

# Jobs for Peace

“If You Desire Peace, Cultivate Justice”  
ILO Nobel Prize for Peace, 1969

The Case of Sri Lanka



By  
Claudia Coenjaerts  
ILO Country Director, Sri Lanka  
24 October 2005

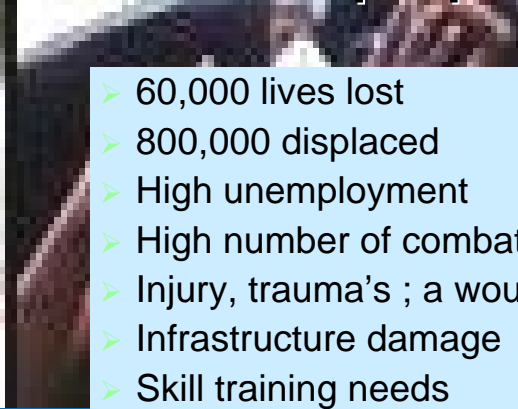


## The place of livelihood in peace building

- Don't separate relief, rehabilitation, development
- Recovery of livelihoods must start early on
- Jobs are the cement that binds peace
- Scanty awareness of donors and key actors of employment dimension of peace building



## What the war has done to the people



- 60,000 lives lost
- 800,000 displaced
- High unemployment
- High number of combatants
- Injury, trauma's ; a wounded population
- Infrastructure damage
- Skill training needs
- Talent has left
- Child Labour



## Sri Lanka's Reconstruction Efforts

- CFA stands, but peace process suspended
- Pledged amounts not released
- Multilateral group did transition strategy;
- Resource mobilization not materialized



## ILO achievements

- Advocated successfully on importance of employment and a Decent Work Approach
- Jobs for peace strategy
- Developed successful partnerships with other UN agencies
  - 4R approach
  - Inter-agency Plan of Action for Children affected for War

## Jobs for peace strategy

- Assessments and employment services
- Temporary employment creation through infrastructure works
- Entrepreneurship/LED
- Training for rural empowerment
- Socio-economic reintegration combatants
- IPEC





## Labour market assessments and employment services

SIDA, USDOL supported  
Assessments, capacity building

JobsNet centers + mobile units



## Labour market assessments and employment services

DFID, Flash appeal supported, partnering with WB, ADB, UNDP

Immediate job creation; kick start local economies

Sustainable quality outputs for small infrastructure works

Capacity building





## Entrepreneurship/Local economic development

SIDA supported, partnering with UNHCR, private sector

Capacity building (45 implementing partners)

ILO materials (9,500 entrepreneurs trained)



## Training for rural and economic empowerment

Belgium and Denmark supported, partner UNDP and UNHCR

2,000 women and men trained in employable, skills, integrated approach





## Economic reintegration of ex-combatants

Politically sensitive, even more so now

Need for capacity building

Important ↔ urgent



## International Programme for the Eradication of Child Labour

Denmark, Norway, Ausaid, USDOL support

Partner with UNICEF + many others

5,000 children, including ex-recruits, affected  
by war trained and supported



