



SDG 6.5.1 Stakeholder Consultation Report Sri Lanka

8th Nov 2023

Prepared by:
Ananda Jayaweera - Facilitator

Stakeholder Consultation Report – by Facilitator

1. Executive Summary

The Ministry of Irrigation Sri Lanka, as the Focal Agency for SDG 6.5.1 undertook the process of completing the survey on the degree of implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). At the request of the country focal point, Sri Lanka Water Partnership, through the SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme, agreed to provide financial support to conduct the consultation process to record the views of key stakeholders in the Water sector of Sri Lanka. The Ministry of Irrigation on the basis of the proposal submitted engaged a facilitator to conduct the stakeholder consultation and complete the survey on SDG 6.5.1 using the IWRM Survey Instrument shared by UNEP.

During the consultation process in the run-up to the Multistakeholder Consultation Workshop, key water sector ministries and agencies were consulted through round table discussions.

Round Table discussions were set up with the Ministry of Irrigation, Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka, and The Ministry of Water Supply. Since the process had to be completed within a month the institutional meetings were limited to three.

The main multistakeholder consultation workshop was held on the 19th of September 2023, at the IWMI auditorium organized by the Sri Lanka Water Partnership. The workshop was attended by 36 participants out of 45 invited. After the plenary session, the participants were divided into 4 groups according to their institutional and functional backgrounds to fit into the 4 sections of the survey instrument. Following the workshop, the responses from group leaders were collected and compiled to complete the first draft of the survey instrument before forwarding it to UNEP. Several follow-through sessions were conducted to address the comments received from the SDG 6.5.1 Help Desk in order to complete the final draft. The Final Survey was completed by 20th October and shared with the SDG 6.5.1 Help Desk by the country focal point for SDG 6.5.1 Indicator.

The key tasks undertaken during the engagement

1. Orientation of key contact points from water sector agencies on main aspects of IWRM and the survey instrument, and assist in answering the questions in the survey instruments with scores.
2. Prepare a Draft report for the workshop by rating with scores for all questions in the survey instrument
3. Conduct a Consultation Workshop, record responses, and undertake revisions on the basis of inputs proposed by participants
4. Provide Technical support to the country focal point to complete the survey instruments with scoring for each question and report on the status description and way forward

5. Complete priority water resources challenges
6. Assist the Country focal Person to complete the country reporting process form
7. Assist CFP in entering scores in the calculating template and finalize the Indicator score for SDG 6.5.1.
8. Engaged in discussions to complete the final report for endorsement by the CFP /State Ministry of Irrigation for onward transmission to UNEP
9. Complete the stakeholder consultation report.

2. Consultation Phase

The round table discussions held during the consultation phase allowed us to disseminate the key messages of IWRM to wider participation from each institution as participants selected for the main workshop were limited to 2-3 from these agencies. Each meeting was attended by over 10 from two ministries and MASL. It has been noticed that the current outlook of the participants on the principles of IWRM is not up to the mark. However, it was possible to orient the majority of them through a PowerPoint presentation and raise their knowledge on fundamentals and prerequisites/building blocks for effective implementation of IWRM. Further, these opportunities before the main consultation meeting helped to prepare the participants adequately for the process of addressing questions of the survey instrument. Several meetings were organized by the country focal points during the period the orient the office of the Ministry of Irrigation attended by the Department of Irrigation.

