

# **ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

MINISTRY OF MAHAWELI DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

## **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report 2018**



**Investing in Ecosystems**

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**Investing in Future**

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**ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

AD	Assistant Director
ANR	Assisted Natural Regeneration
CAP	Community Action Plan
CSIA	Continuous Social Impact Assessment
DFO	District Forest Officer
DS	Divisional Secretariat
DWC	Department of Wildlife Conservation
DZ	Dry Zone
EHG	Elephant Holding Ground
ERD	External Resources Department
ESCOMP	Eco-Systems Conservation and Management Project
FD	Forestry Department
FM	Financial Management
FY	Financial Year
GOSL	Government of Sri Lanka
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HEC	Human Elephant Conflict
HECOEX	Human Elephant Co-existence
IAS	Invasive Aliens-plants Species
IDA	International Development Association
IPP	Indigenous People Plan
IPPF	Indigenous People Planning Framework
IUFR	Interim Unaudited Financial Report
KDN	Kanneliya, Dediyaigala and Nakiyadeniya
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIS	Management Information System
MOE	Ministry of Environment
NP	National Park
NWRTC	National Wildlife Research and Training Center
PA	Protected Areas
PAD	Project Appraisal Document
PAMP	Protected Area Management Plan
PAPs	Projects Affected Persons
PDO	Project Development Objective

PMU	Project Management Unit
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
RFO	Regional Forest Officer
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
SLFI	Sri Lanka Forestry Institute
SMART	Special Monitoring and Reporting Tool
TRC	Technical Review Committee
USD	United State Dollar
WB	World Bank
WZ	Wet Zone

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## 1.0 Project Background

### 1.1 Objective

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to improve the management of ecosystems in selected locations in Sri Lanka for conservation and community benefits. The project is designed to achieve few specific objectives such as, enhanced biodiversity protection, livelihood improvement of communities living adjacent to the Protected Areas (PAs), developed strategies for human-elephant co-existence, developed pilot level landscape management plans and institutional capacity development of implementing agencies, Forest Department (FD) and Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC).

### 1.2 Project Description

The Project will be financed through a US\$ 45.0 million International Development Association (IDA) Credit. Following table illustrates the project costs by major components of the project (Table I).

**Table I: Project costs by major components**

Component	Project Components	Project cost (US\$ Mn.)
1	Pilot Landscape Planning and Management	2.8
2	Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Human-Elephant Co-existence	17.0
3	Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	24.2
4	Project Management	1.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>45.0</b>

**Component 1** (*Pilot landscape planning and management*) will facilitate planning and implementation of activities in two selected biodiversity rich landscapes (a wet zone and a dry zone as a model exercise) with unique ecological, cultural and socio-economic characteristics.

**Component 2** (*Sustainable use of natural resources and human-elephant co-existence*) will promote productive biodiversity compatible livelihood activities to reduce forest destruction. Planning the use of natural resources and aiming to transform Human Elephant Conflict into Human Elephant Co-existence by addressing the needs of the communities living in close association with the wildlife in the adjacent areas of PAs. **Component 3** (*Protected area management and institutional capacity*) will support demand-driven interventions in PAs in

accordance with the Fauna & Flora Protection Ordinance, and Forest Ordinance; strengthen institutional capacity and investment capability for conservation and management; and provide assistance to develop the long-term financial sustainability for managing PAs. **Component 4** will finance the Project Management Unit (PMU) and Implementing Agencies (FD & DWC) in project implementation, project management, technical assistance and monitoring & evaluation.

The project has designed to implement from 2017-2021. Executing agencies of the project are Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment and Ministry of Sustainable Development and Wildlife. Forest Department (FD) and Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC) are responsible to implement the activities. Wildlife living in and around the PAs, communities living adjacent to the PAs, families facing human-elephant conflict adjoining the PAs, institutes responsible for natural resources management and stakeholders in eco-tourism industry are the main beneficiaries of the project.

Two separate workshops for both Implementing Agencies were organized by PMU to finalize the Action Plan for 2018 with the participation of key officials of DWC and FD. Accordingly, the Budgetary Allocations of 2018 for each component by Implementing Agencies are illustrated as follows.

**Table 2: Budgetary allocations for 2018 by components**

Component/Sub-Component	Budget Allocation (Rs. Mn.)			
	FD	DWC	PMU	Total
<b>Component (1)</b> - Pilot landscape planning and management	-	-	17	<b>17</b>
<b>Sub-Component 2(a)</b> - Sustainable use of Natural resources for Livelihood Enhancement	45	10	-	<b>55</b>
<b>Sub-Component 2(b)</b> - Human-Elephant Co-Existence for Livelihood Protection	-	179	-	<b>179</b>
<b>Sub-Component 3(a)</b> - Protected area Conservation & Management	301	119	-	<b>420</b>
<b>Sub-Component 3(b)</b> - Nature-Based Tourism in PAs	204	50	-	<b>254</b>
<b>Sub-Component 3(c)</b> - Institutional Capacity and Investment Capability of DWC and FD	280	285	-	<b>565</b>
<b>Component (4)</b> - Project Management	-	-	70	<b>70</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>1,560</b>



## 2.0 Physical progress

### 2.1 Component I - Pilot Landscape Planning and Management

Component I is aimed at preparing Pilot Landscape Management Plans for two (2) selected sites in Dry Zone (DZ) and Wet Zone (WZ). Sites selection criteria were developed by the PMU and approved by the Expert Committee and the Technical Review Committee appointed for the Component 01. Based on these criteria, two project sites were selected ie; (1) Hurulu-Anawulundawa-Kawdulla complex (Mahaweli Basin) in Dry Zone (DZ) and (2). Singhraj Forest Complex (Rakwana Range) in Wet Zone (WZ).

Primarily Stakeholder Analysis has been carried in 2017 to identify main, secondary and tertiary stakeholders of the landscape who are operational and important in planning. The scope of the pilot landscape planning process was discussed in the workshop. Besides that, Regional Planning Committee meeting was held at Habarana and Stakeholder meeting was held at Trincomallee. Hotel sector has been identified as one of the key stakeholder therefore, a meeting with members of Tourist Hotel Association was held at Habarana on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018., to discuss the matters pertaining to Landscape Planning and potential hotel sector involvement in land restoration. A working group consisting of Project Director/ESCAMP, Coordinator/LMP, representative from WB, FD and DWLC were appointed to expedite and steer the planning process. This committee meet biweekly and discuss issues related to the Component.

Two consultants namely Sociologist and Land Use Specialist have been hired and currently they are carrying out their field work. In addition, Biodiversity Specialist has been hired and commenced work. Sociologist has developed a Social Survey Questionnaire and currently under survey in 124 Grama Niladari Divisions (GND) covering 14 Divisional Secretaries Divisions (DSD) in Anradapura, Pollonnaruwa and Trincomallee district. Currently 75 % of the survey has been completed. Apart from that to verify and gather the important information which are unable to collect through a questionnaire survey, 2 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted in Kakirawa DSD. Another two FGDs will be held in Trincomalee District during April, 2018. Fifteen digital maps have been developed by the Land Use Specialist and basically, these maps will cover the different land use patterns/types of the project area.

A booklet on Landscape Planning which was prepared by the PMU distributed among field officers of relevant government institutions to provide technical information and create awareness on this component.

## **2.2 Component 2(a) - Sustainable Use of Natural Resources for Livelihood Enhancement**

### **2.2.1 Overall**

Component 2(a) will establish livelihood enhancement interventions as secondary income generating sources among communities living adjacent to PAs. Biodiversity-friendly and climate-smart existing or new livelihood options will be developed through participatory Community Action Plans (CAPs). It has planned to enhance livelihood options of 10,000 households by closing phase of the project. Participatory Rural Appraisals (PRAs) are done in selected villages to assess the livelihood needs of communities.

Awareness programs on this sub-component were conducted by both implementing agencies to create awareness among their officers who are working in project sites. The main objective of these programs were to streamline the field implementations with project's Action Plan 2018. The Community Action Plans (CAPs) prepared by field officers were revised and further developed by senior staff for improvement of the Micro-Plans and the Sub-Project Proposals. Also the awareness programs were conducted targeting benefitted communities by both implementing agencies. Further, the livelihood development assistances were given for few number of selected families during this quarter.

As guided by the Technical Review Committee (TRC) of this sub-component, identification of innovative alternative livelihood options for the target communities is continued by both implementing agencies. Number of training programs for CBO members were conducted by the FD in Polonnaruwa, Anuradhapura and Rathnapura districts. Further, PMU has appointed a short-term consultant as a Community Development Specialist to support for both Departments to strength the capacity on community management on livelihood development. Also PMU has organized to conduct a baseline assessment including the assessing of needs on innovative livelihood options. Data collection tools of this assessment have been finalized with the comments of senior staff of both Departments. It is expected to commence the data collection by third week of April 2018. Further, the PMU has drafted the monitoring indicators for this sub-component and has been shared with both Departments for further improvement. The proposed baseline assessment will assess the baseline values for these indicators and the

impact from project interventions will evaluate through Independent Periodic Evaluations which have been planned to conduct annually.

### **2.2.2 Progress of FD activities**

Sub-project proposals which are based on the findings of CAPs from all project sites of FD have been cleared and approved for implementation. FD has conducted 09 community awareness programs at Matara-Sinharaja (02 programs) and Mathale-Knuckles (07 programs). In addition to that 05 trainings on viable livelihood options were conducted for community members just adjacent to the Hurulu Forest Reserve. More than 400 families have been benefitted through this awareness creation. Two training programs were conducted on the preparation of CAPs, writing proposals, participatory development, livelihood development, gender and ESCAMP and assessing training needs for capacity building etc. with the participation of 60 officers such as Range Forest Officers, Extension Officers and Field Assistants by the Community Development Consultant of the PMU.

Two Community Halls which are located near the buffer zone of Galle-Kanneliya Forest Reserve were renovated. Further, a comprehensive training program on 'Home Staying' was also conducted targeting 18 families adjacent Galle-Kanneliya Forest Reserve. A Forest Protection Committee (FPC) was established for Matara-Sinharaja Forest Reserve and firefighting tools were also provided to the committee members. FD is developing project-site specific criteria for beneficiary selection on livelihood development. A committee consists with key informants (Development Officers, Grama Niladhari Officers, Agriculture Research Assistants, Religious Leaders and School Teachers etc.) has been appointed to select beneficiaries adjacent Matale-Knuckles Forest Reserve. That committee have been identified 350 families to develop their home gardens.

### **2.2.3 Progress of DWC activities**

Already prepared five CAPs for selected villages adjacent to Bundala National Park (NP) have been revisited by relevant senior staff members of the Department. Accordingly, five Micro-Plans prepared for such villages have been updated. Based on the micro-plan developed for Koonwalana, Yahangala-East and Nadigamwila villages, the sub-project proposals have been submitted by DWC to PMU. These sub-project proposals are activity based and it has proposed to implemented only an activity. Accordingly, construction of an Eco-Friendly children park, a water purification plant and establishment of catering services have been

proposed. All these activities will be implemented through a participatory approach and almost all target community members will be benefitted.

A training workshop on Micro Plans and Proposal Writing was conducted on March 2018 at the Community Education Centre in Malabe, for the park wardens and community outreach officers attached to the Department. Around 25 participants from Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, Uwa, Southern, Eastern, Wayamba and Puttlam divisions attended that workshop. Community consultation and mobilization, new PRA techniques, problem analysis, project partners and beneficiaries and proposal writing etc. were discussed at the training. This training was conducted by the Community Development Consultant hired by the project.

### **2.3 Component 2(b) - Human-Elephant Co-existence for Livelihood Protection**

Component 2(b) is financing the scaling up successful Human-Elephant Coexistence (HEC) pilot projects within high Human Elephant Co-Existence areas. Activities of this component will be implemented by DWC and related community organizations.

A component coordinator for this sub-component was also hired by the PMU and commenced his work on March 2018.

The procurement of Radio Collars is in progress. Originally it had planned to complete this procurement by end of March 2018. However, the procurement process was delayed due to some technical reasons. These collars will be received to DWC by first week of May 2018. A Technical Consultant to provide guidance for preparation of Lunugamwehera Elephant Holding Ground (EHG) has been hired. Primary investigation and survey on 05 Water Tanks within the boundary of EHG have been completed. The estimations to construct 04 Causeways have been completed. Tender documents for jungle cleaning in the demarcated service road being prepared and it has planned to advertise by the last week of April 2018. The designing and cost estimations of Special Fence Posts were also completed with the technical inputs of the Technical Consultant. Estimation to construct 05 medium size tanks (Digampelessa wewa, Kiupitiya wewa, Dangahawewa, Nugewewa and Watawanayaya wewa) within the EHG were also completed by the Technical Officers appointed by the PMU.

The Questionnaires Survey on elephant presence and absences, which has planned to conduct in parallel to the Country Wide Elephant Survey will be commenced on April 2018. Two workshops have been scheduled for all ADs of the Department related to the above mentioned Survey.

A training program on HEC was successfully conducted at Mahawa DSD (Pahalagama village) in Kurunegala district and 40 DWC officers were participated for the training program representing all DWC regions. Also 06 awareness programs on this sub-component have been conducted by the Department and field level officers such as Rangers, Range Assistants and Wildlife Guards were participated. Accordingly, it has been planned to conduct separate awareness programs targeting Grama Niladhari Officers, Samurdhi Officers, Development Officers, Agricultural Research Assistants and Agrarian Development Officers in selected DSDs in Kurunegala and Anuradhapura districts. Ten Villages have been identified in both

Kerunegala & Anuradhapura districts to construct Village and Agro Fences. Preparation of cost estimates to procure equipment related to this activity is in-progress.

## 2.4 Component 3(a) - Protected Area Conservation and Management

This sub-component will support to habitat improvement for protected areas manage by both FD and DWC. Accordingly, funds will be made available for preparation of Protected Area Management Plans (PAMP) where needed and implementation of existing PAMPs for priority PAs. Priority PAs in the DWC and FD PA network are eligible for support under this sub-component, covering terrestrial, marine and wetland PAs.

### 2.4.1 Progress of FD activities

FD has done following actions on each main activity listed in the Action Plan 2018.

**Table 3: Major activities performed under sub-component 3(a) by FD**

No.	Activity	Actions done during the first quarter 2018
01	Demarcation and maintenance of PA boundary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Purchased 1,860 boundary posts for Polonnaruwa Hurulu Forest Reserve (FR)</li> <li>– Demarcated 35km forest boundary using boundary posts in Anuradhapura Hurulu FR</li> </ul>
02	Habitat management, including control of invasive species, habitat creation & enrichment etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 88ha of IASs were controlled i.e. 60ha within Rathnapura Sinharaja FR and 28ha within Puttalam Galwila FR</li> </ul>
03	Restoration of degraded forest cover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Maintained 52ha Pinus under planting in Rathnapura Sinharaja FR</li> <li>– Maintained a 10ha Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) site in Matara Sinharaja FR</li> <li>– Maintained 27,000 plants for enrichment and Pinus under planting in Kandy-Knuckles FR</li> <li>– Maintained 20ha enrichment planting sites</li> </ul>
04	Development, improvement & rehabilitation of PA management infrastructures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Procurement process started to construct the buildings (office and quarters) at Gawila Eco-Park</li> <li>– Invited Bids to construct 11 Beat Forest Officer (BFO) quarters</li> </ul>
05	Forest fire prevention and control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Maintained 4km fire belts in Kandy-Knuckles FR (2km), Gall-Sinharaja FR (1km) and Matara-Sinharaja FR (1km)</li> </ul>

06	Rehabilitation and expansion of the road network within PAs	– BOQs and drawings were completed to improve Sinharaja access road (1.45km), Kanneliya access road (1.8km) and Vehicle parking area, Pitadeniya access road (0.4km)
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#### 2.4.2 Progress of DWC activities

DWC expects to recruit a Technical Consultant for reviewing, updating and preparation of PAs' Management Plans. The procurement process of this consultancy is in-progress. According to the approved sub-project proposal on 'Rehabilitation of Old Cascade System', the completion of the preparation of cost estimations to rehabilitate the Tanks and Earthen Ponds (water halls) is in-progress. Based on the completed cost estimates, bids were called to rehabilitate 12 Small Tanks and 04 Rock-Ponds were advertised and the bid evaluation by TEC is in progress. DWC expects to award the contracts by mid-April 2018. Further, the estimation works were completed to rehabilitate 03 medium tanks, namely Komawewa in Yala Block I and Korawak wewa and Arangamuwe wewa in Yala Block II. According to the proposal mentioned above, the surveying of 11 Water Holes have been completed by the Technical Officers appointed by the PMU. They expect to complete the estimations by end of April 2018.

Basic training to establish the base-stations to support SMART Patrolling at selected 07 NPs was completed during 2017. Accordingly, the procurement of computers and other related SMART devices for base stations in 7 NPs in Uva, Southern and Eastern regions were completed. Field data collection to set-up the SMART patrolling in Yala and Udawalawa NPs have been completed. The data collection through the SAMRT devices is in-progress. Patrolling data will be collected during the first semi-annual period 2018. After analyzing the data, DWC expects to develop plans to expand the system to other PAs' as well.

DWC expects to improve Udawalawa NP and Yala-Lunugamwehera Complex under Habitat Management interventions during 2018. Accordingly, Invasive Aliens Species (IAS) Management Plans have been submitted to the PMU. Thus, separate Expert Committee for the above has been appointed. According to the IAS Management Plans submitted, its estimated 400ha to remove IASs in Udawalawa NP and 200ha in Yala-Lunugamwehera Complex. The total extents will be clustered to minimize the implementation issues and for evidence based monitoring purposes. The extent of each cluster will be 50ha. The

Environmental Safeguard Issues in both places were evaluated by the Safeguard Team of PMU and recommended the mitigation issues to enhance the implementation.

However, DWC expects to provide separate IAS Management Plan for 400ha in Lunugamwehera NP under the implementations of EHG. That plan will be submitted separately to the PMU.

A sub-project proposal for 'Developing, Improving and Rehabilitation of PA Management Infrastructure' is developing by DWC and it will be submitted to PMU by end of April 2018. Further, DWC has drafted two separate proposals on 'Forest Die-Back Issues' within NPs, namely; (1) Restoration of degraded dry forests in Bundala, Lunugamwehera and Yala (Block I) NPs (2) Overcome of forest die-back in Horton Plains NP. These proposals will be submitted to PMU by May 2018 for approvals.

As requested by DWC, a 'Rapid Social Assessment' in Baduwela region in Gal-Oya NP was conducted by the PMU. The prime objective of this assessment was to identify the social economic impacts, risks and opportunities of the propose demarcation works and to help avoid, minimize and where residual impacts remain to the affected communities. The report of this assessment has been completed and submitted to the WB for their comments. Based on the comments, some additional information has to be collected by the PMU on encroachment issues. An another separate assessment on 'Indigenous People' living in Gal-Oya NP (Rathugala area) was also conducted by the PMU. The final report of this assessment is also completed and submitted to the WB.



## 2.5 Component 3(b) - Nature-based Tourism in Protected Areas

This sub-component will support to improve the nature based tourism infrastructure and services of priority PAs of DWC and FD.

Project Steering Committee (PSC) was endorsed to hire an individual consultant to develop Systematic Nature Based Tourism Plans for 4 priority PAs of DWC and FD. Accordingly, international EOIs were called by the PMU and recruited Mr. Matthew Humke. He is a Sustainable Tourism Consultant who is having about 20 year experiences in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia developing sustainable tourism as a tool for poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation. He commenced his first country visit in line with his contract and visited following PAs to carry out situation analysis on some key factors such as Market Demand, Attraction Inventory, Infrastructure and Services, Supply and Competitiveness, Human and Institutional Capacity and Environmental Considerations etc.

- Knuckles Forest Complex (Kandy and Mathale Regions)
- Sinharaja Forest Complex (Rathnapura and Matara Regions)
- Udawalawa National Park
- Bundala National Park

In addition to that, he made a visit to Yala NP to carry out a brief 'Carrying Capacity Assessment' with the assistance of DWC staff. Based on the information collected, the consultant may develop draft Nature Based Tourism Plans (NBTPs) for above mentioned PAs. The consultant will do the second country visit to gather feedback to be incorporated into final versions of the NBTPs. His final visit to conduct in-depth training with a variety of stakeholders located within the proximity of each protected area to develop sustainability best practices and guidelines for better Nature Based Tourism. After completion of his first field visit he shared his findings and recommendations to the FD and DWC to obtain their views.

### 2.5.1 Progress of FD activities

Nine sub-project proposals of the FD has cleared to implement the rehabilitation and improvement of tourism related infrastructure. Nature trails (22km) in Matara-Sinharaja FR

have been maintained by the FD during this quarter. Further, BOQs, drawings and bid documents were completed to improve following nature trails.

- Anagimala Ella (0.3km) in Galle-Sinharaja FR
- Dawatagala (8km), Dothulugala (4.5km), Wedilunuguhawa (3km), Deenston (2km) and Alugallena (6km) in Kandy Knuckles FR

BOQs and drawings were completed to improve Pitadeniya and Deanston Circuit Bungalows in Knuckles FR

The design work and preparation of cost estimates for Galwila office and quarters for proposed Eco-Park has been completed. These proposed buildings will also strengthen the protection capacity of the FD. PMU planned to call bids for these construction during the early part of April 2018.

### **2.5.2 Progress of DWC activities**

DWC was conducted a 03-day workshop at Girithale Training Canter (NWRTC) on 'Developing comprehensive proposals for Nature-Based Tourism Development'. The target group was Park Wardens from 20 NPs, relevant Additional Directors (ADs) and Section Heads of the Head Office. Further, DWC is expected to develop 25 comprehensive proposals on Nature-Based Tourism in selected NPs. The design work and preparation of cost estimation for Galwila office and quarters' complex has been completed. PMU has planned to call bids for these constructions during the early part of April 2018.

## **2.6 Component 3(c) - Institutional Capacity and Investment Capability of DWC and FD**

The sub-component is supporting to strengthen the institutional capacity of two key implementing agencies; Forest Department and Department of Wildlife Conservation. It finances activities to improve skills and capacity for adaptive and effective management of PAs.

### **2.6.1 Progress of FD activities**

Design consultancy to improve Sri Lanka Forestry Institute (SLFI) was awarded to the selected consultancy firm. The Inception Report of the consultancy was submitted to the PMU by the service provider and it has been accepted. Concept Design and Environment Screening Report was also submitted and PMU has made comments on that. It is expected to complete this consultancy by first week of May 2018. ESCAMP expects to offer the renovation and construction consultancy immediately after completion of the design consultancy.

Nine Double Cabs were purchased for the Department through ESCAMP funding. This procurement was handled by the PMU. Further, 33 Motor Cycles were also purchased for the Beat and Range offices to facilitate their field works. Fifty-five (55) Desktop computers and 23 Laptop computers were also provided to increase the institutional capacities of the Department. Bids to procure 100 GPSs for the Department was recalled and the procurement is on-going. FD expect to strength the field monitoring capacities using GIS technology in the future.

### **2.6.2 Progress of DWC activities**

Design consultancy to improve National Wildlife Research and Training Center (NWRTC) was awarded to the selected consultancy firm. Its first milestone, the 'Inception Report' of the consultancy was submitted to the PMU. The report was reviewed by the PMU with the examination of DWC and provided the comments on the report. According to the comments made, the report was revised by the service provider and it was accepted by the PMU. Concept Design and Environment Screening Report will be submitted to the PMU by first week of April 2018. It is expected to complete the consultancy by the first week of May 2018. Selection of capable experts to develop Curriculum for NWRTC is in progress and it is expected to offer the consultancy parallel to renovation & construction phase of NWRTC.

With the ESCAMP assistance, the DWC has recommended nine-month Diploma Course in Wildlife Management for Wildlife Rangers to enhance their capacity through the NWRTC.

This course offers with the collaboration of University of Colombo for which 27 Rangers were enrolled. The academic part of the diploma includes lectures, practical component, field training and assignments are coordinated by the University of Colombo. Practical sessions were held at selected NPs. The diploma course was completed by May 2018.

The 'WILDLANKA' Annual Symposium, an annual event will be held for 2018 with the part funding support of ESCAMP. Currently, DWC collects the Research Papers for the Symposium. DWC is doing the awareness creation on this symposium through newspaper advertisements and via it's website. Also a flier has been sent for relevant public and private institutions to collect research papers.

Five Double Cabs were purchased for the Department through ESCAMP funding. This procurement was handled by the PMU. Also, DWC expects to procure some office equipment including computers by May 2018 and the technical guidance of Department's Procurement Committee.

## 2.7 Component 4 – Project Management

The finalized Management Information System (MIS) of the PMU has been installed. Account Department of the PMU is entering the required data into the system under supervision of the service provider. The PMU requested Management Services Department to create the positions such as Community Development Specialist, Internal Auditor, Senior Financial Officer, Social Development Officer and Management Assistant. The required paper advertisement was published by the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment. However, the PMU expects to fill all these vacancies in the second quarter 2018. With effect from 8th February, 2018 the PMU has been relocated to a new location with an improved surrounding in Battharamulla. Its new office is on the second floor of the 'Sampathpaya Building'.

### 3.0 Financial progress

Table 4 – Financial progress for first quarter 2018 and with cumulative figures

Description	Cumulative up to First Quarter, 2018 (Rs. Mn.)	Progress for total period (01.01.2017 – 31.03.2018) (Rs. Mn.)
<b>Component 1: Pilot Landscape Planning and Management</b>	1.72	3.63
<b>Component 2: Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Human-Elephant Co-existence</b>		
<b>Sub Component 2(a):</b> Sustainable Use of Natural Resources for Livelihood Enhancement	0.45	13.06
<b>Sub Component 2(b):</b> Human-elephant Co-existence for Livelihood Protection	30.72	31.37
<b>Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity</b>		
<b>Sub Component 3(a):</b> Protected Area Conservation and Management	0.05	88.76
<b>Sub-Component 3(b):</b> Nature-based Tourism in Protected Areas	2.08	17.65
<b>Sub-Component 3(c):</b> Institutional Capacity and Investment Capability of DWC and FD	137.11	177.81
<b>Component 4: Project Management</b>	10.95	53.87
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>183.07</b>	<b>386.14</b>

## 4.0 Procurement

### 4.1 List approved procurement activities

**Table 5: Approved procurement activities in first quarter 2018**

Category	Activity Reference No. / Description:	Component	Category	Market Approach	Estimated Amount	Process Status
					(US\$)	
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20518-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of Computers, Computer Accessories for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	47,850.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20517-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of Desktop Computers for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	40,000.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-20836-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of Computers and Accessories for <b>DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	10,750.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-20582-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of Printers for <b>FD and DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	30,133.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-28184-GO-RFQ / Supply & Delivery of Audio Visual Equipment for <b>PMU</b>	Component 4: Project Management	Goods	Limited	2,000.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-16459-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of External Hard Drives for <b>PMU</b>	Component 4: Project Management	Goods	Limited	500.00	<b>Completed</b>

<b>RFB</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20591-GO-RFB / Supply and Delivery of Motorcycles for staff of <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Open - National	150,500.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>RFB</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-20822-GO-RFB / Supply and Delivery of Radio Collars for <b>DWC</b>	Component 2: Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Human-Elephant Co-existence	Goods	Open - International	320,000.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>RFB</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-33235-GO-RFB / Supply and Delivery of Four Wheel-Drive Double Cabs for <b>FD and DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Open - National	990,000.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-44708-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of GPS Devices for FD	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	45,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-44700-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Levelling Instrument for PMU	Component 4: Project Management	Goods	Limited	2,500.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>RFB</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-33238-GO-RFB / Supply and Delivery of four Wheel-Drive Jeeps for <b>FD and DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Open - National	934,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>RFB</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-44535-CW-RFB / Construction, Renovation and Upgrading of Kudawa Dormitory - Sinharaja for the <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Works	Open - National	826,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>



<b>RFB</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-54275-CW-RFB / Construction of Office Building Complex - Galwila Eco park	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Works	Open - National	221,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>RFB</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-54267-CW-RFB / Construction of Office Quarters Complex - Galwila Eco park	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Works	Open - National	380,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-25230-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Office Furniture for <b>DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	1,654.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-20840-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of Wi-Fi Routers for SMART patrolling Units - <b>DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	350	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-25222-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of Computer, Software and Accessories for <b>DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	17,200.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-25226-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Audio-Visual Equipment for <b>DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	2,000.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-25223-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of Printers for <b>DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	2,500.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-25224-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of Fax Machine and Photocopiers for <b>DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	4,066.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>

<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-25228-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Steel Almira and Cupboards for <b>DWC</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	1,582.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-21333-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Mountain Bicycles for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	8,000.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20586-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Kitchen Equipment/ Appliance for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	900	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20594-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Binoculars for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	8,000.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-21345-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Voltage Regulators for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	470	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20583-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of Duplo Machines for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	2,700.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20584-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Furniture for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	23,000.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-16454-GO-RFQ / Supply & Delivery of Audio Visual Equipment for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	21,500.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-21347-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Walk Talky for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	2,400.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>

<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20610-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of LED Televisions for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	8,000.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20609-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of GIS software for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	3,500.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20613-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Torch for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	450	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20592-GO-RFQ / Supply and Delivery of Office Equipment for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	340	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20603-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of AutoCAD 2016 (Software with licence for 3 years) for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	10,000.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-21143-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of Water Pump, Generators and Loudspeakers for the <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	3,750.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20593-GO-RFQ / Supply , Delivery and Installation of Photocopiers and Scanners for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	10,500.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>RFQ</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-20601-GO-RFQ / Supply, Delivery and Installation of AC Machines for <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Limited	2,666.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>

<b>RFB</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-21120-GO-RFB / Supply and Delivery of Concrete Boundary Posts for Boundary Demarcation of State Forests - <b>FD</b>	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Goods	Open - National	506700.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-18483-CS-INDV / Civil Engineer for FD/DWC	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	Open	12,000.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-10881-CS-INDV / One International Consultant for Develop Nature Based Tourism Activities (DWC & FD)	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	Open	130,000.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-29022-CS-INDV / Component 1 - Short-Term Consultant - Land Use Specialist	Component 1: Pilot Landscape Planning and Management	Consultant Services	Limited	6,300.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-29024-CS-INDV / Component 1 - Short Term Consultant - Sociologist/ Socioeconomic Development Specialist	Component 1: Pilot Landscape Planning and Management	Consultant Services	Limited	6,300.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-10200-CS-INDV / Coordinator - Component 2(b)	Component 2: Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Human-Elephant Co-existence	Consultant Services	Open	20,000.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-10205-CS-INDV / Ten Technical Officers for FD & DWC	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	Open	64,000.00	<b>Completed</b>

<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-44481-CS-INDV / Individual Consultant - Short Term Community Development and Livelihood Specialist	Component 2: Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Human-Elephant Co-existence	Consultant Services	Limited	5,500.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>QCBS</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-28177-CS-QCBS / Preparation of Conceptual and Detailed Designs, Construction Supervision and Contract Administration Services for Renovation and Upgrading of the National Wildlife Research and Training Center (NWRTC) - Giritale	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	Open - National	270,000.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>QCBS</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-28178-CS-QCBS / Preparation of Conceptual and Detailed Designs, Construction Supervision and Contract Administration Services for Renovation and Upgrading of the Sri Lanka Forestry Institute (SLFI) - Nuwara Eliya	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	Open - National	270,000.00	<b>Completed</b>
<b>QCBS</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-47452-CS-QCBS / Preparation of Conceptual Designs, Construction Supervision and Contract Administration Services for the Proposed New Buildings and Structures in Inamaluwa Field Training Center of Sri Lanka Forest Institute, Forest Department	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	Open - National	70,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>

<b>CDS</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-22996-CS-CDS / Diploma Course in Wildlife Management of Sri Lanka	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	Direct	407,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-47480-CS-INDV / Individual Consultant - Civil Engineer for Forest Department	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	open	12,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-55992-CS-INDV / Hiring Individual Consultant - Procurement Officer for Department of Wildlife Conservation	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	open	6,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-56513-CS-INDV / Hiring Individual Consultant - Procurement Officer for Forest Department	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	open	6,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-18013-CS-INDV / Consultancy on Community Based Human Elephant Coexistence Organizer - Component 2 (b)	Component 2: Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Human-Elephant Co-existence	Consultant Services	Limited	6,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-28118-CS-INDV / Technical Consultant for proposed Elephant Holding Ground in Lunugamwehera National Park - <b>DWC</b>	Component 2: Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Human-Elephant Co-existence	Consultant Services	Limited	16,000.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-57042-CS-INDV / Hiring Individual Consultant - Technical Officer for Forest Department	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	open	6,500.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-57043-CS-INDV / Hiring Individual Consultant - Technical Officer for Department of Wildlife Conservation	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	open	6,500.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>

<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-57038-CS-INDV / Hiring Individual Consultant - Technical Officer for Forest Department	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	open	6,500.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-44125-CS-INDV / Individual Consultant for Social Impact Assessment (SIA) - Establishment of 2nd Elephant Holding Ground at Lunugamwehera NP for Translocating Problematic Elephants in Sri Lanka	Component 2: Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Human-Elephant Co-existence	Consultant Services	Limited	13,500.00	<b>Under Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-FD-25104-CS-INDV / Consultant for Design and Construction Supervision - Knuckles (Kandy Division)	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	Limited	35,000.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-28117-CS-INDV / SMART Mobile Data Collection Training Programme - Department of Wildlife Conservation	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	Limited	7,765.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-DWC-24225-CS-INDV / Hiring Consultant for Establishing of SMART patrolling Base Station and Staff Training	Component 3: Protected Area Management and Institutional Capacity	Consultant Services	Limited	16,105.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>
<b>INDV</b>	LK-ESCAMP-PMU-18494-CS-INDV / Short Term Specialist - Component 1 - Pilot Landscape Planning	Component 1: Pilot Landscape Planning and Management	Consultant Services	Limited	6,500.00	<b>Pending Implementation</b>

### 4.3 Procurement challenges

**(i) Unexpected delays when finalizing the Procurement Plan 2018 by both implementing agencies** – Initially, PMU planned to finalize the Procurement Plan for FD and DWC by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018. However, there were unexpected delays due to internal issues of both agencies. Limited knowledge of the District level staff on procurement procedures was the main issue. Therefore, the expected date was delayed by 2 months (new deadline was 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018).

