



Profile

Centre for Environment and Development (CED) is a legally incorporated non-profit making Non-Governmental Organization in Sri Lanka that operates as a think tank and concept builder, research & policy institute, watchdog and campaigner at local, national and international levels. Its main work areas evolve around the concept of "Creating a Better World" and work around the main thematic areas of Sustainable Development and Social Justice. CED is based in Sri Lanka and works intensely in Asia networking intimately with other regions and contributing regularly at leading international events on sustainability and social justice. Currently CED works on issues primarily related to Sustainable Consumption & Production, Community Empowerment & Poverty Eradication, Consumer Protection & Social Justice, and Corporate Social Responsibility.

In 2004-5 CED teamed with UNEP & Consumers International for the project SC.Asia and formulated "The Asian Review in SC" and was a co-author of the UNEP published "Advancing Sustainable Consumption in Asia: A Guidance Manual". Now CED has launched an "Asian Expert Resource Centre for Sustainable Consumption & Production". CED's "From Poverty to Sustainability" is practical action programme to eliminate poverty using SCP tools.

Some recent activities of CED have been to improve national and international policy and establish institutional mechanisms and social/political processes that can help create a better and sustainable world.

- **NCSD:** In late 90's CED successfully lobbied for the creation a National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD). During the year 2002 CED hosted a series of preliminary stakeholder meetings with participation of the Ministry of Environment & Natural Resource Management. This provided the background for the cabinet approval of the setting-up of the NCSD and for the formulation of the NSDS.
- **WSSD & National Report:** CED was invited by the Ministry of Environment & Natural Resource Management to write the chapter on Civil Society Participation for the National Report to WSSD. CED also hosted the National Report consultation meeting for Civil Society on the invitation of the Ministry of Environment in Sri Lanka.
- **SC.Asia:** CED teamed up with UNEP & Consumers International as the Asian partner for a project SC.Asia: Capacity Building for Implementation of UN Guidelines on Consumer Protection (Sustainable Consumption) in Asia. CED conducted reviews in 12 Asian countries and held meetings with over 100 government and NGO authorities working on Sustainable Consumption & Production. The Asian Review on SC produced by CED has been recognized by world authorities as one of the best in the subject matter, specially with its uniquely Asian approach that challenges the conventional Northern thinking framework. CED also was a co-author of the UNEP published "Advancing Sustainable Consumption in Asia: A Guidance Manual" the first of its kind in the world.
- **Asian Expert Resource Center for SCP:** CED has launched an Asian Expert Resource Centre for Sustainable Consumption & Production. The centre will establish a network of organizations workig on SCP issues in Asia and will jointly implement project with organizations in Europe and other parts of the world.
- **From Poverty to Sustainability:** CED has initiated a project to eliminate poverty using sustainable consumption and production tools. The first project is a Community based Sustainable Coir Project conducted in partnership has already expanded into different areas such as micro credit fund, entrepreneurship programme, food sufficiency, renewable energy, fair/eco-trade and ICT skill development and will seek further national & international partners for its implementation.
- **Better World Childrens' Club:** A club constituting chidren in the view of creating a better understanding and caring society. The club wuill be launched during the December 2005 school

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holidays. The project will aim at establishing chapters around the country and different parts of the world. A club twining programme will then be facilitated. Programmes will include eco-camps, learning courses on sustainable living, no more waste campaigns, and many more. Already another chapter has been formed in Malaysia in partnership with ERA & FOMCA.

- **Consumer Protection Unit:** CED has set-up a consumer protection unit and will execute the consumer redress centre, consumer legal assistance programme, comparative product testing programme and a consumer alert communications campaign. CED will find appropriate international and local partners to set-up the capacity on areas such as bio technology and testing etc.
- **Human Rights Unit:** We are currently on a programme to create awareness on rights of IDPs in Sri Lanka. The campaign is developed in partnership with our partner communications agency.
- **CSR Partnerships:** CED will forge Public-Private Partnerships to implement corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects. This will include offering training and capacity building to organizations in the Asian Region.
- **Research, Communications, Training & Publications Division:** The main activities include "The Sustainer" e-magazine, publication of Asian Review on Sustainable Consumption, CED Website, CSR Training Module etc.

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