



Discovering Livelihood



Annual Report 2013



RAHAMA

Recovery and Humanitarian Action Management Agency



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OUR VISION AND MISSION...

Vision is to contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of the vulnerable and disaster affected population.

Mission is to work with local organisations by promoting participatory development process focussing on transparency and accountability.

- The recovery / development of livelihood by building assets.
- The promoting women participation.
- The provision of humanitarian assistance at times of need.
- Re vitalising the community organisations.
- Building peace and harmony.
- Prevention and reduction of alcohol and drug consumption.

FOREWORD...

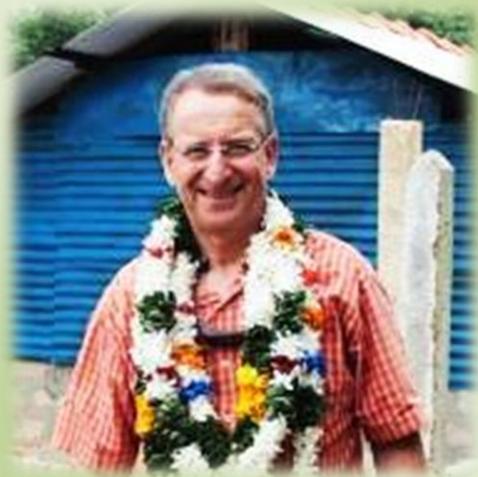
The Post conflict Northern Region is rebuilding with the assistance of the Government and various other UN, INGOs, LNGOs and private sector organizations. All our activities are designed based on the needs identified by the people and the local communities and implemented with the approval of the Presidential Task Force (PTF). The year 2013 is an important year for RAHAMA. The reason being the achievement which the program created towards the resettlement of the population in different project areas in the Northern Districts. The process of identifying the target groups most of them being women headed households and children. These are the most significant achievements despite the small team of staff members. It is a team effort, the result of which was achieved by the local CBOs and RAHAMA joining hands to complete the programs on time. Needless to say the donor agencies, FORUT, PTF and the local District authorities also gave their cooperation and support to implement the programs despite the delays experienced at times.

Most of our targeted activities were helpful for the IDP returnee population to rebuild the shelter requirements with basic amenities, improve the economic status, ensuring the protection of women and children, schooling etc. Agriculture fisheries, self-employment, market and storage improvements have contributed to the stabilization of the population to a greater extent though the response was small compared to the needs. We have given some samples of our work in the next pages to get a glimpse of our work.

During the reporting period RAHAMA maintained constructive dialogue and review meetings with direct and indirect stakeholders of the program. Regular reporting through OCHA was maintained on the advice of the PTF. Similarly we maintained our regular reporting to the NGO secretariat of the Ministry of defense. The program coordination work which we maintained from our Vavuniya head office was instrumental in maintaining the capacity building and the coordination of the program. Field programs were managed by the transport and logistics unit. The central level coordination unit is managed by the Colombo coordination office which is responsible for administration and finance. The main reason for maintaining the Colombo based office is to ensure the coordination between the local and donor agencies.

Monitoring visits were undertaken by the District and Divisional government officials, donor representatives, and auditors on a regular basis. This exercise is an important part of our transparency and accountability concept in order to maintain a fruitful cooperation with the stake holders

Message from Chairman of FORUT- Norway...



I had the pleasure of visiting the RAHAMA projects in the Northern districts of Sri Lanka in January 2014. This was not my first visit to this part of the Island. From 1990 and forward, I have been doing various project visits in this area, being the Resident Representative of FORUT for a period of seven years. This was my first visit after the end of the armed conflict and also the first visit after FORUT closed down its own operations in Sri Lanka and transformed the collaboration into a system where the organization solely is working through local partners.

The visit in January gave a picture of a strong organization with healthy local partners committed to work for the most affected part of the population. We met strong women and vital women's groups working with a clear objective. The focus on enabling women to create a sustainable livelihood as a basis for a healthy lifestyle was obvious. Meeting these women and hearing their story and experience, is still in my mind and give me encouragement in my life.

I also observed the strong collaboration between RAHAMA and relevant authorities, both the Governmental and representatives from private sector. Through this collaboration, RAHAMA also can use its knowledge to participate in the infrastructural reconstruction. This work benefits a wide group of the population, directly or indirectly.

Travelling in the war affected parts of Sri Lanka confirms clearly the need for continuing the rehabilitation efforts in the years to come. Many people have still not been able to start a new life after the conflict. Too many are still idling without access to land and livelihood activities. RAHAMA and its partners are grass root organizations with local members with a commitment and a capacity to give assistance to people in need. FORUT hopes to be able to continue our financial support to the important work. But the international focus and the sources of funding is moving away from countries like Sri Lanka to less developed and poorer countries in the world. By working together in the years to come and by enhancing new knowledge and results, I hope we can enable ourselves and find support to continue this important work

Paul Henrik Kielland

Oslo Norway

20th June 2014

Message from Government Agent, Vavuniya...



It is a great pleasure to be presenting this message to the RAHAMA who have taken interest to prepare this Annual Report of Public Relations – 2013 of Vavuniya District.

LNGOs, INGOs and UN agencies also play a vital role with regard to the uplifting of people of this district. There were many projects implemented by the RAHAMA in order to enhance the Socio Economic conditions of the people.

This book contains key information on the functions of RAHAMA. I hope this book will facilitate the users to get information about RAHAMA.

I believe this Annual Report of Public Relations – 2013 will help the users to know about Relief, Recovery and Development activities of RAHAMA.

Mr. M K Bandula Harischandra

3rd June 2014

Message from Government Agent, Kilinochchi...



It is a great pleasure for me to send this message to the “public Relations 2013 Annual Report”. The end of the conflict in Kilinochchi district has devastated not only the properties of the District, but also damaged the economy of the area. This has led to stagnation for the people with regard to restarting their income generating activities, following resettlement in Kilinochchi. The need to rebuild Kilinochchi District may need some grants to construct the damaged infrastructure, and to start economical viability, in order to build the lives of the people in the area.

I am very happy to note that RAHAMA has ***taken the steps to provide livelihood assistance*** for the selected beneficiaries in Kilinochchi District. This is one of the steps any organization should follow to change the lives of people for the better.

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate RAHAMA for helping the resettled community in our District. I wish all success for RAHAMA for its future endeavors.

Mrs. R. Ketheeswaran

4th June 2014

Message from Asst. Divisional Secretary, Puthukudiyiruppu...



We are very glad to deliver our greetings on this occasion. During the past you have provided lots of services in many ways like construction of temporary shelters for accommodation, renovation of wells for getting water, repair of permanent toilets and sanitation, construction of community building for agriculture society and economic recovery for 75 fisheries union members etc. to our people affected by the post war. Your valuable services

are still expected to our community in the future too. We wish you and your services to develop further and it has to benefit the people affected by both war and natural disaster.

Mr. I. Prathaban

4th July 2014

Message from RAHAMA Chairperson...



The year 2013 is a target chasing year for RAHAMA. During the year all resources of the organization focused on resettling the displaced families returning after the war. The programme emphasis has been directed towards building skills to improve partnerships, livelihood initiatives for the vulnerable families, especially the economic empowerment of women and fulfill the essential infra structural needs of the returnee families.

The general trend visible in the process is integration of resources and working in collaboration with the policy of the Government of Sri Lanka, District and Divisional level Government agencies.

It is with a sense of satisfaction, that I record here all the support provided by the government officials of the PTF, District secretaries and NGO secretariat to implement the programme on time.

I would like to thank Mr. Morten Lonstad, the secretary general FORUT, Mr. Staale Stravrum, the International Programme Director, Mr. Paul Hendrik, the Chairman and board members of FORUT Norway. The Ambassador and the staff of Norwegian Embassy for Sri Lanka for extending their assistance and guidance to complete the programme.

Finally I wish to place on record my sincere appreciation to the Secretary General of RAHAMA, the policy advisor, the company secretary and the RAHAMA board of directors for the guidance & directions imparted by them.

The staff who worked under difficult circumstances, to move the programme off the ground is commendable. Without the support extended by the partner institutions the achievements during the period is not possible. The credit for what has been achieved has to be heaped on the RAHAMA Secretary General and the Staff.

The continued backing of the supporters, allows us to make a real difference in the lives of the resettled families

Mrs. Chitra Vithanage

30th May 2014

Message from RAHAMA Secretary General...



2013 has gone and RAHAMA is passing another important mile stone in its work in the IDP returnee areas in the northern districts of Sri Lanka. Needless to say the work carried out by RAHAMA and its partners to rebuild the living conditions of the returnee population is remarkable, due to the prevailing conditions in the area. Most of the project sites what RAHAMA has chosen to work are full of challenges. The population and families who shifted to the location with limited opportunities, and basic amenities were not ready to commence their own

initiatives to support reconstruction. They were offered programs by RAHAMA. At the end a balanced approach was designed by RAHAMA with the support of the primary stake holders by identifying focus areas for them to be involved in the resettlement process.

Despite RAHAMA's belief that the participation of the communities to build an owner driven program was necessary in the locations, it was not an easy task to achieve due to the fact the long-time IDP status has driven people to be more dependent upon to receive services and supplies, rather than self-help opportunities. Community mobilization and capacity building are two major components for the post conflict or disaster context to strengthen the development of the affected communities; hence all the efforts were taken to maintain participatory approaches in our work. Our preliminary surveys indicated that the population has learnt towards earning income and generating employment, at the same time they expected to receive support for protection and security for their women and girls to have protection by building basic services (shelter, water , sanitation) etc.

RAHAMA was able to implement such programs with the support of the donors of FORUT, NORAD and the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Sri Lanka. The presidential task Force and the District based Government officials were providing all the support but there were instances we faced problems to raise materials from the area and transporting them to the locations. All in all we were able to shift a large no of families to new locations with basic amenities, for resettlement and the children were admitted to schools, women received employment opportunities, and local organization were developed for future development with markets and storages shows progress.

We would like to thank our Donors and Government agencies who were supporting us, and all our partners and primary stake holders for the job done. We look forward for a better cooperation in the years to come.

Mr. M F Marikkar

20th June 2014

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS...

The most important results in the period

Recovery activities during 2013:

The major targets of the program are to improve the living conditions of the IDP returnees in the newly resettled areas. The major program components are the basic needs and amenities to create a quick impact for the resettled population.

- Land ownership of the returnee population.
- Water facilities through masonry wells and tube wells.
- Permanent toilets for protection and better hygiene.
- Facilitate to recommence the early childhood development.
- Primary Education
- Provision of facilities to local rural development societies.
- Economic improvement mainly for women and women headed households.
- Storage facilities for paddy and Milk products.

Intervention towards durable solutions during 2013

RAHAMA considers the road map will have to be changed from recovery to more durable solutions to reduce the dependency syndrome created by the conflict and displacement. Therefore we are focusing on more programs towards the development in the resettlement villages.

- Improving houses affected by war, by making them more permanent structures.
- Capacity building of women and men in the societies (example : women cooperative and sales outlet),
- Facilities for farmers and cooperatives to maintain the storage of paddy
- Organizing animal farmers' cooperatives and milk collection centers improve the quality of milk product and sales.
- Organic farming methods to reduce the chemical use and pollution.
- Ethnic integration among the school children by building language skills.
- Capacity building to staff and partners.

ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE...

District	Jaffna	Kilinochchi	Mullaitivu	Mannar	Vavuniya	Total	
Sectors	Outputs					No of Units	No of Beneficiaries
Housing - Temporary shelters for accommodation.	112	151	125	-	-	388	1,160
Housing - Permanent house Repair	-	-	60	-	-	60	226
Water - Construction / Renovation of Wells	12	10	20			42	473
Sanitation - Construction / repair of permanent toilets	92	151	146	30		419	1,302
Education - Early Childhood Development with play equipment & facilities	-	-	03	-	-	03	111
Education - Temporary learning Space	-	01	01	-	-	02	149
Education - Re/construction of School building with facilities	-	-	02	-	-	02	134
Education - Outdoor Play Items to primary schools	-	-	05	-	-	05	1,270
Education - Equipment and / furniture	-	100	-	-	200	300	191
Market linking	-	02	02	-	-	04	1,110
Community buildings with facilities	-	-	02	-	-	02	1095
Economic Recovery	-	-	176			176	669
Environment	-	-	55			55	350

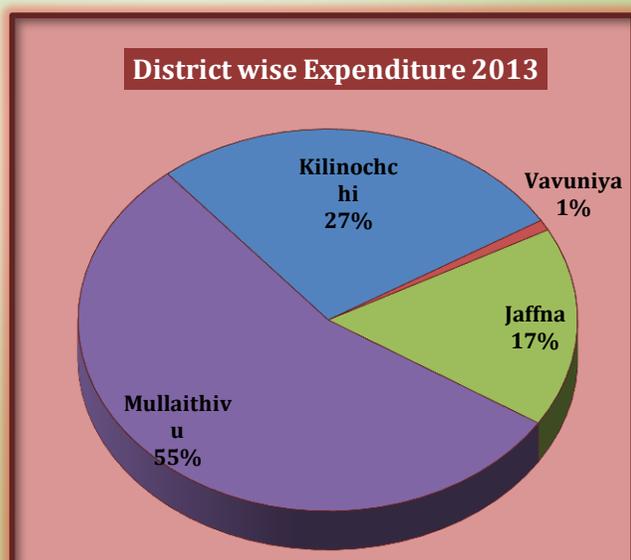
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Funding Sources – Donors 2013



INCOMING RESOURCES	ACTUAL (LKR)
FORUT Norway	68,871,393.97
Local Fund	2,054,026.26
Royal Nowaregian Embassy Colombo - i	41,160,000.00
Royal Nowaregian Embassy Colombo - ii	12,391,755.65

District wise Expenditure 2013



DISTRICTS	AMOUNT (LKR)
Kilinochchi	35,244,697.42
Vavuniya	1,157,844.06
Jaffna	21,746,625.82
Mullaithivu	70,544,153.17
Total	128,693,320.47

IDPs RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMS...

Jaffna District

Summary of outputs:

Location	No of Shelters	No of Toilets	No of Wells
Mavaikaladdy	54	41	-
Paddikadavai	46	45	07
Mallakam	12	06	01
Kurumbasiddy	-	-	04
End Users	328	288	116

From dependency to development - Self-reliance approach to durable solutions.



Mrs. Sutharsan Sutharshini is from Kalpidunki village in Maviddapuram South GS Division.
“I’m a mother of two girls separated from my husband. Thank you for your services which gave us protection as we now live at our own place.”

We feel happy and proud to own and live in this new environment. The cooperation and collaboration of the closely knit twelve families proved the worth. The end result is that our social support system has proved its value beyond any doubt” says one of the family members of the Neethavan Resettlement village at Mallakam in Tellipalai Divisional Secretariat Division.

The post war recovery program has given 78 families that got displaced from Myliddy and Palaly areas the opportunity to commence their temporary living at Neethavan Welfare Centre at Mallakam. “The camp life was disgusting with no discipline. Especially it was horrible for young girls and women with men in the habit of drinking sitting around. The fighting environment and the use of disgusting language made many peace loving and ambitious families to seek alternate options” was the honest feeling of one member of the new village group. “The feeling of going back to our own homes at Myliddy and Palaly started to die slowly with the pace at which the clearance to the High Security Zone was

taking place. Thus, the 12 families who had been together throughout the years at various locations decided to buy our land near where we lived for so long in a displaced state” was the feedback of a woman from the group.

“When we approached the Divisional Secretary of Tellipalai for support to complete our own homes with water and sanitation facilities at the new land, it has been a memorable event when we were introduced to CORE and RAHAMA afterwards. The financial input and the technical guidance and facilitation of CORE with RAHAMA enabled us to successfully complete the permanent houses with basic minimum water and sanitation facilities” was the opinion of the leader of the group with gratitude.

The inputs provided by CORE / RAHAMA supported in the construction of 12 houses, 6 permanent toilets and a tube well while the DS Office provided a tube well and the people for their part completed a tube well and a toilet.

The joint initiative of the 12 families should prove as an example to all the others on how the cooperation and mutual understanding could take families a long way for sustainable and peaceful development. Although most of the families were traditional fishermen prior to displacement they have gone in to masonry, carpentry and other jobs with the change of environment and resources. The parents are eager to educate the children under all circumstances. One student is studying at the university while another one is working as a teacher. Youngsters from among the families have shown exceptional skills at National and Regional educational competitions which proves that the new village would emerge as a very successful one in the near future.

It proves the saying that if there is a will there would be a way always. This process is example for a participatory project. Not only the people of this colony but also we too are proud of these people’s lifestyle.



12 Family members of the Neethavan Resettlement village at Mallakam in Tellipalai Divisional Secretariat Division say that:

“We want to go back to our own homes at Myliddy and Palaly but it is still being cleared. Thus, we had been together throughout the years at various locations and decided to buy our land near where we lived for so long in a displaced state”.

They thanked the team who provided 12 shelters, 6 permanent toilets and water facilities to them in their land. The joint initiative of the 12 families should prove as an example to all the others on how the cooperation and mutual understanding could take families a long way for sustainable and peaceful development.

Kilinochchi District

Summary of outputs:

Location	No of Shelters	No of Toilets	No of Wells	No of TLC	No of Furniture sets	No of Market link
Kovilwayal	44	44	05	-	-	-
Vempodukerny	53	56	05	-	-	-
Arasarkerny	12	10	-	-	-	-
Ithavil	10	09	-	-	-	-
Eyakkachchi	13	15	-	-	-	-
Thampakamam	15	15	-	-	-	-
Kachcharvely	04	0	-	-	-	-
Muhamaalai	-	02	-	01	50	-
Muhavil	-	-	-	-	25	-
Tharmankerny	-	-	-	-	25	-
Palai	-	-	-	-	-	01
Karanthai	-	-	-	-	-	01
End Users	458	458	-	-	100	356

Kovilwayal Resettlement:



Mr and Mrs Jeyarasa resettled in the village called Vempodukerny during June 2013. Both cleared their land after demining, put up a shed with palm leaves and lived there without basic facilities.

Mrs Jeyarasa Vijayakumari expressed that “she married at 20 years and had 4 boys, one disappeared during war displacement, one was differently abled and all got married.”

They were suffering a lot especially during the displacement from 2006 August – 2013 June. And now their shed became a transitional shelter and received a permanent toilet. As there are five neighbour families who used their damaged well, that also renovated for them.

Currently their differently abled son’s family is living together with them with basic facilities. The women said that now they are safe and secure.

Koyilvayal is a village falling within the administrative District of Kilinochchi under the Pachchilaipalli DS area, two (02) km away from lyakkachchi junction towards Kaddaikadu Vettilaikerny road. The families that had been living peacefully long before the war had to undergo multiple displacements initially during 1985 and 1986, then in 1991 finally in 2006 from Vanni. Finally the people were caught up in Vanni and were displaced to Vavuniya. They had to stay in the welfare camps until they were resettled in their places of origin after a long spell of 12 years. During their flight in displacement they had to live in houses of their friends and relatives and were accommodated in welfare centers maintained by the government and NGOs where only bare minimum facilities for normal living were made available.

The resettlement from the month of October 2010 had been taking place there; more families had already been resettled out of which 44 families in 122 persons were identified for provision of basic facilities through a project by RAHAMA in 2013 funded by NORAD/MFA of the Norwegian Government.



Mr. Rasalingam Vadivel from Kovilwyal

Their housing condition at the initiation of resettlement was very temporary and the same with the other facilities too; no toilets were available, inadequate drinking water facility existed. The war destroyed the infrastructure, perennial plants/trees etc and the long term displacements had left the facilities without maintenance and jungles had swallowed formerly populated areas. Resettled people especially women folk found it very difficult to answer their call of nature; only resort was to go to the bushes amidst threat from external circumstances that includes fear for snakes mainly during nights.

The needs of the people as discussed and deliberated with all stakeholders were formulated in a form of an action plan and projects allocated to NGOs and GOs; in this process RAHAMA undertook implementation of a project with the involvement of FIRM a local NGO/ operational agency of FORUT's conception for provision of 44 number transitional shelter, same number of permanent toilets, five (05) number drinking water dug wells and formation of internal paths.

Project implementation was well coordinated by all concerned; people's contribution by way of unskilled labour was forthcoming. Planned activities were carried out fulfilling the identified needs in a timely manner.

The outcome of the project is eminent. The protection aspect of the families especially women and children has been secured with the provision of basic needs. Their normal living is seen progressing making use of the facilities provided. The bread winners of the

families are back in track for earning their livelihood. Children attend regular schools, health and sanitation status improves. Community living brings about harmony and contributes for emergence of a cohesive and comprehensive society respecting the rights of the women and children. Eventually the people were able to get hold their lands long abandoned that had been arbitrarily occupied by the parties involved in the war.

RAHAMA had a novel experience through the implementation of projects; it was able to muster the cooperation of all stake holders throughout the project period. RAHAMA facilitated opportunities for the people to get the support of the security forces for land clearance, formation of internal roads etc by making use of the machinery and equipment and human labour. It has brought a consensus among them that could be utilized for the development of the village in the future as well.

Recommencement of Primary Education: Muhamalai newly resettled village.

The Muhamalai returnee children recommenced their education in 100' x 16' temporary learning space with office and two permanent toilets for students and teachers. They also access water with 1000 liters water tank with stand. The school has been re-opened after 13 years in a temporary learning centre (TLC) on 30th April 2013. Also the school equipped with furniture.



Students during the opening day of Muhamalai Temporary learning space



Overview of Muhamalai Temporary learning space

Micro Business recovery - Livestock Breeders' Co-operative Society



The new milk collection center, Processing unit to process the milk into value added products and a sales outlet to sell the milk products locally became an eye opener for the local population to sell and buy milk products produce locally, after the postwar period in the village of Pallai in Northern Kilinochi district says the Assistant Director of Animal Production Dr.S.Gowrithilgan, along with the Divisonal Secretary of Pallai Mr.S. Sathiyaseelan played a vital role in this project.

Mr. S.Sathiyaseelan was actively involved in this project after noting that the money allocated for the supply of milk to the school children in Pallai has to be reduced due to the poor supply of milk in the area. This point was raised in a review meeting by RAHAMA and it was decided to set up a committee headed by the DS with the members from the Livestock Breeders Cooperative Society, Department of Animal Production and health, and a RAHAMA representative. The first step taken was the strengthening of the membership, and forming a group to come together to assess the opportunities to increase the production of milk and making their own establishment to store the milk. The major issue highlighted in this process was the sale of milk to outer districts and to the Colombo based milk companies which deprived the local population. Thus to ensure the milk supply locally, as when they required milk again they were pushed to supermarkets and were buying milk at a higher price.

Thus the objective was set to form a Livestock Breeders cooperative (LIBCO) to work with the Veterinary Department, DS and RAHAMA to work on a strategy to ensure (a) collection of milk (b) storing (c) utilization (d) value addition.

For example one of the members of the LIBCO Mrs Vijayakumari Nitsingam with seven other members including their four children and a son in law (who reside near the milk collection center and they are members of LIBCO) expressed that “after the return they are having ten high productive breeds (cattle) and obtain good yield daily with other livelihood assistance. But they sell the excess milk at lower cost and sometimes they are just milking once a day.

Now the construction of a milk collection center by RAHAMA through LIBCO is given the task to sell the excess milk for a reasonable price without wastage to get maximum benefit from the cattle. Also she feels the milk collection center is located at an ideal place where it coordinates all the places and transport. She also adds that the collective effort also help them to learn about new methodologies , increase the milk production by introducing new fodder for animals and regular health checks for animals. Interestingly it is the women who benefitted more out of this project she claims because the members are those who have less no of cattle and are dependent upon women to look after them to earn an income. The problems she identified was the animal feeding at times, due to the failure of rain in the region reduces the availability of pasture, which makes the cost of milk higher than it is expected to be.



In addition to production side, consumers are also benefitting. Earlier there was no place in palai where they can buy fresh milk. Now the consumers mainly officers and school children can buy the milk around 7 am which increased the fresh milk consumption and reduces the cost for milk when compare to powdered milk. In addition to that ghee which is available at an affordable price is favorite by the society. The water base juice which is having very low nutritive value is totally replaced by the production of milk Lolly which is very famous among school children. Milk toffee is a nutritious sweet also produced there. Curd is very famous among Hindus and the passengers of A-9 roads. They are planning to produce yoghurt also.

When considering the overall result really this project within a short time achieved remarkable changes in the producers as well as consumers. This is a new opening to the dairy sector in Pallai region. This operation will expand gradually with the increasing needs of the local requirement by eradicating the outside products because of the low cost, freshness, trust and the standard. It is very much sure these products will be in supermarket as well as in the market of other Districts.

Mullaitivu District

Summary of outputs:

Location	No of Shelters	No of Repaired houses	No of Toilets	No of Wells	No of preschool	No of Education	No of Community	No of Market link	No of Livelihood	Environment
Manthuvil	125	-	116	17	-	-	1	-	35	2
Welioya	-	20	25	-	3	5	-	-		50
Ampalavanpokkai	-	14	2	1	-	2	-	-	40	2
Mulliwaikkal west	-	26	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mullativu town	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	101	
Kokuthoduwai	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	1
Uduppukkulam	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Vishwamadu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
End Users	374	226	448	243	-	-	100	754	-	-

Shelter Accommodation - Basic Protection for women and children.



Mrs. Santhi Thasarathan from Manthuvil who received a shelter, water and assistance now feels she has better protection and security for her family, with a new born baby too. She shifted to this new shelter just two months ago, from a make shift tent.

There are several young women and widows who are in the vicinity, but Shanthi is one of the luckiest one to get the basic amenities to protect her family.



Mrs. Manokaran Sangeetha is a single parent with a 6 year old child. She believes that after her house is repaired she can start her home based industry by making food items for sale and make an income out of that for her existence.

Rebuilding war torn houses – Durable solution...



Janson Maithily from 8th ward, Manthuvil, Puthikudiyiruppu expressed that “we displaced from our own place during past war and lived at Kathirkamam welfare Centre.

My husband detained at Velikanda rehabilitation Centre and released to Kathirkamam welfare Centre after two years. Then he started fishing at Poonakary temporarily.

Then we resettled at our own place Manthuvil. Good time we were selected for RAHAMA-FORUT transitional shelter and now the work is completed. We are safe and protected.”



Mrs. Kokila Navaneethan and her family with 02 children including one child who is differently abled were displaced from her home in 2009 and returned in 2011 at Mulliwaikal west.

Her house is badly damaged and it was without a roof and most of the removable items have disappeared. For the last 02 years this family was living under a tarpaulin sheet roof.

The repaired houses are encouragement and durable solution for the families and adults who can go out for employment to look after the women and children.

Right to education and play- Facilities for children in resettled areas.



The need for educational facilities for the returnee children is a main requirement after the resettlement. Children need health care, education, nutrition, clean water and sanitation, opportunity and safety. RAHAMA has given priority to enhance children's education activities in its project areas. Based on the requests made by Government authorities, we targeted Children from resettled families in Welioya and Maritempattu DS Divisions. Access to quality education was improved for approximately 1616 children with services and sanitation, water and nutrition for education and play.

- ✿ 111 children from 3 Early Childhood Development centers benefiting through the reconstruction of these centres, drinking water facilities and distribution of play materials.
- ✿ 101 returnee children recommenced their education through the reconstruction of temporary learning center.
- ✿ The outdoor play materials were provided to 8 preschools benefiting a total of 400 pre-school children to develop their cognitive and physical abilities.
- ✿ Educational needs of the 134 returnee student have been fulfilled through the reconstruction of 2 school buildings, built water and sanitation facilities, supported solar panels and books for library.

Rebuilding the Rural farm Economy: Storage and Marketing.



The post war rural economy is dependent upon the national markets, to ensure the income and economic development of the resettled farmers most of them are recently resettled in Visuvamadhu area in Mulliativu District, says the General Manger of the Visuvamadhu Young Farmers' Co-operative Union.

The production of paddy is the major produce in the area in the agricultural villages linked to this cooperative union, while the major agency is catering to the needs of the local population in the area. Supply of dry ration and other commodities, and services are provided by this cooperative union, but it lost its assets during the war says Mr. Jeyanthan the accountant.

The union is slowly limping back to normalcy , but without this stores we wouldn't have restored the market because without the stores facility we cannot procure the seasonal supply , which means the production will end up in the hands of the middlemen who will pay less price to the farmers for the paddy.

Currently the stores were built with the assistance of RAHAMA and the farmers union. It can accommodate some 450,000 kilos of paddy which the farmers can have at 4/00 Rs per kilo more than the prevailing price in the local market. He further claims that the union which has now started a mill has produced more 1,600,000 kilos of rice so far to the national market. The project is a joint venture initiated by the Government Agent, RAHAMA

with FORUT funds, and cooperation of the farmers union. The challenges for the union are to reduce the loans of its members who have obtained various kinds of loans for the production of paddy due to resource constrains. The union feels if the micro finance scheme is developed the business could be further enhanced and production demand could be high. Moreover it is also an important issue to develop the irrigation facilities to ensure the supply of water for better production.

Have you achieved your objectives? The General Manger says most of it. We have started the purchase of paddy by giving the farmer a better price, we have employed women for this project, and we are supplying inputs though our loan programs and we sell quality rice at a reasonable price. What are other issues pending? Well we need more stores to expand our services. Due to the capacity problem we have rented out another store to help the farmers to sell the produce to us. We are planning more facilities such as organic farming methods, organic fertilizer production etc. to reduce the use of chemicals among the farmer.



