# **P:** NATURE CONSERVATION



| Purpose:   | Maintain and protect a place for the next generation |
|------------|--|
| Start:     | 2000   |
| Place:     | near Koslanda  |
| Caretaker: | 3  |
| Workers:   | various  |
| Size:      | 35 hectares  |



In the middle of the forest a place for nature observation, training and meetings can be offered.

Martin Luther, the founder of the Anglican church, once said: " ... and even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree". To believe in a tomorrow and feel responsible for the world (nature) of tomorrow! Today, the Little Smile nature reserve is already one of the last areas of refuge for a herd of elephants and other free roaming animals – even a leopard lives in the some 35-hectare large mountainous jungle. LSA tries to protect these animals from poachers. In most nearby forests, the trees have been either felled or burned. Little Smile II is like a small island of peace and harmony, almost a reminder of a lost paradise.

#### The project LS 2 was started with the following goals:

- Create a nature reserve that offers a place of refuge for the diversity of native plants and animals.
- Create awareness in the native people that this natural heritage should be preserved and passed on.
- Instill respect and love of nature, especially in young people, through experiencing this almost pristine nature.
- Create and preserve a unique teaching space.





Those who visit LS II will leave the mountainous jungle convinced that the beauty of a tree is of much greater value than the wood of a felled tree ever could be. As in the time when kings ruled Sri Lanka, unbelievable natural stone walls have been constructed to prevent erosion on the mountainside and create level surfaces. LS 2 represents a place where, through their own experience, people can – and must – comprehend how important it is for today's generation to protect and pass on what they themselves have received from earlier generations.

# Some other Nature Protection Areas of Little Smile: "Heavensdoor" Poonagala



Since the LSA acquired this property in 2000, numerous dry stone walls have been constructed and stone-paved streets and paths laid out. In addition, a water supply and tanks have been set up and many reforestation measures have been implemented.

### Dikkapitia



This former sugar plantation in the mountains near Nikkapotha was completely dilapidated and deserted when the LSA purchased the 28 hectare area in 2006. Since then, over 10 hectares have been organically cultivated with pepper, vanilla and cloves. Middle of 2007 the Estate was leased from **Little Smile Organic Ltd**. This Partner Organization, specialized on Organic Agriculture provides work mainly for widows with children and an agriculture training under the principals of Nature protection.

## **Q: ORGANIC CULTIVATION**

#### Do not panic - Eat Organic!

Increased consumer awareness with regard to healthy eating and environmental protection has led to heightened demand for organic food. The Little Smile Association invests in organic cultivation on the basis of the following objectives:

- a) Training of the farmers via an information and training center and
- b) Income through international export of organic products. LSA uses this income to support its social projects in the country. The LSA cultivates organic spices in Koslanda and Dikkapitia as well as organic fruit in Buttala.



The Estate in Dikkapitia is given in lease to the **Little Smile Organic Ltd**. LSO will pay 20 % more than LSA paid for the land 2005 in rates over 10 years. Also there is a contract between Little Smile Association and Little Smile Organic, that the BOI project has the duty to support the children-village Little Smile Mahagedara with a yearly payment witch is as high as the coasts of all the rice the children village in Koslanda will need.

| Purpose:          | Training center for organic cultivation and for commercial purposes |
|-------------------|---|
| Start:            | October 2007  |
| Place:            | Nikkapotha  |
| <b>Employees:</b> | 14  |
| Day workers:      | According to need   |
| Größe:            | 65 Acres  |

#### R: DIFFERENT SOCIAL PROJECTS

One of the main goals of the Little Smile Association is to bring social behavior in the thoughts and feeling of both children and adults. The Founder and President of the LSA, Michael Kreitmeir, is a living example. He has dedicated the majority of his private holdings and money to provide aid for people in distress. LSA follows his example and tries to help right where the need is the greatest.

LSA has already helped many handicapped, elderly and ill people, Associations and temples, widows and abandoned women in need.

2009 LSA is supporting Preschools in Koslanda, Nikkapotha and Galle, Buddhist Temples in Nikkapotha, Galle, Wellawaya and Gampaha, Hospitals in Koslanda und Kalmunai, the Hindukovil in Koslanda and many small schools in rural areas,





On every full moon day, people with special needs can come to the Little Smile children's village and receive milk powder and other important provisions as well as medicine and clothing.

LSA also issues small lines of interest-free credit to people without means who need to repair their huts or install a water connection. In some cases, the LSA also provides the building materials.



## **LSA AND THE TSUNAMI DESASTER**

The LSA was one of the first organizations to help in and around Kalmunai after the Tsunami; children in LSA shared their food, employees shared their salaries.

Many times, the manager and president also helped bring emergency goods from Koslanda to the destroyed areas around Kalmunai.

In the north and south, LSA donated boats valued at almost 8 million rupees.

Boat owners who received those donations did and still do need to repay the money by giving monthly sums to support tsunami widows in distress. These monthly payments were and are monitored through our office in Kalmunai and will continue until 2010.





But the LSA has also helped and will continue to help in areas far removed from those affected by the tsunami; one example of this was the transfer of medical equipment and a dentist's chair to the district hospital in Koslanda in February 2007 and again in January 2009.

# THE NAME IS PROGRAM: LITTLE SMILE

For the past 13 years, for today and the future, Little Smile will guide children to find the right path in life, so that they can smile every day and have a smile ready for others tomorrow!







We must give children in distress HOPE today, than these children will be our HOPE tomorrow!

<u>Additional information</u>: Little Smile Association – Main office Koslanda: Tel: (0094) 057 2257768 Email: <u>lsmile@sltnet.lk</u> Website: <u>www.littlesmile.com</u>