



National Peace Council of Sri Lanka

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Vision

A just and peaceful Sri Lanka, in which the freedom, human rights and democratic rights of all peoples are assured.

Mission

To work in partnership with different target groups to educate, mobilise and advocate building a society of rights-conscious citizens and a political solution to the ethnic conflict and equal opportunities for all.

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About NPC

The National Peace Council (NPC) was established as an independent and non-partisan national non-government organisation on 2 February, 1995. The formation of NPC was the culmination of a process that began with a campaign against election violence in July 1994, launched by an inter religious group of individuals and organisations. The interventions made by this group during the 1994 Presidential election campaign specifically, and for a peaceful and permanent resolution to the protracted conflict generally, led to the organisation of the first National Peace Conference the same year. The vision and mandate of NPC were formulated at this conference, leading to the establishment of NPC the following year.

In order to achieve its overall goal - that of the establishment of a long-term, viable solution to the ethnic conflict - NPC is committed to the creation of a culture of peace that upholds the values of non-violence, respect for human rights and the free expression of ideas.

Members of the Board of Directors

- Mr. Tony Senewiratne – Chairman of the Board
- Dr. Thangamuthu Jayasingam – Treasurer/Senior Lecturer Eastern University
- Mr. G. V. D. Thilakasiri – General Secretary/Secretary Free Trade Union Development Centre
- Mr. Javid Yusuf – Attorney at Law/former Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Dr. Anita Nesiah – Advisor Policy Advocacy
- Dr. Jehan Perera – Executive Director
- Prof. S. H. Hasbullah – Department of Geography University of Peradeniya
- Ven. Buddhiyegama Chandrarathne Thero – President Vanni Cultural Foundation Puttalam
- Prof. M. S. Mookiah – Former Vice Chancellor Eastern University
- Joe William - Director, Fomer Chairman

Members of the Governing Council

- All members of the Board of Directors
- Mr. John V. Thamber - Former Additional Director Social Services Department
- Sr. Mary Barbara - Provincial Councillor Apostolic Carmel
- Mr. R. M. B. Senanayake - Former Director of Combined Services
- Ms. Visaka Dharmadasa - Chairperson Association of War Affected Women
- Mr. M. H. M. Niyas - Chairman Media Link/Steering Committee Member of Muslim Council/Director Lanka Salt Limited
- Ms. Saroja Sivachandran - Director Centre for Women & Development
- Rev. A. Iyadurai - J. P. All Island/Formal Director Educational Services SLBC
- Ms. Padmini Rajadurai



Staff Members

Dr. Jehan Perera	Executive Director
Mr. Kishan Ratnayake *	Programme Manager
Ms. Sumangalie Athulugama	Programme Manager
Mr. S. Palaninathan *	Special Projects Manager
Ms. Rupika Chandani	Finance Manager
Ms. Marlene Machado *	Administration Manager
Ms. Krishni Sourjah	Administration Manager
Ms. Pushpa Ranjanie	Project Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation
Mr. W. H. Saman Seneviratne	Senior Project Officer
Mr. B. Rukmal S. N. Silva	Project Officer
Mr. Sarath Karunaratne	Driver
Mr. T.M. Wajira Tennakoon *	Driver
Mr. K.S. Ranaweera *	Driver
Mr. Upendra Perera	Technical Assistant, Publications
Mr. Ajith Wickremasinghe	Accounts Assistant
Ms. Suganiya Sathanandan	Accounts Assistant
Ms. Rasika Seneviratne	Project Officer
Mr. Rohitha Wickramarachchi	Graphic Designer/Administrative Assistant
Mr. B. Ranjeewa Indika Perera	Project Officer
Mr. Thiyaga C. Kumara Bandara	Project Officer
Mr. P. Navanetharan	Office Aide
Mr. Thushal Dhammika	Project Coordinator
Mr. Benet A. Samantha	Coordinator, IT
Mrs. Vagisha Gunasekara	Project Coordinator
Mr. Fazal Mohomad	Senior Project Officer
Mr. T. Vaigunthan	Project Officer, Monitoring and Evaluation
Mr. Shantha Mahindapala #	Assistant Project Coordinator
Ms. Thilini Madiwela *	Programme Assistant
Mr. N.P.M. Shakeer *	Assistant Programme Coordinator
Mr. M. Manimaran *	Assistant Programme Coordinator
Ms. Vathsala Yatigamage *	Report Writer
Ms. Tharshiny Gnanalingam *	Typist
Mr. A. Francis	Driver

* Left employment during the year

Left employment and re-employed on short term basis

Chairman's Message

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times; it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness; it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity; it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness; it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair; we had everything before us, we had nothing before us." Charles Dickens "A Tale of Two Cities"

The above line of literature is considered to be one of the finest ever written as it juxtaposes hope with despair, optimism with pessimism. The book that this is taken from ends with an even more poignant statement and reflects the practical action of these introspective thoughts.

Most, if not all, people in a cyclical period experience both the angst and effervescent periods of life. However, for some, that balance is at one extreme or another. A rather well to do and short-sighted friend of mine recently commented that "Sri Lanka is really doing well and how dare people say otherwise". This great wisdom was based on the fact she had bought a packet of lunch for Rs. 80 and saw lots of construction work in Colombo accompanied by bright lights at night. To others, it is a desperate struggle to survive with the barest minimum in the harshest conditions with little or no hope in the near future. Tossed into this is the scenario of the underserved population with the rising spectre of human rights and justice, or injustice as is more commonplace currently. This, at most times, is even more overpowering than the crushing burden of deprivation and destitution.

We are strongly aware that rights and justice alongside development goals are the essential posts of a peaceful society. Until we are able to achieve both in measureable quantities, that vision remains an illusive dream. The struggle to achieve this goal cannot be by just the one or a few voices clamouring to be heard. It needs all the stakeholders to work as one. Internally the state, corporates, institutions, religious bodies, NGOs and, above all, civil society itself must work together seamlessly in pursuance of this goal that everyone wants. To achieve this, we need the assistance of the external stakeholders but currently it seems like there is a mission to alienate most of them. Whether the few we rely on will come through when the going gets tough remains to be seen. The present trend belies such optimism.

NPC has worked hard in this past year to bring some of the key stakeholders to the table and we will continue with this process in the hope and strongest of beliefs that dialogue between opposing parties with win-win goals is the only hope for a long and lasting peace until at last and at some point we can definitively state, in conjunction with the opening lines of this message, that "It is a far, far better thing that we do, than we have done before."

Tony Senewiratne



General Secretary's Message

Despite the passage of three years after the end of the war, Sri Lanka still has not been able to achieve long lasting peace with the consensual agreement of its political leaders. On the one hand, Sinhala and Tamil political leaders have not been able to come to an agreement for achieving reconciliation after the destruction of war. On the other hand, ruling and opposition politicians have also not been able to reach agreement on how to change the country in a manner that suits the needs of the nation.

In order to make the transformation into a modern democratic country, Sri Lanka would have to undergo many changes in several areas including the highly centralised constitution, the district electoral system, foreign domination of the economy and the strengthening of democratic institutions, among others. The Sri Lankan people have a long journey to make before they achieve peace and democracy in the country.



NPC strongly believes that a lasting solution will be one that comes from within our land with discussion and agreement of political leaders of all nationalities. But internal discussion is still weak. Tamil leaders blame the Government and appeal to other countries to take up their grievances. This is like fuel to extremist religious groups. NPC stands for the unity of the Sri Lankan nation and sovereignty of the country, and we urge political leaders of all nationalities to continue their discussion for an internal solution to the ethnic problem.

NPC notes that the Government has pledged to take steps to speedily implement the recommendations of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission. However, it is held back by lack of resources and by the slow pace of political discussion with opposition parties. Sri Lanka needs friendly support and not economic threats or embargoes from the international community. We hope that South Asian countries, international governments and donors strengthen their engagement with the conflicting parties and also pressurise them to engage in negotiations to find a mutually acceptable solution.

I take this opportunity to thank the Directors of the NPC Board, Governing Council members, all staff, District Committee members, and our foreign friends and donors who give material and non-material resources to fulfil our tasks. I believe NPC and other like-minded civil society groups will work together with the Government to create a Sri Lankan nation on the basis of equal rights and the devolution of power to protect the democratic rights of all people. This is indeed the basis for economic development and national harmony and the way to become the miracle of Asia.

G. V. D. Tilakasiri

Executive Director's Message

Where NPC's work was concerned, the renewed international interest in promoting reconciliation in Sri Lanka was the most salient feature of 2012. This was the year that saw the passage of the US-sponsored resolution calling for the implementation of the constructive recommendations of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) at the March 2012 session of the UN Human Rights Council. NPC was one of the first civil society organisations that took on the challenge of educating the general population in the country on the LLRC.



Among tasks undertaken by NPC in the year under review was to strengthen the peace building capacities of its key partner organisations in different and representative parts of the country. This was in recognition of the shrinking space for reconciliation due to a macro environment that was becoming increasingly hostile to national reconciliation. At the same time, NPC recognised the importance of engagement with the Government and obtaining its support in any work towards reconciliation. NPC members are on Governmental advisory bodies in the areas of social integration and reconstruction.

The most hopeful initiative of NPC was the successful completion of a two year project targeting inter religious relationship building, which culminated in a national conference attended by over 170 delegates drawn from all religious communities. The manner in which the inter religious representatives of the 12 districts negotiated with each other regarding a consensual statement that they wished to present to the entire group was instructive as an experience in community level reconciliation and trust building. They demonstrated on a micro level what is necessary to be done at the macro level by the large political actors.

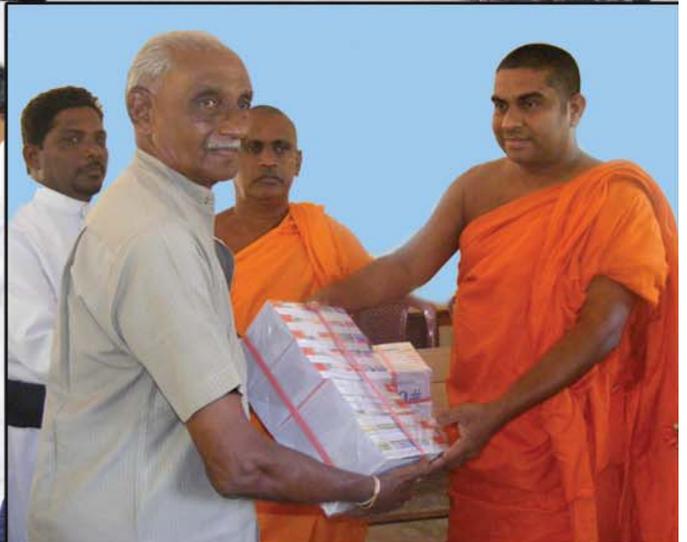
NPC hosted 2011 Nobel Peace Prize winner Leymah Gbowee from Liberia at a meeting attended by Government and opposition members, business and civil society leaders and diplomats. Ms. Gbowee said "If fairness, justice and democracy are the tenets of your country, women will be brought into decision making positions, they will not be seen as burdens but will be supported and all people will be treated as equals..."

She observed that "the clashes of ideologies are fought over the bodies of women and children." Unlike men who see each war as different, women see sameness in all wars - this is the suffering that war brings and the need of women to protect their families. The LLRC has stressed the welfare needs of war affected women and women-headed households as matters that need urgent priority, so the Government needs to consider giving women a driving seat in the implementation of the LLRC Action Plan.

We are appreciative of our dedicated staff members who have been taking risks on the ground to ensure that NPC continues with its mission, and to members of the Board and Governing Council who have donated liberally of their time and expertise to give guidance and leadership even in unfavourable circumstances. We are grateful to our donors who have trusted us and rely on us to do our work in a systematic and organised manner.

Jehan Perera

Peace, People, Participation



Programmes and Projects

In keeping with its vision and mission, in 2012 NPC focused its work in three broad areas that embody peace, people and participation.

- Advocacy and dissemination of information on peace, reconciliation and conflict resolution;
- Promoting democracy and reconciliation through transitional justice; and
- Strengthening civil society organisations to promote inter ethnic cooperation and social cohesion at grassroot level.

Advocacy and Dissemination of Information on Peace, Reconciliation and Conflict Resolution

Despite the end of the 30-year war, peace and reconciliation have yet to come to Sri Lanka, which is still grappling with the problem of sharing power between the ethnic majority and minorities. Although the war has ended, the conflict continues. This is compounded by the fact that current system of governance is at present a highly centralised system.

Public institutions are used to promote and safeguard the Government in power and the decisions it makes rather than to impose a system of checks and balances upon it. This includes state institutions such as the police and the administrative service. Even privately-owned media come under pressure to conform. The public needs to hear an unbiased and objective voice in order to make informed decisions on a variety of concerns, including the ethic issue.

Media Advocacy



NPC provides a nonpartisan voice in the form of its monthly newspaper, Thulawa, which in 2012 began publication in Tamil and English in addition to the Sinhala paper that started in 2008. The papers are sent to libraries across the country and to academics, NGO officials and the diplomatic community. The newspaper presents an alternative voice to mainstream media, as well as highlighting NPC's work and activities.

As part of its educational and advocacy work, NPC disseminated a number of political commentaries and press releases that were published in the mass media in three languages. These

materials often presented a different point of view and endeavoured to be a voice of reason during challenging times.

“Thulawa is one of the important newspapers that is published monthly. Its coverage of power sharing, democracy and social issues are of great interest to us. It also reports on important national and international developments. Thulawa carries investigative, analytical stories that create public awareness and are of assistance to university students and political analysts in their writing.”

**Thilak Ranaweera
Eppawala**

Public Mourning Must Be Permitted To Take Place In The North

"In the past two years memorial services conducted by the people of the North have been viewed with suspicion and even been prevented by governmental authorities due to the perception that such memorial services are meant for the LTTE...However, people who have suffered and lost so much in the past need to go through the process of remembering and grieving in order to become healed personalities. The mourning and remembering of lost ones in the month of May is an important and indispensable part of the process of coming to terms with the past. If this part of the healing process is blocked there can be no moving forward to the future and to reconciliation that transcends the past. The National Peace Council calls upon the government to permit all public mourning and remembrance activities in the North so that the deepest sentiments of the people are respected as was allowed belatedly by the Allies for the German people." NPC Press Release, May 21, 2012

North-South Bridge



NPC facilitated an enduring relationship between media students at the Jaffna and Colombo universities beginning with a visit to Jaffna by 36 Colombo students. During the visit the group met war-affected people and discussed their difficulties, and spoke to members of the provincial media. Friendships were built and maintained, leading to a better understanding between the students in the North and the South.

Citizens Peace Award

The Citizens Peace Award for 2011 was awarded to Dr. Nimalka Fernando, President of the International Movement Against all Forms of Discrimination and Racism. Dr Fernando has worked for many years for human rights, people's empowerment and justice for sustainable peace with courage, commitment and leadership.



Dr Fernando is one of Sri Lanka's best-known human rights advocates both internationally and locally. With a track record of social activism from her school days, and networking with civil society groups throughout the world, she has been a powerful civic voice for human rights, justice and peace.

“As Sri Lankans, we suffered a brutal war for three decades and we were divided into North and South. During these tragic years, both communities lost our cultural values and traditions as well as our loved ones and possessions. The exposure visits arranged between university students is a good initiative to begin the process of reconciliation between the Northern and Southern people and to build a healed society as well.”

***Hasini Dilhara
University of Colombo
Sripali Campus***

LLRC Project



This project focuses on civil society collaboration at the national and district level for awareness raising and advocacy to implement domestic solutions for reconciliation and transitional justice in Sri Lanka. The fact that the LLRC report is the only Government-endorsed document addressing transitional justice and reconciliation in post-war Sri Lanka has generated a heightened level of interest among citizens to learn and understand its content and its recommendations.

Through its LLRC project, NPC designed and implemented two activities in 2012 with the objective of mobilising civil society to assist the Government to implement the recommendations of the LLRC.

As an initial activity, a baseline survey was conducted to determine current levels of awareness among national and regional NGOs, local CBOs and other voluntary organisations such as regional chambers, CBO leaders, and rural development society representatives.

As part of the effort to disseminate information about the LLRC, NPC produced a guidebook, with assistance from the Marga Institute, that is a comparative analysis of LLRC recommendations as per existing legislations and universal best practices. NPC also plans to produce four booklets on subtopics in the LLRC report to serve as training material for those individuals interested in becoming trainers on LLRC recommendations, which is a key component of the LLRC project activity plan.

NPC's Thulawa publication carried a total of 90 articles on the LLRC in all three languages from October to December 2012.

"Before coming to this workshop, I didn't even know what LLRC stood for...although I cannot say that I know a lot about its specifics after hearing the lectures, I do understand the range of activities I can do with my school children in order to help reconciliation."

***Teacher
LLRC seminar
St Bridget's Convent
Colombo***

Christian Nuns Educated on LLRC

A group of 30 Christian nuns were invited to St. Bridget's Convent in Colombo to educate themselves on the LLRC. Most of the group were not aware of the report while others only had a weak recollection of it. At the workshop, the participants were very enthusiastic about the LLRC. Many thought it provided an official warrant to initiate reconciliation. They felt it was important to put into practice the values and concepts addressed by the LLRC such as reconciliation, truth seeking and building trust at the personal and community level. They proposed activities such as North-South youth exchange programmes, vigils for the dead and missing, Church-based counselling for war widows and school-based debates and community events as ways to take the messages of the LLRC to the community.

Promoting Democracy and Reconciliation Through Transitional Justice and Peace

The year 2012 saw an erosion of democratic rights, and a decline in the devolution of power. What prevails is centralised power without checks and balances. What is required is a process of transitional justice in which values of truth seeking, accountability, restitution and institutional reform are given the foremost place.

Three years after the end of the war, the different ethnic communities continue to be polarised, with the Government doing little to promote reconciliation or justice for victims and survivors. It is left to civil society organisations such as NPC to move the peace agenda forward. The report of the Government-appointed Lessons Learned and Reconciliation Commission, which has received international backing, is a tool that NPC is using for its countrywide programme for the immediate future.

Inter Religious Cooperation and Community Response



NPC established an informal network of inter religious committees of religious and community leaders from 12 districts to address humanitarian needs of women and children under a two year EU-funded project. The project, which concluded in 2012, was titled "Humanitarian Solutions Through Inter Religious Cooperation and Cohesive Community Response." Six of the District level Inter Religious Committees (DIRCs) were from the North and East, while the other six were from other parts of the country, with an apex secretariat.

The main thrust of the project was to find humanitarian solutions to the problems of people in the war-affected areas through provision of referral services. This process built up their strength and political consciousness to address inter community conflict issues. Through the DIRCs, clergy of different religions have mellowed, and the discussion and interaction among them promote understanding and rapport at the community level.

DIRCs act as a trouble shooting, community-level mechanism to deal with politically contentious issues in addition to being a forum for peace building and reconciliation. Each DIRC has prepared a sustainability plan that details their function, relevance and proposed course of action.

Different DIRCs identified different priorities during the course of the project. In the North and East, practical issues of obtaining services and

“Through the DIRC, a good relationship has been built up among the clergy and among the different community activists. Every month clergy and community leaders meet to discuss problems in the area and the welfare of the people. We understand the meaning of true peace and unity...A strong relationship among the clergy of different religions is vital for sustainable peace in the country. DIRCS have established a solid base for this difficult task.”

***Ven Manapaha
Dhammaransi Thero
Co-convenor
DIRC Kurunegala***

documentation from the Government were identified as among the needs that could be dealt with by the DIRCs. DIRCs in the rest of the country focused on an exercise in solidarity with communities in war-affected areas by engaging in work camps to build pre-schools, playgrounds and community centres.

DIRC members from the North and East visited their counterparts in the South and explained their situation to the Government officials and community leaders there, while there were return visits from South to North.

The project has been instrumental in changing the perceptions and attitudes of a number of people including members of the clergy. Perceptions created through media and hearsay were dispelled over a few days because of exchange visits that provided opportunities for people to see and listen to one another.

A book of case studies of success stories arising out of the DIRCs has been published.

National Conference Ratifies Post-War Manifesto

The practices and experiences from the districts and provincial level culminated in a national discussion at a conference in Colombo on June 16, 2012 that brought together 168 participants from 12 districts. A final manifesto on the current post-war circumstances and proposals to address those issues was passed and ratified by all participants at the conference and submitted to decision makers, pressure group members, media, and other stakeholders. The manifesto comprised recommendations bringing normalcy to civilian life; livelihood development and improvements in local life; social security and promotion of culture; education, vocational training, and employment opportunities; promotion of Sinhala and Tamil in within government agencies; land and resettlement, and fostering mutual understanding. Subsequently, the manifesto was published in three national newspapers in English, Tamil and Sinhala.

Strengthening Civil Society Organisations to Promote Inter Ethnic Cooperation and Social Cohesion at Grassroot Level

Unsuccessful efforts to resolve the ethnic conflict over the past 50 years have been partially due to distrust and fear between the communities based on ignorance and misunderstanding. Successive Governments have failed to quell the fires of communalism, even exacerbating the problem, when they should have been educating people about the circumstances of the ethnic conflict, its consequences and the need for a political solution. Although the Lessons Learned and Reconciliation Commission presented a report that proposed a number of nationally driven measures for healing and reconciliation, these have yet to be implemented formally by the Government. In this context, the process of healing and reintegration needs to be taken on by civil society. There is a need to both educate civil society about inter ethnic issues and international experience in their resolution, and to build up capacity to organise reconciliation activities, face to face interactions and engagements. NPC is working to create awareness on reconciliation so that people see beyond the ethnic conflict, learn about international experiences in dealing with similar problems and participate in the development of a national solution for Sri Lanka.

Partnerships for Peace

The aim of NPC's ongoing Partnerships for Peace project is to create an inclusive people's movement for peace and democracy by forming an island wide network of local CBOs and NGOs who have the capacity to mobilise, strengthen and consolidate sustainable public support for peace building.



NPC is working with grassroot communities in selected districts, specifically the war-affected, inter-ethnic communities and, within these communities, vulnerable and marginalised groups. Initially, NPC staff was trained on peace building and monitoring and evaluation. NPC then chose eight NGOs in ten districts, undertaking training programmes and workshops to strengthen NGO capacity in organisational development and financial management.

District Peace Action Committees (DPACs) were established in eight districts comprising local NGO members, teachers, media, CBOs, civic and community institutions, and Government. DPACs function as a strong base for NPC to promote people's participation in peace initiatives from a wider perspective. There was training on peace, reconciliation and advocacy and gender based violence as well as exposure visits for DPAC members, enabling people from various ethnic groups and districts to build a better understanding of one another's cultures and beliefs.

Three pilot projects commenced in 2012 with NPC's partners in Amparai, Mannar and Jaffna. In Amparai, True Vision Rural Rehabilitation Organisation conducted workshops and training sessions to create awareness on children's rights among officials, adults and children. In Mannar, Resources for Peace and Reconciliation held capacity building programmes for women to create awareness on women's rights, child abuse, child rights and domestic violence. In Jaffna, the Centre for Women's Development sensitised women and children who were directly affected by the 30-year conflict so that they could play a role in the reconciliation process.

"I am attached to an organisation that provides legal advice and services to women affected by domestic conflicts and war. When we meet our clients, we communicate with them in terms of legal rights but we do not empathise with their human needs. I learnt the important skill of empathy, which can really help us to understand and assist these women in an effective way."

***Staff Member
Centre for Women's
Development***

Workshops to Explain and Prevent Conflict

Two workshops on conflict sensitivity and peace building were held for 36 members of NPC's partner organisations and District Peace Action Committee members to enable participants to identify the needs of conflict affected women and children in their districts. During the workshops, causes of conflict were explained and several techniques were used to improve self-awareness and build mutual understanding between individuals within the group. Participants analysed their local conflicts and developed mechanisms to avoid future conflicts. After the workshops, NPC was asked to hold similar ones for civil society organisations in all districts.

Civil Society-Local Government Partnership For Improved Service Delivery

Phase 3 of this long-term project funded by Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) and designed to improve the power sharing mechanisms was undertaken in 2012. It aimed to improve service delivery and build a closer relationship between municipalities and communities in the Galle and Batticaloa districts.

In Phases 1 and 2, community level trainers were taught to be power-sharing advocates. They came up with proposals for improvement of power-sharing mechanisms in the country. Phase 3 to train members of provincial councils was developed shortly after the war ended. However the Government decided to further centralise power in the Presidency rather than share it with other institutions. NPC staff recommended a suspension of the project until conditions changed.

After a year, a new opportunity arose in the form of the LLRC report that emphasised the need for devolution of power and empowering the Local Government institutions to ensure greater people's participation at the grassroots level.

The Batticaloa Municipal Council (MC) and Galle MC are the two Local Government authorities covered under this project. In 2012, initial discussions were held with the Mayor of Galle and civil society organisations as well as meetings with members of the Batticaloa MC to enlist their cooperation and support for the project.

“People should be aware of the need for good governance and the implementation of good governance at the Local Government level. They should have knowledge about the Local Government system so that they can contribute to promoting good governance. NPC's project is helping the people to understand the system.”

**Marsoof Hilal
Batticaloa**

FINANCE

FINANCIAL REVIEW

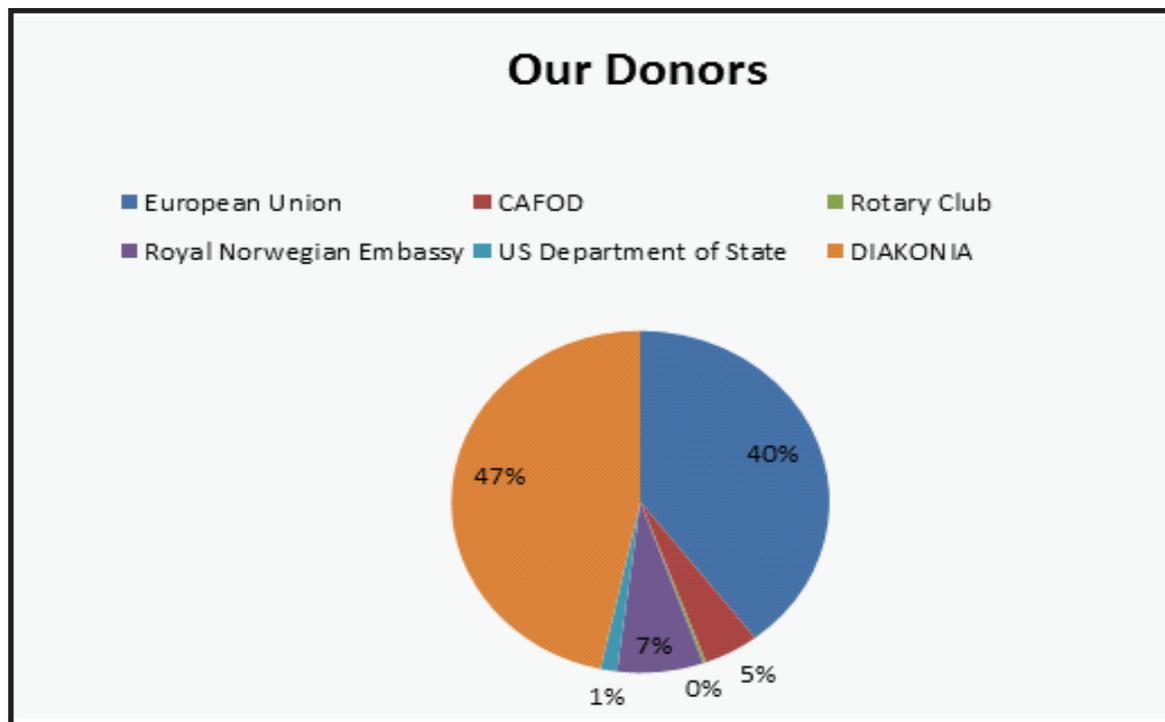
One Project Audit, funded by the European Union, was conducted by PriceWaterhouseCoopers in addition to the Annual Financial Audit carried out by them. The European Union appointed Moore Stephens LLP and conducted an audit of three projects funded by them.

For the past four years (2008-2011), our Management Letter from auditors PriceWaterhouseCoopers has been a Nil report, which shows the strength of NPC's Internal Control System.

NPC received Rs 42,109,809.05 from its donors during the year as core and project funding. This is in addition to the sum of Rs 31,473,506 carried down from last year, which is to be used in year 2012.

OUR DONORS

Donor Agency	Brought forward to year 2012 Rs	Receipts during the year Rs	Total available Rs	%
European Union	27,944,543.00	1,203,022.74	29,147,565.74	39.61
CAFOD	3,491,368.00	-	3,491,368.00	4.74
Rotary Club	34,018.00	161,270.00	195,288.00	0.27
Royal Norwegian Embassy	3,576.00	5,406,598.26	5,410,174.26	7.35
US Department of State	-	1,042,760.00	1,042,760.00	1.42
DIAKONIA	-	34,296,158.05	34,296,158.05	46.61
	31,473,505.00	42,109,809.05	73,583,314.05	100.00

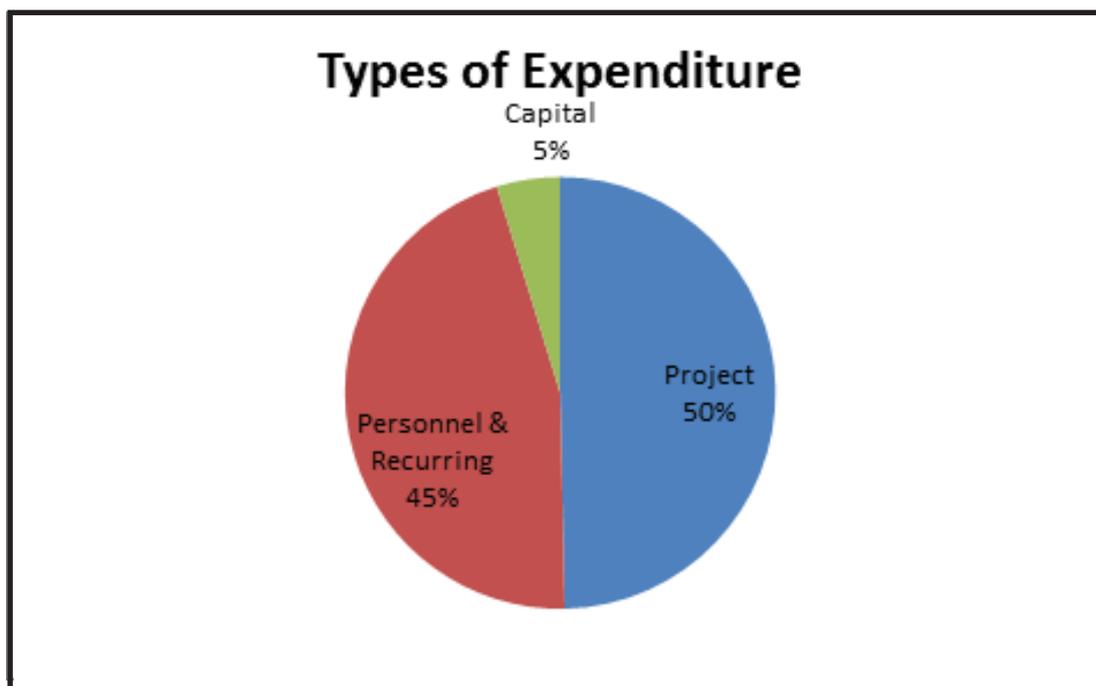


OUR PROJECTS

Project Title	Donor	Amount spent (Rs)
Inter Religious Project	EU	12,369,475.00
Core Funding	DIAKONIA	2,113,992.98
NPC- Sakai Peace Award	NPC- Sakai fund	426,182.44
Scholarships for University Students	Rotary Club	60,000.00
Partnership for Peace	EU	11,223,216.08
People's Movement for Power Sharing	CAFOD	527,030.00
LLRC	DIAKONIA	1,931,497.71
North-South University Bridge	US Department of State	407,042.95
		29,058,437.16

Analysis of Expenditure

Expenditure type	Amount (Rs)	%
Project	29,058,437.16	49.67
Personnel & Recurring	26,652,231.51	45.56
Capital	2,788,928.32	4.77
	58,499,596.99	100.00



Way Forward

There are two key challenges that Sri Lanka faces. The first is the long-lived one of addressing the ethnic conflict. The LLRC appointed by the Government after the war has stated that the main cause of violence in Sri Lanka was the failure of successive governments to find a solution to the ethnic conflict. There is a need for the Government to talk to the leaders of the ethnic minority parties and work out a political solution that will satisfy all sides. The second challenge is to safeguard and strengthen the system of checks and balances to control the abuse of power that comes from having absolute power.

Since the end of the war, NPC has kept on pressing the point that the end of war did not mean the fullness of peace, which requires justice and reconciliation. This has been a difficult message to convey to the majority population, as the end of war and its associated terrorism was equated to peace, especially by the Government. However, the ethnic conflict continues, as manifested in the polarisation of political parties and voting patterns. The recent rise in anti-Muslim sentiment in sections of the Sri Lankan population is further evidence that reconciliation has eluded the polity.

In post-war Sri Lanka, the principal hurdle to be surmounted is reconciliation that obtains the support of all sections of the country's multi ethnic and multi religious polity. There is only a very limited dialogue on reconciliation that is inclusive of all perspectives. The LLRC has given the basis for reconciliation. Now it is necessary to take the reconciliation process forward and involve the ethnic communities, civil society and political parties in a discussion to understand the different perspectives they hold. This will be NPC's priority in the area of programming at the community level.

The LLRC report looks to civil society to play an active role in addressing issues of social and national integration. These include the formation of inter religious committees at the grassroots level and people to people exchanges. These are areas in which civic groups have expended considerable effort in the post-war period. However, civil society organisations have only a limited role to play in the remaking of the polity, and that role is to play a complementary, supplementary and catalytic role.

We look to the Government to provide an enabling environment by improving its relations with civic groups who campaign for inter ethnic reconciliation and social integration.

