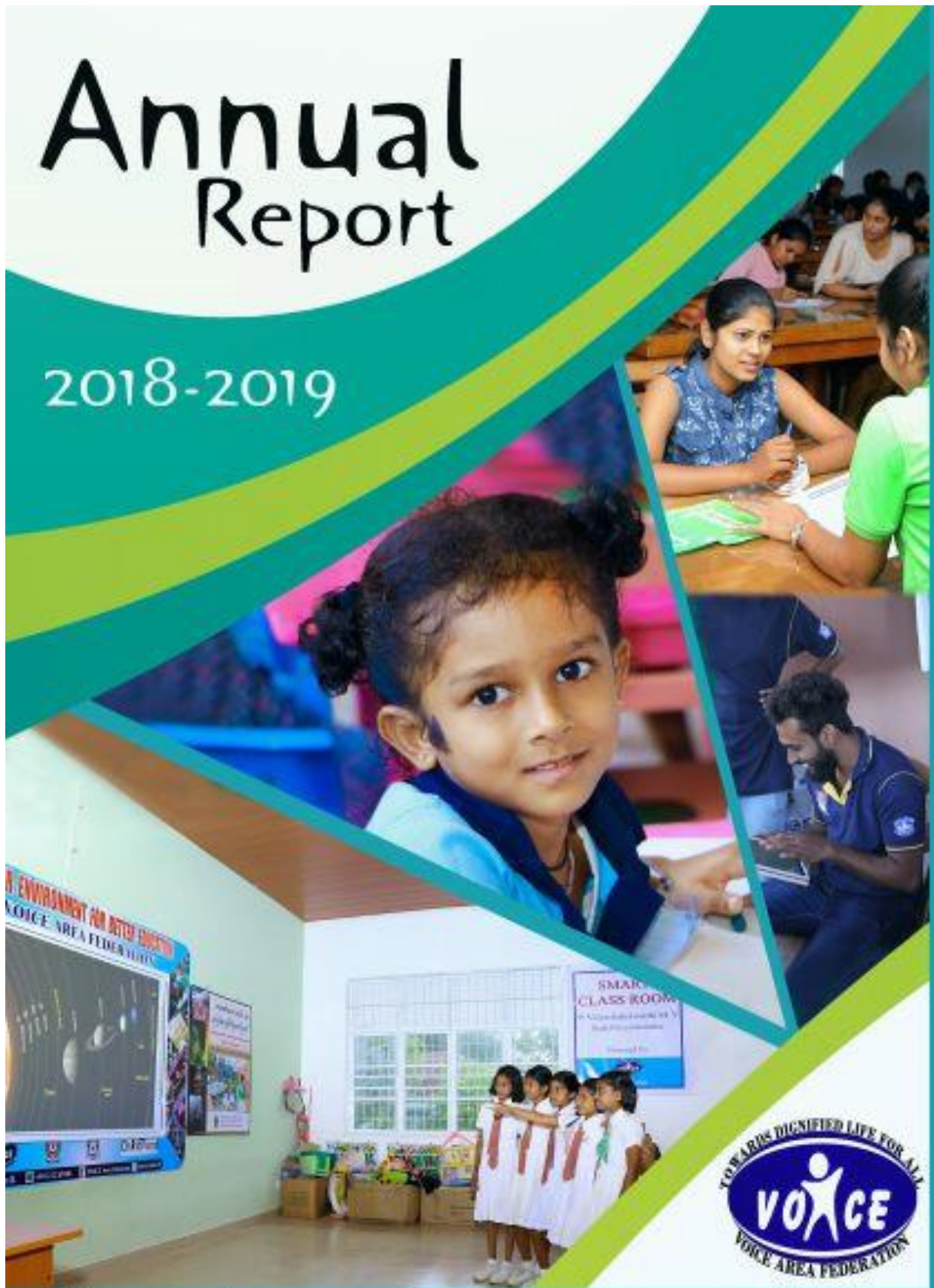


# Annual Report

2018-2019



ENVIRONMENT FOR BETTER EDUCATION  
VOICE AREA FEDERATION

SMART CLASS ROOM  
An Exemplary Model for 21st Century Education



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 VOICE Area Federation

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## **Our Vision**

A leading community governed voice in Sri Lanka with inclusive communities and assured rights towards dignified life.

## **Our Mission**

Empowering Children, Youth, Women, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and Elderly persons through education, training, advocacy, disaster response, lobbying, accessibility and livelihood supports to enable their Voice to protect their rights through involving in decision making forums and processes

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# Healthy and Secure Infant and Young Children



**Healthy and Secured Children Project 2018-2021**

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## Healthy and Secured children- Care of Infants and Young Children

### Outcome 1: Parents/caregivers apply advance hygiene and nutrition practices

2 cross learning visits conducted with the participation of 42 mothers. This program linked with the lead mother program and follow up sessions carried out through other village lead mother's within VOICE working areas. Also, host communities in Mundal and Weerapura shared their experiences, good practices and tools that they used to positively change their lives.

Priority given to identify the highly affected areas for malnutrition and how they started their processes in weighting clinics and expanded it into mothers' groups. Collectively they identified determinants for malnutrition. Mothers and fathers engaged activities to address those determinants. Improving scientific



knowledge on nutrition and practical activities and activities that improve supportive environment for children in homes and communities.

Improved personal hygiene for infectious diseases prevention including proper hand washing practices for children in their living environment including home and pre school settings. Then participants learning was, how maintaining nutrition books, conducting food demonstration, providing quality meals with adequate quantities, group feeding, children fun activities and home-made toys by mother's groups.



7 awareness programs conducted on nutritive food selection and preparation. The training conducted through well trained lead mother to newly enrolled children for VOICE. 81 beneficiaries were changed their mind set on children's nutritive food

selection with technical support from VOICE. In these sessions, parents educated how to select nutritive food for children and avoid junk foods. Especially nutrition preserved traditional food preparation techniques and awareness on indigenous protein sources and food menus were introduced.



6 follow up visits were conducted with

lead mothers to examine the practical application of the knowledge. 2 follow-up visits were conducted to examine and evaluate how parents apply their knowledge in home environment for improve the children nutrition and early child care development indigenous protein source, nutritive foods usage, impact for children for their weight gain and actively participation. Lead parents implemented the key community networking system by the nutritional rehabilitation program at community level. At first, the capacity of lead parents enhanced regarding the screening of mal-nourished children and nutritious menu preparation with low budget allocation for they used locally available food.

## **2. Lead Mothers were trained for monitoring and reporting of the progress of the entire rehabilitation program of the targeted children who are identified as malnourished.**

5 Lead Mothers were trained and capacitated by Medical Officer of Health as changing agents of the community by equipping them on basic actions on preventing the NCD and improve the hygiene of the respective community. Technical knowledge transferred to familiarize to use equipment's and



tools such as BP apparatus, stethoscope, thermometers, weighing balance, glucometer, HCG strips, and promotional materials as the precaution before the consult the Doctor. It greatly helped to Public Health Mid-wife (PHM) during the field health

activities. Capacitated lead Mothers support PHM's routings to provide efficient and effective service to the needy community.

**3. Parents/caregivers ensure child protection measures are applied in their homes and communities with advance knowledge on child protection, safety and security**

Overall, this outcome spelled out a paradigm shift in the way ChildFund approaches and mainstream the 'Child protection.' There was a big shift from an issue-based approach towards preventing children from falling out of safety nets by investing in effectiveness of child protection systems that are sustainable and that work in partnership with children, families, communities and the civil society.

During the Community Based Child Protection Mechanism and FGD revealed that the knowledge of parents and children on issues of child protection, risk factors, preventive mechanisms, legal procedures and surveillance and supervision is low. It is reported that most of the houses and/or pre-schools didn't have safe interior and exterior environment for children. In particular, the kitchen, home garden and cultivating lands where children are mostly spent their time with parents and friends are not safety zones for them. Accidents by sharpeners, poisons, burns, downing, snake bites and stray dog bites are the most frequent accidents occurs at the community level.

