

National Languages Equality Advancement Project. Funded by Global Affairs Canada. Implemented by Alinea.

NATIONAL LANGUAGES DIVISION (NLD) Ministry of Public Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government



Language Planning Facilitation Programmes

Improving the capacity of key ministries to deliver public services in both Official Languages



The NLD in collaboration with NLEAP, hosted Technical Training Workshops in Language Planning for 68 selected Government Institutions. These workshops are part of a strategy to develop 30 sub national institutions island-wide, as the 'model institutions' in the development and implementation of Language Plans. 28 institutions targeted under the Sub-National Strategy were part of the workshop series.

Improving the capacity of key ministries to deliver public services in both Official Languages (Sinhala and Tamil) at national and provincial levels, especially in bilingual communities is an integral component of the Official Languages Policy (OLP) Implementation Strategy Framework.



Awareness on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy (GEWE) and OLP Implementation

A workshop for the Ministry and its Partner Institutions to discuss integration of GEWE Strategies to the OLP Implementation Strategy Framework was led by Mr. Asoka Gunawardena, Consultant (NLEAP) and Ms. Saama Rajakaruna (NLEAP Gender Equality Specialist)



Reactivating and Operationalizing the 1956 Call Centre

A brainstorm was held for the Ministry and its Partner Institutions DOL, OLC and NILET, to discuss the status and way forward in operationalizing the 1956 Call Center.

"If you talk to a (wo)man in a language (s)/he understands, that goes to (his)/her head.
If you talk to (him)/her in (his)/her language, that goes to (his)/her heart."

Nelson Mandela

Visits to National Languages Fund Beneficiaries



NLF Partner Aruthal- Jaffna



NLF Partner Samadanam - Kandy



NLF Partner Aruthal- Kilinochchi



NLF Partner NPC - Trincomalee



NLF Partner HDO- Kandy



NLF Partner Viluthu-Trincomalee



NLF Partner RECDO - Trincomalee

Ms. R. Wijialudchumi (Additional Secretary - NLD) visited National Languages Fund Partners in the Northern, Central and Eastern Provinces. She was encouraged by the commitment of these Civil Society Organisations to promote Language Rights and Second Language Learning, despite the challenges caused by COVID-19 Pandemic, Ms. R. Wijialudchumi affirmed the critical role these CSO's can play in supporting the implementation of the Official Languages Policy of Sri Lanka.

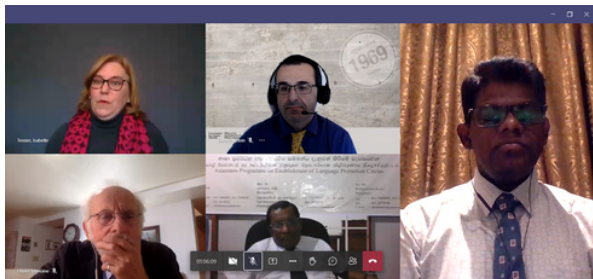


NLF Partner Palm Foundation - Nuwara Eliya

Virtual Technical Exchange Mission between NLD and the Official Languages Secretariat at the Treasury Board of Canada

The NLD Team participated in two virtual TEM sessions (1.5 hours each) led by Carsten Quell, the Executive Director of the Official Languages Secretariat at the Treasury Board of Canada. The theme for the first session was "Building Official Languages Accountability". The second session on "Language Plans", included presentations by Treasury Board of Canada officials: Mr. Quell, Marie Madeleine Chourouba (Manager, Engagement & Stakeholder Relations) and Hocine Toulait (Senior Policy Analyst). The presentations provided practical best practices for building language plans that included setting the direction; establishing strategic priorities and results; identifying activities and initiatives; and reporting on progress.

THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES COMMISSION (OLC)



Virtual Technical Exchange Mission between OLC and OCOL

NLEAP organized 3 virtual TEM sessions for OLC staff to engage with Canadian personnel from the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages (OCOL). The 2-hour sessions provided valuable opportunities for Sri Lankan officials to learn Canadian best practices, engage with Canadian counterparts doing similar work, and explore modalities for promoting and protecting the Official Languages that may be adapted to the Sri Lankan context.



Government Media Conference on the Official Languages Policy

NLEAP supported the OLC, in collaboration with the Department of Government Information, to bring together media personnel to raise awareness of, and discuss issues relating to, OLP implementation. Journalists from leading Press Publications and TV and Radio Stations participated in the Conference.



Essay Competition for School Children to mark Official Languages Week

Unprecedented response to Trilingual Essay Competition

The Official Languages Commission received an overwhelming 1200 essays, from all over Sri Lanka in Sinhala, Tamil and English, in response to the essay competition to mark Sri Lanka's Official Languages Day. The judging of entries has been concluded and the winning entries have been selected. OLC anticipates organising a special ceremony to award the winners their well-deserved prizes.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE EDUCATION AND TRAINING (NILET)

NILET continues with Teacher Training for Second Language Teachers

National Institute of Language Education and Training (NILET) commenced the second series of five-day training programmes for Sinhala and Tamil Second Language Teachers. Designed to enhance the capacity of second language teachers teaching Sinhala and Tamil, the trainings were attended by five more batches of teachers, representing all the provinces of Sri Lanka.

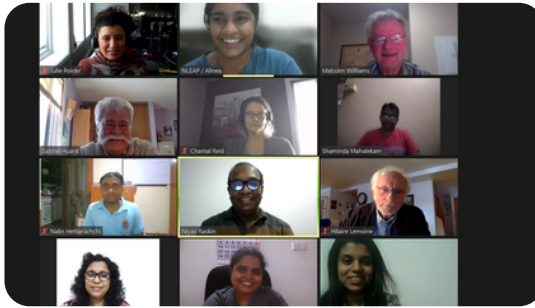


Delivering Second Language Training that is sensitive to diversity, inclusion, and intercultural communication

NILET & OLBI Technical Exchange Mission

NLEAP organized a virtual TEM for NILET, led by Jérémie Séror, Director of the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute (OLBI) at the University of Ottawa. The TEM consisted of 5 sessions, all designed by Prof. Séror in consultation with NLEAP staff, the Canadian Language Policy Advisor, and NILET. The 1 ½ hours sessions provided valuable networking opportunities between the 2 organizations to develop a sustainable relationship and sharing of best practices.

THE DEPARTMENT OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES (DOL)



Working together for the Development of Quality Translation Resources in Sri Lanka

DOL & CTB Technical Exchange Mission

The virtual TEM for DOL, provided exchanges with the Canadian Translation Bureau (CTB) and the Director of Language Assessment (Prof. Beverly Baker) at the Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute (OLBI), University of Ottawa. The TEM consisted of 5 sessions, 1 ½ hours each, all designed in consultation with NLEAP staff, the Canadian Language Policy Advisor, the International Translation Management Advisor, and NILET.

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION AND UNIVERSITIES



Paving the way for conducting Online Training Programs on Translation

Conclusion of the Training in Translation Pedagogy Program (TTPP) conducted online by the University of Ottawa

Fifteen (15) academics from Kelaniya, Jaffna, Sabaragamuwa and Eastern universities, representing the four partnering universities in Sri Lanka offering the BA Translation Program, completed the bi-weekly online sessions of the TTPP.



A Conversation about the Bachelor of Arts in Translation Studies

Meeting with the University of Jaffna

Ms. R. Wijjaludchumi (Additional Secretary - National Languages Division, Ministry of Public Services, Provincial Councils and Local Government) and the NLEAP team met with the Vice Chancellor of the University of Jaffna, Professor Sivakolundu Srisatkunarajah. Also in attendance was Dr. K. Kannathas (and four graduates from the Translation Department also joined the conversation). The University of Jaffna is one of four partnering universities in Sri Lanka offering the BA Translation Program.

