



# Fact sheet building houses Kuda Payagala & Wadduwa - Sri Lanka

**Country and region/town or city**

Sri Lanka – Kuda Payagala & Wadduwa

**Project name**

Building houses in Kuda Payagala & Wadduwa

**Partner(s)**

Saravodaya – local partner  
Commundo - travel partner

**Description**

In late 2004 the tsunami badly affected the west coast of Sri Lanka, including the villages of Kuda Payagala and Wattala. This led Vebe to set up the Foundation to help the victims. Together with the local organisation, Saravodaya put together a plan to build 50 houses in the communities Kuda Payagala and Wadduwa.

This was the Foundation's first project, during which a total of 50 houses were built. This was the first building trip with 10 employees. During this week, 5 houses were built together with local builders and the future owners. As a result of this working method, a bond was established with the owners/residents during this week and it became clear what impact the tsunami has had - not only on the living conditions but also on the psyche of the residents.

In 2007 two participants returned to see the progress of the construction. During this visit it turned out that 48 houses had been completed and families are now living in these houses.

**Period**

2005

#### Number of building trips

2005 – 1 trip

2007 – return trip to view the completed construction

#### Number of ambassadors

10 participants helped with the construction during this project.

#### Investment in € and time

Donation: €250,000

10 participants x 40 hours = 400 hours of volunteer work

#### Where do we go from here...?

In 2011 one of the participants returned again to 'his house'. He found that the family is still living there and is doing well.

After completion in 2007, the VebeGo Foundation has no longer been involved in this project or the progress.

#### What have we learned?

Cooperation with the partners during this initial project was pioneering. We learned that we wanted to be more hands on and want to have greater insight into the construction process and the progress. The local partner did not live up to agreements and was unable to answer questions. In addition the time span to complete the houses was too long, as a result of which an overview was lacking and progress was more difficult to track.

#### Want to know more?

If you would like to know more about this project, visit the website: [www.vebegofoundation.nl](http://www.vebegofoundation.nl), or contact Annette van Waning: [a.vanwaning@vebego.com](mailto:a.vanwaning@vebego.com)

