

Information Update

July 2012

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The Information Update is also available on the CHA website : www.humanitarian-Srilanka.org

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS & TRAINING



Awareness on Sphere Standards— Vavuniya DDMCC

CHA provided an Awareness Programme in SPHERE Minimum Standards to support the Ministry of Disaster Management (MDM) and the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) to strengthen the national and local disaster management capacities of Sri Lanka. The session was conducted by CHA resource persons for the Vavuniya District Disaster Management Coordination Committee (DDMCC).

It was held on 19th and 20th July 2012 at Miridiya Hotel, Anuradhapura. 35 Participants from District Secretariat including the Government Agent of Vavuniya Mr Bandula Harischandra, Local Authority, Department of Agriculture, Dept. of Agrarian Services, Irrigation Department, RDHS, Zonal Education office, Department of Animal protection, Sri Lanka Army, Sri Lanka Navy, Oxfam, ZOA, Handicap International, Save the children, Sewa Lanka Foundation, NGO consortium, IOM, OCHA, DMC, UNDP and WHO were present. The three hour session was a combination of PowerPoint presentations, group work and quiz. The resource persons gave an introduction of SPHERE history and comprehensive knowledge on the minimum standards required in providing relief and assistance.



Significant comments by the participants

- ✗ The training will definitely help us to improve the delivery of assistance during disasters. **K Vedharaniyam-IOM**
- ✗ We could coordinate easily by participating in this type of programme - **Sqr/ Lrd. Subasinghe- SLAF**
- ✗ This training will help us to make aware of the standard used in disaster response. **-A Sivabalasundaram- DS Vavuniya**
- ✗ Excellent training. The knowledge can be used at the ground level. I will encourage the organization working with us to follow Sphere Standards. **Harsha Jayarathna-ZOA**

Effective writing skills

The need for Effective Writing Skills was a concern across the sector and following a needs assessment carried out by CHA in consultation with agencies, the demand was identified. Workshop on Effective Writing Skills was carried out to participants from Plan International, Sewalanka Foundation and Practical Action. Further workshops will continue facilitated by CHA.

Significant comment by the participants

- Well organized, not overloaded. Training covered all practical issues. Basics of the writing skills covered excellently. **M S Jerome- Plan International**
- Will help in writing reports and e-mail meaningfully and attractively. **Nilntha Kumara- Practical Action**



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS & TRAINING

Finance Management for NGO Finance Officers



A workshop on financial management as per Sri Lanka Financial Standards was held on 17th & 18th July 2012 at CHA. Training was attended by I/NGO representatives and from the government sector. Programmes to

suite different tiers in financial management are designed and delivered.

Workshop on Microsoft Access –Intermediate level



IT training has been continuous and the demand is being met by CHA following many requests. Corporate sector has shown a keen interest in addition to the humanitarian and development sectors. A

two-day training on Microsoft Access training was carried out to participants of the I/NGO and corporate sectors. CHA resource person Ms S. Jayanthi has been instrumental in conducting these training in a very simple and acceptable manner.

Participants comments

- ✍ Very useful training. This will help me to reorganize the structure of my business. **Mr. John Jesudasan- Zion Fountain Café**
- ✍ Excellent training which improved by knowledge. Best aspect of the workshop is the instructor’s knowledge- **Mr Asiri Jayabodhi- HJS Condiments Ltd.**

Advance training in Microsoft Excel-2007



The same month saw a nother IT training conducting on demand on Advance MS Excel-2007. A three-day programme held from 25th to 27th July. Participants were from World Vision Lanka, Danish Refugee Council, Oxfam Australia, Center for Poverty Analysis and Smart Logistic (Pvt) Llttd.

Participants comments

- ✍ Well organized and excellent presentation style. This will help me to prepare my daily report quickly.—**T L Vihangi Silva- Smart Logistic (Pvt) Ltd.**
- ✍ Very good training programme. It will help us on our day to day office work. Good trainer and experience staff. **S Guruparan- DRC**
- ✍ Training is very useful which help me to sort out lot of issues in office work. **Rajitha-CEPA**
- ✍ Very clear and understandable training. Excellent presentation-**Allan De Jonk- World Vision**

PSYCHOSOCIAL PROGRAMME

General Activities:

- CHA Clinic: The Psychological clinic conducted by CHA is on-going with regular attendance by therapists.
- Diploma Course in “English Language for Speakers of Other Languages” by Ms. Rukmal Salgado. (Lecturer at university of Colombo in collaboration with City and Guilds. Received centre approval.

Media collaborations for promotion of PS activities:

PS unit is working on a fund raiser through a Musical Show. Tentatively planned for 7th of September 2012, at the HFC Auditorium. Coordinating with performers and approaching companies for sponsorships and a media partner.

