SAARC

Disaster Management Centre (IU)

IWMI International Water Management Institute

CGIAR

GUJARAT INSTITUTE OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT
BUILDING RESILIENCE

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UNITED NATIONS Office for Outer Space Affairs

Regional Workshop

on

Assessing Drought Risks using Earth Observation Data

&

Launch of South Asia Drought Management System (SADMS)

Utility of SADMS tool for operational drought decision support across South Asia

Date: 31st August to 2nd September, 2022

Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India

Session – III Drought Management efforts in South Asia

Country Name: Sri Lanka

Drought Management efforts in South Asia

Management of drought: Current scenario

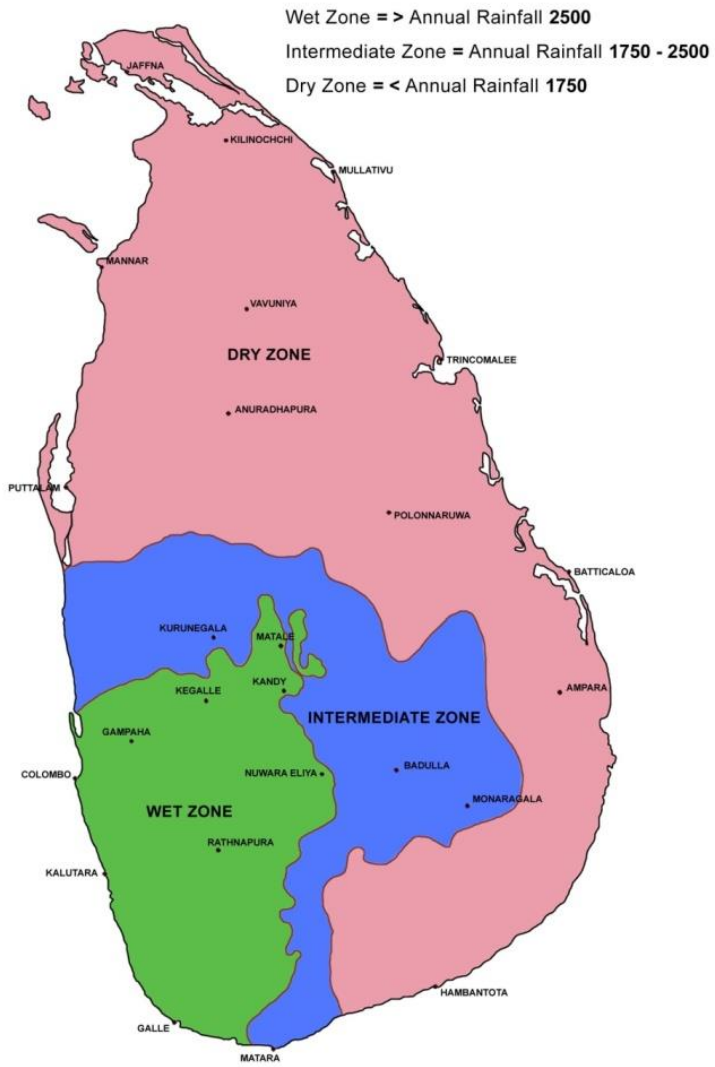
WET ZONE: receives more than 2,500 mm of annual rainfall

INTERMEDIATE ZONE: receives about 1,750 to 2,500 mm of annual rainfall

DRY ZONE: receives annual rainfall of less than 1,750 mm

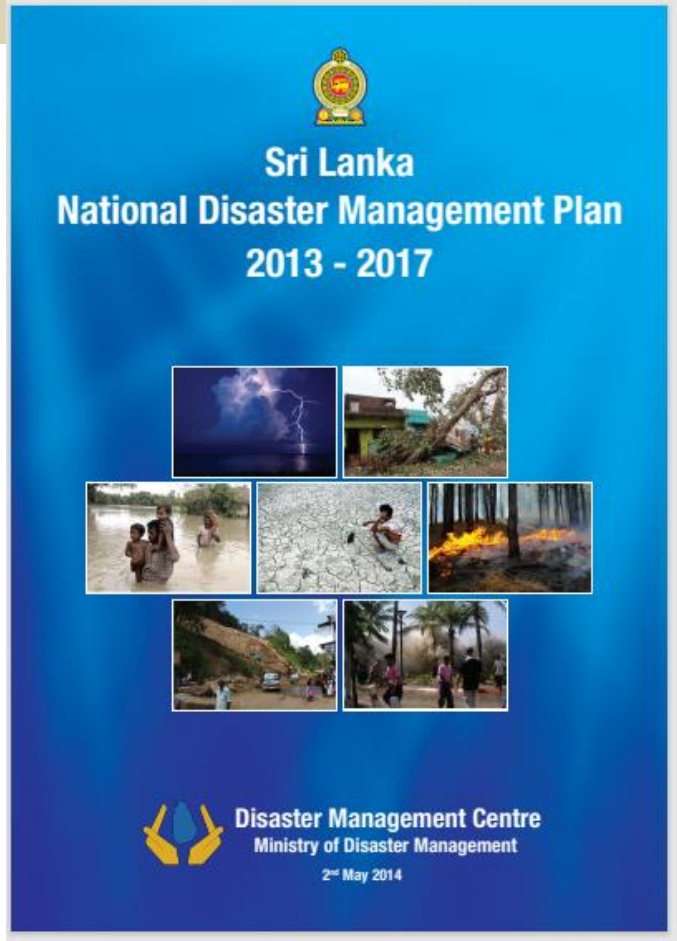
No Arid Zones (Annual RF <1,275mm or 50”)

Map 1: Climatic Zones of Sri Lanka



Current policies for drought management

- Sri Lanka National Disaster Management Plan 2013 – 2017
  Major natural disasters leading to loss of lives and property damage
  - Frequent: Floods, Landslides / slope failures, Lightning, Tornadoes
  - Intermediate: Drought, Cyclones, Storm Surges, Coastal Inundation, Epidemics
  - Rare: Earthquakes, Tsunami
- The Disaster Management Act of 2005 recognizes 21 natural and man-made hazards – including drought
- National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (NCCAS) for Sri Lanka – 2011 to 2016
  - "highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, which include, Increases in the frequency and intensity of disasters such as droughts, floods and landslides; Variability and unpredictability of rainfall patterns; Increase in temperature; and Sea level rise, among others."



Drought resilience initiatives across multiple sectors

Sectors

- DMC (Disaster Management Center)
- DOM (Dept. of Meteorology)
- ID (Irrigation Department)
- DOA (Dept. of Agriculture)
- DAD (Dept. of Agrarian Development)
- NWSDB (National Water Supply and Drainage Board) etc.

Below average RF prediction (DoM) - Consider access of safe drinking water (Natural Disaster Reduction Service Center - NDRSC) – Availability of water for different sector (ID) – Hydropower generation (CEB) – Cultivation targets (DoA)

Current procedure to declare a drought

- DoM declare seasonal weather forecast
- Difficult to predict droughts
- January and February – whole country experience dry period
- In agriculture sector – 15 consecutive dry days (<0.3 mm) leads to dry spells

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DEPARTMENT OF METEOROLOGY
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Consensus Seasonal Weather Outlook

December, January and February (DJF)

Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature for Sri Lanka

Current procedures & policies to promote timely contingency measures

Timely contingency measures – drought – limited

Timely procedures – reduce the risk of drought related to different sectors

- Issuing drinking water
- Temporary changes of policy decisions to reduce the risk

Eg. Priority sectors - available water (Agriculture or CEB)

