

International Conference
on
PLANNING SUSTAINABLE REGIONS
THE SOCIAL-ECONOMIC-ECOLOGICAL
TRIAD

51st Annual Conference of the Regional Science Association, India



13th, 14th and 15th February, 2020



Organised by
Amity Institute of Environmental Sciences &
Amity Institute of Social Sciences
Amity University
Kolkata, India

International Conference

on

PLANNING SUSTAINABLE REGIONS: THE SOCIAL-ECONOMIC-ECOLOGICAL TRIAD

The 51st International Conference of the Regional Science Association will be hosted by Amity Institute of Environmental Sciences and Amity Institute of Social Sciences of Amity University, Kolkata on 13th, 14th and 15th February, 2020. The conference is open to regional scientists, practitioners and researchers in the field of regional science. It will include Keynote Lectures, Plenary and Scientific Sessions.

The Background

In the broadest sense, any social science analysis that has a spatial dimension is embraced by regional scientists. As a subject, it was initiated in 1940's by economists who were dissatisfied with the level of regional economic analysis, led by Prof. Walter Isard and his supporters to promote the "objective" and "scientific" analysis of settlement, industrial location, and urban development. Isard targeted key universities and campaigned tirelessly. 2019 was his 100th birth anniversary and we hope to continue celebrating his works in the 51st anniversary of the Regional Science Association.

The Regional Science Association in India (RSAi) was born in 1964, when Prof. Isard visited the IIT Kharagpur in India and has been carried forward by Prof. Chitta Ranjan Pathak who has led its development through the last 50 years. Its biannual journal, Indian Journal of Regional Science has been published since 1967. Over the last 50 years, RSAi Annual conferences (both national and international) have been hosted by eminent institutions across India including IIT's, IIM's, Mumbai, Baroda, Nirma, Calcutta, Tripura Universities, School of Planning and Architecture to name a few. As a befitting Golden Jubilee celebration, RSA India was selected to host the 12th World Congress of Regional Science Association International, The first World Congress was held at Harvard University in 1980 and its 12th at Goa, India.

About the Host institution

Amity University is a multi-campus, non-profit, research intensive private university in India established by an Act of Uttar Pradesh legislature and founded by Dr. Ashok K. Chauhan, President of the Amity Group of institutions and Founder of Ritnand Balved Education Foundation.



Amity University Kolkata is yet another landmark project by the Amity group to revolutionised the Indian Higher Education sector by providing globally benchmarked, research and employment oriented education as per the vision of our Founder President.



Across its sprawling campus of 150 acres in the satellite town at Kolkata, Amity University meticulously leads its 1,50,000 students to their successful futures, through its 70 odd Departments and 300 Academic Programmes including undergraduate, post graduate and research. It has campuses in 11 cities in India and the Kolkata campus is comparatively young. The institution has a varied array of departments including Business Management, Humanities, Social Sciences, Environmental Sciences, Biotechnology, Journalism, Mass Communication, Law, Fashion, Fine Arts, Hospitality & Tourism, Architecture, Engineering & Technology and Foreign Languages.

Focal Theme of the Conference

|| **Planning Sustainable Regions: The Social-Economic-Ecological Triad** ||

One of the most pervasive concerns of the present century is Sustainability. There has been much discussion on the matter of sustainability over the last few decades and we have come to the conclusion that it is indeed the most complex and challenging task to attain “sustainability”. It is also apparent at the same time, that we need to be more holistic in our approach towards achieving sustainability - and that seems to be a more approachable goal - through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s) that the world has embarked upon. It is with this spirit, we attempt to dwell upon the theme of sustainable regions. Regional science is interdisciplinary in nature - embraced by economists, geographers, sociologists, political scientists, planners and environmentalists. This is a major strength - we can achieve in leaps and bounds what we wish to achieve - solutions to build sustainable regions. We say regions because we need to look at the urban, the peri-urban and the rural facets of our world, without any bias.

Sub-themes of the conference:

1. *Regional economies: urban, per-urban, and rural*
2. *Climate change and vulnerability*
3. *Environmental issues and challenges*
 - a) *Biodiversity and ecology*
 - b) *Agriculture and food security*
 - c) *Travel and tourism*
 - d) *Planning for mountain, coastal, riverine and wetland ecosystems*
4. *Sustainable infrastructure planning*
 - a) *Housing*
 - b) *Transport, communication and accessibility*
 - c) *Trade and Flow of Goods and Services*
 - d) *Market Dynamics: Financial, Labour, Capital Goods and Services*
5. *Social planning for sustainability*
 - a) *Health and wellbeing*
 - b) *Education and capacity building*
 - c) *Heritage and Culture*
 - d) *Electronic media and regional complexities*
6. *Issues in the political economy*
 - a) *Global to local challenges*
 - b) *Governance, institutions and innovation*
7. *Geoinformatics and regional analysis*
8. *Big data in regional analysis*

Call for Abstract

Abstracts are invited from researchers in economics, geography, sociology, political science, environment studies, regional planning, architecture, and allied disciplines. One can be the lead author for one paper or poster. Interested authors are requested to submit a fleeting abstract written in English within 300 words in Times New Roman 12pt font with 1.15 line spacing. The abstract should include the title of the paper, name(s) of author(s), presenting author, affiliation including proper e-mail address, objective, methods, findings and keywords of the entire paper in brief. Subject specific and goal-oriented abstracts will be selected by a reviewer committee. Abstracts should be submitted in the following format to the following email id:

amityrsai2020@gmail.com

All the applicants are requested to fill up the registration form using the link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdXOYWdC7Ei2W9mGwINFeSsUYst2iE_GuDbAPBK8zhCf7qcew/viewform

Agricultural Development and Nature of Regional Imbalance in Some Selected States of India

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In recent years, regional development and its spatial diversities have obtained prime attention of the academicians, planners, politicians and bureaucrats. India is suffering from a wide regional gap in terms of access to amenities. The present study aims to identify both spatial and temporal dimensions of regional imbalance in Indian states like Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, and Punjab. Census of India and NSSO data has been used to assess availability and access to different amenities. Regression and spatial statistics have been used to bring forth the determinants. Besides, some empirical study is also conducted across 500 households from select villages from lagging districts to delve into the causes and issues.....It is concluded that there is a temporal change in the gap in access across regions, but the urban bias continues to be a major issue. The study concludes with a set of possible solutions and suggestions that are achievable with local participation instead of grand scales and large financial allocations.

Keywords: (maximum four keywords).

Young Regional Scientist Award

Young regional scientist award will be awarded to promising researcher aged below 35 years, selected by a committee of experts on the basis of presentation made during a specified session in the conference. Willing participants are requested to mention abstract for Young regional scientist award in the subject of e-mail. Single authorship is mandatory to take part in the said session. Willing participants have to submit proof of registration as soon as acceptance is intimated by December 25, 2019.

Important Dates

Deadline for abstract submission

December 20, 2019

Notification of selection:

December 25, 2019

Registration within:

January 20, 2020

Registration Fees

Members of RSAi:

INR 2000

Non-member Indian Delegates:

INR 2500

Delegates from SAARC Countries:

USD 100

Other International Delegates:

USD 180

Registration fees will cover conference kit, lunch and tea.

Bank Details for Registration

Name of the Bank	:	State Bank of India
Account No.	:	37364653656 (Current Account)
Address	:	Bikash Bhavan, Salt Lake
Beneficiary	:	Regional Science Association, India
IFSC	:	SBIN0007816
Swift Code	:	SBININBB334
Currency	:	INR

*The registration fees should be paid by bank transfer only, followed by an email to **amityrsai2020@gmail.com** enclosing the receipt of the proof of the payment, for record.*

Accommodation

Outstation delegates can avail accommodation on payment. They may contact the organizers at asaha@kol.amity.edu or praychaudhuri@kol.amity.edu

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Venue

Amity University

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