

South Asia Media Visit

# HOMEGARDEN SYSTEMS

in the Face of Climate Change

13-14 July 2016 • Kandy / Pethiyagoda, Sri Lanka



ASIA-PACIFIC NETWORK FOR  
GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH



University of Peradeniya

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**Cover image** adapted from FAO. (1995). Improving nutrition through home gardening - A training package for preparing field workers in Southeast Asia. URL: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/v5290e/v5290e00.htm>



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PHOTO: FINAL REPORT OF PROJECT ARCP2010-03CMY-MARAMBE

## BACKGROUND

This two-day South Asia Media Visit in Kandy, Sri Lanka is jointly organised by APN and the University of Peradeniya in celebration of APN's 20th Anniversary. The media visit is designed to engage media in expanding efforts to raise awareness about APN funded projects on global change and sustainability issues, and disseminate information on and lessons learned from these projects.

Eight journalists from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka are selected to participate in the media visit and workshop, where they meet home gardeners, researchers and policy makers in Sri Lanka and develop news stories about an APN-funded regional research project on homegardens and their implications for climate change adaptation, food security and nutrition security.

## ABOUT THE RESEARCH PROJECT

**TITLE** Vulnerability of Home Garden Systems to Climate Change and its Impacts on Food Security in South Asia

**PROJECT LEADER** Prof. Buddhi Marambe, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, SRI LANKA

### PROJECT COLLABORATORS

Prof. H.L.J. Weerahewa, University of Peradeniya  
Prof. D.K.N.G. Pushpakumara, University of Peradeniya  
Prof. G.L.L.P. Silva, University of Peradeniya  
Dr. B.V.R. Punyawardena, Department of Agriculture  
Mr. Sarath Premalal, Meteorology Department  
Professor MD. Gisashuddin Miah, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University  
Professor Joyashree Roy, Jadavpur University

**COUNTRIES INVOLVED** Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, USA

**KEYWORDS** Homegarden, climate change resilience, adaptation strategies, food security, South Asia

**URL** <http://www.apn-gcr.org/resources/items/show/1566>

## FACT SHEET

# Pethiyagoda

**Agro-climatic zone:** Mid-country wet zone

**Plant diversity in homegardens:** 75 tree species, 27 unique in Pethiyagoda

**Homegardeners' average age:** 55 years

**Homegardeners' gender:** over 80% male

**Average household size:** 4 members

**Primary education coverage:** 86% of household heads

### FOOD SECURITY

Conventionally, home gardens are rich with food trees and serve as a primary food source of direct access to rural families.

Homegardeners obtain nutrients from these crops, naturally grown plants and trees via two channels: parts of trees consumed directly, and parts consumed by livestock and their products available to the family.

In Pethiyagoda, 4 out of 9 food tree species found are largely for income generation purpose.

Coconut, mango, jackfruit and guava are the most commonly found food tree species in the three study sites.

### NUTRITION SECURITY

Home gardens in Pethiyagoda are nutritionally dense, particularly in carbohydrate, vitamin C, riboflavin, iron and vitamin B6. Most nutrient rich species are drumstick (pod), sesbania (flower) and guava (raw fruit).

PETHIYAGODA ● KANDY

● COLOMBO

### CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

More educated homegardeners perceive climate change correctly, compared to the less educated ones.

Adaptation strategies practiced:

- Soil and water conservation practice
- Changing planting dates
- Changing technology
- Changing agronomic practice

100 km

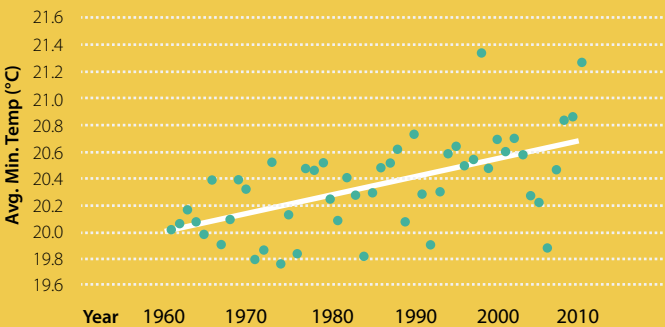
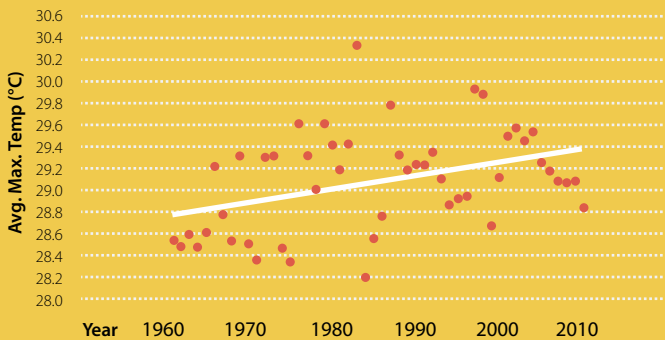
FACT SHEET

# The Research Project

## Vulnerability of Homegarden Systems to Climate Change and its Impacts on Food Security in South Asia

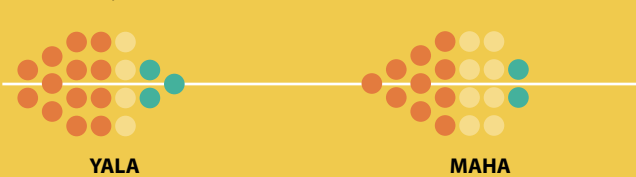
### A changing climate

Average maximum and minimum temperatures at Kandy, 1961–2010



### Time to sow?

Arrival status of Yala and Maha Onsets, 1991–2010



**YALA**  
Yala season: combination of FIM rains and (for the wet zones) SWM rains; usually starts mid-March.

● Early onset  
● As expected  
● Late onset  
*\* Each circle represents a particular year between 1991 and 2010*

**MAHA**  
Maha season: usually begins with the arrival of SIM rains in mid-September/ October and continues up to late January/ February with the NEM rains.

\* **FIM:** First Inter Monsoon (March to April), **SWM:** South West Monsoon (May to September), **SIM:** Second Inter Monsoon (October to November), **NEM:** North East Monsoon (November to February)

Source: Final Report of Project ARCP2010-03CMY-Marambe; Department of Agriculture, Sri Lanka.

### INSIGHT AND KEY POINT

Despite increasing climate variability over the past decades, homegardens appear to be resilient to climate change and make considerable contribution to household food security.

Homegardeners who have perceived climate change correctly are more prone to adapt to the changes using different techniques and technologies.

### DATA AND FACTS

Global average temperature could rise by 2–3 °C over the next 50 years, with implications for the frequency and intensity of rainfall and extreme weather events.

In South Asia, homegardens are operated by approximately 125 million holdings, with an average size of 1.6 hectares each (close to two average football fields).

More than 80% of homegardens in the region are extremely small, with an average size of less than 0.6 hectares (the size of a small football field).

More than 80% of the homegardeners were males in Sri Lanka and India but in Bangladesh the majority were females (97%).

The maximum species diversity in an individual homegarden among all study sites was in Pethiyagoda, with its Shannon-Weiner Index (SWI) at 3.0 (Mean SWI for Pethiyagoda is 2.0).

In Sri Lanka, only 24% of the total homegardeners reared animals, and no animals were found in any homegarden in Pethiyagoda.

During the past 20 years, about 55% of the dwellers have changed the technology adapted, 41% used soils and water conservation measures, while 39% changed the agronomic practices and 37% changed the planting dates of the crops in homegardens.

### KEY TAKEAWAY

The design of development programmes for climate change adaptation should take into consideration the type of employment, age, sex, and education level of household heads, their experience in farming, homegarden size, diversity of homegardens, and perceptions towards climate change, as these determinants have influenced the homegardeners' decision in selecting strategies to cope with climate change.



14%

Percentage of the area of homegardens out of the total area of Sri Lanka

Total area of homegardens in South Asia

200 million ha

Or, roughly 30 times the entire land area of Sri Lanka



# AGENDA

## 12 July 2016

**Participants transfer from Colombo airport to Hotel.**

## 13 July 2016

**08:20 Participants gather at hotel/lodge lobby.**

**08:30 – 10:00 Travel time to Pethiyagoda and settling in at the village**

Approximately 09:30 participants arrive at Pethiyagoda, in a homegarden location. 30 minutes will be used for introduction of the host (APN and University of Peradeniya) and journalists, including the homegardeners. Refreshments will be served.

