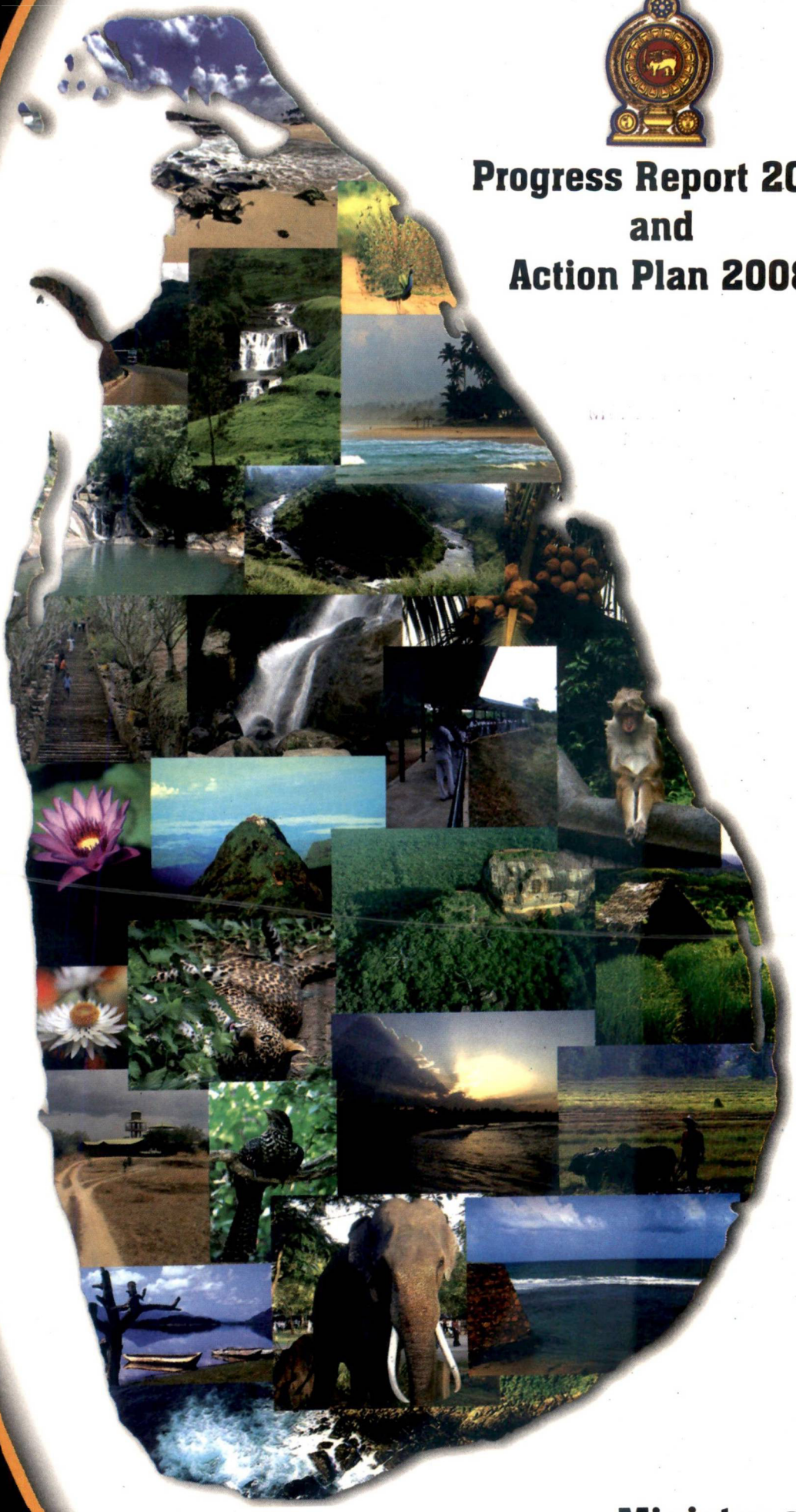


Progress Report 2007
and
Action Plan 2008

Ministry of
Environment & Natural Resources

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Message of the Hon. Minister of Environment & Natural Resources

The link between man and environment is so strong as the parent - child affinity. It cannot be separated from each other. This is quite clear in our country particularly because of the influence of the Buddhist teachings. Arahat Mahinda's exhortation to the Great King, Devanam Piyathissa 2500 years ago bears further testimony to this. He said that this great earth belonged equally to the man and the birds flying in the sky and all creatures living on earth. "Oh! King, you are not the owner of this country, but only the custodian". This means that the man as an advanced being should protect the environment carefully within his short lifetime and hand over to the next generation.

Having this as its vision, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources has a responsibility to introduce plans to fulfill development needs of the country and protect the environment in a balanced way. Within a social pattern of increasing population which attempts to achieve physical development competitively, matters relating to environment protection appear to have taken a secondary place. Our challenge as the Ministry in charge of the subject is to effect an attitudinal change among the public and to plant the seeds of environmental protection and reconstruction in their intellect. Similarly, we also have another responsible task of seeking solutions for environmental issues.

In order to meet all these requirements, we implemented many projects in 2007 and also plans have been proposed for the year 2008.

Being able to inculcate awareness among heads of Local Government Authorities under the "Pilisaru" project, meant for proper management of "wastes" which has become a critical problem of the country and continue it up to the point of formulating a national policy on waste management is one of our achievements. This will pave the way for the successful implementation of "Piyakaru Purawara" and "Pivithuru Ganga" projects.

Arrangements have been made for proper management of natural resources through the implementation of the project "Randerana" to offer attract prices for mineral resources mined from the mother land and the project "Dewa Jawaya" to meet timber needs of the country.

At present, a great service is being rendered by the different projects such as the project of "Gaja Mithuro" to protect wild animals, especially to minimize the human-elephant conflict, the project of "Haritha Gammana" for the welfare of the people who live close to the national parks and the project of "Wana Senasuna" to provide a conducive environment for Buddhist priests for their religious activities while conserving nature.

Another achievement made for the future generation is the creation of a brigade about two and half lakhs "Green pilots" in 6000 of schools with the aim of enhancing environmental sensitivity of school children and converting them into an environmental friendly generation.

The Ministry has made arrangements to produce bio-fuel using *Weta endaru* under "Jeewa Jawaya" programme as an initial step to face the future energy shortages.

Further, we have taken measures to implement the local aforestation project called "Hela Thuru Wiyana" to prevent land degradation in our country caused by alien plants and to establish vegetation covers in cities and road sides under the same project.

The environment day which was limited only to tree planting has widened its activities under the "National Green Month" to protect the whole environment and thereby it is aimed to take steps to improve knowledge, economy and health of the people through the aforesaid projects, in the entire country.

In the meantime we have been able to establish our place in the forefront in regard to the internationally vital environmental protection and it is another achievement of ours. National Ozone Unit of the Ministry has been able to be the best country in the implementation of the Montreal Agreement beating 191 countries. Further a daughter and a son of our motherland have won the second place in a regional quiz contest held on this subject. These factors bear testimony to our above achievements.

With these numerous achievements and projects, the Ministry of Environment steps into the year 2008 taking measures to implement many nationally and internationally important programs. The establishment of a Carbon Bank has taken the pride of place among them. Further relevant divisions of the Ministry are taking steps to continue implementation of those programmes which have become successful in 2007, during the year 2008 as well.

Being prepared to step into the year 2008 with numerous new activities in various fields such as Green Trust, Expansion of Sea belt etc., we aim to act jointly with other Ministries for the success of development projects such as "Gama Neguma".

Protection of environment can neither be carried out by any single Ministry nor it should be confined to the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. It has to be a collective responsibility of all government and non-government establishments. We can provide guidance and do planning only. It is our aim to mobilize support of the entire population for the purpose of environmental protection and reconstruction irrespective of narrow political, racial or religious differences. I am of the opinion that only through such collective activities we can build the country abundant with greenery as enunciated in the "Mahinda Chintana" policy document.

Patali Champika Ranawaka
Minister of Environment and Natural Resources

Message of the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

It is with great pleasure that I write a message for the Progress Report 2007 and Action Plan 2008 of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.

This report provides an overview of the progress of activities in respect of environment management and natural resources conservation in different parts of the island, implemented by the Ministry and the agencies under the Ministry during the period under review. It should be mentioned that these programmes tremendously fulfilled many targets of the Mahinda Chintanaya which focuses on a prosperous future in a protected environment.

I take this opportunity to thank all the staff of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and other line agencies coming under its purview for the relentless effort and the donor agencies for their assistance and cooperation given during last year.

M. A. R. D Jayatillake
Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources

Vision

A healthy and pleasant environment sustaining nature for the well being of the people and the economy.

Mission

Provide leadership to manage the environment and natural resources in order to ensure national commitment for sustainable development for the benefit of the present and future generations.

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MAJOR PROBLEMS IN THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES SECTOR OF THE ISLAND

- Forest cover depletion
- Haphazard waste disposal
- Land degradation
- Environmental impacts due to sand mining
- Air Pollution and Climate change
- Depletion of biodiversity
- Pollution of inland waters
- Pollution of marine and coastal ecosystems
- Environmental impacts due to over exploitation of Natural Resources

MAJOR FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY

- Identification /analysis of problems in environment and natural resources sector through stakeholder consultation to enable policy formulation.
- Development of environment and natural resources policies, policy dissemination and ensuring implementation.
- Undertake Strategic Impact Assessment of environment and natural resources related policies.
- Take measures to ensure harmonization of environmental policies with other sector policies so that environmental sustainability is ensured in development process.
- Take measures to ensure compliance with international commitments arising out of MEAs for which Sri Lanka is a party.
- Development of strategies, master plans and action plans to implement the environment and natural resources related policies.
- Execute pilot projects related to new sector policy initiatives.
- Develop and formalize environment and natural resources sector wide monitoring system, comply with monitoring requirements, reporting and take remedial actions.
- Carry out policy research, analysis and dissemination of results of policy implementation and evaluation to the general public.
- Create enabling environment for public and political commitment towards sound environmental management.
- Create environmental education and awareness at national level in relation to the environment and natural resources policy reforms and other major environmental initiatives.
- Capacity building for environment and natural resources related policy implementers and other stakeholders.

FUNCTIONAL DIVISIONS IN THE MINISTRY

Functions and responsibilities of the Ministry are shared among ten functional Divisions, namely;

- **Natural Resources Management Division (NRMD)**
  Mainly focuses on the formulation of natural resources related policies and coordination of their implementation

- **Biodiversity Division (BD)**
  Provides policy directions towards conservation of biodiversity

- **Pollution Management Division (PMD)**
  Provides policy guidence in managing the environment basically through controlling of pollution

- **Policy Planning Division (PPD)**
  Facilitates the implementation of the National Environmental Policy through policy and planning efforts with partners in environmental and natural resources management

- **Environmental Economics & Global Affairs Division (EE&GA)**
  Provides directions in addressing issues pertaining to four major thematic areas namely; Environmental Economics, Climate Change, Air Quality and Global Environmental affairs.

- **Promotion and Environmental Education Division (P&EED)**
  Creates necessary awareness on environment and natural resources management issues so that participation can be obtained at all levels

- **Sustainable Environment Division (SED)**
  Provides the policy directives and support to implement the special environmental management and natural resources conservation projects undertaken by the Ministry

- **Human Resources Development Division (HRDD)**
  Develops human resources in the Ministry and its agencies in order to build the necessary capacity for environment management.

- **Legal Division (LD)**
  Provides the necessary legal support to the Ministry and also to the line agencies to achieve their mandate in environmental management in the country.

- **Finance Division (FD) & Administrative Division (AD)**
  Provide support services in financial, institutional and administrative matters to assist the Ministry and its agencies in performing their roles effectively.

AGENCIES IN THE MINISTRY

- Forest Department
- Department of Wildlife Conservation
- Central Environmental Authority
- Marine Pollution Prevention Authority
- Geological Survey and Mines Bureau
- State Timber Corporation
- Wildlife Trust of Sri Lanka



Haritha Niyamu Programme - "Green Walk"



Sanasa "Pilisaru" Account Launch - Meegahawatte



"Pilisaru" Programme - Monitoring Balangoda Composting Project

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE MINISTRY

STRATEGIC PRIORITY PROGRAMMES

Beginning from 2007, the Ministry has taken initiatives to implement following strategic priority programmes to address current key challenges in the environment and natural resources sector in the country



"Pilisaru" Waste Management Programme

Lack of a national approach to solid waste management has brought about numerous negative environmental consequences. In order to remedy this situation, a Cabinet approved program named "Pilisaru" Waste management programme has been initiated to establish Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) programmes in the country. The main objective of this programme is to implement a national programme by involving all relevant stakeholders to address waste management issues in the country. The stakeholders involved are Ministry of Local Government and Provincial Councils, Ministry of Urban Development and Sacred Area Development, Provincial Councils,Western Province Waste Management Authority etc. The role of the Ministry is to act as a facilitator to mobilize financial resources to Local Authorities to undertake solid waste management projects and provide technical guidance through the CEA.

Following major activities have been carried out during the reporting period under this programme.

- The Ministry in collaboration with other relevant agencies developed the National Solid Waste Management Policy to ensure the environmentally acceptable solid waste disposal process. The Cabinet approval was obtained for its implementation..

- comprehensive integrated solid waste management proposals were prepared for Sri Jaywardenapura-Kottte Municipal Council, Colombo, Gampaha, Kalutara, Pollonnaruwa and Anuradhapura Districts and submitted to the General Treasury for sourcing funds for implementation. A pilot programme with assistance of KOICA is being drawn for Colombo District based on this approach.

- Bill boards showing the importance of waste segregation in solid waste management was erected and displayed at Kataragama sacred city. This Activity was launched for effective Solid Waste Management during Kataragama festival.



"Piyakaru Purawara" Green Cities Programme

The Green Cities - "Piyakaru Purawara" Programme is a Cabinet approved environment programme jointly implemented by the Ministry, CEA and Local Authorities. The main objective of this programme is to help Local Authorities (LAs) to maintain a pleasant environment in the cities. The programme is enriched with number of vital components namely awareness creation, solid waste management, urban greenery, tree planting and canal rehabilitation. Fifty three (53) Local Authorities (LAs) have joined this programme so far and actively contributed for the development of collective effort, strengthened inter agency coordination and cooperation at the grass root level to achieve the common objective of this concept. The following activities were performed during the reporting period.

- Regional Committees have been established for 62 Pradeshiya Sabas and 02 urban councils to provide overall guidance for the programme.

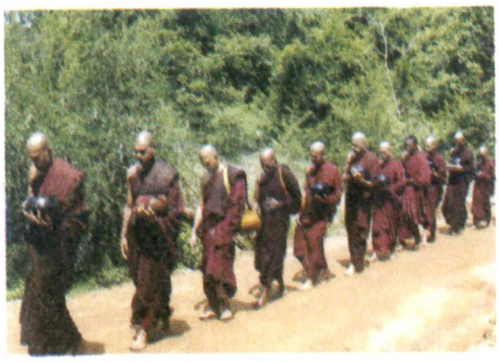
- 03 "Kasalapola" and Shramadana campaigns were held in Bingiriya, Kotikawatte and Mathugama with a view to clean up polluted urban eco systems. Participation of school children in this event was significant.

- 25 locations were identified to establish "Thuru Viyana" and 12 Viyanas have been established in Mathugama, Awissawella, Kuruwita, Ambilipitiya, Kahawatte and Bingiriya.

- 17 locations were selected to establish plant sanctuaries and 08 sanctuaries were established in Alla, Bingiriya and Mathugama.



Canal rehabilitation under Green City Program



Presence of Buddhist priests helps protection of forests

"Ran Derana" Programme

This programme has been initiated with the main objective of identifying annual sand requirement and the alternative supply for river sands. In order to meet these objectives, Mineral Investigation Unit has been established at Geological Survey and Mines Bureau and four types of minerals; Vein Quartz, dimension stones, mica, iron ore have been identified in this regard. A draft Mineral Investment Agreement has also been finalised as part of this exercise. Also a Sand Action Plan was prepared for the period from 2007-2011.

"Wana Senasuna" Forest Hermitage Programme

The purpose of this programme is to involve Buddhist Clergy and devotees for protecting the forests with cultural values. The presence of Buddhist Priest who come to aranyas for religious activities will help to prevent any illegal activities in the area. The programme also disseminates the message of the value of forest conservation to the people through pilgrims. During the reporting period forest areas with biodiversity values and cultural values have been identified and cultural values are being allocated to establish hermitages. Accordingly, 13 forest areas from Matara, Badulla, Hambantota, Monaragala, Gampaha, Galle, Kalutara, Pollonnaruwa, N- Eliya, Anuradapura and Kegalle Districts have been allocated under this programme.

"Haritha Gammana" Eco Village Programme

The main objective of this programme is to ensure environmental sustainability of village development programmes while enhancing socio economic status of village communities and minimize environmental degradation. Activities completed during the reporting period include followings

- 17 Farmer Community Organizations were selected and 09 of these Organizations were trained on organic framing and Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- 143 awareness creation programmes were completed for village leaders on Eco Village program
- 47 micro catchments were selected for improvement and of them 23 catchments were improved

"Haritha Niyamu" Programme

The Central Environment Authority (CEA) conducts awareness and educational programs at various levels targeting school children, teachers and community at large to secure their participation in environmental conservation. "Haritha Niyamu" Programme is one such programme conducted by the CEA in order to expand the existing Environmental Pioneer Brigade programme island wide. Following activities were completed to expand the Environmental Pioneer Brigade programme under the "Haritha Niyamu" programme.

- Environment Pioneer Commissioners were appointed to co-ordinate and conduct the programme with schools at District and Zonal educational levels for successful implementation of the programme.

- Eco-club program/Soba program was conducted as an initial step for Environmental Pioneer Brigades

- Copies of 1146 Environmental Pioneer Brigade programme teacher's Guide Books were distributed among new teachers in-charge of the programme. 1000 Copies of the Environmental song was prepared in the form of Compact Disc and Audio cassette formats. 9596 Environment Pioneer Brigade note books and 9557 caps were distributed for new Environment Pioneer recruits. 903 Environmental Flags were distributed among schools.

- With the objective of providing an opportunity for sharing experiences three interaction programs were conducted in Mihintale, Kandy and Kataragama for Pioneer Brigade members.



"Jeewa Jawaya" Programme

Non-renewable fossil fuels are becoming increasingly limited in the world and found to be generating adverse environmental impacts. On Understanding that this situation will further be worsening in the future, project termed "Jeewa Jawaya" was proposed to introduce an alternative source of fuel which is bio fuel to Sri Lanka that is widely being used in many other countries in the world. The main objectives of this programme are (a) to introduce renewable energy source to Sri Lanka as a measure to reduce the amount of foreign exchange spent on fossil fuels and to reduce the adverse environmental impacts generated by them (b) to demonstrate the ability of production of bio-fuel in Sri Lanka using Weta Endaru *(Jatrohpa curcas)* seeds (c) to popularize bio-fuel usage in Sri Lanka and to promote private sector and local communities planting *Jatropha* for seed production.

This programme is being implemented by the Forest Department and a germ plasm bank from genome islandwide is being developed in Kandy. A detailed project proposal titled "Jeewa Jawaya"- Establishment of Bio-fuel Plantations in Sri Lanka" has been submitted for domestic funding.



"Dewa Jawaya" Programme

"Dewa Jawaya" is one among the 10 priority projects initiated by the State Timber Corporation. The project spanning from 2008 to 2012 consists of following long term objectives.

- To increase the production and competitiveness of furniture and other wood based products.

- To maximize utilization of under utilized timber species

- To increase the market share of sawn timber while meeting customer expectation

- To expand timber sale outlet chain with a view to capture a major share in the timber market by the STC.



"Helathuru Viyana" Programme

The forest ecosystems which are administered by the Forest Department and the Department of Wildlife Conservation vary from undisturbed primary forest to highly degraded barren lands. Forest plantations such as Teak, Eucaliptus and Pinus also play an important role in meeting the national wood demand of Sri Lanka. These forest types have been subjected to various levels of degradation due to human interference.

The *Pinus* introduced with the main purpose of obtaining pulp for paper production industry was also not successful specially in Dry patanas causing variuos environmental problems. Hence, the Forest Department, after a careful study, has now stopped planting *Pinus* in Sri Lanka. Also these Pinus plantations are located in areas with a higher slope. Therefore, through this "Helathuru Viyana" programme it is expected to convert *Pinus* plantations into native broadleaved species with an appropriate scientific methodology. The main objective of "Helathuru Viyana" is restoring degraded forest ecosystems with native plant species.

A seminar was organized on *Utilization of Native Tree Species for Forest Landscape Restoration* with the main objectives of

- Identification of lands available for natural forest restoration in Sri Lanka
- Share ideas and experiences among the researchers participated representing the universities, Forest Department and other institutions
- Discussion of the future prospects of natural forest restoration
- Discussion of the initial steps of converting *Pinus* plantations to natural forests.



"Parisara Mithuru Hawula" Programme - Establishment of Consortium of Environmental NGOs

It is an accepted concept that environmental conservation cannot be done in isolation and the collaboration of all parties such as NGOs, CBOs, private sector and the community at large is a prerequisite in this regard. There are large numbers of environmental NGOs that are working together with CEA on the conservation effort and they have a strong link with the community at grassroots level. These linkages will help the CEA to implement their programs successfully while ensuring the sustainability and the ownership of the programs locally. The main objective of the *"Parisara Mithuru Hawula"* programme is to create a consortium of environmental NGOs so as to improve the quality of environment programs implemented at grassroots level and to ensure the ownership of environment initiatives.

POLICY FORMULATION, PLANNING AND MONITORING

✣ Mid Term Review of the National Environmental Action Plan

In order to implement the National Environment Policy (NEP), the Ministry compiled its five year Implementation Plan for the period 2003-2007 with the title "Caring for the Environment 2003-2007; Path to Sustainable Development" (CFE). The CFE contains five year action plans covering six economic development sectors which have been designed to implement at national, provincial, district as well as at local authority levels. The Ministry has undertaken a mid term review of the progress of implementation of the plan. The overall objective is to determine to what extent the CFE recommendations have been implemented by the sector agencies, private sector, provincial administration, local authorities and the NGOs. This Review report highlights successes, failures and constraints faced with its implementation and sets out certain strategic directions for the next phase of planning and implementation.

✣ Preparation of a Five Year Implementation Plan for the Environment and Natural Resources Sector

With a view to incorporate the programme of action identified in the CFE, the Ministry has developed a number of national policies, strategies and action plans under various thematic areas such as Biodiversity Conservation, Land Degradation, Persistent Organic Pollutants, E-Waste Management, and Protecting the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities etc. Similarly, strategic documents in the form of National Strategy for CDM, National Policy and Strategy for Cleaner Production etc. also have been prepared. Having recognized the necessity of incorporating all such initiatives in to a comprehensive plan, as a follow-up to the CFE the Ministry has taken steps to prepare a consolidated National Action Plan for environment management for the next five years (2008-2012).

✣ Preparation of Sri Lanka Environment Outlook (SLEO)

There has been a growing recognition in recent years of the importance of periodic analysis and assessment of the State of Environment (SoE) at national, regional and global levels. This has been emphasized in Agenda 21, which emerged from the United Nations Conference on Environmental Development (UNCED) followed by the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in 2002 in Johannesburg. The Ministry has prepared its first SoE report in 2001 highlighting the then priority environmental issues. As the SoE of a country refers to the prevailing conditions of biophysical and socio economic conditions, timely review of such document is crucial in terms of decision making. Having recognized the developments in the environment and economic sectors in the country over the last 5-7 years, initiatives have been taken by the Ministry to produce an updated SoE report in the form of Sri Lanka Environmental Outlook (SLEO) 2006 in compatible with the Global Environment Outlook. The overall objective of this exercise is to prepare a National Report, which will provide all concerned people in Sri Lanka with an assessment of the State of Environment and possible warnings of future problems. The draft final Report has been prepared during the reporting period and stakeholder comments and observations have been invited for the final draft for further improvement.

✣ Establishment of Presidential Task Force on Environment

Environmental protection is considered as an integral part of the development process in achieving sustainable development. The Mahinda Chintana also envisages ensuring sound environmental management within a framework of sustainable development. In view of reviewing sectoral perspective of environment and to provide recommendations a Presidential Task Force on Environment has been instituted by HE the President. Following major activities have been carried out during the reporting period by the Task Force.

In order to obtain the public views on the environment and natural resources conservation, the Task Force invited proposals from the general public, line ministries, other agencies and NGOs through newspaper advertisement and received 48 proposals on various aspects on environment and natural resources. These proposals were analyzed and categorized into two main areas namely; resource base issues and economic base issues.

A presentation on landslides and related impacts was done highlighting the main aspects including the main reasons for landslides and possible precautionary measures and recommendations to overcome the related impacts.

✣ Incorporation of Cleaner Production Principles into economic development activities

In keeping with National Cleaner Production Policy and Strategy approved by the government in 2004 initiatives have been taken to formulate sectoral cleaner production policies and sectoral policies were finalized for Tourism, Agriculture, Health and Fisheries sectors.

✣ National Policy on Traditional Knowledge and Practices

Sri Lanka is endowed with rich biodiversity and is considered as one of the biodiversity 'hotspots" in the world. With the increase of human population, accompanied by expansion of the land area under urban, agricultural and industrial development have contributed to the loss and reduction of extents of natural forest ecosystems and their inherent species as well as genetic diversity. Traditional knowledge and practices are believed to play a vital role in protection and sustainable use of biodiversity. Therefore the draft National Policy on Traditional Knowledge and Practices was finalized with a wide consultative process.

✣ The National Policy on Solid Waste Management

Solid waste is a growing problem in Sri Lanka aggravated in the absence of proper management systems. Lack of proper waste collection systems, unplanned waste disposal at environmentally sensitive locations such as river banks, wetlands etc as well as our present social and economic practices have contributed to the problem of solid waste. Hence development of a National Policy on Solid Waste Management has been felt an essential requirement in order to reduce environmental, social and economic problems associated with the present disposal practices. The Ministry in collaboration with other relevant agencies developed the National Solid Waste Management Policy to ensure the environmentally acceptable solid waste disposal process. The Cabinet approval was obtained for its implementation.

✣ Development of National Strategy for GEF Funding

Sri Lanka Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Strategy was prepared in consultation with all the stakeholders. The thematic areas in the strategy has been identified as Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation, persistent organic pollutants and international waters. Based on this GEF Strategy, pipeline of projects were developed and initiated with RAF 4. The number of projects that have been prioritized for RAF 4 are Biodiversity 20, Climate Change 08, Land Degradation 05, persistent organic pollutants 14 and International waters 04

✣ Preparation of National Sustainable Development Strategy

The global initiatives for mainstreaming environment into the development agenda and preparation of country specific strategies for sustainable development culminated in the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg in 2002. At the WSSD, the countries were called upon to achieve the needed integration by formulating the National Sustainable Development Strategy(NSDS). Accordingly each country is required to develop the NSDS adopting a participatory process involving key stakeholders. In line with this requirement, the Ministry, in contribution with all the stakeholders, prepared the final draft for Sri Lanka Strategy for Sustainable Development (NSDS) report for final endorsement by the Government and it is expected to obtain the approval of the Government within this year.

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Introduction

Biodiversity conservation related activities of the Ministry are implemented through the Biodiversity Secretariat. National Experts Committee on Biological Diversity (NECBD) provides guidance for the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan and also assists in revising them periodically in the light of experience gained through the implementation.

✣ **Establishment of Mini Biodiversity Parks**

In order to make students aware of identification of plant species, importance of their conservation, 05 Mini Biodiversity Parks were established at selected Districts in the country. This program helps to increase the tree cover in school premises and buildup positive attitudes among school children on protection of the environment.

✣ **Establishment of Plant Sanctuaries**

In view of conserving endemic, threatened and important tree species including Bodi Vruksha, 60 plant sanctuaries were established at selected temples and churches in number of Districts.

✣ Nine Provincial Biodiversity profiles and action plans were drafted for the nine provinces

✣ **Collection, Storage and Dissemination of biodiversity related information**

Preparation of National Database on Aquatic Invasive Species for Anuradapura and Kurunegala Districts, National data base on Cultural Diversity, National Database on Marine Molluscs and Statistical Compendium on Biodiversity completed.

✣ **Coordination Mechanism for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity**

Meetings of National Expert Committee on Biodiversity, National Species Conservation Advisory Committee, National Expert Committee on Bio Safety and National Coordination Committee on Biosafety were held during the period.

✣ An Addendum to the Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan (BCAP) was completed with the participation of experts of the National Experts Committee during the reporting period.

✣ **Publishing Compendium of Traditional Knowledge.**

The Compendium of biodiversity related traditional knowledge which could be used in the protection of forest and wildlife related biodiversity, Coastal and marine biodiversity, Crop agriculture and domesticated animal biodiversity was published.

✣ **Hand Book on Biodiversity Research**

In order to meet basic requirements of the researches engaged in biodivesity , Hand Book on Biodiversity Research has been prepared with special emphasis on Biodiversity research priority areas, biodiversity research classification, institutional setup, legal instruments, Non-legally binding instruments and specialized equipment for biodiversity conservation.

✣ **Establishment of "Thuru Uyana"**

The micro catchments in the villages are degraded due to number of reasons needs to be addressed to achieve the Sustainable Village proposed in "Mahinda Chintana" Programme. Unless these catchments are improved, the reservoirs get polluted through silting and eutriphication resulted in the loss of productivity. Therefore initiatives were taken to plant local species of plants with community participation in order to improve the tree cover in the village.

As a part of this exercise, 20 locations were identified to establish Thuru Uyanas and of them 12 Thuru Uyanas were established in Mathugama, Bingiriya, Galgamuwa, Kottikawatte and Welimada with a view to enhance the tree cover.

PREVENTION, MITIGATION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE

Introduction

Prevention and minimization of pollution in all forms ie solid, liquid and gaseous, play a critical role in the management of environment and natural resources of the country. Although steps were taken through different management practices still this is a serious national problem and due recognition should be given to arrest the situation.

✣ Kelani River Pavithra Ganga Programme

This programme was designed and launched in 1998 to keep the inland water bodies clean through an integrated water management approach. Monitoring committees were established and ten meetings were held at Local Authority level. Several capacity building programmes were carried out under this programme for the relevant stakeholders including the school children. Leaflets, stickers and posters were designed and distributed at these programmes.

✣ Control the use of Plastic and Polythene

Under the National Environmental Act, the manufacture and import of thin polythene of 20 microns or less in thickness, was banned with effect from 01.01.2007. The Ministry, during the progress reporting period, provided wide publicity to ensure compliance for the gazette notification of banning use/manufacture of polythene films of 20 microns or less.

Plastic Partnership Committee comprised of private sector plastic industrialists and government agencies has been established to streamline collection and recycling of thicker plastic material to ensure environmentally sound disposal of these material. Rs 51 million from the proceeds generated through application of 0.5% cess on imported raw material has been provided to the CEA to facilitate this activity.

✣ Development of Market Based Instruments to facilitate pollution control

In order to implement the National Program of Action for the protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities, a resource mobilization strategy needs to be developed. A study on Market Based Instruments (MBIs) to be used to enable pollution control in sectors such as tourism, transport, water, waste, fisheries & coastal resources and energy has been carried out by the Ministry with the assistance of national and international experts. The United Nations Environment Program provided financial assistance for the project.

The development of Market Based Instruments has been completed and the national workshop was held to obtain the stakeholder comments for the finalization of the MBI final report.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, TRAINING AND AWARENESS

Introduction

The awareness creation, extension, training and capacity building activities play a vital role in the management of environment and natural resources. The National Environment Policy has stressed the need for it. It is important that the capacities of the stakeholders built up to implement the country's National Environment Action Plan as well. Various training and extension programs are being implemented by the Ministry through out the year and major achievements during the reporting period are given below.

✣ Twenty awareness creation programmes were conducted for school children in Anuradhapura, Ratnapura, Colombo, Gampaha, Matara, and Kandy districts on bio diversity and biodiversity conservation.

✣ Awareness programs on environmental law were conducted for police officers in Badulla, Hambantota, Matara, Kandy, and Colombo

✣ "Mihisara" radio Programmes were broadcasted twice a month on various environmental themes to create awareness among the general public

✣ 3000 copies of 'Soba' Annual Publication was printed and distributed among the university libraries, public libraries, research institutes and schools. The magazine consists of interesting articles and poems to convey important messages on environment and natural resources conservation.

✣ The Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) conducted short term training courses for members of the staff of the Ministry on personality development, leadership excellence and performance development. Training on computer application was also provided by the Institute of Government Accounts and Finance (InGAF) for 60 officers of the Ministry. The total number of participants who attended these local training courses was 120. Financial assistance was provided for one officer to follow a M.Sc. Degree Course. In addition, 100 officers of the Ministry and agencies under the Ministry were offered short-term foreign training on subjects related to the environment. The contribution of trained officers under various aspects of environment management helped to make the Ministry an efficient and capable organization in environment management.

✣ **Commemoration of World Environment Day**

A series of programmes to commemorate World Environment Day 2007 were conducted starting from June 05th 2007. This year's theme for World Environment Day was "Melting Ice; a Hot Topic" Among the programmes held Environmental Walk, tree planting and awareness workshops were prominent.

✣ **Commemoration of World Biodiversity Day**

Biodiversity Day was commemorated under the theme of "Biodiversity and Climate Change" with the participation of school children. The participants were made aware as to what biodiversity was, and the importance of biodiversity for balanced existence of the world.

✣ Posters on Provincial Flowers, Invasive Aquatic p lants and Shells, Leaflets on rats, bats and traditional knowledge and medicinal plants and postal stamps on Provincial Flowers and sea shells were prepared in order to create awareness on the importance of biodiversity conservation

✣ Road side vehicle emission testing programs and awareness creation for school children on air pollution conducted during the progress reporting period.

✣ A documentary film on Solid Waste Management in Colombo and suburbs was produced and telecast on Rupavahini. This film was used to make aware the general public, school children, teachers and other trainers on Solid Waste management.

✣ An Environment Glossary consisting of 3000 words was prepared with the participation of the Department of Official Languages

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

✣ Implementation of the Recommendations of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Land Degradation in Sri Lanka

United Nations Convention on Combat Desertification (UNCCD) was adopted in June 1994 as a response to increasing threats of desertification, droughts and land degradation. Although Sri Lanka does not have deserts, we have signed and ratified this convention in 1995 and 1998 respectively as the country experiences land degradation and serious droughts.

The main objective of UNCCD is to combat desertification and to mitigate the effects of droughts in countries experiencing serious droughts and/ or desertification. Finally it aims at preventing land degradation in the hyper arid, semi arid and dry sub humid areas in the member countries.

In Sri Lanka preliminary signs of desertification are visible in areas like Mannar, Puttalam and Hambantota. Quantitative increase of these signs become more and more evident. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources prepared the first and second National Status Reports on land degradation in Sri Lanka in 2000 and 2002 respectively by highlighting land degradation issues. In addition to that, the Third National Status Report on Land Degradation has been prepared by updating the Second National Status Report. The recommendations made in these reports have provided a basis for the development of a National Action Programme (NAP) to combat land degradation in Sri Lanka. The Ministry has appointed a National Expert Committee on Land Degradation and Droughts. The main tasks and responsibilities of the National Expert Committee are to advise the Government on matters relating to land degradation and droughts in Sri Lanka including the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

Following progress have been reported during the reporting period.

With a view to implement the NAP, a project proposal on "Rehabilitation, Restoration and Conservation of Degraded Agricultural Lands in Two Mini Watersheds in Upper Mahaweli Catchment Area" has been submitted to the UNCCD for funding.

Furthermore, the Ministry has initiated to develop 100 degraded tank catchments areas in the Districts of Puttalam, Monaragala, Anuradhpura, Matale, Kurunegala and Hambantota..

✣ Basal Convention

Sri Lanka ratified the Basel Convention on Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and their disposal in August 1992. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources is the Focal Point and the Central Environmental Authority is the competent authority for the implementation of the convention.

In line with the obligations under the Basel Convention, steps were taken to control the entry of hazardous waste to the country. In collaboration with the Department of Customs, HS Codes were developed for waste streams identified under the Basel Convention.

In order to address the problem of E-waste, a four year project for the Development of a National Implementation Plan for the control of Electronic waste has been initiated during the reporting period. The project is carried out through a grant assistance provided by the Secretariat of the Basel Convention. The first phase of the project was completed and the draft Inventory on Electronic waste has been compiled.

✣ Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

Sri Lanka signed the Stockholm Convention on POPs in September 2001. This Convention calls for the reduction and elimination of use of some of the world's most harmful chemicals. These include highly toxic dioxins as well as PCBs and pesticides such as DDT.

The Ministry took steps to develop National Inventories for the prioritized persistent organic pollutants such as Polychlorinated Biphenyls, Dioxins and Furans and Pesticides.

Based on these inventories the National Implementation Plan (NIP) for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention in Sri Lanka has been prepared.

✣ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Climate Change has been ranked as a major threat to humanity during the past century. Therefore, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was adopted at the Rio summit in 1992 in order to stabilize the greenhouse gas concentration in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. It is recognized that industrialized countries should be more committed to address the issue of climate change than the developing countries since industrialized countries are the major contributors of greenhouse gases. Sri Lanka ratified the UNFCCC on 23rd November 1993.

In order to achieve the objectives of the UNFCCC, a legally binding protocol was adopted at the Third Conference of parties to the UNFCCC held in Kyoto, Japan in 1997. Under the Kyoto Protocol, the industrialized countries should reduce their combined greenhouse gas emission by at least 5% during the period 2008-2012, compared to their emission level in 1990. Sri Lanka acceded to the Kyoto Protocol on 3rd September 2002. The following activities has been completed during the progress reporting period.

✣ The Ministry has taken array of activities for the development of the CDM sector in the country. Ten CDM projects were proposed and of them four have been approved by UNFCCC and 10 projects are under validation process. There are 30 projects in the pipeline.

✣ Carbon trading is one of the tools for reducing green house gas emission by the developed countries. This concept rewards countries that meet their targets and provides financial incentives to others to do so as quickly as possible. Those who overshoot their emission reduction targets can earn and sell surplus credits in the market; one credit for each tonne of reduced Carbon Dioxide emissions. The potential for carbon market for Sri Lanka is very promising and it is estimated that the country could earn upto about Rs 2,500 million by trading about 2.5 million tons of Carbon Dioxide at the rate of US $ 10 per credit. During the progress reporting period Cabinet approval was obtained to establish the **National Carbon Fund (NCF)** and to develop Fund establishment procedures.

✣ Awareness Workshops were conducted to make stakeholders aware of Climate Change, its impacts and measures needed to face the challenges.

✣ Three awareness workshops were conducted to make Public Officers and CDM Project Developers aware of the CDM mechanisms and its benefits.

✣ Approval was obtained for the proposal prepared for the 2nd National Communication to the UNFCCC and the project agreement has been signed between the UNDP GEF and the Ministry to implement the project.

✣ Implementation of Montreal Protocol

The Government of Sri Lanka is a signatory to Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer (1987) and Vienna Convention on Protection of the Ozone Layer (1985) since 15th December 1989. The Objectives of the Protocol are to implement the Montreal Protocol for reduction of imports, use and

illegal trade of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS), training and awareness creation and promotion on reduction, recovery, recycle and reuse of ODS and finding alternatives for Methyl Bromide applications.

In order to fulfill the Montreal obligations, following project activities are implemented.

1. Institutional Strengthening Project for the Phase out of Ozone Depleting Substances

The main activities under this component are; data collection on ODS consumption and reporting to Ozone Secretariat and Fund Secretariat, organizing seminars and International Ozone Day Celebrations, awareness creation, monitoring and control of ODS and equipment working with ODS.

2. Methyl Bromide (MeBr) Phase out for all remaining uses in Sri Lanka excluding Quarantine and Pre shipment applications

Methyl Bromide is basically used as pesticides. Larger portion of the imported MeBr are used in quarantine and pre-shipment activities, which are exempted from the Montreal Protocol obligations. Evaluation of alternatives, data collection, application of treatment, sampling analysis, monitoring after treatment and demonstrations, providing necessary assistance to the Registrar of Pesticides when importing MeBr, training and awareness programmes are carried out under this component.

3. Incentive Programme

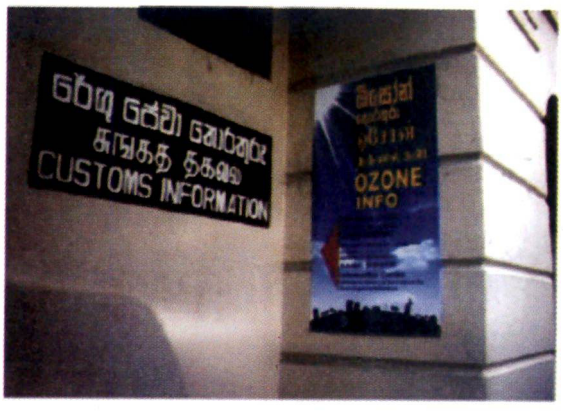
The objective of this programme is to eliminate the consumption of CFCs in commercial and industrial sectors by December 2007, through the payment of financial incentives to enterprises for converting their system from CFCs to HFC or HCFC.

4. Sri Lanka National Compliance Action Plan (NCAP) on Phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances

This is the road map for accelerated phase out of ODS in Sri Lanka and for meeting its national compliance commitments under the Montreal Protocol.

Progress (30th June 2006 upto 30th June 2007)

Activity & Objective	Progress
Training of Technicians a) The main objectives: i) Training of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning technicians in good practices that should be adopted in service and maintenance in order to reduce the emissions and consumption of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS). ii) Introducing up to date practices such as recovery, recycling, charging and prevention of possible leakage of such refrigerants iii) Use of alternative refrigerants and technologies.	✣ Ten three day technician training workshops were organized throughout the country including northeast and 650 technicians were trained and certificates were awarded. ✣ Training equipment received by the NOU under this project distributed among five training centers. A set of such equipment is worth nearly Rs 1 million and was given free of charge. ✣ Completed preparing two Data Banks to implement programmes under the Montreal Protocol with the assistance of the United Nations Agencies

Activity & Objective	Progress
Training of Customs Officers The main objectives : To provide the knowledge on prevention of illegal imports and trade of ODS and to help curb illegal trading activities in ODS	✣ NOU continued providing assistance to Customs and Import and Export Control Department on matters on illegal trade of ODS and special attention was given to detain equipment that are imported without licenses ✣ ODS Information Center was established at the Sri Lanka Customs. All the awareness material on ozone issues were given to the Center. ✣ Organized two training programs focusing on custom officers on prevention of illegal trade. ✣ Data collection of ODS continued and an Electronic data base on ODS maintained  *Information Center at Sri Lanka Customs*
Awareness creation Campaigns for various target groups	**For Government Officers, School teachers, and students** ✣ Twelve awareness creation workshops were conducted during the period of concern for more than 3000 school teachers, university students and school children and Government Officers. Simultaneously materials such as posters, leaflets and other materials were provided.. ✣ Island wide Ozone Quiz programme as a parallel activity to the National Ozone Day celebrations was conducted for School children and the final programme was telecast over the ITN channel.

Activity & Objective	Progress
	International Ozone Day celebrations 2006 NOU organized the International Ozone Day celebrations with the participation of many distinguished guests under the theme of "Protect the Ozone Layer; Save Life on Earth" Prizes and Certificates were awarded at this ceremony to winners of National Quiz competition, oratory and drama competitions. **Workshop for media personnel** Organized a workshop for print and electronic media professionals on 12th September 2006. This activity was organized with the assistance of Media Resource Service and Environment Committee of the SLAAS. **Fostering Awareness** Produced and distributed informative products on ozone issues
MAC Project and Recovery and Recycling Programme Main Objective : To establish MAC Recovery and Recycling Centers and retrofit of Government Vehicles	**Distribution of equipment** ✣ Established 85 Recovery and Recycling Centers through out the island ✣ 63 sets of equipment were distributed among private sector workshops and 12 set of equipments among technical colleges where refrigeration and air conditioning workshops have been established ✣ 32 Government vehicles were retrofitted  *Hon. Minister Patali Champika Ranawaka distributing Equipments at a Ceremony held on 13th June 2007*

Activity & Objective	Progress
Implementation of Halon Bank Management Programme (HBMP)	Halons which are used as fire fighting agents, have been recognized as the first group of aggressive chemicals to be phased out internationally under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete ozone layer. As the first step in that direction, Halon Bank Management Plan has been formulated in Sri Lanka under the auspicious of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The Halon Workshop which is one of the obligations in the HBMP was held to assist Halon Users to phase out already installed Halon facilities in Sri Lanka, introduce and discuss about alternatives to Halon and to familiarize with new technologies and strategies in fire extinguishing in environment friendly manner
Conduct South Asia ODS Officers Network Meeting Objective: To facilitate and assist the parties of the Montreal Protocol in the region and to help each other in specific problems faced by individual parties	South Asian ODS Network Officers meeting was held in December 2006. Problems in relation to conversion of CFC based Meter Dose Inhalers (MDI) in to Ozone Friendly technologies is one of the major problems that some Asian countries are facing. Therefore, first two days (4th & 5th of December) of the meeting organized as the "Thematic Meeting on MDIs and achieving Montreal Protocol Targets" Nearly 50 officers from various countries participated for this event.

