



**Social Screening Report:
Rehabilitation of Heelpenkandura
and Rajapihilla Upstream Kandy Lake**



**Strategic Cities Development Project, Kandy City region
MINISTRY OF MEGAPOLIS AND WESTERN DEVELOPMENT
Sethsiripaya Battaramulla**

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1. Background

Strategic Cities Development Project has been initiated by the Government of Sri Lanka to respond to some of the current urban problems and the emerging needs of a Middle Income Country that it aspires to achieve in the medium term whilst addressing the long term goals of sustainability, inclusion and poverty reduction. The total project cost amounting to USD 192.08 MN is co-financed by the GOSL with USD 45.08 MN and the IDA credit facility of USD 147 MN managed by the World Bank (Project ID: P130548).

The above objective is to be materialized through developing a system of competitive and strategically linked cities of Sri Lanka to improve urban services and public urban spaces contributing to improved livability and investment attractiveness. This concept of systemic urban development underscores triggering strategic or purposive linkages between and among the selected cities towards achieving the stated development outcomes of the project over and above the physical outputs and thereby contributing to cause or reinforce positive impacts. In this connections the cities are placed within a framework of City Region instead of confining interventions to administrative boundaries of the local government authorities under whose jurisdiction the cities are situated.

Kandy Strategic Cities Development Project focuses on relieving traffic congestion and upgrading municipal services to enhance livability and to sustain world heritage city and its agglomeration areas. It envisages two broad categories of strategic investments: (1) Integrated urban services improvement thereby enhancing functional aspects of the city, and (2) Public urban spaces enhancement thus enhancing the attractiveness and livability of the city.

The interventions encompass the following activity areas:

- a) Traffic improvements (rehabilitation of selected by-pass roads, establishment and improvement of selected public transport facilities, and traffic management measures
- b) Augmentation and rehabilitation of Kandy municipal water supply system
- c) Rehabilitation of major drains
- d) Urban upgrading (enhancement of selected streetscapes and public spaces, restoration and adaptive reuse of historic and landmark buildings, and development of an integrated master plan).

2. Sub-Project Description

2.1 Brief Introduction to the Sub Project

Heelpankandura and Rajapihilla rehabilitation is planned to improve the city's major drainage infrastructures and flood control system. The sub project involves rehabilitation and redesigning of the existing upstream canals to improve storm water conveyance on the one hand and reduce flash floods on the other. The identified streams are located upstream the Kandy Lake (Figure 1:

Location Map) to which they drain. They flow down steep terrain and pass through narrow sections resulting in high velocity of water and floods in certain areas during heavy rain.



Figure 1. Location Map Rajapihilla & Heenpenkadura

Under the sub-project the following activities have been prioritized:

- De silting of canals, concreting canal bed and embankments
- Demarcate the reservation area with concrete boundary marks

The total length of HeelpenKandura and Rajapihilla streams are 850 m and 260 m respectively. They flow through populated areas in narrow channels as well as under permanent building structures in some places. The width of the streams varies from 0.5 – 1m and these streams. HeelpenKandura merges with Rajapihilla at Ch. 560m and Rajapihilla merges with HeelpenKandura at Ch. 268m. The headwater of these streams is finally discharged into the Kandy Lake via Rathubokkuwa silt trap at Ch. 850m.

The sub-project will directly benefit the population totaling 350 persons including in particular the residents of about 55 households around the identified locations together with 10 households that experience storm water generated floods from time to time.

The project cost is estimated at Rs. 35 MN. It will be implemented by the Ministry of Megapolis and Western Development, with the KMC and the Irrigation Department joining in as Project Partner Agencies. The project is scheduled to be completed by 2017 January.

2.2 Existing Conditions of Facility

Heenpenkadura & Rajapihilla are open streams which are narrow in most places and deep in some sections. There are few illegal constructions in the reservations including one supported by columns erected on the stream bed (Annex 1). In some places the streams are silted up. They cannot take the seasonal rain without causing floods.

Situated in a hilly terrain and in an environmentally sensitive region, Kandy City is faced with a serious challenge in environmental protection. Permanent residential and commercial structure either side of the two water streams have been made polluted due to discharging waste water, erosion of the bed and bank in the stream get effected to increase pollution of the canals such water and contaminated water entering the lake and the deposition of silt, presenting a threat to human wellbeing as well as fish species.

Unregulated and unplanned human settlement expansion upstream in combination with sub-standard practices of household wastewater management and environmental management have exerted pressure on the two upper streams and contributed to water pollution in the lake. Many households and business premises have the sewers and wastewater outlets diverted to the canals (Annex 1) As a result of constructions abutting the canal reservations that contribute to obstruct the storm water, 10 downstream houses get inundated minimum twice a year. Also most of the garbage and sewerage water from the surrounding establishments dump into the canal deteriorating its water quality spreading bad smell in and around the area.

2.3 Scope of Proposed Civil Works

Major components of the sub project, according to the designs prepared by Lanka Hydraulic Institute, the Consultant, involves the following:

Table 1. Scope of Civil Works

Component	Item Description
Sub Component 1: Rehabilitation up to the confluence of the two streams	De-silting and removing debris
	Concrete lining
Sub Component 2: Rehabilitation from the confluence to the downstream silt trap (Red Culvert)	De-silting and removing debris
	Stabilize roadside bank with Gabion walls

The existing canal will not be widened. The constructed drains will be rectangular concrete lined drains. Basic details of the proposed construction work are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Basic Details of Two Upper Streams Rehabilitation

No.	Description of Proposed Improvements	Quantity
1	Heelpen Kadura chainage	542m
2	Width of stream	1.0m – 2.0m
3	Depth of stream	0.3 m – 1.5 m
4	Slope of stream	0.01m – 0.17m
5	Rajapihilla Kaduara chainage	324m
6	Width of stream	0.7m – 2.0m
7	Depth of stream	0.4 m – 1.5 m
8	Slope of stream	0.01m – 0.39m
9	De-silting, Heelpen Kadura Total length	850m
10	De-silting, Rajapihilla Total length	260m
11	Concrete Lining of Canal Bed, Heelpen kadura	850m
12	Concrete Lining of Canal Bed, Rajapihilla	260m
13	Construction of check-dams	05

The improvement to the canal bed that will contribute to flood reduction is illustrated in the following graph (Figure 2) produced by the Consultant on behalf of the project authorities.

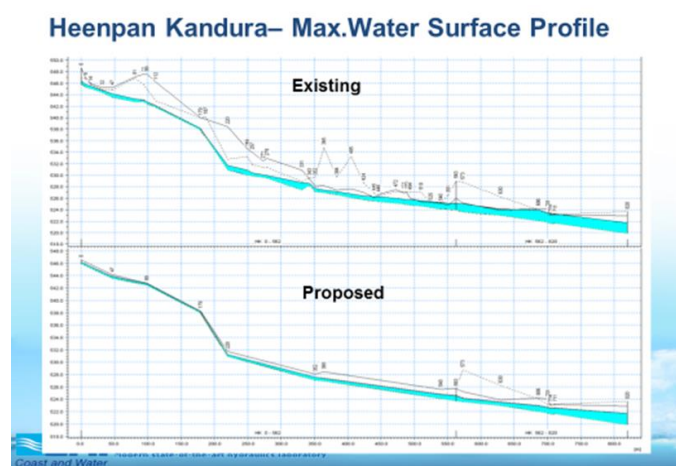


Figure 2. Heelpenkandura Maximum Water Surface Profile

Heelpenkandura and Rajapihilla Upstream rehabilitation sub project is not linked to any other activity not funded by SCDP. However, five silt traps are rehabilitated or constructed along the same drainage path as a separate activity. Further, the project sustainability is enhanced by the implementation of Kandy Wastewater Management Project in the Municipality that will result in

a centralized and modern standard wastewater collection, treatment and disposal system that will also contribute to improved water quality in Kandy Lake.

No ancillary impacts or activities away from the sub-project site are anticipated.

The sub-project has a timeline of 12 months for completion, effective 5th January 2016.

Start Date of Construction	05 January 2016
End date of Construction	05 January 2017

3. Justification of Project Design and Alternative Analysis

3.1 Importance of Proposed Activity

The proposed activity is undertaken to improve the drainage system and reduce the incidence of flash floods. Concrete lined rectangular drains with protected embankments will be constructed on the existing natural drainage path that is obstructed by the haphazard development and unplanned urbanization occurring in Kandy in the modern period. The identified locations with connection to Kandy Lake are part of Kandy history and heritage.

