



A Happy Meal

Feeding Program for Preschool Children
Emergency Response Initiative

Monthly Report

15th July 2022

1. Background and Objectives

Kandawalai is a Divisional Secretariat in Kilinochchi District, of Northern Province, Sri Lanka. It consists of 16 Grama Niladhari Divisions (GND) and overall population of 26,926. World Vision Lanka (WVL) operates in 7 GNDs which have been identified among the most vulnerable communities. Majority (69%) of the community are farmers or work in farms. Statistics says that the 15% of Kandawalai households fell below the poverty line in 2016.

Most parent of the preschool children cannot afford nutritious meals for their children due to their poverty conditions. As a result, most preschool children are weak and hungry and unable to actively and attentively participate in education.

Preschool children are in a crucial age in which nutritious food develop their physical and cognitive skills. Also, lack of nutritious food at this rapid growth period of their lives contributes to serious physical conditions such as stunting or wasting which affect growth of their brain and physical health in future.

2. Project Description

The national school meal program, established by the Women and Children Ministry, allocated RS. 30 per meal in order to enable children to have at least a nutritious meal a day. However, with the current economic condition of the country, it has become a challenge to the preschool management society to provide meal for this amount.

Through this six-month project WVL intends to support 466 preschool children those who do not receive even the daily meal provision.

Meal plan approved by the MOH for the preschoolers is as follows.

1. **Monday** – Rice with dhal, spinach and sprats curry
2. **Tuesday** – Chickpea, cowpea or mung beans with coconut scrapes
3. **Wednesday**- Milk rice prepared with mung beans, sambol and piece of fish
4. **Thursday**- Noodles with egg and vegetables
5. **Friday**- Mixed vegetable rice prepared with at least two vegetables, egg and dhal or soya curry

A fruit was given as dessert every day.

To make this initiative sustainable, WVL will provide assistance to households that engage in agricultural activities in order to support them to improve their livelihood. This will enable families in the community to contribute nutritious vegetables to the Preschool Management Committee ensuring the continuity of meals for preschool children.

3. Project Implementation

“A Happy Meal” Preschool feeding program commenced on 30th of May 2022, targeting 466 children in 18 preschools. Prior to project implementation, WVL had several preliminary discussions with the Divisional Secretariat of Kandawalai, main partner and the key duty bearer for child wellbeing in the area who nominated 18 preschools, MOH Kandawalai, Education Department, Preschool Management Society and Parents of the preschool children to discuss the responsibilities and the way forward.

According to the action plan developed, the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) officer of Kandawalai and Divisional Child Protection Officers (Div.CPO) coordinated with the preschools and obtained information related to provision of meals from each preschool and the Public Health Midwives (PHMs) in the area monitored the weight and height of the children as part of the baseline measures to monitor the growth of the at the completion of the project.

In few preschools meals were prepared by the parents on a rotation basis while in majority of the preschools, Preschool Management appointed a mother/ person to prepare meals and the cost of the meals were reimbursed to the appointed person by the Preschool Management. Parents of preschools took the responsibility of monitoring the food distribution and purchasing of locally available fruits to distribute with the meal.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

Throughout the duration of the project, we will monitor the progress of the project under two categories,

1. Number of meals provided during the month across the 18 preschool.
2. Growth of Preschool children by measuring height and weight of each student.

During the month of June continuous monitoring was done with the assistance of WVL field volunteers, Sponsorship Field Assistants and the ECDO to assure the attendance of children and provision of meals. PHM and Public Health Inspectors (PHI) ensured the effectiveness of this initiative by monitoring hygiene and menu preparation.

During the month of June following positive impacts were identified,

- Increase in attendance of children across all the preschools.
- Children actively engaging in class room activities.

4.1 Output 1 – Number of Meals provided during the month

Name of Preschool	Number of Children	Number of Meals provided during the month (21 preschool days per month)		
		June	July	August
Kalaiarasi	18	252		
Mooththa Vinayagar	20	177		
Nagendra	26	490		
Kalaimagal	24	399		
Kanoji	23	382		
Mayuran	30	360		
St.Anthony's	21	360		
Ankayarkanni	27	340		
Ragulan	36	564		
Suthankani	23	312		
Ranjan Vetha	14	202		
Rankan	14	232		
Kiliyan	23	320		
Ratnam	18	349		
South Indian Mission (CSI)	75	1178		
Puthiya Uthayam	55	904		
Kuyilmozhi	12	150		
Sri Vickneswara	7	120		
Total	466	7091		

4.2 Output 2 – Growth monitoring of preschool children

Data collection of height and weight details of preschool children were affected by the closing of preschools, limiting working days of the government of government officers and transportation challenges due to the fuel scarcity. Baseline height and weight data along with month of June's data will be included in next month's progress report.

5. Budget:

No.	Name of the Preschool	Meal Costs		
		June	July	August
1	Kalaiarasi	25,200		
2	Mootha Vinatagar	17,700		
3	Nagendra	49,000		
4	Kalaimagal	39,900		
5	Kanoji	38,200		
6	Mayuran	36,000		
7	St.Anthony's	36,000		
8	Ankayarkanni	34,000		
9	Ragulan	56,400		
10	Suthankani	31,200		
11	Ranjan Vetha	20,200		
12	Rankan	23,200		
13	Kiliyan	32,000		
14	Ratnam	34,900		
15	South Indian Mission (CSI)	117,800		
16	Puthiya Uthayam	90,400		
17	Kuyilmozhi	15,000		
18	Sri Vickneswara	12,000		
Total		709,100		

Total Meal Cost	LKR 709,100
Administration & Logistic Cost	LKR 70,910
Total Cost for the month of June	LKR 780,010

6. Images



Image 1: Monday meal with Rice, dhal, spinach and sprats curry



Image 2: A meal with complementary fruit



Image 3: A banana for dessert



Image 4: A child content with her meal



Image 5: A Happy Meal, A Happy Child



Image 6: Children enjoying meals with their friends



Image 7: Children enjoying meals with their friends



Image 8: Meals ready to be served



Image 9: Meeting with authorities and partners in progress



Image 10: DS office staff, Public Health Midwife, parents and children at St. Antony's Preschool

Thank You!

For partnering with World Vision Lanka to
change the lives of most vulnerable children!