

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

FOUNDER MEMBERS:

- Sujata Gamage
- Tara de Mel
- Nisha Arunatilake

Founder members will constitute the initial Executive committee of the Forum and lead all activities of the Forum collectively as a team until the end of 2022 at which point the need to continue the Forum will be evaluated.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anybody who (1) is nominated by an existing member as an individual who values equitable access, child-friendly processes, quality outcomes and accountability of actor and institutions responsible for education in Sri Lanka and (2) is willing to volunteer time or resources to the activities of the forum.

VISION: A Sri Lanka where talents, competencies & potential of all youth are valued, nurtured, and utilized

MISSION: To serve as an apolitical platform that brings together experienced professionals with commitment and capability to lead a sustained effort to bring about a truly inclusive education system that delivers high quality education required for the 21st century, by advocating evidence-based policies and applying monitoring and evaluation tools consistently and with continuity using a selected set of Key Performance indicators (or KPIs) to address structural issues that cause dysfunction in policy formulation and implementation in the education sector in Sri Lanka, and sharing the findings to generate public debate leading to action by government.

GOAL: To have a coherent and consistent policy framework with built in accountability mechanisms for education in Sri Lanka

ACTIVITIES (Subject to availability of resources):

OUTPUTS:	<p><u>Policy Briefs</u> – Publish policy briefs on timely topics</p> <p><u>Performance measures</u> – Develop performance measures that address the core issues underlying dysfunction in education in Sri Lanka</p> <p><u>Annual Education Monitor</u> – To present a concise picture of the performance of the education sector in Sri Lanka, using a synthesis of existing education policy research or commissioning new research, including periodic surveys of youth and children</p> <p><u>Monthly Bulletin</u> – To capture global development in education and communicate them to policymakers and the general public, relating the developments to the Sri Lankan context</p> <p><u>Daily/Weekly Blogs</u> – - To track local initiatives and offer constructive criticisms</p> <p>Policy briefs on demand – To identify emerging issues and influence the policy process proactively</p> <p><u>Surveys</u> necessary for the Annual Education Monitor, including an education achievement survey for key stages of education (Grades 5, 9, 11 and 13)</p> <p><u>Youth portal</u> combining and upgrading the information on the present educationforum.lk site, giving information and advice on post-secondary opportunities and Learning English to youth</p>
WEB SITE:	Maintain the www.educationforum.lk as the go-to place for timely and accurate information on education related issues

MEDIA PRESENCE:	Establish a strong media presence by publicizing Forum outputs through newspapers, TV, Radio, Facebook (www.facebook.com/educationforumlk), Twitter (@educationforumLK and #EducationLK, #educationforumLk) and other media. Invite representations and suggestions on education development using social/other media.
COLLABORATIONS:	Engage with academics, professionals, corporates, inter-governmental organizations and others with keen interest in and understanding of issues in education to further the objectives of the Forum, by participating in and contributing to their efforts.
CAPACITY BUILDING:	Hold <u>monthly research colloquia</u> to build a cadre of intellectuals with the commitment and capability to be a civil society vanguard of the education sector in Sri Lanka Award <u>research grants</u> to young researchers
POLICY ENGAGEMENT:	Engage with government policymakers by maintaining cordial relations, but making constructively-critical representations as needed
SELF EVALUATION:	Develop a self-evaluation system and 'internal audit' in order to assess its relevance and applicability in relation to the country's education system. At the end of 3 years the necessity to continue the Forum will be evaluated in consultation with the Membership.
FUNDING	Secure donations and write grant proposal in partnership with a suitable administrative/research partner.

How we govern ourselves

1. The formalization date of the EFSL shall be November 1, 2019.
3. The Membership of the Forum will consist of Founder Members, and new Members to be nominated by the Founder Members or any new Members so nominated. Two existing Members are needed to nominate a new Member. Nominations should be accompanied by a paragraph explaining how the nominated individual has demonstrated his/her commitment and capability in regard to education policy reforms in Sri Lanka. Each nomination must be approved by consensus among Executive Members. A list of Forum members will be published on the www.educationforum.lk Web site taking into consideration the level of engagement by each Member. Engagement can be as simple as reviewing an output from the forum.
4. The Founder Members will serve as initial executive committee. They may invite additional members to serve in the Executive Committee (EC). The EC will drive the forum on a volunteer basis with or without the assistance of a small staff, for an initial period of three years.
5. After three years of operation, or sooner if necessary, the Executive Committee Members will determine the necessity to continue the Forum further by consulting the Membership.
7. If the Forum is to continue after three years from formalization, the Members will elect a new Executive Committee to lead the Forum and the newly elected Executive Committee will initiate a new round of Members recruitments. The founder Executive Committee may put forward a slate of candidates for a second term.
9. LIRNEasia, a nonprofit company with continuous operation of 15 years under the Registrar of Companies of Sri Lanka Registration # GA21, shall serve as the administrative partner for the forum to manage its financial affairs with transparency and accountability, until the EC decide otherwise
10. The administrative partner will accept donations, in-kind or monetary, on behalf of EFSL, and apply for grant funding specifying the amounts to be received by and the services expected of the EFSL as per overhead policies of LIRNEasia.
11. The Executive Committee can enter into collaborations with other entities to seek grant-funding or for joint action.