



Galewala Development Project
Sustainability Report
January 2011

Implementing Agency

Human Development Foundation (HDF)

235/1 Pokuna Road,

Thumbowila,

Piliyandala,

Sri Lanka

Sponsoring Agency

Shining Life Children's Trust (SLCT)

10A Kalinga Place,

Sulaiman Avenue,

Colombo 5

Sri Lanka

Contents

Acronyms

- 1. Introduction to the Report**
- 2. Introduction to the Project**
- 3. Methodology**
- 4. Structure of Report**
- 5. Education**
 - 5.1. Introduction to the Objective
 - 5.2. Achievements and Limitations
 - 5.3. Sustainability
 - 5.4. Conclusions and Recommendations
- 6. Health**
 - 6.1. Introduction to the Objective
 - 6.2. Achievements and Limitations
 - 6.3. Sustainability
 - 6.4. Conclusions and Recommendations
- 7. Finance and Employment**
 - 7.1. Introduction to the Objective
 - 7.2. Achievements and Limitations
 - 7.3. Sustainability
 - 7.4. Conclusions and Recommendations
- 8. Environment**
 - 8.1. Introduction to the Objective
 - 8.2. Achievements and Limitations
 - 8.3. Sustainability
 - 8.4. Conclusions and Recommendations
- 9. Project Management**
 - 9.1. Project Operations
 - 9.2. Achievements and Limitations
 - 9.3. Sustainability
 - 9.4. Conclusions and Recommendations
- 10. Summary**
- 11. Conclusions and Recommendations**
- 12. Appendix**

Acronyms

| | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| A.G.A | Assistant Government Agent |
| CC | Children's Clubs |
| DS | Divisional Secretary |
| ECCD | Early Childcare and Development |
| GDP | Galewala Development Project |
| GS | Grama Sevaka |
| HDF | Human Development Foundation |
| ILO | International Labour Organisation |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |
| MoH | Ministry of Health |
| MTR | Mid-Term Report |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organisation |
| PRA | Participatory Rural Appraisal |
| QPR | Quarterly Progress Report |
| SLCT | Shining Life Children's Trust |
| WS | Women's Societies |

1. Introduction to the Report

This report will highlight the achievements and limitations of the Galewala Development Project (GDP) implemented by Human Development Foundation (HDF) and sponsored by Shining Life Children's Trust (SLCT) in the Galewala District between February 2010 and December 2011. The Report will draw conclusions and recommendations from each project objective as well as ascertaining the relative sustainability of each objective. It will also make recommendations to both the implementing organisation and sponsoring agency after completion of this project. Furthermore, it should assess the potential for project replication in surrounding and similar communities. The report aims to inform future projects of lessons learnt to aid project implementation for HDF, SLCT, community members of Galewala and other stakeholders.

The report will assess the methodology and consider the monitoring and evaluation methods used during the project. Following this, each objective will be assessed and the activities implemented to complete these objectives considered. The achievements and limitations of each objective will be evaluated to consider the challenges and successes relating to each objective. Finally the Report will consider the sustainability of the project. As SLCT normally only works in a community for two and a half to three years, it is especially important to consider the sustainability of the project to ensure that the project activities will be continued after SLCT withdraws from the project area.

2. Introduction to the Project

The project originally took place in three villages of Galewala District: Ibbankatuwa; Kirallagolla and; Meewalapataha.

The objectives of the project were as follows:

Education

- To ensure pre-schools are in an adequate condition;
- To equip pre-school teachers with adequate training;
- Through the availability of good pre-schools, to increase the number of children attending pre-school;
- To raise awareness of the importance of education, and improve secondary level attendance;
- To engage children in positive educational and recreational activities;
- To provide basic library facilities in every village;
- To provide a platform for children to express themselves and raise awareness of the children's clubs and;
- To provide access for youths and children to computer facilities and IT training.

Health

- To give basic training in first aid and family health to women and children and;
- To raise awareness of the importance of healthcare and dental hygiene and the local availability of healthcare facilities.

Finance and Employment

- To provide access to small loans¹ at reasonable rates to women in every village and;
- To improve the capacity of women to diversify and increase their income generating capabilities through vocational training and microfinance.

Environment

- To raise awareness of environmental concerns in the community and;
- To improve home food production in an environmentally friendly manner.

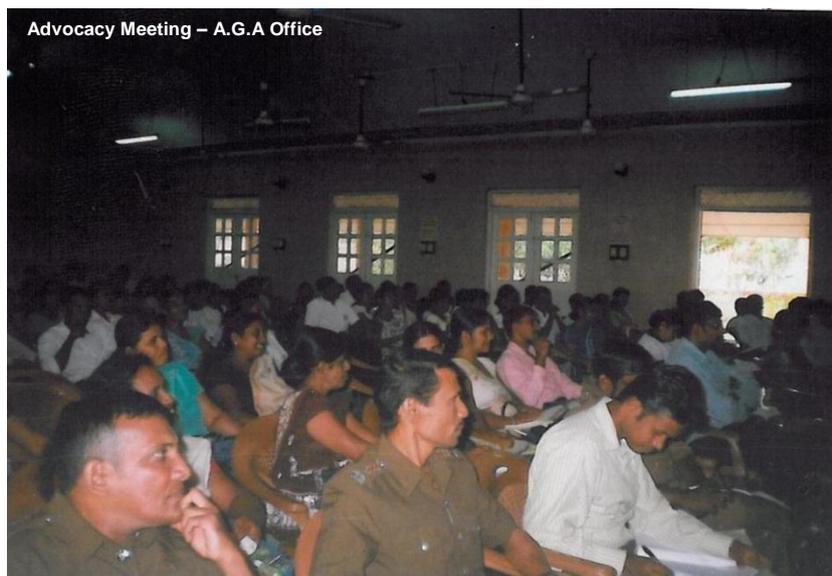
Project activities included:

- Pre-school building repairs and renovation
- Library repairs and renovation
- Pre-school teacher training
- Provision of library books and equipment
- Librarian training

¹ During this report microfinance will also be referred to as Savings Schemes and microcredit. During the projects implementation SLCT and HDF referred to microfinance initiatives as Savings Schemes due to the complex rules around Sri Lankan microcredit schemes. However, the original GDP proposal refers to Savings Schemes as microfinance.

