

# **Attempt of Integrated Area Development versus Globalization**

**Integrated Development Effort of Strengthening the  
Society through People's Participatory Integrated  
Area Development Strategy [PPIADS]**



**Trainers' Pool of Sri Lanka  
&  
National Fisheries Solidarity Movement**

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**ISBN** : 978-955-8103-22-7

**Publication** : National Fisheries Solidarity Movement [NAFSO]

**Publication Number** : 38

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**Printing Press** : Akura Press, St. Joseph's Street, Negombo, Sri Lanka

**First Print of English Translation:** 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2014

**Original Sinhala Version:** Publication No. 32 of NAFSO which was printed in July 2010



# Contents

➤	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>vii</b>
➤	<b>Purpose of the Book .....</b>	<b>viii</b>
➤	<b>Dedication of the Book .....</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Chapter 1 :</b>	<b>Background of the Karuwalagaswewa Division Divisional Secretariat Area Years 2000 and 2008 .....</b>	<b>01</b>
<b>Chapter 2 :</b>	<b>Mapping Our Direction: The Action Plan .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Chapter 3 :</b>	<b>Braving the Journey: Our Activities .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Chapter 4 :</b>	<b>The Revelations: Reflections on Our Experience and The Effects .....</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Chapter 5 :</b>	<b>Discoveries!: The Uniqueness of the Experience .....</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Chapter 6 :</b>	<b>The Localization against the Globalization: Resisting Corporate Power using People's Power, Knowledge and Wisdom .....</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>Chapter 7 :</b>	<b>New Challenges: The Potentials and Future Directions .....</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Chapter 8 :</b>	<b>Our Partners in the Integrated Development Process Program.....</b>	<b>105</b>



## Introduction

After the Independence in 1948, many leaders who came to power introduced some strategies which depleted and damaged the resources in the name of “development”. In that process, there was discrimination, fear, anxiety, grabbing, and destruction of resources, while good governance and participation in their “development strategy” were only limited to words.

With that situation in 2000, the National Fisheries Solidarity Movement (NAFSO) and Trainers’ Pool (TP) together entered into a new process of development using a people’s participatory integrated area development strategy (PPIADS) in Karuwalagaswewa Divisional Secretariat. Fourteen years after its initial implementation, we thought of writing this book and collecting all our experiences of this new development process, to serve as example for a future development strategy for alternative development framework.

We express our thanks to Mr. R. I. R. B. Rathanamalala of Karuwalagaswewa Divisional Secretary and other Divisional Secretary authorities and government officials, Provincial Council chairperson, members of the Parliament, activists and leaders of the villages, religious leaders, women and youth groups, journalists, and all the others who joined this effort in many ways.

We, also, extend our thanks and gratitude in a special way to Asian Health Institute (AHI) - Japan, which was behind us and paving the way with financial resources and the country coordinator, Ms. Mayumi Yamazaki, and to the Lingap para sa Kalusugan ng Sambayanan (LIKAS/Care for the Health of the People) – Philippines, which introduced the concept of a participatory integrated area development strategy (PIADS) and provided advice.

We are thankful, particularly to Mr. Chandrasiri Bandara, Additional District Secretary of Puttalam District secretariat [from August 2014, Mr. Bandara was promoted to the post of Chief Secretary of the North Central Provincial Council] for his commitment to the implementation of the PPIADS program at Karuwalagaswewa. We wish that the Praja Shakthi Development Foundation may have the strength to carry on this model in its endeavors. We believe any group which wants to promote a strategy as the PPIADS will look to them for guidance. We wish, too, that our responsible leaders and officials may use the PPIADS in a

practical way to build up their development programs and projects. We, at NAFSO and TP, are ready to share our experience with you.

Lastly, we consider that it is important for people themselves to design their own development programs, projects and activities, true to a bottom-to-top approach. We, NAFSO and TP, stand for this cause.

## **Purpose of the Book**

1. Make people aware that, if government organizations, Non-Government Organizations and Peoples' Organizations collaborate with each other and make collective decisions in the community development process, there is a possibility of delivering fruitful service to the country and of building up sustainability of programs and initiatives.
2. Promote the values that the women, youth, farmers, fisher people, laborers, village leaders, media persons, and religious leaders of Karuwalagaswewa Division, through their PPIADS experience, have nurtured and propagated relevant to proving that they can and do contribute/share in their OWN development process.
3. Motivate government and divisional authorities to appreciate and realize that when they make the people the center of development activities, they can attain capable service with a good achievement.
4. Make the government agents realize this process is a good opportunity and possibility to strengthen people.
5. Help the government see that when the people participate in their own development and are clear on their roles and responsibilities, programs intended for them can be made sustainable.
6. Serve to guide the Government, CSOs and other interested groups in reflecting how they could implement such a process in their development activities in the society of Sri Lanka or adopting them in their local context in the future and how to go about knowing the possibilities, threats and obstacles to face.
7. Be a support to people who want to investigate different and alternative development strategies and approach.





Fig. No. 1: Cover Page of first Sinhala handbook of PPIADS at Karuwalagaswewa

**OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE  
&  
DEDICATION OF THIS BOOK  
to**

*Late Non-Cabinet Minister of Nation Building D.M. Dassanayake as he was the first politician at the origin of PPIADS who supported to NAFSO and TP to implement the PPIADS in Karuwalagaswewa DS Division in Sri Lanka. Without his cooperation and commitment, the PPIADS in Sri Lanka could not be possible at Karuwalagaswewa.*



Dassanayake Mudiyanseelage Dassanayake was a Sri Lankan politician from the Puttlam District. He was serving as a **Member of the Parliament** of Sri Lanka and non-cabinet **Minister of Nation Building** when he was assassinated as a result of the power struggle within the power structures.

[**Born:** April 29, 1953; **Died:** January 8, 2008]

*“We are happy to see the PPIADS as an area development process as it unites all the development actors in the DS division. Bringing GO - NGO - PO Collaboration is very important as it bring lot of benefits to the communities. It is the reality, though, it is unfortunate even government agencies do not know each one’s programs and conduct several programs which confuse people. For an example, the Water Board lays their pump line this month and the Electricity Board opens their pits next month along the same road. The Telecommunications Department will have their operations separately. So, it is good that all these development agencies work together to planning and implementing for area development working in close coordination. I should say this is our program, owned by us, and I expect collaboration of all development actors in Karuwalagaswewa”.*

**D.M. Dassanayake, [MP] Puttlam District, At the Inauguration meeting of PPIADS at DS Secretariat, Karuwalagaswewa, 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2000**

*“I will take all possible steps to spread the idea of PPIADS in all of my regional councils in my electorate, in Puttlam district.”*

**At the first study tour to Irosin, Philippines, in July, 2001 which was organized by Likas/AHI/ NAFSO-TP, Minister Dassanayake was also a very active participant.**





## *Background of Karuwalagaswewa Divisional Secretariat Area Years 2000 and 2008*

### 1. Geographical Facts

#### 1.1 Situation:

This area can be described as a plan in the 26 Grama Niladhari units of Karuwalagaswewa Divisional Secretariat Division of the Administrative District of Puttlam in the North Western Province of Sri Lanka. The extent of the area is 202 square miles or 517.6 square kilometers with the boundaries given below.

<b>Boundaries:</b>	To the North is Kala Oya river and the Southern region of Wanathavillu Divisional Secretariat Division
<b>East</b>	: Kala Oya and the boundary of Anuradhapura District
<b>South</b>	: Mee Oya (rivulets) and Kurunegala District boundary and the Northern region of Nawagaththegama Divisional Secretariat Division
<b>West</b>	: Mee Oya (rivulets)

#### 1.2 Climatic Pattern:

Although being an area close to the drought-stricken area of the North Western Province of Sri Lanka, this area is almost of a semi-drought outlook. The annual rainfall is between 760-1,600 mm and there is no pattern of a rainfall spread throughout the year. The rainfall is confined to the monsoons that are between the months of October and November. During the Yala season from March to May, there is limited rain. The rest of the period, from January till March and from June to September is dry without any rain. The annual temperature is between 28 and 34 °C

#### 1.3 Topographical and Natural Environment:

The area is full of uneven ground. Being situated with slopes towards Mee Oya and Kala Oya rivulets, the rain waters speedily flows into them. As such the area is subjected to erosion. This has resulted in the land being a rocky area.

About 40 years ago this area was part of tropical forest infested with a variety of wild animals. Due to economic activity, such as Chena cultivation, timber production, manufacturing furniture, agriculture purposes etc. of the people during the past 40 years, the forests have been reduced by 24%. The rest of the forest area too has been reduced to shrub jungle as a result of illicit felling and Chena cultivation. Being a traditional forest area, even the wild animals are affected. The elephant-human conflict has resulted in about two persons being killed for a year and the elephants, too.

## 2. Socio-Economic Background

### 2.1 Social Description:

Within the Divisional Secretariat Division the 77 settlements have been divided in to 26 Grama Niladhari Wasams (Grama Seva Division). According to the census of 2003, the population here was 22,078. The number of families was 6,329. The population increase was 49 per one square kilometer. The number of women was 11,057, which was about 50% of the total population.

Ninety-eight percent (98%) of the population are Sinhala Buddhists, while the rest are Sinhala Catholics, Hindus and Muslims.

The socio-economic situation in Karuwalagaswewa at the beginning of PPIADS preparation and process implementation in 2000 and how it was in 2008-2009, after the 2003-2007 Area Development Plan implementation, are further described and which served to contextualize the actions taken by the stakeholders.

### Population

Population	2000	2008
Number of families	6,000	21,420
Families which received Samurdhi support	3,575 (60%)	2,351 (10.9%)
Families which received Public assistance	844	1,500
Families with government jobs	300 (5%)	806 (4%)

**Source: Demographic report of the Divisional Secretariat office at Karuwalagaswewa, 2008**

## Education

<b>Educational Data</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2008</b>
Number of Schools	21	18
Number of Children enrolled (Both OL and AL enrollees)	4,600	4,446
Number of Ordinary Level Passers	600	2,006
Number of Advance Level Passers	100	976
General Educational Level	900	11,023
Diploma Holders		10
Graduated		104
Number of Sunday Schools		17
Number of pre Schools (Public/government-run)		20

**Source: Demographic report of the Divisional Secretariat office at Karuwalagaswewa, 2008**

The villagers also said that in 2000:

- There were not adequate teachers in schools.
- There were no facilities in schools as these were not motivated to improve, having no other schools in the area to compete with.
- There was poor attendance rate because of poverty.
- The student drop-out rate was high.

In 2009, the educational problem became worse than year 2000. There were a few schools that closed down due to decreasing number of enrollees.

## Religious Facilities

In 2008, there were 21 Buddhist temples and nine (9) Roman Catholic churches in the division. There were also 17 centers to teach religion and 157 teachers were giving service to 2,649 children.

## Health

Health Facility	2000	2008
Village Hospital	1	1
Central Medical Centers	1	1
Beds in Village Hospital	20	20
Maternity Beds	4	4
Private Medical Centers		5
Ayurveda Medical Centers		6

**Source: Data of the Regional Health Office at Karuwalagaswewa, 2008**

In 2000, health concerns included:

- There were not enough of hospitals, village hospitals, dispensaries and health centers
- Spreading of Malaria
- Inadequacy of facilities in hospital
- Fast spreading of malnutrition
- Leprosy patients in the hospitals. This was against the normal practice of Leprosy patients treated at leprosy hospitals and not keeping them in the normal hospitals.

While government hospitals had fewer facilities, number of private medical centers increased. By 2009, malaria was controlled but incidence of kidney diseases increased.

## 2.2 Economic Background:

The natural resources of the area are only land, forest and water. Therefore, the main source of income is from agriculture. With the available irrigation facilities, paddy cultivation is done and subsidiary food crops are attempted. There are 92 minor irrigation tanks and there are 34 abandoned tanks. There are nine (9) major irrigation schemes in the Division and the cultivated paddy acreage is 5,269.

The next economic activity in the area is animal husbandry. Cattle are raised for milk and meat. Goat and poultry farming are important activities, likewise.

Although the main occupations are agriculture and animal husbandry, the incomes from them are hardly sufficient to meet the basic needs of the families. As such, 70% of the people were below the poverty line. Accordingly in the year 2003, 'Samurdhi' [Prosperity] recipients were 3,463. There were 959 families qualified to receive the Samurdhi benefits.



NOTE: The Samurdhi Program of the government is a social welfare scheme [“Safety net”] introduced by Mrs. Chandrika Bandaranayake regime in 1994, as an alternate to the Janasawiya [People’s Strength] program of President Ranasinghe Premadasa regime. The lowest income group of the society, who earn below 1500 LKR,[12 USD] receive some financial assistance from the GOSL.

### **Number of Families graded according to income levels:**

#### **General Income Level (Per Month)**

Less than Rs.1500/=	2,744
Rs.1500/= to Rs.3000/=	1,678
Rs.3001 to 5000	1,090
Rs.5001 to 10,000	693
Rs.10,001 and above	83
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,288</b>

[1 USD =130 LKR]

**Source: Demographic report of the Divisional Secretariat office at Karuwalagaswewa, 2008**

### **Infrastructure Facilities:**

Infrastructure facilities needed for normal living were not adequately developed. There are about 245 Km of rural road ways and they are not properly maintained. Karuwalagaswewa Pradeshiya Saba [Regional Council] is one with the lowest income and the monetary allocation annually for maintenance of roads is just not sufficient.

The water needed for cultivation which is the main source of income for the people cannot be adequately stored, as the network of tanks are not properly restored or maintained. There are 92 such tanks and, of these, 64 have to be restored. Twenty more tanks have been identified for further restoration.

Electricity supply is available only for 24% of the area. Education and Health facilities are not up to a satisfactory level. Only 106 telephones are in operation. [This may be changed drastically by 2014 July.]

Due to lack of infrastructure facilities those of economic and social capacities have left the area and migrated to towns and places with facilities available. Only the poor are left behind in their original settlements.

## **Irrigation Facilities in 2008**

The Office of the Director of Irrigation covers Puttlam District which has population of 786,938 of 192,634 families. The District consists of 16 Divisional Secretary areas and 548 Grama Niladari Wasams. There are two Divisional Irrigation Engineer's offices, Puttlam and Inginimitiya. Two major schemes/reservoirs Thabbowa and Inginimitiya and 23 medium irrigation schemes are in the District. Irrigable area under the irrigation schemes in the District is 16,138 Acres.

People of the Karuwalagaswewa division are privileged to have one major reservoir out of two in their own division, which is Thabbowa tank. However, there are 3 irrigation schemes including Thabbowa situated in the division which we can consider as an important factor for the sustenance of their livelihoods. Those are as follows:

1. Radawibandhi canal [On going]
2. Neela Bamma
3. Thabbowa Tank

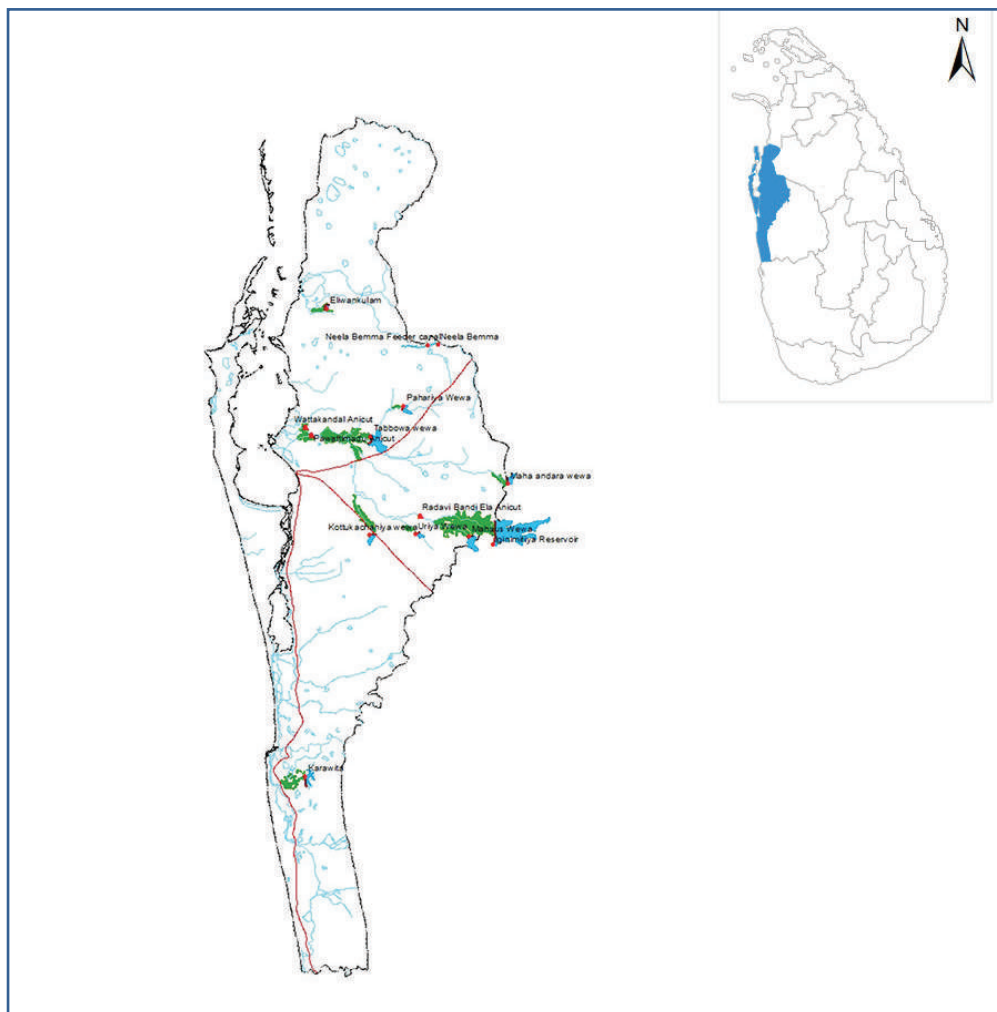
### **Thabbowa Tank**

The Thabbowa Wewa is an ancient irrigation system in the Mee Oya basin, constructed by damming the Nanneri Oya, a major tributary of the Mee Oya, for irrigation purposes. The reservoir was restored between 1913-1925 and then again in 1969. Thabbowa is an ancient irrigation system in the Mee Oya basin. There is not much evidence on its construction and past. However, it is believed built by King Kawantissa.

Irrespective of the time in which it was built, Thabbowa Wewa holds a timeless significance as an irrigation lifeline. R. L. Brohier has quoted from a chronicle from ancient Sath Korale on Thabbowa.

According to RL Brohier

*"Maha Thabbowa 12 cubits deep, Capacity 350 Amunu (app 875 acres) two sluices, There are 18 neglected villages on the catchment, 108 neglected villages and 32 abandoned temples along the bund....." Ancient Irrigation Work of Ceylon, RL Brohier [pp42]...*



**Fig. No.2: Irrigation Schemes in Karuwalagaswewa division at Puttlam district**

Source: [http://www.irrigation.gov.lk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view= article & id=263&Itemid=177&lang=en#](http://www.irrigation.gov.lk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=263&Itemid=177&lang=en#)

### Specifications of Thabbowa Tank

Catchment	384 Sq. Km.
Length of Dam	1910 m.
Height of Dam	9 m.
Capacity	19 millions cu. m

Read more: [Amazing Sri Lanka : Ancient Irrigation Tanks : Thabbowa Tank](http://amazinglanka.com/tanks/thabova/thabova.php#axzz37HSfNx63)

Source: <http://amazinglanka.com/tanks/thabova/thabova.php#axzz37HSfNx63>

There was no such information available in the internet on Radavibandi Ela and the Neela Bamma.

## **Road System**

- Road entries - 18
- Length in miles - 120

There were 18 road entries in 2000, adding up to 120 miles, reaching most of villages. In effect, the transport of goods and products and people were delayed. There were serious difficulties for the school children who wanted to go to outside of their own villages due to lack of secondary education facilities. The dropout rate was higher than other areas due to this reason. On the other hand, the farmers who produce vegetables, milk, etc daily need to take their products to market and, due to lack of transport facilities, the traders do not come to the farm or farmers themselves cannot transport to the market places. The loss of production and income is the final result, hence, contributing to rural poverty. At the same time, for people who were traveling to outside of the village, some daily laborers in the Rajanganaya scheme for example, they had no facility to go there for their labor work.

The road that was proposed in the Area Development Plan of 2003 – 2007 was 70% completed with gravel, tar or concrete by 2008.

## **Electricity**

- In 2000, only 10 villages had electricity. In 2008, there were three (3) proposed electricity projects. By 2009, other than four (4) GS divisions of Egodapitiya, Pahariya, Paleegama and Thewanuware, there were electricity facilities for all the other GS divisions in the divisional secretariat area.
- By 2014, all these electricity projects have been completed. All the GN units have been provided the electricity in Karuwalagaswewa area.

