



Meet Pushpalatha from Koralaipattu

Pushpalatha's fourth child (3.5 years), was screened as underweight, but graduated by gaining 200g within the 12 days of the Positive Deviance (PD) Hearth programme implemented by WV Lanka. His growth card showed normal weight for the first time in his life after the PD/Hearth programme.

WV Lanka staff worked with Pushpalatha's family on a Family Development Plan, and linked her to the 'Divi Neguma' (government economic development programme), which provided home gardening inputs, as she had both limited assets and means to earn an income. WV Lanka complemented this home gardening initiative by providing training on home-based waste management and on compost making, and provided a compost barrel. Later, she was supported by the 'Samurdhi' (government poverty alleviation programme) to buy a cow.

Exhibiting a true spirit of entrepreneurship, she is now paid by her neighbours to graze 15 cows in addition to her own. She sells the excess milk and excess cow dung (for fertilizer) and has constructed a cow shed. She is part of the WV savings club in her community and is saving for an electric water pump for her well.

Fighting Malnutrition Through Multi-Sectoral Integration

A World Vision Sri Lanka Case Study

Sri Lanka is an island country with a population of just over 20 million (2012). The population is predominantly rural (71.2%) with 21.5% urban and 6.3% on estates.

Despite Sri Lanka's good health systems and infrastructure, malnutrition is still an issue among children under five years. UNICEF's National Nutrition and Micronutrient Survey (2012) showed that while only 13% are stunted, a high proportion are born with low birth weight (18%). Wasting levels are unusually high (20%) and levels of underweight are high (23%). Anaemia levels are low at 15%. It should be noted that there are significant inter-district variations, with high prevalence rates for all indicators of nutritional status and anaemia in some districts. The most vulnerable populations are those benefiting least from national programmes.

World Vision (WV) Lanka has worked in Sri Lanka since 1977, and serves nearly 1,500 villages in more than 500 small administrative divisions in the 20 districts, impacting the lives of over 240,000 children and their families. WV Lanka recently developed an approach integrating nutrition, health, agriculture and economic development referred to as the "Graduation Model". Turn over the page for more detailed information about the Graduation Model.

Nutrition Results in Children 6-59 months in Koralaipattu

World Vision's Koralaipattu Area Development Programme, which started in 2010, is located in the Batticaloa district, in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka. In just two years (March 2011 to March 2013), wasting decreased from 20% to 14%, and anaemia from 68% to 38%, with little change in stunting (27% to 25%) among children under five in the 735 vulnerable households. These preliminary results indicate that integrating agriculture, nutrition, health, economic development and partnership with government programmes is effective at bringing about sustained change in child well-being. Key factors for success include the multi-sectoral approach, the focus to improve equity and to move the most vulnerable out of poverty with reduced duplication of efforts.

WV Lanka recently developed an approach integrating nutrition, health, agriculture and economic development referred to as the “Graduation Model”.

The Graduation Model meets families where they are on the economic and nutrition scale to tailor interventions enabling graduation from one living standard segment to the next, as well as enabling improved nutrition. Families with malnourished children are identified and supported with appropriate nutrition interventions, in addition to the tailored economic interventions, which first focus on increasing diet diversity and livelihoods. WV Lanka is making the issue of improving nutrition the common objective for their economic and agricultural programmes, as well as for their health and nutrition programmes. WV Lanka also identifies partnering with the government as one of the key aspects to realize this objective.

The components of the Graduation Model are sequential and focused on families:

1. Participatory Living Standard Ranking (PLSR) to identify the living standards of the families (Diagram 1).
2. Nutrition assessment/growth monitoring to identify nutritional status of children and their families.
3. Family Development Plan prepared for all households and all members of the family – incorporating the Sustainable Livelihood Framework, WV Child Well-being outcomes, and health and nutrition indicators.
4. Positive Deviance (PD) Inquiry is used to identify positive behaviours in poor families with well-nourished children.
5. PD/Hearth programme for caregivers and malnourished children (12 day session where mothers meet together and prepare local foods + 2 weeks home practice, with follow up).
6. Regular growth monitoring promotion with government health service and follow up by WV volunteers/facilitators.
7. Integrated Graduation Model framework (Diagram 2) is tailored to living standard category identified in PLSR process (see Diagram 1), through four graduation approaches. Interventions include a combination of home gardens, business training, pre-microfinance (savings clubs), skills/technical/asset transfer and microfinance, depending on the PLSR ranking.

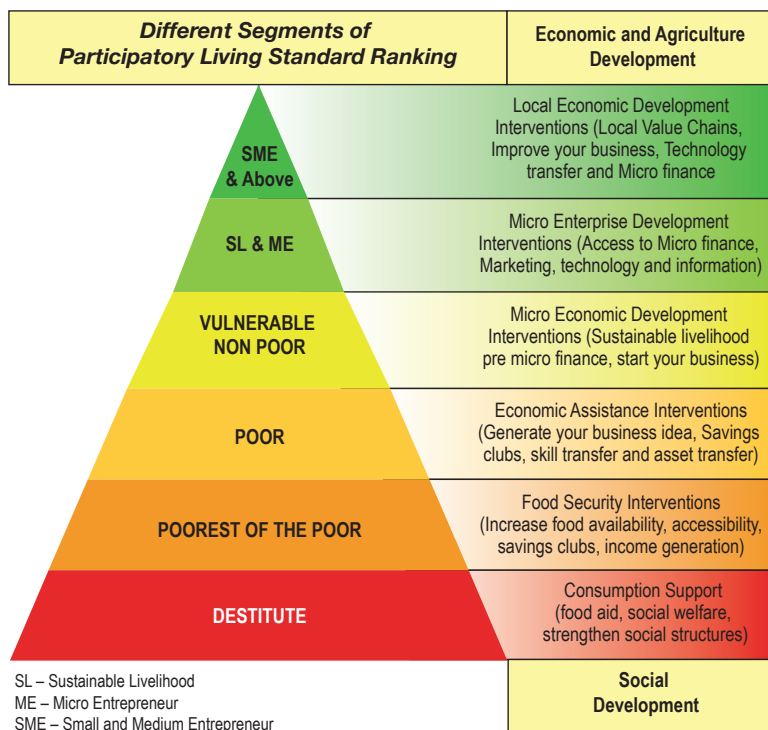


Diagram 1. Participatory Living Standard Ranking categories

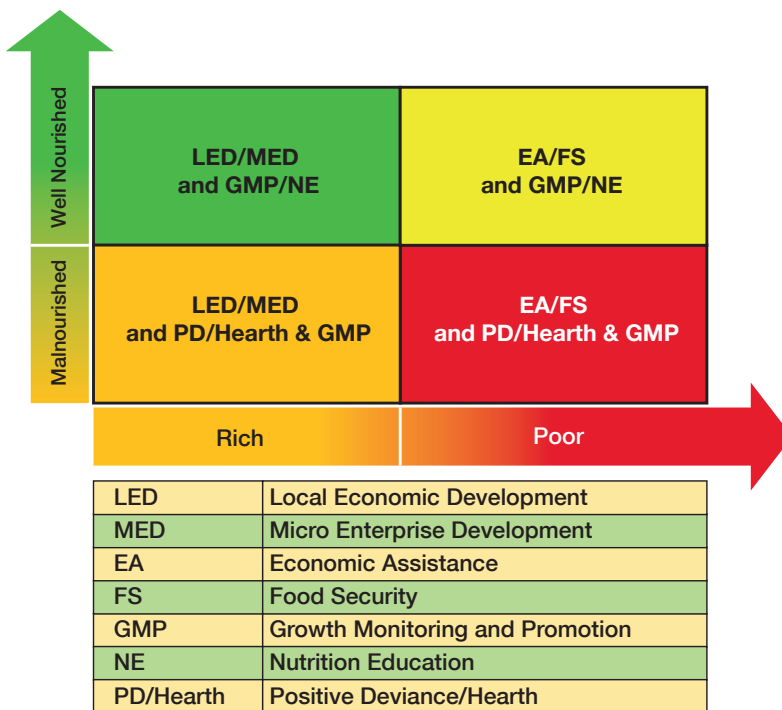


Diagram 2. Integrated Graduation Pathway Model Framework

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