- Foundation and maintenance of Children's Clubs
- Provision of sports goods
- Newsletter
- Health training for mothers
- Health training for children
- Dental clinics
- Counselling sessions for the school
- Counselling sessions for the parents
- Microfinance credit training
- Microfinance credit programme
- Microfinance educational trip
- Self-employment training: dressmaking; sweet-making; milk production (including yoghurt and ice-cream); and; batik training
- Animal husbandry training: cattle; poultry and; bee keeping
- Food preservation training
- Compost making
- Home gardening
- Animal husbandry
- Garbage disposal
- Environmental programme for Children's Club
- Competition for Children's Club
- New Year Programme

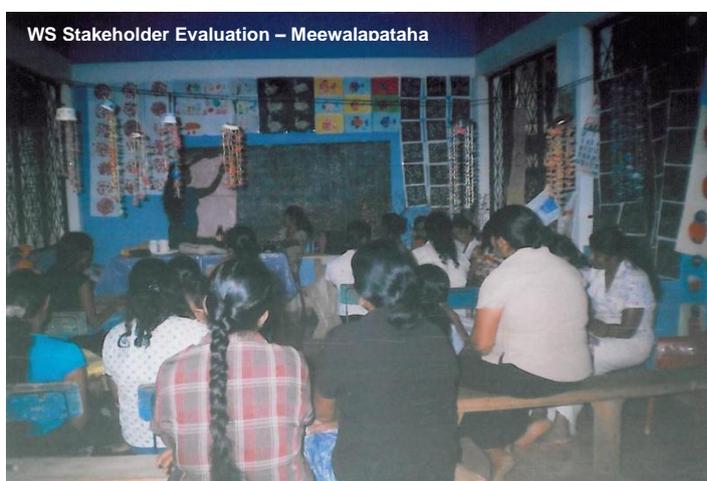
3. Methodology



Several Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) methods were used for the duration of the project. Rapid Appraisal was the most common use of M&E with interviews, focus groups discussions, key stakeholder discussions and community discussions all taking place throughout the project. This data was largely collected by HDF with feedback given to SLCT.

Quarterly Progress Reports (QPR) were also submitted to highlight participation levels and the achievements and limitations of the project to date. A Mid-Term Report (MTR) was completed at the halfway stage of the project with conclusions and recommendations for the implementing organisation and the sponsoring organisation. An Advocacy Meeting also took place which included consultancy with the major stakeholders of the GDP.

4. Structure of Report



The remaining structure of the report is split into five main sections: Capacity Building; Education; Health; Environment; Finance and Employment; and Project Management. The report will introduce the various activities and objectives and then analyse the data gathered from M&E activities to evaluate the successes and limitations of each project objective. The Report will also assess the sustainability of

each objective in order to consider whether or not further work is needed in the project area to ensure project sustainability. Each objective will also be analysed with conclusions and recommendations considered. Finally, the Sustainability Report will look at the summary and conclusions analysing the projects successes and limitations as well as lessons learnt for the implementing and sponsoring agencies.

5. Education

5.1. Introduction to the Objective

Objectives:

- To ensure pre-schools are in an adequate condition;
- To equip pre-school teachers with adequate training;
- Through the availability of good pre-schools, to increase the number of children attending pre-school;
- To raise awareness of the importance of education, and improve secondary level attendance;
- To engage children in positive educational and recreational activities;
- To provide basic library facilities in every village;
- To provide a platform for children to express themselves and raise awareness of the children's clubs and;
- To provide access for youths and children to computer facilities and IT training.

Activities included:

- Pre-school building repairs and renovation
- Library repairs and renovation
- Pre-school teacher training
- Provision of library books and equipment
- Librarian training
- Foundation and maintenance of Children's Clubs
- Provision of sports goods
- Newsletter
- Competition for Children's Club
- New Year Programme
- Counselling for parents
- Counselling for students

5.2. Achievements and Limitations

Up to and after the MTR and until the completion of the project, Children's Clubs attendances have been maintained at a good level. Attendances peaked during the Sinhala New Year celebrations with all the community coming together to celebrate the cultural event. HDF and SLCT provided funds for the community celebration of Sinhala New Year with the SLCT Field Director, HDF Project Coordinator and Field Officers and two SLCT Trustees attending the 2010 New Years Celebration. In 2011 the SLCT Field Director and HDF Project Coordinator and Field Officers attended. The New Years event was also used to present sports goods to the Children's Clubs and awards and certificates for the winners of the Children's Clubs competitions. The children commented that the New Year's celebrations allowed them to display their talent, unity and collectiveness. On average

most children in the community attended the Children's Clubs once or twice a month and were very satisfied with the organised meetings. Pre-school and crèche repairs also took place during the first phase of the Galewala Development Project with significant improvements made to pre-school facilities in the area. While more work is required (see Appendix 12.1) and was requested by the community and local Women's Societies, it was decided that these improvements should come from local sources – initiated by the local community – and SLCT would consider providing assistance if requested.



Library Renovations – Ibbankatuwa

SLCT and HDF also implemented library renovations with provision of books, tables and cupboards with training programmes for librarians (local members of the Children's Clubs) also being completed during the Galewala Development Project. Many of the children commented that the use of libraries allowed them to start reading as a daily habit and this activity increased children's attendance at the Children's Clubs.

