



Caritas

SRI LANKA - SEDEC



**THE AFFLICTED SHALL EAT AND BE SATISFIED;
THOSE WHO SEEK HIM SHALL PRAISE THE LORD!**

- PSALM 22:26 -



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ANNUAL REPORT



Cover Story

In the face of Sri Lanka's financial crisis, countless families were left with uncertainty and hardship to secure basic needs and keep their children's education on track. At this juncture Caritas Sri Lanka stepped forward, becoming a pillar of support for those most affected. Guided by the words of scripture, "The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the Lord!" we have worked tirelessly to bring relief and hope to those in need. Food distribution and educational and medical support were a relief for the needy and our actions were a testament to strengthening the most vulnerable among us. Caritas Sri Lanka stands proud of the humanitarian mission and we remain steadfast in bringing light into the lives of those who need it most.

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.”

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

MISSION

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Message from the Bishop Chairman

We are currently facing tremendous difficulties and challenges, with numerous obstacles arising from the political landscape, economic crisis, and leadership changes. This situation is akin to a ship navigating through turbulent waters during a storm.

As citizens, we have yet to see any effective Sri Lankan model introduced by the current leadership. This is deeply unfortunate, as the lack of good governance has caused the people to suffer through this economic crisis for nearly several years. Despite having ample time to develop a program or system to address the crisis, no meaningful progress has been made.

However, navigating through these turbulences and uncertain times requires resilience, determination, and adaptability. We must remain committed to managing these effectively, learning from the daily challenges we face, and emerging stronger and more resilient. Standing in solidarity as a nation will help us to overcome these difficulties together.

Caritas Sri Lanka – SEDEC works with the marginalized and vulnerable population who have lost hope of the future, due to narrow-minded political leadership and ongoing economic crisis. Caritas Sri Lanka provides humanitarian assistance to a carefully selected group based on specific criteria, aiming to address their needs while implementing effective changes in the programs. These programs were meticulously planned in consultation with our valuable funding partners with the ultimate goal of keeping the Church and nation vigilant against injustices.

As Religious leaders, we must consider developing a multi-religious approach to foster unity and solidarity and to work towards eradicating violence and hatred from the minds and hearts of the people.

Lastly, I extend my sincere appreciation to our Caritas International Partners for their timely emergency support and collaboration. Together, we believe we can make a significant difference and save many lives during this unprecedented economic crisis.

As we look ahead, let us continue to walk together in faith, hope, and love. Let us remain steadfast in our mission to serve and support one another, always guided by the light of Christ.

Most Rev. Dr. Justin Gnanapragasam

Bishop of Jaffna & Chairman, Caritas Sri Lanka - SEDEC

Message from the National Director

In the spirit of our mission, I am reminded of the words of the esteemed philosopher Albert Schweitzer, who once said, "The purpose of human life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others." These words are connected deeply with the essence of Caritas Sri Lanka's vision and mission as they encapsulate the driving force behind our endeavours.

The year 2022/23 had been challenging as Sri Lanka is facing the unprecedented economic crisis and finding possible solutions to mitigate the situation. Sri Lanka's GDP gradually fell very low within the year towards a rise in inflation. In that period, the entire nation flocked together for a mass protest against the bad governance and economic mismanagement. The citizens experienced the pathetic situations of losing jobs, facing with economic losses, doubling of expenditure, increasing poverty and child malnutrition. It was reported that many families were compelled to switch to a less nutritious diet or forgo a meal.

In the aftermath of the 2022 economic crisis that gripped Sri Lanka, Caritas responded with resilience and compassion. Despite the adversities, Caritas Sri Lanka doubled its commitment to serving those most affected by mobilizing resources, initiating relief programs, and supporting the families grappling with economic hardships. At the same time, In the face of a mass protest against the bad governance and economic mismanagement, Caritas organized a solidarity and organized Silent Prayer Campaigns as advocacy measures. All 13 diocesan Caritas Centers had been working with dedication to the well-being of the most vulnerable. Through our various programs and initiatives, we have were able to alleviate suffering, promote sustainable development, and foster a sense of community among those we serve. This showcased our togetherness and genuine commitment to building a more resilient communities. We aim to achieve success in our projects and embody a spirit of service and compassion in everything we do.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to all the individuals, Caritas Global partners, and stakeholders who have the driving force behind our successes, and together, we can continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those in need.

Caritas means Love and Charity. As we move forward, let us renew our commitment to serving humanity with love and compassion. May our actions be a testament to the enduring power of empathy and solidarity, lighting the way for a brighter, more compassionate future.

Fr. Luke Nelson Perera
National Director

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Dinesh Weerakkody

Mr Dinesh Weerakkody is the Chairman of Hatton National Bank PLC, Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce Sri Lanka and Cornucopia Sri Lanka. He holds several honorary Advisory roles in the current government. He currently serves in several of private sector and MNC boards and Chairs / Member of the Audit Committee and the Remuneration Committee in several of those companies. He is a Council Member of the Employers Federation of Ceylon and the Institute of Directors of Sri Lanka. He is a member of the CIMA Asia Pacific Industry Advisory Body. Mr Weerakkody has published widely on Economics, Banking and Finance, HR, Leadership, Management, International Relations and development issues. He is the author of six books and is a regular business speaker / commentator.



Mr. Shanaka Ranasinghe

Mr. Shanaka Ranasinghe President's Counsel, was called to the Bar in Sri Lanka in October 1986. During 1987-1995 he functioned as a member of the Attorney General's Department. He was appointed as 'Principal Magistrate' in the Solomon Islands during this period and subsequently reverted to private practice in 1995 and developed an extensive practice in the criminal field. He was appointed as a President's Counsel in 2012.



Ms. Shehara Jayawardana

Ms. Shehara Jayawardana serves as the Joint Managing Director of McLarens Group. McLarens Group is a diverse conglomerate with over 60 companies and has its core business in the shipping, marine and logistics sectors. Ms. Shehara is also the Founding President of WISTA Sri Lanka, a global network for empowering women in the maritime sector. She was also appointed as the Treasurer of the Ceylon Association of Shipping Agents. She holds a MSc. in Shipping, Trade and Finance with Honors from City University, CASS Business School, London, UK and BSc. in Economics with Honors from London School of Economics, UK."



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr. Yu Hwa Li

Mr. Yu Hwa Li is the National Director, Habitat for Humanity Sri Lanka and an experienced NGO leader in international development and project management and brings a wealth of knowledge. Mr. Li has served World Vision and Caritas Sri Lanka SEDEC previously and serves on the Boards of LEADS and Lanka Financial Services for Underserved Settlements. He is a member of the Sri Lanka Institute of Directors (SLID).



Mr. Angelo M. Patrick

Mr. Angelo M. Patrick holds an MBA from the University of Colombo and is a Fellow Member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (UK) and a Member of the Institute of Marketing (UK). He has held Directorates and Senior Management positions over the past 45 years in Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Canada. He is presently a Group Director Capital Maharaja Organisation Ltd, having previously held the positions of Managing Director NDBS Stock Brokers Ltd, Director (Carson Cumberbatch & Co Ltd, Senior Management Consultant, Bank of Ceylon. Mr. Patrick is also a Non Executive, Independent Director of Richard Pieris Exports plc.



Mr. Tony Candappa

Mr. Tony Candappa, was a banker for 35 years, 15 years at American Express Bank and 20 years at Union Bank of Colombo PLC, lastly as the Vice President - Treasury. Presently employed as a consultant at SAFE Holdings Pvt Ltd.



Mr. Victor Silva

Mr. Victor Silva is a Fellow Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka, Fellow Member (retired) of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, U.K and Fellow Member (retired) of the Chartered Institute of Marketing, U.K. He was employed at the Ceylon Tobacco Company Limited and held several key management positions in Finance and Administration. He was elected as the Secretary of the Catholic National Association of Laity, the representative body for all Catholic lay faithful of Sri Lanka.



List of Acronyms

CBO	Community Based Organizations
CESM	Community Empowerment & Safe Migration
CI	Caritas Internationalis
CSL	Caritas Sri Lanka
DC	Diocesan Centre
DFCC	Development Finance Corporation of Ceylon
DRRM	Disaster Risk Reduction & Management
ECPP	Ecological Conservation & Plantation People
GGH	Green Gold Harvesters
LLPP	Lighting the Lives of the Plantation People
MOH	Medical Officer of Health
MSME	Micro Small & Medium Enterprises
PwDs	Person with Disabilities
SAFS	Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security
SPJ	Sustainable Peace & Justice
SSEP	Stepping Stone to Safeguarding Sri Lanka's Resources
STEAM	Science Technology Engineering Arts & Maths
VLVC	Village Level Vigilant Committee

Community Empowerment and Safe Migration (CESM) Unit

The Community Empowerment and Safe Migration Unit (CESM) of Caritas Sri Lanka has been implementing projects and programs in accordance with the Strategic Plan for 2022-2025. Currently, the unit is engaged in education support, community development, and empowerment projects through initiatives focused on livelihood support, women's empowerment, and water and sanitation. Additionally, the unit addresses migration-related issues faced by urban, semi-urban, rural, and estate communities, including human trafficking and illegal migration.

