



RAHAMA

(Recovery and Humanitarian Action
Management Agency)



Beneficiary of Pachchilaipalli resettlement project received a handing over certificate for safe shelter

Annual Report 2025



Strengthening **Community Mechanism** and **Local Ownership**

By compiling annual report 2025, the Information Unit of RAHAMA learns that our efforts focused on documenting and sharing the impact of multi-sectoral interventions spanning livelihood development, child rights protection, gender equality, alcohol and drug prevention, mental health support, and emergency response initiatives are timely interventions and address the real issues of the community of Northern Province with fullest support of FORUT.

-Information Unit-RAHAMA

Who Are We

Vision

RAHAMA’s vision is a nation in peaceful coexistence with social justice, with poverty overcome, where all citizens are free to achieve their fullest potential and participate in civic life with dignity and security in a drug and alcohol-free society

Mission

RAHAMA’s mission is to improve respect for the rights of the population by improving livelihood assets of all deprived households through rights-based models by creating durable change through skills, education and advocacy

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Message from the Secretary General of RAHAMA

2025 presented a mixed experience for RAHAMA, reflecting both meaningful achievements and significant challenges. While the organization continued to strengthen its community-based development work across project locations, the year was also marked by environmental pressures, climate-related disruptions, and broader socio-economic constraints affecting vulnerable communities in Sri Lanka.



Despite these challenges, RAHAMA remained committed to its mission of supporting marginalized and conflict-affected communities through participatory and community-centered development approaches. Throughout the year, the organization continued to implement the strategic priorities outlined in the RAHAMA 2024–2028 Program Framework, focusing on sustainable livelihoods, community resilience, social inclusion, and institutional strengthening.

One of the notable achievements in 2025 was the continued strengthening of community livelihood initiatives. Several village-based producer groups, community action teams, and women-led economic groups were supported to improve local economic opportunities. Programs promoting climate-resilient agriculture, home gardening, small livestock development, and micro-enterprise initiatives enabled vulnerable families to diversify their income sources and improve household resilience. Particular attention was given to women-headed households, youth, and vulnerable farming families. However, the year also brought severe environmental challenges. Several communities in the Northern and Eastern project areas experienced significant damages due to the Ditwah Cyclone, which caused heavy rains, flooding, destruction of crops, damage to housing structures, and disruption of local livelihoods.

RAHAMA also continued to promote participatory governance and community leadership. Through regular engagement with Community Action Teams (CATs), boundary partners, and local stakeholders, the organization supported village-level planning processes that allowed communities to identify their priorities and collectively address development challenges. These processes also strengthened coordination with government line agencies and local authorities, ensuring better alignment with divisional and district development efforts.

The progress achieved during 2025 would not have been possible without the dedication of RAHAMA's staff, the resilience of the communities we serve, and the continued cooperation of government authorities, development partners, and donors. As we look ahead, RAHAMA remains committed to strengthening community resilience, promoting sustainable livelihoods, and enhancing participatory development practices. The lessons learned during 2025, particularly in responding to climate-related disasters, will guide our future strategies and interventions.

In conclusion, I extend my sincere appreciation to all staff members, community partners, government authorities, and development partners who have contributed to RAHAMA's work during the year. Together, we will continue working towards building resilient, empowered and sustainable communities.

Eng. F.M. Marikkar
Secretary General- RAHAMA

Message from the International Programme Coordinator, FORUT

RAHAMA has demonstrated strong and solid performance during an especially demanding year shaped by economic insecurity, rapid change, and climate-related emergencies. You show impressive results in improving the lives of people in your project areas – by strengthening and increasing access to livelihoods, securing people’s right to a safe home environment, and advancing the rights of women and children.



Notably, the programme achieved significant progress in women’s participation and leadership. Women are increasingly active as producers, advocates, and community leaders, while youth have benefitted from vocational pathways and skills development.

The year 2025 ended dramatically, with Cyclone Ditwah affecting the entire country and, as in most emergencies, impacting vulnerable populations the hardest. As a humanitarian agency, RAHAMA managed to rapidly support affected children and families while still contributing to project indicators. At this stage of the project cycle, RAHAMA is successfully implementing its project plans, strengthening capacity, and increasing cooperation with organizations and local and regional authorities to secure the sustainability of the projects.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude for the strong cooperation and partnership throughout 2025, and we look forward to the continuation of this long-standing partnership – always learning from each other.

Ane Tosterud Holte
International Programme Coordinator-FORUT

Message from the Chairperson, RAHAMA

It is with a deep sense of responsibility and reflection that I present this message for the RAHAMA Annual Report 2025. The past year has been one of both meaningful achievement and important learning for our organization. RAHAMA continued to demonstrate its commitment to serving communities with integrity, compassion, and resilience. Across our thematic areas—including livelihoods, community resilience, gender, mental health, climate adaptation, and civil society strengthening—we have made steady progress in reaching vulnerable populations and supporting long-term development outcomes. These achievements are a testament to the dedication of our staff, partners, and the communities themselves, who remain at the centre of our work.



At the same time, as a learning organization, we recognize that progress is not measured only by outputs, but by how effectively we plan, adapt, and deliver sustainable results. The internal assessments and external evaluations conducted during the year have provided valuable insights. A key learning emerging from these processes is the need for RAHAMA to be more proactive and disciplined in results-based planning, ensuring that our targets are realistic, clearly defined, and consistently tracked. We acknowledge that in several instances, delays in implementation and challenges in managing timelines have affected our ability to fully achieve planned targets. These challenges were influenced by both internal capacity gaps and external factors, including resource constraints and operational complexities in the field. While such difficulties are not uncommon in development work, they underline the importance of strengthening our systems for planning, monitoring, and accountability.

