



## PROF. LALITH RAJAPAKSE



*Professor Lalith Rajapakse (PhD, MSc, BSc Hons., CEng, MIE-SL) is a distinguished Civil and Environmental Engineer with over 25 years of multidisciplinary experience in water resources engineering, hydrology, and ecological modelling. He currently serves as a Professor in Civil Engineering at the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, and is the Chairman of the UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Centre for South Asia Water Management (UMCSAWM) – a regional hub for capacity building, education, and research in sustainable water management. He also holds the prestigious UNESCO Chair in Sustainable Water Resources Management in South Asia, underscoring his leadership in promoting regional collaboration and innovation in water-related research and education.*

*Professor Rajapakse holds a PhD in Environmental Science and Technology, with a specialization in Environmental Hydraulics and Ecological Engineering from Saitama University, Japan, and a Master's in Civil and Environmental Engineering (Hydroscience & Geotechnology). His expertise covers a wide range of areas, including surface and groundwater hydrology, watershed management, flood and inundation modelling, ecological restoration, sediment transport, water quality, and climate risk mitigation.*

*He has led and contributed to more than 50 large-scale national and international consultancy assignments in Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and Southeast Asia – working with institutions such as the World Bank, UNDP, ADB, JICA, and national agencies on projects involving integrated water resource management, urban drainage, climate resilience infrastructure, groundwater protection, and environmental impact assessments.*

*In addition to his technical and academic leadership, Professor Rajapakse is a passionate educator and the Course Coordinator of the M.Sc. in Water Resources Engineering and Management, the first full-time international Master's program in Sri Lanka's university system. He has supervised numerous postgraduate research projects and is widely published in international peer-reviewed journals, particularly in areas related to hydrological modelling, river basin management, and wetland ecology.*

*He is also a Chartered Engineer and a Corporate Member of the Institution of Engineers Sri Lanka (IESL), and holds memberships in several international professional bodies, including the International Water Association (IWA) and the International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR). With his deep scientific knowledge, practical consultancy experience, and strong commitment to sustainability, Professor Rajapakse continues to play a key role in shaping resilient water infrastructure and policy solutions in response to climate change and environmental degradation across South Asia.*