

MANAGING INFORMATION FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT IN SRI LANKA

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Origins of the Initiative

Managing Information for Local Environment in Sri Lanka (MILES) is based on a partnership between the cities of Munich and Vitoria-Gasteiz, and the Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance (SLILG) in its capacity as a national training centre for local governments. The initiative started in 2003.

Focus

MILES is focused on urban environmental management information systems.

Local Partners

MILES directly supports actors and decision makers in municipalities in Sri Lanka. It focuses specially on environmental and technical experts as well as community representatives. The ultimate beneficiaries are the population of cities, in particular the poor in the low-income settlements. The project also aims at the private sector especially in emerging industrial areas for improved environmental planning and management.

Approaches, Types of Support and Follow-up

MILES will

- adopt and transfer environmental and spatial information management concepts based on Open Source technology,
- train municipal practitioners and community stakeholders in environmental planning, information management and spatial analysis,
- facilitate the development of municipal planning tools based on various existing and newly created environmental sources,
- transfer the knowledge for applying information technology for advancing Local Agenda 21 processes,
- prepare for strategic exploitation and further take-up of project results, conduct an independent evaluation exercise and promote the project results.

The outcome of the initiative will be an adapted mapserver based on Open Source technology, together with a training of trainers programme. Sri Lanka municipalities will receive support to build environmental management information systems.

The initiative will develop a take-up guide for wider use of the MILES approach within Asia.

International Partners

MILES is co-financed by the European Commission's Asia Pro Eco Programme. The initiative is closely co-operating with the UN-HABITAT/UNEP Sustainable Cities Programme for optimising the impact at the local level. Intensive outreach activities will involve regional networks, such as CITYNET for further take-up of the results and lessons in the Asian region.



Organisational Structure



The Policy Advisory Group includes one representative of each partner and gives strategic advice and policy guidance to the project.

The Local Steering Committee, comprised of representatives from national institutions and municipalities, facilitates the progress of the project at the local level.

The Project Management Committee is the operational arm of the project and responsible for the timely implementation of the project. The PMC draws on expertise from Rupprecht Consult GmbH.



The contents of this publication is the sole responsibility of the MILES team and can in no way taken to reflect the views of the European Union.