

**SRI LANKA
RAPID RESPONSE
ECONOMIC DISRUPTION
2022**

22-RR-LKA-54074

Christian Skoog
Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator a.i.

PART I – ALLOCATION OVERVIEW

Reporting Process and Consultation Summary:

Please indicate when the After-Action Review (AAR) was conducted and who participated.

10 February, 2023

The participants included representatives from the Resident Coordinators Office (RCO), OCHA, representatives from the four CERF recipient agencies (FAO, WFP, UNICEF, UNDP). In addition, several sector coordinators participated, including Food Security and Livelihoods, Protection & Education and Nutrition.

Please confirm that the report on the use of CERF funds was discussed with the Humanitarian and/or UN Country Team (HCT/UNCT).

Yes No

Please confirm that the final version of this report was shared for review with in-country stakeholders (i.e. the CERF recipient agencies and their implementing partners, cluster/sector coordinators and members and relevant government counterparts)?

Yes No

1. STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION

Statement by the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator:

In response to growing humanitarian needs in the context of Sri Lanka's worst economic crisis since independence, the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in Sri Lanka together with partner organizations developed the Humanitarian Needs and Priorities Plan (HNP) in June 2022. The HNP called for an initial US\$47.2 million funding, with a focus on meeting critical and urgent life-saving needs to help avert a full-scale humanitarian crisis. CERF funds provided a catalytic role in rapidly rolling out interventions in the early stages of the HNP, creating confidence and momentum for other contributions that followed.

The CERF-funded humanitarian support to Sri Lanka sought to target the most vulnerable segments of the population, focusing on priority sectors such as Food Security, Agriculture and Livelihoods, Health and Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Nutrition, Protection and Education. The CERF funds complemented bilateral humanitarian funding from major donors and in addition, the response helped raise awareness and capacity among humanitarian partners on targeted programming on protection, gender-based violence initiatives, and for people with disabilities (PWD).

The CERF allocation came at a critical time when immediate humanitarian assistance was crucial. Thanks to the quick approval of the allocation, vital assistance could be provided without delay. The assistance included the provision of essential medicines and medical supplies, multipurpose cash transfers to enable households to meet their immediate needs, including purchase of food, continuation of agri-based livelihoods, nutrition-sensitive cash transfers and feeding programmes, continuation of child protection services, access to safe drinking water, and the provision of teaching and learning materials for the education sector.

CERF's Added Value:

The CERF allocation provided added value on several fronts. As the first significant funds received towards the HNP, the CERF allocation served as a seed grant that allowed recipient agencies to provide humanitarian and sectoral coordination leadership, which was fundamental especially for UNICEF to support nutrition, education, WASH as well as protection interventions. For WFP and FAO, the CERF funding helped to roll out humanitarian interventions also in urban settings, which led to the development of a strategy adjusted to also meet the needs of the urban poor. In order to maintain the functioning of important health services, humanitarian and development partners' assistance to the health sector concentrated on ensuring the availability of essential medicines and supplies. The timely availability of CERF funding and quick procurement systems, UNDP was able to swiftly respond to ensure that critical medicines were procured internationally, and dispatched area hospitals based on needs and as recommended by the Ministry of Health (MOH).

The CERF allocation had a significant impact to all CERF recipient organizations and across all sectors during a period of time when resources were scarce. The UN system was able to strategically leverage the CERF funding to promote its sector-specific responses. For example, UNDP was able to mobilize approximately \$110,000 in additional funding from several private donors for health-related assistance and over \$4.6 million for food security and agriculture support.

Did CERF funds lead to a fast delivery of assistance to people in need?

Yes

Partially

No

Yes, recipient agencies all agreed that the fast approval of the CERF allocations allowed for a fast and efficient provision of humanitarian assistance. For example, the support to the health sector provided by humanitarian and development partners focused on ensuring the availability of vital medicines and supplies, in order to keep essential health services functioning. The timely availability of CERF funding and quick procurement systems, UNDP was able to respond within a matter of weeks to ensure that critical medicines were imported into Sri Lanka and dispatched to area hospitals, based on where it was needed most.

Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?

Yes

Partially

No

Yes, the CERF funds definitely helped to respond to time-critical needs including the provision of multipurpose cash, nutrition-sensitive cash transfers, provision of essential medicines and medical supplies, support to livelihoods and continuation of child protection services as well as continuous learning for school children through the provision of learning and teaching materials.

Did CERF improve coordination amongst the humanitarian community?

Yes

Partially

No

The CERF contribution facilitated a more effective humanitarian response through improved coordination and information sharing amongst sector agencies. Several UN agencies, as well as other humanitarian partners including local organizations, were able to come together to ensure a more coherent response, in line with the strategic priorities agreed by HCT, which enabled time-critical needs to be delivered swiftly.

Did CERF funds help improve resource mobilization from other sources?

Yes

Partially

No

The CERF contribution had a catalytic effect during a period when resources were in short supply. For example, the UN system was able to strategically leverage the CERF funding to promote its sector response. UNDP was able to mobilize approximately \$110,000 in additional funding from several private donors for health-related assistance and over \$4.6 million for food security and agriculture support.

Considerations of the ERC's Underfunded Priority Areas¹:

The CERF allocation allowed all four underfunded humanitarian areas to be addressed by relevant interventions. Support for women and girls was prioritized in several interventions; for instance, FAO ensured targeting of female headed households from both farming and fishing communities. Furthermore, female representation was ensured within the staff and other stakeholders including implementing partners, government counterparts and third-party monitors. With regards to gender-based violence (GBV), protection issues were a central aspect of the project design for all interventions funded by this CERF allocation. For example, with regards to cash-based interventions were done directly to the bank accounts of beneficiary fishers and agricultural inputs were also provided by the Agrarian Service Centres (ASCs) during regular business hours to minimize risks. The allocation also supported girls by providing skills training on confidence-building and reducing isolation, as well as through mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS) activities. During

¹ In January 2019, the Emergency Relief Coordinator identified four priority areas as often underfunded and lacking appropriate consideration and visibility when funding is allocated to humanitarian action. The ERC therefore recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and HCTs/UNCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. These areas are: (1) support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, reproductive health and empowerment; (2) programmes targeting disabled people; (3) education in protracted crises; and (4) other aspects of protection. While CERF remains needs based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the questions and answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

post-distribution monitoring (PDM) carried out by WFP, it was found that 47 percent of women were the decision makers on utilizing WFP assistance, indicating that women have increased decision-making power.

People with disabilities were also specifically targeted; one of the inclusion-criteria for receiving food assistance for a household was based whether there is a family member with a disability. For UNICEF-supported interventions, children with disabilities were supported with assistive devices and recreational activities as part of the emergency support.

As the economic crisis placed a heavy burden on children’s education on top of the COVID pandemic, many people were faced with difficulties sending their children to school due to high transportation costs, high cost of learning materials, etc. Education has therefore been an integral part of the CERF allocation received by UNICEF where the procurement and provision of education materials targeting the most vulnerable children and teacher’s continuity of learning was possible and school-drops were minimized. This had the added benefit of mitigating the risks of child protection and well-being issues.

Lastly on protection, maintaining high levels of confidentiality on vulnerability assessments and children in risk was ensured through relevant training by UNICEF of government officials on such topics as case management guidelines and principles. Prior to food security interventions, WFP conducted a rapid protection assessment which informed the implementation and design of the response.

Table 1: Allocation Overview (US\$)

Total amount required for the humanitarian response	47,200,000²
CERF	4,999,988
Country-Based Pooled Fund (if applicable)	0
Other (bilateral/multilateral)	0
Total funding received for the humanitarian response (by source above)	123,700,000³

² Based on first iteration of the HNP, June 2022. As per revision in October, the revised requirement was \$149.7 million.

³ Based on FTS report, <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1107/summary>

Table 2: CERF Emergency Funding by Project and Sector/Cluster (US\$)

Agency	Project Code	Sector/Cluster	Amount
FAO	22-RR-FAO-027	Food Security - Agriculture	1,900,000
UNDP	22-RR-UDP-005	Health	1,249,987
UNICEF	22-RR-CEF-049	Education	212,501
UNICEF	22-RR-CEF-049	Protection - Child Protection	212,500
UNICEF	22-RR-CEF-049	Nutrition	212,500
UNICEF	22-RR-CEF-049	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	212,500
WFP	22-RR-WFP-046	Multi-Purpose Cash	1,000,000
Total			4,999,988

Table 3: Breakdown of CERF Funds by Type of Implementation Modality (US\$)

Total funds implemented directly by UN agencies including procurement of relief goods	4,265,614
Funds sub-granted to government partners*	574,746
Funds sub-granted to international NGO partners*	0
Funds sub-granted to national NGO partners*	159,628
Funds sub-granted to Red Cross/Red Crescent partners*	0
Total funds transferred to implementing partners (IP)*	734,374
Total	4,999,988

* Figures reported in table 3 are based on the project reports (part II, sections 1) and should be consistent with the sub-grants overview in the annex.

2. OPERATIONAL PRIORITIZATION:

Overview of the Humanitarian Situation:

According to the Humanitarian Needs and Priorities (HNP) plan, an estimated 7 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in 25 districts across the country. As of January 2023, 32 per cent of households were considered to be food insecure⁴.

Inflation and shortages of many essential goods including fuel, electricity and cooking gas were a key driver of humanitarian needs, compounded by a reduction in agricultural production over several harvest seasons and rapidly rising food prices. Livelihoods and incomes also faced severe pressure as many households exhausted their coping strategies and engage in practices with a negative impact for future well-being. Up to 72 per cent of households were reported as resorting to food-based coping mechanisms. Wasting among children under five years old increased significantly.

The healthcare system was severely affected by shortages. In June 2022, close to 200 essential medicines (e.g. blood-thinners, antibiotics, vaccines and cancer chemotherapy drugs) were out of stock. Protection concerns also increased due to a combination of economic stress factors and livelihood losses. Since the beginning of the crisis, district officials reported both a rise in domestic violence and an increase of stress and mental health impacts, particularly among women and girls. Further, certain households were facing challenges in sending their children to school due to the high costs of education, including school materials and transportation. With regards to nutrition, financial constraints forced the Government to scale back on programmes such as school meals and fortified food to mothers and undernourished children, as well as the provision of Triposha, which is a supplement for children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and for pregnant and lactating women (PLW). The nutritional status of children is also a cause for concern, and a recent survey by the Medical Research Institute (MRI) of the MOH indicated that the level of wasting among children under the age of five has increased between 2021 and 2022.

Operational Use of the CERF Allocation and Results:

In response, the Emergency Relief Coordinator on 21 June allocated \$5 million from CERF's rapid response window for life-saving humanitarian action. The HCT proposed to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable people. Most activities were concentrated in regions identified through an analysis of the agricultural and fishing regions where the situation was most dire, while the food security and protection interventions focused primarily on the poorest in urban and peri-urban areas. Food security and nutrition was an additional component of integrated protection, WASH, MHPSS and education for those in urban and peri-urban areas. The allocation allowed for a critical influx of medicines into the health system to prevent the further deterioration of fundamental health services in a country where health care is provided free of charge and where there are few affordable private options. This funding enabled UN agencies and humanitarian partners to provide life-saving assistance to 511,124 people, including 182,471 women, 175,316 men, 153,337 children, and 40,890 people with disabilities in the education, food security, health, nutrition, child protection and WASH sectors. The response focused on lifesaving interventions, with a focus on vulnerable groups, with three clear strategic objectives: 1) provision of food assistance, essential medicine, and nutrition services, 2) immediate agricultural support for the maintenance of livelihoods and food and nutrition security and 3) protection from violence, including MHPSS and education.

⁴ <https://reliefweb.int/report/sri-lanka/wfp-sri-lanka-situation-report-march-2023>

People Directly Reached:

A total of 511,124 individuals were provided with life-saving humanitarian assistance. This was estimated using the maximum number of people reached reported by various age/gender groups and aggregated to the total. The higher reach of people as compared to the initial target is attributed to some programmatic adjustment such as reaching more people with a single cash assistance package rather than three rounds of cash assistance to the same people. The lower number of people reached in some sectors is attributed to the higher rate of inflation, limiting the ability to procure items as originally planned.

People Indirectly Reached:

With the CERF interventions, indirect benefit reached an additional 814,872 individuals. The indirect benefit is attributed to the benefit received by the entire household when one household member received either in-kind or cash assistance. The infusion of funds into the rural economy was also considered to have a positive indirect benefit. The projects indirectly benefitted the communities through increased paddy production resulting from the use of fertilizer and some of the fishers that received unconditional cash bought fishing nets. This indirectly benefitted their communities since, as a common practice, fishing nets are used in groups, therefore, enhancing their capacity and ability to catch more fish as a community. The people indirectly benefitted through the projects were also the retailers (markets and suppliers) that households usually go to for their essential needs. The cash-based interventions to support PLW to purchase nutritious food items benefitted the entire household. The procurement of learning materials to support student education likewise helped parents as they were free to go for their employment or daily wage labour opportunities when the children were in school and at the same time, minimized protection concerns in the family.

Table 4: Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Sector/Cluster*

Sector/Cluster	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Education	2,205	735	98,800	101,200	202,940	838	359	47,542	45,677	94,416
Food Security - Agriculture	5,921	16,113	0	0	22,034	3,657	18,918	0	0	22,575
Food Security - Food Assistance	10,495	9,775	2,215	2,215	24,700	31,206	27,100	11,497	12,318	82,121
Health	77,292	150,708	0	0	228,000	29,512	57,288	0	0	86,800
Nutrition	3,000	0	0	0	3,000	3,010	0	0	0	3,010
Protection - Child Protection	200	200	1,377	1,323	3,100	3,266	2,197	5,008	4,355	14,826
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	128,346	123,312	63,215	60,736	375,609	182,471	175,316	78,202	75,135	511,124

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Table 5: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Category*

Category	Planned	Reached
Refugees	0	0
Returnees	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0
Host communities	0	0
Other affected people	650,343	511,124
Total	650,343	511,124

Table 6: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sex & Age	Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*		Number of people with disabilities (PwD) out of the total	
	Planned	Reached	Planned	Reached
Women	222,054	182,471	18,186	14,598
Men	299,908	175,316	24,645	14,025
Girls	65,430	78,202	5,500	6,256
Boys	62,951	75,135	5,284	6,011
Total	650,343	511,124	53,615	40,890

PART II – PROJECT OVERVIEW

3. PROJECT REPORTS

3.1 Project Report 22-RR-FAO-027

1. Project Information			
Agency:	FAO	Country:	Sri Lanka
Sector/cluster:	Food Security - Agriculture	CERF project code:	22-RR-FAO-027
Project title:	Address urgent food security needs of marginal farmers and fishers in the most vulnerable districts in Sri Lanka		
Start date:	04/07/2022	End date:	03/01/2023
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 14,900,000
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 0
	Amount received from CERF:		US\$ 1,900,000
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:		US\$ 15,359
	Government Partners		US\$ 1,223
	Civil Society Organizations		US\$ 14,136
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation		US\$ 0	

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

Through the CERF grant, the FAO Country Office in Sri Lanka provided unconditional cash transfers to vulnerable fishers owning only one non-motorized traditional boat and vulnerable paddy farmers who cultivate 0.2 ha or less in most marginalized districts. A total of 6,955 fishers (1,115 women) were provided with US\$126 worth of unconditional cash in three instalments (US\$42 each). Overall, US\$ 876,330 was disturbed. Cash transfers were initiated in mid-August 2022 and completed by the end of December 2022. Although the cash transfers were unconditional, fishers were encouraged to use the funds towards their food security and nutrition needs. About 60 per cent of the households used the cash to fulfil their food and nutritional needs while 17 per cent used it for medicine. Others used it for the education of their children (4 per cent), transport (3 per cent), loan repayment (2 per cent) and utility bills (1 per cent). The rest (13 per cent) used the cash for other purposes. A total of 15,620 paddy farmers (2,542 women) were each provided with 50 kg (one bag) of urea fertilizer for use during the 2022/23 *Maha* cultivation season. Overall, 781 tonnes of urea fertilizer were distributed from mid-November 2022 through end-December 2022. This was on time for their use in the (then) ongoing *Maha* cultivation season. This contribution enabled the farmers to cultivate about 2,400 ha of paddy land. Harvests are expected in the first quarter of 2023 but based on standard yield rates (4.5 tonnes per ha), over 10,000 tonnes of paddy are expected to be harvested.

3. Changes and Amendments

The project was designed to support 15,148 farmers with agricultural inputs. As part of the effort to improve the Accountability to Affected Population (AAP), draft beneficiary lists were displayed at strategic locations, such as Agrarian Service Centres, in each of the targeted communities. This was to enable the registered farmers to verify their details and check for any inclusion or exclusion errors. According to feedback from communities, some eligible farmers were left out and had to be added to finalize the beneficiary list. Consequently, the number of beneficiary paddy farmers was revised to 15,620 (2,542 women). The beneficiaries were registered in four districts as follows; 140 from Mullaitivu, 12,578 from Badulla, 140 from Kilinochchi and 2,762 from Jaffna. The quantity of fertilizer to be procured was therefore adjusted in line with the revised list of 15,620 paddy farmers. The project was also designed to provide cash assistance to 6,886 fishers through Western Union. Hence, some fee (5 per cent of the cash value) was budgeted as commission to Western Union. However, Standard Chartered Bank offered the cash transfer services for free. The savings were therefore used to extend the cash assistance to an additional 69 vulnerable fishing households. As a result, a total of 6,955 fishers (about 1,115 women) were reached with cash assistance.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	5,921	16,113	0	0	22,034	3,657	18,918	0	0	22,575
Total	5,921	16,113	0	0	22,034	3,657	18,918	0	0	22,575
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
People with disabilities (PwD)	296	805	0	0	1,101	227	614	0	0	841

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

Although 22,575 farmers and fishers directly received inputs and cash assistance, the support provided also indirectly reached the members of the recipient households by increasing their food security as a family. Considering an average family size of four, nearly 90,300 people (4 persons per household) were supported. In addition, the infusion of funds into the rural economy is expected to have its own spinoff impact in the rural areas. The project also indirectly benefited the communities through increased paddy production resulting from the use of fertilizer. Among the fishers who received unconditional cash, some bought fishing nets. This indirectly benefited their communities since, as a common practice, fishing nets are used in groups, therefore, enhancing their capacity and ability to catch more fish as a community.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective	To increase food security, by enabling paddy farmers to successfully cultivate paddy in the forthcoming Maha 2022 cropping season and to supplement the food and nutritional needs of small-scale artisanal marine fishers.			
Output 1	Urea distributed to 15,148 smallholder paddy farmers with land holdings up to 0.2 ha in four of the poorest administrative districts			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	Ag.1 Number of people receiving agricultural inputs (items/packages/kits) (farmers)	15,148	15,620	Monitoring data/Reports
Indicator 1.2	Area brought under cultivation (Ha)	2,000	2,402.3 ha	Official government records
Indicator 1.3	Quantity of urea distributed (MT)	757.4	781.0 tonnes	Post distribution monitoring reports
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		No variance in outputs and indicators.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	Engagement with Department of Agriculture (DOA) in the selection of beneficiaries as per stipulated criteria, and preparation of the list of beneficiary farmers with careful crosschecking for finalization of selection and endorsement of list.	FAO and DAD		
Activity 1.2	Procurement of urea and distribution to beneficiaries as per endorsed beneficiary list.	FAO, Department of Agriculture (DOA) and DAD		
Activity 1.3	Monitoring of urea distribution through field visits and beneficiary wise documentation of urea distributed.	FAO, DAD and civil society organization (CSO)		
Output 2	Unconditional cash transfer to small-scale marine artisanal fishers using Non-Motorised Traditional Boats (NTRB)			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Agriculture			

Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	Number of registered small-scale marine artisanal fishers using Non-Motorised Traditional Boats (NTRB) assisted	6,886	6,955	Monitoring data/Reports
Indicator 2.2	Cash. 1b Total value of multi-purpose cash distributed in USD	867,636	876,330	Monitoring data/Reports
Indicator 2.3	Cash. 1a Number of people receiving multi-purpose cash	6,886	6,955	Monitoring data/Reports
Indicator 2.4	Percentage of assisted small-scale marine artisanal fishers reducing negative coping mechanisms	50	100%	End-line Survey report
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		No variance in outputs and indicators.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 2.1	Identification of beneficiaries (small-scale marine artisanal fishers) through department registered NTRB fishers. The beneficiary list received from the department endorsed by FAO.	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DOFAR) and FAO		
Activity 2.2	Cash transfer carried out and disbursed as per the endorsed list of beneficiary details and a confirmation received by the Service Provider. The confirmation shared with DOFAR.	FAO		
Activity 2.3	Collection on baseline and endline data on coping mechanisms and analysis and evaluation of the data.	FAO and CSOs		

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas⁶ often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)⁷:

Information on beneficiary farmers were collected through field officers of the DAD who interact at the grassroots level with targeted communities and vulnerable groups. FAO also adopted a monitoring and evaluation system with a third-party monitoring entity, which is designed in a way that encourages community participation and feedback, e.g. the participatory post distribution monitoring, community consultations and complaint response mechanisms.

⁶ These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

⁷ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

FAO established a complaints and feedback mechanism anchored within the community, third-party monitoring entity, FAO offices and among implementing partners. In addition, grievance notices were published in English and two local languages (Sinhalese and Tamil) with contact information of key stakeholders including FAO, the government counterpart and the third-party monitoring entity. It should be noted that during the implementation of the project, minimal complaints were received from beneficiaries and in most cases, these were related to exclusion. These grievances were forwarded to the relevant department for their response and resolution.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

Though FAO had put in place frameworks to address issues of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), no related complaint was received. All staff and stakeholders were reminded of FAO's policy of zero tolerance to sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse. In addition, specific PSEA clauses were inserted in the Letters of Agreement (LoA) with the implementing partners.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

FAO ensured that vulnerabilities, such as age, gender, origin or social status, were taken into consideration and vulnerable individuals had equal access to assistance and services as other members of the community. FAO ensured targeting of women beneficiaries among both farmers and fishers. Comparatively, more men were reached with the inputs and cash. This is because, culturally, more men are involved in both fishing and paddy cultivation compared with women. FAO also ensured female representation within the staff of other stakeholders including implementing partners, government counterpart and third-party monitors. To ensure the safety of women, girls and sexual and gender minority beneficiaries, FAO assessed protection issues and ensured that all their entitlements were delivered to their safe proximities where women and children could freely move. In this regard, cash transfers were done directly to the bank accounts of beneficiary fishers and agricultural inputs were also provided by the Agrarian Service Centres (ASCs) during regular business hours.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

Households and/or people with disabilities (PwD) who met the selection criteria were prioritized for assistance. For their safety (especially for women and girls with disabilities), support was delivered in safe proximity to their homes. Agricultural inputs were also provided at ASCs for farmers and cash entitlements were transferred directly to the bank accounts of fishers.

f. Protection:

There were no ongoing conflicts requiring special protection. However, FAO ensured the agricultural inputs were distributed during normal business hours at the ASCs for the protection of beneficiaries. Cash transfers were done directly to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries to ensure they could receive support while staying at home.

g. Education:

Although the cash transfer was unconditional, its use for strengthening food security and nutrition was encouraged through posters designed by FAO with icons and simple texts in local languages. These materials were posted at strategic places within the targeted communities where fishers gather (e.g. community centres). Additionally, the third-party monitoring team had community-level gatherings to explain what was depicted in the posters and further encouraged them to use the cash entitlements to supplement their food and nutritional needs.

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	6,955

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

With the unconditional cash obtained from FAO, the beneficiaries were able to address their immediate household needs such as food, medicine, educational needs of children, and debt repayment while supporting their livelihoods and productive capacity. This mitigated the risk of resorting to negative coping strategies during the lean period. Each beneficiary household received unconditional cash transfers of US\$126 in three instalments of US\$42 each (about LKR 15,000). The funds were disbursed through Standard Chartered Bank, a financial service provider in Sri Lanka. The cash transfers were followed by an end-line data collection to understand how the cash was utilized. This was done via phone interviews and in-person meetings. According to the survey, 60 per cent of the households used the cash to fulfil their food and nutritional needs while 17 per cent used it for medicine. Others used it for education of children (4 per cent), transport (3 per cent), loan repayment (2 per cent) and utility bills (1 per cent). The rest (13 per cent) used the cash for other purposes.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
Multi-purpose cash transfer	6,955	US\$ 876,330	Food Security - Agriculture	Unrestricted

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
Handover of CERF-funded urea fertilizer to the Ministry of Agriculture	1. https://www.fao.org/srilanka/news/detail-events/en/c/1618607/
	2. https://youtu.be/TzdbGchuDU8?t=1415
	3. https://island.lk/fao-delivers-780-1-mt-of-urea-for-farmers-in-poverty-stricken-districts/
	4. http://bizenglish.adaderana.lk/fao-hands-over-780-1-mt-of-urea-to-ministry-of-agriculture/
	5. https://youtu.be/Anc35MmkYw0?t=8
	6. https://reliefweb.int/report/sri-lanka/fao-begins-handover-780-tonnes-urea-sri-lankas-ministry-agriculture
	7. https://www.vidiyal.lk/post/-780-1-
	8. https://www.fao.org/asiapacific/news/detail-events/en/c/1618808/
	9. http://www.colombopage.com/archive_22B/Nov16_1668583547CH.php
	10. https://www.newswire.lk/2022/11/16/15000-farmers-to-get-780-1-mt-of-urea-from-fao/
	11. https://www.lankabusinessnews.com/fao-hands-over-780-1-mt-of-urea-to-the-ministry-of-agriculture/
	12. https://youtu.be/E1T4EYc4b5k?t=1367
	13. https://youtu.be/yF1ufdaJuJw?t=731

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. https://youtu.be/Mx1fj4aiM2w?t=75 15. https://youtu.be/TzdbGchuDU8?t=1422 16. https://twitter.com/FAOSriLanka/status/1592524323050643456
<p>Human interest story on emergency cash assistance for fishers</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. https://roar.media/english/life/culture-identities/empowering-the-fisher-community-of-vakarai-world-fisheries-day-2022 2. https://twitter.com/FAOSriLanka/status/1595308008329846784 3. www.bit.ly/3uldyoH 4. https://www.instagram.com/p/CISxEgSLPbA/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

3.2 Project Report 22-RR-UDP-005

1. Project Information			
Agency:	UNDP	Country:	Sri Lanka
Sector/cluster:	Health	CERF project code:	22-RR-UDP-005
Project title:	Provision of essential medicines and medical supplies		
Start date:	27/06/2022	End date:	26/12/2022
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 8,000,000
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 0
	Amount received from CERF:		US\$ 1,249,987
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:		US\$ 0
	Government Partners		US\$ 0
	International NGOs		US\$ 0
National NGOs		US\$ 0	
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation		US\$ 0	

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

Since the onset of the economic crisis, the MOH began maintaining a drug information system that provides real-time information on the availability of critical medications, surgical consumables, and equipment. Based on this information, UNDP identified essential drugs that can be delivered through this CERF funding. Following consultations with the WHO and MOH, it was decided that the following drugs were most needed at the time; Enoxaparin (14,500 packs), Filgrastim (6,000 packs), Tacrolimus (3,335 packs), Chlorambucil (200 packs), Mercaptopurine (1,067 packs), Noradrenaline tartrate (20,000 packs), Atracurium (41,633 packs), and Metoclopramide (17,444 packs). Once the medicines were identified, UNDP utilized its Project Support Unit Copenhagen Health Team to procure the essential medicines and relied on long term agreements (with Durbin and MEG) to optimize shipping costs. WHO also worked with MOH and UNDP to facilitate statutory clearances, including clearances from the National Medicines Regulatory Authority (NMRA). Therefore, delivery was carried out in an expeditious manner. The first shipment was received by the MOH on 14 September 2022. A ceremonial handover was held at the MoH. The medicines and medical supplies were handed over to the MoH in the presence of the Minister of Health, the UN Resident Coordinator and other UN and private sector representatives. On 19 October 2022, three further shipments that contained the medicines listed above, arrived in Sri Lanka. It must be noted that once the shipments arrived in Colombo, ownership was transferred to the MOH for clearance and distribution thereafter. As agreed by all concerned parties, the MOH led the process of distribution of the medicines to the beneficiary hospitals

3. Changes and Amendments

The medicines that were urgently required and supported through the CERF funds were predominantly cancer drug. These drugs were used in hospitals for patients based on severity of the diseases and response. Each chemotherapy patient had to complete each cycle and cannot be stopped halfway, hence, medicines were used/allocated for a specific period of time. The other two medicines procured were for anaesthesia and were used for accident and emergency cases. This explains why the medicines were not able to cover the targeted number of beneficiaries during the project cycle. The remaining medicines will continue to be used beyond the project life.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Health									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	77,292	150,708	0	0	228,000	29,512	57,288	0	0	86,800
Total	77,292	150,708	0	0	228,000	29,512	57,288	0	0	86,800
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	6,724	13,112	0	0	19,836	2,568	4,984	0	0	7,552 ⁸

⁸ Based on PWD survey in 2012, with average of 8.7% .

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

No people were indirectly targeted by this project. However, for every person treated with medicine, the entire family also benefitted from the support provided.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective	Ensure availability of vital and essential medicines and medical supplies in order to save lives and keep vital health services functioning in Sri Lanka.			
Output 1	Essential medicines procured urgently and delivered to Sri Lanka			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sector/cluster	Health			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	Number of essential medicines procured and delivered to Sri Lanka (types of essential medicines delivered)	8	8	Ministry of Health records
Indicator 1.2	H.7 Number of functional health facilities supported	61	13 tertiary care hospitals with cancer treatment facilities	Ministry of Health records
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		The medicines which were procured were mainly for oncology treatment and as such provided to these hospitals.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	Procure and ship urgently needed essential medicines	UNDP		

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas⁹ often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)¹⁰:

Since the CERF allocation was used primarily to purchase medicines which were subsequently handed over to the MOH and with UNDP not being operationally involved in the implementation, no information can be provided in this section.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

⁹ These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

¹⁰ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

Same as above

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

Same as above

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

Same as above

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

Same as above

f. Protection:

Same as above

g. Education:

Same as above

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
No	No	0

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

Not applicable

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
Not applicable	0	US\$ 0	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
UNDP and WHO Sri Lanka hand over vital and essential medicines to the Ministry of Health to address the immediate health sector crisis	https://www.undp.org/srilanka/press-releases/undp-and-who-sri-lanka-hand-over-vital-and-essential-medicines-ministry-health-address-immediate-health-sector-crisis
Twitter post	UNDP in Sri Lanka on Twitter: "W/ the price of meds inc by 30% @UNDP #lka has come forward to procure & deliver vital + essential meds + medical supplies together w/ @WHOSriLanka w/ financial support of @UNCERF to address the immediate needs of the ongoing socio-econ crisis. Read more https://t.co/SYINICfE1B https://t.co/iTyfWXcZ7u " / Twitter
Facebook post	UNDP Sri Lanka - Sri Lanka's socio- economic crisis has... Facebook

3.3 Project Report 22-RR-CEF-049

1. Project Information			
Agency:	UNICEF	Country:	Sri Lanka
Sector/cluster:	Education Protection - Child Protection Nutrition Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	CERF project code:	22-RR-CEF-049
Project title:	Providing lifesaving protection, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, and education services to crisis-affected children and their families in Sri Lanka		
Start date:	24/06/2022	End date:	23/12/2022
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:	US\$ 16,235,742	
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:	US\$ 1,344,357	
	Amount received from CERF:	US\$ 850,001	
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:	US\$ 719,014	
	Government Partners	US\$ 573,523	
	International NGOs	US\$ 0	
National NGOs	US\$ 145,492		
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation	US\$ 0		

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

Through this CERF grant, UNICEF and its partners provided nutrition-sensitive cash assistance for 3,010 mothers with young children in Colombo municipal area, ensured access to safe drinking water for 511,124 people in urban and rural areas, ensured protection services for 14,826 children and parents/caregivers including 583 children with disabilities, and supported 93,219 students in 217 most disadvantaged schools in Uva and Central provinces through the provision of learning packs to ensure learning continuity. Four sub-implemented activities under this CERF allocation:

Child Protection

With timely CERF funding, UNICEF was able to accelerate emergency child protection programmes in five provinces and mobilize additional resources from other donors to cover additional four provinces with similar programmes. The emergency child protection programme included MHPSS for children and their caretakers and frontline workers, emergency case management, family strengthening to prevent the separation of vulnerable children from their family, and support to children in childcare institutions. In addition, targeted one-to-one support was provided for those children that required more specialised support.

Nutrition

Between August and October 2022, UNICEF implemented nutrition-sensitive cash transfers programme through the collaboration with the Colombo Municipal Council and the Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement. The programme benefitted 3,010 registered mothers with a total of 3,044 babies aged 6 months or below in Colombo City. Besides the cash transfer (LKR 5,000 per month) women received fliers with additional information on good nutrition practices and breastfeeding as a complement to improve the outcome of the nutrition-sensitive cash interventions.

Access to safe drinking water

In coordination with the National Water Supply and Drainage Board, UNICEF identified the urgent requirement of water purification chemicals and supported 300 water supply schemes in urban areas. In addition, UNICEF provided overall support for the urban and rural WASH sector interventions by procuring chlorinators for 105 rural water supply schemes and providing material to complete six rural sector water supply projects. WASH humanitarian assistance reached over 500,000 most vulnerable people in urban and rural areas.

Teaching-learning materials in schools

Together with the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Provincial Department of Education (PDOE), UNICEF identified and supported the most resource-poor schools that required teaching and learning materials to ensure continued access to formal education. With high inflation costs and limited supply of stationery items, the majority of children and their families were unable to procure the required learning materials and stationery to support their learning. Using the CERF grant, UNICEF procured educational material and teaching/learning material benefiting 93,219 students (47,542 girls and 45,677 boys) and 1,197 teachers in 217 most disadvantaged schools in two provinces.

3. Changes and Amendments

There were no changes or deviations for this project in terms of timeline or costing. However, some targets were overachieved while others in Education sector were not met. The main reason behind this under-achievement of target beneficiaries is the hyper-inflation of education material and stationery items (200% increase) which limited the number of learning packs that could be purchased.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Education									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	2,205	735	98,800	101,200	202,940	838	359	47,542	45,677	94,416
Total	2,205	735	98,800	101,200	202,940	838	359	47,542	45,677	94,416

People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total

	0	0	1,976	2,024	4,000	0	0	0	0	0 ¹¹
--	---	---	-------	-------	-------	---	---	---	---	-----------------

Sector/cluster	Nutrition									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	3,000	0	0	0	3,000	3,010	0	0	0	3,010
Total	3,000	0	0	0	3,000	3,010	0	0	0	3,010

People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total

¹¹ The Education Sector cannot use the national % of people with special needs, though this was used at the proposal writing stage, for following reasons: (1) The data source is based on the number of enrolled students both primary and secondary schools. The targets were only from selected primary schools and therefore, the sector cannot use the same ratio to give a proxy number. (2) The targeted schools do not maintain data on children with special needs.

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

	261	0	0	0	261	0	0	0	0	0 ¹²
--	-----	---	---	---	-----	---	---	---	---	-----------------

Sector/cluster	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	128,346	123,312	63,215	60,736	375,609	182,471	175,316	78,202	75,135	511,124
Total	128,346	123,312	63,215	60,736	375,609	182,471	175,316	78,202	75,135	511,124

People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total

	11,166	10,728	5,500	5,284	32,678	14,598	14,025	6,256	6,011	40,890
--	--------	--------	-------	-------	--------	--------	--------	-------	-------	--------

Sector/cluster	Protection - Child Protection									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	200	200	1,377	1,323	3,100	3,266	2,197	5,008	4,355	14,826
Total	200	200	1,377	1,323	3,100	3,266	2,197	5,008	4,355	14,826

People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total

	0	0	28	26	54	0	0	271	312	583
--	---	---	----	----	----	---	---	-----	-----	-----

¹² The Nutrition Sector was unable to collect the data during the CERF project implementation period, due limited data, capacity (human resource) and time.

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

The cash-based interventions to purchase nutritious food items indirectly benefitted the whole household of the lactating mother receiving the cash assistance. As a result, approximately 11,400 people, including 3,044 children, indirectly benefitted from the cash-based programme for 3,010 lactating mothers in Colombo district. The procurement of learning material (papers, notebooks etc) indirectly benefitted the parents of these students who were free to go for their employment or daily wage labour opportunities when the children were in schools and protection concerns for children were minimized. This also saved the necessary out-of-pocket expenditure from the parents, especially among the most disadvantaged.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective To improve access for children and their caregivers to life-saving services, including protection, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, and education in Northern, Eastern, Uva, Central and Southern provinces.

Output 1 3,100 children, adolescents and caregivers have increased access to case management and targeted mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS)

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes No

Sector/cluster Protection - Child Protection

Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	CP.3 Number of children receiving protection support (e.g. family tracing, reunification, reintegration, case management services, etc)	700	3,187	Partner reports and case management documents
Indicator 1.2	H.9 Number of people provided with mental health and/or psycho-social support services	2,400	11,156	Partner reports

Explanation of output and indicators variance: Achieved more than planned through strengthening community-based child protection support systems.

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 1.1	Strengthen emergency case management and family strengthening for children in need of protection and prevent and respond to family separation, including for children with disabilities in Northern, Eastern, Uva, Central and Southern provinces	Provincial Probation Commissions, Divisional Secretariats, INGOs and NGOs.
Activity 1.2	Provision of targeted MHPSS for 2,400 vulnerable children, adolescents and caregivers through children's clubs and for those living in institutions in Northern, Eastern, Uva, Central and Southern provinces and at national level.	Provincial Probation Commissions, Divisional Secretariats, INGOs and NGOs.

Output 2 3,000 lactating mothers have the cash-based support they need to procure nutritious food items

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes No

Sector/cluster Nutrition

Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	Cash.2a Number of people receiving sector-specific unconditional cash transfers	3,000	3,010	Certified bank reports and payment verification surveys.
Indicator 2.2	Cash.2b Total value of sector-specific unconditional cash transfers distributed in USD	145,000	96,735	Certified bank reports.

Explanation of output and indicators variance: The programme was designed to benefit mothers with young babies aged 0 to 6 months and registered with the Colombo Municipal Council (CMC) of Colombo City. The number of women who met these criteria and registered were lower than the anticipated 3,000 per month. In addition, during the project period of three months, new mothers became eligible, whereas others, whose children turned seven months, were no longer eligible. Per month, the following numbers were achieved: August: 2,069 transfers received; September: 2,238 transfers received, October: 2,307 transfers received. In total, 3,010 'unique' beneficiaries received the benefit for up to three months, benefitting a total of 3,044 children.

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 2.1	Provision of cash vouchers for 3,000 lactating mothers in the Colombo Municipal Council area for a period of 3 months	Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement (de facto Financial Service Provider, UNICEF (registration, data management, monitoring), in collaboration with CMC.

Output 3 Improved access to safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene for those affected by the economic crisis to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes No

Sector/cluster Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 3.1	WS.6 Number of people accessing sufficient and safe water for drinking, cooking and/or personal hygiene use as per agreed sector standard	375,609	511,124	Progress review meetings with partners, Internal data tracking.

Explanation of output and indicators variance: The targeted number was exceeded through overall support for the urban and rural WASH sector interventions. UNICEF procured chlorinators for 105 rural water supply schemes in Puttalam, Kurunegala and Kandy districts benefiting approximately 30,000 people and provided material to complete six rural sector water supply projects in Badulla district. UNICEF supported 6 MCH clinics to supply WASH facilities. Further, UNICEF supported the National Department of Rural Water Supply to provide water meters to new water supply systems.

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 3.1	Provision of water purification supplies to ensure safe drinking water in urban, estate and rural areas for 1 month	National water Supply and Drainage Board National Department of Rural Water Supply Ministry of Water Supply Provincial Ministries of Health services (Uva and Central Provinces).

Output 4 Increased availability of teaching-learning materials to mitigate school absenteeism and dropouts in 588 schools

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes No

Sector/cluster	Education			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 4.1	Ed.3 Number of people (teachers and/or) accessing teaching, learning and/or recreational materials	202,940	93,219	Progress reports, internal data tracking, field visits.
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		UNICEF could not reach the planned targets due to hyper-inflation of prices for educational learning material and stationery (over 200% price increase). Therefore, the number of items procured decreased.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 4.1	Provision of teaching-learning materials to 588 primary schools (Grades 1 – 5) in Nuwara Eliya, Badulla and Monaragala districts	Ministry of Education, Nuwara Eliya, Badulla and Monaragala districts.		

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas¹³ often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)¹⁴:

For the short-term nutrition-sensitive cash transfer programme, UNICEF partnered with the CMC to ensure that public health midwives were the first entry points to introduce the programme, given their intimate knowledge of the target population. Beneficiaries were made aware that they could also call a hotline (ensuring also female operators and operators fluent in both local languages) or send complaints or feedback via WhatsApp or Viber. After each cash distribution a payment verification survey was launched to detect immediate difficulty in accessing the cash, and a final post-distribution monitoring (including questions related to AAP) and three Focus Group Discussions were implemented, with the results feeding into the larger scale-up of the programme.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

For the short-term nutrition-sensitive cash transfer programme, people of concern could get in touch via a telephone hotline (ensuring that at least one female operator was available and in both local languages) or via instant messaging. All requests were logged, and necessary follow-up actions were implemented such as following up on payments, and so on.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

¹³ These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

¹⁴ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

Government partners and INGO / NGO partners were provided with an orientation on PSEA guidance. All INGO and NGO partners went through the PSEA assessment before agreements were signed. UNICEF established a five-person PSEA Task Force and agreed on key actions in the rollout of PSEA with partner agencies. The following actions have been completed: 1) maintaining all required details of active CSO partners, 2) CSO partners PSEA focal person nominated, 3) mapping of existing PSEA systems in partner agencies, 4) train partner agency focal points on the PSEA toolkit, 5) establish an effective mechanism to conduct PSEA assessments and update agency PSEA ratings in the system.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

This project contributed to the well-being of girls by providing opportunities to learn new skills, develop confidence and self-esteem, socialize with friends, and reduce isolation through various MHPSS and child protection services provided. The program provided opportunities to create dialogue and share messages around issues facing children and adolescents, as well as highlight the role they play as agents of change in their communities.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

The project applied a multi-pronged approach of both including people and children with disabilities as participants in the design and implementation of the project and as beneficiaries themselves. The children with disabilities were supported with assistive devices and recreational activities as part of the emergency support.

f. Protection:

The government stakeholders and partners maintained highest level of confidentiality on vulnerability assessments and children in risk. Government officers were trained on case management guidelines and principals and case management principals were adopted during their entire case management process.

g. Education:

Education has been a core and integral part of this project. Severe and acute shortages of printing papers across the country and the price hikes of educational materials were immediate and led to severe bottlenecks. Hence, the support by the project through the procurement and provision of education materials targeting the most vulnerable children and teachers was a powerful enabler in addressing the equity-focused, priority needs, which directly helped ensure children's continuous school attendance and learning. This has also brought about extended positive effects in preventing school drop-outs, thereby mitigating the risks of child protection and well-being issues.

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	3,010

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

The short-term nutrition-sensitive cash transfer programme was designed in line with the existing government Pregnancy Voucher Programme that was, due to financial constraints, not being implemented. Even though it is a parallel system, it was aligned accordingly. Additional linkages to the social protection system were explored, but it was not feasible due to the constraints in terms of timing.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
Activity 2.1	3,010	US\$ 96,735	Nutrition	Unrestricted

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities.

Title	Weblink
UNICEF cash transfers help ease the strain on vulnerable families struggling with the economic crisis in Sri Lanka	UNICEF cash transfers help ease the strain on vulnerable families struggling UNICEF Sri Lanka
UNICEF cash transfers help mothers in Colombo access nutritious diets as the economic crisis persists	UNICEF cash transfers help mothers in Colombo access nutritious diet as the economic crisis persists UNICEF Sri Lanka

3.4 Project Report 22-RR-WFP-046

1. Project Information

Agency:	WFP	Country:	Sri Lanka
Sector/cluster:	Multi-Purpose Cash	CERF project code:	22-RR-WFP-046
Project title:	WFP cash-based assistance to vulnerable populations in Colombo and		
Start date:	13/07/2022	End date:	12/01/2023
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>

Funding	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:	US\$ 60,000,000
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:	US\$ 18,000,000
	Amount received from CERF:	US\$ 1,000,000
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:	US\$ 0
	Government Partners	US\$ 0]
	International NGOs	US\$ 0
National NGOs	US\$ 0	
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation	US\$ 0	

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

Through this CERF grant, WFP was able to provide multipurpose cash assistance to 82,120 people, providing them with immediate access to food and thereby enabling them to meet essential needs. 52,853 people in Colombo received restricted value vouchers, and 29,269 people in Nuwara Eliya received unrestricted cash. Through these interventions, not only were households able to better provide for themselves, the local economy was also boosted. Additionally, the main recipients were female, which meant that the interventions empowered them, and allowed them to be the sole decision-makers regarding what to utilize the assistance for. The assistance also saw an improvement in food security levels and increased the diversity of diets of the assisted households.

3. Changes and Amendments

In the interim report we mentioned that the people reached is higher than the one originally planned as we ended up giving one round of assistance rather than three as previously proposed. The initial three rounds were intended for the same households; therefore, the number of beneficiaries would have remained the same. With the decision to give one round of assistance, more households were assisted, accounting for a higher number of beneficiaries.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Multi-Purpose Cash									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	10,495	9,775	2,215	2,215	24,700	31,206	27,100	11,497	12,318	82,121
Total	10,495	9,775	2,215	2,215	24,700	31,206	27,100	11,497	12,318	82,121
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 ¹⁵

¹⁵ PwD were part of the inclusion criteria however, the available data does not contain HH composition.

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

Through WFP assistance, the people indirectly benefitted through the project were the retailers (markets and suppliers) that households in the assisted area usually go to for their essential needs. In addition, extended members of the households also indirectly benefit from the assistance provided

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective	Crisis-affected people have immediate access to food enabling them to meet basic food and nutrition needs				
Output 1	Cash assistance provided to crisis-affected people				
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?				Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sector/cluster	Multi-Purpose Cash				
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification	
Indicator 1.1	Cash.1a Number of people receiving multi-purpose cash	24,701	82,121	Reconciliation exercises	
Indicator 1.2	Cash.1b Total value of multi-purpose cash distributed in USD	759,566	841,744.42	Financial system	
Indicator 1.3	# of individuals receiving nutrition, gender equality and cash management training	15,000	82,121	CP Reports	
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		WFP reached more people than planned due to the decision taken on increasing the number of HHs receiving assistance.			
Activities	Description	Implemented by			
Activity 1.1	Register targeted households, verify and sensitize communities on cash assistance, objectives and feedback mechanisms	18,698			
Activity 1.2	Provide cash assistance to crisis-affected people	82,121			
Activity 1.3	Deliver social and behaviour change communication on nutrition, gender equality and cash management	82,121			
Activity 1.4	Conduct post-distribution monitoring and document findings	PDM was conducted in December 2022 covering a sample of 663 households			

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas¹⁶ often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate**

¹⁶ These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)¹⁷:

The programme was designed in line with corporate protection policies. Assessments, such as the Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission (CFSAM) was carried out prior to interventions included and captured protection/AAP risks and measures which was then used to inform the interventions during the designing and implementation stages.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

WFP enhanced its AAP feedback and complaint mechanisms by scaling up the community feedback and response mechanism. This mechanism was instrumental in the confidential collection of feedback and complaints from beneficiaries, before, during and after implementation. Important issues were escalated and referred to the relevant focal points, while confidentiality was thoroughly maintained.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

WFP adhered to Global PSEA policies, and partners as well as WFP staff underwent mandatory PSEA trainings. In addition, a high-level PSEA focal point and alternate to receive complaints in a safe and secure platform was put in place.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

WFP conducted a post-distribution monitoring survey which revealed that 47 percent of women were the decision makers on utilizing WFP assistance. These results indicate that women have increased decision-making power, either as sole decision maker or joint decision maker in households, specifically related to cash assistance.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

Assessments carried out prior to implementation included PwD measures, which were then used to inform the programme. For instance, the targeting criteria used for Cash-based transfers included PwD (households with members having a disability).

f. Protection:

WFP conducted a rapid protection assessment prior to project implementation which informed the implementation and design of the response. WFP made first-case assistance, changed modalities to address the concerns, and supported partners to ensure that they collect quality data within the second phase through lessons learnt from the community feedback mechanism.

g. Education:

Cash assistance provided to households meant that they could utilize the cash for essential items, such as educational expenses, which in turn reduces the burden on parents.

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
Yes, CVA is the sole intervention in the CERF project	Yes, CVA is the sole intervention in the CERF project	82,121

¹⁷ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

8,129 HHs from Colombo assisted with value vouchers through Cargills and 10,569 HHs from Nuwara Eliya assisted with immediate cash through Western Union.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
Value vouchers in Colombo	52,853	US\$ 541,742.00	Multi-Purpose Cash	Restricted
Immediate cash in Nuwara Eliya	29,269	US\$ 300,003.00	Multi-Purpose Cash	Unrestricted

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
N/A	N/A

ANNEX: CERF FUNDS DISBURSED TO IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS (see separate file)

CERF Project Code	Sector	Agency	Implementing Partner Type	Fund Transferred in USD
22-RR-CEF-049	Education	UNICEF	GOV	\$132,443
22-RR-CEF-049	Education	UNICEF	GOV	\$41,812
22-RR-CEF-049	Education	UNICEF	GOV	\$1,454
22-RR-CEF-049	Education	UNICEF	GOV	\$3,210
22-RR-CEF-049	Education	UNICEF	GOV	\$21,101
22-RR-CEF-049	Education	UNICEF	GOV	\$10,369
22-RR-CEF-049	Education	UNICEF	GOV	\$10,389
22-RR-CEF-049	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	UNICEF	GOV	\$47,800
22-RR-CEF-049	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	UNICEF	GOV	\$161,549
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	GOV	\$20,751
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	GOV	\$20,751
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	GOV	\$9,927
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	GOV	\$9,927
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	NNGO	\$29,035
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	GOV	\$31,589
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	GOV	\$722
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	GOV	\$18,867
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	GOV	\$5,761
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	NNGO	\$13,957
22-RR-CEF-049	Child Protection	UNICEF	GOV	\$25,101
22-RR-CEF-049	Nutrition	UNICEF	NNGO	\$102,500
22-RR-FAO-027	Agriculture	FAO	GOV	\$1,223
22-RR-FAO-027	Agriculture	FAO	NNGO	\$9,979
22-RR-FAO-027	Agriculture	FAO	NNGO	\$4,157