According to the project design no widening of the canal is anticipated. Therefore, there will be no adverse impacts of any serious nature due to the project. On the contrary, the new construction will enhance the aesthetic value of the natural landscape. Unlike the open drainage path presently displaying neglect and effects of erosion that gets worsened with every rain, the improved canal will strengthen and stabilize the landscape. Where needed the canal will be de-silted, allowing for free flow of storm water though in a controlled manner as the velocity of water flow will be regulated through the control structures including the silt traps erected down the drainage path.

The authorities have agreed to accede the request from the Department of Archaeology to strengthen the embankment of the site of Royal Bathing Place (Rajapihilla). The project will add value in terms of making enabling conditions in place for beautifying the surroundings of Rajapihilla while retaining the historic site in original form.

The sub-project design also involves landscaping and measures to enhance public safety whilst ensuring protection of the structures.

3.2 Resilience to Natural Disasters

Resilience to natural disasters of the sub-project is ensured by the adoption of best engineering practices guaranteeing quality of all constructions including the check dams and Gabion walls to protect the banks from erosion. The existing canals will have enhanced capacity due to redesign and the construction with better facilities for maintenance and public safety where needed.

4. Corridor of Impacts

The area covered by the sub project is the existing drainage pathway that covers sections of two GN Divisions, namely, Ampitiya south and Apmitiya north in the Divisional Secretariat Division of Gangawata Korale.

4.1 Impact Area

The sub-project covers an area of 866m long canal path that is 1 m to 2 m wide. Proposed rehabilitation does not involve canal widening; only the existing canals are rehabilitated. The impact area is the space covered above and the space that extends over 10 m beyond the canal banks either side.

Heelpenkadura and Rajapihilla streams originate from the western slope of the Wakerai forest reserve and flows through a densely populated area where private residences and commercial establishments have been constructed. For example, at the confluence of the two streams (CH 0+268) is located Devon Hotel. The two streams discharged into the Kandy Lake via Rathubokkuwa silt trap at Ch. 850m. Some of the constructions have encroached on the canal reservations.

However, the proposed activity envisages no canal widening or re-establishing the original reservations or breaking down any structures on the reservations encroached. Therefore, there is no adverse impact on the community except for temporary inconveniences and disturbances. As the project area has limited space for moving machinery, it has been proposed to do work manually and use ready mix concreting.

It is worth mentioning, however, that the community suggested taking advantage of the existing local labor that would significantly reduce the need for erecting labor camps.

4.2 Impact Identification and Assessment

Initially, the PMU took steps for making the key stakeholders aware and obtaining cooperation for project implementation (Annexes 2 and 3). In particular, Rajapihilla (Royal Bathing Water Sprout) being a site of archeological importance further consultations were held with the Department of Archaeology that resulted in incorporation of certain concerns of the department into the sub-project design and department's consent for implementing the sub project (Annex 4). The department requested for (a) resurrecting the live fence, (b) terracing the western water drain, (c) embankment filling, (d) protecting fauna and flora, and (e) constructing viewpoint and a security hut. Kandy Heritage Committee also consented to the project after discussion (Annex 5).

Community consultations were undertaken to create a socially conducive environment for implementation of different sub-projects through activating the social safeguard management framework. These were conducted at the household and community level, including local political leaders and field officers of the government. A brochure containing basic information about the Kandy SCDP was circulated (Annex 6). In this process discussions were held with household members, business owners / operators and commuters. Discussions were held with Buddhist monks in the area. In all, 45 out of 55 households in the project impact area coming under the two

GN Divisions were engaged in the community consultation process (Annexes 7 and 8). Physical observation visits were undertaken during the field visits. Group consultations were also conducted with the community following which the participants selected a committee of volunteers to connect the community with the PMU (Annex 9). The social team explained the designs of the project, proposed construction works, anticipated negative impacts, responsibility of people in the neighbourhood for maintenance after construction and the availability of official arrangements for the people to make complaints at the project level.

Table 3. Participation in Community Consultations

S. No.	GN Division	No. of Males	No. of Females	Total No. of Participants
1	Ampitiya North	04	03	07
2	Ampitiya south	21	16	37

Some of the major issues and concerns that the participants expressed included the following:

- Is there a plan to construct some structures by the tributaries connected to Heelpankandura?
- When does the work start on Heelpankandura?
- Will this require any land acquisition?
- There is a retaining wall built by a resident adjacent to the Heelpankandura. Will there be any damage to this structure?
- What work will be done at the Rajapihilla archeological site?
- Could we expect a satisfactory solution to the problem of inundation of houses during the rainy season?
- Will the proposed construction work affect the day-to-day life of the residents?

The impacts identified by the community and their assessment obtained during consultations are summarized in the Table 4.

Table 4. Impact Identification and Assessment

Item of Impact	Core Area	Impact	Indirect Impact Area	Anticipated Impacts	Remarks
Damage to Infrastructure	-		+	Roads, utilities might be damaged accidentally by vehicles or workers	

Noise, Vibration & Dust	+	+	Due to unloading materials and construction work in the neighbourhood	
Royal Bathing Place	+	+	Due to constructions upstream	Increased water flow
Transportation	++	++	Due to traffic congestion, increased risk of accidents, interruption of services.	Certain routes are in residential areas.
Public Health & HIV	-	+	Inflow of workers may spread infectious diseases	Contractor many want to have labour camps; Neighborhood working class area and the outside workers may interact
Public Security	+	++	Inflow of workers may endanger public security	Worker behaviors may not be approved by community.
Public Safety	+	+	Some sections are deep and open	
Muck Disposal	-	++	May be left over in the neighborhood or dumped in sensitive areas	The responsibility of removal of debris has been given to the contractor.

Code: +++ Major Impact; ++ Moderate Impact; + Minor Impact; - No Impact

4.3 Significant Impacts

(i) Improved Quality of Public Health

The implementation of the sub-project will lead to positive health outcomes and impacts due to effective control of seasonal floods flowing into residential and business premises mixed with wastewater and polluted water resulting from the rehabilitation of the two water stream including improvements to the canal bed, banks and related infrastructure. At least 10 houses located downstream where the canal overflows are vulnerable to the seasonal floods.

(ii) Improvement in Visual Quality of Landscape

The new constructions will enhance the visual landscape of the area and serves the environmental protection needs through embankment protection and improved carrying capacity.

(iii) Improved Property Safety and Sustainability of Drainage Infrastructure

Rehabilitation of two water stream as envisaged that the sub-project improves the carrying capacity of the water streams. Improved carrying capacity relieves threats to private and public property from storm water induced floods and health hazards. Further, soil erosion will be contained by the planting appropriate plant species in the embankment where the canal meets the lake.

(iv) Risks to Public Safety

Although there is no land loss, resettlement or livelihood impairment, the public will be inconvenienced during the period of construction by dust, noise, disturbances and interruption of vehicular movement, etc. These are detailed in the impact mitigation schedule.

4.4 Impact Mitigation

Table 5. Potential Impacts and Proposed Mitigation Measures

Item of Impact	Anticipated Impact	Proposed Mitigation Measure	Responsibility
Transportation	Access to residential areas and institutions may be constrained due to contractors' machinery, vehicles transporting materials and workers, use of	Educate public on construction schedule and locations; Identify storage facilities and parking facilities away from main roads and lanes; Carry out	Contractor under supervision of the project consultant engineer; Contractor to

	private parking spaces for machinery and vehicles and heaping of materials silt and earth removed; Traffic congestion	construction work at night; Employ more workers and complete work early	inform the APD/ Social and obtain community support
Damage to Infrastructure	Public and private utilities may be damaged accidentally	Discuss with KMC, NWSDB regarding restoration of services on payment; Have skilled workmen and materials with the contractors to respond immediately; Involve community contact persons to inform PMU – Kandy, and the latter to inform agencies and contractors and give feedback to complainant and community contact person	DPD / Kandy; Chief Engineer/ KMC; Chief Engineer/ ID; AD/ Social; Director/ NWSDB, Kandy; Contractor; Community volunteer coordinator
Damage to Archaeological Assets	Rajapihilla may be accidentally damaged; Increased velocity of storm water may damage the structure	Include suggested improvements keeping the archaeological value intact;	Involve the department while working at site

