

**STUDY ON WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN POVERTY REDUCTION  
THROUGH LIVELIHOOD STRATEGY IN COASTAL COMMUNITY OF  
BATTICALOA**

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## ABSTRACT

The three decades of civil war in North and East of Sri Lanka resultant many disable citizens and widow and lost of main bread winner of the family. Therefore, many women needed to bear the burden of wining day to day bread in their shoulders. The women find a means of way to feed their dependants. In this context, many activities were and implemented to rebuild their livelihood. There were many institutions and organizations had mandates of women empowerment and rebuild women's capacity, women and childcare, poverty reduction, food security etc. It would be very important to know women participation in their livelihood activities towards poverty reduction in their life. The study was carried out with the aim of appraise the depth of women participation in livelihood activities towards poverty reduction.

This study was based food security concept to measure poverty status of a family and study conceptualization, data collection (design of questionnaire) analysis/ discussion are referred the pillars of food security concept such food (i) availability, (ii) accessibility, (iii) use & utilization.

The study population was defined in coastal belt of Batticaloa district which consist eleven out of fourteen DS divisions. The qualitative and quantitative data were collected from three hundreds women among Muslim and Tamil community. The primary data was gathered from Government institutions, INGOs etc.

The study concluded that women participation is poor in development programs in their area specially livelihoods, rehabilitation programs. Government or donors should include women participation in planning or developing stage of a program for the sustainability of program as well as women empowerment.

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