
FOUNDATION FOR ENVIRONMENT CLIMATE AND TECHNOLOGY

Progress for 2010

Personnel: Chandrika Silva joined on a part time basis as a Consultant on Communications. S.A.M. Nasly left FECT to join the banking sector in April. Sumudu Adhikari undertook post-graduate work on Statistics with the Post-Graduate Institute of Science. Dr. Manoharadas Manobavan signed up a sabbatical at FECT.

Papers published

- S. Adhikari, S. Liyanarachchi, J. Chandimala, B. K. Nawaratne, R. Bandara, Z. Yahiya, and L. Zubair. *Rainfall prediction based on the relationship between rainfall and El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)*. Journal of the National Science Foundation, December 2010, 38 (4):249-255.
- S. Gadgil, M. Rajeevan, L. Zubair and P. Yadav. *South Asian Monsoon: Inter Annual Variability*, In Eds., Ding et al., Global Monsoon System, Research and Forecast, World Scientific Publications and World Meteorological Organization. Chapter 3, pages 25-42, 2011.
- Yahiya, Zeenas, Janaki Chandimala, M. Siriwardhana, L. Zubair, *Sri Lanka Rainfall Climate and its modulation by El Nino and La Nina*, Journal of the Institute of Engineers, XXXX, (2) 11-24. 2009.

Feature articles

- Zubair, L., Z.Yahiya, M. Weeraskera and S. Adhikari. “*Mitigating Flooding in Akurana and Restoring Balapitiya Oya*” – NewsView – Akurana, July 2010
- Zubair, L., Z.Yahiya, M. Weeraskera and S. Adhikari, S. Sherpa, P.H.D. Kusumawathie. “*Dengue in Kandy and Akurana*” – NewsView – Akurana, April 2011.

Reports

- Sumudu Adhikari, Madhura Weerasekera, Zeenas Yahiya, Ranmalee Bandara, Badra Nawarathna, Lareef Zubair. *Sri Lanka Climate during 2009*.
- Zeenas Yahiya, Sumudu Adhikari, Madhura Weerasekera, and Lareef Zubair. *Impacts of El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Events on Cereal Production, Area and Yield in Asia*, Final Project report; November 2010.

Grants Awarded

- Regional and Seasonal variation of Dengue Risk in Sri Lanka and its relationship to Climate –SEARO (*South-East Asia Regional Office*) – WHO, 2011, (Ongoing). **Investigators** – Zeenas Yahiya (PI), L. Zubair, P.H.D. Kusumawathie, (Anti Malaria Campaign), Hasitha Tissera, (Ministry of Health).
- “The Impacts of El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Events on Cereal Production Area and Yield” – FAO, 2010. **Investigators** - Zeenas Yahiya (PI), S. Adhikari, M. Weerasekera, & L. Zubair
- Climate change impacts on seasonally and intermittently open tidal inlets (CC-SIOTI). 2010 - 2013. UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education,. **Investigators** – Sarith Mahanama (PI) for FECT.
- 2010-2012 (Ongoing). Launching a Masters in Sustainable Development Practice at the University of Peradeniya, *MacArthur Foundation*, **FECT component** - , FECT shall develop curricula for the course on Climate and Society; support teaching; and work with government, non-governmental, development, and private sector organizations in support of placement of students and graduates. **Investigators** – Lareef Zubair, Zeenas Yahiya.

Workshop / Conference Participation

- Lareef Zubair, Zeenas Yahiya, Launch Workshop on the Masters in Development Practice at the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.
- Lareef Zubair, Presentation at Institute of Fundamental Studies seminar series, Kandy.
- Zeenas Yahiya attended the FAO Project Inception Workshop on Impacts of ENSO on Cereal Productin, Area and Yield in Asia held at SEARCA, College, Laguna, Philippines, in March 2010.
- Zeenas Yahiya attended the Ecohealth conference in August 2010 at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK and presented two posters. 1) *Challenges in Implementing an EcoHealth Approach to Mitigate (re)EIDs in Kandy, Sri Lanka*; and 2) *Breeding habitats of dengue vectors in urban Sri Lanka*.
- Lareef Zubair attended the Ecohealth conference in August 2010 at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK and provided a presentation on *Climate Justice in relation to Adaptation and Ecohealth in Southern South Asia*.
- Madhura Weerasekera and Zeenas Yahiya attended Consultative session to review the current status of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, in October 2010, at Waters Edge, Battaramulla, conducted by UNDP Sri Lanka.
- Madhura Weerasekera, attended the 2nd annual symposium on Disaster Risk and Climate Change Adaptation, and presented the paper 'A geographic information systems based technique to analyse dengue risk at district level; October 2010, conducted by Disaster Management Centre.
- Zeenas Yahiya attended the FAO ENSO and Cereals 2nd Project Workshop in October 2010 held at SEARCA College, Laguna, Philippines; and presented the outcomes of the analysis on the Impacts of El Niño Southern Oscillation Events on Cereal Production, Area and Yield in Sri Lanka.
- Lareef Zubair, Indo-Gangetic Plains regional meeting of the Climate Change Adaption to Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) program, New Delhi, November, 2010.
- Lareef Zubair, International Graduate Conference on Climate Change and People in Kathmandu, for mentoring and presentation on Rates of Ecosystem Change in Southern Asia, November 2010.
- Ranmalee Bandara, 'Assessment of Rain Water Harvesting Potential - A case study for Idamelanda', International Conference on Sustainable Built Environment 2010, December 12-14, 2010 at Kandy.
- Lareef Zubair, Presentation on Climate Adaptation for Integrated Water Resources Management: Learning from Practice in Sri Lanka, International Development Research Centre, Ottawa.

Partnership Services

- Weekly expert input for Hydro-meteorological Assessment for Mahaweli Authority in Sri Lanka. Made available via <http://www.mahaweli.gov.lk> and <http://www.climate.lk/> and <http://fectsl.wordpress.com/>
- Continued to support the 30-day predictions of Paul Roundy for Sri Lankan rainfall. Extended Prediction from National to 6 Regions.
- Continued various rainfall estimation tools.
- Collaboration with Maldivian Ministry of Environment on Plans for Capacity Building
- Collaboration with Renewable Energy Maldives on Proposal Development.

Web Development

We updated our website <http://www.climate.lk>. Chandrika Silva started a blog for FECT <http://fectsl.wordpress.com/> which is linked to our main website.

Documentation

- Annual Report for 2009/2010
- Progress Report for 2009
- Flyer on FECT contribution to the Masters in Development Practice at the University of Peradeniya

Proposals and Concept Notes in Development

- Strengthening Civil Society Capacity for Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change and Climate related Hazards in Sri Lanka and Maldives – July 2010.
- Improved Water Resources Management, Disaster Risk Reduction and Community Based Adaptation in Eastern Sri Lanka – February, 2010
- Adaptation to Climate Change in the Mahaweli River Basin and Lagoons and Wetlands in Eastern Sri Lanka – January 2010
- Documenting Climate and Climate Change and its Impacts for Sri Lanka – June 2010
- Assessing and Monitoring the Impact of Deforestation, Forest and Plantation Degradation and Rehabilitation on Carbon Sequestration and Hydrology in South Asia – May 2010
- Adapting to Climate Change in Vulnerable Coastal Communities in Eastern Sri Lanka – December 2010, Climate Change and Water Program
- Mitigation of water scarcity using rainwater harvesting in Dry Zone of Sri Lanka and adaptation to climate change –March 2010; Civil Society Fund.

Administration: Financial management of bank accounts at Peoples Bank and Hatton National Bank has been smooth. Deposits at Ceylinco Group continue to be frozen with minor amounts released this year. The accounts were drawn up by Rimza Muhulees and Zeenas Yahiya. Our Auditors, Anzari and Co., has reported on a healthy state of financial management in the last Audit conducted until March 2010.

Collaborations: We had productive collaborations with personnel attached to Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka (MASL), International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), University of Peradeniya (UOP), Open University of Sri Lanka (OUSL), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Institute of Fundamental Studies (IFS), Kandy. Internationally we collaborated with University of Victoria, Toronto and Calgary in Canada on proposal development.

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