

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Rains continue in many parts of the island, causing floods, land and rock slides.**
- **A total of 967,115 persons have been affected, with 18 deaths, two missing and 49 injured as of 12 January.**
- **A total of 195,919 persons are displaced in 493 temporary relocation centers in eight districts.**
- **Rapid assessments are underway to determine the extent and location of damages.**
- **Food dispatches ongoing but delays continue due to poor access on flood-affected roads.**
- **Weather forecast for the next 36 hours indicates rainy conditions will continue with fairly heavy rains and strong winds in the Eastern, Central and Northern parts of the country.**
- **WFP distributed 129 mts of mixed food commodities in Batticaloa, Trincolmalee and Polonnaruwa and distribution in Ampara will begin 14th January.**

Essential Information:

- A total of 675mt of WFP assorted food has been dispatched to Batticaloa, Ampara, Trincomalee and Polonnaruwa, out of which 93.4mt has already been distributed to flood victims in Batticaloa, 32 mts in Trincolmalee, and 4 Mts in Polonnaruwa.

Operational Issues:

- The torrential rains have caused main roads to be submerged reducing access to affected areas.
- Additionally, heavy rains also resulted in the intermittent opening of sluice gates of tanks and reservoirs. Transport and telecommunications are disrupted across the districts.
- Convoys to Ampara, and Batticaloa were blocked at the Manampitiya bridge for about one day. Alternate routes were identified by the Sri Lankan Government and all convoys have reached their destination as of today.
- Storage facilities in Batticaloa, Ampara, Trincomalee and Polonnaruwa are not affected by floods and WFP food stocks are safe in all respective districts.
- Rapid assessments are on going in Batticaloa, Ampara and Trincomalee districts to determine the extent and location of damages and to identify the immediate relief needs.
- All schools in the affected areas have been declared closed by the Government throughout the week and most of the displaced are accommodated in most of these sites.

Target populations/beneficiaries:

- Batticaloa reported the highest number of IDPs, 122,047 (32,641 families) housed in 225 temporary relocation centers.
- The Ministry of Health is preparing for the spread of water borne diseases.
- The daily livelihoods of people have been affected by the continuous rains and floods and many paddy fields have been damaged.

Coordination / Assessments:

- Inter agency rapid humanitarian needs assessment missions are currently underway in

Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Ampara districts under the leadership of Disaster Management Centre. Initial findings are expected to be available on 14 January.

- A UN/NGO/Govt meeting held on 10th January agreed to consider a UN-wide 'Flash Appeal', which is expected to be launched on 18th January. A pre meeting is called by the Minister of Disaster Management on 14 January to discuss the way forward. Donors are also invited to the meeting.
- WFP conducted its regular 'Food Security and Livelihoods' meeting and discussed needs, gaps and needed steps.
- A Logistics Coordination meeting chaired by WFP is scheduled to be held on Monday 17 January.
- The Indian Government is sending a plane on 14 January with another expected on 17 January, with relief items including food and other NFIs, which will be handed over directly to the Sri Lankan Government for distribution

Resourcing Update

- An Immediate Response Emergency Operation (IR EMOP 200233) valued at US\$ 500,000 was approved to assist 420,000 for 5 days.
- CO is currently working on a six-month EMOP that will be in the range of \$USD 7 – 8 million, covering approximately 500,000 flood affected.
- UNCT will launch a flash appeal on 18th January in which food needs will figure prominently.

