



**A study on the Current Practices of the Non-  
formal Education Programmes in the  
Community Learning Centres in Sri Lanka.**

A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree  
of

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## **Executive Summary**

This study on the function of income generating programmes (IGP) in the Community Learning Centres (CLCs) under the spectrum of Non Formal Education (NFE) was conducted as part fulfillment of the Master of Education degree offered by the Faculty of Education, University of Colombo.

The main objective of this study was to conduct a state of scene survey of the current practice of the income-generating programmes in the Community Learning Centres. Information was gathered from the participants, instructors, project officers and the directors of zonal and provincial departments to achieve the objective of this study. The findings of this study will help in the policy formulation and enable comprehensive systematic intervention for effective implementation of income-generating programmes in the Community Learning Centres. Several data collecting methods were used to gather the necessary information. Questionnaires and interviews were the mostly used methods in this study. In addition to them secondary sources published by the NFE unit, Ministry of Education and the other provincial departments were referred to identify the policy and procedure of IGPs in the CLCs.

Two set of questionnaires were administered to collect data from the sample of participants and the instructors of the CLCs. Interviews were held with project officers and directors of zonal and provincial educational departments with an aim to identify the planning, implementing and monitoring processes of IGPs in the CLCs.

Both qualitative and quantitative data analysis methods were used to present and interpret the data gathered through the above instruments.

## **Findings**

As literature revealed, UNESCO has formulated some policy framework in relation to the CLC programme. Although, Sri Lanka has agreed to follow those policy and procedures in their CLC programme, they are not proceeding properly and efficiently in the CLC programme.

There is not properly function an executive village committee to manage and co-ordinate the CLC programmes.

Steps taken for aware the community on income generating programmes in the Community Learning Centres do not sufficient and strong. The usual strategy they used to inform the people on CLC programmes is passing message through the present participants.

Sufficient information on marketing demand within and outside the community does not provide.

Needs assessments including a survey of existing resources available in the community do not conduct properly and adequately

The attention has been paid to develop basic and higher occupational skills of the participants, including entrepreneurial and marketing skills (development of curriculum, programmes, and training manual and learning materials) is not sufficient.

Follow-up services provided, for self-employment and wage employment through placement, credit facilities, co-operatives and marketing outlets do not satisfy.

There are no adequate basic facilities in the Community Learning Centres.

There is a trend of married women to participate in the income-generating programmes than the unmarried.

### **Recommendations**

Conducting more effective advocacy of CLC to increase public and community awareness to encourage more community commitment and participation.

Establishing a network of satellites in some remote hamlets to encourage more people participating in IGPs in the CLCs.

Establishing and strengthening CLC executive committees to become more effective in management and operation of IGPs through;

- Assisting project officers in identifying the real needs of the community and designing an appropriate income generating programmes for their CLCs.
- Introducing a market place
- Strengthening relation ship between the CLCs and other development agencies.
- Fulfilling necessary resources in the CLCs.

Conducting regular needs assessments to ensure the IGPs responsive to promote life standard of the community and address directly on community's problems and issues.