

Sari Connection

/ Newsletter

About us...

PARCIC launched the 'Recycle Sari Project' in 2012 aiming to support women headed families in war-affected Northern Sri Lanka.

The trained seamstresses in Jaffna and Mullaitivu upcycle donated saris to create unique designs.

The proceeds are distributed back to the original seamstresses in North East to support their families. Since mid 2015 the project has provided economic benefits to over 70 women and their families, mostly female-headed households, as a supportive livelihood. 'Sari Connection' is the brand name for the products made through this initiative and is essentially unique due to the nature of production.



News From North

Women visited Colombo

In May 2016 we organized our seamstresses' visit to Colombo, and 18 women from Jaffna/Mullaitivu joined the tour. We visited Barefoot in Bambalapitiya and PR in Horton Place to see the product quality for tourists and upmarket customers. All of our team was fascinated by colorful and fashionable clothing/accessories items all sold at the shops, which were very inspiring for the women. Pushpalatha from Mullaitivu said after the visit she understood the difference and importance of product quality. She also said she wanted all the other members to have the same experience. We are planning to have another trip in 2017. We want to truly thank all the staff at Barefoot and PR for sparing their time and encouraging our activities.



Recycle Art Workshop with Ms. Vickie Fremont

A French artist, Vickie Fremont, who is currently performing her projects in New York came to Jaffna and conducted a two-day “Recycle Art Workshop” with our seamstresses, arranged by the Embassy of France in Sri Lanka. She brought beautiful African cloth pieces along with other recyclable materials, such as steal hangers and plastic bags, and we made dolls and necklaces out of them. Vickie encouraged us to use our sari materials as much as possible, saying it is a beautiful encounter of different cultures happening on our art pieces. It was a very enjoyable time. She also helped us to send our patchwork bags to New York where they will be sold under her project ‘My Tool, My Hands’ towards the end of 2016.



Behind the Patchwork Bag

The women from Kokuthoduvai and Kokkilai, Mullaitivu, are making beautiful hand stitched items, especially patchwork bags. With colorful hand stitches they are now one of our most popular products. Of the 70 Sari Connection sewing members, only 10 are producing them. One of those women, Makilthini, is a 21 year old girl who is living with her aunt’s family in Kokkilai. Her sewing knowledge is from her aunt, but she didn’t have a chance to use it before joining Sari Connection. Now she is one of the best hand stitcher’s and enjoys her work very much.



News From South

Growing sales channels

Now the number of sales point is increasing more than ever before!
Please check 'Where to find Sari Connection'

Sari Connection Featured in Papers

We are more than honored and delighted to be on the media !



THE SARI CONNECTION

Sari Connection is a social initiative supporting marginalized women in the northern region of Sri Lanka who have been affected by conflict and natural disaster. Saris are donated by individual women, companies and schools primarily in the south of the island and sent to towns and villages in the north including Jaffna, Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu. The materials are then upcycled and transformed into unique wares by the local women.

Sari Connection was launched in 2012 by its umbrella organization Pacific Asia Resource Centre International Corporation (PARCIC), a Japanese NGO responsible for several goodwill projects throughout Sri Lanka and the world.

The organization laid the foundations for the initiative by providing sewing machines and periodic training for the women in design, sewing and quality control. Now, more than 75 women have been able to work from their own homes whilst still caring for their families.

The upcycled saris are handcrafted into a range of items: from dresses, blouses, saris and skirts to bags, purses, sarongs, cushion covers, bedspreads and table runners.

As the name suggests, the connection that is formed between the communities of the north and south is one of the main objectives of the Sari Connection.

The authentic products are then sold across Sri Lanka at different establishments and markets. The funds are distributed back to the seamstresses in the north, providing them with a source of self-sustained livelihood and empowerment.

Many of the women were displaced and lost family members to the long-standing civil war and devastating tsunami and are slowly re-building their lives with the help of the Sari Connection.

(Words and photos by Paris Bambery)

For more information visit www.facebook.com/SariConnection or follow them on Instagram.

Daily Mirror



CAUSE

THE SARI CONNECTION

words and photo by Paris Bambery

Upcycling saris into beautiful and unique fashion items.

The upcycled saris are handcrafted into a range of items: from dresses, blouses, purses and skirts to bags, purses, sarongs, cushion covers, bedspreads and table runners. The authentic products are then sold across Sri Lanka at different establishments and markets.

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Overview
The Sari Connection is a social initiative supporting marginalized women in the northern region of Sri Lanka who have been affected by conflict and natural disaster.

History
The Sari Connection was founded in 2012 by the umbrella organization Pacific Asia Resource Centre International Corporation (PARCIC), a Japanese NGO responsible for several goodwill projects throughout Sri Lanka and the world.

The Cause
Many of the women were displaced and lost family members to the long-standing civil war and devastating tsunami and are slowly re-building their lives with the help of the Sari Connection.

Impact
The upcycled saris are handcrafted into a range of items: from dresses, blouses, purses and skirts to bags, purses, sarongs, cushion covers, bedspreads and table runners. The authentic products are then sold across Sri Lanka at different establishments and markets.

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140 | *Entrepreneur*

LT Magazine



YAMU
21 October at 11:06

Funky tote bags, chic beach wraps and dresses, and heaps more. Sari Connection creates lovely island wear, all made from upcycled saris. The best part is that they benefit and are made by disadvantaged women in the North East.

Sari Connection
Sari Connection has a unique product range created by women from marginalized communities in Jaffna and Mullaitivu. All our products are made by upcycling saris sourced from across the country, mostly from the southern parts. Each piece is...

YAMU.LK | BY FISHAN

YAMU



Upcycled saris empower women in north

By Fathima Rizwan Hali Sari Connection is a novel project launched by Japanese NGO, PARCIC (Pacific Asia Resource Center).

FT.LK

FT newspaper

Celebrated International Women's Day

Citi Bank Colombo invited Sari Connection as a speaker at their International Women's Day celebration in March. The chief guest of the day was Ms. Rosy Senanayake, the Member of Parliament from United National Party. Vasanthini from Jaffna addressed her speech, and spoke of how being part of Sari Connection has changed her life, followed by the speech by Ms. Senanayake. The MP, who has been working hugely for women's right in the country, appreciated Vasanthini's speech and our achievement. We are receiving continuous sari donation from the staff of Citi Bank.



Thank you for your donation!

Huge appreciation for all those who donated Saris!

Both individuals and organizations, your support makes us keep going!

Organization includes below :

- *Citi Sri Lanka
- *Initiatives of Change - Sri Lanka
- *Hill Country Women's Association
- *Indian Cultural Centre
- *Zonta Club 1 of Colombo
- *Narammala Women's Association
- *HSBC Rajagiriya Branch
- *OKI International School
- *Mullaitivu GA Office
- *Chundikuli Girls' College

If you have Saris you wish to donate,
please contact us or drop them off at Good Market!
Call : 0711 918 252 / 0772 462 808

Where to find Sari Connection

Colombo

- The Kingsbury Hotel
- Hotel Galadari
- Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo
- Laksala
- Lakpahana Handcraft
- Lakmedura
- Aussie Swim Store
- Thusare Talking Hands
- Prana Lounge
- ClockInn Colombo
- Good Market (Every Saturday)

- Janadhipathi Mawatha, Colombo 01
- Lotus Road, Colombo 01
- Sir Chittampalam A Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 01
- No.215, Baudhdhaloka Mawatha,Thummulla, Colombo 07
- No.14, Reid Avenue, Colombo 07
- No.113, Srimath Anagarika Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 07
- B15, Crescat Boulevard, Basement Level, Galle Road, Col 03
- No.103/12, Dharmapala Mawatha,Colombo 07
- 60 Horton Pl, Colombo 07
- 457 Galle Rd, Colombo 03
- Racecourse, Colombo 07

Galle

- Barefoot
- KK The Collection

- No.41, Pedlar Street, Galle Fort, Galle
- Pedlar Street, Galle Fort,Galle

Arugam Bay

- Aussie Swim Store
- Rice & Carry
- Ecowave

- Pottuville, Arugam Bay
- Surfing Place Road, Pottuville, Arugam Bay
- Main Street, Pottuville, Arugam Bay

Unawatuna

- Moonwater 54

- No.54, Kadolana Road, Eramudugaha, Unawatuna

Waskaduwa

- Citrus Waskaduwa
- Royal Palms Beach Hotel

- No.427, Samanthara Road, KudaWaskaduwa, Waskaduwa
- The Abrew Road, Waskaduwa, Kaluthara South

Hambantota

- Saraii Village

- Randunu Kele Watte, Weerawila,Hambantota

Wattala

- Hotel Pegasus Reef

- P.O.Box.2,Hendala,Wattala.

Kandy

- Queen's Hotel
- Grand Kandyan Hotel

- D.S. Senanayaka Veediya , Kandy
- No. 89/10, Lady Gordom's Drive, Kandy.

Kaluthara

- Tangerine Beach Hotel

- Tangerine Beach Hotel, Kaluthara.

Nuwara Eliya

- Grand Hotel

- GrandHotel, NuwaraEliya

Trincomalee

- Trinco Blue by Cinnamon

- Sampaltive, Uppuveli, Trincomalee.

Jaffna

- KAIS Gust House

- No.69, Columbuthurai Road, Jaffna

