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# NEWSLETTER

ACTED Sri Lanka

## ACTED

Founded in 1993, ACTED is now present in 37 countries around the world reaching more than 20 million people in 2019. ACTED teams are devoted to supporting vulnerable communities to build a better future in line with our global 3Zero Strategy.

## ZERO EXCLUSION CARBON POVERTY

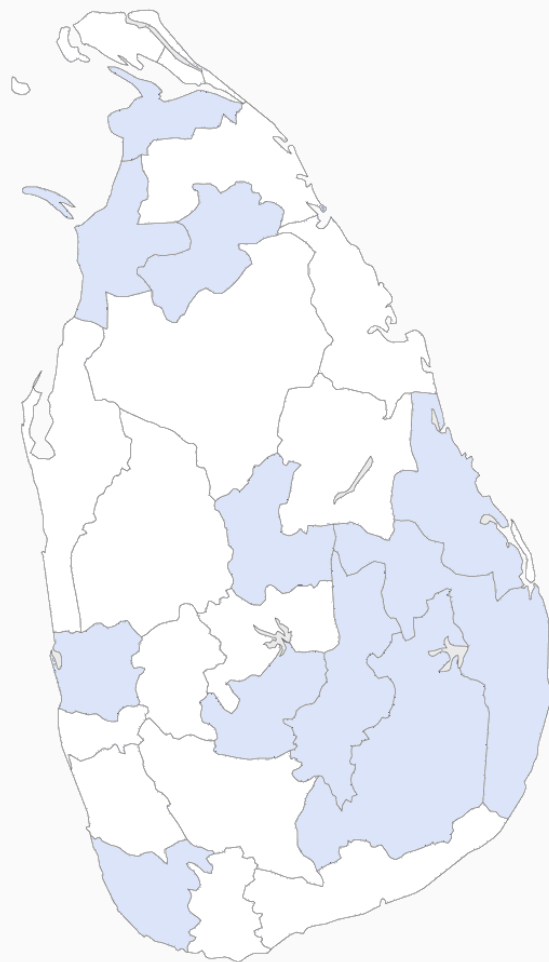
Zero Exclusion because nobody should be left behind

Zero Carbon because we only have one planet

Zero Poverty because poverty should not hold back potential

## ACTED in Sri Lanka

ACTED has been present in Sri Lanka since 2005 and the aftermath of the Indian Ocean Tsunami. Over time, ACTED has expanded its portfolio in line with the global 3Zero strategy to support **emergency relief and preparedness, climate smart and inclusive economic growth, civil society development, ending GBV and social cohesion.**



# OUR ACTIONS

## Emergency Response and Preparedness

In anticipation of the monsoon season in a time of COVID-19, ACTED supported frontline government institutions in Gampaha and Galle districts.

ACTED distributed camp management kits for 44 safety centres as well as essential hygiene materials for 1,719 frontline public officials and 1,510 vulnerable families. This support met the urgent needs of families and strengthened both the immediate and interim response capacity of local government in the event of heavy rains in 2020.



## Economic Recovery

In Central and Uva provinces, ACTED is fighting poverty by enhancing the sustainable and inclusive growth of over 300 micro, small and medium rural agri-businesses through business development training, the provision of assets and targeted supports to value chain actors.

In response to COVID-19 lockdowns, ACTED developed an online platform to facilitate the sale and delivery of local produce. As a result, small businesses were able to remain open, retain staff on their payroll and put food on the shelves of local families, all while demonstrating the potential of e-commerce. ACTED is now ramping up its assistance to businesses to help them recover and create jobs.

## Water, Agriculture, Livelihoods and Knowledge

ACTED is working with two local farmers' organisations in Monaragala to improve access to water for irrigation so they can better withstand changing weather patterns and drought.

After the rehabilitation of the local water tank by ACTED as well as parallel capacity building programmes, members of the farmer organisation members pooled their increased revenue to distribute food to those impacted by COVID-19 lockdowns. ACTED is continuing to offer trainings on sustainable agricultural techniques while overseeing the development of a women-led dry fish making business and a Farmers' Information Centre.





# OUR ACTIONS

## Tackling Gender Based Violence Against Female Garment Workers

ACTED and partners are working in Gampaha, Kilinochchi, Mannar and Vavuniya districts to enhance their provision of gender-based violence support services to female garment workers and to increase the role of women in advocacy and policy dialogue.

ACTED assisted both partners' institutional development during the lockdown as they coordinated with public and private stakeholders to uphold garment factory workers' labour rights. Brochures on COVID-19 and psycho-social, legal and health services were also prepared. In the coming months, ACTED will formalise a referral system for gender-based violence survivors while also administering trainings on improving counselling services.



## Strengthening Inter-Religious Collaboration

ACTED is engaged with 21 Coexistence Societies in Ampara, Batticaloa and Galle districts to strengthen their role in promoting social cohesion.

During the lockdown, ACTED provided office equipment and mentoring to improve Coexistence Societies' organisational capacity while facilitating the development of internal mechanisms within Local Authorities. Moving forward, ACTED will replicate and scale-up this approach to benefit 36 Coexistence Societies and 14 Local Authorities in the target districts.

## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS



European Union

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Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities