

INFORMATION UPDATE

CONSORTIUM OF HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES

Psychosocial Community projects initiated by CHA for the slum communities Ja-ela divisional secretariat division- (Kandawatta and Ala-Bamma)



Ala- Bamma reproductive health program



The CHA provided internship opportunities for NISD undergraduate students to conduct community projects in the slum communities.

The NISD - CHA interns conducted the following community programs during the month of June.

Reproductive health awareness program

- This program was conducted in Al-Bamma and Kandawatta on the 22nd of June. The program was conducted by Ms. Mallika Samarawickrama, a reproductive health specialist from the Family Planning Association (FPA), covering important thematic areas pertaining to reproductive health.
- Reproductive health problems have remained a leading cause of ill health and death in women of childbearing age worldwide. Women, especially those living in urban and slum areas face many problems such as, unintended pregnancies, maternal death and disability, sexually transmitted diseases, and gender based violence. Many women and youth lack this knowledge about reproductive health because they lack the appropriate resources. This awareness program provided the community with the opportunity to gain knowledge and new information about reproductive health.

- Further the programmes provided a valuable opportunity for women and youth to meet her personally and discuss their sexual and family matters. The programmes also provided the opportunity to a number of 10 females to do free scanning and testing for breast cancer at FPA with the help of CHA.

Awareness program on hygiene and sanitary practices

- Dr. Deepika Perera, a Medical officer Health participated as a resource person and conducted an awareness program about the use of common toilets, prevention of diseases, use of water for sanitation and prevention of Dengue. Over 50 people attended this workshop and the program provided the information for the community which helped making links in the areas for the future.
- 40% of the Ala – Bamma community members suffers from lack of lavatory facilities. They use neighborhood toilets and canals to fulfill their basic necessities. As a result of this problem, the awareness program was initiated, with the intention of educating the members about methods of wastage and the importance of hygiene and sanitation.
- The provision of adequate sanitation services is equally important. Proper disposal of all wastage as well as controlling carriers of communicable diseases, including mosquitoes, rats, mice and flies, are crucial to mitigate health risks and prevent epidemics. But the optimum benefit from water and sanitation interventions can only be achieved if communities and individuals are made aware of the links between hygiene practices, poor sanitation, polluted water sources and diseases.

- As a result of the community mobilization of the CHA intern social work students the child

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committee got advocates to build toilets, and as a result the owner of the

well-established shopping Centre "shanti" committed to provide his support in building common toilets for the community. They are now in the process of getting permission from the village council to commence building procedures.

Shramadhana campaigns

The CHA social work interns were able to organize shramadhana campaigns in both Kandewatta and Ala – Bamma areas. The intention behind these campaigns was to spread awareness about dengue and dengue prevention. The community members participated in these campaign



Awareness program on hygiene and sanitary practices

The island-wide mapping initiative of Psychosocial Organizations 2013



Working group meeting held on the 7th of June 2013



CHA has initiated a project to develop the first national Directory of Psychosocial Organizations working in all 25 districts in Sri Lanka. The project objectives are

- To map and track organizations providing psychosocial services in 25 districts
- Produce a comprehensive Psychosocial Services Database in print and electronic version of an advanced but simple software with updating and upgrading facilities;
- Incorporate information in the Database pertaining to the government approval processes and guidelines for Humanitarian organizations ; and in particular to link
- Liaise community needs with the available services in the country

During the month of June 2013 CHA organized special meetings in the Uva Province and the Northern Province districts to collect information from the organizations providing psychosocial work in 2013. Special Working Group meetings with the advisory committee members of the Psychosocial Forum were also conducted at CHA HQ during the month of June. The Working group meeting provided grounds to screen information of organizations which have submitted information to be listed in the Psychosocial Organizations directory and finalized on the web based database design of the Directory.

The end product of the psychosocial Directory being developed by the CHA will aim at

- Providing comprehensive list of updated information of organizations doing psychosocial work in 2013 in Sri Lanka.
- Identify organizations providing specific and special psychosocial related interventions such as children related, interventions focused on the elderly community, IDP community, war affected communities, migrant communities etc.,
- Link such services with community needs identified from all districts and liaise / inform the relevant psychosocial networks, organizations providing services of specific community needs in the districts.

Note:
Organizations providing psychosocial interventions are invited to list details in the directory by contacting CHA on psfcoord@cha.lk / Tel: 4626100

Details of Activities conducted by the Psychosocial Forum – Mannar, June, 2013

The Psychosocial Forum of Mannar with the support of World Vision and the Mental Health Unit was able to conduct the below given activities during the period from 16th May to 14th June 2013.

Description	Month / Date	To Whom	No.of. Participants.
General Forum Meeting	16.05.2013	Members	16.
Awareness Programme	28.05.2013	Parents	42.
Awareness Programme	06.06.2013	WRDS Members	38.
Field Visits	10 Visits. (Mannar &Nanattan, Manthai West DS Divisions)	Affected families.	46.
Group Discussion	06 Discussions	WRDS Members & Parents, Children	34.
Awareness & Counseling Programme	03	Students & Parents in School	76 58

Psychosocial Forum Meeting CHA June 2013

The Psychosocial Forum Meeting planned for the month of June 2013 had a special focus to address problems encountered by the civil society in addressing children related affairs. The presentations were to be made by the Probations Department and a civil society activist Ms. Vishaka Thilakarathne at the planned Forum meeting.

Note: Organizations interested in participating in the upcoming Forum meeting are invited to contact CHA on psfcoord@cha.lk / Tel: 4626100

Due to an unavoidable circumstance the Psychosocial Forum Meeting was postponed to the 2nd week month of July 2013.

Youth Forums 2013

CHA organizes a series of forums for the Youth in the year 2013 with an aim to promote;

- Capacity development of youth in leadership skills, personality development, vocational skill building etc.,

- Promote volunteerism amongst the youth
- Provide internship, working opportunities in the humanitarian sector
- The programme focus is as follows

YOUTH FORUMS

- Organizing Body: CHA
- Program : Youth Forum
- Duration: 2 days a month
- Time : 2 hrs per session
- Age Group: 16 – 29 yrs

Notice: Those interested in joining the CHA Youth Forums and being a part of the CHA team as an intern/volunteer to promote such youth affairs please contact the psconsultant@cha.lk / psfcoord@cha.lk Tel: 4626100

Promotion Campaigns Programs & Follow up & Publication

Email Promotions , Capacity Building, Newsletter, Web Promotions , Personality Development , Media Promotions Invitations, Discussions / Debates & Small Projects

Meeting on Tamil Digitization and other language processing projects



The Language Technology Research Laboratory (LTR) at the University of Colombo School of Computing (UCSC) has been involved with research and development in the area of local language computing since 2004. Their aim is to make available publicly linguistic resources and tools in Sinhala and Tamil that will promote the use of these languages in computing devices ranging from computers to phones and tablets, as well as on the Internet.

They are currently in the process of developing a rather ambitious translation programme of text between **Sinhala and Tamil**.

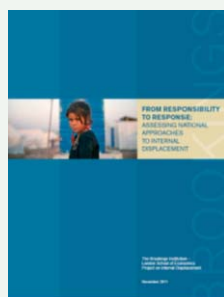
The meeting with Dr. Ruwan Weerasinghe and his team was held on 27th at University of Colombo. Set of CHA publications were handed over and they requested more resources from development organizations. CHA will circulate their request through I/NGOs to get similar resources.

New Acquisitions – June 2013



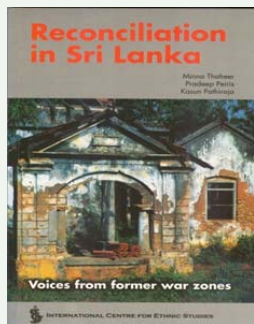
UPR Civil Society's Follow-Up Kit *Published by Universal Periodic Review*

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a unique mechanism of the Human Rights Council (HRC) which started in April 2008. It consists of the review of every State in the world by other States once every four and a half years. The whole process is a cycle. Starting with the second cycle in 2012, 42 States are reviewed per year. The subject of the review is the States' human rights practices and the respect for their human rights obligations.



From Responsibility to Response: Assessing National Approaches to Internal Displacement *Published by The Brookings Institution*

This research project looks specifically at the ways in which governments are exercising their responsibility to address internal displacement. Using as a guide *Addressing Internal Displacement: A Framework for National Responsibility*, a publication developed by the Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement,¹⁹ this study examines the government response to internal displacement in fifteen countries, comparing those responses with the twelve benchmarks outlined in the Framework.



Reconciliation in Sri Lanka
Published by International Centre for Ethnic Studies

This book is an effort at understanding the post-war reconciliation process as experienced by the different communities in the war affected villages in the North and East of Sri Lanka.

A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development - The Report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda
Published by United Nations

This report sets out a universal agenda to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030

and deliver on the promise of sustainable development. It also emphasizes that the new development agenda must be universal – applying to countries in the global North and South alike – and be infused with a spirit of partnership.

development and leadership training program for 30 selected youth leaders in Ambalantota DS division. Improving leadership skills, empowering to build good leaders was main objective of the training program. School leavers, employed and unemployed youth, attended the program. The District Officer and Chairman of DFCDF conducted training program as resource persons. After the program some youth leaders were referred for vocational training, employment opportunities, higher academic courses, self employment opportunities etc. In addition to that, we were able to build an active voluntary youth team to source information on advocacy issues at grassroots level and voluntary support to follow up at grassroot level advocacy issues in the future.

Child Rights Advocacy Network (CRAN) activities

Being a Hambantota District coordinator of Child Rights Advocacy Network (CRAN) CHA Hambantota District office coordinated some activities with CRAN member organizations to become aware on CRAN annual membership fee, initial activities to implement proposed child advocacy program, intervention for current advocacy issues, strengthening children's clubs etc.

Children Cubs programs

With the objective of providing knowledge on child rights for children, CHA Hambantota District office conducted awareness program for Ambalantota Koggalla GN division in collaboration with Hambantota District Child Rights Advocacy Network members. 32 children attended this event. At the conclusion of the program, we planned to conduct a children's forum with about 100 children on behalf of the World children day in Hambantota district.

Awareness program on Human Rights & Land rights for Grama Niladaries

With the objective of providing basic knowledge on human rights and land rights for women community leaders in Ambalantota Divisional Secretariat Division, the district office conducted a half day awareness program on basic human rights and land rights. 22 women leaders participated in this program. Valuable hand books on Basic knowledge on land rights were provided to the participants.

DRC Information Dissemination

Contact details for 12 clients , youth according to the National Youth Survey II for 08 youth clubs leaders, Hambantota Dis-

District Highlights -

Hambantota



Advocacy & Accountability for Humanitarian Assistance

The district office provided aid for some families effected by natural disaster in the Ambalantota DS division. Two families with damaged houses were supported by local donors to build their houses.

Skills Development & leadership Training program

CHA & DFCDF organization jointly organized a skills



strict population, Geographical situation & administration structure for 06 school teachers, information on training courses for 12 un employed youth, Historical place in Hambantota district for 11 school students, NGOs who are working on child protection for 04 preschool teachers, National youth statistical information for no of 14 youth leaders, district school information for a university student.

Matara

Energy saving project

- Practical session conducted for women group on health hazards associated with cooking using firewood in a traditional kitchen and awareness on economically important energy saving low cost cooking stoves for 25 women.
- Youth in Maragoda, Kekunawela, Dampella areas directed for vocational training programmes organized by the VTA in Malimbada.
- 3 individuals directed to IHR Lawyer for the legal support

Reading circle Programme

25 school children assisted with their home works improving their reading skills and IT knowledge. CHA resource center is being used during the week by 25 students near Matara. The programme is expanded and weekend newspapers are kept for reading in the district office.



Model paper classes for year 5 students

CHA provide model papers for year 5 students in MR/ Dampella K.V who face the year 5 scholarship examination in 2013. Class teacher voluntarily provides time for extra class work. Model papers are given every week. CHA monitors progress by getting the marks of each student weekly. 25 students benefited from this programme.

Community protection Network Meeting

CPN meeting and committee meeting was conducted with the participation of 10 CBOs in Matara District planning for the next energy saving project and awareness of members on alternative energy sources like solar energy and its uses.

Jaffna



The sphere Introduction workshop conducted by CHA, Colombo at DS Of- fice Nallur. The Resource person was Mr.T.Mayooran, Senior Programme Officer, CHA, Colombo. 31 participants

participated the session.

Humanitarian needs assessment surveys



- Need assessment survey at Suthanthirapuram, Vali North, Tellippalai ,J/244 Vasavilan East with the Grama Seva with Mr.A.Neshauthan and the members of WRDS, Pre-school Teacher, Sports Associator of the village.





- Need assessment survey at Paddikkadawai, J/232, Ma-vai south, Tellippalai with the Grama Seva Mr.Jeyavinthan Sasikumaran and the members of RDS, WRDS of the village.



- Divisional Secretary's Office, Thunukkai, Mullaitivu District discussed with the Divisional Secretary of Thunukkai and subsequently met all the Grama Seva Niladhari's of Thunukkai Division.



- Need assessment survey at Kuddiyappulam, J/244, Vasavilan East, Tellippalai with the Grama Seva Mr. Alfred Nishanthan and the members of RDS, WRDS of the village

CO-ORDINATION MEETING



The topic of the meeting was " An awareness on the adoption of Family planning " . Mr.T.Jeyaseelan, MBBS, MOH office, Kopay was the resource person.

Books Donated for School libraries

No	Date	School
1	04.06.2013	J/Pandatharipu Girls Highs School
2	12.06.2013	J/Karaveddy Vineswara College
3	12.06.2013	J/Nelliadi M.M.
4	12.06.2013	J/Vada Central Girls College
5	12.06.2013	J/Udupiddyi Girls College
6	12.06.2013	J/Heartly College
7	14.06.2013	J/Kopay Saravanantha .V
8	19.06.2013	J/Chavakachcheri Hindu College
9	20.06.2013	J/Kopay Hirten College
10		J/Hindu Leads College
11		J/St'Patricks College
12		J/St'Johns College
13		J/Ilavalai Convent
14	25.06.2013	J/Vaitheeswara College



Mr.Sri.Kajendran, Psycho-social Co-ordinator, co-ordinated and issued books to the following schools in Jaffna.

Free Legal Services at IHR, Urelu

52.clients were provided free legal advice and assistance.

JUNE 2013 EVENT- HIGHLIGHTS

DATE	TYPE	SUBJECT	VENUE	DISTRICT
7-Jun-2013	Meeting	Psychosocial Forum	CHA - Colombo	Colombo
10-Jun-2013	Meeting	DIAKONIA project evaluation meeting	CHA - Colombo	Colombo
11-Jun-2013	Meeting	Standing Committee meeting on disability	CHA - Colombo	Colombo
13-Jun-2013	Training	IT Training for students at deaf and blind school, Rathmalana	CHA - Colombo	Colombo
17-Jun-2013	Meeting	Standing Committee meeting on Children	CHA - Colombo	Colombo
20-Jun-2013	Meeting	Meeting with The Weeramanthry International Centre for Peace Education and Research	CHA - Colombo	Colombo
22-Jun-2013	Meeting	District Coordination Meeting	District Consortium Office	Trincomalee
27-Jun-2013	Meeting	District Coordination Meeting_Mannar	GBV Desk	Mannar
27-Jun-2013	Meeting	Tamil Digitization and other language processing projects	University of Colombo School of Computing	Colombo
28-Jun-2013	Meeting	District Coordination Meeting_Jaffna	CHA District office	Jaffna
29-Jun-2013	Meeting	District Coordination Meeting_Ampara	Janasaviya Organization	Ampara
16-Jun-2013	Meeting	Community meeting on humanitarian needs and linking	Suthanthirapuram, Vali North, Tellippalai ,J/244 Vasavilan East with the Grama Seva	Jaffna
29-Jun-2013	Training	The sphere Introduction workshop	DS Office Nallur	Jaffna
11-Jun-2013			Need assessment survey at Paddikkadawai, J/232, Mavai south, Tellippalai with the Grama Seva	Jaffna
18-Jun-2013	Meeting	Community meeting on humanitarian needs and linking		Jaffna
19-Jun-2013	Meeting	Community meeting on humanitarian needs and linking	Divisional Secretary's Office, Thunukkai, Mullaitivu District	Mullaitivu
25-Jun-2013	Meeting	Community meeting on humanitarian needs and linking	Need assessment survey at Kuddiyappulam, J/244, Vasavilan East, Tellippalai with the Grama Seva	Jaffna
25Jun-2013	Meeting	Free Legal Services	IHR	Jaffna
Jun-13	Meeting	Books Donated for School libraries	Several Jaffna Schools	Jaffna



CONTACT : Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies (Gte) Limited

Address : No. 86, Rosmead Place, Colombo 07.

Tel/Fax: 011—4626100 | E—mail: info@cha.lk | Web : www.humanitarian-srilanka.org