



Starting Strong: the first 1000 days of the SDGs Asian regional dialogue

Agenda: Day 1

8.00	Registration
9.00	<p><u>Inaugural session</u></p> <p>Welcome address and inaugural panel</p> <p><i>During this inaugural session, the focus will be on highlighting the need to mobilise action towards a transformative, sustainable agenda. The welcome remarks will be followed by a panel to orient the discussion towards the key issues that need to be addressed at the event.</i></p> <p>Welcome remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Udan Fernando, Executive Director, Centre For Poverty Analysis (CEPA) <p>Welcome address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hon. Gamini Jayawickrama Perera, Minister of Sustainable Development and Wildlife, Sri Lanka <p>Inaugural panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair, Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals - Ishbel Matheson, Head of Communications, Overseas Development Institute (ODI) - Karin Fernando, Senior Research Professional, CEPA
10.30	Tea break
10.45	<p><u>Introduction to participants</u></p> <p><i>A brief session to share the objectives and agenda of the workshop and give time for introductions.</i></p> <p>Conference facilitator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Priyanthi Fernando, Executive Director, International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP) <p><i>Participants will also receive a brief introduction to the 'Pigeonhole' digital platform that will be used throughout the event for various Q&A sessions.</i></p>
11.00	<p><u>Session 1a</u></p> <p>Integrating the SDGs into national development plans</p> <p><i>This session will highlight the different approaches being adopted to ensure the integration of the SDGs at a national level, examining how different models can be applied to achieve the SDG agenda in line with existing national plans and priorities. There will be a question and answer session with the various government representatives.</i></p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shekhar Shah, Director General, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bangladesh: Monirul Islam, Deputy Chief, SDG desk in General Economics Division, Bangladesh Planning Commission

- **India:** Shrikant Baldi, Additional Chief Secretary for Finance, Planning, Economics and Statistics, Twenty Point Programme, Excise and Taxation departments in the Government of Himachal Pradesh, India (TBC)
- **Pakistan:** Rehana Ghulam Ali Memon, Secretary - Planning and Development Department, Government of Sindh
- **Philippines:** Michael Provideo, Staff Focal for SDGs Social Development Staff, National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), Philippines
- **Sri Lanka:** Uchita De Zoysa, Sustainable Development Adviser, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Wildlife, Sri Lanka

First respondent:

- Raldi Hendro Koestoer, Senior Advisor to the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, Republic of Indonesia

12.30 **Lunch**

13.30 **Session 1b**

How does an integrated agenda work in practice?

This session will demonstrate the complexity of integrating the different policy agendas across the SDGs, balancing the need for trade-offs and capitalising on synergies and interdependencies, through a controlled simulation with all the participants.

During this simulation, participants will be split into different stakeholder groups and each allocated a specific group of goals to meet as part of their objectives for achieving the SDGs. Through balancing conflicting interests with their fellow players, building bridges across stakeholder groups and identifying synergies and trade-offs, participants will discover more about the practicalities of implementing an integrated approach to achieving the SDGs.

Session facilitator:

- Paul Jansen, Program Director, Salzburg Global Seminar

14.45 **Policy integration session summary**

A reflection on the policy exercise: what was useful and identifying the key challenges and opportunities.

Session facilitator:

- Priyanthi Fernando, Executive Director, (IWRAP)

15.00 **Tea break**

15.15 **Session 2**

Toolkit demonstration: Tools to support an integrated agenda

During this session, a variety of tools and resources will be presented that demonstrate how an integrated approach can be applied and used for better planning. Resources will also be shared that present alternative methods that go beyond one dimensional measures and following presentations, participants will split into small groups to try out the different tools or learn more about the resources from the presenters.

Speakers:

- **SDG Scorecard:** Tanvi Bhatkal, Research Officer, ODI
- **iSDG Tool:** Steve Arquitt, Senior Modeller, Millennium Institute
- **Network Analysis:** Karin Fernando, Senior Research Professional, CEPA; Navam Niles, Consultant, CEPA
- **Gross National Happiness Index:** Pema Thinley, The Centre for Bhutan Studies and GNH Research
- **Gross National Happiness Index policy screening tool:** Phuntsho Wangyel, Senior Research Officer, Gross National Happiness Commission, Royal Government of Bhutan

16.45	Summary session: Re-cap on discussions and key learnings throughout the day <i>During this summary session, key points will be discussed on the challenges of integration both in terms of national planning and in implementing a cross-thematic agenda. The facilitator will provide 'food for thought' to take into sessions on day two and will share an overview of the following day's sessions.</i>
17.15	End of day one
18.30	Cocktail reception
19.30	Networking dinner

