OPERATION UPDATE

Sri Lanka Emergency

Emergency appeal №: MDRLK014
Emergency appeal launched: 07/06/2022
Operational Strategy published: 30/06/2022

Glide №:
CE-2022-000199-LKA

Operation update #2 (6-month update)
Date of issue: 27/12/2022

Operation timeframe: 12 months
(07/06/2022 - 06/06/2023)

Timeframe covered by this update:
From 07/06/2022 to 30/11/2022

Number of people being assisted: 500,000

Funding requirements (CHF):
CHF 28 million through the IFRC Emergency Appeal
CHF 28.5 million Federation-wide

DREF amount initially allocated:
CHF 741,000

To date, this Emergency Appeal, which seeks CHF 28,000,000, is 17 per cent funded including soft pledges with a gap of CHF 23.5 M. Further funding contributions are needed to enable the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS), with the support of the IFRC, to help mitigate the current food insecurity brought about by the economic crisis and help people affected by the civil unrest in the country through integrated food security, nutrition, livelihoods, health, and education interventions targeting 500,000 people.

School children in Udalpussellawa High School, Nuwara Eliya District, are among 25,000 Sri Lankan children provided with educational materials (textbooks, exercise books and pens) in new school packs. 95 per cent of the school’s students live in the local tea plantations (Photo: IFRC/Powerto of Play)
A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

Sri Lanka is facing a complex emergency characterised by high inflation and a deteriorating currency, food insecurity, shortages of fuel, essential health care services including medicines and other vital imported commodities, recurrent power cuts, threatened livelihoods, reduced public services, and rising protection concerns. The crisis has been deepened by a serious reduction in domestic agricultural production caused by a failed agricultural transition to organic farming. In the years following the end of the civil conflict, Sri Lanka experienced a ‘peace dividend’, where between 2010 and 2016, economic growth averaged 6.2 per cent. Growth slowed from 2017 as the dividend faded, and the economy contracted by 3.6 per cent in 2020, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Subsequently, the decline of the global economy, rising commodity prices, a weak tourism sector and a fiscal deficit have contributed to a fall in the value of the Sri Lankan Rupee. The Central Bank was unable to defend the currency, due to insufficient international reserves, causing the government to default on some debt payments in May 2022. Inflation rates have risen sharply thereafter, and the government became unable to import essential commodities, including fuel, which further increased shortages, adding to the surge in inflation. In January 2022, 10,000 LKR was equivalent to 50 USD but by September it was only 27 USD. For consumers, typically this means higher prices for imported goods, fresh pressure on energy costs, and higher loan repayments. Encouragingly, there are signs that the inflation rate is slowly dropping (year-on-year inflation for November was 61 per cent, down from 66 per cent in October and a high of 69.8 per cent in September. This is also reflected in the slight decrease in food inflation (85.6 per cent compared with a peak of 94.9 per cent in September).

The emerging crisis led to country-wide civil unrest. Following mass protests, which started in March 2022, a new government was installed in May, and the country’s president was replaced in July. To help ensure support from the International Monetary Fund, the new government raised taxes to offset the external debt, adding to the economic burden, including that faced by the most vulnerable.

What had started as a fiscal macro-economic crisis is now creating profound impacts at the micro-level, with an unfolding humanitarian emergency, in which millions of people are experiencing widespread, acute and increasingly chronic shortages of food, fuel, cooking gas and health services including medicines. Unprecedented food inflation has led to a spike in food insecurity, with rising concerns about malnutrition, especially among children under five years of age, pregnant women, and lactating mothers’ services and continued access to treatment of non-communicable diseases.

The latest humanitarian assessments confirm that the poverty rate has accelerated since the start of the current crisis. Food inflation reached a record high in September at 94.9 per cent. In its latest assessment in November, the World Bank ranked Sri Lanka as having the world’s sixth-highest food inflation.

Humanitarian impact

The current crisis in Sri Lanka is affecting all sectors of society and has created the conditions for increased vulnerability, poverty and destitution among a significant proportion of the population. In 2021, approximately 2.4
3.45 million people in need

Food security
Lack of access across the country and certain food supplements
3.45 million people in need

Water
Lack of access across the country and certain food supplements.
2.58 million people in need

Education
Increase of high-risk child protection incidents
1.2 million people in need

Protection
Power cuts, access to public transport, and lack of stationery items
0.96 million people in need

Health
Severe shortages of life-saving medicines and medical consumables
1.97 million people in need

Summary of response

Overview of the Host National Society and ongoing response
Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) maintains 25 branches in all districts of the country. There are over 100 staff members and 6,000 active volunteers currently engaged in the response. Most of them are trained in disaster response and capable of providing relief assistance to affected people in times of disasters/emergencies. At the national, district, and divisional levels, there are National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT), Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRT), and Divisional Disaster Response Teams (DDRT). SLRCS also has trained disaster response teams

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1 The poverty line is a monetary threshold below which a person is considered to be poor. It is calculated by taking the poverty line from each country and converting it into dollars based on the value of the goods required to sustain one adult for one day. This figure is currently set at 3.20 USD per day for lower-middle income countries such as Sri Lanka.
specialised in water safety, which have 150 active members. These individuals are well-trained in life-saving techniques to assist rescue operations in times of need. Volunteers trained in first aid are available in all districts and are immediately deployable during disasters for lifesaving purposes. The SLRCS has a pool of 25 trained Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) personnel who can be deployed to set up and assist with CVA activities.

A Gampaha district branch volunteer visits young mums and their babies staying in an evacuation centre after their village was inundated by river water and rain due to extreme weather. (Photo: SLRCS Gampaha branch)

A young boy attending regular clinic check-ups receives special biscuits to improve his protein intake. (Photo: IFRC/Power of Play)

A Branch Disaster Response Team in Kandy discusses the extensive flood damage from torrential rain and the nearby Mahaweli River with a community in Nalawapitya sub-district. (Photo: SLRCS)

A Colombo branch volunteer administers First Aid to a young child injured in Colombo district. (Photo: SLRCS Colombo branch)

Since the onset of the crisis, the SLRCS has been monitoring the situation closely, mindful of its sensitivity and the safety of its staff and volunteers. The headquarters has maintained close communications with the branches to discuss options, preparedness, and contingencies. To ensure safer access and acceptance, the National Society will ensure its adherence to the Movement's Fundamental Principles.

