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VESHI SAAFU

Established on December 18, 2019, Veshi Saafu is a small not-for-profit, non-governmental, apolitical organization, mostly of women whose passionate focus is to beautify the island of Hithadhoo, Addu Atoll.

With a humble beginning, our member count has gone up several folds. We work with community groups, schools, businesses, and local government authorities to carry out our activities, which include raising awareness, cleaning, nurturing, and improving the environment. Our members are committed to making a positive difference to the community and the environment.

Projects Underway

Public Park

A small park in Hithadhoo is being developed for the children and the elderly. A concrete circular track has already been laid out for the children for use of skateboards and bicycles. Comfortable wooden benches for the elderly are placed around the park. Also, small swing beds hang in clusters under the shady trees. The children and their mothers usually loll in these.

Planting Endangered Trees

Our aim is to plant breadfruit trees. These are becoming rare as they are felled, and their place is taken over by buildings. These trees are not allowed to disappear, as they play a very important role in the life of native birds, supplying a carefree lifestyle. So, our organization has decided to obtain a plot of land within the Nature Park. We have planted some breadfruit trees and screw pine fruit trees there and some more are on the way. These trees also help protect the white tern population indigenous to our city.

Campaign Against Single Use Plastics

This project funded by the Ministry of Youth, Sports & Community Empowerment is continuing to boom the public awareness about the extensive damage caused by plastic trash scattered all over the city. In the hope of curbing the use of single use plastic bags, we have produced cloth bags and donated 500 tote bags to supermarkets, shops, institutions, and to houses making an earnest appeal to use those for shopping instead of plastic bags.

Our billboards stand at the most visible spots on the link road, and also 1000 stickers, with slogans against the use of plastic bags, were distributed to the public during our campaign. 20 students from grade schools were also given training in exchange for their voluntary participation in our campaign.

Our Plans

Our vision is to expand our services to other islands in Addu City, and throughout Maldives. The challenges we face won't be a barrier for the continuation of our work saving the earth for the next generation. More and more awareness programs will continue in different locations with cleaning events.

Free Give-away Plants

This project continues according to our plan. Our purpose is to motivate and increase public awareness about saving trees and replanting the vanishing varieties. We gift potted plants monthly to schools, intuitions, mosques, and restaurants to be planted in the space in and around their yards.

A Story Book

We have written a children's story book about the use of the breadfruit tree; all the food we can make from breadfruit and preserve as it is a seasonal fruit. The book is initially written in Dhivehi (Addu dialect) and we will be translating it to English soon as many of our supporters have requested for an English translation.

Our Involvement

Our participation at coral festival conducted by Maldives Coral Festival was a success and a gateway to many more adventures as we sail through.

In August we will be taking part in a turtle festival in Naifarufu, in the north. These opportunities will enrich the insight of our volunteers and benefit in many ways.

Our weekly cleaning and picking plastics from different locations is a non-stop activity we continue to keep this island clean and plastic free.

