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ROTARY CLUB OF COLOMBO WEST
RI DISTRICT 3220

291/7, Edward Avenue, Havelock Road, Colombo 6.
Tel: +94 11 2552959 Fax: +94 11 2581926 E-mail: srikrotary@gmail.com

PROJECT PROPOSAL (2014)

Project Title: Food Security through Organic Home Gardening training
/Sustainable Agriculture Development for 10 war widows

Project Location: Krishanpuram , Karachchi, Kilinochchi District, VANNI

Sector: Agriculture

Executing Agency: Kaveri kala manram,

Project Lead: Rev T S Joshua, Director - Kaveri kala manram

Consultant: Dr Nithi Knagaratnam BSc(Hons) Agriculture, MBA
(Planning, Training & Monitoring):

Proposed Start date: September 2014

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

The core objective of this project is to provide food security in a social-environmental context by establishing home gardens for 10 war affected widows & women headed families in Krishnapuram village Kilinochchi. Most of the vegetations were destroyed due to natural and manmade disasters in the past and the community was resettled recently without having food security. Therefore there is an urgent need to re vitalize their food security by establishing their home gardening in time. More over there will a new trend to go for organic farming which helps them for their further health and nutrition.

Modern farming systems involving high in pesticide to support high-yielding, hybrid varieties of crops have contributed to soil erosion, environmental pollution, loss of indigenous crop diversity and poorer health among a large section of population. Chemicals certainly provide a quick fix are ultimately self-defeating, and whereas in temperate countries it has taken many years to see their ill-effects, in tropical countries with poorer soils the benefits have short-lived and the effects more damaging.

But, organic farming works entirely with natural process and involves the farm generating fertility from its own resources. No synthetic chemicals fertilizers or pesticides, growth-promoting substances, antibiotics or genetically-engineered materials are used in organic farming. There are usually animals as well as crops-animals which graze, yield food products, perform work, and which provide dung and urine for the making of compost. This material is a source of plant food, together with natural antibiotics which are absent in chemical farming.

Compost is also an important soil conditioner as well as feeding the organism in the soil. These, in turn, release nutrients which come from the breakdown of organic matter and soil minerals. Cultural practices such as crop rotation and green manuring are also employed and these are particularly useful for promoting fertility over wide areas, so in comparison with chemical farming the whole emphasis is on building the fertility of the soil rather than simply feeding the crop.

VILLAGE PROFILE

The Krishnapuram village is situated in Divisional Secretariat Karachchi, Kilinochchi, and West part of the A-9 road. (Approximately 2km far away from Kilinochchi town and A-9 road) At present there are 272 families with 1360 family members including 24 women headed families disabled and orphans. The main livelihood is Agriculture and Agriculture based small scale industries. Krishnapuram consists of enough natural resources which help to do farming throughout the year. Individual families have access to 1 – 2 acres of land.

JUSTIFICATION:

25 years of civil war and the devastation caused by the Tsunami has caused unprecedented damage to the socio-economic and environmental structures in Northeast of Sri Lanka. This has resulted in the destruction of the infrastructure, impoverishment of and the loss of income of the local communities, deterioration of the public health and the degradation and pollution of the environment and natural resources.

Consequently, there are many families suffering from malnutrition in the Northeast, predominantly in the IDP returnees. Studies indicate malnutrition during pregnancy and in early childhood hinders mental and physical development. In addition, organically grown food products are less prone to cancer than foods grown by using chemical pesticides.

In Northeast of Sri Lanka, a great reliance on underground water resources is used for drinking, as well as domestic and agricultural purposes. This underground water is being continuously polluted as a result of human activities. This is in the form of bacterial and chemical (i.e. insecticides/pesticides and fertilizers) pollution. Hence, there is an urgent priority for improving the health of these families by creating organic home gardens that can provide nutritional and food security. Furthermore, this project will cultivate a grassroots level of community development and a sense of ownership by emphasizing a participatory approach among the people.

STRENGTH OF THE PROJECT

The village soil types, climatic condition throughout the year, water resource are the additional support of natural resources to sustain its farming activities. In addition to that the beneficiaries of the project having well with enough water, water pumps and basic farming tools etc.

