

# Annual Report

2015-2016



“ Works of love and charity  
are  
signs of God’s mercy ”



Caritas Sri Lanka

## Our Vision

*“Realization of a just Sri Lankan society based on the Gospel values of Love, Forgiveness, Peace, Unity and Equality - lived, promoted and protected irrespective of caste, creed and nationality”.*

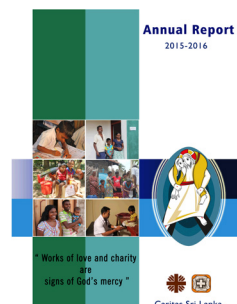
## Our Mission

*“Empowering people through animation and being in solidarity with their efforts for Integral Human Development”.*

### Cover Story:

*“The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbour in his spiritual and bodily necessities. Instructing, advising, consoling, comforting are spiritual works of mercy, as are forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently. The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead. Among all these, giving alms to the poor is one of the chief witnesses to fraternal charity: it is also a work of justice pleasing to God”.*

*- The Catechism of the Catholic Church (Part Three: Life in Christ - 2447)*



# Content

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Chairman's Message                   | 1-2   |
| Integral Human Development           | 3-6   |
| Social Justice and Sustainable Peace | 7-14  |
| Disaster Risk Management             | 15-30 |
| Programme Coordination               | 31    |
| Special Events and meetings          | 32-39 |
| OUTLOOK – issues and challenges      | 40    |
| Financial Report                     | 41-42 |
| Appreciations                        | 43    |
| Network of Caritas Sri Lanka         | 44-45 |

# Message from the Chairman

The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy called by Pope Francis in April 2015 and officially begun on 08<sup>th</sup> December of that year was the animating force behind Church life in the recent past. Its theme, “Merciful like the Father”, had an overarching influence on the social apostolate of the Church, too, with social arms like Caritas endeavouring to demonstrate God’s mercy to the poor, the marginalized and the voiceless as well as to victims of natural and man-made disasters while also striving for social justice, peace, reconciliation and integral human development.



Caritas Sri Lanka persistently continued its journey on this mission, engaging in several projects and programmes amidst many challenges, especially the one posed by dwindling donor assistance. We remained undaunted in the face of this and other challenges, focusing single-mindedly on the task in hand, that is, to keep serving the people for whom God’s Mercy must necessarily mean tangible works of *love* and *charity* which are the core meanings of the word ‘Caritas’.

I am glad that Caritas Sri Lanka journeyed down that path with a sense of responsibility, deploying all the human and material resources at its command to reach out on several fronts to people in all walks of life, irrespective of ethnic or religious differences.

In the period under review, certain changes have already taken place. The political scene has undergone a transformation in the year 2015, creating a bigger space for democracy, national reconciliation and good governance. The people of Sri Lanka are now looking to the unfolding events with much anticipation and hope.

On the SEDEC front, a new leadership is in place in Caritas Sri Lanka at the time of writing, with Rev. Fr. Shanthi Kumar Weliwita, the new National Director, taking over the baton from Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney who completed his tenure in mid-2016 after six and half years of tireless and resourceful work. At the second level, too, Mr. Yu Hwa Li has replaced Mr. Newman Fernando who left as Senior Executive Manager after more than ten years of dutiful service. The Caritas network in Sri Lanka now looks forward to the direction and guidance of the new leadership team in moving forward with greater vigour towards achieving the organisation’s goal in the light of Gospel values and the Church’s social teachings.



My personal involvement with Caritas has always been an enriching experience and I am glad to have had the privilege of not only being a Director of SEDEC, but also being, on more than one occasion, the Chairman of the Catholic National Commission for Justice, Peace and Human Development under whose purview the work of Caritas Sri Lanka is carried out.

While I recognize the dedicated work done by the entire team at Caritas National Centre, I also appreciate the active cooperation of the Diocesan Centres who implement valuable projects and programmes among the people at grass root level. I am also conscious of the tremendous contribution made by the funding partners even in the face of events in other parts of the world that demand their attention. It is their concern and their generosity that have ensured for Caritas Sri Lanka a steady source of financial assistance for its humanitarian work.

Going forward, I am hopeful and confident that Caritas Sri Lanka - SEDEC will address all the energies at its command to not only sustain the present momentum but to even reach out higher, thereby making its presence felt in Sri Lanka's national endeavour to build a just society for all.

Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph Vianney Fernando

Chairman,

Catholic National Commission for Justice, Peace & Human Development

Bishop of Kandy

# Integral Human Development

*Addressing issues relating to safe migration, the upliftment of plantation communities and supporting livelihoods were the areas that continued to engage the attention of the Integral Human Development Programme.*

Making migration safe for potential migrant workers and facilitating the reintegration of migrant returnees has, for close on to a decade, remained a priority Caritas concern. In the period under review, new thinking has emerged on how this endeavour could be diversified. Initiatives were, therefore, launched to include areas such as the provision of legal and other services to migrant workers and their families in the coming years.

## Advocacy, Capacity Building and Guidance for Safe Migration

A 2-day programme on “Advocacy, capacity building and guidance for safe migration”, funded by Caritas Japan, was held at the Caritas SEDEC Auditorium on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The programme was facilitated by Mr. L. K. Ruhunuge, Consultant on Labour Migration on the first day and by Dr. Sepali Kottegoda, Executive Director of Women & Media Collective on the second day.

There were 38 participants present for this programme, including Diocesan Coordinators from Chilaw, Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Colombo, Galle, Mannar, Jaffna, Ratnapura and Vanni Diocesan Centers and also several nuns from five Religious Congregations were a part of the audience.

Welcoming the participants on the first day, Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka said that one of the objectives of this workshop was to enhance their collective knowledge on developing a Church response to the issues concerning migration. Recalling that Caritas has worked for many years on migrant issues and been in solidarity with migrants’ families, Fr. Sigamoney noted that in the past one or two years, the attention paid in Sri Lanka to such problems has scaled down, presumably because these have been overshadowed by the larger global issues relating to migration. Yet, our problems in this country remain and we have, therefore, to work together to protect migrants and their rights as well as assure their safety and dignity. It is only then that they could serve and protect their own families and also play the vital role they perform in developing the country’s economy.

The topics discussed on the first day were:

- Understanding International Labour Migration
- Reason for International labour migration and its’ impact

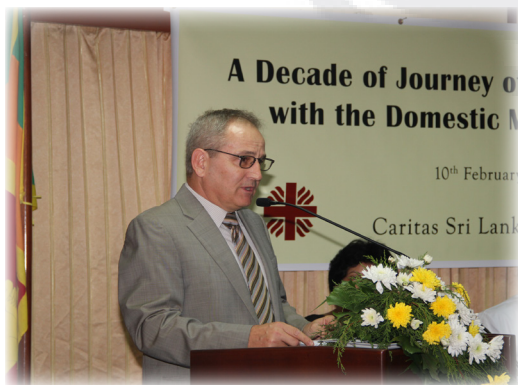


On the second day, the following matters were discussed:

- Domestic workers and C189 (C189 is an ILO Convention, which Sri Lanka has not ratified)
- Domestic Workers Convention and its' importance in the Sri Lankan context.
- UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants and Their Families and its implementation methodology in Sri Lanka.
- Migration and Sustainable Development Goals 2015, and how we can respond as part of civil society

## Promoting Safe Migration

His Excellency Heinz Walker Nederkoon, Ambassador for Switzerland in Sri Lanka was the Chief Guest at an event held in SEDEC on 10th February 2016 to mark 'A Decade of Journey of Caritas Sri Lanka with Domestic Migrant Workers'.



Twenty two persons received tokens of appreciation for the services rendered by them in promoting the safe migration programmes implemented over the years by Caritas Sri Lanka in several parts of the country. Dr. Indra Tudawe, Officer-in-Charge of ILO Colombo Office and Mr. John Mc Adams, Political Officer of US Embassy in Colombo were also present on the occasion.

At this event, twenty five participants who had completed all three modules of a Capacity Building Programme held earlier, titled 'Capacitated civil society network to secure migrants and their families', received their participation certificates.



On 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016, a Panel Discussion on the theme 'Creating a decent working environment and safe labour migration' was also held at SEDEC with the participation of Dr. Sepali Kottegoda, Director - Women & Media Collective, Dr. Ramani Jayasundera, Senior Technical



Advisor - Asia Foundation, Ms. Genevieve Colas of Caritas France - Sequors Catholique and Ms. Hessian Sayah from Caritas Lebanon Migration Centre. The discussion was moderated by Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka.

## Plantation Programme

*Trained Vigilant Committee Members are actively functioning in eight tea estates in the Dioceses of Ratnapura, Galle, Badulla and Kandy under a Misereor Germany - funded project titled "Green Gold Harvesters".*



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## Capacity Building for Vigilant Committee Members in Estates

University of Sri Lanka was the principal resource person at the sessions, with additional facilitation by Dr. Sumathy Sivamohan, Senior Lecturer in the Department of English, University of Peradeniya who also produced the Tamil documentary film “INGIRINTHU” which deals with life on the estates and the issues faced by the plantation population.

## Microfinance Programme

## Capacity Building on Microfinance and Livelihood Development

A 2-day training workshop under the Caritas Poland-supported project titled “Family Livelihood Support Through Microfinance Scheme” was held at Janasetha Centre, Kurunegala on 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015 for a group of 30 Diocesan participants from Chilaw, Colombo, Kurunegala, Kandy, Ratnapura, Badulla, Galle and Batticaloa.



The panel of Resource Persons comprised Ms. Nilusha Manori Thanthrige-Chief Executive Officer of Eksath Lanka Welfare Foundation, Nuwara Eliya (on “Microfinance, Recovery, Revolving Fund and Community Development”), Dr. Lalith Welamedage - Managing Director of Lanka Social Venture (on “Livelihood Development and Business Planning”) and Mr. U. R. K. C. Kemarathne-Asst. Director of Agricultural and Agrarian Insurance Board, Kurunegala District (on “Agrarian and Agricultural Insurance Policies and Liabilities”).

This training workshop was conducted in the Sinhala medium and a similar programme in the Tamil language was carried out in the Tamil medium on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016 for a group of Diocesan participants, mostly from the North and East.





# Social Justice and Sustainable Peace

*The changes in the political arena during the period under review created space for a renewed national discourse on good governance, democracy, social justice, human rights, religious freedom and reconciliation. In the light of this development, Caritas placed an added focus on its efforts to contribute towards the achievement of a lasting peace in the country. Training of grass root level leaders and mobilizing youth potential for peace building was an important aspect of this strategy.*

## Capacity Building on Good Governance and Social Justice for Grass Root Level Leaders

Nearly 80 grass root level leaders from 13 Dioceses attended a capacity building programme on Social Justice and Good Governance held at SEDEC auditorium on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

The programme included sessions on “Rights of voters and main Election Laws” by Mr. M. M. Mohamed, Deputy Elections Commissioner, “Role of Election Monitors” by Mr. Manjula Gajanayake, National Organiser-Centre for Monitoring Election Violence (CMEV), and “Proposed electoral systems” by Mr. Upul Fernando, Attorney-at-Law.



Welcoming the participants, Mr. Newman Fernando, Senior Executive Manager of Caritas Sri Lanka said that it was encouraging to see a wide representation of Diocesan activists attending such a training programme and requested them to impart to their community members the wealth of knowledge that they gain at forums like this.

Mr. Rohana Hettiarachchi, Executive Director of People’s Action for Free and Fair Elections (PAFFEREL) spoke on “The March 12<sup>th</sup> Declaration” in which several political, civil society and religious leaders made a call to the people to elect good candidates as future parliamentarians and to reject unsuitable contestants.



A special session on “What is Good Governance and Social Justice ?” was jointly facilitated by Prof. Sarath Wijesuriya of the University of Colombo and Dr. A. S. Chandrabose of the Open University of Sri Lanka.

Dr. Jehan Perera, Executive Director of National Peace Council joined the resource persons as a panelist at an Open Forum held at the conclusion of the training sessions.

## Training on Good Governance Principles

A Training of Trainers (TOT) Workshop on “Principles of Good Governance” was held at SEDEC on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 for a group of Diocesan Coordinators and village level volunteers from the Dioceses of Ratnapura, Chilaw, Anuradhapura, Vanni, Jaffna, Mannar, Batticaloa, Galle, Trincomalee, Colombo, Kurunegala and Kandy. A total of 53 persons were present for the sessions which were facilitated by Pass Asia Consultants and conducted simultaneously in both Sinhala and Tamil languages.



Welcoming the participants, Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka highlighted the importance of familiarizing ourselves with the basic principles of good governance, which need not only to be well understood but also to be disseminated among the people we work with.

## Caritas National Youth Convention in Kurunegala

Nearly 100 delegates, including 72 youth leaders and 14 Programme Coordinators from all the Dioceses, along with several Diocesan Directors and National Centre staff participated in the Youth Convention hosted by Kurunegala Diocese at the Janasetha Training Centre from 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> June 2015, under the guidance of Rev. Fr. Sagara Prishantha Perera, Diocesan Director of Janasetha. This programme, held as part of the Project to Promote Healing and Reconciliation supported by Caritas Australia, had “*We the youth for a just and fair world*” as its Convention Theme. Nearly half its participants were females.



Speaking as Chief Guest at the inauguration ceremony, Rt. Rev. Dr. Harold Perera, Bishop of Kurunegala called upon the youth to be ambassadors of peace at a time when the people are



waiting with great hope for reconciliation. His Lordship recalled that both during the military conflict and after its conclusion, Caritas played a role in seeking to bring about national unity. Unlike at the grass root level where people are yearning to be together, at the higher levels, there are different agendas at work and these retards the reconciliation process. “Therefore, as youth you have to learn to be patient and not be in a hurry. Peace always takes time to achieve, and it is a long journey. As ambassadors of peace, you must take this message to the people. You must light a candle in the darkness and help people to see the light”, His Lordship said.

Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka in his introductory remarks said that at the end of the military conflict in 2009, the Commission for Justice, Peace and Human Development realized the need for the Church to play a role in meeting the challenge of restoring the social values we had fostered and in resolving the divisions that had arisen among the communities. Binding the hearts of the people thus became a priority. One of the steps we took in this direction was to promote language learning. The other was to facilitate people to go other areas and have live-in experiences with those of different backgrounds.

This was not easy at the beginning, but gradually people began to show that they were prepared to put aside their differences and build the kind of cordiality and understanding that would help to remove mutual suspicion and fear. In 2013, we held an event in Kilinochchi to remember those who had died on all sides of the conflict and in all families. Those who attended this event embraced each other and realized how much they had individually and collectively lost by the war. Subsequently, we identified the need, as Caritas, to initiate a special programme to bring the youth together, mainly from the war affected families. These youth showed a willingness to go forth to other areas as Peace Ambassadors and they are also prepared to act as a buffer group and as members of an early warning system at the grass root level.

The working sessions of the Convention were designed to include a range of topics such as “Role of Youth in Healing and Reconciliation” and “How to face future challenges”, as well as talks by Buddhist and Muslim religious leaders and workshops on Vision Building and Major Issues Faced by Youth. Another significant feature was the “challenge” assignments given to seven different teams formed within the participating group, as part of experiential learning. These assignments took them to the field where they were exposed to a variety of circumstances, and the sharing of experiences on their return was both informative and enriching for the entire group.



## Dialogue on Religious Amity

Several religious leaders representing the Christian, Hindu, Buddhist and Islamic faiths participated in a Dialogue on Religious Amity held in SEDEC Auditorium on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016. This was a follow-up of a series of small group discussions held separately with different faith leaders who had expressed the view that they would like Caritas to provide a platform for them to work together. They were convinced that in this way they could build trust and confidence, while at the same time developing a mechanism of speaking together with one voice on matters of social concern.



Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka in his introductory remarks at this event said that at Caritas, religious amity has been seen as a vital component of national reconciliation. As a Church organization, Caritas has fostered a close relationship with religious leaders, and many dialogue sessions with them were held to explore how respect, understanding and acceptance of each other's religious beliefs could help to enhance national reconciliation. Caritas has also set up Inter Religious Forums in the Districts to support its healing and reconciliation programmes at grass root level. "Religion must unite people and not divide them", Fr. Sigamoney said and emphasized that Caritas will focus on developing a proper understanding of the core principles of the major religions.

The event participants accepted the invitation extended by Caritas to meet together once in three months to build unity and fellowship, as well as to strengthen the Caritas Inter Religious Forums in the Districts through increased participation by all faith communities.

The group workshops held during the Dialogue Session saw lively discussions on several subjects, including the expression of personal opinions by participants about what they appreciated in one another's religions and also what he or she could not understand about the other's religious beliefs.



## Panel Discussion on New Constitution for Sri Lanka

Dr. Jayampathy Wickramaratne MP and Mr. Rohan Edirisinha, formerly Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Colombo were the resource persons at a Panel Discussion held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at the SEDEC Auditorium.



Titled as “*Civil society participation in framing a new Constitution for Sri Lanka*”, the event brought together the two eminent Constitutional experts in an interactive discussion that revolved around the Government’s new initiative to frame a new Constitution and the ensuing process of public consultations on the subject. Both panelists underscored the need for active participation by the people, especially civil society groups and faith-based communities, in ensuring that the final outcome of the Constitutional process reflects the will of the people.

Among the other salient features discussed were the historical background of the Republican Constitutions of 1972 and 1978, the proposed abolishment of Executive Presidency and the need for devolution of power as a means of resolving the National Question in Sri Lanka.

In his welcome address, Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka – SEDEC said that this programme is part of Caritas work in the field of Good Governance, Democracy, Peace and Reconciliation. He added that we are encouraged by the Government’s invitation to the general public to participate in the Constitutional process and that Caritas will engage with this consultation as a faith based organization which works with people at grass root level in all the Districts of the country through its network of Diocesan Centres.

## Training on Human Dignity

A group of 53 Diocesan Coordinators and Volunteers engaged in the Healing and Reconciliation Programme in all the Dioceses participated in a Training-of-Trainers (TOT) Workshop on “Respect for Human Dignity” held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in the SEDEC Auditorium. The trainees are expected to share their knowledge with 40 Village Peace Committees in order to bring about attitudinal changes for ethnic and religious harmony. The Workshop was facilitated by Mr. Dhinush Jayasuriya, independent trainer.





## Panel Discussion on Good Governance and Social Justice

Representatives of several political parties participated in a panel discussion titled “*Good Governance and Social Justice*” held at Caritas Sri Lanka auditorium on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The meeting was chaired by Rt .Rev. Dr. Cletus Perera, Bishop of Ratnapura, and the sessions were moderated by Very Rev. Cyril Gamini Fernando, Director of Social Communications of the Archdiocese of Colombo.

Addressing the panelists, Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka noted in his welcome address that Caritas has an abiding interest in good governance that leads to social justice. “It is part of our broader search for peace, justice and human development”, he said and called on the political party representatives to declare their commitment to good governance and to the changes brought about in Sri Lanka’s political culture at the Presidential Elections in January 2015. Fr. Sigamoney reminded the panelists that while the practice of democratic values, adherence to the Rule of Law, transparency and accountability are cornerstones of good governance, these must lead to the attainment of social justice that ensures the enjoyment of benefits by all instead of by a tiny privileged few.



Among the panelists were Ven. Athuraliye Rathana Thero (JHU), Prof. Tissa Vitharna (LSSP), Mr. Eran Wickremaratne and Ms. Hirunika Premachandra (UNP), Mr. Vijitha Herath (JVP) and Mr. M. A. Sumanthiran (TNA). In general, they said that proportional representation is a concept they favour, even though they had serious reservations about the existing preferential voting system. They all agreed to ask the people to send good candidates to Parliament at the upcoming General Elections in August 2015 and to reject corrupt politicians. They also stressed that civil society has an equal responsibility as the politicians in transforming the present political culture, and that citizens must continue to remain vigilant, watchful and fearless even after the polls are over.

The panel discussion was followed by an Open Forum.