Unprotected wells, fences, ponds, oil lamps, temporary unprotected shelters and farming equipment's are some of the hazardous items which had been identified by the field staff. These settings are



more often opened to vulnerability and affected on child survival. Focus group discussions and field level observatory studies had been revealed that community has the minimum understanding to identify and prevention of hazards at household level.

4 awareness programs conducted on child protection, safety & security with the participation of

180 of (female 152/ male 28) caregivers and parents participated to the programs.



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#### **4. Parents/caregivers apply advance home base care practices**

6 home-based care awareness programs were conducted with the participation of 119 parents and caregivers. 8 events conducted in the community level on stimulation to Improve scientific

knowledge on ECCD and practical activities and activities to improve supportive environment for children in homes and communities

Baby rooms, Play houses, Play areas, Prevention of domestic violence, prevention of passive smoking, activities to improve

providing adequate psychosocial stimulations by parents, actively spending leisure time with children, maintaining ECCD books, creating toys with children by using local materials, storytelling activities specially with their grandparents. Parents and caregivers adopted to measuring themselves on properly marking and analyze development stages in CHDR and present the progress of them in mothers' groups.



#### **5. Parents/caregivers have improved access to services available for growth, development and protection for IYC and caregiver wellbeing**

Identified gaps filled with the basic needs for the CwDS including transport facilities for collect treatments, individual support for medical reference and essential medicines. 5 children with disabilities have been identified and referred to further medical assistance.

1 water system was improved in Karuwalagaswewa and 316 families had access to safe and quality drinking water. Most of existing water sources in the area was reported with high fluoride and heavy metals which are the main causal factors for flours and kidney failures. The District Secretariat revealed that at least 6 Chronic Kidney Diseases (CKD) patients are living in every GN division of VOICE working area. Many are remaining undiagnosed. Karuwlagaswewa is the most affected division where around 350 enrolled <5 years children along with their family members are at risk of contracting this chronic disease.

Under the household cash management programs, 3 Village Savings groups were formed with the assistance of loan. 78 (male 2-female 74) parents were participated in the awareness programs. 4 families had received livelihood assistance and 2 production groups have been established.



## 6. CBCPM at community Level

During the Community Based Child Protection Mechanism and FGD revealed that the knowledge of parents and children on issues of child protection, risk factors, preventive mechanisms, legal procedures and surveillance and supervision is low. With the consultation of 8 groups of children



and caregivers they able to identify the protective structure for their protection from various types of hazards in their living environment. It is reported that most of the houses and/or pre-schools do not have safe interior and exterior environment for children. In particular, the kitchen, home garden and cultivating lands where children are mostly spent their time with parents and friends are not safety zones for them. Accidents by sharpeners, poisons, burns, downing, snake bites and stray dog bites were the most frequent accidents occurs at the community level. Unprotected wells, fences, ponds, oil lamps, temporary unprotected shelters and farming equipment's are some of the hazardous items which have been identified by the field staff. These settings are more often opened to vulnerability and effect on child survival. Focus group discussions and field level observatory studies have been revealed that community has the minimum understanding to identify and prevention of hazards at household level. Therefore, VOICE was implemented community level child protection related program such as pet vaccination with proper pet rearing, Community level child

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protection commutes to take the responsibilities for the communities. Most of the issues addressed by FY 19 and some of the multiple issues will be addressed in continuously in FY20.

### **7. Challenges and action taken to over-come**

Participation of Preschool teachers restricted on week day for the outside programs by authority. The first step is to use the pre-school holidays as often as possible. Most of the programs planned to conduct selected preschool itself with the active participation of children instead of gather the teachers at the center place.

PHMs and PHIs participation is only for government prioritized programs and restricted for external programs by Provincial Director of Health Services in Madampe. However, there is a possibility to obtain MOH support for some of the activities with the better coordination of field level staff and the communities. Further, the Childfund Sri Lanka is preparing the preliminary steps to conduct Health Ministry level national event to aware the CF program that implement by partners in district level to obtain the support services at the national level to overcome this mismatch.

# ▶ BE 4 BE

**Better  
Environment  
for  
Better  
Education**



**Annual Progress Report 2018-2019**


**“EUCATED AND CONFIDENT CHILDREN”**

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**Goal: Children aged 6-16 in VAF operating area are educated & confident**

**Objective 1: Grade appropriate literacy, numeracy skills & ELCs are achieved among grade 1 to 5 children in the ChildFund program areas**

**Outcome1.1: Provincial and zonal educational authorities promote ATLAS as the teaching delivery methodology at primary schools**

**Output 1.1.1: Provincial primary education professionals/authorities convinced on ATLAS model as a teaching delivery method at primary schools**

- **Signed new MOU with Provincial Ministry of Education and continued Provincial steering committee meeting**

This was held with the presence of chief secretary, Provincial director of Education in the North Western Province, Provincial Education officers, zonal officers and Voice Staff. Voice area federation shared the progress of the ATLAS project with the help of zonal education office. Three steering committee meeting conducted financial year 2018-2019. A field visit organized parallel to meeting to get an understanding of activities implemented in the field level. Provincial officers to share their experience in the steering committee meeting. All the zonal directors and the technical adviser of the child Fund Sri Lanka participated for last steering committee.



- **Regular monitoring by National and provincial committees**

Monitoring visits conducted by provincial steering committee members to observe the areas need to be improved in terms of promoting Child centered learning environment in the classrooms. Findings of these visits used to take further actions on the project. Pu/Vidayachackrawartha M.V, Andigama Primary School, Siddartha primary school monitored them and guided them for further development in this financial year. In service adviser, in particular division too participated for this event. Principal of the Siddartha primary school said that" this is the first time provincial primary director visit

this school. Thank you very much for the guidance to improve our school and I would like to thank VOICE area Federation and the Child Fund Sri Lanka for this opportunity.”



**Output 1.1.2: Strengthened provincial & zonal steering officers to promote ATLAS methodology**

➤ **Formed Provincial resource pool**

Formation of provincial resource pool was taken into discussion at the Provincial Steering committee and action plan prepared with the provincial and zonal level education authorities. 36 In Service advisers Selected by the provincial department of Education for the resource pool.7 provincial primary directors and 47 In service Advisers trained on ATLAS methodology with the technical support of child Fund Sri Lanka and the National Institute of Education.



- **Developed a simplified training manual for delivering ATLAS strategies and competencies**

According to the ATLAS evaluation recommendations, the technical modules should be simplified with input from the teachers who have localized the child centered teaching methodologies as a teacher guide. VOICE developed draft ATLAS teachers guide in financial year 2018-2019.



**Outcome1.2: Child centered & the teachers in primary schools adopt inclusive teaching methods**

**Output1.2.1: Increased capacity of teachers on child centered & Inclusive teaching methodology**

- **Formed Zonal resource pool & Conducted ATLAS Refresher training for the Teachers**

20 Teachers Selected by the Zonal education office for the resource pool. Knowledge transferring mechanism was established through refresher trainings by zonal resource pool.86 primary teachers received ATLAS refresher training.



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### **Outputs 1.2.3: Follow up & Monitoring mechanisms are strengthened to promote child centered & inclusive education**

#### **➤ 148 Teachers Capacitated Through Zonal Class room observation**

Follow up supports for teachers were done with the guidance of ISAs. In Service advisers observed each class under this activity. They visited 35 schools and 148 teachers observing how ATLAS methodologies are adapted in teaching sessions.



### **Output 1.2.4: Improved physical learning environment in primary schools**

#### **➤ "Udaukamaraya" (Activity room)**

The basic needs required for children's education are included to "Udaukamaraya" (need based center) in which children has free access at any time to use those materials for their education purposes freely with confidentiality. Teachers, parents, Children made aware on the need of establishing "Udaukamaraya" (need based center) in Galawewa Maha Vidyalaya and Dewul wewa Kanistha viddayalaya. Master in charge of Child protection and counselling guided to develop this method. Some basic materials provided including stationaries, School bags, Few set of uniforms, Few set of pair of shoes, Sanitary napkins etc.





