

# The T.E.A. Project

(**T**raining, **E**mpowerment & **A**wareness)

## Children's Empowerment Centre Development Plan

UK Charity Registration No.1163485

INGO FL-172204 (Sri Lanka)



## Tiny T.E.A. Pre-School

## - Support Proposal -



## **‘The T.E.A. Project works to empower Sri Lankan children from poverty’.**

The project provides **free pre-schooling, empowerment training, after school support programmes** and a **daily food programme**; from a **visionary** empowerment centre in Hanthanna. The Centre supports vulnerable children & young people from poor tea plantation communities; extending support to children nationally and grassroots NGO’s, education service providers, orphanages and government schools.

The T.E.A Project develops **ambition, practical skills, knowledge** and **important opportunities** for **underprivileged children** and their communities. Developing skills, **aspirations** and confidence in young people is **key** to securing a positive and sustainable future in Sri Lanka.



**Established in 2014**, The T.E.A Project has donated **front line** empowerment training to **thousands** of children & professionals across the island. The Project **donates services** to children from the poorest communities; regardless of cultural or religious background.

*‘Developing aspirations and confidence in young people is key to securing a positive and sustainable future for the next generation. Our services make The*

*T.E.A. Project truly unique’.*

**Racheal Ireton – Co-Founder**

# Our Mission

To improve opportunities for vulnerable children through training, empowerment and awareness programmes that stimulate learning, develop prospects and increase life chances. We work to ensure that all children are safe, happy and healthy.

# Our Vision

All children are empowered to participate in the realisation of their rights and achieve the maximum potential in life without discrimination.

# Our Goal

To help realise this vision and achieve our mission  
The T.E.A. Project developed Sri Lanka's first  
dedicated children's empowerment centre.

## The Need for Tiny-TEA

Based on consultations in 2019 with local children, community members and teachers we know:

More than **90% of parents** residing in our target area work on tea estates as daily paid laborers/tea pickers. Families are exposed to multiple socio-economic factors that create **disadvantage**, poor cognitive development of children and entrap children and families in a **cycle of poverty**.

Selection includes home visits to identify socio-economic factors affecting families and their current and potential **impacts upon children**. All age appropriate children from line house communities will meet the criteria for free **Early Years Education**. The active **participation of parents** with a strong commitment to their child's education, social and developmental needs will form part of the criteria for enrolment. Parents will **sign an agreement** and **commit** to achieve **80% attendance** and positively contribute to the function and cultural activities of the pre-school.





Children do not have adequate reading and study materials and they often live in **overcrowded housing** which limits their ability to study. Many schools do not have the adequate facilities children require to **perform well** in their education or **safe play-ground** or sports fields for children to play and exercise safely.



**Child malnutrition** levels are **high**; children receive one free school breakfast and often eat no further food during school hours. The availability of **drugs and alcohol** is on the rise. **Teenage pregnancy** rates are high and **alcoholism** among men (and some women) is predicted to be as high as **70%**. Children and women are commonly victims of **domestic abuse**. Sexual harassment and **violence** towards **women and girls** in the estate sector is high and support services are largely inaccessible to **vulnerable** women and girls. Due to **economic factors** parents are often absent leaving children vulnerable with increased **safeguarding risks**.

Living in **isolated remote regions** significantly reduces community member's ability to access adequate **local services** and health provision. Socio economic factors and **limited transportation/infrastructure**, high parental illiteracy rates and a **lack of knowledge/awareness** limit access to local services.

Knowledge of Human and Child rights is low, girls are '*passive actors*' within family, school and society, and access to training, vocation and empowerment programmes to raise outcomes and aspirations are limited.

## Short term impacts

1.1 Through the provision of free ENGLISH MEDIUM Early Years Education for **25-30 vulnerable children** outcomes will include:

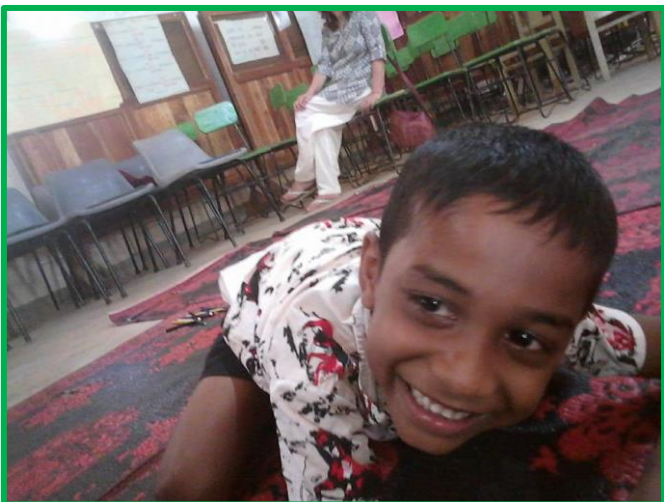
- Children will acquire vital skills that allow them to listen to others and express their own ideas, make friends, share, cooperate, and become accountable for their actions
- Increase performance at primary school and help to build a strong foundation of children's physical, mental, emotional, and social development that will prepare children for a lifetime
- Motivate children for lifelong learning and help children manage challenges and build resilience in times of difficulty; settle easily at school to reap the benefits of education faster; and acquire a long-term interest in learning different things, including playing music, dancing, singing, construction, cooking, etc....
- Improved holistic health, social and emotional needs of children. Improved nutrition levels of children through healthy snack provision.



- 1.2. 25-30 participating pre-school children will be cared for, nurtured, stimulated and safeguarded 5-days per week; individual performance will be monitored and tracked
- 1.3. Pre-school children will continue to receive support with education through tailored after school activities following their graduation from pre-school
- 1.3. Approximately 60 parents will develop parenting skills and access support services and information for the benefit of their family through engagement in 'Saturday Service' provision and daily contact/meetings with, and support from, trained staff
- 1.4 An annual 'Wish Tree' project supported by Theva Residency will provide pre-school children with individual special gifts at Christmas time

## Long term impacts

1. *Increased performance at grade school* of 25-30 children; improved O/L grades in Science and Maths
2. Less children and mothers suffering abuse and empowered youth with the knowledge to know 'right and wrong' behaviours
3. Improved parenting skills and increased support for 60 parents of pre-school children
4. Improved health outcomes for children, including physical and emotional health/wellbeing
5. Increased numbers of children graduating from school with fewer behavioural issues and learning difficulties
6. Children and parents will understand important Children's Rights (UNCRC) principles.
7. Children will develop key life skills and leadership qualities which they will apply to daily life and studies
8. Children will be more confident and resilient with developed communication
9. Increased awareness and participation in environmental protection which will improve school, community and Centre environments
11. Children will have a strong command of English language with the ability to speak and understand English.
12. Healthier parents with access to vital services, information and counseling
13. Increased school attendance when children reach Grade 1.





## Costing of Pre-School

- Running costs x 1-year = 956,500 LKR / **4,200 GBP**
- Running costs x 5-years = 2,713,750 LKR / **21,000 GBP**

\*275 GBP will sponsor a child for his or her 3-year journey with Tiny TEA

### Running costs include:

Two trained pre-school teachers

Teaching materials

A calendar of special and cultural events

Daily healthy food and snacks

Pre-school bills

All children's costs will be included (uniforms, books, stationary)

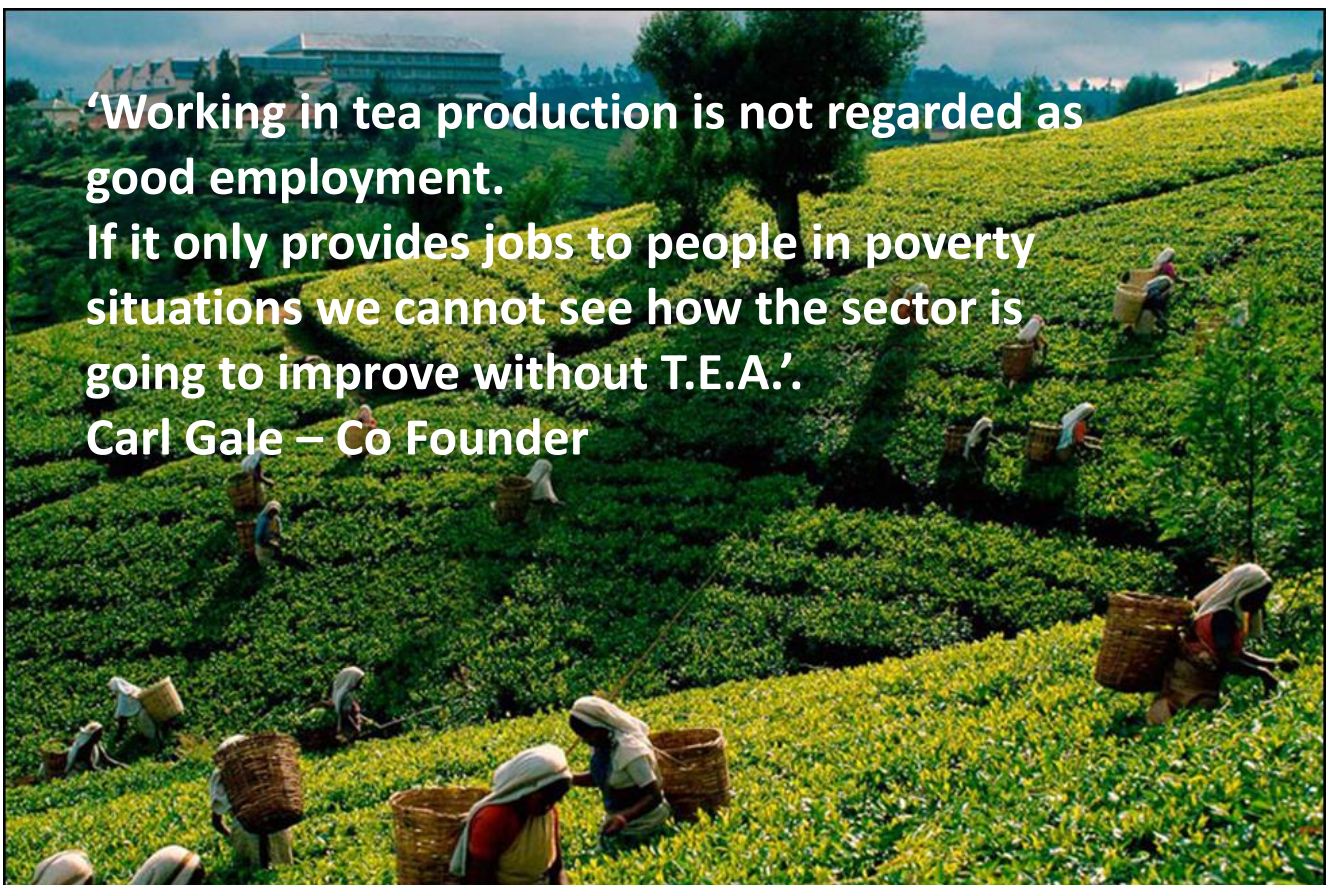
\*Costs calculated at March 2020 exchange rates.



**‘Working in tea production is not regarded as good employment.**

**If it only provides jobs to people in poverty situations we cannot see how the sector is going to improve without T.E.A.’.**

**Carl Gale – Co Founder**



\*Poor families become **impoverished** for at least **three generations**. This is enough time for the family to include **no surviving ancestors** who possess or can transmit the **intellectual, social, and cultural capital** necessary to stay out of or **change** their impoverished situation.

# Sponsors Welcome

## Recognition

**Sponsors** who can provide the **financial support** necessary to run Tiny-T.E.As for between **1-5 years** will see **their logo/name** on **event collateral**. TEA-shirts, banners, print and web ads, Tweets, Facebook posts, press releases, invites, landing pages and email campaigns etc...

Sponsors will be invited for a **private tour** of The Centre. Sponsors will be **acknowledged** by The T.E.A. Project in public speeches, board meetings and interviews with the press. Employee **VolunTEAr** work programmes will be available. A **stewardship ad** can be placed in an industry trade publication to thank sponsors for their generosity in funding. Sponsors will also receive **VIP tickets** to charitable events.

The T.E.A. Project **always** delivers on a promise. Sponsors are **prized partners**. The T.E.A. Project will **nurture** and **build** that relationship. A **partnership** will be **clearly visible** and provide benefits for **both parties**.



## 91%

of global consumers are likely to switch brands to one associated with a good cause.

## 61%

of consumers are willing to try a new brand, or one they've never heard of, because of its association with a particular cause.

## 50%

of global consumers said they would be willing to reward companies that give back to society by paying more for their goods and services.

\*nonprofituhub.org

## Creative Approval

**The T.E.A. Project** understands that corporate branding is one of the most **important assets** for a sponsor. We will **ensure branding** is properly represented. Sponsors will sign off on any creative efforts featuring their logo.

**\*Alternatively a personal donation to The T.E.A. Project enables us to provide essential training and workshops needed to empower the poorest children in Sri Lanka. A gift of £10 provides vital T.E.A. Training materials, £50 funds one fully staffed & equipped day of training for up to 30 children and £100 provides a full time Project Worker's salary for one month.**



Visit

[www.theteaproject.org](http://www.theteaproject.org)

to donate & raise awareness via the link:

**PayPal** Giving Fund



For more information about  
**Tiny-TEA** or to support other  
**T.E.A.** services please  
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Alternatively please donate & support via the  
following links:

**Website**

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**Fundraising & Donations**

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# Time to Work Together



## Thank you

*Empowering Children*

[theteaproject.org](http://theteaproject.org)