



A Happy Meal

Feeding Program for Preschool Children:
An Emergency Response Initiative

Project Completion Report

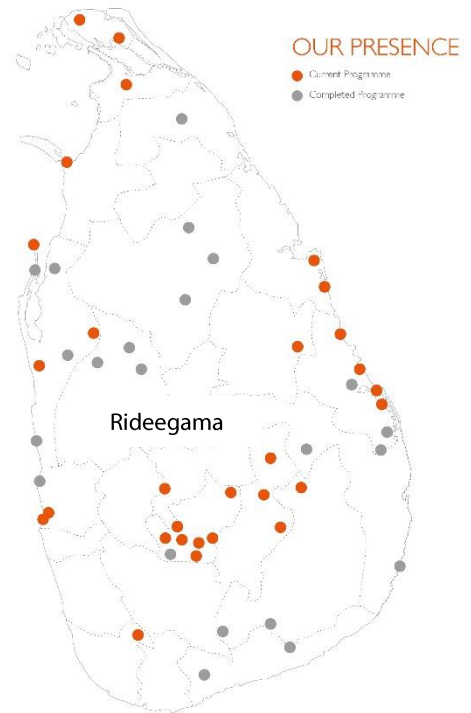
November 2022

1. Background and Objectives

Rideegama is geographically located in the North Western Province of Sri Lanka. Agriculture is the main livelihood activity in the area and paddy, coconut, cloves, pepper are the common crops cultivated. Majority of the community members are small scale farmers, daily-waged labourers and plantation workers, resulting in most families falling below the poverty line.

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

Preschool children are in a crucial age in which their daily nutrition help develop and determine their physical and cognitive skills. The lack of intake of nutritious food during this period of rapid growth in their lives contributes to serious physical conditions such as stunting or wasting which affect growth of their brain and physical health in the future.



2. Project Description

The national school meal program, established by the Ministry of Women and Children, allocated LKR 60 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 societies to provide meals for this amount.

Through this project WWL intended to support 532 preschool children across 21 preschools for a period of 28 days with mid-day meals, by allocating LKR 110 per child per meal.

The following was the approved meal plan:

1. **Monday** – Boiled jack fruit with scraped coconut or coconut sambal
2. **Tuesday** – Rice with sprats and a vegetable curry
3. **Wednesday** - Green gram or cowpea with scraped coconut or sambal
4. **Thursday** - Nutritional roti (rice flour/ finger millet flour) mixed with vegetables (carrot, leeks, etc.)
5. **Friday** - Mixed vegetable rice

In addition to the above, a fruit was given as dessert every day.

To make this initiative sustainable, WWL is continuing to work with households that engage in agricultural activities 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.

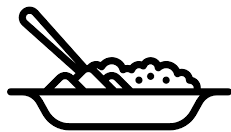
3. Project Implementation

The preschool feeding programme commenced on the 3rd of October 2022, targeting 532 children in 21 preschools. Prior to the project implementation, WV had preliminary discussions with the Early Childhood Care and Development Officer (ECCD) of the Divisional Secretariat Office and Public Health Midwife (PHM) and "Ridee Liya", Mother Association in Rideegama to discuss the responsibilities and the way forward.

According to the action plan developed, the ECCD officer coordinated with the preschools and obtained information related to provision of meals and requested to use the meal plan developed by the Ministry of Health. The PHM was responsible to monitor the weight of the children, the quality of the meals and the preparation process. The Mother association was responsible to select a mother within the community as the supplier to provide the meals, along with the responsibility of coordination and monitoring of the project.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

During the monitoring period....



14,896

Meals provided



532

Children Benefitted



21

Preschools

During the project period the following positive outcomes were identified:

- Increase in attendance of children across all the preschools
- Children actively engaging in classroom activities
- Increase in average weight of preschoolers
- Children belonging to families that are unable to afford a meal at home, had the opportunity to enjoy a nutritious meal at the preschool

4.1 Output 1 – Number of Meals Provided During the Month

Preschool	Number of Children	Number of Preschool Days	Meals Provided
Anagarika Dharmapala Preschool	18	28	504
Darshana Preschool	14	28	392
Dilena Tharu Preschool	11	28	308
Ekamuthu Preschool	20	28	560
Isuru Preschool	39	28	1,092
Lihini Preschool	36	28	1,008
Little Angel Preschool	21	28	588
Little Wings Preschool	39	28	1,092
Michiko Itho Preschool	19	28	532
Nisco Preschool	31	28	868
Pradeshiya Sabha Preschool	33	28	924
Ridee kakulu Preschool	67	28	1,876
Ridee kakulu Preschool	54	28	1,512
Samadhi Preschool	19	28	532
Samanala Preschool	15	28	420
Sri Dewananda Preschool	11	28	308
Sri Mahamaya Preschool	18	28	504
Sri Rahula Preschool	30	28	840
Sri Sangamiththa Preschool	12	28	336
Sri Siddhartha Preschool	14	28	392
Sri Dewananda Preschool	11	28	308
Total	532		14,896

5. Finance Summary

Description	Component Values (LKR)	Aggregate Values (LKR)
WWL Online Donation Portal	317,016	
Crowd Funding Platform	391,565	
Benevity Platform (USD 1,521 at LKR 360)	547,560	
Loyalty Points from a Telecommunication Platform	160,726	
Individual Donors	195,600	
Funds carried forward from another project (WWL)	46,000	
Total Funds Raised		1,658,467
Cost of Meals Provided	1,638,560	
Cost of Monitoring and Distribution of Meals	20,000	
Total Cost of Meals Provided		1,658,560

6. Photo-Captures





Thank You!

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