

Colombo's Urban Wetlands — Avoided-Cost Flood Mitigation for a Ramsar Wetland City (Sri Lanka)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Sri Lanka

Quality score: 47/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Sri Lanka's capital combines wetland conservation, restored public wetland parks and Ramsar Wetland City status to avoid flood damage valued at up to 1% of city GDP annually, while continuing wetland loss threatens these gains.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	2/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	3/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation \(SLLRDC\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[World Bank — Preserving Beddagana Wetlands](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[ResearchGate — The Value of Flood Mitigation Services of Ramsar Wetland City, Colombo](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[IWMI — What's Next for the World's First Official Wetland Cities](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

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