Youth Development Forum:

CHA initiated a youth forum following many discussions. The preliminary forum was held at CHA on 27th July 2012. This forum is to encourage youth to participate and volunteer in social activities to make a difference. Participants included students from school



and youth activists from agencies. The programme was facilitated by Mr Fadhil Bakeer Marker.

EQUAL RIGHTS AND CHANGE

CHA CLD Consultation on Women and Children



Prof. Rajiva addressing the meeting



A series of consultation meetings on issues related to Women, Children, Prisoners, Law Delays, Torture and Migrant Workers was organized by The Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies (CHA), the Council for Liberal Democracy (CLD)

and the office of the Advisor - Reconciliation to HE the President. 02 special consultations on Women and Children were held on 18th & 20th July 2012 at CHA. Specific issues discussed were:

Focus group – Women

- Implementation of recommendation by HRC on Meth Sevana -Institute of Human Rights;
- Migrant and Domestic Workers: compliance with International obligations- Human Rights Commission;
- Land Issues and Prevention of Domestic Violence Act -Ministry of Child Development and Women's Empowerment.

Focus group – Children

- Orphaned children and Criteria to admit children to childrens Homes- Department of Probation & Child Care Services;
- NCPA Development Action Plan 2012 - National Child Protection Authority;
- A Child Protection Policy Note - Sajeeva Samaranayake – Consultant.

Meeting Resources

http://www.econsortium.info/cha/Meeting_Resources.html

Human Rights Commission team visits Welikada

A team of 3 Commissioners including the Chairman, two Directors and Legal Officers of the Human Rights Commission, Prof. Wijesinghe MP and Jeevan Thiagarajah, IHR/CHA visited Welikada Prison having consulted the Commissioner General and senior Officers and spoke with the inmates. They met with remandees, convicted prisoners as well those serving life terms.

Issues of overcrowding, categories of prisoners including the majority drug offences, types of offences and charges which make it non bail able were discussed. Concerns related to bail conditions out of reach for remandees, finding government officials to stand surety, human rights of those serving life

terms, training, enhanced social worker cadre, greater legal aid, counseling, alternate sentencing and punishments, were discussed.

The visit was a result of meetings by Prof. Wijesinghe MP and Jeevan Thiagarajah with the Chairman of HRC. A public interest petition was also filled by IHR with HRC. The petition sought attention on: fundamental rights of long term remandees, consideration of furnish able bail conditions, Magistrates to be required by the law to visit prisons periodically, person is not kept incarcerated in prison for a period longer than necessary, Emphasis was on the importance of : "Alternative Sentencing". Developing and implementing such a

system will help to reduce the overcrowding in prisons, an effective pre-release programme.

An important immediate step taken was a HRC sponsored questionnaire to be given to all remandees and prisoners which seeks personal and family profiles, case details, legal needs and status also looks at any torture before or after detention.

RECONCILIATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR PEACE



Forum on Growth: Urgent Reforms or Stagnation?

Forum on 'Urgent Reforms or Stagnation?' By Dr Indrajit Comaraswamy, Former Director, Economic Affairs Division at the Commonwealth Secretariat. \ was

held at CHA to a selected list of invitees. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Feizal Samath (Editor, Business Times - The Sunday Times) and linked with a group in Jaffna via Skype Video..

Back ground note can be found on the link- http://www.econsortium.info/cha/Meeting_Resources.html

Hon. MP Eran Wickramaratne, Heads of I/NGOs, consultants, cooperate and journalist were among participants.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND PUBLICATION SERVICES

Information sharing through CHA Newsletters

21 Highlights, 02 vacancies, 04 Training and workshop announcements and 11 useful web links were shared through the Information Alert for the month.

CHA has initiated a newsletter named 'The Humanitarian' to capture humanitarian and development activities of agencies in the North and East for wide publication. Agencies could provide such details to CHA for publication.

Web, Publications, and Promotional Activities



CHA maintains and monitors its websites. Total hits for the month for CHA website was 35141. Agencies could provide their update of events and promotional activities to be uploaded in CHA's website for wider dissemination.

CKC New Acquisitions :

International Migration Outlook – Sri Lanka 2008

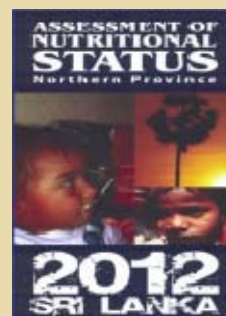


Published by International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS)

This is the very first edition of the annual statistical report of the continuous reporting system on "International Migration Outlook in

Sri Lanka". Migration has become the concern of all in some form or another, and it means concern rather than simply interest, because the understanding of migration, and how to take advantage of it, live with it and manage it has not kept pace with the growth of the phenomenon and the complexity of its linkages with other issues.

Assessment of Nutritional status and associated factors in Northern Province



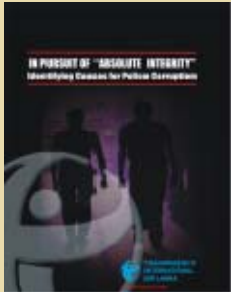
Published by Ministry of health, WFP and UNICEF

This research was mainly focusing on maternal and child health nutrition

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INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ... (Continued from page 4)

status and associated factors of the families who reside in the Northern Province. This research is more than timely to assess years of efforts taken by the government and other organizations to prevent and control nutritional problems in vulnerable age groups in the Northern Province.



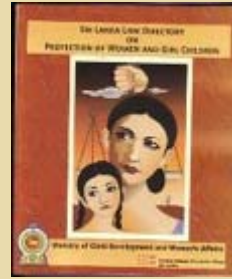
In Pursuit of "Absolute integrity" Identifying Causes for Police Corruption in Sri Lanka (Sinhala, Tamil, and English)

Published by TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL SRI LANKA

This was written by Dr. Devanesan Nesiiah, Former Civil Servant

The objective of this study is to facilitate the interested parties to identify the causes of corruption within the Police Depart-

ment in the light of historical and statistical information and baseline surveys on attitudes of the Police and the Public.



Sri Lanka Law directory on protection of Women and Girl Children

Published by Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs

This book is a timely and important contribution to the legal literature of this country. The book deals with all forms of violence and exploitation of women and children in the legal system of Sri Lanka and covers a wide range of themes and explores the multi-dimensional aspects of the area of violence and exploitation of women and children.

Further Information, please contact **Lalith** on infoanalyst@cha.lk

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM



CHA has successfully completed a project on Rainwater Harvesting and other Strategies for Water Storage and Retention in Karadiyanaru Village (Batticaloa District) in two phases.

Following activities were supported .

Construction of six Rain Water Harvesting Systems (8m³ [8000] capacity) in Batticaloa District.

Phase I

- Karadiyanaru Maha Vidyalayam;
- Kithul Sri Krishna Vidyalayam.

Phase II

- Police Station – Karadianaru;
-
- Government Seed production Farm – Karadiyanaru;
- Range Forest Office – Illupatichennai;
- Mrs. Sothi mallar's residence – Ponnai Thidal.

In addition a re-greening program was conducted in Karadiyanaru Maha Vidyalayam (Phase I) and a well re-charge system was established (Phase II) at Mrs. Ponnethurai Messimallar's Residence – Karadiyanaru under the World Bank Grant.

CHA FORUM SCHEDULE FROM AUGUST TO DECEMBER 2012

Subject/Topic	Coordinated by	Venue	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CHA CLD Consultation on Human Rights	Lalith/ Menaka	CHA	6	10	8	12	10
Stakeholder forum on Development	Vaithi	CHA	29	27	31	30	21
Environment Forum	Sathis	CHA		27			20
Forum on children's home & other thematic area	Menaka	CHA	08 (Galle)	12	3 & 24	14	5
Youth Development forum	Iram	CHA	29		30		25
Southern forum on children's homes	Niroshini/ Sirimal	CHA	TBA		TBA		TBA
Psychosocial Forum	Iram	CHA	31st		26		28

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

Matara

Coordination facilitation and Networking



Awareness programme on indoor air pollution and ways of efficient cooking, using improved cooking stove models for women's group in Radawela, Mulatiyana AGA division. 20 women participated. The group will establish new cooking stoves at their homes individually within this month. Programme conducted at beneficiary home.

Practical Training programme for bee keeping was done for the farmer group in Deiyandara with the support of CPN. Practical problems faced in bee keeping was discussed and method transfer the bee colony in a box to a natural place was made known.

Field visits-support for disabled

Field visit was undertaken to support 3 differently able children in Dampella, Kirimetiimulla, Telijjawila areas. CHA will source physiotherapy treatments and to support for life skill development trainings.

Meetings



Divisional agriculture meeting in Malimbada DS division relevant government officer's work in the field of Agriculture. Information of these meeting shared with NGOs and the community groups in Malimbada area.

Community protection Network Meeting

2 CPN meetings conducted with the participation of 12 CBOs in Matara District.

Hambantota

Advocacy and Accountability Program

A visit to understand actual situation of G.V Samanthi who jumped in to the Nilwala river with 03 children two months ago



due on their poverty situation. They need support to build a house and have sustainable livelihood. Efforts are taken to coordinate the required support from the district.

Proposed Social Mobilizing program on against women violence

Coordination activities are being undertaken to launch social mobilizing program in Ambalantota Divisional Secretariat division in collaboration with Foundation of Innovative Social Development & NYSC linking with CBOs, Pvt Institutions & Business community.

Southern Province Advocacy Forums on Children Homes.

Initial steps are being taken to conduct children forums in southern districts initially in collaboration with Hambantota probation office, Child Rights Authority office, GA office, NGOs who are working on child development & Voluntary organizations in Hambantota district.



Hambantota District Child Protection Committee Meeting

Hambantota district child protection committee meeting was held chaired by Additional District secretary. There were about 35 participants representing officers of Child protection authority Hambantota, Zonal education offices, CRPOs, I/NGOs, police officers & religious leaders.

IT Trainings courses

CHA was able to refer 10 students who are in rural marginalized villages for Information technology courses conducted by Voluntary organizations in Hambantota divisional secretariat division.

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DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS... (Continued from page 6)

JAFFNA Meetings



Co-Ordination meeting on 13.07.2012 at Karaithuraipattu, Mullaitivu



Co-Ordination meeting on 13.07.2012 at Karaithuraipattu, Mullaitivu

Coordination Meeting in Mullaitivu—

The preliminary NGO/CBO based coordination meeting at grass-roots level in the Mullaitivu district was coordinated and facilitated by CHA in liaison with the Divisional Secretariat of Karaithuraipattu. Meeting was held at Karaithuraipattu on 13th of July 2012 at Conference hall of DS office. Meeting was attended by over thirty local representatives from Rural Development Societies (RDS) and Women Rural Development Societies (WRDS) under the district of Karaithuraipattu in the district of Mullaitivu. Specific issues discussed were: social issues, housing, beneficiary selection, assistance to widows and single headed families and livelihood options. CHA promotes the participation of grassroots level in the development process.

Jaffna Coordination Meeting—

Coordination meeting inviting agencies and government officials to the same platform to discuss development issues pertaining to the district was held at CHA district office Jaffna for the month.

The issue of "Teenage Pregnancy and its effects to the society" was discussed with Dr.Thirumahal Shivasankar, Medical Officer for Maternal and child care, RDHS Office, Jaffna facilitating the session. Over 70 representatives attended the meeting.



District Officer Mr Shanmugnathan addressing the meeting



Jaffna Coordination Meeting participants

Meetings on Mental Health workshop organized by Mercy Malaysia, Dr.Harijathi, Lecturer Co-ordination meeting with CBO's members at Karaithuraipattu, Mullaitivu District, organized by Mr.Barthipan, Environment Co-coordinator and Mr.Baskaran, Field officer.



Mental Health workshop participants

Mobile Medical Clinic

Allaipiddy village and Vadamardachchy East -981 patients sought treatment. An ongoing joint project between CHA and Mercy Malaysia in Jaffna.

Free Legal services

Free Legal services in collaboration with IHR in Jaffna continues to provide services to the population.. Thirty seven clients were provided legal assistance for the month.

PAST EVENTS— MONTH OF JULY 2012

Date	Title	Purpose	Venue	Participants - External	District
4-Jul-2012	Monthly Meeting of Human Rights Platform	CHA CLD Consultations	CHA Conference Room	Hon. Prof. Rajiva Wijesinha, NCPA, Gov Analyst, HRC, Civil Society	Colombo
6-Jul-2012	Meeting with Secretary to Disaster management	formation of a national Disaster Response platform	Ministry of Disaster management	CHA and Ceylon Chamber of Commerce CEO	Colombo
9-Jul-2012	Sphere Workshop review Meeting	Sphere Workshop	CHA Conference Room	Isha, Bandula	Colombo
13-Jul-2012	District Coordination Meeting - Mullativu	Discussion of Organization's Issues	Conference Hall, Karathuraipattu DS office	NGOs, CBOs	Mullativu
18-Jul-2012	CHA CLD Consultation on Women	CHA CLD Consultation on Women	CHA Conference Room	Prof. Rajiv, Dept of Probation, HRC, IHR, WIN, ACTFORM, SCISL	Colombo
20-Jul-2012	CHA CLD Consultation on Children	CHA CLD Consultation on Children	CHA Conference Room	Prof. Rajiv, Dept of Probation, HRC, IHR, Plan, SCISL, WV	Colombo
24-Jul-2012	Meeting at Papal Nuncio Residence	Discussion	Colombo	6 leading Buddhist Theros, 1 cardinal, 1 Bishop, 1 leading Christian Priest, 3 Moulavis and 3 Leading Hindu Priests, Prof. Wijesinghe , a Lady Leader of 2 Hindu societies	Colombo
24-Jul-2012	NDMCC meeting	First meeting after restructuring	Ministry of Disaster Management	Secretary to the Ministry of DM, CHA, UNDP...	Colombo
25-Jul-2012	District Coordination Meeting - Ampara	Discussion of Organization's Issues	Ampara District NGO Consortium	Representatives from NGOs, CBOs	Ampara

Reader who wish to obtain more information or wish to collaborate with CHA are invited to communicate by email with execdir@cha.lk.

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