Sustainable development as a concept, practice and an alternative for the existing economic order was proposed by the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) known as Brundtland Committee, in 1987. Sustainable development is the kind of development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (WCED 1987). We have two major questions before us – (a) What needs to be sustained, namely, nature, life support system, and community (Parris & Kates 2003), and (b) What is to be developed, namely, individuals, the economy and society (Leiserowitz, Kates, & Parris 2006). This debate has originated from the fear of environmental disorder that moved beyond boundaries when all the countries ratified Agenda 21 that binds sustainable development as policy priority in all economic, social and political space of the globe (Beckerman, 1994). Though the Agenda binds equally all nations across the globe, United Nations claimed that it may not be possible to come up with a single blueprint of sustainability for the entire globe, as economic and social systems and ecological conditions vary significantly among countries. Irrespective of these differences, sustainable development as a global framework should be considered as the ultimate objective of this discourse (United Nations General Assembly, 1987) while each nation to have own agenda.

Sustainable development as a debate started with environment protection. Subsequently it has shifted to interrelation between production processes, environment and exploitation of resources for the production. The challenge of sustainable development is to maintain balance between environmental imperatives and economic growth (Seelos & Mair, 2005) with equal attention to the social dimension to 'promote diversity, protection of human rights, reduce poverty, enhance workplace equity and social justice' (Rusinko, 2010).
Entrepreneurial innovation with sustainability have played major role to preserve the eco-system (Cohen & Winn, 2007; Schaltegger & Wanger, 2010). Among them social entrepreneurs¹ are in the forefront to create a sustainable society. They take up innovative practices especially in developing nations; enhancing education, productivity, socioeconomic status of the marginalised people, physical health, waste management, energy retention and self-reliance of individuals and societies are to name a few. They also operate in enterprise mode to address social or/and environmental problems while also being financial sustainable. Such initiatives function within the guided philosophy of the sustainable development. As a result the field of social entrepreneurship is receiving increased attention across the globe as a prominent approach to achieve sustainable development (Drayton, 2002b; Bornstein, 2004; Spear, 2006; Steyaert & Hjorth, 2006; Nicholls, 2006). Social entrepreneurs require an ecosystem with inclusive policy environment, markets, incubators, mentors, impact investors and other stakeholders involved (Hatch, 1997).

Against this backdrop, the Centre for Social Entrepreneurship, School of Management and Labour Studies of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai offers to organise and host International Conference on ‘Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development’ to be attended by about 350 academicians, practitioners and students from across the South Asian Countries especially India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. Academicians from USA, UK, South Africa and Europe will also participate.

The Conference will have three major segments – scholarly research, educational initiative on impact investment, and young social entrepreneurs’ meet. The segments have been so chosen to develop the fields of sustainable development and social entrepreneurship as field of academics and practice. This aims at developing support for creating an overall impact on the well being of the human society. On one hand, the first segment aims at knowledge creation, and the second segment addresses the institutional systems and frameworks to support the dissemination of knowledge while the third segment attempts to interface with the target group for which the programme is being designed. In the entire design process scholarly dimensions and practice fields are equally represented and harmonized.

In the first segment research papers will be presented and deliberated. Though indicative following research questions will be addressed covering almost all aspects of the Theme of the Conference,

1. Concepts of Sustainable Development
   a) What are the theoretical frameworks for sustainable development?

¹ Social entrepreneurs are the reformers and revolutionaries with social mission. They make fundamental changes in the way things are seen and done in the social space (Dees 1998). Social entrepreneurs make social change with Innovative solutions for the societal problems they come across.
b) Are the existing theoretical frameworks on sustainable development really sustainable?

2. Institutional Approach to Sustainable Development
   a) Is corporate social responsibility relevant in sustainable development?
   b) Is civil society doing enough to promote sustainable development?
   c) Is education sector contributing to sustainable development? Why? Why not?

3. Social Entrepreneurship as an Approach to Sustainable Development
   a) How does social entrepreneurship contribute to sustainable development?
   b) Are the existing models of social entrepreneurship good enough to promote sustainable development?
   c) What kind of innovations is needed for sustainable development?

4. Policy and Governance on Sustainable Development
   a) What is the role of good governance in promoting sustainable development?
   b) What are the policy gaps that hinder sustainable development?

5. Technology as a Tool for Sustainable Development
   a) What are existing technologies in sustainable development?
   b) Do we have the right ecosystem for technology solutions for sustainable development?
   c) What is the role of technology in sustainable development?

6. Sustainable Livelihoods
   a) What are the dimensions of sustainable livelihoods?
   b) Are Public Works Programmes really offering sustainable livelihood solutions?
   c) What is the role of social entrepreneurship in providing sustainable livelihoods?

7. Environmental Sustainability
   a) What is the role of entrepreneurs to solve the sustainable development problems?
   b) What is the role of innovation in providing sustainable environmental solutions?
   c) What are the models to mitigate climate change issues?

In the second segment another important aspect ‘Impact Investment’ will be discussed and debated to arrive at a working model to offer a Global Masters Programme on Impact Investment. This segment is being supported by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Geneva (Switzerland). It is important to note that TISS represents Asia in this global agenda of education initiative on sustainable development which is an important element of Sustainable Development Goal the Secretary General of United Nations is going to announce later this year, to replace the current UN Millennium Development Goal and to be effective from 2015.
The third segment is iPreneur'15, to be anchored by the students and alumni of Masters Programme on Social Entrepreneurship of TISS, to be attended by the students from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. iPreneur'15 will be an event to celebrate Social Entrepreneurship as a phenomenon to pursue the agenda of sustainable development while keeping the stakeholder value intact. This will be supported by DBS Bank India. The objectives of iPreneur’15 will be a) to build strong network of Social Entrepreneurs to mutual learning and resource sharing, b) to present and share ‘social venture models and ideas’ aimed at solving social problems, and c) to provide collaboration opportunities to individuals and organizations. This segment will be in alignment with overall purpose of the International Conference and involve the following activities and events such as Social Venture Competition, Expert Lectures, Discussion Panels, Social Innovation Workshop, and Stalls for Social Ventures.

**Expected outcomes and deliverables of the Conference**

The Conference will not only create a network of academicians, scholars, professionals, social entrepreneurs and students from across the globe especially among the South Asian Countries to collaborate in solving social, economic and environmental issues for sustainability and overall well being. The research papers will be subjected to editorial review by a panel of experts and will be published in form of an edited volume through a reputed publisher or special issue of a reputed scholarly journal. The Conference will also establish a network of educational institutions to launch Global Masters Programme on Impact Investment to create a pool of professionals to deal with investment decisions for sustainable development. The Conference proceeding will also help in developing a proposal for setting up Technology Incubation Center at the Tata Institute of Social Science to support social venture start-ups to develop and implement business plans aiming at application of technology for high social impact for sustainable development. The Centre for Social Entrepreneurship of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai has already signed a MoU with the Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai for technology transfer to the social ventures initiated by the graduates of Masters Programme in Social Entrepreneurship.

We invite delegate, both from academics and practice fields, to participate in these deliberations. We are particularly interested in understanding the processes of social entrepreneurship and its role in building sustainable societies.

**Registration and Accommodation**

The delegates including paper presenters are required to pay registration fee as per the table below. Individual registration will be required in case of papers written by multiple authors. We
also have limited accommodation at our Guest House on nominal payment. This will be offered on twin sharing basis.

Registration without accommodation covers conference kit, lunch, conference dinner, whereas registration fee with accommodation includes conference kit, conference dinner, breakfast, lunch and dinner and for four nights. Those seeking accommodation, if available, may arrive not before February 03 evening and must leave on February 07 morning before 10.00 AM. Dinner will be served from February 03 to 06 whereas the registration fee with accommodation also includes breakfast and lunch from February 04 to 07, 2015.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Registration Fee for Paper Presenters</th>
<th>Registration Fee for other Delegates</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Without Accommodation</td>
<td>With Accommodation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>INR 6000</td>
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<td>International</td>
<td>USD 250</td>
<td>USD 500</td>
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All the registration fees are non-refundable.

Paper presenters seeking accommodation will be required to apply for the same latest by November 10, 2014. For other delegates, accommodation will be available on first-come-first serve basis.

The registration fee should be paid through demand draft or multi-city cheque drawn in favour of ‘Tata Institute of Social Sciences’ payable at Mumbai, mailed to 'Dr Archana Singh, Assistant Professor, Centre for Social Entrepreneurship, School of Management & Labour Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, V N Purav Marg, Deonar, Mumbai 400 088 (Maharashtra)’. Senders must write their names, addresses and affiliation on the backside of the cheque or draft.

In addition, authors as well as other delegates need to download the 'Registration Form' available on TISS website, fill up and send it to tiss.cse@tiss.edu in order to complete the registration process for the conference.

The registration process will start from November 01, 2014. Registration will end for paper presenters on November 30, 2014 and for other delegates on December 15, 2014.
Scholarships

Limited number of scholarships will be available for paper presenters and non-working doctoral students, not receiving any financial support. The scholarship covers registration fee, and accommodation for the four days (only for outstation paper presenters) including food as specified above. Such candidates after receiving communication on acceptance of papers will be advised to send separate request to this effect with justification, latest by November 10, 2014.

Key Timelines

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Last date to send Extended Abstract</td>
<td>31 May 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notification of First Level Acceptance</td>
<td>15 June 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submission of Full Papers</td>
<td>15 September 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification of Final Acceptance</td>
<td>30 October 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Starts for Paper Presenters and other Delegates</td>
<td>01 November 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last date for sending request for scholarship and accommodation</td>
<td>10 November, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Ends for Paper Presenters</td>
<td>30 November 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Ends for other Delegates</td>
<td>15 December 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Programme Announcement</td>
<td>26 December 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Dates</td>
<td>04-07 February 2015</td>
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</table>

Please address all communications to,

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References:


