

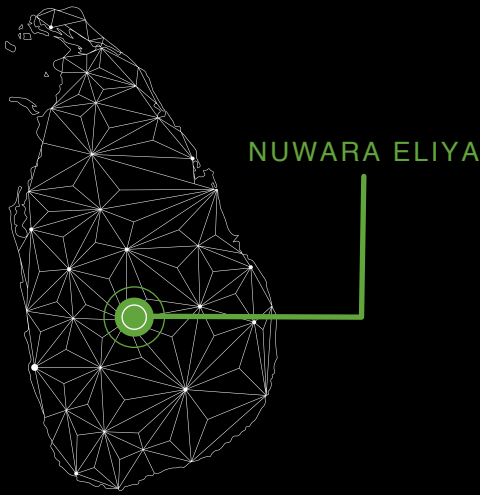
DIVYAMALAR
**FROM ESTATE WORKER
TO FARMER**



Divyamalar's story is one of resilience and determination in the face of adversity. As a former estate worker and with her husband's injury, it was challenging for her to provide her children with a good education. However, when she heard about Australian Aid, Oxfam Australia facilitated the Poly-tunnel building program in her estate, she decided to take the opportunity and embark on a journey to become a farmer. The project has now been implemented by DevPro.

With the intervention of DevPro, Divyamalar's agricultural progress has taken a significant leap forward. With the generous provision of essential farming equipment, quality seeds and fertilizer, Divyamalar has been able to cultivate her land more efficiently and productively than ever before.

She primarily grows potatoes in her tunnel farm, which has been successful until 2021 when the pandemic hit and made it difficult for her to access the necessary fertilizer. **Despite the challenges, she managed to earn around 7,000 to 10,000 rupees, which helped her send her children to school.**



NUWARA ELIYA

OVERCOMING SETBACKS

Divyamalar has now found a reliable partner in DevPro. Working closely with the organization, Divyamalar has been able to address multiple concerns and challenges that she has encountered lately.

DevPro's intervention in Divyamalar's agricultural journey was not limited to just the provision of essential tools and fertilizer. In addition to these critical resources, DevPro also supplied Divyamalar with the foundational requirement for successful cultivation - quality potato seeds.

Furthermore, DevPro's commitment to remaining in constant touch with Divyamalar has allowed her to have the confidence and reassurance she needs to navigate through any future challenges.



3Y

OF TRAINING

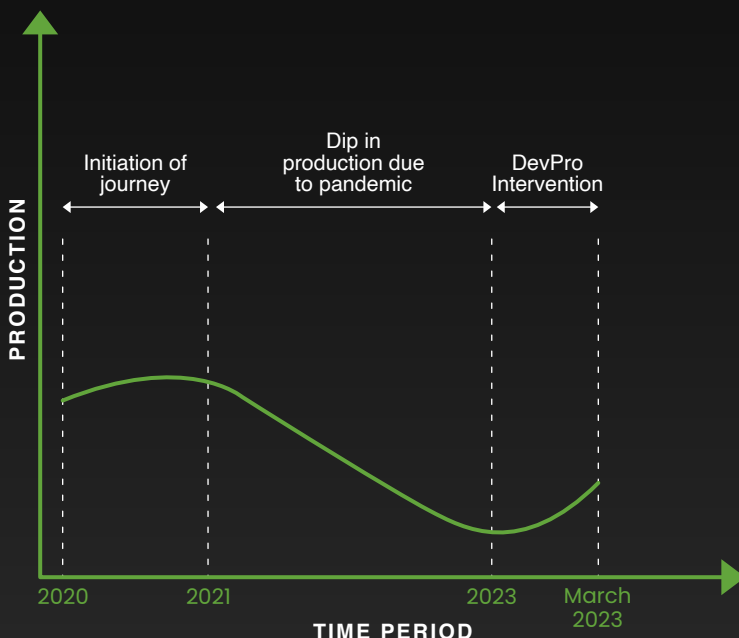
RECEIVED 3 YEARS OF TRAINING



SELF

EMPLOYED & EMPOWERED

WAS EMPLOYED AS AN ESTATE WORKER BUT NOW SHE RUNS HER OWN GREENHOUSE POTATO FARM



BALANCING FARMING AND WORK LIFE

Although she still works at the estate, her bosses have been supportive and allow her to leave work an hour early, giving her enough time to work on her tunnel farm. Additionally, her neighbors have been a great help to her by watering her plants when she is unable to leave work early.

Divyamalar intends to further expand and develop her business in the future, with the help of her three children who have completed their studies. She is grateful for her husband's contribution in everything and is determined to take her business to the next level. Her story is an inspiration for others who may face similar challenges and obstacles but are determined to succeed.



“DevPro’s continuous support has helped me provide a better life for my children and I will always be grateful for that.”

- Divyamalar

About DevPro:

DevPro is an independent not for profit organization with the vision of 'A world where development is in service of equality'. DevPro is built on the 30 years' delivery and legacy of Oxfam in Sri Lanka. Company's work revolves around Climate Resilient Inclusive Economic Development in the areas of Agriculture, Tourism, Climate, Tech and Education, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH). DevPro currently has 5 regional offices with its head office situated in Colombo, Sri Lanka. DevPro's overarching mission is to create Inclusive Economic Development and the approach adapted would mainly be Market System Development (MSD) in the main pillars the company would work on.

About GISED (Gender Inclusive Social Enterprise System):

The project focuses on enhancing productivity and profitability of selected local value chains - dairy, potato seeds, cinnamon, and cocoa - which have the biggest potential to increase and diversify families' sources of income. The project aims to continue to improve the knowledge and skills of producers and entrepreneurs, and increasing productivity, profitability, and access to the market.