

# FAST FACTS

United Nations  
Development Programme



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

## Governance for Empowerment and Social Inclusion

### The Challenge

With the former conflict-affected areas gradually moving from relief to resettlement and recovery, challenges remain in consolidating income-generation activities, regenerating local economic development, building links to markets and ensuring the equity of support in order to prevent the emergence of new grievances. Furthermore, addressing issues relating to the identity and integration of different groups, building full confidence in the legal system and ability to deliver quality services efficiently are vital as Sri Lanka looks to promote reconciliation and lasting peace. These are areas where UNDP has considerable experience, and the Governance for Empowerment and Social Inclusion (GESI) Programme is well-positioned to support.

### Our Focus

In support of Sri Lanka's move towards development, the GESI Programme will focus on the capacity development of national institutions and empowerment of communities, working to create sustainable livelihoods and promote human rights protection, focusing on marginalized groups, including women-headed households, youth, plantation sector workers and conflict affected communities.

Working with national and Local Government, the private sector, civil society and communities, the Programme aims to support revitalization of local economies so as to expand income-generating opportunities and build links to markets. Further supporting opportunities for reconciliation, the Programme will focus on strengthening the ability of Local Government institutions to improve public consultation and community engagement, and ensuring that gains in the justice sector are institutionalized, systematized and scaled-up, whilst strengthening the foundation for social integration.



*Empowering communities by supporting sustainable livelihoods*

### Contributing to UN's Work in Sri Lanka

The GESI Programme closely relates to the outcomes of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) of achieving equitable economic growth and sustainable livelihoods, reducing disparities and ensuring quality social services and ensuring governance, human rights, gender equality, social inclusion and protection.

#### UNDP Country Programme 2013-17

Focus Areas of the  
Governance for Empowerment and Social Inclusion Programme

##### Governance for Local Economic Development

(sustainable local economic development, local level governance and service delivery, community participation and empowerment, informing policy decisions)

##### Enforcement of Law, Access to Justice, Social Integration

(sector-wide approach to enforcement of law, administration of justice, police, prisons, social integration, reconciliation, SGBV, legal aid service provision, institutional support to HRC and legal documentation)

##### Policy, Planning & Institutional Support

(support to policy and planning, support to national systems for MfDR and M&E, parliamentary support, management reforms)

*UNDP is the UN's global development network,  
advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge,  
experience and resources to help empower lives and build resilient nations.  
UNDP in Sri Lanka works with the Government and all its partners to support the  
country achieve equitable and sustainable human development.*

## Our Work

### • Governance for Local Economic Development Programme (GLED)

Building on the programmatic areas, results, networks and best practices of UNDP's Local Governance Programme (LoGoPro) and Transition Recovery Programme (TRP), UNDP's new flagship Governance for Local Economic Development Programme implemented in 2013-2017 focuses on increasing the capacity of sub-national level governance institutions, civil society, the private sector and communities in order to foster access to enhanced public sector service delivery, socio-economic development and social cohesion across the identified lagging regions, while securing the transition from recovery to development in the lagging areas of Sri Lanka. The GLED Programme has three main projects under it, the EU-UN Joint Intervention Supporting Integrated District Development in Sri Lanka, the Northern Livelihood Development Project and the Rebuilding Agricultural Livelihoods Project.

#### ▪ EU-UN Joint Intervention Supporting Integrated District Development in Sri Lanka (EU-SDDP)

UNDP is working in collaboration with UNICEF, UNOPS, FAO, ILO and IFC on the joint European Union funded project that aims to support poverty reduction and the provision of basic infrastructure and services for vulnerable populations in the districts of Ampara and Batticaloa in the Eastern Province, Vavuniya and Mannar in the Northern Province and border villages in the districts of Puttalam, Anuradhapura and Monaragala, as well as support their economic development and strengthen district planning capacities.

#### ▪ Northern Livelihood Development Project I and II (NLDP)

Funded by the Government of Norway, NLDP supports conflict-affected communities, particularly those socially and economically excluded, in Jaffna, Kilinochchi and Mullaithivu districts to strengthen their capacities to become self-sufficient through engagement in fair and equitable livelihood opportunities, while increasing opportunities for interaction within and between communities.

#### ▪ Rebuilding Agricultural Livelihoods Project (CIDA-RALP)

The Rebuilding Agricultural Livelihoods Project aims to increase agriculture and fisheries based livelihood opportunities and services for returnee communities in the formerly conflict-affected districts of Jaffna, Killinochchi and Mullaithivu. The project is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

### • Strengthening Enforcement of Law, Access to Justice and Social Integration (SELAJSI)

SELAJSI, for 2013-2017, is developed based on the experience accumulated from UNDP's Equal Access to Justice Project (A2J) (2008-2013). It aims to build on systematizing and scaling-up of the coordination mechanisms established for more upstream reforms for justice, promote evidence-based planning to improve the administration of criminal justice between agencies, and focus on sequencing and prioritizing to address issues of administration of justice that adversely affect the most vulnerable and support the foundations for longer-term social integration and development.



*Promoting social cohesion by bringing together students from different ethnicities*

### • Communities for Progress (C4P II)

The project promotes social cohesion and socio-economic empowerment of communities in 5 former conflict-affected districts of the Northern, North-Central and Eastern provinces. Funded by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), the immediate objectives of the project are to enhance cohesive structures and collective actions to promote socio-economic empowerment involving all social groups within target communities; and improve social interaction and acceptance amongst and within socio-culturally diverse communities.

## NEW COUNTRY PROGRAMME 2013-2017

In 2013, UNDP in Sri Lanka started a new chapter in its strong partnership with the Government of Sri Lanka. The new UNDP five year Country Programme 2013-2017 focuses on two main areas: Governance for Empowerment and Social Inclusion and Environmental Sustainability and Disaster Resilience. The Country Programme is developed within the overall framework of the Mahinda Chinthana and the 2013-2017 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which provides the over-arching framework for UN's work in Sri Lanka over the next five years.

### For more information

Mr. Rajendrakumar Ganesarajah  
Assistant Country Director  
Governance for Empowerment and Social Inclusion Programme  
[rajendrakumar.ganesarajah@undp.org](mailto:rajendrakumar.ganesarajah@undp.org)

United Nations Development Programme  
UN Compound,  
202 - 204, Baudhaloka Mawatha,  
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka  
Phone: +94 11 2580691 | Fax: +94 11 2581116  
[registry.lk@undp.org](mailto:registry.lk@undp.org)  
[www.lk.undp.org](http://www.lk.undp.org)  
[www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka](https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka)  
[www.twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka](https://www.twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka)



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*