## Caritas Sri Lanka Scholarship Programme

Caritas Poland, in solidarity with Caritas Sri Lanka, is supporting a Scholarship Programme designed to assist 500 talented and deserving students who proceed for higher studies. The funds are allocated on the following basis:

| Category             | Allocation per month |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| University           | Rs.3,000.00          |
| College of Education | Rs.3,000.00          |
| GCE Advanced Level   | Rs.2,000.00          |
| Diploma Studies      | Rs.2,000.00          |
| Vocational Training  | Rs.2,000.00          |

The current distribution of Scholarships among the Dioceses is as follows;

| Category             | Dioceses     |           |            |           |            |           |           |           |            |           |           |             |           |            |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------|
|                      | Anuradhapura | Badulla   | Batticaloa | Chilaw    | Colombo    | Galle     | Jaffna    | Kandy     | Kurunegala | Mannar    | Ratnapura | Trincomalee | Vanni     | Total      |
| Advanced Level       | 20           | 17        | 21         | 2         | 74         | 30        | 13        | 12        | 15         | 5         | 20        | 17          | 26        | 272        |
| University Education | 3            | 3         | 4          | 18        | 30         | 16        | 5         | 10        | 9          | 17        | 2         | 6           | 56        | 179        |
| College of Education | 1            | 5         | -          | 5         | 2          | 5         | -         | 2         | -          | -         | 3         | 2           | -         | 25         |
| Diploma              | 1            | -         | -          | -         | 4          | 3         | 7         | -         | 3          | -         | -         | -           | -         | 18         |
| Vocational Training  | -            | -         | -          | -         | -          | 1         | -         | 1         | 1          | 3         | -         | -           | -         | 6          |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>25</b>    | <b>25</b> | <b>25</b>  | <b>25</b> | <b>110</b> | <b>55</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>28</b>  | <b>25</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>25</b>   | <b>82</b> | <b>500</b> |

The Scholarship beneficiaries are selected from among underprivileged families with very little income, mostly orphans and semi orphans, chosen irrespective of ethnic or religious considerations.

The Scholarship scheme has not only helped the recipients to improve their academic performance but also lightened the financial burdens of their parents. The indirect beneficiaries of the programme, therefore, number around 2,500 family members of the student recipients.

## Special Educational Support for Vulnerable Children

Children of crisis - affected and vulnerable communities in the Dioceses of Chilaw and Jaffna are assisted with educational support under a project funded by Caritas Korea.

In Chilaw, six selected Pre-schools in the Kalpitiya islands receive a package which includes

monthly allowance and capacity building training for the six teachers, as well as distribution of nutritional food packs to the children and awareness programmes for parents/guardians.

In Jaffna, 158 children whose education was disrupted due to various reasons and who are attending six under-developed schools situated within the Jaffna Municipal limits are being assisted to improve their educational performance.

The aim is to help them to pass the Grade Five Scholarship Examination conducted by the Government for selection to the more prominent schools. The assistance given to them included 43 tables and chairs, 163 school bags for students who received pass marks in the exam, a rechargeable lamp and wall hangers.

In addition, Activity Rooms were established in the six schools and monthly nutritional food packs were given for 163 students. It is notable that 15 students from these schools qualified for the Government Scholarship in 2015.

# Disaster Risk Management

*The increasing incidences of natural disasters were a serious cause of concern, especially in view of the impact of climate change and its effects on lives, livelihoods, shelter and food production.*

*As well, much support needed to be given to the resettlement programme in North and East which still remains an unfinished task. Humanitarian aid cannot compensate for years of political failure, but people who have lost everything are still in need of help.*

Erratic weather conditions continued to affect several parts of the country in the period under review. Heavier than usual rains in September and November 2015 led to flood conditions developing in several parts of the country, including the Southern, North Western and Northern Provinces. Minor landslides occurred in the hill country regions of Kandy and Badulla in the Central and Uva Provinces, respectively. According to the Disaster Management Centre (DMC), as of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 heavy rains in the Southern Districts of Galle and Matara led to the displacement of 4,930 families consisting of 18,917 persons.

By November 2015, other areas of the country, including Jaffna, Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu Districts in the Northern Province and Puttalam and Chilaw in the North Western Province were affected by floods. As of 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015, the DMC reported that 37,899 families consisting of 131,661 persons had been affected.



There were fears that such heavy pre-monsoonal rains affecting several parts of the country would worsen once the North East Monsoon became active. But, conditions improved as the country experienced normal monsoon weather conditions which did not develop into any crisis situation. In recent years, extreme climatic conditions have affected the country and, as mentioned in our report for the period 2014/15, over a million persons were affected during floods in December 2014. Further, the National Building and Research Organization (NERD), in assessing the situation, identified over 5,000 problematic locations in the Central Province that were prone to landslides when heavy rains occur in these areas. Caritas Sri Lanka was in the forefront of addressing the needs of the affected population at that time and was preparing to meet any eventuality. Fortunately, however, the situation did not develop into a full-scale disaster.

## Response of Caritas Sri Lanka

In response to the heavy floods and at the requests of the Diocesan Centres, Caritas Sri Lanka provided non-food relief assistance and cash contributions to purchase some essential needs of



the affected families. In Galle and Matara, in September 2015, non-food relief assistance worth Rs. 717,500.00 was provided to support 500 families. Later, with the floods developing in the Northern Province, non-food relief assistance was given to the Dioceses of Jaffna (including Vanni), Mannar, and Trincomalee. In Jaffna and Vanni, assistance to the value of Rs. 717,500.00 was given, while in Chilaw, Mannar and Trincomalee assistance to the value of Rs. 419,000.00, Rs. 430,000.00 and Rs. 600,000.00, respectively, was given based on assessment of needs.

Cash contributions of Rs. 225,000.00 and Rs. 219,450.00, respectively, were given to the Dioceses of Kandy and Badulla. Caritas Kandy provided dry food items while Caritas Badulla provided items such as school bags, shoes and stationery to 231 children in 92 schools in five DS Divisions of the Badulla District.

## **Post-War Resettlement Activities**

Post-war resettlement of displaced families continued as the Government released parcels of land earlier occupied for security reasons, back to its rightful owners. Families living in South India were also continuing to return in small numbers. As of 30th September 2015 (the latest information given by the Ministry of Resettlement), 233,835 families consisting of 800,129 persons had returned to their places of origin. In the Northern Province, 157,686 families consisting of 523,515 persons had resettled, while in the Eastern Province 76,149 families consisting of 276,614 persons had resettled, too.

Caritas Sri Lanka continued to support families returning for resettlement, while at the same time helping already returned families to rebuild their lives in a more sustainable manner. However, with the conflict ending over seven years ago and with Sri Lanka being considered as a middle-income earning country, donor interest has shifted to other countries where the humanitarian needs are far greater. Caritas Sri Lanka, therefore, had very limited options to continue its support for the resettlement process.

## **Construction of Houses**

Caritas continued to support the construction and repair of houses in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. The owner-driven approach remains the preferred choice of construction. More than five years of adopting this approach has proved that beneficiaries are much more enthusiastic and add additional value to their houses, while a sense of ownership also develops within and among them at a very early stage. During the period under review, Caritas completed the construction of 14 new core houses in the Jaffna District, funded by Caritas Australia. Under a Caritas Swiss-funded programme, 71 new houses are being constructed in the Jaffna and Trincomalee Districts. 26 of these houses are being built in the Maruthankerney village in Jaffna District while 52 houses are being built in Neenarkkerney and Illakkanthai villages in the Muthur DS Division of Trincomalee District.



Repair of 117 houses of war-affected, displaced families is also in progress in six villages in the Manthai East DS Division of the Mullaitivu District with the support of Misereor Germany. Under this project, 04 new houses are also to be built. Supporting vulnerable families such as widows, women-headed families, disabled-member families and large families, especially those with more female children, continues to be the criteria for selection of beneficiaries.

## Caritas Housing in Jaffna

Fourteen permanent core houses built in Vasanthapuram village in Jaffna District were handed over to beneficiaries on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2016 by the Bishop of Jaffna, Rt. Rev. Dr. Justin Gnanapragasam. Among those present on the occasion were Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka, and Rev. Fr. Eugene Francis, Diocesan Director of Caritas Jaffna – HUDEC and Mrs. Theiventhiram, Asst. Government Agent of Jaffna DS Division.



The houses, built with funding assistance from Caritas Australia, were handed over to war-affected families who were resettled in the Colombuthurai area.

## Caritas Housing in Mannar

Fifty four permanent core houses built with funding assistance from Misereor-Germany were handed over to war affected, resettled families in the villages of Iththikkandal and Poomalarathan in Mannar District at an event held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015 under the guidance and patronage of Rev. Fr. M. Jeyabalan, Director of Caritas Mannar Valvuthayam.



The Chief Guest at this event was Mr. Sri Baskaran-Assistant Director of Planning in the Mannar District Secretariat while Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka and Rev. Fr. Victor Sosai, Vicar General of Mannar Diocese were the Special Guests of Honour. A Community Centre built under the same project was also declared open on the occasion while 142 livelihoods had earlier been supported at these two locations.

## Caritas Housing in Batticaloa for Families Affected by War and Tsunami

Ninety two war and tsunami affected families in Batticaloa District were the beneficiaries of houses built by Caritas in the villages of Omadiyamadu and Puchchakerny coming under the Koralaipattu DS Division.



The houses, built with funding assistance from Caritas Swiss, Caritas Italiana and Swiss Solidarity, were handed over to the recipients at an event held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2015 under the chairmanship of Rev. Fr. Geron de Lima, Director of Caritas EHED Batticaloa, with the participation of Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka SEDEC and several Local Government officials of the area.

Livelihood assistance to 96 families had also been distributed under this project.

## Housing for Resettled Families in Mullaitivu

His Excellency Heinz Walker-Nederkoon, Ambassador for Switzerland in Sri Lanka participated in the handing over of 210 houses built for war-affected families in the villages of Kallapadu South, Silavaththai, Mullivaikkal East and Mullivaikkal West in Mullaitivu District on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015. These houses were built with funding assistance from Caritas Swiss under a project which also included livelihood grants to 184 persons in the area. Among those present at this event were Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka, Very Rev. Fr. Justin Gnanapragasam, Vicar General of Jaffna Diocese, several Local Government officials of the area and members of the beneficiary families.





The Swiss Ambassador also opened a Community Centre in Vadduvakal for the use of members of the Women Rural Development Society (WRDS). It was built with financial support from Caritas Swiss and Swiss Solidarity. In addition, His Excellency donated a set of books to the library built in Silavaththai Tamil Vidyalayam with funding assistance from Caritas Swiss.



Meantime, Fr. George Sigamoney donated school exercise books and stationery items sponsored by Caritas to students of Silavaththai Tamil Vidyalayam who had been successful in the Grade Five Scholarship and GCE Ordinary Level examinations held in 2015.