Projects implemented by CESM during 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023,

No	Name of the project	Diocese/ Partner Organization	Direct beneficiaries
1	Primary Education Support for Poor and Vulnerable Children	Dioceses of Chilaw, Galle, Kandy, and Ratnapura	242 preschool children, 14 preschool teachers, 496 primary children
2	Micro Projects- funded by Irasil Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diocese of Anuradhapura- St. Joseph's Academy Nelumkulama • Major seminary Jaffna • Diocese of Kurunegala (05 projects) • Diocese of Mannar (02 projects) • Don Bosco Mannar (02 projects) • Diocese of Batticaloa • Special Needs Institute • Diocese of Galle (02 projects), and CODESEP 	More than 2,520 individuals
3	CSL- DFCC bank scholarship programme	Diocese of Badulla, Chilaw, Colombo, Galle, Kandy, Kurunegala, Ratnapura, Vanni and National Center	182 children
4	Education assistance for the Children of war and economic crisis-affected families	Diocese of Anuradhapura, Batticaloa, Jaffna, Mannar, Trincomalee & Vanni	450 children
5	Water Projects- funded by Projects Lanka	Diocese of Kurunegala	16 schools
6	Educational assistance for children/ youth affected by Easter Sunday bomb in Batticaloa Diocese	Diocese of Batticaloa	65 children
7	Nutrition and wellbeing support for children affected by the economic crisis	Diocese of Anuradhapura, Badulla, Trincomalee, Rathnapura and Vanni	1,700 children

1. Supporting Primary Education for Poor and Vulnerable Children Programme

The three-year project, "Supporting Primary Education for Poor and Vulnerable Children," spanning from 2021 to 2023, represents a vital initiative within the Dioceses of Chilaw, Galle, Kandy, and Ratnapura in Sri Lanka. Funded by Caritas Korea, this project is a lifeline to those living in rural areas where government education services remain inaccessible.

In this phase, Caritas Sri Lanka has particularly emphasized the needs of the Plantation sector. The selected target areas have been selected based on special issues like natural disasters, religious and ethnic conflicts, and deep poverty, with many residents living below the official poverty line, surviving on less than Rs. 4,853 (approximately USD 28.05) per adult per month, as per data from the Sri Lanka Department of Census & Statistics in August 2019.

The project focuses on children from extremely impoverished, disaster-affected, and marginalized families who are unable to afford education, let alone send their children to better schools. Many of these children lack the financial means to go to schools in urban areas and often face rejection from these schools due to these circumstances.



In the Chilaw Diocese, there is a great effort to prepare preschool children for transition to local primary schools, thereby improving the struggles of impoverished families trying to secure education for their children.

In the Dioceses of Galle, Kandy, and Ratnapura, where natural disasters such as droughts, floods, and landslides occur frequently, families face substantial difficulties in sending their children to better schools. As part of this project, educational support is provided to empower students in selected rural and marginalized schools to sit for the Government's Grade 5 Scholarship Exam, offering them a better chance to secure admission to quality urban schools and pursue a brighter future through education.

The project's primary goal is "Children of crisis-affected, most vulnerable, and poor communities in the Dioceses of Chilaw, Galle, Kandy & Ratnapura who lack education

opportunities are facilitated with educational support and enabled to join regular schools to continue their education from 2022 onwards.” This goal symbolizes hope, empowerment, and a pathway to a brighter future for those who have historically been marginalized, ensuring that every child, regardless of their circumstances, has access to the transformative power of education.

Remarkably, this project has already achieved significant milestones, surpassing its initial target. It has provided support to 752 this year, exceeding the initial target of 650. Additionally, it has facilitated monthly distributions of nutritional packs worth Rs. 3,000, organized seminars for scholarship exams, conducted STEAM programs, and implemented psychosocial programs. These achievements exemplify the dedication of the project to bringing educational opportunities and holistic support to the most vulnerable children and families in the region, ultimately paving the way for a brighter and more promising future.

2. Micro Projects- funded by Irasil Foundation

Project type	Projects during this period
Livelihood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diocese of Anuradhapura- St. Joseph’s Academy Nelumkulama • Major seminary Jaffna, Diocese of Kurunegala (05 projects) • Diocese of Mannar (02 projects), Don Bosco Mannar (02 projects) & Diocese of Galle
Water	Diocese of Batticaloa, Diocese of Galle & CODESEP
Financial assistance	Special Needs Institute

Caritas Sri Lanka in partnership with an individual donor Mr. Gerard Chitty who runs the Irasil Foundation initiated the micro projects in July 2020. As of now, there are over 50 micro-projects implemented under this programme with Diocesan centres and other partner organizations and the above table shows the projects implemented during the concerned reporting period.



The interventions were mainly focused on clean drinking water/ agro wells or livelihood options to support the beneficiary families to generate income and financial assistance.

3. CSL – DFCC Scholarship Programme

The Caritas Sri Lanka-DFCC Scholarship Program is a commendable initiative that extends support to 182 students pursuing their O/L, A/L, University, and College of Education studies across various regions, including Chilaw, Galle, Badulla, Kurunegala, Vanni, and the Plantation Diocese. This project, which spans from 2021 to 2025, has undergone significant transformation in terms of its impact. Originally, the program supported 85 students, but through revised interest rates and contract terms, it has been able to expand its reach, particularly benefiting university students.

This expansion reflects a commitment to empowering more youth from diverse backgrounds and fostering education as a means of personal and community development. The Caritas Sri Lanka-DFCC Scholarship Program stands as a testament to the positive change that collaborative efforts can bring to the lives of aspiring students.

Diocese	No. of students
Chilaw	33
Galle	28
Kurunegala	28
Badulla	22
Vanni	12
SEDEC - National Centre	23
Plantation Dioceses (Diocese of Colombo, Galle, Kandy, Kurunegala & Ratnapura)	36
Total	182

4. Educational Assistance to economic crisis and war-affected poor children in Northern, Eastern and North Central provinces of Sri Lanka

The Education Assistance for War-Affected Children Project is a transformative three-year initiative dedicated to uplifting the lives of 450 school students and university students in the war-affected regions of Sri Lanka, specifically covering the North, East, and North Central provinces. This project has achieved significant milestones in its mission to empower and support these deserving people.

One of the standout achievements of the project is the distribution of rechargeable lamps to all 450 students. These lamps ensure that students have access to a reliable source of light, even in areas with limited electricity, allowing them to continue their studies after dark. Additionally, the project has provided a monthly scholarship of Rs. 4,000 to support these students financially, enabling them to meet their educational needs and easing the financial burden on their families.

In addition to these tangible benefits, the project has conducted seminars for Grade 5 and Grade 11 students. These seminars offer vital guidance, tips, and resources to help

students excel in their examinations, ultimately improving their academic performance and prospects. Furthermore, leadership programs have been organized, fostering personal development and instilling valuable skills in these students, preparing them for a brighter future.



The Education Assistance for War-Affected Children Project is not just about financial assistance; it's about building a supportive educational network that empowers the youth in these regions to break free from the constraints of the past. As we move forward, the project continues to progress, impacting more lives and furthering its commitment to

education, empowerment, and the dreams of these remarkable young persons.

5. Water Projects- funded by Projects Lanka

Caritas Sri Lanka in partnership with Projects Lanka has supported 16 schools so far on clean drinking water facilities in the Diocese of Kurunegala. This initiative of Projects Lankan was initiated by a 16-year-old Sri Lankan boy who is living in the US, Kyle Chitty.

During 02 phases the 16 schools were supported with reverse-osmosis filtration systems and water storage tanks. In addition, parent-school societies were formed to ensure that these filtration systems were well-maintained and students and community members were educated to clean and test the units long-term.



In 02 phases the following schools were supported,

During the 1st phase,	During the 2nd phase,
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mahagalgamuwa School 2. Wepath anga school 3. Athawa School 4. Brahmanayagama School 5. Randiya College, Pannala 6. Borawewa school, Ambanpola 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wayamba Silpaloka Primary School- Wegolla, Nikadalupotha 2. Dehenekgama primary School, Yapahuwa 3. Edandawala Primary School, Kudagalgamuwa 4. Hunupola Maha Vidyalaya, Nikadalupotha 5. Walagamba Primary School, Polpithigama 6. Aliyawetunuwewa Muslim School, Giribawa 7. Thennakoongama Primary school, Awlegama 8. Palukandewa MAha Vidyalaya, Galgamuwa 9. T.B. Wijesuriya Primary School, Doraweruwa 10. Embalegoda Maha Vidyalaya, Nagollagama

6. Educational Assistance for Children / Youth affected by the Easter Sunday Bomb in Batticaloa Diocese

The Educational Assistance for Children/Youth affected by the Easter Sunday Bombing in the Batticaloa Diocese is a one-year program funded by a local donor, the Zonta Club in Colombo. This initiative has been instrumental in providing educational assistance to 65 underprivileged children, which includes 45 young survivors of the Easter bomb tragedy at the Zion Church in Batticaloa and an additional 20 students from low-income families.

Each month, these students are received a scholarship of Rs. 3000 to aid in their educational pursuits, offering them a glimmer of hope and a brighter future amidst the challenges they have faced. This program underscores the power of community support in rebuilding lives and fostering resilience among the affected youth.

7. Nutrition and wellbeing support for children affected by the Economic Crisis

The Child Nutrition supported by Caritas Korea project is implemented in the Dioceses of Anuradhapura, Badulla, Trincomalee, Rathnapura, and Vanni aiming to address the nutritional and holistic well-being needs of vulnerable children amid an economic crisis.



The project's first-year activities were mainly to lay a solid foundation for long-term support, focusing on baseline data collection, awareness programs, nutritional support, educational initiatives and community engagement. The project is implemented in preschools and schools of the 05 Dioceses.

Diocese	Implemented in,
Diocese of Anuradhapura	06 preschools and 05 dhamma schools
Diocese of Badulla	04 preschools, 03 schools and 06 Sunday schools
Diocese of Rathnapura	08 preschools and 04 schools
Diocese of Trincomalee	05 preschools
Diocese of Vanni	06 preschools, 1 school and 02 villages

SUCCESS STORY

“My name is Jesunesan Figurado, and I'm currently pursuing my undergraduate degree in the Department of Transport and Logistics Management at the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. My journey has been marked by adversity since the untimely loss of my father in 2010. Following this tragic event, my mother took on the immense responsibility of raising our family, by overcoming financial difficulties, and enduring the challenges of living in poverty. To make ends meet, she worked as a daily labourer, all while harbouring deep concerns about my education.



My commitment to my studies remained unwavering, and my hard work paid off as I earned a place at the university. However, the financial burden of my education continued to loom large. In this critical juncture, Caritas Mannar stepped in with the education support program, offering a lifeline to our resilient family. This intervention significantly eased the financial hardships we faced and propelled me toward realizing my dreams.

