

Panel of Experts - Economic Development

Prof. Sirimevan Colombage - Theme Lead



**Emeritus Professor of Economics,
Open University of Sri Lanka**

Professor Sirimevan Colombage, Emeritus Professor of Economics at the Open University of Sri Lanka, holds PhD in Economics from the University of Manchester, UK. He was the Director of Economic Research and Statistics, Central Bank of Sri Lanka and Senior Chair Professor of Social Studies, The Open University of Sri Lanka. His research interests focus on macroeconomic policies, monetary and fiscal policies, international trade and finance, econometric modeling, and financial inclusion. He has substantial research contributions including books, monographs and peer-reviewed journal articles. His most recent book is 'Reforming Macroeconomic Policies for Stability and Growth: Road to Sri Lanka's Economic Recovery', published in 2024. He is a member of the Editorial Board of the Sri Lanka Journal of Social Sciences and a member of the review panels of several refereed journals.

Dr Ahilan Kadirgamar



**Senior Lecturer, Department of Sociology,
University of Jaffna**

Dr Ahilan Kadirgamar is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Sociology, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka. He holds a PhD in Anthropology from the Graduate Center, City University of New York, a MA in Economics from the New School for Social Research and a BS in Electrical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He is a fortnightly columnist in the Daily Mirror and an Editorial Board Member of the Sri Lanka Journal of Social Sciences. His research interests include agrarian change, co-operatives and economic alternatives, and regularly writes on the political economy of Sri Lanka in forums such as The Hindu and the Economic and Political Weekly in India. He is currently the Honorary Chair of the Northern Co-operative Development Bank and an Executive Committee member of the International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs). He served on the Central Bank of Sri Lanka appointed committee to draft the Economic Development Framework for a Northern Province Master Plan (August 2018).



Mr S. Ranugge

Former Secretary, Ministry of Export Development & International Trade

Mr Sugath Ranugge is a Visiting Lecturer at the Universities of Colombo, Sri Jayewardenepura, and The Open University of Sri Lanka. He teaches public administration, public policy and public finance at Master's degree programs. He is a retired senior officer from the Sri Lanka administrative Service and was the Secretary to several ministries including the Ministry of Public

Administration. He was the Chairman of the Salaries and Cadres Commission, Welfare Benefits Board and was a member of the Public Service Commission of Sri Lanka. He was the Executive Director of Transparency International Sri Lanka. He received his Bachelor's Degree with honors in sociology from University of Ceylon, Peradeniya and Master's Degree in Public Policy and Administration from the International Institute of Social Studies, the Netherlands. He is a Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow.