

# Emergency Plan of Action Operation Update

## Sri Lanka: Easter Sunday attack

<b>DREF n° MDRLK009</b>	<b>GLIDE n° <a href="#">OT-2019-000037-LKA</a></b>
<b>EPoA update n° 1; date of issue 3 July 2019</b>	<b>Timeframe covered by this update: 6 May to 6 June 2019</b>
<b>Operation start date: 6 May 2019</b>	<b>Operation timeframe: 4 months and end date: 6 September 2019</b>
<b>Overall operation budget: CHF 365,909</b>	
<b>N° of people being assisted:</b> to-date total of people assisted - direct 465 families (2,325 people), indirect 5,000,000 people	
<b>Host National Society:</b> The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) is a voluntary humanitarian organization; SLRCS has a strong branch network in all the 25 districts of the country, which is well capable in providing relief in times of disasters/emergencies. Over 150 staff and 7,000 active volunteers are trained in disaster response. National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT), Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRT) and Divisional Disaster Response Teams (DDRT) are available at National, District and Divisional levels. SLRCS has also trained disaster response teams specialized in water and safety which has 150 active members. These members are well-trained on life saving techniques to assist rescue operations in times of need. Further, trained First Aid (FA) volunteers are also available in all districts, in readiness for immediate deployment at time of disaster for live saving purposes. SLRCS has a pool of 25 Cash Based Interventions (CBI) trained persons, who could be deployed to set-up and assist implementation of the CBI programmes.	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:</b> Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) actively supported the SLRCS in developing the Emergency Plan of Action for the DREF and Call for Support "C4S". Furthermore, coordinating with SLRCS for information sharing with the Movement and external partners. The movement partners in country; SLRCS, IFRC and ICRC are maintaining a close coordination.	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL), Tri-forces (Sri Lanka Army, Air-force, Navy), Sri Lanka Police, Ministry of Health (MoH), Disaster Management Centre (DMC), Religious Institutions, Caritas Sri Lanka, UN agencies, INGOs, and other civil society organizations.	

## A. Situation analysis

### Description of the disaster

On 21 April 2019, explosions killed at least 253 people<sup>1</sup> and wounded more than 500 people. At least 40 foreign nationals<sup>2</sup> and at least 45 children<sup>3</sup> reported to be among the dead. After the attacks, the government declared a state of emergency to maintain public security and essential services. The Sri Lankan Parliament extended the state of emergency on 25 May for another four weeks. Consequently, these attacks affected the country as a whole. Inter-ethnic anxiety has risen in the affected districts as well as in the country in general.

After three weeks of the attack, tense situations developed in several locations of the country, especially in North Western Province and Gampaha district. To control the situation several levels of curfew were declared per district or nation-wide. The Sri Lanka Police and religious leaders requested the public to remain calm and peaceful, and to cooperate with law enforcement authorities with the ongoing search operations.



Easter Sunday attack - Katuwapitiya church in Negombo - Gampaha (Photo: Colombo Telegraph)

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.dailynews.lk/2019/04/26/local/183890/bomb-attack-deaths-253-health-dg>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.mfa.gov.lk/update-25-april-2019/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unicef-statement-easter-sunday-attacks-sri-lanka>

After the attacks, schools were closed for two weeks due to security threats. The second school term for students of Grade 6-13 started on 6 May and the lower levels started in mid-May. While some Catholic schools and International schools started very recently. Extensive security measures by the Police and Security Forces are in place to ensure security in school premises. Furthermore, it was noted at the initial days, the attendance of students in most schools in major cities were very low, student's attendance in some rural areas were relatively high. Education Ministry announced that student turnout is gradually improving countrywide and the school education becoming normal rapidly.

## Summary of current response

### Overview of Host National Society

On hearing of the explosions and mass casualties, SLRCS immediately went into action to provide life-saving care. First aid instructors offered **first aid and relief** to survivors at explosion sites, such as St. Sebastian's Church in Negombo, north of the capital, Colombo. SLRCS Gampaha Branch opened a first aid centre on its premises, where first aiders treated minor injuries and drove people to hospital. First aiders also provided **psychological first aid** to people in distress. To help hospitals cope with a sudden influx of seriously ill people, the SLRCS helped **transfer patients** from Negombo Hospital to Gampaha Hospital. SLRCS asked its network of **blood donors to donate**, and as of early on Sunday afternoon, until supplies were believed to be enough to meet the demand.

SLRCS has activated its **Restoring Family Links (RFL)** to re-establish contact among family members who have been separated as a result of these incidents through accepting tracing requests, exchanging Red Cross Messages and offer phone calls. The objective of this service to relay information about patients to their families to ease the anguish of relatives and relieve pressure on medical staff. Staff of the National Headquarters and trained RFL volunteers from SLRCS, Colombo Branch, visited the wounded at the National Hospital in Colombo to verify their needs and reconnect them to their families, including 163 patients receiving treatment in 15 wards, and 73 patients in the intensive care unit. In addition, the RFL volunteers from SLRCS, Batticaloa branch, have visited the injured persons in the Batticaloa Teaching Hospital to offer this service. There has been no RFL needs identified during this service. The SLRCS has registered ten tracing cases including requests from abroad linked to Easter Sunday attack in which three of them were positively closed.

A total of 15 volunteers supported the national hospital and Institute of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology on management in the morgue, with **dead body management**.

Furthermore, SLRCS trained volunteers providing first aid at the funerals for victims of the explosions. In addition, a **Technical Advisor from the IFRC Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support**, attached to the Danish Consulate, arrived in Sri Lanka for a short visit to help survivors. She assisted training volunteers and debriefing session of the volunteers.

SLRCS conducted **detailed need assessment** in the 3 most affected districts; Gampaha, Colombo and Batticaloa, and 11 more districts where some of the affected people are residing. After analysing the outcomes of the assessment report, SLRCS held discussions with movement partners, relevant government authorities, and the public and private sectors regarding medium to longer-term recovery initiatives for the affected people and their families. SLRCS is coordinating with authorities, and branches are on standby to offer more support.

During the initial post-math of the attacks, due to the grievance process and funerals, injured people were not in a position to obtain their own medical needs. For which, Gampaha branch deployed five **mobile medical teams** (each team included a doctor, nurse, midwife, Red Cross volunteers and few counsellors), to provide further medical assistance to the injured victims.

A **medical camp** was held on 19 May in Katuwapitiya-Negombo. Over 300 victims received medical assistance on Ear Nose and Throat (ENT). This medical camp was organised by Gampaha branch together with Katuwapitiya St. Sebastian Church and the Katuwapitiya youth community. It was supported by the ENT unit of the Base Hospital Negombo, Government institutions, private and many other non-governmental organisations as well.

This **DREF operation** is aimed at providing the immediate needs for the people who have affected by the incidents. Furthermore, a **Call for Support** has been launched and is complementing the DREF allocation, which is a part of the Sri Lanka Country Operational Plan 2019. The Call for Support seeks a total of 2 million Swiss francs to enable the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society to deliver assistance and support on the following areas: Livelihoods and Basic needs, Health, and Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI). More information is available on [IFRC GO](#).



Medical camp to provide ENT assistance to victims. (Photo - SLRCS Gampaha branch)

## **Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country**

SLRCS has a longstanding working collaboration with the IFRC and the ICRC in implementing various programmes. IFRC and ICRC have been working together in close coordination to provide technical support to SLRCS and shared information at regional and sub-regional levels. Movement Coordination meetings involving SLRCS, IFRC and ICRC was held. The IFRC Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) in Delhi and the Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) provided further coordination support for information sharing and resources.

In addition to offering any relevant support to the RLF operations of the SLRCS, the ICRC delegation in Sri Lanka has reached out to forensic authorities, in order to provide assistance at the aftermath of the attacks. The ICRC Forensic specialist has been visiting the Institute of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology (IFMT) - its main partner organization, located at the premises of the Colombo morgue - on a daily basis. In the frame of an agreement signed last year, the ICRC has provided to the IFMT specialized support in various areas, as well as donations of essential material such as body-bags, personal protective equipment etc. This has contributed to the efficient organization and functioning of the institute during this critical time. The ICRC has also been in permanent contact with the police and security agencies, in order to follow up the arrest of several people in connection with the attacks, in the frame of its traditional detention activities in the country

## **Overview of non-RCRC actors in country**

Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL), Tri-forces and police are leading the security operation, together with (Sri Lanka Army, Air-force, Navy), Sri Lanka Police Ministry of Health (MoH), Disaster Management Centre (DMC), Religious Institutions, Caritas Sri Lanka and district administrative units are working together to assist the people affected.

SLRCS will coordinate with other partners/stakeholders who are working on the ground, especially religious leaders, organisations such as Caritas Sri Lanka and handicap international.

## **Needs analysis and scenario planning**

### **Needs analysis**

Following the Easter Sunday attack, SLRCS did a rapid needs assessment and a detailed need assessment to identify the needs. It was identified that there is a need to provide psychological first aid (PFA) to the people who were directly affected by the incident especially the survivors, witnesses and those families who have lost their family members.

Up to 200 children have lost their family members and some of them are breadwinners for their families. More than 500 people are also injured and among those around 75 families' livelihood have different degrees of disruption. Some of them will not be able to go to work due to injuries, and some lost their physical ability to work.

Inter-ethnic anxiety has risen in the affected districts as well as in the country in general. There are lot of uncertainty, tension and panic among people, due to ongoing threats of further explosions, ongoing security checking across country, suspicion about terrorists and state of emergency issued.

### **Targeting**

The target beneficiaries of this operation are:

- 253 bereaved families of the deceased from the attacks;
- 500 people who are injured;
- Children who has lost their family members (up-to 200 children);
- PFA support to those who witnessed the traumatic event;
- Social cohesion activities in 30 communities and 30 schools (at least 180 activities reaching at least 4,500 people);
- Reaching the wider community focusing on Social Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) for social cohesion via broader communication channels; print media, television and radio (at least 5,000,000 people);
- SLRCS staff and volunteers who are involved in the response.

### **Operation Risk Assessment**

Due to the nature of the operating environment, the SLRCS is applying all necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of staff and volunteers engaged in this operation and it will be prioritized. SLRCS will continue to monitor the security situation of the country and liaise closely with the security institutions to reduce the risk in the field.

## **B. Operational strategy**

### **Overall Operational objective:**

This operation aims at assisting at least 6,000 people (1,200 families) affected by the Easter Sunday attack mainly in Colombo, Gampaha and Batticaloa districts. Furthermore, indirect support to at least 5,000,000 people in the wider

community on SBCC via communication channels (print media, television and radio). The DREF operation will be implemented over a four months' period. The primary focus of this work will be:

- Mental health and psychological first aid support to affected families and witnesses of the traumatic event;
- Cash-based interventions for affected families;
- Social cohesion activities in 30 communities and 30 schools;
- Supporting SLRCS to scale up to respond to this event, and in readiness for any related violence.

## **Proposed strategy**

SLRCS response aims at enhancing overall wellbeing of the affected families through a comprehensive mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) response that is linked to a long-term programme focused on recovery and rehabilitation. SLRCS approach includes education, livelihood, disability support and social-cohesion under the MHPSS umbrella, considering them as vital components for enhancing resilience of the target families.

Assistance provided via DREF funding is linked to a medium and longer-term programming referred as Call for Support. SLRCS will mobilize funds raised via "SLRCS online donation platform" and coordinate with other stakeholders for longer-term interventions. Additionally, SLRCS will work closely with the other stakeholders to ensure work is not being duplicated.

At present NS has a PSS expert who is the main technical person. NS has recruited a project coordinator with PSS background, at NHQ level to oversee the overall implementation of the programme. At branch level, a branch coordinator per each branch has been recruited. A crisis psychologist/ counsellor will be recruited as a consultant to be assisted case-by-case basis. Furthermore, RDRT – PSS started his deployment on 1 June 2019 initially for a period of one month.

The first step was to conduct orientation programme and a three-day psychological first aid (PFA) training which was held at respective branches. A total of 79 volunteers have been trained.

Trained SLRCS volunteers, together with a trained staff are providing PFA for affected families. A Crisis Centre will be established in SLRCS NHQ to provide teleconsulting, referral support to mental health issues identified, and follow-up with the people. SLRCS plans to deploy a paid crisis counsellor and two volunteer counsellors for a period of four months in the Crisis Center.

In order to facilitate the grieving process and strengthen the social support systems of the affected families, SLRCS will look at establishing or supporting Self-Help Groups, and Peer Support Networks among the affected population. Affected female head of households, youth and children will be given more attention. Furthermore, recreational and psychoeducational activities for children will be conducted to provide positive support to the affected children.

Cash interventions for the response as below:

- Multi-purpose cash grant will be given up to 300 families in two segments; LKR 15,000 (CHF 91) each, in order to cover for the immediate needs such as covering the post funeral rituals and other necessary expenses in the first two months.
- Multi-purpose cash grant targeting 200 children who lost their family member(s) in the attack: LKR, 15,000 (CHF 91) for 4 months, to cover their immediate needs such as basic needs, food, and school fee. This amount is determined by taking reference from the lesson learned of previous operations in Sri Lanka.

SLRCS will deploy three people from its CBI trained pool, to each of the branches to assist the implementation of the cash interventions. Furthermore, SLRCS will work together with financial service providers (FSP); banks, mobile companies, VISA card etc to transfer direct cash to people.

Though it is difficult to say the exact disability support needs, SLRCS will partner with the local disabled people's organization(s). SLRCS plans to support the provision of mobility, hearing and vision aids for those who have become disabled through long term programming - the selection criteria is that the disability should be caused by the Easter Sunday Attack. The exact need of this component will be determined after the in-depth assessment that SLRCS is currently carrying out in the affected districts and coordination with other actors. Furthermore, people who requires medical assistance such as scans, medicine, small operations will be assisted case-by-case basis.

SLRCS will deploy paired volunteers (male and female) for house visits periodically in order to follow-up and provide necessary PSS support for the affected families.

As inter-ethnic anxiety has risen in the affected districts as well as in the country in general. SLRCS is planning to reach people/communities/schools/wider communities via social cohesion program. As there are lot of uncertainty, tension and panic among people, due to ongoing threats of another round of explosions, ongoing security checking across country, suspicion about terrorists, state of emergency being issued, schools to be re-open for the second term, Holy

Masses were not held in the last week<sup>4</sup> and its cancelled again in the coming Sunday<sup>5</sup> as well. Therefore, social cohesion programme is vital at this stage.

SLRCS will mainstream *social-cohesion* in its response:

- Social cohesion programme in 30 communities and 30 schools – each branch will conduct 15 activities per month and in total 60 activities. Activities will be including youth dialogue, interreligious dialogues, social behavioural change campaigns, and will be incorporated in the Youth as Agents of Behavioural Change (YABC) programme.
- Social behaviour change communication in all three languages; Sinhala, Tamil and English via country wide media coverage; print media, television and radio. NS is planning to publish content in at least in four newspapers, audio clips in at least three radio channels and TV clips in at least three TV channels.

SLRCS will continue its readiness in case of further intercommunal violence, which will be included into the longer-term programming.

During the response, a detailed assessment has been started by trained SLRCS staff and volunteers in order to design a longer-term programme tailored to specific needs of the affected households. Furthermore, a satisfaction survey and a post distribution survey will be conducted to identify the feedback from the people assisted. A lesson learned workshop will be held at the end of the programme to identify the achievements, challenges and recommendations for future programming.

Key aspects are factored in the strategy for this operation:

- **The National Society Leadership:** SLRCS is responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the humanitarian response operation, supported by the IFRC and in-country Movement partners.
- **A Movement-wide approach:** SLRCS is responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the operation, supported by all components of the Movement. Considering the nature and scope of the response, IFRC will mobilize resources via this DREF on behalf of SLRCS, while coordinating with the ICRC at the same time.

## Strategies for implementation

### Human Resources

A project coordinator, assistant project coordinator will be hired to coordinate the whole programme from SLRCS NHQ. Furthermore, a social cohesion expert, a crisis psychologist/ counsellor, a livelihood expert, will be recruited to provide the technical inputs. To support the finance and HR, two officers will be hired. At branch level, to implement the programme 3 branch coordinators – PSS and 25 branch social cohesion officers will be recruited. Furthermore, implementation will be supported by volunteers and staff members existing in both SLRCS and IFRC offices. Mobilization of NDRT, BDRT and DDRT as well as staff expenses are covered in the operational budget. A RDRT specialised on PSS will also be requested, to support in the National Society (NS) for a period of one month with possible extension.

### Logistics and Supply Chain

The supply chain strategy for this operation will be sourcing required items locally following SLRCS and/or IFRC procedures ensuring the efficient and timely delivery of these items for the success of the operation. IFRC Sri Lanka Office is providing logistics technical support to SLRCS ensure transparency and accountability in the procurement process. Additional logistics support can be made available by the Asia Pacific Operational Logistics, Procurement and Supply Chain Management (OLPSCM) Unit and Country Cluster Support Team South Asia, as per need.

### Information Technologies (IT)

High-speed Wi-Fi internet connectivity is available in IFRC Sri Lanka Office as well as in the NHQ of SLRCS. Staff members and volunteers in the field operation will be supported by 3G modems and internet data packages for their smartphones which will enable them communicating electronically with the headquarters and to send reports and pictures in quick time. Open Data Kit (ODK) based assessments will be carried out electronically through mobile applications on digital tablets or mobile phones. An orientation session on digital assessments will be provided to prepare the volunteers using the tablets or mobile phones for assessments.

### Communications

SLRCS communications staffs are working in close coordination with the IFRC regional communications team to ensure that the evolving humanitarian needs and the response of SLRCS is well profiled and disseminated across social media platforms and in the national and international media. A proactive approach will be taken to maintain media outreach and to produce communication materials including press releases, news stories, photos/video, key messages and infographics for external promotion by National Societies in their domestic markets. A Viber group has been created to share information and photos between volunteers, branches, NHQ and IFRC.

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<sup>4</sup> 28 April 2019

<sup>5</sup> 5 May 2019

To support the social cohesion activities, manage reputational and security risks, and increase acceptance, communications activities to reinforce the reputation of SLRCS as neutral and impartial will be undertaken, as budget allows.

### Security

SLRCS and IFRC security focal points will continue to monitor the situation. Any security concerns will be handled with local authorities as per the existing security framework. Furthermore, to ensure both staff and volunteers under gone the basic security training, there will be an orientation on security and safety provided to all. All the staff and volunteers engage in the operations are insured. IFRC APRO security coordinator will be paying a technical mission in assessing the situation and provide necessary support.

### Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, & Reporting (PMER)

SLRCS will oversee all operational, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting aspects of the present operation in the flood affected area through its country-wide network of branches and volunteers. IFRC, through its Sri Lanka Office and CCST in Delhi will provide technical support in programme management to ensure the operation objectives are met accordingly by end of operation.

A satisfaction survey, a post-distribution survey, and a lesson learned workshop will be conducted to capture the impact and the learning.

### Administration and Finance

Operational expenses such as volunteer per-diem, accommodation, transportation, communication and coordination activities are factored in. Finance and administration support to the operation will be provided by SLRCS NHQ, with the assistance from the finance team of the IFRC Sri Lanka Office.

## C. Detailed Operational Plan

 <p><b>Livelihoods and basic needs</b>  <b>People reached: 1,100 (220 families)</b>  Male: 440 (estimated)  Female: 660 (estimated)</p>		
<b>Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<i># of people targeted/reached with adequate cash assistance</i>	1,500 (300 families)	1,100 (220 Families)
<b>Output 1.5: Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<i># families provided with unconditional cash grants</i>	300	220
<i># of children provided with multi-purpose cash grants</i>	200	In progress. Selection of 200 children completed
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
<p>Providing cash assistance to the affected people is the biggest component of the programme. Two types of cash assistance will be provided to the affected people. To assist the implementation process, Cash Working Group at NHQ in consultation of the branches, prepared the cash programme implementation guidelines, selection criteria, and formats for data collection (beneficiary detail card). These were shared with branches and staff for better programming. Furthermore, SLRCS has deployed three of its CTP trained persons to branches to assist with the operation.</p> <p><b>Unconditional cash grant</b>  A total of 300 families are targeted with unconditional cash grant of LKR 30,000, in two segments of LKR 15,000 (CHF 91) each. These grants will enable families to fulfil their basic needs such as funeral expenses, medicine and other personal requirements related to the bomb blast.</p>		

Households who have lost a member/s of their family during the Easter Sunday attacks and households with member/s who were injured during the Easter Sunday attacks were selected. Funds will be transferred to the individual bank accounts of the households. Completed beneficiary card, copy of the National Identity Card (NIC) and bank pass book are the supporting documents for the transfer. Branch will maintain the individual file per each household and a copy-set will be sent to NHQ for fund transfer. As per reporting period, a total of 220 families have been provided with the first instalment. The remaining 80 transfers are still in process.

### Multi-purpose cash grants for children

A total of 200 children who have lost their family member(s) in the attack are targeted with multipurpose cash grant of LKR 15,000 (CHF 91) for four months, to cover their immediate needs such as basic needs, food, and school fee. Affected children between three years of age up-to higher education were targeted. As per reporting period, all the 200 children have been selected. Fund transferring is ongoing. SLRCS is linking with the government probational child care officers at district level for monitoring system and sustainable well-being of the children.



### Health

**People reached: 2,325 (465 families)**

Male: 930 (estimated)

Female:1,395 (estimated)

### Outcome 1: Vulnerable people's health and dignity are improved through increased access to appropriate health services

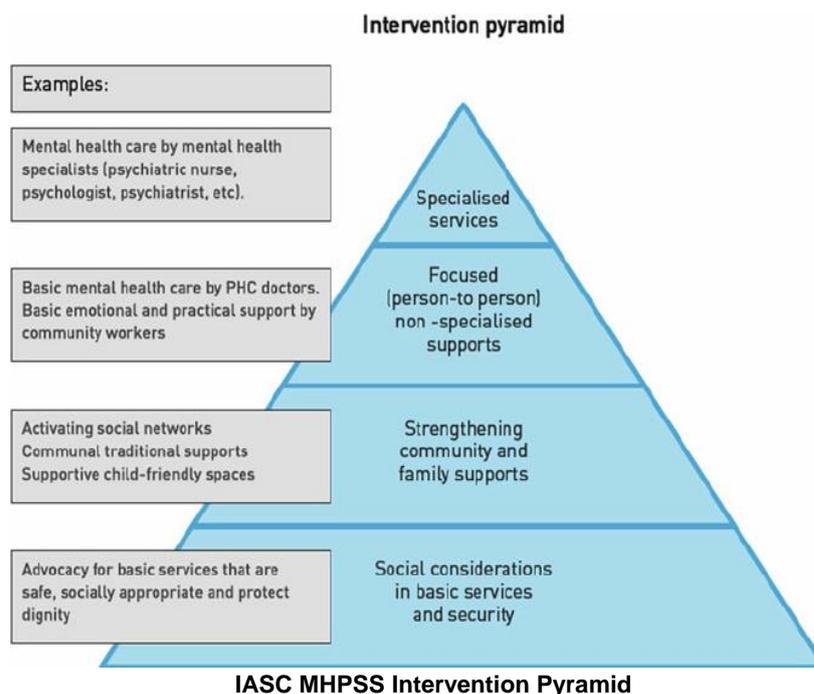
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by psychosocial support	1,500	around 2,325 (465 families)

### Output 1.5: Mental health and psychosocial support provided to the target population

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers trained on PFA	60	79
# of children supported with recreational activities	200	Not started

### Progress towards outcomes

Psychosocial component of the operation includes interventions representing three tiers of Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) interventions pyramid.



The fourth tier; specialized services of the pyramid is not catered through the operation as a direct intervention. SLRCS will refer the beneficiaries who needs specialized services; referral pathways will be mapped, and an operational referral and follow-up mechanism will be established via the Crisis Centre, and also via existing services at government institutions.

The field staff have been selected and appointed in all three districts. Initial orientation has been conducted at headquarters with participation of 15 staff from NHQ and the three branches. In each of the three branches, orientation has also been conducted.

Volunteers have been selected and given the basic pre-deployment training. A total of 79 persons have been trained (given the basic PFA pre-deployment training as per the new curriculum); 27 persons in Colombo; 20 persons in Gampaha and 32 persons in Batticaloa. Trained volunteers have conducted the detailed need assessment by visiting 465 houses. This is the first round of home visits and trained volunteers have been providing psychological first aid (PFA) during these visits. These trained volunteers will also be receiving 3-days PFA training based on new training curriculum with support from RDRT surge.

Debriefing sessions for volunteers (Care for caregivers) were conducted. A special session was conducted for the volunteers who supported on dead body management.

A stakeholder orientation programme was held in Gampaha district in order to foster coordination among the partners in the response. Stakeholders included; the government sector; probational child care officers and livelihood officer of the Divisional Secretariat (DS), representatives of the church, community members, youth groups, and external participants such as Muslim Aid.

As the affected people are not located in the same cluster in some districts, cluster programmes may not be practical to all locations. The key challenge in the response is that each intervention has to be tailored not only to the larger cultural context in each district, sub-groups or ethnicity, but also according to each household, therefore the volunteers and staff need to spend more time with each household and individual than they would spend in a usual post disaster PSS program, and the interventions are more household focused.

Significantly, the people affected by Colombo attacks are scattered. Of the 99 families affected in Colombo, 27 families are scattered in 11 districts of the country. Those beneficiaries living in the other districts may not get to fullest benefit from the program, though the cash interventions and HH focused interventions will cover them.

Children supported with recreational activities; its scheduled to be conducted from the month of July. To-date detailed guidelines have been prepared and shared with branches. Branches are in the process of taking permission from Ministry of Education (MoE) to conduct activities in schools.



### Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People reached: direct-4,500 people (900 families), indirect 5 mil people

Male: 1,800 (estimated)

Female: 2,700 (estimated)

#### Outcome 1: Communities identify the needs of the most vulnerable and particularly disadvantaged and marginalised groups, as a result of inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# people reached through social cohesion activities	direct 4,500, indirect 5 mil	direct 4,500, indirect 5 mil

#### Output 1.3: NS educational and advocacy programmes raise awareness on humanitarian challenges, cultivate humanitarian values and develop relevant interpersonal skills

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of media releases for social behaviour change communication for social cohesion	60 times	88 times <sup>6</sup>
# of social cohesion activities in the communities/schools	180 activities	Not started

#### Progress towards outcomes

<sup>6</sup> Content published on 4 newspapers and media campaign on 3 TV channels from 15 May (28days\*3 channels)

## Social behaviour change communication for social cohesion

SLRCS initiated the campaign publishing advertisements on “informing the public that SLRCS has conducted the detailed assessment, and if anyone affected are not contacted could share their details with SLRCS”.



A social media post shared by SLRCS Communications Unit - SLRCS NHQ

The campaign started on 12 May and its content was published in four newspapers; Lankadeepa, Divaina, Weerakesari, and Daily Mirror in all three languages; Sinhala, Tamil and English.

SLRCS prepared two short videos with message on “unity and understanding among communities, under the hashtag #SriLankaStrong” which has been telecasted on three TV channels from 15 May for a period of one month. These TV channels are; Rupavahini, Hiru TV and Siyatha TV. SLRCS is planning to prepare a total of five short videos. The link to the video(s): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OKYC0NRID48>

Efforts to disseminate further the messages also include:

- Three short video clips of #SriLankaStrong campaign videos shared on Sri Lanka Red Cross social media platforms (Twitter/Instagram/YouTube/Facebook).
- Two External Facebook Pages used to make #SriLankaStrong videos viral.
- Radio clips are being prepared, for a soon to be launched campaign.

As for social cohesion activities in the communities/schools, these activities will be started from month of July.

### Strengthen National Society

**Outcome 1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform.**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of SLRCS branches that are well functioning (for the operation)	3 branches	3 branches
<b>Output 1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected</b>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers insured	60 volunteers	60 volunteers branch wise selection was completed
# of volunteers involved in the operation	60 volunteers	79 volunteers

## Progress towards outcomes

The programme is being implemented in three districts; Colombo, Gampaha, and Batticaloa where SLRCS has strong branch presence.

The strong branch network and the trained/skilled volunteer base are the strength of SLRCS. During any emergency, they are in the fore-front providing assistance to the most vulnerable. These trained volunteers deployed within the initial hours to help vulnerable people, especially in the hospitals to provide RFL services and first aid service. These volunteers include; community volunteers, DDRT and BDRT members, and FA volunteers.

Ensuring continuous volunteers support for the operation remains the main challenge faced by the branches. As designated, volunteers have to visit the same households throughout the operation. Furthermore, it was noted that it's an added advantage to have multi-skill volunteers, who could be deployed for any given disaster.

## International Disaster Response

### Outcome 2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>IFRC support to launch a DREF and emergency appeal to raise financial and human resources</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Coordination tools and mechanisms are in use for the operation</i>	Yes (NDRT / RDRT)	Yes (RDRT)
<i>Ratio of people reached by the IFRC disaster response operations to the people affected by these emergencies</i>	minimum of 50%	50%

### Output 2.1.1: Effective response preparedness and NS surge capacity mechanism is maintained

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># of NDRT deployed</i>	2 persons	-
<i># of cash local cash trained persons are deployed</i>	3 persons	3 persons
<i># of RDRT deployed</i>	2 persons / 1 person for 2 months	1 person for 1 month

### Output 2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>% compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance</i>	100%	100%

### Output 2.1.6: Coordinating role of the IFRC within the international humanitarian system is enhanced

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># of coordination meetings with other stakeholders</i>	10 times	5 times

### Outcome 2.2: The complementarity and strengths of the Movement are enhanced

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Movement coordination is in place</i>	Yes	Yes

### Output 2.2.1: In the context of large-scale emergencies the IFRC, ICRC and NS enhance their operational reach and effectiveness through new means of coordination.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Involvement in regular coordination meetings</i>	Yes	Yes

## Progress towards outcomes

Following the disaster, IFRC supported the National Society in the preparation till approval of the DREF application of CHF 365,909. Presently, activities under the DREF operations are being implemented in the three districts.

Since the operations involves a lot of PSS activities, RDRT – PSS was deployed for a month.

SLRCS and IFRC are attending the regular meetings organized by Government authorities. IFRC initiated and coordinated a “coordination meeting” at national level with government, UN and non-government agencies to learn what other organisations are doing, what are the gaps and how best to coordinate.

Furthermore, SLRCS President and Director General met the Archbishop of Colombo to brief about SLRCS assistance to the victims and discuss on possible coordination. SLRCS President and Director General also met a prominent and influential Buddhist monk in Sri Lanka and handed over the assessment report.

Weekly programme meetings are conducted at NHQ to discuss progress and challenges faced by the operation. Appropriate mitigation actions will be identified and carried out to address challenges if any, as best possible.

### **Influence others as leading strategic partner**

**Outcome 3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues</i>	Yes	Yes

**Output 3.1.1:** IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># of communications materials produced (social media, media articles, interviews, etc.)</i>	7 times	88 times

**Output 3.1.2:** IFRC produces high-quality research and evaluation that informs advocacy, resource mobilization and programming.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>rapid and detailed assessment teams deployed at branch level</i>	Yes	Yes
<i># of surveys conducted</i>	2 times	Scheduled in July
<i># of lessons learned workshop conducted</i>	1 time	Scheduled in August

### **Progress towards outcomes**

#### **Communications materials produced (social media, media articles, interviews, etc.)**

SLRCS posts regular updates on the social media, including Facebook and twitter. Furthermore, SLRCS website is also updated accordingly to share any updates on the operation. Full details are reported under PGI.

#### **Rapid and detailed assessment teams deployed at branch level**

From the time of the attack, SLRCS has fully engaged and activated its branches to carry out 24 hours and 72 hours rapid assessments and detailed assessments. SLRCS consolidated the detail assessment data and presented the results to the Archbishop of Colombo and an influential Buddhist monk in Sri Lanka. Furthermore, if organization is interested in receiving the assessment details, SLRCS share upon written request to Director General.

### **Effective, credible and accountable IFRC**

**Outcome 4.1: The IFRC enhances its effectiveness, credibility and accountability**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Effective performance of staff supported by HR procedures</i>	Yes	Yes

**Output 4.1.3:** Financial resources are safeguarded; quality financial and administrative support is provided contributing to efficient operations and ensuring effective use of assets; timely quality financial reporting to stakeholders

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>% of financial reporting respecting the IFRC procedures</i>	100%	100%

### **Progress towards outcomes**

The operation is ensured to adhere and follow standard IFRC procedures to ensure an effective, credible and accountable IFRC. Operational-wise, SLRCS is responsible for the programme implementation, while IFRC provides the technical and monitoring support, as necessary. Following the strategies laid out in the plan of action, one project coordinator – PSS was recruited, and three branch coordinators are recruited to implement the program.

In-line with the security situation in the country and to ensure better security risk management, certain steps were taken:

- APRO security coordinator visited Sri Lanka from 14-19 May.
- Evaluated the overall country security situation and specially in SL office.
- External meetings with UN, ICRC, EU also with SLRCS held to assess the present security situation.
- Conducted security trainings for all IFRC staff and few SLRCS staff on Critical Security Management introduction and Security Risk assessment familiarization.
- Field visit to Gampaha Branch to analyse the security situation in the field.
- Worked through all country security documents (to be finalized).
- Reviewed office building assessment.
- Conducted meeting with Cinnamon Red Hotel to assess the hotel risk assessment. – hotel risk assessment document to be finalized.



Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)
- [DREF EPoA](#)
- [Call for Support](#)
- [C4S EPoA](#)

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## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC'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 IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



**Save lives,**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion  
and a culture of  
**non-violence** and **peace**.