This support program serves as a pivotal stepping stone in my journey, not only ensuring access to my education but also opening doors to a brighter future. My determination to succeed and overcome adversity is not only a testament to my strength but also a promise to help students facing similar financial struggles in the future, thus perpetuating the cycle of support and empowerment.

My story is a powerful example of how determination, community support, and the pursuit of education can transform lives and inspire change.”

Jesunesan Figurado
Diocese of Mannar

Disaster Risk Reduction & Management (DRRM) Unit

The Disaster Risk Reduction & Management Unit (DRRM) of Caritas Sri Lanka (CSL) focuses in addressing the unique needs of communities affected by both natural and manmade disasters, particularly in the disaster prone districts of Sri Lanka. Through a systematic and collaborative approach with Caritas Sri Lanka diocesan network, the Unit aims to identify, assess, and proactively reduce disaster risks through comprehensive prevention, mitigation, and preparedness measures.

It is more than 11 years since the long-drawn-outs ethnic conflict ended in Sri Lanka. The local communities who faced severe hardship for nearly 30 years are now gradually rebuilding their lives and livelihoods to the best of their ability. Caritas Sri Lanka DRRM unit joins hands with these people to face challenges, sustainably rebuild their lives and live in dignity with proper protection for their families.

When the country was facing a complex political, economic, and social challenges, Caritas Sri Lanka ensured to carry out adequate supportive measures to meet the needs of the most deserving through effective programs of awareness, community education and streamlining the families to society.

During the Annual Report period, DRRM implemented the following humanitarian projects for the betterment of the community.

1. Livelihood Support and Housing Construction for the War Affected Families in the Northern, North Central and Eastern Province of Sri Lanka. (Funded by Misereor)
2. Mitigation of Thalassemia in the Dioceses of Batticaloa, Chilaw & Kurunegala through awareness and empowerment. (Funded by Misereor)
3. Ensuring the Rights of Children with Disabilities and their Parents/Caregivers in Mannar and Kilinochchi Districts. (Funded by Kindermissionswerk)
4. Facilitating Green Gold Harvesters to Reap Maximum Benefits for Plantation Communities (Funded by Misereor)
5. Enhancing Resilience of the Victims of Economic Crisis in Sri Lanka (Funded by Caritas Internationalis, Italian Bishop Conference & Misereor, Germany).
6. Livelihood Support and Housing Construction for the War Affected Families in the Northern, North Central and Eastern Province of Sri Lanka. (Funded by Misereor)

Since the war ended in 2009, Caritas Sri Lanka helped communities in the Northern and Eastern Provinces with a Relief and Rehabilitation program. Many financial institutions, including microfinance groups, set up in these areas after a lot of public infrastructure development. This made it easier for people to get loans, but the high interest rates caused many families to get into big debts and even declare bankruptcy. It's important to help these families find sustainable ways to make a living that match the local job opportunities.

Through the Misereor-supported Livelihood Project, Caritas Sri Lanka (CSL) chose the beneficiaries from areas hit by both wars and natural disasters. The project helped

the selected people to learn new skills, improve their knowledge, add value to their products, find better ways to sell them, get new tools, and get money to start businesses that last, all to make their lives better. So far, CSL has helped six diocesan centers with financial inputs and taught them how to run their businesses well, especially in farming, raising animals, and fishing. At the same time it is important to know that problems like the bad economy, government issues, and debts are hitting these people hard. Some of them livelihood supports like farming, which can take a long time to make good money and get out of financial trouble.

The people who got help were able to pay back the loans in two months without extra charges. The community group took care of everything during this time. To encourage saving, they started a plan where each member saves money and keeps track of it in a passbook. The money goes into a bank account that the community group leaders oversee. Every month, they put some of the saved money into a fund for emergency needs of the group members.

2. Mitigation of Thalassemia in the Dioceses of Batticaloa, Chilaw, Badulla & Kurunegala through awareness and empowerment. (Funded by Misereor)

The elevated prevalence of Thalassemia disease in Batticaloa, Chilaw, Badulla, and Kurunegala presents a growing challenge for healthcare services. The government's efforts to educate, screen, and prevent Thalassemia among the general population have proven ineffective, mainly because many individuals lack awareness of the disease. In this context, Caritas Sri Lanka has taken on the responsibility of supporting Thalassemia patients and their families.

The beneficiaries have significantly improved their knowledge and awareness, leading to safer and more secure lives. Currently, a large percentage of the community members possess a better understanding of the disease. Across all three dioceses, several awareness sessions have been carried out.

General hospitals, private hospitals, and Cooperative Hospitals collaborated in organizing mobile clinics and blood sample check-up events. During these blood-screening activities, community members volunteered to undergo medical tests. Additionally, individuals from areas beyond the initial target population showed a keen interest in getting their blood checked, particularly the youth, thanks to awareness programs. Conducting pre-marital blood screening among young people has the potential to reduce new Thalassemia infections by over 60%. Following the blood screening, Thalassemia carriers in the village are provided with Thalassemia Carrier Cards. In each of the four dioceses mentioned, approximately 100 persons participated in the blood screening process.

Individuals who were previously unaware of the seriousness of Thalassemia disease gained valuable insights and expressed their gratitude for the awareness sessions. Government officials pledged their support for extending this program to other villages affected by Thalassemia.

3. Ensuring the Rights of Children with Disabilities and their Parents/Caregivers in Mannar and Kilinochchi Districts. (Funded by Kindermissionswerk)

The people of North and East have confronted significant challenges resulting from the scars of war, including disabilities and disruptions in public services. Despite the government’s efforts to employ various strategies to address these issues, such initiatives have failed to reach families of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and Children with Disabilities (CwDs). It is only a limited number of PwDs and CwDs have been able to access and benefit from the government due to the inadequate government funding. In the background, Caritas Sri Lanka implemented the above mentioned project to continue services for PwDs where the majority of children who benefited from this project,

No	Beneficiaries	CwDs
1	Direct beneficiaries	280
2	Indirect Beneficiaries	1393

In Kilininochi District, 58 CwDs were identified and interventions were commenced to support them through Medical Officer of Health (MOMH) Mullaitivu & Kilinochchi and the Clinical Psychologist. 7 CwDs have obtained corrective surgery at the Centre for the Disabled. 48 CwDs were referred to IQ clinics in five different locations to obtain proper documents. A total of 50 children underwent IQ screening assessments, revealing that 41 children had learning disabilities and 9 children had special needs. As a part of the third-year allocation, A vocational training program was organised with CwDs. A total of 96 mothers of children with disabilities were selected from 4 divisional secretariat divisions and provided support. An exposure visit was organized for CwDs and their mothers from Kandawalai and Puthuduiruppu to Mulativu.

In Mannar District, a total of 50 CwDs were identified, A total 28 number of children with disabilities were able to obtain aids and appliances through the support of CED (community for Disability) Pre-natal and post-natal awareness to the mothers were held in collaboration with the Health Department. A total of 24 CwDs were referred. Two training programs for caregivers /Parents to guide their children in home-based services were conducted by the CFD team. Two children clubs were established to provide support for CwDs. 11 children with disabilities were provided support to attend 3-months vocational training program focused on Palmyra product production. All 50 mothers who participated in the program received livelihood support. A total number of 84 CwDs, their mothers and members of the child support group had the opportunity to socialize and strengthen their bonds of friendship. A cultural troupe has been formed, consisting of both children with disabilities and typically developing children. We also facilitated CwDs to access disability certificates and ID cards and assisted them in accessing health and other facilities mentioned below:-

- Receiving Differently Abled Welfare Book to the victims.
- They were referred to the CFD Unit for special treatment.

- They were also referred to SSD and General Hospital for Speech therapy.
- IQ tests were conducted.
- Medical Certificate issued.
- Field-level home visits were organized in collaboration with CFD staff.
- Periodical meetings of MIDwife and PHI were organized to enhance their effective coordination.
- Coordinated with other NGOs and like-minded organisations to give support to these families.

4. Facilitating Green Gold Harvesters(GGH) to Reap Maximum Benefits for Plantation Communities (Funded by Misereor)

The political, socio-economic, and cultural rights of the plantation community have been persistently denied, and their grievances persist in various manifestations up to the present day. To confront these challenges, the GGH Programme has been introduced as a community-focused initiative across four plantation dioceses. Its purpose is to bring about a positive transformation in the socio-economic circumstances, thereby enhancing the well-being and livelihoods of families within the plantation community. The attainment of these objectives has not only benefitted the vulnerable direct project recipients but has also contributed to elevating the socio-economic status of the broader community, shifting them from recovery to development.

Across the five estates and 13 divisions, a total of ten Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) were established, and they convened meetings to deliberate on community matters. Twenty-four vigilant groups were created, focusing on areas such as education, Home gardening, Women's healthcare, livelihood, and addressing domestic violence. These groups actively seek support from various stakeholders to address these issues. Community Development Fund (CDF) meetings took place with the involvement of government officials, estate management, and other relevant stakeholders within the estates.

In addition to this, women's groups, children's groups, and youth groups were also established and are actively engaged in estate activities. Training programs were conducted on various topics including organic home gardening, generating additional income, participatory rural appraisal, and mushroom cultivation. Regular meetings with estate management are held to bring their attention to estate-related issues, and periodic meetings with government officials are organized to address the needs of the community.

Before the program's implementation, the people in the estates did not have strong community bonds. However, with the formation of the Community-Based Organization (CBO), they began to cultivate leadership skills and a sense of community spirit. Through collaboration with the relevant authorities, they successfully advocated for their rights. Since the GGH staff are well-capacitated at the National Level, they were very successful in guiding people during the economic crisis. The Target group's attitude during the difficult situations was well appreciated by the state management and government officials. Mostly children suffer lack of access to nutritious food

during the economic crisis. Therefore children aged one to five who stay in the child development centers have been given nutritious food by CBO members. Evening classes have been organized to educate children and vigilant groups are currently maintaining the home garden system as self employment venture. Plantation workers have been provided with awareness and training on safe practices for disinfectant sprayers and first aid training has been provided during the given period. Distributed vegetable seeds at the end of the program and in Ratnapura diocese, they selected twelve beneficiaries of the group whom are chosen by the group members and were given goats after signing an agreement.

