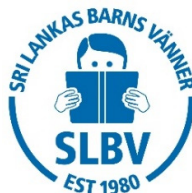


PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT



**- PROVIDING
SCHOOL KITS/STATIONARY FOR
400 PUPILS -**

SEPTEMBER 2022





Vision

සෑම ළමයෙකුට ම යහපත් අනාගතයක් පිළිබඳ අපේක්ෂාවන් සමගින් ගෞරවය සහ තම අයිතිවාසිකම් සාක්ෂාත් කර ගැනීමට අවැසි ප්‍රමාණවත් සහයෝගය ඇති ලෝකයක්.

A world where every child has hopes for a better future with respect and adequate support to realize their rights.

Mission

ළමුන් සහ ඔවුන්ගේ පවුල් වලට උපකාර කිරීම අරඹයා, විශේෂයෙන්ම කොන් කිරීමට සහ අවදානමට ලක් වූ සමාජ පසුබිමකින් පැමිණි අය කෙරෙහි වැඩි අවධානයක් යොමු කරමින්, ඔවුන්ගේ ආත්ම විශ්වාසය නංවමින්, ඔවුන්ගේ ස්වයං අභිප්‍රේරණය ශක්තිමත් කර ඔවුන්ගේ ජීවන තත්වය වැඩිදියුණු කිරීම කෙරෙහි අවධානය යොමු කරමින්, පාර්ශව කරුවන්, ජාත්‍යන්තර/දේශීය ප්‍රජාවන් සහ දක්ෂ හා කැපවූ කණ්ඩායමක් සමඟ කටයුතු කිරීම.

Support children and their families, in particular those from marginalized and vulnerable social backgrounds, focus on enhancing their self-confidence, strengthening their self-motivation, and improving their quality of life, together with stakeholders, international/local communities, and a competent and dedicated team.



Organizational Information

Name of the Organization	: Learning for Life – S.R.C. (S.R.C. stands for “Supporting the Rights of the Child”)
Establishment of Org.	: In 2012
Registration No.	: G.A. 2834 (<i>registered in 2013</i>)
Office Address	: No. 83 A, Old Road, Pannipitiya, 10230 Sri Lanka
Postal Address	: P.O. Box: 152, Pannipitiya, 10230 Sri Lanka
Telephone	: +94-11-283 8324 / +94-11-208 8639
Fax	: +94-11-208 9834
E-Mail	: info@learningforlife-src.lk chathuranga@learningforlife-src.lk (<i>Executive Director</i>)
Website	: www.learningforlife-src.lk
Facebook Page	: www.facebook.com/lfl-src
Board of directors	: Professor (Mr.) Suranga P. Kodithuwakku (PhD, MSc, BSc) (Professor at University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka) Ms. Amara P. Withanage (Retired Senior Government Officer – Local Government) Mr. Harsha D.S. Matarage (Entrepreneur, System Analysis/ Developer & Wildlife Photographer) Ms. Malathi K. Ambrose (MA, BA Sp. in Psychology) (Psych. Counsellor, Social Activist, Writer & Ex. Senior Proj. Manager) Mr. Saman Lenin (B.A. Sp. In Music) (Veteran Musician, Actor, Music Director & University Lecturer) Visharad Ms. Nilakshi Helapitiya (M.Ed., B.A. Hons & PGD in Law) (Veteran Musician, Actress & Social Activist) Mr. Chathuranga P.A. Guruge (MBA, MSc, BSc, Dip. in ECE&D, Dip in Psy.) (Executive Director and Co-Founder of Learning for Life-S.R.C. Country Manager-Stat for Life Sri Lanka)

PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

- PROVIDING SCHOOL KITS/STATIONARY FOR 400 PUPILS -

Initial Note:



The short-term project “Providing School Materials/Stationary for 1,000 Pupils in Western Province of Sri Lanka” was discussed with SLBV during the month of October 2021 based on the emerged concerns and issues brought by school communities and especially by Child Rights Promoting Officers (CRPOs) at the Divisional Child

Development Committee Meetings.

The main reason for our intervention in this particular project is that with the massive hit on the Household Economic Status of most of the families in the areas where we work; the parents or guardians of the pupils have faced challenges to provide school kits for their children when the school restarting after six months closedown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Following the positive response from the board members of the SLBV, we started work on developing the concept note for the project in October-November 2021.

The initial project concept note was prepared to target 1,000 (thousand) pupils and the funding strategy for this project was to re-allocate unused funds in 2021 donated by Trelleborg AB for Star for Life Sri Lanka and raised more funds to fulfil the required budget target because the remained funds from Trelleborg would not cover full required funding need of this project.

Finally, the Concept Note and the proposal for the funds to be reallocated were approved by SLBV and Trelleborg AB in November 2021. But, based on the availability of funds, LFL-SRC was advised to reduce the number of the target group as per the availability of funds.

Thereafter, our team at LFL-SRC proceeded to revise the initial budget reducing the number of packs/pupils between 400 and 500 as agreed with SLBV. And the launching of the project was scheduled in the first couple of months of 2022 expecting the completion of the project within three months duration (Jan-Mar 2022).

However, with the crisis in Sri Lanka, our team faced many difficulties to find the bulk of stationery to be purchased as specified in the proposal due to the control over importing stationary materials and raw materials to Sri Lanka, and also, there were restrictions to purchase a bulk amount of stationary and essential goods in the market.

Due to this situation, as a basic principle of Economics, scarcity of stationary and raw materials under increasing of demand in the market unreasonably increased the cost of items. Therefore, our team had to deal with several suppliers and had to wait until the required stock of stationary had been delivered.

Finally, under all these pressures and challenges, our team was able to start the project at end of January 2022 setting a target of 400 pupils at both Kelani and Bellana schools.

The UNCRC declares that,

“Article 28 (right to education): Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children’s dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.”

“Article 27 (adequate standard of living) Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and social needs and support their development.”

THE CONCEPT NOTE

Project Background:

The COVID-19 Global pandemic has affected massively in civil societies all over the countries since February-March 2020.

In Sri Lanka, both the formal and non-formal Education sectors have been significantly affected with negative results due to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic.

Since March 2020, the government and private schools were closed from time to time for many months and due to the lockdown situation, Quarantine Curfew, isolation of specific areas, and social distancing, many of the workforces have lost their regular employment as well as regular earnings. And in the meanwhile, the cost of living is raising up due to many reasons in the country. That fact directly affected the well-being of children in those families and especially, the right reflects in **“Every child has the right to learn”** has been vulnerable to fulfilled due to unexpected situations. The government and the education sectors have launched many flatforms with support from the private sector to continue learning opportunities for pupils, especially through ‘Online Classrooms’ yet, the resources were limited by children’s lives with financial challenges.



The Secretary of the Ministry of Education in Sri Lanka has declared and proceeded to reopen schools after around 5-6 months closed giving priority and measures to protect the “Right to Education” for all pupils Island wide. Accordingly, the schools have been systematically opened and since 25th October Primary section of all schools restarted and

continues to function under COVID-19 prevention and control standards introduced by Health Department. With our recent visits and meetings with school management as well as educational directors, we could verify that more than 75% of previously enrolled pupils between grade one (01) and grade five (05) have attended school. However, most of the parents have faced the biggest challenge to provide necessary school materials/stationery for these pupils as their household economy has been negatively affected and clapped with unemployment and loss of their income generations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There the families have been vulnerable in this situation which directly affect children.

The fact is that all the pupils now got the opportunity to resume their formal education, but some of them have faced a considerable challenge to purchase their school materials/stationery.

Problem analysis and findings:

The learning for Life-S.R.C. team discussed this with some of the parents, teachers, educational authorities as well as some elder pupils regarding this matter. There we found that more children than what we are imagining now have been affected and faced similar issues and are vulnerable.

After these formal and non-formal discussions and situation analyses; the risk factors we identified are;

1. There is a possibility for some percentage (%) of children who have been now at home with lockdown might not back to school and may not back to formal education forever due to the lack of school materials/stationary for them to continue their education and they do not want to bother their parents regarding cost on school materials when they now struggle to be survived.
2. There is a possibility of an increase in school dropouts gradually due to the challenges faced by the family to provide school materials/stationary for the children who continue formal education.
3. Some of the older pupils have found temporary labour work (i.e., these children work for less daily wages than usual labourers and therefore, employers get the opportunity) even though that is prohibited by the Labour Law. But the true fact is that this is another income for the family while the living cost is getting higher, some parents do not encourage these pupils to get back to formal education.
4. Some of the older girls have eloped with their recently found boyfriends and there is a higher risk of early marriages in these areas comparatively in earlier.
5. Some children have been addicted to playing games, watching videos, access to porn sites, etc means misusing the Smart Phones purchased by parents for their online education. Even parents purchase these phones with many struggles.
i.e., there were several suicide cases reported from pupils linked to misuse of mobile/smartphones during the last few months.

Proposed intervention by LFL-SRC:

We analyzed the situations and identified our intervention link to the relevant right-based approach such as what protection issue is to be addressed and involved in prevention actions under this 'Concept Note'. Therefore,

1. In this concept note we focus on Protecting the Educational Rights of the pupils directly addressing the first (01st) & second (02nd) problems identified above.
2. We proposed facilitating 1,000 out of around 2,200 pupils (1,400 in Kelani and 800 in Bellana) by providing a pack of essential school materials/stationary of the best quality for the smooth and comfortable resuming of their formal education and encouraging them to be back to school with a positive feeling.

NOTE: The number of pupils to be benefitted was selected considering the possible funds available for this project as an initial intervention. But, if there is a possibility to facilitate all pupils in the school, that would be much appreciated and definitely be worth it, because more than 90% of the pupils in both schools we work with belong to families with economic challenges.

Target group:

- Identified 500 pupils from Kelani College. Identification was done with support from school management.
- Identified 500 pupils from Bellana College. Identification was done with support from school management.

Method of implementation:

- Once the Concept Note/Proposal and the Budget proposal are approved by SLBV in Sweden, the requested full amount of funds (100%) should be transferred to the Learning for Life-S.R.C. Official Bank Account at HNB as the confirmation for the implementation of this project.
- LFL-SRC Team closely work with school management and class teachers to identify the neediest pupils from school after resuming their education as well as from the list of pupils who have not been presented to the school or have fewer attendants.
- Selection of 500 pupils will be done and information will be generated. Communicating with parents will be done by organizing several meetings at school or via a letter signed by the principal and Executive Director of LFL-SRC considering the best option under COVID-19 prevention guidelines.
- LFL-SRC staff (Finance and Admin section) will be communicating with retail and wholesale suppliers/shops in the local market and obtaining prices for the items. After selecting a reliable supplier for this project, the purchase order will be issued, and proceed to make the payment as suitable to purchase items. Once the purchase is done, the goods will be transported to LFL-SRC Office and those will be packed into packages by our staff and a few additional staff (temporarily hired) in Environmental-Friendly reusable bags.
- Then the packages will be delivered to schools as per the distribution schedule/plan developed with consulting school management, and educational authorities.
- School attendants and progress in educational activities will be monitored for three (03) to six (06) months for these supported pupils.

Implementation of the project:

Target group:

- Considering the financial capacity, SLBV and LFL-SRC agreed to provide 400-500 packs of school materials/stationary based on the market cost.
- Finally, 400 pupils from Kelani College and Bellana College, which means 200 from each were selected by the school management to support.
- The targeted pupils and their families are the most needed and most affected families in these economic challenges.

Method of implementation:

- Once the concept note was approved with the finalized budget, our team worked on planning the project activities and sub-activities within the time frame.
- Then proceed with the procurement procedures. Selecting suppliers is the most important task. Our Admin staff communicated and visited a number of suppliers and bookstores for the requirement.
- After selecting the suppliers from the finalized list our team proceeded to place the order with advance payment.
- While our Admin staff working on purchasing the items, our programme staff work with school management, class teachers and pupils' counselling teacher to select the most needed pupils who are currently attending the school and some pupils who are absent from school because of their parents have not enough money to buy school materials/stationary for them to resume their formal education.
- All the selection of pupils was done by school management through Class Teachers and Students Counselling Teachers in both schools. And the final list was decided by the involvement of our staff as well.
- Due to the lack of goods, we ordered, there was an issue with receiving all packs at once. Therefore, as we discussed and agreed with SLBV, we hired manpower to pack and deliver the stationary packs to project locations as we received from suppliers.
- The initial plan was to visit pupils' houses as the schools were closed. But during the time we implement the project, we distributed these packs at school premises.

The budget proposal and actual cost due to the market price increase:

Cost for Stationary Pack 1 st Phase - 2021		Budgeted amount			Actual Cost due to price increment		
#	Description of the item	Price per Unit	Qty	Total Cost	Price per Unit	Qty	Actual Cost
1	Promate - CR Square Rule 200pg	290.00	2	580.00	412.00	2	824.00
2	Promate - CR Single Rule 200pg	290.00	3	870.00	412.00	3	1,236.00
3	Promate - CR Single Rule 120pg	185.00	3	555.00	262.00	3	786.00
4	Promate - B5 Single Rule 160pg	130.00	2	260.00	347.50	2	695.00
5	Promate - B5 Single Rule 120pg	105.00	8	840.00	269.50	8	2,156.00
6	Pen - Blue	20.00	3	60.00	20.00	3	60.00
7	Pen - Black	20.00	3	60.00	20.00	3	60.00
8	Pen - Red	20.00	3	60.00	20.00	3	60.00
9	Pencil	20.00	2	40.00	30.00	2	60.00
10	Eraser	25.00	1	25.00	75.00	1	75.00
11	Pencil Sharpener	40.00	1	40.00	50.00	1	50.00
12	1/2" Ruler	25.00	1	25.00	25.00	1	25.00
13	Colour Pencil Box (Atlas 12 Colour)	300.00	1	300.00	310.00	1	310.00
14	Highlighters (2 colours) (Atlas)	130.00	2	260.00	65.00	2	130.00
Cost per Stationery item for one Pupil				3,975.00			6,527.00
	15% Discount			596.25			979.05
15	Eco-Friendly Stationary Bag	100.00	1	100.00	225.00	1	225.00
Total Cost per one set of Stationary Pack				3,478.75			5,772.95
Cost for Logistics and Admin							
16	Transportation	12,500.00	6	75,000.00	12,500.00	6	75,000.00
17	Labour Charges	3,000.00	15	45,000.00	3,000.00	12	36,000.00
18	Stationary for documentation	5,000.00	1	5,000.00	6,000.00	1	6,000.00
19	Income TAX for NGO on funds received	32,500.00	1	32,500.00	25,000.00	1	25,000.00
20	Other/Unexpected costs in the distribution process	1,500.00	6	9,000.00	2,500.00	6	15,000.00
Sub Total for Logistics and Admin costs				166,500.00			157,000.00
Cost for all stationary items							
	Pupils from Kelani College		300	1,043,625.00		200	1,154,590.00
	Pupils from Bellana College		300	1,043,625.00		200	1,154,590.00
Sub Total for all the Packs of Stationary items			600	2,087,250.00		400	2,309,180.00
Grand Total for supporting # of pupils			LKR	2,253,750.00		LKR	2,466,180.00
Totalsumma för att stödja # elever			SEK	103,672.50		SEK	113,444.28

Actual Budget Spending on the Project:


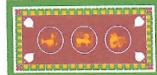

- The total proposed budget for the project was LKR 2,253,750.00 (Two Million two hundred fifty-three thousand and seven hundred fifty rupees).
- The above-said proposed budget was prepared in Oct-Nov 2021 for 600 packs on the market price rate in that period. However, later LFL-SRC and SLBV agreed to proceed with 500 packs or between 400-500 packs based on the Market Price Range with practical circumstances in the local market with continued price hikes. And if there is any additional cost, that could be covered by SLBV later.
- The actual spending on purchasing School Kit/Stationary was higher than the proposed budget due to the Price increase in the market at the time of the purchase even though we reduced the number of pupils to 400.
- The admin/logistics cost of the project was less than the proposed admin/logistics cost.
- **Actual total spending on the project is LKR 2,466,180.00 (Two Million four hundred sixty-six thousand and one hundred eighty rupees)**
- **Which is equal to SEK 113,444.28**
- **The extra budget spending is LKR 212,430.00.**

Photo verification:



Evaluation of the Project:

Appreciation from the Department of Education-Western Province:

	<p>පළාත් අධ්‍යාපන දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව බස්නාහිර පළාත</p>	
<p>පළාත් අධ්‍යාපන අධ්‍යක්ෂ மகாண கல்விப் பணிப்பாளர் Provincial Director of Education</p>	<p>மாகாண கல்வித் திணைக்களம் மேல் மாகாணம்</p>	<p>දුරකථන පොදු பொது தொலைபேசி General Telephone</p>
<p>89, “රත්නපාය”, කඩුවෙල පාර, බත්තරමුල්ල 89, “ரண்மகபாய” கடுவெல் வீதி, பத்தரமுல்ல 89, “Ranmagapaya”, Kaduwela Road, Battaramulla</p>	<p>Department of Education Western Province</p>	<p>011 2867240 011 2868606 (P.D E) pde@edudept.wv.gov.lk</p>
<p>මගේ අංකය எனது இல My No.</p>	<p>011 2868606</p>	<p>011 2867240 011 2868606 (P.D E) pde@edudept.wv.gov.lk</p>
<p>Board of Directors Learning for Life- S.R.C. No. 83 A, Old Road, Pannipitiya</p>	<p>ඔබේ අංකය உமது இல Your No.</p>	<p>දිනය திகதி Date</p>
<p>Appreciation for your support through Star for Life, Nutritional for Life and other Projects</p>	<p>14/03/2022</p>	<p>14/03/2022</p>
<p>Since 2013, the Learning for Life - S.R.C. organization have been supporting many of the needy children in Western Province with support from SLBV organization, Trelleborg Company in Sweden as well as some other funding sources to protect and promote the rights of the children in Sri Lanka.</p>		
<p>During almost a decade, your support for facilitating children from marginalized backgrounds are very much appreciated, particularly at WP/KE/Kelani College and WP/MT/Bellana College in motivational programmes, career guidance for young pupils from grade 08 to grade 13, facilitate counselling needs, support for extracurricular activities, provide capacity building opportunities for teachers, provide morning meal packs for 160 pupils in Primary Section every school day, increase awareness on Nutritional needs as well as support school community in many ways to make the school environment attractive.</p>		
<p>Mostly, the Star for Life programme which is started in 2013 in Western Province has done a positive difference in the school community and the educational lives of pupils. Even my recent observation and monitoring visit to the schools and discussions with principals and school managements at both schools clearly verified the importance of this programme, specifically in the current 'Socially-Stressed' situation under COVID-19 on pupils' lives. The school management in both schools appreciated and admire the way of delivering the content and trustworthy professional engagement by your staff to the pupils.</p>		
<p>During my monitoring visits, it is very well appreciated the Nutrition for Life project which support for identified 160 pupils having nutritional issues in two schools. Also, it was admired for providing dry foods to 200 identified needy pupils/families for survival to some extent in a hard time and also providing 400 packs of school material to resume school education for pupils following the COVID-19 calamity.</p>		
<p>All those initiatives are well-recognized humanitarian support for the needy and vulnerable children. On behalf of the Provincial Department of Education in Western Province, I sincerely hope and expect an expansion of your valuable service to more schools in Western Province in coming years. We can guarantee our fullest support to the Learning for Life-S.R.C. as a responsible and accountable NGO in Sri Lanka following good governing practices through a well-recognized professional board of directors.</p>		
<p>I am thankful to you, your donors and supporters particularly for SLBV and Trelleborg in Sweden for the continued spirit to support our children in Sri Lanka.</p>		
<p>Yours sincerely  M. Kodituwakku Director Preschool and Non-Formal Education Provincial Department of Education - Western Province</p>		
<p>"We dedicate for child's tomorrow"</p>	<p>"දරුවන්ගේ හෙට වෙනුවෙන් අද කැපවෙමු"</p>	<p>"பிள்ளையின் நாளை உயர்வுக்காய் நம்மை ஆர்ப்பணிப்போம்"</p>

Appreciation from Principal of Kelani College:



බප/ කල/ කලනි මහා විද්‍යාලය
WP/KE/ KELANI MAHA VIDYALAYA

Sinharamulla, Kelaniya.

E-mail: kelanimahavidyalaya@gmail.com Tel: 0112 917484

Date: 08/03/2022

Board of Directors
Learning for Life – S.R.C.
No. 83 A, Old Road,
Pannipitiya

Star for Life and Nutrition for Life Programmes at Kelani College

I must be thankful to the Learning for Life - S.R.C., SLBV in Sweden, and Trelleborg AB in Sweden for your enormous support for around 1,210 (in year 2022) pupils in our school from grade 01 to grade 13 since the year 2014 when the Star for Life school programme launched in Kelani College.

With my experience as a teacher and as a principal for many years, I can see the positive changes made for pupils' lives through your Star for Life programme which talk about "Dreams" in childhood or adolescence and guidance with motivational support to walk through the path of success by positive changes in behaviour, develop life skills, believe in oneself, accept own failures but plan for a new journey with success, behaviour management, etc. This guidance is most important for the young generation to have strong self-esteem and be valuable human beings. Star for Life Programme has brought this importance to attention, not only for pupils but also for teachers and parents. That is why I admire this programme a lot and request to continue.

Also, your support for identifying 80 pupils in the Primary section providing morning food packs in each school day has remarkably done a difference in many of the pupils. I heard the stories told by class teachers and the positive educational progress of identified pupils. This is another programme you make a difference in the lives of pupils in Kelani College. We need these sorts of programmes at our school as we lack resources to continue such programmes. And we hope there will be more children who get engaged and receive benefits from these projects in future.

Also, here I should express my heartiest gratitude to you, SLBV and Trelleborg and any other donor who support around 100 pupils to get a Dry-Food pack worth more than Rs. 10,000.00 each and support for many needy children to continue their formal education by organizing around 200 packs of school materials for the pupils in Kelani College.

On behalf of Kelani College, I am thankful to all of you locally and internationally for your wonderful support for needy children in this area and in the school.


Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

D. Gamini Suraweera
Principal – Kelani College

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Appreciation from Principal of Bellana College:

		<h2 style="text-align: center;">ක/බෙලලන මහා විද්‍යාලය (ජාතික පාසල)</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">களு/பெல்லன மகா வித்தியாலயம் (தேசிய பாடசாலை)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KL/BELLANA MAHA VIDYALAYA (NATIONAL SCHOOL)</p>	
දුරකථන (සෞද්) : 034 3308170 General Telephone විද්‍යුත් : 071 8076540 Principle නි. විද්‍යුත් : 071 4785865 W Principle	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px;"> <p>"මුණාත්මක අධ්‍යාපනයක් - මුණාත්මක ශිෂ්‍යයෙක්"</p> <p>"தரமான கல்வியே திறமான பிள்ளை"</p> <p>"A Quality Student through Quality Education"</p> </div>		විද්‍යුත් : edwbellanamahavidyalaya@gmail.com E-mail ලැයිස් : 034 3308170 Fax
මගේ අංකය : My No :	ඔබේ අංකය : Your No :	දිනය : 2022.03.18 Date	

The Board of Directors
Learning for Life – S.R.C.
No. 83 A, Old Road,
Pannipitiya

Projects implement by Learning for Life-S.R.C. at WP/MT/Bellana College

Since the middle of 2016, Learning for Life-S.R.C. has been working with Bellana College providing support in many areas that support educational, aesthetic, extracurricular activities, etc as a close relation to the school community.

Star for Life programme, Nutrition for Life programme, Back to School programme, Emergency relief activities such as providing school materials/cloths in Emergencies, around 100 Dry-Foods for economically drained families, around 200 school packs for restarting of school education, are the key projects implemented at Bellana College and continued during last years since the beginning.

Most of the pupils who attend the schools are from very difficult locations and experiencing many challenges such as economical issues, living with relatives as parents have died or abandoned children, more vulnerable to be child labour, being a victim of early marriages, vulnerable to be exposed to dangerous drugs, cannabis, etc.

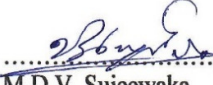
There are more than 40 pupils identified by our school management as school dropouts after school restart from the last year (2021) school closed down due to the COVID-19 and now they are back to school education.

Considering the socio-cultural environment in these areas, your motivational, nutritional, facilitate with basic requirements/materials for attending school education and other support are the most needed engagement at our school and even for many other schools and communities in this area. Therefore, if possible, extending your support for more children, vulnerable families and more schools in this area will undoubtedly provide more opportunities for needy children to improve their quality of life and hope for a better future.

I appreciate and am thankful for Leaning for Life-S.R.C., SLBV organization in Sweden, Trelleborg Company in Sweden and any other donor who support and is willing to continue your wonderful and true worthy work with goodwill.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely


 M.D.V. Sujeewaka
 Principal – Bellana College

M.D.V. Sujeewaka
 Principal
 K/Bellana Maha Vidyalaya
 (National School)
 Bellana.

Feedback from children:

- “This helps me to write my schoolwork on a new book. My mother was not able to buy enough books for my schoolwork. But I like to come to school and study. No kooks for schoolwork were make me sad, but I am now happy as I can continue my schoolwork with new books! Thank you!!” – Girl from grade 9-B
- “Thank you! These books have nice smell and I like it. I can continue my schoolwork now. I was losing hope for schooling as my parents couldn’t buy required books for my schoolwork. Will you give us the some books in next year as well?” – Girl from grade 8-A
- “I live with my grandmother. Earlier she works at few houses in the daytime and earned money, but now she has very less work. We found books for school when the school restarted by visiting several neighbors and houses. But those were not enough for all of us as I have a brother and sister as well. Thanking to you, three of us got this support today and now we have enough books for continue our learning without going home by home and seeking for books as it makes me so much uncomfortable. Thank you!!” – Girl from grade 10-A

Feedback from Principal:

- “We must appreciate LFL-SRC, SLBV and Trelleborg in Sweden for your thoughtful engagements and support in need. Especially, many of the children faced difficulties to find necessary materials and stationery these days those are required for continuation of studies. Earlier our teachers are strongly advised pupils to bring all the required materials for studies, but now no one is asking as we understood the situation. Your support is very much needed and important. Hope and we wish that you could continue this sort of support for pupils’ education in future as well. We must thank you” – Principal – Kelani College
- “Our information says that number of pupils were not back in school even after the school restarted. The main reason is that lack of required school materials for them. Our teachers with support from some local businessmen supported some of them, but the current economic crisis has limited such personal support from our teachers as individuals as well. This will help bring back many more children back to school and also helps many others who really need such intervention for continuation of their formal education. Thanks to you (LFL-SRC) and your funding supporters in Sweden (SLBV and Trelleborg AB) for this support in most needed time in the country.” – Principal – Bellana College

Feedback from Pupils’ Counselling Teacher:

- “Every day many pupils come to me and express their life difficulties. There are two main issues raised and one is lack of food and the other is lack of school materials. You have supported earlier as well for some families with Dry-Food Packs. That is something very much appreciated. And your intervention with supporting these needy children to continue their Formal Education is another great work you do with your funders. I know how difficult to buy books and other school materials under this price increased market. Some items have been doubled the price. How the poor people buy them? I am pretty sure this support will help many families to get relief on their mind from the struggle they faced to find books, pens, etc for their pupils’ education. And sometime, this will encourage pupils to continue their education as well as the group of absentees to get back to school education”

“Thank you very much! And if you could continue this programme in every year, that will help many children to continue their education without struggle and also that will be a much support for families as well.”

Conclusion and thanking!

The purpose of this project was to support identified mostly affected pupils and their families in Kelani and Bellana areas especially focusing on supporting to protect the “CHILDREN’S RIGHTS OF FORMAL EDUCATION”.

“Article 28 (right to education): Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children’s dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.” - UNCRC

According to the Central Bank information, headline inflation which is measured by the year-on-year (Y-o-Y) increased to 64.3% in August 2022 from 60.8% in July 2022.

Food Inflation: According to the Central Bank information, **Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 93.7% in August 2022 from 90.9% in July 2022,**

Non-Food Inflation: According to the Central Bank information, **Non-Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 50.2% in August 2022 from 46.5% in July 2022.**

The Socioeconomic status in the community has collapsed and fallen down badly in the last two years. The government has taken some steps to support needy people through several relief measures with support from prominent organizations such as the UN, WHO, WFP, etc but still, the need is much higher than the capacity. Especially, economically poor people and families in the country are directly affected by the negative impact of the movement of the national economy.

This support was well recognized and with all the feedback, I would say 100% positive about the five segments we pay attention to as per our quality standards in working with communities,

1. quality of goods/materials we purchased for beneficiaries,
2. portion/quantity of each individual/family benefitted,
3. variety of goods/materials,
4. selection of pupils and families (hat off to the school management), and
5. method of distribution under all standards and regulations with COVID-19 and other

Providing 400 School Kits (Stationary) packs for the neediest pupils at both schools was very much appreciated and it was, and it is one of the most need in the economically disadvantaged communities where we work. **The total number of pupils at both schools is around 2,200 and the support we have given is for 400 pupils out of 2,200. It is about 18% of the total pupils at both schools.**

However, the need is much higher than we assumed and the information we received from school community in the beginning. Also the requirement of full school pack which include school bags, school uniforms (including shoes) and all other school materials/stationary is the actual requirement based on our experience and what we heard during this support.

We hope and wish that, if possible, at least twice a year we could support one time with full school Kit for identified pupils and then in the middle of the year support them again to refill the used materials with new school materials would be much worthy and appreciated fulfillment of the current need of these children by as we said, “Supporting to Protect Children’s Educational Rights”!

On behalf of the Learning for Life – S.R.C., School Management and Communities in both schools, especially children and families who benefitted from this wonderful and needy project and the Department of Education, I would like to offer our gratitude to the Trelleborg AB in Sweden, the board members and

general members of SLBV in Sweden and all the other private and individual donors who support this project with their true heart and soul.

And also, I would like to thank the principals and school management of both schools, class teachers as well as counselling teachers in both Kelani and Bellana schools.

Finally hat off to our great programme and admin team at Learning for Life – S.R.C. who always make donor funds into a meaningful and high-quality result making positive change on lives of the children we work with!

Thank you very much!

Chathuranga Guruge
Executive Director and Co-Founder
Learning for Life – S.R.C.

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