

Field Visit Report
Thammannawa Wewa Downstream Development/ Rehabilitation (Phase II – CSIAP)
Southern Province

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



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FIELD VISIT REPORT

THAMMANNAWA WEWA (DOWNSTREAM WORKS) REHABILITATION (PHASE II – CSIAP)

Date of Visit: 19/05/2025

Location: Thammannawa Tank, Badagiriya Cascade

Project: Climate Smart Irrigated Agriculture Project (CSIAP) – Phase II

Contractor: Pearl Construction

Start Date of Work/ contractor mobilized: 04/04/2025

Visited by: Dr. Sithara Attapattu (World Bank), Ms. Sharmila Shanmuganathan (PMU), the Safeguard Team, and the Technical Team of the DPDO/SPUP.

Thammannawa Tank is undergoing minor irrigation rehabilitation focusing solely on **downstream canal works**. The **rehabilitation commenced on 4th April 2025**, with the scope limited to canal improvement, while **no upstream interventions** are planned.



Field Observations

During the visit, it was informed that approximately **100 meters of canal rehabilitation work** had already been started. However, due to **continuous heavy rainfall**, the contractor **temporarily stopped work** a few days prior to the visit. One **SAC member** was present at the site during the visit. They confirmed the work status and weather-related delays.

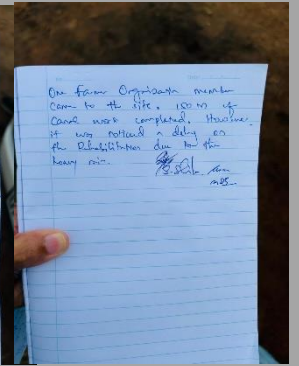
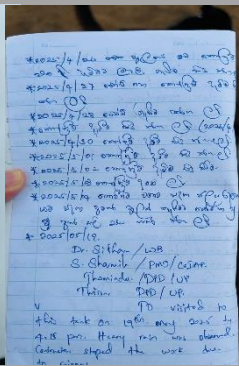
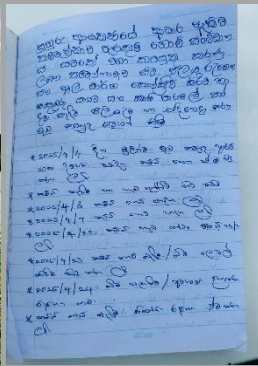


No issues were reported by farmers regarding soil availability for canal rehabilitation. As the **upstream tank structure is not being rehabilitated**, and **farmers have cultivated their paddy fields during the Yala season**, **compensation is not applicable** under this project intervention. **A total of 171 farmers** are cultivating in approximately **300 acres of paddy land**, jointly across **Thammannawa and Anukkan Wewa**, during both **Yala and Maha seasons**. There was **no tree removal observed** in the worksite area.

Heavy rain hindered the progress of concrete work. Heavy and frequent rainfall is disrupting scheduled construction activities, particularly the concrete works.



HEC identified as a significant issue. Although elephants do not usually appear during the day, they have been reported to enter the area during the paddy harvesting period, including both day and night. Workers reportedly leave the site by 5.00 PM due to elephant risk. High vulnerability of both workers and crops to elephant movement, especially during harvesting season. Safety concerns limit the working hours on-site.



Recommendation

1. It is recommended that the contractor mobilize **four separate teams to work on four canal segments simultaneously** during non-rainy periods. This will allow the contractor to expedite progress and mitigate future delays due to adverse weather.
2. Continue ensuring that no tree removal or other environmentally sensitive actions occur within or adjacent to the rehabilitation area.
3. The contractor must display the **subproject name board** at the site to ensure public awareness and accountability of the works.

Risk Level Assessment

Taking into account that the **contractor has just mobilized at the site**, farmers mentioned that **work had initially started**. However, the **contractor has already stopped the work**. During the field visit, **no work was observed**. Currently, the Yala cultivation for 2025 is ongoing. Potential weather-related delays are considered **moderate**, with challenges in material transportation due to continuous rain.

Since **downstream works are proposed**, artificial water drawdowns are not needed.

The site is categorized as **moderate-risk**, with a **high likelihood of delays in completing the rehabilitation on or before 30th September 2025** due to the following issues:

- **Material transportation difficulties**
- **Farmers currently involved in cultivation**
- **Work already stopped; no one was aware of the contractor leaving the site. No laborers, no machinery observed, and no site office established**
- **This is a moderate Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) area, so working hours are limited**
