

# CSR IMPACT ASSESSMENT FY 2022-23

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FOR  
**Coromandel**   
FUTURE POSITIVE

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## Section 1: Executive Summary

Presented herein is a comprehensive report assessing the impact of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) endeavours conducted by Coromandel International Ltd. during the fiscal year 2022-23.

The CSR Impact Assessment exercise is based on the guidelines provided in:

1. The Companies Act 2013 Schedule VII, Sec 135
2. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) IS/ISO 26000:2010 Guidance on Social Responsibility
3. UN Sustainable Development Goals

### About Coromandel International Ltd. (CIL)

The Murugappa Group is dedicated to fostering sustainable development, emphasizing the interconnected pillars of people, planet, and profit. Its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategy reflects a commitment to empowering individuals, promoting education, and enhancing overall well-being.

Aligned with principles of partnership and community ownership, the AMM Foundation, operating as an autonomous charitable trust is the CSR arm of the Murugappa Group, and leads their philanthropic efforts. The AMM Foundation has evolved from establishing and running institutions to forming partnerships with individuals & organisations in keeping with the changing philanthropic ecosystem in India..

Meanwhile, Coromandel International, a group company of the Murugappa Group, implements CSR initiatives that cultivate social capital within the communities it serves. Collaborating closely with local communities and stakeholders, Coromandel International ensures the seamless integration of its operations, contributing to sustainable development pathways in the regions where it operates. Through rigorous need assessment studies and research, Coromandel identifies genuine community needs and prioritizes projects based on their potential impact.

Across various thematic areas, Coromandel International Limited demonstrates a holistic approach to social responsibility, contributing positively to the well-being of society and the environment while upholding transparency and accountability. Coromandel International Ltd. (CIL) has a well-defined and robust governance structure to oversee the implementation of the CSR policy outlined by the Board of Directors

The main CSR themes are listed below:

1. **Education:** The company recognizes the transformative power of education and invests significantly in educational initiatives. It supports schools, educational infrastructure development, scholarships for deserving students, and vocational training programs to enhance employability and skill development among youth.
2. **Community Development:** Coromandel fosters holistic community development by addressing various socio-economic challenges. It undertakes projects focusing on livelihood enhancement, women empowerment, sanitation, and infrastructure development, thereby contributing to the overall well-being and prosperity of local communities.
3. **Natural Calamity Support:** In times of natural disasters or calamities, Coromandel extends support to affected communities through relief efforts, rehabilitation programs, and infrastructure restoration initiatives. It ensures swift and effective response mechanisms to mitigate the impact of such events on vulnerable populations.
4. **Research & Development:** Recognizing the importance of innovation and sustainable practices, Coromandel invests in research and development initiatives. These efforts aim to develop innovative solutions for agricultural challenges, promote environmental sustainability, and enhance the efficiency of its operations while minimizing environmental impact.

The FY 2022-23 CSR Projects supported by CIL covered in this assessment report are listed below

1. Balavidyalaya The school for young deaf children
2. Sri Murugappa Chettiar Research Centre (MCRC)
3. Nanneer Project
4. Madras Crocodile Bank Trust

Coromandel International Ltd.'s CSR projects are aligned to The Companies Act 2013 Schd VII Section 135 . The CIL CSR activities can also be mapped to the following UN Sustainable Development Goals:



#### CIL CSR Spend FY 22-23

During the fiscal year 2022-23, Coromandel allocated INR 33.45 crores, an 18% increase from INR 28.12 crores from FY 21-22. towards CSR initiatives. This consistent expenditure highlights the company's unwavering commitment to social advancement and underscores its dedication to sustainable development.

#### Rating of Coromandel International CSR Programs

Based on the proprietary scoring algorithm, BlueSky has assessed the Coromandel International Ltd CSR Project with a **Platinum Category** of Performance of CSR Activity. The Platinum Category of the CSR Project performance demonstrates:

- Sustainability Commitment
- Leadership Visionary on Social Responsibility
- Stakeholder Partnerships and Multi-organizational Alliances

## Project 1. Balavidyalaya The school for young deaf children

### CSR Spend :19.5 lakhs INR

Stakeholder Interaction through key informants' interview with Dr. Valli Annamalai & Dr. Meera Suresh.

#### Introduction:

Balavidyalaya, a 54 year old Trust, is a parent-infant programme that admits infants and young children with hearing loss below the age of three. Balavidyalaya has developed its own methodology called DHVANI . The syllabus and learning material developed as a part of this methodology helps develop speech and comprehension skills so as to mainstream the children into regular schools

Balavidyalaya also runs a Teachers Training programme which is recognised by the Government of Tamil Nadu and Rehabilitation Council of India , New Delhi.

#### Relevance :

WHO estimates that in India there are approximately 63 million people, who are suffering from Significant Auditory Impairment. Early identification of hearing loss and ear diseases is key to effective management.

#### Activities

- Since its inception , 1500 children with hearing disability have been mainstreamed. 30% of these children are working and 70% of them are studying in schools& colleges .
- In 22-23, 21 children joined in the year and 7 children got mainstreamed,
- The Teachers Training programme has trained 267 candidates since 2001 in the field of hearing disability. Tamil Nadu Government has 1 early intervention in 34 districts – all of which have 2 trainers trained by Balavidyalaya.
- This year there are 12 candidates from different parts of the country undergoing teachers training.
- The funds from CIL have been used for building an auditorium on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor as well as install a lift in the premises- an accessibility requirement as per law.
- The Funds have also been used to buy equipment for their inhouse diagnostic centre – OAE screening equipment,Audiometer for identifying appropriate hearing aid analyser



**Impact**

CIL is major donor for Balavidyalaya – thus ensuring support for hearing impaired children – many of who come from economically poor background .

While the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment contribute some funds annually - it is not consistent and very bureaucratic - making it necessary for Balavidyalaya to depend on donors its smooth functioning .

The support offered by CIL CSR Grant have significant impact on the smooth functioning of Balavidyalaya and ensuring that the hearing challenged children are given a fair chance to overcome their disability and be mainstreamed to reach their full potential.

**Beneficiary Profile**

- 7 Children who had joined Balavidyalaya with severe hearing impairment 3 years back have now been mainstreamed – they have joined regular schools, 3 children have joined 1<sup>st</sup> standard and 3 children have joined UKG .

Some notable alumni this year are listed below:

- Lokesh S has scored 81% and has joined B.Tech ECE in MIT
- Hari Mahalingam has been promoted as Professor in NIT Suratkal.
- Arun Chakraborty has completed his M.Litt from Aberdeen University , Scotland.

**Project 2. Sri Murugappa Chettiar Research Centre (MCRC)****CSR Spend :1.84 crores**

Stakeholder Interaction through Focus Group Discussion with 7 research Scholars and Project heads Under Dr. Unamalai's leadership

**Introduction.**

MCRC was established in 1973. MCRC conducts research and development into technological solution that common people can benefit from – either as aids to day to day living and vocations or as core concepts that could be developed commercially by anybody interested. MCRC vision aligns with the CIL vision to contribute to sustainable development of the communities.

MCRC is unique in its identity – it provides for research & development on socially relevant topics which are newly emerging and hence having a high risk of failure. The vision of the founding fathers was to give MCRC a freedom to fail on new challenges as only then would successful solutions emerge .

The topics of Research taken up by MCRC is approved by the Research Advisory Board which consists of eminent scientists and other professional . They RAB guide, formulate policies, rules & regulations and approve annual budgets of MCRC

#### **Relevance :**

The topics for R&D taken up by MCRC align with the vision of CIL on contributing to find solutions are very relevant for the challenges facing the world in terms of Sustainable Development.

The 2 main focus areas are on Bioenergy from agro and other wastes for rural India & Research & Development on Solar based devices for rural areas,

#### **Activities**

##### **Bioenergy from agri and other wastes**

- Biofuels from algal biomass  
MCRC is working on developing a technology using algal biomass (*Scenedesmus* sp.) to bioremediate the industrial waste like sugar effluent and utilizing exhaust CO<sub>2</sub> for its growth. The algae cultivated in the effluent water will be used for biofuel production as it contains high lipid content. In addition, attempts are being made to convert the algal biomass into biocrude through hydrothermal liquefaction facility at IIT-Chennai, and evaluate the algal biocrude for biofuel properties.
- Biogas: MCRC has been working for a long time on various biogas systems to produce methane for sustainable fuel supply to rural areas. The methanogenesis work took various shapes with applicative models for different areas especially using food and vegetable wastes. MCRC discussed with Educational, institutional and hotels in and around Mahapulipuram for installing the biogas system for carrying out research to produce biogas from food wastes.
- Briquettes and energy pellets: Briquetting is the process of converting low bulk density biomass into high density and energy concentrated fuel



briquettes. MCRC has been continuously providing technical support to the existing biochar producers and providing training to interested youths for conversion of waste biomass into energy pellets and also as incense pellets.

