

SRI LANKA LECTURE SERIES

**UNDERSTANDING THE DIMENSIONS
OF A (POST-)WAR ECONOMY:
THE CASE OF SRI LANKA****Dr. Des. Rina M. Alluri**Head of the Business and Peace Program
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During the civil war in Sri Lanka, the country experienced a 'war economy' in the North and East that straddled between the government powers and the de facto administration of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). Since the end of the war in 2009, the North and East have experienced an 'economic opening' wherein new businesses, industries and programs are emerging with the idea of an 'untouched market'. This brings both opportunities and challenges. On the one hand, there is the opportunity to develop new markets, provide jobs and capacity building and support economic reconstruction. On the other hand, there is the risk that local livelihood opportunities become overshadowed by large-scale developments, an influx of human and financial resources from the south and increased militarization. This talk reflects on the perceptions of persons in the North and East on the post-war economy and the roles that the state, the military and the private sector play. It is based on empirical research with local businesspersons, academics, civil society actors and journalists who shared their perceptions of the potential of a 'post-conflict peace economy' that supports local livelihoods vis-à-vis the risks of a 'post-conflict war economy' that is sustained through violence, oppression and the use of force.

Date: Friday, 21.11.2014**Venue:** South Asia Institute, Room 316**Time:** 1.15 pm / 13.15 Uhr**All interested persons are cordially invited!**