

Undergraduate Conference on  
**Fostering Sustainable Growth: Rural Development, Social Security, and Community  
Empowerment for a Resilient Future**

Organized by  
Social Development, Policy Research and Publications Division  
National Institute of Social Development

On  
22<sup>st</sup> May 2025

### **Introduction**

In an increasingly interconnected world, rural communities continue to be pivotal in the pursuit of sustainable development. These communities often face distinct challenges, including economic disparities and limited access to essential services. However, they also possess remarkable potential for growth, innovation, and transformation. Addressing these challenges and unlocking this potential requires thoughtful, integrated approaches that focus on economic development, social security, and the empowerment of local populations.

This conference provides an opportunity for undergraduate students, researchers, and practitioners to engage in meaningful dialogue about how rural areas can be strengthened through sustainable and inclusive growth strategies. By emphasizing critical areas such as rural development, social security, and community empowerment, the event will facilitate the exchange of ideas, the sharing of successful practices, and the formulation of actionable solutions aimed at building resilient rural communities.

As we progress through the 21st century, it becomes increasingly important to recognize the vital role rural areas play in shaping a more sustainable and equitable society. Effective policies in rural development, inclusive social security systems, and empowered communities are key to ensuring that rural populations are not left behind in the face of global challenges. The discussions at this conference will focus on identifying opportunities for innovation and collaboration to foster a resilient and prosperous future.

We invite participants to contribute their perspectives and insights, as we collectively explore pathways for sustainable growth, improved social safety nets, and the creation of stronger, more empowered communities. Together, we can inspire future leaders to address the challenges of rural development and work toward a brighter, more resilient future for all.

### **Main Them**

Fostering Sustainable Growth: Rural Development, Social Security, and Community Empowerment for a Resilient Future

## **Sub- Them**

- I. Sustainable Rural Development: Strategies for Inclusive Growth
- II. Social Security Systems in Rural Areas: Ensuring Protection for All
- III. Community Empowerment: Building Capacity for Local Leadership and Development
- IV. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Rural Development
- V. Environmental Sustainability and Resilience in Rural Communities
- VI. Rural Health Systems and Social Well-being
- VII. Youth Engagement and Innovation in Rural Development
- VIII. Collaborative Partnerships for Rural Development

## **GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACTS**

- Title** : **Title should not be exceeded 20 words**
- Abstract** : The abstract should not exceed 300 words. Structured abstracts with the *Objective, Method, Results, Conclusions*.
- Language:** Abstracts must be clear, concise and grammatically correct. Spellings should conform to concise dictionary.
- Font** : **Sinhala:** Iskolapotha **Tamil:** Bamini **English:** Times New Roman
- Outline** : Abstract should be typed on standard-sized paper (A4) (8.5" x 11") with 1" margins on all sides.
- Font Size** : Font size - 12  
Line spacing - 1.5

### **Contacts**

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