

Project Packages

What is a Project Package?

A package is a simple documentation of all important aspects for planning and implementing village projects. It helps the teams who conduct participatory needs assessment in a village (see *IFSP news 3*) to discuss the conditions of co-operation between the local population, the service providers (government departments and non-government organisations), and IFSP. Package guidelines define tasks and responsibilities for all actors and contains important internal and external factors which are important for the implementation of projects. Packages help the service providers to develop good project plans.

Which Village Projects are Supported by IFSP?

- **Community projects** to improve the infrastructure of villages (tanks, roads, schools, irrigation facilities, drinking water wells).
- **Poverty projects** to support very poor households which are in food deficit and severely affected by the conflict to earn a better income (goat and poultry farming, vegetable production, small industries and businesses, marine and inland fisheries).
- **Health and nutrition** programmes to address issues of hygiene and sanitation, health, healthy food, mid-day meals for school children to improve the living conditions in the villages. The programmes are carried out with staff from the Department of Health in close co-operation with EHED.

Health projects help selected poor households to construct toilets to improve their sanitation and hygiene.



Sanitation package: the "blue toilet", town and gravets

IFSP has established a Technical Project Committee (TPC). The TPC has contacted government departments and non-government organisations during the last weeks to elaborate suitable packages. It is important to ensure the feasibility of projects in the villages: Are the families ready to take over their part and to contribute actively in terms of labour, material and cash? IFSP expects a local contribution from the villagers of at least 20-25% of the costs.

IFSP intends to work with those villages first which need the support most urgently. A village information system (village data sheets) which is presently established enables IFSP to identify the poorest villages in the district according to the following criteria:

- 1) conflict affectedness,
- 2) food deficit, and
- 3) destroyed infrastructure.

Packages are available for brick making, pre-schools, community buildings, toilets, irrigation facilities, roads, vegetable growing drinking water wells, mid-day meal.

A Possible Success Story: Tank Rehabilitation

IFSP and the Department of Agrarian Services have agreed to rehabilitate 75 minor tanks in Trincomalee District. Five engineers and two draftsmen are employed by IFSP and seconded to the Department of Agrarian Services. They have carried out investigations of the tanks to assess their potential for cultivation. Works have started and are in progress at ten tanks. Wherever people are ready to work IFSP is ready with support. The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in Colombo is giving scientific advice and support.

Vannankulikulam to be rehabilitated in Muthur will include fish production.



Dr. C. R. Panabokke (centre, with hat) from IWMI with staff from Department of Agrarian Services and IFSP: inspecting construction of a spill at Behethkawewa, Kalyanapura, Gomarankadawela

Agriculture Exhibition Kantale

IFSP supported the District Agricultural Exhibition at Kantale which was held from 5th to 9th April 2000. A large number of posters were displayed. The posters showed health and nutrition activities including the mid-day meal for school children, school garden programme and food-for-work. *IFSP news* on display were in good demand. IFSP took weight and height of mothers and children.

Training of Trainers

Field staff from IFSP partner institutions were trained in applying participatory methods and co-operation with villages. Participatory needs assessment is a concept to assist village communities in expressing their needs and priorities. A group of ten Sri Lankan professionals were trained as trainers by two IFSP specialists. IFSP needs good and motivated trainers who work with the village communities.

IFSP news is available in Tamil and Sinhala

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INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME

