

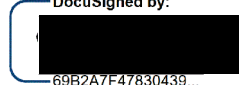




Programme Title	Ensuring the protection of women and girls, including survivors of GBV and trafficking and vulnerable communities during the socio-economic crisis in Sri Lanka (As part of the Joint Humanitarian Needs and Priorities (HNP) Plan)
Country/Region	Sri Lanka
Priority area/strategic results	Protection
UN Agency(s)	UNFPA, IOM and UNDP
Implementing Partners	Government and Civil Society
Programme Duration	August 2022 to January 2023
Amount	USD 758,356
Proposed project submitted/report(s) to be submitted by	<p>DocuSigned by:  F574E4A04069419...</p> <p><i>Signature of the representative</i> Name of the representative : Kunle Adeniyi Agency : United Nations Population Fund</p> <p>DocuSigned by:  DD7A48DC189043D...</p> <p><i>Signature of the representative</i> Name of the representative : Robert Jukham Agency : United Nations Development Programme</p> <p>DocuSigned by:  69B2A7F47830439...</p> <p><i>Signature of the representative</i> Name of the representative : Chief of Mission Sarat Dash for IOM Agency : International Organization for Migration</p>

1. Background and rationale

The socioeconomic crisis has exacerbated pre-existing forms of discrimination and inequalities, including gender inequalities, increasing harm and risks for women, girls and gender diverse people both in the home and in the community. The crisis is resulting in a deterioration of the prevalence of GBV as measured in The Women’s Wellbeing Survey (2019), indicating that one in five (20.4%) ever-partnered women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime and two in every five women (39.8%) have experienced physical, sexual, emotional and/or economic violence and/or controlling behaviours by a partner in their lifetime.

The financial constraints, especially the food inflation which has increased from 30.2% in March to 46.6% in April 2022 and Non-Food inflation increased from 39.1% May to 54.6% in June 2022¹, has had a devastating impact on families not being able to secure essential medical care and food. As indicated through assessments this has led to negative coping mechanisms, job and food insecurity that will place women and girls and other marginalized groups, already vulnerable to various forms of gender based violence, even further at risk of gender based violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse, and harmful practices such as child marriage. The impact of the socio economic crisis on electricity, transportation and telecommunications will also disrupt the availability and accessibility of services provision, limiting the ability of gender based violence survivors to access essential services. Health services have also deteriorated due to the national shortages of medical supplies and commodities, limiting availability and access to lifesaving sexual and reproductive health services as an essential part of the health sector response to gender based violence. Further, the Sri Lanka Joint Rapid Food Security Assessment conducted by WFP (2022, May) indicated “*multiple district officials reported a rise in domestic violence, while also acknowledging that these cases are largely underreported, particularly during the current economic crisis.*”

In terms of service providers access to shelter facilities, health, and legal services are impacted as indicated through the consultations with Shelter providers and the Hospital based GBV desks. Women Development Officers, Counseling Assistants and Public Health Midwives being partially immobile and constrained due to minimal resources to continue to provide essential services and the police being occupied with the ongoing uprisings of the population due to the lack of basic needs. The shelters provide for basic needs such as food, water, medicine, accommodation for the inmates and additionally arrange for psychosocial support, case management and legal aid. However, the crisis has also forced the shelters to limit their services and reduce the basic services to minimum.

Within this context, migrants in vulnerable situations and victims of trafficking have been disproportionately affected. A rapid assessment undertaken by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), including calls received to the IOM counter trafficking hotline, revealed, female domestic workers in particular are at an increased risk of exploitation and physical, sexual and psychological abuse. Within the country, women and children have been trafficked for sexual exploitation and forced prostitution. Incidents of child trafficking, cyber trafficking of women and children (producing pornographic content etc.) have also been reported in recent times. Further, with the prevailing economic crisis in Sri Lanka, loss of employment/self-reliance opportunities and dire financial straits, individuals in vulnerable situations can easily fall prey to traffickers and can ultimately be subjected to human trafficking and the related forms of exploitation.

¹ www.cbsl.gov.lk

The complexity of this ongoing emergency has led to negative coping due to job and food insecurity. Women and girls are highly vulnerable due to their reduced capacity to prioritize health and protection and the risk of localized breakdown of health and GBV protection referral mechanisms. Existing protection mechanisms for women in need, including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and of trafficking, are severely compromised. Shelters have low to no budget to operate. Police officers maintaining prevention and risk mitigation for GBV are handling civil unrest. Essential services for health, psychosocial support, and GBV case management are hampered due to resource constraints. The cost of not prioritizing protection in the socioeconomic crisis response will be seen in violence left unchecked, soaring psychological distress, potential fatal incidents of GBV, erosion of gender equality gains and reinforcement of existing power dynamics to the detriment of women, girls and other marginalized groups.

2. Targeted locations

National level

Targeted interventions that will be implemented through the Shelters and reach the Districts of Colombo, Kandy, Matara, Batticaloa, Anuradhapura, Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Nuwara Eliya, Monaragala, Ampara, Gampaha, Vavuniya, Rathnapura, Kilinochchi, Matara and Kurunegala

3. Objectives

Overall Goal: To increase the availability of life-saving, multi-sectoral response and mitigation services for women, girls and other marginalized groups in Sri Lanka.

Objectives:

- To provide targeted lifesaving and survivor-centered protection services to ensure shelters are accessible for survivors of GBV and trafficking victims.
- To make available information on services and access to services for all vulnerable women, girls and marginalized populations.
- To enhance the capacity of the service providers and strengthen case management services for MHPSS and psychoeducation to develop the skills and strategies to improve the wellbeing of women and girls at risk.

4. Expected results and activities

The joint programme has been designed to provide strengthened access to protection and lifesaving support to women and girls at risk and survivors of GBV, trafficking and vulnerable communities, during this complex crisis in Sri Lanka. The interventions seek to provide a lifesaving, survivor-centred, multisectoral approach to integrate risk mitigation actions to ensure women and girls are not exposed to further harm and their rights. The response strategy integrates key components of ensuring shelters are strengthened for ongoing operations and the provision to take new victims/survivors; psychosocial support services for women and girls at risks and survivors of GBV and trafficking; referral pathways established and popularized for holistic response to survivors of GBV. Given the requisite rapid action, the proposed priority activities will build upon strengthening ongoing interventions of the participating United Nations Organizations, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and International Organization for Migration (IOM), their service providers and networks to ensure highest impact and an immediate rollout.

Outcome: Increased access to protection and lifesaving support to survivors of GBV, trafficking and vulnerable communities, during the socioeconomic crisis in Sri Lanka.			
Output	Activities	PUNO	Target Beneficiaries/ Districts/ Partners
Output 1: Targeted lifesaving and survivor-centered protection services provided for GBV survivors, other at-risk groups, and/or trafficking, through shelters, case management and referrals to peer support groups and relevant State authorities.	1.1 Provide lifesaving and survivor-centred services and support to shelters and Mithuru Piyasa facilities for women & girls at risk of GBV and trafficking.	UNFPA/ UNDP/ IOM	<p>UNFPA - will work Minimum of 1500 women and girls including survivors of GBV in 10 selected districts (National and shelters in Kandy, Colombo, Matara, Batticaloa, Anuradhapura, Jaffna, Mullaitivu, Nuwara Eliya, Monaragala and Ampara) Jaffna Social Action Centre, Women in Need, Women Development Centre, Mithuru Piyasa (Ministry of Health), Ministry of Women and Social Empowerment</p> <p>IOM will support 3 shelters in Colombo and Gampaha districts</p> <hr/> <p>UNDP target is minimum 1540 women through 11 shelters in 7 Districts Colombo, Gampaha, Anuradhapura, Vavuniy, Ampara, Ratnapura and Mannar.</p>
	1.2 Create peer support groups within communities for emergency support for women and girls facing Domestic Violence.	UNFPA	Minimum of 3000 vulnerable women and girls in selected 10 districts through 30 peer support groups.
	1.3. Enhance the capacity of the key members of the National Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force to provide escalated support to victims of trafficking.	IOM	20 National Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force members (Colombo district)
	1.4. Provide equipment to the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit of CID and/or Police to escalate counter trafficking interventions.	IOM	1 Unit (Approximately 20 officers) (Colombo District)
Output 2 : Increased access to information, services and relief	2.1 Rapid assessment of service providers for GBV in the targeted location and the establishment of	UNFPA	1,200 vulnerable women and girls reached

packages for survivors of GBV and trafficking and other vulnerable group at risk of violence/ exploitation.	referral pathways / service points and the promotion of survivors' access to services.		
	2.2 Information, Education & Communication efforts campaigns including survivors of GBV to increase their knowledge & support help seeking behaviour through enhancing accessibility to information and services.	UNFPA	300,000 vulnerable women and girls reached
	2.3 Provide psychoeducation to support vulnerable women and girls at risk of GBV and to develop skills and strategies to improve their psychosocial wellbeing	IOM	20,000 women and girls at the National level
	2.4 Provide relief packages and immediate support to 500 women-headed households, victims of trafficking, and those in extremely vulnerable conditions	IOM	Minimum 500 families (Women headed households in Mullaitivu, Batticaloa, Monaragala, Nuwara Eliya and victims of trafficking from the geographical locations they are identified/referred from.)
Output 3: Provision of support for coordinated multi sectoral services and psycho-social support, legal aid and case management services to the survivors in and around the shelters.	3.1 Enhance the capacity of service providers on PFA and MHPSS, specifically officers supporting the case management of GBV.	UNFPA / UNDP	UNFPA- reach a minimum of 1000 women and girls through the outreach program (Minimum of 100 officials will be trained to provide effective services in a timely manner) The Ministry of Health (MCH & Mental Health Directorates) /Ministry of Women & Child Development.
	3.2 Provide support to carry out proper management of cases/referrals and provide legal aid for the needy and support transport of survivors for court hearings	UNDP	District level support to minimum of 800 women and girls who are victims of GBV or at risk of GBV in and around shelters in Colombo, Gampaha, Anuradhapura, Vavuniya, Ampara, Rathnapura, Jaffna, Mullaitivu and Mannar
	3.3 Train GBV sector staff and counselors in MHPSS interventions to identify, prioritize and support GBV survivors and at-risk groups for referral to MHPSS services.	IOM	Minimum 50 sector staff and counselors (Batticaloa, Ampara, Kurunegala, Matara, Kilinochchi districts)

5. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

	Indicators	Source of Verification	Key Risks in Achieving Outputs
<p>Outcome: Increased access to protection and lifesaving support to survivors of GBV, trafficking and vulnerable communities, during the socio - economic crisis in Sri Lanka.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● # survivors of GBV and trafficking received targeted lifesaving support Baseline: TBC Planned Target:1500 ● # of survivors access psycho-social and case management/referral support. Baseline: TBC Planned Target:300 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shelter data / monitoring reports ● Utility bills/ purchase orders/payment receipts ● Contracts for service provision by counselors/lawyers/case managers ● Referral reports, End of programme report by individual shelters 	
<p>Output 1 Targeted lifesaving and survivor-centered protection services provided for GBV survivors, other at-risk groups, and/or trafficking, through shelters and referrals to peer support groups and relevant State authorities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● # of supported shelters and service delivery points Baseline:7 Planned Target:30 ● # of peer support groups created. Baseline:0 Planned Target:20 ● # women and girls who access counseling services and # survivors received individual assistance for case management. Baseline: TBC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Final reports submitted by individual shelters ● Progress reports of counselors 	<p>High cost of living due to inflation/ price hike of food, fuel, utilities</p> <p>Probable lock downs</p> <p>Sudden increase of inmates in the shelters</p>

	<p>Planned Target :100</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● # of capacity building programmes conducted for the National Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force (IOM) Baseline:0, Planned Target: 1 (Approx. 20 participants) ● # of anti-trafficking units capacitated with equipment/ needed infrastructure (IOM) Baseline: 0 Planned target:1 ● # of shelters supported with cash grants to provide effective and continuous services to GBV/trafficked victims (IOM) Baseline: 0 ; Planned target: 3 shelters 		
<p>Output 2 Increased access to information, services and relief packages for survivors of GBV and trafficking and other vulnerable group at risk of violence/ exploitation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rapid Assessment of service providers for GBV completed in minimum of 7 districts. Baseline: No Planned Target: Yes ● # of maps/ directories of service providers distributed Baseline: TBC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Number of referral pathways developed. ● Meeting with service providers ● Monitoring reports 	<p>High cost of living due to inflation/ price hike of food, fuel, utilities resulting in a deprioritization of accessing services</p> <p>Practical challenges to access services and</p>

	<p>Planned Target: 100,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● # of survivors and/or at-risk vulnerable women headed households assisted with relief packages (IOM) <p>Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● # of beneficiaries receiving psychoeducation (IOM) <p>Baseline: 0 Target: 20,000</p>		
<p>Output 3: Provision of support for coordinated multi sectoral services and psycho-social support, legal aid and case management services to the survivors in and around the shelters.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● # of service providers capacitated on PFA and MHPSS Baseline: TBC Planned Target:100 ● # of mobile outreach programmes conducted providing PFA services Baseline: 0 Planned Target: 10 ● # GBV survivors who access counseling services/psycho-social support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reports of the training programmes ● Reports on the mobile outreach programmes conducted ● Monthly reports on the referrals ● Consolidated reports on legal aid provided through shelters ● Progress reports of counselors 	<p>Delays of case hearing</p> <p>GBV victims withdrawing cases</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● # of survivors received individual assistance for case management. Baseline: TBC Planned Target: 800● # of GBV sector staff and counsellors trained in MHPSS (IOM) Baseline:0, Planned Target: 50		
--	--	--	--

Please consider the budget submitted under UNDG categories as part of this Project document.