

Evaluation Abstract

Sustainability and future operations (assessment of proposed arrangements and identification of future monitoring indicators).

Findings:

The project objectives are meaningful from both national and global perspectives. The proposed project components and actions seem to be well-tailored to address Sri Lanka's conservation deficiencies.

The project has achieved significant outputs, including enrichment planting of 205 hectares; 45 kilometers of stream bank planting; establishment of fire lines; zonal demarcation of forests; 4,500 community members trained in natural resources and medicinal plants conservation; development of a medicinal plants database; 2 national nurseries created and 3 improved; development of protocols for mass production of planting material for 22 widely used species; publication and dissemination of information on plant propagation procedures through techno-guides, etc. *(A full list of project outputs is available in Annex I of the report).*

The socio-economic survey, the ethno botanical survey and the resource inventory survey led to the collection of valuable data. Despite a few shortcomings in the survey process, the data collected has been considered to be of good quality.

The education, training and extension activities met with unqualified success. Impacts involved 1) building country-wide awareness of the importance of conserving medicinal plants; 2) developing a regiment of field staff, well-trained in social mobilization, data collection and analysis; 3) provoking