

# **PROJECT REPORT**

June 2023



WORLD VISION LANKA & RISE AND SHINE INC.

# SOLAR LANTERN DISTRIBUTION PROJECT



#### 4th Batch of Lanterns



#### TOTAL NO. OF LANTERNS DISTRIBUTED:

1,006

## LOCATIONS OF INTERVENTION

- Valaichchenai
- Kekirawa
- Vaharai
- Koralaipattu
- TrincoSouth
- Muthur
- Walapane
- Hatton
- Kandy



#### **PROJECT OUTLINE**

Rise and Shine Inc., partnered with World Vision Lanka (WVL) to distribute solar lanterns to the most vulnerable of communities who have little to zero access to electricity.

For this purpose, the third batch of solar lanterns were dispatched to Sri Lanka by Rise and Shine Inc., World Vision Lanka was able to clear all the items from Sri Lanka Ports Authority in June, 2023.



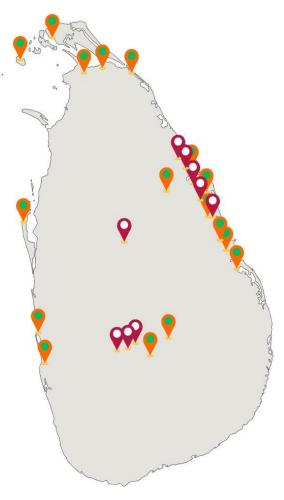
#### **PROJECT SPREAD**

The first two batches of solar lanterns that amounted to **1,816** were distributed during the month of June and November, 2019.

The third batch of solar lanterns were distributed in June, 2023. In total, **1,008** lanterns were distributed.

This report illustrates the details of the fourth distribution of the solar lanterns, that was received in June 2023, **1,006** solar lanterns were distributed across 9 locations in the country.

With the support of relevant World Vision Lanka Area Program staff screened and identified the most vulnerable children and families. After the identification and screening, the distribution programs were arranged, and implemented with the participation of representatives from World Vision Lanka's National Office.



Note: Batch 1, 2 & 3 lanterns were distributed in the locations marked in orange, and batch 4 lanterns in locations marked in red.



# 'The sun will light even at night'







## SOLAR LANTERN DISTRIBUTION IN VALACHCHENAI

Valaichchenai, a part of Sri Lanka's Eastern Province in the Batticaloa District under the Koralaipattu District Secretariat, faces challenges due to inadequate infrastructure, limited social safety nets, and a lack of accessible healthcare services. These difficulties persist due to the enduring impact of the three-decade-long civil war, leaving many residents in precarious situations.

In Koralaipattu, Valaichchenai, the Good Shepherd Child Development Center (GSCDC) supports disadvantaged young girls, protecting them from potential harm by offering vital services such as meals, healthcare, educational support, and other essential needs.

**On September 18, 2023,** together with GSCDC in Valachchenai, Vaharai, World Vision Lanka distributed a total of **28 lanterns** to children in need. The center, which provides a home for girls separated from their families due to various adverse circumstances, requires continuous support to meet the girls' needs. The lanterns brought joy to the girls, aiding them in their studies and daily activities.







### SOLAR LANTERN DISTRIBUTION IN KEKIRAWA

**On October 12, 2023,** the second distribution took place in **Obbawa, Kekirawa,** where **44 lanterns** were provided to the local community. These lanterns were specifically reserved for children and families facing limited or no access to electricity, a situation that poses various challenges like disruptions to education and daily household chores.

Obbawa, Kekirawa, is home to approximately 1,225 residents, most of whom grapple with restricted electricity access. The Divisional Secretariat's Office together with the Grama Niladhari Officer identified most vulnerable individuals for this distribution, ensuring targeted aid.

The Obbawa community consist of a vibrant mix of cultures and occupations, notably thriving in the fishery sector. The lantern distribution serves a dual purpose of easing hardships for those lacking steady power sources and promoting sustainability through reduced kerosene and candle expenses, alongside lowered power consumption, thanks to renewable energy usage.

Anticipated outcomes include increased study time for schoolchildren, heightened academic interest and performance, reduced expenditure on traditional lighting fuels, and enhanced capacity for nighttime household activities, reflecting positive impacts of access to reliable lighting solutions in underserved areas like Obbawa.



#### SOLAR LANTERN DISTRIBUTION IN VAHARAI & KORALAIPATTU

On 13 October 2023, the distribution of lanterns was successfully completed across 3 locations in Vaharai and 4 locations in Koralaipattu. These areas cater to the most vulnerable children, many of whom have limited or no access to electricity. A total of 150 lanterns were distributed in Vaharai and 100 in Koralaipattu, targeting households without electricity.

The lack of electricity in these selected families' homes posed significant challenges. Without nighttime lighting, children struggled to study effectively, and adults faced difficulties in completing work tasks. Traditional lighting sources like candles and kerosene lamps, especially in homes made of mud and thatch, not only emit toxic fumes but also pose a fire hazard. Moreover, these lighting options are costly and consume funds that could otherwise be allocated to essential items such as school supplies. The introduction of solar lanterns addressed these challenges effectively by providing a safe, reliable, and environmentally friendly lighting solution.

