

National Project Steering Committee Meeting of the Project on “Addressing Climate Change Impacts on Marginalized Agricultural Communities Living in the Mahaweli River Basin of Sri Lanka” on 18th January 2019 from 10:00hrs – 12:30hrs at Conference Hall of the Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, 500, T B Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10

Chaired By

Mr. Anura Dissanayake, Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment
Chairman, National Project Steering Committee, Climate Change Adaptation Project

Present

Mr. M P D U K Mapa Pathirana	-Additional Secretary- EP & ET	Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment
Mr. Nguyenduc HOANG	-Deputy Country Director	World Food Programme
Mr. Sunimal Chandrasiri	-Project Director	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Ms. Tharuka Dissanaïke	-Policy Specialist	United Nations Development Programme
Mrs. Punya Rajapaksha	-Assistant Director	Department of Project Mgt and Monitoring
Mr. Mahinda Gunarathne	-Director- PP&M	Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment
Dr. Sunimal Jayathunge	-Director- Climate Change Secretariat	Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment
Mr. M F A Mubarak	-Director	National Planning Department
Mr. R P R Ranasinghe	-Director- Land Policy	Ministry of Land and Parliamentary Reforms
Dr. Shiromini Jayawardena	-Deputy Director	Department of Meteorology
Ms. Himali De Costa	-Assistant Director- Land Resource	Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment
Ms. Nadeeka Somarathne	-Assistant Director	External Resource Department
Mr. Dhanushka Jayathilake	-Scientist	National Building Research Organization
Mr. K S Mahalekam	-Deputy Director	Central Environmental Authority
Mr. A Z J Singarayer	-Senior Engineer	Department of Agrarian Development
Mr. Dhanushka Jayathilake	-Scientist	National Building Research Organization
Prof. W A P Weerakkody	-Consultant	Project Interim Survey- CCAP (WFP)
Prof. L H P Gunarathna	-Consultant	Project Interim Survey- CCAP (WFP)
Mr. J M Soorasena	-Consultant	Project Interim Survey- CCAP (WFP)
Mr. Frank Jayasinghe	-Project Manager	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Dr. Damith Chandrasekara	-Technical Coordinator	United Nations Development Programme
Ms. Sureka Perera	-Quality and Design Analyst	United Nations Development Programme
Ms. Rohini Singerayer	-Agriculture Specialist	World Food Programme
Ms. Chamani Kumarasinghe	-Assistant Director	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Mr. Ranjith Wimal Siri	-Senior Environmental Officer	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Ms. Saranga Wickramasinghe	-Project Accountant	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Mr. Thusitha Maduwage	-ICT Specialist	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Ms. Darshanie Ranasinghe	-Project Engineer	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Ms. Thilini De Alwis	-Monitoring and Evaluation Officer	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Ms. L H N P Dharmadasa	-Project Coordinator (WFP)	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Mr. R B Premarathne	-Administrative Officer	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Ms. Tharanga De Silva	-Assistant Project Officer	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Ms. W M P Indeewari	-Assistant Project Officer	Climate Change Adaptation Project

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Mr. Thissa Pallekumbura	-Divisional Coordinator- Medirigiriya and Lankapura	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Mr. R Mayalagoo	-Divisional Coordinator- Walapane	Climate Change Adaptation Project
Ms. Disna de Costa	-Finance Assistant	Climate Change Adaptation Project

Opening Remarks by Mr. Anura Dissanayake, Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

The gathering was welcomed by Mr. Anura Dissanayake, Chairman of National Project Steering Committee and explained the objectives and the importance of the Climate Change Adaptation Project to the community of selected areas on social and economic aspects.

Mr. Anura Dissanayake, Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

The difficulty to spend targeted 290.21Mn. LKR during the year 2019 was pointed out and the project staff was suggested to revise the Annual Work Plan and Budget to amount around 150Mn. LKR to 160Mn. LKR for an effective utilization of funds for implementation during remaining period. Further, PMU was informed to delegate available balance to the UNDP by increasing portion for the UNDP. The Additional Secretary, EP & ET and Director- Planning, MMDE were advised to guide the project staff in revision of AWPB 2019 as well as in adjusting the budget allocation for the year as above mentioned, in terms of rapid and sustainable disbursement of funds. The importance of Climate Change adaptation was explained. The neediness to utilize available funds before the termination date was strictly mentioned. All the project staff in both PMU and UNDP was informed to adapt newly invented technology in both agriculture and non-agriculture activities to combat Climate Change impacts in terms of making Sri Lanka more disaster resilient.

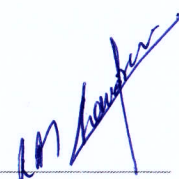
M P D U K Mapa Pathirana, Additional Secretary – EP & ET, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

1. the project staff was advised to get the support of the Department of Meteorology in Climate Change Adaptation. Further, the importance of linking the agriculture productions to the local market as well as to the central market via proper established value chain was explained. Moreover, informed to establish and stabilize proper monitoring system to find and fill the gaps of the project activities. The Project team was mentioned about the signification of getting GAP certification to the project.
2. Informed to pay attention on sustainability of the project activities based with the way of benefitting the people. Further, the survey team was informed to complete the survey and provide the final report within two weeks of time. The project staff was informed to revise and submit the PMU and UNDP collaborative Annual Work Plan and Budget 2019 before 30th January 2019 in accordance to the Interim Report findings and recommendations. Finally, the Project team was informed to be confirm that the project is adapting best practices for the overwhelming Climate Change impacts.

