

**Project Completion Report:
Emergency Response Project for Flood and Landslide
Victims in Sri Lanka – Funded by the Isle of Man
(September 2016 to December 2016)**

Prepared by

HelpAge Sri Lanka

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Description

- Name of beneficiary of grant contract: HelpAge Sri Lanka
- Name and title of the Contact person: M.S. Chaminda De Silva, Programme Manger
- Name of partners in the Action: Disaster Management Centre, DS officers and Senior Citizen Committees.
- Title of the Action: Emergency Response Project for Flood and Landslide Victims in Sri Lanka
- Start date and end date of the reporting period: 16st August 2016 to 31st December 2017
- Target country(ies) or region(s): Sri Lanka
- Final beneficiaries &/or target groups (if different) (including numbers of women and men): Older people, affected people including disabled people.

Direct: 7,500
Indirect: 21,500
- Country(ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7): Sri Lanka
- Contact Person HelpAge International Regional Office South Asia – Archana Sharma

1. Description of the Project

HELPAge SRI LANKA

HelpAge Sri Lanka (HASL) was set up in 1986 following the 1st World Assembly on Ageing held in Vienna in 1982. Its initial services and programmes were developed on the recommendation of the world assembly, followed by the UN principles of Ageing namely, caring, participation, independence, self-fulfillment and dignity.

HASL is Sri Lanka's only national charity working purely for the needs of senior citizens. Since 1986, it has grown in reputation & international standing and is regularly consulted by the Government on age care policy issues. As a sister organization of HelpAge International (HAI), HASL also has access to skills and expertise from across the world's ageing population.

HASL had been formed in order to advance the social and human resource potential of poor and disadvantaged senior citizens in Sri Lankan society. Special recognition is made of the needs of elderly women and men who are recognized as special catalytic groups.

Disaster situation and back ground of the project

Very heavy rainfall in many parts of Sri Lanka caused severe flooding which affected 22 districts. To date 63 people have been confirmed dead while over 130 are still missing and 29 were injured. Many houses were damaged, many areas inundated, valuables washed away and many people displaced, drinking water wells were polluted and a significant number of farm animals including cattle, poultry and pigs were lost and other assets and belongings destroyed. This has resulted in a complete loss of income for many families.

In late June, immediately after the disaster a needs evaluation showed that 425,601 people from 103,776 families had been affected. According to the current statistics 354 houses were fully damaged and 3,326 houses partially damaged by the floods. 597 temporary camps have been established in safe locations for these displaced persons. 319,195 persons from 63,370 families are taking temporary shelter in these camps. These statistics are drawn from reports issued by the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) Sri Lanka. Major landslides created tragic circumstances in Kegalle, Kandy and Rathnapura Districts. Due to the landslide in Aranayake (Kegalle) 80 houses were destroyed and 37 bodies were recovered. In some areas families were evacuated from their homes due to the threat of landslides, several main roads in Western, North, North Central, North Western and Sabaragamuwa provinces were flooded and several roads in the central hill country became impassable due to landslides.

Sluice gates of several reservoirs were opened causing more flooding in low-lying areas and submerging many roads. The floods also caused destruction to agriculture and other livelihood activities of the public, such as, paddy farming, vegetable and grain farming, poultry, piggeries, cattle, goat farming, and fishing. Public transport systems such, as bus and train services, were crippled in many parts of the island owing to landslides and

flooding. Out of the 22 districts in the country the most affected are Colombo, Gamapaha, Kegalle, Rathnapura, Puttalam, Mannar, Galle and Matara.

This Emergency Response Project for Flood and Landslide Victims in Sri Lanka was implemented by HelpAge Sri Lanka with the support from Isle of Man Funds through guidance of HelpAge International.

2. Project Objectives

- To provide humanitarian assistance to the floods and landslides affected older persons in selected areas of Sri Lanka and their families to be safe in temporary camps and their houses until end of September 2016.
- To provide medical care and necessary medical assistance for floods and landslides affected older persons in selected areas from 20th July 2016 till end of September 2016.
- To provide mobility aids for floods and landslides affected vulnerable older persons in selected areas of Sri Lanka and assist them to uplift their living standards and conditions from 20th July 2016.

3. Activities :

Project activities

1. Provide dry rations packs for 1,000 affected older persons and their families in selected areas within one month.
2. Provide 1,000 bottles of drinking water (5 litres) for 1,000 affected older persons and their families in selected areas within one month.
3. Provide nonfood item (NFI) packs for 1,000 affected older persons and their families in selected areas within one month
4. Provide Emergency supplies
5. Conduct 40 Mobile Medical Health Camps for affected older people.
6. Provide mobility aids for disabled older persons according to requirements. Roughly 100 beneficiaries.

Start Date: 15th August 2016

End Date: 31st December 2017 (with no cost extension period)

Deadline for submitting completion report to IoM – 31st January 2017.

Selected areas

Selected Districts - Kegalle, Colombo, Rathnapura, Nuwaraeliya, Kaluthara and Galle.

No	District	DS divisions	Intervention			
			Provide Food, Non Food and Water	Medical camps	Disability Aids	Emergency Supply
1	Kegalle	Aranayake	✓	✓		✓
		Bulathkohupitiya	✓	✓		
		Dehiovita	✓	✓	✓	
		Yatiyanthota		✓		
2	Gampaha	Dompe		✓	✓	✓
		Kelaniya		✓		
		Wattala		✓		
3	Galle	Akmeemana		✓	✓	✓
4		Ambalangoda		✓		
5	Ratnapura	Kuruvita		✓	✓	✓
		Elapatha			✓	
6	Colombo	Ingiriya		✓		✓
7	Nuwaraeliya	Ginigathhena		✓	✓	✓
8	Kandy	Yatinuwara		✓		

Steps and Project Processes

Assessment and selection of the beneficiaries

An initial needs assessment took place in June to prepare for this emergency response project but receiving the approval took longer than expected. During this time the field conditions changed and it was necessary to undertake a rapid assessment for updated data and selection of beneficiaries. With assistance from the Disaster Management Centre and relevant Divisional secretariat we were able to select beneficiaries and working areas.

Kegalle district was prioritized for food and non-food items as well as provision of water due to the quantity (over 1000 people) of people in the district who were displaced and living in temporary camps as a result of landslides. The divisional secretariat provided beneficiary lists and supported with organization of the distribution. HASL selected 6 other districts for the remaining services. HASL received requests from several Divisional Secretariats for these services but due to restricted funds we were unable to support all those that requested help.

1. Food item packs

As a result of this disaster, people who were affected lost their food stocks and many other belongings from their houses. They were displaced, they ceased to receive income and access to food was flagged as a major issue. Therefore through this project arrangements were made to provide dry ration packs for affected older persons and their families. HASL Management obtained quotations from relevant suppliers, evaluated the said quotations by comparing the prices, quality and availability of the products. Then suitable suppliers provided funding for 1000 packs.

The food packs consist of the items below.

	Items	Unit
1	Rice	5Kg
2	Dhal	500 g
3	Canned Fish	265g
4	Milk Powder	400g
5	Sugar	1kg
6	Tea	200g
7	Bags	1

The distribution process commenced on October 2016 and completed on 2nd December 2016.

2. Drinking water

Potable safe drinking water is an essential item in flood and landslide affected areas since well water and water from other sources is typically contaminated. There was a big demand for safe drinking water among the displaced people who were residing in temporary camps. Hence under this project, safe drinking water bottles were provided for 1,000 selected families. 5 litres were provided per family. The water was distributed alongside both the food and non-food items.

3. Non Food Items (NFIs)

In addition to their needs for food older people also need clothing and other non food items to maintain their health and hygiene during their stay in temporary camps. HASL purchased the Non Food Items (NFIs) from different suppliers selected according to quotations evaluation. The items were packed at HASL premises and were distributed by HASL staff with the assistance from the government, local authorities and members of the Senior Citizen Committees.

The Non Food Items packs consisted of the following items.

