Report of the 1st Stakeholder Workshop on Post Graduate Masters and Diploma Courses in Integrated Coastal Management

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for IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

1. Introduction

The 1st stakeholder workshop for the preparation of Post Graduate Masters and Diploma Courses in Integrated Coastal Management for the Ocean University of Sri Lanka was held on 02nd August 2016 at the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA), Malalasekera Mawatha, Colombo 07.

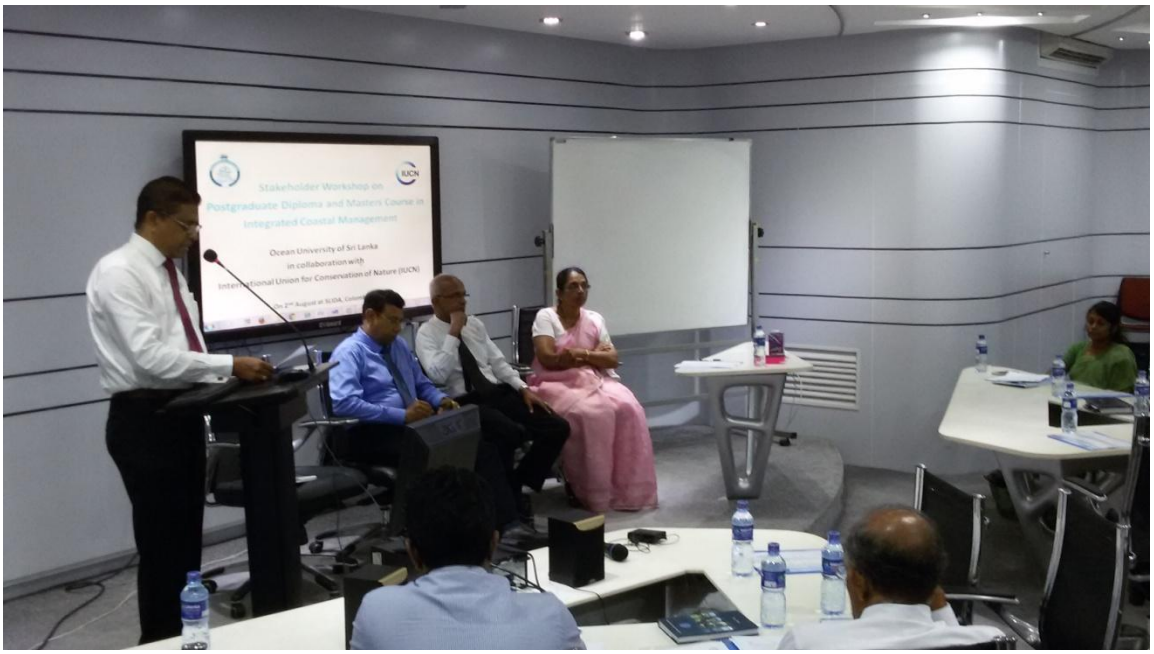
The workshop was attended by representatives of stakeholder agencies, universities and other invitees with expertise in integrated coastal management. The Agenda of the workshop is given as **Annex 1** and the list of participants is given as **Annex 2**.

2. Address by Mr. Thilak Dharmaratne, Vice Chancellor, Ocean University of Sri Lanka

Delivering the introductory address, Mr. Thilak Dharmaratne, Vice Chancellor of the Ocean University of Sri Lanka thanked the participants for their presence; on behalf of both the Ocean University and IUCN Sri Lanka.

Introducing the coastal zone as a special area unique in global geography and with significant historical and cultural connections with human activity, Mr. Dharmaratne referred to the diverse and highly productive ecosystems and the ecosystem goods and services that contribute to the socio-economic development of coastal states in general and coastal communities in particular.

The Vice Chancellor also noted that the coastal zone is characterized by competition for land and sea resources and space among numerous stakeholders, resulting in severe conflicts and destruction of the functional integrity of the resource system. High rates of population growth; poverty exacerbated by dwindling resources and lack of alternative livelihoods; large-scale commercial enterprises which degrade resources and conflict with interests of the local people; lack of awareness among the public and policy-makers are some of the major driving forces for coastal resources depletion and environment degradation experienced in many coastal countries.



With the traditional single-sector management approach not being been able to meet the multitude of challenges encountered in the coastal zone, Integrated Coastal Management requiring a much more comprehensive and holistic approach is now being promoted world over. ICM seeks to maintain the functional integrity of the coastal resource systems; reduce resource-use conflicts; maintain the health of the environment and facilitate the progress of multi-sectoral development.

ICM in effect represents a new paradigm of management for the managers, and a new way of thinking and educating for the scientists. Capacity building efforts thus need to re-orient existing managers of ocean and coastal areas toward a more holistic perspective of understanding the interrelationships that exist among multiple human use activities in coastal areas and their ecological impacts and, to train and educate a cadre of coastal professionals in a multidisciplinary manner to respond to the challenges of ICM.

Mr. Dharmaratne noted that since 2010, the Mangroves for the Future (MFF) regional programme implemented by IUCN and UNDP has joined with the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok, Thailand to provide training in ICM to practitioners and managers in sectors relevant to coastal management in Sri Lanka. IUCN and the MFF regionalprogramme has now decided to team up with the Ocean University of Sri Lanka to develop a national ICM training course to increase the number of training opportunities as well as to add local content and context to the ICM training.

In developing the proposed higher degree courses, the Ocean University has decided on a participatory and transparent approach to ensure stakeholder acceptance and quality assurance of the courses that will be offered by the Ocean University. He requested the active participation, assistance and guidance of representatives of stakeholder agencies in developing course contents for the proposed courses. He also pledged further meetings with representatives of stakeholder agencies to finalize the course curricula.

3. Address by Dr. Ananda Mallawatantri, Country Representative, IUCN Sri Lanka

During his address, Dr. Ananda Mallawatantri reminded that IUCN is the world's largest and oldest conservation agency advocating science based equitable and sustainable development. During the last seven years, IUCN through the IUCN/UNDP Mangroves for the Future (MFF) regional programme has provided training opportunities to 14 Sri Lankan participants in Integrated Coastal Zone Management at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand.

As Sri Lanka is developing rapidly there is intense pressure on natural resources in the coastal zone and its environment, exacerbated by climate change. Sustainable management within the coastal zone which calls for an integrated, multi-sectoral approach and the ability to use scientific information in decision making is constrained by lack of professionals. Responding to the urgent need to fast track the capacity development process in coastal zone management, IUCN has teamed up with the Ocean University of Sri Lanka to develop similar courses in Sri Lanka with more Sri Lankan content.

Dr. Mallawatnatri thanked the Ocean University for taking up the challenge and the opportunity to develop academic courses in Integrated Coastal Management and expressed his confidence that the proposed courses will make a significant contribution in filling the observed training and capacity building gaps in the field of integrated coastal management in the country. He was also thankful for the presence of high level expertise of varied disciplines at the consultation and hoped that the courses developed would lead to the best human resources capacity the country needs in the field of integrated coastal management.

4. Preparation of Proposed ICM courses- A guide for discussions

A PowerPoint presentation intended more as a guide for further discussions was presented by Mr. Leslie Joseph/Consultant. It was based on certain identified Thrust Areas expanded into Course Units. This presentation is given as **Annex 3**.

Participants were also provided with information on the Sri Lankan Qualifications Framework (SLQF) developed by the Ministry of Higher Education as a nationally consistent framework for all higher education qualifications offered in Sri Lanka. The proposed courses on ICM will adhere to the guidelines in the SLQF and the handout on those relevant to the proposed courses is given in **Annex 4**.

5. Discussions and Stakeholder inputs on Course development

5.1 Concerns were expressed whether the comprehensive subject matter proposed could be covered during a conventional Diploma or a Masters Degree programme. It was disclosed that:

- The Fisheries & Marine Science degree programme of University of Ruhuna cover 40-60% of the course contents included in the presentation.
- Nearly 80% of the proposed course contents are covered in the general degree course offered by the University of Sri Jayawardenapura
- The Sri Lanka Navy representative also informed that nearly 60% of the proposed course contents are covered during their trainings.

