



“Helping others entails learning how you are helped. In order to heal others, you must learn to heal yourself. Learning how to give to yourself is part of learning how to give to others. If you are stingy with yourself, you will be stingy with others. When you understand how everything is given to you, you will be able to give everything to others.”

Red Anderson

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MESSAGE

FROM THE

VICE CHANCELLOR



It is indeed with great joy that I write these few words on the issue of this magazine. The University of Colombo strives to achieve excellence in academia by delivering a sound, all rounded learning experience to its students. Our fundamental aim is to have our graduates possessing the trademark of “made in UOC” with a strong social outlook. This is also true for the Faculty of Management and Finance, as it has over the years, done excellent work in uplifting the standards and quality of education, ensuring that students have a theoretically grounded and practically relevant learning experience.

We, at the University of Colombo, believe in the importance of dedicating ourselves to serve the community. It is indeed commendable that the Faculty of Management and Finance has taken steps to inculcate this in its BBA degree programme, so that students can gain such values. The Community Development Project is one such initiative where a team of students go to the society at large, identify a community facing a problem, and solve this in a sustainable manner by implementing a project. These projects have been implemented for seven years up to now with a wide range of communities who have benefited from such projects. These projects also help to develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the students.

I feel nothing but happiness at the accomplishment of the first year students of the Faculty this year. I also need to convey my best wishes to all the beneficiaries of the projects and hope that we could serve more people in the future.

SENIOR PROFESSOR CHANDRIKA N. WIJEYARATNE
VICE CHANCELLOR
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



The Faculty of Management and Finance, a leading faculty of management studies in South Asia, has taken many steps to improve the teaching and learning activities of the BBA degree programme. One such step was to introduce the Community Development Project as a core course in 2013. Over more than five years, student teams have done various projects across the country to uplift the lives of the various communities in Sri Lanka. This, on one hand develops the competencies of the students and also inculcates 'humanity' in them as well.

This year 29 student teams conducted projects across Sri Lanka and inside our Faculty premises as well. These projects demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of our students and indeed show that they are socially responsible citizens.

I am indeed very proud of the students and hope that more good projects will be implemented in the future.

DR. MPP DHARMADASA
DEAN
FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE

INSIDE STORY

01

IKR OF THE CDPs

INTERVIEW WITH THE KEY RUNNERS OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



PROFESSOR

AROSHA S ADIKARAMDepartment of Human
Resources Management
University of Colombo

Madam, I heard you were the one who introduced the CDP course under HETC Project. How did it happen?

Well, it was not only me, but a team effort. To tell you how Community Development Project (CDP) started, under the QIG (Quality Innovation Grant) of HETC (Higher Education for the Twenty-first Century) project, the different faculties were asked to write proposals on improving quality and innovation in teaching and learning and compete with other faculties and universities for a grant to carry out the proposed activities. I was appointed by Senior Professor Karunaratna, then Dean of the Faculty, to be the principal proposal writer of the team writing the proposal. We were then thinking of different activities we can propose for the grant to improve teaching and learning and also to address the many drawbacks of our undergraduates, which we identified through different stakeholder meetings, and our own experiences and reflections. Then I came up with the basic and a rough idea of a community development project, which I discussed with the faculty members and with their feedback and ideas, finalized. So we were able to propose CDP as well as Enterprise Based Project as the two main activities to compete for the grant. We of course won the grant, and the rest is history!

Can you briefly explain what you think CDP is?

I think CDP is one of the greatest opportunities given to our students to repay for all the things they have got from the society, specially the free education, while they also learn different skills such as teamwork, project planning, communication, negotiation, and empathy. I also wanted the society to look at our students differently and to change their negative attitudes towards

our undergraduates, where the thinking is that they are always troublemakers. I thought CDP will help change the negative attitudes and create a better link and understanding between the undergraduates and the community. CDP is such a fulfilling endeavour, something the students will remember and cherish for the rest of their lives. I wish I had a course like CDP when I was an undergraduate decades back!

When we were in the first year, when commencing this course, you told us “not to look at this as another project or course... this should be a pure attitude that comes from the bottom of your hearts.” Why did you say that? Have your expectations being realised?

I said this because I wanted students to really do it from the bottom of their hearts with the pure intention of helping another human being or a community. In a society which is increasingly becoming very materialistic and self-centered, I want our students to be different, by being empathetic, kind, and selfless. So that is why I wanted you to forget about any materialistic benefits such as a credit and concentrate on the human and the emotional aspect of it.

Have my expectations come true?... Well, in many instances, yes. I have seen students do wonderful projects, being empathetic and selfless. I have seen them put so much effort to help the community. But honestly, I have also seen students who have not understood the whole purpose of CDP and everything we tell them at the start of the CDP, and free-ride or do it for the sake of doing it or doing it for the credits or because they have to. But then again, being very realistic, if at least some of the students have understood our intentions and objectives, I think I can be happy.

What are the most memorable projects for you and why are they memorable to you?

There are so many memorable projects and I think it would be unfair to name a few.

When you introduced this course did you target any social groups or any themes of projects?

Not really, I just wanted students to do something for the society for any group of people who are in need of a helping hand.

Madam you said at the beginning of this course that “*this project is being continuously carried on for 7 years by now*”. What are your thoughts on the effort put into the projects?

Well... the effort has not been mine. The effort is of the students, and most importantly, of the coordinators of CDP. First Dr. Nihal Hennayaka and then Mr. Rajishtha De Alwis Seneviratne. I did the easy part. I suggested the course and of course helped set it up, but then they are the ones who are taking this forward spending their time and effort. So hats off to first Dr. Nihal Hennayaka and then Mr. Rajishtha De Alwis Seneviratne and also the advisers from the various departments.

**I THINK
THIS MAGAZINE WILL BE A WONDERFUL
PLATFORM TO SHOWCASE TO THE WORLD
WHAT OUR STUDENTS ARE CAPABLE OF.**

Professor. Arosha S. Adikaram

Have you participated in any opening ceremonies and what did you feel in that situation?

I have participated in a several opening ceremonies and have felt such pure joy and satisfaction. I have seen tears of joy in the eyes of people, on whose behalf the projects were done. People have come to me and thanked me and talked about how their perceptions of university students have changed and how their lives will become better because of our students. And I have felt then that my mission was successful and all the selfless and hard work of the coordinators such as Mr. Rajishtha has paid off.

Do you expect any amendments or changes regarding these projects?

It is a learning process every year. Every year we revisit the way CDP was carried out and address any drawbacks or issues we faced to make it more meaningful, effective, and efficient.

Madam, have you succeeded in your efforts?

I am certain that our efforts have been successful when I look at all that had been done during these last 7 years.

Finally, what have you got to say about our effort and this magazine?

This is an excellent initiative and whoever came up with the idea should be commended. While we have done so much during the last 7 years, we have not been able to really share our stories with the public properly. I think this magazine will be a wonderful platform to showcase to the world what our students are capable of.

Dr.
H M NIHAL HENNAYAKE
Department of Business
Economics
University of Colombo



To begin with would you be able to tell me how you came up with this initiative? What gave you the idea of implementing CDP with the university students?

The most important factor which motivated me to think on this matter is the free education system in Sri Lanka as most of us benefited from it. Though individually there is no cost to be borne all the expenses on this education are fully incurred by the government and the society. So education is not free. Therefore I wanted to highlight this idea in our students' minds and change their attitudes for the betterment of the country. Through this I expected to build interconnections and interdependencies between university students, society, and the economy. CDP is one of the tools that we can use for this purpose.

Now the CDP is being done by the first-year students, did it begin with the first years? How were the students selected?

Yes we began it with first year students. Selection of the students for CDP is not a problem because this is compulsory for everyone. Depending on the themes or the projects we divide the whole batch of students into smaller teams. We encourage diversity

of the teams in terms of gender, ethnicity, and religion.

There were many reasons to implement this in the first year. We wanted to give the students the chance to get to know each other as they are new to the faculty. Also the workload for the first years is relatively less compared to the other years. They can easily find time for this. Through this students will learn the importance of team work in achieving a goal and accordingly they change their attitudes which will definitely help them in their future studies and career. We also wanted to allow more time for students who did not complete the project during their first year to complete the CDP.

CDP is a really good initiative which has helped a lot of people in the society. Specially for the rural areas, for both young and old people, but to do this you needed the cooperation of students. Was their response positive?

Yes. Students' level of cooperation and commitment for this project is superb. They are starting this without a single rupee in their hands but due to their enthusiasm and commitment they anyhow overcome this barrier when the project goes ahead. Many students personally have told me that this was one of

the remarkable and unforgettable university experiences for them and they have got enormous knowledge, experience, and leadership skills which will benefit them in their future life as well.

Do students face difficulties in finding projects?

Mostly I feel they don't. The members of the teams are from different geographic locations, and different socio-economic backgrounds. Students usually find different projects and finally select one after careful discussion.

When the students tell you about the many different projects they come up with, what criteria would you consider when approving a project?

