



INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME  
TRINCOMALEE

[www.ifsp-srilanka.org](http://www.ifsp-srilanka.org)

## Highlights 2002 – Outlook 2003

### Highlights 2002

#### The IFSP Concept

The Integrated Food Security Programme Trincomalee (IFSP) supports and encourages people who are war affected and face seasonal and structural food deficits. Emphasis is on the diversification and intensification of local and regional food and income sources, improvement of nutrition and health care and promoting the concept of nutrition and food security as a programmatic priority of partner institutions.

IFSP aims at contributing to stability and conflict mitigation and is actively promoting a peaceful co-existence of the regional communities. Target groups are subsistence farmers, specialised farmers, small farmers, fishermen and landless wage labourers, internally displaced persons, women headed households, orphans and unemployed youth. All three communities, viz. Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim are treated adequately. Partners are government departments at the divisional, district and provincial level of, community based organisations, non-government organisations and private sector establishments.

IFSP is a special project under The Ministry of Eastern Development and the North-East Provincial Council as implementing partners of the Sri Lankan Government. GTZ is the implementing partner for the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMZ). Total budget is estimated up to Rs. 560 million for a period of five years (08/1998-12/2003). The German contribution is a grant. IFSP is the largest bilateral support programme for Trincomalee district.

The programme started in August 1998 with a series of baseline surveys and confidence building measures. Transparency vis-à-vis the warring parties has been a practised from the very beginning.

#### Four focal areas

1. Development of production infrastructure for better availability of and access to food
2. Improving health care and nutrition for better use and utilisation of food
3. Facilitating services for higher availability of and better access to food
4. Capacity building for government institutions, non-government organisations and local self help groups for enhanced governance and stability

#### Impacts

IFSP has significantly contributed to improve nutrition and food security in Trincomalee district. Vulnerable groups have been addressed in a way that they are in a position to grasp emerging opportunities. The many activities supported have contributed to social integration, reduction of poverty, economic development and regional stability, in as much as this has been possible outside the social-psychological and political context.

The high degree of transparency vis-à-vis the warring parties and the communities as well as the intensive dialogue with partner institutions has resulted in a high degree of acceptance and a reasonable degree of ownership. IFSP Trincomalee has shown that development is possible in a conflict affected environment.

### **Coverage in Trincomalee district**

IFSP has entered its 2<sup>nd</sup> phase in July 2001. The programme is at present in a transition phase which will last until end 2003. Progress of the work programme 2002 is according to expectation. Support is provided to approx. 160 villages in 10 DS Divisions with a focus on 40 core villages (PNA villages). The direct coverage is approx. 30%, indirectly approx. 60% of the population in selected DS Divisions are reached. The progress report for quarterIII/2002 was submitted to the Ministry of Eastern development and NEPC in early October. The progress report IV/2002 and the annual report 2002 are forthcoming. A few highlights for 2002 are addressed below.

### **Expenditure 2002**

Total expenditure 2002 including estimate for December amounts to Rs. 81 million (77.0% budget realisation), with contributions from DF of Rs. 12 million (14.5%) and GTZ of Rs. 69 million (85.5%). The expenditure pattern shows a further increase of field activities. Total expenditure reflects the absorption capacity of partner institutions. Total local expenditure to date is Rs. 250 million.

### **Quick impact programme for internally displaced persons**

Responding to a request from the Ministry of Eastern Development and GA Trincomalee, IFSP supports a quick impact programme for families who have returned after the MOU and who have temporarily settled in their original villages or are living with relatives. Focus is on the production infrastructure to enable families to cultivate during Maha 2002/2003, on village infrastructure incl. construction of houses and utility buildings and on services.

A programme and budget was proposed and accepted by DCC Trincomalee for 12 villages in the 7 Divisions of T&G, Kuchchaveli, Padavisiripura, Muthur, Seruwila, Gomarankadawela and Morawewa. To successfully implement this programme close cooperation and coordination will have to be ensured as well as fullest support from partner institutions. IFSP has a facilitating role, whereas CBOs are implementing partner. Line agencies would be requested to provide accelerated services. NGOs and private sector establishments could be considered as support partners. Highest possible efficiency and effectiveness of services need to be ensured. The modes of delivery will follow the established and recognised approaches of IFSP, i.e. short-cut PNA, intensive stakeholder dialogue, people centred approach etc. for ensuring commitment and contribution from communities.

The budget is estimated at Rs. 54 million which will be covered from Sri Lankan and additional German funds. Altogether 2,000 families are expected to benefit. Implementation has started and is expected to continue through the first quarter 2003.