Discussions also revealed that contents or subject matters listed under Course Unit 4 (Coastal Governance), Unit 5 (ICM Planning) and Unit 6 (Skills /Capacity development) are not covered in the degree courses currently offered by the universities mentioned above.

In view of the above:

- Dr. Wijayananda proposed that some course be made **Compulsory** while others can be **Optional**
- Mr. Indra Ranasinghe proposed the concept of **Core Courses** and **Electives**

5.2 Additions proposed to Course Units Presentation

Additions proposed by the participants to the course units proposed during the presentation are summarized as follows:

Thrust Areas		• Coastal & Oceanic pollution and waste management • Coastal hazards • Marine Spatial Planning • MPA Designing and Management • River Basin and River outputs, also river basin management?
2.1 Coastal and marine habitats	Coastal and marine habitats of Sri Lanka – structure & distribution	Coastal Wetlands
4.1 Coastal Governance	National policies and legislation in Sri Lanka	Disaster Management Act Flood Ordinance
Unit 5.2 - ICM Planning	Tools and Strategies for Integrated Coastal Management	Land use planning Planning approaches Environmental Economics
Unit 6	Capacity/skills development	Research Methodologies (including Biostatistics) Basic Mathematics & Statistics Economics of Ocean Tourism/ business enterprises including small and medium enterprises.

5.3 Training needs analysis

With the Ocean University expressing its desire to run the first course for staff already in the relevant stakeholder agencies, a proposal was made to conduct a training needs analysis as it would also provide some guidance in developing and finalizing the course contents.

5.4 **Preparation of Graduate Profile**

As a marketing strategy, Prof. Jayasinghe proposed the preparation of a Graduate Profile – what a Graduate who comes out of this programme is capable of.

Annex 1: Workshop Agenda

Stakeholder Workshop on Post Graduate Masters and Diploma Courses in Integrated Coastal Management

02nd August 2016

Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA)

28/10, Malalasekera Mawatha, Colombo 07

AGENDA

1) Introductory address by Mr. Thilak Dharmaratne, Vice Chancellor, Ocean University of Sri Lanka
2) Address by Dr. Ananda Mallawatantri, Country Representative, IUCN Sri Lanka
3) Preparation of Proposed ICM courses- A guide for discussions
4) Stakeholder inputs on Course development
5) Vote of Thanks

Annex 2: List of Participants

S/N	Name	Organization	Designation
1	I H J Buddhika	Sri Lanka Coast Guard	OIC - Life Saving Training School
2	Indra Ranasinghe	MCRCF / DHI	CEO
3	J M P K Jayasinghe	Wayamba University	Senior Professor
4	S R Jayasekara	Department of Meteorology	Director
5	S M C I Senanayake	Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority	Assistant Director
6	N P Wijayanande	NOAC	
7	E I L Silva	Water Resources Secretariat	CEO
8	N D R Weerawardane	Forest Department	AddI C
9	Turny Pradeep Kumara	MEPA	General Manager
10	M Thenabadu	UNIVOTEC	Head of Department of Food and Agriculture
11	Sarath Amarasinghe	Ruhuna University	Senior Professor
12	Dr. T M W R M B Samarakoon	KDU	Senior Lecturer
13	Channa Suraweera	Dept. Wildlife Conservation	AD (Marine)
14	Nalin Mannepperuma	WMA	Director
15	H A P Caldera	SLN	DDNT
16	S H Brahmana	SLN	SSO (IT)
17	P N Chandraratne	NAQDA	Director General
18	M. Marcus	DFAR	Director
19	Sugath Dissanayaka	DMC	Director
20	Dr. Kamal Ranatunga	Uni. Sri Jayawadenapura	Senior Lecturer
21	Kanchana Wickramasinghe	IPS	Research Economist
22	Gamini Wijesinghe	Ministry of Environment	Director
23	Gamini Hewage	CC &CRMD	Director
24	Akila Harishchandra	NARA	Scientist
25	H A C C Perera	NARA	Senior Scientist
26	Thilak Dharmaratne	Ocean University	Vice Chancellor
27	Dr. Ananda Mallawatantri	IUCN	Country Representative
28	Dr. Champa Amarasiri	Ocean University	Consultant
29	Mr. Leslie Joseph	IUCN	Consultant
30	Harini Nishshanka	IUCN	Intern
31	Matheesha Katuwawala	IUCN	Intern
32	Damith Chandrasekara	IUCN	National Coordinator-MFF
33	Kumudini Ekratne	IUCN	Senior Program Officer

