



# Greater Colombo Flood Control and Environment Improvement Project (II)(III)

Contributing to flood control by improving old or underdeveloped drainage systems

**[External Evaluator]**

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**Rating**

Effectiveness, Impact	b	Overall Rating <b>C</b>
Relevance	a	
Efficiency	a	
Sustainability	c	

**Project Objectives**

To mitigate flood damage by improving underdeveloped or old drainage systems in the most flood-affected areas of Greater Colombo, namely the five areas within the Colombo Municipal Council area and two areas in the Dehiwala Mount Lavinia Municipal council, thereby contributing to the improvement of living conditions in the area. Additionally, phase II aimed at improving the living conditions in the project area through provision of water-supply, sewerage systems, and electricity.

**Outline of the Loan Agreement**

- Loan amount / Disbursed amount:  
(Phase II): 4,367 million yen / 3,548 million yen  
(Phase III): 6,180 million yen / 5,874 million yen
- Loan agreement :  
(Phase II): July 1994; (Phase III): October 1996
- Terms and Conditions:  
(Phase II): 2.6% interest rate; 20-year repayment period (including 10-year grace period); general untied
- (Phase III): 2.1% interest rate; 20-year repayment period (including 10-year grace period); general untied
- Final disbursement date:  
(Phase II): October 2001; (Phase III): December 2005
- Executing agency: Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation (SLLRDC)
- Website URL: <http://www.landreclamation.lk/>



Side drains with slab lids requiring easy operation and maintenance (Attidiya)

**Effects of Project Implementation (Effectiveness, Impact)**

Inundation damage has been mitigated in all targeted areas of the project. However, a considerable degree of inundation damages still remain in some target areas of phase II. This mainly resulted from the following two reasons; a) development of secondary drainage and side drains was not carried out by the responsible authorities, namely Colombo Municipal Council and Road Development Authority respectively, while population density grew in the low income residential area and b) lack of adequate maintenance of the drainage facilities developed in the phase II. Therefore, this project has produced certain effects, and its effectiveness is moderate.

**Relevance**

Flood control of Greater Colombo, constituted by Sri Lanka's largest city and its surroundings was identified to be the most prioritized area in the national policies of the urban environmental and flood control sector. Inundation damage in all project target areas was serious, and the urgency and need for implementation of flood control measures at the time of appraisal was extremely high. The necessity for flood control in the target areas at the time of the ex-post evaluation is still high, as the area has become more urbanized and more populated. This project has been highly relevant with Sri Lanka's national policies and development needs at the times of both appraisal and ex-post evaluation.

**Efficiency**

Project period for phase II was longer than planned while that of phase III was carried out almost as planned. The total period of these projects combined was slightly longer than planned. As for project cost, both phases were lower than planned. When taking only these factors into consideration, the rating for efficiency could have been moderate. However, taking into consideration the additional construction and water quality and environmental improvement programs in phase III, which were identified as necessary during the course of project implementation, the efficiency of the project is high.

**Sustainability**

The current operation and maintenance (O&M) conditions and implementation system of the drainages developed by phase III is fairly good. However, it is not clear whether the responsibility of O&M of the drainage developed in the phase II lies with SLLRDC or Colombo Municipal Council, and the fact that O&M of such drainage is not being conducted is a problem. Therefore, the sustainability of this project is low.

**Conclusion, Lessons Learned and Recommendations**

In light of the above, the project is evaluated to be fairly satisfactory. Lessons learned are that for drainage development projects in Sri Lanka, it is necessary to duly study roles of the local authorities regarding O&M upon appraisal, and if needed, to assist organizational and technical capacity building of such local authorities in order to establish an appropriate system of O&M. In addition, it is essential to adopt a comprehensive approach which includes activities not only for main drainages but also for secondary drainages and side drains, etc. Recommendations to the SLLRDC and the Colombo Municipal Council are to resume discussions about the transfer of O&M responsibility of the drainages developed in phase II and to clarify where the responsibility of O&M lies.

\*All ex-post evaluation reports including this can be referred to in JICA's website, "Evaluations" → "Ex-post Evaluation (ODA Loan)" ([URL:http://www.jica.go.jp/english/operations/evaluation/oda\\_loan/post/](http://www.jica.go.jp/english/operations/evaluation/oda_loan/post/))