



**International Consortium
for Social Development**



11th ICSD Asia-Pacific Biennial Conference 2026: Innovations in Sustainable Social Development: Perspectives & Practices

Hosted & Co-organised by

Department of Social Work - CHRIST, (Deemed to be University), Bangalore, with
School of Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Grant-in-Aid Institute, Ministry of
Education, Govt. of India) Mumbai

Date of the Conference: 15th to 17th November, 2026

Venue: Christ (Deemed to be University), Central Campus, Hosur Road, Dharmaram College Post, Near Dairy Circle, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560029

The International Consortium for Social Development (ICSD) brings together scholars, practitioners, and students from social work, welfare, and development studies across the globe. ICSD advances social development processes that strengthen community capacity and promote social, economic, and environmental well-being worldwide through its 4 branches across the globe.

Sustainable Social Development efforts need to build a just, inclusive and sustainable world, focused on advancing humanity by mobilizing our spirituality, cultural humility and inner wisdom, by contributing to actualizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. ICSD advances social development processes that strengthen community capacity and promote social, economic, and environmental well-being globally and our members in the Asia Pacific region have been systematically innovating pedagogical approaches focused on social development / sustainable development, generating and disseminating knowledge placing reciprocal learning in the centre of it, consulting with and evaluating social development projects.

11th ICSD Asia-Pacific Biennial Conference 2026: Innovations in Sustainable Social Development: Perspectives & Practices affirms the commitment of ICSD in advancing human rights and social justice; which are required conditions for achieving sustainable development and resulting peace and security. It calls attention to the well-being of indigenous peoples and is of global concern: both among nations of the global north and south as they experience shorter life spans, have inadequate health care, educational opportunities, and consequently have higher unemployment rates. The conference will provide an opportunity for scholars, practitioners, educators and students to exchange perspectives and experiences on sustainable social development and emerging innovations.

Key sub-themes of the conference include:

- Gender Equity, Human Rights & Social Justice
- Spirituality and Collective Wellbeing
- Cultural Humility & Social Progress

- Indigenous Knowledge Systems & Sustainable Practices
- Sustainable Cities
- Aging and People with Special Needs
- Health & Wellbeing for a Sustainable Future
- Ecological Resilience and Climate Justice
- Youth & Sustainable Social Development
- Community Empowerment and Social Progress
- Technology, Innovation & AI for Social Good

Salient Features of the Conference:

- ✓ Plenary Sessions that will have distinguished speakers from the Government, Corporate, Academicians and the Development sector and students across disciplines from undergraduate to doctoral studies
- ✓ Award Ceremony for a Distinguished Practitioner and an Academician
- ✓ Opportunity for Networking and hosting fire side chats
- ✓ Gala Dinner and showcasing Indian Culture
- ✓ Conference Exposure Visit to Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Renowned Healthcare Institution, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Initiatives and Environmental Organizations
- ✓ Publication of a Book based on selected academic papers presented

About the Co-Organisers: Conference is being co-hosted by Department of Social Work at CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru and School of Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. Christ offers two Post Graduate programmes, Master of Social Work (with two distinct streams - Clinical and Community Practice, and Human Resource Development and Management) and a Master of Science in Sustainable Development, respectively, along with a program on PhD in Social Work.

TISS, Mumbai, is a premier social science university in India, established in 1936. It was founded with the aim of promoting social work education and research to address social and economic challenges. TISS offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs in social work, public policy, management, health studies, education, and related fields. The institute is known for its strong emphasis on social justice, community engagement, and research-driven policy development and has been ranked as the Best College of Social Work in India continuously.

Convenors:

Dr. Bharathi, Head of the Department, Department of Social Work, Christ University
 Dr. Asok Sarkar, Head of the Department, Department of Social Work, Visva Bharati University
 Dr. Bipin Jojo, Dean, School of Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences

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Conference weblinks:

- <https://icsdap.christuniversity.in/home/>
- <https://tiss.ac.in/view/5/homepage-data/homepage-events-and-announcements/11th-icsd-asia-pacific-biennial-conference-2026/>