

# HOW THE CSO-INTERCEDE PROJECT IS BUILDING A HEALTHIER SRI LANKA!

## “Nourishing Lives, Empowering Communities”

Sri Lanka continues to navigate a complex nutrition and livelihood crisis, with vulnerable populations—especially women, children, and youth disproportionately affected. In response, the CSO-INTERCEDE project, now a year into its implementation, is making significant strides in building resilient and healthier communities. Funded by the European Union, the project is strategically strengthening the capacity of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to become key partners in driving sustainable change in the Anuradhapura and Nuwara Eliya districts.

The project's reach is extensive. We are working to empower 10 district-level CSOs and 40 grassroots CSOs, enabling them to effectively serve vulnerable households. The direct beneficiaries of these efforts are women, including pregnant and breastfeeding mothers, female-headed households, children, and youth, who will benefit from improved nutrition and enhanced livelihood opportunities. In working with the estate communities, we have sought the active support and collaboration of the Estate Management to ensure effective community participation and sustainability of interventions.



Our core objective is to empower CSOs with the necessary skills, knowledge, and resources to implement impactful nutrition and livelihood interventions. We are also fostering a collaborative environment by building strong partnerships between CSOs, government bodies, and the private sector to influence national and local nutrition policies. Our advocacy efforts are centered on creating lasting solutions that ensure nutritious food is more available, affordable, and accessible for everyone.

Additionally, we are supporting government partners, such as Medical Officers of Health and District and Divisional Secretariats, to strengthen their capacity to deliver vital nutrition services. By creating a cascading network of empowered CSOs, the project is on track to positively impact the lives of over 500,000 people. This work is not just about immediate relief; it is about building stronger nutrition systems, better livelihoods, and lasting community resilience for a more secure future.