## Caritas Housing in Trincomalee

Thirty four permanent core houses built in the village of Neenakerny in Muthur DS Division of Trincomalee District for tsunami and war affected families were handed over to the beneficiaries at an event held on 3rd February 2016 and attended by Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka, Rev. Fr. G. Nithidasan, Diocesan Director of Caritas EHED Trincomalee, local authorities of the area and the beneficiary families. The houses were built with funding assistance from Caritas Spain. Fifty nine livelihoods had also been supported earlier in this village under a project funded by Caritas Italiana and Catholic Relief Services (CRS).



## Livelihood Development

Caritas continues to support livelihoods, but the focus has now shifted towards a more development-oriented strategy that will ensure a stable income for the beneficiaries. With infrastructure facilities being re-established in the war-affected areas, markets are more closely interlinked with the Southern regions of the country. Livelihood beneficiaries have better opportunities to market their produce, but also face stiffer competition from other producers. In order to face up to these new challenges, appropriate capacity building trainings are included along with the livelihood assistance. These include basic business planning, marketing strategies and some relevant training in animal husbandry and agriculture as well as training on strategies for coping with climatic changes that impact livelihoods. In the context of limited funds, livelihood assistance is now being given with the involvement of Self Help Groups (SHGs) so that more members in

the community could benefit from such assistance. This is made possible by the SHG members repaying 50 percent of the grant to the groups, so that a Revolving Fund could operate to include as many community members as possible. There is a spirit of mutual support among the members of SHGs in developing each other's livelihoods. The support of the village-level Women's Rural Development Society (WRDS) has been important in the functioning of this process. The WRDS administration has the capacity to advise the SHGs on the implementation of Revolving Funds. Livelihood support has been given for home garden development, small scale animal husbandry, small business development and service occupations such as masonry, carpentry and welding.



During the period under review, 26 beneficiaries were provided with livelihood assistance in the Jaffna District under the same project where housing assistance was also given by Caritas Australia.

In other projects currently being implemented, 264 beneficiaries are to be given livelihood assistance.

Misereor Germany is providing assistance to 184 beneficiaries in the Manthai East DS Division under the same project where 117 houses are being repaired.

CAFOD-UK is providing 80 livelihood grants to resettled families in Mannar and Trincomalee. Also under the same project, a series of capacity building programmes for the institutional strengthening of the WRDS movement as well as its individual member are being provided in order to empower such institutions and its members take independent initiatives of their own in the furtherance of community development.

## Role of the WRDS

The work of the WRDS has become well entrenched in most of the livelihood projects that are now being implemented, especially in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. In the post-war period, the focus has shifted towards more sustainable forms of assistance and the empowering of communities to help them take initiatives of their own for community development. The role of the WRDS becomes particularly important in this regard. The office-bearers of the WRDS and many of its members have been trained in relevant subjects such as administrative management, basic project development, financial management, gender issues and other related matters. This has strengthened the institutional capacities of the WRDS, thus giving them the ability to initiate community development projects and lobby the Government on several issues connected



to community well-being. Caritas Sri Lanka has, in the past, helped several of the WRDS units to build and renovate community buildings and libraries, and to engage in the rental of furniture and cooking utensils for special events.

A new project undertaken during the period under review has been the construction of a Sales Centre in Kilinochchi which functions under the purview of an eleven-member Committee set up for this purpose. The Committee consists of the Director of Caritas HUDEC Vanni and representatives of the WRDS. The Sales Centre displays and markets local products of the WRDS in the Killinochchi and Mullativu Districts. The project has shown good results so far, and it is proposed to expand its supplier network by procuring the products of WRDS and women-based CBOs in other parts of the country as well.

## **Psychosocial Support**

The post-war period has seen a gradual improvement in the displaced families' lives as they resettle in their own land. But, lingering mental and emotional scars caused by the war continue to affect many of the affected people. These scars can take a long time to heal and, in such a context, appropriate psychosocial support continues to be relevant. Caritas HUDEC Vanni and Caritas Valvuthayam Mannar are supporting war affected families, especially children with disabilities and school dropouts, as well as providing income generation for the parents of some of these children. The programme is funded by Missio of Germany.

Under this programme, Caritas Mannar is supporting families in two villages in the Manthai West DS Division. Activities include payment of tuition fees for conducting special classes for 113 children in the two villages, conducting of vocational training for women of war-affected families and the provision of livelihood assistance for 31 women. The vocational training programme focuses on 40 women who are being trained in the making of Palmyrah products. Palmyrah leaf is a naturally available raw material in the Northern Province and this activity is being done under the guidance of a trained teacher from the Palmyrah Development Board (PMB). Several of the trainees have been able to make products such as baskets, mats and wallets which have reached the required standards as defined by the PMB and are enjoying a ready market.

Caritas HUDEC Vanni is also supporting two villages in the Karaichchi DS Division of Kilinochchi District. Activities include travel assistance to 50 differently-able children who attend monthly medical clinics, conducting medical clinics for special needs children, supply of monthly nutritional packs worth Rs. 700.00 each to 50 special needs children, conducting vocational





training for women, and providing livelihood assistance to 25 women in these two villages. The 50 differently able children suffer from various birth defects such as Autism, Down's Syndrome, mental retardation and speech difficulties. They attend a special class at the Zonal Educational Office in Kilinochchi. Three teachers with specialized training and two volunteers are assisting them.

## **Business Counseling for Livelihood Beneficiaries in Mullaitivu District**

Under a Caritas Swiss funded project, a group of 82 members of Women Rural Development Societies (WRDS) in Mullaitivu District gathered at the Vattuvakal Community Centre on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> September 2015 for a comprehensive training in several important aspects of their livelihood activities, such as Sustainable Livelihood Framework, Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) and Risk Coping Mechanism.

The training also focused on how to sustain livelihoods in the face of shocks and changes, how to deal with the complexity of poverty and how to identify linkages between different sectors and institutions.

These women participants had earlier received awareness on business plan formulation and subsequently engaged in various livelihood activities under a programme aimed at enhancing the life situations of 184 women-headed households of the area.

The current business counseling sessions were so designed as to help them improve their present performance and to solve the problems they had faced, as well as encouraging those who had given up their income generating projects to re-start the same.

The chief resource person for the workshop was Mr. M. Sureshkumar, Director/Assistant Secretary of Vavuniya District Chamber of Commerce. He was assisted by Mr. Anthony Jesuthasan, Project Coordinator of Caritas Sri Lanka.

## **Relief for Flood Victims in Galle and Matara Districts**

Caritas Sri Lanka recently rushed non-food relief items worth over Rs. 700,000/- to Caritas SED Galle for distribution among 500 families who were affected by the flood situation which prevailed in Galle and Matara Districts in October 2015.



## Caritas Builds Water Tank for Relocated Village in the East

Ilakanthai in Mutur DS Division, Trincomalee is a village where nearly 125 displaced families have been relocated after their original lands were taken up in the high security zone which includes the site of the proposed Sampoor coal power plant.

These families have long faced severe hardships in obtaining their requirements of pure drinking water, and Caritas responded by constructing a 14,000-litre capacity water tank which

was handed over for people's use by the Diocesan Director of EHED Caritas Trincomalee, Rev. Fr. G. Nithidasan.



This tank which was built with funding assistance from Caritas Swiss as a community grant project will be maintained by members of the Women's Rural Development Society (WRDS) of the area.

### Post War Response Programme of Caritas Sri Lanka and its Diocesan Network

|                   | Housing     |        |           |             | Livelihood |           |             | Community projects |           |             | Remarks                    |
|-------------------|-------------|--------|-----------|-------------|------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Funding Partner   | Diocese     | Target | Completed | In Progress | Target     | Completed | In Progress | Target             | Completed | In Progress |                            |
| Misereor          | Vanni       | 04     |           |             |            |           | 184         | 184                |           | 02          | Construction of new houses |
|                   | Vanni       | 117    |           |             |            |           |             |                    |           |             | Repair of houses           |
| Caritas Australia | Jaffna      | 14     | 14        | 14          | 14         |           |             |                    |           |             |                            |
| Caritas Swiss     | Jaffna      | 26     | 26        | 26          | 26         |           |             |                    | 01        |             |                            |
|                   | Batticaloa  | 32     | 32        | 32          | 32         |           |             |                    |           |             |                            |
|                   | Trincomalee | 07     | 07        | 07          | 07         |           |             |                    |           |             | 07 toilets                 |
| Caritas Swiss     | Jaffna      | 27     |           |             |            |           |             |                    |           |             |                            |
| CAFOD             | Trincomalee | 51     |           |             |            |           |             |                    |           |             |                            |
|                   | Mannar      |        |           |             |            |           | 40          | 40                 |           |             |                            |
|                   | Trincomalee |        |           |             |            |           | 40          | 40                 |           |             |                            |
| Kindermission     | Mannar      |        |           |             |            |           | 31          | 31                 |           |             |                            |
|                   | Vanni       |        |           |             |            |           | 25          | 25                 |           |             |                            |
| Total             |             | 278    | 79        | 79          | 79         |           | 320         | 320                | 01        | 02          |                            |

## Food Security

Caritas Sri Lanka is implementing the “Substantiation of Community Institutions for Sustainable Agriculture to Ensure Food Security” Project since 2013, aiming to safeguard food security for 5,500 subsistence farmer households by switching over to sustainable agricultural practices. It is operational in Anuradhapura, Batticaloa and Kurunegala Dioceses covering the Districts of Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Kurunegala, Batticaloa and Ampara up to 2017, with the support of Caritas Norway/NORAD.

Up to the year 2015, Caritas had mobilized 3,723 subsistence farmer families and motivated them to cultivate their own home gardens by using sustainable agricultural techniques. In 2016, work started on mobilizing 1,200 new families as project participants. Caritas National Centre, Caritas Kurunegala, Caritas Batticaloa and Caritas Anuradhapura had conducted 150 Sustainable Agriculture training programmes for beneficiaries in the year 2015.

