WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO

In May 2017, Sri Lanka faced severe devastation when intense series of monsoons struck the southwestern region, triggering flash floods and landslides that have impacted over 20,000 homes, displacing hundreds of families.

On the 30th May 2017, Mercy Relief responded to the crisis by deploying a team to assist our ground partner in its distribution of relief provisions and recovery mission. Since then, we have been operating on Disaster Mitigation and Preparedness activities in an effort to empower the communities’ preparedness and reducing vulnerability to future disasters.

With the support of everyone, Mercy Relief was able to provide effective response and assist the affected community in their perseverance against the aftermath by establishing Disaster Resilient Centres in 3 districts.

$62,723
Total raised in SGD

Over 7,300
Survivors benefited

224
Fatalities

717,622
People Affected

TIMELINE

27 MAY ’17
Disaster Strikes
Mercy Relief received Appeal for Assistance

30 MAY ‘17
Response
Response team deployed to Colombo

JUN ‘17
Conducted 5 Relief Distribution Operations (RDO) across 3 Districts

JULY-ONWARDS
Preparedness
Commenced Preparedness Phase with Disaster Resilience Centre Project

APRIL ‘19
Distribution of medical & rescue equipment to each DRC venue

Completion of Project
**RELIEF ACTIVITIES**

By combining our forces with our ground partners, we were able to reach out to over 4,000 beneficiaries and distributed emergency food rations and hygiene kits in the districts of Kalutara, Galle and Matara. We are inspired by the survivors’ resilience and compassion to support each other.

4,000

**Beneficiaries**

May ’17 - Jun ’17

**Duration**

**Items Distributed**

**FOOD ITEMS**

- 5 kg Rice
- 1 kg Dhal
- 1 kg Onions
- 1 pkt Noodles
- 1 pkt Tea
- 1 pkt Salt
- 1 pkt Milk
- 200 g Spices

**HYGIENE KITS**

- Laundry Soap
- Bath Soaps
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Towels
- Sanitary Napkins

Distribution of food rations to community

Food items that were distributed
COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CENTRE PROJECT

Mercy Relief worked alongside the local community to establish Disaster Resilient Centres (DRCs) that are equipped with adequate water and sanitation facilities, allowing them to serve as refugee centres, food distribution points, community kitchens and clinics. During the absence of disasters, the centres will be employed for activities such as welfare activities and classes, thus ensuring its maintenance and operation while promoting community ownership and social cohesion.

> 750
Households benefited

June ’18 – Apr ’19
Duration

Project Activities

1. Established disaster resilient centres in 3 villages
2. Construction and renovation of latrines and sanitation facilities
3. Distribution of basic rescue and kitchen necessities
4. Installation of water tanks at 3 evacuation points
5. Expansion of water canal for better water flow to reduce flooding
6. Set up proper communication channel between district centres and DRCs

Project Impact

- IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE
- IMPROVED SANITATION FACILITIES
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH BUILDING DISASTER RESILIENT CHAMPIONS

By appointing and training community members to act as first respondents when providing relief in the occurrence of future disasters, this project enables the community to ready and prepare themselves by equipping them with the knowledge and skills necessary to prevail against adversity driven by disasters. This is also achieved by extending our efforts in the distribution of rescue, medical and kitchen kits to the community.

PROJECT IMPACT

1. Increased awareness and preparedness for future disasters among communities
2. Enhanced coordination and communication of the communities to respond to disasters
3. Better community capacity in rescue operations, disaster response and refuge during the disasters
4. High social interactions, and informal discussions of community-based disaster response

Items Distributed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESCUE EQUIPMENTS</th>
<th>KITCHEN NECESSITIES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Life Jackets</td>
<td>3 Water Tanks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rescue Tubes</td>
<td>Generator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Torchlights</td>
<td>Gas Cooler and Cylinder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helmets</td>
<td>Kitchen Utensils</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Aid Boxes</td>
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Distribution of medical and rescue equipments to community

Review of Disaster Response Team's training

Rescue equipments that were distributed
SURVIVOR STORY

KARUNA RATNE
Karuna Ratne is not just a school teacher but also a survivor of the devastation. Although the experience was traumatising, she did not let it impede her determination to restore and better the community. She now spends her days volunteering to widen roads for easier accessibility to the Disaster Resilient Centres.

“We need the safe place.”

Mercy Relief is proud to have been of service to strong characters such as Karuna who chooses to persevere in the face of adversity.

A huge thank you from Mercy Relief!

Look forward to more updates about our work on-the-ground via our website or social media channels

MERCRYRELIEF.ORG