



Sustainable Development Application Form

Direct any questions regarding development projects to Rev. Vy Nguyen, Executive Director. Please return this form by email.

Submitting Partner: Global Ministries		Date Submitted: April 2019	
Address: PO Box 1986	City: Indianapolis	State: IN	Zip Code: 46206
Name of Contact: Deenabandhu Manchala		Title: Executive, Southern Asia Office	
Phone Number(s): 216-736-3205		E-mail Address: manchalad@ucc.org	
Project: Environmental Stewardship training at St. John's Vocational School Partner: Church of the American Ceylon Mission Location: Batticaloa, Sri Lanka			
Person at DOM responsible for and accountable for this project: Deenabandhu Manchala, Executive, Southern Asia Office			
Partner's History/Relationship with the Project: <p>The Church of the American Ceylon Mission (CACM) has roots beginning in 1813 through the work of early mission co-workers of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM), a predecessor mission body of Global Ministries. CACM is located primarily in the northeast region of Sri Lanka, an area that was devastated by war. Due to the war, many members of the church lost their lives and much of the physical infrastructure of the church was lost. The CACM continues to provide education, medical, and other social services in a post-war context within some of the most devastated rural communities. Global Ministries has maintained a close partnership with the Church of the American Ceylon Mission.</p> <p>Almost every year, Batticaloa has had seasons of heavy rain and flash floods, followed by a season of severe drought. During the drought season, many of the water wells once filled to the brim during rainy season go dry. The CACM St. John's Vocational School has been surveying existing landscape to identify, develop, and use pockets or ditches to reserve rainwater during rainy season. This reserved rainwater will be absorbed by the surrounding soil, greatly improving the water table below. It also provides more nourishment for trees to grow and to preserve the existing environments.</p> <p>The Sri Lankan government, particularly after Tsunami of 2004, has taken many steps toward the conservation of natural resources in coastal areas. However, relatively, there has been little success in raising proper environmental concerns or movement toward environmental stewardship by the community. Waste is unloaded in wetlands and previously reclaimed lands are used to put up buildings. The consequences of such exploitation of nature is evident, time and again, in various forms.</p> <p>The CACM, through the St. John's Vocational Training Center (SJVTC) has focused on preserving natural resources in recent years. As a result, the Center has lush green trees along its banks. Every six months, students arrive on campus daily to take courses for a variety of vocational skills. Though they receive training on vocations, seldom are they systematically exposed to the steps CACM is taking to preserve nature and reserve rainwater to reduce water shortages during annual drought seasons. Additionally, they do not receive ways to implement more environmentally conscientious decisions in their own workplaces after graduating.</p>			

Description of Project

The CACM seeks to provide an additional training for all students attending the St. John's Vocational Training Center on environmental awareness, conservation, and stewardship of natural resources in every vocation. This project will:

- Expose students and staff of SJVTC on the conservation of natural resources through awareness programs.
- Engage students and staff of SJVTC through hands-on experiences to build an understanding on environmental conservation. For the first year of the program, participants will focus on how rainwater collection can be improved.
- Allow SJVTC to serve as a model for the general public on rainwater harvesting.
- Motivate the surrounding community to form cooperative actions on their own.

Target Population (children, women, farmers, urban poor, etc.):

Young adults – female and male, primarily from the surrounding areas of Batticaloa. Students at the vocational training center come from rural and resettlement communities and their families are among the many who lost homes and land during the Tamil rebellion of recent years.

How many persons are/will be served? (please give as specific a figure as possible)?

At least 120 individuals will receive training during the first year on environmental conservation, rainwater reservation, and will share these learnings in their communities and with incoming students for years to come.

Key Objectives:

The main objectives of the new program are:

Awareness: To expose two groups of 60 students (120 total) and the staff of SJVTC on conservation and stewardship of natural resources. This awareness program will include promotion of conservation techniques and promotion on the new environmental stewardship program.

Cooperative effort/Team works: To form students into teams in order to develop cooperative efforts on natural resource conservation and developing new actions. Because this region is a large fishing community, one development the school seeks to pursue is to assess the way rainwater retaining can be used to increase freshwater fish rearing as an environmentally conscious venture in income generation. Ultimately, these developments and ideas in natural resource conservation will be led by the teams of students and staff will assist in guiding their work.

Showcase and sharing: Through the vocational center, CACM seeks to showcase and to share these new experiences and lessons with the wider public and motivate more cooperative actions for environment protection.

Key Activities:

In line with the project objectives, the CACM has planned the following activities:

Awareness programs: Environmental officers offer presentations on environmental concerns. From time to time, video materials and documentations produced by various nature conservation groups will be used, shared, and disseminated. Necessary projectors and devices will be procured and made available. At the beginning of the program, two hours each week will be dedicated for such awareness programs. Once the project has been launched, this will be reduced to one hour each week.

Teams: Staff and students will be divided into three teams. Each team will be given a section of the strip of land on the campus, and tasked to map it, detail flora and fauna in it, identify ways and means to improve them, and make either a hut, or an observatory, or safe walk way, or any other simple structure without destroying any of the preserved trees or land. Each team will record their own findings, experiences, and learning. On average, teams will dedicate four hours each week for this project.

<p>Showcase: At least two events will be organized for the public to visit the vocational training center to see the outcome of each project. At the event, the CACM will facilitate a Q & A session with the students and every visitor will receive a hand out in local language on the main points each team wishes to share. Additionally, each team will be tasked to visit either a school, community center, village, or any other accessible group to share their what they have learned and to share experiences using their own preferred art forms or documents. These presentations will be video recorded for future dissemination.</p>
<p>Duration of Project: The activities outlined in this project will take place over one year; however, the CACM plans for this to be an ongoing project once launched.</p>
<p>Project Budget</p>
<p>Total Budget: \$21,650</p>
<p>Amount Requested from Week of Compassion: \$18,000</p>
<p>Is this a one-time request or an on-going request? This is a one-time request for an on-going project.</p>
<p>Is the project financially supported by ecumenical or outside partners? If so, what percentage does it cover for this project? Yes, approximately 17% of the project's budget will be provided through outside partners and some student tuition payments.</p>
<p>Please list partners who are funding this project: Kinder not hilf (Germany), Woord en Daad (Netherlands), and several local and international non-governmental organizations provide ongoing support for the St. John's Vocational Training Center, which will support the success of this program during the launch and as it is carried out in years to come. Global Ministries also provides support for the vocational and educational programs of Church of the American Ceylon Mission, and funding from the Genesis Fund of the United Church of Christ is pending to support for the work of the Church of the American Ceylon Mission.</p>
<p>Does this project/partner receive funding from UCC OGHS, if so how much? No</p>
<p>What is the overall percentage of fund requested that will be used for administration/overhead? Of the funds requested, 0% will be used for administration or overhead expenses.</p>
<p>Please attach a detailed, itemized budget and cost breakdown for the requested funds. A budget for this project is attached</p>
<p>Dates and project names of previous proposal submissions: This is the first proposal to Week of Compassion for a Sustainable Development grant to support the Church of the American Ceylon Mission.</p>
<p>Please attach the organization's audited financials or recent financial report. No financial statement attached.</p>
<p>How do you plan to monitor, evaluate, and report back to Week of Compassion? (Please note that future funding is contingent upon reporting. In addition to reporting, please provide stories of transformation and photos.)</p>

A team consisting of the Vocational Training Center's principal, three training representatives, and three alumni of the school will monitor this project. This team will meet every other month or more frequently if necessary to review the progress of the project. The project anticipates the following results:

1. At least 120 trainees (two groups of 60 students) will become aware on the necessity to conserve natural resources, reserve rainwater to seep into soil, and generate favorable outcomes for periods of droughts while the students also learn their vocational training here.
2. At least 120 trainees will know how to work in teams on specific tasks and would become familiar with planning out actions, implementing strategies, reporting, etc.
3. SJVTC will showcase the rainwater reserve and other environmental projects to identified groups of people to increase the community's understanding on environmental conservation.
4. The teams will make their own documentaries (such as essays, poems, drawings, video presentations, skits, etc.) to document their understanding of the material and to be shared with a wider constituency.

If granted, is there a deadline by which to receive funding?

As soon as funds are available.

If granted, please provide full information for how (wire transfer, check, etc.), where, and to whom funds should be sent:

Global Ministries
PO Box 1986
Indianapolis, IN 46206

Designation: Environmental Stewardship program at Vocational School of Church of the American Ceylon Mission, Sri Lanka