

## **Getting SDGs Back on Track: Innovative Solutions of Post-Pandemic Recovery**

Virtual Roundtable

23<sup>rd</sup> Sustainable Development Conference | Theme: Sustainable Development in Times of COVID-19

Date: December 15, 2020 | Time: 9:15 – 10:45 am

Zoom link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_hqOKZpM3QxagcddrSoNHvA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hqOKZpM3QxagcddrSoNHvA)

This virtual roundtable aims to bring together leading minds to share their valuable insights on how to get SDGs back on track amid COVID-19. Most developing countries could see the long-term socioeconomic incidence of the impact due to anticipated and unanticipated delays in medical solutions, revival of economic growth, and fiscal sustainability of social protection. In this regard, continuing with a focus on ‘leave no one behind’ and ‘social justice’ becomes even more important. Such a focus should translate into planning and budgeting cycles in turn responding to various forms of inequalities which have increased during the pandemic times.

This discussion will be transdisciplinary in nature and the panellists will share how (given their expertise and experience), they may have pivoted during these uncertain times; and what will be the impact of their innovative work in current and future days. More importantly, the discussion will address how emerging solutions, including digital transformation amid COVID-19 may help policymakers to bring the focus back on the SDGs. The roundtable will include the following eminent speakers:

**Chair and Moderator:** Dr Khaqan Hassan Najeeb, Advisor to Ministry of Finance; and Former Executive Director General of Implementation & Economic Reforms Unit

### **Distinguished Panelists and their Themes:**

1. Ms Onyinye Ough, Executive Director, Step Up Nigeria  
[Why Tackling Corruption is Crucial in Ensuring an Effective Response to COVID-19?]
2. Dr Zubair Iqbal Ghouri, Former Member, Planning Commission, Government of Pakistan  
[What New Solutions are required by Academia to Ensure Inclusiveness and Gender Equity amid COVID-19?]
3. Mr Syed Muhammed Mustafa, Senior Technical Advisor, GIZ  
[Digital Technology in Social Assistance Transfers for COVID-19]
4. Dr Athar Osama, Chair Grand Challenge Fund, Higher Education Commission  
[Funding for Increasing Demand and Use of Evidence on COVID-19]
5. Mr Ali Salman, Founder & Managing Trustee, Policy Research Institute of Market Economy  
[Reimagining the Role of Think tanks in a Post-Pandemic World]

**Panel Organisers:** Mr Maaz Javed and Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad, Pakistan