SLRCS teams have been providing first aid and ambulance support to people affected by the civil unrest whether civilian or security personnel treating more than 22,600 since April including 1,000 transported to hospitals. Branches
participate in First Aid training, medical camps and emergency First Aid activities. Teams are also providing dry food, relief items, and cash support to people hit by the economic crisis and food insecurity.

As of 30 November 2022, SLRCS has been able to carry out the following activities to support the needs of the affected population, with the support of IFRC and its membership:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash and Voucher assistance</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>WASH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,000 MPC grants disbursed to beneficiaries and another 14,800 grants are in the pipeline and currently being processed at SLRCS HQ and Branches</td>
<td>Around 21,600 people provided with health assistance and over 1,000 people transported to hospitals. Two high-performance tents procured and being used. A consignment worth CHF 100,000 essential medicines and medical consumables handed over to the Ministry of Health, 625 volunteers trained on PFA in all 25 branches</td>
<td>5,000 school kits (stationery, school bags) procured, and distributed. Another 12,700 are in the pipeline and currently being processed at SLRCS HQ and Branches</td>
<td>Around 8,000-10,000 people receive drinking water every day at long queues in 10 districts. 180,000 packs (10 sanitary pads per pack) planned for distribution to 20,000 female adolescent students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the above, the following food and non-food items are being distributed to affected populations before December 2022:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food and Non-Food Items</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th># of people planned to be assisted by December 2022</th>
<th>Geographical coverage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sanitary Napkins</td>
<td>180,000  packs (10 pads per pack)</td>
<td>20,000 female adolescent students</td>
<td>All 25 districts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry Rations</td>
<td>4,500    packs (family size)</td>
<td>For 18,000 elderly people living in elderly homes (each pack shared among 4 elderly)</td>
<td>All 25 districts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition food packs</td>
<td>15,000   packs</td>
<td>For 15,000 pregnant and lactating mothers</td>
<td>All 25 districts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Aid Kit (SLRCS Standard)</td>
<td>2,500 kits</td>
<td>Distribution to all branches</td>
<td>All 25 branches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-Shirt with SLRCS, IFRC &amp; Donor Logo</td>
<td>650 T-shirts</td>
<td>Distribution to all branches</td>
<td>All 25 branches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Medicine is becoming one of the utmost requirements of the country and IFRC is in the process of procuring essential medicines (see details in section C) that will be donated to the Ministry of Health for further distribution to people in need, in close collaboration with SLRCS.

Despite the current challenges in the country, particularly due to the shortage of fuel, SLRCS has managed to implement activities planned as a part of the operation. In the framework of this response, CHF 1,4 million has been spent out of the CHF 4,7 million (total funded amount including soft pledges).
Following response activities were carried out through bilateral support:

In addition to the above competed bilateral assistance, there is ongoing support on the following.

**ICRC**
- Disbursement of 6,000 Multi-Purpose Cash grants in 12 districts
- Distribution of 5,600 nutritional food packs for pregnant and lactating mothers in 14 districts

**Uber**
- Distribution of 7,225 food packs in Colombo district

**Sri Lanka Paediatricians Association**
- SLRCS provide logistics, staff and volunteer time for the distribution of 6200 nutritional food packs for families with Severe Acute Malnourished children in Nuwara Eliya district.

**UNICEF**
- Feed the child programme in partnership with UNCEF is being planned

*Humanitarian Needs Assessment*
IFRC, together with SLRCS, commissioned an assessment of the humanitarian impacts of the current economic crisis. IFRC with the support of the Canadian Red Cross, German Red Cross and Norwegian Red Cross deployed an assessment team to plan and conduct the assessment. The deployment of the assessment cell was a request from the SLRCS and the IFRC in the framework of the Emergency Appeal operation that was launched recently, in part to inform the National Society operational strategy.

The team supported the SLRCS to assess the humanitarian needs and impacts of the current economic crisis in Sri Lanka. The survey involved a multi-stage stratified sampling methodology, which ensures that the survey is representative of the situation in both urban and rural contexts at the district level, with a high degree of precision, for those districts that were surveyed. The focus group discussions, key informant interviews and predictive analysis were used to triangulate and verify the findings of the survey and provide further insights into the prevailing situation.
The assessment report aims to provide humanitarian actors in the country with information to assist with sectoral priorities and needs at the community level, primarily in the areas of food security and livelihoods, health and protection; to help ensure best practices in addressing the most vulnerable; and to inform donors and development partners about strategic priority areas for humanitarian assistance.

The assessment report includes an analysis and recommendations based on a face-to-face household-level survey of 2,871 respondents in 11 districts across nine provinces, a separate case study of 300 households from 10 estates in Nuwara Eliya, 24 focus group discussions, 15 key informant interviews, and a predictive analysis, framed by extensive secondary data.²

The Fundamental Principles of the Movement underpin all activities carried out by National Societies with support from the IFRC secretariat. The assessment also follows the ‘Sphere Project’ assessment standards (Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response).³

The assessment will help the SLRCS and other humanitarian agencies to make informed decisions on operational choices and priorities: the key sectors, population groups and geographic areas affected.

- The assessment report can be downloaded at the GO platform here and the annexes to the assessment report here.
- The assessment report can also be downloaded from Relief Web: Sri Lanka Complex Emergency - Needs Assessment Report, October 2022

**Market Assessment and Post Disaster Monitoring (PDM) Assessment**

With the technical guidance of the IFRC CVA Coordinator, SLRCS organised and conducted Market Assessment and PDM Assessment. Based on the results of the assessments, SLRCS is currently working towards further strengthening the SLRCS CVA programmes. The PDM conducted at regular intervals allows SLRCS to better understand how beneficiaries use the cash assistance they receive and its impact on their well-being.

The survey was administered in August 2022 via telephone, and a total of 200 respondents provided the information. The sample size was 5 per cent of the total beneficiaries, sampling was designed to ensure results that are

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² Secondary data was collected, processed, tagged and analysed using the DEEP platform in collaboration with UN OCHA and others (Sri Lanka: JIAF SDR).

³ In addition, several other practical concepts are important in assessments, such as a balance of available time against information that can be collected, clarity on what information to be collected to achieve the assessment’s objectives, and selection of appropriate sampling methods given time constraints. (IFRC (2014). Operational Guidance: Initial Rapid Multi-Sectoral Assessment. Geneva)
representative of the districts of Sri Lanka where SLRCS supported vulnerable households through cash assistance. The average reported household size of respondents was 4.8 for the whole sample.

