



**International Conference on
*Navigating Inequality, Development, and Sustainability in the Global South***

School of Social Sciences and Humanities (VISH)
Vellore Institute of Technology-Andhra Pradesh (VIT-AP) University Andhra
Pradesh, India

13–14 September 2024

Context and Rationale

The burgeoning discourse surrounding the Global South has been attracting scholarly attention worldwide lately. To delve into this emerging domain of research, one needs to understand the inherent paradox the region exhibits. While the region has many rapidly growing economies, the concerns pertaining to inequality, social and economic development, environmental vulnerabilities, and sustainability in the Global South pose a serious challenge in ensuring the basic standard of living and sustenance. These issues are particularly pressing in regions such as Latin America, Africa, and Asia. While such nations display a substantially increasing GDP and a booming technological sector, they also contend with severe poverty, gender disparities, and rural-urban divides. Concerning social disparity and intersectionality especially in South-Asian countries such as India, where caste, community, and religion take precedence in discourses rendered to counter inequality, this conference in its critical endeavour raises questions on the prevalent established norms. Furthermore, environmental sustainability poses a significant challenge with issues such as air pollution, water scarcity, and the harrowing impacts of climate change, consequential in the overall development of the region.

This conference aims to explore these intersections through critical and scholarly deliberations, offering a platform for scholars, policymakers, and practitioners to discuss and develop actionable strategies and praxis. Addressing these issues requires a nuanced understanding of this complex interplay of domains merging times and spaces, both geographical and otherwise. Social and economic development must be inclusive and sustainable to ensure long-term benefits. This conference will also focus on how countries from the Global South can navigate these complex challenges, promoting an equitable and sustainable development model thereby ensuring a much habitable ecosystem of balanced development and resources for all.

Conference Objectives

- ♣ To analyze inequalities concerning the Global South, with particular emphasis on various dimensions such as income disparity, gender inequality, and access to resources and opportunities.
- ♣ To discuss sustainable development strategies that balance economic growth with social equity and environmental conservation.
- ♣ To derive insights from successful initiatives and policies across the Global South that have substantially addressed inequalities and promoted sustainable social and economic development.
- ♣ To foster cross-sectoral as well as regional collaboration among stakeholders to develop potential solutions.
- ♣ To explore cultural representations as counter-narratives emerging out of the Global South.

Thrust Areas

We invite research papers that deliberate on the following sub-themes but are not limited to:

- ♣ Inequality, Inclusive Growth, and Equity
- ♣ Policies and Praxis: Governance, Polity, and Public Administration
- ♣ Literature, Media, and Dialogue: Narrative Responses from the Global South
- ♣ Environment, Climate Change, and Sustainable Development Goals
- ♣ Science, Technological Progress and the Digital Divide
- ♣ Marginalities, Representation, and Socio-cultural Movements
- ♣ Intersectionality in the Global South: Gender, Caste, and Religion
- ♣ Demography, Migration, and Diaspora
- ♣ Development Indicators, Measurements, and Critique
- ♣ Subjective Wellbeing and Social Dynamics: Dimensions from the Global South

Expected Outcomes

- ♣ Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the complex interplay of inequality, socio-economic development, and sustainability.
- ♣ The conference will initiate and propose actionable policy recommendations to address the said challenges in the Global South.
- ♣ The event will foster connections among stakeholders, encouraging collaborations on research and policy initiatives in the future.
- ♣ An edited book as part of the conference proceedings to be published with any reputed publishing house. This book will be a collection of select papers presented at the conference after undergoing a rigorous review process.

About VISH

The VIT-AP School of Social Sciences and Humanities (VISH) has evolved into an independent School that combines the Department of Languages and the existing courses of Social Sciences that have been present at the university since its inception in 2017. The VIT-AP School of Social Sciences and Humanities (VISH) focuses on providing students with language skills and a broad perspective on the evolution of culture, language, society, politics, and economics. Apart from the production and dissemination of the disciplinary concerns, the faculty of the School also provide students with a holistic education that would complement other disciplines of study offered at the University resulting in individuals who are capable of applying new knowledge and solving problems. The varied courses offered by the School enable the students to gain highly marketable skills ranging from critical thinking and problem solving, to knowledge application and evidence-based analysis.

Key Dates

- ♣ Submission of abstracts: 31 July 2024
- ♣ Acceptance intimation: 12 August 2024
- ♣ Early bird registration: 20 August 2024
- ♣ Regular registration: 28 August 2024
- ♣ Full paper submission: 05 September 2024
- ♣ Date of the conference: 13–14 September 2024

Venue

Vellore Institute of Technology-Andhra Pradesh (VIT-AP) University, Andhra Pradesh, India and Online

Contact Information

Dr. Rafael Gonzalez Macho: rafael.gonzalez@vitap.ac.in

Dr. Ashraf Pulikkamath: ashraf.p@vitap.ac.in

VIT-AP School of Social Sciences and Humanities (VISH), VIT-AP University,
Andhra Pradesh, India