

Standard Project Report 2015

Reporting Period: 1 January - 31 December 2015

SRI LANKA

Supporting Relief and Recovery in Former Conflict- Affected Areas

Project Number	200452
Project Category	Single Country PRRO
Overall Planned Beneficiaries	483,200
Planned Beneficiaries in 2015	283,900
Total Beneficiaries in 2015	199,915

Project Approval Date	14 Nov 2012
Planned Start Date	01 Jan 2013
Actual Start Date	01 Jan 2013
Project End Date	31 Dec 2015
Financial Closure Date	n.a.

Approved budget as 31 December 2015 in USD	
Capacity Dev.t and Augmentation	265,000
Cash--based Transfer and Related Costs	8,967,976
Direct Support Costs	8,386,593
Food and Related Costs	32,783,194
Indirect Support Costs	3,528,193
Total Approved Budget	53,930,956

Commodities	Metric Tonnes
Total Approved Commodities	39,259
Planned Commodities in 2015	10,826
Actual Commodities in 2015	3,663

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Country Overview



COUNTRY BACKGROUND

With a population of 20 million, Sri Lanka is a lower middle income country ranked 73 among 187 on the 2014 Human Development Index. Despite rapid economic growth, the country still faces challenges with human development disparities across regions.

The civil war, which lasted 27 years, came to an end in 2009. Over a quarter of a century of violence claimed some 60,000 of lives and ravaged infrastructure in the Northern and Eastern provinces. Arable land was devastated by the conflation of landmines, resulting in the loss of traditional methods of livelihoods. The socio-economic situation of the affected provinces has been further impacted by the global recession, the 2004 Tsunami, flash floods, droughts and landslides, all contributing to volatile food prices in the region.

In December 2014, Sri Lanka experienced floods and landslides which caused displacement, loss of assets and livelihoods and jeopardised agricultural production with the threat of up to 55 percent of paddy rice losses feared for the Maha (major) harvest. Household resilience was weakened and unsustainable debts soared. More than half of the affected population were food-insecure, with 238,100 severely food insecure and in need of immediate food assistance.

Although Sri Lanka has been on the right trajectory for achieving its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the repercussions of the civil war and the natural disasters have been tangible, particularly in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, where poverty levels are critical. Preliminary findings confirm poor access to food and signs of malnutrition, resulting from imbalances and insufficient food intake over a prolonged period. Nearly 4.8 million people out of a population of approximately 20 million are undernourished and 2.4 million people are food-insecure. Malnutrition affects nearly a quarter of children and women. The 2012 National Nutrition and Micronutrient survey found the prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight at 13.1, 19.6 and 23.5 percent respectively among children aged 6-59 months. In the Northern Province, underweight children are as high as over 40 percent, which is above the critical levels compared to the World Health Organization standard of 15 percent.

SUMMARY OF WFP ASSISTANCE

As a result of the transition made by Sri Lanka from the end of civil war to economic growth, WFP also made a transitional shift of programme focus from emergency to recovery and development. However, with the impact of about three decades of war and recent natural disasters still palpable, it is estimated that of the 2.4 million food-insecure and vulnerable people, 50 percent are residing in the Northern and Eastern Provinces, which were heavily affected by the conflict. WFP's operations, which are aligned with the government's social protection policy and the national development plan, help strengthen the government's capacity.

WFP currently operates through a Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) which began in January 2013 and came to an end in December 2015, aimed at reducing hunger in conflict-affected areas of the Northern Province, in line with the Millennium Development Goal (MDG1 - poverty reduction). It addressed the nutritious needs of school children, children under 5 years of age, pregnant and lactating women (in line with MDGs 4 and 5 - reduce child mortality and improve maternal health), internally displaced people, and as well as returnees from India. The project consisted of both food and voucher-based safety nets in the areas of education, nutrition, livelihood support and support for the government's efforts to tackle food security challenges.

An immediate response operation was put in motion in January 2015, following alternating asperity weather patterns in the preceding four years, from droughts, landslides and the unexpected onset of flooding in 2014. The duration of the emergency intervention was for a period of 10 days to respond to the immediate food and nutrition needs of flood victims of the most affected districts.

A Climate Change Adaptation project begun in January 2013 will come to an end in December 2016. WFP invests in disaster preparedness and mitigation through a climate change adaptation initiative jointly implemented with the Ministry of the Environment.

Through a joint programme on 'Scaling up Nutrition through a Multi-Sector Approach' with FAO, WFP continues to provide assistance in order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the government's nutrition programmes and reduce maternal and child undernutrition. Under this joint programme, in support of the government's Multi-Sector Action Plan for Nutrition, WFP along with FAO and the relevant ministries have developed action plans targeting areas needing technical and funding support to scale up nutrition. Furthermore, under the Scaling up Nutrition movement, WFP partners with Save the Children, to support the Civil Society Alliance formed to engage and carry out the implementation of Sri Lanka's Multi -Sector Action Plan for Nutrition nationwide.