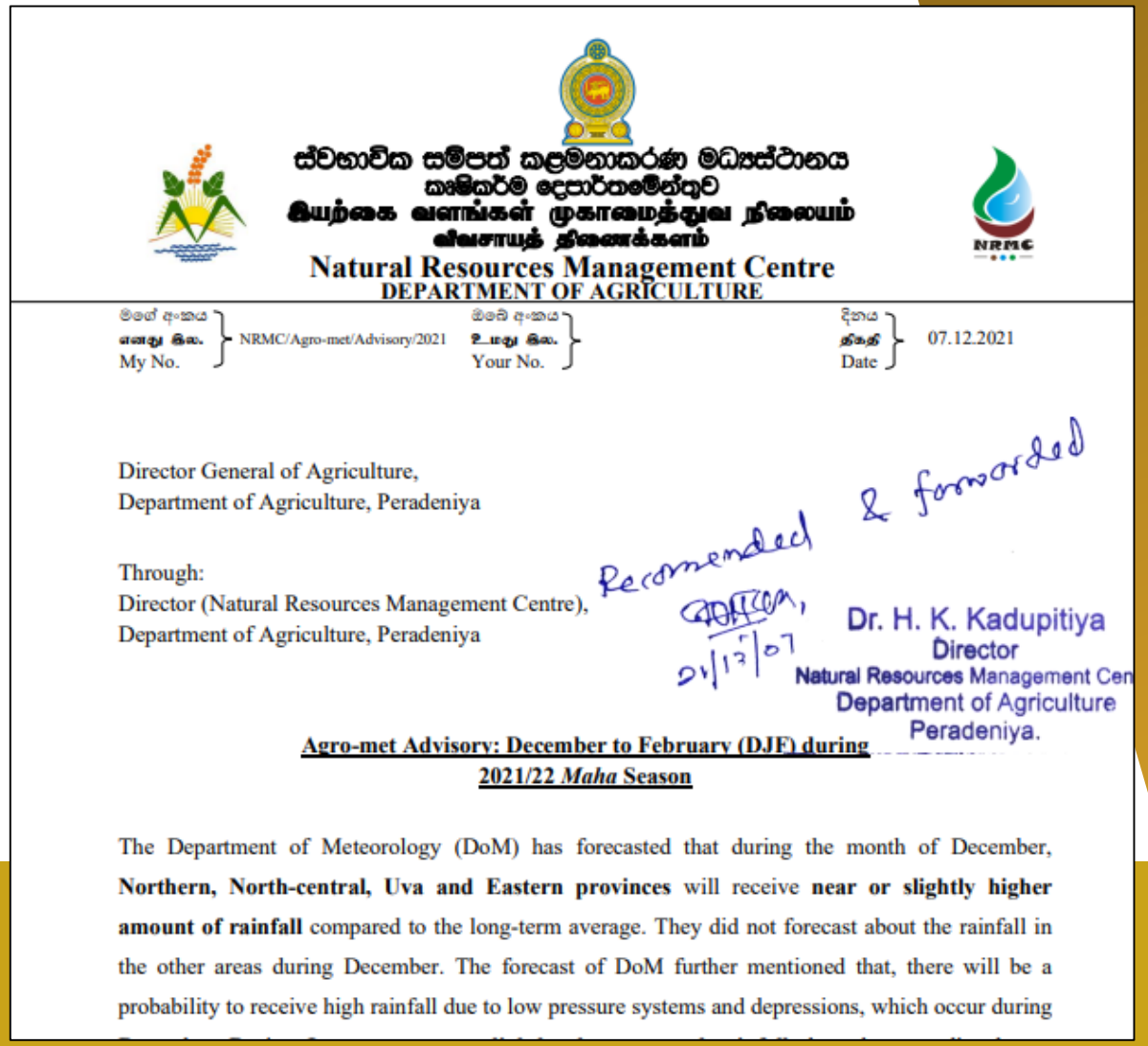
Future needs and expectations

Related to two fields

1. Improve the methods of prediction of droughts
2. Drought resilience community
    - Risk reduction measures
    - Adaptation methods

Additional information

Improve the existing National agro-met advisory including drought related information



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இயற்கை வளங்கள் முகாமைத்துவ நிலையம்
விவசாயத் திணைக்களம்

Natural Resources Management Centre
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

My No. NRMC/Agro-met/Advisory/2021 Your No. Date 07.12.2021

Director General of Agriculture,
Department of Agriculture, Peradeniya

Recommended & forwarded

Through:
Director (Natural Resources Management Centre),
Department of Agriculture, Peradeniya

21/12/07

Dr. H. K. Kadupitiya
Director
Natural Resources Management Cen
Department of Agriculture
Peradeniya.

Agro-met Advisory: December to February (DJF) during 2021/22 *Maha* Season

The Department of Meteorology (DoM) has forecasted that during the month of December, **Northern, North-central, Uva and Eastern provinces** will receive **near or slightly higher amount of rainfall** compared to the long-term average. They did not forecast about the rainfall in the other areas during December. The forecast of DoM further mentioned that, there will be a probability to receive high rainfall due to low pressure systems and depressions, which occur during

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Thank you