**10:00 – 13:00 Exploration of the home gardens in Pethiyagoda**

Participants will visit several homegardens and interview the homegardeners. A diverse range of homegardens including those having perennial crops, annual/perennial crop combinations and livestock.

**13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break**

**14:00 – 14:30 Travel time from Pethiyagoda to University of Peradeniya**

**14:30 – 16:30 From Research to Implementation — University of Peradeniya**

✿ **Presentation on homegarden research in Sri Lanka:** Professor DKNP Pushpakumara, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture

✿ **Presentation on APN funded project on homegarden and University Peradeniya's research on homegarden:** Professor Buddhi Marambe, Faculty of Agriculture

✿ Discussion/question & answer session

✿ Laboratory tour on Agriculture research

**18:30 – 20:30 Dinner hosted by University of Peradeniya**

**20:30 Return to hotel and rest**

## 14 July 2016

**08:15 – 08:45** Travel to University of Peradeniya

**09:00 – 10:30** Seminar on Government Support to Homegarden Research and Implementation in Sri Lanka

Location: Board Room of Faculty of Agriculture - University of Peradeniya

Chair/Moderator: Prof. Buddhi Marambe

09:00 – 09:10 **Opening remarks:** Professor RL Wijeyeweera, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Peradeniya

09:10 – 09:20 **Introduction of APN:** Mr. Lalith Chandrapala, Director General, Department of Meteorology/APN SPG Member for Sri Lanka

09:20 – 09:35 **Sri Lankan National Policy for Food Security and Climate Change:** Dr. Rohan Wijekoon, Director General of Agriculture

09:35 – 09:50 **Local Government Policy on Homegarden:** Mr. Chandrasiri Perera, Provincial Director of Agriculture, Central Province of Sri Lanka

09:50 – 10:05 **Kandyan Homegardens:** Professor DKNP Pushpakumara

10:05 – 10:30 Discussion session

**10:30 – 10:45** Group photo

**10:45 – 11:15** Networking session

Morning tea and free discussion with government officials

**11:15 – 12:15** Discussion among journalists, APN Secretariat, University of Peradeniya and Journalist mentor

✿ Presentation by journalist mentor: Role of media in raising awareness of environmental issues in Sri Lanka

Presenter: Mr. Nalaka Gunawardena

✿ Discussion/sharing experiences on environmental reporting per country

✿ Reflection on the one and half day activity of field visit and short seminar, and plan for feature news

✿ Closing from APN and University of Peradeniya

**12:15 – 13:30** Lunch

## 15 July 2016

Participants transfer from Hotel in Kandy to airport.

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# INVITED JOURNALISTS



## **Ms. Sohara MEHROZE SHACHI (Bangladesh)**

Dhaka Tribune ([www.dhakatribune.com](http://www.dhakatribune.com))

FR Tower, 8/C Panthapath, Shukrabad, Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh

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Being a citizen of one of the most climate vulnerable nations of the world—Bangladesh—Sohara has seen first-hand the impacts of climate change, and has always felt strongly about the need for adaptation and mitigation. She writes extensively on these issues in an effort to raise awareness as well as to build policy momentum for effective climate action. She has written articles on climate finance, gendered impacts of climate change, climate refugees, youth and climate change, etc., in Bangla and English for many international publications including DW, Huffington Post, IPS, Asia Sentinel, Fair Observer, South Asia Journal, Kathmandu Post, as well as national publications Daily Star, Financial Express, New Age and Dhaka Tribune. Her stories were published in Spanish and German as well. One of her story was selected as a finalist for UNDP’s climate change storytelling contest. Another has been included as a recommended reading for a Harvard Kennedy School course on climate change. In 2015, she was one of the 11 youth writers (and the only Bangladeshi) chosen from 2000 international applicants for the prestigious GCCA Climate Tracker fellowship to attend UNFCCC COP 21.



