

## Promoting Inclusive Businesses in India Private Sector Roundtable

*online (link with registration), Thursday, 23 June 2022*

### Programme

*10:45-11:00: Online Registration and meeting connection*

**11:00-11:15 Opening Remarks**

- Mr. Varun Sood, Vice President, Invest India (*tbc*)
- Dr. Srivalli Krishnan, Senior Program Officer, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (*tbc*)
- Ms. Rupa Chanda, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP

**11:15-11:35 Inclusive business: An overview**

*This session will introduce what inclusive business (IB) is, how to identify IB, examples of IB in agriculture and IB policy references from the region, and the objectives and activities of the programme for promoting IB in agriculture and food systems.*

Presentation by

- Ms. Marta Pérez Cusó, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCAP
- Mr. Ignacio Blanco, Programme Manager, ESCAP

**11:35-11:45 Agriculture and agribusiness in India: inclusive model examples**

*Short presentations by two agribusiness companies in India on their business model:*

- Jain irrigation – Mr. Surender Makhija, Strategic Advisor and Sr. Vice President
- Agrostar - Dr. Dev Raj Arya, Vice President: Farm Solutions & regulatory Affairs

**11:45-12:55 IB in agriculture in India – Brainstorm and Discussion**

*Discussion to explore the following with the private sector:*

- *What are the current development challenges and opportunities in agriculture?*
- *What are some of the challenges that low-income farmers face?*
- *How can the private sector help address these challenges? What areas hold most promise?*
- *How can the government enable firms to develop inclusive business models? What regulations would be useful? What type of partnerships are required?*
- *What are the main challenges as well as concerns associated with inclusive business models in agriculture in India and how could these be overcome and addressed?*
- *What initiatives are currently being taken forward in the area of inclusive business?*
- *What other elements are necessary to enable more IB models to emerge?*
- *Why get involved in the project?*

*Facilitated by ESCAP*

**12:55-13:00 Closing**

- Ms. Marta Pérez Cusó, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCAP