



Country card
Sri Lanka

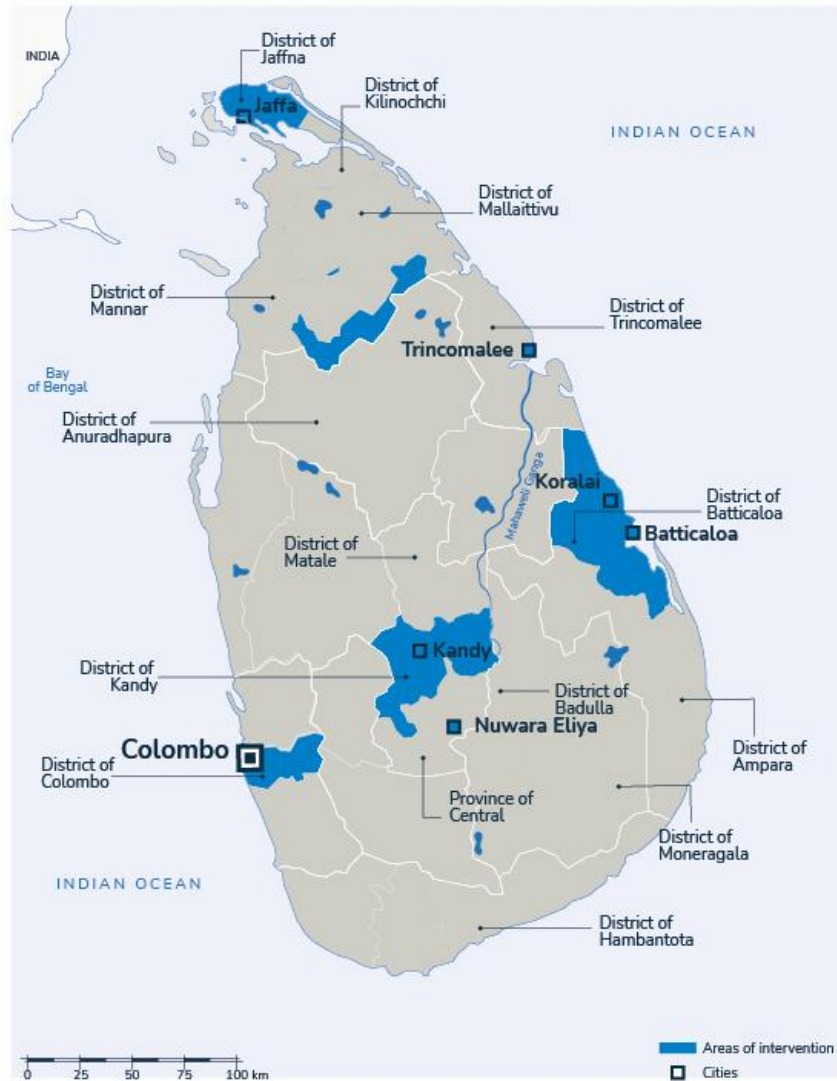




HI Team and intervention areas

The HI Sri Lanka program has 8 staff members.

Sri Lanka





General data of the country

a. General Data

Country ¹	Sri Lanka	Neighboring country (India)	France
Population	22.156.000	1.393.409.033	67.499.343
IHDI	0.673	0.65	0.90
Maternal mortality	43	143	4
Gender Development Index	0.955	0.820	0.987
Population under HCR mandate	9.910	245.935	580.898
INFORM index	3.7	5.2	2.3
Fragile State Index	79.3	75.3	30.9
GINI Index	39.3	35.7	32.4
Population covered by at least one social protection benefit (%)	36.4	24.4	100

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Accessed 2017
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Accessed 2018
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified 2016

c. Geopolitical analysis

1. Social/cultural/demographic elements

Sri Lanka is a South Asian island in the Indian Ocean. The climate is tropical with northeast monsoon from December–March and southwest monsoon from June to October. The area of 65,610 sq.km is mostly flat with mountains in the southern and central part of the country.

¹ https://hinside.hi.org/intranet/jcms/pl1_2540344/fr/2020-update-country-indicators-2ndary-data/-/donnees-secondaires-mises-a-jour



20.7% of the land is arable, 30% are forests. The population of 21,803,000 (2018) is concentrated within the wet zone in the southwest, urban centers along the east coast and on the Jaffna peninsula. Persisting cultural attitudes relating disability to a punishment for past sins and a burden influence the dominantly charity-based discourse on matters related to Persons with Disabilities. The attitudinal barriers play a major role in stagnation of policies and regulations. They further frustrate the accessibility, inclusivity and participation of Persons with Disabilities in different spheres such as employment

2. Political Scenario

Since 1802 the country was a British crown colony, until its independence in 1948. In 1972, it changed its name from Ceylon to Sri Lanka. The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka is a presidential republic with 9 Provinces, 25 Districts and 331 Divisions split into approx. 14,000 Grama Niladhari divisions. Whereby the political system is considered democratic, the political culture is not. The political culture seems to be determined by centralization, hierarchy and authority.

In early April 2022, massive protests calling for President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's resignation, sparked in Sri Lanka's capital city, Colombo. In May 2022, pro-government supporters brutally attacked protesters. Subsequently, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, brother of President Rajapaksa, stepped down and was replaced with former PM, Ranil Wickremesinghe.

3. Economic elements

Sri Lanka is currently experiencing a macroeconomic crisis. The UN has launched a Humanitarian Action Plan to provide emergency food and livelihood assistance (among other interventions) to at least 6.3 million people—30 percent of the country's 22 million population.

Rising food costs (food inflation is higher than 90 percent) that in turn create food insecurity for vulnerable groups, shortages in fertilizer for farming activities (that have caused a severe drop in crop harvests), fuel shortages that keep affecting the markets and supply chain, and mass loss of income and livelihoods, especially for daily wage workers, seem to perpetuate the crisis. The country's foreign debt and dwindled foreign reserves has affected its importation of essential goods and medicines, directly impacting its universal healthcare and welfare meal programs.

Summary of HI presence in the country

HI implemented its first project in Sri Lanka in 1992/1993, focusing on training rehabilitation professionals in Colombo and Jaffna. In 2003, HI developed quality standard procedure for mine clearance, in partnership with UNDP. In 2004, a program for mine survivors in Eastern Sri Lanka was set up. On 26th December 2004 the Tsunami hit Sri Lanka, killing 35,000 people and leaving more than 250,000 homeless. HI consequently focused new project on survivors in Batticaloa, Ampara, Trincomalee and Hambantota districts. With the end of the war in Sri Lanka, HI also shifted operations to the Northern Province, delivering post conflict assistance. Given



forced displacement of 300,000 people from Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu to army run camps in Vavuniya,

HI started responding to the needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs), through a physical rehabilitation project. HI made further projects to integrate rehabilitation services to the Public Health system. From 2011, HI broadened its scope of intervention: livelihood, inclusive sports, inclusive Disaster Risk Management, support to rehabilitation professionals and community based rehabilitation stakeholders, etc. Following the coalition government elected in 2015 fresh political will to address structural inequalities and national reconciliation, widely supported by the international community, HI shifted its action to address reconciliation issues, including transitional justice and reducing inequalities via inclusive economic development programming. At the same time, HI started to respond to small and medium natural disasters (floods and drought) with early recovering programming. Rehabilitation activities restarted, in 2017, on a very small scale and focused only on clubfoot treatment thanks to interest from



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Main sectors of intervention	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project	Donors funding it
Physical and Functional Rehabilitation	Equiped participating healthcare facilities and their staff to provide high-quality treatment Establish referral links between the community and clubfoot clinics in order to promote the long-term goal of early detection and treatment Link patients and their families to services to increase adherence to treatment protocol Work towards the successful integration of clubfoot treatment into the public health system at a national level	Children born with clubfoot and their parents 1416 previously enrolled children and 311 new children	Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children Batticaloa Hospital, Kandy Hospital MoH, Teaching Hospital Jaffna	Batticaloa Kandy Colombo Colombo, Batticaloa, Kandy, Jaffna	01.07.2021– 30.06.2022	Miracle Feet



Donors

Mircale Feet

