



The Institute of
Chartered Accountants
of Pakistan

CA
PAKISTAN



SAFA Conference

South Asia's Economic Outlook: Challenges & Opportunities

January 10 & 11, 2025 | Pearl Continental Hotel, Karachi



CPD Hours: 10



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ABOUT INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF PAKISTAN (ICAP):

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (ICAP), is the esteemed apex accountancy regulating body in Pakistan that takes great pride in nurturing talented, ethical, and dedicated professionals. With a robust membership base of over ten thousand Chartered Accountants, ICAP's influence spans far and wide. Established in 1961 with a clear mission, ICAP remains steadfast in its commitment to serving the public interest by fostering strong collaborations with governments, regulators, and business leaders on a global scale.

ABOUT SOUTH ASIAN FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS (SAFA):

The South Asian Federation of Accountants (SAFA), established in 1984, is a regional organization representing the accountancy profession in South Asia. Operating under the umbrella of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), SAFA brings together accounting bodies from eight member countries to promote harmonization of accounting standards, regional cooperation, and professional excellence. Through initiatives that foster knowledge sharing, policy advocacy, and capacity building, SAFA plays a pivotal role in advancing transparency, governance, and sustainable economic development across the region.



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE & THEME:

The SAFA Conference on “**South Asia’s Economic Outlook: Challenges & Opportunities**” is a landmark event that aims to address the pressing economic issues and explore growth opportunities in the South Asian region. Scheduled to be held in Karachi on January 10 & 11, 2025, this prestigious conference will bring together policymakers, industry leaders, economic experts, and thought leaders to engage in insightful discussions on the region's economic challenges and potential.

The theme “**South Asia’s Economic Outlook: Challenges & Opportunities**” has been carefully selected for this conference to spotlight the region's dynamic and evolving economic landscape. As one of the world's most populous and diverse regions, South Asia presents immense potential, yet also faces a complex array of challenges that require urgent attention.

The conference will focus on critical topics shaping South Asia's economic future, including **policy reforms and governance** as essential drivers of progress, addressing **trade barriers as impediments to growth**, exploring opportunities and innovations in **renewable energy**, and tackling the challenges **of exporting accountancy services in the digital age**. By fostering meaningful dialogue and collaboration, the event aims to create a comprehensive roadmap for sustainable growth, economic resilience, and regional prosperity.

The discussions will address how policymakers, business leaders, and professionals can collaborate to unlock sustainable growth and drive economic resilience, ensuring that South Asia remains at the forefront of global economic development.



MONUMENTAL INSIGHTS:

The Himalayan mountain range, a majestic natural wonder, serves as a unifying thread among the **SAARC nations of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka**. It symbolizes the region's rich cultural diversity, shared history, and the enduring spirit of its people. This symbolic representation will be incorporated into the design concept of the SAFA Conference to reflect the shared heritage and aspirations of the South Asian region.

Afghanistan:

The Shah-e-Do Shamshira Mosque, a magnificent architectural marvel, stands as a testament to Afghanistan's rich Islamic heritage. This historic mosque, with its intricate tile work and towering minarets, continues to inspire awe and devotion among visitors.



Bangladesh:

The Jatiyo Sriti Shoudho, a solemn memorial in Savar, Bangladesh, honors the martyrs of the Liberation War of 1971. This poignant monument stands as a testament to the nation's struggle for independence and the sacrifices made by its heroes.



Bhutan:

The Bhutan Palace, a majestic architectural marvel, serves as the official residence of the King of Bhutan. This iconic landmark, nestled amidst stunning natural beauty, reflects the rich cultural heritage and royal traditions of the Himalayan kingdom.



India:

The India Gate, a majestic war memorial located in New Delhi, India, stands as a tribute to the Indian soldiers who lost their lives in World War I and the Third Anglo-Afghan War. Its iconic archway and serene surroundings make it a popular landmark and a symbol of national pride.



MONUMENTAL INSIGHTS:

Maldives:

The Tsunami Monument in Maldives stands as a poignant reminder of the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. This solemn memorial honors the victims of the tragedy and serves as a symbol of resilience and hope for the nation.



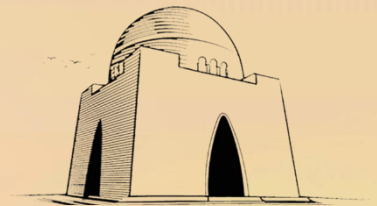
Nepal:

The squares of Kathmandu, Nepal, are vibrant hubs of activity, steeped in history and culture. These squares, adorned with ancient temples, palaces, and bustling markets, offer a glimpse into the rich heritage of the city and the warm hospitality of its people.



Pakistan:

The Mazar-e-Quaid, the final resting place of Pakistan's founder, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, stands as a solemn and majestic tribute. This iconic mausoleum, located in Karachi, is a symbol of national pride and a pilgrimage site for many.



