

## (Narrative Report/Journal - Sri Lanka Water Partnership)

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### **Goal 01 -Catalyze Change in Policy and Practice**

#### **GWP – Core Activities**

##### *a. (OC 2 – Activity 1)*

“Drought and Preparation for Drought” programme held at University of Ruhuna on 13<sup>th</sup> May was organized by Sri Lanka Water Partnership in collaboration with Dept. of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna, Nilawala Area Water Partnership and NetWwater. The objective of the programme was to create awareness in agency staff on drought and preparation for drought, to disseminate knowledge on proper usage of water during a drought period and to encourage the community to ensure quality of water. The target groups were Grama Niladhari Officers, Environmental Officers and Public Health Inspectors of the District. This is a complementary activity to those being undertaken under WACREP.



##### *b. (OC2 – Activity 3)*

As a part of an integrated wetland conservation programme of Sri Lanka Water Partnership, an interactive seminar on Bolgoda Wetland complex was held on 6<sup>th</sup> June at the Kesbewa Urban Council. The programme was jointly organized by Sri Lanka Water Partnership, Kesbewa Urban Council and University of Colombo. The focus of the programme was the present ecological, sociological and administrative status of the Bolgoda wetlands to create awareness in the participants on the significance of urban wetlands and the services provided by these ecosystems. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Sumana Viviyana Ranaweera – Chair Kesbewa Urban Council, followed by presentations from Dr. Deepthi Wickramasinghe, Senior Lecturer University of Colombo, Eng. Missaka Hettiarachchi, Researcher University of Queensland Australia, Mr. Priyangani Gunathilake, Deputy Director Central Environmental Authority and Prof. Champa Navaratne, Senior Lecturer University of Ruhuna. The Second Session of the programme was allocated for sharing information and discussion of challenges. This provided an opportunity for building a stakeholder platform among the stakeholders, improve networking and relationship among different groups in the watershed/administrative areas of the wetlands. 40 participants including resource persons, urban council members and officers from UC participated the programme. This is a continuing activity and coverage of the local authority areas in the Moratuwa and Panadura divisions will follow in August to ensure that the urban wetland complex is covered.



*Output;*

Formal organizations being established for the first time to include the local authorities and communities to deal with issues related to the Bolgoda wetland with the regulator the CEA and other agencies.

c. (OC2 – Activity 3)

The School of Geography, Planning and Environmental Management, the University of Queensland – Australia organized a policy discussion on urban environmental planning in Colombo, Sri Lanka in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Water Partnership, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka and the Sri Lanka Foundation Institute on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June, 2014. Being a human managed ecological system for more than 500 years the urban wetlands of Colombo, Sri Lanka are intricately bound with the urban social processes. The rapid urbanization and modernization trends of recent decades have triggered unprecedented ecological transformations in this wetland system resulting in major ecosystem service losses and increased urban floods. With more significant changes in the urban landscape being currently planned, it is timely that an interaction of relevant stakeholders come together to plan the main aim of the event was to building a discourse on current urban environmental planning challenges and urban ecological transformations. Twenty seven high level policy makers, environmental activists and renowned academics took part in the discussion. The issues discussed mainly focused on the rapid degradation and loss of the urban wetlands and resultant impacts on communities in Colombo. Total of 35 persons participated in the programme. This programme will work in collaboration with the CEA Wetland division and link with SLWP's integrated wetland programme in Bolgoda, Kollonnawa etc. and lead to policy brief to be submitted to the authorities



d. (OC 2 – Activity 4) A UN Post Development Agenda

The Consultation on a UN Post 2015 Development Agenda for Water organized by Un Water and GWP globally included Sri Lanka as one of the countries that would report on the development of SDG Post 2015 as sequel to the MDG's. The consultation co organized with the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management was held on 24<sup>th</sup> March at Hotel Galadari Colombo. 40 participants including from the water and natural resources agencies, donors, IWMI, private sector, ministries of foreign, affairs, justice, health etc. participated. Key note speaker was Dr S. Batagoda, recognized Environmental Economist and currently Deputy Secretary to the Treasury of the Ministry of Finance and Planning who spoke on **Water Challenges and Sustainable Development – Post 2015**.