- **BioHydrogen** In recent times, global attention is focused on hydrogen gas ( $H_2$ ), which has emerged as one of the most promising renewable energy sources. Literature survey was carried out on various methods for production of biohydrogen. This was conducted with an aim to study the feasibility of hydrogen production using molasses from sugar industry as feedstock. The team MCRC is reinitiated the biohydrogen work from waste waters using consortia of bacteria.

- **Biomass Energy Process**

Torrefaction is a thermo-chemical treatment process under lower temperature ( $200^{\circ}C$  to  $300^{\circ}C$ ), like roasting or mild pyrolysis of biomass wastes. Based on knowledge gained from earlier model for producing energy using waste biomass, redesigning of torrefaction is in progress.

### **Solar Energy applications and Devices**

The solar based solutions included pumping water from underground/ rivers for drinking water purposes & irrigation and design & fabrication of solar based dryers and cold boxes for preserving/ value adding agricultural products.

- **Solar Water Lifting**

**About 25 solar water pumps (15 numbers in Anaikatti, 10 numbers in Kurinjipadi cluster)** have been installed in this financial year. All the pumps are fully functional and providing water to around 1400 families.

- **Solar light (Lantern and Street)**

MCRC is addressing the above through **distribution of 250 nos. of multipurpose solar lanterns** to rural families who don't have access to power or have limited lighting facility.

Solar Street Lights:

Street lights were installed in Aanikatti cluster.

- Solar Dryers for food items

**16 solar dryers installed** in last 2 years are functioning in the village clusters. MCRC is monitoring the usage of dryers by farmers. Each dryer is being used by around 20 members, and they maintain these units for better functioning and getting additional income to their family through value added products.

- **Cold storage boxes**

In total, **9 charging stations with 120 cold boxes have** been distributed under MRDP over the past 2 years. MCRC is continuously providing technical support for farmers for continuing the usage of Cold storage facilities. Around 150 farmers per month are using **120 numbers of cold boxes to store vegetables, flowers and leafy vegetables.**

- **Integrated Multifunction System - Solar**

MCRC is continuously monitoring and providing service support for 5 nos. of solar based multifunctional Integrated Energy System (IES) consisting of solar pump, solar dryer, chilling unit and lighting to the villages of different MRDP clusters. Around 150- 200 farmers/month are utilizing this facility.

### **Impact**

Coromandel fosters holistic community development by addressing various socio-economic challenges. As a Research organisation MCRC has notable impact in identifying topics for research which other agencies may not support due to a high risk of failure. The models in operation in the rural communities is relevant and of interests to the beneficiaries. It is recommended that the process of patenting the technology and transferring the knowledge in viable and successful commercial models be strengthened so that wealth of experience & knowledge MCRC brings is monetised by its target beneficiaries in the rural areas- farmers & fishermen.

### Project 3 - Naneer Project

**CSR Spend :1.57 crores**

Online Stakeholder Interaction through Key Informant Interview with Mr Ramky

#### Introduction

CIL is in the business of fertilisers which in turn requires lot of water in order to be absorbed by the plants. In order to give back to the community, CIL supports the water rejuvenation project.

AMM Foundation and Parry Nutraceutical Ltd in partnership with Siruthuli (NGO) identified 7 water bodies for rejuvenation based on a needs assessment study conducted in a 5 km radius around Oonaiyur in 2020.. Study covered 650 observation sites 14 villages, 49 Hamlets, 7331 houses, 36000 Population. As an outcome, lineament mapping, aquifer identification, preparation of drainage plan and classification of 10 micro watershed areas were completed.

Apart from Oonaiyur, the other identified bodies are Vadakudiparti, Panangudi, Kaana Kanmai, Rayar Kanmai

#### Relevance :

India is experiencing its worst ever water crisis. The 2030 Water Resources Group estimates that if we continue to consume water as per the current rate, India will have only half the water it needs by 2030—a flashpoint that's only six years away.

Nearly 80 percent of India's freshwater is used in agriculture This is an unusually large water footprint for agriculture. China and South Africa use approximately 64 percent and 62 percent of their renewable freshwater resources for agriculture.

#### Activities

As a part of the Naneer project, lineament mapping, aquifer identification, preparation of drainage plan, **and classification of 10 micro watershed area**, desilting, and getting requisite permission from govt bodies were the main activities conducted.

Planting of **1500 plants of different** native species on the bunds has also been conducted contributing to increased biodiversity in the area. Training and outreach sessions have been conducted to increase the community ownership of the lakes.

Leading personalities and social workers have spoken about the Naneer efforts increasing the pride of the local community on their effort.

The sand excavated through desilting was used to make artificial islands in the middle of the ponds.

### **Impact**

**7 lakes spread over 250 acres have been rejuvenated.**

**About 2 billion litres** of water are now stored in these lakes as compared to 1.2 billion litres before the project.

The impact of the project is significant as demonstrated by the fact that there are similar requests for lake rejuvenation from Karnataka.

It is expected to conserve 10 billion ltrs of water through lake rejuvenation by FY26-27

The local **community of 2000 families (approx.)** has improved its income through **cultivation of 2 crops per year as** against 1 crop before the project. Availability of water for domestic animals has improved thus allowing farmers to keep more cows & other animals.

### **Project 4 -Madras Crocodile Bank Trust (MCBT)**

**CSR Spend :1.00 crores**

Stakeholder Interaction through Key Informant Interview with DR. Ruchika

### **Introduction**

CIL's commitment to conserve the natural habitat and biodiversity aligns with the support it provides to The Madras Crocodile Bank Trust which was set up in 1976, in an effort to save India's dwindling crocodilian populations. Today, after decades of cutting edge science and grassroots education, the Croc Bank remains a world leader in the field of frontline conservation and the preservation of natural landscapes. It is associated with Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Science University and works under the guidance of Zoo Authority of India.

## Relevance

MCBT was established to promote the conservation of reptiles and amphibians and their habitats through education, scientific research and captive breeding. Efforts are focused on, but are not limited to, Indian species and ecosystems and include both in

-situ and ex-situ components. Today Croc **Bank is home to 15 species of crocodilians, 3 of which are listed by the IUCN as critically endangered with a further 3 listed as threatened.**

## Activity

The Croc Bank has increased its repertoire to include turtles, lizards and snakes and is now known as the Madras Crocodile Bank Trust and Centre for Herpetology in 1993. The Croc Bank now successfully breeds several species of threatened chelonians, including two listed as critically endangered.

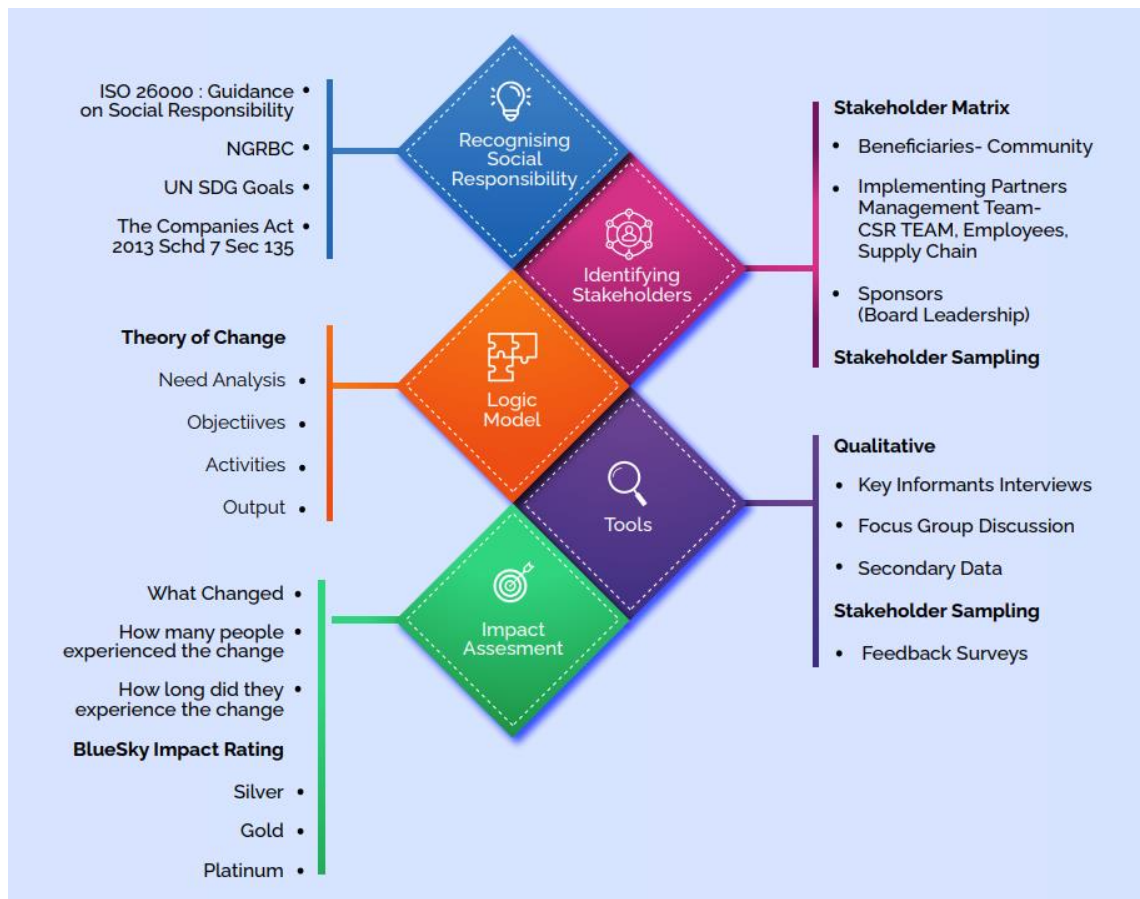
The CIL CSR funds have supported MCBT to acquire the following equipment & their annual maintenance thus making critical contributions for conservation of crocodiles & associated species.

- 1) Digital Radiography Xray Machines - High frequency equipment specialised for reptiles to take Xrays by giving minimum stress to the animals.
- 2) Karlstorz Endoscopy and Laparoscopy machine for minimal invasive diagnostic procedures - to check the reptile internally for any abnormalities.
- 3) Ultrasonography machine with Doppler and Echocardiography to diagnose soft tissue abnormalities, pregnancy diagnosis and cardiac function.
- 4) Hematology and Biochemistry Analyser - to do blood tests and get on-spot results.
- 5) Olympus Microscope with camera - to do microscopic examination of various samples and understand the pathology.

6) Automated Orthopaedic equipment from Stryker for preserving bone tissues and orthopaedic surgeries..

## Section 2. Impact Assessment Methodology

### BlueSky Accredited Quality Process



The analysis and findings of this report is based on the following process:

- Desk review of the existing data of the project being implemented. - Planning & Implementation of the program, its monitoring processes of recognizing social responsibility, identifying key stakeholders and beneficiaries.
- Stakeholder feedback from key stakeholders of the project – Beneficiaries of Implementing partners, Representatives of Implementing partners, CSR Team etc. Qualitative feedback and Quantitative metrics have been collected through interactions and feedback from the key stakeholders and beneficiaries of the program.
- Documentary evidence on the activities, outputs and outcomes is as provided by the client.



The data so collected is triangulated to arrive at the impact of the CSR program.

### **Social Impact Definition**

- **Outputs:** They are the Project activities we do or accomplish that help achieve outcomes.
- **Outcomes:** They are the short-term results, the delta difference brought about because of those activities for individuals, families, groups, or communities.
- **Impact:** is the long-term results of the same outputs. examines the significance of the intervention and its higher-level results, meaning how much it mattered to those involved.
- **Relevance:** The extent to which the Project Objectives and design respond to beneficiaries. The relevance is context specific to the geography or culture in which the
- **Sustainability:** The extent to which the net benefits of the intervention continue or are likely to continue.

### **BlueSky Sustainable Business LLP**

BlueSky is an Accredited Inspection Body for social service projects as per ISO/IEC 17020:2012, which specifies requirements for the competence of bodies performing inspection and for the impartiality and consistency of their inspection activities.

BlueSky is accredited by NABCB -National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies, Quality Council of India to conduct assessments of social projects. The

BlueSky impact assessment inspection methodology and the consequent Impact assessment report & certificate conforms to the guidance available in:

- The Companies Act 2013 Schd VII, Sec 135 and its amendments.
- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) IS/ISO 26000:2010 Guidance on Social Responsibility
- UN Sustainable Development goals