

END OF PROJECT REVIEW OF “CENTER FOR HOPE AND HEALING IN BATTICALOA”

Conducted for

Young Women’s Christian Association of Sri Lanka

by

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I. Project Information

1. The National YWCA of Sri Lanka implemented the project” Center for Hope and Healing in Batticaloa” during the years mid 2008 and 2009. The project focused on bringing reconciliation and hope among women and girls of all communities and religions of different social and cultural backgrounds in Batticaloa District.
2. **Project components were:** Hostel accommodation, enrolment on a Pre school located in the center, Vocational Skills Training, Counselling, Micro Credit, Peace Exchange Programmes and Interfaith Dialogue Seminars. The project was funded by “Y” Global which partners with the YWCA of Sri Lanka and FOKUS.
3. **Overall Development Goal of the project:** ‘Women are empowered and playing an active role in the reconciliation and rehabilitation of the Batticaloa District in Sri Lanka’
4. **Expected Outcome of the Project:** ‘Women in the Batticaloa area are actively participating in the economy, empowered by vocational training and/or micro credit to earn a decent living and are reconciled across ethnic lines by the activities/seminars provided by the centre for Hope and Healing in Baticaloa.’
5. **Geographical Location:** DS Divisions of Batticaloa, Kallady, Kattankudy, Eravur, Manamunai North, Chenkaladi, and Koralaipattu in the Batticaloa District, in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka
6. **Project target group and size:** As per Annual Project Work-Plan the target group included women, men and children in Batticaloa who were affected by the war, violence and the Tsunami.

Hostel facilities	20 girls
Enrolled in preschool	30 children
Received vocational Training	60 women and girls (every 6 months)
Received Counseling	20 women
Received Micro credit	250 women
Participated in peace exchange programs	20 women
Interfaith programs	300 women, men & youth

II. The Study-objective, Scope and Methodology

Aim of the Review:

The Center for Women's Research was requested by YWCA Colombo, to undertake an end of project review of all the activities conducted during the project period with a view to ascertaining the strengths and weaknesses and success/ failure in the formulation and implementation of the project.

Methodology:

The review was carried out during December 2009 and January 2010.

The study sample as specified in the TOR was as follows: (Annex 1)

- (i) Project staff - two Volunteers of the Batticaloa YWCA and three center staff- (Project Administrator, Accountant and Micro credit field officer)
- (ii) Vocational skills Training - six trainees and the three instructresses
- (iii) The Hostel - warden and two Hostellers
- (iv) Preschool - teacher, Volunteer Chairperson and two mothers of children attending the preschool
- (v) Interfaith dialogue -One Coordinator and four participants
- (vi) Counsel and be-friender program – trainer and two trainees
- (vii) Catering – two center staff
- (viii) Peace Exchange Programs – two participants from Batticaloa and two participants from Colombo
- (ix) National YWCA Head Office - The project Coordinator and the Accountant

(i) **Document Review:** The Project Proposal, End of Project report, and other relevant documents and financial reports maintained by the Colombo and Batiicaloa YWCA offices were reviewed. It was reported that Audited Financial Reports had already been submitted to the donor.

(ii) Four person days (+) were dedicated to field observations and interviews by two researchers.

(iii) In-depth interviews and four Focus Group Discussions were carried out during a total of four days with the staff in YWCA Colombo and in Batticaloa including teachers, trainers, trainees, beneficiaries in the villages and participants of programme activities.

Limitations of the study:

- (i) The time available for the field study was not adequate, as beneficiary samples were not available at planning stage especially in the context of covering the diverse target groups of the seven components.
- (ii) The study coincided with the shifting to the new building of YWCA.
- (iii) As a full time translator was not assigned the researcher had to depend on ad hoc translators.
- (iv) The study sample was selected by the implementing organisation.
- (v) The beneficiaries could not be interviewed in their houses except for the participants of the micro credit and the counseling components.

III. Findings of the study

The performance of the main and sub activities that have been implemented under each core component of the project were assessed and the findings are reported under each component of the project.

Component: 1 – Hostel and Peace Room

The Hostel is located in one floor of the newly constructed YWCA building at No. 19 Anapandi Kovil Road, Batticaloa.

Expected Outcome:

- Hostel facilities for 20 women and girls of all faiths and communities

Main Activities:

- (i) The Hostel equipped with furniture and facilities improved
- (ii) Hostel committees formed
- (iii) Peace room set up and activities conducted
- (iv) Youth groups formed

1.0 Observations and Results

The female hostel warden and two hostellers were interviewed for the purpose of the study. All of them were Tamils. (One Christian and two Hindus)

1.1 Observations:

1.1.1. On visiting the Hostel the researcher observed that the second floor of the centre housed the hostel/ dormitory which was equipped with beds, both bunk and single, chairs, tables, and cupboards for 18 persons. According to the Project Coordinator it was planned to accommodate 20 hostellers but the municipality had objected to the building plan and as a result the hostel/ dormitory space had to be reduced

1.1.2 The dormitory is well ventilated and provided with 24 hours electricity and water supply. Monthly hostel fees were said to be Rs 4,000 for board and lodging or Rs 1,000 for lodging only, as at December 2009.

1.1.3. The Hostel has a TV accessible to the hostellers.

- 1.1.4. The 'peace room' which was located in the ground floor until December 2009 has since been relocated in another area of the building.
- 1.1.5. The full time resident warden, a single mother, stated that her duties include making tea, cleaning and maintaining a healthy and safe environment. During the day she also worked in the YWCA bakery. She was paid a monthly salary of Rs. 10,000, with EPF and ETF benefits.
- 1.1.6. The two young hostellers who were interviewed – a Tamil Hindu and a Christian, both 25 years old) - reported that the Hostel fees of Rs. 1000 for lodging was reasonable and affordable. However they preferred not to be part of the hostel meal plan as it was beyond their means. One girl was attending G.A.Q. classes and said her mother who is single is supporting her financially by working in the church. The other girl too was following a business administration course whilst working as an Accountant in the YWCA. Her salary was Rs 22,000 out of which she had to meet the costs of her higher studies.

Comments made by the YWCA, the warden and the hostlers are understandable in the context of the prevalent high cost of living on the one hand and the need to balance costs to maintain the sustainability of the project.

- 1.1.7. The project staff reported that the strengthening of the existing Hostel committee would be discussed at the Annual General meeting to be held in January.

1.2 Results:

On the basis of the following it is estimated that this component of the project has achieved its goals in the given context.

- 1.2.1 The warden had taken up duties in March 2009. She said that the Hostel facilities are available for 18 girls. At present there are 8 Tamil hostellers, both Hindu and Christian, from different parts of the District.
- 1.2.2. The 'peace room' they said was a useful facility as these hostellers were of different religions.

- 1.2.3. Due to the central location of the hostel the interviewees said that the hostel was situated in a secure place and that they found the place comfortable, and they had adequate access to their educational institutes, offices, shops and health services, with ample security. They reported that the hostel filled the very important need in the area for safe, secure and comfortable accommodation especially for young women starting careers away from their homes.
- 1.2.4. Most of these hostellers they said came from low income families and some of them are children of single parents and therefore find the hostel fees affordable.

Component 2: Pre-School

Expected output

- 30 children cared for in the Pre-school every year
- 50% will be children of working mothers

Values:

- Inclusive Environment and diversity

Main Activities:

- (i) Strengthen Volunteer committees
- (ii) Further training for 2 staff members
- (iii) Maintain Preschool with 30 children

2.0 Observations and Results

2.1 Observations:

2.1.1 The preschool is staffed by a Volunteer Chairperson, a paid teacher and a helper.

The Volunteer Chairperson, Ms Thiyagarajah stated that in spite of the various construction constraints that the Pre School commenced in January 2009.

2.1.2 It was reported that the Preschool teacher who was recruited was following a Preschool diploma in the Open University by utilizing her own funds. A full time G.C.E OL qualified helper too was recruited. The school covers the syllabus approved by the Assistant Director of “Early Childhood Development Education” in Batticaloa.

- 2.1.3 The age limit for the enrollments is said to be two and half to five years. It was observed that the entire group of children was found in the same activity groups irrespective of age.
- 2.1.4. Access to a bigger garden space could enhance the facilities and activities at the pre-school
- 2.1.4 Owing to the lack of information on the socio economic and socio cultural background of the families, it was not possible to ascertain the number of mothers who are employed.
- 2.1.5 The senior volunteer in charge stated that the established pre school volunteer committee is inactive due to the fact that the youth have other commitments such as pursuing their higher studies and therefore do not have time to devote to this activity.
- 2.1.6 According to the mothers the reason for the absence of Sinhalese and Muslim children in the school is that these ethnic groups are not found in the surrounding community. They said that they would like their children to mix with other communities.
- 2.1.7 It was reported that a term fee of Rs.1,500/00 is charged per child and Rs.400/00 charged as entrance fee to ensure the sustainability of the school.

2.2 Results:

On the basis of the following it is estimated that the pre-school component of the project has achieved its goals in the given context.

- 2.2.1. **The pre-school is already proving to be a sustainable venture with benefits to the community.** In 2010 January, 21 children of both sexes were admitted. There is no doubt that this has been achieved through the commitment of the full time senior volunteer, chairperson, Ms Thiyagarajah, and her team.
- 2.2.2. Diversity in terms of religion has been achieved as expected in the programme outcome. The children were mainly Hindu and Christian Tamils who are residing in surrounding areas.
- 2.2.3. Capacity building of one staff member had taken place with project funding prior to setting up of the pre-school. The teacher stated that she had attended training

programmes related to ECD in Colombo for 3 days and 5 days in Batticaloa. The programme was funded by the FOKUS project. There were other women members who attended the training programmes who are YWCA volunteers, but are not directly involved with the pre school yet.

2.2.4. The two mothers interviewed stated that they were satisfied with the performance of the children and found a positive change in their children after they began attending the school. Of the two mothers, one was working in the Hospital as a midwife and the other was not employed. According to one of the mother's the majority of the mothers of these children are employed as teachers, midwives and attendants and therefore they could afford to pay the fees.

2.2.5. The mothers said that such activities have created inter religious harmony amongst the children as well as their families. They stated that the children and their families interact with each other at birthday celebrations and Christmas and New Year parties.

2.2.6. The financial records maintained by the Batticaloa YWCA office indicate that the school has earned Rs 40,200 during the past 10 months from fees.

Component 3 – Vocational Skills Training

Expected Outcome

- 15% of participants employed and contributing to the economic development of the Province.

Expected Output (result):

- 60 girls and women both rural and urban trained every 6 months in a viable income generating enterprise.
- Human rights education incorporated in the VT and making them aware of their rights

Main Activities:

- (i) Conduct a needs assessment
- (ii) Select four of the most relevant courses
- (iii) Setting up VT units, providing certificated and recognized courses

Sub Activities:

- (i) Recruit staff/ trainers
- (ii) Prepare work schedules and logistics
- (iii) Advertises and enrol students
- (iv) Set up Volunteer committees

3.0 Observations and Results

Skills Training in Sewing, Hair and Beauty Culture and Cake icing

3.1 Observations:

- 3.1.1. The Project Manager explained that the needs assessment for this component was completed at the design stage of the total project.
- 3.1.2. Most of these young women trainees were said to have sat for the G.C.E Ordinary Level examination and a few have sat for the Advanced level.
- 3.1.3. The sewing and beauty culture instructresses were of the opinion that there is a demand for such courses amongst girls and women.
- 3.1.4. Greater attention to participant pre-assessment, screening and overall documentation and record keeping would enhance follow up tracer studies especially for evaluations.
- 3.1.5. Interviewees were of the opinion that women are prevented from going out to work due to cultural barriers. As such they felt that these women would be able to start their own income generating activity at their homes while attending to household duties.
- 3.1.6. The income generated by the two interviewed beneficiaries who have started their own businesses is around Rs 5000/- (US \$ 50) per month. It is imperative to support them further to enhance this income to make a substantial difference in their own gendered lives and in their families. .
- 3.1.7. Each of these three training courses had structured course contents which were followed by the trainees at their own individual pace.

- Sewing: Basic sewing technique, Baby wear, adult dresses, embroidery work and fabric painting.
- Beauty culture: Hair/facials/Bridal dressing/ bouquet making/Cake Making/Table decor
- Handicraft: Basic Knitting/Doll making/Artificial flowers/.Glass and sari painting

The instructor maintained a syllabus covering the core subjects relevant to the course.

3.1.8. The “Handicraft Course” was partnered with NAITA (National Apprentice and Industrial Training Authority) which is a Government body.

3.1.9. The interviewees belonging to all three courses reported that they themselves took down theory notes and that no additional reading materials were provided. The trainees following the sewing course had been requested to purchase a handbook, published in July 2009, for Rs. 550/- from a book store; but only seven out of 33 trainees had done so. This may have been due to financial difficulties.

3.1.10. These women beneficiaries stated that a six month training course was not sufficient and stated that it would be good to have an advanced sewing course in the future

3.1.11. In order to pursue an income generating activity the beneficiaries need to have the necessary equipment, capital, assets or access to loans. The three beneficiaries who received training in sewing stated that they all owned sewing machines’ However a trainee who followed the beauty culture course was unable to secure a loan as she had no access to a collateral - in her case the house she lived in belonged to her husband who already had the house committed to a loan taken by him.

3.1.12. There was no attempt to address the issue of education on women’s rights as expected in the outcomes of the Project. The instructress stated that she only discusses their personal problems in an informal manner.

3.1.13. All three instructresses stated that no formal follow up of trainees had been conducted, and that they were unable to confirm if there were women who have set up income generating activities after receiving the training. Systematic follow up and tracer studies would enhance the sustainability and future progress of trainings in the area.

3.2. Results:

On the basis of the following it is estimated that the Vocational Training component of the project has partially achieved its goals in the given context. The trainees have not yet established themselves in sustainable economic activities even though some of them have commenced income generating activities at a basic level.

3.2.1. The two instructresses conducting sewing and beauty culture training are qualified and experienced women, whilst the handicraft instructress has been trained recently.

3.2.2. The instructresses reported that the majority of these trainees were Hindu and Christian Tamils between the ages 16 to 35 years, of low income families from urban and suburban areas.

3.2.3. They further reported that they maintained a syllabus covering the core subjects relevant to these certified courses which were conducted during the period January to December 2009. A total of 98 women and girls had enrolled for these courses.

- Sewing course: Two six month courses (43 girls and women)
- The Beauty culture and cake icing course: Three four months courses (42 girls and women)
- Skills Training in Handicraft: two six month courses (13 girls and women)

3.2.4. It was stated that 75 (76%) of the 98 girls and women who enrolled were able to complete these courses successfully.

Sewing course: 33 (77%) of the 43 girls and women

The Beauty culture and cake icing course: 34 (80%) of the 42 girls and women

Skills Training in Handicraft: 8 (61%) of the 13 girls and women

3.2.5. At present she said 18 more have registered for the next sewing course starting in January 2010.

3.2.6. The sewing centre was equipped with nine sewing machines including zigzag and buttonhole stitching. Course supplies required for this purpose, such as cloth, needles etc for the training was provided to the trainees.

The Beauty culture centre was equipped with necessary items such as wash basin, mirrors etc. It was stated that the trainees were provide with course materials

3.2.7. Each trainee was expected to pay a course and an admission fee for following each of these courses.

Sewing:	Course fee Rs. 1,200 and Admission fee Rs 200
Beauty culture	Course fee Rs 4,500 and Admission fee Rs 500
Cake icing:	Course fee Rs 4,000 and Admission fee Rs 500
Handicraft:	There was no fees charged as this course was Conducted through NAITA

Fees were said to be utilized for future expenses such as salary for the instructor and purchasing of course supplies to enable the training to be sustainable.

3.2.8. Training provided by the YWCA/FOKUS project in Beauty Culture was the only vocational training centre to conduct such classes in Batticaloa the instructress stated. . Therefore it was felt that this course was in high demand and also very useful.

3.2.9. Out of the three interviewees who had received training in sewing, one reported that she takes dress making orders from clients. Her monthly income was said to be around Rs 3000. According to the instructress, she had been informed by the present trainees that there were five such women making an income by undertaking sewing orders. The other two women said that they only attend to the sewing needs of their immediate and extended family members.

3.2.10. Out of the successful candidates who completed the beauty culture course two were interviewed. These two beneficiaries have commenced beauty parlors at their homes. One off them indicated that her monthly income was around Rs 5000/-

whilst the other reported that many of her customers are mostly friends and relatives and therefore she is not charging them. The instructress reported that she was aware of another successful candidate who was employed as an instructor in the World Vision organization. Yet another as quoted earlier was keen to obtain a loan for further development of the business but was unsuccessful due to lack of access to a collateral asset.

3.2.11. The Project Manager reported that an exhibition of work of the trainees had been held during the project period.

Component 4 -Counseling

Expected outcomes:

- Counseling centre established to cater to women and children traumatized due to the war, Tsunami and incidences of Gender Based Violence.
- Task force for GBV established

Expected output:

- YWCA members and be-frienders trained in psycho-social counseling
- Links with Sooriya Women's Movement, task force for prevention of GBV and WIN (1 yr)
- Women victims of violence will be rehabilitated through counselling both medical and legal

Main Activities:

- (i)Counselor trainers recruited - 2
- (ii)Training programmes conducted
- (iii)Trainer for brefrienders recruited
- (iv)Volunteer committees formed
- (v) Postal and telephone counseling developed

4.0 Observations and Results

4.1. Observations

Counseling programs had commenced in August 2009, including both training of counselor and be-frienders as well as delivery of services.

This evaluation was conducted utilizing three different sources of information, namely interviews with the project staff, trainees and beneficiaries.

4.1.1. The Project Coordinator reported that the Psychosocial counseling activity by trained professionals was aimed to support women and children who were affected by the war and the Tsunami.

4.1.2. The qualified male trainer who is a part time employee of the YWCA project stated that he had covered the 160 hours counseling course.

4.1.3. Due to construction delays the premises of the counseling centre was not accessible. Instead counseling was conducted in the villages by visiting the houses of the victims.

4.1.4. A 31 year woman, a Tamil Hindu trauma victim, was visited in the village, living with her immediate and extended family members. She said that she studied up to G.C.E AL examination. Her experience happened in 2006 when she visited her relatives in Killinocchchi where she was caught in the conflict that erupted suddenly and she was placed in a refugee camp until 2009 she said. After having been released from the camp she was reunited with the family in Batticaloa but she said she was unhappy that she was not able to continue with her studies. Even after she came to the village she was asked not to go out by the Police.

4.1.5. The second trauma victim was a 41 year old mother with a one year child whose husband had abandoned her. She was being looked after by her elder brother and her mother. She was blaming her family members for her plight as according to her; the brother had chased her husband away. Although she claimed that that she was counseled by the counselor she appeared to be in a dazed state of mind. Follow up of the counseling provided to the women victims appeared to be lacking.

4.2. Results:

Given the nature of this component it is too early to assess measureable results and outcome of this project component.

- 4.2.1. Father Paul's counseling Centre; a well reputed centre in the Province has been identified after much consultation with similar organizations operating in the Province.
- 4.2.2. The project coordinator stated that twenty three members had been admitted to the course and they had been divided into two groups: nine counselors and 13 be-frienders. However, only two members, one male and one female, were able to complete the full counseling course due to delays in the arrival of funds. These two were able to pay their own fees which were reimbursed later.
- 4.2.3. The qualified male trainer who is a part time employee stated that he had covered the 160 hours counseling course conducted by Fr Paul's centre. He said he was satisfied with the number of training hours and the quality of the materials.
- 4.2.4.. After completing the course he had been able to provide counseling to 20 women living in the village who had been displaced due to the Vanni conflict. At the time of his visit these women were reunited and living with their families in the villages he said. As a result of the project many such traumatized women were visited and provided with several counseling sessions he said. These women he said were suffering from psychological problems resulting from exposure to sudden, life-threatening events.
- 4.2.5. He had referred more complicated cases needing more specialized and professional assistance to Fr Paul's centre for a second level of intervention.
- 4.2.6. He had trained 13 young women as be-frienders but unfortunately these young women had not turned up for work. He said that this may be due to poor selection of participants or constraints faced by the women when traveling to distant places.
- 4.2.7. One of the victims who had received counseling said that she was visited by the counselor and provided with three counseling sessions. After these sessions she said that she felt much more relaxed.

4.2.8. Two trainees who had undergone training at Fr Paul's Training centre were interviewed. Both these young women were volunteer trainees. They said that they covered a total of 32 hours basic training within two months. However, they said practical lessons were not adequate and they still did not have the required confidence and skills to begin counseling.

Component 5 -Micro Credit (MC)

Expected outcome:

- Women empowered through the micro credit scheme to contribute to the family and community.

Expected Outputs:

- 12 credit societies formed comprising 250 women members who are war widows, women affected by the Tsunami, internally displaced women, abused women and disadvantaged women.
- 250 women trained in savings habit, financial management and marketing.
- By the end of the year 250 women members selected and given loans to carry out small enterprises.

Main Activities:

- (i) Expanding the existing MC and savings facility
- (ii) Training of field workers
- (iii) Granting credit to the identified women beneficiaries
- (iv) Training of volunteers
- (v) Conducting parallel awareness programmes on HIV/AIDS, hygiene, first aid, Child health and nutrition, family life and home gardening

5.0 Observations and Results

5.1. Observations

The evaluation was conducted utilizing two different sources of information: interviews with the project staff, and the micro credit beneficiaries belonging to 4 MC societies, who were visited in their locations.

- 5.1.1. The Project Manager reported that a baseline field survey has been conducted and analyzed, the results of which have not yet been communicated to the field. The newly recruited micro-credit officer in the field was unaware of the progress made at the time of this assessment.
- 5.1.2. Table 1 (Annex 2) was developed by the researcher with information provided by the Micro credit officer and records maintained in the Batticaloa office.
The distribution of societies according to the Divisions is as follows: Eravur(9), Manmunai North (3), Chenkaladi (1), Koralaipattu (1)
- 5.1.3. According to the records maintained there were a total of 355 women belonging to the 14 societies and each society consisted of 25 to 30 women. There were two societies with 30 members, one society with 20 members while the other 11 societies had 25 members each. These were further subdivided in to five member groups. In each group there is a leader, a secretary and a treasurer. Within these groups women with good leadership skills, more disposable time, and higher literacy rates were selected for these positions.
- 5.1.4. The officer reported that the loan applications are filled out by YWCA Officers based on face-to-face discussions although this is the responsibility of the beneficiaries. This step had to be taken to avoid inaccuracies which could occur in records due to the low level of literacy of some of the members.
- 5.1.5. The format of the “pass book” was a simple one which contained the required information. Receipts Books too were maintained by the group leader and the Treasurer.
- 5.1.6. The Admission fee was Rs 10 per member and this is reflected in Table 1 under “Admission fees”. Only one society had not paid this fee.
- 5.1.7. The first loan installment was Rs 5000 which was given to all members in the 14 societies In addition to the loan payment of Rs 500 the beneficiaries were requested to pay a service charge of Rs 50 and another Rs 20 as compulsory savings on a monthly basis. The loan duration was 10 months. (Rs 500 + Rs 50 + Rs 20 = Rs 570)

5.1.8. The researchers conducted group discussions with members belonging to four societies. Two of these societies were involved in pottery making, one in weaving and the other in mixed activities. Details of these societies are as follows:

Hand made Pottery Society No 1 - Luxmy - commenced in 13/11/2008

Hand made Pottery Society No 12 -Dhurgai - commenced in 22/06/09

The Weaving Society No 8 - Fathima - commenced in 23.04.09

Mixed Activities No 5 - Sevanthi - commenced in 28.01.2009

Hand made Pottery Society-1

5.1.9. A discussion was held with 15 Tamil women within the age of 19 to 65 yrs. who were members of the Luxmy society. They were living in a marginalized community in Eravur Division with poor living standards and infrastructure such as poor roads, sewage, drainage and water supply facilities.

5.1.10. All these women were involved in producing handmade pottery, a skill they have acquired through generations from their mothers. According to the women and as confirmed by YWCA officers, the whole process of turning out pottery is based on hand moulding without the use of the well known potters' wheel. The local technology among these beneficiaries for drying and burning of moulded clay products, mainly pots, is also unique as they have no access to a kiln. Moulded clay items are burnt by placing them on burning coconut husks in the open air resulting in a large amount of smoke polluting the area. An elderly woman demonstrated the production process by squatting in a stooped position during the entire production process. This is a clear example of a situation where a development intervention could contribute to the improvement of the traditional technology as requested by the beneficiaries. Members of the group had communicated their interest in learning how to use the potter's wheel and kilns for firing the moulded items, as is being done in some of their neighbouring communities. They said that such support would help them to improve the quality of and diversify their products. This was confirmed by YWCA field staff too. However there is a contradiction of views on these issues as some are of the opinion that the local communities prefer to remain at this low level of

- production. This needs to be clarified and necessary support provided to the local communities to improve their traditional industry.
- 5.1.11. Two members reported that they have studied up to GCE O/L and one member up to A/L, and all the others had a limited education. The oldest member does not have literacy skills.
- 5.1.12. At the time of the researchers' visit the activity had been stopped due to rain and they had not produced items for the last three months as this is a seasonal activity and can be done only during the dry season. Therefore five women were involved in other income generating activities such as in sale of cooked food, sale of firewood, and making curry powder and short eats.
- 5.1.13. Access to markets, the women said, was limited due to poor infrastructure, household responsibilities and poor exposure to information. They depended entirely on the city traders who visited them, to sell their products at a nominal price lower than the market rate. According to the project coordinator this business is entirely monopolized by a few city traders and no outside buyers are allowed to penetrate into this business. Only these traders have access to purchase from these women. Hence, they do not have bargaining powers. A strategy to improve the marketing and bargaining power of women is a key to strengthening the outcomes of this project.

Hand made Pottery society -2

- 5.1.14. There were 25 women members belonging to the Tamil ethnic group in the second society (Dhurgai) which was situated in the Eravur DS Division. The discussion was held with 10 women members within the age group 31 to 61 years. Of the 25 members five were reported to be female heads of households- either widows or women abandoned by their husbands.
- 5.1.15. It was observed that there was a marked difference in their socio economic status unlike in the previous group. Their houses and the environment were in a better condition. Of these 10 women, three have studied to GCE A/L, five to GCE O/L and two said they were illiterate.

- 5.1.16. These women said they have endured much hardship due to floods as the village had been flooded and their products and raw materials had been destroyed.
- 5.1.17. Seven women reported that they are involved in other income generating activities such as home based subcontracting work, beauty culture; short eats preparation, fabric painting and sewing.
- 5.1.18. The interviewees reported that the traders bargain to reduce the price but they are compelled to sell to these traders. The reason for this is that they are unable to sell their products independently because their mobility was restricted and they could only visit the nearby town as being Tamil, they are looked upon with suspicion.
- 5.1.19. Three women of the same group stated that they have taken life insurance policies from private Insurance Companies from promoters who visit their village.

Mixed Society

- 5.1.20. The mix activity society “Savanthy” was formed on 28.01.09 in a newly resettled community that was affected mainly by the Tsunami. Tamils, both Hindus and Christians, and Burgher women were members of this society and the discussion was held with three members belonging this group. The income generating activities undertaken by women and their spouses were small shops, short eats, sewing, cement posts, poultry, welding, and cycle repairing.
- 5.1.21. The officer reported that there were a few cases where the spouses have got the wives to apply for the loan for their own businesses such as making cement posts and bicycle repairs instead of encouraging their women to start their own income generating activities.
- 5.1.22. The woman who was engaged in sewing reported that she undertakes sewing orders from the community but was unable to state her monthly income during the past months as she had not maintained records.
- 5.1.23. Although she was in possession of a sewing machine she said she had not undergone any formal training. She said that she engages in these activities while taking care of her two young children. She further stated that the non availability of child care facilities in the community is a constraint as mothers are not able to follow training or any other programmes.

Weaving society

5.1.24. Four Muslim women **in the age group 30 to 45** belonging to the weaving society took part in the discussion. All four said that their educational attainments were poor. One of these women had been abandoned by her husband.

5.1.25. They said that weaving is traditionally a women's activity, a skill passed down by their mothers.

5.1.26. The raw material, "pang" reed bundles, is brought to their doorstep by male traders and the price of a bundle varies according to the size. It is usually between Rs 1200 to Rs 2000.

The dye is usually purchased for Rs 25 per kilo. After the reeds are dried, they are dyed using various methods and attractive mats are woven. This too is a seasonal activity as the women are unable to dry the mats during rainy seasons. They said the last floods had destroyed their reeds.

5.2. Result

This component has several aspects; namely credit facilities and the development of livelihoods. The community is being successfully organized into participating in credit programs. However, as success depends on the full development of micro enterprises, *there is need for time* to reorganize the market chains and business management. Hence the project results in this component are only partially achieved.

5.2.1. A total of 14 MC societies were formed during November 2008 to December 2009 in four Divisional Secretary Divisions. The societies were categorized into 3 types.

- Pottery making, (5 societies)
- Weaving (4 societies)
- Mixed activities such as poultry, small trade, poultry, sewing,
- Sweet making, cement post, bicycle repairs (5 societies)

- 5.2.2. The beneficiaries reported that the income derived from these activities have helped them to enhance their household incomes.
- 5.2.3. Women affected by the war and the Tsunami constitute the major proportion of the total number of beneficiaries belonging to Tamil, Muslim, Burghers and Sinhalese ethnic groups. It was reported that considerable number of them are female headed households too, whilst illiteracy is also a concern in these groups
- 5.2.4. Financial records at beneficiary level were well maintained, as seen in the individual passbooks. Each group leader and treasurers too were able to carry out their role within the groups in an orderly manner. The Micro credit officer stated that she was satisfied with their maintenance of loan records.
- 5.2.5. All members in the 14 societies have received the first loan installment of Rs 5000. Three societies (No.1, No2, and No 7) who completed the repayment were refinanced in December 2009, by giving a further Rs 10,000. This is an indication of the space available for efficient borrowers to improve their businesses with additional support as they progress.
- 5.2.6. The interviewees reported that the society members had received half day training on “Managing Income and Expenditure” before disbursement of the first loan and that they took down useful notes.
- 5.2.7. According to the MC Officer, nine societies performed well without any repayment problems but the balance five societies had difficulties in repayment therefore resulting in arrears. (Table 1) She said that the performance of three of the nine societies is extremely poor-the societies numbered 3, 4 and 10.
- 5.2.8. At the discussion held with 15 women belonging to the “Luxmy” society, they said that the income they earned was spent on family expenses. If they managed to sell 1500 pots they would be able to earn around Rs 4000 but due to time constraints and other responsibilities they were unable to achieve this target on a monthly or regular basis.
- 5.2.9. The women beneficiaries who were interviewed said that they have, with great difficulty, managed to pay back the loan installment, the service charge and the savings amount especially during difficult times. They had no option but to borrow from traders who buy their finished products. These women said they

- even pawned their jewellery to pay back the loan – an action that is seen in many indebted low income families.
- 5.2.10. All women reported that other female family members including children helped them out in their economic activity whenever time permits. The women said that they had household work and child care responsibilities and it is only during their spare time that they get involved in their income generating activity.
- 5.2.11. The women members of “Dhurgai” society said that their income from this activity alone, during the months they were manufacturing, was around Rs 5000. These women were aware of the fact that their products were undervalued by these traders and that they are being exploited.
- 5.2.12. The records indicated that as of December 2009 there was an outstanding balance of Rs 36,000.00. (Table1) The Micro credit officer was satisfied with the society’s performance.
- 5.2.13. The woman who was engaged in sewing in the “Mixed society” reported that she undertakes sewing orders from the community but was unable to state the monthly income during the past months as she had not been keeping records. The beneficiary who was engaged in making short eats too said that she caters to the community and therefore she need not go out of the house. She too was unable to mention the income she was earning .
- 5.2.14. The beneficiary who had received a loan for making cement posts reported that her husband was engaged in the activity and that the loan was taken for him. He gives her money for repayment of the loan. However, she was not aware of the income her husband is making out of this activity.
- 5.2.15. The MC Officer reported that she was satisfied with their performance. The records maintained by the office indicate that the loan repayment had been satisfactory .The outstanding balance was Rs 5000(Table 1)
- 5.2.16. The weaving society No 8 “Fathima” on 23.04.09 was commenced on 23.04.09 with 25 Muslim women in the Eravur Division.
- 5.2.17. These women said that they are able to weave five mats from a bundle and each mat takes about four days to weave A mat is sold for Rs 450. As such, it takes 20 days to complete five mats. This they said was done while attending to other

- household work that they are expected to do. Their monthly income was said to be between Rs 2,500 – Rs.3,000.
- 5.2.18. These women also make decorative baskets from dried leaves of the Palmyra tree. The average selling price of a basket varies from Rs.30 to Rs.150/-. Usually they are able to make 2 baskets per day but one woman said that she only makes one per day.
- 5.3.19. They sell to wholesale traders who come to their doorstep as mobility restrictions due to their socio-cultural constraints have prevented these women from going out. The majority of the respondents stated that they do not have a say in deciding marketing arrangements.
- 5.3.20. All four women reported that the income they received from this activity was not sufficient and as a result they have pawned their jewellery or taken loans from relatives to pay back the YWCA loan instalment. The unmarried woman reported that she is engaged in supplying food items as well to supplement her income.
- 5.3.21. Despite these difficulties 10 members have paid their loan installments fully. The Officer was satisfied with their loan repayment performance as the society has an outstanding balance of Rs 14,500.

Component 6 - Peace Exchange Programs

Expected Outcome:

- 20 women and girls from all regions and communities will interact once a year by visiting each other

Expected Output:

- Share their experiences in their Local YWCAs and National YWCA by conducting 10 seminars

Main Activities:

1. Women and girls from the eastern regions will visit women in the Northern, Southern and Western regions and vice versa
2. Interaction through cultural programmes, lectures, and discussions on issues such as Violence against women, HIV/AIDS, gender and ethnic issues

6.0 Observations and Results

6.1 Observations

This evaluation was conducted by interviews with the four participants who took part in the exchange programs. Two participants were from Batticaloa and two from Colombo.

6.1.1. A total of six participants took part from Batticaloa: the President of the YWCA Batticaloa, one staff member and four women volunteers belonging to Christian and Hindu religions.

6.1.2. Of the two women interviewed who took part from Colombo one was a Tamil Christian who is a teacher and the other was a Sinhalese, Christian, employed as the Youth Coordinating officer YWCA Colombo. A total of 13 women had taken part from Colombo.

6.2. Results:

This component has achieved its objectives and its results have been fully achieved.

6.2.1. The two interviewees from Batticaloa were of the opinion that this programme enabled them to share experiences with youth belonging to others cultures and faiths and fostered mutual understanding that helped to bridge differences and promote peace. The four volunteers said it was their first experience out of Batticaloa.

6.2.2. When asked about the places they visited, they said that they visited the YWCA offices in Colombo, Panadura, Pamunugama and Ragama Boys' Town.

6.2.3. They further said that they took part in a peace drama and a children's programme and that they were able to make friends with the team members who came from other regions. They claimed that their expectations were met and that they look forward for more such exchange programmes.

6.2.4. The teacher who took part from Colombo stated that this was a rewarding, once-in-a-lifetime experience and that she returned home with a broadened outlook. She further commented that through this experience she was able to make friends with persons belonging to different ages and that she was in touch with them through e mail and telephone and hoped that this would create an opportunity for lifelong friendships.

- 6.2.5. The other participant from Colombo said that she was glad that she got the opportunity to take part because she was able to experience for the first time, rural life of another culture and especially to witness Tsunami affected families. She visited the Anglican and Methodist churches for the first time in her life and said the experience was invaluable.
- 6.2.6. One of the middle aged participants from Colombo had organized a group of youth on her return and had visited Batticaloa once more raising her own funds.
- 6.2.7. One of the participants who went from Colombo said that she too was in contact with some of the participants whom she met and felt the time allocated for the program was not sufficient to build connections and befriend everybody.
- 6.2.8. Almost all the participants who were interviewed agreed that if given an opportunity they would once again take part in this type of programmes.

Component 7 - Interfaith Programme

Expected outcome

- 10 Seminars and Interfaith dialogue seminars and discussions between women of different faiths and ethnicities thereby creating understanding and tolerance within these women
- An advocacy group of women formed.

Activities

1. Conduct Seminars and Interfaith dialogues
2. Create linkages with other organizations

7.0 Observations and Results

7.1 Observations:

This evaluation was conducted utilizing two different sources of information: interviews with two male resource persons Coordinator, Inter religious Organization for Peace, Hindu Priest, Hindu Kovil, Kallady and two female volunteer participants.

- 7.1.1. The Coordinator said that each participant was paid Rs 100 from funds from the YWCA/FOKUS project
- 7.1.2. When asked about the likelihood of the programme being sustained both these persons commented that sustainability was dependent on additional funding.
- 7.1.3. The degree to which the women volunteers had a say in planning and conducting such seminars was difficult to assess.

7.2. Results:

This project component has achieved the expected results from this project component in a satisfactory manner and it could be further strengthened with appropriate community activities

- 7.2.1 The Coordinator of the Inter religious Organization for Peace stated that he organized 10 seminars and out of these seminars, three seminars were for women only. The other seminars were for both men and women who were in IDP camps, undergraduates of the Eastern University, G.C.E. OL and AI students, belonging to the three religions: Hindu, Christian and Muslim. The seminars comprised lectures and on some occasions multimedia was used and no handouts were distributed. These programs had facilitated the participation of both men and women, youth of all religions and ethnic groups.
- 7.2.2. When asked about how these participants exchanged their views he commented that this took place during the interval.
- 7.2.3. He said that the content of these seminars included themes such as Youth and Religion, Difficulties faced by University students, Peace, Time Management, Difficulties faced by women. One seminar was conducted in a predominantly Muslim area where Muslim women too participated. This was special he said as usually Muslim women do not attend such gatherings due to socio cultural constraints.
- 7.2.4. The seminar topics for women included Counselling, diseases affecting women and women's rights addressed under the topic "Women are our Eyes"
- 7.2.5. No women's advocacy group was formed during this project period.

- 7.2.6. He also stated the resource persons who conducted these seminars included, Priests belonging to the three religions, Zonal Directors of Education, Medical officers of Health. Only the first seminar was attended by a Buddhist priest and thereafter they had been absent he commented.
- 7.2.7. When asked how these seminars were advertised, he said it was through print media, and articles were published both prior to and after the seminars.
- 7.2.8. The Hindu Priest, of Kallady Kovil mentioned that he was the resource person for 6 seminars. He further stated that there were more women participants in the seminars which included Christians Hindus and Muslims. He had addressed issues pertaining to women's role in promoting peace in his seminars which he said was useful to the community. He appreciated the opportunity to meet priests of different religions.
- 7.2.8. The two young women participants reported that they had participated in two seminars. One of them was a Tamil Christian and the other was a Tamil Roman Catholic.
- 7.2.9. When they were asked what they hoped to gain by attending such seminars and whether or not their expectations were met, they reported that they hoped to meet people from other religions, learn about differences, and make new friends. They claimed that their expectations were met as the participants in the seminars who were mostly women belonged to Hindu, Christian, Tamil and Muslim communities.
- 7.2.10. The young woman who is selected to pursue her higher education in Medicine said that this was a challenging experience as after her graduation she would be expected to serve all the communities.
- 7.2.11. Both these young women had positive views of the programme and said they liked making new friends and meeting new people and that they look forward to more such seminars.
- 7.2.12. When they were asked what changes they thought had occurred in them as a result of their participation they found this question difficult to answer. However, one volunteer stated that she became more aware about other religions and had

changed the way she thought about people belonging to other faiths, especially Muslims.

8.0 Conclusions

- 8.1. The project target group is well organised with beneficiaries meeting the criteria for religious, ethnic and socio economic unity in diversity. Most activities have been completed except Activity 2 of Component 4, Activity 8 of Component 4, and Activity 6 of Component 5.
 - 8.1.2. Though the project period was planned as two years; activities have been completed during one year which is seen as a positive feature of implementation. A total of four project components, “The Hostel”, “The Pre School” , “The Peace Exchange and Inter Faith Programmes have achieved the expected results.
 - 8.1.3 It was reported by the Project Manager that regular monitoring visits were conducted together with the Project Coordinator and the Accountant. An email address with internet facilities and fax machine had been installed in the FOKUS project office to facilitate reporting.
 - 8.1.4. The responsibility for project implementation was placed solely on the field staff based in Batticaloa especially due to the inadequate participation of the volunteer committee members contrary to expectations. As such the work plan including the outcomes and outputs specified in the proposal were not adequately communicated with the project staff, participants and beneficiaries based in Batticaloa by the volunteers.
 - 8.1.5. The YWCA seems to have achieved a reasonable level of sustainability for its programme through fees obtained from the preschool, vocational training courses and the hostellers.

8.1.6. It appears that some members of the volunteer committees have not made adequate efforts to fulfill their responsibilities.

Some suggestions to improve the design and implementation have been made in the recommendations pertaining to each component of the project.

Constraints:

It was reported by the Project Manager that the Project staff of both NWCA and BYWCA had to undergo numerous difficulties due to the war situation that prevailed in the country during the project implementation period. The staff was often subjected to intense security checks as the FOKUS office was located in a high risk location.

The staff traveling from Colombo was said to be inconvenienced due to sudden road closures, hartals and curfews which resulted in spending long hours on the road while travelling to and from Batticaloa.

The ever escalating prices of building material too were reported as a factor that interfered with the implementation of the project.

The Project Coordinator reported that inability to recruit qualified competent staff and high staff turnover were constraints which resulted in lack of proper documentation and reports not systematically submitted to the YWCA Colombo. The prevalent socio political environment was a key contributory factor to this situation.

Recommendations

Component: 1 – Hostel and Peace Room

- The Hostel Committee could be strengthened and activated .by including one or two hostellers as members

Component: 2 – The Pre School

- It is recommended that the number of children be limited to 30 as an increase in numbers will result in a cramped environment restricting optimum space for movement. The garden play area was not adequate for the children to engage in outdoor activities such as play and interacting with the environment.
- Children between two and half and below four could be in one play group whilst the children above four are grouped separately. Adequate ECD Materials could be purchased according to the age group and by subject. These requirements need to be fulfilled with more enrolments coming in.
- One of the main recommendations is to maintain records relating to, ethnicity, religion and employment of parents. Data should be sex disaggregated at all times. This would enable the staff to design activities and to serve children of different cultures, languages and ethnicities in a meaningful manner.
- More effort is needed to identify alternative strategies to involve youth actively in the Volunteer committees. In particular, the issue of the passive participation of girls and women who are members of these committees needs to be addressed.

Component: 3 – Vocational Skills Training

- . It is suggested that user friendly reading material be provided at a subsidized cost so that all have access to such materials. The course outline should include sewing machine care and maintenance safety procedures.
- It is important to identify and design technically oriented vocational skills training courses which are demand driven in terms of more employment opportunities with better income and sustainability. The YWCA could also network with other VT providers in the Province/District, both Governmental and Non Governmental

- (e.g.; World University Service Canada), to assist these women to access centers that conduct such courses by providing the necessary information.
- It is important to include income and expenditure management and marketing component to the course outline as this would enable the women to engage in an income generating activity in a more professional manner.
 - It is important to internalize the concept of “rights” of women by having women’s human rights as a subject. A well designed course needs to be developed with contributions from resource persons in this subject. The instructress herself would not be in a position to deliver this unless she is provided with essential knowledge, skills and attitudes by exposing her to training and thereby developing her capacities.
 - Follow up of the skills training program is recommended in three steps: (i) during the ongoing training period, (ii) after completion, (to find out resource and assets availabilities) and (iii) during the time when they are actively involved in income generating activities.
 - The Volunteer committees need to be strengthened and qualified retired persons encouraged to provide volunteer services as in the Pre School. Issues related to the passive participation of girls and women who have membership in such committees should also be addressed.

Component: 4 – Counseling

- It is recommended to supplement counseling sessions with some specific individual interventions - for instance, therapeutic skills training (such as relaxation) activities need to be identified and provided for trauma victims in their communities or they should be linked up with ongoing vocational training in the YWCA centre at a subsidized cost.
- Selection of participants for these trainings needs to be done carefully after developing selection criteria and whilst performance monitoring should be carried out on a regular basis.
- It is suggested that the services of skilled and qualified female counselors be used when visiting these houses due to the cultural sensitivities of the target group.

- The project approach was appropriate for the first/ basic level of intervention by youth volunteers guided by the two counselors. However, those needing a more specialized and higher level of intervention should be referred to professional care.
- Prior to establishing the Task force for GBV, there needs to be a series of training programmes to enhance knowledge and promote attitudinal change with regard to this subject among the trainers. The expertise of the members of the Sooriya Women's Movement could be sought for this training.
- Although it has not been introduced as yet, delivery of telephone counseling services may not be advisable in view of the present level of staff capacity and lack of infrastructure in place in beneficiary locations and financial resources of these victims. The needs of the clients and their intellectual, emotional, physical and financial capabilities must be taken into consideration in designing all aspects of counseling.

Component: 5 – Micro credit

- Researcher's visits and interviews showed that many of the current beneficiaries lacked resources and are amongst the most vulnerable groups. Traditional socio cultural constraints, low education and literacy levels, lack of marketable skills and the instability of the social environment have restricted women's participation in this rural economy. These factors have confined these beneficiaries to be engaged in income generating activities which were small in scale and isolated from mainstream development.
- Effort must be made to address gender issues in organizing activities. Awareness raising on women's economic empowerment and gender issues was missing in the programmes.
- Adopting participatory approaches in planning and decision making throughout the project processes would contribute to greater success in rural development interventions. Future programmes need to be planned and designed with the beneficiaries themselves in order to achieve economic empowerment which is the ultimate goal of the programme. Lack of women's participation in decision-

making can lengthen the road to empowerment. Participatory approaches also help to overcome existing social barriers as in the case of empowering women to manage marketing of their products in an environment of local cartels.

- It is suggested that appropriate low cost technology that is presently available, be introduced to each group. The entire pottery production process was time consuming and physically exhausting due to its primitive nature with no basic technology such as a pottery wheel and a drying kiln. Linkages with design centers and markets could also be followed up.
- Prior to introducing such technology the beneficiaries need to be provided with skills training. This could be arranged with State training providers in the Province such as the Ministry of Rural Industries, Vocational training institutions, the Industrial Development Board as well as experienced NGOs in the area.
- Such short term training requirements need to be identified and designed taking women's mobility, literacy levels, child caring responsibilities and cultural barriers into consideration. Although half day skill training was provided on "Income and expenditure management" it appeared that this was not appropriately designed to the specific target group due to their low level of education and competencies and lack of literacy. Their ability to take down notes is questionable.
- Environment issues and occupational health hazards too need to be taken into consideration.
- Training and awareness programmes should be designed to include a wide range of areas such as nutrition, sexual and reproductive health, issues related to female headed households, child protection and care, gender based violence, including domestic violence, leadership skills, literacy and vocational skills and assertiveness training. It was observed that these beneficiaries were facing multiple issues such as poor nutrition among the children and mothers, early marriage and child bearing, in some cases child marriages, occupational health hazards, poor school attendance, desertion by male partners, and poor hygiene.
- The programme needs to establish linkages with Government functionaries such as Social Service Officers, Women's Development Officers, Samurdhi

Development Officers, Family Health Officers, Public Health Officers, Child Rights Promotion Officers, Police women and Children's Desk Officers and with reliable Social Security Schemes.

- The project interventions should identify other marketing opportunities by liaising and networking with Government organizations such as the Ministry of Rural Industries and the Batticaloa Chamber of Commerce and Industries. The 220 women beneficiaries, who were engaged in pottery making and weaving, were further exploited by traders who have created a dependency on them. These poor women have no option but to depend on them for marketing and loans in an exploitative situation.
- Factors that need to be taken into consideration when measuring their performance are their increased decision making capacity, increased personal income, increased mobility, access to control over assets (bank accounts, equipment and machinery), access to markets and increased bargaining and negotiating skills. According to the Project staff loan repayment was the only indicator to measure the performance of the MC programme.
- The Project needs to take into consideration ways to increase their social acceptance and inclusion and to build capacity and the overall empowerment of these women thereby reducing both their economic and social poverty. The Project targeted population was an extremely disadvantaged marginalized and socially excluded sector.

Component: 7 – Interfaith Programme

- Future programs need to take into consideration maximizing youth voice especially women in designing the seminars and thereby helping them to acquire leadership skills.
- It is important to consider some activity based programs to promote cross-cultural understanding and interactions to generate more long term commitments from these young women beyond seminars.
- Selection of topics must address issues of marginalized and disadvantaged women of all faiths and such issues should be raised with elected officials.

- The participatory approach of needs assessment and beneficiary involved planning as well as community monitoring and evaluation is not observed. The YWCA needs to take into consideration both participatory and rights based approaches in future programmes.

1. List of Persons interviewed in December 2009 and January 2010

Component	Number of Persons
THE CENTRE FOR HOPE & HEALING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Volunteers • 2 staff members in Colombo and 3 in Batticaloa (Project coordinator, Administrator, Project Administrator in Batticaloa, Accountant, Micro credit field officer)
HOSTEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Hostellers • Warden
PRE-SCHOOL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 pre school teacher • 1 volunteer Chairperson • 2 mothers of preschoolers
VOCATIONAL TRAINING SEWING, HANDICRAFT Hair Dressing, Beauty Culture,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 trainees who completed the courses • 3 Instructresses
COUNSELING & BEFRIENDING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Trainer • 2 trainees • 2 women who have received counseling
MICROCREDIT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 micro credit societies • 2 beneficiary from each society
PEACE EXCHANGES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 participants from Batticaloa • 2 participants from Colombo
INTERFAITH DIALOGUES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Coordinator • 1 resource person • 2 participants

Work Plan
December 2009- January 2010 (13 days)

Month	Activity	Expected outcome	Days	Comments	Responsibility
January	Meeting with President, Project Coordinator and Admin officer,	Background information Gathered & District meetings planned Planning of Baticaloa visit	1 day	YWCA Colombo Office to liaise with the District office(Batti)	CENWOR YWCA Janakie
January	Review of Documents	Information gathered on the program and activities	2 days	YWCA to provide documents (evaluation reports, reviews, financial reports, and assessments)	YWCA Janakie
January	Interviews with Participants, Trainers, Trainees, Counselors, Victims, Volunteers, and resource persons 4 FGD And Visit to 3 DS areas (micro credit program)	Information gathered and micro finance projects visited	4 days + 2 days travel	2 days (researcher and assistant researcher) field study Participants to be invited by YWCA Translator to be provided by YWCA	YWCA Janakie Anula
January	Analyze and Writing of report	Draft report	4 days		CENWOR Janakie
Total			13days		