Chitra Vithanage
Chairperson-RAHAMA

Few Words from RAHAMA Management Team

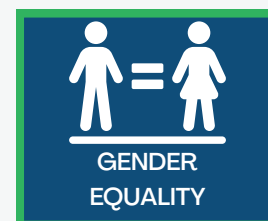
In 2025, RAHAMA reached a milestone of a long term strategy for rights-based development programmes towards transforming over 2,500 families despite facing significant challenges including the ongoing economic crisis causing communities to fall back into poverty, price inflation and supply shortages delaying construction projects, Ditwah Cyclone impacts and flood requiring emergency response across multiple divisions. It evidences the increase in irregular school attendance linked to economic hardship, rising child labor in coastal areas, increased exposure to drugs and tobacco among children, limited government funding for public services, inadequate transportation infrastructure, shortage of skilled trainers and facilitators, weak child protection systems, mental health stigma and lack of access to services, and climate-driven vulnerabilities requiring enhanced community resilience planning. Through strategic partnerships with, FORUT, Hetland High School, Sandefjord VGS, and boundary partners including, Women Rural Development Societies, farmer organizations, law enforcement agencies, health institutions, district and divisional secretariats, and vocational training institutes. Furthermore, RAHAMA's integrated, multi-sectoral interventions across core thematic areas have extended beyond their working areas.

Executive Summary

This year, we continued our 5 thematic approaches to FORUT-funded 5-year project as second year while implementing resettlement and emergency recovery interventions in collaboration with 8 Divisional Secretariats in all five districts in the North, reaching out 689 women, men, children and youth for Alcohol, Drugs and Development, 1 176 girls, boys, parents, teachers and duty bearers under Child Rights, 202 women and groups, CBOs, duty bearers and CSO leaders under Gender Equality, 22 local community groups, CSO leaders, schools and institutions under Mental Health and 792 women, men, youth and CBOs under Livelihood Development at output level.

At outcome level, it ensured organizing right holder groups, mobilization of women, youth and mixed groups to reduce alcohol and drug related harm, enrolment support for school children, actions to promote gender equality and protect child rights, access to food scheme for men and women and income generation, CSO activism for action against gender based violence and protection of vulnerable groups. To meet the expenses, RAHAMA incurred LKR 74,861,719.76 in 2025 including programme and administration costs and deviation to meet emergency relief for Cyclone Ditwah and 29 safe shelters for internally displaced families and landless and access to WASH facilities in the war-torn locations in Kilinochchi and Jaffna have been established in the year 2025.

Thematic Areas



Key Highlights of 2025

Throughout the year, we, as cooperating partner of FORUT, implemented series of activities to directly reach our target groups and individuals to reap results at outcome level through multiple programme approaches and projects across the province.

689 MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN, YOUTH	trained in the harms of alcohol and effective countermeasures
553 CHILDREN	received support to get enroled in schools, including assistance to register birth to get enroled in school
276 MOTHERS, FATHERS, CAREGIVERS	trained in child rights
258 BOYS & GIRLS	at school trained in child rights: child participation and protection pathways
46 GBV CASES	were referred to support services by local groups
142 MEN & WOMEN	had access to food schemes
212 FARMERS (MALE & FEMALE)	have increased their food production by 5% to 20%
45 FISHERS (MALE & FEMALE)	have increased their food production above 20%
176 FARMERS & FISHERS	have sold surplus from their production from at least 5% to 20%
226 MEN & WOMEN	started an income generating activity
201 MEN & WOMEN	have increased their surplus from 5% to 20%
214 MEN & WOMEN	have saved money
324 RIGHTHOLDERS	organized into groups for collective action against alcohol and drug related harm
28 GROUPS (WOMEN, CHILDREN, YOUTH)	mobilized to reduce alcohol and drug related harm
112 MEN & WOMEN	trained in value addition/marketing strategies to improve their income
158 MEN & WOMEN	facilitated to access loans/microcredits/saving
244 YOUTH (MALE & FEMALE)	received vocational training by partners/facilitated to get vocational training
29 SAFE SHELTERS	for IDP families and landless received safe shelter in Pachchilaipalli and Palaly-North
01 EARLY-CHILDHOOD DEV. CENTRE	in Kurumbasiddy to support early-childhood of over 23 children of resettled families

Project Summary

This year, RAHAMA directly reached more than 1,500 individuals and families. One of the most significant observations is that the increase in female participation is more than the youth involved in gaining and giving knowledge on rights, alcohol harms, and the awareness against social norms that hold back female participation in and influencing decision-making. Women are evolving as producer groups, activist against substance use, promoting rights as women's wing, while youth take part in vocational development

In general, this reporting year was more conducive to deliver the project tasks, compared with previous years, with the changes in government and ongoing institutionalization at the sub-national level with new hope among the masses who once experienced the tragic armed conflict. The 5-pillar approach complimented the project goal and to reach the target at varying but interconnected levels of awareness raising and giving knowledge, right-based approaches, CSO empowerment, gender equality, etc., while ensuring stakeholder collaboration from the head of the province to divisional level bureaucrats and duty bearers in Northern Sri Lanka. We could reconnect and enlarge its coverage from preschools and schools to the Provincial Governor's Secretariat.

Our efforts have reached 1,056 children, 276 parents and caregivers, 378 youth (including women leaders), 297 farmers and producers, 7 grassroot CBOs and 8 secondary level schools in collaboration with 7 Divisional Secretariats in 3 Districts. Over 120 Capacity-building interventions by partners and RAHAMA strengthened existing 14 resource teams (7 ADD and 7 CR), 8 child clubs, 7 women's forums, and service providers, resulting in improved awareness, coordination, and community-level ownership. Creative and participatory approaches—such as 14 child-led campaigns and newsletters, 7 street dramas for ADD enhanced outreach and delivering knowledge dissemination under thematic areas.

Our partners facilitated 6 risk mappings at schools and within villages by children and the reports submitted to the counterparts for action to protect child rights and make access to services such as Water Sanitation and Hygiene facilities at schools. We expanded outreach and community engagement to raise voice including 7 awareness raising campaigns at 7 different project locations, 6 street dramas in Vavuniya at schools and Divisional Secretariats for Alcohol Drugs Prevention and Development against the harm and the inevitable cost in child development, family and social fabric.

Following Cyclone Ditwah, the post-disaster response, in addition, enabled enrolment for 484 school children in December as the initial stage of flood recovery while 29 safe shelters in Pachchilaipalli, Eluthumadduval and Palaly-North were completed under resettlement approaches and handed over to beneficiaries.

17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



Livelihood Development



By stocking inland tanks with fish fingerlings and distribution of seeds following the restoration and expansion of the main irrigation canal, at least 35 kilograms of fish were caught per day for 70 families, at the rate of half a kilogram of fish per family, more than 3,000 kilograms of fish have been caught to meet food needs of Siratikkulam villagers till end of 2025.

-Siratikkulam Farmers' Organization



The palmyrah producer group in Oddusuddan received a machine (1 pulp extractor) from Palmyrah Development Board, Oddusuddan on August 26th, which enhanced the member women producers and production in to 2 fold, utilizing the unused resources. The women producer group has taken an order to supply 1000 litres of pulp

-Luckyrany, Working Women Society-Oddusuddan

31 youth received diploma certificates equalent to NVQ level-4 from Department of Rural Development, Northern Province - increasing employability of the youth: These youth have secured jobs in garment industries, casual teaching at schools and self-employed.

FOOD SECURITY

Our boundary partner in Thunukkai in Mullaitivu identified 45 families from 5 different villages and established home gardening by giving seeds, pots and tools. The families have engaged in self sustenance, ensuring food security for the households in the villages.

Alcohol, Drugs and Development (ADD)

RESILIENT SOCIETY

Alcohol and Drugs harm and destroy every aspect of our society. Educating target groups directly and indirectly by disseminating knowledge on the alcohol and drug harm was our approach to engage men, women and children in the fight against substance use, we aim to bring about a society that goes away from the harm in the long run by reducing alcohol consumption in the community and making the next generation that goes away from alcohol and drugs.



OUR REACH FOR ADD

Through series of trainings, facilitation, community engagement and advocacy actions, we reached:

231 children

134 youth

201 men

7 CBOs

123 women

2 advocacy actions

324 rightholders

28 mobilized groups



Mobilizing diverse groups for collective action against alcohol-drug-and related-harm within 35 villages in the North was successful. Our comprehensive prevention initiatives for ADD, in 2025, relied on gaining and giving knowledge and establishing 28 local groups to reduce harm from alcohol and drugs through 280 engagement actions by field resource team, media/information campaigns, advocacy actions, and extending training for women, men and youth to promote healthy behaviors and reduce substance-related risks at individual, family, school and community levels.

On 26th August 2025, a comprehensive field assessment was conducted in Therankandal village by the Thunukkai Divisional Secretariat to identify issues including alcohol harm. The assessment involved 63 duty bearers, including Assistant Divisional Secretary, 5 RAHAMA staff, 7 boundary partner members.

In 2025, RAHAMA collaborated with Healthy Lanka, one of FORUT's cooperating partners in Sri Lanka to train ADD resource team and support to partner capacity building and developing IEC materials.



Child Rights & Protection

- Child rights resource teams comprising 36 at divisional level were established and completed 280 engagement actions within villages for raising awareness on child rights
- 6 school- and village-level risk mapping to identify child protection gaps and priority needs facilitated by partners enabling targeted actions to address vulnerabilities
- 8 school WASH facilities were improved, and hygiene practices were taught through 10 WASH awareness sessions, contributing to safer and child-friendly learning environments
- 276 parents, caregivers, 3 school management committees (63 members), 36 preschool teachers, and 258 child leaders to promote child-friendly and rights-based environments capacitated.

Getting 42 dropouts back into school

Identified 42 school dropouts and facilitated their return to school

1 Child Rights Guideline

Developed a child rights guideline in collaboration with CRPO/NCPA to raise awareness among children

12 Training and programmes

Knowledge-sharing sessions on 'Child Rights Concept' and Rural Child Development Group to train trainers at local level

32 Child leaders

Improving the knowledge of child leaders through training on child rights and advocacy

6 Risk mapping

Identifying the needs and problems of children, working with school Child Cooperatives

8 schools with Child-friendly environment

Training parents and guardians on the concept of child rights to promote a child-friendly environment at home and beyond

8 schools celebrated International Days

International Children's Day, Environmental Day and Play Day to respect children for awareness raising



School children engage in advocacy

This year, the International Day for Children permitted RAHAMA and partners to collectively advocate for rights, making parents aware of child rights, making voices of children heard and connecting the duty bearers and decision makers to ensure services and making right decisions



With the head of the province, children openly shared the challenges they face in schools and villages, such as increasing drug and alcohol use, school dropouts, lack of interest in studies, transport difficulties, attending school without food, and the impact of weekend classes on their well-being. The Governor encouraged the students to stay stronger against drugs and alcohol and focus on education.

Gender Equality

Collective action against Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)

Gender empowerment should not be traditional intervention despite increasing concern over their role not only in time of crisis but always where the household's vulnerability increases repeatedly by traditional norms, anti-social elements, etc.

110 women leaders have received training on leadership and self-development planning. 38 duty bearers trained on gender-sensitive service delivery. 7 CBOs were established to promote gender justice. However, a major gap in training women to be elected to local government bodies reaped no result during 2025 that should be filled in 2026. Actions addressing patriarchal gender norms were fully achieved through 7 participatory approaches on Women's Day, and 46 GBV cases were referred. However, women mobilised for collective action to prevent GBV remained very low as it was reported in half year report. Actions to promote women's rights conducted by partners reached 7.



SGBV remains a widespread issue with catastrophic impact for rural women, people with disabilities and diverse gender identities, families, and communities. Women for gender equality is Men's duty

2 Women Forum capacity-building sessions on GBV referral mechanisms in collaboration with Women Development Officers (WDOs) in Kilinochchi enabled 110 women leaders gain knowledge

2 men engagements training in Karachchi and Oddusuddan to promote positive gender norms, shared responsibility, and GBV prevention, reaching 71 men



Women's Day event in March at Manthai-East Divisional Secretariat enabled 114 women from 7 project areas, including resource team, producer groups, CBO leaders, and highlighting government collaboration in Mullaitivu and sustainable development with contribution of donor visit by FORUT.

Gender economic empowerment is a key component of our long term strategy to sustain independence of rural women

Female producer group of the Working Women Society in Oddusuddan, Mullaitivu actively engage in production activities at the a fiber production unit, highlighting their involvement in fiber processing and production as part of their livelihood development.