Building libraries also allowed children in the community to read for pleasure and children often chose to read rather than play sports, especially in the evenings, with the children able to obtain a wider knowledge through reading. The supply of sports equipment enabled sports equipment to develop simultaneously with educational facilities. SLCT and HDF also ran counselling programmes and pre-school teacher training to improve the standards of education in pre-schools and also to counteract



New Year – Kirallagolla

the negative attitude of many community members towards education. Parents were given instructions about looking into their children's educational needs and emphasised the importance of having a positive close relationship with their children and the need for close dialogue. Psychology instructors and Child Probationary Officers worked towards helping the women to bring up a child successfully and on how the environment helps their physical and

mental development. This programme was implemented with the assistance of the pre-school teacher's participation and sensitive subjects such as child abuse were discussed. Finally HDF also

helped the Children's Club to complete a Newsletter (see Appendix 12.2) for community members to contribute towards to raise the awareness of the HDF project and to update the rest of the community on the development of the Galewala project and other community issues.

The original Galewala Development Project proposed that an IT Centre and Computer Outlet be built in the Galewala Division to provide access for youth and children to computer and IT facilities. It envisaged that the building of an IT Centre and Outlet would not only benefit the targeted communities but also the surrounding villages as the Women's Society members will also be given the opportunity to sell their wares (from the income generation training programmes) at the Outlet and partake in classes run at the IT Centre. It was envisaged that this IT Centre and Outlet would be operational by the end of 2011 and self-sustainable by the end of the project in 2012. A business plan, in-depth budget and projected running cost analysis was completed by mid 2011. However, after lengthy consultation amongst the community, HDF and SLCT it was decided that an IT Centre and Outlet would not be implemented. Questions were made about the rising costs, sustainability and benefits to the community. SLCT has agreed to help the community and HDF with future IT projects in a consultancy role if required but would not provide financial assistance.

5.3. Sustainability

Children's Clubs meetings will continue after SLCT and HDFs withdrawal however, it will be up to the community members to ensure that events and cultural celebrations continue. It is hoped that Women's Societies Saving Schemes and other community members will continue to fund Children's Clubs events.



The pre-school education training and counselling sessions for parents will have a lasting impact on the attitude of parents and teachers to education and the rights of children. One of the most successful project activities has been the implementation of counselling programmes for pre-school mothers, Children's Club members and their mothers. Poor attitudes towards education and the lack of appropriate

environments for education were identified as particular issues of worry in the community. Since the projects implementation however, these attitudes have been challenged and changed to aid the educational environment for children in the area. The provision of and training for children's libraries will be sustainable due to teaching and training the communities children to run and manage the libraries. It will be important for the local Children's Clubs members to train their replacements so that the libraries can continue after the current Children Club members leave the community for further education or during examination time. Furthermore, the cooperation of HDF with SLCT and the local

monastery should also increase sustainability as the local religious authorities now have a vested interest in the neighbouring village's development.

5.4. Conclusions and Recommendations

- Children's Clubs were successfully implemented and maintained during the Galewala Development Project improving the livelihood of the communities children and increased their extra curricular activities.
- Pre-school counselling and teacher training has improved the attitudes of local people towards the education of their children
- Despite the lack of an IT Centre and Outlet the educational needs were met and the majority of the original objectives were met
- The Children's Clubs should be encouraged to petition local politicians and community members to donate more library books for the children's libraries

6. Health

6.1. Introduction to the Objectives

Objectives:

- To give basic training in first aid and family health to women and children and;
- To raise awareness of the importance of healthcare and dental hygiene and the local availability of healthcare facilities.

Activities included:

- Health Training for Mothers
- Health Training for Children
- Dental Clinics
- Food Conservation

6.2. Achievements and Limitations

The health objectives of the Galewala Development Project were both met 1) training on basic first aid and family health given to women and 2) raising awareness on the importance of dental care, healthcare and the local availability of healthcare facilities. Women and children received training and awareness programmes on health and sanitation issues such as dengue awareness programmes and family health awareness programmes. Children in the targeted areas were very satisfied with the health programmes with the majority of them going to at least four awareness programmes. Likewise Women's Societies members were also very satisfied with the health programmes with the majority going to at least four programmes. Activities were implemented by a variety of Resource Persons including Family Health Officers, Grama Sevaka's, Medical Officer, Health Nurse, Public Health Officers and Family Planning Officers.

HDF and SLCT also ran Dental Clinics for the Children Club members in the area. Due to the poor hygiene and awareness in the area on dental issues, many children in the area have very poor dental care regimes. The programme aimed to minimise dental problems of children and protect and improve oral hygiene while encouraging children to brush teeth after every meal daily especially after each meal and before going to bed. Furthermore, dental clinics helped participants to identify dental diseases and preventative methods. During the activity there were six extractions made, fifty-one dental fillings and thirty-two teeth cleaning. Considering that there were only one hundred and thirty-two participants this means that two-thirds of the children who attended had poor dental hygiene. Following the end of the activity HDF handed out toothbrushes to ensure that dental hygiene could be maintained. The nutritional needs of children were also considered with awareness about how diseases occur due to vitamin deficiencies and how the children can combat this. Furthermore, the steps that parents can take to ensure that children have a nutritional meal and how home grown products can be used to do this. Participants were shown how to conserve basic food stuffs such as

jack fruit, *manioc* (cassava plant) and bread fruit by boiling and drying food in the sun for preservation. This was also demonstrated as a good method of income generation and a good source of self-employment to uplift economic status. Practical methods of making gram, *wadai* and *murrukka* were also shown. This practical food conservation programme was also attended and evaluated by the Grama Sevaka (GS).



Many of the health related activities were also directly linked to environmental programmes and activities. For example, simple activities on how basic awareness on sanitation can improve the health of individuals and the community took place in the targeted area. Most importantly, HDF and SLCT implemented sanitation and

awareness programmes to control and restrict the spread of dengue and malaria in the area. “Dengue is the most rapidly mosquito-borne viral disease in the world”², with rates of infection increasing 30 fold over the last 50 years with a dramatic increase in rural areas.³ From January to April a total number of 3778 cases of dengue fever have been reported with 710 cases in April alone in Sri Lanka.⁴ Dengue is transmitted by the bite of mosquitos that is infected with one of four dengue viruses with symptoms ranging from mid fever to muscle and joint pains. Dengue can be potentially life threatening and affect mainly children.⁵ While malaria is less prevalent in Sri Lanka, dengue is a significant challenge. Field Officers demonstrated to the community that clean homes and living environments can greatly decrease the high rate of dengue. Field Officers also inspected the homes of many of the community to point out the problems which may lead to mosquitos breeding in the home. Field Officers then demonstrated to them how simple steps could be taken to reduce the spread of mosquitos.

6.3. Sustainability

All of the health objectives were met during the Galewala Development Project with a high degree of success. The health lessons learnt during the GDP should be sustained in the targeted communities. Due to the success and popularity of the health programmes, community members were made more aware of the local sources available to them. For example, community members (and especially

² WHO, 'Dengue: Guidelines for Diagnosis, Treatment, Prevention and Control' (WHO, 2009) p. 3

³ Ibid p.3

⁴ Daily Mirror, 'Rat Fever and Dengue on the Rise' 26/04/2011

⁵ WHO, 'Health Topics: Dengue' www.who.int/topics/dengue 03/06/2011

Women's Societies) were introduced to the Ministry of Health (MoH) officials and made more aware of the local services and health officials operating in their area. Furthermore, the Resource Persons such as the MoH Officials, Public Health Officials, Family Health Officer and Family Planning Officers now have an increased understanding of the health issues affecting the communities in the area. The high incidence of dental issues in the community, as demonstrated by the Dental Clinics, highlighted the poor dental hygiene. Following the programme SLCT and HDF distributed toothbrushes and advice on how children should take care of and improve their oral hygiene. Parents were also advised on how they should ensure their children brush their teeth and this activity should transfer to other children in neighbouring communities. Health officials also received a more complete understanding of the dental challenges facing rural community children. Finally, the awareness programmes targeting dengue awareness will make a substantial impact on the high rate of dengue in the area. Increased awareness of the way poor sanitation can reduce the spread of dengue was also taught to the community which, it is hoped, would influence the other members of the community who were not at the original awareness programme. It is also hoped that this will spread to other communities and encourage the local government staff to continue to press the importance of reducing dengue through simple steps.

6.4. Conclusions and Recommendations

- The comprehensive element of the health related activities will have a lasting impact in the community
- Community members are now more aware of health issues and the potential local sources available to them
- Awareness programmes such as the Dengue awareness programme will potentially save the lives and improve the health of the community members
- The Dental Clinics were very well attended by the CC members and increased awareness of the need for good dental hygiene and availability of local dental resources will make a substantial improvement on dental hygiene in the area

7. Finance and Employment

7.1. Introduction to the Objectives

Objectives:

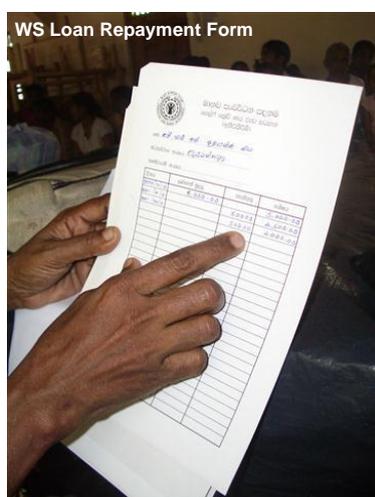
- To provide access to small loans at reasonable rates to women in every village and;
- To improve the capacity of women to diversify and increase their income generating capabilities through vocational training and microfinance.

Activities included:

- Microfinance credit training
- Microfinance credit programme
- Microfinance educational trip
- Capacity Building
- Self-employment training: dressmaking part I and II; sweet-making part I and II; milk production; (including yoghurt and ice-cream); artificial flower making and; Batik training

7.2. Achievements and Limitations

During the Galewala Development Project HDF and SLCT implemented a variety of income generation training programmes. Savings Schemes were also implemented in the area using the Women's Societies as conduits for funds. Coupled together the two will aid sustainability of the project by supplying credit to the local women to increase empowerment and allow local women to diversify their income. Several training programmes were organised including: dressmaking classes; sweet-making; mild production (including yoghurt and ice cream) and; batik training. The dressmaking classes and batik training were particularly successful and appreciated by the local women. This can be seen from data collected from the community by Field Officers from the participants of the GDP (see Appendix 12.3).



Due to the lack of access to credit for many women in the area, SLCT and HDF set up a revolving funds Savings Scheme for the members of the Women's Societies. Many women do not have access to credit due to a lack of identification so often have to get informal loans from pawn shops and loan sharks which normally only offer loans at a very high interest rate. Therefore SLCT and HDF supplied 300,000/= worth of loans (100,000/= to each Women's Society) which were loaned to women and, after initially being monitored by HDF Field Officers, are now managed by the Women's Society members. To date, no women have defaulted or missed repayments. Once the initial loans have been repaid (with the minor interest rates) larger loans will be provided to the Women's Society members. During the first half of

the project (as supplied in further detail in the MTR) the women attended a Women's Society Trip to Dikkumbra where HDF had set up other micro credit organisations. The trip, despite slightly smaller attendances due to a local funeral, was a great success to give the Women's Society members a better idea of how to successfully manage a revolving funds scheme.

Additional sewing programmes and dressmaking classes also took place during the project period. Initial dressmaking classes were very successful with the programmes being oversubscribed and as a result additional dressmaking classes were organised. Several participants in the programme have already gone on to bag design and more complicated embroidery. Participants plan to showcase their work in the Grama Sevaka building. The GS was present at the last meeting and applauded the Women's Societies progress. On average members will be able to save several thousand rupees a year in tailor fees due to the sewing programme. As part of the projects drive to sustainability and income generation, both HDF and SLCT provided the Women's Societies with Singer Sewing Machines. Six machines were originally given to Women's Society members (members chosen were selected following the sewing programme). The machines originally cost 21,099/= to be repaid at 0.75% with repayment set at 2000/= per month. Once the machines have been paid off, HDF will acquire more sewing machines to provide for the rest of the Women's Society members who participated in the sewing programme. Singer and banks do offer a similar service but the interest rate is twice as high and members cannot access bank loans.

