





‘Let my heart be broken
with the things that break
the heart of God’

- Bob Pierce
Founder, World Vision





EVERY PAGE TELLS A STORY

It is my pleasure to present to you the journey of World Vision in Sri Lanka from 1977-2017. Every page here reflects the significant milestones that have contributed to crafting an identity that is uniquely our own.

For some of you, these pages will surely take you on a journey along memory lane.

For some others, these pages would be reflective of your journey with us, in being a partner of World Vision.

For the rest of you, these pages would serve as a reason for inspiration.

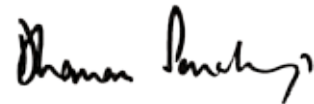
It is my wish that you see God's faithfulness present in every story recorded here: it is without doubt that

the Lord Himself has journeyed with us, over the last 40 years.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all the former National Directors, as well as present and former Board Members and staff, for their commitment and unstinted loyalty to serve the most vulnerable children of Sri Lanka and their families.

Every story is worth telling.

This is ours.



Dr. Dhanan Senathirajah

National Director
World Vision Lanka

30 October 2017

1947



While on a trip to China, Robert (Bob) Pierce begins supporting a little girl in an orphanage. She was lovingly called 'White Jade'. Bob gives the warden of the orphanage, Dr. Tena Holkeboer, his last five dollars and agrees to send the same amount each month to help care for the girl.





Bob Pierce did not take any pictures of White Jade when he met her, but he photographed this other girl who was similar in age, on one of his trips to China.



Dr. Tena Holkeboer, the American missionary in Amoy, with two children.

1950



The encounter becomes a turning point for Bob Pierce and he brings people together to support the most vulnerable children in Asia and **World Vision** is born. It spreads in the poorest of the poor countries.



1969

World Vision International considers
Sri Lanka for charity work.







1987



1988



1989



1990



1991



1992



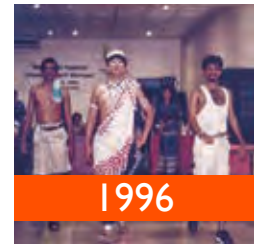
1993



1994



1995



1996

1976

Assessments and surveys are undertaken in several Districts, and discussions are held with the Ministry of Finance and Rural Development. A decision is made to work with Rural Development Societies (RDSs) through the District Secretariats.

RDS is a grassroots-level Non-Government Organisation that functions at the village level.



1977



The National Christian Council in Sri Lanka discusses the impact World Vision has in India and Bangladesh, at that time, and welcomes the organisation to work in Sri Lanka as well.

On April 3, 1977, B E Fernando (former Commissioner of Inland Revenue Sri Lanka) who is leading World Vision in Bangladesh, is appointed to direct operations in Sri Lanka.



- 1977 -



The first eleven staff at the first office

World Vision commences operations at B E Fernando's residence
- 32, Lauries Road, Colombo 4, occupying the front room.

World Vision's name is translated into Sinhala as '*Loka Dharshana
Jathiyanthara Sri Lanka*' (World Vision International Sri Lanka).



- 1977 -

The first eleven staff

Samuel Thambiah

Assistant Director

Constance Fernando

English Stenographer

P.K. Pallewatte

(Retired Director,
Department of Rural Development)
Consultant

Sextus Mendis

Sinhala Typist

J E Victor Samarasinghe

(Retired Assistant Divisional Secretary,
Kaduwela) - Project Officer

Wickrema Piyasena

Office assistant

Nanda Dissanayake and

Amal Raj Fernando

Trainee Project Officers

N. Simon

Driver

Funding for the first 6 months
(from April to October)

USD 8,088



- 1977 -



World Vision initiates Community Development (CD) Projects through the Rural Development Societies donating a start-up fund to each RDS to initiate a revolving loan programme targeting the poor. World Vision provides all training related to managing the loan programme.

Most activities focus on improving livelihoods such as agriculture, animal husbandry and small scale businesses. The community also participates and contributes a certain percentage through labour or cash.

The projects take off in 16 clusters in the Batticaloa, Galle, Gampaha, Jaffna, Kalutara, Kegalle, Kurunegala, Matale, Matara and Nuwara Eliya Districts , directly benefiting 750 families.

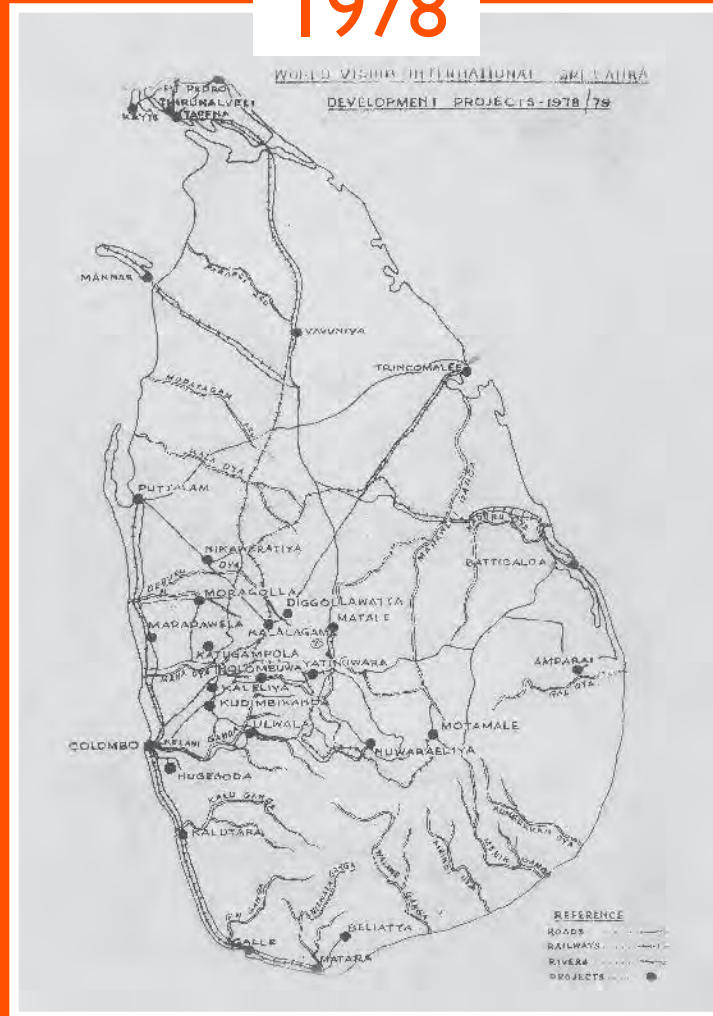


- 1977 -



"Initially we hand-delivered the money to the Societies in the presence of the officials. As the clusters grew, it became challenging to deliver the money as there was only one vehicle – which was Mr. B E Fernando's personal vehicle. So, we decided to open bank accounts under RDS's names. Therefore, their Constitution (para No.13) was amended in order to open bank accounts." - Sextus Mendis, one of the first 11 employees of World Vision.

1978



Community Development Projects in 1978 / 79



- 1977 -

Page 2.

DETAILS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

<u>PROJECT NAME.</u>	<u>PROJECT DETAILS.</u>	<u>BUDGET COST.</u>
		\$
9. Kassar Village Development Project.	This involves constructing of irrigation channels etc; for agricultural purposes, to be worked through the Rural Development Society (R.D.S.).	4000.
10. Kuttal Village Development Project.	This is to assist a depressed class village with agriculture and cottage industries and will be worked through the Hindu Mission Society.	3000.
11. Kinnamalai Village Development Project.	This is for housing and domestic uplift of the very poor village of Kinar through the Anglican Church.	1330.
12. Agasthi Village Development Project.	This includes housing, Vocational Training, Agricultural & Industrial programmes in Kinnamalai, Kinnamalai & Kinnamalai villages. The Methodist Church & the R.D.S. will help.	4000.
13. Varamba Village Development Project.	This is for Agricultural training & settlement programmes in the villages of Varamba, Varamba & Varamba through the R.D.S. & Citizens' Committee.	5000.
14. Kottal Village Development Project.	This involves Cottage Industries & Housing at Kottal, Kottal, Kottal & Kottal through the agency of the R.D.S., the Methodist and Roman Catholic Churches.	7000.
15. Kottal Village Development Project.	Cottage Industries in the villages of Kottal and Kottal, worked through the R.D.S.	4000.
16. Kottal Village Development Project.	Vocational Training, Housing and village development through the Methodist Church.	2500.
17. Kottal Village Development Project.	Housing & Vocational Training a very poor village, through the Methodist Church.	2000.
18. Kottal Village Development Project.	This includes Vocational Training, soup kitchens and other village development projects through the R.D.S., the Methodist and Anglican Churches. The villages involved being Kottal, Kottal & Kottal.	7000.
19. Kottal Village Development Project.	Cottage Industries and Vocational Training in three villages - through the Methodist Church.	4000.
20. Kottal Village Development Project.	Cottage Industries and building of toilets in two villages through the Roman Catholic Church and a local committee.	9000.

Page 3.

DETAILS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

<u>PROJECT NAME.</u>	<u>PROJECT DETAILS.</u>	<u>BUDGET COST.</u>
		\$
21. Kottal Vocational Training Project.	The I.A.S.I. & the Y.A.S.I. are conducting Vocational Training projects for many unemployed youths.	2500.
22. Kottal - Kottal Development Project.	Help in the Agriculture Extension Service and Agricultural Training in the villages of Kottal, Kottal, Kottal & Kottal through the Hindu Club and Local Committee.	7000.
23. Kottal - Kottal Village Development Project.	Help in agriculture and animal husbandry in these two villages through the Rural Development Society (R.D.S.).	6000.
24. Kottal Village Development Project.	Agriculture, Animal Husbandry & Cottage Industries in the villages of Kottal, Kottal and Kottal, through the R.D.S.	5000.
25. Kottal Community Development Project.	Cottage Industries, Housing, Vocational Training and Veterinary Services in Kottal, Kottal & Kottal through the I.A.S.I., the Baptist Church and the R.D.S.	7000.
26. Kottal Village Development Project.	Help with agricultural programmes in the villages of Kottal & Kottal, through the R.D.S.	4000.
27. Kottal Village Development Project.	Agriculture & Cottage Industries in Kottal and Kottal village through the R.D.S.	5000.
28. Kottal - Kottal Village Development Project.	Agriculture and Cottage Industries in these two villages, through the R.D.S.	6000.
29. Kottal - Kottal Village Development Project.	Helping with Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and cottage industries in these two villages.	4000.
30. Kottal Village Leadership Training Course.		7700.

Activity and budget details of the projects



- 1978 -

Community Development (CD) Projects

Kurunegala District

Ulwela (Siyambalangamuwa, Dorawaka, Ulwela villages) - agriculture, animal husbandry and cottage industry (brickmaking, coir).

Kalalagama (Heenapalla, Weligodapitiya, Kurulupaluwa, Kalalagama villages) - cottage industry, housing and a nursery school in partnership with YMCA.

Nikaweratiya (Thalakolawewa, Ipalogama villages) - agriculture and animal husbandry.

Katugampola (Pitadeniya, Kadurmana villages) - agriculture and cottage industry.

Dikgalawatte Heenduruwewa - agriculture and cottage industry.

Moragolla Wanduressa - agriculture, animal husbandry and cottage industry.

Gampaha District

Imbulgoda, Maradawella, Kaleliya, Kudumbikanda - agriculture, animal husbandry and a sewing center.

Kegalle District

Holombuwa Thalgama - animal husbandry and agriculture.

Yatirawana - brickmaking, carpentry and sewing classes

Galle District

Galle (Denipitiya, Baddegama, Bueno Vista villages) - agriculture, vocational training and poultry in partnership with the Anglican church.

Matara District

Matara (Sapugoda village) - agriculture, fishery, coir industry and sewing in partnership with the Sapugoda Dharmanikethaaramaya temple and the Methodist church.

Hambantota District

Beliyatte (Angulmaduwa village) - traditional brasswork industry in partnership with the Cooperative Society.



Nuwara Eliya District

Nuwara Eliya (Hawaeliya, Seethaeliya villages) - agriculture and animal husbandry.

Kalutara District

Kalutara (Geliyakanda, Kaludewela villages) - cottage industry, poultry and tea planting in partnership with the Methodist church.

Matale District

Matale (Rattota, Meegolla villages) - animal husbandry and agriculture in partnership with the Baptist church and the YMCA.

Jaffna District

Jaffna vocational training projects for unemployed youth in partnership with the YMCA and the YWCA.

Thinnaiveli Idaikkadu, Kayts (Thinnaiveli, Alvai, Varani, Idaikkadu villages) - agriculture and animal husbandry in partnership with the Lions Club.

Batticaloa District

Batticaloa (Mankadu, Nellikaadu, Mandapaththadi, Mahiloor, Kannagipuram, Pandiruppu, Kodaimedu, Kaluthavalai villages.)

Ampara District

Ampara (Panankadu, Sinnapanankadu).

Colombo District

Nugegoda.

Puttalam District

Puttalam.

Vavuniya District

Vavuniya.

Trincomalee District

Trincomalee.



- 1978 -



Dr. Bob Pierce, Founder of World Vision passes away on September 6th at the age of 64.

The organisation registers as World Vision International (Sri Lanka) as a non-government voluntary welfare organisation under the Ministry of Rural Development.



- 1978 -



World Vision commences its first relief response in Sri Lanka responding to those affected by a cyclone in the Eastern Province, providing them with clothing and dry rations.



1979



World Vision redeems land deeds of the communities in Kalalagama and Heenapalla, Kurunegala District.

The community had mortgaged their properties to rich traders to find the money necessary for cultivation. They were paying the interest but were too poor to redeem the deeds. People were becoming landless and homeless. World Vision pays USD 2,000 to the traders to redeem the deeds.



- 1979 -



World Vision organizes a mass marriage registration ceremony for 20 couples in Kalalagama in the presence of the Government Agent, the Registrars and Grama Niladhari (village headman).

Sanitation facilities and clean wells are also constructed for the community, ending open defecation in the village.



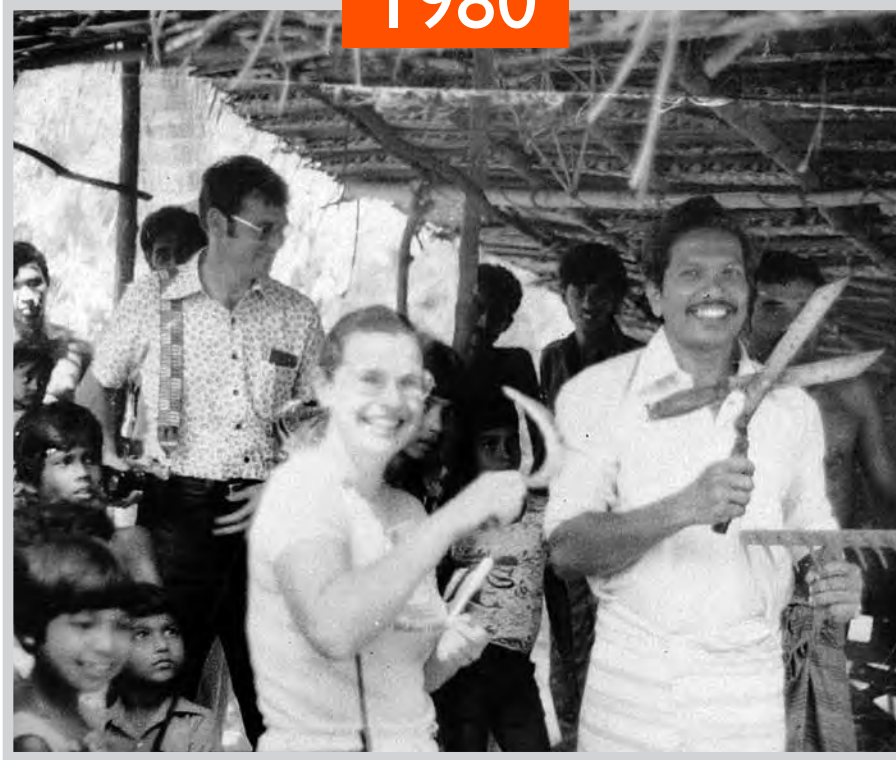
- 1979 -

<u>BURDEN BUDGET FY 79</u>	
41. Salaries	6,600
52. Travel, Subsistence	360
62. Bank Service Charge	48
63. Hospitality	120
65. Insurance	144
67. Subscriptions	14
69. Postage	180
70. Printing	120
71. Office Rent	240
73. Repairs	120
74. Fuel, Etc.	960
75. Office Expenses	720
76. Taxes, Licenses	180
77. Telephone, Cable	180
78. Utilities	14
98. Fixed Asset Exp.	15,000
Total	<u>25,000</u>
Allocation	
Relief	-
Development	23,500
Evangelism	750
Leadership	750
TOTAL	<u>25,000</u>
	=====

Budget for Financial Year 1979



1980



The very first donor group visit takes place in Ravita Uthura village in Pannala, Kurunegala District.



- 1980 -



B E Fernando interacting with children at St. Margaret's.

Children sheltered in St. Margaret's Convent, Polwatte, Colombo are assisted with a nutrition programme.



- 1980 -



B E Fernando with a Regional Director meeting with beneficiaries at the Deaf and Blind Colony

Handloom machines are donated in support of those in the Deaf and Blind Colony in Ratmalana, Colombo.

Spice grinding machines are provided to needy women for income generation through the YWCA at Union Place, Colombo.

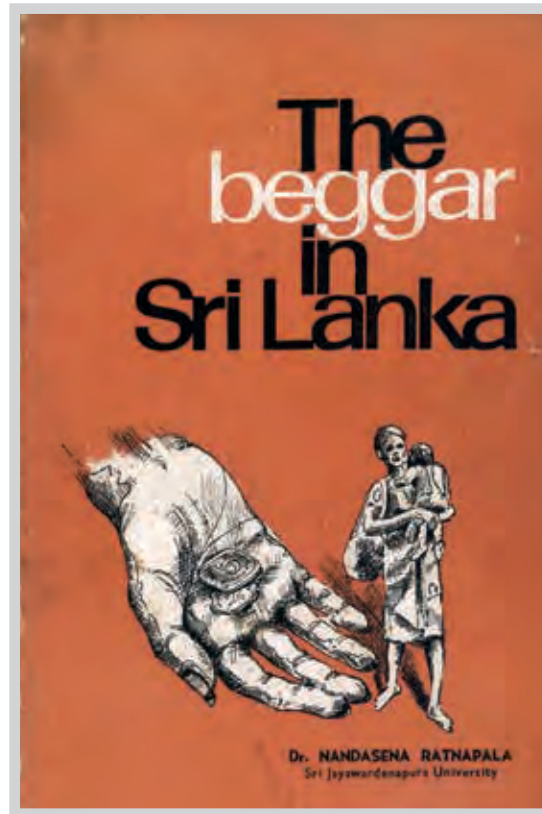


- 1980 -

World Vision moves to its first office premises at 138, Havelock Road, Colombo 5.



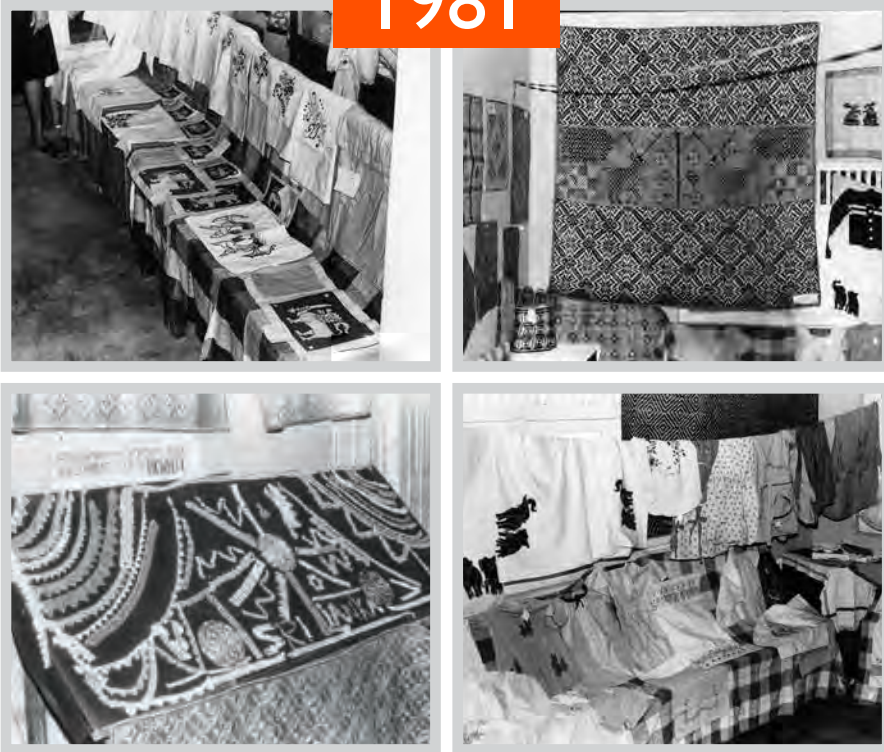
- 1980 -



World Vision funds the publication of 'The beggar in Sri Lanka' by Professor Nandasena Ratnapala.



1981



An exhibition of cottage industry products is held at the Dikwella Rural Development Training Center, bringing together products from all the Community Development projects around the country.



- 1981 -



A group from a Women's Club in Australia led by Joy Tatner visit coir producers in the Diddenpotha village, Matara. The group had provided funding for projects in Sri Lanka.



- 1981 -

The first death in the World Vision Sri Lanka family occurs - Mr. Samuel Thambiah passes away while in service at office.



- 1981 -



The first vehicle - bearing No 31 Sri I 689 Mitsubishi Jeep is purchased duty-free for World Vision office.



1982



Christopher Radley and David Ward from World Vision Europe visit Sri Lanka. They meet with communities who are part of the livelihoods projects in the Kurunegala District.



- 1982 -



Gloria Gay from Frankston World Vision International Club travels with a team to visit livelihoods project in Bingiriya, Kurunegala District



- 1982 -

In another mass marriage ceremony 40 couples register in Wandurassa - Wariyapola.

Evangelist Samuel Mendis leads a special awareness programme on basic health practices, hygiene habits and the importance of education (especially among the indigenous communities). He was also instrumental in establishing schools in these areas.



1983



World Vision staff David Madugalle and Ajith Fernando packing relief goods.

Victims of the communal riots sheltered at Saraswathi Hall, St. Peter's College, Colombo and the Air Force camp, are assisted with sleeping mats.



- 1983 -

The office is shifted to No 44, Kynsey Road, Colombo 8.

The first international training for staff on Management Leadership and Productivity takes place in July.



- 1983 -



The first staff Spiritual Camp is held at the Holy Family Convent in Bandarawela.



1984



75 plantation worker families in Hatton who are victims of communal riots receive dry rations.



- 1983 -

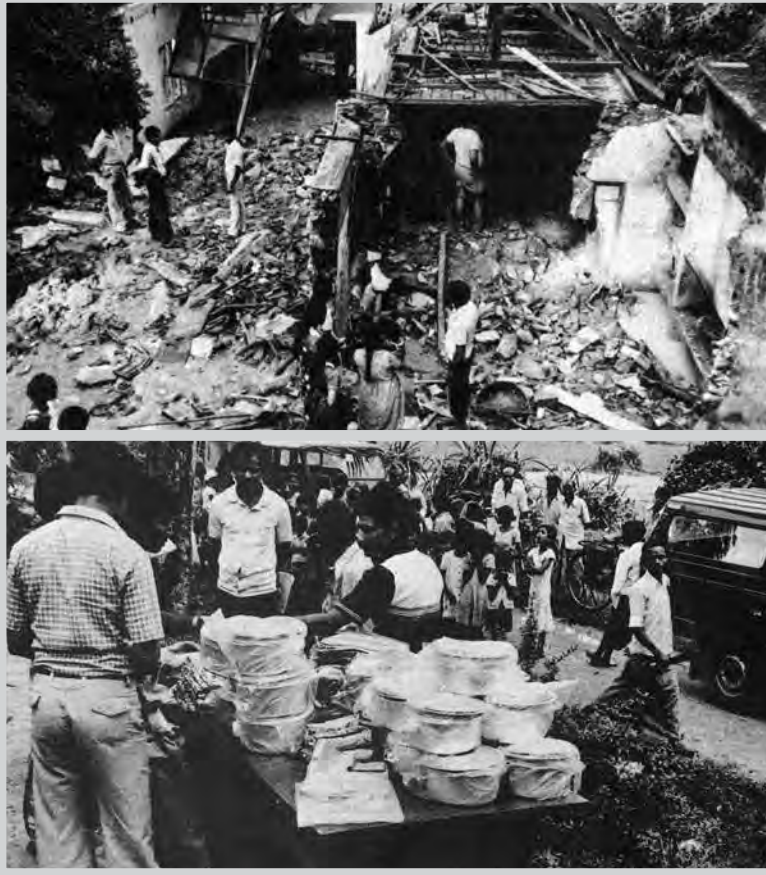
Judy Hutchinson, Director for Evaluation, World Vision International and Jim Pine, World Bank Consultant visit Sri Lanka to monitor and evaluate the success of revolving loan schemes with the RDSs.

Norton Jacoby, Senior Lecturer of Economics at the University of Newcastle, Australia and his wife visit Sri Lanka. He evaluates 14 villages and reports that the revolving loan programme introduced by World Vision indicates a 95% success. The report is published in the Australian 'Together' magazine.

One hundred families who are victims in communal riots, are supported with income generation activities to help them resettle in the Vanni.



- 1984 -



World Vision provides dry rations, kitchen utensils and clothing to families in the Iddagoda, Ramiya, Maddeggedera, Bopitiya and Wettewa areas in the Kalutara District who were affected by a landslide.



- 1984 -



Nimal Chandrasiri who is in charge of the transport in World Vision with the vehicle

World Vision Vehicle 28 Sri 5707 is carjacked by an unidentified group.



1985



World Vision and Sri Lanka Army respond to over 100 families who are displaced by the war and the Kent and Dollar Farm massacre in Mullaitivu.



- 1985 -



Relief is provided to fisher families of Nayar and Kokilai, displaced due to war and sheltered in Pitipana, Negombo.



- 1985 -



A relief support of LKR 20,000 is given to communal riot victims of Akkaraipattu. National Director tells the response team carrying relief goods - “this is a risky journey, choose your journey’s route cautiously.”



- 1985 -



Donor team in front of the office at Kynsey Road, Colombo 08.

A donor team from Hong Kong visits projects around the country.



1986



Child Sponsorship is launched for 1,000 children in Maduluwawa, Poregedera, Pitipana South and Puhudelgahawaththa villages in Homagama, Colombo District funded by World Vision Australia.



- 1986 -

Initially the sponsorship programme is managed by the Special Projects Unit headed by Lakshman Perera, Operations Manager and Sagara Gamage, Special Projects Officer.

Sue Beemish and Garuna Mithrakone conduct awareness on Child Sponsorship for the World Vision team in Sri Lanka.

Staff of World Vision Sri Lanka Head Office led by Rohan Salgado conducts the first ever programme evaluation of the projects in Agara, and Weragala, Kurunegala District.

World Vision funds the publication of a handbook on home remedies 'Gedera Wedakama' by Ayurveda Doctor Amarasena Ashuthosa. The first copy of the book is handed over to the then Minister of Health W.J.M Lokubandara.

World Vision Sri Lanka is now a family of 25 dedicated staff working in 1,200 villages across Sri Lanka.



- 1986 -



The very first finance team: Anton Achillies - Accountant, Elroy Mendis - Asst. Accountant and Rohini Wijesekara - Director Finance (from left to right) at the Mount Lavinia office.

The office shifts to No. 175, Templar's Road, Mt. Lavinia.



- 1986 -

ගරු මන්ත්‍රීතුමන්ලා විසින් දෙන ලද උපදෙස් අනුව, ඒ ඒ මධ්‍යස්ථානවල මීට වඩා අලෙවි වන විටියේ හාණ්ඩ තිෂ්පාදනය කිරීමටත්, පිටරටට හෝ විකුණන්න පුළුවන් විටියේ කර්මාන්ත ඇති කිරීමටත් කටයුතු කරන්න මම බලාපොරොත්තු වෙතවා. අපේ ගරු මන්ත්‍රීවරුන් තමතමන්ගේ ආයතනවල තිබෙන ගම්වලට ගිහිල්ලා, ඒවායේ තිබෙන ග්‍රාම සංවර්ධන ව්‍යාපාර දියුණු කරන්න කටයුතු කර තිබෙනවා. අපට ආධාර දුන් කෘෂිකර්ම අමාත්‍යාංශයටත්, සත්ව පාලන අංශයටත්, යුනිස්කෝප් ආයතනයටත්, වර්ල්ඩ් විෂන් ආයතනයටත්, තත් අයුරින් ආධාර දුන් සියළු දෙනාටමත් මම ස්තූතිවන්ත වෙතවා. ලබන අවුරුද්දේ දුගී දුප්පත් ජනතාවට සේවයක් කිරීම මගින් තොදියුණු ගම් දියුණු කරලා රට දියුණු කිරීම සඳහා අපි සියළු දෙනාම වාද-හේද දුරු කරලා එක්සිත්ව ඉදිරියට යමුයි කියන ඉල්ලීම කරමින් මම නිහඩ වෙතවා.

(Hansard 1986 Nov 26th, Volume 44, 3rd Edition)

Wimala Kannangara, Minister of Rural Development highlights the yeoman service of World Vision Sri Lanka, during the budget debate in the Sri Lankan Parliament.



1987



Staff with B E Fernando

After serving World Vision International Sri Lanka for 10 years B. E. Fernando retires.



- 1987 -



Staff welcomes Peter Berry as Field Director while bidding farewell to B.E. Fernando



- 1987 -



Peter Berry, Hilary De Alwis and Noel Berman, Church Relations Department meeting with Anglican and Catholic priests.

Hilary De Alwis who was with World Vision Cyprus is appointed National Director for three months.



- 1987 -



Peter Berry with the new Sponsorship Manager, Niranjali Motha

Child Sponsorship Department is established, followed by a visit from John Steward, Manager, World Vision Australia to inspect Child Sponsorship projects in Homagama.



- 1987 -



The first Day of Prayer is held at the Mount Lavinia office, followed by a staff day out.



- 1987 -



The first-ever staff Christmas programme is held on December 23rd with each staff member being gifted with a gift hamper worth LKR 750.



- 1987 -



The first sponsorship project in Batticaloa commences in Vellaveli.

First pre-school teacher training is conducted at the Thalahena Community Education Center.

Project de-centralization programme begins with a restructuring process.



1988



The office shifts to Vipulasena Mawatha in Colombo 10.

World Vision re-registers as World Vision Lanka under the Shop and Office Act under the Ministry of Plan Implementation, with projects continuing to operate through the Rural Development Societies.



- 1988 -



Randev Fernando, Project Officer for Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa and Puttalam, dies in a road accident. The community erects a monument in remembrance of him.



- 1988 -

The Child Sponsorship Programme is introduced to 31 of the areas where revolving loan programme is operating. The CD Projects now turn into Sponsorship Programmes. Sponsorship becomes the main funding source for the operations in Sri Lanka.



- 1988 -



The first leadership training for community leaders is held at the International Center for Training of Rural Leaders, Yodhagama, Embilipitiya.



1989

Kithuluthuwa village in the Polonnaruwa District is selected for a special project that includes disaster relief, village development and revolving loan activities, after a massacre takes the lives of 127 civilians.

A community hall is built and a pre-school is also established in Kithuluthuwa.

The first National Advisory Board is set-up with Mervyn Wijesinghe as Chairman.



- 1989 -



David Madugalle on his birthday (top) and Elroy Mendis on his (bottom).

Peter Berry has a 'Revolving Bouquet' that he presents to staff on their birthdays. The staff could keep the bouquet for the day and return it to be used for the next birthday.



- 1989 -

More child sponsorship programmes commence and there are 75 in total by the end of the year.

With the JVP insurgency, the banks close and World Vision faces the challenge of transferring funds for the sponsorship programmes. Each Project Officer carries very large sums of cash to the community.

Goods planned for various development activities are purchased at local shops and copies of the receipts are provided to the community so that they can obtain the goods, be it material for construction, school supplies for the children or other necessary items.

The staff come to the Colombo Office to collect their salary every month. After getting the salary the whole team goes to Pettah to buy things for their families. With bags full of goods they also carry the sponsor letters with them to be taken back to the field.



1990

World Vision suspends all projects in the North and the East. Only relief programmes continue to operate.

A Relief Department is created in the Colombo Office headed by Daniel Sinnathamby, Warren Fernandez and Noel Berman.

World Vision International advises suspension of programmes in several areas due to ongoing violence of JVP insurgency.

Dry rations are distributed to communities in border villages in Medirigiriya, Polonnaruwa and the East, affected by the war. World Vision along with YMCA launches a relief programme for the displaced families due to ethnic clashes.



1991



The office is shifted to 101 Rosmead Place, Colombo 7 on August 28th.



- | 99 | -

Relief work in the Jaffna District is stalled due to escalation of hostilities coupled with disruption in communication, transportation and electricity.





World Vision Lanka is requested to appear before the Presidential Commission on NGOs due to allegations of unethical conversion. This process goes on for 6 months with several inquiries involving staff, clergy, community members and government officials, and inspections of documents by the Criminal Investigation Department.

Many Buddhist monks, senior government officials and community leaders stand by World Vision during these challenging days. Based on the Commission's findings World Vision is acquitted of all charges and the state lawyer apologizes for grievances caused.



1992

Rev.W G Wickramasinghe is appointed as Board Chair.

The Staff Thrift Society is initiated by Sanjeewa Wijesinghe, Sextus Mendis and Jayaweera Kohombange with an initial fund of LKR 200,000.



1993



The CEO of World Vision Ireland visits projects in Polonnaruwa.



- 1993 -

A small Enterprise Development programme is launched, and training on Small and Medium-Scale Enterprise Development is conducted for all Project Officers at the Agrarian Research and Training Institute in Colombo.

WorldVision Lanka is recognized as one of the best performing offices by World Vision International.

Flood relief response is launched at Alapatha, Ratnapura.



1994



A combined training programme for Sinhala and Tamil Community Leaders is conducted at the Yodhagama Training Centre, Embilipitiya.



- 1994 -

A 20-Hour Famine programme is held at the Colombo University Auditorium to raise funds to support homes for children with disability.

Janasaviya Trust Fund (JTF) collaborates with World Vision for income generation and sanitation projects in Godakawela, Balangoda, and Waligepola, Ratnapura District.



1995



February 18 -

Children from World Vision Project areas are brought together for a Cultural programme and awards presentation at the Elphinstone Hall, Colombo. The High Commissioner of United Kingdom E J Field, Dr R M K Ratnayake, Secretary to the Ministry of Samurdhi and C Maliyadde, Secretary to the Ministry of Plan Implementation, attend the event.



- 1995 -



Don Viesbord, former Vice President of World Vision International and Joy Alvarez conduct a training on Transformational Development at the Bandarayake Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH).



- 1995 -

International Women's Day celebration in Embilipitiya brings together women leaders from all the projects.

A Twenty-Hour Famine Programme is conducted at the University of Colombo auditorium. to raise funds for a home for children with disabilities.

Training on Sustainable Development is conducted by Dr. Jaisankar Sarma, Regional Director for Programme Support and Sidhartha Sahu, one of the Area Directors for World Vision India, followed by field visits to Divulapitiya, and Jayakodypura villages in the Gampaha District.

An inter-departmental, friendly cricket tournament is held at the Nomads Grounds.



- 1995 -



G Raveendran takes over the leadership of World Vision Lanka as the Acting National Director.



1996



Dry rations are provided to 320 families affected by the drought and sheltered in four temples in Andarawewa, Mahaara, Weliara, Baddewewa villages in the Hambantota District.



- 1996 -



First ADP Office - Lunugamvehera, Hambantota.



- 1996 -

The Area Development Programme (ADP) concept is introduced for the first time in Lunugamvehera in the Hambantota District, funded by the USA. Prasanna De Silva becomes the first ADP Manager.

Some of the Community Development (CD) Projects will soon transit into ADPs in the coming years.

Unlike the CD Project, the ADP has a life span of approximately 15 years and is initiated in communities, with populations ranging from 10,000 to 100,000 people.

The ADPs work through four key focus sectors - education, economic development, health and nutrition, and water and sanitation. Crosscutting themes of gender, environment, disaster risk reduction, peace building, child protection and disability inclusion are intentionally interwoven into the programmes.



- 1996 -



The Sponsorship Team

Sponsorship staff operations are de-centralized with the initiation of the ADP concept.



- 1996 -



A birthday celebration at the FRIENDS Project. Nilanka Jayasooriya (extreme right) who became instrumental in starting the project looks on.

FRIENDS project is established with a hope to provide shelter for 15 children living in the streets.



- 1996 -



Late Susantha Wijesuriya (left), Yu Hwa Li (middle) and Hemantha Jayamanne (right) during a fancy dress competition at a staff camp.

The Field Leadership Team is established with Yu Hwa Li appointed as the Team Facilitator.



- 1996 -

An Empowerment programme for widows is launched in Lunugamvehera with livelihood and income generation activities. Thereafter, the programme is extended to Kokkatticholai, Batticaloa and Weeramuna, Ampara with vocational training. The programme in Bundala supports widows with tissue-cultured banana plants.

A spiritual camp for staff is held at the Diyagala Boys Town with Dr Dhanan Senathirajah as one of the guest speakers. Dr. Senathirajah will become the National Director of World Vision Lanka 20 years later.

The first Budget Planning Workshop for ADP staff is held in Hambantota.



- 1996 -

A Disaster management training programme is conducted for Project Officers by Andrew Sundersingh, Disaster Management Coordinator.

World Vision begins discussions with the government to evaluate the possibility of relief work in Mannar as the community is affected by war. Mannar is accessible only by boat at this time as there is no road access.



- 1996 -



A team celebration in the Sponsorship Department at the Borella Office.

The head office moves to 1119/2/1, Maradana Road, Colombo 8.

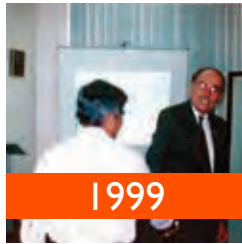




1997



1998



1999



2000



2001



2002



2003



2004



2005



2006



1997

With road access made possible, World Vision commences a rehabilitation programme in Mannar Island supported by Australia.

The Programme focuses on education, livelihood, infrastructure, health, water and sanitation, housing and women's empowerment.

The Asian Development Bank funds a special housing project in Mannar which builds over 100 houses, toilets, wells and community centres although taking cement and other commodities to Mannar is banned by the military.

World Vision receives special permission to transport cement because of the transparency of the work and trust.

New Area Development Programmes commence in Vellaveli (Batticaloa District), Mahakumbukkadawala and Wanathawilluwa (Puttalam District), Ambagamuwa (Nuwara-Eliya District), Kotavehera (Kurunegala District) and Galenbindunuwewa (Anuradhapura District) with funding from Australia, Canada, USA, UK and Japan.

The Twenty-Hour Famine programme is held at the Sri Lanka Exhibition and Convention Center along with a musical show to raise funds for street children. Ronnie Leitch, Samitha Mudunkotuwa and Marians perform. The programme gets featured in Rupavahini's Good Morning Sri Lanka Show.



- 1997 -



World Vision Lanka celebrates 20 years in Sri Lanka.



- 1997 -



Roofing sheets and dry rations are distributed to families who are affected by war in Kebithigollewa, in collaboration with the Buddhist monks of the area.



1998



WorldVision recruits its first female programme coordinators
- Shyama Silva and Nirmani Perera.



- 1998 -

World Vision commences its first Urban Development Programme in Munnakkaraya, Negombo with support from Taiwan. Munnakkaraya is the dwelling place to a community of fisher families. The area known as the 'mud-pit' is the poorest and the most unclean area in Negombo.

Drinking water is available only after midnight from a few taps located nearby. During the rainy season the houses went under water. Although many agencies had visited the area it was too unclean for them to work.

World Vision's Programme is the first to introduce them to proper hygiene and sanitation practices. Today every house has a water-sealed toilet, clean roads and a good drainage system. There are no more water-borne diseases or unhygienic conditions in this area, and it goes by the new name Siriwardene Place.



- 1998 -



Munnakkaraya in 1998



- 1998 -



The Galenbindunuwewa ADP is provided with over USD 90,000 by Spring of Love Charity Concert in Japan to build the anicut and renovate Kodalipothana reservoir in Galenbindunuwewa.



- 1998 -

Canada supports the start of two ADPs - Pottuvil and Padiyathalawa (Ampara District) while Weerakatiya ADP (Hambantota District) commences with support from Australia.

A water project in Mattala Dewramvehera in Hambantota is initiated in partnership with the Asian Development Bank benefiting 1,375 families.

A Twenty-Hour Famine programme is held at the Police Grounds, Colombo with the participation of children of the FRIENDS Project for children living in the streets. Rupavahini and Swarnavahini cover the event.

World Vision Lanka receives its first ever Grant from The Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) for income generation activities in Mannar. ANCP is an annual grants programme that supports Australian NGO community development programmes.



1999

A Department for Advocacy is created in the National Office headed by Jayaweera Kohombange.

The Kebithigollewa ADP in the Anuradhapura District commences with funding from Japan.



- 1999 -



Shaun E. Donnelly, US Ambassador visits the World Vision Lanka office to learn about World Vision's work and to meet with the National Director and staff.



2000



Niranjali Motha of the Sponsorship Department with a child who underwent corrective heart surgery.

World Vision organizes emergency medical assistance providing support for over 30 children to undergo corrective heart surgery.



- 2000 -

The LTTE makes a request to World Vision through the Government Agent to work for the poor community in Madu (Mannar District) which is under their control.

With permission from the government, World Vision begins Madu and Manthai West Rehabilitation Programme. The Programme focuses on education, health and nutrition, housing and Food For Work.



2000

The Madu church comes under a shell attack and 17 civilians are killed. Rt. Rev. Rayappu Joseph, Bishop of Mannar requests World Vision's support to transport the dead to Mannar Hospital for postmortem. Any dead during a crossfire had to be brought to a hospital for the government to certify them as civilians and not terrorists.

With permission from the military, World Vision travels to Madu with the Government Agent and the Bishop. On their way back with the dead they are caught in a crossfire and shell attacks between the military and the LTTE. However they manage to escape without harm.

The Giribawa (Kurunegala District), Horowpothana (Anuradhapura District) and Thanamalwila (Monaragala District) ADPs commence with support from Hong Kong, USA and Canada respectively.



2001



Yu Hwa Li serving a child during a school feeding programme.

Yu Hwa Li is appointed as National Director.



- 2001 -

World Vision responds to the drought in the Moneragala District by providing 6,535 families with emergency food supplies.

The Wennappuwa (Gampaha District) and Eravurpattu (Batticaloa District) ADPs commence with support from USA and Canada respectively while Sevanagala (Monaragala District) commences with support from Singapore and Korea.



2002



The Mannar Rehabilitation Programme transits into a full Area Development Programme supported by Australia.

WorldVision Lanka's 25th Anniversary is celebrated at the Methodist College auditorium, Colombo with the participation of Mr & Mrs B E Fernando as Chief Guests.

We are now 247 staff, supporting 42,000 children through 21 ADPs.



- 2002 -

The Sri Lanka government and the LTTE sign a Ceasefire Agreement and commence peace talks with international mediation.

World Vision commences 'Sports for Peace' programme bringing together youth of different ethnic groups to build reconciliation and understanding.



2003



With access and safety improved with the peace talks, World Vision commences a special supplementary feeding programme for preschool children in Kilinochchi with funding from Taiwan. The Project also begins to operate a mobile clinic catering to the health needs of the community.

World Vision regularly provides reports of their work and progress to the government to ensure transparency.



- 2003 -



Food For Work (FFW) programme is launched in Kilinochchi in partnership with the World Food Programme. The work focuses on renovation of roads, common buildings and other infrastructure.



- 2003 -



The team handling the IFSA Project.

World Vision Lanka commences Integrated Farming and Sustainable Agriculture (IFSA) Project with a USD 7.2 million grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The Project covers the Weeraketiya, Galenbidunuwewa, Horowpothana, Kebithigollewa, Giribawa, Thanamalwila, Vellaveli and Pottuvil areas benefiting over 10,000 farmers.



- 2003 -

Vision Fund Lanka commences operations as the micro-finance arm of World Vision Lanka. Vision Fund is a key part of World Vision's economic development capacity and provides financial empowerment to families in the communities where World Vision works.

World Vision's flood response supports the cleaning and renovation of over 2,600 wells in flood-affected Ratnapura, Kalutara, Matara and Galle Districts through a special fund from the OFDA (Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance). A generator is donated to the Thawalama peripheral hospital.

November 13 –

A mob attacks the World Vision head office in Borella, accusing the organisation of unethical conversions. The mob breaks into the office demanding the National Director to make a statement to the media admitting that the organisation is engaged in religious conversion.

Following the attack, the Jathika Hela Urumaya presents the Unethical Conversion Bill to the Parliament.



Unethical conversion bill in parliament soon says JHU

The India Today News Service, New Delhi, reports that the Union Minister for Minority Affairs, Mr. Lawrence Sanyal, has said that the bill on unethical conversions will be introduced in the Lok Sabha soon.

Mr. Sanyal said that the bill is necessary to prevent the conversion of people through unethical means. He said that the bill will provide for the registration of religious institutions and for the appointment of a committee to investigate the conversion of people through unethical means.

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Fasting monks demand anti-conversion laws

Minister promises Cabinet proposal

The monks of the Buddhist Sasana Commission have demanded that the government should take steps to prevent the conversion of people through unethical means. They said that the government should take steps to prevent the conversion of people through unethical means.

Report of the Presidential Buddha Sasana Commission

The Buddha Sasana Presidential Commission Report made public in the final quarter of 2003, mentions under its aims and objectives that it was appointed to "to propose appropriate steps to prevent the registration, under various laws and acts, of individuals and/or groups having beliefs that are different to that of traditional religious institutions and as a result strategically bend the people to their beliefs."

It recommends "that appropriate steps be taken to prevent religious conflicts in future, as converting Buddhists to other religions by various means, have been violent at several instances". that "an act be brought to prohibit conversion and proselytising, by nonconformist provocative means and make it a penal offence under Penal Code", "the approval of the Interfaith Advisory Council - which constitutes of representatives of each religion, proportional to their population- be obtained for the registration of a new missionary or fundamentalist group".

"Sasanarakshaka councils be vested with authority to in- complaints of Buddhists being converted to other religions, the termination of the licenses of organisations proselytising Buddhists under the guise of social

1. Sasana Presidential Commission Report lists associations registered in the Department of Registration. It specifically points out "World Vision Mission", "Assembly of God (ADG)", "Pentecostal Church" as being in- missions.

දීපිදකම පිටුදැකීමට උදව් කරනු මිස ආගමි ප්‍රචාරක කටයුතුවලට අප නැ.



Unethical conversions: NGOs must leave

There are three areas that can be used to subvert nations: Communism, Marxism and Religious Strife. During the past three decades we have not through the whole lot of problems with regard to the whole communism (or, ethnic disharmony) and religion via the TVPs. We have experienced high slaughter, mayhem and bloodshed as a lifetime and have become impoverished which means we are now totally controlled by foreign forces through their loans. We are now about to embark on the third threat: destabiliser. Religious Strife - known in most during the past thirty years, certain foreign-funded NGOs have taken the country with the sole purpose:

already a Christian they pretend to be different in to read the Bible with me. At it I must say: hypocrites to obtain the Bible in the I had enough of this in Sunday School when I was a child.

Please send those NGOs out of this country without any further delay. They have been identified as there will be no problem about investigating their real motives. People of the four main religions - Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism - have existed harmoniously for a few centuries. In fact we visit each other's temples, churches and mosques and ask far from from all Gods when we are in trouble.

We exchange Christmas Cakes for Karam Kook and Baniyan. We are all brothers and

- 2003 -

While continuing to support children in need of corrective heart surgery, World Vision activates a fund to support other health needs of children.

The Paddippolai ADP in the Batticaloa District commences with funding from Australia.



2004



The Tsunami strikes. World Vision loses 52 sponsored children in Pottuvil. Three of the staff also lose family members. World Vision enlists 500 volunteers for relief work.



- 2004 -



The immediate response provides 120,700 persons with food and 665,000 with non-food relief items and 102 Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs) support the psycho-social needs of over 8,000 children.



‘වර්ල්ඩ් විෂන්’ ආයතනයෙන් සතියකදී කෝටි 120ක සහනාධාර

ලන්ඩන්, බ්‍රිටන් - වර්ල්ඩ් විෂන් ආයතනය විසින් ලන්ඩන්හි පිහිටි ලන්ඩන් විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ සිටින ශිෂ්‍යයන් සඳහා සහනාධාරයක් ලෙසින් 120 ක සහනාධාරයක් ප්‍රකාශයට පත් කර ඇත.

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World Vision

DAILY NEWS WEDNESDAY APRIL 20 2005

LOCAL

School Feeding Program to meet nutritional needs of tsunami affected children

World Vision (WV) together with World Food Programme and the Government of Sri Lanka has signed an MOU to implement an emergency school feeding program in 171 schools of eight districts affected by the tsunami.

Starting from March 14, this program will meet nutritional needs of school going children between 5-10 years of age according to UNICEF standards. The program will provide 120 million Sri Lankan Rupees (SLR) for the program.

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World Vision and Government Ministry Secretary Jayasinghe signing the MOU with National Director for World Vision Lanka in Sri Lanka. Compulsory Officer Mike McFarland and Director for Emergency Relief and the new Migration Andrew Somerville.

වර්ල්ඩ් විෂන් ආයතනයෙන් අවතැන්වූවන් සඳහා ආධාර



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වර්ල්ඩ් විෂන් ආයතනය විසින් ලන්ඩන්හි පිහිටි ලන්ඩන් විශ්වවිද්‍යාලයේ සිටින ශිෂ්‍යයන් සඳහා සහනාධාරයක් ලෙසින් 120 ක සහනාධාරයක් ප්‍රකාශයට පත් කර ඇත.

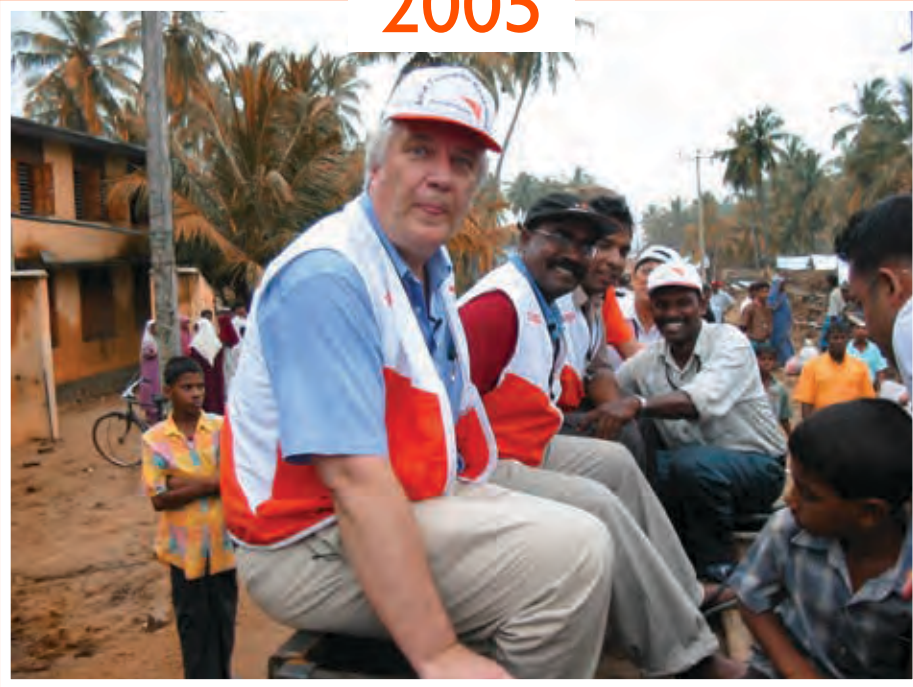
President, World Vision discuss post tsunami reconstruction

President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom

President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom and World Vision officials discussed the reconstruction of the Maldives after the tsunami. They discussed the need for a coordinated effort to rebuild the country and the role of World Vision in providing aid and support.

President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom and World Vision officials discussed the reconstruction of the Maldives after the tsunami. They discussed the need for a coordinated effort to rebuild the country and the role of World Vision in providing aid and support.

2005



Dean Hirsch, World Vision International CEO visiting tsunami-affected areas.

The Global Rapid Response Team of World Vision is deployed to assist the tsunami response in the affected countries including Sri Lanka.

The Lanka Tsunami Response Team (LTRT) is established headed by Perry Mansfield. It is a programme with a five-year response and rebuilding plan for every affected District.

The Kiran ADP commences in the Batticaloa District with support from Canada.



- 2005 -



G.D. Niles (right) Warehouse Manager in front of the warehouse in Kilinochchi.

World Vision Lanka receives an award from WFP (World Food Programme) for best Food For Work Programme and best Warehouse Management in Kilinochchi.



- 2005 -

Hostilities renew between the government and the LTTE in the East starting from Verugal and Eachchilampattu (Trincomalee District). People begin to flee the area and take refuge in Vaharai.

The World Vision Tsunami Response office in Trincomalee is also relocated to Ampara.

Over 7,000 families are trapped in Vaharai as the government troops begin surrounding the area.

The government requests the Peace Committee in Batticaloa to commence dialogue with the LTTE requesting the release of civilians from the conflict area.

The Peace Committee head invites Ramesh Kumar of World Vision to be a part of the delegation that meets the LTTE leaders in Vaharai because of his experience of working in conflict areas.

The delegation meets with the LTTE and they turn down the request to release civilians, saying if the government cared about the people they should send food and other essential items that they need and that the LTTE is ready for negotiations.



- 2005 -

The delegation conveys the message to the government.

With government's permission, the WFP, UN Agencies, World Vision, Caritas, Child Fund, Sarvodaya and other NGOs transport 50 lorries with food and non-food items to the civilians trapped in Vaharai.

The military declares a temporary ceasefire for the lorries to travel. Only 24 lorries are able to travel.

A few days later, the government forces attack Vaharai and the LTTE is forced to release the people as they flee from the area. The people are sheltered in temporary camps in Batticaloa.

The Kebithigollewa ADP office is attacked by unidentified persons, and another mob attempts to attack the Sevanagala ADP office.



- 2005 -

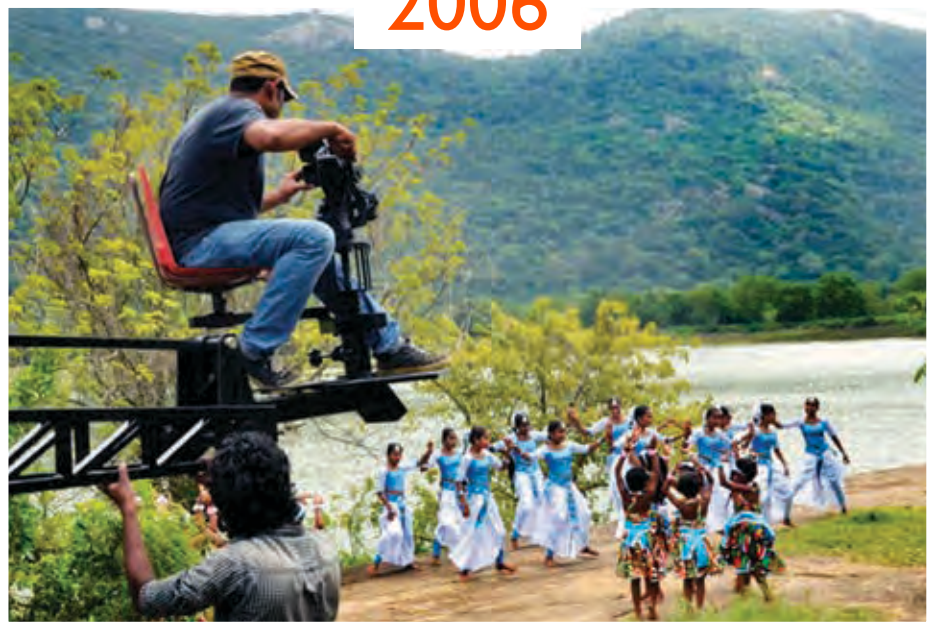


The Rural Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (RIWASH) project is initiated with a USD 6.8 million fund from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) – the foreign aid arm of the Government of Canada.

The Project implemented in the Batticaloa and Ampara Districts is headed by S.C Sutharsan, making it the first large grant to be managed by local staff. RIWASH benefits over 4,100 people directly.



2006



Tikiri Shilpa filming in Ehetuwewa during Season 5

World Vision Lanka's first ever children's TV programme – 'Tikiri Shilpa' (Talents of children) - is telecasted on state television. The programme will continue for five seasons covering talents of children from the most remote areas where World Vision works. The Programme also carries a section on Child Rights and Child Protection awareness.



- 2006 -



- 2006 -

The conflict escalates in the Eastern Province and there is a mass displacement of people. Communities in World Vision working areas of Vellaveli, Eravurpattu, Kiran and Paddipolai are also displaced.

World Vision responds to the displaced people providing them with clean water and food.

The government takes the entire Eastern Province under its control.

Batticaloa becomes a 'tent city' with camps accommodating the displaced people.

World Vision programmes in the East shift from development mode to relief mode and the operations now come under the Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs (HEA) Unit – the emergency response arm of World Vision. Sponsorship funding for development programmes is diverted and utilized for relief efforts.



- 2006 -

The first exchange activity under the Peace Programme takes place with 15 youth from Pottuvil making a four-day visit to the community in Thanamalwila. The youth stay with Sinhala families while attending team building programmes with other youth from the area.

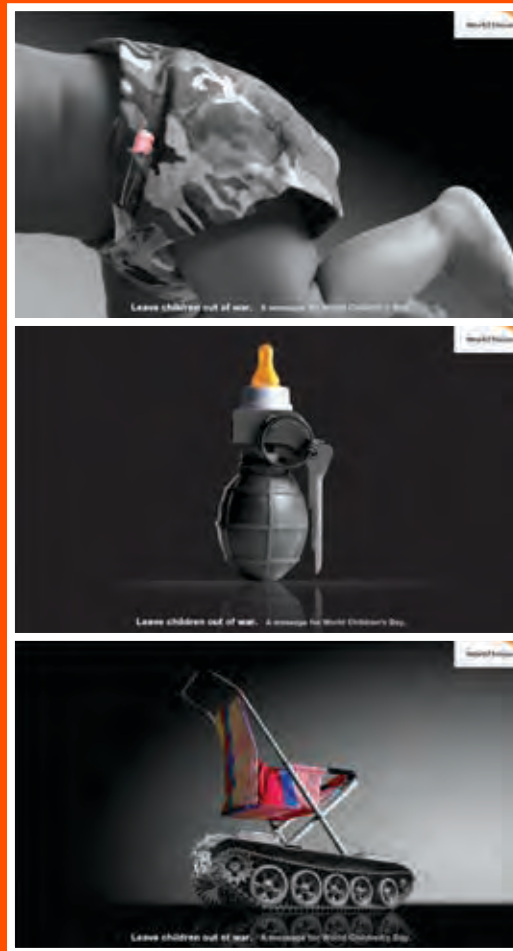
The Thanamalwila community has a large number of young men who had joined the army.

For most of the Tamil youth, it is the first time meeting Sinhala civilians.

The Navithanveli ADP commences in the Batticaloa District with support from Germany.



- 2006 -



World Vision launches the 'Leave the children out of war' campaign on Children's Day, calling all parties to ensure the protection and safety of children.



- 2006 -



WorldVision staff in the Colombo office visit the Prithipura Home for their Christmas celebrations. The staff help clean the premises, care for the children and adults with disability and conclude the day enjoying a time of singing with them.



2007

The Nuwara Eliya, Kalpitiya South, Neluwa and Nawagaththegama ADPs commence with support from Hong Kong, Finland, Australia and Canada respectively.

World Vision's 'Leave children out of war' campaign wins gold/ silver award at the Chillies Advertising Awards, Sri Lanka under the Social Responsibility and Public Service category.



- 2007 -



World Vision celebrates 30 years in Sri Lanka.

A blood donation camp is organised by World Vision and the National Blood bank to coincide with the anniversary.

World Vision Lanka is now 1,139 staff serving nearly 60,000 children through 22 development programmes, nine Tsunami Response Programmes, two resettlement projects in the East and three projects for children living on the streets.



- 2007 -



Ramesh Kumar (middle) and Jebaraj Jeyarajah (left) with the only civilian who refused to leave Vaharai

Major Berty Perera, Civil Commanding Officer of the 233rd Brigade of the Sri Lanka Army, stationed in Vaharai invites Ramesh Kumar and a team of World Vision staff to visit Vaharai.

Ramesh and the team become the first NGO team and the first civilians to re-enter Vaharai after its capture.



- 2007 -



May –

Resettlement of displaced communities in the East commences.

The Vellaveli community is the first to return followed by Paddipolai. World Vision commences recovery work in Vellaveli but is not granted access to Paddipolai yet.

August –

The Eravurpattu and Kiran communities also return and World Vision commences recovery work immediately.



- 2007 -

The recovery work managed by the Humanitarian Emergency Affairs (HEA) team focuses on infrastructure, livelihoods, health and education.

The recovery programme will continue for one year before it transits to the usual development programme handled by the ADP staff.

The Vulnerable Girl Child Project funded by Canada is implemented in the Mahakumbukkadawela, Wilgamuwa and Paddipolai areas.



2008

29 August -

The Government announces that it can no longer guarantee the safety of aid agencies working in the Vanni, North, and requests all agencies to leave the region.

8 September -

World Vision declares Sri Lankan humanitarian crisis as Category II (100,000 to 1 million people affected) emergency.

16 September -

All INGOs including World Vision relocate all staff from Vanni to Vavuniya. However, 16 World Vision staff remain trapped in Vanni as the LTTE prevents residents from leaving the region.

18 September -

Following government instructions, World Vision stops all programmes in Kilinochchi and hands over the remaining assets in the Vanni to the Government Agent (GA).

18 October -

World Vision staff remaining in Vanni are assigned to the GA's Office for relief work. They support with water bowsering, food distribution and building temporary shelter for the displaced people.

1 December –

World Vision continues to send regular supplies of food and relief items to the Vanni through GA convoys. 20 MT are dispatched within the month.



- 1985 -



The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) provides a USD 6 million grant for Permaculture (Permanent Agriculture) Project. The project focuses on organic farming.

The Project implemented in Vellaveli, Paddipolai, and Kiran in the East, Nawagaththegama in the North West and Neluwa and Weeraketiya in the South benefits 600 farmer families and over 1,000 children.



- 2008 -



Yu Hwa Li completes his service and Suresh Bartlett takes over as the new National Director.



- 2008 -

Meanwhile World Vision commences its first ever Area Rehabilitation Programme (ARP) - Vaharai ARP - covering the Vaharai and Verugal Divisional Secretariat Divisions (DSDs). The Programme brings together the government authorities, aid agencies and other stakeholders into a partnership in assisting the returnee community in recovery while ensuring accountability standards.

The ARP is funded by Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, Hong Kong, Germany and Taiwan.

This newly developed model is specifically designed for communities that have been adversely affected by conflict and disaster. The ARP focuses mainly on rebuilding livelihoods, water resources, health and education. Once rehabilitation is completed, the programme would graduate to a long-term development programme.

The Ehetuwewa (Kurunegala District) and Bogawanthalawa (Nuwara-Eliya District) ADPs commence with support from Finland and Canada respectively.



2009

January –

The conflict escalates in the North. The 16 World Vision staff and their families trapped inside Vanni are forced to flee the original demilitarized zone. Left with only limited possessions they move from bunker to bunker, trying to avoid getting caught in the crossfire. World Vision continues to advocate for their safe passage and keeps regular contact with them.

Among them is Rita Mary, wife of World Vision Project Assistant Sinnappu Gnanapragasam due to give birth in the first week of February.

Several attempts to move Rita out of the region is abandoned owing to the high risk.

Just days away from the due date World Vision finally succeeds in getting her on to the ICRC evacuation ship and she is taken to the Trincomalee Hospital.

Two days later, Rita gives birth to a baby girl and they are transferred to the Vavuniya Hospital.



- 2009 -



The baby daughter born to Gnanapragasam and Rita Mary



- 2009 -



- 2009 -

20 April

The government troops takes control of Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu and the entire A9 Road. Civilians flee combat zones in the North and seek refuge in displaced camps.

21 April

All World Vision staff who are trapped in Vanni are evacuated, and confirmed safe and are in displacement camps.

19 May

President Mahinda Rajapakse announces the end of the war.

WorldVision commences a major relief response for over 260,000 people displaced by the war, providing them with food and clean water in assigned camp locations. Special tents are put up in every campsite to accommodate nursing mothers.

Within the first five months, World Vision's response include distribution of 12 million litres of water, 150,000 cooked meals, 95 metric tons of supplementary food items, daily supplementary feeding for 1,500 children, and pregnant and nursing mothers, baby packs for over 10,000 and Child Friendly Spaces for 3,500 children in the Manik Farm IDP camp.



- 2009 -

The government begins resettlement of families displaced by the war.

A second Area Rehabilitation Programme is commenced in Jaffna, North, covering the Chavakachcheri and Chankanai Divisional Secretariat Divisions. The Programme is funded by Korea, Australia, USA and Canada. The staff operate from the Tsunami Response Office in Jaffna.

The Bibile (Monaragala District) and Ganga Ihala Korale (Kandy District) ADPs commence with support from Korea and Japan respectively.

The Kotavehera ADP completes its long term programme and hands it over to the community for continuation.

“I think except the weather, World Vision has changed everything else in Kotavehera, and I hope the community will sustain the development they have achieved.” - E M P Ekanayake, Divisional Secretary for Kotavehera.



- 2009 -



World Vision organises a special sports event in the Manik Farm IDP camp for children to mark the Children's Day. Over 450 children participate in the event.



- 2009 -

40 youth from different ethnic backgrounds are brought together to develop a song for peace in a special workshop organised by World Vision's Empowering Children as Peace-builders (ECaP) Project.

"For decades we've empowered our youth for war. It is time we empower them for peace," says Lalindra Ranasinghe, Programme Coordinator.

The ECaP project conducts over 100 workshops and exchange programmes benefiting over 9,000 youth.



2010

The Koralaipattu (Batticaloa District), Rideegama (Kurunegala District), Mundalama (Puttalam District), Pathana (Nuwara Eliya District) and Rideemaliyadda (Badulla District) ADPs are launched with support from Australia, Hong Kong, USA, Canada and Japan respectively.

World Vision is granted access to work in all areas in the North where the communities are returning to resettle.



- 2010 -



World Vision recommences the nutrition programme for children in Kilinochchi with support from Taiwan. Taiwan will continue to support this till 2015, benefiting over 3,800 children in 91 preschools.



- 2010 -



World Vision also continues relief work in the displaced camps providing water and nutritional food for children under five and pregnant mothers.



- 2010 -



World Vision commences a mental health programme - REMIND (Reconciliation through Mental Health In the Northern Districts) with a LKR 50 million funding from the DFAT (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – Australia). The project focuses on psychosocial support to the returnee communities and supports speedier emotional and social recovery.



- 2010 -



The Government of Australia funds a second Rural Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (RIWASH) Project for the Central Province. The project focuses on the water and sanitation needs of the Plantation community. This also brings in the very first corporate partnership with nine Regional Plantation Companies and the Provincial authorities.



- 2010 -

World Vision completes its five-year Tsunami Response. By the end of the five years:

Over 63,000 people have received support for livelihood

2,036 homes are built and 1,204 repaired.

56 schools, 27 pre-schools 16 health clinics, 2 specialised chest clinics; 2 vocational training centres are constructed

More than 700 facilities are provided with medical equipment, supplies and medicine.

Supplementary feeding programmes have assisted more than 2,000 pregnant and lactating mothers and some 10,000 children under five years of age.

More than 3,500 toilets are built in homes and schools. 926 wells are dug and 293 bore holes drilled. National Water Supply and Drainage Board is supplied with water testing equipment and two water supply schemes renovated.



- 2010 -



2011



Sarath Premawansa, Chief Secretary Central Province (left) exchanges and MoU with Suresh Bartlett, National Director World Vision Lanka as Sarath Ekanayake, Chief Minister Central Province looks on.

World Vision Lanka signs MoUs with the Central Provincial Council and the Local Government to upgrade water, sanitation and hygiene facilities through the RIWASH Project in two Divisional Secretariats of the Central Province. The partnership will benefit over 4,000 poorest of the poor families in the Ambagamuwa and NuwaraEliya DS Divisions.



- 2011 -

Taiwan supports the start of the Wattala UDP (Colombo District) and Lunugala ADP (Badulla District) while Canada, Australia and USA supports the start of Meegahakiula (Badulla District), Walapane (Nuwara-Eliya District) and Chavakachcheri (Jaffna District) ADPs respectively.

The Vaharai ARP transits into Vaharai ADP supported by Korea.

World Vision opens an office in Kilinochchi.

The Galenbindunuwewa and Mahakumbukkadawela ADPs complete and hand over their programmes to the community to be continued.

“We (government) receive help from many organizations to develop the rural areas of our country, but they all come in the form of loans and the people have to repay them, but World Vision does not ask us to return a single cent they have invested in developing this area. Their only desire was to help the poor out of poverty and to empower them. On behalf of all the people of North Central Sri Lanka I wish to thank World Vision and assure them our support in all their work” - Late Berty Premalal Dissanayake, Chief Minister, North Central Province.



- 2011 -

The Cargills (Ceylon) PLC (one of the largest retail chains in Sri Lanka), awards 50 higher education scholarships to students in Gangeyaya in the Thanamalwila Area Development Programme. The scholarships are awarded under four categories – Grade 5, Advanced Level, Vocational Training and University.

“This scholarship scheme was initiated by World Vision,” says Haridas Fernando, Deputy General Manager, Agribusiness, Cargills at the award ceremony. “It began in April 2008 when World Vision requested that two rupees from every kilo of farmer produce purchased by Cargills be channelled to a scholarship project for their children. We agreed for 50 cents.”

“Every 50 cents that gets collected, has grown into LKR 2.3 million now. This partnership with the farmer community here not only strengthens the farmers economically, it also supports the education of their children,” he said.

Since World Vision connected the farmers in Gangeyaya with Cargills, the Gangeyaya collection centre supplies ten tons of fruits and vegetables to the Company daily.



- 2011 -



Sidath Kodikara, Chief Operating Officer Cargills (Ceylon) PLC presenting a scholarship and a laptop to Sameera (19) in support to pursue his university studies in Medical Science.



- 2011 -



Suresh Bartlett and Dr. Dan Seevaratnam CEO Watawala Plantations exchanging the MoU.

The Watawala Plantations PLC begins partnering with World Vision in order to uplift the lives of the plantation community, forging the first corporate partnership for World Vision Lanka.



2012

The Willuwa, Sevanagala and, Kebithigollewa ADPs conclude their programmes and hand them over to the community.

The Lindula (Nuwara Eliya District), Trinco South (Trincomalee District) and Welikanda (Polonnaruwa District) ADPs are launched with support from Singapore, USA and Malaysia respectively.

The Jaffna ARP transits to Chavakachcheri and Chankanai ADPs supported by USA and Canada respectively.

ANCP and World Vision Australia provides USD 1.8 million for the second phase of the Permaculture Project for the Ganga Ihala Korale, Rideemaliyadda, Bibile Ehetuwewa, Nawagaththegama, Koralaipattu, Mannar and Trinco South areas.



- 2012 -



Rt. Rev. Bishop Dhiloraj Canagasabey with Kevin Jenkins.



Kevin playing train with little Shehara during his visit to Negombo.

World Vision celebrates 35 years.

The World Vision International Board Meeting is held in Sri Lanka in which 24 Board Members from 20 countries participate. Kevin Jenkins, President and CEO of World Vision International and the Board Members visit the community in the Negombo Urban Development Programme.



- 2012 -



Tara Teng, Miss World Canada 2012 and World Vision's Goodwill Ambassador, visits the Bogawanthalawa and Thanamalwila ADPs (both funded by Canada) areas along with Canadian pop star Tyler Madeiros and Gary Taxali, renowned Canadian illustrator and children's author.

Madeiros meets his sponsored child, Thivya Ramesh from Pathana, and declares open a Child-Friendly Space.



- 2012 -



Suresh Bartlett, National Director of World Vision Lanka and Nick Nicolaou, CEO HSBC Lanka and Maldives.

The HSBC partners with World Vision to protect and preserve the Bar Reef in Kalpitiya. The project includes awareness on Bar Reef protection and introducing alternate livelihoods.



- 2012 -



The National Rapid Response Team undergoes team building and disaster response training with Borderlands, a well-reputed company which conducts outbound training for corporates.



2013

The year sees an increase in grants. The European Union (EU) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) support returnee communities in income generation activities; World Vision Korea supports rebuilding damaged schools and creating safe learning environment for returnee children.

The BMZ (Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development) supports Early Childhood Care and Development and World Vision Canada assists communities access essential health services in the Nuwara Eliya District.

The Kilinochchi ARP is launched with support from Australia.

Devon (Nuwara-Eliya District) and Kalpitiya Islands (Puttalam District) ADPs commence supported by Germany and USA respectively.

We are now 43 programmes in 20 Districts.



- 2013 -



Kevin Chiu, CEO World Vision Hong Kong and Vivion Chow during their visit to Mullaitivu.



Vivion Chow with community and children in Ridigama.

Hong Kong celebrity, popular actress and singer Vivian Chow and CEO of World Vision Hong Kong Kevin Chiu and team visit the Paragoda community in Ridigama. The village did not have roads or electricity. From the junction the team treks 30 minutes uphill to meet the sponsored children. Team stays the night with the poorest of the poor families helping them in their day-to-day chores.

The team also visits their programmes with the returnee communities in the Mullaitivu District.



- 2013 -



An Information Communication Technology Centre is built with the support of Samsung Korea for children in the Bibile ADP. A team of officials from Samsung Korea visits Sri Lanka for the opening and the handing over of the building.



- 2013 -



Jung Ae-ri, a much loved actress of Korea visits the resettled families in Mullaitivu, North. She is a mother to 261 sponsored children spread across 70 countries.



- 2013 -

John Keells Foundation partners with World Vision to support rebuilding efforts in the North through their Village Adoption Programme. Iranaipalai and Puthumathalan villages in the Mullaitivu District, are selected for the programme.

Three of World Vision Lanka's suppliers Nipuna Lanka, NSB Enterprise and Tech Tools Integrated (Pvt) Ltd, take an initiative to give their products as gifts to needy children in the communities.

Nipuna Lanka and NSB Enterprise provide school supplies for preschool children in 35 preschools, for 95 children who had passed the scholarship exam and for children of the Special Education Unit in Giribawa.

Tech Tools Integrated (Pvt) Ltd provides six computers to the computer center of Mandalapura College, Neluwa.



- 2013 -



The certificate signifying the handing over of the project is presented to the children.

Robyn Mudie, the High Commissioner of Australia to Sri Lanka and Dr. Dan Seevaratnam hand over water supply scheme constructed by the Australian funded RIWASH II project to the plantation community at Elgin.



2014

World Vision commences six special projects via grants and private funding.

The AUSAID-funded RIWASH III is now initiated in the North, with special focus on inclusion in partnership with NPCODA (Northern Province Consortium of Organisations for the Differently-Abled)

Six new corporate partnerships are secured and the contribution from corporate partners to the projects amount to nearly LKR 83 million. Similar contribution from government and community amounts Rs 248 million.

The Pottuvil ADP concludes operations and hands over the programme to the community.



2015

More grants are received from Australian NGO Cooperation Programme (ANCP), KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency), the EU and World Vision Offices in Singapore, Australia, Korea and Taiwan, focusing on small-scale entrepreneurs, organic farming, dairy farming, reconciliation and development.

The Projects are implemented in the Kurunegala and Trincomalee Districts and in the Koralaipattu, Vaharai, Mannar, Kilinochchi, Bogawanthalawa, Nawagaththegama, Bibile, Rideemaliyadde, Lunugamvehera and Walapane areas.

Lunugamvehera, Negombo and Weeraketiya ADPs complete programmes and hand them over to the community.

Karaichchi (Kilinochchi District) and Muttur (Trincomalee District) ADPs commence with support from Australia and Canada respectively.

Suresh Battlett completes his term as National Director of World Vision Lanka and moves on to take up position as National Director of Myanmar.



- 2015 -



World Vision Colombo Office shifts to its own premises
at 619/8, Dr. Danister De Silva Mawatha, Colombo 09.



2016

New funding is received from the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) and the EU, for livelihood projects in the Kurunegala and Badulla Districts and a housing project for the returnee communities. The EU also funds the continuation of the mental health project in the North.

World Vision pilots in the Central Zone, a Consolidation/Cluster Model which is a contextually appropriate programme that utilizes multiple funding types and sources in one programme.

World Vision responds to the Aranayake landslide disaster and serves the community for one year helping them in the recovery process.



- 2016 -



Dr. Dhanan Senathirajah is appointed as National Director.



2017

- 2017 -



Claire Rogers during her visit to the Permaculture Project in Nawagaththegama

World Vision Australia's new CEO Claire Rogers visits programmes supported by Australia in the Kilinochchi and Kurunegala Districts.



- 2017 -



Youth from different parts of Asia expressing their views during the Asia Pacific Launch

World Vision launches its campaign to end violence against children in the Asia Pacific, Sri Lanka, featuring some of the country's and region's top policy leaders and child rights activists.

World Vision joins with the government and non-government stakeholders in the National Partnership to End Violence Against Children (NPEVAC).



- 2017 -

Vellaveli, Wilgamuwa, Horowapathana and Giribawa ADPs complete their programmes and hand them over to the community.

Ministry Resources Council made up of the Senior Leadership of World Vision International chooses Sri Lanka for field visit in 2017 as Sri Lanka along with Honduras pilots the Consolidation Model.

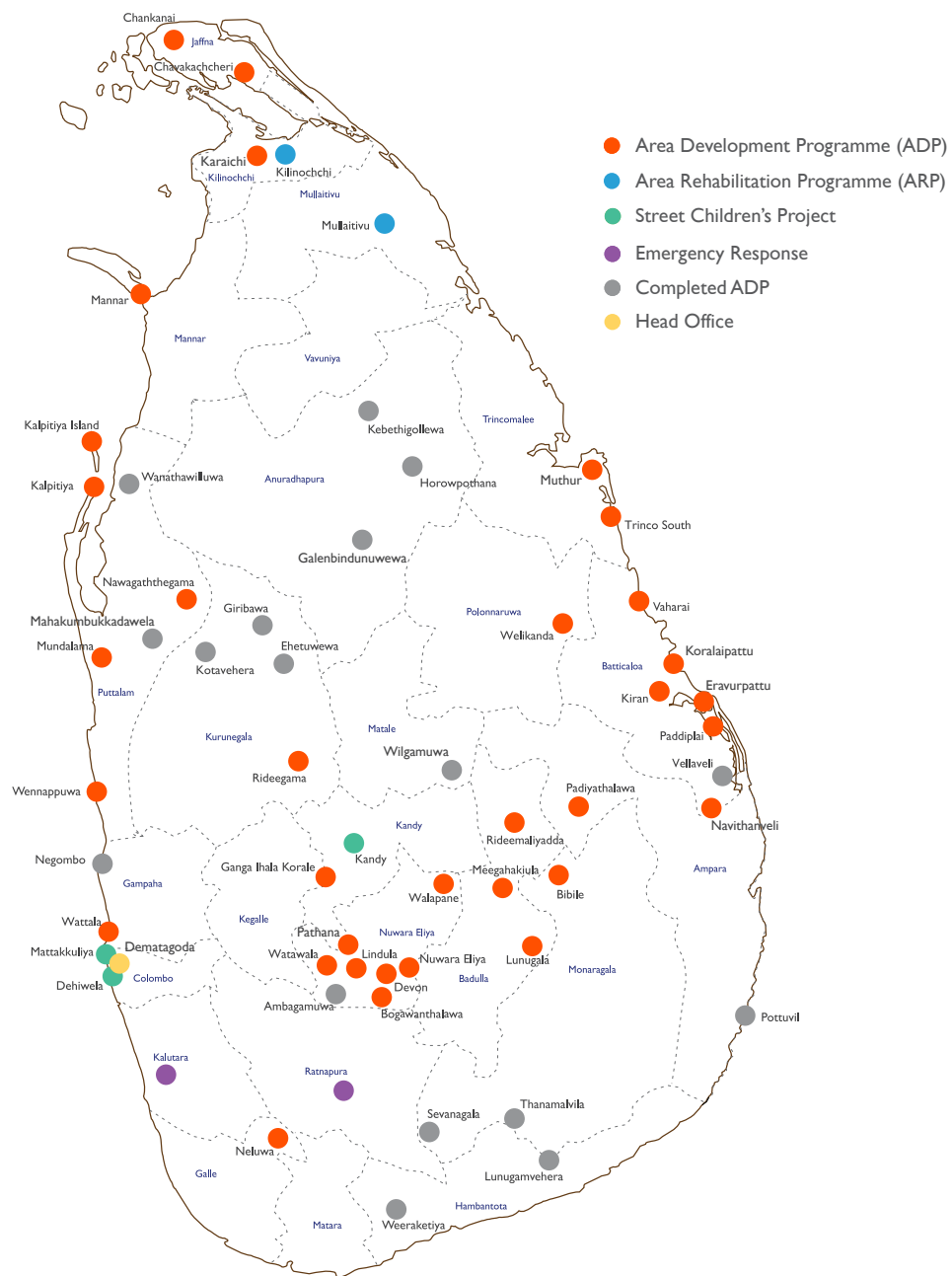
World Vision responds to drought and floods affecting over one million people in several parts of the country.



World Vision Lanka
TODAY

Area Development Programme	Start	Complete
Lunugamvehera	1996	2016
Kotavehera	1997	2009
Galenbindunuwewa	1997	2011
Mahakumbukkadawala	1997	2011
Wanathawilluwa	1997	2012
Ambagamuwa	1997	2016
Vellaveli	1997	2017
Wilgamuwa	1997	2017
Pothuvil	1998	2014
Negombo	1998	2015
Weerakatiya	1998	2015
Padiyathalawa	1998	2016
Kebithigollewa	1999	2012
Thanamalvila	1999	2015
Giribawa	2000	2017
Horowpathana	2000	2017
Sevanagala	2001	2012
Wennappuwa	2001	
Eravurpattu	2001	
Paddipalai	2004	
Kiran	2005	
Navithanveli	2006	
Kalpitiya	2007	
Nuwara-Eliya	2007	

Area Development Programme	Start	Complete
Neluwa	2007	
Nawagaththegama	2007	
Ehetuwewa	2008	
Bogowanthalawa	2008	
Bibile	2009	
Mundalama	2010	
Koralaipattu	2010	
Rideegama	2010	
Pathana	2010	
Ganga Ihala Korale	2010	
Rideemaliyadda	2010	
Walapane	2011	
Meegahakiula	2011	
Chavakachcheri	2011	
Vaharai	2011	
Lunugala	2011	
Lindula	2012	
Welikanda	2012	
Chankanai	2012	
Devon	2013	
Kalpitiya North	2013	
Watawala	2014	
Karaichchi	2014	
Muttur	2014	



World Vision Lanka
FAMILY



01. Devanesan Anthony
02. Arulpiragsam David
03. Lavanya Suriyakumar
04. Maryann Daniel
05. Jesiah Milan
06. Nimal Raj Fernando
07. Grace Patricia
08. Suranga Wijayasena
09. K A Suranjeewa
10. SYatheeskumar
11. Anton Nishantha
12. C Dharmasena
13. Mahendra Dilanjan
14. Janaka Raj
15. Jude Thavarajah
16. Mahesh P
17. Niroj Sudarshan
18. Niroshan Fernando
19. Rasika Pradeep
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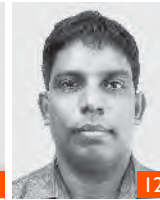
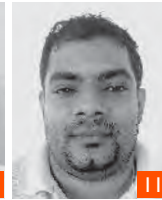
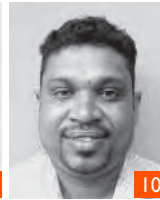




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- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 01. Samuel Thambiah | Assistant Director |
| 02. Harry Fernando | - |
| 03. Randev Fernando | Project Officer |
| 04. Sanjay Alvarez | Manager Corporate Partnerships |
| 05. Susantha Wijesuriya | Programme Coordinator |

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To all those who have been with us
through this journey...
thank you.

We could have never done it without you.

To the children of Sri Lanka...
thank you.
Your joy decorates our path.



World Vision Lanka

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