## **Postal Service**

- First Post Office – 1978
- Postal Service was very low stage and no proper mail delivery system, no post offices in the villages, no telephone facilities for telegram facilities at the time.

In 2009, there were less post officials for delivery mails, running the post offices etc. There were about 15 communications centers for telephone facilities to provide for local communities. In 2009, also, there were no mobile phone facilities for the local communities. Today there are many families which have acquired Mobile Phones for their communication purposes.

## **The other main problems faced by the people of Karuwalagaswewa Division in 2000**

### **Problems and concerns of farmers:**

- Less facilities of water from main proposed water resources -lack of distribution pipelines from the main water source to the paddy fields
- Drying up of small tanks in the Division
- High prices of fertilizer and Insecticides
- Low Prices of products during harvesting time
- Entry of Elephants in the farm fields because of the destruction of their forest habitat
- Cultivation limited for one season because of inadequate water

Even in 2009, this situation was prevailing and this had posed a big problem. The situation was aggravated by institutions that enforce the law, such as police etc. are corrupted as well as they are politicized. The political authorities abuse the power in their hand and the common men and women are not united to challenge such powers at all.

### **Common/General Problems**

- Main roads were broken.
- Electricity and postal services were not spread to village level.
- Transport facilities were not adequate to fulfill the people's requirements.
- Getting drinking water was difficult.

### **What people have won by 2008:**

<b>Proposed drinking water project by 2008</b>	<b>Families</b>	<b>Common taps</b>	<b>Shops</b>
Saliyawewa	300	02	30
Lumbini	378	02	54
Ehala Puliyankulama	207	01	03
Kaluwaragaswawa	100	02	18
Buddhi Diyawara village	160	01	18
Madagama	29	01	02
Pawattamaduwa	33	01	03
Thambapanni	200	01	03

**Source: Demographic report of the Divisional Secretariat office at Karuwalagaswewa, 2008**

It is important to highlight the important role played by World Vision Lanka on providing for the drinking water projects.

## **Political Problems**

- ❖ Dependency on provincial council and the central government funds for the activities related to the Regional Council
- ❖ Government does not recognize the real need of the people.
- ❖ People's division in party politics
- ❖ No attention paid for Common development activities
- ❖ All development activities done according to the decision and directions of the leadership

There has been substantial increase of getting funds from the decentralized funds of some of the member of parliaments or provincial councilors for the development activities in Karuwalagaswewa area. At the same time, funds received from line ministries are also having increased and further increasing trend. However, there are serious transparency issues still remaining once those projects get implemented.

## **Problems faced because of war**

- Some people live in fear because of the insecurity.
- Elephants and other animals enter the villages due to operations [during the war period] going on at Vilpaththuwa National Park. The elephants invade the farms and destroy all the cultivation over night.
- Because of the war situation, people in the country as a whole, as well as people in the threatened villages, had to face many difficulties.

By 2009, as the war was over, people lived without fear. But they still suffer from elephant intrusions. The people forced the government to build electrical fences to prevent elephant entry and it was only 60% successful.

## **Social Problems**

- Suicide by taking poisons [Highest percentage in the country at that time]
- Tendency for increase of Violence

By 2009, suicide and violence have become quantitatively lesser than the year 2000.

## **Factors affecting the internal and external situations:**

### **Economic Factors**

- Investment through financial resources
- Means of Production which generated Capital, Land, and Labor through formal and informal ways
- Management capabilities, People's capabilities
- Technologies that are used for consumerism systems

## Political Factors

- Political power structure that force the political governance and external relationship
- Powerful elites, opposition groups, business forces, religious sector, military forces and land owners and the poor and marginalized are the political strata in the area

## Social Factors

- ❖ Population, different ages and male and female
- ❖ Educational capacity, religious values, cultural traditions and norms
- ❖ The reactions and connections of the social groups

## Environmental Factors

- Utilization of natural resources and level of use, whether overexploited or used in sustainable way
- Factors that affect the level of natural resources, such as drought, or manmade effects such as deforestation, land grabbing, Chena cultivation, creation of settlements etc.
- Threats to life and livelihoods of people due to Human –Elephant coexistence issues

## SWOT Analysis:

Given the above situation and problems, the participants in the training on the PIADS in 2000 came up with an analysis of the SWOT of using the PIADS to respond to the needs in Karuwalagaswewa Division.

## Strengths

1. Community leaders who understand the needs of people and with commitment
2. Presence of Societies and Organizations in the area which are concerned of people's issues
3. Leadership of MP who was elected from the area and open to hear poor people's issues
4. Co-operation and contribution of regional councilors of the area
5. Possibility of using natural and physical resources for development
6. Co-operation of dedicated teachers, religious leaders, journalists and professionals
7. Active support from the government agencies and non government organizations

## **Weaknesses**

1. Poor knowledge of the people about present crises, also the poor understanding about development among the political leadership in the area
2. Resources not used properly and destruction of natural environment, causing desertification and water scarcity and droughts
3. Political Divisions- Lack of unity among people due to political party divisions
4. Irregular use of resources- replace elephant corridor and use for housing scheme, clearance of forest cover without considering environmental effects
5. Less co-operation of authority to the people and non-recognition by government authorities of people's perceptions
6. Beliefs and myths of the people on various natural calamities, diseases etc.
7. Division caused by different attitudes of people
8. Selfishness of the people, not united for the common work and not dedicated for the common good and collective efforts
9. Fearfulness - not standing for the truth and against the injustices in the society
10. Dependency attitude of the people on Government, NGOs and other possible agencies
11. NGOs are not seen and recognized as partners of the development process and marginalized them from the development.
12. Not getting people's participation once there is planning for development activities
13. Management weaknesses of divisional governing leaders and politicians

## **Opportunities**

1. Willingness of the NGOs which work in the area to give the support for the development activities
2. Willingness of international organizations to give the support such as Asian Health Institute and LIKAS
3. Willingness of central government, provincial council, line ministries to offer assistance and allocated funds for rural development schemes
4. Help of the district and divisional secretariat and other government organizations, such as agrarian services department, Samurdhi Authority, irrigation department
5. Other than the committed leadership among the communities, the people who dedicate themselves to have an alternative development process



## Threats

1. Droughts- Destroy the people's crops, paddy fields, vegetables and push the people into worsening of poverty
2. Elections held time to time disturb people's unity and divide and prevent common actions
3. Different opinions of governing political leaders and the people on development, priorities of the development work, way of engaging in development work
4. No water facilities for farming activities for people in the area when there is no rain in longer period of time, no adequate irrigation schemes provided to sustain the livelihoods of rural communities, farmers in particular
5. Different opinions among central government , provincial council and also regional council on development programs
6. Weaknesses of land dividing programs under land allocation programs for the agriculture purposes of the government
7. Weaknesses of enforcing existing rules and regulations among law enforcement agencies, unequal treatments by the law enforcement authorities such as police, government agencies
8. Presence of many betting centers and liquor bars pushing people further into poverty and losing their day today earnings
9. War, as the poor people do not have any other source of income to survive other than agriculture like Chena cultivation, and in the remote places there is threat of militants
10. Privatization activities of the Government which lead to loss of land, forest and other natural resources for and of poor people, tend to displacement and cause poverty.

Once we did the SWOT analysis by 2008, the knowledgeable people, proper use of resources, and cooperation among the people, the officials and village leadership had become additional strengths to the list. At the same time, the opportunities we had in 2000 remained intact. As through the implementation of the Area Development Plan these were responded and there were no war threats and election violations reported lately.

Now the NGOs are strengthened and Divisional secretariat and regional council must take the opportunity and build on their strength. After the war, there is a higher potential to bringing people together. However, the issue to maintain the mechanisms unchanged time to time is our challenge and is still a question.

**Box No.1**

“A person should have dedication and wisdom to build up him/her self not only materially but also spiritually.

By collecting all the strength together we can build up good, fruitful and respectable society.

Let us stretch our hands with sincere hearts”.

## ***Mapping Our Direction: The Action Plan***

In June 2000, after the Convener of NAFSO attended the ILDC training program at AHI [October 1999], NAFSO together with its then partner organization, Sanasili Foundation and with the support of AHI, Nisshin, Japan and LIKAS, Irosin, Sorsogon, Philippines, were convened to focus and plan out the activities towards guiding the people of Karuwalagaswewa to plan out their People's Participatory Area Development Strategy implementation.

The group who attended the NAFSO/TP - organized Workshop, which was constituted with Karuwalagaswewa people, their elected representatives, government officials and NGOs, came up with the following:

### **Vision**

“Building up a society which respects just society, distribution of the resources, without any discrimination of race, caste and religion, protecting the natural resources, having special foundation of people for sustainable development”

### **Mission :**

To promote the wellbeing of people at Karuwalagaswewa

### **Objectives**

1. To get the active participation and cooperation of the people and the organizations at Karuwalagaswewa to develop the area
2. Using water, land and natural resources available in the area, and also using appropriate technology, to optimize agricultural systems and have more quality farming in the area
3. To enhance income of the people using available natural resources through nature- friendly manner; develop existing industries and introduce new alternative industries
4. To bring about better health facilities to all the people of the area
5. To promote just and respectable environment where all people can live in peace and harmony in the area

6. To improve knowledge, attitude and capabilities of the people in the area through formal and non formal education, so that they may responsibly participate in development process
7. To supply basic social services effectively and systematically
8. To build up strong and powerful peoples movement who could solve their own problems pressurizing the authorities to be responsive as well as by animating themselves
9. To search ways and means to develop the education of pre-school children

## **Target**

1. Multi sector cooperation on development
2. People`s participation on the development process,
3. Protection of environment
4. Introduce and Promotion of new Development Strategy in the area,
5. Mediation to protect the rights of people
6. People organized, animated and empowered with cooperative and collective efforts
7. Development of human resources
8. Supply of basic needs of people with usage of available natural resources in the area
9. Promotion of peace and harmony among the disturbed political environment,

## *Braving the Journey: Our Activities*

NAFSO/TP members had to work hand in hand with the Sanasili Foundation, Local politicians, opinion leaders, regional councilors, professionals, CBOs, NGOs, government agencies and many more to implement the establishment of PPIADS process in Karuwalagaswewa divisional secretariat area. In this chapter we want to highlight main areas we approached for the implementation of the PPIADS and how each actor performed or contributed to the planned activities.

The steps described herein are grouped into five stages. Each stage builds up from the activities or results of the previous stage and followed an iterative cycle of action-reflection-action, sharing tacit knowledge/their own experiences and converting these into lessons learned for new way of doing things. It was also made clear at the start that self-reliance could be achieved, rooted in building individual and sectoral capacities and trustful and responsible sharing, and servant leadership.

### **Stages of the Main Activities**

1. 1999 October to 2000 February (Gathering the facilitators, supporting groups)
2. 2000 February to 2002 September (Introducing the PIADS concept, ADP Planning)
3. 2002 September to 2005 February (ADP Implementation Phase 1)
4. 2005 March to 2008 December (ADP Implementation Phase 2)
5. 2009 January till today (Post-ADP)

In all these program activities, there were main and common objectives to achieve to contribute to the overall PPIADS program in Karuwalagaswewa divisional secretariat.

Those were as follows:

- ❖ Actively contribute to the People's Participatory Integrated Area Development Program at Karuwalagaswewa,
- ❖ Main Strategies:
  - Enhance the Life condition the well being of the people who live there in Karuwalagaswewa
  - Empowerment of the People
  - Enhance the basic services of the people
  - Environmental protection

- ❖ To get the active participation of all relevant actors through common understanding of the development process and the priorities of the programs, and
- ❖ Skill development through Social analysis based on problem solving methodology towards sustainable development.

### **Target groups identified were:**

- ❖ Village traditional leaders, leaders of the people's organizations [Farmers, Fisheries, Rural development groups, Savings schemes, etc.]
- ❖ People and the regional council who are involved in the political sector
- ❖ Government officials, village officials, Samurdhi Development Officials, Agriculture researchers and productive, divisional secretariat officials
- ❖ Non government organization activists
- ❖ Preschool teachers and health officers
- ❖ Women leaders and members
- ❖ Teachers of the government schools
- ❖ Youth and children groups

### **Benefits from the Trainings:**

- ❖ Formation of capable leadership through skills development
- ❖ Formulation of Divisional development Plan and formation of village social integrated development committees or the Village Development Committees[VDC]
- ❖ Knowledge of sustainable fisheries industry and sustainable agriculture, organic farming, indigenous seeds, indigenous food systems, herbal medicine and sustainable life styles and climatic adaptation in traditional agriculture systems
- ❖ Knowledge of Peace-building and human rights
- ❖ Collaboration and coordination of government, NGOs and political groups
- ❖ Knowledge and skills on monitoring and evaluation and understanding data and information for action

## 01. Leadership Trainings to develop integration and collaboration

Leadership training was given to village committee leaders and community leaders of all the relevant sectors. It was important to increase their awareness and knowledge not only of basic leadership and management but also of globalization and how it impinges and impacts on the local situation. The concept of PPIADS can be better understood with this context.

### What were done:

- ❖ Trainings with combination of social analysis especially on relating global economic system and foreign domination and the local situation, and political analysis particularly on differentiating democratic from dictatorial leadership
- ❖ Trainings designed by modules/staggered starting with basic to advanced and/or specialized
- ❖ Training topics were summarized and always connected with integrated framework
- ❖ Trainings had combination of theory and reinforcing practical action



**Fig. No. 3: Some activities on Leadership Formation among youth and adults**

## 02. Establishing a Communication System to understand Integrated Development

Another basic step to popularizing PPIADS and gathering support was setting up a communication system to implement a communication strategy. The people cannot be expected to participate meaningfully if they were not informed properly and promptly. This was, also, timely in the sense that in 2000, no one was using any communication system. There was determination, then, of promoting at least basic communication.

## What were done:

- ❖ Formation of Communication Committee
- ❖ Inventory and review of forms of communication in the past and present
- ❖ Identification of needs in the area requiring a communication system or mechanism
- ❖ Identification of uses of communication for advocacy for basic human rights and sustainable development and promotion of culture
- ❖ Discussions on How to build communication networks for building up unity among villagers, and for cascading information from the division, district and to the national levels

### Box No. 2

*“We formed a communication committee in the area. For that we were given training. We were supported by Mr. Jayarathna Wickramayarachchi, the reporter of the Provincial Council area and Mr. Presad Poornimal, a Sirasa Journalist. That time we had a chance to write reports in village level. That was the time Mr. Priyankara Costa requested me to enter into the media sector. So, I got a chance to work as a regional journalist of Lakkbima national news paper, after facing for an interview. That time I was following a course on photography, too. I took some photograph on destruction of forest and published them and, also, discussed about it at our committee. I am happy to say that our problems were published very often in newspapers”.*

**Mr. Sarath Kumara, Provincial Journalist, Karuwalagaswewa**

## The activities of the communication network:



**Fig. No. 4: 2 Cover Pages of PPIADS News Letter “Thirasara”**

- ❖ Distributing hand outs on various subjects related to integrated development
- ❖ Publication and distribution of a leaflet “Thirasara” among people in the VDCs
- ❖ Coordination with other newspapers and radio stations for news on divisional concerns



- ❖ Educating and Engaging children and elders to write their own news or articles
- ❖ Setting up of divisional media unit
- ❖ Media unit did some research on ancient treasures, conducted some explorations on archaeological sites in the area, come up with an articles, reports based on the explorations,
- ❖ Built up a library in Saliya Maha Vidyalaya with assistance from Colombo University to conduct investigation and publication of article on people in the area sick with infectious and terminal diseases to get some financial help.
- ❖ Since 2000, at all the elections the communication team published a “Thirasara” issue highlighting the responsibilities of the citizen, election monitoring work, election violence and the role of civil society at the elections to maintain the peaceful environment.

### **Topics or Issues that were covered:**

- ❖ Destruction of the forest and grabbing of lands
- ❖ Illegal sand mining
- ❖ Elephant and Human Co-existence issues due to irregular development models and programs,
- ❖ Corruptions of the politicians
- ❖ Inefficiency, bribery and corruption of officials
- ❖ Drinking water issues and destruction of water catchment areas of the tanks
- ❖ Problems arising from not having adequate teachers in schools

These problems were communicated to the public media with the cooperation of district and national journalists. At the same time, build up of regional journalists group was also done under PPIADS communication process. Village leaders who suffered from those issues, regional councilors who were concerned about people’s issues were given chances to speak about those problems. Some of the media assisted in this process, as follows:

In the newspapers Lankadeepa, Lakkbima and Dinamina,

In the TV channels such as Sirasa, Suwarnavahini, I. T. N. ,

In radio channel of “Swadeshiya Sevaya, Neth FM”.

Mr. Jayarathna Wickramaarachchi and Mr. Sarath Kumara are two key people who facilitated to realize this situation and gave a helping hand to raise people’s issues as regional journalists.

### **Benefits from the Communication Network:**

- ❖ People get to know the duties and responsibilities of government, political parties and NGOs and divisional activities.
- ❖ People had the means to protect peace and justice during the election times from 2000 to 2008.
- ❖ Divisional concerns were made known to the public.
- ❖ There was a good opportunity to speak about the integrated development activities [PPIADS] Vs “Jana Saba” under Mahinda Chinthanaya program on Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation radio channel for 2 hours.
- ❖ Protection of the area’s ancient treasures from loss and mismanagement
- ❖ People made aware of infectious diseases such as Malaria and Diarrhea and was able to minimize the spread them rapidly in the area and the prevention.
- ❖ Narrowly escaped from the destruction of the water catchment areas in the tanks due to highlighting the issues in the media continuously and consistently

### **03. Primary Health Care**

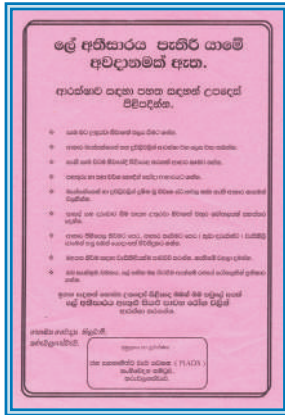
This component provided trainings to preschool teachers and village voluntary health workers, with the Karuwalagaswewa Regional Medical Office and Regional Council as the trainers. However, there was very traditional Ayurvedic medical system that existed in the area and people got medicines for snake bites and orthopedic illnesses primarily. At the same time, though a scientific veterinary system did not exist, all the animal medical facilities were provided local doctors [traditional folk healers] who happened to be called as “Veda Mahatha” in the village. This was a respectable position in the village and there was a term, “Either Kingship or Medication” [Rajakama nathnam Vedakama].

#### **What were done:**

- ❖ Analysis and discussions on the country and area’s primary health care
- ❖ Orientation on the activities and programs for the optimum utilization of the resources in the Regional Council for the area
- ❖ Promotion of the necessity to build up voluntary health groups and conduct related primary health care training programs

#### **Integrated Activities Conducted**

1. Gave the knowledge to the community on Primary health care through village committees
2. Printed and distributed leaflets, house to house regarding the infectious diseases after the rainy season, together with the Regional Health Office



**Fig. No. 5: Hand-out on water borne diseases and Primary Health Care Training for Pre School teachers**

3. As a result of preschool teachers trainers training programs on primary health care, the parents of the pre-school children volunteered to provide first aid services in the divisional area.
4. Activated the traditional primary “Ayurvedic” system local practitioners, who were made known by the village group with the help of the “Ayurvedic” doctors of the area
5. A program was expanded over the district to eradicate Malaria, diarrhea, Dengue and all the infectious diseases in collaboration with NGOs in the area, Regional Health Office, Regional Council and Divisional Secretariat.

**Box No. 03:**

*“Another important thing we found when the different health issues, like malaria, diarrhea and dengue epidemics occur, the officers were made aware of them but after it is over the project stops activating. Therefore, we discussed this matter with the PPIADS group and in the year 2004 we created another project called “Clean Village” and there were three steps, as*

*1<sup>st</sup> – Clean the Home, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Put up Home garden and 3<sup>rd</sup> – Clean the Village.*

*We did lots of education programs on this and gave the responsibilities to NGOs to activate concerned organizations in G.N. areas. We got the support of the health office of the province. Every two weeks we had Shramadana [Free Labor services] and built up a clean environment of our own, our village roads and our houses managed and cleaned properly. For this Grama Niladari gave their support. After many activities people were able to increase their livelihood and health facilities. They were able to plan and do other activities to increase livelihood and improve or increase health facilities”.*

**Mr. R.I.B.R.B. Rathanamalala - Former Divisional Secretary of Karuwalagaswewa**

6. Educated the youth of the area about AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases
7. Joined the program conducted for pregnant mothers call “Senehasa” [Mother’s Care] by divisional cultural centre and divisional health office in Karuwalagaswewa



**Fig No. 6: Seminar on health and Water issues in Karuwalagaswewa**

## **04. Training for Preschool Teachers**

In this training, primary attention was given to the preschool teachers about the present situation of education system of the area and future targets.