Annex 3: PP Presentation on Course Units

Stakeholder Workshop on
Postgraduate Diploma and Masters Courses in
Integrated Coastal Management
Ocean University of Sri Lanka
in collaboration with
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
On 2nd August at SLIDA, Colombo 07

1

Integrated Coastal Management

". . . a continuous and dynamic process by which decisions are taken and implemented for the sustainable use, development, and protection of coastal and marine areas and resources.

Cicin-Sain, B. et al, 1998

2

"The goal of ICM is to improve the quality of life of human communities who depend on coastal resources while maintaining the biological diversity and productivity of coastal ecosystems.

Thus ICM must integrate government with the community, science with management, and sectoral with public interests in preparing and implementing actions that combine investment in development with the conservation of environmental qualities and functions"

(UN-GESAMP 1996).

3

ICM acknowledges the **interrelationships** that exist among coastal and ocean uses and the environments they potentially affect, and is **designed to overcome the fragmentation inherent in the sectoral management approach.**

ICM is multi-purpose oriented, it analyzes implications of development, conflicting uses, and interrelationships between physical processes and human activities, and it **promotes linkages and harmonization** among sectoral coastal and ocean activities." (Cicin-Sain and Knecht 1998)

The ICM concept was born in 1992 during the Earth Summit of Rio de Janeiro

4

ICM is needed because of two major reasons:

1) the effects ocean and coastal uses, as well as activities farther upland can have on ocean and coastal environments, and

2) the effects ocean and coastal users can have on one another

A central aspect of ICM is the concept of "integration"

5

Capacity building in the context of ICM

"The design and conduct of the range of activities necessary to enhance the capacity of institutions and the individuals that comprise them to undertake effective ICM programs"

Two major types of capacity building efforts:

1) Those involving university-based degree programs on ICM or closely related subjects, and

2) Those Involving specific ICM courses (generally short courses)

A global survey in late 1990s showed 16 countries offering degree courses in ICM

6

Proposed ICM degree courses at OUSL

Postgraduate Diploma	25 credits	375 hrs lectures (theory) & practical /field work
Masters by course work	30 credits	450 hrs lectures (theory) & practical /field work
Masters with course work and a research	60 credits	900 hrs including a research component of minimum 15 credits

(2 hrs practical /field work = 1 hr lecture/theory)

7

Expectation/outcome

- Prepares students for positions with natural resource planning, management and regulation, impact assessment and monitoring or private sector engaged in development activities associated with coastal resources and environment
- Carrier development opportunities for mangers and technical staff attached to relevant stakeholder agencies

Initial intake planned from stakeholder agencies

8

Post graduate Diploma & Masters courses in ICM

Proposed Thrust Areas

- Marine and Coastal Ecological Systems
- Ecosystem Structure, Functions and Services to Man
- Oceanic processes and productivity of coastal ecosystems
- Ecological Systems and the Concept of Resilience
- Management Challenges and Threats
- Climate Change and Coastal Ecosystems
- Coastal governance in Sri Lanka – Policies, laws, institutional arrangements & achievements
- Guiding Principles of Integrated Coastal Management
- Tools and Strategies for Integrated Coastal Management
- ICM Programme Design

