

## Kushil Gunasekera

Kushil Gunasekera, a results-driven visionary, through pioneering initiatives effects sustainable development in rural Sri Lanka. His integrity, dependability and generosity create hope and trust in both individuals and teams alike. Financially transparent, he relies on his proven entrepreneurial instincts, is persistent, extremely organized and pays meticulous attention to detail in both planning and implementation; he is accommodating and remains flexible in complex situations, keeping the welfare of the humanitarian cause foremost.

Successful entrepreneur, compassionate relief worker and ambassador for peace & reconciliation, Kushil is dedicated to the humanitarian cause. Inculcating the spirit of goodness in each person or project, Kushil Gunasekera impacts our world by making it a better environment for all.

### **Key Achievements:**

- Founder/ Chief Trustee- Foundation of Goodness, the 1<sup>st</sup> ever holistic rural community development model based on providing a platform to uplift the lives of rural communities through learning and empowerment (established in 1999).
- The Foundation of Goodness holistic rural community development model is hailed as the best post-tsunami initiative of all the countries affected and known to be a one of a kind initiative worldwide, reaching over 15,000 beneficiaries every month from 200+ villages via its 30 empowerment activity sectors free of cost including the MCC Centre of Excellence & Sports Academy in Seenigama as well as 9 Village Heartbeat Empowerment Centres island-wide -
- Executed programmes to the worth of US\$ 15 Million in a 13 year period.
- The Foundation of Goodness extended its development activities to the post-war North and East of Sri Lanka and has been working in the North since January 2011, reaching over 36,000 beneficiaries to date, with uninterrupted monthly visits to introduce, maintain and expand a variety of programmes speedily rebuilding their shattered lives.
- Innovated 9 Village Heartbeat Project Empowerment Centres island wide, on the basis of poverty alleviation in bridging the gap between the rural and urban sectors serving thousands of underserved kids, youth and women in rural villages to make better progress whilst three other identical Centres are earmarked for opening in 2018.

- Recipient of the Commonwealth Point of Light Award for Sri Lanka presented by her Majesty the Queen of England - 2018
- Recipient of the “Ten Outstanding Young Persons (TOYP) Award” from Jaycees International for Voluntary Humanitarian Service – 1993
- First ever personal manager for a Sri Lankan sportsman- the legendary Sri Lankan Spin Bowler Muthiah Muralidaran for over 15 years (ongoing).
- Bestowed MCC Honorary Life Membership in recognition of promoting meritorious service to the game (2012), a position only bestowed to 11 other Sri Lankans and 200 worldwide.
- Received the ‘Outstanding Sri Lankan Role Model’ Award by Sri Lanka Unites – 2017
- Panelist at the Credit Suisse/ The Economist Philanthropists Forum in Singapore – 2016
- Hosted British PM Mr. David Cameron and various Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2013 (CHOGM) delegates in Colombo and Seenigama respectively.
- Kushil Gunasekera had the honour of leading and introducing the Sri Lankan NGO cluster to HRH Prince Charles during his CHOGM visit to Sri Lanka in 2013
- Invited to address the Executive Staff at the Buckingham Palace on tsunami rebuilding initiatives – 2006
- Selected by the US State Department to participate in their Visitor Leadership Programme on Disaster Management including a visit to the Pentagon- 2006
- Played cricket for Ananda College over 3 years, captained the hockey team and was awarded College Colours in both sports whilst playing 1<sup>st</sup> Class Cricket in the premier division representing Sinhalese Sports Club and Tamil Union Cricket & Athletic Club.
- Selected as the Best President of Rotary District 3220, Sri Lanka - 1990/ 1991
- Cricket administrator who served on the board of four interim committees at Sri Lanka Cricket in the capacity of Secretary, Vice President and Chairman- Inbound Tours.

- **Was able to achieve No. 1 status in sales for auto vehicle brands Nissan and TaTa Trucks under his marketing management as well as his own Rice & Sugar Business Enterprises.**
- **Many celebrities worldwide have worked with him on his charitable endeavours.**
- **Guest speaker and panelist at many international events, forums and conferences.**