Mainstreaming plantation workers extends beyond mere changes in state laws in favour of the plantation sector. It involves enhancing their daily living and working conditions, ensuring the awareness of their rights as Sri Lankan citizens, and, most importantly, providing them with opportunities to shape their destinies. Consequently, within the GGH program, our approach and strategies must be strengthened to encompass all facets of the plantation sector. Whenever feasible, we have initiated targeted actions to offer social protection to those affected by emerging issues in our designated areas. Our social intervention via the Green Gold Harvesters program has catalyzed encouraging concerned parties to engage more actively in these regions.

5. Enhancing Resilience of the Victims of Economic Crisis in Sri Lanka (Funded by Caritas Internationalis, Italian Bishop Conference and Misereor- Germany).

Sri Lanka had been confronted with a dire economic crisis with multifaceted causes. Several factors led to a significant decline in remittances from overseas workers, exacerbating the scarcity of US dollars in the Sri Lankan economy. However, economists assert that the roots of this crisis stretch back before the pandemic, involving mounting sovereign debts, increasing fiscal and current account deficits, and diminishing investor confidence due to governance issues and corruption. The nation's foreign reserves have dwindled, leading to extended queues at grocery stores, fuel shortages, and power outages due to electricity rationing. The dire economic situation is marked by soaring inflation, a significant decline in monthly household incomes, and the imminent closure of many manufacturing firms due to a shortage of imported raw materials.

The Project on "Enhancing Resilience of the Victims of Economic Crisis in Sri Lanka" by Caritas Sri Lanka reached 57,530 direct beneficiaries, including women (57,173), children (19,127), men (29,854), the elderly (18,934), and disabled individuals (1,209). The selection process for direct beneficiaries involved an inclusive approach, with input from church parishes, local government administration, and prioritization of vulnerable groups. Beneficiaries were identified through consultations with village group leaders, government officers, school principals, and parish priests. In addition to the direct beneficiaries, there were 310,680 indirect beneficiaries in a total of 54,871 households. During the period from June to November 2022, a significant achievement of 97.2% was reached in providing essential ration packs to deserving families, ensuring they received macronutrients like carbohydrates, proteins, and fats. Additionally, 44% of

the most disadvantaged individuals underwent psychological screening, leading to counselling and befriending programs that resolved family conflicts and fostered resilience. Notably, 81.6% of children achieved passing grades in school examinations. Some students also received allowances for extra classes, particularly those preparing for the General Certificate of Education exams in 2022/2023. Furthermore, the program exceeded its target of 50% as 124% participation in social, economic, and educational activities for individuals who received medical assistance, which included support for pharmaceutical drugs and doctor consultations. The provision extended from December 2022 to May 2023, with a strategic focus on dioceses rather than districts, expanding the program's reach.

Caritas Sri Lanka focuses on supporting vulnerable groups by advocating for policy reforms, and social interventions, and integrating resilience-building measures into development programs. Working through its Diocesan Centers, Caritas aims to enhance food security and resilience. They also conduct "Silent Solidarity Campaigns" nationwide to mobilize resources and show support for affected communities in the face of economic challenges and vulnerabilities.

Livelihood Support and Housing Construction for the War Affected Families in the Northern, North Centre and Eastern Province of Sri Lanka. (Funded by Misereor)



Ensuring the Rights of Children with Disabilities and their Parents/Caregivers in Mannar and Kilinochchi Districts. (Funded by indermissionswerk).



Mitigation of Thalassemia in the Dioceses of Batticaloa, Chilaw & Kurunegala through awareness and empowerment. (Funded by Misereor).



Facilitating Green Gold Harvesters to Reap Maximum Benefits for Plantation Communities (Funded by Misereor)



Enhancing Resilience of the Victims of Economic Crisis in Sri Lanka (Funded by MISEREOR).



Enhancing Resilience of the Victims of Economic Crisis in Sri Lanka (Funded by Caritas Internationalis & Italian Bishop Conference).



Provision of Medical Assistance to patients suffering from severe medical conditions and financial trauma (Funded by Caritas Seoul).

SUCCESS STORY

Mr. Moses Lisanth, Adampan, Mannar

Lisanth's journey is a remarkable tale of transformation. Born as a healthy baby in 2010,



he faced a sudden health crisis shortly after receiving a routine injection, suffering from severe fits and an inability to feed. Despite extensive medical treatment and care, he struggled with basic developmental milestones and was unable to perform daily activities for several years.

The turning point came when the staff from Caritas-Valvuthyam, an organization working with differently-abled children, intervened. They provided physiotherapy, special boots to correct leg deformities, and a standing frame, which led to significant improvements in Lisanth's mobility. Speech and feeding exercises further enhanced his communication and dietary abilities.



With ongoing support, Lisanth began to stand, crawl, and communicate more effectively. With dedicated training from Valvuthyam, he even learned to take his first independent steps, a significant achievement.



Today, Lisanth attends a special school for differently-abled children, where he is making progress in various skills, such as holding a pencil and painting. His all-around improvement and newfound independence are a testament to Valvuthyam's unwavering commitment, dedication, and training. Lisanth's life has been transformed from confinement to now enjoying school and the full support of his teachers and Valvuthyam's volunteers. This success story is a testament to

the remarkable achievements made possible by Valvuthyam's dedication and commitment to Lisanth's growth and development.

Sustainable Peace and Justice (SP&J) Unit

The Sustainable Peace and Justice Unit aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice for all, and through the formation of peace activists who work for peace regardless of any differences. We believe that fostering an environment of peace and justice will help uphold the value of life and human dignity.

Current political and social situation of Sri Lanka

The remnants of the 30-year war still linger in the hearts of affected communities, with crimes against humanity and war being widespread. Even after nearly 15 years, a long-term solution to the National Problem has not been found. In this context, numerous organizations are implementing programs to promote Peace-Building and Reconciliation. Promoting inter-religious harmony and peace-building are the key priorities for Caritas Sri Lanka. Therefore, CSL closely monitors the development of the peace and reconciliation agenda, its outcomes, and its long-term implications to bring about effective changes and contribute to the peace agenda and its approach.

Political legitimacy will be questioned and regimes will not survive unless the government secures the freedom and the common good of all people. In 2022, the protests in Sri Lanka against political authority, and its mismanagement of the economy, are a clear depiction of where public claims the power and authority and exerts pressure on the government against the austerity measures. From a radical democratic perspective, protest, therefore, is an effective practice of politics.

Caritas Sri Lanka brought forth effective changes into its programs by taking into account the evolved context particularly, due to pandemic-driven economic fallout and the impact of the economic crisis, and attempted to address socio-economic vulnerabilities and improve community resilience. It did so through twofold strategies: first; by integrating envisaged vulnerabilities into development programming, and second: by advocating that the government policy interventions bear minimum adversity on the poor and vulnerable.

Caritas stood in solidarity with Aragalaya

Caritas Sri Lanka stood in solidarity with the people during the island-wide protests (ARAGALAYA, 2022) over the economic crisis and extended support to the families mostly affected by the crisis. It did so through twofold strategies: first; by integrating envisaged vulnerabilities into development programming, and second: by advocating that the government policy interventions bear minimum adversity on the poor and vulnerable. Caritas Sri Lanka organized protests through its network to bring contextual vulnerabilities to the attention of policymakers and bureaucrats. 'Silent Solidarity Campaign' was held on the 9th of April 2022, to insist that the Church is in solidarity with the people and is responsive in mobilizing resources to build and enhance resilience to cope with economic shocks and vulnerabilities.

Our Donors

SP&J unit is working on two projects for promoting peace and harmony in Sri Lanka: Misereor Germany funded project under the title; A Modern, Dynamic and Youth-Centered Approach to Peace Processes and Conflict Mitigation has been a 3 years project being implemented in all 9 provinces of Sri Lanka, comprising all 25 administrative districts, 12 Church Dioceses under the 13 Caritas Diocesan Centre Network.

The overall goal of this project is to contribute to a peaceful Sri Lanka by promoting mutual respect for all ethnicities and religions at all levels.

There are two main objectives: At the community level, youth and school students are being organized, to provide skills training to overcome barriers to social cohesion, peace and reconciliation. The other is to build networking relations and bring important reconciliation-related issues to the attention of relevant government institutions.

To accomplish this purpose, we have conducted various activities in all Dioceses. They have created at least 2 youth groups in their respective dioceses. The activities are to empower the lives of the youth in different contexts. Improving self-awareness and psychological wellbeing workshop was a good opportunity for the youth to identify themselves. Many youths shared how they became aware of issues, especially, gender equality, hate speech and conflict transformation. There is a visible change after the carrier guidance workshop in many DCs. There are a few youths who have seriously become entrepreneurs by engaging in various business ventures.

There was a new learning on scientific research writing which led them to collect data from different fields in their villages. As a team, they collected data scientifically. Their positive feedback concerning the exercise highlights their experience of working as a team.

There were various national day celebrations and festivals organized by youth to learn about other cultures and religions so that they could understand and respect each other. The exposure visits to other dioceses, between North and East regions with the South region were remarkable. They continue these activities until today, and they have built a strong relationship among themselves.

Networking with other civil societies and peace forums has been one of the strategies to build reconciliation. There are groups in all DCs comprised of different religious leaders, government officials, school principals, teachers and security personnel. The purpose of these forums is to prevent any religious disputes among their different communities and also to raise their voice against any activity that hinders ethnic or religious disharmony.

Apart from youth groups, another focal point is Village Level Vigilant Committees. (VLVC). In the Dioceses these groups are very active. They positively influence their

villages by working for peace and reconciliation and other issues in the village. They engaged in empowering women to stand against domestic violence and other discriminations that occur in their vicinity. There is at least one VLVC in each DC, comprising of men and women from villages. They work for environmental protection and conservation through various forms of activities.

