

Ganthuna PES Pilot — Watershed Payments for Hydropower Protection (Sri Lanka)

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

Quality score: 20/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Sri Lanka's first PES pilot (2019-22): hydropower firm Vidullanka (60%) and IUCN Sri Lanka (40%) spent ~LKR 6.1M restoring riparian buffers and forest in the 507-ha Ganthuna catchment to offset sedimentation costs to turbines. Tiny scale; unreplicated as of 2025.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[IUCN Sri Lanka / Vidullanka PLC / UNDP Biodiversity Finance Initiative \(BIOFIN\)](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[UNDP BIOFIN Sri Lanka — 2025 update](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

[Daily News Sri Lanka — pilot launch coverage](#) — accessed 2026-07-04

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