



HIGHLIGHTS

1704

Individuals were trained on International Refugee Protection, IDP Guiding Principles, Community Policing and Social integration

2527

Vulnerable returnee families have received assistance to rebuild their shelters and livelihoods.

452

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

7015

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

Population of Concern

A total of **54,890** people of concern.

By country of origin

Country	Total PoC
Afghanistan	232
Pakistan	1,085
Sri Lanka ¹	53,498
Palestine	21
Syria	16
Others ²	38
Total	54,890

¹Includes Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), IDP and Refugee returnees

²Includes PoCs from Iran, Iraq, Maldives, Myanmar, Somalia, Sudan, Yemen and Ukraine

Funding

USD 7.6 Million requested

USD 1.4 Million contributions

18% funded

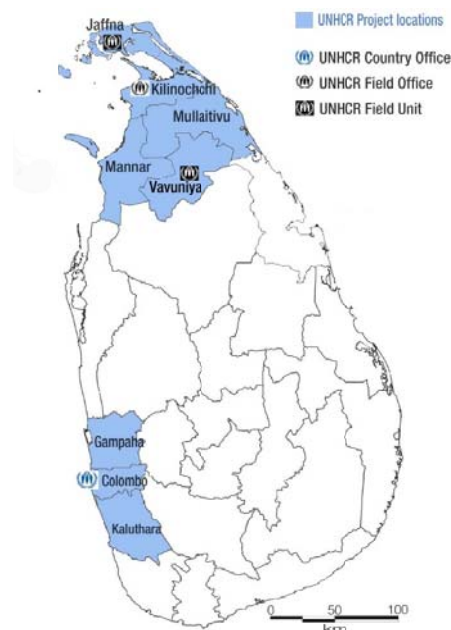
UNHCR Presence

Staff:

40 National staff
09 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 Internal Affairs, Wayamba Development and Cultural Affairs, Department of Immigration and Emigration (DIE), Ministry of Prison Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Religious Affairs (MoR), Ministry of Hill Country, Ministry of Public Enterprise Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Justice, Provincial Councils, Local Government and Democratic Governance and authorities at the district and local levels.
- Other partners of UNHCR are: 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. UNHCR also carries out joint project implementation with UNICEF in the Northern and Eastern Province of Sri Lanka.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- UNHCR monitors and assists 54,890 persons of concern including: 784 refugees, 608 asylum-seekers, 452 refugee returnees; 8,112 internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have returned and 44,934 IDPs as of December 2015.
- Conducts registration, refugee status determination and pursues durable solutions for asylum-seekers and refugees.
- In Colombo, UNHCR conducts trainings on International Refugee 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 245 returning refugees for Malaria and medical reimbursements were provided to 85 persons of concern as of December 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 413 transitional shelters thus far and 150 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 6,221 individuals have benefited through these activities

Livelihoods

- 1,000 vulnerable returnees have benefited from UNHCR support to strengthen their livelihood activities in the Northern Province.

Durable Solutions

- In 2015, 217 cases (505 individuals) were submitted for resettlement and 181 cases (357 individuals) departed to third countries.
- 452 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 and UNDP assists the Ministry of Resettlement in 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 to IDP returnees, while the most vulnerable receive transitional shelters 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