Sri Lanka is a lower middle-income country of 21.4 million population, with per capita GDP in 2017 of $4,065. The country has made significant progress in its socio-economic and human development indicators. Extreme poverty is rare and concentrated in some geographical pockets. However, a relatively large share of the population subsists on slightly more than the extreme poverty line. Sri Lanka is ranked second in the Global Climate Risk Index (CRI) 2019. The CRI indicates a level of exposure and vulnerability to extreme events, which countries should understand as warnings in order to be prepared for more frequent and/or more severe events in the future.

The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) is a voluntary humanitarian organization; with a strong branch network in all 25 districts of the country, which is capable in providing relief in times of disasters/emergencies. Over 500 staff and volunteers are trained in disaster response.

SLRCS has a longstanding working collaboration with the IFRC and the ICRC in implementing various programmes. IFRC has been working in close coordination to provide technical support to SLRCS and shared information at regional and sub-regional levels. The IFRC CCST in Delhi and the Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) provide further coordination support for information sharing and resources.

In-line with the identified climate risks, IFRC will support NS in implementing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) program with a focus on reducing and adopting to climate risks, mainly via providing technical and financial support. The housing program implemented in the Central and Uva provinces will be expanded, a livelihood support for the Easter Sunday victims, a health program to eradicate dengue, focus on non-communicable diseases, and psychological first aid, a migration program in focus on the role of the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society in undertaking assistance, protection and humanitarian diplomacy in the context of migration, social cohesion programme to ensure culture of peace in communities will be focused in the year 2020. Furthermore, IFRC will support SLRCS in strengthening its structures, volunteers, youths and its capacity to disaster response.
Climate Risks Affecting Long-Term Development Efforts in Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is ranked second in the Global Climate Risk Index 2019.

In May 2017, heavy landslides and floods occurred in Sri Lanka after strong monsoon rains in southwestern regions of the country. More than 200 people died after the worst rains on the Indian Ocean island since 2003. The monsoons displaced more than 600,000 people from their homes. Absolute losses amounted to more than 31 million USD.

Sri Lanka ranked 76th in the Human Development Index 2017.

STATISTICS

- 4.1% of the country’s population live below the poverty line.
- 4.4% unemployment rate in 2018
- Over 20,000 suspected dengue cases in the country in 2018.

AREA OF FOCUS

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**Required Resources: CHF 250,000**

Objectives: promote community-based water management practices, promote climate-resilient and eco-friendly practices, and increase the income of beneficiaries and lead to sustainable livelihood culture.
- Project will be implemented in 10 communities
- 10 tanks (lakes) will be renovated

SHELTER

**Required Resources: CHF 510,000**

Permanently housing for plantation workers (4,000) to be built in several parts of the country
- 4,000 families to be reached with permanent shelter

LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS

To assist survivors of the Easter Sunday attack, following cash transfer programs are planned;
- Multi-purpose cash grants will be given up to 300 families
- Multi-purpose cash grants targeting 200 children whose parent/s were either incapacitated or lost
- Conditional - restricted cash grants for 100 families who have suffered significant livelihood impacts

HEALTH

**Required Resources: CHF 340,000**

Considering the health risk due to dengue fever, a dengue eradication program is planned. All the activities proposed are designed to align with the Ministry of Health (MoH) dengue control Unit. To promote healthy lifestyle among people. A Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) program is planned. Furthermore, psychological first aid (PFA) activities initiated with the Easter Sunday attack will be continued. 150 volunteers to be trained on dengue
- Over 4,000 volunteers hours to be involved in cleaning campaigns
- Dengue program will be implemented in 6 communities and 6 schools

PROTECTION, GENDER AND INCLUSION

**Required Resources: CHF 470,000**

A social cohesion program to ensure culture of peace among communities.
- Social cohesion programme in 25 districts and 250 schools
- Social behaviour change communication in all three languages; Sinhala, Tamil and English via country wide media coverage

MIGRATION

**Required Resources: CHF 50,000**

National Strategic Dialogue to provide a platform for Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, IFRC and ICRC alongside other organisations to discuss the humanitarian trends, dynamics and contemporary challenges, and SLRCS role related to migration.
- A National strategic dialogue to be organised
- 25 awareness raising programs across country targeting 10,000 people

STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES

**Required Resources: CHF 300,000**

Taking forward the strategic plan, branch development, MIS, accountability framework, legislation (Royal Charter), finance sustainability, possible public/private partnership for the warehouse premises, NS costing policy, and volunteer/youth management.
- Volunteer/youth management
- 6,000 community volunteers
- 950 people trained

ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT

**Required Resources: CHF 60,000**

Mainly focus on; working on the readiness plan, attending pre-disaster meetings and taking forward the cash preparedness activities.
- 185 people trained on disaster response
- All 25 branches are well prepared to respond to any disaster

ENSURE A STRONG IFRC

**Required Resources: CHF 80,000**

In order to better support National Societies programme and organizational development needs, the IFRC will pursue options to support NS
- 100% compliance to IFRC policies and procedures

CONTACTS

For more information on the work of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Country, please contact:

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