

Session-2

3rd Thematic Workshop on Water Allocation and Water Rights

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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)



1. Lack of Proper Planning in the Water Resources Management Sector.....

- **Bad Impacts of the Issue**

- During the dry season Irrigation Area has to be restricted due to water scarcity.
- No sufficient water for drinking .
- Hydro Power production has to be dropped.
- Affect to the fauna & Flora .

1. Lack of Proper Planning in the Water Resources Management Sector.....

- **Causes of the Issue**

- Lack of Horizontal Interaction among different Sectors during the Planning.
- No proper Short, Medium & Long Term Plans for Sectors too.
- Reluctant for Integration due to narrow issues.
- Power/Authority related issues.
- Lack of understanding of Value of Water .

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1. Lack of Proper Planning in the Water Resources Management Sector.....

Proposals:

- **Develop Water Resource Master Plan for Sri Lanka for next 25 years. Get all the sectoral Master Plans and develop a National WR Plan.**
- **Strengthening the existing Apex body (WMS) by introducing more participation from different sectors (Power, Irrigation & Water Supply) to make the decision making process more effective.**
- **Empower Farming community and get them involved for overall planning process.**
- **Crop Diversification.**
- **Immediately introduce other form of Electricity Generation Options.**

2. Not Proper Water Management due to Technical or Other Reasons



- **Bad Impacts of the Issue..**
 - **Low Productivity.**
 - **Wastage of Irrigation Water.**
 - **Problems between Community & Water user Associations/Farmer Organizations.**
 - **Living Standards of the Water Users is going down and their economic condition is badly affected.**



2. Not Proper Water Management due to Technical or Other Reasons



- Causes of the issue..
 - No sufficient Measuring Gauges available.
 - Poor O&M of Canals and Related Structures
 - Overuse of Irrigation Water.
 - Technology Gap of O&M Staff and Farmers.
 - Reluctance of Farmer Community to move from Traditional ways to new practices which save more water.
 - No Incentive



2. Improper Water Management due to Technical or Other Reasons

Proposals:



- Provide adequate measuring devices for at least Main, Branch/D-canal system and strengthening Institutional setup to work the system more efficiently.
- Introduce Bulk Water Allocation and motivate farmers to save more water from the allocation . Introduce some incentive scheme for such farmers.
- Develop O&M Policy for the different level of Irrigation systems .(IMT and PIM)
- Convince Government the importance of proper O&M since the sustainability of the National Assets from the huge Capital Investments is Government Responsibility.



3. Lack of access to safe drinking water for the rural community in the dry zone.

- **Bad impacts of the issue**

- Community feel inconvenience.

- Health Hazards.

- Rural economic activities are badly affected and their economy will go down.



3. Lack of access to safe drinking water for the rural community in the dry zone.

- Causes of the issue.

- No proper Institutional Setup for rural water supply.
- Ground water is contaminated with chemicals such as Fluoride , Manganese and Iron etc.
- Surface Water is contaminated with agro-chemicals
- No sufficient Storage Facilities.
- Lack of awareness.



3. Lack of access to safe drinking water for the rural community in the dry zone.

Proposals:

- Develop a community water supply policy including different options available in local environment.
- Empower rural community to plan their own community water projects to suit their needs. (eg. Dug Wells, Metered Water, Rain Water Harvesting , Street Pipe sharing etc.)
- Introduction of low cost reliable rain water harvesting system. In almost all the households in dry zone.
- Conduct awareness programs on Quality of water and repercussion of use of pollute water and encourage to minimize incorrect agrochemical use to their farm lands.



Kotmale Dam



Thank you for Your Attention



Devon Falls