During the Mid-Term evaluation the local community also identified that batik training would be appreciated in the community. Batik training was therefore added to the project budget. Batik textile



production was originally started in Indonesia however, over the last few decades has become established as a form of textile production in Sri Lanka. Batik training consisted of multiple waxing and dyeing of cloth on a plain piece of material with simple, traditional or contemporary designs made on the cloth. Batik is applied to sarongs, dresses, shirts and

other clothing items.⁶ Participants learnt how to produce Batik goods to sell locally and to tourists in the Dambulla region. The programme was ran by the Galewala District Secretary Science and Technical Officer and monitored by the HDF Field Officers. This programme would be greatly appreciated by the community.

⁶ <http://www.lanka.com/sri-lankan-batiks.html>

The programme was very successful with high attendance from the local community with the Divisional Secretary (DS)⁷ also attending. Since the implementation of the project local women have been producing batik goods and selling them at the local market and in Colombo.

Sewing Programme: Case Study

29 year old Mrs P.P.D.G.M Thakshila Priyadanshini Jayasooriya residing at 154/A in the Ibbankatuwa Division, has studied up to the GCE Ordinary Level. Although she was keen on sewing she did not have any technical knowledge about it. In 2009, Shining Life Children's Trust (SLCT) with the support of the Human Development Foundation (HDF) started a project in the Ibbankatuwa Division. This was of great service to her.

Mrs Thakshila, who was unemployed, was able to follow a course in sewing in the same district. She was able to master this subject and subsequently commenced cutting and sewing in her own home. The machine that she purchased from Singer Company on an easy payment scheme was a great boon to her. She has now started to sew for the market. Daily, she sews five garments and sews children's, ladies, school uniforms and even undertakes sewing orders.

Her financial position is gradually increasing. She is indebted to HDF and SLCT for helping her to improve her sewing skills, she extends her heartfelt gratitude for their support.



Batik Training – Kirallagolla

Many of the income generation programmes took place during the first half of the programme including the production of milk products including yoghurt, ice cream, sweets and other milk related products. HDF ran an income generation programme aimed at providing members of the Women's Societies (WS) with training on how to produce milk products. Participants

learned how to make yoghurt, ice cream, sweets and other milk related products. These training programmes took place over the course of three months and for every element of the income generation programme participants engaged in a two hour theory and a two hour practical training and assessment. Since the implementation of this training programme the Science and Technical Officer from the A.G.A Office, who was the designated resource person for this programme, has reported that individuals who participated in the programme have also approached the A.G.A Office for advice on how to register their products for sale. For example, Mrs Chanrika Nilanthi

⁷ A.G.A is interchangeable with DS both which of refer to the head of the local government department

(Kaluvarachiagama, Meewalapataha) now produces milk toffee, gram packets and *welithalapa* as a self-employed person and now earns an income of 300/= daily (out of which 150/= was used to purchase resources). According to the HDF Field Officer who interviewed her, she commented:



Yoghurt Production – Kirallagolla

“I am able to strengthen the economy of my family and make a considerable contribution, like her husband. SLCT and HDF enabled her to get trained in this field and also helped her, with great keenness. I am ever so grateful to these two institutions.”

The wide range of activities and awareness programmes implemented by SLCT and HDF offered a great opportunity for women in the local area

to diversify their income with a range of income generation programmes. Many participants commented on the usefulness and importance of these programmes. For example, during the artificial flower training Mrs K Suramyalatha commented that:

Since my husband’s salary (as an army recruit) is inadequate for living and educational needs of my children, I do farming and arrange artificial flowers as a self-employment project. I initially obtained a loan of 5000/= from your organisation to establish myself and strengthen my economic status. I intend reaping the benefits of the programmes that I followed, which were conducted by your organisation.

I have gained a lot of knowledge by partaking in courses in sewing, making of ice-cream, milk toffee, yogurt and curd and other workshops on health awareness.

These programmes were conducted by the A.G.A Office Science and Technical Officer who commented on the commitment and high level of interest shown by participants.

7.3. Sustainability



The income generation and micro finance element of the project should be sustainable. The income generation skills learned combined with the Savings Schemes loans will ensure that the communities Women Society members can continue to support their families and also support other elements of the Galewala Development Project such as the Children’s Clubs and health and nutrition programmes. For example, the money raised from

selling batiks and skills learned in dressmaking, and the profits from it, can go towards further training classes such as embroidery and more advanced sewing and dressmaking classes. Field research has already shown that many of the participants of the programme have experienced substantial increases in their personal income (and therefore their household income). The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has highlighted that women need access to decent work as a vehicle for economic empowerment.⁸ Furthermore, studies have shown that income earned outside of traditional rural employment (such as farm work) increase total household income and increases their “bargaining power” at home which benefits their economic independence and empowerment.⁹

7.4. Conclusions and Recommendations

- The finance and income generation training programmes were very successful and attended with great interest by the community
- The Savings Schemes have also been very successful with very good repayment rates and returns
- The Savings Schemes and income generation training programmes have gone some way to increasing the WS members’ household bargaining power and their empowerment and economic independence

⁸ ILO, ‘Gender Dimensions of Agricultural and Rural Employment: Differentiated pathways out of poverty’ (ILO,2010) p.10

⁹ Ibid, p.80

8. Environment

8.1. Introduction to the Objectives

Objectives:

- To raise awareness of environmental concerns in the community and;
- To improve home food production in an environmentally friendly manner.

