

Field Visit Report
Kumbuk Wewa Tank Rehabilitation (Phase II – CSIAP)
Trincomalee, Eastern Province

The World Bank financed Climate Smart Irrigated Agriculture Project (CSIAP)
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Land and Irrigation



30/05/2025
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Project Management Unit

FIELD VISIT REPORT

Kumbuk Wewa Tank Rehabilitation (Phase II – CSIAP)

- **Date of Visit:** 26/05/2025
- **Location:** Kumbuk Wewa, Kadawaththa Cascade
- **Project:** Climate Smart Irrigated Agriculture Project (CSIAP) – Phase II
- **Contractor:** Rasika Construction
- **Start Date of Work / Contractor Mobilized:**
- **Visited by:** Mr. G. Jayantha, and Dr. Sithara Attapattu (World Bank), Ms. Sharmila Shanmuganathan (PMU), Mr. T.Sekaran (SSO/DPDO/EP), and the Technical Team of the DPDO/EP

1. Site Preparation and Access

- Work commenced on 15/04/2025.
- The scope of work includes: tank bund improvement, spill and tower sluice repair, head wall-type sluice construction, bathing and access steps construction, improvement of LB and RB main channels, access road improvement, and upstream and downstream canal works.
- Site clearing was observed, but material storage had not yet been initiated.
- Access roads were available, and no rainfall was recorded during the visit.
- At the site, farmers, SAC, FO members, one machinery, one laborer, one supervisor, and the contractor were present.
- Name board was not displayed.
- The contractor must install the name board to ensure public awareness and accountability.
- No construction work had started except for artificial water drawdown.



2. Construction Activities and Infrastructure Improvements

- A **technical officer** from **DAD** was **present** at the site.
- **None** of the **scope-based construction work** had commenced.
- **Artificial water drawdown** was **done**, and **farmers agreed to forego Yala 2025 cultivation**.
- Only **one machinery** was observed.
- **Community disappointment** was noted due to **delays**, despite their agreement to suspend cultivation.
- **Immediate commencement** of construction and **close monitoring** from **DPDO** and **implementing agency** is essential.

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3. Environmental and Ecological Impacts

- Site is **outside any environmentally sensitive area.**
- **No tree removal or vegetation clearance observed. No impact on protected species or habitats. Environmental risk: Low.**
- **No flooding** at the site.
- **Occasional elephant presence** reported.



4. Social and Livelihood Impacts

- **Farmers agreed to forego Yala 2025 cultivation for rehabilitation.**
- **Typically, 15 farmers cultivate 15 acres, which was not done this season.**
- **Compensation planned: 150 kg of green gram per farmer.**



5. Stakeholder Engagement and Community Participation

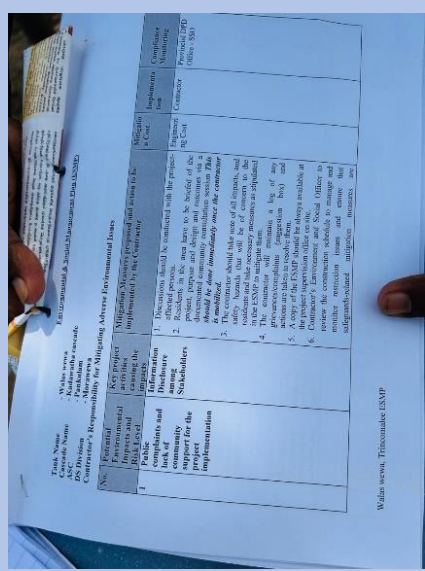
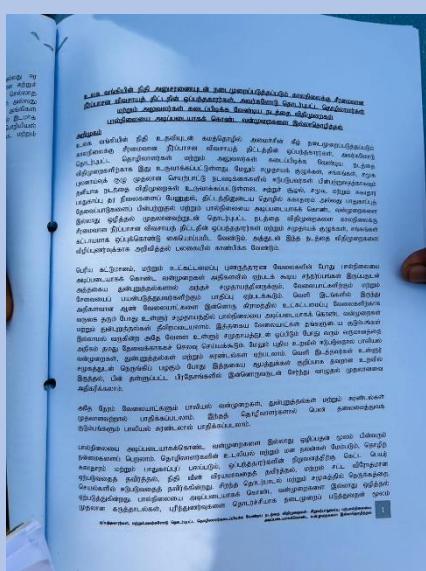
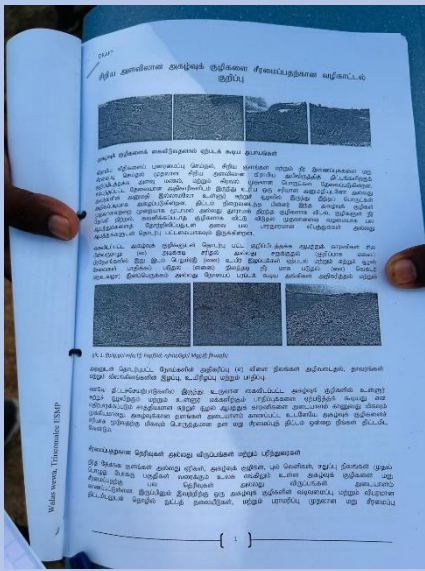
- FO and SAC members were **present** and **engaged** during the visit.
- **Weak coordination** noted between **contractor** and **farmers**, as work had not started.
- **No SAC logbooks** available at the site.
- **No grievances reported**, possibly due to **limited participation**.
- **ESMP awareness program** had been **conducted** for the contractor by the safeguard officer.



6. Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) and Camp Management

- The **site office** should be properly **set up** to withstand rain and wind.
- **Material storage** was not observed.
- Only **one machinery operator** was present.
- **First aid box** and **grievance box** were **not available** at the site.
- **Safety signboards** were **inadequate**.
- **OHS (Occupational Health and Safety)** measures require significant improvement.
- As a result of the **ESMP awareness programme** conducted by the **safeguard officer**, **ESMP**, **COC-GBV**, **GRM**, and **awareness materials** were **available** at the site.





7. Risk Level Assessment

Taking into account that **construction work has not yet commenced** according to the approved scope, and only the **artificial water drawdown** has been completed with **farmers agreeing to forego Yala 2025 cultivation** the **site conditions** currently indicate a **manageable external risk environment**. Although no rainfall was recorded in recent days and **dry weather** persisted, the **contractor halted work**, despite **suitable conditions to proceed**. This reflects a **missed opportunity** to advance during a **favorable period**. The **potential for weather-related delays** remains low, and **work should be prioritized** based on **effective logistical arrangements**. There are **no significant environmental or social sensitivities** that could hinder progress. While the interventions cover both **upstream and downstream areas** and the **environmental impact is minimal**, the **absence of contractor personnel and sufficient laborers**, combined with **ongoing delays**, elevates the **site's risk level** from low to **moderate/high risk**. This **contractor-side delay** must be addressed through **close coordination and monitoring** by the **Technical Team** of the **DPDO/ IA** and the **contractor's management**. Nonetheless, considering the **overall project scope and site conditions**, there is a **moderate likelihood** that the **rehabilitation work** can be completed on or before **30th September 2025**, provided that **activities resume without further delay**.