UN Water Post 2015 Development Agenda for Water. Review meeting was held on 4<sup>th</sup> April. As a follow up to the Country Consultation held on 24<sup>th</sup> March at the special Review Committee met on 4<sup>th</sup> April to finalize the report to UN Water and GWP. The report was sent to GWP and UN water on 7<sup>th</sup> April and has now been circulated to the participants. A special copy was sent via the Ministry Of External affairs to the SL Ambassador at the UN as SL is member of the Open Working Group set up to review and make recommendations on the SDG's.

*Output;*

State agencies now have agreed on a common framework to work on water with respect to the SDG's Post 2015. The global effort has now help realize a separate goal for water in the UN Agenda for SDG's.

## **GWP – GWP – Water and Climate Change Resilience Programme (WACREP) CCA Activities**

### **Farmer Leader Training Programme**

*e. (OC 2- Activity 2) –*

A CCA Farmer Leader Training Programme was held in Rajangana System in Anuradhapura on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2014 for 65 FO Leaders. Resource Persons were drawn from The Provincial Agriculture Department (Deputy Director and Assistant Director) Regional Director Irrigation Department and Senior Lecturer in Agriculture Engineering University of Rajarata. The Programme was coordinated by IMD of M of I & WRM, Director IMD attended this Programme as well. Total of 90 participated in the Programme.

*f. (OC 2- Activity 2)*

Three CCA Farmer Leader Programmes were held in Huruluwewa, Mahakanadarawa & Nachaduwa on February 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>. Huruluwewa & Mahakanadarawa programmes were held at the Agrarian Department Training Centre for 107 FO leaders and in Mahakanadarawa project for 62 leaders at the Rambewa Temple respectively. Total of was 113 and 67 participated in both programmes. The next programme was held on 11<sup>th</sup> February for 83 FO leaders at Nachaduwa project a total of 91 attended this programme. Which was supported by the ID, University of Rajarata, and Provincial Agric. Department and organized by IMD of the Min of IWRM?

*g. (OC 2- Activity 2)*

Two CCA Farmer Leader Programmes were held in Polonnaruwa and Divulankadawala on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> March. Polonnaruwa programme was held at the District Secretariat Conference hall for 68 FO leaders from the Parakrama Samudra and Giritale schemes. Total participation was 78 including staff and resource persons. Divulnkadawala programme was held on 11<sup>th</sup> March for 108 FO leaders from Minneriya, Kaudulla and Nachaduwa project a total of 114 attended this programme including from IMD and SLWP. Programme was supported by the ID, Provincial Agriculture; Department and organized by IMD of the Min of IWRM.

*h. (OC 2- Activity 2)*

A CCA Farmer Leader Programme for minor irrigation systems of Anuradhapura District was held on 11<sup>th</sup> March at the Agrarian Development Department Conference hall in Anuradhapura . It was organized by SLWP and the Deputy Commissioner Agrarian Development with assistance from the Department; of Agriculture and Irrigation Department. 69 FO leaders from over 30 minor schemes attended this programme. There were 80 participants including DAS staff and resource persons.

*i. (OC 2- Activity 2)*

A CCA FO Leader Programme was held in Bathalagoda, Kurunegala at the Rice Research Training Institute on 8<sup>th</sup> April. Total of 65 FO Leaders from Bathalagoda, Hakwatunaoya, Diyathure, Kospothuoya, Morathioya, Moragoda Amuna, Kumbulwana Oya, Maddakatiya, Velikumbura, Vennaruoya irrigation schemes participated in the programme.

*j. (OC 2- Activity 2)*

Three CCA Farmer Training Programmes were held in Rajangana, Mahavilachchiya and Polonnaruwa on 19<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> May respectively. 90 farmers participated in the Rajangana programme with a total of 107 including resource persons. 96 farmers participated in the Mahavilachchiya programme with a total of 103 including resource persons and other participants. 58 farmers participated in Polonnaruwa programme with a total of 65 with resource persons and other participants.

District/Regional offices of Irrigation Department, Department of Agriculture and University of Rajarata supported the programme organized by SLWP and the Irrigation Management Division of the Ministry of Irrigation through the respective Project Managers.

*k. (OC 2- Activity 2)*

Two CCA Farmer Leader Training Programmes were held in Galgamuwa and ,Nikaweratiya on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June respectively. 90 farmers participated in the Galgamuwa programme with a total of 102 including resource persons. 113 farmers participated in the Nikaweratiya programme with a total of 122 including resource persons and other participants. Sri Lanka Water Partnership and IMD of the Ministry of IWRM collaboratively organized the programme Country Coordinator SLWP and Director IMD participated in these events

*l. (OC 2- Activity 2)*

Another CCA Farmer Leader Training Programme for Minipe Major Schemes was held on 30<sup>th</sup> June in the conference hall of the Divisional Secretariat Hasalaka Mahiyangana, organized by IMD of the Ministry of Irrigation and SLWP. A total of 86 farmer leaders and project officers from Minipe project participated. Total of 106 were present including four resource persons including Director Irrigation Central Region, Asst. Director Agriculture Kandy, Addl. Director NRM from Department of Agriculture , Consultant Irrigation Agronomist , Deputy Director IMD and Country Coordinator SLWP.



**Farmer Training Programme Rajangana**



**Farmer Training Programme Galgamuwa**



**Farmer Training Programme Mahavilachchiya**



**Farmer Training Programme Bathalegoda**

**Technical Officer Training Programme**

*j. (OC 2- Activity 3)*

50 Divisional level staff working with minor irrigation systems in Anuradhapura attended a CCA programme on 10<sup>th</sup> March at the DAS Conference hall Anuradhapura organized by SLWP and Deputy Commissioner Agrarian Services Anuradhapura. Total participants were 55.

*k. (OC 2- Activity 3)*

A District Field and Technical Officer Awareness programme on CCA for Major/Minor/Medium schemes in Trincomalee was held on 20<sup>th</sup> June in Kantale. 42 District Officers from the Irrigation, Agriculture, Agrarian Development Departments and IMD participated in this programme organized by the Irrigation Department and SLWP. A with a total of 51 participating including resource persons from the Irrigation Department, University of Rajarata, Department of Agriculture , Consultant Irrigation Agronomist from Colombo and SLWP Country Coordinator.

*L.OC 2- Activity 3) – PMC Staff Training Programme*

The Programme was held back to back with the FO leader Programme of 30<sup>th</sup> June on 1<sup>st</sup> July at the Cultural Centre Mahiyangane. 64 Project staff from the above projects from Departments of Irrigation, Agriculture, Agrarian Development and Irrigation Management Division participated. Director IMD and Country Coordinator SLWP attended this meeting. Resource persons were Director Irrigation Central Region, Asst. Director Agriculture, A Consultant Irrigation Agronomist and Addl. Director NRMDC Department of Agriculture.



**Technical Officer Training Programme in Kantale**



**PMC Staff Training Programme Mahiyangana**

**Farmer Resilience Survey**

*m. (OC 2- Activity 4)*

A pilot field test of the Resilience Survey questionnaire was done in Hakwatunaoya major irrigation scheme in Kurunegala in NWP. Four random farmers were interviewed as part of the pilot test. Mr. U. Abeygunawardana from SLWP and Mr. M.M.M. Aheeyar of HARTI carried out the pilot test under the survey. TOR has been prepared for implementation and issue of consultancy contracts. Contracts in August for survey start in September. This activity will lead to the development of the Policy Brief on CCA.

**Outputs.**

Following changes taking place (in behavior of boundary partners) are presently noted.

i) The Irrigation Department and IMD of the Ministry will seek to provide budgetary allocation from the consolidated fund to incorporate CCA in a programme mode within the annual budgetary allocation, rather than merely support CCA from project based funds when and where available from external sources. This is also due to pressure of demand from the farming community consequent to greater awareness created by WACREP.

ii) Both Irrigation Department with respect to the Irrigation Training Institute (ITI) and the Ministry/MASL with respect to the Kothmale International Irrigation Training Institute (KITI) will include CCA as part of the curricula following our WACREP programmes there.

iii) For the first time the water agencies and Universities (Ruhuna, Rajarata) and Department of Agriculture Research Stations (Maha-Illuppallama / Angunkolapelessa) are working together on CCA mutually reinforcing CCA activities, knowledge and management. Usually agencies interact with other agencies to resolve issues and problems as they arise, but seldom work together especially with universities. CCA has highlighted this need to work together.

iv) Linked the Department of Meteorology with the irrigated agriculture implementing agencies under WACREP for CCA. Ground implications of forecasting information and vice versa appreciated.

v.) The Department of Agriculture intends to set up a CCA unit within the Extension Division of the Department following close interaction and experience with WACREP which they have been actively supporting including collaborating in organizing the TOT programme in September.

An initially mostly supply driven activity the WACREP CCA programme has now become fully demand driven. The integrated approach and dealing with Staff and Farmers/Communities at the same time generated very high interest in CCA by all involved.

