

TRANSITIONING TOWARD MULTIPLE AND FLEXIBLE EDUCATION AND SKILLS PATHWAYS TO WORK OR FURTHER STUDY



16 NOVEMBER 2023

9:15 AM - 3:30 PM

COLOMBO TIME

11:45 AM - 6:00 PM

MANILA TIME

REGISTER HERE

ZOOM REGISTRATION

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.

The education and skills sector in Sri Lanka has faced significant challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent macroeconomic crisis. Recognizing the urgent need for education and skills reforms to achieve economic stability and development, the Government has formulated a National Education Policy Framework 2023-2033.

This SKOP event will serve as a platform to explore both the opportunities and challenges associated with policy, regulatory, and institutional changes in Sri Lanka's education and skills sector. The event will bring together international experts, along with local stakeholders from the public and private sectors to share insights. The discussions will focus on transitioning towards multiple and flexible education and skills pathways between secondary, technical and vocational education and training, and higher education, ultimately leading to employment or further studies.



Anura Dissanayake
Secretary to the Prime Minister
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



M. N. Ranasinghe
Secretary
Ministry of Education
Sri Lanka



Gi Soon Song
Director
Human and Social
Development Sector Office
ADB



Barry Charles Peddle
Founding Director of
TAFE Directors Australia and
World Federation
of Colleges and Polytechnics



Johannes K. Schmees
Department of Teacher
Education
Norwegian University of
Science and Technology



Prasad Sethunga
Director General
National Institute of
Education
Sri Lanka



Duminda Hulangamuwa
Chairman of
Ceylon Chamber and
Country Managing Partner of
Ernst & Young
Sri Lanka and the Maldives



Shanti Jagannathan
Principal Education Specialist
Human and Social
Development
Sector Office
ADB



Per Borjegen
Principal Education Specialist
Human and Social
Development Sector Office
ADB



Shadika R. Wazir
Assistant Director
Education for All Program
Ministry of Education
Sri Lanka



Sudarshana Anojan
Social Development Specialist
Sri Lanka Resident Mission
ADB



Prathaj Haputhanthri
Energy Specialist
Sri Lanka Resident Mission
ADB



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Program

MC: Prathaj Haputhanthri, Energy Specialist
Sri Lanka Resident Mission, ADB

09:15 AM - 09:25 AM

Welcome Remarks

Kenichi Yokoyama, Director General, South Asia Department, ADB

09:25 AM - 09:50 AM

Opening Remarks

Anura Dissanayake, Secretary to the Prime Minister, Sri Lanka

Gi Soon Song, Director, Human and Social Development Sector Office, ADB

09:50 AM - 10:30 AM

Keynote Address - Change to multiple and flexible learning pathways to work or further study: Lessons from international case studies

Barry Charles Peddle, Founding Director of TAFE Directors Australia and World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM

Tea/Coffee Break

10:45 AM - 12:30 PM

Session 1: Panel Discussion - The importance of education reform to introduce multiple learning pathways

Setting the Tone - The need for education reform in Sri Lanka

M. N. Ranasinghe, Secretary, Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka

Panelists:

Barry Charles Peddle, Founding Director of TAFE Directors Australia and World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics

Shanti Jagannathan, Principal Education Specialist, Human and Social Development Sector Office, ADB

Prasad Sethunga, Director General, National Institute of Education, Sri Lanka

Duminda Hulangamuwa, Chairman of Ceylon Chamber and Country Managing Partner of Ernst & Young Sri Lanka and the Maldives

Shadika R. Wazir, Assistant Director, Education for All Program, Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka

Moderator: Per Borjegen, Principal Education Specialist, Human and Social Development Sector Office, ADB

12:30 PM - 01:30 PM

Lunch Break

01:30 PM - 03:00 PM

Session 2: Presentation on multi-country comparative study on pathways between TVET and higher education followed by discussion

Speaker: Johannes K. Schmees, Department of Teacher Education, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Facilitator: Sudarshana Anojan, Social Development Specialist, Sri Lanka Resident Mission, ADB

03:00 PM - 03:30 PM

Closing Remarks

Anuradha Kumarasiri, Director General, National Planning Department, Sri Lanka

Takafumi Kadono, Country Director, Sri Lanka Resident Mission, ADB

