INTRODUCING SYSTEMATIC LAND USE PLANNING IN THE UPPER WATERSHED AREAS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF LAND RESOURCE

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S Y N O P S I S

The need for maintaining the land uses of the upper watersheds for the sustainable developments of entire river basis has been recognized and action towards this has been taken by several countries. The attention paid towards the proper maintenance of such watershed in Sri Lanka in the past does not appear to be sufficient. There are several statutory divisions administered by several government institutions dealing with the conservation and development of the areas covered by the upper watersheds as well as the downstream areas the downstream areas. However there dose'nt appear to be sufficient appreciation of the need for coordination of this activity. As a result of the developments have occurred in areas which are not suitable for such developments, resulting in retarding development of the entire river basins taken as a whole. This affects economy of the country.

This study is aimed at assessing the problem due to the present land use condition in the upper watershed and formulating principles for the preparation of land use plans for such upper watersheds which would benefits the developments of all land resources in such river basins.

A study area has been selected for an indepth study of the current problems and formulation of proposals to remedy any deficiencies. The principles of such proposals thus

formulated have a general applicability for all the upper watershed of the country.

The principle adopted in the entire study has been the optimal utilization of land resources for sustainable developments.

The study has been done in six Chapter. Chapter 1 has discussed the planning concepts and theories applicable for land use planning in the upper watersheds.

Chapter 2 has discussed the experience in watershed management in other countries to facilitate comparable understanding on this subject.

Chapter 3 has then analyzed the present situation in upper watershed areas in Sri Lanka.

Chapter 4 comprises the analysis and findings of the case study area selected for in-depth evaluation.

Chapter 5 has discussed the potentials and constrains for systematic land use planning in the upper watershed area for the sustainable development of its land resources.

Chapter 6 comprise the main conclusion and recommendation arising from the study.

CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF FIGURES

LIST OF MAPS

ABBREVIATION

D.S.D.	Divisional Secretary Division
F.A.O.	Food and Agricultural organization
G.N.D.	Grama Niladhari Division
I.B.L.	Immature Brown Lomes
L.U.P.P.D.	Land Use Policy Planning Division
N.B.R.O.	National Building Research Organization
R.Y.P.	Red Yellow Podzolic
R.B.L.	Red Brown Latazolic
T.V.A.	Tennessy Valley Authority
U.M.W.M.P.	Upper Mahaweli Watershed Management Project
U.N.O.	United Nation Organization