



MASL

Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka



ROLE OF MAHAWELI RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY ANDIN SASNET-RBO

Presented by:

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2004/9/30

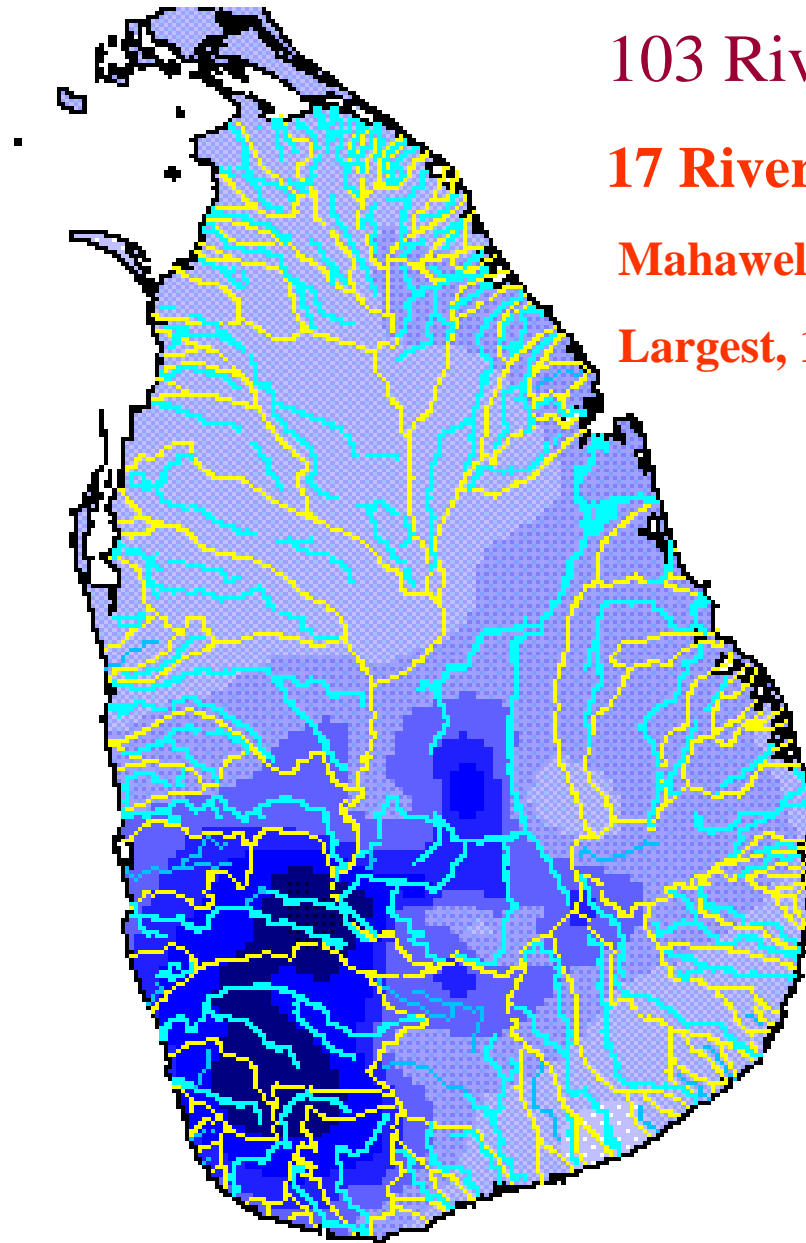
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SRI LANKA – CHARACTERISTICS

- **SIZE – 65,000 SQ.KM. WITH 103 RIVER BASINS/ 9 PROVINCES AND 25 DISTRICTS**
- **LOCATED IN SOUTH EAST OF INDIA**
- **POPULATION – 19 MILLION**
- **RAINFALL – VARY FROM 1200 MM TO 5000 MM WITH AN AVERAGE OF 1200 MM**
- **MAIN OCCUPATION – AGRICULTURE**
- **LITERACY RATE 97%**

