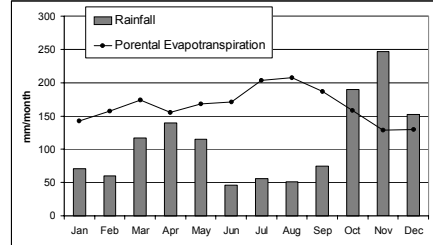


## Basin short profile

Name	<b>Walawe river</b>	Country	<b>Sri Lanka</b>																																							
Area	2,928 km <sup>2</sup>	Altitude	From 2,100 m to the sea																																							
Rainfall/Evapo	<p>Average rainfall: 1,800 mm            Max: &gt;2,500 mm            Min: 1,000 mm:            Modal/bimodal: bimodal            Crop reference ETo: 1984 mm/year</p>	 <table border="1"> <caption>Monthly Rainfall and Potential Evapotranspiration (mm/month)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>Rainfall (mm)</th> <th>Potential Evapotranspiration (mm)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Jan</td><td>70</td><td>140</td></tr> <tr><td>Feb</td><td>60</td><td>150</td></tr> <tr><td>Mar</td><td>110</td><td>170</td></tr> <tr><td>Apr</td><td>140</td><td>150</td></tr> <tr><td>May</td><td>110</td><td>160</td></tr> <tr><td>Jun</td><td>50</td><td>170</td></tr> <tr><td>Jul</td><td>60</td><td>190</td></tr> <tr><td>Aug</td><td>50</td><td>200</td></tr> <tr><td>Sep</td><td>70</td><td>180</td></tr> <tr><td>Oct</td><td>180</td><td>160</td></tr> <tr><td>Nov</td><td>250</td><td>140</td></tr> <tr><td>Dec</td><td>150</td><td>140</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Month	Rainfall (mm)	Potential Evapotranspiration (mm)	Jan	70	140	Feb	60	150	Mar	110	170	Apr	140	150	May	110	160	Jun	50	170	Jul	60	190	Aug	50	200	Sep	70	180	Oct	180	160	Nov	250	140	Dec	150	140
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Landuse (1985)	Forest: 18% (including 4% of afforestation); Paddy: 15%; Shifting cultivation 28%; Savanah: 17%; Homesteads/ orchard: 15%																																									
Irrigation	Total ≈15,000 ha (8,000 ha Uda Walawe, 600 ha Kaltota, 2,500 ha Liyangastota, + medium and small tanks + anicuts (mountain river diversion)																																									
Water Indicators	<p>Runoff coefficient: 48%      Renewable water available: 3,250 m<sup>3</sup>/year/pers            Regulated water (% rainfall and % run-off): 20% and 55%            Beneficial (process) depleted fraction: 10%            Non-committed outflow to the sea: ≈ 15% of total runoff            Water diverted per person: ≈ 4.8 l/day/capita            Water use per sector (depletion): Agriculture 90%, Industry 9.5%, Human consumption 1.5%</p>																																									
Drinking water	Mostly from wells, + tank/river water (treated and piped) for 4 cities (39% population)																																									
Main crop(s)/yield	Rice (4.8 t/ha); Banana (6t/ha); Sugar cane (80t/ha)																																									
Population	<b>574,000</b> people; Pop. Density: <b>200 ha/km<sup>2</sup></b> . Sex ratio: 1.022; % Population under 18: 63% / Religion: 91% Buddhist / Population growth 1981-2001: <b>1.3 %</b> per annum.																																									
Floods	The two dams offer partial regulation and floods are limited to some coastal areas																																									
Groundwater	Only 8% of withdrawals in the basin are from groundwater. The aquifer drains to the sea. Groundwater levels drop quickly after rains. Groundwater available along streams and canals, and in some deep fractured zones in the basement rock below 40m.																																									
Environmental and health issues	<p>Coastal lagoon ecology changed by inflow of fresh water            Human-elephant and cattle-elephant conflicts (Walawe Park and extension scheme)            High fluoride and iron concentration in a majority of wells used for drinking water            Erosion, forest fire, and landslides in the mountain area            Solid waste pollution (Embilipitiya)            Salinization of irrigated land (limited to some parts in the lower basin)</p>																																									
Protected areas	Uda Walawe National Park (3021 ha); Mandunagala sanctuary (138 ha); Kalametiya Lunama sanctuary (712 ha)																																									
Land/labour	Average farm size (irrig): 1 ha (+ highlands)	Rural daily wage: 250 Rs/day (2.5\$)																																								
Land tenure	Most irrigated lands are privately owned, either traditionally or through settlements projects (selling not allowed); rainfed ag. Lands and forest usually belong to the state.																																									

Water Management	The Uda Walawe Scheme is managed by the Mahawelli Authority of Sri Lanka; medium schemes by the Irrigation Department; minor tanks and anicuts by Agrarian Services and farmers.  There is no basin level organization at the moment
Allocation rules	Allocation mainly concerns the Uda Walawe scheme. This is done by Mahawelli in a top-down and centralized manner.
Hydropower	120 MW power station under Samanala dam, + three generators (total 6 MW) under Uda Walawe reservoir. Hydropower: 50-70% generated electricity (countrywide)
Legal framework	A new Water Act and Water Policy is under consideration by the parliament. The Act emphasizes basin management (and organizations) and the definition of water rights for bulk users.
Politics, Civil Society	Stakeholders participation in natural resource management is very limited. Several NGOs are present in the basin and deal with rural credit, tank rehabilitation, fish breeding, water harvesting, public health initiatives, pre-school education, nutrition, agricultural technical support or training, etc. Weak presence on institutional issues.
Future developments	On-going extension of the Uda Walawe Irrigation Scheme (5,300 ha) The coastal area is planned to be part of “Ruhunapura”, a major sea port facility and industrial zone that will require high water supply.

*General basin layout map*