- **New technology was innovated by bridge e-learning materials to interactive learning environment.**

One interactive learning environment established in ATLAS model school. Teachers of the model school trained on this methodology. VOICE introduced this as second phase of ATLAS Project.



**Objective 2: Improved Education performance of children in grade 6 to 11 in ChildFund program area**

**Outcome 2.1.: Teachers adopt national & provincial standard methods to address issues of poor performing children in secondary grades**

**Output 2.1.2. Capacity of teachers increased to adopt teaching methods for poor performing children**

- **Training for teachers on Mathematic poor performing program & identified 496 mathematic poor performing children**

Mathematic teachers those who are teaching in grade 6-11 from selected 13 schools capacitated on application of child friendly teaching techniques focused for poor performing children at mathematic. Poor performing children recognized base on provincial department education database. In this selected schools children who got below 40 for their 3<sup>rd</sup> term mathematic examination in 2018 recognize as poor perform students in Mathematics.

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## **Outcome 2.2: Community volunteers/peers support for children with poor educational performance**

### **2.2.2 Output Improved learning spaces & opportunities at community level**

#### **➤ Learning centers**

Youth facilitators are trained on doing facilitation for the children in self-studies. As planned VOICE Facilitate for six learning centers in Andigama, Pahalapuliyankulama, Thoduwawa, Selvapurama, Aluthgama All the learning centers provide library facilities including self-learning spaces, book borrowing and additional reading materials. The center assistants are conducted computer and subject-wise supportive mechanism for needy students as the 'after school support'. Some of the centers used as premises to conduct the alternative language (English and Tamil) classes for students in the particular communities. Provided capacity building program for center assistants and quarterly review the progress continues to maintain their sustainability.



#### **➤ Camps for English, Science, and Mathematics in schools**

Most of the schools runs with the very limited resources both materials and knowledge. Special education sessions conducted to improve the interest of children on English / Science and Mathematics with support of Zonal Education office. Activity-based camps organized in selected schools by participating the nearest schools focusing secondary schools.



**Outcome 2.3: School dropout children engage in alternative / catch up education programs**

**2.3.1 Alternative education opportunities are created for school dropouts children including children with disabilities**

- **184 non-enrolled students and 21 enrolled dropouts’ children were identified.**

At beginning of the project, the number of girls and boys in this category had not been defined and vulnerability mapping was part of the project interventions, as it requires specialized expertise. Dropping out of school without the necessary educational qualifications and skills to migrate to safe adulthood is a key issue that affects children in the project location. VOICE with the help of zonal education office did the vulnerability mapping and Identified 184 non enrolled students and 21 enrolled children.

- **152 at risk to dropouts, and dropout’s children were benefited through livelihood support**

Based on the available data of the vulnerability map and survey, children are from the families with single parents, disabled parents and children who vulnerable or threat for any child protection issue in the area were the beneficiaries from this. And confirmation obtained from the lead mothers during zonal committee meetings at divisional level. 152 at risk to dropouts, and dropout’s children were benefited through livelihood support.

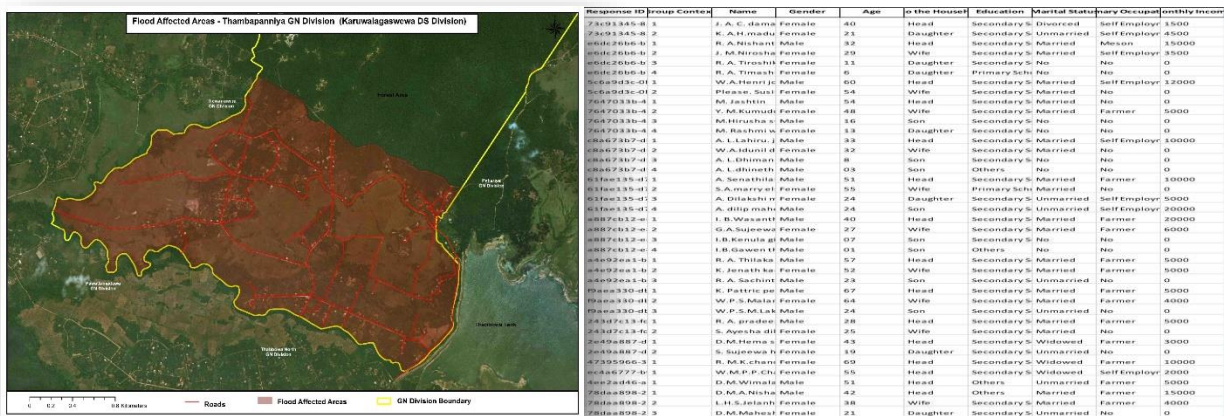


### Objective 3: Children 6 -14 years of age living in safe, protected home, Community and school environments

#### Output 3.1.2.Improved livelihood security of families

- New technology applied to conduct survey (mobile app to find the existing livelihoods for 25 families.)

Conducted market study with integration of LS1 & LS3 on potential livelihoods that run with minimum requirements and easy to adopt. Potential beneficiaries from the families with enrolled children (parents and caregivers) select from the field. Skill development trainings to generate ideas of competitive business screen them and match the ideas with self-employment and entrepreneurs. VOICE identified 25 families in financial year.



### Outcome 3.3: Children using improved knowledge and skills to protect themselves, reduce aggressive behavior, and respond to violence

#### Output 3.3.2. Opportunities created in schools and community to improve SEL skills.

- Inter- school Debate competition

Children are encouraged to demonstrate their talents at inter school debate competitions based on child protection. This conducted at zonal level with presence of District and provincial high officials on child protection. It was a platform for creating strong dialog among stakeholders on child rights and protection.



### Output 3.3.4. Children exposed to sports and extracurricular activities integrated SEL

#### ➤ Practice mock drills with 70 students on DRR

2 sessions on mock drills focusing how to face at disasters were conducted. District Disaster management unit is given responsibility in conducting sessions.



#### ➤ Kite festival & public awareness walk on child protection was conducted

VOICE create platforms for positive engagement to children through various child led activities. Kite festival, public awareness walk on child protection, Reforestation were some activities had done last year. These most of the activities conducted with presence of District and provincial high officials on child protection. Those were platforms for creating strong dialog among stakeholders too on child rights and protection.



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➤ **46 Children Prepared for Silver Award in Duke of Edinburgh's Program**

46 Children Prepared for Silver Award in Duke of Edinburgh international program. This activity also conducted as a school base program with the department of education and youth awarding authority. VOICE provided technical and financial support for the program. VOICE Recognized as open unit and operation License was signed with national youth award unit. VOICE able to offer license to sub units (schools).



**Outcome 3.4. Educational personal apply knowledge and skills to promote conditions that ensure peaceful school environments.**

**Output 3.4.1. Core technical support group established & trained**

➤ **Form and strengthen the social emotional learning committee meeting**

Social emotional learning committee meeting held with the presence of District, zonal Education respective officer for the child protection and VOICE respective staff. In this committee discussed regarding the implementation of social emotional Learning in schools and child protection activates in VOICE Area Federation.



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## Challenges and action taken to over-come

- We planned to prepare simplified training manual on ATLAS methodologies with Provincial Resource pool but In-service advisors' "work to rule" affected for this and use alternate with retired ISA's and zonal resource pool who got the training on ATLAS methodologies.
- Difficulties obtained while doing ATLAS refresher training Due to the ISAs work to rule, but Retired ISA and Tamil coordinator and zonal resource pool used for this training as an alternate.
- Same as above classroom observation also affected due to the ISAs work to rule.
- Youth volunteers failed to give their continuous service for learning centers. Frequent trainings for new faces are challenging. Use alternate beyond the youth support while considering the support of retired ISA or teachers and lead mothers to run the center and its sustainability.
- Difficulties obtained while analyzing some of the questions of Baseline Survey Guideline. ChildFund suggested to do the baseline survey on Objective 3. (Children age 6-16 years of age living in safe protected home community and school environment in the VAF operating areas) to maximize the data accuracy of new project module of SVBP.

