

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE COORDINATION

1. **Development partner emergency assistance coordination.** Since April 2022, after the Government of Sri Lanka initiated discussions with the International Monetary Fund on potential financial support, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been closely coordinating with the World Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank on emergency assistance responses in Sri Lanka under a joint action plan. Continuous communication mechanisms have been set up at the head of agency and technical levels to address interim financing needs and protect the poor and vulnerable in a well-sequenced and coordinated manner, including cofinancing arrangements. Table 1 shows the overall emergency assistance packages of the World Bank, ADB, and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

Table 1: Emergency Assistance Packages of the Multilateral Development Banks for the Government of Sri Lanka

Phase and Approach ^a	World Bank	Asian Development Bank	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
First phase: Reallocation of surplus loan proceeds within the scope of approved projects	\$23 million from the ongoing COVID-19 emergency health project for emergency medicine procurement	- A total of \$83.88 million from ongoing projects, including \$66.88 million from health sector project for medical supplies, \$13.5 million from SME project for SME working capital support, and \$3.5 million from water sector project for water treatment - Additional \$50 million from irrigation project for fertilizer import and agricultural production support (planned)	
Second phase: Cancellation and redeployment of surplus loan proceeds from ongoing projects	\$275 million from contingent emergency response component of a transport project for import of fertilizers and cooking gas, and cash transfers to the poor and vulnerable (parallel cofinancing with ADB)	\$200 million from transport, energy, urban, water, and health sector projects for the Food Security and Livelihood Recovery Emergency Assistance Project (combined with an additional grant of \$3 million)	\$100 million from urban sector project for medical supplies (parallel cofinancing with ADB) ^b

ADB = Asian Development Bank, COVID-19 = coronavirus disease, IMF = International Monetary Fund, SMEs = small and medium-sized enterprises.

^a Reflect the phase and approach of ADB and may not exactly correspond to those of the World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

^b Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank approved the project on 29 June 2022.

Source: ADB.

2. In May 2022, in response to the Prime Minister's request for assistance to address the growing food security crisis, under the leadership of the United Nations (UN) resident coordinator and on behalf of the Country Humanitarian Team in Sri Lanka, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs coordinated 18 UN agencies and nongovernment organizations to prepare

the humanitarian needs and priorities plan.¹ The plan, released on 9 June 2022, sets out the development and humanitarian responses of the participating development partners in June–September 2022, focusing on health care and essential medicines, food, agriculture, nutrition, safe drinking water, emergency livelihoods, and protection. Table 2 presents the assistance identified in the plan.

**Table 2: Planned Assistance in the Humanitarian Needs and Priorities Plan
(June–September 2022)**

Area	Number of People Targeted	Development Partners	Funding Requirements (\$ million)
Food assistance to food-insecure households	220,371	WFP, IOM, Islamic Relief, ChildFund, Sarvodaya, UNOPS, LEADS, Kindernothilfe, Muslim Aid, SUN PF	6.1
Unconditional cash and voucher assistance to food-insecure households	200,911	Save the Children, World Vision, UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA, IOM, Sarvodaya, LEADS	7.8
Agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and emergency livelihoods-related critical inputs and cash assistance	1,554,127	FAO, UNDP, ChildFund Sri Lanka, Save the Children, World Vision, SUN PF, IOM, ILO, Muslim Aid	16.8
Child protection services	9,750 (children)	UNICEF, Save the Children, ChildFund Sri Lanka, LEADS	0.6
Support for victims of gender-based violence	44,815	UNFPA, UNDP, IOM	0.6

FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization, ILO = international Labour Organization, IOM = International Organization for Migration, LEADS = Lanka Evangelical Alliance Development Service, SUN PF = Scaling Up Nutrition People's Forum, UNDP = United Nations Development Programme, UNFPA = United Nations Population Fund, UNICEF = United Nations Children's Fund, UNOPS = United Nations Office for Project Services, WFP = World Food Programme. Source: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (footnote 1).

3. Additionally, the Development Partners Secretariat, which was established in 2005 as an informal information sharing and communication mechanism, has been convening regular Development Partners Forum meetings to share information on emergency assistance responses, and discuss and identify topics of common interest that require further discussions with the government. As of August 2022, the forum includes more than 40 nongovernment, bilateral, and multilateral development partners and is chaired by the UN resident coordinator.

4. In the process of designing the project, ADB closely coordinated with the World Bank through the technical emergency assistance coordination mechanism (para. 1). ADB also consulted and coordinated with the other development partners, including the Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme, and World Food Programme, on cash and food voucher assistance, support for farmers and agriculture, and livelihood development, as well as the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Embassy of Japan in Sri Lanka regarding the preparation of the Japan Fund for Prosperous and Resilient Asia and the Pacific grant component.

5. **Official development assistance coordination within the government.** The government coordinates official development assistance through the Department of External Resources, together with the Department of National Planning (NPD) and the other departments

¹ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 2022. *Sri Lanka: Food Security Crisis. Humanitarian Needs and Priorities*. June–September 2022. Colombo.

of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies. To coordinate different ministries and departments involved in the World Bank's contingent emergency response component, the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization and National Policies established the contingent emergency response component coordination unit within the Department of National Planning. The unit will also serve as a project coordination unit for the project to coordinate project management and implementation activities with the Ministry of Women, Child Affairs and Social Empowerment; Ministry of Agriculture; and their departments and secretariats.