Mr. Sunimal Chandrasiri, Project Director-CCAP

The progress of the Climate Change Adaptation Project for the year 2018 by the side of PMU and UNDP and the summary of the Annual Work Plan and Budget of 2019 which was earlier submitted to the Policy Planning Division – MMDE were presented.

Out of 290.21Mn. LKR which was allocated to the project from the Treasury of Sri Lanka, allocation for each sub-component with the total number of projects for the year 2019, allocation for all three implementing DSDs were included in the presentation as follows.



Sub Component		No of Sub-Projects	Funds 2019 (Rs. Mn.)
1.1	Diversified home garden development	7	46.1
1.2	Introduce drought tolerant crop varieties	6	14.7
1.3	Promote alternate income sources	12	29.96
1.4	Promote post-harvest technologies	5	10.7
1.5	Build community assets and livelihood resources	21	50.36
2.2	Strengthen farmer organizations	10	39
2.3	Pilot integrated watershed management models	38	71.5
2.4	Risk assessment and adaptation planning	1	6.3
2.6	Design & implement early warning systems	1	3
3.0	Operational Expenses		18.59
Grand Total		101	290.21

Also the summary of proposed Action Plan to be implemented within three DSDs was presented as follows

Divisional Secretariat Division	Number of Projects	Allocated Budget (Mn. Rs.)
Lankapura	51	155.2
Medirigiriya		
Walapane	58	116.41
Administration Cost	-	18.592
Total	109	290.21

The collaborative work plan for balance 90Mn. LKR was presented further. Finally, the drawbacks of the last year and the way-forward to accelerate the implementation in efficient and effective manner was presented

Dr. Damith Chandrasekara, Technical Coordinator, United Nations Development Project

The initial budget allocation for the two outputs of the Project by UNDP for project implementation was presented. Then, the Project concept and approach settled by UNDP were adduced. Further, the strategy of implementation was expressed along with the value chains as textile, agriculture, dairy, food, and handicraft introduced/strengthen through the Project. Furthermore, the results of output level and the fund availability by the side of UNDP were presented along with the social enterprise incubation support plan for the rest of the period.

Prof. L H P Gunarathne, Team Advisor, Interim Survey – CCAP

Objectives and the methodology of the survey were presented and the way used to measure the performance of activities in terms of sustainability and productivity and project gap identification procedure was explained. Basic secondary information found in each sub-components from 1.1-1.5 and 2.1-2.6 along with the findings of the survey were included in the presentation. Awareness of people regarding the Project and the effect of project activities to the people were adduced. New suggestions to expedite the implementation process in sustainable manner was explained. Finally, the importance of headhunting and convincing the community as well as the relevant officers regarding importance of using best and technological advanced practices were explained.

Mr. Nguyenduc HOANG, Deputy Country Director, World Food Programme

The gathering was appreciated for the fruitful meeting. Thanked the Secretary- MMDE, Additional Secretary EP & ET- MMDE PMU Project staff as well as the Dr. Damith Chandrasekare and UNDP staff for the dedication extended throughout the period to make the project a successful one. The Ministry was requested to provide the extension for UNDP until February 2020. Further, PMU and UNDP team were requested to get together and plan the coming year until the project termination as one team. Moreover, the decision to make PMU budget 150 to 160Mn. LKR for implementation and provide excess to the UNDP was appreciated and the importance of monitoring for sustainable outcome was emphasized.

Dr. Sunimal Jayathunge, Director, Climate Change Secretariat

Importance of utilizing funds in massive sustainable activities was pointed out.

Mr. Mahinda Gunarathne, Director- Policy Planning, MMDE

The project staff was asked to submit revised Annual Work Plan and Budget for the year 2019 with the total of 150 to 160Mn. LKR

Closing Remarks by Mr. M P D U K Mapa Pathirana, Additional Secretary- EP&ET, MMDE

Eventually, thanked World Food Programme as well as the Adaptation Fund for their support on making the Project a success and expressed the gratitude to all line Ministries and Organization for their fullest support to implement the Project in an effective manner. The effort of the Project staff of PMU as well as the UNDP were appreciated. The importance of Monitoring and Evaluation was emphasized and the neediness to follow outcome indicators were highly mentioned to gain a sustainable termination.

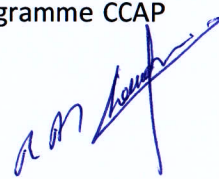
Meeting was adjourned by 12:30hrs and decided to conduct next National Steering Committee meeting after 3 months of the meeting.

Following decisions were taken at the Sixth National Project Steering Committee meeting to improve the efficiency of the future Project activities.

- Decided to revise Annual Work Plan and Budget estimate for the year 2019 to 150-160Mn. LKR as follows for implementation for effective and sustainable utilization of development funds during remaining project period.

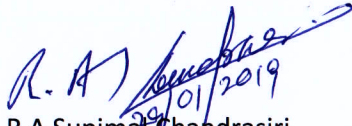
Activity	Fund Allocation Mn. LKR
Development Purpose (Component 1 and 2)	155
Operation Cost	25

- Decided to delegate balance fund of the Project to United Nations Development Programme CCAP division for efficient utilization.



Suggestions were made to expedite Project activities and sought National Project Steering Committee approval for following matters.

1. To obtain UNDP support to the PMU using delegated balance funds to
 - a. Recruit monitoring specialist and staff
 - b. Recruit technical staff for both districts
 - c. Obtain expertise knowledge for maintenance of irrigation systems, on-farm irrigation, ecological agriculture, maintenance of rehabilitated tanks, catchment development, and livelihood development etc..
2. To develop collaborative action plan for PMU and UNDP for the remaining project period to ensure the sustainability


29/01/2019
R A Sunimal Chandrasiri
Project Director