Activities included:

- Compost making
- Home gardening
- Animal husbandry: cattle; poultry and; bee keeping
- Garbage disposal
- Environmental programme for Children's Club
- Children's Club Home Gardening Competition

8.2. Achievements and Limitations



During the Galewala Development Project several environment activities were implemented including home gardening training: compost making; food preservation training and; garbage disposal, culminating in a CC Competition for the most well maintained garden. Other activities included animal husbandry: bee keeping; cattle husbandry and; poultry farming. These activities enabled HDF

and SLCT to meet the project objectives of raising awareness of environmental issues in the community and to improve home food production in an environmentally friendly manner. During the home gardening training participants learned how to prepare a home garden and beautify it but also methods to improve agricultural yields. These methods included learning how to prepare a compost pit, increased understanding of the importance of using organic fertiliser to reduce the high amount of insecticides and pesticides. Other methods learned included how to make fertiliser from the manure of cattle and decaying leaves and introducing soil conservation methods to minimise soil erosion e.g. constructing stone ridges, piling up coconut husks and cutting drains. Home gardening methods will help reduce the dependency on purchasing nutritional foods from other sources. This is particularly

important as floods in 2011 in the Galewala region destroyed many agricultural crops raising vegetable prices and in 2012 new legislation came into force on vegetable transportation with the resulting strikes raising the price of vegetables and other food staples.¹⁰ A Home Gardening competition was run in the communities for the Children's Clubs for all three villages. The children made suitable arrangements to grow vegetables to boost the economy. Home gardens were inspected in all three villages with the best home garden chosen from the Meewalapataha division with four children receiving prizes for their efforts.

SLCT also funded an animal husbandry programme which included providing poultry and bee keeping classes and awareness programmes. The Animal Husbandry programme was conducted by the Animal Control Officer, the Veterinary Officer from the local A.G.A Office and the HDF Field Officers. Bee keeping was also encouraged during the project with carbonic fertiliser introduced to the participants by Agricultural Officers to encourage bee culture. This was organised to encourage bees to multiply in the home gardens. Additionally, bee keeping boxes were distributed in Meewalapataha, Ibbankatuwa and Kirallagolla to increase the income of home garden owners. Participants were offered the opportunity to gain access to loans to purchase cattle and poultry. The A.G.A Office summoned the milk farmers and explained how cows have to have their nutrition looked after to increase their yields. Officers emphasised that a milking cow can be helpful in improving the economic status as can goats and chickens with many economic benefits. Furthermore, participants learned how the application of appropriate medicine for animals can be used to increase production and reduce the diseases that animals can suffer from affecting their health. With nearly one hundred and fifty participants, the programme was extremely popular in the area and animal husbandry awareness programmes can substantially improve women's income generation potential. ILO highlighted that:

*"Women were often found to have a large degree of control over income derived from livestock produce, indicating the potential improvements in their welfare and empowerment that could occur if their access to livestock could be increased."*¹¹

8.3. Sustainability

The environmental programmes were designed to incentivise sustainability. Activities were aimed at the Children's Clubs and Women's Societies so that there was maximum participation from the community. Activities such as compost making, garbage disposal, animal husbandry and fertiliser preparation were targeted to improve the practical management of the environment while other activities such as food preservation and bee keeping were vocational activities which linked with other environmental activities and income generation programmes. A positive element of this part of the project has been the participation of government and local government officials in the activities. Participation by the Grama Sevaka in many of the activities as well as Environment Officers and other

¹⁰ <http://dailymirror.lk/news/15487-vegetable-prices-skyrocket.html>

¹¹ ILO, 'Gender Dimensions of Agricultural and Rural Employment: Differentiated pathways out of poverty' (ILO, 2010) p.79

local government resource persons has improved HDF and SLCTs relationship with stakeholders as well as legitimising the projects role in the area. Home gardening activities have been well received by the Women's Societies and Children's Clubs. The importance of these programmes has been reinforced by the recent environmental issues affecting the local community, particularly the floods in the Galewala Division and rising cost of staple foods. The use of incentives to encourage home gardening has also increased and improved environmental awareness.

8.4. Conclusions and Recommendations

- Environmental activities such as bee keeping and food preservation will aid income generation and Savings Schemes programmes
- Compost making, garbage disposal and fertiliser preparation will improve the health and sanitation of the community
- Compost making and fertiliser preparation will reduce the use of pesticides and insecticides which will have a direct impact on the health of the area

9. Project Management

9.1. Project Operations

The management of the Galewala Development Project was administered by Human Development Foundation and was monitored, evaluated and directed by the SLCT Field Director. HDF have been long term partners of SLCT working on the 'Naula Project', 'Samarakoon Watta Project' and the 'Telwatta Tsunami Project'. During the project the activities were implemented by the Project Coordinator and two Field Officers. The majority of the activities were conducted by Resource Persons although the Women's Societies and Savings Schemes were implemented and monitored by the HDF Field Officers. Over the project period there were three separate SLCT Field Directors employed by SLCT which may have led to some repetition and replication of work with HDF. HDF should therefore be commended on their patience.

During the projects implementation SLCT and HDF worked with the Galewala Divisional Secretariats Office to implement the programme. There were some issues with the previous Chief Secretary (A.G.A) in getting documents signed and in getting permission to work in the area. However, the new A.G.A, who started working in Galewala from January 2011, was extremely helpful and cooperative with SLCT and HDFs projects. The A.G.A attended many of our events and activities and supported our work in the area. The Grama Sevaka's and Grama Niladari's were also very helpful during the projects implementation, often participating in activities and offering advice and support during evaluation and monitoring. Sadly the Grama Niladari from the Meewalapataha village passed away towards the end of the project and will be sorely missed in the community.

9.2. Achievements and Limitations

HDFs reporting procedure improved over the project period with increased detail and evaluation of project activities and their outcomes. However, there is still room for improvement and further training could be supplied especially in the analytical evaluation of project activities. Reports were generally timely however the local partner organisation had to be reminded to submit documents and resend documents to ensure reports were timely. While HDF and SLCT decided not to proceed with the IT Centre and Outlet, which would have provided some lessons for the HDF Field Officers on IT skills and general computer use, providing additional IT skills to Field Officers and the Project Coordinator could be beneficial if future projects take place with HDF. Furthermore, SLCT donated one laptop to HDF to improve communication; any future projects should consider making further improvements to HDF infrastructure. In particular, additional IT facilities such as computers and printing equipment would improve their professionalism.

9.3. Sustainability

Overall, HDFs implementation has steadily improved with the projects progress. While HDF have few alternatives for funding with SLCT being their main contributors, this allows HDF and SLCT to have a close relationship and strong ties. During the project HDF and SLCT had mixed success with the local government administration. The relationship between the original Divisional Secretary in Galewala, when the project was initiated, and HDF and SLCT, was difficult. However, once the new A.G.A arrived in January 2011 project progress was much improved. The Divisional Secretary was supportive in the projects activities especially with the registration of Women's Societies, how Women's Societies operate in the area, making the local government officers available to implement the projects activities and awareness programmes as resource people and also monitoring and participating in the activities and awareness programmes that HDF and SLCT organised. HDF could benefit from improved IT facilities in order to improve their administration and communication. SLCT donated a laptop (kindly donated by a Charles Dickens Primary – Southwark, UK). SLCT will consider donating more IT facilities such as laptops and printers to HDF for future projects.

9.4. Conclusions and Recommendations

- The projects success improved greatly from 2011 with the new Divisional Secretary and support of the A.G.A Office
- The general administration of the project by HDF improved over the projects progress
- HDFs field work was of a very high standard throughout the project however their data collection could be slightly improved
- HDF should be commended for the patience shown in the gap between Field Directors between the 6 month pilot project and full-scale project

10. Summary

The Galewala Development Project has been very successful with a high rate of interest from the community and local government. All of the projects objectives have been met with one exception – unfortunately the objective to provide access for youths and children to computer facilities and IT training was not completed. Relationships with the local government officials were also maintained at a healthy level which improved the projects implementation. Furthermore, the use of local resource people from the A.G.A office also legitimised the project and SLCT and HDFs activities and programmes in the Galewala Division.

The educational objectives were met with pre-school facilities improved and the pre-school teachers receiving improved training. While it is hard to empirically prove that school attendances have improved, as an NGO we are unable to get access to that government data, anecdotal evidence from the community hints that school attendance has improved due to the increased interest from the Children's Clubs. Awareness programmes to improve the attitudes to education among parents and children were also successful. The PRA had identified that attitudes to schooling were poor in the community however, after the implementation of HDFs and SLCTs programmes there was a marked improvement in the need for education. SLCTs and HDFs programme objectives to make sports equipment and recreational activities accessible and in providing library facilities in every village was particularly successful. Children in the area use the sports equipment and library equipment frequently improving their extra curricular activities and willingness to learn outside and in school.

The health objectives to give basic first aid and family health to women and children and; to raise awareness of the importance of healthcare and dental hygiene and the local availability of healthcare facilities were successfully met. Family health programmes that improved the health and sanitation of the area were very successful. In particular, the programme to reduce the spread of dengue and malaria by reducing the areas where mosquitos could breed was very successful. Due to reducing the area where mosquitos could breed, HDF and SLCT have improved the health of the community and potentially saved lives. The Dental Clinics were also very beneficial for the community as they raised the awareness of good dental hygiene and ways to combat oral diseases. Furthermore, CC members were educated about the local resources available to them and children were given toothbrushes to maintain good dental hygiene.

The environmental objects to raise awareness of environmental concerns and to improve environmentally responsible food production, which are closely linked to the health objectives, were also very successful. The food programmes educated the community in how to be more environmentally responsible in their food production (such as reduction in uses of organic fertiliser and environmentally responsible ways of reducing soil erosion) which will have long lasting benefits to the community. Animal husbandry classes were also implemented to improve local women's income and how to be environmentally responsible in looking after them.

The loan and self employment training have also been very successful with local women learning income generation skills which can be exploited through financial loans. The lack of defaults on loan, substantial savings through the Women's Societies and skills learned will have a long lasting benefit to women and children in the community. Furthermore, the wide variety of income generation programmes also allowed WS members to choose from a range of vocational skills to earn an additional household income from. Data collected so far indicates that women have been able to earn substantially increased incomes with all three societies demonstrating their ability to use the vocational training programmes for their own and their families benefit.

11. Conclusions and Recommendations

The project has been very successful with interventions based on the project objectives being implemented and well received in the community. There are several recommendations for the implementing and sponsoring agencies:

For the implementing organisation:

- HDF must ensure that **good relationships with stakeholders** are maintained. HDF have worked well with local government during the projects implementation which has aided and improved the projects operation
- HDFs reporting improved considerably over the projects progress however; several errors and mistakes were often repeated. **Greater analysis** could be applied by HDF in the evaluation of reports and qualitative data.
- If possible and funding options permit, HDF should consider conducting **further professional and vocational training**. HDF would benefit from bookkeeping, accounting and reporting training to increase their professionalism in reporting and evaluating.
- HDF should consider proposals from the community in regards to the **IT Centre and Outlet**. IT skills are needed in the area as identified in the original PRA

For the sponsoring agency:

- SLCT should consider other **funding opportunities for the IT Centre and Outlet**. During the Galewala Development Project it was decided that SLCT would not fund the proposed IT Centre and Outlet however, these skills are still required in the project area. SLCT and HDF will continue to search for alternative options for IT development
- SLCT should **consider conducting another project** in the Galewala or Dambulla community, replicating the Galewala Development Project. SLCT and HDF have been invited by both Divisional Secretary areas (Galewala and Dambulla) by the local government and the community stakeholder demonstrating the success of the project
- SLCT will need to **improve their recruitment procedure** to ensure there is less of a gap between Field Directors to improve implementation of the project

12. Appendix

12.1. Thalakiriyagama Pre-School

**ESTIMATE FOR CONSTRUCTION PRESCHOOL BUILDING OF
KIRALAGOLLA - THALAKIRIYAGAMA**

| ITEM | DESCRIPTION | B.S.R. NO | UNIT | QTY | RATE | AMOUNT |
|-----------|---|--------------|----------------|-------|-----------|-------------------|
| A. | FLOORING AND PAVING | | | | | |
| A.1 | Floor paved with approved pattern and colour ceramic floor tiles on 1:3 cement mortar, joints filled with cement grout of matching colour and clearing. | | m ² | 66.95 | 2,765.00 | 185,116.75 |
| | <i>Total Carried to Summary</i> | | | | | 185116.75 |
| B. | DOORS | | | | | |
| B.1 | Door 28mm thick, battened sash with 95mm x 45 mm frame, incl. 1 timber, oxidized heavy duty furniture 100mm x 62mm iron butt hangers within side and out side 100mm barrel bolts and painted sashes two coats cream enamel paint & frame two coats brown enamel paint including primer under coats. | | m ² | 4.39 | 7,050.00 | 30,949.50 |
| B.2 | Security weld mesh in open type buildings in GI weld mesh 50mm x50mm SWG 10, welded on 40x40x5mm angle frame complete with application of two coats brown enamel paint over two coats of anticorrosive paint complete. | J-029 | m ² | 27.00 | 3,765.00 | 101,655.00 |
| | <i>Total Carried to Summary</i> | | | | | 132,604.50 |
| C. | SIDE WALL | | | | | |
| C.1 | Side wall | | Item | | 75,554.35 | 75,554.35 |
| | <i>Total Carried to Summary</i> | | | | | 75554.35 |
| D. | DEMOLISHER | | | | | |
| D.1 | Floor paved brick, concrete or rubble inclusive of rendering and debris cleared away. | | m ² | 66.95 | 80.00 | 5,356.00 |
| | <i>Total Carried to Summary</i> | | | | | 5,356.00 |
| | Total | | | | | 398,631.60 |

| SUMMARY | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| A | FLOORING AND PAVING | 185,116.75 |
| B | DOORS | 132,604.50 |
| C | SIDE WALL | 75,554.35 |
| D | DEMOLISHER | 5,356.00 |
| TOTAL CARRIED TO MAIN SUMMARY | | 398,631.60 |

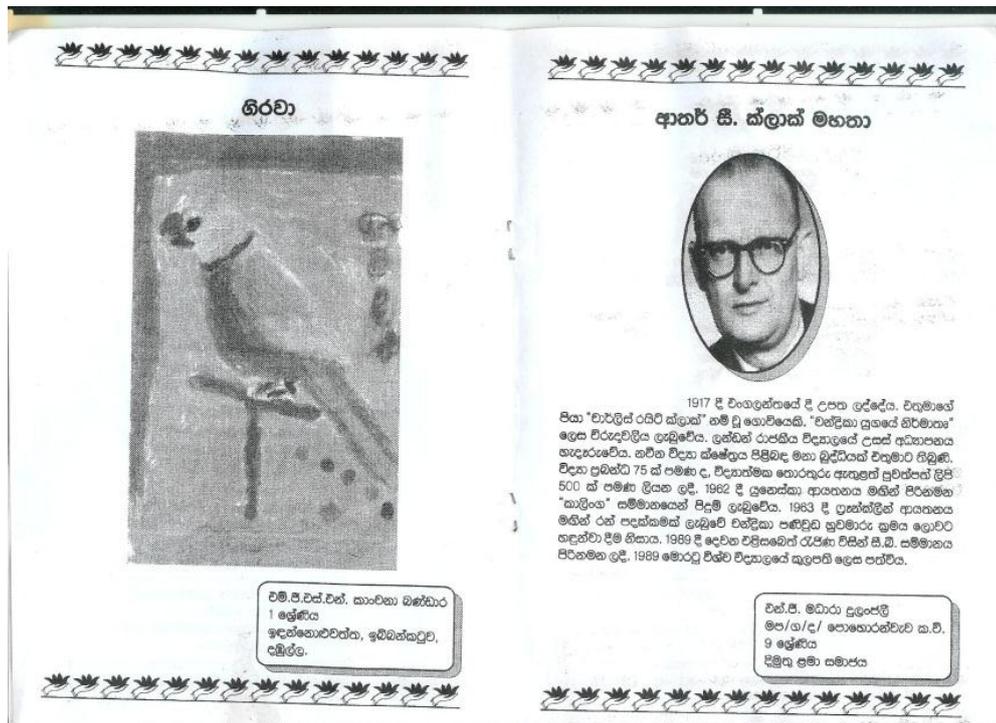
PREPARED BY:


R. A. P. D. RANARUNGA
 TECHNICAL OFFICER
 PRADESHIYA SABHA
 GALEWELA.

12.2. Children's Club Newsletter



CC December Newsletter – Front Cover



CC December Newsletter – Painting and Article

12.3. Galewala Development Project Income Generation

a) Dress-Making

Meewalapataha - 25; Ibbankatuwa – 40; Kirallagolla - 30

| Village | Home | Average Monthly Income | Vocational | Average Weekly Income | Home/Vocational | Average Weekly Income |
|---------------|------|------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Meewalapataha | 10 | 300 | 15 | 1000 | 15 | 1020 |
| Ibbankatuwa | 15 | 300 | 25 | 600 | 25 | 612 |
| Kirallagolla | 10 | 300 | 20 | 750 | 20 | 765 |

b) Animal Husbandry

Meewalapataha - 30, Ibbankatuwa – 50; Kirallagolla - 15

| Village | Home | Average Monthly Income | Vocational | Average Weekly Income | Home/Vocational | Average Weekly Income |
|---------------|------|------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Meewalapataha | 3 | 500 | 27 | 222 | 27 | 278 |
| Ibbankatuwa | 5 | 300 | 45 | 134 | 45 | 167 |
| Kirallagolla | 2 | 750 | 13 | 461 | 13 | 577 |

c) Sweet-Making

Meewalapataha - 30, Ibbankatuwa – 35, Kirallagolla - 30

| Village | Home | Average Monthly Income | Vocational | Average Weekly Income | Home/Vocational | Average Weekly Income |
|---------------|------|------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Meewalapataha | 12 | 150 | 5 | 3000 | 17 | 988 |
| Ibbankatuwa | 8 | 150 | 5 | 3000 | 13 | 1246 |
| Kirallagolla | 10 | 150 | 7500 | 461 | 12 | 1375 |