

International Webinar on State, Society and Economy for Sustainable Development



Centre for the Study of Law and Governance
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Department of Applied Research
The Gandhigram Rural Institute, Dindigul

Department of Social Work
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore

(NAAC A++ Universities)

Date

27th - 31st October 2025

Time

18:00 - 19:30 IST

06:30 - 08:00 North America (Central)

09:30 - 11:00 South America

14:30 - 16:00 Europe (Central)

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International Webinar on

State, Society and Economy for Sustainable Development

27th – 31st October 2025

Background

In today's world of deep interdependence and widening inequalities, the pursuit of sustainable development demands renewed global attention. The international webinar on “State, Economy and Society for Sustainable Development” will examine the emerging and re-emerging challenges to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including humanitarian crises, conflicts, affordability, and vulnerabilities across societies. Despite progress since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the implementation of the SDGs continues to face significant hurdles such as inadequate financing, fragmented governance structures, regional and social disparities, and insufficient data for monitoring progress. These challenges underscore the urgency of rethinking development pathways that integrate economic efficiency, environmental sustainability, and social justice.

By focusing on the dynamic roles of state, economy, and society, the event seeks to generate critical insights into pathways of inclusive governance, resilience, and equity. Particular attention will also be given to mental health, community well-being, and grassroots innovations that complement state policies. The role of media and communication in shaping public discourse on sustainability will also be addressed. Equally important is the relevance of reforms, innovations, and evidence-based policies in steering nations toward sustainability. Policy coherence, institutional reforms, and adaptive governance mechanisms are essential for aligning short-term national priorities with long-term global commitments. Innovations in technology, community practices, and governance frameworks must be backed by evidence to ensure that development interventions are both effective and equitable. The event will be followed by an international conference and culminate in an edited international book publication, encouraging collaborative and interdisciplinary research.

Objectives

- 1.To examine the role of the state and non-state actors in balancing economic growth, social equity, and environmental sustainability.
- 2.To analyze how economic policies and evidence-based reforms influence sustainable practices in production, consumption, and resource management.
- 3.To study the interaction between social structures, cultural norms, economic institutions, and state interventions in addressing inequality, mental health, resilience, and inclusiveness.
- 4.To understand governance mechanisms, institutional responses, and regulatory frameworks that support sustainable development and address SDG implementation challenges.
- 5.To explore innovative community-based, technological, and market-driven solutions that complement state action.
- 6.To reflect on the challenges and opportunities for integrating the 2030 SDGs into state and local development agendas, including the role of media and communication in shaping public discourse.

Call for Chapters

Book Title: State, Society and Economy for Sustainable Development

List of Topics/ themes for Book Publication:

I. Society and Social Structures

1. Social determinants of sustainable development
2. Families, communities, and social cohesion in times of crisis
3. Mental health, well-being, and resilience in changing societies
4. Education and skills: Challenges and pathways for the future
5. Gender equity and empowerment for sustainability
6. Impacts on vulnerable groups: Children, women, aged, marginalized, displaced persons, persons with disabilities, refugees, incarcerated, etc.
7. Social inequalities and structural injustice in development processes

II. Economy and Development Pathways

1. Demographic, economic, and social implications of global transitions
2. Economic growth, affordability, and inclusive opportunities
3. Rural–urban contrasts in development strategies
4. Technology, innovation, and digital transformation for sustainability
5. Climate change, environment, and ecological limits to growth
6. Reforms and evidence-based policies for sustainable economic transitions
7. Financing the SDGs and the political economy of sustainability transitions

III. State, Governance, and Policy

1. State visions, policies, and developmental pathways
2. National and global progress toward the 2030 SDGs
3. Critical reflections on governance, institutions, and accountability and implementation challenges
4. Balancing uniform standards with cultural and regional diversities
5. Human rights and social justice in development frameworks
6. Success models and lessons from governance approaches
7. Evidence-based governance and data-driven decision-making for sustainable development

IV. Global Challenges and Interdependence

1. Global interdependence and diverse national responses
2. Inequalities and disparities arising from social disadvantage
3. Challenges to development in conflict and war-affected regions
4. Global governance and protection of vulnerable populations
5. Media, communication, and the politics of sustainable development
6. Civil society, grassroots movements, and non-profits in advancing sustainability

Important Dates

- **Abstract Submission** : 10th November, 2025
- **Full Paper Submission** : 12th March 2026
- **Camera Ready Chapter Submission** : 20th April 2026
- **Submission Email ID** : panneersigamani@gmail.com

Full Length Paper Submission

Final and completed papers may be submitted after the abstracts have been accepted by the editors. A few guidelines are in place at the time of submission:

1. The paper should be written in English (UK) and should not exceed 6000 words.
2. It should be original, unpublished, and should not have been copyrighted.
3. It should not have been presented or accepted for presentation at professional meetings and should not be currently under review for presentation at other professional meetings. A declaration to this effect must accompany the final paper, which must include ethical responsibilities and Standards as well.
4. The manuscript should include a separate page containing the following in the order mentioned: title, authors, affiliation, abstract, keywords, main text, acknowledgements, appendix and references.
5. The title page should be concise and informative and should include: the names) of the authors), institutional affiliations), addresses of the authors), E-mail, contact address, and telephone numbers) of the corresponding author.
6. Authors are requested to submit a camera-ready paper following the prescribed guidelines (see below).
7. Authors should take responsibility of content-editing, grammar-check, proof-reading, formatting etc.
8. The completed paper may be submitted in Microsoft Word (doc format only) on or before 12th March 2026 via email to panneersigamani@gmail.com

The manuscript preparation should be adhered to while preparing the final paper:

Text Formatting

1. Manuscripts should be submitted in Word.
2. Use a normal, plain font (e.g., 10-point Times Roman) for text.
3. Use italics for emphasis.
4. Use the automatic page numbering function to number the pages.
5. Do not use field functions.
6. Use tab stops or other commands for indents, not the space bar.
7. Use the table function, not spreadsheets, to make tables.
8. Use the equation editor or Math Type for equations.
9. Save your file in doc format (Word 2007 or higher) or doc format (older Word versions).
10. Manuscripts with mathematical content can also be submitted in LaTeX.
11. Tables should be editable in Microsoft Word easily, i.e., they should NOT be in picture format. Table titles should be concise and exactly to explain what the table shows.

E-certificates will be provided to all registered participants upon successful completion and submission of feedback forms

About the Organizers

Centre for the Study of Law and Governance (CSLG, JNU) CSLG was founded in the year 2001 as a response to the need for an interdisciplinary understanding of issues related to the study of law and governance. It has been a decade for the Centre with the development of three attributes- interdisciplinarity, academic rigor and linking of formal legal framework and governance in practice. The Centre draws students from diverse backgrounds, similar to the University. The Centre has successfully attempted pedagogical innovations. Its teaching of optional courses is largely in the seminar format, where students read in advance of the class, making presentations and engaging in discussion in the classroom. The faculty also makes use of audio-visual materials such as documentaries and feature films. In some courses, open-book examinations are also conducted. The normative ideals of justice, equity and freedom thus inflect the Centre's critical interrogations of existing institutions and practices of law and governance. It is in this spirit that, while the Centre's academic programme produces scholarly research in these areas, it also seeks to translate theory into practices of governance by initiating debate, sharing research, and providing a platform for dialogue between the academy, government, civil society, and international agencies.

In the decade since it came into existence, the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance has developed at least three attributes that make it a distinctive part of the intellectual landscape. First, the Centre is explicitly interdisciplinary, as evidenced by the diverse academic training of its faculty and its student body, as well as in the teaching and research programme it has fostered. Second, the Centre has developed a reputation as a location where academic rigour can be meshed with reflection on policy and advocacy. Third, the Centre has become a focal point for understanding the links between the formal legal framework and governance in practice. As with the Jawaharlal Nehru University as a whole, the Centre also draws students from a diversity of backgrounds – regional, socio-economic, and academic. The study of governance, in its various forms and at different sites, is central to several contemporary issues: the reform of public institutions and public law; the creation and establishment of procedures and rules that lead to greater efficiency, transparency, and accountability; and the challenge of making governance more inclusive and participatory through the strengthening of democracy and civil society. The Centre's interdisciplinary focus draws on critical social science approaches in its attempt to explore how practices of law and governance are embedded in political, economic, social and historical processes; how practices of governance are dispersed over various sites ranging from the government, bureaucracy, judiciary, community and family; the socio-legal processes that deter or provide access to justice; and notions of governmentality, sovereignty and rights in specific politico-jural regimes.

The Department of Applied Research, Gandhigram Rural Institute- Gandhigram, was established in 1976 under the Faculty of Rural Development. The Center plays a key role in enabling the Institute to achieve its overall objective of rural development by promoting interdisciplinary, problem solving and development research. The thrust areas of academia are Research Design and Applied Statistics, Interdisciplinary and Policy Research.

Department of Social Work, Bharathiar University- Coimbatore, was bloomed in the year 2008 with a vision to help society to access tangible services, improve social interaction and to participate in policy making and implementing process. The mission of the department is to build capacities for young graduates by focusing on the synergy of theory and practice in Social Work.

Editors

1. Dr. Sigamani Panneer, Professor & Chairperson, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

2. Dr. M. Hilaria Soundari, Professor & Head, Department of Applied Research, the Gandhigram Rural Institute – DTBU, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, India

3. Dr. F. X. Lovelina Little Flower, Professor & Head, Department of Social Work, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India

4. Dr. Lekha D Bhat, Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur, Tamil Nadu, India

Programme Schedule

DAY 1: 27th October 2025

Session Coordinator	Theme/topic	Speakers
Prof. Dr. Sigamani Panneer Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi	Social-economic determinants of human development	Dr. Monika Pfaller-Rott Faculty of Social Work Katholische University, Eichstätt-Ingolstadt Germany
	Vulnerable and indigenous population: Historical perspectives	Dr. Shiromi Maduwage Postgraduate Institute of Medicine, Colombo Sri Lanka

DAY 2: 28th October 2025

Session Coordinator	Theme/topic	Speakers
Dr. Lovelina Little Flower Professor & Head, Department of Social Work, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India	Social Pedagogy: Transforming Urban Disadvantaged Neighborhoods	Dr. Anita Gulczyńska Department of Social Pedagogy and Resocialization Faculty of Educational Sciences University of Lodz, Poland
	Substance Abuse and Sustainable Growth: Ripple Effects of SDG 3.5	Dr. R. Nalini Department of Social Work, School of Social Science and International Studies, Pondicherry University, Pondicherry

DAY 3: 29th October 2025

Session Coordinator	Theme/topic	Speakers
Dr. N. Janardhana Professor and Head Department of Psychiatric Social Work NIMHANS, Bangalore	Climate Change & Protection of Coastal Vulnerable Populations	Dr. Komali Kantamaneni Senior Coastal Scientist and Environmentalist Co-Director - UN-SPIDER (United Nations), University of Central Lancashire, United Kingdom
	Gender equity and development process	Dr. Sanghamitra Sheel Acharya Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health School of Social Sciences Jawaharlal Nehru University New Delhi

DAY 4: 30th October 2025

Session Coordinator	Theme/topic	Speakers
Dr. Archana Kaushik Department of Social Work (Delhi School of Social Work) University of Delhi New Delhi	State & Non-state Actors in Global Interdependence & Development	Dr. Nevashnee Perumal Department of Social Development Professions Nelson Mandela University, Gqeberha, South Africa
	Global Humanitarian crisis: Global Governance Repponses	Dr. Emmanuel Janagan Johnson School of Social Work and Human Services, College of Health Sciences, Troy University. Troy, AL .USA.

DAY 5: 31st October 2025

Session Coordinator	Theme/topic	Speakers
Dr. M. Hilaria Soundari Professor& Head, Department of Applied Research, The Gandhigram Rural Institute – DTBU, Dindigul, India	Back to Basics - Education for Sustainable Development	Dr. Barbara Herring MRSPH School of Life Sciences and the Environment Royal Holloway, University of London, Egham, UK
	Understanding sustainability dimensions and transformations- Challenges and Way forward	Dr. Anantha Raj A. Arokiasamy Faculty of Business & Communication INTI International University, Nilai Malaysia

The Organizing Team Members



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