

SRI LANKAN-GERMAN BUSINESS FORUM 2026

Building Trusted Partnerships

27th, 28th & 29th MAY
Colombo - Sri Lanka

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KICK-OFF & START UP NIGHT Day 01 | 27th May 2026 TRACE Expert City, Colombo

18:30-19:00	Guest Arrival & Registration
19:00-19:10	Welcome Remarks Mr. Martin Klose, Chief Delegate AHK Sri Lanka
19:10-19:20	Opening Remarks H.E. Dr. Felix Neumann, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Sri Lanka and the Maldives
19:20-19:30	Special Remarks Mr. Rizly Zareem, Director (Commercial) DHL Keells
19:30-19:40	Keynote Speech Hon. Chaturanga Abeysinghe, Deputy Minister Ministry of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development
19:40-20:40	Start Up Pitching Sessions
20:40-21:55	Networking with Refreshments
21:55-22:00	Closing Remarks Mr. Heminda Jayaweera, Executive Director TRACE Expert City

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MAIN CONFERENCE

Day 02 | 28th MAY 2026

ITC Ratnadipa Hotel

9:00–9:30	Guest Arrival & Registration
9:30–9:35	National Anthems of Sri Lanka and Germany
9:35–9:40	Welcome Remarks Mr. Martin Klose, Chief Delegate – AHK Sri Lanka
9:40–9:45	Opening Remarks H.E. Dr. Felix Neumann, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Sri Lanka and the Maldives
9:45–10:15	Keynotes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Nicole Renvert, Managing Director International Economic Relations – Deutsche Industrie- und Handelskammer (DIHK) • Mr. Tobias Pierlings, Head of Division for External Economic Policy South and Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Oceania – Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE) • Mrs. Almut Rößner, Executive Member – German Asia-Pacific Business Association (OAV)
10:15–10:25	Chief Guest's Remarks Hon. Dr. Harini Amarasuriya, Prime Minister of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
10:25–11:30	Ceylon Tea & Coffee Break with Networking

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<p>11:30-12:45</p>	<p>Impulse: Unlock the full potential of Sri Lanka's ports as gateways to regional trade and economic development. Discover key investment opportunities and strategic initiatives shaping the maritime sector.</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Parakrama Dissanayake, Chairman - Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA)</p> <p>Panel Discussion (01)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sulakshana Jayawardena, Acting Chairman, Board of Investment (BOI) • Mr. Sanjay Singh Kushwah, Managing Director - Hapag Lloyd India • Ms. Dhashma Karunaratne, Chief Commercial Officer- Colombo West International Terminal • Mr. Andre Fernando, Chairman - Sri Lanka Freight Forwarders Association • Mr. Rohan Masakorala, Founder/Chairman - Shippers' Academy International <p>Moderator: Dr. Parakrama Dissanayake, Chairman - Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA)</p>
<p>12:45-14:00</p>	<p>Networking Lunch</p>
<p>14:00-15:15</p>	<p>Impulse: Future-proof your exports to the EU by embracing digitalization and sustainability. This session highlights practical strategies to maximize GSP+ benefits and strengthen your global trade footprint.</p> <p>Speaker: Ms. Carmen Moreno, Ambassador of the European Union to Sri Lanka and the Maldives</p> <p>Panel Discussion (02)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Carmen Moreno, Ambassador of the European Union to Sri Lanka and the Maldives • Mr. Mangala Wijesinghe, Chairman- Export Development Board (EDB) • Ms. Rajitha Jayasuriya, Chairperson-Sri Lanka Apparel Exporters Association & Director Corporate Affairs - MAS Holdings • Ms. Mano Sheriff, Managing Director - Ceylon Natural Rubber Pvt Ltd <p>Moderator: Mr. Yohan Lawrence, Chairman - Exporters Association of Sri Lanka</p>

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15:15-16:30	<p>Impulse: Finance & Mobilizing Capital for Port Infrastructure. Examine strategic financing models for port infrastructure and uncover opportunities in Sri Lanka's maritime sector.</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Johann Hesse, Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Sri Lanka</p> <p>Panel Discussion (03)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Johann Hesse, Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Sri Lanka • Dr. Harshana Suriyapperuma, Secretary to Treasury - Ministry of Finance & Planning Sri Lanka • Mr. Tobias Pierlings, Head of Division for External Economic Policy South and Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Oceania - Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE) • Ms. Rukshila Shihanthinie Gooneratne, Operations Officer, Country Management Unit - World Bank Group Sri Lanka • Mr. Hasrath Munasinghe, Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer - Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC <p>Moderator: Mr. Ahamed ur Rahman, President - The European Chamber of Commerce of Sri Lanka (<i>tbc</i>)</p>
16:30-16:45	Ceylon Tea & Coffee Break with Networking
16:45-17:45	<p>Impulse: Explore emerging markets by examining key challenges and uncovering actionable opportunities. This session also highlights success stories that demonstrate effective strategies for sustainable business growth.</p> <p>Speaker: Mr. Ranjith Pandithage, Chairman - DIMO PLC</p> <p>Panel Discussion (04)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ranjith Pandithage, Chairman - DIMO PLC • Mrs. Smita Pandit Chakraborty, CEO - Continental Tyers • Mr. Sudeep Raina, Managing Director Sri Lanka & Maldives - DHL Global Forwarding • Mr. Nalin Jayasundera, Managing Director - Aitken Spence Travels • Mr. Suranga Kekuluwalage, Managing Director / CEO - Würth Lanka <p>Moderator: Mr. Prashant Grover, CEO - Allianz Insurance Lanka</p>
17:45-17:55	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Mr. Martin Klose, Chief Delegate AHK Sri Lanka</p>

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COCKTAIL & NETWORKING 28th MAY 2026 ITC Ratnadipa Hotel

18:45	Guest Arrival
19:00-19:05	Welcome Remarks Mr. Martin Klose, Chief Delegate AHK Sri Lanka
19:05-19:10	Opening Remarks Dr. Nicole Renvert, Managing Director International Economic Relations - Deutsche Industrie- und Handelskammer (DIHK)
19:10-19:20	Keynote Speech Hon. Prof. Ruwan Ranasinghe, Deputy Minister - Ministry of Tourism (<i>tbc</i>)
19:20-21:55	Refreshments, Networking, and Entertainment
21:55 - 22:00	Vote of Thanks Mr. Martin Klose, Chief Delegate AHK Sri Lanka
22:00	End of Program

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BILATERAL DIALOGUES WITH SRI LANKAN INSTITUTES & SITE INSPECTIONS (OPTIONAL) Day 03 | 29th May 2026

8:15-9:45	Option 01: Tailored B2B meetings
10:00-13:30	Option 02: Visit to Port of Colombo Or Option 03: Visit to DIMO Academy for Technical Studies (DATS)

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