Training topics were on:

- ❖ Theoretical knowledge for preschool teachers on pre-childhood, childhood development and psychology of a child, enhancing the relationships
- ❖ Development and use of creative training materials
- ❖ Designing practical lesson plans and activities
- ❖ Evaluation of children’s performance and counseling parents on basic child development

### **Box No. 4:**

*“I saw as one of the first priorities of the Provincial Council is to nurture and protect the pre- pre-school development of the child. There are 26 Grama Seva areas at Karuwalagaswewa. There were only 05 pre schools in 2000. And with the help of the integrated Development program we were able to build and set up 26 preschools. We continually trained the pre - school teachers and educated the parents. For this we chose the educated young girls of the area and it became a good opportunity for them. Even today all the preschools are running in the midst of ups and downs”*

**Mr. T.M. Sumanasena, Former**

**Provincial Council Chairperson – Karuwalagaswewa**



**Fig. No. 7: Pre School Teachers capacity building program on primary health care**

Pre-school came to a good start because at the end of every term teachers did a good evaluation and had prepared new plans for the next term. We must appreciate NGOs such as World Vision, Save the Children Fund, which cooperated with the teachers, and, also, the Regional Council which paved the way.

## **05. Training and Activities for the Youth and Child Development**

It is suggested to give more attention to this sector for future targets along the following areas:

- ❖ Develop relationship between teachers and student to increase the educational performance level. Through leadership training for the youth and children, special attention can be included on development of positive attitudes.
- ❖ Educate the children on environment, culture, and home gardening including how to nurture and/or properly use them.
- ❖ Form a group and train them do a survey again in Karuwalagaswewa Division, how to organize and encode the data collected, and on how to properly file and safe keep records in the Divisional Secretaries' offices.
- ❖ Mobilize the parents and children together to demand the authorities to acquire teachers for their schools (Aluthgama school and Vidyachakkrawarthi school).
- ❖ Educate them on how to do advocacy and to develop advocacy materials such as posters against destruction of timber.





**Fig. No. 8: Training programs conducted among school children and youth**

## **06. Protection of Peace and Human Rights**

### **6.1 Elimination of violence through establishment of Peace Committees**

In 2000, Karuwalagaswewa division, Anamaduwa electorate in Puttalam District had a bad reputation. There were shooting, gun-firing, destruction of properties, existing jungle law, and higher level of illegal activities which made implementation of the PPIADS very difficult. Participatory development, then, had to start very systematically, carefully and strategically. At that time, people were yearning to live in an environment with peace, dignity and unity.

In this context, the people were unorganized, uninformed, unserved, forgotten and lost. But they expected some change from this fearful and insecure life. They wanted to make a difference to their lives as well as to the area they were living. With the direction of religious leaders, government officials and village leaders, the isolated villagers started organizing themselves. They thought and felt that they must get away from the injustice and violence that were happening to them. The election in December 2001 provided the opportunity for them to start off on this endeavor to build peace and unity. They gathered themselves and focused their actions for Free and Fair election in 2001 general elections. The Yellow Band campaign, launched at the national level, triggered the people's action down to the grassroots level and touched the hearts and minds of those from Karuwalagaswewa, too.

## **Benefits from the December 2001 movement:**

- ❖ People were educated to have a free and fair election during the parliamentary elections and monitored it in 2001.
- ❖ Peace march from Kalawewa Junction to Karuwalagaswewa was held, with all the sectors gathered together to reduce violence.
- ❖ Social movement for free and fair election was started with the mediation of a People's forum.
- ❖ Politicians and divisional leaders were made aware of the necessity of free and fair election and were motivated to collaborate with the social movement.
- ❖ Peace Committee members and religious leaders cooperated through Yellow Band project, which was a sign of the commitment for free and fair election as well as the symbol of membership in the movement.

People became prepared to form a Peace Committee for the elections in March 2002, motivated with the reduced violence in 2001 from the strengthened people's power. Elections in March were much less violent, thus. Not stopping from here, the Committee scaled up their objective to declaring the area as a "Peace Zone" to maintain peace. They, likewise, tried to decrease liquor drinking in the area and regulated illicit liquor production for local people's consumption which was very high during the elections. Finally, during the general election of 2004, no violent acts were reported.

In 2005 under the "Mahinda Chinthana", civil security committees were formed in all village councils. Many village leaders got the chance to be members of these committees. There was peaceful environment during the presidential election in 2005 and regional council election in 2006.

In 2010, during the presidential and general elections, some violence occurred from liquor drinking people and gangs as the civil security committee was not functioning properly at that time. The unity among people those who engaged peace process was scattered too. At the same time, some violence occurred from party politics conflict among the three main parties [PA, UNP and JVP]. Specially Ruling party PA used their power and government facilities to control the opposition voice of the people and also liquor drinking as the civil security committee was not functioning properly at that time. However, when we compared with 2001, total violence of the area decreased up to less than 20%.

### Box No. 5:

*"The main thing is to be active and vigilant to protect justice and peace in the area. There was a discussion between the late Minister D. M. Dasanayaka and Member of Parliament, Mr. Range Bandara, to eradicate violence from the area and make it a Peace Zone. We were able to use this methodology and stop all election-related violence after 2005 and every election time, building up peace committees and civil protection committees with wide educational programs. In that I saw PPIADS as an experience and instrument for establishment of democracy."*

**Mr. L.J.M.G. Chandrasiri Bandara- Additional District Secretary of the Puttlam District**

## 6.2 Mobilized people to protect human rights and win their own rights

At the period of 2000-2005 more attention was given to theoretical knowledge through divisional trainings on how to protect the fundamental rights, Human rights and freedom and justice:

- Training on fundamental rights and human rights for village and divisional level,
- Voter education programs and Training programs conducted on free and fair election and election rules for the people and government leaders,
- Awareness seminar for the village leaders, education about their role to play when misbehaviors, corruptions and actions go against the law - meaning below standards of the people's accepted norms, practices and actions against humanity. These actions were supported through Thirasara Newsletter as well as through distribution of leaflet prepared to highlight the election violence and necessity of peace and order to reflect the people's free and independent views in the election results.
- Sharing of knowledge about peace and co-existence and consequences of the war

As a result of these trainings, village leaders, those who are now knowledgeable and skillful and with confidence they gained, were able to build a committee to protect human rights, environmental rights, women's rights etc. in their respective villages. In those committees, people were able to begin dialogues on human rights violations, put pressure on the people who violate the laws and on law enforcement authorities to enforce the law on those who violate the rules.

Through the actions of the committee:

- Divisional secretariat authority was made stronger and efficient to eradicate child abuse and take necessary actions to prevent them.



- Forest destructions and sand mining from rivers were reduced by about 35% depending on the Grama Niladhari Units of committees formed.
- Use of destructive nets was prohibited as this affect sustainability of fishery resources.
- People from the places where tourism was promoted, campaigned against looting of lands and destruction of water catchments in areas where tourist hotels were being built in the name of development and were able to stop the illegal actions.
- People were able to get electricity fences and protection from elephants in 8<sup>th</sup> mile post at Buddhi Dasungama.
- Harassment of women by drunken men was minimized substantially, as the people took legal actions against this.
- Value-formation programs were conducted among village leaders and children by the PPIADS training team with the help of religious leaders in the villages.



**Fig. No. 9: Protest against election violence, Peace committee activities and Election monitoring activities during the elections 2001**

## 07. Building up the Village Development Committee and Integrated Development Society [PPIADS Forum]

In a globalized economy, people are given no place to participate in development process. There is no proper strategy to get their collaboration to plan the development of the area and much more make an integrated village development plan, divisional development plans and national development plans. There was no substantial dialogue or consultation and integration of village development plans, if there was, into the divisional and national development plans effectively. In effect, the people become oppressed further, with their real needs not consulted and analyzed, and, thus, remained unanswered.

Because of that, we took the examples of the Barangay Committee in Irosin, Sorsogon, Philippines, Grameen Unnayan Parishad-[GUP] in Bangladesh, Village Development Committee (VDC) and Panchayat System and Self Help Women Program in India to develop our strategy. Thanks to AHI again, as we had gained knowledge and some of the skills to apply among Karuwalagaswewa people through the exposure visits and exchanges organized for People's Organization to learn from their alumni groups in Bangladesh, India and also Philippines.

To begin this process, a committee was formed in 2001 at Dangaswawa and Aluthgama. Then, gradually, the **PPIADS Forum**, which is composed of several VDCs and represented by the village leaders, was created. The first activity the forum had was a survey on Minimum Basic Needs (MBN) at Dangaswewa and Aluthgama Grama Niladari Division areas.

The survey was done for 253 families at Aluthgama and 154 families at Dangaswewa.

**[More Details of the MBN survey will be found in the 12.0 sub section of this chapter]**

### 7.1 Village Development Committees

Village Development Committees were formed in 2002 July during the training on PIADS, facilitated by Dr. Eddie Dorotan from Philippines at Nainamadama.

#### Office bearers of the VDC

President	:	One Among villagers
Secretary	:	Grama Niladhari
Co-Secretary	:	Samurdhi Development officer
Adviser	:	Religious / Elderly Elites/ Opinion leader in the village

## Members

Representatives from village societies representing each CBO [Either chairperson, Secretary, or Treasurer can be selected]

- ✿ Agriculture research and production assistance officer
- ✿ Village level government and NGO officials
- ✿ Two (2) women representatives
- ✿ One (1) youth representative

Among these leaders in the VDC, the VDC President is eligible to enter into the Divisional Level PPIADS forum.

## Responsibilities of Village Development Committees

1. Search needed data and store them for village development planning and assessments
2. Forward suggestions, prioritize and participate in annual divisional development planning
3. Monitor all the development activities and document the results
4. Have meetings and discussions every month
5. Give the consent to the release of payments for the development projects which were implemented by contractors as a double proof or “check and balance” of the technical officers, Samurdhi officers or village development officers.
6. Organize people and to help them in their activities
7. Coordinate with government organizations, NGOs and people’s organizations
8. Be a mediator as a NGO between state and people’s organization and help to raise awareness among them
9. VDC leaders help the villagers and show them the ways of sharing resources properly with equity and just way.
10. VDC leaders, with the TP/NAFSO members, assist the Divisional Steering Committee in performing its functions
11. Assist the Divisional secretary, with NAFSO/TP, in maintaining the PPIADS Office/Village Development Centre

## Area Development Planning



Fig.No.10: Area Development Plan 2003-2007

In all the GN divisions village development plan was implemented and people were given knowledge and training constantly.

An example of such a plan's cover page is shown as below:

# **People's Participatory Integrated Area Development**

## **Strategy Plan (PPIADS)**

### **Medagama GN Division**

**Divisional Secretariat Karuwalagaswewa**

## **7.2 Village Development Plan**

As to present a model to know how a Development plan was built, a Divisional Development Plan was formulated and implemented in 26 GN divisions.

Figure 10 above illustrates the planning steps till the ADP was completed.

Below were the general activities for the preparation of the Plan

- ❁ Introduction and discussion of objectives of Integrated Development effort.
- ❁ Present the data information of GN division (population, number of families, about tanks, employments, education level and other resource) collected from the MBN survey
- ❁ People analyze the needs and problems
- ❁ Solutions are made into proposals such as on irrigation, agriculture, education, health, environment, self employment and other income generating centers with Education programs integral to each solution
- ❁ Solutions are budgeted with people making estimates
- ❁ Plans for monitoring and evaluating the results were made including the fund utilization



**Fig. No.11: Education programs for execution of Area Development Plan**

### **7.3 Building Village Development Centers [Coordinating Center for Public Services]**

In every GN division there are more than 20 government officers to serve community. Among them, GN officer, Samurdhi Development officer, agriculture researcher and productive assistance officers are playing key role in the villages. People had to go to three places in different times to meet these officers and to get any services from them. Moreover, their data were different to each other. Thus, it was a concern also how to implement the Area Development Plan in an efficient and coordinated way. We expected accurate data and also needed reliable information to plan out any of the development programs.

The idea of a physical central village-level operating center came up where the VDCs could meet regularly, where coordination of different government services can be immediately and harmoniously done, and where data can be shared, easily validated, made readily accessible, and studied for monitoring and intervention planning. In effect, the integrated area development plan made all the officials/officers and the people and other involved converge in one place. People may get government service without any inconvenience in the village development center which is also the village data center which stored the village information.



The centers were built up in all the GN divisions and there was sharing of data and integration, with the contribution of the people. People contributed to build the center through their labor and resources. In some places, people gave land to build up the hall.

New centers were built up in Ranawarapitiya, Saliya B and Moonamalgaswawa with the intervention of the Divisional Secretariat. The Karuwalagaswewa Development Center and the PPIADS coordinating office were built up and opened with contributions and allocated money for the PPIADS through NAFSO.

#### **7.4 Forming the PPIADS Forum and Divisional Steering Committee**

As mentioned earlier, the PPIADS Forum is composed of the representatives of the VDCs. NAFSO/TP and in consultation with the DS office development planning unit and people's representatives proposed the PPIADS Forum which gave the better understanding how to move forward with structured and systematic manner. Its intended purpose was to strengthen the village-level participatory avenues and had a looking-forward plan of formulating a development agenda that will support the PPIADS sustainably by having a macro perspective foundation. It functioned well, they hold meetings, to discuss issues, analyze them, prepare area development plan and implement it, evaluate and assess the progress until 2006.

The Divisional Secretary became the Co- chairperson of the Regional Committee as well as the convener of the committee and Regional Council Chairperson became the other co-chair of the PPIADS forum at Karuwalagaswewa division. A constitution committee was appointed which proposed the committee membership and functions that were unanimously approved thereafter.

##### **Other members in the committee are:**

- Assistant manager of the Divisional Secretariat
- NGO partners ( in the division and outside )
- Divisional authorities of the state
- Religious leaders
- Regional councilors or regional political leaders
- One member of each village development committee
- Rural development council representatives

### **Main responsibilities of the Divisional Steering Committee:**

- To help all the projects be activated in the area and bring to a good standard
- To endorse and refer the Area Development Plan to divisional level and forward projects to state ministry and NGOs
- To be a venue whereby the Government, NGOs and POs come together to ensure sustainable development
- To monitor the progress of the plan, evaluate, plan for the future and find ways and means to provide financial assistance.

All believe people should be the center when the PPIADS concept is introduced. People were thinking from the beginning of this process that they have a space to be part of development activities (in 2002). VDCs became strong in 2003 because it was able to take decisions about the Divisional Development Plan together with government officials. People were saying “We have a development plan”, “We know the common needs of our village”, “We are also partners of development”. This is a clear picture of people from “Believing” to “Becoming” partners of their development process.



**Fig No. 12: Karuwalagaswewa then Divisional Secretaries of Mr. R.M.B Rathnamalala and Mr. Chandrasiri Bandara conducting awareness programs with DS office staff**



## 08. Sustaining the PPIADS: Building up Organic Farming and Sustainable Fishing Industry

### 8.1 Propagation of Organic Farming

Industrialization started in Sri Lanka with green revolution and also after 1977, with the open economy, traditional customary agriculture was affected very badly. The soil was unfertilized because of increasing machinery, chemical fertilizers and insecticide use for agriculture. This left the lands unproductive, making the farmers poorer and deep in debt. With farmers unable to bear the debts, suicide comes to their minds.

Because of the policies adopted by the elected regimes in the country, the country became an open market to profit makers. Our natural resources were open up for sale. The whole country declared as a free trade zone by then regime in 1989. Land, water, forests and every possible resource were opened for investors and their profits.

In one area, our natural forests and forest cover was reduced to 18%, canals and rivers were covered with silts and sediments and mud from floods, heavy expenses were incurred for agriculture products, malnutrition increased from food insecurity, and health level was going down.

In this situation many environmental organizations and international organizations expressed a need to go back to sustainable agriculture which promotes organic farming and agro-ecological models. Thus, there was effort to promote traditional customary farming. To support this, the PPIADS program at Karuwalagaswewa was able to obtain assistance for trainings on organic farming and home gardening, guided by the following objectives:

- Encourage environmental and sustainable farming, how evolved of the same and avoid destruction caused by green revolution;
- Reduce destruction of environment due to globalization, mechanized farming , chemical fertilizers and insecticides;
- Understand environmental agriculture from an analysis of issues on mechanized agricultural techniques, grabbing and destroying natural resources, Replacement of indigenous seeds with imported seeds of genes of indigenous seeds and patenting of property rights, establishment of foreign plantation, water pollution, irrigation;

- Introduce traditional food systems and promote home gardening using and propagating indigenous seeds versus imported seeds as practical ways of healing the soil through organic cultivation;
- Organize the people to pressure the authorities and relevant groups to protect the forest, conserve water catchment areas and care for the soil and environment.

As a result of the training, village development committees started home gardening. In this effort, a big service was done by NGOs as World Vision of Lanka, Save the Children Fund, Praja Shakthi Development Foundation and Sarvodaya. This integrated program activated the Thabbowa and Saliyawewa People's Service Office. The above efforts resulted in the following:

- Establishment and maintenance of the Neela Bamma Green Garden
- Building of the Farmers' Training Center of NAFSO [with assistance from the Praja Shakthi Development Foundation]
- Acquisition of machine to produce organic manure through the Ministry of Rural Affairs



**Fig. No.13: Mr. Chandrasiri, Mr. Wijerathna Banda, Mr. Ashoka Karunaratne and Mr. Cletus Dabarera conducting organic farming training programs at Blue Green Garden**

## 8.2 Support for a Sustainable Fishing Industry

The main tanks of the fishing industry at Karuwalagaswewa are Tabbowa, Pahariya, Mahakarambawewa, Koonwewa, Dangaswewa and Saliyawewa. The fish resources in these tanks, though, did not last many days due to use of destructive fishing nets and violation of regulatory laws.

After a lead effort of Praja Shakthi Foundation with the help of fisheries inspectors, the police and other officials, the Pahariya tank became well-managed, till 2008. This same collaborative management was done in Anuradapura district, at Rajangana scheme of Mahaveli for the Angamuwa tank. The management efforts consisted of:

- Coordination with the Angamuwa fishing village in 2007 for organizing people to be involved
- Training on fishery management by NAFSO, Praja Shakthi and Karuwalagaswewa cooperative societies drama group formed by the youth through communication unit
- Coordination with the government sectors, police, GN and divisional council on tank management, stock fingerlings to the tank, intervene appropriately upon request of the fisheries coop leadership.
- Mobilization of support from the National Aquaculture Development Authority [NAQDA] for tank management, stock fingerlings, education of community members. The chair person of NAQDA and his officials organized a WS with the community members before providing the initial stock of fingerlings to the tank.

In effect, the fisher societies were made strong and able to do the following:

- arrest the illegal destructive fisher gear operators;
- impose and collect fines as a cooperative and saved the same money for development purposes of the village and their own society;
- enforce the law with the police and the fisheries inspectors;
- acquire fish fingerlings from NAFSO and NAQDA for the tanks;
- obtain financial support for provide assistance to the membership; and
- operates a fishing net shop.

## 09. Integration of State, NGOs, POs, and Government Groups

### 9.1 Building up relationship with NGOs

The NGOs that cooperated and were activated at Karuwalagaswewa were:

- ❖ National Fisheries Solidarity Movement (NAFSO)
- ❖ World Vision Lanka
- ❖ Sarvodaya
- ❖ Sanasili Padanama
- ❖ Praja Sakthi Sanwardana Padanama
- ❖ Red Cross Society
- ❖ Vanni Cultural Foundation
- ❖ Save the Children Fund (CCF)

The NGOs collaborated with each other and with the PPIADS forum, though they were not united before. They laid a foundation for the proper management of the financial resources. From 2003 to 2007 they were committed to supporting development plans in village level and all were animating the people.

It was only after 2005 that all the NGOs came together as a group, organizing themselves into an NGO Forum and it was the Divisional Secretary Mr. Chandrasiri Bandara who paved the way for them to come to one platform. It was not only that, but the water project organizations of the area also got the chance to join the group. From the government agencies, the Divisional Secretary and chair person of the Regional Council to the development officials of the divisional secretariat, all participated. In a cooperative understanding, these groups made some agreements, to wit:

1. Have to discuss together if a new NGO enters the group
2. Village Development Committee (VDC) had the power of approval or giving the consent to pay the project funds to the contractors.
3. To have one platform to discuss about the problems faced by NGOs
4. Divide the GN divisions by recipients or beneficiaries of the projects covered in the plans

The chairperson of this group was the Divisional Secretary and when he was transferred in 2009, the group did not function properly. But through informal communications it was built up again. Now Praja Shakthi-NAFSO, World Vision and Sarvodaya work with close collaboration when implementing projects. The present divisional secretary Mr. A.M.C.M. Premasooriya, nevertheless, expressed his desire to build up again the PPIADS forum during a discussion NAFSO had with him.

## 9.2 Integration at Work

All throughout the learning and change process, it was clear that the relationships among the key stakeholders relevant to Karuwalagaswewa situation had to be built up through various practical ways. Besides having common principles on participatory development and sustaining effective and sustained communication as foundations for building and even reviving collaborative undertakings, it was equally important that the stakeholders simply appreciated and cared for each another and felt one or unified, left no room for conflicts to keep them away from their purpose. This show of nurturance can seal bonds and transform hearts, if valued as well. Thus, we can share the following events or occasions that were leading to this nurturance:

- ❖ A cultural program in the primary school at Dutugamunu Junior School at Aluthgama, where local people showed their rich cultural talents, where NGO and government workers helped with conducting exhibition on traditional agriculture, seeds and production methods etc. from the preparations to the actual program itself. They simply focused on the event, regardless of differences.
- ❖ Education is always important for families, especially basic education. It was but natural that the communities were concerned of the education that their children received. In view of this, the community people, the local teachers, and the DS worked for increased school/education budgets. They got together to make their voice heard. Not only teachers and community people, but the DS was shown in the TV speaking loudly for the budget reform.
- ❖ Calamities, though unwanted, were also occasions for the integration to be expressed. Affected villages from floods got help from non- or less-affected villages. The integration of the different sectors made the others “see the others”. Contributions and volunteer work were jointly planned to be given to the affected villages.
- ❖ On the other hand, with drought, all the sectors worked together as well and tried to give water first to the most needed rather than claiming first for themselves. Vouchers to claim water from water bowzers were prioritized to be given to the most needy families and not for (the VDC leaders, the local officials) themselves.
- ❖ A sense of pride, humbly felt and perceived, emanated also among the PPIADS players, making them feel more that they were one and united amidst differences. This they showed in a big event at Polpithigama and at Galgamuwa DS division.

- ❁ Karuwalagaswewa winning as champions at the Puttlam district competition among DS offices as well as the 4<sup>th</sup> placer at the national level DS division completion.

## 10. Tank Renovation Program

From the beginning of the integrated development program, the main problem was the protection and retention of water resource. More attention was given to renovation of tanks. To make it a success, government officers worked on this program by preparing the feasibility and operational requirements and procedures in year 2007.

NAFSO worked out with AHI soliciting JICA support. JICA conducted its own research and analysis thereafter and committed to support the renovation of 2 out of the 13 tanks identified needing repairs. In 2008 AHI intervened with the request of NAFSO and got JICA to fund the project. The amount of LKR 4.6 million [Around 46,000 USD] was granted for the renovation of the two tanks. The tanks repaired were the Mahakarambawewa tank and the Kadawalawewa tank.

***Annex2: Descriptions of the 13 tanks surveyed through JICA/AHI support in 2008.***

### **The two (2) tanks chosen out of 13 tanks**

The Mahakarambawa tank is at Karuwalagaswewa GN division at Tabbowa.



**Fig. No. 14: Renovated Mahakarambawa and Kadawalawewa tanks which were supported through Japanese Embassy grants**

The Kadawalawewa tank is situated at Saliya Agricultural Services division area which belongs to Madagama GN division.



Meanwhile, the Farmer's organization was given a training on techniques of tank project maintenance by main engineer and about how to do the other activities on tank operation and management by Mr. Priyankara Costa the coordinator of PIADS. Other activities in this joint undertaking were:

- Discussions and signing of contract between NAFSO and the farmer's organization
- Activation of the project by the farmer's organization by the hiring and paying of workers from farmers organization,
- Writing down policies and procedures according to the policies of the government
- Organizing the Steering Committee composed of following sectors and officials:

### **From Government Sector**

- Divisional authority or agriculture production assistant
- Samurdhi Development authority
- Grama Niladhari

### **From Peoples' Representatives**

- Board members of farmer organization
- President of the VDC
- President of the fishers organization and members

### **From Political Authority**

- Regional council members

### **Non Government Organizations**

- Members of Praja Shakthi Foundation
- Program coordinator and members that represent NAFSO

### **Technical Sector**

- Mr. Sriyantha Warnakulasooriya, NAFSO appointed engineer for technical assistance for the work, upon the request of Japanese Embassy
- The assistant engineer of Agrarian Services Centre at Puttlam District Office

The Steering Committee met every week or more, if needed, to discuss, evaluate and monitor and to make it sustainable. Besides the government policies, they discussed and agreed on basic project operational policies, to wit:

1. Work according to agreement.
2. Transparency of handling finance
3. NAFSO handed over the estimate to the farmers' organization and to make the committee aware of the financial situation.
4. Purchase only good qualities of materials for the project.
5. Project engineer and Coordinator of NAFSO should be present in all the special activities of project.
6. Nothing should be done with the decision of one person.
7. Most of the labor work should be done by the farmers' organization.



**Fig. No. 15: Kadawalawewa and Mahakarambawa tanks undergoing construction**

With these agreements, the renovation of the two tanks started. Mahakarambawa tank was done in the first six months of 2009 and Kadawala tank in the other six months. It was monitored by government sector, the Japanese Embassy and NAFSO. People gave their full cooperation and there were other people who tried to make use of the resources in the name of others. In the Kadawala tank, they found a cave in a rock where water leaked out, so and they had to spend 3 lakhs of rupees more for the renovation.

In 2009 October 23<sup>rd</sup>, these tanks were handed over to the people by the representatives of Japanese Embassy, Convener of NAFSO and the Secretary of the Puttlam District.





**Fig. No.16: Renovated tanks of Karambawa and Kadawalawewa are inaugurated with the participation of Japanese Embassy diplomats, District Secretary, Puttalam District Secretariat, NAFSO convener and Farmers and Fisher leaders**

## Lessons Learnt from the Program

More dedication is involved to be sincere, selfless, responsible, and protect common things from down to top and top to down. We have to start somewhere and it is important for our country in future.

Farmers' societies must take responsibilities and make proper plans to start building fund for themselves and get the cooperation of the people including formulating proper rules and regulations.

To protect the environment, organic farming must be followed. To implement this, the farmers' societies integrated with Praja Shakthi Foundation in Karuwalagaswewa division to start a sustainable farming industry together with other NGOs pursuing sustainable development.

There were other major discoveries during the program implementation:

- Farmer's organization officers were unable to get support of the people because no regular meetings were held. Likewise, there were no proper rules and regulations like on, contributions of membership fees in program, poor attendance community meetings.

- The wrong attitudes of people, such as on projects and dependency on foreign funds and NGOs for their benefits, the unclear use of funds, and no proper discussion about sustainable development distract people from deeper causes of poverty that should be addressed even through community-based solutions.
- Hiring the villagers to render labor for the project increased their incomes; the downside was the weakening of the value for volunteerism.
- There need to be rules/check and balance, too, on the government officials, some of whom had tried to take profit for themselves,
- Some of the farmer leaders, too, thought that they could profit from this project personally and their cooperation became less.

## 11. Other AHI-supported Activities to Build up PPIADS

AHI supported the PPIADS in many ways, not in replicating the PIADS that NAFSO/TP learned, but in transforming its learning into the Sri Lankan context. These forms of support were instrumental in moving forward the PPIADS through communication and capacity building and evolving on its own.

### 11.1 Study Tours

AHI supported with two training programs other than financial assistance to the program.

1. First background was laid for the PIADS program by the ILDC trainers. This started in Sri Lanka, in turn, with awareness raised by presenting and sharing of experiences and agreement by the parties involved.
2. The participant of the international workshop, NGO representatives, civil society, group leaders and divisional administrative authorities together discussed about the integrated concept.

#### a) Study Tour 1: July 1-8, 2001 at Irosin, Sorsogon in Philippines



**Fig. No.17: PPIADS representatives of Karuwalagaswewa at a session in the Irosin Study tour**

A seed was planted at Karuwalagaswewa from the training in Japan about the PIADS process. We had a study tour in Philippines to learn how to get together all stakeholders, such as state sector, government officials, NGOs, religious leaders, and people's organizations and to get practical experience about PIADS. Participants of the tour included three (3) from PO, two (2) from NGO, three (3) from Government authority including Minister D.M. Dasanayake, Mr. Sarath Ranathunga, a Provincial council member and Mr. K.B. Abeysinghe, regional council member.

Attention was given to the following in the study tour:

- ❖ How the integrated effort was done in Irosin
- ❖ Strategies that were used to bring all the sectors together (GO, NGO, PO and businessmen)
- ❖ How they manage the resources in this activity
- ❖ How the village development committee made planning to bottom up,
- ❖ How they collect data and maintain them,
- ❖ The threats and challenges people faced, when building up participatory development activities,

#### **Box No. 6:**

*"I got the chance of joining in the 10 days tour to the municipality of Irosin in Philippines where integrated strategy was implemented and experience a new entry to the development process. There I got good experiences mainly, how to get the cooperation of the people and the cooperation of the different sectors, how to collect the data of the people and how to implement them when we want to develop a village.*

***Mr. K. B. Abesingha, Regional Councilor – Regional Council  
-Karuwalagaswewa***

#### **b) Study Tour 2: April 25 - May 02, 2006 at Davao City in Philippines (International Workshop on Participatory Area Development)**

Karuwalagaswewa Divisional Secretary Mr. Chandrasiri Bandara, Mr. Priyankara Costa of NAFSO and Mr. Somathilaka, VDC leader, participated in the workshop.

#### **Experience gained through the study tour at Davao City**

Below stated are insights expressed by two people from the study tour as they reflected on their own PPIADS.

As the main study from the study tour, we learned how they started the collaboration between PO, GO, NGO in New Corella council.

“People’s participatory action came around in different forms and implemented as PIADS for many years. PPIADS could be taken as an example of an activity process which is understood by a group of people. Very simple and important factor in Karuwalagaswewa was that people were aware that the planning and decision making, through a people’s council, should flow from down to top and be participatory. For a long time people were complacent and meek. But it is not so anymore in Karuwalagaswewa. Today the people are awake and see how it should be in governance and to know the present resources that they can utilize for their development”.

**Box No.7**

*At the workshop in Philippines I learned that they are doing much well than what we do in Sri Lanka. Using their own participatory methodology, village development was done with good village leadership. I saw in Philippines that they spend what they have earned income from the same area for their future development activities; they plan with a broader vision.*

***Mr. Somathilake, VDC Leader***

## **11.2 AHI Contribution of Human Resource Development for PPIADS**

### **A) International Leadership Development Course**

- In 1988 – Sr. Victorine Rodrigo
- In 1995 – Mr. Priyankara Costa
- In 1999 – Mr. Herman Kumara
- In 2002 – Mrs. Geetha Lakmini
- In 2006 – Mr. Ashoka Karunaratna
- In 2010- Mr. Anthony Jesudasan
- In 2013- Mr. Madhuka Sampath

### **B) International Workshop**

- In 2000 – Workshop in Sorsogon, Philippines
- In 2001 – Workshop in Gaibanda, Bangladesh
- In 2003 – Workshop in Karnataka, India
- In 2006 – Workshop in Davao City And New Corella, Philippines

The international workshops helped them to study, how the participatory methodology was a good strategy to build awareness among people. They were able to learn more details of how NGO, GO and PO leaders collaborate with each other in implementing PIADS process, and came to know their strength and opportunities through comparing each other's activities.

Other than that, there were discussions on how to implement the PIDAS program and the changes that had to be done. Discussions between the AHI coordinator and Sri Lankan partners continued online.

### **11.3 Training Programs supported through AHI to strengthen PPIADS Process Sending AHI alumni as resource persons**

Other than that to start the PIADS, there were two trainings sponsored by AHI to get resource persons from Philippines in 2000 and 2002. Dorothy Navarro came to Sri Lanka in the year 2000 for the initial training program. Dr. Eddie Dorotan and Ms. Florencia Dorotan came in 2002. Ms. Marian Ferreras, the 1999 ILDC participant who shared the experiences of PIADS of Irosin, visited in 2004 to be impressed on the PPIADS and joined the discussions/workshops of the three Sri Lankans who attended the International Workshop in Davao City in 2006.

### **11.4 Facilitation through the Coordinator from AHI**

#### **Ten years dedication of AHI for PPIADS Program**

In 1980, Asian Health Institute - Japan started as a NGO which gave a helping hand to Asian countries for their development.

Ms. Mayumi Yamazaki was the coordinator of Sri Lanka representing AHI Japan. Every year she came for the annual evaluation and there were special evaluations in 2006, 2008, and 2009. In all evaluations, the status and results of the implemented programs were assessed. With exchange of critical arguments, suggestions for the future were discussed and agreed on.

In 2010 there was a discussion to get AHI delegates to visit and know the experience of the renovated tanks and write a book on the 10 years experience of PPIADS program. However, this idea of compiling the experiences of PPIADS did not materialize until the AHI general secretary Ms. Kagumy Hayashi and new Sri Lanka coordinator Mr. Eichi Shibatha together with Ms. Ui Shiori visited Sri Lanka in March 2014. They met the NAFSO/TP staff and more and decided to support for compiling the experiences as a handbook.





**Fig. No. 18: AHI Sri Lanka Coordinator, Ms. Mayumi Yamazaki at evaluation sessions at Karuwalagaswewa**

**AHI's reflections and major challenges to NAFSO/TP regarding PPIADS program were:**

1. The program is a strategy which made the people stronger. All the implemented activities are a new experience to learn from for the future. All those who are the pioneers of this program and their great effort are very much appreciated.
2. We are proud to say, it started not with our effort, but two participants sharing of their experiences. It was a challenge that Sri Lankan participant was thinking to implement the PIADS program in his country with his colleagues. Philippine participant gave him the support, sending resource persons to Sri Lanka. AHI, then, took the challenging step to further support them.
3. **Present PPIADS is a new experience.** PPIADS has given opportunity to Government authorities and village level people to activate together. They had democratic and critical thinking in an environment that was presumed could not be changed. This alternative thinking and the succeeding activities, they did not use only for themselves but for the common good. They were able to make decisions together and have taken the responsibilities of resource (people, financial, material, environmental) management and to regulate, if necessary.
4. The PPIADS Forum/Society gave life to the People's Council [Jana Sabha] as a vision for the PPIADS. In the council, people from different sectors and status could come together to make decisions. This is a very strong act rather than people simply requesting something from the government or non-government organizations. It has been a good opportunity that Karuwalagaswewa PPIADS society has become a strong participatory governance mechanism and enabler.

## 12. Surveys and Publications

### 12.1 The Minimum Basic Needs survey

In August 2001, Dangaswewa and Aluthgama GN divisions were selected as models for implement PPIADS. An action oriented, Minimum Basic Needs surveys were conducted as the base of the implementation of the program.

#### **The objectives of the survey:**

The objective of the survey was to empower the community to achieve the well being of the people, while achieving skill development and resource management through community organization and animation. This survey was done with the knowledge gained from study tour of the Karuwalagaswewa PPIADS pioneers in 2001. The MBN survey was conducted at Aluthgama and Dangaswewa GN divisions at Karuwalagaswewa DS division in Anamaduwa electorate at Puttlam district. The survey was conducted among 253 families in Aluthgama GN division and 154 families in Dangaswewa GN division.

#### **The methodology of the MBN Survey:**

- Raised the awareness of the communities,
- Selected active members from the community to conduct the survey,
- Trained 14 members as survey team,
- Prepared Minimum Basic Needs Survey form,
- Pre-tested the forms with 10 families from the community and finalize the form after,
- Conducted interviews and secondary data collection for information gathering,
- Conducted PRA, Rural Mapping and self- observation methods,
- Prepared check list for the MBN indicators and come with the preparation of the survey form,
- Validated findings with the respondents of the surveys and other data from the community members,
- Prepared the summary, prepare the final report and submit to the policy makers,

- Conducted participatory and multi-sectoral Planning based on the survey results and came up with the Area Development Plan on the identified needs of the people,
- Assessed and planned PPIADS Forum activities,

### **Summary of information gathered:**

- Family planning and distribution of people based on sex[Male/Female]
- Voters list and migrants to the area
- Livelihoods of the people
- Land distribution of the area
- Health and nutrition
- Source of drinking water facilities
- House and land
- Level of education
- Sanitary facilities
- Social and economic issues
- Natural disasters
- Natural resources of the area
- Community- based organizations existing in the area

## **12.2 Publication of the PPIADS process**

In 2010 there was a discussion to get AHI delegates to visit and know the experience of the renovated tanks. The book on the 10 - year experience of PPIADS program to launch during the visit of AHI delegates. Title of the publication is PPIADS Handbook on Localization vs Globalization.





Fig. No. 19: First PPIADS Sinhala Book, MBN Survey report, PPIADS English Book, Thirasara issue, Health Hand out [Left to Right]

### **13. What we gained from this great effort? : The reflections of NAFSO/TP team on the PPIADS experience**

#### **The capacity of people's organization**

PPIADS is a test made through the effort of people's participatory development strategy governed by the divisional secretariat. PPIADS experience showed us that it should be well prepared and has many sides to it. In that there should be a capacity building of people's movement.

There should be two important capacities.

One is taking decisions together, and the other is resource management being done together.

People's strengthening activity is to facilitate knowing each other's needs and to respond all together as a group saying "All these are our problems".

It is important to know and to give first place to plan all the activities as a group. A good leader will recognize the common good of every one. Farmers learned from the challenges they faced from the renovation of tanks. Farmers had less knowledge about the resource management but with the challenges they face they had learned a lot, because they were there from beginning to the end. They accumulated important knowledge about the project and they were responsible. With this experience, the farmers' society became creative and they were proud as they were united and faced the challenges strongly. NAFSO and TP as the facilitators still have to educate them and reinforce their initial strength. The main capacity that should be built up is to be a participatory governing body at the grassroots level.

As there was a commitment from the GO side, there was a substantial progress being made from the external appearances of the officials, delivering services to the people, participation of community members on the planning the programs up to the monitor and recommendations to pay the completed work by the undertakers were improved. So, at the Puttlam district competition among the DS divisions on many aspects, the Karuwalagaswewa DS division became the champions and best service delivering DS office in the Puttlam District.

Mr. Lusena, the successor of Mr. Bandara as the DS secretary at that time received the award in the final competition held at Chilaw.

## **The end**

We understand the threats and influences that people face because of the globalization. Still there is a space for the civil society to discuss and serve against bad influences or effects. So that still we have to give our service to common good of development field. AHI as a partner organization introduces the divisional governing activities. Those who participated showed their reality in the grass root level with new methods of learning and being creative. We as partners build up this participatory governing act searching the course and impact through analysis.

## 14.The Summary of the Activities of PPIADS Program

### First Stage

**1999 October to 2000 February**

#### **Introducing PIADS**

Year/Date	Activity/Milestone
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In the International Leadership Course conducted by AHI-Japan last 1999, Mr. Herman Kumara, as participant, learned of the PIADS applied by LIKAS-Philippines in program development, implementation and monitoring and evaluation.</li><li>• Mr. Herman Kumara shared the knowledge he gained with the network partner-members of NAFSO.</li><li>• “Many expressed this kind of activity is difficult process to implement. The Sanasili Padanama, which is a NAFSO partner in Karuwalagaswewa, took the challenge of doing PIADS in its area.</li></ul>
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trainers’ Pool members were made aware about the PIADS approach and process.</li><li>• Basic discussion between NAFSO and Trainers’ Pool was done in order to activate the initiative in Karuwalagaswewa. Strategies for “knowing, learning and doing PIADS” under country/area context were reviewed vis-à-vis the capacities of NAFSO, TP and the Sanasili Foundation.</li><li>• At the same time, basic and relevant data and information about Karuwalagaswewa were obtained and analyzed.</li><li>• The main plan to make PIADS known in Karuwalagaswewa and solicit supporters to realize a participatory development process was made.</li></ul>

## Second Stage

### 2000 February to 2002 September Learning-by-Doing PPIADS

Year/Date	Activity/Milestone
2000 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First awareness program/workshop “Introduction of Integrated Area Development approach in Collaboration of PO-NGO-GO at divisional secretariat level” was conducted, with participation of people’s representatives, Provincial Council authority, political leaders, community leaders of the area, religious leaders, and women representatives, other people’s representatives, and representatives of Non-Government Organizations on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2000.</li> <li>Minister D.M. Dassanayake, was the invited guest and the resource persons were Mr. Herman Kumara, Sr. Victorine Rodrigo from the Trainers’ Pool and Mr. E.A.W. Bandara of Sanasili Foundation.</li> <li>This initial integrated and multi-sectoral activity was the official starting point for the people’s participatory development process.</li> </ul>
2000 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dorothy Navoro, the resource person from LIKAS-Philippines came and gave additional insights on how PIADS was implemented in Philippine setting.</li> <li>The training-workshop Participatory Integrated Area Development Strategy was done together with representatives from AHI Japan, NAFSO and Trainers Pool.</li> </ul>
2001 July 1-8,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study Tour 1 at Irosin, Sorsogon in Philippines</li> <li>Minister D.M. Dissanayake, Provincial Councilor Mr. Sarath Ranathunge, Regional Council Chairs, Mr. Sarath Anura Kumara and Mr. M. Dayarathne, Regional Councilor Mr. K.B. Abeysinghe, Community Leaders Mr. Cletus Dabarera, Mr. Senanayake, NGO representatives of Mr. Herman Kumara, NAFSO and Mr. E.A.W. Bandara of Sanasili Foundation attended the study tour</li> </ul>
December, 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Election held and UNP got the power.</li> <li>The UPFA was defeated which initiated PPIADS at Karuwalagaswewa and reduced the support to the PPIADS process</li> </ul>

2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General election in December 2001; those who were the active members of governing regional council, belonging to the United People's Freedom Party, and oriented already on the PIADS, lost their positions.</li> <li>• After the election less cooperation from the regional councilors and state leaders and people's leaders who had good experience started phasing out slowly.</li> <li>• The MBN report was completed and formally turned over to people in the area.</li> <li>• Initial discussions with the parliamentary MP of the United National Party (UNP) which obtained the power in the general elections in the country.</li> </ul>
2002 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional council elections; campaign for free and just election was done.</li> <li>• With the new UNP governing authorities in the regional level, discussion with the chairperson of the regional council about the PIADS concept and getting their support was initiated.</li> </ul>
2002 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. R.I.B.R.B Rathnamalala assumed position as the new divisional Secretary.</li> <li>• New divisional secretary was made aware and enthusiastic about PPIADS by the community leaders, CBO leaders in the area and the PPIADS coordinator and agreed to support it.</li> </ul>
2002 July 20 – 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PPIADS Program was agreed to be done in the 26 Grama Niladhari areas.</li> <li>• To build up the PPIADS Society, North/ Western Provincial Councilor Mr. Sarath Ranathunga, together with Ms. Geetha Lakmini and Mr. Herman Kumara of NAFSO met the North Western Chief Secretary to discuss how to establish legal entity to PPIADS and make the rules and regulations for PPIADS Society.</li> <li>• The basic needs were recognized and suggestions were made by the PPIADS Coordinator in few GN divisions of Karuwalagaswewa.</li> <li>• The main responsibility was taken by government officers, with Plans done to create PPIADS and rural societies.</li> <li>• Getting the support of regional Council members and G.N. with the integration of the regional council chair person and the divisional Secretary.</li> </ul>

## Third Stage

2003 – 2005

### Reinforcing Learning-by-Doing PPIADS with Results

Year/Date	Activity / Milestone
2003 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Reached out to the rural people in the villages in order to make development plans. With the identified village leaders, government officers, NGOs, political and religious representatives, the facilitators of the PPIADS moved forward with building up the PPIADS integrated forum.</li></ul>
2003 February to May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mr. Priyankara Costa of NAFSO took over from Sanasili Foundation as the PPIADS Program Coordinator</li><li>Building the rural committees and strengthening the village development plans and validated and revised them</li><li>The data collection on GN division level -The MBN in some GN divisions.</li></ul>
2003 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The divisional development plan/Area Development Plan containing interventions for the 26 GN divisions, was finalized.</li><li>July 11: Launching of PPIADS Handbook-Sinhala version with the village development plans in the office of the Puttlam District Secretary. The event signaled the official start of the implementation of the ADP. The government sector and political leaders accepted it as their own.</li><li>Opening of the PPIADS Office at Karuwalagaswewa which shall also serve as Information Center.</li></ul>

2003 August to December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening the VDCs in the 26 GN divisions through continuous animation process of the PPIADS coordinator and also the divisional secretary of Karuwalagaswewa</li> <li>• In-service training of VDC leaders</li> <li>• Training to partner government officials</li> <li>• Conduct of PPIADS meeting once a month or once in two months</li> <li>• Training on primary health care to pre-school teachers</li> <li>• Conduct Annual evaluation</li> <li>• Training on human rights to VDC leaders and government officers.</li> </ul>
2004 January - February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organized Peace Committee in each GN area and established the regional council area as a peace zone</li> <li>• Advocated to all the parties in order to have Free and just election</li> <li>• Re-construction of water catchments area and promotion of sustainable environment</li> <li>• Building up NGOs unity which operating in the Karuwalagaswewa divisional area.</li> <li>• Formed media and communication system/committee</li> </ul>
2004 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring campaign of the general election and activated peace committees</li> </ul>
2004 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary Health Care programs implemented by regional Council and Provincial Health Office</li> <li>• Disaster management committee built at divisional level</li> <li>• Built up a committee to reduce conflict between man and elephant, through Praja Shakthi Development Foundation</li> <li>• Praja Shakthi cooperated directly to the project</li> <li>• Praja Shakthi and NGOs made aware about organic farming; started organic farming and re-start cultivation using traditional methods</li> </ul>



2004 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The initial ADP was reviewed and weaknesses were re-evaluated. It was re-formulated considering the management of the weaknesses and re-organizing the actions.</li> <li>Forwarded the ADP plans accordingly to the prominent officials, ministries and divisional council</li> </ul>
2004 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All sectors joined hands for the “Clean Village Project” of the DS secretariat.</li> </ul>
2004 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collected dry rations from the Karuwalagaswewa people and provided dry rations for tsunami - affected people in partnership with the Praja Shakthi Foundation</li> <li>Karuwalagaswewa people volunteered and mediated to assist to the affected people.</li> </ul>

#### **Fourth Stage**

#### **2005 -2008 Sustaining PPIADS**

<b>Year/Date</b>	<b>Activity/Milestone</b>
2005 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The divisional secretary of Karuwalagaswewa Mr. R.I.B.R.B Rathnamalala was transferred to Galgamuwa and Mr. L.J.M.G.Chandrasiri Bandara assumed duties at Karuwalagaswewa.</li> </ul>
2005 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sectoral authorities of the divisional secretariat assessed and re-organized the VDCs with the support of DS officials.</li> </ul>
2005 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The unity of NGOs was made stronger with their organization into the NGO Forum.</li> </ul>
2005 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awareness raising on traditional ways of cultivating and the organic methods</li> <li>Management committees are organized for the Thabbowa reservoir.</li> </ul>
2005 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Mayumi Yamazaki came to monitor and assess the program.</li> </ul>

2005 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth committees were formed and strengthened the youth movement.</li> <li>Unity of Organic farmers were built through uniting all Seed producers and those engaged in organic farming.</li> </ul>
2005 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peace committee was re-organized for a free and fair election.</li> <li>Training on organic farming was conducted.</li> <li>Conducted P.R.A. Training to government officers</li> </ul>
2005 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of “ Mahinda Chinthana” program in the Karuwalagaswewa area.</li> <li>The side roads were re-constructed by “Maga Nauma” Program with the people’s participation.</li> <li>Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksha became the President of the country.</li> </ul>
2006, 22-25 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training on PPIADS to Government officers and NGOs</li> </ul>
2006 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VDCs oriented on the provincial election and coming to an agreement with the political leaders to implement PPIADS once they get elected. Also, agreement among people was solicited to support who are committed to implement PPIADS once elected.</li> <li>The special volume of “Thirasara” was issued with the views of the candidates who committed and highlighted their contributions to PPIADS process.</li> <li>Launched the election monitoring campaign in Karuwalagaswewa area</li> </ul>
2006 April-May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attendance to the AHI International Workshop in Davao City, Philippines: Divisional secretary of Karuwalagaswewa Mr. L.J.M.G. Chandrasiri Bandara, Mr. Priyankara Costa and Mr. Somathilaka, VDC the leader.</li> <li>Strengthened the Committee of the Human Elephant Coexistence program in Karuwalagaswewa while helping them to meet regular basis, send letters to Wildlife Minister and bringing the Wildlife Director to meet people and answer to people. And also to get the allocation of funds to construct electricity fence to protect people.</li> </ul>

2006 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized and trained team of volunteers to collect and encode data on Karuwalagaswewa</li> <li>Stored the data in computers in the divisional secretariat office</li> </ul>
2006 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training sessions for skill development and educational program for school children were started.</li> </ul>
2006 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All the VDCs were converted into “Jana Saba” for the “Mahinda Chinthana” plan.</li> <li>By the request of the government the amendment of the development plan of 2003 – 2007 was done and in 2007 a special development plan was prepared.</li> <li>Plan was forwarded to the divisional secretary to redraft a plan for the period of 2007-2009</li> <li>The NGO representation in the Jana Sabha was eliminated and the power to convene the Jana Sabha was delegated to the Grama Niladari[GN]</li> </ul>
2006 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start of home gardening</li> <li>Ms. Mayumi Yamazaki evaluated the PIADS program.</li> </ul>
2007 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Main problems of PPIADS program were prioritized: Destruction of the jungle, mining of sand, building tourist resorts in water catchments areas, conflict of man and elephant.</li> <li>Strengthening the village leaders to stop the political hand on Jana Sabha through educating the community leadership to prepare criteria of selection for the election of the representatives in the Jana Sabha</li> </ul>
2007 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted Organic farming and sustainable agriculture Training once a month through Blue Green gardening to village group</li> <li>Building an organic farming union and strengthening them through monthly meeting and educating the farmer groups with sustainable agriculture experts</li> </ul>

2007 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide people's support to "Gama Naguma" [Building Villages], strengthened the monitoring process and peoples participation</li> <li>• Strengthen the pressure groups through Praja Sakthi Foundation while meeting them regular basis</li> <li>• Started Integrated hygienic program at Saliyawewa with the leadership of the M.O.H. office and regional council</li> </ul>
2007 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking the example of integrated program re- build and integrate the societies at Angamuwa fishing village and start educating and re-managing the tanks with the help of NAFSO, Praja Shakthi, village leaders and the drama group of Kurunagala Praja Sahayogitha Sansadaya.</li> </ul>
2007 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business training for women started and income-generating projects were referred to them.</li> <li>• Conduct awakening and Orientation programs on how to manage the market by the farmer groups.</li> </ul>
2007 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary health care groups and Jana Sabha leaders formed and trained on village basis.</li> <li>• Awareness raising programs for the people to win over the food crisis</li> </ul>
2008 January 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With Deep Sorrow, we report here, the only national level politician who supported to PPIADS at Karuwalagaswewa, Minister D.M. Dassanayake was assassinated at Thudella, Jaela while he was traveling to Parliament from Anamaduwa his residence.</li> </ul>
2008 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions about the people's rights to land initiated in VDC meetings</li> <li>• Ms. Mayumi Yamazaki visited to monitor PPIADS</li> <li>• Discussion initiated with JICA on survey on tanks at Karuwalagaswewa area</li> </ul>

2008 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified the tanks that needed repairs in Karuwalagaswewa division,</li> <li>• Gathered secondary data on 13 tanks</li> </ul>
2008 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducted survey on the tanks and prepared reports, with financial assistance of AHI Japan and JICA. A Japanese engineer conducted survey in those 13 tanks and came up with a report on the survey.</li> </ul>
2008 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Praja Shakthi Foundation opened up a stall for selling and promoting organic farming products at Palugassegama</li> </ul>
2008 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Out of 13 tanks, 5 tanks were selected and project was presented to Japanese embassy; two tanks were finally chosen to be renovated -Kadawalawewa and Mahakarambawewa</li> </ul>
2008 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of PPIADS implementation for 10 years</li> <li>• AHI project ended</li> <li>• Ms. Mayumi Yamazaki and Ms. Kagumi Hayashi participated in this evaluation.</li> <li>• A book was to be created with the experience.</li> </ul>

## Fifth Stage

### 2009 -2014 “Living and leaving PPIADS”

Year/Date	Activity/Milestone
2009 January – March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial support from the Japanese embassy for the re-construction of two tanks, Mahakabarawewa and Kadawalawewa, was granted</li> <li>NAFSO and Farmers Society signed an agreement for the re-construction of two tanks.</li> <li>Support for protection of water catchment areas through promotion of organic farming and home gardening was provided by Praja Shakthi Foundation.</li> </ul>
2009 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. A.M.C.M. Premasuriya, the new divisional secretary, was appointed to Karuwalagaswewa divisional secretariat.</li> <li>Discussion with the new divisional secretary about PPIADS program and the re-construction of tanks was conducted.</li> </ul>
2009 March -September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-construction of the two tanks done and completed</li> </ul>
2009 October to December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two tanks were “turned over” to the villagers/people by representatives of Japanese Embassy and Secretary of Puttlam district on October 23<sup>rd</sup></li> <li>Two representatives from AHI came to discuss about the future of the PPIADS program.</li> <li>NAFSO and Trainers Pool started writing the experience of PPIADS and producing a hand book.</li> </ul>
2010 January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Village leaders were continuously trained and guided through Praja Shakthi Foundation.</li> <li>Plans of Neela Haritha Garden [Blue-Green Garden] were re-created/revived.</li> <li>Discussions were made with farmers on start-up of organic farming and with fishing societies on management of renovated tank in Mahakarambawawewa.</li> <li>Farmers and fishers in the area were provided awareness raising sessions on local political issues and on globalization and its effects on farming and fishing livelihoods.</li> </ul>

2010 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Councilor Mr. T.M. Sumanasena presented a personal proposal at the regional council to reactivate PPIADS in regional council.</li> </ul>
2010 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implemented education programs to “develop” candidates and educate the community on what to advocate to candidates for the regional council election, on who will promote the PPIADS and improve the women’s participation.</li> </ul>
2010 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Coordinator of PPIADS discussed with the divisional secretary of Karuwalagaswewa about the NGO Forum or union of NGOs to reinforce integrated planning and delivery of services for the villages.</li> </ul>
2010 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Printing the hand book of experience of PPIADS in Sinhala</li> </ul>
2011-2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training programs were conducted on Sustainable agriculture, promotion of indigenous seeds, where Karuwalagaswewa groups participate.</li> <li>Thabbowa tank management practices were conducted with the help of the Fisheries Inspectors</li> <li>Karuwalagaswewa groups participated in other activities such as Tank management activities in Mhakarambawa, Thabbowa, Andarawewa</li> <li>Training programs and other sustainable agriculture promotion programs were carried out at Neela bamma blue- green garden.</li> <li>Climate Change and possible agricultural climate adaptations were documented among farmers in 4 divisions in Karuwalagaswewa</li> </ul>
2014 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Kagumi Hayashi, Ms. Ui Shiori, Mr. Eichi Shibata of AHI met TP/NAFSO team and expressed the willingness to support to translate the PPIADS Sinhala Handbook to English.</li> <li>Sr. Victorine Rodrigo agreed to translate the book by June</li> </ul>
2014 March- August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NAFSO/TP mediated to prepare PPIADS Hand Book in English language <b>“Attempt of Integrated Area Development versus Globalization”</b></li> </ul>
2014 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Printing of the PPIADS book – English version <b>“Attempt of Integrated Area Development versus Globalization”</b></li> </ul>





## *The Revelations: Reflections on Our Experience and the Effects*

### **Contribution from LIKAS in Philippines**

If we were to trace back, the first seed of how we had come to adopt PIADS was planted from LIKAS in the Philippines. What we knew was that the PIADS was a consolidation of the learnings of LIKAS in its rural development programs.

In 1982, LIKAS started its community-based health program in Irosin, founded on the elements of primary health care. The elements were: E for education, L for livelihood, E for essential drugs, M for maternal and child care, E for environmental sanitation, N for nutrition, T for treatment of communicable diseases, and S for self-reliance. The vision of LIKAS then and up to now, is: To develop healthy persons responsible to themselves and others in building healthy Filipino Christian communities based on truth, freedom, justice, love, and participation in everything that affects themselves, their families, their communities and their country.

Organizing community volunteer health workers, health education and community mobilization on health and related concerns were LIKAS' key strategies. Utmost participation of the communities in the management of their health problems through their voluntary health workers and through health mobilizations was already a core principle then. Integration was also demonstrated by the partnership of the government health units, the private sector, the people's organizations, the NGOs, and health professionals associations. This was most exemplified in the anti-tuberculosis program which comprised of education, organizing the TB patients themselves into anti-TB clubs for awareness raising and value formation (as TB was a stigma then), and mobilizing health professionals for research into most practical but effective TB treatment protocols and regimen and for financial sourcing for purchase of medicines (as government anti-TB drugs then were limited).

In 1986, the farmer-cum-volunteer health worker-cum TB patient, expressed that they have to have some economic self-reliance to sustain their health promotion and maintain health by having healthy secure families. Thus, income generation options were conceptualized by them, leading to their community health financing rice mill, and later on to the coconut coir processing. Moreover, being farmers themselves, they had agrarian reform issues, which was why the volunteer health workers expanded into a farmers' organization (1987) and later on, into a provincial federation. The

volunteer community health workers remained intact and fully functional. In addition, involvement in environmental protection was added to their thematic integration, as Irosin was a target site for a geothermal plant in those years. In short, integration was undergoing diversification already. Incidentally, in the conceptualization of the rice mill and coconut coir social enterprise, the academe and business institutions were key actors. PIADS was not a onetime-developed strategy but an evolutionary strategy.

So it was with these people development experiences that Dr. Eddie Dorotan (one of LIKAS founders and former Executive Director) applied PIADS as a central leadership and management strategy when he became Mayor of Irosin in 1992. True to an area development approach of focusing for manageability, effectiveness and quick results, the strategy was applied in Irosin. PIADS was a good local governance opportunity then as it was the time of initial decentralization reforms (Local Government Act of 1991) and now for development advocates.

Thus, in 1999, it was this experience that Ms. Marian Ferreras, who had been a member of the LIKAS from her student days and one of the five (5) pioneering staff of LIKAS in Irosin and Sorsogon Province, shared at the ILDC.



**Fig. No. 20: Ms. Marian Ferreras of LIKAS, the person who shared Irosin experience at AHL, Japan, in her visit to PPIADS area in Sri Lanka in 2004**

NAFSO and TP, basing on their context but believing in the same participatory, integrated, and area development principles, localized the PIADS into PPIADS. In Sri Lanka, the NGOs organized and trained the government people and the community. NAFSO and TP did not enter into government work to roll out the strategy but facilitated their own development process of the same level. In Irosin, while NGO and PO were doing development activities, a crossover was made from NGO to the government for building pro-people champions from within government and inspired other local government units. The important factor of our program is that all the activists understood what PIADS is and made a PPIADS of our own.

***Ms. Marian Ferreras came to Karuwalagaswewa area in 2004 and shared her observations and notes in the following paragraphs:***

Prior to coming to Sri Lanka, a few questions were also brewing in my mind on how the SL PPIADS was faring and progressing. But I was not looking for how their PPIADS was developing vis-s-vis the PIADS nor from an expert or evaluator (which I am not) viewpoint. As a co-learner, I had wanted to see how with their experience, new “theories” would emerge or existing concepts would be confirmed which could be subsequently shared to others on a similar or future journey. I simply wanted to see what they were going through in engaging in a collaborative work and in motivating the government in leading a participatory planning and management process, as these were what I had initially understood to be Mr. Herman’s doubts on the process. While feeling inadequate, too, for lack of complete knowledge of their country’s political context, their relevant culture, and NAFSO’s overall development mindset, I share my practical analysis (more of questions, actually) from a core foundation of having the concept valued and subsequently localized and owned by them. I had believed that this was what would drive the people concerned on embracing collaboration and partnership amidst differences (except for irreconcilable ones).

As of 2004, I had seen for myself the following generally achieved and/or emerging:

- Rural leaders that include community leaders, government officials and religious leaders educated on the PIADS concept
- Village development committees formed and village development plans formulated
- Area development plan crafted
- PPIADS office put up
- Rural Resources Development Centers initiated
- Communication mechanism for advocacy and information set up
- Health volunteer teams organized and trained
- Peace building program initiated
- Pre-school teachers’ training conducted
- PPIADS forum established
- NGO collaboration with the government established

These could have been realized or were being realized from some of the following:

1. There were “heroes” or champions who could or had potentials to personify the values for inclusive people-centered development: (a) leaders such as Mr. Somathilake from Saliyawewa, Mr. Kapurubanda from Thewanuware and Mr. K. Dias from Saliyawewa B (b) Mrs. D.M. Anulawathie a woman of Ipaloogama who were trying to enhance their reproductive and nurturing roles into developing and producing “people’s participation” by attending meetings, trainings and mobilizations; (c) the youth Mr. Satath Kumara in Paleegama.
2. There were occasions to celebrate or opportunities to showcase small or quick wins. The organic farm of Mr. Sunil could have been a showcase on what something locally done, especially if done by many, can add up to substantial effects or triggers for the global situation. Even NAFSO’s annual or general assemblies, not only to show solidarity, were events to give out recognitions to invite more people to believe. The people must be supported to see and feel that they possess self-efficacy. Rituals or celebrations show cohesion, too.
3. A physical manifestation serves to reinforce desired behavior. Doing PPIADS as step to empowerment and community development was a desired outcome from the many and various orientations, trainings and for a. “Regular meetings” were physical interactions, with expected people “present” and decisions were “written” for the participants to see. This was a “show of force”. Another is the PPIADS office which indicated “coordination” and “exchange of information”.

NAFSO and TP were indeed on track. And these were just starters. Meaning, the struggle must continue, as society is composed of political, economic, socio-cultural environment, globally and locally, each facet developing and maturing differently. This requires that all angles at different times/stages must be timely assessed, concerns acted upon immediately but strategically, and orchestration carefully planned and implemented. Having people with the right attitude need to be discovered, enabled and nurtured, as deep seated behaviors take even more than one lifetime to untangle and change.

NAFSO and the TP, on their part, share their assessment of the PPIADS as a localized development strategy realized jointly by the government people, the NGOs and the local people of Karuwalagaswewa.

## Introducing the Integrated Development Process-Program

The Convener of the NAFSO during the study of this strategy at the AHI in Japan expressed that these sort of combined activities are difficult to be effective in Sri Lanka. But later, Parliament Minister D.M. Dasanayake of Puttalam District together with the President of the Sanasili Foundation intervened to discuss this matter and as a result, this program was started at Karuwalagaswewa. All the needed help was given to make it effective.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2000, at the secretariat auditorium, Minister D.M Dasanayake proclaimed during his Introduction that this program, a partnership of GO, NGO and PO, was as one of his programs and all must cooperate with him. At the beginning, though, the provincial council and the secretariat office showed lack of interest in it. To promote it, different activities were started which resulted in discussions among the people, government officials and provincial council authorities. The discussions were open spaces that provided the ground for ideas to be understood, appreciated and take hold of people's motivations.

The deciding moment arose in March 2002 when the newly elected members of the regional council, political authorities, and the new divisional Secretary, made this program as their own. By this time, even the rural people were aware of the Participatory Interpreted Area Development Strategy and local participation increased. For this, the dedication and cooperation of the former and present coordinators was a great help.

### Insights from introducing the PPIADS concept:

- With persistent guidance intended to bring about a desired level of understanding, the political authorities can decide to bring about more effective development results.
- On the other hand, exchanges/fora to make people aware that the government authorities' leadership for such progressive projects can be fruitful and is one of their responsibilities in their work and not merely to earn income from government job.
- The importance of government officers to be aware and promote the value of having people's leadership for truly progressive development projects.
- It is also important for the NGOs to have the openness and ability to be one with the PPIADS activities and coordinate with the government.

Even the local people perceived that in the year 2000, the Karuwalagaswewa division did not have a good local situation. They expressed that this was due to political issues dominant at that time which caused people to be divided and did not provide opportunity for them to speak up likewise. There were issues where they had disagreements that led to absence of democracy in the surroundings. But apart from this, NAFSO/TP noted that:

- People had no idea of a people-centered nor of participatory development.
- The divisional secretariat was not exposed to alternative ideas/knowledge and information that could motivate them to bring about or roll out progress.
- There were not enough motivated, trustworthy or influential people who could gather together for the common good
- People in Karuwalagaswewa area lacked or had least knowledge or information on available government services and how they could plan for their own needs.
- The prevailing environment was that though there were some NGOs that were working in the area, they were doing programs/projects/activities independently and not in coordination or harmonized among themselves or with government programs.

But, with the introduction of the PIADS concept, the people (the villagers, the NGOs, the GOs, the political authorities) were made aware of possibilities and became inspired. They were able to converge, know of one another's aspirations and development programs, and finally, make and implement their own Divisional development plan.

### **The Village Development Committee [VDC]**

The main strategy of implementing the integrated development process was to form and strengthen village development committees. Through these village development committees, the community residents were able to recognize their own needs, with facilitation and participation, too, of the other stakeholders (NGOs, GOs, etc), rank these needs by importance and urgency, list and evaluate suggestions/actions for the area's development based on their agreed definition and indicators of development, and, distribute the tasks and responsibilities among themselves. Through the VDCs, participation of all stakeholders, big or small, was ensured; cooperation was solicited and committed; periodical meetings were conducted; projects were implemented; and, village leaders were trained and formed through learn-by-doing, to name some of the key results.

It is important to mention, too, that the NAFSO/TP facilitated the building up of the VDCs by developing, jointly with them, levels and indicators of VDC formation. They were assessed and ranked into Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 stage of organization and strength.

NAFSO/TP observed that the people were motivated to study and to undergo this development process voluntarily. Positive results were obtained by giving people the leadership, assess their accomplishments and results of their activities, and report them to the divisional secretariat.

### **Making Area Development Plan [ADP]-(2003 - 2007)**

After a series of baseline data collection and analysis and consultations of the village development committee with the people, village development committee started to make development plan for the people. By the end of the year 2002 the combined development plan was able to spread on all 26 G.S. areas in that province with the cooperation of all the GOs and NGOs. It was marked as a historical event as at that period the regional council, divisional secretariat, political authorities and NGOs integrated with each other and people's organizations at Karuwalagaswewa division. In this development plan first priority was the building awareness among people and the second one was to supply water to the people who in dry zone. All the 26 GN divisions in the Karuwalagaswewa DS division managed to fulfill this plan.

#### **By this:**

- The leadership of the rural sector was strengthened.
- The enthusiasm of the people was increased and the cooperation of the people was going higher in the development activities.
- In the development plan people's needs were given priority than forcing it from top to bottom.
- People were able to express their ideas and make decisions with the political authority and NGOs.

It is clear that leadership was gain to the people due to this program. But effort taken to legalize this program is a failure. One provincial council member brought about a special suggestion to the chief secretary of the North Western Province to legalize this process, but it was also a failure. We have to say it was not due to the lack of interest of the chief secretary, but also lack of the other responsible persons involve



in this process. But today the rural committees by the name of “Jana Saba” implement this program without the participation of the NGOs. The GS and the regional council officials are given the responsibility to bring the people’s societies together as NGOs are not there. So the question arises as to whether in process of caring out ‘Mahinda Chinthana’ project isn’t the NGO responsible or not. We have to raise this question asking whether they could implement this Jana Saba program without NGO, as NGO has been promoting this by organizing and activating people at Karuwalagaswewa and making the village committees to plan their development strategies and implement them.

## **Building up Rural Information Center**

Mr. Cletus Dabarera who had an experience about PIADS at Irosin in Philippines in 2001 says that “Rural Information Center strengthens the public with true information”. So that to start this information center a survey was done at Dangaswawa and Aluthgama Grama Seva divisions on basic needs of people. But it was not a success due to many reasons. But in the year 2002 the divisional secretariat intervened and set out a plan that people may get regular service where the GN, Agriculture extension and production assistance officer and Samurdhi officer were made to perform their duties in one center. There by the people got a good service and was very fruitful. People getting true and correct information was the result of this plan. These three officers were located in 3 different places and the villages had to travel all around the village to find each one of them. And also, it was not clear when and where they meet and get the services to the community in the GN division. This was one of the important facility people got through this practice.

## **Regional Council and Political Authorities Intermediating in Integrated Participatory Development Strategy**

It is a fact that powerful political personnel determine all the development work in an area. Though at the start the development process was a good intervention of political background, it was not enough to awaken the government officers who were sleeping. Still there were some officers who were well-wishers and really wanted the people to be powerful, and it is only after their efforts that the plan was giving results and not till then.

In 2002, the DS, who worked for the betterment of the people, together with the chairperson of the regional council and his team started the activities strongly to help to set the background to the development project among the people. The most



important fact was that the divisional secretary and his team were themselves motivated in making development process a success specifically in a rural area such as Karuwalagaswewa. The main conviction as far as we realized is that their understanding the role of GO official in the process of integrated area development is the prime. Second, the poverty situation and amount of resources that could be channeled through the divisional secretariat officials and other services provided through line ministries are the major areas of motivation. Those motivated DS secretariat staff to get engaged by:

- Building up committees for rural people
- Motivating the people for skill development and strengthening them
- Collecting data in order to plan the development project in the rural sector
- Active participation in development activities, intervene to make people and the government officers aware of this sort of project.
- Appreciating because this work is something extra apart from their duties.
- The most important fact is that these are made to activate with the collaboration of GOs, NGOs and POs.

### **By this, we learned:**

- Building up committees of rural people helped level the playing field in the political arena. It was important that the people, all stakeholders/players for that matter, were continuously motivated and strengthened with skills development and regular dialogues.
- Clarity of plans that were based on factual and accurate data and from diligent multi-stakeholder and participatory analysis was important for any development project with and for the rural sector.
- Direct and consistent active participation in planning and development activities made the people and the government officers aware of and appreciate this sort of program.
- It was helpful that the government workers did not perceive the process as something extra and apart from their duties.
- The most important fact was that an area development process was activated with the collaboration of GOs, NGOs and POs, with a vision that globalization shall be challenged with a local collaborative action

It was a very critical action that the development process which started in 2002 was endorsed to the next officer by the former officer of the government before transferring.

**Box No:8**

*"In the year 2005 I assumed my duties as provincial secretary at the Karuwaagaswawa province. As soon as I assume duties at the office table I saw a letter of Mr. Rathnamalala, my predecessor of the divisional secretariat. In that it was mention about the PPIADS program that was implemented at Karuwalagaswawa and the integrated work plan. As I understood that there has been some activities going on in the area, I thought that I should develop the program further".*

**Mr. Chandrasiri Bandara, Former Divisional Secretary,  
Karuwalagaswewa & Present Chief Secretary of North Central  
Province, Provincial Council.**

There was an environment created at Karuwalagaswewa divisional secretariat area to continue this development strategy and it was developing. But in 2010, NAFSO and TP reflected on how to move it further with political support and be mainstreamed in the overall political and social system, as elections were forthcoming. But one question was foremost on our mind if this was to be considered - "Did we share the same sentiment with the people and with the political authorities and government officers?" We asked this because we perceived that if PPIADS was making a significantly palpable effect on the lives of the village people and proving to the political and government people that PPIADS was the "it" in people-centered development, then, maybe they would have taken more and bigger steps, even leaps, to institutionalize it? NAFSO and TP are just the facilitators to this option and attempt that was opened to them.

But creating people's organization "Jana Sabha" and knowing the effect occurred socially and politically does not say that we should look down Mahinda Chinthana Project or condemn it. "This is not to undermine, though, the Jana Sabha and the Mahinda Chinthana project of the government. "Marrying" the Jana Sabha and the VDCs was prepared for through "Mahinda Chinthana" and "Mahinda Chinthana Way Forward," both are the election manifestos of the present government during 2005-2010 and also 2010 till today, but the weakness of each may not have been properly and timely addressed as the situation of the country grew more critical and complex with the government leadership, post-war situation and weakening good governance possibilities.

## The role of NGOs in the Integrated Development strategy

It is the NGO that started the grown Integrated Development strategy in the division of Karuwalagaswewa. The former Divisional Secretary Mr. Rathnamalala was the main witness of the improved integration by and of PPIADS for the last 10 years.

### Box No: 9

*“The Jana Sabha has been built on the matters we forwarded about the Integrated Development Strategy and the Area development plan to the former president Chandrika Bandaranayake Kumarathunge, and the government leaders”.*

**Mr. R.I.B.R.B.Rathnamalala, retired divisional secretary of Karuwalagaswewa**

Therefore the present Jana Sabha has been started to be spread with the concept with the integrated development strategy which start year 2000. One cannot stop the humble pride of the NAFSO about their role in building up the foundation and about the hand they gave to the development project they started in the past.

- Building the leadership in the divisional area,
- Participating people as equals in decision making,
- Involving the people to the development activities which started from the bottom,
- The needs of the people are given the first place in the development process and planed to fulfill them accordingly.
- Obtaining the services of government offices with funding from government for the need of the people

All those were happened because of the intervention of the NAFSO and its partner organization at Karuwalagaswewa.

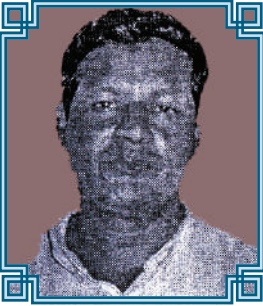
Just the same the regional political leaders became aware of the importance and merits of the integrated development strategy and were starting to be active in the common development plan. This was won by long discussion and active and consistent attendance. The process was very meaningful to the village people, for they were made important, their voices were heard, and they were provided strong leadership capacities through those activities

The strength of the process, likewise, was grounded in organizing the village people to feel the need for development, to claim their rights to development, to have their basic human rights respected, promoted and fulfilled. It was instrumental that they were made aware of the values of this project for this, amidst the situation that they were unorganized. The people were made aware that they cannot be further silenced and lose the chances offered by PPIADS, an opportunity in itself, for opening up themselves to be brave to attempt.

Sadly, though, the chances they had to realize the needs of the rural communities are now vanishing in the operationalisation of the Jana Sabha, with the people unable to protest and not having a say again.

***“We created history through PPIADS IN Karuwalagaswewa”:  
People’s testimonies for the success of their own work***

**Mr. O.A.Sunil - Grama Niladhari**



As my village is Thabbowa at Karuwalagaswewa, I felt the need that Anamaduwa electorate needed to be developed because there was no response for our seat since independence. Instead of it, only terrorist’s activities and rude political activities were prevailing in our area. Many faced political revenges while we were discussing the matters over among us. We met Mr. Bandara of the “Sanasili” foundation and Mr. Herman Kumara of National Fisheries Solidarity Movement [NAFSO]. As they explained about PPIADS program, I saw that all should join their hands together and I discussed the matter with the late Minister D.M.Dasanayaka. As we discussed about this program with him, he accepted it willingly. As a start we began trying it in Karuwalagaswewa. That’s how PPIADS was activated here.

We first discussed with the people whom we knew and then went through the officers of the divisional secretariat and started the program. After the awareness they were very enthusiastic. Among them were teachers, religious leaders and village leaders who build up trust about it. Though all did not participate there were some enthusiasms among people. Government officers such as divisional secretary Mr. Rathnamalala and chairperson of the regional council too joined in to it.

People came to know about village development project and how to plan them and organize them. They exchange the information about how much of money they have got, who has given them and how to spend that amount. There was good animation and people’s participation. They printed a leaflet and distributed the information and people build up more relationship, but this situation became different by 2008.

As the divisional secretary transferred the people’s activities reduced. By today the activities and development projects are not clear enough. Acts of bribery and fraud were expanding. This was not a good situation and only few people got the profit from development projects. Jana Sabha has become not practical and it has become foundation for the contractors of the regional councilors. As an example, newly made roads were broken very soon and people were voiceless about these matters.

There should be an open discussion with all the leaders of this area and we must change this situation soon. We must have a discussion with Mr. Priyankara Jayarathna who has taken up the Anamaduwa electorate and keep some hopes on him. We should take the leadership and discuss about the PPIADS program with him and start to be creative again.

### **Mr. Cletus Dabarera - Rural Leader, 17th Mile post, Aluthgama**



In the year 2000 the PPIADS was introduced by National Fisheries Solidarity Movement. We understood that it was a good way to develop our villages. And also I got the chance of experiencing the PIADS exposure in Philippine. I was impressed by the rural plans and rural information centers there.

But nationally and internationally I found that the financial & economical system from bottom to top was less. Therefore it was difficult to bring good results at the regional level. But as an individual at the training I had recognized the resources that village development plans have mobilized in the village level. For an example, when the planning of the water project recognizing the problems and the threats we explained at the SWOT analysis. We were able to identify how to achieve our plans working through the resources at hand. Resource-wise, the government officers and political authorities, who participated in the planning activity, informed us of available funds that can be accessed.

We were able to win 5.5 billion worth of water project. We have built 55 houses in the housing scheme. This PPIADS project is very good. Projects of this kind should be made statutory as I think.

The Jana Saba is somewhat similar. But people have a very little knowledge of it. At the same time the government should do lot more. The officers should make aware the importance of bottom to top method development, if so we can make vast development in the rural areas. We do hope, the participation of CSOs is equally important in this process as we experienced in VDCs.

## **Mr.N.M.Karunarathna - Regional Councilor,Neelabamma,Saliyawewa**



I'm a farmer in the Neelabamma business centre. I came to know about National Fisheries Solidarity Movement in the year 2000. We build up integrated society to have a sustainable development in the area. As Neela Bamma farmers we were facing difficulties of selling our products. As a result of our discussions with the businessmen of Chilaw and Wennappuwa we were able to set a fair in Saliyawewa junction. But we could do it only for a short period due to the

short comings of cultivators. After words one thing we talked about was to improve on cultivating using only organic manure.

Thirty five of us went to the "Gami Sewa Sevana" training centre in order to train our selves. Even today I do my cultivations using organic manure. At present I am working as a regional councilor. We see this PPIADS process as a project that is very close to people.

## **Ms. D.M.C. Jayathilaka - Retired Principal**



We started the PPIADS in Karuwalagaswewa and at the beginning we made the people know about peace. According to that we had a peace walk from Kala Oya Bridge to Aluthgama in order to have a free and just election.

Village people, religious leaders, political leaders of the province, government officers, and leaders of the voluntary organizations too joined in the peace walk.

We made the people wear a yellow band in their hands in order to ask for peace. After that we walked from village to village organizing them. Then we educated the villagers by several programs. The rural leaders were gathered together and we were given much training. But this did not go on for a long time due to the problems that arose in the renovation of tank at Dangaswewa. Anyhow, our Saliya-Aluthgama plan was a success. We made this plan while the divisional development plan was being activated.

We tried our best to build a method similar to the Gam Saba method. We participated in many training courses on that program. By the end of the year 2002 our participation was reducing .but many efforts were taken to build up. Now the Jana Saba is trying out to activate the same things we proposed with PPIADS.



## **Mr. D.M. Dharmarathna - Chairperson of the Karuwalagaswewa regional council**



I promised to activate 13 things in the region when I was elected in the year 2006. I must say that many things can be accomplished. Likewise when planning the project the Jana Saba activities should be increased and rural developments and cultivation should be given attention further more. All sectors must get together in the project, and when developing the province as I have promised, apart from giving contracts, the work will be done by the divisional secretariat itself. As I was an original member in the PIADS project I will work further more to develop it.

## **Mr. K.B. Abesinghe - Regional Councilor of Karuwalagaswewa regional Council**



PPIADS was started in the Karuwalagaswewa area in order to develop the undeveloped villagers. I got the chance of joining in the 10 days tour to the city of Irosin in Philippines and experience PIADS activities there. We learn in order to get their co-operation mainly the ways of tackling all the sectors when activating PIADS, how to get information's or details of people's needs and to socialize them etc.

We started PPIADS with the experiences we got. But now the whole country has accepted and they know about it well. Jana Saba too is a similar project. We should appreciate the step taken to renovate Mahakarambawa tank which was a great problem for the cultivators. Apart from that the National Fisheries Solidarity has taken steps forward by developing the people's projects. So I appreciate it as a person. I am happy as an original member of PPIADS.

## **Mr. W.A. Jayarathna - Regional media journalist, Saliyawewa Junction**



As far as I can remember I joined the integrated program in 2002. Then I was studying about it and thought that people of Karuwalagaswewa could be helped by PIADS.

So the media section was started and I became a partner in publishing the "Thirasara" news letter about the program. Through that the youth of that area got a chance to develop their capacity on media.



I remember how this “Thirasara” news letter solves the problem of battle between man and elephant which affected the environment and the cultivation. I am happy even through difficulties we could continue the news letter. Though we had a chance to do a good service to Karuwalagaswewa area through the program, we could not reach the expected desires due to fulfilling personal desires rather than common wish.

**Mr. R.I.B.R.B. Rathnamalala - Retired divisional secretary, Karuwalagaswewa**



I worked as a divisional secretary in many divisional secretariats and I am retired now. In 2002 I assumed my duties at Karuwalagaswewa division. That time I was searching for a new method of improving the rural sector. Then I came to know about the National Fisheries Solidarity Movement working together with PPIADS who worked together with GOs, NGOs and POs. I became aware that was an improved method of development process that will help the rural sector. But the help of the government was not up to the mark and it was very important to get the co-operation of the government. After a long discussion we started educational programs for village communities, to the leaders and government officers in the divisional secretariat area and the political authorities. As I said, the government sectors had no ability to carry these out.

With this we could motivate the public and make them enthusiastic. There by in every Grama Niladhari [GN] area we could build up rural committees With the integration of GN, Rural leaders, government authorities, NGOs and religious leaders build up the PPIADS program to plan and to monitor the development process. In this process, we were able to spread development plans to 26 GN areas. It was very important to that we had conducted a residential training because we had a platform to discuss matters together.

We were able to hand over the regional development plan for the years 2003 to 2007 to the divisional secretariat area in July 2003. With this PPIADS was introduced to the whole division.

With the analysis we had done to plan the area development program we came to know about 15 reasons to why people become poor. Mainly people are not aware what is happening to them. For this situation many government officials are responsible because they could manipulate the people as they wanted and they could take bribes

by exacting brokers' fees from the people whenever the people wanted some service from them by setting brokers. We felt that we should educate the public on this matter. The GOs and the brokers were angry about it, but we educate the people and made them alive. The Chairperson of the regional council and myself got the PPIADS to help us and to assess what we carried out through the services of State sector, through DS office as well as the regional council.

Another important thing we found when the different health issues, like malaria, diarrhea and dengue epidemics occur the involvement of the government officers. The government officers conduct awareness campaigns, but after doing this, they stop getting involved like for prevention.

Therefore we discussed this matter with the PPIADS and in the year 2004 we created another project called "Clean Village" and there were three steps.

As 1<sup>st</sup> – Home, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Home garden and 3<sup>rd</sup> – Village. We did lots of education programs on this and given the responsibilities to NGOs to conduct the sessions in the GN areas. After many activities people were able to increase their livelihood and health facilities

The Samurdhi project and Jathika Saviya project too helped us. Specially the late parliament minister D.M. Dassanayaka, the parliament MP Range Bandara helped financially for this project. To build the tank we needed six lakhs of rupees (4000 USD), but we got only 3.5 lakhs rupees so we were able to mobilize and got the participation of the people and it was a success.

The main thing we should understand is that is unable to upgrade the life style of people only by doing our duties. We must go to them, must know and understand their problems, and sacrifices. We should not think that duty and social services are two different things. There should be an honest pursuit do our service. Good concept and better management should be there and then we can help the people. As I see PIADS is a good foundation for these two matters.

### **Mr. T.M. Sumanasena - Former chairperson of the regional council, Saliyawewa**



I have heard about PPIADS but after I was appointed as the chairperson of the provincial council in 2002 I had a close contact with PPIADS and I engaged in the program. Through information and discussion we understood integration of PO, GO, and NGO and religious leaders could be a better way to build up development strategy. So we decided that we made it our own. We wanted all the hands to join

together for this purpose. PPIADS effected made some changes in management and divisional secretary and chairperson of regional council established good relationship in working together.

As we did not have a set plan before, we could not achieve our goals. All the sectors came together and made the village development plan. With this plan we were able to reach out to people very easily. The next chance was that we were able to recognize short term, midterm and long term plans to develop the livelihood of people. The roads were made with the participation of the people, spending less money. The conflict between man and elephant was solved by people's leadership, because the PPIADS had made the people's minds to stand up for their rights

We were doing well after coming together as in the PPIADS concept and found greater achievements. We could see to the needs of the people and get the help of the political leaders to pay attention to them. Though it became a challenge to us our work was made easy. Some ministers were against us and they thought that we do this to be popular. More people came to the regional council office and we had lots of work. Since the PPIADS process provided an opportunity for the GOs, NGOs and POs to have a common platform for dialogue especially on people's problems, decisions to address needs and make and execute action plans were easily done.

These activities were mostly done by the community leaders, those that were built in every area. The participation of the people was not the same. But in common activities the voluntary leaders did a big part. The people who did not get the benefits were trying to make problem to the village leaders.

The political terrorism was prominent in this area. But as the people stood against, it was reduced. Though down fall occurred we were able to uplift them.

In 2005 government promoted Jana Sabha and it seemed to have the same concept as the PPIADS. But on further study, this Jana Sabha did not have the peoples' participation at its heart. Good relationship of the people with the political authorities was supposed to be established yet problems of the peoples were not understood. A major difference was that NGOs were not included in the process. Today the Jana Saba is not active. I think we must go back to the integrated development process again. I suggested to the regional council to get the cooperation of NGOs, and to bring together regional council chair and the divisional secretary. I must express this is a good experience in my political life and for good governance.

## **Mr. L.J.M.G. Chandrasiri Bandara - Additional District Secretary of the Puttlam District [Present Chief Secretary to the North Central Provincial Council]**



I started work at Karuwalagaswewa in the month of March 2005 as the divisional secretary. I saw a letter written by Mr. Rathanamalala and he had mentioned about the PPIADS process. Then I had a discussion with Mr. Priyankara Costa the coordinator of PPIADS and with NAFSO, other responsible people and started the work and got the full support. The village leaders had clear ideas about what they should do, specially handling money for the projects without a waste. When we entered the villages we found the leaders who were build up through PPIADS was very promising. We came to an agreement that there should be participatory development strategy in all the efforts we take to work with the people. This is not only with the people but in the office too we built up this methodology. Through this we learn too when solving a problem the cooperation of the people is important. PPIADS too had some methodology to educate people how to manage a project. And also peace and justice was build up and they proclaim that area as a “Peace Zone” After the election in 2005 political terrorism was reduced. This kind of a process became a life style for me more than official duties. I am happy to say our divisional office became the best office in the Puttlam district.

What we received with the agreement that we came in to:

1. Building up good relationship with NGOs,
2. Distribute equally the benefits to families coming from different NGOs, thus reducing duplication,
3. Build up transparency among development actors,
4. Improve the capacity to do everything together,
5. Increase the trust in people,
6. Good benefit to NGOs through identifying important role play the NGOs in area development activities,
7. Capacitate people from the village level,
8. Facilitate providing help/service to the areas due to availability of data provided by the villagers that were needed for decision making and quick response even by NGOs working in the area.

I, too, benefited by working with the people. Especially in the workshop at New Corella in Philippines where AHI organized and gave me a chance to know the experiences of others who came from different Asian countries. With all these we could organize about 26,000 persons and trained 300 youths through PPIADS. Through this participatory methodology we could build up trust and young officials were trained and sent out to the peoples. PPIADS is a real example for development strategy.

### **Mr. A. A. Jayawathie - Chairperson, Praja Shakthi Development Foundation**



I am from Palugassegama and I was engaged in social work for last 25 years. I got a chance to participate at the PPIADS program that was held at the divisional secretariat. I became clear that was a good way to develop people in village level. I joined the program became active member and started working with the people. I was motivated through the socially and politically active people were talking about PPIADS at Karuwalagaswewa area.

With the change of politician every 5 years the work became slow. They were trying to show the data collected by PPIADS as their own. They too wanted to reduce the powers of the good leaders who were trained by PPIADS. They got some new leaders and wanted to promote the ideas of politicians.

By this time I was strengthen and show the clear way, so that I started Praja Shakthi Development Foundation with the few rural leaders. This group is still active and we have achieved some of the efforts as well. Few of those are, got electricity to Budhidasungama village, made the fence for elephants at Karuwalagaswewa and protest against the tourism. My wish is to stay in this program which is a better development strategy.

### **Mr. Jagath Chandrasiri - President of the rural committee/Jana Saba, Palugassegama**



I was the leader at Palugassegama for past 12 years elected by PPIADS. As the head of many societies, I got many training to develop my capacity to do my work with the people. As a village committee leader I participated in the discussions of divisional secretariat and the regional council and the other authorities to present the problems and difficulties of village people.

As the time passed, the village committees became Jana Sabha and it has become political structure. Now there are no meetings at the regional council office. So that there were no people's participation of decision making. Every good thing that has happened when PPIADS was handling has vanished

I have tried to build it up again starting a cashew nuts project. NAFSO too helped us submitting a proposal to rural committee for a building in order to do the project. So we were given 15 lakhs. (Around 12,000 USD) We requested for a transformer and as we got it, we could distribute it for roads too. We were helped by NAFSO to buy cashew with Rs. 100,000.

### **Mr. M. Somathilaka - VDC leader, Saliyawewa**



I am a community leader and I was trying to build up rural committees in my area but found it difficult to build up. I was searching the methods and in 2003 when I joined the PPIADS program I was happy to find it. So we made strong village committees. We analyzed the problems of the village with rural leaders, government authorities and religious leaders and made a plan for the area. We were thinking not only the economical development but social, cultural, spiritual, and health and education too. We thought through values we can build the society. To implement our plan we got one person from 20 families each and built up committees. Then we presented our plans to the state sector and in 2007 we were able to complete 90% of the work. In doing our activities we got many training from the integrated program.

As our committees were in a better place in our division, I got chance to go to Philippines for a training. In 2005, I went to Davao City for the international workshop with the help of AHI and was able to exchange our experiences with people of other Asian countries. By 2010, I found that what we had built up dropped out and people are not participating as before any more. It was due to government officials manipulating people as they wish in the name of Jana Saba. To develop a village, the person has to be developed. People must take leadership without depending on others. If a person gets something personally he will forget the others. That is what we have to change in the mind of the people.



### **Ms. Dayalatha Udugampola - VDC member, Karuwalagaswewa**



I am Dayalatha Udugampola. I joined the PPIADS when I was a voluntary worker. I was selected to the village committee. I learned about current social, political and economical systems and how to analyze them and was well aware of the society after I joined the PPIADS program. We had close contact with GOs and NGOs. I was working as a leader in the Samurdhi and our plans were accepted. The village committees became Jana Saba but the activities were not up to the mark. My participation was less in the Jana Saba and I found PPIADS is better than Jana Sabha. Through PPIADS I build a good relationship with other organizations and it is a help for the self employment projects. I suggest the PPIADS should be implemented again.

### **Mr. Sarath Kumara - Regional Media Journalist, Karuwalagaswewa**



I joined the PPIADS program with the request of Samurdhi officer Mr. Ravindra and Mr. Priyankara. We formed a youth group and gain lots of experiences and knowledge through the training we got from the PPIADS program. We were very active in capacity building for youth groups and value building programs for parents. We were able make a media center with the help of Mr. Wikramarachchi and Mr. Purnimal in our division. At that time with the request of Mr. Priyankara I joined the media sector and I became a journalist to the Lakkima news paper. I followed a photography course too. We publish a news letter on what is happening in the area especially about the destruction of the forest and the problems people face. With this we found that there is less destruction. I came to the media sector because of the PPIADS program. Even in the future I like to work with them.

### **Mr. R.T. Gunathilaka - Grama Niladari, Palugassegama**



We used to do many development programs from top to bottom, what was told to us by higher authority. But nobody wants to see whether it is needed for the people or not. That was not suitable for the people.

But in this process people come together to make their own development plans. So people understood they too participate in their area development. With this awareness they were

able to refuse unnecessary suggestions made by the politicians. There was a good relationship between rural leaders and the authority. They collected data with the help of the people and they became aware of their village situation. Implementing this program we had a big responsibility. We too got many training through this program. There is Jana Saba in my area but not active as PPIADS.

### **Mrs. E. A. Indrani - Grama Niladari, Saliyawewa**

In my area PPIADS was very successful. People organized themselves in 20 families in each group and leaders came together in every month or fortnight to discuss about the ups and downs of their works and to set plans for the future. Some programs were,



- Mobilizing people
- Clean village
- Protecting the environment
- Re-construction of the roads
- Constructing a center for people with the contribution of the villagers
- Home gardening
- Education programs
- Helping the aged
- Shramadana campaigns of people who joined to provide free labor for village development programs, tank renovation, road construction, canal clearance to get the water to the paddy fields, etc.

We could do many of these because we had a good relationship with many organizations, with GOs, NGOs and other various ministries. Rural leaders helped me to solve the problem in the families and with alcohol, without going to the police. With the dedication of the village leaders, we finished 80% of plans within 2003 to 2007. Jana Sabha is good, but when it was made functioning, more interaction was needed. If the political interference was less it would have been much better. When the people are strong enough we do much better. I became one among them than an authority.

### **Mr. Vijerathna Banda[Late] - Village Development Officer, Karuwalagaswewa**



I see this PPIADS program done by National Fisheries Solidarity as the need of the time in this area. The method we followed to make the people see the correct path for the last 10 years are very beneficial. We have started some programs which protect the village such as, renovation of tanks, cultural programs, educating the youth on media, protecting water catchments areas, fisheries projects, and local food technology.



In the environment the waste is use for producing compost, all the families are financially benefited and perspective too is developed as aimed by the project. This PPIADS process is a need for the whole country because this develops the person, family and the society.

### **Mr. D. M. Ukku Banda - Chairperson, Farmers Society, Madagama**



I am the president of Saliya farmer's organization at Madagama. Our Kadawala tank needed renovation for 15years. We were requesting from so many to find money to renovate. That time PPIADS program did a research and our tank was chosen out of 13 tanks. In 2009, we were given a donation of Rs 25 Lakhs (Around 18,000 USD) by Japanese Embassy for the renovation of the tank. But it was not enough and NAFSO intervened to source the rest of the money from the farmer's organization of Mahakarabawawa, and so we finished the work. I am thankful to Japanese Embassy and NAFSO. This project was successful because we were aware all what was happening, including financial expenses allocated and there was good monitoring done by the engineer Mr. Sriyantha Warnakulasuriya and Mr. Priyankara Costa the coordinator of the project. Now it is our responsibility to protect the tank. Once again I extend my thanks to NAFSO, Japanese Embassy, AHI and Praja Shakthi Padanama.

### **Mr. R.M. Gamini Bandara, Mahakarambawa, Karuwalagaswewa**

I am the secretary of farmer's society at Mahakarabawawa. For 10 years we were asking from Govi Jana Seva Department [Department of Agrarian Services] and other organizations to repair our tank. But at last in 2008 through PPIADS we received money from Japanese Embassy for the renovation. We took the contract for ourselves and we were able to go beyond our target and to repair the anicut of the canal too. All the farmers gave their labor for 3 days each and we are happy about the success of our work. Whenever we want to do a good work, there are people who want to create problems. But we are happy because we were able to face all that challenges that came on our way. We appreciate and thankful on behalf of the farmers the support given by NAFSO, Japanese embassy and farmer's society.

## **Mr. D.M. Jayasena - Regional Councilor of Karuwalagaswewa Pradesheeya Sabha, Puliyankulama**



In 2000 as one of the first members of PPIADS I came to know that to develop Karuwalagaswewa area all the sectors should be integrated. I had a space to be active in this concept of getting the people together in village level and getting their ideas and making them become partners of the development process. I was able to integrate with the people as I was elected to the provincial council. But still I have to say that people were not very enthusiastic to protect their resources

and revive them up. As an example, people gave less cooperation when renovating the Kadawala tank. It is very important to be integrated all the parties for development. But people should not have the dependency attitude and stand on their own feet.

### **Remembrance of Mr. Saman Hamangoda, Executive Director of PALTRA Training Center about PPIADS**

I was happy to participate in the PPIADS program in 2000, as a member of Trainers Pool. Program was implemented geographically in a vast area. It was a development program that was implemented in a divisional secretariat with the participation of people in an integrated development process, planning and implementing that could achieve development to the area. During my stay with this program the challenges I came to know were as follows;

- Knowing the needs of the people within short period.
- On the other hand, it was a challenge for people to come out with their real needs because the divisional secretariat as partner interfered with the people's experiences and capacities, thus affecting them.

From the beginning there was a disinterest and absence about the dedication and cooperation of the partners. When I participated in the evaluation, it was increased as the main facilitating NGO, the Sanasili Foundation, was not doing its animation and facilitation role as expected by the people as well as NAFSO. So that it was a challenge to think how they could be sincerely interact with their partners.

Here I have mention few challengers that I have met in different situations. I have no idea, how they overcame their challenges, as I could not stay very long with their program due to my busy schedule. I thank NAFSO and the staff that faced all the challenges and continue this program without failure.

# ***The Localization against the Globalization: Resisting Corporate Power using People’s Power, Knowledge and Wisdom***

First we need to ask one question,

“Who is benefiting from globalization?”. In fact, rapid growth is typical only for a small group of rich people and companies; while the least economically, socially developed poor have much lower growth rates and their gains from globalization.

When we started the PPIADS Process in Karuwalagaswewa we had big challenges against the globalization which was at the area’s doorsteps. For example, companies approached the area to grab land from Neela Bamma development project, also a proposal for the establishment of a military education center using vast area of land in Karuwalagaswewa area, privatization of Thabbowa tank with building hotels around the tank, are some of the evidences of globalization that stood out or were greatly seen.

On the other hand, we have had and are having some successes along the process, as described below:

No	Practice/ Promotion of Globalization	Feature of Localization	Transformational Steps Taken
01	Genetically Modified and hybrid Paddy seeds	Promotion of indigenous and traditional seeds.	We had to conduct many programs for the motivation of the people by Praja Shakthi and NAFSO alternative development program because they have been addicted to the Hybrids. Those who love the soil and environment they got the challenge and started to cultivate traditional seeds such as Suwadel, Pachchaperumal, Raththal, Kaluhinati in their paddy. At the beginning they started in a small area.

02	Cash crop and mono culture using the chemicals and fertilizers	Diversified home gardens using the compost and traditional treatments	We conducted trainings in village level and divisional level on organic farming. Then NAFSO/ Praja Shakthi members started to prepare organic home garden. We could get support from the DS office to promote organic farming as there is a Government-supported program ran by the DS office .We arrange completions among the home gardens and gave prizes for the promotion their hard ship work. All the NGOs who implement the projects in the DS division support this process by conducting training programs on home gardening, sustainable agriculture, etc., among the people.
03	Commercial farming practices at Neelabamma	Blue Green garden at Neelabamma	We started BGG as practical training centre. We built the model farm in that place. Not only the Paddy but also other vegetables, traditional treatments and compost. Also, IPM and mixed cropping systems were launched.
04	Corporate Medicinal practices	Local Medicine/ Herbal gardens/ Herbal drinks/ Herbal oils	We have big history on the traditional medicine but day by day those habits are vanishing among the new generations. So we have given respect to the traditional ‘wedamahaththya’ and started the training among the village leaders to produce special oils which people use for their injuries and pains.

			At the same time, we get the support from the Ayurvedic doctors and Department of Indigenous Medicine for preparation of herbal drinks and oils. Specially, Mr. Ashoka Karunaratna was engaged in this process who works in Navinna Bandaranayake Memorial Ayurvedic Research Institution at Maharagama, Colombo.
05	Hybrid and GM seeds from the seeds companies	Farmers who have been growing seeds for generations and promotion of seed banks	Farmers realized that they lost their traditional seeds. In the same time in 2003, the government planned to bring out the Seed Act which intended to give the ownership of the seeds to the Companies. So we mobilized the people [Farmers and women in NAFSO small groups] and they decided to start seed bank in the village level and DS level. When they are getting together for any meeting they share their seeds among themselves.
06	Top-down plans coming from national/ central government Mahinda Chinthanaya or Way Forward election manifestos	Rural planning through VDCs [ Village Development committee ]	Awareness raising and orientation sessions through the PPIADS program, with focused topics on participatory, bottom-up planning  Support provided to the completion, implementation and monitoring of the ADP with 26 GN sub-plans on village development

07	No village people participation for the PCM [Project cycle management]	VDCs' leaders and village members' participation in situational analysis, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of their development programs, projects and activities	<p>Conducted/facilitated regular open dialogues for collaboration to be discussed, agreed on and nurtured</p> <p>Evidence of PPIADS process and collaboration was the ADP or divisional development plan which contained contextualized development plans for the 26 GNs.</p> <p>PPIADS Society for the Karuwalagaswewa DS division was organized by consensus. Through the society (refer to Chapter 3 for the details), village people were able to monitor, assess and raise their concerns on development and political activities in the area development program.</p>
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We were able to change the culture of corporate monopoly to local initiatives on agriculture, medicine, seed productions, food production and preparatory methods etc. As a part of the challenge the corporate globalization, we were able to bring people together in a small way. Protection the fertility of soil was one of the biggest challenges our rural communities are facing in the villages today. The Arsenic poisoning in the Rajarata area where Karuwalagaswewa area belong to is one challenge today. Some scientists also claim this is because of the use of chemical fertilizers in the paddy fields and necessity to convert those agricultural practices into more sustainable practices. This was one of our efforts in years back in 2006 onwards and the Sri Lankan society is enthusiastically ready to engage such practices only now. The biggest challenge we face as civil society is that the limited space and the recognition of the society as mislead media coverage and political hate against the civil society and their initiatives. The time has come to change the culture of animosity and suppression of the people's initiatives and efforts for change for a better society.

## ***New Challenges: The Potentials and Future Directions***

We should accept that the different groups, such as rural farmers, fisher people and women groups, which were organized and formed to continue PPIADS program have had their ups and downs and backed out from their practical activities because of some internal and external factors.

Among those;

- Political interference;
- Transfer of PPIADS-oriented and trained government officials/Turnover of influential political and government people;
- The down fall of rural communities or marginalization of rural committees/ the VDCs.
- The improper performance of the Jana Sabha, and
- The rural leaders' weaknesses in working together because of personal interests, for selfish motives to earn from any of the activity they engage.

Here, we have to bear in mind that with the plans and thrusts of the government (Mahinda Chinthana), the VDCs were replaced with the creation of the Jana Sabha, if only to prevent duplication and confusion supposedly. But it was very clear that the Jana Sabha and the VDCs were very different in principles and operation. Ironically, the latter was considered by the authorities as it is legally provisioned as the prime foundation for the former.

All is not lost, though. The leaders and believers of the VDCs and the PPIADS continued with their agriculture and economics activities. The best example is the spreading of environmental agriculture. At present there are about 500 organic home gardens and the people in most of the villagers are given training by National Fisheries Solidarity at the agriculture training center and model farm.

Further, rural farming, fisheries and women leadership training camps were conducted, including for potential secondary leaders. We believe one day that they will challenge the present development issues and re-organizing of VDCs will take place.

We are aware that regional council leaders who were guided by the PPIADS process are coming out with their ideas from their learning and are identifying ways and means to revive this process again and sustain it, and even institutionalize it properly. They intend to do it through the regional council. Many lower level government officers, too, have appreciated the PPIADS program and GN, agriculture officers and Samurdhi development officers are training directly to cooperate with the people and are encouraging. These activities are notable low-lying fruits to follow up.

On the other hand, not directly to the people's participatory village development program, but through the renovation of tanks, the new groups of farmers and fishermen giving cooperation is a trend of hopes.

Last of all, the state policies had mentioned of treating the people as main partners of the development activities and to get people's cooperation in three activities of planning, activating and evaluating. Though uncertain that policy makers and executives will be true and materialize these, the hope of the blooming of the people's participatory concept remains with us.

### **The Proposals made by the Various Leaders of Government, Religious and Women of the Divisional area**

- We must go for a proper discussion getting together all the people who are with the similar vision and those who express the need of real development. For this there should be local leaders, representatives of the political authorities and religious leaders.
- Today there is no proper organization and management of government funds. There is even no one investigating about it, thus, money, people's monies are improperly programmed, priorities are not well-defined, and resources are wasted. This situation calls for an integrated multi-stakeholder activity and active citizenship. The people should have a say in government funds for proper development in their areas.
- There should be a discussion with Mr. Priyankara Jayarathna the electorate of Anamaduwa. We must build up people's platform, take the leadership and take the time to be active again and be creative in actions.
- The political authorities should not handle the finance and give over to the people for a proper development in the area.



- The transparency of the project should be improved. There should be a strategy to make alive the Jana Sabha again but true to people's participation principles, and to have monthly meetings for discussion or build awareness' in the divisional secretariat or in the regional council.
- To revive and sustain the organic farming which is done by Praja Shakthi Foundation and other NGOs with sustainable building up and with the intervention of the political sector
- The people should be organized and to reinforce solutions to the human-elephant conflict, to reduce environmental destruction, and to make the laws enforced and ensure compliance.
- Our Jana Sabha has not gone to sustainable development because we have not done an intervention as Korea had intervened to build up development process in the country through Jana Sabha. We have to build up real leaders who will sincerely support the development of the country.
- We must build up a strong civil society. It is not easy because people try to make their own living rather than working for a common purpose. So we should strengthen the civil society.
- In the activities of Jana Sabha the NGOs are excluded, but everyone is needed for it. Today the Jana Sabha is not active due to the political interference. We should make the Jana Sabha strong again.
- We should work with Participatory Integrated Area Development plan knowing that it can be done and should be done in people's development.
- It is very important to have correct leadership, good management and proper vision. So our traditional downfall of project should be stopped whenever an officer is transferred. There should be a policy.
- We can gain lots of result in the long term, if Non Government Organization take correct leadership, proper management and make the people join in this program.
- To be firm in dedication, go beyond duty as an authority and think as a citizen of this land.

The present is not to be guided by the past only. There is the future to hold and behold. Trends leaning towards good governance and participatory development now abound, ready for the taking by the PPIADS activists for consolidating their strengths and moving more steps forward and higher. To illustrate:

a) ETO and Human Rights - [Maastricht Principles on Extraterritorial Obligations of States in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](#). The Maastricht Principles are built upon two key conceptual foundations. First, that international human rights law requires that States, when conducting themselves in a way that has real and foreseeable effects on human rights beyond borders, must ensure that they respect and protect rights, as well as in some circumstances, fulfill rights. Second, international law, most pointedly in the area of economic, social and cultural rights, demands prescriptively that States act to realize rights extraterritorially, through ‘international assistance and cooperation’. ETOs provide regulations to transnational corporations, hold intergovernmental organizations accountable for their impacts and ultimately stop the destruction of eco system and climate. A consistent realization of ETOs can generate an enabling environment for Economic, Social and Cultural rights among competing sources of international law.

The PPIADS initiative integrated localization as an alternative to globalization, as PPIADS promoted making sustainable use of available resources and people’s culture as essential to integration and area-focused development. The actions relating to ETO strengthens this resolve and makes PPIADS more relevant.

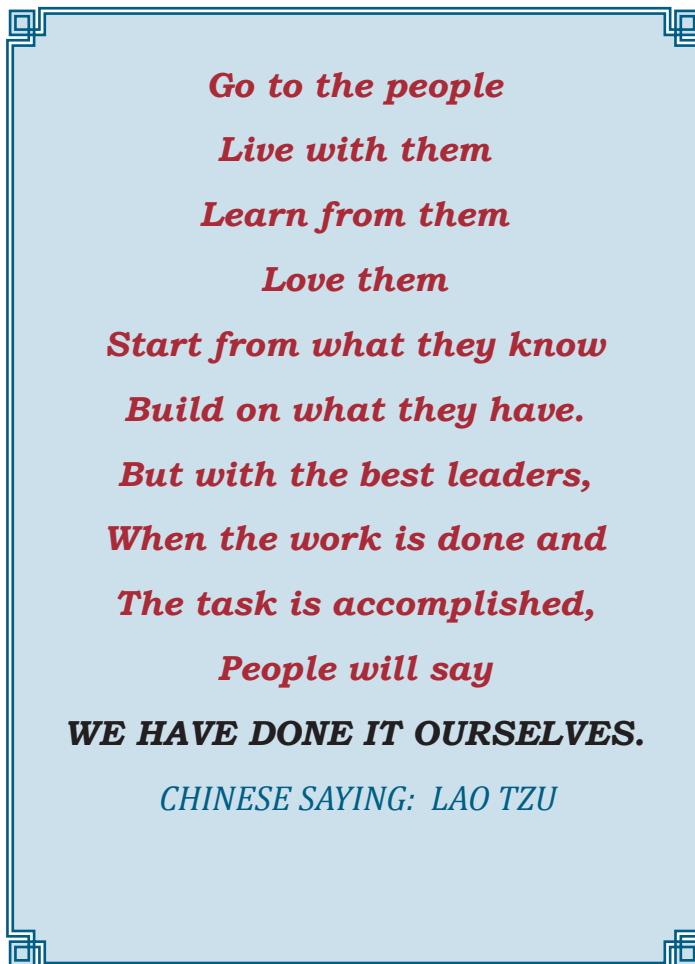
b) ACDN- Active Citizenship Development Network

It is important that citizen’s active engagement for the development to face the challenges of neo-liberal economic policies which are highly destructive to the people and to the environment. There is an effort of NAFSO and some other agencies in a network to strengthen people’s conscious engagement in the development. Study of national budgets, proposing some actions in relation to local government and engaging in budget monitoring are some other activities of the ACDN network. Thus, in this initiative, proposals to

harmonize the different programs of the government and the budgets for these are made. With budget monitoring, likewise, the PPIADS experience of ensuring proper and transparent fund utilization is reinforced. Already the initiative in Karuwalagaswewa of advocating for increased education budget is a notable foundation.

c) VGGT and VGSSF

Land, water and forest are central to the food security in a country. The small scale food producers contribute to the food security though their livelihood is in danger due to various threats emerging in neo-liberal, globalized economic era. Land grabbing, forest destruction, sea grabbing, coastal destruction, mega scale investments, losing customary rights of the food producers, climate change, and natural disasters are some of the issues faced by the food producers, hence the sustainability of the livelihoods and eventually contribution to the producing food are in danger. The FAO of the UN has come up with some way of compromised agenda through intergovernmental negotiations both in the land, forestry and fisheries areas to find some solutions. So, the development of voluntary guidelines of governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forest (VGGT) as well as fully dedicating to fisheries sector through Voluntary guidelines on Securing sustainable small scale fisheries (VGSSF) are key contributors to save the food producers and, thereby, contribute to national food security. These thrusts certainly affect the people of Karuwalagaswewa. Though voluntary in nature for governments, the VGGT and VGSSF are wider base and mandates for the PPIADS activists to sustain their efforts. These mandates cannot take effect without an approach such as the PPIADS, thus, engagement is not a choice but a given.



## ***Our Partners in the Integrated Development Process Program***

### **National Fisheries Solidarity Movement [NAFSO]**

The National Fisheries Solidarity is a non-government organization which started in 1994. Their motivation is to strengthen the livelihood of artisanal and small-scale fisher families and to claim their rights. Primarily, it organizes these fishers and trains them so they can be skilled and informed to make decisions and actions for their development and human rights. It undertakes research and documentation of the problems and difficulties that affect the small scale fisheries industry in Sri Lanka.

NAFSO has expanded its services up to:

- Internal displacement issues emanating from the tsunami, disasters and war situations;
- the plantation, farming and labour sectors from a human rights perspective, providing and finding ways for them to be aware and animated, to have space for dialogue to express and protect their land and economical needs, and to be organized as a movement and ally with other supportive groups/institutions; and
- National issues that affect people's rights to security and development.

### **The Activities of NAFSO**

#### **1). Alternative Economical Development [AED] Program for Employment and Income**

- Promotion of sustainable agriculture
- Green aqua culture program
- Savings and Credit program
- Promotion of appropriate Post harvest technology
- Search for alternative economic activities and livelihood for communities

## **2) Policy Studies and Advocacy Program for Fishery Issues and Human Rights**

- Building of Citizen Forums for people's development planning and budgeting
- Campaigns against government policies (e.g., Seed Act, Fuel subsidy) and programs (e.g., Tourism development) detrimental to small fishers' and farmers' livelihood and food security rights
- Documenting and visualizing the impact of cross boundary trawler issue in Palk Bay
- Movement and Network (local, national, regional, international) building to strengthen people's organizations to win the rights of people
- Production of videos and publication of books, research reports, localized manuals, etc especially on land tenure, displacement, and war issues, among others
- Policy formulation and dissemination such as on the International Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries, Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forest, Agenda for Action for Food Security in Protracted Crisis Situations, etc.

## **3) Youth Building Program for the Environment**

- Value formation and leadership training courses for active citizenship and environmental protection
- Production of information materials on saving the forests, water catchment area of tanks and coastal areas
- Formation of Disaster management committees of volunteer youth in the areas

## **4) Women Development Program for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

- Awareness raising and skills building Workshops on protecting rights of women
- Building up/federation building of women headed families/war widows
- Economical assistance to women headed families/war widows
- Gender parity
- Building women's federation forming and uniting community based women groups

## **5) Protection of Human Rights and Peace building efforts**

- Engaging in human rights education and interventions on human rights campaigns
- People to people dialogue on peace and sustainable development
- Building coalition for protection of people's life, livelihoods and ensuring the fundamental rights
- Mediation to safeguard rights of ethnic minorities and religious rights of the people

### **Trainers' Pool (TP)**

#### **The expansion of the Trainers' Pool: Joining hands with the Sri Lankan PPIADS Program**

It was in 1988, after the attendance of Sr. Victorine Rodrigo in the ILDC in Japan, that the Trainers' Pool and AHI started collaborative activities.

Mr. Yoshinori Ikezumi, who was the training coordinator of the AHI, came to Sri Lanka in 1993 and 1994 as a resource person of the two training courses organized by CARITAS Sri Lanka. Many NGOs were invited to take part in it. After the second training, it was suggested to form a group of trainers to continue such relevant training programs. Thus, the Trainers Pool was organized. From thereon, the TP, until 1995, for various reasons, the members became inactive. Then, in 1998, the TP became active once more when Sr. Rodrigo, who became the training coordinator of the Center for Society and Religion, initiated a meeting of all the previous members of the TP.

Finally, in 1999, AHI gave an invitation to the TP to send a participant to the ILDC then. Mr. Herman Kumara, the Convener of NAFSO, participated in it. Ms. Marian Ferreras who came for it from LIKAS, an NGO in the Philippines, shared her experiences on PIADS. Upon return to Sri Lanka, Mr. Herman Kumara, who understood the value of the PIADS experiences, shared it with the NAFSO and with the TP.

Thereon, in 2000, TP coordinator Sr. Rodrigo was invited to participate in an International Workshop organized by the AHI in Philippines in coordination with LIKAS. After this workshop, Sr. Victorine stayed behind for a few days to further study and be more informed of the PIADS. Thus, together with Mr. Kumara, she led the planning for the trial of the PIADS process in Sri Lanka.

After leaving the Center for Society and Religion in 2002, Sr. Victorine handed over the coordinatorship of the TP to Ms. Geetha Lakmini of NAFSO. Later, in 2008, Mr. Priyankara Costa became the TP coordinator and remained functioning up to now.

## **Asian Health Institute in Japan (AHI)**

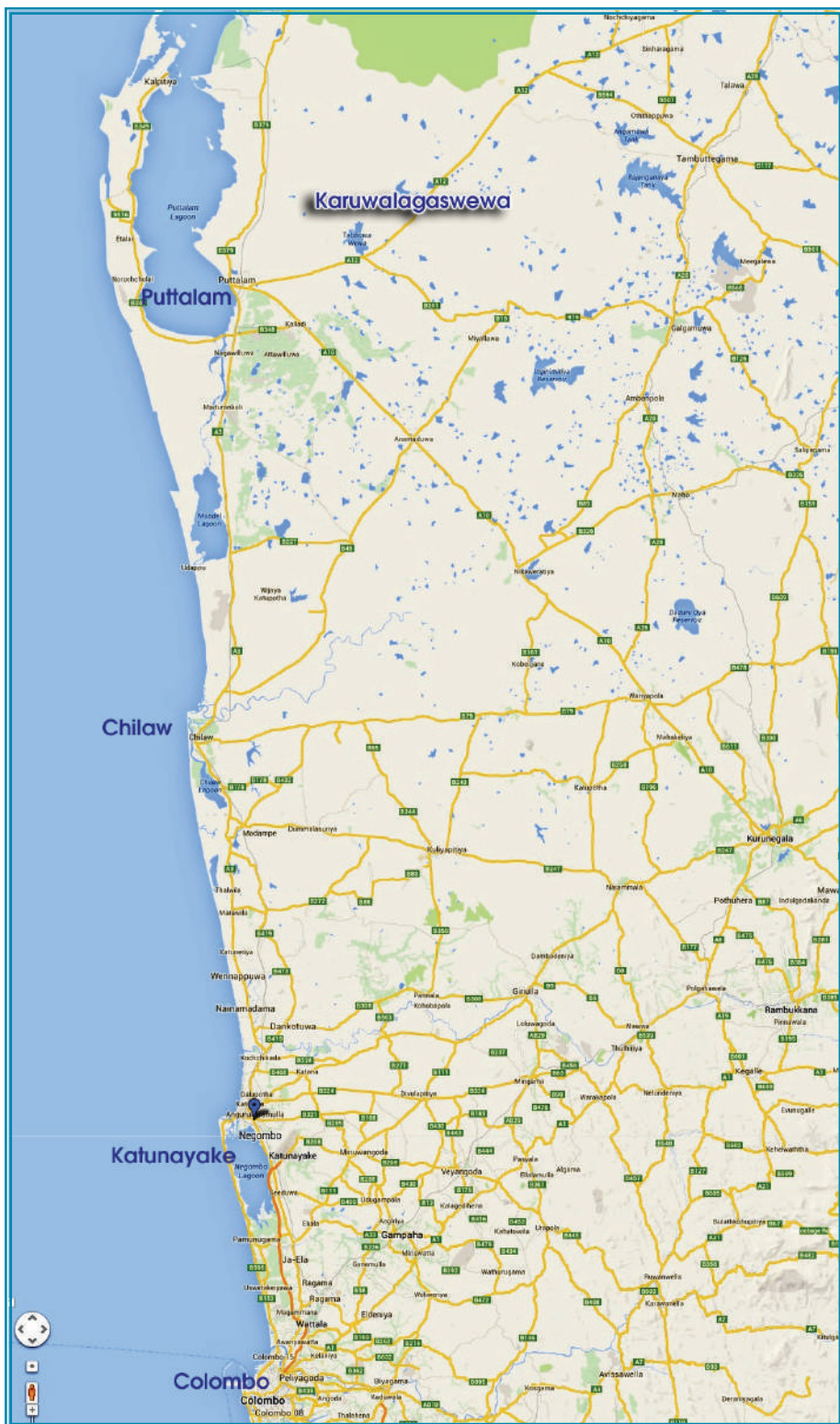
AHI was started by Japanese medical leaders through the leadership of Dr. Hiromi Kawahara. Serving several Asian countries, they realized that grassroots health problems can be more effectively and sustainably addressed through community-based actions for health and development. With key strategies of human resource development and networking, in the spirit of Sharing for Self-help, AHI aligns its technical and financial resources for training and convergence of local leaders on health and development and alternative indigenous medicine, on supporting alumni-initiated related endeavors, and on communication and information dissemination.

The ILDC is one of the regular training course offerings of the institute, conducted every September-October annually. It was mainly through this course that initiatives in Sri Lanka, including the PPIADS, were founded. As of March 2014, there have been 6,127 participants from 25 countries from its various courses and workshops held in Japan and other Asian countries. Major Sri Lankan participants who related PPIADS are mentioned in Chapter 3 and its total number is 65 as of July 2014. AHI, likewise, prides itself in being supported by 4,000 supporting members and hundreds of volunteers.

AHI has appointed coordinators to different countries and Ms. Mayumi Yamazaki was the representative to Sri Lanka. After 2009, Ms. Shiori Ui, Ms Yoko Fukui and currently Mr. Eichi Shibata succeeded as AHI coordinator for the country.



## Annex1:



**Annex2:** The details of 13 surveyed tanks at Karuwalagaswewa DS division through the support of JICA

	surface area (ha) (acre)	water depth (m)	amount of storing water (t) (gallon)	amount of can be stored (t) (gallon)	length of tank (m)	length of dam (m)
BP-10 Dinakarawewa	2.9	1.5	15000	25000	678	186
	7.3		3299400	5499000		
BP-8 Dunamadalawewewa	4.56	2	20000	38660	1032	326
	11.27		4399200	8503653.6		
BP-6 Palugaswewa	3.8	1	11000	14850	1200	84
	9.37		2419560	3266406		
BP-7 Ranawerapitiyawewa	14.3	1.4	525740	972619	2008	323
	35.45		115641770.4	213937275.2		
BP-12 Webawabadiwewa	27.82	1.8	68700	784700	3248	1043
	68.75		15111252	172602612		
BP-9 Badapuwwewa	15.43	---	0	27300	1213	212.7
	38.15		0	6004908		
BP-11 Palagahawewa	18	1.34	863500	127591	2106	427.8
	45		189935460	28064916.36		
BP-13 Kadawelawewa	60	1.28	250000	530000	4000	681.6
	148.3		54990000	116578800		
AT-2 Mahakarabawewa	53.79	2.1	350000	360000	3297	923
	132.9		76986000	79185600		
AT-3 Kongollawewa	16.76	0.85	0	25400	1700	348.64
	41.42		0	5586984		
AT-1 Thammannawewa	14	2.1	111000	151000	2000	563
	35.15		24415560	33213960		
AT-5 Thuththiriwewa	38	---	0	0	4800	309
	96		0	0		
AT-4 Thambapanniyawewa	10	---	0	100000	1550	372
	24.7		0	21996000		

<i>spill1(m)</i>	<i>spill2(m)</i>	<i>height of dam (m)</i>	<i>width of crest (m)</i>	<i>farmer families</i>	<i>farmer families (if tank repaierer)</i>	<i>farming area (acre)</i>	<i>farming area (if repaired) (acre)</i>
7.7	---	2.2	1.45	11	20	11.5	20
7.7	---	2.3	1.7	40	40	20	40 (1season→2seasons)
7.7	---	2	2.4	15	15	20	40 (1season→2seasons)
15.3	---	3.9	2.1	23	23	10	23
54.9	19.3	4	2.5	70	70	150	300 (1season→2seasons)
---	---	3	2.5	---	25	---	25
15.3	---	5.1	2.5	23	23	10	23
51.1	---	11.7	2.3	200	200	150	300 (1season→2seasons)
45.77	---	3.9	2	71	71	120	240
7.77	---	3.7	1.3	35	35	18	26 (1season→2seasons)
15.26	---	1.7	1.6	26	26	26	32 (1season→2seasons)
---	---	3.3	2.5	38	38	50	50
---	---	1.43	1.8	40	40	32	32+α

## ***Annex 3: Composition of Governing Political Structures of Sri Lanka***

### **A. Parliamentary System**

Executive President of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka [Elected from Presidential Election]

Cabinet of Ministers [Appointed by the President]

Members of the Parliament [225]

### **B. Provincial Council System [9 Provincial councils]**

Governor of the Provincial Council [Appointed by the President]

Chief Minister [Elected by an election]

Provincial Council Ministers [4]

Provincial Councilors [Based on the Area of the Province **1000 Sq Km, 1 Councilor** and Number of Population, **20,000 - 35,000 average population, one Councilor**]

### **C. Local Government Unit[Regional Council] - Regional Council Election**

Chair Person of the Regional Council [Elected by an election]

Regional Councilors



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ISBN : 978-955-8103-22-7