# Youth Empowerment

Skilled and Involved Youth




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### 03. Skilled and Involved Youth- Youth empowerment

**Outcome 1.1 Youths are having clear career vision and act with a vision to realize the vision.**

**Output 1.1.1: School career guidance mechanisms are formed and strengthened**

➤ **Develop Individual career development plans**

This outcome was designed;

- to increase the knowledge on job market trends,
- to create career visions, and
- to develop individual career plan for their future.

Youths were exposed to career counselling sessions conducted by professional career counsellors and government counseling officers. Gradually a change of the youth's perception was seen which the youths were able to create their own career vision with a understanding of the future job market trends. 321 individual career development plans were developed. With this start up, youths have been positively influenced to create their own career visions. This has also facilitated by the VOICE career guidance application which provides a widely spread range of career options for the youths.



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➤ **Conduct school Career guidance**

Four career guidance sessions at school level have been conducted for a group of schooling youths in Mundalama, Karuwalagaswewa, Anamaduwa and Pallama. Trained resource personnel were hired to conduct these programs.



➤ **Conduct career vision camps at divisional level**

Four career vision camps were conducted at divisional level targeting the unemployed and school passed out students. 230 youths, 24 parents and 4 government officers participated in the program. These events were conducted at 2 divisions, with the participation of HRDOs and SDOs in each respective division. The youth who participated in these programs gained the knowledge on their future career pathways.



➤ **Develop soft skill manual for career counselling at school level**

A soft skill development syllabus for school career counselling was developed for the school career counselors to follow at their counselling sessions in school. Technical knowledge in developing the soft skill manual was provided by professional career counsellors, counselling officers at field level and school counselling teachers.

In the next financial year, it is expected to distribute the soft skill development manual to all the schools in Puttalam Education Zone.

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### **Output 1.1.2: Career guidance units are capacitated for better services**

#### **➤ TOT for school career guidance teaches**

Due to lack of professional school career guidance counselors, the Department of Education has appointed school teachers to serve as counselors. VOICE in collaboration with the non-formal education unit in Puttalam educational zone conducted one day TOT program for the above appointed counselors. Counselors from 30 schools were participated in this TOT.



### **Output 1.1.3: Youth have developed career vision plans.**

#### **➤ Individual career counselling for youths**

Forty-five enrolled youths were referred for individual career counselling sessions with the support of the HRDO's and Smart Sri Lanka Career Guidance Unit established in Puttalam, to identify and create their future vision and career plans with that vision. Also the necessary guidance and support was provided for the youth through VOICE.

#### **➤ Social marketing for youth employment**

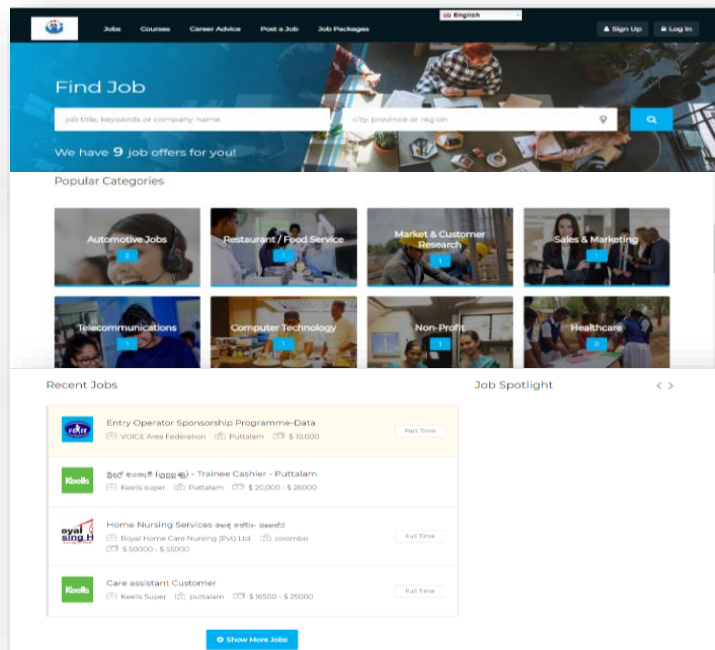
With the objective of improving the youth employment, VOICE launched the "ONE STEP MORE" social marketing program. Under this program, 30 youths were trained as social marketing community mobilizers and they conducted the web based psychometric test at field level for their peer youths to identify and help them to create each of the peer's future plan.



**Output 1.1.4: Information and communication system is established**

➤ **Job matching web site were developed**

Online job matching website was developed and updated for the use of youths. Most of the time youths are lacking on the information on jobs and trainings oppounities in VOICE working areas. To limit that issue VOICE introduced the JOB SET job matching site



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### **Output 1.3.2: Youth have gained vocational training**

#### **➤ Youth Scholarship on Vocational training**

Most of the Youth in VOICE working areas not engaged with regular paid jobs and they have lack of facilities to take a professional vocational training due to economical reasons. As a result of that they do risky careers and low paid employments. By referring their career visions and plans youths have identified available opportunities in employment skill development. In FY-19 , total number of 24 youths have been referred for 'on the job training' including in the NAITA, SLITHM and VTA while 8 youth engage with vocational training in the Open University, Ayurveda University and Technical College -Anamaduwa. These youths were motivated through exposure visits to the standard vocational training institutes.

### **Outcome 1.2 Families and communities promote enabling environment for youth to choose careers in non-conventional vocational sectors.**

### **Output 1.3.3: Youth have gained entrepreneurial skills**

#### **➤ Labor market survey conducted to identify the trending current job demand**

According to the market survey conducted in Puttalam in FY 19 that identified that more job demand is prevailing for the tourism sector, due to the geographical location of Puttalam this situation was created.

#### **➤ Start new vocational training courses at divisional level**

Due to transport issues most of the youths not able to reach to the VT centers to follow the courses. As a solution that VOICE able to start 02 course units at Anamaduwa youth resource center, with the support of Government stake holders. Course unit was started on Housekeeping and House based wiring.

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### ➤ **Conducting Job fairs**

Due to lack of information and Limited accessibility to job vacancies with in the district and outside the district became a key issue in for the youths in VOICE working areas. By addressing this issue, job fairs were organized in remote areas (Karuwalagaswewa, Anamaduwa) with leading private sector companies. In FY 18 and FY19, total 578 youths have been given opportunities to participate for 5 job fairs out of which 351 were interviewed and among them 31 youths got the employment opportunities for assured jobs in private sector. This activity was implemented in collaboration with District sectratrick Puttalam and Leading privet sector companies.



## **Outcome 2.1 Youth are practiced healthy reproductive behaviors**

### **Output 2.1.1 Youth have improved knowledge on SRH**

A gap analysis of the Puttalam district were conducted with stake holders in this MOH heads and other health related officers participated for this discussion. This discussion ends with an action for upcoming years to work with.

VOICE staff members attended the knowledge sharing workshop conducted by Family Planning Association (FPA) Sri Lanka at Colombo and they were capacitated by getting the knowledge on modern contraceptive methods and their new trends.

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## Challenges and action taken to over-come

1. Retaining youth within the implemented programs is the challenge for youth program. As a solution for this, VOICE has developed programs in a more attractive and beneficiary package for retaining them with program by improving their involvement further to the program.
2. Youths expectations remarkably higher than the current salary packages that obtain by the attached private sector companies.
3. Youth gathering is challenging because unavailability of them in their residences.
4. Female Youths tend to find jobs that are close or within their residence hence difficulties obtained while job placements and retaining them.
5. Some programs were delayed or cancelled due to the situation in the country during Easter Sunday attack, as people gatherings were banned by the government and imposed some law and order affected to the programs. Up to now the unrest situation prevails inside the villages, no trust other ethnicities and looking at them with suspicion.

## Outcome 3.1 Youth engaged in civic activities with increased interest and self confidence

### Output 3.1.1 Youth gained knowledge and skill on civic engagement

#### ➤ Media Literacy program

In FY 19, With the collaboration with the "Sathwera" VOICE Media Team" total 57 youths have been undergone a training on 4 Media and Communication Material Development trainings. This activity was collaborated with the guidance of the



"Bingusara" Media Academy. After the workshop's youths developed related documentaries, short films, video clips and photographs of the activities of all projects which delivered by the VOICE.

