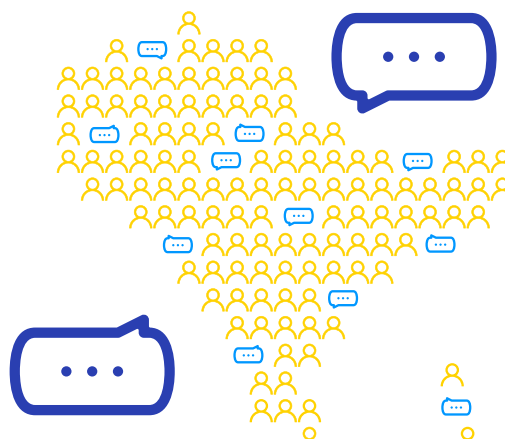


3rd UN South Asia Forum on Business and Human Rights

28-30 March 2022 (*Pre-Forum sessions 23-25 March*)

BIDA Multipurpose Hall, Dhaka, Bangladesh | Virtual

AGENDA



► Day 1 | March 29 (Hybrid)

Time*	Session
09:30–10:00	<i>Registration</i>
10:00–10:10	<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <p>Sudipto Mukerjee, Resident Representative, United Nations Development Programme, Bangladesh</p> <p>Tuomo Poutiainen, Country Director, International Labour Organization, Bangladesh</p>
10:10–10:20	<p>Inaugural Address: Chief Guest</p> <p>Dr. Ahmad Kaikaus, Principal Secretary, The Prime Minister's Office, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh</p>
10:20–10:30	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <p>Ambassador Alexandra Berg von Linde, Embassy of Sweden in Bangladesh</p>
10:30–10:40	<p>Keynote Speech</p> <p>Prof. Surya Deva, Member, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights</p>
10:40–12:10	<p>High-Level Opening Plenary: BHR in South Asia: Where Are We Heading?</p> <p>Mohsina Yasmin, Bangladesh Investment Development Authority, Prime Minister's Office, Dhaka</p> <p>Inamullah Khan, Secretary, Ministry of Human Rights, Government of Pakistan</p> <p>Ram Chandra Dhakal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Social Security</p> <p>Ahmed Adham Abdulla, Vice President, Human Rights Commission of Maldives</p> <p>Kalpona Akter, Executive Director, Bangladesh Center for Workers' Solidarity</p> <p>Viraf Mehta, Advisor, Partners in Change</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Harpreet Kaur, Business and Human Rights Specialist, United Nations Development Programme, Asia-Pacific</p>
12:10–13:00	<i>Lunch</i>

Time*	Session
13:00–14:30	<p>Remedying Human Rights Abuses in South Asia: Knocking on Doors Beyond the Region</p> <p>Miriam Saage-Maaß, Legal Director and Program Director Business and Human Rights, European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights</p> <p>Kamal Uddin Ahmed, Full-time Member, National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh</p> <p>Golam Sarwar, Secretary, Law and Justice Division, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Government of Bangladesh</p> <p>Rabiya Javeri Agha, Chairperson, National Commission for Human Rights, Pakistan</p> <p>Shankar Limbu, Member, Humanitarian Relief Committee (LHRC)</p> <p>Sara Hossain, Lawyer, Supreme Court of Bangladesh</p> <p>Rachel Bonner, Solicitor, Leigh Day</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Surya Deva, Member, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights</p>
14:30–14:45	Break
14:45–16:15	<p>Human Rights Due Diligence: Shifting the Business Environment in South Asia</p> <p>MD Humayun Kabir, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of Bangladesh</p> <p>Dorothee Baumann-Pauly, Director, Geneva Center for Business and Human Rights, University of Geneva</p> <p>Emily Sims, Help Desk Coordinator, MULTI, International Labour Organisation (ILO)</p> <p>Nusrat Khan, Business and Human Rights Specialist-India, UNDP India</p> <p>Jeremy Opritesco, Head of Political, Economic, Trade, Press, and Information, EU Delegation to Bangladesh</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Livio Sarandrea, Global Lead, Business and Human Rights, United Nations Development Programme, Asia-Pacific</p>
16:15–16:30	Break



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Time*	Session
16:30–18:00	<p>Occupational Safety and Health in the Post COVID-19 World</p> <p>Chitra Khanna, Head of Safety Initiative, Safe In India Foundation</p> <p>Nasir Uddin Ahmed, Inspector General, Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishment, Government of Bangladesh</p> <p>Zahoor Awan, General Secretary, Pakistan Workers Federation (PWF)</p> <p>Wajira Palipane, Commissioner of Labour (Occupational Health) Ministry of Labour, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Shamama Naushin Yamani, Head of Safety Committee and Safety Training, RMG Sustainability Council (RSC) Bangladesh</p> <p>Francis Arvind, Executive Director, All India Organization of Employers (AIOE), India</p> <p><i>Moderator: Halshka Graczyk</i>, Technical Specialist on Occupational Safety and Health, International Labour Organization</p>

