

POVERTY REDUCTION PROCESS IN RURAL SOCIETY OF SRI LANKA: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS ON PUBLIC AND NGOS INTERVENTION

(BASED ON GALENBINDUNUWEWA AND MIHINTALE DIVISIONAL SECRETARIAT DIVISIONS)

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ABSTRACT

Despite Sri Lanka being a middle income level country, there are a considerable percentage of low-income level people, and among them the majority are living in rural areas. According to 'Household Income and Expenditure Survey - 2012/13', poverty level in the Plantations Sector is 8.8% while the Rural Sector has 6.0% and the Urban poor is 1.5% as reported in 2012/13 (Household Income and Expenditure Survey - 2012/13, Department of Census and Statistics - Sri Lanka). In order to reduce rural poverty, the public and NGO sectors have implemented a number of poverty reduction programmes, where some have been successful while some have failed. This study focus to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of poverty reduction programmes which are conducted by Public and NGOs sectors in rural society of Sri Lanka.

The objective of this study was to identify the role of Public and NGOs sectors and their involvement for poverty reduction process in rural Sri Lanka. Stratified Random Sampling was used to select the respondents. Study was conducted two selected Divisional Secretariat Divisions in Anuradhapura District, namely Galenbindunuwewa and Mihintale. Data were collected by using interviews and questionnaire.

The study revealed that there are many poverty reduction programmes and activities being implemented by the public and NGOs sectors at macro and micro levels in the study areas. However, when the role of the public and NGOs involvement in the process of poverty reduction in their programmes are analyzed comparatively, the NGO sectors have played a more significant role than the public sector. Examining the role of the public sector shows that the attitudes of the respondents were very negative. Qualitative data revealed that the people highly appreciated the role of NGOs in rural development. Against this background, it can be concluded that NGOs have assisted in poverty reduction in rural community than the public sector.

Key words: Poverty, Poverty Reduction, Public Intervention, NGOs Intervention, Rural Development

INTRODUCTION

In identifying the level of poverty in Sri Lanka, it can be seen that rural poverty is higher than urban poverty. According to 'Household Income and Expenditure Survey - 2012/13', poverty level in the Plantations Sector is 8.8% while the Rural Sector has 6.0% and the Urban poor is 1.5% as reported in 2012/13 (*Household Income and Expenditure Survey - 2012/13, Department of Census and Statistics - Sri Lanka*). Against this background, the public and NGOs sectors have conducted several poverty reduction programmes to enhance the capability of the poor people in the rural areas. In addition, a number of NGOs and INGOs, such as Sarvodaya, World Vision and Berendina have implemented numerous programmes to improve the capacity of rural community.

People who are living in rural areas have been facing various socio-economic, and political problems as a result of regional disparities. The State has been adopting a number of policies and strategies to reduce regional disparities, especially to reduce rural poverty. Successive governments have sought to reduce poverty through providing free education and health services, targeted grants, employment creation, land redistribution and development and, since the late 1970s, through economic

growth. From the 1940s to the 1970s the emphasis was on state planned and managed approaches with a commitment to universal provision of basic needs and services. The ideas of welfare, poor nutrition, small-scale farmers' productivity, landlessness and equity informed programme design rather than a clear conceptualization of poverty.(Tudawe, 2002; 38).

When considering the history of public sector intervention for poverty reduction that can be identified, Sri Lanka has a long history of social programmes and food subsidy programmes targeting the poor people. These poverty alleviation programmes have been launched since as early as in the 1930s. Several consumption and production-oriented measures have been taken at different times. Some of these measures are the food subsidy scheme in 1942, milk feeding scheme for free school children in 1944, mid-day meal for school children in 1940, food stamp scheme in 1979, settlement scheme from 1930, land tenure reforms in 1953, fertilizer subsidy, credit for paddy cultivation, etc. These poverty alleviation programmes have been implemented under three major welfare reports, namely the Education Act of 1945 (Kannangara Report 1943); the establishment of the Department of Social Services, 1948 (Jennings Report 1943); and the Health Act of 1953 (Cumpston Report 1950). The implementation of these reports, in public policy terms firmly established the principle of collective provision for common human and social needs through state intervention(Jayasooriya, 1996; 3-6).

Considering to the state intervention for poverty reduction in Sri Lanka, a number of poverty reduction programmes and strategies have been implemented by every government. However, even while identifying that development in the rural areas is crucial for poverty alleviation, the government cannot possibly channel unlimited funds into development plans without constraints, disregarding potential developments in urban areas or more importantly, not considering the state of its overall economy. Therefore, the Sri Lankan government faces a dilemma of pursuing growth that is equitable; trying to promote economic growth without

leaving the poor in the rural area behind. Apart from government policies, NGOs can help ease the situation too.

Under the community level strategies the NGOs have played a major role in the poverty reduction process in Sri Lanka. Such NGOs obtain funding from local and foreign donors and use these to provide services to poor people. The role of the NGO in the development process is well recognized today. There are 1029 NGOs registered in the country and all the NGOs participate in the development attempts and relief activities of the country.

Table 01: Number of Registered NGOs–Subject-wise-2011

Subject Area	No. of NGOs		Total
	International	Local	
Poverty Alleviation	35	222	257
Environment	07	65	72
Entrepreneur Development and Training	28	17	45
Training and Education	33	140	173
Health and Sanitation	22	47	69
Rehabilitation and Reconstruction	26	28	54
Reproductive Health	02	08	10
Human Rights	01	28	29
Disaster Management	01	02	03
Rural Development	04	46	50
Protection and Child Rights	24	55	79
Women and Development	02	28	30
Gender Equity	00	01	01
Relief Work	25	31	56

Credit and Mobilization	00	12	12
Any Other	21	68	89
Number of Total NGO	231	798	1029

Directory of Voluntary Social Services organizations-2011

The types of services provided vary from social mobilization of communities for empowerment and communal projects, sanitation and water supply through to micro-credit provision. The concept of 'small group' formation for various activities has become quite common with most NGOs as well as the state. NGOs indicate the enormous variety of activities undertaken and show that they work all over the country. In the North and East, for obvious reasons, humanitarian work is a key activity. More widely, agricultural development, small enterprise development, health and nutrition, environmental protection and micro-credit are common activities. While some NGOs target 'the poor' others provide services more generally across the population. However, NGOs have been playing a significant role in the achievement of poverty reduction goals.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

In order to reduce rural poverty, the public and NGO sectors have implemented a number of poverty reduction programmes, where some have been successful while some have failed. This research was conducted to assess comparatively the role of public and NGO sectors involvement in poverty reduction in rural society of Sri Lanka.

STUDY AREA AND SAMPLE

The study was completed in two DSDs of Anuradhapura District, Sri Lanka, namely Galenbindunuwewa and Mihintale. Nine GNDs were selected from Galenbindunuwewa and Mihintale DSDs for the study. Selected GNDs are

Upuldeniya, Milagaswewa and Janasirigama from the Galenbindunuwewa DSD; and Ruwangama, Bogahayaya, Pothana, Kasamaduwa, Maradankalla and Wellaragama from the Mihintale DSD.

Three variables have been considered when selecting the sample, namely, the type of location, status of poverty and public and NGOs intervention in poverty reduction. When considering the location, every GNDs of Galenbindunuwewa included were rural areas, and each GND in Mihintale, apart from Pothana, were rural areas. Pothana is one of GND where people are living in an urban area. John R. Weeks mentioned that, *urban is a place-based characteristic that describes the degree to which the lives of a spatial concentration of people are organized around non-agricultural activities. The urbaneness of a place is determined based on a range of elements encompassing population size and density, social and economic organization, and the transformation of the natural and agriculture environments into a built environment* (Rashed and Jurgens, 2010, 43). According to these elements, the Pothana GND can be identified as an urban area when compared with the other GNDs.

