Since the end of the Sri Lankan Civil War in 2009, Oxfam’s focus in Sri Lanka has been on rebuilding people’s lives.

The end of the Sri Lankan Civil War (1983-2009) has changed the country’s needs. Much of the focus is now on rebuilding lives through reconstruction and rehabilitation.

More than 60% of Sri Lankan women suffer domestic violence. And on average, more than 100 cases of domestic violence are reported each month in the national media. Many more go unrecorded.

In January 2011 torrential rain and heavy winds that swept across the Eastern and North Central Provinces of Sri Lanka leaving thousands of people homeless, and destroying acres of cultivation. Oxfam launched an immediate response to support 174,000 people affected by the floods.

In Sri Lanka we help people affected by conflicts rebuild their lives; empower poor women to be entrepreneurs by building leadership skills; and provide aid during disasters.

*Direct beneficiary figures for the period 2010-11
**DEVELOPMENT**

Oxfam is working with local partners and Government stakeholders to build wells and provide sanitation facilities to affected villages.

We try to ensure that women’s rights are upheld, and work to promote their engagement in decision making. We empower women to build their own enterprises by creating, and linking them with, financial institutions and production companies.

“The loan gave my business a competitive edge over other village stores. Now I earn enough to contribute equally towards the household expenditure. I have enough money at hand to look after my children’s education needs.”

Kandasamy, a shop owner in Trincomalee

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**CAMPAIGNS**

Oxfam’s “We Can” campaign aims to break down social attitudes and customs that support violence against women.

About 5 million “Change Makers” from across South East Asia are helping mobilise 50 million people and bring about a sea-change in attitudes towards women.

“Our water tanks carry messages on how violence against women affects the whole family. They attract a lot of people. The images are clear and we know that people who can read tell others what the words mean.”

Shanthi Sivanesan, Oxfam

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**EMERGENCIES**

Oxfam was one of the key aid agencies that stepped in to support people affected by flooding in January 2011 – providing hygiene kits, drinking water and dry rations. We also ran a four-year programme to help people recover from the devastating Tsunami that hit on Boxing Day 2004.