

## Two Day National Seminar

On

## **Sustainable Development and Social Work: Exploring the Road Ahead**

**25 & 26 March 2025**

**Venue: Department of Social Work, PSV Sriniketan**

### **About the Seminar**



The integration of sustainability principles into the field of social work is a developing area of study and practice. This area of scholarship delves into the different dimensions in which social work practices across diverse countries are adapting to address pressing social issues and long-term environmental challenges. There is a need to be informed of different case studies and interventions from across the globe that highlight the adaptable and innovative approaches used by social workers to promote Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The relationship between the social work profession and SDGs is becoming increasingly evident on a global scale. The intersection of these two fields gives rise to a new paradigm of comprehensive and sustainable social work, which provides essential tactics and insights necessary for tackling the global challenges of the twenty-first century. The need is also to explore the interrelationship between the SDGs and the global agenda for social work and social development. Sustainable development, in the context of social work, refers to the practice of addressing social issues and promoting well-being within communities while considering the long-term environmental impact, ensuring that current actions do not compromise the needs of future generations; essentially, social workers actively work towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by tackling issues like poverty, inequality, and climate change through community-based interventions and policy advocacy, aiming to create a more equitable and sustainable world for all.





## Key points about sustainable development and social work:

- **Alignment with SDGs:**

Social work principles strongly align with the SDGs, which encompass a wide range of issues like poverty reduction, health, education, gender equality, and environmental protection, making it a crucial field for achieving these goals.

- **Focus on vulnerable populations:**

Social workers often work with marginalized communities disproportionately affected by environmental degradation, making environmental justice a key aspect of their practice.

- **Community engagement:**

A core tenet of social work is actively engaging communities to identify needs, develop solutions, and advocate for policy changes that promote sustainability.

- **Multi-dimensional approach:**

Sustainable development in social work requires a holistic approach, considering the social, economic, and environmental aspects of a situation to create long-term positive change.

How social workers contribute to sustainable development:

- **Educating communities:**

Raising awareness about environmental issues and promoting sustainable practices within communities.

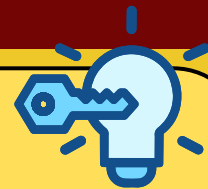
- **Advocacy and policy change:**

Lobbying for policies that address environmental concerns and promote social justice.

- **Empowering individuals and communities:**

Building capacity within communities to address environmental challenges and advocate for their needs.





- ***Integrating sustainability into practice:***

Incorporating environmental considerations into all aspects of social work practice, from case management to program development. Examples of social work interventions related to sustainable development:

- ***Climate change adaptation programmes:***

Assisting communities vulnerable to climate change impacts, such as those facing extreme weather events, with preparedness strategies.

- ***Environmental justice initiatives:***

Advocating for equitable access to clean air, water, and land for marginalized communities.

- ***Community-based green projects:***

Supporting initiatives to improve local environments, like urban gardening or tree planting.

- ***Sustainable livelihood development:***

Promoting economic opportunities that minimize environmental harm and empower individuals to build sustainable livelihoods.



## Major Thematic Areas of the Seminar

- \* Sustainable Development and Social Work
  - \* Children, Rights and SDGs
- \* Global Cooperation and Sustainable Development
  - \* Livelihood and Sustainability
- \* Gender, Social Work and Sustainable Development
- \* Green Social Work, Green Labour and Social Development
  - \* Vulnerable, Marginalized and role of SDGs
  - \* Social Work Intervention in areas of SDGs
  - \* Inclusiveness, Development and Social Work
- \* Any other related area not covered in the theme



# Visva-Bharati

## Important dates:



**Call for Abstracts:** Abstracts are invited on identified themes of the Seminar and related areas (not exceeding 300 words) in MS Word

(Font: Times New Roman, Size: 12, Spacing: Single).

