



8th Gender Equality Summit 2025

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

- A. **Proposed Date:** 18th March 2025
- B. **Format:** In person
- C. **Theme:** 8th Gender Equality Summit 2025: **Pathways to Partnerships and Collaborative Action: Bringing South Asia together for SDG 5**
- D. **Venue :** Taj Mahal, Man Singh Road, New Delhi
- E. **Timing:** 0900 Hrs. - 1700 Hrs

TIME	SESSION
0900 Hrs - 0930 Hrs	Registration and Networking
0930 Hrs - 1030 Hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">INAUGURAL SESSION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Welcome Address & Gender Equality Summit Overview <i>Vaishali Nigam Sinha, Vice President-Northern Region, UN GCNI and Co-Founder ReNew & Chairperson Sustainability</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Theme Address <i>Nidhi Bhasin, CEO Digital Green Trust</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Special Address <i>H.E. Benedikt Hoskuldsson, Ambassador of Iceland to India</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keynote Address <i>Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator, India</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Inaugural Address <i>Smt Savitri Thakur, MoS, Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India (GoI)*</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote of Thanks <i>Ratnesh, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network India</i></p>
	Launch of the Report, "Gender & SDGs : Accelerating Progress with Forward Faster"

<p>1030 Hrs - 1130 Hrs</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PLENARY SESSION I</p> <p style="text-align: center;">From Borrowers to Builders: Women's Role in India's Financial Growth Story</p> <p>Keynote Address: <i>Anna Roy, Principal Economic Adviser, NITI Aayog</i></p> <p>Moderator: <i>Ankita Bhat, Senior Manager, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, MicroSave Consulting</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speakers</p> <p>Padmini Vora <i>General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, TransUnion CIBIL Ltd</i></p> <p>Sanchita Mitra, <i>National Coordinator SEWA</i></p> <p>Rajarshi Dutta Barua, <i>Associate Partner and Sector Lead MicroSave Consulting</i></p> <p>Krishna Thacker, <i>Senior Program Officer Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation</i></p>
<p>1130 Hrs - 1230 Hrs</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PLENARY SESSION II</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Advancing Regional Action for Global Impact: The South Asian Perspective</p> <p>Keynote Address: <i>Meenakshi Lekhi, Former MoS for External Affairs and Culture, Government of India (GoI)</i></p> <p>Moderator: <i>Mandakini Kaul, South Asia Regional Coordinator, World Bank Group</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Speakers:</p> <p>Carly Partridge, <i>Minister Counsellor, Australian High Commission, New Delhi</i></p> <p>Dr. Srinivas Tata, <i>Director, Social Development Division Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)</i></p> <p>Rachana Panda, <i>VP & Cluster Comms Head – Bayer ASEAN, ANZ & South Asia and Director, Bayer Foundation India</i></p> <p>Bhagyashri Dengle, <i>Regional Director, Asia Pacific and Gender Transformative Policy & Practice, Plan International</i></p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">FIRE SIDE CHAT</p> <p>Bridging Policy and Progress: Unlocking Pathways for Women in Leadership</p>

1230 Hrs. - 1315 Hrs.	<p>Moderator: Shaili Chopra, Founder, SheThePeople.TV & UN Women India Generational Equality Ally</p> <p>Speakers</p> <p>Vaishali Nigam Sinha, Vice President-Northern Region, UN GCNI and Co-Founder & Chairperson Sustainability, ReNew</p> <p>Leena Nandan, Former Secretary, EF&CC Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India (GoI)</p> <p>Isabelle Tschan Harada, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP in India</p>
1315 Hrs. - 1400 Hrs.	Lunch Break
1400 Hrs. - 1500 Hrs.	<p>PLENARY SESSION III</p> <p>Rural Voices, Global Impact: Empowering Women in Agriculture and Small Enterprises</p> <p>Keynote Address: Dr. Fauzia Khan, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha , Former Minister for GAD, Education, Health & WCD Government of Maharashtra</p> <p>Moderator: Ruchi Maheshwari, Founder and CEO- RPMG Risk Consulting</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Franck Viault, Minister Counsellor, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to India and Bhutan</p> <p>Ruchi Khemka, Vice President & Head - Corporate Social Responsibility, Deutsche Bank</p> <p>Aman Pannu, President, DCM Shriram Foundation and Head-CSR & Corporate Communications, DCM Shriram Ltd</p> <p>Aradhana Rai Gupta, Co-Founder and CEO, Project Baala</p> <p>Sowmya Shresth, Head of People & Organisation (P&O), Middle East, India and Africa, Novonesis</p>
1500 Hrs - 1515 Hrs	Tea/Coffee Break
1515 Hrs - 1545 Hrs	<p>VALEDICTORY SESSION</p> <p>Key Takeaways Nancy D'Cruz & Mallika Gandhi, UN GCNI</p> <p>Special Address Joyshree Das Verma, President, FICCI Ladies Organisation</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Valedictory Address Archana Mayaram, Economic Advisor Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Government of India (GoI)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vote of Thanks Vinod Pandey, Secretary, UN GCNI & Director- Government and External Affairs, CSR, BMW Group India</p>
1545 Hrs - 1645 Hrs	<p style="text-align: center;">MASTERCLASS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Unlocking Potential – Steering the Next Gen of Women Leaders</p> <p>Seepika Singhal , Senior Director HR , Head, Global Total Rewards, Centre of Excellence, Brillio Technologies</p> <p>Sowmya Sresth, Head of People & Organisation (P&O), Middle East, India and Africa, Novonosis</p>