



## **BELIEVE YOUR HANDS HAVE POWER: Strength of Farmer Organizations for the development of culture-based fisheries in Sri Lanka**

**Mohottala G. Kularatne\***, Clevo Wilson, Sean Pasco, U.S. Amarasinghe, Sena De Silva,

\* Email: kule\_econ@kln.ac.lk

**The Main objective** of this poster is to investigate issues involving CBF under the existing legal framework.

### **Legal framework; Farmer Organizations (FOs)**

FOs were established in 1979 in Sri Lanka. FOs have provisions to plan all agricultural activities with government officials related to village reservoirs.


A Culture-based fishery involves Stocking of hatchery-reared fish fingerlings and subsequent harvesting.

### **Current main issues.**

- Issue 1. Transferability of property rights
- Issue 2. Biased Sharing of harvest ( income)
- Issue 3. Reliability of fingerling supply.



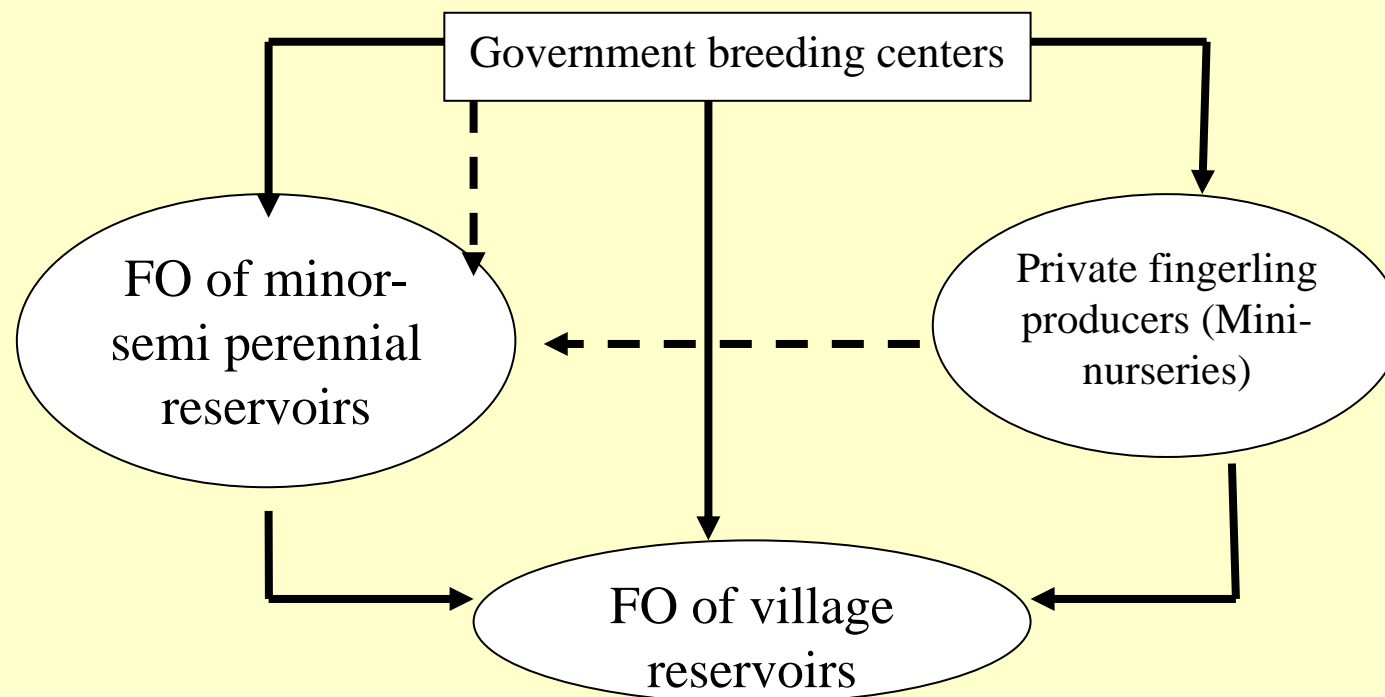
**Solution 1 for Issue 1:** User-based water allocation between agricultural activities with and CBF and strengthen CBF management hierarchy in seasonal reservoirs

| Main Agricultural activities of village reservoirs (Thennakoon 1995) |   |             |                     |   |                                     |   |   |   |   |                           |   |                                    |   |   |            |   |   |  |
|--|---|-------------|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|---|------------|---|---|--|
| Yala (sub- season)<br>(May – Sept)                                   |   |             |                     |   | Maha (Main) season<br>(Oct – April) |   |   |   |   |                           |   | Yala (sub- season)<br>(May – Sept) |   |   |            |   |   |  |
| Chena (slash and burn) cultivation                                   |   |             |                     |   | Land preparation<br>sowing seeds    |   |   |   |   | Harvest<br>-ing<br>(Maha) |   | Chena (slash and burn) cultivation |   |   |            |   |   |  |
|  |   |             |                     |   |                                     |   |   |   |   |                           |   |                                    |   |   |            |   |   |  |
| M  | J | J           | A                   | S | O                                   | N | D | J   | F | M                         | A | M                                  | J | J | A          | S | O |  |
| Induced breeding of major carps                                      |   | Fry rearing | Fingerlings rearing |   | Stocking reservoirs                 |   |   | Culture period  |   |                           |   |                                    |   |   | Harvesting |   |   |  |
|  |   |             |                     |   |                                     |   |   |  |   |                           |   |                                    |   |   |            |   |   |  |
| Annual Culture-based fisheries activities. (Amarasinghe, 2005)       |   |             |                     |   |                                     |   |   |   |   |                           |   |                                    |   |   |            |   |   |  |

## Solution for Issue 2 : **Collective decisions-making during first meeting**

| Decisions  | Activity in Agriculture   | Activity in culture-based fishery (proposed)   |
|--|---|--|
| 1.Cleaning channels, bunds & sluices               | Cleaning and small construction of channels, bunds & sluices by the relevant farmers.                 | Decision on fish culture & cleaning in side the reservoir.   |
| 2. Duration of water supply                        | Selecting the method of cultivation, type of paddy, place of buying, price, transport, & the quantity | Selecting the group farmers for fish culture, species, hatchery, price, transport, & quantity of fish fingerlings.                               |
| 3. First date of water supply                      | Decide to use rainwater for plough in order to save reservoir water.                                  | Determine water requirement for suitable fish species  |
| 4. Broadcasting of paddy and protect paddy fields. | Coordinate activities to protect crops , time, and save water   | Prevent escape/loss of fingerlings, managing graze in the catchments area for cattle and buffalos .  |
| 5. Last date of water issue                        | Decide to close reservoir sluice.<br>Decision can be alter under special circumstances                | Decision should be flexible  |
| 6.Harvesting, marketing and <b>income sharing</b>  | Should be completed on agreed time.<br>(Marketing to maximize the individual profits).                | Making plans for protect fish, Cooperate with relevant officials, Deciding harvesting Marketing strategies to <b>Maximizing social benefits.</b> |

### **Solution for Issue 3. Co-operation of Government Breeding centres FOs in perennial/semi-perennial reservoirs and private fingerling producers with FOs in village reservoirs**



### **Conclusions:**

The development of link between fingerling producers feasible solution for reliable fingerling requirement. Strengthen of FO for transferability of property right is the alternative solution for maximize the benefits of CBF income.

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