➤ **Signing and Short film festival event**

With the participation of the youths a singing composing event and short film festival was conducted, 10 short films related to child protection and child rights were developed and it was launched as a festival for government privet sector and Non-government stake holders. 222 youths and parents participated for this event held in Puttlam town hall. 12 key government stake holders were invited and chef gust was the district sectary of Puttlam. At the end of the event there was a DJ night organized by the "Sathwera" media team youths.



In FY 18, over 150 youths contributed to the national youth movement " Alliance of Youth for Ending Violence Against Children" by the name of "Sathwera VOICE Youth Movement". 12 Youth Area federations exist in the Puttlam District got united under the above-mentioned name. This was a very much attractive program and it was very much instrumental in inculcating the formative values related to civic engagement and social consciousness.





## ➤ Inter - sectorial collaboration with cross cutting projects

In FY 19 youth VOICE youth program focused more on collaboration approach with other projects, such as DRR and Disability projects.

- DRR activities by youths

VOICE Media unite and "Sathwera" Youth movement conducted awareness campaigns on Child Rights and Child Protection at village level. Also, they conducted awareness campaigns on environment protection.

- Working for the rights of the disable people

Same time youths play significant role in the Disable people's rights, and protecting the rights of the special needs. They conducted a walk with the awareness event to create entrance facilities for Disabled people on government and private sector buildings.



## Youth Led Eco DRR project

### Outcome1 - Strengthened capacity among youth groups and communities in emergency response

- 6 Disaster Management Committees at GN level were formed and refreshed in view of implementing the ECO System Based DRR in the community.
- 6 youth clubs are strengthened to apply emergency response actions in hypothetical and practical situations. Members who represent these youth clubs are capacitated and motivated to apply their knowledge and skills fulfilling their civic responsibilities.

- 
- Enhanced civic engagement of the youth is one of the best achievements which arrived through the project interventions. There is a strong youth group who are empowered through the knowledge and the training they received through the project interventions. They not only participate in the village level activities but also in the activities which are organized by the District Disaster Management Centre of the Puttalam District. Very recently those youth teams participated in the mock drill conducted by the Disaster Management Centre in collaboration with SL ARMY. Further those youth also participated in the humanitarian assistance in the North in the times of flood.

### **Outcome 2 - Youth lead eco-system based DRR action planning with the communities**

- 6 action Plans pertain to Youth Lead eco-system based DRR were prepared with the professional collaboration of relevant Local Government Bodies such Development officers and GS officers of the selected GN Divisions. Most importantly youth involvement during the action planning process was significant since they contributed with their knowledge and skills.
- Youth awareness on the eco-system based youth-led disaster risk reduction is also one of the key achievement of the project. As an inevitable result all the community level action planning to conserve the ecosystems was led by youth and youth contribution is much highlighted in the action plans too.

### **Outcome 3 - Service providers related to the eco-DRR action plan, are linked and engaged**

- Political will of the relevant authorities such as District Secretary, Additional District Secretary, Puttalam and divisional secretary, Karuwalagaswewa has been drawn to implement the project in meaningful and cost-effective manner. The ownership of the project has taken by the relevant local government authorities.
- Members of the Board of Directors and the Staff of VOICE Area Federation are well aware of the youth lead eco-system based DRR project. It is an additional contributing factor for mainstreaming DRR in all programmatic areas such as health and nutrition, Education, Employment and Life skill development and Disability inclusion.

- 
- Formation of the district level steering committee for monitoring the interventions of the action planning. The decisions made in the last meeting are related with the interventions mentioned in the developed action plans

### **Challenges and action taken to over-come**

There are some interventions which need multi-sectorial approach to be successful. Some issues need to be addressed by many line agencies of the government. For instance, the wild elephant threat has to be addressed by the Department of forest, Department of Wild Life and other Local Authorities as well. But the challenge is to get the representation and the contribution of those line agencies. This challenge was successfully addressed by forming a district level steering committee to monitor the action plans. This committee includes the key decision makers of the authorities.

#### [Eco System DRR Project initial Awareness for Karuwalagaswewa DSD stakeholders.](#)

Program Venue: Auditorium, Aluthgama

Date: 16/08/2018

Time: 10.00 a.m.-11.30 a.m.

Participants: Total 92 (Male 56 / Female 36)

Brief induction session on Ecosystem based youth led, DRR project was conducted to relevant government stakeholders in Karuwalagaswewa DSD, in view of making aware of them on project outcomes, outputs and activities. District Secretary emphasized the ownership of the project should be attributed to relevant stakeholders.



Eco System based youth led DRR project initial discussion with additional director of DMC and other DMC officers.

Program Venue: Conference hall, VOICE Area Federation office, Puttalam

Date: 17/07/2018

Time: 10.00 a.m.-12.30 p.m.

Participants: Total 10 (Male 10)

DRR and ER interventions in past years done by VOICE Area Federation were presented to additional director of DMC. Further discussed about the objectives and outcome of the ecosystem based, youth led DRR project. Additional



Director of DMC emphasized about the importance of forming a youth volunteer carder for DRR and ER.

District level start-up workshop

Program Venue: Garden view Hotel, Puttalam

Date: 09/08/2018

Time: 9.00 a.m.- 12.30 p.m.

Participants: Total 30 (Male 30)

Lengthy discussion was held on the project goal, objectives, outcomes, outputs and activities with the government decision makers and relevant stakeholders. Further key stakeholders for the project



implementation were identified with the supervision of the Additional District Secretary of the Puttalam District and Divisional Secretary of the Karuwagaswewa .

❖ District level Introduction to ECO- DRR Process and action plan.

District Secretariat Auditorium, Puttalam .

Date: 30/08/2018

Time: 9.00 a.m.- 12.30 p.m

Participants: Total 30(Male 18/ Female 12)

Introduction to the Eco- DRR process was conducted with the participation of district secretary, Divisional Secretary and additional director of DMC, Puttalam and other relevant officers. District level action for the ECO DRR process which is to be implemented was discussed and documented. This session was conducted by IUCN officials.



❖ Initial meetings for youth clubs.

GN Divisions: Pahala Puliyankulama ,Ipologama,Saliya A,Munamalgaswewa,

Participants: Total 107 (Male 50 /Female 57)

A brief induction session to the Eco-System base, Youth led Disaster Risk Reduction project was conducted to the Youth Clubs members in PahalaPuliyankulama, Ipologama, Saliya A,Munamalgaswewa. There the much emphasis was given to youth involvement in DRR frame work at village level. The motivation of the youth



were enhanced on the project activities to be conducted. Similarly they were made aware of the benefits of restabilising existing ecosystem. Key leading youth characters were identified for the initial trainings to be conducted under project activities

Refresh meetings DM committee at GN level

GN Divisions: Pahala Puliyankulama,Thambapanniya,Egodapitiya, Munamalgaswewa,Kuda Madavachchiya,Pavattamaduwa,Paleegama,Thewanuwara .

Participants: Total 117 (Male 27/ Female 90)

Grama Niladhari Division level DM committee of the Pahala Puliyankulama, Thambapanniya, Egodapitiya, Munamalgaswewa, Thewanuwara, Pavattamaduwa, Paleegama, Kuda Madavachchiya Villages had been established in 2016 in view of activating it



when disasters strike, mainly the floods. But due to lack sequential activities related to the DRR, the DM committee was not functioning in an enthusiastic manner. With refresher meeting conduct by VOICE, with the respective members of the village, they were convinced on the importance of the DM committee itself. Further DM committee members were made aware of the importance of re-establishing the exited eco system and the benefits they will gain in return. The activities of the project were brief to them and their impression was quiet delightful since their main livelihoods are connected with the ecological systems and nature. DM committee members gave their consent to contribute to the project as best as they can.

Training programs for youth groups and community on emergency response.

