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The idea of social development includes the conception that people would meaningfully participate, individually and collectively, in making decisions about the patterns of choice available to them and affecting them. At individual capacity, farmers often find it extremely difficult to gain access to agricultural inputs and services effectively. Hence, the objective of this paper is to identify present status of the Farmer Organizations (FOs) of the Ambanpola Agrarian Services Division, Kurunegala.

A series of workshops were held in order to assess the performance of FOs in the Ambanpola area. Twenty indicators were developed under 3 major areas of assessment namely, the FOs contribution to technical and production improvement, social and institutional performance and marketing and entrepreneurial ability.

Results indicate that only 5% of the FOs in the Ambanpola area can be ranked as strong organizations while 71% as moderate and 24% as weak organizations. The majority of the FOs in the area have not contributed significantly to the improvement of production. It can be seen from the analysis that the entrepreneurial abilities cannot be visible in present FOs in the study area except in isolated cases. The FOs in the Ambanpola area are diverse and at different stages of development and are capable of handling institutional and social aspects but not production and entrepreneurial aspects.