

J  
O  
U  
R  
N  
E  
Y  
  
S  
O  
  
F  
A  
R  
  
T  
O  
  
T  
H  
E  
  
N  
O  
R  
T  
H

**NORTH EMPOWERMENT PROJECT**  
**MANKULAM, KILINOCHCHI, MULLAITIVU**  
**NORTHERN SRI LANKA**

2  
0  
1  
2



**FOUNDATION OF GOODNESS**

[www.unconditionalcompassion.org](http://www.unconditionalcompassion.org)







Working in the Mankulam, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu and Eastern areas of Sri Lanka since Januray 2011, the Foundation of Goodness has positively affected a total of:

through variety of projects and programmes including the gifting of....

## 2793 Bicycles

and the betterment of...

3707 lives through:

## Livelihood programmes

## Sports training + development

### Agricultural provision

## Essential food packages

## School infrastructure projects

## Essential household items

## Clothing

## Computers

## Musical Instruments

## Sports equipment

**In 2013 the Foundation of Goodness will continue to improve the lives of people in Northern Sri Lanka**

**24 MONTHS - 10,000 BENEFICIARIES - RS:75' MILLION - (US\$ 575 K - GBP 365 K)**



## Masterplan for the learning & Empowerment Institute

# JOURNEY SO FAR 2011 - 2012



## LOOKING NORTH



**"The Foundation of Goodness already helps over 20,000 people every year to improve their lives. By responding in a holistic way we can help local communities uplift their lives for a bright future".**

**- Muthiah Muralidaran**

The ending of the Sri Lankan civil war in May 2009 has provided many new development opportunities for northern Sri Lanka. Having achieved such wonderful success in the South of the Island after the tsunami, the Foundation of Goodness is now taking its expertise to the North of the country where it will provide sustainable projects and programmes which focus on the empowerment of rural communities who are struggling to lift themselves out of poverty; these projects and programmes form the North Empowerment Project.



In 2010, the Sri Lankan President, Mahinda Rajapaksa gifted a 50 acres piece of land to Foundation of Goodness brand ambassador and trustee, Muthiah Muralidaran within the northern town of Mankulam for a Learning and Empowerment Institute. As a one-time stronghold of the LTTE, Mankulam is centrally located within the Northern provinces making it accessible from many towns and communities.

**Strategy:** With the close ties to the Seenigama region in the South, and with support from international donors, this project presents an opportunity to provide a lasting legacy for the development of the rural communities of post-conflict North Sri Lanka, all in one site. The project will provide services in:

- Environment and infrastructure
- Employment and Enterprise Development
- Healthcare and Outreach Programmes
- Education for children, youth and adults
- Children's Development
- Sports Development
- Women's Development

As well as the larger Learning & Empowerment Institute, the North Empowerment Project consists of a series of medium and short term projects. These projects have been designed to respond to the immediate needs of community members in an effective and organised manner. The Foundation of Goodness believes this approach is essential to the success of the project; an approach which interacts, consults and understands the local community's needs will provide a solid platform from which to build a sustainable future.

Over the course of 2011 and for each individual month the Foundation of Goodness has been providing the projects and programmes it deems necessary for livelihood development. In 2012, the Foundation of Goodness is building on and expanding the success of 2011.





## SANGA STARTS 2012

Determined to start the New Year with exciting projects for the Northern community members, the Foundation of Goodness did not disappoint. Having witnessed the positive effects of bicycle distribution during the previous 12 months, the gifting of a further 300 seemed an ideal programme, although this time with a twist. In 2011, Foundation of Goodness trustee and international cricket star, Kumar Sangakkara had been fundraising relentlessly as part of his 'Bikes for Life' campaign. With the funds collected and with the help of the Foundation of Goodness, Kumar visited the region and successfully distributed the bikes donated by individual fans, Touchwood Investments Plc and Mr Ananda & Sriya Fernando, to the Kilinochchi area. The excitement of the children ran through the school as their hero walked in to greet them.



**Cricket Coaching Camp:** As part of his trip to the North, Kumar also conducted cricket coaching workshops with the Mankulam school children involved in the Laureus Sport for Good scheme the Foundation of Goodness has been running since May 2011. The day provided a unique and exciting opportunity for the school students as their cricketing idol took to the wicket and showcased his skills as well as provided key advice as to how they could improve their game.





