IEPSL NEWSLETTER

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INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS SRI LANKA

Incorporated by the Act of Parliament No. 01 of 2020, as the premier organization for Environmental Professionals in Sri Lanka

Picture: Prof. Ranjith Dissanayake delivering the keynote address at the ECOCONVERGENCE2026 Ceremonial Session

GLIMPSE OF ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

SRI LANKA'S RACE TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALIZATION

A New Eco-Industrial Park Model on the Horizon

CLIMATE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS IN SRI LANKA'S FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN

A Midstream Approach

ABOUT

The Institute of Environmental Professionals Sri Lanka (IEPSL) was established in 2006 with a Cabinet Paper (No. 06/1365/221/026 of 13-7-2006) with the blessings of the then Minister of Environment, Hon. Maithreepala Sirisena. The Act of the Institute is now being finalized and will be operational before the end of 2019. It is the only Professional Institute of Environmentalists in the Country and was established to bridge the gap and to uphold the dignity and raise the reputation of the environmental profession in the country. The main thrust areas of the Institute are Education and Training, Promoting Awareness and Advocacy on Environmental Issues and to Improve Environmental Professionalism. It provides training on a multitude of areas in the environment to a wide polity, provide advice to the Government and other sectors of the society on matters pertaining to the environment, in order to ensure sustainable development. It offers Charter Membership for the practitioners.

Vision

To be a vibrant body of outstanding environmental professionals contributing effectively to the advancement of the field of environment and for resolution of environmental problems confronting the modern society.

Mission

To protect the dignity and recognition of the profession through education, research and application of scientific knowledge while contributing to maintain high standards in the practice of environmental management.

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• PRESIDENT'S NOTE •

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HELLO COMRADES

It is with great pleasure that I present this special 20th Anniversary edition of our IEPSL Newsletter. This milestone marks two decades since the establishment of the Institute of Environmental Professionals of Sri Lanka in 2006 through a Parliamentary decision, reflecting our continued commitment to advancing environmental professionalism in the country.

As we commemorate this important anniversary, let us take pride in our collective achievements and look ahead with renewed commitment. Together, we will continue to strengthen IEPSL's voice as a leading professional body for environmental excellence.

Best wishes,

Asela Iddawela

President

IEPSL's Flagship Magazine

BEYOND BORDERS

2026 | Volume 1 | Issue 1

20th Anniversary Edition

Beyond Borders is the flagship publication of the Institute of Environmental Professionals Sri Lanka (IEPSL), dedicated to celebrating excellence in environmental management, sustainability innovation, and professional leadership. The magazine curates high-impact articles that showcase best practices, transformative solutions, and forward-looking sustainability initiatives shaping industries and communities today.

Scan for more information and submission of articles

Browse Beyond Borders - 2026

www.iepsl.lk

Sri Lanka's Race Toward Sustainable Industrialization:
A New Eco-Industrial Park Model on the Horizon

As Sri Lanka continues its rapid industrial expansion, a parallel crisis has been unfolding by threatening natural resources, ecosystems, and community wellbeing. Although, industrialization has brought prosperity, jobs, and infrastructure, it has also taken a heavy toll on the environment. Pollution, over-extraction of natural resources, inefficient energy use, and escalating greenhouse gas emissions now challenge the region's ability to grow sustainably.

In response to this urgent need, a groundbreaking research initiative from the University of Sri Jayewardenepura proposes the development of a customized Eco-Industrial Park (EIP) model tailored specifically for the Sri Lankan context. This research aims to identify regional potentials, barriers, and best practices to support a greener future, one where industries collaborate to minimize waste, conserve resources, and simultaneously strengthen economic performance.

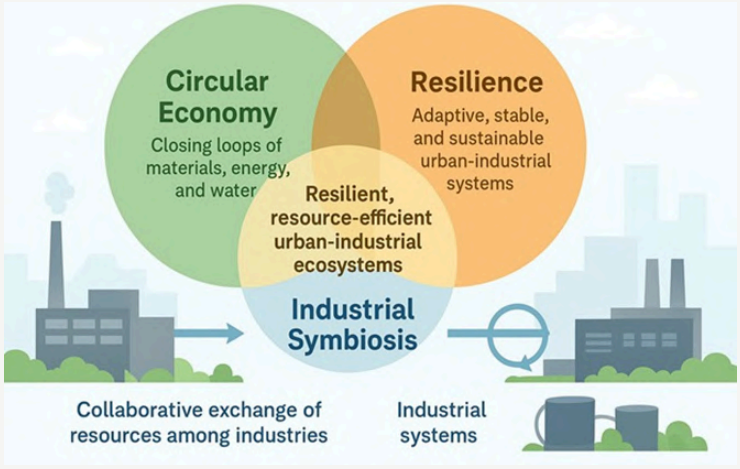

Figure 1: Theoretical Concepts behind EIP

A Country at the Crossroads

The research highlights a global truth: economic systems and natural ecosystems are inseparably linked. Industrial growth relies heavily on natural resource extraction, and unmanaged industrial processes feed pollution back into the environment. Rapid population growth and expanding manufacturing sectors in the country have increased demand for water, land, energy, and raw materials beyond sustainable limits.

