

13th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABILITY

SUSCON XIII

THEME

Climate Change, Circular Economy and Social Equity

19th - 21st Nov, 2026



HOSTED BY

Indian Institute of Management Shillong



Introductory note on SUSCON

In the last eighteen years since inception, IIM Shillong has kept alive and strengthened its intellectual and moral commitment to the overarching cause of integrating Sustainability into every aspect of its academic programmes and initiatives covering all aspects of human endeavour. SUSCON is not just a Conference or another academic activity, it is a movement that has created a platform for dialogues and deliberations at a local, national as well as global level. It aspires towards creating a value-based, humane and sustainable future for business, academia, Government, civil society groups, NGOs and thinkers and practitioners covering all disciplines of management and beyond to include all other domains of pursuit of knowledge and practice. It dreams of leaving behind for posterity ethically driven business organizations, a sane and happy society, and a sustainable planet earth to be created by visionary, conscientious and inspired leaders of thought and action from enlightened academic and research institutions.

Over the years, many eminent personalities from the world over have shared their valuable insights on various aspects of Sustainability. SUSCON has been blessed by the presence of Bharat Ratna Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, former President of India, Padma Bhushan Dr. Sundarlal Bahuguna, Jadab Payeng, the Forest Man of India, Dasho Karma Ura, the President of Centre for Bhutan Studies and Gross National Happiness (GNH), and Padma Shri Shyam Sundar Paliwal as our Chief Guests among many others.

Introduction to SUSCON XIII

The **13th International Sustainability Conference of IIM Shillong** is convened at a critical juncture in global development, as nations and communities grapple with the interconnected challenges of **climate change, resource constraints, and widening social inequalities**. The chosen theme **“Climate Change, Circular Economy and Social Equity”** reflects a growing global consensus that sustainability challenges cannot be addressed in isolation and must instead be tackled through integrated, systems-oriented, and inclusive approaches.

Recent global developments underscore the urgency of this convergence. The year **2024 was confirmed as the hottest year on record**, with global average temperatures reaching approximately **1.55°C above pre-industrial levels**, pushing the world perilously close to the Paris Agreement threshold. Intensifying heatwaves, floods, wildfires, and glacier loss across continents have reinforced scientific warnings that climate change is no longer a distant threat but a present and escalating reality affecting ecosystems, livelihoods, and human well-being worldwide. In response, the global policy landscape is evolving. At **COP28 in Dubai**, countries concluded the first-ever **Global Stocktake**, calling for a transition away from fossil fuels and operationalizing the long-awaited **Loss and Damage Fund** to support



climate-vulnerable nations, marking a significant though incomplete step towards climate justice.

Parallel to climate action, the **circular economy** has gained renewed prominence as a strategic response to resource depletion and emissions-intensive linear production models. The European Union's adoption of the **Right to Repair Directive** in 2024, which mandates product durability, access to spare parts, and reparability for key consumer goods, signals a decisive policy shift toward extending product lifecycles, reducing waste, and fostering green jobs. Similar initiatives worldwide from e-waste reduction strategies to urban mining and reuse ecosystems highlight the economic and environmental potential of circular systems when aligned with innovation and regulatory support.

Equally central to the sustainability transition is the imperative of **social equity**. Climate impacts and transition costs continue to fall disproportionately on vulnerable communities, workers in carbon-intensive sectors, and developing economies. Recognizing this, international discourse has increasingly emphasized the concept of a **"just transition"**, which seeks to ensure that the shift toward low-carbon and circular economies generates inclusive growth, decent work, and social protection. At recent global forums, including COP negotiations and UN-led initiatives, social dialogue, human rights, and equitable access to climate finance have emerged as critical enablers of durable and legitimate climate action.

Against this evolving global backdrop, the **International Sustainability Conference at IIM Shillong** provides a vital platform for interdisciplinary engagement, critical scholarship, and collaborative problem-solving. By bringing together diverse perspectives across academia, policy, industry, and civil society, the conference aims to deepen understanding, share best practices, and co-create pathways that simultaneously address climate imperatives, advance circular economic models, and uphold principles of social equity. The conversations and insights generated through this forum aspire to contribute meaningfully to building resilient, inclusive, and sustainable futures—both in the Global South and beyond.

Sub-themes

The conference provides a global platform for engaging in dialogues and deliberations to address the issues and challenges around the following indicative sub-themes:

- 1. Low-Carbon Pathways for Economic Growth:** Exploring models and strategies for decoupling economic development from carbon emissions across sectors.
- 2. Clean Energy Transitions and Electrification:** Innovations, policies, and investments driving the shift from fossil fuels to renewable and sustainable energy systems.
- 3. Green Industry, Infrastructure, and Mobility:** Decarbonizing manufacturing,



urban development, transport, and supply chains through technology and design.

