



International  
Gender Conference

## 6<sup>th</sup> International Gender Conference (IGC)

on

*Bridging the Gap: Advancing Sustainability through  
Gender-Inclusive Solutions*

1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2024

*(Virtual Mode)*



*A glimpse from the 1st IGC on 'Revisiting, Reviewing and  
Restructuring Spaces for Urban Women' (March, 2019)*

**Organized by**

**Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts  
Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune**

**in association with**

**DePaul University, Chicago & Montclair State University, New Jersey**

## *About Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts (SSLA)*

SSLA is India's first liberal arts college to offer a four-year full-time Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science (Liberal Arts) Honours degree. Established in 2011, SSLA offers a wide spectrum of 20 specializations across diverse fields such as the Social Sciences, Humanities, Natural Sciences, Computers, Mathematics and Statistics, and professional courses like Media and Business Studies.

Discussions around gender have been an integral part of SSLA from its inception. SSLA offers a specialization in Women and Gender Studies, and has invited a gender based violence specialist as a Scholar-in-Residence to prepare a zero-tolerance policy for gender-based harassment. SSLA's Queer Qrew, established in 2017, is a student driven community which regularly conducts workshops for sharing their



*Students in front of SSLA's iconic wall*

thoughts on being queer at the crossroads of educational and institutional policies. The annual IGC is one of the ways of engaging with discourses on gender through a lens of interdisciplinarity from the global academic and professional community. DePaul University, Chicago has partnered with SSLA in various academic and co-curricular spaces, the IGC being one of them.

## *About IGC-2024*



*At the 2nd IGC on 'Identity- Breaking Ground'*

Inclusive Solutions'. The IGC-2024 aims to understand the interlinkages between gender and sustainability through dialogic interventions.

Symbiosis School for Liberal Arts (SSLA), Pune and DePaul University, Chicago, have been collaborating on the International Gender Conference (IGC) since 2019. An annual event hosted by SSLA, the conference has become an important space for voices from across the globe. This year IGC will be focusing on advancing Sustainability through Gender-

## *Concept Note*

The core understanding of sustainability is to meet the needs of the present without compromising the resources for the future generations. The sixth International Gender Conference (IGC 2024) aims to understand the interlinkages between gender and sustainability through dialogic interventions. The challenges of creating pathways to

sustainability and enhancing gender equality are both urgent. This conference wants to explore why they must be addressed together.

Significant societal goals related to sustainability include - fairness, justice and equity, liberty and freedom, personal community national and world security, inclusive development related to realizing full human capacity, environmental sustainability related to supporting nature's balance, as well as efficiency referring to doing more for less in a resource and capital-efficient way.

Sustainability and gender are evolving concepts historically. Gendering sustainability would include themes that can be understood as gendered forms of political mobilization and organization; gendered rights of resource access and control. It would also mean a review of gender thinking and silences in current approaches to climate change, green economies and planetary boundaries. Due to misinterpreted linkages between women and nature, women's roles as so called 'carers' of nature have been essentialized that draw on their voluntary labour in narratives that cast them as 'sustainability saviours'. Revisiting a longer history of sustainability thinking and feminist scholarship highlights problems and potentials in developing a fully 'gendered pathways approach'.

In India, first, the decades of the 1970s and then the 1990s witnessed the increasing involvement of women in land and price rise struggles across the country. Women's struggles have been against displacement and dispossession. They claimed rights to livelihoods in lands that they had cultivated and takeover of common lands. Tribal women and ecological communities in India have continuously struggled for rights over the forests that they have lived in or collected food and food supplements from for a long period and always called their own. Stringent forest/environmental protection measures, mining, power projects, and special economic zones have threatened their livelihoods. The development trajectory followed since the 1990s has brought the tribals and the landless into direct conflict with policies. Women have struggled with structures within and coloniality and neo-liberal policies outside and have used their utmost survival strategies when faced with declining accessible natural resources, negligible incomes, and increasing assaults on their dignity.

The inclusion of Gender Equality as an important sustainable development goal highlights how human rights including both civil and political rights do not essentially ensure gender justice and a just society should understand how gender permeates every other societal or sustainable goal including the eradication of poverty and hunger, ensuring education, health care, safe drinking water and sanitation and clean

energy and most significantly networks and collaborations for peace and climate action. This conference will try to explore gender progressive alliances between communities, public and private actors, state and civil society institutions and formal and informal practices. The gender collectives organising, emerging in diverse ways and across the world may offer the greatest hope for both challenging unsustainable pathways and charting new ones that lead us in more sustainable, gender equal directions. IGC 2024 calls for paper presentations around the following themes -

1. Engendering Sustainability: Understanding Historical, Social and Political Contexts
2. Gender, Livelihoods and Migration
3. Gender, Environment and Climate Change
4. Development, Sustainability and Gender
5. Craft, Sustainability and Gender
6. Institutionalizing Gender in the Agriculture Sector: Work Recognition and Land Rights
7. Feminist Political Ecology: Searching Southern Empirics and Intersectionality
8. Health, Sustainability and Gender practices
9. Narratives and Folklore
10. Digital Materiality

## ***Abstract Submission***

All are cordially invited to submit their abstracts based on findings, innovations, best practices, a new methodology, or research work in the form of practical, theoretical, and methodological aspects of identified themes and related areas and case studies. Each abstract must be accompanied by three to five keywords. Please send a bio note of not more than 100 words along with the abstract. Kindly email your abstract to [igc2024@ssla.edu.in](mailto:igc2024@ssla.edu.in) You will be informed about the registration process after the abstract selection.

### ***Submission Guidelines***

- Title of the abstract/poster: Times New Roman, 14 pt, Bold
- Full Name: Times New Roman, 12 pt
- Designation and Affiliation: Times New Roman, 12 pt
- E-mail id of the corresponding author: Times New Roman, 12 pt
- Abstract Body: Times New Roman, 12 pt
- Spacing: 1.5

### ***Important Dates***

- Last date for submission of abstract: 1<sup>st</sup> February (Thursday) 2024.
- Word Limit for Abstract: 300 words.
- Date of notification for acceptance of abstract: 12<sup>th</sup> February (Monday) 2024.

### ***For any queries, please contact***

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