**Tool for District Study**

*(For Batticaloa, one of the three districts studied in Sri Lanka. The tool was adapted and applied to the other district studies in both Sri Lanka and Nepal.)*

**Difference between the sea board and the hinterland**

* **Geographic; topographic; demographic contrasts**
	+ Natural and infrastructure resources
	+ Land
		- Identify key land issues since the start of the war. To what extent have they been resolved? What new issues have developed?
		- Key paddy growing areas are in the hinterland – site of contestation- people who claim ownership are on the coast – but key resource is located in the hinterland
	+ Ethnic, religious and gender make up
	+ Conflict affectedness- which parts of Batticaloa were affected by armed violence? Which were relatively peaceful and which did not experience any form of physical violence.
	+ What was the boundary line between interior (LTTE) sea board (SLA and paramilitary) and how did it shift? Which areas were more porous then others? Which were heavily guarded and why?
	+ What economic activity was ongoing on the sea board/ and at sea? Similarly, what economic activity was going on in the interior? What is the history of the economy in both areas? Who are the main economic actors/ stakeholders then and now?
	+ The Karuna split
* **Poverty and other human development indicators**
	+ Poverty levels
	+ Life expectancy
	+ Adult mortality rate, male and female
	+ Infant mortality rate
	+ Public health expenditure
	+ Expected years of schooling
	+ Under five mortality rate
	+ GNI per capita
	+ Domestic credit provided by financial sector (% of GDP)
	+ Income inequality (Gini coefficient)
	+ Prison population
	+ Suicide rate – male and female
	+ Violence against woman (intimate and non-intimate partner) (%)
	+ FDI investment, net inflows (% of GDP)
	+ Net ODA received (%of GNI)
	+ Private capital flows (% of GDP)
	+ Remittances, inflows (% of GDP)
	+ International inbound tourists
	+ Mobile phone subscription
	+ Net migration rate
	+ Population (ages 15-24) (65 and older)
* **History**
	+ Batticaloa political economy during British colonial rule – what was Batti’s strategic role? What was its role/place with regards to Colombo/Kandy/ Jaffna? Who/ which ethnic groups were in power/had control over resources
	+ Cultural/ demography: how and why did this change/remain constant?
	+ As a pre-war frontier zone and how it was affected by the war
	+ How Batticaloa was carved out of Ampara – the politics- and link to colonization schemes etc. Also connections with ancient kingdoms.
	+ History of war time dynamics- information about the LTTEs shifting fortunes during the war, governance of district, and cleared and uncleared areas.

* **Politics** (Muslim and Tamil)
	+ Rise of Muslim consciousness in Batticaloa and mobilisation around political lines – how did this take place?
	+ How did Muslim polity take shape across Ampara- and Batticaloa. Did the two districts have distinct political trajectories or did they flow into each other?
	+ Background on socio-economic changes within the Muslim periphery and specifically new forms of Islam being imported from the Middle East –
	+ Muslims as brokers – their ability to mediate between the mainstream parties and their constituency; Muslims as economic brokers between Colombo and the East. Get examples/case studies of individuals who played these roles
	+ Role of Jaffna in Batti politics
	+ De(merger) does the threat of Muslims and Sinhalese outweigh reservations about Northern Tamils
	+ Debates around the constitutional reform –
* **Aid**
	+ Long term perspective on influence of aid, international donors and NGOs on the district.
	+ Identify main aid actors in Batticaloa – in terms of money they spent; number of people employed in the NGO sector; sectors they invested in
	+ Economic impact/ livelihood impact of NGO sector
	+ Impact on security apparatus due to NGO/Staff presence (when locals were employed by an international NGO their safety or protection would increase accordingly) To what extent did aid give birth to certain brokers/rise of brokers/and specific kinds of brokerage
	+ Tsunami aid – main NGO and political actors working on the Tsunami relief. What was [NGO 1]’s role? In what ways were did borders and boundaries shift between LTTE and SLA during Tsunami relief work
	+ opening of [NGO 2 NAME] in Batti and the growing role of the LTTE in Batti town

* **Ethnic tensions/land**
	+ Increasing Tamil –Muslim tension post war. What are the most contentious issues? Land, encroachment by military/ Buddhist religious leaders.
	+ Attempts to re-engineer community boundaries by making claims to land, work of the delimitation committee.