



# "Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era"

CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019

BMICH, Colombo

Sri Lanka



SRI LANKA  
**NEXT**

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நிலப்பசுமை யுகம் • THE BLUEGREEN ERA



## Contributors





# ***“Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era”***

## **CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION**

**23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**BMICH, Colombo**

**Sri Lanka**

**MINISTRY OF MAHAWELI DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT**





His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, addressing the United Nations General Assembly in New York, on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016, subsequent to the ratification of Paris Agreement



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இலங்கை சனாதிபதி  
President of Sri Lanka

#### MESSAGE

I am pleased to send this message of felicitations to Sri Lanka NEXT – A Blue Green Era – Conference 2019 organized at a crucial juncture of the history when our environment is faced with many daunting challenges.

The complexity climate change, environment pollution, loss of earth's regenerative capacity affecting natural carbon, nitrogen and water cycle, biodiversity loss among others are related to many economic, health and social issues, for which nitrogen related reactions can be identified as a severe cause. It is a challenging task to unveil the underlying Nitrogen factor of these issues. While commending the efforts of the scientific community I would like to point out that the political leadership is an essential necessity to facilitate the science and policy amalgamation to ensure sustainable management of nitrogen, which is everywhere yet invisible.

Held for the fourth consecutive year, Sri Lanka NEXT –, A Blue Green Era Conference showcases the commitment of Sri Lanka towards global environment conservation. It is indeed a pleasure to join with the launch of the United Nations Global Campaign on Sustainable Nitrogen Management coinciding with the Sri Lanka NEXT Conference.

Let us unite to elevate the dialogue we initiate today to the next United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), embracing the "everywhere and invisible" challenge of Nitrogen.

I also take this opportunity to commend the collaborative efforts of public institutions, private sector, civil societies, universities and experts in various relevant fields, private, non-governmental and community-based organizations in organizing this timely gathering and wish the insightful deliberations of the Conference to be successful.

Maithripala Sirisena

4<sup>th</sup> October 2019



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Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka





## MESSAGE OF THE HON. STATE MINISTER



It is my great pleasure to have an opportunity to deliver a message to the “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” programme 2019.

We are still passing the first stage of an incessant long-term struggle of ushering in a blue-green Sri Lanka. We have embarked upon this journey keeping as our goal not only creating a fit and healthy human race, but also achieving sustainable development through recognizing and respecting the entire animal population’s right to the earth.

Existence of healthy and pleasant environment is one of the main factor that needs to ensure the life on the earth is secured. Today there are number of environmental issues prevailing that can be identified and remedial measures to be taken to address those. Adverse effect of climate change is one of the critical issue among them and it is now very common in the worldwide. This situation creates diverse socio-economic problems as well. In this context, the Paris Agreement is an ideal tool which was adopted by the world community at the 21st Session of the Conference of Parties (COP21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to contest against the adverse effects of climate change. As a party country of the Paris Agreement, already we have given our national commitment to the international community as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Now we are leading our country towards economic development through the “Blue-Green Budget”. In addition as a party country of the Paris Agreement, we are implementing number of projects, programmes and events in order to ensure the sustainable utilization of natural resources. In this respect, I would like to introduce “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” programme as a highly outstanding event, because of it provides knowledge, alternative solutions and creates wider scoped interchange on the environment.

With the “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” programme launched in 2016, Sri Lanka has demonstrated its commitment to adopt climate smart strategies and ensure low carbon development pathways getting in line with Paris Agreement on Climate Changes and Sustainable Development Goals. “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” Conference and Exhibition is organized for fourth consecutive time.

I am pleased to declare that, we have provided an opportunity to school children, youth, inventors, experts, researchers, non-government organizations, private sector and the general public to dynamically involve in the “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” programme 2019.

I strongly believe that “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” programme 2019 will provide a productive platform to develop a dialogue among all the strata of the society and direct them for a Blue-Green Economy.

I wish the “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” programme 2019 to be a success.

**Eng. Ajith Mannapperuma M.P.**

State Minister

Ministry of Mahaweli Development & Environment



## MARCHING FORWARD TO FACE THE CHALLENGES OF CLIMATE CHANGE



It is my firm belief that we all have to be in the right place at the right time and more importantly harness the advantage of opportunities to preserve our environment and protect human health while promoting economic development. With the exemplary guidance and leadership provided by H. E. the President, Sri Lanka is moving towards a sustainable society with our national commitments.

Consequent to signing of the Paris Agreement, Sri Lanka has commenced “Sri Lanka NEXT – A Blue Green Era” Programme as an annual event in order to create a wider dialogue among government, private sector, academia and civil society on demanding need for environment conservation.

Sri Lanka has already taken several climate smart initiatives in policy formulation and implementation through mitigation and adaptation strategies and actions. The country has implemented multipurpose water resource management projects to address the adverse impacts of climate change for the benefit of the communities in the dry zone areas in the country.

Commissioning of the Moragahakanda and the Kaluganga multipurpose water resources management projects can be highlighted as the largest recent investments introduced in Sri Lanka to combat the adverse effects of climate change by providing required water for drinking purposes and agriculture for highly vulnerable communities.

I am delighted to state that Sri Lanka is privileged to host the launching of United Nations Global Campaign on Sustainable Nitrogen Management in Colombo alongside with the “Sri Lanka NEXT – A Blue Green Era” Programme.

Nitrogen is the new carbon trend in the next decade. Human beings aggressively manipulates his surrounding creating plethora of issues threatening the survival of life on earth. Therefore, Sustainable Nitrogen Management is part of the solution to many global environmental challenges with substantial economic benefits.

Our prime duty is to assure the right to live in a safe environment and introduce environmentally sound economic programmes. “Sri Lanka NEXT – A Blue Green Era” Programme will play a significant role in this regard.

My best wishes for a productive and successful “Sri Lanka NEXT – A Blue Green Era 2019” programme which is being held for fourth consecutive year and launching of the United Nations Global Campaign on Sustainable Nitrogen Management.

**Anura Dissanayake**

Secretary

Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment





## FOREWORD

Nature protects if she is protected. However, if people disregard this vital relationship and live in disharmony with the nature, it will challenge the human survival. Despite the tangible indicators of climate change and growing incidence of disasters, most people remain generally unaware of their responsibility for sustaining the balance between environment conservation and economic development. Sri Lankans is a nation lived in harmony with mother earth/ nature for thousands of years. However, with the development pathways adopted in recent past, we have deviated from the environmental sustainability.

One of the major challenges faced by the human civilization today is the climate change as a result of increase in atmospheric temperature due to emission of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) to the atmosphere by anthropogenic activities. Climate change impacts are adversely affecting in many geographical areas, economic sectors and people in Sri Lanka. Being a tropical island in the Indian Ocean, the impacts are aggravated as the monsoon pattern has changed resulting prolonged droughts, high intensity rainfall, flash floods and landslides. Increased frequency of floods and prolonged droughts during the last three decades has caused severe hardship to people across the country. It has severely impacted on crop production and socio-economic development of the country. Additionally, sea level rise due to melting of glaciers and ice caps in the Polar Regions and snow melting in Himalayan massif are adversely affecting the coastal zone of the country. Therefore, as agreed by the Paris Agreement maximum effort need to be taken to limit the rise of global temperature 2 °C below the preindustrial average, otherwise the adverse consequences will be irreversible.

With the “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” Programme launched in January 2016, Sri Lanka has demonstrated its commitment to adopt climate smart strategies and ensure low carbon development pathways getting in line with Paris Agreement on Climate Change and Sustainable Development Goals. “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” Conference and Exhibition is organized for the fourth consecutive time, on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH). It expects to promote sustainable development in Sri Lanka through Blue Green Economic initiatives while creating awareness among the key stakeholders and general public on environment and blue-green economy in order to obtain their active participation to achieve both economic and environmental sustainability of the country.

This event is a collaborative effort of public institutions, private sector, civil societies, universities, experts in various relevant fields, non- governmental and community-based organizations. We would like to thank all the stakeholders for the support extended in organizing a successful event. We warmly welcome you all for “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” Programme 2019

### **Secretariat for “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” Programme 2019**

Chair: Dr. Sunimal Jayathunga, Director, Climate Change Secretariat, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment







## BANDARANAIKE MEMORIAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HALL (BMICH)

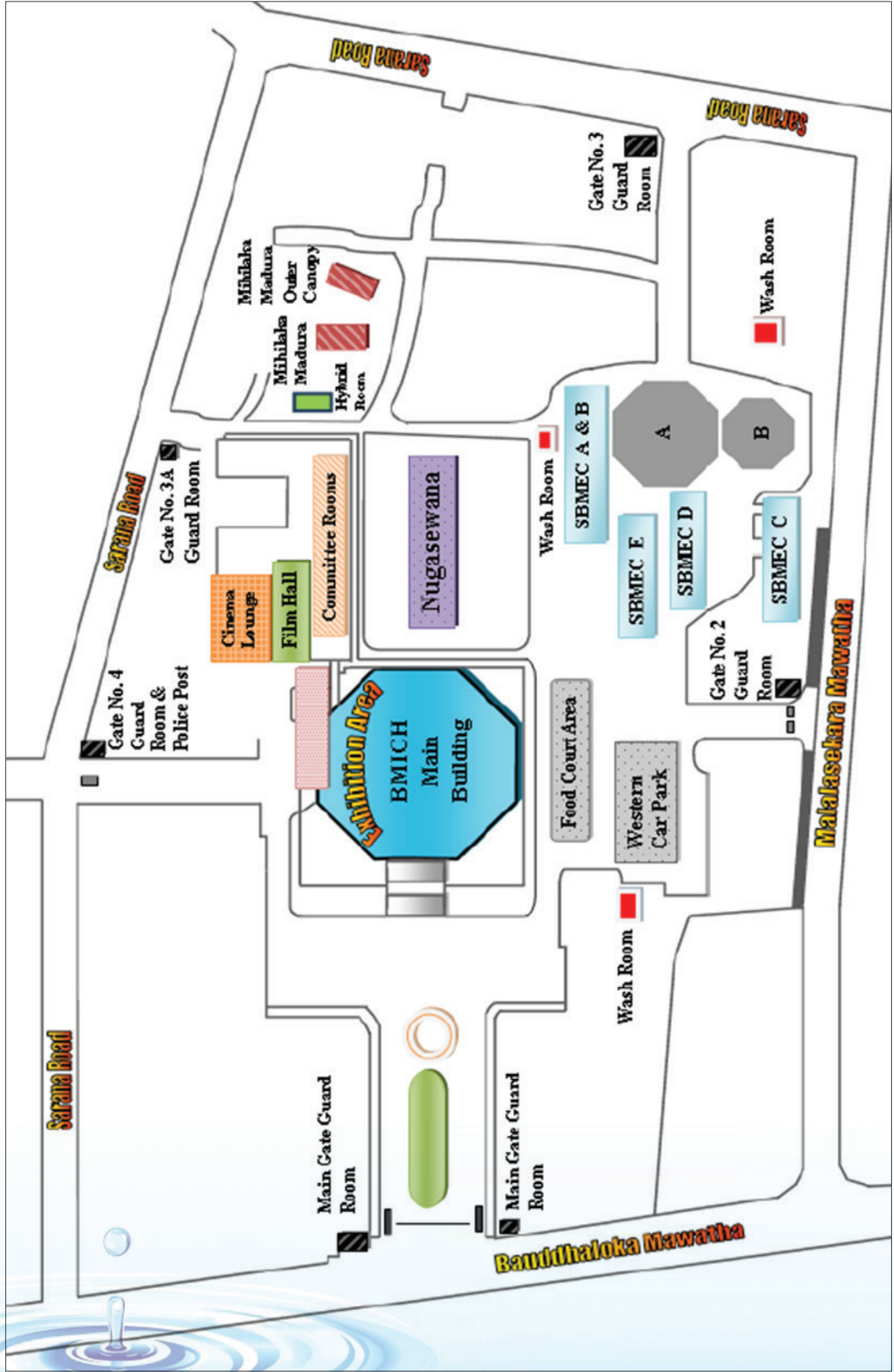


The Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) is a Convention Center located in Colombo, Sri Lanka. BMICH was inaugurated in 1973, in memory of Solomon Ridgeway Dias Bandaranaike, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka (Ceylon) from 1956 to 1959. It deemed as one of Asia's most up-to-date conference venues and ranked as South Asia's best, the BMICH blends the best of professional facilities with the natural beauty of Sri Lanka offering memories that last a lifetime.

In 1998 a small Exhibition Centre, the Sirimavo Bandaranaike Memorial Exhibition Centre was completed and added to the facility. The BMICH premise is managed by the S.W.R.D Bandaranaike National Memorial Foundation (BNMF) which is chaired by the President of Sri Lanka.



Floor Plan: Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall





## “SRI LANKA NEXT - A BLUE GREEN ERA” PROGRAMME 2019

### Goal

Promote Sustainable Development in Sri Lanka through Blue Green Economic Initiatives

### Main Objectives:

- To gather updated knowledge on local, regional and global efforts to address the issues on climate change and disseminate such knowledge to support the development agenda of Sri Lanka.
- To create awareness among the key stakeholders and general public on environment and blue green economy in order to obtain their active participation to achieve both economic and environmental sustainability of Sri Lanka.
- To reward the pioneers on environment conservation and innovation to appreciate and encourage their active contribution towards sustainable development.
- To enhance the capacity to build the resilience of Sri Lanka by strengthening networking, coordination, coherence and synergies among stakeholders while providing a platform to share knowledge, best practices and experiences.
- To encourage nationally appropriate mitigation actions to minimize greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation measures to build resilience of vulnerable sectors, areas and communities in Sri Lanka.
- To fulfill the national commitments on Multilateral Environment Agreements including the Paris Agreement.

### Major Events:

- Nitro-Innovation Exhibition as Part of United Nations Nitrogen Campaign
- Launch of United Nations Global Campaign on Sustainable Nitrogen Management
- “Soba Chalana Sithuwam” Short Film Award Ceremony
- Marine Expert Dialogue Forum
- Media Forum on Climate Change
- Climate Smart City Forum
- Expert Dialogue Forum on Master Plan for Coast Conservation and Tourism Development from Negombo to Mirissa
- Climate Change Business Forum
- Fifth National Symposium on Marine Environment - 2019
- Seminar on Palaeobiodiversity





- Workshop on Vein Quartz Industry of Sri Lanka
- Youth Forum on Climate Change
- E- Mobility Forum
- Research Symposium on Dry Zone Forests
- Dialogue on the Use of Green Development Initiatives for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustenance of Ecosystem Services
- Expert Dialogue on Chemicals and Waste Management
- International Symposium on Sustainable Land and Watershed Management





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## NITRO-INNOVATION EXHIBITION AS PART OF UNITED NATIONS NITROGEN CAMPAIGN

<b>Venue</b>	<b>Delegates Lounge</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>8.00a.m – 6.00p.m</b>
<b>Theme</b>	<b>“Boosting economic development through Sustainable Nitrogen Management”</b>

The Nitro-Innovation exhibition on new thinking to embrace the nitrogen challenge is held from 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at BMICH as part of the launch of the United Nations Global Campaign on Sustainable Nitrogen Management.

The objective of the exhibition is to provide opportunity for the researchers, academia, government institutions and private sector investor to showcase nitrogen innovation as the UN Nitrogen Campaign raises awareness on how development of the Nitrogen Circular Economy can help catalyze change for cleaner water, reduced air pollution, contribution to climate goals, protection of biodiversity, stratospheric ozone, human health and wellbeing. The Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment anticipate an eclectic mix of Nitro-Innovation ideas, sharing how to boost progress on solutions development, including nature-based solutions, as well as exhibitions that frame the nitrogen challenge. It is also anticipated to create a platform for them to communicate to stakeholders locally and internationally. The exhibition will be graced by more than five foreign exhibitors, local stakeholders in various disciplines.

In view of the success of the last year exhibition held under the theme of “Sustainable Consumption and Production” the opportunity is also given in this year too for those who present innovative ideas under the same subject. The Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment expect high caliber exhibitors will showcase their innovative ideas that could create a dialog in the area of concern.

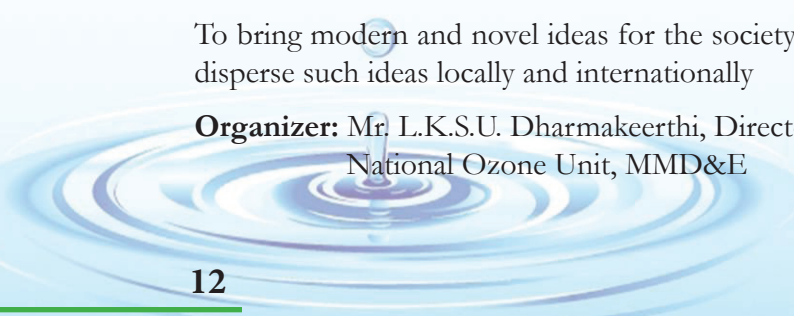
The exhibition is expected to bring modern and novel ideas for the society with regard to the nitrogen management and to disperse such ideas locally and internationally. Further, it will be a very good opportunity for the local stakeholders too to share knowledge on Nitrogen management with the international stakeholders who have more exposure on the subject.

During the period of the exhibition, number of programs such as symposia, expert dialogs, media conferences, award ceremonies, art exhibitions and many other events are held in the same premises. Therefore, the participants who have been invited on selective basis in various disciplines will be the audience for exhibition. The exhibition is also open for the general public and interested parties can join with the circle of Nitrogen to gain more knowledge. The Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment has also planned to invite major schools in surrounding area to direct their science students to see the exhibition as it would be very useful for them in their future studies.

### **Objective of the exhibition:**

To bring modern and novel ideas for the society with regard to the nitrogen management and to disperse such ideas locally and internationally

**Organizer:** Mr. L.K.S.U. Dharmakeerthi, Director, Air Resource Management and National Ozone Unit, MMD&E





## LAUNCH OF UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL CAMPAIGN ON SUSTAINABLE NITROGEN MANAGEMENT (SNM)

Venue	Main Hall and “Jasmine” Committee Room, BMICH
Date	23 <sup>rd</sup> and 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Time	8.30 a.m – 6.30 p.m
Theme	'Nitrogen for Life - # Everywhere and Invisible # Halve Nitrogen Waste'

The evidence is clear that the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat, the soil we invade, and the oceans regulating global temperature enabling our bodies to function, are being rapidly polluted. Humans, as the most aggressive species on earth is growing rapidly, invading this planet that successfully ensures their very existence. Nitrogen, a basic element of earth finds its way across all sectors, including in the social and health dimensions.

Nitrogen is the new carbon trending in the next decade. The launch of the campaign follows the successful adoption of the SNM Resolution (UNEP/EA.4/L.16) during the fourth Session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 4) held in March 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya. Member States recognized the urgency of addressing nitrogen management in meeting air quality, water quality, climate, stratospheric ozone and biodiversity goals, while offering huge economic opportunities to reduce approximately \$200 billion of reactive nitrogen that is wasted every year.

### Objectives of the Programme:

The emphasis will be placed on the fact that nitrogen management is not a new problem, but a central part of the solution to many global environmental challenges, with substantial economic benefits. The campaign will push the idea that managing holistically the nitrogen cycle is good for the planet, for air, water, climate, biodiversity, health and good for economy and livelihoods.

Through the themes of “Nitrogen for Life #Everywhere and Invisible and #Halve Nitrogen Waste”, it will help raise public awareness since nitrogen brings together many environmental issues which is less known by the public.

The ultimate goal of the Campaign is to Develop a Comprehensive Global Strategy on Nitrogen Management. Event lineup as follows.

#### 1. High Level Inaugural Segment

Venue	Main Conference & Concert Hall
Date	23 October, 2019
Time	1000 hrs –1200 hrs

The launch of the United Nations Global Campaign on SNM will be officially announced.

#### 2. Press Conference

Venue	Tulip
Date	23 October, 2019
Time	1230 hrs – 1330 hrs

The media will be briefed on the perspectives of SNM ahead of United Nations day on 24 October 2019.





### 3. Science – Policy – Political Dialogue

Venue	Jasmine	
Date	23 October, 2019	24 October, 2019
Time	1330 hrs – 1700 hrs	0900 hrs – 1600 hrs

Dialogue will focus on the global agenda of SNM from science, policy and political perspectives. The proposed United Nations Roadmap for SNM 2020 – 2022 will be refined with the outcomes of the dialogue.

Ministers of Environment and senior government officials of member states of United Nations Environment Programme, scientists, corporates and implementers working on facets of SNM will participate.

### 4. Negotiations on Colombo Declaration

Venue	Lotus Hybrid	
Date	23 October, 2019	24 October, 2019
Time	1500 hrs – 1730 hrs	0900 hrs – 1300 hrs

Negotiations will be focused on the proposed Colombo Declaration on SNM building upon UNEA 4 resolution (UNEP/EA.4/L.16). Colombo Declaration will encourage countries to embrace the nitrogen challenge through ambitious national commitments.

### 5. Nitro Innovation Exhibition

Venue	Delegates Lounge	
Date	23 October, 2019	24 October, 2019
Time	0900 hrs – 1800 hrs	0900 hrs – 1800 hrs

Local and international exhibitors collaborate to promote innovations on SNM in order to identify scenarios for nitrogen visioning.

### 6. Nitro Concert

Venue	Main Conference & Concert Hall	
Date	23 October, 2019	
Time	1730 hrs – 1900 hrs	

The Nitrogen song composed by Ricky Kej, Grammy ® award winner will be launched as an effective communication strategy to raise global voice on nitrogen.

**Medium** : English

**Organizers** : United Nations Environment Programme, International Nitrogen Management System, Government of Sri Lanka

**Further Details:**

Ms Deepa Liyanage,  
Director (International Relations)  
Ministry of Mahaweli Development & Environment  
416/C/1, “Sobadam Piyasa”, Robert Gunawardhana Mawatha, Battaramulla.

Mobile : 0714 397 050  
Phone : 0112 034 181  
Fax : 0112 879 965  
e-mail : liyanagedeepa@gmail.com





## "SOBA CHALANA SITHUWAM" SHORT FILM COMPETITION - AWARDING CEREMONY

Venue	Levender Committee Room, BMICH
Date	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2019
Time	12.30 p.m – 4.30 p.m
Theme	“Awareness on Environment Conservation”

Being object to build up a social dialogue to develop environment conservation through young film producers, “Soba Chalana Sithuwam” short film competition organized in parallel to the World Environment Day. Creations of the producers were judged and selected by an expert panel. The award ceremony of "Soba Chalana Sithuwam" will be held in parallel to "Sri Lanka NEXT-A Blue Green Era” programme with the distinguish participation of the Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Expert Panel and the competitors at the BMICH, Colombo on 23rd October 2019.

Welcome Address/Objective will be delivered by State Secretary to the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment followed by a key note address by a member of the Judge Panel and an address by the chief guest. Presentation of “Soba Chalana Sithuwam” Awards and Certificates will be awarded by the State Minister and Secretary of the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment.

### **Objective of the Programme:**

To build up a social dialogue among the young film producers on environment conservation

**Medium:** Sinhala / Tamil

**Target Group:** All contesters of the short film competition and interested parties

**Resource Persons:** Members of the Judge Panel

**Number of Participants:** 150

**Organizers:** Education, Training and Research Division, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment





## MARINE EXPERT DIALOGUE FORUM

Venue	Orchid Committee Room, BMICH
Date	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2019
Time	12.00 noon - 6.00 p.m
Theme	“An Emerging Issues of Marine Pollution”

Ensuring the scientific integrity of the review, ‘The Expert Dialogue Forum’ is an appropriate vehicle for open and substantive discussions between Parties on the scientific knowledge and evidence based marine and maritime sectors. It considers scientific information relevant to the review through regular scientific workshops and expert meetings and will assist the preparation and consideration of developments of the country’s economy through sustainable use of marine sector. In the Sri Lanka Next – 2019 program includes the Expert Dialogue Forum to make platform to all the expertise of the marine field, for the blue green economy approach towards sustainable life below water.

150 personnel in maritime and environmental field experts would be invited to the dialogue to make new ideas, concepts and philosophies to considerations and debates.

### Objectives of the programme:

This scientific forum includes four scientific sessions with the Keynote speech by the expertise followed by the open forums to the each session. Pollution through micro plastics in Indo-Pacific Region, Nutrient Pollution; Source Points and threats on the marine ecosystems, Marine pollution and formation of Marine Dead Zones and its impacts, Measures taken to control fecal contaminations in Sri Lanka; Projects and Cases are the identified key areas in deliberations.

This Expert Dialogue Forum would be an acceptability of the long-term global goal can be addressed on marine pollution and effects of marine pollution on the oceans and marine ecosystems. This top level session would be country’s one of the initiatives to reach 2030 SDG – Goal 14; Blue Green Economy approach towards ‘Sustainable life below water’. This forum is organized by Marine Environment Protection Authority in collaboration with the Sri Lanka Marine Environment Forum.

**Medium:** English

**Target Group:** Scientists, University Professionals, University students, Government Officials, Representatives from INGOs’ and NGOs’ in the related field.

**Resource Persons:** Prof. S. Kotagama, Dr. Kamal Ranatunga, Dr. S. P. Nishshanka, Dr. Shivaji Patra and Dr. Dinesh Gunathilaka

**Number of Participants:** 150

**Organizer:** Marine Environment Protection Authority

**Further Details:** Ms. Thalatha Ranasinghe, Deputy Manager - +94-71-8188866,  
 Ms. Kavini Sachitra, Asst. Marine Environment Officer - +94-77-6267012





## MEDIA FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Venue	Tulip Committee Room, BMICH
Date	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2019
Time	2.30 p.m - 5.00 p.m
Theme	“How to convey of climate change message to general public effectively”

Climate change and its ever-growing adverse effects are felt across the world more than ever before, and Sri Lanka is highly impacted by them. Well-built Climate awareness plays a key role in taking effective actions to address climate change impacts.

In this context, the Climate Change Secretariat of the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment has taken steps to formulate a Communication Strategy on Climate Change in order to fulfill the communication gap in addressing climate change.

This Forum is designed to interact actively by the media community and Climate Change experts & policy makers to identify the messages to be communicated among the vulnerable communities and other relevant authorities to take remedial actions. It is also expected to create awareness on recent developments related to climate change and role of media on addressing Climate Change as the effective and efficient communication on climate change issues will empower general public for effective climate actions.

### Objectives of the Programme:

- Encouraging the media to engage in climate communication actions
- Creating awareness among the media personnel on climate change adverse impacts in Sri Lanka and initiatives that Sri Lanka has taken
- Networking media with academia and practitioners to gain insights into climate change issues, and actions taken to address them
- Gaining inputs for finalizing the Communication Strategy on Climate Change of Sri Lanka

**Medium:** Sinhala/ English

**Target group:** Electronic, print and social media journalists who are currently engaging in climate change communication and its related environmental issues

**Number of Participants:** 40

**Organizer:** Climate Change Secretariat, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

### Further Details:

Dr. R.D.S. Jayathunga, Director (Climate Change)-sunimal68@hotmail.com

Mr. Ruwan Weerasooriya, Assistant Director (Climate Change)-dammika100@yahoo.com

Mrs. Thanuja Perera, Development Officer (Climate Change)-  
thanujaranatunga76@gmail.com





## CLIMATE SMART CITY FORUM

<b>Venue</b>	<b>Saffron Committee Room, BMICH</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>1.00 p.m -5.00 p.m</b>
<b>Theme</b>	<b>“Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation”</b>

Sri Lanka submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCS) in October 2015 and its Nationally Determined Contributions in November, 2016. Under the measures for ‘Adaptation’ is the sub sector of “Urban, City Planning and Human Settlements”. These areas are closely connected to direct impacts of climate change. Local Authorities and their inhabitants are faced with droughts, floods, air pollution, land degradation, deforestation and rising sea levels. These impacts have a major repercussion on the basic living standards of the population.

It is already well known that the City is the hub of a country’s economic growth. With the global population expected to be 67% urban by 2050 it is no wonder that cities consume over two thirds of the world’s energy and generates over 70% of global emissions. A view into the urbanization of Sri Lanka’s cities could be made by the compilation conducted by UN Habitat of 11 municipalities covering all nine provinces in Sri Lanka. Further, Sri Lanka has embarked on the first Climate Smart City in Kurunegala. The Climate Smart City envisages a city with built resilience to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change and includes mitigation strategies to reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHGs) emissions through low carbon pathways ensuring a sustainable, healthy and comfortable lifestyle for the urban population.

Currently, with the collaboration of the Korean Environment Institute under the CTCN; ICLEI, LEDS Technical Assistance has been obtained to Design an Adaptation Plan focusing on water scarcity and heat stress and a GHG Inventory for the Kurunegala City. In parallel, UNDP in Sri Lanka is supporting the implementation of the project ‘Appropriate Mitigation Actions in the Energy Generation and End-user Sectors in Sri Lanka’. One of the selected GHG mitigation technology demonstrations is the domestic solar PV with battery energy storage, and a pilot demonstration is now being conducted within the Green Zone in the Kurunegala District.

### **Objectives of the Programme:**

To showcase the findings from the work being carried out at Kurunegala on developing a Climate Smart City with the purpose of discussing the challenges and lessons learnt in order to assess the practicality of implementing Climate Smart Cities in Sri Lanka

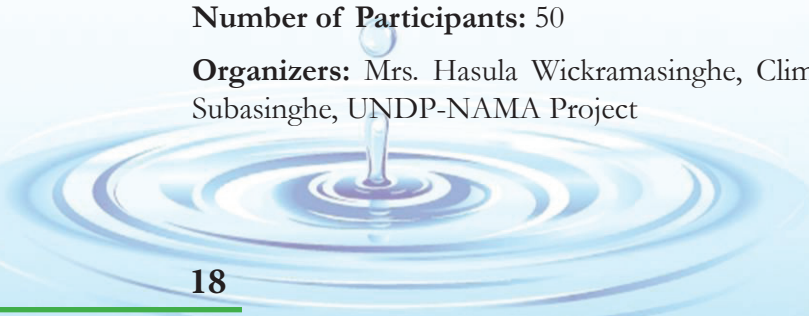
**Medium: English / Sinhala**

**Target Group:** Urban Planners, government and private institutions involved in city development

**Resource Persons:** Ms. Tharuka Dissanayake, Mr. Gayan Subasinghe (UNDP),  
Mr. Nalaka Arjuna (Kurunegala Municipal Council), Mr. Keshav Jha,  
Ms. Soumya Chaturvedula (ICLEI); Ms. Indu Weerasoori (UN Habitat)

**Number of Participants:** 50

**Organizers:** Mrs. Hasula Wickramasinghe, Climate Change Secretariat, MMD&E Mr. Gayan Subasinghe, UNDP-NAMA Project





## EXPERT DIALOGUE FORUM ON MASTER PLAN FOR COAST CONSERVATION AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT FROM NEGOMBO TO MIRISSA

Venue	Cinema Lounge, BMICH
Date	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2019
Time	1.00 p.m - 4.00 p.m
Theme	“Coast Conservation and Tourism Development”

The Coastal stretch from Negombo to Mirissa is one of the most important coastal segments in the country. The segment is heavily populated and has packed with important economic activities including tourism and fisheries. Due to the concentration of various social and economical activities, demand for coastal resources has increased creating pressure on coastal environment. Coastal pollution, habitat degradation and illegal activities are some of the main issues in the segment needed immediate solutions. The Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts discussed this situation seriously and guided to prepare a plan for this segment to resolve above mentioned issues and develop the tourism activities in a sustainable manner.

Accordingly the department obtained services of a reputed consultancy firm to prepare a Master Plan for Coastal Coast Resource Management and Tourism Development from Negombo to Mirissa coastal segment with consultation of all relevant agencies and other parties. The plan has now ready for implementation with the support of all relevant agencies. This expert dialogue forum will build the necessary consensus among agencies and other parties needed for the plan implementation.

### Objective of the Programme:

To build a common consensus on implementation of the plan though a collaborative manner.

### Medium: Sinhala/English

**Target Group:** Senior Government officers related to coastal environmental management and tourism development, Chairpersons of Local Authorities, high level officers in development agencies, academia and representatives from key community and Non-Government Organizations

**Resource Persons:** An expert panel will provide resource inputs and guidance for a fruitful discussion and it is consisted of;

- Experts from the government organizations related to coast conservation and tourism development in the country;
- University Professionals in the field of coast conservation and tourism development

**Number of Participants:** 150

**Organizer:** Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Department

**Further Details:** Mr. Gamini Hewage, Director (Costal Resources and Management)  
- +94 777308008





## CLIMATE CHANGE BUSINESS FORUM

Venue	Hybrid Room, BMICH
Date	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2019
Time	1.30 p.m - 6.00 p.m
Theme	“Accreditation to Green Climate Fund (GCF)”

Green Climate Fund (GCF) is recognized as the main channel of climate finance for developing countries such as Sri Lanka. It is the main fund under the finance mechanism of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and expected to deliver \$100 billion per annum from 2020 and will be playing a key role in achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

GCF has adopted “enhanced direct access” modality and the fund can be accessed only by the accredited entities. Currently there are no Sri Lankan accredited entity to access climate finance through GCF. Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment has taken steps to create awareness among banks of Sri Lanka to obtain accredited status and many of those have shown their interest. This years Business Forum on Climate Change is dedicated to further enhance the capacities to prepare for the accreditation process. It will also take initial steps to identify further capacity building requirements from the prospected accredited entities on which the future support programmes will be designed accordingly. The Business Forum is being organized as a part of the GCF Readiness Programme which is delivered through the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF).

### Objective of the Programme:

To enhance awareness and capacities on GCF Accreditation Process among interested organizations in Sri Lanka

### Specific Objectives:

- To share knowledge on climate finance access opportunities for climate smart investments in Sri Lanka
- To aware the participants of key aspects in direct access and accreditation process
- To identify the key areas for future capacity building on accreditation

**Medium:** English

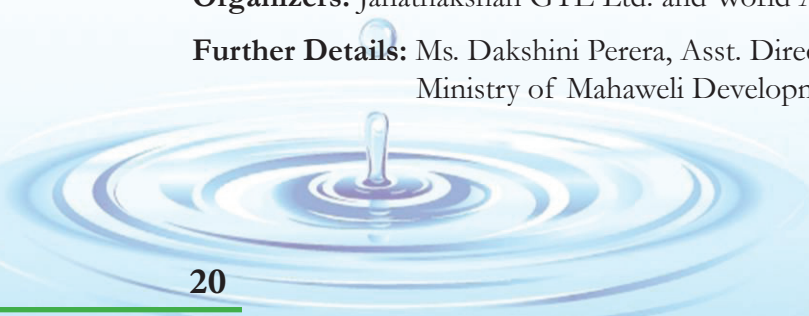
**Target Group:** Nominated officials from the banks those who are interested to obtain accredited status of GCF

**Resource Persons:** Mr. Ranga Pallawala, CEO of Janathakshan GTE.  
Mr. Peter A. Minang, Leader, Landscapes Governance Theme of World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)

**Number of Participants:** 45

**Organizers:** Janathakshan GTE Ltd. and World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)

**Further Details:** Ms. Dakshini Perera, Asst. Director, Climate Change Secretariat,  
Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment - +94 71 0947079





## FIFTH NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON MARINE ENVIRONMENT - 2019

Venue	Lotus Committee Room, BMICH
Date	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Time	8.30 a.m to 5.00 p.m
Theme	“Beat Plastic Pollution”

The ocean is the heart of our planet. Maintaining the quality of life that the ocean has provided to human kind and sustaining the integrity of ocean ecosystems requires changes in how we view, manage and govern the ocean resources. In order to ensure the health and safety of our communities and future generations, it’s essential to take the responsibility to care of the ocean.

As a country moving towards a marine resource base economy, the government has taken several steps to develop marine resources related industries and maritime related industries. With the increase of development activities related to coastal development, pollution risk could be inevitable. Sri Lanka should take necessary steps to carry out marine research and formulate comprehensive policies aiming for a blue economy to ensure sustainability of the maritime environment and maritime related industries.

To educate and encourage research in this field, Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA) held their first to fourth National Marine Symposium in 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2018 respectively. The fifth National Symposium will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 at BMICH, Colombo. With the participation of scientists, professionals, industry representatives and policy makers in the field of marine environment, it will be the perfect platform to discuss the state of the marine environment and to learn about the innovations in the field with the top researchers in the country.

The key themes are maritime law, marine environment, shipping and marine environment, tourism and marine environment, eco – tourism and socio economics, marine pollution and related legislation, fisheries, aquaculture and marine environment, climate change and impacts on the marine environment, sensitive marine ecosystem and marine protected areas and development projects and impacts on marine environment.

### Objectives of the Programme:

- To make a platform to present research findings
- To stakeholder engagement regarding the conservation of the marine environment.

**Medium:** English

**Target Group:** Local and regional scientists and researchers, Policy makers, NGOs, University lecturers, University students, Government officers

**Resource Persons:** University professionals and experts in the marine environment field

**Number of Participants:** 350

**Organizer:** Marine Environment Protection Authority

**Further Details:** Mr. I. P. Amaranayake - +94-112554908/+94-703331589  
E- mail : amomepa@gmail.com  
Ms. Madhusha Mihirani Subasinghe - +94-711476494  
E- mail : madhumihirani@yahoo.com





## SEMINAR ON PALAEOBIODIVERSITY

Venue	Lavender Committee Room, BMICH
Date	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Time	8.30 a.m to 5.00 p.m
Theme	“Beyond the Biodiversity”

Earth originated 4,600 million years ago and throughout millennia, organisms evolved in various stages of life. Geological, climatic and evolutionary changes have occurred on earth and with anthropogenic influences extinction of species have occurred at an alarming rate. The prehistoric flora and fauna, fossils, tools and other artefacts found in excavations have helped present day man to reconstruct the prehistoric environment and arrive at conclusions regarding the past. The interaction between organisms, man and the environment from prehistoric time to the historical period has been identified as ‘Palaeobiodiversity’.

Although there are reports on findings of various plants, animal fossils and tools as a result of some of the development activities in Sri Lanka, it is not possible to carryout extensive exploration in a comprehensive manner. Further, due to the disorderly manner of archaeological excavations conducted in the process of development activities even some of the statues are severely damaged. Therefore, it is a necessary and timely task to study the prehistorical and proto historical palaeobiodiversity aspects of the ancient kingdoms in the following thematic areas in order to disseminate this information to the future generations.

### Objective of the Programme:

Contribution the Conservation on Palaeobiodiversity through awareness

### Target Group:

Field officers of the Forest Department, Department of Wildlife Conservation, Department of Coast Conservation and Coastal Resources Management, Marine Environment Protection Authority, Geological Survey and Mines Bureau and other relevant institutions, Government officials engaged in tourism and cultural affairs, Advisors of the National Institute of Education, Undergraduates who are studying Palaeobiodiversity.


