Project Brief
Speak Out: Tackling Gender-Based Violence against female garment workers in Sri Lanka through civil society engagement

This three-year project aims to empower and protect female garment workers employed in Gampaha, Kilinochchi, Mannar and Vavuniya districts by enhancing the capacity of civil society, namely the two project partners - Women's Centre (WC) and the Free Trade Zones and General Services Employees Union (FTZ&GSEU).

ACTED will strengthen partners' governance, financial and project cycle management to increase their membership, improve their support services and raise awareness on the needs of female garment workers. Partners in turn, will assist survivors of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) through increased access to psycho-social, legal and medical services and peer support networks.

In addition, the project will train and mobilise female activists to jointly design and engage in a national advocacy campaign and policy dialogues with government and private stakeholders to improve working condition and protective mechanisms.

Objective
To enable civil society organisations to contribute to the protection and empowerment of female garment workers in Northern and Western provinces.

Planned results
- WC and FTZ&GSEU's organisational capacity to increase female membership and women's active participation in decision-making is strengthened.
- Garment workers' access to physical and psycho-social support services is increased to mitigate the adverse effects of Gender-Based Violence (GBV)
- Awareness on the need for decent working conditions in garment factories, specifically for women, is increased through advocacy and policy dialogue.