

United Nations Volunteers

Budget Revision

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Support to the Establishment of a Volunteer Information and Coordination Centre (VOICE) in Sri Lanka

Executive summary

The project "Support to the Establishment of a Volunteer Information and Coordination Centre (VOICE) in Sri Lanka" was launched in May 2006 for a period of two years with funds from the UNV Special Voluntary Fund. The main objective of the project was establishing VOICE as a permanent institution to promote and support volunteerism in Sri Lanka

A series of constraining factors have caused the project to progress very slowly for the first 18 months of implementation. However, following a restructuring of the project management arrangements at the beginning of 2008, momentum has been rebuilt around the initiative. In March 2008, the VOICE Steering Committee has approved a revised programme of work for the project. Working on the basis of this revised programme of work, the project team has already started to obtain significant results, particularly with respect to establishing a legislative framework for VOICE and forging partnerships for volunteerism. Several other initiatives – including initiatives around creating knowledge on volunteerism and developing operational systems for VOICE – have already been conceptualized and are ready to start. At the beginning of 2008 a no-cost extension for the project was granted until December 2008. However, a considerably longer period of time will be needed in order to consolidate the achievements obtained so far, fully implement various promising initiatives which are in the pipeline, and ensure a smooth transition of functions from the project team to the VOICE permanent staff.

The substantive budget revision is prepared to:

- Consolidate and expand the results achieved so far, particularly in the areas of legislation development and partnership building;
- Undertake further activities that will strengthen the operational capacity of VOICE to a point where long-term sustainability can be reasonably expected;
- Ensure a proper hand over of responsibilities from the Project Team to the Ministry and build the capacity of the Ministry's staff that will be assigned to VOICE.

This extension to June 2010 results in an increase of \$298,814 which was approved by the UNV PAC on 13 November 2008

Total Revised Budget [May 2006-Jun 2010]: 614,184 USD

Extension [Jan.2009 -Jun. 2010]:

298,184 USD

AWP Budget [May 2006- Dec. 2008]:

316,000 USD

Award ID/Project ID:

Fund Code:

00043763/00051172 UNV/SVF (70100)

Project Start Date: Project End Date:

May 2006 June 2010

Management Arrangements:

Direct

Implementation

[UNV]

Approved by:

UNV:

Flavia Pansieri, Executive Coordinator

19 March 2009

Date

UNDP:

Douglas Keh, Country Director, UNDP Sri Lanka

Date