



Colaba Conversation 2021

Navigating Faultlines of Recovery

December 1-3, 2021

DAY I DECEMBER 1, 2021

10:30 - 11:45 IST

Inaugural
Session

Master of Ceremonies

Akshay Mathur, Director, ORF Mumbai

Welcome Remarks

Sunjoy Joshi, Chairman, ORF

Opening Plenary : Navigating Faultlines of Recovery

The post-pandemic recovery has revealed fault lines in global policy-making, international business performance and local crisis response. This session will seek high-level interventions from leaders on how policies can be reengineered to ensure an equitable and just recovery.

Keynote Speakers:

Almut Moller, State Secretary, Hamburg, Germany

Florian Stegmann, State Minister and Head of the State Chancellery, Baden-Württemberg, Germany

Frances Adamson, Governor, South Australia

Inaugural Address

Subhash Desai, Minister for Industries and Mining, Government of Maharashtra, India

Vote of Thanks:

Priyanka Chaturvedi, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, India

12:00 - 13:00 IST

Townhall 1

Aamchi Mumbai: Youth Townhall with Aaditya Thackeray

An interaction with young minds on climate, culture, commerce, connectivity and the future course for Mumbai.

Aaditya Thackeray, Minister for Tourism, Environment & Climate Change and Protocol, Government of Maharashtra, India

Host: **Akshay Mathur**, Director, ORF Mumbai

14:00 - 15:00 IST

Panel 1

Content Subcontinent

Mumbai, India's entertainment capital has also emerged as the epicenter for content creation. A mecca for art and culture and home to Bollywood, Mumbai is home to budding content creators working across multiple platforms like OTT and direct-to-digital devices. Original content is pushing boundaries, raising awareness, and forcing inclusivity of gender and talent. How are issues of content licenses, privacy and regulatory provisions to be resolved? How can the Indian subcontinent play a bigger role in streamlining the content pipeline, which will attract more investments in the content space?

Speakers:

Kunal Vijaykar, Filmmaker and Television personality, India

Nirmika Singh, Song-writer, Poet, Lyricist and Executive Editor, Rolling Stones India

Golam Rahman, Editor, Ajker Patrika, Bangladesh

Anupama Mandloi, Producer and Independent Media Consultant, India

Sampada Malla, Writer, Producer, Nepal

Moderator: **Ujjwal Kumar Chowdhury**, Secretary, Global Media Education Council

15:15 - 16:15 IST

Townhall 3

Creation, Consumption and Capital in the Viral world

Understanding the role of new age digital content creators in the future of the creative economy. How do digital platforms enable individuals to break monopolies, build lateralism, create opportunities and reclaim their freedom to invent?

Speakers:

Sarang Sathaye, Co-Founder, Bhadipa, India

Rachana Ranade, Founder, Rachana Ranade and Associates; Finfluencer and Chartered Accountant, India

Ajay Chopra, Chef, TV presenter and Managing Director, Zion Hospitality, India

Maria Goretti, Author, TV Presenter and Chef, India

Moderator: **Annie Arakkal Marwaha**, Radio Presenter and Executive Producer, 94.3 Radio One

16:30 - 16:40 IST

Keynote 1

A Net Zero Roadmap to India's Green Future

Jayant Sinha, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha, India

16:45 - 17:30 IST

Panel 2

Targeting a Trillion-dollar Green Economy for India

India needs an ambitious plan for unleashing a green economy. Is it possible to have a trillion-dollar green economy plan for India, just as we do for exports and the digital economy? What are the constituents of a green economy that India should pursue and how can this plan be aligned with other national objectives and international obligations? How can we establish a roadmap for enabling and supporting green financial markets, green technologies and green enterprises to work in coordination?

Speakers:

Introducing the panel: **Peter Rimmele**, Resident Representative to India, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)

Madhu Verma, Chief Economist, World Resources Institute, India

Ana Toni, Executive Director, Institute for Climate and Society (ICS), Brazil

Shloka Nath, Acting CEO, India Climate Collaborative; Head, Sustainability and Policy and Advocacy, Tata Trusts, India

Moderator: **Shikha Bhasin**, Senior Programme Lead, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)

18:00 - 18:30 IST

In
Conversation

Building the India-UK Knowledge Highway

Jo Johnson, President's Professorial Fellow at King's College London, and a Senior Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School

Vidya Yeravdekar, Pro-Chancellor, Symbiosis International (Deemed University) & Principal Director, Symbiosis

Chair: **Luis Miranda**, Co-Founder and Chairman, Indian School of Public Policy

18:45- 19:00 IST

Speedtalk

Developing a Green Taxonomy for India: A Rulebook

Developing a green taxonomy for India is expected to accelerate green finance from being a 'trickle to a flow,' and provide the resource base required to realise India's green transition. What kind of fundamental principles need to be abided by in articulating a green taxonomy for India? Which of the salient features from existing taxonomies can be borrowed by the Indian framework? Are existing norms and standards of environmental compliance in line with what is required for an effective application of the green taxonomy? What kind of measures need to be initiated to develop an ecosystem that supports the implementation of the taxonomy?

Renita D'souza, Fellow, ORF

19:15 - 20:00 IST

Panel 3

Creating High Opportunity Inclusive Neighbourhoods

High density and urbanised cities in India are increasingly making a case for affordable residential mobility into neighbourhoods of opportunity. High opportunity communities defined by low employment rates, with better education and healthcare systems and a promise of upward economic mobility, can embrace several solutions for accommodating affordable and sustainable housing.

Removing structural barriers - of adequate land and funds for these transformations will be crucial. What are the housing investments that impact, build and support evidence-based decision-making, to create inclusive and sustainable neighbourhoods? As the economic and social disparities within communities continue to widen, what can global examples teach us on creating an affordable path to housing? What are the best ways to plan inclusive mixed high opportunity neighbourhoods?

Speakers:

Ajoy Mehta, Chairman, MahaRERA, India

Rejeet Mathews, Programme Director, Urban Development, WRI

Amita Bhide, Professor and Dean, School of Habitat Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), India

Malcolm Athaide, Co-founder and CEO at Agrim Housing Finance, India

Moderator: **Dhaval Monani**, Director of Affordable Housing and Associate Professor at Anant National University; Resident Fellow at IDFC Institute

20:05 - 20:15 IST

Summing Up
Day I

Dhaval Desai, Vice-President, ORF Mumbai

DAY 2
DECEMBER 2, 2021

10:15 - 10:25 IST **Introducing Day II** **Mannat Jaspal**, Associate Fellow, ORF Mumbai

10:30 - 10:45 IST **Keynote 2** **From Crisis to Recovery: Indonesia's vision for the G20 presidency in 2022**

After an eventful year of the G20 led by Italy, the G20 presidency is set to be taken over by Indonesia in 2022 and then India in 2023—two top nations that define emerging Asia. This 'duplex of Asian G20 presidencies' led by Indonesia and India takes on a formidable agenda, one that is likely to shape the world economy for the next decade.

Dian Triansyah Djani, G20 Sherpa, Indonesia

11:00 - 12:00 IST **Panel 4** **The Rise and Fall of Multilateralism**

Political, economic, financial, and climate multilateralism has come under fire in recent times for being unable to deliver on its objectives on critical global issues. There has been a crisis of legitimacy and relevance for key institutions like the UN, WTO, IMF, WHO, and others as they struggle to adapt to the shifting power dynamics of the 21st century. The challenge lies in exploring ways in which these institutions can be made more responsive to the needs of the times. How can multilateralism be salvaged from the legitimacy crisis it is facing? What are the key areas of reform in the short term that need immediate action to preserve key global institutions? Has the time for multilateralism passed? Or do they remain relevant still as enablers of plurilateral cooperation and platforms for engagement?

Speakers:

Lakshmi Puri, Former Assistant Secretary General UN, and Ambassador of India

Amar Bhattacharya, Chair, UN Independent Taskforce on climate finance; Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

Heribert Dieter, Senior Fellow, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Germany

Erin Watson-Lynn, Special Advisor, G20 Women Summit, Australia

Moderator: **Rajat Kathuria**, Dean, School of Humanities & Social Sciences, and Professor of Economics, Shiv Nadar University, India

12:15 - 13:15 IST

Panel 5

Decrypting Crypto

The total market value of all the crypto assets surpassed \$2 trillion as of September 2021. Regulators globally are struggling to address the potential risks of cryptoisation on monetary policy, financial stability, consumer protection and money laundering. What is the best approach to regulating crypto assets? What lessons can we draw from the rise of successful currencies such as Stablecoins and Bitcoin? How are crypto assets being used in business, digital payments and commerce?

Speakers:

Ussal Sahbaz, Managing partner, Ussal Consultancy, Turkey

Donna Redel, Professor, Fordham Law, USA

Meghna Bal, Fellow, Esya Centre, India

Manhar Garegrat, Executive Director & Chief of Staff, CoinDCX, India

Ola Doudin, CEO and Co-founder, BitOasis, UAE

Moderator: **Sidhartha Shukla**, Journalist, ET Prime

13:30 - 14:15 IST

Panel 6

Gender Responsive Recovery: Policy and Finance for fostering equality in a pandemic

The pandemic has wreaked havoc for all, but the impact on women invariably is severe and disproportionate across economic and social parameters. Statistics suggest, till December 2020, almost 47 per cent of working women suffered a permanent job loss in comparison to only 7 per cent among men. Reports of gender-based violence have been rife and women are also more likely to perform lower across both educational and health outcomes during a crisis. How can the pandemic recovery process be made more gender responsive and inclusive? What policies should be undertaken to address the deleterious effects of the pandemic on women? What investments and budgetary allocations should be made to turn policy into action?

Speakers:

Priyanka Chaturvedi, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, India

Yamini Aiyar, President and Chief Executive, Centre for Policy Research, India

Victoria Panova, Vice President for International Relations, Far Eastern Federal University, Russia

Chetna Gala Sinha, Founder and Chair, Manndeshi Bank, India

Moderator: **Sunaina Kumar**, Senior Fellow, ORF

14:30 - 15:15 IST

Panel 7

Will the Banks Join in the Glasgow Agreement?

Global banks, asset management companies, asset owners and financial firms have been the most reticent and tardy in aligning their business models to climate goals. Without the support of the financial industry, can industries really adopt a green agenda? How can commercial and private banks be persuaded to invest in green infrastructure, technologies and businesses? What kind of measurable commitments can banks and financial institutions make, especially to the developing nations?

Speakers:

Suranjali Tandon, Assistant Professor, NIPFP, India

Rathin Roy, Managing Director, Overseas Development Institute, UK

Saon Ray, Professor, ICRIER, India

Delfina Lopez Freijido, Head of Sustainable Finance, Banco de la Nacion Argentina

Moderator: **Mannat Jaspal**, Associate Fellow, ORF

15:30 - 16:15 IST

Panel 8

Connecting Continents and Values in the Digital Age

The African continent and Indian sub-continent are emerging as the most vibrant economic centres of the world. The flow of investments, trade and people will require strong logistics, infrastructure, and transport linkages. How can this be achieved with modern, data-driven, efficient connectivity between the two regions?

Speakers:

Sanusha Naidu, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa

Kwame Owino, CEO, Institute of Economic Affairs, Kenya

Aaron Akinocho, CEO, AG MEDIAS CONSULTING; Editor-in-chief, Comprendre Media, Benin

Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, India

Moderator: **Vivan Sharan**, Partner, Koan Advisory, and Visiting Fellow, ORF

16:45 - 17:30 IST

Panel 9

Wellbeing 360: Assessing the Impact of the Pandemic on Children

The interlinkages between good nutrition, health, and education - the pillars of human capital contribute to economic stability and growth. The pandemic further exacerbated the long-standing issues of malnutrition and food insecurity giving rise to cases in stunted children and anaemic women. The scale of the challenge in tackling child malnutrition is undeniable and calls for nutrition-specific budgets for the nation, states, and cities. This can be achieved by scaling up cost-effective, evidence-based, sustainable nutrition-specific, and nutrition-sensitive interventions for all, with a focus on women and children. There are also strong interlinkages between health and education outcomes for children, particularly in the context of Indian government schools. What are the active measures needed to address long-standing issues of malnutrition, food insecurity and education access? How do we factor in the impact of the pandemic while devising such measures? What kind of comprehensive global mechanism can we draw out to factor in the different sectors and dimensions of nutrition, food security and education?

Speakers:

Maaike Bijker, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (Research), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Ananya Awasthi, Assistant Director, India Research Centre, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, India and Founder, Anuvaad Solutions

Mayuri Ghosh, Head of Healthy Cities and Communities Initiative, World Economic Forum, USA

Bhavani RV, Poverty and Social Protection Specialist, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Bangladesh

Moderator: **Leena Wadia**, Senior Fellow, ORF

17:45 - 18:30 IST

Panel 10

The Arabian Sea Reset: From regional disputes to growth and prosperity

West Asia is witnessing a significant realignment. Old foes are attempting to sideline unresolved differences, and the regional leadership has taken a pragmatic, long-term view of shared economic growth and development. The intent to normalise ties between Israel and the UAE, the thaw in the Saudi Arabia-Qatar relationship, the UAE's outreach to Qatar and Turkey, and emerging signs of a Saudi Arabia-Iran détente show that the regional leaders have opted to insulate themselves from a zero-sum game of parochial power plays and are attempting to engage with each other on bilateral and regional issues positively. Peace and stability in West Asia also augur well for India, which has friendly ties with the region and is dependent on the Gulf economies for critical energy imports. This panel will decode this new realignment in West Asia. Will economic compulsions prevail over complex inflexion points of the long-drawn cold war in the Gulf?

