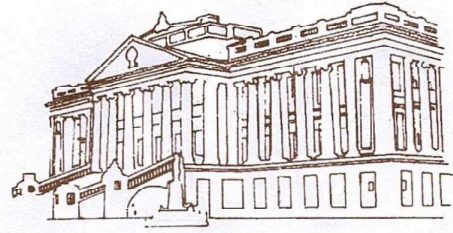




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சனாதிபதி அலுவலகம்
PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARIAT



Circular No: PS/SP/SB/C/22/2019
October 03, 2019

My No: PS/SP/SB/4/114-II

All Secretaries to Ministries
All Provincial Chief Secretaries
All Government Agents / District Secretaries
All Secretaries to Governors

Formulation of Sustainable Development Strategies

In accordance with the Sri Lanka Sustainable Development Act No. 19 of 2017, action has been initiated by the Sustainable Development Council for the formulation of a National Policy and Strategy for Sustainable Development for the period up to year 2030. In terms of the Sustainable Development Act, it is the duty of every ministry, department, provincial council, provincial ministry and department and local authority to comply with the National Policy and Strategy, and prepare a Sustainable Development Strategy incorporating sustainable development targets as relevant to the scope of such institution.

2. The Cabinet Memorandum No. CP/19/2488/101/159 titled "Development of a National Policy and Strategy on Sustainable Development" submitted by His Excellency the President received the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers on September 10, 2019, and accordingly, you are instructed to implement the following proposals from i to iv.
 - i. Every national government ministry should use "**Sustainably Developed Sri Lanka**" as its common vision (The definition of a "Sustainably Developed Sri Lanka" is indicated in Annex 01).
 - ii. Every provincial council should use "**Sustainably Developed (relevant province name) Province for a Sustainably Developed Sri Lanka**" as its vision (The definition of a "Sustainably Developed Sri Lanka" is indicated in Annex 01).
 - iii. Public Service Delivery Strategies to mainstream Sustainable Development Goals should be prepared in every state institution. The Public Service Delivery Strategy has to be prepared according to the guidelines in Annex 02. Here, I wish to recommend that the following processes be followed.
 - Invite key officials in departments, state corporations and statutory agencies under the purview of the ministry/provincial council for workshops/meetings and identify goals, strategies, projects and programmes. Workshops for small agencies to be conducted by inviting several agencies together.
 - Prepare a draft overall strategy for the ministry/provincial council by collating the strategies of all agencies under the ministry/provincial council.
 - Submit such draft to the Sustainable Development Council for its observations.
 - Prepare the final ministry/provincial council strategy taking into consideration the observations by the Sustainable Development Council and submit such to the Cabinet of Ministers/Provincial Board of Ministers.

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- iv. Every state institution should formulate programmes and projects under the identified strategies.
- 3. Additionally, a key officer and an assisting officer with responsibility to prepare the Sustainable Development Strategy of the ministry/provincial council have to be identified. Details of such officers, including contact information, are requested to be sent to the Sustainable Development Council before 25.10.2019. The Sustainable Development Council intends to provide further training to these officers on the preparation of Public Service Delivery Strategies.
- 4. For any clarification, you may contact Sustainable Development Council through Tel: 011-2885164 or by email sddivision@gmail.com.

Sgd./Udaya R Seneviratne
Secretary to the President and
Chairman, Sustainable Development Council

Cc: Auditor General

As articulated in the 2030 Agenda, the term 'Sustainably Developed' is well defined.

