SITUATION IN NUMBERS

SRI LANKA
Situation Report # 4

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Highlights

• Ten days after the Easter Sunday attacks on 21 April 2019, the country is still on high alert with search operations underway to find the perpetrators.

• Another 12 people were killed by a suicide explosion during a police raid on a house in Ampara, Eastern Province, on 26 April 2019, bringing the total deaths to 265. Six children were victims of this explosion.

• Government confirms that 42 foreigners were among the dead and additional 12 foreigners are not yet accounted for.

• Currently, 69 people are still receiving treatment in hospital, including 17 in Intensive Care Units. In consultation with the hospitals treating the injured, UNICEF is continuing procurement of the urgently required medical equipment to strengthen clinical services.

• Government agencies continue their assessments of the impact of the attacks, including the situation of children and women, with support from UNICEF and other agencies.

• The government has closed all schools until 6 May 2019 and have declared a partial state of emergency.

• At least 1,200 refugees and asylum seekers have been displaced after being evicted from their homes and have been temporarily sheltered in a police station, mosque and school.

May 03, 2019

265
Number of people killed, including 52 children.

Over 500
Total number of people injured during the attacks and need assistance, including 81 children.

21
Number of children admitted in hospitals and in need of assistance.

(Source: Government of Sri Lanka, April 30, 2019)

3,900
Number of children to receive psychosocial support.

40,000
Number of children, teachers and parents to benefit from social cohesion interventions.

UNICEF APPEAL $1,050,000

Funds Received $409,400
Funding Gap $640,600

61%
39%
**Situation Overview**

The Government has banned two local organizations - National Thowheed Jaamat (NTJ) and Jaamiyathul Millathu Ibrahim (JMI) – who have been held responsible for the suicide bombings. The security situation remains on high alert with fresh warnings that these group are preparing for new attacks.

With many countries issuing travel advisories and categorizing Sri Lanka as a high-risk country, the potential negative impact to the tourism industry is substantial. Media reports state that a 50% drop in tourist arrivals is expected over the coming two months. Tourism is Sri Lanka’s third largest and fastest growing source of foreign currency accounting for almost $4.4 billion of gross domestic product in 2018.

The President, invoking the emergency laws banned face coverings with effect from 29 April 2019. Accordingly, any face coverings which make it difficult to identify persons are banned.

There are concerns for potential communal violence and tension in retaliation to the attacks. Churches and Christian schools will remain closed until further notice due to threats of new attacks. According to media reports, 1,200 refugees from Pakistan and Afghanistan have been displaced after landlords came under local pressure to evict them. Many have sought safety at nearby mosques or at the police station in Negombo, the western coastal town where one of the deadliest church bombings occurred. The humanitarian situation in these shelter locations lack basic services and are not conducive for displaced people.

Meanwhile, the Human Rights Watch has called upon the government to take all necessary steps to protect and ensure the safety of refugees and asylum seekers from violence and retaliation. According to UNHCR, there are 1,600 registered refugees and asylum seekers, mostly from Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iran.

**Summary of Programme Response**

**Child Protection:**

On 30 April 2019, UNICEF co-chaired a meeting with the Probation Commissioner to discuss the results of the needs assessment which identified 30 children with a single surviving parent while 6 children lost both parents. While one orphaned child has been reunified with the relatives, the five are still under placement mechanisms to identify foster parents. UNICEF will provide financial support to the 30 single parent’s children and reunification support to the six orphaned children. In Katana, 78 children have been identified that require immediate psycho-social support while 16 children are in need of educational supports. UNICEF is working with probation child care services to address the needs of these children.

UNICEF, UNHCR and the Resident Coordinator’s Office assessed the needs of 136 asylum seekers from Pakistan and Afghanistan. This predominantly Muslim group, which includes children and women, have been displaced from their homes in Negombo in the aftermath of the Easter Sunday attacks after being evicted from their homes due to fears or retaliation and have been temporarily sheltered in the Negombo Police Station. There are 32 women and 63 men living in the Police Station’s parking lot without basic services. There are two pregnant women six lactating mothers and 41 children among the displaced group as shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Displaced Children Data</th>
<th>Children</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0-2 Yrs 3-5 Yrs 6-10 Yrs 11-18 Yrs Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan Sunni</td>
<td>1 2 2 1 6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>4 3 6 4 17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan Shia</td>
<td>2 1 2 3 8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan Christian</td>
<td>2 2 4 2 10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>9 8 14 10 41</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The joint needs assessment observed that the people are housed in an uncovered, highly congested space without any partition, which poses a high protection and security risk to women, girls and children. Some women and children have developed health conditions (cold, fever and skin rashes) due to a lack of hygiene, health and medical facilities and services. There are only two toilets for the entire population, including the police officers. UNICEF in coordination with UNHCR is advocating for immediate relocation of families to safe and secure locations while at the same time planning to respond through the installation of additional toilets and bathing spaces.
Health:
In coordination with the Director General of Health Services UNICEF has finalized the list and procurement processes of key essential materials and equipment to support children and adults injured during the attacks in four hospitals including General District Hospital Negombo, Teaching Hospital Batticaloa, Lady Ridgeway Children’s Hospital and National Hospital of Sri Lanka – Accident Services. Some of the items being procured are: high flow oxygen machines, syringe pumps, portable pulse oximeters, ventilators with paediatric mode, anaesthetic circuits, infant resuscitation, emergency resuscitation trolley and blood gas analyser. These materials will be delivered in the coming weeks to respond to current needs as well as being part of preparedness measures to respond to future attacks.

Education:
With the ongoing security threats schools remain closed until 6 May. The government has indicated that it will beef up security in some of the public schools after they reopen to mitigate the risks. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education has issued a circular to all schools to ensure the security of school children and teachers. Accordingly, security management will become mandatory and schools are expected to set up security committees including of the Principal, Vice Principal, teachers, parents and representatives of the alumni. UNICEF continues to engage and advocate with relevant stakeholders including Department of Education, Disaster Management Centre and Security apparatus to ensure that school security is part of the overall comprehensive school safety and security planning.

Emergency Preparedness:
The upcoming Southwest monsoon (May-June) and cyclone season is expected to add to the ongoing situation in Sri Lanka. In the past three years, monsoon rains have brought large scale natural disasters to the country, with loss of life and displacement. UNICEF is preparing to support the Government and partners to meet the needs of the population in the upcoming Monsoon and cyclone season.

Funding Requirements:
UNICEF Sri Lanka requires $1,050,000 to implement short and mid-term emergency response and preparedness. These funds will be used for medical supplies, psycho-social support, child protection needs, community resilience, school based social cohesion and harmony activities, and disaster preparedness and response. So far $409,400 has been received from the Japanese National Committee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds Received*</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Nutrition</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>84,400</td>
<td>165,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Response Preparedness</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>250,000</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,050,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>409,400</strong></td>
<td><strong>640,600</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Next SitRep: 09/05/2019

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