

# WFP SRI LANKA

COUNTRY BRIEF

APRIL 2026



## IN NUMBERS



**68,972** people assisted\*  
*\*Cumulative since December 2025*



**USD 2,322,986\*** (approx.) cash transferred



**USD 0.68M** (APRIL – SEPTEMBER 2026) net funding requirements



**78** stakeholders HGSF progress review meetings on coordination and monitoring

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- WFP continues to support the people affected by Cyclone Ditwah through its emergency response.
- WFP's assistance, which began in December 2025 with the distribution of non-food items and fortified foods, has expanded to cash and voucher assistance, including a nutrition top-up for households with children under five years of age.
- WFP continues to augment the Government's response by supporting disaster management agencies and Government-led assessments such as the post-disaster needs assessment.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

- In February 2026, Sri Lanka's National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) declined to 209.4, down from 211.4 in January 2026, reflecting a month-on-month decrease of 2.0 index points from January 2026. Year-on-year inflation eased further to 1.6 percent in February 2026, compared to 2.4 percent in January 2026, signaling continued disinflation and strengthening price stability.
- In late 2025, Cyclone Ditwah brought widespread rains, landslides and flooding, displacing nearly two million people and damaging infrastructure and essential services. In response to the Government of Sri Lanka's request for international assistance, the United Nations launched the [Humanitarian Priorities Plan](#).
- WFP supports communities in moving from emergency relief to early recovery and resilience, while also improving nutrition outcomes and strengthening institutional capacity. WFP has been present in Sri Lanka since 1968.

## OPERATIONAL UPDATES

### Emergency Response – Cyclone Ditwah

- WFP supported 6,627 households with multipurpose cash assistance of LKR 27,000 (approximately USD 86) in the districts of Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Badulla and Kurunegala.

- WFP supported 10,616 households with value vouchers through Cargills supermarket outlets. Each voucher, worth LKR 20,400 (USD 65) is part of the Emergency Food Assistance Programme.
- WFP began its nutrition top-up value voucher intervention, providing LKR 24,000 (~USD 75) to eligible households with at least one child under five years of age and who have previously received WFP assistance.
- In March, WFP’s Community Feedback Mechanism received 1,955 calls, 1,161 from men and 794 from women. Most inquiries concerned WFP’s emergency assistance.

### Home-Grown School Feeding (HGSF)

- In March, WFP facilitated programme progress review meetings in two divisions of Batticaloa District, bringing together 78 stakeholders, to support coordination, monitoring, and inclusive engagement at division level, with women representing almost one-third of attendees.

### Sow and Grow

- WFP **launched** the five-year “Sow and Grow” project in partnership with the Government to strengthen the national *Thripasha* nutrition programme. The project focuses on boosting local maize production, improving quality and supply chains, and reducing reliance on imports to ensure a reliable supply of *Thripasha* for children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- The Sow and Grow district-level stakeholder workshop was held in Anuradhapura in late March, bringing together officials, technical experts, private sector actors, and farmers to strengthen coordination, validate beneficiary selection criteria, clarify roles and responsibilities, and develop a district-level implementation plan (2026–2030).

### Nutrition Advocacy

- WFP held a progress review of the Cost of the Diet 2025 study with Hector Kobbekaduwa Agrarian Research and Training Institute, to inform nutrition-sensitive programming and policy dialogue on affordability of nutritious diets.

### Rice Fortification

- WFP supported national food fortification efforts through active participation in the Sri Lanka

Standards Institution (SLSI) specification development process for fortified rice kernels. WFP provided technical inputs to strengthen quality and regulatory standards.

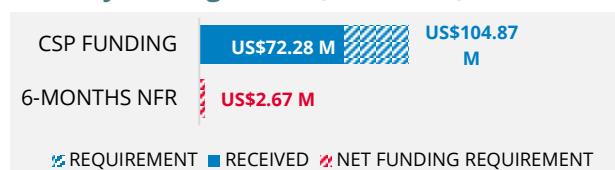
- A high-level policy engagement with the Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture advanced discussions to secure Ministry support to operationalize rice procurement in support to production of fortified rice by the National Food Promotion Board.

### Communications and Partnerships

- **Hear** from H.E. Isabelle Martin, High Commissioner to Canada in Sri Lanka and Philip Ward, Representative and Country Director of WFP Sri Lanka, about how Canada through WFP is helping communities access the essentials after Cyclone Ditwah.
- Michael Kors **highlighted** WFP's partnership on International Women's Day on, noting how school meals funded by Michael Kors empower women, encourage girls' education, and benefit communities in Sri Lanka.
- WFP Representative and Country Director together with officials from EU Humanitarian Aid **visited** communities affected by Cyclone Ditwah. ECHO and WFP spoke with communities to understand how multi-purpose cash assistance supported them through this crisis.
- WFP in **collaboration** with the High Commission of Australia highlighted how Australia's support through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) helped WFP reach communities impacted by Cyclone Ditwah.

### FUNDING OVERVIEW

#### Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027)



### Donors:

Australia, Canada, ECHO, Italy, Japan, Michael Kors and private sector entities, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea, KOICA, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, UN Central Emergency Response Fund, and the UN Trust Fund.

