

Country/entity	Sri Lanka
Region	Asia and Pacific
Agreement name	Meeting of the sub-committee on immediate humanitarian and rehabilitation needs in the North and East (SIHRN)
Date	28 Feb 2003
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Sri Lankan Civil War (1983 - 2009)

The roots of the Sri Lanka conflict lay in British colonial policy which controlled the island from 1802 until 1948. During the early 1800s, the British brought Tamils from mainland India to work on the various plantations for tea, coffee and rubber, changing Sri Lanka's the demographic make-up. Upon independence, Sinhalese nationalism dominated the political sphere and introduced discriminatory policies against the Tamil minority straining relations and sparking protests. Armed Tamil resistance first came in the form of assassinations of moderate Tamils and opposition politicians in the mid-1970s. However, it was the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam's (LTTE) attack on checkpoint Four Four Bravo, which marked the turning point, sparking pogroms against Tamils in Sinhalese majority areas. This incident, known as Black July, is widely considered to the beginning of the civil war.

The first round of peace talks were backed by India, which had deployed the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) in 1987, and led to the 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka Accord. The Accord was successful in persuading the majority of insurgency groups to lay down arms. However, the strongest Tamil insurgency group, the LTTE, was not party to the talks and refused to disarm, sparking direct conflict between the IPKF and the LTTE until IPKF withdrawal 1990. Following the withdrawal, the LTTE consolidated their power in the North and East sparking another intense and bloody war with the central government that lasted until 2002 when another peace process was launched under the auspices of Norwegian negotiators. The second round of peace talks, however, only continued until April 2003 and in March 2004, a large faction of LTTE cadres split from the main organization damaging LTTE unity. The LTTE were defeated militarily by a large-scale government assault in 2009, however, the conditions for peace remain uncertain.

Close
Sri Lankan Civil War (1983 - 2009)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Sri Lanka LTTE 2002 onward process

Parties	Government of Sri Lanka, headed by Mr. Bernard Goonetilleke; Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, headed by Mr. Tamilselvan
Third parties	Royal Government of Norway, represented by Ambassador Jon Westberg; Ambassador Seiichro Otsuka of Japan participated on behalf of Mr. Yasushi Akashi, principal advisor to the Sub-Committee
Description	Short press statement issued by Norwegian Government announcing a list of approved development projects and the establishment of a resettlement project for Manar district, headed by members from both parties.

Agreement document [LK_030228_Meeting of the sub-committee on immediate humanitarian and rehabilitation needs in the North and East \(SIHRN\).pdf \(opens in new tab\) | Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth	No specific mention.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.
Racial/ethnic/national group	No specific mention.
Religious groups	Groups→Religious groups→Substantive Page 1, Under the overall resettlement program, the Sub-Committee agreed: ... 2. that the Mannar district will be assessed by five Assessment Teams comprising the following members GOSL - 02 (at least one member to represent the Muslim community)
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive
Page 1, The Sub-Committee decided to initiate a programme for the resettlement of displaced persons in the Mannar District. The programme will respond to the needs and interest of all communities in the Mannar District. The Secretariat has been requested to initiate a Needs Assessment for the resettlement of internally displaced persons from the district.

Under the overall resettlement program, the Sub-Committee agreed:

1. to establish a resettlement program for the Mannar District in order to meet the needs of all displaced communities;

Page 1, Under the overall resettlement program, the Sub-Committee agreed:

... 3. that these Needs Assessment Teams should as part of their work ensure that original residents, displaced outside the district of Mannar are also consulted,

Page 1, SIHRN, to accommodate the urgent needs of the people, gave its final approval to the following projects that will be implemented as soon as the finances has been made available by the donors through the World Bank:

... *Resettlement of 8 villages, one in each of the eight districts in the North East

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender Page 1, SIHRN, to accommodate the urgent needs of the people, gave its final approval to the following projects that will be implemented as soon as the finances has been made available by the donors through the World Bank:
... *Centre (located in Kilinochchi) for mentally traumatized women

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

**Independence/
secession** No specific mention.

**Accession/
unification** No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

**Cross-border
provision** No specific mention.

Governance

**Political
institutions (new or
reformed)** No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

**Electoral
commission** No specific mention.

**Political parties
reform** No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

**Traditional/
religious leaders** No specific mention.

**Public
administration** No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	Power sharing→Political power sharing→Other Sub-state level Page 1, Under the overall resettlement program, the Sub-Committee agreed: ... 2. that the Mannar district will be assessed by five Assessment Teams comprising the following members GOSL - 02 (at least one member to represent the Muslim community) LTTE - 02 UNHCR - 01; ... 5. That an implementation proposal is to be developed based on the reports of the Assessment Teams. The implementation proposal shall be developed by a team comprising 2 members each from the GOSL and the LTTE and the UNHCR; and that the work of the Assessment Teams shall be coordinated by the UNHCR
Territorial power sharing	No specific mention.
Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
Military power sharing	No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	No specific mention.
Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	No specific mention.
Civil and political rights	No specific mention.
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.
Democracy	No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Infrastructure and reconstruction
Page 1, SIHRN, to accommodate the urgent needs of the people, gave its final approval to the following projects that will be implemented as soon as the finances has been made available by the donors through the World Bank:

*Construction of ice plants in Thirukovil and Saintthamaruthu in Ampara District

In addition 10 further projects were approved subject to certain clarification from the Director of the Secretariat of SIHRN:

Emergency care unit in Kilinochchi, improvement of Mullaitivu Hospital, irrigation project in Kalmadu, irrigation projects in Miyankallukulam Kiran in Batticaloa, resettlement and rehabilitaion project in all districts, skill and capacity development in Mullaitivu, Amparai and Mannar districts, milk chilling and processing facility in Kilinochchi, construction of ice plant in Mullaitivu District, construction of ice plant in Jaffna District and rehabilitation of Pottuvil Hospital in Ampara District.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds Page 1, SIHRN, to accommodate the urgent needs of the people, gave its final approval to the following projects that will be implemented as soon as the finances has been made available by the donors through the World Bank:

*The first phase of the road between Mullaitivu -Mankulam-Vellankulam

*Centre (located in Kilinochchi) for mentally traumatized women

*Renovation of paddy storage facility in Mannar district

*Construction of ice plants in Thirukovil and Saintthamaruthu in Ampara District

*Resettlement of 8 villages, one in each of the eight districts in the North East

Business Page 1, SIHRN, to accommodate the urgent needs of the people, gave its final approval to the following projects that will be implemented as soon as the finances has been made available by the donors through the World Bank:

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... *Renovation of paddy storage facility in Mannar district

... *Construction of ice plants in Thirukovil and Saintthamaruthu in Ampara District

Page 1-2, In addition 10 further projects were approved subject to certain clarification from the Director of the Secretariat of SIHRN:

... irrigation project in Kalmadu, irrigation projects in Miyankallukulam Kiran in Batticaloa, ... milk chilling and processing facility in Kilinochchi, construction of ice plant in Mullaitivu District, construction of ice plant in Jaffna District ...

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

**Water or riparian
rights or access** No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees	No specific mention.
Ceasefire	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	No specific mention.
DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	Page 1, Under the overall resettlement program, the Sub-Committee agreed: ... 2. that the Mannar district will be assessed by five Assessment Teams comprising the following members ... - LTTE - 02
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
Amnesty/pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.

Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	No specific mention.
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.
Related cases	No specific mention.

Source Archived hard copy, C. Bell, originally obtained from <http://www.peaceinsrilanka.org/insidepages/Pressrelease/RNG/PV/RNE28Feb03pv.html>