## **Ms. Sonam DEMA (Bhutan)**

Bhutan Broadcasting Service ([www.bbs.bt/news](http://www.bbs.bt/news))

Bhutan Broadcasting Service Corp. Chuba Chu P.O. 101 Thimphu Bhutan

Tel: +975 17307000; Email: [sonamdema123@gmail.com](mailto:sonamdema123@gmail.com)

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Ms. Dema Sonam has worked in media for about ten years now. She started working with Bhutan’s only television channel, Bhutan Broadcasting Service Corporation (BBSC) in News and Current Affairs Department for both radio and Television from 2011. Ms. Sonam started her career as a print journalist in 2006 and she is specialized in gender, agriculture and environment issues. While as an Eastern Bhutan Correspondent for weekly newspaper called Bhutan Times Ltd. (2006 to 2008), she had opportunities to cover political issues in one of the biggest districts in Bhutan (Trashigang) during Bhutan’s first democratic Election in 2008. Ms. Sonam worked as Sub-Editor for Bhutan Today Ltd., a weekly newspaper and magazine, from 2009-2010. She was also freelancing as editor for a youth magazine in Bhutan, Students’ Digest, for two years. Currently, She is working as English producer in the Current Affairs Department in BBS. Since her appointment as producer in January (2015) until now, she has been able to produce various feature programs and documentaries on gender, social and rural issues in Bhutan.





**Mr. Nilotpal BHATTACHARJEE (India)**

The Telegraph ([www.telegraphindia.com](http://www.telegraphindia.com))

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Mr Nilotpal Bhattacharjee is a journalist with The Telegraph in Northeast, India. He has been in journalism for the past five years. Born in Assam, he passed his Masters in Mass Communication and Journalism from Assam University, a Central university in India, securing first class second position. His area of specialisation was Science, Environment and Health Communication, New Media reporting, Development Journalism and International Communication. He also completed his Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) from Assam University. An alumnus of Thomson Reuters Foundation, Bhattacharjee under a fellowship programme took part in the Foundation's reporting course on human trafficking and modern day slavery. He was a Journalist Fellow for a European Union funded project in the Northeast India. Bhattacharjee has always been concerned about the environment and thus he founded a non-governmental organisation- People's Science Society- in Assam during his college days to create awareness among the people about the environment and climate change. Bhattacharjee has also worked as a guest faculty for the subject Mass Communication and Journalism in Assam University for a short period. Besides these, he is a debater to the core and a sports fanatic who has represented his college and university cricket team.



**Mr. Hassan ZIYAU (Maldives)**

Public Service Media ([www.psmnews.mv](http://www.psmnews.mv))

TVM, Public Service Media, Buruzu Magu, Maldives

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Hassan Ziyau is a journalist from the Maldives. He studied mass communication, advertisement and journalism in New Delhi. He has a Master's degree in Mass Communication and Journalism and a Master's Degree in International Relations. As a journalist for the political news desk of Television Maldives (2006-2008), he has prepared several multimedia reports on issues like human rights, democracy and gender equality and climate change. In 2015 he worked as a visiting lecturer at Maldives National University. For his contribution to media and extensive work done across the country to spread media awareness among youths, in 2014 he was awarded the National Award of recognition by the state. Also known as Ziyaa, he is a well-known TV host and his programme "RaajjeMiadhu" (translated as Maldives Today) is one of the most watched prime-time talk shows in the Maldives. In 2014 he participated in US State Department's premiere leadership programme, International Visitor Leadership Program. He has represented the Maldives at several international conferences and gatherings held in several countries. He lives in Male, Maldives and currently he is the Senior Editor at Television Maldives.



**Mrs. Poonam MAHARJAN (Nepal)**

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Poonam Maharjan is a Kathmandu-based journalist who writes on issues concerning the youth and currently heads the GenNext Bureau at Republica National Daily. While her association with Republica began in June 2013, she has been practicing journalism professionally since March 2008. A graduate of Journalism and Mass Communication from Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, she explored her deep interest in writing and telling stories when she won the nationwide Project Writing and Presentation Competition organised by Nepal Tourism Board in 2005. She started her career in journalism by working as a reporter in a monthly women's magazine—Voice of Women (VOW). Poonam, as a journalist, doesn't have grand plans, and doesn't see herself saving her countrymen from corruption or leading people towards salvation or nirvana. She enjoys the fact that as a journalist she has the chance to learn every day, listen to stories, and satisfy people whose stories she'll have the privilege to share. Grown up amidst green plants and colourful flowers, thanks to her family business of floriculture, Poonam feels deeply about nature and environment. When not busy writing and editing stories, Poonam can be found reading a book at some corner in her nursery.



**Mr. Rashid PANTHWER (Pakistan)**

Associated Press of Pakistan (APP)  
APP office, 1st floor, Mashoor Mahal Building,  
I.I. Chundrigar Road, Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan.  
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Rashid Ali Panhwer is a journalist currently working for Associated Press of Pakistan (APP), the premier news agency of the country, as Reporter/ Sub-Editor. He is in charge of Video News Service of APP at its Karachi Bureau and also reports daily for its print news service. He is a postgraduate in Business Administration with practical experience in journalism. He started his career from regional newspapers and switched to national media in 2007. His reports are widely published in leading English, Urdu as well as regional language newspapers in Pakistan. He has been reporting on routine events with special focus on climate change, security, peace and development. He is a member of Karachi Press Club (KPC), National Council of Environmental Journalists (NCEJ) and Karachi Union of Journalists (KUJ).



**Mrs. Rukshana RIZWIE (Sri Lanka)**

Sunday Observer - Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd.

([www.sundayobserver.lk](http://www.sundayobserver.lk))

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Rukshana Rizwie is a journalist based in Colombo, Sri Lanka. She currently serves as the Deputy News Editor at The Sunday Observer – which is Sri Lanka’s only state owned English weekend publication. At the Sunday Observer she also covers several beats including Power & Energy, Environment & Disaster, Agriculture & rural poverty as well as migration, conflict and current affairs. She was recently selected by the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) as the only journalist from Sri Lanka to attend and participate at the 39th governing council meeting in Rome, Italy. She was selected to attend the event based on the extensive work she had done on impact of climate change, agriculture and rural poverty in Sri Lanka. Before taking on work at the Sunday Observer, she worked as a News Editor for the web at the Nation newspaper in Sri Lanka. She is very keen on new media developments and continues to inculcate new tools and ideas in all her work. She has also served as Features Editor and Magazine Editor at the Nation newspaper. Prior to working in Sri Lanka, Rukshana has worked in the Middle East in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a journalist for the state owned publication – Saudi Gazette where she wrote extensively on concerns of her community and other Asian communities in the Kingdom. She is also an alumni of the Thomson Reuters Foundation and currently studying for her Post Graduate Diploma in International Relations.



**Mr. Darshana Ashoka Kumara JUWANDARAGE (Sri Lanka)**

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Darshana Ashoka Kumara is a Radio Journalist of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation. He is also a freelance features writer of Ceylon Today newspaper of Sri Lanka. Darshana has been covering a wide array of issues of Sri Lanka for more than 10 years, specializing environment. He is a past fellow of Asia Journalism Fellowship of Singapore. He is currently serving as the Honorary Ambassador to the Radio Netherlands Training. Darshana is also a visiting lecturer of the University of Colombo.



# SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPANTS

## UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA

### **Professor RL Wijeyeweera**

Deputy Vice Chancellor

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### **Professor DKNG Pushpakumara**

Dean, Faculty of Agriculture

Email: ngpkumara@pdn.ac.lk

### **Professor Buddhi Marambe**

Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture

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### **Professor GLL Pradeepa Silva**

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### **Professor Jeevika Weerahewa**

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### **Dr. B.V.R. Punyawardena**

Department of Agriculture

## NATIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

### **Dr. Rohan Wijekoon**

Director General, Department of Agriculture

Email: dgagriculture@gmail.com / rwije1958@yahoo.com

### **Mr. Lalith Chandrapala**

Director General, Department of Meteorology  
APN SPG Member for Sri Lanka

### **Mr. Sarath Premalal**

Director of Forecasting Division, Department of Meteorology

### **Mr. Chandrasiri Perera**

Provincial Director of Agriculture  
Central Province of Sri Lanka

## JOURNALIST MENTOR

### **Mr. Nalaka Gunawardene**

Science writer, columnist, blogger & researcher

Email: nalaka@nalaka.org

## APN SECRETARIAT

### **Ms. Dyota Condrorini**

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### **Mr. Xiaojun Deng**

Programme Officer for Communication and Development

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# LOGISTICS INFORMATION

## VENUE

The South Asia Media Visit will be conducted from 13-14 July 2016 at the following venue:

1. Field visit to the home garden village: Pethiyagoda, Sri Lanka
2. Media interaction with scientists and policy makers: University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

## TRAVEL

APN will make the travel arrangements of the international participants. Sri Lankan participants are expected to arrange their own travel. Participants are expected to arrive on Tuesday, 12 July 2016 and depart on Friday, 15 July 2016.

International participants will fly into Colombo-Bandaranaike International Airport (CMB). In addition, participants are required to forward their flight details (flight numbers, arrival and departure times & dates) to Ms. Dyota Condrorini (dcondrorini@apn-gcr.org) from APN Secretariat. This is a prerequisite for your hotel reservation and airport pickups.

## TRAVEL SUPPORT AND REIMBURSEMENT

You will receive financial support by the APN for below items:

1. Round trip flight (economy class discount ticket);
2. Accommodation (will be paid to the hotel directly);
3. Transportation between your home/working place and the International Airport of your departure/arrival in your country. Please use public transportation as much as possible.
4. Transportation fee (shared taxi) Airport – hotel and back (will be paid to the taxi company directly);
5. Airport tax, if any;
6. Visa application fee, if any;
7. Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA):

Participants will receive 35 U.S. Dollar per day as DSA, countable from the day of your departure from home until the day of your arrival at home.

**Note:** for reimbursement of the airfare, surface transportation between your home/working place and the airport of your departure/arrival, airport tax and visa application fee, etc., participants are requested to bring the original receipts to Kandy and submit them to the APN Secretariat. In the event that e.g. taxis do not provide you with any receipts feel free to use your business card, write down the taxi fare and the date, and ask the driver for his/her signature. Please submit this to the APN Secretariat for the reimbursement of your local transportation.

## REIMBURSEMENT

All reimbursements will be made by electronic transfer, after your return to your home, in U.S. Dollar. Expenses made in other currencies will be reimbursed in U.S. Dollar, applying the official exchange rate (of the day of the remittance) from <http://www.oanda.com/lang/ja/currency/converter/>.

**Note:** for the purpose of the swift process of the reimbursement by bank transfer please also provide the APN Secretariat with the banking details of your accounts in advance. Bank information form is attached to this Logistics Information.

Participants are also strongly recommended to bring sufficient funds to cover incidentals, such as evening meals, etc.

## ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation for all participants is booked at:

### **Mahaweli Reach Hotel**

35, P.B.A. Weerakoon Mawatha,  
P B A Weerakoon Mawatha, Kandy 20000, Sri Lanka  
Website: [www.mahaweli.com/](http://www.mahaweli.com/)

The single standard room is booked for each participant and it includes breakfast, 1% Tourism Development Levy, 10% service fee, and 12% value added tax. Please be advised that APN does not cover for any extra services such as telephone, fax, laundry, mini-bar, internet etc. Participants are requested to settle their personal bills upon check-out.

If you wish to be accommodated in smoking rooms please advise APN accordingly. So far, only block reservations of non-smoking rooms are made.

## PASSPORT/VISA

International participants are required to obtain visas prior to the start of their journeys to Sri Lanka. For more information please also refer to the official website of the Department of immigration and Emigration of Sri Lanka: [http://www.immigration.gov.lk/web/index.php?option=com\\_content&id=151&Itemid=196&lang=en](http://www.immigration.gov.lk/web/index.php?option=com_content&id=151&Itemid=196&lang=en)

Please follow-up the guidance given by the website and you may use the Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) System to obtain the visa. If you wish to reimburse your visa fee please bring the copy of the visa fee and hand over it to APN secretariat staff.

## TRANSPORTATION

### Arrival

For the transfer from the Colombo-Bandaranaike International Airport to Mahaweli Reach Hotel, a pick-up service is organized. After your arrival please proceed as described below:

- a). Proceed to Immigration for passport stamping and verification.
- b). Retrieve your baggage from the luggage claim area at the baggage carousel.
- c). Proceed to Customs.
- d). In the lobby of the international terminal somebody is waiting for you with your name written on a sign board. Confirm with this person that he is waiting for you in order to bring you to Mahaweli Reach Hotel.
- e). In order to save costs you may be asked to share the pick-up service with other participants. Please bear with us and be patient!
- f). Depending on the time and traffic conditions the ride to Mahaweli Reach Hotel can take up to three hours.

### Departure

The same pick up service will be organized, along the date and time of your departure. The exact departure time from the hotel will be announced to you in due course. Also, please understand that you may be asked to share your car/van with one or two more colleagues.

## WEATHER

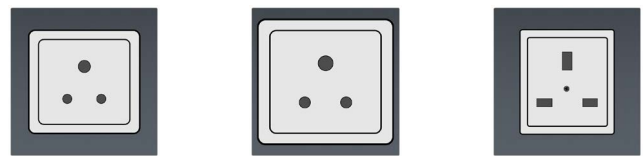
Sri Lanka is tropical, with distinct dry and wet seasons. The seasons are slightly complicated by having two monsoons. From May to August the Yala monsoon brings rain to the island's southwestern half, while the dry season here lasts from December to March. The

southwest has the highest rainfall – up to 4,000mm a year. The Maha monsoon blows from October to January, bringing rain to the North and East, while the dry season is from May to September. The North and East are comparatively dry, with around 1,000mm of rain annually. There is also an inter-monsoonal period in October and November when rain can occur in many parts of the island.

Kandy lies in mountainous regions of Sri Lanka and has an annual average temperature of 24°C.

## ELECTRICITY

The electric current in Sri Lanka is 230~240V, 50Hz, and the below plugs (types D, M and G) are used. Please bring an adaptor if needed.



(From left to right: plug types D, M and G)

## MONEY

The Sri Lankan currency is the Rupee (Rs), divided into 100 cents. Coins come in denominations of five, 10, 25 and 50 cents and one (1), two (2), five(5) and ten (10) Rupees. Notes come in denominations of 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000, 2000 and 5000 Rupees. For your convenience, please break down larger notes in to smaller when you change money. Dirty or torn notes might not be accepted, except at a bank.

## ATM

Commercial Bank has a wide network of ATMs accepting international Visa, MasterCard and Cirrus/Maestro cards. Other options include Bank of Ceylon, Nations Trust Bank, People's Bank, Hatton National Bank, Seylan Bank, Sampath Bank and HSBC. ATMs have spread to all of the cities and major regional centres, though you can't rely on the network paying up every single time.

## Cash

Any bank or exchange bureau will change major currencies in cash, including US Dollars, Euros and Pounds Sterling. Change Rupees back into hard currency before you leave the country for the best rates.

## Credit Cards

MasterCard and Visa are the most commonly accepted cards. Other major cards such as Amex and Diners Club are also accepted.

## Money Changers

Money changers can be found in most major cities in Sri Lanka as well as in tourist centers. They generally

don't charge commission and their rates are usually competitive.

### **Travellers Cheques**

Fewer people use travellers cheques these days, but major banks still change them – Thomas Cook, Visa and Amex are the most widely accepted. Expect a small transaction fee of around Rs 150. Banks in major cities and tourist areas sometimes have special counters for foreign exchange.

### **TRAVEL INSURANCE**

While on travel you may become sick or receive an injury, some of your personal belongings may be stolen. In order to protect you from this kind of unpleasantness, travel insurance is very much recommended. Please note that the APN or University of Peradeniya cannot be held liable for any cases of damage, accidents, injuries, sickness, theft, etc. APN will only cover the cost of standard, single trip travel insurance.

### **KANDY**

Kandy, the second largest city after Colombo, is located in the Central Province, Sri Lanka. Kandy was the last capital of the ancient kings' era of Sri Lanka. The city lies in the midst of hills in the Kandy plateau, which crosses an area of tropical plantations, mainly tea. Kandy is the home of The Temple of the Tooth Relic (Sri Dalada Maligawa), one of the most sacred places of worship in the Buddhist world. It was declared a world heritage site by UNESCO in 1988. More information about Kandy can be found on Wikipedia page: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kandy>

### **CANCELLATIONS**

Participants who cancel their attendance at the meeting, due to unforeseeable circumstances must notify the APN Secretariat at least SEVEN days before the planned departure date from their home country. Those who fail to notify us in advance asked to pay a cancellation fee for one-night stay at the hotel.

### **CONTACT**

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Mullinoy  
Garden (12)

HOUSE

Kitchen  
Garden (3)

Washroom

Well

**APN**

ASIA-PACIFIC NETWORK FOR  
GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH

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