

Project: A Tank Based Biodiversity Improvement & Protection Project

Grantee Organization: South Asia Partnership – Sri Lanka

Location: Thirappane, Anuradhapura

Province: North Central

Duration: Two years (on-going)

Project Number: SRL/SGP/OP5/STAR/BD/2014/03

Role of TERN: Knowledge Management and Capacity Building

This tank based biodiversity improvement and protection project funded under GEF/SGP fifth operational phase has amalgamate stakeholders -Divisional Secretariat Office – Thirappane, Provincial Council – Thirappane , National Aquaculture Development Authority Sri Lanka, Agrarian Service Department – Thirappane , Farmer Federation For the Conservation of, Traditional Seeds & Agro Resources, People of Allisthana village and ambitious towards the goal of making the community of Alisthana village, live in a socially sound and economically prosperous rural society. The main activities carried out through the project are improving a part of Alisthana tank area as a protected growth of tree girdle environment to ensure minimum silting, minimum water pollution and a natural shelter for native plant and fish species inhabiting the tank. Sixty five families benefit from improved livelihoods by engaging in organic farming, Beekeeping, inland fishing and trading of local products.

The home –gardens are fully designed according to organic farming techniques with the aim that it will generate higher profit in a long term basis with a minimum damage to the environment. More than 35 village farmers (including women centered house-holds) were trained in home gardening, fertilizer preparation and maintaining home gardens during the drought period.

SAPSRI has planted more than 2225 plants including salt succulent trees for tree girdle and Kattakaduwa in order to reduce the high hardness factor of water using biological remediation. SAPSRI is also arranging a market outlet for the home-garden products and are willing to facilitate the beneficiaries with a low interest loan scheme for the sustainment of the project