

Virtual Conference

COVID-19 DIALOGUE
Sectoral Impacts, Global Response and Enhancing
Resilience to Future Pandemics

24th & 25th September 2020

Jointly Organized
by



Abstract

The conference addresses issues that have come to the fore with the pandemic; the role of the government and civil society as well as global or macro governance in systems of prevention, control and treatment, the infectious disease burden on sectors like trade and investment, large infrastructure projects, migration, agriculture, transportation & communication. Interested authors are encouraged to contribute to the conference through submissions of their research papers or panel proposal.

CURATOR

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Concept Note:

The World Health Organisation declared a global health emergency on 30th January 2020 and on 11th March, a pandemic. The situation has continued to dramatically escalate: at the time of writing, there have been 18,466,594 confirmed cases of Covid-19 and 699,134 deaths. It is estimated that 91% of the global population is now living with restricted movement. The COVID-19 crisis has affected societies and economies around the globe and will permanently reshape our world as it continues to unfold. It has brought changes to markets, economy and our daily lives. While some changes like rising unemployment, strict social distancing may begin to ease, changes in the supply chain, shift in economy and politics will be long-lasting. The pandemic is an unprecedented situation which has spread across countries and regions. However, the magnitude of the effect depends on the state of the disease in a particular country. The solution is not likely to be global but local with different strategies emerging from different regions.

The emergence and resurgence of communicable diseases remain the major concerns in the contemporary 'risk' society or 'liquid' society. A look into the history of communicable diseases makes it clear that at different times such diseases have shattered human lives. The emergences of SARS, MERS, Ebola, Chikungunya, Avian flu, Swine flu, Zika and Corona (COVID-19), have challenged our Health systems, Economic systems, Governance systems, Education systems, Social and Cultural Systems and our very lifestyles. The global impact of this outbreak began to be felt as countries around the world closed their borders, cities shut down and economies worldwide came to a virtual standstill. Today, the major challenge is to create an equipoise in the relationship between socio-economic development and pandemics of communicable diseases and their control. We should look to protect the interests of all beings and thereby overcome the challenges of equality and equity by building cultural resilience while maintaining global connectivity; engage in productive communication in a "post-truth" era; promote human rights in the face of extremism; rebuild communities shattered by the pandemic and design solutions to best serve vulnerable groups in emergency settings.

The conference offers policymakers a comprehensive picture of expected long term changes and opportunities to improve the state of the world. It will address issues that have come to the fore with the pandemic; the role of the government and civil society as well as global or macro governance in systems of prevention, control and treatment, the infectious disease burden on sectors like trade and investment, large infrastructure projects, migration, agriculture, transportation & communication.

Call for Papers

Prospective authors are encouraged to contribute to the conference through submissions of their research papers. Original and unpublished research of a conceptual, constructive, empirical, experimental or theoretical nature that addresses themes and topics of the conference is highly welcome. Contributions from faculty, research scholars, policymakers, practitioners and other professional are appreciated. The topics include but are not limited to the following subthemes.

Session-1: The Economy and Covid-19

- Economic and Business impacts. Loss of revenue & employment, shrinking economies and loss of market confidence. Rescue packages, their effectiveness, and their impact on different sectors of the economy.
- International Trade and Trade policy, Structural Change, Inequalities and Development.
- Agriculture & Economy: Emerging Challenges of Food and Agricultural Production
- Infrastructure, Transport, Building Industry, MSMEs & Home-based Industry
- Banking & Investment, Monetary Policy, Credit, Finance in the short and long run

- Demography and Household Economics: How assets and liabilities of households are influenced by the pandemic; loss of human capital & deterioration of the labour market in the post-pandemic economic environment.
- Micro econometrics: Regional and Urban Economics, Work Organization and Employment Relations

Session-2: The Pandemic and the Social Order

- Society after pandemic; How the pandemic is shaping society; Coronavirus: a ‘breaching experiment’? Is it exposing the cracks and fissures of our class-driven ‘fractured society’?
- Industrial Migration and Social Mobility;
- Covid-19 and Human Rights- the unintended consequences: Violation of human rights across the spectrum, including economic and social rights, and civil and political rights: Digital rights, rights of people with disabilities, Rights of Migrants, Child Rights.

Session-3: Health: Emerging Landscape of Infectious Diseases

- Pharmaceutical & Health industry.
- Leadership and responsibility: the relationship between politicians and scientists during a public health crisis, public trust in politicians; public health collaborations between states, with WHO in a globalized world.
- Psychological considerations: Individual and collective responses to the crisis: altruism, egoism, and everything in between; Coping in self-isolation; technology’s role for facilitating communication during lockdowns and for distributing public health information: i.e. government distributed text messages, or Instagram’s ‘stay home’ features.

Session-4: Emerging Contours of Geopolitics

- Political Economy and Institutions; Trends in Public-Private Partnerships
- The impact of different governance systems on the curtailment of the virus: Our ability to conduct democracy without full freedom of movement; changes to planned legislation
- End of Globalisation? Will our world remain globalized, or will it witness a return to greater localization? How will politics change post-pandemic? Geopolitics in Indo-Pacific region; Great Power Rivalry; Global Governance and Institutional responses
- Health diplomacy: Confrontational strategies- a threat to global health security
- Vaccine Nationalism: Why vaccines produced need to be shared globally; Global, not national recovery- a must

Session-5: Stressed Systems: Law, Order and Public Services

- Lockdown and challenges of Law enforcement
- Health care
- Social services and Utilities
- Tourism & hospitality;
- Public transport;
- Aviation sector
- Impact on Children, Senior Citizens and Women: Malnourishment, Abuse & Depression

Session-6: Environment and Resources

- Sustainable Growth and Development: Resource efficiency for healthy living spaces and strategies to conserve nature and its resources.
- The Environmental Impact: Impact of reduced air travel; Pandemic good or bad for the climate?
- Impact on Agriculture and Food Security
- Covid-19: Rethinking water resource security
- Forests and fisheries

Session-7: Culture, Education and Media

- Cultural considerations: the impact of the cancellation of many national cultural events, the postponement of the Olympics and the ramifications for all affiliated sporting bodies; the impact of closed museums, cinemas and public events of many kinds on our cultural lives and identities; the impact of cancelled conferences on ongoing academic discourse and knowledge exchange.
- Linguistic and communication-related considerations: the rapid collective adoption of new phrases, i.e. in the English language ‘social distancing’; the use of hashtags to drive behaviour i.e. #stayhomesavelives, #quedateencasa.
- Education considerations: the impact of closed schools, cancelled exams, online teaching and assessments; establishing new best practices.
- Covid-19 and the Media: Voices in the Pandemic: Social Media; Fake News; Polarization of the Media; Mistrust in Times of Crisis, Now and in the future.

Registration & Submission:

SUBMIT ABSTRACT

or visit our website www.wpc.org.in

Should you have any queries contact to Ms. Aruna at email: president.vgf@gmail.com or Mobile: +91 8652406643

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission	: 30 th August 2020
Notification of Acceptance/ Rejection	: 3 rd September 2020
Registration by	: 10 th September 2020
International Conference	: 24 th & 25 th September 2020

Registration Fee

Participation Type	Registration Fees Indian Presenters	Registration Fees International Presenters
Faculty/Researcher/Professional Presenters	Rs. 1000	USD 25
Student Presenters	Rs. 500	USD 10

Please Note:

- There is no registration fee for listeners
- Speakers will get 10 minutes each for presentation
- The conference will be held via Zoom platform
- Participants and Paper Presenters will get E-Certificate
- Please enter your full name and designation correctly in the registration form, as the same will be used for your e-certificate
- Please log into the zoom platform 15 minutes before the session begins.
- We strongly recommend that presenters use laptop/desktop rather than mobile phone/iPad.

Publications

Selected full papers will be peer-reviewed and published both electronically and in print either as a Conference proceeding or as a book.

Organizers**The Water Policy Center (WPC) Aurangabad, MH, India**

The Water Policy Center (WPC) Aurangabad, MH, India is an independent not-for-profit Think Tank established in 2014 to present constructive policy proposals and scientific research on water and sustainable development. The WPC believes that the emerging water crisis across the world is a result of lack of management, rather than the shortfall of rain. Therefore, effective management of water resources and constructive policy solutions are the need of the hour. The WPC has been involved primarily in research and advocacy activities in the areas of identification of water-stressed regions, providing and implementing solutions in collaboration with local government, advocating water-regulation in Maharashtra as well as at the national level to ensure equitable access to water. In addition, it has made a notable contribution to policy-making at various levels through research and outreach activities. The Centre focuses on a trans-disciplinary approach linking food, energy & environment as an intervention in these sectors have cross-sectoral implications both in terms of cost and benefits. The focus of the Centre's activities and research has been on ensuring cost-effective lab to land technologies like micro-irrigation technologies and reviving traditional flow irrigation systems with an emphasis on both equity and efficiency. Website: www.wpc.org.in

Venuganga Foundation, Aurangabad, MH, India

The Venuganga (Human Development) Foundation (VGF) is a non-governmental organisation registered under the Society Registration Act. It is established with the mission of rural development established in 2011 in the city of Aurangabad. It promotes human development, particularly in rural areas through agriculture development, education, women empowerment, water research and watershed programs, public health, rural infrastructure, and land reform.

NES Ratnam College, Bhandup, Mumbai

NES Ratnam College was established in 1983 and is affiliated to the University of Mumbai. Since its inception the college has been evolving and has made a mark for itself as one of the premier institutes of higher learning in the city. It has been listed in the Best College category by the University of Mumbai. Ratnam College occupies a place of pride among the 62 institutions of the National Education Society & Saraswathi Vidya Bhavan Group founded by Dr R. Varadarajan. The college has excellent infrastructure and well qualified and dedicated faculty. It has the unique distinction of catering to students from the marginalised sections of the society and providing them with a range of opportunities for growth and development.