**(ii) Lack of knowledge related to the procurement process, procedures of the Implementing agencies** - Regional and District level officials of the Implementing Agencies are still not fully confident on carry out required field level procurements in line with the WB guideline and even with the government procurement guidelines. Therefore, further training, guidance from PMU and close monitoring is required. Apart from that, due to the low procurement ceiling stipulated by the government procurement guidelines for Regional Procurement Committees resulting, most of the filed level procurements also to be attended by the Head Office.

**(iii) Hiring a Procurement Specialist for Project Management Unit** - This position of Procurement Specialist is critical to support to the PMU to provide technical inputs to develop a systematic procurement plan, to improve the same in line with the WB guidelines and also to guide procurement staff in the PMU and Implementing Agencies.



## 5.0 Financial Management

### 5.1 Progress of FM actions such as submission of IUFRs, WAs, internal and external audits, fund transfers, field reviews and findings, etc.

IUFR and the Withdrawal Application for the quarter ended 31/12/2017 were submitted to the WB Colombo Office on 06<sup>th</sup> February 2018 to obtain the clearance. Accordingly, IUFR was cleared by Colombo office on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018.

Following table shows the details of IUFR and Withdrawal Application submitted by PMU to the WB on 06<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

**Table 6: Summary of withdrawal applications and IUFRs submitted in 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2018**

Application No	Description	Amount Withdrawn in USD	Expenses Reported Category 1* USD	Expense Reported Category 2** USD	Total Expenses Reported USD
WA 5	IUFR-5 for the Quarter Ended 31/12/2017	3,000,000.00	935,673.15	69,708.39	1,005,381.54
Total		3,000,000.00	935,673.15	69,708.39	1,005,381.54

\* Category 1 - Includes components 1, 2 and 3

\*\* Category 2 - Includes components 4

Accordingly, USD 3,000,000 has been withdrawn from the WB loan account in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2018. The IUFR for the quarter ended 31/03/2018 is due on 15/05/2018. During the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the year 2018, ESCAMP recorded expenditure as LKR 183 million.

Following table shows the number of Withdrawal Applications submitted by PMU to the Central Bank of Sri Lanka to withdraw the funds from the Special Dollar Account during the first three months of the year 2018.

**Table 7: Withdrawal applications submitted by PMU to the Central Bank**

Application No	Description	Effective Date	Amount LKR	%
TOD/SDA/012/2018	Advance	08-Jan-18	74,999,999.11	
TOD/SDA/013/2018	Reimbursement	21-Feb-18	50,132,858.31	
TOD/SDA/014/2018	Direct Payment	21-Mar-18	1,873,581.28	
TOD/SDA/015/2018	Direct Payment	22-Mar-18	118,349,999.72	
<b>Total Withdrawals</b>			<b>245,356,438.42</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Available Provision Year 2018 - 2506 (12)</b>			<b>654,643,561.58</b>	<b>73%</b>

For the year 2018, LKR ten million has been allocated for the project as Foreign Finance Associated Cost (Counterpart Funds). Out of this amount, project withdrawn LKR 3.00 million in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2018.

### **5.2 Final Accounts for 2017**

Final accounts for the financial year 2017 was completed and handed over to the Auditor General's Department for audit in the month of March 2018.

### **5.3 Training**

On the job training for the financial management staff on Management Information System (MIS) was provided by the selected consultant (Management Services Limited).

### **5.4 FM challenges**

In order to overcome the limitations in manual accounting, PMU has succeeded to put in place a Computerized Financial Management System in the month of February 2018.

## 6.0 Safeguards

### 6.1 Progress of safeguard compliance actions

Awareness on safeguard aspects of the ESCAMP and training on monitoring and supervision of safeguard implementation were carried out during the first quarter of 2018 as mentioned in the following table for the field based protected area managers of the FD and DWC.

**Table 8: Completed Workshops on Awareness and Training of Safeguards of ESCAMP**

No	Date	Name	No. of Participants	Attendees	Trainer/s, Presenters	Venue
1	02 February 2018	Training Workshop – ‘Monitoring and Supervision of Environmental & Social Safeguard Aspect for FD Officers’	80	DFOs, ADFOs, RFOs, BFOs, FAs EOs from Polonnaruwa, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Kandy, Matale & Puttlam Divisions	Mr. Anura De Silva Mr. Susrutha Goonasekara Ms. Maheeni Samarakoon Mr. Ranil Nanayakkara	Danawwa Resort Habarana
2	12 February 2018	Awareness and Training workshop – ‘Capacity Development of Field based Protected Area Managers on Development of Community Action Plans and Safeguards aspects, GRM of ESCAMP’.	30	RFOs, EOs, FAs from Galle, Matara and Rathnapura Divisions of FD	Mr. Dunston Fernando Ms. Maheeni Samarakoon	Kanneliya Conservation Centre

3	05 April 2018	Training Workshop – 'Monitoring & Supervision of Environmental & Social Safeguard Aspects of ESCMP for DWC officers'	75	Park Wardens, Wildlife Rangers and Wildlife Guards from Galoya, Udawalawe, Yala, Lunugamwehera & Bundala NPs	Ms. Maheeni Samarakoon Mr. Dushantha Kularathne	Peacock Beach Hotel Hambanthota
4	28, 29 March 2018	Awareness & Training on Sub Project Proposals Writing & Safeguard Aspects of ESCAMP for FD Officers	45	DFOs, ADFOs & RFOs, EOs from Vavunia, Mannar, Mullativu, Killinochchi, Jaffna & Trincomalee Divisions	Mr. Anura De Silva Ms. Maheeni Samarakoon	Rock Side Hotel & Restaurant Vavuniya

**Status of Forest Department** - 27 sub project proposals submitted by the Forest Department were cleared by the World Bank for field implementation under the sub components of 2a, 3a and 3b and respective safeguard tools, screening of social and environment aspects, preparing of EMPs and SMPs were also completed by the Department and the PMU.

**Department of Wildlife Conservation** - Mainly 06 numbers of approved sub project proposals of the DWC carries concerns on both environmental and social safeguards. Respective tools were in progress as mentioned in the below table.

Table 9: Safeguard compliances of Sub project proposals of DWC

No	Name of proposal	Environmental safeguard actions	Social safeguard actions	Progress of implementation of safeguard instruments
1	ESCAMP/DWC/Galoya/3a - 04	1.Environmental Screening 2. EMP	1.Social Screening 2. Rapid Social Assessment (RSA)	1. Screening formats were cleared by the VWB. 2. EMP is completed and submitted to the PW. 3. RSA is partially completed, preparing of maps on land use and encroached area is continuing.
2	ESCAMP/DWC/Yala Complex HM/3a-05	1.Environmental Screening 2. EMP	1.Social Screening 2.SMP	1. Screening formats were cleared by the VWB. 2. ESMP is completed and submitted to the PW. 3. ESMP is submitted to the Technical and Procurement staff of the DWC for including into the Bid Document.
3	ESCAMP/DWC/EHG-Lunugamwehera/2b-02	1.Environmental Screening 2. EMP	1. Social Screening 2. SIA	1. Screening formats were cleared by the VWB 2. EMP + report completed. 3. TOR and EIO for the SIA prepared and Published on newspapers. EOI evaluation process is ongoing. 4. ESMP for clearing the fencing area and access road development is completed and submitted to the technical and procurement staff of DWC to include into the bidding document.
4	ESCAMP/DWC/YALA-WATER/3a-02	1.Environmental Screening	1.Social Screening 2.SMP	1. Screening formats were cleared.

		2.EIA (after completing the proposed study on water resources of Yala by DWC)		<p>2. TOR for the Water Resources Development study is submitted to the Consultant-Env. Safeguard/WB.</p> <p>3. ESMP for small waterhole development and cleaning of rock pools were submitted to the technical and procurement staff of DWC to include into the bidding document.</p>
5	ESCAMP/DWC/UDAWALAWE HM/3a-03	<p>1.Environmental Screening</p> <p>2.Preparing of EMP</p>	<p>1.Social Screening</p> <p>2.SMP</p>	<p>1. Screening formats were cleared</p> <p>2. ESMP is completed and submitted to the technical and procurement staff of DWC to include into the bidding document.</p>
6	ESCAMP/DWC/YALA COMPLEX HM/3a-05	<p>1.Environmental Screening</p> <p>2.Preparing of EMP</p>	<p>1.Social Screening</p> <p>2.SMP</p>	<p>1. Screening formats were cleared</p> <p>2. ESMP is completed and submitted to the technical and procurement staff of DWC to include into the bidding document.</p>

## 6.2 Summary of findings of field reviews

Most of the activities proposed within the protected areas of both Departments will not result in irreversible/considerable environment damage/concerns, and most of the activities can be managed in a comprehensive manner by implementing EMPs. However, in a few locations it is essential to manage possible social safeguard concerns arising from the above activities.

## 6.3 Status of consultations

*Not applicable at this stage.*

## 6.4 Challenges

- I. Considerable distance between multiple sites and sub projects.
- II. One more Social Development Officer needs to be recruited (Application has already been called).

## 7.0 Monitoring and Evaluation

Project monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will serve to monitor and report on implementation progress, identify gaps that require corrective actions, and assess and report on project results. The results of the project should monitor through a Result Framework. Based on the Results Framework in the Project Appraisal Document (PAD), the PMU has developed a M&E Framework to the project. A discussion on the draft copy of this framework was held with the participation of responsible officials of PMU and WB. PMU should revise the framework based on the comments received from WB and send for approvals.

PMU has developed monitoring indicators for each proposal to evaluate the implementation progress. PMU has also drafted physical progress monitoring formats for selected activities which are included in Action Plan 2018 and sent both Departments to track the quarterly progress. Field monitoring plan for 2018 will be finalized and shared with key relevant senior officials of both implementing agencies.

The PMU together with the World Bank has conducted the training on 'Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool' on 20th February 2018 at Sampathpaya, Baththaramulla with the participation of 55 trainees from both Departments. The main objective of the training was to awareness creation on METT and to train attendees on filling each section of the METT. It will facilitate PA Managers to identify needs, constraints and priority actions to improve the effectiveness of protected area management. Further, outputs of this tool will produce baseline values for indicators related to 3(a) sub-component as well.

### 7.1 Status of establishment of baseline

Data collection tools of baseline for sub-component 2(a) were finalized. PMU expects to commence the data collection by end of April 2018 and it has planned to complete the assessment by end of May 2018. Baseline Assessment on sub-component 2(b) has planned to conduct during May and June 2018. The data collection tools on this assessment have been drafted by the component coordinator and shared with PMU staff for their comments. The filled forms of the METT are receiving from the project sites and the indicator values related to 3(a) sub-component will be calculated as its baseline values.

### 7.2 Achievement of results indicators

*Not applicable at this stage.*



## 8.0 Communications

### 8.1 Status of communications strategy

The communication framework has been outlined and submitted to the WB for review. The communication action plan will be created based on the road-map which is included in the communication framework.

### 8.2 Status of communication actions as identified in the strategy

The following points describes the status update of the identified communication actions carried out by ESCAMP from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2018 – 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2018.

- Updating and maintaining the ESCAMP Website
- Preparation of communication framework for the ESCAMP Operational Manual
- Prepared the project brochure in Tamil language for distribution purpose. Handed over 1000 copies of the Sinhala brochure; and 500 copies of the Tamil brochure each to the Forest Department, and the Department of Wildlife Conservation
- Compilation, editing and printing of the “Proceedings of the Workshop on Pilot Landscape Planning and Management
- Work related to Printing of Booklet on Landscape Planning in Sinhala
- Attending the Stakeholder Analysis Workshop in Habarana, Introduced the communication component of the project, and conducted a communication related stakeholder analysis (under component I)
- Preparation of the stakeholder analysis report (Component I – Lower Mahaweli Catchment Area)
- Attending to the Stakeholder Awareness Workshop in Trincomalee; Presenting about the project and the communication component at the workshop and supporting in the preparation of the report
- Preparation, reviewing and compilation of certain chapters of the operational manual
- Paper article on “World Wildlife Day and the Eco-System Conservation and Management Project (Daily Mirror – 03-03-2018)
- Paper article on “The importance of enchanting forests - Forests are vibrant ecosystems essential for life on earth (Daily Mirror – 22-03-2018)

## 9.0 Project Management

### 9.1 Update on PMU

With effective from 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018, office of the PMU was shifted to State Timber Corporation's Head Office building at 'Sampathpaya', Rajamalwatta Road, Baththaramulla. Applications were called to recruit an Internal Auditor, Community Development and Livelihood Specialist, Senior Account Officer, Social Development Officer and an additional Management Assistant. Received applications have been shortlisted based on the qualifications and experience of the applicants. Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment has planned to held interviews by end of April 2018. PMU assisted 03 staff members (02 Environmental Officers and Social Development Officer) to follow a course on Advanced Certificate Course in GIS. A comprehensive Training Plan has been prepared for PMU staff and the acceptance of the WB was received to implement the same.

### 9.2 Training

The following trainings were conducted by the PMU during the first quarter 2018.

**Table 10: Training programs conducted by the PMU during first quarter 2018**

Name of the Training	Attendees	Description
Training workshop on 'Monitoring and Supervision of Environmental & Social Safeguard Aspects' for FD Officers	Divisional Forest Officers (DFOs), Additional Divisional Forest Officers (ADFOs), Range Forest Officers (RFOs), Beat Forest Officers (BFOs), Extension Officers (EOs) and Field Assistants (FAs) from Polonnaruwa, Anuradhapura, Kurunegala, Kandy, Matale & Puttlam divisions	The training was held on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb. 2018 at Habarana and 80 trainees were attended. This training was conducted by the PMU Safeguard Team together with the Social Safeguard Specialists of World Bank. The objectives of the Workshop were to create awareness among the Forest Department officers on Environment and Social Safeguard monitoring aspects, and the process of Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) on Social Safeguard aspects.

Training on the 'Preparation of Community Action Plans (CAPs)'	RFOs, EOs and FAs of Galle, Matara and Rathnapura divisions	This training was conducted by the 'Community Development Consultant' hired by the PMU on 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2018 at FD's training center located in Kanneliya. Thirty (30) trainees were attended the training. Introduction to component 2 (a), major steps of the preparation of CAPs and areas to cover in PRA, CAPs and Proposals etc. were discussed during the training.
Training on 'Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT)'	DFOs, Park Wardens and Key Officials from head offices of both implementing agencies	METT is a rapid assessment which based on a scorecard questionnaire including context, planning, inputs, process, outputs and outcomes of effective management over time of PAs. The main objective of the training was to awareness creation on METT and to train attendees on filling each section of the METT. The PMU together with the World Bank were conducted the training and it was conducted on 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2018 at Sampathpaya, Baththaramulla with the participation of 55 trainees.
Stakeholder Awareness Workshop on 'Pilot Landscape Planning and Management' in Hurulu-Kawdulla-Kanthale Complex (Lower Mahawelli Region)	District Planning Officers, Divisional Secretaries, Military Officers, Forest officers, Wild Life officers, Irrigation Engineers and officers of Road Development Authority, Education Department, Coconut Development Authority, Cashew Corporation, and NGOs etc	The objective of the Workshop was to create awareness on landscape management planning among stake holders in Trincomalee District. The training was held on 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2018 at Trincomalee.

Training on 'Micro Planning & Proposal Writing' for DWC Officers	Park Wardens & Community Outreach Officers from North-Central, Uva, Southern, Eastern and North-Western regions and Head of Outreach Programs-DWC	The training was conducted by the 'Community Development Consultant' hired by the PMU on 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Community Education Center, Malabe. Twenty-Five (25) trainees were attended the training. Introduction to component 2 (a), community consultation and mobilization, major steps of the preparation of a comprehensive proposal, problem analysis and stakeholder analysis and project duration and cost estimations etc. were discussed during the training.
Awareness & Training on Introduction of the ESCAMP, Sub Project Proposal Writing and Safeguard Aspects for FD Officers in Northern Region	DFOs, ADFOs & RFOs from Vavuniya, Mannar, Mullativu, Killinochchi, and Trincomalee Divisions (45)	This was the first training workshop conducted for Northern region FD officers. According to the Action Plan 2018, ESCAMP is expected to finance on 'Surveying and Demarcation' of forest boundaries in Northern Region. The training was led by the PD, ESCAMP and the Environment & Social Safeguard Specialist. The main objective of this program was to give comprehensive awareness and introduction on ESCAMP. The training was held on 28 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Vavuniya and 45 FD's officers were participated.

### 9.3 Project Steering Committee Meetings

Fourth Project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings was held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018. Following key tasks and deadlines were agreed by relevant officials/institutions during the meeting.

**Table 11: Key tasks and deadlines agreed at 3<sup>rd</sup> PSC meeting**

Key Tasks	Responsible Official/Institution	Deadline agreed	Present Status
(1) To submit the already prepared 05 Micro Plans and 02 Sub Project Proposals to the PMU	Director General (DG) - DWC	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Received 03 Micro Plans and 03 Sub-Project Proposals; 02 Micro-Plans are pending

(2) To submit Invasive Species Management Plans for Yala and Udawalawa NPs	DG, DWC	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Invasive Species Management Plan for Udawalawa NP was received and the plan for Yala NP is under the preparation
(3) To submit Nature Based Tourism Plans for Yala and Udawalawa NPs	DG, DWC	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Pending
(4) To Submit the Additional Financing Proposal to National Planning Department (NPD)	CGF	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Submitted to the Ministry
(5) To prepare an outcome-based Implementation Plan for total Project Period and submit to External Resource Department (ERD)	PMU	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018	PMU has submitted an outcome based comprehensive Implementation Plan to the ERD in line with the project results framework and sub-project monitoring indicators.
(6) To appoint a Community Development and Livelihood Specialist	PMU	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Applications were called and shortlisted
(7) Setting up of the baseline for M&E has to be done based on the project appraisal document	PMU	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Data collection is in-progress

## 9.4 Status of agreed actions during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Implementation Support Mission

Following are the status of agreed actions during 3<sup>rd</sup> Implementation Support Mission by the WB.

**Table 12: Agreed actions during 3<sup>rd</sup> implementation support mission**

Action	Responsibilities	Date of Delivery	Present Status
<b>ESCAMP parent project</b>			
(1) Communication strategy	PMU	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Submitted to WB
(2) Updated and budgeted project implementation plan	PMU, FD and DWC	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2018	Submitted to ERD
(3) Annual progress report	PMU	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2018	Submitted to WB
(4) The training plans endorsed by the PSC (delayed)	PMU	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2018	Submitted to members prior to 4 <sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting
(5) Next IUFR	PMU	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Completed
(6) Updated Project Operation Manual (POM) on M&E, Communications, Safeguards and Field Procurement	PMU	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2018	Completed
(7) M&E data collection and reporting formats and baseline setting up	PMU, FD and DWC	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018	Data collection tools were finalized and data collection will be started by 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2018
(8) Accounts of Financial Year (FY) 2017 to Auditor General (AG)	PMU	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2018	Completed
(9) Appointment of the Internal Auditor	PMU	1 <sup>st</sup> May 2018	Applications called and shortlisted
(10) Hiring of consultants for curriculum development (delayed)	PMU, FD and DWC	30 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Pending
<b>ESCAMP additional financing</b>			
(11) Submission of draft cabinet paper to MoMDE	FD	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2018	Submitted to the Ministry
(12) ERD additional financing request to the Bank	ERD facilitated by PMU/FD	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Pending
(13) Approval of cabinet paper	MoMDE facilitated by PMU/FD	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Pending
(14) Appraisal of additional financing	WB	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2018	Pending