"Integrated connectivity is the key to success for trans-regional enterprises including trade networks, and the key to better governance through the empowerment of citizens across the region. The South Asia Rising 2017 conference was held in line with developing a means of collaboration to promote this connectivity. Our aim was to bring regional stakeholders together on a forum to formulate ideas and propose solutions to the problems that involve a wide variety of cultures, ethnicities and backgrounds. The goal was to break barriers and promote dialogue. We are proud to declare that the South Asia Rising 2017 conference has helped us achieve this goal."

DR. SHAHID MAHMUD
Co-Chair South Asia Rising 2017
Eisenhower Fellow ’01
Distinguished EF Fellow ’16

"Through the forces of economy, demographics, and education, the South Asian region is a hub of innovation in terms of both technological and social advancements. The South Asia Rising 2017 conference allowed the creation of cross-national dialogue to foster regional integration, which is a matter of urgency for the region that holds a vast diversity of civilizations. This conference has enabled us to achieve the goal of promoting connectivity across borders, to ultimately join hands to help resolve issues that remain prevalent and critical in South Asia.

RAMAN MADHOK
Co-Chair South Asia Rising 2017
Eisenhower Fellow ’04
A WORD OF THANKS

This post-event report provides an insight into the key findings of the Conference, as a summary for the attendees, and a source of information for future reference. We would like to thank everyone who made South Asia Rising 2017 the success it was, whether as a participant, speaker, or organizer.

200+ PARTICIPANTS

800+ VIEWERS WATCHED LIVE STREAM

3 MILLION+ IMPRESSIONS ON TWITTER

SPEAKERS’ PRESENTATIONS
CONFERENCE PHOTOS

If you would like to view any of the presentations, please follow the link below:
www.southasiarising.com/proceedings
user:sarc17
password:sarc17

For pictures from the conference, please follow this link:
http://www.southasiarising.com/gallery.php

SOUTH ASIA RISING 2017

Over 200 participants, 40 notable speakers, 8 themes and 2 days defined the fruition of an illuminating conference - South Asia Rising 2017. Held at the DMCC Dubai, the epicenter of global trade, the conference paved way for a deeper understanding and consideration of the future that awaits the region and the world at large on its current course of action. Through enlightening speeches delivered by noteworthy personalities, rigorous panel discussions, and both formal and informal interactions, we have assimilated a vast pool of knowledge that will play a vital role in decision-making for the future.

We live in an increasingly globalized world where society’s needs are rapidly evolving; however, a myriad of socio-economic grievances gripping nations across continents remain acute and unaddressed. The creation of dialogue that can promote integration across borders is one of the first steps towards achievable and sustainable development. Through South Asia Rising 2017, we have accomplished precisely this: the creation and dissemination of constructive dialogue.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

40 speakers & panelists from 12 countries
24 mentions on TV, press and online publications in UAE, Pakistan & India
No. 1 trending topic on Twitter, in UAE, during the first day, and number two (after the Oscars), in the second day

If you would like to view any of the presentations, please follow the link below:
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password:sarc17

For pictures from the conference, please follow this link:
http://www.southasiarising.com/gallery.php
South Asia Rising 2017 centered around two main agendas divided between the two days: Regional Connectivity and Citizen Empowerment, which are the primary points of concern that create hurdles in South Asia’s otherwise exponential growth.

Participants actively discussed issues and committed to collaborative efforts in order to address these issues.

"With more than 200 registered participants, including Fellows from 19 countries, I understand it was one of the largest regional conference in the history of Eisenhower Fellowships. Your extraordinary initiative was timely, dynamic and extremely relevant, an inspiring contribution to international understanding in our turbulent global environment."

GEORGE DE LAMA
President of Eisenhower Fellowships, USA
Former army chief and president Pervez Musharraf advised the US to not ignore Pakistan during a time when societies around the world are becoming increasingly radicalised.

"Globalization stands a far cry, a utopian vision, until these interregional disputes are resolved."

"We are failing to optimise on the region's collective potential."

PERVEZ MUSHARRAF
Former President of Pakistan

"My belief is inter-state relations depend more than 50% on inter-personal relations."

"Pakistan is ideally placed to contribute towards harmonising relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran."

