

WEBINAR ON

ENHANCED ENTREPRENEURSHIP SKILLS FOR SCIENTISTS IN THE 'NEW NORMAL' ENVIRONMENT



SATURDAY 25TH JULY 2020 | 4.30 PM TO 7.15 PM



“Free attendance certificate”
Registration on a ‘first come-first served basis’.
Limited places available

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ORGANIZED BY



Sri Lanka National Chapter of
the Organization for Women in Science
for the Developing World (SLNC- OWSD)

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ENHANCED ENTREPRENEURSHIP SKILLS FOR SCIENTISTS IN THE 'NEW NORMAL' ENVIRONMENT



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CHIEF GUEST



DR. SHAHANI MARKUS

BS comp sci, maths, MS comp science,
MS maths, PhD
CTO and Chairperson of Emojot Pvt. Ltd.,
Co-founder, President and Board Member
of Auxenta Pvt. Ltd. And
Million Spaces Pvt

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



VIDYA JYOTHI DR. BANDULA WIJAY PhD

The Ambassador for Science Technology
and Innovation for Sri Lanka, Honorary
Visiting Professor, KDU and
CEO of ProSum Inc, Houston,
Texas.

SYMPOSIUM CHAIRS

PROF. NADIRA KARUNAWEEERA

President,
Sri Lanka National Chapter-OWSD

PROF. PRIYAN DIAS

President,
National Academy of Sciences Sri Lanka

DR. RANJITH MAHINDAPALA

Immediate Past President,
National Academy of Sciences Sri Lanka

SPEAKERS



MS. CHATHURI RANASINGHE

Chairperson

Women's Chamber of
Industry and Commerce



MR. HEMINDA JAYAWEEERA

COO, SLINTEC



MR. SHALEN DE SILVA

Co-Founder & CEO,
Vincere Health,
Harvard Innovation Labs
USA.



MR. DEEPAL DE SILVA

Deputy General Manager-
Branch Banking,
Sampath Bank PLC



MR. JANAKA KARUNASENA

Head, Technology Division,
National Science Foundation,
Sri Lanka



MS. MANISHA RAJAPAKSE

CEO, National Research Council,
Sri Lanka

WEBINAR ON

ENHANCED ENTREPRENEURSHIP SKILLS FOR SCIENTISTS IN THE 'NEW NORMAL' ENVIRONMENT

SATURDAY 25TH JULY 2020 | 4.30 PM TO 7.15 PM

4.30 pm Welcome address

Prof. Nadira Karunaweera, President, Sri Lanka National Chapter of the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (SLNC-OWSD)

Prof. Priyan Dias, President, National Academy of Sciences Sri Lanka (NASSL)

4.40 pm Address by the Chief Guest - Dr. Shahani Markus

'I CAN!' instead of 'CAN I?'

5.00 pm Question and Answer Session

5.10 pm Keynote - Dr. Bandula Wijay

Post pandemic economic vitality through innovation

5.30pm Question and Answer Session

5.40pm Short break

Panel discussion:

**To start, rise and stay at the top as an entrepreneur:
challenges in the 'new normal' environment**

5.45 pm Introduction of session and resource persons

Symposium Chair and Panel Coordinator: Dr. Ranjith Mahindapala
Immediate Past President, National Academy of Sciences Sri Lanka (NASSL)

**5.50pm New and Emerging Opportunities and challenges
for Startups in the New Normal**

Ms. Chathuri Ranasinghe, Chairperson, Women's Chamber of Industry and Commerce

6.00pm Social innovation and entrepreneurship

Mr. Heminda Jayaweera, COO, SLINTEC

6.10pm Are you developing a vitamin or a painkiller for your users?

Mr. Shalen De Silva, Founder and CEO Vincere Health, USA.

6.20pm Question and Answer Session

**6.30pm Empowering Scientists Through Entrepreneurship-Role of Financial
Institutions**

Mr. Deepal De Silva, Deputy General Manager-Branch Banking, Sampath Bank PLC

6.40pm Technology Grants

Mr. Janaka Karunasena, Head, Technology Division, National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka

**6.50pm Why we need Public-Private Partnerships in Science,
Technology, Innovation**

Ms. Manisha Rajapakse, CEO, National Research Council, Sri Lanka

7.00pm Question and Answer Session

7.15pm Vote of thanks

Dr. Hermali Silva, Secretary, SLNC-OWSD

SYNOPSIS OF THE TALKS

Dr. Shahani Markus

'I CAN!' instead of 'CAN I?'

