

PEACE & COMMUNITY ACTION

Company Number G A 620

NGO Registration No: L. 32804

Annual Report

1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015



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'Peace & Community Action'



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1. Introduction

This report is the Peace & Community Action (PCA) Annual Report for 2014/15, summarising the activities and successes during the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015.

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.

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. This PCA have continued to work with villages in the south and east Sri Lanka as well as 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.

2. Overview

1.1. 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.

1.2. Vision

PCA's vision is to create self-reliant people and communities who trust each other, take responsibility and speak up for themselves.

1.3. 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.
- Teaching them alternative non-violent approaches to their relationships with others and supporting them to practise these.
- Encouraging them to develop genuine respect for others, recognising that every person, particularly marginalised people such as 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-violent 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.

1.4. 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.

1.5. Membership Networks

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

1.6. 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 are 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

PCA’s highly experienced Board of Directors is committed to conflict resolution and community development and are actively involved in leading and managing the organisation. In addition to strategic planning and management advice the Board ensures the proper functioning of the organisation legally, financially and in staff employment practices.

Membership of the Board is detailed in the table below:

Table 1: PCA’s Board

Name	PCA Position	Position
Ruvanthi Sivapragasam (Chair)	Director	Country Representative, Voluntary Services 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 2014/15 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 organization for all their hard work and dedication.



This year PCA has increased its activities to bring together Muslim, Tamil and Sinhalese people. I have been delighted with the exchanges that have continued to take place between communities in Jaffna and Ampara through the Intercommunity Understanding Project. Around 60 people were hosted by counterparts, learning about different cultures together carrying out 'Shramadana' – good will gestures such a clean-up campaign in clearing a school and building a community bus shelter. Likewise, the SPICE 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 recognize 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 SPICE project PCA worked with local people to raise awareness of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission's report and to prioritize reconciliation recommendations for the districts. Next year we aim to take these priorities to a national audience with the new president and parliament 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 our staffs 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 organization and people who work within it.

PCA began as a grassroots level peace organization and continues to build up excellent networks, relationships and partnerships within communities, with partner organizations 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 organization. It is an honor and a privilege to be Chair of the Board for PCA.

RuvanthiSivapragasam

Chair

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 2014/15. We have achieved much this year despite the difficult fundraising conditions 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 post war environment continues to be our principal focus. With the shift in the political landscape after the Presidential elections, and the continued 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.

PCA currently functions at the new office in Kalmunai as we will begin new projects in the east. 2014/15 saw the completion of a number of projects, and the continuation of others. Details of these projects can be found in Appendix 1 attached.

"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.

Since May 2014 under the SPICE project, we selected youth from Tamil, Muslim and Sinhala communities from Ampara and Malimbada districts. Here, 36 youths were selected, and trained in non-violent communication and peace building. They shared their knowledge to 540 peer group members throughout the project period by conducting peer group meetings as well as sharing with the 144 family members. Through personal communication and community meetings, the communities now take an active cultural role in overcoming conflict thanks to those who participated in the exchange programme. Meanwhile as our EAVA project comes to the end of a successful second year, we look forward to more progress in EAVA's upcoming final year.

PCA continues to provide training programmes to national and international organisations. This year, we were able to carry out training and workshops for other NGO's and governmental officials 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 in particular the help of Nina Ross who over the last year in building our fundraising capacity and the training of three British interns, Patrick Llewin, Jed Matthews and Georgia Whitaker Hughes. Nina who joined us as our new Global Fundraiser in 2014 has helped us to strengthen our capacity and write proposals during this financial period.

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

1.7. PCA Offices

In 2014/15 the Head Office was located at Manalchenai Road, Kalmunai while the legal office is located at 53, Mamangam Road, Batticaloa.

1.8. Staffing

The table below details PCA staff in 2014/15. The names of former staff who worked on projects which came to an end in 2014/2015 are included and we thank them again for their time and contribution to PCA.

PCA Staffing 2014/15

Position	Name
National Co-ordinator	T. Thayaparan
National Finance officer	M.D.Victor
Programme Manager	C.Nandakumar
Programme Manager	I.Suthavasan
District Co-ordinator (Ampara)	T. Rajendran
Global Fundraiser	Nina Ross
Peace coach	M.M.Sameer
Peace coach	M.G.RandimaLankani
Project Officer	K.T.Rohini
Project Officer	S.Shifani Mohamed
Project Officer	Amal.C.H
Admin Assistant	V. Kumuthuni
Finance Assistant	P.Yukethakantha
Office Assistant	T.Uthayarani
Security Guard	S.Suntharamoorthi

2. Funders

In addition to PCA's individual donors, friends and supporters we would like to thank the following funders for their support during 2014/15

British Council

CAFOD

US AID



Appendix 1 – Project Summaries

PCA was involved in a number of successful projects during the year 2014/15. Below provides brief details of these projects. More details are available upon request from PCA's offices.

International Project Active Citizen

District(s)	Ampara District in Srilanka and Northern Ireland in the UK.
Project Funder	British Council.
Project Timescales	April 2014 to March 2015.
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 grass-root initiatives around the world. It also encourages these young leaders to play a bigger role in their local communities by engaging thought 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
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EAVA (Equal Active Voice Ampara)

District(s)	South and Eastern regions. (Ampara and Matara Districts)
Project Funder	Cafod
Project Timescales	3 stages: 1 st stage August 2013 to July 2014, 2 nd stage August 2014- July 2015, 3 rd stage August 2015- July 2016
Project Objectives	<p>To enable communities in the Malimbada DS Divisions in Matara district and Sammanthurai and Navithanvely DS divisions in Ampara district to be self- reliant and to take the initiative to resolve their own problems.</p> <p>Government officers and community leaders will practice non-violent approaches and processes to build the relationship between themselves and the community.</p>
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement of community services from government officers. • Individuals take responsibility for exploring alternative ways to fulfil their needs with others.

- Positive interactions in the relationships within communities and between Government officers and communities has increased.
- Government staff who work in the field have been trained and supported to use NVC process in their work.
- More people share their feelings and express their needs so that violence and conflict among the community people and between the community and government officers can be reduced.

SPICE

District(s)	Matara, Ampara
Project Funder	US AID
Project Timescales	15.05.2015- 31.05.2015
Project Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve awareness in ways to overcome conflict peacefully, lessen ethnic and religious prejudice, support and enable peaceful dialogue and integration between cultures. • To create youth leaders who will engage in community welfare projects and promote non-violent principles.
Intended Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sinhalese, Tamils and Muslims Youths in selected Divisional Secretariat Divisions in Ampara and Matara Districts actively participate in community leadership through enhanced their knowledge and skills to take part as community leaders, social activists, and practitioners of non-violent roles.

Appendix 2 – Audited Accounts


Below is a balance sheet for PCA as of 31st March 2015

PEACE AND COMMUNITY ACTION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2015

	Note	2015 SLR	2014 SLR
NON CURRENT ASSET:-			
Property, Plant and Equipment	(1)	307,660.69	390,520.84
CURRENT ASSETS:-			
Receivable:-			
Refundable Deposit		100,000.00	100,000.00
Staff Loan & Advance	(2)	927,010.00	1,000,000.00
Cash at Bank & In Hand	(3)	5,305,450.47	3,706,309.77
		<u>6,332,460.47</u>	<u>4,806,309.77</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>6,640,121.16</u>	<u>5,196,830.61</u>
ACCUMULATED FUND:-			
Balance on 1.4.2014		4,974,788.89	3,678,668.69
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure		1,516,418.34	1,296,120.20
		<u>6,491,207.23</u>	<u>4,974,788.89</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provision for Taxation	(4)	118,913.93	72,041.72
Accrued Expenses	(5)	30,000.00	150,000.00
		<u>148,913.93</u>	<u>222,041.72</u>
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		<u>6,640,121.16</u>	<u>5,196,830.61</u>


It is certified that the financial statement has been prepared in compliance with the requirement of the Companies Act no: 07 of 2007.

ACCOUNTANT


Mr M D Victor 3/7/2015

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and presentation of Financial Statement, signed for and behalf of the Board of Directors by,

DIRECTOR


Mr T Thayaparan
03/07/2015

