



**UNHCR'S
OPERATIONS
IN SRI LANKA
2003**

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UNHCR Sri Lanka:

**Representative Office in Colombo, Field Office in Jaffna, Field Office in Vavuniya
Field Office in Colombo, Satellite Office in Kilinochchi, Satellite Office in Mannar
Satellite Office in Trincomalee, Satellite Office in Batticaloa/Ampara**

Foreword

Almost two decades of war had a devastating affect on Sri Lanka. Over 60,000 people lost their lives and countless numbers have been injured or traumatised. Almost a million persons were forced to leave their homes; 200,000 went abroad and requested refugee status in other countries; nearly 800,000 were displaced within Sri Lanka, including many who have had to endure years of misery and dependency. The cease-fire Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in February 2002 between the Government of Sri Lanka and Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) revitalised not only hopes that a lasting peace could be achieved, but that a safe and dignified return could become a reality for all internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees. Prospects for a peaceful resolution of the conflict remain promising, despite a suspension of peace talks since April 2003 and a long list of issues still to be resolved. One positive development has been the return of more than 345,000 displaced persons in the 22 months since the cease-fire began.

Recognizing the additional needs of hundred thousands of returning IDPs, in autumn 2002 UNHCR Sri Lanka launched a supplementary programme that added US\$ 7.6 million in 2003 to the office's annual programme of US\$ 6.6 million. The Country Report 2003 is a catalogue of what was achieved. For instance, 10,554 shelters were built, 349 wells constructed or repaired, more than 115,000 persons received non-food relief items and over 125,000 individuals sought assistance from mobile health teams. However, all these relief activities cannot adequately meet the need for rehabilitation, reconstruction and reconciliation in Sri Lanka. It is therefore paramount that operational mechanisms are established to enable the release of the pledged development funds that the international community has allocated for the country.

There will be no lasting peace, no durable solution for IDPs, and no end to persons fleeing their homes until all people feel secure, their dignity respected and their basic human rights guaranteed. In order to enhance the protection of IDPs and returnees, UNHCR and its partners in 2003 have strengthened a protection network, which addresses a wide range of issues including access to legal services, advocacy, land rights, and sexual and gender-based violence. Although UNHCR will phase down its relief activities in 2004, the office will maintain its protection obligations. It will also continue to seek durable solutions for the hundreds of thousands of people who remain displaced or in exile.

I wish to thank the international donor community for its generous support of UNHCR's operations in Sri Lanka. Donor funds were effectively and efficiently utilized, reaching many amongst the returning IDP community in North East Sri Lanka. Finally, I wish to thank and express my appreciation for all the support, advice and work done by our governmental as well as non-governmental partners.

Neill Wright
Representative
UNHCR Colombo
February 2004

Part I Introduction

Rationale and Background for UNHCR's Operations in Sri Lanka

The protracted nature of the conflict in Sri Lanka, though largely confined to the North and East, took its toll on the country as a whole, affecting all its ethnic groups, with women and children bearing the heaviest burden. In addition to an estimated 200,000 Tamils who left Sri Lanka and requested asylum in other countries, the conflict generated widespread internal displacement of some 730,000 persons.

The genesis of UNHCR's involvement in Sri Lanka dates back to 1987 when the organization was invited by the Sri Lankan government to facilitate large-scale

repatriation from South India following the Indian-Sri Lankan peace agreement signed that year. As the ethnic conflict continued unabated over the next decade, despite various international attempts to bring the hostilities to an end, UNHCR extended its protection and assistance to the displaced, a role endorsed by the Secretary-General in 1991 and reaffirmed in 1997.

The cease-fire Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in February 2002 between the Government of Sri Lanka and the LTTE brought the hostilities to an end, and also revitalised hopes that peace would finally arrive, and that return in safety and dignity for the displaced as well as refugees abroad, could





become a reality. The cease-fire agreement has been largely respected, and both parties remain committed to the peace process. Since the cease-fire and after several rounds of peace negotiations, a number of confidence-building initiatives were introduced. Peace talks are expected to resume after the parliamentary elections in April 2004, and will focus on how an "Interim Administration" for the north and east of Sri Lanka can be forged. This endeavour is predicated on the notion of progress towards "a federal structure within a single state," which is the already agreed platform for the continuing negotiations.

Continued high level international engagement has been demonstrated at the

Tokyo donor conference of June 2003, where US\$ 4.5 billion was pledged. However, due to the stalemate in the peace process, donors are currently negotiating alternative mechanisms in order to release adequate development funds for rehabilitation and reconstruction measures in the conflict affected areas of Sri Lanka.

Since the cease-fire, there has been an uninterrupted flow of IDPs returning spontaneously to, and within, the north and east of Sri Lanka. By December 2003, 345,734 IDPs had returned to their homes in former conflict areas. In addition, nearly 5,954 registered refugees returned from India in organised or spontaneous movement.

In order to achieve a lasting peace, several fundamental issues need to be addressed, including human security and minority rights. The major obstacles that impede solutions for all those who remain internally displaced are related to the continuing presence of landmines, the lack of adequate investment to restore basic infrastructure in war-torn areas, insufficient focus on the integration of IDPs who registered in 2002 as preferring to remain where they are in displacement, and property restitution. The situation faced by returning IDPs, and by the communities to which they are returning, remains one of extensive physical destruction. In addition, agricultural land or other opportunities to generate income have to be identified and created for several thousand landless IDPs. Similarly, the return of a sizeable portion of those still displaced will depend on tangible progress of the peace talks as their home areas lie within the strategic High Security Zones (HSZs).

In this context, the overall objective of UNHCR's involvement in Sri Lanka is to enhance access of the IDPs to national protection, while urgently and effectively responding to the protection needs of returnees. It is widely recognised that UNHCR remains an

objective and impartial monitor of refugee and IDP rights, including their broader human rights, as part of the cease-fire agreement.

UNHCR's Operational Framework

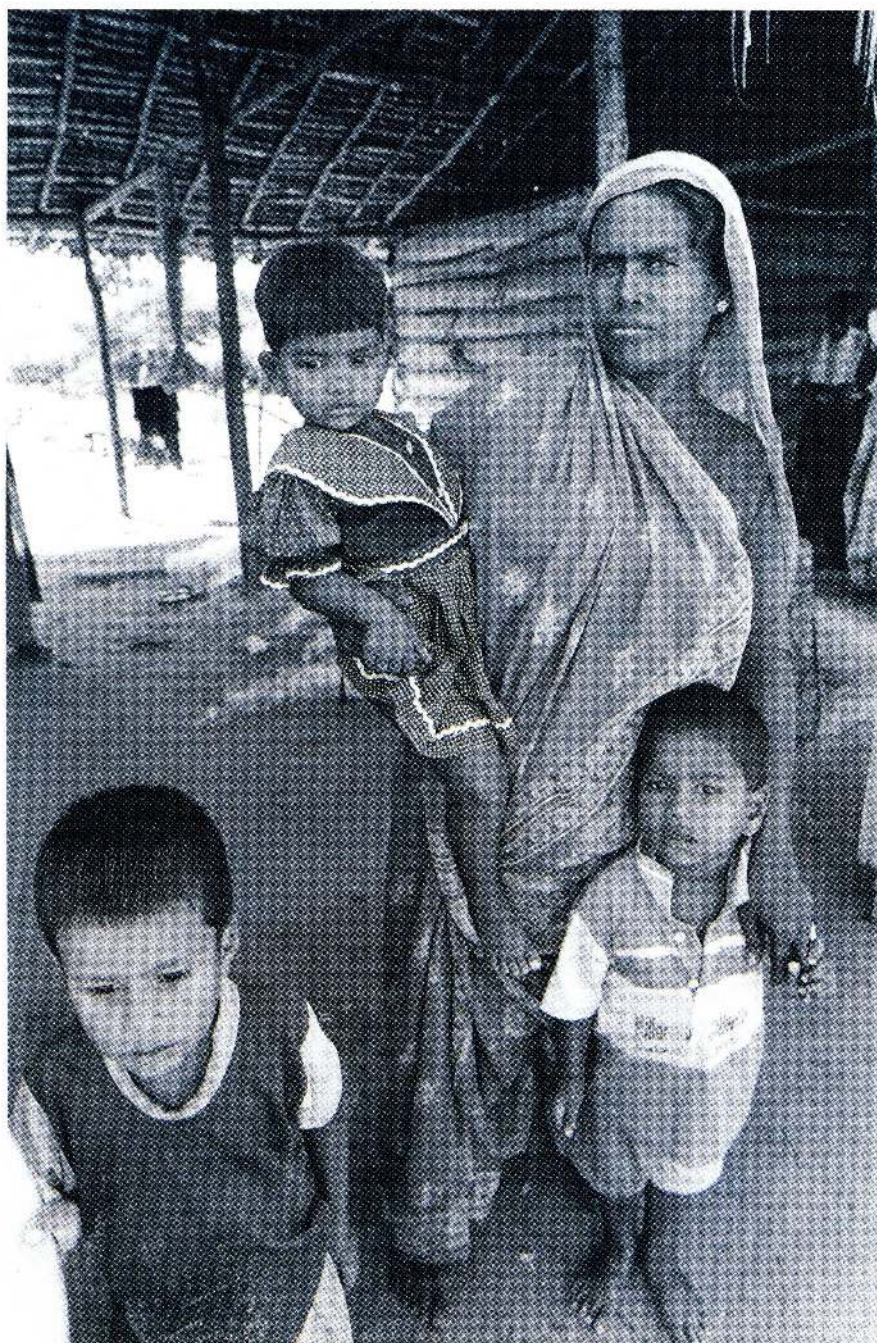
UNHCR's additional roles and protection responsibilities in the post cease-fire context were defined in the GOSL and United Nations 'Joint Strategy to Meet the Immediate Needs of Returned Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)', which was launched by the Government on 10 July 2002. Through this 'Joint Strategy', the Government and UN developed the first response to cope with the immediate, initial integration of spontaneous returnees into their home communities, while protecting and assisting vulnerable groups, both IDPs and hosting communities, who remained in situ. According to the 'Joint Strategy', UNHCR was tasked to be the international focal point agency to enhance protection. UNHCR's operational inputs were later directly linked to the Multilateral Group's "Assessment of Needs in the Conflict Affected Areas of the North East", which was prepared with the assistance of the United Nations System, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank in May 2003, after



