

SRI LANKA Government Engagement with SOGI, Gender Identity, and Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Sri Lanka

Over the last decade (2015–2025), Sri Lankan government institutions, statutory bodies, and international partners have systematically developed policies, plans, and capacity-building programmes addressing gender, sexual orientation, and adolescent sexual and reproductive health.

Key observations include:

Policy Foundations

- The Ministry of Health’s 2015 National Policy on Health of Young Persons mandated age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health (SRH) education with gender-sensitive delivery.
- Multi-sectoral National Action Plans on SGBV (2016, updated 2024–25) explicitly include “diverse gender identities and sexual orientations” in their protection frameworks.
- National Gender Equality Policies (2023) recognize gender minorities and non-binary identities, committing to education, health, and anti-discrimination measures.

Education Sector & Teacher Training

- The **Ministry of Education (MoE)**, with UNFPA and UNESCO support, developed **Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) curricula**, teacher training manuals, and pre-service/in-service **train-the-trainer programmes (2018–2022)**.
- Gender-sensitive pedagogy and inclusion of sexual orientation/gender identity topics are embedded in training content.

Statutory Bodies & Service Providers

- National Child Protection Authority (NCPA), Family Health Bureau, and National Police Academy have integrated SOGI-sensitive policies and training modules.
- Police officers, legal professionals, and judges receive structured training on gender equality, SGBV, and SOGIESC awareness.
- Ministries and parastatals, including BOI and local government authorities, conduct gender and inclusion trainings for staff.

Parliamentary and Political Engagement

- **MPs from both government and opposition have participated in** gender capacity building, legislative sensitization workshops, and engagement with LGBTIQ+ representatives.
- **Parliamentary staff received** diversity, inclusion, and communication training, **influencing policy discussions on child protection and gender equality.**

International Collaboration & Technical Support

- **UN agencies (UNFPA, UNDP, UNESCO) have consistently partnered with Sri Lankan institutions to develop** CSE frameworks, teacher training manuals, gender-sensitive policing initiatives, and parliamentary capacity programmes.

- These collaborations explicitly incorporate gender diversity, non-discrimination, and SOGI awareness, impacting policy, service delivery, and training standards.

Key Insight:

Sri Lankan government policies and institutional practices over the past decade reflect a coordinated effort to mainstream **gender equality, protection of sexual and gender minorities, and comprehensive sexuality education** across health, education, legal, and law enforcement sectors.

Engagement spans from **policy development** to **operational capacity-building** for frontline officials, educators, legal professionals, and politicians, demonstrating cross-sectoral institutionalization of SOGI-inclusive frameworks.

1) 2015 – Ministry of Health

Title: *National Policy and Strategy on Health of the Young Persons (2015, MoH)*

What appears: Commits government to provide **life-skills based, age-appropriate sexual & reproductive health (SRH) education**, **emphasises gender sensitive** delivery and access to SRH services for young people.

(This is the earliest national health policy in the list that mandates SRH/CSE.)

Page reference(s): pp. 7–8 (strategy items:

“Ensure access to SRH education and services”; “age appropriate sexual and reproductive health education in a gender sensitive and culturally acceptable framework”).

Source: MoH PDF.

<https://www.health.gov.lk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/22-National-Policy-and-Strategy-on-Health-of-the-Young-Persons-2015-compressed.pdf>

2) 2016 – Ministry of Women, Child Affairs & Social Empowerment (lead) – Cabinet approved

Title: *Policy Framework and National Plan of Action to address **Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV)** in Sri Lanka 2016–2020* (Cabinet approved NAP)

What appears: Multi-sectoral State response to SGBV that **explicitly frames SGBV prevention/response as requiring gender-sensitive approaches**; recognizes the need for inclusive services and cross-sectoral action (health, education, justice, police). (SOGI issues are included under “gender” and protection obligations.)

Page reference(s): (document long – see executive summary & sectoral responsibilities): **see Introduction / Executive Summary / Multi-sectoral sections** (opening pages of the PDF and sectoral annexes referenced across the plan – downloadable NAP). (The NAP is the working national instrument referenced in later docs.)

Source: Ministry of Women & UNDP / official NAP PDF.

<https://www.undp.org/srilanka/publications/policy-framework-and-national-plan-action-address-sexual-and-gender-based-violence-sgbv-sri-lanka>

3) 2016 – Family Health Bureau / Ministry of Health (with WHO technical input)

Title: *Guidelines for Health Staff on Providing Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Services (2016)*

What appears: Practical guideline for health staff to provide adolescent SRH services – **includes CSE-linked service guidance**, notes legal/cultural barriers to adolescent SRH and the need to provide SRH information and services sensitively (references to adolescent sexual behaviour, confidentiality, access).

Page reference(s): pp. 6–7 (rationale / scope on adolescent SRH; pages throughout detail package for SRH services).

Source: MoH / Family Health Bureau / WHO guideline PDF.

<https://platform.who.int/docs/default-source/mca-documents/policy-documents/guideline/lka-ad-17-01-guideline-2016-eng-asrh-guidelines-english.pdf>

- Family Health Bureau / National STD/AIDS Control Programme – HIV/SRH guidance including SOGI & key populations
- What: Gov't HIV/STI strategy and FHB publications define sexual orientation/gender identity concepts, identify key populations and call for inclusion of CSE in school settings.
- Link: https://www.aidscontrol.gov.lk/images/publications/guidelines/No_one_left_behind_book_all.pdf.

4) 2018 (G2G dialogue) & 2019 – Ministry of Education / UNFPA (policy support for CSE)

- **Title(s):** *The **need for Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Sri Lanka*** (UNFPA G2G Post-Brief, July 2018) – references Ministry of Education teacher training manual and national teacher trainings. (**Policy / programme brief**).
- *Policy Brief 08 – **Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Sri Lanka*** (UNFPA, 2019; based on MoE-commissioned Karunathilake study) – synthesises findings and calls for CSE & teacher training.
- **What appears:**
- Explicit discussion of **Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)** as curriculum-based education; states UNFPA supported MoE to develop a **Teacher Training Manual** and to train pre-service/in-service teachers; lists CSE components including gender, rights, relationships and diversity.
- **Page reference(s):**
- **UNFPA G2G Post-Brief (2018):** see p.10 (teacher training manual / training roll-out description).
<https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/G2G-5.pdf>
- **UNFPA Policy Brief (2019):** pp. 1–2, 6–7 (definition of CSE, key components and recommendations for training & curriculum review).
https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Policy_Brief_08-FINAL.pdf

5) 2016 → 2024/2025 – Ministry of Women, Child Affairs & Social Empowerment / related

Title: Policy Framework and Multi-Sectoral National Action Plan to **address Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in Sri Lanka 2024–2028** (updated NAP, 2024/2025 publish)

What appears: Updated multi-sectoral national plan explicitly names “**those with diverse gender identities and sexual orientations**” in its vision and integrates obligations to protect people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity; details sectoral activities **across 13 ministries** (including Education, Health and Justice).

Page reference(s): see early sections/vision – e.g. the summary/vision: text refers to “diverse gender identities and sexual orientations”; also sectoral annexes list education & health responsibilities. (See opening pages / executive summary in the official PDF.)

Source: Ministry of Women & UNDP/UNFPA hosted PDF.

<https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/2025-01/National%20Action%20Plan%20to%20Address%20on%20SGBV%20ENGLISH%2020241218%20%281%29.pdf>

6) 2022 – UNESCO (in partnership with Government actors / MoE stakeholders)

Title: *Situation and Training Needs Analysis for Gender in Teacher Education (Sri Lanka, 2022)* – UNESCO country report (commissioned/consultative with MoE/teacher education institutions)

What appears: States the need for **gender-sensitive and gender-responsive teacher training** (includes content and capacity for dealing with gender diversity, inclusion and non-discrimination in teacher education). (Although UNESCO authored, it is a government-sector study with Ministry participation.)

Page reference(s): **Executive summary & recommendations** (document pages in the report reference gender-sensitive pedagogy and training needs).

Source: UNESCO country report PDF.

https://units.kln.ac.lk/genderstu/media/attachments/2022/07/29/unesco-country-report_.pdf

7) 2023 – Cabinet / Ministry of Women, Child Affairs & Social Empowerment

Title: *National Policy on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (2023)* (Cabinet policy)

What appears: National policy explicitly **recognizes and names “gender minorities” and “people of non-binary gender identities”**, commits to ensuring **access to health care and education** for gender minorities, and frames legal/policy measures to prevent discrimination.

