

Sri Lanka

- Population 18 million
- Rainfall 2400mm average
- Range <800mm - 5400mm
- High variability in rainfall
- 7-10% rainfall groundwater recharge
- 90% of the country metamorphic
- Evaporation > Rainfall in arid areas

Water Provision

- Rural domestic water
 - 14% piped water
 - 40% protected dug wells
 - 35% other sources
- Irrigation sector
 - 35 major and 20,000 minor tanks
 - 25,000 large diameter agro-wells

Water Demand

- 20 lpcd
- Target level 50 lpcd
- Initial results indicate range 15-47 lpcd
- Up to 11 water sources used
- Distance to sources 10m-7km
- High opportunity costs
- Low HH water security
- Demand for greater dependability

Water for cultivation

- Rainfed - not dependable
- Minor tanks - not dependable
- Major tanks - more dependable
- Alternatives include
 - agrowells
 - household RWH
- Demand is to ensure 2 seasons cultivation
- Low water security under rainfed / minor irrigation

Policy

- No national water resources management policy
- Sectoral policies for domestic and irrigation water supply
- Draft water resources policy
- Proposed NWR act
- Resistance to NWR act

Policy

- Resistance to NWR act due to
 - Ownership of water
 - Cost recovery
 - Transferable water entitlements
 - Creation of National Water Resources Authority