Economic recovery: Reemployment of Lagoon fishermen.

RAHAMA has supported to 75 resettled lagoon fishermen of Puthukudiyiruppu and Maritimpattu DS Divisions with each worth of LKR.35, 000.00 fishing nets and gears on the recommendations of the Assistant Director of Fisheries for restart their livelihoods.



A women beneficiary receiving Fishing gears to restart her Livelihood



A Fisherman spinning his fishing nets

Economic Empowerment of Women - Mullaitivu Women Development Cooperative Society...

RAHAMA's Economic recovery programme focuses on the possibilities of empowering economically inactive women and ensuring they have improved command of economic resources by being either independent income generators or supportive role players within the household.

The Economic recovery programme targets to empower civil society organizations, mobilization of beneficiaries, providing direct livelihood support to individuals, promoting productivity increase, value-addition, market linkages, and access to financial and business development services of civil society organizations and small businesses.



Mullaitivu Women Development Cooperative Society which is created by RAHAMA during early 2013 with 115 Muslim and Tamil women's membership with the objective of "Enhancing of social economics respect and joyful family environment through the women empowerment".

Through the Women cooperative there were 101 women (365 family members) received Livelihood assistance from RAHAMA's Livelihood activities. Among that assistance they received empowerment trainings and made their own business plans for their future development.

As per their business plans women started to product their items and seeking for business linkages. As a result they received an own building to women cooperative and collect the women's products and are doing business and still the process in under development.

Women Livelihood initiatives: some examples form the cooperative...



Mrs. Rushana had to undergo police inquiries, but now she is free from all those issues.

The Women Cooperative system accepted them and now they have started their livelihood activity. There are customers coming to their location to buy mats. Sometimes they take the mats to outside markets too. Their living situation is becoming normal; and the normalcy is returning slowly.



Mrs. Suthanthini is one of the Mullaitivu Women cooperative members and received assistance for livelihood. She has three children who are going to school and her husband is sick.

From the livelihood assistance she started to do dry fishing from inland fish which is marketable to southern part of the country at a good price. Every week she buys and cuts 100 kg to 120 kg of fish to dry and she manages to sell the quality variety from Rs .300 to Rs.350 per kg. From the revenue within 6 months, she bought a television and took her husband to Colombo for treatment, now she feels that she has improved their standard of living. She is also in the repayment schedule at MWDCS and she stated that she could now give a minimum of two meals to her children regularly.



Mrs. Arulmala from Silawatta is a widow with a son, who was doing cadjan knitting in a small scale but met many challenges to meet the day to day living expenses.

She got membership of MWDCS, and participated in women empowerment trainings conducted by RAHAMA, IDB and made her personal business plan to improve her life. Her business plan is taken in to consideration by MWDCS and RAHAMA for livelihood assistance. She received livelihood assistance and expanded her work and started to improve her life.

Now she is the first person in the repayment schedule of MWDCS and three of her colleagues have been employed (also needy women) and continuing her routine work

Going Green – Organic fertilizer...



Kidney diseases on the increase in the Northern and North Central Provinces of Sri Lanka. The latest research indicates that the use of chemicals in the field of agriculture is the main cause of the diseases. The number of kidney patients who are undergoing dialysis is on the increase.

Thus RAHAMA initiated this pilot project of producing organic fertilizer with the involvement of the local population most of them have come back after the displacement to their villages.

Agriculture Department, Mahawali Authorities and the Divisional Secretary, Medical Officer of Health, RPDF (Rajaratta Participatory Development Foundation) and RAHAMA are the main stakeholders of this program. This is a model pilot program and it will expand further with new experiences in the future

Most of the program beneficiaries are women and this will support the economic improvement of the families and the environmental preservation specially the soil and the water/air pollution, particularly the drinking water.

Vavuniya District

Summary of outputs:

Location	No of Furniture and Equipment
Vavuniya Gamini Maha Vidyalayam	200 Arm chairs and sound equipment
End Users	91 Students



English language is a medium to build the link between students from various communities living in Vavuniya. The central unit in one of the town school initiated a program to develop the students' participation through the language development skills for the children of the Vavuniya division. The school and the Government Agent together with RAHAMA implemented this program in a central school located in Vavuniya town.

Mannar District

Summary of outputs:

Location	No of Toilets
Periyamadu	30
End Users	30

Evacuated Muslim population during the war has slowly started moving into their home areas. Considering the plight of the women to ensure proper sanitation facilities, RAHAMA initiated a project with the local council to erect toilet facilities to needy families.



Mrs. N.M. Muhamathu, she has two children, who thanked RAHAMA for the permanent toilet which they are using.

At the moment this toilet has been used by 5 families (23 members + visitors). Because the returnee process is still ongoing, many families had been registered for housing and staying with their known or relative people.

Capacity building programmes for Staff and Partners...

Visit to Madurai:

A TEAM OF STAFF FROM RAHAMA AND PARTNER ORGANISATIONS UNDERTOOK AN EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING EXPOSURE VISIT TO MADURAI:

RAHAMA considers capacity building of the staff is a major contributor to development work carried out in the northern resettlement areas. In the project areas both the partner organizations and the RAHAMA staff work hand in hand to implement programs with the primary stakeholders and the end receivers of the programs.



This exposure visit was organized by an organization running several development programs in Tamilnadu, which has its base in

Madurai. The learning process developed by the agencies is based on the sharing of experiences, and learning by exposure of sustainable programs run by the organizations. The women headed families who are running several production and marketing programs were visited and found to be useful to be introduced in our village areas using local materials such as Palmyra, herbal plants, home based industries, handicrafts, local products with export quality which can earn a lot of income for the producers.

Currently RAHAMA staff has introduced several pilot projects in different areas to make sure that the current practices used by the producers to be value added in the production and marketing initiatives. Some of our pilot projects are tested in Welioya, Kanadavalai and Poonakary divisions with participating families who newly returned resettles.

Risk Management:

Under the risk management another initiation of the Micro Finance and link with health and Animal insurance was also started and is progressing. Some of the partner members are those who participated the program also started to implement the learning and experiences in their programs through collaborating with RAHAMA and other funding agencies.



The Insurance awareness for cattle breeders in Jeyapuram

Developing leadership among women resettles:

Workshops conducted to strengthen the capacities of the staff and the partner organizations on financial procedures, participatory planning, strategic planning, business development trainings, peace building, reporting and documentation, training on online fixed assets operating system and organizational development.

Accounting:

As an ongoing intervention the financial advisor and finance department continued training of the field staff and partners in financial procedures, Capacity Building Program on Finance System, training on online fixed assets operating system, etc.

Meetings, Reviews and Consultations...

Collaboration with Stakeholders:



Review meeting with Partner organizations regarding projects progress and plans.



FORUT-Norway Secretary General and team meet the Government Agent - Mullaitivu and discuss regarding RAHAMA's project activities.



Monthly NGOs 'progress review meeting at District Secretariat office, Mullaitivu

Collaborating Agencies and Institutions:

- ❖ Presidential Task Force
- ❖ Government Agent Jaffna:
 - Divisional Secretariat Thellipalai
- ❖ Government Agent Kilinochchi:
 - Divisional Secretariat Pachchilaipalli
- ❖ Government Agent Mullaitivu:
 - Divisional Secretariat Maritempattu.
 - Divisional Secretariat Welioya.
 - Divisional Secretariat Puthukudiyiruppu.
 - Divisional Secretariat Oddusuddan.
- ❖ Government Agent Vavuniya:
 - Divisional Secretariat Vavuniya
- ❖ Zonal Director of Education - Kilinochchi
- ❖ Zonal Director of Education – Mullaitivu
- ❖ Medical Officer of Health– Thellipalai

- ❖ Medical Officer of Health– Kilinochchi
- ❖ Medical Officer of Health– Mullaitivu
- ❖ Pradeshiyasabha – Thellipalai
- ❖ Pradeshiyasabha - Pachchilaipalli
- ❖ Pradeshiyasabha – Maritempattuu

- ❖ Partner Organizations:
 - CORE: Consortium of Organizations for Rural Empowerment – Jaffna.
 - FIRM: Federation of Institutions for Rural Management - Vavuniya.
 - RWF: Rural Women Forum - Vavuniya.
 - VOSD: Volunteer Organization for Social Development - Mullaitivu
 - Fisheries Union - Mullaitivu
 - Vishwamadhu Co-operative Society - Mullaitivu
 - Auditor – Ruvan de Silva & Co (Chartered Accountants)

RAHAMA Staff - 2013

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| 1. I. Loganathan | : | Program Team Leader. |
| 2. MMS Priyadarshana | : | Administration & Finance Manager. |
| 3. Kalyani Balathas | : | Information and Documentation Officer. |
| 4. S Deuddson | : | Program Accountant. |
| 5. J Amirtharaj | : | Technical Officer. |
| 6. ARM Inoon | : | Assistant Accountant. |
| 7. R Pratheepan | : | Driver / Messenger. |
| 8. Suganthini Rajeegaran | : | Livelihood Coordinator. |
| 9. T Tharmakumar | : | Program Assistant – Logistician. |
| 10. K Niroji | : | Management Assistant – Admin / Technical. |
| 11. G.L.A.I Nayana Kelum | : | Admin & Finance Assistant. |

RAHAMA Vanuniya appreciates the cooperation, assistance and encouragement we received from all the Partners who support our endeavours:

- ★ **The Secretary and the Consultants of Presidential Task Force.**
- ★ **All our Funding Partners and Donors.**
- ★ **Director General of External Resources.**
- ★ **The Staff of the NGO Secretariat.**
- ★ **The Government Agents , Divisional Secretaries , Military Staff of the Project areas.**
- ★ **All other Government Officials who assisted us in our work.**
- ★ **The village Communities and CBO leaders.**
- ★ **All our Partner Organizations.**

Annual Report 2013



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RAHAMA

Recovery and Humanitarian Action Management Agency

