

# School Leaders' Conference South Asia 2025

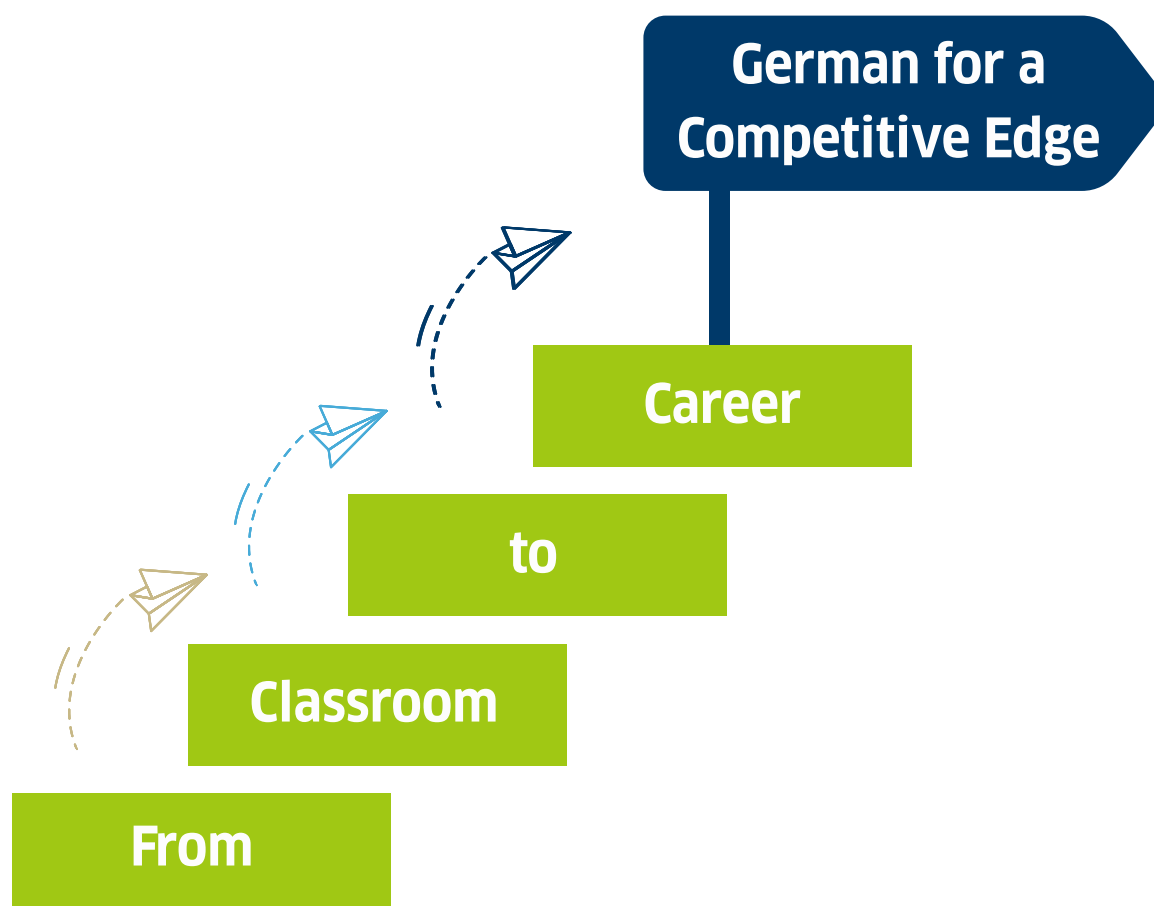
Organised by the Goethe-Institut



Cinnamon Life at City of  
Dreams, Colombo, Sri Lanka



19th - 22nd  
September 2025



# PROGRAMME





# WELCOME TO SRI LANKA

**GOETHE  
INSTITUT**  
Sprache. Kultur. Deutschland.



# FRIDAY, 19.09.2025

< 19:30      **Arrival**

19:30

**Dinner**

# SATURDAY, 20.09.2025

09:00

**Inauguration of the Conference**

**Shivali Acharya**

Manager  
Educational Cooperation  
Goethe-Institut Pune

**Nadeesha Palliyaguru**

President, SriDaF  
(German Language Teachers  
Network of Sri Lanka)

