

Installation of Landslide Monitoring System:

Bogahamadiththa, Badulla

In collaboration with USGS

Installation of second instrument at Bogahamadiththa, Badulla district

Since 2018, Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has been working with National Building research Organization (NBRO) for landslide risk reduction in Sri Lanka.

In line with this cooperation, United States donated landslide monitoring equipment to Sri Lanka in 2019. Engineers and geologists from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) visited Sri Lanka in November 2019 and held a training program for NBRO scientists on installing the donated equipment and analyzing the data generated from the equipment. For this purpose, the USGS team spent several days on the field with a NBRO scientist group at the pilot site of Pahiyangala (Nikgaha) in Kalutara District. The equipment, installations and the research exchange were supported by the OFDA/USAID.

In October 2020, the second set of donated landslide monitoring equipment was successfully installed by the NBRO team themselves, at a selected site in Bogahamadiththa, Badulla district (details in table and figures given below). The previous experience and technical knowledge gained by the joint work sessions with the USGS served most valuable for a smooth installation of the new system.

These monitoring systems enable NBRO to remotely monitor parameters including soil moisture, pore water pressure, air temperature and real time rainfall at the installed sites. Data thus received by NBRO will be used for research purposes such as derivation of different parameter thresholds for the initiation of landslides in the area. NBRO further wishes to publish research papers on findings of the data analysis. The ultimate aim of this work is to issue targeted localized and regional landslide early warnings to the communities living in landslide prone areas, and in doing so, save more lives from the likely landslide incidents that their localities may incur in the future.

Information Sheet for the Installation of Landslide Monitoring System- 2020

Location				
Station No. / (Name)	Bogahamadiththa	Installation Date	3/10/2020	
Access Road to the site	Haliela- Badulla Road			
District	Badulla	Town	Haliela	
DS Division	Haliela	GN Division	Bogahamadiththa	
Coordinates	^o N 6.9706	^o E	81.0371	
Altitude	810m above MSL			
Land owned by	Queston Estate			
Contact Persons				
Land Administrator	Mr. Subhash Kuruppu, manager			
Contact Address	Yelvaton Division, Bogahamadiththa			
Telephone or email	761383253			
Other Contact persons - 1	Mr. Serasinghe, 0767848200			
Other Contact persons - 2	Mr. Eranda - NBRO , Badulla office, 0717723411			
Site Details				
Maintenance Road (exist or non-existence)	Exists			
Mobile signal field intensity (check with Smart phone or	4G			
Selected Location :	Bogahamdiththa potential landslide (body) moving area close to Mr. Serasinghe's residence			
Permissions :	verbally provided by estate management			
<i>Investigators:</i>	1	Dr. K.P.G.W. Senadeera	2	Mr. M.S.M. Aroos
	3	Mr. D.M.L. Bandara	4	Mr. R.M.S.A.K. Rathnayaka
	5	Mr. W.A.K.S. Ariyakumara		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider the rain gauge location of existing 2. To be distributed as evenly as possible 3. Location close to where the occurrence of road sediment disaster is estimated 4. Easy place to have maintenance 5. School, temple, public facilities is desirable 				



Some photos showing the field work