Domestic Economic Units numbering 3,723 have been established in the said Districts, in addition to upgrading unproductive home gardens and paddy lands for these families to secure their food supply throughout the year. The Domestic Economic Units included cultivating vegetables, fruits, herbal plants, yams, spices, live fencing, fire wood trees, trees for timber, grass, inland fisheries and small scale livestock production units (poultry, cattle, goat, ducks, pigs, rabbits, turkey and bee keeping). Resultantly, the members of the participating families are able to consume a nutritionally balanced diet. About 75% of their daily food comes from their own home gardens and, as a result, participants save about Rs. 3,000/- per month on their food bill. A majority of them use these savings for children’s education or emergency expenses.

As evidence of substantiation of community institutions, the target communities were mobilized and formed into 363 Self Help Groups (SHGs) which were further strengthened through trainings on Leadership, Financial Management and Group Dynamics. They were motivated to start their own Domestic Economic Units, switching over to organic farming from inorganic agro-chemical usage in their cultivation practices. The SHGs were later incorporated into local Community Based Organizations (CBOs). Women tend to assume active leadership roles in most of the CBOs thus formed, numbering 92. On average, more than 75 percent of the members are female. They have also started savings schemes to enhance the proposed Revolving Loan Fund which would be of immense assistance to them. Maintaining individual savings accounts is compulsory for all members where each member saves a minimum of Rs. 100/- per month (Rs.1,200/- per annum). Beneficiaries thus have better access to credit than before, and SHG members can obtain instant credit facility up to Rs.10, 000.00 at 1% monthly interest.

Under the Food Security Programme, farmers are made aware of the hazard impact of using agro chemicals. At the same time, they are capacitated on organic farming techniques such as compost fertilizer preparation (heap system, pit system, “Jeewakotuwa” method, drum system, pipe system, bin system and flower pot system), liquid fertilizer production (fish tonic, fruit tonic, leaf extractions and “Jeewamutha”), preparation of vermi-compost and vermi-wash, preparation of pest repellents (tobacco solution, onion solution, margosa leaf solution, 3G solution - Garlic,



Ginger and Green chillie). Apart from these, special training was also given on Integrated Pest Management through which participants were able to learn biological, physical, cultural, mechanical and chemical methods of pest and disease control.

Drought and floods are the main challenges for continuous crop production in Sri Lanka. Therefore, farmers were given refresher training on climate change and traditional as well as novel technologies to cope with future challenges. These trainings covered farm water management, multiple cropping systems and protected agriculture.

## Training in Integrated Pest Management

A three-day residential workshop on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) was held from 03<sup>rd</sup> to 05<sup>th</sup> June 2015 for a group of 40 persons from Kurunegala, Anuradhapura and Batticaloa. Among the participants were Caritas Diocesan Directors, Programme Coordinators, Field Officers, Agricultural Instructors, volunteers and selected farmers. The venue for this training programme was the Rice Research and Development Institute in Batalagoda, Ibbagamuwa.



The team of resource persons comprised well-trained experts from the Department of Agriculture in Gannoruwa, Peradeniya, and the Chief Facilitator was Mr. M. U. P. Jayasundera, Agricultural Officer attached to that institution.

The workshop covered five major components of IPM, namely pest identification, monitoring and assessing pest numbers and damage, guidelines for management action, preventing pest problems and using a combination of biological, cultural, physical/mechanical and chemical tools.

## World Food Day Celebration in Kurunegala

World Food Day is a day of action against hunger. On October 16, people around the world come together to declare their commitment to eradicate hunger in our lifetime because when it comes to hunger, the only acceptable number in the world is ZERO.

Caritas Kurunegala Janasetha hosted a World Food Day event organized in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, North Western Province (NWP) and the Caritas Sri Lanka National Centre, under the theme “*United Against Hunger*”. It was held on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015 in the vicinity of the ‘Saragama’ lake at Thittawella, Kurunegala. The Guests of Honour at the opening ceremony were Most. Rev. Dr Vianney Fernando, Chairman of the Catholic National Commission

for Justice, Peace and Human Development and Mr. Vijitha Bandaranayake, Secretary of the Provincial Ministry of Agriculture, NWP with the participation of a number of distinguished guests as well as officials of the Provincial Ministry.



His Lordship Bishop Chairman in his message emphasized the mandatory role of the Government, in association with public sector institutions, to eradicate poverty through the promotion of food production by sustainable agricultural methods. The keynote address on the occasion was delivered by Prof. Piyal Marasinghe, Advisor to the Provincial Ministry of Health and Indigenous Medicine, Uva Province.

## World Food Day in Batticaloa Diocese

An event to mark World Food Day was held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at Kaluthavalai Cultural Hall in Ampara District with the participation of Rev. Fr. Geron de Lima, Director of Caritas EHED Batticaloa and the Lead

Farmers and beneficiaries of the Food Security Project as well as officials of the Dept. of Agriculture and Divisional Secretariat of Kalmunai. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Mr. K. Kopalaratnam, Divisional Secretary-Manmunai South, while



Ms. G. Sivagnanam, Assistant Director of Agricultural Services and Mr. T. Canagasabey, Retired Deputy Director of Agriculture were the Guests of Honour.

Around 500 project beneficiaries from Aithiamalai, Kalauthavalai, Salampakerny and Central Camp were also in attendance.



## Sustainable Agriculture Workshops

Subsistence farmers from Kurunegala, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Batticaloa and Ampara Districts participated in workshops on Sustainable Agriculture Techniques which help them to innovate and employ recycling methods apart from the conventional perks of farming. An example of such recycling is the use of crop waste or animal manure which can be transformed into fertilizer which helps to enrich the soil. Collection of rainwater and utilizing it for irrigation, as well as crop rotation, are other examples.



Eighty participants from Medawachchiya, Wahamagollawa and Padaviya attended a programme held at the Medawachchiya Parish Church on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015, while 65 persons from Gajabapura, Nelumwewa, Jayasirigama and Kaudulugama were present at a workshop held in Medirigiriya on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

In Kurunegala, the beneficiaries of the Caritas Food Security Project attended a programme held at Janasetha Training Centre on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2015.



Two similar workshops were held in Batticaloa also, on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

The main components of the above training sessions were organic farming methods, establishment of Domestic Economic Units, avoidance of harmful pesticides and fertilizers, Bio-intensive Integrated Pest Management, Crop Rotation, Cover Crops and Soil Enrichment. The sessions were facilitated by officials of the Dept. of Agriculture as well as the Diocesan Programme staff.

Liquid fertilizer is the quick, effective way to nourish the plants in a home garden. Liquid fertilizers work almost immediately, assuring continued, superlative growth and quick recovery for plants that are under-nourished. Project participants were given knowledge in preparation of liquid fertilizers by using locally available waste materials:

- a. "Jeewamurtha" liquid fertilizer using cow dung, molasses and cow urine,
- b. Liquid fertilizer using leaves of Gliricidia, Bowitiya, Murunga and cow dung,
- c. Fish Tonic,
- d. Fruit Tonic,
- e. Vermi-wash,
- f. Solution from cow dung and cow urine,
- g. Onion solution
- h. Coconut milk solution



Natural pest control is less expensive than buying and applying pesticides, and it's safer to use in the garden as it is not harmful to natural wildlife and the environment. Traditional Sri Lankan farmers used an identified set of plant species, found around their farming grounds, in pest control activities. They were not aware of the exact chemical composition of those plants that accounted for their respective activity of pest control. But the traditional knowledge that originated a long time ago, with their instinct, enriched by the experience and transferred from generation to generation, had been able to give promising results. Caritas gathered all traditional methods available in Sri Lanka and in South Asia and conducted the practical sessions for project participants. Knowledge on preparation methods of Margosa/Neem (*Azadirachta indica*) solution, Giliricidia solution, Red Chilli solution and 3G (Garlic, Green chille and Ginger) solution were provided to the participants.

## Introductory Workshops for Agricultural Instructors

Caritas Sri Lanka conducted three workshops on 26<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016 to introduce the Food Security project to Agricultural Instructors in the Dioceses of Kurunegala, Anuradhapura and Batticaloa who are

having a high level of technical knowhow in agriculture. It is expected of them to promote organic farming in the selected villages for Food Security Project interventions. They will supervise the establishment of Domestic Economic Units, help farmers to select crops for the home garden, assist them to prepare compost fertilizer, pest repellents, liquid fertilizer, and provide the expertise

to protect crops from pest and diseases. Mr. Sisira Kumara, Assistant Director, Department of Agriculture, Mrs. Priyanjani Madana, Provincial Director of Agriculture and Dr. S. Sutharsan, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, Eastern University facilitated the Workshops.



The ultimate aim of the programme is to promote home gardens which do not use poisonous, toxic chemicals, and thereby help to produce wholesome food varieties.

## Caritas Asia CREAM Programme–Regional Farmers’ Conference

The Climate Resilient, Eco-Friendly Agricultural Mainstreaming (CREAM) Programme of Caritas Asia has been promoting the usage of Sustainable Agriculture for many years now, through its implementing Caritas Member Organizations in South Asia and South East Asia.

National level programme support strategies such as awareness building among farmers, trainings, workshops, action research, exposures, exchange programmes, farmers' rights advocacy, farmers' conferences and many more are the vital components of the CREAM programme, particularly in promoting Sustainable Agriculture in Asia. The Annual Regional Farmers' Conferences are found to be very effective, as many farmers in these regions get the opportunity to share their knowledge and learn from one another. For the year 2015, the Regional Farmers' Conference was held in Nepal from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> April 2015.



Caritas Sri Lanka was invited to participate in the Conference, and a delegation comprising Mrs. Nilani Tissera, Project Coordinator for Food Security Project, Mr. W. A. D. Joseph Anthony, Lead Farmer and Volunteer from Caritas Kurunegala, and Mrs. P. W. G. Yasomanike, Lead Farmer from Caritas Anuradhapura participated both in the Conference and in the Programme Officers' Training on Climate Change organized by Caritas Asia in Dhulikhel, Nepal.

Several Case Studies were presented at the Conference sessions and experiences gathered from the Food Security Project were shared with other participants from 12 countries through documentary films prepared by Caritas Sri Lanka.

## Support for Poor Families towards a Decent Life

Caritas Slovenia supported five poor families in Kurunegala Diocese "*With work towards a decent life*". The families were selected from among participants in the Food Security Project in Kurunegala Diocese and given training on business planning. It was held on 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at "Janasetha" Centre, Kurunegala. Ms. Nilani Tissera, Consultant / Lead Trainer on Entrepreneurship Development and Food Security Programme Coordinator of Caritas Sri Lanka facilitated the training workshop.



At the end of the training, beneficiaries discussed their investment plans with the

Diocesan Director of Caritas Kurunegala, and each family was supported with Rs. 25,000.00 as start-up capital to commence their income generation activities.

The workshop covered five major components of IPM, namely pest identification, monitoring and assessing pest numbers and damage, guidelines for management action, preventing pest problems and using a combination of biological, cultural, physical/mechanical and chemical tools.

## **‘Zero Poverty’ Programme**

The objective of this programme is to address several issues that continue to have a bearing on poverty, and to implement programmes with a view to reducing the impact of poverty, thereby improving the quality of life of the low-income communities. The programme is being implemented in all Dioceses and the main focus is on increasing family incomes as well as reducing the cost of living and medical expenses in the longer term.

Therefore, most of the Dioceses have selected activities to promote organic farming methods and establish home gardens in every home. The other areas being addressed include health, education, human rights, mental health, alcoholism and so on. Particularly in the health sector, special attention is being given for the “Thalassaemia Prevention” programme in Kurunegala and Batticaloa, and the “Chronic Kidney Disease Prevention” programme in Anuradhapura. Apart from the above, a series of programmes to empower local communities to address these same issues are also being conducted, namely:

- Awareness programmes on special issues
- Skills trainings for individuals
- Vocational training for unemployed youth
- Self-employment projects
- Training on microfinance
- Mobile medical screening clinics at village level for Thalassaemia and Kidney diseases
- Distribution of organic home garden kits/seeds/plants etc.
- Revolving Loan systems for domestic small industries
- Value education programmes for family members and selected youth
- Psychosocial camps and counseling sessions for the needy
- Animal husbandry programme, including training by veterinary team



# Programme Coordination

Based on identified needs, the Programme Coordination Desk prepares and submits viable project proposals to potential donors for funding Caritas interventions that respond effectively to the ground situations in various Districts. The concept and design of such project proposals are preceded by research and surveys as well as consultations with Diocesan level implementing partners.

Yet for all, in the face of increasing donor fatigue and ‘phasing out’ by partners, the task of sourcing funds for Caritas projects and programmes continued to be a daunting challenge. Seen in this light, the persistent solidarity demonstrated by some of our funding partners is a remarkable feature and a source of much encouragement for our work.

In the period under review, a proposal to “Promote Ethnic and Religious Harmony Through Collective Community Action” was lodged with the European Union through CAFOD – UK. It is expected that, when approved, this programme would be implemented jointly with the National Peace Council.

A further proposal was submitted to CAFOD – UK based on the growing incidences of Chronic Kidney Diseases of Unknown Aetiology (CKDu) in the Dioceses of Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Jaffna, Mannar and Batticaloa. This was in pursuance of the findings during a previous CAFOD-funded project implemented in these Dioceses under the title ‘Water Resource Management and Women’s Empowerment’.

Proposals were also submitted to the Australian High Commission on the subject of “Behaviour Shaping: Enhancement of Life Skills and Value Education for Vulnerable Youth”, and to the Commonwealth Fund on the subject of “Empowering Women’s Community Development Societies to Lead Local Change”.

Meantime, application was made and funds approved by the donor concerned for the second year continuation of the project titled “Integral Human Development – Civic Dialogue and Cross Community Activities”.

## Quarterly Newsletters of the year



# Special Events and Meetings

## Felicitation for Buddhist prelate

Venerable Dr. Ittapane Dhammalankara Mahanayake Thero who was elevated to the high office of Mahanayake (Chief Prelate) of the Kotte Sri Kalyani Samasridharma Maha Sangha Sabhawa was honoured at a felicitation event held at Caritas Sri Lanka auditorium on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2015 under the patronage of His Eminence Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith, Archbishop of Colombo and President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Sri Lanka. Among others present on the occasion were Most Rev. Dr. Vianney Fernando, Chairman of Caritas Sri Lanka SEDEC, Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of SEDEC and several members of the Catholic and Buddhist clergy.



Welcoming the participants, Fr. Sigamoney said that the Buddhist prelate's appointment is a great honour for the whole of Sri Lanka and that it is of special significance to Caritas, not only because of the Venerable Thero's long and close association with the institution but also because of his well-known commitment to justice, peace and interreligious harmony.

Bishop Vianney Fernando in his introduction said that the Ven. Thero's appointment is not a surprise to any of us because he is eminently suited to hold this high office. Caritas was glad to arrange this felicitation for someone like him who had shown great courage in all what he said and did, His Lordship said, adding that the Church wants to work with the Buddhists to raise our combined voices in all the national issues facing the country.

Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith noted that the Ven. Thero had once written a book titled "*Malpale upan pansale piyathuma*" about the late Fr. Marcelline Jayakody and that it was the first ever instance of a Buddhist monk writing a book about a Catholic priest. "Ven. Thero is a good and devout





Buddhist who not only holds fast to Buddha Dhamma but also lives the Dhamma“, His Eminence said, recalling further that during the time of the military conflict in the North and East, Ven. Ittapane Dhammalankara Thero was closely associated with the Church in its peace building efforts to achieve a united Sri Lanka. He is presently the Chair of the Congress of Religions and gives that movement a vibrant leadership, Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith noted.

Accepting a memento presented to him on the occasion by His Eminence the Cardinal, Ven. Thero said that he cannot remember whether there ever was an occasion such as this where the Catholic Church felicitated a Buddhist prelate in this manner. “This is the very first time, and it is unique indeed”, he said. Though we as religious leaders have associated so closely with each other, we still have not fully understood our role in this country, especially with regard to the national question and other religious issues, he observed. “Religious leaders can help to find solutions to these conflicts and to help bring about reconciliation, and that is something the politicians cannot do because they have a different agenda. Religious leaders fully understand the need for unity even in the midst of several forces that are at work to divide our people”, Ven. Thero said in conclusion.

Rev. Fr. Paaris Jayamaha, Diocesan Director of Caritas Anuradhapura Sethsaviya proposed a Vote of Thanks on behalf of the organizing committee.

## **SEDEC Staff on Lenten Recollection**

The Director and staff of Caritas Sri Lanka National Centre participated in a Lenten Recollection Programme at Hiniduma Calvary Shrine on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016. The Retreat was preached by Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka. A ‘Way of the Cross’ and Holy Mass celebrated at the 12<sup>th</sup> Station were the other highlights of the Lenten Recollection.

## **CRS Delegation visits Sri Lanka**

Mr. Greg Aubrey, Asia Regional Director for Catholic Relief Services visited Sri Lanka from 12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> September, accompanied by Ms. Michelle Neukirchen, Head of Programmes for Sri Lanka, Nepal, India and Bangladesh.

During the visit, the delegates held discussions with Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director on the subject of on-going programmes and future cooperation between the two organizations, with a special focus on the latest Caritas Strategic Plan for 2015-2018 and how it would coalesce with the overall strategy of CRS in the Region.





The visiting delegates also travelled to Mannar to inspect the progress of the Centre for Disabled operated by Valvuthayam under the guidance of Rev. Fr. M. Jeyabalan, Diocesan Director of Caritas Mannar and supported by CRS. This Centre provides a wide range of services including prosthetic, orthotic and physiotherapy as well as providing assistive devices, braces and wheelchairs in addition to comprehensive mobility training and mobile services/home visits.

In Kandy, the delegates visited SETIK and held discussions with Rev. Fr. Desmond Perera, Diocesan Director of Caritas Kandy with respect to the progress of the programme being implemented in the plantations in Matale District for the past nine years. The aim of this program is to create a safe environment on tea estates for plantation workers so that they may live in dignity and have their basic rights secured in terms of housing, health, education, infrastructure facilities and access to Government services and benefits.

### Visit of Caritas Swiss Delegate

Ms. Pamela Stathakis, Programme Manager for Pakistan and Sri Lanka in Caritas Swiss visited Sri Lanka from 13<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> November 2015. During the visit she held discussions with Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka and also joined the needs assessment conducted in Trincomalee and Mullaitivu for a new housing project which, when implemented, would benefit conflict-affected families in the two Districts.



### Visit of Rev. Fr. Herbert Kaefer of Misereor

Fr. Herbert Kaefer who is a volunteer in fund-raising for Misereor, Germany was in Sri Lanka on a 3-day visit from 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> of October during which he visited the Galle Diocese where he was received by Rev. Fr. Michael Rajendram, Director of Caritas SEDGalle.



The aim of Fr. Herbert's visit was to get an understanding of the living standards of plantation communities who are in the front lines of tea production in this country.

Fr. Herbert visited tea estates in Deniyaya where he could meet and interact with plantation workers. He also held discussions with members of the Vigilant Committees established in some of the estates under the Green Gold Harvesters Project initiated by Caritas Sri Lanka. This project, supported by Misereor, is being implemented in the Dioceses of Ratnapura, Kandy and Badulla as well.

## Visit by Caritas Norway Delegate

Mr. Aron Halfen, Caritas Norway Programme Coordinator for Asia and Africa visited Sri Lanka from 12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> October 2015. During his stay, he held discussions with Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka and visited the Dioceses of Jaffna, Kurunegala, Batticaloa and Anuradhapura where projects and programmes supported by Caritas Norway are being implemented.



In Kurunegala, Mr. Aron met with members of the Interreligious Forum set up under the Religious Amity project. This is one of the 50 such Forums formed in all the Dioceses. The Forum members in Kurunegala shared their views on the challenges faced in working for religious harmony. Mr. Aron also held discussions with the Director and staff of Caritas Kurunegala Janasetha on the subject of Food Security programmes implemented in that region, and later he had the opportunity to view the World Food Day Exhibition organized by Caritas Kurunegala in collaboration with the Provincial Department of Agriculture of the North Western Province.

In Adithyamalai, Batticaloa the Director and staff of Caritas Batticaloa EHED met Mr. Aron for discussions about the Food Security project. Special emphasis was placed on the issues of water scarcity in this area, not only for drinking but also for home gardening which helps to enhance food security. Ganthiriyagama and Ussana villages were the places of visit for Mr. Aron in Anuradhapura where he was joined by two Caritas Norway Interns working in Sri Lanka. A distribution of perennial plants and seeds to the villagers of Ussana for use as future inputs for their Domestic Economic Units was one of the activities engaged in by the visitors. In Ganthiriyagama, they learnt that there is so strong sense of food security among the residents



who have the benefit of consuming healthy, non-contaminated food grown by them. Their home garden projects have helped to not only foster family unity and social harmony but there is also a viable savings and credit scheme which has been established and strengthened.

