

Regional Conference on Equality and Equity in Recognising Unpaid Care Work and Women's Labour in South Asia



20th & 21st October 2022, Colombo Sri Lanka.

9.00 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	Registration
9.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	Plenary
9.30 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.	Welcome – Dr. Sepali Kottegoda, Director Programs - WMC & Dr. Pradeep Peiris, Director - SSA
9.45 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Keynote Speech Dr. Deepta Chopra, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK
10.30 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	Tea Break
10.45 a.m. – 11.45 a.m.	"Recognise, Reduce and Redistribute Unpaid Care Work: Findings from 6 Districts in Sri Lanka" - WMC & SSA Research Study – Presentation by Dr. Sepali Kottegoda, Dr. Pradeep Peiris & Shruthi De Visser
	Discussant : B.Skandakumar, Senior Programme Officer ILO Country Office for Sri Lanka and the Maldives

Panel 1 - Gendering Care Work and the Economy

Moderator - Kumudini Samuel, Director Programs - WMC

Discussant - Dr. Asha Abeysekera, Center for Women's Studies, University of York, UK 11.45 a.m. - 1.15 p.m.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

	"All in the Family: Gender, Social Reproduction, and the Political Economy of Care" by Prof Michele Gamburd, Professor of Anthropology, Portland State University, USA
	"Only the mother will do: Analysis of State responses to women's migration aspirations" by Chandima Arambepola, Senior Researcher, Center for Poverty Analysis (CEPA)
	Discussion
1.15 p.m. – 2.15 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
2.15 - 3.15 p.m.	Documentary Film Screening 'Working Hours' by Sharni Jayawardena, followed by discussion

Panel 2 - Why Measure and Value Unpaid Care Work?

Moderator - Dr. Sepali Kottegoda, Director Programs, WMC

Discussant - Dr. Corina Rodriguez Enriques, Economist, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina 3.15 p.m. - 4.45 p.m.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

	"Economic Value Assessment of the Women and Media Collective Study on Unpaid Care Work" by Prof. Dileni Gunawardena, Professor of Economics, University of Peradeniya & Ashvin Perera, Analyst, Verite Research
	"Unpaid Care Work and SDGs: Sri Lanka's Progress towards Recognising and valuing Unpaid Care Work" by Sunimalee Madurawala, Research Economist, Institute of Policy Studies (IPS)
	Discussion
4.45 p.m 5.15p.m.	Wrap up - Dr. Pradeep Peiris, Director, SSA
5.15 p.m 5.30 p.m.	Tea Break

9.30 a.m 9.45 a.m.	Welcome - Tharanga de Silva, Director Operations, WMC
9.45 a.m 10.15 a.m.	Keynote speech - Dr. Harini Amarasuriya, Academic, Rights Activist and a Member of Parliament
10.15 a.m 10.30 a.m.	Tea Break

Panel 3 - Zooming in on Social Media and Unpaid Care Work

Moderator - Sarala Emmanuel, Development Practitioner, Activist and a Researcher Discussant - Vraie Balthazar, Feminist Researcher and Activist, Social Entrepreneur. 10.30 a.m. 12.30 p.m.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

"I'm happy to cook for my husband and children.:" An analysis of online discourses on unpaid care work" by Dishani Senaratne, Founder/Project Director, Writing Doves

"Social Media interventions on Unpaid Care Work: Perspectives from Women and Media Collective" by Velayudan Jayachithra, Senior Project Officer, Unpaid Care Work, WMC

"A study on micro entrepreneurs, self employed, social media and Unpaid Care Work" by Nirmani Perera, Lecturer in Television Post Production technology at University College Rathmalana & Apekshani Perera, BSc, University of Peradeniya.

12.30 - 1.30

Lunch Break

Panel 4 - Impact of COVID 19 Pandemic on Unpaid Care Work

Moderator - Prof. Sitralega Maunaguru

Discussant - Iromi Perera, Founder and Director, Colombo Urban Lab

1.30 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

"Who cares: Women and care responsibilities during a pandemic and beyond" by Nadia Najab, Social Sciences Researcher

"The Pakistan state's 'care'-less response to Covid 19: Perspectives from Informal workers in Lahore" by Dr. Deepta Chopra, Shandana Mohmand and Devanik Saha

3.00 p.m. - 3.15 p.m.

Tea Break

Panel 5 - Identity Politics of Unpaid Care Work

Moderator - Prof. Farzana Haniffa, Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Colombo Discussant - Dr. Ponni Arasu, Researcher, Feminist Activist and Actor 3.15 p.m. - 5.15p.m.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

"Re-thinking Unpaid Care Work from the Periphery: War-torn Northern Sri Lankan Women's Challenges for Livelihoods and Social Reproduction" Dr. Ahilan Kadirgamar, Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Sociology, University of Jaffna

"The Value of women's and unpaid care work in plantation sector" by K. Yogeshwari, General Secretary, Working Women's Front

"Exploring the Dynamics of Gendered Labour and Unpaid Care Work Among Transgender Persons in Sri Lanka" by Dr. Kaushalya Ariyaratne, Academic Coordinator, Asia Pacific MHRC, University of Colombo & Thenu Ranketh, Executive Director, Venasa Transgender Network

5.15 p.m

Vote of thanks - Dr. Pradeep Peiris & Dr. Sepali Kottegoda