## **Goal 02 - Generate and Communicate Knowledge.**

### **GWP – Core Activities**

#### *a. (OC7 – Activity 1) World Water Day Activity*

As pre World Water Day preparation activity a “*Sisu Jala Hamuwa*” Schools programme was held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at the Deniyaya Mahinda Rajapakse MV on Health/ sanitation issues linked to water and need for IWRM. 125 students of the higher grades from the above school, St Mathews College Deniyaya and Deniyaya National School attended the programme. This was organized by the Nilwala AWP in collaboration with Society for Environmental and Social Facilitation, Green Pulse Club and the Kotapola Pradeshiya Sabha. Resource persons were from the University of Rajarata. The programme included a field visit.



#### *b. (OC7 – Activity 1) World Water Day Activity*

A World Water Day programme was held for School Children by Ma Oya AWP on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. The event was held in Walagamba Maha Vidyalaya, Kegalle. A seminar was followed by art and essay competition aiming World Water Day, the use of water and Integrated Water Resources Management. A Certificate was given to each participants followed by prizes for winners of the art and essay competitions. 150 students participated the event.

c. (OC7 – Activity 1) World Water Day Activity

A World Water Day programme was held for school children on 28<sup>th</sup> March at Giragama Teacher Training Centre with theme “Climate change by 2025”. The seminar was followed by an art and essay competition where winner were awarded with prize money and a certificate. Divisional Educational Director, Denuwara was the chief guest. Total of 123 participated the programme which included Teachers, Resource persons from NWSDB, PHIs and Members from Lions Club on Pilimathalawa which is also an active partner of SLWP.



d. (OC7 – Activity 1) World Water Day Activity

A World Water Day Seminar was held at International Training Institute (M/ Irrigation & Water Resources Management) Kotmale on 3<sup>rd</sup> April under the theme “Upper Mahaweli Catchment, Issues and Solutions”. In addition to the seminar, an art exhibition on the theme “Value of Water” with a participation of 15 schools was held. Around 200 students participated in this event. An exhibition of water quality analyzing equipment and a drama on catchment conservation by the students of the International Irrigation Institute was also held at the seminar. Farmer Representatives, members from Community Based Organizations in Kotmale and Officers from Mahaweli Environment Unit Kotmale also participated this programme. Total of 140 including resources persons and officers participated in the seminar attended by SLWP Senior Advisor and Country Coordinator.

e. (OC7 – Activity 1) World Water Day Activity

A WWD Programme was held at Baduriya MV, Mawanella on 7<sup>th</sup> April. The students of the schools were made aware of the Climate Change, IWRM and water quality. Handouts on “importance of water” were disseminated among the participated students. The presentations were carried out by Recourse Persons from NWSDB and Department of Health from Rahalla. 85 students participated in the event.



f. (OC7 – Activity 1) (Other School Activity- Sisujalahamuwa)

SLWP Contributed Rs. 7500/- for a Girl Guides talent programme “Talent Extravaganza” hosted by The Sri Lanka Girl Guides Association. GGA collaborates actively in SLWP programmes in the outstations.

*g. (OC7 – Activity 1) (Other School Activity- Sisujalahamuwa.)*

Studies have shown that poor MHM practices are a major cause for blockages in school sanitation systems and lead to reproductive diseases in later life. Sri Lanka Water Partnership and NetWwater have been in the forefront of School sanitation advocacy. We have partnered with CSR projects of Brandix Lanka and National Development Bank (NDB) with the support of education authorities to improve the school health through sustainable sanitation. A Programme on “Menstrual Hygiene Management for Schools” was held in Girgama Training Center in Kandy on 26<sup>th</sup> May for school counselors to commemorate World Menstrual Day 2014.



The programme also highlighted the need for a menstrual hygiene management programme to support improvement health for girl children reduce absenteeism among adolescent girls. 61 school counselors and 9 other resource persons attended the activity. The Central Provincial education ministry and Denuwara educational zone is monitoring the followup activities .

*h. (OC7 – Activity 1) (Other School Activity- Sisujalahamuwa)*

Catchment Management Programmes for school children were held in two schools on 29<sup>th</sup> May. The two schools were Rambukpitiya Maha Vidyalaya and Muslim Vidyalaya Balantota. A senior sociologist, senior chemist, an Engineer and a hydrologist from National Water Supply and Drainage Board were among the resource persons. School children were made aware the importance of IWRM and School Sanitation along with the importance of preservation of catchments. 205 students participated in both programmes.