PUBLIC REFORM POLICY

- **TO REDUCE BURDEN ON THE GOVERNMENT BY RESTRUCTURING STATE AGENCIES WHERE REQUIRED**
- **TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATORY MANAGEMENT OF BRANCH AND TERTIARY CANAL SYSTEMS**
- **TO PROMOTE PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT IN PROVISION OF SERVICES AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES**
- **TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY OF THE STATE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**



103 River Basins

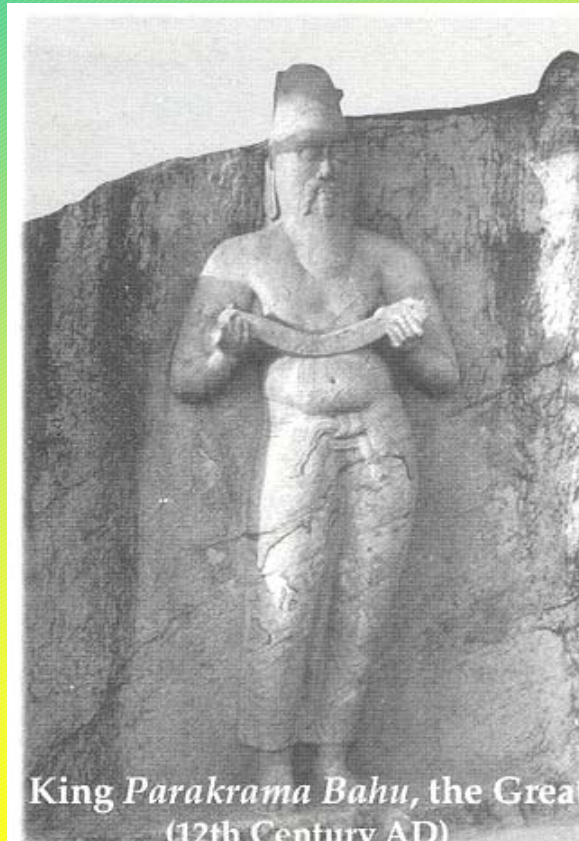
17 River Basins > 1000 sq km

**Mahaweli River Basin is the
Largest, 10327 Sq.km.**

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES

- **HYDRAULIC CIVILIZATION FOR MORE THAN 2500 YEARS**
- **18,000 MINOR, 300 MAJOR AND MEDIUM SIZE MAN MADE TANKS WITH CASCADES**
- **OVER 60 DAMS**
- **IRRIGATED AREA -730,000 HA. OF PADDY**
- **PLANTATION AREA – 800,000 HA. OF TEA, RUBBER AND COCONUT**
- **REDUCTION OF FOREST COVER – FROM 70% TO 20% OVER THE LAST CENTURY**

WATER AND WISDOM



The Sri Lankan knew the wisdom of the words of their mediaeval king, *Parakrama Bahu* the Great, who declared that

“not a single drop of water received from rain should be allowed to escape into the sea without being utilized for human benefit”.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

- **MAHAWELI AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA (MASL) WAS CREATED TO ACCELERATE MAHAWELI DEVELOPMENT SCHEME TO BE COMPLETED IN 6 YEARS FROM 1979**
- **MASL ACT WAS UNIQUE IN REPLICATING ALL DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT RELATED LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN MAHAWELI SPECIAL AREAS**

DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

Mahaweli Master Plan

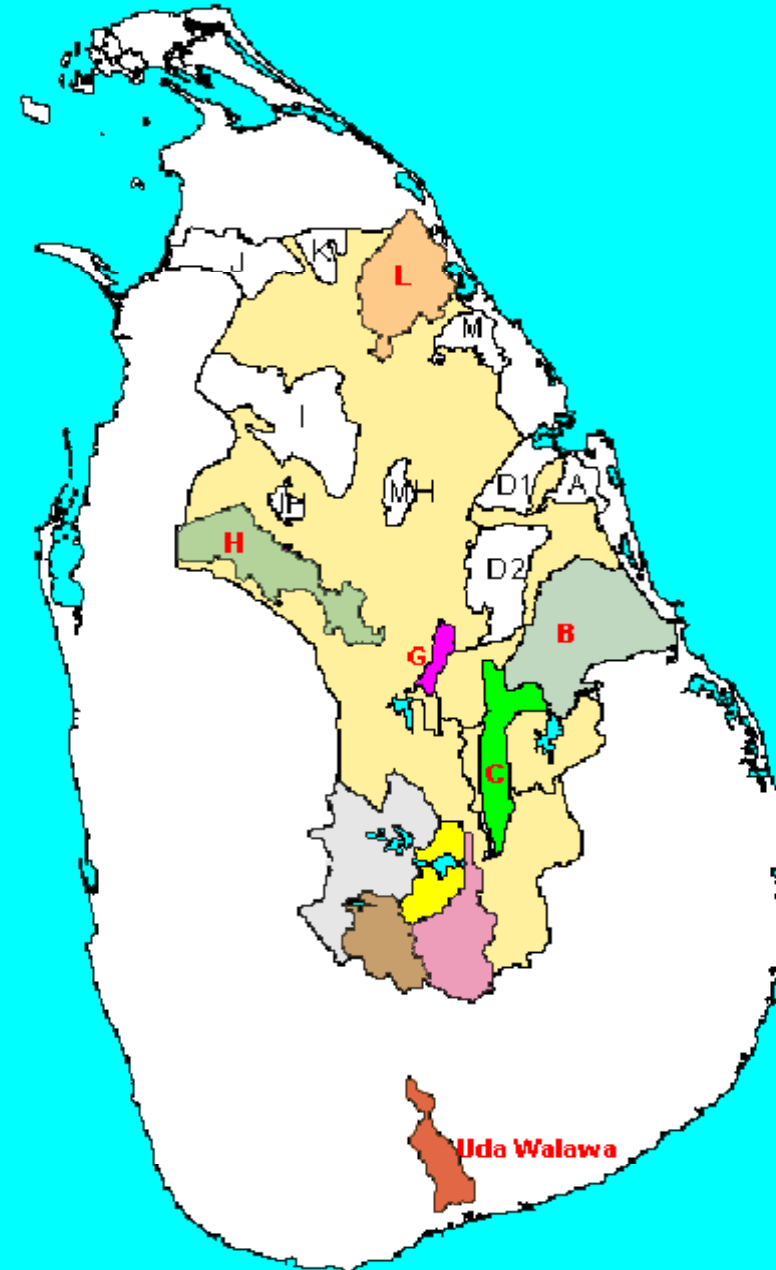
30% of Land area of Sri Lanka

55% of Land area of Dry Zone

Total Irrigable Area : 363,769 ha.

Development Objectives

- Land Settlement
- Food Production
- Power Generation



MASL ACHIEVEMENTS

- **CROPPING INTENSITY INCREASED FROM LESS THAN 1 TO MORE THAN 1.5**
- **YEILD INCREASED FROM 3.5 MT TO 4.7 MT**
- **CONTRIBUTED WITH 25% FOR NATIONAL PADDY PRODUCTION AND 50% FOR POWER GENERATION**
- **COST RECOVERY WITHIN 10 YEARS OF THE PROJECTS BY WAY OF IRRIGTED AGRICULTURE AND HYDRO-POWER**
- **LIVING STANDARDS OF THE RURAL COMMUNITIES IMPROVED**
- **CONTRIBUTED FOR EMPLOYMENT GENERATION**
- **PROMOTED PARTTICIPATORY MANAGEMENT OF TERTIARY CANALS**

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WATER SECTOR REFORMS – ISSUES

- **WATER SHORTAGES AND INCREASED COMETITION**
- **LACK OF WATER ALLOCATION MECHANISMS (PLANNING AND REGULATION)**
- **DEGRADATION OF WATER QUALITY**
- **DEGRADATION OF WATERSHEDS / WATER SOURCES / RIVERINE AREAS**
- **LACK OF INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**



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WATER SECTOR REFORMS – ISSUES

(CONTD....)

- **WATER RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION (LACK OF CONCERN TOWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL FLOWS TO SUSTAIN WETLANDS, BIO-DIVERSITY, WILDLIFE ETC.)**
- **WEAK IMPLEMENTATION OF REGULATIONS ON WATER POLLUTION**
- **LACK OF AWARENESS ON WATER QUALITY MANGEMENT ASPECTS**
- **WEAK COMPLIANCE MONITORING**
- **NO PROPER LAND USE ZONING AND PLANNING AND GUIDELINES NOT FOLLOWED**



RESTRUCTURING OF MASL

- **CHANGED FROM DEVELOPMENT TO A MANAGEMENT PHASE FROM EARLY 1990s**
- **FOLLOWING NATIONAL WATER POLICY, SHIFTED THE EMPHASIS TO IWRM WITH A FOCUS ON RIVER BASIN PLANNING, MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT**
- **JURSDICTION TO CHANGE FROM IRRIGATION SYSTEMS TO BASINS WITH MAHAWELI AND ADJACENT BASINS THAT RECEIVE MAHAWELI WATERS**

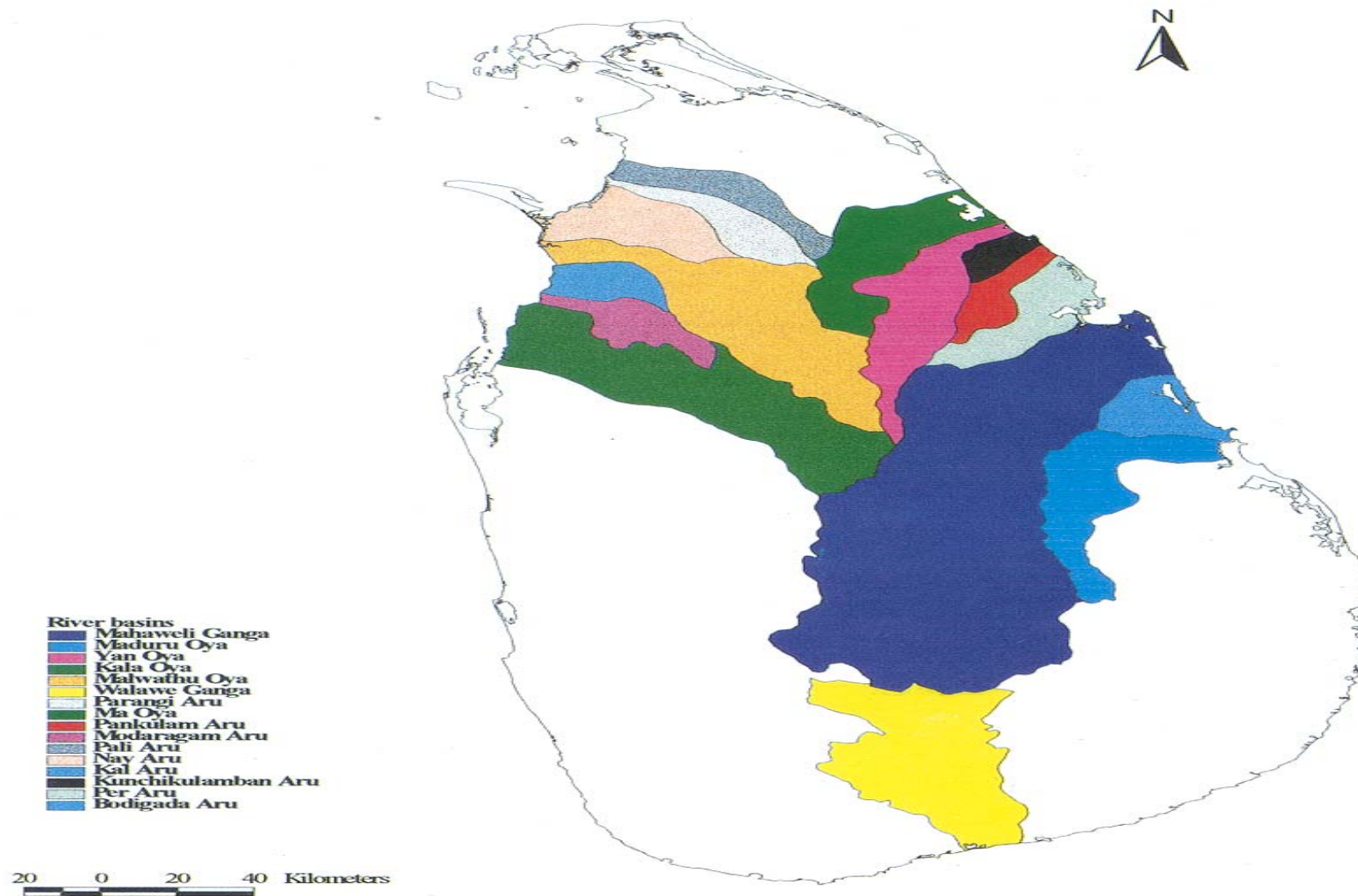
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MAHAWELI RESTRUCTURING PROCESS (CONTD....)

- **APPLICATION OF IWRM PRINCIPLES ON A PILOT BASIN THROUGH COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING FOR WATER AND OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES MANGEMENT IN KALA-OYA BASIN**
- **DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IS READY FOR CONSENSUS BUILDING AMONG BASIN STAKEHOLDERS AND POLICY MAKERS**
- **MASL WOULD TRANSFORM TO MAHAWELI RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT AGENCY TO FOLLOW PILOT BASIN EXPERIENCES IN FIVE BASINS**

River Basins Making up the Mahaweli Project Area.



Global Water Partnership

- building a worldwide network promoting integrated water resources management

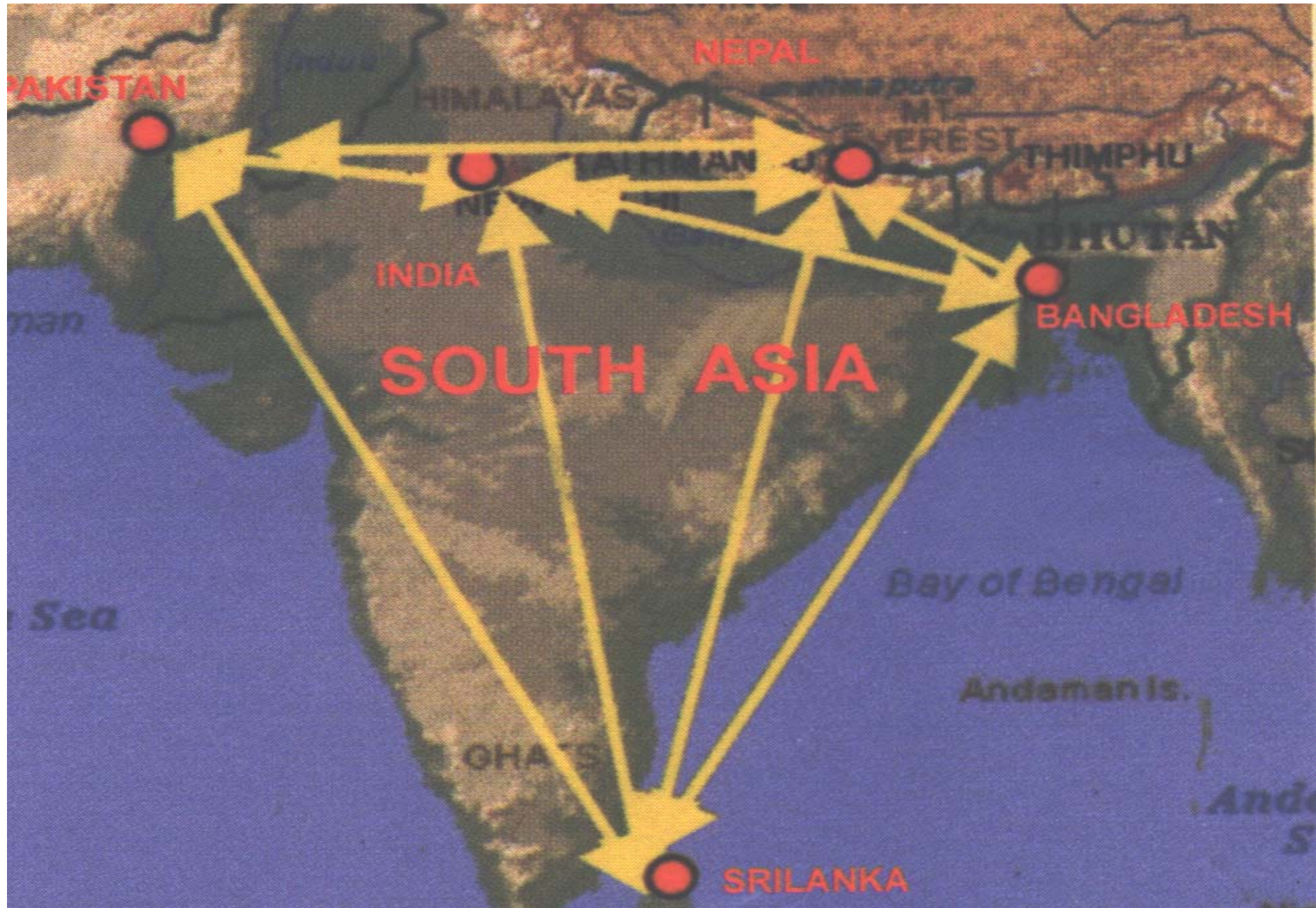


GWP-SA has identified Member Countries in the Region to take the Lead Role in certain activities each country was good at, by virtue of their interest in and Experience.



**South Asian Regional Workshop
on
Sustainable River Basin Management
held in Sri Lanka in July 2000.**

**International Conference on
Sustainable Development of
Water Resources
27th - 30th November 2000,
New Delhi**



Objective of the SASNET - RBO

- **To increase the understanding of River Basin Management including possible organizational design, management tools and processes leading to their definition and implementation.**
- **To support processes critical to effective River Basin Management where there is a felt need for improvement of river basin organizations.**
- **To support building of national and regional linkages between existing, incipient or embryo RBOs.**

