

## Session-1

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Thematic Workshop on Water Allocation and Water Rights

27<sup>th</sup> November - 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2006, Bangkok Thailand

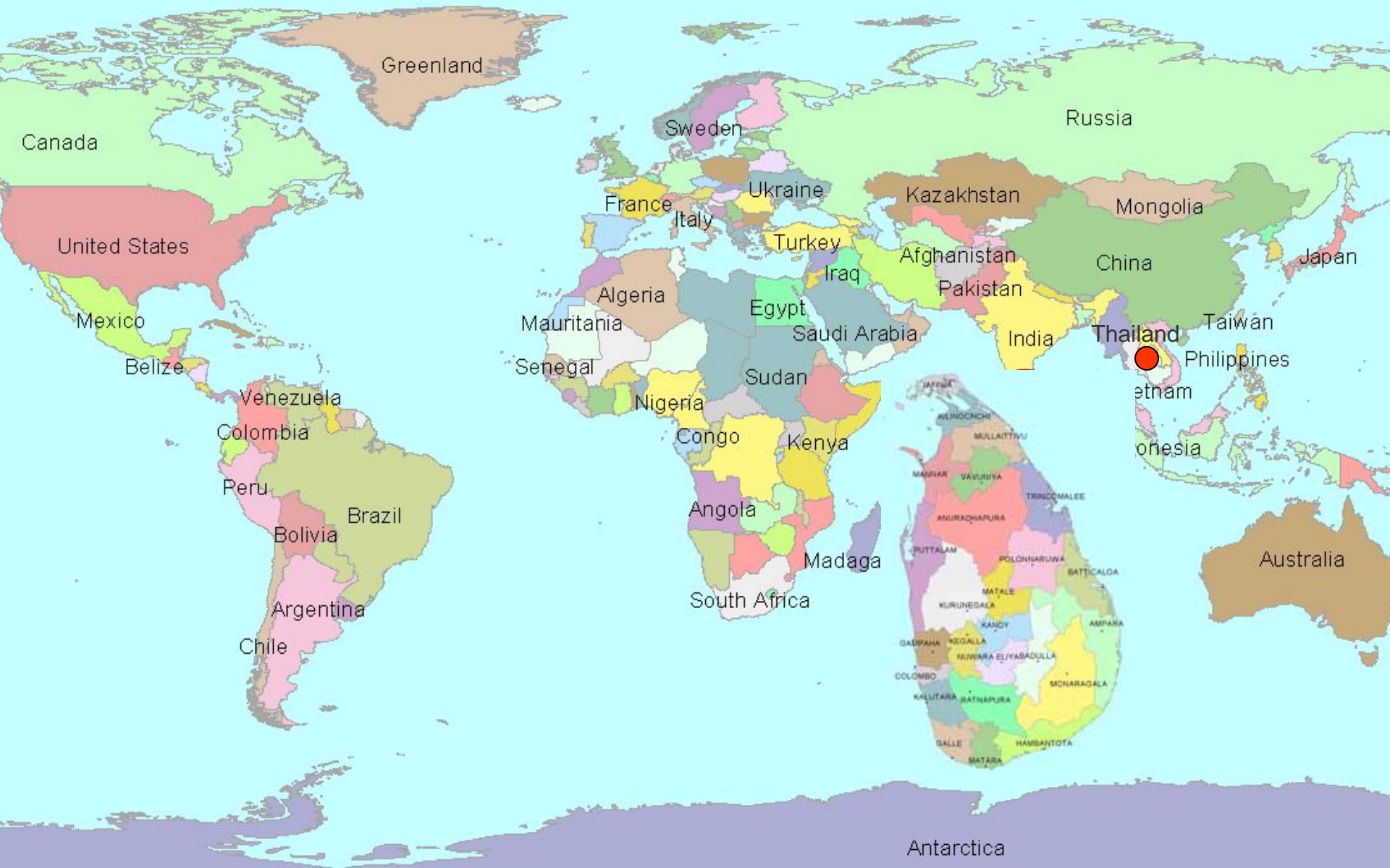
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Network of Asian River Basin Organizations

**NARBO**

# Our Country...Sri Lanka



# Situation Report

- Current Water Allocation Practices in Sri Lanka in different level of Irrigation Systems were discussed in Workshop 1 & 2
- With the continuous increase of Demand and change of Priorities is influencing some Water Right Mechanism was also highlighted.
- Issues from the point of view of Mahaweli Authority & other Water Related Agencies, 3-Key Issues which totally affect to future of the water sector were identified for the discussion during this 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop as per the guidelines given and Discussion Material Prepared.