Table: 02 Samurdhi Assisted Families in Janasirigama and Pothana GN Divisions

DS Division	GN Division	Total Families	Samurdhi Assisted Families
Galenbindunuwewa	Janasirigama	735	252
Mihintale	Pothana	421	161

Resource Profile, Divisional Secretariat Division, Galenbindunuwewa and Mihintale -2013

Samurdhi Benefited families were selected as an indicator of poverty in the study areas. Among Samurdhi benefited families of Galenbindunuwewa DSD, the highest

number of families were represented in Janasirigama GND. Total families of Janasirigama is 735, among them 252 families are Samurdhi benefited families (34%) (*Resource Profile, Divisional Secretariat Division, Galenbindunuwewa-2013*). Total families in Mihintale DSD in 2012 records 9,179. Among them 2,522 (25.57%) of families have benefited from the Samurdhi programme. Among Samurdhi benefited families of Mihintale DSD, the highest number of Samurdhi assisted families is in Pothana GND. Total families of Pothana GND is 421, and among them 161 families can be identified as Samurdhi assisted families (38%) (*Resource Profile, Divisional Secretariat Division, Mihintale -2013*). The Janasirigama and Pothana GNDs were selected as study areas in order to investigate into the role of the public sector and their involvement in poverty reduction.

When reflecting on the role of the NGOs in poverty reduction in the study areas in Galenbindunuwewa and Mihintale DSDs, a number of NGOs and INGOs have been playing a significant role in reducing rural poverty in those areas. Among these NGOs, Berendina organization and World Vision were selected to study the role of NGOs intervention in the reduction of poverty. Since Berendina and World Vision are the most related community based organization which have implemented a number of programmes in the reduction of rural poverty in the Mihintale and Galenbindunuwewa DSDs, since they have also specially focused on empowering women in the rural areas. In observing the NGOs intervention in poverty reduction; Galenbindunuwewa, Milagaswewa and Upuldeniya GNDs were selected as study areas because World Vision has implemented number of programmes in these areas. Ruwangama, Bogahayaya, Kasamaduwa, Maradankalla and Wellaragama GNDs were selected in Mihintale DSD because Berendina has covered these areas under their programmes. Samurdhi benefited and non-benefited families and NGOs assisted families were selected by a simple random sampling technique from each of the nine selected GNDs. The total sample size was 302 families.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Both positivist and interpretivist paradigms were used in discussing the methodological approach. Identifying the nature of rural poverty is one of the objectives of this study. Therefore, the positivist paradigm was used to identify the nature of poverty of the respondents. On the contrary, this study attempted to identify the relationship between respondent's attitudes and poverty, and against this background, the interpretivist paradigm was used to consider the ideas of people and their perspectives as an important source of data in understanding poverty.

Research methodology can be defined as a model, which entails theoretical principles as well as a framework that provides guidelines on how research is done in the context of a particular paradigm. Both qualitative and quantitative methodologies were used in this research. Qualitative methodology supported in exploring real life situations and studying behavior patterns and the reasons behind social interactions of the respondents. Qualitative methodology allows researcher to incorporate respondents' views or opinions and their voice on these programmes. Nevertheless, quantitative methodology was used to study the nature of poverty in the study areas. Specially, the quantitative methodology supported in identifying the level of poverty and reduction of poverty after the implemented poverty reduction programmes among selected samples.

Research methods may be understood as all those methods/techniques that are used in conducting the research. Research methods or techniques thus refer to the methods the researchers use in performing research operations. The case study method, comparative method and statistical method were used as the research methods in this research.

Since both qualitative and quantitative data were used in this research, qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques too were utilized. In collecting the

qualitative data in this research, it employed several participant-oriented data collection techniques such as structured interview, key informant interviews and focus group discussions. Quantitative data were collected through the employment of a structured questionnaire with some open-ended questions.

According to the key objective, poverty reduction and Public and NGOs intervention can be identified as the major variables of this study. Against this background, understanding the behavioral patterns of the respondents more often possible through collection of qualitative data, and the poverty reduction process can be identified through the quantitative data. Therefore, this research designed and incorporated both qualitative and quantitative data analyzing tools and linked them together as highly desirable. Furthermore, to analyze the qualitative data, the qualitative data analysis methods used are such as analytic comparisons, codes and coding, graphical and tabular analysis methods.

