

# SPACE TO LEARN

Improving the Learning Environment in Mannar District



From  
the People of Japan

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



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Improving the Learning Environment in Mannar District



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**This book celebrates the teachers, children, parents and community members who contributed towards improving the learning environment in Mannar District.**





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Dr. Joan Clos

United Nations Under-Secretary  
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## Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this publication, entitled “*Space to Learn: Improving the Learning Environment in Mannar District*” which documents the partnership between the Government of Japan, the Government of Sri Lanka and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to improve the learning environment in 25 schools in Mannar District in the north of Sri Lanka.

Through a series of photographs, this publication highlights the key achievements of the project “*Sustainable Resettlement through Community-Driven Improvement of the Learning Environment in Mannar District*” implemented from April 2015 – September 2017 through a participatory people’s process. This process has provided the school authorities, parents of school children, teachers and community-based organizations a sense of achievement

The publication showcases a cross-section of learning spaces and teachers’ quarters on diverse aspects including the use of environmentally friendly, alternative building materials, incorporation of disaster risk reduction features and technologies in construction, the participation of key stakeholders in designing and constructing the learning spaces and the valuable contributions of the Government of Sri Lanka, the school authorities and the community members.

This publication is dedicated to all the school teachers, children, parents and community members who assisted in the creation of the learning spaces and teachers’ quarters in Mannar district.

UN-Habitat gratefully acknowledges the support of the Government of Japan in funding this project, and the

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