Knowledge Fact sheet

Escalating Small Hydropower Development and Aquatic Biodiversity of Mountain Streams in Sri Lanka

Project Reference No:
CBA2015-06NSY-Silva
Project period: One year (2015/2016)
APN Fund: 20,000 US$

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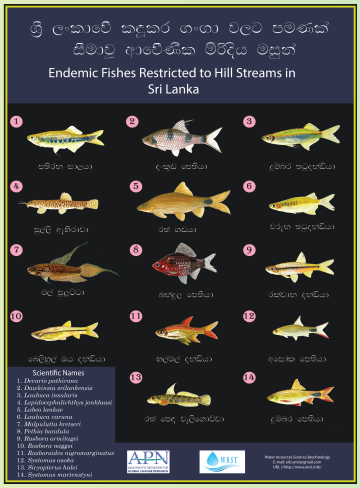
Objective

To highlight the negative impacts of poorly designed and incorrectly operating small hydropower plants on aquatic biodiversity with special emphasis on fishes endemic to Sri Lanka, riparian communities and the hydrological network of the mountain landscape and bring them to the policy level.



Outcomes

- Small hydropower issues in the media
- 71 relevant officers and 30 Administrators were trained on Stream Ecology and Mountain Landscape
- A handbook released on Small hydropower
- Network for future lobbying

Impact of small hydropower on global climate change is Positive

FLASH

Many small power projects with less generation capacity are more devastating than one large hydro dam with more generation capacity.

Activities

1. Preparation of a brochure highlighting the issue
2. Preparation of handbook on "Small Hydropower"
3. Training relevant officers on Steam Ecology and e-flow
4. Preparation of a wall photograph depicting endangered hill stream fishes
5. Building awareness of Division Secretaries on the importance of hill stream landscape

Publications

- Silva, E.I.L. (2016). Small Hydropower and Hydrological Networks in Mountain Landscape in Sri Lanka. The Environment Monitor XVI (1-3), 17-26.
- .Silva, E.I.L., Jayawardhana, R.A.S.N., Liyanage, N. P.P. and Silva, E.N.S. (2015). Effects of construction and operation of mini-hydropower plants on fish fauna endemic to Sri Lanka – A case study on Kelani River basin, In the Proceedings of the Water Professional Day 2015,pp. 45-55.
- Silva, E.I.L. and Silva, E.N.S. (2016). Handbook on Small Hydropower Development and Environment – A Case Study on Sri Lanka. Water Resources Science and Technology (WRST) 113p.

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