

JOIN HANDS WITH NCI

TO ELEVATE YOUR BUSINESS TO THE NEXT LEVEL



NEWSLETTER

October 2023 **ISSUE 02**



NORTHERN CHAMBER OF INDUSTRIES

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the NCI Newsletter

Dear Members, Partners and Stakeholders,

We are delighted to present the latest edition of the NCI's Newsletter.

In this issue, we bring you the array of exciting updates, important announcements and past events the showcase the vibrant activities within our community.

Explore the pages ahead to discover the initiatives, upcoming events and the remarkable contributions of our members. As we continue to grow and thrive, your engagement and support is invaluable.

Thank you for being an essential part of NCI the journey!

NCI Team

Inside this issue

- ➔ **Launching of NCI Website & Face book**
- ➔ **BMO Project Review Event 2023**
- ➔ **SMEs Mentorship Programme with UoJ**
- ➔ **Exposure Visit to Lanka Pak Exhibition**
- ➔ **Brand Stories of Members**

NCI Website Launched successfully

We are delighted to share the exciting news that the Northern Chamber of Industries (NCI) was successfully launched its official website on October 12, 2023. The momentous occasion was graced by the presence of our esteemed Chairman and Board of Directors.

During the ceremony, the Chairman Mr. K Pooranachandren had the honor of pressing the button, Officially unveiling our digital hub to the world.

This milestone was possible with the generous financial assistance of OAV under the BMO Project. The guidance of the OAV Long Term Expert for Sri Lanka Jaffna and Inga the expert from German played a crucial role in the website's design. NCI collaborated with LIZRIS, the website development company to bring our vision to life.

Special recognition goes to our dedicated efforts of the NCI directors, who actively contributed to the content creation of the website.

Explore our new online home at "**northernchambersl.com**" and discover the wealth of resources and information designed to serve our vibrant community.

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who played a part in making this launch a success.



UPCOMING EVENT

NCI'S
AGM
Annual General Meeting
24TH JANUARY
2024



BMO Project Review Event 2023



The German Asia-Pacific Business Association (OAV), in collaboration with the Northern Chamber of Industries (NCI) and the Women Chamber of Industries and Commerce (WCIC), organized a Project Review event for the BMO Partnership Projects 2023 at the Thinnai Hotel in Jaffna on 12th October. The purpose of the event was to celebrate the success of the first phase of the project which is ending in October 2023. NCI Board of Directors, Directors from WCIC, Government officials representing various stakeholders including Representative of Chief Secretary, Jaffna District Secretary, Additional District Secretary of Mullaitivu District, Dean and Senior Lecturer of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, Provincial Director of Industrial Development Board, Asst. Director of Export Development Board and partners, as well as members of NCI and WCIC, participated and graced the occasion at the event. The event commenced at 4.00 p.m and end at 8.00 p.m.



Connect with NCI on Facebook!

We're excited to announce the successful launch of our official Facebook page on October 12th 2023. The Chairman and the esteemed Board Of Directors were present to mark this occasion.

Visit our page at "**Northern Chamber of Industries Sri Lanka**" to stay updated on the latest news, events and activities.

We shared insightful posts about who we are, our Vision & Mission and the array of services we offer.

Join our online community and be a part of the conversation. Like, Follow and engage with us on Facebook.

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Triumph in Mentorship : NCI successfully completes SMEs Mentorship Programme

In a collaborative effort between the NCI and Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce (FMSC) of the University of Jaffna, a momentous Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed. This agreement aimed to uplift the skills of SME business owners, focusing on enhancing their knowledge in Financial Management and Business Planning. This programme was funded by the OAV – The German Asia-Pacific Business Association. The representative of OAV, Miriam Hedger provided her invaluable insights for development of concept for this programme.

Pioneering as a pilot project, SMEs from the Jaffna District were carefully selected based on the thorough needs assessment. Each SME underwent a meticulous evaluation by a team of dedicated lecturers accompanied by student mentors. The evaluation process encompassed both a Need Analysis and SWOT analysis, setting the stage for tailored goals and indicators for each SME.

Armed with these indicators, the University Team conducted personalized visits to each SME imparting crucial skills in Accounting & Book Keeping. As the programme reached its conclusion in October, external evaluators assessed the SMEs. Remarkably, 9 out of 10 SMEs successfully achieved their indicators, showcasing proficiency in Basic Book Keeping methods, Journaling, Cash handling, Bank Transactions and Profit & Loss accounting.

The programme success was celebrated at certificate awarding ceremony held at the Board Room of FMSC. Attended by the Dean, Head of Marketing Department and other Senior Lecturers, certificates were conferred upon SMEs, Student Mentors and Lecturers alike.



Exposure Visit - Lanka Pak Exhibition - Colombo

Northern Chamber of Industries (NCI) organized an exposure visit to Colombo for the exhibition called "Lanka Pak" under the NCI-OAV collaboration within the BMO Project. The theme of the exhibition revolved around the 7 Ps: Paper, Plastic, Printing, Processing, Packaging, Product and Promotion.

The exposure visit was organized based on the need assessment conducted in the early April 2023 during which most NCI members expressed their desire for exposure visits. Expression of interests were solicited from members to participate in the exhibition via NCI's official WhatsApp group.

The exhibition held at the Bandaranayake Memorial Conference Hall (BMCH) from October 26th to 28th 2023. The NCI planned to visit on 27th and 28th. Chairman, Directors and Members were included in the team. Within the exhibition center, a diverse array of 75 to 100 packaging and machinery related companies proudly showcased their products. The exhibition featured with vibrant decorations and attractive stall designs capturing the attention of visitors.

The participants toured each stall inspecting the showcased products, engaging discussion with exhibitors regarding material prices, observing demonstration videos, exchanging business cards and finalizing machinery purchasing. The Chairman played a pivotal role in assisting women members who were not experienced in identifying high quality machinery helping them navigate through the available options. For most of them this was their first visit to a packaging exhibition. Many members appreciated the well organized arrangement including transportation, food and lodging.

The members appreciated being able to take their time to explore all the products. Overall, they found it was very worthwhile for the money they paid to NCI.



NCI's impact unveiled : 10 compelling Brand Stories emerged from the Northern Province

In a collaborative venture with German Asia - Pacific Business Association (OAV), the NCI embarked on a journey to capture the essence of its members through testimonial Brand Story Videos. SAHO CREATION chosen for its expertise in videography, scriptwriting and English subtitles creation, played a pivotal role in bringing these narratives to life.

Commencing in July and reaching fruition in October 2023, this project spotlighted 10 SMEs across various sectors in the Northern Province, Sri Lanka. The selected SMEs including women entrepreneurs, represented the diverse economic landscape of the region. Two hailed from Mannar District, 2 from Mullaitivu District, 2 from Killinochchi and the remainder were from Jaffna District.

These brand stories a testament to the resilience and innovation of NCI Members, serve not only to showcase their achievements but also to inspire others on their entrepreneurial journey.



Event Gallery

Exposure Visit - Lanka Pak Exhibition



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