

EC Partner

UNOPS

Facts and Figures

- EC contribution: €9,8 million (100% of the total)
- Duration: 2005 - 2011
- Area covered: Ampara District (East of Sri Lanka)
- Beneficiaries: Around 300 000 people (50% of the population in Ampara District)

EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Environment

Post tsunami environmental assistance in Sri Lanka

Solid waste management, tree planting and the improvement of water drainage systems

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Mr Sunil Kannangara, Ampara District Secretary



Context

Sri Lanka is largely a low-lying island, with mountains in the south-central part, and a population of 19 million. Its high population density has put great pressure on the environment. Land degradation and pollution have a big impact on economic and social conditions of its habitants. In addition, Sri Lanka was one of the worst-affected countries in the Asian tsunami of 2004. This programme aims to help the tsunami-affected district of Ampara to recover by improving the environment.

Objectives

- Adopting technologies to improve environmental awareness setting up waste management services and replicating best practices to reduce health hazards related to poor environmental management.

Impact

- Clearing over 4 000 m3 of tsunami debris from infrastructure damage, and monitoring 1.5 hectares of coastal and roadside tree planting along 28 km of road.
- Solid waste management system established to collect, transport and treat waste in an environmentally and sustainable manner throughout Ampara District.
- Water drainage created for the worst-affected division of Ampara District, with a minimum lifespan of 20 years.

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Making profits from better environmental management

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Mr A.H. Wimaladasa, owner of tree nursery that supplied the programme with plants.

"The European Commission has given us training to set up and manage the nursery. With only three training, we were able to do everything and work independently."



Plant nursery