FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation Project

Kanchooramottai Village | Nedunkerny DS Division | Vavuniya District



Protecting families. Restoring confidence. Enabling cultivation.

Submitted by	International Needs Lanka (INLK)
Submitted to	International Needs New Zealand (INNZ)
Direct beneficiaries	26 resettled families / 76 people
Reporting date	October 2026

1. Executive Summary

The Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation Project in Kanchooramottai was designed to improve the safety and livelihood security of 26 resettled families who have lived with recurring elephant intrusion, crop destruction and fear around their homes and agricultural land. With support from International Needs New Zealand (INNZ) and individual donor partnership, the project established household-level electric elephant fencing so families could live more safely and regain confidence to cultivate their land.

At the mid-term stage, fencing had been completed for 13 households, representing 50% of the target. The remaining installations have now been completed, bringing the intervention to all 26 targeted households. The final visit confirms functioning fencing around homes and cultivation areas together with visibly expanded agricultural activity. The project has therefore moved beyond physical installation to an enabling protection system that supports both family safety and livelihood recovery.

The most meaningful change is the confidence now visible among farmers and families. With a stronger sense that crops can be protected through the growing cycle, households are extending cultivation and investing more labour in their land. Families also report improved safety around their homes. This is especially important in the evening, when elephants have generally entered the village: children can move, play and spend time around the home vicinity with greater freedom and parents experience less fear than before. Farmers are hopeful that the upcoming harvest will be more productive because cultivation can continue with reduced risk of sudden elephant damage. Overall, the project has achieved 26 of 26 targeted household boundaries protected, representing 100% physical completion and direct protection for 26 resettled families (76 people).

2. Project Background and Purpose

Kanchooramottai is an isolated resettled community within the Nedunkerny Divisional Secretariat Division where human-elephant conflict has historically constrained household safety and agricultural recovery. Frequent elephant movements exposed families, including children, to risk and discouraged households from investing in cultivation because crops and household assets could be damaged within a short period of time.

The project therefore addressed a root barrier to sustainable livelihood recovery. Its goal was to support safe human existence and sustainable agricultural livelihoods for 26 families by reducing elephant intrusion through protective fencing. The intervention was intended not only to create a physical barrier but also to restore confidence, enable families to make fuller use of their land and provide a safer living environment around their homes.

3. Implementation Progress and Completion

3.1 Full physical completion

Elephant-proof electric fencing has now been completed for all 26 targeted household boundaries. This represents progress from 13 completed households at the June 2026 mid-term stage to full coverage of the target group. The installed system includes the principal fencing materials and components required for household-level protection, together with energizer arrangements and visible danger signage at fence locations.

3.2 Community participation and ownership

Community participation remained an important implementation strength. Families supported route clearing, boundary identification, post-placement preparation and contractor access. Because the fencing

is located directly around household and cultivation areas, beneficiaries have a strong practical interest in routine inspection, vegetation clearance and prompt repair of damaged components. This direct ownership is important for long-term functionality.

3.3 Completion visit and accountability

The completion visit provided an opportunity for donor representative Neil Ryder, INLK staff and community members to observe the completed fencing, meet beneficiary families and view cultivation within protected areas. The visit enabled project results to be seen at household level and gave beneficiaries an opportunity to demonstrate how the protection is changing the way they use their land and experience daily life.

4. Results and Emerging Impact

4.1 Increased extent of cultivation

The clearest livelihood change visible at completion is the increased extent of land under cultivation. At mid-term, families had already begun dry-season cultivation as fences were completed. By the final visit, productive plots, crop rows and home gardens were visible across the project area. The protection offered by the fence is encouraging households to cultivate land that they were previously reluctant to use intensively because of the high probability of elephant damage.

4.2 Farmer confidence and harvest expectations

Farmer confidence has strengthened alongside the physical protection. Families can now make decisions about seeds, labour and other cultivation inputs with greater confidence that their investment has a reasonable opportunity to reach harvest. The current crop condition and expanded cultivation have created optimism that the upcoming harvesting period will be more productive. This expectation will need to be confirmed through post-harvest monitoring, but it represents an important behavioural and livelihood shift from the uncertainty reported before the intervention.

4.3 Improved family safety and child wellbeing

The project is also producing an important social benefit beyond agriculture. Elephant entry has generally been a particular concern during evening and night hours. Families report that the fence has improved their sense of safety around the home vicinity. Parents are more confident about children moving and playing close to their homes during the evening, while adults can carry out normal household activities with reduced fear of a sudden elephant encounter. This change contributes to child wellbeing, family peace of mind and the community's confidence to remain on its resettled land.

5. Government and Local Stakeholder Engagement

During implementation, officers from the Department of Agriculture visited the project site and expressed confidence in the intervention's potential to improve agricultural productivity. This engagement remains important after completion because the fence protects the enabling environment for agriculture, while government extension and technical services can help households improve cultivation practices and productivity. Continued coordination with the Divisional Secretariat and relevant agriculture and wildlife-related authorities will strengthen sustainability and referral pathways where technical support is required.