CAFOD- Caritas England is funded the project namely Helping People Move Towards Reconciliation which is implemented in two Dioceses: Chilaw and Batticaloa. In both Dioceses, raising acceptance of plurality in a diversified community through dialogue and social activities and meditation to mitigate conflicts have been core in peace work. This project was proposed at a time when the entire country was facing its worst human-made economic crisis. The main focus was to identify the crisis, to strengthen the target communities, to understand the problems and aspirations of the communities. Different activities, such as creating peace forums and Human Rights-related activities have given more space to work towards building bridges for peace and reconciliation. They have conducted other peace-related activities to create a friendly atmosphere among the villages. The workshop on the prevention of hate speech has helped to understand and respect others' different cultures and behaviours.

Among the National level activities, we had a very effective meeting with other CAFOD partners. We could share our experiences while working on the same project. It was a moment for us to build strong networks with other partners. These networks encourage collaborations in future project activities.

In this project, we meet the Muslim community in particular in both DCs to work in solidarity and to address conflict situations in their villages.

The exposure visits have much impact on them because they have not met them earlier as Sinhala Tamil and Muslim people, but now they see all these differences as very important, to progress as a diverse community accepting differences. These differences do not cause division among them, but rather unity and harmony.

There were few gatherings to discuss national issues in the country at the National level. One prominent event was the discussion on the Thirteenth Amendment and the Restructuring of the Debt Facility in Sri Lanka. These are crucial topics in the country, and the religious leaders and lay people participated actively in both these sessions.

SUCCESS STORY

**A.Fathima Minha, Ollilkulam,
Arayampathy, Batticaloa**

“My name is A. Fathima Minha, and I reside in Ollilkulam, Arayampathy, Batticaloa. Before my involvement with the Caritas EHED Organization, my life mainly revolved around my home and my tailoring and stitching work. However, three years ago, my perspective shifted when my neighbours informed me about the Caritas EHED visit to our village. Although I was initially hesitant, the warm welcome and the Caritas EHED’s purpose inspired me to become an active member.



I actively participated in various seminars and discussions, where the idea of establishing a Peace Committee took shape. To improve living standards and foster harmony among the diverse religious communities, we formed two Peace Committees, each comprising 30 members. Through the organization’s guidance, we gained insights into conflict resolution, effective communication with authorities, and the significance of peaceful coexistence.

Living in a village affected by the aftermath of war, the relationship between the Tamil and Muslim communities had been strained. However, the activities of the Peace Committee, such as joint efforts in Shramadana, meetings, and cultural events, gradually bridged the gap and fostered mutual trust and understanding. Despite the challenges, including the divisive Easter Bomb blast of 2019, the unwavering goodwill efforts helped rebuild the shattered relationships between our communities. Witnessing this positive transformation filled me with immense satisfaction and gratitude.

I owe a debt of gratitude to the CAFOD Organization, the dedicated members of Caritas EHED Batticaloa, and the supportive staff in the Colombo head office, whose contributions were instrumental in bringing about this miraculous change within our community.”

Ecological Conservation and Plantation People (ECP) Unit

The ecological Conservation and Plantation People (ECP) Unit is newly established under Caritas Sri Lanka’s strategic plan 2022-2025 that incorporates the needs of ecological justice issues and the needs of the plantation community emphasizing their rights. ‘Stepping Stone to Safeguarding Sri Lanka’s Natural Environment Project (SSEP) and ‘Lighting the Lives of the Plantation People’ (LLPP) have been the two project interventions during the 2022/23 Annual Report Period. Networking, advocacy, awareness, training and lobbying are a few tools that have been used to implement both projects at the ground level.

1. Lighting the Lives of the Plantation People (LLPP)

The program comes with a 10-year vision and is titled “Lighting the Lives of the Plantation People (LLPP).” The project is implemented in the Dioceses of Badulla, Galle, Kandy, Ratnapura, Colombo, and Kurunegala for the welfare of the plantation community. LLPP has been implemented in six Dioceses since January 2023. The main objective of the program is to advocate for the rights of the plantation community collectively, working with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), like-minded organizations, and individuals to implement programs that empower this marginalized and vulnerable community in these 6 Dioceses while creating awareness to the plantation community issues. The program aims to have grassroots-level interventions to influence policymakers and other decision-makers to prioritize the needs of this highly marginalized community, ensuring their access to basic government services to which other citizens are entitled. The program was funded by Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

Programme	Key Outputs
Strengthening / Establishing CSO Forums	4 CSO forums were established in the four Dioceses, providing a common platform for organizations to coordinate and implement joint advocacy initiatives for the plantation community. These forums conducted regional and national-level advocacy initiatives to address identified issues and found solutions.
Awareness Sessions for Clergy & Religious	Awareness sessions were conducted for 42 participants at the National Seminary Kandy and 61 participants CMRS center at Bolawalana where clergy and religious individuals were educated on the life and social issues faced by the plantation community. The aim was to encourage their involvement in the justice and development issues in the community.

Awareness Creation among Journalists	Awareness creation sessions were held for journalists in six Diocesan Centers (DCs) to disseminate information about the issues faced by the plantation community. This was done through the printing of articles in the newspapers and the production of short motivational videos to raise public awareness.
Scholarships for A/L Students	85 scholarships were awarded to A/L students from the plantation community, supporting their pursuit of higher education and university entrance.
Nutritional Awareness Program for Pregnant Mothers	13 awareness programs were conducted and 609 pregnant mothers participated. The program has been conducted to share knowledge about the use of locally available nutritious meals among plantation women, to improve their nutritional well-being.
CSO Forum Advocacy and Lobbying	The CSO forums identified two major issues faced by the plantation community in each Diocesan Center and advocated for solutions. They have engaged with government stakeholders and continuously pressured relevant authorities until solutions were found.
Session on Career Guidance & Life Orientations:	34 Sessions were conducted for 2443 O/L and A/L students in remote areas to provide career guidance and life orientation.
Volunteer Teachers for Selected Schools:	22 volunteer teachers were selected to address the scarcity of teachers in important subjects such as Mathematics, Science, and English.
Sexual Education & Awareness Raising Programs	7 Programs were conducted to create awareness among teenagers and youth in remote areas about sexual education and health. There were 302 youth who participated in the programs and gained knowledge on Sexual Education.

2. Stepping Stone to Safeguarding Sri Lanka’s Natural Environment Project (SSEP)

“Stepping Stone to Safeguarding Sri Lanka’s Natural Environment” (SSEP) is a three-year project implemented by Caritas Sri Lanka with the funding assistance of Misereor, Germany. This project has been implemented in all 13 DCs since January 2022 which contributes to ensuring that both rural and urban populations in Sri Lanka are informed about the negative impacts of climate change and empowering them to find adaptation alternatives. Ecological conservation is the protection and management of ecosystems by humans. Hence, the selected direct beneficiaries under SSEP belong to the communities that face the effects of environmental degradation, especially

through the impacts of climate change. The project contributes the communities to bring about sustainable solutions for the environmental issues that they face locally.

Project Models of SSEP

Environmental protection advocacy works with two key elements. Advocating with the relevant Government ministries to focus more on environmental protection concertizing the general public on the effects of climate change and supporting the formation of groups who care for the protection of our common home.



Scaling up of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

Training and strengthening of entrepreneurs focus on working with farmers to develop their skills in farming and disseminating the concept of 'Sustainable agriculture'. The training programs support farmers to improve their ability to deal with climate change and adapt to alternatives.



Clean water and sanitation

Clean water and sanitation-related interventions under SSEP mainly focus on the restoration and protection of existing water resources. Sanitation-related activities were included to make the selected communities aware of good hygienic practices.



Learning roots

The key objective of learning roots is to draw the attention of youth and children towards the impacts of climate change by building awareness and knowledge on environmental degradation that causes vulnerabilities of bio-diversity.



Key Achievements

- The SSEP project was successfully implemented in the year 2022 and achieved the milestone of forming 156 village-level environmental groups covering the entire island within the year
- The village-level environmental groups include adults, youth and children. There are 4680 direct beneficiaries identified as members of these formed environmental groups.
- There have been 40 clean-up campaigns and 30 tree-planting campaigns conducted so far with the active participation of formed village-level environmental groups and the cooperation of Diocesan Centers.
- There have been 23 training sessions conducted on sustainable agriculture practices for the selected entrepreneurs to introduce new farming skills as well as to capacitate them to adapt to new tools to monitor their achievements. 189 selected entrepreneurs have been capacitated within the year.
- There have been 23 awareness sessions on ecological conservation and environmental protection conducted for youth and children. 1755 children and youths participated in these sessions and contributed to community activities such as clean-up campaigns, tree-planting campaigns, and rallies on environmental protection.
- There have been 17 abandoned existing water resources restored under SSEP in all the selected parts of Sri Lanka.

SUCCESS STORY

Safe Drinking Water Project at Annai Velankanni Church, Iddagoda Estate under Caritas Seth Sarana LLPP Programme

“Water is life, and clean water means health.”

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Seth Sarana, who played a crucial role in providing clean water to ninety families in our Vogan Estate.

For the past decade, we have endured the hardship of not having access to clean drinking water. We had to trek to the forest every time we needed water, which proved to be a significant challenge in meeting our daily needs. This struggle persisted for almost ten years.



The lack of water not only affected our daily lives but also had severe repercussions on the education and health of our children. Additionally, we faced difficulties in maintaining personal hygiene and carrying out essential household tasks like cleaning and gardening.

In this challenging situation, with the support of our Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Erinton Silva, and Assistant Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Anthony Nishan, we were fortunate to receive an irrigation system from Seth Sarana on April 1, 2023. Following the implementation of this water distribution project, our lives have been transformed. Personal hygiene, cleanliness, and the well-being of our children have significantly improved. Many households in our Iddagoda community are now engaged in small-scale home gardening, and a sense of peace and happiness has returned to the faces of our residents.

This initiative has been instrumental in the development of our Iddagoda community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous assistance and thank you once again for providing us with clean drinking water.

