

# ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (EMIS)

## SRI LANKAN EXPERIENCE

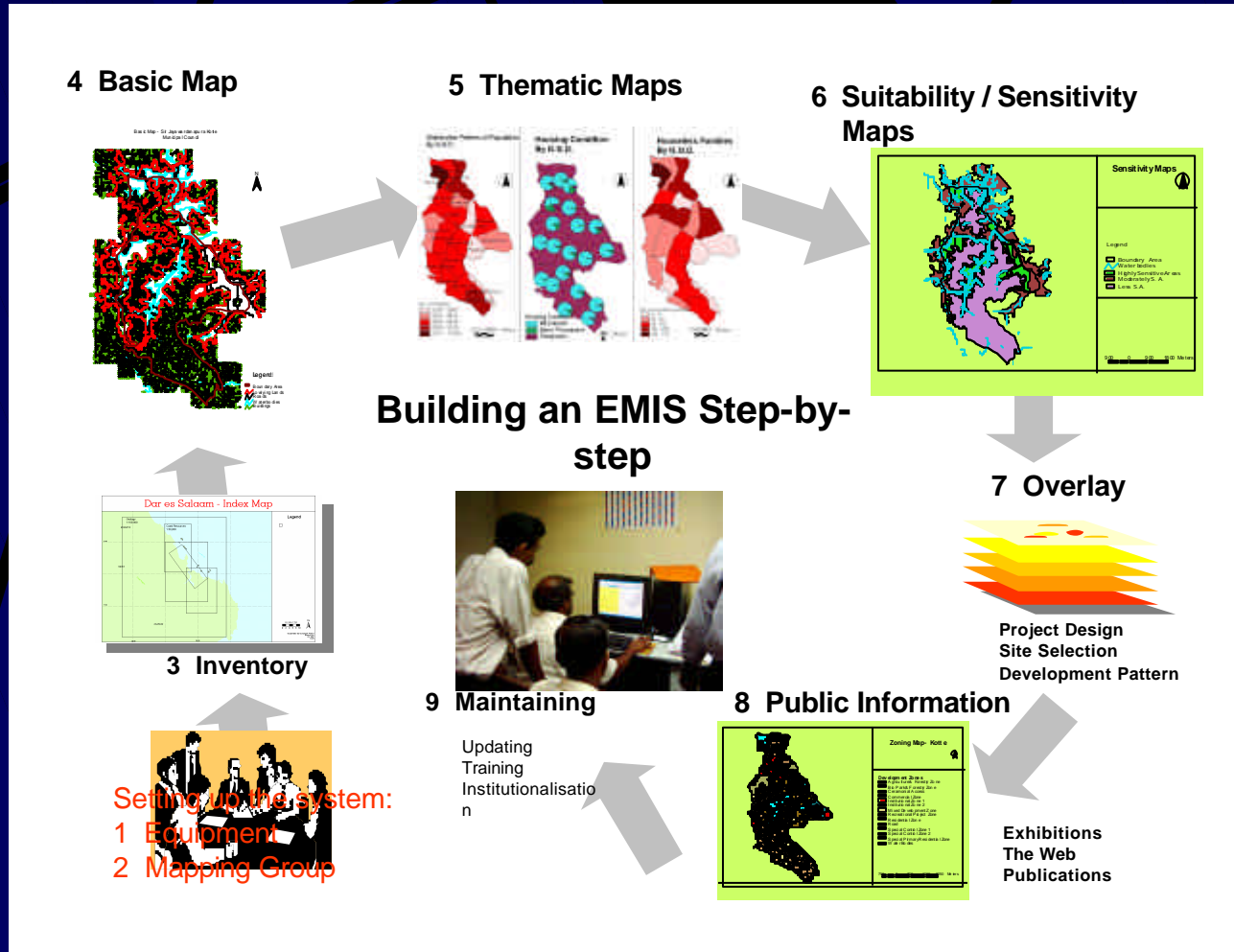


Global meeting of Partners  
Havana 2005



**MANAGING INFORMATION  
FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT  
IN SRI LANKA**

# Figure 1 Building of Typical EMIS



- 1. An EMIS is a learning system, so information has to be fed into the system constantly**
- 2. EMIS accepts the best information available. If there is no scientific information, non-scientific information should be used as long as the source is given.**
- 3. EMIS separates facts from policy. Factual data is shown in Thematic Maps while information about policy is stored in Suitability and Sensitivity Maps.**
- 4. EMIS adheres to a sound mapping rationale, so that the maps are easy to interpret.**
- 5. EMIS information has to be accessible to everyone in the public, private and popular sector. The more people using the system, the more information entering the system.**
- 6. For the same reason effective information outreach activities are absolutely necessary for the success of the EMIS .**



# How EMIS Evolved

- Started at CMC – Health Department
- Did not evolve as anticipated
- EMIS at SLILG January 2001 as second phase



# EMIS during Project Phase

- EMIS Unit has been established in the Local Authorities as well as SLILG
- Issues specific working groups have been established in the Local Authorities
- Mapping groups are also established





Scanning of Maps using Wide Scanner



Training Session at EMIS unit of SLILG



Digitizing Using the Digitizing Board

# Present use of EMIS

- Awareness has been generated by SLILG to Local Authorities and successes stories highlighted
- This has generated demands for EMIS at Local Government Authorities
- Issues specific working group meet and discuss their needs
- Mapping group discusses the need of the thematic maps , sensitivity maps and overlay procedures and passed to EMIS unit



# Mapping Group Comprises

- Member of the Surveyor Generals Department
- Member of the Land Use Policy Planning Division of the Ministry of Lands
- Member of National Building Research Organization
- Member of Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation
- Member of Water Supply and Drainage Board
- Member of the Irrigation Department
- Member of the Urban Development Authority (GIS Unit)
- Members of the local authorities which are coming under SCP
- Community representatives of the local authorities which are coming under SCP
- Members of the Working Groups of SCP
- Two Members from the Universities (Dept. of Town and Country Planning, Dept. Of Geography)
- Staff of the EMIS unit





# Challenges in mainstreaming EMIS

## Human Resources

- Staff members not full-time
- Skills transfer still in progress

## Lack of Equipment

- Multimedia Projectors
- Large format Printers

Lack of Satellite images



# To overcome those challenges

Assistance needed for Local Authorities and SLILG

Technical

- Training and exposure visits for technical staff

Financial

- To obtain, Hardware satellite images internet connection to Local Authorities
- SLILG expenses like Leased line and web hosting etc...



# Future Plans to overcome these issues

- Presently assistance from UN-Habitat, MILES project.
- Demand for base maps is been generated among Local Authorities
- Maps would be made available for them initially on introductory rate and later would be charged on a basis to make project sustainable



# Setting up the EMIS unit at Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance(SLILG)

SCP project of Sri Lanka has already planned to obtain service of GIS consultant to train the GIS officer to build the EMIS. The main EMIS center for SCP project is already setup at the Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance This center provide training facilities to local authorities which are coming under SCP. This Unit is equipped with the following resources;

- oA high-end desk-top computer
- oAO inkjet printer
- oA digitizing board and a scanner.
- o A Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver
- oA map filing cabinet
- oA light table



# Advantages of using EMIS

- Solid waste management
- Land identification
- Flood damage assessment
- Disaster management
- Monitor revenue collection etc...

