Second Circular

21st Science Council of Asia Conference

Science, Technology & Social Science Research: Together for a Better World

March 15-17, 2022, New Delhi, India

Sponsored and Organized by
Science Council of Asia (SCA)

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Ministry of Education, Government of India

General Information

Concept Note

The last couple of decades have witnessed remarkable surge in the interest for multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary researches, having the best of science, technology and social science researchers working on themes of common and converging interests for the betterment of societies across the world. There is a realisation, greater than ever before, that science and technology are increasingly becoming part of day to day life and so, the society, its needs, aspirations and adaptability to the transformations brought about by developments in science & technology have acquired pivotal position while considering the outcome of shifts caused by science and technology.

Understanding the social implications of the newer applications of science and technology has become critical and seems to continue to be so, given the dynamics of social changes with developments in science and technology. The pervasive use of science and technology in decision-making processes such as consumption, production, use of such knowledge in medical sciences and even application of ICTs in addressing the complex situations that are encountered by people and governments have made it imperative to study science and technology and social science together for a better world. It is being recognised to growing extent that while science and technology studies need a more humane and social approach through the integration of social science theories, frameworks and understanding, whereas social science studies can gain objectivity and enrichment from greater orientation towards empirical and evidence-based researches in science and technology domains. These integrations are and can be mutually bolstering and can thus significantly contribute to expanding the knowledge frontiers to produce better societal outcomes.

Historically, the roots of such a multidisciplinary area of research could be traced back to the classic study by Thomas Kuhn's 1962 piece '*The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*' where Kuhn examined how scientific knowledge and its technological applications could effectively be connected to the social developments built on law, politics, public policy, ethics, and culture. Since then there has been widespread interest in researches combining multidisciplinary perspectives for holistic view on research problems. In the recent times, many universities in the world have designed and offered such courses which are based on multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary areas.

The research has primarily been categorised in two groups –

1) understanding science and technology researches as social institutions, and

2) assessing and mapping the impacts of science and technology on society and various aspects of societal developments such as social structures and systems, environmental aspects, peace and other human dimensions.

However, recent developments and emerging contemporary challenges such as rise in new forms of information technology such as application of artificial intelligence (AI),

machine learning, block chain technology and other such technological advancements, and also the risks posed by imminent threats such as climate change have brought new set of challenges for the both - science and technology as well as social science researches. It requires innovative methods and holistic approaches to understand such challenges and devise ways of addressing these challenges in meaningful ways. Obviously, these challenges cut across disciplinary boundaries and require systematic and holistic approaches.

The proposed conference offers the right platform for engaging young scientists from such a wide canvas to discuss, deliberate, debate and rise to such challenges in bringing out new knowledge and foster multidisciplinary researches for a better world.

The Conference will feature eminent keynote and plenary speakers. It will also involve parallel sessions and poster sessions on the various areas of the theme.

Main theme of conference

Science, Technology & Social Science Research: Together for a Better World

The Sub-Themes and focus areas

The Program of the Conference will involve four parallel sessions where papers relevant to the sub-themes can be presented and to encourage interaction and fruitful discussions among researchers, scientists and scholars of multi-disciplines through sharing of know-how and expertise in their respective fields.

Participants are welcome to submit research paper with an abstract not exceeding 300 words. It should be in line with one of the following sub-themes and any of its subsequent focus areas.

- **Science, technology and public policy in larger social, historical and ethical contexts**
- **Science, technology and society for SDGs**
- **Socio-technological transformation and Future Earth: theories and applications**
- **Socio-technological transitions and the key economic sectors**
- **Social construct of scientific and technological developments**
- **Role of science and technology and social science in the emerging research fields such as biomedical science, information science, and the natural sciences**
- **Frameworks, approaches, methods for science, technology and social science studies**
- **Social Science Paradigm with emerging Big data, Artificial Intelligence and Block-Chains**

Call for abstracts:

Applicants are invited to submit a half-page abstract of their paper in English (MS Word, 12 points, refer to the attached sample abstract limited up to 300 words) by email to sca21icssr@gmail.com by 10th February 2022.

Important dates:

10th February 2022	Abstract submission due
20th February 2022	Notification of the acceptance of the abstract
8th March 2022	Submission due of presentation material
15-17th March 2022	21st Science Council of Asia Conference

Organizing institutions:

The Science Council of Asia (SCA) is an international scientific organization founded in 2000 by Asian science academies and other national scientific organizations. SCA aims to provide scientists in all fields, including cultural and social as well as natural sciences and technology, with a collaborative platform for promoting scientific exchange and cooperation in Asia, and to develop and promote a holistic vision focusing on sustainable development and improvement in quality of life. At present, SCA is comprised of 31 academic organizations in Asia, and SCA Conference has been held annually since 2001.

The **Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR),** New Delhi (India), established in the year 1969, is an autonomous body working under the aegis of Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India. It is the apex national nodal Council for promoting and funding social science research in India. The funding and promotional programmes of the ICSSR operate through the mechanism of institutional and individual grants. An all India network of 24 frontline Research Institutes and six regional centres is maintained and five recognized institutes are programmatically supported by the ICSSR. ICSSR is the single largest agency involved in the funding of social science research to the Universities, Colleges and research institutions in the country.

21st SCA Conference Agenda

(Tentative Programme)

Date	Time (IST, UTC+0530)	Programme	Host
15-03-2022 (Tuesday)	10:00-10:20	Opening Ceremony and Group Photo	ICSSR
	10:30-10:50	Keynote Speech-1	
	10:55-11:15	Keynote Speech-2	
	11:15-11:30	Break	
	11:30-13:00 Parallel Sessions	**Theme1-**Science, technology and public policy in larger social, historical and ethical contexts	
		Theme2-Science, technology and society for SDGs	
	13:00-14:00	Break	
	13:00-14:30	Poster Presentation	
	14:00-15:30 Parallel Sessions	**Theme3-**Socio-technological transformation and Future Earth: theories and applications	
		Theme4-Socio-technological transitions and the key economic sectors	
	15:30-16:00	Break	
	16:00-17:30	SCA Board Meeting	SCA Secretariat
16-03-2022 (Wednesday)	10:00-10:20	Keynote Speech-1	
	10:25-10:45	Keynote Speech-2	
	10:45-11:15	Break	
	11:15-13:00 Parallel Sessions	**Theme5-**Social construct of scientific and technological developments	
		Theme6-Role of science and technology and social science in the emerging research fields such as biomedical science, information science, and the natural sciences	
	13:00-14:00	Break	
	13:00-14:30	Poster Presentation	
	14:00-15:30 Parallel Sessions	**Theme7-**Frameworks, approaches, methods for science, technology and social science studies	
		Theme8-Social Science Paradigm with emerging Big data, Artificial Intelligence and Block-Chains	
	15:30-16:00	Break	
	16:00-17:00	Closing Ceremony	ICSSR
17-03-2022 (Thursday)		Virtual Cultural Tour (TBD)	

Chair
Prof. Jang-Moo LEE, President of SCA
Prof. V.K. Malhotra, Member Secretary, ICSSR & Vice-President of SCA

Co-chairs
TBA

General Secretaries
TBA

Keynote Speakers

Prof. KOTANI Motoko, Tohoku University, Japan & ISC President-elect (2022 – 2024)

Language:

English is the official language of the conference. English will be used for all the printed materials, presentations and discussions.

Date: March 15-17, 2022

Conference Mode
The meeting will be held in online mode. The conference webcasting link and meeting ID will be announced before the conference starts.

Financials
● Registration is free.

Website
https://icssr.org/sca

Enquires
21st SCA Conference Organizing Team
Email: sca21icssr@gmail.com

(Sample format of abstract)

Title of the paper
First author1, second author2, and third auther3

       1-Position of the first author.
       2-Position of the second author.
       3-Position of the third author.

Keywords: (Within 5 words)

Abstract:

Abstract, which is limited to 300 words in total, must include the following items.

- Purpose / Context
- Methodology / Approach
- Results
- Key Findings / Implications
- Originality