Adaptive Social Protection in Sri Lanka: Building Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change

Disaster Response and Relief in Sri Lanka

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Sri Lanka - Disaster Profile

➢ Sri Lanka is a medium risk country (rated a score of 4.2 by the Index for Risk Management), with 96 per cent of its disasters related to climate, such as flooding, landslides, severe winds and drought.

➢ Since 2000, the adverse impacts of climate change are already being felt in Sri Lanka where recurrent extreme weather events and irregular climate trends are annually and frequently causing damages and losses in physical, social and economic sectors.

➢ Other natural hazards include coastal erosion, landslides, tsunami, sea surge and sea level rise. While earthquakes and tsunamis are not seasonal they can cause severe damages and losses as seen in 2004.

➢ The southwest monsoon period in 2016 and 2017 caused widespread floods and landslides in southern and western regions. Over 500 people were killed) and 1,373,097 people were affected during the two years.

➢ Future climate scenarios showing the very negative impacts; dryer areas getting more dryer and wetter getting more wetter.
Disaster Response & Relief

• Sri Lanka’s response to disasters are regulated by the Disaster Management Act (2005), which is the legal basis.

• The Disaster Management Act provides inter-alia for the establishment of the National Council for Disaster Management (NCDM) and the Disaster Management Centre (DMC); preparation of disaster management plans and emergency operations plans (including the National Emergency Operations Plan); declaration of a state of disaster; and awards of compensation.

• NEOP set the organizational relationships and process for the emergency operation from response to early recovery
Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources & Disaster Management

National Council for Disaster Management

- H.E. the President (Chairman)
- Hon. Prime Minister (Vice Chair)
- Leader of the Opposition
- Chief Ministers of Provincial Councils
- 05 Members of the Opposition

Minister’s in-charge of following subjects:
- Social Services, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction,
- Home Affairs, Health, Housing, Science and Technology,
- Irrigation, Coast Conservation, Power, Defence,
- Police, Finance, Land, Fisheries,
- Foreign Affairs, Water Supply, Highways, Urban Development,
- Education, Environment, Disaster Management, Industries

Organization Under the Ministry
- Department of Meteorology
- Disaster Management Center
- National Building Research Organization
- National Disaster Relief Services Centre
- Department of Irrigation
- Water Resource Board
National Disaster Relief Services Centre (NDRSC)

National Disaster Relief Services Centre is operating under the Ministry of Disaster Management since 2010 as the relief service arm of the government to assist affected population in the country.

Role of NDRSC

➢ National Disaster Relief Services Centre (NDRSC) is mandated for the post disaster activities such as disaster relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction
➢ Relief management planning of local level with local administration
➢ Warehouse management at national level and district level
➢ Event specific contingency planning together with local level stakeholders
➢ Facilitating early recovery and recovery implementation with the support of line agencies and communities such as house rehabilitation, cash assistance and housing reconstruction
NDRSC Organizational Set up

National

Director
4 X Assistant Directors & Staff
45 Staff under Director

District

District Officer (Under GA)
25 Staff

Divisional

DO (Under DS)
330 Staff
Services carried out by NDRSC

• Provide food during disasters to affected population
• Provide Compensation for injured and dead persons
• Provide Compensation for damaged houses and domestic appliances due to disasters
• Provide Compensation for small and medium scale industries
• Management of local and foreign donations
• Facilitate construction of safe houses for the persons in high risk areas
• Provide other relief assistance
• Implement cash assistance programme for the disaster affected population
Government regulations for relief assistance

- National Budget Circular No.3/2016,3/2016(I) and 3/2016(II) (effect from 01.01.2017 and repealed previous National Budget Circular No.152(I),152(II) and 152(III)

- National Natural Disaster Insurance Policy

- Cabinet Decisions, Circulars and guidelines
  - Cabinet paper No. 17/0331/715/005 – Provision of relief and securing of livelihood of the affected due to the prevailing dry weather condition.

  - Cabinet paper No. 17/0849/715/012 - Providing Relief assistance for the people who were affected due to the disaster which occurred at the Meethotamulla Garbage Dump.

  - Cabinet Paper No. 17/0071/704/002 – Providing Relief under Emergency Disaster Conditions to House Holders adversely affected by the water leaks of the Main Tunnel of the Uma Oya Multi Purpose Development Project.

  - Guideline issued on “Disaster Resilient Base House” issued by NDRSC together with NBRO
Relief Distribution System

• Divisional Secretariats select beneficiaries with the assistance of Grama Niladharis and NDRSC officer / Assessments teams at the Divisional level.

• The value of the assistance varies according to the type of relief and is delivered in the form of cash grants, food relief, food stamps etc.

• Selection of beneficiaries is carried out on the basis of the impact caused by the disaster and not on income poverty criteria.

• Compensations will be offered though a survey conducted by divisional team with field verifications
National Natural Disaster Insurance Scheme (Risk transfer mechanism)

• Scheme initial Premium 300 million – in 2016
• scheme Premium was increased to 500 million in 2017

• Eligible for Rs. 15 billion annual insurance cover
  • Covered up to 2.5 billion to provide immediate relief assistance and Rs. 12.5 billion in respect of damages caused to properties.
  • Drought and man made disasters are not covered
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Disaster Relief</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Category of Subsidies</th>
<th>Amount LKR</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Immediate Disaster Relief</strong></td>
<td>i</td>
<td>Cooked meals Allowances per person one day</td>
<td>300.00</td>
<td>*Up to 3 days Divisional Secretary. Beyond this the Govt Agent/District Secretary can approve 4 days. *Needs approval for Secretary to Min of DM for up to another 7 days. *Families staying with relations/ friends entitled for dry rations during the period of cooked food issuing at evacuation centres.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ii</td>
<td>Dry ration (maximum one week)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per individual</td>
<td>900.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family of 2 members</td>
<td>1200.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family of 3 members</td>
<td>1400.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family of 4 members</td>
<td>1600.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Family of 5 members</td>
<td>1800.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths donation</td>
<td>iii</td>
<td>Per person max</td>
<td>100,000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability</td>
<td>iv</td>
<td>Permanent disability</td>
<td>100,000.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>House damage</td>
<td>v</td>
<td>Max</td>
<td>2,500,000.00</td>
<td>Advance payment 10,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>for furniture from above amount</td>
<td>25,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damage to small &amp; medium level Industries</td>
<td>vi</td>
<td>Max</td>
<td>2,500,000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Damaged to equipment &amp; machinery from above</td>
<td>100,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Drought relief

- Facilitate Supply of drinking water at affected areas:
  - Distribution of new water tanks
  - Distribution of new water bowsers
  - Allocation of additional funding for: Settlement of water bills, rental for water bowsers /allowance for Driver and Helper/Fuel allowance for water bowsers and tractor bowsers)

- Cash for work programme.
- Food for work programme.
- Construction of rain water tanks.

Drought relief is provided to:
- families with monthly income less than Rs. 20,000
Drought response plan

With continuation of dry conditions NDRSC is planning to continue dry ration for the affected people. A family consist with 3 or above members will be eligible for LKR 5000.00 for a month period and a family of members of below 3, will be eligible for LKR 4000. This ration pack will be distributing at the CWE branches or MPCS outlets for authorized by the respective divisional secretariats.

Beneficiary selection criteria:

➢ Families who could not do Inland fishing during January 2017 until now
➢ Agriculture families who could not earn due to dry-conditions
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kurunegala</td>
<td>41,314</td>
<td>11,076</td>
<td>2,229</td>
<td>31,466</td>
<td>86,085</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Anuradhapura</td>
<td>48,132</td>
<td>33,118</td>
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<td>123,058</td>
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<td>Mullative</td>
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<td>8,511</td>
<td>3,426</td>
<td>16,089</td>
<td>32,396</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Ampara</td>
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<td>222</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>10,821</td>
<td>12,340</td>
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<td>Vavuniya</td>
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<td>695</td>
<td>13,705</td>
<td>23,911</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Matale</td>
<td>3,576</td>
<td>2,065</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>7,886</td>
<td>13,764</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Kilinochchi</td>
<td>9,425</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>8,938</td>
<td>18,992</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Mannar</td>
<td>5,880</td>
<td>2,238</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>3,770</td>
<td>12,330</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Jaffna</td>
<td>13,530</td>
<td>3,451</td>
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<td>3,651</td>
<td>20,632</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Hambantota</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>382</td>
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<td>Ratnapura</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Batticaloa</td>
<td>6,726</td>
<td>6,168</td>
<td>4,499</td>
<td>40,075</td>
<td>57,468</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Plonaruwa</td>
<td>1,830</td>
<td>1,075</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,001</td>
<td>3,906</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>149,630</strong></td>
<td><strong>85,150</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,161</strong></td>
<td><strong>202,283</strong></td>
<td><strong>451,224</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Strengths / achievements

• Integrated relief mechanism reaching all DS divisions together with public administration
• Scenario specific Contingency Plans at Divisional level for effective relief management
• Establishment of Real-Time Impact Monitoring system (PRISM) – stage I
• System to gather data for disaster recovery (ongoing)
• National disaster insurance scheme
• Development of Relief Management Guideline for government officers
Key issues for Sri Lanka to address

- Household database with vulnerability parameters (Poverty, disaster profile, housing condition, damage history etc.) is not available as such screening of families is difficult
- No scientific-based data collection and targeting system (especially for slow on-set disasters)
- Central database is not existing which can be accessed to all line agencies
- Social Safety nets are not liked with disaster assistance
- Non availability of emergency fund management procedure under the emergency plan including cash assistance
Thank you