



## Tea Leaf Vision Centres



Providing Opportunities  
through Education



# Who we are

Tea Leaf Trust is a UK-registered charity that develops and supports educational centres in Sri Lanka's hill country. Our belief is that regardless of where you are born, what your ethnicity is, or who your family are, you should have equal opportunities for success. We believe this can be achieved through education. Our vision is to support the youth of Sri Lanka's tea estate communities to become educated, professional and empowered young people enabled to lead social transformation within tea plantation communities.

## Our Aims

- To deliver high quality educational programmes to young people and children from the tea estates of Sri Lanka;
- To improve youth employability by developing high-standard English language skills and professional skills;
- To effect social transformation in tea estate communities through programmes of community service;
- To develop the emotional health and personal strength of young people from the tea estate communities.



# What we do

Tea Leaf Trust founded and supports the running of Tea Leaf Vision Education Centres (TLV), delivering programmes of English language, personal and professional development to 18-24 year olds from the tea estates. Run by young people for young people, the centres focus on programmes that prioritise English and employability, allowing around 320 young adults each year to improve their chances for personal and professional success.

The staff are all graduates of the programme themselves, and offer strong, positive role models, able to understand the difficulties faced by the students whilst demonstrating what can be achieved by a good education. The centres are concerned with personal, professional and community development, supporting youth to become active agents of positive change in their communities and develop skills to cope positively with the challenges they face.

# Why we do it

In the tea estates, over 92% of the students live on less than 300 LKR per day; 63% of the population live in line rooms; 75% of men suffer from alcoholism; 83% of women have suffered domestic violence; and only 20.2% of people have a secondary education, less than half of the national average of 50.2%. With all these factors, it is hard for the youth of the tea estates to lift themselves or their families from poverty.

‘I was like a dark sky before I came to TLV but now I am like a full moon with lots of bright stars.

This is the place which gave me a proper meaning of my life.’

– TLV student, P. Sinduja

## TLV Maskeliya

Opened in 2010, TLV Maskeliya is our first centre. Supported by the Lebara Foundation, we educate 170 students each year, improving their English and desirable skills such as Business and ICT, and supporting their personal development through Emotional Health and Success and Ethics. We also run a Community English Programme where TLV students deliver free English classes to primary age students in the surrounding tea estates; around 2,000 children benefit every year.

## TLV Nuwara Eliya

TLV Nuwara Eliya was founded in 2017, and follows the same curriculum as TLV Maskeliya. This year alone, the centre has educated over 200 young adults, in two short course cohorts, from the surrounding tea estate communities. In 2018, we will be running a 12 month programme, catering to 150 more students and providing part-time courses for a 1000 children. We are seeking partners to support us to continue delivering this social change.





# Our Impact

**1,017**

total number of Main Diploma graduates.

**97**

total number of Advanced Diploma graduates.

**70%**

rate of students in full-time employment, further education or training one year after the course.

**1,627**

the number of people to complete our Basic English Programme.





**130,759** the number of community members to directly benefit from TLV service projects.

**22,718** total hours of community service undertaken by TLV students.

**14,958** the number of primary school students to complete the free Community English Programme.

**38** the approximate number of lives saved. The hill country is a suicide hotspot, and though still too high, the rate of suicide amongst TLV alumni is less than 5% of the regional average.

'I came to Tea Leaf Vision with a lot of problems but I overcame those things after I studied the valuable lessons here. Now, I can manage my problems and live my life with my creation according to Tea Leaf Vision moments. Tea Leaf Vision is like a magic world. It gave me new life with good characteristics. The great secrets of my success is Tea Leaf Vision.'

- TLV student, L. Kohila

'I am so happy to be a big part of this year. I learn to love myself and spread that love. I understand others and accept them as they are with my visions. Thank you Tea Leaf Vision for your motivation. You have helped me to develop my skills and look for opportunities among difficulties. A little sun shines inspirationally in my life!'

- TLV student, Dhanusha





# Partner with us

We are proud of these achievements, but we also recognise how much there is still to do and how many more young people there are to serve. We are seeking partnerships that will enable the project to expand; to continue to transform the lives of these needy communities, contribute to Sri Lanka's skilled and talented workforce and save lives. We need you to help us.

To find out more, please visit our website or get in touch:

**[www.tealeaftrust.com](http://www.tealeaftrust.com)**

**Tea Leaf Trust Director**

**Tim Pare, [timpare74@gmail.com](mailto:timpare74@gmail.com)**

**TLV Programme Director**

**Yadharshi Selvaraj, [yadharshi12@gmail.com](mailto:yadharshi12@gmail.com)**

**TLV Development Director**

**Visventhan Sutharshan, [visventhan@gmail.com](mailto:visventhan@gmail.com)**

