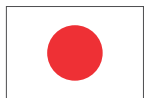




Rebuilding Community Infrastructure in the North and East of Sri Lanka



From
the People of Japan



European Union
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COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Rebuilding Community Infrastructure in the North and East of Sri Lanka

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This book is dedicated
to all communities in
the North and East of
Sri Lanka, in recognition
of their resilience
and commitment to
rebuilding their villages
following three decades
of conflict.



COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY

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Foreword



Over the past four years in the North and East of Sri Lanka, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) has supported conflict affected communities to reconstruct vital infrastructure facilities. The programmes have been implemented to supplement the agency's housing reconstruction projects, supporting over 31,000 families to rebuild their conflict damaged homes.

This publication, entitled "Community Spirit", focuses on the provision of community infrastructure and the resultant impact on beneficiaries' lives. Through a series of photographs taken by UN-Habitat staff members from 2011-2015, the book documents the key achievements and outputs of the projects implemented in over 250 villages.

Most importantly, the book documents stories of community spirit, determination and recovery from a cross-section of communities who have been

instrumental in rebuilding their villages through a people's participatory process. UN-Habitat is grateful to our funding partners - the Government of Japan, European Union, Government of Australia, Government of Switzerland and the Coca-Cola Foundation, who made this programme possible, with a total contribution towards community infrastructure of more than US\$ 9,000,000.

The support provided by the Government of Sri Lanka at the central, district and local government levels was a vital factor in the success of this programme.

Dr. Joan Clos

*United Nations Under-Secretary General and
Executive Director, UN-Habitat -
United Nations Human Settlements Programme*

Message from the Government of Japan



I am honoured to mark this publication by UN-Habitat entitled “Community Spirit: Rebuilding Community Infrastructure in the North and East of Sri Lanka” which illustrates UN-Habitat’s efforts in rebuilding community infrastructure facilities in the Northern and Eastern Provinces.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relationship in 1952, Japan has been a committed partner in Sri Lanka’s socio-economic development and among diverse areas of support, provided relief and reconstruction assistance for conflict affected communities and those affected by natural disasters.

From March 2013, the Government of Japan has partnered with UN-Habitat and the Government of Sri Lanka by funding the construction of infrastructure facilities in Sri Lanka’s conflict affected districts. To date, this programme has been implemented in over 200 communities in the districts of Mullaitivu,

internal roads, 20 Km of storm water drainage systems, 138 rain water harvesting systems in public buildings and the planting of 200,000 trees. This publication beautifully illustrates the resilience and spirit of solidarity among communities to rebuild their villages following years of conflict and displacement.

In addition to the post conflict community infrastructure programme, the Government of Japan is continuing its partnership with UN-Habitat by funding 507,000,000 Japanese Yen (US\$ 4,198,500) to improve the learning environment in Mannar District. This project will run to 2017.

These are wonderful examples of what bilateral assistance and UN programmes can together achieve. The Government of Japan highly values its special partnership with UN-Habitat, the Government of Sri Lanka and the community members and remains committed to supporting the Sri Lankan people

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