Land Right for IDPs & Landless

Transforming families in the war-torn north through Resettlement

Giving access to safe shelter, water and sanitation and ensuring land rights



Safe Shelter
29



Open-dug well
4



Permanent Toilets
23



Home Gardening
20



Over 29 families directly benefitted within Pachchilaippalli, and Palaly Divisional Secretariat including Eluthumadduval village in Jaffna

Facilitation of releasing land, relocation, access to safe shelter, water, sanitation, reaching vulnerable groups in collaboration with divisional administration



Giving access to safe shelter approach serves a prerequisite to get state support for permanent housing and grant access to land released by the state

This approach facilitates WASH assistance to the vulnerable and families in need, giving integrity for those who live landless and as IDPs. It fills the gap in resettlement by authorities



Emergency Responses

Immediately, in the aftermath of the flood and cyclone, RAHAMA decided to utilize the budget for December from the ongoing project supported by FORUT as the first phase of disaster recovery 11 divisional areas in the North and 1 in the East. Following the immediate response, FORUT extended its funding to meet the requirement of flood recovery in Northern Sri Lanka.

We responded to the request made by the authorities, including hospitals, schools and local administrative units such as divisional secretariats, etc.



CYCLONE DITWAH AND FLOOD RECOVERY (TILL DECEMBER)

- Food need Assistance**
139 Families
- Nutrition Support**
221 Lactating Mothers
- Shelter Erection**
10 Temporary Shelters
- Clean-up Services**
54 sets of Cleaning Materials
- Baby Protection Kits**
7 Babies
- Access to Education**
525 School Children
- Emergency Medical Support**
1 Divisional Hospital

Previously, severe flooding in 2024 significantly disrupted the lives of families in the villages namely, Sirattikulam, Therankandal, Oddusuddan, Aninjiyankulam, and Thadduvankoddi in both Kilinochci and Mullaitivu districts

We extended shelter support for 54 homes through tarpaulin sheets and temporary shelter, while ensuring children's education continued by distributing school kits, stationery, and learning materials to 391 children across the 2 districts. Rural roads were restored through repairs, renovation of irrigation channels in 2 villages, and reinstallation of safe drinking water facilities in 2 schools and 5 preschools. To promote long-term resilience and livelihood recovery, we provided home gardening provisions to 54 families, NVQ Level 4 tailoring support with materials for 21 students, and renovated a Palmyra production unit to resume operations. Additionally, we contributed to environmental sustainability by providing plastic waste collection boxes to 2 Divisional Secretariats, ensuring a holistic approach to disaster recovery and community rebuilding.



Monitoring, Evaluation, Adaptation & Learning

Jointly working with boundary partners in the North and cooperating with FORUT, Norway is RAHAMA approach which is equipped with regular MEAL process. We conducted monthly MEAL meetings with partners and quarterly progress review in addition. RAHAMA also facilitated annual review of FORUT in February 2026 for the implementation ended in December 2025 for the ongoing project.

Regular monthly MEAL meetings with Boundary Partners

We sat with partners to review the status to a strategizing and bonding to strengthen professional relationships by fostering personal connection through experience. This review atmosphere is always sound to learn and adopt mechanism

Annual Review by FORUT's International Coordinator

This year, a 4-day review took us to review progress as donor site visits, In-person meetings between RAHAMA and FORUT coordinator and with partner organizations, stakeholders and target groups at multiple locations across the province paved ways to capture stories and learning for the rest of the project



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Resettlement under Hetland Project

Under the Hetland contribution, we add more on the efforts of support to schools helping the children and displaced families to make sure the durable solutions and safe shelter for families with land rights, right to education leading to more permanent solution. The efforts have seen that the families are now improving their livelihood within the support of government and their own fundraising.

Kalaimahal Preschool, an Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centre

In Kurumbacity, Jaffna, was supported to enhance its learning environment for 23 children. In addition to upgrading the educational facilities, the project also strengthened community capacity by providing training on Gender and Age, Disability, and Diversity (ADD), ensuring a more inclusive and child-friendly learning atmosphere.

Access to Land rights and shelter and WASH in Eluthumadduval

In Eluthumadduval, Chavakachcheri Division, 07 displaced landless families were supported to resettle in permanent houses with access to decent water and sanitation facilities. The project was implemented as a 50-50 partnership initiative with Ponnammah Helping Hand (PHH), which donated the land and contributed half of the construction cost.

The project was originally planned for completion in 2024 extended into 2025 due to delays in constructing four houses caused by the partner's inability to release their matching funds on time. By the end of 2025, significant progress had been made, including the completion of 7 permanent houses, 7 toilets, and 2 tube wells, ensuring improved living conditions for the resettled families.



Divisional level Impacts

Poonakary Division

RAHAMA with KPMK (Kalvi Panpaattu Malarchi Koodam) Boundary Partner implemented a comprehensive multi-sectorial development program in Poonakary division, Kilinochchi District, reaching over 2,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries across 5 GN divisions. The interventions covered six key thematic areas, including International Children's Day celebrations for 613 students, school cooperative development in 3 schools, washroom renovation benefiting 478 students and community awareness programs reaching 250 families; alcohol and drug prevention (with trained resource teams conducting awareness sessions for 442 community members across all quarters); gender equality (training 44 women on basic rights concepts, conducting men engagement sessions with 36 participants and strengthening GBV referral mechanisms); livelihood and income generation (providing capacity building for 20 goat rearing farmers, business registration support for 22 members, NVQ vocational training awareness for 75 youth and climate-smart agriculture training for 30 farmers); flood recovery (distributing nutrition support packs to 30 lactating mothers, stationery kits to 120 disaster-affected children and dry ration packs to 30 families); mental health and wellbeing (conducting sessions for 48 participants); and civil society capacity building (organizational development support and baseline surveys).

