

Field Visit Report
Walas 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

Prepared by

Ms. Sharmila Shanmuganathan

Safeguard Division

Project Management Unit

FIELD VISIT REPORT

Walas Wewa Tank Rehabilitation (Phase II – CSIAP)

- **Date of Visit:** 26/05/2025
- **Location:** Walas Wewa, Kadawaththa Cascade
- **Project:** Climate Smart Irrigated Agriculture Project (CSIAP) – Phase II
- **Contractor:** PTS Construction
- **Start Date of Work / Contractor Mobilized:** 07/04/2025
- **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 07th April 2025.**
- The scope includes **improvement of the tank bund, repair of the spill structure, construction of a box culvert, spill tail bund, repair of the tower sluice, bathing steps, access steps, improvement of the RB main channel, and access road.**
- Both **upstream and downstream canal works** are proposed under this phase.
- Site **clearing** has been **completed**, and **construction materials** have been **stored at the site.**
- Access roads are **available**, and **no rainfall** was recorded during the field visit week.
- No **farmers, SAC, FO members, or laborers** were present during the visit.
- No **name board** was displayed at the site.
- The contractor must display the subproject name board to ensure public awareness and accountability.
- A permanent **elephant fence** was observed around the tank, which is **stopped during working hours.** Work stopped at 6:30 PM due to **HEC (Human-Elephant Conflict) issues.** The **operation of the elephant fence** has been **informed to the Civil Security Department.**



2. Construction Activities and Infrastructure Improvements

- A **technical officer** appointed by the **DAD** was present and actively maintaining the **site logbook**.
- **Work stopped** at the site on **20th April 2025**, and no contractor presence was recorded afterward.
- Completed works include **site clearing, excavation, causeway concreting and compaction, and initial framework for concrete works**.
- **Canal clearing and concreting** had started but was interrupted due to **floods**.
- A **temporary shed** at the site had **collapsed** and was **unusable**.
- The **contractor** stated that activities are **temporarily halted**, with no clear plan for canal work completion despite **dry weather**.
- **Artificial water drawdown** was done, and **farmers agreed to forego Yala 2025 cultivation**.
- **No heavy machinery** was observed at the site.

REVISED ESTIMATE OF BUND INCLUDING SLICE, AND MAIN CHANNELS IN WELWA IN MORAWEWA D.S DIVISION IN THINCOMALE DISTRICT UNDER CLIMATE SMART IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE PROJECT (CSAP)		
No	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
A	Preliminaries	1,000,000
B	Improvement of Bank Bund	1,000,000
C	Repair of C.D Spill	553,951.95
D	Construction of Spill Cut Off Concrete	1,038,115.41
E	Construction of Box culvert structure - C1 No	775,882.33
F	Spill soil Bund (one side)	2,051,000
G	Repair work of TOWER slice 310-340.50	422,200.00
H	Construction of Setting Box	100,000
I	Construction of 300m x 200m x 100mm, 125mm	3,653,20
J	Improvements of RH Main channel	529,975.00
K	Improvement to Access Road - 3 x 2.0m	1,000,000.00
	Civil cost	500,000.00
	Provisional sum	27,829,931.9
	Bid Price without VAT	5,000,000.00
	Less Discount	12,986,400.00
	Bid Price	2,500,000.00
	VAT @15%	150,000.00
	Bid Amount with VAT	15,150,000.00

Authored & signed by
Authorized signatory of
contractor with stamp

Signature of
Authorized signatory
of contractor with stamp



3. Environmental and Ecological Impacts

- The site is outside any socially and environmentally sensitive area. No impact on protected species or habitats was reported.
- No tree removal or vegetation clearance was noted.
- Minor flooding was observed in downstream canal earthworks.
- Elephant presence was reported occasionally; an elephant fence has been permanently established.
- Environmental risk is considered low. However, garbage and materials were not properly placed—the site must be cleaned, and waste disposal areas organized.
- The site office should be properly set up to withstand rain and wind.