The results of this monitoring exercise highlighted that most of the respondents have used cash assistance to meet their essential household needs. The cash assistance utilization primarily went towards food, utilities, health, debt repayment and transportation costs. The contributions of SLRC’s cash assistance to ensure food security and the basic needs of vulnerable households are evident. A total of 76 per cent of respondents interviewed for this exercise reported using cash to procure food. All respondents mentioned the price of commodities and other essential items increased many folds. Moreover, 96 per cent of respondents mentioned the cash support was timely. Only 13 per cent said the amount (20,000 LKR per household) was not sufficient due to the increase in food and non-food items prices and transportation costs.

A total of 92 per cent of respondents were happy with the service delivery whereas 8 per cent of respondents had difficulties in accessing assistance through the bank. Some 54 per cent of respondents mentioned they spent money at the local market where food and basic commodities were available.

Out of the initially planned unconditional grants to 4,000 households, all 4,000 Cash grants have already been transferred to the beneficiaries at the time of the assessment. Low-income vulnerable households can buy essential food, medicines and NFIs with the money they receive. SLRCS introduced a hotline and other Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) measures for beneficiaries to share their grievances and make any complaints to the SLRCS HQ and branches. However, the use of these measures was minimal as per the PDM assessment. SLRCS is now putting place additional measures to ensure CEA measures are put into practice.

Conclusion and recommendation: based on the respondents’ feedback, the cash assistance provided by SLRCS for 4,000 households has been successful overall as it allowed people to meet their food and basic needs for a month.

Considerations for future
The following considerations are set out to make future cash assistance more inclusive and effective:

Targeting:

- A clear methodology for selecting communities and beneficiaries needs to be articulated.
- Selection criteria for locations needs to be clearly communicated to internal and external stakeholders.
- Needs-based approach should be considered for covering districts. SLRCS should focus on the most affected areas only to ensure a more efficient response in terms of costs and timeliness

Multipurpose cash grant transfer value:

- In coordination with the Cash Working Group, SLRCS will fix the transfer value to meet the basic need (Based on analysis of Minimum Expenditure Basket). The transfer value should be determined based on individual with a ceiling of five persons per household. Transportation costs need to be further reviewed.
The transfer value will be determined in USD/CHF as the local currency LKR is not stable. SLRCS would transfer the grant to the selected households at the equivalent amount of LKR for the fixed USD/CHF amount as applicable on the date of transfer.

**CEA:**

- SLRCS should focus on CEA from the beginning of the Cash assistance programme and set up a feedback mechanism system.
- Information should be shared with all actors
- Community consultation meeting
- Listen to and address individual feedback
- Dialogue with beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries

**Market Monitoring:**

- Regular market monitoring should be conducted or gather information secondary sources to determine the transfer modality.

**Accessibility for older persons and people with disability:**

- SLRCS to devise a mechanism in providing cash assistance in recognition of the physical access and risks for specific vulnerable groups to receive cash assistance.

The recommendations from this report are based mainly on market functionality in August 2022 as the situation is rapidly changing; therefore, it is important to assess the selected markets further, contributing to the final decision on whether cash is the best food assistance modality. These include:

- Logistic assessments which focus on traders’ stocking capacity.
- Procurement assessments which focus on the selection of traders for programs that involve Vouchers
- Analysis to determine the cost of cash transfer versus in-kind transfers.
- Lessons learnt from any organization that implemented cash transfers in the district or area; and
- Beneficiary modality preferences.

**Needs analysis**

The assessment findings highlighted the following needs in the report:

**Food Security**

Domestic agricultural production fell by nearly 50 per cent, following a change in the use of fertilizers and agro. It is estimated that only 24 per cent of land that is usually cultivated has been prepared for the upcoming season. While national production is now not enough to satisfy domestic demands, the country does not have enough foreign currency to import food (Sri Lanka is usually self-sufficient in rice and imports large quantities only when local production is not sufficient to cover the domestic needs).
The widespread shortage of key imported commodities such as wheat flour, canned fish, milk powder and lentils has led to record food inflation, which, in July 2022, was 83 per cent (up by 4.6 per cent from June 2022). Food inflation, together with a loss of income (85 per cent of people have reported losing income since the economic crisis) is detrimental to families’ purchasing power and food security: 74 per cent of households have had to adjust their normal food intake practices by limiting portion sizes, skipping meals, consuming less diversified and nutritious diets, and resorting to other negative coping mechanisms.

According to the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the food security situation is expected to worsen further after two previous consecutive seasons of poor harvests, particularly from October 2022 to February 2023 lean season, due to poor harvests of staple foods (mainly rice), and the ongoing crisis.\textsuperscript{4}\textsuperscript{x}

**Nutrition**

According to the IFRC assessment, pre-existing levels of undernutrition and wasting among children under five years are worrisome. The regular provision of ‘Thriposha’, a locally produced nutritional food supplement targeting children with moderate acute malnutrition and pregnant and lactating women, was discontinued in November 2021 due to a lack of raw materials such as Maize as production of Maize fell sharply.

The government reduced the budget for school meals by two-thirds in January 2022. The government-sponsored school meals programme formerly targeted 25 per cent of school-age children at the most underserved schools nationwide. Children from low-income families in the urban, rural, and estate sectors relied on the programme for their dietary needs, and it is understood that school attendance is now reduced. The size and protein content of the food has been significantly reduced in schools that still serve lunches.

Previously, typical school lunches included a balanced mix of meat or eggs, grains, fruits, and vegetables. Now, these meals are composed primarily of carbohydrates. This has left families struggling to feed their children in the face of rising food prices. Even staples like rice are now out of reach for millions of families, according to WFP, as food inflation reached a record high of 83 per

\textsuperscript{4}\textsuperscript{x} FAO and WFP also provide an estimate of food insecurity that is higher than previous estimates: By June 2022, over 6.2 million people (28 per cent of the population) were said to be moderately acute food insecure.
cent in July 2022, up by 4.6 per cent from June (The average monthly cost of a healthy diet has increased by 156 per cent since 2018).

Livelihoods
Due to the crisis, income is said to have stopped for 11 per cent of households and decreased for 62 per cent, with more than 85 per cent adopting coping mechanisms. Around 70 per cent of the workforce is informally employed. Livelihoods were damaged both by the economic crisis (inflation, lack of fuel and imported essentials, reduced tourism) and by civil unrest.

The fuel deficit has particularly affected people’s ability to engage in income-generating activities, especially daily wage workers. The weekly fuel quota introduced in early August 2022 is not enough for self-employed workers to maintain their earning levels, including those working in transportation, fishery, and agriculture.

Around 30 per cent of the labour force is involved directly in agricultural activities, making this group vulnerable because of the situation with fuel and fertilisers. The cost of production for paddy crops has doubled in the recent past. Animal feed production has fallen, and livestock owners need high-nutrient animal feed and veterinary health kits to mitigate the impacts of the feed shortage. Small-scale fishers, particularly in Jaffna and Batticaloa districts, had to curtail their fishing because of fuel shortages while having scarce alternative sources of income.

Health, Water Sanitation and Hygiene
Sri Lanka’s health system has become strained by a lack of medicines, medical disposables, fuel deficits and recurrent power cuts affecting surgical services, maternal, newborn, and child services, those with chronic illnesses, disabilities, and psychiatric conditions, and emergency health services. Fuel shortages have affected transport (including medical staff, patients and ambulances, although ambulance vehicles are prioritised in the fuel queues), which has reduced accessibility of emergency and routine medical services.

The disruption of sexual and reproductive health services has serious and life-threatening consequences for women and girls. For example, around 145,000 women in Sri Lanka will give birth in the next six months, of which 60,000 may need surgical intervention. Pregnant women, especially those living in remote rural areas, have had difficulty reaching hospitals and clinics, and antenatal and postnatal care has been affected. Similarly, delivery of non-urgent surgeries has been postponed, and shortages of blood bags and other consumables have a detrimental effect on national blood transfusion services including the disruption to the treatment of patients with non-communicable diseases.

The power crisis and restrictions on importing purification and disinfection chemicals, such as chlorine, have severely hampered the provision of safe water, raising the risk of diarrhoeal diseases. Environmental health control measures have also been affected. For example, Colombo Municipal Council has run out of chemicals and insecticides used for
mosquito control, at a time when dengue fever has become more prevalent, with approximately 50,000 people admitted to public hospitals in the last eight months.⁵,¹¹

**Education**
With its positive influence on health and livelihoods, social stability, and long-term economic growth, education is valued as a potent agent of change by families, and across society. In Sri Lanka, schools had been closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic during the two years prior to the current economic crisis. More recently, schools were closed because of fuel shortages and have now reopened, although power outages, limited public transportation, and a lack of school supplies continue to have an impact.

Children's education is also compromised by the closure of the government school meals programme, which had targeted 25 per cent of the most vulnerable school-age children. Consequently, families are less inclined to send their children to school, particularly affected are children from poorer households without access to online learning.

According to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) recent assessments in nine districts of Sri Lanka, more than half (55 per cent) of households reported a negative impact on children's education, 34 per cent struggle to support their children to continue education, while in 1.4 per cent of households' children dropped out of school.

**Protection Gender and Inclusion**
Typically, in complex crisis situations, existing protective social norms and family systems deteriorate, support services become overwhelmed, and the increasingly volatile environment takes a physical and psychosocial toll, further marginalising vulnerable groups and threatening lives.

Domestic violence, SGBV and serious child protection incidents, such as sexual assaults, physical abuse, and child neglect, are reported to have been increasing since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and have worsened with the current crisis. The purported rise in the number of women entering the sex industry is an indicator of both the desperation and the exploitation that people are facing (in Colombo the number is said to have increased by 30 per cent since January⁶). At the same time, the capacity of government services to respond is severely affected: protection service providers lack fuel for field and home visits, women's shelters have run out of space, and there is a lack of financial support for women and girls at risk of gender-based violence.

Parents have increasingly resorted to placing their children in institutional care because the family cannot provide for them and there are concerns about the welfare of children who are left behind when parents travel away from home for work.

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⁵ Informal communication, Stand-Up Movement Lanka (SUML), the leading advocacy group for sex workers in Sri Lanka.
Migration: According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the current crisis in Sri Lanka, together with the ending of COVID-19-related travel restrictions has added to the impetus for international and internal migration. In the first four months of 2022, over 100,000 workers are estimated to have left for employment overseas. This figure does not include undocumented migrant workers, who are expected to be numerous. Human trafficking has also increased, as have thwarted attempts, together with related protection issues ranging from forced labour to organ trafficking. Migration through unofficial channels often involves dangerous ocean crossings, with risks of capsizing and arrest by coast guards of both the destination countries and Sri Lanka.

People who were displaced internally because of the conflict which ended in 2009 continue to be vulnerable to macroeconomic fluctuations. At the end of 2021, 11,000 such people were still living in displacement. More than 121,000 climate-related internal displacements were recorded in 2021, which is the highest number recorded since 2017.

Families are increasingly sending their children abroad to study, for example to India. Wealthier Sri Lankans are trying to migrate to the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, Canada or the European Union to work or study. There is concern that emigration, particularly that of professionals, will cause a severe ‘brain drain.’

Operational risk assessment

There are a few main risks that affect the operation:

- **Supply chain and transport disruptions** due to lack of fuel and related exceptionally high costs of local transport. This limits the movement of staff and volunteers for work and response activities. Transport disruptions may limit the movement of people and goods.
- **Price fluctuations** mainly due to the rapid depreciation of LKR against the USD too affect the procurement of goods and services. The exchange rate gains may be good to reach more people but pose challenges as even after full procurement of planned relief items, the final expenditure is less than what is originally planned.
- Some staff members and volunteers sustained injuries as a result of taking risks by using crowded buses and other unconventional transport systems like ambulances to travel between work and home.
- The unpredictable situation in the country, the declaration of curfew and spontaneous protests and clashes could significantly increase the risks for staff and volunteers engaged in the implementation of the response operation.
- The response operation is very underfunded as the funding coverage for the Emergency Appeal currently stands at about 17 per cent. And as a result, there is a risk that the SLRCS will not be able to address all the pressing needs of the affected people.

Some migrants return traumatized from their experience working abroad and receive PSS from SLRCS. (Photo: IFRC/Power of Play)
B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy

This emergency appeal will help mitigate the current food insecurity brought about by the economic crisis and help people affected by the civil unrest in Sri Lanka through integrated food security, nutrition, livelihoods, health, and education interventions targeting **500,000 affected people** across Sri Lanka. The operation will support the government's efforts to provide relief to poor people and cultivate two million home gardens by assisting low-income farmer communities to cultivate small plots of land through conditional cash grants. It will also contribute to the SLRCS's strategic vision and country plan to build the resilience of communities and enhance the capacity of the National Society to maintain organizational readiness to respond to future disasters and crises. The three interconnected enabling approaches – i) National Society Capacity Strengthening, ii) Coordination and Partnerships and iii) Secretariat Services – will complement and further strengthen the SLRCS's ongoing efforts to build a strong National Society with systems and mechanisms in place to deliver high-quality programmes and services to most vulnerable people in Sri Lanka. The operation will ensure that the most vulnerable and marginalized groups are able to meet their immediate basic needs by providing them with multi-purpose cash assistance for three months. Cash assistance aims to mitigate the depletion of household livelihood assets and reduce negative coping strategies. This response will also include nutritional food packages for pregnant and lactating mothers, school stationery packages for students in poor schools in rural and urban areas, and menstrual hygiene packages for female students. Drinking water distribution will continue at queueing hotspots like cooking gas outlets and fuel stations and will be scaled up to accommodate food outlets as well. Health Sector will be supported through the provision of medicines and consumables, patient transportation, and first aid services, and by helping to address mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) needs. The operation will be especially focused on integrating PGI and CEA aspects across all activities and in other community resilience-building initiatives of the National Society. The operation paid particular attention to the areas impacted by recent extreme weather events which affected over 82,000 people, particularly in Western, Central and Sabaragamuwa provinces from the beginning of August until the end of October 2022. IFRC allocated CHF 499,554 to support SLRCS to respond to extreme weather events-induced disasters such as floods and landslides.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

**STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livelihoods</th>
<th>Female: 0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male: 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective:** *Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods*
**Key indicators:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of people supported with livelihoods restoration and strengthening economic activities</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>250,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are four main activities planned under the Livelihoods sector:

1. Provide conditional cash grants to vulnerable farmers to restore and recover their lost livelihoods
2. Support 15,000 pregnant/lactating mothers and malnourished children
3. Provide cash/food for three months for people staying in elderly homes, children’s homes, and other marginalized or disadvantaged groups.
4. Conduct a market assessment, post-distribution monitoring and analysis, and respond to livelihoods-related community feedback.

The activities to support pregnant/lactating mothers, malnourished children, and elderly people have been started and expected to complete by end of December 2022.

Meanwhile, the provision of conditional cash grants to vulnerable farmers to restore and recover their lost livelihoods is currently being planned.

**Multi-purpose Cash**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female:</td>
<td>10,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male:</td>
<td>9,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Objective:** *Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs*

**Key indicators:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of people reached with food assistance or cash for basic needs</td>
<td>4,000 households (20,000 people)</td>
<td>43,000 households</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All 25 district branches of SLRCS worked together with the local authorities to identify the beneficiaries for multi-purpose cash. Branches deployed volunteers to conduct house-to-house assessments based on the list provided by the authorities to verify the needs and identify the most vulnerable households that need assistance.

Identification of the initially planned 4,000 households has been completed and LKR 20,000 (CHF 65) was transferred to each household in 25 districts. Most vulnerable households such as women-headed households, families with pregnant and lactating mothers, persons with disabilities and elderly people, have been prioritized for assistance.

PDM and the market assessment have been completed. The reports were shared widely, and recommendations of the assessments have been incorporated to improve the quality of the operation.
SLRCS will continue with the multipurpose cash and will scale up the operation to reach 14,800 more households with the available funding.

A volunteer in conversation with a householder as part of a multipurpose cash grant assessment in Mullaitivu District. This coastal area is one of the most vulnerable in Sri Lanka owing to its high population of fishing and smallholder farming families. (Photo: SLRCS)

**Health & Care**

(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective:</th>
<th>Strengthening holistic individual and community health of the population impacted through community level interventions and health system strengthening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<p>| Key indicators: | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of people reached with emergency FA/clinical health care services during emergencies.</td>
<td>22,600</td>
<td>180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of people reached with mental health and psychosocial support.</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of National Society staff and volunteers trained in PFA skills.</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of hospitals reached by the National Society with the provision of medicines to reduce relevant health risk factors.</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Female: 11,932
Male: 11,013
SLRCS provided First Aid and emergency medical services to 22,600 people across the country, out of which 20,000 people were treated in SLRCS’ Colombo First Aid Camp and Treatment Centre, SLRCS also provided ambulance services to transport over 1,000 people to hospitals for further treatments.

SLRCS conducted a Psychological First Aid (PFA) Training of Trainers for 25 staff and volunteers of the 25 district branches. In turn, these trainers have trained 625 other volunteers in all the branches. SLRCS also provided PFA services to people waiting in long queues for days. While providing drinking water to people waiting in queues, SLRCS has targeted about 250 people who need PFA support. Two high-performance tents were procured internationally for this operation and are being used for the operation.

International procurement of the following essential medicines worth CHF 100,000 has been completed and handed over to the Ministry of Health:

- Six medicinal items named Streptokinase 1.5M. IU,
- Powder for injection, vial. (50 numbers),
- Atracurium Besilate, 10mg/ml, 2.5 ml amp. (3130 numbers),
- Chlorambucil 2mg Tablet (100 numbers),
- Tacrolimus 0.5mg capsule (1600 numbers),
- Rituximab 500mg/50ml solution for infusion, vial (225 numbers),
- Paraffin Gauze 10cm x 10cm (209 numbers).

Furthermore, another consignment of essential medicines received from the Canadian Red Cross has been handed over to the Ministry of Health.

*SLRCS organises medical camps for children who need treatment or families needing a prescription at a low cost. (Photo: SLRCS Kandy branch)*
A Mobilization Table is being published for this operation for additional medicines and medical consumables needed, to address the needs for medicines via in-kind donations from partners as the medicines supply in Sri Lanka is running low.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Ensure safe drinking water, proper sanitation, and adequate hygiene awareness of the communities during relief and recovery phases of the Emergency Operation, through community and organizational interventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key indicators</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of litres of water distributed</td>
<td>24,000,000 litres</td>
<td>1.8 billion litres</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of sanitary napkins provided for female students</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of awareness campaigns/cleaning drives/environmental sanitation activities conducted</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A total of 100 (1,000-litre) tanks procured at the initial stage of the operation were installed in 11 districts. These water points have been providing water for about 35 days. Approximately 24,000,000 litres of drinking water (an average of 8,000 litres per day, per water point x 100 locations x 30 days) have been provided to people waiting in queues. An estimated 500,000 people (10 per cent females and 90 per cent males) have used the water during the last 30 days (approximately 40-50 litres per day per person, as some people use water for washing at night) across 11 districts.

Currently, the water distribution has been stopped as the government introduced a fuel pass system on 1 August 2022 to eliminate the long queues. There are no long queues at fuel stations anymore hence the water distribution targets will be reduced in the upcoming operational strategy revision. Furthermore, SLRCS volunteers have also been engaged with the authorities to clean the surroundings closer to the fuel stations and conduct environmental sanitation activities with awareness raising.

SLRCS branches have been working together with the National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) and the local authorities in some districts to re-fill the water tanks.

Procurement and distribution of 180,000 packs (10 pads per pack) of sanitary napkins have started and currently receiving the stocks at SLRCS central warehouse in Colombo. SLRCS plan to distribute sanitary napkins to 209,000 female adolescent students across all districts. Along with the distribution, menstrual hygiene awareness events will be conducted for the students who receive sanitary napkins.
**Protection, Gender and Inclusion**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective:</th>
<th>Communities identify the needs of the most at risk and particularly disadvantaged and marginalized groups, due to inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key indicators:</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of households selected for implementation of multipurpose cash programming following a PGI-sensitive data analysis</td>
<td>4,000 households</td>
<td>43,000 households</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis conducted</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of staff and volunteers provided training on PGI in emergencies, including minimum standards and SGBV prevention and response</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of Provincial level SGBV/VAC referral pathways identified or developed</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of PGI-related policies developed or updated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Female: 10,400  
Male: 9,600

*A young female head of household shares her story with a SLRCS volunteer (Photo: Ampara branch)*
Although SLRCS staff and volunteers have not been specifically trained in PGI, when they conduct assessments, they are trained to collect sex, age and disability disaggregated data (SADDD). They are also on the lookout for categories such as women-headed households, pregnant and lactating mothers, households with children under 5 years, and families with persons with disabilities, to prioritize such families for multipurpose cash assistance. With the support of the PGI focal point, during the operational strategy development process, the SLRCS conducted a Child Safeguarding risk analysis to assess possible risks and existing safeguarding mechanisms. An action plan will be developed based on this analysis. SLRCS has engaged the services of a lawyer to draft five policies including child safeguarding and PSEA. They are also considering the possibility of conducting a PGI organizational assessment in 2023.

Community Engagement and Accountability

**Objective:** Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key indicators</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of people reached through risk communication and community engagement activities</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of staff and volunteers trained for CEA</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An IFRC staff member and SLRCS volunteer discuss community issues during a focus group discussion in Ampara District. Photo: SLRCS Ampara branch
SLRCS has trained 22 volunteers and 10 staff in CEA. This has included both theory and practical application of CEA concepts, including KOBO data management. Among them, there were 11 female participants. In line with the training, SLRCS developed a WhatsApp group for the training participants to convey messages easily.

In this operation, SLRCS developed a format to record complaints, suggestions, or any comments from the community as a pilot implementation to ensure community participation at the field level and shared the formats with Branch Executive Officers (BEOs) in five districts to integrate CEA into Cash Transfer Programming including COVID-19 related activities. BEOs are deploying CEA-trained volunteers for information collection.

Currently, they are actively keeping feedback records that they receive from the community. Though the SLRCS introduced a hotline at the branch level, it was not that much of success due to the current situation in the country. However, SLRCS took measures to enhance the integration of CEA by establishing a Hotline at the national headquarters and designating a separate person for record-keeping and responding to phone calls. SLRCS will include the CEA considerations also into the PDM and Assessment questionnaire.

| Migration | | Female: | 0 | Male: | 21 |

| Objective: | Communities support the needs of migrants and their families and those assisting migrants at all stages of migration (origin, transit and destination) |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key indicators:</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of migrants reached with assistance to meet their basic needs</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A young refugee woman is living in supported housing while her residency is being assessed. (Photo: IFRC/Power of Play)
Additionally, SLRCS included 21 refugees who are living in the Western Province in the response and provided LKR 20,000 cash grants. The rest will be assisted with cash grants in the coming weeks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery</th>
<th>Female:</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key indicators:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Target</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This activity has not started yet. However, all the already implemented activities, such as Health, WASH, and multipurpose cash, include disaster risk reduction by strengthening the resilience of the affected population by providing timely assistance to meet their basic needs. The operation keeps up its awareness about the climatic and weather conditions in the country and uses forecasts and weather alerts before planning field activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Sustainability</th>
<th>Female:</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male:</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be completed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key indicators:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This activity has not started yet, however, the operation is conscious of the environmental damage that it can cause during its implementation and takes measures for environmental protection such as minimal use of plastics and cleaning the surroundings of water distribution points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Female:</th>
<th>2,600</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male:</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be completed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Key indicators:** |         |   |
| Indicator           |         |   |
| # of students reached with school packs | 5,000   | 25,000 |
As many students struggle to buy school stationery due to very high prices, at the initial stages of the operation, SLRCS provided 5,000 school children in 10 districts with school packs which comprised stationery, a mathematical instrument box and a school bag. These school packs were purchased locally, with technical approval from the Global Humanitarian Services and Supply Chain Management (GHS&SCM) – Asia Pacific office. With the available funding, another 12,700 school packs will be procured in the coming weeks and will be distributed to 12,700 poor and vulnerable children in 17 districts to reach more school children.

Enabling approaches

National Society Strengthening

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective:</th>
<th>Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Key indicators:</td>
<td>Indicator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of staff and volunteers recruited and inducted to implement response</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of volunteers trained on core disaster management areas</td>
<td>625</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ten district project officers, 10 community mobilisers and at least 250 volunteers were hired for the operation. Additionally, 625 volunteers were trained on PFA. Orientation of staff and volunteers on the operation was conducted while ensuring quality assurance on regular basis through bi-weekly review meetings. SLRCS national headquarters is planning to recruit two more officers for Cash and Livelihoods.

### Coordination and Partnerships

**Objective:** Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key indicators:</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The operation demonstrates evidence of an effective and coordinated international disaster response</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SLRCS has an ongoing partnership and a good working relationship with the Ministry of Health. A joint online platform called Elixir was developed and launched on October 19, 2022, together with the Ministry of Health to share information on current medicine requirements, and potential donor interests to support procurement and to enable suppliers to share information.

This is Sri Lanka's first-ever medical-supply-to-donation matching platform. The initiative is a volunteer-run, public-private partnership under the aegis of the SLRCS and allows hospitals and treatment centres from across Sri Lanka to register their requirements for lifesaving medicines and medical supplies that may be in short supply, due to the country's ongoing economic and foreign exchange crises. ‘Elixir’ also provides a single streamlined interface for donors who would like to support Sri Lanka at this time. By having all requirements and donations coming in via a unified and seamless platform, ‘Elixir’ can then match requirements and donations for efficient use of funds and time, while also reducing the total turnaround time for assistance and increasing transparency.

Additionally, having a large number of institutions registering their requirements, allows the SLRCS and its network of global volunteers to consider bulk order placement, where possible, to obtain the best possible prices, delivering maximum cost efficiency to all stakeholders. Designed and operated by the SLRCS, together with its global network of volunteers and professionals, and in partnership with the Sri Lanka Medical Supplies Division of the Ministry of Health, the Elixir Platform is a huge collaborative undertaking to help Sri Lanka overcome the shortage of lifesaving medicines due to the present economic crisis.

IFRC and SLRCS continue to participate in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) meetings, Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) Sri Lanka, engaging with Cash, Information Management, as well as with Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) working groups. IFRC provided inputs to the development of AAP common messaging for the Sri Lanka document and the revision of the UN Humanitarian Needs and Priorities (HNP) plan. A summary of the IFRC Emergency Appeal is included in the HNP overview published on 18 November 2022. Furthermore, SLRCS and IFRC presented the findings of PDM assessments and Market Assessments at the Cash Working Group (CWG) meetings.

A diplomatic round table was conducted in June 2022 with the participation of the Embassies of Australia, Canada, France, Italy, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and the European Union (EU). Bilateral
discussions and updates were provided to the embassies of Norway, China, Australia and France. The IFRC Country Team participated in the ECHO-organized virtual meeting on needs analysis and current response in the country.

The second virtual diplomatic round table was organized and conducted on 21 July 2022, with the participation of the Embassies of Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Norway, France, USA, Great Britain, Malaysia, EU in Sri Lanka and USAID.

An extraordinary UN HCT meeting was organised on 12 October 2022 to present the findings of the IFRC/SLRCS Sri Lanka complex emergency needs assessment. A team led by IFRC Regional Director visited the UN compound in Sri Lanka and presented the assessment findings to HCT members. Over 75 people participated in the meeting representing UN agencies as well as INGOs, NGOs and donor agencies that are engaged in the humanitarian response in Sri Lanka.

The third diplomatic round table was organized and conducted on 14 October 2022 under the joint chairmanship of the SLRCS President, IFRC regional Director, and the Head of Delegation ICRC. Following Embassies and donor agencies participated in the event: Norway, Great Britain, France, India, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Thailand, Switzerland, China, EU, and USAID.

Following the round table, a media briefing was held by the SLRCS President and the IFRC’s visiting Regional Director Asia Pacific, and a member of the Sri Lanka Complex Emergency needs assessment team, presented a summary of the assessment findings to more than 50 Sri Lankan and foreign journalists. The briefing and the associated press release received wide media coverage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secretariat Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective:</strong> Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Key indicators:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of surge deployments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of key messages/statements to profile/safeguard the SLRCS response</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In-country local surge was recruited to provide technical support to the operation at the initial stage. Six international surge experts were also deployed, including one remote deployment with the following expertise:

1. Humanitarian Diplomacy, Strategic Engagement - completed the mission.
2. Regional Head, Strategic Engagement and Partnerships (two times) - completed the mission.
3. Partnerships and Resource Development (two times) - completed the mission.
5. Communication – ongoing- supported by the Australian Red Cross.
6. Procurement - ongoing.

Furthermore, the following surge personnel were deployed for 6-8 weeks to conduct the assessment and completed their mission:

1. Humanitarian Impact and Needs Assessment Team Leader, supported by the German Red Cross.
2. CVA / Livelihoods and Food Security Coordinator, IFRC.
3. Protection Gender & Inclusion Expert, supported by the Canadian Red Cross.
4. Health Expert & Statistician supported by the Norwegian Cross.
5. Humanitarian Information Analyst supported by the German Red Cross.
6. Primary and Mobile Data Collection Officer, IFRC
7. Mapping & Visualization Officer, IFRC remote support

A set of key messages and a press release were developed and issued to profile SLRCS's work as well as to highlight the humanitarian conditions and needs in the country.

**Communication products**

IFRC issued a press release to highlight the key issues and what the SLRCS has been doing to respond to the crisis to coincide with the diplomatic briefing in October 2022. Furthermore, a Communications surge delegate was deployed from the Australian Red Cross to support the operation to profile the current response and share stories from affected people. The communication outputs of the operation thus far are as follows:

- 8 June 2022 Press release: Sri Lanka's economic crisis spiralling into food crisis
- 21 July 2022 Press release: Sri Lanka on brink of humanitarian crisis
- 22 September 2022 Web story: ENDURING AN ECONOMIC CRISIS Sri Lanka: people in the Northern Province dream of a better future for their children
- 26 September 2022 Web story LEARNING IN A CRISIS: teachers and Sri Lanka Red Cross help students facing hunger and hardship
- 14 October 2022 Press release: Sri Lanka's vulnerable forced to risk a pathway to destitution
- 14 October 2022 ABC Radio National interview, Alexander Matheou: Sri Lanka's economic and humanitarian crisis deepens
- 5 December 2022 Web story: CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE DRY ZONE: lessons from the past help Sri Lankan farmers adapt to the future

Contributions to external articles and opinion editorials:

- The New Humanitarian: Out of Sri Lanka's tumult, a humanitarian crisis emerges
- The Diplomat: Sri Lanka's Worrying Exodus - accelerating migration caused by economic crisis
• Video story: Climate change in Kurunegala: adapting traditional practices to climate change (sponsored by Australian Red Cross). Footage from this video was also used during IFRC's presentations at the COP27 meetings, Egypt, 6-18 November 2022
• Video story: Working hard to support our communities, winner of IFRC Innovation Prize, Solferino Academy Climate Change TV

SLRCS is on social media: Twitter, Facebook and Youtube @SLRedCross.

