



Country Card

Sri Lanka





General data of the country

a. General Data

Country ¹	Sri Lanka	Neighboring country (India)	France
Population	21.919.000	1.380.004.385	67.391.582
IHDI	0.78	0.65	0.90
Maternal mortality	36	145	8
Gender Development Index	0.955	0.820	0.987
Population under HCR mandate	800	195.891	368,352
INFORM index	3.8	5.4	2.2
Fragile State Index	81.80	75.31	30.48
GINI Index	41	35.7	31.6
Public Social Protection	6.5	2.7	31.7

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Accessed 2017
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Accessed 2018
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified 2016

¹ https://hinside.hi.org/intranet/jcms/pl1_2540344/fr/2020-update-country-indicators-2ndary-data/-/donnees-secondaires-mises-a-jour



c. Geopolitical analysis

1 - Social/cultural/demographic elements

Sri Lanka is a South Asian island in the Indian Ocean. The climate is tropical with northeast monsoon from December–March and southwest monsoon from June to October. The area of 65,610 sq.km is mostly flat with mountains in the southern and central part of the country. 20.7% of the land is arable, 30% are forests. The population of 21,803,000 (2018) is concentrated within the wet zone in the southwest, urban centers along the east coast and on the Jaffna peninsula.

Persisting cultural attitudes relating disability to a punishment for past sins and a burden influence the dominantly charity-based discourse on matters related to Persons with Disabilities. The attitudinal barriers play a major role in stagnation of policies and regulations. They further frustrate the accessibility, inclusivity and participation of Persons with Disabilities in different spheres such as employment.

2 - Political Scenario

Since 1802 the country was British crown colony, until independence in 1948. In 1972, it changed its name from Ceylon to Sri Lanka. The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka is a presidential republic with 9 Provinces, 25 Districts and 331 Divisions split into approx. 14,000 Grama Niladhari divisions. Whereby the political system is considered democratic, the political culture is not. The political culture seems to be determined by centralization, hierarchy and authority.

3 - Economic elements

Sri Lanka's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has been decreasing since 2015 (5%) up to 2019 (2.2%). Agriculture accounts for approximately 21% of the gross domestic product and employs 38% of the workforce. Manufacturing industries account for approximately 19% of the gross domestic product and employ about 17% of the workforce. The service sector is the largest of the Sri Lanka economy, employing 45% of the workforce and contributing roughly 60% of GDP. Sri Lanka's economic is import-dependent, the balance of trade is usually negative with a widening trade deficit. Remittances from emigrants accounted for approximately 8% of the GDP in 2019 (USD 6.7 billion in 2019). The inflation rate is 4.6% in 2020.

In reaction to the COVID 19 pandemic, the Government of Sri Lanka took early measures to prevent the spread of the virus by instituting curfews and social distancing measures, activating testing and quarantine procedures, delivering food and maintaining essential services, and suspending incoming passenger flights. Sri Lanka succeeded in limiting its COVID-19 caseload to 3,363 confirmed cases and 13 deaths as of the 29/09/2020. However, Sri Lanka's graduation to upper middle-income status in 2019 has likely been affected by socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. The living wage of a family is in average 42700LKR/month (225€). Prior to the crisis, the majority of the population in Sri Lanka were living on low incomes. 36% of the population



was living on less than USD \$1.90 per day while 74% was living on less than USD \$3.40 per day. The districts of Mullaitivu, Mannar, Kilinochchi, Batticaloa and Moneragala are considered pockets of severe poverty

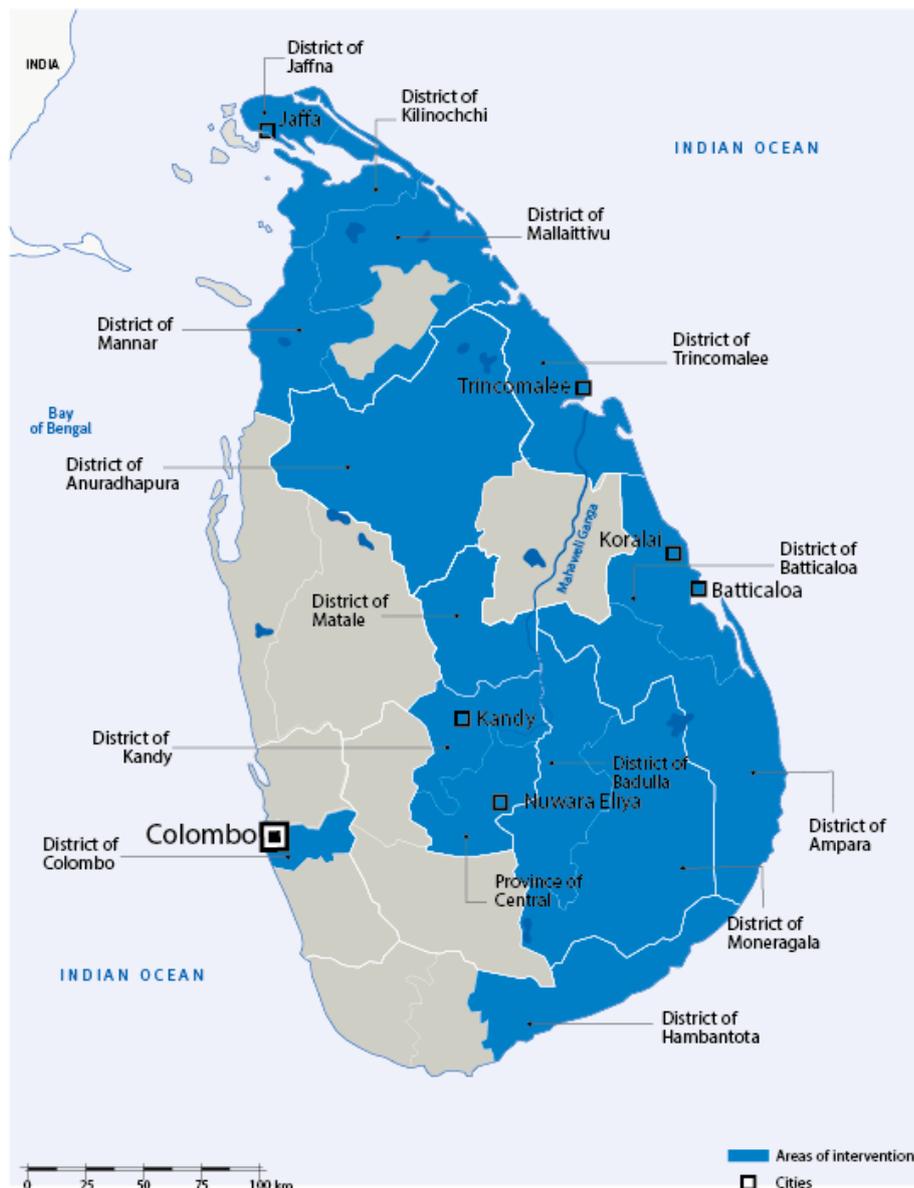
During early September, Sri Lankan government has announced economic emergency amid rising food prices, a depreciating currency and rapidly depleting forex reserve. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa has called the army to manage the crisis by rationing the supply of various essential goods. Initial analysis says that a number of factors has contributed to this crisis. Tourism industry which brings 10% of country's GDP is hit hard by the pandemic; as a result forex reserve has dropped drastically. With the supply of foreign exchange drying up, the amount of money that Sri Lankans have had to shell out to purchase the foreign exchange necessary to import goods has risen. So, the value of Sri Lankan rupee has depreciated by around 8% so far this year. It has to be noted that country depends heavily on imports to meet even the basic food supplies. So, the price of food prices has risen in tandem with the depreciating rupee. The government's ban on the use of chemical fertilisers in farming has further aggravated the crisis by dampening agricultural production.



HI Team and intervention areas

The HI Sri Lanka program has 44 staff members

Sri Lanka





Summary of HI presence in the country

HI implemented its first project in Sri Lanka in 1992/1993, focusing on training rehabilitation professionals in Colombo and Jaffna. In 2003, HI developed quality standard procedure for mine clearance, in partnership with UNDP. In 2004, a program for mine survivors in Eastern Sri Lanka was set up. On 26th December 2004 the Tsunami hit Sri Lanka, killing 35,000 people and leaving more than 250,000 homeless. HI consequently focused new project on survivors in Batticaloa, Ampara, Trincomalee and Hambantota districts. With the end of the war in Sri Lanka, HI also shifted operations to the Northern Province, delivering post conflict assistance. Given forced displacement of 300,000 people from Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu to army run camps in Vavuniya, HI started responding to the needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs), through a physical rehabilitation project.

HI made further projects to integrate rehabilitation services to the Public Health system. From 2011, HI broadened its scope of intervention: livelihood, inclusive sports, inclusive Disaster Risk Management, support to rehabilitation professionals and community based rehabilitation stakeholders, etc. Following the coalition government elected in 2015 fresh political will to address structural inequalities and national reconciliation, widely supported by the international community, HI shifted its action to address reconciliation issues, including transitional justice and reducing inequalities via inclusive economic development programming. At the same time, HI started to respond to small and medium natural disasters (floods and drought) with early recovering programming. Rehabilitation activities restarted, in 2017, on a very small scale and focused only on clubfoot treatment thanks to interest from Miracle Feet foundation.



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Main sectors of intervention	Objective of project in the sector	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Final beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project and donors funding it
Physical and Functional Rehabilitation	Increase access to rehabilitation (clubfoot treatment) services	Equip participating healthcare facilities and their staff to provide high-quality treatment Establish referral links between the community and clubfoot clinics in order to promote the long-term goal of early detection and treatment Link patients and their families to services to increase adherence to treatment protocol Work towards the successful integration of clubfoot treatment into the public health system at a national level	Children born with clubfoot and their parents 1416 previously enrolled children and 311 new children		Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children Batticaloa Hospital, Kandy Hospital Ministry of Health (MoH), Teaching Hospital Jaffna	Batticaloa Kandy, Colombo, Batticaloa, Kandy, Jaffna	01/07/2021–30/06/2022 (5 th phase) Miracle Feet
Inclusive Livelihood	To contribute to poverty reduction in Uva and Central	SMEs in target value chain, such as local farming, value-addition or retail ones, and including women-led ones are developed			ACTEDTED, CEFENET FIOH HDO	Nuwara Eliya Matale Badulla Monragala	July 2017 - December 2021



	Provinces of Sri Lanka	<p>Local business Development Services providers are able to provide SMEs with adequate support to pursue their development</p> <p>CSO, Local authorities and deconcentrated government departments jointly engage in inclusive, resilient and multi-stakeholders economic development governance, thus providing an enabling business environment for target SMEs.</p>			Human Development Organization, Future in our hands		UE (DEVCO)
Inclusive Livelihood and Inclusive Local Development	To contribute to promoting the economic and social participation of vulnerable women in Northern Sri Lanka	<p>District level CSOs have improved knowledge, skills, policies and procedures to include vulnerable women and identify members' livelihood support needs</p> <p>Viluthu, JSAC and the target CSOs are able to support vulnerable people to access provincial governmental livelihood services.</p> <p>Vulnerable women have increased access to markets through CSOs' support to improve connections with other economic actors.</p>	1000 vulnerable women, 500 CSO members, 1600 community members, officials from the government department, 60 key provincial officials/politicians, 100 company or producer group managers		CAMID, Viluthu, JSAC	Mannar, Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu	01/1/2018-31/12/2021 UE (CSO-LA)



Rights and policy	Women Led Human Rights Promotion To contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Sri Lanka	Women's groups are empowered to lead awareness-raising campaigns for informing public opinion and lobby key decision makers on fundamental freedoms Women led activities sensitize communities and lobby local and national government authorities to help promote and protect the citizens' fundamental freedoms The youth display an increased understanding of the role that human rights and fundamental freedoms play in building a peaceful and pluralistic society.	Women with and without disabilities and women groups in 8 districts of Sri Lanka, youth groups		Viluthu, Women Development Centre	Ampara, Anuradapura, Hambantota, Jaffna, Mannar, Moneragala, Trincomalee, Kandy	01/01/2020 – 31/12/2021 UE (EIDHR)
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Donors

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