



**The First International E-Conference of Jindal Centre for the Global South (JCGS) on “Financing for Development, 2030 Global Agenda and Post Covid19 Challenges”  
December 16, 17, and 18, 2020**

**Conference Concept Note**

**Background**

Channelling global financial flows towards Sustainable Development is imperative to achieving the 2030 Global Agenda which requires several trillions of dollars of financing needs, while current levels of Official Development Assistance stand at a mere 3-4% of this requirement. Obviously, this requires tapping into other sources of finance and emphasizes the need to leverage ODA more effectively to channel global financial flows from unsustainable areas towards sustainable development to accomplish the transformation.

The COVID-19 pandemic has uncovered major weaknesses in our global system. It has shown beyond doubt how the prevalence of poverty, weak health systems, lack of education, and above all sub-optimal global cooperation, is aggravating the crisis. Definitely, the COVID-19 pandemic will have far-reaching and long-term effects on populations and economies

worldwide. Besides its immediate impact on health, the socioeconomic consequences of the pandemic are likely to be felt by economic actors over the world, and the populations of developing countries and economies in transition are expected to be among those most vulnerable to suffer from COVID-19-related challenges.

### **Who Is Organizing This Conference?**

Jindal Centre for the Global South is organizing this conference in collaboration with the Indian Political Economy Association's (IPEA) and the Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD) in South Africa.

### **Jindal Centre for the Global South**

Jindal Centre for the Global South is a Research Centre affiliated to the School of International Affairs - O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU), Haryana, India. It draws national and international researchers from across the faculties of social sciences and humanities. JCGS conducts policy-oriented research, dialogue and training into the key social, economic and political issues across countries of the Global South with a special emphasis on South-South Cooperation and its underpinning development opportunities for the Global South countries. The Centre promotes the unity of the South in achieving the SDGs while recognizing the diversity of national interests and priorities. Jindal Centre for the Global South works on a wide range of issues relevant to the developing countries, such as development policies, sustainable development, development finance, climate change, global governance, economic and social development, South-South Cooperation, global economic conditions, technology transfer, access to knowledge, international trade, health and food security.

### **What Is The Aim Of This Conference?**

This event will bring together the academic community, international organization, policymakers and practitioners:

- To solicit new thinking on the challenges and policy recommendations to finance development and to meet the Post-COVID19 challenges that are facing the world and particularly its Southern Sphere.
- To address the structural challenges and emerging issues that the Southern Countries are facing in pursuing Sustainable Development. It will also identify policy recommendations, which will significantly impact the extent to which they can meet the SDGs, and to overcome the Post COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

In addition to the above the event will create an excellent opportunity for networking and establish a sustainable network of partner and stakeholder organisations.

### **For Whom?**

The event will bring together academicians from around the globe, key actors from the international organization, doctoral and researchers from across disciplines.

### **Plenary Sessions**

- **Special Plenary 1 – Financing Development Challenges Post Covid-19 Pandemic:** Guest Speakers are **Prof. (Dr.) Mahmoud Mohieldin**, The United Nations Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Agenda and Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund and Representative of the Arab Group, **Ambassador Prof. (Dr.) Mohan Kumar**, Professor and Dean of the Office of International Affairs & Global Initiatives. O.P. Jindal Global University, India, and **Prof. (Dr.) R. Sudarshan**, Dean, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy (JSGP). O.P. Jindal Global University
- **Special Plenary 2 – Financial Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Policies:** Guest Speakers are **Prof. (Dr.) Anurag Asawa**, Associate Professor of Economics, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, **Prof. (Dr.) Devendra Kumar Yadav**, Assistant Professor of Economics,

Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar Central University Lucknow (U.P), and **Mr. Kamlesh Kumar**, Senior Data Scientist at Virtue Analytics and Doctoral Fellow at Durham University.

- **Special Plenary 3 - Financial Inclusion in the Digital Age:** Guest Speakers are **Prof. (Dr.) Angela Lyons**, Professor and Director for the Center for Economic and Financial Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the U.S.A. and **Prof. (Dr.) Tara Nair**, Professor of Economics at Gujarat institute of development research, Ahmedabad - India.

### **Thematic Working Forums**

Parallel working forums will enable participants to present their research papers that are addressing financing for development, any of the SDGs, and Post-COVID19 related challenges. Within each thematic panel, there will be an opportunity to explore technical assistance needs in overcoming the challenges and barriers, linked to the particular theme of each group through the discussions between the paper presenters and the Panelists.

The conference is having six thematic panels:

- **Panel1:** Health Sector and Challenges of Covid-19 Pandemic
- **Panel2:** International Development Finance and SDGs
- **Panel3:** Social Policies, Labour Market and Gender Equality
- **Panel4:** Poverty, Economic Policies and Sustainable Development
- **Panel5:** Education Sector Challenges and Opportunities Post-COVID-19 Pandemic Crisis
- **Panel6:** Agriculture Sector, Environment Challenges and Sustainable Development

## **Side Event: JCGS first International SDGs Contest: “Achieving SDG’s in Time of COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond”**

Jindal Centre for the Global South has announced in July 2020 an international SDGs contest for university students and graduates from Southern Globe. The contest is about designing and carrying out a project in your local community/country that will get the world closer to achieving the Global Goals. This competition aims to give the opportunity, support and platform for Southern Youth to create a positive social change and to start to think as a socially conscious global leader. The accepted submitted full projects will be presented in the conference’ side event in a special session and the winners of the contest will be announced and they will receive their awards and a certificate.

### **Contact Details**

In case of any query, you may write to Jindal Centre for the Global South:  
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