

DanChurchAid in Sri Lanka

DanChurchAid (DCA) is a Danish NGO working with development, emergency assistance and advocacy throughout the world. DCA is funded partly by the Danish Government, partly by the European Commission and partly by private donations given to the organisation by the Danish public and other huge international NGOs like Malteser International.

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In Asia DCA, have offices in India, Cambodia and Sri Lanka.

DCA has supported partner organisations in Sri Lanka since the 1980'es. One DCA Danish staff member arrived in Colombo in April 2004 and another in September 2004, and 2005 the office was settled with local staff.

DCA's Programme in Sri Lanka is from 2005-2008 and this development objective:

'Enhanced fulfilment of the right to sustainable livelihood and a life in peace and dignity for conflict and tsunami displaced and affected people and communities in Sri Lanka.'

To implement the programme, DCA Sri Lanka is currently working with:

- **Sewalanka Foundation** on support to livelihood assistance for IDPs in Batticaloa and with tsunami relief and rehabilitation assistance in Ampara and Batticaloa. In addition relief assistance to Conflict affected IDPs in Batticaloa.
- **SAPSRI**, South Asia Partnership- Sri Lanka on support to displaced women in various districts and with tsunami rehabilitation.
- **National Christian Council of Sri Lanka**, on disaster relief and rehabilitation and disaster preparedness and with tsunami relief and rehabilitation.
- **OfERR Ceylon**, Organisation for Elam Refugees Rehabilitation with assistance to Tamil refugees returning from India and with rehabilitation of peoples displaced by civil war and with tsunami relief and rehabilitation.
- **SWOAD**, Social Welfare Organisation Ampara District, assistance to internally displaced and tsunami relief and rehabilitation.
- **HDO**, Human Development Organisation, in Kandy, on human rights issues and with tsunami relief and rehabilitation.
- **DRMU**, Disaster Relief Monitoring Unit of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka in Colombo, on advocacy and relief and rehabilitation monitoring activities.

The main target group of DCA's work in Sri Lanka is the IDPs as defined by the UN Guiding Principles on Displacement:

"Internally displaced persons (IDPs) are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalised violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an international border."

DCA's role in the programme is to be in close contact with the partners on programme strategies and the Code of Conduct, all elements of the project cycle, fine tuning of their action plans and to allocate resources and then monitor and coordinate activities carried out by the partners. DCA is a member of various networks in Colombo e.g. CHA, ACT, UNHCR working group on IDPs, DRMU to be updated and to raise concerns from the partners. DCA's role is also facilitation of capacity building of partners in e.g. SPHERE standards, financial management and the Do No Harm principles.

In Denmark, DCA is conducting information and advocacy campaigns for the IDPs of Sri Lanka, as well as fundraising.