

(Narrative Report/Journal - Sri Lanka Water Partnership)

January - June 2016.

Names of individuals conducting assessment. Ranjith Ratnayake. Badra Kamaladasa,

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Goal 01 -Catalyze Change in Policy and Practice

GWP – Core Activities

RSM, RBO/RBM sub-Basin and Source area conservation

(Activity 1)

Awareness and Action Plan Development workshop for TVAC/VTA Assessors and Instructors

SLWP held its 3rd collaborative activity with CIDA on River sand alternatives on 29th January this time focusing on Vocational Training School trainers and assessors. The programme with 35 participants from the Western Province was extremely well received. Resource persons were Prof SMA Nanayakkara from the University of Moratuwa and Dr Missaka Hettiarachchi from the Wild Life Fund. A practical demonstration on use of alternatives for masonry and plastering was conducted by the International Construction Consortium (ICC) a large construction consortium in the country. *(This activity is also linked with Goal 3 – Joint Private Sect / Partner Activity)*



Group Discussion



Demonstration on use of alternative sand

Awareness workshop on “Alternatives for River sand” jointly organized by CIDA and SLWP was held on 3rd May 2016 at CIDA auditorium. This is the fourth forum organized under the proposed series of consultative and awareness workshops and brainstorming sessions planned to promote alternatives to river sand. There were more than 40 participants attended comprising with Assessors of Tertiary Vocational Education Commission (TVEC) & Instructors of Vocational Training Centre (VTA), NAITA, technical colleges and staff from CIDA. Eng. S Amarasekara welcoming the participants emphasized for early concrete action for introducing alternative for river sand. Ms. Badra Kamaladasa briefed the involvement of SLWP in river conservation programs for last 12 years and the target of the organization through the joint programs with regulatory authorities. Dr Missaka Hettiarachchi made a presentation on “Environmental and social impacts due to unregulated river sand mining”. Prof. S M A Nanayakkara presented briefly on alternatives to river sand in construction industry and the technical issues involved. Mr. Shanaka Kumaranatunga of CDE (the cosponsor of the program) made a presentation on M- sand and the steps taken by Indian government to introduce alternatives for river sand. A demonstration of constructing a block wall and plastering same was performed by an ICC team. Group discussions were held after lunch focusing target questions given to the groups. The groups presented their recommendations/ views on introducing alternatives for sand. Moderator of the group work Prof Nanayakkara finally summarized the discussion and noted the next course of action. Ms. Malkanthi of TVEA and Mr Wimalasiri of NAITA addressing the audience emphasized the urgent need of taking this message to the general public and the industry as early as possible. Both of them explained how their institution and staff will commit in curtailing usage of river sand in construction industry by introducing alternatives.

(Activity 2)

27th April Presentation for Major Contractors at Taj Samudra, Colombo. This was organized by CIDA and CDE Asia to promote use of river sand alternatives. Chair SLWP attended this event as it is joint collaborator with CIDA on alternate sand for construction industry.

(Activity 3)

28th April Planning Meeting with CDE and CIDA for Alternate River Sand Programme was held at CIDA for state agencies such as the Colombo Municipality, CEA and potential alternate sand investors. Country Coordinator participated in this discussion. CDE Asia has agreed to jointly sponsor a SLWP publication on river sand environment issues and support a workshop for technical staff in the construction industry.

(Activity 4)

World Environment Day Celebration by Upper Mahaweli Area Water Partnership

The Upper Mahaweli Area Water Partnership celebrated World Environment Day 2016, by conducting a sensitization program along the banks of the Nanu Oya and a discussion on a one year river protection program for Nanuoya at the Pilimalalawe Fair Ground on June 1st. This activity was attended by over 50 members of the clergy, local politicians, staff of the Kadugannawa Urban Council, Pilimalalawe Bazaar committee and the SLWP member organisation the Lions Club of Pilimalalawe. A one year program for conservation of the Nanu Oya was drawn up and the participants planted trees along the river. Trees were numbered and each participant was given responsibility for maintaining one tree.

The SLWP partners in Upper Mahaweli Area Water Partnership conducted a tree planting programme around the historic “Balana Fort” in Kadugannawa as its World Environment Day 2015 activity with support from Lanka Jalani, NetWwater and villager of the Balana area. The program and the community interest encouraged the Dept of Archaeology to provide a permanent watcher for Balana Fort. The local community organization “Balana Kotuwa Surakime Sanvidanaya” has organized a Blood donation program on the 25th June 2016. Each of the 150 donors were given a “Kohomba” plants for each blood donor as a token of appreciation and as part of the SLWP effort for supporting catchment conservation.



Wetlands activities

(Activity 1)

World Wetland Day Celebrations

World Wetland Day National Celebrations organized by the Central Environment Authority (CEA) and Wild Life Department (WLD) will be held on 2nd February at Puttalam under the Patronage of HE the President. A main feature is the award of Prizes by the HE to the best artists (Schools and Open) from the national art competition held in schools island wide. The final competition for artists was held at Bolgoda Lake Moratuwa on 7th January and awardees selected with 130 students and 15 artists under the open category participating. SLWP with Hatton National Bank are the main collaborators of this national event organized by CEA and WLD.



Children getting instruction on Drawing



Certificate including SLWP Logo

The World Wetlands Day National Celebrations was held on 2nd February at a wetland site in Chilaw in the North Western Province under the Patronage of HE the President. A main feature was the award of Prizes by the HE to the best artists (Schools and Open) from the national art competition held in schools island wide. The final competition for artists was held at Bolgoda Lake Moratuwa on 7th January and awardees selected with 130 students and 15 artists under the open category participating. SLWP with Hatton National Bank are two of main collaborators of this national event organized by CEA and WLD. Mr Ranjith Ratnayake Country Coordinator was present at this event and invited on stage with the H.E. and other Ministers and dignitaries present.

Discussion with Central Environmental Authority on SLWP / Bio Diversity Programme on Wetlands, Bolgoda.

Chair, SLWP and Country Coordinator held discussion on 30th March at the CEA with Director (position) and staff on implementation and collaboration with CEA on the Bolgoda initiative of SLWP and Bio-Diversity being Co-funded by Sampath Bank. Representative of Bio-Diversity also participated in this discussion. It was agreed that regular meetings at every quarter will be held with CEA to discuss progress and any related issues.

(Activity 2)

“Networking” – Conserving Bolgoda Wetlands

Sri Lanka Water Partnership together with Ceylon Chamber of Commerce and Sampath Bank Plc organized a Stakeholder Consultative Seminar on Conservation of Bolgoda Wetland, the largest natural freshwater body in the island on 29th February at IWMI Yellow River Auditorium. The participants, following interactive discussions, came up with practical suggestions to protect Bolgoda wetland. Total of 48 participated the programme.



Prof. Deepthi Wickramasinghe addressing the participants



Participants at the event

Wetland Conservation Programme for School Children (Two Schools) on 28th June

As a part of a continuing joint programme with Sampath Bank and The Business Bio diversity Sri Lanka two school programmes were held on conserving the Bolgoda wetland complex on 28th June 2016 in Dharmaraja Vidyalaya (DV), Piliyandala and Sir John Kothalawela Vidyalaya (SJKV), Piliyandala, where most of the students are residing in the watershed of the wetland. All of them, their family members and school mates are somehow or other are or can become stakeholders of this wetland conservation.

The structure of this awareness programme was focused on active learning through interactive sessions including presentations, discussions, question and answer session etc. Panel of resource persons were Prof. Deepthi Wickramasinghe, Eng. Badra Kamaladasa, Dr. Missaka Hettiarachchi and Ms. Chethika Gunasiri. Ms. Sherani Ruberu from Sri Lanka Biodiversity and Mr Thusitha Peiris from Sampath Bank too attended this event.

SLWP distributed an information leaflet on wetlands and “Water Messenger” badges to students. As the final activity at each programme, the students were given a chance to express their knowledge about wetlands and its conservation, using their creative abilities in poetry, art and essay writing. This was carried out by individual students as well as groups and interestingly students came out with excellent poems, posters and essays. 117 and 60 students participated in both schools respectively.

