



HIGHLIGHTS

142

Individuals were trained on International Protection, IDP Guiding Principles, Community Policing

945

Vulnerable returnees have received support to rebuild their livelihoods in fishing and goat rearing

265

Sri Lankan refugees returned to their places of origin with UNHCR support

2750

Individuals have directly benefited through UNHCR activities related to land, housing and property

Population of Concern

A total of **55,886** people of concern¹.

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Afghanistan	175
Pakistan	1100
Sri Lanka ²	54,517
Myanmar	37
Palestine	21
Others ³	36
Total	55,886

¹ Data as of 31 August 2015

² Includes Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), IDP and Refugee returnees

³ Includes PoCs from Iran, Iraq, Maldives, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Yemen and Ukraine

Funding

USD 7.6 Million requested

USD 1.1 Million contributions

14% funded

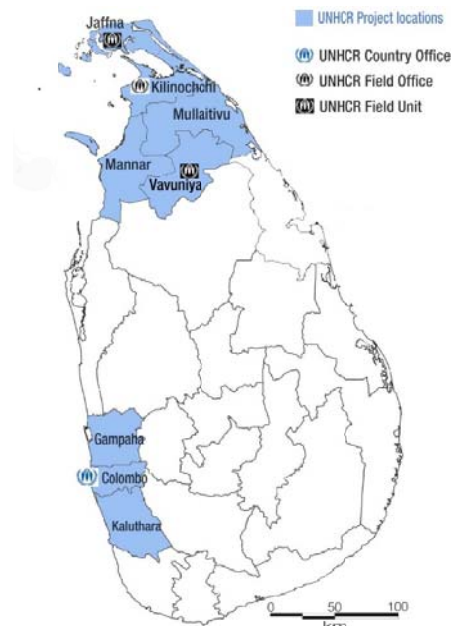
UNHCR Presence

Staff:

41 National staff
10 International staff

Offices:

4 Offices located in:
Colombo, Kilinochchi, Vavuniya, Jaffna



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR collaborates with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Ministry of Public Order and Christian Religious Affairs, Department of Immigration and Emigration (DIE), Ministry of Resettlement (MoR), Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils, Local Government and Democratic Governance and authorities at the district and local levels.
- Formal partner agreements were established with UNDP, UNOPS, UNV, ICMC, ZOA Refugee Care, Sevalanka Foundation, Muslim Aid, Rural Development Foundation, Jaffna Social Action Center, Legal Aid Commission and the Bank of Ceylon.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- UNHCR monitors and assists 55,886 persons of concern including: 866 refugees, 503 asylum-seekers, 265 refugee returnees; 3,984 internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have returned and 50,268 IDPs as of September 2015.
- Conducts registration, refugee status determination and pursues durable solutions for asylum-seekers and refugees.
- In Colombo, UNHCR conducts trainings on International protection to government staff i.e. Department of Immigration & Emigration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, etc. At field level, gender based violence prevention and response; social integration and national language policy and community policing training is provided to police, community leaders and public.

Education

- UNHCR provides education assistance to 136 refugee children and essential skills in English to 87 refugees.

Health

- UNHCR assisted the anti-malaria campaign to screen 118 returning refugees for Malaria and medical reimbursements were provided to 85 persons of concern as of September 2015.

Land, Housing and Property

- UNHCR supports the Regional Survey Department- Vavuniya and Land Units in 7 Divisional Secretariats in the North.
- 175 government officials have benefited from the housing, land and property training conducted by UNHCR.
- UNHCR has built 100 transitional shelters thus far and 100 more are in progress. In addition, assistance was provided for more than 600 individuals to clear the lands given by the government, enabling them to return.
- Through Legal Aid Commission, UNHCR assists the training of government staff and public awareness-raising on land, housing and property issues. In 2015, more than 2,050 individuals have benefited through these activities

Livelihoods

- 945 vulnerable returnees has benefited from UNHCR support to strengthen their livelihood activities in the Northern Province.

Durable Solutions

- In 2015, 149 cases (328 individuals) were submitted for resettlement and 101 cases (198 individuals) departed to third countries.
- 265 Sri Lankans returned from India through UNHCR's facilitated voluntary repatriation programme. These returnees benefit from repatriation and transport grants, non-food items and access to legal advice on housing, land and property issues.
- UNHCR in collaboration with UN Resident Coordinators Office assists the formulation of a national comprehensive IDP strategy and action plan through deployment of the Senior Protection Officer (ProCap).
- Protection assistance and legal advice on civil documentation is provided for all IDP returnees, while the most vulnerable receive transitional housing and cash grants to return.
- UNHCR supports citizenship and documentation mobiles in Nuwara Eliya, Badulla and Rathnapura districts, where the majority of Tamils of Indian origin reside, some of who lack essential documentation.

Logistics

- In rightsizing its operation in Sri Lanka, UNHCR has focused on disposing of surplus assets by sale and transferring ownership to partners and relevant Government Departments that will continue to provide services to the persons of concern.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions this year as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation: [Canada](#) | [United States of America](#)

Contacts:

UNHCR Sri Lanka, lkaco@unhcr.org, Tel: +94 11 268 3968, Fax ++94 11 268 3971, Website: www.unhcr.lk
Dushanthi Fernando, Executive Assistant, fernandd@unhcr.org, Tel: +94 11 268 3968