### **Seed cleaning and sorting centre opened**

A seed cleaning and sorting unit was opened in September 2002 at the 58 Mile Post, Barathipuram-Killiveddy, Muthur DS Division. The seed cleaning and sorting centre which is the first agri-business established in this area after the MOU. The centre is supporting a seed paddy outgrowing programme which included 300 farmers with 75 acres during Yala 2002 and caters to approx. 2,000 farm families. The centre was established at a cost of about Rs. 2.5 million. It is managed by the MPCSC Muthur in cooperation with farmers.

### **Health and nutrition improved**

The support of basic health services through a joint health team of DOH-EHED-IFSP is continuing with a focus on 38 remote villages in 8 DS Divisions. The programme includes basic health care, awareness and education, support for mothers and infants, village water supply and sanitation, personal and public hygiene and waste disposal and regular de-worming of up to 35,000 school children. Intensive training of health personnel is practised.

The school feeding programme (mid-day meal for school children) covers meanwhile 48 schools with >7,000 children. Recently, the drama performance done by a local NGO on invitation of IFSP has addressed students, parents and teachers. The drama was played and well received in all mid-day meal schools in Eachchilampathai DS Division and in some schools in Kuchchaveli DS

Division. The very low costs for one mid-day meal challenges parents to independently continue this programme.

### **Village infrastructure and production infrastructure developed, services improved**

The Veerancholai housing programme is nearing completion. In cooperation with NHDA 50 houses for local communities were constructed on a collective self-help base. Houses are of standard type as constructed earlier by NHDA. The value of each house is about Rs. 120,000.

A large number of activities for improving the village infrastructure and the production infrastructure in particular were completed, viz. four primary schools, minor irrigation schemes, drainage systems, rural roads, vegetable cultivation, coconut nurseries and coconut cultivation, home gardening and semi-commercial horticulture, promotion of livestock etc. FFW/FFA – wherever needed capitalised – and CFW are combined.

IFSP continues to promote small scale business and employment predominantly in the field of agri-business.

To compliment market led development, e.g. the market in Padavisiripura where market stalls were constructed and the seed cleaning and sorting centre in Muthur, IFSP would be in a position to fund a number of market places to connect producers to traders, subject to identification of suitable locations by the Departments of Agriculture and Industries and commercial viability of such centres.

### **Human resources management facilitated**

The appointment of a new project director has significantly improved cooperation and communication with partner institutions. Intensive dialogue is practised. The large number of project proposals and requests received underline the reputation the project director has established in a short period of time as well as the overall positive perception of the programme.

Investment into the capacities of IFSP staff and personnel from partner institutions is instrumental for post-conflict development. Project staff participated in training abroad and in Sri Lanka in e.g. log frame planning, impact monitoring, quality management, moderation and training of trainers, PCIA, data base management, rural finance. In 2002 IFSP has effected altogether 17 training measures.

IFSP has entered into an exchange programme with the Rural Infrastructure Works Programme Nepal, which is funded by a larger number of donors. A 25 member delegation from Nepal, mainly at GA and senior executive level visited Trincomalee in October 2002. The insurgency problem in Nepal compels government and donors to explore appropriate mechanisms for adjustment and coping. The experience gained in Trincomalee district over the a period of four years was shared with the team from Nepal.

### **IFSP Information system established**

The IFSP web page [www.-ifspsrilanka.org](http://www.-ifspsrilanka.org) was launched on 10 August 2002. Regular update is done. The web page is in fact an information system. It contains all information, e.g. planning documents, financial and annual reports, spatial information – maps, working papers, technical papers and IFSP news. TOR for surveys and review missions and other relevant documents. The web page is linked to relevant partner institutions, among others NEPC and international agencies. To date more than 14,000 visitors were recorded.

IFSP has created a comprehensive data base/information system for activity and impact monitoring. All information are processed in a systematic format with the aim to screen the result indicators. The system supports planning and impact assessment vis-à-vis the project planning matrix. It provides recommendations for decision makers on priorities for public investment. It further supports the implementation of the 3R Framework as well as the Poverty Reduction Strategy.

The system is organised in a way that repetition and loss of data are avoided and the time to retrieve data is reduced. At the same time, the system is easy to use and would fit into the official information system. It has three dimensions: 1) The prime d-base (MoRe Impact) provides basic information for all 582 villages in Trincomalee district, which includes a resource profile, socio-economic conditions and vulnerability/poverty. 2) The 'master d-base' provides information about the physical and financial progress of the four major results IFSP is supporting, viz. i) village infrastructure development, ii) promotion of health and nutrition, iii) promotion of services and iv) institutional support. 3) A spatial d-base which uses Arc View allows to create thematic maps, e.g. administrative map of the district, vulnerability profile, location of IFSP projects, demographic change etc. The maps provide visual support of what is happening on the ground and thereby help decision makers to plan for district development.

