



IWMI is a member of the CGIAR Consortium and leads the:



Research Program on Water, Land and Ecosystems

Contact: Renuka Jeya-Raj r.jeyaraj@cgiar.org Mob: 0777598438
Shevonne Jayasinghe s.jayasinghe@cgiar.org Mob: 0773778078

Water Cycle poster for SL Schools launched for World Environment Day

World Environment Day is today

For immediate release

Colombo. 5 June 2013: The Colombo based International Water Management Institute (IWMI), together with partner organization Lanka Jalani, launched a poster for schools to mark world environment day and 2013, the UN Year of Water Cooperation. Depicting the water cycle in Sri Lanka, the poster (23.5cm x 30 cm) is a colourful illustration of the way in which water moves through the environment.

Water is always in motion and the temperature of its environment influences its changes from liquid to vapour to ice. These changes are known as the water cycle and all life depends on its continuity. For instance solar evaporation of water from the planet's surface, leads to cloud formation, and then ultimately falls back to Earth as rain.

Children in Sri Lankan schools study the water cycle in Grades 5, 6 and 7. Ethan Abeynayake aged 10 said, "I love this poster. The way it shows how humans, crops and animals get their water is very interesting."

"World Environment Day is an annual event celebrated globally to promote awareness that it is everybody's responsibility to take care of the environment we live in," said IWMI director general Jeremy Bird. "We've produced this poster with our local partner Lanka Jalani, and in consultation with the Ministry of Education, to help children better understand one of the key processes that support life on earth and to support the efforts of Sri Lanka's teachers."

The Sri Lanka water cycle poster is available to schoolchildren who visit Keells outlets islandwide today. (The poster can also be downloaded from the IWMI website,)

PIX names L –R: Malaika Salman, Ethan Abeynayake, Maha Salman and Shanal Ganegoda

Photo credit: Lakmal Spencer

###

The **International Water Management Institute (IWMI)** is a non-profit, scientific research organization focusing on the sustainable use of water and land resources in developing countries. It is headquartered in Colombo, Sri Lanka, with regional offices across Asia and Africa. IWMI works in partnership with governments, civil society and the private sector to develop scalable agricultural water management solutions that have a real impact on poverty reduction, food security and ecosystem health. www.iwmi.org

CGIAR is a global research partnership that unites organizations engaged in research for sustainable development. CGIAR research is dedicated to reducing rural poverty, increasing food security, improving human health and nutrition, and ensuring more sustainable management of natural resources. It is carried out by the 15 centers who are members of the CGIAR Consortium in close collaboration with hundreds of partner organizations, including national and regional research institutes, civil society organizations, academia and the private sector (www.cgiar.org).

The **CGIAR Research Program on Water, Land and Ecosystems** examines how we can intensify agriculture while still protecting the environment and lifting millions of farm families out of poverty. The program focuses on the three critical issues of water scarcity, land degradation and ecosystem services. It will also make substantial contributions in the areas of food security, poverty alleviation and health and nutrition. The initiative combines the resources of 14 CGIAR centers and numerous external partners to provide an integrated approach to natural resource management research. This program is led by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI). www.wle.cgiar.org