Current Partners of SASNET - RBO

- **Bangladesh**
- **India**
- **Nepal**
- **Pakistan**
- **Sri Lanka**

Role of Mahaweli in SASNET - RBO

Mahaweli Will:

- **Lead/Coordinate and Manage the Network with the Participation of Partners from all South Asian Countries**
- **Link with other GWP Regions, INBO, Networks and Centers of Excellence**

What the Network will do in future

- **Identify Partners in South Asia**
- **Workshops in Individual Countries to get their views and Commitments**
- **Identify Pilot River Basins**
- **Develop a Core Group of Professionals in South Asia on River Basin Management**
- **Link with INBO & other Networks**
- **Twinning Arrangements**
- **Exchange of Information and Experiences/Best Practices**
- **Develop Different RBO Models.**

**Regional Planning Meeting
of
SASNET - RBO was held in
Kandy, Sri Lanka, in January 2002,**

**To
Develop a 3-Year Work Plan
and Budget (2002-2004 based on which
a Proposal for Funding an Expanded Program
will be Developed.**



Proposed Work Plan for 3 Years

Consensus were given by the participants for the following functions and activities for the Work Plan

- Objectives

- Expected Results

- Activities

- * Identification of Key Members of the Network

- * Identification of River Basins

- * Monitoring

- * Linkages and Partnerships

- * Communication

- * Continuity

- Outputs

- Reports

- Publications

- Services

Time Frame
has also been
Developed
for 3-Years

**RIVER BASIN ORGANIZATIONS
(RBOs) WILL NEED TO BE
TAILORED TO THE SITUATIONS
AND CONSTRAINTS
FACING INDIVIDUAL
COUNTRIES.**

Thank you