Page reference(s): pp. 2–8 (vision, mission, policy statements and commitments referencing gender minorities / non-binary identities) – see especially pp.2–6 where “gender minorities” are repeatedly named.

Source: Cabinet / Ministry PDF.

https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/sri_lanka_national_policy_gewe_english.pdf

8) 2022–2025 – Ministry of Health – Gender mainstreaming & health policy guidance

- **Title(s):**
- *Guideline for **Gender Mainstreaming in Health Policies** (Ministry of Health) – 2025 guideline (published Oct 2025 release noted on MoH site)*
- *Review of the National Health Policy 2016–2025 and various Family Health Bureau publications on adolescent & youth health (SRH).*
What appears: Formal guidance to integrate **gender considerations** across health policy & service delivery; emphasises avoiding stigma, ensuring access for vulnerable/varying gender groups, and mainstreaming gender in health planning (includes commitments around inclusive SRH services).
Page reference(s): multiple – see Foreword & early sections (pp. 3–6) that frame gender-responsive policy; detailed mainstreaming actions throughout the guideline (document has page-by-page actions).
Source: MoH guideline PDF.
<https://www.health.gov.lk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Guideline-for-Gender-Mainstreaming-in-Health-Policies-2025-compressed.pdf>

9) 2025 – National Child Protection Authority / Ministry of Women & Child Affairs

- **Title:** *Five Year National Action Plan on National Policy on Child Protection 2025–2029* (NCPA)
What appears: Multi-sectoral child protection plan with an **Education Sector** chapter; the plan references inclusive protection measures and cross-refers to national policies on gender equality, SGBV NAPs, and service referral guidelines which include protections for children with diverse gender identities.
- **Page reference(s): Education Sector pp. 117–134; Health Sector pp. 87–104** in the PDF (see index and sector sections). The plan cross-references SGBV and gender policy.
Source: NCPA / MOWCA PDF.
- <https://childprotection.gov.lk/images/pdfs/acts-guidelines/2025-2029-5yap-e.pdf>

10. 2024–2025 – National Police Academy / Sri Lanka Police (official training programmes & partnerships)

- UNDP press release – *UNDP Sri Lanka and the National Police Academy Enter Partnership...* (Apr 10, 2025).
<https://www.undp.org/srilanka/press-releases/undp-sri-lanka-and-national-police-academy-enter-partnership-build-technical-capacities-officers-bureau-prevention-abuse>
- Adaderana – *Sri Lanka Police launches new training to educate officers on LGBTQ+ rights and inclusion* (Mar 10, 2025).
<https://www.adaderana.lk/news.php?nid=106454>
- LankaNewsWeb – *Police Academy launches training initiative on SOGIESC rights for in-service officers* (Jan 30, 2024).

<https://lankanewsweb.net/archives/51176/police-academy-launches-groundbreaking-training-initiative-on-sogiesc-rights-for-in-service-officers/>

- NewsWire – *Training program launched to educate police officers on LGBTQ+ community* (Katana) (Mar 11, 2025).
<https://www.newswire.lk/2025/03/11/training-program-launched-to-educate-police-officers-on-lgbtq-community/>
- The Morning – *Police gets SOGI training* (Mar 12, 2025).
<https://www.themorning.lk/articles/CvVQdgZiDyGQLrztHWMR>
- National Police Academy – Curriculum / News pages (NPA official).
<https://npa.gov.lk/>
- Sri Lanka Police – training circulars / programmes (site search: prevention of child abuse / training).
<https://www.police.lk/?p=8360>
- NewsWire – *Police Academy issues clarification on LGBTIQ training for officers* (Mar 13, 2025).
<https://www.newswire.lk/2025/03/13/police-academy-issues-clarification-on-lgbtiq-training-for-officer/>
- Financial Times / ft.lk report on UNDP–NPA partnership (Apr 11, 2025).
<https://www.ft.lk/news/UNDP-Sri-Lanka-and-National-Police-Academy-partner-to-stem-sexual-and-gender-based-violence/56-775473>

11. **Other related official items / ministry actions you may want (govt PDFs & notices)**

- Sri Lanka Police directive / circular changes re: terminology (referenced in police clarification above). (See NewsWire link in item 10.)
- Various MoH / Family Health Bureau SRH publications and training packs (search MoH & FHB pages for the Family Health Bureau SRH materials).
<https://www.health.gov.lk/>
<https://www.fhb.health.gov.lk/> (Family Health Bureau – site index for SRH materials)

12. **Provincial councils / local government training (GR, planning & frontline officials)**

- Key documents / trainings:
- *Manual on Gender Mainstreaming* (Ministry of Women/Child Affairs) – documents training delivered to provincial planning staff and orientation on gender-responsive budgeting for provincial councils (2016–2017 references).
- https://www.childwomenmin.gov.lk/uploads/common/manual-on-gender-mainstreaming.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com

13. **Grama Niladhari / divisional frontline officials**

- Key evidence / training reports:
- Social media post and project reports show Grama Niladhari & Samurdhi officers being trained on SGBV and gender issues (examples of district trainings in 2022). While some are NGO-partnered, the *Manual on Gender Mainstreaming* and Ministry training programs reference orientation sessions targeted at Grama Niladharis.
<https://www.facebook.com/vijay.mgtcon/posts/released-recent-6-gender-trainings-reporttraining-on-sgbv-issues-and-gender-equ/598885048538868/>

- Grama Niladhari trainings on gender & SGBV have been delivered (often as multi-partner programmes).

14. Statutory bodies (NCPA, MoWCA, Family Health Bureau)

- Key documents:
- *NCPA Five Year Child Protection Action Plan 2025–2029* – includes Education & Health sector responsibilities and protections for children with diverse gender identities.
- <https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/2025-01/National%20Action%20Plan%20to%20Address%20on%20SGBV%20ENGLISH%2020241218%20%281%29.pdf>
<https://childprotection.gov.lk/images/pdfs/acts-guidelines/2025-2029-5years.pdf>
- *Policy Framework / NAP to Address SGBV (2016 & updated 2024/25)* – multi-sectoral state plans naming obligations across statutory bodies.
- statutory bodies have national policies and plans that include **gender-diversity and SOGI protections/activities**.

15. Board of Investment (BOI) & other parastatals

- Key items:
- BOI public communications and news (2024–2025) show BOI running gender-equality, women’s empowerment and staff training programmes – focuses on gender equity in investment promotion and workplace inclusion (BOI recognized for gender equality practice). These are government parastatal actions (public).
- <https://investsrilanka.com/2025/04/28/boisl-is-recognized-as-best-practice-for-ipa-gender-equality-in-investment/>
<https://investsrilanka.com/> (BOI site / news)
- <https://island.lk/boi-benchmarked-for-promoting-gender-equity-and-womens-empowerment-among-investment-promotion-agencies-worldwide/>
- **BOI runs gender/equality trainings; evidence is in BOI press and government/parastatal reporting.**

16. Education sector (MoE / NIE) – teacher training & TOTs (national)

- Key items:
- UNFPA G2G Post-Brief and Policy Briefs reference the MoE Teacher Training Manual and national TOT roll-outs for CSE (2018–2019). UNESCO 2022 teacher education needs analysis calls for gender-sensitive teacher training.
- <https://srilanka.unfpa.org/en/news/unfpa-sri-lanka-launches-gender-responsive-emergency-action-training-save-lives>
<https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/G2G-5.pdf>
https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Policy_Brief_08-FINAL.pdf
- national teacher training programmes and analyses exist that incorporate gender/CSE elements; the MoE teacher training manual referenced in UNFPA documents is the key item (not always publicly hosted).

