



THE GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE



(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
Ministry of Education (Shiksha Mantralaya),
Government of India. Accredited by NAAC with 'A++' Grade (4th cycle)



CENTRE FOR RURAL TECHNOLOGY, THE GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE (DTBU)



UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

&

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, TRICHY



JOINTLY ORGANIZING

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON

SMART VILLAGES & RURAL DEVELOPMENT

COSVARD 2026 (Hybrid Mode)

29th & 31st October

&

SMART VILLAGES Design Poster Competition 2026

31st October

Jointly hosted with CIB Working Commission,
W107 (Construction in Developing Countries)
and Task Group, TG127 (Social Value in Built Environment)

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission of Poster	26-10-2026
Notification of Acceptance	27-10-2026
Poster Presentation	31-10-2026

FOR FURTHER DETAILS

<https://pdfbros.com/s/w7et58w>

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, CONTACT

Dr. B. Sangeethavani	9566780190
Dr. R. T. Balamurali	9894063747

CATEGORY	FEE			
	National(INR)		International(\$)	
	ON	OFF	ON	OFF
UG / PG STUDENTS	300	500	3	5
RESEARCH SCHOLAR	700	900	7	9
ACADEMICIANS / OTHERS	1000	1200	10	12



Scan here
for Registration



Scan here
for Payment



VENUE

Silver Jubilee Hall,
The Gandhigram Rural Institute,
Gandhigram,
Tamil Nadu, India

REGISTRATION FEE

CATEGORY	FEE			
	National(INR)		International(\$)	
	ON	OFF	ON	OFF
UG / PG STUDENTS	300	500	3	5
RESEARCH SCHOLAR	700	900	7	9
ACADEMICIANS / OTHERS	1000	1200	10	12

*Registration fee included lunch and refreshments for offline participants. Registration fee does not include travel and accommodation.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodations for the participants will be arranged on request made well in advance, on payment.

ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR PAYMENT

Name of the Account	Organizing Secretary ICESD 2026
Account Number	110279798440
Bank Name	CANARA BANK, GRI
IFSC Code	CNRB0008500
MICR Code	62501505

FUTHER DETAILS

Contact: 9894063747 , 9566780190



Registration QR



Payment QR

CHIEF PATRON

Prof. N.Panchanatham Vice chancellor, GRI

PATRON

Dr.P. Marimuthu Registrar , GRI

Dr.P. Kalavathi

Dean, School of Computer
Science & Technologies, GRI

ORGANISING COMITTEE

University of Melbourne

A/Prof HemantaDoloi (Chair)

The Gandhigram Rural Institute (DTBU)
(Local Partner)

Dr. B. Sangeethavani (Co-Chair) - Director i/c,
Assistant Professor, CRT, GRI

Dr. R.T.Balamurali (Co-Chair) - Assistant Professor,
CRT,GRI

Dr. Santhosh Loganathan (Co-Chair) -Assistant Professor,
NIT, Trichy

CAMPUS SUPPORTING COMMITTEE

Dr.S.Uma Assistant Professor(Temp),CRT,GRI

Dr. J. Jeseema Nisrin Assistant Professor(Temp),CRT,GRI

Dr. K. Infant Xavier Assistant Professor(Temp),CRT,GRI

Er. S. Abinaya Teaching Assistant,CRT,GRI

Er. G. Jegadeesh Teaching Assistant,CRT,GRI

Er. P.Marimuthu Teaching Assistant,CRT,GRI



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THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SMART VILLAGE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (HYBRID MODE)

COSVARD 2026

29th & 31st October

&

**SMART VILLAGES 2026 - DESIGN POSTER COMPETITION
JOINTLY HOSTED WITH CIB WORKING COMMISSION, W107
(CONSTRUCTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES) AND TASK
GROUP, TG127 (SOCIAL VALUE IN BUILT ENVIRONMENT)**



Gandhigram, Dindigul District,
Tamil Nadu - 624 302, India.
www.ruraluniv.ac.in

ABOUT THE GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE

The Gandhigram Rural Institute - (Deemed to be University) was established in 1956 as one of the fourteen Rural Institutes founded by the Government of India to promote rural education and sustainable development.

The Institute has been accredited with an "A++" Grade by NAAC in its Fourth Cycle (2025) and is fully funded by the Ministry of Education through the University Grants Commission (UGC), Government of India, New Delhi.

ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR RURAL TECHNOLOGY

The Centre for Rural Technology (CRT) was established in 1987 to promote rural housing technologies and to advance sustainable, low-cost construction practices tailored to the needs of developing communities.

The Centre offers an AICTE-approved B.Tech. Civil Engineering programme and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering programme, supported by a team of experienced and dedicated faculty members.

Over the years, the Centre has successfully organized numerous National and International Level conferences, seminars, and workshops, fostering collaboration among academia, research institutions, and industry experts. It has also conducted training programmes for Self-Help Groups (SHGs), masons, and NGOs, focusing on cost-effective, energy-efficient, and eco-friendly building materials and construction techniques.

CRT has implemented several major research projects funded by the UGC, DST-SERB, and other national agencies, and has also undertaken consultancy projects for the State Planning Commission, Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Centre's alumnus are leading National and International construction and infrastructure organizations, contributing significantly to the advancement of sustainable civil engineering worldwide.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE AND POSTER PRESENTATION

This conference will be fully peer-reviewed, supported by a scientific committee comprising globally recognized leaders and experts.

THEMES

Conference themes include, but are not limited to:

Rural Housing: Housing affordability, low-cost housing, materials selection, energy and water solutions, sanitation, reusability and recycling of waste, skill development, environmental design, disaster resilience and other relevant topics.

Rural Infrastructure: Construction and maintenance of roads and other forms of infrastructure, access to education and health care, provision of services, including energy, potable water, waste and sewage management, creation of public spaces, ICT applications and operations, and other related topics.

Rural Economy: Building social capital, micro and community-led finance, income generation, farming support, crop selection and improvement, market access, pricing, various forms of tourism and other related topics.

Sustainability: Environmental, Social, and Economic sustainability, implementation of Sustainable Development Goals

Smart Governance: ICT and data-driven solutions, machine learning applications, alternative forms of governance and other relevant topics.

Circular Economy: Framework for local manufacturing, local production, local consumption, use and re-use, repairing, refurbishing, re-cycling products and services, including other relevant topics.

Social Procurement, Social Value and Value-for-Money: Models for promoting localised trades and contracts, evaluation of community-specific social benefits, value for money assessments, alternative forms of procurement strategies and other relevant topics.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

1.Prof Mohan M Kumaraswamy- Editor-in-chief (Emerald Journal Of the Built Environment Project and Asset management- BEPAM)

2.Prof Dongping Fan- Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

3.Prof V.K.Vijay - National coordinator, IREDA Chair professor, Country-Head (Unnat Bharat Abhiyan)(IIT Delhi)

4.Prof S.M.Ramasamy - Honorary emeritus Professor, Gandhigram Rural Institute(Deemed to be University), Gandhigram, Tamil Nadu, India & Former Vice Chancellor,GRI, India.

5.Prof Ani Raidon - Nottingham Trent University, UK

6.Prof K. Ravichandran - Senior professor & Head, Department of Cooperation, GRI & Regional Coordinator, UBA, India

ABOUT THE POSTER PRESENTATION

As part of the COSVARD 2026 conference, the organising committee is calling for submissions of design posters that communicate innovative solutions for “Smart Village” development in rural contexts.

Posters should clearly communicate innovative solutions for Smart Housing, Infrastructure or Whole Village Improvement, with an emphasis on sustainable development. We are particularly looking for innovative ways of promoting alternative energy, water conservation, sustainable construction materials, waste management, ecological conservation and enhancement, enhancement of existing communities or any combination of these factors.

The final poster for the presentation and exhibition in COSVARD 2026 will need to be prepared in high-resolution images. Entrants will need to prepare their posters as a single A1-size, colour sheet that communicates their smart village solution(s). Submissions must include name(s), title, affiliation and a poster title. Posters that are accepted for face-to-face presentation at the conference will need to be brought by the entrants as full-sized (A1), colour-printed posters to the conference, at which time they will be displayed and judged.

The three best posters will be awarded prizes, and their creators will be expected to provide a brief presentation of the content of their posters to the conference audience.

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AFFILIATED PARTNERS

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, Chennai, India

National Institute of Technology (NIT) Trichy, India

International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB)

KEY ASSOCIATED INSTITUTIONS

- Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
- National Institute of Technology, Trichy
- Smart Cities Research Institute (SCRI), Swinburne
- University of Technology, Australia
- Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
- Indian Institute of Technology, Tirupati
- Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati
- International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB)