

ANTAM Test Codes Aligning Process With National Requirements – Sri Lanka

Ayesha Herath – ESCAP CSAM

SLSI

Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI) is the National Standards Body of Sri Lanka, established under the Bureau of Ceylon Standards Act No. 38 of 1964

Services - SLSI

- National standards formulation
- Information on standardization and Quality
- Product Certification
- Import Inspection
- Laboratory Services
- Systems Certification
- Calibration

National Standards Formulation / Adoption Process

These standards are developed / Adopted through a committee process and a consultative process with the voluntary involvement and the cooperative effort of all interested parties representing consumers, producers, users, public Institutions and independent technical organizations.

ANTAM Code Adoption process

- Formulation of TWG under agriculture sectoral
- Appointment of TWG and Chairperson
- Review of ANTAM codes by the TWG
- Recommendation from the chairperson to the SLSI council
- Approvals from the SLSI Council
- Preparation of MoA with ESCAP
- Cabinet approval for enter into an agreement with ESCAP
- Signing of MoA
- Publishing ANTAM codes as SLSI standards

Adoption of ANTAM Test Codes as Sri Lanka National Standards

Grant the approval for the **SLSI** to adopt the regional test codes developed under the **ANTAM** as **Sri Lanka National Standards**, free of charge, and to assign them official designations under the numbering format “**SLS ANTAM #: Year.**”

Signing of the Memorandum of Agreement between Sri Lanka Standards Institution and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific - Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization



Benefits



Mutual recognition of testing across the region
→ saves **time and cost** of machinery testing before purchase.



Ensures **access to high-quality, safe and efficient** agricultural machinery.



Promotes **sustainable agricultural mechanization**.



Enhances **food production** — improving both **quality and quantity**.



Supports the **long-term development** of Sri Lanka's agriculture sector.

Significance

- **First in the region:** Sri Lanka becomes the **first country** to automatically adopt ANTAM test codes as National Standards.
- **Enhances national capacity:** Improves testing, quality assurance, and safety of agricultural machinery.
- **Supports SDGs:** Contributes to **sustainable agriculture, food security, and inclusive economic growth.**
- **Facilitates trade:** Alignment with regional and international standards promotes **trade facilitation** and **innovation-driven growth.**
- **Promotes farmer welfare:** Ensures machinery used by farmers is **safe, efficient, and environmentally sound.**

visibility to ANTAM Activities

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs : <https://mfa.gov.lk/en/sri-lanka-signs-landmark-agreement-with-escap-csam-to-enhance-agricultural-machinery-standards/>
- The Embassy and Permanent Mission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka - <https://bangkok.embassy.gov.lk/sri-lanka-signs-landmark-agreement-with-escap-csam-to-enhance-agricultural-machinery-standards/>
 - Paper Articles - <https://www.themorning.lk/articles/342CePbBmZ4hHZ3E299s>
 - <https://htsyndication.com/daily-news-sri-lanka/article/slsi-and-un-escap-sign-historic-moa/92009480>
 - island.lk/sri-lanka-signs-landmark-agreement-with-escap-csam-to-enhance-agricultural-machinery-standards/



SLSI and UN-ESCAP Sign Historic MoA

» To Harmonise Agricultural Machinery Testing Across Asia-Pacific Region

Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization



The Sri Lanka Standards Institution (SLSI) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP) have officially entered into a strategic partnership through the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to adopt regional test codes and procedures developed under the Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM) initiative. The ANTAM programme is implemented by UN-ESCAP's Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanisation (CSAM).

This landmark agreement, signed on July 23, 2025, at the IMPACT Arena Exhibition and Convention Centre in Bangkok, Thailand, makes Sri Lanka the first country in the region to adopt ANTAM test codes as National Standards. The MoA was signed during "CIAME Asia 2025" – the

innovation-driven economic growth (SDG 9). Ultimately, the initiative seeks to create a more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable agricultural sector in Sri Lanka.

The initiative aims to enhance agricultural mechanisation in Sri Lanka by promoting the use of high-quality, safe, efficient, and environmentally sound machinery. It aligns with several UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those related to sustainable agriculture (SDG 2), food security, responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), and

productivity while aligning our systems with global best practices."

The event was attended by E.A.S. Wijayanthi Edirisinghe, Ambassador of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the Kingdom of Thailand and also the Permanent Representative to UN-ESCAP. Her participation highlighted the importance of regional cooperation and diplomatic engagement in advancing sustainable agricultural innovation in Sri Lanka.

The MoA was signed by Dr. Siddhika G. Senaratne, Director General/CEO on behalf of SLSI, and Adnan Aliani, Director of the Strategy and Programme Management Division on behalf of UN-ESCAP. This historic agreement symbolises not only a milestone in technical collaboration but also the enduring friendship between Sri Lanka and the broader Asia-Pacific region.



Thank you