









March 02, 2023 **Thursday** India International Centre New Delhi (Also virtually on Zoom)

Delhi 09:30-17:10 | 10:00-17:40

Dhaka

Kathmandu 09:45-17:25

Thimphu 10:00-17:40

## Regional Meeting **Multimodal Connectivity** in the BBIN Subregion

Seamless transport and transit connectivity among Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal (BBIN) subregion can be a catalyst for greater intra- and inter-regional trade. This connectivity needs to encompass all modes of transportation, viz. roadways, railways, waterways and airways, including their alignments with each other. This is particularly true in the context of achieving resilience and robustness of post-covid economic recovery.

CUTS International, with support from the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office is implementing the project entitled 'Enabling a Political Economy Discourse for Multimodal Connectivity in the Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal Subregion (M-Connect)' in partnership with Unnayan Shamannay, Bangladesh; Bodhi Media and Communications Institute, Bhutan; and Nepal Economic Forum.

Under this project CUTS is organising a Regional Meeting in New Delhi on Thursday, March 02, 2023 that seeks to deliberate on and disseminate the project's findings among the key stakeholders, particularly policy-makers, with the aim of paving the way for achieving positive impacts in respect to both "ease of doing business" and "ease of living" through necessary project, policy, process and delivery interventions for not only making the subregion better integrated in terms of having functional transport corridors but also transforming them to economic corridors.

The meeting will have three informative panel discussions chaired by experts from BBIN countries including government agencies, private sector, policy think-tanks, multilateral agencies etc. The panel discussions will focus on engaging recent initiatives on multimodal connectivity in the BBIN subregion, the political economy challenges, and the future of connectivity opportunities in the BBIN subregion.

	Agenda
09:30 - 10:00	Registration
10:00 - 10:40	Opening Session
10:40 - 11:00	Keynote Address
11:15 - 13:00	Session - 1 Recent Initiatives on BBIN Connectivity
13:45 - 15:15	Session - 2 Political Economy Challenges to Multimodal Connectivity
15:30 - 17:00	Session - 3 Future Connectivity and Trade Opportunities in the BBIN Subregion

<sup>\*</sup> All timings are in Indian Standard Time

