

**Title: Promoting Cross-Border Learning to Increase the Resilience of Poor Women and Their Families throughout South Asia**

**Organized By:** World Bank/South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative

**Panelists:**

- Dr. Shamim Imam, Director of Capacity Building, Manusher Jonno Foundation, Bangladesh
- Ms. Visakha Tilekeratne, Nutrition Expert, Viluthu Centre for Human Resource Development, Sri Lanka
- Ms. Uma Swaminathan, Coordinator, RUDI Multi Trading Company Limited, Self-employed Women's Association (SEWA), India
- Ms. Shahnaz Rahat Kapadia, Senior Group Head for Livelihood, Employment, and Enterprise Development, Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund
- Dr. Chime Wangdi, Secretary General, Tarayana Foundation, Bhutan

**Session Description**

Food and nutrition security remains elusive in South Asia, despite strong economic growth. The SAFANSI program was created to identify the causes of and solutions to persistent hunger and malnutrition, and it has linked with the BEES regional learning network of civil society organizations and World Bank projects to enhance knowledge about the critical factors that promote food and nutrition security and scale up good practices. This session will describe what BEES members are learning about root causes of persistent hunger in marginalized populations and how they leverage and scale up innovations through cross-border learning and collaboration.

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