

Peace & Community Action

Annual Report
1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013

Company Number G A 620
NGO Registration No: L. 32804



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'Peace & Community Action'

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1. Introduction

This report is the Peace & Community Action (PCA) Annual Report for 2012/13, summarising the activities and successes during the period 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013.

PCA is committed to enabling communities to:

- Understand and use non-violence in everyday life
- Support individuals and groups in understanding and exercising their human rights and responsibilities
- Support individuals and groups in learning how to participate in community decision making
- Support individuals and groups in creating empowered communities
- Support youth to take part in community development and being active citizens.

2. Overview

2.1. Registration

PCA is registered as an NGO at the National Secretariat for Non-Governmental Organisations. Registered Year: 2001, July 25, Registration No: L. 32804.

PCA's former name was Thirupthiya and it was incorporated as a Limited Company on November 26, 1999, under the Companies Act No 17 of 1982. The old company number was N(A) 811. Thirupthiya was officially renamed as Peace & Community Action on 2 August 2002. In accordance with company law, PCA was re-registered as a Guarantee Limited Company March 16, 2011, under Companies Act 7 of 2007. The new Company Number is GA 620.

2.2. Vision

PCA's vision is self-reliant people and communities trusting each other, taking responsibility and speaking up for themselves.

2.3. Mission

PCA's mission is to show and encourage people to adopt alternatives to their traditional ways of being and relating to other people by:

- Working with individuals, families, communities and people in positions of authority to help them become more self-aware; recognise the implications of their actions and decisions on themselves and other people; take responsibility for their own problems and find their own solutions to them
- Showing them alternative non-violence approaches to their relationships with others and supporting them to practise these

PCA manage and deliver a range of professional community-based programmes showing participants the impact of using non-violence in their relationships, and supporting them to learn and use these techniques in their own lives and communities.

PCA also run training courses for government officers and NGOs on non-violence approaches. After the 2004 tsunami PCA's peace work was extended to include supporting those in new housing schemes to integrate with their neighbours and host communities and access local government services. In this year PCA has also worked with villages in south and east Sri Lanka and has worked with young people in north, east and south Sri Lanka.

PCA works with communities from all ethnic and religious backgrounds, frequently bringing together people who are in dispute or disagreement.

- Encouraging them to develop genuine respect for others, recognising that every person, in particular marginalised people such as women and the disabled, also have feelings and needs and that everyone should be treated with equality and care
- Building strong relationships between people within communities and between communities, based on people's increasing understanding of each other
- Creating a group of skilled and committed non-violence activists who can model these approaches in their own lives, share them with others and work together to bring about societal change
- In the long term, transforming the environment for political decisions to one where there is more respect and understanding of the underlying needs of others.

2.4. Strategic Approach

- People are at the centre of what we do
- Programmes/projects will support people and communities in adopting non-violence as a way of living
- Programmes/projects will be participatory and empowering
- Human rights and conflict sensitivity will be embedded within all programmes
- Programmes/projects will demonstrate and deliver value for money
- Monitoring and evaluation will add value and evidence outcomes
- Resources will be effectively and efficiently managed
- PCA is committed to working in effective partnerships
- Equalities and diversity will be embedded into everything that we do

- PCA is committed to continuous improvement, learning and staff training
- PCA aims to be a socially responsible organisation.

2.5. Membership Networks

- Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies (CHA), Sri Lanka
- Quaker Peace and Social Witness (QPSW)
- International Action Network on Small Arms
- Co-existence Initiative
- South Asian Peace Alliance (SAPA)
- Alliance for Self-Reliance Peacebuilding
- Sri Lanka Consortium for Conflict Sensitivity
- Global Conflict Sensitivity Consortium.

2.6. PCA's Record to Date

PCA has a history of delivering successful projects and programmes using a selection of professional tools

and methodologies. This includes the development and delivery of workshops, coaching and mentoring, support for community initiatives, and partnership working.

PCA has a highly trained and professional staff group who are experts in their fields and committed to the values of the organisation. PCA has a flexible approach to staffing by having a combination of core corporate and project staff. This enables the organisation to be responsive to projects whilst ensuring the effective and efficient use of resources. In accordance with its values PCA has a staff team drawn from the Sinhalese, Tamil and Muslim communities.

