

Bilateral Programmes

The European Union implements its bilateral programmes with Sri Lanka under the Multi-Indicative Programmes (MIP). During the MIP of 2007-2013, the EU implemented three different developmental programmes.

The first of these programmes is the European Union – Assistance to Conflict Affected People (EU-ACAP) that was launched in 2009 with total budget of EUR 53.2 million. Its goal was to support the early recovery and rehabilitation needs of people in the North and East, leading to long term development in those regions. The second programme was the European Union – Support to Socio – Economic Measures (EU – SEM). After it was launched in 2010, the programme allocated a sum of EUR 15.7 million in grants for the development and promotion of socio-economic measures. The programme was set primarily in the Eastern and Northern Province, with a significant focus on the districts of Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi. The final programme that was implemented was the European Union Support to District Developmental Programme (EU-SDDP). The programme allocated a sum of EUR 60 million to support integrated socio-economic development in Sri Lanka in the medium and longer terms. The target locations of the programme were four districts, notably Ampara and Batticaloa (East) and Mannar and Vavuniya (North) as well as bordering areas in the districts of Anuradhapura, Puttalam and Monaragala. The programme commenced in June 2012, and is implemented by IFC and 5 UN agencies (FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNOPS, and ILO).

Last year the implementation of the MIP 2014-2020 was launched. It allocates up to EUR 210 million under the single focal sector of "Integrated Rural Development". In 2015, the first intervention of the MIP will focus on the poorest and most vulnerable communities in the districts of Monaragala, Badulla in Uva Province and Nuwara Eliya and Matala in the Central Province.