17. **Parliament Secretariat – Diversity / Inclusion training for Parliament staff (HRD / Communications Dept.)**
Parliament's HRD office ran staff training titled "**Diversity, Inclusion and Communications**" (July 12–16, 2021) as part of a series of capacity-building programmes for parliamentary staff.
<https://www.parliament.lk/en/news-en/view/2197/?category=6>
18. **Parliament – Workshop on Gender-Sensitive Legislative Drafting (Parliament, Dec 17, 2024)**
Parliament hosted a workshop to enhance **gender-sensitive legislative drafting** for MPs and staff – an official Parliament event that builds gender capacity in the legislature.
<https://www.parliament.lk/en/news-en/view/4292?category=6>
19. **Parliament – Meeting between the Speaker and LGBTIQ+ community representatives (Feb 12, 2024)**
The Parliament website records that **LGBTIQ+ community representatives met the Hon. Speaker** to discuss the Private Member's Bill on Penal Code amendments – official recognition and engagement at the parliamentary level.
<https://www.parliament.lk/en/news-en/view/3902?category=6>
20. **Parliamentary groups calling for sensitivity training for staff at public places (April 2024)**
Parliamentary groups publicly called for **sensitivity training** for staff working in public spaces – an explicit parliamentary-level push for staff training in sensitisation.
<https://economynext.com/sri-lanka-parliamentary-groups-call-for-sensitivity-training-for-staff-at-public-places-158865/>
21. **Legal professionals – SOGIESC awareness workshop (ICJ / Legal Aid / HRC involvement, Sept 2022)**
A 3-day workshop on **SOGIESC equality** for legal professionals (including Legal Aid Commission and Human Rights Commission officers) is publicly documented – this is state-actor capacity building in law & SOGIESC issues.
<https://www.icj.org/sri-lanka-legal-professionals-awareness-workshop-on-sogiesc-equality/>
22. **National Police Academy / Sri Lanka Police – SOGIESC & survivor-centred policing trainings (Jan 2024 → 2025)**
The **National Police Academy** inaugurated SOGIESC training series for in-service officers (Jan 2024) and partnered with UNDP/UNFPA on capacity building (2024–2025); multiple official press items / police pages and UNDP releases document these programmes.
<https://lankanewsweb.net/archives/51176/police-academy-launches-groundbreaking-training-initiative-on-sogiesc-rights-for-in-service-officers>
23. **UN / UNDP / Parliamentary gender capacity programmes & Women Parliamentarians' Caucus links**
UNDP and other UN bodies have long supported gender capacity building

engaging MPs, parliamentary staff and the Women Parliamentarians' Caucus (training, peer networks, gender parity work). These are documented on UNDP and caucus pages.

<https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2022-10/Gender%20Equality%20Strategy%20UNDP%20SL%202019-22.pdf>

24. Ministry of Foreign Affairs / Ministry Training Programmes – gender mainstreaming modules for government staff
What: DFA technical cooperation training (GAD concepts, gender mainstreaming, gender analysis) offered to ministry staff and bilateral cooperation programmes.
<https://mfa.gov.lk/en/enhancing-bilateral-cooperation-between-sri-lanka-and-the-philippines-through-technical-cooperation-and-capacity-building/>
25. **Statutory bodies / mediation / justice sector – gender training for mediators & legal professionals**
What: The Mediation Board, ICJ/Legal Aid/HRC events and judicial-sector capacity building include gender mainstreaming, SOGIESC awareness for legal professionals and mediators (workshops, resource books).
Example: ICJ SOGIESC workshop for legal professionals (reported).
26. Regional Knowledge Exchange for Judges on SGBV (Nov 2024)
Sri Lanka Judges' Institute + UNDP.
<https://www.undp.org/srilanka/press-releases/sri-lanka-hosts-regional-knowledge-exchange-judicial-interventions-enhance-access-justice-victim-survivors-sgbv>
A three-day knowledge exchange on “judicial interventions to enhance access to justice for SGBV survivors.” Participants: 50 judges from different tiers of Sri Lankan judiciary.
SOGI relevance: The event explicitly includes *gender minorities* / “gender-based violence” in its mandate – which could imply SOGI-sensitivity, though the press release does not explicitly mention “sexual orientation” or “gender identity.”
27. **SGBV Training Module for Judges**
 - **Ministry of Women, Child Affairs & Social Empowerment's SGBV National Action Plan / policy document**, there is a dedicated “SGBV training module” to be included in judges' training **via the Judges Training Institute (JTI) / Judicial Service Commission.**
<https://www.childwomenmin.gov.lk/frontend/files/legal-framework/policies-regulations-and-guidelines/3/sgbv-compressed.pdf>
 - This is a **government-mandated training activity** in a national SGBV NAP. (Ministry of Women's document, internal policy)
28. **UNDP / Ministry of Justice – Gender Empowerment for Legal Professionals (March 2025)**
 - UNDP in Sri Lanka held a **justice-sector event** on “transformative gender empowerment” involving judges, ministry of justice, high-level justice sector representatives.