Effective outcomes-based monitoring and evaluation is a key component to measuring the success of PCA's work. Both quantitative and qualitative measures are used.



3. Board of Directors

Membership of the Board is detailed in the table below:

Table 1: PCA's Board of Directors		
Name	PCA Position	Position
Ruvanthy Sivapragasam (Chair)	Director	Country Representative, Voluntary Service Overseas Sri Lanka
Fr Chris Rajendram	Director	Director of FNVC; Senior Lecturer at Trincomalee Campus, Eastern University of Sri Lanka
Malathi Thalagodapitiya	Director	Former CHA Chair
Shanmuham Senthurajah	Director	Director of SOND
Rebecca Booker	Director	Planning & Control Lead, CSU London
C G Corporate Consultants (Private) Limited	Company Secretary	Non-voting
T Thayaparan	PCA National Co-ordinator	Non-voting

The Board held four meetings during the year. Board members gave their full support to PCA to continue its works despite the challenges to peace work in Sri Lanka.



4. Chairperson's Statement

Welcome to the 2012/13 PCA Annual Report. PCA continues to show commitment and passion for its values and mission and I would like to take this opportunity to thank both the Directors and staff of the organisation for all their hard work and dedication.

In last year's report I highlighted cultural exchange as a positive theme. This year PCA has increased its activities to bring together Muslim, Tamil and Sinhalese people. I have been delighted with the exchanges that took place between communities in Matara and Ampara through the Intercommunity Understanding Project. Around 100 people were hosted by counterparts, learning about different cultures together carrying out 'Shramadana' – good will gestures such as cleaning a hospital in Ampara and building a school fence in Matara.

Likewise, the EU project's learning exchanges and tours brought together people from north, south, east and west Sri Lanka, with participants learning professional skills from each other.

The outcomes have been extremely positive in changing negative views and overcoming prejudice, to the extent that most participants now recognise the importance that cultural integration has in maintaining peace in Sri Lanka.

During this year PCA also positioned itself as a national expert on reconciliation policy, and, furthermore, in bringing this to local people. Through the EU project three district events took place in Ampara, Batticaloa, and Matara, in which PCA worked with local people to raise awareness of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission's report and to prioritise reconciliation recommendations for the districts. Next year we aim to take these priorities to a national audience and to begin work to address them.



It has been a difficult year at times, however. As with all NGOs we have needed to maintain a continuous focus on financial strategy and sustainability, and staff have risen to these challenges in a positive, pro-active and flexible way. This is a clear sign of the strength and professionalism of the organisation and people who work within it.

PCA began as a grassroots level peace organisation and continues to build up excellent networks, relationships and partnerships within communities, with partner organisations and with government agencies. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our valued partners and donors for their continued support.

As always communities have been at the heart of the organisation. It is an honour and a privilege to be Chair of the Board for PCA.

Ruvanthi Sivapragasam, Chairperson

5. National Co-ordinator's Report

I am very pleased to be able to report on the successful work completed by PCA during the financial year 2012/13. We have achieved much this year despite the difficult context in which we work. PCA's experienced staff team has worked hard over long hours and the Board of Directors has stood alongside us as we have adapted to the changing environment.

PCA's work in conflict resolution, reconciliation and the rebuilding of communities in the aftermath of the country's internal conflict continues to be our principal focus. With the withdrawal of INGOs from Sri Lanka it has become even more important for NGOs to take up the reins to help those most in need. PCA continues to play a significant role nationally and locally in this respect.

We play an active role in a number of key networks within Sri Lanka and in the wider region, most notably within the Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies, the South Asia Peace Alliance and the Global Conflict Sensitivity Consortium. We bring our fieldwork experience and training in non-violence to these forums, and in the case of the Conflict Sensitivity Consortium we sit as the only representative of the local NGO network within a predominantly INGO network.

2012/13 saw the completion of a number of projects, and the continuation of others. Details of these projects can be found in Appendix 1.

"Training the trainers" is central to our community development strategy enabling the experience and expertise we have developed to be passed on to others and to cascade down to grassroots level. As we go forward we hope to work in an increasing number of contexts to improve facilitation, mediation and conflict resolution skills within local communities, workplaces and government services. In this way we hope to empower people in all walks of life to contribute to community development, participate in decisions that will impact on their lives, and to play a greater part in civil society.

