

FACT SHEET

RECOVERY COORDINATION INITIATIVE



Sri Lanka

Background information:

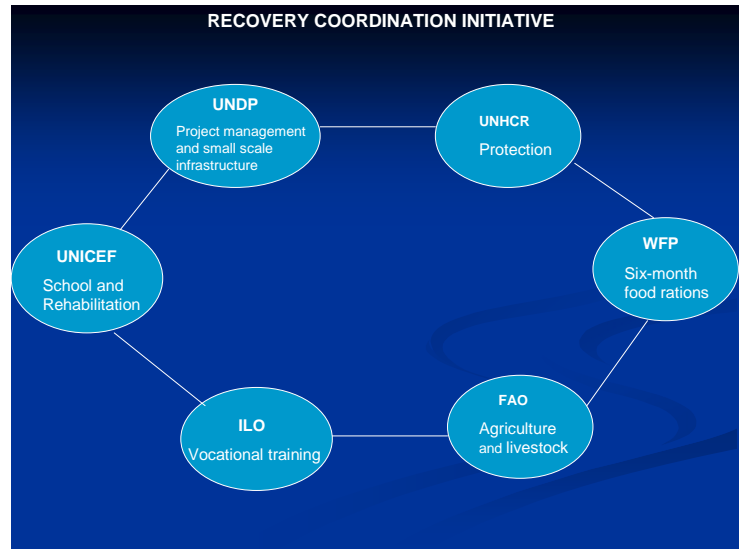
There has been a significant increase in the number of returnees in Batticaloa District since the Government took control in 2007. As of December 2008, there were about 117,452 returnees in Batticaloa. Although basic humanitarian support has been provided, this in itself is insufficient for the long-term stability of communities. The returnees themselves want to take the next steps towards having a normal life. UNDP as the global cluster lead for early recovery has taken the initiative to launch the Recovery Coordination Initiative, an innovative pilot project which captures many of the coordination objectives that the UN system at the global level has been trying to achieve in recent years.



UNDP-led Recovery Coordination Initiative (RCI):

RCI is a pilot initiative that has established the foundations for agricultural self-sufficiency among beneficiary communities within an ambitious six month time frame. UNDP has taken the unusual step of sharing resources, provided to it by the Government of Australia, with other UN agencies, to produce tangible results on the ground. UN agencies have come together to coordinate their respective recovery activities, based on the comparative strength of each. The immediate objectives of the project have been:

- Support transition from dependence on limited, humanitarian food supply to self-reliant agricultural production and agro-based livelihood
- Provide training and capacity building support to returnees to enable them to earn their own incomes
- Pilot innovative arrangement to demonstrate that coordination was a means to achieve effective results and not an end in itself



UN agencies worked in a coordinated manner to perform specialized functions for beneficiaries under the UNDP led Recovery Coordination Initiative

Achievements of RCI:

- Food security for 611 resettled families in 2 divisions of Batticaloa
- Seeds, fertilizers and agricultural equipments provided to beneficiaries
- 2000 poultry with starter feed rations provided to 200 poultry rearing farmers
- Participation of 300 beneficiaries in Cash for Work programme
- Participation of 75 beneficiaries, almost half of which were women, for training in micro enterprise and vocational skills

RCI Phase I: AT A GLANCE	
Project Location	Batticaloa (Kiran and Chenkalady DS Divisions)
Start date	July 2008
End date	December 2008
Total budget	US \$ 315, 600
Donor	AusAID (International Refugee Fund)

