

## WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

*Sri Lanka*

### World Food Programme in Sri Lanka

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) works with the Government of Sri Lanka to assist people affected by three decades of prolonged war which claimed the lives of 60,000 people and destroyed infrastructure in the Northern and Eastern provinces. Assistance is also provided for people who are affected by natural disasters such as tsunami, drought and floods.

The main recipients of the current support are returnees, internally displaced and resettling population after the war ended in 2009, malnourished children in primary and secondary schools as well as pregnant and lactating mothers.

As the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, WFP is delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build grass root level resilience to 254,000 people within Sri Lanka.

### What we do:

The main areas of WFP interventions in Sri Lanka are:

- ⇒ Emergency response to internally displaced people caused by the prolonged war and natural disasters such as drought, floods and tsunami.
- ⇒ Nutritional supplements for pregnant and lactating mothers, as well as children.
- ⇒ School meals to address hunger and improve attendance in primary and secondary schools.
- ⇒ Resilience building activities which provide food in exchange for infrastructure development among farming communities.

- ⇒ Capacity building for the Government to improve their emergency response in the provision of food and nutrition.

### Who do we assist:

- ⇒ Victims of prolonged war and natural disasters in North of Sri Lanka.
- ⇒ Farming communities affected by climate change.
- ⇒ School children
- ⇒ Nursing/lactating, and malnourished infants under the age of 6 months.

### How do we help:

#### Schools Meals Programme:

- ⇒ The programme provides food assistance to 160,000 primary and secondary students in 958 schools in the Northern Province.
- ⇒ The School Meals Programme represents a sturdy safety net providing children with daily nutritious meals in schools in the Northern Province which was affected by the long conflict.
- ⇒ WFP distributes rice, pulses (dhal) and vegetable oil to schools where cooks prepare hot nutritious meals for students.
- ⇒ The Ministry of Education provides funding to purchase vegetables from the farmers.
- ⇒ There has been a stark improvement in school attendance as a result of this programme. It has also contributed to students who are healthy and active in class.



# Our Work in Sri Lanka



## Mother Child Health and Nutrition:

- ⇒ 4,300 pregnant/lactating mothers and 10,100 infants between 5 to 59 months are given Super Cereal Plus which comprises of blended Corn and Soya mixed with vitamins and minerals.
- ⇒ The objective of the programme is to stabilize and improve their nutritional status, and reduce acute malnutrition.
- ⇒ WFP, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, distributes Super Cereal Plus to Health Clinics in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. The Super Cereal is distributed through Medical Clinics to mothers and children based on need and nutritional status.
- ⇒ The programme has contributed significantly to improve the nutrition of nursing and pregnant mothers, and children.

## Climate Change Adaptation

- ⇒ WFP Sri Lanka invests in disaster preparedness and mitigation through a climate change adaption initiative jointly implemented with the Ministry of Environment.

- ⇒ Through the programme WFP and the Government are strengthening community level resilience to possible climatic shocks in the future.
- ⇒ The objective is to secure the livelihoods and food security of people in the community against climate change induced rainfall or drought.
- ⇒ The project targets 14,000 farming families.

***"To help me survive, I had been borrowing food from my neighbor until WFP came to my rescue by giving me the opportunity to rebuild my livelihood. Thank you for the assistance," said Anoma Priyadarshani, single mother of 3, Vavuniya, Sri Lanka.***

## Our donors:

WFP has received funding from the Governments of Canada, Japan, Saudi Arabia and USA, as well as multi-lateral and private donors.

The Government of Sri Lanka has committed to provide 50,000mt of rice out of which 10,000mt are intended for the Sri Lankan programme and 40,000mt for WFP programmes in other countries.