The master d-base and the spatial d-base are linked to the prime database. Here, the government village code is the key parameter. Reports can be produced for village development in physical and financial terms or as maps for either each village, GN Division, DS Division or on an aggregate level for the district. The system would compliment the efforts undertaken by the Provincial Planning Department.

### **Information system for NEPC facilitated**

An intensive dialogue with the Provincial Planning Department was held in November and December with the aim to support efforts of NEPC to establish an information system. This is the third initiative since August 2000 (ref. to WP 31, 49 and TPs 20). The focus of this mission was to specifically determine training needs for up to eight middle level officers involved in IT and to design the TOR for two IT specialists.

Funding for intensive training and employment of IT specialists is ensured from IFSP-GTZ budgets. The dialogue has critically reviewed capacities and prospects IT and information resources management. The report which also addresses the interface IS-PCIA and networking with projects and institutions is forthcoming (WP 51). Information system's development is urgent. The relation to post-conflict development is obvious.

Responding to the request for additional equipment, IFSP-GTZ has procured computers, notebooks, multimedia projectors etc. for the Provincial Planning Department, the Provincial Computer Training Unit and for partner institutions valued Rs. 3 million.

### **Governance supported**

IFSP continues to lobby for applying concepts and tool that were developed, tested and are applicable for broader scale implementation to promote nutrition and food security in the broader context of development. This includes e.g. PNA, project book approach, community mobilisation, livelihoods systems approach, mid-day meal for school children, solid waste management. Basic documents are translated into Tamil and Sinhala. The concepts developed, tested and applied demonstrate what civil society could contribute in the context of conflict.

## **Outlook 2003**

### **Work plan and budget 2003 prepared**

The draft annual implementation programme and budget for the year 2003 was forwarded to NEPC and the Ministry of Eastern Development and Muslim Religious Affairs in October 2002. The total budget estimate for 2003 is Rs. 113.5 million. Preparations for the comprehensive annual implementation programme and budget are under way in closest cooperation with partner institutions and organisations. Planning and implementation in particular address the challenges of post-conflict development.

### **Project proposal for 'IFSP Wannu and Batticaloa' forwarded**

The proposal of 12 August 2002 to extend IFSP Trincomalee to former uncleared areas in the Wannu and Batticaloa was forwarded to the German Government by the Sri Lankan department of External Resources. The perception is positive. A final decision is pending, subject to availability of funds and considerations for an optimisation of the German support for the re-development of the north-east. IFSP Trincomalee would draft TOR for an appraisal which could be fielded in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2003.

### **Absorption and integration enhanced**

IFSP Trincomalee is entering its final stage. Absorption of concepts and integration of knowledge, experience and resources into the programmes of partner institutions needs to be enhanced. IFSP management will continue to encourage project and partner staff to actively pursue project implementation on the basis of a highest possible involvement of the local communities. The sector meetings with heads of departments and the meetings with DSs are helpful for intensified dialogue.

### **Transfer of IFSP – IIRM for north-east**

The IT mission has addressed options to move IFSP Trincomalee towards an envisaged IIRM. It is now time to address how best to guide IFSP is to be transferred into an appropriate institutional structure. This would allow that the innovative capacities could be used for further supporting post-conflict development.

### **Initiatives for local capacities for peace (Do No Harm Analysis) continue**

GTZ has proposed to have a comprehensive workshop for LCP done for GTZ and partner/project staff from 28 January to 6 February 2003. The workshop will accommodate up to 25 staff from IFSP and NECORD. Invitations and schedule will be distributed in January. The aim of the workshops which are to be facilitated by two international specialists is to apply LCP within the project/regional context and to develop capacities to assess intended and unintended impacts.

### **Review mission 'lessons learnt – best practices' scheduled**

IFSP has initiated a final evaluation with focus on "lessons learnt – best practices". The aim would be to take stock of what was conceptualised, tested and implemented and achieved. The review would look at concepts and specific products IFSP has developed that could be implemented and replicated by other projects and partner institutions and that have potential for policy design. The aim is also to further improve the knowledge base of partners as well as GTZ. The evaluation is scheduled from 7 to 28 February 2003. The IFSP "lessons learnt – best practices" exercise is part of a combined mission of GTZ involving also, the Jaffna Rehabilitation Project, JRP and the North East Community Restoration Project, NECORD. The combined mission will support GTZ as well as the Sri Lankan and German governments to promote a coherent approach towards post-conflict development.

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