09:30

**Welcome Address**

**Dr. Marla Stukenberg**

Director & Regional Director South Asia  
(India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan)  
Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan New Delhi

**Dr. Alexandra Mittler**

Director Language Programs South Asia  
Deputy Executive Director  
Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan New Delhi

**Stefan Winkler**

Director  
Goethe-Institut Sri Lanka

**Marisa Kollenberg**

Head of Cultural Affairs  
German Embassy Sri Lanka

10:00

**Keynote:**  
**German for More Opportunities - Promoting  
German in the Context of Multilingualism**

**Prof. Dr. Georg Gombos**

General Educational Science and Diversity-Aware Education  
Klagenfurt University

11:30

**Tea & Coffee Break**

12:00

## How can German accelerate your career?

### **Dilan Khoshnaw**

BA (Federal Employment Agency) Germany

### **Nimaya Manudewa**

Regional Officer

DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Sri Lanka

13:45

## Lunch Break

14:45

## How may I obtain official certification for my German language skills?

### **Mohita Miglani**

Project Manager

German in 1000 Schools

Educational Cooperation

Goethe-Institut New Delhi

### **Hemalatha Swaminathan**

Coordinator

Educational Services

Goethe-Institut Chennai

15:30

## What long lasting connections can German provide?

### Panel discussion: Best Practices for Establishing and Sustaining School Partnerships in South Asia

#### **Vimala Vijayan**

GD School

Coimbatore

#### **Sharmila Raheja**

Uttam School for Girls

Ghaziabad

#### **Damayanti Mukherjee**

Modern High School for Girls

Kolkata

#### **Kanchan Joshi**

Cygnus World School

Vadodara

#### **Dr. Kanchan Deshpande**

City Pride School

Nigdi

#### **Moderation: Vaishali Dabke**

Manager Educational Cooperation

Goethe-Institut Pune

### Regional digital matchmaking for school partnerships in South Asia

16:45

## Tea & Coffee Break

17:15

## Breakout Groups: What is the status of German in my country?



**18:15**

## **Networking and Poster Exhibition: What support is available if you choose German?**

**DLL: Deutsch Lehren Lernen (Learning to Teach German)**

**Scholarships to Germany for Teachers and Students**

**Youth Camps**

**The PASCH initiative**

**Educational Cooperation**

**Project Pre-integration: Living and Working in Germany**

**19:15**

**Free time**

**20:30**

**Dinner**

# **SUNDAY, 21.09.2025**

**09:00**

## **Recapitulation of the first day of the conference**

**Debika Chatterji**

Director Principal - JBCN International School, Mumbai

**09:10**

## **What events can schools offer?**

**Panel discussion:**

**My experience with German events in schools.**

**Morshed ul Islam**

European Standard School  
Dhaka, Bangladesh

**Sanjay Yadav**

Ahlcon International School  
New Delhi, India

**Ramchandra Khanal**

DAV-School  
Lalitpur, Nepal

**Sobia Afzal**

Roots International School  
Islamabad, Pakistan

**Nirodha Abeywickrama**

Maliyadeva Balika Vidyalaya  
Kurunegala, Sri Lanka

**Moderation: Maha Jafarey**

Head of Language Department  
Goethe-Institut Karachi, Pakistan

**10:15**

## What are the Top 5 Reasons to choose German?

**Abhishek Paudel**

Goethe-Zentrum  
Kathmandu

**Nilakshi Baruah**

Goethe-Institut  
Bangalore

**Pinsari Jayasundara**

Goethe-Institut  
Sri Lanka

**Vaishali Joshi**

Goethe-Institut  
New Delhi

**11:15**

## Tea & Coffee Break

**11:45**

## Closing Ceremony

**12:20**

## Vote of Thanks

**Timothy Strack and Ina Kroker**

Language Advisors South Asia  
Schools: Partners for the Future (PASCH)

**12:30**

## Lunch Break

**14:00**

## Boat Tour / Free Time

**20:00**

## Farewell Gala Dinner

# MONDAY, 22.09.2025

## Breakfast and Departures



