

STRENGTHENING MSME DYNAMICS FOR RESILIENT ECONOMIC GROWTH



24 AUGUST 2022

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

MANILA TIME

9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

COLOMBO TIME

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ABOUT THE EVENT

Serendipity Knowledge Program is an ADB platform dedicated to identifying knowledge solutions for Sri Lanka's development challenges. Serendib is one of Sri Lanka's ancient names and serendipity refers to a fortunate finding, which is a common occurrence throughout the history of product invention and scientific discovery. ADB established this new knowledge program in 2021 in line with its vision as a knowledge solutions bank.

Micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) development is key to achieving inclusive growth. MSME policy design has grown more challenging given the complexity of the MSME business environment and the rapidly evolving external environment. The exogenous shock of COVID-19 pandemic severely limited economic activity, including for MSMEs, which has been further exacerbated by the ongoing economic crisis. The Asia Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise Monitor is a knowledge-sharing product on small and medium sized enterprise in Asia and the Pacific, especially focusing on access to finance. This event under the Serendipity Knowledge Program will provide a platform to discuss findings from Asia SME Monitor series on MSME development, access to finance, and policy actions, post the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing economic crisis in Sri Lanka.



KENICHI YOKOYAMA
*Director General
 South Asia Department
 ADB*



MAHINDA SIRIWARDANA
*Secretary to the Treasury
 Ministry of Finance
 Sri Lanka*



SHIGEHIRO SHINOZAKI
*Senior Economist
 Economic Research and
 Regional Cooperation
 Department, ADB*



NISTHAR CASSIM
Moderator



CHAMINDA PATHIRAJA
*Additional Secretary
 Ministry of Industries
 Sri Lanka*



J P R KARUNARATNE
*Assistant Governor
 Central Bank of Sri Lanka*



AJAY RAO
*Regional Managing Director
 U.S. International
 Development Finance
 Corporation*



NAYANA KARUNARATNE
*Board Member, Women's
 Chamber of Industry and
 Commerce, Sri Lanka*



TAKUYA HOSHINO
*Finance Sector Specialist
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 Trade Division, South Asia
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*Director General
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 Finance, Ministry of Finance
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SABYASACHI MITRA
*Director
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 Trade Division, South Asia
 Department, ADB*



ZOOM REGISTRATION

STRENGTHENING MSME DYNAMICS FOR RESILIENT ECONOMIC GROWTH

Program Moderator: Nisthar Cassim

9:30 - 9:35 am

Welcome Remarks

Mr. Kenichi Yokoyama, Director General, South Asia Department, ADB

9:35 - 9:45 am

Opening Remarks

Mr. Mahinda Siriwardana, Secretary to the Treasury
Ministry of Finance, Sri Lanka

9:45 - 10:00 am

**Keynote Presentation: Trends and Challenges in MSME Development
in Sri Lanka: Lessons from the Asia SME Monitor**

Mr. Shigehiro Shinozaki, Senior Economist, Economic Research
and Regional Cooperation Department, ADB

10:00 - 10:30 am

**Panel Discussion on National Efforts to Scale Up MSMEs –
Post-Pandemic and Economic Crisis Policy Agenda**

Mr. Chaminda Pathiraja, Additional Secretary
Ministry of Industries, Sri Lanka

Mr. J P R Karunaratne, Assistant Governor
Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Mr. Ajay Rao, Regional Managing Director
U.S. International Development Finance Corporation

Ms. Nayana Karunaratne, Board Member
Women's Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Sri Lanka

Mr. Takuya Hoshino, Finance Sector Specialist, Public Management
Financial Sector and Trade Division, South Asia Department, ADB

10:30 - 10:50 am

Question & Answer

10:50 - 11:00 am

Closing Remarks

Ms. Geetha Wimalaweera, Director General
Department of Development Finance, Ministry of Finance, Sri Lanka

Mr. Sabyasachi Mitra, Director, Public Management
Financial Sector and Trade Division, South Asia Department, ADB

