

Orphan Sponsorship Programme

This is Murugiah Kuhan (09 yrs) and his sister Suvendrini (06 yrs). They are just two of the many thousands of children orphaned in the North/East of Sri Lanka.



The ethnic conflict which has devastated the country for over two decades, and the Tsunami in December 2004; have left these children parentless, destitute, and deserted; living in refugee camps, often moving from place to place as IDPs.

The Steering Committee on Peace and Reconciliation of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce commenced the *Orphan Sponsorship Programme* to address this tragic problem and to build bridges of peace and reconciliation across the nation where orphans in the North are sponsored by business leaders from the South.

Today, most orphanages receive some form of funding. However, orphans living in refugee camps who are virtually 'abandoned' desperately require your support.

25 children in Jaffna benefitted in 2007 through your kind generosity. We hope to expand the numbers to include more children in IDP camps and war-torn villages in Vavuniya, for example, and count on your continued support to make this a reality.

Here is how you can help:

Annual sponsorship - Rs. 15,000(Rs. 1,250 monthly)

One-time gift - Rs. 1,600(books/uniforms)

Your contribution is valuable to these children: show us you care! Please give generously.....

For further details please contact Ms. Shiyani Saranapala, Management Executive on Tel. 558 8874, 558 8800 Ext 274 : Email: shiyani@chamber.lk

Career Guidance Project

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce initiated its Career Guidance Project to achieve two objectives:

- To help young people to make better choices of careers so that they would get job satisfaction and be more productive.
- To enable Sri Lanka and especially the Private Sector to have better qualified, motivated and productive employees.

Towards this initiative, in the initial phase 24 careers under four sectors were produced and telecast over "Rupavahini", during their "Nugasevana" programme which has a very high viewer-ship, between 11.15 a.m. and 11.35 a.m. from Monday to Friday, beginning August 13, 2007.

The response received from the youth was immense and still continuing.. However, as there are no further sponsors to re-telecast or new programmes to be produced, the project has not been able to progress further.

For further details please contact - Ms. Ayoni Waniganayake, Senior Assistant Secretary General on Tel. 2326096 or 2421745-7 : E-mail - ayoni@chamber.lk

Rehabilitation of Ex-Combatants

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce will assist the Ministry of Disaster Management and Human Rights in their project to re-habilitate the ex-combatants in the conflict affected areas of Sri Lanka. The Project is being implemented under the National Framework Proposal for Reintegration of Ex-Combatants into Civilian Life in Sri Lanka.

The Chamber proposed assistance by extending the Young Entrepreneurs Sri Lanka (YESL) which is a project assisting & mentoring youth in engaging in self employment. The Chamber further proposed assisting in providing career guidance to the ex-combatants. Recognised Entrepreneurs within the Chamber Membership will be involved in this exercise. Accommodation and travel costs of these Business Persons will have to be funded by the Chamber.

For further details please contact - Ms. Ayoni Waniganayake, Senior Assistant Secretary General on Tel. 2326096 or 2421745-7 : E-mail - ayoni@chamber.lk

The Youth Business Sri Lanka (YBSL) Programme

The Youth Business Sri Lanka (YBSL) programme is the country wide expansion of the youth business



assistance programme successfully piloted in Hambantota by Hambantota District Chamber of Commerce. Implemented in 32 countries and modeled on the principles of Youth Business International of UK (YBI), YBSL supports youth to start a business through provision of concessionary credit facilities and associating a mature and experienced individual who provides business mentor support voluntarily. This mentoring approach has been very effective in sustaining the

newly started business as going concerns, because it is at the beginning the youth entrepreneurs needs business advices most. The mentoring approach also inculcates a certain responsibility to the programme, thereby facilitating the credit recovery.

For further details please contact Mr. Sujeewa Ratnakumara, Project Manager, YBSL Secretariat on Telephone No. 5588884 : Email: ybsl@chamber.lk or visit www.ybsl.lk

SWITCH-Asia Project of Sustainable Consumption & Production for Food & Beverage Industry

SWITCH-Asia Project of Sustainable Consumption & Production for Food & Beverage Industry among SMEs in Sri Lanka have held their kick-off meeting on 1st April '09.

The project has launched the brochure giving an overview of the project objectives and the target groups and developing the project website. An advertisement appeared in the local newspaper, with highlight of the project and calling for applicants who are interested to register for obtaining free consultancy and advisory services on SCP. Announcement of the project, including a brief summary of the scope of the project was incorporated in IVAM newsletter for the recipients in United Kingdom and the Netherlands. The project's partner team, The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, ISB, ITI, IDB, IVAM, and CII has been working together and the Capacity Building of the local resource persons including the concept of Cleaner Production was provided to the local resource persons from 1st to 3rd April '09 and from 3rd to 4th May '09. A pilot programme was initiated to the first batch of 10 Companies and conducted a workshop including a factory visit from 5th to the 15th May '09.

For further details please contact Mr. S.M. Sathiacama, Project Director on Tel. 5588897.

The Sri Lanka - Norway Industrial Co-Operation (Matchmaking) Programme

The Sri Lanka - Norway Industrial Co-operation (Matchmaking) Programme was initiated by the Sri Lanka - Nordic Business Councils in 1993. Its objective is to facilitate the transfer of Norwegian know-how, competence, technology and skills to Sri Lanka by way of a matchmaking process. The Programme is funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (NORAD). The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce acts as the National Contact Point in Sri Lanka while NB Partner AS, an industrial consultancy firm in Norway acts as the National Contact Point in Norway. The programme has identified several sectors as having potential for co-operation agreements and investment possibilities on the basis of the availability of Norwegian industrial competence. These sectors include - Aquaculture technology and equipment, Fishing gear, Boat building and services, Processed fish and Shellfish products, Power Generation, Environmental Technology, Information technology, etc. The programme also facilitates trading between Sri Lankan and Norwegian business enterprises. Sectors identified as potential; garden furniture/ wooden products, tea, leather, gems and jewellery Horticulture, coir fiber, ceramics and rubber.

For further details visit srilankanorwaybiz.com or contact us on Tel. +940114734908 or E-mail - rohan@chamber.lk

Greening Sri Lankan Hotels

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC), under the SWITCH - ASIA Programme funded by the European Commission, is enhancing the environmental performance of Sri Lankan Hotels. The project aims to increase market acceptance by promoting green hotels with a low carbon foot print. The main beneficiaries of the Project are small and medium hotels. Within four years the project will support 350 Sri Lankan hotels to reduce their energy and water consumption up to 20%. The project commenced in January, 2010. One of the first activities of the project is a baseline survey on the environmental performance of the hotel sector.

For further details please contact Mr. Srilal Miththapala, Project Director on Tel. 5588700.