

**Capacity building in
Integrated Water Resources Management – Sri Lanka**

Work plan – 2009

Submitted to
Cap-Net

for a

Grant support

by

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1. Introduction

Several institutions and line agencies are responsible for sustainable water resources management in Sri Lanka. The performances in terms of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and impact of such institutions depend on the capacity of the institution particularly human resources. Cap-Net Lanka as a network for capacity building in IWRM is continuously engaged in many activities since 2001 to increase the capacity of the people working in water sector. It was able to reach a diverse group of stakeholders from users to policy makers and implementers through its capacity building program and continue to work with them in numerous ways. With the experience gained and the credibility established through its activities during the past, Cap-Net Lanka plan to expand its activities to achieve its objectives.

This work plan includes activities already in progress in 2008 and new activities which are of national relevant.

2. Activities

Some of the activities are on going while others are new and follow up activities. The activities have been planned under the following three outputs.

- I. Access to education, training and research output in IWRM increased
- II. Capacity of water users, water managers and policy makers developed for an effective water management
- III. Capabilities in delivering capacity building services strengthened

Access to education, training and research output in IWRM increased

1. Water Professionals' Day Symposium on Water Resources Research in Sri Lanka
2. Book on Water treatment for domestic water supply for school children (from work plan 2008)
3. Capacity building in IWRM in a selected watershed (on going)

Capacity of water users, water managers and policy makers developed for an effective water management

4. Dialogue and training workshop on water policy (from work plan 2008)
5. Training on water conservation and sanitation in peri-urban
6. Gender and water dialogue
7. River sand mining dialogue
8. TOT in IWRM as tool for adaptation to climate change (from work plan 2008)
9. Training on IWRM for In-service advisers (Master teachers) of the National Institute of Education

Capabilities in delivering capacity building services strengthened

10. Meetings of core group members and network members
11. Website update and maintenance

Activity 2.1: Water Professionals' Day Symposium on Water Resources Research in Sri Lanka

First Water Professionals' Day Symposium was held on 1st of October, 2003 in collaboration with Geo-Informatics Society of Sri Lanka, Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Engineering, University of Peradeniya and Sri Lanka Water Partnership. The objective is to bring professionals working in the water sector and students studying IWRM and water related programme to a common platform to present and discuss water related research and studies conducted in Sri Lanka and elsewhere. It was well attended by researchers, professionals and students in the water sector. Subsequently, this becomes an annual event and October 01 was declared as the Water Professionals' Day. Accordingly, seventh Water Professionals' Day Symposium will be organized on October 01, 2009 with the collaboration of Cap-Net Lanka.

Objectives	To provide a common platform to the researchers, professionals and students in the water sector to present their research findings to a wider audience to have a fruitful discussion.
Participants	15 research papers / case studies will be accepted for presentation. In addition, there will be a discussion forum on a common theme. Participants from Government organizations, NGOs and private sector are expected.
Period	One day program
Time	October 01, 2009
Budget	US\$ 2000
Collaborators	Geo-Informatics Society of Sri Lanka (GISSL), Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture and Department of Agricultural Engineering
Outputs	Formulation of network of professionals, Compilation of research findings into a proceedings
Coordinator	Dr. (Ms) N.D.K. Dayawansa

Activity 2.2: Book on Water treatment for domestic water supply (for school children)

Reading materials on water treatment for domestic water supply in local languages are not available for teachers and students in school education. This will help younger generation to realize the importance of effective use of drinking water. A book on the above title will be written and designed for school students (Year 10) with simple and attractive format. This book will discuss the water treatment process adopted in a conventional water treatment plant, and give a general idea to the student how to assess the water quality, and also how to preserve the water quality. This book will be in Sinhala language at the beginning and will be translated into Tamil in the next year.

Objectives	To provide knowledge on water treatment for domestic water supply in a simple and attractive form (book)
Participants	5000 books
Period	-
Time	2009
Budget	US\$ 5000

Collaborators	National Institute of Education (NIE)
Output	Printed book
Coordinator	Dr. D.R.I.B. Werallagama

Activity 2.3: Capacity building in IWRM in a selected watershed (on going activity)

Currently, water pollution appears to be one of the main watershed management issues though there were some indications to this effect in the past. Increasing population, rapid urbanisation, intensive agricultural and industrial activities, along with the inaction of local authorities in exercising law and order, perhaps due to increased political interference, in the upper watershed areas has aggravated water pollution. Encroachment of reservations for intensive agriculture, housing and business premises, unplanned settlements, inability to address the lack of sanitary facilities, poor sewerage treatment, dumping of solid waste into water bodies, lack of institutional coordination are some of the causes for this problem.

Comprehensive planning at the river basin level is identified as an approach to address the complex issue of watershed management. A collective effort of Cap-Net Lanka (Network for Capacity building in Integrated Water Resources management), Crossing Boundaries project of the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture and National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) of the central province is to be made to address the issues mentioned above in a systematic manner. Development of training modules, training of trainers, field training for public and other stakeholders in integrated water resources management with special reference to watershed conservation is to be implemented during next six month.

Several meetings were held last year with the staff members from the University of Peradeniya and the NWSDB and finalized the title of modules and the team members for each modules. One page document with objectives and the outline for each modules were prepared. The modules are now being developed and the ToT programme will be organized for officers and field level training programme will be conducted this year.

Objectives	Capacity of various institutions will be strengthen to fulfill their function effectively in water resources development & management.
Participants	Service providers, officers, Women, Children and Public at large
Period	One year
Time	January – December 2009
Budget	US\$ 9000
Collaborators	NWSDB, Crossing Boundaries Project (PGIA), University of Peradeniya – financial support for field staff training
Outputs	Training modules, People trained
Coordinator	Prof. E.R.N. Gunawardena (A team will work on this activity)

Activity 2.4: Dialogue on National water policy: A new Initiative

The government of Sri Lanka has attempted to introduce a national water resources policy. Though the original draft of the act has been approved by the Cabinet of ministers in 2001, it was subjected to severe criticism made by the media, environmental groups, professionals

and the civil society. Several revisions have been made to the original draft of the policy document and the last revision was advertised on Daily News on 9th October 2006 to entertain public views. There were reactions from the public who continue to resist the policy since the basic characteristics of the contested policy remain as core principles. As a result, an alternative policy document in 2004 has been prepared.

At present two drafts water policies, not formally approved by the authorities, exist in Sri Lanka. It appears that both parties who led and has ownership of these two sets of policies have basically lost enthusiasm and abandoned the follow up activities. However, those who were interested in the water sector in Sri Lanka kept the discussions alive and organized several dialogues (formal and informal) during last few years.

In the meantime, some of the policy principles, such as polluters pay principle, have been approved under non-water sector institutions. Sectoral water policy drafts, such as policies on water supply and sanitation have been prepared and published for public comments. These developments indicate that “water policy process” is a dynamic subject and will continue to appear at different times under different context.

With this back ground, the Cap-Net Lanka along with the Board of Study in Agricultural Engineering of the Post Graduate Institute of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya is organizing a workshop to initiate a process which would help to formulate a new Water Policy for Sri Lanka. Some argue that we may not need a national water policy and can live with the existing policy framework provided that gaps are identified and addressed separately.

Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka, Irrigation Department, Water Supply and Drainage Board, Water Resources Board and Central Environment Authority will present their case on current issues and possible solutions. It is expected to come out with a plan of action to prepare a water policy acceptable to the people of Sri Lanka at the end of the workshop.

Objectives	To bring the parties together again and build a dialogue with the aim of formulating a national water policy acceptable to all the Sri Lankan.
Participants	Key institutions and individuals
Period	February 2009
Time	-
Budget	US\$ 4000
Collaborators	Irrigation Department (ID), Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka (MASL), National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB), Central Environmental Authority (CEA), Water Resources Board (WRB)
Output	Re-initiation of the process and proceed on water policy formulation
Coordinators	Prof. E.R.N. Gunawardena

Activity 2.5: Training on water conservation and sanitation in Peri-urban towns.

Peri-urban centers become hot spots for wastewater discharge into natural streams. Last year training workshops on Effective wastewater management for industries and officers of Central Environmental Authority, MASL and health sector were very useful to fulfill their

duties. As a follow up activity, people running restaurants and hotels in the selected peri-urban centers will be educated on the techniques for water conservation in their day to day work and sanitation of the people and surroundings.

Objectives	Educate the people on water conservation techniques and encourage/guide them to implement good sanitation practices
Participants	25/programme
Period	One day program – Pussallawa town and Gampola town
Time	July and October, 2009
Budget	US\$ 4000 (US\$ 2000/Programme)
Collaborators	Local Authorities (LA), Medical Officer Health (MOH), CEA, Police, Agricultural Engineering Society of Sri Lanka (AESSL) – Logistic support
Output	Increased water use efficiency and reduce pollution
Coordinator	Dr. D.A.N. Dharmasena

Activity 2.6: Gender and Water Dialogue

This activity is a continuation of previous programme but covers new areas with revised contents. With the comments from the evaluation report of the last year programme, the content will be critically revised with the gender mainstreaming experts. In general, topics on gender and water are delivered in relation to issues specific to the area. Male and female participants working in water sector and administrative sectors will be invited for the programmes.

Objectives	Gender and Water dialogues- To promote IWRM and gender and water ; study relevance of gender issues on a district level ; to draw attention of policy makers and agencies to the importance of gender issues in water sector
Participants	Two programmes (30 participants each) in Moneragala and Puttalam districts
Period	Between April and September 2009
Time	Two days residential programme
Budget	US\$ 4000
Collaborators	NetWwater and NWSDB – Logistic support Sri Lanka Water Partnership – In kind support (documentation)
Output	report with follow up activities
Coordinator	Ms. Kusum Athukorala

Activity 2.7: River Sand Mining Dialogue

Cap-Net Lanka promoted the capacity building in order to minimize the indiscriminate river sand mining for last is couple of years. Police officers were educated last year and the gaps in the regulations were identified. This leads to policy change and effective implementation of regulations to protect the eco system and infrastructures. However, education and research on problems face by river sand mining, identifying the potential as well as vulnerable areas of sand mining and alternatives have to be carried out. As capacity building network, Cap-Net

Lanka would like to continue to educate the public in collaboration with NetWwater, Sri Lanka Water Partnership and community & religious leaders.

Objectives	To support community organizations, policy makers and regulation enforcement officers involved in river sand mining through awareness building in Deduru Oya, Attangalu Oya, Maha Oya and Kelani ganga
Participants	30- 40 in each activity
Period	May – September 2009
Time	Four community demand driven activities (which may be more than a day)
Budget	US\$ 2500
Collaborators	NetWwater and Sri Lanka Water Partnership
Output	Gatherings, Report with follow up activities
Coordinator	Ms. Kusum Athukorala

Activity 2.8: TOT in IWRM as tool for adaptation to climate change

A ToT in IWRM was planned in 2008 after the global ToT in IWRM as tool for adaptation to climate change. Since the global ToT was held in November 2008 in Malaysia, National ToT has been postponed to 2009. Prof. N.T. Sohan Wijesekera who has been participated this programme will coordinate ToT in 2009.

Objectives	The participants will be able to explain the concepts of IWRM for others and take some initiations for adaptation for climate change.
Participants	30 (Academics, Managers, Policy makers and Practitioners in water sector)
Period	4 days - a residential course
Time	August 2008
Budget	US\$ 3000 (In addition, participants will be requested to make the partial payment for the course)
Collaborators	University of Moratuwa (UoM), Sri Lanka Water Partnership
Output	Programme, Network members to work in future in implementation of IWRM
Coordinator	Prof. N.T. Sohan Wijesekera

Activity 2.9: Training of In-service advisers (Master teachers) of the National Institute of Education on IWRM

Curriculum of the agriculture subject of the GCE A/L in school includes several aspects of water use for crop and animal production. But, it is lacking with as to how the water use efficiency could increased by adapting integrated approaches. Thus, proposed training will improve the knowledge of teacher's on this aspect and consequently the students.

Nation wide Master teachers who train other teachers on the subject will be trained in this programme. National Institute of Education which is responsible for curriculum development and teachers training under the Ministry of Education agreed to organize the programme at their premises in Maharagama. This programme is a follow up activity of the teachers'

training programme last year. Some of the NIE officers were invited as observers for that programme.

Objectives	Teachers will be able to train and assist other fellow teachers to teach the subjects dealing with water effectively.
Participants	100 master teachers/ programme; Total - 300 teachers
Period	Two days residential program - 3
Time	April 2009
Budget	US\$ 4500
Collaborators	Department of Agriculture (DoA) and National Institute of Education (NIE)
Output	300 Master teachers trained
Coordinator	Dr. P.V.N Punyawardena (DoA) and Mr. N.A. Gunawardena (NIE),

Activity 2.10: Meetings of Core group and Network members, Secretariat

Two Core Group (CG) meetings will be held in April and October 2009 to discuss the progress in implementation of the work plan. 2009. A discussion on strategic plan for Cap-Net Lanka has been initiated in the last CG meeting. This will be continued to have the plan for next 3 years.

Activity 2.11: Website update and maintenance

A database on institutions involve in water related activities in Sri Lanka has been prepared for network and others use. This will be distributed in CD format for interested people and network members.

A new look for the cap-Net Lanka website (<http://www.capnetlanka.org>) will be loaded at the first quarter of the year 2009 with updated information on activities. IWRM materials translated into local languages will be available at the web site.

3. Summary of budget

No		Collaborators	Budget (\$)
Knowledge Management			
09.1	Water Professionals' Day Symposium on Water Resources Research in Sri Lanka	GISSL and Dept of Agric. Eng.	2000
09.2	Book on Water treatment for domestic water supply for school children	NIE	5000
09.3	Capacity building in IWRM in a selected watershed	NWSDB, CB Project	9000
Knowledge Delivery			
09.4	Dialogue on National water policy: A new Initiative	ID, MASL, NWSDB, CEA, WRB	4000
09.5	Training on water conservation and sanitation for hotels, restaurants in peri-urban towns	LA, MOH, CEA, Police, AESL	4000
09.6	Gender and water dialogue	SLWP, NWW	4000
09.7	River sand mining dialogue	SLWP, NWW	2500
09.8	ToT on IWRM and adaptation of climate change	UoM, SLWP	3000
09.9	Training on IWRM for In-service advisors (ISA) – Master teachers - of the National Institute of Education	NIE, DOA	4500
Network Management			
09.10	Meetings of CG members and network members, Secretariat		7500
09.11	Website update and maintenance		500
	Total		46000



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