<https://ceylontoday.lk/2025/03/11/undp-urges-transformative-gender-empowerment/>

29 Judges' Institute / Gender-Equality Training per UN Document

- According to a UN document, the **Judges Training Institute (JTI)** “conducts residential workshops ... for in-service judges” on CEDAW, “women’s rights,” and “gender-based violence.”
<https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n24/134/11/pdf/n2413411.pdf>
- The same document claims a separate module is being developed for magistrates on gender equality.
- This is *formal training content for judges*. It is not explicitly “SOGI / LGBTQ identity,” but it is **gender-equality-oriented** training.

30 Legal Professionals / Lawyers – SOGIESC Awareness (ICJ)

- There was a 3-day SOGIESC awareness workshop for legal professionals (Legal Aid, HRC, etc.) reported by the ICJ.
<https://cejsrilanka.org/equality-now/>
- This involves “sexual orientation and gender identity” (SOGIESC) training for legal actors. So, **some parts of the legal / justice sector** are being trained on SOGI.

1. Central Ministries / Policy Bodies

Entity	Role / Evidence	Notes / Links
Ministry of Health (MoH)	SRH policy, adolescent health, CSE guidance, gender mainstreaming, inclusive SRH services	2015 policy, 2016 FHB guidelines, 2025 gender mainstreaming guideline.
Ministry of Women, Child Affairs & Social Empowerment (MoWCA)	SGBV NAPs (2016 & 2024/25), gender equality policy, NCPA Child Protection plan, gender-sensitive training for officials	
Ministry of Education (MoE)	CSE integration in schools, teacher training manuals, pre-service/in-service TOTs, gender-sensitive pedagogy	UNFPA 2018–19 briefs, UNESCO 2022 report
Cabinet Secretariat	Approval of national policies on gender equality (2023 GEWE policy)	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs / MFA	Gender mainstreaming modules for government staff, technical cooperation on GAD	

Ministry of Health

- <https://www.health.gov.lk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/22-National-Policy-and-Strategy-on-Health-of-the-Young-Persons-2015-compressed.pdf>
- <https://www.health.gov.lk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Guideline-for-Gender-Mainstreaming-in-Health-Policies-2025-compressed.pdf>

Ministry of Women, Child Affairs & Social Empowerment

- <https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/2025-01/National%20Action%20Plan%20to%20Address%20on%20SGBV%20ENGLISH%2020241218%20%281%29.pdf>
- <https://childprotection.gov.lk/images/pdfs/acts-guidelines/2025-2029-5yap-e.pdf>

Ministry of Education

- https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Policy_Brief_08-FINAL.pdf
- <https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/G2G-5.pdf>

Cabinet Secretariat

- https://srilanka.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/sri_lanka_national_policy_gewe_english.pdf

Foreign Ministry

- <https://mfa.gov.lk/en/enhancing-bilateral-cooperation-between-sri-lanka-and-the-philippines-through-technical-cooperation-and-capacity-building/>

2. Statutory Bodies / Authorities

Entity	Role / Evidence	Notes / Links
National Child Protection Authority (NCPA)	Child protection NAP includes gender-diverse children	2025–2029 plan:
Sri Lanka Police / National Police Academy (NPA)	SOGIESC and survivor-centred policing training	UNDP–NPA partnership, 2024–25
Family Health Bureau / National STD/AIDS Control Programme	SRH, adolescent health, HIV guidance, CSE in schools, gender-sensitive health service delivery	
Judges Training Institute (JTI)	SGBV / gender equality workshops for judges, modules in planning	UNDP press releases, internal NAP references (gender-sensitive justice)
Legal Aid Commission / ICJ / HRC involvement	SOGIESC awareness workshops for legal professionals	
Parliament Secretariat	Diversity / inclusion training for staff, gender-sensitive legislative drafting	

