

# KNOWLEDGE AND LINKAGES FOR AN INCLUSIVE ECONOMY GRANT PROGRAM

## - SRI LANKA

The Knowledge and Linkages for an Inclusive Economy (KLIE) Grant Program seeks to facilitate partnerships between Sri Lankan and Australian government agencies, research institutions, civil society and professional networks. The objective is for these partnerships to help drive policy dialogue, build evidence, trial small reform projects and enhance knowledge exchange. Close to \$4.1 million in KLIE grants has been committed since 2018.

KLIE partnerships represent twinning arrangements, where Australian capacities and expertise are leveraged to support innovative approaches across a range of development cooperation areas in Sri Lanka. These partnerships contribute to an enduring and strong relationship between Australia and Sri Lanka as we continue to collaborate and cooperate in the pursuit of stable, prosperous societies and inclusive economic recovery and growth.



### FOOD SECURITY

#### SUSTAINABLE ORGANIC WASTE VALUE CHAINS 2019–24, \$871,000

**Grantee:** Institute for Sustainable Futures at the University of Technology Sydney (ISF-UTS)

**Partners:** International Water Management Institute, Janathakshan GTE Ltd, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

Piloted in Kaduwela Municipal Council, different types of compost are being explored for agriculture production and home garden use. The pilot builds on earlier research into the potential for organic urban waste and sanitation systems to be transformed into agricultural inputs, such as organic fertiliser. The aim is link urban waste and sanitation systems with agriculture production, creating a more sustainable agriculture sector in Sri Lanka.



### SOCIAL PROTECTION

#### RE-IMAGINING VULNERABILITY IN LIGHT OF COVID-19 2021–23, \$418,000

**Grantee:** International Centre for Ethnic Studies in Sri Lanka

**Partner:** The University of New South Wales (UNSW)

Globally, the COVID-19 pandemic increased the vulnerability of marginalised groups, including women, children and people with disabilities. The International Centre for Ethnic Studies in Sri Lanka is partnering with the UNSW Faculty of Justice and Law to research the effectiveness and sufficiency of social protection measures in Sri Lanka during the pandemic. The research will be made available to inform further social protection-related policy development and decision-making.



### HEALTH SECURITY

#### IMPROVING EYE HEALTH IN SRI LANKA 2021–22, \$273,000

**Grantee:** Sight for All

**Partners:** The College of Ophthalmologists of Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan Ministry of Health, 23 regional eye health units in provincial and district hospitals.

Sight for All is working with the Ministry of Health, provincial and district hospitals to establish a clinical teaching program for eye health workers. Eye health equipment is being provided to 46 ophthalmologists across all 23 Sri Lankan regional eye health units, and public awareness campaigns on eye health and causes of blindness are being run. In 2022, Sight for All provided Badulla Provincial General Hospital with medical equipment and consumables.

#### ADDRESSING CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE OF UNKNOWN AETIOLOGY IN SRI LANKA 2019–22, \$465,000

**Grantee:** Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO)

**Partners:** Sri Lankan Ministry of Health, Atomic Energy Board, National Water Supply and Drainage Board, University of Colombo, University of Peradeniya

This project is establishing a baseline for normal kidney function in Sri Lanka and studying nutritional transfer and environmental exposure. A comprehensive study of drinking water from domestic wells in CKDu-affected communities will also be completed.





## ECONOMIC RECOVERY

### BUILDING BETTER NETWORKS FOR GENDERED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2021–23, \$350,000

**Grantee:** The Australian APEC Study Centre for International Development

**Partners:** Sri Lankan public, private and non-government institutions

This project is working with Sri Lankan and Australian organisations involved in women’s economic empowerment activities to establish a new cadre of experts within Sri Lankan public, private and non-government organisations. The project will support women’s economic empowerment and labour force participation in Sri Lanka through research, policy recommendations and capacity building initiatives.

### SUSTAINABLE MARINE AQUACULTURE IN SRI LANKA

2021–23, \$500,000

**Grantee:** University of Sydney

**Partners:** Sri Lanka’s National Aquaculture Development Authority, Ocean University of Sri Lanka, Ministry of Fisheries, Navy, National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Fresh by Design, Down Under Submarines

The University of Sydney is working with Sri Lankan partners to scope out a new, sustainable marine aquaculture industry in Sri Lanka. A new, marine aquaculture industry with strong export potential will improve domestic food security and livelihoods and support Sri Lanka’s economic recovery.



## DISASTER MANAGEMENT

### OCEAN FORECAST SYSTEM FOR SRI LANKA

2022-24, \$499,544

**Grantee:** University of Western Australia

**Partners:** National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency (NARA), Marine Environmental Protection Authority, Sri Lankan Navy, Meteorological Department, Disaster Management Centre, Coast Conservation Department, Ocean University of Sri Lanka, University of Ruhuna, Moratuwa University

UWA is working with Sri Lankan partners to develop and install an ocean forecast system for Sri Lanka. The forecasts will support maritime safety, improve disaster management and allow for safer emergency responses to maritime accidents.



## BIOSECURITY

### IMPLEMENTING THE GENERIC ePHYTO NATIONAL SYSTEM (GeNS) IN SRI LANKA 2019–22, \$333,007

**Grantee:** Department of Agriculture, Australia (formerly Department of Agriculture and Water Resources).

**Partners:** Sri Lankan Department of Agriculture

Australia and Sri Lanka are working together to operationalise the Generic ePhyto National System (GeNS) in Sri Lanka. An ePhyto is an electronic phytosanitary certificate and the GeNS is a web-based system implemented by the International Plant Protection Convention. The system is in place to prevent the introduction and spread of pests through import and export activities that can harm terrestrial and aquatic plant resources.



## GOVERNANCE

### STRENGTHENING ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

2019–22, \$530,000

**Grantee:** Australian Electoral Commission

**Partners:** Sri Lankan Election Commission, International Foundation for Electoral Systems

The Australian Electoral Commission partnered with the Sri Lankan Electoral Commission and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems to allow for ongoing and closer collaboration and support in the administration of elections in Sri Lanka. Now complete, this KLIE grant sought to improve democratic engagement with citizens and improve the efficacy of electoral processes.

For more information visit:  
[www.srilanka.embassy.gov.au](http://www.srilanka.embassy.gov.au)