On the other hand, poverty reduction can be identified as a major variable in this research; as a result many of the statistical data collected relate to the poverty reduction process in this study. Therefore, statistical data were analyzed by using the Statistical Package of Social Sciences (SPSS).

RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

Understanding the role of the public and NGOs sectors involvement in poverty reduction in Galenbindunuwewa and Mihintale was key objective of the study. When this objective was examined, the public and NGOs sectors have assisted in the reduction of poverty in Galenbindunuwewa and Mihintale DSDs. Especially they have implemented infrastructure development projects in the study areas, such as renovated village roads, irrigation projects, supply of electricity for homes and industries, transport facilities, telecommunication facilities and store facilities.

Table 03: Developed Infrastructure Facilities DSDs, GNDs and Type of Infrastructure Facilities and Assisted Organizations

DSDs	GNDs	Assisted by	Types of infra-structure facilities								
			Renovated Village Roads	Irrigation Projects	Electricity Supply to Houses (Houses)	Supply Electricity (Industries)	Transport Facilities	Telephone Facilities	Store Facilities	Total	
Galenbindunuwewa	Upuldeniya	World Vision	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	
		Government	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	
		Total	11	2						13	
	Milagaswewa	World Vision	44	5	1	37	33		45	165	
		Total	44	5	1	37	33		45	165	
	Janasirigama	Government	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	
		Total	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	6	
	Milinhthale	Ruwangama	Government	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
			Total	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Bogahayaya		Government	12	-	1	-	-	-	-	13	
		Total	12	-	1	-	-	-	-	13	

	Pothana	Government	87	-	14		5	1	1	108
		Total	87	-	14		5	1	1	108
	Kasamaduwa	Government	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
		Total	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
	Wellaragama	Government	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
		Total	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Grand Total		186	-	17	37	38	1	46	332	

Field data-2015

Table 03, has discussed the types of social infrastructure development programmes implemented in the study areas and the organizations that have assisted. World Vision has implemented projects such as renovating village roads, irrigation projects, electricity supply to houses and industries in Upuldeniya and Milagaswewa in Galenbindunuwewa DSD. Out of the total sample of Galenbindunuwewa 82.7%, indicated that World Vision renovated their roads, 24.1% mentioned that World Vision implemented irrigation projects. In addition, 63.7% revealed that World Vision supplied electricity for industries. Further, 93.7% said World Vision has assisted in providing store facilities. However, Berendina has not implemented any infrastructure development projects in the study areas.

Mihintale is located as a semi urban area. Therefore, the Government has implemented a number of infrastructure development programmes. Especially government paid fully attention on developing the roads, supply electricity and

telephone facilities. Total sample of Mihintale DSD were selected from 144 families, out of them 126 families (87.5%) revealed that the government has assisted in renovating their roads. In addition, 15 families (10.4%) said the government has provided electricity facilities to houses.

When identifying the role of the public and NGOs sectors involvement in poverty reduction in Galenbindunuwewa and Mihintale DSDs, both public and NGOs have assisted in agricultural activities in the study areas. Especially the public and NGOs have assisted to renovated village tanks. Out of the 302 respondents, 58 households were covered in Upuldeniya and Milagaswewa GNDs in Galenbindunuwewa DSD, among them 89.5% expressed that World Vision has assisted in renovating their village tanks. Especially World Vision has implemented 42 projects to renovated tank bunds and sluices in Galenbindunuwewa.

In addition, Berendina Organization has assisted to renovated tank bunds and slit in Ruwangama and Kasamaduwa GNDs of the Mihintale DSD. They have been involved in two projects under this component. Considering the government assisted renovation of village tanks, it can be identified that this is very higher than others. The public sector has intervened in 32 projects to renovate village tanks. Especially de-silting projects (Ron mada ivath kireema) had been implemented by the previous government. Under the project the government has played a significant role in the renovation of village tanks in both areas. Total of the respondents 26.8% have expressed that the government assisted to renovate their village tanks (Table 04). However, qualitative data revealed that people's attitudes on the role of the public sector were very negative.

Table 04: Renovated Village Tanks in DSDs, GNDs, Organization That Assisted and Type of Assistance

DSDs	GNDs	World Vision		Berendina		Government			
		Type of assistance		Type of assistance		Type of assistance			
		Renovated anicut	Renovated tank bund and sluice	Renovated tank bund	Slit	Renovated bridge	Renovated anicut	Renovated tank bund and sluice	Slit
Galenbindunuwe wa	Upuldeniya	-	2	-	-	4	-	4	-
	Mailagaswewa	1	40	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Janasirigama	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	41
	Total	1	-	-	-	4	-	5	41
Mihintale	Ruwangama	-	-	1	-	1	-	6	
	Bogahayaya	-	-	-	-	4	-	5	4
	Pothana	-	-	-	-	9	2	12	29
	Kasamaduwa	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	7
	Maradankalla	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	
	Total	-	-	1	1	14	2	27	40
Grand Total		1	42	1	1	18	2	32	81

Field data-2015

When taking into consideration the public sector and NGOs sectors intervention in agricultural activities of the study areas, some organizations have provided HYV for farming. World Vision has implemented programmesto provided HYV in Upuladeniya and Milagaswewa in Galenbindunuwewa DSD. Total sample of

Upuldeniya and Milagaswewa are 58 households, among them 68.9% have obtained paddy and maize from World Vision. Berendina has implemented programmes to distributed perennial crops in Mihintale. Out of total households of Mihintale 73.6% households benefited from the Berendina Programme. The Government has implemented the Divinaguma Programme in both areas, 16.2% were provided HYV such as paddy, maize and vegetable seeds under the Divinaguma Programme.

In view of the assistance of the public and NGOs sectors, they have assisted to improve the living conditions of the families in that study areas. Especially the government and NGOs construct houses, toilets and provide safe drinking water for poor families in the study areas. Chapter Eight indicated that World Vision has constructed seven new houses (07) while providing building materials in Galenbindunuwewa. Berendina provided funds to construct houses. Eight families mentioned that financial aid and building materials were provided by Berendina to construct their houses destroyed due to floods. In addition, the government provided financial aid and building materials to construct five (5) houses in Mihintale.

Table 05. HYV Provided for Farming by such Organizations

DSDs	GNDs	World Vision		Berendina				Government		
		Paddy	Maize	Mango	Orange	Coconut	Guava	Paddy	Maize	Vegetable Seeds
Galenbindunuwewa	Upuldeniya	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	Milagaswewa	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	Janasirigama	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	7	33
	Total	-	40	-	-	-	-	8	9	33
Mihinthale	Ruwangama	-	-	7	7	3	3	-	-	-

	Bogahayaya	-	-	4	4		3	-	-	-
	Pothana	-	-	6	6	2	2	2	-	-
	Kasamaduw a	-	-	9	9	5	5	-	-	-
	Maradankall a	-	-	6	6	4	3	-	-	-
	wellaragama	-	-	4	4	4		-	-	-
	Total	-	-	36	36	18	16	2	-	-
Grand Total		-	40	36	36	18	16	10	9	33

Field data ñ 2015

Especially, the public and NGOs have supported poor families to begin new income generating activities or to improve existing conditions. Key intervention to enhance incomes includes support for home-based enterprises, animal husbandry and starting small businesses. While identifying the type of assistance needed to improve the small businesses of the study areas, several organizations have supported to enhance their small businesses. World Vision, Berendina, and Samurdhi programmes have assisted these small businesses in different ways such as providing loan facilities, equipment and provided training for organizing and sustainability. Table 03, reveals the type of assistance provided by such organizations. Under the follow-up programme, eight (8) families received loans, equipment and training from World Vision to improve their businesses. Berendina also assisted four (4) families to improve their businesses. Five families received loans and equipment to develop their businesses under the Samurdhi programme.

Table 06: The Organizations and Types of Assistance by DSDs, GNDs for Small Businesses

DSDs	GNDs	Assisted Institution	Type of Assistance				Status of Assistance			
			Loan facilities	Provided equipment	Provided training for organizing and sustainability	Other	Total	Highly	Moderately	Total
Galenbindunuwewa	Upuldeniya	World Vision	2	2	2		4	2	2	4
		Total	-	2	2		4	2	2	4
	Milagaswewa	World Vision	1	-	-		1	1	-	1
		Total	1	-	-		1	1	-	1
Mihinthale	Ruwangama	Berendina	1	-	-		1	1	-	1
		Total	1	-	-		1	1	-	1
	Pothana	World Vision	1	-	-		1	1	-	1
		Berendina	-	1	-		1	1	-	1
		Samurdhi	4	-	-		4	4	-	4
		Berendina	2	-	-	1	3	3	-	3
		Total	7	1	-	1	9	9	-	9
	Maradankalla	Samurdhi	1	-	-		1	1	-	1
Total		1	-	-		1	1	-	1	

Field data-2015

Regarding animal husbandry, such organizations had provided animals to economically poor people in the study areas. Table 07 indicates the type of animals provided by these organizations. Berendina has provided milk cows, goats, chicken and pigs among the eight (8) households in Mihintale DSD. World Vision had provided milk cows, cattle and chicken among the four (4) families in the Galenbindunuwewa DSD. In addition, they have assisted in capacity building training for families engaged in animal husbandry. Especially Berendina Organization had provided subject oriented technical training for refreshing and improving the technical knowledge of goat, poultry and cattle breeding. 14 families in Mihintale DSD received assistance from Berendina for subject oriented technical training in animal husbandry.

Table 07: The Organizations and Types of Animals Provided by DSDs, GNDs

DSDs	GNDs	Assisted by	Types of Animals Given					
			Milk Cows	Cattles	Pigs	Goats	Chicken	Other
Galenbindunuwewa	Milagaswewa	World Vision	1	2	-	-	1	-
		Divinaguma	-	-	-	-	1	-
		Ceylinco	1	-	-	-	-	-
		Total	2	2	-	-	2	-
	Janasirigama	Divinaguma	-	-	-	-	2	-
		Total	-	-	-	-	2	-
Mihinthale	Ruwangama	Berendina	1	-	-	-	-	-
		Total	1	-	-	-	-	-
	Bogahayaya	Berendina	-	-	-	2	-	-
		Total	-	-	-	2	-	-
	Pothana	Berendina	-	-	1	-	1	-

	Samurdhi	1	-	-	-	2	-
	Commercial	1	-	-	-		-
	Divisional Secretariat		-	-	-	1	-
	Other	1	1	-	1	2	1
	Total	3	1	1	1	6	1
Kasamaduwa	Berendina		-	-	1	1	-
	Divisional Secretariat	-	-	-	1	-	-
	Other	-	-	-		-	1
	Total	-	-	-	2	1	1
Maradankalla	Berendina	-	-	-	1	-	-
	Total	-	-	-	1	-	-
Grand Total		6	3	1	6	11	2

Field data-2015

While identifying the public and NGOs sectors involvement in poverty reduction in the study areas, several institutions provided loan facilities to enhance the livelihoods of the poor people (Table 08). Regarding the accessing of loan facilities of the sample households, about 62.5% of the persons have obtained loans out of the total and 37.5% households have not been involved in any loan facilities. Out of the total creditors, 30.1% obtained loans from the Samurdhi Bank. About 31% of the creditors have obtained loans from State banks. Further, World Vision and Berendina (NGOs) have implemented credit facilities in Galenbindunuwewa and Mihintale, and some creditors have obtained loans from World Vision and Berendina Organizations. Among these loan facilities, respondents said that loan procedure of Samurdhi Bank is better than the others.

Table 08: Type of Loan and Loan Provided Institutions by DSDs, GNDs

DSD	Loan Provided Institution	Type of loan								Total
		Housing	Personal	Business	Self employment	Agriculture	Disaster	Both Housing and Business	Other	
Galenbindunuwewa	World Vision	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	4
	Samurdhi	7	4	-	2	7	-	1	1	22
	Personal	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	Bank of Ceylon	7	1	3	1	5	-	-	-	17
	Rajarata Bank	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
	Commercial Bank	3	2	1	1	2	-	-	-	9
	Sanasa	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
	Commercial Credit	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
	Leasing Company	-	4	1	-	-	1	-	2	8
	Peoples Bank	2	2	3	-	3	-	-	2	12
	Forces	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
	Housing Authority	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	Total	26	18	10	5	21	1	1	5	87
Mihintale	Berendina		1	2	3	5				11
	World Vision	1	1	1	1	1				5
	Samurdhi	7		10	10	7			1	35
	Personal	1	2	1	1	3				8

Bank of Ceylon	5		2	1	3			2	12
Rajarata Bank	5		1	1	1				8
Commercial Bank	2			1	3				6
Sanasa	1								1
Commercial Credit		1							1
Leasing Company		1						2	3
Peoples Bank	1								1
Forces								1	1
Housing Authority	5								5
RD Bank		1	1						2
Pragathi Sewa		1			1				2
Death Society		1							1
Total	25	9	19	19	24			6	102
Grand Total	51	27	29	24	45	1	1	11	189

Field data-2015

Furthermore, the public and NGOs sectors have assisted in improving the education in the study areas, and several activities were carried out to improve this situation such as, conducting extra classes, improving English education, supplying stationeries, organizing competitions and scholarships for student etc. Respondents of Milagaswewa and Upuldeniya in the Galenbindunuwewa DSD revealed that World Vision actively participates in improving their education. Berendina

organization has assisted in improving education in the Mihintale DSD. They have conducted extra classes, scholarship programmes and competitions. Table 08 shows the types of assistance and organizations that assisted in improving education in the study areas. Respondents of Milagaswewa and Upuldeniya in the Galenbindunuwewa DSD revealed that World Vision actively participates in improving their education. 28 families said, they attend the English classes conducted by World Vision and 27 families expressed they obtained stationeries from World Vision. Furthermore, 12 families revealed that their children have obtained scholarships under the scholarship programme conducted by World Vision. Berendina organization has assisted in improving education in Mihintale DSD. They have conducted extra classes, scholarships programmes and competitions. Seven (7) families said that Berendina assisted in their children's education.

Table 09: Assisted Organizations and Type of Assistance for Education by DSDs and GNDs

DSDs	GNDs	Assisted by	Type of assisted						Total
			Conduct extra classes	Improving English education	Supply stationeries	Computer courses	Organize competition	Scholarships for students	
Galenbindunuwewa	Milagaswewa	World Vision	8	28	27	7	-	12	82
		Total	8	28	27	7	-	12	82
	Upuldeniya	World Vision	-	5	4	-	-	-	9
		Total	-	5	4	-	-	-	9
	Janasirigama	Government	-	-	4	-	-	-	4

		Total	-	-	4	-	-	-	4
Mihintale	Kasamaduwa	Berendina	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
		Total	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	Ruwangama	Government	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
		Total	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	Pothana	Berendina	-	-	4	-	-	-	4
		Total	-	-	4	-	-	-	4
		World Vision	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
		Total	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
		Samurdhi	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
		Total	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	Maradankalla	Berendina	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
		Total	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
		Samurdhi	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
		Total	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Grand Total			8	33	44	7	2	12	106

Field data-2015

In addition, several organizations have started free vocational training courses in the study areas. They provided training courses for youth to improve their employability acumen. Out of the total sample 32 respondents revealed that they

have participated in vocational training courses such as f or self-employment, agriculture and animal training conducted by World Vision in Galenbindunuwewa. In addition 52 respondents of Mihintale DSD, expressed Berendina organization provided vocational training courses and scholarships for completing their vocational training. Further, the government has been conducting vocational training courses in both areas, and 24 respondents said that they have participated in these courses.

Table 10: Assisted Organizations and Type of Vocational Training by DSDs and GNDs

DSDs	GNDs	Assisted by	Type of training							Total
			Self employment	Computer training	Training in agriculture	Training in sewing	Training in masonry	Training in animals	Fishery programme	
Galenbindunuwewa	Milagaswewa	World Vision	6	-	25	-	-	1	-	32
		Samurdhi	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
		Government	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
		Total	6	-	28	-	-	1	-	35
	Upuldeniya	World Vision	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
		Government	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
		Total	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	10
	Janasirigama	Samurdhi	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
		Government	4	2	3	2	-	-	-	11

		Other	1			2	-	-	-	3
		Total	6	2	3	4	-	-	-	15
Mihintale	Ruwangama	Berendina			6	-	-	-	-	6
		Government		1		-	-	-	-	1
		Total		1	6	-	-	-	-	7
	Bogahayaya	Berendina	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	3
		Government		-		-	-	1	-	1
		Total	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	4
	Pothana	Berendina	1	-	-	-	-	5	-	6
		Samurdhi		-	-	-	1			1
		Government		3	-	1		3	1	8
		Total	1	3	-	1	1	8	1	15
	Kasamaduwa	Berendina		6	6	-	-	1	-	13
		Government	1		-	-	-	-	-	1
		Other	1		-	-	-	-	-	1
		Total	2	6	6	-	-	1	-	15
	Maradankalla	Berendina	1	9	9	-	-	-	-	19
Total		1	9	9	-	-	-	-	19	
Wellaragama	Berendina	-	10	10	-	-	-	-	20	
	Total	-	10	10	-	-	-	-	20	
Grand Total			26	31	64	6	1	11	1	140

Field data-2015

When identifying the role of the public and NGOs sectors' intervention in poverty reduction in the study areas, it can be seen that they have supported in health for identified destitute families on a needs basis. Respondents revealed that World Vision holds eye clinics in Milagaswewa to identify people suffering from poor eyesight and those who need eye operations are guided to government hospitals.

The study covered 47 families in Milagaswewa and among them 23 respondents said, they obtained medical assistance from World Vision. World Vision also organizes cataract operations in government hospitals and provides financial assistance to enable the poor to buy the lenses needed. 10 respondents have received assistance for spectacles and cataract operations. Further, World Vision conducted medical clinics focusing on malnourished pregnant women and breast-feeding mothers. In addition, they provided food rations to supplement their nutrition intake. World Vision also organizes regular medical clinics for elderly people suffering from chronic ailments such as diabetes and hypertension. Also, World Vision has helped poor people who needed financial assistance to cover their major operations. Compared with the NGOs assistance, the government too has supported 2 families in a first aid programme and assisted malnourished mothers and children in the Mihintale DSD.

Table 11: Type of Assisted and Assisted Organizations for Health by DSDs, Ds

DSDs	GNDs	Assisted by	Type of Assisted					Total
			First aid programme	Regular medical clinics	Provision of spectacles and assistance for cataract operation	Assistance for malnourished mothers and children	Dental clinics	
Galenbindunuwewa	Milagaswewa	World Vision		6	10	6	1	23
		Total		6	10	6	1	23
	Upuldeniya	World Vision		4				4
		Total		4				4
	Janasirigama	Government	1					1

		Total	1				1
Mihintale	Pothana	Government				1	1
		Total				1	1
Grand Total			1	10	10	7	1
							29

Field data-2015

CONCLUSION

The study revealed that there are many poverty reduction programmes and activities being implemented by the public and NGOs sectors at macro and micro levels in the study areas. However, when the role of the public and NGOs involvement in the process of poverty reduction in their programmes are analyzed comparatively, the NGO sectors have played a more significant role than the public sector. World Vision in Galenbindunuwewa has implemented several poverty reduction programmes under its area development programme. The project was implemented for fifteen years in selected GNDs in the Galenbindunuwewa DSD. In addition, Berendina in the Mihintale DSD has played a considerable role in poverty reduction. Examining the role of the public sector shows that the attitudes of the respondents were very negative. Qualitative data revealed that the people highly appreciated the role of NGOs in rural development. Against this background, it can be concluded that NGOs have assisted in poverty reduction in rural community than the public sector.

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