Yes, students are coming with many different proposals chosen by their own team. We give priority for their own choice. However, we also look at the benefit to the community, feasibility in terms of time and cost, and also whether it requires the effort of all the members of the team. We also look at whether the solutions provided is a sustainable one, that is, the benefit should last a long term.

At the beginning there were 50-70 students in one group. These students have different perceptions from one another, and the students are in a young rebellious age. What were the problems that you had to resolve? How did you keep them together?

Yes, true. They are very young blood. They sometimes had conflicting values, and needed time to develop their team spirit. In some cases students in teams were not putting their full effort. We had to take extra effort to motivate them and monitor them at the very beginning of the project. But that was not very difficult one for us and in this regard we are (FMF staff) very lucky. Here I have to mention about the commitment of our lecturers as well. We almost all the time actively participated with students and they too understood and appreciated our effort.

What kind of projects have been implemented over the years?

Well over the past years the students have implemented many projects, mostly in schools. I sometimes say that this is not a school development project! Projects have been implemented to develop facilities in schools, from libraries to laboratories, drinking water facilities to sanitation facilities. In addition projects have been done targetting villages such as development of community halls, drinking water wells for villages, irrigation anicuts and canals. Also our students have built houses and have done projects in various homes for the needy and places of worship. I might have missed more as I don't have all in my mind now.

You were handling CDP from 2013 – 2016. Within that time period, what are the most memorable projects that you had been involved with?

Truly I cannot say one project is more superior or better than another one because all the projects have done by our students. But still I remember a challenging project for both the staff and the students. That is the construction of houses for the families who were going through hardships. When I proposed this one to first year students they all agreed to do that. Truly speaking, though I proposed this at that time I also did not have a very clear idea on how to do that. But finally the project went very well and we managed to construct 5

houses in 2015. I understand that in 2018 2 teams of twenty students built 2 houses as well.

Since the time you initiated this up to now, many projects have been done. What would be your advice to everyone who continue this humanitarian cause?

At the end, irrespective of the degree or qualification you received, we have to learn and make our attitudes to help each other as human beings. Whenever we can and whenever it is required we have to prepare ourselves to help others. I think this project will assist the students to change their attitudes towards that to a great extent and that is the most important thing that I am also expecting from our students. The Colombo FMF students should be very unique in the society.

Finally, what have you got to say about our effort and this magazine?

Well, so far we have done many projects. However, due to lack of communication or other reasons our effort has not moved enough to the society. Therefore publicity is also equally important to pass our message to rest of the society though we have not paid proper attention to it. This magazine will build awareness in the society and also encourage others to engage in such work

**THIS MAGAZINE WILL BUILD
AWARENESS IN THE SOCIETY AND ALSO
ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO ENGAGE IN
SUCH WORK...**

DR. H M NIHAL HENNAYAKE

INSIDE STORY

02

THE ARTICLES OF THE STUDENT TEAMS ABOUT THEIR PROJECTS



ARTICLE ORDER



A passion-driven
venture in the name of
humanity

“හෙට ගෙවට දූත දෙමු”

“මනුදම්”

A Helping Hand to Aruna
Children's Home

Speaking the
Universal Language
of Kindness

Relax, Refresh, Renew

A Light in the Tower

“විනිවිද”

“අකුරට සෙවනක්”

“Educate Children”

Smiling Hearts at Diri Daru
piyasa

“නැණස”

Renovating the Small
Fence at the Faculty

“අකුරට අත්වැරක්”

“IMPERIUM”

“අත්වැර”

“පොත්තුවට අරුතක්”

“පියගැටපෙළ”

“සෙනෙහසේ දූත”

“පාට කරමු පුංචි හින”

“හිරි”

“සෙනෙහසේ මංසල”

“සත්සර අසපුව”

“අපිට අපෙත්”

“නැණස”

Implementing 5S
Concept at the Faculty

“පුංචි හදවත්”

“දැනුම් සෙවනක්”

“ආලෝකයක්”



“A PASSION-DRIVEN VENTURE IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY”

“Ours is a complicated world, driven by our own wants and needs. It is not selfishness but merely survival!”. This is how the majority of the youth today see the world, this is how we, as a group of first year undergraduates at Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo, also

saw the world. Then we met a special group of people in dire need of our assistance to make sure that they will survive in this world, they will not be isolated, they will be cared for and nurtured properly. This special group were the patients at the Sujatha Elders Home.

The impact of this encounter was so strong that we took the plight of these helpless people onto our shoulders in a bid to provide a better living standard for these people. Quite aptly calling ourselves ‘Team Helpaholics’ for truly, our thirst to help the patients we met at ‘Sujatha Elders Home’ Kaluthara North, has proven to be addictive.

The aim of Team Helpaholics was to construct a ward and upgrade the sanitary facilities of this “Home”. What started as a project done as a part of our academic curriculum in completion of the BBA (Bachelor of Business Administration) degree programme, soon turned out to be a passion-driven venture in the name of humanity!

‘Sujatha Elders Home’ currently provides residence for 40 males and 35 females including 12 children who suffer from various mental and physical disabilities such as Schizophrenia, Dementia, Bipolar Disorder, Affective Disorder, Depression, Paralysis, and Autism.

This place is primarily maintained by the private funds of the owner and there are five volunteers currently working in the Elders Home, serving the patients.

The ‘Team Helpaholics’ acknowledged that the caregivers face various difficulties with regard to maintenance of the home including the lack of space to accommodate patients and unusable lavatories. These difficulties arise mainly due to the lack of funds for the upkeep of the premises. Therefore, we decided on providing them with a new ward and enhanced sanitary facilities with the intention of creating a better future for this isolated, yet the neediest group of people.

The new ward provides additional accommodation facilities for 10 patients, which will be a huge benefit for the community as a whole. The new ward will also comprise a medical room which will facilitate patients in obtaining medical treatments. Furthermore, the enhanced sanitary facilities of the Elders Home will make sure that the living conditions of the residing patients will be uplifted.

The estimated budget for this project was a staggering amount of one million, which seems a huge target to be achieved by a group of 20 students within three months. Despite the cost we moved forward with this project, understanding that the worthiness of it and, we were able to complete the planned tasks with more than expected results. We completed the project spending only Rs.710,000.

In conducting the project, we initially implemented our fund-raising activity of selling tickets. There, we covered many different regions of the island and were able to achieve our targeted amount. Furthermore, we conducted a food stall at 'Panadura Kite Festival' to raise funds for this project. Afterwards we sold bag badges within the faculty and then we conducted our final fund-raising initiative, which was 'switch to glass' project, where we sold customised glass water bottles. These fund-raising activities gave us the opportunity to move along with the society and interact with different individuals, adding new experiences.

Helpaholics' main publicity operations were conducted through our Facebook page named 'Helpaholic'. We also initiated a special email campaign targeting renowned philanthropists and companies requesting for material and monetary donations. Furthermore, we approached several newspaper companies with the expectation of obtaining publicity through printed media and we were able to publish articles about our project on five national newspapers; Ceylon Today, Ada, Lankadeepa, Daily Mirror, and Dinamina. A web article about our

project was published in "Ada Derana Sinhala" news website as well.

Starting with the demolishing of an old structure, then laying the concrete, making concrete towers, raising the walls, constructing the emergency room, and finally by installing the roof with the ceiling we were able to complete the construction work related to the ward within three weeks' time. Afterwards, with the involvement of the team members, painting of the ward and garden preparation activities (surrounding the ward) was carried out. Sanitary facility enhancement procedures of painting the washrooms, fixing of bathroom accessories, making the toilet pit, and fixing of new pipes were done by the hired labour together with the participation of team members. By going the extra mile, we also donated a canopy of 10*15 feet to Sujatha Elders Home.

Team Helpaholics was able to gain a massive amount of experience and huge satisfaction of helping the needy by successfully completing our project. Hereby, we denoted the ending of the beginning of Team Helpaholic's journey in helping the community.





“හෙටි ලොවට දැන දෙමු”

Under the theme “Heta Lowata Detha Demu”, we, the team “Black Panthers” chose HO/Siripathi Vidyalaya in the village of Polgasovita Ambalangoda in the district of Colombo to conduct our Community Development Project. The school provides education for about

300 students in the village from grades 1 to 11. The authorities had, in the past, attempted to shut down the school to use the premises as a garbage recycling site due to its poor facilities and the reducing number of students being enrolled.

We found the school required immediate refurbishment to its library and other facilities which considerably obstructed the students’ learning activities. The lack of a library facility for HO/Siripathi Vidyalaya was a long felt need for the school. The refurbishment and building of a well-equipped library was only a dream due to the tight economic conditions of the families of the students and the lack of funding sources for the school.

Our team renovated the library with adequate facilities such as roofing and ceiling, installed doors, windows, cupboards and shelves. Then we repainted the library and equipped it with required tables and chairs which were previously in an unusable condition. The library also lacked sufficient books, shelved with a number of school text books only, therefore a number of books were sourced, collected, and donated. Rs.

