



International Consortium  
for Social Development



**RCSS**  
RAJAGIRI COLLEGE OF  
SOCIAL SCIENCES  
(AUTONOMOUS)

# 24<sup>th</sup> ICSD BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

**Innovations in Social Work and Social Development:  
Uniting Communities across the Globe for Sustainable Change**

Organised by:  
**Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous)**

In association with  
**International Consortium for Social Development (ICSD)**

**08-10  
January, 2025**

Venue: Rajagiri  
Business School,  
Kakkanad



# ICSD

## @ 50 years

International  
Consortium for  
Social  
Development

The International Consortium for Social Development (ICSD) is a group of interdisciplinary professionals, academics, and students focused on human services and social development, founded by social work educators in the 1970s. It is a global, interdisciplinary effort aimed at addressing pressing challenges facing humanity. The organization seeks to develop conceptual frameworks and effective intervention strategies geared to influencing local, national and international systems. It is committed to creating peaceful solutions to the problems of survival at the local, national and global levels. The Consortium promotes collaboration among personnel from various organisations such as the United Nations, World Bank, UNESCO, UNICEF, and other groups, as well as between professional societies in human services and higher education institutions.

To learn more about ICSD, visit:  
<https://www.socialdevelopment.net/>





## Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous)

Rajagiri College of Social Sciences (Autonomous), an institutional partner of ICSD, is a pioneering institution in India. One of the highest-ranking colleges in India (30th in the country in the 'Colleges' category by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2023, MHRD, Govt of India), Rajagiri College was reaccredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with an A++ grade and a CGPA of 3.83, the highest in the country. Rajagiri College of Social Sciences was selected and granted with "College with Potential for Excellence" (CPE) status by the University Grants Commission (UGC) of India in 2016.

To learn more about RCSS visit: <https://rajagiri.edu/>

## Rajagiri School of Social Work

The Department of Social Work of Rajagiri is a pioneering School of Social Work in Kerala, India, established with a one-year Diploma in Social Service (DSS) in 1955. The department started the first Masters of Social Work (MSW) and the first Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) programmes in the state of Kerala and is an approved Doctoral Centre in Social Work. BSW/PGDCSW/MSW programs have twinning, accelerated, and dual degree arrangements with world-class International Universities across the globe. Rajagiri School of Social Work is ranked second-best in The India Today-MDRA and OUTLOOK-ICARE Survey of Best Social Work Colleges 2023 in India.



## DYUTI – Developmental Yearnings for a United and Transformed India

Rajagiri School of Social Work has been organising its annual conference: DYUTI, since 1998 which provides an intellectual platform for deliberations on vital issues of development from a rights perspective. DYUTI 2025 is being transformed into the 24th ICSD International Conference on Social Work and Social Development.







# 24<sup>th</sup> ICSD Biennial Conference

Development has been a focus of humankind since ancient times. It involves creating social conditions that sustainably and equitably foster individual and collective well-being. However, the path to development has undergone various debates and changes across different periods, involving shifts in concepts, theories, and practical approaches. The idea of social development emerged when it was felt that true development could not be achieved solely through economic advancement. Its proponents advocated a holistic and multi-level approach, instead. Social development is a broad concept that involves significant changes in politics, economics, and culture, all aimed at transforming society through deliberate efforts, characterised by increased capacity within the social system, social structure, institutions, services, and policies to effectively utilise resources and generate positive changes in the standard of living.

The world is constantly facing challenges in ensuring peace and stability that enable people to live in harmony. War, conflict, poverty, political instability, human rights violations, forced displacement, climate change etc. call for a united effort if we are to advance the UN's sustainable development goals. Social workers and social development professionals play a vital role in addressing the many challenges faced by individuals, communities, and societies. It is essential to view 'development' as a process as well as an outcome, realizing that achieving such an aim requires engagement with multiple stakeholders to find inclusive pathways, especially for the most marginalized and vulnerable communities. As a concept in social work, social work practices at the micro, meso, and macro levels have a considerable role in social development. As the world moves swiftly towards the post-modern era, innovations in areas such as new approaches to service delivery, technology integration, policy changes and community organising strategies, are necessary to achieve the desired end.

The ICSD 24th Biennial International Conference aims to provide an opportunity to critically reflect on the multiple ways in which social work and social development professionals have advanced innovative solutions to unite and improve outcomes for individuals, families and communities, locally and globally. The conference will also celebrate ICSD's golden jubilee; and silver jubilee of DYUTI showcasing its commendable contribution to the field of social work and social development across the world.

# Major Sub-Themes of the Conference

## 1. Community Empowerment and Participation:

- Grassroots initiatives and community-driven development projects.
- Participatory approaches in research, planning, and decision-making.

## 2. Technology and Digital Solutions:

- Mobile apps, online platforms, and digital tools for social impact.
- Innovative uses of technology in service delivery and communication.
- Digital divide or exclusion

## 3. Poverty, Inequality and Policy Advocacy and Social Change:

- Advocacy campaigns and grassroots movements for policy reform.
- Human rights-based approaches to social development.
- Mobilizing communities for collective action and social justice.

## 4. Health and Well-being:

- Trauma-informed care and trauma-informed practices.
- Integrating mental health support into social services.
- Social prescribing and holistic approaches to healthcare.
- Cultural and spiritual development

## 5. Justice and Restorative Practices:

- Restorative justice programs and conflict resolution models.
- Alternatives to incarceration and community-based rehabilitation.
- Addressing systemic inequalities within justice systems.
- Peace-building strategies

## 6. Education and Lifelong Learning:

- Innovative educational approaches and inclusive schooling.
- Lifelong learning opportunities for marginalized communities.
- Technology-enhanced learning and distance education initiatives.

## 7. Environmental Sustainability and Resilience:

- Community-based environmental conservation projects.
- Climate resilience and disaster risk reduction strategies.
- Promoting sustainable livelihoods and resource management.

## 8. Financial Inclusion and Economic Empowerment:

- Microfinance, microenterprise development, and savings-led initiatives.
- Social impact investing and alternative financing models.

## 9. Cross-Cultural Exchange and Global Collaboration:

- International partnerships and knowledge-sharing networks.
- Cultural exchange programs and cross-cultural understanding initiatives.
- Learning from diverse social work and development practices worldwide.

## 10. Ethical Practice and Professional Development:

- Ethical considerations in social work and development work.
- Supporting well-being, continuing education and professional development opportunities.
- Social work in times of crises (pandemic, war, forced displacement etc.)

## Call for papers

We are calling for papers (for **oral and poster presentations**) that bring together novel solutions to development issues through social work and social development practices. All kinds of innovations will be considered, whether methodological, theoretical, social, technological, policy, practice-based or organisational and are of local relevance and/or have the potential for large-scale replication. Lessons learned from implementing evidence-based solutions, interdisciplinary approaches, and critiques of current solutions are also welcome. Interested participants can submit proposals for a **workshop** (90 minutes) or a **panel discussion** (4 panellists maximum on a theme excluding the chair, 10 minutes each) on the related topics.

[Click here to Submit](#)

## Guidelines for Abstract Submission

- The abstract should be within 300 words of text including the title and keywords (MS Word Doc.)
- The text should be arranged according to the following headlines: Background, Methodology, Approach, Results & Conclusion.
- It is essential that you specify the Theme to which your abstract pertains when submitting it.
- The abstract should be submitted to CMT through the link given or through the conference website on or before 15th July 2024 (IST).
- Posters/workshop/panel discussion proposals should be submitted to the conference secretariate (email: [icsd2025@rajagiri.edu](mailto:icsd2025@rajagiri.edu)).
- For template and more guidelines regarding workshop/panel discussion proposals, visit the conference website: Click here to visit (<https://conference.rajagiri.edu/icsd/>)

## Publication

Interested presenters will be invited to submit their full paper for peer-reviewed publication consideration in the following journals / book series

- Social Development Issues (SDI)
- International Journal of Community and Social Development (IJCSJ) (Scopus Q1)
- Rajagiri Journal of Social Development (RJSD)
- Edited book chapter in Springer series on Social Development

## Important Days

- Call for abstracts:  
**20th March - 15th July 2024**
- Notification on Approval of abstracts:  
**31st August, 2024**
- Early Bird Registration:  
**1st May – 30th September, 2024**
- Regular Registration:  
**1st October – 31st October, 2024**

**NB: We are strictly going by these dates so as to obtain political clearance from the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India which will help you to obtain a conference visa.**

## Registration Details

Starting on 1st October 2024, registration for the conference will be available on the official conference website.

Type of Participant	Country	ICSD member	Regular	Early Bird	Spot
Academics/Field Practitioners	From Developed Countries	280 USD	350 USD	300 USD	400 USD
	From Developing Countries	200 USD	250 USD	230 USD	300 USD
	National Participants	3800 INR	4500 INR	4000 INR	5500 INR
Students/PhD Scholars	From Developed Countries	230 USD	300 USD	250 USD	350 USD
	From Developing Countries	150 USD	200 USD	180 USD	250 USD
	National Participants	3300 INR	₹4000	₹3500	₹5000

- The fee covers a conference kit, lunch on conference days and a gala dinner
- Early bird registration ends on 30th September 2024
- Regular registration ends on 31st October 2024

### Bank Details

Account name: Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, Kalamassery  
Account No. :0224053000005056  
Bank: South Indian Bank  
IFSC/NEFT Code: SIBL0000224

[Click here to Register](#)

### Conference Patrons

#### Dr Fr Saju M D

Principal,  
Rajagiri College of Social Sciences  
(Autonomous), India

#### Dr Manohar Pawar

President  
International Consortium  
for Social Development

### Conference Convenors

#### Dr George Palattiyil

Head of Social Work,  
The University of Edinburgh,  
Scotland

#### Dr Kiran Thampi

Head of Social Work,  
Rajagiri College of Social Sciences  
(Autonomous), India



### Contact

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