

**AN EVALUATION OF IFSA PROJECT IMPLEMENTED
FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN PORATHIVU PATTU
DIVISIONAL SECRETARIAT DIVISION OF
BATTICALOA DISTRICT**

383

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted to evaluate the IFSA – USDA Project activities undertaken by the World Vision Lanka in the Porathivu Pattu D.S division of Batticaloa district. The survey covered 75 farmer beneficiaries from eight G.N Divisions in the Porathivu Pattu D.S division of Batticaloa District. The relevant data were collected through personal interviews with the help of scheduled questionnaire from the selected sample of 75 household in the project area. Secondary information necessary for the study were collected from published sources. Collected data were analyzed by using SPSS –version 16.0 Statistical software.

The study indicated that majority of the IFSA project beneficiaries were male, with in the age group of 41 - 61 years, and with a monthly income ranging from Rs 5000.00 – 10,000.00. The concept of IFSA–USDA Project activities had been successfully implemented in the Porathivu Pattu D.S Division. More than 80% of the project beneficiaries were adopted IFSA project components especially organic farming in the study area. The Project beneficiaries were well trained by the World Vision staff concerning the economic and environmental benefits of Integrated Farming. This will be contributed to the sustainable development in Agriculture in the project implemented areas.

Chi-square analysis was done to test the association between adoption level of integrated farming components and selected socio-economic characteristics of IFSA project

beneficiaries. The results indicated that there was a significant association between farming experience of the project beneficiaries and adoption level. This association implies that farmers with more farming experience had highly adopted the integrated farming components.

The main constraints identified were, lack of irrigation water during dry season, inadequate quality inputs, high initial cost and lack marketing facilities. Construction of common agro-wells, establishing linkages between quality input suppliers, arrangement of loan facilities, and establishment of good marketing facilities especially to sell organic products produced by the project beneficiaries are some of the suggestions to overcome the constraints faced by the project beneficiaries. The relevant authorities, government as well as the NGOs should take necessary actions to overcome the said constraints, which will in turn enhance the living standard of the IFSA-USDA project beneficiaries in the Porathivu Pattu D. S division of Batticaloa district.

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