Agenda: Day 2

8.00	Breakfast
8.30	<p>Session 3</p> <p>Regional research discussion - small group sessions During this session, authors of regionally commissioned papers on 'Priority actions for the SDGs' will host round table discussions in relation to their papers.</p> <p>Discussion Coordinator - Mostafa Amir Sabbih, Research Associate, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)</p> <p><u>Youth Employment in South Asia</u> Discussion lead: Vaqar Ahmed, Deputy Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) Group facilitator: Mousumi Das, Associate Fellow, National Council for Applied Economic Research</p> <p><u>Measuring Gender Equality in Urban Planning Tools in South Asia</u> Discussion lead: Shrimoyee Bhattacharya, Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) Group facilitator: Mr Anselmo Lee, Co-convener, Asian Development Alliance (ADA)</p> <p><u>Addressing environments of the poor: priorities for SDG actions</u> Discussion lead: Nadeem Ahmed, Team Leader SDGs Special Initiatives LEAD Pakistan (TBC) Group facilitator: Amina Khan, Research Officer, ODI</p> <p><u>Implementation of Social Protection Programmes in India: The Gaps and Challenges</u> Discussion lead: Sangh Mitra Acharya, Director, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS) Group facilitator: Mostafizur Rahaman, Program Manager, PAMC Unit - Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE)</p> <p><u>Making Sustainability the Next Metric: Examining Sri Lanka's Sustainability Future</u> Discussion lead: Navam Niles, Consultant, CEPA Group facilitator: Kumudhini Gunsekera, Coordinating Secretariat for Science, Technology and Innovation (COSTI) and the Ministry of Science and Technology</p> <p><u>National Level Implications of Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): A Case of Pakistan</u> Discussion lead: Khalida Ghaus, Managing Director, Social Policy and Development Centre (SPDC) Group facilitator: Mark Anthony Velasco, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)</p>

	<p><u>National Level Implications of the Implementation of SDGs: The Case of Sri Lanka</u> Discussion lead: Ganga Tilakaratna, Research Fellow & Head of Poverty and Social Welfare Policy Unit, Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) Group facilitator: Mostafa Amir Sabbih, Research Associate, Centre for Policy Dialogue</p>
9.30	<p>Session 4a Mobilising partnerships and resources to achieve the SDGs <i>This session will focus on four critical issues to advance the SDG agenda over the next 3 years, including financing, technology, cooperation and public-private partnerships.</i></p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rita Dhital, Director of Information and Poverty Alleviation Division & Secretary General's Office, SAARC Kathmandu <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technology: Elenita Dano, Asia Director, Action Group On Erosion, Technology & Concentration (ETC Group) - South-South cooperation: Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General of Research and Information Systems in Developing Countries (RIS) - Domestic resource mobilisation: Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) - International resource mobilisation and partnerships: Posh Pandey, Executive Chairman, South Asia Watch on Trade Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Nepal
10.45	Tea break
11.00	<p>Session 4b Break out groups: first steps for the first 1000 days <i>During this session, participants will be split into multi-stakeholder groups to discuss factors that can create an enabling environment to hit the ground running in the first 1000 days of the SDGs. Key topics to be discussed and elaborated include financing, cooperation, technology and public-private partnerships.</i></p> <p>Group facilitators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technology: Ranga Pallawala, CEO, Janathakshan - South-South cooperation: Tom Thomas, CEO, Praxis (TBC) - Domestic resource mobilisation: Vaqar Ahmed, Deputy Executive Director, (SDPI) - International resource mobilisation and partnerships: Gomer Padong, Philippines Social Enterprise Network
12.45	Lunch
13.45	<p>Session 5 Addressing inclusion and participation <i>This session will look at issues of inclusion and participation for all – how do we ensure that nobody is left behind when planning priority actions for the first 1000 days of the SDGs and what are the tools and mechanisms available that can assist with better inclusion and participation? A plenary discussion will follow some key inputs from the panel.</i></p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Michel Anglade, Campaigns and Advocacy Director - Asia, Save the Children - Lee Ai Schuen, Programme Manager, IWRAP - Sangh Mitra Acharya, Director, IISD - Vagisha Gunasekera, Senior Researcher Centre for Poverty Analysis (CEPA)

15.15	Tea break
15.30	<p>Session 6</p> <p>Accountability for sustainability</p> <p><i>This session will focus on mechanisms that exist or have to be established to hold governments, the private sector and civil society accountable to implement a sustainable approach in their specific activities. Key remarks will be followed by observations from the floor and a plenary discussion.</i></p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ranja Sengupta, Senior Researcher, Third World Network <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Khalida Ghaus, Managing Director, SPDC - Radhika Mathur, Programme Officer - Sustainable Development Goals National Foundation for India - Zhang Chun, Senior Fellow, Shanghai Institutes of International Studies
17.00	<p>Summary session</p> <p><i>Through this summary session, speakers and participants will reflect on key issues emerging from the dialogue with regards to early actions and concrete next steps. Participants will have the opportunity to input final thoughts and discuss the role that the organisers will take in moving this agenda forward.</i></p> <p>Session facilitator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Priyanthi Fernando, Executive Director, IWRAW <p>Comments from organisers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair, Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals - Ishbel Matheson, Head of Communications, ODI - Karin Fernando, Senior Research Professional, CEPA
18.00	End of conference