

Chatura Dissanayake

Communications Officer

Colombo, Sri Lanka | +94 76 223 9177 | consultchatura@gmail.com
[linkedin.com/in/chaturadissanayake](https://www.linkedin.com/in/chaturadissanayake) | [chaturadissanayake.com](https://www.chaturadissanayake.com)



PROFILE

Communications professional with over 5 years of experience in managing social media channels and specialising in information design and data visualisation for government, UN, and policy research audiences. Skilled in taking ownership of institutional social media pages, including creating content calendars, scheduling posts, analysing performance, and driving growth. Experienced in designing publication-ready reports and campaign visuals. Trusted by senior stakeholders, such as the UN Resident Coordinator's Office and a ministry director from the Government of Sri Lanka, to deliver results under tight deadlines. Multilingual: fluent in Sinhala, English, and French.

CORE SKILLS

Social Media Management: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, X content calendars, scheduling, captions, analytics, audience growth (Meta Business Suite, Buffer, Hootsuite)

Design & Visual Communication: Infographics, data visualisation, presentations, campaign visuals, report design, brand/style guides (Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, Canva, Premiere Pro)

Digital & Analytics: WordPress website management, email newsletters (Mailchimp), Google Analytics

Research & UX: User research, usability testing synthesis, wireframing (Figma), Miro

Editorial & Media Coordination: Press release coordination, editorial calendars, press/media monitoring, stakeholder communications

Languages: Sinhala (native) | English (C1, professional) | French (DELF, ongoing)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Communications Consultant Mar 2025 – Present

UN, government & NGO clients | Colombo, Sri Lanka (& remote)

- UN Resident Coordinator's Office / UNDP Sri Lanka (Apr–Jun 2025) worked directly with the Communications Specialist and Head of Office on information design for the 2024 UN Annual Results Report and 2024 SDG Fund Report, coordinating data inputs from eight UN agencies into a single coherent narrative; produced multilingual policy briefs and visibility assets reaching 4,000+ stakeholders, including the Prime Minister; designed brand identity materials for Sri Lanka's UN 70th anniversary campaign.
- Department of National Planning, Government of Sri Lanka (Jul 2025): Reported directly to the Director on the design of the Public Investment Programme 2026–2030 under the JICA Project, translating complex national economic data into accessible charts, maps, and structured annexes for senior policymakers under tight national timelines.
- NGO & policy-sector clients, including the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (branding and style guides, social media) and LIRNEasia (event materials) (Aug 2025–Present) deliver information design, report design, data visualisation and social media management, using Google Analytics and scheduling tools (Meta Business Suite, Buffer, Hootsuite) to guide content decisions, including for own personal brand/website.

Communications Designer Sep 2024 – Mar 2025

Ideas Marketing Agency | Sydney, Australia (Remote)

- Owned UX research and low-to-mid fidelity wireframing for a nonprofit platform redesign; defined the research plan, synthesised findings from client-run usability testing, and translated results into actionable design recommendations that informed site architecture.
- Produced wireframes and content recommendations in Figma; supported WordPress site management and social media content production.
- Contributed to a 30% reduction in user drop-off through research-led design and content improvements.

Senior Communications Designer Jun 2024 – Sep 2024

Verité Research | Colombo, Sri Lanka (promoted from Junior Communications Designer)

- Managed Verité Research's WordPress website end-to-end content updates, page management and publishing alongside design work.
- Designed and laid out press releases, infographics and data-driven communications materials that expanded a national research organisation's visibility in public and media debate.
- Managed the organisation's LinkedIn presence and social media analytics, shaping content strategy across platforms.
- Assisted with video production, lighting and photography coverage for select institutional events.
- Mentored junior designers and maintained quality and consistency across 150+ research communications outputs.

Junior Communications Designer Sep 2022 – May 2024

Verité Research | Colombo, Sri Lanka

- Supported design and dissemination of high-profile research campaigns across print and digital platforms.
- Produced design and communications assets across Verité Research's platforms and initiatives, including Manthri.lk, FactCheck.lk, PublicFinance.lk, EthicsEye, VeriteMedia and the Mood of the Nation poll.
- Translated technical policy findings into accessible content for policymakers, media and the public.
- Contributed to 150+ research outputs spanning infographics, reports and digital communications materials.

Publication Designer & Social Media Coordinator Jan 2021 – Dec 2021

Royal International School | Kegalle, Sri Lanka

- Managed the school's Facebook and LinkedIn pages as social media executive, planning and scheduling content via Meta Business Suite, writing captions, and tracking follower growth and engagement.
- Developed supplementary textbooks and educational guides for local and international institutions, delivering end-to-end design including cover artwork, layout, typesetting and pagination.
- Collaborated with authors and educators to align content with learning objectives while managing print production and vendor coordination.

Freelance Practice, 2020 – 2022 (before Verité)

- Ran freelance/consulting projects alongside the above (200+ via Fiverr and direct clients, including a consulting engagement with Echt Social, Feb–May 2022), covering NGO/policy report design, data visualisation, brand style guides and social media management.

EDUCATION

- BA (Hons) Graphic Design (Top-Up) In Progress, September 2026
- High School Diploma Trinity College, Kandy, Sri Lanka (2020)
- International Relations BCIS, Sri Lanka (incomplete)

CERTIFICATIONS

- DELF Alliance Française (2025–Ongoing)
- Enterprise Design Thinking Practitioner IBM Team Essentials for AI
- Essential Design Principles for Tableau, University of California, Davis
- Humanitarian Needs Assessment KoboToolbox e-Learning Programme

SELECTED COMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS

- UN 2024 Annual Results Report coordinated information design across 8+ UN agencies.
- Public Investment Programme 2026–2030 national policy report for the Government of Sri Lanka.
- Sri Lanka's Drug Crisis: Interactive data-driven story on national drug policy and health.
- How a Single Storm Broke Sri Lanka: independent data story on disaster impact and aid response.