Special World Water Day Programmes

(Activity 1)

In celebration of World Water Day (WWD) IWMI-HQ organized a World Water Day dialogue on March 23 titled “*Water, jobs and prosperity in Sri Lanka: Partnerships for sustainability*”. Hon. Rauff Hakeem, Minister of City Planning and Water Supply, was the guest of honor at the discussion. Scientists, policy makers and civil society organizations, together with representatives from some of Sri Lanka’s biggest companies, gathered for a lively dialogue on the future of the island’s water. Chair/SLWP was invited to represent the civil society in the panel discussion after the three main presentations by Peter McCornick of IWMI on “Water and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”, Dr. Tanuja Ariyananda, CEO, Lanka Rainwater Harvesting Forum on “Benefits that could be derived from improved collection of rainwater in the island” and Dr. Ananda Mallawatantri, Country Representative, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), who highlighted the growing threat from water pollution and proposed new strategies for tackling the problem.

(Activity 2)

SLWP Chair attended symposium on “Research and Development” organized by National Water Supply and Drainage Board” to commemorate WWD and held at BMICH on 18th March. This is the second annual symposium organized by the Research and Development Section of NWS&DB. The Key Note speaker at the plenary session was Dr Kala Vairawamoorthy of IWMI. Three parallel technical sessions were held after the plenary sessions where nearly 30 research papers were presented. It was a very productive day, as representatives of foreign missions, private sector organizations, government organizations and NGO got together along with the academics from the universities participated actively contributing the discussions after the presentations.

GWP – WACREP Activities on CCA

Agency Staff Programmes (Activity 2A)

(Activity 1)

As part of the continuing programme on CCA for irrigation sector agency staff and farmers, Project Management Committee (PMC) Members of the two major irrigation projects in the Puttalam District – Ingimitiya and Tabbowa participated in a CCA programme organized by the SLWP with the Irrigation Management Division (IMD) of the Ministry of Irrigation at the District Secretariat Puttalam on 4th March with the District Secretary Puttalam as Chief Guest.

56 participants representing the 2 PMC from the Depts of Irrigation, IMD, Agriculture, Agrarian Services and the Coconut Cultivation Board attended the programme. Presetaions were by a Consultant Irrigation Agronomist, Deputy Director Dept. Of Agriculture and Snr. Lecturer from the University of Rajarata.

(Activity 2)

Awareness Programme on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) for Farmer Leaders of Medium and Minor Irrigation Schemes in Kurunegala District. 24th May 2016.

While SLWP has held a majority of CCA programmes for agency staff and Farmer leaders of major and some medium schemes under the Irrigation Department (ID) since 2013, this programme held on 24th May 2016 at the Wayamba Training Institute Wariapola was significant in that Farmer Leaders of Minor Irrigation Systems under the Department of Agrarian Development (DAD) were included for the first time. Minor schemes are significantly more vulnerable to climate change impacts and SLWP hopes to shift emphasis to medium and minor schemes in implementing its CCA programmes in 2016 and 2017 as it is clear that greater capacity building efforts and support are needed for these systems. This programme was a sequel to the agency staff CCA programmes for ID and DAD that were held at the Bathalagoda Rice Research and Development Institute on 9th May 2016 and 31st August 2015.

Notwithstanding the disaster situation with respect to flooding and landslides in Sri Lanka including in the Kurunegala District and heavy floods especially in the lower reaches of the Deduru oya and also the heavy rain prevailing, over 60 FO Leaders and a further 8 Development Officers (4 from ID and 4 from DAD) in charge of the FO development activities in these systems attended the programme. Total participation was 75 including the resource persons. The Director of Irrigation served as Resource Person and Irrigation Engineer Wariapola participated in the programme. Other Resource persons included a Consultant Irrigation Agronomist, Senior Lecturer of Rajarata University and a Deputy Director of Agriculture.

The interest and demand was so intense that SLWP agreed to hold a follow up programme for FO leaders in other systems in NWP in 2016. SLWP Knowledge products including a booklet on CCA for Farmers and a recent publication on Paddy Cultivation under CC conditions developed in collaboration with the Bathalagoda Rice Research Institute was distributed among the FO Leaders.

New Technology Options (Activity 5A)

(Activity 1)

Workshop on Agronomic Practices in Other Food Crops Cultivation to Cope with Climate Change

As part of the Sri Lanka Water Partnership (SLWP) continuing programme on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) in the irrigation sector, a workshop on the above was held on the 24th March 2016 for Irrigation Department (ID) staff of the Monaragala District at the In-Service Training Institute of the Department of Agriculture at Angunakolapellessa. The 35 participants (27 male and 8 female) included Engineers, Engineering Assistants, Development Officers and Field Assistants of the ID. This programme was part of SLWP World Water Day Programme and was implemented as a SLWP and Cap Net Lanka joint activity.



Participants at the programme



Field visit – On Demand Irrigation

The Programme included two specialist presentations on Climate Change Impacts on Farming and Rural Livelihoods and on Cropping Options/ Practices for Dry Zone Agriculture to Cope with Climate Change. The practical session included a visit to the School of Agriculture Angunakolapellesa where the participants were introduced to the extensive rain water harvesting techniques being practiced both for perennial and annual crops and drip irrigation systems operating on solar power. A visit to the Mahaveli Authority Uda Walawe Project followed where a newly developed "On Demand" Irrigation System had been installed and was one of 5 such systems presently in operation in Uda Walawe. The participants were introduced to the technical and institutional issues that had arisen in system operations.

(Activity 2)

Workshop on Agronomic Practices in Paddy Cultivation to Cope with Climate Change

A programme on the above for technical officers of the Irrigation Department (ID) and Department of Agrarian Development (DAD) working with farmers in medium and minor irrigation systems was held at the Rice Research and Development Institute (RRDI) Bathalagoda on 9th May 2016. 32 officers of the ID from NWP and NCP with 4 engineers from the ID head office attended the above programme along with 8 officers including a District Engineer of DAD from Kurunegala and Puttalama District. Regional Director Irrigation based in Kurunegala also attended the sessions. Total participation was 40.

This programme is a follow up activity to the general Climate Change Adaptation Programme of the Sri Lanka Water Partnership (SLWP) and aims at capacity building of such staff to cope with climate change issues impacting on irrigated agriculture especially with Paddy and Other Field Crops. The session at RRDI focused on paddy cultivation and especially on farm water management as these officers were already familiar with system management. Issues of water supply, demand and management during land preparation, growth and reproductions phases of paddy cultivation. Issues of crop and soil management including salinity and iron toxicity were discussed and options recommended. Information on use of newer short age paddy varieties to better cope with floods, droughts, salinity and iron toxicity was provided. A guideline prepared by SLWP with assistance of RRDI on paddy cultivation in the context of climate change was also provided to the participants. A field demonstration was part of the overall programme.

Goal 02 - Generate and Communicate Knowledge.

GWP – Core Activities

School Programmes / Water Messenger Programmes

(Activity 1)

For International World Forest Day and the World Water Day, SLWP partner, *Lions Club Pilimathalawa* organized a series of campaigns which were carried out in the area of Kadugannawa to raise awareness within the young community on water and forest conservation.

The first campaign was held at the "*Alanduwaka Madduma Bandara*" Junior School. After a short introduction by the school principal and the president of the Lions Club, Ms. Samudu, a graduate from University of Peradeniya, explained to the children why it is essential to conserve water. A brief Q and A session was held. The students were explained the importance of the water quality and how to preserve water sources. Later they planted trees in the school area explainign the children of the importance of trees for securing water sources.

Secondly an environment clean-up campaign was oraganized and a 1.5 km long section along the Colombo-Kandy-Highway starting at the Kadugannawa Old Rock Tunnel to the town-centre of Kadugannawa was selected for this activity. For this campaign a students from the Vocational Training Authority of Sri Lanka also joined in. The task was to clean up at the side of the road as well as distributing flyers to passers-by. It was important to clean this area as this is a catchment area of the Maha Oya and unfortunately along the highway a lot of garbage is dumped which also caused pollution for the river Maha Oya. Handouts were disseminated

among the people to make them aware of the proper disposal of garbage and the effect of improper disposal on the catchment areas and the quality of water.

4 foreign interns from France, Greece, Germany and Czechoslovakia attached to SLWP from student exchange programme with the University of Kelaniya and assigned to SLWP for one month for orientation and training also participated in the above event.



The President, Lions Club of Pilimathalwa addressing the students



Foreign interns participating in the clean-up event

(Activity 2)

Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Program in Upper Mahaweli Area Water Partnership

SLWP has been pioneering the Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Program in Upper Mahaweli Area water partnership with support of its partner the Lions Club of Pilimatalawe and the Provincial Ministry of Education. An Awareness program for student counselors and students will be held to celebrate Menstrual Hygiene Day at Pilimatalawe Madya Maha Vidyalaya in Pilimatalawe on the 30th May 2016.

The MHM Day celebration for SLWP was conducted on 30.5.16 in Denuwara Education Zone, Kandy where the MHM program was initially launched two years ago with support from the NDB as a spin-off from the school sanitation activity. MHM Day 2016 was celebrated by 70 schools in various ways by the Denuwara zone and led to a host of school level activities such as school fairs “polas” to raise funds for MHM related amenities, studies of absenteeism due to MH related factors.

The 2016 MHM Day activity was held in the Denuwara Zonal Education office. Twenty seven female student counsellors’ teachers and 80 female prefects attended this activity. Resource persons were drawn from the Provincial Ministry of Health and Provincial Ministry of Education. The MHM wheel designed by the Water Supply and Collaborative Council based in Geneva was disseminated and replicated by all school teams undertaking to further disseminate at school level. Total of 140 participated including teachers and resource persons.

The initial support offered by NDB for launching of the MHM activity is greatly appreciated.

School Programmes - World Water Day Programmes

(Activity 1)

World Water Day Programmes (WWD) by Ma Oya AWP

Two awareness programmes were organized by the Ma Oya AWP in collaboration with SLWP on 22nd and 23rd March to commemorate WWD. On 22nd an awareness programme was carried out for the villagers in Mawanella on the importance of Bo Ella stream and how to keep it clean. A shramdana was taken place to clean Bo Ella by removing polythene and plastic bottles disposed by the villagers.

On 23rd March a school awareness programme was held at the Ambulugala Maha Vidyalaya. The students were presented with handouts on the importance of the water quality and how to conserve water sources.

After a brief introduction and a presentation students participated in an essay competition under the topic "Conserving Water Sources". The winners of the programme will be presented with certificates and gifts on the next programme scheduled for April. 60 students participated the programme.



Cleaning the Bo Ella area by villagers



Students reading the handouts

(Activity 2)

School Awareness program & Essay competition for World Water Day

An awareness and essay competition was organized for WWD on 7th April at the Rajgiriya Mahavidyalaya, Dikpitiya Aranayake. The Programme is organized by the Sri Lanka Water Partnership and the Ma Oya Kuda Oya Surekime Sanvidanaya. Over 200 essays were received from 35 schools in Aranayake education zone. The top 10 essays were selected and certificates were given to the participants at this event. The Zonal education director participated this event.

GWP – WACREP CCA Activities

Drinking Water – CBO Activities (Activity 7A)

(Activity 1)

WACREP CBO Programme - Katugastota

The CBO awareness program was held as a one day workshop on 30th March at National Water Supply and Drainage Board Auditorium, Gohadoda. The workshop was organized collaboratively by Sri Lanka Water Partnership, National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) and the National Community Water Trust, Office bearers of CBOs, NWSDB officers and resource persons from the Dept. of Health Central Province participated in the program. Total participation of 80 included 70 CBO representatives.

The program was inaugurated after lighting the traditional oil lamp. Mr. T.D.L.S. Jayasena, senior engineer-rural water supply, welcomed invited guests, resource persons and all the participants and he explained the importance of the workshop on climate change adaptation and recollected the disasters related to climate change which the area has been experiencing and emphasized that all CBOs need to be proactive in identifying suitable adopting adaptive actions. The negative impacts of climate change are already been felt in this region and unless action is taken it will also be felt in the lower riparian. He mentioned that this program was funded by GWP and in view of the lack of community mobilization programs for CBOs, the WACREP program is a great help in strengthening CBO awareness.

Presentations and Discussions at the workshop centered on Impact Climate Change on rural livelihoods, water quality, catchment and source area conservation, impact of agro chemicals and institutional issues related to conservation of catmints.

CCA School Programme (Activity 7B)

(Activity 1)

School Awareness Programme – Gonadika Maha Vidyalaya

An awareness programme was held on climate change for school children at the Gonadika Sinhala and Tamil Maha Vidyalaya in Bambaragaha in the Denuwara education zone in collaboration with the Lions Club Pilimalatalawa, Network of Women Water Professionals (NetWwater) and the National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB).

The Gonadika school is facing many problems including a proper water supply, clean toilets and enough teachers. The parents of the students are laborers and lack time to concentrate on their children's education. The programme explained the importance on building awareness among communities on climate change adaptation. Resource persons from NWSDB and Lions Club of Pilimathalwa took part in the event.

Students were requested to participate in an art competition and draw based on the lecture they have given. With the help of the staff the Zonal deputy director and a career guidance office from the Denuwara educational zone held a campaign to develop the attitudes of the students on conserving water resources and adapting to climate change. Five winners from each section were selected and presented with certificates and gifts. Total of 260 students participated the event. .



Students at the Art Competition



**Ms. Kusum Athukorala – RC Member
GWP is talking with the children**

(Activity 2)

Special World Water Day School Programme by Nilwala Area Water Partnership

Sri Lanka Water Partnership and the Undergraduates of the GREEN TECHNOLOGY course in Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ruhuna, organized the "SISU JALA HAMUWA" program for the world water day, 2016 on 18th March. 10 Schools from Walasmulla/ Weraketiya educational zone participated the programme. There was an essay competition and 3 students selected from each category.

Programme was started with the lighting of the traditional oil lamp by Dean, Faculty of Agriculture and during the programme a presentation and a video was presented on water. Then there was a short question round. Then a poster creation was held with the topic of "Water Waste in School and Methods to Prevent". After a discussion session the prize giving was held. Total of 90 participated the programme including 54 students and teachers, academic staff and undergraduates from the university.



Students participating in the drawing competition

(Activity 3)

Sisu Jala Hamuwa Programme at Bingiriya

A school water program – Sisu Jala Hamuwa on CCA was held at Vijaya Central College Weerapokuna Bingiriya on 30th June. This activity was organized by Mr Laksitha Sudasinghe, Secretary of the Deduru Oya Area Water Partnership who is also the Bingiriya Education zone Environment Coordinator. The program involved 160 school children. Mr Sarath Premalal and Ms. Geethanie Ahangama of the Dept. of Meteorology and HARTI respectively conducted sessions on Climate change and Climate related impacts on agriculture. Ms. Kusum Athukorala conducted a session based on the SLWP video on climate change and conducted a interactive focus group on climate change and future involvement of youth in agriculture. The children produced their group perceptions which were then presented to the group. Mr. Sudasinghe was also tasked with conducting an essay competition for the participants based on the material presented in the program. The best three essays will receive a prize of Rs. 3000/- Rs. 2000/- and Rs. 1000/- respectively from SLWP and be uploaded on the SLWP website.

WACREP Media Activities

Publications

- A new publication on Irrigated Paddy Cultivation in the Context Climate Change prepared under the guidance of the Batalagoda Rice Research and Development Institute (RRDI) to be used for training purposes of agency staff has been printed.
- Printing of Technical Booklet on New Technology options for other field crop cultivation under climate change. This is the second such tech publication for field staff/FO leaders

(Activity 2) - Communicating Climate Change (WACREP media activity)

SLWP has developed a video documentary tool on climate change named "Thinking of Water when the well runs dry?" This has been distributed through agency partners but not yet been used extensively at community level. In a continuation of activity using WACREP climate change video, the use of the WACREP video will be expanded with communication strategies identified by experts for awareness building on climate for related community groups/agency staff. Therefore it is intended to conduct a training workshop in HARTI in June 2016 to introduce the video to the SLWP partners who are likely to make use of it as well as a broader cross section of agencies to gain profile for the SLWP climate change activities. It is hoped to highlight the water issues and promote IWRM through a multi stakeholder program supporting SLWP partners in building awareness in climate change using video as tool. This is a collaborative activity with HARTI.

A Planning meeting of the Communicating Climate change – Awareness Program for Trainers for SLWP Partner Organisations, was held at International Water Management Institute on May 06 2016. This planning meeting was with an initial exploration of the substance, format and communicative strategies to be used optimally when using this video as a teaching tool on climate change.

The focus of the video is irrigated agriculture but in keeping with SLWP's IWRM principles, other sector specialists too (agriculture, forestry, media) were invited as SLWP sees it is important to break through the silo mentality in development communication. Based on the input of experts the final meeting will be held in HARTI in June.

Goal 03 - Strengthen Partnerships

Private Sector Collaboration

(Activity 1)

SLWP – EFL Programme – “A Dialogue on Policy Implications and Community Concerns Resulting from the Approval Process of Mini Hydro Power Plants”.

A Dialogue on the above organized by the Environmental Foundation Ltd and SLWP was held on 31st March at the Yellow River Auditorium at IWMI. 75 participants included representatives of CBO/NGO, Banks, Developers, Universities, CEA, ID and other stakeholders having interest in issues related to mini hydro projects in Sri Lanka. Case studies on 3 mini hydro projects/proposals currently on stream were discussed as were the many environmental and social consequences arising from their establishment. Need for policy recasting in the face of many issues arising due to poor policy implementation and policy gaps were highlighted.



The panel addressing the participants



The participants at the event

(Activity 2)

Exposure visit for Mini hydro affected persons from Dellewa to Eratna - Earth Day activity

As a part of the mini hydro stakeholder activity started up in collaboration with EFL during which there was a request to facilitate community awareness of implications of mini-hydro development mechanisms for activists of Dellewa through a visit to the three mini -hydros currently functioning in Eratna on 20th April 2016. The program was intended to create solidarity among communities by flagging the community and environmental issues related to mini-hydro development in ecologically sensitive catchments. 70 participants from Dellewa including Community representatives from Eratna, media and SLWP came together for this activity bringing together a broad cross section of communities whose water security has been affected by mini-hydros

(Activity 3)

SLWP-EFL Mini Hydro Programme (Bankers Meeting)

An awareness session for on mini hydro power projects was held in collaboration with SLWP partner, Environmental Foundation Ltd on 10th of June at the Sri Lanka Foundation. Forty one persons from financial institutions and the media participated in this activity. Four presentations were by Mr Jagath Gunewardena, Dr C. Wickramanayake, Mr Madura de Silva and Ms Kusum Athukorala. The speakers present highlighted the need to improve standard of environmental investigations and base line surveys so that projects do not encounter community hostility after startup of projects. The bankers deplored that they were dependent on the regulator to carry out assessments. Most present emphasized the need to review the current application process and include a community consultation component.

(Activity 4)

Meeting with Unilever Pure-it

SLWP met with Unilever Representatives to identify activities for sponsorship. It was agreed that SLWP will do a series of articles on potable water (5) and also arrange for a representative to discuss water issues on Nugasevana the TV programme being sponsored by them. These articles are to lead up to WWD. Unilever was also interested in supporting water/hygiene related school activities in SP, CP and NCP.

(Activity 5)

Chair SLWP represented GWPO and SLWP at International Roundtable on “Partnering with the Private Sector for Sustainable Financing from Source-to-Sea and beyond” held from 14th & 15th May 2016 at JetWing Blue Hotel, Negombo, Sri Lanka. The round table forum was organised by GWP-Mediterranean, UNDP, IW (Learn), GEF and CEO Water Mandate. SLWP invited three private sector partners (NDB, Brandix and SL Biodiversity flat form) with whom many joint programs were conducted, to take part in the round table conference and share the experience in carrying out these projects. Being a leading CWP conducting collaborative projects successfully with Private sector, SLWP could share its’ experience in working with private sector, to formulate strategies for the round table organizers in securing private sector commitment. RC member Ms. Kusum Atukorale too participated on the second day of the conference and shared the experience of working with private sector.

Governance

- a. 6 Programme Committee Meetings and 1 Steering Committee Meeting held during the period.
- b. Chair, SLWP participated in Climate Services User Forum for the Water Sector – A Joint Event by Global Water Partnership South Asia (GWP SAS) and WMO on 26th April at Hilton Residencies, Colombo Sri Lanka.
- c. Chair SLWP participated in the IWC8 International Conference held from 12th -13th May at Jet Wing Blue in Negombo and Taj Samudra Hotel Colombo. RC member Ms. Kusum Atukorale also participated in selected sessions and contributed to the group discussions. This conference was also attended by SLWP Partners Brandix and Chamber Of Commerce
- d. SLWP Chair participated in Validation Workshop Global Environment Facility/Small Grants Programme (GEF/SGP) Operational Phase 6 programme on 19th May Taj Samudra Hotel, Colombo.