

Forestry Program for Early Rehabilitation of Tsunami Affected Areas in Sri Lanka

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Back ground

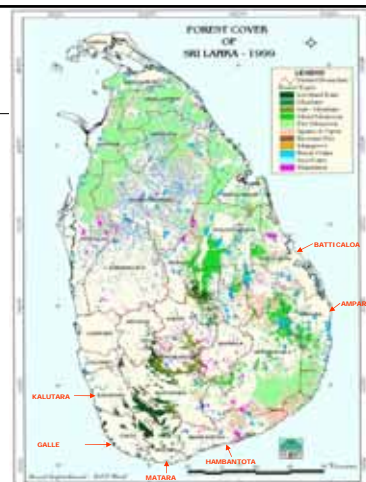
- Natural resources in Tsunami affected coastal areas were severely damaged.
- The donations were designed to address emergency needs.
- Incorporated projects in the forestry sector came only at the last stages (i.e. end 2005)
- Forestry program for Early rehabilitation in Asian Tsunami Affected Countries is in operation since early 2006 with funding from Finland.
- This project based on the recommendations of post tsunami rapid assessments conducted on the direction of Ministry of Environment.

Project Areas

Two Provinces and six districts

(i) Southern Province (ii) Eastern Province

- Kalutara
- Galle
- Matara
- Hambantota
- Batticaloa
- Ampara



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- Many agencies / organizations were interested in the rehabilitation of tsunami-damaged vegetation.
 - No tangible contribution so far except by the government. (i.e. Rs. 6.0 million to Forest Department in 2005)
 - Only one NGO (Mandru) in the east has raised about 6.0 million *Casuarina* seedlings to establish 250 ha of shelterbelts in 2006 / 07.

Project Objectives

The principal objective of the project is to help restore the livelihoods of the people in the tsunami-affected areas of Sri Lanka and to contribute to their improved and more secure futures.

Specification objectives

- To address immediate needs of the affected populations by providing forest-related employment and forest and tree-derived benefits.
- To contribute to an improved and safer future for the populations in the tsunami-affected areas through increased coastal protection and erosion control, improved household income; the supply of wood, non-wood forest products; and enhanced environmental services from forests and trees through forest rehabilitation, reforestation and home garden rehabilitation.

Project activities

- Offering advice to those interested in;
 - costal forest rehabilitation.
 - Shelter belt establishment
- Co-ordinating the rehabilitation activities at the district level.
- Mobilize support for it's activities at the National level.

Main Field Activities

- Coastal afforestation
- Rehabilitation of mangroves
- Promoting trees in home gardens development (Old and New settlements)
- Avenue planting
- Urban planting





Main Field Activities

SUMMARY OF EXTENTS FOR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF THE PROJECT

| District | Afforestation (ha) | Mangroves (ha) | Home Gardens (Old) HH | Home Gardens (New) HH | Avenue Planting km | Urban planting ha |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Amapara | 40 | 7 | 1900 | 1000 | 10 | 2 |
| Batticaloa | 30 | 3 | 500 | 1500 | 5 | 0 |
| Kalutara | 27 | 15 | 2000 | 500 | 3 | 3 |
| Galle | 10 | 0 | 2030 | 0 | 4 | 3 |
| Matara | 5.5 | 5 | 1000 | 200 | 4 | 3 |
| Hambantota | 9 | 11 | 534 | 3266 | 6 | 3 |
| Total | 121.5 | 41 | 7964 | 6466 | 32 | 14 |

HH – Households

Project beneficiaries

Direct project beneficiaries

- Vulnerable people
 - Affected communities
- } in the six districts

Project beneficiaries

- 14,400 families – benefit from home garden development
- 200 families – benefit through wages earned by Nursery work
- > 300 facilities – benefit from seasonal employment in establishing shelterbelts .
- 70 communities - indirectly benefit from control of coastal erosion
- increased protection from storms though shelterbelts / other vegetation
- other ecological benefits of Forest / mangroves rehabilitation

Project Implementation

- Forest Department as a Counterpart agency under Ministry of Environment.
- Letter of Agreements (LOA) signed with each District Forest Officers (DFO) in six districts.
- Range Forest Officers of the locality as focal Officers assisted by;
 - the Development Assistants
 - Forestry Extension Officers
 - Beat Forest Officers and
 - Forest Field Assistants

Project Operational Plans

- District level action / work plans were developed in consultation with local communities.
- Funds through the LOA is provided directly to the District Forest Officer for filed operations.
- FAO also provide materials required for the nurseries & funds for purchase of other seedling (i.e. fruit trees etc)



**Financial Programme of the Forestry Programme of
OSRO/GLO/502/FIN for 2006**

| District | Financial Programme (SL.Rs.) | | | Total |
|--------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| | LOA | Nursery Materials | Purchase of seedlings | |
| Kalutara | 2,269,620 | 300,720 | 1,077,100 | 3,647,440 |
| Galle | 1,742,630 | 849,220 | 537,950 | 3,129,800 |
| Matara | 1,390,200 | 556,600 | 262,000 | 2,208,800 |
| Hambantota | 3,050,972 | 1,338,438 | 844,820 | 5,234,230 |
| Ampara | 4,076,700 | 6,618,600 | 2,019,600 | 12,714,900 |
| Batticaloa | 3,038,860 | 4,582,170 | 545,000 | 8,166,030 |
| Total | 15,568,982 | 14,245,748 | 5,286,470 | 35,101,200 |

Progress..... so far

- Letters of agreement in all six districts were signed.
- Nursery program to raise required seedling commenced
 - in Forest Department Nurseries
 - in nurseries managed by CBO's
 - in nurseries managed by house holds
- Distribution of Fruit seedlings procured for private suppliers commenced.
- Distribution of coconut seedlings (poly bag potted) procured from Coconut Cultivate-Board commenced in southern districts.
- Most of the coastal afforestation work will be done during the North-East Monsoon (Oct – Dec)

Capability building

- > 25 officers were trained in PRA and preparation of action plan.
- They are in a position to assist villagers in preparing village action plans.