6. Financial Completion and Final Supplier Bill

The final bill submitted by Silva Agro, Vavuniya records the fencing cost on the basis of 26 acres/household plots at LKR 106,075 per unit, amounting to LKR 2,757,950, together with 15 energizers at LKR 50,000 each, amounting to LKR 750,000. The supplier's final bill therefore totals LKR 3,507,950.

Cost component	Calculation	Amount (LKR)
Fencing works	26 x 106,075	2,757,950
Energizers	15 x 50,000	750,000
Final supplier bill	**Total**	**3,507,950**

The detailed unit bill identifies the principal fencing materials and installation inputs, including posts, bobbins/insulators, bolts, wire, gate springs, work/labour, post-hole preparation, nails and danger signage. It therefore provides a material-level basis for the supplier's stated unit rate.

The mid-term report recorded a payment of LKR 1,814,150 against the contracted fencing work, with the remaining payment to be released following satisfactory completion and verification. The final supplier bill should therefore be reconciled by INLK Finance against the signed contract, previous payment records and any approved variations before final settlement. If the previously reported LKR 1,814,150 payment is fully chargeable against this final supplier bill, the arithmetic balance is LKR 1,693,800, subject to finance verification and approval.

7. Sustainability and Integration with Wider Kanchooramottai Development

The fence should be understood as a protective foundation for wider development in Kanchooramottai rather than as a stand-alone infrastructure activity. Sustainability will depend on routine household inspection, vegetation clearance along fence lines, timely replacement of damaged components, safe management of energizers and continued community responsibility for the system.

Importantly, the completed elephant fencing will complement other Kanchooramottai village interventions. It strengthens the enabling environment for the ongoing INA-supported Elevate Project activities by protecting household livelihood investments and agricultural gains. It will also complement the upcoming post-disaster project, RISE, which is expected to promote climate-smart agriculture and strengthen household resilience. The fencing reduces a major external risk to cultivation while Elevate and RISE can strengthen knowledge, agricultural practices, climate adaptation and productivity. Together, these interventions create a more coherent pathway from protection to resilient production and longer-term self-reliance.

INLK should continue light post-project monitoring, particularly through the next cultivation and harvesting cycle. Useful indicators include elephant intrusion incidents, crop-loss events, area cultivated, number of uninterrupted cultivation cycles, harvest outcomes, household perceptions of safety and the functionality of the fencing system. This will allow INLK and partners to assess whether the completed infrastructure continues to translate into sustained livelihood and wellbeing outcomes.

8. Conclusion

The Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation Project has successfully progressed from 50% completion at mid-term to full physical completion for all 26 targeted families. More importantly, the project is beginning to change the conditions under which families live and farm. Cultivation has expanded, farmer confidence has strengthened and families report a greater sense of safety around their homes, including greater

freedom for children to move and play in the evening when elephant entry previously caused significant fear.

The intervention now provides a practical protective platform for continued agricultural development in Kanchooramottai. By complementing the ongoing Elevate Project and the planned RISE climate-smart agriculture initiative, the fencing can contribute to a longer-term transition from vulnerability and repeated crop loss towards safer settlement, resilient production and improved household self-reliance. International Needs Lanka sincerely appreciates the support of International Needs New Zealand and individual donor partner Neil Ryder in making this important intervention possible.

PROJECT COMPLETION - PHOTO EVIDENCE

Kanchooramottai Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation Project



The completion visit brought community members, INLK representatives and donor partner Neil Ryder together at Kanchooramottai, marking the transition from fence installation to community ownership and long-term use of the protection system.



A completed electric fence is demonstrated with community members present. The household-level barrier is designed to reduce elephant entry during the evening and night hours when families previously faced the greatest fear around their homes.



Neil Ryder observes a completed fence beside productive cultivation. The image illustrates the project's central purpose: protecting both people and the agricultural investment on which household food security and income depend.



A beneficiary family stands within its protected home environment. Families reported greater confidence in moving around their home vicinity and allowing children more freedom to play outside in the evening, a time when elephant entry had previously caused particular anxiety.

PROJECT COMPLETION - PHOTO EVIDENCE

Kanchooramottai Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation Project



Home-garden cultivation is expanding within the protected area. Families who were previously hesitant to invest labour and inputs because of possible elephant damage are increasingly using available land for productive cultivation.



A farmer and donor representative stand among well-established crop rows. The visible extent of cultivation reflects renewed farmer confidence and the expectation that upcoming harvests can be more productive when crops are protected through the growing cycle.



