

Dandeniya Tharakabhanu de Alwis

Curriculum Vitae

107/1, Wanatha Road, Mahargama, Sri Lanka
+94 71 591 00 17 | tharakadealwis@agri.pdn.ac.lk | dealwistharaka@gmail.com

Education

01/2017-08/2021 :

Bachelor of Science (Honors) in Agricultural Technology & Management

Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

GPA: 3.76/4.00 (First-Class Honors)

Course duration: 4 years | Medium of instruction: English

Majoring module: Applied Economics and Business Management

07/2022:

International English Language Testing System (IELTS)

British Council, Kandy, Sri Lanka

Reference No: A3-LK011-S-7839817

Overall band score: 8.5 (listening: 9.0 reading: 9.0 writing: 7.5 speaking: 8.0)

01/2022:

Graduate Record Examination (GRE)

Registration No: 1780509

Verbal Reasoning: 161 (percentile: 87th)

Quantitative Reasoning: 159 (percentile: 64th)

Analytical Writing : 4 (percentile: 54th)

Employment

10/2021 – Present:

Temporary Lecturer

Place: Department of Agricultural Economics & Business Management, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.

Job description: Assisting teaching, research and outreach programs of the department. Contributed as a teaching assistant to the undergraduate courses offered by the department such as, Socio-Economic aspects of Natural Resource Management, Marketing Management, Entrepreneurship, International Agribusiness, Financial Management, and Quantitative Techniques for Business & Economics; Responsibilities included conducting and assisting undergraduate coursework including lectures, practical sessions, tutorials, and assessments. Contributed for departmental research projects and outreach projects such as conferences and research forums.

Research Experience

2022 November

Project: Gender Division of Labour in Export Industries of Sri Lanka

Location/ People: Analyzing data obtained through the Annual survey of industries 2007-2020 (Published by the Department of Census and Statistics in Sri Lanka) in Sri Lankan export industries.

Results: Year-by-year and industry-by-industry analysis of percentages of women's participation in the industry. The role of women as working proprietors was analyzed against the total percentage of women in the industrial labor force. Key export industries of Sri Lanka such as the Apparel Sector had a minority of women participation as working proprietors, despite a majority of women in the total labor force in the industry.

Contribution: Analyzing the secondary data extracted from the Annual Survey of Industries (2007-2020). Writing the abstract and conducting presentations.

Advisor: Prof. Jeevika Weerahewa

Co Author: Ms. J.P.S. Mimasha

2022 May

Project: Food Losses in International Trade of Agricultural Commodities: A Case Study in Sri Lanka

Location/ People: Analyzing data obtained through UNIDO database/RASFF to understand the extent of food losses in Sri Lankan international trade. Studying the causes of food losses in international trade and potential solutions with Sri Lankan food trading firms and government official involved in regulating international food trade in Sri Lanka.

Results: Comparison of Sri Lankan food loss in international trade with other countries. Identification of causes of food loss such as poor quality control, time consuming documentation processes and lack of access to key information in trade. Formation of recommendations for reducing food loss through process digitalization and streamline information dissemination.

Contribution: Analyzing the data collected from UNIDO and RASDD databases to compute indicators such as Aggregate number of rejections, Unit rejection rate, Relative rejection rate and Frequency of reasons for rejections. Reporting the results and discussion.

Advisor/ Supervisor: Prof. Jeevika Weerahewa

2021 November

Project: Effectiveness of Environmental Taxation: Global Evidence

Location/ People: Analyzing secondary data obtained through OECD database to understand the effectiveness of environmental taxation as a control mechanism against CO2 emissions in industrialized countries, low-industrialized countries, and countries that have experienced rapid economic growth.

Results: Environmental taxation has been used as an effective control mechanism against CO2 emissions in OECD countries, but not in non-OECD countries. Hence, the development status of the country also plays an important part in the feasibility of controlling environmental pollution through environmental taxation.

Contribution: Collecting secondary data from OECD databases and performing regression analysis (STATA). Interpretation of results and reporting.