Will Iran continue to be the outlier in an Arabian Gulf reset? What will be the role of the United States and China in the emerging political interplay and signs of a thawing of relations within the Arab World? What are the implications of these developments for India ?

Speakers:

Indrani Bagchi, Associate Editor, The Times of India

Mina al-Oraibi, Editor-in-Chief, The National, UAE

Hasan Alhasan, Research Fellow, Middle East Policy, IISS, Bahrain

Moderator: **Navdeep Suri**, Distinguished Fellow, ORF

18:45 - 19:15 IST

In
Conversation
2

#SheInvests: Women as Market-Makers

Women's growing contribution to the development of financial markets as fintech leaders, retail investors, angel investors, venture capitalists, and private equity owners cannot be overlooked. Will more female investors and women in fintech help meet the acute need for private and public capital for gender-impact and gender lens investment? How can we build a new narrative to dispel the myths around female investors?

Speakers:

Radhika Gupta, MD & CEO, Edelweiss AMC, India

Shilpa Kumar, Partner, Omidyar Network India

Moderator: **Shaili Chopra**, Founder, SheThePeople

19:50 - 20:05 IST

Summing Up
Day II

Sayli Mankikar, Senior Fellow, ORF Mumbai

DAY 3
DECEMBER 3, 2021

10:10 - 10:20 IST **Introducing Day III** **Shruti Jain**, Junior Fellow, ORF Mumbai

10:30 - 10:45 IST **Keynote 3** **Decoding US-India Climate Partnership**

Ambassador Robert Blake, Senior Advisor to Special Climate Envoy John Kerry, USA

11:00 - 11:45 IST **Panel 12** **The ESG imperative for global financial markets**

ESG indicators have become critical for directing investments towards sustainability and climate goals. International financial institutions, asset management firms, asset owners, multinationals and rating agencies have been focused on ways of meeting voluntary and mandated ESG targets. How can the ESG targets be refined to ensure capital is being directed to the most urgent needs of the economy? What kind of taxonomies do we need to avoid 'green washing' or 'sustainability-washing' of projects? What is the performance of global funds that have focused on ESG investments?

Speakers:

Tajinder Singh, Deputy Secretary General, The International Organization of Securities Commissions

Girish Joshi, Chief Trading Operations and Listing Sales, BSE

Claude Lopez, Senior Director, Research, Milken Institute, USA

Lucrezia Reichlin, Professor of Economics, London Business School, UK

Moderator: **Gabriele Liotta**, Global Leadership Fellow, World Economic Forum

12:00 - 12:30 IST **In Conversation 4** **The Lure of Crypto**

Why are cryptocurrencies and crypto assets becoming popular with retail, institutional and corporate investors? How pragmatic is the hope that Crypto can help with financial inclusion? How can the risks to financial stability and financial crimes be addressed? How can the business model and technology gain more acceptance from the State? What infrastructure and regulatory environments need to be created for greater adoption? Can there be a harmonised international regulatory framework for crypto assets?

Sumit Gupta, CEO and Co-Founder, CoinDCX, India

Host: **Akshay Mathur**, Director, ORF Mumbai

12:45 - 13:30 IST

Panel 12

Geoeconomics of New Critical Minerals

Critical minerals constitute a set of raw materials important for the manufacturing of high-tech industrial products, renewable energy technologies, consumer electronics, aerospace engineering and military hardware. The supply of these critical minerals, such as Lithium, are affected by geopolitical relations, geological characteristics, state-led commercial considerations, and export policies of producing nations. How can the dependency of green and digital supply chains on a narrow set of nations, firms, production technologies, and transport infrastructure be addressed? What are the main policy considerations for India and how should India approach its need for critical minerals?

Speakers:

Abigail Wulf, Director, Critical Minerals Strategy, SAFE, USA

Tae-Yoon Kim, Senior Energy Analyst, International Energy Agency

Natasha Jha Bhaskar, General Manager, Newland Global Group, Australia

John Coyne, Head, Northern Australia Strategic Policy Centre and Head, Strategic Policing and Law Enforcement, ASPI, Australia

Moderator: **Ryan Manuel**, Chief Asia Strategist, Silverhorn Investment, Hong Kong

13:45 - 14:30 IST

Panel 13

Assessing the Fuel and New Mobility Transitions

The transport sector is a major contributor to the urban air pollution crisis and carbon emissions in India. Electric vehicles have emerged as the frontline low emission technology to counter this problem. Increasingly, Central and State governments have been enacting policies aimed at creating consumer demand and charging infrastructure for EVs. However, pressing questions remain regarding the life cycle benefit of EVs given the dependence on coal for power generation. Further, the economics of EVs presently favour adoption in limited vehicle segments. Continued subsidies on EVs could also divert potential investment in other low emission modes, such as public transport and non-motorized transport. Going forward, there is a need for a long-term vision to align EV strategies with the increased adoption of renewables in the power sector. Further, policymakers will need to be clear about the role of EVs from a broader perspective of sustainable green growth.