Garden View Hotel, Puttalam

Date: 31/08/2018- 2018/9/1, 2

Time: 9.00 am- 4.30 p.m.

Participants: Total 55 (Male 28/Female 27)

Selected youths and members of the community were capacitated on emergency response. The training included practical sessions on First Aiding and rescuing from water. Youths leaders were participated actively and they also conveyed the importance and relevance of the emergency response in DRR.



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Child Protection in Emergency Response Program.

Program venue: Gamodh Citadel Hotel, Anuradhapura

Date: 5, 6, 7, /09/2016

Time: 9.00 am -4.00 pm

Participants: Total 28 (Male 18/Female 10)



Youths and Leading characters village level made aware of the aspects of child protection in emergencies. This training was facilitated by Child Fund Sri Lanka. Most importantly staff members involved in the training and there was a session on child protection in DRR in which it talked about the Child Cantered Spaces.

❖ Youth training on Eco-DRR concepts.

Program Venue: Gamodh Citadel Hotel, Anuradhapura

Dates: 20, 21, and 22/09/2018

Participants: Total 45 (Male 17 Female 28)

This training was conducted with the professional collaboration of Government related officers, Youths and parents of the selected youths. All were encouraged to identify issues related to the ECO-System.



Eco-DRR action planning at GN/village cluster.

Community awareness of the Eco DRR action planning was conducted in collaboration with the relevant local government officers such as GramaNiladharis, Development Officers and DMC Officers. Community members and youths were sensitized on the action



planning process and the importance of Eco DRR project implementation.

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## Identifying, analysing and mapping Hazards at GN Level

In view of identifying the certain geographical structure of the villages in the Grama Niladhari Divisions, this activity was conducted. It was a help to identify the existing eco systems and conduct risk and vulnerability assessment of the selected GNDs.



### ❖ Transect Work and IEC materials awareness at GN Divisions Level.

IEC materials distribution on Eco System Based DRR was conducted with the active participation of the youth. Youth Team conducted this Program as a Street Drama Campaign as an innovative approach to community awareness. It was so effective and carrying powerful messages with vibrant youth voices



### **GN level quarterly progress review and backstopping meeting.**

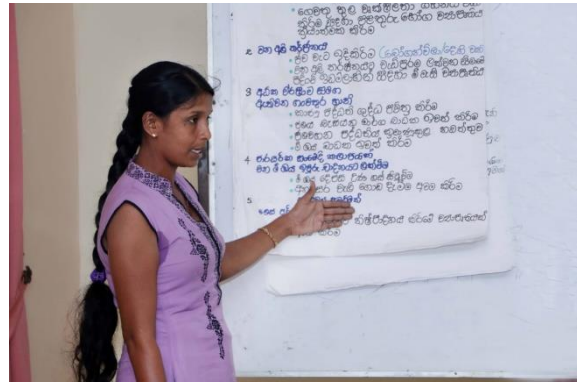
Quarterly Progress review of and backstopping meeting was conducted with the related Grama Niladhari Officers, Development Officers, Additional Director of Puttalam Disaster Management Centre, Divisional Secretary, CEO of VOICE Area Federation and other related officers.

Progress of the action planning and the disaster vulnerability mapping was discussed during the meeting. Especially all the stakeholders of the project identified the key areas which should be taken forward as project interventions.





- ❖ Conducted Eco System based youth led DRR project initial Meeting (Action plans present to Divisional level )



Continued with the back stopping meeting, the progress of the project was discussed with the relevant stakeholders. Then presented the Eco- DRR action plan prepared for each selected GND to the Stakeholders in view of identifying and assigning the roles and responsibilities pertain to the subject. Mainly the issues that can be addressed through the ECO- DRR Project were identified clearly and the discussions were held accordingly.

**Eco System based youth led DRR project Final workshop (Action plans present to District level) with District secretary and other related department**

Presented the finalized action plan at District Secretariat level to the District Secretary of the Puttalam District and to other key stakeholders who are working at decision making level. Identified the clearly the roles and responsibilities of the each stakeholder that are pertains to the implementation of the ECO-DRR action plans. Key decisions were taken to assist the project actions.



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## **Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Sri Lanka through Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR)**

VOICE area federation was contracted to implement the referenced project named Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Sri Lanka through Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) in November 2018. The project is implemented in three locations, i.e. Manthai East, Manthai West and Wannathevilluwa Divisional secretariat divisions. During the reporting period following activities were completed: KIM survey; KIM Medical Screening Camps; Teacher Training on Inclusive Education; CBR training for SHG leaders; Revival of divisional and district steering committees; Introductory training on CBR for Steering Committees.

This report contains qualitative descriptions of the implemented activities during the reporting period with wherever possible the impact/result related learning. It also includes the general notes about the activities, success stories, challenges and actions taken to mitigate the challenges during this quarter. The activity chart against the work plan, and a collection of relevant photos are attached in the annexes.

### **1. 1 Short description of the project (Goals and expected outcome)**

The national Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Programme which was not implemented at full-scale, is also experiencing a revival as a result. Yet, there are also capacity and service gaps observed especially due to lack of service providers and/or accessibility issues. Child Fund in partnership with VOICE Area Federation, designed the project with the aim to empower children and youth with disabilities and facilitate the acquisition of services and access to mainstream programmes/systems in the sectors of Health, Education and Livelihood Development.

#### **Goal**

Human rights and fundamental freedom of PWDs, particularly CWD and youth with disability (YWD) are ensured for their full participation in all dimensions of community life.

#### **Outcome**

1. CWD and YWD have access to health and education services by reducing/eliminating physical, social, psychological and economic barriers.

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2. Attitudes and practices of CWD, YWD and caregivers are improved, that leads to better quality of life.
  3. CWDs and YWDs received quality services through improved capacity of service providers on right based approach
  4. DPOs/SHGs act on safeguard rights of CWDs and YWDs in inclusion and participation Outcome

**OUTCOME 1: CWD and YWD have access to health and education services by reducing/ eliminating physical, social, psychological and economic barriers**

**Output 1.1 - Health and rehabilitation services available for CWD and YWD in their communities**

The activities carried out during the review period concentrated on identifying CWD and YWD in the project area and organizing KIM camps to assess disability status of the identified through KIM survey using a mobile application. The KIM survey, CBR baseline survey as well as community level coordination of the KIM camps were done by the 47 volunteers (including 10 persons with disabilities and four caregivers), who were trained in KIM methodology.

**1.1.2 Village level data collection by key informants**

During the review period the KIM volunteers were able to complete the CBR survey in all the three project locations using the mobile application, covering 857 persons with disability, and 34% are CWD and YWD. Majority (49.8%) are from the age group between 30 – 60 years, the age group that best contributes to the country's economy in general. Senior citizens with disability represented 15% of the total disabled population assessed by the volunteers. Male and female representation observed to be 57% and 43% respectively. More than 50% of the respondents are having physical impairments followed by multiple, visual and intellectual impairments. This exercise has developed passion and confidence among volunteers to work with the children and youth with disabilities, ensuring their inclusion in health, education and social services.

Table 3: Age, Gender and Impairments


Age	#	Impairments	#
0 – 5 years	24	Visual	132
6 - 14 years	103	Physical	457
15 -24 years	98	Hearing & Speech	83
25 - 29 years	66	Intellectual	129
30 – 60 years	427	Multiple	146
Above 60 years	130	Epilepsy	56
<b>Gender</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>857</b>
Female	371		
Male	486		

**1.1.3. Conduct medical screening camps**

Of the 857 persons with disabilities, 276 are using 282 assistive devices as presented in the table 5. Of the 83 persons with hearing impairment 28% are using hearing aids, while spectacles have been given to 32% of the 133 persons with visual impairments. Assistive devices for physical impairments have been acquired by 43% of persons with physical/multiple impairments. It is estimated that the need for assistive devices would be higher than the supplied numbers.