IFRC Asia Pacific regularly posts on the emergency response and issues: @IFRCAsiaPacific, as well as the website and story platform Exposure.

- SLRCS Market Assessment
- School stationary packs distribution1
- Psychosocial support workshops for expecting mothers and fathers to help them cope in these stressful times
- School stationary packs distribution2
- Beneficiary needs assessment

D. FUNDING

The overall Federation-wide funding required to support SLRCS is 28.5 million Swiss francs. The Operational Strategy issued on 30 June 2022 details the targets and budget allocation of the IFRC Secretariat’s support to the SLRCS plan for 28 million Swiss francs.

As of 30 November 2022, this Emergency Appeal, which seeks 28 million Swiss francs is 17 per cent funded (CHF nearly 4.7 million) and recording an expenditure of CHF 1.4 million (31 per cent of income). There's a commitment of nearly 700,000 for different procurement which are about to compete by end of Dec 2022. Click here for more details: IFRC GO-Sri Lanka: Complex Emergency and funding coverage details. Please refer to the financial report at the end of this report for more details.
Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

In the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society
- Mahesh Gunesekera, Director General; email: mahesh.gunasekara@redcross.lk
- Damitha Chanaka, Assistant Manager DM; email: damitha.chanaka@redcross.lk

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- Naduni Abayasiriwardana, Officer-in-charge, Sri Lanka; email: naduni.abayasiriwardana@ifrc.org

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- Mahfuja Sultana, Operations Coordinator; email: Opscoord.SouthAsia@ifrc.org
- Nuraiza Khairuddin, Senior Officer, Regional Logistics; email: nuraiza.khairuddin@ifrc.org
- Afrhill Rances, Regional Communications Manager; email: afrhill.rances@ifrc.org

In IFRC Geneva
- Christina Duschl, Senior Officer, Operations Coordination; email: christina.duschl@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilisation and Pledges support
- Rachna Narang, Senior Officer, Strategic Engagement and Partnerships; email: partnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting enquiries)
- Alice Ho, Head of PMER and Quality Assurance; email: alice.ho@ifrc.org

Reference documents

Click here for:
- Previous Appeals and updates
- Operational Strategy

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to Principles of Humanitarian Action and IFRC policies and procedures. 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.


Working hard to support our communities, published 3 December 2022 https://twitter.com/IFRCAsiaPacific/status/1598721094412013568
MDRLK014 - Sri Lanka - Complex Emergency
Operating Timeframe: 16 Apr 2022 to 06 Jun 2023; appeal launch date: 08 Jun 2022

I. Emergency Appeal Funding Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thematic Area Code</th>
<th>Requirements CHF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction</td>
<td>21,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOF2 - Shelter</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs</td>
<td>21,064,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOF4 - Health</td>
<td>3,163,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>356,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOF6 - Protection, Gender &amp; Inclusion</td>
<td>27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOF7 - Migration</td>
<td>104,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF11 - Strengthen National Societies</td>
<td>2,839,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF12 - Effective international disaster management</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF13 - Influence others as leading strategic partners</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF14 - Ensure a strong IFRC</td>
<td>426,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Funding Requirements | 28,000,000 |

Donor Response* as per 23 Dec 2022 | 4,687,146 |

Appeal Coverage | 16.74% |

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thematic Area Code</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction</td>
<td>77,847</td>
<td>54,468</td>
<td>23,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOF2 - Shelter</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs</td>
<td>1,253,382</td>
<td>1,228,969</td>
<td>24,412</td>
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<tr>
<td>AOF4 - Health</td>
<td>283,579</td>
<td>63,559</td>
<td>220,020</td>
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<tr>
<td>AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene</td>
<td>242,258</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>241,788</td>
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<tr>
<td>AOF6 - Protection, Gender &amp; Inclusion</td>
<td>10,650</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AOF7 - Migration</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF11 - Strengthen National Societies</td>
<td>509,957</td>
<td>7,688</td>
<td>502,269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF12 - Effective international disaster management</td>
<td>19,041</td>
<td>30,139</td>
<td>-11,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF13 - Influence others as leading strategic partners</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>-588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF14 - Ensure a strong IFRC</td>
<td>154,000</td>
<td>3,460</td>
<td>150,540</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Grand Total | 2,550,713 | 1,389,340 | 1,161,373 |

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2022/11

Opening Balance | 0 |
Income (includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.) | 4,458,425 |
Expenditure | -1,389,340 |
Closing Balance | 3,069,084 |
Deferred Income | 232,801 |
Funds Available | 3,301,886 |

IV. DREF Loan

* not included in Donor Response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loan</th>
<th>Reimbursed</th>
<th>Outstanding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>741,002</td>
<td>741,002</td>
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</table>
MDRLK014 - Sri Lanka - Complex Emergency

Operating Timeframe: 16 Apr 2022 to 06 Jun 2023; appeal launch date: 08 Jun 2022

V. Contributions by Donor and Other Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Type</th>
<th>Cash</th>
<th>InKind Goods</th>
<th>InKind Personnel</th>
<th>Other Income</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>Deferred Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austrian Red Cross</td>
<td>49,803</td>
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<td>49,803</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Red Cross (from British Government*)</td>
<td>2,058,689</td>
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<td>2,058,689</td>
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<tr>
<td>China Red Cross, Hong Kong branch</td>
<td>24,308</td>
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<td>24,308</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Commission - DG ECHO</td>
<td>205,035</td>
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<td>Hewlett Packard Co. Foundation</td>
<td>46,841</td>
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<td>Japanese Government</td>
<td>754,759</td>
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<td>754,759</td>
<td>232,801</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japanese Red Cross Society</td>
<td>35,112</td>
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<td></td>
<td>35,112</td>
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<tr>
<td>On Line donations</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2,588</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Cross of Monaco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swedish Red Cross</td>
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<td>279,256</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Canadian Red Cross Society</td>
<td>73,953</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Canadian Red Cross Society (from Canadian Gov)</td>
<td>589,222</td>
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<td>589,222</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Govern)</td>
<td>309,680</td>
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<td>309,680</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Contributions and Other Income</strong></td>
<td>4,458,425</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4,458,425</td>
<td>232,801</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Total Income and Deferred Income**         | 4,458,425|             |                  |              | 4,458,425| 232,801         |