

## INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME TRINCOMALEE (IFSP)

### Village Data Sheets – Vulnerability and Poverty Profile

#### 1. What is a Village Data Sheet?

Village data sheets provide detailed information about the conditions of each of the 582 villages in Trincomalee district for all 11 DS Divisions (status quo 2000). A set of 40 parameters constitute the **village profile**.

The 40 parameters are summarised under **seven sub-indicators**:

- Education facilities
- Water and sanitation
- Vulnerability (war affectedness)
- Employment situation
- General living conditions
- Health services
- Food production

The summary of the seven sub-indicators are used to calculate a **vulnerability and poverty profile** which is based on three major indicators showing the dimension of **i) conflict affectedness, ii) food insecurity** and **iii) inadequate social services (social deprivation)**.

The **vulnerability and poverty profile** is described as **poverty code** and **poverty level**. The **poverty code** ranges from 5 to 1:

- **5** seriously affected, destitute situation and extreme poverty
- **4** seriously affected, very high prevalence of poverty
- **3** affected, high prevalence of poverty
- **2** affected, poverty is prevailing
- **1** limited degree of affectedness, lower prevalence of poverty.

The **poverty level** describes the absolute ranking of each village among the 582 villages of Trincomalee District.

The “Village Data Sheets – Trincomalee district Vulnerability and Poverty Profile” are established as **data base**. This allows sorting and listing of villages according to GN Division, name of village, poverty code, poverty level etc. The base code is the official alpha-numeric government code for each village in the district.

#### 2. How to make use of the Village Data Sheets?

A village data sheet is the entry point for dialogue, analysis and development. The village data sheets can be used to specifically **target project support** according to the absolute and relative poverty ranking. This would allow a fine-tuned targeting for basic as well as integrated village development:

- Villages in **codes 5 and 4** should receive **basic support in all relevant fields** (health, nutrition, agri-services, infrastructure, basic community mobilisation) to overall improve the situation. Poverty projects (sanitation, housing, income generation) and community projects (production infrastructure, schools, water supply, roads) could be initiated.

- Some villages in **codes 4 and villages in code 3** could be supported for **advanced local economic development** (better services, better access to market facilities, enhanced community participation including increasing the local contribution to development projects).
- Villages in **codes 2 and 1** should be supported in a way that they move out of the poverty level and **rapidly integrate into the main stream economy** (specific projects which initiate growth and accelerate development, higher local contribution).

Village data sheets are the **core for development planning** at village level as well as for the respective GN and DS Divisions:

- Priorities to **reduce/alleviate vulnerability and poverty** (villages in poverty code 5, 4 and 3) and at the same to promote potential for development (villages in poverty codes 2 and 1) can be determined.
- Planning for **balanced development** of hard and soft infrastructure and services can be done and well targeted.
- **Opportunities** for contribution towards development can be identified.
- Sound reasons for specific **development priorities** are available.

Village data sheets are the base for **impact monitoring**. All expenditure for projects and support from government institutions, non-government organisations and development agencies could be listed in a specific format for the years of support. This would allow to review whether projects have contributed to improve the overall condition in a village. The **impact monitoring lists** would facilitate better coordination of all development efforts:<sup>1</sup>

- What kind of project was implemented in a village, how was the involvement of the local community?
- How much money was spent directly (direct flow of funds into the village to boost the local economy)?
- What was the result – what impact could be observed at different levels (e.g. more food from own production, higher degree of nutrition and food security, better health and hygiene, more income from sale of produce and higher degree of employment, better access to markets and services, less poverty, more participation) – what change occurred?
- What was the contribution towards economic and social stability and reconciliation?

For day-to-day **use of the village data sheets**:

- A graphic presentation compares the poverty and vulnerability profile for all DS Divisions in the district and shows decision makers the overall position of the respective division.
- The ranking tables list all villages in the DS Division according to poverty code and poverty level.
- The village data sheets are sorted in alphabetic order and/or according to the official alpha-numeric government code.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> IFSP has established impact monitoring for all villages and projects which includes specific key surveys (e.g. minor irrigation schemes, home gardening, mid-day meal, focused assessment) and presentation of a comprehensive list of assets created since 1998. IFSP has completed 'Consolidated Final Accounts' showing all projects completed between 1998 and 2002/2003 for each village and DS Division, including base physical and financial data. If all government and non-government support were included a comprehensive review of the development based intervention was possible, i.e. the degree of development and independence could be described for each village. For reference see [www.ifsp-srilanka.org](http://www.ifsp-srilanka.org).

<sup>2</sup> In case one or the other village is not yet listed, information should be provided to IFSP. IFSP in cooperation with and for partner institutions is updating the village data sheets regularly.