

Sustainable livelihood development for low-income families in the Puttalam lagoon area



Handicraft livelihoods, Puttalam, Sri Lanka © R. Mahindapala

Target beneficiaries

Forty low-income families living in the Palavi area of Puttalam.

Outputs

- ▶ Establishment of two women's organisations.
- ▶ Delivery of awareness programmes on the importance of the local environment.
- ▶ Delivery of awareness programmes on gender equality and human rights.
- ▶ Organisation of an educational trip.
- ▶ Delivery of four training events on business-related topics.
- ▶ Active engagement of 40 women in business ventures.

- ▶ Establishment of a revolving loan fund.

Accomplishments and challenges

Women were empowered to build a livelihood for themselves without needing help from the men in their family. Such women's development activities often have far-reaching impacts extending beyond the boundary of the household.

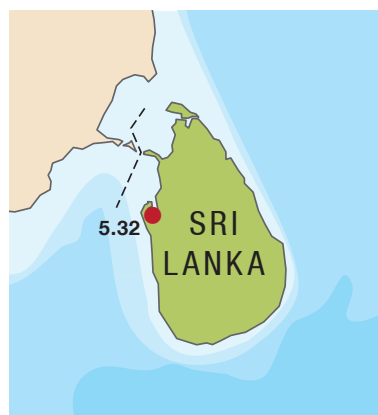
Contributions to cross-cutting themes

Gender equality

This project targeted women, helping to empower them economically.

Lessons learned

To ensure the sustainability of projects aimed



LOCATION

Puttalam, Sri Lanka

PRIORITY POWS

- Sustainable Livelihoods

DURATION

Six months

MFF GRANT AMOUNT

US\$3,939

Objectives

The project had two main objectives:

- 1 to develop the skills and knowledge of 40 underprivileged women from all ethnic groups living next to Puttalam lagoon; and
- 2 to improve the socio-economic status of 40 families through the introduction of environmentally friendly alternative livelihoods.

Background

This project focused on enhancing the livelihoods of women from 40 low-income families living in the vicinity of Puttalam lagoon. It aimed to increase women's self-confidence and empower them economically through awareness programmes on gender equality and human rights, and through the provision of loans for small business ventures.

at supporting underprivileged communities, it is essential to involve community members in project design, seek their cooperation in every activity from the outset, and give them responsibility for the project's success.

Also important is giving participants space to solve problems and manage conflicts amongst themselves without outside interference.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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