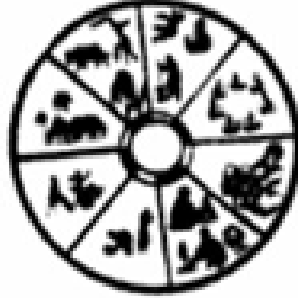


SUSTAINABLE LIFE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT 2004-05



**3/156, MOHAN MAISTRY COLONY - I, PIDAMANERI,
DHARMPAURI - 636 703, TAMILNADU, INDIA**

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TAMILNADU, INDIA.

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INTROUDCTION:

Sustainable Life Trust is a registered Trust functioning for the welfare of the downtrodden.

Their head quarter is based at Dharmapuri district. A branch of the Trust has been functioning at Kollihills of Namakkal district from the current year and has been services to the Schedule Tribe Community.

Sustainable Life Trust is basically a secular, non-political, non-religious, non-profit Trust. It is a happy occasion activities during the year 2004-05.

The organization with a mandate to unit the resource poor, small and marginal farmers to achieve sustainable livelihood, positive environment, health, socio-economic change and to improve the eco system through sustainable agricultural practices.

The programme and project carried out during the year may be broadly classified under two categories (i.e., regular programmes and project conducting with the coordination of FRLHT, Bangalore, which is supporting by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India), New Delhi.

REGULAR PROGRAMMES:

WORLD HEALTH DAY: 7TH OF APRIL

The theme for the year 2005 is **"Make every mother and child count"**. The promotion and the defense of the rights of the family, the child and the youth organized a workshop devoted to the World Health Day, celebrated on April 7th in Dharmapuri Office for women SHG members. Group discussion were organized as well as talking with parents to parents about health issues which their children faced and emphasizing the fact that the health of mothers was the foundation of any society. And also SLT undertake health check ups of mothers with the support of medical practitioners.

World Earth Day: April 22

Every day is the Earth Day: Conserve our earth becomes conserves our life. The programme organized at Dharmapuri for youth group members, who are affiliated with Nehru Yuva Kendra (Government of India).

World Consumer Rights Day: 15th March

It will see consumer groups worldwide **take action on genetically modified organisms (GMOs) In crops and foods and how they limit the choices of farmers and consumers.**

SLT conducted consumer awareness during the year for your groups.

In the programme, the concept of consumer Rights (Rights to safety, Right to be informed, Right to choose, Right to be heard, Right to redressal, Right to consumer education, Right to healthy environment and Right to basic needs) and consumers' responsibilities, consumer protection Act, role of district consumer court, procedures to complaints to concerned authorities, illegal business and its impacts among consumers. Importance of organizing consumer protection groups, case studies etc., and it make the participants equipping their knowledge in consumer Rights. As a result of the programme 4 cases were referred to consumer council.

World Forestry Day: 21 March

The World Forestry Day is celebrated worldwide every year with the objective of instilling awareness to the community to care of for the forest and not to exploitation the forest for infrastructure development. This day commemorates the contribution and value of forests and forestry to the community. SLT organized a special event to celebrate World Forestry Day, 2005; a sapling was given as a gift to all of its participants in the meeting on March 21st. A total of 100 saplings will be planted.

World Day of Water: March 22

WATER FOR LIFE

Clean water is a basic human Rights

Billions of people through out the world are suffering and dyeing from the world's number one health problem, lack of safe water and sanitation facilities. 6,000 children die every day and half of the world's poor are sick at any given moment from the same cause -water-related illness.

During the day, SLT organized a programme for women, who play a central role in water provision and management, a special emphasis placed on ensuring the participation and involvement of women in these development efforts. We need to increase water efficiency, especially in agriculture. SLT felt that need to free women and girls from the daily chore of hauling water, often over great distances. So, SLT involved them in decision-making on water management and make them aware sanitation as priority.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY: June 5

The Trust has been promoting programmes for the conservation and environmental development. It organized the World Environment Day, commemorated each year on June 4. Theme selected by UNEP for 2005 is Green Cities and the Slogan is **PLAN FOR THE PLANET!**

The Trust organized an essay writing competition for school students in Gundurnadu and Alathur Nadu of Kollihills. During the day, SLT to empower students to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development and promote an understanding that community are pivotal to changing attitudes towards environmental issues and imparted the students to conserve medicinal plants in the area and preserve their traditional knowledge of medicinal plants for human health and animal health.

MEDICINAL PLANTS FOR HEALTH & LIVELIHOOD SECURITY OF ST COMMUNITIES:

The project is supported by Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and technology, Government of India and coordinating by FRLHT, Bangalore.

The project area is Kolli Hills Block, Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu. Kolli Hills is part of Eastern Ghats and is located in the extreme eastern part of Namakkal District.

The project covers the following panchayats viz: Alathur Nadu, Bail Nadu, Chittoor Nadu, Gundur Nadu, Valavanthi Nadu, Valappur Nadu, Pirakkarai Nadu, Ariyur Nadu and Thirupppuli Nadu.

Base line survey on socio-economic conditions, knowledge of home remedies, occurrence of primary health conditions, use of medicinal plants, health expenditure etc. by using interview schedules were conducted in selected households by Village Resource Persons who took training from NGO staff. For this purpose voters list was used for scientifically selecting the households as per statistics norms.

PRA EXERCISES:

Which health conditions should be taken for the project? Implementing and funding agencies should not decide to document the home remedies for certain diseases according to their choices. The tribal community should decide which primary health conditions are to be studied and they should rank which health conditions come first, second, third ranks etc according to their criteria. So, PRA was conducted with the participation of community members, traditional healers and VRPs (Village Resource Persons). First all the health conditions occurring in their areas and families were listed out. This is called Free listing of diseases. Then from these free listed diseases, according to their criteria they ranked and chosen top 10-15 primary health conditions for the documentation.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF VILLAGE RESOURCE PERSONS:

150 VRPs were selected from project area and they were given training on Home Herbal Garden establishment, maintenance and preparation and use of simple home remedies such as Lay out and design of HHGs, source of water and fencing, symptomatic diagnosis of common health problem, identification of medicinal plants, preparation of simple home remedies and monitoring and documentation of HHGs.

COMMUNITY HEALTH KNOWLEDGE REGISTER RELEASE:

By getting the Prior Informed Consent of *Nattu Vaidyas* (traditional healers) and with the participation of community, a community health knowledge register was prepared. The traditional healers' knowledge on medicinal plants and remedies for primary health conditions had been converted from oral form to written form with Prior Informed Consent. The local remedies told by the Vaidyas were analyzed as per the understanding of Ayurvedic and modern pharmacopeias. These local remedies along with assessment comments and scientific supports by the Ayurveda Doctor were made into a Community Health Knowledge Register. It was then handed over to the community as their asset. Thus, the oral form of traditional health knowledge had been converted into written form.

Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions, Bangalore and Gram Mooligai Company Limited, Bangalore (promoted by FRLHT) had provided technical back-up support and linkages for:

- Nursery and Propagation techniques relating to medicinal plants and HHGs.
- Establishment and Maintenances of Home Herbal Gardens
- Documentation of Local Health Traditions and Rapid Assessment of Local Health Traditions
- Sustainable medicinal plants collection
- Cultivation trials and low risk cultivation methods for economically important medicinal plants

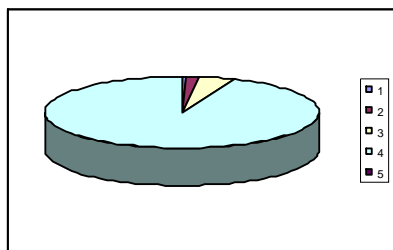
The follow-up training given by FRLHT in Andhra Pradesh based NGO- IDEA's field office at Arrakku Valley. For the training our CO-PIs participated.

The Annual Review meeting of the project was conducted at Pune, Maharashtra State. Our Director and Principal Investigator of the project participated in the review meeting. The persons from DST and FRLHT and co-project holders are also participated in the meeting.

FUND OPERATION DURING THE YEAR:

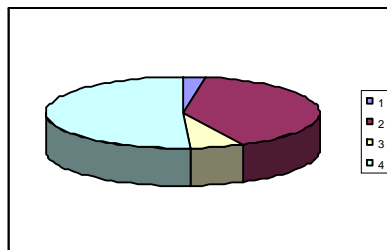
INFLOW:

Subscription		0.67%
Donation	01.34%	
Service charges received	04.28%	
Grant from DST	93.71%	



OUTFLOW:

Programme		02.65%
Project		40.23%
Administration		06.37%
Assets (Closing Balance)		50.75%



VISITORS:

- Mr. M.N. Balakrishnan Nair, Senior Programme Advisor, FRLHT, Bangalore
- Mr. G. Hariramamurthy, FRLHT, Bangalore
- Mr. Pen Mgnuson, Coordinator Asia, Future Earth
- Mr. Suresh Kanna, LEISA Network, Trichy
- Mr. Terrance Mc.Kee, Interlock, UK

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

We offer you our deepest gratitude for making all of this possible! Your support will be deeply appreciated and carefully stewarded. We would like to give particular thanks and acknowledgement to FRLHT, Bangalore and Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

S.PRADAPAN
DIRECTOR