E2886 v8

Metro Colombo Urban Development Project



Environmental Screening Report for Establishment of Beddagana and Kotte Ramparts Parks

Draft Final Report

December 2011

Uni-Consultancy Services University of Moratuwa

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 Detailed drawings of project components

Metro Colombo Urban Development Project

Environmental Screening Report

1. Project Identification

Project title	Establishment of Beddagana and Kotte Rampart Park
Project Proponent	Urban Development Authority

2. Project Location

Location	Location of the project is depicted in the Fig. 1.		
Definition of Project Area	The project area is located within Sri Jayawardenapura Kotte MC area. Boundaries are as follows:		
(The geographical extent of the project & areas affected during construction)	Site 1North -Nippon MawathaSouth -CanalEast -Beddagana RoadWest -Diyawanna OyaSite 2Iayawardenanura Kotte Road		
	South -Thotupola RoadEast -Nippon MawathaWest -School lane and Electricity Board Premises		
Adjacent land and features	See " Other features " in Section 5.2 . Beddagana Park (site 1) consists of a few natural water ponds and marshy areas		

with seasonally-flooded grasslands and scattered pockets of scrubs, especially of Wel-Atha. The area is very abundant with bird species like Cormorants, Purple Coots, Babblers, Kingfishers and House Crows. About a quarter of the project area is bordering Diyawanna Oya, presently known as the Parliament Lake.
Kotte Ramparts Park (site 2) – consists of marshy vegetation and a large area in the middle which has been filled and used by people for car parking. Human interference in this site is much more and hence is less ecologically sensitive.



Figure 1. Map showing Beddagana Park (Site 1 - below), Kotte Rampart Park (Site 2 - above) and its surrounding areas



Figure 2. Layout and the details of the Beddagana Park

3. Project Justification

Need for the project (What problem is the project going to solve)	Sri Jayawardanapura Kotte is significant in terms of historical importance as the last Kingdom of Sri Lanka and also as the present administrative capital of the country. Most of the land, which is located around the parliament complex consists of vast stretches of low-lying land. Being the administrative capital, most of the low lying lands had to be filled for development while some lands were identified to be preserved for flood retention purposes.
	This is one of the sub projects of the integrated urban development project of "Improvement, Management and Maintenance of UDA owned flood detention areas around the Parliament Lake". The site is located close to the parliament complex abutting Diyawanna Oya, with very high scenic beauty and bio- diversity. In 1984, this area was gazetted as a Wildlife Sanctuary by the Department of Wild Life Conservation considering its bird habitation. Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation has also identified this area as a flood retention area. However, there has been severe pressure in numerous occasions requesting these lands to be filled for development, since the area in the vicinity of a highly urbanized environment with sound infrastructure and high land value. In addition, these lands are severely threatened by encroachments as most areas are without proper demarcation of boundaries.
	According to the Development Plan of the UDA and Sri Jayawardanapura Kotte MC, this area falls within the wetland protection zone. Hence it is not permitted to develop the land for any construction works other than the uses mentioned in the said zone.
	The project will help solve the following problems and contribute immensely to environmental protection.
	 Encroachments and unauthorized filling Dumping of garbage Lack of facilities for environmentalist, students, public and tourist to enjoy scenic beauty and learn about wetland structure, functions and bio-diversity Threat to the Bio- diversity Visual pollution Flooding

	• Security (Smugglers and others who loiter in the area)
Purpose of the project	The project has the following multiple objectives (See Fig. 2).
(what is going to be achieved by carrying out the project)	 To enhance the natural environment of the area combining the Water Front Development of Diyawanna Oya which is rich in scenic beauty where recreational facilities could be introduced To protect wetland bio-diversity by preserving a preferred environment, especially for birds and butterflies To create opportunities for students and naturalists to learn/explore wetland plants and animal species To improve as a tourist attractive site with providing recreational facilities To maintain and preserve the wetland for flood retention purposes Also, the project will derive the following benefits: Preserve the natural environment by utilizing the land for eco-friendly development (nature trials, timber structures, creation of ponds, tree planting etc.) Protect wildlife by creating breeding and feeding grounds for birds Prevent public land development for unacceptable uses and from encroachments Conserve the area for the use of future generation
Alternatives considered (different ways to meet the project need and achieve the project purpose)	No other alternative is considered for the project as it is envisaged that there are no other technically feasible and economically viable engineering interventions that could be accommodated in place of the proposed option.

4. Project Description

Proposed start date	The tender documents are expected to be ready by 31/01/2012. Awarding of the tender will take place only after the 16 th of March 2011. Construction period is estimated to be 20 months.	
Proposed completion date	It will take approximately 25 months to finish the project from the date of opening bid documents.	
Estimated total cost	Estimate: Rs. 175 Mn.	
Present land ownership	Entire project lies in areas belonging to UDA, SLLRDC and SJKMC.	
Description of the project	The project area consists of two blocks of wetlands located close to each other as indicated in the figure above.	
(with supporting material such as maps, drawings etc attached as required)	 Details of the developments in each site (All the structures are made of timber) Site 1 (Beddagana Park – 18 ha) Orientation Centre - Open deck (95 Sq.m.); Display area/Office with seating facilities; Toilets; Supply of Electricity and Water Entrance - Entrance Bridge (15 m length); 2 Tree troughs; Paved area (10'x20'); Lighting 2 Bridges connecting with two bunds (1.5 m width) - length 37 m Board walks (2 Nos.) - Total length 100 m Open Decks (4 Nos.) - 3.0 m x 3.0 m - 03 Nos. and 4.5 m x 2.4 m - 01 Nos. vi. Bird watching Hide (2 Nos.) - (3 m x 1 m) 3 Sq.m. vii. Resting place (01 Nos.) - 6 Sq.m viii. Bird watching tower - 3 m x 3 m and 7.5 m height Ix. Nature trail - 320 m X. Cleaning of existing canals - 600 m 	
	xi. Improvement of bund roads - 1250 mxii. Reforestation of Field Study area -Tree planting, Timber play features	

