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Developing country financing on loss and damage: A case study on public risk transfer mechanisms to address loss and damage in Sri Lanka

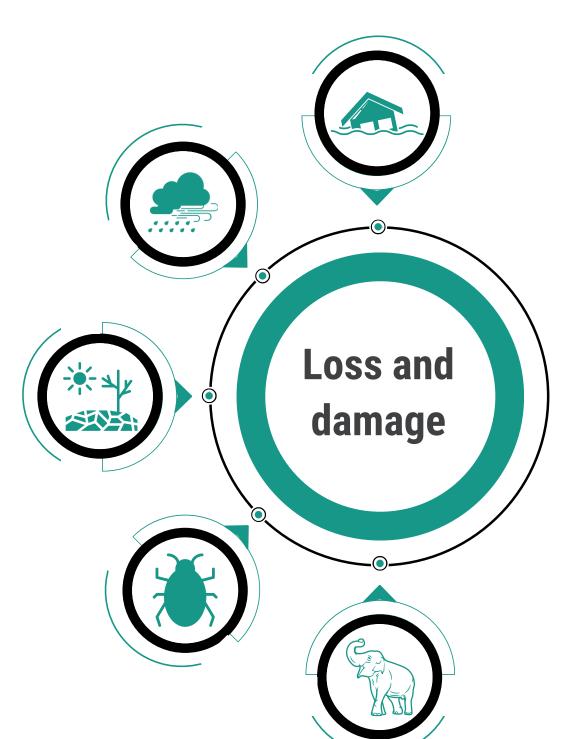
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Loss and damage and public risk transfer in Sri Lanka



Public crop insurance scheme

- First pilot schemes in 1958; indemnity-based
- Covers losses and damages to six basic crops for all registered farmers; additional coverage available against premiums

National natural disaster insurance scheme

• Covers lives and properties of all households and SMEs against loss and damage caused by natural disasters

Loan protection scheme

 Covers losses to financial institutions that provide loans related to paddy cultivation

... plus pension and social security schemes, social protection, emergency funds



Current sources of finance

- National budget allocation
- Crop levy on all financial institutions in the country (1% of profit)
- Automatic premium collection from all insured farmers during purchase of subsidized fertilizer
- Reinsurance (internal and external)

Institutional architecture

- Agriculture and Agrarian Insurance Board (AAIB)
- Agrarian extension officers and local government authorities
- National Insurance Trust Fund (NITF) as national reinsurer
- Private sector

Policy environment

NDCs (appropriate risk transfer), NAP (innovative risk transfer), CPP

Key challenges and needs

- Public risk transfer in developing countries can provide support to vulnerable groups and communities and build on existing institutional structures (extension officers, agro-advisory systems, databases, data collection mechanisms)
- However, access to external funding is needed to sustain them and respond to emerging needs in the face of increasing loss and damage
- Need for enhanced access to detailed weather data, projections, risk analytics etc.
- Challenges related to financial literacy and inclusion, establishing proof of land or livestock ownership
- Delay between impact and compensation payouts due to indemnity-based nature of the scheme



Opportunities for enhancement and expansion of L&D funding through public risk transfer

Technology transfer

 Invest in technology and digitization to increase speed, transparency, and reliability of assessments and payouts

Inclusive processes and distribution

- Improve distribution channels
- Strengthen inclusive and participatory processes that mainstream gender, youth, and intersectional vulnerabilities
- Include actors along the value chain



Innovative instruments

 Facilitate innovative product design and diversify available financial instruments

Local-level planning

 Connect loss and damage finance to local planning and entrepreneurship



Non-economic aspects and human mobility

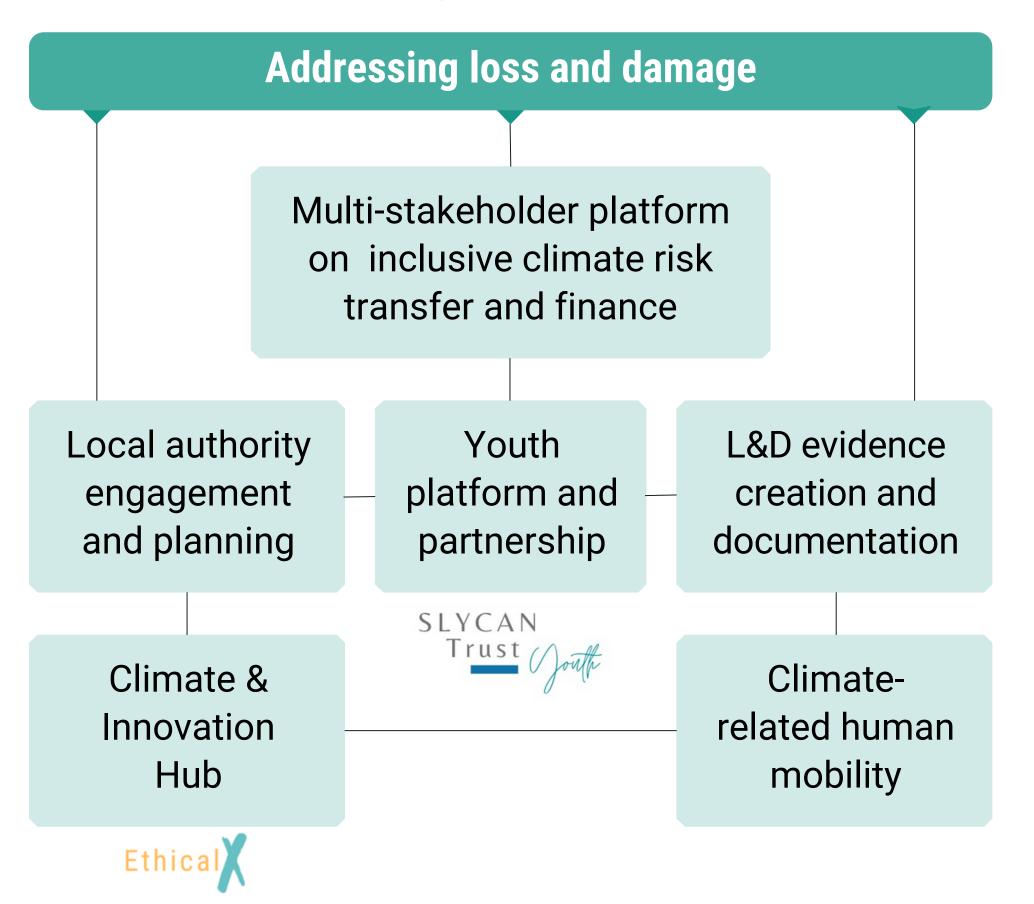
Climate-related migration

- Climate-related migration and cultural loss
- Support for migrants and their families
- Interlinking livelihoods and social protection

Planned relocation

- Resettlement out of high-risk areas where resilience-building is not viable
- Case study on landslide risk

Building on national systems for innovative approaches



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Thank you!

About SLYCAN Trust

SLYCAN Trust is an internationally recognised non-profit think tank focused on empowering climate action through evidence.

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