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 entrepreneurs\(^1\) 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 deal with the sub-themes and the respective research questions below. Though indicative the questions are broad based addressing almost all aspects of the Theme of the Conference.

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

\(^1\) 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.
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?

We invite papers, both theoretical and empirical, that focuses on the research questions outlined above. We also invite other delegate interested in participating in these deliberations without submitting paper. We are particularly interested in understanding the processes of social entrepreneurship and its role in building sustainable societies. Authors must submit an extended abstract (Background, objectives and research methodology) in about 2000 words to Ms Archana Singh, Assistant Professor (email id tiss.cse@tiss.edu) not later than **May 31, 2014**. PhD scholars and junior researchers are encouraged to submit their proposals. Work in progress research of the PhD scholars will also be considered provided that their work falls under the themes outlined above, provided the scholars can submit substantial work at the time of submission of full paper. Relevance of papers, quality of objectives/ research questions and robust methodology would be the critical parameters for including the papers in the Conference. The abstract must also contain authors’ names, institutional affiliations, contact number, email and postal address. Authors will be notified of first level acceptance or otherwise by **June 15, 2014**. They will be required to submit the full paper by September 15, 2014. The papers will be subjected to review and the authors will be notified of final acceptance or otherwise by October 15, 2014.

**Registration and Accommodation**

The delegates, both paper presenters and otherwise are expected 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 i.e. from February 03 to 06, 2015.

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<th>Nationality</th>
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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 'Ms 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 for paper presenters and other delegates 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 full time and non-working doctoral students and those not receiving any kind of financial support for attending the Conference. The
scholarship covers registration fee, and accommodation for the four days (only for outstation paper presenters) including food. Such candidates after receiving communication on acceptance of papers will be advised to send request to this effect with justification, latest by November 10, 2014.

**Key Timelines**

Last date to send Extended Abstract : **31 May 2014**  
Notification of First Level Acceptance : **15 June 2014**  
Submission of Full Papers : 15 September 2014  
Notification of Final Acceptance : 30 October 2014  
Registration Starts for Paper Presenters and other Delegates : 01 November 2014  
Last date for sending request for scholarship and accommodation : 10 November, 2014  
Registration Ends for Paper Presenters : 30 November 2014  
Registration Ends for other Delegates : 15 December 2014  
Final Programme Announcement : 26 December 2014  
Conference Dates : 04-06 February 2015

Please address all communications to,

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**References:**