Karachchi Division

In Karachchi division, Kilinochchi District, we reached over 800 direct and indirect beneficiaries across 12 GN divisions through GS (Grama Sakthi) boundary partner members. The organization's interventions focused on six key thematic areas: livelihood and food security (conducting service providers' orientation programs for 37 families, supporting 7- day advanced Aari work training for 20 youth, providing livelihood assessment and progress reviews for 48 members, business registration facilitation for 30 farmers, NVQ vocational training awareness for 95 youth, household cash management training for 25 SME members and climate-smart agriculture sessions); child rights and protection (organizing International Children's Day celebrations for 30 students, divisional-level leader capacity building for 42 children, community awareness programs reaching 79 participants, risk mapping with 92 children, learning materials support for 10 students with irregular attendance and WASH and menstrual hygiene training for 5 resource team members); alcohol and drug prevention (village-level awareness programs reaching 90 community members, capacity building for resource teams, poster campaigns across 6 villages, and social media awareness training for 3 representatives); gender equality (Women's Day celebration with 15 participants, GBV referral mechanism orientation for 37 women leaders, men engagement training for 34 men across 5 villages, breast cancer awareness leaflet distribution in 5 villages, women wing leadership training for 5 leaders and self-development sessions for 40 women leaders); mental health and wellbeing (capacity building on the "Good Helper" concept for 3 CSO representatives); and flood recovery (distributing stationery kits to 80 disaster-affected children across the division).

Oddusuddan Division

In Oddusuddan division, Mullaitivu District, across 5 GN divisions, we achieved the partnership with WWS (Working Women Society) focused on seven key thematic areas: livelihood and income generation (conducting climate-smart agriculture awareness sessions for 34 farmers, assessment and progress reviews for 40 members, business registration facilitation for 31 farmers, value addition and marketing training for 29 Palmyra producers, household cash management training for 34 families, NVQ vocational training awareness and cloth materials support for 31 youth, government service providers' orientation for 28 participants, Saubhakya production center business plan development and flood recovery initiatives including renovation of a Palmyra production unit benefiting 30 producers and construction of 2 temporary shelters); child rights and protection (organizing Children's Day celebrations for 165 students, divisional child-related case management and duty bearer mapping sessions with 30 participants, school and village-level resource and risk mapping involving 51 children).

Vavuniya-North Division

In 2025, RAHAMA worked across 5 GN divisions, conducting assessment and progress reviews for 38 livelihood beneficiaries, capacity building for 20 goat farmers on improved feeding and disease prevention, business development training for 33 livelihood members, household cash management training for 22 farmers' family members, climate-smart action sessions for 3 WSEEDS representatives on sustainable practices and climate-resilient strategies and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) program with NVQ certification for 9 participants); child rights and protection (conducting 35 community awareness programs reaching 505 participants across all quarters, International Children's Day celebrations with 70 village-level child club members, training for 16 divisional-level child leaders on child rights concepts, capacity building for 35 child leaders strengthening advocacy on child protection and participation, village-level resource and risk mapping involving 39 children, two-day capacity building for 4 divisional child rights resource team members on child rights, WASH and menstrual hygiene, identification and reintegration support for 10 school irregular attendance children into formal education, child consultation programs with 3 children. RAHAMA's commitment to integrated community development combining immediate humanitarian response with long-term capacity building, economic empowerment, mental health support and social protection systems strengthening in Vavuniya North division, with particular emphasis on participatory approaches multi-stakeholder collaboration, and building sustainable community resilience through partnership with local civil society organizations, especially the Women Social Economic and Educational Development Society (WSEEDS).

Vavuniya-South Division

In 2025, we reached over 900 direct and indirect beneficiaries across 5 GN divisions while focused on 6 key thematic areas: livelihood and income generation, conducting assessment and progress reviews for 37 members, climate-smart action sessions for 3 Women Social Economic and Educational Development Society (WSEEDS) South representatives on sustainable practices and climate-resilient strategies, capacity building for 14 youths and community members on NVQ opportunities, and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) program with NVQ certification for 9 participants who demonstrated required competencies); child rights and protection (conducting 20 community awareness programs reaching 274 participants across all quarters, child rights concept training and capacity building for 12 CSO focal points, village-level resource and risk mapping in Namalgama involving 30 participants, school cooperative assessment at Va/Attamagaskada Vidyalayam benefiting 220 students, and child rights module development in collaboration with CRPO and NCPA involving 2 participants); alcohol and drug prevention (conducting 25 village-level awareness programs and field visits reaching 305 participants, capacity building for 5 resource teams, poster campaigns with 7 partner representatives, ADD consultation sessions with 40 government officials at divisional level, awareness sessions for 37 parents on impacts of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco on health, lifestyle and family happiness, and awareness sessions for 46 children at Attamagaskada school on negative impacts of substance abuse on health, economics, family happiness, and child safeguarding); gender equality (Women's Day celebration with 9 participants, and self-development planning and field reflection training for 36 women wing members); and civil society capacity building (CSO partners progress review and planning sessions with 3 participants, and planning and consultation meetings with 26 government stakeholders and boundary partners). This integrated programming approach demonstrates RAHAMA's commitment to holistic community development through partnership with local civil society organizations, especially the WSEEDS South, while maintaining strong coordination with government duty bearers to ensure comprehensive service delivery and long-term sustainability of development outcomes.



Manthai-East Division

In Manthai East division, we worked with the partner of Women Society with across 6 GN divisions. RAHAMA interventions focused on key thematic areas: livelihood and income generation (conducting climate-smart agriculture sessions, assessment and progress reviews for 38 members, business plan development training for 25 participants, exposure visit to Trincomalee Seed Production Unit for 50 seed producers, NVQ4 tailoring materials support for 14 youth, flood recovery support providing agricultural inputs to 24 families in Sirattikulam, and fuel support for Sirattikulam road restoration of damaged by heavy rain benefiting 63 families); child rights and protection (conducting 39 community awareness programs reaching 519 participants across all quarters, Children's Day programs at schools, divisional child-related case management and duty bearer mapping sessions with 30 participants, school and village-level resource and risk mapping at Palinagar Maha Vidyalaya, involving 38 participants, two-day capacity building for 5 divisional child rights resource team members on child rights, WASH, and menstrual hygiene, child consultation programs with 3 children, school cooperative progress assessments at 2 schools with restoration of water filter at Palinagar Maha Vidyalaya benefiting 391 school children, and child rights module development in collaboration with CRPO and NCPA involving 2 participants); alcohol and drug prevention social media awareness training for 2 representatives, poster campaign activities with 7 resource team members using 35 posters, results review and field experience sharing sessions with 6 representatives and capacity building for 18 parents and 43 child leaders at Palinagar Maha Vidyalaya); gender equality (Women's Day celebration with 10 participants, self-development planning and field reflection sessions for 44 women leaders, two-day capacity building on gender sensitization and leadership for 5 women wing leaders from boundary partner organizations); mental health and wellbeing (capacity building on the "Good Helper" concept for 4 CSO representatives); and civil society capacity building (boundary partners progress review and planning sessions with 6 participants, planning and consultation meetings with 52 government stakeholders and boundary partners, organizational development training for 8 representatives and climate-smart action sessions for 2 women society representatives).