## CONTINUOUS SUPPORT

The projects for January did not stop at bike distribution. In order to positively affect as many lives as possible, the Foundation of Goodness undertook the following:

**Computers:** Opening of the computer room at the Mankulam School (a project started in 2011) and the gifting of four computers and furniture plus accessories, kindly funded by Errol and Aruni Wirasinghe.

This new project provides the school children with the opportunities to learn computing skills which will not only help them in their education but also develop a base for future employment.



**So many donations:** In addition the following was gifted, all made possible by the generosity of donors worldwide:

- 5000 clothing pieces gifted by Aroon & Sonia Hirdaramani
- 50 family packs and essential home supplies gifted by Nathan Narendranathan
- A grass cutter for the schools in the area from Infra Tech Pty Ltd
- 135 library books and cupboard provided by Candle Aid
- 50 essential school packs from various donors
- Stationary donated by Christine Mount & her friends in Singapore.



J  
A  
N  
U  
A  
R  
Y



## NEW EXPERIENCES

The month of February was to be like no other for the children and youth of the Northern Provinces. With the generous assistance from kind donors including huge support from the Symphony Orchestra of Sri Lanka and Pradeep Karunagaran, the Foundation of Goodness was able to stage an event which will not have occurred for over 30 years. For three days 42 students with teaching staff from Oddusudan, a poverty stricken area of the North, were to be transported from their villages to Colombo where they were given the opportunities to take part in activities they would never have witnessed before.

Arriving on the Friday the students visited Galle Face and were welcomed by Kushil with a dinner hosted at his residence in Colombo sponsored by Rushmi & Sudath, Helen & Fazana. Food such as pizza (sponsored by Harpo), lay in wait for them, things they had never tried or even seen before.



Staying at a local sports hostel, the student's excitement escalated for what was in store for them, which was to include:

- Trip to the modern shopping centre Crescat
- 5\* hotel experience at the Cinnamon Grand, including swim & lunch sponsored by the hotel-
- 3D cinema experience sponsored by the Cinema at Majestic City
- Lunch and swim at a 5\* hotel
- Water park visit at Kelaniya
- Colombo Museum
- Tour, gym and lunch at the Tamil Union Cricket Ground
- Musical performance by the Symphony Orchestra of Sri Lanka
- Final dinner sponsored by Harin & Swarupa Udeshi



The shopping trip proved extremely successful as the students were able to purchase new items unavailable in their home villages, for themselves as well as presents for family and friends. They were also able to experience an escalator for the first time ever.



Whilst many children and youth in Colombo have the opportunity to go swimming, most of the Northern students had never been in a modern pool before, it therefore proved very difficult to get them out! They were also very enthusiastic in watching 5\* chef' meal preparation.



All students also received gift packs so they could remember their visit.

Having witnessed the happiness of the students throughout the trip, the Foundation of Goodness is determined to repeat such an event for other Northern children and youth. It is hoped that one day such experiences will be available throughout Sri Lanka.



## PAVING THE WAY



**Kumar strikes again:** On the 11th and 12th March, in collaboration with the Foundation of Goodness, 300 bicycles were distributed to Oddusuddan and Kilinochchi schools in the Mullaitivu region. These 300 bicycles add to the 300 already gifted in January by Sanga as part of his 'Bikes for Life' campaign when he visited the Northern region.

Along with the Foundation of Goodness team which included Founder, Kushil Gunasekera; Kumar Sangakkara's Manager, Charlie Austin, and ICC Head of Executive Programmes, Jon Long also took part in the essential distribution which will greatly assist children and youth in their education as they are able to get to school regularly and on time.



As well as the 300 donated by Sanga, the US Ambassador, Patricia Butenis also pledged five bikes to five students doing their 'O' Levels who had been specifically selected as beneficiaries having achieved the highest grades for the year in their studies.

**Other Programmes for the Month:** With the excitement of the Twenty 20 World Cup occurring in Sri Lanka in September this year, the Foundation of Goodness has teamed up with the International Cricket Council (ICC) and Red Dot Tours who made the Murali Cup possible in 2011. This year the plan is to host cricket matches at Northern rural schools in Mankulam, Kilinochchi, Oddusuddan, Jaffna and Vavuniya in order to bring the world's attention to the North of Sri Lanka in a positive way, and pave the way for reconciliation. The matches will be part of the build up to the major tournament. Each venue was visited by the team in order to establish the work required to the pitch and the potential for new facilities to be built. The Foundation of Goodness, the ICC and Red Dot Tours will now be working hard over the coming months to make this dream a reality.

