



# TRANSFORMING LIVES IN URBAN AREAS

EU SUPPORT FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT

## THE ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION PROGRAMME (ERP) PHASES I & II FOR THE AMPARA DISTRICT (EASTERN PROVINCE)

IMPROVING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE IN SRI LANKA

<b>REGION</b> ASIA	<b>COUNTRY</b> SRI LANKA	<b>FOCUS</b> SOLID WASTE AND WATER DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE
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### CONTEXT



The EU and its Member States consider that a holistic, integrated and place-based approach to urban development, together with a long term vision, is necessary in order to promote well-managed, liveable, socially inclusive and safe, resilient, resource-efficient and environmentally sustainable as well as economically prosperous cities of all sizes, as well as developing the capability to achieve them.

Promoting green and resilient cities is a key pillar of this approach.

### BACKGROUND



The Environmental Remediation Programme (ERP) was set up in the aftermath of the tsunami to restore the integrity of natural resources and rebuild stronger systems to address solid waste, water waste challenges and environmental degradation in the Ampara district.

ERP Phase I covered three main components of solid waste management, tree planting and improvement of urban storm water drainage.

ERP Phase II focused on strengthening the capacity of the partner local authorities to operate and manage the established facilities and sustain the solid waste management systems established in ERP 1 for the long term.

### EXPECTED RESULTS



- 7 engineered landfills for proper waste disposal, 5 composting facilities for processing of biodegradable wastes, 4 recycling centres for the recovery of recyclable wastes and 1 cluster waste transfer station as an interim waste transmission of wastes of 4 local authorities.
- 40,000 urban households across 12 local authorities benefitted from assistance given to Local Authorities in establishing their SWM units and building their capabilities to install regular waste collection services, and operate and maintain the facilities.
- Improved Urban storm water drainage in Kalmunai was through the construction of 7.29 km of covered concrete drains with outfalls and related structures.



## APPROACH



The Environmental Remediation Programme (ERP) focused on solid waste management, environmental restoration and improvement of urban surface water drainage.

The programme was funded by the European Union and implemented by UNOPS, in collaboration with the local authorities and communities in each stage of the project, from design to completion.

“The construction of drainage in the Kalmunai Municipal council area is a remarkable job which had long been needed in the area.

The construction of a drainage system is an exemplary work for other agencies - high quality, great job and completed without any external influences. Thanks to the European Commission and UNOPS for a job well-done.”

**M. Y. Saleem** - Municipal Commissioner, Kalmunai Municipal Council

## LESSONS LEARNED



Influencing the behaviour and changing the practices of local authorities and communities towards good waste management practices was a lengthy process which required continuous community awareness and local capacity building.

The local political context was not always conducive to raising new taxes, and some local authorities were cautious in taking the step in introducing user fee collection.

## MOVING FORWARD



At a national scale, the project is cited as an example of best practice in implementing an integrated waste management programme and the Sri Lankan National Solid Waste Management Support Center (NSWMSC) has since adopted the experiences of the project in providing waste management support to other local authorities.



Composting plant in Ampara District built under ERP-I



Flooded Cricket field in Mannar (North Sri Lanka)

TOTAL PROJECT VALUE  
EUR 9.71 MILLION (ERP I) | 2.13 MILLION (ERP II)

FUNDING SOURCE  
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION  
INSTRUMENT (DCI)

TIMEFRAME  
2006 - 2013

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