

‘Celebrating Partnerships’ showcases the European Union’s support to district development in Sri Lanka

Celebrating Partnerships, an exhibition on the European Union’s support to district development in Sri Lanka, was jointly inaugurated in Colombo on 12 December 2017 by Chief Guest Dr. Harsha de Silva, Deputy Minister of National Policies and Economic Affairs, H.E. Tung-Lai Margue, Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Sri Lanka and the Maldives, and United Nations Resident Coordinator, Ms. Una McCauley.

Speaking at the ceremony, Ambassador Margue said “Over the past five years, the European Union Support to District Development Programme (EU-SDDP) has contributed significantly to building infrastructure and capacities, to generating growth and creating jobs for people most in need. The exhibition captures the work carried out in seven districts to build partnerships and networks of collaboration with individuals and organisations to improve the quality of life for the people in these areas. My hope is that the EU-SDDP has helped to lay the groundwork for a brighter and more prosperous future for people who had suffered during the war”.

Celebrating Partnerships, showcased in Mannar, Vavuniya, Ampara and Batticaloa, highlights the work done by the EU-SDDP to support the poorest communities in Sri Lanka by helping to provide basic infrastructure and services that benefit the local economy. The EUR 60 million programme covers the Batticaloa, Mannar, Vavuniya, Ampara, Monaragala, Anuradhapura, and Puttalam districts reaching half a million people. It is jointly implemented by five UN agencies–UNDP, UNICEF, UNOPS, FAO, and ILO–and the IFC, a member the World Bank Group.



UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Sri Lanka, Ms. Una McCauley, speaking at the event.



H.E. Tung-Lai Margue, Ambassador of the European Union to Sri Lanka and the Maldives addressing the audience



Dr. Harsha de Silva, Deputy Minister, Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs speaking at the event



H.E. Tung-Lai Margue, Ambassador of the European Union to Sri Lanka and the Maldives, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Sri Lanka, Ms. Una McCauley, together with other senior delegates from the UN and IFC presenting “Celebrating Partnerships” Coffee Table book highlighting some of the key project outcomes to Dr. Harsha de Silva, Deputy Minister Ministry of National Policies and Economic Affairs.