



STORY: Sri Lanka Water (ECHO)

SOURCE: UNICEF

RESTRICTIONS: access all

LANGUAGE: NAT/ENGLISH/SINHALESE

DATELINE: 18 March 2005, Galle District, Sri Lanka

## VIDEO SCRIPT

Narrated by Rob McBride

Delivering an essential resource, upon which thousands of Sri Lankan families rely.

One of many tankers now bringing water to the survivors of the Tsunami. People whose water supply was wrecked by the waves.

SOT - Dr. Harishchandra Yakandawala, UNICEF Programme Officer talking to local residents

From one house to the next, UNICEF staff hearing the same story.

INT Dr. Harishchandra Yakandawala, UNICEF Programme Officer explains what locals have told him about ruined water supply:

"Now the problem is that after the tsunami all this water is contaminated even the dug well and even these tube wells are contaminated. So they can't use this water any more for drinking purposes."

Wells which used to supply fresh drinking water, now tapping into a water table contaminated by the sea.

It means the daily deliveries are vital for the recovery effort.

UNICEF is taking a lead in supporting Sri Lanka's efforts to restore supplies. These tankers, provided with funds from the Japanese government and ECHO - the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office.

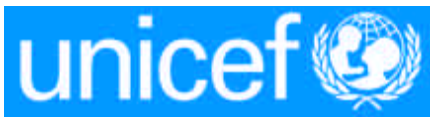
INT - Cristiano Mandra – Head of ECHO's South Asia Office:

"What we did is immediately deploy our people to the field while in the meantime we gathered secondary information. With that information we were able to release money very very fast and choose the partners corresponding to need who had the capacity to respond to that need."

It has meant that schools and health centres have managed to re-open quickly, and stay open. In these relief camps, bathing and toilet facilities are making life a little more bearable.

Kavita - a mother of three - lost everything. She relies on these temporary water tanks for all of her family's needs.

INT - (English translation) - Kavita: "I use the water for everything; washing, cooking, cleaning and so on. I depend on it."



Until there is a permanent solution, the tankers will continue to do their vital work.

In Sri Lanka, this is Rob McBride, reporting for UNICEF. For every child ... Advance Humanity.

SHOTLIST for UNICEF video news package English and International versions - TRT: 2'11"

1. WS Neighbours filling up containers from tank.
2. MS Tank being filled from tanker, provided with funds from Japanese Govt., UNICEF and ECHO (European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office)
3. INT: (English): Dr. Harishchandra Yakandawala, UNICEF Programme Officer, explaining how water is now contaminated and that local people can't use wells:  
"Now the problem is that after the tsunami all this water is contaminated even the dug well and even these tube wells are contaminated. So they can't use this water any more for drinking purposes."
4. Local people filling from well and showing Harish contaminated water
5. Tanker being filled at Water Board facility
6. Two tankers on the road, passing shots and POV from cab.
7. INT: (English): Cristiano Mandra – Head of ECHO's South Asia Office saying:  
"What we did is immediately deploy our people to the field while in the meantime we gathered secondary information. With that information we were able to release money very very fast and choose the partners corresponding to need who had the capacity to respond to that need."
8. ECHO and UNICEF water tanks at school and relief camp
9. MS Mother of three Nagiah Kavitha (aged 30) filling jar and then washing dishes
10. INT: (Sinhalese): Nagiah Kavitha, describes how uses water from the tank for all household and everyday needs, and relies upon it:  
"I use the water for everything; washing, cooking, cleaning and so on. I depend on it."
11. Tankers on road again

Shotlist for UNICEF video news footage – one (extra Interviews) 2'06"

- 01 INT. Dr. Harishchandra Yakandawala, UNICEF Programme Officer  
"Now here in the schools particularly they don't have the pipeline, but they had it before the tsunami, but they don't have still they don't have. So the water supply, the water bodies are delivering water to the tank, and all these children are drinking this water. After tsunami, UNICEF is supporting the Water Board to reconstruct their water supply and the have new skills, even to deliver water to the houses, new supplies to the houses. So definitely, the water supply after this will be, I think, improved. And also most of these houses have dug wells so they were using, drinking water from those wells. All these wells are contaminated and even after cleaning the wells, the water is not suitable for drinking."
- 02 INT Dr. Harishchandra Yakandawala, UNICEF Programme Officer, explaining what local residents have told him about water quality since Tsunami.  
"What they say now is this water is not suitable for drinking or even for cooking. Before the tsunami of course they were using this water for drinking and cooking. Now they cannot use it. They are using it for washing clothes and things like that."
12. INT: (English): Cristiano Mandra – Head of ECHO's South Asia Office being interviewed:  
Question: "This partnership between ECHO and UNICEF – how has it made people's lives more bearable following the tsunami?"



Cristiano Mandra: "Well the partnership between UNICEF and ECHO has been very effective. You could imagine, with the disaster, the damage that it's caused – the rubble, it leaves a lot of contaminated water. The non-food relief items such as mosquito nets that protect people against dengue and malaria. At the same time, with water and sanitation, you also take care of providing safe water and also disposing contaminated water in a safe way."

Question: "And this is a lifesaving intervention?"

Cristiano Mandra – "Absolutely, people need safe drinking water to live."

Shotlist for UNICEF video news footage – two (water tankers) 2'51"

- 01 Water tanker (bowser) being filled up at Water Board facility in Ambalangoda, Southern Sri Lanka.
- 02 Water tankers on road. Shots on road of passing trucks and inside cab.
- 03 POV from cab of damage along seafront.
- 04 Tanker arriving at local school and filling up storage tank.
- 05 Children drinking from the tank.
- 06 Trucks passing on road again.
- 07 More shots children taking water from tank

Shotlist for UNICEF video news footage – three 1'47"

- 01 At temporary camp, girl carrying water in bucket.
- 02 Neighbours coming to tank to draw water in different containers
- 03 Water tanks, standpipes and taps at relief camp
- 04 Water tank at temporary relief camp (UNICEF and ECHO)
- 05 Woman washing dishes with water
- 06 Water tank with UNICEF and ECHO signage at school