

Risk Management and ISO 31000 in Sri Lanka

Interview conducted for isotc262.org
with

Samanthie Narangoda, Director of Sri Lanka Standards Institution



Samanthie Narangoda graduated from the University of Posts and Telecommunication in the Peoples' Republic of China. She is an Engineer by profession, a member of IET UK and Director Systems Certification of Sri Lanka Standards Institution. Samanthie's main responsibility is to maintain the certification schemes. She is also a member of ISO/TC 207 Environmental management and the secretary of its Sri Lankan National mirror committee.

isotc262.org: *Samanthie you are a Director of Sri Lanka Standards Institution. Can you briefly introduce SLSI, the Sri Lanka Standards Institution, your national standardization organization in Sri Lanka, please?*

Samanthie: Sri Lanka Standards Institution(SLSI) is the national Standards Body in Sri Lanka and the only member body of ISO in Sri Lanka. The main responsibility of SLSI is to formulate national standards in various disciplines. Currently we have two separate standards formulation divisions, the Engineering Standards Formulation and Scientific Standards Formulation Division (Non-Engineering). Some standards are directly adopted (ISO/IEC) and some standards are formulated. Other than that, SLSI provides other services such as product certification, systems certification, training, Laboratory testing, calibration, library services, Assessment for national Quality awards based on Malcolm Baldrige criteria. Further to that SLSI is the national enquiry point to WTO

isotc262.org: *Did you adopt ISO 31000 as a national standard in Sri Lanka or didn't you adopt it and what were the reasons for this decision?*

Samanthie: Yes, SLSI already adopted this standard as a Sri Lanka standard.

isotc262.org: *What is risk management based on in Sri Lanka (e.g.: are there any laws, regulations, national standards or other rules?) and what is the impact of risk management in India?*

Samanthie: There are specific rules established by the industries (e.g. banks, insurance organizations).

isotc262.org: *Who are the key stakeholders of risk management in Sri Lanka?*

Samanthie: The Department of Labor.

isotc262.org: *What are the biggest obstacles for integrating risk management in all organizational activities – an essential principle of ISO 31000 – for managers in Sri Lanka?*

Samanthie: Inadequate Infrastructure and unawareness of the requirements.

isotc262.org: *How does your mirror committee involve itself in standard development at present and how do you see this developing in the future?*

Samanthie: Currently a national mirror committee is in the process of being established and SLSI plans to conduct a training program based on ISO 31000 & ISO 31010.

isotc262.org: **Thank you very much!**

Samanthie: Thank you very much for the interview.