EXPECTED SITUATION AT THE END OF THE PROJECT:

- Ongoing cultivation cycles of plants.
- Continuing production and utilization of compost by using village wastages.
- Improved hygiene and health of the villagers
- Multicultural organic farming creates micro climates to the villagers as well as crops itself.
- Organic products will create new marketing opportunities with good prices
- Opportunities to generate Agro based industries in future

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE:

- To improve and maintain the nutritional intake and the overall health of the families in the Krishnapuram village.
- To raise awareness and educate the Young widows in community involvement and accountability.
- Decrease the pollution of the groundwater and soil by using organic fertilizers than chemical based fertilizers.
- To design a sustainable system for effective production in the socio-environmental context of the village.

PROJECT BENEFICIARIES:**Direct Beneficiaries:**

The selected 10 war affected widows families in the farming community will directly benefit from this project. They will be provided with nutritional security and income generating activity and economic opportunity. In addition to that, this project will build strong community ties through the participatory approach among the residents in all steps of the project cycle, planning, implementing monitoring and evaluation.

Indirect Beneficiaries:

The indirect beneficiaries are the local population, private and public sectors. The local population will benefit by living in a sustainable environment that is economically and socially productive. The private sector will profit by selling materials and equipments used during the project and post project activities. The public sector will benefit with less health related problems due to mal-nutrition, cancers from synthetic Agrochemicals, poor drinking water and undisciplined disposal of garbage wastes. Hence, a green and clean environment is an important condition to achieve a sustainable development in the target areas.

Beneficiary Participation:

The local community in the village and the surrounding areas will participate in all the steps of the project cycle, planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluation. This will result in mobilization of the local communities in the conservation of the environment, healthy living and natural resources. The project instigates a participatory approach to create a high level of ownership that will benefit the present and future generations to be involved in their communities.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Kaveri Kala manram agriculture awareness unit will be the implementing partner which registered under formal act cultural ministry as a cultural and education awareness .Kaveri kala manram will work with local agriculture department and farmer organization .the farmers organization is a governing body where all farmers registered as life time members with having strong and active committee. Moreover, it is heart of the Malayalapuram community by providing farm based services through relevant authorities.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

Kaveri kala manram will be the executing agency with overall responsibility for implementation. During the early implementation phase, two youths will be appointed as community volunteers to provide the liaison with individual families on a day to day basis. Rev Joshua and the Krishnapuram Farmers Organization will continuously monitor the progress and offer guidance and support as necessary. They will ensure ongoing support for twelve or more months and facilitate to cascade the project principles and resources to the entire community.

Contacts:

Item	Cost Per Unit (LKR)	Unit	Number Units	Total Cost (LKR)
Step 01				
Workshop & training about Organic Home Gardening	13000.00	Day 05	10	130,000.00
Resource	5000.00			
Material	4000.00			
Transport	2000.00			
Refreshment	2000.00			
Step 02				
Build Fertilizing system	15,000		10	150,000.00
Cement block 150	6000			
Sand ¼ tractor	1000			
Masan & Laborer	5000			
Roof shed	3000			
Step 03				
Planting	10,000		10	100,000.00
Coconut plant 25	6,250			
Vegetable & lime	3750			
Total Cost				
<i>Admin cost 5%</i>				
<i>Financial contributions from other donors</i>				
Expected financial contribution from donors				380,000.00

Rev. T.S. Joshua
Executive Director
Kaveri kala manram
184, Malayalapura,
Kilinochchi
Sri Lanka

Dr Nithi kanagaratnan
Consultant
0788306122

Telephone : +94 779581371

email: revjosh.sutha@gmail.com

Names of Beneficiaries (War widows)

Mrs R.Kalaivany

Mrs S.Puvanashvary

Mrs K.Shanthnamma

Mrs S.Rashamma

Mrs .Vallijammai

Mrs . Pakkijamalar

Mrs . S.Kirishnakumary

Mrs. S.Thavika sukanthiny

Mrs.R.Sharashvathi

Mrs. M.Salvathy