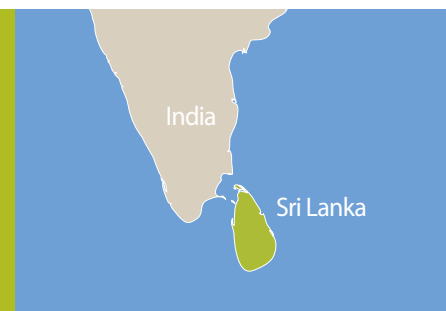


Sri Lanka



Over the past 10 years, assistance to Sri Lanka has centred on peace building and economic development. Norway has facilitated the peace process between the Sri Lankan authorities and the Tamil Tigers (LTTE) since 2000. Conflict levels intensified in 2007, creating further challenges for development cooperation. Cooperation with the Sri Lankan authorities and long-term support to the north were reduced, while support allocated to NGOs was stepped up.

Peace building



Funds were allocated to local-level organisations that provide training in conflict resolution and to organisations working to improve relations between ethnic groups. Norway, together with Sweden, supported a journalist education programme under the auspices of the Sri Lanka Press Institute and Press Complaints Commission. Of 67 graduates, 53 gained employment as journalists within a short period. The Sri Lanka Monitoring Mission (SLMM), drawn from the Nordic countries, continued its activity. The presence was instrumental in improving the life situation of people in conflict-ridden areas in the north and east and in alleviating the grave predicament of refugees across the country.

Economic development



In eastern Sri Lanka, a road used by 150,000 people was brought to completion and 60,000 decares (14,820 acres) of agricultural land was worked up. Inhabitants in the Jaffna area received better drinking water and agricultural production improved after irrigation systems were rehabilitated and environmentally friendly waste management was introduced. A national programme to upgrade the capacity of 28 district chambers of commerce was initiated and 2,410 young unemployed persons in rural areas were given vocational training. Private sector cooperation between Norway and Sri Lanka resulted in six new commercial cooperation agreements, nine agreements of intent and six trade agreements.

Tsunami

2007 was the final year that Norway allocated tsunami funds. FORUT Sri Lanka, a Norwegian/Swedish based development agency, completed 264 houses, Norwegian People's Aid started construction of 435 houses and the Norwegian Refugee Council completed the last of the schools planned for children who survived the tsunami. In addition, the reconstruction of 35 religious

gathering places (kovils, mosques, Buddhist temples and churches) was completed with Norwegian funding.

Women and gender equality



Thanks to the Union of Education Norway's programme, women have in recent years been assigned important posts as president, secretary general and treasurer in three teachers' organisations. The proportion of women in governing bodies has also risen.

Facts

Estimated population (2006): 19.9 million

Gross national income per capita (2006): USD 1,310

Average annual economic growth (GDP) (2000-2006): 4.6%

Economic structure: percentage of GDP by sector (2006): agriculture 16%, industry 27%, services 56%

Malnutrition among children under 5 years of age (2001): 30%

Human Development Index (HDI) Level (2005): 0.743. A country with an HDI level between 0.500 and 0.800 is regarded as having a medium quality of life.

Child mortality rate per 1000 (2006): 13
Change 2000-2006: -6

Maternal mortality rate per 1000 births (2005): 0.6

HIV infection rate, 15-49 age group (2007): 0.1%

Children in primary education (2004): 97.1%

Illiteracy rate 15-24 age group (2007): 2.4%

Ratio of girls to 100 boys in primary/secondary/tertiary education (2004): Unavailable/100/Unavailable

Percentage of women in parliament (2006): 6%

Estimated pay for women as percentage of men's pay in the formal sector (2005): 41%

Forested area (change 1990-2005), negative numbers indicate deforestation as a percentage): -18%

Area protected to conserve biological diversity (2007): 14.3%

Percentage of population with access to safe drinking water (2006): 82%

Percentage of urban population living in slums (2001): 13.6%

Corruption Perception Index (TI) (2007): 3.2 The index ranges from 10 to 0, where 10 is totally clean and 0 is totally corrupt.

Fragile state, according to OECD/DAC (2006): No
Defence spending as a percentage of GDP (2006): 2%
Aid per capita (2005): USD 61

Aid as a percentage of GDP: 5.1%

Bilateral assistance¹ for Sri Lanka, by partner, 2007

| Development cooperation partners | NOK 1000 | Per cent |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| Government-to-government, etc. ² | 46 178 | 17,9 |
| International NGOs | 6 905 | 2,7 |
| Local NGOs | 49 479 | 19,2 |
| Norwegian NGOs | 117 256 | 45,4 |
| Regional NGOs | 173 | 0,1 |
| Nordic research institutions/foundations | 1 128 | 0,4 |
| Multilateral organisations ³ | 36 917 | 14,3 |
| Total | 258 036 | 100,0 |

1) Includes multi-bilateral assistance

2) Including public institutions, ministries, consultants, the private sector, etc.

3) Earmarked assistance channelled through multilateral organisations (multi-bilateral)

Bilateral assistance¹ for Sri Lanka, by sector, 2007

| Sectors | NOK 1000 | Per cent |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| Economic development and trade | 36 908 | 14,3 |
| Emergency relief and other unspecified assistance | 106 239 | 41,2 |
| Environment and energy | 3 080 | 1,2 |
| Good governance | 90 068 | 34,9 |
| Health, education and other social sector areas | 21 740 | 8,4 |
| Total | 258 036 | 100,0 |

1) Includes multi-bilateral assistance