



**EMPOWERING PEOPLE
FOR
PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT**



ANNUAL REPORT 2012 - 2013

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*Anthonypillai Alexander and extended family - returned refugees from India
Kayts Division, Velanai, Jaffna*

OfERR is rooted in its origins as an organisation of Ceylon Tamil Refugees, by refugees and for refugees. OfERR has always been open to learning and has grown, adapted and evolved in a changing world. In the process it has reached out and drawn in other communities, while remaining firmly committed to the principles of human development, sustainable livelihoods and the realisation of human rights.

OUR VISION

- An inclusive, peaceful and tolerant society, free of poverty and discrimination where the rule of law protects the people and their rights.
- A society that is governed by open, democratic and accountable government with structures and processes that are transparent and in which all people can participate and hold meaningful dialogue.
- A society with resourceful, resilient and self-reliant communities where people are empowered and able to realise their full potential to contribute to and benefit from sustainable development.

OUR PURPOSE

OfERR aims to empower and uplift vulnerable and disadvantaged people in Sri Lanka (and Tamil Nadu) by finding and enabling just and peaceful solutions, strengthening community dialogue, learning and participation, upholding human values and rendering humanitarian service.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

New Directions for OfERR Ceylon

On behalf of the board and the staff, I am pleased to share OfERR Ceylon's April 2012 to March 2013 Annual Report. This financial year OfERR's main focus was supporting returned Internally Displaced Persons and returned refugees in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. Rebuilding the social, economic, cultural and political fabric was essential for reinstating a sense of safety, security, and well-being among the returnees.

We continued to put emphasis on reducing the vulnerability of individuals, families and communities through a holistic approach; that is, providing protection (by helping beneficiaries to secure essential civil documents), housing, livelihoods, education, health, nutrition and information-sharing. We also worked hard to increase the coping capacities of communities and their ability to reduce vulnerability and enhance productivity. Our community-based participatory assessments led to a recommitment to dealing with problems faced by women, children, persons with disability, elders and the poor.

We continue to work toward creating a favourable and enabling environment for returned refugees and newly resettled displaced persons. That could take the form of new access roads, new or repaired community-based infrastructure which would help the community to scale up their income generation activities, new housing, access to government-provided services and tackling the growing problem of sexual and gender-based violence and child abuse in the North.

OfERR Ceylon's goal is to create a vibrant, inclusive and environmentally sensitive economy in the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka. To that end, OfERR will initiate activities to test grant-makers and investors' willingness to commit resources to spur economic growth. The Board of Directors is currently studying a number of new modules / approaches to our work; one would support economic growth by enabling women and youth to set up small businesses.

The success stories that are mentioned in this report are told by individuals from the project areas, through their own experiences and in their own words. We hope that we have helped them transform their lives for the better.

We want to extend our sincere thanks to our donors for their generous contributions to OfERR Ceylon's work. We thank them for helping us to improve the lives and future opportunities of our beneficiaries. Life is about taking chances and making mistakes. Throughout this year we have learnt a good deal from our beneficiaries and from the projects which will help us refine and fine-tune future development efforts.

Year 2012-2013 also tested OfERR Ceylon's resilience to act quickly to challenges that confronted us and adopt strategies to seize new opportunities. The closure of many projects at the end of 2012, along with the withdrawal of donors from Sri Lanka, resulted in diminished funds for resettlement and rehabilitation. This led to OfERR preparing a proposal to seek new funding to encourage

refugees to return from India. We know that funds available for protection and resettlement will be very limited in the future. There is a strong probability that funding for development work in Sri Lanka will be much more difficult to access in the coming years. Government budgets are not likely to increase and business investment in the North and Eastern regions of Sri Lanka is uncertain.

Shifting priorities of development aid agencies also reconfirmed our belief that we needed to tread the path of building resilience through a surplus-producing inclusive economy. We need to build the capacity of community based groups to set up micro, small and medium enterprises to spur economic growth. This will help to create economic opportunities and contribute to increased household income. This will be the focus of our work in the coming years. OfERR Ceylon will be reformulating its strategies to focus on promoting self reliance by encouraging local economic growth, developing the market, improving the investment climate in the region, preparing youth for employment in a globalized economy and contributing to peace and harmony in communities.

With the above analysis in mind, we held a number of meetings with the staff, our donors who have stood by us and have helped us to grow continuously, and people who are closely associated with OfERR in Chennai and Sri Lanka. The goal was to reflect collectively on our record of achievements, lessons learnt, areas for improvement and the challenge of supporting growth in Sri Lanka, particularly in the war-devastated Northern and Eastern provinces. During the meetings it emerged that we should continue to support both IDP (Internally Displaced Persons) and Refugee returnees with the focus on their well-being, particularly in the context of resource-constrained settings and in communities which are yet to fully recover from the devastation of the war.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the OfERR staff, volunteers and communities for their commitment and sacrifices, without whom OfERR Ceylon would not have achieved all these positive changes.

We hope that you will enjoy reading about our achievements and our success stories. Thank you for being there for us in the hour of need. Your support gives us the courage to move forward to serve the people in need. We also invite you to partner with OfERR Ceylon to ensure that in the future we have more success stories to share with you.

Sincerely,



Ms. S. Sooriyakumary
President
OfERR Ceylon

Executive Committee:

Ms Sooriyakumary - President
Mr. T. Tharmaseelan - Secretary
Mr. S. C. Chandrahasan - Treasurer
Mrs. Rathakrishnan Krishnananthi - Jt. Treasurer

COUNCIL MEMBERS

1) Ms. S. Sooriyakumari	10) Ms. R Krishnananthi
2) Mr. S.C. Chandrahasan	11) Mr. S. Mariathan
3) Mrs. J. Komathy	12) Mrs. M. Selvamalar
4) Mr. P Kandeepan	13) Mrs. R. C. Bridget
5) Ms. R. Aheila	14) Mr. J. Gunaseelan
6) Mr. S. Parthasarathy	15) Mrs. T.Kandavel
7) Ms. V.S. Thenmozhi	16) Mr. S.Thayanantharajah
8) Mr. M. Soosaisakkariyas	17) Mrs. N. Amsananthini
9) Mr.T.Tharmaseelan	

The OfERR Ceylon board meets twice a year and its Executive Committee on a monthly basis. The Executive Committee, together with the directors of the regional field offices, form the Senior Management Team.

OfERR Senior Management Team:

Chief Programme Manager - Ms. Navamohana
Accounts Manager - Mrs. Rathakrishnan Krishnananthi

District Programme Managers:

Vavuniya Office – V.S.Selvaraja & Shanmuganathan
Mannar Office - S. Koneswaradasan
Jaffna Office - Kandasamy
Batticaloa Office - N.Krishnakumar
Trincomalee Office - N.Nishanthan & R.S. Gowry
Mullaitivu Office - A.Nadarajah
Kilinochchi Office - K. Jegatheeswaran

Staff

OfERR Ceylon's staff come from diverse educational and professional backgrounds with expertise in programme management and working at the grassroots. This was an asset in implementing a variety of programmes ranging from legal aid, constructing houses, early childhood development, capacity building, disaster relief, startups in dairy, agriculture, fisheries and retails, and cross-cutting issues such as HIV, health, gender-based violence, child protection, the environment, peace and reconciliation. Due to financial constraints OfERR has had to reduce its staff complement from a previous total of 119 to 61 people of which 40 are paid staff and the remainder work on a voluntary basis.

OUR REGIONAL OFFICES

Northern Province:

Jaffna District

Railway Station Road
Tellippalai, Jaffna.
Tel:-021-2221924

Kilinochchi District

No. 1187, Thirunagar South,
Kilinochchi
Tel. Tel: 021-3215508

Mannar District

No. 78/1,
Esplanade Road,
Moor Street, Mannar.
Tel: 023-2250550

Vavuniya District

No: 107,
Mannar Road,
Kurumankadu, Vavuniya.
Tel: 024-2225802

Eastern Province:

Trincomalee District

No.06 Arunagiri Road,
Trincomalee
Tel: 024-2225802

Batticaloa District

No. 206 Kalmunai Road, Kallady
Batticaloa
Tel: 065-2227467



Charitable Status:

OfERR Ceylon was incorporated as a Limited liability company on 21st May 2004, under section 21 of the Companies Act No 17 of 1982 without the addition of the word “Limited” to its name. Reg. No N(A) 1201.

It is registered under The Companies Act No. 7 of 2007 as a Guarantee Limited Company on 13th May 2008 – Reg. No NA 1201 & new No. GA 47.

It is registered as a Voluntary Social Services / Non Governmental Organization under Voluntary Social Services Organizations (Registration & Supervision) Act No 31 of 1980 as amended by Act No 8 of 1998 on 24th August 2004, Reg. No L-89406.

Bankers

Bank of Ceylon,
Registered Head Office
4 Bank of Ceylon Mawatha, Col. 1

Auditors

Kreston MNS & Co.
P.O. Box 210, No. 50/210
Sir James Peiris Mawatha, Colombo 2



OfERR staff and volunteers at Child Protection Training Seminar - Trincomalee

HOPE AND A NEW LIFE FOR THE RETURNEES



OfERR Ceylon began its work in Sri Lanka with a mandate to work with internally displaced persons affected by the civil war and prepare for the eventual return of the Tamil refugees who had fled to India. When the Asian Tsunami struck Sri Lanka at the end of 2004, OfERR Ceylon expanded its work to include humanitarian aid to the Eastern part of the country. Be it conflict, a devastating disaster or the post-war situation, OfERR has extended its support to displaced people in many parts of Sri Lanka.

OfERR Ceylon's network of regional offices are easily accessible to IDP returnees and returned refugees. We are present at the community level through our field staff, trained community leaders and volunteers from groups in the community. Being embedded in the community offers a unique advantage. We can respond quickly utilizing local resources, before other assistance arrives. It is a known fact that OfERR is not only around when a disaster strikes; it will be present to support those in need as and when the need arises.

Our projects focus on building the capacity of individuals, groups and community structures. We try to instill the belief in returnees that the future holds the possibility of a better life. OfERR Ceylon steadfastly provides hope, a hope that comes from a deep faith and an unquenchable desire to serve others, to change their lives for the better.

Current Humanitarian Situation in the North

Four years after the end of the 26 year armed conflict, close to 470,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) have returned to their home areas. An estimated 115,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) were still living in camps as of September 2012. The returnees, both IDPs and refugees, are facing challenges in the absence of a durable political solution in the North. Many continue to face difficulties in accessing basic necessities such as shelter, food, water and sanitation, and also in rebuilding their livelihoods and exercising their civil rights.

Unresolved land issues have been undermining the resettlement process. Some IDPs, mainly in the Jaffna and Vavuniya districts in northern Sri Lanka, are still unable to return home and are living with their friends or relatives. In the North and East regions of Sri Lanka, the de-mining of residential zones in return areas has not yet been completed. Many stretches of agricultural land still remain to be cleared, particularly in what was used as ‘forward areas’ in the war.

As in any post-conflict situation women, children, elderly people and the poor remain vulnerable to exploitation, neglect or abuse. Many of these abuses occur in the community or in the family. There is a need to build the capacity of individuals, family and community to take care of these vulnerable individuals, particularly women and children. Gender Based Violence is a concern and often neglected in humanitarian situations. The situation in Sri Lanka is no different and there is a need to deal with this issue while delivering on other priorities.

OfERR Ceylon believes there is a need to focus on finding long lasting solutions for returnees, both IDPs and refugees returned from India. We feel the emphasis should be on spurring economic growth, creating more employment opportunities and linking the region with other markets in Sri Lanka and elsewhere.

OfERR has also had to deal with the problem of boat people trying to reach the shores of Australia to seek asylum. The lure of economic betterment and the influence of persuasive people smugglers pushed them to take the dangerous journey across the ocean. It is expected that recent policies adopted by the Australian Government to discourage people from resorting to illegal boat travel, will likely reduce and eventually stop illegal migration.

It is clear that governments need to work together to come up with viable interventions in Sri Lanka, particularly in the northern and eastern region. Many of the challenges faced by returnees require coordinated efforts from the various donor agencies, NGOs and government authorities working in the region. Still it is important to recognize that post-conflict rehabilitation is well underway in the North with the government working to re-establish transport infrastructure, health and educational services. UN Agencies and NGOs like OfERR work closely with local government authorities to provide the essential life supports and improve services to the newly resettled communities.



“Resettled Refugee Returnee, Velupillai Parawathy with her children in front of their new home Tellippalai, Jaffna.



Coming home - Returning IDPs and Refugees

Since the end of the long civil war in Sri Lanka, approximately 5,000 Tamil refugees have returned from India under the UNHCR voluntary repatriation programme. The majority are from Mannar, Vavuniya and Jaffna Districts.

There are many reasons for the low numbers of returning refugees. Perhaps the primary reason is the absence of a frame-work for return agreed upon by all three stakeholders: the Governments of India and Sri Lanka and the refugees. A frame-work for return is essential to ensure the safety and well-being of returnees as well as to enable the returnees to rebuild their lives in dignity and peace.

With those refugees who have returned to Sri Lanka, OfERR Ceylon has focused on filling the gaps between government and UNHCR assistance and the concrete needs of returning refugees. Thanks to our sister organization in India and Skype technology, we have facilitated briefings of refugees in India prior to their departure. The returned refugees in Sri Lanka talk about the conditions “on the ground” in their home communities and provide encouragement and motivation to the refugees in India.

With the generous support of our donors, OfERR Ceylon has helped new returnees access basic shelter, acquire their civil documents (essential for accessing government services) and obtain assistance in starting up new livelihoods and businesses. We have integrated and empowered women in Self Help Groups where they learn the basics of running a business, and good practices such as regular saving and paying back loans.

A: HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

FLOODS IN NORTHERN AND EASTERN PROVINCES

Above-average rainfall flooded many areas in the North and Eastern regions of Sri Lanka in December 2012 resulting in extensive flooding, flash floods, landslides and tank overflows. The most affected Districts were Batticaloa in the Eastern Province and Mannar and Mullaitivu in the Northern Province. An estimated 447,000 people were affected with widespread damage to homes, crops, schools and roads. Former internally displaced people, who recently returned to Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi, Vavuniya and Mannar Districts, were among the most affected.



Flood damage in Eastern Province - December 2012

OfERR Ceylon, with help from the ACT Alliance of Churches and specifically, Danchurchaid, ensured that emergency food rations - rice, dahl, milk powder, cooking oil, bed mats and mosquito nets - were provided to flood victims (2,938 families or 12,084 individuals) in the temporary shelters in Mannar, Vavuniya, Mullaitivu, Batticaloa and Trincomalee Districts.



OfERR distributing flood relief packets in Batticaloa District, December 2012

B: Resettlement and Integration of Returnees

During the 2012-2013 year OfERR Ceylon's work focused on two major programmatic goals:

- Facilitating the integration and increasing the self-reliance of Internally Displaced Persons returning to their homes and land, and
- Facilitating the resettlement of returnees from India with the least dislocation.

To achieve its objectives, OfERR carried out a five-prong approach to resettlement:

I. Civil Documentation, Protection and Advocacy

Civil Documentation - To access government services - be they health facilities or education for the children - returnees must have their documents in order. It is no surprise that many returnees arrive home without their documents, having misplaced or lost them during frequent displacements.

OfERR provides a vital service in advocating on behalf of returnees in need of civil documents with government authorities. In Sri Lanka the most important civil documents include one's Birth and Marriage Certificates, National Identity Cards and Citizenship Certificates.

In 2012-2013 more than **35,147 returnees** – recent and former returnees from India, as well as IDP returnees - successfully obtained their documentation thanks to the work of OfERR and its regional offices. OfERR's assistance comes in the form of information meetings about documents, organizing mobile documentation clinics, providing financial assistance with the cost of travel to government centres and occasional fee payment for documents.



OfERR staff assist returnees with their civil documents

Protection - In the area of protection and security, OfERR organized awareness-raising sessions for Community Based Organisations (CBOs) on a variety of themes: Non-violent communication and negotiation skills, leadership and community mobilization, the UNCHR and human rights, conflict resolution and disaster management (risk and resource mapping).

OfERR also delivered a number of trainings through the women's Self Help Groups on issues of gender-based violence, child abuse and protection and personal safety issues.

Advocacy - OfERR continues to meet with representatives of the Sri Lankan and Indian Governments to discuss the importance of establishing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two governments and the refugee communities. A frame-work for return is essential to ensure the safety and well-being of returnees, as well as to enable the returnees to rebuild their lives in dignity and peace. OfERR Ceylon believes an MOU would instill in refugees the confidence of a safe return to their villages in Sri Lanka, thereby encouraging more refugees to make the journey home.

“OfERR-UNHCR repair of damaged homes - Muthur, Trincomalee”



II. Shelter Assistance, Water and Sanitation

OfERR provided shelter assistance - both basic and semi-permanent - to **244 of the most vulnerable returnee families** in Trincomalee, Vavuniya, Jaffna and Mannar.

Of the 244 families, 139 received temporary shelter and sanitation (new toilets) in newly resettled Navaratnapuram village, Trincomalee District. These families were among the 1500 families who were unable to return to their place of origin because the government had declared their lands part of a Special Economic Zone for the construction of a coal plant. OfERR did an initial assessment of needs and then provided housing materials to allow 139 families to construct their shelters. The government assisted by clearing the land, access roads and providing drinking water.

Many houses were newly constructed or repaired with OfERR providing roofing materials, flooring, doors and windows to the beneficiaries according to the need. Damaged toilets were either repaired or replaced. These houses included many resettled families whose houses were destroyed by flood waters in February 2011 in Batticaloa District.

Many common wells were constructed to enable families to get water for their day-to-day domestic use. These wells were also used for home gardening by the people in those areas. Assistance was provided by the UNHCR for 8 potable water wells in Mannar and Vavuniya.



UNHCR and OfERR - inaugurate common well in Mannar.

III. Livelihood Support

Perhaps the most urgent need for refugee returnees and former Internally Displaced Persons was the resumption of livelihood activities to allow them to provide for their families. Many refugees return to find their paddy fields overgrown and without access to water, or their former businesses destroyed. They need help to re-start their economic activities and become active participants in the local economy.



Livelihoods - Handing over boats to resettled fishing families in Thennamaravadi, Trincomalee District



Small Enterprise - Batik Store - Trincomalee



Milk Production - OfERR Ceylon, Trincomalee

OfERR works closely with returnees, local community organizations and government officials to identify those refugees and returnees requiring and eligible for livelihood support. OfERR provided the necessary inputs such as livestock (cattle and goats), paddy seeds, cashew plants, water pumps, delivery pipes, fencing materials, sprayers, etc. to enable many newly settled families to begin farming again. A total of 2288 returnees families in the areas of Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Vavuniya and Mannar were able to resume their livelihood activities in 2012-2013.

OfERR also facilitated business and livelihood training for many returnees, and provided inputs such as sewing machines, grocery shop items, carpentry and blacksmith tools to help returnees start small businesses. Returnees were also helped to access credit and marketing knowledge to ensure the success of the livelihoods. The livelihood assistance has allowed many beneficiaries to increase their income and better provide for their families.

IV. Education and Health

OfERR undertook a major “Early Childhood Education” project in Mullaitivu District. This resulted in the formation of many new Early Childhood Development Committees (ECDC) and the organization of ECDC Forums, cultural events, receptions, sports meets and Pongal celebrations with parents and children.

Ten new Early Childhood Centres with latrines, wells, play equipment and teaching materials were constructed and handed over to the ECDCs. Eighteen Early Childhood Centres were repaired along with toilets and wells in the various Districts.

Twenty-eight playgrounds were rehabilitated with new play equipment constructed with local materials. Sixty childcare providers followed an ECD diploma course helping them to increase their skills and motivation. All of these activities resulted in a major increase (50%) in children attending early childhood development centres and a 50% improvement in knowledge, attitude and practices of child rights and child protection among the communities and child care providers.



Saraswathy New Pre-School



New toilet and well - ECDC-Mullaitivu District



International Hand-washing Day at new pre-schools

OfERR also facilitated teacher training and upgrading and helped students prepare for O and A level exams. OfERR was able to provide school books and uniforms to 3,300 school children and facilitate the recruitment of 22 primary/secondary school teachers and 20 nursery school teachers.

In Mannar three temporary learning schools were constructed in various districts and in Vavuniya 15 teachers benefited from livelihood assistance. In Batticaloa more than 200 students attended classes in a temporary learning centre which OfERR helped to facilitate at Kaluvernkerny.

V. Capacity Building/Training

One of OfERR's greatest strengths is mobilising and training the communities for development. OfERR believes that education and training are the keys to successful development and personal growth among beneficiaries.

With the help of local Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and Self Help Groups, OfERR organized capacity building sessions in a variety of areas depending on the project focus. Topics included: civil documentation, Disaster Risk Management, gender-based violence and child abuse, child protection measures, civil rights and access to legal services, good governance and functions of local governments.

To help provide and upgrade livelihood skills, OfERR facilitated training in business and marketing, outboard motor maintenance, home gardening, herbal plant cultivation, chili powder production and small business development.

During the 2012-2013 period a total of **7,470 people** benefited from OfERR's training activities.



Tailoring training in Seethanaveli, Trincomalee



Women's Self Help Group Training - Nallur, Jaffna



Women's Self Help Group Training

Project Management

OfERR delivered on all outputs, at times exceeding the targets, through its network of field offices, extension workers and volunteers. This was possible through the active cooperation and collaboration of the community and local government administration.

OfERR carefully tracks its projects through ongoing monitoring and record-keeping. We need to know whether we've been successful in accomplishing our objectives. We believe it is essential to be accountable to our community and government partners, along with our donors. We have been pleased with how our work has positively impacted the communities in their efforts to re-establish their lives and livelihoods in the post-conflict situation.

The impact of these interventions can be seen through some of the stories of beneficiaries in the subsequent sections in this report.

PERSONAL SUCCESS STORIES

Housing and Livelihood Support

Amala Balasubramaniam

Amala Balasubramaniam is a member of a family who returned from India in 2011. Her husband, who had been living with his parents on Velanai Island near Jaffna, was displaced more than 12 times within Sri Lanka before they left by boat for India as refugees in 1990.

OfERR Ceylon helped Amala and her husband to build a new home and provided her with a new sewing machine to allow her to earn additional income. Due to illness she was unable to do any hard work. Her husband is a fisherman and her mother-in-law makes items from Palmyra leaves. “Our income is not sufficient to support five of us,” she says. Amala expressed her thanks to OfERR and its donor partners for helping the family to secure a proper home and to recommence a traditional livelihood activity.



“Life had been so difficult for my husband and his mother since 1990. After experiencing more than 12 displacements within the country, we went to India, twice as refugees. Today we are back in our own land and in our own home engaging in new livelihood activities. This makes us happy. Whatever we do here, it is going to be permanent and will help to build our lives and our children’s.” Mrs Amala - a returnee from India

Vanniyamoorthy - India Returnee

“If we were able to survive so far, I should be able to offer my children a better future back in my own land.”

Mr. Vanniyamoorthy’s family was displaced several times in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka due to the civil war. He finally decided to flee to India in 1990 where the family stayed in one of the camps in Tamil Nadu State. In 1996, they were blessed with another daughter. Mr. Vanniyamoorthy was engaged in an ice cream business to supplement the benefits the family had been receiving from the Indian government. Vanniyamoorthy always wanted to return to his home town once the situation in Sri Lanka was safe and peaceful for his children.

At the end of 2012, with the help of UNHCR he returned to Sri Lanka with his entire family. The UN arranged the travel tickets and gave the family 42,000 LKR on arrival in Sri Lanka. The family made use of the money to clear their agriculture land of 4 acres. They are now growing vegetables - chile, brinjol, manioc and groundnuts. They started to paddy but there was not enough rain given the drought the North is currently experiencing.

With the help of OfERR, the family has a new semi-permanent house with a toilet, along with livelihood assistance in the form of irrigation pipes and a pesticide sprayer. This has allowed Vanniyamoorthy to increase the size of his agricultural cultivation which has resulted in a larger crop and increased income. OfERR has also helped the family to register the remaining acres of land and are now waiting for the land permit. Vanniyamoorthy is one of the returnees who has shared his experiences with his fellow refugees in India through a Skype meeting. In one of the Skype meeting, Vanniyamoorthy was telling some of his friends from the camp in India:

“I won’t say that life here is very easy but I am happy. We prepared ourselves before our return with the necessary documents which helped us to establish our identity in the country. This has helped me to get assistance for shelter and livelihood. On behalf of my family I want to thank OfERR Ceylon for their valuable support.”



Vanniyamoorthy and his wife in front of their semi-permanent home - Vavuniya

Protection and Civil Documentation

Mr. Sadam Hussein

Mr. Sadam Hussein, from Mannar, on the NW coast, was born in India while his parents were living as refugees in the state of Tamil Nadu. He studied his Secondary School Levels (grade 12) in India. With OfERR's help his sister graduated with a B.Sc. Though the family were not sure whether they could come back and live in Mannar, the mother and Sadam decided to return to Sri Lanka in March 2012 with the help of the UNHCR.

Sadam went to the Mannar OfERR office to register his arrival. The OfERR staff helped him to obtain his National Identity Card which allowed him to vote in the elections. With OfERR's help he was also able to validate his Indian education certificates and have them accepted in Sri Lanka. One of his proudest moments came when he was appointed a Samurthi Development Officer with the Ministry of Economic Development. Samurthi officers help the most vulnerable and needy people in the villages to support themselves through income-generating activities. Sadam attributes his success to the OfERR Mannar office who helped him obtain all the necessary certificates. Said Sadam, "OfERR continuously supported me. Now I can help OfERR as a volunteer to help other returnees."



Sadam spoke encouragingly to refugees and IDP returnees at an awareness session in Mannar:

"I was born in India and returned to my motherland in 2013. Today I am working as a Samurthi Development Officer in my own village. I am no longer a refugee but a citizen of my country. I volunteer myself now with OfERR to help others to come up in life like me" he said.

Helping People with Disabilities

Anton Yoga Raja Morayas

Too often the voices of people with disabilities are simply not heard within their country, within their community, or sometimes even within families. The voices of disabled people in developing countries are even more suppressed.

“ When leaving India, in addition to the usual fear of physical and social security issues, I was concerned that I would not be able to use the wheelchair I had used so effectively in India.”

Anton Yoga Raja Morayas, aged 32, was brought up by his grandmother after his parents were lost in the war. In 1990, both had to flee to India. They were able to return to their home in Mannar in 1996. After returning to Sri Lanka, Morayas married and was blessed with two male children. He lived in Mannar until the disturbances started in Mannar and the militants began recruiting people. To escape recruitment, Morayas had to again take refuge in India along with his children and wife. Morayas worked as a laborer to substitute the welfare he received from the government. Nutrition, health and educational support were provided by OfERR in India and he was able to secure a good education for his children.



‘Morayas’ shop in Mannar

Unfortunately, due to a fall from a tree, Morayas badly damaged his hip bone and was left paralyzed from the waist down. As a result he was unable to continue his manual work and his wife became the breadwinner of the family. In India Morayas sought advice from OfERR counselors and health workers and happily, they were able to provide him with a wheel chair. Morayas set up a small shop to reduce the financial burden on the family. His wife encouraged him to find a business he could operate from a wheelchair.

Upon return to Sri Lanka and Mannar in 2012 Morayas and his family were sharing the shelter of his wife's mother. The house was so small it could hardly accommodate three people. They decided to move out and were lucky enough to be included in OfERR's housing project when they registered their arrival. The OfERR Ceylon staff personally visited Morayas and his family and carried out an assessment, informing the village officer as well as the divisional secretaries. With their approval Morayas and his family were given semi-permanent shelter with toilet facilities and livelihood support. Morayas was able to set up a small grocery shop in front of his house and to obtain necessary civil documents. OfERR also helped his children to gain admission into schools after completing the necessary documentation.

Now Morayas attends to his shop in the morning while his wife helps the children off to school. In the afternoon he makes deliveries to some of his customers by using his wheelchair.

Morayas with his wife and two sons in front of their Mannar home provided by OfERR.



PROJECT DETAILS 2012 - 2013

Name of the project	Name of the donor	Income during the year - LKR	Expenditure during the year- LKR	Jaffna	Kilinochchi	Mulliaithivu	Vavunia	Mannar	Batticaloa	Trincomalee	% of the income
CBDRR in Tsunami affected areas	PDA	21,153,364.65	17,151,752.69								9.82
Inclusive Economy for Poor farmers in Batticaloa and Trincomalee district	Christian Aid	4,061,512.70	4,641,575.37								1.89
Strengthening Non state Actors through capacity building in Trincomalee and Batticaloa	EU/Christian Aid	7,523,574.94	8,132,533.79								3.49
Providing Essential Services for Returned IDPs in Manthai West, Mannar	Palmerah		1,279,258.45								
Assistance to IDPs in Sri Lanka	UNHCR	19,505,260.00	24,931,582.48								9.06
Support to War Affected Children through Early Childhood Development Centres and Community-based Child Protection	Terres Des Hommes (TDH)	48,980,810.78	50,396,288.12								22.74
Support the rehabilitation of Tsunami Affected Communities in Trincomalee District through Sustainable Livelihood Assistance	British Asia Trust	2,080,900.00	3,881,705.22								0.97
Assistance to the Return of Sri Lankan Refugees	UNHCR	22,145,796.50	21,452,729.85								10.28

Resettlement and Early Recovery of Livelihood of Conflict affected Internally Dislaced People/Refugees in Sri Lanka	Dan Church Aid		20,999,725.25									
Sustainable Community Development - Phase 2 - Mannar District	PWRDF	2,135,532.50	5,062,080.80									0.99
Sustainable community Development Phase 3- Mannar District	PWRDF	2,017,500.00	449,602.17									0.94
Protection, Advocacy and Assistance for IDPs and Returned Refugees in the North	Act for Peace	51,108,307.90	29,504,479.59									23.73
Emergency Assistance to Flood Victims in the North	Dan Church Aid	11,381,327.35	11,386,088.50									5.28
Assistance to the Return of Refugees	UNHCR	1,165,500.00	540,285.85									0.54
General Programme	Local/individual contribution	6,434,708.00	18,192,319.89									2.99
Other income		15,676,916.16										
TOTALin LKR		215,371,011.48	218,002,008.02									



Outboard Motor Training - Batticaloa.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF OFERR (CEYLON)

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying Financial Statements of **OFERR (CEYLON)**, which comprise the Statement of financial Position as at 31st March 2013, and the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Cash Flow Statement for the year then ended, and a Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and other explanatory Notes exhibited on pages 5 to 14.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these Financial Statements in accordance with Sri Lanka Statement of Recommended Practice for Not-for-Profit Organisations – Including Non-Governmental Organizations (SL SoRP - NPOs). This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of Financial Statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Scope of Audit and Basis of Opinion

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these Financial Statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the Financial Statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the Financial Statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall Financial Statement presentation.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit. We therefore believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Reservation

Project Expenses Payable - Rs. 5,303,662.00

Above disbursements have been made after 31.03.2013 for the reasons set out under Note 12.

Opinion

In our opinion, except for matter referred to above, so far as appears from our examination, the Organisation maintained proper accounting records for the year ended 31st March 2013 and the financial statements give a true and fair view of the Organisation's state of affairs as at 31st March 2013 and its Surplus and Cash Flows for the year then ended in accordance with Sri Lanka Statement of Recommended Practice for Not-for-Profit Organisations – Including Non-Governmental Organizations (SL SoRP - NPOs).


CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

COLOMBO.

26TH NOVEMBER 2013

SB/sk

SB-Oferr(Ceylon)-IFRS-cd1c9.doc



Partners

Ms Y Shirani de Silva, FCA, FCMA
Ms Sivaselvi Balachandran, FCA, FCMA
S Rajanathan, FCA, FCMA (UK)
N K Atukorala, FCA, ACMA
Ms H D S C A Tillekeratne, FCA, ACMA
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Correspondent firm within Grant Thornton International Ltd (Grant Thornton International).
Grant Thornton International and the member and correspondent firms are not a worldwide partnership.

OFERR (CEYLON)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT
(All amounts in Sri Lankan Rupees)

		31.03.2013 Rs.	31.03.2012 Rs.
ASSETS			
	Note		
Non Current Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	2	37,489,581.65	23,964,473.48
Current Assets			
Debtors & Receivables	3	7,636,972.13	14,820,342.00
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	16,843,648.91	15,512,292.24
		24,480,621.04	30,332,634.24
Total Assets		61,970,202.69	54,297,107.72
Funding and Liabilities			
Accumulated Fund	5	28,738,748.17	40,770,182.33
		28,738,748.17	40,770,182.33
Non Current Liabilities			
Finance Lease Obligation - Net Liability to Lessor after one year	7	6,319,270.10	1,646,786.27
Loan from LOLC	6	3,613,260.00	-
Deferred Income	8	1,575,000.00	-
		11,507,530.10	1,646,786.27
Current Liabilities			
Creditors & Payables	9	18,549,724.21	10,112,479.49
Finance Lease Obligation - Net Liability to Lessor within one year	7	2,056,133.12	975,858.03
Provision for Taxation	10	1,079,825.60	791,801.60
Bank Overdraft	11	38,241.49	-
Total Liabilities		21,723,924.42	11,880,139.12
Total Accumulated Funds & Liabilities		61,970,202.69	54,297,107.72

Liability of members is limited by guarantee to the extent of the Rs. 1,000/- per member. The number of members as at 31.03.2013 was 17.

The Accounting Policies and Notes on pages 5 to 14 form an integral part of this Financial Statements.

The Management of Oferr (Ceylon) is responsible for the preparation and presentation of these Financial Statements.

Approved and signed on behalf of the Management of the Oferr (Ceylon).


.....
President / Secretary


.....
Treasurer



OFERR (CEYLON)

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

(All amounts in Sri Lankan Rupees)

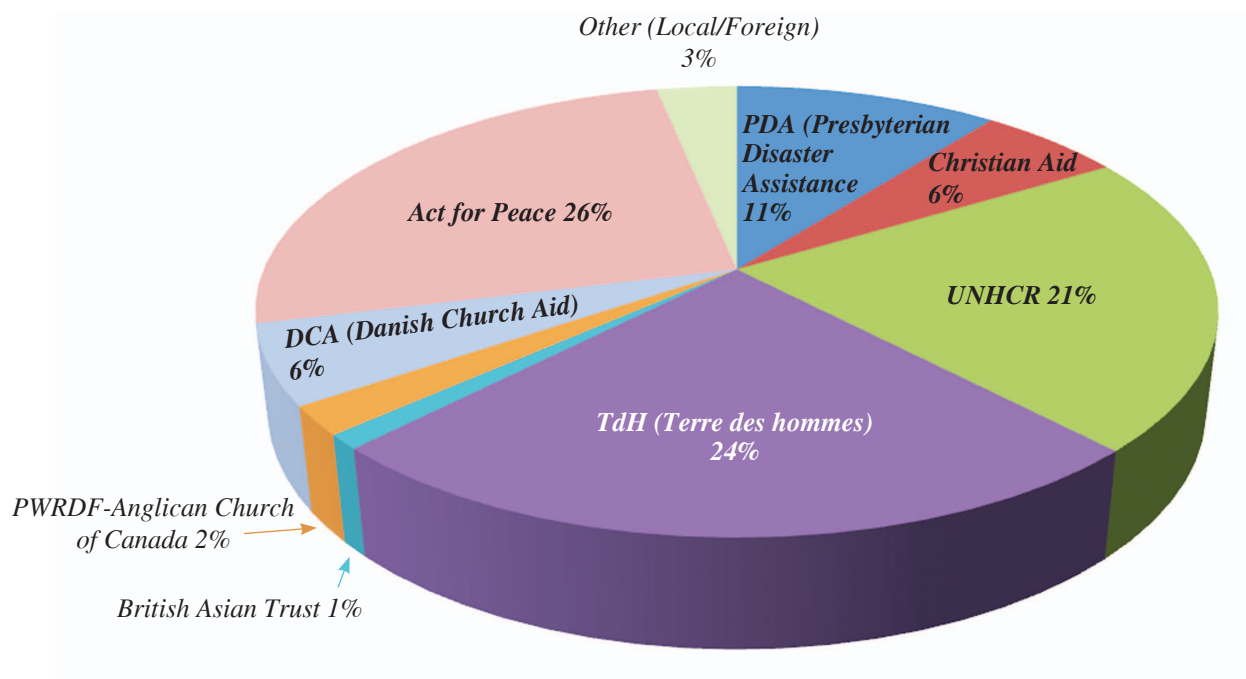
		31.03.2013 Rs.	31.03.2012 Rs.
	Note		
Incoming Resources	14	199,694,096.02	145,860,558.78
Other Income	12	15,676,915.46	1,436,206.98
Project Expenditure	14	(218,002,008.02)	(151,483,719.40)
Net Surplus / (Deficit) on project		<u>(2,630,996.54)</u>	<u>(4,186,953.64)</u>
Depreciation	2(a)	<u>(8,830,610.62)</u>	<u>(4,322,241.15)</u>
Net Surplus / (Deficit) before Tax		<u>(11,461,607.16)</u>	<u>(8,509,194.79)</u>
Income Tax Expenses	13	<u>(569,827.00)</u>	<u>(281,802.60)</u>
Net Surplus / (Deficit) after Tax		<u><u>(12,031,434.16)</u></u>	<u><u>(8,790,997.39)</u></u>



Donor funds Received 2012-2013

Name of the Donor	Amount	Percentage%
PDA (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance)	21,153,364.65	10.59%
Christian Aid	11,585,087.64	5.80%
UNHCR	42,816,556.50	21.44%
TdH (Terre des hommes)	48,980,810.78	24.53%
British Asian Trust	2,080,900.00	1.04%
PWRDF - Anglican Church of Canada	4,153,032.50	2.08%
DCA (Danish Church Aid)	11,381,327.35	5.70%
Act for Peace	51,108,307.90	26.00%
Other (Local/ Foreign)	6,434,708.70	3.22%

Donor funds Received 2012-2013



Donor Funds Expended 2012-2013			
Name of the Donor	Relief	Rehabilitation	Development
PDA		7,151,752.69	
Christian Aid		8,132,833.79	4,641,575.37
UNHCR		46,924,607.98	
TDH		50,396,288.12	
British Asian Trust		3,881,705.22	
PWRDF			5,511,682.17
Act for Peace			29,504,476.59
DCA	11,386,088.00	20,999,725.25	
PALMERA		1,279,258.45	
Other (Local/ Foreign)		18,192,013.59	
Total RS	11,386,088.00	166,958,185.09	39,657,734.13

Sector	Amount
Relief	11,386,088.00
Rehabilitation	166,958,185.09
Development	39,657,734.13

JOIN US & HELP improve and develop the lives and well-being of refugee returnees from India and internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the North and East of Sri Lanka.



WHAT WE DO - We work in nine different areas: shelter and sanitation, civil documentation, advocacy and protection, capacity-building, empowerment of women, education, health, livelihoods and small economic enterprises, and peace-building.

We also respond to humanitarian crises and natural disasters.

OUR VISION All citizens should enjoy equal rights within the rule of law, social justice, the restoration of democracy and sustainable development in their homeland.



CONTACT US

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