



Bridging Giving, Healing, and Building: Philanthropic Responses to COVID-19 in Asia

Thursday, May 28, 2020

This conference call focused on the recent increase in philanthropic activity in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. Convening four leaders in philanthropy, the discussion covered what philanthropy looks like in different countries, the role of philanthropy in the long-term, and what gaps need to be accounted for a successful recovery from COVID-19.

Webinar panelists included:

- **Richard Ditizio (Moderator)**, President and Chief Operating Officer, Milken Institute
- **Laurence Lien**, Co-Founder and CEO, Asia Philanthropy Circle
- **Binod Chaudhary**, Chairman, CG Corp Global
- **Andrew Forrest**, Chairman and Co-Founder, The Minderoo Foundation
- **Cherie Nursalim**, Vice Chairman, Giti Group

The panelists touched on the following:

- Forrest discussed Australia and New Zealand's government response to the COVID-19 crisis and brought attention to the differences and similarities in both countries' reactions. He spoke about the increase in "modern-day slavery," highlighting that those who work and live in slave-like conditions are being especially exploited during the public health crisis. Forrest also talked about the importance of testing in the absence of a vaccine and encouraged investment in polymerase chain reaction testing so poorer countries can afford it.
- Chaudhary talked about the challenges Nepal faces in trying to curb the COVID-19 crisis, its progress, and the goals the nation hopes to achieve as the government and philanthropists increase the distribution of testing. He spoke about the recent influx of Nepalese coming back to Nepal from India and brought to attention some of the associated challenges, including an increased threat to the supply chain of goods.
- Nursalim demonstrated how the three pillars of her organization—value creation, regeneration, and resilience—come from her experience of helping curb COVID-19. She also touched on the importance of cross-sectoral collaboration and funding in the private sector to scale-up philanthropy, especially with regards to COVID-19 and the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals.
- Lien called on philanthropy to take a larger leadership role in responding to the public health crisis. He talked about the relationship that philanthropists have with each other and the government. He pointed out that the recent public health crisis demonstrated that collaboration is one of the key aspects of successful philanthropy and addresses the long-term challenges that may be created by gaps by government policy.

If you would like to listen to recordings of this webinar, please visit our [website](#).