



# World Vision Project Profile



## Lindula Area Development Programme Sri Lanka

World Vision has been involved with Sri Lanka's tea estate workers for many years and Lindula ADP is an extension of this work. Tea plantation workers have been marginalised in Sri Lanka for a very long time. Originally brought in from South India over 150 years ago, they were eventually exploited for work and isolated from the rest of the country. World Vision's interventions focus on the well-being of children to ensure that their health, nutrition, education and social needs are met.

### Brief Information

Impact Area Population: 28,132 people  
Programme Lifespan: 2013 – 2028  
Children Available for Sponsorship  
(as of Nov 2015): 829

### Geographical Location

Lindula ADP is located in the Nuwara Eliya district in the Central province. It covers an area of 45.92 sq km. There is widespread land degradation due to deforestation, forest fires and illegal land clearing. Landslides, floods and tornadoes are frequent occurrences during the rainy season, endangering the lives of those who live on the hill slopes, while occasional droughts affect potable water sources. The cool climate and hilly conditions make tea plantations in this area among the best in Sri Lanka.

### Realities

#### *Economic Poverty*

In Lindula ADP, majority of the people work as pickers and labourers in the tea estates. They are paid daily, and when work is not available, they face a severe shortage of income. The tea plantations provide around 10-15 days of work a month. An alternate source of income is in vegetable farms. But during the dry season, crops cannot be grown and labour is not required. Though there has been greater contribution from the government in the area of economic development, many gaps in basic social services still exist for the people in Lindula due to lack of resources and political will to do more for them.

#### *Educational Difficulties*

Children lack proper education, and 45% of the population under 12 years old are illiterate. This is due to long travel distances, poor transport facilities and lack of finances for education resulting in a dropout rate of 14.5%, almost 10 times the national average. The education system is not structured to support children who drop out of school with life skills education. Once they drop out of school, these children typically migrate to other areas and end up in cities as unskilled labourers or work at food outlets. There are limited preschools and existing ones are faced with limited facilities and poor programmes. A lack of preschool education inhibits the future growth of children intellectually and socially.

#### *Healthcare and Child Protection Challenges*

74% of people live in dismal housing. Whole families live in a single room that is linked to others to form a "line house". There is little ventilation, no privacy, and conditions are often unsanitary. Only 67.1% of households have their own latrines and the remaining families share common latrines or defecate in open areas. The incidence of diarrhoea is 17.9% and most parents do not have proper knowledge on how to treat diarrhoea. In addition, most babies are not breastfed and miss out on critical nutrients. 28% of mothers receive less than the optimal amount of food needed during pregnancy, resulting in low birth weight babies. Malnutrition among children remains widespread due to lack of nutritious food and misguided traditional eating practices. 37.5% of children are underweight and 37.1% of them are stunted. 41.5% of people in Lindula have limited access to health services. Other social problems are present including domestic violence and sexual violation of children.





## Programme Goal

Ensuring that the community that has a physically, mentally and spiritually strong child population.

## Key Challenges and World Vision's Key Initiatives

### **Challenge: Lack of access to quality education, with children struggling to perform**

 **Initiative: Educate children in an improved child-friendly learning environment**

To decrease the high dropout rate and boost literacy among children and youths, World Vision promotes good governance in school systems through strengthening School Management Committees. Training for teachers and peer-based learning activities are conducted to improve access to quality teaching and learning opportunities. In addition, child-friendly learning environments are enhanced through renovations and constructions.



Children learn about their rights and child protection.

### **Challenge: Poor health and nutrition of children with limited access to health services**

 **Initiative: Help children and families be healthy, with their basic needs adequately met**

World Vision seeks to facilitate and support the construction of health centres and other critical infrastructure to improve access to primary healthcare services. Malnourished children are rehabilitated and breastfeeding is promoted to pregnant women and lactating mothers. Households and schools are also encouraged to have proper solid waste treatment and increased access to clean water and hygienic latrine facilities.



Rehabilitation is provided for malnourished children.

### **Challenge: Lack of protection for children within families and the community**

 **Initiative: Promote a secure environment where children are loved and cared for**

To combat prevalent social issues, World Vision establishes proper child rights and protection systems in the community. Children are encouraged to participate in activities to empower them and engage them on child protection issues. In addition, family counselling programmes on childcare and family time are also conducted, along with awareness campaigns that highlight the importance of familial roles and responsibilities.

Through all these interventions, World Vision is transforming the lives of children in Lindula, making a change today as well as giving them hope for the future!

### **Challenge: Parents do not earn enough to provide for their families**

 **Initiative: Increase household incomes to provide for children**

Opportunities for alternative income are provided through vocational and career guidance trainings. Saving groups are established to establish the habit of saving within households. In the event that extra finances are needed to meet families' living expenses, World Vision also facilitates access to micro loans.

## How You Can Help

**Sponsor a child in Lindula ADP** or give towards a **Gift Catalogue** item, which benefits the community!

Thank you for your heart for the poor, and for making a difference in the lives of children and families in Sri Lanka.