

STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES (SOE) REFORM: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SRI LANKA

5 SEPTEMBER 2023

9:15 AM – 12:00 NOON

11:45 AM – 2:30 PM

COLOMBO TIME

MANILA TIME

ABOUT THE EVENT

Serendipity Knowledge Program (SKOP) 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.

State-owned enterprises (SOEs) have played an important role in the economic development of countries in Asia and the Pacific. SOEs have also played an important role in Sri Lanka's socio-economic development over the last several decades. After the economic crisis in 2022, Sri Lanka has embarked on deep economic reforms, including an ambitious SOE reform. This SKOP event will discuss opportunities and challenges for SOE reform in Sri Lanka. It brings together world-renowned experts on SOE reform who will share global lessons on navigating SOE reforms, establishment of SOE holding company, etc. It will also focus on the government of Sri Lanka's approach to SOE reform, including policy-based assistance from International Financial Institutions, in the context of the current crisis.



**K M MAHINDA
SIRIWARDANA**

*Secretary to the
Treasury
Sri Lanka*



**KENICHI
YOKOYAMA**

*Director General
South Asia Department
ADB*



**ANURADHA
KUMARASIRI**

*Director General
National Planning
Department
Sri Lanka*



**TAKAFUMI
KADONO**

*Country Director
Sri Lanka Resident
Mission
ADB*



**SURESH
SHAH**

*Chairperson, SOE
Restructuring Unit
Sri Lanka*



**DAG
DETTET**

*Former President of
Statum and Director
Ministry of Industry
Sweden*



**CHRISTINA
CHOO**

*Director
International Relations
Temasek International Pte Ltd.
Singapore*



**ANNE
MOLYNEUX**

*Member, OECD's Business
and Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC)
Consultant ADB, IFC, OECD, World Bank*



**DAVID
ROBINETT**

*Senior Public
Management Specialist
Public Sector Management
and Governance Sector
ADB*



**ADRIAN
TORRES**

*Director
Special Initiatives and Funds
Office of Markets Development and
Public Private Partnership (OMDP)
ADB*



**NIRUKTHI
KARIYAWASAM**

*MC
Associate Economics Analyst
Sri Lanka Resident Mission
ADB*



**ROSHAN
PERERA**

*Moderator
Senior Research Fellow
Advocata Institute
Sri Lanka*

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Program

MC: Nirukthi Kariyawasam, Associate Economics Analyst
Sri Lanka Resident Mission, ADB

9:15 - 9:20 AM

Welcome Remarks

Kenichi Yokoyama, Director General, South Asia Department, ADB

9:20 - 9:30 AM

Sri Lanka's Approach to SOE Reform

K M Mahinda Siriwardana
Secretary to the Treasury, Sri Lanka

9:30 - 10:00 AM

Keynote Presentation on SOE Reform: Lessons from Other Countries

Dag Detter, Former President of Stattum and Director
Ministry of Industry, Sweden

10:00 - 11:00 AM

Panel Discussion on SOE Reform: Challenges and Opportunities for Sri Lanka

Christina Choo, Director

International Relations, Temasek International Pte Ltd., Singapore (virtual)

Anne Molyneux, Member, OECD's Business, and

Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC), Consultant ADB, IFC, OECD, World Bank (virtual)

Suresh Shah, Chairperson, SOE Restructuring Unit, Sri Lanka

David Robinett, Senior Public Management Specialist,
Public Sector Management and Governance Sector, ADB

Adrian Torres, Director, Special Initiatives and Funds,

Office of Markets Development and Public Private Partnership (OMDP), ADB (virtual)

Moderator: Roshan Perera, Senior Research Fellow, Advocata Institute, Sri Lanka

11:00 - 11:40 AM

Question and Answer Session

11:40 - 12:00 NOON

Closing Remarks

Anuradha Kumarasiri, Director General
National Planning Department, Sri Lanka

Takafumi Kadono, Country Director
Sri Lanka Resident Mission, ADB

12:00 NOON

Lunch

