

## Country Programme Plan Sri Lanka

### I. ANALYSIS

#### 1.0 Country Context Analysis

##### 1.1 Brief overview

The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka is termed as a middle-income country but has potential to develop beyond that, due to its natural resources, industry, hard working people and tourist potential. Unfortunately, for more than three decades, the country has been devastated by the conflict between The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and various Sinhalese governments. On top of that, on 26 December 2004, the Tsunami hit 14 of Sri Lanka's 26 districts and killed 35,000 people. Many of the people, who survived the Tsunami, lost their livelihood opportunities, houses, transportation, access to clean water and many were left alone and traumatized.

The disappointing consequences of the conflict and the Tsunami have hampered economic, human and political development. Several hundred thousand civilians have fled the island (e.g. to India) or have become internally displaced<sup>1</sup>, of whom many live in extreme poverty. These pockets of poverty stands in dire contradiction to some people that enjoy an unbelievable wealth – the conflict has increased the gap between poor and rich people; between the north/east and the south and not least between Tsunami affected people and those not hit by the Tsunami.<sup>2</sup>

Human security and human rights has deteriorated tremendously, as all parties in the conflict violate basic human rights. Abductions, killings, torture, bombs and impunity is reported every week, and security is likely to remain poor in the future, as the government forces pursue its offensive against LTTE. Since mid 2006, there have been frequent clashes and increasing violence between the LTTE and government forces, which means that the ceasefire negotiated in 2002 has in effect been abandoned, although neither side has formally withdrawn from the agreement. However, no peace process is in sight and the "war strategy" on both sides has further increased hostilities. New laws are being enacted such as the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA), the defence budget is increased and soldiers recruited either voluntarily or forcefully.

Real GDP growth is forecast to average 6.4% a year in 2007-08, supported by strong growth in manufacturing and investment, but downside risks continue to be posed by the security situation and rapidly rising prices. The tourists industry is under pressure as few foreign tourists come to the country. According to EIU,<sup>3</sup> inflation will trend downwards from the latter part of 2007. Inflows of remittances will help to keep the current-account deficit below US\$1bn during 2007-08. Continuing international concern about the governments alleged human rights abuses may prompt a decrease in foreign aid to Sri Lanka. This would lead to greater downward pressure on the Sri Lanka rupee.

Sri Lanka is a multi-ethnic country and categorisation of the population according to **ethnicity** is: Sinhalese 74%, Tamil 18%, Muslims 7% and Burgher, Malay and Vedda 1%. According to **religion** the figures are: Buddhists 69%; Hindus 15%; Christians 8% and Muslims 8%. The majority of the Sinhalese are Theravada Buddhists, and the

<sup>1</sup> According to UNHCR, Sri Lanka has 301,879 IDPs per 16 April 2007 - <http://www.unhcr.lk/statistics/>

<sup>2</sup> Between 25 and 39 percent of the population can be classified as poor, depending on the poverty measure. Nearly 90 percent of the poor reside in rural areas with poverty conditions in the North and the East being far more severe than in other parts of the nation.

<sup>3</sup> Economist Intelligence Unit - <http://www.eiu.com/>

majority of Tamils are Hindus. However, there is also a large group of Christians within both ethnic groups.

Sri Lanka is divided in three **geographical** zones: the wet lowlands in the southern parts of the country where also the capital Colombo is located, the central highlands and the dry lowlands in the deep South and the North, where the ongoing war is concentrated.<sup>4</sup> The Sinhalese predominantly live in the southern regions and parts of the central highlands. But there is also a Sinhalese minority in the East. Most Tamils and Muslims reside in the northern and eastern parts of the island, although there are sizeable Tamil and Muslim communities in Colombo and other urban areas in the south. Although there has been an increasing polarization of ethnic groups as a result of the on-going armed conflict, all communities have lived in close interaction with one another for centuries.

## 1.2 Participation

The **Constitution of Sri Lanka** (CSL<sup>5</sup>) and **Constitutional Follow-up Actions** (CFA) guarantee fundamental right of all citizens to participate in decisions that affect their lives. The reality is different as politics in Sri Lanka is very complicated, tend to benefit the upper and more powerful groups and is often called "dirty politics" dominated by hidden agendas, patron-client relations and frequent cross-overs.

The vulnerable groups of Sri Lanka have little or no access to political participation, and often they have lost faith in politics. There is limited percentage of poorer men and women at all levels of political governance institutions and public/civil administrative services. Women's participation in national level politics is limited<sup>6</sup> and this is the same reality in local governance institutions as well.<sup>7</sup>

Some political parties do have the potential to voice poor people's problems and rights. The Tamil National Alliance (TNA) represents northern Tamils in parliament, but they only have 22 members in parliament and TNA is historically aligned to the UNP, always sits in the opposition, and has never been in government. Eastern people will vote for the small Muslim parties like Ceylon Muslim Congress and NUA. They are not significant in size but key to governments, as the latter need their support. The EPDP only have 1 member in Parliament, and represents Tamils, who doesn't believe in LTTE's military strategy. Subsequently, EPDP is faced with hard-ship and harassment from LTTE. Plantation workers are primarily represented by the Ceylon Workers Congress party.

One of the major barriers to equal political participation in Sri Lanka is the proportional representation system, which is much criticized for not representing all people. Another barrier to a political solution to the conflict and a peace process has been the influence that extremists, nationalistic parties like JHU and JVP has had in the present government, as they have taken a non-negotiable stand against LTTE. Media is often very biased and dominated by the different parts in the conflict both at national and local level. Journalists are often threatened, abducted or killed if they try to make a more objective and balanced assessment of the conflict, voice the lack of genuine development and need for a peaceful, political solution.

---

<sup>4</sup> Source Global IDP project, September 2005

<sup>5</sup> The constitution of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, 1978: 12 (2)

<sup>6</sup> 11 of the 225 parliament members are women (4%)

<sup>7</sup> Among Provincial Councilors the percentage is 3.9%. The percentage of women in local government is lower than that of 1997, when it was 1.9%. There were 9 women out of 261 Municipal Councils (3.4%); 9 women out of 340 Councilors (2.6); and 55 women out of 3,192 Pradeshiya Sabha members. (1.7%)

### **1.3 Equity**

Sri Lanka has a huge deficit in disadvantaged groups' rights to security, to equal gender rights, to education, to health services (physical and psychological), to sustainable livelihoods, as well as to clean water and safe sanitation. Although CSL assures these rights,<sup>8</sup> the conflict and the Tsunami have resulted in deteriorating these rights for especially the vulnerable groups like women, children, IDPs and the poorest.

Gender-based violence is perhaps the most widespread and socially tolerated of all human rights violations in Sri Lanka. It both reflects and reinforces inequities between men and women and compromises the health, dignity, security and autonomy of its victims.<sup>9</sup> Suffering and exploitation of women and children is reported in the Free Trade Zones, the war stricken areas and Tsunami affected areas, but also in households where adults have migrated. Sexual exploitation, child pregnancies, battering of women and unequal salaries are all shaped by social norms and traditions in Sri Lanka, which treat women and men differently. Furthermore, there are almost no preventive work to stop this and only limited opportunities for the victims to get especially psycho-social support and rehabilitation.

There is no equitable distribution of water and safe sanitation facilities. Disadvantaged and remote rural villages have not had equal access to water infrastructure development, especially in the drought prone districts, as National Water Supply systems focuses mainly on urban and small towns. These schemes (though subsidized) are accessible only to those who are able to pay for installation and pay the tariffs. Big donors such as the World Bank and the ADB have promoted an open market policy in water supply. Access to clean drinking water such as bottled water (promoted by the private sector) has benefited the rich people, but gives only limited access to the poor people.

The Tsunami disrupted or destroyed clean drinking water (dug wells) systems and salinated a large number of water wells and destroyed sanitation facilities in the affected areas. In Hambanthota, one of the worst Tsunami affected districts in southern Sri Lanka, approximately 70% of the families are living without access to clean water and safe sanitation. A vast majority of the people depend on tube wells, and water supplied by Bowers. Sources of Pure drinking water are situated at great distances from people's homes. In the conflict affected areas, it is the internally displaced persons who face a major problem in access to clean water and safe sanitation in the camps.

### **1.4. Protection**

The most vulnerable groups in terms of lack of protection are the internally displaced persons (IDPs), both those displaced by the Tsunami and those displaced by the ongoing conflict. While Tsunami affected IDPs are now slowly moving back to their own homes, the number of internally displaced due to the conflict continues to increase, and their rights to life, liberty and protection are constantly threatened. Women and girls are often alone in the IDP camps and thus harassed by other male IDPs, they lack privacy, there are rapes, forced marriages, forced prostitution, trafficking and abductions are often reported among displaced people. Young boys are forcefully recruited by the different armed parties of the conflict. Humanitarian access to IDPs camps is difficult as they are close to the front lines; and therefore it is also troublesome to monitor the human rights violations in the camps.

---

<sup>8</sup> Equity ensured by the Sri Lankan Constitution – Article 12.2, 12.3, 12.4

<sup>9</sup> CRC / CEDAW / ICESCR / Domestic Violence Act – Sri Lanka (2006) / Penal Code Repeal – 1995

Unfortunately the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement<sup>10</sup> are not widely used as a tool by the humanitarian community in Sri Lanka. UNHCR (being responsible for introducing the principles in Sri Lanka in 2001) has been criticised for doing this inadequately, and the government of Sri Lanka has opted for other normative frameworks in the response to the IDPs. There is so far no reference to the GP in the Sri Lanka legislation but positive developments in this regard is the commitment from the National Human Rights Commission and pressure from major International NGOs.

The other group in Sri Lanka who lacks protection are the women. Over 60% of the women in Sri Lanka are victims of domestic violence. Traditional attitudes, by which women are regarded as subordinates to men, play an important role in perpetuating the problem. In October 2005 the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act came into operation.<sup>11</sup> The new law provides women protection from physical violence, extortion, intimidation and emotional abuse. Courts can issue protection orders for women from their abusive husbands. However, there is still a big lack of awareness of the law within the law enforcement, judicial system and among people.

