



RAHAMA NEWSLETTER

2ND QUARTER 2024

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Events & Outcomes

RAHAMA Producer group Participated in Northern Province Industrial Trade Market.

On April 9th and 10th, 2024, the Northern Province Industries Department, in collaboration with the Puthukkudiyiruppu Divisional Secretariat, held the Northern Province Industrial Trade Market at the Puthukkudiyiruppu Pradeshiya Sabha Secretariat. This event, guided by Director Vanaja Selvaratnam, aimed to promote local products to a wider audience and was a tremendous success.

Participants such as Mrs. Lucky Rani, representing the Katsilaimadhu Working Women Society, showcased palm-based products, attracting significant attention. The market provided a valuable platform for local entrepreneurs, fostering community spirit and economic growth.



Projects Activities



Food Security and Nutrition improvement initiated by the Vannivilankulam, Sirattikulam Farmer Societies.

A freshwater fish farming project was launched on April 10, 2024, in Manthai East by RAHAMA, in collaboration with Manthai East Divisional Secretary Division, to enhance children's nutrition. 20,000 fish fingerlings were introduced into the ponds via this project.

This project aims to increase local food production and provide a steady income for 30 families involved in freshwater fishing. Our goal is to ensure that children and the entire community have access to nutritious food.

Seed Bank Training for Manthai East Women Society

On April 20, 2024, the Manthai East Women Society (MEWS) participated in a training session focused on seed banks. Led by RAHAMA's Secretary General, this project aims to enhance food production by promoting the use of organic seeds over hybrids, with a focus on retaining quality seeds locally.

As a part of this initiative, we are supporting the sustainable livelihoods of 60 farmers by providing 320 kg of black gram and 285 kg of peanut seeds. This long-term project is set to positively impact the community's agricultural future and strengthen traditional seed banking practices.



Increasing participation of the Resettle people at Eluthumattuval.

On April 18th, 2024, an orientation session was conducted at Eluthumattuval as part of the VGS project. During the session, beneficiaries were introduced to the project's objectives, upcoming programs for the year, and the strategies for successful implementation. This meeting laid the foundation for a collaborative approach, ensuring that all participants are well-informed and actively engaged in achieving the project's goals.



Collaborative Work Plan and MEAL Meeting for Livelihood Assistance.

RAHAMA held a comprehensive work plan discussion and MEAL meeting at the Karachchi DS Office On May 31, 2024, focusing on the work plan for 2024 and arrangements for MSME-supported training for 60 LH business plans. The meeting was attended by 31 participants, including the ADS, 12 Gramasakthi Village Development Officers, Sawpakkiya Village Development Officers, 9 Gramasakthi Members, and the RAHAMA team, which comprised the Team Leader, Assistant Program Manager, Finance Manager, Program Coordinator, and DS Officers. The discussions aimed to ensure effective planning and support for business plan training and overall project implementation.



Need Assessment, Consultation and Planning Session with Government officials.

A need assessment session focused on drug prevention, child development, and improving livelihoods for low-income families was held at the Divisional Secretariat Conference Hall in Mallavi. Representatives from several village officer divisions participated to identify community needs and develop strategies to address these challenges. The session aimed to support the well-being of local communities by fostering collaboration and creating targeted solutions for identified issues.



Capacity Building Programmes



Capacitating the Boundary Partner Working Groups in Alcohol and Drugs Prevention.

RAHAMA conducted a Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop on Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug Prevention on May 15th and 16th, 2024, at RDF Vavuniya. This important two-day event brought together 28 community leaders from seven Divisional Secretariats. The workshop aimed to give participants the skills and knowledge to run prevention programs in their communities. These trained leaders will work with partners and stakeholders to create healthier and safer communities.

Capacity Building Programmes

Selected Youth Trained in National Drug Prevention at Kilinochchi.

RAHAMA conducted a drug prevention program at the District Secretariat Skill Development Centre in Kilinochchi on May 28-29, 2024. Part of the National Drug Prevention Program, the workshop involved 40 youth and featured notable guests. Organized by the Christian Culture Unit and supported by RAHAMA, the session aimed to enhance drug prevention efforts in the community.



District-Level Training on Alcohol and Drug Prevention: Insights and Future Plans.

A district-level training session on alcohol and drug prevention was held at the Kilinochchi G.A. Office Training Hall, with 27 participants (12 males and 15 females). The session focused on prevention strategies and future work plans, aiming to enhance understanding of substance abuse issues and promote collaboration for effective community interventions. Participants left with improved knowledge and actionable plans to address these issues in their communities.



Decentralizing Finance Management and Bookkeeping with our Boundary Partners.

A capacity-building workshop on finance management and bookkeeping was conducted for 25 participants from boundary partner organizations at the Vavuniya conference hall. The workshop covered bookkeeping, policy guidelines, procurement handling, and QuickBooks, aiming to enhance organizational development and operational efficiency. Participants gained valuable skills to improve their financial management capabilities, ultimately strengthening their organizations' operational results.



Annual General Meeting and Midterm Review (2023 & 2024).

From June 6th to 8th, the Annual General Meeting and Midterm Review took place at the Community Education Centre in Thalahena, Malabe. Key highlights included the appointment of a new Chairperson and the unveiling of a new logo. The meeting reviewed 2024 progress, addressed challenges, and confirmed that the organization was on track with its goals. Additionally, duty bearer roles were clarified, and risk management strategies were assessed for the remainder of the year.



Empowering CSOs to Combat Human Trafficking in Sri Lanka

Mid-Year Review with CSO Partners of ECCT Project.

The Mid-Year review of ECCT (Empowering CSOs to Combat Human Trafficking) with CSO partners took place on May 15, 2024, in Vavuniya. The event saw the participation of 38 representatives from 19 CSOs, along with the RAHAMA team. Facilitated by the SAFE Foundation, the review covered the annual achievements and challenges of 2023 and outlined the way forward for 2024. Key discussions centered on program implementation and organizational development.



Capacitating Government Officials in Illegal Migration Case Management Skills.

The ECCT (Empowering CSOs to Combat Human Trafficking) Project Team conducted Case Management training at the Agrarian Training Center in Vavuniya to enhance the skills of district-level government officers. On May 22, 2024, 21 representatives from departments such as Foreign Employment, Social Services, Education, Health, and Child Rights participated in the session, which focused on sharing experiences, discussing system challenges, and identifying strengths and weaknesses. This training aimed to improve case management practices in addressing Human Trafficking.



Enhancing Proposal Writing Skills for Civil Society Organizations in Vavuniya and Mullaitivu.

The ECCT (Empowering CSOs to Combat Human Trafficking) Project team conducted two workshops on Basic Proposal Writing Skills to enhance the capabilities of civil society organizations (CSOs). On May 22, 2024, a session was held at the RDF Training Center in Kurumankadu, Vavuniya, led by Mr. Velayuthapillai Kandeepan, with 19 participants (7 men and 12 women). The workshop offered essential training through practical exercises. The next day, May 23, 2024, a similar workshop took place at the SLRC Hall in Mullaitivu, also facilitated by Mr. Kandeepan, with 19 participants. Both workshops provided foundational knowledge and practical skills, preparing attendees to develop stronger and more effective project proposals.



Workshop in Vavuniya

Workshop in Mullaitivu

