



RAHAMA NEWSLETTER

1ST QUARTER 2024

CONTACT US

PROJECT OFFICE:
NO.60/15,
SINTHAMANY PILLAIYAR KOVIL VIEW,
VAVUNIYA,
SRI LANKA.

PHONE: +94(0) 242222287,
FAX: +94(0) 242220608

CITY OFFICE
NO: 25, CARLWIL PLACE,
COLOMBO-03, SRI LANKA.
PHONE: + 94 (0) 112577332

EMAIL: rahama.vav@rahama.lk
WEBSITE: www.rahama.lk
FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/rahamainfo

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March 2024

Events & Outcomes

Stake holder Consultation - 2024 .

On February 3, 2024, a momentous gathering unfolded at the Oviya Hotel in Vavuniya, bringing together individuals including our Secretary General, Mr. Marikkar, and FORUT Program Director, Mr. Staale Staverum, alongside various officials. This collaborative session united DS office staff from diverse regions, our CSOs, and the RAHAMA team, with a shared focus on revisiting past program implementations, sharing invaluable lessons with stakeholders, and engaging in insightful discussions with government agencies, donor perspectives, and primary stakeholders. The discussions contributed to fostering stronger partnerships.

Highlighting the occasion was a captivating session by the FORUT director, who shed light on the global crisis and delineated the impactful FORUT programs, further reinforcing the importance of continued collaboration.



RAHAMA's Annual Review Workshop Unveils Visionary Plans for 2024-2028.

RAHAMA's Annual Review and Planning Workshop took place on January 12-13, 2024, at the Northway Hotel in Vavuniya. Led by Secretary General Mrs. Regina Ramalingam and the Board of Directors, the workshop reviewed achievements from 2019 to 2023 and strategized for 2024-2028. Mrs. Ramalingam's expertise enriched the discussions, helping to identify gaps and enhance our future impact.



Resettlement & Reconstruction project completion and handing over program .

In March, Mr. Ingvar and 11 members of the FORUT donor team visited VGS project sites in Pachchilaipalli to assess resettlement and reconstruction efforts. They toured completed shelters, toilets, and wells, and participated in a handover ceremony where certificates were awarded to beneficiaries, marking the successful completion of the projects. The team acknowledged the positive impact of these initiatives on the community's well-being and development.



Visit of FORUT International Program Director in February and March

Recent Partnerships Focus on Education and Community Welfare.

In February, the Program Director of FORUT visited Norwegian Adger High School, where students and teachers demonstrated their collaborative efforts with NVQ Level 3 students, highlighting the partnership's educational impact. This visit was followed by a study team from Adger exploring key projects, including the successful completion of a land ownership initiative in Palali North for internally displaced returnees. Building on these engagements, discussions with government partners focused on further strengthening community welfare initiatives. In March, the FORUT donor team visited, reviewing the organization's vision, past achievements, and future plans, along with site visits to Thevipuram Nursery Plant and the Grama Shakthi Society to explore potential collaborative opportunities and impactful projects.



Government implementing partner meeting



Devipuram Visit



The Visit of DATC

Projects Milestones

Increasing Food production in Manthai East: Seed banking

Our support in Manthai East has significantly boosted food production through seed distribution initiatives. At the Regional Secretariat, 110 beneficiaries received seed grains to promote small grain cultivation. Furthermore, in collaboration with the Women's Society of Manthai East, another 80 selected beneficiaries were provided with seeds. These efforts aim to empower the community with sustainable livelihoods, fostering long-term growth and self-sufficiency.



Collaboration Meeting with Vavuniya General Hospital's Mental Health Unit

In February 2024, FORUT Program Director Mr. Staale Staverum and RAHAMA Team Leader met with the Vavuniya General Hospital's Mental Health Unit to discuss future projects and address emerging needs. The conversation focused on the present circumstances, highlighting the necessity for effective strategies to support the community's well-being.



Creating Platform for Education at Mallagam.

The Mallagam Preschool held a significant handing-over ceremony, with FORUT Program Director, Mr. Staale Staverum, participating in the event. This milestone marked the transfer of the preschool's management and operations to the school authority, ensuring its continued success and sustainability within the community.



Capacity building programs

Proposal finalization workshop for Boundary Partners.

On March 20th and 21st, a dynamic and collaborative workshop marked a significant milestone in our journey towards impactful change. Six dedicated Boundary Partners (BPs) combined their expertise and insights to finalize the development project proposal.

The plan focuses on key goals such as enhancing education access and promoting development sustainability.



Empowering CSOs to Combat Human Trafficking (ECCT) in Sri Lanka.

Career Fair in Jaffna: Safe Migration and Job Opportunities

In February 2024, a Career Fair in Jaffna, organized by the North Chief Secretary's office and District Secretary's office in collaboration with World Vision and Sarvodaya, provided impactful awareness programs on human trafficking and safe migration to over 900 attendees. With support from the SAFE Foundation, the event also offered career guidance, job opportunities, education pathways, entrepreneurship development, skills recognition through RPL, and skills passport registration.



New Interventions

RAHAMA & Mental Health unit Joint Interventions.

The Ladies Tailoring Center in Periyakulam, Vavuniya, recently received vital support from the Harmony Center, District Hospital, and the Divisional Secretariat of Vavuniya, in partnership with RAHAMA. On February 1, 2024, the center was furnished with materials and furniture valued at LKR 70,000/-. This collaborative effort marks a significant step towards empowering women and fostering sustainable growth in the community.



Opening ceremony of Thaddayanmalai Grinding Mill.

On February 14, 2024, the opening ceremony of the Thaddayanmalai Grinding Mill took place with the participation of Thaddayanmalai Farmer Organization members, well-wishers, and RAHAMA staff. Attendees celebrated the inaugural operation of the rice and flour grinding machine, expressing their joy and gratitude for RAHAMA's support in establishing this mill. The event marked a significant moment for the community, as the grinding mill will provide valuable services to local farmers and contribute to their economic development.



Projects Milestones

Entrepreneurship in Sustainable Livelihoods.

Our initiative has greatly strengthened women's livelihoods in Oddusuddan, particularly through upgrades to the leather production unit and the provision of essential equipment. The opening of a marketing center has expanded the reach of their products, potentially increasing sales. However, sourcing materials locally could further enhance sustainability and support the local economy. Overall, the initiative has made significant strides in economically empowering women, with room for continued improvement.