	PROF. N. SELVAKUMARAN INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF GEWE WITHIN TRANSLATION COURSES Critical analysis of translation syllabi Ways to improve the promotion of GEWE
	DR. RAMANI JAYASUNDERE NEXUS BETWEEN GEWE AND LANGUAGE RIGHTS Language Rights of Sri Lanka The link between Language Rights & Gender Equality NEXUS BETWEEN GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND LANGUAGE RIGHTS Concepts related to Gender-based Violence Link between Language Rights & GEWE
	DR. WIJAYA JAYATILAKA GENDER EQUALITY AND DISCRIMINATION WITHIN LANGUAGE RIGHTS Power Relations . Equality & Equity . Engaging Men

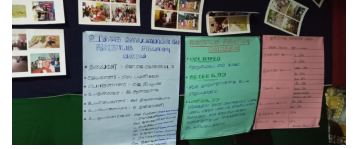
Gender Equality, Women's Rights and Language Rights GEWE Webinars with Academia

NLEAP continued the webinar series with representatives from the Universities of Kelaniya, Jaffna, Sabaragamuwa and the Eastern University of Sri Lanka exploring the complex links between Gender Equality, Women's Rights and Language Rights.

THE NATIONAL LANGUAGES FUND (NLF)

NLF Partner Visits

Field Visits to the Northern, Eastern and Central Provinces enabled the NLF team to experience first hand the depth and diversity of NLF partner activity.



Rajarata Participatory Development Fund RPDF
Meeting with Parents of Students enrolled for Second Language Learning Classes

Up-Country Social Action Centre
Meeting with Language Clusters and Community Representative involved in Language Rights Promotion.



PREDO
Language Cluster leaders share challenges faced due to Language Rights violations and how Language Rights Awareness Programmes have initiated their engagement.

Eastern Social Development Foundation
Promoting Language Equality through Collective Action for Social Integration and Reconciliation.

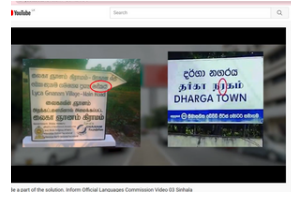
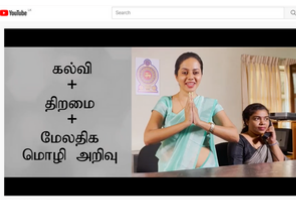
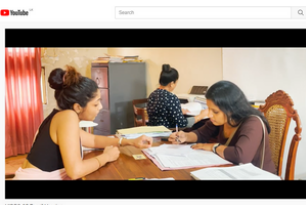


Centre for Governance Innovations (Guarantee) Ltd.
Enhancing inclusive Local Economic Development through provision of services by local authorities in the language of choice.

Centre for Human Rights Development (CHRC)
Promoting reconciliation among communities through the promotion of Second Language Learning

Creating Public Awareness about the Official Languages Commission and Language Rights Public Awareness Video Campaign by NLF Partner Marga Institute

NLF Partner Marga Institute in partnership with NLEAP created a series of videos in the Official Languages, Sinhala and Tamil, to build public awareness about how the Official Languages Policy relates to daily life, how citizens can report Language Rights violations and the advantages of learning one's Second Language. The videos were publicised across MARGA social media channels.



Official Languages Policy Explained

Learning your Second Language will take you places

How the Official Languages Policy relates to you and me?

Learning a second Language

Be a part of the solution. Inform the OLC

[Watch Sinhala Video](#)

[Watch Sinhala Video](#)

[Watch Sinhala Video](#)

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[Watch Sinhala Video](#)

[Watch Tamil Video](#)

[Watch Tamil Video](#)

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கனடிய அரசாங்கத்தினால் அனுசரணை வழங்கப்படும் இருதரப்பு செயற்றிட்டம்
A bilateral project supported by the Government of Canada

