



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK LOYOLA COLLEGE, CHENNAI – 600034



In Collaboration with



DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED RESEARCH SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT THE GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE



(Deemed to be University)

Ministry of Education (ShikshaMantralaya), Government of India
GANDHIGRAM, DINDIGUL DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU – 624302

One-Week Online International Faculty Development Programme (FDP)

RESEARCH STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURES: ALIGNING WITH SDGs

(19th to 26th November 2025 - 6.00 to 7.30 PM IST)



INTRODUCTION

The One-Week International Virtual Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on “Research Strategies for Sustainable Futures: Aligning with SDGs” is a collaborative initiative by the Department of Social Work, Loyola College, Chennai, and the Department of Applied Research School of Health Sciences and Rural Development, Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram, Dindigul. This programme is designed to foster research excellence and capacity building among academicians, researchers, and practitioners by aligning research strategies with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This FDP is designed for Faculty members and Research Scholars from Social Sciences, Arts, Commerce, and Humanities, NGO Directors, Independent Researchers and Industry Participants to integrate the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their research and teaching through a virtual platform. This programme aims to foster interdisciplinary research methodologies, innovative digital tools, and practical strategies to address global challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and sustainable development. It equips participants with the skills to design SDG-aligned research, incorporate sustainability into curricula, and foster international research networks, all while promoting transformative education for sustainable futures.

OBJECTIVES OF THE FDP

- To enhance participants’ understanding of research methodologies aligned with the SDGs.
- To promote interdisciplinary approaches for addressing sustainable development challenges.
- To provide practical training in designing and conducting impactful research for sustainable futures.
- To foster collaboration and knowledge exchange among academicians, researchers, and practitioners.
- To empower participants to integrate SDGs into their research and professional practices.

ABOUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK, LOYOLA COLLEGE

The Department of Social Work was established in 1954 by Rev. Fr. Devasia, S.J., originally as the Institute of Social Science. It began offering a Diploma in Social Science in 1957, which continued until 1963. In 1964, the department introduced a two-year Post-Graduate program in Social Work with three specializations, later expanding to five. In 1994, it launched the country's first specialization in "Welfare of the Marginalized." The "Human Rights" specialization was added in 2003-2004. The department fosters a spirit of inquiry and professional ethics to promote sustainable development, guided by the Ignatian paradigm of preparing women and men for and with others. Its vision is the formation of social work professionals committed to a just and equitable society. The mission is to train competent, compassionate professionals who understand and respond to vulnerable communities through inclusion, innovation, and collaboration for transformation.

ABOUT GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE (GRI)

Gandhigram Rural Institute (GRI), established in 1956 by Dr. G. Ramachandran and Dr. T. S. Soundaram Ramachandran, is inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's Nai Talim philosophy, which blends practical skills with cognitive learning and emphasizes value-based education rooted in indigenous culture. Influenced by the Radhakrishnan Education Commission and global models like Denmark's Folks Højskole, the US Land-Grant system, and Tagore's Sriniketan Experiment, GRI focuses on rural development. Administered by India's Ministry of Education and funded by the UGC, GRI offers programs in rural development, sciences, engineering, agriculture, and economics. Combining teaching, research, and extension, it addresses rural challenges effectively. With 8 schools, 19 departments, and 9 centers serving about 4,000 students, GRI earned deemed university status in 1976. It has received multiple NAAC accreditations, including five-star status in 2002 and an 'A' grade in its 2010 and 2016 reaccreditations, showcasing its commitment to academic excellence and Gandhian values.

PROPOSED SESSION TITLES FOR THE FDP

- **Day 1 :** Understanding the SDGs: A Framework for Sustainable Futures in Academia
- **Day 2:** Aligning Research in Social Sciences and Humanities with Global SDG Targets
- **Day 3:** Interdisciplinary Research Methods for Addressing SDG Challenges
- **Day 4 :** Digital Tools for Qualitative and Quantitative SDG Research
- **Day 5 :** Publishing SDG Research: Navigating Journals and Impact Metrics
- **Day 6 :** Building Global Research Networks for SDG Implementation
- **Day 7 :** From Research to Impact: Translating SDG Studies into Policy

REGISTRATION FEE

Indian Participants:

- **Academicians:** INR 500 (Rupees Five Hundred)
- **Research Scholars:** INR 350 (Rupees Three Hundred Fifty)
- **NGO Directors/Social Work Practitioners:** INR 600 (Rupees Six Hundred)
- **Independent Researchers/Industry Participants:** INR 750 (Rupees Seven Hundred Fifty)

Foreign Participants: INR 1800 (Approximately 20 USD)



REGISTRATION LINK

<https://erp.loyolacollege.edu/loyolaonline/conference/loginManager/youLogin.jsp>



PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES FOR ONLINE FDP

- The programme is open to Academicians, Research Scholars, NGO Directors/Social Work Practitioners, and Independent Researchers from diverse fields.
- The FDP will be conducted virtually via a designated online platform (details to be shared upon registration).
- Participants are required to attend all sessions to receive the participation certificate.
- A stable internet connection, a computer/laptop with a webcam, and audio capabilities are mandatory.
- Active participation in discussions, workshops, and Q&A sessions is encouraged.
- Complete the registration process by paying the applicable fee and submitting the required details by the deadline (to be announced).
- Maintain professionalism, respect, and adherence to the programme schedule and guidelines.

CHIEF PATRONS FROM LOYOLA COLLEGE

Rev.Dr.J.Antony Robinson SJ
Rector

Rev.Dr.D.Thomas Alexander SJ
Secretary & Correspondent

Rev.Dr.A.LouisArockiaraj SJ
Principal

Mr.L.JosephArockiasamy
Deputy Principal

CHIEF PATRON FROM GRI

Prof.N.Panchanatham
Vice-Chancellor, GRI (DTBU)

PATRONS FROM GRI

Sr.Prof.M.Sundaramari
Registrar i/c, GRI (DTBU)

Sr.Prof.A.Balakrishnan

Dean, School of Health Sciences and Rural Development, GRI (DTBU)



CHAIRPERSONS OF THE FDP

Dr.P.Mary Jessi Rani
Head, Department of Social Work
Loyola College, Chennai

Prof.M.HilariaSoundari
Head, Department of Applied Research
GRI (DTBU), Gandhigram

CONVENOR OF THE FDP

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