

IWMI ready to help Sri Lanka tackle the spread of chronic



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IWMI ready to help SL tackle the spread of chronic kidney disease

International Water Management Institute (IWMI) says the issue of chronic kidney disease of unknown etiology that has afflicted a significant number of people in the North Central Province and elsewhere in Sri Lanka, is more complex than a similar case occurred in Thailand.

Jeremy Bird, Director General of the Colombo based IWMI speaking at a recent event however said, Sri Lanka can find a long term solution to the problem by

conducting a comprehensive research program to identify the causal factors of the problem.

He said, his organisation is willing to cooperate with the Sri Lankan government and other agencies to tackle the chronic kidney disease, which has affected thousands of people, specially the farmers in the North Central Province of the country.

“We were involved in a similar, but less complex investigation in Thailand through a comprehensive research program to identify the causal factor(s) contributing to increase kidney dysfunctionality amongst an isolated rice-growing community in the Mae Sot region”, Bird added.

He says, IWMI assisted Thailand in building capacity within government departments to sample, analyze and interpret results from field surveys.