**Medium:** Sinhala

**Advisors:** Prof. Gamini Adikari, Senior Professor, Post Graduate Institute of Archeology  
Mr. Gamini Gamage, Former Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Mrs. R.H.M.P. Abeykoon, Director (Biodiversity), Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment.

**Number of Participants:** 100

**Organizers:** Ms. Manoja Jayasekara, Programme Assistant & Ms. Samantha Kodituwakku, Development Officer, Biodiversity Division, MMD&E

**Further Details:** Biodiversity Division

 Tel: +94-11- 2034208, E-mail - [biodiversitysl@gmail.com](mailto:biodiversitysl@gmail.com)







## WORKSHOP ON VEIN QUARTZ INDUSTRY OF SRI LANKA

Venue	Orchid Committee Room, BMICH
Date	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Time	9.00 a.m – 5.00 p.m
Theme	“Prospects and Market Opportunities for Vein Quartz of Sri Lanka”

Sri Lanka endowed with ultra-high quality vein quartz with versatile users in cutting-edge industries. Though the industry itself spans for many decades to the history, the true potential of the same is yet to be realized. The knowledge gap between the industry, regulator and the academia is one of the main drawbacks of the same to recognize the true potential of the same. Industry is having an insight to the market opportunities and product development while the regulator (GSMB) is conversant with the available reserves and best mining practices. However due to the versatility of the products, the required quality of vein quartz remains as one of the challenging aspects to develop the industry.

This programme is designed to bridge the gap between the regulator and the industry while having an expert input from the academia on the developing global trends for vein quartz industry. In compliance to the set objective, this programme will be conducted as a workshop for selected attendees with interactive participation of relevant fields; the Regulator, Industry and the Academia.

**Focus and Objective of the Program:** “Bridging the knowledge gap between the industry and the regulator while having an expert input from academia, towards the enhancement of quartz industry”.

**Medium:** English, *mother-tongue where appropriate*

**Target Group:** Regulators, Industry and Academia

**Resource Person:** Relevant Experts

**Number of Participants:** 52 Workshop Participants  
100 for Opening Ceremony (including Workshop Participants)

**Organizer:** Management of the Geological Survey and Mines Bureau

**Expected Outcome of the Workshop:** The knowledge sharing among the main three constituents; Regulator, Industry and the Academia along with their views and findings will be synthesized into a detail document, which will be the roadmap of the quartz industry, particularly focused on the future of the same.

**Further Details:** Ms. Nilmini Thaldena  
Senior Geo - Physist  
GSMB  
Tel: +94-071-3528751, Email: nilminith@yahoo.com





## YOUTH FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Venue	Tulip Committee Room, BMICH
Date	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Time	9.00 a.m – 5.00 p.m
Theme	“Resilience Building to Climate Change Impacts Through Innovation and Sustainable Lifestyles”

The Youth Forum on Climate Change is organized for the fourth time to capacity build youth on addressing climate change impacts, and assisting youth in formulating and implementing innovative solutions to address climate impacts, build climate resilience, and environmental peace building. 35 youth participants selected at national level will engage with experts of the sector to build their capacities, and formulate solutions to address climate impacts in Sri Lanka, through the development of project concepts for building resilience of vulnerable communities and ecosystems, innovative social and ethical enterprises, and building social movements.

### Objectives of the Programme:

- Capacity building of youth and building technical expertise of youth to address adverse impacts of climate change.
- Knowledge sharing between experts in the field of climate change, and youth for effective climate action.
- Promote the concepts of sustainable consumption and production, and develop ethical and social enterprises to reduce vulnerabilities to climate change.
- Build youth led movements and actions to address ecosystem restoration, resilience and environmental peace building.

### Focus:

- Youth engagement, climate change impacts, resilience building, ecosystems, social and ethical enterprise, capacity building, sustainable production and consumption

**Medium:** English

**Target Group:** Youth (18 - 35 year olds selected based on applications)

**Resource Persons:** National and international experts working on the themes on climate change, sustainable development goals, enterprise development, resilience building

**Number of Participants:** 50

**Organizers:** SLYCAN Trust, Climate Change Secretariat of Sri Lanka and Humane Society International

**Further Details:** Ms. Vositha Wijenayake, [vositha@slycantrust.org](mailto:vositha@slycantrust.org)/[info@slycantrust.org](mailto:info@slycantrust.org)  
Ms. Sajani Ranasinghe, [info@slycantrust.org](mailto:info@slycantrust.org)  
SLYCAN Trust’s website [slycantrust.org](http://slycantrust.org)





## E-MOBILITY FORUM

Venue	Saffron Committee Room, BMICH
Date	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Time	8.30 a.m - 3.00 p.m
Theme	“E Mobility as the Next Generation Solutions for Clean Air and Sustainable Transport”

Today the transport sector contributes approximately one-quarter of all energy related carbon dioxide emissions to the atmosphere, which is set to reach one-third, growing faster than any other sector. The global passenger car fleet is projected to double by 2050, with the majority of growth taking place in developing countries. To achieve a cleaner transport sector, a combination of measures needs to be implemented such as better-designed cities, non-motorized transport facilities, more public transport, and cleaner and more efficient on-road fleets, including electric vehicles.

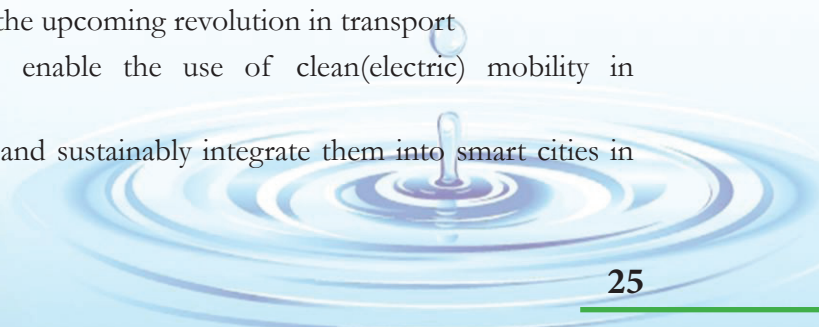
The 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development highlights the critical importance of sustainable transport for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its related targets. Also, the Paris Agreement, in seeking to strengthen the global response to climate change, reaffirms the goal of limiting global temperature increase to well below 20 °C, while pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 degrees. This has been in line with the world market for e-vehicles and it is expected to grow considerably in the near future worldwide.

The Government of Sri Lanka has prioritized promoting e-mobility as a key measure to make the transport sector sustainable, address the GHG emissions and country' energy security. Government's transport policies, energy targets and import duty cut are gradually fostering a conducive environment to promote electric mobility. Advances in technology, as well as the commitments of the international community towards approaches of scaling up the e-mobility market, will positively impact the transport sector in Sri Lanka as well. Embracing this e-mobility revolution will not only help our environmental problem but also benefits public health and fuels technological innovation, which is the backbone of society.

The E-mobility forum will be organized for the first time in Sri Lanka, at the “Sri Lanka, NEXT - A Blue Green Era” Programme. It will open eyes on sustainable development pathways and will create new avenues on it. The engagement in discussion of high-level partners representing government & non-government organizations, academia, and business circles will contribute to the transformation of the transportation sector in the desired direction.

### Objectives of the Programme:

- To identify the most effective strategies for the development of e-mobility
- To the development of policy and regulatory framework
- To discuss easy access to financial measures and possibilities to generate new resources
- To discuss the benefits and challenges of the upcoming revolution in transport
- To create a favorable environment to enable the use of clean(electric) mobility in Sri Lanka
- To promote technologies for E-Mobility and sustainably integrate them into smart cities in Sri Lanka.





- To introduce sustainable mobility into the urban transportation mix.
- To share knowledge, problems, solutions and bottlenecks to promote e-mobility in the country
- To create awareness of e-mobility in Sri Lanka

**Medium:** English

**Target Group:** Academia and Researchers, Experts in the field, Government & Private Sector Stakeholders, Civil Society Organizations, Sri Lanka Automobile Association, Sri Lanka Vehicle Importers Association, Sri Lanka Auto Mobile Service Providers Association

**Resource Persons:** University professionals and experts in the field of transport and environment

**Number of Participants:** 60

**Organizer:** Air Resource Management & National Ozone Unit (ARM & NOU), Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

**Further Details:** Mr. L.K.S.U. Dharmakeerthi, Director (ARM &NOU), MMD&E  
(+94-11-2034215/ 0718013777 sugath2@gmail.com)  
Ms. Thiris Inoka, Assistant Director (ARM &NOU), MMD&E  
(+94-11-2034217/0714421709 thirisinoka@yahoo.com)



## RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM ON DRY ZONE FORESTS - 2019

Venue	Cinema Lounge, BMICH
Date	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Time	8.30 a.m – 4.30 p.m
Theme	“Dry Zone Forests”

The Forest Department, the Department of Wildlife Conservation and the Universities are the main partners in carrying out forestry research in the country while some other state organizations as well as some Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) also take part in it. All research conducted in State Forests are mandated to be initiated under the authorization of the National Forestry Sector Research Committee which is operated through the Forest Department with a multi disciplinary team of eminent forestry scientists attached to reputed institutes including ex-officio members of the Forest Department.

Forestry Research Symposium which is organized by the Forest Department annually is an event designed for the forestry researchers to share and discuss their work and findings with their peers and forest managers. Researchers who conduct research authorized under the NFSRC are particularly encouraged to present their research findings at this symposium. The information outcome of these symposia is notably important to the Forest Department since it is the main implementing agency of forest conservation and management practices in the country. In turn it would also help the policy makers to shape the forest research sector up in par with the national development priorities.

This year the symposium focuses on research conducted on dry zone forest. Though the dry zone Forests (Dry Mixed Evergreen Forest) which contribute vastly to the natural vegetation cover, with a significant amount of forest plantations, contribute considerably to the total forest cover, biodiversity and the socio-economic well-being of the of the country, research carried out on this resource is scanty. This symposium will cater to the necessity of highlighting and publicizing the findings of research & development in dry zone forests for implementation for the progress of the country. The present symposium contains 3 sessions i. e. (i) Forest Restoration; (ii) Plantation Forestry & Wood Products (iii) Natural Forest Management and Forest Conservation.

### Objective of the Programme:

To provide a forum to forest researchers to present their findings among a knowledgeable gathering including forest managers to obtain feedback while creating an opportunity for them to disseminate new information generated through their research work towards appropriate practical applications in the management, conservation and the advancement of the forest resources in the country.

**Medium:** English

**Target Group:** Representatives from Forest Department and the Ministry, Representatives from other related state institutions, Universities and Research Institutes, Private sector and Non-Governmental Organizations, Members of NFSRC

**Resource Persons:** Selected Researchers who work on Dry Zone Forests

**Number of Participants:** 100

**Organizer:** Forest Department

**Further Details:** Dr. K.M.A. Bandara, Additional Conservator General of Forest (Forest Research Development and Education), Forest Department - +94-71-7171026





## DIALOGUE ON THE USE OF GREEN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTENANCE OF ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Venue	Cinema Hall, BMICH
Date	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Time	8.30 a.m to 4.30 p.m
Theme	“Green Development Initiatives for Sustainable Utilization of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services”

Sri Lanka is facing the challenge of achieving economic development while maintaining environmental sustainability. Ecosystems and biodiversity play significant roles in people's subsistence livelihoods as well as in wider economic development. Therefore, Sri Lanka has already developed several sectoral policies and cross sectoral policies for biodiversity conservation in line with the Constitutional directives for the sustenance of ecosystems services. In order to conserve its most significant biodiversity, Sri Lanka has instituted a national system of Protected Areas (PAs). Many of the globally important ecosystems and habitats of globally significant species still continue to remain outside protected areas and face accelerating pressure from human activities. Unlike the protected areas, Environment Sensitive Areas (ESAs) consist of public and privately-owned properties. People engage in various socioeconomic practices with their land ownership in these areas. Thus, there is high community dependency over the biodiversity, which creates high potential of threat to the biodiversity in the ESAs. Some of the activities in ESAs not only threaten to biodiversity, but also has brought negative impact to the community.

Since the application of the ESA concept is a participatory, bottom-up approach to sustainable resource use and management, it is imperative to find ways to accurately identify the sharing experiences and good practices as an hourly need at the national, provincial and local levels that is built on learning-by-doing. Therefore, this dialogue will be an eye-opening session to better understand the ESA concept and its sprawl.

### **Objective of the Programme:**

Provide guidance to manage the environment and natural resources in order to ensure national commitment for sustainable development for the benefit of the present and future generations. Creating awareness on sustainable management of environment and natural resources among different categories of community of the society in order to foster environmental responsibility.

**Medium:** Sinhala

### **Target Group:**

The community in the Anuradhapura and Puttalam Districts who are taking part in the project and who are benefiting from the project, Government Officials who have been involved in the implementation of the project at Local, District and National level, Relevant District Secretaries / Divisional Secretaries or Representatives, Government Officers / Relevant Officials of Line Ministries / Institutions involved in the implementation of the project, Officials of United Nations Development Program, Researchers, Resource Persons, University students, Media Personals.



**Resource Persons:**

Technical Officers of the United Nations Development Programme who are involved in the relevant project, District Secretaries of Anuradhapura and Puttalam, Project consultants, project officials on promotion of biodiversity conservation in environmentally sensitive areas and maintenance of ecosystem services, Public Officers carrying out project activities at District and Divisional levels, NGOs and farmer organizations / community representatives

**Number of Participants:** 200

**Organizer:** Project Management Unit, Enhancing Biodiversity Conservation and Sustenance of Ecosystem Services in Environmentally Sensitive Areas Project

**Further Details:** Ms. Nalini Kohowala, Assistant Director, Environment Planning and Economic Division, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, +94-71-3683370





## EXPERT DIALOGUE ON CHEMICALS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Venue	Hybrid Hall, BMICH
Date	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
Time	1.30 p.m – 5.00 p.m
Theme	“Chemicals and Waste”

Chemicals management is a field that needs strengthening in order to safeguard environment and health. Therefore, awareness creation, capacity development, technology transfer, infrastructure development, policy, strategy and regulation development are key to improve chemicals management in the country. Therefore, this expert dialogue is organized to identify gaps, issues, and to decide on future directions based on the productive suggestions. The presentation on “Current Status of Chemicals Management in Sri Lanka and Future Trends” will give an over view of the current status and the global scenario, which will help to promote a productive discussion. As the National Chemicals Management Policy is being finalized at present the concerns of the participants could be considered for incorporation in to the policy.

Plastic waste management has become a major issue throughout the world, including Sri Lanka, where micro plastics (plastics less than 5mm in size or less) has invaded air, soil and water contaminating the environment. Therefore, it is important to identify the emerging issues of plastic waste management to decide on practical solutions suitable for the country. The presentation on “Plastic Waste Management and Proposed Actions” will give an overview of the current status. The stakeholders including the private sector producers and investors will help to explore the possibilities of product re-design to minimize plastic waste. The possibilities of phasing out of single use plastics, alternatives for plastics, issues in plastic recycling are major discussion topics. The investors will be able to pick up practical ideas for future investments in plastic waste management.

### Objectives of the Programme:

To improve chemicals and plastic waste management in the country

**Medium:** English/ Sinhala

**Target Group:** Government Institutions responsible for chemicals and plastic waste management, Industrialists - Small, Medium and Large Scale, Plastic Producers, Universities, Students, NGOs/ CBOOs, Media

**Resource Persons:** Prof. Ajith de Alwis- University of Moratuwa  
Mr. Sena Pieris - Former Director, National Cleaner Production Centre

**Number of Participants:** 40

**Organizers:** Environment Pollution Control & Chemical Management Division, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

**Further Details:** Mrs. Sujeeva Fernando, Assistant Director, Environment Pollution Control & Chemical Management Division (+94-71-4439218)





## INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE LAND AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

<b>Venue</b>	<b>Mihilaka Medura, BMICH</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> October 2019</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>8.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m</b>
<b>Theme</b>	<b>“Sustainable Land and Watershed Management”</b>

Sri Lanka is endowed with natural resources which sustained its people over millenniums. The deterioration of this natural capital has been exponentially increased over last few decades due to deforestation, soil erosion, siltation, loss of natural wetlands, degradation of watersheds, loss of biodiversity etc. It is reported that the productivity of 34% of the land area of the country is either declining or under stress. Among the most important impact of land degradation are the increased poverty, reduced land productivity and loss of biodiversity. Therefore, it is important to reverse this trend of land degradation to sustain the resource base to ensure ecosystem services and food security of the nation. In order to arrest this land degradation, the Government of Sri Lanka as a signatory to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) reaffirmed its commitment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 15 and Target 15.3 by undertaking Land Degradation Neutrality –Target Setting Programme (LDN-TSP).

To achieve land degradation neutral country by 2030 it is important for all the stakeholder organizations and experts to be aware of the impacts of land degradation and importance of sustainable land management. By organizing this symposium Land Resources Division is looking forward to disseminate current findings among wider stakeholders to minimize the knowledge gap.

### **Objective of the Programme:**

By conducting the proposed Symposium, Land Resources Division would look forward to gather latest findings and knowledge on the land sector which will eventually support the UNCCD reporting process. It will also provide new path to combat against the desertification and achieve Sustainable Land Management (SLM). This will also provide an opportunity to all stakeholders and scientists working towards land degradation prevention and SLM to share their knowledge, experience and findings on SLM among wider group including policy makers.

**Medium:** English

**Target Group:** Scientific Community and Experts, Researchers, University students, Investors, Stakeholders of Land and Water Resource Management.

**Resource Persons:** Prof. Nimal Gunawardane, Prof. D K N G Pushpakumara,  
Prof. Buddhi Marambe, Dr. Ajantha De Silva,

**Number of Participants:** 250

**Organizer:** Land Resources Division, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

**Further Details:** Ms. Himali De Costa, Assistant Director, +94-11-2034224  
Ms. Manori Karunarathne, Development Officer +94-11-2034227





## ORGANIZING COMMITTEES - SRI LANKA NEXT 2019

The “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” 2019 Conference and Exhibition will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> October at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall. To make this event success five Committees were established including Sri Lanka NEXT Secretariat.

### **Committees are as follows;**

1. Sri Lanka NEXT Secretariat
2. Budgeting and Fund Raising Committee
3. Exhibition Committee
4. Logistics Committee
5. Media and Publicity Committee

The composition of each Committee is as follows;

### **Advisor:**

- Mr. Anura Dissanayake, Secretary, Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment (MMD&E)

### **Sri Lanka NEXT Secretariat**

#### **Chair:**

- Dr. Sunimal Jayathunga, Director (Climate Change), MMD&E

#### **Committee Members:**

- Ms. Dhammika Wijayasinghe, Director (Environment Planning and Economics) MMD&E
- Mrs. Loshini U. Peiris, Senior Assistant Secretary, MMD&E
- Mrs. Deepa Liyanage, Director (International Relations), MMD&E
- Mr. Mahinda Gunaratna, Director (Policy Planning and Monitoring), MMD&E
- Mr. Amal Ranaweera, Deputy Director (Policy Planning), MMD&E
- Mrs. Lathika Hapuarachchi, Assistant Director (Forest Resources), MMD&E
- Mrs. Himali de Costa, Assistant Director (Land Resources), MMD&E
- Mrs. Thalatha Ranasinghe, Deputy Manager, Marine Environment Protection Authority
- Mrs. Uthpala Abayapala, Assistant Director, National Gem & Jewellery Authority
- Dr. Wasantha Liyanage, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Forest Department
- Ms. Dinusha Walisundara, Assistant Director, Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka
- Mr. C.K. Muthumala, Assistant General Manager, State Timber Corporation
- Mr. Chinthaka Amarasinghe, Geologist, Geological Survey and Mines Bureau

**Coordinators:**

- Mrs. Rupika Bakmeedeniya, Assistant Director (Biodiversity), MMD&E
- Ms. Kumudini Vidyalankara, Assistant Director (Climate Change), MMD&E
- Mrs. Iresha Rajapaksha, Assistant Director (Forest Resources), MMD&E

**Budgeting and Fund Raising Committee****Chairman:**

- Mr. G.D.A. Piyathilake, Chairman, Central Engineering Consultancy Bureau

**Committee Members:**

- All Chairmen of the Institutes under the MMD&E
- Mr. E.M.U.S. Ekanayake, Chief Accountant, MMD&E

**Coordinator:**

- Ms. Modika Thilakarathne, Assistant Director (Air Resource Management and National Ozone Unit), MMD&E

**Exhibition Committee****Chairman:**

- Mr. Hemantha Jayasinghe, Director General, Central Environment Authority

**Committee Members:**

- Dr. Thilak Darmarathna, Director General, Gem and Jewelry Research and Training Institute
- Mr. U.K.D.G. Jayasinghe, Deputy Director General, Central Environmental Authority
- Mr. L.K.S.U. Dharmakeerthi, Director (ARM &NOU), MMD&E
- Mrs. Shyamani Periyapperuma, Director (Envt. Promotion), Central Environmental Authority
- Mr. Mahinda Werahera, Deputy Director (Environment Pollution Control and Chemical Management), MMD&E
- Mrs. Sujeewa Fernando, Assistant Director, (Environment Pollution Control and Chemical Management), MMD&E
- Ms. Shanika Perera, Development Officer, IR Division
- Mr. Damith Peris, PMA, Secretary's Office, MMD&E

**Coordinator:**

- Mrs. Gayani Samarakoon, (ARM &NOU), MMD&E





## Logistics Committee

### Chairman:

- Mr. R.A.R.R. Rupasingha, Additional Secretary (Admin.), MMD&E

### Committee Members:

- Mr. Mahinda Gunarathna, Director (Policy Planning), MMD&E
- Mrs. Loshini U. Peiris, Senior Assistant Secretary, MMD&E
- Mr. Manoj Prassanna, Programme Assistant, (ARM & NOU), MMD&E

### Coordinators:

- Mrs. Surani Pathirana, Assistant Director (Biodiversity), MMD&E
- Mr. Anuruddha Tennakoon, Assistant Director (Environment Planning and Economics), MMD&E
- Ms. Thiris Inoka, Assistant Director (ARM and NOU), MMD&E
- Mr. Ruwan Weerasooriya, Assistant Director (Climate Change), MMD&E

## Media and Publicity Committee

### Chairman:

- Mr. M.P.D.U.K. Mapa Pathirana, State Secretary, MMD&E

### Committee Members:

- Mr. Prabhath Chandrakeerthi, Director General, CC & CRD
- Mr. Sugath Dharmakeerthi, Director (ARM& NOU), MMD&E
- Mrs. Apsara Mendis, Director (ETR), MMD&E
- Mr. Rasika Bandara, Media Director, MMD&E
- Ms. Vositha Wijenayake, Executive Director, SLYCAN Trust
- Mr. Dulip Somirathna, Assistant Secretary (HRD), MMD&E
- Mrs. Sujewa Fernando, Assistant Director (EPC & CM), MMD&E
- State Minister's Media Officers

### Coordinator:

- Mr. Ranjith Rajapaksha, Assistant Director (Communication and Public Relations), MMD&E



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416/C/1, Robert Gunawardane Mw,  
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