extensive consultation with the Government of Sri Lanka, the LTTE, bilateral actors, NGOs and civil society. The core immediate needs for IDPs and refugees were defined as ensuring physical, legal and material security and protection for returnees, livelihood support, and the promotion and adherence with the UN's Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement into all programme activities. Economic recovery and capacity-building to strengthen relevant

institutions and community based organisations were also identified as medium term needs to address the unique features of vulnerable and minority populations.

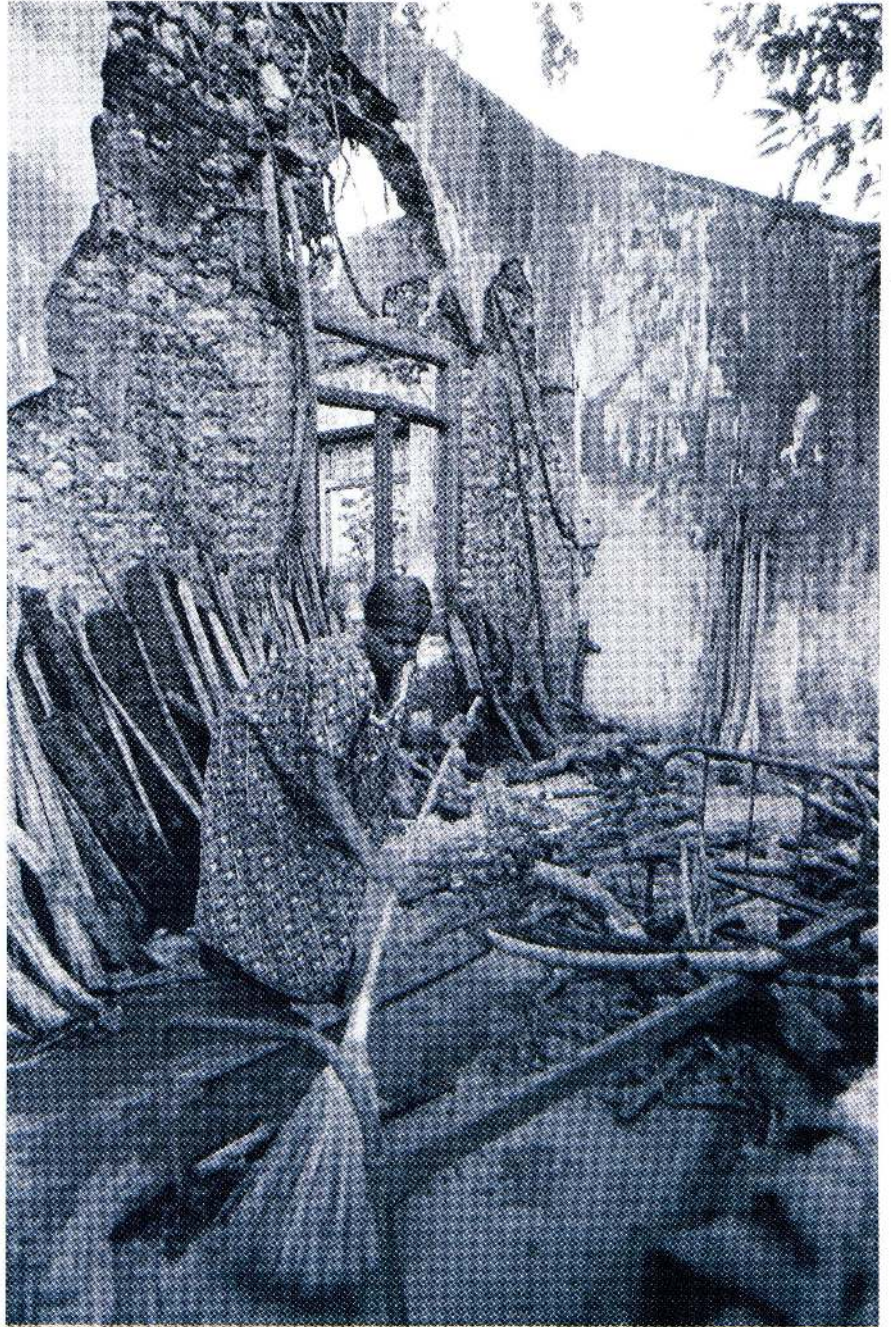
Jointly with other UN agencies and the International Financial Institutions (IFIs), UNHCR continued to support the GOSL to strengthen its co-ordination and oversight capacity to address the issue of returning IDPs. To this end, UNHCR



has established strategic partnerships with the Ministry of Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Refugees (RRR), and with the Office of the Commissioner General for Co-ordination of Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconciliation (OCG) at the Prime Minister's Office. The Ministry and the Office of the Commissioner General define and co-ordinate the Government's policies on relief and rehabilitation assistance to IDPs and refugees, in close consultation with the National Co-ordination Committee (NCCR) of the Framework for Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconciliation (Triple R Framework). UNHCR is a member of the Framework's Committees, and continued to play a lead role on IDP and refugee-related matters. As part of its support to the MRRR, UNHCR has encouraged and facilitated the

establishment of a Policy, Planning and Co-ordination Unit (PPCU) to assist the RRR Ministry in formulating overall policies regarding the protection and relief needs of refugees and IDPs, and to assist with co-ordination of project implementation.

The operational framework of the above activities was also linked to the High Commissioner's Repatriation, Reintegration, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (4Rs) initiative for UNHCR's active engagement in addressing transitional issues, in order to ensure that returns are sustainable. UNHCR is actively promoting joint planning and co-operation with Multilateral Group actors - including the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and UN country team members - including UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, ILO, WFP, UNFPA, IOM and WHO. Currently, the Multilateral Group is in the process of developing a strategy for the post conflict period (now called "Preparing for Transition - The Multilateral Groups Response"). During 2003, UNDP, UNICEF, ILO and UNHCR has commenced on the preparation of a Transition Recovery Project



(TRP) which Focuses on strengthening inter-agency planning and implementation with regard to the 4Rs at an operational level in the Districts of Mannar, Kilinochchi and Batticaloa.

Part II - Goals and Objectives in 2003

The overall aim of UNHCR's operations in Sri Lanka, was to "enhance access of internally displaced persons (IDPs) to national protection, while urgently and effectively responding to the protection and immediate material needs of returnees". UNHCR remains the principle international agency protecting and assisting the displaced in Sri Lanka and returnees from India, in support of the Government. Throughout 2003, UNHCR focused on four main objectives:

- (1) To promote and protect the rights of internally displaced persons and returnees, with special emphasis on traumatised and extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs), and other groups at risks;
- (2) To address the immediate humanitarian needs of spontaneous returnees through a needs-based provision of non-food relief items, emergency shelter, and other activities if required;
- (3) To improve policies, rights and conditions for displaced persons, returnees and victims of the conflict through capacity-building among Government of Sri Lanka's institutions and national NGOs;
- (4) To stabilise the population, thus supporting the current endeavours for a peaceful settlement of the conflict, and help to build a platform for economic recovery.

UNHCR IMPLEMENTING AND CONTRACTUAL PARTNERS IN 2003

Governmental:

Ministry of Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Refugees
Office of the Commissioner-General for Coordination of Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconciliation
Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka

Non-Governmental:

Association of Women with Disabilities
Bridge Asia Japan
Campaign for Development and Solidarity – FORUT
CARE International
Centre for Policy Alternatives
CHF International
Child Vision
Community Trust Fund
CordAid
Danish Refugee Council
Islamic Relief Committee
Jaffna Social Action Centre
Legal Aid Foundation of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka
Norwegian People's Aid
Nursery Canara
Peace & Community Action
Rural Development Foundation
Sarvodaya Shramadana Sangamaya
Save the Children Funds in Sri Lanka
Sewa Lanka Foundation
Society for Socio Economic Development (SSED)
Sri Lanka Red Cross Society – Mannar
Sri Lanka Red Cross Society – Trincomalee
Sri Lanka Red Cross Society – Vavuniya
Surekuma
Trincomalee District Gandhi Sevai Association (TDGSA)
Women & Media Collective
Women's Development Centre
ZOA Refugee Care Netherlands

Part III -

Achievements and Impact in 2003

The spontaneous return of IDPs to their places of origin continued throughout the year. This required UNHCR to step up its levels of activity to address the protection and material needs of people on the move and those returning to their homes.

As a consequence, UNHCR Sri Lanka continued to implement in addition to the Annual Programme for the National Protection and Durable Solutions for IDPs with a total budget of US\$ 6,612,996 a Supplementary Programme for the National Protection and Immediate Humanitarian Assistance for IDPs and Returnees with a total budget of US\$ 7,757,955. The supplementary appeal aimed to raise the additional funding required to address the change in priorities in the Sri Lanka operation. In recognition of current operational capacities of other actors in return areas, and to ensure a smooth transition from humanitarian relief to sustainable development, the Supplementary Programme also provided support for other sectors on an exceptional basis, in cases where the immediate needs of returnees could not be met.

UNHCR's operation in Sri Lanka in 2003 contained components of both direct and indirect implementation. UNHCR's protection interventions focused on promoting and protecting the rights of returnees and IDPs with a special emphasis on extremely vulnerable individuals. Implementation of protection activities was carried out directly by strengthening UNHCR's field presence and also by establishing a protection network consisting of national organizations such as the Human Rights Commission, the Legal

Aid Foundation of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka as well as national and international NGOs, like the Danish Refugee Council (DRC), and UN agencies such as UNICEF.

In addition, UNHCR provided immediate humanitarian assistance to address the needs of spontaneously returning IDPs and refugees. This was carried out in partnership with thirty three Government and NGO partners in the sectors of community services, domestic needs, education, fisheries, health, income generation, protection, sanitation, and water.

Community Services

UNHCR and its partners implemented a wide range of community services activities on behalf of the displaced and returnees in 2003, Programmes focused specifically on addressing the needs of women and children. Achievements included:

- Conducting play schools and pre-schools for 2,007 children living in welfare centres in Trincomalee and Vavuniya Districts.
- Establishment of Drop-in Centres in two welfare centres in Vavuniya District which reached 16,887 women and children. These centres conducted mobilization programmes for women, awareness raising programmes on women's rights and sexual and gender-based violence as well as individual advice and counselling sessions and offered referrals for medical and legal services.

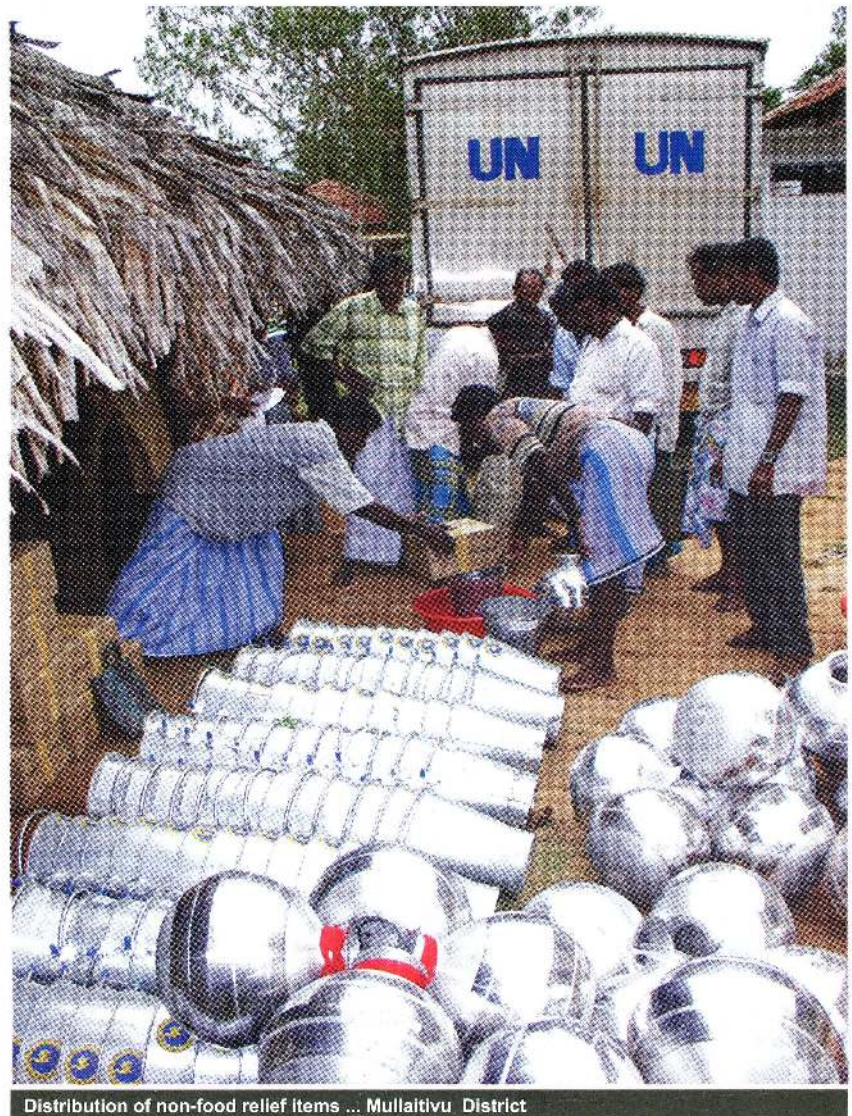
- A series of radio programmes on issues relating to women's rights and sexual and gender-based violence focusing on the situation of women IDPs was broadcast island-wide and was estimated to have reached 30,000 listeners.
- Provision for life skills training and income generation opportunities for 591 vulnerable women in Jaffna and Kilinochchi Districts.
- 46,869 returnees and IDPs in welfare centres benefited from the repair and reconstruction of 35 community centres which served as pre-schools and public libraries, venues for skills training and income generation activities, as well as venues for meetings of community-based organizations which engaged in joint planning and implementation of community activities and the mediation of community disputes in Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Vavuniya, Mannar, Trincomalee and Batticaloa Districts.
- 15,315 returnees and IDPs in welfare centres in Jaffna District were trained in community leadership, joint decision-making and mediation of disputes and encouraged to revive and reactivate existing community-based organizations.

In this sector, a total of sixty six projects were

implemented, benefiting 111,769 persons with a total expenditure of US\$ 604,714.

Domestic Needs

IDPs who were spontaneously returning, or were relocating in the conflict affected-areas or the adjoining districts of Sri Lanka, received a non-food relief item package, which included the following items for domestic use, plastic mats, mosquito nets, towels, soap (toilet and laundry), sarees, sarongs, T-shirts and menstrual clothing. In addition, the package also contained plastic plates, cups, a plastic basin, an aluminum saucepan set, chopping knife, aluminum water pot and galvanized iron buckets. Specific



Distribution of non-food relief items ... Mullaitivu District

- Distribution of NFRI to 23,285 families (approximately 116,425 persons) in all return areas in Sri Lanka.

In this sector total expenditure for the purchase of non-food relief items consisted of US\$ 2,205,040.

Education

UNHCR and its implementing partners conducted a limited number of interventions in this sector (where no other actors were present) in order to contribute to the normalisation of children's and adolescents lives in return communities. These achievements included:

- Repair and reconstruction of 16 primary school buildings and provision of furniture for 8,269 children in Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Trincomalee and Batticaloa Districts.
- Implementation of two vocational training programmes for 600 IDP youth returning to their homes in Mannar and Trincomalee District.

In this sector, a total of twelve projects were implemented in 2003, benefiting 8,869 persons with a total expenditure of US\$ 191,756.

Fisheries

UNHCR and its partners implemented activities in the fisheries sector in Jaffna and Mannar Districts, in order to enable returning internally displaced persons to recommence livelihood activities and improve the overall



Repairs to schools ... Kilinochchi District

Well being of their families. Specific achievements included:

- A total of 1,540 persons were provided with fishing nets and gear.

In this sector a total of five projects were implemented in 2003, with a total expenditure of US\$ 53,766.

Health

UNHCR and its partners implemented a limited number of interventions in the health sector, where no other actors were present, in order to improve the quality of services available to persons of concern to UNHCR in return areas. Specific achievements included:

- 82,361 IDPs had access to primary health care, reproductive health care and awareness programmes on HIV/AIDS through mobile health clinics in return areas under the control of the LTTE in Mannar, Trincomalee, Vavuniya and Jaffna Districts.
- 150 IDPs were trained as health volunteers by the Sri Lanka Red Cross Societies in Mannar and Trincomalee Districts to assist with the mobile health clinics.
- The repair and renovation of six primary health clinics and renovation of three maternity/women's wards in Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu and Puttalam Districts resulted in 32,376 IDPs being able to access medical services.
- Repair and renovation of public sanitation facilities in return areas such as schools, market places and hospitals prevented the spread of disease and was of benefit to 11,321 IDPs accessing services in these establishments.

In this sector a total of fifty one projects were implemented in 2003, benefiting 126,208 persons, with a total expenditure of US\$ 498,914.

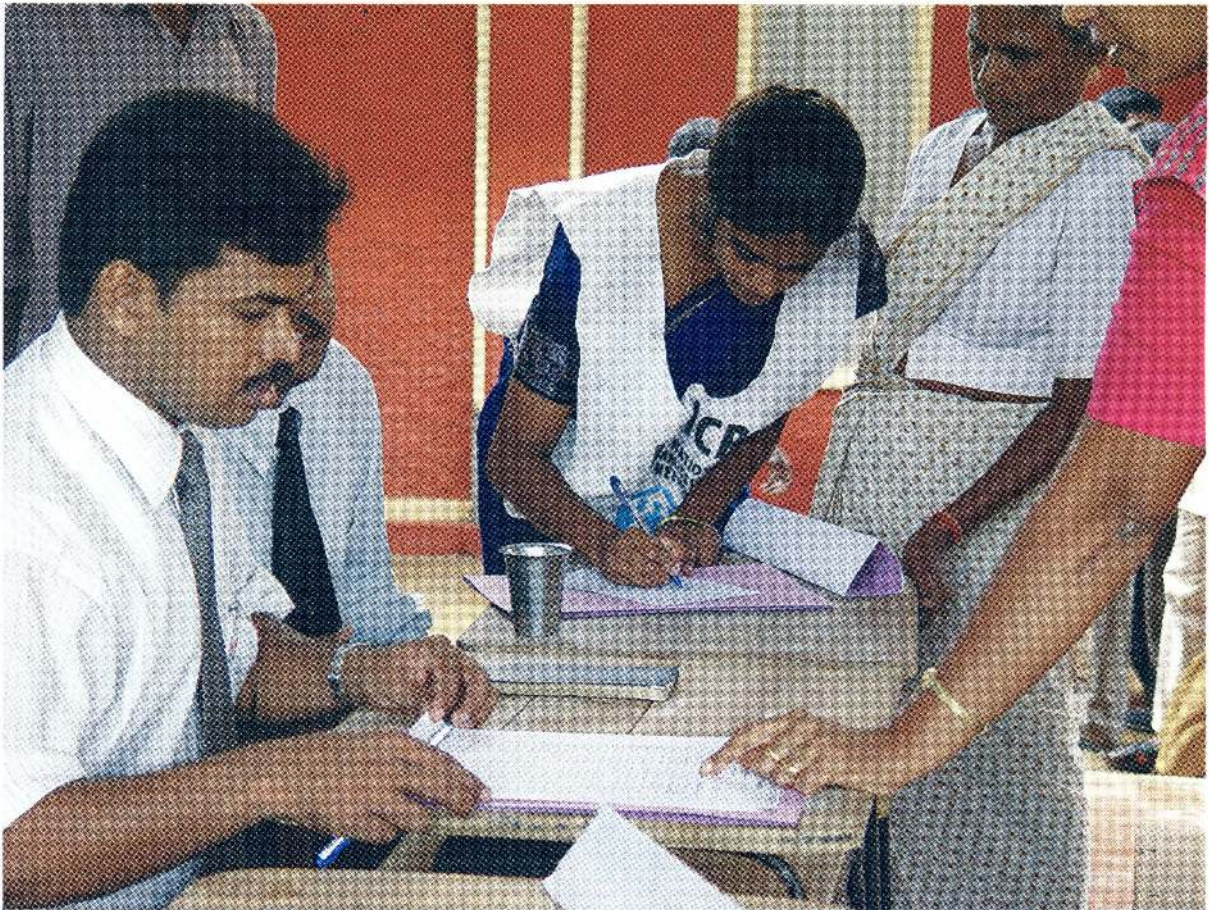
Income Generation

UNHCR and its partners implemented a number of income generation micro-projects in 2003 in all locations in order to enable returnees and IDPs to restart their lives and improve their economic well being. Specific achievements included:

- 25,551 returnees and relocatees were provided with inputs to commence agricultural activities such as the cultivation of paddy, vegetable and fruit crops in Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Vavuniya, Mannar, Trincomalee and Puttalam Districts.
- 366 returnees were provided with income generation items to commence livelihood activities in fishing communities in Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu and Mannar Districts.



Income generation ... Jaffna District



Mobile Documentation Clinic ... Vavuniya District

- 1,692 returnees were provided with cows and goats to commence livelihood activities in Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu and Mannar Districts.
- 5,619 returnees were provided with inputs to set up small businesses in Jaffna, Kilinochchi, Mannar, Vavuniya and Trincomalee Districts.
- Skills training programmes were conducted for 1,714 vulnerable women and youth in Jaffna District.

In this sector a total of eighty four projects were implemented in 2003, benefiting 34,942 persons with a total expenditure of US\$ 668,478.

Legal Assistance/ Protection

A range of projects were implemented in 2003 to protect the rights of internally displaced

persons, returnees and other persons of concern to UNHCR. Implementation was both directly by UNHCR through its network of field offices, as well as through a number of partnerships with government agencies and non-governmental organizations, which resulted in the establishment of a protection network addressing issues relating to IDP and returnee rights.

Awareness Raising and Access to Legal Services

- The Human Rights Commission through its network of offices in Jaffna, Vavuniya, Mannar, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Puttalam and Colombo dealt with 7,984 cases which were referred to its offices on issues relating to arrest, disappearances, property issues, access to Government food rations and child recruitment issues.



Tamil language lessons for police officers ... Jaffna District

- The Legal Aid Foundation through its network of offices in Jaffna, Vavuniya, Mannar, Trincomalee, Batticaloa, Puttalam, Anuradapura, Polonnaruwa and Colombo conducted legal aid clinics and provided representation for approx. 3,000 clients on a range of issues such as access to proper identification documentation, property issues, divorce, maintenance, Habeas Corpus applications and applications under the Emergency Regulations and Prevention of Terrorism Act.
- The Danish Refugee Council reached tens of thousands of beneficiaries through awareness campaigns on IDP and returnee rights over the media (radio and TV) and in welfare centres and returnee areas in Vavunya, Mannar and Trincomalee Districts.
- The Legal Aid Foundation of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka established an additional Documentation Centre in the LTTE controlled Kilinochchi District.
- The Human Rights Commission and the Legal Aid Foundation of the Bar Association conducted awareness raising programmes on human rights issues and on the Guiding Principles of Internal Displacement reaching approx. 25,000 persons.
- Jaffna Social Action Centre reached 16,556 persons through their human rights awareness programmes for IDPs, local government officials, the police and the military.
- Following reports that a major part of arbitrary arrest, harassments at checkpoint and other abuses were due to language difficulties between the local population and the police, a pilot training programme introducing the Tamil language to police officers was set up in Jaffna District.
- 6,200 persons in Jaffna and Mannar District had their documentation needs met in addition to the services provided

by the Human Rights Commission and the Legal Aid Foundation.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

10,566 women participated in awareness raising sessions, had access to counselling and grants that enabled them to establish a livelihood in Jaffna, Mannar and Trincomalee Districts. In addition, women in Jaffna were provided with

- Access to a safe house if they were victims of sexual and gender based violence.
- 6,089 children in Jaffna District had access to Child Protection Centres which offered psycho-social services and were preventive measure against sexual and gender-based violence.

Voluntary Repatriation

- UNHCR facilitated the return of 1,093 priority cases from the refugee camps in South India.

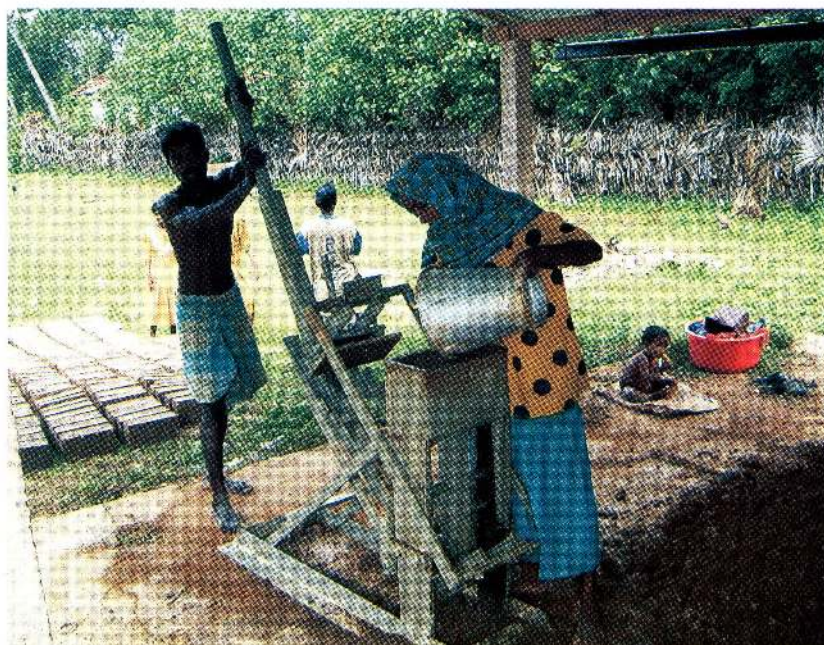
Advocacy

- The Human Rights Commission and UNHCR issued the results of a study which examined the issues of restitution of property, compensation for lost property and the documentation of property rights. The report contained a series of recommendations on policy and legal issues to ensure that IDPs' and returnees' rights to their property are recognised and protected.
- A comprehensive study was conducted on the numbers of sexual and gender based violence cases reported to either the police, the hospitals or the welfare centres in areas with a high concentration of IDPs. The study was undertaken in collaboration with the national women's research centre CENWOR. The final results will be published by mid-2004 and will help determine UNHCR's future projects to combat sexual and gender based violence.



Interviewing IDPs ... Vavuniya District

- UNHCR supported a government sponsored campaign to facilitate the granting of citizenship to stateless Tamils, resulted in a reduction of the number of persons who were stateless by 190,000.



Low cost brick production using de-mining waste ... Jaffna District

Capacity Building

- The Ministry of RRR is tasked with the responsibility of relief and rehabilitation for IDPs and refugees. UNHCR supported the establishment of a Policy Planning Coordination Unit (PPCU) to assist the Ministry with policy formulation, data gathering, planning and implementation of programmes. The PPCU received support for 10 consultants with expertise in Policy Planning, IDP issues, Resettlement and Geographic Information Systems to assist the Government in compiling monthly updates of IDP returns and returns from India, as well as formulation of policy and the identification of durable solutions in relation to IDPs, relocatees and returnees.
- Technical assistance was provided to the Office of the Commissioner General to co-ordinate and implement the National Framework for Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconciliation.

Peaceful Co-existence

- The Centre for Policy Alternatives was commissioned by UNHCR to conduct a study on community-based dispute resolution in Sri Lanka so as to ensure better understanding of existing systems

of dispute resolution.

- 14,779 IDPs and persons from host communities in Puttalam, Batticaloa and Trincomalee were trained in conflict mapping, mediation of community disputes, joint planning and implementation of community projects which ranged from recreational activities to income generation projects.

Sixty projects were implemented under the protection sector, with a total expenditure of US\$ 1,333,969.

Sanitation

UNHCR and its partners implemented a series of projects in this sector in all conflict affected locations, in order to provide access to proper sanitation for persons of concern to UNHCR. Specific achievements included:

- 11,079 persons benefited from the construction and repair of 1,137 latrines in return areas and welfare centres.

In this sector a total of thirty two projects were implemented in 2003, with a total expenditure of US\$ 248,021.

Shelter/Other Infrastructure

UNHCR and its partners implemented a series of shelter activities in 2003 in all conflict affected districts in Sri Lanka in order to provide temporary and semi-permanent housing to returnees and relocatees, as well as reasonable access to main roads. Specific achievements included:

- Construction of temporary shelters in return communities benefited 2,624 families. Construction of semi-permanent shelters benefited 1,353 families.
- Supply of materials to repair and rehabilitate shelters in return areas and welfare centres was of benefit to 6,577 families.
- Repair and rehabilitation of 29.7 kms of road benefited 3,212 families.

In the shelter sector, one hundred and three projects were implemented in 2003, benefiting a total of 57,823 individuals with a total expenditure of US\$ 1,863,529. The majority of the projects were implemented in the Jaffna District which has the highest number of returning IDPs.

Transport/ Logistics

UNHCR Sri Lanka maintained a fleet of eight lorries to move humanitarian supplies into priority return areas. During the year, UNHCR carried out over several hundred trips to deliver and distribute non-food relief items to returning IDPs and transport medical supplies. In addition, transport was also provided for equipment and project supplies for implementing partners and beneficiaries. Total expenditure in this sector was US\$ 426,805.



Building shelter after returning home ... Jaffna District

Water

UNHCR and its partners implemented projects in the water sector in all locations in order to improve returning IDPs' access to potable water. Specific achievements included:

- Construction and repair of 349 tube and open wells and of water tanks and supply schemes benefiting 69,251 IDPs in return areas and welfare centres.

In this sector, a total of seventy one projects were implemented in 2003, with a total expenditure of US\$ 361,496.

Agency Operational Costs

This sector included the salaries of staff and general running costs of thirty three partners engaged by UNHCR to implement its programme in Sri Lanka. It included the costs relating to twenty one United Nations Volunteers (19 International and 2 National) who enabled UNHCR to maintain an extensive network of protection and programme personnel on the ground. Agency operational costs amounted to US\$ 1,653,618.

In addition, the Governments of France, the Republic of Korea and Sweden supported UNHCR's operations in Sri Lanka by providing the services of three Junior Professional Officers (JPOs).



Tube well in an IDP returnee village ... Trincomalee District

Donor Contributions

Donor support for UNHCR's Sri Lanka operation has traditionally been good and 2003 was no exception. UNHCR's programmes in Sri Lanka in 2003 received contributions representing almost 100 per cent of the total of the amount requested in the Global and Supplementary Appeal.

DONOR CONTRIBUTION BY GOVERNMENTS TO UNHCR'S OPERATIONS IN SRI LANKA 2003 (USD)

European Union	4,474,578
Japan	3,967,981
United States of America	3,750,000
United Kingdom	1,880,025
Federal Republic of Germany	430,571
Norway	408,163
Australia	222,222
France	49,554

(Contributions are subject to change due to exchange rate fluctuations. In addition the Governments of France, the Republic of Korea and Sweden provided the costs for three Junior Professional Officers (JPOs).

Maps and Charts

UNHCR Micro Projects in 2003 by Implementing Partner

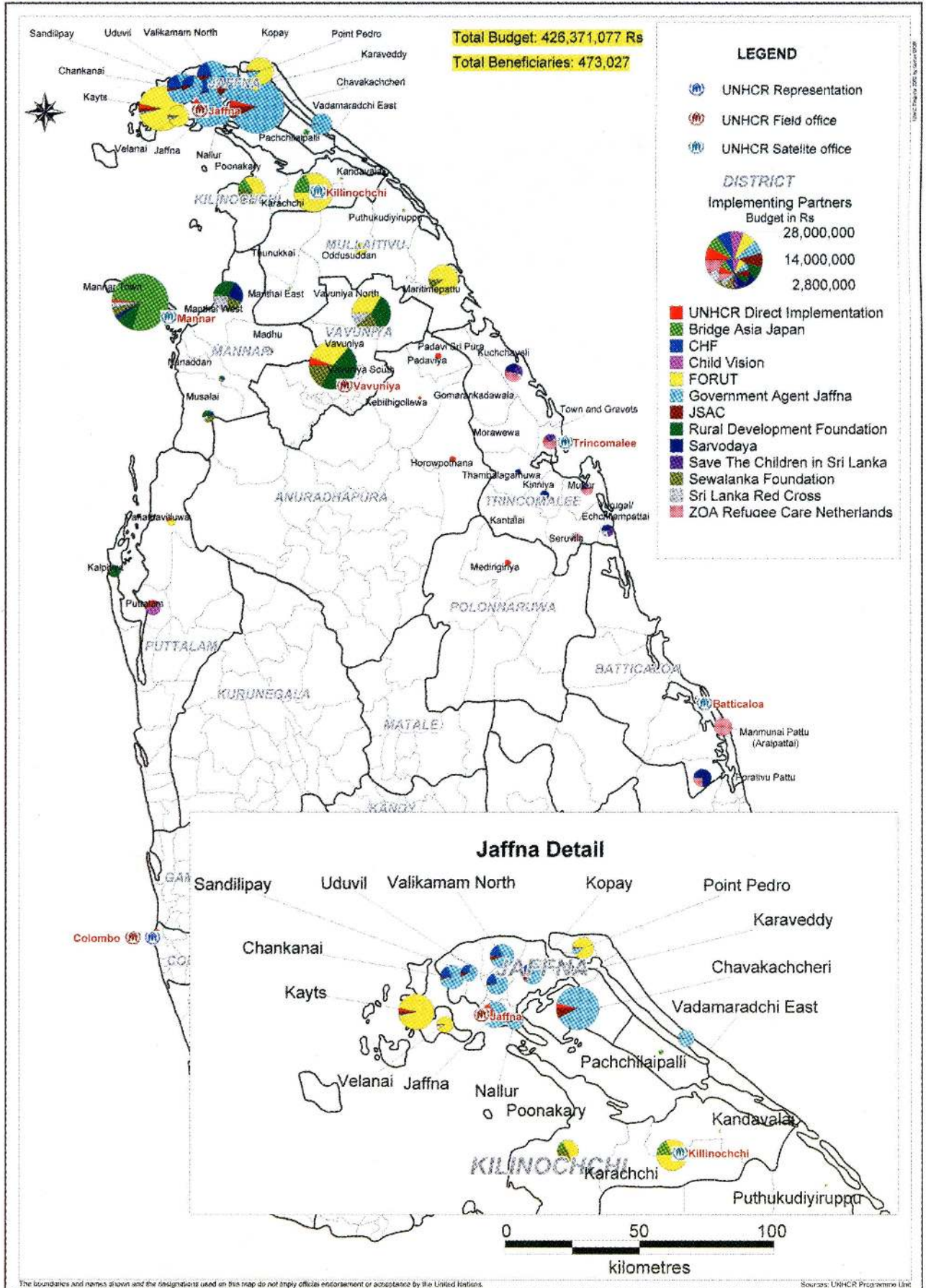
UNHCR Protection Budget in 2003 by Implementing Partner

NFRI Pack Distribution

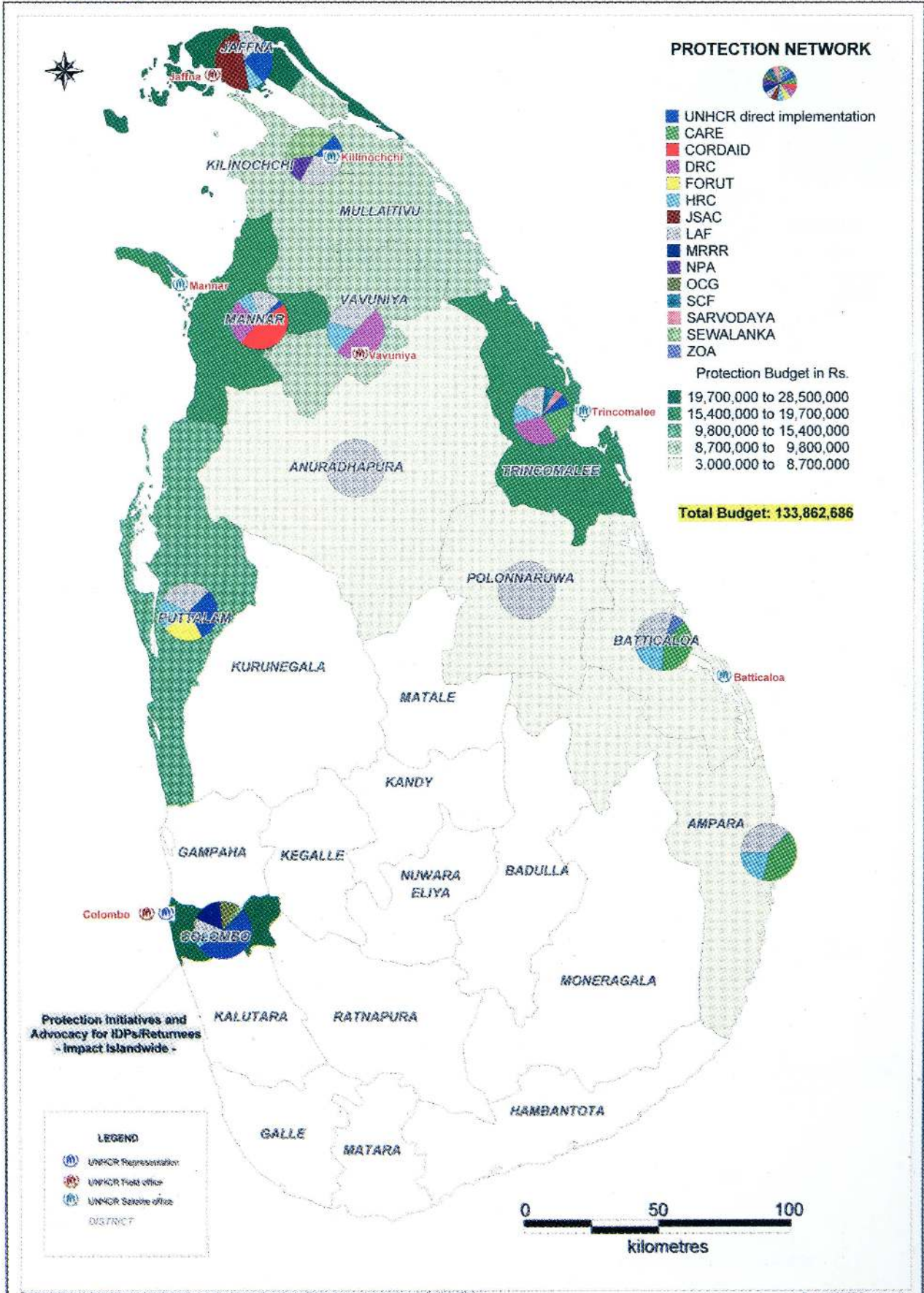
Sri Lanka IDP Movements by District

Sri Lanka IDPs and Returnees

UNHCR MICRO PROJECTS IN 2003 BY IMPLEMENTING PARTNER
(not including NFRI and Protection)

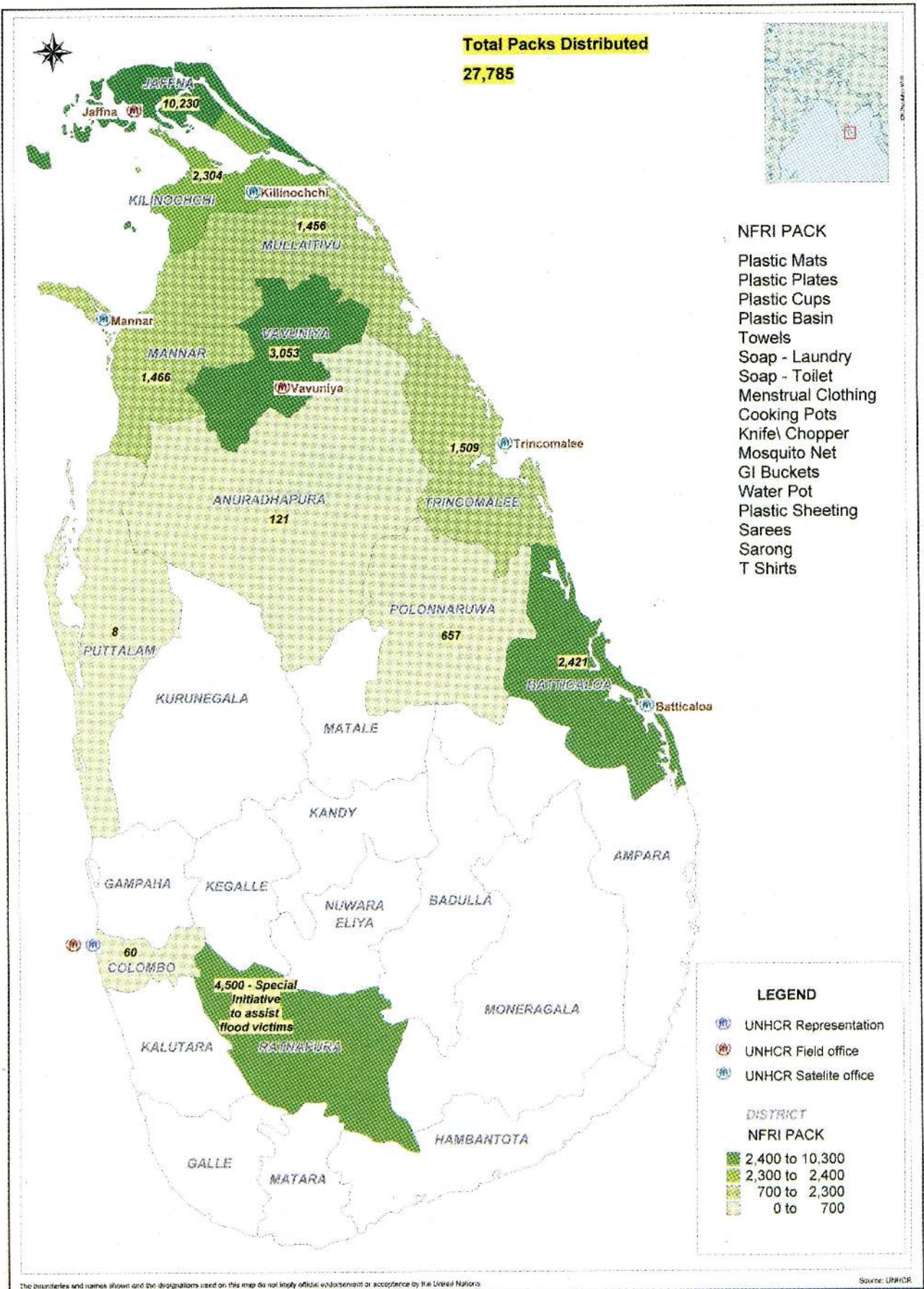


UNHCR PROTECTION BUDGET IN 2003 BY IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

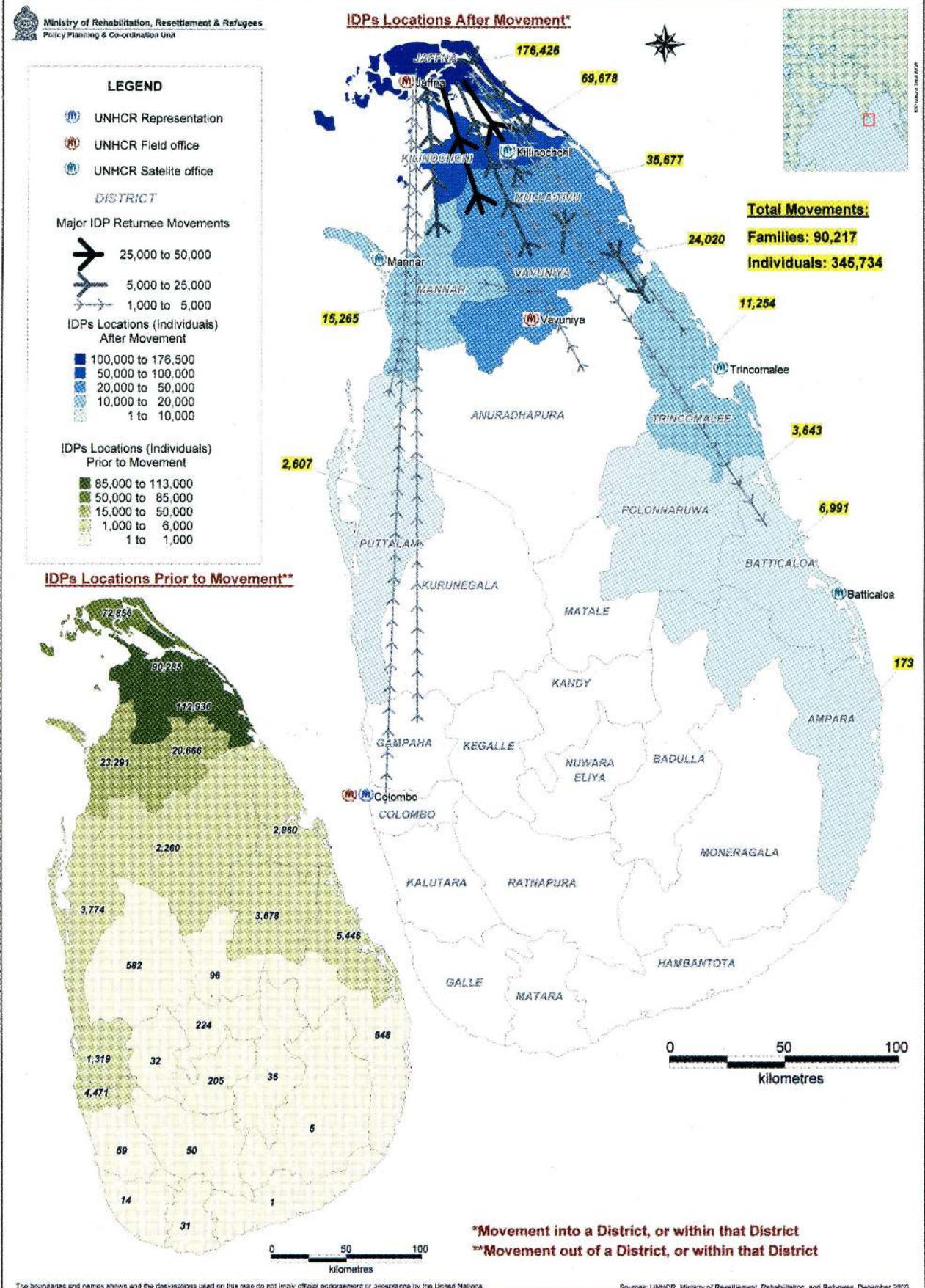


NFRI PACK DISTRIBUTION

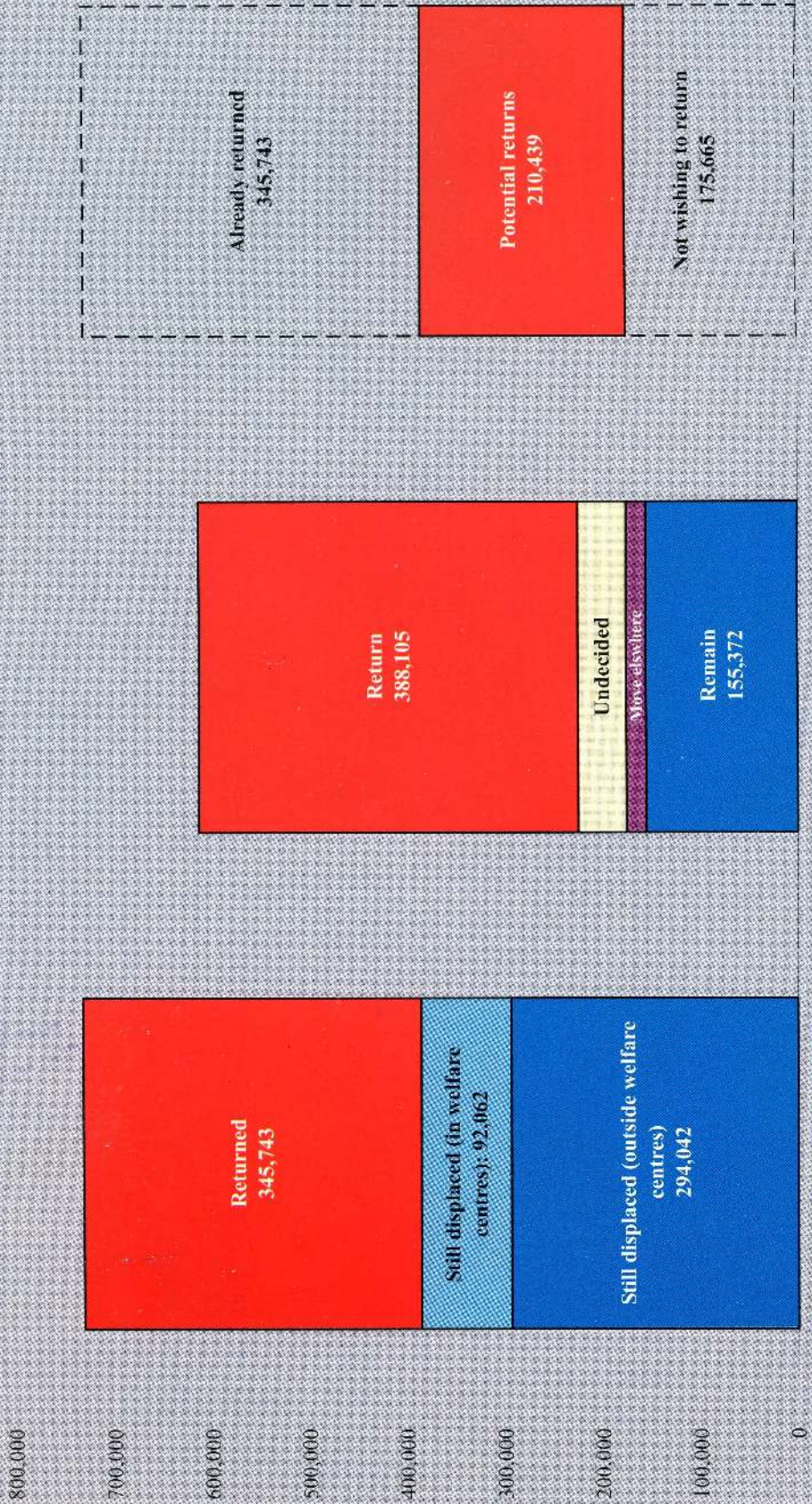
From January 2003 to December 2003



SRI LANKA IDP MOVEMENTS BY DISTRICT (within January 2002 - December 2003)



Sri Lanka IDPs and Returnees

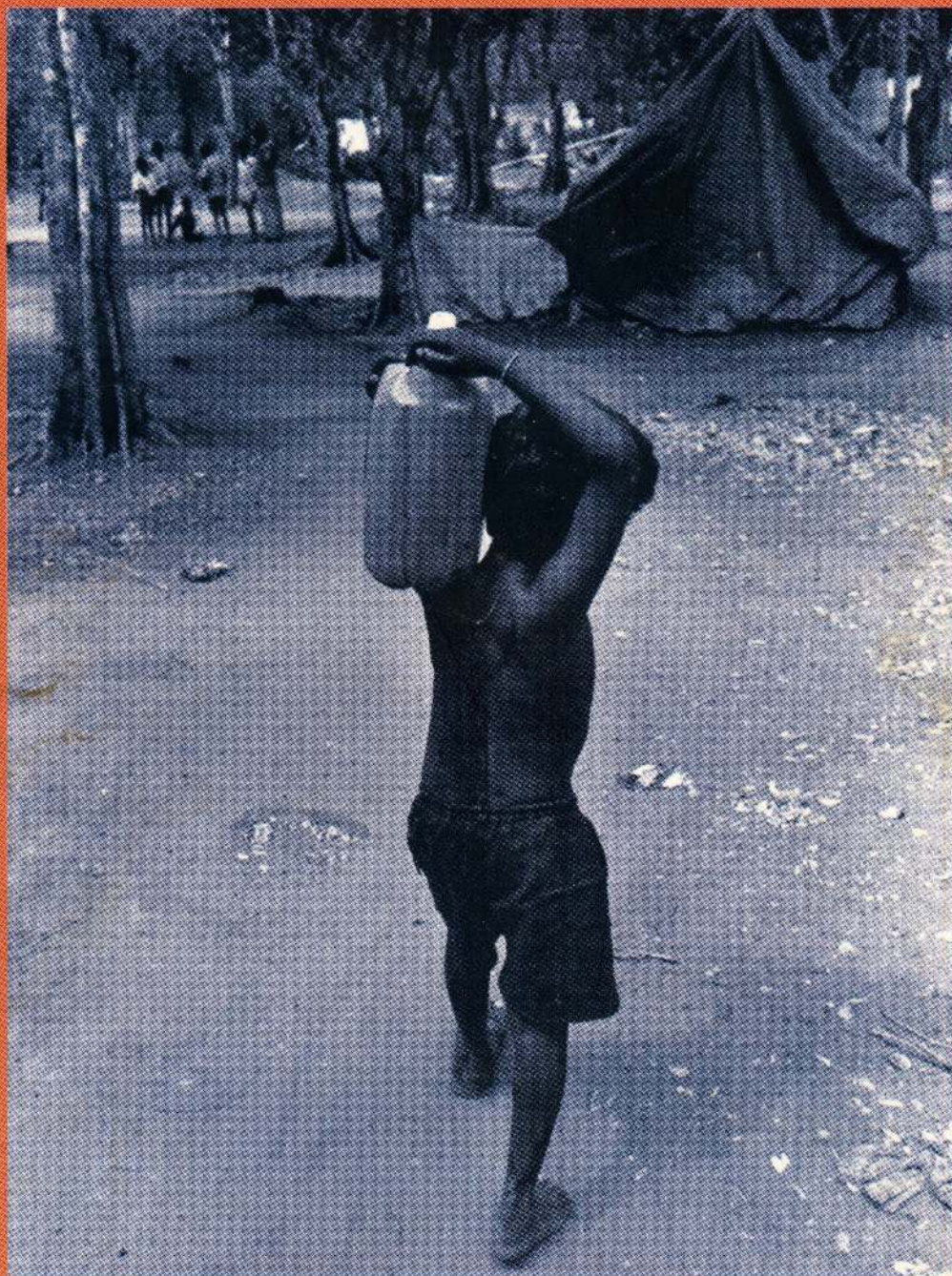


Potential returns
Jan 2004 onwards

Preferred solutions to displacement
... of 613,220 IDPs surveyed in 2002

Estimated 731,838 persons displaced
when Feb 2002 ceasefire began
... their situation as of Dec 2003





UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés