

**2nd International Conference on
HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTES' CHALLENGES &
SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS '23**



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON REDUCED INEQUALITIES

2nd November 2023



Dr.A.Duraisamy
Convenor



Dr.S.Albert Antony Raj
Co-Convenor



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Report on 2nd International Conference on **Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10) - HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTES' CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS '23**

Inaugural Session:

On 2nd November 2023, the Faculty of Science and Humanities at SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST) organised the 2nd International Conference on Higher Education Institutes' Challenges & Solutions for Sustainable Development Goals '23, with a focus on SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities.

The conference commenced with a pleasant and perceptive **welcome address** by **Dr. A. Duraisamy**, the Dean, Faculty of Science and Humanities, SRMIST which imparted the spirit and vision of the program. The welcome address customised the tone for the conference by emphasising the pivotal role of the Higher Educational Institutions in progressing the Global agenda towards Sustainable Development and thereby reducing the inequalities in the society.



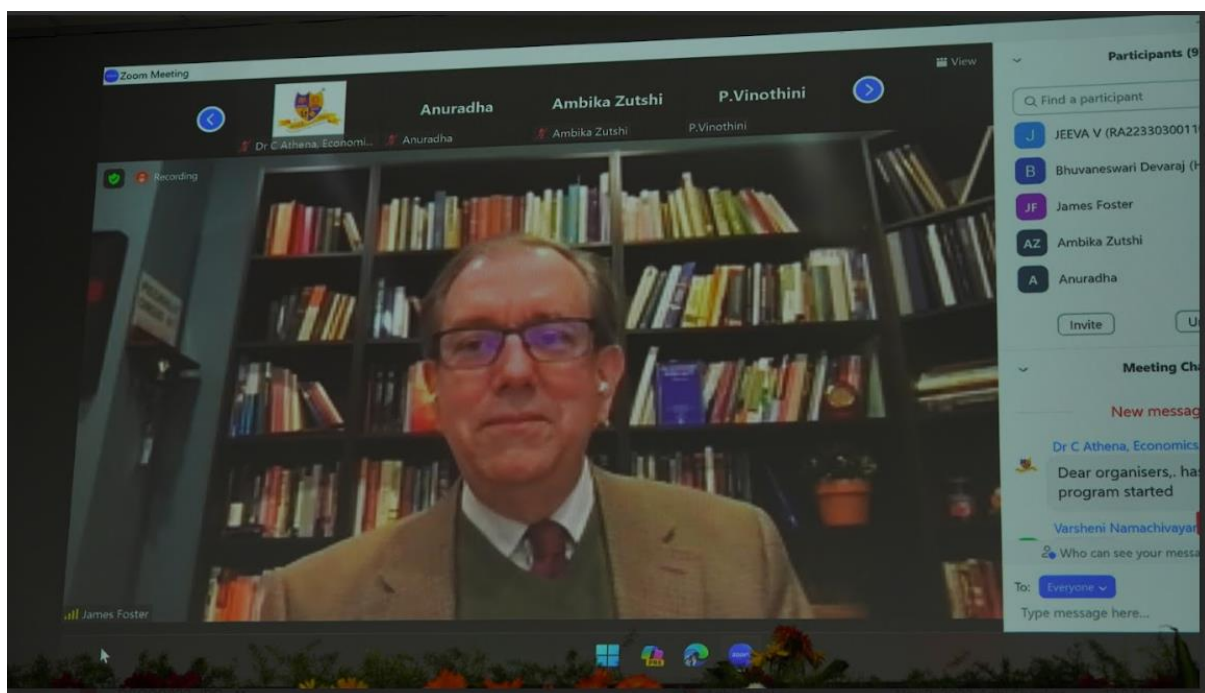


Dr. N. R. Bhanumurthy, the Vice Chancellor of BASE University in Bengaluru, sophisticated the conference with the **Inaugural Address**. He accentuated the importance of hosting a conference, thus recognizing the higher educational institutions to take up decisive role in addressing the challenges posed by SDGs, particularly to the **Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities**.



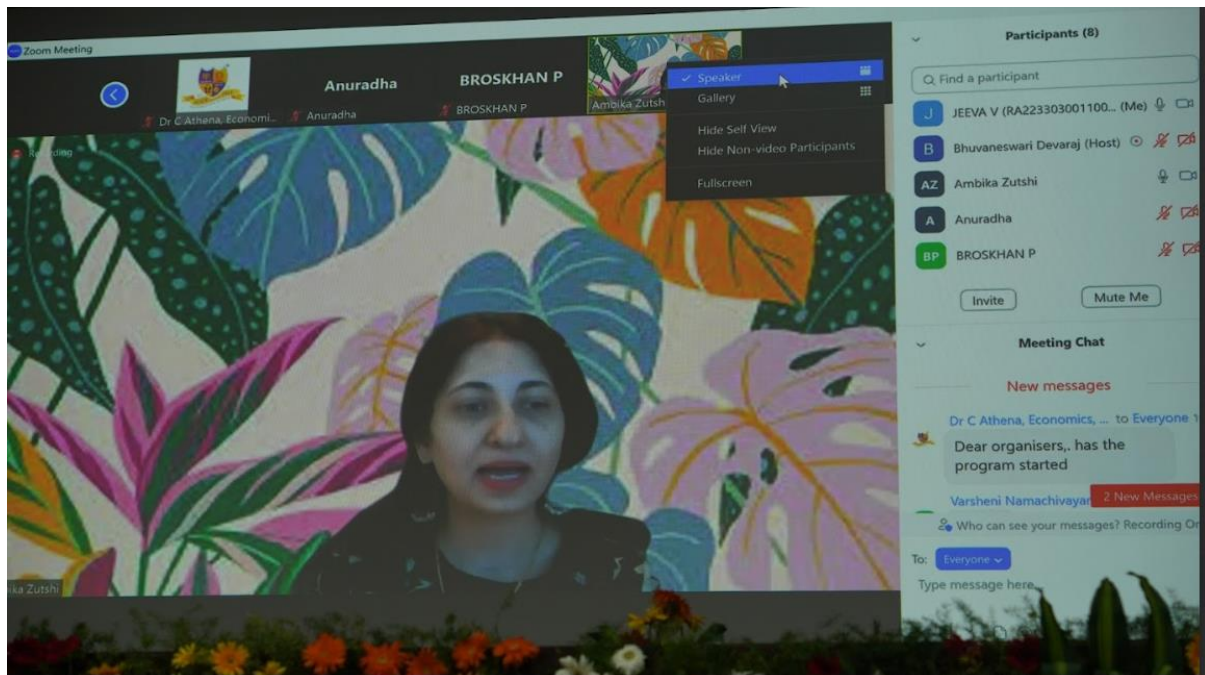
The conference featured the **Keynote address by Dr. R. Srinivasan**, a Full-Time Member of the State Planning Commission in the Government of Tamil Nadu. His speech commended valuable insights from his experience as a member of the State Planning Commission, outlining the initiatives, policies, and strategies executed by the state to confront inequalities in various domains.

Dr.KavithaA, Associate Professor, Department of Commerce, Faculty of Science and Humanities at SRMIST, rendered an indispensable role in prompting the conference by introducing the dignified Chief Guests for the Special lecture.



The special lecture was delivered by **Prof. James Eric Foster**, an eminent Professor of Economics and International Affairs at George Washington University, U.S.A. The session was an epoch-making event that provided attendees with exclusive insights through his persuasive work on social indices, including the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) published annually by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Prof. Foster's lecture enlightened the participants through his sharing on the profound impact of his

Research on the development of the directories and their significance in guiding Domestic and International policies against poverty.



The special lecture by **Prof.AmbikaZutshi**, the Management Discipline Leader and Acting Associate Head of Research at the School of Business, University of Southern Queensland, Australia, indicated the challenges and inclinations related to inequality, emphasising the role of businesses and management practices in addressing these issues.

Technical Session

Following the special lecture, the technical session of the conference, featured paper presentations across various tracks, providing a comprehensive and insightful overview of the multifaceted challenges associated with inequality. The presentations underscored the persistence of Inequalities in income, education, environmental, health, gender and social inequalities while also highlighting the ongoing efforts to address these issues.

The session encouraged the participants to think critically about the complex nature of inequalities and to consider interdisciplinary solutions that cut across different domains. It reinforced the need and importance of evidence-based policymaking, social initiatives, and global collaboration to reduce disparities and to promote equal opportunities for all.

This Conference on Sustainable Development Goal 10 has received 70 papers and in that 50 numbers have been presented. The session had four tracks of which one track has been led in online mode and the other three offline. The Session has been efficaciously superintended and overseen by the Internal Judges from the various departments of the Faculty of Science and Humanities,

SRMIST:

Dr. K. Shanthichitra, Dr. Preethi, Dr. Mathew, Dr. Surender, Dr. Tamilarasi, and Dr. Vijayalakshmi.

Valedictory Session

The valedictory session of the occasion manifested the conclusion of a successful and discerning gathering. **Dr. Albert Antony Raj S**, Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Science and Humanities at SRMIST, played an essential role in instigating the session by delivering the **welcome address** and introducing the esteemed Chief Guests.

Dr. Nisha Ashokan, the Associate Director-Student Affairs at SRMIST, commenced the event by delivering the **Special Address** emphasising the role of students and young professionals in driving change and fostering a more inclusive and sustainable future.

She has highlighted the significance of education and knowledge in creating a just and equitable society. She has projected that the students have the power to

shape the world's future and urged them to be proactive in advocating for positive change.

The **valedictory address** was delivered by **Dr. L. Venkatachalam**, Officiating Director of the Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, underscored the urgent need for the conservation and restoration of wetlands in India, especially in the context of SDG 10, which focuses on reducing inequalities.

Dr.Venkatachalam discussed how inequalities in access to resources and the benefits derived from wetlands can exacerbate environmental degradation and social disparities.

To appreciate the individuals for presenting their ideas, research, findings, and insights during the event thus contributing to the discussions on reducing inequalities and achieving sustainable development goals, certificates were distributed for the paper presenters,.

The conference concluded with a genuine and graceful **Vote of Thanks by Dr. K. Selvasundaram**, Professor and Head of the Department of Corporate Secretary ship and Accounting and Finance at SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur. He thanked the Guests, convenors of the conference, coordinators, faculty members, Research scholars, and the students for their active participation.

The one-day International conference on Higher Education Institutes' Challenges & Solutions for Sustainable Development Goals '23, with a focus on SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities was concluded with the National Anthem.

