



# GRI SOUTH ASIA VIRTUAL REGIONAL SUMMIT 2020

Empowering decisions for a  
sustainable future

22, 27 & 29 July 2020

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The world over, GDP is still the most commonly used indicator of economic development of a country. However, development is multi-dimensional and includes social and environmental aspects. Home to one-fifth of the world's population and driven vastly by economic growth, South Asia has a critical role in the realisation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

GRI South Asia is organising a **Virtual Regional Summit on 22nd, 27th & 29th July 2020** on the theme **Empowering decisions for a sustainable future**. This Summit is intended to serve as a call to action by the South Asian regional community to build back better. With the mission to enable delivering high-quality, interactive sessions in a safe and secure environment, the sessions are spaced across three days to allow the exchange of insights with thought leaders.

## The summit would focus on:

- Setting strategies to reset, rebuild and recover from crises
- Expectations of internal and external decision-makers on disclosures made
- Deep dive into topics such as *shifting from take-make-waste to a circular economy, promoting a culture of health for business*, etc., and their linkage to the GRI Standards
- Relevance of disclosure to sectors of interest in South Asia - financial, textile and SME
- Consolidating key lessons into a Charter of Action

## Key Participants for the Summit:

- Business
- Industry Bodies
- Stock Exchanges
- Investors
- Policy Makers
- Professional Bodies
- Civil Society
- Millennials

Registration is complimentary but mandatory. You are requested to kindly register by clicking [here](#)

# Agenda

## GRI South Asia Virtual Regional Summit 2020

Theme: Empowering decisions for a sustainable future  
 Dates: 22nd, 27th & 29th July 2020, (3 days, 5 webinars, 9 sessions)  
 Focus: Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India and neighbouring countries

*Participants from all countries are welcome*

### Day 1: 22-July-2020 (Wednesday)

**Welcome and Introduction to the Summit & Session**  
 14:00-14:05 IST (UTC +5:30)

#### Plenary Sessions

**Session 1: Rebooting for a Stronger Sustainable South Asia**  
 14:05-15:30 IST (UTC +5:30)

- Strategies for economic revival aligned with sustainability
- Assessing SDG ambitions to recover from the crisis
- Role of transparency in ensuring collaboration and cooperation

**Session 2: Meaningful Disclosures for Effective Decision-Making**  
 16:00-17:30 IST (UTC +05:30)

- Social and environmental challenges due to the pandemic
- How organisations respond to the new risks and opportunities
- Key information internal and external decision-makers seek

### Day 2: 27-July-2020 (Monday)

**Session 3: Using SDGs for Purpose-led Business**  
 14:00-15:00 IST (UTC +05:30)

- Target 2030: Why business-as-usual won't work
- Why 2030 purpose should matter to your business?
- Addressing inequities in South Asia
- Voice of NextGen SDG Innovators: Pre-recorded audio bytes

#### Technical Sessions

**Session 4: Advancing a Culture of Health for Business**  
 15:30-16:30 IST (UTC +05:30)

- Healthy workforce: good for the business, good for the country
- Developing a culture of health for business
- Partnerships and frameworks for culture of health

**Session 5: Shifting From the Take-Make-Waste Economy to Circular Solutions**  
 16:45-17:45 IST (UTC +05:30)

- Understanding circularity: waste is a resource out of place
- Disclosure for sustainable consumption and production
- Circular economy and competitiveness

### Day 3: 29-July-2020 (Wednesday)

**Session 6: Enhancing Financial Capital by Impactful Disclosure**  
 13:00-14:00 IST (UTC +05:30)

- Financial performance, ESG and attracting capital
- Emerging trends of interpreting disclosures in South Asia
- A unified framework for financial disclosures: GRI Standards
- Meaningful information decision-makers look for in a report

**Session 7: Critical Sectors in South Asia: Sustainability in Textile and Apparel**  
 14:15-15:15 IST (UTC +05:30)

- Contribution of the sector to the GDP
- ESG, SDG and the textiles and apparel sector
- Challenges in effective disclosure for business success

**Session 8: Exploring Sustainable Business Practices in SMEs**  
 15:45-16:45 IST (UTC +05:30)

- Unique value of SMEs to the economy in South Asia
- Overcoming constraints and myths that prevent disclosures
- What decision-makers seek in SME performance reports

**Session 9: Valedictory** 17:00-17:45 IST (UTC +05:30)

- Key messages and takeaways from the Summit
- Unveiling the Charter of Action

For Further Information, please contact

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