

# Annual Report HI

## Statistics

**Table 1: Statistics of women group members engaged with the project**

	District	Total members	No of Groups	Religion				Language		WHH	WWD
				Buddhist	Christian	Muslim	Hindu	Sinhala	Tamil		
1	Anuradhapura	469	13	467	2	0	0	469	0	45	0
2	Ampara	358	12	99	27	125	107	99	259	72	1
3	Kandy	367	8	291	14	9	53	302	65	53	0
4	Jaffna	1019	18	0	98	0	921	0	1019	191	9
5	Trincomalee	803	16	20	5	31	747	20	783	167	2
6	Moneragala	276	9	207	5	0	63	209	68	24	8
		3,292	76	1084	151	165	1891	1099	2194	552	20

**Table 2: Details of Facilitators**

District	Total number of facilitators	Religion				Language		Women Heading Households	Women with Disability
		Buddhist	Christian	Muslim	Hindu	Sinhala	Tamil		
Anuradhapura	17	17	0	0	0	17	0	0	0
Ampara	19	9	3	5	2	10	9	8	1
Kandy	16	15	0	1	0	15	1	5	1
Jaffna	25	0	6	0	19	0	25	12	1
Trincomalee	25	1	4	3	17	1	24	11	0
Monaragala	23	16	0	0	7	16	7	3	0
Total	125	58	13	9	45	59	66	39	3

**Table 3: Reflection and learning sessions**

District	Total membership in women groups	No of groups in the district	No of RL sessions conducted since the project start	Total participation since project start
Jaffna	1019	18	137	473
Trincomalee	803	16	118	292
Ampara	358	12	98	258
Anuradhapura	469	13	116	320
Kandy	367	8	55	191
Moneragala	276	9	35	269
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,292</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>1,803</b>

**Table 4: Date and the participants for the media engagement training**

District	Date	Number of participants
Jaffna	27/28 August 2018	13
Trinco	11/12 September 2018	7
Moneragala	02/03 September 2018	11
Kandy	31 August & 01 September 2018	8
Anuradhapura	22/23 August 2018	10
Ampara (Sinhala)	31 August & 01 September 2018	6
Ampara (Tamil)	11/12 September 2018	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>61</b>

## Project Case Story

Prasangika Dharmawanshais 49 years old and resides in Katugastota in Kandy District. She is living with her husband and three children. To contribute to the family's livelihood, she runs a small food stall on the road side.

Prasangika has been a member of local women group for more than 25 years. Currently, she has been appointed as the Secretary to the Kandurata Women Forum, which is the district level federation of her local women group. This women federation is working with HI's project partner Women Development Center (WDC) in the project "Empowering women for an inclusive and sustainable transitional justice and reconciliation process in Sri Lanka".

Prasangika is politically interested and active; she contested in the local government elections held in February 2018.

HI's project on Transitional Justice and Reconciliation (TJR) selected Prasangika as women group facilitator as she possessed very good leadership qualities. She was able to participate in trainings on TJR. Even though she joined the project as a facilitator, Prasangika initially did not agree with the TJR concepts discussed at the training, being a rather conservative woman from a traditional Sinhala-Buddhist background. She did not believe in the need of TJR in the country and perceived it as a political agenda. Prasangika reflects on her thoughts at the beginning of project activities; *"Sinhala, Muslim and Tamil communities live in harmony in Kandy, so why do we need to discuss on transitional justice and reconciliation? Incidence may have happened in the North and East, but that was in the past, we need to forget it!"*

During the course of the project, she was able to actually meet women group members from Northern and Eastern Sri Lanka during exchange events. Prasangika listened to the experiences of women who had been affected by the war; loss of their family members, violence, loss of livelihoods, displacement, etc. She was able to learn that most of the women in the North and East are still suffering from the impacts of war, 9 years after its end. This was an eye opener for Prasangika, since then understanding the reality of these women and acknowledging their grievance.

In the meantime, communal violence erupted between Sinhala and Muslim mobs in her area in March 2018, resulting in deaths, property damage and large number of families displaced. *"I was shocked to see the incidents and feared to go out to our streets. I did not expect to see such incidents in my area"*.

She was informed by members of the women federation and WDC that around 50 Muslim families in her neighborhood have been affected and have taken refuge in a safe location. She



rushed to the place despite ongoing violence to ensure the safety of these families. She was able to provide relief items; food, clothing and other essentials with the help of another community-based organization to around 350 people. WDC organized psychosocial support to the affected women and children with the coordination of Prasangika. She continued to visit the affected families and coordinated with WDC and other agencies until the situation became normal. Prasangika was involved identifying beneficiaries and following up on cash distribution in Humanity & Inclusion's short-term cash transfer project for affected families in Kandy district.

Prasangika continues to promote activities related to transitional justice and reconciliation as member of the Kandurata Women Development Forum. She shares her experience with other members of the women forum, encouraging them to take initiatives to promote reconciliation. *"The knowledge and exposure I received from the TJR project, helped me to change my attitudes. Now I understand the importance of reconciliation, therefore I continue to promote the reconciliation to make Sri Lanka a better place!"*

## Project Photographs 2018



Exchange event in Jaffna – showcasing the specific cultures of different groups

Copy right – Handicap International ©



Exchange event in Trincomalee district- showcasing different food cultures

Copy right – Handicap International ©



Reflection and learning sessions on Transitional Justice & Reconciliation in Anuradhapura District

Copy right – Handicap International ©



Reflection and learning sessions on Transitional Justice & Reconciliation in Ampara District

Copy right – Handicap International ©



Reflection and learning session in Jaffna district  
Copy right – Handicap International



Reflection and learning session in Trincomalee district  
Copy right – Handicap International



Reflection and learning sessions on Transitional  
Justice & Reconciliation in Trincomalee district

Copy right – Handicap International



Reflection and learning sessions on Transitional  
Justice & Reconciliation in Trincomalee district

Copy right – Handicap International





Submission to the OMP by the Trincomalee District  
Women Federation

Copy right – Handicap International



Women group members participating to the training sessions on Gender and Disability inclusion in Monaragala

Copy right – Handicap International



Women group members participating to a training session on Gender & Disability inclusion in Kandy

Copy right – Handicap International