Thunukkai Division

We worked across 5 GN divisions for the organization's interventions focused on key thematic areas: NVQ course awareness sessions for 53 participants including preschool teachers, government service providers' orientation for 46 members, flood recovery support providing agricultural inputs to 60 families across Therankandal and Aninchiyankulam, cloth material support for 21 NVQ students, restoration of the 1100-meter Sokkan Irrigation Canal at Aninchiyankulam benefiting 50 families and ensuring water supply to 11 acres of paddy fields, restoration of the 900-meter Karambai Tank Canal enhancing paddy cultivation across 28 acres for 35 families, printing of 1000 family cards for Thunukkai Divisional Secretariat, climate-smart action sessions for 2 Olirum Vaalvu representatives, and provision of plastic waste collection boxes to promote environmental cleanliness); child rights and protection (conducting 24 community awareness programs reaching 535 participants across all quarters, leadership training for 30 children's club leaders, village-level resource and risk mapping in Aninchiyankulam involving 24 children, two-day capacity building for 5 divisional child rights resource team members on child rights, WASH, and menstrual hygiene, school WASH initiative providing filter water facilities to 5 preschools benefiting 123 preschool children, stationery support for 10 students with irregular attendance, capacity building for 32 child club leaders on negative impacts of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco, capacity building for 76 VCDC members and stakeholders on addressing child-related issues, child consultation programs with 3 children, Children's Day discussion with Northern Province Governor.



Pachchilaipalli Division

In 2025, RAHAMA implemented comprehensive resettlement and restoration projects across multiple locations in Northern Sri Lanka, directly benefiting 116 individuals from war-affected internally displaced families through integrated interventions focused on shelter, sanitation, water access, livelihoods and early childhood development. The Sandefjord (VGS) Resettlement Project successfully constructed 20 transitional shelters, established 20 toilet facilities, built 4 open dug wells and provided home gardening inputs with technical guidance to 24 families (71 direct beneficiaries), achieving 100% elimination of open defecation, reliable access to clean water, improved household nutrition and income generation and enhanced dignity, protection, and psychosocial wellbeing. The Eluthumattuvaal Project, implemented in partnership with PHH, completed 8 out of 11 semi-permanent shelters (with remaining 3 at 65% completion), installed 7 household toilets (with 4 at 50% completion) and facilitated access to safe drinking water through 9 tube wells, significantly improving living conditions, safety, sanitation and hygiene for resettled families, with project completion expected by end of March 2026. The Early Childhood Development (ECD) Learning Centre Project in Kurumbasiddy East, Valikamam North, Jaffna District, successfully constructed and operationalized a permanent, safe and child-friendly preschool building (40'x20') benefiting 23+ preschool children aged 3-5 years, provided capacity building for 55 parents and committee members, supported 75 vulnerable community members through food-for-work activities, and conducted training for 55 parents and community members on alcohol, drugs, tobacco prevention (ADAT) and gender development, despite facing significant challenges including Ditwah Cyclone impacts, material price inflation and economic instability.

Vali-North Division

The Palaly North Resettlement Project constructed 5 transitional shelters, established 3 toilet facilities interconnected with available water facilities, provided perennial plants (coconut and mango) to 5 families (16 individuals including 1 women-headed household) and conducted community mobilization and awareness programs on gender development, protection and substance abuse prevention, with all beneficiary families receiving land rights from the government. Collectively, these integrated resettlement interventions restored dignity, improved wellbeing, strengthened self-reliance and contributed to durable resettlement with reduced dependency on humanitarian assistance, enabling war-affected families to rebuild their lives with confidence through provision of safe housing, improved sanitation and hygiene, access to clean water, enhanced food security and income generation, quality early childhood education and strengthened community governance, ownership and sustainability systems, demonstrating RAHAMA's commitment to holistic, community-driven development that empowers vulnerable households with assets, skills and resources necessary for long-term self-reliance and sustainable community development in post-conflict Northern Sri Lanka.

"Already 2 Pre-schools have been built in this division in good quality in collaboration including community and government department. RAHAMA is committed to transparency and quality assurance in project implementation. I know how the tube well project was carried out despite many difficulties. Currently 46 families have been resettled because of RAHAMA initiation. Further, I know (the procedure) how RAHAMA initiate and implement the projects from year 2023"

-Deputy Director of Planning, Vali-North

Stakeholder Collaboration and Coordination

Continuous Partnership and consistent Collaboration has turned RAHAMA effort in the field to choose the population in need and coordinate effort without repetition and timely intervention towards developmental effort acceptable from lower level administration to provincial oversight committees and reviews.

We;

- submit annual work plan with budget estimate and tentative activities to the National secretariat for the NGOs
- quarterly submit progress reports to relevant district secretariats once it is recommended by the divisional Secretariat
- coordinate with NGO Coordinator at district secretariat
- invite divisional, district secretaries and head of the province to the project areas
- attend meetings at district and governor secretariat
- collaborate with 7 divisions, 4 district secretariats, 8 schools, 1 Regional Director's Office for Health Services, Provincial Cooperative Commission, National Apprentice and Industrial Training Authority (NAITA) at districts, etc.