Accordingly, a 'Sustainably Developed Sri Lanka' means a Sri Lankan nation:

- *that is free of poverty, hunger, disease and want, where all life can thrive;*
- *that is free of fear and violence;*
- *having universal literacy;*
- *having equitable and universal access to quality education at all levels, to health care and social protection, where physical, mental and social well-being are assured;*
- *that reaffirms its commitments regarding the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation and where there is improved hygiene;*
- *where food is sufficient, safe, affordable and nutritious;*
- *where human habitats are safe, resilient and sustainable and where there is universal access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy;*
- *that respects for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination;*
- *that respects for race, ethnicity and cultural diversity;*
- *having equal opportunity permitting the full realization of human potential and contributing to shared prosperity;*
- *which invests in its children and in which every child grows up free from violence and exploitation;*
- *where every woman and girl enjoys full gender equality and all legal, social and economic barriers to their empowerment have been removed;*
- *that is just, equitable, tolerant, open and socially inclusive in which the needs of the most vulnerable are met;*
- *that enjoys sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all;*
- *where consumption and production patterns and use of all natural resources – from air to land, from rivers, lakes and aquifers to oceans and seas - are sustainable;*
- *which has democracy, good governance and the rule of law as well as an enabling environment at national and international levels;*
- *where development and the application of technology are climate-sensitive, respect biodiversity and are resilient;*
- *where humanity lives in harmony with nature and in which wildlife and other living species are protected.*

Guide for preparing the SDG mainstreamed Public Service Delivery Strategies Sustainable Development Council

Achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that covers the whole spectrum of development agenda of the country essentially requires the incorporation of SDGs into the institutional strategies. The Sustainable Development Act No. 19 of 2017 requires every ministry, department, provincial council, provincial ministry and department and local authority to prepare their Sustainable Development Strategy relevant to the scope of such ministry, department, provincial council, provincial ministry and department and local authority.

This guide provides for preparing such strategies and forwarding for the information of the Cabinet of Ministers/ Provincial Cabinet of Ministers.

Achieving the policy coherence element in SDGs needs implementing a whole of government approach that leads to avoiding repetitions and impasses while increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of public fund utilization and public service delivery through a coordinated development process.

Components of the Public Service delivery Strategy

The Strategy is to have a Vision, Mission, Thrust Areas, Goals and Strategies. Programmes and Projects are to be identified thereafter under each strategy.

Vision:

Considering all government organisations as arms of the government or Provincial Council that are used to deliver its public service, every organization of the government are to have a common vision of “**Sustainably developed Sri Lanka**”, or in case of Provincial Council organs “**Sustainably developed Province for a Sustainable developed Sri Lanka**”. This is in line with the whole of government approach and the global agenda towards sustainable development.

Mission:

Each ministry is to develop a mission statement that recognizes the public institutions coming under its purview and their **core businesses** or thrust areas. It should be mentioned in the Public Service Delivery Strategy.

For example, the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment may have a mission statement that reads as follows:

“To provide leadership in managing the environment and Mahaweli development through: national programme on sustainable development; national programme on environmental management; in-situ flora conservation; marine pollution control; coast conservation and management; environmental protection and management; management of geological

resources; Mahaweli development; promoting sustainable timber industry; gem and jewelry industry development; and Construction and contract management.”

The above mission represents all core businesses and institutions represented under the scope of the ministry.

Each Department, Statutory Agency may prepare its more elaborated mission statements to reflect the purpose for which the organization has been established.

Thrust Areas:

Each organization to have one (1) Thrust Area

For example, the Forest Department has “Flora in-situ conservation” as its thrust area. It does not mean that the Forest department is doing only flora in-situ conservation but the core business. Similarly, Wildlife department has “Fauna in-situ conservation” as its thrust area. For the Marine Environment Protection Authority, the Thrust Area is “Marine Pollution Control”.

Goals:

Institutions may recognize their Goals up to year 2030 in relation to their Thrust Areas. The SDG framework is to be used as a resource guide in identifying institutional Goals. Other resources could be the relevant Acts, Statutes, International conventions or national policies. The set of Goals identified shall cover the full spectrum of institutional mandate. (KPIs are developed for these Goals)

Strategies:

Strategies are to be identified under each Institutional Goal. It could be one or few strategies

Programmes and Projects:

Programmes and projects are to be identified for each strategy. Existing Programmes and projects may be aligned first and then identify new programmes and projects. These programmes and projects are to be prioritized for implementation in case of fund limitations.