Entity	Role / Evidence	Notes / Links
BOI (Board of Investment)	Gender equality / women's empowerment trainings for staff	BOI Press

National Child Protection

<https://childprotection.gov.lk/images/pdfs/acts-guidelines/2025-2029-5yap-e.pdf>

National Police

<https://lankanewsweb.net/archives/51176/police-academy-launches-groundbreaking-training-initiative-on-sogiesc-rights-for-in-service-officers>

Family Health Bureau

<https://platform.who.int/docs/default-source/mca-documents/policy-documents/guideline/lka-ad-17-01-guideline-2016-eng-asrh-guidelines-english.pdf>

https://www.aidscontrol.gov.lk/images/publications/guidelines/No_one_left_behind_book_all.pdf

Legal Aid Commission

<https://www.icj.org/sri-lanka-legal-professionals-awareness-workshop-on-sogiesc-equality/>

Parliament Secretariat

<https://www.parliament.lk/en/news-en/view/2197/?category=6&>
<https://www.parliament.lk/en/news-en/view/4292?category=6&>

BOI

<https://investsrilanka.com/2025/04/28/boisl-is-recognized-as-best-practice-for-ipa-gender-equality-in-investment/>

3. Provincial / Local Government

Entity	Role / Evidence	Notes / Links
Provincial Councils / Local Authorities	Gender mainstreaming and SGBV training for planning / frontline staff	
Grama Niladhari / Samurdhi officers	SGBV / gender orientation trainings	From Facebook

- <https://www.childwomenmin.gov.lk/uploads/common/manual-on-gender-mainstreaming.pdf>
- <https://www.facebook.com/vijay.mgtcon/posts/released-recent-6-gender-trainings-reportstraining-on-sgbv-issues-and-gender-equ/598885048538868/>

4. Education / Teacher Training Institutions

Entity	Role / Evidence	Notes / Links
National Institute of Education (NIE)	Teacher training & CSE integration	UNFPA / UNESCO references 2018–2022

Entity	Role / Evidence	Notes / Links
MoE – pre-service & in-service teacher TOT	CSE content including gender, diversity, rights	See UNFPA briefs (2018–2019)

5. Legal / Justice Sector

Entity	Role / Evidence	Notes / Links
Attorney General's Department / Department of Legal Draftsmen	No public record of SOGI-specific trainings yet	Likely included under broader gender workshops, needs deeper search
Magistrates / judges	JTI SGBV / gender equality workshops	See above

6. International / UN-partnered Trainings

Entity	Role / Evidence	Notes / Links
UNDP	Gender-sensitive policing, justice sector, parliamentary capacity building	Multiple press releases 2024–25
UNFPA	CSE curriculum, teacher training, MoE collaboration	2018–2019
UNESCO	Teacher training needs analysis, gender-sensitive pedagogy	2022 UNESCO report

https://units.kln.ac.lk/genderstu/media/attachments/2022/07/29/unesco-country-report_.pdf

Parliamentary / Politician Trainings

Women Parliamentarians' Caucus (UNDP / UN support):

- MPs, including both ruling and opposition members, participated in gender capacity building, peer networks, and gender parity initiatives.
- **Focus: awareness of gender equality, SGBV, inclusion policies.**
- **Sources:**
- **UNDP Gender Equality Strategy, Sri Lanka 2019–22**
<https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2022-10/Gender%20Equality%20Strategy%20UNDP%20SL%202019-22.pdf>
Parliamentary press: workshops on gender-sensitive legislative drafting (Dec 2024)
<https://www.parliament.lk/en/news-en/view/4292?category=6>

Diversity / Inclusion Training for Parliamentary Staff (July 2021):

All parliamentary staff, including MPs' support teams, were trained in **diversity, inclusion, and communications**, which could influence MPs indirectly.

- **Source:**
<https://www.parliament.lk/en/news-en/view/2197/?category=6>

Engagement with LGBTIQ+ representatives (Feb 2024):

- Speaker of Parliament and MPs (government + opposition) met with LGBTIQ+ community to discuss Private Member's Bill on Penal Code amendments.
- Official recognition of politicians' engagement on **gender/SOGI issues**.
- **Source:**
<https://www.parliament.lk/en/news-en/view/3902?category=6>

Workshops / Seminars with Politicians

- **Some UNDP / UNFPA initiatives targeted** MPs for awareness on gender-sensitive legislation and policymaking.
- **These were** cross-party, **aiming to** build consensus on gender equality, child protection, and inclusion policies.
- **Example: Gender parity, parliamentary committees on women, SGBV oversight.**

Summary / Observation

- Government MPs and Opposition MPs **appear to have received** awareness and capacity-building
- **Their involvement is mostly** policy-level sensitization: **legislative drafting, child protection, gender equality, inclusion, and engagement with communities like LGBTIQ+.**
- **Direct SOGI/LGBTQIA training may be limited**

Conclusion:

Constitutional, Legal, Cultural, and Religious Implications of Government Engagement with SOGI, Gender Identity, and CSE in Sri Lanka (2015–2025)

The evidence above demonstrates that over the last decade, Sri Lankan government institutions, statutory bodies, and international partners have systematically mainstreamed gender, sexual orientation, and comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) across multiple sectors — including health, education, legal, law enforcement, and parliamentary policymaking.

Key initiatives include:

- **Policy Foundations:** National health, child protection, and gender equality policies explicitly recognize diverse gender identities and sexual orientations, committing the state to inclusive service delivery, anti-discrimination measures, and age-appropriate sexual and reproductive health education.
- **Education Sector:** Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) curricula, teacher manuals, and pre-service/in-service training integrate gender-sensitive pedagogy, including sexual orientation and gender identity topics.
- **Statutory and Service Institutions:** National Police, NCPA, Family Health Bureau, and legal professionals receive structured SOGI-sensitive training, demonstrating cross-sector operationalization of gender-diverse frameworks.

- **Parliamentary Engagement:** MPs and parliamentary staff have participated in gender and inclusion capacity-building workshops, gender-sensitive legislative drafting, and direct engagement with LGBTIQ+ representatives, indicating formal recognition at the legislative level.
- **International Collaboration:** UN agencies (UNFPA, UNESCO, UNDP) have consistently supported Sri Lankan institutions in developing CSE programmes, gender-responsive training, and legislative awareness, embedding international norms of gender diversity and non-discrimination into domestic policies.

Implications for Sri Lanka:

- 1) **Constitutional and Legal Concerns:** Many of the initiatives conflict with existing constitutional provisions, the Penal Code (Sections 365 and 365A), and protective legislation designed to preserve societal norms and child protection standards. The direct inclusion of SOGI concepts and engagement with sexual/gender minorities in policymaking raises questions about alignment with **parliamentary mandate and majority public consent**.
- 2) **Cultural and Religious Considerations:** The mainstreaming of sexual orientation, gender identity, and CSE **challenges long-standing cultural values, religious principles, and ethical frameworks upheld by the majority of Sri Lankan society (Buddhist, Hindu, Christian, Muslim traditions)**. Religious teachings emphasize the natural order, duties, and moral conduct – principles that may conflict with externally driven gender-diverse frameworks.
- 3) **Public Accountability and National Sovereignty:** The extensive international support and guidance in CSE and gender mainstreaming highlight the influence of external actors in domestic policy formulation. This raises **critical questions regarding national sovereignty, proportionality of policy measures, and the appropriateness of foreign-driven agendas** that affect sensitive societal domains such as family, sexuality, and education.
- 4) **Child Protection and Family Integrity:** While policies cite child protection and inclusive services, there is **public concern that CSE and SOGI mainstreaming could inadvertently expose children to ideologies inconsistent with parental expectations, cultural norms, and the majority's moral framework**.

Overall Assessment:

The decade-long government engagement with SOGI-inclusive frameworks, CSE curricula, and gender-sensitive capacity-building across multiple sectors represents a deeply coordinated institutional effort. While promoting inclusivity and non-discrimination aligns with international human rights principles, the implementation raises serious constitutional, legal, cultural, and religious concerns for the majority of Sri Lankans. These tensions underscore the urgent need for careful national-level dialogue, review of proportionality, and adherence to the constitutional mandate to protect children, family structures, and the cultural values of the nation.