

SRI LANKA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

500,157

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Resettled in Northern Province

Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL) – September 30, 2013

23,940 - 94,447

Number of IDPs in Sri Lanka

GoSL – August 2013; UNHCR – December 2012. Estimated IDP figures vary widely.

66,700

Sri Lankan Refugees Residing in Camps in India

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) – August 1, 2013

2,065 km²

Confirmed Hazardous Area Contaminated with Landmines Following the Civil War

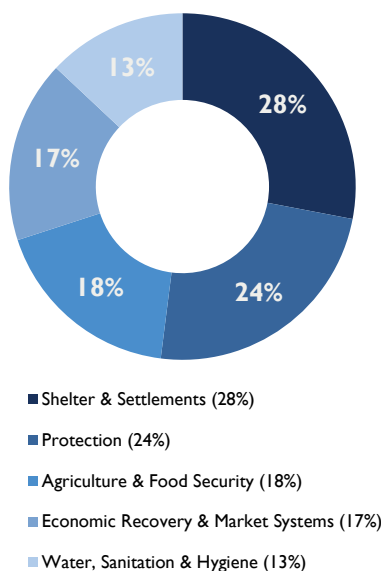
Delvon Assistance for Social Harmony (DASH)

87 km²

Remaining Area Requiring Demining Activities

DASH – September 30, 2013

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2013



HIGHLIGHTS

- Many resettled IDPs in Northern Province continue to receive humanitarian support
- U.N. deactivates Cluster System as humanitarian organizations phase out operations
- GoSL military and humanitarian partners demine nearly all former conflict areas

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO SRI LANKA TO DATE IN FY 2013

USAID/OFDA	\$2,059,088
USAID/FFP ²	\$1,500,000
State/PRM ³	\$1,400,000
State/PM/WRA ⁴	\$3,300,000

\$8,259,088
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- As of September, more than 500,000 IDPs had returned to Northern Province since the end of the conflict in 2009, according to the GoSL. Estimates of the number of IDPs remaining in Sri Lanka vary widely.
- Many humanitarian organizations phased out their operations in Sri Lanka's Northern Province in 2013, according to the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). In July, the U.N. deactivated the Cluster System established in 2008 to coordinate the humanitarian response to the effects of the conflict.
- USAID/OFDA contributed more than \$2 million in FY 2013 to provide protection support for Sri Lankan IDPs and returnees and help them rebuild their lives through agriculture and food security, livelihoods, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities.
- In total, the U.S. Government (USG) provided approximately \$8.3 million to meet the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected populations in Sri Lanka in FY 2013. This includes \$3.3 million for State/PM/WRA demining activities, \$1.4 million in assistance from State/PRM, and \$1.5 million in USAID/FFP funding for food assistance benefiting vulnerable returnees.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁴ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political and Military Affairs Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (State/PM/WRA)

DISPLACEMENT AND RETURNS

- More than 500,000 IDPs had resettled in Northern Province as of September 30, according to the GoSL. In August, the GoSL reported that approximately 24,000 IDPs remained displaced; however, reports from humanitarian organizations working in Sri Lanka indicate that the actual number is likely significantly higher. In December 2012, UNHCR reported that approximately 94,000 IDPs remained in Sri Lanka and stated that it no longer planned to disseminate IDP statistics due to a lack of reliable data. Humanitarian organizations note that no large-scale return has occurred to date in 2013, indicating that the IDP statistics have not decreased significantly since December 2012.
 - In August, the GoSL announced a program planned for 2014 to repatriate Tamil refugees residing in India to their homes areas. An estimated 102,000 Sri Lankan refugees continued to reside in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu in August, including approximately 67,000 refugees in 110 Government of India-run camps and 35,000 refugees residing with host communities outside of camps, according to the GoSL.
 - USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$500,000 in FY 2013 to an implementing partner to support protection activities benefiting IDPs in Sri Lanka. The implementing partner monitors protection concerns and rights violations, advocates on behalf of IDP and returnee populations, and builds the capacity of IDP and returnee communities.
 - In FY 2013, State/PRM contributed \$1.4 million to UNHCR in Sri Lanka to facilitate the return and reintegration of Sri Lankan IDPs and returnees. In addition, State/PRM provided \$11.8 million to support regional programs that benefited Sri Lankans, including \$3.9 million to UNHCR and \$6.2 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross for activities throughout South Asia, including Sri Lanka, as well as \$1.7 million to non-governmental organizations providing assistance to Sri Lankan refugees in Tamil Nadu.
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AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY, AND LIVELIHOODS

