



# COMMUNITY TRUST FUND

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# Community Trust Fund

Helping the Most Vulnerable



## Introduction

This News Letter briefs about CTF's new initiatives, key activities, important meetings and various other valuable information during the month of May 2008.

### New Projects / New Donor

- ❖ CTF has entered into a new partnership agreement with "Return To Sender (RTS)", Netherlands for "improving the living standard of war affected community members at Mutur and Kanthalai divisions in Trincomalee district through vocational training & capacity building initiatives". This project aims to build the skills and capacity of educated un-employed youth of war affected communities through providing opportunities for career guidance, vocational training and capacity building training during May-December 2008.
- ❖ As a good indicator of our partnership, NECORD Vavuniya has approved two new projects for CTF and the Project Agreements were signed on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008. The first project is a "Community Development Project" at Arasadikulam in Cheddikulam DS Division of Vavuniya district. The total project budget is LKR. 8.0 million. The project aims to construct a multi purpose hall, 5 kms of internal road, 15 permanent toilets, 2 dug wells and a children park. The 2<sup>nd</sup> project is for "Trust Building", aims to build a bridge (culvert) between Veerapuram and Arasadikulam villages in Cheddikulam DS division. Total budget of this project is LKR. 488,000.

### Project Highlights

- ❖ 110 villagers took part at PRA....
- ❖ CTF Vavuniya organized & conducted a Participatory Rural Appraisal programme at Arasadikulam village in Cheddikulam DS Division of Vavuniya district on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008 under the NECORD Community Development Project.



*CTF continues its endeavors for peace-building in Mannar, Northern Sri Lanka.*

- ❖ CTF Mannar implemented various peace building and capacity building activities in the district during the month of May under the ongoing peace building project funded by Cordaid. 03 village level and 01 school level training workshops on peace-building & human rights, 01 capacity building training for members of CBOs from 14 villages, and 01 Desk Person's Workshop were the key events held during this month.

### Children Club receives sport and educational materials.

❖ CTF Anuradhapura conducted a capacity building training for 25 Children Club members at Maminiya Maha Vidyalaya on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008. At the end of the training, necessary sports and educational materials were provided to the Children Club for their better performance.

### CTF assist to improve livelihoods of IDPs.

❖ 06 more IDP families at Madeena Nagar, Puttalam were received assistance from CTF on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2008, each worth Rs. 10,000/= to start self employment project such as goat rearing, poultry farming, and agriculture activities. The Women Society of Madeena Nagar took over the responsibility of managing the project.

### First ever Children Parliament in the division....

❖ Under the Cordaid project, CTF Mutur has organized and conducted 02 Children Parliament in Mutur DS division during this month. Large number of children actively took part in the events where considerable number of parents and teachers also witnessed the sessions. The participants have had an opportunity to observe a lively Parliament in their life.



### The People's Forum Steering Committee met once again

❖ The 15 member Steering Committee of the People's Forum Mannar met on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2008 to review the progress of activities, discuss current issues and plan strategies for future activities. This People Forum is an initiative done by CTF in collaboration with the National Peace Council.

### Management Meeting(s):

\* The Monthly Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at CTF Coordinating Secretariat

### Coordination with Government and NGO sectors:

v CTF Anuradhapura organized a consultation with the Divisional Secretary, Thirappana, Child Rights Protection Officers and Grama Niladharies of the division to discuss the progress of ongoing CTF activities, challenges & achievements and future activities and strategies. This consultation was held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008. CTF also met the Probation Commissioner of the district on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008 and discussed about the issues and problems of children in the district.

v CTF Trincomalee arranged a meeting with Mr. Nadaraja, Additional Government Agent, Trincomalee on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2008. CTF representatives briefed him the ongoing CTF projects and their progress in the district.

v Mr. Sanmugam, Field Coordinator CTF Vavuniya had a special meeting with the Government Agent Vavuniya on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2008. the discussion mainly focused the strategies for successful implementation of the NECORD/CTF project.

### Foreign Visits:

1. Mr. K.M. Ashar flew Bangkok, Thailand on 26 May 2008 to take part at the preparatory course of the 4<sup>th</sup> Round of FK Staff Exchange Programme.

2. Mr. M.B. Nihmathulla, Programme Officer CTF took part in an Asian emergency humanitarian mission to Myanmar (Burma) from 30<sup>th</sup> May to 21<sup>st</sup> June 2008 in Yangon Region. This Mission was initiated by the Asian Muslim Action Network (AMAN) immediately after the de



Mr. Ashar giving a presentation during a conference in Thailand.

### Donors Visits:

v Mr. Steave, Finance Officer from CAFORD-UK paid a visit to CTF Coordinating Secretariat on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008. He had a long discussion with Programme team and Finance team regarding the ongoing "Construction of permanent houses for tsunami victims" in Ampara district.

v Mr. Bert from Cordaid Netherlands had a brief visit to CTF Trincomalee on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2008 and discussed the progress of activities in the district funded by Cordaid.

v A team from UMCOR had a brief visit to CTF Vavuniya on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2008 in order to discuss the possible partnership with CTF.

v International Organization for Migration paid a visit to CTF Vavuniya on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2008 and discussed about CTF activities in the district. They also discussed the possibility of future partnership with CTF.

### Monitoring/Internal Audits:

A joint monitoring mission visited Trincomalee and Anuradhapura Field Bureaus on from 25-26 May 2008. The mission included Sectional Heads from Information & Publication Unit, Monitoring & Evaluation Unit and Finance Unit.

The Monthly internal audit was carried out by a team of Monitoring Unit on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at CTF Mutur Project office.

### Women Forum Activities:

Under the patronage of CTF Women Forum, skills development training was organized and conducted at Madadugama village in Anuradhapura district on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2008 that brought 38 women and discussed various significant issues such as SGBVs, micro credit schemes, savings and leadership. This training was in Tamil medium.

Another workshop at similar manner/topic was conducted in Sinhala medium on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at Horowapothana village in Anuradhapura district. 35 women actively took part in the training.

### Donation:

\* Kekirawa Youth Club received a cash donation from CTF to improve their club activities.



Ms. Sarmila Rassoal, Programme Officer, the Asia Foundation (TAF) visited CTF Puttalam on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008 and had a discussion with CTF team and IDP representatives regarding the problems and human rights violations faced by IDP community in the district. CTF has been implementing a project for "promotion & protection of human rights of IDPs" in Puttalam district since 2005 in collaboration with TAF.