Livelihood Development

Background

- Livelihood development programmes were designed to help improve the quality of life for marginalized people by providing them with access to health care, livelihood opportunity and protection; thereby giving them hope to constructively contribute to their communities.
Target groups

- The target groups are those people who are marginalized, vulnerable and stigmatized, whatever may be the cause and the environment underlying that situation. This includes but is not limited to:
  - Conflict / tsunami affected people.
  - Orphaned and marginalized people with a particular focus on children, youth and women.
  - People living with HIV/AIDS.

Objectives

- The livelihood development programmes approach, will aim at achieving societal emancipation for the targeted populations by working with the individuals to break out of the cycle of poverty, disenfranchisement, stigma, discrimination, denial and hopelessness.
The livelihood development programme is committed to achieving the key objectives of:

- Strengthening community capacity to respond to issues of poverty and supporting the environment.
- Contributing towards setting strategic directions, policies, plans and expected outcomes of issues related to vulnerable and tsunami affected populations.
- Training marginalized people to be productive in areas of need.
- Working towards strengthening communication and working relationships with other partners to provide services, education and livelihood to the target population.
- Creating and developing issue based coalitions and partnerships.
Rationale

- 30 years of Conflict and tsunami displaces over 6 million people in Sri Lanka
  - The orphans, very poor and homeless population is bypassed by the present social system. The social structure has lost the grip on children, who beg on the streets after their parents have died leaving them destitute and vulnerable.

- The effect of this broken system is that individuals now turn to peers and colleagues for support. For young people, a new culture has been created based on their experiences and the harsh environment around them. This new culture is rootless. The evolving society needs support systems that will help them rediscover themselves and eventually plan productive lives.
The Gaps in Service and Resources:

- There are NGO’s that specifically deal with the needs of these vulnerable people.
- Their lives are further complicated by the tsunami that has overwhelmed the coping resources of entire communities. Family systems have been and are being dismantled by deaths.

Livelihood Development programmes, through its mission, will endeavor to fill the enormous gap that very few have ventured to undertake. LD interventions will be innovative, cost effective, and will neither duplicate nor create parallel structures. At the same time it will respect the integrity of the society in which it works. LD will work in partnership with the affected populations.
EMACE experience

- EMACE has been operating livelihood development activities for a few decades covering 7200 people in Colombo who are low income families and also assisting people in Kalutara, Jaffna, Vavuniya, and Batticaloa.

Current programmes

- GNF/EU
  Under the GNF EMACE has provided lively assistance in following fields:

  - Sustainable fishery
  - Alternative income generation
  - Wetland craft
Nos of families supported under the project - 39 families
Total investment - 1.8 Million
Percentage of women - 72%
Training in,
- Small Business Management
- Farmer’s Training in Organic Farming.
- Introduction of new environmentally friendly techniques for prawn farming.
  E.g. – LED instead of kerosene lamps.
  Solar light system

THANK YOU