

Coca-Cola – UN-Habitat support for rain water harvesting project in Killinochchi

The Coca-Cola Foundation (TCCF) in partnership with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is supporting a water-scarce community in Killinochchi District to access potable water during the dry season through Rain Water Harvesting.

Implemented by UN-Habitat in close collaboration with the District Administration and the community, this project is establishing roof top Rain Water Harvesting (RWH) systems in 120 houses and 5 public buildings in Punnaineeravi GN Division in Killinochchi. To date, these systems have been completed in 40 houses while work is ongoing in a further 50 houses.

The initiative is also encouraging ground water recharging through focused community awareness programmes. Funded by The Coca-Cola Foundation, the project will be completed by October 2013.

The main aim of the project is to provide a sustainable solution for the community of Punnaineeravito access water during the dry season. As the Northern Province receives a large volume of rainfall during the Northeastern monsoon rains from December – February, collection of rain water will help fami-



lies access water easily during the ensuing dry season without the inconvenience of travelling long distances to fetch water. Currently, most families obtain drinking water from a water bowser, supplied by the Pradeshiya Sabha.

The project is providing each selected beneficiary family with a 3,000 litre plastic water tank for rain water collection together with PVC pipes, gutters and other vital components to establish the system. Each public building is provided with two 5,000 litre water tanks and components.

The rain water collected in the public buildings will also be used by

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community members during water scarce periods.

The beneficiary families and public buildings have been selected in consultation with the community and village administration in order to assist the most vulnerable beneficiaries who currently do not have

access to a permanent water source.

The Kallaru Women's Rural Development Society, a Community Based Organization active in the GN Division, is assisting UN-Habitat to implement the project by hiring skilled workers, purchasing building materials and monitoring progress.