

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

January - November 2016.

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> collaborative activity with CIDA on River sand alternatives on 29<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

27<sup>th</sup> 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.

28<sup>th</sup> 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.

A training programme was organized by the Construction Industry Development Authority (CIDA) at the CETRAC training center, Pelawatte in collaboration with Sri Lanka Water Partnership on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016. The program was facilitated by Dr. Sugathapala University of Moratuwa and was attended by 40 persons from agencies, industry and civil society.

The activity covered a broad range of topics and was not confined only to engineering and construction issues but covered social and the need to give a new professionalism to counter the lack of labor, new training methods including use of ICTs changes of curriculum to promote changes in perception were discussed too. The concept of alternate sand was discussed with mixed reactions from the audience. The problem of the roofing materials, the asbestos ban value added innovation of traditional construction systems and the impact on low income housing groups was discussed.

A major constraint is that alternates such as manufactures sand (M-sand) and eco tiles are not freely available, information on same is scarce and there is antipathy from the workmen( baas) as the material is sometimes difficult to use. Another issue is that lack of sufficient state promotion for alternates. Domestic housing is 40% of the construction industry which currently accounts for 40% of the GDP therefore there is a need to disseminate information within the younger professionals and general public was discussed. There is a possibility of internships for the Ruhuna Green Tech group with the stakeholders who attended this activity.

The possibility of SLWP ( accessing private sector assistance ) organizing a half day workshop for the construction industry and all related agencies with technical support from CIDA with the attendance of the Minister was discussed . This activity if held speedily will impact on policy changes and promote new thinking in the numerous housing projects planned by the state.

### **(Activity 2)**

#### **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 Pilimatalawe Fair Ground on June 1<sup>st</sup>. This activity was attended by over 50 members of the clergy, local politicians, staff of the Kadugannawa Urban Council, Pilimatalawe Bazaar committee and the SLWP member organisation the Lions Club of Pilimatalawe. 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 programmes 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.



Another school Programme was held highlighting the services and value of Bolgoda wetland complex and was held at Sri Pragnananda Vidyalaya, Dampe, Piliyandala on 12<sup>th</sup> October. Sixty students who are studying in grade 9 classes participated in this event.

This programme consisted of two types of activities: lectures and interactive activity. Eng. Badra Kamaladasa, Hon. Chair/ SLWP, in her presentation discussed how school children could take part in conserving wetlands. Prof. Deepthi Wickramasinghe, Hon. Executive Secretary/ SLWP delivered a speech explaining the values and services of wetlands and the importance of conserving these habitats. Ms. Chethika Gunasiri, Ecologist of the Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Authority explained the threats, issues and current situation of the wetlands. Mr. Roshan de Silva of Sri Lanka Biodiversity and Ms. Sujeewa Ranasinghe, Deputy Director, Western Provincial Council participated as observers.

In the second part of the activity, students were grouped into 4 and were given the opportunity of presenting their ideas of conservation of Bolgoda wetland as poems, drawings, posters and as a result many such creative work have been delivered.

## **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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 session 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 – Inginimitiya 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 4<sup>th</sup> March with the District Secretary Puttalam as Chief Guest.

56 participants representing the 2 PMC from the Dept. of Irrigation, IMD, Agriculture, Agrarian Services and the Coconut Cultivation Board attended the programme. Presentations 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. 24<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> 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.



**(Activity 3)**

**Awareness Programme on CCA for Field Staff in Ratnapura District.**

The first programme in wet zone on CCA for staff in the agriculture sector in Ratnapura was held at the "Samudu – Cooperative Hotel on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2016. 39 participants from department of Irrigation, Agrarian Development and Agriculture participated the programme. Issues related to specific agro ecological zones of Ratnapura and special agronomic practices of the wet zone were discussed in this programme which included four presentations including one by a Professor from the University of Sabaragamuwa and another by the Director of the Department of Meteorology. A programme evaluation carried indicated that over 84% of the participant has ranked the programme as important. Over 80% of the participants were women.

