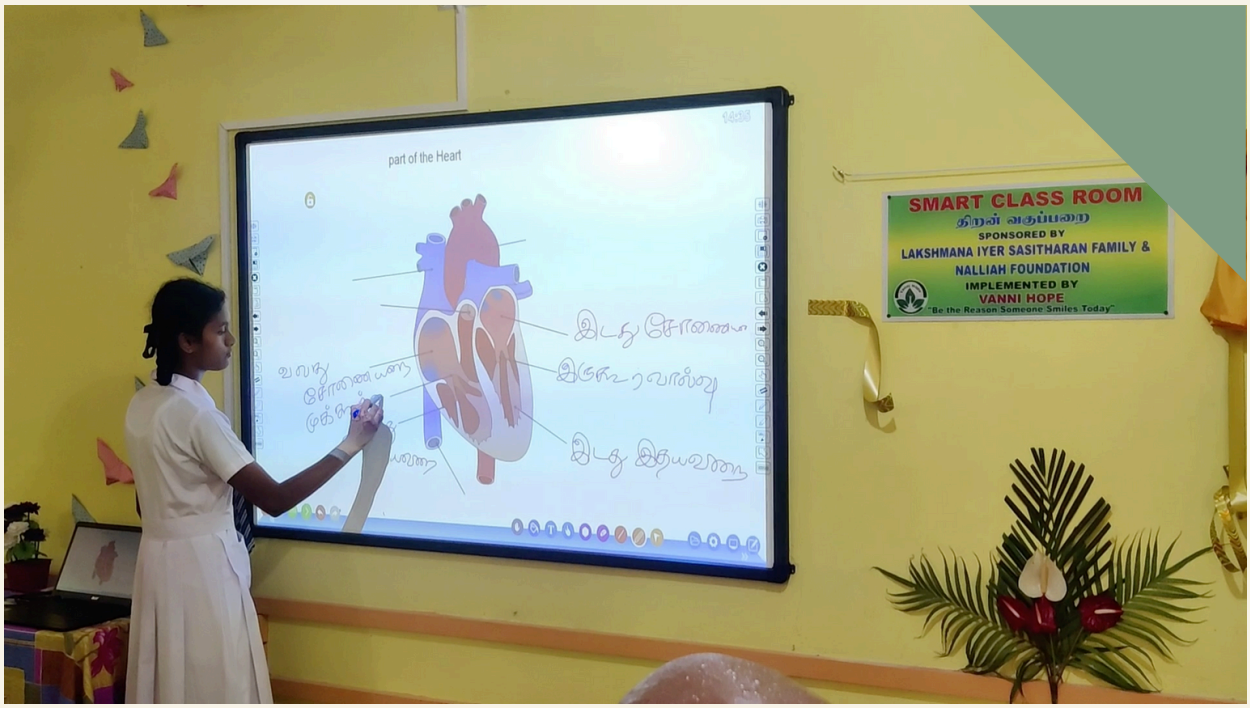
2023 Annual Report

Be The Reason Someone Smiles Today!

OUR KEY ACHIEVEMENT FOR 2023

Smart Classrooms



In 2023, Vanni Hope made significant strides in revolutionising education across Sri Lanka through our Smart Classroom initiative. This effort aimed to bridge the digital gap, ensuring all students access modern education tools.

The implementation of smart boards transformed traditional teaching methods, making lessons more dynamic and accessible. These tools facilitated a collaborative learning atmosphere, enabling students to grasp complex concepts easily.

The distribution of laptops complemented our smart boards, providing students with essential digital resources. This initiative was crucial in equipping students with the necessary skills for the digital era.

Our efforts were amplified through partnerships with organisations like The Foundation of Goodness and The Nalliah Foundation. These collaborations brought additional resources and expertise to our initiatives, highlighting the power of collective action in educational reform.

Our focus on Smart Classrooms in 2023 highlighted our dedication to educational innovation. We aimed to prepare students for future challenges by integrating technology into learning environments.

Reflecting on the initiative's success, Vanni Hope is committed to expanding this program. Our goal is to empower students and schools across Sri Lanka further, fostering a future of digital inclusivity and educational excellence.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

In 2023, Vanni Hope made significant strides in community development across Sri Lanka, focusing on initiatives that improve the quality of life and support sustainable development. Our 'Water For Life' initiative stood out by addressing the critical need for clean and accessible water in underserved communities. By constructing wells and water purification systems, we aimed to ensure that families had reliable access to this vital resource, promoting health and wellbeing.

Our "Shelter For Life" initiative was another cornerstone project, providing safe and secure housing for those most in need. By constructing new homes and repairing existing structures, we sought to offer not just shelter, but a foundation for families to build their futures, enhancing community resilience and security.

Recognising the importance of immediate support in times of crisis, we played a pivotal role in disaster relief efforts throughout the year. We provided essential items such as clothing, food, and clean-up tools & machinery to communities affected by natural disasters, such as the Ampara flood victims, helping them to recover and rebuild in the aftermath of unforeseen events.

Through these initiatives, Vanni Hope has played a crucial role in enhancing the resilience of communities in Sri Lanka, addressing fundamental needs such as water, shelter, and emergency relief. Our comprehensive approach to community development has not only alleviated immediate hardships but also laid down the foundations for sustainable growth and development, ensuring that communities can thrive and withstand future challenges.

EDUCATION & SKILL ENHANCEMENT

Vanni Hope embarked on a transformative journey in 2023, to elevate educational standards across Sri Lanka, implementing a myriad of initiatives tailored to enhance both access and quality of education students receive. We provided necessary university sponsorships, breaking financial barriers for numerous students and enabling them to pursue higher education dreams. This support has been instrumental in fostering the academic and career aspirations of many young Sri Lankans.

The 'Zero Fail for SEM Subjects' initiative also marked a significant stride towards elevating students' academic performances. It focused on strengthening their knowledge in Science, English, and Mathematics. By providing specialised support and resources in these critical areas, Vanni Hope aimed to build a solid educational foundation, essential for the students' future academic and professional endeavours.

Vanni Hope's commitment to facilitating learning extended beyond academia, with the distribution of free school bags and essential learning supplies, including mathematical instruments. An example of this effort is the state-of-the-art research equipment we donated to higher education institutions, such as Focimeters, Vision Charts - Manuals, and Trial Lens Boxes, to the Department of Optometry at The University of Sri Jayawardenepura. These contributions have significantly improved the quality of education and research capabilities in Sri Lanka.

A primary focus was the implementation of smart classrooms and upgrading rural school infrastructure. These initiatives aimed to modernise education, providing interactive and effective learning environments. Through these efforts, Vanni Hope has played a pivotal role in enriching the educational landscape in Sri Lanka, preparing students for a brighter future.

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT

In 2023, Vanni Hope launched significant sustainable livelihood initiatives across Sri Lanka, especially in districts such as Ampara and Trincomalee. One standout effort was the construction of freshwater ponds and tanks, coupled with the provision of fingerlings, in partnership with NAQDA. This project aimed to bolster local fish production, ensure food security, and promote environmental sustainability. By offering these resources, Vanni Hope supported the livelihoods of impoverished farmers and contributed to the health of the local ecosystem.

Training programs for fishermen were another critical area of focus. Vanni Hope's comprehensive training sessions sought to improve fishing techniques, promote sustainable fishing practices, and enhance market access. These initiatives were designed to secure a better future for fishing communities by increasing their catch's quantity and quality while ensuring the marine ecosystem's conservation.

The distribution of sewing machines targeted at empowering rural communities, especially women-headed families, enabled them to start their own tailoring businesses. This effort sought to foster economic independence and entrepreneurship, significantly impacting family livelihoods and community wellbeing.

Moreover, Vanni Hope's assistance extended to flood-affected farmers through innovative watermelon cultivation projects. These initiatives provided immediate relief and long-term agricultural sustainability, demonstrating Vanni Hope's commitment to addressing urgent needs while fostering resilient communities. Through partnerships and a focused approach, Vanni Hope's sustainable livelihood development initiatives have made a profound impact on Sri Lanka's rural districts, offering hope and a path forward for many.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

In 2023, Vanni Hope was instrumental in advancing health and wellbeing initiatives across Sri Lanka, focusing on essential areas such as sanitation improvement, healthcare enhancement, and accessible medical interventions. A cornerstone of our efforts included the renovation of public toilets, a move aimed at bolstering sanitation and mitigating health risks within vulnerable communities. This initiative reflects Vanni Hope's commitment to fostering healthier environments and preventing diseases linked to poor sanitation practices.

Another significant contribution was the renovation of the Navithanveli Maternal & Child Care Clinic in Ampara, Kalmunai. This project revitalised and supplied it with vital medical equipment, bolstering healthcare services for mothers and children. Such efforts underscore Vanni Hope's dedication to enhancing maternal and child health services, recognising the critical role in the wellbeing of communities.

Vanni Hope also made strides in combating blindness by offering free cataract surgery at the General Hospital in Trincomalee. This initiative has been pivotal in restoring sight to many individuals, significantly improving their quality of life and autonomy. It exemplifies our broader mission to address health-related challenges and empower individuals through improved health access.

Moreover, we supported hospitals by donating medical equipment, ranging from basic diagnostic instruments to sophisticated medical apparatus. This aid has elevated the operational capacity of hospitals, enabling them to provide more comprehensive care to all. It is through these targeted health and wellbeing initiatives that we have profoundly impacted local communities, reinforcing our commitment to enhancing health outcomes and promoting a healthier future for all.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Vanni Hope launched several initiatives to empower women across Sri Lanka, recognising the pivotal role women play in the socioeconomic development of their communities. One of the critical components of our empowerment strategy was the provision of sewing machines to women. This facilitated skill development and enabled many to start their own tailoring businesses, providing a sustainable source of income and fostering economic independence.

Additionally, Vanni Hope extended its support to women entrepreneurs by offering resources and grants. This financial assistance was instrumental in helping women either kickstart new ventures or expand existing ones. By focusing on women entrepreneurs, Vanni Hope aimed to cultivate a culture of female leadership, independence and innovation in business, contributing to the broader goal of gender equality and economic empowerment.

We also conducted workshops and training programs specifically designed for women to enhance their skills in various sectors. These educational initiatives were tailored to equip women with the knowledge and confidence to thrive in competitive environments. By investing in women's education and skill development, Vanni Hope ensured women could access better job opportunities and actively participate in their communities' economic growth.

Through these targeted initiatives, Vanni Hope significantly contributed to women's empowerment in Sri Lanka in 2023. By providing the tools, resources, and the knowledge necessary for their economic independence and leadership, we have made a lasting impact on the lives of countless women and their families. These efforts reflect Vanni Hope's commitment to creating a more equitable society where women have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

SMALL SCALE COTTAGE INDUSTRY

In 2023, Vanni Hope embarked on a mission to empower communities across Sri Lanka, launching several small cottage industry projects to harness local resources and foster self-reliance. Notably, our Vilankulam Freshwater Fishing project in Trincomalee, in partnership with Gandhi Illam, supplied fishing equipment and training to 45 inland fishermen, significantly enhancing their livelihoods and setting a benchmark for community-driven economic growth.

Simultaneously, we initiated a project to support women-headed households by distributing sewing machines, enabling them to start tailoring businesses. This initiative promoted financial independence among women, positively impacting their families' social and economic wellbeing, and reinforcing our commitment to gender equality.