*i. (OC7 – Activity 1) (Other School Activity- Sisujalahamuwa)*

School Programme on Climate Change Adaptation was held at Kegalu Vidyalaya on 24<sup>th</sup> July. The programme was organized by Ma Oya AWP in collaboration with SLWP. Mr. Victor Rajakaruna Chair Maya Oya AWP welcomed the Principal, Teachers, Students and the Resource Persons. 148 students from grade 12, 5 teachers and 3 resource persons participated in the programme.

**Sisujalahamuwa – Water Messenger Programme of SLWP is a continuing activity for schools.**

*j. (OC 7- Activity 2) Catchment Conservation programme for Community Based Organizations (CBOs)*

A Catchment Conservation Programme for Selected CBOs (Phase 4) in Balantota, Nawalapitiya on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2014. Target group was 40 CBO Members. Collaborating partners were NWSDB, CEA. Provincial Director Health Services and catchment related agency representatives. This programme was the 4<sup>th</sup> such programme for Central Province CBO. It seeks to bring together related stakeholder in improving catchment conservation for improved water security. This program has now linked with the Dept. of Forests which has jurisdiction over most CBO catchments in Central Province. The Dept. of Forests has made arrangements to issue CBOs with identity cards for entering the forest reserve for maintenance work.

*h. (OC 7 - Activity 2)*

A Dialogue on “Clean River and Catchment Management” of Upper Mahaweli was held on 04<sup>th</sup> March at Udapalatha Divisional Secretary Office, Gampola. The programme was organized by Upper Mahaweli Water Partnership and Nation Builders Association in collaboration with Sri Lanka Water Partnership. The objective of the programme was to make stakeholders involved in catchment management and waste management in the Gampola area on above subject.

## GWP – Water and Climate Change Resilience Programme (WACREP) CCA Activities

### Drinking Water – CBO Activities

#### i. (OC7-Activity 1)

Climate Change Adaptation programme was carried out over three days for Water Community Based Organization s(CBOs) in Badulla District from 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> January covering Kandaketiya, Soranatota and Ridimaliadda Divisional Secretariats. The Programmes were supported by the NWSDB and the National Community Water Trust. It covered aspects such as Climate Change, Water Quality and supply, Catchment management and social issues arising from climate change that may impact on CBO. Most participants mentioned that they were summoned for a capacity building activity after 5-8 years and they were very appreciative of the opportunity to gather knowledge especially in view of declining rainfall and impending drought. In Ridimaliyadda and Kandeketiya the participants set up a Sansadaya ( CBO network) This Sansadaya will liase in forwarding CBO related technical and other issues to the NWSDB Rural Water Supply division



#### j. (OC7-Activity 1)

A Drinking Water CBO programme was held in Anamaduwa for Puttalam District CBO on 20<sup>th</sup>February in collaboration with the NWSDB and provincial Health Department. 123 CBO participants attended this workshop which was supported by 4 resource persons. Total participation including officials and /resource persons was 127.The activity was supported by the Puttalam CBO Sansadaya( network) which is the only successful functional CBO network .

#### k. (OC7-Activity 1)

Following a request made by the Puttalam CBO Sansadeya , in view of the critical water needs of the Kalpitiya peninsula as an agricultural and tourism hub, a Drinking Water CBO programme was held in Economic Development Centre ,Norachcolai Kalpitiya for Puttalam District CBO on 15<sup>th</sup> March in collaboration with the NWSDB and provincial Health Department . 80 CBO participants attended this workshop which was supported by 4 resource persons. Total participation including officials and /resource persons was 84. The activity was supported by the Puttalam CBO Sansadaya( network) which is the only successful functional CBO network .

#### l. (OC7-Activity 1)

The CBO awareness program was held as one day workshop on 29<sup>th</sup> May at Haliela Pradeshiya District Secretariat, Haliela and Ella Pradeshiya Secretariat on the 30<sup>th</sup> May. The workshops were organized collaboratively by Sri Lanka Water Partnership, National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) and the National Community Water Trust. The participants were office bearers of CBOs, 88 participants from Ella and 100 from Haliela were present . All the resource persons except one have had prior experience in participating in the former Badulla CBO Programs.