During the conflict of three decades, different players have taken active roles at different times in the past. The faith based organizations have played different but key roles. Some of the **dividers** have been a large majority of the Buddhist clergy, who are nationalistic and promote Sinhala and Buddhist thinking among their people, causing a division in the society. The main political parties in the South too are pro- Buddhist. Several Sinhala and Muslim religious- as well as political leaders speak up for their rights in the Eastern parts of the country – not paying attention to the rest of the country. Finally, the education system has turned out to be a divider - with ethnically/ language based schools that are dividing the children from their young days. **Connectors** are key civil society actors like Sarvodaya Shramadana Society who plays an active role in promoting peace efforts among the youth and religious leaders. The Catholic and Christian churches have attempted to facilitate peace through their congregations and the media. The all party conference (APC) promoted by the present Government is making an effort to respect the views of all political parties in the peace process.

## **1.5. Role of Civil Society and NCA Partners**

### **1.5.1. Role of Civil Society**

Compared to the historic role of the civil society in e.g. Bangladesh and India, the size and influence of civil society in Sri Lanka has been rather limited. However, the Tsunami and the escalation of conflict since 2005, has certainly enhanced the role of civil society. INGOs, local secular NGOs and faith-based organizations have become more important than ever before in relief, rehabilitation, long-term development and advocacy work.

Though there is space and legal provision for civil society actors to play an important role, civil society has been weakened by political patronage and the protracted war. As the Sri Lankan society to a large extent is ethnically, socially and culturally divided, the popular mobilization within civil society has also been divided and has through history been nationalist and violent rather than pro-peace. Although civil society organizations work hard to take on a peace building role and poverty alleviation, their activities are often project-oriented and top-down, rather than mass-based and bottom-up. Some organizations are often donor driven, and some came just for the Tsunami and left again, which seriously questions long-term sustainability. Moreover, critical assessments of the impact of small-scale Tsunami activities and analysis of the linkage between them and

---

<sup>10</sup> Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, principle 3, 11 and 13, Convention of the Rights of the Child, art 35 and UN Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women and Peace and Security

<sup>11</sup> Report by Radhika Coomaraswamy, the former Special Rapporteur on violence against women in 2005 at the Fifth South Asia Regional Ministerial Conference in a paper titled *The Varied Contours of Violence Against Women in South Asia*. This has later been confirmed by a survey by the Ministry of Child Development and Women's Empowerment 2006.

the larger conflict context need to be further developed, by civil-society actors as well as researchers.

The Christian community (8%) overlaps the ethnic divide between Tamils and Sinhalese. That means that some Christians are divided over the issue of the conflict, it however also means that Christians have a unique position within both communities and could possibly play a role in local peace building. In addition there are strong nationalistic forces in particular conservative Buddhist sabhas that are directly hostile towards Christian churches. The role of the churches as an advocacy player for peace and reconciliation is yet to be fully explored by NCA.

Most major NGOs delivering humanitarian and development assistance in Sri Lanka are members of the Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies (CHA). CHA was established in April 1997 and is a well functioning network. The CHA is driven by a quest to maintain ethical, moral, transparent, accountable standards in the provision of civil society interventions, products and services as the representative for all legitimate organisations in Sri Lanka. CHA has become a national service provider in the non-profit sector in terms of:

- Advocacy for peace, human rights and development with specific focus on diversity, fundamental rights and freedom;
- Knowledge and skills particularly in areas of information gathering, processing and dissemination.
- Quality and accountability of work in management, implementation and provision of services.
- Links with national and international organizations and resources;
- Proactive co-ordination, facilitation, and assistance in post-Tsunami interventions.

CHA works independently and has 13 district offices around the country, where they coordinate with District Secretaries and Government Agents. In Colombo, conducts weekly coordination- and security meetings and several well functioning sub-groups on for instance shelter, livelihood and psycho-social interventions etc. CHA was also involved in the efforts in collaboration with UNCHR in disseminating UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement in Sri Lanka.

### **1.5.2 Role of NCA partners in Civil Society**

Historically, the National Council of Churches in Sri Lanka (NCC-SL) has been the main partner for NCA's work in Sri Lanka – both within development, relief and capacity building. NCC-SL and NCA is both members of the ACT family, which also derives support from other International Ecumenical Partners like DCA, CA, FCA etc. and gives NCC-SL a major potential say in the civil society.

The Congress of Religions is an inter-religious/faith-based group, which is facilitating dialogue between faith-based leaders and organisations to promote peace and reconciliation in the existing conflict scenario.

The Sarvodaya Movement, which is the oldest civil society movement in Sri Lanka, and the YMCA are also in a strong position to work on peace and reconciliation efforts due to their acceptance as long standing NGOs. The newest partners, which are mostly secular organizations NGOs or CBOs, have been selected because of their role as civil society members specializing in concerns such as provision of water and sanitation facilities to the disadvantaged, prevention of gender based violence and psycho-social support to victims of violence/disasters.

## **2.0 NCA`s Added Value**

In 2004/5 NCA moved her regional office for South Asia from Bangalore to Colombo. NCA has had a long-term relation with National Christian Council-Sri Lanka. NCA has linked its broad network in the region, including resource organisations and networks, with the Sri Lankan partners. The South Asian Gender Alliance (SAGA) is one such partner based network facilitated by NCA, which has given opportunity for regional sharing of experiences and information.

Capacity building of partners is a major focus of NCA. NCA has also applied own professional resources in competence building of Sri Lankan partners, including conflict sensitive programming (Do No Harm). Furthermore, NCA has been sharing office facilities in Colombo with other European sister organizations. NCA has had a special cooperation with Church of Sweden (CoS) on Tsunami rehabilitation, where CoS has seconded a person to the NCA team and where CoS has incorporated psychosocial rehabilitation into NCA's country programme. Besides creating a larger impact, NCA and CoS has also been able to draw upon joint experiences and resources, enhancing some synergies in the approaches, including joint cooperation with Sri Lankan partners.

On the negative side NCA has not, with its faith based structure and with its long experience of working with inter-religious dialogue and development in other parts of the world, fully used the potential there are in inter-religious and faith-based networks in Sri Lanka, such as the Congress of Religions.

NCA has also faced several challenges in Sri Lanka as Norway has taken a lead role in facilitating the peace process in Sri Lanka. There are groups that do not approve of Norway's involvement, but perceive Norway as being biased towards LTTE. In recent years, especially after the Tsunami, there has also been an increasing antagonism against Christian churches and INGO's. These have been accused of attempting to convert non-Christians. This has been and is a highly sensitive issue in Sri Lanka and any perception of such behaviour is enough to spark criticism. Therefore NCA (being both Christian and Norwegian) have been extra careful and always adheres to the principles in Code of Conduct.

## **II. NCA INTERVENTION STRATEGY**

### **3.0 Thematic Analysis and Priorities**

A number of rights violations emerge from the analysis of participation, equity and protection in Chapter 1. NCA does not have the capacity to work effectively on all of these, important as they may be. We have therefore identified the following rights claims as priorities for NCA's work in Sri Lanka for 2008-2009. While we make evident that each right is supported by normative rights frameworks such as international human rights conventions, and that some are backed up by United Nations Millennium Development Goals. NCA's starting point is poor people's own lived experiences of poverty and exclusion, an understanding that these rights reflect real felt needs. Sri Lanka is a signatory to the Millennium Declaration of UN, 2000.

#### **3.1 Specific rights to be addressed by the program:**

- The right of men and women to be free from all forms of violence
- The right to live in peace, access social security and welfare
- The right to clean water and safe sanitation
- The right to health and self determination

### 3.1.1 Men and Women Address Gender Based Violence

**Rights deficit:** 60% of Sri Lankan women experience domestic violence and sexual abuse.

**Related rights:** CAT; CCPR article 7, 9-10 and 23; CEDAW article 4 & 15; UN Res. 1325.

**Legal frame work:** In Sri Lanka, the right to be protected against gender based violence is ensured by the Domestic Violence Act of Sri Lanka. It empowers courts to grant protection orders and to ensure that the Act complies with Sri Lanka's International Rights Obligations, hereunder also goal 3 in the MDG.

### 3.1.2 Religions for Conflict Transformation and Peace building

**Rights deficit:** Lack of peace, co-existence, reconciliation and security due to the conflict.

**Related rights:** CCPR article 6 (the inherent right to life) and article 18 (the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion).

**Legal frame work:** CSL ensures the right to religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching; Sri Lanka has endorsed the UN Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women Peace and Security.

### 3.1.3 Communities for Fresh Water and Safe Sanitation

**Rights deficit:** 60% of rural communities do not have access to clean water and 35% do not have access to adequate sanitation. There is a lack of people's participation in water supply and sanitation projects implemented by government institutions.

**Related rights:** CESCRCOM. 15; CESCRCOM article 11 and CEDAW article 13.

**Legal frame work:** Ensured by the constitution (1078) of Sri Lanka in generic terms. UN Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Guidelines are incorporated into the constitutional amendments. The National Water Resources Policy<sup>12</sup>

### 3.1.4 Psycho - Social Rehabilitation

**Rights deficit:** Lack of psychological health when it comes to prevention, service and rehabilitation among the internally displaced and Tsunami affected to overcome trauma.

**Related rights:** The right to health and self-determination CESCRCOM 12.

**Legal frame work:** In Sri Lanka, CESCRCOM and CCPR ensures all peoples the right of self-determination. The CESCRCOM ensures the right highest possible standard of health. The UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and the Sphere Standards are setting the frame

## 3.2 Thematic Focus

The overall vision for NCA's programme in Sri Lanka is to promote human dignity for poor and excluded people, by supporting partners and programmes that contribute to increased participation, equity and protection within the Humanitarian Principles of Code of Conduct. NCA's programme in Sri Lanka will work within the following thematic focus areas in close cooperation with Church of Sweden (*percentage of total programme budget in para*)<sup>13</sup>:

- Men and Women address Gender based Violence (31.54%)
- Religions for Conflict transformation and Peace building (28.19%)
- Communities for Fresh Water and Safe Sanitation (18.79%)

<sup>12</sup> The National Water Resources Policy and Institutional Arrangements (28<sup>th</sup> March, 2000)

<sup>13</sup> Programme budget for 2008 is 7,450,000 NOK, of which CoS is funding 1,450,000 NOK

- Psycho-Social Rehabilitation<sup>14</sup> (18.79%)
- Capacity Building (2.68%)

2008 will be the last year that NCA will fund water and sanitation, and will in 2009 focus funding on gender based violence, conflict transformation & peace as well as capacity building.

### **3.2.1 Men and Women address Gender based violence**

**Rationale:** The Vienna Human Rights Conference and the Fourth World Conference on Women gave priority to women's lives, bodies, psychological integrity and freedom. Violence against women have profound effects – direct and indirect – on a woman's health, and impacts on women and girls' physical, emotional, psychological and social well-being. Violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms. In Sri Lanka gender based violence encompasses a wide range of human rights violations, including sexual abuse, rape, domestic violence, sexual assault and harassment, trafficking of women and girls and several harmful, traditional practices. Any one of these abuses can leave deep psychological scars, damage the health of women and girls in general, including their reproductive and sexual health, and in some instances, results in death. Vulnerable women have very limited access to legal support medical care and counseling support - especially in the case of domestic violence, as it is treated as "a private or internal matter" by law enforcement, judiciary, as well as the communities and their leaders.

**Main causes/barriers:** Patriarchal norms and traditions generate acceptance and tolerance by society of violence against women. Gender based power relationships are also based on patriarchy, where the families are headed, controlled and dominated by men. Patriarchy is also found in family traditions like women taking the name of their husbands and children always carrying the father's last name. In the majority of homes in Sri Lanka, the man is the figure who financially supports a family while the woman stays home and cares for the children. Most domestic violence involves male anger directed against their women partners. This gender difference appears to be rooted in the way boys and men are socialized and brought up. The prevalence of domestic violence is the result of tacit acceptance by that society of the way men view themselves as men, and the way they view women. This will determine whether they use violence or coercion against women. In general, there is also a lack of awareness of women's rights and legal protection for abused women in Sri Lanka. The widespread use of alcohol has also been shown as a main cause of domestic violence and Sri Lanka holds a high record in the area of alcohol abuse in the world.

**NCA intervention strategy:** Partners and NCA realize that ending gender-based violence will require changing cultural concepts about masculinity, and that in this process we must actively engage men, whether they be policy makers, parents, spouses or young boys. The programme that NCA supports will employ the following strategies:

- Improved protection for women and girls against violence.
- Support to counseling, shelter and care for battered and abused women and children.
- Awareness raising for law enforcement and the judiciary on the Domestic Violence Act, CEDAW and other international conventions pertaining to gender based violence.
- Training of medical professionals, to make them more sensitive towards women who may have experienced violence and to meet their health needs.

---

<sup>14</sup> This is not one of NCA's global thematic priorities. However, when operational in emergencies, NCA has relevant experience with psychosocial assistance and it is a thematic priority for Church of Sweden. This theme is fully funded by CoS until 31 December 2009.

- Community education and action to change beliefs, attitudes and practices that condone and perpetuate violence against women.
- Strengthening advocacy on gender-based violence between women's national networks and partners with communities and local institutions.
- Integrating messages on the prevention of gender-based violence into information, education and communication.
- Initial research on gender-based violence.

### **3.2.2 Religions for Conflict Transformation and Peace building**

**Rationale:** Peace building is key to the future development of Sri Lanka. As result of decades of ethnic conflict and war there is a deeply rooted and widespread suspicion and distrust between different ethnic groups and religions, which since 2006 (when the peace talks in Geneva broke down) has increased and which doesn't facilitate a peaceful solution to the conflict. NCA and partners conclude that the quest for true peace and an acceptance of differences in society, must include the participation, action and endorsement from the inter-religious and faith-based networks.

**Main causes/barriers:** Extreme biased and unbalanced opinions are spread by some leaders of different religious-, ethnic- and political groups from all parts of the country and from the major stakeholders in the conflict. Children and young people are raised with biased views on the conflict and not to work for multi-ethnic and democratic Sri Lanka. Other important barriers are the money and huge benefits from the military-industrial complex; as well as lack of international intervention on the parties fueling the conflict.

**NCA intervention strategy:** NCA's aim is to support networks and activities that can enhance peaceful interaction between all ethnic and religious groups in Sri Lanka in particular inter religious dialog that promotes religions for conflict transformation and peace building, within the following strategies:

- Engage organizations that work on conflict sensitive practices (Do No Harm) in development- and relief work to harness cooperation between representatives from various ethnic and religious groups whereby inter-ethnic and inter-faith cooperation takes place in project areas.
- Provide a forum for the youth from all relevant ethnic and religious groups to engage in discussions and debates about the current conflict in the Eastern and Northern Sri Lanka.
- Support the initiatives of the various young people to 'think outside the box' and generate creative ideas for local conflict resolution.
- Foster connections among different ethnic and religious young people and their communities.
- NCA activities will follow the Do No Harm principle to avoid exhilarating the conflict, but rather to encourage peaceful change.

### **3.2.3 Communities for fresh water and safe sanitation**

**Rationale:** The provision of safe drinking water and adequate sewage and sanitation to remote, rural villages is the highest social priority by many poor households – especially in areas affected by the conflict and Tsunami. Many poor households suffer from stunting, low birth weight, iron deficiency, anemia and other micro- nutrient deficiencies and water borne diseases. Though Sri Lanka (with support from large international donors) has experimented with a range of water development programs targeting the poor in rural areas, only few are effective and often end up benefiting the better off in urban areas.

**Main causes/barriers:** The conflict and Tsunami has destroyed access to clean water in many areas of Sri Lanka. Government water policies and water programmes are not efficient in targeting rural, remote and poor communities, and there is a trend towards privatization of the water supply - market driven as opposed to rights based.

**NCA intervention strategy:** Within a gender sensitive and participatory approach, NCA in Sri Lanka will continue to support two main partners in 2008 within the following strategies:

- Sustainable, environmental friendly and integrated community owned water schemes to ensure access to clean water in rural areas.
- Safe and sustainable sanitation facilities among poor and marginalized communities.
- Facilitate advocacy opportunities for the partners to participate in national water policy making programmes for allocation of funding to fulfill local government commitment with respect to water rights, sustainable water supply and sanitation in poorer villages.
- Strengthening Protection Systems of the water and sanitation structures in emergency situations.

### 3.2.4 Psycho-Social Rehabilitation

**Rationale:** Among the Tsunami and conflict affected communities there is an evident need to deal with the trauma they have experienced. However, there has been a focus on the physical rather than the psychological health aspects. There is also a lack of awareness of rights among the displaced and the poor, which prevents them of taking control over their lives again.

**Main causes/barriers:** Lack of awareness of basic human rights. Lack of awareness of how to deal with trauma and lack of facilities for trauma counseling.

**NCA/CoS intervention strategy:** A psycho-social rehabilitation approach in humanitarian emergencies is first and foremost to be seen as a crosscutting issue. Psycho social work is not one of NCA's thematic focus areas. However, as a consequence of the cooperation that NCA has with Church of Sweden in Sri Lanka, Psycho Social Services is here treated as a separate thematic focus. The foundation for community-based psychosocial work is the belief in the affected communities' own capacity for recovery and resilience. All interventions are based upon culturally accepted methods. In the NCA supported activities in Sri Lanka there is an emphasis on three areas:

- Creation of venues for people to share experiences and spiritual life and strengthening of coping skills.
- Coordination and quality assurance of psychosocial support.
- Empowerment and awareness raising of international humanitarian law and human rights

### 3.2.5 Capacity building

Priority is given to capacity building of SWOAD in Ampara (joint ACT cooperation with Christian Aid, DanChurchAid, Diakonia and FinnChurchAid) and to NCS-SL. Furthermore, NCA will priorities capacity building of partners within financial management and fund-raising techniques, to strengthen partners' future institutional sustainability. NCA will also try conduct a follow-up workshop on Do No Harm in 2008.<sup>15</sup>

---

<sup>15</sup> The first Do No Harm workshop was conducted by NCA in Sri Lanka in 2006. A ToT workshop on Do NO Harm was conducted in Oslo in 2007.

#### 4.0 Strategies for Rights Holders and Duty Bearers

In NCA's rights based approach, we seek to engage with poor men and women as citizens- people who are entitled to human dignity and basic human rights by virtue of being human. NCA's Rights Based Approach entails a two – pronged strategy. A vital component of our strategy is to resource poor and excluded groups as rights holders. By claiming abstract rights as tangible entitlement, poor people improve their lives. At the same time we recognize that social relations and institutions (both formal and informal) within society can pose serious barriers to poor men and women who try to claim their right. NCA's Rights Based Approach will also entail the identification of key duty bearers and strategies to engage them to transform these institutional barriers and mechanisms of exclusion. A particular role for NCA and partners will be to facilitate linkages between prioritized Rights Holders and the most relevant Duty Bearers.