	NFI	Unit
1	Mosquito net (double)	1
2	Hot water flask	1
3	Soap	2
4	Tooth brush	2
5	Torch/ lantern rechargeable	1
6	Tooth paste	1
7	Bags	1
	Total	

1,000 packs consisting of the above items were packed by HASL staff and distributed among 1,000 senior citizens and their families in affected areas. Distribution commenced on October 2016 and was completed on the 2nd December 2016. The NFIs helped older people to fulfill their hygiene, clothing, basic medical needs as well as their sleeping requirements – many of their day to day requirements for living in temporary camps.

Distribution of Food Items, Non Food Items and Drinking Water bottles

No.	District	DS division	Temporary Camp	GN Division	No. Families	Beneficiaries
1	Kegalle	Aranayake	Wasanthagama	Debathgama Pallegage	13	38
2				Elagipitiya	27	62
3				Ganthuna Udagama	13	44
4				Kumarapura	1	6
5				Galbokka	1	4
6				Debathgama Udabage	1	2
7			Moragammana Temple	Moragammana	10	29
8				Kumarapura	1	4
9			Narangammana M.V. School	Moragammana	1	5
10				Debathgama Pallegage	9	36
11				Dewala Udagama	1	6
12				Narangammana	3	26
13				Ganthuna Nelligahawatte	2	8
14			Narangammana Village	Bulugammana	1	3
15				Narangammana	4	16
16			Hathgampola MV School Ground	Elagipitiya	26	100
17			Elagipitiya School Ground	Elagipitiya	36	124
18			Godigamuwa School Ground	Elagipitiya	12	41
19			Pallegamunuwa Ground	Ganthuna Udagama	27	105
20				Gataberikanda	1	6
21			Ussapitiya Ground	Elagipitiya	24	82
22				Debathgama Pallegage	26	89
23			DS office Aranayake	Ambalakanda	11	47
24				Kumarapura	1	7
25				Kehelwaththa	9	31
26				Getaberikanda	6	27

27				Gevilipitiya Nagaraya	10	57
28				Jambugasmada	18	68
29				Debathgama Udabage	18	77
30				Debathgama Pallebage	23	100
31				Deiyanwala	8	27
32				Narangammana	7	19
33				Narangala	10	49
34				Moragammana	1	4
35				Hathgampala	3	10
36				Ganthuna Udagama	39	172
37				Kalugala	34	124
38				Galbokka	5	24
39				Hakurugammana	1	5
40				Katugaha	1	4
41				Aranayake	8	35
42			Deiyanwala School ground	Podape	31	102
43				Deiyanwala	19	77
44				Aranayake	5	19
45			Al Arapha Primary College Ground	Debathgama Pallebage	12	39
46				Galbokka	3	8
47			Dippitiya Muslim M.M.V. Ground	Narangala	27	129
48			Rahala - West School Ground	Rahala	2	7
49				Arama	1	4
50				Selawa East	11	36
51		Bulathkohupitiya	Thannimale	Kanangamuwa	3	12
52				Kabagamuwa	5	21
53				Newsmyer	35	145
54				Puspane	24	96

55			Yakkella	Gatiyamulla	1	4
56				Alawathura	13	52
57				Udapotha	25	111
58				Poonehella	8	29
59			Pannala	Haloluwa	2	9
60				Ambamalla	16	64
61				Ampagala	22	94
62				Kiriporuwa	13	53
63				Thelkumuduwala	4	16
64				Poonehella	17	68
65				Panapitiya	10	40
66			Thumbage	Urumeewala	25	108
67				Kandawa	89	372
68				Maussawa	1	5
69				Uduwa	36	152
70				Pelempitiya	7	32
71				Dedugala	33	132
72				Haragala	1	5
73				Narangala	14	56
74				Neluwakkana	5	23
75				Udapotha	15	64
76		Dehiovita		Kelagama	12	103
			Total		1000	4010

4. Provide Emergency supplies

HelpAge coordinated with divisional secretaries to assess the new needs of emergency supplies to division and camps. But most of the need of camps has fulfilled. Hence DMC requested mobility equipment for Disaster Management Centers in affected districts to handle the emergency work for vulnerable elders. Hence HASL provided 10 wheelchairs to DMC.

5. Conduct 40 Mobile Medical Camps

For the mobile medical camps we were able to obtain approvals from the Ministry Of Health. We were also able to mobilize support from the National Secretariat of Elders and the Southern Province Social Services department in organizing camps. Senior Citizen Committees also disseminated messages and information to flood victims and provided the support to organize the medical camps.

HASL completed 40 medical clinics in 8 Districts as outlined below. Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) camps were provided for Senior Citizens Committees (SCCs) in affected areas. Once a date is organized for the SCC to run the MMU camp, leaders of the SCC informed all the senior citizens in their respective villages who organized a venue for the camp. Government officers in the divisional secretariat also assisted in organizing the MMU camps. Each MMU had the capacity to screen 75 patients.

Drugs were issued to patients by the MMU pharmacist free of charge based on the prescription given by the MMU medical doctor. Patients who were identified in need of further treatment were referred to the nearest government hospital.

Details of Mobile Medical Camps

No	Date	District	DS office	Location	Medical Screening2
1	31-Oct-16	Kegalle	Mawanella	Hemanthagama 8.00am	76
2	31-Oct-16	Kegalle	Mawanella	Dunugammahaliyadda 2.00pm	72
3	9-Nov-16	Gampaha	Dompe	Samana bedda Rajamaha viharaya 8.00	74
4	9-Nov-16	Gampaha	Dompe	Nikawala 2.00pm	76
5	10-Nov-16	Gampaha	Dompe	Dangalle Rajamaha viharaya 8.00	73
6	10-Nov-16	Gampaha	Dompe	Purana shri maha viharaya-Indolamulla 2.00	79
7	11-Nov-16	Gampaha	Dompe	St.Theresa Devmadura -Nakandapola 8.00	74
8	15-Nov-16	Galle	Akmimana	Akmimana DS office 8.00am	73
9	15-Nov-16	Galle	Akmimana	Akmimana DS office 8.00am	76
10	18-Nov-16	Colombo	Avissawella	Thalduwa-Uduwa Halle	75
11	21-Nov-16	Kegalle	Bulathkohupitiya	Yakella Adurupolawatta 8.00am	73
12	21-Nov-16	Kegalle	Bulathkohupitiya	Pannala kiribowala 2.00pm	67
13	22-Nov-16	Kegalle	Bulathkohupitiya	Newsmiyar pahala 8.00am	83
14	22-Nov-16	Kegalle	Bulathkohupitiya	Wallampitiya 2.00pm	69
15	23-Nov-16	Kegalle	Bulathkohupitiya	Uduwa Waharake 8.00am	74
16	23-Nov-16	Kegalle	Bulathkohupitiya	Thumbage 2.00pm	78
17	24-Nov-16	Kegalle	Yatiantota	Polpitiya 8.00am	79
18	24-Nov-16	Kegalle	Yatiantota	Dombepola 2.00pm	73
19	25-Nov-16	Kegalle	Aranayake	Ussapitiya 8.00	74
20	25-Nov-16	Kegalle	Aranayake	Hathgampala 2.00	76
21	26-Nov-16	Kandy	Galkaduwa	Galkaduwa SCC	80
22	28-Nov-16	Rathnapura	Kuruwita	Kithulpe 8.00am	69
23	28-Nov-16	Rathnapura	Kuruwita	Galukagama 2.00pm	79
24	28-Nov-16	Colombo	Wattala	Bopitiya 8.00am	79
25	28-Nov-16	Colombo	Wattala	Bopitiya Thuduwa 2.00am	78