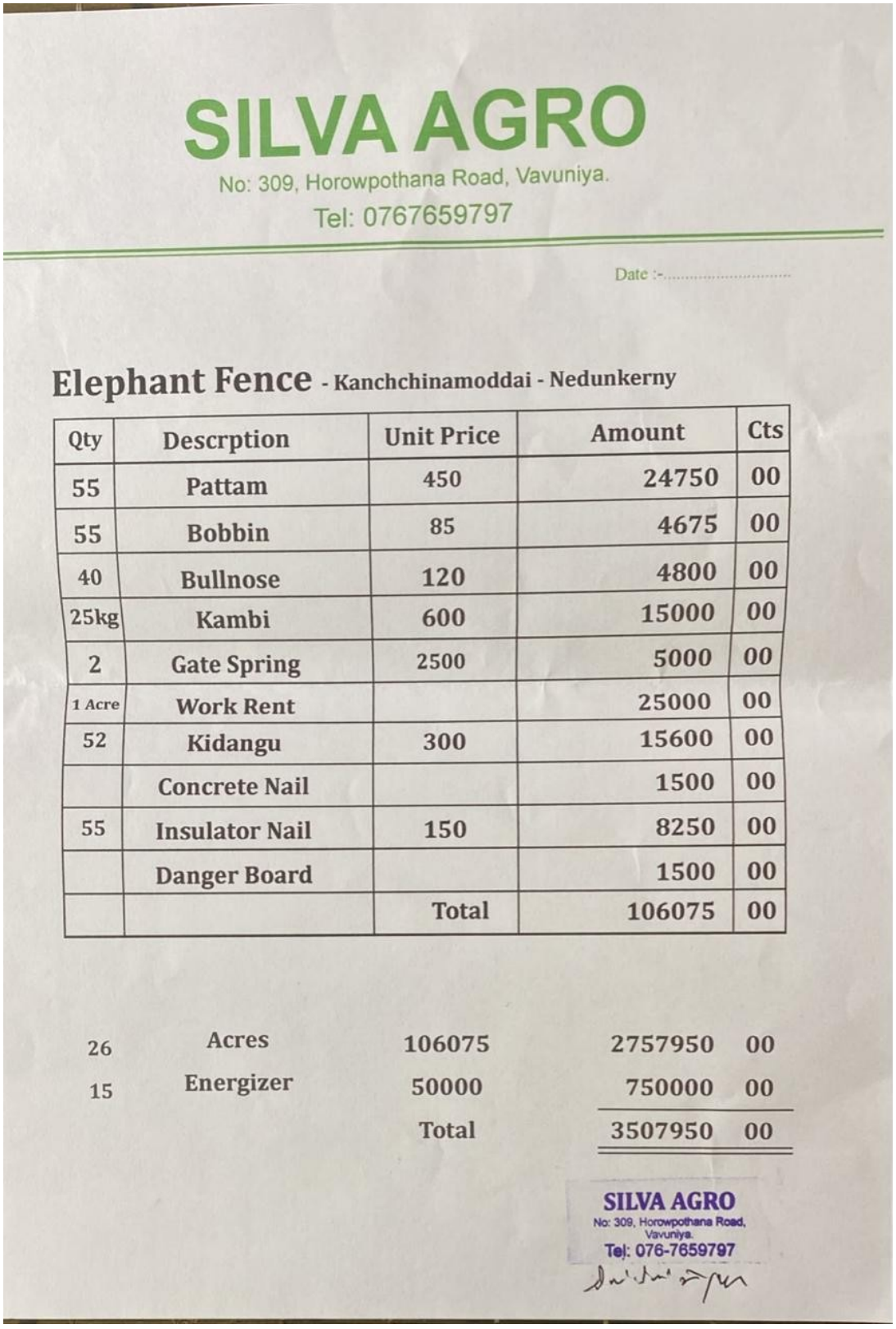
Electric fencing protects a substantial cultivated plot at the household boundary. This protective infrastructure complements agricultural support by reducing the risk that a single elephant intrusion will destroy months of labour and investment.



Cultivation now extends across a wider area of Kanchooramottai. The project is enabling families to look beyond immediate protection towards sustained production, improved harvest prospects and stronger household resilience.

Annex 1 - Final Supplier Bill

The following bill was submitted by Silva Agro for the Kanchooramottai elephant fencing works. The financial narration in Section 6 is based on the quantities and amounts visible on this bill and on the financial status previously reported at mid-term.



SILVA AGRO

No: 309, Horowpothana Road, Vavuniya.

Tel: 0767659797

Date :-.....

Elephant Fence - Kanchchinamoddai - Nedunkerny

Qty	Descrption	Unit Price	Amount	Cts
55	Pattam	450	24750	00
55	Bobbin	85	4675	00
40	Bullnose	120	4800	00
25kg	Kambi	600	15000	00
2	Gate Spring	2500	5000	00
1 Acre	Work Rent		25000	00
52	Kidangu	300	15600	00
	Concrete Nail		1500	00
55	Insulator Nail	150	8250	00
	Danger Board		1500	00
		Total	106075	00

26	Acres	106075	2757950	00
15	Energizer	50000	750000	00
		Total	3507950	00

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