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Over the years Science Policy practitioners in the Third World countries were trying to find out the solution for stagnating growth of scientific enterprises. These attempts were mainly focused on some theoretical concepts, with little evidence from practical experience. Science policy analysts have gathered more evidence from these experiences and are now in a better position to make and implement achievable science policies.

This paper attempts to identify some factors effecting the growth of science in Sri Lanka. The factors effecting project formulation, selection and undertaking research which are socially and economically applicable are analysed. A selected number of projects carried out mainly by the university staff were considered in this paper. A questionnaire and personal interview were used in the analysis.

This study reveals that the problem exists at the level of the scientific community and scientific infrastructure and also at the level of scientific institutions in making science policies and implementing science policies in the country.