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Low carbon Eco Village Development as a solution for Climate change



Organized by

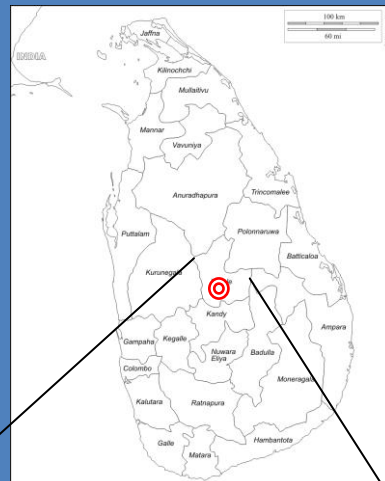
Integrated Development Association, Kundasale
Arunalu Community Development Centre, Matale

Venue: Cooperative Hall, Pallepola

Date : 16th July, 2015



Project locations



Matale District



Resource persons

Mr R M Amerasekera, Executive Director,
Integrated Development Association
(IDEA), Sri Lanka.

Mr Menake Wijesinghe, Senior Manager,
Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation in Sri
Lanka. Janathakshan, Sri Lanka.

Dr Tilak Bandara, Senior Lecturer –
Geography, Deputy Director/ Examination -
Centre for Distance & Continuing Education (CDCE), University of Peradeniya,, Sri Lanka.

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Low carbon Eco Village Development as a solution for Climate Change

සංවිධානය: ඒකාබද්ධ සංවර්ධන සංගමය (IDEA), අරුණාලි ප්‍රජා සංවර්ධන මධ්‍යස්ථානය,
 Organized by: Integrated Development Association (IDEA), Arunalu Community Development Organization

දකුණු ආසියාවේ අවම කාබන් හා තිරසාර පරිසර ග්‍රාමීය සංවර්ධනය සඳහා සාක්ෂි මත පදනම් කරගත් උපදේශන ව්‍යාපෘතිය
 Evidence Based Advocacy for Low-carbon, Pro-poor Sustainable "Eco-Village Development" (EVD) in South Asia

ශ්‍රී ලංකාව තුළ අවම කාබන් සංවර්ධන උපාය මාර්ග ප්‍රවර්ධනය කිරීමේ ව්‍යාපෘතිය
 Promoting low carbon development strategies in Sri Lanka

Agenda for the workshop

Time	Description of Activities
9.00-9.15	Registration
9.15-9.40	Welcome speech, lighting of oil lamp and traditions
9.40-9.50	Goals and objectives of the programme
9.50-10.30	Lecture 1- Mr Amarasekera- Dimensions of Climate change
10.30- 10.45	Tea Break
10.45 -11.30	Lecture 2 Dr Tilak Bandara- Climate change and adaptation
11.30-12.15	Lecture 3 Janathakshan- Climate change Mitigation and Adaptation Technologies
12.15- 1.00	Lunch Break
1.00-1.10	Introduction to the group activity
1.10-2.10	Group activity
2.10-2.50	Presentation of Group work and en
2.50-3.00	Vote of thanks and end of workshop, Tea
3.00-	Tea and Refreshments

One page flyer used as Publicity Material for the event

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The target audience for the programme were divisional stakeholders such as planning, development and community representatives from Pallepola and Naula DS divisions, Matale district. The three selected villages for EVD demonstrations belong to the mentioned DS divisions. These stakeholders are people who are directly involved in development, planning and mobilization activities of the villages selected for demonstrations-village group, administration group, political group.

Village 2- Galahitiyagama- Pallepola DS division

Village 3- Hapugasyaya – Naula DS division

Participatory Audience

- Divisional Secretaries of Pallepola and Naula Divisional Secretariats
- Deputy Directors of Divisional Secretariat offices in Pallepola and Naula
- Chairman and opposition leader of Pradeshiya Sabha
- Field Coordinating officers from Divisional Secretariat offices
- Veterinary Surgeon Naula
- Women's, Farmer and elderly organizations
- Grama Niladharis (Village heads)
- Economic Development officers
- Village Development Society
- Environment officers
- Divinaguma officers
- Vidatha field coordinating officer, Divisional Secretariat Office, Pallepola
- Samurdi Society, Naula, Cooperative Society, Pallepola- Community funding financial institutions
- Local Institutions in promoting technology – Rangiri Thakshana Piyasa
- Integrated Development Association (IDEA), Kundasale
- Janathakshan
- Arunalu community development centre
- Village representatives, media person

Summary of the workshop

ITEM 1 Mr Lionel Perera, Secretary of Arunalu welcoming the distinguished guests and participants for the workshop



ITEM 2 Lighting of Oil lamp by Guests and Resource Persons



ITEM 3 Dumindu Herath briefing the Objectives of the workshop and core projects



ITEM 1

Welcoming of distinguished guests and participants by Lionel Perera, Secretary of Arunalu Community Development Centre. Distinguished guests at the event are W.M Ananda, Divisional secretary of Pallepola, N. B Karunathilaka, Divisional secretary of Naula, Wasantha Dissanayake, Chairman, Pradeshiya Sabha (Regional Council), Aruna Prabath, Medical Veterinarian officer Naula, Loshan priyarakumar Weerasinghe, Deputy director, Divisional Secretariat office, Naula, G.G.S Wickramasinghe, Divisional Secretariat office, Pallepola, Mr R M Amerasekera, Executive Director, IDEA, Mr Menake Wijesinghe, Senior Manager, Janathakshan, Dr Tilak Bandara, Senior Lecturer, University of peradeniya.

ITEM 2

The core objectives of the intervention were put forward by Dumindu Herath. The participants were briefed on the background of low carbon demonstration activities which are to be planned in their villages and the importance of their involvement in those activities.

- To strengthen rural capacity for climate change adaptation planning and implementation
- Animation and awareness of different stakeholders to support adaptation to climate change
- Animation and awareness of different stakeholders to adapt human settlements to deal with effects of climate change
- Improved planning for adaptation to climate change
- Advocacy and awareness on effective low carbon technologies which aren't widely used as climate change adaptation options.

ITEM 4 First Lecture : Climate change and its different dimensions

Time allocated: 45 Minutes

Resource Person: Mr R M Amerasekera, *CEO of IDEA is one of the pioneers in initiating the Improved Cookstove Program (ICS) in Sri Lanka. He is one of the veterans when it comes to promotion and commercialization of Improved cookstoves in Sri Lanka. He has been nominated for the World Clean Energy awards in 2007 for the ICS venture.*

Mr Amaresekara's presentation was the first lecture for the day. It was a thorough explanation of Climate Change (CC) and all the major aspects related to the subject. The content of the presentation was matched well to the workshop audience.



ITEM 4

The main topics covered under his presentation were

- What is CC
- Carbon dioxide and its relationship with Global warming
- Natural causes on CC
- The truth behind CC
- Is CC due to anthropogenic reasons? Views of Scientists and the public
- Views and effects of CC in Sri Lanka and Planning
- Per capita emissions of Carbon, causes for emissions, resource consumption and ecological footprint
- What are the solutions in dealing with CC
- Sustainable development with emphasis on the Environment, Economy and Social Justice

ITEM 5 Second Lecture : Climate of Sri Lanka, Climate Change and Adaptation

Time allocated: 45 Minutes

Resource Person: Dr Tilak Bandara *is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Geography at University of Peradeniya. He has a strong background and research knowledge in the fields of Environmental Management, Natural Resource Management, Community Forestry in Tropical Region and Social impact Assessment.*

Dr Tilak Bandara's presentation gave an overview of Sri Lanka's climate and how climate change has affected it. Moreover, adaptation options to abate or avoid the effects of climate change were explained. With his personal experience, been brought up in a village, he was able to draw experiences from his childhood and make strong logical explanations in a simple understandable manner.



ITEM 5

The main topics covered under his presentation were

- Introduction to Climate and Weather
- The main components of Sri Lanka Climate
- Climatic controls of Sri Lanka
- Effects of Climate on Humans and their day to day activities
- Main monsoon and rainfall seasons for Sri Lanka
- Climatic and Agro ecological regions of Sri Lanka with emphasis on Matale
- Greenhouse effect and its adverse impacts
- Effects of Climate change on Bio diversity
- CC adaptation options in terms of Energy, Agriculture, Forestry, Water and Health.

ITEM 6 Third Lecture :Climate change Adaptation and Mitigation

Time allocated: 40 Minutes

Resource Person: Mr Menake Wijesinghe. *He is an experienced professional in the fields of Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. He has got a lot of experience in community based projects and advocacy.*

Mr Menakas presentation was more interactive, seeking views from the audience on what they gained and what they think about CC and adaptation solutions after hearing from the two initial presentations. His presentation was more based on practical low carbon adaptation solutions to climate change with emphasis on case studies.



ITEM 7 Introduction to Group Activity

Time allocated: 10 Minutes

Resource Person: Dr Tilak Bandara

Dr Thilak Bandara gave an Introduction to the group activity. Here the participants were divided in to four groups randomly and a group leaders and presenters were appointed to each group.



ITEM 6

The main topics covered under his presentation were

- Views on climate change and low carbon adaptation technologies
- Importance of the role of village communities in combating effects of climate change
- What initiatives could we take?
- Low carbon adaptation options, Organic farming, Rain water harvesting, solar , efficient stoves...etc
- What is the relationship between climate change and our contribution as Sri Lankans, Villagers...etc and what we could do

ITEM 7

Idea of this activity is to investigate the knowledge base and derive ideas from participants on the key areas of Water, Energy, Land and Agriculture. The activity involves in identifying needs, use of resources, issues in using those resources, conservation measures and methods, strategies and recommendations.

A screenshot of a presentation slide titled "කණ්ඩායම් විස්තරය" (Team Details). The slide contains a table with 4 rows and 6 columns. The columns are labeled: "කණ්ඩායම් අංකය" (Team Number), "කණ්ඩායම් නම" (Team Name), "ප්‍රධාන" (Leader), "කණ්ඩායම් නායකයාගේ සම්බන්ධතා" (Contact Information of Team Leader), "ප්‍රධාන" (Leader), and "කණ්ඩායම් සාමාජිකයන්" (Team Members). The rows are numbered 01 to 04. The table is currently empty of data.

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ITEM 8 Group Activity: Water Group

Time allocated: 70 Minutes

Presentation facts

Needs of Water

For drinking purposes, Agriculture, Livestock management ,Industrial use- Bricks, pottery...etc, Day to day activity needs, Sanitation, Freshwater fisheries, Balance in Biodiversity, Generation of energy, Leisure activities, Transportation

Use of resources

Groundwater, Natural springs, Rainwater, Irrigation, Streams, Rivers, Reservoirs, Big tanks, Dug wells

Issues in using resources

Scarcity of natural spring water at certain periods, Pollution/contamination of water Gutters, Drying of tanks, Contamination of dug well water with rust, Scarcity of ground water at certain time periods/intervals, Drying of rivers and streams during dry spells/droughts, Pollution of water due to human causes- Agricultural fertilizer and weedicide usage...etc, Natural disasters- floods...etc

Conservation methods

To avoid pollution- Use of organic methods in Agriculture and Livestock management: Use of organic fertilizer, pesticides...etc A proper treatment and waste water/gray water management system for wastewater outputs from households.

Management of man made tanks and water bodies- Reinstating natural water management components of tanks: Natural water filtering systems and components- planting trees which can absorb certain contaminants.

Strategies and recommendations

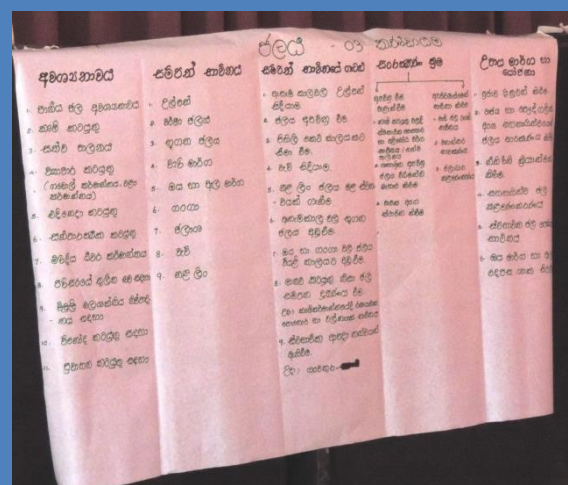
- Awareness of communities on water conservation and usage
- Conservation and management of water with governmental and non governmental participation
- To implement rules and regulations on water management and conservation
- Implement Participatory approaches in water management
- Use of natural filters for water bodies
- Planting of trees along stream and river banks

Remarks

The facts and the presentation were very good. It was presented by an Economic Development officer based at Galahitiyagama. The group presented important and practical facts to the point.



Mr W G A K Ilangarathna, Economic Development officer in Galahitiyagama presenting the group work for Water



ITEM 8 Group Activity: Agriculture Group

Time allocated: 70 Minutes

Presentation facts

Needs of Agriculture

The main need is food, to fulfill the nutritional needs. This stands for Livestock management as well. As an income earning activity, Around 90% of total task force is for Agriculture.

Use of resources

Use of land :around 75% of the land is consumed by Agriculture

A task force: 90% of total task force.

Issues in using resources

Scarcity of water, Climate change effects, Plant diseases and pests, High chemical fertilizer usage, Weedicides and pesticide usage, Prices fluctuation of produce and other major inputs, Decrease in agricultural task force

Conservation methods , Strategies and recommendations

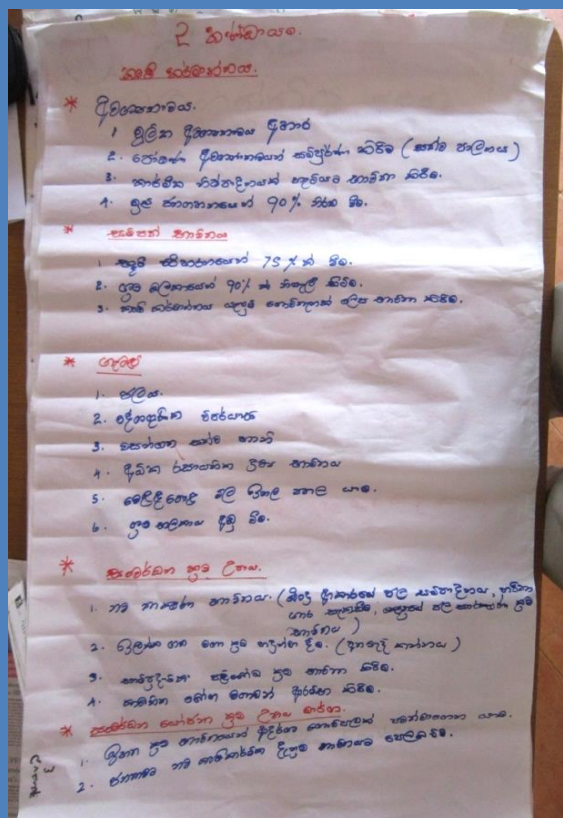
- Use of new technologies : Drop irrigation methods, greenhouses, introduction of field water conservation methods
- Targeted growing : Cropping in inter-growing seasons
- Promotion of Indigenous and traditional practices to overcome pests and weeds.
- Promotion of organic farming
- Implementation of pilot farms with the above said technologies to advocate the people.
- Awareness and promotion of new agricultural knowledge targeted at farmers and people.

Remarks

In terms of numbers, the Agricultural task force is quite less than 90% according to national statistics- presented figure was not quite correct. The presentation and facts presented are satisfactory.



Grama Niladhari of Galahitiyagama (Village head) presenting the group work for Agriculture



Presentation facts

Satisfactory presentation of facts and remarks. Some facts not quite presented to the point.



Mrs. H D G Anula Gunasekara,,Divinaguma
officer, Pallepola presenting the group
work for Land

[illegible]

ITEM 8 Group Activity: Energy Group

Time allocated: 70 Minutes

Presentation facts

Needs of Energy

Cooking , Lighting,Drying of clothes, to run appliances, for industrial usage such as pottery, bakeries, brick industries...ect

Resources

Solar radiation, Wind, Firewood, Animal waste,

Issues

Reduction of solar radiation during rainy season, scarcity of firewood due to land limitations and constraints, lack of food for animals for implementation of Biogas plants, lack of technical knowledge and space for biogas implementation

Conservation methods, strategies and recommendations

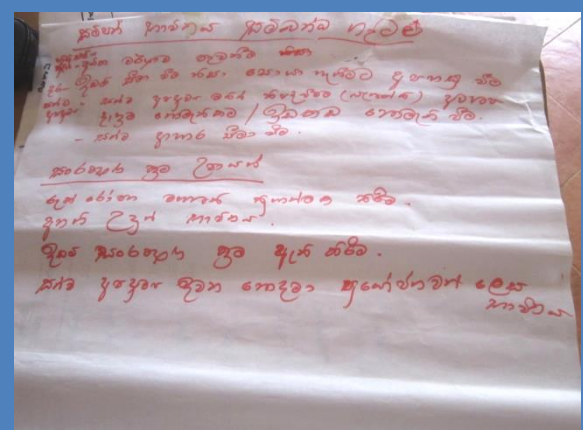
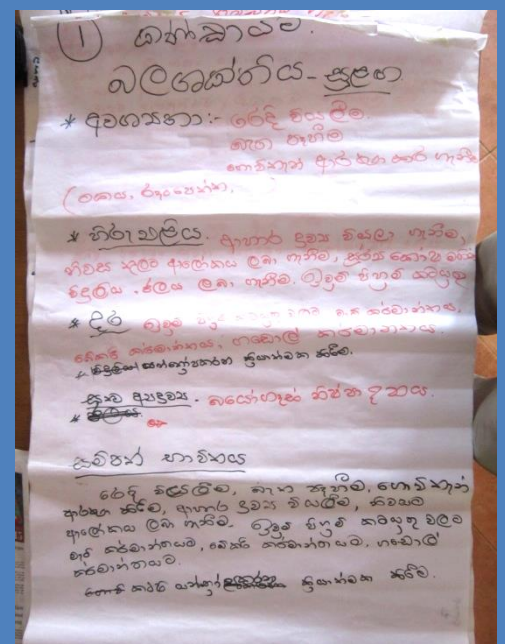
- Use of Anagi and other improved cook stoves
- Implementation of Land conservation strategies
- Productive use of Animal waste
- To initiate tree planting / forestation projects

Remarks

Satisfactory presentation of facts. Not much was elaborated on the use of Grid electricity, consumption, efficiency and related energy conservation methods/ measures which could be used at households and industries.



Mrs. A G M S Madawala, Production Assistant, Agrarian Services Centre, Pallepola, presenting the group work for Energy



ITEM 10 Panel discussion with participants on workshop and project related questions, issues, and final remarks



Participants attending the workshop



ITEM 11 Participant views on the workshop and project concepts: Mr Thilakaratne, Development officer in Hapugasyaya and President of Arunalu conveying his ideas.



ITEM 10

The resource persons Mr Amarasekera, Dr Tilak and Mr Menake had a discussion with all the participants regarding any workshop/project related concerns. Participants were provided the freedom to ask any questions related to the three presentations. Mr Amarasekera in his presentation, mentioned of groups who are still skeptical that climate change and the effect of anthropogenic emissions on CC is not true. He asked the participants how and what they feel about climate change now? Whether they really feel it is happening and it is partially our fault.

ITEM 11

Mr Thilakaratne have known IDEA and its stove operations since the near inception of the Improved Cookstove Programme. He Has also taken part in stove installer training programmes which were initiated by IDEA some time back. With that gained knowledge he has been able to carry out installations in several houses and he himself has carried out installer training programmes for nearby villagers. Mr Thilakaratne was very thankful for the awareness and assistance provide by IDEA which he says that has helped him immensely to improve his living standards throughout the years.

He was very thankful for this awareness programme which has helped to gain a lot of insight on climate change and adaptation options through high calibre officials from whom with he hopes to interact and get more assistance in the future. Mr Thilakaratne is confident that IDEA would do a good job to incorporate the low carbon EVD solutions to the selected villages and he is willing to give his fullest support to future demonstration activities.

Concluding points and remarks

- At the end of the workshop, participants were questioned on how they feel about climate change, its related issues and solutions before and after the presentations from Mr Amerasekera, Mr Menake and Dr Bandara.
- It was evident from their views that they think Climate Change is an issue which is and which could cause many adverse impacts to many fields. Improving Resilience and adaptation was identified crucial to deal with its effects. Moreover, there was appraisal from participants on raising awareness on Climate change, its impacts and adaptation technologies. Community groups from the selected villages for EVD demonstration acknowledged that they would provide their fullest co-operation to the low carbon planning activities and developments which are to be implemented in their villages. Moreover, though there has been low Carbon activities carried out in the villages already (Such as organic home gardening), not all participants were aware of the relationship of those activities with Climate Change. This advocacy meeting was able to bridge that gap to some extent.
- The intention of having group activities was to investigate the knowledge base and derive views and strategies/recommendations from the people who are involved in community based, development, planning , empowerment, mobilizing and welfare activities. Given their presentations, it was evident that their knowledge levels were diverse but productive at different levels for the intervention in terms of needs, issues they face and what strategies they recommend. There's imminent need that there is much to learn as much as local knowledge there is to be obtained by them.
- The workshop assisted to identify the people who could actively and directly be involved in the EVD demonstrations in the future and move this concept further at divisional level to provincial level.
- Divisional secretaries of Pallepola and Naula acknowledged for organizing such an event and stated that they would offer their support through mobilizing the relevant planning and development officers to actively take part in future project activities as well. They acknowledged the EVD concept and how timely it was to take measures to adapt to certain climatic conditions and share these technologies with other neighboring regions as well. The official from the cooperative society (community financing institution) also stated on the possibility of providing financial support for low carbon developments in the future.
- The role of "Arunalu" should be acknowledged for the assistance given in organizing this event and "Janathakshan" for their contributions as resource persons.

This document was prepared by
Dumindu Herath, Project Coordinator,
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14 August 2015

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Projects Involved in the Intervention

- Evidence Based Advocacy for Low-carbon, Pro-poor Sustainable "Eco-Village Development "(EVD) in South Asia.
- Promoting Pro-Poor Low-Carbon development strategies in South Asia