**Note.** - Though there is about 35000 CBOs related to drinking water supply, only 2500 are registered .Of these some have governance issues not having had timely elections. Others have not carried out annual audits. The number of CBOs invited for WACREP programs sometimes has fallen short. A major issue identified is that it is some CBOs who have not carried out the annual audit required by the National Community Water Trust who tends to avoid the sessions which will bring them to meet Trust officers. Also as there has been a major communication gap after the phasing out of the ADB and CWSSP projects, there has also been a confidence gap.

The National Community Water Trust has been without adequate funds for most of its 2 ½ years of existence and with no allocation at all for capacity building and knowledge dissemination. This sector is most in need of strengthening in view of the current drought affecting one million persons



**Hali Ela and Kalpitiya CBO Programmes**

### **CCA Schools Programme**

m. (OC7-Activity 2)

A CCA School programme was held at Ulpathwewa MV, Mahiyangana on 28<sup>th</sup> April. Senior Advisor SLWP, Resource person from NWSDB & Medical Officer from MOH office were resource persons for the programme. The importance of water, the water quality, and climate change related issues and adapting to climate change through presentations by the resource persons. 154 students participated in the event with a total of 160 including teachers and resource persons.



n. (OC7-Activity 2)

Two CCA School Programme were held back to back in Giranduru Kotte Maha Vidyalaya Mahiyanganaya on 30<sup>th</sup> June and Hadawatta Maha Vidyalaya on 1<sup>st</sup> July. 179 students and teachers participated in the former and 230 in the latter. Resource Persons included the Project Director NWSDB and Deputy Director Health Services Uva, Snr. Advisor SLWP Coordinated and asp participated in the programme.



## Goal 03 - Strengthen Partnerships

### Private Sector Collaboration

#### *a. (OC8-Activity 1) Janashakthi x Activity.*

As a part of continuing private sector collaboration activity A Stakeholder consultation for Dissemination of Ma Oya Survey Results was organized by Ma Oya Kuda Oya Surekime Sanvidhanaya and The Sri Lanka Water Partnership on 8<sup>th</sup> March at Gevilipitiya, Aranayake. The guest of honor was from Janashakthi Insurance.

Dr. Ranjana Piyadasa, senior lecturer, University of Colombo and the chief researcher of the survey presented the results. The objective of the programme was to discuss the findings of the research study on water quality distribution and its impact on community livelihood development in upper catchment of Ma Oya river basin. 62 participants attended the programme and which included Public Health Inspectors, School Teachers, Development Officers, Environment Officers, Divisional Secretary Officers, Provincial Council Officers and NWSDB Officers.

#### *(OC8-Activity 1) Janshakthi Bank Activity.*

A World Water Day Programme was held for school children in Rahalla on 21<sup>st</sup> March. The two schools were Mahanadee School and Rahalla West School. The students of the two schools were made aware of the Climate Change, IWRM and water quality. The presentations were carried out by Recourse Persons from NWSDB and PHIs from Rahalla. General Manager of Janashakthi Insurance, an active partner of SLWP also participated this event. Around 100 School children participated at the event. Discussion for Rahalla CBO members was also included as an ending for the programme. The Discussion included future activities and programmes with National Water Supply and Drainage Board for distribution of quality water.

#### *(OC8-Activity 2) GWP/SLWP Related meetings*

A Steering Committee Meeting (April) and 6 Programme Committee Meetings have been held up to June this year. New activities for the rest of the year and few other important points were recorded at these meetings. This included a resolution on the post of Vice Chair GWP SAS to be taken up at the next General Assembly in October.

SLWP Chair participated in 4 DMC Coordination Committee Meetings and 5 National WATSAN coordinating committees up to June.

SL WP Chair participated the programme “Consultation Workshop to Develop a National Frame Work for Safe Water (Water Safety Plan)” on 6th June held at Sri Lanka Foundation Institute. The National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB), organized the programme. Discussions included developing a mechanism for health and water supply agencies work towards establishing a water quality regulatory mechanism in ensuring safety of public water supplies. Taking the existing legislation and Institutional framework as the basis they plan to develop specific regulatory for management of drinking water quality standards.

SLWP Chair participated in the programme “Project for Preservation and Management of Kelani River Bank” held on 17th July at Kelani Raja MahaViharaya. Kelani River is the 4th of the longest rivers in Sri Lanka and runs 2,230km long and has about 2,400mm of rainfall. Almost 80% of drinking water needs for Colombo area is covered from this river. It has salinity intrusion affecting continuity of supply in the dry season. It also has a big impact on the ecosystem and the lives of the people who live near the river banks. SLWP has been requested to engage in supporting this program through advocacy and awareness .