26	29-Nov-16	Colombo	Wattala	Dikkowita Janapitiya 8.00am	73
27	29-Nov-16	Colombo	Wattala	Karunagama 2.00pm	74
28	29-Nov-16	Rathnapura	Kuruwita	Delgamuwa 8.00am	76
29	30-Nov-16	Colombo	Wattala	Uswetakeiyawa 8.00am	69
30	1-Dec-16	Gampaha	Dompe	Kalukodayawa wathuraboda Viharaya 8.00	80
31	1-Dec-16	Gampaha	Dompe	Veralugampala Praja Shalawa 2.00pm	75
32	2-Dec-16	Gampaha	Dompe	Meddegama Rajamaha Viharaya 8.00am	76
33	2-Dec-16	Gampaha	Dompe	Maryland Praja hall 2.00pm	76
34	2-Dec-16	Colombo	Ingiriya	Urugala 8.00am	81
35	6-Dec-16	Colombo	Ingiriya	Ingiriya west 9.00am	96
36	7-Dec-16	Colombo	Ingiriya	Kandanapitiya 9.00am	78
37	10-Dec-16	Colombo	Kelaniya	Sri Lanka Visha Medical Hospital 9.00 am	73
38	10-Dec-16	Colombo	Kelaniya	Sri Lanka Visha Medical Hospital 2.00 pm	76
39	14-Dec-16	Galle	Ambalangoda	Thilakapura Samajasathkara Centre 2.00pm (150)	74
40	15-Dec-16	Galle	Yakkalamulla	Wanawe ChethaBimma Ramaya-Kolonnagoda 8.00am (150)	81
				Total	3037

6. Provide Mobility Aids for Disabled Older Persons

HASL selected disabled people through the MMU camps and through DS offices and the DMC. HASL identified 110 disabled people with different needs such as wheel chairs, crutches, walking frames, walking sticks, and hearing aid among others. The items were provided as below;

No	Equipment need	Colombo and Kaluthara	Polpitiya	Dompe	DMC	Kegalle	Galle	total
1	Wheel chairs	2	1	1	10		2	16
2	Commode wheel chairs	1				1		2
3	Walkers						2	2
4	Crutches		4	4			1	9
5	Hearing aids	7	5	25		1	30	68
6	Walking sticks		10				9	19
	Total	10	20	30	10	2	44	116

Monitoring and coordination with the relevant Government Authorities, other NGOs and SCCs

To avoid any duplication of efforts HASL closely monitored the project activities and coordinated with the DMC, relevant government authorities such as divisional secretariat offices and Grama Niladaris' (GN) of the relevant divisions. HASL contacted leaders of the SCCs in each selected GN divisions and obtained their assistance in implementing and coordination of this project. Monitoring and Evaluation of the programme was undertaken by the M&E officer of HelpAge Sri Lanka under the guidance of the Programme Manager and the Executive Director of HelpAge Sri Lanka. Preparation of the packs and distributions was undertaken by HASL staff maintaining humanitarian standards and ensuring the satisfaction of the beneficiaries.

HASL coordinate with the following Divisional Secretariat (DS) offices and Senior Citizen Committees (SCCs) in implementing this Flood Response Project.

#	DS office	No. of Senior Citizen Committees
1	Aranayake	1
2	Bulathkohupitiya	5
3	Dompe	5
4	Yatiantota	2
5	Akmeemana	2
6	Ambalangoda	2
7	Yakkalamulla	2
8	Kuruvita	4
9	Kelaniya	5
10	Wattala	4
11	Ginigathhena	2

