

# ANNUAL REPORT

**2023- 2024**



## VISION

- **Unity in Diversity**

## VALUES

- **Action oriented**
  - **Dedication**
  - **Risk taking**
- **Entrepreneurial oriented**
- **Results oriented**
- **Gender sensitized**
  - **Community governance**
  - **Do no harm**
  - **Eco friendly**



## MISSION

**To work with multi ethnic communities through a community governance approach to strengthen coexistence and reduce poverty by focusing on entrepreneurial and social business approaches.**

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## Executive Summary

**PALM C.D.S.C.G Ltd** operating in the eastern and northern provinces of Sri Lanka has always made a benchmark in aligning all its interventions with the organizational Vision and Mission. The organization continued the year of **2023/2024** with the same vision of “Diversity” through unity at all levels (inter-intra communities, community vs. stakeholders, stakeholder’s vs. stakeholders, public private integration etc.) as in the previous annum. Not with standing, the Mission of PALM has also been achieved in the year by working with multi ethnic communities and also creating space for livelihood opportunities through the good governance mechanism. A total sum of **LKR 241,052,538.73** was burnt in all its project site interventions.

Global warming and the effects of mass deforestation inside the country have brought about vast climatic changes which has challenged the main economy of cultivation in the northern and eastern provinces. The water bed has also been affected due to man-made calamities. Therefore, PALM embedded on strengthening the Operation & Maintenance of tanks and cascades so as to make the farmer communities involve in climate-smart farming. There was further the possibility of addressing the marketing methodologies to suit the farmer with products harvested.

The year also witnessed new donors being attracted due to the proven results exhibited by PALM in the northern and eastern provinces; the **Japanese government** being one such initiative through its **Japanese Supplementary Budget** which planned to address crisis relief support mainly targeting women-led MSMEs. It has been anticipated that **32,000** vulnerable community members would directly be benefitted through this intervention. Totally PALM has served to **37,435 families in North and East**.

PALM has always had the top niche in the field of capacity building. As a result, an intensive capacity building pertaining to leadership and communication skills, mediation and peace building, networking and fundraising and basic civic education techniques was conducted for members of the co-existence forum in Anuradhapura. Furthermore, PALM also embedded in training youth on the positive and constructive usage of social media for the betterment of resolving social conflicts and promoting reconciliation thus fostering peace and understanding to the outreach. Another milestone for PALM was the direct involvement of **PALM Netherlands** (the mother organization) in planning to support women headed families to improve their living standards through livelihood promotion and skill development programs.

**CITI Foundation** tied up with PALM in supporting a large number of farmers including females, differently abled entrepreneurs etc. in developing local agriculture and also involving in value added food production. Capacities building training programs were conducted for involving in various values added products which further opened gates to the establishment of 02 food processing units in Vavuniya. **CITI Foundation** replicated the process in Mannar district as well along with PALM. This progress has highlighted the project's impact in strengthening local agriculture and supporting women’s roles in the economy.

As the Executive Director, it is my pleasure to appreciate all our trusted donors, members of Parliament of Sri Lanka, government institutions and its officers, private partnerships for being there with PALM in making a difference in the lives of those who really have been in dire need of an extra throttle to make their own households thrive and prosper in all aspects. Furthermore, it has been the **34 (21 Male, 13 Female)** staffs of the organization who has been the real drivers who made the end results successful by gearing the project vehicles in the right path. You are really a boon to PALM.

**Sunil Dombepola (Executive Director)**

## Path of PALM

The mother organization of the company was initiated in the 1985, by Ms. Natasha Sennema, Mr. Maarten Van Woerden, Mr. Oppedaal Sjoerd and a group of Dutch volunteers who were moved by the poor and isolated living conditions of the plantation workers in the Central Province. Activities such as construction of houses, dispensaries and schools, were combined with health and educational programs were undertaken at the inception of entering into the plantation sector. Funding was received from numerous individual donors of the Netherlands which paved the way for the establishment of a development organization named PALM. The organization was supported with funding for ten years. However, in 1989, PALM was registered under the NGO registration act in Sri Lanka.

A Technical Coordinator Mr. Saman Wijebandara was appointed in 1991 to coordinate and assist in the design and construction of water supply schemes. This appointment became the cornerstone for the rapid development of the organization in the years to come. A Community Mobilization Coordinator Mr. Sunil Dombepola was appointed in 1994 to initiate Community Mobilization activities which evolved as an added mechanism to unite and strengthen community Capacities so as to handle and manage diverse community-based project interventions. Mr. Dombepola brought in participatory planning and monitoring concepts so as to engage communities in development aspects in a more meaningful manner. The process of mobilization further promoted multi stakeholder engagement.

An external evaluation was carried out in 1998 to assess the outcome of the first long – term plan. Based on this evaluation and learning of the five – years plan, a second phase plan was formulated for 2000 – 2003. However, a major change came into place with the founder member cum Team Leader, Ms. Natasha Sennema stepping down from her post in the year 2000, thus creating the path for a local member to become her successor.

The gigantic deadly tsunami waves which swept through most parts of the coastal belt of Sri Lanka on Boxing Day, 2004 saw the influx of various community development organizations walking into the devastated north and east of the island nation. Added, PALM Foundation too, was gifted with the momentum of expanding its wings to the Eastern Province in April, 2005. Possessing immense experience in community development, answering to catastrophic calling etc., PALM Foundation (Eastern Wing) was so capacitated to ground post tsunami relief and recovery programs in 03 districts in the province, headed by the community mobilization veteran, Mr. Sunil Dombepola. PALM Foundation further diversifying its program strategies, created a company named the PALM Community Development Services (Guarantee) limited in 2009 under a resolution passed by the Board of Directors of PALM Foundation. Since then, PALM in the East has independently been operational under a unique governing body.

## Climate resilient integrated water management project – (CRIWMP)

### Village Irrigation Systems

Over the past year, the FoS Working Committee Leaders have been actively engaged in a series of discussions and data collection efforts aimed at enhancing ecosystem components and addressing operational and maintenance (O&M) needs across various locations, including Ulukkulam ASC, Kalveerankulam Tank, Muthaliyarkulam Church, Adappankulam, Illuppaikulam, Mankulam, Kele Siyambalawewa, Sinnasippikulam, and PIR.

A comprehensive analysis pertaining to the availability of O&M equipment for the Thudduwagai and MVK cascades has been completed, the analysis has further provided valuable insights for upgrading priorities and incorporating climate change (CC) risks. Depth gauge readings have been successfully collected in 31 tanks (total 36 tanks), with arrangements made in an effort for renovation and rehabilitation of such tanks in Thivekulam, Adappankulam, Kalveerankulam, Mankulam, Muthaliyaarkulam, Cheddikulam, Ulukkulam, Sinnathambaniukulam, and Thagalankulam.



The project awareness program for four street dramas was successfully executed in Iluppaikulam and Thudduwagai, and on in Mankulam and Arasadikulam, engaging the community in a creative and educational manner. Field-level meetings with the community to monitor progress have been conducted, along with the execution of ecosystem component development activities, such as the construction of drainage channels and culverts, in the Tanakkankulam MVK Cascade.

The implementation work service agreement has been finalized, with participation from the Department of Agrarian Development TO, Cheddikulam Agrarian Service Center office FOs, and Mathawaithakulam. A pending downstream construction ratification meeting was held with 16 participants (5 officers, 10

males, and 1 female) in attendance. Progress has also been made in the completion of water management training programs for FO leaders and farmers, the proposal for an ecosystem development plan, and ongoing efforts towards multi-year business development planning

## Climate Smart Agriculture- CSA

- **Mapping and Database Development:**

15% of mapping of soil drainage classes and soil types under the downstream tanks has been completed. In addition, 80% of preparation of a Geo-spatial Database/Dashboard for monitoring and reporting has also been completed.

- **Agriculture Technology Dissemination:**

25% of agriculture technology packages has been completed and disseminated.

- **Cultivation Intensity (CI) Increase:**

CI increase has been achieved across 22 tanks in TVK which covered 1,046 acres. In addition, 559.5 acres in MVK 1,598 acres in the out-of-cascade areas have been covered totaling 3,203.5 acres. The increase of CI for the Yala season included 559.5 acres in MVK, 1,046 acres in TVK and 1,598 acres in out-of-cascade areas.

- **Beneficiary Engagement and Crop Planning:**

A farmer beneficiary criteria as well as crop planning mechanism are in the development stage. In addition, organizing of field level programs and necessary arrangements for inputs are also in progress. This has reached a 30% completion at PDOA level. However, the identification of 20 households for provision of equipment for involving in home gardening will be accomplished within the upcoming reporting period.



- **Climate-Smart Farming and Market Establishment:**

Establishment of commercial-scale climate-smart farming units in potential marketplaces is 30% complete. Crop planning and training for farmers alongside the establishment of home gardens are ongoing. The final selection in coordination with PDOA has been undertaken.

- **Water Management and Village-Level Initiatives:**

60% demonstrations pertaining to water management have been

completed in VIS. 1 out of 12 CI tanks were selected following discussions with PDOA.

### **Seed Bank Strengthening:**

A total of 40% of strengthening and establishing of seed banks in relevant districts has been completed in order to ensure local seed availability for paddy, OFC, and vegetables

- **Market and Business Initiatives:**

The Vanni Green Farmers Market which was launched on April 25, 2024, is operating profitably. Strengthening 400 women-managed small business initiatives and linking them with national marketing networks has reached a 30% completion.



## Safe Drinking Water

- **Usage Surveys and Water Harvesting:**

1408 Rain Water harvesting (Individual) and 19 Schools were completed in Vavuniya and Mannar in this reporting period. Usage surveys for 233 RWHTs were completed which reached a successful 100% achievement.



- **Pipe Laying Extension Project:**

With the pipe laying in phase 1 reaching a 90% completion, a new beneficiary lists was collected towards implementation of phase 2 funded by members of Parliament. During the reporting period, 17km of the total 35km target had been accomplished.

- **Large Advance Filter and DNCWS Projects:**

90% of construction work of the LAF in Rasapuram had been completed and ready for handing over. The same process was prevalent at Anandapuram where 80% of work been accomplished. However, estimates pertaining to the DNCWS project for Periyakattu which had been submitted to departmental office were still pending approval.

- **School Construction under Small Advance Filter:**

Construction work for seven schools under SAF was in progress.

- **Groundwater and Water Connections:**

A RWHS groundwater unit had been established in the Ayushapitiya GND. In addition, during this reporting period, 48 water connections under the APK had been installed. The total installations have been designed at 100 end user connections.

- **Case Studies and Data Management:**

Two case studies pertaining to RWHS and small advance filters have been developed. In addition, 90% of Com-2 data has been uploaded. Training programs conducted by the DNCWS has been completed successfully where the resource pool which had been developed, was utilized. Rainwater Harvesting Systems (RWHS) were established in 12 schools. Furthermore, capacity building in relation to WASH including the Operations and Maintenance were also conducted in a successful manner. The installation of 5 small water treatment and purification systems in schools and hospitals, along with 20 new systems in schools has been completed.



## Disaster Management

23 individual training sessions focusing on manual gauge data reading were conducted for MRG personnel so as to enhance the proficiency in collecting data where farmer from Periyanochikkulam, Odikulam, Thegilankulam, and Nawatkulam were closely monitored and trained in manual rain gauge recording. Notwithstanding, FOs further received specialized training on tank water level recording at Sinnathambanaikulam. Coordination efforts were made to install flow measuring gauges at Thudduvakaikulam and Muthaliyarkulam in collaboration with the CECB.



Six cluster-wise mobilization sessions were successfully completed, encompassing manual gauge reading, water management, and weather forecasting. The Deputy Director and Assistant Commissioner had agreed to conduct the Yala review meeting and prepare the Maha agro-met advisory during the second week of August.

Despite this, a success story within the TVK cascade has been drafted, showcasing positive outcomes.

An initial stakeholder workshop on flood preparedness was held at the Vavuniya South DS

office, with plans to strengthen VDMCs in the upcoming month. A student awareness program was also conducted at Muthaliyarkulam R.C.M Vidyalayam and the planning process for future activities was in the draft stage. Additionally, land laser leveling work is ongoing.

As part of the prioritized infrastructure development, significant progress has been made in the earthwork for internal roads and the excavation of drainage channels. The location for installing elephant crossing warning boards has been successfully identified, ensuring the integration of wildlife conservation measures with ongoing construction efforts. The above activity was implemented in parallel to the internal road and water drainage system development.



## Japanese Supplementary Budget - Vavuniya

UNDP, with the technical and financial assistance of the Government of Japan, has planned to provide immediate crisis relief support through the diversification of livelihoods and the introduction of entrepreneurship programs, especially targeting women-led MSMEs to secure sustainable income. Further to the provisions to access innovative markets, agriculture sector value and supply chain improvement interventions will be introduced under the Japanese Supplementary Budget (JSB) assistance to enhance family nutrition/ food security. A total of 8,000 women of smallholder farmer families are to be directly supported. Female headed households will be given priority in the selection of small holder farmer families. This intervention will benefit a total of 32,000 vulnerable community members directly in the Dry Zone districts of Mannar, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee, Vavuniya, Anuradhapura, & Polonnaruwa.

### **Project Name:**

“Strengthening Smallholder Farmers and Micro/Home-Based Agriculture industries for Enhanced Food & Livelihood Security”

### **Overall Objective:**

To provide immediate crisis relief support through the diversification of livelihoods for 8,000 women of smallholder farmer families and raise their income.

### **Outcome:**

“Increased income from self-employment in the poultry value chain”

### **Key Outputs:**

- Established locally adaptive poultry chick production, brooding, and distribution system
- Developed poultry feed raw material production and poultry feed processing mechanisms with selected entrepreneur groups.
- Chicken coop-producing entrepreneur group is trained and provisions to supply chicken coops.

### **Project Benefits:**

- Training and capacity building programs on poultry management & health to improve sustainable livestock production value chains.
- Establishing Mini Hatcheries and Brooding Centers.
- Establishing and strengthening local feed processing units to improve the sustainability of the value chain.
- Develop community-based chick feed cultivation (Maize Cultivation) with Irrigation Systems.
- Fabrication and supply chicken coops and hatchery chicks among beneficiary families.
- Entrepreneur access, business partnership established.

A preliminary survey was conducted during March and April 2023 in the Vavuniya district to select beneficiaries for this project where 1500 women were selected with the support of the Economic Development Officers. The main objective was to maintain an equal representation from the respective villages coming under 52 GN divisions in 03 Divisional Secretariat Divisions (DSD) of Vavuniya, Vavuniya South, and Vengalcheddikulam after which an analysis was done in order to update the Kobo tool. The process saw a successful accomplishment.



30,000 chicks had been purchased and delivered to the two main brooding centers at Echchankulam and Maharambaikulam. The interventions also saw the accomplishment of 30,000 birds been delivered to selected beneficiaries. This has created a production of 288,000 eggs in the Vavuniya district every month which has been anticipated to increase double forth within the next quarter. It is also forecasted that the prices of eggs would reduce drastically in the future. The output has further brought about a habit for families to consume eggs on a daily basis which was increased their nutrient intake and fulfillment of health of family

members; from small too big.

A total of 1127 chicken coops were provided to beneficiaries. Out of the total coops, 386 coops were directly provided by UNDP. The project further provided a Palatine machine and Scale for Maharambaikulam (LSM) Feed Processing center. As a result, LAMBO has been hatching about 1000 chicks per a month whereas LSM has been producing 2500 chicks per a month. In addition, both farms have been producing 2500kg – 3000 kg poultry feed per month.

So far, twenty (20) farmers and Twenty (20) suitable plots (each plot comprised of 01 acre of land) have been selected and cultivated for a continuous supply of mash in the project. Seeds and irrigation systems have been provided by UNDP. 150 kg of maize seeds for cultivation was distributed among all Twenty (20) farmers where 12,500 kg of maize had been produced through the specific cultivations and all harvestings had been purchased by LAMBO Feed Processing center. Twenty (20) Sprinkler systems and 370 BSF units were provided to Maize farmers in Vavuniya by UNDP.

**Following three key project objectives were achieved within the reporting period;**

1. Established locally adaptive poultry chick production, brooding, and distribution systems among the targeted beneficiaries in the Vavuniya district
2. Developed poultry feed raw material production and poultry feed processing mechanisms with selected entrepreneur groups in the district
3. Chicken coop-producing entrepreneur groups trained, supported and provided with chicks coops and chicks for 1500 selected families in Vavuniya district.





**4. Before** **After**

Beneficiaries

**Conventional (home-made) coops**



**New coops by project**



**Own breed**



**Quality 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Breed**



**No Training / traditional Practices**



**Obtained trainings / New**





**Own Practices**



**Birds Vaccination by DAPH**



**Own made food bucket, any available one applied**



**Food bucket, Water Bucket apply for Hygiene**



**Brooders / Mini Brooders**



Old brooding coops, old/ malfunctioning incubator, Own made incubator applying



New Brooder Coop, New Incubator or repaired large incubators.

**Feed Processing Centers**



Old machineries



New machineries



Maize Cultivation

Own practices



With Sprinkler



Market linkages, Value chain

Own selling methods



Green business forums, collecting centers



## Japanese Supplementary Budget - Mannar

In line with the project's objectives, the Layer House was also renovated, resulting in a spacious facility spanning 1073 sq. ft. This improvement allows for increased egg production and the optimal welfare of laying hens. To enhance the hatchery's capacity, two setter machines were rehabilitated, each capable of accommodating 4224 eggs. Furthermore, two hatcher machines were renovated, with each having a capacity of 1000 eggs. These upgrades significantly bolstered the hatchery's overall capacity, enabling it to efficiently hatch a larger number of eggs.

Recognizing the importance of water management, the project team established a dedicated water unit beneath the hatchery location. This unit serves both poultry water usage and meets the water needs of the surrounding community in Cheddiyar magan kaddayadamban village. Sprinkler irrigation, Air Conditioner, Generator, Feed processing Machine were provided to the hatchery farm to ensure the continuous supply of chicks to the small hold farmers in the Mannar district.

In addition to the infrastructure improvements, the project also provided essential poultry water and equipment. This included 100 egg trays, 18 feeders, and 16 water bottles. These equipment upgrades enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of daily operations, guaranteeing that the birds receive optimal care and nutrition. Through the support of this project hatchery bird production is currently ongoing.



The hatchery has successfully produced and distributed chicks to local farmers, 6610 chicks have been supplied, directly benefiting smallholder poultry farmers in the region. In addition, the project also focused on capacity building. Training of Trainers (TOT) sessions were conducted for Live Stock Development officers who then provided technical training on poultry management to the beneficiaries. 27 poultry management training programs have been provided to the beneficiaries. In addition, a basic awareness program on poultry farming has also been provided to the 27 micro cluster groups formed as part of project interventions.

20 farmers who had been selected to cultivate maize in 20 acres in the district, received maize seeds to ensure the continuous supply of maize. 150 kg of maize seeds and sprinkler irrigation systems were distributed for the purpose. Harvesting is ongoing at present due to strategic measures taken to support the said farmers. A total of 15300 one-month-old chicks have been successfully distributed to the Nanattan, Manthai West and Madhu DS Divisions.



## Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Activities project

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded Social Cohesion and Reconciliation (SCORE) program, Global Communities is working with the Government of Sri Lanka and PALM has been selected as the local partner to promote social cohesion, peaceful coexistence and sustainable community-based reconciliation based on participatory, united, inclusive and shared manner aiming through knowledge and capacity enhancement, leadership development and reduction of economic disparities among various ethnic and religious communities in the three districts.

### 01. Stakeholders Engagement Dialogues (02) to build shared values and ownership



A discussion was conducted with the participants and stakeholders in a forum to disseminate share work plans and exhibit salient experiences of constructive engagement in order to succeed in the SCORE project. It also paved the way to create constructive engagement and commitments towards the project and after. Stakeholder engagement and

dialogue were the entry points of the project for building rapport, understanding, admitting the shared values and ownership of the community leaders including responsibilities among the stakeholders in a transparent manner. This initiative enabled in the creation to develop project implementation plans and further enhance a positive dialogue towards its implementation approach of the SCORE project at each district level (Anuradhapura, Trincomalee and Vavuniya).



At the end of each program in the three districts, participants were able to provide feedback on the stockholders' engagement dialogues. This stakeholder dialogue has provided insight in constructive ways of achieving planned objectives by creating scope for fresh options that are feasible for all concerned at the village level. The total participation was 82, including 56 females.



## SPORTS TOURNAMENTS JOINTLY ORGANIZED BY YOUTH CLUBS AND CES

Organizing and conducting sports tournaments have promoted community interaction between youth and adults and further enhancing engagement and collaboration between youth, CES and Cohesive Forum members, and other community members. This deepened relationship has made the youth feel included which in return has encouraged them to actively participate in community development activities.

Sports tournaments and awards ceremonies were successfully conducted with diverse participation from various organizations, including coexistence societies, youth clubs, sports clubs, other community-based organizations and state institutions. This broad representation not only fostered inclusivity but also strengthened community bonds across different sectors and demographics. These events have served as vital platforms for positive engagement, collaboration, and community building, significantly contributing to the overall well-being and cohesion of the communities in Vavuniya, Trincomalee, and Anuradhapura.



Trincomalee, Muthur for Aalimnaga, Kattaparichan and Sampoor team.

Inauguration ceremony of tournaments and awards ceremonies at Horowapothana by the Social Cohesive Forum Anuradhapura district (SCFA)

Youth sports tournaments and awards ceremonies have been completed at



## IMPROVE THE CAPACITY OF COEXISTENCE FORUM MEMBERS.

A two-day training program was conducted to enhance the capacity of the coexistence forum members in the Anuradhapura district. A total of 28 members participated in this capacity building program. PALM selected this forum for targeted development in key areas including leadership and communication skills, mediation and peace



building, networking and fundraising and basic civic education techniques. With the knowledge and skills gained from this capacity-building program, participants were better equipped to effectively resolve community issues and make collective decisions. This training created a platform to further deepen social cohesion among diverse groups, fostering collaboration with relevant stakeholders in the future.

Main focuses:

1. Leadership and Communication Skills
2. Mediation and Peace building Skills
3. Networking and Fundraising Techniques
4. Civic Education (Basic)

Training program of improvement of capacity building and Sessions on citizenship education Resource Person - Sumit Ratnayake

## **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR YOUTH ON USING SOCIAL MEDIA**



A two-day residential training program was conducted for 30 selected youth from multi-ethnic, multi-religious communities in Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, and Trincomalee. The training focused on using social media as a tool for resolving social conflict and promoting reconciliation. Participants, who have been active in various social media platforms, were trained to develop and share content aimed at fostering peace and understanding. The program also included practical sessions on identifying and addressing conflicting contents across platforms such as YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram. This initiative equipped the youth with the skills needed to contribute positively to social cohesion and conflict resolution in their communities through responsible social media engagement.



## COEXISTENCE FORUM LAUNCHING AT DISTRICT LEVEL

The Anuradhapura District Coexistence Forum was formally launched with the participation of 40 individuals, including religious and community leaders, youth representatives and government officials. This event highlighted the inclusivity and collaborative spirit of the initiative, demonstrating a district-wide commitment to promoting coexistence and harmony.

The involvement of youth leaders in the Forum underscored a forward-looking approach to peace building and reconciliation, emphasizing the importance of empowering young people as change agents in their communities. Their active participation has rejuvenated fresh energy and creativity to the Forum's activities, thus contributing to a long-term sustainability and resilience of peace efforts within the district.

This initiative set a positive precedence for similar efforts across the country, showcasing the potential for collective action in building a more cohesive and inclusive society. By uniting religious and community leaders with youth representatives, the Coexistence Forum provided a vital platform for diverse voices to be heard and perspectives to be shared.



the highlighted the government's commitment to supporting grassroots peace building initiatives. This strengthened relationship was to bolster the Forum's efforts in fostering social cohesion and unity at the community level.

Significant strides have been established in integrating gender perspectives into its peace building initiatives, emphasizing the economic empowerment of women as a key priority through the SCORE project.

This focus aligned with international commitments to promote gender equality and women's empowerment as essential components of peace building and development agendas.

## COEXISTENCE FORUM LINK WITH THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

The Anuradhapura District Coexistence Forum had established a crucial connection with the Ministry of Justice and the Office for National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR). This initiative was supported by the active involvement of Ministry of Justice staff. This collaboration marked a significant advancement in promoting harmony and cooperation within the district. The partnership not only enhanced Forum's legitimacy and credibility but also





## 02. Citizen driven activities

The project has successfully expanded participants' knowledge and understanding of diverse issues, cultures, and perspectives beyond their immediate surroundings. This broadened awareness has led to increased motivation and empowerment among participants, enabling them to apply their new insights and skills to address community challenges and pursue personal goals effectively.

## Livelihood Support for Women Headed Families – PALM

### Netherland

**Objective:** 45 women-headed households from Punnaicholai, Mamangam, Karuvapankeny, Amirthacali, and Puthunagar villages will be involved in self-employment initiatives. Their living standards will be improved, and their capacity will be enhanced through skill development programs.

#### Outcome of Project

- Families would achieve self-sufficiency in economic income.
- They could have three meals satisfactorily.
- They are capable of managing income and expenses promptly.
- They take a keen interest in and care for their children's educational development.
- They could develop a habit of saving.
- Other family members fully support the head of the family in self-employment motivation.
- Incidents of family violence will decrease.
- They would attain characteristics of self-confidence and self-determination.
- They could develop leadership skills.
- They will be respected by society and attain a good status within it.

#### Changes and achievements among the beneficiaries through this livelihood project for women Headed Families.

- The income of the beneficiaries has increased.
- They can meet their household needs.
- As they get good income from livelihood project, they are more concerned about their children's education.
- They are interested in saving money in bank.
- They are respected by the society as they are well off.
- They are happy in the family.
- Domestic violence has decreased.



Results of the Project

**Grocery Shops:**



**Home Gardening:**



**Tailoring:**



**Coconut oil preparing:**



**Short  
Eats**

**Shops:**

**Cloth Business:**



## Food security interventions – Funded by CITI foundation (Vavuniya)

Support diversified production, entrepreneurship development with supporting to develop supply chains and localized market interventions to increase availability, accessibility and affordability of food products in the ‘Vanni Green’ local markets with the support of the District Secretariat (SED).

### Results

The project has made significant strides in supporting farmers and developing local agriculture. A total of 558 farmers participated, including 268 women, 49 women-headed households, and 10 differently-abled individuals from 24 Farmers' Organizations (FO) and 3 Women's FOs. The distribution of seeds included 3,691 kg of black gram (covering 369 acres), 571.5 kg of green gram (59 acres), and 176 kg of finger millet (44.5 acres), total 4,439 kg for 473 acres. For the first time, Off-season Food Crop (OFC) cultivation was carried out on 74 acres, generating an income of LKR 43,929,850.

Eighteen awareness programs were conducted, training 558 farmers, including 268 women, in crop planning, OFC cultivation technology, weather forecasting, and the production of nutrition-rich food products. Four training programs were held for leaders from 18 seed banks, focusing on quality seed production, selection, and storage. A seed producer group and 18 seed banks were established in Vavuniya District, with infrastructure developed including seed storage buckets, dry carpets, scales, storage pallets, three-layered storage bags, and electronic sealers.

The project adopted a 1.5 times return policy, resulting in the collection and storage of 4,233.5 kg of quality seeds from these seed banks. These seeds were utilized for Yala and third-season cultivation across 74 acres under 7 tanks, with the remaining seeds stored and low-quality seeds sold, resulting in a cash balance of LKR 583,450 saved under FO bank accounts (Andiyapuliyankulam – LKR 245,000, Kalesiyambalawa – LKR 161,200, Mankulam – LKR 121,250, Adappankulam – LKR 56,000).

A cascade exhibition was held at the district level to share lessons learned, with participation from DD – PDOA, SED, DS, GA, and others. Twenty women from three Women's FOs (Kalesiyambalawa, Kudakachakodi, and Ulukulam) were registered as Food Production Entrepreneurs. These women were trained in value-added food production and established two food processing units in Ulukulam and Ganthinagar, with support from PDOA and the Women Development Society. Following building renovations and machinery repairs, necessary equipment was provided, and training in food processing, labeling, and packaging was completed. The processing units are now producing nutrition powder, finger millet powder, rice powder, traditional sweets, and spice powders. Support was also provided to develop marketing and promotional campaigns under the Vanni Green Market label, with assistance from SED and CRIWMP.



## Food security interventions- Funded by CITI foundation (Mannar)

The agricultural project has achieved notable progress with the active involvement of 279 farmers, including 147 women, 106 youths, and 14 women-headed households, demonstrating diverse and inclusive participation. Land allocation has been efficiently managed, with 38.25 acres dedicated to Green Gram, 234 acres to Black Gram, and 12.75 acres to Finger Millet, totaling 285 acres. This strategic land use reflects our commitment to optimizing agricultural productivity.



Seed distribution has been successfully completed with 382 kg of Green Gram, 2,340 kg of Black Gram, and 51 kg of Finger Millet seeds. The season's harvest yielded 5,315 kg of Green Gram, 28,881 kg of Black Gram, and 2,765 kg of Finger Millet. The resulting income highlights the impact of these efforts: Green Gram generated Rs 5,315,000.00, Black Gram brought in Rs 14,440,500.00, and Finger Millet contributed Rs 746,550.00. This success underscores the project's role in enhancing local food security and economic stability. Current seed reserves are updated to 393 kg of Green Gram, 2,814 kg of Black Gram, and 58 kg of Finger Millet. Effective management of these reserves is crucial for sustaining future agricultural activities and ensuring continued food production and economic stability.

Additionally, the strategic allocation of CITI funds to empower women entrepreneurs has proven successful. We supported 45 women with comprehensive training in food production, and six exceptional individuals received advanced training and essential resources. This initiative has significantly boosted local food supply chains, exemplifying how targeted support fosters economic empowerment and strengthens community food security.



The project has successfully engaged 279 farmers, including 147 women and 14 women-headed households, with 106 youths also participating across three Farmer Organizations. This diverse involvement underscores the project's commitment to inclusivity and community engagement. Additionally, we have effectively connected six women entrepreneurs to the local market supply chain, significantly contributing to their economic empowerment and fostering broader community development. This progress highlights the

project's impact in strengthening local agriculture and supporting women's roles in the economy.



# Safe Drinking Water through pipe line systems - Partnership with National Water Supply and Drainage Board.

**Project Title:** Safe Disaster Resilient Drinking Water to Flood and Drought Prone Areas in Sri Lanka

**Donor:** TUK-TUK

**Project Period:** 2023 to 2024

**Number of Connections:** 93

**Beneficiaries:** 380 individuals

**D.S. Divisions Covered:** Paddipalai, Porativupattu, Manmunai North, Manmunai South West

## Overview

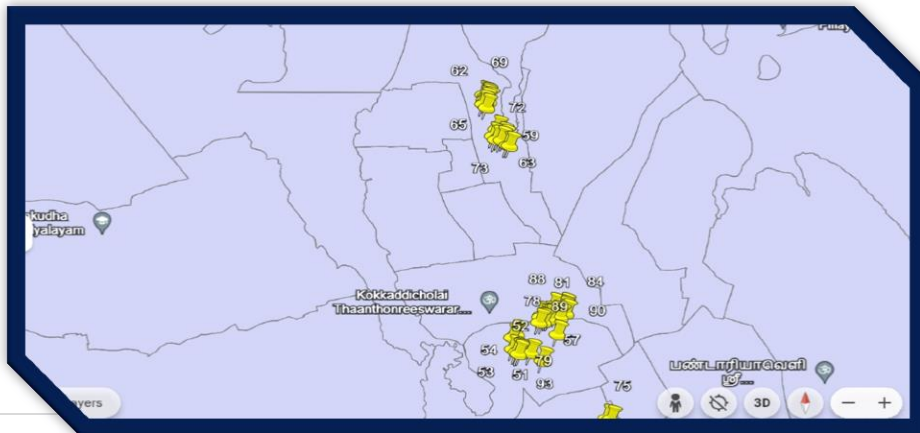
The project titled "Safe Disaster Resilient Drinking Water to Flood and Drought Prone Areas in Sri Lanka," funded by TUK-TUK, focuses on enhancing water security for communities that are vulnerable to natural disasters, particularly floods and droughts. The project spans from 2023 to 2024 and aims to establish resilient drinking water systems in targeted areas.

## Objectives

- **Increase Water Access:** Establish 93 new connections to a reliable and disaster-resilient water supply system.
- **Beneficiary Support:** Improve access to safe drinking water for 380 beneficiaries across five D.S. Divisions: Paddipalai, Verukal, Porativupattu, Manmunai North, and Manmunai South West.
- **Disaster Resilience:** Strengthen the community's capacity to manage and maintain water systems during extreme weather events.

## Impact

The project is expected to significantly improve the quality of life for the residents of these regions by providing them with a stable source of safe drinking water. This initiative not only addresses the immediate need for water security but also ensures long-term sustainability and resilience against future disasters.



## Our Partners



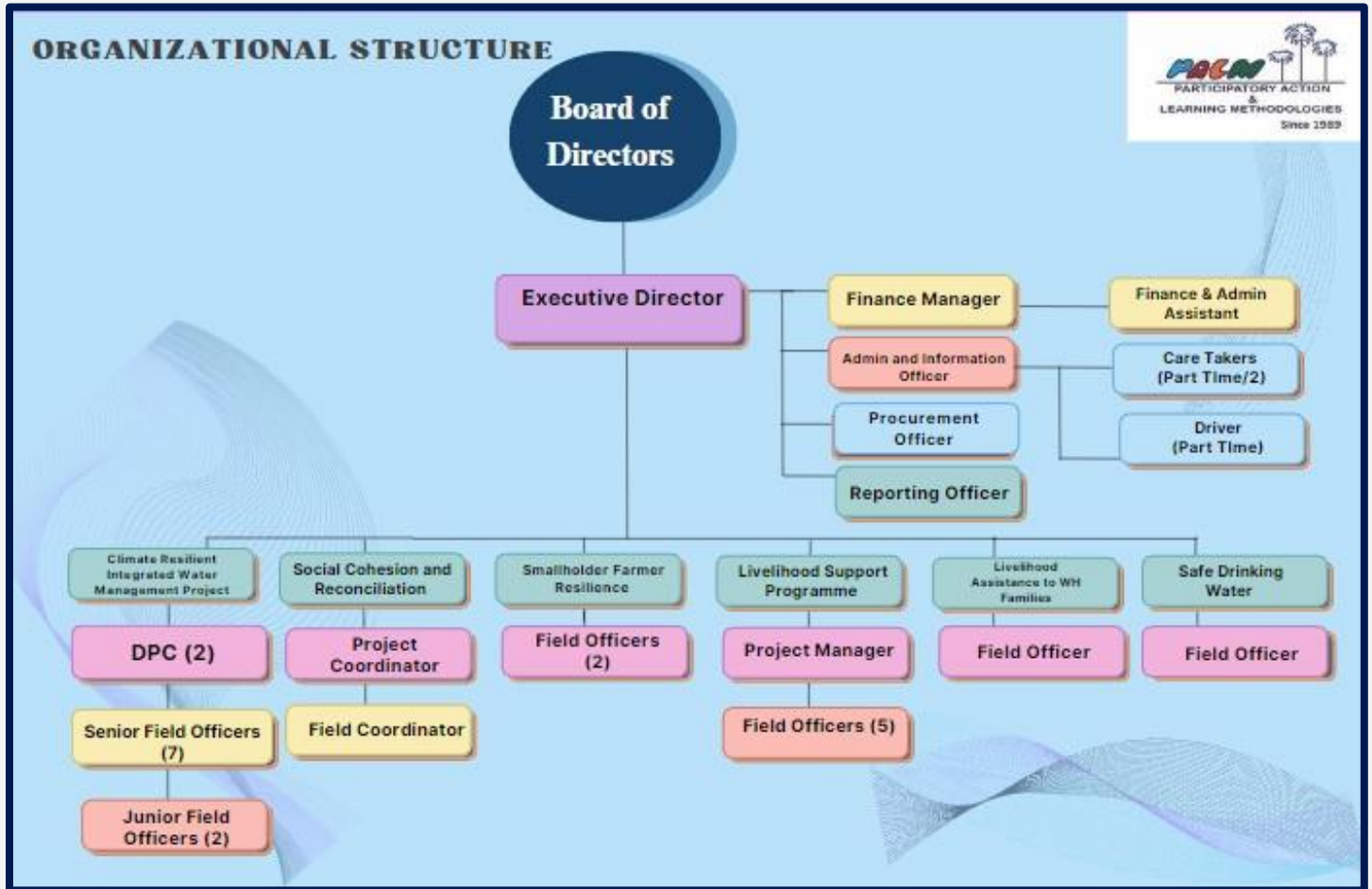
**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND



# PALM STRUCTURE- NORTH and EASTERN PROVINCE



**TOTAL = 34**

**MALE = 21**

**FEMALE = 13**



## PILLERS OF PALM – 2023/24



**PALM ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER WITH NORTH EAST AND EAST  
STAFFS AND PALM NETHERLAND TEAM**



# JAWAAMIL ASSOCIATES

## CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

No.11, St. Alban's Place, Colombo-04  
Tel : +94(11)2596000, 2596001  
Fax : +94 (011) 2596001, E-mail: ja@amjawaamil.com  
Wed: www.jawaamilassociates.com

A.M. Jawaamil. FCA, FCMA, B.COM (Hons)  
S. Nithlyavani, FCA, ACMA  
J.F. Zahara, FCA, BBA (FINANCE)

### REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

To the Members of  
**Palm Community Development Services Company (Guarantee) Ltd.,**  
No. 49, School Road, Amithakali, Batticaloa

We have audited the Financial Statements of **Palm Community Development Services Company (Guarantee) Ltd** for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024, which is exhibited in the pages 2 - 12.

#### **Respective Responsibilities of the Management and Auditors**

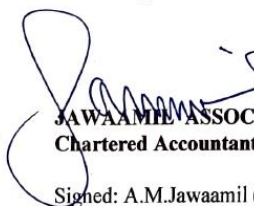
The Management of the Organization is responsible for preparing and presenting these financial statements in accordance with the Accounting Standards of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the statements, based on our audit.

#### **Basis of Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Sri Lanka Auditing Standards of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka, which require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the said financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the said financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by Management, evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements, and determining whether the said financial statements are prepared and presented in accordance with the Sri Lanka Accounting Standards. We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit. We therefore believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

#### **OPINION**

In our opinion, so far as appears from our examination, the Organization maintained proper Accounting Records for the year ended March 31, 2024 and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) as at March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, the Statement of Financial Activities (Income & Expenditure) and the Statement of Cash Flow together with the Accounting policies and Notes to the accounts for the year then ended are in agreement with the said Accounting Records and **give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the above said Organization.**

  
JAWAAMIL ASSOCIATES  
Chartered Accountants



Signed: A.M.Jawaamil (2034)  
Colombo, Sri Lanka  
Dated: 05/09/2024

Branches: (1) No : 156 1/1, Green Road, Trincomalee. Tel : 026 2221160, 0776155357 Email : trinco@amjawaamil.com  
(2) No : 45-1/2, Valvuthayam Complex Main Street, Mannar : Tel/Fax : 023 2223338 E-mail : mannar@amjawaamil.com  
(3) No. D27, Bus Stand Shopping Complex Kurunegala Road, Puttalam. Contact : Mr. Shifan 077 5264604



**PALM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMPANY ( GUARANTEE ) LTD.**  
**NO: 49, SCHOOL ROAD, AMIRTHAKALI, BATTICALOA.**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024.**

	<u>Note</u>	<u>2023/2024</u> <u>Rs</u>	<u>2022/2023</u> <u>Rs</u>
<b>Project Activates:</b>			
Incoming Sources from Donors	3	239,511,486.28	84,684,083.96
Project expenses	4	(241,052,538.73)	(81,370,679.37)
<b>Surplus Income /(Expenditure) on Projects</b>		<u><u>(1,541,052.45)</u></u>	<u><u>3,313,404.59</u></u>
<b>General Activates</b>			
Income from Donors for Project Administration	6	9,913,988.85	5,478,960.29
Revenue earned from other Sources	5	1,047,915.49	577,628.45
Project & Office Administration	7	<u>(13,322,191.63)</u>	<u>(11,147,585.88)</u>
<b>Surplus Income /(Expenditure) on General Activities</b>		<u><u>(2,360,287.29)</u></u>	<u><u>(5,090,997.14)</u></u>
<b>Net Surplus/(deficit) before taxation</b>		<u><u>(3,901,339.74)</u></u>	<u><u>(1,777,592.55)</u></u>
Taxation		-	-
<b>Net Surplus/(deficit) after taxation</b>		<u><u>(3,901,339.74)</u></u>	<u><u>(1,777,592.55)</u></u>





**PALM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMPANY ( GUARANTEE ) LTD.**  
**NO: 49, SCHOOL ROAD, AMIRTHAKALI, BATTICALOA.**

**FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024.**

	<u>NOTES</u>	<u>2023/2024</u> <u>Rs</u>	<u>2022/2023</u> <u>Rs</u>
<b><u>Assets</u></b>			
<b><u>Non Current Assets</u></b>			
Property, Plant & Equipments	8	7,514,752.89	7,232,275.33
		<u>7,514,752.89</u>	<u>7,232,275.33</u>
<b><u>Current Assets</u></b>			
Prepayment & Advances	9	1,843,515.64	5,560,925.82
Cash and Cash equivalents	10	22,291,871.89	21,626,110.46
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>24,135,387.53</u>	<u>27,187,036.28</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>31,650,140.42</u>	<u>34,419,311.61</u>
<b><u>Funds and Liabilities</u></b>			
<b><u>Accumulated Funds</u></b>			
Unrestricted (Organization's) Fund		15,605,470.58	17,965,757.87
Restricted (Donors') Fund		4,314,499.21	5,855,551.66
		<u>19,919,969.79</u>	<u>23,821,309.53</u>
<b><u>Current Liabilities</u></b>			
Payable Account	11	10,962,408.40	8,878,997.69
Accrued Expenses	12	767,762.23	1,719,004.39
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>11,730,170.63</u>	<u>10,598,002.08</u>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Funds</b>		<u>31,650,140.42</u>	<u>34,419,311.61</u>

I certify that the above financial statements comply with the requirements of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007

.....  
**Chief Accountant**

*The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and presentation of these Financial Statements Signed for and on behalf of the Board.*

.....  
**Director**

Date: 24-09-05

**SUNIL DONDEPOLA**  
 Executive Director  
 PALM Community Development Services  
 Company (Guarantee) Ltd



**PALM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMPANY (GUARANTEE) LTD**

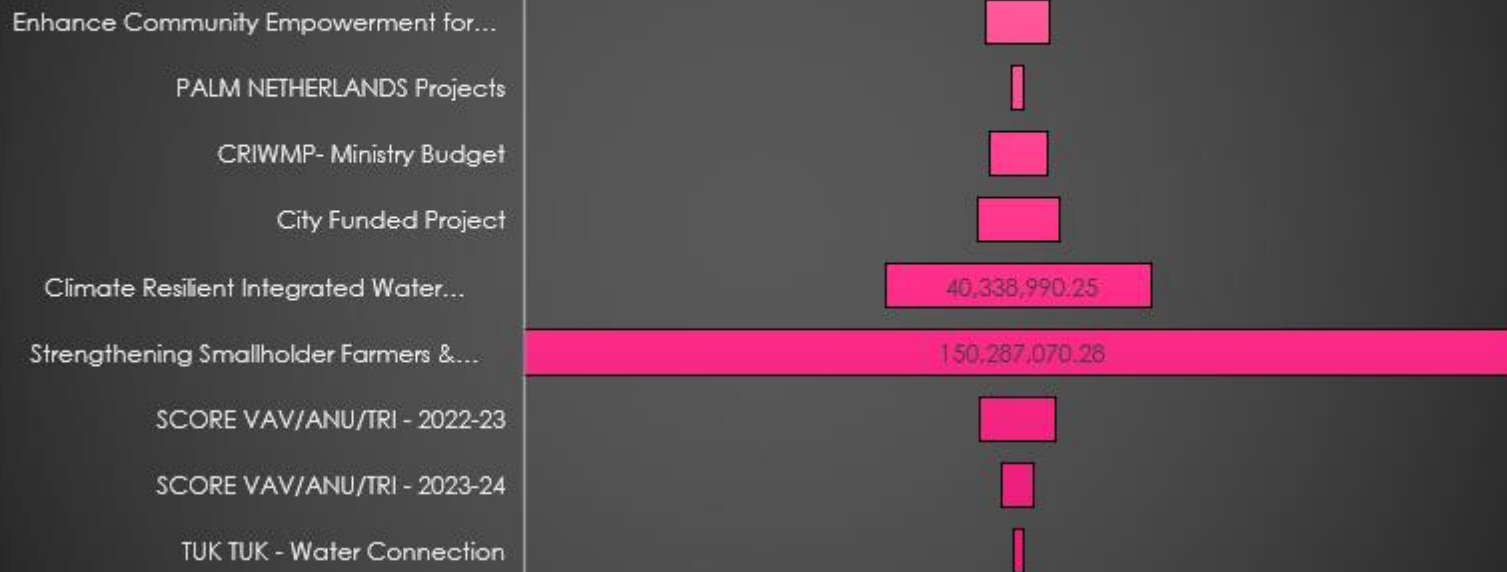
Notes to the Financial Statements

**Project Activity Summary 2023-2024**

Project	Organization	Funds			Total Amount Expensed				Total	Surplus/ deficit on Project
		BF From 2022/2023	Received Funds ( Including Receivable)	Total Fund	Personnel and Other Benefits	Other direct		Disbursements to Community Projects		
		Amount	Amount	Amount		Consumable Equipments	Other			
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Enhance Community Empowerment for meaningful Engagement in North Central Province.	United Nations Development Programme	1,378,906.02	8,290,869.00	9,669,775.02	523,862.50	-	-	9,145,912.52	9,669,775.02	-
PALM NETHERLANDS Projects	PALM NETHERLANDS	2,269,590.37	3,154,798.15	5,424,388.52	258,375.00			1,602,155.13	1,860,530.13	3,563,858.39
CRIWMP- Ministry Budget	CRIWMP- Ministry Budget	-	8,938,723.08	8,938,723.08	235,300.00			8,434,810.18	8,670,110.18	268,612.90
City Funded Project	UNDP - City Foundation	1,912,876.07	10,528,295.08	12,441,171.15	930,428.15			11,510,743.00	12,441,171.15	-
Climate Resilient Integrated Water Management Project (CRIWMP) in Vavuniya & Mannar Districts	United Nations Development Programme	(39,898.86)	40,527,157.28	40,487,258.42	14,006,404.21			26,332,586.04	40,338,990.25	148,268.17
Strengthening Smallholder Farmers & Micro/Homebased Agriculture Industries for Enhanced Food & Livelihood Security Project	UNDP - JSB	-	150,295,162.53	150,295,162.53	9,503,789.28			140,783,281.00	150,287,070.28	8,092.25
SCORE VAV/ANU/TRI - 2022-23	USAID - GLOBAL COMMUNITY Sri Lanka	334,078.06	11,070,554.38	11,404,632.44	2,666,971.50			8,737,660.94	11,404,632.44	-
SCORE VAV/ANU/TRI - 2023-24	USAID - GLOBAL COMMUNITY Sri Lanka	-	4,990,646.78	4,990,646.78	1,839,716.78			3,150,930.00	4,990,646.78	-
TUK TUK - Water Connection	TUK TUK	-	1,715,280.00	1,715,280.00	79,010.00			1,310,602.50	1,389,612.50	325,667.50
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,855,551.66</b>	<b>239,511,486.28</b>	<b>245,367,037.94</b>	<b>30,043,857.42</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>211,008,681.31</b>	<b>241,052,538.73</b>	<b>4,314,499.21</b>

### Financial Performance

■ Series1





**PALM Community Development Services Guarantee Ltd,**

**Address: No. 49, School Road, Amirthakaly,**

**Batticaloa, Sri Lanka.**

**Contact no: 0094 652059066 /  
0094 71 4210551**

**Fax No: 0094 652059066**

**Email: [palmamp@yahoo.co.in](mailto:palmamp@yahoo.co.in)**

**[sdombepola@yahoo.com](mailto:sdombepola@yahoo.com)**

**[vavuniyapalm1989@gmail.com](mailto:vavuniyapalm1989@gmail.com)**

**Website: [palmsrilanka.org](http://palmsrilanka.org)**

**AM/GA/NGO/RC/16/2008/82/07**

**Bank Details-**

**PALM Community Development Services Guarantee Ltd,**

**Savings A/C – 0580 2015 6696**

**Current A/C – 0580 1000 5161**

**Hatton National Bank -7083**

**Ampara Branch - 058**