The consequences are stark. Natural resource scarcity is rising, fossil fuel dependence remains high, and industrial emissions continue to climb. However, still the country is lack of strong environmental regulatory frameworks which is necessary to support responsible industrial practices.

As Sri Lanka and its neighbors work toward climate commitments, including carbon neutrality goals, there is a pressure mounts to transform traditional industrial zones into resilient, sustainable ecosystems. Against this backdrop, Eco-Industrial Parks emerge as a powerful solution.

Eco-Industrial Parks: A Transformative Concept

According to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), an Eco-Industrial Park is "a community of businesses located on a common property where companies seek to achieve enhanced environmental, economic, and social performance through collaboration in managing environmental and resource issues." Unlike traditional industrial zones, EIPs work on the principle of industrial symbiosis, where waste or by-products of one industry become inputs for another. In doing so, EIPs reduce pollution, conserve valuable resources, and support a circular economy.

Environmentally, they help industries significantly reduce their ecological footprint. By integrating efficient wastewater treatment systems, facilitating the use of renewable energy, promoting recycling and resource recovery, and encouraging the conservation of water and energy,

EIPs greatly minimize pollution and waste. These measures not only protect ecosystems but also support national and global commitments to climate action and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

From an economic perspective, EIPs boost industrial competitiveness by enabling shared infrastructure and resource optimization. Companies operating within these parks benefit from lower operational expenses, reduced energy costs, and enhanced resource efficiency. Access to green financing opportunities and increased investor confidence further strengthen their position in global value chains.

On the social front, EIPs contribute meaningfully to community wellbeing. They create better employment opportunities and promote safer and healthier working environments.

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Sri Lanka's Race Toward Sustainable Industrialization...

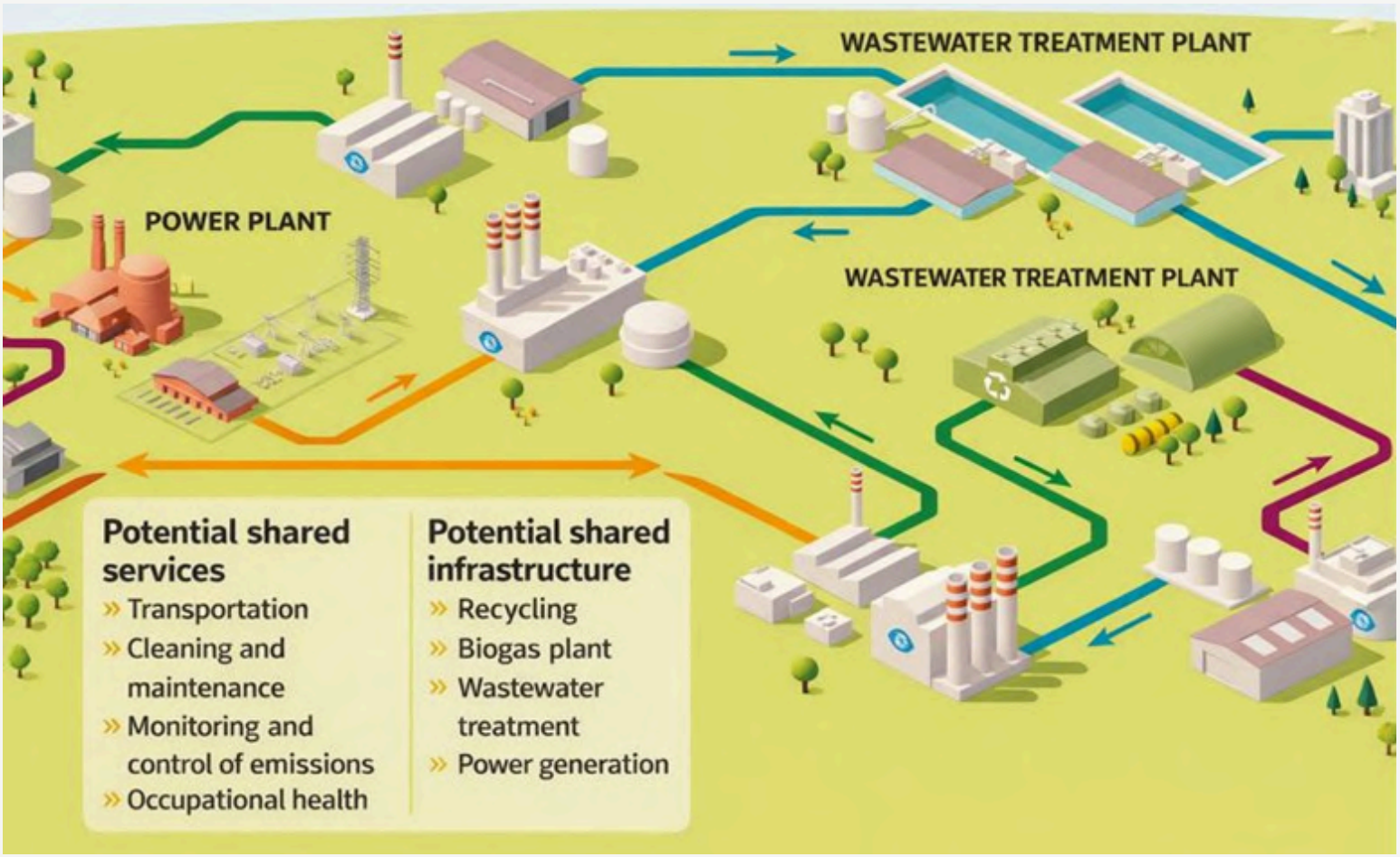

Figure 02: Bird View of a Typical EIP Model

Across the world, successful EIP models already exist. Kalundborg in Denmark is a global icon in industrial symbiosis, while countries like Vietnam, China, and South Africa have implemented large-scale eco-friendly industrial zones integrating shared infrastructure, green energy, waste treatment systems, and resource-efficient processes. In South Asia, however, still lags behind.

Why Sri Lanka Needs Its Own EIP Model?

While several global EIP frameworks exist, the research emphasizes that Sri Lanka requires a customized model, one that accounts for regional differences in governance, infrastructure, technology access, financial capacity, and cultural factors.

Sri Lanka faces unique constraints, including technological limitations, weak enforcement of environmental regulations, high upfront investment costs, insufficient awareness of circular economy practices, limited cross-industry collaboration, policy gaps in industrial development and environmental protection.

Even though, the country has strong national commitments to sustainability and climate action, existing industrial parks face challenges in waste management, renewable energy adoption, and infrastructure readiness. A tailored EIP model developed by understanding country specific needs could bridge these gaps and accelerate national progress toward carbon-neutral goals.

Knowing the depth, significance and benefits for the triple bottom line in by implementing an optimal eco industrial park model for the Sri Lanka, researchers and industry experts from Sri Lanka and United Kingdom now putting their efforts in modelling the outcome through a rigorous doctoral research.

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The Team is consisted of Ms. Terancy Samarawickrama, Faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Sri Jayewardenepura who is working attached to the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka, Dr. Mrs. Udayagee Kumarasinghe, Senior Lecturer of Faculty of Technology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura as the principal supervisor. Professor Mrs. Champika Lasanthi Liyanage, Professor of School of Engineering, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Central Lancashire, United Kingdom, & Senior Professor (Rtd) Mrs. Hemanthi Ranasighe , Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura are co-supervising the project. Meantime, the research is fully supported by Ministry of Industries and Industrial Development Board due to the significance at national level and regional levels.

How the Study Works?

Rather than remaining theoretical, the research follows a step-by-step,

Practical approach: The study is consisting with five phases to achieve the objectives of the study; the first phase focuses on mapping industries and resource flows by studying major industrial sectors across the region, identifying opportunities for resource sharing and waste reuse, and assessing the sustainability performance of existing industrial zones. In the second phase, researchers identify key barriers to EIP development through policy reviews, stakeholder interviews, and surveys, examining regulatory gaps, financial constraints, technological limitations, infrastructure weaknesses, and capacity or awareness issues. The third phase evaluates the feasibility of integrating renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, biomass, and waste-to-energy systems while exploring circular economy opportunities, industrial symbiosis, and the broader economic, social, and environmental impacts. Phase four emphasizes the development of a high-precision EIP model using digital twinning technologies, simulation tools, extensive stakeholder consultations, and scenario testing to ensure practicality and adaptability. Finally, phase five presents detailed policy recommendations, including regulatory reforms, capacity-building initiatives, and robust monitoring and performance indicators to support successful EIP implementation across the region.

A Blueprint for the Future

If implemented, the proposed Eco-Industrial Park model could transform industry sector in the country. It promises a future where economic growth no longer comes at the expense of environmental health or community wellbeing. The research signals a strategic turning point, one where Sri Lanka and its neighbors take decisive steps toward a green industrial revolution, shaping a more resilient and sustainable regional economy for decades to come.

Mrs. Terancy Samarawickrama

Dr. Mrs. Udayagee Kumarasinghe

Prof. Mrs. Champika L. LiyanagE

Prof. Mrs. Hemanthi Ranasinghe

Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

18th Annual Technical Sessions (ATS) and Annual General Meeting of IEPSL ECOCONVERGENCE 2026 was held on 11th - 12th March 2026 in Colombo

Day 1: Awareness Workshop on Implementing an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and Collect-back Model for Waste Management

An awareness programme on implementing an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and collect-back model for waste management was successfully held on 11 March 2026 at the Gall Face Hotel, Colombo. The event brought together heads and senior officials of local government institutions, along with key stakeholders from national and provincial agencies.

The programme featured technical insights from leading experts in environmental management, highlighting practical strategies to strengthen waste collection and accountability mechanisms in Sri Lanka.

The Chief Guest, Hon. Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils, and Local Government, Prof. Chandana Abeyratne, emphasized the importance of collaborative governance and sustainable waste solutions.

The session concluded with an engaging discussion and a networking segment, fostering partnerships to advance effective waste management practices across the country.

The Chief Guest, Hon. Minister of Public Administration, Provincial Councils, and Local Government, Prof. Chandana Abeyratne is addressing the gathering

Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

Day 1

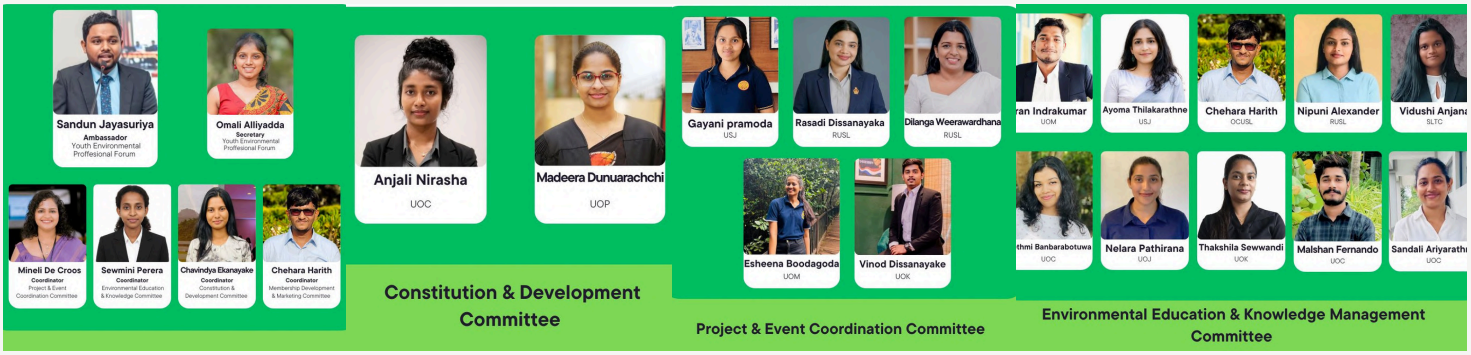
Establishment of the IEPSLYouth Environmental Professionals Forum

IEPSL proudly marked the establishment of the Youth Environmental Professionals Forum (YEPF) on 11 March 2026, in parallel with EcoConvergence 2026. This milestone initiative brings together a dynamic network of young environmental leaders and university undergraduates committed to advancing environmental sustainability in Sri Lanka.

The Forum comprises four dedicated committees: the Constitution & Development Committee, Environmental Education & Knowledge Management Committee, Project & Event Coordination Committee, and the Executive Committee. Representing universities across the country, these young professionals are united by a shared vision of promoting environmental knowledge, fostering sustainable solutions, and creating meaningful societal impact.

The establishment of YEPF reflects IEPSL's commitment to empowering the next generation of environmental leaders and strengthening youth engagement in addressing environmental challenges. Through collaboration, innovation, and leadership, the Forum aims to inspire positive change and contribute towards a greener and more sustainable future for Sri Lanka.

Members of the IEPSLYouth Environmental Professionals Forum



Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

Day 2

Opening Plenary Session: Keynote speech: Prof. Harsha Ratnaweera,

NORWAIGIAN UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES, PRESIDENT EUROPEAN WATER ASSOCIATION

Water is at the centre of some of the most urgent challenges facing the world today. Climate change is making water problems more extreme, creating conditions where communities experience either too little water through drought or too much water through floods, storms and landslides. Uneven global distribution of freshwater means that many people already face water scarcity, and rising temperatures are expected to worsen the situation.

At the same time, water quality is under serious pressure. A large share of wastewater remains untreated, allowing pollutants to enter rivers, lakes and groundwater. In Sri Lanka, the Kelani River is an important example, affected by industrial waste, sewage contamination, solid waste and illegal mining. Such pollution increases the cost and complexity of water treatment and threatens public health.

Another growing concern is the presence of emerging micropollutants, including chemicals from pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. These substances require advanced treatment technologies and stronger responsibility from producers.

However, water systems also offer opportunities. Wastewater should not be seen only as waste, but as a resource from which water, nutrients, organic matter and energy can be recovered, reused and recycled. Digitalisation can also improve the sector through smart design, efficient use and better control using sensors and data analytics.

Yet digitalisation brings new risks. Water services are increasingly exposed to cyber threats that can disrupt operations, alter chemical dosing, damage infrastructure or block access to vital data. Managing future water challenges therefore requires climate resilience, pollution control, resource recovery and secure digital transformation.

Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

Day 2

Panel Discussion:
"From Efficiency to Resilience: The Future of Industrial Water Management"

A key highlight of the programme was the panel discussion on "From Efficiency to Resilience: The Future of Industrial Water Management." The discussion brought together distinguished experts from industry, academia, and the water sector to share their perspectives on emerging challenges and opportunities in sustainable water management. The session was moderated by Dr. Tharindu Ritigala, Director – Chemical Process, DOSCON Lanka.

The panel comprised Prof. Harsha Ratnaweera, President of the European Water Association; Dr. S. K. Weragoda, Project Director of the National Water Supply and Drainage Board; and Mr. Rushanth Chandrabose, Director of Waste-to-Value. The discussion emphasized the importance of innovation, regulatory compliance, water stewardship, circular economy principles, climate resilience, and cross-sector collaboration in addressing Sri Lanka's growing water-related challenges.

The event concluded with the recognition of industry leaders who have demonstrated exemplary commitment to sustainable water management, inspiring other organizations to adopt responsible water stewardship practices and contribute towards national water security, climate resilience, and environmental sustainability.

Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

Day 2

Industry Water Leader Awards of the Year 2025

Hirdaramani Industries (Pvt) Ltd, Seethawaka Washing Plant, was awarded the Gold Award

Orit Apparels Lanka (Pvt) Ltd received the Silver Award

American & Efird Lanka (Pvt) Ltd was recognized with the Bronze Award

A Special Recognition Award was presented to Ayurvie Weligama by Thema Collection for its outstanding commitment to sustainable water management and environmental stewardship within the hospitality sector.

The Institute of Environmental Professionals Sri Lanka (IEPSL) successfully conducted the Industry Water Leaders of the Year 2025 programme as part of EcoConvergence 2026, recognizing organizations that have demonstrated outstanding commitment to sustainable water management and water stewardship. The initiative was organized to promote responsible water use, resource efficiency, and environmental sustainability within Sri Lankan industries. The programme was generously supported by Uniken Lanka Ltd., as the main sponsor of the event.

Following a comprehensive evaluation process, awards were presented to organizations demonstrating excellence in water management within the textile sector. Hirdaramani Industries (Pvt) Ltd – Seethawaka Washing Plant was awarded the Gold Award, while Orit Apparels Lanka (Pvt) Ltd received the Silver Award, and American & Efird Lanka (Pvt) Ltd was recognized with the Bronze Award.

A Special Recognition Award was presented to Ayurvie Weligama by Thema Collection for its outstanding commitment to sustainable water management and environmental stewardship within the hospitality sector.

Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

Day 2

Panel Discussion: Knowledge to Action for a Climate Resilient Future

Closing plenary session was held with a panel discussion titled "Knowledge to Action for a Climate Resilient Future" brought together experts from diverse sectors to explore practical solutions for addressing climate-related hazards and building resilience in communities and institutions. The session focused on proactive approaches to managing risks associated with floods, landslides, and droughts, while emphasizing the importance of translating knowledge into meaningful action.

Moderated by Shiranee Yasaratne, the panel featured Dr. Shamen Vidanage, Rohan Cooray, Dr. Leonie Vaas, Prof. Ajith de Alwis, and Sandun Jayasuriya.

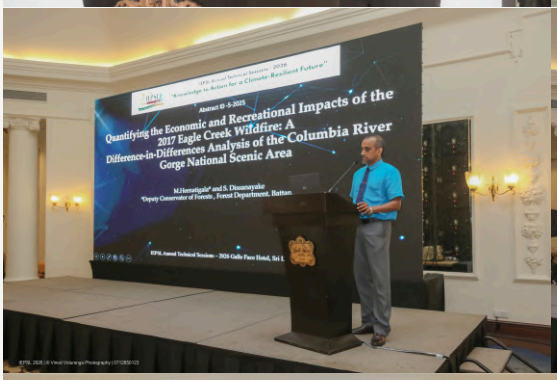
The discussion highlighted the critical role of early warning systems, hazard mapping, evidence-based policy frameworks, and community-centered resilience strategies in reducing the impacts of climate-related disasters. Panelists also emphasized the need for stronger collaboration among government institutions, academia, the private sector, civil society, and youth to enhance preparedness and support anticipatory action.

The session underscored that building a climate-resilient future requires not only scientific knowledge and technological innovation but also effective implementation, inclusive decision-making, and sustained investment in resilience-building measures. Participants were encouraged to strengthen partnerships and accelerate action to safeguard communities and support sustainable development in the face of increasing climate risks.

Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

Day 2

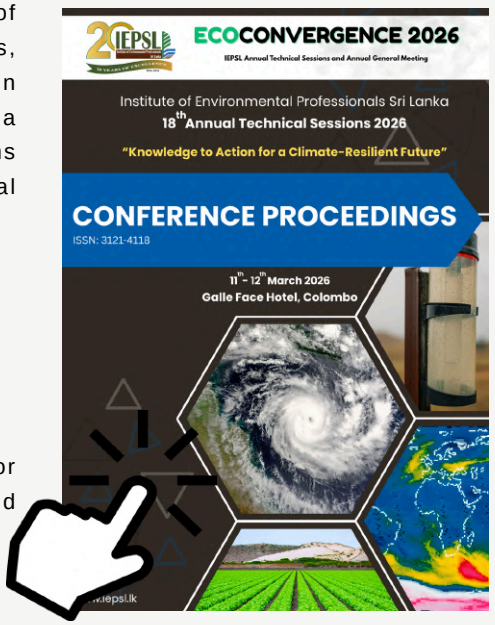
Parallel Technical Sessions



A key highlight of the IESPL Annual Technical Symposium (ATS) 2026 was the series of parallel technical sessions that brought together researchers, practitioners, academics, and industry professionals to share innovative solutions and emerging knowledge on pressing environmental challenges under the theme of “Knowledge to Action for a Climate Resilient Future”. The technical programme featured 25 oral presentations across four thematic sessions, reflecting the multidisciplinary nature of environmental science and sustainable development.

Session 1: Climate Change, Risk & Environmental Informatics
Session 2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems & Nature-Based Solutions
Session 3: Sustainable Cities, Infrastructure & Green Innovation
Session 4: Circular Economy, Pollution Control &One Health

In addition to the oral presentations, the Poster Session provided a vibrant platform for researchers and students to present their work, engage in technical discussions, and exchange ideas with participants.



Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

Day 2

Ceremonial Session

Welcoming the Chief Guest,
Dr. Dammika Patabendi, Hon. Minister of Environment

IEPSL Counil members 2026/2027

Prof. Ranjith Dissanayake, delivering the keynote address

Dr. Dammika Patabendi, Chief Guest, Hon. Minister of Environment, addressing the gathering

Awarding of the Fellowship Certificates: Mr. Janaka Wijesekara receives his fellowship certificate from the Hon. Minister of Environment.

Awarding of the Charter Certificates: Mr. Yasantha Gunaratne receives his charter certificate from the Secretary, Ministry of Environment.

Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

IEPSL Fellowship Awardees 2025/2026

- Janaka Wijesekara
- Anura Ranwala

IEPSL Charter Awardees 2025/2026

- P.M. Maheshika Sujeewa Kumari
- A. Yogalingam
- E.A. Kasunthi K. Amarasekara
- Etty Sivasudhan
- C. Madhushani Paranawithanage
- Gamlakshage Dona Dayani
- Y. Isurie Lakmalie Dharmasoma
- M. Trishan Chamara Perera
- S. D. Sithumini Anuradha Wijerathna
- Chamini Kasun Hemachandra
- H. A. Yasantha Ravindra Gunarathna

Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

Day 2

IEPSL Honorary Fellowship

Senior Professor Ajith De Alwis, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa, receives the **Honorary Fellowship of the IEPSL**, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to environmental safeguard, sustainability, industrial development, and national policy advancement in Sri Lanka, alongside his extensive academic and research leadership

Glimpse of ECOCONVERGENCE 2026

***IEPSL celebrates its 20th Anniversary**, marking two decades since its establishment in 2006 through a Parliamentary decision. Past Presidents of IEPSL and founding Executive Committee members come together to commemorate this milestone and honor the Institute's legacy with a ceremonial cake-cutting*

Climate Disaster Preparedness in Sri Lanka's Food Supply Chain: A Midstream Approach

Sri Lanka is considered to be highly susceptible to adverse climate effects due to its unique geographical position and socio-economic conditions. Across the years, Sri Lanka has faced a range of climate hazards, including floods, droughts, cyclones, etc. The country's agricultural activities are directly affected by this variability and extreme events, leading to potential food insecurities. These disruptions not only decrease production at the farm level but also break and interrupt the entire supply chain, making it harder to move food safely and efficiently to the consumption stage. Hence, it is important to look at the midstream stages and their strategic controls in the event of a climate-induced disaster, in order to ensure food availability, reduce post-harvest losses, and stabilize market supply. Under the midstream stages, we can focus on the storage, transport, coordination, processing, and redistribution levels of a food supply chain. There should be emergency measures as well as mid- and long-term preparedness for food security under adverse conditions.

When a disaster warning is issued, it is important to have pre-positioned buffer stocks of ready-to-use food, medical kits, shelter gear, and logistics equipment closer to the disaster-prone areas so that they can be released immediately when supply lines break. It is equally important to deploy mobile storage units and temporary warehouses to protect grains and packaged foods from pests and exposure, given that the fixed warehouses may get damaged.

As seen in recent past events, especially with Cyclone Ditwah, roads and common access routes failed, making it difficult to provide necessities to the affected population. The flooding damaged roads, bridges, irrigation systems, crops, and household food stocks at the same time, illustrating that climate disasters interrupt both supply and logistics.

Kasuni Gayanika Wimalasena
Researcher / Lecturer,
Global Edulink, United Kingdom

There should be systems identified to carry the goods through safe passages and corridors. Emergencies overwhelm local systems, so the responsible agencies should centralise route information, warehousing, access updates, last-mile infrastructure, and transport services. The necessary directions, leadership, coordination, information management, and common logistics services should be provided when local capacity is exceeded. Modern emergency food supply chains increasingly rely on live planning tools to identify bottlenecks, reroute shipments, and reduce food loss. Digital platforms help it plan in real time, identify and manage risks, and deliver more efficiently.

When fresh food cannot move quickly enough, it is crucial to convert it into more stable forms or produce semi-processed foods. According to the FAO, food processing increases food availability beyond the area and season of production, while the World Food Programme also increasingly distributes fortified staples such as wheat flour, maize meal, and rice in emergency programmes. For Sri Lanka, this means that midstream control during climate disasters must include edible-food redistribution, diversion of damaged-but-safe food to processing where possible, and rapid conversion of unavoidable waste into compost or biogas instead of allowing it to accumulate as a public-health and environmental burden.

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Climate Disaster Preparedness in Sri Lanka's Food Supply Chain..

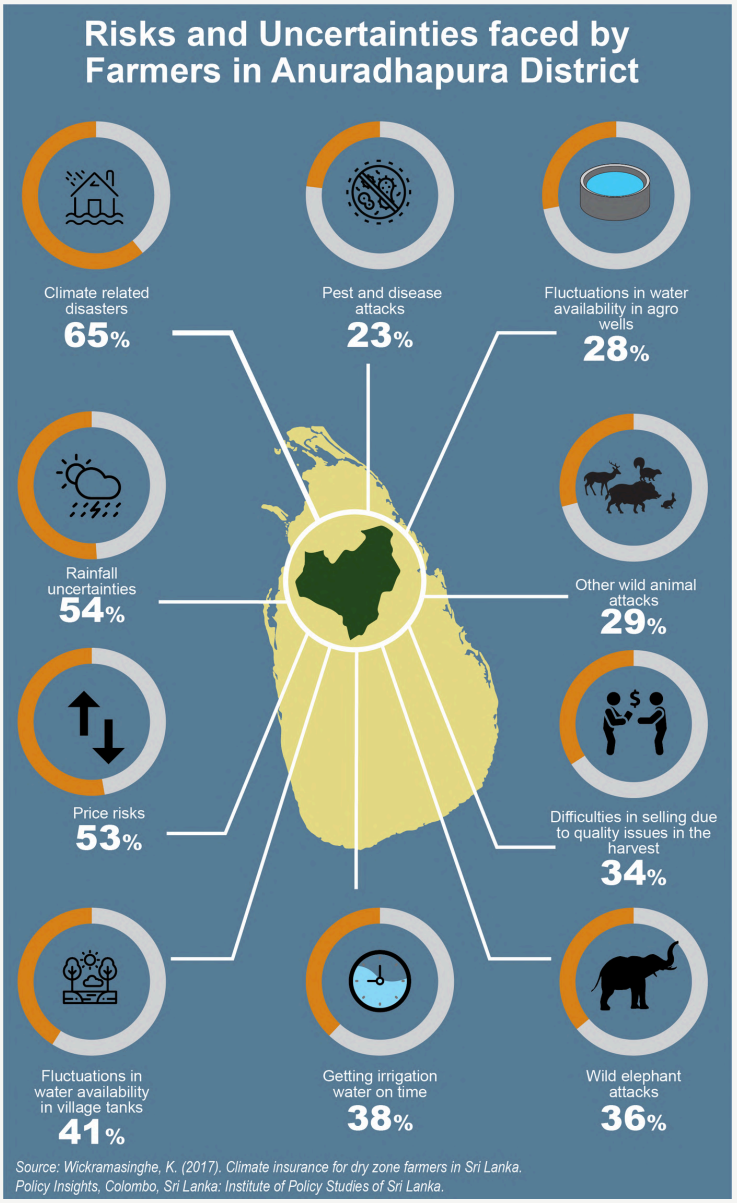
Simultaneously, for perishable and damageable goods, it is advisable to use reefer containers, cold storage facilities, and generators if possible. Simple midstream fixes such as reusable plastic crates, better stacking, cleaner handling, and safer loading can save large amounts of fresh food.

Food banks, community kitchen and, shelters and intermediary organisations are established approaches that can collect the edible surplus, store and process if needed, and redirect those to the people in need. At the same time, it is vital to ensure hygiene, contamination control, and proper waste management so that unsafe food is separated and not redistributed.

When it comes to the mid- and long-term strategies, Sri Lanka should focus on climate disaster preparedness that extends control much more than just moving food from one point to another. A resilient system is required that can keep food safe, available, and affordable even when the normal market flows are disrupted. One of the weaknesses observed in Sri Lanka's midstream controls is not only the loss of food at production sites but the failure to move it quickly and safely through collection points, wholesale markets, transport corridors, and retail channels.

Another major response could be to scale up research-based food preservation and food processing, also focusing more on "process before spoilage" for emergency preparedness. This is important as preservation doesn't just merely cut down on waste, but also buys time, stabilizes prices, protects farmers' revenue, and creates stocks that can be later used. Research is needed to ensure that perishable foods are preserved not merely as sauces, purees, or other processed by-products, but also as nutritious, convenient main food. Since rice is the staple food in Sri Lanka and the country's food culture is built around rice-based meals, food preservation strategies should be developed in ways that fit local meal patterns and consumer preferences. This would make preserved foods more practical, acceptable, and useful during both normal times and emergencies.

Overall, Sri Lanka's response to climate-related food-supply disruption should move from a narrow focus on production to a broader focus on midstream resilience. Stronger distribution systems, climate-resilient cold storage, preservation research, rapid conversion of perishables into processed and semi-processed foods, and organized food banks can together reduce losses, protect nutrition, stabilise markets, and make the food supply chain more shock-resistant. In that sense, midstream control is not a secondary issue in disaster management; it is one of the main conditions for national food security.



Source: https://www.ips.lk/talkingeconomics/2019/03/13/linking-disaster-risk-management-into-economic-policy-planning-in-sri-lanka/

IEPSL Events

Licensing Procedures Workshop on EPL & SWML

The Industrial Relations Committee of Institute of Environmental Professionals Sri Lanka (IEPSL), in collaboration with Lions District 306 D5, successfully conducted the Licensing Procedures Workshop on Environmental Protection Licensing (EPL) and Scheduled Waste Management Licensing (SWML) on 10 January 2026 at the Ceylinco Auditorium, Ceylinco Life Insurance Ltd, Gampaha.

Address by Mr. Kapila Mahesh Rajapaksha,
Director General of the
Central Environmental Authority (CEA)

The workshop provided participants with valuable insights into environmental licensing requirements, regulatory compliance, and recent developments in environmental governance. A key highlight of the event was the address by Mr. Kapila Mahesh Rajapaksha, Director General of the Central Environmental Authority (CEA), who delivered an informative overview of the proposed amendments to the National Environmental Act and their implications for environmental professionals and industries.

Resource persons from the CEA conducted practical and engaging sessions on EPL and SWML procedures, offering participants a clearer understanding of licensing processes and compliance obligations.

IEPSL Events

CEO Forum: "Sustainability Under Pressure: How CEOs Make ESG Work During Economic Hardship?"

As part of EcoConvergence 2026, the Institution of Environmental Professionals Sri Lanka (IEPSL) successfully hosted the CEO Forum 2026 on 30 January 2026 at Hilton Residencies, Colombo.

Held under the theme "Sustainability Under Pressure: How CEOs Make ESG Work During Economic Hardship?", the forum brought together business leaders, academics, and sustainability professionals to discuss the challenges and opportunities of maintaining Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) commitments during periods of economic uncertainty.

The event was honoured by the presence of Dr. Nandalal Weerasinghe, Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, whose participation underscored the critical link between economic resilience and sustainable development.

The panel featured insightful contributions from Mrs. Kanthi De Silva, President-Elect of IEPSL; Prof. Sugeeth Patabandige of the University of Kelaniya; Mr. Manjula M.U. Don, CEO of Dual Chelate Group, Australia; and Mr. Randeewa Malalasooriya, CEO of CBL Natural Foods Cluster. The forum concluded with a strong consensus that sustainability and ESG principles must remain central to business leadership and decision-making, even in times of financial and operational pressure.

Members' Corner

IEPSL extends its congratulations to Eng. Janaka Ratnakumara, COO of Wijeya Newspapers (Pvt) Ltd and former Chair of the Marketing and Communication Committee of IEPSL, on the remarkable achievement of Lankadeepa being recognized as the Most Popular Newspaper of the Year at the SLIM KANTAR People's Awards 2026. This prestigious recognition reflects the newspaper's continued excellence, strong public trust, and commitment to delivering quality journalism. IEPSL is proud to celebrate this achievement and wishes Eng. Ratnakumara and the Wijeya Newspapers team continued success in their future endeavors.

IEPSL is pleased to congratulate Mr. Indra Kaushal Rajapakse, Chair of the Industrial Relations Committee, IEPSL, on being featured on the cover page of Global CEO Magazine (January 2026 Issue).

This recognition highlights his strong commitment to purpose-driven entrepreneurship, enhancing export competitiveness, and transforming environmental responsibility into long-term economic value. His achievement reflects the growing role of sustainability-focused leadership in shaping resilient businesses and contributing to sustainable development.

Spotlight on You

Share Your Achievements with the IEPSL Family!

Write to us at **blog@iepsl.lk**

https://forms.gle/V3LWFxhCPscWryTL8

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Institute of Environmental Professionals Sri Lanka
104, Denzil Kobbekaduwa Mawatha
Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.
Tel: +9411308268 Fax: +94112872296
Email: info@iepsl.lk / iepslinfo@gmail.com
Website: www.iepsl.lk

9 773021 613009