	 xiii. Improvement of Play area - 1 Acre xiv. Pond with Island - 1500 m³ xv. Jogging path - Length 2.2 km Tree planting Strip in either side (1.2 m wide) Paved jogging track (6 m wide) Timber Board wakes where necessary Street lamps, Resting place with Decks xvi. Improvement of Nippon Mawatha 	
	2.Site No.2 (Kotte Rampart Park – 14 ha)i.Tree planting-ii.Dredging of peripheral canal-iii.Creating bund road-iv.Nature trails-v.Board walks- 850 Sq.mvi.Open decks-vii.Eco-kiosks-viii.Jungle Gym/ Yoga Centre-ix.Security hut/ Ticketing counterx.Car park-xii.Toilets-xii.Supply of Electricity and Water-xiii.Removal of invasive Vegetation Species where possible -	
Project Management Team	Agency: All planning, architectural, landscaping and engineering design works have been carried out by the UDA. Project supervision will also be carried out by the UDA project team. Canal cleaning, Drainage and excavation work will be supervised by the SLLR&DC. For operation and maintenance of the site, the UDA has carried out several rounds of discussion with the Sri Lanka Nippon Educational & Cultural Center (SLNE&CC), Diyawanna Walkers Club and community organizations who have willing agreed to come together as a management committee to ensure the proper maintenance of the Parks. The UDA as well as the Department of Wildlife Conservation, Central Environmental Authority etc will be stakeholders of the management committee as monitoring agencies. A	

formal MOU is proposed to be signed before the completion of the project.
Contact person:
Mrs. Priyani , Development Officer, UDA
Nature of the consultation and input received:
Meeting and consultation at design office and site were done. Design drawings, master plans and other relevant information were too gathered.

5. Description of the existing environment

5.1 Physical features – Ecosystem components		
Topography and terrain	The topography of Sri Lanka is marked by great diversity caused by long years of faulting and erosion of the landscape. The central mountainous region with the highest elevations covered by virgin forests and grasslands rises up to about 2,500 m above mean sea level. The surrounding plains, which rise to about 50 to 100 m above sea level, are largely used for agriculture and homesteads, but still have virgin scrubland where the population distribution is lower. This general topography of the country can be divided into three distinct geographical areas or well marked peneplains featuring the coastal belt, the plains, and the central highlands.	
	The Colombo district which incorporates the project area falls into the so called lowest peneplain of Sri Lanka (after P.G. Cooray – Geology of Sri Lanka, 1984). The elevation variation of Colombo district situated in this coastal peneplain ranges to a maximum elevation of 150 m from sea coast. The terrain in Colombo largely consists of gently undulating plains and low-lying flatlands with a high density of drainage paths formulating a geography consisting of a mix of land and water. The city has many canals and the 65-hectare (160-acre) Beira Lake situated in the heart of the city is one of the most distinctive landmarks of Colombo.	
	The proposed Bio-diversity Park in Beddagana is situated in a 46-acre marshy land with rich biodiversity. The locality falls within the Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte Municipal Council administrative boundary and lies about 3 km east to the Colombo commercial hub. The marshland is connected to the Diyawanna Lake which is part of Diyawanna Oya (stream) and is drained by Kirulapone Canal via Dehiwala Canal and Wellawatta Canal to the sea.	
	The general topography of the project area where the constructions of the park, drainage improvement, and embankment stabilization works have been proposed consists of largely flat or mildly sloping low-lying terrain with a mix of marshy wetlands and water bodies/canals. Elevations vary only from 3 m above mean sea level (MSL) in low-lying areas to 11 m MSL in road embankments and other high areas. Therefore, the slopes	

	encountered in the project area are flat to mild (<1.0 %).
Soil (type and quality)	The geology of Colombo is representative of the geology of the western coast of Sri Lanka and has existed for much of the Quaternary era. Bore holes drilled in central Colombo City show that this area once formed an estuary of the Kelani River and the Kalu Ganga River, the two main rivers that drain into the sea on the western coast. A few kilometers upstream in the inland valleys, there is a high-level gravel formation consisting of quartz pebbles embedded in a matrix of laterite separated with pebble-free layers of laterites. The floodplains along the rivers consist mainly of alluvial deposits. The floodplains of Kelani River also provide thick alluvial profiles for unconfined aquifers, in addition to the productive overburden along tributary banks.
	Vast area (over 90%) of Sri Lanka is underlain by metamorphic crystalline rocks of Precambrian age, which includes the project area, which cover a variety of Gneisses. The geology of Colombo is representative of the geology of the western coast of Sri Lanka and has existed for much of the Quaternary era. This is shown in the 1:10,000 and 1:50,000 geological maps of Colombo region produced by the Geological Survey and Mines Bureau. The typical rock types of this basement include Biotite gneiss, Hornblende Biotite gneiss, Charnockites, Charnockitic gneisses, Quartzite and undifferentiated Meta sediments. The floodplains along Kelani River and the Kalu Ganga rivers consist mainly of alluvial deposits. The floodplains of Kelani River also provide thick alluvial profiles for unconfined aquifers, in addition to the productive overburden along tributary banks.
	 According to Survey Department soil maps (Fig. 3) the main soil types in the project area are as follows. Red Yellow Podzolic soils with soft or hard laterite and undulating terrain Bog and Half bog soils: flat terrain Alluvial soils of variable texture and drainage: flat terrain Regosols on recent beach sands: flat terrain
	Field surveys and direct observations carried using recently formed earthen embankments and burrow pits

have indicated that the local geology in the proposed project area is characterized by peat/peaty clays with sand and patches of laterite with bedrock > 20 m depth while the soil types include peat and organic clays with surface alluvium with sporadic laterite patches, especially on high ground. It is presumed that these site-specific features are the most important ones as the environmental impact is considered.



Surface water (sources, distance from the site, local uses and quality) *Sources:* The most prominent source of surface water in the vicinity is the Diyawanna lowland area, canals and surface water ponds, and marshes that are connected with wetland.

Distance from the site: Project area is within the wetland.

Local uses: The surface water bodies connected with the wetland play an important role in conveying surface drainage and flood waters. Apart from direct uses that the local people derive, such as recreation, bathing, washing and for other domestic purposes, other indirect benefits such as scenic beauty, use of the area as a nature reserve, diverting their surface drainage into these canals, are too vital and most important intrinsic functions. Illegal discharge of grey water from residences and, commercial establishments, dumping solid waste into water bodies and encroachment are common problems that pollute the water resources in the area.

Quality:

Parameter	Water Quality (during 2004-2009)
рН	5.8 - 6.9
Conductivity (dS/m)	0.1-03
Turbidity (NTU)	8-15
Ammonia (mg/l)	0.24-0.56
Nitrates (mg/l)	0.3-0.4
Phosphates (mg/l)	0.3-0.4
DO (mg/l)	3.2-5.5
BOD (mg/l)	6-10
COD (mg/l)	17-33

Table 1. Water quality fluctuations in the Diyawanna Oya

The water quality of the Diyawanna lowland area does not seems to be badly deteriorated but as it goes

	towards sea the water quality deteriorates rapidly as shown in the water quality data for the Dehiwela Canal (refer screening report for Dehiwela Canal).
Ground water (sources, distance from the site, local uses and quality)	Sources: According to the Land Use Division of the Irrigation Department, the project area falls within the local or discontinuous moderate to low aquifer in fractured rock. Only available source of ground water is from shallow wells. Distance from the site:
	The ground water table is very shallow and is about 0.4 - 0.5 m on average close to the Diyawanna Oya, and can be at a level from almost at surface up to 1.5 - 3.0 m.
	Local uses:
	Only a handful of households use shallow wells to abstract water. Even those who have shallow wells do not use water for daily consumption; they use the wells only occasionally for bathing and washing of clothes.
	Quality:
	There are no data available for quality of ground water.
Flooding	The proposed project area is located adjacent to Diyawanna Lake in the close proximity of Diyawanna Oya and its environs including the marsh and canal system have been identified as a flood retention area by the Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation (SLLRDC). The marshland , which has been classified as a Wetland Protection Zone by the UDA's zoning of wetlands in the Western Province, is subject to periodic flooding (3~5 year return period) during monsoon rain seasons up to 1~3 feet depth and inundation lasts for 3-7 days. However, all the embankments for nature trails, structures for the proposed Orientation

	Centre, walkways and footpaths and structures for bird watching are expected to be designed by SLLRDC, considering these historical flood records/levels and without obstructing the existing cross – and through drainage paths and flow regimes, and also not leading to any reduction in the present flood retention and detention capacities of the wetland and marsh areas.
Air quality (any pollution issues)	The project lies close (0.1 - 0.5 Km) to the busy Parliament main road from Colombo which carries a heavy load of vehicular traffic. However, traffic along Nippon Mawatha which is the road that goes bordering the wetland is very low leading to somewhat reduced pollution from dust and vehicle emissions and also because of the abundance of vegetation. No air quality data has been recoded for this area.
Noise level and vibration (Any anticipated issues)	Existing ambient noise and vibration levels in the area are consistent with suburban and light industrial areas. There is also moderate levels of traffic noise from adjoining roads. Industrial activities and commercial activities of the area are not very significant to have high levels of noise.

5.2 Ecological features – Eco-system components

Vegetation	Mainly, secondary vegetation can be found in the area including native species; Bowitiya (Osbeckia
	parvifolia), Andara (Dichrostachys cinerea), Weralu (Elaeocarpus serratus), Wel atta (Annona glabra), Wata-
(trees, ground cover,	keyiya (Pandanus kaida), Pera (Psidium guajava), Kirilla (Glochidion stellatum), Kenda (Macaranga peltata),
aquatic vegetation)	Himbutu wel (Salacia chinensis), Wal Habarala (Alocasia macrorrhizos), Hambu pan (Typha angustifolia),
	Caju (Anacardium occidentale), Gandapana (Lantana camara), Nidikumba (Mimosa pudika), Balunakuta
	(Dichapetalum gelonioides), Nuga (Ficus bengalensis), Mango (Mangifera indica), Araliya (Plumeria obtusa),
	Kesel (Musa x paradisiaca), Suriya (Thespesia populnea), Eth thora (Atylosia trinervia), Kaduru (Sapium
	insigne), Endaru (Ricinus communis), Coconut (Cocus nusifera), Madan (Syzygium cumini), Pethithora (Cassia
	tora), Acacia (Acacia melanoxylon) etc.

	Two invasive species such as Wel atta (Annona glabra) and introduced species Acacia (Acacia melanoxylon) were recorded.
Presence of wetlands	Majority of the land extend of the proposed project site is a marshy land. Birds and butterflies diversity is high in the proposed Beddagana park. However, existing condition of the wetland is very poor. For instance, some areas have been used as dumping sites (Beddagana) and as car parks (Kotte Ramparts). In addition, plastic, paper, and glass were strewn in the area by visitors to the site.
Fish and fish habitats	There is a water hole in the Beddagana site and at present its banks are somewhat eroded. However the place provides habitat for fresh water fish species. Fish sampling was not carried out during the rapid study.
Birds (waterfowl, migratory birds, others)	According to the previous records of birds there are 18 migrant bird species and 34 resident bird species present in the area. During the rapid survey, 12 bird species were recorded; Cattle Egtret (<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>), Spotted Dove (<i>Streptopelia chinensis ceylonensis</i>), Red-Wattled Lapwing (<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>), Asian Paradise Fly Catcher (<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>), Common Mayna (<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>), Yellow-Billed Babbler (<i>Turdoides affinis</i>), Purple Swamp Hen (<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>), White Breasted Water Hen (<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>), Black Hooded Oriole (<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>), Rose ringed parakeet (<i>Psittacula krameri</i>), Lesser Whistling Duck (Dendrocygna javanica), and Indian Pond Heron (<i>Ardeola grayii</i>) were found during the site visit. Detail list of birds recorded given in the Annex I.
Presence of special habitat areas (<i>special</i> designations & identified sensitive zones)	Entire Beddagana project site is identified as a sensitive area. Part of the wetland area which has been filled many years ago and currently used by people for walking etc will be replanted with native trees to create a mini jungle effect. List of species proposed for reforestation programme is given in Annex II. The Kotte Ramparts wetland does not support as much diversity as Beddagana and hence is considered less sensitive.

Other features	
Residential/Sensitive Areas (<i>Eg</i> , <i>Hospitals</i> , <i>Schools</i>)	Two temples are located on the opposite side of the Beddagana Wetland. The rest of the area surrounding the wetlands are higly residential. The proposed project would be a complementary to the present built environment.
Traditional economic and cultural activities	No traditional economic activities are carried out. Two temples (not ancient ones) attract a large number of people particularly during weekends and Poya days.
Archeological resources	The rampart of the Ancient Kotte Kingdom is located in close proximity to the proposed Kotte Ramparts park and the project area and is coming under the authority of Department of Archeology. None of the project activities have any impact on the ramparts.

6. Public Consultation

Public consulted	Consultation method	Date	Details/Issues raised
Meegahatenne Chandasiri Thero (the Chief Incumbent of Sri Mahindarama Temple)	Explaining the project followed by informal discussion	20 th December	The temple has been maintaining the environment of the area for the last 20 years through environmental awareness programs among the children and the community. A society has been established within the community to conserve the wetlands. The children who come to the Sunday school are engaged in cleaning the environment through nature loving practical education programmes. The proposed project is a long due one and the temple can assist in many ways to the UDA in implementing the project.
Senevirthne (A person from the community)	Explaining the project followed by informal discussion	20 th December	The main issue is that a few groups of people use this location for consuming alcohol and other narcotics. They are found to travel by three wheelers / motor bicycles and spend the day engaged in numerous illegal activities. The empty bottles and cans are thrown into the wetlands. Some outsiders also dispose of garbage here. It is necessary to make sure that such activities are prevented in the future. The project is good for the community.
Thilakerathne (A person from the community close to the bathing place)	Explaining the project followed by informal discussion	20 th December	The project is very good for the community. It is of importance to make sure that the present bathing place of the community is protected and provide access to it as the community has been using it for bathing for a long period of time. However, an issue at the bathing place is that a few fish vendors from outside as a habit come to wash their fish containers and bicycles. It is prudent to make sure to prevent such activities to keep the bathing place clean. The community is aware of the environmental significance of the project and that they can assist UDA in looking after the project area.

Sunanda Rathnayake (A youth playing with a team on the existing play area adjacent to the project)	Explaining the project followed d by informal discussion	20 th December	This playground had been a part of the wetland system and had been filled by the SLLRDC at the time of dredging Diyawanna Oya for development of the Parliament complex and has ever since become the play area of the youth and children of the area. This open space is widely used by the community and is the only place for them to play. The proposed project is very interesting. But it is very necessary to reserve a reasonable space of land at the present place for the community for a play area.
A motorist (Name not disclosed), on the road	Explaining the project followed by informal discussion	20 th December	It seems that the internal roads are used by many motorists. This is a good by pass as the main road network is congested. However he agreed that the heavy vehicular movement disturbs the natural environment, particularly the bird's sanctuary.

7. Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures

7a. Screening for Potential Environmental Impacts

	Screening question	Yes	No	Significance of the effect	Remarks
				(Low, moderate, high)	
1	Will construction and operation of the Project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality		No	No physical change is anticipated.	
2	Will the Project involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to human health or the environment or raise concerns about actual or perceived risks to human health?	Yes		Low The amount of material to be handled is small. However, for the proposed reforestation area in the Beddagana park good soil may be needed other than peat. The amount of peat that is generated from the project will be kept in the same area or be used for filling purpose for the project itself.	
3	Will the Project produce solid wastes during construction or operation?		No	Low During construction period, Municipal solid waste that has been dumped by visitors needs to be collected and disposed of in proper manner. Such material if collected for a lengthy period may become good breeding grounds for mosquitoes. During operations, MSW will be generated from the	

				visitors to the site.	
4	Will the Project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air?		No	No such air pollutants are expected from the project.	
5	Will the Project cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation?		No	No such pollutants are expected to generate from the project. However, lack of supervision may create opportunities for groups of people to flock around and make undue noise creating environment not amenable for birds.	
6	Will the Project lead to risks of contamination of land or water from releases of pollutants onto the ground or into surface waters, groundwater or coastal wasters?	Yes		Moderate The construction of toilets and associated effluent discharge may need to be reviewed. Unless treatment perhaps with anaerobic filters before discharging surface waters is ensured, there will be a risk of both ground and surface water pollution.	
7	Will the project cause localized flooding and poor drainage during construction Is the project area located in a flooding location?	Yes		Low Temporarily blockage of existing drainage paths during construction activities and formation of new embankments without proper cross drainage facilities will lead to localized flood effects and poor drainage within and in adjacent localities of the project area. Also, the proposed project site is located in an area identified as a flood retention	

				marshland by the SLLRDC, so periodic inundation, especially during monsoon seasons is expected. However, ensuring the adaptation of proper design guidelines and construction practices like provision of improved and alternative drainage network, maintaining naturally stable slopes, vegetation replanting, use of suitably designed structures not to disrupt drainage flow regimes and cross drainage without reducing detention/retention capacities of marshes, etc., will improve drainage conditions, reducing flood risk during the construction phase and in the aftermath of project completion.	
8	Will there be any risks and vulnerabilities to public safety due to physical hazards during construction or operation of the Project?		No	Low If the walkways, hand rails and children's play structures are not strong enough including birds watching huts, there will be a slight risk of safety.	
9	Are there any transport routes on or around the location which are susceptible to congestion or which cause environmental problems, which could be affected by the project?		No	No such congestion is expected from the proposed project.	
10	Are there any routes or facilities on or around the location which are used by the public for access to recreation or other	Yes		Low The road along which a jogging track will be	

	facilities, which could be affected by the project?			created is used by the people to access this wetland for recreation purposes. However the accessibility through this road will not be closed during construction.	
11	Are there any areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected by the project?		No	The whole project area comprises high landscape and scenic value. The project will enhance this value. Scenic value of the area is improved by the project.	
12	Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology e.g. wetlands, watercourses or other water bodies, the coastal zone, mountains, forests which could be affected by the project?		No	The whole project area is a valuable wetland comprising high bio diversity (especially Beddagana park) which is part of the declared wild life sanctuary. The project will enhance the value of this wetland and the sanctuary. The area is important as it is rich in biodiversity. However, the proposed project may enhance the existing condition of the environment with removal of dumped garbage and it also prevents further garbage dumping as well.	
13	Are there any areas on or around the location which are used by protected, important or sensitive species of fauna or flora e.g. for breeding, nesting, foraging, resting, migration, which could be affected by the project?	Yes		Low The whole project area is a valuable wetland and a site for breeding, nesting and resting site for both local and migrant birds. The project will enhance the ecological value of the site and also continue to play its vital role as a breeding, nesting and resting	

			site for both local and migrant birds. Nesting sites were recorded during previous studies. And trees in the area are roosting sites for migratory and native bird species. However contractor must take every step to minimize the damage to be caused to such sensitive habitats during construction stage.	
14	Is the project located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be loss of green-field land	No	Green fields will be enhanced after project implementation as there is a reforestation area.	
15	Will the project cause the removal of trees in the locality?	No	Some parts of the site where species of <i>Annona</i> glabra is grown (evident in the Kotte Rampart park) and spread will be removed to facilitate more indigenous wetlands species that will support the bird life. Therefore, Removal of Wel anoda (<i>Annona glabra</i>) will improve the condition of the environment as it is a invasive wetland tree	
16	Are there any areas or features of historic or cultural importance on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No	The sites of historical significance belonging to the "Kotte Kingdom" are located close to the site but will have no impact. In fact they would be complementary for the proposed project.	
17	Are there existing land uses on or around the location e.g. homes, gardens, other private property, industry, commerce,	No	There are private properties next to the project site but will have no impact. In fact they will benefit largely due to improved wetland environment.	

	recreation, public open space, community facilities, agriculture, forestry, tourism, mining or quarrying which could be affected by the project?				
18	Are there any areas on or around the location which are densely populated or built-up, which could be affected by the project?		No	The residential area exists close to the project site is not densely populated.	
19	Are there any areas on or around the location which are occupied by sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities, which could be affected by the project		No	The two temples located will have no impact from the project. In fact they will benefit from the enhanced natural environment.	
20	Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources e.g. groundwater, surface waters, forestry, agriculture, fisheries, tourism, minerals, which could be affected by the project?	Yes		Low Increased flow velocities in cleaned, unlined natural or earthen canals may lead to increased erosion risk, while new formations, embankments, loosened soil in unpaved areas may also susceptible to high erosion when exposed to drainage paths, causing washout of fines, degrading surface and groundwater quality in downstream areas and water bodies. The project area consists of one of the most significant surface water bodies. However it will	

			not have any negative impact from the project, but it will benefit as the project will prevent waste disposal and vehicular movement (that are happening at present) within the project site.	
21	Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded, which could be affected by the project?	Yes	Low Wastewater from many residences around the project area are illegally discharged to the Diyawanna oya and its connecting waterways. However, the quality of water in these waterways is not considered highly polluted.	

7b. Environmental Management Plan

Key project activities	Potential Environmental Effects	Mitigation Measures
Temporary shifting & relocating of utility posts (electricity & telecom) – if any	Physical: No impacts	<u>Physical:</u> No mitigation is required.
	Social:	Social:
	No Impacts	No mitigation is required
	Ecological:	Ecological:
	No impacts	No mitigation is required.
Removal of dredged material, debris, solid waste	Physical:	Physical:
	Removal of solid waste and dredged material may create a temporary dumping site within the project area, which in turn would generate foul odour and provide breeding ground for mosquitoes.	Proper disposal plan for all the waste to be taken out from the marsh without retaining in the area for a significant period of time must be worked out. Solid wastes should be taken to a designated dump site operated by the Sri Jayawardanepura Kotte MC.Dredged material must be kept within the project area itself without subjecting to intense washing and used for bund roads. No dredged material should be dumped elsewhere unless

		otherwise approval is granted by Department of Wildlife.
	Social:	Social:
	Visual pollution is apparent	Such heaps should be disposed off as early as possible in accordance with the recommendations above
	Ecological:	Ecological:
	Breeding grounds, resting and	
	roosting areas may be	Such areas must be restored early as possible and also block by
	temporary affected.	block method should be adopted so that interferences of habitat at any given time would be minimal.
Rehabilitation of bund roads, existing main road, drainage	Physical:	Physical:
canals along bund roads, existing canals draining the water out and	Formation of new embankments/slopes in	Naturally stable slopes should be maintained where ever possible
into the nature park area	existing bund roads and	
	rehabilitation of internal	Provision of alternate flow paths adequate cross drainage
	canals will increase risk of	(culverts), should be ensured during rehabilitation of existing
	vertical soil faces are formed.	roads to avoid localized flooding and related adverse impacts.
	and will increase erosion risk	Slopes in canals, should be provided properly following
	when loose soils are exposed	appropriate design guidelines, not to exceed safe velocities to
	to drainage paths.	avoid erosion and to maintain minimum slopes to ensure self
	Excavation for additional	creatising of sins and conolds.
	drains and dredging to attain	Construction activities should be scheduled during dry periods
	required design depths in	to reduce runoff flows, causing siltation and water quality

	existing canals may generate debris, soil and dredge materials which may pose risk of fine material washout, cause obstruction to existing drainage patterns, hinder site mobility when not stored properly.	degradation in the water bodies. Construction debris, materials should be stored covered on high ground and away from flow paths. Material recycling should be promoted and period of temporary storage should be minimized through proper scheduling of construction activities and debris disposal at designated locations. Dredged material from the deepening of canals inside the wetlands should be used in the bund roads, as has been done earlier by the SLLRDC in the Beddagana park.
Social:		Social:
	Visual pollution may be apparent	Too much of colloidal particles must be trapped as indicated above.
Ecological:		Ecological:
	Smothering of benthic fauna on temporary basis	Engineering interventions as described above should be implemented in order to prevent wash out and deposition of benthic particles.
Material transport and storage Physical:		Physical:
	The bye-roads can be congested as they are narrow.	Transporting activities can be carried out during off-peak hours, and heavy vehicular transport should be prohibited.
	Storage of material can block	Storage sites can be selected so that drainage paths are not

	drainage paths	obstructed.
	Sporadic high noise and dust levels could be apparent	Covering material while transporting is made mandatory.
	Social:	Social:
	Inconvenience to the	Proper housekeeping practices of engineering will be
	neighbours may result in	Ecological:
	Ecological:	No mitigation is required
	No Impacts	No intigation is required
Re-designing of all foot walks, jogging paths	Physical:	Physical:
	Blockage to existing flow patterns due to new	Adequate cross drainage should be provided while minimizing undesirable flow diversions to maintain existing flow regimes.
	formations/embankments would affect existing flow	
	regimes causing undesirable	
	to sensitive ecosystems.	<u>Social:</u> This is very negligible. However it is necessary to fix sign
	Social:	boards at appropriate locations to keep the pedestrians informed
	Inconvenience to people who use this road as a jogging	Droper sefety wearing is assential. Sefety Officer must be
	track at present	rioper safety wearing is essential. Safety Officer must be

	Health hazards and deceases such as leptospirosis, dengue may be unavoidable for workers <u>Ecological:</u> Temporary smothering will be possible	appointed for monitoring purposes. <u>Ecological:</u> Proper planning of work in the form of sections will be encouraged.
Construction of structures including visitors' centre, bird watching areas, nature trails, viewing decks, toilets, nature trails etc.	Physical:Blockage to existing flow patterns due to new formations/embankments would affect existing flow regimes causing undesirable environmental consequences to sensitive ecosystems.Water pollution may take place from toiletsSocial:Inconvenience to people who use this road as a jogging	 <u>Physical:</u> Adequate cross drainage should be provided while minimizing undesirable flow diversions to maintain existing flow regimes. The proposed toilet design with sealed type septic tank as proposed may not be the most suitable for the project area. The design should be reviewed according to SLS 745 : 2004 Code of Practice for Design and Construction of Septic Tanks and Associated Effluent Disposal System. <u>Social:</u> This is very negligible. However it is necessary to fix sign boards at appropriate locations to keep the pedestrians informed

	track at present	of the construction.
	Health hazards and deceases such as leptospirosis, dengue may be unavoidable for workers	Proper safety wearing is essential. Safety Officer must be appointed for monitoring purposes.
	Ecological.	Faslasial
	Temporary smothering will be possible	Ecological:
		Proper planning of work in the form of sections will be encouraged.
Dredging, physical strengthening of embankments	Physical:	Physical:
	Removal of dredged material from the wetland canals may create temporary dumping site within the project area, which in turn create fouling odour and be breeding ground for mosquitoes.	Dredged material must be kept at the project area itself without subject to intense washing and used for bun road strengthening, as has been done earlier. No dredged material would be dumped elsewhere unless otherwise approval is granted by Department of Wildlife.
	Social:	Social:
	Visual pollution is apparent	Such heaps should be disposed of as early as possible in accordance to the management plan.

	Ecological:	Ecological:
	Breeding grounds, resting and roosting areas may be temporary affected.	Such areas must be restored early as possible and also block by block method should be adopted so that interferences of habitat at any given time would be minimal.
Re-designing of the dry weather playground	Physical:	Physical:
	No significant impact as the existing play ground will be re-designed.	No mitigation is required.
	Social:	Social:
	Present users will be prevented from using it until the project activity is over.	This is a short term impact. Inform the community of the benefit of the improved facility they are going to get through consultative meetings.
	Ecological:	Ecological:
	No impact	No measure is required.
Planting of trees, plants and turfing	Physical:	Physical:
	No significant impacts	No measure is required.
	Social:	Social:

No Impacts	No measure is required.
Ecological:	Ecological:
No negative impact of the activity and this may enhance the environment.	It is better to introduce plants found in the area rather than introducing new species.

8. Conclusion and Screening Decision

Summary of environmental effects:

Assuming that all mitigation measures are implemented as proposed, the following effects can be predicted

Key project activities	Potential Environmental Effects	Significance of the environmental effect with mitigation in place NS- Effect not significant, or can be rendered insignificant with mitigation SP - Significant positive effect SN - Significant negative effect U - Outcome unknown or cannot be predicted, even with mitigation NA – Not applicable
Temporary shifting & relocating	Physical:	
of utility posts (electricity & telecom) – if any	No impacts	NA
	Social:	
	No Impacts	NA
	Ecological:	
	No impacts	NA

Removal of dredged material, debris, solid waste	<u>Physical:</u> Removal of solid waste and dredged material may create temporary dumping site within the project area, which in turn create fouling odour and be breeding ground for mosquitoes.	NS
	Social:	
	Visual pollution is apparent	NS
	Ecological:	
	Breeding grounds, resting and roosting areas may be temporary affected.	NS
Rehabilitation of access roads, existing roads, drainage canals	Physical:	
along roads, existing canals draining the water out and into the nature park area	Formation of new embankments/slopes in existing roads and rehabilitation of drainage canals will increase risk of slope failure when near vertical soil faces are formed, and will increase erosion risk when loose soils are exposed to drainage paths.	NS
	Excavation for additional drains and dredging to attain required design depths in existing canals may generate huge volumes of debris, soil and dredge materials which may pose risk	NS

	of fine material washout, cause obstruction to existing drainage patterns, hinder site mobility when not stored properly, and also pose environmental and health risks when not disposed of into predetermined safe locations.	
	<u>Social:</u> Visual pollution may be apparent	NS
	Ecological: Smothering of benthic fauna on temporary basis	NS
Material transport and storage	Physical:	
	The bye-roads can be congested as they are narrow. Storage of material can block drainage paths	NS NS
	Sporadic high noise and dust levels could be apparent	NS
	Social: Inconvenience to the neighbours may result in	NS

	Ecological:	
	No Impacts	NA
Re-designing of all foot walks, jogging paths	Physical: Blockage to existing flow patterns due to new formations/embankments would affect existing flow regimes causing undesirable environmental consequences to sensitive ecosystems.	NS
	Social:	
	Inconvenience to people who use this road as a jogging track at present	NS
	Health hazards and deceases such as leptospirosis, dengue may be unavoidable for workers	NS
	Ecological:	
	Temporary smothering will be possible	NS
Construction of structures	Physical:	
watching areas, nature trails,	Blockage to existing flow patterns due to new	NS

formations/embankments would affect existing flow regimes causing undesirable environmental consequences to sensitive ecosystems.	
Water pollution may be apparent from toilets	NS
Social:	
Inconvenience to people who use this road as a jogging track at present	NS
Health hazards and deceases such as leptospirosis, dengue may be unavoidable for workers	NS
Ecological:	
Temporary smothering will be possible	NS
Physical:	
Removal of dredged material may create temporary dumping site within the project area, which in turn create fouling odour and be breeding ground for mosquitoes.	NS
	formations/embankments would affect existing flow regimes causing undesirable environmental consequences to sensitive ecosystems. Water pollution may be apparent from toilets <u>Social:</u> Inconvenience to people who use this road as a jogging track at present Health hazards and deceases such as leptospirosis, dengue may be unavoidable for workers <u>Ecological:</u> Temporary smothering will be possible <u>Physical:</u> Removal of dredged material may create temporary dumping site within the project area, which in turn create fouling odour and be breeding ground for mosquitoes.

	Social:	
	Visual pollution is apparent	NS
	Ecological:	
	Breeding grounds, resting and roosting areas may be temporary affected.	NS
Re-designing of the dry weather	Physical:	
playground	No significant impact as the existing play ground will be re-designed.	NS
	Social:	
	Present users will be prevented from using it until the project activity is over.	NS
	Ecological:	
	No impact	NA
Planting of trees, plants and	Physical:	
unning	No significant impacts	NA
	Social:	

	No Impacts <u>Ecological:</u> No negative impact of the activity and this may enhance the environment.	NA SP
Maintenance and management of the plan	Possible neglect leading to deterioration of the park	This is the most vital aspect of the project. While the local community represented by the temple, jogger's club and other CBOs have keenly come forward to take responsibility, the UDA should take steps to formalize a management system with an organization structure, administrative procedures and financial plan for the maintenance of the park. A park management plan should be prepared incorporating all these vital aspects of maintenance. Key state agencies such as the UDA, DWLC and CEA should participate as monitoring stakeholders. The CEA has experience in
		community managed wetlands (ex: Talangama) and its experience and lessons learn should be brought into benefit the sustainable management of the Beddagana park.

9. Screening Decision Recommendation:

Final recommendation	Majority of the potentially adverse effects can be classified as general construction related impacts and are mitigatable with known technology. Public is very supportive of the project and their concerns do not warrant further assessment. Therefore, a stand- alone Environmental Assessment is not required and, the Environmental Management Plan provided with this report would be sufficient to mitigate the identified impact. The Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWLC) which declared this area as part of a larger sanctuary (around Parliament lake) in 1984 has given their approval for the project and is collaborating with the UDA to implement it. Recognizing the largely positive impacts of the project towards wetland conservation and the minimalistic nature of the interventions proposed, the DWLC (who by virtue of its own legislation can request for a EIA/IEE for development activities taking place in wildlife declared areas) has conferred that an EIA/IEE is not required. However, the following specific recommendations given in the EMP are of utmost importance to be implemented. Dredged material should be used for strengthening the bund roads and should not be taken away from the project site without proper approvals from Department of Wildlife. Prior approval and arrangement must be taken to dispose of municipal solid waste found in the marsh. Health and safety plan is necessary to look after the health conditions of workers to protect them from getting water related and borne diseases. The proposed toilet design should be reviewed according to SLS 745 : 2004 Code of Practice for Design and Construction of Septic Tanks and Associated Effluent Disposal System.

10. EMP implementation responsibilities and costs

The overall responsibility of ensuring compliance with safeguard requirements for the subproject lie with the UDA. In addition, the UDA will be responsible for ensuing that the designs are compatible with the wetland environment and not to hinder any of its functions. The contractor will be responsible for implementing all other provisions in the EMP that relate mostly to good construction planning, site management and worker/public safety practices. No additional costs are envisaged at this point.

Environmental monitoring will be carried out largely through compliance monitoring using the checklist provided in the EMF by the Environmental Officer of the UDA and the contractor jointly.

Screening report completed by	Date
Dr. Mahesh Jayaweera, Team Leader	
University of Moratuwa	
Tel: 0777320590	
email: maheshjayaweera@gmail.com	Signature
Name/Designation/Contact information	
Name/Designation/Contact information	
Screening report reviewed by	Date
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Screening report reviewed by <i>Name/Designation/Contact information</i> Approved by	Date Signature Date
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Screening report reviewed by <i>Name/Designation/Contact information</i> Approved by <i>Name/Designation/Contact information</i>	Date Signature Date Signature

11. Details of Persons Responsible for the Environmental Screening

(1) **Dr. Mahesh Jayaweera**, PhD, BSc in Civil Eng (Hons.), MIE (SL), CEng.

- Team Leader (Overall coordination and planning)

Experience: Team Leader/Consultant/Expert for more than 60 EIA and IEE studies during the past 15 years

(2) **Professor Mrs. Niranjanie Ratnayake**, BSc in Civil Eng (Hons.), MSc, FIE (SL), CEng.

– Environmental assessment specialist

Experience: Team Leader/Consultant/Expert for more than 40 EIA and IEE studies during the past 20 years

(3) Dr. Jagath Manatunge, PhD, MSc, DIC, BSc in Civil Eng (Hons.), MIE (SL), CEng.

Environmental Engineer (Noise, Water, Wastewater, Vibration, Air)
 <u>Experience:</u> Team Leader/Consultant/Expert for more than 40 EIA and IEE studies during the past 12 years

(4) **Dr. Lalith Rajapakse**, PhD, MEng, BSc in Civil Eng (Hons.), MIE (SL), CEng. – *Civil Engineer* (Hydrology, Geology, other civil engineering aspects) <u>Experience:</u> Consultant/Expert for more than 20 EIA and IEE studies and assignments mainly related to hydrological during the past 6 years

(5) Mr. Hemantha Jayasundara, BA (Hons.), MSc (Town and Country Planning), PG Dip in Urban Development, PD Dip in Environmental Sci.

–Urban Planner

Experience: More than 20 years as a Consultant/Expert on Urban and Regional Planning, Urban Design, Disaster Management, Environmental Management, Projects Management etc.

(6) Dr. Anusha Kasige, PhD, MSc, BSc in Zoology

- *Ecologist* (Flora, Fauna, Ecosystems)

Experience: more than 15 EIA and IEE studies and ecological studies during the past 5 years

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Greentech (2011). Environmental Assessment Final Report for Metro Colombo Urban Development Project, Vol. 1, Greentech Consultants (Pvt) Ltd., Colombo 5, Sri Lanka.

Annex I

Common name	Scientific name
Migrant birds	
Kentish plovers	Charadrius placidus
Pacific golden plovers	Pluvialis fulva
Grey plovers	Pluvialis squatarola
Little stints	Calidris minuta
Pintail snipes	Gallinago stenura
Yellow bitterns	Ixobrychus sinensis
Grey wag tail	Motacilla cineria
Yellow wag tails	Motacilla flava
Common Sand piper	Actitis hypoleucos
Marsh Sand piper	Tringa stagnatilis
Greenshank	Tringa nebularia
Black wing stilt	Himantopus himantopus
Green bee eater	Merops orientalis
Blue tailed Bea Eater	Merops philippinus
Barn swallow	Hirundo rustica
Whiskered tern	Chlidonias hybridus
Brown shrike	Lanius cristatus
Asian paradise fly catcher	Terpsiphone paradisi
Posidont hirds	
Asian open hill	Anastomus oscitans
Asidii Uperi Dill Lossor whistling duck	Anustonius osciluiis
Cattle egret	Denulousibis
Ladian cormorant	Dubulcus Ibis Dhalacrocoray fuscicallis
nulari comorani Durnle swamphen	Pornhurio nornhurio
Common coot	Fulica atra
White breasted water ben	Amaurornis nhoenicurus
Little grebe	Tachybantus ruficollis
Pond heron	Ardeola aravii
Night heron	Arucolu yruyll Nycticoray nycticoray
Purple heron	Ardea sumatrana
Greyheron	Ardea aoliath
Brown headed harbet	Megalaima zevlanica
Crimson fronted barbet	Megalaima rubricanilla
Snotted dove	strentonelia chinensis ceulonensis
White throated kingfisher	Halevon smyrnensis
Orange hilled babbler	Turdoides affinis
	Fudunamus scolonaceae
Asiali KUEI Greater coural	Centronus sinensis
Rose ringed parakaat	Centropus siliensis Deittacula Krameri
Rown fich owl	rsillululu Nullieli Katung zaylanansis
M/bito bolliod drongo	Netupu zeyionensis
white bellied drongo	Dicrurus caerulescens

List of bird species recorded during previous studies at Beddagana

Common iora	Aegithina tiphia
Common myna	Acridotheres tristis
Magpie robin	Copsychus saularis
Red vented bulbul	Pycnonotus cafer
Ashy prinia	Prinia socialis
Plain prinia	Prinia inornata
Pesent tailed jacana	Hydrophasianus chirurgus
House crow	Corvus splendes
Black hooded oriole	Oriolus xanthornus

Annex II

Some species suitable for reforestation programme at Beddagana site

Common name	Scientific name
Bowitiya	Osbeckia parvifolia
Kirilla	Glochidion stellatum
Nuga	Ficus bengalensis
Mango	Mangifera indica
Madan	Syzygium cumini
Madatiya	Adenanthera pavonina
Na	Mesua ferrea
Mara	Samanea saman
Jak	Artocarpus heterphyllus
Ehala	Cassia fistula

Annex 3:

Photographs of some of the important locations along project roads

Beddagana site for the nature park



Lat-6.89161⁰ Lon-79.91056⁰ Fig. 1. Lake located near the site



Lat-6.89184[°] Lon-79.90944[°] Fig. 2. The natural vegetation at the site



Lat-6.89159⁰ Lon-79.90871⁰

Fig. 3. Natural drainage paths at the wetland



Lat-6.89156⁰ Lon-79.90878⁰

Fig. 4. These embankments need strengthening



Lat-6.89164[°] Lon-79.90939[°] Fig. 5. The nature trials will stretch along these embankments



Lat-6.89162[°] Lon-79.0940[°] Fig. 6. The natural vegetation at the site

Annex 4: Detailed drawings of project components