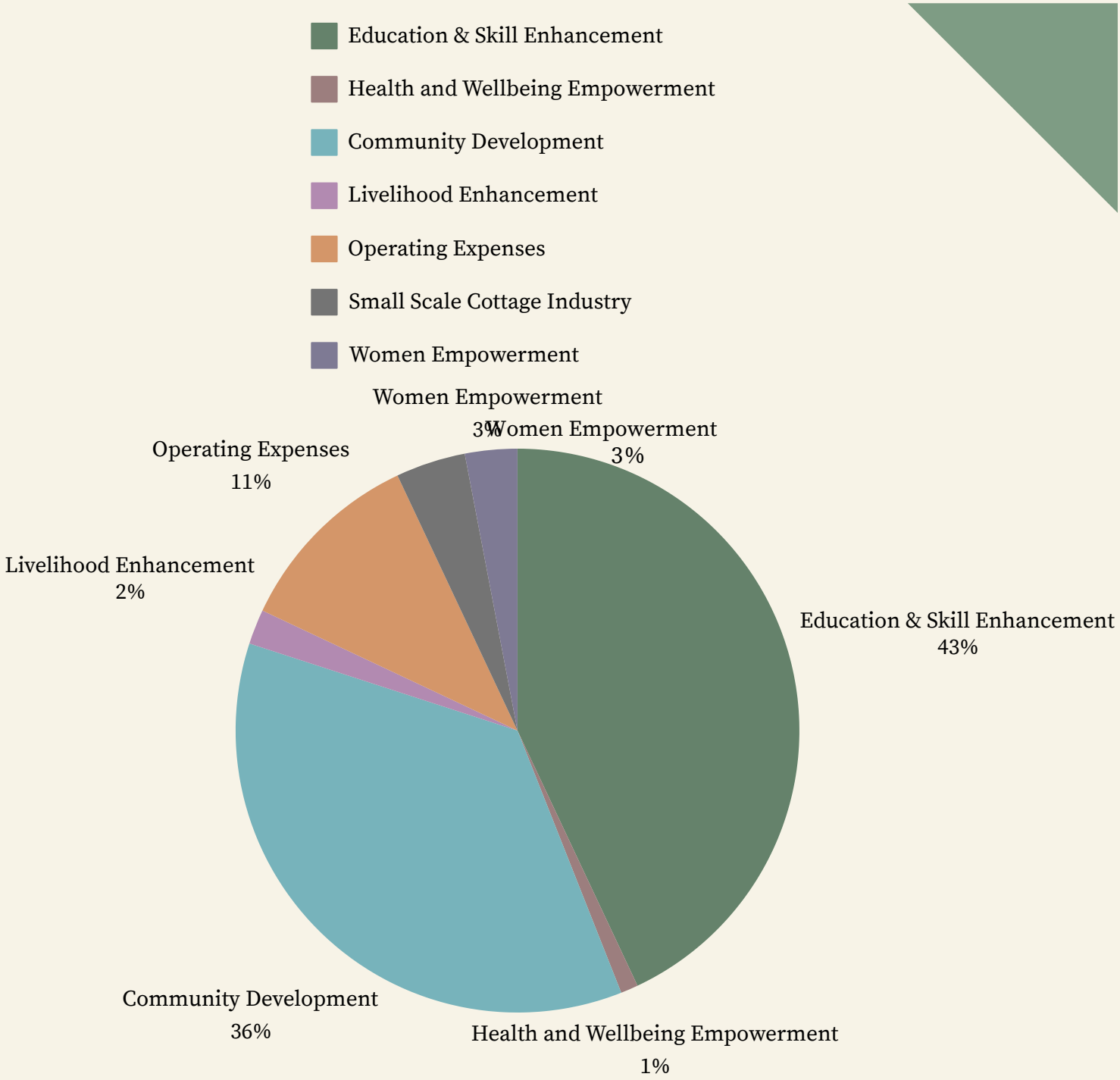
Our diverse range of projects spanned agriculture-based initiatives like organic farming and local crafts promotion, including weaving and pottery, tailored to the unique cultural heritage of each region. These efforts were not just about economic benefits, but also about preserving Sri Lanka's rich cultural traditions, a cause close to our hearts and, we believe, to yours as well.

These projects represent Vanni Hope's dedication to empowering communities and enriching lives through sustainable economic growth. We remain committed to nurturing these cottage industries, aiming for them to stand as testimonies to the resilience and entrepreneurial spirit of the Sri Lankan people.

DONATIONS BY COUNTRY

COUNTRY	TOTAL SPONSORSHIP (LKR) & PERECENTAGE (%)
Australia	Rs. 82403585.53 - 66.2%
Canada	Rs. 295,000.00 - 0.24%
Denmark	Rs. 2,125,500.00 - 1.7%
Malaysia	Rs. 4,186,175.00 - 3.4%
New Zealand	Rs. 3,202,158.00 3.4%
Singapore	Rs. 204,000.00 - 0.16%
Sri Lanka	Rs. 5,198,646.50 - 4.2%
United Arab Emirates	Rs. 48,000.00 - 0.04%
United Kingdom	Rs. 3,355,362.50 - 2.7%
United States	Rs. 23,414,819.00 - 18.8%

EXPENDITURE DISTRIBUTION (%)



Last Year's

DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURE BY PROVINCE

Rs. 124,433,246

Total Expenditure - LKR

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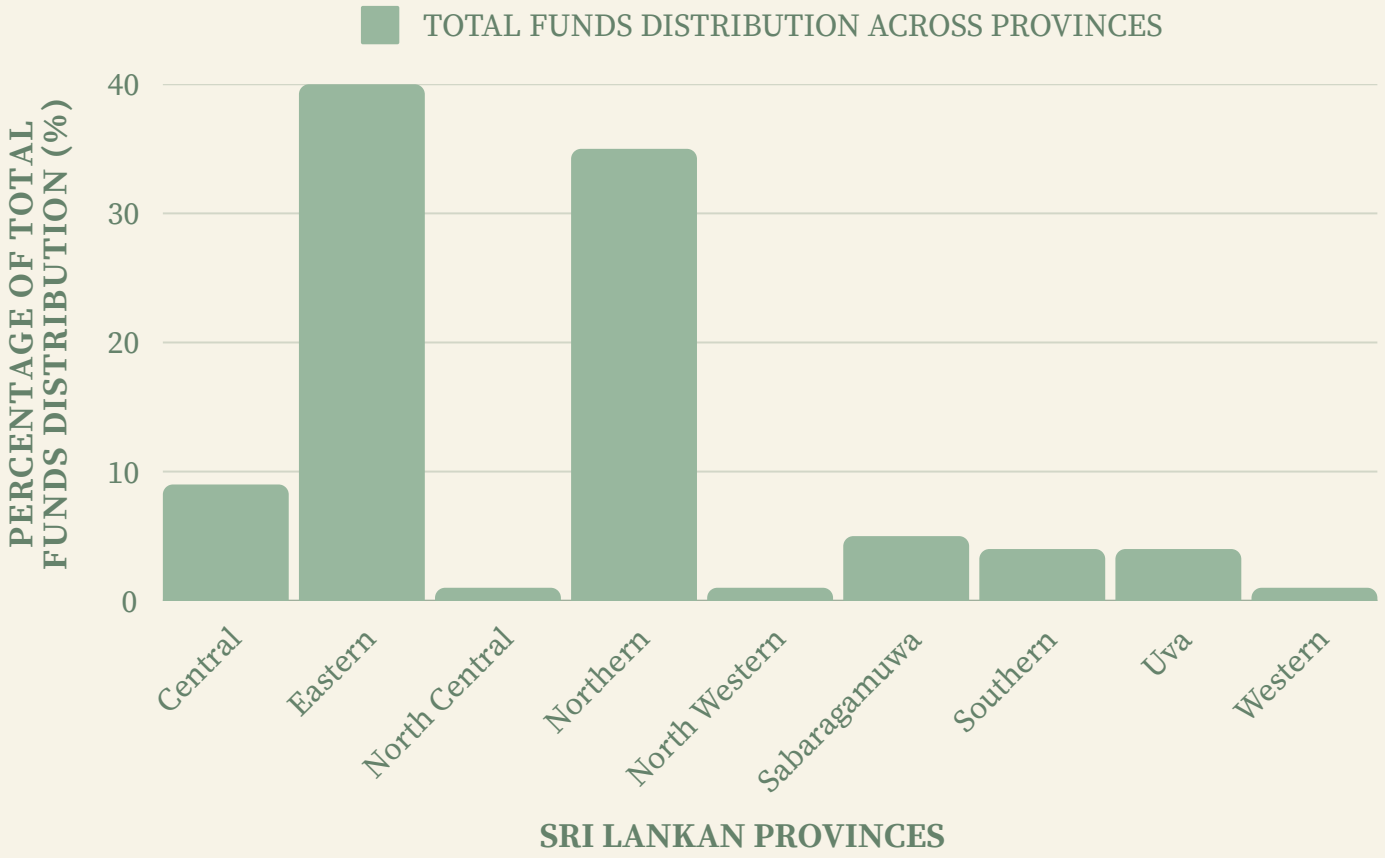
Provinces provided funding



Vanni Hope's unwavering commitment to social welfare and sustainable development illuminated Sri Lanka's diverse landscape, transforming lives in all nine provinces. Our dedication to fostering sustainable development was evident in the far-reaching impact of our projects, from the Eastern province's sun-kissed shores to the historic depths of the Central Province Hills. Through our targeted initiatives, we aimed to instil hope and lay the groundwork for empowerment across various sectors of need, inspiring a brighter future for all.