In June 2011 PCA started an EU-EIDHR funded project in partnership with VSO and other national NGOs lasting 30 months. During 2012/13 we have continued our work with local partners in Ampara, Matara and Batticaloa districts to strengthen their organisational development capacity and their ability to work with communities to ensure the protection and promotion of democracy and human rights at the local level. A highlight for me were three District Level Engagement Events we led in Ampara, Batticaloa and Matara, which allowed us to work with local people to increase their understanding of reconciliation issues, and to begin planning action to address them.

PCA continues to provide training programmes to national and international organisations. This year, linked to the EU-EIDHR project, we were able to carry out training and workshops for other partners on conflict



resolution, transformation and conflict sensitivity. This not only developed their capacity in these areas, but also helped us to strengthen our own capacity to deliver standard programmes in the field.

I would like to acknowledge the particular help Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) has given PCA over the last year in building our organisational capacity and the professional development of the staff. I would like to bid a fond farewell on behalf of PCA to VSO volunteer Rebecca Booker for all her passion, commitment and hard work, and welcome VSO volunteer Paul Knipe who joined us as management and project advisor in 2012. This year PCA was delighted to host interns from Myanmar for three months in the east and south of Sri Lanka. This was a great opportunity to develop relationships with colleagues internationally, and to share skills and experiences with the interns.

PCA head office was shifted to Matara from Akkaraipattu in 2012/13 period. We are currently finalising arrangements for a new office in Kalmunai as we will soon begin new projects in the east.

At this time of uncertainty in the NGO sector PCA continues to focus on its own sustainability plans. This includes maintaining the flexibility of the organisation and looking at options for increasing income generation. We are prepared and ready to face the challenges ahead in our aim to continue making a valued contribution to improving the quality of people's lives across the island.

It is my privilege to lead on this work with a team of professional staff and a Board that are committed to PCA's aims, objectives and core values. I thank them, our funders and our partners for their commitment and support, and I look forward to working with them on another full year of activity ahead. Let us walk and work together with increased passion and determination on the path of non-violence.

T Thayaparan, National Co-ordinator

6. Organisational Capacity and Resources

6.1. PCA Offices

In 2012/13 the Head Office was located at 33 New Lane, Uyanwatta, Matara. During the period the office in Akkaraipattu at 71A, Ampara Road, Akkaraipattu, Sri Lanka was shut.

As at 31 March 2013 the PCA registered office is 53 Mamangam Road, Batticaloa. The Head Office is in Matara: at 33, New Lane, Uyanwatta.

6.2. Staffing

The table below details PCA staff in 2012/13. The names of former staff who worked on projects which came to an end in 2012/2013 are included and we thank them again for their time and contribution to PCA.

Position	Name
National Co-ordinator	T. Thayaparan
National Finance Officer	S. Sivananthiny
District Co-ordinator (Matara)	S.D. Sureka Batagoda
District Co-ordinator (Ampara)	T. Rajendran
Peace Coach	Upul Priyadarshana
VSO Volunteer	Rebecca Booker (left December 2012)
VSO Volunteer	Paul Knipe (joined December 2012)
Peace coach	Ruvini Guniyangoda
Peace coach	Amal Chathuranga
Field officer	Chathurika
Field officer	Lakmal Sandeepa
Office assistant	Ranjana Singithirathna

6.3. Training Manual

In 2012/13 PCA completed the printing of a comprehensive training manual in Sinhala. The manual comprises PCA's training methodologies and materials and is based on PCA's established record in training and consultancy, and complements the manuals in English and Tamil.

6.4. PCA flyer

In 2012/13 PCA developed and printed a flyer to market the organisation, and to support with fundraising and resource mobilisation activities.

7. Funders

In addition to PCA's individual donors, friends and supporters we would like to thank the following funders for their support during 2012/13:

ARBEITER SAMARITER BUND (ASB)
THE BRITISH COUNCIL SRI LANKA
CARE SRI LANKA
CAFOD
SOUTH ASIAN PEACE ALLIANCE (SAPA)
VOLUNTARY SERVICE OVERSEAS (VSO)
EUROPEAN UNION (EU)
THABYAY

Appendix 1 – Project Summaries

PCA was involved in a number of successful projects during the year 2012/13. Below provides brief details of these projects. More details are available upon request from PCA's offices.

Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Democracy Through a Stronger Civil Society in Sri Lanka	
District(s)	Ampara, Batticaloa, Colombo, Jaffna, Matara, Puttalam, Trincomalee, Vavuniya
Project Funder	European Union, European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EU-EIDHR)
Project Timescales	30 June 2011 to 30 November 2013
Project Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To empower and unite civil society in promoting and protecting human rights and democratic governance To build a strong, broad-based, and island-wide coalition of civil society organisations focused on securing the civil and political rights of the most disadvantaged groups in conflict affected communities.
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased capacity of 5 partners and up to thirty of their target group organisations in (i) organisational and financial management, (ii) specific areas of programming, such as conflict sensitivity, and (iii) working together towards a common objective The creation of a broad-based and island-wide coalition of organisations that has identified and begun to work effectively on one or more priority national reconciliation issue(s).

Global Xchange	
District(s)	Ampara, Sri Lanka and Northern Ireland, UK
Project Funder	British Council and VSO
Project Timescales	November 2011 to May 2012
Project Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating a network of young people Community development Personal development.
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CBOs and NGOs supported by volunteers Shared learning between CBOs, NGOs and volunteers Shared learning between partner families and volunteers Volunteers develop their understanding of community development Volunteers develop as a group and individuals through practical experience and learning A young people's network developed Changed attitudes of key partners and stakeholders.

Recover to Serve	
District(s)	Ampara, Batticaloa, Galle, Hambantota and Matara
Project Funder	Arbeiter Samariter Bund Deutschland (ASB)
Project Timescales	1 July 2009 to 30 June 2012
Project Objectives	To work with community groups to improve their skills in conflict prevention, crisis management and peace building
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a group of experienced people in each district who will have skills in conflict prevention, crisis management and peace building. They will spread the benefits of their experience to the wider community • There will be both networks of individuals and groups within and between the districts, and between the districts and Colombo, working to improve conflict prevention, crisis management and peace building through their shared experiences and supporting each other in activities • The learning of the project, building skills that are suitable for and designed in Sri Lanka, will be written down and published so that others, both inside and outside the districts, can benefit • The increased peace, security and stability of several communities in these districts.



Intercommunity Understanding Project	
District(s)	Dickwella, Malimbada and Thihagoda DS Divisions in Matara
Project Funder	CAFOD
Project Timescales	June 2009 to June 2013
Project Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enable communities in the Dickwella, Malimbada and Thihagoda DS Divisions in Matara to be self-reliant and to take the initiative to resolve their own problems • Government officers and community leaders will be practicing non-violence approaches and process to build the relationship between themselves and the community • Government field services are improved to all the communities in the Dickwella division.
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved services to the community by government officers • Improved infrastructure supporting village facilities through increased involvement of villagers in discussions about their needs with government officers and NGOs • Individuals take responsibility for exploring with others alternative ways to fulfil their needs • Positive interactions in the relationships within the communities and between Government officers and communities has been increased • Field government staff have been trained and supported to use non-violence process in their work • More people sharing their feelings and expressing their needs so that violence and conflict among the community and between the community and government officers has been reduced.

Internship Asia	
District(s)	Ampara and Matara
Project Funder	Thabyay, Myanmar
Project Timescales	March 2013 to May 2013
Project Objectives	Building capacity of volunteers with more knowledge and skills on conflict and Human Rights related matters
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers are able to increase their understanding about conflict transformation in different contexts of conflict • Volunteers have experience of non-violence in action by participating in the Intercommunity Understanding Project activities • Non-violence basic knowledge is introduced • Participants experience the local culture and life by living with local host families.