-Noise & Vibration	Drilling, Unloading construction materials, Vehicle movement and construction work may increase the noise level and dust	Control noise generation sources according to the approved standards; Avoid activities producing noise during sensitive periods (night time); Develop a mechanism to record and respond to complaints; Use low noise vehicles; Cover removed earth before it rains; Use manual labour as much as possible	Contractor supervised by PMU and consultant engineer
Dust		Wet the area before and during working; Clean the roads and vegetation of dust after work	Contractor under supervision of PMU and Consultant Engineer and KMC
Public Safety	Communities may be exposed to risk due to movement of machinery and vehicles transporting construction materials etc. that may cause accidents; Presence of outsiders / workers temporarily resident may be risky for the neighborhood communities	Adopt best practices in engineering designs including for embankment protection; Introduce speed limits; Sound warning signals and sirens; Place traffic signs along access roads; Obtain traffic police assistance in place at schools for traffic management; Register the workers with authorities and employ supervisor	Contractor supervised by PMU and consultant engineer and KMC
Property Damage	Private and public property may be accidentally damaged	Reinstate/ repair at contractor's cost under supervision of owner	Contractor supervised by owner

Health and Sanitation	Increased interaction between workers and community may cause health issues; Worker camps without adequate sanitation could introduce health issues; Alcohol taking and other social behaviors of workers could create problems	Worker education and awareness building; Locate worker camps outside; Subject workers for supervision	Contractor; APD/ Social; Community volunteer work; KMC PHI
Muck Disposal / Wastes Pollution	Wastes may be left at construction sites, especially upstream or dumped in sensitive areas	Get KMC to dispose some materials; Dispose silt at sites ID identifies; Dispose solid wastes appropriately; Allow contractor to identify dumping sites and come to arrangements with owners; Send project social team with environment officers for suitability checks	Contractor under supervision of project consultant engineer; KMC environmental officer; APD/ Social; Community volunteer work; KMC PHI

Further, based on the SSR, a schedule of activities in respect of mitigation of identified adverse social impacts would be prepared to include as an essential part of the Contracts to be entered into with the service providers.

4.5 Public Disclosure and Information Dissemination

Disclosure of information and maintenance of transparency is a cardinal principle of the SCDP governance ideology, the National Involuntary Resettlement Policy and the World Bank Resettlement Policy Framework. The main social significance of the Information Disclosure Policy is that when the Project Authorities maintain transparency in project implementation it produces mutual trust outcomes between the PAPs and the Stakeholders. Problems that occur in the implementation process can thereby be effectively and efficiently resolved and implementation delays circumvented. It contributes to local ownership of externally initiated projects as well as convergence by the time the project is concluded and commissioned. SCDP is taking every step to disclose information to the public. SSR, once complete, will be public document containing accurate, updated and reliable information.

4.6 Grievance Redress Mechanism

Sub-project specific GRM is not necessary because implementation does not cause damage to private property or structure loss or livelihood impairment requiring acquisition and payment of compensation

However, the public has been informed about the project level GRM (local PMU) to lodge complaints in the event of project created inconveniences or interruption of utility services. As noted before, measures have been proposed to address construction related temporary impacts. Grievance redress mechanism has already been formed at the project level. The community has also selected respected persons to serve in a committee to assist in the process and link the community with the project. These members include K.L.R. Sugathnath, T.D.N. Rupasinghe, C. C. Wikkramaarachchi, Sena Godage and Gunaratne Madarasinge.

5. Socio Economic Profile of the Area

The project impact area falls within two Grama Niladari Divisions; Ampitiya North and Ampitiya South of Gangawatakorale Divisional Secretariat Division. The total population of the impact area (defined as 10 meters distance either side of the stream) consists of a few persons. Therefore, a general situation of the area at large is described. Accordingly, the area has a total population of about 350 persons. There are 15 commercial establishments such as retail shops, saloon, garage and small tea shops, also having 24 tourists guest houses including one three star tourist hotel. In addition, one Buddhist temple, one archeological site (Rajapihilla), one playground, one public bathing place, a 25 acres of forest reserve, abandoned four acres of paddy field and five bus halts are located in the area. The livelihoods of the people of the area include private and public sector employments, retail business, hotel industry including tourist inns, mobile business, self-employment and wage employment. The average monthly family income is said to vary from Rs.25, 000 to Rs.200, 000.

6. Social Acceptance of Sub-Project

The PMU Social Development Team together with the project technical staff members visited the specific sites – generally assisted by the stakeholder agency officers in the field – to explain about the details of the SCDP, the construction works planned and the best practices that would be adopted, in addition to retaining renowned International Service Providers for certain constructions. Although this particular sub-project does not cause significant adverse impacts, in the meetings with the community they discussed about the potential impacts upon the individuals and the neighborhood communities including the general public as a result of the implementation of the proposed development activity. The adoption of the screening form helped in managing or steering the discussion process including making people think.

At the beginning the people were puzzled because they have not had such organized meetings or encounters with authorities before. On the other hand, with the common experience in terms of impacts from seasonal floods mixed with dirt and polluted wastewater, they could not understand a discourse on the obvious.

It became clear through the process of consultation that the community is eager to welcoming the sub-project that relieves them of the recurring problems due to floods and that brings tangible benefits. Further, the proposed activities would take place on the existing drainage pathways already constructed or are naturally formed. There was neither land nor property acquisition, resettlement, artefacts, symbols affected due to the designed sub-project. There were no households or families rendered vulnerable by the proposed activity that would require Resettlement Action Plan. The area has no indigenous people. Apart from temporary disturbances, community livelihoods are not impacted by the implementation of the sub-project. Therefore, the communities of the impact area agreed with the implementation of the proposed activity and pledged cooperation to ensure smooth implementation. Community expects that the sub-project will offer employment opportunities in the unskilled category. However, the people are aware that only a limited number of labor work will be available because most of the work will be undertaken using machinery such as back-hoe and bulldozers etc.

7. Social Screening Report

Probable Involuntary Resettlement Effects	Yes	No	Not Known	Details
Will the sub-project include any physical construction work?	√			
Does the sub-project include upgrading or rehabilitation of existing physical facilities?	√			
Is the sub-project likely to cause any damage to or loss of housing, other assets, resource use?		√		
Is the site for chosen for this work free from encumbrances and is in possession of the government/Municipality?	√			
If the site is privately owned, will this be purchased or obtained through voluntary donation?		√		
If the land parcel has to be acquired, is the actual plot size and ownership status known?		√		
Is land for material mobilization or transport for the civil work available within the existing plot/ Right of Way?	√			
Are there any non-titled people who living/doing business on the proposed site for civil work?	√			
Will there be loss of /damage to agricultural lands, standing crops, trees?		√		
Will there be loss of incomes and livelihoods?		√		
Will people permanently or temporarily lose access to facilities, services, or natural resources?	√ ¹			
Does the Urban Local Body have its own procedures for land acquisition?		√		
Are there any previous land acquisitions I under this subproject?		√		
Any indigenous people affected?		√		
Whether the affected land/structure owners likely to lose less than 10% of their land/structure area.		√		
If so, are these land / structure owners willing to voluntarily donate the required land for this sub-project?				
Is any temporary impact likely?	√			

¹ Only confined to brief periods when civil works are undertaken in the neighborhood

8. Estimates of Specific Impacts

Components of the Sub Project	Site Clearing	Earthwork	Construction of Bridges and Other Structures
Private land required (Sq. m.)	0	0	0
No. of land owners losing more than 10% of land area	0	0	0
Government land required (Sq. m.)	0	0	0
Forest land required (Sq. m.)	0	0	0
No of houses affected	0	0	0
No of shops affected	0	0	0
No of other structures affected	0	0	0
No of squatters affected	0	0	0
Public utilities affected	0	0	0

9. Information on Affected Persons

Any estimate of the likely number of households that will be affected by the sub project?

- No. Yes. If yes, approximately how many?
- No. of HHs losing <10% of their productive assets:
 - (land/cowshed/shops): **None**
- No. of HHs losing 10% or more of their productive assets? **None**

10. Decision on Categorization

After reviewing the answers above, it is determined that the sub project is:

- Categorized as an 'A' project, a full resettlement plan is required
- Categorized as a 'B' project, a short resettlement plan is required
- Categorized as an 'C' project, no RP is required, Only Due Diligence Report is required

Are any vulnerable households affected? No. Yes. (If yes, please briefly describe their situation with estimated numbers of HHs.)

What are the needs and priorities for social and economic betterment of vulnerable people who are affected by this project?

No person is rendered vulnerable due to the implementation of the sub-project.

Prepared by:



Dr. Gamini Wickramasinghe

(Screening Consultant)

Date: 17th Dec. 2015

Approved by:



Mr. Pradeep Hettiarachchi

(Deputy Project Director/Social, SCDP)

Date: 23rd Dec. 2015

Approved by:



Archt. Anura Dassanayake

(Project Director / SCDP)

Date: 23rd Dec. 2015