All WFP projects have contributed to MDGs 1, 2, 4 and 5 (eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, reduce child mortality, and improve maternal health).

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Number of children below 5 years of age	33,014	35,418	68,432
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	98,170	101,220	199,390
Number of adults	85,410	97,133	182,543
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	216,594	233,771	450,365
Total number of beneficiaries in 2014	213,200	235,464	448,664
Total number of beneficiaries in 2013	151,469	163,464	314,933

Distribution (mt)						
Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country PRRO	2,113	321	537	420	272	3,663
Single Country IR-EMOP	912	53	211			1,176
Total food distributed in 2015	3,025	375	748	420	272	4,840
Total food distributed in 2014	6,031	526	1,254	546	192	8,549
Total food distributed in 2013	5,444	582	1,106	1,296	527	8,953

Operational SPR

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND RELEVANCE

Sri Lanka continues to face significant challenges as it attempts to overcome the lingering effects of 30 years of civil war and natural disasters, including the 2004 Tsunami and the recent four years of consecutive weather asperity. These have had a devastating effect on livelihoods, food and nutrition security, infrastructure, agriculture and education throughout Sri Lanka, particularly in the conflict-affected areas of the Northern and Eastern Provinces. The PRRO was launched in January 2013 for a period of two years and was extended for an additional year (2015) before the commencement of a new Country Programme for 2016-2017.

In 2015, the project maintained its focus on targeting the humanitarian and early recovery needs of resettling internally displaced persons (IDP) as well as the needs of severely food and nutrition insecure populations in the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

In line with WFP Strategic Objective 1, WFP carried out general food distribution (GFD) in the Northern and Eastern Provinces for resettling IDPs to address their food needs during the post-conflict transitional period. The Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) programme aimed to prevent moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) among children aged 6 to 59 months and pregnant and lactating women (PLW).

In accordance with Strategic Objective 2, WFP addressed short-term hunger among primary and secondary schoolchildren while promoting attendance and retention through the school meals programme.

Furthermore, WFP also supported the creation and rehabilitation of productive assets through food assistance-for-assets (FFA) interventions with activities covering a range of flexible work norms and varying levels of technology to build beneficiaries' resilience to climate shocks and support resettlement activities.

The PRRO objectives are aligned with the Government of Sri Lanka's policies on poverty reduction, disaster risk management, and food and nutrition insecurity and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2013-2017). These policies and framework have contributed to the design of the PRRO and helped shape the direction the project has taken.

RESULTS

Beneficiaries, Targeting and Distribution

WFP along with its government implementing partners identified beneficiaries based on food security, nutrition and poverty indicators, as well as vulnerability to shocks for the PRRO activities. A participatory community-based approach was used to select most vulnerable communities and households. WFP's interventions consisted of in-kind food distribution and cash-based transfers, primarily targeting women-headed households, widows and widowers, single family households as well as households with disabled persons.

The beneficiaries of the MCHN were enrolled following screening at health centres. With the critical levels of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence in the project areas (around 30 percent according to the 2012 National Nutrition and Micronutrient Survey), WFP planned to provide blanket supplementary feeding for the prevention of MAM for the children aged 6-59 months with 150 grams of Super Cereal Plus per child per day, and 200 grams of Super Cereal per person per day for PLW. However, due to underfunding, the government recommended targeted supplementary feeding and the prioritisation of children aged 6-59 months with MAM, using Super Cereal Plus (200 grams per day). As a consequence, the supplementary feeding programme for PLW was not implemented in 2015. During the reporting year, the supplementary feeding programme commenced with blanket coverage and then with the government recommendation, it subsequently changed to targeted feeding.

The WFP-supported school meal programme is targeted purely for the Northern region due to its food and nutrition insecurity levels which are the highest in the country as a consequence of the three decade long conflict and the recurrent natural disasters such as flood and drought. The school meals programme provided mid-morning meals consisting of rice, pulses, oil, dates and canned fish by WFP together with vegetables and condiments purchased with supplementary funds provided by the government, and reached over 150,000 primary and secondary students in the five districts of the Northern Province.

To support the government's resettlement of IDPs, WFP conducted a community participatory rapid food security and livelihood assessment in the resettlement areas in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. The assessment findings confirmed high food insecurity levels and poor living conditions amongst resettling IDPs and thus, the need for immediate food assistance until their livelihoods are re-established. In order to address the critical situation, WFP provided a six-week unconditional cash-based transfer in the form of food vouchers for GFD to the resettling IDPs, followed by four months of conditional cash-based transfers for FEA activities to rebuild livelihoods.

During the Yala (lean) season, WFP provided FFA support, using both cash and food transfers for severely food-insecure families. Through FFA projects, the participants improved rural feeder roads that opened access to schools, health facilities and markets. The rehabilitated water storage tanks and water supply systems not only provided clean drinking water but also contributed to the development of agricultural livelihoods. The FFA participants, as the breadwinners, received either a monthly family food ration or cash transfer, adequate to cover the food needs of their households (the average family size in Sri Lanka is four members).

It should be noted that due to underfunding, WFP had to prioritise programme interventions and at the same time used donor contributions for the intended activities such as school meals and resettlement package for IDPs. The school meals programme enjoyed a good level of funding whilst FFA and food-for-training (FFT) activities and nutrition interventions suffered a lack of resources, resulting in under-achievements.

In terms of commodity distributions, WFP managed to distribute one third of the planned tonnage due to resource constraints and pipeline breaks in FFA and MCHN. For school meals, WFP has been able to distribute the complete food basket comprising rice, pulses, vegetable oil, dates and canned fish.

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number of adults	19,400	34,500	53,900	2,500	3,033	5,533	12.9%	8.8%	10.3%
Number of children 5 to 18 years of age	76,800	83,200	160,000	77,470	77,470	154,940	100.9%	93.1%	96.8%
Number of children below 5 years of age	34,000	36,000	70,000	19,814	19,628	39,442	58.3%	54.5%	56.3%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2015	130,200	153,700	283,900	99,784	100,131	199,915	76.6%	65.1%	70.4%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2014	226,000	233,300	459,300	213,200	235,464	448,664	94.3%	100.9%	97.7%
Total number of beneficiaries in 2013	191,500	193,500	385,000	129,967	141,067	271,034	67.9%	72.9%	70.4%

The total number of beneficiaries includes all targeted persons who were provided with WFP food during the reporting period - either as a recipient/participant in one or more of the following groups, or from a household food ration distributed to one of these recipients/participants

Beneficiary Category	Planned			Actual			% Actual v. Planned		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Internally Displaced Persons	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-
Children 24 to 59 months given food under blanket supplementary feeding (prevention of acute malnutrition)	21,025	22,775	43,800	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Participants in Food For Training	200	300	500	0	88	88	0.0%	29.3%	17.6%
Participants in Food For Assets	11,285	12,415	23,700	969	871	1,840	8.6%	7.0%	7.8%
Pregnant and lactating women participating in blanket supplementary feeding (prevention of moderate acute malnutrition)		13,000	13,000		0	0		0.0%	0.0%
Beneficiaries of General food distribution (GFD)/ targeted food distribution/assistance (GFD-TFD/A)	4,325	4,875	9,200	1,736	1,540	3,276	40.1%	31.6%	35.6%
Children receiving school meals	80,000	80,000	160,000	76,870	74,690	151,560	96.1%	93.4%	94.7%
Children 24 to 59 months given food under supplementary feeding (treatment for moderate malnutrition)	6,400	6,930	13,330	7,113	6,992	14,105	111.1%	100.9%	105.8%
Children 6 to 23 months given food under blanket supplementary feeding (prevention of acute malnutrition)	12,575	13,625	26,200	10,315	10,808	21,123	82.0%	79.3%	80.6%
Children 6 to 23 months given food under supplementary feeding (treatment for moderate malnutrition)	3,200	3,470	6,670	1,846	1,228	3,074	57.7%	35.4%	46.1%
Returnees	4,325	4,875	9,200	1,736	1,540	3,276	40.1%	31.6%	35.6%
Cash-Based Transfer Beneficiaries	26,350	28,550	54,900	1,540	1,736	3,276	5.8%	6.1%	6.0%

Commodity Distribution

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Canned Fish	306	218	71.2%
Corn-soya Blend (csb)	4,716	420	8.9%
Dried Fruits	290	54	18.5%
Rice	3,600	2,113	58.7%
Split Peas	1,356	537	39.6%
Vegetable Oil	558	321	57.6%
Total for 2015	10,826	3,663	33.8%
Total reported in 2014 SPR	10,668	8,549	80.1%
Total reported in 2013 SPR	17,765	8,117	45.7%

	Planned Distribution (USD)	Actual Distribution (USD)	% Actual v. Planned
Cash-Based Transfer			
Cash	1,732,200	59,787	3.5%
Vouchers			
Total for 2015	1,732,200	59,786.82	3.5%

'Story Worth Telling'

Six-year old Kaanchanan is trying to help the best he could while his mother was working in cultivating banana trees. "I am growing strong you know!", he tells us, showing how he could also work in his family land one day in the future, with a big smile, he says "I get food from WFP and since then I do not feel weak any more. I could also play with my friends and never get tired now." Kaanchanan lost his father to the conflict; his mother cannot afford food for her or Kaanchanan and his four year old sister on a daily basis, they usually go to bed hungry.

Kaanchanan is a student of Naguleswara School in Jaffna District and the main reason he keeps going to school is to have the mid-morning meal provided there. Since attending school regularly, he has become a keen learner and likes mathematics.

"When children have nutritious food it helps them to stay focused and improves learning", says Mr. S. Srikumaran, Principle of Naguleswara School. "At the same time, poor families are motivated to send children to school - as it reduces the burden of providing food to the entire family. The school meals programme gives a reason for the parents to send their children to school."

Progress Towards Gender Equality

According to the World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report 2015, Sri Lanka's gender gap increased over the last year and gender equality ranking declined from 79 in 2014 to 84 in 2015 out of 145 countries. Sri Lanka scored high in educational attainment and public health, but the low score in political empowerment brought down the overall score. No significant impact on WFP programming has been encountered due to this decline in the gender equality.

As part of all its activities, WFP took into consideration gender disparity, with a particular attention to the correlation between food insecurity and gender. In the post-conflict areas in the Northern Province where women are particularly disadvantaged, it is difficult for women to find a job and when they find one, they are paid half of their male counterparts' wage. As part of WFP-supported training on marketable skills and income-generating activities for women's groups, vulnerable and disadvantaged women were selected to take part in FFT activities. This has enabled them to produce handicrafts and created an opportunity to market their merchandise, both locally and internationally.

Through FFA, WFP aimed to support the government's plan of creating equal access for men and women to better jobs and eventually, taking control over and ownership of productive assets. Both men and women were equally represented in the process of identifying and accessing resilience building activities and asset creation with further considerations given to gender-differentiated needs. High proportions of women and men were included in the design stage of the cash-based transfer activities, and their preference for particular food commodities was taken into consideration during the selection stage.

Food distribution centres, cash-based transfer redemption shops and FFA activities were within the vicinity of beneficiaries' residence providing women participants a safe and convenient route and minimising the possibility of gender-based violence. With a view to enabling women beneficiaries to have control over food within their households, it was emphasised and ensured during the registration phase that ration cards were specifically in the names of the women heads of family.

Under the school meals programme, women formed part of the school feeding management committees and actively took part in the decision-making processes. It is positive to note that enrolment rates among boys and girls in WFP-supported schools were virtually identical. Furthermore, gender mainstreaming training was provided to counterparts prior to conducting assessment, distribution and monitoring activities to increase the success of WFP's gender equality objectives.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
	Target Val	(at start of project or benchmark)	(penultimate follow-up)	(latest value measured)
Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food				
Base value: Jan-2013, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, WFP monitoring, Northern Province, Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, WFP monitoring, Northern Province, Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	50	45	49	49
Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees				
Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, WFP monitoring., Programme monitoring.	50			60
Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution				
Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, WFP monitoring., Programme monitoring.	60			75

Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

WFP considered protection concerns, such as distance, physical barriers and insecurity when selecting distribution sites. WFP and government partners selected the implementation sites in such a way that would ensure the most convenience for the beneficiaries and minimise the security risks for them when travelling to and from a distribution centre. Other measures were also taken into consideration such as waiting time and crowd control to make sure that food distributions take place safely and do not negatively affect vulnerable individuals such as the elderly and disabled.

WFP facilitated community meetings to inform beneficiaries of their entitlements and where to complain or seek more information. WFP also provided a significant amount of information in the form of posters, banners and displayed them at various locations providing beneficiaries adequate information on their entitlements and rights. This resulted in a high proportion of assisted people receiving information about WFP assistance and their entitlement.

Furthermore, two formal beneficiary call centres were established, one at the country office and another at the field office, providing beneficiaries the opportunity to voice their concerns as well as any fraud activities. The beneficiary call centres proved to be effective as it created accountability and transparency in project implementation. WFP often received calls before and after food distributions and the most asked questions were about entitlements. However, WFP also received calls from non-beneficiaries seeking clarification on targeting criteria.

WFP anticipated the risk of possible double registration of IDPs. Therefore, as part of its mitigating measures, WFP worked with the resettlement authorities closely and ensured that meticulous verification and registration of beneficiaries were undertaken in a timely manner.

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)				
Base value: Jan-2013, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, WFP monitoring, Northern Province, Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, WFP monitoring, Northern Province, Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	80	80	95	93
Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to/from and at WFP programme sites				
Base value: Jan-2013, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, WFP monitoring, Northern Province, Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, WFP monitoring, Northern Province, Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	80	85	98	100

Outputs

WFP reached the targeted primary and secondary students of the assisted schools and supported one additional school in the Northern Province. Output indicators for the school meals programme showed that the programme was a sturdy safety net as it provided children with nutritious meals and contributed to continuous school attendance.

WFP managed to carry out nutrition interventions at all planned health centres and men and women whose children participated in the feeding programme were exposed to nutrition messaging. Furthermore, child health and nutrition screenings and referrals were done both at the community and at the health centre levels. Nutritional information, awareness and counselling sessions were conducted. Both female and male caregivers were reached out to, although fewer men were attracted due to the fact that most of the beneficiaries that visited the health centres were women. The lower proportion of men exposed to nutrition messaging is also due to the cultural practices whereby mothers often take a more active role in child care; Hence children are often accompanied to health centres by their mother rather than the father.

Factors such as the inadequate number of public health midwives in some of the clinics and limited staff time may have contributed to the lower than expected number of women receiving nutrition messaging. WFP will advocate in future that men and husbands should also attend health and nutrition education so that both men and women will make an equal effort to address malnutrition at the household level.

As far as support to the government's resettlement plan is concerned, WFP was able to provide unconditional cash transfers in the form of food vouchers to the resettling IDPs for six weeks under GFD, followed by four months of conditional cash transfers for rebuilding livelihoods through FFA. However, the resettlement process progressed slowly due to delays in the construction of transitional shelters, as well as due to the lack of school facilities and the inadequate provision of services such as water, sanitation and health care, in time for the second inter-monsoon rains (October - December) and northeast monsoon (December). Therefore, the implementation of GFD and FFA reached only one third of the planned beneficiaries. WFP has obtained the donor's approval for an extension in time to complete the assistance in early 2016.

The asset creation activities, through food transfers, such as land clearance, reached the planned target whilst the irrigation scheme and feeder road rehabilitation has slightly underachieved the targets due to limited resources. The natural disasters, such as floods and droughts, which occurred consecutively in 2012, 2013 and 2014, have had a devastating impact on the country, especially in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. As a result, initiatives to tackle climatic shocks and bolstering community resistance was declared as a top priority by the Government. To this end, WFP conducted a number of trainings for government counterparts. Staff from twenty-four ministries, consisting of 14 women and 10 men were trained on the Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analysing Resilience (CLEAR) and the Minimum Cost of Diet Analysis.

WFP also conducted other training activities for the government counterparts. Prior to providing support for the resettlement plan, WFP trained government counterparts on beneficiary registration, verification as well as community mobilisation and sensitisation. These trainings have provided the necessary skills for the government staff to handle much larger IDP resettlement programme in future.

WFP also introduced mobile tablets with e-WIN software to set up a robust monitoring and evaluation system that ensured an effective data collection and analysis.

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
SO 1: GFD				
C&V: Number of men collecting cash or vouchers	Individual	1,981	1,540	77.7%
C&V: Number of women collecting cash or vouchers	Individual	2,194	1,736	79.1%
Number of days rations were provided	day	45	45	100.0%
SO 1: Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition				
Number of health centres/sites assisted	centre/site	385	385	100.0%
Proportion of men exposed to nutrition messaging supported by WFP against proportion planned	%	13	8	61.5%
Proportion of women exposed to nutrition messaging supported by WFP against proportion planned	%	87	63	72.4%
SO 2: FFA				
Hectares (ha) of agricultural land benefiting from rehabilitated irrigation schemes (including irrigation canal repair, specific protection measures, embankments, etc)	Ha	24	21	87.5%
Hectares (ha) of land cleared	Ha	1	1	100.0%
Kilometres (km) of feeder roads rehabilitated (FFA) and maintained (self-help)	km	21	17	81.0%
SO 2: School Feeding				
Number of primary school boys assisted by WFP	Individual	43,610	41,489	95.1%
Number of primary school girls assisted by WFP	Individual	41,860	39,476	94.3%
Number of schools assisted by WFP	school	958	959	100.1%
Number of secondary school boys assisted by WFP	Individual	37,190	35,381	95.1%
Number of secondary school girls assisted by WFP	Individual	37,340	35,214	94.3%
SO 5: Capacity Development: Strengthening National Capacities				
FFA: Number of female government/national partner staff receiving technical assistance and training	individual	300	348	116.0%
FFA: Number of government/national partner staff receiving technical assistance and training	individual	900	602	66.9%
FFA: Number of male government/national partner staff receiving technical assistance and training	individual	300	254	84.7%
VAM: Number of female government/national partner staff receiving technical assistance and training	individual	15	14	93.3%
VAM: Number of government/national partner staff receiving technical assistance and training	individual	30	24	80.0%
VAM: Number of male government/national partner staff receiving technical assistance and training	individual	15	10	66.7%

Outcomes

The Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment conducted in March 2012, provided the baseline data of the PRRO. In addition, the Food Security Outcome Monitoring (FSOM), was carried out using the data of follow-up food security assessments and post-distribution monitoring (PDM). Furthermore, the findings of emergency food security assessments (EFSA) conducted in 2012, 2013 and 2014, were also referred to for baseline data. Overall, food consumption status has significantly improved compared to the baseline. According to the FSOM, none of the households were reported with poor food consumption. This improvement is mainly ascribed to WFP's food and cash-based transfers to the severely food-insecure returnees, IDPs and disaster-affected households in the project districts.

Sixty percent of the assisted households adopted negative coping strategies such as skipping meals, reducing meal sizes, eating less preferred food, selling of assets and migrating for finding livelihood opportunities in 2015. However, the average Coping Strategy Index (CSI) has increased by 30 percent due to the repeated natural shocks and lack of access to sustainable and diversified livelihood opportunities, a consequence of underfunding of WFP programmes in these project districts.

As a result of resource limitations, the supplementary feeding programme for children aged 6-59 months with MAM was implemented for only ten months. The supplementary feeding programme for children aged 6-59 months experienced a high default rate (40 percent) and low recovery rate (54 percent) due to frequent pipeline breaks in Super Cereal Plus. The frequent gap in the availability of Super Cereal Plus supply negatively impacted the participation in the programme. On the other hand, the programme experienced a remarkable result in mortality rate (zero percent). This could be attributed to the fact that health centres are often within easy reach by the general population with free access to health services as well as the fact that most cases of malnourished children are MAM and not SAM, implying that the risks of mortality are expected to be lower. It should be noted that the burden of underlying diseases such as diarrhoea and acute respiratory infection is also low in the country. Supplementary feeding for PLW was not provided due to resource constraints.

With proper coordination among WFP and counterparts at the field level and the decision to prioritise targeted supplementary feeding, WFP was able to achieve high programme coverage (76.3 percent). The desk review method was used to calculate the coverage rate of the MAM treatment programme, based on consolidated data from 385 health centres.

FFA activities enabled the restoration of critical assets such as feeder roads and irrigation schemes, which had been damaged during natural calamities. These activities helped increase people's access to local markets and health clinics, and also resulted in improvements to the cultivated land. The community asset score was introduced to the project monitoring and evaluation framework in 2014, and therefore, does not have an initial baseline against which to measure the changes. The national capacity index was also not reported as required national data was not available.

Based on the results of the government's surveys of primary and secondary schools, including WFP-assisted schools, the net enrolment rate continued at 98 percent, demonstrating the effectiveness of the school meals programme in drawing children to school. The retention rate at both primary and secondary schools well exceeded the project target of 70 percent and continued to grow marginally but moving towards achieving 100 percent.

Outcome	Project end Target	Base Value (at start of project or benchmark)	Previous Follow-up (penultimate follow-up)	Latest Follow-up (latest value measured)
Strategic Objective 1: Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies				
CSI: Coping Strategy Index (average) Base value: Mar-2012, Comprehensive Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Aug-2014, Rapid Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Post distribution monitoring, Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	8	12.8	15	16.34
CSI: Percentage of households with reduced/stabilized Coping Strategy Index Base value: Feb-2012, Comprehensive Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Aug-2014, Rapid Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Post distribution monitoring, Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	65	68	76.3	60
Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households) Base value: Mar-2012, Comprehensive Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Aug-2014, Rapid Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Post distribution monitoring, Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	6	5	6.4	6.14
Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)				

Outcome	Project end Target	Base Value <i>(at start of project or benchmark)</i>	Previous Follow-up <i>(penultimate follow-up)</i>	Latest Follow-up <i>(latest value measured)</i>
Base value: Mar-2012, Comprehensive Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka,, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Aug-2014, Rapid Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Post distribution monitoring, Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	6	5	6.5	6.46
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score				
Base value: Mar-2012, Comprehensive Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Aug-2014, Joint Needs Assessment, OCHA,WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Post distribution monitoring, Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	0.22	1.1	0.3	0
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)				
Base value: Mar-2012, Comprehensive Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Aug-2014, Joint Needs Assessment, OCHA,WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Post distribution monitoring, Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	0.8	4	0.5	0
FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)				
Base value: Mar-2012, Comprehensive Food Security Assessment, WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Joint Needs Assessment, OCHA,WFP and Government of Sri Lanka, WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Post distribution monitoring, Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	0.1	0.5	0.2	0
MAM treatment default rate (%)				
Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Counterpart reporting, Northern Province, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Counterpart reporting, Northern Province, Secondary data.	15		4.2	40.4
MAM treatment mortality rate (%)				
Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Counterpart reporting, Northern Province, Secondary data.	3			0
MAM treatment non-response rate (%)				
Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Counterpart reporting, Northern Province, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Counterpart reporting, Northern Province, Secondary data.	15		36.8	5.2
MAM treatment recovery rate (%)				
Base value: Dec-2013, WFP monitoring, Programme monitoring. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Counterpart reporting, Northern Province, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Counterpart reporting, Northern Province, Secondary data.	75	66	57	54.4
Prevalence of acute malnutrition among children under 5 (weight-for-height as %)				
Base value: Dec-2012, National Nutrition and Micronutrient Survey, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Jun-2013, National Nutrition Month Data, Family Health Bureau, Secondary data.	5	22		19.6
Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)				
Base value: Jan-2013, WFP survey, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Nov-2014, Counterpart reporting, Northern Province, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Desk review methodology., WFP survey.	50	0	65	76.3
Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions				
Base value: Jan-2013, WFP survey, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Dec-2014, Counterpart reporting, Northern Province, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Counterpart reporting, Northern Province, Secondary data.	66	0	95	81
Strategic Objective 2: Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies				
CAS: Community Asset Score (average)				
Base value: Sep-2014, Added during Sep 2014, WFP survey. Previous Follow-up: Nov-2014, Joined WFP, Government of Sri Lanka Survey, Northern Province,, WFP survey. Latest Follow-up: Dec-2015, Beneficiary contact monitoring data, Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	80	0	97	93.75
NCI: National Capacity Index				
	1			
Net Enrolment Rate (NER) (boys) in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2013, Ministry of Education, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Nov-2014, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Government of Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.	100	98		98
Net Enrolment Rate (NER) (girls) in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2013, Ministry of Education, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Nov-2014, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Government of Sri Lanka,, Secondary data.	100	98		98
Retention rate in WFP-assisted primary schools				
Base value: Dec-2012, Ministry of Education, Secondary data. Previous Follow-up: Nov-2014, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Government of Sri Lanka, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Oct-2015, Northern Province Education Office., Secondary data.	70	86.75	89.3	99.68
Retention rate in WFP-assisted secondary schools				
Base value: Dec-2012, Ministry of Education, Secondary data. Previous Follow-up: Nov-2014, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Government of Sri Lanka,, Secondary data. Latest Follow-up: Oct-2015, Northern Province Education Office., Secondary data.	70	83.5	86.1	99.68

Sustainability, Capacity Development and Handover

WFP's project activities were in line with government priorities and as such the government played a key role at each of its stages from early recovery to post-disaster management.

Given the recent consecutive natural disasters, the government's top priority was the development and improvement of community resilience to climatic shocks. WFP and counterparts engaged in discussions and took initiatives to carry out extensive researches and studies in order to achieve this objective. As a result, a number of areas where capacity development was necessary were identified. This led to the initiation of two workshops on Cost of Diet with the participation of 24 key counterpart technical staff. A Cost of Diet monitoring system was installed in the Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institution. Furthermore, WFP organized a workshop on CLEAR and livelihood zone mapping exercise along with the government. The publication of these two studies have been jointly launched by WFP and the government.

WFP's support to the school meals programme was similarly responsive to government preferences in merging WFP efforts with that of the government and in supporting common objectives and distribution practices as part of a nationwide programme. In addition to taking direct action by providing nutritious meals to schoolchildren, WFP also assisted the Ministry of Education in capacity development with the aim of the latter eventually taking over school meals. With the aim of supporting the Government in designing and establishing a robust National School Feeding Strategy that is long-term and self-sufficient, WFP initiated the Systems Approach for Building Education Results (SABER) workshop to collect and share data on educational policies and institutions to support the government in strengthening its school feeding programme. The SABER workshop also assisted with the formation of guidelines and provided training to government counterparts on effective monitoring and evaluation systems.

WFP supported the government's commitment to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement, as well as its Multi-Sector Action Plan for Nutrition in partnership with other United Nations agencies, NGOs and development partners.

WFP also supported the Ministry of Health and Indigenous Medicine to organize two consultative meetings on food fortification. One workshop was based on policy directions on fortification and the other covered developing the methodology for a rice fortification pilot programme. It is expected that the Government of Sri Lanka will eventually provide locally available specialised nutritious foods (fortified blended foods) to PLW and children.

INPUTS

Resource Inputs

The government contributed to various activities of the PRRO. For the school meals programme, the government provided greenery funds for WFP-supported school meals. These were used for the purchase of fresh vegetables and condiments, enabling the provision of diversified nutritious meals. The Ministry of Health was the main provider of the de-worming treatment, and iron and vitamin D tablets to WFP- assisted schools. Furthermore, the Ministry of Education provided project staff and resources for effective monitoring and reporting of the school meals programme.

The government, via the Ministry of National Policy and Economic Affairs, showed its support for WFP's implementing and monitoring activities by spending USD 1.2 million through the Project Management Unit at the central and district levels.

Donor	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/Purchased in 2015 (mt)
	In-Kind	Cash	
Canada		1,976	2,627
MULTILATERAL		31	31
Private Donors		27	141
Saudi Arabia			54
Sri Lanka			5
Total:		2,033	2,858

See Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors for breakdown by commodity and contribution reference number

Food Purchases and in-kind Receipts

WFP purchased commodities locally, regionally and internationally in 2015. Rice was locally purchased from Sri Lanka, as beneficiaries prefer domestically grown rice varieties. In addition, the local purchase of rice significantly reduced delivery times and supported the local markets and small farmers.

Commodity	Local (mt)	Developing Country (mt)	Other International (mt)	GCMF (mt)
Corn Soya Blend	0	0	344	
Dried Fruits	0	0	54	
Rice	1,050	550	0	
Split Peas	40	480	0	
Vegetable Oil	12	328	0	
Sum:	1,103	1,358	398	

Food Transport, Delivery and Handling

The government took the title of internationally purchased WFP food commodities at the entry ports, and was responsible for laboratory testing and clearance of the cargo and transport to warehouses in Colombo. Local suppliers delivered the local purchases to district warehouses. All internal transport to the district warehouses and to distribution points was also undertaken by the government.

WFP provided training to government staff on commodity tracking and management of food and non-food items, and also provided warehouse handling equipment such as pallets and re-packing materials for the proper handling and management of WFP commodities at the government warehouses and distribution points.

Post-Delivery Losses

Post-delivery losses were kept to a minimum as WFP provided training on transport, commodity handling and storing methods to counterparts. However, small portions of mixed commodities were deemed to be of poor quality (not fit for human consumption) by the government and disposed in accordance with WFP corporate guidelines.

MANAGEMENT

Partnerships

WFP worked in close collaboration with the government, mainly the Ministry of National Policy and Economic Affairs, where the latter managed and made provisions for the internal transport, storage and handling of WFP-supplied foods.

In coordination with the government and UNICEF, WFP facilitated the provision of an integrated package, which included de-worming, micronutrient supplementation and water and sanitation programmes, in order to re-establish healthy school environment.

A joint project was established with FAO as part of an effort by Rome-based agencies to support the government's Multi-sector Action Plan for Nutrition. FAO, UNICEF and WFP have also formed a United Nations network for nutrition to support the scale up of nutrition in the country. WFP worked together with partners, especially Save the Children, to lead an alliance of 268 civil societies to support the government's Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement. UNICEF and WFP acted as the United Nations focal points for SUN in Sri Lanka.

The MAM treatment programme was implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Health. The children identified as SAM were directly referred to the hospital as there is no community management of SAM available in Sri Lanka. The Sri Lanka national guideline for the treatment of acute malnutrition does not follow the globally accepted model of CMAM. However, there is an ongoing discussion to better link SAM and MAM components.

WFP also collaborated with local NGOs and authorities in an effort to undertake pilot climate adaptation measures in order to improve the food and nutrition security of the vulnerable communities. A mangrove planting sub-project combined with micro-finance and skills training for women's groups, and another sub-project on organic farming and water harvesting are underway. These are complementary activities which contribute to the overall impact of the PRRO.

It should be noted that no complementary funds were provided to the project by the two United Nations partner organizations. During the reporting year, the only other partnership was with the government as the only cooperating partner. Therefore, no complementary funds were received from others.

Partnerships	NGO		Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement	UN/IO
	National	International		
Total				2

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project end Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
	Target Val	(at start of project or benchmark)	(penultimate follow-up)	(latest value measured)
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, INGOs, Civil Society, Private Sector organizations, International Financial Institutions, Regional development banks)	200,000			
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services	4			2
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners	25			79
Latest Follow-up: Dec-2014, WFP monitoring, Northern Province, Sri Lanka, Programme monitoring.				

Lessons Learned

Post-distribution monitoring for the cash-based transfers showed that beneficiaries used cash to purchase diversified food commodities, and further revealed that specific purchases made by beneficiaries were contingent to seasonal availability thus providing them with a balanced and nutritious intake.

The use of food vouchers enabled beneficiaries to choose among 24 food commodities. This enabled people the flexibility to select foods of their preference whereas GFD was limited to a few basic food items, thus not allowing a more diverse food intake. This supports beneficiaries' preference of cash-based transfers to in-kind food distributions.

Furthermore, monitoring revealed cash-based transfer assistance created an increased demand for foods in the local markets and encouraged local farmers to produce more food. It is worth noting that WFP in-kind food assistance and cash-based transfers have not had any negative impact on the local markets due to the small scale of the operation.

Results and recommendations of the SABER workshop, the situation analysis of the school meals programme as well as the cost-benefit analysis of the programme have been disseminated and appreciated by the Government. This will inform and guide the Government's policy formulation of a sustainable home-grown school feeding programme.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Annex: Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No	Commodity	Resourced in 2015 (mt)		Shipped/ Purchased in 2015 (mt)
			In-Kind	Cash	
Canada	CAN-C-00496-11	Rice		1,534	1,378
Canada	CAN-C-00496-11	Split Peas			480
Canada	CAN-C-00496-11	Vegetable Oil			328
Canada	CAN-C-00505-10	Corn Soya Blend		172	172
Canada	CAN-C-00505-10	Rice		218	218
Canada	CAN-C-00505-10	Split Peas		40	40
Canada	CAN-C-00505-10	Vegetable Oil		12	12
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Corn Soya Blend		31	31
Private Donors	WPD-C-02850-03	Corn Soya Blend		27	141
Saudi Arabia	SAU-C-00095-02	Dried Fruits			54
Sri Lanka	SRI-C-00023-01	Rice			5
Total:				2,033	2,858