Humanitarian endeavours concluded in March:

- \* The installation of two air conditioners to the Mankulam School computer lab sponsored by Mr. N Narendranathan
- \* The recruitment of two IT teachers for a year, for the Mankulam School sponsored by Errol & Aruni Wirasinghe. This will make it possible for evening classes to occur.
- \* The sponsorship of an artificial limb for Mrs S Pabeetha, a music teacher who lost her leg due to a landmine laid during the conflict. This prosthetic allows Mrs Pabeetha to conduct her lessons far more easily as well as assist her greatly in her day to day activities.
- \* The sponsorship by Palitha Siriwardana of S Pushpasara, an 'A' Level student. 2000 LKR per month for one year will allow Pushpasara to buy the necessary books and equipment which will assist her in her studies and final exams. Such sponsorship has the potential to ensure students in post-war zones are given the same educational experience and opportunity as those across the country.



M  
A  
R  
C  
H



## A NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

April is a month of celebration across the country for both Tamil and Sinhalese Sri Lankans; it marks the start of the New Year. To celebrate such an occasion the Foundation of Goodness was determined to carry out programmes which would bring cheer to the Northern region. Activities involved the gifting of 10 scholarships to school children and 18 modern bicycles.

**Competitions:** In order to provide a new experience for the school children and community members of Oddusudan and Mankulam, the Foundation of Goodness organised a day of races which would allow prizes to be won. 18 brand new modern bicycles were awarded to the winners of three bicycle and three marathon races. Such a donation was made possible due to the kind contribution from Nathan Narendranathan. Huge smiles could be seen all around as the prizes were handed out.



The event was further celebrated as games were held throughout the day, establishing team work, strength and fun!

**Scholarships:** The Foundation of Goodness is aware that thousands of children across the country have lost parents due to the conflict, with many now having to assist greatly at home due to disabilities inflicted during the fighting. Such children desperately need assistance with their school studies, especially financial.

In order to help tackle this issue, the Foundation of Goodness granted 10 scholarships to children whose parent was a member of the military and either lost their life or were significantly wounded during the civil war. Each scholarship is 18,000 LKR and will assist in purchasing essential school items which will help in providing a fulfilling and essential education. 180,000 LKR was donated in total.





## KEEPING IT COMING



**Hitting 2000 Bikes!:** An additional 300 brand new bicycles for Oddusudan and Kilinochchi, from Kumar Sangakkara's 'Bike for Life' campaign, in association with the Foundation of Goodness, signaled that the 2000 bikes target has been hit in under 18 months! This is an overwhelming achievement and a number which will only be added to in the future. Bicycles still prove to be a favourite amongst the Northern communities, assisting family members travel to school, market and employment opportunities.

The gifting of three special additional bicycles to three sisters who had lost their mother in the final stages of the war was made possible due to the generosity of Dr Rajpal and Mano. The girls and their story featured in the Sri Lankan newspapers after they were involved in the trip to Colombo, the Foundation of Goodness had facilitated in February of this year.



**Sports Back with a Bang:** May marked the restart of the sports academy at the Mankulam School since its break for the Sinhala and Tamil New Year. The school children showed real determination as they continued to improve their skills. During the workshops, 28 students participated in volleyball, 22 in cricket and 26 in netball. The programme continues to be funded by long-standing Foundation of Goodness supporter, Laureus Sport for Good Foundation.

**Other Donations & Projects:** The month of May has been extremely busy for the Foundation of Goodness and its Northern beneficiaries. As well as bicycles and sports workshops, the following was also conducted and achieved:

- State approval for the Murali Cup 2012 at five Northern schools (Mankulam, Vavuniya, Kilinochchi, Oddusudan & Jaffna), in collaboration with the International Cricket Council. The tournament will promote reconciliation and peace throughout the country.
- Fog team interviewed the recipients to determine if they are able to repay the microfinance loan. Microfinance loans are sponsored by Sonia Hirdramani.
- School equipment, including photocopier, scanner, fax machine, printer, steel cupboards, white boards, flip chart and 2 x computers with tables and chairs, all graciously donated by Pratheepan Karunagaran.

