

**Project: Land degradation and Sustainable forest management**

**Location: Meesalai, Jaffna**

**Province: Northern province**

**Grantee organization : Chavakachcheri Fruit Producers Cooperation**

**Period: (24 months) 2014/2016 (Ongoing)**

**Role of TERN: Knowledge Management and Capacity Building**

Meesalai , Tenmadarachchi area in Jaffna peninsula is known for its good quality fruits. Yet during the time of the war the fruit market dropped leaving a void for quality Jaffna fruits. After the war and since the farmers were relocated, the fruit production was reinitiated in native lands. However, cultivation became challenging as population of Grey Langur occupying the abandoned land became attracted to the newly available food source. In recent years this situation has created a substantial loss in fruit and vegetable harvest. As the environment became unfavourable for both people and the langurs, a solution was required to save the crops and also safeguard the existence of the animals.

This particular project was implemented around July 2014 to address the Home Gardens at Tenmarachy area being raided by Grey Langur monkeys. The GEF/ SGP funded project aims to develop home gardens for sustainable use and the provision of ecosystem services. Beneficiaries have been trained on maintaining economically viable home gardens and some resources have been provided to initiate the process.

In order to conserve the monkeys and provide them a safe habitat, translocation process was carried out with the assistance of the Department of Wildlife Conservation, where langurs were sent to wildlife protected area.

The project is still under implementation stage.