Some specific questions in this context include: What is the role of EVs in a broader strategy aimed at reducing air pollution from transportation? What should be the long-term policy approach to EVs given the present opportunities and challenges? What policy changes could help increase private investment in the EV sector? How should the charging ecosystem develop to best utilize increasing renewable capacity?

Speakers:

Anirban Ghosh, Chief Sustainability Officer, Mahindra Group, India

Ravin Mirchandani, Chairman, Ador Powertron, India

Shilpi Samantray, Senior Manager and Lead, Electric Mobility, Ola Mobility Institute, India

Akshima Ghate, Senior Principal, RMI-India

Moderator: **Shreya Gadepalli**, Founder and Managing Trustee, The Urban Works Institute

14:45 - 14:55 IST **Keynote 4** Ministerial address by **James Sangma**, Environment Minister, Government of Meghalaya, India

15:00 - 15:10 IST **Keynote 5** Keynote by **Kamal Kishore**, Member Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority, India

15:30 - 16:15 IST **Panel 14** **Deploying and financing sustainable infrastructure for cities**

Across the world, cities are gearing up to build and renew their infrastructure to meet multiple challenges, particularly those associated with climate change. The cities of the future will have to not just meet new standards for climate change mitigation and adaptation, but also ensure that their infrastructure means that they can provide healthier lifestyles to their residents and that become more competitive in the global economy. What are the ways in which resilience is being built into the post-pandemic city? What lessons can we learn from such efforts in India and elsewhere? How can urban clusters incentivise private capital to help build resilient and sustainable infrastructure?

Speakers:

Jagan Shah, Resident Senior Fellow, IDFC Institute, India

Lubaina Rangwala, Program Head, Urban Development, Sustainable Cities & Transport, WRI, India

Olga Chepelianskaia, International Climate Change Consultant and Founding Director of UNICITI

Hem Dholakia, Lead Specialist - Research, CDRI, India

Moderator: **Mihir Sharma**, Director, Centre for Economy and Growth Programme, ORF

16:30 - 16:40 IST **Keynote 6** **An Urban Detox for Healthy Cities**

Manisha Mhaiskar, Principal Secretary, Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra, India

16:45 - 17:30 IST

Panel 15

Cities that Breathe: Battling Climate Change for Clean Air

Globally, air-pollution has been recognized as a major threat to human life with estimates from the World Health Organisation indicating almost 7 million premature deaths due to air pollution annually. The predominant approach of looking at air pollution is from a one-off, isolated lens of environmental issues, often overlooking the other socio-economic intersections associated with the cause or effect of the same. In order to effectively address air pollution, a comprehensive assessment of all the inter-linked factors is extremely vital. In this context, this session will seek to break down the complex linkages between air pollution, its causes and effects with respect to various sectors including urban development, health, industry, agriculture, transportation, amongst others.

Speakers:

Amar Patnaik, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, India

Shruti Narayan, Regional Director, South and West Asia, C40 Cities, India

Brikesh Singh, Chief of Communications and Engagement, Asar, India

Anumita Roy Chowdhury, Executive Director, Research And Advocacy, Centre for Science and Environment, India

Moderator: **Swati D'souza**, Country Lead and Coordinator - India, International Energy Agency (IEA), India

18:30 - 19:30 IST

Valedictory
Session

Maximum City: Strengthening Mumbai's leadership in Business

The economic capital of India, Mumbai is home to India's top business houses, and is the mecca for the entertainment industry. While the city has been put on a fast-track of infrastructure development that will speed up connectivity, the unfettered influx and the metropolis's shown geographic constraints have meant that it is time to create a stronger consensus for putting it on a more robust growth path. What are the expectations of young business leaders, entrepreneurs and professionals from the city? How can we make the city attractive for young talent? What kind of business, commercial and industrial trends and opportunities are we observing and what policies do we need to support champion industries?

Aaditya Thackeray, Minister for Tourism, Environment & Climate Change and Protocol, Government of Maharashtra, India

Host: **Jay Kotak**, Vice-President, Kotak811

Closing Remarks: **Rajesh Shah**, Co-Chairman & Managing Director, Mukand Industries Ltd

19:35 - 19:45 IST

Closing
Remarks

Dhaval Desai, Vice President, ORF Mumbai