As always the Foundation of Goodness were overwhelmed by the welcome they received by the Northern community members.



M  
A  
Y



## GIVING JUST GETS EASIER

The projects and programmes carried out in June 2012 felt limitless; what the Foundation of Goodness has achieved in 30 days is testament to the passion, enthusiasm and sheer determination the organisation has for rebuilding lives in the North of Sri Lanka. Sports, livelihood provisions and exhibitions are but a few of the diverse activities carried out. Keep reading to find out more!

**GOODWILL POSTER EXHIBITION:** The Foundation of Goodness is committed to fighting poverty, but it is also committed to having fun! The Goodwill Poster Exhibition in Oddusuddan was exactly that. 28 students were selected to express their feelings on "Be Good & Do Good" - this was designed to encourage moral kindness, generosity, sharing, honesty and helping others.



**Sports Workshops:** For the first time a coaching camp was carried out at Oddusudan during which 106 students participated in various activities. The Mankulam Academy also continued with 32 students for cricket and 26 for volleyball. The district coach of Killinochchi and Mullativu joined the programme for the first time and will now attend the workshops two days a month.

**Bride to be:** A kind donor donated a bridal saree to a local girl getting married this year. The donation makes her day extra special.

## SOLAR POWERED BULBS



500 O/Level & A/Level students from various schools were gifted a solar powered light bulb each. Such a donation, made possible by Shaktha Amaratunga and Pradeep Karunagaran will allow the students to continue their studies into the night - something they were previously unable to do due to lack of electricity. The Students used kerosene oil lamps to study at night and it was dangerous.

**Sports Equipment:** Six pairs of football boots were gifted to the U17 football team of Killinochchi Central College allowing the students to participate in the All Island Tournament which will be held in Colombo, all made possible by Pradeep Karunagaran.



**Bicycles:** A further 97 bicycles were distributed in Mankulam meaning each family in the area now owns one - a fantastic achievement! 200 Bikes were also distributed to Killinochchi and Oddusudan, totaling 300 gifted by Sanga & friends. This is the first time we gifted ladies bicycles. The goal is that no child is unable to attend school due to lack of transport.

**Others:** A review and follow up was conducted at Mankulam on the Joss sticks, Papadam and Candle Making workshop which was conducted in October 2011

Another research and need assessment was carried out in the Neethipuram village to gather information on their standard of living, population statistics, basic utility and welfare needs.



# A BUSY MONTH



**July** was another busy month in the North, with multiple teams from the FoG carrying out a range of development activities ranging from financial assistance to sports development and village rebuilding. We're delighted to have had the opportunity to carry out so many different programs and look forward to introducing more and more new opportunities to the North.

**Bicycles:** A total of 105 bikes were distributed during this month's visit. 25 ladies' bikes were donated to the Good Shephard's Girls Home in Mankulam. This assistance is aimed at helping the girls get to and from school with greater ease, as well as to go about other daily chores. 1 more ladies' bike and 1 gent's bike were also gifted to the Bharathi Children's Home in Mulliyaweli, Mullaitivu. Furthermore, 50 gent's bikes and 25 ladies' bikes were donated to Thachchadampam Village in the Mullaitivu District. 3 bikes were also donated to the Thabbowa Maha Vidyalyaya. It is all about seeing their hardships, to ease the burden most compassionately. This initiative was supported by the legendary cricketer Kumar Sangakkara through his 'Bike for Life' Campaign.

**Sports Coaching:** Coaching programs in Volleyball and Cricket were carried out once again this month at the Mankulam Maha Vidyalyayam. Held on the 26th and 27th of July the coaching programs were attended by 17 young volleyball players and 23 cricketers hoping to develop their skills. In addition, a plethora of sporting equipment including volleyballs, cricket balls and bats etc. were donated to the school to ensure the continued training and improvement of the players. Sporting action creates an active lifestyle for a healthy mind.



**Micro Finance Project:** Following up on the interviews previously conducted, 10 women beneficiaries from Mankulam and Nithipuram received financial support of Rs. 10,000/- towards livelihood development, to be paid back in 10 installments. This way, we can help many others in multiplying kindness. The project was made possible with the help of kind donors Sonia Hirdaramani and Gark Tan.