Financial Performance of the Ministry
(From 30th June 2006 to 30th June 2007)

	Target Rs '000	Progress Rs'000
Capital	926,320	909,253
Recurrent	115,583	109,919

ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR YEAR 2008

	ACTIVITY	IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY
➢	**POLICY FORMULATION, PLANNING, MONITORING AND LAW ENFORCEMENT**	
01.	Printing of Sri Lanka Environment Outlook Report.	PPD
02.	Printing of Five Year Implementaion Plan.	PPD
03.	Preparation of Annual Action Plan of the Ministry and District Implementation Plan of the Ministry & its Agencies.	PPD
04.	Formulation of the National Biodiversity Policy & Action Plan on Regional Biodiversity	BDD
05.	Purchase of law books.	LD
06.	Hearing of statutory appeals under fthe National Environmental Act and Mines & Minerals Act.	LD
07.	Prepartion of an Economic Model to Calculate Environmental Services into the National Economy	EE&GA
➢	**NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT & BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION**	
01.	Establishment of Plant sanctuaries	BDD
02.	Establishment of mini Biodiversity parks	BDD
03.	Documentation of Traditional Knowledge	BDD
04.	Facilitate and carry out biodiversity related research and assessments	BDD
05.	Preparation of third National Report on Biodiversity	BDD
06.	Preparation of Act on Biosafety & Access to Genetic Diversity	BDD
07.	Completion of Statistical Compendium of Biodiversity	BDD
08.	Restoration of degratded catchments areas, River bank rehabilitation and adopttion of soil conservation measures under the Convention on Combating Land Degradation.	NRMD
09.	Distribution of equipment for tree planting activities	NRMD
10.	Develop Guidelines for construction of sustainable building using energy comfort techniques.	EE&GA
11.	Promotion of Organic Farming.	SED
12.	Promotion of Intergrated Pest Management.	SED
13.	Promotion of Bio Gas.	SED
➢	**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, TRAINING AND AWARENESS.**	
01.	Commemoration of International Days and Conventions related to Natural Resources Management. - World Wetland Day (02 nd February) - World Water Day (22nd March) - World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (17th June) - International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction (02nd Wednesday Day (15th October). - National Tree Planting Day (15th October).	NRMD

02.	Conduct Extension and Public Awareness Campaigns on Natural Resources Management	NRMD
03.	Commemoration of World Biodiversity Day	BDD
04.	Commemoration of World Indigenous Day	BDD
05.	Awareness & Education Programmes on Biodiversity conservation for school children, NGOs, and the General Public	BDD
06.	Awareness Creation on Traditional Knowledge Policy	BDD
07.	Awareness Creation on Climate Change	GA&EE
08.	Environmental Education and Awareness creation for stakeholder groups on NRM	NRMD
09.	Printing of Soba Magazine	P&EE
10.	Commemoration of World Environment Day	P&EE
11.	Production of documentary films on environmental issues	P&EE
12.	Post Graduate studies at local universities for staff officers of the Ministry	HRD
13.	Local training programms to staff of the Ministry to upgrade technical knowledge and skills	HRD
14.	Local Training programms to develop managerial skills, leadership skills, and behavioral and attitudinal changes amongst the staff officers	HRD
15.	Training on Computer Based application packages for Programme Assistants and allied grades.	HRD
16.	Print 2nd edition of the Law Hand Book	LD
17.	Conducting Workshop on Environmental Law for Police Officers	LD
➢	**PREVENTION / MITIGATION\CONTROL OF POLLUTION & ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGES**	
01.	Support Implementation of "Pilisaru" programme	PMD
02.	Implementation of the Pavithra Ganaga Programme in Kelani River & Kalu Rive	PMD
03.	Development of Strategic Plans for MBIs for the Implementation of NAP	PMD
04.	Project for electrical & electronic waste management in Sri Lanka	PMD
05.	Implementation of the Cabinet decision on cleaner production	PMD
06.	Contribution to Implementation of Vechile Emission Testing (VET) Programme	EE&GA
07.	Implementation of "Piyakaru Purawara" Programme	SED
➢	**ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND GLOBAL AFFAIRS**	
01.	Establishment of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) Secretariat	EE&GA
02.	Establishment of Sustainable Development Secretariat	EE&GA
03.	Preparation of Second National Communication on Climate Change	EE&GA
04.	Preparation of Awareness Materials for climate change & CDM projects	EE&GA
05.	Hosting of the 13th Inter-Governmental Meeting of Asia Pacific Network for Global Change Research	EE&GA

➢	**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**	
01.	Coordination of activities related to Convention on Desertification and Land Degradation	NRMD
02.	Implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Sri Lanka	NRMD
03.	Establishment of MEA Coordination Secretariat and Preparation of Awareness Materials on MEAs	EE&GA
04	Implementation of the Basel Convention on the Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and their disposal	PMD
05.	Implementation of the National Implementation Plan of the Stockholm Convention	PMD
06.	Strengthen the National Coordination activities of the GEF focal Point including planning, monitoring and evaluation	EE&GA
07.	Establishment of GEF Field Office	EE&GA
08.	Establishment of a GEF planning, monitoring and evaluation cell	EE&GA
09.	Development and Implementation of a GEF Strategy	EE&GA
10.	Implementation of Biosafety Protocol	BD
11.	Implementation of Biosafety Clearing House Mechanism	BD
12.	Implementation of Montreal Protocol	NOU
13.	Implementation of Forest Resources Management Project	FRMP

Total Budget for 2008 : **Capital - Rs. 1319 million**
Recurrent - Rs. 135 million



ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE AGENCIES OF THE MINISTRY

FOREST DEPARTMENT

Vision

Sustainably managed forest & tree resources for providing environmental services and meeting needs of forest products for the country while contributing to the national economy and well-being of the people.

Mission

Conserve and develop forest resources in Sri Lanka to ensure the prosperity of the nation

Introduction

The Forest Department (FD) was established in 1887 under the provisions of the Forest Ordinance (FO) with a view to effectively and efficiently manage the forest resources both natural and plantations for the benefit of the present and future generations. The functions of the FD has been organized under five technical Divisions such as Forest Inventory and Management, Forestry Research and Education, Social Forestry & Extension, Planning and Monitoring and Protection and Law Enforcement. For achieving these objectives the FD has been vested with the following responsibilities.

Major Responsibilities

- Conserve and maintain adequate forest cover for amelioration of climatic conditions, the conservation of soil and water resources, conservation of flora and fauna, and for aesthetic, historical, recreational social and economic purpose.
- Build up plantation forest estate progressively to meet the future timber requirements of the country both for internal consumption and export and also to contribute towards conservation of soil and water
- Ensure optimum use of forest land through integrated and multiple land use approaches, taking into account diversity of potential uses.
- Ensure the scientific management and sustainable development of the forest resources so as to supplement the wood requirements of the country
- Ensure that environmental safeguards are included in all forest development and utilization activities, so as to protect biological diversity.
- Establish close links among institutions concerned in promoting conservation and forestry development, so as to enhance the effectiveness of their individual efforts
- Promote community participation in development, management and conservation of forest resources through community-based forestry programs
- Conduct forestry education and extension programs in order to promote awareness of forest conservation and development.

Major Challenges

- Maintain national forest cover at precious level.
- Enforcement of law against violators of Forest Law framed under the Forest Ordinance
- Conservation of biodiversity
- Prevent encroachment of forest lands for various land use practices
- Ensure participation of communities in the buffer zone management at a satisfactory level.

Progress (30th June 2006 upto 30th June 2007)

REFORESTATION

Reforestation activities were carried out in 1863 ha of harvested plantations with economically valuable timber species to meet the timber requirement of the country.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Replanting was carried out in 837 ha of degraded forest lands all over the country to increase tree cover of the island. Tree plantation program was undertaken in 200 ha of barren lands of the country. In addition, 1079 ha of lands within the buffer zones of natural forests both in the wet zone and dry zone were planted with valuable timber species. Steps were also taken to mobilize community-based organizations to obtain their support for environment management activities.

PLANTATIONS MANAGEMENT

Management activities in 5697.77 ha of young plantations established in past three years were carried out during the reporting period to induce the growth of plants.. 878 ha of existing forest areas were enriched with valuable tree species so as to increase the productivity of such forests.



Forest Plantation managed by Forest Department

EDUCATION, EXTENSION AND AWARENESS

Replanting activities were carried out along 12 Km of roadside with the participation of local communities and 11.5 Km of canal banks as a measure to canal bank protection. In addition 30 numbers of demonstration plots, 1179 lectures, 210 video shows and 51 exhibitions, 262 seminars and workshops were organized to raise awareness among the general public on forest conservation.

MAINTENANCE OF NURSERIES AND PRODUCTION OF SEEDLINGS

1,432,000 of seedlings were produced in nurseries maintained by the Department. Continuous supply of a healthy and well maintained stock of seedlings for replanting programmes has been ensured by these activities.



Awareness through Exhibitions

MAINTENANCE OF ESTABLISHED RESEARCH TRIALS

Research is essential for better management and conservation of forests. Therefore the Department maintained 64 numbers of established trials while 03 numbers of new research trials were established during the progress reporting period.

Financial Performance

	Target (Rs.000)	Progress (Rs.000)
Capital	223,000	160,223
Recurrent	500,709	486,212

Revenue Generated: 561 million

Action Plan 2008

Major Issue	Main Activity	Sub Activity	Target	
			Physical	Financial (Rs'000)
Forest Cover Depletion	Forest Management	Silvicultural Treatments	1,700.ha	15,000
		Reforestation in RCT Areas	750 ha	34,000
		Maintenance of Rehabilitated Plantations	889 ha	14,000
		Maintenance of Enrichment planting	877 ha	5,500
		Maintenance of Buffer Zone Planting	901 ha	8,000
		Maintenance of Young Plantations	2,860	82,000
		Maintenance of Old Wood Lots	2,375 ha	18,500
		Management of Old Wood Lots	500 ha	1,500
		Seedlings and Nurseries	1 million	11,000
		Sri Lanka Forestry Institute	10 trainings	10,000
		Establishment of Farmers Wood Lots	125 ha	5,000
		Environmental Management	06 areas	10,000
		Education and Extension	120 programs	10,000
		Awareness Programmes	150	10,000
		Home Garden Development	2,500	2,000
		Jeewa Jawaya Project		3,000
		Sri Lanka Australia Project		190,000
		GEF Project continuation		8,000
		Total		**453,000**

Recurrent - Rs 687.410 Mn
Capital - Rs 453 Mn
Revenue forecasted for 2008 : Rs 550 Mn

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Mission

To conserve wildlife and their habitats in Sri Lanka, by making their management socio-politically acceptable, economically viable and ecologically sustainable. It is a participatory management that involves research, education and law enforcement in order to ensure the maintenance of as much biodiversity and forest cover as is feasible.

Introduction

The Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWLC) which is responsible for overall conservation of fauna and flora of the country was set up in the year 1949 under the provisions of the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (FFPO). The functions of the DWLC have been organized under 9 Divisions namely Environmental Conservation, Ecotourism & Community Outreach, Law Enforcement, Planning, Health Management, Management & Development, Research & Training, Accounts and Administration. These functions are governed by FFPO and the Wildlife Policy approved by the Cabinet of Ministers in the year 2000. The Department is protecting and maintaining a network of protected areas which claims 13% of the total land area of the island. These include 20 National Parks, 4 Nature Reserves, 3 Strict Nature Reserves and 60 sanctuaries.

Major Responsibilities

- Conservation of the indegeneous fauna and flora of the country and maintenance of its diversity.
- Fulfil the international obligations under Ramsar, CITES, and Bon Conventions
- Enforcement of law under the Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance (FFPO)
- Protection and management of declared wildlife reserves
- Protection of protected species under FFPO outside the protected areas

Major Challenges

- To arrest Poaching of wild animals and unabated illegal trading of wild animals and their parts thereof
- Enforcement of law against illegal logging and habitat destruction within wildlife reserves
- Prevent encroachments of wildlife reserves for various land use practices
- Conservation of endangered, rare and threatened species in the country
- Resolution of Human Elephant Conflict
- Promotion of Nature based Tourism

Progress (30th June 2006 upto 30th June 2007)

Establishment of a Protected Area Network

The Department is involved in establishing a network of "protected areas" for the purpose of conserving the biological natural resources contained therein. Mapping of such areas, survey and boundary demarcation with concrete posts and sign boards are the sub activities under this main activity. During the reporting period survey and demarcation of Mahakandarawa has been completed and initiatives have been taken to erect sign boards for Hakgala and Ulhitiya.

Establishment of a Communication Network

A proper communication network is essential for the conservation of wild animals in protected areas. In order

to fulfil this long felt need, National VHF Radio Communication System was expanded covering all wildlife regions ie North Western, Mahaweli, Central, Western, Southern, Yala, Bundala and Eastern regions. As a part of this exercise communication towers were constructed at Aliyamalagala, Galoya, Thotupalakanda and Ritigala for interconnecting park office with Head office via wireless communication.



Improved Communication network.

Infrastructure Development for Protection

Infrastructure development plays a critical role in carrying out the mandate of the Department efficiently. In recognizing this need the Department has , provided additional infrastructure facilities. Under this program Katagamuwa range quarters, Anawilundawa circuit & beat office and Palatupana restaurant were constructed during the reporting period.

Protection and Law Enforcement

In order to prevent illegal operations by various parties in parks and sanctuaries, 4 regions were issued with gun permits to face the challenges and threats of poachers. The Department has also issued thirty five permits of tusk certificates and conducted 206 raids in parks and sanctuaries.

Community Out reach and Livelihood Development

In order to pave the way to participatory management of protected areas, and to improve livelihood of surrounding communities, the Department has initiated a novel action process with the establishment of community outreach in order to reduce dependency on protected area resources. As a part of this exercise awareness programs were conducted at Bundala, Kaudulla, Minneriya and Wasgomuwa to create an enabling environment for outreach activities and stakeholders participation for micro-planning at village level.



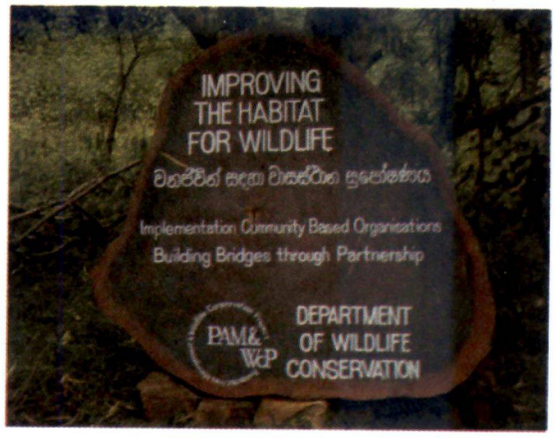
Livelihood Development through community out research

Extension and Conservation Education

To ensure the support of the general public for the programs implemented by the Department it is important to enhance their knowledge and enhance awareness among them regarding protection and conservation of wildlife. With a view to achieve this objective public awareness programs were conducted in various parts of the country with the participation of general public. One such programme was erecting of display boards to disseminate various information on wildlife conservation.

Research and Training

Research and training is essential for better management and conservation of wildlife. Therefore the Department conducted 25 training programs and 11 research projects on wildlife conservation.



Improved Habitats in protected areas

Habitat Management

Selected wildlife habitats in "protected areas" have been improved and managed under this activity. In this exercise weeds were eradicated at Tabbowa tank and Prosopis are being eradicated & grasslands are being maintained at Horton plains and Udawalawe National Park.

Summary of Expenditure

	Target (Million SLR)	Progress (Million SLR)
Capital Expenditure	284.55	284.63
Recurrent Expenditure	188.8	65.56
Total	473.35	350.19

Action Plan 2008

Main Activity	Target	
	Physical	Financial ('000)
Boundary Demarcation	Gal oya, Lahugala, Padaviyawewa, Kahallapakelle, Mahavilachchiya	7,000
Ecotourism Management	Nature trails for Gal oya NP, Madunagala, Callamatiya, Horton plains, Gurukumbura & Visitor centers-Lahugala, Madunagala & Summer huts for Madunagala, Udawalawa & Viewing platform for Kaudulla and Camping sites-Angammedillla, Ranawanaella	6,000
Eco-development In and Out of Protected Areas	Tank renovation at Kahallapallakele, Outreach activities	1,500
Conservation of Endangered Species	Electric fence-Namaloya, captue & translocation of 50 elephants	10,000
Improvement of communication facilities	Maintenance of data communication system, improvement of computer system and radio communication system	2,500
Establishment of Road Network	185 Km roads and 36 Km of foot path	18,000
Rehabilitation of Water Bodies	19 tanks, 6 wewa, 3 water bodies, 2 ponds	10,000
Buildings and Structures	Head Office, 7 combined quarters, 4 beat offices, 5 range offices, 4 buildings, 1 dormitory, 2 toilet complexes, 01 pipe water system, 2 wells, 4 camp sites	112,000
Plant Machinery and Equipment	4 solar systems, furniture-Ekgaloya beat office, Photocopy machine, water pumps, generators & boat engines	3,000
Vehicles and Rehabilitation of Vehicle	66 cabs, 99 motor cycles and repaired vehicles	6,000
Other Expenditure		18,000
Furniture and Office Equipment	Fax machine, 2 photocopier, office furniture	3,000
Habitat Enrichment	8 grassland, 3 fire belts, removal of invasive pants bush	10,000
Research & Training	Training, skill development for KKS and officers, wildlife health and management, weapon training, GPS and surveying, training for guides	4,000
Extension, Education & Interpretation	10 seminar, 12 awareness programme, 20 exhibition, wildlife magazine, radio programme	4,500
Protection and Law enforcement	20 pistols, gun mounting racks purchased and removal of domestic animals and tusk registration	18,000
Lands & Land Improvement		130,000
Total		**363,500**

Recurrent - Rs. 375 Million
Capital - Rs. 363.5 Million
Revenue forcasted for 2008 - Rs. 10 Million

CENTRAL ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORITY

Vision

A healthy, productive and pleasant environment that meets the aspirations of the present and future generations of Sri Lanka

Mission

To protect and enhance the quality of the environment for the people of Sri Lanka through pollution control, natural resource management and environmental education based on our technical expertise and commitment.

Introduction

The Central Environmental Authority (CEA) was established under the National Environment Act No. 47 of 1980, amended in 1988 and 2000 to make provisions for the

- Protection, management and enhancement of the environment and
- Regulation, maintenance and control of the quality of the environment and
- Prevention, abatement and control of the Pollution

The CEA is organized under five main divisions namely Environment Management & Assessment, Environment Pollution Control, Administration and Finance, Environment Education & Awareness and Legal Unit.

Major Responsibilities

- Support effective mechanisms for environmental management by an institutional arrangement which co-ordinates the work of existing organizations.
- Implement the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures in accordance with the National Environment Act.
- Regulate, maintain and control the types, constituents and effects of waste, discharge, emissions, deposits or other sources of pollution including noise.
- Monitor and maintain the quality of the environment by specifying /developing standards, norms and criteria.
- Monitoring of ambient air and water quality to determine pollution trends
- To specify methods to be adopted in taking samples and making tests for the purpose of this Act.
- To promote R&D on the environment and design appropriate training initiatives
- To make people conscious of the local, national and global environmental problems
- To make effective use of the media and other methods to create awareness and understanding of environmental issues in order to generate public participation
- To provide information and documentation services and information source
- To establish links with national, regional and international environmental information systems for acquisition and dissemination of information
- To promote, encourage, coordinate and carry out long range planning in environmental protection and management.

Major Challenges

- Enforcement of regulations framed under the National Environment Act
- Develop positive attitudes of stakeholder groups on environmental management
- Persuade all types of industries for environmental screening through EPL system
- Effectively incorporate environmental concerns into the development projects and programs
- To ensure that all development oriented agencies adopt an environmentally friendly stance in promoting development

- To ensure that rapid industrial development in the country does not lead to environmental degradation.
- Establishment of a proper hazardous waste management system in the country which tracks hazardous waste from cradle to grave.
- To make polluting industries adopt cleaner technology in order to cut cost and reduce pollution at the same time
- To get Local Authorities to be more responsible and adopt environmentally friendly methods of solid waste disposal including sanitary landfill sites
- Ensure proper siting of industries with a view to minimizing impacts on the environment
- To ensure that major policies and programmes implemented by the government have a minimal impact on the environment
- To peruse and conserve environmentally sensitive areas and unique eco systems in the country while achieving the development goals of the country.

Progress (30th June 2006 upto 30th June 2007)

- Estimation of hazardous waste is an important aspect in order to assess the country status. Estimation of hazardous waste being generated by the industries should be carried out and updated periodically in order to develop strategies for minimizing environmental and health impacts. The CEA took an initiative to develop a Hazardous waste Tracking System (a software) with the expert advice from the Department of Chemical and Process Engineering of the University of Moratuwa to fulfill the need. In order to commence this process, the asbestos industry has been selected on a pilot scale and process flow sheets have been developed for this industry. Initiatives have now been taken to develop flow sheet module of the HazNet software.

- **Management of waste chemicals in school laboratories**

  In order to facilitate removal/disposal of outdated waste chemicals deriving from schools laboratories, a study was carried out to examine the type and quantities of such waste materials available in schools with a view to figure out the scope and cause of action to be taken aimed at facilitating appropriate final disposal methodology.

- Regulations in relation to Hazardous waste management were not fully implemented yet due to a number of practical problems especially lack of facility for identification and classification of waste and more importantly the absence of environmentally sound disposal facility in the country. Having identified the difficulties and draw backs of the current regulations, steps have been taken to amend the regulation in the form of a prescribed list of waste to facilitate the easy implementation. Amended regulations will be in place for implementation soon.



A vehicle is labeled as per the Guidelines



Intermediate Bulk Container being handled with extra care

- Initiatives have been taken to amend the National Environment Act to include provisions for Polluter Pay Principle.
- In order to implement the proposed pollution charge model a pilot study within the Kelani River Basin was carried out on the implementation of the Polluter Pay Principle.
- Environmental clearances are issued with conditions to mitigate adverse environmental impacts for various non prescribed projects.

Accordingly, 575 site clearances have been issued for hotel projects, land filling, telecommunication towers, mining activities, Tsunami housing projects and urban development projects etc.

- Task Force comprising of the Ministry, CEA and other relevant Agencies was set up to establish and implement the Wastewater Discharge Fee (WDF) Scheme in Sri Lanka.

- WDF calculation method was developed and tested for different types of existing industries. An instruction manual on WDF calculation method was prepared by the CEA.

- Regular water quality monitoring programme on Kelani river, Maha Oya, Boralesgamuwa & Koggala Oya was carried out and 235 water samples were analyzed. Analytical results would be used as base line for future activities of water quality management.

- Under the Special Area Management (SAM) programme 18 environmental resource indicator maps were prepared for Batticaloa, Trincomalee and Ampara Districts through GPS technology and satellite images were used to prepare those maps.

- Preparation of National Wetland Directory and establishment of spatial database has been completed in collaboration of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and International Water Management Institute (IWMI).

- One of the major responsibilities of the CEA is prevention and control of environmental pollution issues. The main instrument through which the CEA performs this function is the Environmental Protection License (EPL). 291 new EPLs were issued, 137 EPLs were renewed and 89 new sites were recommended for EPL scheme during the reporting period.

- In addition to the implementation of the EPL scheme the CEA grants Environmental clearances for new industrial activities in order to prevent, minimize and control pollution. 328 environmental clearances have been granted during the reporting period.

- With a view to mitigate the significant environmental impacts, the EIA unit of the CEA continued its major regulatory function of administering the EIA process for prescribed projects. These include convening of scoping meetings and technical evaluation meetings, setting up of Terms of Reference (ToR) for EIA reports, evaluation of the EIA reports, facilitating the public participation process and subsequent approval. Approval was granted for 36 prescribed projects during the reporting period.

- Initiatives were taken to declare several environmental sensitive areas as "Environmental Protection Areas" under the provisions of the National Environment Act. Accordingly, draft gazzette notifications have been prepared for Maragalakanda at Monaragala, Madu Ganga and Gazette notifications have been finalized for Knuckles Conservation Area, Gregory Lake and Thalangama Tank.

- 2341 public complaints on environmental pollution received by the CEA and of them 275were resolved during the reporting period.

National Tree Planting Program

The coastal vegetation in the eastern and southern provinces destroyed by the Tsunami devastation was rehabilitated through the National Tree Planting day. This activity was implemented in Kalutara, Galle, Matara, Hambantota and Trincomalee Districts in association with Divisional and District Secretaries.

World Environment Day

As an important environmental event, the World Environment Day (WED) is annually celebrated. The WED 2006 was celebrated on the 5th of June under the theme of 'Melting Ice; A Hot Topic'. Number of programmes implemented by the Ministry of Environment, Line Agencies, Private sector, NGO Sector and the Communities, on the day as well as during the month to make the people aware on the importance of Natural resource management including watershed, forest and water management. Among the programmes awareness creations, tree planting and cleaning programmes were the prominent events. The Environment Walk .was attended by more than 2000 people including school children, NGOs, private

sector, CBOs and civil Society. The function was graced by the Hon. Minister of Environment and Natural Resources. The CEA played a prominent role in this event providing environmental flags, Banners and placards to the school children and the members of the Environmental Pioneer Brigades of the schools. Singing the Environmental Song and delivering the Environmental Pledge were performed by the Environmental Pioneer Brigade

Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level (APELL) Project in Sri Lanka

CEA under the guidance of the Ministry has started to implement a pilot scale disaster management programme on APELL . The purpose of the project is to minimize casualties, properties and environmental damages from industrial and manmade disasters by organizing the public, private sector and the local communities based on the technical guidelines developed by the UNEP. The project is implemented at Koggala Export Processing Zone and Ekala Industrial Area with the effective participation of industrial community, government institutions and the local community. Translation of APELL Technical material into Sinhala and Tamil and initiatives have been taken to prepare the Integrated Emergency Preparedness Plan for the APELL sites during the period.

Investigation of Feasibility of Asbestos Waste as Road Construction Material

In seeking solutions for the haphazard disposal of waste arising from asbestos industry and the absence of a proper disposal facility for such waste, preliminary tests have been carried out to identify that asbestos wastes could possibly be used as a road construction material. As a part of this exercise experimental plan quantifying survey of the yearly accumulation of asbestos waste was completed during the period.

Gazette Notification 1466/26 dated 13.10.2006	Order under Section 23D and 23E of the National Environmental Act to declare Muthurajawela Buffer Zone as an Environmental Protection area and identify permitted uses and conditions which permitted uses are to be carried out
Gazette Notification 1456/35 dated 04.08.2006	Regulation No. 1 of 2006 on Prohibition of cultivation of annual crops in high gradient area
Gazette Notification 1466/5 dated 10.10.2006	Order under Section 23 W of the National Environmental Act (NEA) to ban manufacture, sale or use of polythene or any polythene products which is 20 microns or below in thickness

Financial Performance:

	Target Rs. '000	Progress Rs. '000
Capital	18,850	19,979
Recurrent	212,815	228,170

Revenue Generated : Rs 32 million

Action Plan 2008

Activity	Financial Target Rs. '000
Environmental Impact Assessment	500
Natural Resource Management	550
Research & Special Projects	400
Environmental Pollution Control	750
Monitoring System of Key Environmental parameters	1950
Hazardous Waste and Solid waste management	750
Environmental Education & Awareness	1300
Environmental Law Enforcement	4000
Management of Environmental Service Delivery	1200
Estimated Recurrent Expenditure	
Personnel Emoluments	212000
Travelling Expenses	6500
Supplies	11500
Maintainance Expenditure	9250
Contractual Services	17000
Other Recurrent	2350
Divisional Recurrent	11400
Total Recurrent	**270000**
Rehabilitation and Improvement of Capital Assets	
Building & structure Improvement	10000
Plant Machinery and Equipment	3000
Acquisition of fixed assets	
Furniture and Office equipment	5000
Machinery - Laboratory equipment	9000
Buildings and structures	4500
Other Capital assets	
Awareness Programmes	5000
Other - Books	800
Total Capital	**37300**
Special Projects	802
Total Estimated Recurrent & Capital	**307300**
Total Estimated Treasury Funds	**1109**

Recurrent : Rs 270 Million
Capital : Rs. 37.3 Million
Revenue Forecasted : Rs 40 Million

MARINE POLLUTION PREVENTION AUTHORITY

Vision

A pollution free marine environment around Sri Lanka for the sustainable national development and the well being of its people and the economy by the year 2020.

Mission

Establish marine pollution prevention authority as an agency with required skills, competence and structure to prevent and control pollution and sustainable manage the marine environment within Sri Lanka waters through enhancement of awareness, effective enforcement of regulations & international conventions and co-ordination & mobilization of resources & stakeholders, to offer a pleasant marine environment for the wellbeing of present and future generations.

Introduction

Marine Pollution Prevention Authority (MPPA) was established under the Marine Pollution Prevention Act No. 59 of 1981. The functions of the MPPA is organized under two main Divisions namely Legal and Operations. The objectives of the MPPA are to contribute to protect the marine environment from ship based and shore based maritime related activity and to comply with national and international obligations. In achieving these objectives the MPPA has been assigned the following responsibilities;

Major Responsibilities

- Formulate and execute schemes for marine pollution prevention
- Take measures to manage and safeguard territorial waters
- Provide shipboard waste reception facility
- Provide facilities for bunkering activities
- Formulate and implement National Oil Spill Contingency Plan
- Create awareness among general public and administrators and implement activities as per the provisions of the Act

Major Challenges

- Minimizing marine pollution from land based activities from the heavy population pressure and rapid industrial development in the coastal belt.
- Protect marine environment from indiscriminate dumping of municipal and other domestic waste in to the ocean.
- Minimizing the threat of marine pollution due to oil spill through navigational and maritime activities and in particular the threats of sabotage from terrorism.
- Operationalization of NOSCOP, in case of an oil spill contingency NOSCOP continues to remain only a plan. Required provisions of training and capacity building to implement the NOSCOP is limited due to lack of funding.
- Minimize likelihood of introductions of invasive alien species of biota through ballast water discharges.
- Make relevant parties aware and develop positive attitudes on the need to protect marine environment
- Ensure close collaboration among relevant stakeholder groups for effective implementation of Oil Spill Contingency Management Plan
- Build up capacity of staff since expertise are not locally available

Progress (30th June 2006 upto 30th June 2007)

Oil Spill Dispersant Policy (OSDP)

A committee established by the MPPA to develop OSDP has already prepared the draft policy. The draft policy will be finalized in December 2007.

Implementation of National Oil Spills Contingency Plan (NOSCOP)

As per Marine Pollution Prevention Act, agencies responsible for coastal and marine pollution prevention should prepare own contingency plan for tier one oil spills. Accordingly MPPA developed Guidelines for oil spill contingency plan for tier one oil spill and intimated all related agencies to submit their oil spill contingency plans for approval of MPPA. Purpose is to minimize environmental impact of minor oil spills by operationalising their own contingency plan.A two day workshop was held to update the contigency plan with the participation of the Hon. Minister as the Chief Guest.



Oil Spills has become a major environment issue

Expansion of MPPA activities for better coordination and monitoring of marine pollution

MPPA has planned to establish regional offices in several Coastal Districts and as a part of this exercise one office was established in Galle and Hambantota during the reporting period.

Beach Cleaning



Beach cleaning programme at Kalutara

Several beach cleaning programmes were carried out with participation of school children, Non Government organizations and other stakeholders in Kalutra and Galle Districts.

Marine Pollution Guards

In order to carry out Marine Pollution Prevention functions more effectively, 54 Marine Pollution Guards have been recruited to carry out MPPA functions in coastal Distrcits

Revision of MPPA Act

Process of revising the Marine Pollution Prevention (MPPA) Act was finalized by the Legal draftsman and the new provisions on exploration of petroleum has now incorporated together with widened powers in several new areas embodying provisions to make regulations. Revised Act has been approved by the Cabinet of Ministers.

Awareness Building among School Children Public Officers and General Public

MPPA established a separate unit for awareness creation among public on marine environment and its pollution impacts. The school Marine Groups established in more than 100 schools in the 7 coastal Districts (Hambantota, Matara, Galle, Kalutra, Colombo, Gampaha and Putlam) and continued the awareness creation programmes to educate school children. Several beach cleaning programmes were carried out during last twelve months with participation of school children, Non government organizations and other stakeholders in Kalutara and Galle Districts.

In addition to that special programme was organized to commemorate World Ocean Day fall on 08th June 2006 at Hikkaduwa .This programme included walk, tree planting programme and Ocean Day Seminar. More than 1000 people participated in the programme. This programme was repeated in Kalutara and Galle in 2007 too.

Financial Performance (From 30th June 2006 to 30th June 2007)

	Target (Rs.'000)	Prograss (Rs.'000)
Capital	9750	9183
Recurrent	15866	16655

Action Plan 2008

Activity	Estimated Cost in Rs. 000.
Implementation of National Oil Spill Contingency Plan	1400
Capacity Building - Enhance Oil Spill Combat Capabilities	500
Preparation of regulation and procedures as per new Act	300
Establish ship inspection procedure	100
Implementation of International Convention and research in Ballast water	800
Sea Water quality monitoring in sea out fall and bathing sites	400
Improve waste reception facility and waste disposal mechanism at anchorage and fishery harbors	1300
Streamline waste reception facility at commercial harbors	2000
Awareness building	2000
Clean Sea Project	1000
Develop Bunkering Procedures	200
Marine research coordination mechanism	500
Human Resources Development	500
Acquisition of fixed assets	9000
Rehabilitation and improvement of capital assets	1000
Total	**20,000**

Recurrent - Rs. 30 Million
Capital - Rs. 20 Million

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND MINES BUREAU

Mission

To promote and manage the mineral resources of the country to ensure the mineral potential is realized for the benefit of Sri Lanka and that minerals are extracted in an efficient, safe and environmentally sound manner.

Introduction

The Geological Survey and Mines Bureau (GSMB) was established under the Mines and Minerals Act No. 33 of 1992 with a view to identify, promote, conserve and manage the mineral resources of the country. The Bureau is organized under two main Divisions i.e. Geology and Mining. The major responsibilities of the Bureau are as follows;

Major Responsibilities

- Undertake systematic geological mapping and preparation of geological maps
- To identify and assess the mineral resources of Sri Lanka
- To evaluate commercial viability of mining for processing and export of such minerals
- To regulate the exploration and mining of minerals and possessing and trading and export of such minerals by the issue of licenses.
- To advise the Minister on approaches to be adopted for promotion of extraction and production of minerals, on a commercial basis.

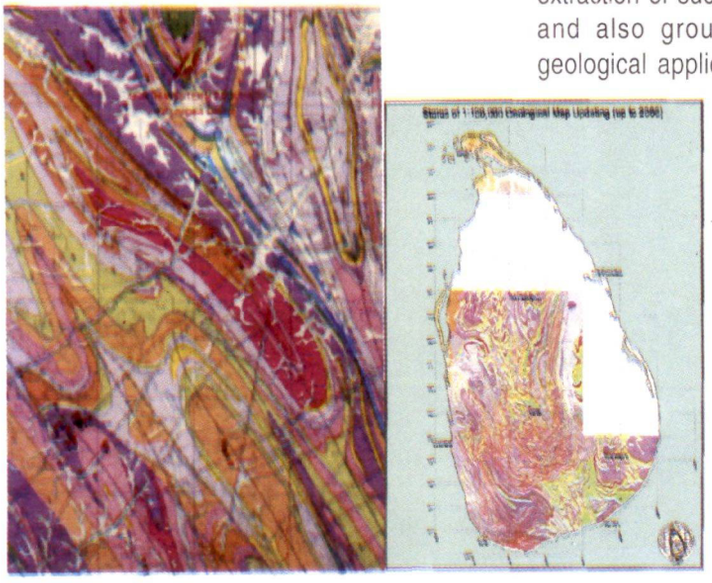
Major Challenges

- Explore and quantify mineral deposits and ensure sustainable uses
- Optimal utilization of mineral resources of the country in an efficient, safe and environmentally friendly manner
- Control illicit mining to reduce adverse socio-economic and environmental impacts
- Assist early warning mechanisms and damage minimization of natural hazards such as andslides and tsunami
- Explore environmentally friendly materials as substitutes for sand, coral and clay
- Implement Mines and Minerals Act

Progress (30th June 2006 upto 30th June 2007)

Geological Mapping

The preliminary work related to preparation of four (04) geological map sheets (No. 04, 09, 06 and 15) was completed. These map sheets cover parts of Mullaitivu, Anuradhapura, Badulla, Ampara, Moneragala, Mannar and Trincomalee Districts. These maps will be used for assessing the mineral resources of the country and extraction of such resources in a sustainable manner and also ground water research, engineering geological applications etc.



Preparation of Geological Map Sheets (1 : 100,000 series color maps)

Mineral Surveys

A mineral survey was conducted to locate ceramic raw materials especially ball clay and kaolin in the Western Province. Field work related to Brick and Tile Clay Survey was completed in Ma Oya and Deduru Oya River Basins to identify Brick and Tile Clay deposits in the Ma Oya and Deduru Oya river basins. These survey results will help to make future plans for extraction or conservation of mineral resources in these provinces.

In addition, a study was conducted in Uva, Sabaragamuwa and North Central Provinces to locate mineral deposits suitable to be reserved through a gazette notification. Mineral surveys in these provinces have already been completed.

River Sand Survey in Maha Oya and Kelani River

Due to the increase demand from the construction industry, sand has become a scarce resource. Excessive extraction of river sand has adversely affected the ecosystems of major rivers. Since a successful alternative for river sand has not yet been identified, a survey was initiated in Maha Oya to locate sand deposits that can be sustainably utilized for construction purpose. GSMB carries out this survey annually and gives recommendations to the respective Divisional Secretaries regarding the issue of permits for sand extraction. During the reporting period the field work related to Kelani river survey was also completed.. Information regarding availability of sand deposits was conveyed to the respective Divisional Secretaries as usual.

Urban Geophysical Survey

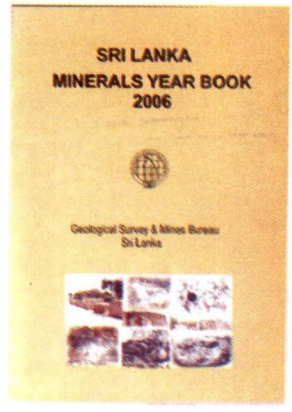
This study was conducted to measure electrical resistivity of subsurface layers and interpret for delineation of overburden and bedrock profile. Areas covering Nugegoda, Kotte, Rajagiriya, Kolonnawa, Kelaniya and Gotatuwa have been surveyed.

GSMB-BRGM Joint Project on GIS for Coastal Hazards Application in a Pilot Site in Sri Lanka

The impact of the December 26, 2004 tsunami has clearly heightened the challenge to forecast geo-risk events, to define risks and look at the ways to reduce their effects. The Reduction of future risks to densely populated coastal zones, rehabilitation of affected areas and future development will require enhanced geo-science information. In order to achieve the above objectives, a joint research project between GSMB and the French Geological Survey (BRGM) was conducted and a joint final report has been prepared.

Mineral Year Book - 2006

Mineral Year Book 2006 containing statistics on production, export, consumption and import of minerals of Sri Lanka was published in January 2007.The report will help to make projections such as future mineral demands, market potential and threats to the availability of some minerals etc,



Seminar on Current Geo-Hazards and Remedial Measures with especial reference to landslide hazards was conducted with the participation of all stakeholder institutions and universities who engaged in land slide related work in the country. Over 100 government officials and professionals participated from 16 invited institutions. The objectives of this seminar included identifying role of these institutions in landslide hazards interalia, all possible landslide hazardous areas of the country and introducing remedial measures, implementing short and long term plans for minimizing damages to houses, property, lives, etc, sharing knowledge and introducing proper co-ordination mechanism and establishing a study group to carry out all future meetings and studies.

Environmental Assessment of Sand and Clay Mining in Ma Oya River Basin

It has been reported that sand and clay mining was extensively carried out along the Ma Oya and its vicinity, both legally and illegally. It has caused severe environment impacts particularly on the river basin. The Supreme Court has also ordered to conduct a detailed investigation in this regard. Therefore, the GSMB has conducted a survey in the Ma Oya river basin covering parts of Gampaha and Puttalum districts to assess the environmental impacts caused by mining activities and to locate where sand mining could be carried out

without environmental damages. As such studies are very important for regulating mining activities and minimizing environmental impacts the above survey was extended to Kurunegala and Kegalle districts.

Licenses Issued

Category	Number of Licenses	
	Target	Progress
Artisal Mining Licenses	4800	3961
Industrial Mining Licenses	2825	2757
Reserved Mineral Licenses	09	03
Exploration Licenses	15	06
Trading Licenses	385	441
Transport Licenses	130,000	139,625

Action Plan 2008

Activity	Target	
	Physical	Financial Rupees '000
Geological mapping & map printing	Digital Printing of two geological maps of 1;100,000 sheets # 3 and 5	1249.4
Detailed Geological Mapping of sheets Nos. 20 & 17	Digital Printing of datailed geological maps Detailed mapping and sampling	4610
Preliminary Ni Survey in the southern and western laterite belt of Sri Lanka	Idetification of anomalous Ni & heavy metals concentration within the later the belt	552.5
Geophysical survey for overburden characterization in Urban areas (Colombo)	Identification of overburden thickness of the area. Preparation of such maps	604.35
Preliminary investigation of potential gold mineralization in Central High lands (Phase 1)	Assessing of gold concentration in Kotmale-Haputale shear zone	898.75
Western Province Ceramic Minieral Survey	Identification of locations of Kaolin & ball clay occurances for detailed studies	449.35
Preliminary survey for Ball clay in selected areas in Nilwala and Kelani flood plains	Indntification of locations of ball clay occurrences for detailed studies	449.35
Field Testing of newly Acquired Geophysical Equipment	Preparation of application reports on two case studies (GPRS 250 Magnetic surveys)	411.75
Study of Wanni Charnokite	Report / Publication on Minerological & Chemical characteristics of Wanni Charnokite	563.5
Total		**9788.95**

Revenue forecasted for the year 2008: At present the licenses fee and royalty charges are being revised. Therefore current forecasted revenue of Rs 261 Million will increase significantly by about Rs 60 million.

STATE TIMBER CORPORATION

VISION

Be in the forefront of the Timber Industry in Sri Lanka and fulfill the timber requirement for logs, sawn timber and other timber based products including furniture in the country, with commitment towards excellence and national development, meeting the total aspirations of valuable customers.

MISSION

Whilst protecting the environment through scientific forestation and thereby our forest reserves focus, our endeavors on the expansion and improvement of activities in order to accomplish the expectations of people by fulfilling their requirement of timber and timber based products.

Introduction

The State Timber Corporation was incorporated in 1968 under the provisions of State Industrial Corporation Act No. 49 of 1957 for the purpose of ;

- Extracting timber from the forests, conversion of such timber into sawn timber and finished products, sale of logs, construction of forest roads.
- Acquisition, construction and operation of logging units, saw mills, impregnation and preservation plants, seasoning and drying kilns and other necessary equipment and installations.
- Operation of timber and firewood sales depots.
- Manufacture and marketing of any by-products from timber.

Later the following functions too were added with the diversification of activities of the Corporation.

- Import of timber
- Afforestation, re-forestation and scientific management of forest and forest plantations owned by the Corporation.
- Agricultural products
- Export of timber and timber based products
- Purchase of timber from private lands
- Processing of forest related products.

Major Challenges of the State Timber Corporation

- To handle all productions and disposal of logs, sawn timber and other timber based products in an environmental friendly manner.
- To develop standards for timber and timber based products with a view to satisfy the needs of customers belong to various sectors/groups.
- Inspection and certification of quality of timber.
- To offer the products at an affordable price.
- To satisfactorily complete the projects identified by the Board of Management, which has been planned and proposed to realise the "Mahinda Chinthana"

Progress

(30th June 2006 to 3oth June 2007)

Activity	Target		Progress	
	Physical	Financial Rs.'000	Physical	Financial Rs.'000
Logs M^3	110,194	1,040,894	121,649	1,401,355
Sawn Timber M^3	7,556	153,829	4,873	137,808
Transmission Poles No.	71,995	306,212	59,960	172,532
Sleepers No.	158,810	670.466	69,821	405,367
Round Poles No.	108,940	8,026	214,835	12,795

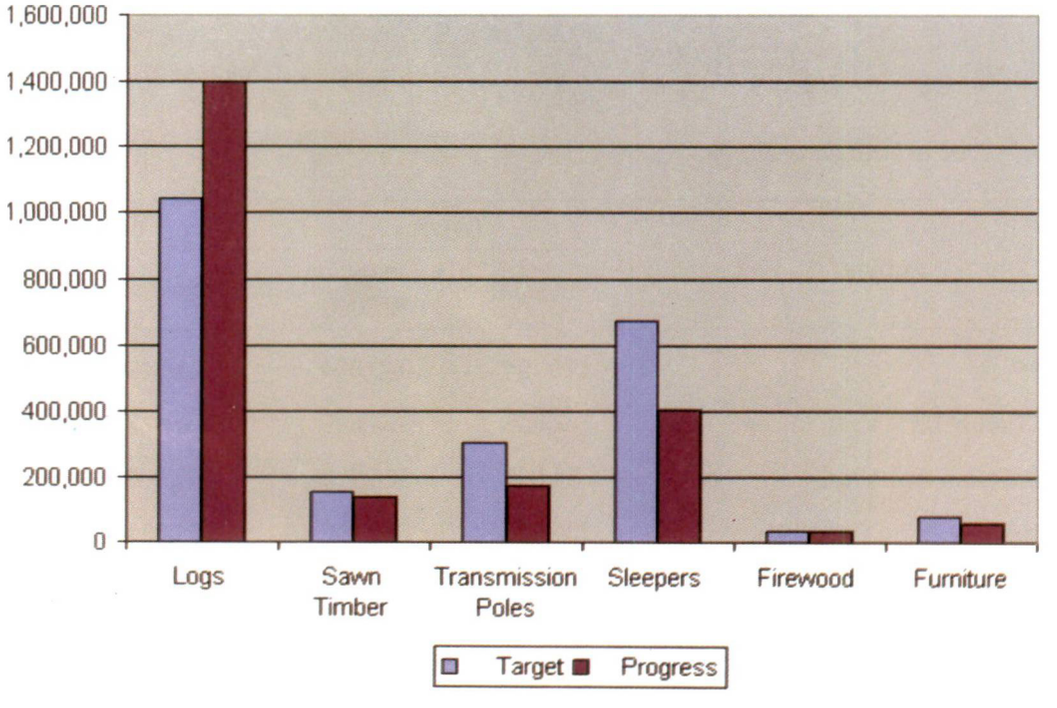
Fence Posts No.	**74,870**	**5,835**	**107,847**	**18,290**
Firewood M^3	**73,426**	**32,617**	**90.592**	**36,229**
Panelling L.M.	**30,000**	**1,488**	**6,159**	**570**
Furniture Rs. Mill.	**57**	**78,268**	**49**	**59,212**
Others		**14,046**		**20,105**

SOURCES OF TIMBER PRODUCTION

(30th June 2006 to 30 th June 2007)

	Crown Land	Private Land
Production of Logs (m^3)	119,471	2,178
Production of Sawn Timber (m3)	4,873	-
Production of Transmission Poles (No.)	43,262	16,698
Production of Sleepers (No.)	42,818	27,003
Production of Round Poles (No.)	213,293	1,542
Production of Fence Posts (No.)	107,052	795
Production of Firewood (m^3)	86,682	3,910
Production of Panelling (L.M.)	6,159	-

Financial Progerss 1July 2006 to 30June 2007



Major Activities Planned for 2008

Activity	Target	
	Physical	Financial Rs.'000
Logs M^3	146,845	1,269,316
Sawn Timber M^3	17,480	992,287
Transmission Poles No.	60,000	446,400
Sleepers No.	100,000	764,500
Round Poles No.	250,000	9,750
Fence Posts No.	100,000	6,000
Firewood M^3	150,000	103,500
Panelling L.M.	60,000	3,900
Furniture Rs.Mill.	75	107,243

Expected Stumpage payment : Rs 373 Million
Expected other Expenditure : Rs 2127 Million
Revenue forecasted : Rs 2730 Million
Profit expected : Rs 230 Million



ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DONOR FUNDED MAJOR PROJECTS OF THE MINISTRY

FOREST RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (FRMP)

Introduction

The Forest Resource Management Project has been designed in line with the policy and institutional reforms, long term sector development priorities and investment strategies as envisaged by the National Forest Policy (1995), Forestry Sector Master Plan (1995), Five Year Implementation Programme (1998) and other recent developments in the sector.

The overall goal of the project is to increase the value and sustainability of the country's forest by creating an enabling policy and governance framework for enhanced participation of local communities and other stakeholders in forest resource development and management.

Total cost of the Project	:	US $ 35.5 million
Implementing Agencies	:	Forest Department Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Central Environment Authority
Duration	:	from 2001 to 30.06.2008
Cumulative disbursements as at end of the 2nd Quarter 2007	:	US $ 19.853 million
Cumulative expenditure as at end of the 2nd Quarter 2007	:	US $27.65 million

Objectives

1. Establish and operationalise participatory sustainable forest management of a spatially demarcated permanent forest estate for increasing forest protection and production
2. Enhance access of the local communities to gainful employment and human resource development opportunities leading to poverty reduction

Project Components

1. Participatory Forest Planning, Management and Awareness

This component is designed to increase community participation for boundary demarcation of all forest lands managed by the Forest Department. Preparation of Integrated Management Plans and Operational Plans for each forest range and provision of assistance to the Ministry and Forest Department for awareness creation and extension programmes are the other main activities planned under this component.

2. Sustainable Forest Resource Development and Management

Reduction of poverty levels of local communities and ensuring productive forest cover throughout the island are the main targets of this component. The main activities carried out under this component are; establishment of 7900 ha of agro forestry woodlots, improved management of 7,300 ha of well-stocked farmer woodlots, salvage extraction of 5,500 ha of low productive forest plantations, re-establishment of plantations with appropriate species, buffer zone development activities in 2,800 ha of encroached forest lands and enrichment planting in 1,300 ha.

3. Institutional Strengthening for Improved Sector Performance

This component supports the Forest Department in effecting policy / institutional reforms, reorganizing the Forest Department for providing higher decision making authority to the field level staff and strengthening training capacity of Sri Lanka Forestry Institute (SLFI).

Major Outcomes

Participatory forest planning, management, and awareness creation

- Delineation demarcation, surveying, and mapping
- Integrated management planning
- Awareness and Extension

Sustainable forest resource development and management

Participatory forest development and management

- Community based agroforestry and social forestry development
- Improved management of wood lots and plantations
- Rehabilitation and management of degraded plantations

Participatory rehabilitation and management of protected forests

- Buffer zone development for multiple -use forestry
- Enrichment planting and management of other natural forests

Production forest management

- Improvement rehabilitation and management of degraded plantations
- Private sector pilot leasehold management of state plantations

Institutional strengthening for improved sector performance

- Organizational Strengthening
- Human resources development

Activity	Achievements from June 2006 to 30th June 2007
1. Survey & Demarcation The Project provides support for boundary demarcation of all forest lands managed by the Forest Department through surveying and delineation in close consultation and participation of local communities. The estimated Project target is 17,500 km. of Forests.	**Physical** Survey and Demarcation completed in 2,862 km. **Financial** Rs. 220.4 million
2. Integrated Management Planning Preparation of Integrated Management Plans were undertaken at Divisional Level and Range Level to include resource inventories and protection strategies. Based on these Integrated Management Plans, Operational Plans for forest Ranges will be developed and implemented.	**Physical** 08 nos. Range Management Plans completed. **Financial** Rs. 0.05 million
3. Public Awareness Creation & Extension Programmes The Project provided assistance to the Natural Resources Management Division of Environment Ministry, Forest Department and Central Environmental Authority to develop and implement Awareness Creation & Extension Programmes. Part of the Awareness & Extension Programmes was conducted by NPIU. The Awareness Programme spotlights the new policy developments in forestry sector and its role in promotion of tree growing, economic and financial value of forests and promote policy and institutional changes for encouraging participatory forestry sector development.	**Physical** 03 Regional Level Workshops, 04 District Level Workshops, 03 Tree Planting Campaigns and World Environmental Day programme conducted. 24 TV programmes, 26 Radio Programmes, 04 TV Spots, 55 Public Awareness creation Programmes, 22 exhibitions completed and 02 Demonstration Plots were performed. 01 Magazine published. 13 Training Programmes were implemented. Home garden competitions and 02 zonal camps for environmental pioneers completed. **Financial** Rs. 14.3 million

Activity	Achievements from June 2006 to 30th June 2007
4. Civil Works In order to improve infrastructure facilities of the Forest Department, living quarters and office buildings for the field staff were constructed under the Civil Work programme. In some ranges and regions, expansion of existing buildings were carried out to improve the space of those office buildings.	**Physical** Extensions to 02 RFO Office Buildings completed. 01 RFO office building completed. **Financial** Rs. 12.5 million
5. Vehicles & Equipment Vehicles were procured for the Forest Department to enhance mobility of the field staff and thereby strengthening the field activities of the Department. Single Cabs procured under Project funds were distributed to the Range Offices and these vehicles are being utilized for combating forest offences and patrol the sensitive forest areas. Computers were procured to the Forest Department to improve the database of the Department. Survey Equipments were procured to the Forest Department to strengthen the field staff who are engaged in field activities, such as survey, demarcation and inventory work.	**Physical** Procured 25 Computers, Survey & Inventory Equipment, 25 Motor Bicycles, 100 Bicycles & 25 2WD Single Cabs and Orders placed for purchase of 05 2WD Single Cabs and one Motor Car. **Financial** Rs. 27.5 million
6. Forest Management Activities **a. Participatory Rehabilitation & Management of Protected Forests** Enrichment Planting - Stand improvement is conducted through enrichment planting in degraded areas with most promising species for Natural Forest restoration. The scope of this component is 1,300 ha. Buffer Zone Planting - The interventions under this component will cover an extent of 2,800 ha. of encroached forest lands located on the peripheries of the natural forests, especially in wet zone districts with the aim of preventing further encroachments into the forests and to enhance the farm income, so that the forest dependence will be minimized. **b. Production Forest Management** Re-forestation - The Project support is provided to upgrade existing forest plantations by the introduction of new technologies for improved planting stock, harvesting techniques, stand establishment and maintenance practices. The scope of this component is 5,600 ha. Improved Management of Old Plantations - Silviculture treatments such as, pre commercial thinning, commercial thinning, pruning, singling, creeper cutting and cleaning of plantations were carried out under this	**Physical** Enrichment planting conducted in 881 ha of natural forests. 2922 ha of Enrichment Plantations were maintained. Buffer Zone planting conducted in 1079 ha of lands. 2607 ha of Buffer Zone plantations were maintained. **Financial** 106.4 million **Physical** 970 ha planted in regeneration cutting areas. Selection felling conducted in 196 ha of Plantations. Management of 5063 ha production plantations. Maintenance of 3884 ha production plantations **Financial** Rs. 140.3 Million

Activity	Achievements from June 2006 to 30th June 2007
activity to ensure the healthy growth of forest plantations. The scope of this component is 15,000 ha. Maintenance of Young Plantations - Young plantations were maintained carrying out operations such as weeding, vacancy planting, fertilizer application and opening up of fire lines. **c. Participatory Forest Resources Development and Management** Rehabilitation of Degraded Plantations - The Project support was provided for salvage extraction of low productive forest plantations and re-establishment of plantations with appropriate species mix and adequate post planting maintenance. The scope of this component is 5,500 ha. **New Woodlots** This activity is being carried out in degraded forest lands where local farmers are involved in growing trees in various spatial arrangements in combination with annual crops under a lease agreement. The Project target is to establish8,600 ha. of agroforestry woodlots during the Project period. **Woodlot Management** The well stocked farmer woodlots are subjected to improved management by this component. The scope of this component is 7,300 ha. **Development of Home Gardens** Home gardens were developed for increased productivity by incorporating forest tree species.	**Physical** 951 ha of plantations rehabilitated and 67 km fire lined and 3697 ha of Degraded plantations maintained. 928 ha of new woodlots established. 2791 ha of woodlots maintained. 1049 ha of woodlots managed 8640 ha home gardens developed. **Financial** 117.1 Million
7. Capacity Building Forest Department officials made to participate in Training Programmes, Workshops, Fellowships and Study Tours as a means of Capacity Building.	**Physical** 27 Nos in country training programmes 17 Nos in country work shops 02 Study Tours 02 Nos M.S.C. Programme conducted. **Financial** Rs. 10.9 Million

Action Plan 2008

Main Activity	Sub Activity	Target	
		Physical	Financial (Rs. 000)
1. Maintenance of Enrichment Plantations, Degraded Plantations & Buffer Zone Plantations.	1.1 Maintenance of Plantations.	1740 ha	15,000
2. Survey and Demarcation of Forest Boundaries	2.1 Survey Department support 2.2 Survey & Demarcation	500 km	110,000
3. Management of Woodlots and Home Garden Development	3.1 Maintenance of Woodlots 3.2 Home Garden Development	200 ha	1,500
4. Management of Production Plantations.	4.1 Establishment of Plantations in Regeneration Cutting Areas 4.2 Maintenance of young plantations	1625 ha	42,000
5. Civil Works	5.1 Extensions to Buildings	08 Nos	10,000
6. Procurement of Equipment	6.1 Procurement of Survey equipment 6.2 Procurement of Office equipment	Sum	2,000
7. Capacity Building	7.1 Training Programmes 7.2 Work shops	Sum	3,000
8. Extension and Public Awareness	8.1 Mass media programmes for public Awareness 8.2 Public Awareness for Commercial forestry & Social Forestry	Sum	7,000
Total			**222,500**

Total Budget for 2008 Rs. 222 million

PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROJECT (PAM & WCP)

Introduction

The Project aims to conserve the nation's valuable natural resources and preserve its biodiversity, by addressing institutional and legal deficiencies in Protected Area (PA) Management, and also it is expected to stimulate nature-based tourism and to contribute to the development of a sustainable PA management and wildlife conservation system.

Total cost of the Project	:	US$ 33.5 million
Implementing Agencies	:	Wildlife Department Ministry of Environment Protected Area Conservation Fund
Duration is From 06th June 2000 to 30th June 2006		
Cumulative disbursements as at end of the 2nd Quarter 2007	:	US $ 15 million
Cumulative expenditure as at end of the 2nd Quarter 2007	:	US $ 18.61 million

Objectives

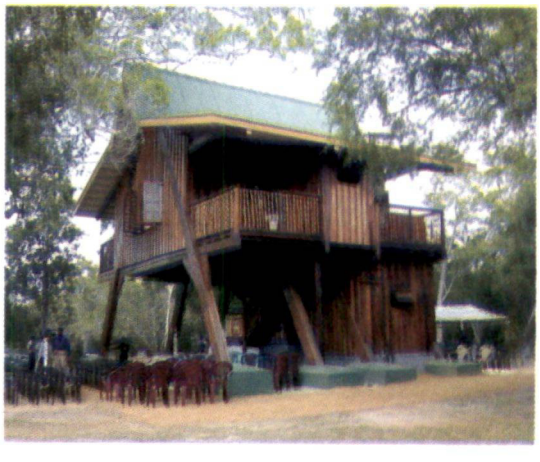
The objective of this project is to conserve the nation's valuable natural resources and to preserve its wildlife biodiversity for the well-being of the present and the future generations.

Components

1. Enhancing Institutional Capacity of the Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWLC)

The capacity of DWLC was enhanced through the provision of international and local consultancy services, internal and external training programmes, study tours, upgrading of facilities such as Wildlife Education and Training Centre at Giritale and DWLC's Head Office in Colombo and provision of materials, equipment and vehicles. Project supported to strengthen human resources, financial and administrative capacity and systems to improve transparent management of DWLC. Provision of training in areas such as ecology, habitat management, communication, conflict resolution, and Geographic Information system (GIS), remote sensing, etc to the staff of Department was an important activity under this component. The project also supported a community outreach and extension technical team to increase the community participation in wildlife conservation activities. Development of capacity of DWLC improved to meet future challenges in eco tourism promotion by means of development of eco tourism system plan and policy, providing technical and supervisory inputs on all aspects of visitor management, developing nature interpretation facilities, visitor satisfaction surveys in Protected Areas is among the major activities under this component. In addition, this project supported systematic monitoring of biodiversity in Protected Areas





Infrastructure Improved to promote ecotourism



Capacity of DWLC staff developed to meet future challenges in Ecotourism

2. Participatory Adaptive Management of Protected Areas

This component supported participatory management programs that address strategic threats and opportunities in Protected Areas. The project supports the consolidation and revision of existing management plans into operational work plans and implementation of an adaptive management program to mitigate strategic threats. Development of opportunities, provision of new skills, infrastructure, equipment and vehicles to support program implementation and development of quality eco tourism products and services are the main activities planned under this component. As a part of the adaptive management to resolve the human- elephant conflict, the project supports the installation of 120 km. of electric fence. Enrichment of habitats including eradication of invasive species within 7 Protected Areas would be a priority activity under this component. Unmarked boundaries of Protected Areas are being demarcated using a participatory process.



Habitat enrichment through eradication of invasive species

3. Collaborative Conservation Planning

This component has established a platform on which to develop increased collaborative conservation planning among the stakeholders. Strengthening the B10.5

Protected Area system and link existing sites together. The BCS is expected to coordinate all development activities undertaken in Protected Area Buffer Zones by various agencies, without proper coordination.

4. Sustainable Financing for Community Partnership Building

This program facilitates creation of better opportunities for Protected Area Buffer - Zone communities to overcome poverty situations while obtaining people's participation in park management activities. Funds provided under this component are allocated for community development activities to address the issues related to conservation and community development especially in buffer-zones of Protected Areas.

Establishment of a Protected Area Conservation Trust (PACT) for Protected Areas, development of micro plans



Electric fences installed to resolve human elephant conflict

in consultation with Community Based Organizations and Non-Government Organizations and financing of selected projects identified in those plans are the main activities under this component.

Major Outcomes

- Institutional capacity of the Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWLC) enhanced.
- Participatory adaptive management activities carried out in Protected Areas prepared.
- Protected areas through collaborative Planning were conserved.
- Socio-economic status of Communities in the buffer zones through sustainable financing and community partnership Building uplifted while ensuring participatory management of Protected Areas.

Progress (30th June 2006 upto 30th June 2007)

OVERALL TARGET		PROGRESS	
PHYSICAL	FINANCIAL Rs.'MIL	PHYSICAL	FINANCIAL Rs.'MIL
Component A : Enhancing Institutional Capacity of the Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWLC)			
a) Revision of Legislation	235.5	Legal Draftsmen Department cleared the revised FFPO and submitted to Attorney Genral's Department for approval. AG's Department has agreed to send it in September 2007.	164.01
b) Restructuring of DWC		Recruitment schemes for recruiting 7ADs, 6DDs, and 2 Directors were approved by the Public Service Commission	
c) Delegation of financial, administration and management authorities		Manuals of Delegation of Authorities, Corporate planning, Biodiversity Base line Survey and management planning were completed and copies were circulated among Department officers.	
d) DWC's Capacity Development		4 overseas study tours 3 short term trainings and 1 post Graduate (MSC) completed	
e) Media, Publicity and awareness programs		103 programs completed	
f) Habitat mapping and gap analysis		Completed in 7 PAs	
g) Socio Economic survey		Completed in 7 PAs	
h) Biodiversity Survey		Phase I which included 4 PAs completed. Biodiversity Baseline Survey was completed to assess the Biodiversity of 4 pilot PAs as a baseline and to monitor the biodiversity periodically.	
i) Research		13 researches completed and symposium held.	
j) Construction of park buildings		5 parks buildings complexes completed. 80% completed in other 2 parks. Buildings and structures included Visitor Centers, Auditoriums, Park Warden Offices, Quarters, Camping sites, View decks and Nature Trails etc. They were constructed at Wasgamuwa, Bundala, Horton Plains, Kawdulla, Mineriya, Udawalawa and Ritigala.	

OVERALL TARGET		PROGRESS	
PHYSICAL	FINANCIAL Rs.'MIL	PHYSICAL	FINANCIAL Rs.'MIL
Component B : Participatory Adaptive management of protected areas			
a) Revision of management plans	235.5	7 Management plans completed	94.59
b) Electric fencing		110 km completed	
c) Habitat enrichment - Removal of invasives		100 ha new areas completed. Totally 2048 ha completed.	
d) Fire lines		187 km completed	
e) Boundary survey		All 7 PAs covered by the project were surveyed and boundaries demarcated and it is amounted to 627 km..	
f) Equipments		80% of requirements for furniture, audio visual equipment, and other necessary equipment were procured.	
Component C : Collaborative Conservation planning			
a) Completion of biodiversity action plan	12	Completed	0.321
b) Strengthening biodiversity Secretariat		8 computers and furniture provided 4 officers trained.	
c) Protected Area gap analysis		Habitat mapping and Protected Area gap analysis completed.	
d) Preparation of endangered species conservation action plan		4 plans completed	
e) Updated Red List		Completed	
Component D : Sustainable Financing for Community Partnership Building			
a) Preparation of micro plans	200	These project proposals are aimed at uplifting of socio-economic status of buffer zone communities through introducing alternative income generating activities and thereby reduce the pressure on wildlife and biodiversity of Pilot PAs.	58.18
b) Project proposal development		127 project proposals have been developed and approved by the National Grant Review Committees.	
c) Number of projects approved by the NGRC		127 proposals approved	
d) Number of projects for which funds have bee released		Funds released for 115 projects	
Other expenditure	150		139.6
Total	**763.00**		**460.991**

Action Plan 2008

Activity	Sub Activity	Target (Rs Million)	
		Physical	Financial
1. Park Buildings Renovation	**a.** Renovatio of Regional DD Office at Anuradhapura, Pollonnaruwa & N-Eliya **b.** Renovation of Giritale Training Center **c.** Renovation of PW Office at Peakwiderness	5 building complexes	55
2. Roads and Tanks	Roads rehabilitation Bundala, Udawalawa Tanks renovation	12 km, 20km - 2 tanks (Wasgamuwa and New Kudurupitiya) and 1 canal (Kadurupitiya canal)	10 5
3. Procurement of Equipment	**a)** Equipment (Electric Fence & other) **b)** Furniture	70 km 4 sets	22.25 15
4. Training and Workshops		2 M.Sc 5 Short Term Foreign training, 20 Short Term local training	9 32.4 1.5
5. Consultancy Services	Media & Publicity material, Research, Biodiversity survey, Management, Planning, others	 10 3 Pas 4PAs	3 22 27 2 13
6. Participatory adaptive management	Habitat management- invasive species removal Maintenance	300 ha 1620 ha	20 25
7. Collaborative Conservation Planning	Strengthening of BDS Implementation of recovery plans	4 sets of equipments 5 plans	1 1.75
8. Sustainable financing for community partnership building	1. Implementation of alternate proposal 2. Micro plan implementation 3. Regional Grant Review Committee Meeting 4. National Grant Review Committee Meeting 5. Mainintainace cost	7 Pas 150 22 8	23.5 195 0.5 0.5 19
Grand Total			**563.4**

Total Budget for the year 2008 : Rs 563 million

SRI LANKA AUSTRALIA NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT - (SLANRMP)

Introduction

Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) project identification Mission fielded in 1999 reported that assistance was still needed in Sri Lanka's forestry sector and that opportunities for AusAID to support the sector. As a result, the Sri Lanka Australia Natural Resources Management Project came into existence. The project began in 2003 and it covers the districts of Kurunegala, Matale, Puttalam and Anuradhapura. The project is supporting communities to improve the management of natural resources, promoting a participatory and holistic approach to improve household livelihoods through improved utilization and integration forestry The overall goal of the project is to contribute to poverty reduction through improved natural resource management in the dry and intermediate zones of Sri Lanka.

Total cost of the Project	:	Aus $ 9,382,544
Implementing Agencies	:	Forest Department
Duration	:	Feb. 2003 to Jan. 2009
Cumulative disbursements as at end of the 2nd Quarter 2007	:	Rs.430.47 million
Cumulative expenditure as at end of the 2nd Quarter 2007	:	Rs.456.47million

Objectives

- To improve the capacity of the Forest Department and other service providers to implement participatory resource management programs that improve utilization, encourage co-ordination mechanisms and ensure integration of service providers
- To test, develop and implement processes for the community management of natural resources that equitably improve livelihoods and reduce poverty of rural households in the dry and intermediate zones.
- To effectively manage and coordinate the project with the Forest Department and other stakeholders.

Components

- Institutional support for integrated natural resources management.
- Participatory natural resources management systems
- Project management

Major Outcomes

- Appropriate policy and legislation for participatory forestry management developed.
- Participatory community development plans prepared.
- Innovative micro finance mechanisms to support micro enterprises and other identified programs developed
- Self Help Groups and Community Based Organizations strengthened
- Human resource management, finance and administrative systems were effectively operated.

Activity	Achievement
Implementation of Participatory Management Plans and Preparation of new management plans	Revised old management plans for 12 old sites in line with the new guidelines for preparation of forest management and resources management planning. Management Plans have been completed for 31 sites and implementation is in progress in Kurunegala, Matale,, Anuradhapura and Puttlam Districts. Planning process is in progress for 16 new sites selected during 2007 in Kurunegala, Matale, Anuradapura, Puttlam and Monaragala Districts to develop participatory management plans.

Action	Achievement
Institutional support for Integrated Natural Resources Management	Twelve community training have been completed and 300 community members were trained. 30 Forest Department field officers were also trained on community based resources assessment techniques. Four study tours, for Forest Department field staff and teaching staff of the Sri Lanka Forestry Institute ha been organized to provide exposure to the project field activities.
Expansion of Project activities to new Districts	Project activities have been expanded to the Monaragala District. Planning process completed for two sites and management plans are ready for implementation
Improve mobility and other facilities of the field staff	In order to provide the required transport facilities for the field staff 11 motor bicycles have been purchased and supplied. In addition some essential field equipment such as GPS units and survey equipment were procured.

Action Plan - 2008

Activity	Target	
	Physical	Financial Rs 000
1. Vehicle	Procurement of 10 motor bicycles	FAG 2,000.00 FARDF 1,000.00
2. Furniture and Equipment	Procurement of Computers, GPS units, survey equipments and other office furniture	FAG 2,000.00 FARDF 1,000.00
3. Land & Land Improvements	1. Implementation of participatory management plan for 47 sites 2. Selection of 10 new sites and planning process for preparation of management plans. 3.formation of CBOs for 10 new sites.	FAG 174,500.00 FARDF 10,000.00
4. Personal Emoluments	1. Office trainings - 30 officers 2. Community Training - 300 community members 3. Training of Trainers course - 3 course 4. Remunuration for Internal Staff	
5. Other Goods & Services	Operation and maintenance expenditure related to project implementation	
TOTAL		**190,000.00**

Total Budget for the year 2008 : Rs 190 Million

PROJECT ON IN-SITU CONSERVATION OF CROP WILD RELATIVES (CWR)

Introduction

This project is designed for in-situ conservation of crop wild relatives through enhanced information management and field applications. It is a multi country project coordinated by International Plant genetic resources Institute (IPGRI) and funded by UNEP/GEF. The national focal point of this project is the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. The national project coordinating office is established at Horticultural Crop Research Development Institute, Department of Agriculture, Gannoruwa.

Total cost of the Project	: Rs 66 million
Implementing Agencies	: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
	Ministry of Agriculture
Duration	: March 2004 to March 2009
Cumulative disbursements as at end of the 2nd Quarter 2007	: Rs. 21.3 million
Cumulative expenditure as at end of the 2nd Quarter 2007	: Rs. 45.5 million

Objectives

- Effective conservation of crop wild relatives and using them for crop improvement
- Development of an information system on Crop Wild Relatives
- Identification of priority crop wild relatives that have to be conserved
- Establishment of an Inter- agency Committee on conservation of crop wild relatives
- Training of people on information management on crop wild relatives
- Development of a National Conservation Action Plan on crop wild relatives.
- Increase the involvement of the community in conserving crop wild relatives

Project Components

1. National Information System on Crop Wild Relatives

Development of data management and sharing policies, establishment of a website of CWR of Sri Lanka, digitising CWR data in the National Herbarium are among the main activities of this component.

2. Enhance capacity and conservation actions

Identification of priority taxa and areas for conservation, develop guidelines for prioritising and developing participatory research program are the major activities under this component.

3. Public awareness

Main activities under this component are identification of target groups and preparing strategies, baseline survey on awareness and establishment of 04 ex-situ CWR demonstration sites.

4. Project Management

Procurement of office equipment and vehicles, conducting project management committee meetings and National Steering Committee meetings are the activities under this component.

Major Outcomes

- Safe and effective conservation of crop wild relatives
- Increased availability of crop wild relatives for crop improvement in Sri Lanka, together with an information system that can support crop wild relative conservation

Progress (30th June 2006 upto 30th June 2007)

Information Management System

The project has established a national CWR information management committee comprising of officers from all stakeholder institutions. Stakeholders have been provided with infrastructure for involving in the information management network. CWR information management committee The National Crop Wild Relatives Information management Committee assisted to develop the database program 'Genetic

Recourses Information System (GRIS) which has now been installed at the Plant Genetic Resources Center. All partner institutions including the Departments of Agriculture, National Botanic Gardens, Forests were supported by the project to develop an institutional policy for information management.
(financial progress Rs. 175,200)

Three participatory CWR species conservation research projects were funded by the project and two rice breeding programs involving wild rice and one Vigna Rhizobia evaluation research project were also funded by the project. In addition project funded a study on the effect of climate change on Crop Wild Relatives by the Natural Resources Management Center of the Department of Agriculture.
(Financial progress Rs. 4,697,400)



Wild Relatives of Strawberry

Capacity building and Conservation actions

Project conducted training for 152 officers of the partner institutions in different aspects of CWR conservation and management.

The eco-geographic survey on priority CWR initiated in most areas of the country has found out many new localities with priority CWR species, conservation status and potential threats were recorded.

Project took necessary action to include important CWR species in the National Flora and Fauna protected and participated in the provincial biodiversity action plan development process.

Awareness Creation CWR

Project continued establishing Crop Wild Relatives Demonstration Sites and established two more demonstration sites at proposed agriculture Technology Park in Bata atta and the Hakgala botanic gardens.

In order to make aware the general public on the importance on conservation of CWR, thirty seconds TV spot and 15 minutes TV documentary were telecast during the period..
(Financial progress Rs. 1,182,900)



Demonstration Site at Kandeala Education Park

Activity	Target	
	Physical	Financial Rs'000
Develop and Activate CWR database	Establish GRIS hubs at each partner institution and populate the database. Establish Information management and sharing policy for each partner institution	1200
Conservation Actions for priority CWR species	Identify threats and develop monitoring programs for selected taxa and take necessary conservation actions	900
Implement conservation man agent program	Select most suitable erea for conservation of CWR and implement management plans	2000
National Breeding Program	Ensure CWR are utilized in national plant breeding programs	800
Effect of Climate change and participatory research	Complete the study of climate change and participatory research	1800
Public Awareness program	Publish book on all CWR species in Sri Lanka and awareness booklet	1000
Project management	Coordination of project activities by partner institutions	1200
Total		**8900**

Total Budget for 2008 Rs. 8.9 million

