

## SYMPOSIUM:

*“Strengthening a Just Alternative – Lessons and Insights from SEDR.”*

### **1. Session Title**

Partner Café: *Engagement and networking to Strengthen a Just Alternative*

### **2. Date, Time and Venue**

29 April 2025 – Partner Café

16:00 – 17:30

Venue: Ivy Room, Cinnamon Grand Hotel

### **3. Concept Summary/Introduction**

The six (6) Thematic Sessions around which the Symposium programme is organised will offer a wide range of interesting presentations from those who participated in and benefitted from SEDR activities. The plenary nature of the Thematic Sessions, with an audience of approximately 200 participants, will limit opportunity for effective engagement with and among experts and implementing partners.

This Partner Café session will be arranged around separate booths/desks for each of SEDR’s main partners (in a smaller more intimate space), where participants will have 1 hour to move around and engage at leisure at the partner booths. Partner’s staff will be ready to take questions and comments from participants regarding their SEDR funded activities as well as their other work in the social cohesion sector. In turn this is an opportunity for SEDR partners to talk in more detail about their achievements and experiences to individual event participants as well as for them to network and engage with like-minded practitioners. This session is also a networking event for partners and participants to build and expand their connections across a diverse audience.

### **4. Session Objectives**

- Deepen participant’s knowledge and understanding of the ADR initiatives implemented by SEDR partners.
- Present SEDR partners with an opportunity to respond to questions and comments from participants interested in their work.
- Build new networks and explore new collaboration opportunities in the social cohesion sector in Sri Lanka across a diverse audience, while simultaneously strengthening existing partnerships amongst practitioners and policy makers.

## **5. Moderator/Facilitator**

Moderator: Symposium Programme Director

## **6. Speakers/Panelists/Presenters**

Concurrent session with static partner booths, visited by participants.

- Muslim Aid Sri Lanka (MASL)
- Chrysalis
- Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MMCA)
- Uva Shakthi Foundation (USF)
- Search for Common Ground (SfCG)
- Federation of Institutions for Rural Management (FIRM)
- The Asia Foundation (TAF)
- Jaffna Social Action Centre (JSAC)