDPC” network.

5. Construction of 30 toilets in Thalpe and Goviyapana villages is another activity implemented by this program to assist with health and infrastructure development of the villages.

Under this project the SPF organization has planned to build new 09 Houses in “Koggala” area to the Tsunami affected people. All beneficiaries are the People’s Company Members who affected tsunami lived on Bus stand after the Tsunami. That assistant provided by SPF Organization is helped to improve the living standard of the community.

Under the support with SPF organization built a coir factory on “Paraliya” area to provide the coir for our community. This factory is made for improve the export,
Micro Finance Program

HELP-O's microfinance unit issues small loans to the rural poor who can't 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.