

**Project: Environment Advocacy for Strengthening Community Based  
Forest Conservation - Madu Reserve**

**Location: Madhu Sanctuary, Mannar**

**Province: North-western**

**Period: 2015/2016**

**Grantee Organization: National Forum of Climate Change (NFCC)**

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

Environment Advocacy for Strengthening Community Based Forest Conservation in Madu Reserve is one of the CBR+ pilot projects funded under GEF/SGP. It has the long term goal of establishing a nationally strong network to confront and minimize forest destruction while promoting conservation actions. The project is implemented in the Madhu wildlife sanctuary in the North Western Sri Lanka and its peripheral forest area.

The main activities carried out through the project are enhancing the active engagement of forest dependent and indigenous communities by creating active CBOS and vigilant groups of youth as forests guardians, designing an advocacy tool kit for conservation, building REDD+ awareness among the students and youth and conducting forest restoration programme in the focal area to develop a community forest conservation network. The proposed vigilant group whose main purpose is to prevent and catch illegal forest destruction, will be consisted of fifty activists identified from the 300 members of 10 established CBOs. After a sufficient amount of training this vigilant group will be linked with the national vigilant group for a better exposure and networking.

The project aims to develop a document on non-carbon – non timber forest products (NTFP) and related traditional knowledge, posters on REDD+ and CBR+ themes and an advocacy tool kit and information leaflets on REDD+ while facilitating the national conference on forest+ people+ smart climate to launch CBR+ policy document. The project also amalgamates the peripheral community in Planting and maintaining 25,000 saplings in selected forest locations while developing sustainable income sources for them.

The expected outcomes of the project are as follows,

A local network established to ensure forest conservation in the focal area with the active contribution of peripheral communities, relevant stake holders of forest conservation and regulation sector empowered, developed livelihood of the forest dependent communities through facilitating the sustainable use of NTFP.