PERVEZ MUSHARRAF
Former President of Pakistan
"We can play a pivotal role in facilitating trade flows between China, and the rest of the world, and enhance Dubai’s role as a key trading centre along the 'Belt and Road' maritime trading route. DMCC have already created several strategic partnerships in China."

GAUTAM SASHITTAL, CEO of DMCC
China's One Belt One Road initiative is set to create a paradigm shift in world economics and politics. The project, when it comes to fruition, will redefine regional and global connectivity, and pave way for a more integrated world of the future. That said, it isn’t all come and go when we consider the fact that an initiative of this scale brings not only prospects but challenges as well: challenges that if not dealt with, can spell disaster for the entire project.

**Panel Coordinator**

**Solomon Cai Chenyu**
CEO of Globelink China Investment Ltd.

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**“The Belt and Road Initiative is Originated from China and belong to the World. It would not be a solo performance of China but a chorus of all the countries along the area.”**

**Herbert Chen**
CEO Tus-Holdings Co., China

**Why China Proposed The Belt and Road Initiative**

The OBOR project will cover 65 countries across six regions. Through it, China aims to bridge the gap created between nations due to an imbalance in development levels. China believes that regional connectivity is inevitable and that we must take a proactive approach to the matter than a reactive one. Through proposed symbiotic relationships, the OBOR initiative will try to create shared learning and growth in a variety of industries.
SRI LANKA IS THE NATURAL CALLING POINT FOR SHIPS ACROSS THE INDIAN OCEAN.
This puts the country in a unique position in regards to the OBOR initiative. Sri Lanka is undertaking considerable long-term investment to increase its port capacity and capture this growth. Furthermore, Colombo is being built as a world class hub for logistics, IT and real estate.

SRI LANKA OUTPERFORMS IN SHIPMENTS RELATIVE TO ITS SIZE
0.25% of global population
0.18% of global trade value
12% of container shipping tonnage calling

A DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE ON CPEC
The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a vital link in the OBOR chain. Given the strategic and geographic importance of Pakistan in the region, it is imperative that the CPEC succeeds.

However, Pakistan’s reactive approach to the initiative, and the political turmoil within the country is causing trouble for the project. To overcome this, Pakistan and China need to make joint efforts to integrate and take everyone on board to build mutual trust and a concrete game plan.

“When power shifts, so does the money - and Pakistan couldn’t have been any luckier.”

“Pakistan cannot afford not to get on CPEC train, we need to build coalition within Pakistan.”

AMER ZAFAR DURRANI
CEO & Managing Director of Reenergia, Pakistan

“Sri Lanka is at a pivotal point in its history, and presents the most exciting investment opportunity in the Indian Ocean region.”
NAYANA MAWILMADA, Head of Investments
Western Region Megapolis Planning Project, Sri Lanka
Africa is often referred to as the new frontier and countries across the South Asia region are increasingly looking to the continent for natural resources, new markets and opportunities. China, for example, is investing heavily in infrastructural projects and natural resources within Africa. This session aimed to study what a mutually connected Africa and South Asia could achieve in terms of shared growth, and the implications of an increasingly youthful African population.

PANEL COORDINATOR
YAWA HANSEN-QUAO
Founding Director of Leading Ladies’ Network, Ghana; Eisenhower Fellow 2016

“Africa is progressing, but focus needs to be on an inclusive sustainable growth.”
LESEGO SENNELO, Managing Director of AWCA Investment Holdings, South Africa Eisenhower Fellow 2016

AFRICA RISING
A SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA PERSPECTIVE
The African continent is being recognized as a lucrative FDI destination. However, a major chunk of these investments is concentrated in the North African Region, with the rest of the continent experiencing stagnating growth. Concurrently, future predictions indicate the prospective rise of the South African region, driven by industries including infrastructure, energy, logistics, health and education.
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES: ENGINES OF GROWTH

By 2040, the world’s largest labor force will be in Africa with an estimated working age population of 1 billion.

Cultural and Creative Industries hold countless opportunities for employment creation to cater to this explosion in population. In this regard, Africa can learn from the success of South Asia in CCIs.

To succeed, governments must create sustainable support systems for CCIs, achieve a balanced flow of cultural professionals, and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms. Digitization has provided a fruitful opportunity for citizen engagement and regional collaboration.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN NIGERIA

Despite the fact that Nigeria has the largest economy in Africa, Nigeria’s energy consumption per capita remains one of the lowest in the world.

The country’s infrastructure stock is only 25% of GDP against the global benchmark of 70%. This demonstrates a lucrative opportunity for investments in the infrastructure sector, for African nations as well as South Asian countries.

Nigeria provides huge investment opportunities both in terms of power and the fastest growing city of Lagos.

“This is going to be the century of intellectual copyrights. A century of intelligence and creativity.”

MARIA SARUNGI TSEHAI
Director at Compass Communications Co. Ltd., Tanzania; Eisenhower Fellow 2016

“Success in Africa requires a long term view of the entire supply chain, building partnerships required for sustaining success over decades, investing in developing and retaining talent.”

SAMAILA ZUBAIRU
Chairman of Africapital Management Limited, Nigeria; Eisenhower Fellow 2006
A LESSON IN TEAM SPIRIT
UNITED BY SPORT

Session with Eisenhower Fellow Nathan Sivaganathan, Chief Growth Officer at MAS Holdings, Sri Lanka, and the illustrious Sri Lankan Cricketers Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Jayawardene

"The heartbeat of the region is cricket."
LEADERSHIP LESSON
"Emphasise on your team, a captain is as good as his team."
KUMAR SANGAKKARA

"Cricket has done more than anything else to unite this region."
MAHELA JAYAWARDENE

SOUTH ASIA RISING
Conversations, a Promise of Togetherness
Dubai, 26-27 February 2017
DAY 1 | SESSION 3
INDIA’S GROWTH MODEL

India is increasingly emerging as one of the strongest global economies, standing at rank 16 on the Global Competitiveness Index. It is also the second most competitive country after China among the BRICS nations. GDP growth stands at a steady 7.9% compared to the global average of 3.4%. Indian Economic Growth is a model for all developing countries to emulate. This session aimed to comprehend the reasons behind India’s exponential growth.

PANEL COORDINATOR
ROSEMARY HOWARD
Chair & Managing Director of Hiltoma Pty Ltd., Australia; Eisenhower Fellow 1991

39TH RANK ON THE GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS INDEX

“Which country can negotiate with both India and China on one table? Sri Lanka.”
HARSHA DE SILVA
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka; Eisenhower Fellow 2011

ECONOMIC INTEGRATION MUST BE COUPLED WITH POLITICAL INTEGRATION

Sri Lanka is moving ahead and stands at a position where it is ready to integrate with the world. Through this political connectivity, economic growth will follow, as is also evident through past growth models such as the ancient maritime trade route between Alexandria and China.

“Only Sri Lanka can call every other country in South Asia a friend.”
India is being radically transformed from the ground up, with efforts focused around areas like policy reforms, digital proliferation, startup incubation, financial reforms and data-driven learning. The government is striving to create a holistic ecosystem that is self-sustaining and progressive.

India is currently amongst the three largest economies of the world, along with the United States and China. India contains a myriad of opportunities for further growth. These include infrastructure development, as well as social advancements that can be achieved through promotion of wide-spread education.

"Altering India’s Digital DNA: rebooting the government, doing away with obsolete laws."

ARVIND GUPTA
National Technology Head of BJP, India; Eisenhower Fellow 2014

"A smart city is where a 6 year old can walk to school without any grown up."

SHAILESH PATHAK
CEO of City Infra Capital, India; Eisenhower Fellow 2000

"Investment in solar and wind energy will make India getting out of oil dependency a reality."

"The most important part of infrastructure is social via education."

1 BILLION MOBILE CONNECTIONS
1 BILLION AADHAAR ENROLMENTS
500 MILLION BANK ACCOUNTS
350 MILLION INTERNET USERS

TIME IS MONEY

India is currently amongst the three largest economies of the world, along with the United States and China. India contains a myriad of opportunities for further growth. These include infrastructure development, as well as social advancements that can be achieved through promotion of wide-spread education.
Regional cooperation in the energy sector is increasingly becoming a common phenomenon in every part of the world. The fundamental objective of regional blocs is to promote sub-regional energy cooperation and integration. The quest towards regional energy cooperation and coordination is achieved by means of the development of the region’s energy infrastructure, institutions and stronger integration of regional energy markets.

PANEL COORDINATOR
SUMAYYA HASSAN-ATHMANI
Former CEO of National Oil Corporation, Kenya; Eisenhower Fellow 2014

“Regional cooperation is a means of promoting social, political, and economic development, and this is especially true for energy.”

MHAIRI MAIN GARCIA
Vice Chair Clean Energy Business Council, UAE

ELECTRICITY IS THE WORLD’S FASTEST GROWING FORM OF ENERGY

The energy sector requires regional integration to promote development. Cooperation in the energy sector is imperative, particularly in regarding electricity. Electricity is generated from isolated grids to international markets. A key benefit at the regional level is for states to work together. Cooperation can be widespread, and can include grid access and connectivity, and maximizing economies of scale.
This involves 3 building blocks: Energy Security, Energy Sustainability, and Energy Markets. Energy security involves ensuring uninterrupted supply of energy at affordable prices at both the short and long term; the former requiring inter-regional resilience and the latter requiring inter-regional contracts ensuring this availability.

Energy sustainability must also make sure that energy that is consumed today is not at the cost of the future, which involves optimization of both costs and resources. Energy markets involves creating a market mechanism where the price, supply, and production of energy is market driven.

"We need to build inter-regional energy corridors to ensure uninterrupted supply of energy in the rising South Asian region."

SELVAN C
Global Innovation Director BP, plc
GALA DINNER
CONVERSATIONS
"How we respect each other from cultural standpoints, ethnic standpoints, it all sums up to the diplomatic angle. And if we don’t play this angle, I don’t think we could solve any problems. And this is the beauty of the Fellowship that brings us here and brings us together. Trying to talk, trying to have these conversations, listening to each other, getting each other’s perspective and then moving forward on finding solutions. The Fellowship gave us a great opportunity."

DR. SHAHID MAHMUD
Co-Chair South Asia Rising 2017
Eisenhower Fellow ’01
Distinguished EF Fellow ’16

"Despite the successful development over the last half century challenges remain. Growing populations in South Asia are likely to bring about more demand for social welfare and standard of living, while at the same time aging populations put more of a strain on government services. Instability to South Asia’s West will continue to challenge the regions leaders who already must deal with incredibly diverse societies and long standing regional tensions. Finally, the continuing threat of climate change will also impact South Asia as countries struggle to balance environmental awareness and conservation, with the energy consumption of their growing economies. While these challenges may seem daunting, they provide enormous opportunities for policy makers, business people and civil society leaders to pursue new innovative solutions to bring much needed change to their community.

I believe that the Eisenhower Fellows are the perfect group to host a conversation on the challenges facing this region."

SUSAN EISENHOWER
CEO and Chairman
THE Eisenhower Group, USA
Half of global human slavery is in South Asia. This is not only because of poverty, but because of the culture.


RAZA JAFAR
Chairman of Palazzo Versace Dubai,
CEO and Founder of Enshaa,
Chairman of Signature Club International,
Founder and Vice-Chairman of Emirate Investment Group (EIG)

ONE HEALTH: A CONCEPT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
One Health seeks to increase communication and collaboration between human, animal and environmental health professionals, taking into account the concept that human health is inextricably linked with animal and environmental health. Over 75% of emerging infectious diseases are transmitted to humans from animals. The South Asia region suffers from many zoonotic (transmitted from animals) diseases. This combined with the pressures imposed on the environment by the population (deforestation, waste disposal, littering etc.) and global climate change means that we may well be destroying our own future and survival as a species. A new paradigm is needed, one that integrates human, animal and environmental health.

ROJAN DAHAL
Executive Director One Health Initiative for South Asia, Nepal
The digital economy is changing workers' behavior patterns especially with a generation that is digitally savvy. In the era of heightened complexity and specialization, this comes with a combination of greater mobility and freedom. Technological changes are creating a metamorphosis in behavioral patterns. This session aimed to understand how emerging economies with lack of access to basic commodities and essential services will adapt to these trends in an efficient manner.

PANEL COORDINATOR
HEBA RAMZY
Director, Corporate Affairs – Microsoft; Eisenhower Fellow 1999

“In the future, science education will be not as important. Instead, the focus will be on self-actualization.”
JEROME GLENN
Director of The Millennium Project, USA

“By 2030-2050, millions of people could become augmented geniuses.”

FUTURE TECHNOLOGY, HUMANITY AND THE NEXT ECONOMY

We are slowly but surely moving towards the post-information age. Driven by the Internet of Things and Artificial Intelligence, humans are becoming cyborgs and building environments that are increasingly intelligent. We may yet see a day when humans and AI work together smartly and in perfect sync. This will completely disrupt the current way we live and do things.
“South Asia is one of the most disaster prone regions in the world. Let us save lives by effective early warning.”

HARSHA PURASINGHE
Founder & CEO MicroImage Holdings, Sri Lanka

“USING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR DISASTER AND EMERGENCY WARNING

By 2040, the world’s largest labor South Asia is one of the most disaster prone areas worldwide. To combat catastrophes, Sri Lanka has developed the Disaster and Emergency Warning Network Solution (DEWN), a GSM-based early warning system that uses IoT, Predictive Analytics and AI to detect potential disasters early and transmits warning signals through a wide variety of media and regional collaboration.

“Let’s save Lives from both natural and man made disasters by effective early warning.”

THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Technology is also causing a shift in the way organizations function. From hierarchical structures and HR policies to customer management, employee motivation and productivity, the pace at which tech is taking over the workplace is astonishing.

The physical and digital divide is quickly diminishing, leading to a disruption and eventual transformation of the entire business model.

“The only constant thing is Change - technology changes fast we can’t even imagine the future.”

“Companies get killed on the social media as 5 of 6 millennials in US connect on social media.”

MICHAEL KOGELER
CEE Multi-country Microsoft, UAE
The world population is projected to grow to 8.9 billion by 2040, with South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa accounting for a major part of the growth. Regional connectivity projects like the OBOR initiative will connect an approximate 4.4 billion people through infrastructural routes and energy corridors. South Asia will face an increasing number of challenges due to this, and must be ready to deal with all kinds of hindrances towards its growth.

**PANEL COORDINATOR**

FARZANA YAQOOB  
Founder - Asia Institute of Public Policy  
Eisenhower Fellow 2016

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**8.9 BILLION BY 2040 IN SOUTH ASIA AND SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA**

"For me demographics are not about numbers, are about people."

ATTIYA INAYATULLAH  
Former Minister for Population & Member of Parliament, Chairperson Rehuma (Social Development Consultancy)

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**"South Asia must work towards the determinants of cooperation to ensure result-based empowerment."**

SOUTH ASIA DEMOGRAPHICS 2050  
By 2030, one fifth of South Asia’s population will be in the age group 15-24 years, the largest number of young people across the globe to transition into adulthood. In order to progress, South Asia must be able to capitalize on this demographic dividend. Nations must come together and undertake efforts jointly and individually in order to better connect to each other and empower their citizens.

"For me demographics are not about numbers, are about people."
FOOD SECURITY IN SOUTH-ASIA AND CHINA: ROLE OF TRADE AS AN ENABLER

According to statistics, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa rank the worst on the Global Hunger Index. The two regions contribute to more than 60% of total world hunger.

This coupled with changing dietary patterns and demographic trends creates multiple challenges in terms of food security in the regions. That said, agricultural trends in South Asian economies are showing signs of positive change.

Agricultural trade could prove to be a catalyst in this situation, ultimately contributing to greater food security.

HEALTH DIVIDE IN THE 21ST CENTURY: BE AFRAID, BE VERY AFRAID

India currently faces severe health challenges, with access to basic health services limited and some health indices, for example child health, abysmal. The rest of the world isn’t much better off, health inequalities are widening and costs are going up. Demand outweights supply and medical mistakes are further aggravating the problem.

Nations must create better governance systems, invest in public health, raise educational standards and build research capacity to combat these challenges. South Asia region is both, with its large and poor populations it is the cause of global health challenges, and with its ingenuity and demographic dividend it can be the solution.

This conference has started the conversation which must be continued and turned into action.
South Asian countries face substantial threats in terms of both internal and external unrest and instability. Laws and policies require changes in order to help citizens progress and to prevent political strife that could potentially lead to demands for secession. Externally, South Asian countries face foreign policy changes by bigger players like the US. While the world is increasingly interconnected, nations seem to be withdrawing into themselves. Regional integration is the solution to this ever-widening threat.

PANEL COORDINATOR
THOMAS FRAWLEY
Retired Northern Ireland Assembly Ombudsman, Northern Ireland; Eisenhower Fellow 1989

“Future trends of governance involve less emphasis on democracy and more on representative democracy.”