The second programme in wet zone on CCA for staff in the agriculture sector was held in Ratnapura, at the “Cooperative Training Centre, Kalutara-North” on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016. 38 participants from department of Irrigation, Agrarian Development and Agriculture participated the programme. Issues related to specific agro ecological zones of Kalutara and special agronomic practices of the wet zone were discussed in this programme which included four presentations including one by a Professor from the University of Sabaragamuwa and another by the Director of the Department of Meteorology. A programme evaluation carried indicated that over 84% of the participant has ranked the programme as important. Over 65% of the participants were women.



#### **(Activity 4)**

##### **Young Water Professionals Training Programme – Bandarawela on 4<sup>th</sup> August.**

The YWP circle of Uva Province was launched on the 4<sup>th</sup> August at Rendezvous Hotel Bandarawela. The launch was organised by Mr. Chatura Sajeewa, Youth Focal point for SLWP. The IESL Uva chapter head who joined the SLWP in supporting this launch said that it was a very timely and welcome activity which would be supported by senior professionals.

Mr Ruwan Liyanage DGM NWSDB presented the challenges faced by the water sector due to climate change. SLWP Snr Advisor Ms. Kusum Athukorala made a presentation on SLWP work so far, emphasized the need for capacity building for YWPs and perceived expectations for the YWPs.

The 19 YWPs were present then carried out a group work exercise and presented the following suggestions for their future activity. Sanitation Problems in the plantation sector was seen as a priority. Sewage enters to the water sources and its impacts on community health. Therefore building toilets for affected people and providing potable water supply were seen as priority actions. The YWPs decided to carry out some awareness programmes to alleviate sanitation problem area in the plantation sectors.

#### **(Activity 5)**

##### **CCA Programme for Development Officers in Kandy on 3<sup>rd</sup> August.**

An Awareness Programme on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction for Development Assistants of District Secretariat Yatinuwara Kandy was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2016 at the Divisional Secretary office Pilimalalawe. This activity was initiated on the request of the Divisional Secretary Yatinuwara and was held in the Divisional Secretary Office Pilimalalawe. It is part of the continuing Programme in UMAWP on CCA. The collaborators were the NWS&DB Central Province, RDHS Central Province and Dept. of Agriculture. 70 Development assistants and 4 resource persons too part in this activity. The Lions Club of Pilimalalawe linked with DS office for communications in planning phase and will monitor follow up.

#### **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 24<sup>th</sup> 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 Angunakolapellessa 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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.





### **(Activity 3)**

#### **Workshop on Agronomic Practices in Paddy Cultivation of Other Field Crops (OFC) at FCRDI - Mahailuppallama**

A followup programme to “Activity 2” above for field staff of Irrigation department and department of agrarian development working in the North Western and North Central Provinces was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September at the Department of Agriculture field crop Research and Development Institute (FCRDI) at Mahailuppallama. Special emphasis was placed on efficient water use technologies including sprinkler and drip irrigation. A demonstration on how to assemble and service drip and sprinkler system was part of the programme. The demonstration included the use of clay pot irrigation for establishing perennial crops. 35 officers and ID and DAD attended the 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> March to commemorate WWD. On 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Media Activity**

#### **Exhibition stall for 5<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum 2016.**

The Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum bring together policy makers, scientists, donors, youth and representatives from over 50 countries every year. With this years' theme of “Adapting and Living below 2°C: Bridging the Gaps in Policy and Practice” the exhibition was held from 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Posters were displayed by SLWP and its partners Environmental Foundation Limited (EFL), Rukrekaganno and The Forest Conservators. Hand Out and other SLWP publication were disseminated among the school children who visited the stall. Also the stall was visited by GWP SAS Chair Dr. Lam Dor Ji.

## **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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.



### ***(Activity 2)***

#### **CBO Programme in Uva Paranagama**

An awareness program was held on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2016 on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) for Community Based Organization officers Uva Paranagama Badulla. This is a continuing activity in CCA. All the areas in Badulla district other than Uva Parangama had been covered by the WACREP activity other than Uva Paranagama division.

The program was attended by 91 CBO 100 CBO officers and related agency staff and was held at the Divisional Security office, Uva Paranagama. The Collaborators and Resource Persons were drawn from the NWS&DB, RDHS Uva Province, SLWP, Dept. of Community Water and Dept. of Forestry.

Objective of Proposed Activity was to build awareness on CCA in CBOs, improve IWRM centric awareness on CCA and water security in CBOs and related officers and create platform for creating awareness and mobilizing communities on impact of climate change and adaptation strategies on enhancing water security. This area is selected for a World Bank project but only a few selected stronger CBOs will be selected for rehabilitation. Nonetheless this area suffers severely from landslides, droughts and deforestation which impairs water security. There are also many issues related to the ongoing Uma Oya project.

#### **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 incollaboration with the Lions Club Pilimalatawa, 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 stated 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 JalaHamuwa on CCA was held at Vijaya Central College Weerapokuna Bingiriya on 30<sup>th</sup> 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.



### **(Activity 4)**

#### **Balana Sisu Jala Hamuwa Programme on Climate Change**

Balana is part of the water short central massif where the NWSDB cannot provide piped water due to the steep terrain. Its only option for water are dug wells and springs which are being depleted due to rampant deforestation due to activities shielded/ led by local politicians . RWH is the only option and the neighboring village Dekinda -Motana already has several RWH tanks. NetWwater and Lions Club Pilimalalawe have long been working in this area in RWH. They had found a potential donor Ozo Lanka hotels who have agreed to fundraise for building a RWH for the Balana KV.

A Sisu JalaHamuwa on Climate Change and Water Security was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> September at Balana Kanishta Vidyalaya. This school does not have drinking water at all. Water for the toilet comes from a well which runs dry in the dry periods. Then water for sanitation purposes also has to be brought from neighboring houses.

The younger children were given art material for a painting activity on use of water in their community during this program.

The program commenced with a Welcome speech and Lighting of the traditional lamp. An Introduction to ongoing school water security program in Denuwara education zone was given by Mr. L. Jayawickerema ,Representative of Provincial Education Ministry Central Province .Ms Kusum Athukorala presented the need for adopting an IWRM approach at community level in order to face up to challenges of climate change . Different options need to be sought out and mini catchments bordering springs and wells conserved to improve ground water recharge. School communities can work together with parents to improve community water security. Ms. Nayana Samarakoon NWSDB gave a technical presentation on enhancing Water security through Rain Water Harvesting in a Changing Climate. A Representative MOH office Yatinuwara spoke on Health and Water issues in Balana . He listed health problems in the area and noted that there are 18 severely malnourished children in this school. Several children walk 8 km up and down to school every day.

A special feature of this program was that there was a large turnout of the parents and past students in this activity which augurs well for the future. There were 4 resource persons and 65 children in the activity. The parents have agreed to look into the status of the wells and springs in the area as none of the wells have had the water quality tested.

#### **(Activity 5)**

##### **School Programme on Climate Change – Walala Ratnayake Central College**

A Climate Change awareness programme was held at the above school on 26<sup>th</sup> September. The Programme was started with a welcome speech by the principal. Then Mr. Niyangoda from Sri Lanka Water Partnership described the roll of SLWP in water security and climate change awareness among the school children. He also mentioned the importance of school children having the knowledge on climate change and school sanitation as they are the future citizens of the country. A senior sociologist from the National Water Supply and Drainage Board and an Epidemiologist from the health department described the various aspects of the water, sanitation and water borne diseases, school sanitation and other health tips. Total of 175 student and 3 teachers participated the programme.

#### **(Activity 6)**

##### **WACREP School Programme in Katugastota Maha Vidyalaya**

A Climate Change awareness programme was held at the above school on 10<sup>th</sup> October. The Programme was started with a welcome speech by the principal. Then Mr. Niyangoda from Sri Lanka Water Partnership described the roll of SLWP in water security and climate change awareness among the school children. He also mentioned the importance of school children having the knowledge on climate change and school sanitation as they are the future citizens of the country. A senior sociologist from the National Water Supply and Drainage Board and an Epidemiologist from the health department described the various aspects of the water, sanitation and water borne diseases, school sanitation and other health tips. Total of 100 student and 5 teachers participated the programme.

#### **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.
- The second technical booklet on New Technology Options and best practices – “Cultivation of other field crops (OFC) to cope with Climate Change” was printed. This document was developed with the assistance of the Field Crop Research and Development Institute of Mahailuppallama.

A similar publication on “Rain Water Harvesting for Agriculture” developed with the Field Crop Research and Development Institute in Angunakolapelessa will be published in August.

SLWP has sought ways of disseminating the WACREP video on climate change so as to reach a larger group of farmer’s officers and other stakeholders in irrigated agriculture. An ongoing activity called Communicating Climate Change was initiated with the SLWP partner HARTI. A meeting was held with the HARTI director general and communication team on the 7<sup>th</sup> October to identify possibilities of using the film in the National Govi Sathiya (farmer week) as the Minister of Agriculture had requested HARTI to carry out trainings for all farmers in Agrarian Services Centers. The Director and the training staff were very impressed with the video due to its content and the way of presentation. They agreed to use the video during the special farmer training sessions conducted by HARTI during the forthcoming "Govi Sathiya Programme". Large number of training sessions will be conducted simultaneously covering almost all the farmer organizations in the country.

## 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.

## (Activity 3)

### SLWP – HARTI Meeting

SLWP has sought ways of disseminating the WACREP video on climate change so as to reach a larger group of farmer's officers and other stakeholders in irrigated agriculture. An ongoing activity called Communicating Climate Change was initiated with the SLWP partner HARTI. A meeting was held with the HARTI director general and communication team on the 7<sup>th</sup> October to identify possibilities of using the film in the National Govi Sathiya (farmer week) as the Minister of Agriculture had requested HARTI to carry out trainings for all farmers in Agrarian Services Centers. The Director and the training staff were very impressed with the video due to its content and the way of presentation. They agreed to use the video during the special farmer training sessions conducted by HARTI during the forthcoming "Govi Sathiya Programme". Large number of training sessions will be conducted simultaneously covering almost all the farmer organizations in the country.

## 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 organizers were congratulated for providing platform for the first time where the varied interests could come together to discuss and examine issues and it was recommended that such forums be organized regularly.

**(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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

**(Activity 6)**

**SLWP collaboration on scouts Jamboree**

The Colombo District Scouts Camporee was held at the Vihara Maha Devi Park Colombo on the 11-13<sup>th</sup> August with a water related theme involving 5000 scouts of the Colombo district. SLWP was requested to support the activity by providing in a drama item for the opening ceremony, training the scouts in the Water Song for the ceremony and giving technical assistance for preparing a school sanitation survey to be completed by the scouts. The drama “ Wathura Kathura“ with the theme of water conservation was performed by the children of Gadaladeniya M.V, Kandy , one of the schools provided with sustainable sanitation by SLWP and its partner NDB at the opening ceremony .

**(Activity 7)**

**SLWP – UNDP Film**

Shooting of the UNDP supported film on “Impacts of mini hydro development” has been done and editing in progress.

**(Activity 8)**

**Meeting with Chamber of Commerce.**

Chair SLWP, Country Coordinator and Executive Secretary Prop Deepthi Wickramasinghe attended a discussion on September 19<sup>th</sup> at the Chamber of Commerce with regard to a discussion on a follow up Phase 2 to the current Bolgoda study. A meeting with CEA will be arranged by COC and the preliminary ideas discussed to be taken up will be finalized ASAP.