- Communities in northern Sri Lanka have traditionally relied on agriculture as their primary source of income. However, nearly three decades of conflict and frequent natural disasters have interrupted agricultural activity and destroyed key agricultural infrastructure. A lack of irrigation and other infrastructure limits returnees' ability to resume their livelihoods, while increasing the impacts of future disasters, including droughts and floods.
 - With more than \$700,000 in USAID/OFDA FY 2013 assistance, partner ZOA is working to increase food security and improve income-generating opportunities for local farmers in Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu districts in Northern Province. ZOA's program encourages the adoption of disaster risk reduction practices in agriculture, increases sustainable production, and improves market access.
 - In FY 2013, USAID/FFP provided 1,420 metric tons (MT) of food assistance, valued at approximately \$1.5 million, through partner the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) to support more than 13,000 food-insecure returnees in northern Sri Lanka, including the last group to return from the Menik Farms camp in Vavuniya in October 2012. USAID/FFP assistance, consisting of a six-month supply of rice, pulses, and vegetable oil, helps maintain proper consumption levels while returnees rebuild their houses and re-establish their livelihoods.
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SHELTER AND WASH

- In July, humanitarian organizations reported that thousands of returnees in Northern Province continued to lack permanent houses and access to adequate WASH facilities. Issues surrounding ownership documents, rising construction prices, and a lack of skilled labor and resources among returnee populations are contributing to the housing shortage.
 - Through ZOA, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$900,000 for shelter and WASH activities for vulnerable returnees in FY 2013. Assistance included approximately \$600,000 for the construction of durable shelters and \$300,000 for the construction and rehabilitation of latrines and wells in Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu.
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LANDMINES AND UXO

- In May, the Sri Lanka Armed Forces announced that the Sri Lanka Army and demining groups had cleared nearly all of the landmines and other unexploded ordnance (UXO) from the estimated 2,000 square kilometers (km²) identified as

hazardous in 2009. State/PM/WRA partner DASH reported that approximately 90 km² of land contaminated with landmines and other UXO remained as of September 30.

- State/PM/WRA contributed \$3.3 million in FY 2013 to support the demining activities of the Danish Demining Group (DDG), The HALO Trust, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), and DASH. State/PM/WRA also provided assistance to the Marshall Legacy Institute (MLI) for the training of the Sri Lanka Army's mine detection canine teams.

CONTEXT

- Displaced populations and conflict-affected people who returned to home areas following the end of Sri Lanka's civil war in May 2009 continued to require humanitarian assistance in northern parts of the country throughout FY 2013.
- Recognizing that the ultimate success of the humanitarian response in Sri Lanka—as well as prospects for long-term peace and reconciliation—partially depends on the sustainable reintegration of conflict-displaced individuals into their communities, USAID/OFDA has worked closely with USAID/Sri Lanka to ensure that short-term, early recovery programs support the GoSL's plan for long-term, equitable growth in Sri Lanka.
- By filling strategic gaps that lie outside the large-scale rehabilitation efforts of the GoSL and development actors, USAID/OFDA has assisted the transition from relief to recovery, ensuring more economic security and stability for returnees.
- On October 5, 2012, U.S. Ambassador Michele J. Sison reissued a disaster declaration due to the effects of the complex emergency in Sri Lanka.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA PROVIDED IN FY 2013¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
Implementing Partner	Protection	Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaittivu, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya Districts	\$489,722
ZOA	Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery & Market Systems, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Affected Areas	\$1,569,366
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$2,059,088
USAID/FFP³			
WFP	1,420 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$1,500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$1,500,000
STATE/PRM			
UNHCR	Return and Reintegration of IDPs and Refugees	Affected Areas	\$1,400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$1,400,000
STATE/PM/WRA			
DDG	Demining	Northern Province	\$399,820
The HALO Trust	Demining	Jaffna, Kilinochchi, and Mullaittivu Districts	\$1,500,000
MLI	Training and Assessments	Northern Province	\$54,500
MAG	Demining	Northern Province	\$1,011,162
DASH	Demining	Northern Province	\$334,518
TOTAL STATE/PM/WRA ASSISTANCE			\$3,300,000
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO SRI LANKA IN FY 2013			\$8,259,088

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of September 30, 2013.

³ Estimated value of food assistance.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.