- 4. Nature-Based and Circular Solutions:** Leveraging ecosystems, regenerative practices, and circular economy principles to reduce carbon footprints.
- 5. Climate Finance and Policy for Just Transition:** Enabling decarbonization through equitable policies, green investments, carbon pricing, and inclusive financial mechanisms.
- 6. Behavioral Change, Education, and Community Action:** The role of individuals, institutions, and civil society in promoting low-carbon lifestyles and sustainability mindsets.
- 7. SDG Integration and Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships:** Exploring how climate actions align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), emphasizing cross-sector collaborations between governments, private sector, academia, and communities. Focus on SDG 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 17, and mechanisms to localize and measure impact through partnerships.
- 8. Carbon Markets, Climate Finance Metrics, and Impact Accounting:** Understanding financial instruments such as carbon credits, ESG metrics, green bonds, and climate risk disclosures. Examining transparency, standardization, and the effectiveness of market-based mechanisms in driving real emissions reductions and sustainable investments.
- 9. Entrepreneurial Innovation and Green Startups:** Fostering an entrepreneurial mindset to accelerate climate solutions, including incubation ecosystems, climate tech startups, and scalable business models. Highlighting the role of innovation, venture capital, and policy support in enabling sustainable enterprises.
- 10. Natural Resource Management and Climate Resilience:** Sustainable management of water, forests, soil, and biodiversity to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Emphasis on conservation strategies, ecosystem restoration, and indigenous knowledge systems as critical tools for resilience.
- 11. Digitalization, Data, and Climate Intelligence:** Leveraging AI, IoT, remote sensing, and big data to monitor emissions, optimize resource use, and inform climate decision-making. Focus on data-driven governance, climate risk modeling, and digital tools for transparency and accountability.

** Topics from management domains not explicitly covered above but linked to the conference theme are also welcomed**

Keynote speakers: To be announced

Call for papers, posters, and working projects/prototypes



- **Submission type**

SUSCON XIII invites academicians, research scholars, and corporate/industry executives to submit:

- Research Paper
- Literature Review
- Case Study
- Conceptual Paper
- Poster
- Working Project/Prototypes

On one or more of the sub-themes mentioned above.

- **Submission process**

Authors can submit their extended abstracts up to 1000 words in the given format; the word limit is not applicable to the tables and figures. Authors wishing to submit multiple papers will have to submit them separately.

Authors can also submit their posters and videos of working projects/prototypes using the given submission portal.

Abstract submission portal: <https://conf.iimshillong.ac.in/suscon26>

All papers must be original and not previously submitted for any other conference or journal. Authors must follow the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA), Seventh Edition (2020), while preparing their manuscript. The similarity of the text must not exceed 15%.

- **Mode of presentation**

SUSCON XIII will be conducted in hybrid mode. Indian participants will present papers physically at the IIM Shillong campus. International participants may present their papers virtually (Optional). Virtual option is also available for the project/prototype presentations from Indian participants.

Important Dates

Last date for full paper/extended abstract/project/poster submission	16.08.2026
Decision on the submissions	15.09.2026
Registration Begins	16.09.2026
Registration Closes	19.10.2026
Conference Dates	19.11.2026 - 21.11.2026



Registration Details

Corporate/Academicians	Rs. 8000 per participant + 18% GST
Research Scholars	Rs. 5000 per participant + 18% GST
International Participants	\$115 + 18% GST

The registration fee encompasses all conference materials, and full catering services—including lunch, morning and afternoon tea, and dinner—across the two-day event. The third day is reserved for the trip to tourist attractions in Meghalaya. Please note that accommodation is not included in the registration package. Participants are responsible for securing their own lodging arrangements.

Publication partners:

Publication of Conference Proceedings

The selected papers will be published in the IIMS Journal of Management Science.



Contact Details:

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Conference Website:

<https://www.iimshillong.ac.in/events-and-conferences/conferences/suscon>

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About IIM Shillong

IIM Shillong, the seventh IIM in India, has been set up with a vision to become an internationally recognized Management Institute with a Global outlook grounded in Indian values. From its inception, it has been constantly working towards a lofty mission to generate and disseminate knowledge in all aspects of management education with a focus on Sustainability and building innovative leadership.

Travelling to Shillong

Surrounded by verdant hills, Shillong offers a beautiful panoramic view of the graceful scenic countryside. Shillong can be reached by taxi from Guwahati airport/railway station, which is about 120 km away. Guwahati Airport is well-connected to many major cities in India, including Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Mumbai, and Kolkata. Helicopter services are also available between Guwahati and Shillong. Shillong is connected to Assam, Manipur, Tripura, West Bengal, and New Delhi by direct flights.

