



unicef

UNICEF EMERGENCY PROGRAMMES

SRI LANKA

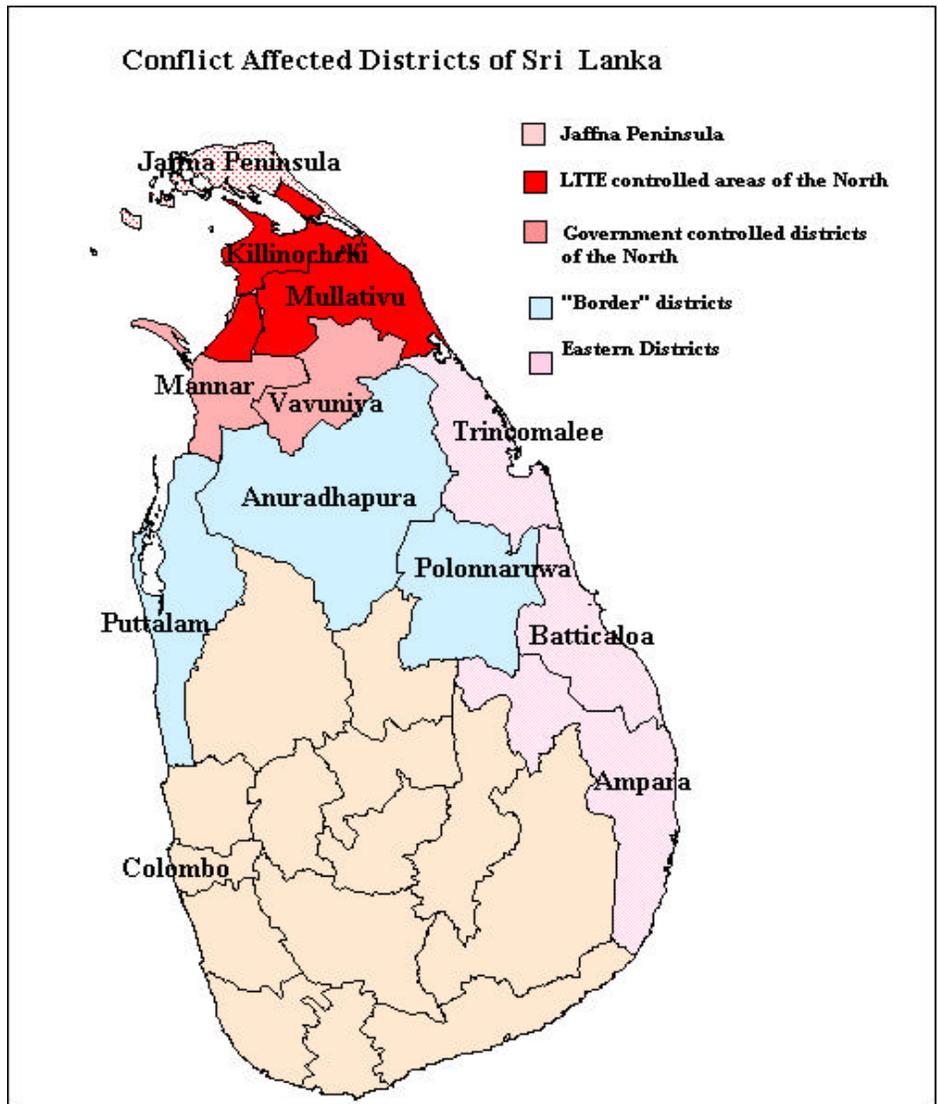
DONOR UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2000

1. EMERGENCY OVERVIEW AND RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Humanitarian Situation

Achievements in the promotion of child rights are seriously being threatened by the armed conflict. Government Military Expenditure continues to rise and currently sits at ? percent. Further increases in defence spending are anticipated and as a result budgetary cuts in social sectors are a real possibility in the future. The situation in the Northern Peninsula Jaffna is precarious. The advance of the LTTE was halted in mid June but low intensity steady fighting continues in Jaffna. Consequently, large-scale displacement is ongoing with the Government Agent reporting figures in excess of 150,000 of this number 19,000 IDP's are residing in the welfare centres. The conditions for the civilians has deteriorated: there is a severe shortage of doctors and medical supplies, water and sanitation is a major problem in the welfare centres, and education has also been severely disrupted. The LTTE retains a stronghold in the centre of the Jaffna Peninsula, which came under intensive military fire in June. Humanitarian Agencies have encountered major problems gaining access to this area and a considerable number of civilians are at risk. The civilians in the Wannu continue to suffer from neglect and isolation and the quality of life is poor. In Vavuniya, many IDP's have been displaced several times. The welfare centres are overcrowded and in need of renewal. Those who wish to be resettled elsewhere are prevented by the local military authorities who are reluctant to allow the opening of new welfare centres in the district and have withdrawn security clearances. The situation in the East is also very tense.



UNICEF is continuing to provide 2.5 million annually for the humanitarian support for children, mothers and their families affected by the armed conflict. The assistance package includes immediate relief for the displaced and most vulnerable as well as resettlement and rehabilitation support in the districts of Jaffna, Vavuniya, Wanni, Trincomalee and Baticaloa.

Mission from the Office for Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs comes to Sri Lanka in June.

Following the deteriorating situation in Jaffna, OCHA were invited by UN agencies in early June, to assist and advise the Resident Co-ordinator and UN operational agencies on how to respond to the escalating situation. Consequently, UNICEF and UNHCR have strengthened and extended their programs in the war-affected areas.

Government supports the optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

On June 7, the government announced that it would support the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child which places particular emphasis on the issue of child soldiers. In July, UNICEF launched its Progress of the Nation Report and responding to journalist questions, the Resident Representative for UNICEF stated that there was no evidence to suggest that the LTTE had stopped recruiting children. The remarks were given extensive coverage in the local media. With interagency and government support, UNICEF are in the process of developing a vocational training program to support the rehabilitation of ex child soldiers and restore a sense of normalcy in their lives.

Constitutional Reforms and Devolution of Power

The government held a series of talks with the main opposition party UNP and other parties. The main purpose was to develop a constitutional package to present to parliament. However, the UNP withdrew its support just before the draft constitution was about to be presented to parliament where it had to achieve a 2/3rd majority. Therefore the government suspended debate on the proposals in early August. UNICEF has continued to support and assist the Ministries and anticipate the changes that this constitutional package would signify, which include devolving significant power to Regional Councils.

UNICEF'S RESPONSE: ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS, AND CONSTRAINTS

Support for Immunization Programmes continues

Good progress is being made towards achieving Immunization coverage which has been maintained at over 90 per cent. Unicef continues to negotiate with the government and the LTTE to observe a "day of tranquility" to enable a National Immunisation programme which focuses on eradicating polio to take place. On October 28 and December 2, sub national immunisation days will be held to give Immunization coverage focusing on the most disadvantaged areas. The whole of North- East province will be covered and UNICEF will provide 10,000 posters and logistical costs in each of the districts covered.

Re-emergence of Malaria in the conflict areas.

To deal with the upsurge of malaria in the conflict areas where control measures have failed and access to services are poor, UNICEF provides intensified support for community based prevention and treatment of Malaria. This includes training of ... health workers and the provision ofimpregnated mats to pregnant women and mothers. The government of Sweden is also supporting training courses on updating techniques on malaria prevention for 94 health workers in Jaffna.

Improvements in early childhood care for child growth and development

UNICEF accords high priority to psycho social interventions that minimize the trauma of war on children. (Programs)? UNICEF continues to increase efforts to cooperate closely with local government and NGO's in the North-East province to employ processes that strengthen local capacities. In July, 75 government and NGO workers working in the conflict areas, took part in an intensive Applied Theatre Training, that involves interactive tools and techniques which help children to express themselves, improve coping mechanisms and also promotes creative learning approaches. Follow up Applied Theatre programs will expand to include children's rights particularly those of women. UNICEF is also devising psycho social training materials for teachers and health workers who work in the conflict Zones.

Resettlement:

To increase sustainability and cost-effectiveness of interventions, importation of essential drugs is being complemented with support for local production of essential drugs. UNICEF, in collaboration with Diakonie Emergency Aid of Germany, has been supporting government's efforts to improve capacity to produce essential drugs at the country's main pharmaceutical factory. Currently, the factory is producing seven drugs, including antibiotics and multivitamins, with raw materials provided by Diakonie Emergency Aid. Support for capacity development in Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) was provided to the Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory to effectively upgrade production capacity of these drugs through an in-country training

workshop. Thirty technicians of the Pyongyang Pharmaceutical Factory and officials from the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) participated in the training. A pharmacologist was engaged to facilitate the workshop and produce training materials for the course work. The government has welcomed such trainings as they contribute not only to improved local production methods, but such trainings also provide a foundation in standard practices for future collaboration and partnerships with international pharmaceutical companies.

Vital support for Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) continues

Vaccine requirements for 2000 have been secured using an emergency allocation from UNICEF. Reports from MoPH and field observations indicate that routine immunisation is being carried out at paediatric hospitals, baby homes and community clinics. Vaccines are provided to these institutions by provincial anti-epidemic stations throughout the country. Use of WHO/UNICEF recommended immunisation schedule is now widespread although awareness campaigns for the new schedule are still being conducted. Generators have been procured for all provincial anti-epidemic stations to secure a reliable electricity supply for refrigeration of vaccines. Two cold trucks have been provided to facilitate logistics of vaccines from the central to the provincial levels. A walk-in cold room has been installed at the central anti-epidemic station to upgrade the storage capacity of vaccines imported to the country.

Priority for capacity development of national health workers, caregivers and technicians

UNICEF accords high priority for capacity development activities of DPRK's health workers, caregivers and technical personnel. Under preparation are training of trainers workshops on cold chain maintenance, life-saving skills in safe motherhood, rational use of essential drugs, control of acute respiratory infection and diarrhoeal disease and growth monitoring and promotion. Participants of these training workshops will be provincial health workers who would impart their skills to the county and community levels.

Capacity building of MoPH and anti-epidemic staff is also being supported. A DPRK delegation is currently undertaking a study visit to China to gain a better understanding of mechanisms to ensure routine immunisation. Following this, the officials will participate in a training supported by WHO and UNICEF on the Global Alliance on Vaccine Initiative (GAVI) in India.

Knowledge of Ministry of City Management (MoCM) technical and policy personnel was enhanced in water leak detection and control through an inter-country exchange of experience to China and Thailand. Follow-up recommendations include a further in-depth on-the-job training for technicians in leak detection and control, as well as the need to upgrade management systems of the MoCM's departments. MoCM also plans to replicate procedures, methods and materials that were successfully applied in the countries visited.

Distribution of critical supplies is saving lives in the most underserved areas

Emergency obstetric supplies such as operation tables, surgical instruments, basins and emergency lights have been procured to upgrade eighteen county hospitals. Activities to improve access to safe water supply and secure adequate sanitation continue through drilling of boreholes and construction of sanitary latrines. UNICEF is monitoring progress of drilling activities, which is being carried out efficiently and effectively at the current capacity of 15 boreholes per month. Pipes for the rehabilitation of water systems, casings and handpumps, and cement for construction of latrines have been provided for 200 children's institutions and provincial paediatric hospitals during the reporting period.

2. APPEAL REQUIREMENTS, RECEIPTS, AND CURRENT NEEDS

To address the most urgent needs of children and women in the most underserved areas of DPRK, UNICEF requires US\$ 13.0 million for the implementation of the following three projects:

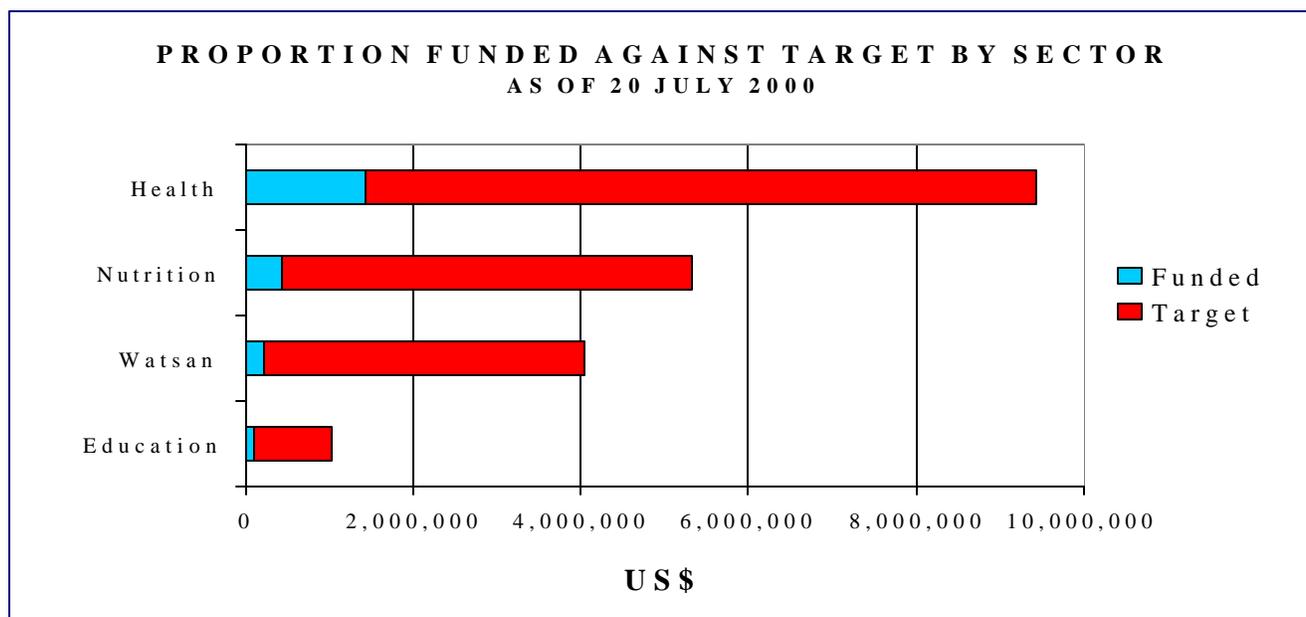
- **Integrated health:** valued at US\$ 8.0 million of which US\$ 1.4 million has been funded. This project consists of an integrated set of activities in health, including EPI, safe motherhood, essential drugs and Acute Respiratory Infection/Control of Diarrhoeal Disease (ARI/CDD). It targets approximately 2.1 million vulnerable children and 540,000 women in selected geographical areas. Objectives include the control of disease outbreaks such as polio and measles through expanded programmes of immunization, prevention and treatment of common childhood diseases (through provision of essential drugs and case management of ARI/CDD) and safe motherhood activities to improve maternal wellbeing.
 - **Control of micronutrient deficiencies:** valued at US\$ 2.2 million of which US\$.186 million has been funded. This project aims to support (a) the local production of fortified complementary and supplementary foods such as corn soya
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blend and high-energy biscuits (in collaboration with WFP) for all children under-five in the 27,000 children's institutions nationwide, (b) universal salt iodisation and (c) the reduction of anaemia in approximately 2.5 million children and women through provision of minerals and multivitamins.

- **Water supply and environmental sanitation:** valued at US\$ 2.8 million of which US\$.225 million has been funded. This project aims to increase access to safe water in 8 under-served urban and 30 rural communities through the provision of calcium hypochlorite, pumps and spareparts, construction of wells and protection of springs. It also aims to improve water supply and environmental sanitation in 500 children's institutions through construction of 5,000 sanitary latrines and waste management.

The following table and graph indicate the allocations of donor contributions against each sector. It shows significant shortfalls on the funding level required. Health programme has received the highest level of funding at 18% and Education activities received 11% of the requirement, while WES and Nutrition programmes have received limited funding.

APPEAL REQUIREMENTS AS OF JULY 2000				
Sector	Target	Funded	% Funded	Unfunded
Education	930,000	102,041	11	827,959
Water/Sanitation	3,815,000	225,480	6	3,589,520
Nutrition	4,900,000	422,868	9	4,477,132
Health	8,011,000	1,421,314	18	6,589,686
Total	17,656,000	2,171,703	12	15,484,297



Contributions received from donors

During this reporting period, UNICEF National Committees of Japan, Germany, Switzerland and The Netherlands have contributed an amount of US\$ 399,641 in support of UNICEF-assisted projects. **Total donor response (income and pledge) to the consolidated appeal currently stands at 14% (excludes UNICEF EPF).**

FUNDS RECEIVED FROM DONORS AGAINST APPEAL 2000		
Donor	Income/Pledge US\$	Purpose
Australia	153,468	Nutrition
Denmark	520,160	Health
Diakonie Emergency Aid/Difam	80,000	Health
German Natcom	237,000	Nutrition
Japan Natcom	100,000	Education
Korean Natcom	300,000	Health / Nutrition
Netherlands Natcom	2,041	Education
Norway	676,440	Health / Water and sanitation
Swiss Natcom	60,600	Health/ Nutrition
United Kingdom Natcom	40,000	Health
United States Natcom	301,994	Health
Total	2,471,703	

4. IMPACT OF UNDER-FUNDING

Urgent humanitarian assistance to address unmet priority needs is vital to save lives

The ongoing conflict in the North and East of the country is escalating for the past few months and the well being of children and women is precarious. Rapid response is needed to fulfil requirements in health, nutrition, special protection, emergency relief, ECCD and social rehabilitation, safe water supply and adequate sanitation. There are no major expectations of a breakthrough in peace negotiations between the LTTE and the government in the 17 years long conflict. Therefore UNICEF needs continuous funding for the overall CAAC with a special focus in the next country programme 2001 on special protection, gender, rights-based approaches, psychosocial activities, mine awareness campaigns, education with special attention to girls...

Details of the UNICEF Sri Lanka programme can be obtained from:

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