Supervisor: Prof. DVP Prasada

2021 November

Project: Can the Pollution Potential of Pesticides be Mitigated by Trade in Food Production? Global Evidence

Location/ People: Analyzing secondary data obtained through world-integrated trade databases to understand the impact of food trade (cereals) on pollution potential of pesticide usage. The study also focused on identifying the differences between net food-importers and exporters.

Results: Cereal production has a positive significant effect on the potential pollution caused by pesticide usage for both sets of countries. Importing food can act as a trade-off for pesticide pollution potential for net food-exporting countries. Trading off pesticide pollution potential through food trade cannot be done in net food-importing countries.

Contribution: Collecting secondary data from world-integrated trade databases and performing regression analysis (STATA). Interpretation of results and reporting.

Supervisor: Prof. DVP Prasada

2021 August

Project: Undergraduate Research on “Determinants of Translating Entrepreneurial Intention and Action: A study of final year undergraduate students of the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Location/ People: Final year undergraduates of the University of Peradeniya during April 2022-August 2022.

Results: Out of the respondents who had entrepreneurial intentions, 32% had taken some actions towards starting a business. Furthermore, positive relationships between entrepreneurial intention and action and positive effects of gender, perceived competence in entrepreneurial skills, entrepreneurial environment in the faculty, and entrepreneurial education on entrepreneurial actions were observed. Progressing from entrepreneurial intention to action was more robust for male undergraduates compared to female undergraduates.

Contribution: Conceptualizing the research and referring relevant literature, creating the questionnaire, data collection and conducting quantitative data analysis using STATA, interpretation of results and, writing the thesis.

Supervisors: Prof. KASS Kodithuwakku, Dr. SDS Hemachandra

Publications

Peer Reviewed Journals

2022

de Alwis, D.T., Kodithuwakku, K.A.S.S. and Hemachandra, D. (2022) Determinants of Translating Entrepreneurial Intention to Action: A Study of Undergraduate Students of the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. *Vidyodaya Journal of Management* 8(2) (pp 83-112)

Thesis/ Dissertation:

2021

Determinants of translating entrepreneurial intention to action: A study of final year undergraduate students of the University of Peradeniya. Research Report. Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya. (B.Sc. Thesis)
Supervisor: Prof. Sarath S. Kodithuwakku; Co-supervisor: Dr. Dr. S.D.S. Hemachandra

Non-peer-reviewed publications:

2021

Promoting Undergraduate Entrepreneurship. *Hanthana Blossoms*, Volume V, Issue 01, August 2021.

Abstracts

de Alwis, D.T. and Mimasha, J.P.S. (2022) Gender Division of Labour in Export Industries of Sri Lanka. Abstract. In: Proceedings of the 31st Asian Economic Symposium, 11th November 2022.

de Alwis, D.T. and Prasada, D.V.P. (2022) Can the Pollution Potential of Pesticides be Mitigated by Trade in Food Production? Global Evidence. Abstract. In: Proceedings of the tenth Sri Lanka Economic Research Conference, 27th-28th January 2022.

de Alwis, D.T. and Prasada, D.V.P. (2022) Effectiveness of Environmental Taxation: Global Evidence. Abstract. In: Proceedings of the tenth Sri Lanka Economic Research Conference, 27th-28th January 2022.

de Alwis, D.T., Kodithuwakku, K.A.S.S. and Hemachandra, D. (2021) Determinants of Translating Entrepreneurial Intention to Action: A Study of Undergraduate Students of the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. Abstract. In: Proceedings of the 18th International Conference on Business Management (ICBM), 09th December 2021.

de Alwis, D.T., Kodithuwakku, K.A.S.S. and Hemachandra, D. (2021) Determinants of Translating Entrepreneurial Intention to Action: A Study of Final Year Undergraduate Students of the University of Peradeniya Abstract. In: Proceedings of the seventh Faculty of Agriculture undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Peradeniya, .

Conferences and Presentations

Presentations

Date: September 2022

Title of the Presentation: Supporting the transition of Sri Lankan businesswomen to higher levels of trade value chains.

