



Strengthening Canada Sri-Lanka Relations

*Indo-Pacific academic
collaboration through
research and dialogue
on food security.*

Contact Us

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About The Project

A three-year research partnership and conference initiative focused on food security challenges in Sri Lanka and the broader South Asian region, in alignment with Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy

At its heart is a three-year partnership between Thompson Rivers University (Canada) and the University of Colombo (Sri Lanka), focusing on one of the most pressing global challenges: food security.

Backed by funding from Global Affairs Canada, the initiative will bring together Canadian and South Asian voices to share insights, develop research, and influence policy—all within the broader framework of Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy.

Why Food Security? Why Now?

Food insecurity has worsened globally in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, with marginalized communities—especially women and girls—bearing the brunt. In Canada, access issues are driven by inequality and geography. In Sri Lanka, they're intensified by economic crises, climate shocks, and mismanaged agricultural policies.

Project Outcomes

- Open-access conference proceedings
- Peer-reviewed journal article
- Op-eds in Canadian and Sri Lankan media
- Public policy report on food security

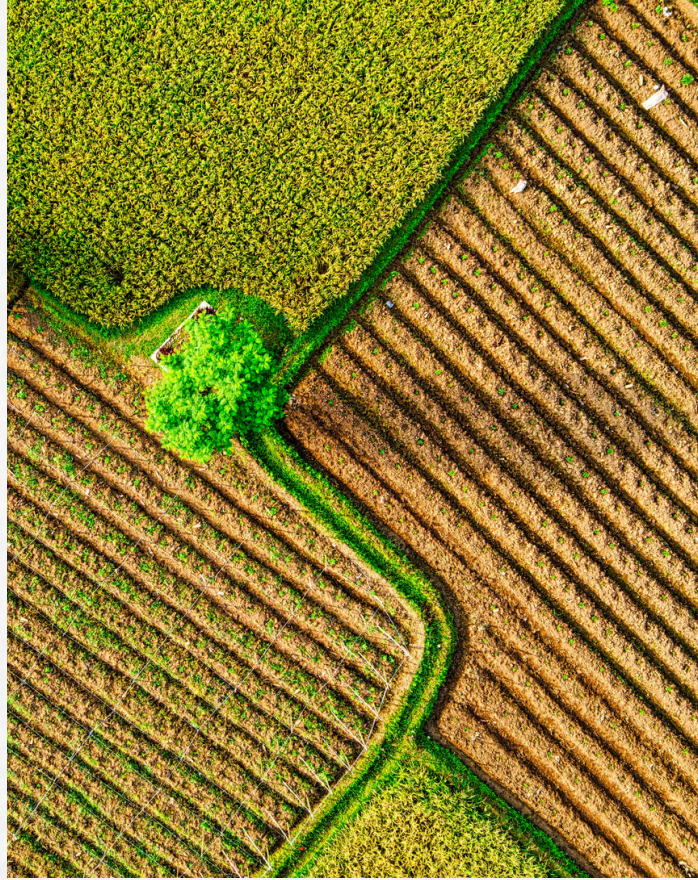




**THOMPSON
RIVERS
UNIVERSITY**



Canada



Strategic Goal

Build long-term research networks and enhance Canada's knowledge and influence in the Indo-Pacific.

Urgency

Sri Lanka's acute food insecurity due to policy failures, economic instability, and climate disruptions.

People, Partnerships, and Purpose

A collaboration across Canada and South Asia, government advisors, and civil society groups.

These relationships ensure that the project is grounded, inclusive, and impactful.

Project Leads

- Dr. Robert Hanlon (Canada): Political scientist and director of the Canada and Asia Pacific Policy Project.
- Dr. Ajith Balasooriya (Sri Lanka): Food security specialist and key liaison for South Asia. Research Fellow at CAPPP
- Dr. Mahesh Senanayake (Sri Lanka): Head of Political Science & Public Policy at the University of Colombo.