Sri Lanka:

The ancient city of Polonnaruwa, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, showcases the grandeur of Sri Lanka's medieval kingdom. Its magnificent ruins, including temples, palaces, and reservoirs, offer a glimpse into the island nation's rich history and architectural heritage.



CONFERENCE AGENDA: JANUARY 10, 2025

Inaugural Session:

Time	Agenda
5:30 PM- 6:30 PM	Registration and Networking
6:30 PM- 6:35 PM	Recitation from the Holy Quran & National Anthem
6:35 PM- 6:45 PM	Welcome Address by President ICAP
6:45 PM- 6:55 PM	Speech by Outgoing President SAFA
6:55 PM- 7:05 PM	Address by Incoming President SAFA
7:05 pm – 7:15 PM	Speech by Vice President SAFA
7:15 PM- 7:45 PM	Performance
7:45 PM- 8:05 PM	Address by the Chief Guest
8:05 PM – 8:10 PM	Vote of Thanks by Vice President ICAP
8:10 PM – 10:00 PM	Dinner & Cultural Show



Session 1: Policy Reforms and Governance: The Need of the Hour

This session will delve into the critical role of policy reforms and robust governance frameworks in shaping South Asia's economic future. By addressing inefficiencies, fostering transparency, and ensuring regulatory compliance, the discussion will highlight how effective governance and progressive policies can drive sustainable growth, enhance investor confidence, and create a resilient economic landscape for the region.

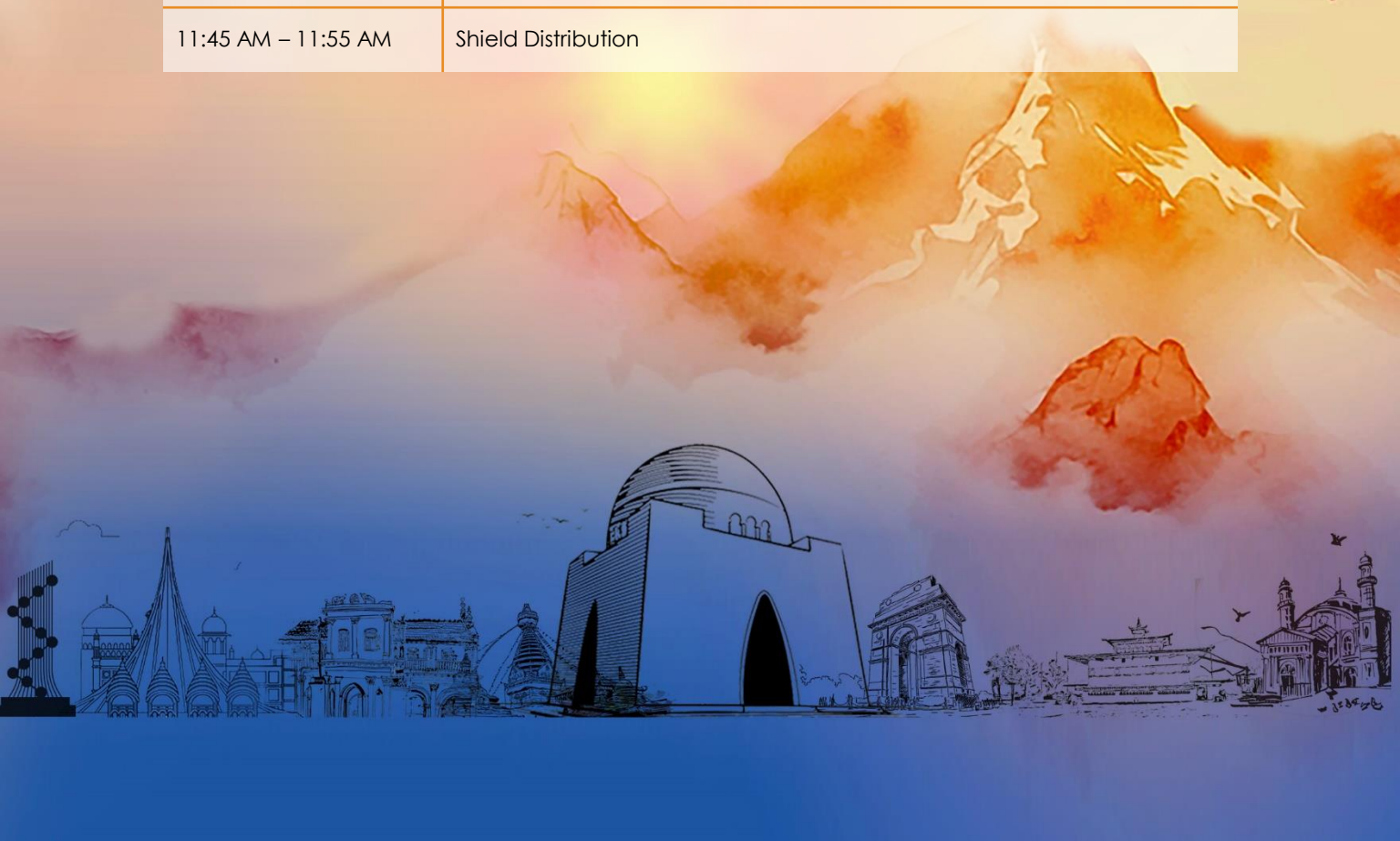
Time	Agenda
8:30 AM- 9:30 AM	Registration and Networking
9:30 AM- 9:35 AM	Recitation from the Holy Quran & National Anthem
9:35 AM- 9:50 AM	Setting the Stage for the Day
Session:1	Policy Reforms and Governance: The Need of the Hour
9:50 AM -10:00 AM	Presentation on Policy Reforms and Governance: The Need of the Hour
10:00 AM - 10:35 AM	Panel Discussion on Policy Reforms and Governance: The Need of the Hour
10:35 AM - 10:45 AM	Shields Distribution
10:45 AM– 11:00 AM	Tea break



Session 2: Trade Barriers: Real Impediments to Growth

This session will explore the significant trade barriers that hinder economic growth in South Asia, examining both regional and global challenges that impact trade flows and competitiveness. It will address issues such as tariffs, non-tariff barriers, regulatory hurdles, and logistical inefficiencies, and discuss how these obstacles can be mitigated through policy reforms, regional cooperation, and innovative trade solutions. By identifying and understanding these barriers, the session aims to highlight actionable strategies to enhance intra-regional trade, foster economic integration, and drive sustainable growth in the region.

Time	Agenda
Session:2	Trade Barriers: Real Impediments to Growth
11:00 AM – 11:10 AM	Presentation on Trade Barriers: Real Impediments to Growth
11:10 AM – 11:45 AM	Panel Discussion on Trade Barriers: Real Impediments to Growth
11:45 AM – 11:55 AM	Shield Distribution



Session 3: Renewable Energy: A Deep Dive into Opportunities and Innovations

This session will focus on the transformative potential of renewable energy in South Asia, exploring the innovative technologies and solutions that are shaping the future of energy production and consumption. As the region seeks sustainable alternatives to traditional energy sources, the session will highlight emerging opportunities in solar, wind, hydropower, and other renewable sectors. It will also delve into policy frameworks, investment strategies, and technological advancements that are driving the growth of green energy. By fostering discussions on these critical topics, the session aims to identify ways to accelerate the adoption of renewable energy and promote a cleaner, more resilient energy landscape for the region..

Time	Agenda
Session:3	Renewable Energy: A Deep Dive into Opportunities and Innovations
11:55 AM - 12:05 PM	Presentation on Renewable Energy: A Deep Dive into Opportunities and Innovations
12:05 PM - 12:40 PM	Panel Discussion on Renewable Energy: A Deep Dive into Opportunities and Innovations
12:40 PM – 12:50 PM	Shield Distribution
12:50 PM – 2:00 PM	Lunch & Prayer Break



Session 4: Export of Accountancy Services in the Digital Age: A Real-Life Challenge

This session will examine the challenges and opportunities associated with the export of accountancy services in an increasingly digital and interconnected world. As technology transforms the way accounting and finance services are delivered globally, firms are presented with both new avenues for growth and complex barriers to overcome. Topics will include the impact of digital tools and platforms on cross-border service delivery, data security concerns, regulatory compliance, and the competitive landscape. The session will also explore how firms can leverage innovation to enhance their global reach and overcome the real-life challenges of exporting accountancy services in the digital age, ultimately driving international business growth and fostering economic collaboration.

Time	Agenda
Session:4	Export of Accountancy Services in the Digital Age: A Real-Life Challenge
2:00 PM - 2:10 PM	Presentation on Export of Accountancy Services in the Digital Age: A Real-Life Challenge
2:10 PM - 2:45 PM	Panel Discussion on Export of Accountancy Services in the Digital Age: A Real-Life Challenge
2:45 PM – 2:55 PM	Shields Distribution
Closing Session	
2:55 PM – 3:05 PM	Address by President SAFA
3:05 PM – 3:15 PM	Address by President ICAP
3:15 PM – 3:20 PM	Vote of Thanks
3:20 PM – 3:30 PM	Shields Distribution
3:30 PM – 03:45 PM	Tea Break



REGISTRATION FEE:

Categories	Regular Participation Fee	Early Bird Participation Fee till December 15, 2024
Members IFAC Bodies	RS. 15,000/	RS. 12,000/
Affiliates & CFAP Students & Students IFAC bodies	RS. 10,000/-	RS. 8,000/-
Non IFAC Bodies Members	RS. 20,000/-	RS. 16,000/-

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REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://member.icap.org.pk/online-registration-for-seminar-workshop/>

