

# **Annual Report for the Year 2007-08**

## **BLESS**

**Learning Estate , Cuddalore - Pudhuchery Main Road, Reddichavadi – 607 402,  
Cuddalore District**

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### **I. Child rights protection and disaster mitigation programme – BLESS-Plan Programme**

#### **1. Training on Fire disaster**

Three day training on fire disaster was conducted for 57 staff from CCC and CAC projects on 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> July 2007 at Pudhuchatram. Booklet on disaster, prepared by BLESS was distributed to each participant

#### **2. Calendar and Greeting card distribution as a campaign to promote child rights**

In the month of January 2008, we distributed 5000 calendars and 10000 greeting cards to village people, children, PLAN partners, donor agency, Schools, district level officers etc As part of our child rights promotion campaign.

#### **3. Child rights awareness programme –Bullock Cart rally**

On April 30<sup>th</sup> 2007, a bullock cart rally was organized in Parangipettai. The rally started at Agaram and ended at Samiyarpettai and covered 10 villages. 140 children, 10 bullock carts participated in the rally. Street plays enacted at various points wherever crowd was found. Drum set was played and slogan was raised by children throughout the rally. The theme was school drop out children and child labour.

#### **4. Water quality test and awareness campaign programme**

Children volunteers in 25 villages @5 children per village, age group 11-16, were provided with water testing training by one volunteer Adriene from France in the month of April-May 2007. The children were given due orientation on 12 parameters to kept in the testing process i.e. PH value, Temperature, Residual chlorine, feucal chloroform, Nitrate, Ammonia, Smell, floride, Chloride, Iron, Turbidity (NTU) , hardness. Water testing was carried out in all the 25 villages.

Through water testing contaminated water sources were identified and carried out cautioning writing campaign at the water point itself.

#### **5. Training programme on good values, behaviours and attitudes for teachers and parents**

Parallel trainings were conducted for Teachers and Parents on 26<sup>th</sup> April at Pondichery. The theme was “Moral Values, good behaviors and attitudes, how to handle children when they encounter with any problem”. A book titled “ Anbum Aranum” was released and 1000 copies were distributed to parents and teachers, A total of 33 members participated

## **6. TOT for children**

Three day Training Of Trainers programme was conducted on May 19-21 at VRO Pondichery. 59 children participated in the training. The skills focused in the training were writing songs, developing stories, script writing, singing, managing a programme etc.

## **7. Summer camp**

Cluster wise summer camp was conducted on May 29 to 31. The locations were Pudhkuppam, Shanmaganagar, Periyakuppam, Thaikal Thonithurai, and Cuddalore OT. 75 TOT children lead the camp @15 TOTs in each cluster. A total of 639 children participated in the camp. Songs preparation, Villu pattu, Street play practice and enactment, Kolattam, Drawing cartoon, social games, debate were the activities carried out in the camps.

## **8. Hygiene Training programme for Child care assistant (BLESS-Creche)**

Hygiene training programme was conducted on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2007 for 25 assistants. The subjects dealt in the programme were "Personal hygiene, water handling, food hygiene, safe disposal of solid and liquid waste, evaluation and child care centre hygiene".

## **9. Health Volunteer training –for care takers**

Health volunteer training was conducted for 25 Teachers /Care takers on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> June 2007. The Subjects dealt in the training were "Growth records, Immunization records, ANC and PNC, Balanced diet, Micro and macro nutrient, Child development and Disaster and emergency".

## **10. Rally on ensuring education for school drop outs**

A rally was conducted on July 7<sup>th</sup> 2007 as commemoration of Kamaraj birth day. 600 children from 25 centers participated. The theme was School drop out children education.

## **11. Child rights training for staff**

Child rights training was conducted for all the staff working in PLAN programmes such as child rights, housing, flood housing, Administration and accounts section on 16-18 August 2007. 134 staff participated in the training.

## **12. Orientation training cum Exposure visit on**

Eco San toilet promotional exposure visit programme was organized on 13-8-2007 for 46 permanent housing programme beneficiaries drawn from Agaram to Iyyampettai.

## **13. Construction of Drainage system for CCC**

Drainage system was constructed for the CCC centers at Indranagar and Pudhupettai. Kitchen gardens were established in that two centers by using water come out from CCCs. A volunteer Jennifer from London facilitated this.

## **14. Ensuring iron content for adolescent girls**

Two Volunteers Ms. Isabella and Ms. Marilke from The Netherlands conducted a study at Singarathoppu, Sangolikuppam, Agaram, Delhi Sahib Derga and Rasapettai on iron deficiency among adolescent girls and found out causes in the month of August 2007.

IEC material was prepared on the findings and distributed to CCC. A training was conducted on iron deficiency by the volunteers in the month of December 2007.

### **15. Youth exchange programme**

Three persons from BLESS had visited England as part of youth exchange programme. The team visited educational institutions, performed our folk arts. 20 volunteers came to BLESS from England in the month of August 2007 visited our CCC and CAC children programmes.

### **16. Important day celebration**

- 60<sup>th</sup> Independence Day was celebrated in all the 25 CCC. The first ever women presidents was elected as President of India on 15<sup>th</sup> August .
- Anganwadi day celebration was conducted in all the 25 villages on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2007
- New year day celebration was conducted at Vijalakshmi Kalyana Mandapam Pudhuchatram. Arumbukalin Amarkalam camp children celebrated the day.
- Pongal day was celebrated on 12-1-2008 and 13-1-2008 respectively at Pudhuchatram and all CCC and CAC. Children, staff , and assistants celebrated pongal festival.
- **On 26-1-2008** Republic day was celebrated in all the 25 villages. Sweets were distributed to children

### **17. Drawing skill training**

Training on drawing skills was conducted for 131 children in the age group of 8-14 drawn from our 25 target villages during November 2007 at Pudhuchatram.

### **18. Construction of CCC with due consultation process with children**

BLESS had constructed a CCC at Agaram with a consultation process among children on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2007. Children's suggestions were incorporated in the centre construction.

### **19. Training for staff on Psycho social care .**

A Two day training programme ws conducted for staff on “Disaster, holistic care, self care, mental illness, Skill education, and psychological care for vulnerable groups” on 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> August at Pudhchatram.

### **20. Holiday camp**

We conducted holiday camp on 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2007 for the children from 6<sup>th</sup> standard to 12<sup>th</sup> standard. Tthe camp was organized in each centre. A total of 962 children had been benefited. Major theme was sports and games

### **21. Disaster vulnerability mapping**

We started this disaster vulnerability mapping in the month of September 2007 and completed on December 2007. The mapping was done with the proper participation of children

### **22. Disaster preparedness training**

Disaster preparedness training had five phases. First three phases were conducted in the previous year. This year we conducted 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> phases training in all the 25 villages in the month of June, September and October 2007. The participants drawn from SHGs youth, adolescent girls, CBOs, and children. A total of 1842 persons participated in both the phases

### **23. Booklet on disaster**

BLESS had printed a booklet on disaster preparedness and distributed to community people, CBOs, CCC, CAC, and other NGOs during July 2007.

### **24. Training on “Child abuse – violation of child rights”**

6 CAC staff and 4 CCC staff were given training on child abuse on 16-10-2007. at Pudhuchatram. The following is the subjects of the training

### **25. Children mela**

We conducted children mela on November 17<sup>th</sup> 2007 at Samiyar pettai temple. 173 children from all the 25 villages participated in the programme

### **26. Fair trade**

130 women from 25 villages were provided with grant, minimum Rs.5000 maximum Rs.15,000 to start micro enterprises such as “Petty shop, idly shop, Rice sales, seashell making, sari trade , tailoring, fish sales, fire wood sales, thatch making, cycle fish vending, snacks shops, home made bakery, Goat rearing, etc”. were the enterprises our beneficiaries involved The criteria for the selection of beneficiaries was they should send their children to school regularly.

### **27. External Evaluation**

External evaluation was done on 3, 4 November 2007. Mr. Douglas, Ms. Rebecca, Mr.Kurian, Mr.Ramanathan, and Dr. Salini constituted the evaluation team.

### **28. Memory game on Child Rights Protection**

A volunteer from Netherlands had designed a game in discussion with the children on child rights. Released on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2007. 1000 copies were printed and distributed to CAC children, other NGOs and schools

### **29. Children PRA**

Participatory Rural Appraisal was conducted in all the 25 villages with the active participation of children and community members during the month of October to November 2007. Social mapping, transact walk, Resource mapping, Venn diagram, and Seasonal calendar were the process we adopted.

### **30. Village Child Protection Committee**

In this period we have formed child protection committees in all the 25 villages for the purpose of monitoring child rights violation. Each VCPC consists of –CCC or CAC staff,

two children, VHN, ICDS teacher and school teacher, SHG member, youth or adolescent girls, one traditional leader, and president or a ward member

### **31. Strengthening of Children Clubs**

Children club strengthening process was carried out by our staff through regular orientation in their meetings. Agenda focused were issues in schools and community, actions to be taken, Arumbugal magazine and feed back

### **32. Mothers club**

- Our staff conducted Mothers club meetings regularly. Mothers clubs discussed about monthly activities of CCC, children attendance, Issues of children, breast feeding, nutrition food, anganwadi day etc.

### **33. Parents meeting**

The parents committee consisted CAC children parents. This committee meetings were regularly conducted once in a month. These committees usually discusses Performance of children in education, social and cultural skills, communication with families communities etc

### **34. Winter camp**

“Aumbukalin Amarkalam” winter camp, Cluster wise camp, was conducted on 2007 December 28 to January 1-2008. These camps were conducted at here places namely Cuddalore, Periyakuppam and Shanmuganagar. 20 CAC children from each village had participated in the camp -

### **35. Assessment of performance and Sustainability plan staff**

A two day process was facilitated in this regard at Yercaud Salem during December 2007. 64 staff had participated.

### **36. Visitors programme .**

People from Global Assurance and UNTRS visited our CCC, solar Fish drier during January 2008

**37. Exposure visit -CEDAR –Madurai, Kovil Patti-** By Amazing kids –three day visit -1,2 and 3 **February** - 2008-47 participated in the programme- children –divided into two groups-one group visited Madurai area and another group visited Kovilpatti area. Had interacted with children clubs and learned about the sustainability of children clubs

### **38. Sustainability**

Our staff had meeting with ICDS Department officials on 11-1-2008 regarding linking of CCC with ICDS. Meeting on sustainability of CCC was conducted on 26-2-2008 at Pudhuchatram. CCC teachers, CAC staff, Key staff and coordinator participated Meeting on rehabilitation of BLESS –PLAN Staff was conducted on 29-3-2008

### **39. Health Volunteer Training**

Health volunteers training was conducted on 28-29 February 2008 at Pudhuchatram. 25 care takers of CCC participated.

#### **40. Agaram Housing Inauguration**

Inauguration of 73 new houses was conducted on 19-3-2008 at Agaram. Chief guests of the day were District collector (Rajendra Rathunu), Ronald Angerer country director PLAN. Specialty of the event was “House keys were handed over to the children” .

## **II. Improvement of Environment and Capacity Building of the village Communities –French Ministry programme**

### **1. Training and information centre –Reddichavady campus with children activities**

- Construction of training and information centre
- Running a residential open school for Tribal children with a strength of 57 children. This School was previously run at Pudhuchery VRO office and shifted to Reddichavadi in the month of April 2008.
- The children are enrolled in nearby Government run middle school (Kezhazhinjipattu Government middle school) and at Government Higher Secondary school Abizehapakkam. Academic category of the students was 1-5<sup>th</sup> classes -38 students, 6-8<sup>th</sup> classes -17 students, and 9-10<sup>th</sup> classes -2 students.
- We conduct evening and morning study and providing tuition
- Students also given extracurricular activities training on Yoga, Cultural skills (drama, folk dance and classical), drawing, sports activities, children parliament meeting etc
- We provide three times meals, evening snacks and tea, morning tea, cloths, accommodation, toiletries, Free medical facilities, medical checkups,
- Students were come from the villages namely:-Shanmuganagar, Parangipettai, Bharathiyar Nagar, Agaram, Chinnur North, Cuddalore OT, Sangolikuppam, Annaveli, Killai, Ariyankuppam, Thaikal Thonithurai
- We conduct appropriate exposure visits and celebrations like Independence day, Gandhi Jayanthi day, Saraswathi pooja, Vijayadasami, Republic day, Deepawali and Children day

### **2. Technical Training: Tailoring.**

Two batches of tailoring training @ 20 girls in each batch conducted at Chettikuppam village in Marakanam Block. Women items, cutting, embroidery, dress making and embroidery were the curriculum for above three month course.

### **3. Bio-gas plant:**

20 Bio gas units were established in villages of Parangipattai block. The following villages go benefit under this programme. They were K. Panjangkuppam, V.Pamjangkuppam, Thoppiruppu, Gopalapuram, Thachanpalayam, Samiyarpettai, Chinnandikuzhi, and Periyandikuzhi.

All the beneficiaries were from BC communities and marginal farmers. The beneficiaries got 2 hours of gas and 50% of their needs were fulfilled

#### **4. Wind mill**

Two wind mills were installed one at Reddichavadi and another at Shanmuganagar. The purpose was to meet out certain portion of energy needs of Shanmuganagar and the training centre and to create models to motivate viewers to join in the energy conservation efforts. At Shanmuganagar the windmill was linked with overhead tank. The people get more than enough water for their drinking, bathing, washing etc. on free of cost. At the training centre the pumped water used for bathing, washing and other uses of training centre inmates especially the open school children.

#### **5. Advocacy:**

Organized campaigns and carried out advocacy activities on four key local issues such as are human rights, land rights, organic farming and eco sanitation. The following is the details:-

##### a. Human Rights:

Established a Legal cell with a panel of lawyers .Conducted workshop for Lawyers, College students, Women and Children

##### b. Land rights:

- Conducted land rights training for farmers from 20 villages
- Conducted training for Women SHG members from 11 villages
- Organized two rallies at Keerapalayam and Parangipettai. Both the rallies covered a stretch of 26 villages @one rally 13 villages

##### c. Organic farming:

- Conducted campaign on Organic farming and kitchen garden promotion among SHG members and leaders.
- Conducted campaign among 14 School Children on organic farming in Parangipattai Block.
- Conducted campaign among SHG members and leaders on organic farming in 9 villages of Parangipattai Block
- Conducted cultural programme on organic farming in 15 Villages of parangipettai Block
- Wall painting on organic forming was done in 10 villages in Parangipattai and Keerapalayam Block.
- Constructed an organic farming training centre at puduchatram.

##### d. Eco-san toilets:

- Workshop was organized for NGO's at Pudhuchatram
- Three workshops were organized for community people and leaders. Two at Parangipettai and one at Agaram.
- Training programme was conducted for school students hailed from 14 villages
- Organized Exposure visits to school Children and Community people.
- Campaign and Cultural Program was organized in 15 villages.

#### **6. Visibility and documenting Media**

- Made three Films respectively on Shanmuganagar housing Project, Agriculture project, and French Ministry Project.
- Posters and leaf-lets were printed on advocacy programme and distributed to the Public.

### III. Housing Programme for first and second line Tsunami affected victims

S.No	BLESS Housing Activity in General	Total no. of houses	Social category of Beneficiaries			
			SC	BC	Fisherman	Muslim
1	<b>Karikan nagar</b> -Cuddalore block	36	36			
2	<b>Ponnanthittu</b> -Parangipettai block	14	14			
3	<b>Karunanithy salai</b> -Parangipettai town panchayat	61	23	4	3	31
4	<b>Agaram</b> - Parangipettai town panchayat	73	48*		25	
	Total	184	184	4	28	31

\*Out of the 48 SC beneficiaries 18 were from scavenger community and 30 were from Oddar community

### IV. Agriculture and Livelihood Project

#### 1. Construction of Farm pond

Totally five farm ponds were constructed and five farmers benefited. 4 units were constructed at Chettikuppam, Seyyankuppam and Kaliyangkuppam in Marakanam block and 1 unit was constructed at Chinnandikuzhi in Parangipattai.Block.

#### 2. Construction of Rain Water Harvesting and Recharging structure

76 Rainwater structures were constructed at Shanmuganagar. The locations of rainwater structures were 62 houses newly built, Temples, child care centre and schools.

#### 3. Construction of Checkdam at Marakanam

A Checkdam was constructed on Kattaru. This check dam was linked to a pond that was excavated through NREG programme. Previously the pond did not have water. After the pond linked with the check dam the pond could get enough water. The water in the pond has been used by farmers to their fields and also filled their wells that were used in the latter period. 500 acres of land are irrigated by this source and 250 families are getting benefit from this initiative. We have built a door like set up on the check dam to regulate water inflow to the pond.

#### 4. Water passage (pipe) facility to a pond for agriculture and drinking water purposes

BLESS constructed a passage/pipe facility, for a length of 600 meters, between Buckingham canal and four farm ponds at Chettikuppm, Seyyankuppam and



Kaliankuppam which were interconnected with passages. Previously the four farm ponds did not get water from any sources except rain fall. So they have been dry throughout the year. After connecting Buckingham canal with the farm ponds, the farm ponds were getting enough water during the rain season and that could be stored to height of 45-5 feet. Around 650 acres of land were benefiting out of the four ponds. The sluice built at Buckingham canal allow only the rain water in the passage and if rain water flow stopped the sluice will shut up and won't allow salt water into the passage.

#### **5. Land Rejuvenation of 332.57 acres of land with organic treatment.**

337.57 acres of land was rejuvenated with organic treatment with application of green fodder (Daincha) @12.5 tons per hectare, and farm yard manure @ 5 tons per hectare. The farm yard manure was mixed with bio fertilizer. Apart from the above organic treatment of land, the farmers were distributed seeds which were given proper bio fertilizer treatment. Soil test (ph level and ec level of the soil) had been undertaken and consultancy was given to farmers. 400 farmers belonged to 20 farmers group from 19 villages had benefited in the above land rejuvenation programme. The 19 villages includes 9 first line tsunami affected villages and 10 second line tsunami affected villages.

#### **6. Supply of Pressure Pumps farmers**

70 Pressure pumps were distributed to 70 marginal farmers from 12 villages in Parangipattai and Marakanam Blocks. All the benefited farmers were members of 12 Farmer SHGs.

#### **7. Drip irrigation for kitchen garden**

49 Small farmers from 19 villages of Parangipettai block were provided with drip irrigation unit @one unit per farmer. These drip irrigations were meant for kitchen garden. We used both bag and bucket methods in the above drip irrigation units.

#### **8. Nursery promotion by SHG's**

4 nursery units were developed and handed over to 4 SHG's at Thatchampalayam, Thoppiyuppu villages in Parangipettai Block. Coconut seedlings and Avenue trees were the main species grown in the nursery. SHGs got benefit out of the sale of seedlings and it was noticed tha the benefit was three times the investment. In Marakanam also we developed 3 nursery units and handed over the same to three groups for their income generation. Here all the seedlings were coconut seedlings.

#### **9. Creation of Bio-Shield Measure(Plantation)**

16 acres of bio shield was developed at Samiyarpattai (5 acres), Pudhukuppam (3 acres) and Marakkanam (8 acres) villages. The species used in the bio shield were Pinnai, Seagrapes, Pungam, Poovarasu, cocnut, casuarinas, and pencil tree

#### **10. establishment of Kitchen Garden**

765 Families in 19 villages in Parangipettai block and 300 families from three villages in Marakanam block were distributed with vegetable seeds to develop the kitchen garden in their back yard .

### **11. Development of organic manure (vermi Compost pit)**

159 Vermi compost pit was developed in 22 villages in Parangipattai and Marakanam Blocks. The farmers applied the compost in their own fields and got increased yield out of their crops.

### **12. Construction of Fish drying yard**

32 Rooms were constructed for 32 families of C. Pudupattai Village to dry and protect their dry fish safely. The measure of each room is 6' x 6' and the total building space for the 24 rooms is 1837 square feet. After construction of this drying yard the beneficiaries were able to dry their fishes hygienically without any health hazards.

### **13. Construction of fish Market**

We constructed a Fish Market at Agaram Pudhupettai in Parangipettai block. 26 women Fish vendors utilize the market. The beneficiaries had been organized into a SHG.

### **14. Provision of Milch animal**

124 marginal farmers from 22 villages were provided with milch animal @ one animal per farmer.. Also 180 farmers from 9 FSHGs had got loan from HDFC for purchasing of milch animals. The beneficiaries are now selling milk and getting regular income. The average income per beneficiary was 1200 per month

### **15. Fodder development centers run by SHG's**

5 Fodder units were developed for SHG's in Parangipattai block. Farmers self help groups from five villages namely V. Panjankuppam, K. Panjankuppam, C. Karikuppam, K. Karikuppm, and Chinnandikuppam were given responsibility of fodder units. . Each unit was ½ acre area and Each unit is owned and looked after by a farmer. Fodder from the units was either used by the farmer or sold in the market. The farmers got increased income from his own cattle and also get additional income out of sale of grasses. The fodder species at fodder units is CO3 grass. We provided seeds on free of cost.

### **16. Horticultural development**

Horticultural variety seedlings were given to 5 farmers from Indranagar and C. Pudhupettai @ 60 seedling per acre. Each farmer owned one acre of land. Now all the plants had grown up and were nearing to yield stage. The seedlings varieties were Gova, mango, Suppotta, Amla, and Jack

### **17. Training programme**

- We conducted training on rain water harvesting for Staff and 130 beneficiaries from Shanmuganagar
- 210 Farmers from Parangipettai and Marakanam blocks were provided with training on Land and Agricultural Development

- 345 members from 4 SHGs were given training on Nursery Development and organized them an exposure visit to a farm at Neyveli
- 20 members from SHGs were provided with training on Sea food (Picklet, fried, cutlet making etc) processing and marketing techniques
- Peasant council members from 22 villages of Paranigpettai and Marakkanam Blocks were given training on peasant council at Marakkanam –IITP.

## V. Water and sanitation programme

### 1. Overall activities carried out under water and sanitation programme

S. No	Programme	Numbers
1	Permanent Housing Construction	184 houses
2	Individual Household Eco san Toilets construction	460 Toilets
3	Community Eco San Toilets to Hamlets	2 Com Toilets
4	School Eco san Toilets for students and teachers	5 School toilets
5	New shallow hand pumps for village communities	8 Pumps

### 2. School Eco San Toilet programme

S. No	Name of the School	Name of the Village and Block	Beneficiaries			Completion stage	Total Urinal sheets	Total Eco san Toilets
			Total Boys	Total Girls	Total Students			
1	Sri Murugan Primary School	Vandipalayam Cuddalore Town	58	47	105	Completed Dec-07	40	2
2	St Joseph Primary School	Vazhuthalampattu Kurinjipadi block	25	17	42	Completed Jan-08	40	2
3	Panchayat Union Middle School	Poovalai Parangipettai Block	107	97	204	Completed Jan-08	40	4
4	Sri Ragavendhira Primary School	Periyamudhaliar chavadi Vanur block	53	62	115	Completed Jul-07	30	2
5	Sri Ramalingar High School	Subramaniapuram Kurinjipadi block	661	605	1266	Started 2008. Construction is in process	124	6
			904	828	1732		274	16

### 3. Community Eco San Toilet programme

S.No	Name of the community	Name of the village	Name of the Panchayat	Name of the Block / District	Number of Eco san toilet	Number of Urinal sheets	Completion date / Month
1	Community Women Eco san toilet-only for women -	Mohan Singh Street	Cuddalore Municipality	Cuddalore	4 units	3 bathroom	Sep-07
2	Community Women Eco san toilet II Male and Female	Mohan Singh Street	Cuddalore Municipality	Cuddalore	8 units	4 bathroom	13 th November 2008

#### 4. Individual Households Eco San Toilet

S.No	Name of the village	Name of the Panchayat	Name of The Block	No of Eco San Toilet	Stage of Construction	Name of the Donar
1	Karikan Nagar	Madhalapattu	Cuddalore	36	Under Construction	Wherever the Need
2	Cinnure South-leach pit flush out toilet – not recomeded in coastal area	C.Pudhupettai	Parangipettai	100	November 27th 2008 Completed	Wherever the Need - Plan International
3	Aruvapakkam	Aruvapakkam	Vanure (Villupuram District)	54	November 27 th 2008 Completed	Wherever the Need
4	Dellisahib thaikal 55-Muslim 2-SC, 3-BC	Parangipettai Special Panchayat	Parangipettai	60 -	Under Construction	Wherever the Need
5	Shanmugan Nagar-part of the housing programme	C.Pudhupettai	Parangipettai	62-ST	Under Construction	Wherever the Need - Solidarite (FM)
6	Vijayapuri - Ponnanthittu	Killa Special Panchayat	Parangipettai	14	July 1 st 2008 Completed	Wherever the Need - Solidarite (FM)
7	Karunanithy Salai	Parangipettai Special Panchayat	Parangipettai	61	Under Construction	Wherever the Need - Solidarite (FM)
8	Agaram	Parangipettai Special Panchayat	Parangipettai	73	Apr-08	Plan International
			Total	460		

#### 5. Water testing

Ms. Adrine A volunteer from France had conducted a water testing process in 25 tsunami affected villages in Cuddalore District by using 12 parameters through the use of a test kit. The following were the findings of the water test.

- Water in ten villages has been polluted (contamination with chemical and organic pollutants) out of the given 25 villages.

After we came to know about the findings we did some sort of awareness among the population about the pollution and suggested them not to take drinking water in that polluted sources. Due to our campaign the people stopped using the polluted water sources

#### **6. New Shallow hand pump provision**

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Name of the village</b>	<b>No of pumps</b>	<b>Usage of pumps</b>
1	Chinnur south	2	Drinking water
2	Madavapallam	1	Drinking water
3	Mohan Singh street	3	Domestic use
4	Pensioners line	2	Domestic use
5	Sivanadhapuram	1	Domestic use
6	Karikan nagar	6	Domestic use
7	Sakti Nagar (Agaram)	2	Domestic use
	Total	16	

#### **7. Exposure visit by others**

The following were the NGOs made their visits to our water and sanitation programme during the reporting period.

- SUCH from Vellore
- REAL from Pondy
- Sri Krishnasamy Foundation Chennai

#### **8. Training and consultancy services to others**

BLESS provided a 3 day training programme for staff of an organization called Humana People to people from Pudhuchery training on Eco San Toilet projects. Village leaders and staff from the above organization had made 3 exposure visits to our water and sanitation programme. Also BLESS has been providing continuous consultancies to the organization or their successful implementation of their Eco San Toilet Project.

#### **Impacting Government**

DRDA of Kanchipuram, Nagapattinam, and Cuddalore districts have arranged training session on Eco San Toilet promotion. For the above training, a team of people from BLESS such as Staff, village leaders, and school children had gone for a panel discussion as resource team and shared expertise and experiences with the trainees.

## VI. Fish Vendors Livelihood Development Projects

### 1. SHGs formation among men fish vendors

S. No	Works	Annangkoil fish Market	Mudasalodai fish Market	Cuddaore fish Market	Total (District )
1	Blocks	Parangipettai Keerapalayam Bhuvanagiri	Kumaratchi Kattumannarkudi Kammapuram	Kurinjpadi Cuddalore Annagramam Panruity	10 blocks
2	Men SHG	14	18	12	44
3	No of members in all the men SHGs	219	266	193	678

### 2. Details about demarcation of market area

Markets	Blocks fall under each market
Annangkoil	Parangipettai , Keerapalayam and Bhuvanagiri
Mudasalodai	Kumaratchi, Kattumannarkudi and Kammapuram
Cuddalore OT	Kurinjpadi, Cuddalore, Annagramam, Panruity

### 3. SHGs formation among women fish vendors

S. No	Works	Annangkoil fish Market	Mudasalodai fish Market	Cuddaore fish Market	Total (District )
	Women SHGs	Under process	Under process	4	4
	No of Members in women SHGs			64	64

### 4. Men Fish Vendors federation

S. No	Works	Annangkoil fish Market	Mudasalodai fish Market	Cuddaore fish Market	Total (District )
	No of men fish vendors federation formed	1	1	1	3
5	District representatives	5	5	5	15

### 5. District level Fish Vendors Movement

At present men federation in each market had selected five representatives amongst its executive members to represent District Level Fish Vendors Movement. In the same manner women fish vendors federation in each market also send five representatives to the district level fish vendors' movement.

### 6. Distribution of identity card to fish vendors

S. No	Market	No of members received ID card
1	Annangkoil	142
2	Mudasalodai	116
3	Cuddalore	133
Total		391

### 7. Leadership training conducted

S. No	Market	No of participants
1	Annangkoil	100
2	Mudasalodai	50
3	Cuddalore	50
Total		200

### 8. Documentation and Accounts training conducted

S. No	Market	No of participants	No of SHGs
1	Annangkoil	20	10
2	Mudasalodai	16	8
3	Cuddalore	14	7
Total		50	25

### 9. Monthly meetings, Savings and internal loan

S. No	Items	Annangkoil Market Rs.	Mudasalodai Market Rs.	Cuddalore Market Rs.	Total Rs.
1	Savings men SHGs	379,900	173,600	196,800	750,300
2	Savings women SHGs			34,400	34,400
3	Internal loan –Men SHGs	245,800	50,000	90,000	385,800
4	Internal loan- Women SHGs			12000	12000
<b>Total</b>		625,700	223,600	333,200	1,182,500

### 10. Micro loans provided to Fish vendors SHGs

S. No	Items	Annangkoil Market In Rupees	Mudasalodai Market In Rupees	Cuddalore Market In Rupees	Total In Rupees	
1	Micro loan Men SHG	Amount	173000	266000	144000	583000
		SHGs	14	18	12	
		Beneficiaries	219	266	193	
2	Micro loan	Amount		24000	24000	

	Women SHGs	SHGs			2	2
		Beneficiaries			24	24

### 11. Direct Bank loan linkage

During the reporting period one of our SHGs have been linked with HDFC bank Pondchery and had got Rs.150,000 as loan

### 12. Government Subsidy scheme

During the reporting period three SHGs named Kadal Deivam , Adhivaraga Natham and Kadal Sippi respectively from Villiyannallur, Soosaiyappar and Manigollai have got Subsidy loan. Each SHG had got Rs.45000 loan. Out of this loan amount Rs.10,000 was subsidy.