**Donations:** In addition to the sporting equipment donated to Mankulam M V, a multitude of items were gifted to various beneficiaries during this visit. New badminton gear, toys, clothes and shoes were donated to the Mankulam Girls Hostel by Mr. Lionel Rajapaksa. Children's books of both an educational and recreational nature were donated by Dr. Naj Nagendran and Amba Research Lanka to Kilinochchi Central College, Mankulam MV and Oddusuddan MV. We hope that these donations will help enrich the children's learning experience even more.



**Other:** Research was conducted in Nithipuram where 58 families have been newly resettled and the need to fulfill their priorities such as water, sanitation and pre-school facilities etc. with the long term development goals towards an improved village of a kind.

Ground inspections for the 2012 Murali Harmony Cup 2012 were carried out during which time the progress in Vavuniya, Mankulam, Oddusuddan and Kilinochchi were reviewed.

J  
U  
L  
Y



# AUGUST

**August** was a month of frenetic preparation in the buildup to the Murali Cup which is to take place in early September. This did not mean other areas of activity were neglected and therefore August was abuzz with activity.



## Ground Inspection:

Founder Kushil Gunasekera, in collaboration with Red Dot Tours and a team from the Murali Cup organization committee has consistently visited the North over the past months to inspect the development to the five grounds selected as venues for the Murali Cup. One of the expected outcomes of this tournament has been to improve the school grounds in various venues across the North with the hope of improving sporting activities and encouraging reconciliation through sport.

The five grounds selected for the Mural Harmony Cup were: Mankulam Maha Vidiyalayam Grounds (Mankulam), Vavuniya Central College Grounds (Vavuniya), St. Patricks College Grounds (Jaffna), Oddusuddan Maha Vidiyalayam Grounds IODR Oval (Oddusuddan) and Kilinochchi Central College Grounds (Kilinochchi).

## Cricket Matting:

In preparation for the Murali Harmony Cup, the management was able to gift brand new matting for Jaffna St. Patricks College in order to fine tune their game and also as an initiative in upgrading the cricket infrastructure. One other matting was gifted by the FoG, also to Central College of Anuradhapura who participated at the Murali Harmony Cup, originating from rural back grounds.

# CONTINUED EFFORT



## Pregnant Mothers Clinic:

A Maternity Clinic was conducted in collaboration with the Damrivi Foundation at the Mankulam Base Hospital. Targeting the mental health of pregnant mothers the clinic addressed positive thoughts and its impact on the fetus during pregnancy. They encouraged the mothers to concentrate on meditation, good diet habits and the importance of the involvement of the father in the pregnancy. They were treated with a snack and lunch pack and gifted with a baby bath tub and a set of baby shirts and nappies. A special Tamil Counselor was present in order to mediate the language barrier.



**Other:** Research was conducted in Nithipuram where 58 families have been newly resettled and the need to fulfill their priorities such as water, sanitation and pre-school facilities etc. with the long term development goals towards an improved village of a kind.

Ground inspections for the 2012 Murali Harmony Cup 2012 were carried out during which time the progress in Vavuniya, Mankulam, Oddusuddan and Kilinochchi were reviewed.



# MURALI CUP 2012

September was a month of great excitement in the North, the Murali Harmony Cup tournament surpassed all expectations in its enormous success, encouraging reconciliation between youth from across Sri Lanka while also bringing hidden talents from rural areas in to the spotlight.



## Murali Cup:

The Murali Harmony Cup, organised by the FoG in partnership with the International Cricket Council (ICC), Red Dot Tours, Emirates Airways and the Indian Ocean Disaster Relief fund (IODR) took place between the 8th and 12th of September and was made up of 35 matches at 5 venues with the participation of 20 cricket teams and close to 300 players in action. School grounds from Mankulam, Kilinochchi, Oddusuddan, Vavuniya and Jaffna had their infrastructure specially developed for the event, with field developments and the erection of pavilions, dugouts, scoreboards, sight screens and side nets. The event was attended by international cricketers legends Muthiah Muralidaran, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardena, Lasith Malinga, Nuwan Kulasekera, Dinesh Chandimal and Angelo Mathews.



8 Under 23 ladies teams and 12 Under 19 mens teams participated, and having battled it out for four days the final was played between the Jaffna Combined Team and St. Peters College Colombo in the U19 Mens' category and between 'Shakthi' Anuradhapura Combined team and the Army Ladies in the U23 Ladies category. The concept of reconciliation through sport was highlighted in this tournament which also proved an excellent arena to showcase the wealth of talent to be discovered from across Sri Lanka.





S  
E  
P  
T  
E  
M  
B  
E  
R



*The Champions of the Murali Harmony Cup celebrate*





## Venue upgrades & Infrastructure development: Sight Screens, Score boards, Player dugouts in Vavuniya, Mankulam, Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi & Jaffna (Outdoor Cricket Nets in Oddusuddan & Jaffna) New Main Pavillion for Oddusuddan Maha Vidyalyayam



## IODR Pavilion:

On an appeal made by the icon cricketer Kumar Sangakkara to Mr. Tony Matharu (Chairman of the Grange Hotels in London) to support the flagship venue developed for the Murali harmony Cup final in Oddusuddan, Mullaitivu, his charity IODR decided to sponsor an impressive pavilion plus three outdoor cricket nets.



## Nithipuram Development Plan:

Following a needs assessment previously carried out, urgent areas which need immediate attention have been recognized. Topping the priority list is the need for access to water and sanitation facilities. A project to construct lavatories and wells in the village has now commenced and more details, as well as information on how to assist can be found at the following website:

<http://neethipuram.posterous.com/>





## Raising Funds and Laying Groundwork

The FoG followed up on the Murali Cup by handpicking the most talented players from the Murali Harmony Cup and taking them to Singapore for international cricketing exposure. Back in Sri Lanka, logistics and needs assessments were carried out prior to launching new development projects.



## Unity Tour and Fundraiser

One of FoG's strongest donors in association with Shangri-La Hotels, the Singapore Cricket Club, Lanka Lions Cricket Club and Emirates Airlines organized the Unity Cup Tour and fundraiser in Singapore. A spin off of the Murali Harmony Cup, the Unity Tour features a team made up of the most talented youth to come out of the Murali Harmony Cup, who under the training of Head Coach Kumar Sangakkara took on the Singapore Cricket Club and the Lanka Lions Cricket Club and emerged as the undefeated champions.



The Unity Fundraiser consisted of multiple events including a coaching camp by Murali, Kumar and Russell Arnold for young children, an intimate lunch and Q&A with the cricketers at the SCC and a Banquet and auction at the Shangri-La hotel.



**Neethipuram Research:** As new projects are now underway at Neethipuram, a team from the FoG conducted detailed research in the village of Neethipuram. The team mapped the village and compiled a village profile that would make available data concerning population statistics such as the number of pregnant women and disabled/ handicapped children. It also took place as a forerunner to the planned construction to take place there, revamping the sanitation and irrigation systems in the village. The logistics analysis and needs assessment conducted will prove invaluable as the FoG continues to expand it's development activities.



OCTOBER



## Steady Progress

This month was a study of organized and steady continuity as we made advances in the Neethipuram Village, made preparation for an IT facility in Oddusuddan and launched the Essential School Supplies Packs Program for 2013.

### Neethipuram Revitalised

Despite the arrival of the rainy season the FoG persevered with the renovation of toilets in the village of Neethipuram. 16 toilets (outhouses) have been renovated and a team of FoG staff and volunteers assisted in painting 12 of them, which are now ready for use by the respective families.

Toys donated to the FoG were delivered to the Neethipuram preschool along with teaching aid materials and stationary.

Clothes and sarees donated by Mr. and Mrs. Lal and Hiranthi Gunawardena from Australia, Dr. Renuka Fernando from USA, Dr. Naj Nagendran from USA and FoG Founder Trustee Mr. Kushil Gunasekera were distributed among each household in the village along with sachets of Viva malted drink.



### Mankulam

Viva and Horlicks sachets and bottles donated by Rajeeve Goonetilleke of Glaxo Smithkline and sporting goods donated by Julie from Aviva Life Insurance, UK were distributed among the children and staff of the Mankulam Maha Vidiyalayam, Pulumuchchanaadakulam School, Olumadu School and Ampakaamam School.



### Oddusuddan

A new IT Center is being established in Oddusuddan with the help of the 2012 Youth Empowerment Grant by the American Center. Computers and 2 Air-conditioning units were set up at the chosen venue, and interviews were held for the instructors position.