140,000 was spent by the team on the project.

Approximately 300 students benefitted by the above project. The ability to grasp a wide knowledge beyond the text book was a long felt need by the students, which was achieved through the implementation of this project. Finally, the team also took further measures to ensure the sustainability, installing a computerized database system for the library to administer the lending process, books were given unique numbers with placards attached, community participation, shramadana campaigns were among the other efforts to ensure community involvement and through this ensure that they too look after the library. We strongly believe that this project will serve the greater community in the long run.





“මහුදම්”

“Titans” is one of the twenty member groups that have dedicated their effort to carry out a community development project under “Project Manudam”. Titans set out to improve the learning environment of the students at R/Batathota Vidyalaya with the strong belief that all students should have an equally pleasant environment with adequate facilities for better learning and development purposes.

R/Batathota Vidyalaya in Kuruwita, founded in 1937 by Subodhi Thero following the Buddhist Revival, is a school registered under Ratnapura Educational Zone and is now under the supervision of its principal, Mrs. D.D.S. Bogahawaththa. Currently, the school educates 43 students – 26 girls and 17 boys – from Grades 1 through 9 with the help of 10 teachers.

Seeing as how the school operated with an abandoned playground and a single building with few books as the library, the team raised funds with a plan to renovate them. At the end of 6 successful months, the team gifted the school an equipped playground protected with a fence, a fully-furnished library with more books to read and introduced a library coding system to manage it, spending Rs.350,000.

The related personnel were then advised on the usage and maintenance of the new playground and library in order to ensure sustainability.

Through this project, Titans hope to enhance the school’s conditions which will improve the education of the existing students and help attract new students in the future.





“A HELPING HAND TO ARUNA CHILDREN’S HOME”

We, Adverto, a team of first-year students of Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo decided to make the young lives residing in Aruna children’s home in Nallooruwa, Panadura a little better as our Community Development Project.

It is a development center for children with special needs. Currently there are 6 children from ages between 6-14 receiving residential care and protection.

Our initial observations made it clear that the roof of the house was not properly maintained for years and it was in dire need of renovation. Therefore we, the team Adverto, took the initiative to refurbish it and

provide them with a shelter that they can rely on.

For two consecutive months we raised funds and received the support from various donors to reach our target. With the generous contributions we received, by now we have completed it and is soon to be given to those deserving kids whose dreams are to sleep soundly at night under a safe roof. We spent Rs. 375,000 to complete the project.





“Speaking the universal language of kindness”

Thalawa Kanishta Vidyalaya located in Wanduramba, 27km from Galle, provides education for 98 students from grade 1 to 11, who are struggling through the hard choices between attending school and learning versus struggling to survive from hunger each day. The teachers, both male and female students have to use a single toilet.

During the rainy season this problem is aggravated as the toilets become overflowed, making it impossible to use. Though the students are talented, enthusiastic and have the capability of learning, lack of infrastructure facilities and other resources have put them in an immense disadvantage compared to leading schools in urban areas.

Therefore, the community development project of Pure Hearts was focused on providing the students and the staff with sanitary facilities. As Thalawa Kanishta Vidyalaya is a mixed school, we constructed 3 separate toilets for male students, female students and for the academic staff.

With the principal's approval, we selected a suitable land for constructing new toilets. However a mound of earth in the selected land proved to be an obstacle and we had to first prepare the land prior to commencing construction. All the expenditures incurred until completing the construction of the toilets were spent from our money collections by selling tickets and stickers. It should be mentioned that our all team members were very

enthusiastic and courageous to visit the site frequently throughout this project. With the help of the school community, the team Pure Hearts were able to complete the project according to the time line. Nevertheless it was difficult to raise funds and continue the constructions during the rainy season. With all this we managed to complete the project spending Rs. 200,000.

The significant factor is that the all 13 members are girls from different areas of the country. Irrespective of such obstacles this community development project paved us an opportunity to work as a team in order to solve a preidentified problem in the society.





RELAX, REFRESH, RENEW

Our team "The Elites" chose the "3R s Concept" which refers to "Relax, Refresh, and Renew" as our theme of the Community Development project.

The overall objective of this project was to give a relaxing and pleasant look to our faculty. The project was started after getting the project proposal approved. We were able to raise the expected amount of

funds for this project mainly through fund-raising events such as the sale of wrist bands, stickers, food stall and a movie day inside the faculty premises with the help of the publicity given by our team members through social media and other means.

Our team "The Elites" was engaged in an internal faculty project of reconstructing a selected area inside the faculty premises. This project was selected after identifying the impact it had on the students and the environment. The selected area did not give a good impression on its first glance and it did not have a pleasant environment to study and there was a high chance that this place can become a source of spreading Dengue. By developing the selected area into a pleasant calm and relaxing place, we intended to add extra value to the faculty and provide suitable surroundings for the students at the same time.. Before the implementation and after the completion project site photos are shown below

After having a discussion with our academic advisors and considering all the

other factors we concluded that this is the best option to conduct the project. The project was done under 4 phases, Planting plants around the faculty name board to enhance the look, putting up a concrete layer near the hall No: 4, placing flower plants in front of halls No: 3, 4, 5 and 6, planting a layer of grass at the space in front of hall No.3.

For fund raising we held a food stall at Waliweriya Kanthi ground, conducted a movie day inside the faculty premises, conducted a car wash at BRC Grounds, and collected funds by selling wrist bands. The team spent Rs. 80,000 for the project tasks.





A LIGHT IN THE TOWER

In a world dictated by knowledge and education, a school is like the light house that guides individuals from darkness and ill-fortune to where it is bright and prosperous. If someone can make a contribution to facilitate a rural and underprivileged school, it will surely bring new bright hopes in the lives of thousands of little hearts.

Yatadola Kanishta Vidyalaya is such a school located in Nawuththuduwa, Mathugama in the district of Kalutara where the students were facing a lot of difficulties in satisfying their daily hygiene and water needs. This was due to the toilet facilities available at this school and the water supply management system not being sufficient to satisfy students' daily needs.

The team Melting Hearts comprising a young and energetic group of students from the Faculty of Management and Finance of the University of Colombo fulfilled these shortcomings faced by this school as their Community Development Project. Under this the team constructed two new toilets and renovated the water supply system in the school under

the theme Sihinawalata Panadenna. The project was initiated on 09th of August 2019 and we were able to raise the expected amount of funds for this project mainly through donations and fund raising events with the help of the publicity given by our team members through social media. The team spent Rs. 190,000 on the project. After the completion of the project the opening ceremony was held on 07th of November 2019 with the presence of our beloved lecturers Mr. Rajishtha De Alwis Seneviratne and Mr. Kasun Perera.

Finally with the completion of our project we hope to improve overall hygiene of the students and the staff of "Yatadola Kanishta Vidyalaya" through our team work.





“විනිවිද”

We team “Seekers” engaged in a project titled ‘Vinivida’ at Madulkelle Divisional Hospital in the Madukelle Grama Niladhari Division, Kandy District as our community development project. Approximately around 30,000 individuals depend on this hospital for various medical needs.

The main problem in the hospital was that although the waste is collected in separate wards, there was no proper mechanism to store the waste until disposal. Therefore, wild animals like wild bores and stray dogs were attracted and also nearby water sources were also affected causing much harm and inconvenience to the villagers.

Our intention was to implement a sustainable project for the long run, which would benefit a vast community and help in waste disposal which is one of the major problems identified globally in the modern day and age. Hence, we constructed a waste storage house and a clinical waste incinerator at the Madulkelle Divisional Hospital. We also colour washed the OPD building. We believe that this waste management system will create a healthier environment within the hospital and will ensure the betterment of all the patients as well as the community at large.

After deciding what we are going to construct at the Madulkelle Divisional Hospital, we had a meeting and discussed about the budget we need to carry out the project and then the treasurer prepared the finalized budget. After preparing the budget with the consent of all the group members we

made a plan to carry out our project. According to that, we had a few sub committees and they held the responsibility for the respective tasks.

First of all, we decided to initiate our fund-raising programmes. As our first initiative to raise funds for the project “Vinivida” we targeted around five hundred MBA students of the University of Colombo and conducted a Mehendi and food stall on 18th of August. As our second main fund-raising programme a stall was conducted at the faculty premises on the 19th of August targeting the BBA students of the faculty. After that we decided to put-up a stall at the event, “Kandy Food Fiesta” which was held from 30th of August to 1st of September at the George E De Silva park in Kandy. In addition, we issued tickets and also sold dream catchers. We targeted sponsorships from individual sponsors who were willing to donate to our project as well as companies. After doing the fund-raising programmes we were able to collect our targeted budget. Then we purchased necessary materials for the construction.

As the first step of renovation, we colour washed the OPD building of the hospital by ourselves. In the following week we started the construction activities of our waste storage house and clinical waste incinerator with the support of labourers from the village. It took us approximately four weeks to complete the construction activities and by 10th of November 2019 we were able to fully complete our waste management unit.

After completion of the waste management unit we had a Shramadana campaign with the involvement of the villagers to clean the hospital premises. The villagers were actively involved in this task. We are glad to say we were able to complete all the activities of our project successfully. We incurred a cost of Rs. 372,000 on the project.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude towards our course facilitator, Mr. Rajishtha De Alwis Seneviratne, Senior Lecturer in Department of Business Economics, and our academic advisor Ms. Erandi Thennakoon, Lecturer in Department of Human Resources

Management for the constant support and guidance provided in making this project a success.

We would also like to express our deep gratitude to all organizations and individuals who helped us to raise funds through sponsorships, donations, or in any other means. Moreover, we extend our gratitude to Dr. Kumara and the staff of the Madulkelle Divisional Hospital for their invaluable support and assistance in making this project a success. Further, we would like to thank our group members for their consistent efforts in all our activities to accomplish our project. Finally, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all the academic and non-academic staff of the Faculty and our fellow colleagues who supported us in different ways to make our project a success.

We learnt a lot and gathered plenty of experiences which will be very useful for us in the future as individuals, professionals, and team players through this project. We are truly grateful to the Faculty for giving us this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.





අනුරව පාලනායක

We 'TEAM COGNITIO' comprising 20 first year students of the Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo, under the Community Development Project offered in semester II, constructed a class room for an underprivileged school situated in Galatha Maha Vidyalaya situated near Gampola. The primary goal of our team was to implement a sustainable project that would be benefit to a large segment of the community.

There are 250 students in the school and they accomplished many achievements related to co-curricular and extracurricular activities. Most of the students of this school are learning in the same hall as there were no separate class rooms. Therefore, under our project we constructed a 20 square foot class room feet to use for grade 10 students. We raised Rs.400 000 in three months to spend on the project. We handed-over the fully completed class room on 28th November 2019 to the students.

We take this an opportunity to thank our project coordinator Mr.Rajishtha De Alwis Seneviratne, and our academic advisors Ms. Shanika Lakmali and Ms. Thivyashani for being valuable advisors for us and also we thank our team leader Heshan Jayasiri, team secetary Pavani Liyanage, team treasury Nipuna Perera for their important role in the project and also all the team members for their contribution to successfully complete the project.





“Educate Children”

Team Gryffindor, comprising twenty highly motivated and energised first year students of the Faculty of Management and Finance University of Colombo implemented its community development project under the name “Educate children”.

The aim of the project “Educate Children” is to provide a better learning environment for a school which is located in a rural place. Therefore to achieve our aim we selected WP/GM/Dharmapala Primary school where only forty five students are schooling. We made the school environment more comfortable and created a suitable environment for learning by providing them library facilities, a notice board, and water facilities which were not adequately available in the school.

We were able to complete the project because of our successful fund raising activities, donations from well-wishers, and support from the area where the school is located. It took around three months to complete this particular project. We spent Rs. 240,000 on the project.

As a result of the successful completion of this project we envision that the school will attract more students in the future.





SMILING HEARTS AT DIRI DARU PIYASA

"People look at them differently. People act around them differently. People think about them differently. They might lack in some ways but aren't they people too?". Most of our society must consider this question about children with Down Syndrome as they are looked down upon in most occasions. A group of first year students from the Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo saw this and came forward to help them.

Team Twenty Twenty, a team of twenty helping hands from the first year of the Faculty of Management and Finance chose 'Diri Daru Piyasa' to be their location for the community development project that they had to do. 'Diri Daru Piyasa' is an institute for children with Down Syndrome located at Kidelpitiya, Bandaragama which is managed by Miranda Hemalatha Kala Ashramaya in Maharagama. Currently, nearly sixty students are being supported and approximately 150 students have graduated from the institute in the field of Arts. Although this institute is providing a great service for these children, team Twenty Twenty saw that the facilities are not so great. It was their view that all the children of Diri Daru Piyasa should have the same conveniences as they did back at their own schools. The team members consulted Ms Miranda Hemalatha, the owner and the founder of the institute to guide them on what can be done to enhance the facilities given to the children of the institute.

It was found that the kitchen of the place needed fixing and put up to standards. The kitchen was indeed a crucial place of the institute as the meals for the children are prepared daily by the institute. Ms Miranda requested the undergraduates to assist them to renovate the kitchen and help them to provide a better service to the children of the institute. The team from Colombo agreed solemnly and considered it as their second semester community development project.

However, the team noticed another missing place in the institute. The place that every school has, the place of a school that every child loves, the place that is the most fun, that place is the play area. When the undergraduates first entered the premises, they saw children playing in the little area that they had. Hence, it was obviously taken into consideration by them and was added to their project. The project went under the name "Sinaseha hadawath- Smiling hearts".

"A team of twenty can't do much." That was the expression that most people had when they heard the budget of Rs.600,000 for this grand project. Many looked down and thought it was ambitious. The team of undergraduates were not held back. They did various fundraising activities. Held food stalls, sold pens, sold badges, sold tickets and went to the extent of going on trains and buses to collect donations. It was challenging for them. The students went from home to home selling tickets and collecting donations. Many people scolded them that they are wasting their time on the road. However, the students did not back down as they believed that children of Diridaru Piyasa are worth this effort. Many donors came forward and lent them monetary and non-monetary

donations and few recognized organizations gave their support as well. Through this, the team was able to complete their project as they expected. Team Twenty Twenty was able to give the children of Diridaru Piyasa a safe and cleanly kitchen together with a play area that they are deserved to have. Although this was a university project, the team of undergraduates did not think of this as a project. They just wanted the children of Diridaru Piyasa to experience the same as they did themselves when they were schooling. The team concluded their project 'Smiling hearts' as they believed that they did make the children's hearts smile.



Renovating the Small Fence at the Faculty

The Community Development Project of team Phoenix was a Faculty development projects where the main objective was to renovate the small sitting wall at the entrance of the Faculty to enhance the appearance of the premises. The project was implemented in three steps. As the first step, the small sitting wall which was in a dilapidated condition was renovated. After that tiles on the wall were laid. Furthermore, the wall was painted that enhanced the value of the wall. All these tasks resulted in an expenditure of Rs. 162,000.

Implementation of the project enhanced the ambience of the faculty. Because of this project the team got a lot of experience, such as working with positive thinkers, learning how to plan, work, and implement a project successfully while engaging in our other activities as university students.



“නැණසි”

“නැණසි” was a community development project where the primary objective was to build a well-resourced library for a school that has a greater need of this facility.

Accordingly, we selected Dalthara Kanishta Vidyalaya in Piliyandala, a school which faces many difficulties in providing library facilities to its students.

Currently, the school provides education facilities to 210 students from Grade 1 to Grade 11. The school lacked a proper library. Therefore, we realized that we will be able to improve the level of education and knowledge of the students of the school by implementing this project.

For the completion of this project we spent approximately Rs 200,000 and we did several fund-raising programmes to raise the required funds including a conducting a car wash. When carrying out construction process first we built a new section for the library building and then renovated the existing building. Finally, we donated collected books for the library and implemented the book borrowing system. After completion of the project new library was donated to the Dalthara Kanishta Vidyalaya.



“අකුරට අත්වැලක්”

The team Aroma renovated the laboratory of the Maddegama Secondary School as their Community Development Project. There are about 200 students in this school with 20 dedicated teachers.

The members of team Aroma sacrificed their time, money, and many other things to build and reonvate this laboratory. They spent nearly four hundred thousands rupees. Also many businessmen and other benevolent donors helped to make this project a success.

The duly renovated laboratory was handed over to the school on the day of the annual sportsmeet of the school which was held with the participation of the team members.



Imperium

Team Imperium, a group with 20 undergraduates of the first year batch of the Faculty of Management and Finance of University of Colombo, implemented green concept in faculty premises as the community development project. Our

main target was to create a pleasant university surrounding area by using the nature lover and green university concept and to give sustainable benefits to undergraduates of University of Colombo.

We selected the open area "Mandawa" to implement our project. As our first task, we levelled the road which is used to enter to "Mandawa" and then cleaned the surrounding area. After that we renovated the concrete line on both sides of the walking path and painted the concrete line. Furthermore, we painted the benches, poster boards, and flower pots. And also, our team laid grass, planted flowers,

and arranged arches. The total spending on the project was Rs. 150,000.

From all these implementations we were able to create an attractive, healthy environment for undergraduates. Since we owe to the community, we have the responsibility to give something for our future generations. Our team did this faculty project to gain benefits from being green.



A HUGE THANK YOU GOES OUT TO EACH
INDIVIDUAL WHO BECAME A PART OF PROJECT

"ATHWALA"

YOUR SINCERITY MADE ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE



“අත්වැල”

Project Athwala was carried out by a team of first year students of the Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo with the hope of giving a helping hand to shed light to the Madiwela Special Education School and Home for Boys as its Community Development Project.

The Madiwela Special Education School and Home for Boys currently houses thirty one boys between the ages of 18-70 years. As their home has deteriorated, the team Sentinels renovated the premises.

Apart from the renovations that were carried out, the team also provided uniforms and other stationary equipment for the students who attend the Madiwela Special Education School such as drawing books, pastels, and colour pencils.

The project was completed with the platinum sponsorship of Crysbro Chicken Company and gold sponsorship by Aushadha Lanka Company

followed by a documentary sponsorship from Expolanka Freight, along with the generous donations and help of benefactors, parents, lecturers of the Faculty, and other students. The team spent Rs. 380,000 on the project.

After the completion of renovations, the opening ceremony was held along with an entertainment programme for the boys of the Madiwela Special Education School and Home. The project was successfully completed and handed over to the residents on the 12th of November 2019.





“පොත්ගෙලට අරුනක්”

We, the Little Giants team of the Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo, chose the Community Development Project as the modernization of the library facilities at Galathara Uduwewala Primary School in Mawanella, Kegalle.

Launched over a period of about four months, the project cost over Rs.200,000. The necessary tables, chairs, and bookshelves were provided, and the books for the school children and teachers were properly documented. The roof of the dilapidated library building was also renovated. The completed project was handed over to the school within the stipulated time frame.

In particular, we wish to thank the Dean of the Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo, Dr. M.P.P. Dharmadasa, Course Coordinator, Mr. Rajishtha De Alwis Seneviratne, and our academic advisor Ms. Cheethanee Diagoarachchi, for giving us the opportunity to do such a significant service to our country.





“පියගටපෙළ”

The team “VKINGS” selected the community development project named as “PIYAGATAPELA” to construct a road (staircase) connecting the village and Malena, an ancient cave temple in Guruluwana, Rathnapura. There is evidence that Buddhist monks have lived and meditated in this cave since ancient times.

The villagers and the monks faced great difficulties in travelling as the temple was located near the Kalu Ganga with a descent of about 750 metres downhill from the Gilimale Palabaddala main road. We decided to renovate that ancient stone cave temple and construct a road (a flight of stairs) connecting the village and the temple. We extended a helping hand to the villagers of Guruluwana as they cannot afford the cost of this project. In addition the elderly monks faced great difficulties in their commuting to and from the

temple. The estimated cost of completing the project was Rs. 750,000. However, we spent only Rs. 380,000 on the project. The project was completed within a short time period with the help Mr. Rajishtha De Alwis Seneviratne (Community Development Project Coordinator), Dr. Rajitha Silva and Ms. Madhuri Darshani (Academic Advisors) and of all the members of team V kings. On the 22nd November 2019 the project was completed and was offered to the monks of the temple.





“සෙනෙහස් දාත”

Community Development Project is a core course in the first year of the Bachelor of Business and Administration degree program which is held by the Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo. In 2019, we contributed to this event as “Team Fortem” which comprised of twenty first year under graduates and we were able to successfully implement a

project named “Senehase Datha’ at Paragoda Kithulagoda Junior School Bulathsinhala. The main objective of the project was to create a favorable learning environment for the students who were learning at grade 3, 4, and 5 in terms of reconstructing their class room and providing necessary facilities.

Throughout the project, we paid special attention on how to do the project by using existed resources in an efficient and effective manner. Thereby we tried to recycle some materials which we were able to find out the school premises. We organized various types of creative events in relation to gather funds including a food stall. At the same time some parents provided their assistance in terms of giving their valuable time and effort. Eventually we could finalize the project at Rs.130 000 approximately and we handed over the reconstructed building on 8th of November 2019. In fact that was a day that made everyone happy not only students but also village as a whole. We organized a small ceremony in relation to that date and we invited our course coordinator, academic advisor and senior lecture, Mr.RajisthaSenevirathne as the chief guest on behalf of the University. He emphasized the purpose of conducting this kind of programmers’ through the degree program and he appreciated our effort in his speech.

At the same time we repaired the photocopy machine of the school as a sub project because it was a major problem when we went to the school. Repaired photocopy machine was also handed over as a part of the ceremony and it helped to ensure a favorable learning environment. As a whole the entire project was admired by the principal, staff and students and they did not forget to thank Team Fortem and to the university also .

As the active participants, we are happy to be a part of this program and we were able to learn bunch of things along with memorable experiences because of the challenges that we came across during theproject. In fact, we could deal with this event as a life experience rather than as an academic requirement in our degree program. We also prefer to take this approach to thank everyone who helped us in making our project successful and we anticipate that this will be a good initiation for next generation in our university to reach to a higher level of potential in terms of organizing this kind of community development projects in the future.





“පාටි කරමු පුංචි හීන”

We, the team El cambio of twenty members, conducted our community development project with a vision to develop a rural area in a sustainable manner. In order to accomplish the vision we worked together as a team for a period of four months. For this purpose we chose a school.

We decided to provide a library facility for a school located in a rural area. We selected Gonagamuwa Kanishta Vidyala which is located in Gonagamuwa, Kithulgala for our project. This is the only school in the Gonagamuwa area for 520 families and 125 students are studying here from grade one to eleven.

We identified that the school had a half-built building. As a team we cleaned the surrounding area, fixed doors and windows and completed the building, installed the required furniture for the library, finished the interior designing and ensured a proper library system for the school students.

For the completion of this project we raised funds through donations, sales of tickets and stickers printed by us and we conducted a food stall in a Perehera. Together as a team we were able to collect the funds required for the project under many challenging circumstances. Our team spent Rs. 290,000 to complete the project.

At the end we completed our project successfully with the help of the administration of Gonagamuwa, villagers of Gonagamuwa and the public who contributed in our fund raising activities. Through this period we learned many new things and got many experiences. While participating in this project first of all we learned to be in a team and got the ability to manage the conflicts within a team. Since we did a project with external society we learned to deal with third parties who are different from each other and developed our communication skills and abilities. This is a great opportunity to all of us to conduct a project based on community development. We are thankful to those who helped us to complete this project successfully and to those who provided this good opportunity.





“ଗିରୀ”

Post considering few project ideas, we, team “Gravity”, planned to provide a Library Facility to the students of Maduluwawa Maha Vidyalaya, in Padukka as our Community Development Project.

The project was kick started on the 06th of August after getting the project proposal approved. We were able to raise

the expected amount of funds for this project mainly through donations and fund raisers. Material donations (books for the library and computer equipment) were also received with the help of the publicity given by our team members through social media and other platforms.

The primary objective of the project was to provide an efficient library facility, which was successfully achieved at the completion of the project. As an initiative to our project team members visited “Maduluwawa Maha Vidyalaya” and identified the need of upgrading the space available for a library, which has not been used effectively by the school due to the lack of resources.

During the first visit, members analyzed the feasibility of carrying out the project. A classroom was available as a library, surrounded with half walls that did not ensure the safety of the books and the library equipment. Also, a sanitary system is being constructed exactly in front of the entrance of the classroom. There were only 5 chairs in a usable condition also all the tables and cupboards being damaged. A proper library management system was not available, and the books were not categorized. The classroom lacked electricity facilities and there were no fans and lights.

The funds which were initially collected were utilized for the implementation of the first phase of providing the library facility.

As the first step, the entrance was shifted to the opposite side, and then the walls were built up necessarily to fix two sliding windows and one fit glass. Then a new door was fixed by replacing the mesh gate. Next the electricity was supplied to the classroom and three wall fans and four tube lights were fixed. Next it was painted, and the floor was polished. All cupboards and the table structures which were not in a usable condition, were refurbished and sprayed. Thereafter two wooden plaques were made and fixed to the structures and a new wooden table was also made and were covered with a table cloth and plastic covers. 20 plastic chairs were also provided. The funds were collected from various generous donors and fund raisers conducted within and outside the faculty. After the two meetings which we had with the parents, we received material donations and cash donations from them. It was necessary to collect enough books for the library and effort was put in by all the members to collect books using social media. With all this effort we managed to complete the project spending Rs. 445,000.

Methods such as spreading awareness regarding the project through the Facebook and Instagram pages, asking donors to provide the specific books requested by the principal and team member donations assisted the members in collecting approximately 600-1000 books for the library. A library management system was also implemented in order to maintain the use of books of the library. A student library card was provided for each student and every book is provided with a library book card as well. The necessary information regarding the books were registered in the library register, information regarding the books borrowed and returned by the students will also be recorded in a separate book. The books were

categorized into eleven categories, English story books, English novels, English educational, Dictionaries, Sinhala story books, Sinhala novels, Sinhala education-Buddhism, Sinhala education-Social Studies, Sinhala educational -Aesthetic, Sinhala educational-other and teachers' guides. The books were then numbered according to the category and the cupboard. A customized seal was made for the library and another seal was designed for the books that we provided. By the completion of the above measures the library was successfully handed over to the school.





“සිතුවම් මිනිසුන්”

We, team “Achievers” decided to develop school infrastructure at the Hewagama Model Junior School located in Kaduwela as our Community Development Project

There are approximately 100 students who depend on this project to satisfy their need for entertaining, infrastructure, and educational facilities. Although this is a primary school, they did not have a playground and a complete library with suitable books for primary students and they lacked in water sinks as well.

To rebuild the playground, water sinks, and to renovate the school library our team decided to raise funds to purchase the needed resources and help the school in re-establishing their facilities with the support of the community. Financial requirement for this project were found by ourselves. We sold pens and donation tickets among our friends and sponsorships were collected. We spent Rs. 147,000 on the project activities.

Finally we built a new play area for the school with all facilities, renovated the library, and fulfill the school’s shortcomings. We completed this project and the opening ceremony was held on 19th of November 2019.





“සත්සර අසපුව”

We, team Unicorns believe that more attention should be paid to the education in the society. The reason behind the selection of this particular group among many communities in the society for the implementation of the project, “Sathsara Asapuwa” was due to the fact that students in Sandaraja Maha Vidyalaya - Sewanagala, are very talented, and intelligent but suffering with not having a proper music room and usable music instruments.

These children faced many inconveniences in studying music. Therefore as a team we recognized their need and accepted this worthy course by agreeing to renovate the music room and provide new music instruments. Currently there are about seven hundred students and thirty four teachers in this school. Mo/Sandaraja Maha Vidyalaya is located in Kiribban-ara Grama nildhari division, in the Thanamalwila educational zone. The project was done under 04 phases, removing the old roof and replacing with new rafters and tiles, repair walls, painting walls and floor, setting the door, windows and iron shield, and donating music instruments. Rs.390,000 was the amount spent on the project. This project was successfully completed on 14th November 2019. The community development project was a glorious opportunity we got undergraduates to serve the community and in return gained ample experience and self-satisfaction. Not only current students but future students will also benefit from this project.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to our course coordinator, Mr. Rajishtha De Alwis Seneviratne, Senior lecturer, Department of Business Economics for the immense support and guidance provided to us through the project. We would also like to acknowledge with much appreciation our academic advisors Ms. N.H.M.S.M. Herath and Mr. W.M.S.R. Weerasekara lecturers of Department of International Business for their valuable and continuous support and the guidance provided to us without which the completion of this project would not have been done. Further, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Mr. R.M. Jayasundara Rathnayake, principal of Mo/Sandaraja Maha Vidyalaya, the music teacher and the parents for helping us to make our project success. We finally thank all the donors and also the team members whose contrinution ensured the successful completion of the project.





“අපිට අපෙහි”

The team “Apita Apen” decided to construct a library for R/N/N Meenatchiyammal School, Endana, Kahawatte, Rathnapura as its community development project. This particular project was selected because the specific school selected by our team for this project lacks many infrastructure facilities and where lacking a proper library was identified as the most significant weakness.

In addition to this it was noted that some other schools from the same division would also be benefited by this project since they use the library of this particular school. In order to meet the financial requirement of this project certain fundraising activities were conducted and donations and sponsorships were collected.

We spent Rs. 542,000 on the project. Additionally, after the completion of this project, A work shop was conducted by our team for the staff and students of the specific school to raise awareness about the importance of having a school library and conserving them for future generations, making it sustainable for the foreseeable future.





“නැණසව්”

We, Team SPECTRO, believe that more attention should be paid to needy people in the society. “නැණ සව්” was selected with the intention of providing basic facilities such as water and sanitation to the students to carry out a healthy lifestyle. The school in which these facilities were provided was WP/PZ Sri Dharmarama School, Ratmalana.

Under this project, we provided basic facilities to the students who didn't have proper water and sanitation facilities. There were two main parts of implementation of the project, repairing washrooms and developing the water system. The project was approved on 05th of August 2019. We were able to carry out the work according to the time schedule. We raised funds through donations, sales of tickets, sales of stickers and personal contributions.

We installed three aluminum doors and one iron door to the washrooms. Furthermore, a colour wash to the washrooms was made by us. Further, a water tank and tank aiding stand were installed. For all these tasks the team spent Rs. 119,000.

We ensure that the project will be sustainable and will have a greater impact on society





Implementing 5S concept at the faculty

The Team Monarchy, a group of 20 undergraduates of the first year batch of Faculty of Management and Finance of University of Colombo, decided to implement the concept of 5S at the faculty as the community development project.

5S is a systematic form of visual management utilizing everything from floor tape to operation manuals. It is not just about cleanliness or organization; it is also about maximizing efficiency and effectiveness. 5S is a framework that emphasizes the use of a specific mindset and tools to create efficiency and values. It involves observing, analyzing, collaborating, searching for waste and practice of removing waste. 5S includes five terms that all start with the letter "S". In Japanese, the five S's are Seiri, Seiton, Seiso, Seiketsu, and Shitsuke. In English, the five S's are translated as Sort, Set in order, Shine, Standardize and Sustain.

The final expectation of this project was to increase the quality of the faculty to enhance the safety of the students and to introduce a 'going green' concept to the faculty. As a part of the project the team placed a new map and a new direction board for the faculty. To cover the required budget, the team sold tickets and organized car washes etc. as fund raising activities. We spent Rs. 70,000 on the project work.

For the smooth continuation for this project, students received a great support from the Dean, academic advisors and other lecturers of the Faculty of Management and Finance and they received a good guidance from the National Productivity Secretariat Office. These kinds of projects should be encouraged among the university students to get experiences in the practical world.



“පුංචි හඳවත්”

We team “Squadron”, implemented our community development project titled “Punchi Hadawath” in order to develop the living standard and sustainability of a community. Our project mainly focused on creating a blissful and a comfortable environment for the infants and differently abled children of “Mother Theresa Home”. The home is situated in Moratuwa and is a shelter for 42 children who are under the age of 5 years where some of them are differently abled. The home is solely run by donations from public. We identified the necessities lacking in the home and decided to conduct our project at the home.

We started the project on 22nd June 2019 and concluded it with our final presentation on 20th November 2019. The project was conducted in various stages by providing the required equipment to the home, spending a day with the children, renovating the play area for the kids and donating the excess funds after the completion of the project. The project was conducted at various stages for 16 weeks starting from searching of potential projects, finalizing the proposal, raising of funds, conducting activities related to the project and finalizing the project through final presentation and report submission.

The funds required for the project were raised through sale of stickers, a food stall, collection of donations and a mehendi stall. The food stall was conducted within the Faculty premises on 1st September 2019 targeting the MBA students. The mehendi stall was conducted within the premises on the 5th of September 2019 targeting the undergraduate students of the faculty. The stickers were sold from 22nd August 2019 to 09th September 2019. We were able to raise most of the funds through the sale of stickers. We obtained the permission to sell stickers at public places and educational institutions. We were also able to obtain donation from public

within the country and from abroad as well. The budgeted income to be raised as per the proposal was 250,000 while we were able to finish the project within 150,000. We also opened a Facebook page for the project on the 9th August 2019 the public were informed about the project and were able to contribute to this noble cause. The progression of the project was constantly updated in the

Facebook page to keep the public updated. Our project was also published in Daily News and Sunday Times on 13th of November 2019.

In conclusion we were successful in bringing the joy in the lives of the children by developing their standard of living and by creating a comfortable and safe environment in order to explore and cherish their childhood.



“දැනුම් සෙවනක්”

“DANUM SEWANAK” was the Community Development Project initiated by us, team Dream Catchers. The overall aim of this project was to reconstruct the library of Wayamba Wishwaloka Vidyalaya.

The Wayamba Wishwaloka Vidyalaya is located in the city of Kurunegala and create a good learning environment for students. This school was established in a temple in Kudakovana on 7th February 1975. Since 2011 it has been run as the Wayamba Wishwaloka Vidyalaya.

It is a mixed school with about 100 students and 10 teachers at present. They needed to develop the library to gain good learning experience. As our project we reconstructed the roof and walls with windows, made the ceiling, provided lights, fans, and books. All these activities required a spending of Rs. 300,000.

We started our implementation process on 2nd August and we held the opening ceremony on 25th of November 2019 successfully.





“ආලෝකයක්”

Alokeyak was a project implemented by the team Fix it as their Community Development Project. The main objective of this was to fulfill the basic requirements of Bodhiraja Kanishta Vidyalaya in Mawanella. There are 750 students in the school with a teaching staff of 29. The main issues the school had were, an inadequate water system, an unsafe electrical system, the absence of a long jump pit even though the athletes from this school had been successful at all-island competitions. There also were many desks and chairs which were not in a usable condition.

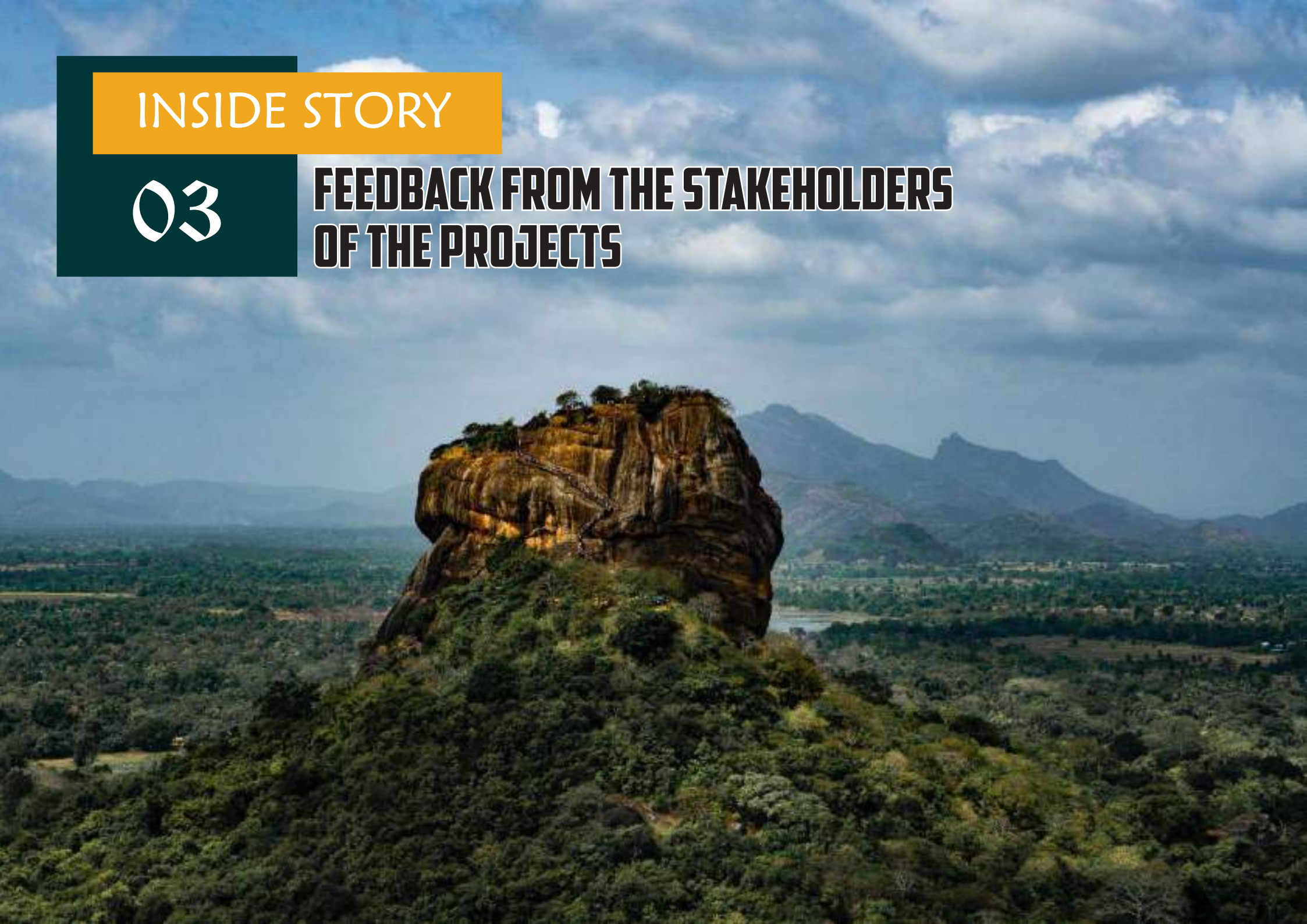
For this project a total amount of Rs 380,000 was required and the students were able to complete this project on 28th of November 2019. Students organized a food stall, a sticker campaign, and raising of sponsorships and donations as the main fundraising events for this project. The community support was at the highest level and it was one of the main reasons for the project to be completed on time. The project went for five months and was completed with a grand opening ceremony where the project coordinator Mr. Rajishtha De Alwis Seneviratne and academic advisor Ms. Chethanee Digoarachchi were the chief guests for the opening ceremony.



INSIDE STORY

03

FEEDBACK FROM THE STAKEHOLDERS OF THE PROJECTS



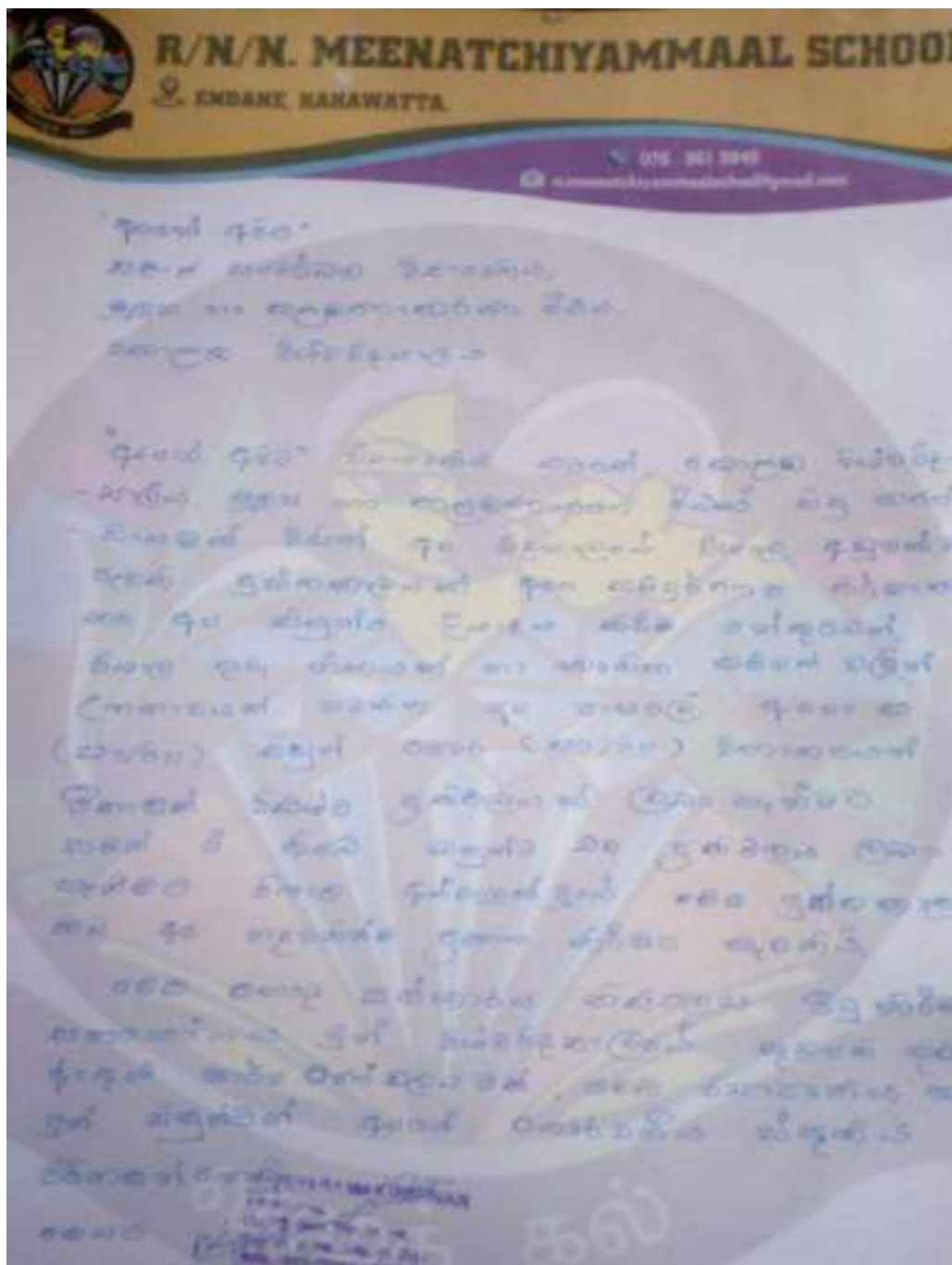
“අපේ ඒ හීනෙ හැඩෑ කරල
දුන්න අයිශල අක්කලට
ගොඩක් පිං.....”



“අද මෙනෙට පැමිණ සිටින සියලු දෙනාගෙන් අවසරයි අද අපේ පවුලේ අයගේ වාසනාවන්තම දවසයි අපිට ගොඩක් සතුටයි තාත්ත ලග හැනිනිසා අපිට ඉන්න නිවසක් තිබුනෙ නැහැ ජීවත් වෙන්න ආදායමක් තිබුනෙ නෑ අපිට තාත්ත හැනි අඩුව දැනුන අපි ඉස්සෙල්ලම හිටියේ පොල් අතු වටකර ගත්තු පුංචි පැලක් තාත්ත හැනි අපිට ගෙදරක් හදාගන්න එක හීනයක් වෙලයි තිබුනෙ අපිට ඒ හීනෙ හැඩෑ කරල දුන්නේ මේ විශ්ව විද්‍යාලෙ අයිශල අක්කල වයාලට ගොඩක් පිං අපට පාඩම් උපකරන ලබා දුන්නේ ප්‍රාදේශීය ලේඛම් කාර්යාලයේ නැන්දල මාමල අපේ මේ දුක දැකල අපට නිවසක් හදල දෙන්න නිර්මිත පියවරක් ගත්ත විශ්ව විද්‍යාලෙ අයිශල අක්කලාටත් ඒ සදහා උදව්කල අයටත් මගේ ගමේ අයටත් සුඛ අනාගතයක් පතමින් ස්තූති කරමි ඔබ සැමට සුඛ දවසක්....”

“සෙවණ” a Community Development Project conducted by **TEAM GLOW**





HOW I FEEL ABOUT CDP?

Community Development Project, a core course in BBA degree programme offered by our Faculty, was one of my important life enriching projects which sharpened my leadership skills, project management skills through motivation and by being supportive to get the maximum contribution from my team members.

Speciality of my team was that the members were from socioeconomically and culturally diverse backgrounds. Integration of the multicultural team towards the aim was the main challenge faced during the project.

However, the common understanding and commitment of everyone towards the final goal mitigated this challenge and thus developed a strong bond and ultimately became a good example for a successful project team. This project gave me an opportunity to socialize and work with the diversified group of people by learning and getting to know them and their priorities. Overall, our team was a good backbone for the project because of its uniqueness in team collaboration, resourcefulness, willingness to serve the public and high commitment. This project leads us to realize our capacity to serve for the betterment of the society and improved self-confidence.

Kavinda Balasooriya
Team leader - Team "Apen Apita"
Faculty of Management and Finance
University of Colombo
05th June 2020



"The spiritual satisfaction is better than all other satisfactions. CDP helped me to be a good leader, presenter, as well as a student who can identify my strengths and weakness. That experience I always use to my professional life as well as my professional life. Opportunities are rare for help to others. So I invite you to use this opportunity as a university student who is responsible to the society and you should engage in it in a good manner. This world is beautiful with beautiful hearts. Be a part of it. Then you able to identify the real satisfaction of your hearts..."
Congratulations..!!



KRISHMAL FERNANDO

"A golden opportunity to awake your soul"

DUSHMANTHA ABEYWICKRAMA



"CDP wasn't just a project! It was a life changing experience that taught us the importance of humanity and compassion"



NADEERA RATNAYAKE

"A golden opportunity to work with colleagues to make a meaningful contribution to a better community."

SHEHANI A. LEO



"CDP is an eye opener to us undergraduates not just as a requirement to complete our curriculum, but as a duty to act as responsible, leading citizen who creates a reverberating effect of positivity and hope among various parts of Sri Lanka."

HARITH LOKUGAMAGE





"Of all the course I have ever been a part of , CDP is one of my favorites... The challenging nature of assignment , always brings out the best in our students"

Ms. N.H.S.M. Herath
Lecturer
Department of International business

"It's a good opportunity for our students to give something back to the community that is supporting their free education. They have been doing it with great enthusiasm, making us proud of them"

Dr. Dinuka Wijetunga
Senior Lecturer
Department of Marketing



"It is the most satisfying engagement with the students and the community. A great initiative of FMF with the dedication, enthusiasm, and courage of the staff and the students. I believe it's the most heart touching experience for all undergraduates of the faculty"

Ms. Chethanee Digoarachchi
Lecturer
Management and Organizational Studies

"CDP is a great platform for students to learn managerial skills in a non-conventional way while making a positive contribution to the society"

Ms. Thilini Alahakoon
Lecturer
Department of Marketing





"Beyond the theories, students get hands-on experience as to what 'Management' is in reality. Indeed, CDP transforms a student into an economic creator along with a sense of social responsibility."

Ms. Gimhani Ekanayake
Senior Lecturer
Department of Accounting

"CDP helps students to experience and reflect on managing diverse projects, while also enabling them to develop a sense of serving our community"

Ms. Rochelle Wimalasinghe
Senior Lecturer
Department of Accounting



"Community Development Project was introduced to the curriculum in 2013 with the aim of inculcating soft skills among management undergraduates. It helps to identify certain social requirements in various parts of the country and address them using their capabilities within certain limits. Undergraduates need to form groups of around 25 and to work under their own leadership as a team, to plan and implement the projects successfully and to accumulate and carefully utilize the necessary resources. These soft skills were identified by researchers around the world as important for enhancing graduate employability and helping the higher educational institutions in maintaining higher rates of graduates employability."

Mr. WASP Weerathunga
Senior Lecturer
Department of Business Economics

"Community Development Project is not just a course you have to follow to get the qualification, but a lifelong memory that brings you happiness"

Ms. Shanika Lakmali
Lecturer (probationary)
Department of Marketing



Message from the Coordinator of Community Development Projects

2019

MR. RAJISHTHA DE ALWIS SENEVIRATNE

Department of Business Economics

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO

Coordinator from 2016



This magazine is an attempt to inform the community about the community development projects implemented by the first year students of the Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo in the year 2019. Without a doubt this magazine will also encourage the readers to think of taking small steps to do something good for others who are in need.

Community development projects have been undertaken since 2013 as a core course of the BBA degree programme. I have been involved in these projects firstly as an advisor since 2014 and then as the coordinator since 2017.

In 2019, 29 projects were implemented across Sri Lanka. Four projects were implemented within the Faculty to enhance the beauty of the premises. Most of the other projects involved providing classrooms, libraries, science laboratories, play areas, musical instruments, water and sanitation facilities to schools. There were many projects which uplifted the standard of living of the various residents in homes for children, elderly, and the differently abled. There was also a project which provided a waste disposal system to a hospital and another which constructed a stairway for the villagers to access their temple. These projects were conducted in many districts of Sri Lanka.

OVER THE PAST SEVEN YEARS MANY PROJECTS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED ACROSS SRI LANKA. EVERY YEAR I HAVE SEEN HOW HARD THE STUDENTS WORK TO DO THEIR PROJECTS TO ENSURE THAT THE COMMUNITY RECEIVES THE BEST POSSIBLE SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEM.

MR. RAJISHTHA DE ALWIS SENEVIRATNE

I must thank the Vice Chancellor and the Dean of the Faculty of Management and Finance for all their support in conducting the course and also the launch of this magazine. I must also thank all the members of the academic staff who helped in evaluating, and supervising the students in their project work. Without them we would not have been able to do this. It is also my duty to thank everyone who helped the students to complete the projects successfully. Lastly but not least I must thank the students for all their hard work, commitment and dedication. It would have been indeed a great learning experience managing a project with various academic and extra-curricular activities. They would have learnt so much from their interactions with the community.

I must specially thank Sanjana Wanigasekara currently a second year student of the Faculty, who voluntarily came forward to develop this magazine. This is a result of all his effort, hard work and commitment. I am indeed grateful to him for his coming forward and doing this task exceptionally well.

Thank you very much to all and I hope every year we can see more projects such as these which truly benefit the community.

VOTE OF THANKS

Sanjana D. Wanigasekara
Designer of the magazine

First and foremost, I would like to thank the Vice Chancellor of the University of Colombo, Senior Professor Chandrika N. Wijeyaratne and the Dean of the Faculty of Management and Finance, University of Colombo, Dr. MPP Dharmadasa who, despite their busy working schedule found time to give messages to the magazine. I also am grateful to Professor Arosha S. Adikaram and Dr. Nihal Hennayake who join with us to express their experience and all other lecturers and CDP coordinators. I express my heartfelt thanks to the lecturer and the coordinator of CDP, Mr. Rajishtha De Alwis Seneviratne. This magazine was a result of a meeting with office of teams organised by him. He is the person who was behind this and encouraged me to make this effort a success. Again, thank you very much sir if you aren't with us, we can't make this a reality. Actually, I want to mention my partner Kavinda Balasooriya. He was always with me and give his strength for this. I also want to mention some names because they are very supportive to me. This is not a single effort this is a group effort that's why I mention them.

Dushmantha Abeywikrama, Krishmal Fernando, Shehani S. Leo, Gayan Perera, Kisal Lamahewa, Aamina Ismail, Aloka Weerawardane, Harith Lokugamage, and Nadeera Ratnayake thank you very much.

This is only a beginning.

This will continue further with future generations with more colour and creativity.

As a human and as a university student we can do something to our country and also our society.

I hope you all will be inspired by this and you will continue the good work. If I missed anyone in my vote of thanks, I do apologize.



**AS A STUDENT OF THE FACULTY I FEEL PROUD OF OUR
ACHIEVEMENT IN COMPLETING 29 PROJECTS
ALL OVER SRI LANKA BENEFITING MANY
COMMUNITIES FROM DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS,
SPENDING OVER RS. 8,400,000.
I HOPE THAT THESE BENEFITS WOULD BE REAPED FOR
MANY MORE YEARS TO COME.**

Sanjana D. Wanigasekara



FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE
UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO
BAUDDHALOKA MAWATHA,
COLOMBO 07
0112 501 295