### 13. Linking Fish Vendors with Fisheries welfare board through Advocacy

S. No	Market Area	No of members enrolled in fisheries Welfare board
1	Cuddalore	188
2	Annangkoil	158
3	Mudasalodai	256
Total		602

### 14. Insurance

The following is the details of market wise members who made insurance polices with HDFC bank

S. No	Market	Policies
1	Cuddalore Market	189
2	Annangkoil Market	130
3	Mudasalodai Market	145
	Total	464

The following is the details of market wise members who availed the insurance under United India Insurance

S. No	Market	Policies
1	Cuddalore Market	39
2	Annangkoil Market	140
3	Mudasalodai Market	0
	Total	179

### 15. Free Cycle Distribution to Male Fish Vendors

S. No	Market	Number of beneficiaries
1	Annangkoil	142



2	Cuddalore	89
Total		231

### **16. Provision of IEC materials**

We have provided IEC materials to all the leaders who have participated in the leadership training programme.

### **17. Advocacy works**

Advocacy on “Linking the fish vendors with fishery board” was carried out successfully. Advocacy works on the following three issues/aspects are under process.

- Campaign against “Free Trade Zone” pact
- Reservation in higher and professional educational institutions
- Free cycle for fish vendors from Government

## **VI. Livelihood Advancement Centre programmes**

### **1. Main programmes**

1. One month training course on Fiber Boat mechanism (repairing) was conducted. Trained 2 batches of participants. 44 persons benefited.
2. Three months training course on Electronics was conducted. Trained 3 batches of participants. 48 persons benefited.
3. Three months training course on general engineering (welding) was conducted for 5 batches of trainees. Totally 134 persons benefited
4. Three months course on electrical wiring (domestic) was conducted for five batches of trainees. Total beneficiaries was 102.
5. One month training course on Masonry (housing) was conducted. Trained 1 batch of participants. 15 persons benefited.
6. Three months training course on sea food processing and catering was conducted for 4 batches of trainees. Totally 90 persons benefited
7. One month training course on hand made product was conducted. Trained 1 batch of participants. 15 persons benefited.
8. Three months training course on Jute products making was conducted for 2 batches of trainees. Totally 30 persons benefited
9. Three months training course on tailoring skills was conducted for 1 batch of trainees. Totally 15 persons benefited
10. Conducted 5 days training Programme on Livelihood resource mapping for trainers in BLESS and barefoot trainers in Cuddalore District. 21 persons benefited
11. Conducted 2 days training Programme on Livelihood resource mapping for NGO staff and village volunteers in Cuddalore District. 35 persons benefited
12. Jointly with CARE India, we conducted four days training for NGO staff on Basics of Livelihood Promotion. 11 persons participated
13. We conducted Livelihood advancement centre business meet for NGOs. 50 staff from 27 NGOs participated
14. One information kiosk had been established at Reddichavadi. It has computer, books, news letter, models, material files, soft copies, curriculums and syllabus

15. Conducted two batches of refresher course for TOT trainees. 10 trainees had participated
16. BLESS had tie up with Hemalatha Industry at Cuddalore to provide opportunity to trainees of LAC. We jointly organized in-campus interview. The said industry had taken all the trainees of welding course as apprentice.
17. Man power register was created for the trainees. For this we have conducted 3 meetings. All the 493 trainees have registered.
18. under staff development initiatives our staff were provided with opportunities to participate in meetings, trainings, exposure visits and TOT . They were at the district level, State level and in other state. The organizations/Projects associated in this regard were CII, ADRA, CARE India, APMASS, MYRADA, ITCOT-DIC, DRDA Cuddalore, AKSHARA, VELEGU Project, and DHV .
19. IEC materials were prepared and properly distributed as an advertisement drive for LAC to reach out tsunami affected youths to benefit out of our livelihood skill development courses
20. Construction of marketing outlet is in process. Soon we will have good outlet at our Reddichavadi Office complex
21. Four brochures were prepared on training courses such as Seafood processing, electrical, welding and distributed. Also we have prepared one separate brochure on LAC. The purpose of the brochures was to provide information about the courses and LAC for stakeholders and beneficiaries

## 2. Details of Training under LAC main programme.

<u>BLESS/CARE/Standard Chartered Bank– Livelihood Advancement Centre</u>												
<u>Trade Wise Details is furnished as follows as on 31st March – 2008</u>												
S.No	Name of the Trade	Batch No.	No. of Trainees Recruited	No. of Trainees Attended	Social Category			Sex		Employment Status		Training duration
					SC	ST	OBC	Male	Female	Self	Wage	
1	Fibre Boat mechanism	2	48	44	0	0	44	44	0	44		1 month
2	Electrical & Electronics	3	48	48	13	1	34	39	9		10	3 months
3	Electrical (Domestic Wiring)*	5	120	102	38	0	64	102	0	24	53	3 months
4	Welding *	5	137	134	32	0	102	134	0	2	95	3 months
5	Mason Training	1	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>			15	1 month
6	Sea food Processing and Catering	4	93	90	25	0	65	47	43	2	21	3 months
7	Hand Made Paper Product	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>14</b>		<b>15</b>	3		1 months
8	Jute Bag	2	30	30	6	0	24	0	30		5	3 months

9	Tailoring	1	15	15	5		10		15	15		3months
<b>Total</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>199</b>	

### 3. Consultancy agreement with CAPART –Council of Advancement of People’s Action and Rural Technology

On 18-12-2006 LAC had signed an agreement with CAPART. LAC Agreed to conduct 51 batches of training on Tailoring, Jute bag, Paper toys, Computer, Electrical, Fast food, Motor rewinding, Welding, Cell repairing, and sweet and snack production trades. All the programmes were planned for 985 training days.

According to CAPART Guidelines a selection committee was formed with the representation of NABARD, CAPART, BDO, DRDA, BLESS, Federation, Lead Bank (Indian bank) to select the trainees/beneficiaries for the proposed training programme.

The selection committee selected trainees in three sittings. The following is the details of the training programme conducted

Name of the block	Number of villages	Name of trade	No of selected beneficiaries	Duration of training	No of batches		
Keerapalayam	276 villages in three Block	Tailoring	195	60 days	10		
		Jute bag	40	60 days	2		
		Paper toys	40	60 days	2		
		Computer	158	60 days	8		
		Electrical	56	60 days	3		
		Fast food	39	45 days	2		
		Motor rewinding	20	60 days	1		
		Welding	39	60 days	2		
Parangipettai		276 villages in three Block	Electrical	13	60 days	1	
			Tailoring	73	60 days	4	
			Computer	84	60 days	4	
			Cell repairing	17	40 days	1	
			Welding	32	60 days	2	
Cuddalore			276 villages in three Block	Computer	64	60 days	3
				Tailoring & sweet stall	71	60 days	3
	Welding			42	60 days	2	
	Electrical and cell phone			21	60 days	1	
	<b>Total</b>			<b>1004</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>51</b>	

## **VIII. Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package**

### Introduction

As a risk reduction measure, the Government of Tamilnadu formulated a supplementary project to reconstruct all vulnerable houses located along the disaster prone coastal areas. According to the guidelines vulnerable houses within 0-200 meters from the HTL and also houses (not renovated) within 1000 meters constructed under IAY and other government schemes which are more than 10 years old as on 1-1-2006 were eligible for new houses on free of cost. Immediately after the tsunami revenue officials made a survey along the Tsunami affected coastal villages and enumerated eligible beneficiaries according to the guidelines. Latter, after due publicity, this list was validated by the respective grama sabhas. Government foresaw a crucial role for NGOs in this project to play as a pool proof system and ensuring mechanism for real beneficiaries to get benefit and active participation of beneficiaries in the construction process.

Also the World Bank conceived (Emergency Tsunami Reconstruction Project -ETRP) that NGOs should be involved in RGRP as third party facilitators for undertaking the task of enhancing awareness, capacity building, empowerment and involvement of beneficiaries in the reconstruction of vulnerable houses.

The task will include interacting with the beneficiaries to ascertain their design choices and ensure that contractors customize the housing constructions within the overall framework of the built up and average cost per house unit specified in this project.

### a. Agreement between BLESS and RGRP

The agreement was made on 07-11-2007 between the collector and BLESS. Contract period was twelve months from the agreement date Total house allotted for validation purposes under this programme was 1772 houses in 29 villages.

### b. Implementation team

This team constituted two technical specialists, six community organizers and a team leader.

### c. Orientation for the implantation team

The implementation team participated in one state level and one district level meetings organized respectively by RGRP Project Director and DRDA Project Officer for getting orientation about the programme and implementation process

### d. Survey

1764 houses were surveyed. The following were the details collected from the beneficiaries during the survey i.e. General information about beneficiaries, house details, HTL level, land entitlement details, land availability, legality of the land proposed for housing etc. The following were the purposes of the survey:-

- Confirmation of the residence of the beneficiaries
- Ensuring real beneficiaries to get benefit
- Providing information about the programme to the beneficiaries

- Eliminating the list of families that already have pucca houses from the beneficiaries list

#### e. Addition of beneficiaries in the beneficiaries list

As the result of the survey, 15 families were newly added to the beneficiaries list. The following were the reasons for their inclusion:-

- Most of the beneficiaries were absent during the initial enumeration time.
- Some of the IAY and FM Houses built before 1996 were not included in the list

#### f. Deletion of ineligible beneficiaries from the beneficiaries list

According to the findings of the survey the team they had recommended 23 houses to be deleted from the list. The following were the reasons for deletion:-

- Some beneficiaries names were repeated two times in the list
- Some families already had good house. According to the beneficiary criteria, families having good houses already should not be given benefit.
- Dispute over the ownership of the land proposed for construction have not been settled yet.
- Same houses had been allotted to two families. Found out real beneficiaries and bogus beneficiaries were deleted from the list

#### g. Correction of beneficiaries list

During the survey it was found that beneficiaries' names were incorrectly written in the beneficiaries list. About 45 beneficiaries' names, hailed from 17 villages, were incorrectly written. The team had taken those issues with the concerned authorities at DRDA and finally the DRDA made correction according to the recommendation of the team. .

#### h. The participatory Process adopted by the team during the validation programme

The team had been adopting continuous process with Gramasabha and the beneficiaries through the implementation period. The had consulted the following persons and forums such as Grama Panchayat, Panchayat president, VAO, Vice president, village community authority comprised traditional leaders, Panchayat level SHGs, PLF and general community for the smooth and successful implementation of the project.

#### i. Village visits

Total 29 villages divided into six groups for village visit purposes. Each group villages was taken responsibility one staff. The following were the activities carried out during the village visit. They were:- Motivating the beneficiaries to demolish their house, Providing counseling to the beneficiaries before, during and after the demolition, Meeting the village committee leaders, Monitoring the progress in the villages and To maintain regular contact and communication with the beneficiaries.

#### Awareness on demolishing

The team organized awareness meeting in all the 29 villages on demolishing. Community mobilizer, Team Leader, Technical person from BLESS, Engineer from DRDA, facilitated the awareness process.

j. Participation in Village Panchayat meeting

The 29 target villages fall under 13 village Panchayats. The implementation team had regular communication with the Panchayat functionaries by interacting with them in their regular meetings. The purpose was to facilitate Panchayats' participation for the successful implementation of RGRP.

k. Facilitating beneficiaries to get relief and rent

As part of the RGRP programme, the housing beneficiaries had been provided with shifting allowance and rent allowance. The team ensured the proper, regular and timely distribution of allowance cheques to the beneficiaries. Engineer from DRDA, RGRP-BLESS team members, President, Vice president, Ward member, Technical Assistant from DRDA, and traditional village committee leaders were present during the cheque distribution.

l. Habitation level awareness meeting

Before the demolition taking place, the team conducted habitation level meeting in all the 29 villages for the purpose of ensuring smooth demolition. In this meeting we organized traditional leaders, Village Panchayat President, ward members, beneficiaries, Family members of beneficiaries, and other general public.

m. Ensuring Beneficiary's choice of housing design/Model

The team conducted beneficiaries meeting to get Beneficiaries' choice of housing model. Their opinions were registered instantaneously on a format approved by DRDA @ one form for one beneficiary. At the end of the form, beneficiaries put their signatures as their approval. Interestingly all the beneficiaries from all the 29 villages have selected Model No 4. Also the beneficiaries had right to make changes in the model according to their wishes. In this regard the facilitated the beneficiaries and the contractors and ensured the beneficiaries choice of housing

n. Awareness on construction

the purpose of this process was to ensure proper house construction according to the plan through beneficiaries monitoring system. The team conducted orientation meeting on housing construction. Specification of materials, quality, quantity, usage methods, mixing standard, etc were explained to the beneficiaries.

o. Meeting with other stakeholders

The team had met Village committee members, concerned VAO, local SHGs members and leaders to elicit their supports for the effective implementation of the project activities. The above stakeholders provided all the needed supports.

## **IX. Women Development Programme**

### **1. Organizing of women SHGs**

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Block</b>	<b>New SHG</b>	<b>Members</b>
1	Keerapalayam	63	943

2	Cuddalore	95	1698
3	Parangipettai	53	771
<b>Total</b>		<b>211</b>	<b>3412</b>

## 2 Training programmes conducted

S. No	Block	A&R Training		SHG Training	
		Groups	Members	Groups	Members
1	Keerapalayam	63	126	63	943
2	Cuddalore	95	190	95	1698
3	Parangipettai	47	94	47	715
<b>Total</b>		<b>205</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>3356</b>

## 3. Direct Bank Linkage programme

S. No	Block	SHG	Member	Amount
1	Keerapalayam	92	1380	19,860,000
2	Cuddalore	82	1392	62,470,000
3	Parangipettai	1	15	80,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>175</b>	<b>2787</b>	<b>82,410,000</b>

## 4. RF Linkage (SGSY and THADCO)

S. No	Block	SHG	Member	Amount
1	Keerapalayam	263	3945	15,780,000
2	Cuddalore	88	1584	3,960,000
3	Parangipettai	28	420	1,680,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>379</b>	<b>5949</b>	<b>21,420,000</b>

## 5. Economic Assistance (SGSY and THADCO)

S. No	Block	SHG	Member	Amount
1	Cuddalore	7	134	485,885
<b>Total</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>485,885</b>

## 6. Overall SHGs (Old and New)

S. No	Block	SHG	Members
1	Keerapalayam	973	18620
2	Cuddalore	384	7441
3	Parangipettai	587	13376
4	Reddichavadi	100	1500
<b>Total</b>		<b>2044</b>	<b>40937</b>

## 7. HDFC Loan portfolio

S. No	Block	SHG	Member	Amount
1	Keerapalayam	328	4920	53,375,000
2	Cuddalore	151	2265	23,777,000

3	Parangipettai	145	2175	20,489,000
	Reddichavadi	41	615	6,145,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>665</b>	<b>9975</b>	<b>103,786,000</b>

### 8. PLF meeting

S. No	Block	No of PLF
1	Keerapalayam	63
2	Cuddalore	5
3	Parangipettai	15
4	Reddichavadi	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>88</b>

### 9. BLCC meeting

S. No	Block	BLCC
1	Keerapalayam	1
2	Cuddalore	1
3	Parangipettai	1
4	Reddichavadi	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>

### 10. Individual based enterprises and number of members involved and benefited

S.No	Name of micro trade/ Business /Enterprises	Keerapalayam	P. Pettai	Cuddalore
		Members	Members	Members
1	Coconut thatch	0	2	0
2	Garments sales	0	6	5
3	Rice sales	0	4	0
4	Tea shop	9	8	0
5	Petty shop	17	11	72
6	Provision store	7	11	0
7	Dry fish sales	0	142	0
8	Milk sales	6	3	0
9	Idly shop	40	5	0
10	Root sales	0	1	0
11	Flower sales	0	13	0
12	Tailoring	46	13	0
13	Fish sales	3	48	28
14	Covering chain	121	2	0
15	Soda sales	0	2	0
16	Radio repair	0	1	0
17	Vessel Rental shop	4	2	0
18	Handloom	0	8	0
19	Mud doll making	0		7
20	Coir making	0		3
21	Flori culture	60		35



22	Cashew nut processing	0		2
23	Milch animal	332		5
24	Fish culture	31		
25	STD Booth	9		
26	Goat rearing	114		
27	Cattle feed	1		
28	Cement works	46		
29	Land mortgage	190		
30	Fancy store	4		
31	Snacks stall	2		
32	Chilly powder sales	2		
33	Motor rewinding	2		
34	Book binding	2		
35	Jewel set rental shop	4		
36	Vegetable cultivation	25		
37	Wire basket	4		
38	Agar pathi	2		
39	Cycle rental shop	1		
40	Mud pot production & sales	4		
41	Agri motor engine	1		
42	Agriculture	300		
43	Furniture shop	1		
<b>Total</b>		1390	282	157

**Group based enterprises and number groups involved and benefited**

S. No	Name of micro trade/ Business /Enterprises	Keerapalayam	P. Pettai	Cuddalore	
		No of Groups	No of Groups	No of Groups	Members
1	Computer sampirani		1	2	15
2	Coconut thatch		6	7	120
3	Garments sales		2	4	50
4	Tempo rental service		6		
5	Land purchase	2	1		
6	Fish net sales shop		1		
7	Hotel		1	5	75
8	Pickle production & sales		2		
9	Embroidery		5		
10	Tractor -men SHG		1		
11	Seashell toys/ ornament	1	3	17	217
12	Tamarind tree lease	4			
13	Firewood sales	1			
14	Paper toys making			2	29

15	Rice sales				
16	Tea shop				
17	Petty shop			10	23
18	Fur dolls			2	10
19	Fish sales			48	315
20	Covering chain		2	0	0
21	Handloom			5	100
22	Mud doll making			7	126
23	Coir making			12	216
24	Flori culture			2	25
25	Cashew nut processing			2	30
26	Milch animal	12		2	15
27	Fish culture	2			
28	Goat rearing		22		
29	Land mortgage	4	4		
30	Sweet and Snacks stall		1		
<b>Total</b>		<b>26</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>1366</b>

**Social action programmes**

SHG s conducted rally on AIDS awareness in 78 Panchayats

SHG s conducted rally on Health awareness in 78 Panchayats