9

M.Sc. in ICM – Proposed course units

Unit 1	1.1 Introduction to the coastal zone, coastal habitats and associated resources and inter-relationships 1.2 Oceanic processes, productivity and fisheries 1.3 Introduction to coastal and marine environment in Sri Lanka
Unit 2	2.1 Coastal and marine habitats of Sri Lanka – structure & distribution 2.2 Coastal and marine resources of Sri Lanka and biodiversity 2.3 Ecosystem services and functions of the coastal habitats and associated resources in Sri Lanka 2.4 Coastal & marine resources utilization in Sri Lanka
Unit 3	Threats to sustainability of coastal habitats/resources and conservation of coastal environment in Sri Lanka

10

M.Sc. in ICM – Proposed course units

Unit 4	4.1 Coastal governance - National policies and legislation in Sri Lanka 4.2 History of sector based and integrated coastal resources management and environment conservation in Sri Lanka
Unit 5	5.1 ICM – concept and principles 5.2 ICM planning 5.3 Establishing /strengthening legal frame work for ICM 5.4 International conventions relevant to ICM
Unit 6	Capacity/skills development

11

Proposed course contents

1.1 Introduction to Coastal Zone / Importance and need for ICM

- Characteristics of the coastal zone (habitat diversity, productivity & linkages)
- Goods and services (navigation & communication/ resource use / minerals & energy / tourism & recreation / coast protection)
- Stakeholder/user conflicts and threats
- Impact of upland activities (agriculture/forestry/river diversions/industrial pollution)
- Natural hazards/climate change
- Shortcomings in sector-wise management approach

12

Proposed course contents

1.2 Oceanic processes and productivity

- Oceanic circulation
- Waves, Winds & Tides
- Sea surface temperatures
- Surface currents
- Thermocline and upwellings
- El Nino

13

Proposed course contents

1.3 Introduction to coastal and marine environment in Sri Lanka

- Natural and legal (administrative) boundaries of coastal zone
- Socio-economic relevance
- Coastal geomorphology
- Bio-physical features
- Climatic conditions
- Archeological and historic sites
- Protected areas (National Parks, Sanctuaries, Nature reserves)
- Economic Development Trends (Development of Maritime, Energy and Tourism Hubs)
- Driving forces contributing to coastal habitat degradation and resource depletion

14

Proposed course contents

2.1 Coastal and marine habitats of Sri Lanka – structure & distribution

- Coastal waters
- Coral reefs
- Sea grass beds
- Estuaries & Lagoons
- Mangrove
- Salt marshes/Mud flats
- Barrier beaches, spits and dunes

15

Proposed course contents

2.2 Coastal and marine resources of Sri Lanka and biodiversity

- Coastal and marine living resources and their distribution (Finfish, crustaceans, chank, Beche de Mer, other invertebrates, etc)
- Marine mammals
- Sea turtles
- Birds including migratory birds
- Bio-diversity in coastal habitats

Coastal and marine non-living resources (mineral sands, oil & gas)

16

Proposed course contents

2.3 Ecosystem services and functions of the coastal habitats and associated resources in Sri Lanka

- Classification of Ecosystem functions - Regulating /Supporting/Provisioning /Cultural
- Ecosystem-wise Extractive /Non-extractive & Transformative uses

Habitat-wise analysis of ecosystem services and functions / inter- relationships /linkages

17

Proposed course contents

2.4 Coastal & marine resources utilization in Sri Lanka

- Marine and coastal fishing
- Brackish water fisheries & Coastal aquaculture
- Coastal tourism
- Mining (coral, sand,)
- Agriculture
- Salt production
- Livestock & animal husbandry
- Oil and gas exploration
- Wind power generation
- Maritime transportation
- Urban development
- Road/high way development

18

Proposed course contents

Unit 3-Threats to sustainability of coastal habitats & resources and conservation of coastal environment

- Coastal erosion /Sedimentation /Eutrophication
- Pollution of coastal waters (Industrial effluents, agro-chemicals, waste disposal)
- Resources over-harvesting /selective harvesting / use of harmful harvesting techniques
- Unplanned development (urbanization, tourism, aquaculture)
- Climate change & Natural Hazards
- Impact of upland activities Impact of the Conflict Situation on the Coastal Habitats
- Impact of the 2004 Tsunami on Coastal Habitats

