

Helping 100 Families Recover from Poverty Post COVID-19

Project Report - 4

1st October 2021

GlobalGiving

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO POVERTY | 2 ZERO HUNGER | 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

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Project Summary

Second phase of the project was completed by providing support to 20 families in Karachchi, a divisional secretariat in Kilinochchi district of the Northern Province of Sri Lanka with a total population of 61,000.

Target Beneficiaries	Target Beneficiaries Supported in Phase 1	Target Beneficiaries Supported in Phase 2
		
100 Families	10 Families	20 Families

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Project Summary

The outbreak of COVID-19 and continuous lockdown across the country has disrupted lives in many ways. The pandemic has brought about a severe economic crisis specially in the rural parts of the country where the majority are daily-waged workers.

In response to the crisis, World Vision Lanka (WVL) together with the relevant government authorities have carried out a rapid assessment to identify the impact and implications on COVID-19. (The results relate to the working areas of WVL)

- ***78% of the households' livelihoods were highly affected***
- ***44% of the people had lost their jobs***
- ***Having three meals a day had become a challenge for 13% of children [aged < 5] and 32% of adults***

Economic development has always been a primary focus area for WVL as we believe that every household should be food secure and equipped to support the well-being of their children.

Among the many initiatives we have taken to support the families through food security and livelihood, 'home gardening' is one of the most successful project models which support most vulnerable families to have their own homegrown vegetables in order to secure household food security and tackle hunger during the pandemic and beyond.

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COVID-19 Response Activities

Supporting families through food security



98,702
families most in need provided with **essential food items**



6,022
families provided with **training and essential material** for home gardening



3,327
families supported with **livelihood recovery related to agro and non-agro livelihoods**. Marketing linkages also re-established.



1,477
families provided with **cash transfers to support their essential needs**

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Project Activities

Project Activity 1 – Beneficiary Selection

20 most vulnerable households were selected based on the following standard criteria:

- Extremely vulnerable WHH were given high priority, and was also considered
  - Malnourished children
  - Families with special-needs children
- Availability of suitable land for agriculture (at least 25x25 feet)
- Access to a water source at least during the rainy season to allow for cultivation - 9 out of 12 months of the year
- Adequate time to regularly devote to home gardening activities (2 hours a day), or demonstrated access to support for maintenance of home garden (e.g. support of relatives)
- Time and willingness to attend all training sessions.

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Project Activities & Implementation cont'd..

Project Activity 2 – Training & Technical Advice on Home Gardening

Selected beneficiaries were able to upgrade their knowledge with proper trainings with the collaboration of Department of Agriculture, Kilinochchi. The trainings were provided during the month of June, 2021.

Although home gardening is not a new initiative to these communities, the introduction of improved practices can make a big difference in terms of maintenance and productivity. Beneficiaries were trained under the following areas;

- Organic Fertilizer Preparation
- Integrated Pest Management
- Home Gardening awareness & Poison Free Vegetable Production
- Harvesting and picking

Project Activities & Implementation cont'd..

Project Activity 3 – Procuring and Distribution of Raw Materials & Tools

Gardening tools and seeds have been proposed by the Department of Agriculture and WVL Area Programmes have purchased the relevant items accordingly. The set of items below have been provided for each selected households to initiate their intervention.

Item	Description
Grow Bag	During the rainy season, many households are affected, annually. To mitigate the disaster, WVL has provided these grow bags for harvesting plants and crops as a technique to prevent the disaster.
Vegetable Seeds	Eggplant, Tomato, Chili, Turmeric, Ginner, Drumstick, Lime, Sweet potato, Sword beans, Finger Millets, Broad beans and some beans varieties.
Fruit Seeds	Papaya, Watermelon
Tools	Watering can, rake, bucket, mammoties, black polythene 1,000g, black polythene 750g, rock phosphate, and bag

Progress Monitoring & Impact

- All the beneficiaries have started their sowing with the application of organic farming methodology provided during the training.
- After receiving the training, farmers' attitude, skills, knowledge and mindset have changed to adopt to organic cultivation. They trust organic farming and cultivated accordingly.
- During this pandemic period many people are continuously staying at home. Therefore, family members carry out this activity together.

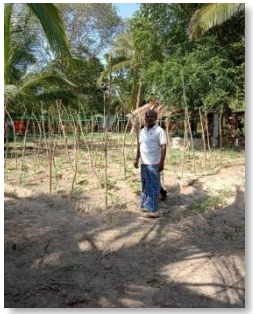
Engagement of Children in Home Gardening During this Lockdown

As a child focused organization, this home gardening intervention has not only promoted the food security of MVC HHs but also created an opportunity to empower children to engage in physical activities to maintain their healthy lifestyle.

During the pandemic, many children have been idle which has lead to an increase in anxiety and depression. However, through this initiative, children have been able to spend their time meaningfully and constructively, by being engaged in the activities of home gardening along with their parents. As a result, they have received moderate exercise and have felt their contribution to the environment. Moreover, it has enabled them to understand the responsibility of caring for plants.

Gallery

Lands are being cleared to start cultivating



During a training session




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Thank You!

Onward Towards a Lasting Impact!



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