OWAIS GHANI
Former Minister, Pakistan

THE 21ST CENTURY WORLD

The world is going through a period of turbulence and transformation. The period up to 2040 will prove to be a time of transition. Global strategic trends and the global geopolitical environment will shape the future of global governance. In order to create a stable environment, international organizations like the UN must be reformed and revitalized as effective instruments of global governance and neutral platforms for international diplomacy. That said, South Asia might still remain a hostage to Superpower Rivalry and stay unsettled for the next few decades.

“Global Governance in the 21st Century is possible if UN is revitalised as a neutral platform for international diplomacy.”
GOOD GOVERNANCE IN SRI LANKA: ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL FREEDOMS

Sri Lanka is laying the foundations for a robust governance system through various initiatives.

The government is introducing constitutional amendments and electoral reforms to strengthen its democratic structures.

Moreover, consolidated efforts are being made to create an efficient public sector, improve the business environment, attract FDI and ensure more equitable income distribution.

SAFE, SMART AND SUSTAINABLE GOVERNANCE

Governance systems in the 21st century are being shaped by the technological environment. Advancements like the Internet of Things, AI and 5G wireless networks mark the start of a new era with endless opportunities, but where future success requires a foundation of open collaboration. To share or not to share, that is the question here. Public, private, people and partnership networks must all be integrated under the banner of modern governance, business model.

“Data is the new oil, so if data is the new oil, who will be the new OPEC?”

NOEL KIRKALDY
Nokia, Advanced Mobile Network
Samena Telecommunications Council

“Technology is not about the fish, it’s about the ocean.”

ERAN WICKRAMARATNE
Deputy Minister, Sri Lanka

“To overcome economic and developmental challenges, we need to create an efficient public sector.”

To share or not to share, that is the question here. Public, private, people and partnership networks must all be integrated under the banner of modern governance, business model.

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Deputy Minister, Sri Lanka

“To overcome economic and developmental challenges, we need to create an efficient public sector.”
The South Asian impetuous development is associated with major security implications for the region. Led by China and India, this rise will define the negotiation and formation of new alliances. Potential conflicts and unresolved issues will rise. Such security problems will require collaboration across national borders and possibly a new regional security architecture.

PANEL COORDINATOR
MARIA SARUNGI TSEHAI
Director at Compass Communications Co. Ltd., Tanzania; Eisenhower Fellow 2016

POWER SHARING
1 – Government of Northern Ireland
   • A new legislative Assembly
   • An Executive based on mandatory power-sharing
   • Joint First Ministers
2 – North/South relations
   • A North-South Ministerial Council
   • Implementation Bodies
3 – East-West Relations
   • British-Irish Intergovernmental Council

DEVOLUTION IN NORTHERN IRELAND
Total deaths from 1979 – 1997 = 1463
Total deaths from 1998 – 2016 = 155

DAVID Lavery
Director at Northern Ireland Department of Justice
CYBER SECURITY AND CYBERCRIME POLICY LANDSCAPE

Sri Lanka is quite progressive digitally when compared to neighboring South Asian countries. It ranks 6th in ASEAN on the UN e-government index, and 7th globally in “High online service performance, relative to income."

In the face of emerging threats to cyber security and the rise of cybercrime, Sri Lanka is introducing major policy changes, signing international treaties like the Budapest Cybercrime Convention, developing institutional frameworks such as the Sri Lanka CERT and a Digital Forensic Lab; all under the e-Sri Lanka Program.

GOVERNMENTS AS RELIABLE PARTNERS

The lessons we have learned from the Northern Ireland Peace process involve the following:

1. Governments must be viewed as reliable partners
2. Political and military strategies must be sound
3. Realism amongst all stakeholders
4. The importance of the US as a partner
5. Seeking Consensus
6. Validation
7. Policing
8. Adapt tactics as the situation evolves

“Budapest CyberCrime Convention enhances power of local courts."
“Mobile usage in Sri Lanka stands at 105% - Sri Lanka has more mobile phones than toothbrushes!”

JAYANTHA FERNANDO
Director & Legal Advisor at ICT Agency, Sri Lanka

“Lessons from Northern Ireland: Seeking consensus - applying constructive ambiguity to achieve goals.”

PATRICK TEAHON
Strategy Director at UCD Energy Institute
PARTICIPANTS’ VOICES

“A very enlightening experience. Themes and speakers were great and the organization was flawless.”
AHMAD MUKHTAR
Economist, FAO United Nations, Switzerland

“South Asia Rising 2017 successfully provided a forum on which to disseminate wonderful ideas for leading thinkers.”
USMAN YOUSUF
CEO Interactive Group, UAE

“Thank you so much for providing me this fantastic opportunity to meet many new friends and heard a lot of new views and ideas. I enjoyed very much.”
DR. HERBERT CHEN
CEO of Tus-Holdings Co., China

“Heartiest congratulations for an excellently organized and highly successful conference.”
RIAZ KHOKHAR
Former Foreign Secretary & Ambassador, Pakistan

“My sincerest appreciation and heartiest felicitations on holding this extremely successful Conference.”
DR. AKRAM SHEIKH
Founder and Co-Chair GTTN, Pakistan

“Thank you so much for providing me this fantastic opportunity to meet many new friends and heard a lot of new views and ideas. I enjoyed very much.”
DR. HERBERT CHEN
CEO of Tus-Holdings Co., China

“South Asia Rising 2017 successfully provided a forum on which to disseminate wonderful ideas for leading thinkers.”
USMAN YOUSUF
CEO Interactive Group, UAE
THE PURPOSE OF SOUTH ASIA RISING 2017 CONFERENCE IS TO TRADE PERSPECTIVES AND IDEAS THROUGH INCREASED COLLABORATION AND TO EVENTUALLY CREATE A CROSS-NATIONAL DISCOURSE BETWEEN STRATEGY PRODUCERS AND COMPPELLING PIONEERS TO HELP TACKLE ISSUES THAT REMAIN PREVALENT IN THE REGION.

DAILY TIMES PAKISTAN

THE CONFERENCE IS THE THIRD OF ITS KIND, WITH THE FIRST TWO CONFERENCES HELD IN COLOMBO, SRI LANKA, IN 2006 AND 2012.

THE FORMER PAKISTANI PRESIDENT SAID SOUTH ASIA NEEDS TO LOOK AT ITSELF WITH INTROSPECTION AND CLARITY.

THE CHALLENGES WITHIN AND BETWEEN STATES HAVE HAD THE BETTER OF ALL THE ABUNDANT OPPORTUNITIES THAT EXIST IN SOUTH ASIA, HE SAID AT THE CONFERENCE WHOSE FOCUS WAS ON REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY AND CITIZEN EMPOWERMENT.

HANS INDIA


THE NATION PAKISTAN

“DR. SHAHID MAHMUD, CO-CHAIR OF THE CONFERENCE AND EISENHOWER FELLOW, SAID THAT SOUTH ASIA HAS THE FASTEST GROWING ECONOMY IN THE WORLD, AS WELL AS THE FASTEST GROWING POPULATION, BUT THIS TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN ECONOMY AND POPULATION IS MATCHED BY GROWTH IN CHALLENGES, BOTH AT NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL. FURTHERMORE, THROUGH THE POWER OF ECONOMICS, DEMOGRAPHICS AND EDUCATION, IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE SOUTH ASIAN REGION WILL FAST BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR INNOVATION, NOT JUST IN TERMS OF TECHNOLOGY, BUT ALSO WITH REGARD TO SOCIAL POLICY.”

ALBAYAN, UAE
SOCIAL MEDIA COVERAGE

South Asia Rising Conference was no. 1 trending topic on Twitter, in UAE, during the first day, and number two (after the Oscars), in the second day.

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<td>Trend Increase</td>
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@southasiarising

ESTIMATED REACH

260,138 ACCOUNTS REACHED

3,006,976 IMPRESSIONS

Top mention earned 23 engagements
John Della Volpe @dellavolpe - Jan 14
@southasiarising This looks like another world class @EF_Fellows conference; congrats!

Top mention earned 7,093 engagements
Pervaiz Musharraf @p_musharraf - Feb 26
Gen #Musharraf delivering keynote speech @EF_Fellows @southasiarising 2017 conference #Dubai Feb 26th 2017 pic.twitter.com/EbfEwyyM14

Top Tweet earned 16K impressions
Your favourite cricketers. @KumarSanga2 and @MahelaJay are here to grace the stage. #SouthAsiaRising pic.twitter.com/GLCe0s9Q43
10,000+
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