The Parishioners of Iddagoda Community
Mathugama

Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security (SA&FS) Unit

The Sustainable Agriculture Unit of Caritas Sri Lanka serves and promotes sustainable agriculture while ensuring food security for poor and marginalized populations by creating food access, availability, utilization, and stability in Sri Lanka. Through this an integrated approach, the following three main outcomes are expected to be achieved: a healthy environment, economic profitability, and social and economic equity.

1. “Addressing Causes for Poverty and Ensuring Food Security for Farming Communities” in Sri Lanka funded by Caritas Norway/NORAD

Project implementation Period: January 2018 to May 2023



Caritas Sri Lanka has implemented the programme “Addressing Causes for Poverty and Ensuring Food Security for Farming Communities” in Sri Lanka, by aiming to safeguard food security for 26,000 subsistence farmer households including urban and rural poor, and marginalized communities including war widows, women, youth, and 52,000 school children, by switching over to sustainable agricultural practices, and 26,000 mothers of pre-school children targeting 26,000 pre-school children to protect them from malnourishment by 2023. Caritas Sri Lanka (CSL) started implementing the Food Security program in all 13 Caritas Sri Lanka network from January 2018 to May 2023 covering all 25 administrative districts in

Sri Lanka, contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (contributing to 8 SDGs) and also falling in line with Pope Francis’ Encyclical ‘Laudato Si’.

The program has been highly successful in reaching the overall goal of strengthening rural and marginalized people’s position in Sri Lanka. Caritas Sri Lanka has already established 28,631 organic Home Gardens in 874 selected villages and upgraded unproductive home gardens and paddy lands for them to secure their food supply throughout the year. Every home garden has about 20 varieties of vegetables, fruits, tubers, yams, spices, and medicinal plants which help them to consume healthy food and a balanced diet for all the family members.

Participating family members are now able to consume a nutritionally balanced diet. Now about 75 percent of their daily food comes from their home gardens that are fresh and as a result, participants have been able to save about Rs. 15,000.00 on their

monthly food expenses. The majority of them use these savings for children`s education or emergency expenses. The money in the village remains with the people, saving them from getting caught by micro-credit institutions and private money lenders. We provided support to 6,500 vulnerable individuals through the Caritas Sri Lanka Covid-19 Response program. Our interventions have been recognized for the positive impact of home gardens in addressing food insecurity and malnutrition, while also offering additional benefits like income and livelihood opportunities for resource-poor families, and providing valuable ecosystem services.

Caritas Food Security program established 79 Village Knowledge Centres (VKCs) covering all diocesan centres. The main purpose of the VKC is to provide scientific and local-specific information and knowledge related to Climate Smart Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Health and Nutrition, Employment, Education, and Government services. These Village Knowledge Centres (VKCs) are community-focused hubs designed to meet the needs of the community using various information technologies and innovative approaches. Located in common areas, they enable farmers to access all the knowledge they require within the village.

Mobilizing the communities is essential to achieving the overall goal. As evidence of substantiation of community institutions, the communities are mobilized and formed into 2,838 Self Help Groups (SHGs) and strengthened on leadership, financial management, group dynamics, and guidance on how to start their domestic economic units. The Self Help Groups have later turned into local Community-Based Organizations (CBOs). Women tend to assume active leadership roles in most of the CBOs (742) formed by Caritas Sri Lanka; on average, 83 % of members are female. Strong linkages and networking arrangements have been formed by the CBOs with local government agencies to continue beyond the program period independently.

Droughts and flooding are severe problems in Sri Lanka and the farmers have been given refresher training on disaster risk awareness and preparedness by traditional & and new technologies to cope with future challenges covering farm water management, multiple cropping systems, and protected agriculture. Through these trainings, the communities have been able to reduce the negative impacts of floods and droughts. Advocacy training aimed at securing land and water rights yields positive results and will significantly impact the overall goal of strengthening the position of rural and marginalized communities in Sri Lanka. The 30 District and Denary Federations are now in a position to influence the policymakers to gain rights, especially to develop their respective villages. The campaign for water from the Unnichchai tank, led by the Federation of Farmers in Aithiamalai and the Unnichchai area, has been one of the most effective campaigns ever held in Batticaloa, successfully drawing the attention of the government, public, and media. The Federation is currently negotiating with government authorities to find a suitable solution to the water issue.



The extension of the food security programme was a timely decision when the people in the twenty-five districts of Sri Lanka were facing immense hardships with increased food prices and lack of necessities. This served persons with special needs, elders, patients suffering from kidney problems, and those with non-communicable diseases. There are also

People with Disabilities (4%) and widows (4%) in the target villages who are now benefiting from this project.

Caritas Sri Lanka network of Diocesan Partners were able to strengthen those who were badly affected due to the prevailing political and economic crisis which enabled our DCs to achieve the set goal as far as possible.

2. Ensuring Family Nutrition, Stabilized Income and Sustainable Food Security for Farmer Households in Sri Lanka

Project Implementation period: January 2023 to December 2027

This Five-year Food Security program “ENSURING FAMILY NUTRITION, STABILIZED INCOME, AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SECURITY FOR FARMER HOUSEHOLDS IN SRI LANKA” was started in January 2023, aiming to safeguard food security for 38,400 subsistence farmer households including urban and rural poor and marginalized communities, war widows, women; and 32,500 school children by switching over to sustainable agricultural practices; and 3,250 unemployed youth into productive labour, and 13,000 Mothers of preschool children to protect their family member from malnourishment and 3,250 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) to come out of poverty in selected villages; under the leadership of National Director, CSL -SEDEC covering 25 Administrative Districts by 2027 with the support of Caritas Norway/NORAD. 3,250 people who have disabilities will have full access to the countrywide organic home gardening implemented by the CSL network. They will also have equal access to online Internet-based services as well as Centre-based Delivery Networks to link up with potential employment opportunities. The main aim of the Food Security program is to increase and improve sustainable production and productivity of agriculture, animal

husbandry, and fisheries towards steady Income, Consumption, Nutrition, and Health. Caritas Sri Lanka Diocesan Network will reach the total direct program participants of 90,400 persons up to December 2027 with the number of total direct and indirect beneficiaries (family members) reaching over 400,000 from January 2023 to December 2027.

Caritas Sri Lanka wishes to thank Caritas Norway/NORAD for the guidance and support given to promote sustainable agriculture, to reduce malnutrition and poverty in rural areas of Sri Lanka.



3. Caritas Slovenia

Caritas Sri Lanka -SEDEC has implemented a project “With work towards a decent life- Support for Poor families” in Chilaw and Galle Dioceses with support from Caritas Slovenia. Caritas SED Galle has supported 22 poor families in Udugama Parish and 26 poor families were supported in Chilaw Diocese with the funds received from Caritas Slovenia. The major aim of the project “With works towards decent life support for poor families in Sri Lanka” is to transform impoverished households into sustainable economic units through financial support and enhancing knowledge through entrepreneurship development training. The training on micro business planning was provided to 48 selected family members from Chilaw and Galle Districts and Financial support was given to implement a new business or to expand the existing livelihood

activities. Caritas Chilaw has established the Revolving Loan Fund to provide financial support to 22 entrepreneurs supported by Caritas Slovenia for the expansion of micro-businesses.

Caritas Slovenia Supported program was started in 2015 and it is continuing up to date. It was possible to support 213 Small businesses from Kurunegala, Ratnapura, Chilaw, Colombo, and Galle Dioceses. The National Director and Staff of Caritas Sri Lanka - SEDEC would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Caritas Slovenia and its sponsors for their generous support in helping the poor in Sri Lanka.



SUCCESS STORY

**"The food tastes better
when I cultivate it on my own"**

"My name is Mrs. Palan Selvarani from a village called Perianeelavanai in the Kalmunai D.S. Division in the Ampara District. All of our family members are engaged in the agriculture sector and we are traditionally engaged in farming activities, especially paddy cultivation. After the death of my husband, our family had to undergo severe hardships and I was unable to support my family, especially the education and the food expenses of my children.

By the grace of God, Caritas EHED-Batticaloa along with the Agriculture Instructor and the G.S. of the Perianeelavani, visited our area to introduce the Food Security Project to the underprivileged and marginalized families. I was chosen as one of the beneficiaries of this project, and a workshop was organized in our village by EHED Batticaloa. I was lucky to join this workshop and the training provided by the Agriculture Department was of great value which changed my life. The main reason for my failure in home gardening during my past years was that my premises were situated in a low-lying area and during the rainy season my premises got flooded for at least 5 months from November to March until the ground dried up. Throughout the training, the CBO members and I learned a lot about home gardening such as irrigation systems (bottle irrigation, sprinkler irrigation, and drip irrigation), the selection of crops according to the climate impact (flood-resistant crops, drought-resistant crops, and diseases resistant plants), and ways to improve the soil fertility.



Presently, I have adopted integrated farming practices such as maintaining soil fertility, adding compost, and adopting improved cultivation methods and traditional cultivation. All added values have increased the income of my family. I also wish to state that previously my family members had only 1 to 2 meals per day. Now I am very proud to state that all family

members enjoy 3 meals per day which are nutritionally balanced diet.

Since the compound of my home garden is vast I have also introduced new varieties of green vegetables, roots, fruits, and herbal plants which have all added to my income. I am very much thankful to Caritas EHED Batticaloa and the Donors for introducing the Food Security Programme in our village and for conducting the training to capacitate and build our knowledge to lead a healthy and peaceful life in our village."

Mrs. Palan Selvarani
Kalmunai, Ampara

PARTNER VISITS

1. The Caritas Norway visited Caritas Sri Lanka



Caritas Norway has been funding the Food Security program of Caritas Sri Lanka from 2013 to date. The third phase of the Food Security program started being implemented in Sri Lanka in January 2023.

Mr. Knut Andreas, Program Director, and Ms. Reidun Ryland, Program Advisor from Caritas Norway visited Caritas Sri Lanka from the 13th to 17th of March 2023. An initial meeting was held in the presence of the National Director, Program Manager, Finance Officers, and the NC food security team at the conference hall of the Caritas Sri Lanka-SEDEC. Especially discussed the implementation of the project from 2018 to date, the outreach of the beneficiaries, the situation of the existing FS project, the commencement of the new projects, and report writing.



On the 14th of March, a meeting was arranged with all the Diocesan Directors and the Food Security staff of the Sinhala-speaking areas at the conference hall of the National Centre, Caritas Sri Lanka. Prof. Yapa, Senior Lecturer, Sabaragamuwa University, presented on "Food Insecurity and Nutrition Crisis in Sri Lanka and Responses to Food Insecurity in Sri Lanka and the Way Forward. Then

Presentations were delivered representing the Western and Plantation regions along with Rev. Father Directors of the particular Diocesan Centers. At the end of the meeting, the Norway Officials addressed the meeting regarding their views on the implementation of the Food Security program in Sri Lanka and the fundraising mechanism.



The delegation moved to Anuradhapura on 15th March and visited several home gardens, plant nurseries, demonstration farms, village knowledge centres, and fish ponds established by Project participants and attended CBO meetings. After lunch, the team had a meeting with Mrs. Priyanjani Maadana, the Provincial Director of Agriculture, North Central Province, and the other government department officers regarding the issues related to the smallholder farmers. The next day 16th of March, the team initially visited Caritas Vanni. The Director of Caritas Mannar presented on the food security implementation on behalf of all other Tamil DCs. Then the team visited Mayavanoor for the Religious Festival Programme under the Religious Amity program funded by Caritas Norway/NORAD and marketing place. HUDEC Vanni organized a Pongal festival and related cultural programs in the playground of Mayavanoor.



On the 17th of March, the Caritas Norway officials initially visited the Norwegian Embassy in Colombo in the morning and then moved to meet the Cardinal with the National Director. At the end of the partner visit, a debriefing was held with the National Director, National Coordinator of the Food Security Program, and Program Manager.

2. Visit of Mr Senthil from Catholic Relief Services (CRS) of the United States of America to Caritas Sri Lanka (CSL)

The Lighting the Lives of the Plantation People (LLPP) is an empowerment program to better the lives of the people of the plantation community in Sri Lanka. Since January 2022, CSL has launched this unique program to network Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) who are the voice for Plantation Communities in the Dioceses of Central, Uva, Sabaragamuwa, Wayamba & Western provinces. CRS has supported this project with monitory funding from January 2022 to date.

The Executive Director of CRS Mr. Senthil Kumar visited the Community Development Service for Plantation (CODESEP) centre at Deniyaya which belongs to the Diocese of Galle on the 5th and 6th of December, 2022. This partner visit was accompanied by the Rev. Fr. Luke Nelson, National Director of the Caritas Sri Lanka SEDEC, Rev. Fr. Lasantha Fonseka, diocesan director of the Caritas SED Galle and Rev. Fr. Anthony Jesuthasan, in charge of CODESEP centre.



Mr Senthil from the CRS and the Caritas Sri Lanka team visited the Anningkanda Tamil School at Deniyaya and met the students and teachers to discuss the difficulties faced by the students in their Education. It was a fruitful discussion as many students and teachers expressed their real experiences. Later he visited the Hansord Estate in Deniyaya to see the line houses and was able to observe the pathetic plight of the plantation community and the living conditions of the line-houses of the estate.

Later, he visited the CODESEP Centre, where he was welcomed by the plantation people in the traditional Tamil way. He met with members of the Southern Province Civil Society Forum, which was formed in 2022 under the project.



The members shared the many challenges they faced in working alone to uphold the rights of plantation people and expressed their gratitude to CRS for establishing the Civil Society Forum. They explained to Mr Senthil how the forum has provided them with a platform to share their

experiences and work together to improve the lives of the plantation community, especially as they commemorate the 200th anniversary of the arrival of their ancestors from India to Sri Lanka in the 19th century.



3. Visit of Misereor, Germany

Ms Kesuma and her team visited Sri Lanka from the 18th of February to the 28th of February 2023. She initially had a meeting all Misereor supported projects with Fr. Luke Nelson, The National Director and the relevant Programme and Finance Staff. Ms. Kesuma shared her comments and recommendations regarding the project implementation in Sri Lanka. She had a field monitoring visit in Jaffna to monitor project implementations in Jaffna DC.

She visited J/Mandaiteevu Maha Vidyalayam School where the drinking water well was renovated by HUDEC Caritas Jaffna under SSEP. In addition, she also had a discussion with the formed village-level environmental Children group under SSEP at Mandaiteevu School.

Later she visited a selected entrepreneur under SSEP Mrs. Ratneshwary who is an activist and a well-known organic-based farmer at Anaikoddai Village at Jaffna. At the end of the partner visit, a debriefing was held at CSL National Center with the National Director and staff from NC.



4. Irsail Foundation visit to Sri Lanka

From November 4th to 21st, 2023, Mr. Gerard and Mrs. Shivanthi Chitty, representing the Irsail Foundation, visited Sri Lanka. They visited Anuradhapura, Badulla, CODESEP, Galle, Kurunegala, and Mannar Dioceses, as well as a visit to the 'Irsail Elders Cottages' at St. Anne's Elders Home in Kelaniya.

While at CODESEP, visited a tea estate, the completed water project in Deniyaya and engaged in discussions with both the former and current Directors of CODESEP, Rev. Fr. Sebastian and Rev. Fr. Jesudas.

At Caritas Badulla, discussions took place with Bishop Winston, Director Rev. Fr. Jude, Rev. Fr. Prasanna, Rev. Fr. Pradeep, Rev. Fr. Jagath, and the team on the completed and ongoing projects, as well as potential new project opportunities. Also, they visited the Gonamotawa estate with Rev. Fr. Jagath and a new cultivation area with Rev. Fr. Pradeep.

The visit to Caritas Kurunegala was to Narammana and Wepathanga schools on the water projects, along with a visit to Mahawa-Nagollagama on the cowpea cultivation, crop cultivation, and inland fishing areas.



During the visit to Caritas Anuradhapura, Mr. Gerard had discussions with Rev. Fr. Bennette and Rev. Fr. Damian Perera. Additionally, they visited St. Joseph's Academy in Nelumkulama, where support for a dairy farm is implemented to support the function of the classes at the academy. At Mannar, they had discussions with Bishop Emmanuel, Rev. Fr. Anton, Rev. Fr. William, Rev. Fr. Victor and Rev. Fr. Sosai and visited the Diocesan farm and peanut cultivation areas.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

PROJECT OVERVIEW - 1ST APRIL 2022 to 31ST MARCH 2023 (Project-wise)

Project	Agency	Amount (Rs)	Total (Rs)	%	Sector
<i>A modern dynamic and youth centered approach to peace process and conflict mitigation.</i>	Misereor	36,055,215	36,055,215	3.1%	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
<i>A stepping stone to Safeguarding Sri Lanka's Natural Environment 322-900-1149</i>	Misereor	50,837,082	50,837,082	4.4%	Climate change adaption
<i>Addressing Causes for Poverty and Ensuring Food Security for Farming Communities</i>	Caritas Norway	372,161,118	372,161,118	32.1%	Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security
<i>Anticipatory response to Southwest monsoon in South and Western province of Sri Lanka</i>	Start Network	82,732,254	82,732,254	7.1%	Climate change adaption
<i>Contribute towards the wellbeing of Children and underprivileged families in Sri Lanka.</i>	Hatton National Bank Plc	447,507	447,507	0.4%	Education
<i>Educational support for War Affected Children</i>	Caritas Korea	21,170,000	21,170,000	1.8%	Education
<i>Empowering of Sri Lanka's Tea plantation communities.</i>	Catholic Relief Services-USCCB	23,947,135	23,947,135	2.1%	Advocacy and Lobbying
<i>Empowerment of the Green Gold Harvesters by Strengthening of Workers Rights 322-900-1109</i>	Misereor	15,963,750	15,963,750	1.4%	Community Empowerment
<i>Enhancing resilience of the victims of the Economic & Hunger crisis in Sri Lanka.</i>	Asia Partnership for Human Development (APHD)	13,815,047	13,815,047	1.2%	Humanitarian / Emergency
	CAFOD	22,028,090	22,028,090	1.9%	
	Caritas Germany	11,105,738	11,105,738	1.0%	
	Caritas India	7,000,059	7,000,059	0.6%	
	Caritas Italiana	94,604,600	94,604,600	8.2%	
	Caritas Japan	3,630,000	3,630,000	0.3%	
	Caritas Korea	36,492,700	36,492,700	3.1%	
	Caritas Singapore-CHARIS	7,396,050	7,396,050	0.6%	
	Catholic Relief Services - USCCB	9,342,520	9,342,520	0.8%	
<i>Helping People Move Towards Reconciliation - SLK 307</i>	CAFOD	13,173,829	13,173,829	1.1%	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
<i>Implementation of Ensuring the rights of children with disabilities project activities</i>	Kindermission	7,157,780	7,157,780	0.6%	Re-settlement & Livelihood Development
<i>Integral Human Development - Civil Dialogue & Cross Community Activities</i>	Caritas Korea	9,398,750	9,398,750	0.8%	Re-settlement & Livelihood Development

FINANCIAL REVIEW

PROJECT OVERVIEW - 1ST APRIL 2022 to 31ST MARCH 2023 (Project-wise)

Project	Agency	Amount (Rs)	Total (Rs)	%	Sector
Livelihood & Housing Support	Misereor	21,239,065	21,239,065	1.8%	Re-settlement & Livelihood Development
Micro Project 2022	Caritas Italiana	4,641,230	4,641,230	0.4%	Economic Development
Micro Project	MSC Mission Overseas Aid Fund / Project Lanka	21,462,246	21,462,246	1.8%	Economic Development
Mitigation of Thalassemia in the Dioceses of Kurunegala, Batticaloa and Chilaw through Awareness and Empowerment	Misereor	10,096,324	10,096,324	0.9%	Health, Water & Sanitation
Promoting a Common Vision for Tolerance and Harmony among all Religions in Sri Lanka	Caritas Norway	99,941,459	99,941,459	8.6%	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
Enhancing resilience of the victims of the Economic crisis in Sri Lanka.	Misereor	61,152,488	61,152,488	5.3%	Humanitarian / Emergency
Scholarship Program 2022 - 2023 for the children affected by the Zion Bomb attack and conflict in Batticaloa.	Centre for Humanitarian Affairs (CHA)	2,206,000	2,206,000	0.2%	Education
Scholarship Program for underprivileged children.	DFCC Bank Plc	1,606,952	1,606,952	0.1%	Education
Silent Solidarity Prayer Campaign	Rev.Fr. Clariyan Fernando	372,931	372,931	0.3%	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
Sundry donation	Mr. Mark Cutter	260,262	260,262	0.2%	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
Supporting Livelihood diversification and increasing community harmony in Western Sri Lanka.	CAFOD	259,952	259,952	0.2%	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
Supporting Primary Education of Poor and Vulnerable Children - Chilaw/ Jaffna	Caritas Korea	30,862,450	30,862,450	2.7%	Education
The intervention of Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity in reaching out to the most vulnerable Families affected by the present Economic crisis in Sri Lanka.	Catholic Relief Services - USCCB	65,189,262	65,189,262	5.6%	Humanitarian / Emergency
Work towards a decent life support for poor families in Sri Lanka.	Caritas Slovenia	2,977,489	2,977,489	0.3%	Economic Development
		1,160,727,333	1,160,727,333	100%	

FINANCIAL REVIEW

PROJECT OVERVIEW - 1ST APRIL 2022 to 31ST MARCH 2023 (Partner-wise)

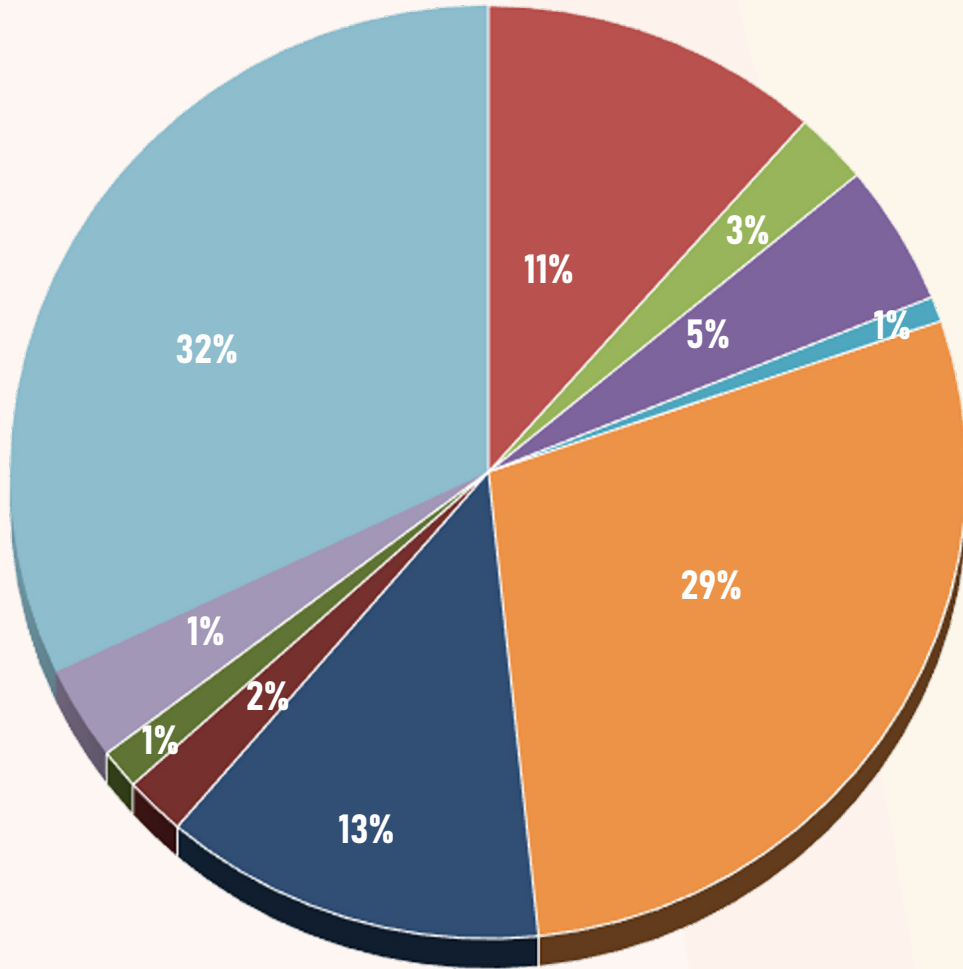
Agency	Project	Amount (Rs)	Total (Rs)	Sector
Asia Partnership for Human Development (APHD)	Enhancing resilience of the victims of the Economic & Hunger crisis in Sri Lanka.	13,815,047	13,815,047	Humanitarian / Emergency
CAFOD	Helping People Move Towards Reconciliation -SLK 307	13,173,829	13,173,829	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
	Supporting Livelihood diversification and increasing community harmony in Western Sri Lanka.	259,952	259,952	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
	Enhancing resilience of the victims of the Economic & Hunger crisis in Sri Lanka.	22,028,090	22,028,090	Humanitarian / Emergency
Caritas Germany	Enhancing resilience of the victims of the Economic & Hunger crisis in Sri Lanka.	11,105,738	11,105,738	Humanitarian / Emergency
Caritas India	Enhancing resilience of the victims of the Economic & Hunger crisis in Sri Lanka.	7,000,059	7,000,059	Humanitarian / Emergency
Caritas Italiana	Micro Project 2022	4,641,230	4,641,230	Economic Development
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Caritas Japan	Enhancing resilience of the victims of the Economic & Hunger crisis in Sri Lanka.	3,630,000	3,630,000	Humanitarian / Emergency
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	Enhancing resilience of the victims of the Economic & Hunger crisis in Sri Lanka.	36,492,700	36,492,700	Humanitarian / Emergency
	Integral Human Development - Civil Dialogue & Cross Community Activities	9,398,750	9,398,750	Re-settlement & Livelihood Development
Caritas Norway	Addressing Causes for Poverty and Ensuring Food Security for Farming Communities	372,161,118	372,161,118	Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security
	Promoting a Common Vision for Tolerance and Harmony among all Religions in Sri Lanka	99,941,459	99,941,459	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
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Caritas Slovenia	Work towards a decent life support for poor families in Sri Lanka.	2,977,489	2,977,489	Economic Development

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	Empowering of Sri Lanka's Tea plantation communities.	23,947,135	23,947,135	Advocacy and Lobbying
	Enhancing resilience of the victims of the Economic & Hunger crisis in Sri Lanka.	9,342,520	9,342,520	Humanitarian / Emergency
Centre for Humanitarian Affairs (CHA)	Scholarship Program 2022 - 2023 for the children affected by the Zion Bomb attack and conflict in Batticaloa.	2,206,000	2,206,000	Education
DFCC Bank Plc	Scholarship Program for underprivileged children .	1,606,952	1,606,952	Education
Hatton National Bank Plc	Contribute towards the wellbeing of Children and underprivileged families in Sri Lanka.	447,507	447,507	Education
Rev.Fr. Clariyan Fernando	Silent Solidarity Prayer Campaign	372,931	372,931	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
Kindermission	Implementation of 'Ensuring the rights of children with disabilities' project activities	7,157,780	7,157,780	Re-settlement & Livelihood Development
Misereor	A modern dynamic and youth centered approach to peace process and conflict mitigation.	36,055,215	36,055,215	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
	Mitigation of Thalassemia in the Dioceses of Kurunegala, Batticaloa and Chilaw through Awareness and Empowerment	10,096,324	10,096,324	Health, Water & Sanitation
	Empowerment of the Green Gold Harvesters by Strengthening of Workers Rights 322-900-1109	15,963,750	15,963,750	Community Empowerment
	A stepping stone to Safeguarding Sri Lanka's Natural Environment 322-900-1149	50,837,082	50,837,082	Climate change adaption
	Enhancing resilience of the victims of the Economic crisis in Sri Lanka.	61,152,488	61,152,488	Humanitarian / Emergency
	Livelihood & Housing Support	21,239,065	21,239,065	Re-settlement & Livelihood Development
MSC Mission Overseas Aid Fund / Project Lanka	Micro Project	21,462,246	21,462,246	Economic Development
Mr. Mark Cutter	Sundry donation	260,262	260,262	Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
Start Network	Anticipatory response to Southwest monsoon in South and Western province of Sri Lanka	82,732,254	82,732,254	Climate change adaption
		1,160,727,333	1,160,727,333	

FUND RECEIPTS 2022/2023



- Climate change adaption
- Economic Development
- Education
- Health, Water & Sanitation
- Humanitarian / Emergency
- Justice, Peace Building & Reconciliation
- Advocacy and Lobbying
- Community Empowerment
- Re-settlement & Livelihood Development
- Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security

Appreciations

Caritas Sri Lanka-SEDEC and the Diocesan Centres wish to express our sincere gratitude to all our Partners for your steadfast support, assistance, and encouragement. Your dedication is instrumental in driving our collective efforts to make a meaningful impact in the community.

Thank you for standing with us.

Asia Partnership for Human Development (APHD)

CAFOD

Caritas Germany

Caritas India

Caritas Italiana

Caritas Japan

Caritas Korea

Caritas Norway

Caritas Singapore- CHARIS

Caritas Slovenia

Catholic Relief Services - USCCB

Centre for Humanitarian Affairs (CHA)

DFCC Bank Plc

Hatton National Bank Plc

Kindermissionswerk

Misereor

Mr. Mark Cutter

MSC Mission Overseas Aid Fund / Project Lanka

Rev.Fr. Clariyan Fernando

Start Network

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