Three KIM medical camps were held for screening 687 persons with disability, i.e. 80% of the total persons with disability identified by the KIM survey with a great support from the Divisional Secretaries, the Regional Directors of Health Services, and District Social Service Officers in Manthai

Table 4: Acquisition of Assistive Devices

Assistive devices	# PWD acquired	Proportion of supply
Hearing aids	23	28%
Spectacles or low vision devices	42	32%
Other assistive devices	211	43%
	# other assistive devices	
• Wheelchairs	49	
• P & O devices	44	
• Crutches	80	
• Walkers	44	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>217</b>	

East, Manthai West and Wanathavilluwa. A multi-disciplinary team who conducted the KIM camps consist of consultants, medical officers, therapists, nursing staff, midwives, technicians in the fields of Pediatric, ENT, Psychiatry, VP, Neurology, Physiotherapy

and Speech therapy. The table 6. Illustrates the referrals recommended for the persons



**KIM Medical Screening Camp - Mannar**



**KIM Medical Screening  
Camp - Mullathivu**





**KIM Medical Screening Camp - Wanathavilluwa**

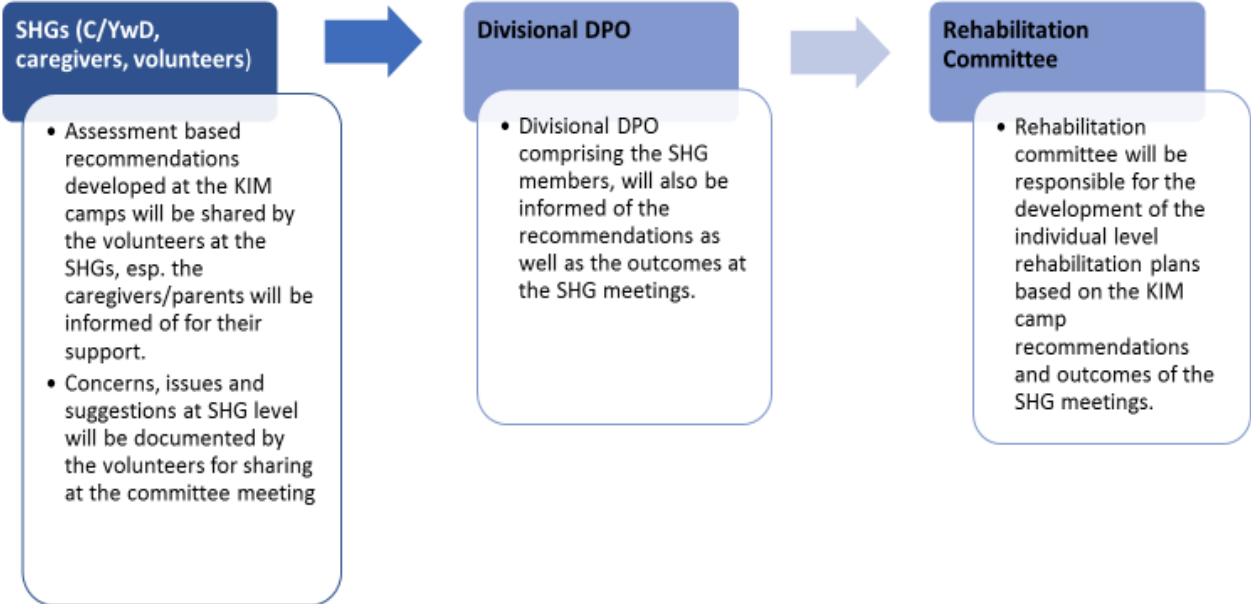


Total number of persons referred for further treatments						
ENT Specialist	Ophthalmologist	Pediatrician	Visiting consultant Physician	Psychiatrist	Physiotherapist	Speech therapist
25	32	26	42	32	11	13

During the KIM camp, disability related sensitization sessions for the community members.

Based on the assessments and recommendations by the multi-disciplinary teams, the rehabilitations plans will be developed by the rehabilitation committee formed of professionals and community representatives such as Medical Officer – Health, ISA/Principal (Education), DSSO/SSO, EDO, VOICE, volunteer representatives (02) and a DPO leader.

**Figure 2: REHABILITATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS**





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## Output 1.2 - Education opportunities are available for CWDs in their communities

During the review period, the project focus was to identify address needs and gaps encountered by the service providers in the education sector with regard to disability inclusion. A major gap was the lack of capacity and myths among the teachers on working with CWD. Teacher training was given a priority, as a preparatory measure for the inclusion of CWD in the school education.

Table 5: Educational Level

Educational level	6 – 14 years	15 – 24 years
No education	8%	9%
Special education	16%	10%
Inclusive education	63%	51%
School dropouts	0%	7%
Vocational training	0%	1%

The KIM survey revealed that 63% of the 103 CWD in the age group of 6-14 years are studying in the inclusive educational environment compared to 16% studying in the special education units. No school drop-outs reported in this age group and only 8% reported of having no education, i.e. five with physical impairments and three with multiple impairments.

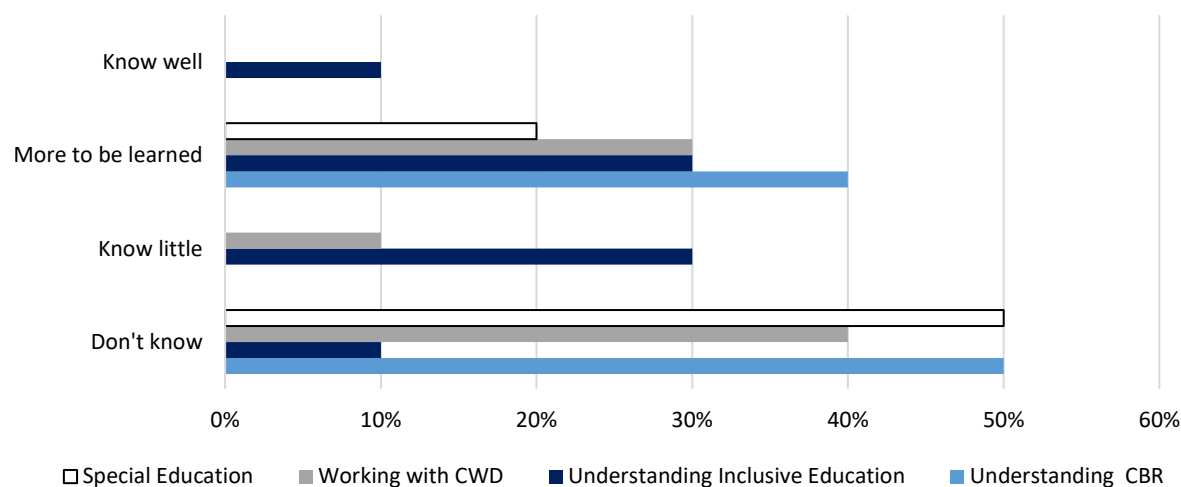
Among the 98 children and youth with disability in the age group of 15 – 24 years, 51% reported as having access to inclusive education; 10% special education, with only 9% reported of never having access to education (seven with multiple impairments; four with intellectual impairments; 2 with hearing & speech impairment and one with visual impairment). Only 7% reported as school dropouts and one (1%) has been undergone vocational training. (Table 5)

### 1.2.1 Teacher training on teaching methodologies – inclusive education by NIE

During the review period the teacher training programs (02) were conducted in Manthai East and Manthai West, with the participation of 9 (2 male: 7 female) and 38 (6 males: 32 female) teachers, respectively. The total number of teachers participated in the training is 57, including those participated in the Wanathavilluwa programme during the

first quarter. Figure 1 illustrates the finding of the self-assessments done by the teachers who participated in the training programme:

**Figure 1: Pre-assessment results of teacher trainees**



The teachers applying the learning, have changed their practices:

- Developed interest in improving knowledge on special education/inclusive education which was evident by enquiries for training opportunities and information sources
- Working towards changing attitudes in favor of CWD, among other teachers to gain their support for disability inclusive education system/practice
- Redesigning classrooms to ensure reasonable accommodation for CWD
- Identification of problems in inclusion of CWD to mainstream education system
- Organizing workshops to educate school children/school community for specific needs of CWD to join the mainstream education
- Applying special techniques to increase participation and improve attention for CWD
- Referring CWD for medical services, educational assistance and other services to address their needs
- Designing special programs to facilitate the participation of CWD

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### **1.2.6 Engaging CWD in extra-curricular activities, sports and aesthetics**

The purpose of the project to support in the above activity is to remove barriers and increase the opportunities for CWDs to participate and engage in extra-curricular activities. The project expected to provide necessary equipment and facilities for the target schools to promote the uptake of the activities by students in general, and more specifically CWDs. During the review period in Manthai-East, the project has in the process of introducing Inclusive Inter-school sports meet. The different tools were developed with the involvement of teachers trained in inclusive education to suit the specific needs of the CWD. Due to the security issues after the Easter Sunday terrorist attack, gaining approvals for organizing school-level events found to be difficult.

