

Brief Report - Inauguration Ceremony of the Booster Grant

Theme: Community Based open Mapping for Sri Lanka

Date: 06th of February 2023

Venue: Board Room, Eastern University, Sri Lanka

Funded by: Open Mapping Hub Asia Pacific

Chaired By : Professor Vallipuram Kanagasingam , Vice Chancellor

Special Guest: Mrs. Kalamathy Pathmarajah

District Secretary/Government Agent, Batticaloa

The inauguration ceremony of the booster grant was held on 6th of February 2023 which was organized by the Department of Geography, Eastern University, Sri Lanka in collaboration with OSM Sri Lanka community and Open Mapping Hub Asia Pacific. Students of the YouthMappersChapter, at the Eastern University had given the fullest support to organize the inauguration ceremony successfully.

Welcome Address- Dr. K. Rajendram *Senior Lecturer-G1, Department of Geography, EUSL* “This is an important event for the University and students and the Students should get maximum benefit out of this” said in the ,Inauguration Address- Dr. V.Gunapalasingam *Dean Faculty of Arts and Culture , EUSL*. A clarity of the OSM , use of GIS , and the activity planned in the grant done in the Project Introductory Note by- Mr. S. Suthakaran *Lecturer, Department of Geography, EUSL*. In the Special Speech (Virtual)- MIKKO L. TAMURA *Community Manager of the Open Mapping Hub-Asia Pacific*, quoted that this is the perfect time to work with young students in the university and hope the University utilize the funding creatively which pave the way to more opportunities for undergraduates. In the Special Note- LT COL (Retd). Janath Hettiarachchi , *Disaster, Risk Management and safety* mentioned that via WFP he would like to work with the University for next five years with the full coordination of District Secretariat. District Secretary Batticaloa, Mrs. Kalamathy Pathmarajah appreciated the innovative effort in Enhancing Mapping practice and intended to go for disaster management as well in future , in her guest speech.



The web page for Booster grant has been ceremonially launched and Vice chancellor addressed the gathering. “OSM is multidisciplinary and this intervention is very unique where Students have been involved in and the activities which we engage in this should sustained with a continuation” stated in the key note address of Prof. V. Kanagasigam *Vice Chancellor, EUSL*. The event concluded with thanking by Mrs. T. Sachithanatham *Head, Department of Geography, EUSL*

The whole inauguration event with exhibits, informative stall, story board, has been organized and led by Youth mappers including Students with the guidance of academics.

There is no doubt that future activities would be very creative and useful for the community, University, and students to claim their achievement.

Participant

Address by Vice-Chancellor



Launching of web page



Booster team with Guests