Threat analysis by point and non-point sources and by habitat/ecosystem

19

Proposed course contents

4.1 Coastal governance - National policies and legislation in Sri Lanka

- Agencies and their mandates for developing, managing and/or regulating activities in the coastal region
- Legal and institutional arrangements for developing, managing and/or regulating activities in the coastal region
- Overlapping and conflicting provisions

20

Proposed course contents

4.1 Coastal governance

- The National Physical Planning Policy (2011-2030)
- National Land Use Policy
- National Disaster Management Policy
- National Agricultural Policy
- National Fisheries policy
- The Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act No. 2 of 1966 and amendments
- The National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka Act No. 53 of 1988
- Tourism Act No. 38 of 2005
- Coast Conservation Act No. 57 of 1981 and Amendments:
- National Forest Policy of Sri Lanka -1995
- Forest Ordinance (Amendment) Act, No. 65 of 2009
- Fauna and Flora Protection Ordinance
- Mines and Minerals Act
- Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation Act, No. 15 of 1968

21

Proposed course contents

4.1 Coastal governance

- State (Crown) Land Ordinance No.8 of 1947:
- National Environment Act No. 47 of 1980
- The North Western Province Environmental Statute, No. 12 of 1990
- The Urban Development Authority Law No. 37 of 1978
- The National Aquatic Resources Research and Development Agency Act No. 54 of 1981:
- The Natural Resources, Energy and Science Authority of Sri Lanka Act, No. 78 of 1981
- National Climate Change Policy of Sri Lanka, 2012 (Ministry of Environment)
- National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for Sri Lanka, 2011-2016 (Ministry of Environment)
- The Marine Environment Protection Act No. 35 of 2008 (National Oil Spill Contingency Plan -NOSCP)
- National Heritage and Wilderness Areas Act
- Department of Coast Guard Act, No. 41 of 2009
- Board of Investment of Sri Lanka Law No.4

22

Proposed course contents

4.2 ICM in Sri Lanka

Legal & Institutional arrangements

- Protection of critical habitats and threatened/endangered species under different Acts & Regulations
- Institutional arrangements for collaborative management and conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems/resources
- Controlling development activities within the coastal zone
- History of coastal zone management in Sri Lanka

23

Proposed course contents

5.1 ICM - Guiding Principles

- Principle of the public nature of the oceans
- Principles related to the biophysical nature of the coastal zone
- Principles related to the use of coastal and ocean resources and space (including traditional rights, development priorities, managing conflicts and climate change)
- Nature of land and water ownership and jurisdiction
- Principles of Integration (Inter-sectoral / Inter-governmental / Spatial / International)

24

Proposed course contents

ICM - Guiding Principles

- Enabling Conditions for ICM Programme/Project Implementation
- Social Empowerment

Social Empowerment

- Access to information & valuing traditional knowledge
- Capacity & Skills Development
- Community Organization
- Economic empowerment (Microfinance)
- Land tenure and property rights

Gender (mainstreaming) Integration

25

Proposed course contents

5.2 ICM Planning

- Goals and objectives (Expectations)
- Scope of the ICM
- Delineating CZ boundaries
- Benefits from ICM
- The concept of sustainability
- Defining Integration
- ICM Framework
- Constraints of ICZM

26

Proposed course contents

Tools and Strategies for Integrated Coastal M anagement

- Situation analysis and Issue identification
- Program planning and design strategies
- Resourcing and Implementation
- Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning
- Environment evaluations and assessments

27

Proposed course contents

5.3 Establishing /strengthening legal frame work for ICM

- ICM governance
- ICM Principles
- ICM and international laws/treaties
- Issues/approaches & techniques in developing an ICM legal framework
- Global development of ICM law

- **ICM -Case studies from selected countries?**

28

Proposed course contents

5.4 International conventions related to ICM 5.5

- MARPOL Convention (for the prevention of pollution from ships**)**
- Basel Convention (control of trans-boundary movements of hazardous wastes and their disposal)
- United Nations Law of the Sea Convention (UNCLOS)
- FAO Code of Conduct for responsible Fishing
- United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
- Convention on Migratory Species
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
- Ramsar Convention
- Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)
- Framework Convention on Climate Change,
- Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities,
- Plan of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,
- International Coral Reef Initiative

29

Proposed course contents

Unit 6 - Capacity/skills development

- Entrepreneur development & green economy
- Information & Communication technology
- Application of remote sensing and GIS for planning & management
- Statistics (Biostatistics)
- Scientific writing & presentations

30

Annex 4: Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework (SLQF)

- The Sri Lankan Qualifications Framework (SLQF) has been developed by the Ministry of Higher Education

- It is a nationally consistent framework for all higher education qualifications offered in Sri Lanka.

- It recognizes the volume of learning of students and identifies the learning outcomes that are to be achieved by the qualification holders.

- Assist employers to identify the levels of knowledge, skills and competencies of qualification holders

- SLQF integrates the National Vocational Qualifications Framework (NVQF) developed by the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission and the pathways of lateral mobility between the vocational education sector and higher education sector have also been identified

- SLQF recognizes prior learning and facilitate access to higher learning and thereby contribute to full personal development of learners and to social and economic development of the country

- SLQF consists of ten levels. The demand for learning outcomes and complexity of learning increase with each level. The first two levels (levels 1-2) are senior secondary level education qualifications and the next four levels (levels 3-6) are undergraduate qualifications. The other six levels (levels 7-12) are postgraduate qualifications

- Minimum requirement for each level of SLQF

SLQF Level	Qualification awarded	Minimum Requirements for the Award
10	Masters with course work and a research component	60 credits after SLQL 5 or SLQL 6 including a research component of minimum 15 credits
9	Masters with course work	30 credits after SLQL 5 or SLQL 6
8	Postgraduate Diploma	25 credits after SLQL 5 or SLQL 6

SLQF Levels 5 & 6 refer to Bachelors and Honours degrees

One credit is equivalent to 15 hours of lectures or 30-45 hours of laboratory studies or 45 hours of field studies/clinical work or minimum of 90 hours of industrial training.

Sri Lanka Qualifications Framework - Qualification Descriptors and Level Descriptors for Masters and Postgraduate Diploma

	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA	MASTERS DEGREE BY COURSE WORK	MASTERS WITH COURSE WORK AND A RESEARCH COMPONENT
SLQF Level	**8**	**9**	**10**
Purpose and Scope of Qualification	The purpose of this qualification is to enhance the capacity of graduates/holders of professional qualifications to advance their knowledge, and other abilities relevant to areas within a specific field of study or discipline enabling professional advancement. This qualification demands a high level of theoretical engagement. It may not require conducting a research project but require conducting some independent studies	The purpose of this qualification is to enhance the capacity of graduates/holders of professional qualifications to advance their knowledge and investigative skills, and other abilities relevant to areas within a specific field of study or discipline enabling conversion into a different discipline/profession, forming the basis for academic advancement or enhancing the managerial, administrative and technological capacity. This qualification demands a high level of theoretical engagement and guided independent study equivalent to a minimum of 5 credits.	The purpose of this qualification is to enhance the capacity of graduates/holders of professional qualifications to advance their knowledge and research skills, and other abilities relevant to areas within a specific field of study or discipline preparing graduates for higher degrees and specialized professional employment or enhancing the managerial, administrative and technological capacity. This qualification should be earned by completing course work aggregating to a minimum of 30 credits at SLQF levels 7 to 10 and a research project with notional learning hours totaling to a minimum of 15 credits. The research should be carried out under the guidance of a supervisor holding an equivalent or a higher qualification and should make an original academic contribution to a particular discipline. The candidate should submit a dissertation which is evaluated and accepted.
	The qualification holders: - should be able to demonstrate clear understanding of theoretical knowledge - should display critical awareness of	The qualification holders: - should be able to demonstrate thorough understanding of theoretical knowledge. - should display critical awareness of current	The qualification holders: - should be able to demonstrate critical awareness of current issues in the subject area and be able to apply techniques relevant to profession/

	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA	MASTERS DEGREE BY COURSE WORK	MASTERS WITH COURSE WORK AND A RESEARCH COMPONENT
Attributes of Qualification Holders	current issues in the subject area - should apply techniques relevant to their professional practice/ chosen field of study. - should also be able to deal with complex issues systematically and creatively, and make sound judgments and communicate decisions clearly to others. - should demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems and be able to plan and implement tasks independently in a professional manner.	issues in their subject area. - should apply techniques relevant to their professional practice. - should also be able to deal with complex issues systematically and creatively and make sound judgments and communicate decisions clearly to others. - should demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems and be able to plan and implement tasks at professional levels	area of specialization. - should be able to deal with complex issues systematically and creatively and make sound judgments and communicate decisions clearly to specialist and non-specialist groups. - should demonstrate self direction and originality in tackling and solving problems and be able to plan and implement tasks at professional manner.
Minimum Admission Requirement	1. A Bachelor's degree, (a) including 30 credits in the relevant subject area* or (b) with prior learning/work experience equivalent to 30 credits in the relevant subject area or 2. A qualification in the relevant subject area equivalent to 1(a) or 1(b), or 3. Completion of NVQ level 7, as determined by the academic authority of HEI, may be considered	1. A Bachelor's degree, (a) including 30 credits in the relevant subject area* or (b) with prior learning/work experience equivalent to 30 credits in the relevant subject area or 2. A qualification in the relevant subject area equivalent to 1(a) or 1(b), or 3. Completion of NVQ level 7, as determined by the academic authority of HEI, may be considered.	1. A Bachelor's degree including 30 credits in the relevant subject area*, or 2. A qualification of SLQF level 6 or above in the relevant area* of study, or 3. A professional qualification equivalent to SLQF level 6 or above, or 4. Completion of NVQ level 7 with a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a scale of 0-4, as determined by the academic authority of HEI, may be considered for admission in that field of specialization.
Volume of Learning	25 credits after SLQL 5 or SLQL 6	30 credits after SLQL 5 or SLQL 6	60 credits after SLQL 5 or SLQL 6 including a research component of minimum 15 credits
Designators	Not applicable	Master's degree designators are limited to specific areas of study. Examples include Master of Information Technology, Master of Linguistics, Master of Library Science etc.	Master's degree designators are specific and limited to broad generic areas of discipline or profession. The examples include Master of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Commerce, Master of Education, Master of Business Administration, etc.

	POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA	MASTERS DEGREE BY COURSE WORK	MASTERS WITH COURSE WORK AND A RESEARCH COMPONENT
Qualifiers	Maximum two Examples: Postgraduate Diploma in Education, Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Science	Not applicable	Maximum one Examples: Master of Arts in Sinhala. Master of Science in Environmental Science.
Abbreviation	PGDip (Education), PGDip (Env Sc),	MIT, MLinguistics, MAgri, MLibSc	Examples: MA, MCom, MEd, MA (Sinhala), MSc, MSc (Environmental Science).
Progression	Completion of Postgraduate Diploma meets the entry requirements to SLQF level 9 to 11 in the same field of specialization. A qualification shall not be awarded for early exit from this level. However, a postgraduate certificate may be awarded for those who are completing 20 credits of theoretical engagement at SLQF Levels 7-9.	Completion of Master's Degree meets the entry requirement to SLQF level 10 or 11 in the same field of specialization. A Postgraduate Diploma or a Postgraduate Certificate may be awarded to those who exit early completing 25 credits or 20 credits respectively.	Completion of SLQF level 10 meets the entry requirement to an MPhil degree in the same field of specialization. Early exit from this level is possible provided that the candidate has completed 25 credits in course work. In such a situation, the qualification awarded shall be Postgraduate Diploma in the relevant field, which is at SLQF level 8