



*re*building social enterprise

28 FEBRUARY 2022 // 3:00PM (UTC +8)

overview

COVID-19 has left a trail of disruption. Beyond the health and human loss caused by the pandemic, it has also triggered the most severe economic crisis in a century with its impacts unevenly felt across nations, communities and economies.

It has become clear that the most vulnerable members our communities were hit the hardest. The World Bank estimated that 100 million people have been pushed into extreme poverty due to COVID-19. And the ILO estimated that, as a result of the economic crisis created by the pandemic, almost 1.6 billion informal economy workers – the most vulnerable in the labour market – have suffered massive damage to their capacity to earn a living.

The pandemic has also put a spotlight on the invaluable role played by social enterprises in their communities. Throughout the pandemic, social enterprises have made important contribution in areas such as mental health, education, employment and social inclusion.

Despite COVID-19 restrictions many social enterprises have evolved and adapted their businesses, often moving online, to ensure they provide the right support to the people at the heart of their services. They leveraged the right supports at the right time to improve their sustainability and future opportunities, while deepening the impact they have in delivering on their individual social objectives.

This webinar will delve into the various challenges and opportunities faced by social enterprises, how they rebuilt and emerged after the pandemic as well as the role of governments to encourage, prioritize, and open up space for social enterprises to rebuild and thrive



UN Secretary General
António Guterres remarked

“

Everything we do during and after this crisis must be with a strong focus on building more equal, inclusive, and sustainable economies and societies that are more resilient in the face of pandemics, climate change, and the many other global challenges we face.”



programme



TIME

**3:00 PM
(UTC +8)**

The programme will discuss:

- How social enterprises faced the challenges and adapted their business models during covid-19
- how social enterprises can rebuild their organisations and chart a pathway in a post-COVID world, redefining business in the context of social good
- how to raise awareness of the wider social enterprise sector and model across the general public
- how can policy makers and other stakeholders leverage on the impact of social enterprise as a transformational force to drive social and environment consciousness
- Q&A

Panelists:

1. Rashvin Pal Singh

Group CEO, Biji-biji Initiative, Malaysia

2. Ren Wan

Co-founder and CEO, JupYeah, HongKong

3. Anshu Gupta

Founder, Goonj, India

Moderator:

1. Nurfarini Daing

Co-founder and CEO, Youth Trust Foundation, Malaysia

role players

**RASHVIN PAL SINGH**

Group CEO
Biji-biji Initiative
Malaysia

Rashvin Pal Singh is the Group CEO of Biji-biji Initiative, one of Malaysia's pioneering and award-winning social enterprises that champions sustainability. Biji-biji Initiative comprises subsidiaries across a few industries such as ethical fashion and circular economy solutions. In 2019, Biji-biji won the Common Objective Leadership Award in the United Kingdom and in 2018, they were recognised as the Social Enterprise of the Year at the Sustainable Business Awards. Rashvin was a panellist at the World Social Enterprise Forum 2019 in Addis Ababa and selected as an Obama Leader for the inaugural Asia Pacific cohort in 2020. He serves as Vice President of the Chamber of Social Entrepreneurship Development Malaysia.

Rashvin graduated with an accounting and finance degree from Bristol Business School. He spent four years of his early career in the corporate world as a manager at the Advisory Division of PwC Malaysia

**REN WAN**

Co-founder and CEO
JupYeah
HongKong

Ren Wan is Co-founder of JupYeah and LookMatters as well as an advocate of environmental issues, green living and slow fashion. Ren Wan established herself as a magazine editor and worked at WestEast Magazine as managing and contributing editor at MING Magazine. In 2011, she pursued a postgraduate diploma in sustainable development in University of London and co-founded JupYeah, which promotes swapping and raises awareness on overconsumption and waste. In light of excessive fashion consumption and waste in Hong Kong, JupYeah launched LookMatters, a clothing brand in 2014 to promote second-hand fashion.

role players



ANSHU GUPTA

Founder
Goonj
India

Anshu Gupta graduated in communications and economics and started his career as a freelance journalist. He founded Goonj in 1998 to highlight some basic but ignored needs of people on the development agenda, using clothing as a metaphor.

Goonj has grown notably by turning urban waste into a tool to trigger large scale work on various rural development issues. An Ashoka and Schwab Fellow for entrepreneurship, he has built a trash-based economy by creating barter between efforts of rural communities and urban surplus material as two new currencies. Goonj has done massive disaster relief and rehab work in India, turning disasters into opportunities to reach resources and attention to the most ignored communities.

Listed by Forbes magazine as India's most powerful rural entrepreneur, Anshu and Goonj have received recognitions including Ramon Magsaysay award, World Bank's Development Marketplace award, Changemakers Innovation award and Jamnalal Bajaj Award for Fair Business Practices.

moderator



NURFARINI DAING

Co-founder and CEO
Youth Trust Foundation
Malaysia

Nurfarini Daing is the Co-founder and CEO at myHarapan which was established in 2010. It has engaged and developed over 26,000 Malaysian youths and funded over 140 social initiatives. It's also a research partner of the Centre of Asian Philanthropy and Society in Hong Kong which is currently developing a Doing Good Index in, and for, 15 economies.

Nurfarini garnered 18 years of startup experience including business development, training and coaching for SMEs as well as unemployed graduates through past employments such as Multimedia Development Corporation of Malaysia. She has received many awards including the Social Innovation Leadership Award by World CSR Congress, India, and others such as the Women Icons Malaysia by the Business Excellence and Research Group (BERG) Singapore.

She graduated from the University of Warwick, United Kingdom, in accounting and finance.

organised by

WORLD ISLAMIC ECONOMIC FORUM (WIEF) FOUNDATION

World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF) Foundation was established in 2006. It is the organising body of the annual World Islamic Economic Forum. The Forum serves as a focal point where country leaders, captains of industry, emerging entrepreneurs, academics and other stakeholders from the Muslim World and beyond, meet to build bridges through business. The Foundation also undertakes various capacity building programmes under the WIEF initiatives of the Businesswomen Network (WBN), Young Leaders Network (WYN), Education Trust (WET), Roundtable Series (WRT) and Powertalk (WPT)



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WIEF EDUCATION TRUST (WET)

WIEF Education Trust (WET) was launched during the 2nd WIEF in Islamabad in 2006, on the premise that education is the most important pillar in any society and that the fate as well as future of a community lies in the quality and availability of education for its people. WET aims to garner support and resources from the Muslim World to provide education opportunities to the people.

Since then, WET has carried out the unique WIEF Global Discourse Series that addresses topical issues relating to business and economics, as well as scientific and technological advancement crucial to the development in the Muslim World.

This programme has gained increasing popularity with the public and private sectors as well as academia. It attracts local and international award winners as well as high calibre speakers to the discourse.

www.wief.org/wief-education-trust

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