

Operations update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Sri Lanka : Support for internally displaced people

Emergency appeal n° MDRLK002
Operations update n° 1
12 May 2010

Period covered by this operations update: 12 April 2010 to 12 May 2010.

Appeal target (current): CHF 3,604,299 (USD 3.4 million or EUR 2,5 million)

[<click here to view the attached Revised Emergency Appeal Budget and interim financial report>](#)

Appeal coverage: With contributions received to date, including pledges in the pipeline, the appeal is about 40 per cent covered. Funds are urgently needed to enable Sri Lanka Red Cross Society to provide much needed assistance to those displaced by years of conflict. [<click here for the donors' response list or here for contact details>](#)

Appeal history:

- An emergency appeal was launched in April seeking CHF 3,604,299 (USD 3.4 million or EUR 2,5 million) in cash, kind, or services to support the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) as it assists approximately 5,000 families (25,000 people) for 24 months; this operation is expected to be completed by 12 April 2012. A Final Report will be made available by 12 July, 2012 (three months after the end of the operation).

Summary:

As of 22 April, the populations in the camps have reduced to 28 per cent of the original figure and additional people returning within the next five months means that the operational framework will be shifting dramatically from relief to recovery.

The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society has started to set up the operation in the target areas, bringing in the lessons learnt from the tsunami operations, particularly, of the owner-driven housing programme. Close coordination with the government of Sri Lanka is ongoing through the Presidential Task Force (PTF) for Resettlement with the SLRCS/Red Cross Red Crescent reconstruction and recovery assistance to returnees programme approved by the PTF. Beneficiary identification process in Killinochchi and Mullaitivu districts has commenced in partnership with respective local government agents, members of rural development societies and the community development council.

Discussions on re-establishing Killinochchi and Mullaitivu branches are ongoing. Mobilization of needed human resources to support the operation has started.



Displaced populations are living in temporary camps in Vavuniya. Photo: SLRCS

Partners which have made contributions to the appeal to date include the Republic of Korea Red Cross and United Arab Emirates Red Crescent. IFRC, on behalf of SLRCS, would like to thank partners for their generous response to this appeal.

The situation

On 18 May 2009, the government of Sri Lanka declared victory over the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), with the entire island territory going back under government rule for the first time since the war erupted in 1983. For over 25 years, the insurgency caused significant hardships for the population and a negative impact on the environment and economy of the country, with more than 80,000 people officially listed as killed during its course. The conflict left hundreds of thousands of people in transit, displaced, and seeking refuge with host families or in government-run camps or centers for internally displaced people.

The total population that lived in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka prior to May 2009 is yet to be assessed as there was no proper population census for a period of nearly 30 years. Considering the size, complexity, and evolving nature of the situation, it has been a challenge to gain access to isolated or inaccessible areas and to assess the needs of the most-affected communities.

The populations in the districts of Kilinochchi and Mulativu were reported to have been completely displaced. Divisional Secretary (DS) divisions of Manthai West, Madhu and Musali in Mannar district as well as Vavuniya North DS division in Vavuniya district were also reported to be in a similar situation. There were partial displacements in Nanattan and Mannar town DS divisions in Mannar district; Vavuniya, Vavuniya South and Cheddikkulam DS divisions in Vavuniya district and some of the DS divisions in Jaffna district, with displacements in Vavuniya South, Cheddikkulam, Vavuniya and almost all Jaffna DS divisions dating back 15 to 20 years.

Throughout 2009, security conditions and conditional authorized access for humanitarian agencies in the areas west of the A9 highway, North Vavuniya, Mannar, Kilinochchi, Mulativu and Jaffna, have left large numbers of people at increased risk. As of March 2010, more than 180,000 people are reported to have returned in Vavuniya, Mannar, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mulativu, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Ampara, Polonnaruwa and Kandy.

Although mine-clearing activities are ongoing and more areas are being made safer, there are locations across northern Sri Lanka with significant explosive remnants of war, exposing returnees as well as the resident population to significant risks. A large extent of land along the eastern coastal belt of Northern Province is to be cleared of mines, including the Maritimpattu and Puthukuduirippu DS divisions. In addition, the destruction of public infrastructure, absence of adequate medical services, livelihoods support, shelter and access to basic services are exacerbating the situation. Government and humanitarian actors estimate that some 260,000 houses are in need of rebuilding and reconstruction. It is also expected that a secondary movement of those people living with host families will take place as safe areas will be announced and released for residential use.

Figures as of 22 April¹

- 80,246 people - in camps in Vavuniya, Mannar and Jaffna Districts.
- 207,027 people - released from camps (of which 112,408 have returned to their districts of origin).
- 93,427 people- staying with host families
- 1,192 people - in social care institutions.

Coordination and partnerships

Coordination: The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, registered under the social service department is mandated as auxiliary to government in disaster response. SLRCS does coordinate at all levels with government authorities. The government of Sri Lanka has established a national level body; "The Presidential Task Force (PTF) for Resettlement, Development and Security in the Northern Province" for national recovery coordination. The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners have one person from SLRCS working closely with the PTF and relevant authorities and who is the point of contact for Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners on coordinating recovery activities.

Field level coordination, lead by SLRCS ensures access to government agents (GA), who are responsible for overall coordination in their respective districts. All activities will be undertaken respecting the principles and guidelines established in the concept paper that was specifically developed as a guiding document for the IDP recovery response.

Internally, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners have an operational task force established for the tsunami response and a CROM structure established for the conflict relief operation where in-country

¹ *Humanitarian update, Development Partners Meeting*

partners have met monthly to review any outstanding issues and undertaken initial movement coordination of the IDP response activities in northern and eastern regions in the past year. The Movement coordination for the current situation has a solid ground in the recently approved and signed concept paper of the Red Cross Red Crescent response, which clearly states principles for the IDP recovery operation.

Externally, the UN has convened an early recovery cluster system appointing four working groups focusing on permanent housing, infrastructure, livelihoods and civil administration to support the government of Sri Lanka in coordinating the broader humanitarian community. IFRC and ICRC will continue to participate in meetings and discussions of the humanitarian country team. Information from this platform will be shared with other Red Cross Red Crescent partners through the task force and future operational structures.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

During the 2008-2009 phase of the conflict, SLRCS and ICRC provided services to the affected people from within the territory controlled by LTTE. The SLRCS branches of Jaffna, Vavuniya, Mannar, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Ampara, Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa, with support of several partner national societies and IFRC, responded in a coordinated manner as the crisis evolved.

Over the reporting period, SLRCS has started to set up the operation to be covered by this appeal in the target areas, bringing in the lessons learnt from the tsunami operations, particularly, of the owner-driven housing programme. Beneficiary identification process in Killinochchi and Mullaitivu districts has commenced in partnership with respective local government agents, members of rural development societies and the community development council. Discussions in Kilinochchi have progressed towards identifying 100 beneficiaries, out of which 10 site audits have taken place during the reporting period. Files for the 100 identified beneficiaries in Kilinochchi have been opened.

Five SLRCS branches (Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Vavuniya, Mannar) are currently in discussions with German Red Cross and ICRC for assistance in re-establishing Killinochchi and Mullaitivu branches. SLRCS has written to the government authorities, putting in a request to release the Kilinochchi branch building.

Mobilization of needed human resources to support the operation has started.

Progress towards outcomes

Shelter	
Outcome: 1,150 affected families (5,750 people) in north-eastern districts have safe and adequate shelter and settlement solutions through the provision of cash grants and technical guidance on proper building techniques.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
1,150 repaired and constructed permanent houses by engaging beneficiaries in the construction process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selection of sites and beneficiaries; • Dissemination of the "Owner driven construction programme" with beneficiaries, branches and volunteers • Establishment of community committees to involve in addressing community issues and resolving constraints (in phases); • Setting up contract mechanisms and instalment systems; • Initiate the owner driven construction of 200 houses and repair of 950 houses; • Provision of technical assistance with guidelines and skilled supervision on site during the construction process • Execution of community contracts for the construction of community infrastructure to promote healthy living conditions and sanitation; • Monitor and technical verification of progress.

Progress:

Killinochchi – The divisional secretary of the Karachchi DS Division in Killinochchi district handed over a list of 100 beneficiaries from three Grama Niladhari (GN) divisions to the SLRCS. Although 76 beneficiary files were opened only 10 site audits have been completed (SLRCS aims to complete all site audits by the end of May). Mullaitivu beneficiary lists have also been received from the government authority.

Beneficiaries were briefed on the owner-driven housing reconstruction programme, fund disbursement procedures and how to set up owner-driven housing reconstruction committees (ODHRCs). A scaled plan of the sample house was also shared along with two documents, *Construction Guidelines* and *Good and Bad Practices in Construction* (both documents were prepared in the Tamil language). Beneficiaries were also informed that SLRCS together with IFRC and partner national societies would be providing them with financial and technical assistance and as such the National Society will occasionally be joined by their partners on site visits to observe the progress of the project.

Challenges:

Some beneficiary files were incomplete due to insufficient information. See table for details:

GN Division	Beneficiaries listed	Beneficiaries Attended	Completed Files	Land Documents Pending	Bank Documents Pending	Several Documents Pending	All Documents Pending	Site Audits Completed
Vevekanandanagar	34	34	15	9	3	7	-	10
Kaneshapuram	33	32	9	13	3	3	4	-
Anandapuram	34	10	2	2	3	3	-	-
Total	101	76	26	24	9	13	4	10

Land documents could not be provided in several cases as they belonged to spouses or relatives who were not present. In these cases, the beneficiary was requested to provide a copy of their marriage certificate and or a letter of assurance from the divisional secretary stating that the latter would take responsibility for resolving any disputes between the beneficiary and the land owner that may occur in the future. In other cases, bank documents were missing as beneficiaries had not yet opened bank accounts or were waiting to receive their pass books.

Through the briefing meetings on the owner-driven housing programme, it was discovered that there was a considerable lack of carpentry and masonry skills among the beneficiaries. To counter this, beneficiaries were requested let others know that the mentioned skills were being sought for the project. Additionally, SLRCS is considering the possibility of sharing information about this project with the media in the hopes of attracting people with these skills from other regions of the country.

Health and care

Outcome: The health risks on the affected population are reduced through the provision of preventive, community-level and curative services to 5,000 families (25,000 beneficiaries) in north-eastern districts.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Enhanced knowledge and improved health practices in target communities through health promotion and prevention interventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct community assessments in selected areas to map the most acute health needs; Provision of first aid/mobile health clinic and ambulance services in transit camps and among population while in transit; Develop and implement community plans with the full participation of the community; Conduct relevant information, education and communication campaigns to increase awareness on identified health issues through various mediums including media, cultural art forms, posters, billboards etc; Identify and train community volunteers using the CBHFA training manual for volunteers; Deliver community-based first aid training to community members based on Module 4 of the CBHFA training manuals.
Improved preparedness and response mechanisms in the target communities to better respond to health in emergencies and epidemics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct dengue preparedness and response interventions in target communities; Revise and update SLRCS contingency plans for responding to rapidly emerging epidemics/outbreaks during the course of the year; Revise and update national disaster response team, branch disaster response team training curriculum by including relevant health topics in an integrated manner with disaster management unit.
Psychosocial support is	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train 50 staff and volunteers of SLRCS on psychosocial support;

provided to affected population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide psychosocial support to returning population.
Enhanced SLRCS profile and capacity at all levels to deliver effective CBHFA interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain appropriately trained CBHFA staff in the national headquarters to support the health programme at all levels; • Print and distribute CBHFA volunteer manuals in target branches; • Expand the number of trained community volunteers in target branches; • Establish a system of regular activity reporting in the field, project monitoring, donor reporting and information dissemination at the national headquarters; • Strengthen monitoring and reporting systems in the branches; • Produce appropriate volunteer protection and visibility materials for SLRCS; • Document and share best practices and lessons learnt from the SLRCS's work in the communities; • Maintain high SLRCS profile through regular interactions with the media - print, radio and TV; • Expand and maintain partnerships with relevant movement and non-movement partners in the country.

Progress:

The current programmes of SLRCS in providing medical help to internally displaced people in the camps are continuing. Under the programme, initial steps have been taken to distribute 2,400 emergency hospital packages (personal hygiene items, clothing, and supplementary foods). The emergency health and hygiene promotion project also continues within the camps in Menik Farm, aiding more than 40,000 remaining people. More details on this component will be provided in the next operations update.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risk of waterborne and water-related diseases has been reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion to 5,000 families (or 25,000 beneficiaries) in north-eastern districts.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Access to sustainable safe water is provided to the targeted families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify damaged community water supply infrastructure; • Execute community contracts for reconstruction of water supply infrastructure, including wells; • Monitoring and evaluation of constructions.
The health status of the population is improved through behaviour change and hygiene promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute water purification tablets to complement hygiene promotion activities where needed; • Conduct baseline survey. • Conduct emergency participatory hygiene and sanitation transformation (PHAST) sessions on the safe use of water and sanitation facilities in the target areas through locally identified and trained community volunteers in selected communities supporting safe return. • Conduct hygiene promotion activities linked with water supply and sanitation hardware through the trained volunteers. • Conduct end-line survey.
Appropriate sanitation, including excreta disposal, solid waste disposal and drainage, is provided to the affected families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execution of community contracts for the construction of sanitation infrastructure; • Conduct waste disposal and drainage clearing measures; • Provision of toilets, wells and other local community structures in schools, community halls and common sites; • Monitoring and evaluation of constructions.

Progress:

The programme is still in the planning stage where over 100 trained emergency hygiene promotion volunteers are to deliver health and hygiene messages to the displaced. Currently over 300,000 litres of water have been delivered daily to the remaining camps. More details on this component will be provided in the next operations update.

Livelihoods Support

Outcome: To assist 2,000 displaced families in replacing, repairing, re-establishing, strengthening and sustaining their household income.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Improved livelihoods for the most vulnerable of the affected population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the livelihood needs of some 2,000 families within re-settlers; Provide grants/resources to enable households to restart or reinforce livelihoods.

Progress:

Discussions are underway between SLRCS and IFRC to come up with livelihood programmes after the resettlement has taken place. This project will be set up in the second phase of the IDP programme. More details on this component will be provided in the next operations update.

Disaster Management

Outcome: Local communities are aware of local risks and resources available and are prepared and equipped to respond to disasters.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Communities are educated in safe behaviours and principles and values.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop/conduct awareness raising activities on mine and other risks (information, education and communication material development, school level competitions, humanitarian values); Support school children with recreational activities/facilities
Disaster response tools, mechanisms and systems are established in Kilinochchi and Mulativu districts with adequate capacities to deliver services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formation and training of local disaster response teams; Provision of standard equipments; Develop local contingency plans for the identified risks/hazards; Facilitate coordination with government disaster response mechanisms.
Skilled human resources base is established in two branches to carry out disaster management activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a pool of master trainers in disaster response and preparedness in both branches; Conduct disaster management trainings for staff and volunteers.

Progress:

More details on this component will be provided in the next operations update.

Organizational development

Outcome: Branch level structures in Kilinochchi and Mulativu districts are able to provide effective support for local population to improve community resilience, to develop healthy lifestyles, prepare for disasters and respond for emergencies.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Developed SLRCS local structures to facilitate community level service delivery mechanisms in Kilinochchi and Mulativu districts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish / reactivate SLRCS structures to support volunteer work of units and divisions; Orientation and support for divisional governance on the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and constitution, policies and management manuals; Introduction and assistance for health and disaster management in implementing volunteer management systems at divisional level; Develop leadership capacity, awareness on good governance among the divisional level leaders; Support and training on project management and budgeting; Awareness on SLRCS systems and procedures (finance, planning, activity implementation, reporting, and others) for divisions; Support in formation of divisional health and DM volunteer action

	<p>groups and induction trainings;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for conducting integrated assessments; • Support for initiation of community services; • Support for development of fundraising and income-generation plans for divisions; • Support community committees in raising common concerns, working to minimize impacts and participate in Red Cross activities. • Accreditation of the beneficiary committees as Red Cross units/divisions
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Progress:

More details on this component will be provided in the next operations update.

Logistics

IFRC liaises and coordinates actions with all appropriate key logistics actors to ensure that the Federation logistics operation uses all information and resources as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Communications – Advocacy and Public Information

The steady flow of timely and accurate information between the field and major stakeholders will support the programme objectives of this emergency appeal, increase the profile of, aid funding and other support for SLRCS and IFRC, and provide a platform on which to advocate in the interests of vulnerable populations. In close collaboration with the operation, those affected by this emergency will be provided with information to support their relief and recovery. Donors and national societies will receive information and materials they can use to promote this operation and communications initiatives will help to build the information and public relations capacity of the National Society for future emergencies.

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The International Federation's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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[<revised emergency appeal budget and interim financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

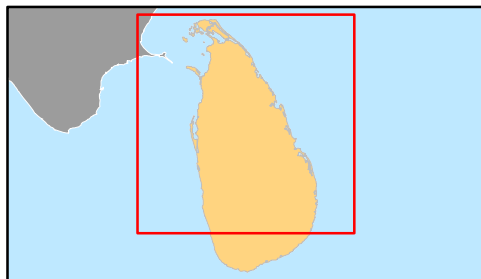
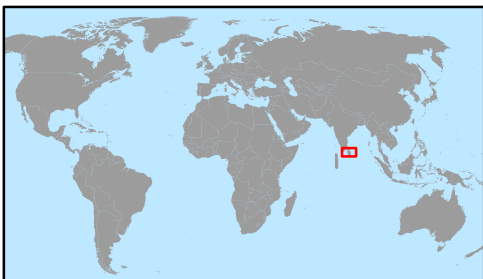
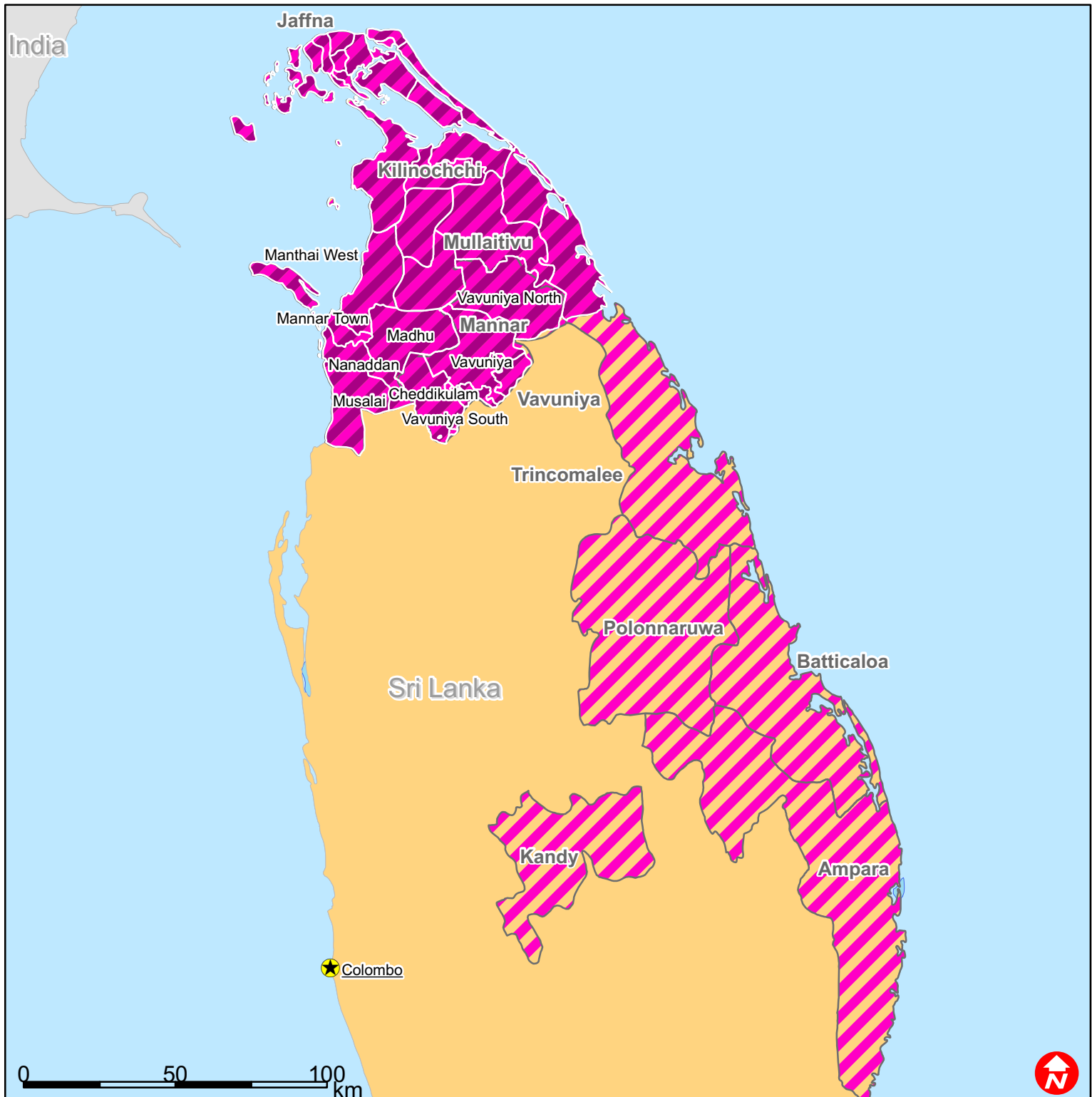
MDRLK002- Sri Lanka Support for Internally Displaced People

BUDGET SUMMARY

BUDGET GROUP	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Construction - Housing	1,889,851
Construction - Facilities / Infrastructure	233,158
Teaching Materials	1,200
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	331,620
Total Supplies	2,455,829
Vehicles	15,000
Computer & Telecom	10,812
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	18,443
Other Machinery & Equipment	16,200
Total Land, vehicles & equipment	60,455
Transport & Vehicle Costs	24,300
Total Transport & Storage	24,300
International Staff	144,000
National Staff	108,000
National Society Staff	190,543
Consultants	10,800
Total Personnel	453,343
Workshops & Training	93,939
Total Workshops & Training	93,939
Travel	99,296
Information & Public Relation	4,080
Office Costs	20,368
Communications	16,979
Other General Expenses	155,729
Total General Expenditure	296,452
Program Support	219,981
Total Programme Support	219,981
TOTAL BUDGET	3,604,299
NET EMERGENCY APPEAL NEEDS	3,604,299



Sri Lanka: Population movements



- Displaced people
- Returning people
- Capitals
- Rivers
- Lakes