In this talk, Dr. Shahani Markus will draw from her personal experiences to illustrate how she continuously overcome doubt, fear, and negativity in order to pursue multiple entrepreneurship challenges by understanding her 'sphere of influence'. In particular, she will discuss how knowing her 'sphere of influence' impacted her professional philosophy. She will then explore how such a growth mindset and entrepreneurial attitude may be applied to any professional setting to empower individuals and teams with a tangible 'I Can' mentality.

LinkedIn link: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/shahani-markus/>

Dr. Bandula Wijay

Post pandemic economic vitality through innovation:

Sri Lanka should take a hard look at those factors that affect economic development by analyzing the availability of resources to meet the needs of the nation. Such an analysis has two essential requirements. First, it is important to understand the exact sources of the foreign exchange expenditure and the second is to determine and act on meeting the resource needs to minimize such expenditure while advancing the technology base and creating employment. The discussion will focus on keyways to achieve this goal.

LinkedIn link: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/bandula-wijay-b253a913/>

Ms. Chathuri Ranasinghe

New and Emerging Opportunities and challenges for Startups in the New Normal

New and emerging opportunities are at our door-step all we need to do is be strong and resilient, think out of the box, observe the markets, research, be alert on the special government decisions and bank facilities offered to entrepreneurs thus consider COVID 19 as a hurdle and use the pandemic to our best advantage, to emerge as successful entrepreneurs in the new normal

Website: www.wcicsl.lk

Mr. Heminda Jayaweera

Social innovation and entrepreneurship:

How an idea can be developed to a social entrepreneurship venture will be discussed using examples www.thuru.lk and www.zerotrash.lk. The journey from an invention to innovation and to an entrepreneurial venture will be described using ground-level experience

Weblink <https://www.linkedin.com/in/heminda/>

Mr. Shalen De Silva

Are you developing a vitamin or a painkiller for your users?:

Mr. Shalen De Silva will be sharing lessons learned on the path to developing a health technology product to help with smoking cessation and behavior change: test your hypotheses cheaply, listen to your users consistently, let go of your assumptions courageously, and communicate your story compellingly.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/shalen-de-silva/>

Mr. Deepal De Silva

Empowering Scientists Through Entrepreneurship –

Role of Financial Institutions:

Scientists embarking on entrepreneurship ventures face numerous financial challenges. Role of financial institutions in empowering scientists to overcome such challenges will be discussed

Mr. Janaka Karunasena

Technology Grants:

Mr. Janaka Karunasena will be speaking on Technology Grants which are provided by the National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka, under two Schemes, namely “Support for Technology Development (Tech - D)” and “Support for Start-ups (Start-ups)”. General Procedure for Applications, monitoring and evaluation of progress of projects, completion of projects and rewarding the best performers will be discussed

Ms. Manisha Rajapakse

Why we need Public-Private Partnerships in Science, Technology, Innovation:

With the present COVID-19 situation we need to rethink about our focus on STI strategies and related R & D activities, to support economic development. The Private-Public partnerships are essential to link R & D needs of the private sector with research scientists, who have the expertise in providing research-based solutions. The NRC provides an ideal platform for it.



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NATIONAL CHAPTER OF ORGANIZATION FOR
WOMEN IN SCIENCE FOR THE DEVELOPING
WORLD (SLNC-OWSD) !**

Sri Lanka National Chapter of the OWSD (SLNC-OWSD; <https://owsd.net/network/sri-lanka>) is the local arm of the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD). Aim of the SLNC-OWSD is to promote female participation in science and technology, in scientific leadership and decision-making processes, both at national and international levels.

To join OWSD please complete the online OWSD membership application that can be accessed at

<http://www.owsd.net/user/register>

Once your application is accepted, please email the Sri Lanka National Chapter of OWSD (srilankanowsd@gmail.com) confirming your OWSD membership and be a proud member of the Sri Lanka National Chapter of the OWSD.

For further inquiries email us on

srilankanowsd@gmail.com