### OTHERS

Volunteers Aleta and Sam conducted an English Language Activity Night for the children at the Mankulam Good Shepherd Girls Home.

Nine boxes of books containing recreational, educational and reference material were delivered to libraries in Kilinochchi in order to elevate the levels of education and knowledge in the area.

FoG's micro finance beneficiaries in Mankulam have recently expanded their ventures towards hand working and decorating sarees, and also hope to try their hand at hand bags and gift bags.



### Essential School Supplies Packs

The First distribution of Essential School Supplies Packs for the 2013 school year took place in Weli Oya. 200 school bags were distributed among students of Ehetugaswewa Vidyalaya, Etha Wetuna Wewa Vidyalaya, Janakapura Vidyalaya, Kiri Iban Wewa Vidyalaya and Sampath Nuwara Maha Vidyalaya.



### Post-Murali Harmony Cup Development

Edward Edin, who participated in the Murali cup in the capacity of captain to the Jaffna Combined Team was recognized for his outstanding talents by the FoG who have connected him with the Tamil Union Cricket Club. Muthiah Muralidaran and Kumar Sangakkara who met him during the Murali Cup and the Unity Tour declared him to be the best raw talent they had witnessed of late, and expressed their belief that with proper training he should be able to make good progress for a bright future ahead.



# A Busy Year Ends

## Student Exchange Program

30 students between the grades 8-12 were selected from Ramanathapuram M V & Vishvamadu M V from Kilinochchi to visit Colombo between 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> December. During their stay they toured Sri Lanka Rupavahini Corporation, attended a performance by the Symphony Orchestra, Guruge Nature Park, were invited to a tour and dinner at Cinnamon Grand, and even went on a city tour covering Independence Square, the Parliament, FOG office and Crescat Shopping Mall. The children received gift pack from the FOG with school books, stationery, crayons and colour pencils, biscuits, sweets and snacks, another from the Symphony Orchestra (tooth brush, soap, tooth paste) and a final pack from the Cinnamon Grand Hotel (which included chocolates, Christmas pies, a box of mathematical instruments, pens, book marks, t-shirt, cap and perfume).



## Water & Sanitation program with Volunteers

9 United Nations Volunteers and 2 volunteers from the Asia Foundation joined Niomie, Fazana and Shankar from the FoG team to help out with development work in Mankulam and the village of Neethipuram. After meeting the villages and familiarizing themselves with the area, the volunteers spent two very productive days during which time they painted 10 toilets in Neethipuram, had games and activities with the villages and school children and visited the Mankulam Girls Home for games, a sing-along and story time.



## Community Development Program - Keppapulavu

With development work at the village of Neethipuram well underway the FoG have now turned their attention to the village of Keppapulavu, made up of 165 newly resettled families.

Essential household items including 165 pots, 165 pans, 165 flasks, 165 water containers, 165 rice pots, 25 lecture chairs and 4 carrom boards, 5 petromax lamps, clothes, preschool items and food items were distributed among the villagers.



Additionally, 100 bikes were delivered with the help of worldwide donors and through Sanga's Bikes for Life initiative.



DECEMBER

2012



## Distribution of ESSP Packs

# DECEMBER

The delivery of Essential School Supplies Packs (which include a school bag, school uniform, books, pens, pencils, pencil case, ruler, eraser, sharpener, colour pencils, box of mathematical instruments, crayons, lunch box, water bottle and a shoe voucher) have been taking place in a multitude of locations across the island in preparation for the coming school year. Deliveries made to the North this month included the following:



**211 packs delivered to the village of Keppapulavu, 520 packs to Mankulam MV and 100 packs to Vishvamadu MV.**

## Opening of IT Center in Oddusuddan

A new IT center was opened in Oddusuddan with the target of training 60 students a year in MSOffice Basic courses. A lecturer selected from the region with a BSc in IT and 10 years' experience in the field will conduct the courses, and 11 students have already enrolled for the very first course.



## School Sports Development Program, Oddusuddan

A meeting attended by the Assistant Government Agent, Zonal Director, Secretary to Zonal Director, Principal Oddusuddan MV, Sports Coordinating Officer from the Ministry of Sport and his Assistant, Various SL Army Personnel and FoG Head Of Sports Anura De Silva was held at the AGA's office to determine the upkeep and future plans for the IODR oval at Oddusuddan MV, which was constructed for the Murali Cup.