

# Information Update

CHA Information Update

## NEDA supports women to produce low salt vacuum packed dry fish



followed subsequently.

(An ongoing focus of CHA with NEDA)

**A** Workshop was conducted for thirty women beneficiaries on “Technical skills development on drying process of fish by using drier which operates on solar” facilitated by the Divisional Secretariat of Kayts and sponsored by NEDA at Analaitivu GS Division [J/38].

The National Enterprises Development Authority in collaboration with the Divisional Secretariat, Kayts conducted the training programme at Analaitievu

GS Division. The Resource person was Ms.Nadeshani Dilkara Gamage, B.Sc, from ,Food production and Technology Management, Wayamba University.

A workshop on Buisness planning too

**The Centre for Humanitarian Affairs and the Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies is pleased to present activities undertaken in the month of September**





# EMPOWERING WOMEN TOGETHER

## Women.lk

(hosted by CHA with lead partners)

**R**ationale for focus by CHA -77% of the population lives in areas considered rural, while the ratio of men to women in the labor force is 2:1, women are still more likely to be found in the agricultural work than men, this is also the sector in which the proportion of informal sector employment is very high, accounting for 90% of all employees, women are also much more likely than men to be unpaid family workers, Women's unemployment rates in 2014 were twice that of men—6.5% for women compared to 3.1% for men, Women's underemployment rates were also higher—3.4% for women compared to 2.4% for men in 2014, 34.7% of women were in the labor force (either employed or unemployed), compared to 74.6% of men, Pass rates at A level only 48% of boys and 58% of girls passed in 2013, women are much more likely than men to be unemployed or out of the labor force. Not only are unemployment rates

higher among women than men but the gap increases at higher levels of education. In 2013, girls outnumbered boys beginning from grades 10–11; girls account for 56.6% of students in grades 12–13 (GCE A level studies) and 60% in undergraduate university enrolments. In 2008, only 76.8% of primary schools had running water, only 32.8% had a sufficient number of toilets for girls, At the secondary level, adolescent girls also face the issue of menstrual hygiene management (as do female teachers of all grades). We have 1066 Females per 1000 Males. 23.5% Female Headed households. 3.6% never married, 32.2% Married, 64.3% widowed, separated, divorced. 7.1% with no schooling, 68.9% upto grade 10 and 23.9% passed O/L and above. A/L- 66.3% of Arts Stream, 51.2% science, 50.7% Commerce. 56.8% all streams. 570,937 Women are Public Employees, 1,003,373, Private

employees, 28,623 Employers, 680,369 Own account worker, 592,560 unpaid family worker (Extracted from a recent ADB publication).

**Dialog** will provide training to enhance computer literacy- to use web and other tool, such as MS office email etc in E/T/S; Provide internships for young women keen on joining the field of communication; Hold panel sessions from women to women on success stories for school leavers or O/L and A/L students; Promoting women to return to work, Dialog offers part time and full time opportunities at the contact center.

**Women in Management (WIM)** is holding a forum with key stake holders looking at supporting skilled women acquire certification enabling greater access to employment opportunities in Sri Lanka and overseas.

## Addressing Vulnerable persons

**A** letter was sent to the Director – Planning at the Ministry of social services suggesting NVQ qualification in Social Care for staff of the Ministry which will introduce basic concepts in the different areas in which social support is needed and provides understanding of how care and counselling services operates.



# Promotion of professional standards

## Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission - Sri Lanka (TVEC)

CHA has initiated a partnership with TVEC and will hold NVQ3 level introductory course in Care and counseling. CHA is currently working with resource persons in developing the training manual for the course. The course will comprise of 3 months lectures and three months on the

job training. Areas covered are : Communication Skills in counselling, Current social problems in SL, Ethical and Professional responsibilities of carers and counsellors, Different recipients of care and the skills needed to support them, Basic child care, Introduction to Social care. Details of course commencement will be available shortly.

## Future Markets for SL labour

CHA continues to advocate destination country specific NVQs in Social care with Singapore being one of the countries suggested current potential for 6,000 workers. We have also inquired opportunities in Japan and Germany in a twelve country global study.

# Programme focusing on Senior Citizens

CHA held a forum focusing on elder care with key medical professionals. This initiative focusing on supporting active aging of senior citizens in Sri Lanka is looking at producing material and holding programs to understand dementia and early detection, Promote active aging through brochures, web sites and programs at the community level in partnership with regional health officers, elders societies and the Elders Secretariat staff in the districts.; Promote greater community awareness and support groups amongst senior citizens to



No Elderly

... should waste their final years sitting around at home.  
Dear elderly, go out and have fun! Stay **active** and you'll be just...

Fine

improve their health and provide support to families and development of teaching material and holding training programs for service providers such as Elders Secretariat staff, district based development officers, care givers in Elders homes and staff of agencies who provide caregivers for the senior Citizens.

CHA is currently in discussion with key individuals and institutions in working towards greater care for elders in Sri Lanka.

# Empowering people through 3 E's (refers to Education, employment and entrepreneurship)



Meeting with the Asst. Director Planning to meet all the officials attached to their division at their office for an in-depth discussion on the project.

Consultation with DS and the Asst. Director Planning of the Manmunai West Divisional Secretariat regarding the three 3E's project.

# Empowering persons with special needs



SL has 1,617,924 with special needs of whom 1,548,684 have never studied. 1518,376 are above 19 years of age. Ultimately a person who is not a only

child who has missed or requires education to link with employment on account of either special needs or learning disorders should be

able to access service providers for customized Education Programs which allow for a measure of future income earning opportunities. It should be akin to an Open University where those not affluent and in difficult areas should be able enroll and access programmes which are sensitive to their predicament.

CHA has reached out to institutions and specialists currently working in this area. We have also constituted a resource bank of E material as a national public service intervention. Our intention is to seek views of practitioners to support those left behind, make available knowledge for carers and provide an E Resource centre for wider use.

## Biodiversity, Ecosystems and climate change in Sri Lanka: A call for action

“Climate change has emerged as a key concern for Sri Lanka and its people in the 21st century. Sea level rise, warming temperatures, uncertain effects on forest and agricultural systems, and increased variability and volatility in weather patterns are expected to have a significant impact in the developing world, where people remain most susceptible to the potential damages and uncertainties inherent in a changing climate.”  
Source: National Physical Planning Policy and Plan. Sri Lanka 2006-2030 (final draft).

Sri Lanka, has a total land area of 65,610 km<sup>2</sup>. The maritime zone of Sri Lanka is inhabited by 30 species of marine mammals in monsoon scrub



jungle in the northwest and southeast, monsoon forest and grassland, inter monsoon forest, rain forests and grasslands below 3000 feet, between 3000-5000 feet and above 5000 feet . Dry forests, savanna and grasslands are the three major natural terrestrial vegetation types found in the dry land of Sri Lanka. Four percent of the country’s land area is covered by water

(FAO, 2011). Sri Lanka is endowed with a rich array of manmade lakes and canals accounting over 10,000 countrywide, covering more than 127,070 ha, especially in the dry zone. Sri Lanka harbors over 370 aquatic or wetland plant species of which 12% are

endemic to the country. Wetlands are considered as the transitional zone between land and water and provide several ecological functions such as ground water buffering and reducing pollution.

The montane forests, also known as upper montane forests, occur at elevations beyond 1500 m above



mean sea level. Montane forests once formed a more or less continuous cover or cap extending over almost the entire third penneplain of Sri Lanka, encompassing the Pedro, Totapola and Adam’s peak ranges, and the Knuckles range

The following is a list of actions that needs to be taken to ensure the country is in the correct path to addressing Biodiversity Conservation in the context of Climate Change:

- Research on climate change risks and vulnerability of the sector.
- Building of strategic partnerships and alliances.
- Strengthening of Institutional Policy framework in the context of Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation issues.
- Ensure country targets are met as per Paris Agreement and other global conventions.

Key institutions for conservation of biodiversity

Ministries with a role to play in biodiversity conservation	Key agencies	Other agencies/groups that could support biodiversity conservation
<p><b>Key ministries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Environment</li> <li>Ministry of Economic Development (dealing with wildlife and tourism)</li> <li>Ministry of Agriculture</li> <li>Ministry of Lands and Land Development</li> <li>Ministry of Livestock and Rural Community Development</li> <li>Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development</li> <li>Ministry of Ports and Aviation</li> <li>Ministry of Indigenous Medicine</li> <li>Ministry of External Affairs</li> <li>Ministry of Construction, Engineering Services, Housing and Common Amenities</li> </ul> <p><b>Other ministries that need to support biodiversity conservation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Finance and Planning</li> <li>Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management</li> <li>Ministry of Plantation Industries</li> <li>Ministry of Industry and Commerce</li> <li>Ministry of Co-operatives and Internal Trade</li> <li>Ministry of Technology and Research</li> <li>Ministry of Power &amp; Energy</li> <li>Ministry of Education (and relevant institutions under it)</li> <li>Ministry of Defence</li> <li>Ministry of Water Supply and Drainage</li> <li>Ministry of Disaster Management</li> <li>Ministry of Resettlements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forest Department (FD)</li> <li>Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWLC)</li> <li>Department of National Zoological Gardens (DNZG)</li> <li>Department of National Botanic Gardens (DNBG)</li> <li>Central Environmental Authority (CEA)</li> <li>Department of Agriculture (DOA) and associated research institutions plus other divisions under it including: The Seed Certification and Plant Protection Centre (SCPPC), Natural Resources Management Centre (NRMC), Field Crops Research and Development Institute (FCRDI), Horticultural Crops Research and Development Institute (HORDI), Rice Research and Development Institute (RRDI)</li> <li>Plant Genetic Resources Centre (PGRC) which is also under the DOA but has a special role for ex-situ conservation of crops</li> <li>Department of Agrarian Development</li> <li>Department of Export Agriculture (DEA)</li> <li>Department of Animal Production &amp; Health (DAPH)</li> <li>Coast Conservation Department (CCD)</li> <li>Department of Fisheries &amp; Aquatic Resources (DFAR)</li> <li>Marine Environmental Protection Authority (MEPA)</li> <li>Department of Land Use Policy Planning</li> <li>Urban Development Authority (UDA)</li> <li>Sri Lanka Customs</li> </ul> <p><b>Research institutions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA)</li> <li>Coconut Research Institute (CRI)</li> <li>Tea Research Institute (TRI)</li> <li>Rubber Research Institute (RRI)</li> <li>Sugarcane Research Institute (SRI)</li> <li>Veterinary Research Institute (VRI)</li> <li>Universities</li> </ul> <p><b>Regional/local level institutions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provincial Councils (PCs)</li> <li>District/Divisional Secretariats</li> <li>Local Authorities (LAs)</li> <li>Provincial Environmental Authority of the North-western Province</li> <li>Provincial Environmental ministries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Science Foundation (NSF)</li> <li>Sri Lanka Land Reclamation Development Authority (SLRDA)</li> <li>Aquaculture Development Agency (NAQDA)</li> <li>Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka (MASL)</li> <li>Department of National Museums (DNM)</li> <li>Department of Ayurveda</li> <li>Export Development Board</li> <li>Bandaranaike Memorial Research Institute</li> <li>Department of Meteorology</li> <li>Attorney General’s Department</li> <li>Legal Draftsman’s Department</li> <li>Department of National Planning</li> <li>The Police Department</li> <li>Sri Lanka Standards Institute (SLSI)</li> <li>Department of Censuses &amp; Statistics</li> <li>Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA)</li> <li>Registrar of Patents and Trademarks</li> <li>Registrar of Pesticides</li> <li>Institutions under the ministry dealing with education and higher education</li> <li>Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau</li> <li>Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority</li> <li>Disaster Management Centre (DMC)</li> <li>Land Reform Commission (LRC)</li> <li>Presidential Secretariat</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Relevant groups</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Based Organisations (CBOs) adjacent to forests</li> <li>Media institutions - (press, T.V, radio)</li> <li>Journalists’ for a</li> <li>Civil Society represented by various organizations</li> <li>NGOs focusing on environmental conservation</li> </ul> <p><b>Private sector</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industries/business sector institutions</li> <li>The Chambers of Commerce</li> <li>Agri-business companies</li> </ul>

