

Nucleus

NOVEMBER
2010

Organizational Development of Partner Organizations of EU in Sri Lanka



Training Workshop on Field Based M & E and Reporting

Implemented by NF with the support of the EU

A field study was conducted by NF on 14 selected EU Partners to identify their capacity building needs. Since Monitoring and Evaluation and Reporting were identified as an important area for capacity building through this exercise it was decided to develop and implement a 2 day training workshop for EU partners. This workshop was conducted in Kandy on 26th and 27th November.

The objectives of were to:

- Improve M & E and Reporting skills of field staff of partner organisations
- Contribute towards building the organisations' capacities on M & E and Reporting

It was envisaged that field staff would improve skills for efficient data

collection and management and gain an understanding of the qualitative requirements for reporting. 24 persons from among EU partners participated at this two day training program developed specially for this purpose. An evaluation done at the end of workshop indicated that even though many of the participants knew the concepts related to M & E they did not practically apply these concepts in their work. Most of them appreciated the

fact that the concepts had been simplified and that action learning was used as a training method. Since NF strongly believes that training without follow up is not as effective a field assignment was given to each organisation that participated.

The two members of the participating organisations were required to conduct a workshop similar to the one they had participated in for the other persons within their organisations and submit a report about this assignment.

NF hopes to develop more training modules on organisational development including proposal development, project planning and execution, report writing, financial management and other relevant topics. These trainings will combine the best of action learning with field experiences and will be geared to meet the real needs of those working in development at field level.

- ...this workshop helped me to improve my skills.

- Since we participated in the practical activities in the workshop they can be practiced in the field also - participants



**Innovative Solutions for
Development**

The Nucleus Foundation is a non-profit association working in development cooperation, providing a range of services to partner agencies throughout Sri Lanka. These solutions range from planning and executing projects, conceptualising and conducting training programmes, designing and carrying out research and monitoring and evaluation services. The Foundation was set up as the exit strategy of two longstanding German Development Cooperation (GTZ) private sector development projects and has been in operation since 2007. The Directors of the Foundation count many years of experience working in multi cultural multi national teams.

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Symposium on Food Security & The Environment

A symposium is planned on the topic 'Environmental Impacts of Food Security Interventions' for **10 December 2010 at the Jaic Hilton, Colombo** by the European Union, results of *Food Security and the Environment: A study on the implications of agricultural activities on the environment of the East of Sri Lanka* will be presented at this event.

Participants at the symposium will consist of professionals and practitioners from:

- the Ministries of Agriculture and Environment
- the Provincial Ministries of the East
- relevant Government officers from the North
- representatives of non-governmental organizations
- and journalists

Nucleus Training

Marketing

Even though the GTZ FLICT support for the Nucleus program in Ampara has concluded NF continues to engage and support the groups initiated under this program. One such group from Ampara participated in a self financed training program on Marketing earlier this month. These entrepreneurs are committed and interested in maintaining the linkages established through the Entrepreneur Exchange program. 20 participants from different sectors including carpentry, printing, poultry, and light engineering participated in this training.



Product Development

NF organized a training program on product development and value addition for a group of Palymyrah producers from Vavuniya.

Similar programs will be replicated in Mannar and Jaffna supported by the GTZ ProMIS project where war affected groups are supported to improve their livelihoods and their access to financial services through provisions of focused business development services.

Similar interventions are planned for sectors such as poultry, pottery, carpentry, welding, dairy, home gardening, fisheries, weaving, tailoring and many more other sectors. The training focused on key marketing strategies in the local context, challenges faced by the entrepreneurs and improving skills.

Entrepreneurship



The Nucleus Foundation (NF) in collaboration with the Career Development Unit of the South Eastern University of Sri Lanka organized a one day training program titled "Entrepreneur Challenge". 21 participants participated in the training. The program was designed to give the students hands on experience of entrepreneurial competencies through advanced action learning techniques. Some of the participants expressed their feelings about the training: *"The activities you used took us to the real business environment; it was a very good experience"* *"This training was the best. Now I feel like an entrepreneur. I got very clear knowledge about the present business environment"*.

Business Management

NF designed and conducted a training program on Business Management for Janakaraliya - a mobile cultural organization that uses a collapsible theatre and travels through districts with its theatre group. The organization hopes to develop its capacities in generating income with a view to establishing long term sustainability. The two day training program was designed to improve the business management skills of the staff while defining the structure that will enhance their performance as a business entity. The two day program supported staff to generate business ideas and analyze their strengths and weaknesses.

Introducing

Nucleus Services

A division of The Nucleus Foundation providing cost effective services to Agencies & Enterprises across Sri Lanka

NF provides the following services islandwide with the same commitment, dedication & professionalism that characterises our development interventions...

- research & surveys
- reporting & photo/ video documentaries
- partner & process audits
- legal services
- accounting services
- payroll services & EPF /ETF
- marketing support
- events, trade fairs & exhibitions
- website development
- training on organisational development, management, entrepreneurship and a range of other programmes
- business counselling
- lobby & advocacy support
- technical consultancies
- supporting access to credit and financial services
- organising field visits and study tours and many other activities are planned for the next days.

If you are an agency or enterprise looking for cost effective solutions that will save you time and energy, contact us today.

THE NUCLEUS FOUNDATION

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