### **1.2.7 Child protection awareness sessions in schools through school development societies**

As a base for designing the child protection awareness sessions in schools in Wanathavilluwa, Child Protection Officer with the DS office team have plans to conduct a survey in selected schools on child protection issues, with special focus on CWD. The awareness sessions will be conducted after the survey, which may contribute to the revision of the session guide. Due to the security situation as described under 1.2.6, outside organizations are not expected to conduct such programmes within the school system.

## **1.3 Vocational training opportunities are available for YWD**

### **1.3.1 Identify potential YWD for vocational training**

Identification and a basic assessment of potential VTCs for disability inclusion in the project districts was done in the first quarter of the project. As a part of the screening of C/YWD at the KIM camps, 77 (40M and 37F) of with the potential for vocational training have been identified. Their rehabilitation plans will include vocational training aspects with recommendations for preparing them. This will be conducted in the next quarter. During the KIM camp, the promotional videos on Vocational Training Centres, their

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courses, services and facilities were screened, and also contacted Department of Social Services for promotional material on disabled-friendly VTCs. DPO members were consulted to find out ways to motivate YWD for vocational training, exposure visits to VTCs, successful trainees of VTCs have been proposed.

**OUTCOME 2: Attitudes and practices of CWD, YWD and caregivers are improved, that leads to better quality of life.**

**2.1 CWD, YWD and caregivers have improved knowledge, skills in preventing secondary implications of disabilities and to ensure better care**

**2.1.1 Formation of SHGs**

There were no committee for persons with disability and caregivers, earlier. The members of SHGs felt stronger as group, which promote self-help, such as mending roof, cleaning each other's households. The meetings are organized on roster basis from house to house. Members found the SHG meetings provide space for their voice. They are keen on introducing a savings and micro-credit programme, to prove that they can pay back to other finance institutions that are reluctant to include persons with disabilities.

"I don't have any economic problems. But, I failed in getting my child a school for her education. We could have organized before into SHGs like these those days, they could have helped me in solving that problem." "Persons with disability are usually living in isolation. That is the reality. Now, that we have group of our own, we don't feel lonely."

**2.1.2 CBR training for each SHG**

During the first quarter, three training programs on CBR has been conducted for 143 selected SHG members (57 male: 86 female) in all the Manthai-East, Manthai-West and Wanathavilluwa divisions. The training included an introduction to CBR, its structures, roles and responsibilities of the affiliated entities, how the programme would be moving forward and the benefit for the people with disabilities, especially children and youth with

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disabilities. The training has been delivered by the SSO of each DS division. As a result of the training following changes were observed by the field staff:

- There is an increase in the membership with more persons with disability and their family members joining the SHGs
- Members of SHGs participated in the training started sharing their knowledge with other family members
- SHG members actively participate in planning and implementation of the CBR program
- Unity and networking observed to be improved through self-help actions
- Members of SHG has realized the importance of decision making and represent their voice.

### **OUTCOME 3: CWDs and YWDs received quality services through improved capacity of service providers on right based approach.**

#### **3.1. CBR steering committees strengthened at district and divisional level**

##### **3.1.1 Formation of divisional steering committees (Divisional SCs)**

During the first quarter, in all the three DS divisions (Manthai West, Manthai East and Wanathevilluwa) the divisional steering committees (SCs) were re-established with the active participation of responsible stakeholders such as Medical officers, Educational practitioners, teachers, Social services officers and development officers, DPO leaders to name a few.

The project staff make sure the meetings are being held on a regular basis, and the ownership of such coordination meetings are taken by the responsible government official to ensure the sustainability of this program.

##### **3.1.2 Formation of District steering Committees (District SCs)**

District SCs were already existing within the government system, and therefore the project intervention was to facilitate that they are back to operation. Members of the committee are the District SSO, the DPO representatives, and government officials from

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different line Ministries according to the CBR guidelines. During the review period, convened by the DSSO quarterly meetings were held in the two districts - Putlam and Mannar. At the meetings, the project activities and introduction to Child Fund was done as an information sharing activity. At the meeting following challenges were discussed:

- Resource allocation by the State authorities for the implementation of National CBR program is considerably low
- Officers found unable to contribute to the SC meetings due to busy work schedules

### **3.2. Strengthened the knowledge of stakeholders on CBR/Right based approach**

#### **3.2.1 Introductory CBR training for SCs**

This activity was planned with the view to sensitize all key stakeholders on the CBR programme, basic CBR concepts, familiarising with different disabilities and their roles in the CBR programme. The stakeholders included in the Steering Committees and DPOs were informed of their role in the CBR programme. As planned three training programmes were done at divisional level in June 2019 with the participation of 46 members (21 male : 25 female) of the three divisional SCs. Officers for child Development and women development requested the trainers to conduct CBR training for the groups that they mobilized. The ISA has shared the CBR concerns in inclusive education.

#### **3.2.2 Conduct orientation on Key Informant Methodology (KIM) training to SCs:**

KIM training was conducted 27th March 19 in Wanathawilluva Divisional secretariat division and as a result, there were attitudinal changes observed among government participants, such as active participation of SC members in the KIM camp; Public Health Workers and Grama Niladharis sharing statistics and information available with them; CBR concept was shared with civil society organizations such as Samurdhi Society and Death Donation Society.

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## **OUTCOME 4: DPOs/SHGs act on safeguard rights of CWDs and YWDs in inclusion and participation**

### **4.1 Improve knowledge of DPOs/SHGs on CBR approach**

#### **4.1.1 Conduct awareness programmes on CBR approach to DPO leadership:**

Three awareness programmes on CBR approach were planned to be conducted for DPO leadership in Manthei-East, Manthei-West and Wanathavilluwa DS divisions during the review period, covering the following: Introduction to CBR, Its structures, roles and responsibilities of the DPOs and other affiliated entities, how the programme will be moving forward and the benefit for the people with disabilities, especially children and youth with disabilities. The training was expected to be delivered by the SSO of the relevant DS division. Due to busy work schedules of the SSOs, this activity was delayed. The activity will be carried out in the third quarter.

#### **Challenges and action taken to over-come**

The only challenge that the project faced during the review period was the hostile situation after the April 21st terrorist attack, that has contributed to breaking of trust among the ethnic groups. Enforcement of the Emergency Law has slowed down civil society actions with people tend avoid unnecessary troubles, thus, community-level association was not encouraged. Wanathavilluwa has been one of the areas under investigations. The situation was beyond the control of the project, and the VOICE team having maintained good rapport with the authorities, managed to continue the implementation of the project activities respecting the precautionary measures taken by the school authorities and DS offices. There were delays in implementing some activities as a result.

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Financial Investment on Social Development

Project	Budget Rs.
Healthy and Secured Children	4,384,014.00
Educated and Confident Children	13,425,725.23
Skilled and Involved Youth	6,425,282.00
Social Inclusion Program/Project	19,858,676.03
Youth Led Eco DRR / Cross Cutting DRR Project	2,401,100.00
Cross Cutting Programs - Sponsor relations	3,654,907.00
DFC Funds	5,402,593.99
Cross Cutting Programs - Capacity Building	2,605,712.43
Program Support	11,123,298.81
Total Investment	69,281,309.49