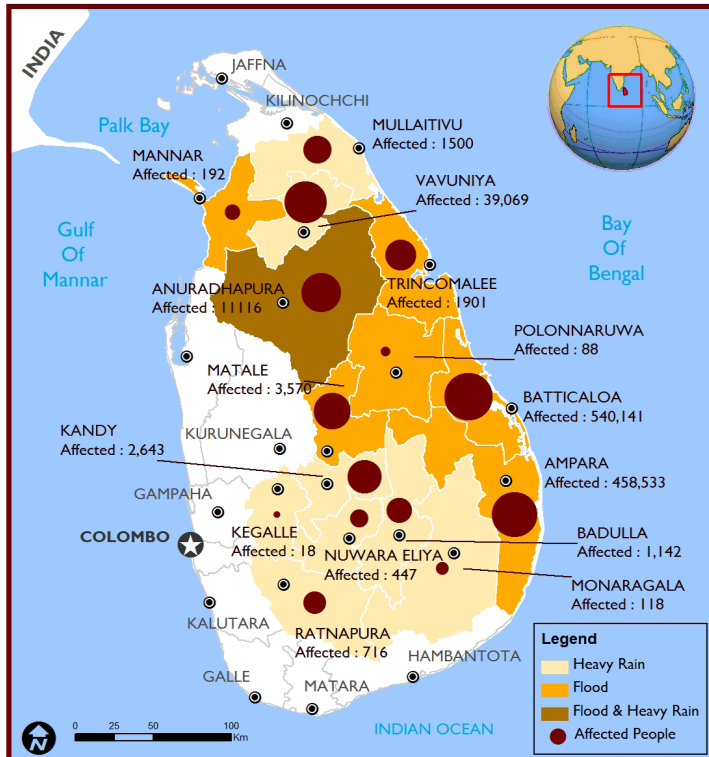


Report No. 1 (24 January 2011)  
Public Distribution

## Emergency in Focus

# Sri Lanka-Monsoon Floods

UAE GMT: (+4:00)	Sri Lanka GMT: (+5:30)
UAE Dirhams: 1 AED =	Sri Lanka Rupees: 30.2 LKR



Data as of 20<sup>th</sup> January 2011 | Source: DMC

### Situation Overview:

Continuous rain from 26 December 2010 to 06 January 2011 caused widespread floods, land and rock/mud slides and displacement especially in the East. The Sri Lanka Disaster Management Centre (DMC) reports that, a total of 1,055,262 persons (281,822 families) have been affected, 94% of whom are located in the three eastern districts of Batticaloa, Ampara and Trincomalee. In addition to displacement, DMC indicates that all major water tanks are overflowing and the flood has severely affected livelihoods and agricultural production, which has heightened food insecurity.

From January the flood waters began to recede and many people have returned to their homes. The number of people in evacuation centres has declined since 18th of January from over 350,000 to 17,000. However, significant humanitarian challenges remain and many returnees are visiting to evacuation centres to have access to food and Non-Food Items (NFIs).

The DMC has coordinated the response to date, including the launch of extensive search-and-rescue operations, and the release of emergency relief stocks. With the United Nations Humanitarian Country Team they prioritized critical needs for food security, immediate agricultural and livelihood interventions, shelter and non-food items, health and nutrition, water-sanitation-hygiene, and education to meet the

### UAE Response to date

- Sharjah Charity Association donated 200,000 dirhams for food and nutrition for the relief of those affected by floods in Sri Lanka.

### Sri Lanka Flash Appeal: Key parameters

Duration	6 months (January – June 2011)
Affected population	1,055,262 people which includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>362,646 people in evacuation centres</li> </ul>
Areas targeted by Flash Appeal	12 flood-affected districts
Key target beneficiaries (approximate figures)	1,055,262 people, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food: 500,000</li> <li>WASH: 1,062,000</li> <li>Health and Nutrition: 1,062,000</li> <li>Livelihoods: 751,200</li> <li>NFIs: 500,000</li> <li>Education: 315,000</li> <li>Agriculture: 298,000</li> <li>Shelter: 73,500</li> </ul>
Total funding requested	185,939,502 AED
Funding requested per beneficiary	Approximately 176 AED

### Summary of Requirements – by Sector

Sector	Requirements (AED)
Education	10,297,622
Food Security, Agriculture, Livelihood	81,503,421
Health and Nutrition	21,261,649
Logistics	1,285,550
Shelter/NFI/ Permanent housing	36,246,486
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	35,344,772
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>185,939,502</b>

### IFRC Appeals

- The Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has appealed for 2,491,193 AED in cash, in-kind, or services to support the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) to assist 70,000 beneficiaries (14,000 families) for six months. This operation is expected to be completed by the end of July 2011.

humanitarian needs in the flood- and landslide-affected districts. A list of needs is provided in the DMC [website](#).

In the worst affected districts paddy lands have been severely inundated by extensive flooding. Initial estimates indicate over 250,000 acres of crop land have been impacted, with moderate to severe damage to over 200,000 acres. The next assured crop is one year away (Feb 2012 Maha season harvest). It is expected that prices of rice and other commodities may increase in the short term, and that food security of families will be compromised until the next harvest. Since the heavy rains started, prices of vegetables sold at the Economic Centre in Dambulla have increased by 80%.

Floods and receding waters may unearth mines and Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and carry explosives from contaminated areas into areas thought to be safe. Local authorities / Regional Mine Action Office have requested vigilance from residents and people working in affected areas on any mine/ERW threat or concern to be reported.

### Humanitarian Needs and Response:

#### Food

- Approximately 500,000 persons in need of foods in Eastern Provinces.

#### Water Sanitation and Hygiene

- WASH partners are supporting local government authorities to carry-out needs assessments and respond to immediate requirements.
- UNICEF has distributed hygiene kits for 696 displaced families.

#### Shelter

- Over 175,000 homes inundated and damaged. Some of these houses may be repairable, but at the moment structural damage will make occupancy hazardous in many locations.

#### Health and Nutrition

- Regional Health services are taking measures to mitigate health issues in the worst affected areas, including ensuring water quality adequate supplies, well cleaning and chlorination for possible outbreak of disease in affected areas.
- As today, no outbreaks of diseases have been reported.
- Special focus is given on ensuring that cooking areas and toilets in evacuation centres remain clean.

#### Non Food Items (NFI)

- The DMC identified NFI items such as cooking sets (215,675), mosquito nets & coils (431,350 + 215,675), towels (431,550), bed sheets (431,550), sanitary items (64,700), candle packs (215,675), soaps (431,550), clothing (492,000 men, women, children). A list of needs is provided in the DMC [website](#).

#### Education

- 450 Schools are being used as temporary evacuation centres
- 350,000 students have lost their school materials
- Schools are slowly reopening since 17th January but attendance is not expected to return to normal until after the holidays and debris is cleaned away in schools affected by the flood (821)



Drinking wells affected by flooding | Photo: DMC



Fund Allocation at a Glance		
Country	Amount (AED)	Assistance
Canada	73,460	Initial assistance is given to Social and Economic Development Centre (Caritas Sri Lanka) to manage a project of those affected by severe flooding over the next three months and which is expected to require a total of approximately 881,520 AED.
Japan	782,349	Extends emergency relief goods (tents and sleeping pads) to Sri Lanka, through Japan International Cooperation Agency.
European Commission	9,743,296	This will be implemented through international aid agencies to provide primarily emergency food assistance, water and sanitation, and emergency relief items
India	3,673,000	The relief assistance in two planeloads and consists of dry rations (sugar, dal, salt and some condiments), Meals Ready to Eat, blankets, mattresses, water purification kits and malted food.

### USEFUL CONTACTS

#### Disaster Management Center (DMC)

Lt.Col.Ashoka Peiris  
Deputy Director  
+94 0773957902  
[eoc@dmc.gov.lk](mailto:eoc@dmc.gov.lk)

#### UAE Embassy in Sri Lanka

Jumaa Al Dahmani  
+94 112 565 053/565 052  
[colombo@mofa.gov.ae](mailto:colombo@mofa.gov.ae)

#### Sri Lanka Red Cross Society:

Tissa Abeywickrama  
Director General  
+94777510706  
[tissa.abeywickrama@redcross.lk](mailto:tissa.abeywickrama@redcross.lk)

#### IFRC Sri Lanka country office:

Robert James McKerrow  
Head of office  
+94 773 261 750  
[bob.mckerrow@ifrc.org](mailto:bob.mckerrow@ifrc.org)

Manish Pant  
Programme coordinator  
+94 772 442 321  
[manish.pant@ifrc.org](mailto:manish.pant@ifrc.org)

#### OCHA, Colombo

Ms Barbara Manzi  
Head of Office  
+94 011 2504 434/5  
[manzi@un.org](mailto:manzi@un.org)

### USEFUL LINKS

- Sri Lanka Disaster Management Center (DMC)**  
[www.dmc.gov.lk](http://www.dmc.gov.lk)
- Sri Lanka Red Cross Society**  
[www.redcross.lk](http://www.redcross.lk)
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Sri Lanka**  
<http://ochaonline.un.org/srilanka>
- Reliefweb**  
<http://www.reliefweb.int>



A Sri Lankan flood victim carries a pot of drinking water at submerged compound in Kartivu | Photo: Getty Images

## REPORT YOUR ORGANIZATION'S ACTIVITIES TO OCFA

All donations (cash or in-kind) from government representative organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), foundations or charitable organizations can be reported to OCFA to be documented in UN Financial Tracking System (FTS).

OCFA wishes to include details of contributions from UAE donor organizations to humanitarian relief efforts in its next situation report. Sharing this information will help us identify gaps in relief work and better direct UAE aid to respond to the most pressing needs.

We would therefore ask you to send any information about your efforts – in Sri Lanka (or any other emergency situation) -- to OCFA:

Field Support Program  
Tel: 00971-2-654-4415,  
Fax: 00971-2-654-4443  
fsu@ocfa.gov.ae

Frederic Vigneau  
Manager  
Dir: 00971-2-654-4455

Sarah Humaid  
Humanitarian Affairs Officer  
Dir: 00971-2-654-4415

Kindly, report your contribution either by email or fax in Arabic or English.

**Disclaimer:** Financial figures are provisional and may not reflect a comprehensive account of all the UAE foreign assistance. Other figures mentioned in the report do not reflect the views or the position of the UAE Government.

**Currency value** is USD \$1 = 3.673 AED

The presentation of material on the maps in this document does not imply the expression of any opinion/recognition or endorsement on the part of OCFA and the United Arab Emirates concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or any delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

**Sources:** UNOCHA, ReliefWeb, Sri Lanka Disaster Management Center, AlertNet

**All reports and more information are available on OCFA website: [ocfa.gov.ae](http://ocfa.gov.ae).**

### Sri Lanka at a Glance



#### Quick facts

- **Common Definition:** Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
- **Capital:** Colombo with a population about 700,000
- **Estimated Population:** 21 million
- **Language:** Sinhalese is the official language. Tamil and English are also spoken.
- **Region:** Asia-Pacific
- **Religion:** Buddhist 70 percent, Hindu 16 percent. There are smaller Muslim, Christian and other minorities.
- **Ethnic Group:** The Sinhalese make up 74 percent of the population. Tamils form the largest minority group at 18 percent, and there are also Arab and Vedda minorities.

#### Country snapshot

Until 2009 Sri Lanka was mired in civil war for a quarter century where more than 70,000 people died in fighting between the Government and the Tamil Tigers and more than 1 million people were forced to flee their homes.

Sri Lanka is a tropical island of 65,610 km<sup>2</sup> which is about one third of UAE's surface area. It lies about 31 kilometers (19 miles) off the southern tip of India. The climate is warm and humid. It is relatively low-lying, although its southern half has a mountain range, reaching 2,524 metres at the highest point.

Part of the British Empire until independence in 1948, Sri Lanka was known as Ceylon and is renowned for its tea. Tourism is a major contributor to the Sri Lankan economy.

Sri Lanka ranked 91<sup>th</sup> out of 169 countries in the 2010 Human Development Index.