Source: Adapted from the 4<sup>th</sup> Country Report from Sri Lanka to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity in 2009, and validated in 2010 at the Consultative meeting to update chapters 3 and 4 of this report, as well as at the workshop to discuss the SVP on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

## Await the launch of our E Library

“We host an E Library with holdings representative of the work of CHA and other titles and texts we consider useful to a wide audience of users. Our holdings include on specific themes to support awareness amongst users and as educational tools. Materials

can be downloaded. Some of the categories are Religion/Social Science/Peace/Disabilities/Human Rights/Child Rights/Elders Rights/ International Migration/IDPs/ Disaster Management/ Psychology/Constitution/Environment/Languages/etc..”



## Volunteerism

Workshop for volunteer skill development – Flyer for the first WS have been circulated for applications. Scheduled for 8th October 2016.



## Disaster Risk Reduction Activities

For further reading on our Disaster Risk Reduction and Management projects you may refer to the A-PAD Bulletin, our bi-monthly publication which carries an expanded overview of all disaster management activity at the CHA. (Also visit us at our DRR programme website <http://www.apadsl.org/>)



Five workshops were carried out in Trincomalee District on Creating Disaster Resilient Community, DRR Planning and Water Management.

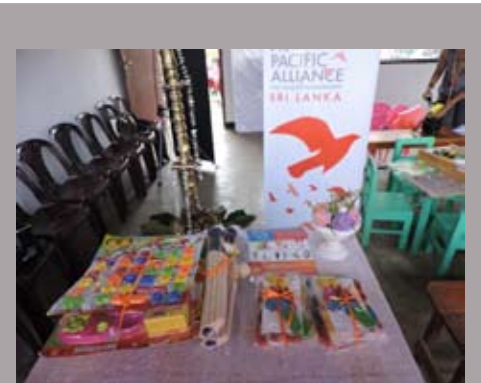




Three community workshops were conducted on Solid Waste Management in Kaluwanchikudy and Kattankudy for Youth and students.



A Basic First Aid Training was conducted for students at J/Shanmuhanda Maha Vidyalayam, Karompon in Kayts. At the end of the training First Aid Boxes and some trees were handed over to the school. Another awareness programme on creating Resilient communities was conducted in Naranthanai, Kayts for community members and distributed seeds and agricultural instruments to the participants.



A-PAD SL with the partnership of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) enabled to complete another 16 smiles at Sudeepa Preschool in Mabima. Stationery kits, shoes, school bags, supplementary education material and sports gear were distributed to the kids. (<http://www.apadsl.org/sudeepa-pre-school-revives/>)



Under the initiative of A-PAD SL in re-building pre-schools, the Little Rose Nursery, Dahampura, Meethotamulla was supported with stationery items , sports gear and color washing. Also new set of swings were installed for kids to play. This initiative made it possible to reinstate the preschool which was on the verge of being discontinued due to difficulties in rebuilding them post flood (<http://www.apadsl.org/jcci-reinstates-flood-affected-nursery-schools/>)



No 1, Gower Street, Colombo 05.

Tel: 0114061461 Ext: 634

Email: info@cha.lk

The Information Update is also available on the CHA website: <http://www.humanitarian-srilanka.org>

For further information please contact Hashini on info@cha.lk