

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) PROCEDURES OF SRI LANKA AND THE UNITED STATES

Buddhika Madurapperuma¹, Jessie Avitia², Herath Vidyaratne³

¹*Department of Forestry and Wildland Resources, Humboldt State University, USA*

²*Department of Environmental Science and Management, Humboldt State University, USA*

³*Department of Building Economics, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka*

ABSTRACT

This study will compare the Environmental Laws and their corresponding Environmental Impact Assessment processes in developing and developed nations with a focus on Sri Lanka and the United States. The study will involve analysis and comparison of individual EIA components (i.e. screening, scoping, impact analysis and mitigation measures), identification of the strengths and weaknesses of each component under different national laws, and how that influences the effectiveness of the laws as well as how those laws are implemented. This research will serve as a basis on which to make recommendations to improve EIA processes and strengthen environmental policies and implementation.

Keywords: EIA, procedures, legal instruments, Sri Lanka, USA