4. Social and Livelihood Impacts

- Farmers agreed to forego Yala 2025 paddy cultivation due to tank rehabilitation.
- Usually, 12 farmers cultivate around 6 acres; this season, cultivation was not done.
- Compensation has been planned: affected farmer will receive 60 kg of green gram.



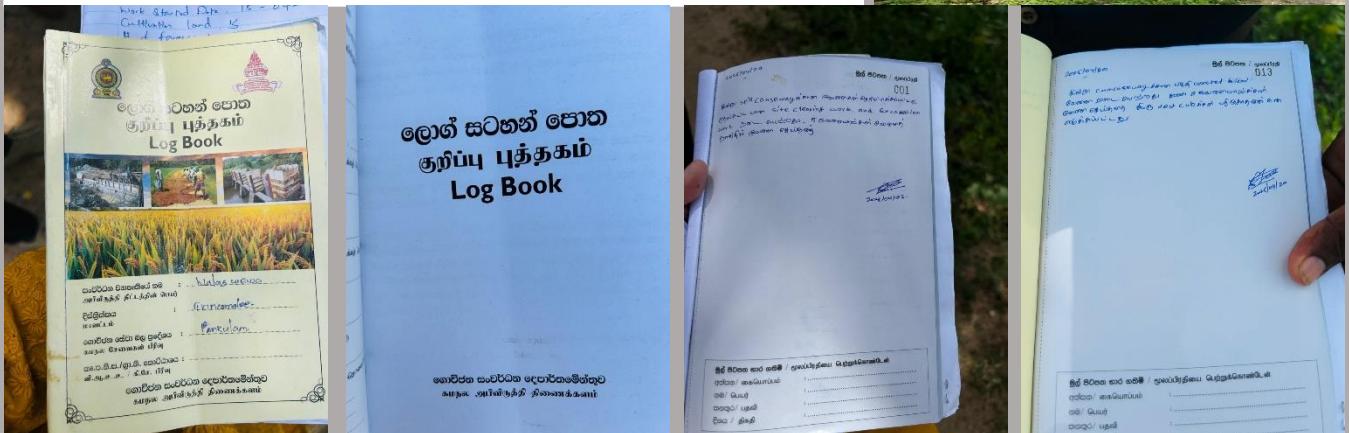
5. Stakeholder Engagement and Community Participation

- No FO or SAC members were present or engaged during the visit.
- Coordination between contractor and farmers was weak.
- No SAC logbooks or documentation were available at the site.
- No grievances were reported, likely due to lack of community participation.



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

- A temporary shed had **collapsed** and needs to be **re-erected**.
- **No workers** were present during the visit. The **contractor** mentioned that **6–7 laborers** are usually employed.
- The **first aid box** and **grievance box** were **missing** or not placed. Only **one safety signboard** was displayed, which was **not sufficient** for the site.
- Material storage was **disorganized**. The site should be maintained in a clean manner.
- OHS measures require **improvement**.
- A **log book** was maintained by the **DAD supervisor**.



7. Risk Level Assessment

Taking into account that construction work had **commenced** and Yala cultivation was foregone with the **agreement of the farmers**, the **site conditions** indicate a **manageable** external risk environment. Although **no rainfall** was recorded in recent days and **dry weather** persisted, the **contractor** halted work, even though conditions were **suitable to proceed**. This indicates a **missed opportunity** to progress during a favorable period. The potential for **weather-related delays** remains **low**, and the site's **easy accessibility** from the **roadside** ensures that there are **minimal logistical challenges**, even during the **rainy season**. There are **no significant environmental or social sensitivities** affecting progress. However, **safety and communication protocols** are **not well established**, resulting in **non-compliance** with **regulatory standards** and **ineffective stakeholder engagement**. While the proposed interventions are to **upstream and downstream areas**, and the **environmental impact** is **minimal**, the **absence of contractors and laborers** at the site, along with the current **work delays**, shifts the **classification of the site** from **low** to **moderate risk**. Nonetheless, considering the **overall scope and conditions**, there is a **high likelihood** that the **rehabilitation work** can be **completed on or before 30th September 2025**, provided that **activities resume** without further delay.