In our comprehensive efforts, education and housing emerged as our primary focus areas. We devoted ourselves to nurturing young minds by equipping schools with the necessary resources, sparking a flame of knowledge in remote and underserved communities. Simultaneously, our housing initiatives provided a sense of security and stability to families who had long lived without it, marking a significant stride towards a better future. Together, these endeavours have not only addressed immediate needs but also initiated a wave of positive change, enhancing lives across the nation.

LOOKING TOWARDS 2024

As we move into 2024, Vanni Hope remains steadfast in our mission to enrich and empower communities throughout Sri Lanka. Building upon the success of our Smart Classroom Project, we are set to broaden this initiative, bringing digital learning and advanced educational tools to more students across the nation. The expansion of this project reflects our dedication to fostering an environment where young minds can thrive in the modern world.

With our first divisional office located in Jaffna opening in 2023, and in the Trincomalee district early in 2024, our dedication to reaching every province is reinforced by our plans to open new offices, including an upcoming location in Nuwara Eliya. This strategic move will allow us to extend our support more broadly, ensuring that regardless of location, the assistance provided by Vanni Hope is accessible to all. Your contributions are instrumental in making this inclusivity a reality.

Partnerships continue to be an essential aspect of our strategy for future growth and impact. Our collaborations with esteemed charitable organisations like the Foundation of Goodness and the Sri Lankan Red Cross have not only amplified our collective efforts and resources, but also underscored the power of unity in achieving our common goals. In 2024, we aspire to further expand these partnerships, driven by our shared purpose of improving lives across Sri Lanka. Your support and involvement in these partnerships are invaluable to us.

We look to the future with optimism and an unwavering resolve to not only continue our work but to amplify it, ensuring that Vanni Hope becomes synonymous with compassionate and effective change across the entire island.

"The only gift is giving to the poor; All else is exchange."
- Thiruvalluvar

Year 2023

VOTE OF THANKS

As we conclude this report and look forward to the future, we owe immense gratitude to the local organisations we've partnered with, whose steadfast commitment and hard work have been crucial in the successful implementation of our projects. Your partnership in driving positive change in communities has been a beacon of hope and a source of immense encouragement.

We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to our sponsors. Your generous contributions have not just laid the groundwork for our initiatives, but they have been the lifeblood of our mission. Your support has enabled us to extend our reach and impact, and without it, our journey towards creating meaningful change would not have been possible.

- Ranjan Sivagnanasundaram
Chairman

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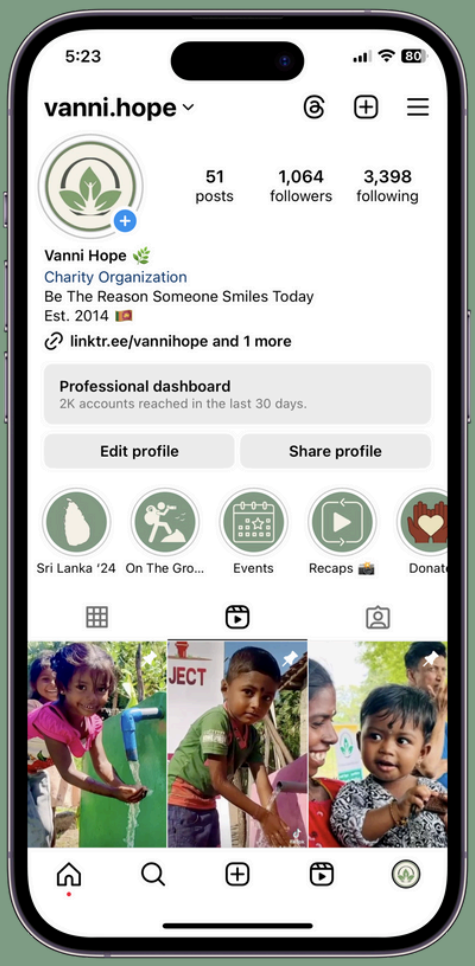
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