The Practice of Conflict Sensitivity – Concept to Impact

District(s)	UK, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka and Kenya
Project Funder	DFID via CARE International
Project Timescales	September 2009 to April 2012
Project Objectives	To improve policies and practices that support Conflict Sensitive Approaches (CSA) across a broad network of NGOs, local partners and donor agencies.
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared understanding of CSA across a network of international and local development, humanitarian and peace building organisations • Lessons and recommendations for mainstreaming effective CSA across a range of contexts and sectors disseminated to policy makers, donors and practitioners • Strengthened expertise and capacity among member organisations and civil society partners to institutionalise and implement CSA, at HQ and local levels • Partners include ActionAid; CAFOD; International Alert; Plan International; RedR UK Responding to Conflict; Saferworld; Save the Children UK; Skillshare International; World Vision; Sierra Leone Red Cross Society, Sierra Leone Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (SLANGO); ENCISS.

International Project South Asian Peace Alliance

District(s)	South Asian Region
Project Funder	Quaker Peace and Social Witness (QPSW)
Project Timescales	August 2006 ongoing
Project Objectives	To advance the growth of real peace in the South Asian Region by improving self understanding as well as relationships and the understanding between people and communities, thereby reducing the likelihood of violent behaviour and conflict.
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To build a movement in South Asia that shares insights and experiences of the root causes of structural violence in the region and moves towards building a South Asian identity to resolve issues • To act in cooperation with the region's marginalised people to nurture the seeds of active non-violence that challenge the structures of violence • To build the capacity of young women and men to facilitate non-violent change in local communities and to deepen the democracy at grassroots level • To work with other non-violent actors to contribute towards the development of a global non-violence movement and develop a culture of peace.

International Project Active Citizen	
District(s)	Ampara, Sri Lanka and Northern Ireland, UK
Project Funder	British Council
Project Timescales	January 2012 to December 2012
Project Objectives	<p>Active Citizens are young, empowered leaders who bring positive change in their communities through constructive social action. The Active Citizens programme promotes community cohesion and intercultural dialogue through civic engagement and volunteering globally.</p> <p>It aims to contribute to positive social change locally and globally by establishing an enduring international network of young leaders who act together to address grassroots initiatives around the world. It also encourages these young leaders to play a bigger role in their local communities by engaging influencers through dialogue, and through civic engagement with community based organisations.</p> <p>The Active Citizens programme links civil society, community leaders and other networks in Pakistan, the United Kingdom, and other countries. It aims to deepen trust and understanding within and between communities. Participants gain various skills including cross-cultural communication and multicultural dialogue, and its effective role in community action.</p>
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a stronger sense of their own culture and identity through engagement with other cultures • Increased knowledge and understanding of how their local community works and its links to the rest of the world • Take action to improve society through sustainable initiatives • Work effectively with diverse groups of people • become skilled in cross-cultural communication and dialogue, and its effective role in community action • Work together to address the global issues of the 21st Century.



Appendix 2 – Audited Accounts

Below is a balance sheet for PCA as of 31 March 2013:

PCA Balance Sheet		
Item	LKR	LKR
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:		
Property, plant and equipment		1,362,084.16
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash at bank and in hand		3,944,645.79
TOTAL ASSETS:		5,306,729.95
ACCUMULATED FUND:		
Balance on 1 April 2012	4,772,675.37	
Add: excess of expenditure over income	(1,094,006.68)	3,678,668.69
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Provision for gratuity		1,367,360.69
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Provision for taxation	80,700.57	
Accrued charges	180,000.00	260,700.57
		5,306,729.95
INCOME:		
Active Citizen Programme	957,500.00	
VSO – EU Programme	944,415.61	
CAFOD Intercommunity Understanding Project (2012-13)	7,064,750.00	
Recovery to Serve	420,914.87	
VSO small grant	104,708.20	
Internship Asia	57,015.00	
Internship Asia Supporting Costs	57,550.00	
Other resources	1,247,820.51	
TOTAL INCOME		10,854,674.19
Less: taxation		80,697.57
		10,773,976.62
LESS EXPENSES:		
Active Citizen Programme	634,356.39	
CAFOD Intercommunity Understanding Project (2012-13)	5,263,135.92	
CAFOD Intercommunity Understanding Project (2011-12)	1,934,624.62	
Recover to Serve	420,914.87	
VSO – EU Programme	1,101,220.61	
Peace & Community Action	2,353,880.89	11,867,983.30
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME		(1,094,006.68)