**Please send your abstracts on the following Email Id:**  
**[vbswseminar2025@gmail.com](mailto:vbswseminar2025@gmail.com)**



**Last Date of Abstract Submission:**

February 28, 2025

**Intimation of Abstract Acceptance:**

March 10, 2025

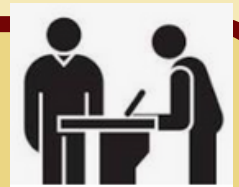
**Full Paper Submission:**

March 19, 2025

**Registration:**

March 19, 2025 onwards

**Fee: Academicians/Practitioners- INR 1200,  
Scholars: 800, Students: 600**



**(Inclusion: Day 1: Seminar Kit, Lunch and Breakfast with tea on both the days): Travel and Accommodation is not included**



**Publication:**

**The Department plans to publish selected papers presented at the seminar in the form of an edited book with an ISBN.**

**Dept. of Social Work**



## About Visva Bharati and Department of Social Work



This Department is the oldest and premiere institute of **Social Work** in eastern India. It has followed the footsteps and ideals of Gurudeva Rabindranath Tagore. Being the first institute in India to introduce Bachelor degree in Social Work (BSW) in 1963, it started Master of Social Work (MSW) programme in 1977. Three programmes such as BSW (Hons), MSW and PhD in Social Work are offered now through this Department. Seventeen faculty members and three academic support staff with rich academic background continuously strive to maintain quality education and research for almost 230 students who come from the adjoining states.

Visva-Bharati (**A UNESCO World Heritage University**) is a pilgrimage for education and culture. It reflects the Tagorean ethos of making a complete human being. It is a hallowed place of learning cradled in a serene environment in the lap of Nature where Rabindranath Tagore, the first non-European Nobel Laureate, founded a school called Brahmacharyasrama for children in 1901 and it was around this nucleus that the structure of an unconventional University, called Visva Bharati developed. Visva Bharati was declared to be a Central University of India and an Institution of National Importance by an Act of Parliament in 1951. It was granted the status of a unitary, teaching and residential university having courses from school to university level. The motto of Visva Bharati has been "Yatavisvambhavatyekanidam" - where the world makes a home in a single nest.





# Visva-Bharati

## Organizing Committee

Chief Patron: **Vice-Chancellor, Visva-Bharati**

Patron: **Prof Santanu Rakshit Principal, PSV, Visva-Bharati**



## Co-Patrons:

**Prof Asok Kumar Sarkar**, Professor of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Prof. Debotosh Sinha**, Professor of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

## Conference Director

**Dr. Paramita Roy**, Head Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

## Organizing Secretary(s)

**Dr. Subhashree Sanyal**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Shri Firdous Barbhuiya**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

## Joint Organizing Secretary(s):

**Mr. Ramprasad Das**, Associate Professor, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Dr. Sukumar Pal**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Dr Neelmani Jaysawal**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Dr. Sudeshna Saha**, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

## Core Members Organizing Committee

**Dr. Ajanta Sarkar**, Guest Faculty, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Dr. Rituparna Dey**, Guest Faculty, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Dr. Manoj Kumar Biwas**, Fieldwork Organizer, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Mr. Samit Dasgupta**, Audio Visual Operator, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Mr. Subhodeep Mukherjee**, Fieldwork Organizer, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Mr. Amit Kumar Yadav**, Multi-Tasking Staff, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Ms. Shreya Mishra**, Multi-Tasking Staff, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

**Mr. Prabir Dey**, Office Assistant, Dept. of Social Work, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan

For any queries please mail at : [vbswseminar2025@gmail.com](mailto:vbswseminar2025@gmail.com)

Contact: **9002013772/9854553669**

**Address:** Office of the Head of the Department

Department of Social Work

Palli Samgathana Vibhaga, Sriniketan-731236

Visva-Bharati

**(A UNESCO World Heritage University)**

Google Location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/3AWJUZZBBFH2y9M9u6>



**Dept. of Social Work**