

# Activities Report - 2007

Submitted to

Cap-Net

by



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## **Report on activities – 2007 Cap-Net Lanka**

This document is prepared as the report (narration) of the activities conducted in 2007 by the Cap-Net Lanka with the collaboration of other partner organizations. Each activity is coordinated by the members of the network and their report is compiled in this document. List of the participants, presentations of the lectures, lectures notes, and details of the expenditure are available at the Cap-Net Lanka office, Postgraduate Institute Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya. Brief summary and photos of the activities are also available in the Cap-Net Lanka website.

Activities are reported under the following category. Financial summary also included. Comments and suggestions are welcome for the improvement.

### **Knowledge delivery,**

1. Training programs for water users (Agriculture and industries)
2. Awareness program for school children and teachers on “Wastewater management”
3. Water quality awareness and monitoring for school children
4. Dialogue on national issues – River sand & clay mining
5. Gender and water dialogue – Anuradhapura and Ratnapura districts

### **Knowledge management**

1. Printing the symposium proceedings – “Development Initiatives in Water Sector: Lessons Learned by NGOs”
2. Reprints of the symposium proceedings – Use of Groundwater for Agriculture in Sri Lanka
3. Translation of “Jalaya Lokaye Jeewayai”
4. Printing the translation of “Jalaya Lokaye Jeewayai”

### **Research in IWRM**

1. Research on implementation of IWRM in WES program, Plan Sri Lanka

### **Network Management**

1. Development of Database & Website and maintain the website
2. Institutionalization, Secretarial and CG meetings

## **Knowledge delivery**

### **1. Training programs for water users (Agriculture and industries)**

#### **Farmers Training Program – Under Rural Tanks Rehabilitation Project**

Farmer training programs on water conservation in village tanks were organized by Cap-Net Lanka in collaboration with Plan Sri Lanka for two farmer organizations in the Mahawillachchiya area in Anuradhapura District. This was a follow up activity of the symposium conducted in 2006 on Development Initiatives in water sector: lessons learned by NGOs.

Plan Sri Lanka, an NGO, involves in tanks rehabilitation in the dry zone of Sri Lanka. It is assumed that Farmer Organizations will take the management of the tank after the rehabilitation. Therefore, capacity building of farmers is necessary for a sustainable use of tank water for irrigation and other usage by the villagers. This training focused on protection

of catchment, tank water balance, water losses in conveyance and on farm water management. Forty eight farmers were participated with the majority of female. Drs. M.M.M. Najim, M.I.M. Mowjood and S. Pathmarajah served as resource persons.

### **Training workshop on “Effective wastewater management systems: New strategies”**

- a. Industrialists (Mar 2007)
- b. Officers, Environment & Forest conservation division, MASL (July 2007)
- c. Environmental officers, Central Environmental Authority (Nov 2007)

The above workshops were organized in collaboration with Agricultural Engineering Society of Sri Lanka (AESSL) and held at the auditorium, Agri-Biotechnology Center, University of Peradeniya. Sri Lanka Water Partnership (Lanka Jalani) has sponsored the one program. conduct.

This workshops were organized to provide an understanding about effective wastewater management systems using new strategies. A field demonstration was also organized to visualize the wastewater treatment system at the University of Peradeniya and to have an interactive discussion. Around 45 participants from eighteen institutions (Instructors, Practices, law enforcement and concerned) were participated.

The workshop mainly focused on two strategies related to wastewater management; cleaner production aspects and application of constructed wetlands in tropical conditions. Drs. D.A.N.Dharmasena, M.I.M. Mowjood, D. R. I. B. Werellagama, K. B. S. N. Jinadasa, M.M.M. Najim and L.W. Galegedera were resource persons. Dr. Dharmasena coordinated the programs. Around 90 people were trained in three programmes. This programmes triggered the interest on low cost techniques and there are several quarries followed by the programmes for more information on wastewater treatment.

### **2. Awareness program for school children and teachers on “Wastewater management”**

An awareness program was conducted for advanced level students of St. Joseph’s Girls College, Gampola, on Wastewater Management as an activity for the science day. Seventy (70) students and 10 teachers were participated. Constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment was demonstrated. Students have prepared posters at the end of the session and evaluated by themselves for the best poster.

### **3. Water quality awareness and monitoring for school children**

This activity was not conducted due to logistic requirements from the ministry of education to take out the students from the schools for the activity. It was decided in the last CG meeting to find volunteer groups and interested individuals for this activity in 2008.

### **4. Dialogue on national issues – River sand & clay mining**

- NetWwater has with support from CAP-Net Lanka, Sri Lanka Water Partnership and other private sector well wishers has been engaged in activism against illicit and destructive river sand mining since 2005 . With the support of Lanka Jalani and Cap-Net Lanka, a linkage was formed with the University of Ruhuna to form a Southern Province RSM Action Committee. An initial meeting was called on December 2006 for a high profile meeting which had attendance of the Governor, members of the media as well as Police. An Action

Committee was formed with representation from all sectors including a representative of sand miners.

- The Deduru Oya Activist group decided to call a meeting bringing together affected communities of mid and lower Deduru Oya region. It was also agreed that the Southern Province Group would attend the proposed meeting in Deduru Oya, thereby further strengthening the linkage.
- The Deduru group mobilized communities from Nikeweratiya to Chilaw as well as observers from upper Maha Oya (Polgahawela division) for this meeting held at Bingiriya temple on Deduru Oya. This was preceded by a visit of the Southern Action committee to the Maha Oya activist group.
- The Southern Action committee initiated an awareness program for all Police officers in charge of stations in Southern Province, the first such program being held for the Police. This program will be used to leverage similar action in Deduru and Maha Oya
- A Maha Oya group was mobilized in spite of covert threats from the local sand mafia and has met twice. It also convened a school water program on World Water Day.

All three groups Deduru Oya, Maha Oya and Nilwala Ganga are currently convening meetings to discuss the People Sand mining Charter drafted by the Deduru Oya group. Efforts will be made to communicate with other affected groups in Maha Oya, Mahiyangana, Giriulla and Alawwa.

## **5. Gender and water dialogue – Anuradhapura and Ratnapura districts**

Two days residential programs for the officers from the different institutions dealing with water issues at the Anuradhapura and Ratnapura districts were conducted. These programs were coordinated by National Water Supply and Drainage Board (Central and Sabaragamuwa) and organized by NetWater and Sri Lanka Water Partnership with Cap-Net Lanka.

Mr. M. Hettiarachchi (University of Moratuwa), Ms. Swarna Sumanasekera (National Women's Council), Ms. Badra Kamaladasa (Dept. of irrigation), Mr. Rohan Wijesooriya (NWSDB), Mr. K.P. Abeyasinghe (Department of Meteorology), Dr. Deepthi Wickramasinghe (University of Colombo) and Mr. Sunil Shanthasiri (NWSDB) were made lectures and discussion on gender issues in water management. Ms. Malini Jayaratne, District Secretary (Ratnapura), Ms. Kusum Athukorala (NetWater) and Mr. Laksman Attanayake, Deputy General Manager, NWSDB also address the participants.

Mphil and PhD students in IWRM from PGIA also participated.

## **Knowledge management - Compilation and provision of materials in water resources management**

### **6. Printing the symposium proceedings – “Development Initiatives in Water Sector: Lessons Learned by NGOs”**

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have been working individually and in collaboration with the government organizations (GOs) to eliminate the rural poverty and to uplift the standard of living of the marginalized communities right across the country. One

of the aspects that brought credibility to the NGOs in the recent past was their interventions in water sector. The interventions have been target oriented, and the outputs, effects and impacts at various levels have been monitored and documented to satisfy the donor's needs. However, such findings, or the lessons learnt from such interventions have not been documented and disseminated to the other actors and stakeholders in the water sector in the country in a systematic manner.

With the objective of compilation of IWRM materials and provide a forum for NGOs to share the lessons learnt in water sector, the above symposium was held on 29th November, 2006 at the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya. It was organized in collaboration with PGIA and coordinated by Dr. S. Pathmarajah.

The proceedings the symposium was printed (200 copies) and already distributed to all participants, institutions, libraries of universities and other public libraries.

#### **7. Reprints of the symposium proceedings – Use of Groundwater for Agriculture in Sri Lanka**

The proceedings of the symposium on the Use of Groundwater for Agriculture in Sri Lanka was reprinted (200 copies) because of its non-availability for the students, researchers and other users. Books are being distributed and the details of the people obtained are kept in record. The pdf format of this book will be available at the Cap-net Lanka website.

#### **8. Translation of “Jalaya Lokaye Jeewayai”**

Translation of a booklet titled “Jalaya Lokaye Jeewayai” (Water is the breath of the World) has been translated from Sinhala to Tamil language. This explains the basic concepts on water resources and responsibility of the public in water management. This activity was in collaboration with NetWwater and Lanka Jalani. A printed version of this book will be available soon and also will be available in the website in PDF format.

#### **9. Printing the translation of “Jalaya Lokaye Jeewayai”**

Translated book was printed and ready for distribution.

### **Research in IWRM**

#### **10. Research on implementation of IWRM in WES program, Plan Sri Lanka**

As a net work for capacity building in IWRM in Sri Lanka, CapNet-Lanka has been involved in education, training and conducting researches on IWRM. An awareness program on IWRM was conducted for Plan staff at WES orientation in March 2006. Subsequently the WES technical advisors of Plan participated in the Training of Trainers program in IWRM September 2006 conducted by Cap-Net Lanka.

As an outcome of this linkage, Plan requested a pilot study by CapNet-Lanka on the WES program in the context of IWRM in two tea estate communities, Great Valley in Deltota and Kelabokka in Kabaragala. The study was conducted early 2007 with the total budget of Rs. 195 500.00 funded by Plan. Recharge areas and drainage networks were identified. Water availability in terms of quantity and quality in the upstream was monitored. Water pollution

in the downstream was investigated. Water management practices, health and sanitation information were collected by means of a survey. A workshop was held to explain the outcome of this study on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007 with management and technical staff of the Plan Sri Lanka.

Water is supplied to the community from the natural streams through filtration. Identified recharge areas are occupied with homesteads, tea and grasslands thus conservation priority should be given to sustain the water supply. Water usage has increased five times by providing individual tap compared to common taps that indicates the improvement of sanitation. Water has to be easily available at the toilet for a better sanitation. Dr. L.W. Galegedera and Dr. M.I.M. Mowjood coordinated and supervised the project. Miss. Dilhani and Mr. Malaka, IWRM students, at the PGIA conducted this research for their MPhil Thesis.

This has been reported in Source bulletin (No: 49 – August 2007)

## **Network Management**

### **11. Development of Database & Website and maintain the website**

A database on institutions involve in water related activities in Sri Lanka is being prepared for strengthen the network as well as for the public usage (more than 75% of the data has been entered). This database will be released in CD in March in the members meeting of Cap-Net Lanka.

The website ([www.capnetlanka.org](http://www.capnetlanka.org)) is maintained. It is agreed that it has to be up-dated regularly and developed further.

### **12. Institutionalization, Secretarial and CG meetings**

The secretariat was maintained at the dedicated office of the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya. Financial documentation was maintained at the bursar office of the PGIA.

Ms. Princey has left the office in April and Ms. Chaturika has been appointed as the new administrative secretariat with approval of Prof. A.L.T. Perera, Director, PGIA. Dr. M.I.M. Mowjood continued as the country coordinator for coordination and facilitation of the activities planned for 2007 and expansion of network.

A CG meeting was held in 16<sup>th</sup> November 2007 to discuss the progress of the past activities and to prepare the work plan for 2008. It was decided to include Dr. M.M.M. Najim (University of Moratuwa) and Dr. (Ms). Champa Nawaratne (University of Ruhuna) as the new CG members.

## Financial summary

	Activity	USD (USD=105)
1	Training program-“On –farm water management under village tank irrigation system	409
2	Training workshop on “Effective Wastewater treatment systems- New Strategies” - Industries	940
3	Training Workshop on “Effective Wastewater treatment systems- New Strategies”- MASL	841
4	Training Workshop on “Effective Wastewater treatment systems- New Strategies”- CEA	#882
5	Dialogue on national issues – River sand & clay mining	476
6	Gender and water dialogue – Anuradhapura and Ratnapura districts	952
7	Awareness programme for School Children on ‘Waste water management’	505
9	Printing the symposium proceedings -“Development Initiatives in Water Sector: Lessons Learned by NGOs”	362
10	Reprinting the symposium proceedings – “Use of groundwater for agriculture in Sri Lanka”	333
11	Translation of ‘Jalaya Lokaye Jeewaya’ (Sinhala to Tamil)	141
12	Printing translated material – “Jalaya Lokaye Jeewaya”	476
13	Research on implementation of IWRM in WES program, Plan Sri Lanka	*1620
14	Development of Database & Website and maintain the website	300
15	Institutionalization, Secretarial and CG meetings	4914
	<b>Total</b>	<b>13 152</b>
	<b>Contribution from Cap-Net</b>	<b>10 650</b>

\* - contribution from Plan Sri Lanka # - contribution from Sri Lanka Water Partnership (Lanka Jalani)



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