FORUT Annual Visit to RAHAMA and project areas

Date: February 22 nd to 25 th 2026

Visits and meetings: Palaly, Pachchilaipalli, Poonakary, Thunukkai, Siratikkulam and RAHAMA Office, Vavuniya

Ane Tosterud Holte, the International Programme Manager, FORUT, arrived at RAHAMA office in Vavuniya on February 22 nd and met RAHAMA team, overviewing 3-day agenda. Following the brief overview, Ane left Vavuniya in the afternoon and arrived Jaffna. On February 23rd, Ane and Hetland team graced the opening of Kurumbasity Early Childhood Development Centre followed by a meeting between Ane and Governor, Northern Province. In the evening, Ane and team participated in the handing over event of 5 shelters in Palaly North, Jaffna. On 24th, team facilitated 3 site visits in Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu, inauguration of handing over certificates for 20 shelters in Pachchilaipalli and distribution of 12 foos cycles for children in need to access for education under funding of Sandefjord VGS, Norway. On February 25th, Ane reviewed Cyclone Ditwah Flood Recovery intervention, progress of the ongoing project including RFF and deviations, financial and policy diligence and did and introduction on Whistleblowing and reporting in line with financial irregularities/corruption reporting and SEAH. Some takeaways and rooms for improvement were also discussed and listed out in addition to facilitation and input by Mr. Marikkar at meetings and reviews.



Ane and team witnessed the hardship of the vulnerable who have been living in unsafe shelters, with limited access to basic needs and risk with disaster impacts, inequality and setbacks in terms of social and economic advancements despite war and going through crisis after crisis politically and economically. Mr. Marikkar, Secretary General, RAHAMA, Also facilitated discussions and put efforts to strengthen the team, giving inputs on the concept of VUCA. Further, the reception to RAHAMA team in the village, curiosity of people to interact, voluntarism, stakeholder collaboration at local level, the disparities in living condition of people compared to Jaffna and Kilinochchi/Mullaitivu are some highlights.



Further, the visit findings recommended bridging gaps in RFF target by 2026 Plan and introducing and making access available for Whistleblowing/Raise a Concern provision at rahama.lk



RAHAMA Staffing and Capacity Building in 2025

This year, the project was supported by the following key staff positions to strengthen HR capacity and ensure effective implementation:

1. Team Leader – Provided overall leadership, coordination, and strategic guidance to the project team
2. Assistant Program Manager – field level leadership and operational support to project teams. Responsible for coordinating field activities.
3. Project Accountant – Responsible for maintaining project financial records and ensuring Compliance with donor financial guidelines.
4. Finance Manager (FM) – Oversee financial management, budgeting, reporting, and financial controls.
5. PA – Information & Documentation; Administration, Support Services, and Finance – Supported documentation, administrative coordination, logistics, and finance-related tasks.
6. Project Coordinators (PCs) – Based in Vavuniya, Mullaitivu, and Kilinochchi, responsible for district-level Coordination, field implementation, and monitoring of project activities.



Technical and Programmatic Consultancy Support

Mr. Preethi, Consultant conducted an assessment of RAHAMA management status, identifying capacity gaps and areas for improvement in management practices. Also, Ms. Karthika supported and facilitated field programs and assisted in defining and monitoring program indicators, ensuring alignment with project objectives.

Information and Documentation

To strengthen information management and documentation systems, a Consultant for Information and Documentation was engaged. The consultant supported the improvement of program quality through enhanced information systems, documentation standards, etc.



Journey of Pre-school Teachers turned to Voluntary Services in the North as CSOs

“We do more and receive recognition more than preschool teachers do now”

– R. Sasireka

“We didn’t know about RAHAMA before. We heard that RAHAMA works with preschool teachers only in 2021. We met the challenges and found alternative to form an association of preschools teachers, being a registered CSO” – Indra Kumudini

“We play a crucial role in reaching and prioritizing the families in need both during crisis and when giving livelihoods, shelter erection, etc.” - Chandramathy



The WSEEDS-Vavuniya South has empowered 50 women economically and a few have received machines from the divisional secretariat to support tailoring and soap production. Although the productions remain serving the need of villages, WSEEDS has extended training for marketing and business registration while the members participate in sessions on child rights and alcohol and drugs harm at village level.

This significant change story highlights varying dimensions of preschool teachers in 3 different locations in the North and their transformation into women leaders. Early childhood education sector faces multiple challenges and lack of resources across the country, including low government funding, limited accessibility in rural areas, and poor-quality infrastructure. Major issues include high fees, a lack of standardized, play-based curriculum, a shortage of trained teachers, and heavy focus on academic desk work rather than holistic development. Above everything, a widespread disparity in still deep-seated northern Sri Lanka where many state pre-schools are maintained under and teachers are paid higher salary by the Civil Security Department allowing them to form no association while the teachers at preschools that are administered by the zonal education office gets lesser salary and free to form CSOs.



The WSEEDS-Vavuniya North closely works with resettled population particularly in Puliyankulam, Kanakarayanukulam and Lyca village and works for children and families vulnerable to alcohol harm and domestic violence. There are 45 members who have formed 15 self-help groups within 5 villages. The female leadership in Vavuniya North raises the voices of resettled families including female producer groups at divisional level dialogues.

Despite these inequality and challenges, the teacher’s collective engaged in voluntary work and successful to register themselves as voluntary organizations, namely, Women Social, Economic and Education Development Society (WSEEDS)-Vavuniya-North, Women Social, Economic and Education Development Society, Vavuniya-South and Kalvi Panpattu Marumalarchi Koodam-Poonakary (KPMK) which are RAHAMA boundary partners with more than 200 preschool teachers.

According to an initial yield assessment in Poonakary, not less than 15 livelihood members out of 37 who received the support in 2024 have increased many folds of their yield, making it into main source of income. The KPMK, as CSO registered Volunteer Service Organization under the Cultural Department in 2019, works in 19 Grama Niladhari Divisions accommodating 59 preschools.

I continue my father's traditional pottery making

“Even though we lack machines here as the southerners maximize the products, I'm capable enough to make any clay product by my hand as if customer orders. I did not receive enough support from the authority except a few CSOs including RAHAMA. With the financial assistance by RAHAMA I managed to purchase 2 tractor loads of clay, and now I have increased the products”

- Murugiah Anandarasa



“I don't say that we face loss in this sector but challenges in increasing products and competing with outsiders especially during rainy session. Other than that, we face the general economic crisis that impact our purchasing strength”

“I don't want to quit this sector. I feel I can still produce new things to meet customer requirement. However, there are challenges”

Pottery making is a traditional handcraft of forming clay into objects, such as vessels or art, which are then burnt at high temperatures to become rigid and durable. Murugiah Anandarasa, a resident of Puthumurippu village in the Karaichchi Divisional Secretariat of Kilinochchi District, continues the traditional pottery craft passed down from his father. Since 1995, he has been sustaining his livelihood through this ancestral profession without taking any micro-loans. He lives in Puthumurippu with his wife and two children, and his pottery business serves as the main source of income to support their educational and daily household needs. In September 2024, recognizing his hard work and commitment, RAHAMA provided financial assistance that enabled him to purchase clay to continue production.

Anandarasa, whenever he receives large/urgent orders, provides employment opportunities to 2-4 individuals from the community on a temporary basis. This support not only helps him complete orders on time but also contributes to local livelihood improvement.



Anandarasa's attitude showcases how traditional skills, combined with timely assistance, can uplift a family and bring opportunities, while preserving cultural craftsmanship for future generations that protects the environment.

Challenges

Men Engagement for Alcohol and Drugs Development

We learnt that it is a common challenge. Men often exhibited lower participation rates in awareness raising on and counter actions against substance use and its harm compared to women, despite having higher rates of substance abuse and dependency in. Women are more concerned on the harm to the family, children and the society. Despite social norms, this lower participation holds women wings and groups back in engaging in collective actions. However, the victims are almost men but the masculinity and societal expectation from men remains a barriers to widen the reach in terms of achieving the result framework targets.

However, availability risk is realistic. The target groups such as children, parents, farmers, and women leaders who are engaged their field and daily routine, there has been a continuity of challenges in enabling fresh target. There are delays in conducting some school-based sessions, women's meetings, and livelihood training, and reduced attendance in a few planned activities.

Procurement challenges during emergency relief and recovery

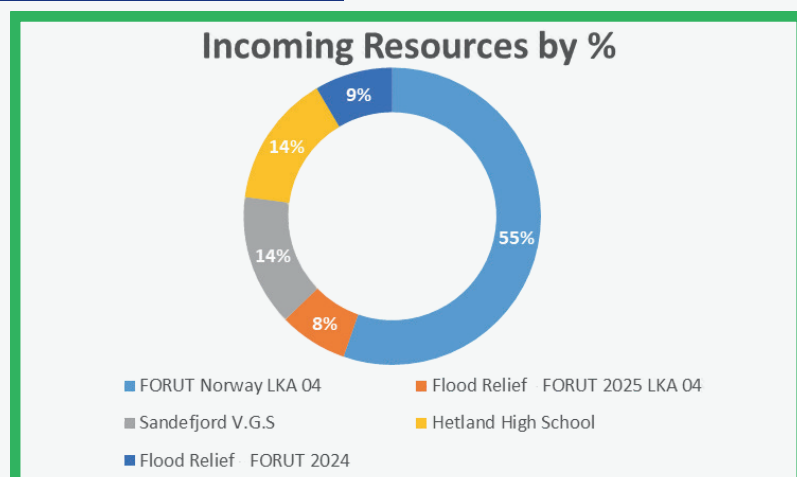
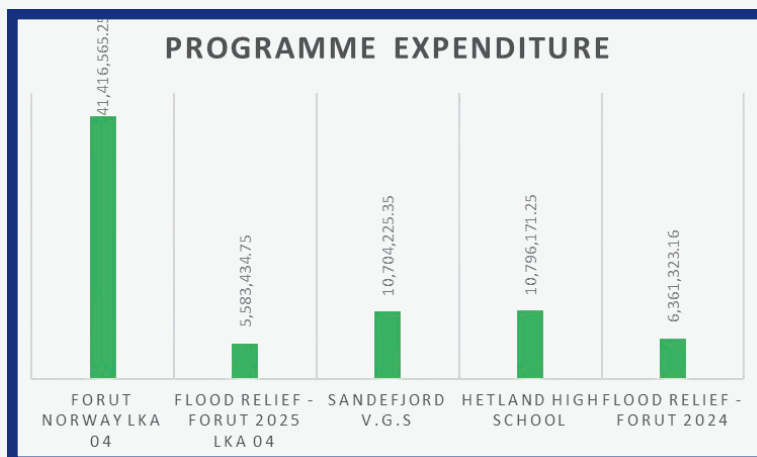
Emergency procurement in Sri Lanka, particularly during economic crisis, and natural disasters, faces significant bottlenecks characterized by a lack of sufficient stocks in the market to avoid delay in delivery of relief while the restriction on cash handling remained unchanged, which ensured transparency but at the same time posed risk to speedy relief interventions.

Institutional and System-Level Risks

Variations in the functionality of child protection, GBV referral, and service delivery systems at divisional and village levels. More cases remain as pending and inconsistent referral practices and follow-up are in some locations. Inconsistency of state sponsored programme to empower women and people below poverty line remains a challenge in the field where a new group of beneficiaries can be selected while another group drops from the list. Selection of beneficiary by the state party is also complex rather than ensuring equality that includes everyone, leaving no one behind the grants or livelihoods.

Financial Performance

	Budget	Actual
Incoming Resources		
FORUT Norway LKA 04	41,416,565.25	41,416,565.25
Flood Relief - FORUT 2025 LKA 04	5,583,434.75	5,583,434.75
Sandefjord V.G.S	10,704,225.35	10,704,225.35
Hetland High School	10,796,171.25	10,796,171.25
Flood Relief - FORUT 2024	6,361,323.16	6,361,323.16
	74,861,719.76	74,861,719.76
Programme expenditure		
FORUT Norway LKA 04	41,416,565.25	41,416,565.25
Flood Relief - FORUT 2025 LKA 04	5,583,434.75	5,583,434.75
Sandefjord V.G.S	10,704,225.35	10,704,225.35
Hetland High School	10,796,171.25	10,796,171.25
Flood Relief - FORUT 2024	6,361,323.16	6,361,323.16
	74,861,719.76	74,861,719.76



RAHAMA annual report reflects our milestones in northern Sri Lanka: It is a continuity of humanitarian actions in the war-torn north. It is a reflection of work that reached vulnerable, women, children, teachers, IDPs, landless, disaster affected, women-headed families, women entrepreneurs, multiple stakeholders, boundary partners, leaders and activists, and more.

Our Generous Donors



In Coordination with



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National Secretariat for Non-Governmental Organizations

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