Venue: Griffith University: Trade Promotion and Marketing Post COVID-19. Training Course in Brisbane, Australia. [online]

Advisor: Prof. Jeevika Weerahewa

Conferences

Oral Presentation: Gender Division of Labour in Export Industries of Sri Lanka. 31st Asian Economic Symposium. 11th November 2022

Flash presentation: Can the Pollution Potential of Pesticides be Mitigated by Trade in Food Production? Tenth Sri Lanka Economic Research Conference. 27th-28th January, 2022

Flash presentation: Effectiveness of Environmental Taxation: Global Evidence. Tenth Sri Lanka Economic Research Conference. 27th-28th January, 2022

Oral presentation: Determinants of Translating Entrepreneurial Intention to Action: A Study of Undergraduate Students of the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. 18th International Conference on Business Management (ICBM), 09th December 2021.

Poster presentation: Determinants of Translating Entrepreneurial Intention to Action: A Study of Undergraduate Students of the University of Peradeniya. Seventh Faculty of Agriculture undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Peradeniya, 13th August 2021.

Editorial and Organizing Assistance

January 2023

Organizing assistance for the 12th Undergraduate Research Competition and Conference of the Sri Lankan Agricultural Economics Association

September 2022-October 2022

Organizing Assistance for the 31st Asian Economic Symposium and the associated student summit. Compilation of the Symposium Proceedings

January 2022

Organizing assistance and Editorial Assistance for the Proceedings of tenth Sri Lankan Economic Research Conference Organized by the Department of Agricultural Economics and Business Management, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka., 27th-28th January 2022.

Awards and Recognitions

Best Paper Award

for the paper titled "Determinants of Translating Entrepreneurial Intention to Action: A Study of Undergraduate Students of the University of Peradeniya" under the conference track of "Entrepreneurship, Small Business Management and Innovation". 18th International Conference on Business Management - 2021

de Alwis, D.T., Kodithuwakku, K.A.S.S. and Hemachandra, D. (2021) Determinants of Translating Entrepreneurial Intention to Action: A Study of Undergraduate Students of the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. Abstract. In: Proceedings of the 18th International Conference on Business Management (ICBM), 09th December 2021.

University Prize for Academic Excellence at the Final Examination

Awarded for the excellence at the Final Examination for the program in B.Sc degree in Agricultural Technology and Management

S.F.H Memorial Prize

Awarded for the greatest competence at the 4000 series Examination in Agricultural Technology and Management

Ananda Amarasinghe Memorial Prize

Awarded for the best performance at the examinations held during the advanced program in B.Sc. degree in Agricultural

Projects

Project Assistance for International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

February 2022-present

Agroforestry Mainstreaming in Tea and Coconut in Sri Lanka Project to develop business models. Undertaking a socio-economic analysis and assisting the Business Case Expert.

Qualifications and Certifications

Certification for Participation of 10 day CEFE training on Social Entrepreneurship Development Training (TOT)

February 2022

Issued by CEFE NET Sri Lanka for the successful completion of a ten-day training of trainers on Social Entrepreneurship Development.

Specialization Certificate: Human Resource Management: HR for People Managers

August 2020

Awarded at the successful completion of the five-course program authorized by the University of Minnesota [offered through coursera]

Marketing Analytics Certificate Course

June 2020

Awarded at the successful completion of the online non-credit course program authorized by the University of Virginia [offered through coursera]

Introduction to Big Data Certificate Course

June 2020

Awarded at the successful completion of the online non-credit course program authorized by the University of California San Diego [offered through coursera]

ACCA diploma in Accounting and Business

2016

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, UK. Completion up to subject F7.

Skills

Confident in statistical software: SPSS, STATA, LINDO

Language Proficiency: Proficiency in English and Sinhala languages.

Computer Literacy: Confident in Microsoft Office, Google workspace

Other Skills: Organization, Time Management, Teamwork, Leadership, Photography

Referees

Prof. Sarath S. Kodithuwakku

Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya (20400), Sri Lanka.

+94 71 780 1710 | sarathsk@agri.pdn.ac.lk

Prof. Shamala Kumar

Professor and Head of the Department,

Department of Agricultural Economics and Business Management,

Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya (20400), Sri Lanka.

+94 77 398 2161 | skumar@agri.pdn.ac.lk

I hereby declare that the information provided above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

• Date: 28/01/2023

Signature: