Making the Edible Landscape (EL) Project in Colombo, Sri Lanka
2005/2006

FINAL REPORT

December 2006

Submitted by
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FINAL PROJECT REPORT
Making the Edible Landscape Project in Colombo, Sri Lanka

1.0 Introduction of the Project Activities

Making the Edible Landscaping Project in Colombo has been implemented during the year 2005/06 under the guidelines of the project team of McGill University, Vancouver, Canada through a city team in Colombo consisting of the representatives of following organizations. These include Colombo Municipal Council, SEVANATHA – Urban Resource Centre, Department of Agriculture (Western Province), the Community Based Organization of Halgahakumbura Community. The city team has obtained the services of National Housing Development Authority, Urban Development Authority, Women Bank (a leading micro credit organization), Institute of Town Planners, Sri Lanka and Institute of Architects, Sri Lanka. The service of the above organizations was obtained from the planning through implementation stage of the project.

1.1 Objectives of the Project

i. Promotion of edible landscape as an important intervention in livelihood improvement of urban poor communities.

ii. Implementation of demonstration project for promotion of the concept of edible landscape.

iii. Promotion of multi-stakeholder approach in edible landscape.

iv. Develop information and promotional materials for replication & up-scaling of EL concept.

1.2 The Sites Originally Proposed under the Colombo Pilot Project are as Follows.

i. Halgahakumbura underserved settlement at Wanathamullla, Borella Municipal Ward, Colombo 08.

ii. Municipal Herbarium Land, Kirulapone Municipal Ward, Colombo 05.

iii. Ayurvedic Drug Production Site, Dematagoda Municipal Ward, Colombo 10

iv. Eli House Ground, Mattakkuliya Municipal Ward, Colombo 12

Among the above four sites proposed for the demonstration project activities only two sites i.e. Halgahakumbura and Ayurvedic Drug Production premises was finally selected by the project team. The reason for dropping the other two sites was mainly the difficulty of identifying a proper community based organization. Thus, this report present progress only with respect to the above mentioned two sites only. A brief profile of Halgahakumbura site is annexed to this report. The Ayurvedic drug production site is an office premises of the Municipal Ayurvedic Department located in Dematagoda are which is about a kilo meter away from Halgahakumbura. The premises do have a demonstration garden of herbal plants.
where training and information to general public are provided. Therefore, selection of this site has many advantages in carrying out the pilot project activities in Halgahakumbura.

- Ayurvedic Drug Production site was used a learning ground for community to know various kind of herbal plants available in Sri Lanka
- It was used as a learning ground for people to understand how plants are grown and their medicinal and nutritional value
- It was the first experiment in CMC done for testing how urban poor can participate in supplying medicinal herbs to CMC from their home garden

1.3 The Work Plan of the Project

The work plan prepared by the city team based on the original concept paper included the following main project activities. The original work plan covered the last quarter of year 2004 till end of 3rd quarter of 2006. The key activities are as follows.

1.0 Participatory Site Analysis – Existing Situation

i. Identify possible sites

ii. Establish socio-economic profiles
   - Demographic data
   - User groups
   i. Needs/Aspirations

iii. Site mapping
   - Existing use
   - Characteristics
   - Plans / images

iv. Soil Characteristics

v. House construction process – existing

vi. Sanitation

vii. Water supply / water harvesting

viii. Health issues

ix. Urban legislations

x. Land tenure arrangements

xi. Type / system of UA production

xii. Processing / marketing opportunity analysis
2.0 Participatory Design Proposals

i. Initiative community mobilization

ii. Stakeholder awareness

iii. Action Planning

v. Integration of housing, infrastructure and urban agriculture

vi. Support for community upgrading
   - Land regularization / re-adjustment
   - Home design
   - Self-help housing
   - Community infrastructure design
   - Integration of UA as livelihoods mean / landscaping
   - Community based waste management

vii. Community capacity building
   - CBO management
   - Operation & maintenance
   - Marketing
   - Skill development

viii. Develop tenure options

3.0 International Workshop in Montreal, Canada– May 2005

i. Training / workshop in Canada

ii. Improve plans / designs / work plan

iii. Prepare for World Urban Forum held in June, 2006

iv. Plan approval and develop technical proposals

v. Project Implementation modalities

vi. Documentation, monitoring and systematization
   - Develop dissemination materials
   - Develop education materials

vii. Policy dialogue

viii. Resource mobilization
1.4 Progress Achieved

Most of the project activities listed under the work plan have been carried out involving the community in Halgahakumbura. The city team members have been engaged in field activities as well as monitoring the progress by conducting regular progress review meetings.

2.0 The Project Process

The Colombo project has been a good team work of the city team members who had a commitment to make changes in the field. The project activities implemented in Halgahakumbura settlement and in Ayurvedic drug production site helped carrying out the message of promoting Edible Landscape effectively. The steps followed in implementing the project in Halgahakumbura, based on the agreed work plan was indicated below.

**Step 1:** Initial project briefing to the municipal council to make awareness elected members and official about the project

**Step 2:** Project briefing to the community of Halgahakumbura

**Step 3:** Organizing the community into lane groups (neighbourhood group consisting of about 20 – 30 families)

**Step 4:** Door to door awareness on the project and collection of physical and social data simultaneously

**Step 5:** Understanding the community perceptions

**Step 6:** Conduct small group consultations to understand their priority issues (used Community Action Planning (CAP) approach for this project)

**Step 7:** Documentation of project activities in terms of field reports, photographs, sketches, video clips, articles for news papers, journals, project notes, display panels, slide shows etc.

**Step 8:** Conducting a settlement level main CAP workshop and priority issues identified

**Step 9:** Agreed on lane improvement as an entry point to improve the hose and allow space for edible landscape activities

**Step 10:** Preparation of a work plan with the community to carry out lane improvement work

**Step 11:** Carry out the lane improvement work with community contribution (cash plan labour)

**Step 12:** Conduct small group awareness and training on edible landscape designing and arranging individual home gardens

**Step 13:** Progress review at community meetings
Step 14: Visit the training demonstration sites of Agriculture Department as well as Ayurvedic Department

Step 15: Provide seeds and other inputs for undertaking individual home based agriculture activities

Step 16: Process documentation

Step 17: Sharing information with local stakeholders – community, municipalities, universities, government organizations

Step 18: Sharing information with the McGill team at workshops, teleconferences and progress review


2.1 Research Findings – Pre Project Situation

The above mentioned steps or process followed has been anew learning experience for the Colombo city team as well as for the community primarily because it was mainly a participatory demand driven process where an element of urban agriculture was introduced to a community which did believe that they could find suitable space within their premises to plant a sampling. Thus, the entire project process was an attitudinal changing process where the officers of formal sector institutions and an urban poor community worked together with a support of a NGO – SEVANATHA.

The following specific findings are worth recording.

i. Halgahakumbura is a mixed ethnic community majority of whom do engaged in income earning activities in the city. It was found about 32% of the labour force do engaged in formal sector employment activities about 8% self employed another 8% daily waged workers 1% employed abroad and the balance 51% unemployed.

ii. Due to smaller plot size (between 30 to 50 sq.m.) a majority of the community members did not engage in growing plants for consumption or sale.

iii. Raising animals or poultry was not identified as a significant activity of the community.

iv. A majority of families over 80% used to grow ornamental plants, flowers mostly plot plants within their premises.

v. In terms of monthly income earning situation of the employed persons, it was Reveled about 14% of the families had an income of less than Rs. 3,000 (about 30 US $) which is just above the official poverty line in Sri Lanka. About 29% earned an income between Rs. 3000 – 8000 (30 – 80 US$) sufficient for meeting need of an
average family of 05 persons. It was found only about 3% had a high income of over Rs. 8,000.

vi. The type of housing units available in the settlement showed that about 45% of the houses were permanent, 41% semi permanent, while the balance 14% were of temporary houses. This figure shows that almost a half of the community in Halgahakumbura do live in permanent houses.

vii. The availability of proper access road to houses were examined. It was found that for about 23% of houses there was no proper access roads. Hence, people demanded need for improving the access roads as their main priority.

viii. Availability of water to houses shows that 98% of the house had access to pipe borne water with individual meter connection.

ix. The availability of waste drains was examined and it was found that no drain available for about 97% families.

2.2 **Key Problems Raised by the Community at Community Action Planning Workshop**

As has been mentioned earlier, a Community Action Planning workshop was conducted as part of the edible landscape project in order to identify the problems faced by the community and to identify priority problems. The following problems were raised by the community at the CAP workshop held in 2004.

1. Lack of land ownership
2. Lack of proper storm water drain system in the settlement
3. Lack of individual water meter connection
4. Main access road and the inner access roads are too narrow and are in poor condition
5. Lack of individual toilets for families
6. Lack of postal service to the community
7. Possible threat of the existing high tension electricity line which is running across the settlement
8. Encroachment of the open spaces in the settlement by new families
9. Lack of community unity in the settlement
10. The adjoining canal is silted and overflow during rainy season
11. Indiscriminate throwing of garbage into the canal
12. Lack of street lamp
13. Lack of individual electricity connection
14. Mosquito problems in the settlement
15. Problem of sending the children to good schools in Colombo
16. The existing community hall is insufficient
17. Dampness of the floor and inside houses
18. Electricity posts are not fixed properly in the settlement
19. Problems of the existing septic tanks and the sewer line
20. No assessment numbers for houses
2.3 Findings of the Research after Implementing the Edible Landscape Project

- Community and local government staff have realized that people in urban low income settlements like slums and shanties have been practicing agriculture already in and around their small houses. This has been ignored by planners and policy makers for many years as slums and shanties are looked as eye-sores in the city.

- People have been innovative in many ways to use agriculture for many purposes;
  - Food supplementary
  - Medicinal use – all most every house has plants like ginger, garlic, coriander, Gotukola, mint plant, basils that used to recover from minor ailment like stomach disorder, headache, cold etc. This is an indigenous knowledge transfer from one generation to other mostly in rural areas. Project found that people in low income settlements carry out the same. This practice has contributed to reduce their expenditure on health.
  - People use every possible space for growing edible and medicinal plants in their settlements.- roof tops, fences, trellis, growing wall, outer edge, plant boxes, gutters, eves,
  - People use new techniques to grow Edible Plants at home garden – growing towers, hanging boxes, discarded materials like used containers, mega plastics bottles,

- Partnership has been established between community and local authority to promote urban agriculture in low income settlements in Colombo.

- EL project has enabled some departments that were not involved community development in Colombo municipality to bring their services for livelihood improvement. Department of Indigenous Medicine (DIM), CMC started to work with low income communities for the first time under EL project.

- Joined initiatives on promotion of EL by Sevanatha and Dept of Indigenous Medicine of CMC have created livelihood opportunities for housewives in low income settlements and support staff of DIM.

- Urban agriculture (EL) can not be promoted as a single sector activity in low income settlements as people have other priorities like water, sanitation, livelihoods needs. EL has been successful as it has been introduced as an integrated part of the upgrading and livelihoods in pilot project sites.

- UA/EL in pilot project with community participation has reorganized settlement arrangement in order to use land space
  - for service provision such as drains and
  - widen access paths and
  - for economical use such as growing and market places.

- UA/EL interventions in Colombo have enabled people to engage in waste management: several techniques have been introduced to make compost from organic waste collected at household level. Some examples are household compost bins and community compost yards.

- UA/EL has been an important factor for low income communities to improve their land tenure situation. When people in slums make their living areas into green spaces of the city, authority will have a soft approach towards people in slums and shanties.
2.4 Fulfillment of the Objectives

The project objectives set out at the beginning of the project were able to achieve through implementation of the project activities listed earlier.

2.5 Specific Project Outputs

Following specific project outputs were achieved through implementation of this project.

i. Community Organization

Formation of small groups. About 12 small groups (lane groups) were formed with leadership being taken over by women and lane residents

ii. Establishment of CBO

Among the lane leaders, a CBO was formed in the settlement. The CBO was then registered at the Public Health Department of the Municipality. The CBO has been the key mover of the project in the community.

iii. Conducting training programmes for the community

The following training programmes were conducted for the community and its leaders as well as staff attached to CMC and NGO.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Resource Agency</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>CBO formation and strengthening -</td>
<td>Sevanatha</td>
<td>Community leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Community Action Planning</td>
<td>Sevanatha</td>
<td>Community leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Community contracting</td>
<td>Sevanatha</td>
<td>Community leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Settlement regularization with community participation</td>
<td>Sevanatha</td>
<td>Community leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Urban Agriculture</td>
<td>Dept of Agriculture</td>
<td>NGO, CMC staff and Community leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>EL/UA techniques</td>
<td>Dept of Agriculture and Sevanatha</td>
<td>NGO, Community leaders and CMC staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Home garden as family business</td>
<td>Dept of Agriculture</td>
<td>NGO and Community leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Sustainable livelihoods</td>
<td>Sevanatha</td>
<td>Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Settlements upgrading through lane improvements and UA/EL</td>
<td>Sevanatha</td>
<td>NGO staff and community leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Value of Medicinal and Nutritional Plants</td>
<td>Dept of Indigenous Medicine, CMC</td>
<td>Community leaders and NGO staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
iv. **Improvement of access ways/lanes within the Halgahakumbura settlement**

As has been discussed earlier, the following access lanes with side drains to discharge storm and waste water have been improved in Halgaha Kumbura settlement with the contribution made by the Sevanatha under its poverty reduction project with CMC, and the community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Lane</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>No. of Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Project Contribution</th>
<th>Community Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>CDC - A</td>
<td>6 ft x 30 ft</td>
<td>8 families</td>
<td>Rs. 20,000</td>
<td>Labour and materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>CDC - A</td>
<td>7 ft x 50 ft</td>
<td>14 families</td>
<td>Rs. 24,000</td>
<td>Labour and cash, Rs.500 per family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>CDC - B</td>
<td>7 ft x 150 ft</td>
<td>80 families</td>
<td>Rs.80,000</td>
<td>Labour and cash, Rs.500 per family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>CDC - B</td>
<td>6 ft x 25 ft</td>
<td>7 families</td>
<td>Rs. 6,000</td>
<td>Labour and cash, Rs.500 per family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>CDC - B</td>
<td>6 ft x 170 ft</td>
<td>112 families</td>
<td>Rs.120,000</td>
<td>Labour and cash, Rs.500 per family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>CDC – A</td>
<td>7 ft x 32 ft</td>
<td>12 families</td>
<td>Rs.12,000</td>
<td>Labour and cash, Rs.500 per family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>CDC - B</td>
<td>7 ft x 220 ft</td>
<td>120 families</td>
<td>Rs. 200,000</td>
<td>Labour and cash, Rs.500 per family.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

677 feet 353 Rs. 462,000 Rs.176,000

v. **Promotion of edible landscaping activities by individual households**

It was able to mobilize about 300 Households to undertake edible landscaping activities within their premises during the project. This activity was supported by Department of Agriculture, Western Province and Head and staff of DIM, CMC. Three training sessions were carried out by Dept of Agriculture for community leaders at their provincial training center in Colombo. Several training sessions were conducted at settlement level for community leaders by Department of Agriculture and DIM of CMC. More than 1000 Edible plants were distributed among community members by Sevanatha and DIM/CMC during the project period.

Project staff specially has planned activities to promote UA in upgraded lanes. It was attempted to make improved lanes into lanes called ‘Productive Lanes’ that make land
space available for UA/EL at every household. Specially medicinal plants were distributed to these lane residents by DIM/CMC.

**vi. Local experience sharing workshops**

Two experience sharing workshops were conducted during the project period in Colombo involving the city’s stakeholders to disseminate the project experiences. It was noted that there has been a greater enthusiasm among the participants about promoting edible landscape in the city where multiple benefits could be derived.

Project experiences were presented at a Regional Workshop held in Kandy Sri Lanka in April 2006. About 100 participants were attended this seminar including 35 foreign participants. Other local participants were Mayors, Municipal and central government officers, community leaders and academia.

**vii. Produce information materials**

Project was able to produce several information material on EL. This includes the following:
- Information on EL for community notice boards
- Leaflets and hand bills for community to introduce EL/UA
- Demonstration home garden plots
- Folder by CMC
- Power Point Presentations
- Library of UA/EL digital photographs at Sevanatha
- Journal article
- Display panels on EL Project, Colombo for WUF, 2006
- Guide books on use of Indigenous Medicinal Plants/herbs by DIM/CMC
- EL Tools book
- Seminar papers presented at Regional Seminar held in Sri Lanka in 2006
- Children posters

Apart from the written information, a large number of photos were taken through out the project process. A video has been produced highlighting the achievements of the project. A complete display panel was produced on the project which was exhibited at the World Urban Forum held in Vancouver in June 2006.

**viii. Change of attitudes of the municipal officials and the community of Halgahakumbura to look at promoting edible landscape as a visible activity for livelihood improvement as well as improving the city environment through creating green spaces.**

### 3.0 Capacity Building

Capacity building activities carried out under the project relate to the following aspects.

i. Capacity building of community members
ii. Capacity building of NGO staff
iii. Capacity building of municipal and other stakeholders
The activities carried out aiming at capacity building include the following.

i. Training and awareness programmes for municipal officials, NGO officials and community leaders / & members.

ii. Strengthening the community based organizations enabling them to work with the municipality and other formal sector organizations.

iii. Capacity building of women in the community enabling them to form savings & credit groups and start self employment activities.

iv. Training provided to municipal officials of edible landscaping has widened their activity horizon with communities in Colombo.

v. Capacity building support to the municipality to acquire cameras and presentation tools has been an important component of the project that helped process documentation and dissemination.

vi. Staff of the Department of Indigenous Medicine, CMC is one of the special groups who acquired knowledge of UA and EL. Dr. Palitharatne, Head of the Department has allowed all his staff to participate in the project and built strong links with Communities to promote use of indigenous medicine as part of activities of his department. Interaction of his staff with Halgakumbura community and NGOs like Sevanatha has been the great opportunity for them to build their capacity on community development and EL/UA practices.

Project Management

The Colombo pilot project was executed with active participation of four key partners as mentioned earlier. These include, the CBO of Halgahakumbura, SEVANATHA – NGO, Colombo Municipal Council and Provincial Department of Agriculture (Western Province). The SEVANATHA and municipality being the key role players have been engaged in carrying out the filed project activities for which the Department of Agriculture has provided a valuable contribution in promoting most recent methods of undertaking agricultural activities in congested urban living spaces.

The Colombo city team in consultation with the McGill university team has established a project steering committee which consisted of the following members

- Colombo Municipal Council
  - Mr. N.S. Jayasundera – City team Leader and his staff

- SEVANATHA – Urban Resource Center
  - Mr. K A Jayaratne and four staff members

- Department of Agriculture, Western Province –
  - Dr. Tilak Ranasinghe and Monitoring and Extension officer

- Halgahakumbura Community
  - Mr. Palitha, Chairman of CBO, Halgahakumbara
The steering committee had conducted its first meeting on 02-11-2004 at Institutional Development centre of Colombo Municipal Council. Subsequently it has carried out regular monthly meetings as well as special meetings of the project steering committee during the project period. The decisions taken at the steering committee meetings were communicated to the McGill university project team in Montreal, Canada via email. In addition to the above, a number of tele-conferences were held between the Colombo city team and the McGill university project team during the process which helped in project design and implementation.

At the field level, the city team conducted regular community meetings to review the progress at community level activities. The Mayor of Colombo and the senior officials were invited about two occasions to Halgahakumbura community to brief them about the project progress. Such visits helped the community to build confidence in them.

3.1 Overall Assessment

Halgahakumbura

Pre-project situation showed that there was no organized urban agricultural activities taken place in the community. However, due to implementation of this project about 300 families have started edible landscaping activities within their premises. Improvement of 7 lanes (access roads) within the community has had multiple benefits. A large number of families have improved their houses, improved water and sanitation and solid waste management. Thus, a community based environmental improvement was emerged in the community.

People who engaged in edible landscaping activities informed the project team about the direct benefits as well as indirect benefits that they have acquired through this project. Improved community unity, increased savings, women organizations, CBO strengthening, good linkages between the municipality and SEVANATHA- NGO have been highlighted as benefits to the community. In this context, engaging the community of Halgahakumbura in the above project can be said as an important project intervention in Colombo project.

Ayurvedic Drug Production Unit, Dematagoda, Colombo 10

Ayurveda is an ancient and traditional medical system in south Asia. Drugs needed for this medical system is primarily produced from parts of various plants (herbs). CMC’s Ayurvedic Drug Production Unit located at Dematagoda has been growing some raw materials at its own premises. Introduction of EL project has been an opportunity for this Department in two ways:

- bring their Ayurveda knowledge and treatment system to the communities and
- encourage people to grow herbs/plants at own home garden that have medicinal and nutritional value.

First, this department used its premises to grow plants which have both medicinal and nutritional values. It was done according to the guidance given by Department of Agriculture. Later, Ayurvedic Drug Production premises became an entity to demonstrate gardening practice of edible plants for communities and many visitors who come to the production unit. Head of this department later encouraged his staff to use discarded plastic containers collected at the premises for growing of plants. These plants later are distributed to community members in pilot site, Halgaha Kumbura. If community can produce raw
materials for ayurveda treatment, Ayurveda Drug Production unit of CMC is ready to purchase them from communities.

Activities of the EL project carried out in Colombo are assessed briefly under four criteria:

- **Relevance:** Dose the EL project make sense in the context of meeting the long term needs of urban poor people in Colombo?

  According to the issues identified by the community at action planning sessions, people’s immediate priorities were not related to urban agriculture. They were related to drainage, sanitation, land tenure and housing. It was difficult to motivate a community for EL in short term when their priorities were different from the overall project objectives. If organizations can continue EL practices for long period of time while attending people’s basic service needs in short term, EL may make a sense in terms of addressing people’s need such as food security, increasing the sense of urban green, maintaining kitchen gardens with plants of medicinal value.

- **Efficiency:** Have project resources been utilized to achieve the best possible performance?

  Project was carried out in multi stakeholder participation – Community, Municipality, Dept of Agriculture of Western Province, NGO and Academia with minimum resource available at community level. Project emphasis was more on training, information and communication that could be used as tools for mobilization of local resources. Unfortunately, project was not carried out as it was planned because project sites identified by CMC had to be dropped due to several reasons. Project was carried out only in Halgahakumbura community which is a large un-regularized shanty settlement located a low lying area in Colombo. There were no resources in the project to address the community needs of Halgaha Kumbura. Sevanatha has used project resources to address some basic needs like improvement of access paths and promotion of plants growing for EL. Most activities related to promotion of medicinal and nutritional value plants were carried out jointly by Sevanatha and Department of Indigenous Medicine, CMC.

- **Effectiveness:** Did the project achieve its objectives?

  Project has achieved its objectives to a large extent. Concept of Edible Landscaping has been understood by many partners involved in urban development. However, project has not been able to use its concept fully as an important intervention in livelihood improvement as immediate priorities of people in pilot projects were different from project objectives.

  Demonstration site established at Drug Production unit and workshops held at national level have been able to promote the concept of EL among various stakeholders. Several municipalities in Sri Lanka (Matale, Badulla, Moratuwa, Kurunagala are some municipalities) currently implement EL concepts in city development activities. Project has achieved the objective of promotion of EL by multi stakeholder participation. Project activities in Halgaha Kumbura pilot site have been carried out in partnership with key stakeholders: Community, Agriculture Dept, Department of Indigenous Medicine and Sevanatha – NGO.
As mentioned above, the project has produced information and promotional materials for the promotion of EL concept among communities, municipalities, school children and international organizations. Edible Landscape Tools by MCHG of McGill and documents on medicinal and nutritional plants by Department of Indigenous Medicine of CMC and journal article on EL and urban upgrading are some useful information materials that are used by many stakeholders to understand EL and in promotion of EL.

- Sustainability: Does the project offer an opportunity for community to address the issues that they are currently facing and to draw lasting benefits?

Project had been designed to address some issues of urban poverty through EL practices with multi stakeholder participation. Project design was such that it has attempted to address urban issues through the information and promotion activities rather than provision of hardware assistance. Production of information materials on EL is more cost effective and could reach more stakeholders. EL project implemented in Sri Lanka has not been able to address current needs of urban poor in terms of sanitation and land tenure. However, project approach and promotional materials on EL could have a long term impact on the lives of poor as EL approach can be integrated into incremental livelihood development process.

4.0 List and Copies of Outputs Produced

i. Community profile of Halgahakumbura, December 2004

ii. Data tables of socio economic survey of Halgahakumbura

iii. Sketch maps of improved lanes of Halgahakumbura

iv. Community Action Planning documents

v. Land survey plan for CDC – A block in Halgahakumbura

vi. Detailed Land Use maps

vii. Data on house conditions in CDC – A block in HK – Maps, Digital Photos

viii. List of families engaged in urban agriculture activities in Halgahakumbura

ix. Booklets on Medicinal and Nutritional Plants prepared by Department of Indigenous Medicine, Colombo Municipal Council,

x. Posters prepared by CMC for WUF, 2006


xii. Display materials produced for WUF - 2006
xiii. Photo panels highlighting the mobilization, construction and improvement process of Halgahakumbura community

xiv. Trained staff on EL tools and approach for urban livelihood improvement in CMC, Community and NGOs