In Jaffna, too, he held discussions with the Director and staff of Caritas Jaffna HUDEC regarding various aspects of the interreligious movement. He witnessed one of the language learning classes in progress while also taking the opportunity to visit some refugee welfare centres as well as a few houses built by Caritas Australia for resettled families. He also called at the NEFAD Fishnet Factory initiated by HUDEC as a livelihood project which benefits many war widows. The Interreligious Forum in Kilinochchi met Mr. Aron at the Kandasamy Hindu Temple and briefed him on the efforts taken by them to build harmonious relationships among the various religious groups. They also pointed out that the language learning classes are being continued, with much interest being shown by the participants in spite of the distances some of them have to travel to attend these lessons. It was also pointed out that there is the need to work closely with the youth since these young people are living in the midst of many social evils, violence and crime, and are prone to such negative influences.

## **Exposure Visit to Sri Lanka by Co-operative Credit Union**

A team of eight Co-operative Credit Union leaders and two Programme Officers from Mymensingh Region of Caritas Bangladesh visited Sri Lanka from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> October 2015 on an exposure tour aimed at familiarizing themselves with similar systems operating in Sri Lanka.

During their visit, they studied the community mobilization process and community - managed savings and credit system implemented by Caritas Sri Lanka network, as well as others such as the systems and procedures of Women Development Federation of Hambantota with nearly 70,000 members and its own banking system and social mobilization techniques. At a briefing lecture held at SEDEC Conference Hall, Dr. Sunil Silva, General Secretary/Chief Executive Officer, National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka gave them the background of the Co-operative Movement in the country and also accompanied the visitors to the Ratnapura Co-operative Rural Bank Society. This visit was organized by Caritas Ratnapura Diocesan Centre. Further, the visitors were able to get





insights into the “SANASA” Movement and “SANASA” Development Banking System which work together.

The visitors also met with Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka, Rev. Fr. B. A. Shriyan Fernando, Diocesan Director, Caritas Ratnapura and Rev. Fr. Damian Arsakularatne, former Diocesan Director, Caritas SED Galle for

wide range of discussions on how the social animation programmes of Caritas Sri Lanka have led to the formation of a large number of Self Help Groups (SHGs) who are symbolic of the empowerment process espoused by Caritas Sri Lanka. Most of these groups have been federated into independent Community Based Organizations (CBOs) which operate a variety of savings and credit schemes including Revolving Loan Funds.



## Post-War Healing Mission of the Church

Caritas Sri Lanka honoured nearly 50 persons who had rendered yeoman service in delivering humanitarian assistance for war affected families, both during and after the end of the military conflict in the North and East. Among those whose work was appreciated were Bishops, Caritas Diocesan Directors and their staff as well as volunteers, public servants and civil society leaders.

Welcoming participants to the event held at SEDEC auditorium on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2015 under the patronage of the Apostolic Nuncio, His Excellency Most Rev. Dr. Pierre Nguyen Van Tot, Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka said that this was an occasion



where Caritas as a Church organization would look back at a journey with war affected communities during the past three decades.” The dynamic role of the Church and our wide range of projects and programmes carried out can be summarized in one short sentence”, Fr. Sigamoney said. “That is - we did all this to share the love of Jesus with our fellowmen”.



It is also proper for Caritas to remember, recognize and appreciate those who had accompanied the Church in this journey, especially those who faced unspeakable challenges in the course of their work and even suffered injury and death, Fr. Sigamoney added. “Nothing of what we did was easy work and none of it could have been accomplished without the cooperation and collaboration of many who partnered with us, both within and outside the Caritas network”, he said. “The very essence of the Caritas mission is that we continue to remain alive and alert to the needs of the people, anytime and anywhere”.

Most Rev. Dr. Vianney Fernando, Chairman of the Catholic National Commission for Justice, Peace and Human Development in his message said that as the social arm of the Catholic Church, Caritas Sri Lanka SEDEC is mandated to respond, in the light of the Gospels and in the light of the social teachings of the Church, to various humanitarian crisis situations, including natural and man-made disasters. SEDEC is also called upon to engage in the work of human development, to strive for peace and build a just society based on human dignity and human rights. It is this mandate that SEDEC endeavours to fulfill through the collaboration of its National Centre and the various Diocesan Centres which function under the guidance of the respective Bishops. “Today, our hearts are filled with gratitude as we look back on how we have responded to such situations. We remember all those who helped us to wipe away the tears of the many whose lives were shattered by the painful experiences they had to undergo”, His Lordship said.

A publication titled “Reflections of Love” which gives a snapshot view of the activities carried out by Caritas during the period under review was released at this event. It was compiled and edited by Mr. Trevor Ludowyke, a well-known Catholic writer, broadcaster and lay leader.



A second publication launched on this day was a book which articulates the perspectives offered by different faiths on the restoration of human dignity. Titled “Respecting human dignity-expressions from religious teachings”, it was compiled and edited by Mr. Freddie Jayawardene of Caritas Sri Lanka National Centre.

Addressing the meeting participants among whom were several Catholic Bishops, priests, members of the Diplomatic Corps and international agencies, Brigadier L. C. Perera (Retd) who had served in the operational areas spoke of the cooperation and close rapport between Caritas and the military authorities in delivering much needed humanitarian assistance to the people, while Mr. N. Vethanayahan, District Secretary of Jaffna in his remarks said that as a public servant who had served in several affected Districts, it was a unique experience for him to work with a religious organization to rebuild the lives of the people.



## Visit of Caritas Australia Delegate

Mr. Michael Peyra, Programme Coordinator of Caritas Australia visited Sri Lanka from 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> August 2015 during which period he participated in an event held at SEDEC Auditorium to mark the Post-War Healing Mission of the Church as well as visiting the Jaffna Diocese to review the progress of housing projects supported by Caritas Australia.

In Kilinochchi District, 27 houses had been completed in the village of Udayanagar and 9 houses repaired in Unionkulam, while in Jaffna District 14 houses are being built in Vasanthapuram, Columbuthurai. During his stay in Sri Lanka, Mr. Peyra also held discussions with the National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka, Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney and the Director of Caritas Jaffna HUDEC, Rev. Fr. A. J. Yavis while also taking time to meet several housing beneficiary families in the project areas.



Mr. Peyra again visited Sri Lanka from 10<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> November 2015. In Colombo, Mr. Peyra facilitated discussions for two officials of the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Ms. Natassia Kaufman and Ms. Heather Fitt with Rev. Fr. George Sigamoney, National Director of Caritas Sri Lanka and also with a team of Programme Officers of Caritas National Centre.

In addition, Mr. Peyra visited the Batticaloa Diocese where Caritas Australia supported programmes on Healing and Reconciliation are being implemented. He met with a group of 22 civil societies and religious leaders at the EHED office while in Pavatkodichenai village; he met with the Village Peace Committee and Youth Committee whose members shared their experiences about the exposure visits they had earlier undertaken to other areas.



Mr. Peyra also visited Kaluthawalai which is a new location that has been targeted for setting up a village peace committee. These field visits were arranged under the guidance of Rev. Fr. Geron De Lima, Diocesan Director of EHED Batticaloa.



# OUTLOOK – issues and challenges

*The events of 2015/16 have exposed the limits of our capacity to help all those who are in need. At the same time, the call to continue working for social justice, peace, healing, reconciliation and integral human development gives an insight into the diverse nature of our mandate.*

*Therefore, it is not easy to look with optimism towards the coming year, especially since the humanitarian system is undergoing change and a new orientation may be necessary because the current system seems unable to cope with the demand to remain focused on the several crises that are unfolding on the world stage.*

*Exploring ways to empower grass root communities, build their resilience to crises and increase their self help capacities is an approach that will have to be seriously studied. As well, much energy will have to be invested on exploring local fund raising avenues in order to offset the decline in foreign donor funding.*

*Strengthening the existing partnerships and building new networks will be another priority as we move forward to face new challenges awaiting us. Joint cooperation with others, sharing experiences, expertise and know-how may enhance our own capacities to be pro-active.*

## PROJECT OVERVIEW - 1 April 2015 to 31st March 2016 ( Project Wise )

| Particulars   | Agency             | Amount (LKR)       | Total (LKR)        | %           |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Advocacy towards Reconciliation, Unity & Good governance -322-900-1112  | Misereor           | 9,700,800          | 9,700,800          | 4.85%       |
| Advocacy, Capacity Building & Guidance for Safe Migration -Ref 011-15   | Caritas Japan      | 1,997,698          | 1,997,698          | 1.00%       |
| Construction of Pre Schools in Mutur - Trincomalee  | Wilde Ganzen       | 5,230,356          | 5,230,356          | 2.61%       |
| Construction of St. Mary's Educational center in Jaffna   |                    | 2,984,463          | 2,984,463          | 1.49%       |
| Creating a Conducive Environment for Religious Amity -213-332   | Caritas Norway     | 11,843,874         | 11,843,874         | 5.92%       |
| Educational Support for Poor Children with Special Needs & Livelihood Assistance to War Affected Women -D 140312009   | Kinder mission     | 3,005,000          | 3,005,000          | 1.50%       |
| Empowerment of the Green Gold Harvesters by Strengthening of Workers Rights -322-900-1086   | Misereor           | 8,969,600          | 8,969,600          | 4.48%       |
| Fostering Community Mobilization towards Conflict Transformation 2013 -105344   | Cordaid            | 3,503,922          | 3,503,922          | 1.75%       |
| Fostering Religious Harmony - Ref 019-15  | Caritas Japan      | 1,998,000          | 1,998,000          | 1.00%       |
| Housing for War Widows in Northern & Eastern Sri Lanka -P150097   | Caritas Swiss      | 27,347,369         | 27,347,369         | 13.66%      |
| Initiating a global approach in supporting & empowering migrants throughout the migration cycle & asylum-seekers and refugees in Lebanon- DCI – MIGR/2012/282-595 | Caritas Luxembourg | 1,631,040          | 1,631,040          | 0.81%       |
| Integral Human Development – Civic Dialogue & Cross Community Activities  | Caritas Korea      | 7,239,638          | 7,239,638          | 3.62%       |
| Livelihood Assistance for War affected families in Sri Lanka -SLK 279   | CAFOD              | 7,991,586          | 7,991,586          | 3.99%       |
| Micro Finance Scheme - 6/2015/CPZ   | Caritas Poland     | 19,725,248         | 19,725,248         | 9.85%       |
| Overall Evaluation of Caritas Swiss programmes  | Caritas Swiss      | 186,482            | 186,482            | 0.09%       |
| Promoting , Healing & Reconciliation for Sustainable Peace  | Caritas Australia  | 8,526,501          | 8,526,501          | 4.26%       |
| Reconstruction of Permanent Core Houses and Livelihood support for Tsunami & War affected Families in Sri Lanka - P 120141  | Caritas Swiss      | 13,229,473         | 13,229,473         | 6.61%       |
| Resettlement for IDPS affected by War -322-009-1030   | Misereor           | 662,300            | 662,300            | 0.33%       |
| Resettlement for the IDPs Affected by the War-322-003-1028  |                    | 13,699,460         | 13,699,460         | 6.84%       |
| Resettlement programme in Jaffna District   | Caritas Australia  | 10,412,739         | 10,412,739         | 5.20%       |
| Scholarship Programme -7/2015/CPZ   | Caritas Poland     | 20,192,669         | 20,192,669         | 10.09%      |
| Substantiation of Community Institutions for Sustainable Agriculture to Ensure Food Security 113 -191   | Caritas Norway     | 8,267,529          | 8,267,529          | 4.13%       |
| Support to Flood Affected Families-START Project-SLK 272  | CAFOD              | 206,145            | 206,145            | 0.10%       |
| Supporting Primary Education of poor & vulnerable children  | Caritas Korea      | 9,912,970          | 9,912,970          | 4.95%       |
| Water Resource Management & Womens Empowerment -SLK 264   | CAFOD              | 1,582,960          | 1,582,960          | 0.79%       |
| With work towards a decent life support for poor families in Sri Lanka  | Caritas Slovenia   | 140,570            | 140,570            | 0.07%       |
|   |                    | <b>200,188,392</b> | <b>200,188,392</b> | <b>100%</b> |

## PROJECT OVERVIEW - 1 April 2015 to 31st March 2016 ( Partner Wise )

| Agency             | Particulars   | Amount (LKR)       | Total (LKR)        | %           |
|--------------------|---|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| CAFOD              | Support to Flood Affected Families-START Project-SLK 272  | 206,145            |                    |             |
|                    | Water Resource Management and Womens Empowerment - SLK 264  | 1,582,960          |                    |             |
|                    | Livelihood Assistance for War affected families in Sri Lanka -SLK 279   | 7,991,586          | 9,780,691          | 4.89%       |
| Caritas Australia  | Resettlemnt programme in Jaffna District  | 10,412,739         |                    |             |
|                    | Promoting, Healing and Reconciliation for Sustainable Peace   | 8,526,501          | 18,939,240         | 9.46%       |
| Caritas Japan      | Advocacy, Capacity Building & Guidance for Safe Migration -Ref 011-15   | 1,997,698          |                    |             |
|                    | Fostering Religious Harmony-Ref 019-15  | 1,998,000          | 3,995,698          | 2.00%       |
| Caritas Korea      | Supporting Primary Education of poor & vulnerable children  | 9,912,970          |                    |             |
|                    | Integral Human Development – Civic Dialogue & Cross Community Activities  | 7,239,638          | 17,152,608         | 8.57%       |
| Caritas Luxembourg | Initiating a global approach in supporting & empowering migrants throughout the migration cycle & asylum-seekers and refugees in Lebanon-DCI –MIGR/2012/282-595 | 1,631,040          | 1,631,040          | 0.81%       |
| Caritas Norway     | Substantiation of Community Institutions for Sustainable Agriculture to Ensure Food Security 113 -191   | 8,267,529          |                    |             |
|                    | Creating a Conducive Environment for Religious Amity -213-332   | 11,843,874         | 20,111,403         | 10.05%      |
| Caritas Poland     | Micro Finance Scheme - 6/2015/CPZ   | 19,725,248         |                    |             |
|                    | Scholarship Programme -7/2015/CPZ   | 20,192,669         | 39,917,917         | 19.94%      |
| Caritas Slovenia   | With work towards a decent life support for poor families in Sri Lanka  | 140,570            | 140,570            | 0.07%       |
| Caritas Swiss      | Housing for War Widows in Northern & Eastern Sri Lanka -P150097   | 27,347,369         |                    |             |
|                    | Reconstruction of Permanent Core Houses & Livelihood support for Tsunami & War affected Families in Sri Lanka - P 120141  | 13,229,473         |                    |             |
|                    | Overall Evaluation of Caritas Swiss programmes.   | 186,482            | 40,763,324         | 20.36%      |
| Cordaid            | Fostering Community Mobilization towards Conflict Transformation 2013 –105344   | 3,503,922          | 3,503,922          | 1.75%       |
| Kindermission      | Educational Support for Poor Children with Special Needs & Livelihood Assistance to War Affected Women -D 140312009   | 3,005,000          | 3,005,000          | 1.50%       |
| Misereor           | Empowerment of the Green Gold Harvesters by Strengthening of Workers Rights -322-900-1086   | 8,969,600          |                    |             |
|                    | Resettlement for IDPS affected by War -322-009-1030   | 662,300            |                    |             |
|                    | Advocacy towards Reconciliation, Unity & Good governance -322-900-1112  | 9,700,800          |                    |             |
|                    | Resettlement for the IDPs Affected by the War -322-003-1028   | 13,699,460         | 33,032,160         | 16.50%      |
| Wilde Ganzen       | Construction of Pre Schools in Mutur-Trincomalee  | 5,230,356          |                    |             |
|                    | Construction of St. Mary's Educational center in Jaffna   | 2,984,463          | 8,214,819          | 4.10%       |
|                    |   | <b>200,188,392</b> | <b>200,188,392</b> | <b>100%</b> |



# Appreciations

*Caritas Sri Lanka and the Diocesan Centres appreciate the cooperation, assistance and encouragement we received from all the Partners who support our endeavours:*

- Caritas Internationalis
- Caritas Asia
- Caritas Australia
- Caritas England & Wales / CAFOD
- Caritas Germany
- Caritas Italiana
- Caritas Japan
- Caritas Korea
- Caritas Luxembourg
- Caritas Norway
- Caritas Poland
- Caritas Singapore
- Caritas Slovenia
- Caritas Switzerland
- Catholic Relief Services (CRS – USA)
- CORDAID
- Kindermissionwerk
- MISEREOR
- Missio
- SCIAF
- Trocaire
- Wilde Ganzen

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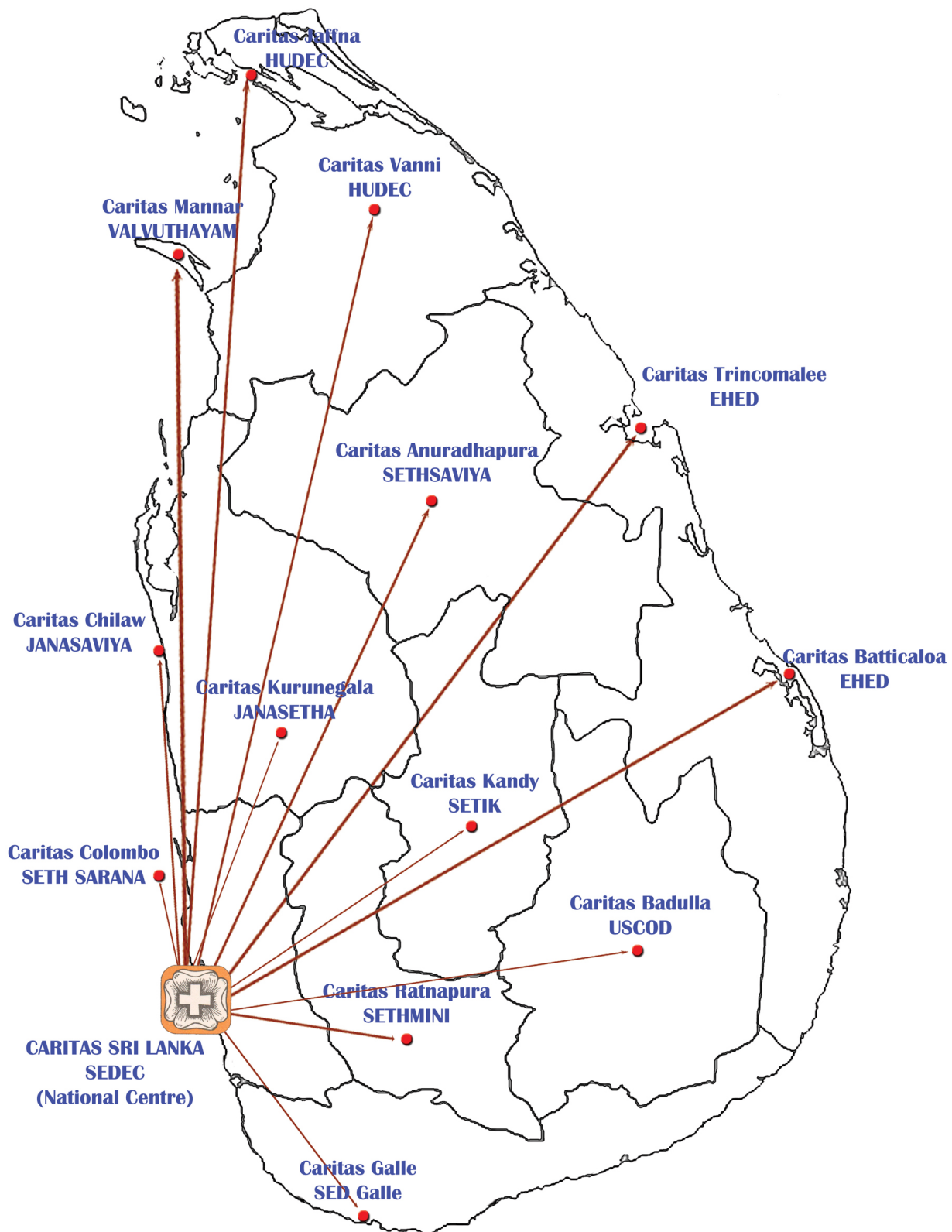
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