➤ **Day 2 | March 30 (Hybrid)**

Time*	Session
09:30–11:00	<p>Informal Economy: Pathways to Promote Responsible Business</p> <p>Surya Deva, Member, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights</p> <p>Prakash Bhattarai, Director, Center for Social Change</p> <p>Lauren Zanetti, Senior Advisor, Pillar Two</p> <p>Sonvi Khanna, Associate Director, Dasra</p> <p>Nazeem Sattar, General Manager, Small and Medium Enterprises Foundation, Ministry of Industries, Government of Bangladesh</p> <p>Varinder Kaur Gambhir, Director, Research, BBC Media Action, India</p> <p><i>Moderator: Sungeun Choi</i>, Business and Human Rights Specialist, United Nations Development Programme</p>
11:00–11:30	<i>Break</i>
11:30–13:00	<p>People and Planet: Rights Holders in Climate Action</p> <p>Amrita Ganguly, Technical Director - Infrastructure, Government and Healthcare, KPMG Advisory Services Pvt. Ltd</p> <p>Dharitri Kumar Sharker, Deputy Secretary (Climate Change), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of Bangladesh</p> <p>Farah Kabir, Country Director, Action Aid Bangladesh</p> <p>Mizan R. Khan, Deputy Director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development</p> <p>Zahirul Islam, Managing Director, PHP Ship Recycling Yard</p> <p><i>Moderator: Surya Deva</i>, Member, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights</p>
13:00–14:00	<i>Lunch</i>

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*All times are displayed in Bangladesh Standard Time (GMT +6)

➤ **Day 2 | March 30 (Hybrid)**

(continued)

Time*	Session
14:00–15:30	<p>Connecting the Dots: Building Momentum for Bottom-up Action</p> <p>Stefania Perna, Project Manager, Thomson Reuters Foundation</p> <p>Ayesha Barenblat, Founder and CEO, Remake</p> <p>Annie Khan, South Asia Reseracher and Representative, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre</p> <p>Huma Khan, Senior Human Rights Advisor, Office of the UN Resident Coordinator Office</p> <p>Mumtaz Begum, Regional Coordinator, Aurat Foundation</p> <p>Hemantha Withanage, Executive Director, Center for Environmental Justice</p> <p><i>Moderator: Harpreet Kaur</i>, Business and Human Rights Specialist, United Nations Development Programme, Asia-Pacific</p>
15:30–15:45	Break
15:45–17:00	<p>Harnessing Trade and Investment for Responsible Business and Sustainable Development</p> <p>Utkarsha Kohli Agarwal, Legal Head, Invest India</p> <p>Unny M.S Unnikrishnan, former President of Employer Federation of India (EFI) and former Chairman of CII National Committee on Industrial Relations</p> <p>Rashedul Alam Raju, General Secretary, IndustriAll Bangladesh Council</p> <p>Shawkat Alam, Professor, Macquerie University</p> <p><i>Moderator: Githa Roelans</i>, Head, Multinational Enterprises and Enterprise Engagement, International Labour Organization</p>
17:00–17:30	Closing Plenary

➤ **Safe Space Sessions | March 28 (Hybrid)**

Time*	Session
10:00–11:15	<p>SAFE SPACE: A Dialogue with Trade Unions</p> <p><i>*Closed event for Trade Unions</i></p>
10:00–11:15	<p>SAFE SPACE: Peer Learning among National Human Rights Institutions</p> <p><i>*Closed event for NHRIs</i></p>
11:15–11:35	Break
11:30–13:00	<p>SAFE SPACE: A Dialogue with Human Rights Defenders and Civil Society Organizations</p> <p><i>*Closed event for Human Rights Defenders and Civil Society Organizations</i></p>

Time*	Session
13:00–14:00	Lunch
14:00–15:30	Bangladesh Country Session
15:30–16:00	Break
16:00–17:30	SAFE SPACE: A Dialogue with Business and Employers' Organizations <i>*Closed event for Business and Employers' Organizations</i>

➤ **Pre-Forum Sessions will be held virtually from 23 to 25 March.**

Note: This programme will be regularly updated on the [UN South Asia Forum website](#), with details on speakers, virtual side events hosted by external parties, and more.

Please register for the event here: <https://bit.ly/safbhr3>.