The key issues identified for poor knowledge of IWRM are intrinsically due to poor coordination and inter-sector and intra-sector compartmentalization of functional units. A hybrid meeting was conducted to include the outstation experts representing academia and specialists to gather the latest information on the projects implemented and on capacity-building carried out by universities and other institutions. Two Professors connected online who are responsible for conducting post-graduate studies on water resources management from Peradeniya University in Kandy. The status of capacity building on IWRM was presented by them explained the following; The Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture (PGIA), University of Peradeniya offered postgraduate programmes in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) since 2001. The IWRM program aims at producing multi-disciplinary professionals in water resources management with knowledge and skills from scientific, technological, economic, social, and environmental perspectives for integrated and sustainable use of water resources. The IWRM programme has managed to secure fellowship programs for the M.Phil students through the Unilever Water Fellowship programme, Crossing Boundaries Project funded by the Netherlands Government, and IDRC-SAWA (South Asia Water Leadership Programme) fellowship project supported by the International Development Research Center (IDRC), Canada. The Board of Study is closely working with Cap-Net Lanka; the Sri Lankan chapter of the global network on Capacity Building in IWRM for informal training for other stakeholders

UNDP consultant, Mr. Upali Imbulana who is engaged under the UNDP-funded Climate Resilience Integrated Water Management project(UNDP/Ministry of Irrigation /CRIWMP) contributed details of the achievement of the project. -Strengthening the resilience of

smallholder farmers in the Dry Zone to climate variability and extreme events through an integrated approach to water management Project. Ms. Jamakee Meegaswewa who participated in person provided the details of the project implemented with World Bank assistance on integrating climate risk reduction mechanisms in river basin planning through the Climate Resilient Improvement Project. The project also supports the development of basin investment plans (BDIP).

Since there are large numbers of professionals engaged in the key water sector agencies and in the ministries who are involved in water resources management, the group meetings helped to disseminate the knowledge to a wider professional groups as the multistakeholder workshop could not accommodate all.

3. Multistakeholder Platform - Consultation Workshop

The workshop was scheduled for the 19th of September after several orientation sessions were carried out with key water agencies. Extensive discussions were carried out with the country focal person and her team, including Lanka Water Partnership on respective responsibilities to organize the workshop. An invitation list was prepared with the country focal point and the draft invitation letter was prepared for the approval and signature of the Country Focal Point – Ms. Namalee Madawalagama Additional Secretary Ministry of Irrigation ably assisted by Eng Rohan Perera Director of the Ministry of Irrigation. The invitation letter explained the purpose of the workshop objectives and outcomes required from participants. SDG 6.5.1 Indicator survey Instrument was shared with the invitation for the preparation.

1. The following agencies attended the workshop
2. Ministry of Irrigation (Myof I)
3. Irrigation Department (ID)
4. Ministry of Water Supply and Estate Infrastructure Development (MofWS&EID)
5. National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB)
6. Department of National Community Water Supply(DNCWS)
7. Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka (MASL)
8. Ministry of Environment (my of Env)
9. Central Environmental Authority (CEA)
10. Department of Forest (FD)
11. Department of Wild Life (WLD)
12. Water Resources Board (WRB)
13. Sustainable Development Council (SDC)
14. Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB)
15. Center for Environmental Justice (CEJ)
16. Environmental Foundation Ltd
17. World Vision Lanka (WVL)
18. UNDP Project
19. Global Water Partnership (CWP)
20. International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
21. Sri Lanka Water Partnership (SLWP)

The draft agenda was prepared and shared with a country focal point and the SLWP Country Coordinator Mr. SGG Rajkuma to agree and support logistics and refreshments. The program of the workshop consisted of the following sessions (See Annex 2 for Final Agenda)

1. Opening session – welcome and introduction by Country Focal point
2. Orientation on IWRM – Facilitator
3. Instructions and clarification for group work and the approach to fill the survey instrument – Facilitator and Lank Water Partnership including UNEP Coordinator
4. Group work
5. Presentation by the leader of the groups

The workshop proceedings were opened with a welcome speech by the country focal point followed by the address of the Country Coordinator SL Water Partnership on the role of SLWP.

A PowerPoint presentation by the facilitator aimed at orienting the participants on IWRM principles, elements, and Sustainable Development Goal 6. Elaborate on SDG 6 Targets and the responsibilities of agencies in achieving each Target. The definition of IWRM is an important statement that everyone needs to know well and how to interpret and to relate to each element of IWRM.

“management of surface and subsurface water in qualitative, quantitative and ecological sense from a multidisciplinary perspective and focused on the needs and requirements of society at large regarding water”

The presentation also includes the primary objectives of the IWRM Golas based on core principles, instruments, and practice

1. Management of Water Resources through Sustainability, Efficiency, and Equitably
2. IWRM targets in river basin planning presented
3. Promotion of Participatory approach through Jointly Diagnose Jointly plan, and jointly implement

The second part of the presentation covered the 6.5.1 indicator. The key elements to be institutionalized and the building blocks for water sector reforms.

After the morning break participants were requested to form 4 groups to attend the 4 sections of the instrument. A presentation using the UNEP PPT was made to explain the process interpretations, and entries to Description and Progress and Way forward.

33 questions in the survey instrument of the SDG 6.5.1 indicator were included in the handout of the workshop. The orientation of the groups was based on the above list and explained how the terminology applies to the Sri Lankan context.

At this juncture the Mr. Paul Glennie Coordinator UN Environment Programme (UNEP) SDG Indicator 6.5.1 Helpdesk, who has been following the proceedings of the workshop online intervened on line to address the audience and appreciated the participants' keen interest in attending the workshop. He also emphasized the importance of following the examples, guidelines and foot notes given in the document that support the decision making. He requested participants to

build on the previous reporting in 2020 and compare the progress made during the reporting period. Presented the changes made in 2023 instrument and additional questions on climate change and finance.

National and other levels mentioned in the survey instrument required some clarifications – as requested by the participants, in the Sri Lankan context national policies are formulated at the central government ministries in collaboration with national agencies. Other levels applicable to Provincial and District Levels adopt policies approved at the central level/

4. Conclusions from facilitated discussions per section

4.1 Enabling Environment'

What is the status of policies, laws, and plans to support Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at the national level

The discussion was focused on the prerequisites to create an enabling environment for establishing a regime for IWRM.

- i) National Water Resources Policy or Similar - Status of approval of the National Water Resources Policy based on IWRM and adopted by all water agencies in the country. In the absence of a policy, it is possible to institutionalize functions of IWRM by respective water agencies, such as a Memorandum of Understanding or any other instrument to implement water-sharing agreements among key water agencies.
- ii) National Water Resources Law(s) – explanations were done using a matrix of legislations compiled on the available legal instruments passed during the past 100 years or so. This is required because in Sri Lanka IWRM functions are scattered in many legal instruments enacted since the late 19th century. Most of the participants were not aware of the background to nonimplementation of the Water Resources Board Act enacted in 1964.
- iii) **National IWRM Plans** – explained how the current basin level and institutional level water resources planning are related to IWRM plans. In Sri Lanka water resource planning has evolved through the past 25 years since the first draft water, to adopt the majority of IWRM elements. Sri Lanka's best example is the Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka law and the Mahaweli River Basin Development Plan.
- iv) In December 2022, a meeting was held representing water and environment ministries and key water agencies and agreed (Signed an MOU) on the establishment of an apex body for comprehensive water resources management.

Response to Main Findings

- **Main Challenges to Progress** – Although Sri Lanka overcome many barriers and obstacles over the past 25 years to adopt a National Policy for Water Resources the current adverse economic situation will hamper the next steps in institutionalizing recommendations of the policy. The drafting of water law needs acceleration and may be delayed due to changes in priorities.
- **How can the main challenges be addressed**- since there is consensus among key water agencies on the establishment of a Water Resources Secretariat per approved policy there is an opportunity to accelerate the process.
- **Rate of Progress since 2020**- Although Sri Lanka was well on track to achieve considerable progress towards 2030, it was hampered due to two extreme events 1. Setbacks due to pandemic 2. Country's economic debacle. However, Sri Lanka's water sector is manned by very high-quality professionals many obstacles have been overcome.
- **Major Points and ambiguities** – Although there are a number of participants who are managing relevant projects with strong IWRM elements, they could not match the project objectives with IWRM elements
- **Other Interesting Points** – IWRM capacity building is incorporated into to curricula of the engineering undergraduates and post-graduates. IWRM requires a multidisciplinary approach therefore it is equally important to introduce the IWRM principles to other disciplines. An attempt by a water resources engineer to introduce these subjects into the curricula of sociology and business administration courses at other universities failed due to the rejection of these subjects by students on the perception that it does not have employment prospects in the job markets.

4.2 : 'Institutions and Participation'

There are at least two national government agencies and Ministries responsible for leading the implementation of IWRM functions in the absence of an apex body. Discussions were focussed on the approved policy with a recommendation to establish a Water Resources Secretariat to draft the National Water Resources Law. The group agreed that Sri Lanka has overcome many barriers, over the past 25 years, toward the implementation of IWRM. At present government authorities have realised the importance of IWRM to face future challenges in sustainable utilisation of water resources.

It has been revealed from the participants that a large number of projects are implemented at present to incorporate climate-resilient water resources plans and completed at least 14 river basin plans to address climate change impacts on water resources and river health.

Coordination – the highest level of coordination among water agencies is at the Water Management Panel of the Mahaweli Authority where heads of all water agencies attend the coordination meeting to agree on the basis of water sharing for sectorial use.

Representatives of the Ministry of Water Supply highlighted that the National Coordination Meeting conducted by the Secretary to the Ministry is a Multistakeholder Platform for the WASH sector.

Since there is a well-established collaborative partnership among water sector agencies participation is at a high level. In the Rural Water Supply Sector community participation in the planning, implementation, and operation of RWS facilities at a high level.

Participatory approach at the basin level through Farmer Organizations and Project Management Committees at a high level in the Irrigation sector.

Raised awareness among participants regarding the government policy of promoting investments in the water sector through Public Private Participation. (PPP)

Contributions from the academic staff of the universities were recorded on the IWRM capacity building. IWRM has been incorporated into the faculty of engineering and the faculty of agriculture.

Gender dimensions are now considered important in many aspects of water resources management.

Gender mainstreaming in water resources management is to provide justification to women who are affected due to water stress and scarcity and ensure that inequalities are not perpetuated. Gender mainstreaming does not only aim to avoid the creation or reinforcement of inequalities, which can have adverse effects on both women and men. Gender mainstreaming is very effective in the Rural Water Supply Sector by the involvement of men and women in the planning, implementation, and operation of drinking water facilities.

National Drinking Water Policy addresses the issues of vulnerable groups through consultation and participatory planning to fulfill Leave No One Behind by expanding services to people in hard-to-reach areas, conflict-affected zones, displaced due to hydrometeorological disasters, and indigenous people.

- **Main Challenges – evidence of lack of coordination surfaced.**

In order to overcome the above a formal coordination mechanism is to be established as a multistakeholder platform similar to what is being practiced in the WASH sector

4.3 'Management Instruments'

Management Instruments cover a wide range of tools including regulations, techniques, targets, water charges, and tariffs, technical guidelines, and monitoring of water resources availability and quality.

The group represented by Key water agencies discussed the status of the hydrometric network and river gauging network and coverage. Although current coverage of water resources monitoring is shared by Irrigation and MASL all resourceful rivers are adequately monitored. However, adequacy coverage and quality of surface water data improved over the years. At the aquifer level, all groundwater-sensitive areas are included in the current monitoring system. The Water Resources Board(WRB) the agency with the mandate of groundwater regulations has issued regulations to control exploitation. WRB has received funds under a project to map aquifers and establish groundwater and surface water connectivity.

Water quality monitoring is fragmented among many agencies and based on purpose not expanded as a national monitoring system.

Water use efficiency is well established in the drinking water sector through the reduction of the Nonrevenue Water program. The irrigation sector as the biggest bulk water user is focussing on improving canal networks and reservoir headworks to improve water use efficiency. Lack of finance is a setback for meeting targets.

Management of Water-related ecosystems – improvement through awareness of the ecosystem services, tree planting, environmental flow regulations, and wetland protection programs are some of the activities currently in place.

- **Main Challenges to progress**

Considerable efforts are needed to build institutional capacity to institutionalize IWRM elements in the water resources assessment, river basin planning, and sustainable utilization for equitable allocation.

Main Challenges are to be addressed – through a comprehensive technical assistance programme to develop hardware and software to incorporate IWRM targets in river basin planning. This means that water resource plans need to be prepared in accordance with quantitative qualitative and ecological sense through a participatory approach. Once the proposed Water Resources Secretariat is established it will be an opportune moment for introducing IWRM elements.

4.4 'Financing'

The financing section included the national budget for water resources infrastructure (Investment and recurring Costs). Those who represented major water sector agencies expressed that the government is not in a position to allocate a capital budget for financing new development. However, most of the planned investments are continuing with a reduced budget.

Primister office is seeking financial support to implement water sector reforms. To establish a regime for IWRM.

Financial support for IWRM elements such as policy and institutional strengthening continued and considerable progress was made in the enabling environment with the approved policy.

In the water supply sector affordability of consumers in the rural sector is reduced due to high food inflation and there is a risk of breakdown of services due to lack of funds.

So far a separate budget is not available for a comprehensive approach to IWRM implementation. These functions are fragmented among many agencies and national budget allocation is mainly for capital works focus on water resources development projects

A proposal was made to charge bulk water users and the revenue to be channeled for IWRM implementation. Part of the revenue generated by water service delivery agencies is to be contributed for the apex body to function properly.

The participants argued about the low marks given in this section due to the economic downturn.

- Main Challenges – With the current adverse economic situation Sri Lanka will not be able to achieve complete the process to achieve global goals due to a lack of financial resources.
- The other major issue is the water for irrigation and agriculture is free and the recurrent cost of management of infrastructure is also provided under the national budget
- Participants made a suggestion to charge bulk water users to generate funds to perform essential IWRM functions

5. Next steps

- Now that the final survey report has been accepted by UNEP the next step will be to expect a global report from the UNEP. In the meantime, it is important to identify sector gaps that were highlighted in the survey and make a report with recommendations to the Secretary Ministry of Irrigation and to the Hon Minister for Irrigation.
- Accelerate the implementation of policy recommendations
- It is important to continue the process of integrating the functions of IWRM in the water sector. Expedite establishment of the Water Resources Secretariat and commence drafting of the legislation to consolidate a water law required for water resources management.
- The main challenges in the IWRM are lack of finance, water availability, and frequent hydrometeorological disasters due to distorted rainfall patterns impacted by climate change.
- Since Sri Lanka's Economic Prospects for recovery, restoration, and prosperity will go beyond 2030 it is highly unlikely that global goals will be achieved by 2030.

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- The other negative aspect is change of government is always associated with high staff turnover and institutional memory loss are serious issue affecting the consistency of applications.

6. Annexes

Annex 1: List of Participants

Annex 2: Agenda

Annex 3: Facilitator's Comments

Annex 4: Photos

Annex 1: List of participants

Workshop participants

| Name | Organisation | Position | Email address |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Eng. (Dr.) K. Weligepolage | Department of Irrigation ID | Addl. DG of Irrigation (IP & D) | kitsiriw@hotmail.com |
| Eng. Sudarshani Widanapathirana | ID | Director of Irrigation (Water Management) | sudarshaniwp@gmail.com |
| Eng. W. C. N. Wickramasinghe | ID | Director of Irrigation (WRP) | cnadeeka@yahoo.com |
| Eng. K. T. N. Perera | ID | Chief Engineer (Land & Legal) | |
| Eng .Ms. Dulani Bandara | Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka(MASL) | Hydrologist | |
| Eng. K. I. I. C. Kariyawasam | MASL | Deputy Director (WMS) | Chathurangaimesha1982@gmail.com |
| Eng. (Ms) D. N. H. L. | Ministry of | Addl. Secretary | namalee_madawalagama@yahoo.com |

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|--------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|
| Madawalagama | Irrigation | (WRP & M) | |
| Eng. (Ms) Priyani Jayadeera | Ministry of Irrigation | Addl. Secretary (WRD) | priyanimjayadeera@gmail.com |
| Eng. S. K Hewagama | Ministry of Irrigation | Addl. Secretary (RBM) | |
| Ms. L.P.C Fernando | Ministry of Irrigation | Deputy director Planning | |
| Eng. L. R. H. Perera | Ministry of Irrigation | Director (WRP) | lrhperera@yahoo.com |
| Eng. Sadish Madushan | Ministry of Irrigation | Assistant Director (WM) | Sadish.madu@gmail.com |
| Ms. Devika Vithanage | Central Environment Authority | Director (Environment. Pollution Control) | devika@cea.lk |
| Eng. (Ms.) Anoja Kaluarachchi | National Water Supply and Drainage Board | Deputy General Manager (Dev.) | nwsdb.anojak@yahoo.com |
| Mrs. W. R. A. C. D. Ranasinghe | Department of National Community Water Supply | Director (Monitoring and Evaluation) | dishna.ranasinghe@yahoo.com |
| Mrs. A. Egodawithana | Water Resources Board | Hydrologist | aruniegodawithana@gmail.com |
| Mr. M. S. Bandara | | Director General (Planning) | sudaththab@yahoo.com |
| Mrs. N. M. M. Marickkar | Ministry of Water Supply and Estate Infrastructure Development | Addl. Secretary (Technical) | addlsect.mws@gmail.com |
| Mr. A. C. M. Nafeel | | Addl. Secretary | nafeelacm@gmail.com |
| Ms. N.S. Amarasinghe | Sustainable Development Council | Assistant Director | Ad2@sd.gov.lk |
| Mr. Nishantha Edirisuriya | Department Of Forest | Additional Conservator | |

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|-----------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| | | (Watershed) | |
| Mrs. A.J.Premawansa | Director Operation | Director General (PL) | wildlife.planning@gmail.com |
| Dr. Upali Amarasinghe | IWMI | Senior Researcher | U.AMARASINGHE@cgiar.org |
| Dr. Nishadi Eriyagama | IWMI | Senior Regional Researcher | |
| Mr. Lal Induruwage | GWP | Regional Coordinator | Lal.Induruwage@gwpsas.org |
| Eng. SGG Rajkumar | SLWP | Country Coordinator | S.Rajkumar@cgiar.org |
| Ms. Kusume Athukorale | GWP | Regional Global Water Partnership South Asia Chair | kusum@itmin.net |
| Eng. Upali Imbulana | UNDP | Consultant | Upali.Imbulana@gmail.com |
| Ms. Chirasthi Kapuge | Environment Foundation Ltd | Project Assistant | ckapuge@efl.lk |
| Mr. Dilena Pathiragoda | Center for Environment Justice | Director Executive | dilenapk@gmail.com |
| Mr. Indika Gunewardena | World Vision SL | WASH Officer | indika_gunawardana@wvi.org |
| Dr. Nimalashantha Wijeratne | Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation | Director Environment | Sllrdc.wmu@gmail.com |
| D.P.K Karunaratne | Ceylon Electricity Board | Electrical Engineer Energy Management | |
| Eng. Ananda Jayaweera | Sri Lanka Water Partnership | Facilitator | anandahj@gmail.com |
| Mr. Sujeewa | | | |

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|-------------|--|--|--|
| Dissanayake | | | |
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Other stakeholders engaged (not in workshops)

Prof M.I.M Mowjood – University of Peradeniya – IWRM Capacity building

Prof Nimal Gunewardena – University of Peradeniya

Mr. Ranjith Ratnayake – consultant SLWP

The level of participation is presented in the final Survey Instrument for SDFG 6.5.1 indicator in -Annex C: 6.5.1 country reporting process form

Annex 2: Agenda of the Workshop held on 19th September 2023



Ministry of Irrigation Country Report on SDG 6.5.1 Indicator Degree of IWRM Implementation

| Item | Title | Presentation By | Time |
|---|---|--|-------------|
| 1 | Registration of Participants | Registration desk | 0830-0845 |
| 2 | Welcome | Ministry of Irrigation Focal point | 0855-0900 |
| 3 | Opening Remarks | Secretary Ministry of Irrigation | 0900-0910 |
| 4 | Role of Sri Lanka water Partnership (SLWP) | SLWP | 0910-0915 |
| 5 | Introduction to country survey and Reporting on the IWRM | Eng. Ananda Jayaweera National Expert GLAAS | 0915-1000 |
| 6 | Introduction to Group Work Facilitator /SLWP/ UNEP | | 1000 -1030 |
| TEA BREAK | | | 10.30-1050 |
| Group Work –4 Groups to Score the survey Instrument | | | 11.00-15.00 |
| LUNCH BREAK | | | 1245-13.30 |
| | Group A | Enabling Environment | |
| | Group B | Institution and Participation | |
| | Group C | Management Instruments | |
| | Group D | Finance | |
| | Presentations by group | Group Leader | 15.00-16.00 |
| CLOSING | | | |

Annex 3: Facilitator's Comments

Previous experience with the 2020 IWRM survey that I did for the then Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources Management on a voluntary basis helped to identify the Country Focal point and had an introductory meeting on IWRM. Although Sri Lanka started the process rather late a systematic approach was followed for wider consultation of key stakeholders. The survey instrument was shared among all stakeholders with explanations of the approach to answer the questions. Round table discussions with key water sector agencies were conducted in the run-up to the multi-stakeholder workshop. The objectives of these meetings were to orient and clarify the approach to completing the survey instrument as well as to create awareness of IWRM.

Engagement of the facilitator was limited to 10 days however the actual inputs exceed more than 20 days due to additional inputs required for finalising the form after the comments from Mr. Paul Glennie of UNEP

The overall success of the workshop was at a very high level as mentioned by the Country Focal Point. Mrs. Madawelagama Additional Secretary was satisfied with the number attended, their keen interest in the subject, and continuation till the closing of the workshop.

The SDG 6.5.1 indicator survey provided a great opportunity to advance towards establishing a regime for IWRM. Sri Lanka has well-qualified professionals associated with water sector agencies with experience in accelerating water sector reforms. It has been observed that although there are constraints due to the adverse economic situation professionals with a positive framework of mind to accelerate changes.

One of the most important aspects of IWRM is the management of surface and subsurface water in qualitative, quantitative, and ecological sense from a multidisciplinary perspective. In this regard, it is required to emphasize the involvement of a multidisciplinary team in the planning and implementation of water resources management projects and programmes in order to avoid side effects and minimize affected parties. Integrating social and environmental safeguards in the development and operation of infrastructure has to be adopted as a policy.

Need to appoint an inter-agency committee to draft a National Water Resources Act with respect to the National Water Resources Policy. Public Consultation for Water Resources Policy and the draft National Water Resources Act to be carried out. Interim institutional arrangements have to be established to implement IWRM.

In the survey, additional questions on conflict resolution and safeguards may be introduced in the next round of the IWRM survey.

Annex 4; Workshop Photos



Address by The Country Focal Point, Mrs. Namalee Madawalagama



Plenary session



Presentation by The Facilitator – Eng. Ananda Jayaweera



Group Work



Group Photo