Number of beneficiaries 250 Individuals



#### **'THIS IS THEIR STORY'**

Laxshika, a mother of 3 children, made a life-changing move to Kumburumulai (Valaichchenai), settling on land provided permanently by the government through the Kannahipuram Grama Niladhari (Valaichchenai). The land allocation was part of a government initiative aimed at assisting the most vulnerable families. Despite the lack of basic facilities like water, roads, and electricity, Laxshika and 23 other families braved the challenges to call this small village their home.



## **O** Testimonial

The absence of proper facilities meant resorting to lamps and candles for lighting at night, posing risks for children's education and the family's safety from snake bites. However, with the solar lanterns we received, a beacon of light has illuminated our lives. These lanterns not only aid in the children's education by providing light for studying at night but also offer a sense of security for the entire family.



The partnership that provide local communities access to these solar lanterns has been a key support structure for Laxshika's family and others in the village, providing much-needed protection and provision for their daily lives.



# Pictures are worth a thousand words!





#### SOLAR LANTERN DISTRIBUTION IN TRINCO SOUTH & MUTHUR

**On November 29 and 30, 2023,** the fourth distribution took place in Trinco South and Muthur, where a total of **305 solar lanterns** were distributed among families in need. This distribution aimed to assist the most vulnerable children, with **155 lanterns allocated to Trinco South and 150 to Muthur.** 

The ongoing power outages in these areas have posed significant challenges for families and children, hindering routine activities as well as education. The introduction of solar lanterns addresses these challenges effectively. Solar lanterns provide a secure, reliable, and environmentally friendly lighting solution. They enable students to complete homework and continue their studies after school without exposure to harmful emissions from kerosene lanterns. Additionally, they enhance productivity for adults by providing adequate lighting for work tasks, contributing to overall improved living conditions in these communities.

Number of beneficiaries 305 Individuals



## Pictures are worth a thousand words!









# SOLAR LANTERN DISTRIBUTION IN WALAPANE

**On February 1, 2024,** the fifth distribution marked the successful completion of the Solar Lanterns Distribution program in **Walapane.** A total of **150 lanterns** were distributed across 4 different locations in the area, benefiting families in need within the estate communities.

The distribution program focused on providing sustainable and reliable sources of light to families and children in the region. This initiative holds significant importance, especially during periods of power outages in the area. The distribution of solar lanterns received an overwhelmingly positive response from the beneficiaries, showcasing their enthusiasm and gratitude for the support provided.

#### **'THESE ARE THEIR STORIES'**



#### **Testimonial**

In our household of seven, our five children bring joy to every corner. Our home used to be illuminated by the warm, flickering scenes of candlelight and kerosene lamps each evening. However, our nights changed dramatically when we received a solar lantern.

This solar lantern brought with it a new era of light and possibility. It became our steadfast companion. Its brightness rendered constant vigilance and gave us a sense of security, we had not known before.

With the weight of financial strain lifted, our family found newfound freedom to dream and thrive. Our children, ignited with newfound zeal, eagerly engaged in their studies. The solar lantern has truly transformed our home into a sanctuary of light, hope, and endless possibilities. – Radhakrishnan's Family



#### Testimonial

In our tranquil corner of the world, our family of four, blessed with two lively children, found solace in our secluded existence with limited access to modern comforts like electricity.

To charge our phones or torches, we embarked on a nightly pilgrimage, trekking a kilometer to our relative's home.

Receiving the solar lantern transformed our lives. Our reliance on distant charging stations faded, saving not just time but also precious financial reserves.

Our children, no longer in the shadows, embraced their studies with renewed enthusiasm. The solar lantern not only illuminated our home but also illuminated our hearts with hope and possibility.

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On **March 17, 2024,** the sixth distribution of 50 solar lanterns took place in Hatton. These lanterns were distributed among the most vulnerable children in the Poystan Estate, located in the Dickoya area of the Nuwara Eliya District, Central Province. The estate, comprising with many vulnerable families primarily engaged in plantation work, received the lanterns to alleviate their challenges of non-access to electricity.

The distribution was met with gratitude from the community, who expressed appreciation for the lanterns that will aid in daily activities and their children's education.





#### SOLAR LANTERN DISTRIBUTION IN KANDY

On April 27, 2024, the final distribution marked the successful completion of the Solar Lanterns Distribution program in Kandy. A total of 179 lanterns were distributed across 11 Christian Church Ministries in the area, benefiting vulnerable families in need.

Christ Church, Liyanagala Christ Church Kadugannawa Christ Church, Uduwela Christ Church, Galaboda Christ Church, Kandy St. Andrews Church, Gampola St. Andrews Church, Pathragala St. Mathew's Church, Hirihala House Church, Onnankanda House Church, Gomera House Church, Dotel Oya

The distribution of solar lanterns to children and families in the Kandy in the above-mentioned areas is a positive step in helping them improve their quality of life and access new opportunities for growth and development.





# **THANK YOU!**

FOR PARTNERING WITH WORLD VISION LANKA TO SUPPORT THE MOST VULNURABLE COMMUNITIES IN SRI LANKA