1. Achievements and Impact

Achievements

1. 1,000 dry food items packs were distributed to 1,000 senior citizens and their family members and around 4,000 people benefited from this programme. These dry food item packs helped them to fulfill their food requirements during the difficult post disaster period.
2. 1,000 water bottles (5 liters) were distributed among 1,000 senior citizens and their family members. In total around 4,000 people benefited from this activity. This drinking water fulfilled their drinking water needs for nearly 3 days.
3. 1,000 non food item (NFIs) packs were distributed among 1,000 senior citizens and their family members. In total around 4,000 people benefited from this programme. These NFIs helped senior citizens to fulfill their various day to day needs such as, hygiene, health, clothing, sleeping.
4. 10 wheel chairs were provided to the disaster management centre to use for emergencies in 10 districts which are prone to disasters. These mobility aids are now used in emergency response works and rescue works in each districts by the district disaster management units.
5. 116 disability aids were distributed among selected disabled elders in the affected areas. Wheelchairs, hearing aids, crutches, walking frames, walking sticks were provided.
6. 40 Mobile Medical Camps were conducted to provide medical services for vulnerable older people in the affected areas. 3,037 older people benefited from these services.
7. Altogether 8,663 people have directly benefited and 22,622 indirectly benefited from these project services.
8. HASL discussed with the secretary of the Ministry of Disaster Management and created awareness on issues faced by older people who are affected by this disaster. During these discussions the secretary agreed to provide relevant statistics and promised to give priority for their needs.
9. HASL coordinated with SCCs in selected affected areas and HASL received their assistance in coordination and implementation of this quick relief programme. These SCCs have built up their relationship with HASL which will be beneficial for both parties in the longer term.
10. HASL has implemented programmes and projects in some of these affected areas prior to this disaster. Due to the implementation of this relief programme HASL has strengthened its relationship with the community and built up its reputation as an organization working for and on behalf of older people in Sri Lanka.
11. Through implementation of the project the living condition and status of older people in temporary camps as improved, but we have also witnessed improvements when they return to their family premises. Older people supported by the project told HASL staff that as a result of the project they were benefiting from increased respect from family members.

Final Beneficiary Calculation

No	Activity	Direct Beneficiaries	Indirect Beneficiaries
1	Providing food, nonfood items and drinking water	4,010	4,010
2	Providing emergency supplies (10 wheel chairs) benefitting 150 people per year per district.	1,500	6,000
3	Mobile medical camps	3,037	12,148
4	Distribution of disability aids	116	464
	Total	8,663	22,622

Impact

1. Raising awareness among government organization and other agencies has enhanced the attention given to older people who are often overlooked in humanitarian responses.
2. Senior citizen committees gained higher recognition and respect from their community due to the implementation of this project.
3. The Disaster Management Center has outlined plans to improve their services to older people during disasters and have requested HASL to join in supporting older people during emergency, rescue work and disaster preparedness programmes.

2. Challenges and lessons learnt

A. Challenges

Selecting vulnerable beneficiaries and avoiding duplication of assistance were big challenges, the number of those affected far outweighed the numbers HASL was able to support. However with the assistance from the DMC, DS offices, SCC and Grama Niladaris HASL was able to select the most vulnerable beneficiaries.

B. Lessons learnt

1. Implementing a relief programme focusing exclusively on older people is a difficult task. However during the implementation of this project HASL has created awareness among the general public that there is a need to provide relief programmes with the sole intention of supporting older people.
2. Importance of updating the ALERT system and ensuring disaster prepared community actions are implemented will reduce the impact of future disasters.
3. Closely working with the government authorities is helpful in provision of required services to senior citizens in emergency situations.

Publicity and Visibility

HASL managed to provide a high level of visibility by printing bags for each pack with the logos of HAI and HASL highlighting the sponsorship of this project by Isle of Man. Also HASL printed banners for each vehicle and displayed the banners at each distribution point. HASL published the events on local newspapers and other public media. HASL also prepared a video documentary covering the distribution of this relief programme and uploaded to the HASL YouTube account and also provided publicity through social media. Please let us know if you would like links to any of these materials.

HelpAge back in Aranayake



HelpAge Sri Lanka (HASL) and the HelpAge International, UK distributed dry rations, non food items and water bottles to flood and landslide affected families in the Aranayake and Bulathkohupitiya areas, sponsored by the people in the Isle of Man in UK. HASL, Executive Director Samantha Liyanawaduge presented a parcel to a disabled victim. Officials, Chaminda de Silva, Lionel Premachandra, Gamini Weerasinghe and Buddhika Nanayakkara are also in the picture.

Sunday Observer 11th December 2016



Disabled elder received food and Nonfood items



HASL DS staff and HASL ED distributed Items



Temporary camps at Aranayake



Disability aid distribution at Akmeemana



Mobile Medical Camps