# Background

- Sri Lanka receives rainfall from two monsoons

  - ✧ *South-west*

    - (May to September)*

  - ✧ *North-East*

    - (December to February)*

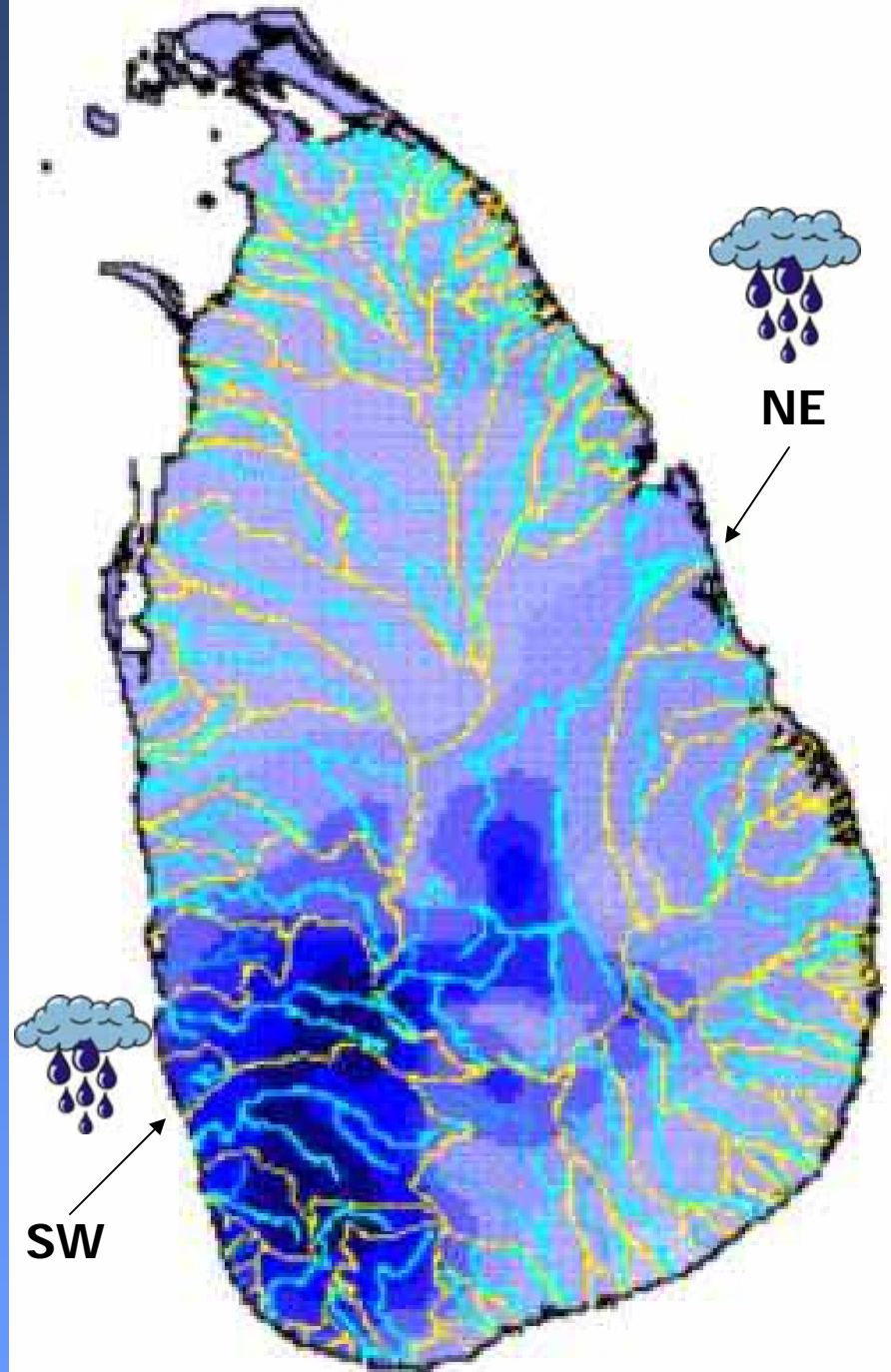
- Mean annual rainfall varies from 900mm – 5500mm.

- Total annual rainfall is approximately 127 billion m<sup>3</sup>

- 103 river basins in Sri Lanka

- 17 River Basins > 1000sqkm

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



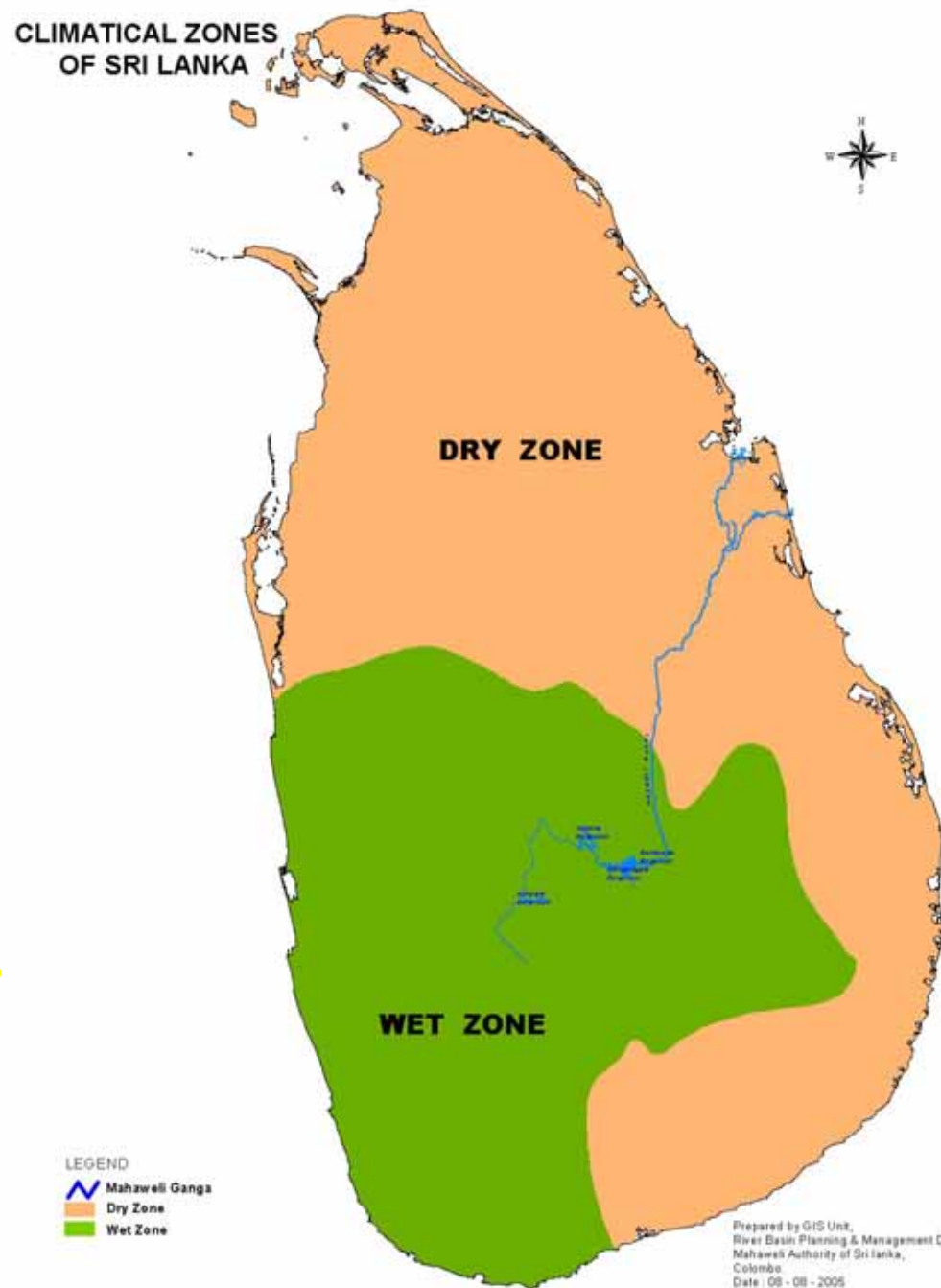
# Seasonal & Regional Variation

- South west quadrant known as Wet Zone

*Mean Annual Rainfall -2300mm*

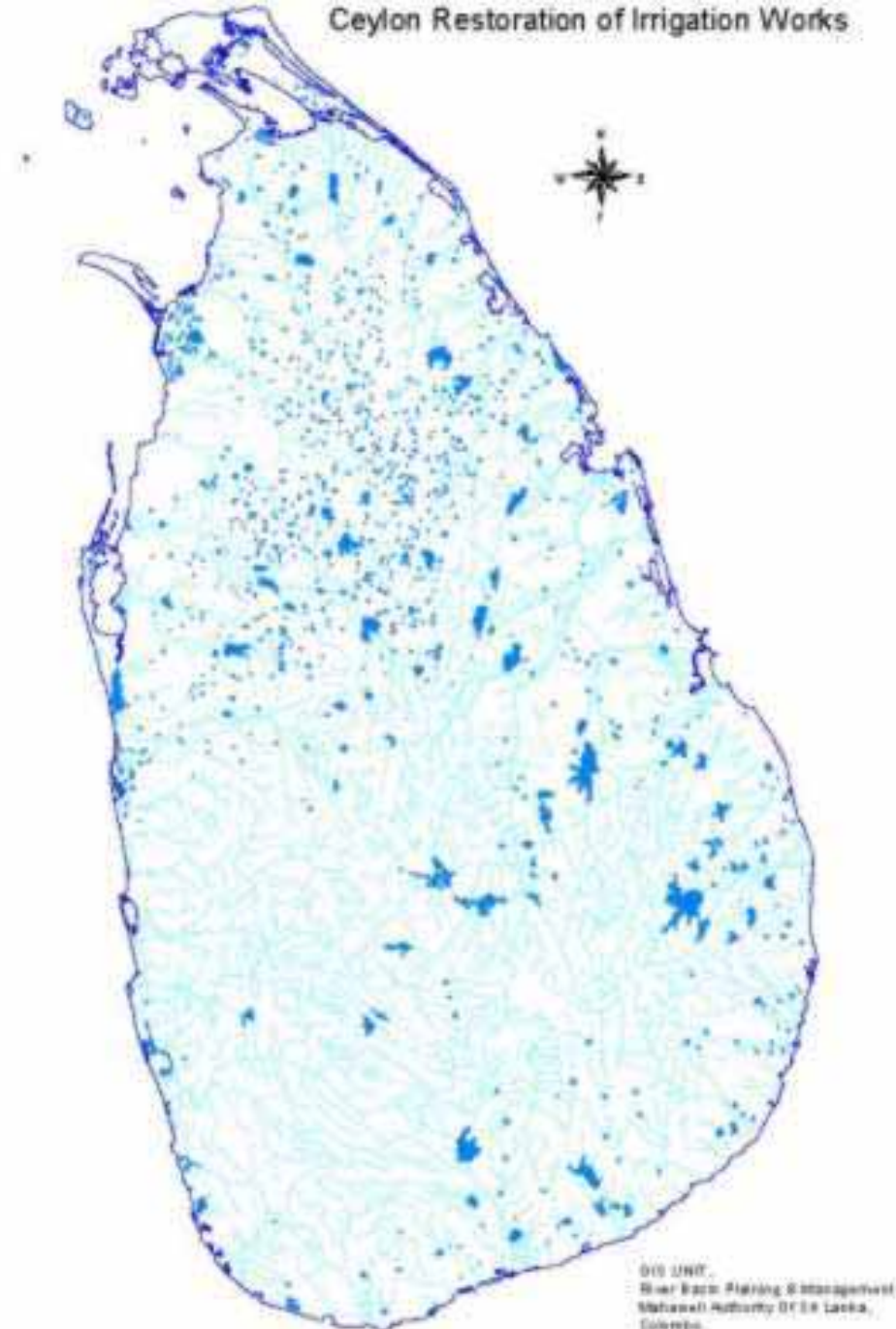
- The rest of the Part is Dry Zone

*Average Annual Rainfall -1300mm*



# Water Resources of Sri Lanka

Major Reservoir	= 350
Major Tank	= 115
Medium tank	= 320
Small tank	= 25,000
Annicuts (Weirs)	= 12,940



# Sectoral Approach to Water Development in Sri Lanka

**Increased Population and Urbanization required  
Sectoral Developments:**

**Irrigation, Water Supply & Sanitation,  
Hydropower, Flood Control, Fishing,  
Navigation and Recreation.**

*This Approach was Appropriate only to Resolve  
Immediate Sectoral Problems*

# However countries increasingly saddled with;

- Conflicts Between Sectors For:

- \* *Quantity,*
- \* *Quality,*
- \* *Time*



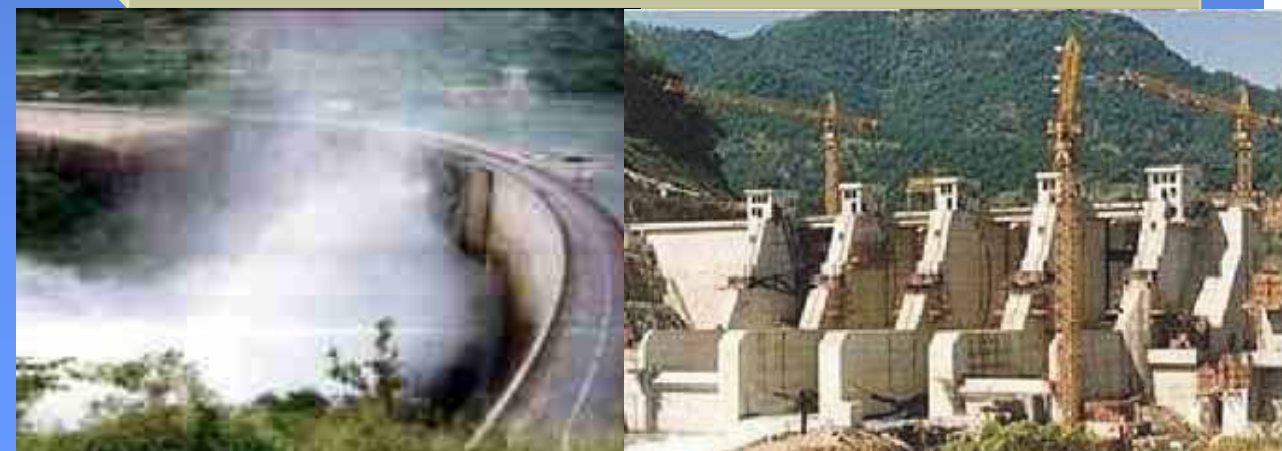
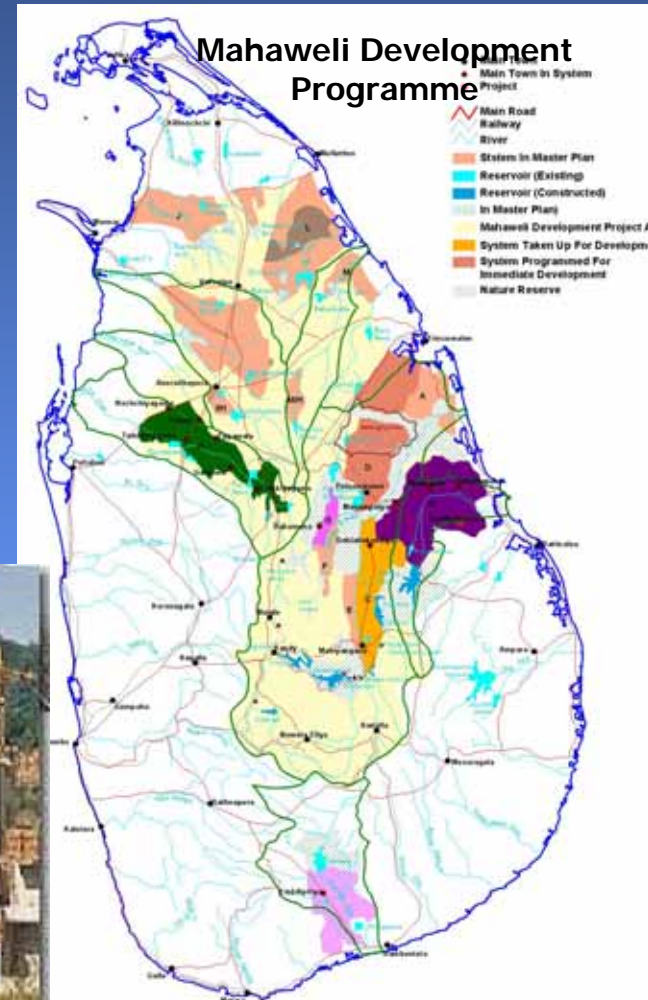
- Increasing Demands/Increasing Scarcity
- Drop in Quality of Water (Surface & Ground)
- Degradation of the Catchments
- Ecological Issues





To overcome limitations of Sectoral Approach, Area Based Integrated, Multi-purpose Development was adopted.

Mahaweli Multipurpose Development Programme, is the best known example of this Approach in South Asia.



# MASL is moving towards River Basin Management to address:

- Inter-sectoral allocation of water resources among diverse users/uses.
- Management of Multi-purpose Water Infrastructure.
- Watershed / Water Quality/ Riverine Management.
- Reliability of water availability to meet all demands.
- Demand Management through conservation measures.
- Impacts on Environmental and Health concerns.
- Institutional Development - Public - Private sector Partnership, awareness creation and education.

# Agencies Handling Subject of Water at Present..

- **Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka.**
- **Department of Irrigation.**
- **Ceylon Electricity Board.**
- **National Water Supply & Drainage Board.**
- **Water Resources Board.**
- **Department of Agrarian Services.**

# 3-Key Water Related Issues Identified in Sri Lanka

- Lack of Proper Planning in the Water Resources Management Sector

- No Improper Water Management Practices due to Technical or Other Reasons

- Lack of access to Safe Drinking Water for the Rural Community. (Focus on Dry Zone)

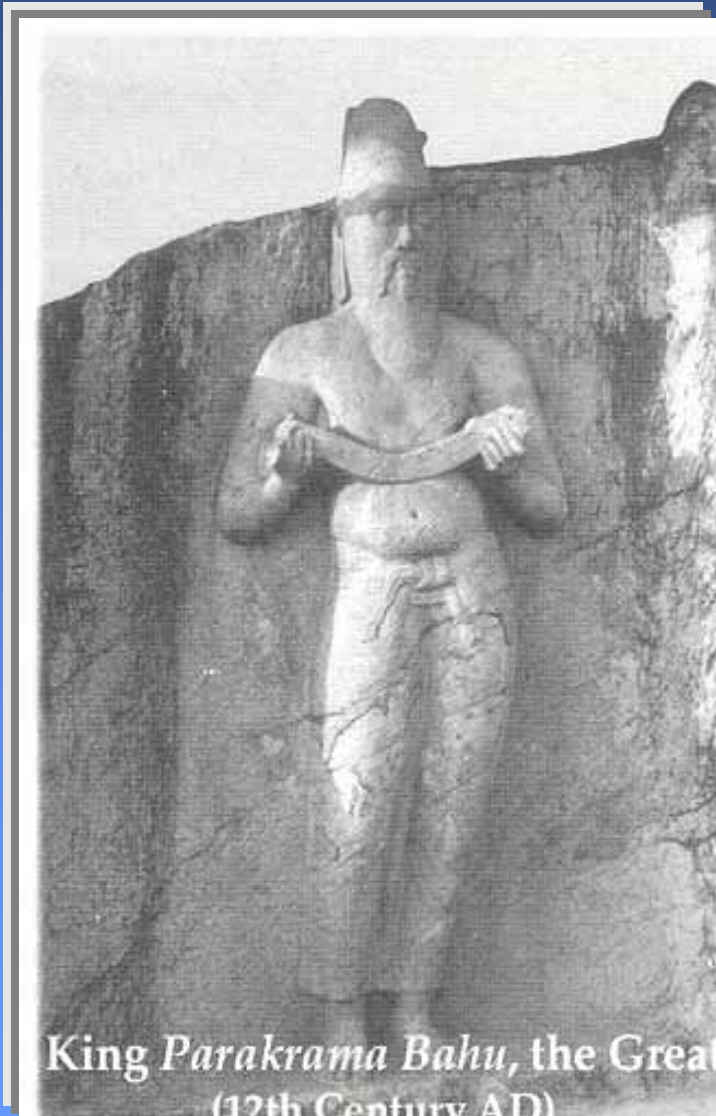


# Details of 3-Identified Issues will be discussed at Session 2&3

## Session-2

- I. **Grasping Issues**
- II. **Analysis of the causes of the issues**
- III. **Making proposals for solutions (Approach to Improvement).** Session-3
- IV. **Procedures/Processes for realizing the Proposals.**
- V. **Evaluation of the proposals**

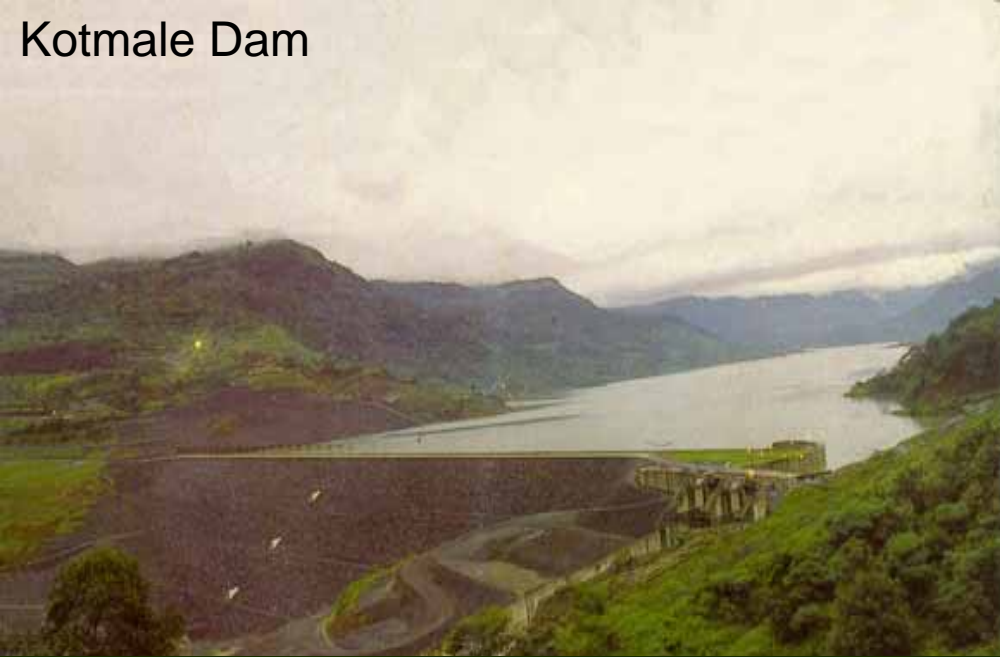
# Water and Wisdom



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”.

Kotmale Dam



**Thank you for Your Attention**



Devon Falls