

Sri Lanka Water Vision 2025

A society that values the sustainable use of its water
to achieve the goal of an environment conducive to
balanced social and economic development

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லங்கா ஜலனி
Lanka Jalani

SRI LANKA WATER PARTNERSHIP (SLWP)

A Partnership to Promote Sustainable Integrated Water Resource Management

Sri Lanka Water Sector

The problem

- ◆ There is a global consensus, that the world is facing a severe water crisis; consequently “water” has reached the top of the global development agenda
- ◆ Sri Lanka though seemingly having adequate per capita water, faces seasonal and regional variations, leading to “periodic water crisis”
- ◆ Persisting localized scarcity of domestic water, a major cause of poverty and water quality degradation
- ◆ Quality drinking water and sanitation needs are not adequately met. (MDG's)
- ◆ Inadequate sanitation causes major health and environmental hazards
- ◆ Today's global water crisis is considered a “crisis in governance” which aptly fits the Sri Lanka situation
- ◆ The poorest of the poor, mostly women and children are the most vulnerable
- ◆ Climate change, impacts adversely on livelihoods



Sri Lanka's current population of 20 Million will stabilize at 23 Million by 2025. However urban population will increase from the current 8 million to over 13 Million and create heavy demands on water supply and sanitation services.

Purpose	*Current consumption	2025
Drinking and domestic	7%	15-20%
Irrigated agriculture	83%	70-75%
Industry	6%	10-15%
Others	4%	5-7%

**Source: Ministry of Irrigation and Water Management.*

Sri Lanka Water Sector

The promise

- ◆ Water in Sri Lanka is truly becoming “everybody's business”
- ◆ IWRM and partnership approaches are gaining wide acceptance
- ◆ Political leadership and Champions to promote IWRM are emerging
- ◆ A National Water Policy and Law are priorities
- ◆ The River Basin as a unit of water resources planning / management is gaining ground
- ◆ Planned urban development will reduce pressure on fragile ecosystems
- ◆ Need for community awareness, involvement and empowerment is accepted national policy
- ◆ Links between water and poverty recognized
- ◆ Create awareness of the need for climate change adaptation and disaster preparedness.



Sri Lanka Water Vision 2025

Vision to Action - The Road Map

Vision 2025 and Vision Components incorporated in strategic national policy documents.

Need to focus on Vision and monitor milestones

Dialogue Action Dialogue

- ◆ Local / sub basin level = Area Water Partnerships
- ◆ National Level
 - = River Basin Organizations
 - = National Consultation on hot topics
 - = Water Resource Steering Committee
 - = National Networks and Alliances
- ◆ Regional / Global Networks and Strategic Alliances
- ◆ Insist on good governance via
 - ◆ Political Roundtables
 - ◆ Represent Local Interest in National Forums
 - ◆ Eliminate / Minimize - Power Politics
 - ◆ Redefine Role of Government
- ◆ Analyze and Foster Linkages - Upstream Downstream; Inter Sectoral; National-Regional; Inter Societal
- ◆ Promote awareness and capacity building to train a new generation of water professionals
- ◆ Foster innovative technology and management through Public - Private Partnerships.

Actions

- ◆ Promote cross sectoral dialogues to share resources
- ◆ Bridge gap between public perceptions and scientific understanding (e.g. "Sri Lanka has no water problem: Water should not be sold")
- ◆ Create fora for open, inclusive and transparent dialogue followed by action
- ◆ Create awareness and build capacity in IWRM
- ◆ Promote conservation of river resources
- ◆ Create awareness on climate change adaptation

Global-Regional Activities

Global Regional Activities

Global Water Partnership (GWP)

Established in 1996 as an international network is present today in 12 regions and nearly 100 countries. GWP promotes IWRM and supports building partnerships and alliances


GWP: Strategy 2009-2013

Recognizes the role of water and IWRM principles in National Policy, support action at national, regional, and local level in promoting sustainable use of natural resources

GWP-South Asia (GWP-SAS)

The Regional Water Partnership took over from SASTAC in 2002, to promote IWRM in the region and help mobilize support for country programs and to monitor global initiatives

The UN system and GWP have agreed on MDG (Millennium Development Goals) and water related targets

- 
- ◆ Poverty Reduction
 - ◆ Food Security
 - ◆ Drinking Water
 - ◆ Sanitation
 - ◆ Environmental sustainability

- ◆ Water is a Public Trust
- ◆ Water is Everybody's Business
- ◆ Water crisis is a crisis in Governance
- ◆ No Water No Future

Water reaches top of the world development agenda

LANKA JALANI

Sri Lanka Water Partnership (Lanka Jalani)

- ◆ An autonomous body in the GWP family
- ◆ A non profit, independent association of stakeholder institutions committed to IWRM
- ◆ Collaborates with Water Related Agencies, Universities, Research Institutes, Trade Chambers, Water related NGOs and all other professional bodies in pursuit of its goals



Role of SLWP

- ◆ Operationalise the concept of IWRM at all levels
- ◆ Promote transparency and insist on good governance, recognise the changed role of government in natural resource management
- ◆ Encourage private, community and institutional participation in governance and in investments
- ◆ Create fora for broad-based consultation and consensus building
- ◆ Propose realistic valuation and cost sharing mechanisms for operations
- ◆ Build Partnerships with all stakeholders
- ◆ Assist knowledge brokering and capacity building
- ◆ Campaign for water quality and ecosystem resilience
- ◆ Promote pro-poor, gender sensitive IWRM strategies
- ◆ Build strategic alliances with Key Actors

OUR POSITION

The Sri Lanka Water Partnership (SLWP) in its commitment to the promotion of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) envisions “A society that values the sustainable use of its water resources to achieve the goal of an environment conducive to balanced social and economic development.”

As such;

- We acknowledge the respect for life, both human and nature encapsulated in the saying “The land belongs to the people and all living beings; thou are only the guardian of it “(Mahavamsa circa 223 BC). Thus water is a valuable national resource to be conserved and used for benefit of all living beings with the state as trustee and custodian.*

Thus SLWP;

- Maintains that water resources belong to the country and its people; is a national resource and oppose the involvement of multinationals in the water sector which may erode that right as seen in many other country situations.*
- Supports the prerogative of the state to ownership of the country's water resources and its allocation and management in its role as sole custodian while promoting the decentralization/devolution/outsourcing of distribution and support services to local authorities, community organizations and the private sector as appropriate at levels that better serves the nation.*
- Asserts that water is a basic human right and unfettered access to water for basic human needs to be ensured with priority accorded for drinking water and livelihoods.*
- Maintains that tried and tested traditional water management systems need be supported with the application of modern technology.*
- Emphasizes the critical need to maintain the nation's food security and the related importance of paddy cultivation and irrigated agriculture whilst safeguarding of water sources providing potable water.*
- Regrets the declining water quality mainly due to poor social and environmental behavior which is a threat to human well being, ecosystem health and livelihood security and calls upon all stakeholders to redress this.*
- Respects intergenerational equity and upholds the need for good water governance towards this goal.*
- Supports participatory decision making with the involvement of all stakeholders in water resources management whilst promoting equity, subsidiarity and gender balance with consideration of vital role played by women, in setting up institutional arrangements for integrated management of water resources.*

SLWP

Global Water Partnership
(GWP)

Lanka Jalani

GWP - South Asia
Regional Water Partnership

an autonomous body in the GWP family

Lanka Jalani Partners Forum

Steering Committee

Government Agencies

Academe

Statutory Bodies

International Organisations

Private Sector

South Asia RWP

NGO / Civil Society

South Asia TAB

SLWP Secretariat

Pub. Sector

Local Auth

AWP

Academe/
Professionals

Media

Pvt. Sector

NGO

GOVERNING PRINCIPLES

STRUCTURED INFORMALITY

NEUTRAL, OPEN AND INCLUSIVE

COMMITTED TO IWRM AND FINANCIAL PROBITY

Secretariat

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Global Water
Partnership