**(Activity 9)**

**Program for Dept of Export Agriculture**

SLWP and the Dept. of Export Agriculture (DEA) conducted a workshop on Climate Change on cultivation and production of Export Agriculture Crops (EACs) on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 2016 at Oak Ray Resort, Peradeniya. The spice trade has recently grown to be the 4<sup>th</sup> highest foreign exchange earner for the country but spice cultivation is being seriously affected by climate change. Dr. H.M.P.A. Subasinghe, Deputy Director Research (DEA) gave the welcome address followed by a Message & Special Remarks by Director General/DEA, Dr. M.A.P.K. Seneviratne. A session on *Climate Change Outlook* was conducted by Mr. W.D. Jayasekara, Dept. of Meteorology and Dr. H.M.P.A. Subasinghe, DDR-DEA presented on *Impact of Climate Change on Cultivation and Production of EACs*.

Mr. R.S. Wijesekara (retired Dept of Agriculture) presented on *Potentials for Management of EAC cultivations through Soil and Water Management Techniques*. Ms. Kusum Athukorala carried out an interactive session on *Experiences in EACs and Climate Variations of Participants* followed by group work highlighting issues and challenges as well as possible solutions.

The results of this activity will be used to carry out a similar program on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2016 to help the DEA extension staff to support livelihoods of growers by creating awareness and mobilizing communities on impact of climate change and adaptation strategies. Sensitized grassroots level officers of the DEA will be thus empowered to cope with climate change and learn adaptive measures.

**SLWP Partners Forum 2016**

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Partners Forum was held on 20<sup>th</sup> December at The Galadari Hotel Colombo with 51 of our collaborating agencies and partners represented. The Chief Guest was Hon Gamini Jayawickreme Perera Minister of Sustainable Development and Wild Life Conservation while the Keynote address was delivered by Ms Nina Brandstrup Acting Resident Coordinator UNDP. The programme also included a song in honor of late Pandit Amaradeva by Mr Sarath Premalal Director Department of Meteorology and a presentation by the SLWP Youth Focal point Eng Chatuhra Sanjeeva. The outgoing Chair Eng Badra Kamaladasa who relinquishes duties this year to take up a full time assignment with the Ministry of Irrigation thanked all for the support given during her tenure and requested the same support to the new Chair Mr Jayatissa Bandaragoda former Government Agent/Secretary and former Director IWMI South East Asia.

**Governance**

- a. 11 Programme Committee Meetings and 2 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 26<sup>th</sup> April at Hilton Residencies, Colombo Sri Lanka.
- c. Chair SLWP participated in the IWC8 International Conference held from 12<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> May Taj Samudra Hotel, Colombo.

- e. On invitation by Secretary of Irrigation and water Resources Management, Country coordinator, Mr Ranjith Ratnayake participated the Consultative workshop held at Foundation Institute, Colombo 7, on "Amendment to Irrigation Ordinance" held on 22nd August. M/I & WRM is in the process of consulting various stakeholders and veterans in the water sector to identify the shortcomings of the current irrigation Ordinance in order to revise same to suit the current context. Invitation to Mr Ratnayaka was based on his long association of local and overseas irrigation and water sector. Mr Ratnayake contributed during the discussion in response to the issues raised by the workshop organizers.
- f. **SDG Workshop by the Ministry of Sustainable Development.**  
A SDG Goal 6 Workshop organized by the Ministry Of Sustainable Development in collaboration with UN ESCAP and the Ministry of City Water Supply was held on 15<sup>th</sup> September at Lakdiya MeduraL Ms Kusum Athukorala RC Member SLWP made a case presentation on Mini Hydro while Mr Ranjith Ratnayake. Country Coordinator SLWP made presentation on Historical and present institutional arrangements for water sector coordination. Strong links have been developed with both ministries and this will enable SLWP to undertake joint activities in the future.
- g. Roundtable Meeting on Sharing Experiences of Implementing SDG's in the Asia-Pacific Region on 29<sup>th</sup> December.