#### 4.1 Right Holders

The prioritized rights holders and the corresponding strategies for each thematic focus area are:

Theme	Right Holders	Strategies
<b>4.1.1</b> Men and Women address Gender-Based violence.	Women that have been subject to violence and their children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase coping skills for battered women by providing medical treatment and psychological counseling</li> <li>• Improve access to legal support for cases taken to court</li> <li>• Provide shelter for women that have been subject to violence</li> <li>• Improve access to medical treatment for injured women as a result of being subject to violence</li> <li>• Awareness raising for law enforcement and the judiciary on the Domestic Violence Act, CEDAW and other international conventions pertaining to Gender based violence which is relatively poor particularly among law enforcement and judicial officers.</li> <li>• Training of medical professionals, to make them more sensitive towards women who may have experienced violence and to meet their health needs.</li> </ul>
	Women and girls, who are or may be potential victims of exploitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give improved protection for women and girls against violence.</li> <li>• Community education and action to change beliefs, attitudes and practices that condone and perpetuate violence against women, and in part through strengthening advocacy on gender-based violence with women's national networks and partners with communities and local institutions to promote and protect women and girls' human rights and empower them to enjoy these rights.</li> <li>• Integrating messages on the prevention of gender-based violence into information, education and communication projects and conducting more research on gender-based violence.</li> </ul>

<p><b>4.1.2</b> Religions for conflict transformation and peace building</p>	<p>Young people and their communities who are from divided communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a forum for the youth to engage in discussions and debates about current conflicts in the world</li> <li>• Support the initiatives of the young people to 'think outside the box' and generate creative ideas for conflict resolution</li> <li>• Foster connections among young people and their communities.</li> <li>• Provide a forum for inter religious dialogue</li> <li>• Advocate Do No Harm principle to avoid exhilarating the conflict, but rather to encourage peaceful change.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4.1.3</b> Communities for fresh water and safe sanitation</p>	<p>Members of low-income families with poor access to clean drinking water and safe sanitation in the face of severe droughts and emergencies, with Special focus on female headed households with young children below the age of 5 years and with differently abled family members, school children denied pure drinking water and safe sanitation and families affected by the Tsunami.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide increased access to clean water and safe sanitation for vulnerable and poorer families affected by Tsunami and severe drought</li> <li>• Provide access to water for family centered agricultural activities</li> <li>• Establish community-based preparedness for water and sanitation in emergency situation especially in the face of Tsunami and drought.</li> <li>• Provision of health education and awareness programmes on good hygienic practices in emergency situations.</li> <li>• Mobilizing CBOs/Community groups for unskilled work in the construction of latrines &amp; community water schemes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4.1.4</b> Psycho-Social Work</p>	<p>Communities displaced by the tsunami and affected by the conflict and the communities affected by the conflict following the principles of Do No Harm as it is difficult to separate the two groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise awareness and understanding among the affected people and community leaders on the effects of trauma on people and provide tools to overcome trauma and to heal and recover</li> <li>• Provide trauma counseling for affected communities</li> <li>• Spread awareness on human rights and strengthen people to demand their rights</li> <li>• Capacity building among NGOs, both local and international, on psychosocial work</li> </ul>

## 4.2 Duty Bearers

The prioritized duty bearers and the corresponding strategies for each thematic focus area are:

Theme	Duty Bearers	Key Strategies
<p><b>4.2.1</b> Men and Women Address Gender Based Violence</p>	<p>The state is the ultimate duty bearer. National and local law enforcement, the judiciary, and the medical services of the country are responsible for providing support to women victims of violence. NCA will support Non Governmental Organizations that seek to influence these authorities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness raising on gender based violence, Training of police officers,</li> <li>• Awareness raising for medical officers and judges especially on the recently passed laws to combat gender based violence</li> <li>• Support to service providers in counseling, shelter and legal assistance</li> </ul>

<p><b>4.2.2</b> Religions for conflict transformation and peace building</p>	<p>The State is responsible for negotiating peace and prevention of conflicts. Civil society organizations, religious bodies and leaders from different political parties, religions and ethnic groups that play an important role.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support to civil society organizations to organize and conduct inter-religious dialogue and inter cultural activities.</li> <li>• Support to organizations working with youth in conflict ridden communities</li> </ul>
<p><b>4.2.3</b> Communities for fresh water and safe sanitation</p>	<p>From a legal perspective, the ultimate duty bearer in provision of safe sanitation and clean water for vulnerable families in the face of Tsunami and Drought is the National and Local Governments (Pradeshiya Saba). Therefore NCA will encourage partners to keep local authorities accountable through their initiatives. Thus, these local level organizations that NCA has already partnered with will be regarded as intermediary duty bearers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide information for local authorities on vulnerable families integrating health, education, environment and gender issues of such families who will be affected by National Water Policies.</li> <li>• Supplement Community Initiatives in water and sanitation and link these with similar initiatives of other state/non-state actors.</li> <li>• Encourage partners to use Rights Based Approach through training programmes</li> <li>• Encourage Education authorities to link their programmes with those of civil society actors</li> </ul>
<p><b>4.2.4</b> Psycho-Social Work</p>	<p>The main duty bearer is the Sri Lankan authorities on a national district and local levels that, according to International Humanitarian Law, have the duty to care for and protect internally displaced people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness raising among legal officers, such as judges, lawyers and police officers on different levels of society</li> <li>• Advocacy among local authorities on human rights</li> <li>• Capacity building among NGOs, both local and international on psychosocial work</li> </ul>

## 5.0 Geographic focus

Province	District	Programme	Continue/ Expand?
Northern	Jafna	Men and women Address Gender based violence (Women In Need)	Continue 08 & 09
		Religions for Conflict transformation and Peace Building (Sarvodaya Shanthisena)	Continue 08 & 09
North-Central	Anuradapura	Men and women Address Gender based violence (Women In Need)	Continue 08 & 09
		Religions for Conflict transformation and Peace Building (Sarvodaya Shanthi Sena)	Continue 08 & 09
North-Western	Puttalam	Men and women Address Gender based violence (Women In Need)	Continue 08 & 09
Central	Badhulla	Men and women Address Gender based violence (Women In Need)	Continue 08 & 09
	Kandy	Men and women Address Gender based violence (Women In Need)	Continue 08 & 09

Western	Colombo	Men and women Address Gender based violence (Women In Need)	Continue 08 & 09
		Psycho-Social Work (CHA)	Continue 08 & 09
	Gampaha	Psycho-Social Work (Janawaboda Kendraya and Shramabimani Kendraya)	Continue 08 & 09
Southern	Matara	Men and women Address Gender based violence (Women In Need)	Continue 08 & 09
		Psycho-Social Work (SLSM)	Continue 08 & 09
	Hambanthota	Communities for fresh water and safe sanitation (SEEDO - SL)	Continue 08 & 09
		Psycho-Social Work (SLSM)	Continue 08 & 09
South-Western	Kalutara	Communities for fresh water and safe sanitation (NGOWSSDS)	Continue 08 & 09
		Psycho-Social Work (SLSM)	Continue 08 & 09
South-Eastern	Monaragala	Communities for fresh water and safe sanitation (WDF)	Continue 08 & 09
		Men and women Address Gender based violence (WIN)	Continue 08 & 09

### **Men and women Address Gender based violence**

NCA will support a national level organization dealing with Gender based Violence. WIN is the main partner which has a network of branches in 8 out of the 24 Districts of Sri Lanka, covering the Northern, Central, Eastern, Western and Southern Provinces.

### **Religions for Conflict transformation and Peace Building**

NCA will work with Sarvodaya Shramadana Society, an organization that is pro-Buddhist. However, the NCA supported programme strives to be neutral and involve all the main religions of the country. The organization is spread through out the country, covering over 15 000 villages. The Congress of Religions is comprised of a group of Religious leaders from Buddhist, Christian, Catholic, Hindu and Muslim Religions and is representative of all communities in Sri Lanka. NCA is in contact and dialogue with this organization in a peace building effort.

### **Communities for fresh water and safe sanitation**

NCA's main partners in this thematic area work in the districts where the poorer families faced/face Tsunami and severe droughts. Kalutara, Hambanthota, Matara and Galle districts were severely affected by the Tsunami. Reconstruction works in providing clean water and safe sanitation facilities are still being carried out.

Moneragala and Hambanthota districts are in the poverty ridden Dry Zone of Sri Lanka. The poorer communities in these two districts are able to farm only for four months of the year with the availability of rainwater. During the rest of the year, they find it is extremely difficult to cultivate (home based cultivation) and face severe problems even with no access to drinking water. This had paved the way for a lot of hygiene problems in the community. Due to historical reasons, Women head most of the households in these two districts. Lack of access to drinking water and sanitation are the most fundamental development issues in these two districts as a result of which women and children are in a vulnerable situation.

### Psycho-social work

NCA works with three nationwide NGOs:

CHA Psycho Social Forum: A network of national and international NGOs, state institutions and other agents working within the psychosocial field. Second, SLSM, a part of Sarvodaya, presented above, that in the project supported by NCA focuses on the coastal areas affected by the tsunami and areas in the northeast hosting internally displaced people. The third NGO, Women in Need is also already presented above. NCA supports a project in Matara district in the south, focusing on women and girls in camps for tsunami survivors. NCA also supports two smaller, local NGOs, Janawaboda Kendraya and Sramabimani Kendraya, both active in Gampaha district, north of Colombo.

## III. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

### 6.0 Program objectives per thematic focus area

#### 6.1. Men and Women Address Gender – Based Violence

**Overall goal:** Gender Based Violence mainly domestic violence and sexual abuse within geographical areas of operation of NCA – Partners, prevented and reduced.

1 Specific Objective	Indicator	Source of Verification
Affected women receive improved services – legal, medical shelter	Number of affected women accessing legal support, medical treatment and number of individuals reached	Partner records
<b>1.1 Expected Result</b> Law enforcement officers, medical officers and judges sensitized on laws relating to GBV	Number of Women's Desks in Police Stations  Number of groups sensitized  Number of women receiving maintenance  Number of protection orders received	Partner reports
<b>1.2 Expected Result</b> Improved coping mechanisms for battered women.	Number of abused women resorting to legal redress than suffer in silence	Partner reports
<b>1.3 Expected Result</b> More women receive medical treatment Counseling services.	Number of battered women counseled at crisis centres	Partner reports

#### Assumptions and Risks

- Patriarchal attitudes of men in the communities, law enforcement officers and judges
- Condoning domestic violence in the family
- Lack of awareness among law enforcement
- Stereo typing of the Sri Lankan woman
- Lack of public awareness on the issue
- Lack of empowerment of women
- Judges, Medical officers and other hospital staff not sensitive to the issue

## Links between Partners and Programme Objective - GBV

Core Partners	Type of Organisation	Geographic Focus	Intervention
Women in Need	Secular	South, North, West	Counselling, legal aid, prevention
Sarvodaya Legal Services Movement	Secular	South, East	Service provision for abused women
Wellessa Development Forum	Secular	East, South	Empowerment of women's groups
South Asia Gender Alliance (SAGA)	NCA South Asia partner network	Regional	Competence building, sharing of experience

## 6.2 Religions for conflict transformation and peace building

**Overall goal:** A foundation for lasting peace through Inter- religious dialogue created and maintained among youth and religious leaders in areas of programme operation

1 Specific Objective	Indicators	Sources of Verification
A group of youth and religious leaders sensitized on conflict transformation and peace building	Religious leaders, opinion and youth leaders from mixed ethnic and religious groups in the selected communities participate in 20 camps	Partner Reports Media reports
<b>1.1 Expected results</b> More inter-religious meetings take place in selected areas	Number of inter-religious meetings at village level (up till 60)  20 youth camps conducted	Partner Reports Media reports
<b>1.2 Expected results</b> Inter-religious myths and misunderstandings dispelled and positive attitudes created among the participants	Number of Positive responses from participants at end of youth camps	Partner Reports

### Assumptions and Risks

- Extremists political interventions
- Actions of Religious fundamentalists
- Political instability and increased conflicts and tensions
- Disruption of implementation of some programme activities

## Links between Partners and Programme Objective – Religions for conflict transformation and peace building:

Core Partners	Type of Organisation	Geographic Focus	Intervention
National Christian Council-Sri Lanka	Faith based	Member organisations in South, East and North	Cross ethnic parents groups and media presentations
Sarvoday Shanti Sena	Faith based	South, East and North	Enables space for meetings and dialogue between representatives from all ethnic groups and religions
YMCA	Faith based	North, East, South	Peace Education
Non-funding relationship: Congress of Religions (CoR)	Faith Based	North, south, East, West	Inter-religious dialogue

### 6.3 Communities for safe water and sanitation

**Overall goal:** Poor and vulnerable communities (living in the districts affected by Tsunami and severe droughts of Sri Lanka) access pure water and safe sanitation

1. Specific Objective	Indicator	Source of Verification
Increased number of people living in 33 project locations access clean drinking water and safe sanitation through rain water harvesting and other water supply schemes.	Proportion of men, women and children reached  90% Increase in number of families in affected areas having safe sanitation facilities	Partner reports
<b>1.1 Expected Results</b> Communities where NCA partners implement programmes benefit from clean drinking water.	Number of families having clean water for domestic consumption	Partner reports
<b>1.2 Expected Results</b> Vulnerable communities in the selected location benefit from safe sanitation facilities	Number of households having sanitary toilets	Partner reports

#### Assumptions and Risks

- Availability of technical support from the local administration
- Support of the MOH, PHIs and other health personnel
- Support of the Divisional Secretariat staff
- Inability to obtain community participation due to the community being too poor to sacrifice their wages as daily paid workers in order to do voluntary work, participate in advocacy etc
- Disruption of implementation of some programme activities

#### Links between partners and program objective – Safe Water and Sanitation:

Core Partners	Type of Organisation	Geographic Focus	Intervention
NGO Water Supply and Sanitation Decade	Secular	South, West	Provision of clean water and Safe Sanitation
Wellassa Development Forum (WDF)	Secular	East, South	Provision of clean water and Safe Sanitation

### 6.4 The Specific Thematic Focus: Psychosocial work

**Overall goal:** Health and self determination restored among the displaced communities of the Tsunami and the conflict

1 Specific Objective	Indicator	Source of Verification
Increased psychosocial wellbeing among internally displaced	% of participants able to go on with their lives in terms of family life, livelihood etc.	Partners evaluation reports

<p><b>1.1 Expected result</b> Counselling programmes for internally displaced conducted</p>	<p>No of participants in the group and individual counselling programmes</p> <p>No of conducted counselling programmes</p>	<p>Partner reports</p>
<p><b>1.2 Expected result</b> Awareness creation programmes on how to strengthen coping skills and handle emotional distress prepared and conducted,</p>	<p>No of workshops conducted</p> <p>No of participants who have attended the workshops</p> <p>Production of programmes, modules and tool kits to be used for awareness raising</p> <p>Increased number of people made aware among the participants</p>	<p>Partner reports</p> <p>The produced educational material</p>
<p><b>1.3 Expected result</b> Existence of venues, such as self help groups, for people to share experiences and support each other</p>	<p>No of existing self help groups</p> <p>No of participants in the groups</p>	<p>Partners reports</p>
<p><b>2. Specific Objective</b></p>	<p><b>Indicator</b></p>	<p><b>Source of Verification</b></p>
<p>Quality assurance of psycho social work coordinated and actors sensitized</p>	<p>Increased number of actors following the policies and having been sensitized on best practices in psycho social work</p> <p>Increased geographical coverage of actors within the Psycho Social Forum</p>	<p>Partner records Evaluation of CHA Psycho Social Forum</p> <p>Attendance registers of the Psycho Social Forum</p>
<p><b>2.1 Expected result</b> Common guidelines for good practices in psycho social work in Sri Lanka produced and practiced</p>	<p>"Guidelines for Psycho social work" completed</p> <p>"Guidelines in Psycho Social Work in the post tsunami phase" completed</p>	<p>The produced materials</p>
<p><b>2.2 Expected result</b> Improved networking within the psycho social field</p>	<p>No of active members in the Psycho Social Forum</p> <p>No of active participants in working groups held by the Psycho Social Forum</p> <p>Increased geographical coverage of members in the Psycho Social Forum</p>	<p>Attendance registers of the Psycho Social Forum</p> <p>Minutes of the network meetings</p> <p>Annual and Bi-annual evaluation meetings</p>
<p><b>2.3 Expected result</b> Shared understanding of terminology used in the psycho social sector</p>	<p>"Conceptual Clarity" Booklet completed</p> <p>No of workshops held in the process of preparing the booklet</p> <p>No of participants in these workshops</p>	<p>Partners records</p> <p>The produced material</p>

<b>3 Specific Objective</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Source of Verification</b>
Empowerment of target communities and awareness raised on international humanitarian law and human rights	<p>Changed attitudes and values in the communities as regards to their basic needs and human rights.</p> <p>Creating critical awareness in and mobilizing of the target communities</p>	<p>Partners records</p> <p>Partners evaluation reports</p>
<b>3.1 Expected result</b> networks of displaced and other vulnerable groups Created(CBOs) and awareness on human rights raised among them	<p>Number of established networks</p> <p>% increase in the number of persons made aware of legal rights</p> <p>number of trainings and workshops held on human rights issues</p>	<p>Partners records</p> <p>Partners evaluation reports</p>
<b>3.2 Expected result</b> A self reliant and critical leadership evolved in the target communities with the capacity to lobby with local government authorities.	<p>Existence of a core leadership in the target communities</p> <p>No of training programmes on advocacy &amp; lobbying</p> <p>No of participants in the training programmes</p> <p>The network leaders have gained the ability to lobby and advocacy work</p>	<p>Partners records</p> <p>Partners evaluation reports</p>
<b>3.3 Expected result</b> Administrative and local government bodies sensitized and knowledge on human rights increased	<p>Positive results from advocacy work</p> <p>Established contact between the local authorities and the networks</p>	<p>Partners records</p> <p>Partners evaluation reports</p> <p>Correspondence made with the government officers</p>

**Assumptions:**

- Local communities actively participate in activities and take their responsibility in implementing the projects
- Member organizations actively participate in activities and take their responsibility in reaching the targets
- Activities are implemented without being disturbed by the conflict, natural disasters, or epidemics
- Inflation will not rise beyond affordable levels

**Risks:**

- The conflict is already on such a serious level that it is difficult to work in most of the north-east. If it were to get worse, the implementation of the projects would be hampered
- Natural disasters, such as floods and slides, which regularly occurs in Sri Lanka, might halt the projects for a period of time
- Epidemics of such diseases as dengue and chikungunya sometimes occur in Sri Lanka. If they were to occur during the implementation period, the activities might be halted for a while

### Links between Partners and Programme Objective – Psycho Social Work:

Core Partners	Type of Organisation	Geographic Focus	Intervention
Sarvodaya Legal Services Movement	Secular	East, South, West	Counselling services, children helping children, awareness, psycho-spiritual healing
Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies	Secular	North, East, south	Coordination of Forum, Publications
Janawaboda Kendraya	Secular	West	Advocacy, leadership development
Sharamaabimani Kendraya	Secular	West	Lobbying, awareness raising

## 7.0 Rationale for Choice of Partners, Resource Organisations, and Strategic Alliances

### 7.1 Capacity of NCA Partners

In 2007, NCA has worked with 13 core partners whereof 12 of these partnerships have been established just after the Tsunami, which created a need for more partners to utilize the Tsunami funding effectively. The only "old" partner is the National Christian Council of Sri Lanka. NCA has not developed relations with resource partners in Sri Lanka, but the partners are all part of the regional SAGA network (South Asia Gender Alliance).<sup>16</sup>

The partners of NCA has a long experience of working within their specialized, thematic area and they also have solid experience of implementing projects in the geographical areas that NCA is targeting in Sri Lanka. Most of NCA's partners are also community-based, with deep ties to the villages and people that are involved in the projects. The capacity in terms of context experience, local knowledge and connections to local communities and -authorities is generally high.

The capacity to work with a rights-based approach is also relatively high among some of the partners, especially the small, local NGOs, as they have worked for many years with empowerment of poor people to advocate for their rights. They apply a concrete and not academic approach to claim their rights. However, there are still partners, though, with limited experience and knowledge of using the rights-based approach. It is also important to add, that two of NCA's partners have a very high competence among their staff within the legal field.

There is overall, with a few exceptions, a relatively low institutional capacity in terms of financial and narrative report writing, especially when comes to LFA as a tool for both project progress monitoring, management and reporting. Project proposals as well as narrative and financial reports are not always on an acceptable standard. NCA staff is constantly in a mutual dialogue with those partners, and improvements are gradually observed. These partners are usually very competent in implementation of their field activities, but find it difficult to put it into writing and document their work.

<sup>16</sup> See: <http://www.genderalliance.org/>

## 7.2. Partnership Strategy

NCA's strategic considerations, when selecting and negotiating with new partner organisations, have been:

- The match between their work/experience with NCA's prioritized themes and geographical focus.
- Their constituency, rootedness and mandate in the local communities they want to work with.
- Their experience (or potential to develop into) to work with advocacy viz.-a-viz. local authorities and national government.
- That they ideologically and methodologically concur with NCA's principles of participation, protection and equity in their work.

NCA's approach to the partners is determined by the fact that the programme basically is funded by earmarked Tsunami funds that shall be finalised by the end of 2009. The programme and funding cooperation with Church of Sweden is also likely to finalise at the same time.

- NCA from 2009 intends to reduce the partner portfolio in Sri Lanka to approximately six-seven partners (timing to be further discussed) and further reduce to tentatively two - three partners from 2010
- Thematic focus will be further sharpened, keeping peace and reconciliation efforts at grass root level as one of possibly two thematic priorities. Simultaneously NCA will be flexible in responding to emerging needs related to the conflict.
- Initiatives will be taken to assess possible alternative funding sources for remaining partners from 2010.

As part of the down-scaling strategy, NCA will aim at developing the institutional capacity (organisational and financial) of partners to carry on – once NCA and CoS has pulled out. Such capacity building will focus on financial capacity building, as well as project- and institutional management, reporting and proposal writing, Do No Harm, and the Rights-Based Approach.

NCA also intend to facilitate exchanges of experiences between partners in other countries in the region and our partners in Sri Lanka.

## 7.3 Overview of Partners

### Core Partners

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>Women In Need (WIN)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	Women in Need was established in 1987 by a group of women who wanted to actively work against domestic violence. Women In Need opened the first crisis centre in 1988.
<b>Mission</b>	1) TO eliminate Domestic Violence and all forms of violence against women and children 2) To improve the overall social position of women in Sri Lanka by empowerment and to provide a supportive environment to facilitate women's growth towards self reliance 3) to meet the legal needs of female violence through legal aid and legal awareness and provide shelter services to women in need of such services
<b>Constituency</b>	The clientele has increased from around 2000 at the beginning to over 30 000 today.
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	As of today there are seven Win centers in the Western, Central, Southern, Uva, North Central, North Western and Northern Provinces.
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	Men & Women Address Gender Based Violence
<b>Strategies</b>	Awareness raising on the issue of gender based violence of the general public, law enforcement, the medical and judicial officers

<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	WIN has achieved high credibility in Sri Lankan society. The Executive Director of WIN has been appointed to the National Committee of Women to represent the thematic focus ' Gender based Violence ' The staff consists of qualified counselors, lawyers, social workers, administrative and support staff
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	"One Stop crisis centres " have been established in five National Hospitals, offering counseling support to patients who are victims of violence. This is the first of its kind in Sri Lanka and approved by the Ministry of Health.
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	Start of cooperation was in 2005, the year NCA was established in Sri Lanka. During this year discussions took place leading to a partnership in 2006.
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	NCA acknowledges the approaches of WIN to be relevant to the thematic focus on the prevention of gender based violence, a major psychological, health and development issue that impacts on the lives of a majority of Sri Lankan households.
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	Credibility of the organization as a professional organization working on the issue of gender based violence. WIN elected as the Focal Point of the South Asia Gender Alliance (SAGA) in 2007
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	NCA has identified gender based violence to be one of the main focuses in its activities in Sri Lanka, and WIN is so far the most credible and accepted civil society organization working in this area.
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	Asia Foundation, UNICEF, Geneva Global

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>Sarvodaya Shanthi Sena Sansadaya (SSS)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement was established in 1958 and in 1970, Shanthi Sena, translated as Peace Brigade, was established during the period of the first civil insurrection in the Southern parts of the country, to safeguard life and property in the villages and towns. SSS continued to grow as an important unit within the Sarvodaya family.
<b>Mission</b>	Future is in the hands of youth, and SSS programme aims to empower youth to be good and useful citizens who embrace and promulgate the concept of a peaceful multi-cultural, multi-religious society in Sri Lanka
<b>Constituency</b>	Sri Lankan youth of all religions, network of communities in the North, South East and West encompassing Buddhist, Christian, Hindu and Muslim faiths.
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	District focus – North, North East, North central, Central and South.
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	Create a lasting peace in this war-torn country through inter-religious dialogue.
<b>Strategies</b>	Create a young peace group that can initiate discourse among the different religious communities in 120 villages in key areas in the North, North-East and the South and train leaders from these groups in conflict resolution, peace education and leadership
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	Sarvodaya was the first civil society movement in Sri Lanka beginning in 1958, for peace and sustainable development across all ethnic and religious communities and over the years have expanded to over 15000 villages spread through out the country. SSS has over one hundred thousand youth as their membership in all the Districts of Sri Lanka, belonging to all ethnic groups and religions in the country.
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	The organization has earned international recognition

<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	NCA in 2006 started the cooperation with Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement and discussed potential partnerships. Shanthi Sena was identified as a potential partner as the mission of the organization was in line with NCA's thematic focus, Religions for conflict transformation and peace building
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	NCA assesses the approach of SSS in the effort to bring about lasting peace as being highly relevant. The focus at village level is in involving leaders of different religious and ethnic groups to improve dialogue amongst them and motivate the youth to cooperate with each other.
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	Added Value: Sarvodaya supports participatory democracy, human rights, peace and environmental sustainability. Sarvodaya work spans social and technological empowerment designed to preserve traditional values at village level whilst simultaneously promoting peace and national well being
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	NCA will work with the mother organization on other issues such as emergency relief, gender based violence
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>The NGO's Water Supply and Sanitation Decade Service (NGOWSSDS)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	The NGO's Water Supply and Sanitation Decade Service (NGOWSSDS) was established in 1983 under the auspices of UNDP as a partner of the International Drinking Water and Sanitation Decade to promote NGO's participation to achieve the goal of the decade; 'Water for all in Sri Lanka'. NGOWSSDS is a consortium consisting of 36 NGOs.
<b>Mission</b>	To lead, support and facilitate the active involvement of the Governmental and Non-Governmental sector in water and sanitation
<b>Constituency</b>	Local and National Government, NGOs and CBOs involved in water supply and sanitation programmes. Special focus is on Female headed households and abused and vulnerable women and school children from the rural villages of southern and south west of Sri Lanka
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	District focus – South Western and North Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka.
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	Communities For Fresh Water and Sanitation
<b>Strategies</b>	Coordinate agencies in the water and sanitation sector through networking in order to ensure public participation in policy decisions with regard to systems of water and sanitation management
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	NGOWSSDS has long experience in implementing water and sanitation projects in all parts of Sri Lanka. It has also conducted workshop on the Logical Framework Approach (LFA), project management and NGO management for its own member NGOs. It has also produced training materials and other publications such as Logical Framework Approach, Health Manuals for Community Volunteers, and NGO Good Policy and Practice Training Kit. All these have been translated to local languages for the use of member NGOs and CBO.
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	Publication of LFA Manuel supported by NORAD, Publication of Health Manuals in English and other two local languages, Recognized by Sri Lanka Government and represented in National Water Council

<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	NCA partnered initially with NGOWSSDS in 2006 with the objective of enhancing better hygienic standards among communities affected by Tsunami through the provision of adequate clean water and safe sanitation facilities of accepted standards. The strategies were also envisaged to ensure protection for people in communities impacted by water bore and water related diseases as an effective emergency response. While giving much emphasis to Tsunami victims, the programme also incorporated vulnerable people in rural areas to ensure equity
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	The main reason for the existence of NGOWSSDS in Sri Lanka is in line with NCA's focus on water and sanitation for vulnerable communities.-NGOWSSDS engage in National and Local level (both Governmental as well as Non-Governmental Organizations) service providers to ensure that their active participation in developing water and sanitation projects for poor communities while strengthening the capacity of its core partners to promote water and sanitation as one of the major priorities in national programmes for poverty reduction.
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	NCA plans to continue supporting NGOWSSDS on the same level as present in 2008. No plans have yet been made for 2009.
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	NCA will work with the organization in the thematic area; 'Communities for fresh water and safe sanitation' in 2008 – 2009
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	Community Water Supply Sanitation Programme (World Bank)

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>Wellassa Development Foundation (WDF)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	Wellassa Development Foundation was established in 1977 by a group of young graduates coming from the UVA – Province, Wellassa area, who wanted to actively work for the well being of the down trodden communities living in the said area.
<b>Mission</b>	To create a society that respects the villagers, the traditional irrigation and farming systems and restore rice production, providing opportunities for exchange of ideas amongst the common people on issues that affect their daily lives.
<b>Constituency</b>	The farming families living in Wellassa Division, female headed households and abused and vulnerable women from the far eastern parts of the Moneragala District
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	Wellassa in the Moneragala District in the UVA province
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	Men and Women Address Gender Based Violence
<b>Strategies</b>	Awareness raising on the issue of gender based violence of the general public, law enforcement, the medical and judicial officers
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	WDF has achieved high credibility in the Moneragala District. The staff consists of qualified social workers, administrative and support staff. WDF is a member of the Psycho-Social Forum of the Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies.
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	WDF implemented a micro – credit programme with World Bank/IDA support, provided by the National Development Trust Fund.
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	NCA came in contact with WDF in 2006, through recommendations of Consortium of Humanitarian Organizations (CHA). NCA started the cooperation with WDF in 2007
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	WDF is a strong civil society organization working with vulnerable communities in the far eastern parts of the poorest district of the country.-The NGO has a strong credibility as a professional organization working on the issue of poverty alleviation, water supply and sanitation and gender issues
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	The support from NCA is planned to continue on the same, fairly low level in the coming two years. As for now, there are no plans to continue the relationship after 2009.

<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	NCA will work with the organization in the thematic area; 'Communities for fresh water and safe sanitation' in 2008 – 2009
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	National Development Trust Fund, Community Water Supply Sanitation Programme (World Bank)

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>The National Council of Y.M.C.As (YMCA)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) is a voluntary international Christian movement founded in 1944. The first YMCA in Sri Lanka was founded in 1882.
<b>Mission</b>	To create a culture of peace from within the Movement, to educate, empower, mediate, reconcile and build relationships with each other and all those we serve to create conditions for peace.
<b>Constituency</b>	Sri Lankan youth with diverse ethnic religious and social back ground
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	District focus – North, North East, North central, Central and South.
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	Conflict Transformation and Peace Building
<b>Strategies</b>	YMCA is one of the leading youth organizations in Sri Lanka consisting 38 local member YMCAs spread in all the parts of Sri Lanka with the aim of mobilizing young people to work for justice, prosperity and peace. It places hands on emphasis on learning opportunities and leadership in order to build a strong sense of ownership empowerment among youth and sustainable and holistic youth development.
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	YMCAs seek to be mediators and reconcilers in situations of conflict and to actively promote peace. This work takes place in many forms including rehabilitation for children displaced by prolonged internecine ethnic conflict, youth inter-religious dialogue
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	Being a strong youth movement for peace justice and prosperity, shortly after the Tsunami a comprehensive plan of action was prepared by the YMCA volunteer leaders and professionals to be implemented in a four-year period. The plan was prepared after a need assessment within the affected communities. The main focus of the YMCA was to help building livelihoods, reconstructions of damaged houses and healing trauma through various activities
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	In 2005, NCA supported YMCA's initiatives on Tsunami rehabilitation and reconstruction through the ACT appeal. In 2006 NCA supported two projects name 'Educational Recovery in Emergencies' and heal the trauma caused by Tsunami through Sports and Recreational activities.
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	YMCA is a member of National Christian Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL). YMCA has a strong advantage over other NGOs since 38 member YMCAs are locally rooted for long years. Through meeting, sharing and working with people, the young members of the YMCA continue their journey to create genuine partnerships between men and women for the achievement of the goals.-
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	NCA will continue the partnership with YMCA in its intervention related to conflict transformation and peace building
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	YMCA being affiliated to the ACT family has the potential to continue a relationship with NCA. The Sri Lankan membership is composed of Youth from all ethnic and religious communities in the country. YMCA has a unit working on peace building and conflict transformation which can be harnessed in the future to work on NCA s thematic focus 'Religions for conflict transformation and peace building.'
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	Y-Global, Wiseman Club, National Christian Council of Sri Lanka, YMCA – Germany, Y Care International, Asia Pacific Alliance of YMCA, World Alliance of YMCA, Geneva Global, YMCA – Hong Kong, YMCA – Singapore, Y Care UK, YMCA – USA. YMCA – Norway.

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>Sarvodaya Legal Services Movement (SLSM)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	1985
<b>Mission</b>	To create a society which is aware of its rights and which has the capacity and motivation to enforce them.
<b>Constituency</b>	SLSM is a part of the Sarvodaya movement, which has a network of no less than 15,000 villages spread all over Sri Lanka.
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	SLSM covers all 25 districts. However, the project supported by NCA is focused on the Tsunami-hit coastal areas and the conflict affected areas in the north-east.
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	NCA supports SLSM within the thematic focus Psycho Social Work.
<b>Strategies</b>	Legal empowerment of villages
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	Please see above under Sarvodaya Shanthi Sena Sansadaya (SSS).
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	Apart from the achievements as a part of the Sarvodaya movement, SLSM has played a vital role in strengthen people's capacity to protect their rights and freedoms by themselves within the legal system. The SLSM Board, which consists of leading constitutional and human rights lawyers and social activists, has been a main resource in achieving this
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	2006
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	SLSM with its community-based approach and its wide geographical base is an important partner it is well-known and trusted in society.
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	NCA has increased its support in 2007. A decrease is expected in 2008. A phase-out is planned in the end of 2009
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	Since Church of Sweden is the back donor, NCA will not continue supporting SLSM beyond 2009
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	SLSM is also funded by Sida and Asia Foundation

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies (CHA) – Psycho Social Forum (PSF)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	CHA was established in 1997
<b>Mission</b>	CHA Psycho Social Forum does not have a mission statement. The main objective of the Forum is to enhance the quality, competence and accountability in the psychosocial work of individuals / organizations/ institutions, with emphasis on issues related to conflict in order to enhance psychosocial well -being within Sri Lanka. The forum pays particular attention to issues related to affected women and children.
<b>Constituency</b>	CHA is an association of agencies working in and supporting work in Sri Lanka. The members are national and international NGOs, UN agencies, and Government agencies. The Psycho Social Forum has more than 70 member organizations all active within the field on different levels of society
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	CHA has field offices in 12 districts. The members are from all 25 districts.
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	CHA is active in many different fields. The Forum gathers most of the agencies in Sri Lanka working within the psychosocial sector.
<b>Strategies</b>	CHA is active in many different fields. The Forum gathers most of the agencies in Sri Lanka working within the psychosocial sector.
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	CHA Psycho Social Forum is the main body for networking and sharing information and experiences in Sri Lanka. It works on all levels, including advocacy on relevant issues with government agencies. Its strength lies in its good relations with both government and NGO agencies.

<b>Particular Achievements</b>	The Forum has issued <i>Guidelines for good practices in psychosocial work</i> in Sri Lanka. The achievement is not so much the document itself as all the workshops and meetings arranged country wide while preparing it. Hundreds of people working within the psychosocial sector, from Government agencies, NGOs and UN agencies, have been involved in preparing the guidelines.
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	The relationship started in 2005 through Church of Sweden. It started mainly as a relationship of exchange of information and experiences. CHA Psycho Social Forum became a partner in 2006.
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	CHA Psycho Social Forum has through its vast network of national and national NGOs, Government and UN agencies an insight and knowledge of the psychosocial sector in Sri Lanka that is unique.
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	The support has so far stayed on a constant level and will most likely continue doing so. CHA Psycho Social Forum has access to other donors, and it is likely that phasing-out after 2009 will not be a major problem to the Forum.
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	The Forum is funded by NCA with Church of Sweden as a back donor. Church of Sweden will not continue its financial support to Sri Lanka after the end of 2009. However, thanks to its structure and experience of both natural and man-made disasters, The Psycho Social Forum has a vast knowledge that we can learn from. It is likely that the relationship will continue in some way with an emphasis on information sharing, and that it will not necessarily include funding.
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	CHA has a multitude of donors. The Forum is also funded by UN Habitat, UNHCR and Helvetas.

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>Sramabimani Kendraya (SAK)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	1985
<b>Mission</b>	"Having understood critically the nature proper to human beings and the environment we are engaged in working towards structural changes with the aim that every person be enabled to play the role that he or she is called for and one's full potentials are developed and justice to all being realized and society is freer and more human."
<b>Constituency</b>	Sramabimani is a grass root organization with its constituency in the poor and marginalized communities in the Seeduwa area, Gampaha District.
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	The work is focused around Seeduwa, covering villages in the area and the Free Trade Zone near Colombo international airport
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	Psychosocial Work
<b>Strategies</b>	The main focus for activities is on mobilization of poor and marginalized communities, human rights and saving schemes and health. NCA supports Sramabimani as a part of its focus on Psycho Social Work.
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	Its strength lies in its grass root/community based approach and its strong ties to the local communities in which it works. The activities are run by the communities themselves, mainly women
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	A "fair price" shop has been opened. The consumer groups purchase all their foodstuffs and other essentials from this shop to a lesser price than in other local shops and are thereby able to get cheaper prizes. The groups are in the process of register an NGO – Women's Alliance for Consumer Rights.
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	Sramabimani became a partner of NCA in 2007
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	Sramabimani has strong basis in the poor and marginalized communities in the area. Its methodology of mobilizing people to claim their rights is right in line with the rights-based approach and the community based work that we want to support.

<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	NCA will keep its support to Sramabimani on a low level, while at the same time supporting it on capacity building, increasing its chances of getting financial support from other donors. The partnership will phase out in the end of 2009.
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	NCA will not continue to support Sramabimani beyond 2009.
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	It receives support from CAFOD and is a member of CHA Psycho Social Forum. It also networks with similar NGOs in the area, especially Janawaboda Kendraya which is a sister organization to Sramabimani.

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>Janawaboda Kendraya (JAK)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	1979
<b>Mission</b>	"Having understood critically the nature proper to human beings and the environment, we are engaged in working towards social change with the aim that every person be enabled to play the role that he or she is called for, the potentials in everyone are developed to the maximum and see justice is done to all irrespective of their race or creed or caste and society becomes freer and more humane.
<b>Constituency</b>	Janawaboda is a grass root organization with its constituency in the poor and marginalized communities in the Negombo, Gampaha District. It consists mainly of homeless, landless and fisher families
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	The work is focused around the Negombo area
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	Psychosocial Work
<b>Strategies</b>	Mobilization of poor and marginalized communities, human rights, environmental sustainability and health. NCA supports Janawaboda as a part of its focus on Psycho Social Work
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	Its strength lies in its grass root/community based approach and its strong ties to the local communities in which it works. The communities themselves run the activities.
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	Janawaboda has so far secured the right of land and home to 880 families since the NGO was founded.
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	Janawaboda became a partner of NCA in 2007.
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	Janawaboda has strong basis in the poor and marginalized communities in the area. Its methodology of mobilizing people to claim their rights is right in line with the rights-based approach and the community based work that we want to support.
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	NCA will keep its support to Janawaboda on a low level, while at the same time supporting it on capacity building, increasing its chances of getting financial support from other donors. The partnership will phase out in the end of 2009.
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	NCA will not continue to support Janawaboda beyond 2009.
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	In the last few years it has received support from CCFC and PWRDF and is a member of CHA Psycho Social Forum. It also networks with similar NGOs in the area, especially Sramabimani Kendraya, which is a sister organization to Janawaboda.

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>Lanka Jathika Sarvodaya Shramadana Sangamaya (LJSSS)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	1958
<b>Mission</b>	"We Sarvodaya workers strive for generating a society based on truth, non-violence and selflessness and rid of any harmful activity on humans that finally ensures the ultimate objective of formulating an environment in which each human could ascend to his or her optimum level"

<b>Constituency</b>	LJSSS is the main organization within the Sarvodaya movement, which has a network of no less than 15,000 villages spread all over Sri Lanka.
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	LSSS covers all 25 districts. However, the Disaster Management Unit, supported by NCA, is focused on the conflict affected areas in the north-east
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	LJSS works within a multitude of areas. NCA is supporting its Disaster Management Unit (5R) focusing on emergency response.
<b>Strategies</b>	
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	Please see above under Sarvodaya Shanthi Sena Sansadaya (SSS).
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	Sarvodaya is the largest NGO in Sri Lanka with a unique philosophy and has through the years earned a worldwide recognition for its struggle to achieve peace in Sri Lanka and equality and dignity to its people.
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	The Emergency Unit within Sarvodaya is one of few national NGOs able to work in the camps for internally displaced in the northeast. Sarvodaya is, since long, established in the northeast through its village-based constituency.
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	The future depends very much on how the conflict will develop in the north-east. As for now, The Emergency Unit is considered a strong and trustworthy partner, if NCA decides to give future support to internally displaced in the northeast.
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	<i>See Planned increase; decrease, phase-out above.</i>
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	LJSSS receives support from a multitude of partners. The Emergency Unit has recently been funded by OXFAM, CORDAID and Lutheran World Relief.

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>National Christian Council of Sri Lanka (NCC-SL)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	1945
<b>Mission</b>	"The NCCSL being a Christian Institution and its activities being the expression of God's love manifested in the Gospel, it becomes essential that the Biblical basis for all our activities and an appropriate spirituality be continuously evolved not only for the NCCSL but also to its Constituent Units and every individual as well. This would enable all concerned to be sustained by our spiritual resources to face the challenges in Church and Society"
<b>Constituency</b>	NCC-SL consists of thirteen churches and Christian NGOs in Sri Lanka and is the main ecumenical body.
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	NCC-SL covers the whole island and has no specific geographical focus areas.
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	Justice and Peace, Ecumenical Relations, Christian Education and Relief and Rehabilitation.
<b>Strategies</b>	NCA mainly supports the latter focus area also gives institutional support.
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	NCC-SL plays a vital role representing and uniting the small Christian community in Sri Lanka
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	NCC-SL has played a vital role on the local level in terms of inter-religious dialogue. There are many practical examples of where NCC-SL has done an important part in bridging over divisions between different ethnic/religious groups. One such example is the peace nurseries, in which children from diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds come together to learn and play.
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	The relationship between NCA runs back a decade in time. NCC-SL is the only partner NCA had in Sri Lanka before the Tsunami occurred.

<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	NCC-SL's role as the main ecumenical body in Sri Lanka, gathering most of the protestant churches and NGOs, makes it an important partner for NCA. Through supporting NCC-SL NCA supports inter-religious dialogue on all levels of society and between people of all ages.
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	NCA has in the last year decreased its support to NCC. In the coming years it is likely that the support will stay on the present level.
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	Being the only long-time partner of NCA in Sri Lanka, it is likely that the relationship will continue beyond 2009. Future partnership should also include supporting NCC-SL in capacity building of staff to be able to attract other donors.
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	NCC-SL is a part of the ACT network and SAEPP (South Asia Ecumenical Partnership Programme) NCC-SL has in the last couple of years received financial support from the National Council of Churches in Australia, Common Global Ministries in USA, Christian Conference of Asia, Federal Argentine IGLRID, World Council of Churches, Methodist Church of the United Kingdom, and South Asia Ecumenical Partnership Programme

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>Social Economic &amp; Environmental Development Organization - (SEEDO - Sri Lanka)</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	1992
<b>Mission</b>	To create awareness among farmers, youth, women and children in both rural and estate sectors and organize those to safeguard their rights & interests.
<b>Constituency</b>	Female headed households and abused and vulnerable women and school children from the rural villages of Hambanthota and Monaragala Districts of Sri Lanka. SEEDO endeavours to reach such right holders mainly through Self Help Groups.
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	Monaragala, Hambantota and Matara Districts
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	Communities for fresh water and safe sanitation
<b>Strategies</b>	Coordinate agencies in the water and sanitation sector through networking in order to ensure public participation in policy decisions with regard to systems of water and sanitation management
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	SEEDO has implemented various programmes in order to increase Women's participation in decision making processes mainly in local governments, promote education of children of those farmer communities and protect poorer farmers from the ill effects of globalization through promoting indigenous agricultural methods and providing accessibility to market in order to ensure fair prices for their domestic agricultural productions.
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	SEEDO has successfully implemented a number of large Tsunami projects within the time frame and as such been able to "grow" a lot as a result of the Tsunami. SEEDO is also recognized in the local community
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	NCA started the cooperation with SEEDO in 2006 with community water sanitation project in Hambanthota district targeting vulnerable families and families affected by Tsunami.
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	NCA acknowledges the approaches of SEEDO to the remote rural communities are right based. These right based approaches could be linked with NCA's focus on 'Communities for Fresh water and safe sanitation.
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	NCA has identifies SEEDO as a potential partner to work in thematic focus; 'communities for fresh water and safe sanitation'
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	Mercy Crops, Norsud – Italy, The World Conservation Union, IOM, Save the Children, UNDP and Plan Sri Lanka

<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>South Asia Gender Alliance - SAGA</b>
<b>Year of Foundation</b>	2001
<b>Mission</b>	To take forward <i>gender equity</i> with joint ownership
<b>Constituency</b>	A network of NCA, DCA and CA Partner Organisations in South Asia
<b>Geographic Focus</b>	India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka
<b>Thematic Focus</b>	Gender
<b>Strategies</b>	sensitising the Partner Organisations on gender & development and capacitating the Partners in the use of Gender Empowerment Assessment Tool during planning,
<b>Role in Civil Society</b>	
<b>Particular Achievements</b>	Annual consultations since 2002 HAGA Manual, Gender Policies developed in NCA partner organizations
<b>Relationship with NCA</b>	NCA facilitates the continuity of the alliance
<b>Start of Cooperation</b>	2001
<b>NCA's rationale for relationship</b>	Gender issues are of paramount importance in the work carried out by NCA partners especially in the South Asia region where patriarchal norms hinder women's participation in development
<b>Planned increase; decrease; phase-out</b>	
<b>Strategic Potential for Future Cooperation</b>	SAGA is considered a strategic alliance and potential for continuity as it is owned by the partners
<b>Partners, other than NCA</b>	DCA, CHRISTIAN AID and 2 of DCA partners

## 8.0 NCA Contributions

NCA's Regional Representation in Colombo is responsible for all NCA activities in India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka. The staff consists of a regional representative, a regional programme manager, a regional finance manager, two programme officers, a programme advisor (based in Bangalore), a regional administrative officer, an accounts assistant, one maid and two drivers.

The main added value of NCA's representation is the continuing dialogues and cooperation with the partners on implementation of their project activities, and thereby discussions and improvements on project management, financial control and areas on Do No Harm, Gender and Rights-Based approach. Furthermore, the representation is also responsible for implementation of capacity building activities of Sri Lankan partners as well as partners in the rest of the region. Together with WIN, NCA is also facilitating the regional SAGA network, where all partners are brought together to discuss e.g. the IASC Gender Handbook in Humanitarian Action or different approaches to Gender Based Violence and Anti-trafficking in the region.

Cooperation with sister agencies such as DanChurchAid and Christian Aid on increased office sharing is ongoing, and may develop into programme cooperation with some of the same partners.

NCA aim to further strengthen the interaction with faith based organizations involved in peace and reconciliation efforts at grass root level – and will facilitate support and links to other corresponding networks with which NCA cooperates in the region.

## **9.0 Monitoring and Evaluation**

NCA will monitor progress of project implementation following NCA's Routines & Guidelines i.e. through regular monitoring visits and the periodical reports (due in June and October) and the annual reports due in March. One partners' meeting will be conducted per year, and this too will be a forum for discussion of progress, constraints, successes and for lessons learned.

### **10.0 Assessments**

#### **10.1 Assessment of relevance of program in relation to national plans and priorities**

The projects have been implemented in accordance to national plans and priorities. This has been secured through close cooperation with local authorities and through the coordinating mechanisms within the NGOs in Sri Lanka.

#### **10.2 Assessment of relevance in relation to Norwegian development objectives**

Norway's development cooperation with Sri Lanka has, since 1998, focused on two areas; Peace, reconciliation and human rights and Economic development with a focus on creating employment opportunities.

NCA aims to provide support to tsunami or conflict affected groups in the South, East and North, though main bulk of the support so far has gone to the South. NCA support to the Sarvodaya Shanthi Sena on Inter-religious Dialogue promotes NCA Thematic priority "Religious Institutions and Civil Society for Peace Building".

#### **10.3 Assessment of Risks**

Assessment of Risks is presented in Section 6 (LFA)

#### **10.4 Assessment of Sustainability**

NCA has selected several partners, which are at national level organizations. In addition NCA has focused on a few community-based organizations. NCA focuses on capacity building of all the Sri Lankan partners. A capacity needs assessment was done after the 2007 partners meeting in Sri Lanka and initiatives such as the Do No Harm training workshop will be continued in the future too. Financial capacity building will be a major focus. Reporting from the partners will be improved through training on report writing.

## **11. Budget Estimates for 2007-2009**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008 (estimates)</b>	<b>2009 (estimates)</b>
<b>Amount (NOK)</b>	<b>7 million</b>	<b>9 million</b>	<b>8 million</b>