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**International Virtual Conference
on
Developing Social Entrepreneurship Skills:
A Teaching –Learning Perspective
23-24th September, 2021**

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**Organized by
INNOTAL Project (Integrating Talent Development into
Innovation Ecosystems in Higher Education) is co-funded
by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union
UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS, Chepauk, Chennai – 600 005, INDIA**

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS

The University of Madras is one of the oldest universities in India. It was established in 1857 and modelled on the London University. It is the mother of almost all of the old Universities of South India. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has recognized the University of Madras as a state university with a jurisdiction three districts in Tamil Nadu.

The university has grown throughout the years. In 1912, it had just 17 University Departments, 30 teachers and 69 research scholars. Currently, it has 18 Schools and 87 Departments of post-graduate teaching and research. It was envisaged as an affiliating university and currently it has 121 affiliated colleges and 53 affiliated research institutions. Nine of those colleges are included in the top 100 list of the 2017 National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India. Many central and state-funded research institutions are affiliated to the University of Madras for their M.Phil. and Ph.D. programs.

The University of Madras has signed Memoranda of Understanding with 99 foreign and 25 Indian Universities. Notably, such Memoranda have also been signed with 21 business organizations from the industrial and service sectors. Nearly 150 sponsored research projects funded by various agencies are being carried out in the University departments. The University has been collaborating with Indian and Foreign

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Universities to promote student and teacher exchange programmes. The University has been accredited by NAAC, with a high Grade of 'A' and a CGPA of 3.32/4.0. It is also ranked 22 among all Indian Universities by NIRF.

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The University of Madras was also among the first five universities in the country to receive recognition from the University Grants Commission (UGC) as a "University with Potential for Excellence". A number of Departments and Centres in the University have received recognition by national funding agencies. Under the Special Assistance Programme scheme, three of them have been supported as UGC Centres for Advanced Studies and 12 departments have been recognized as UGC Departments of Special Assistance. 18 Departments have been supported under the FIST Programme of the Department of Science and Technology at the Ministry of Science and Technology in India. Two departments have been recognized under the Committee on Strengthening of Infrastructure for Science and Technology (COSIST) Program, and two departments have been supported under the Assistance for Strengthening of Infrastructure for Humanities & Social Sciences (ASIHSS) program. Six centres at the university have been supported under the UGC Innovative Centres Program. Two autonomous colleges have been recognized as colleges with Potential for Excellence.

The objectives of the University of Madras are inclusive growth and excellence. Its vision is to provide quality and socially relevant education, promoting synergy between society and industry and building students' capacity. The UNOM feels that it has the moral obligation to play a pro-active leadership role for achieving quality in the Indian higher education system.

INNOTAL PROJECT

The project "Integrating Talent Development into Innovation Ecosystems in Higher Education -INNOTAL" is implemented with the framework of the *Erasmus+ Programme, KA2 Capacity Building in Higher Education*. Capacity Building in Higher Education contributes to the modernization and internationalization of higher education in the Partner Countries. The project seeks to build the capacity of the participating Universities to ensure graduates' employability and develop students' talent by encouraging collaboration with external organizations (industry, public sector and community).

The project partnership involves five European Union partners (including four universities) from Bulgaria, Greece, Finland and the United Kingdom and 10 partner country universities: Four from India, two from the Philippines, two from Nepal and two from Sri Lanka. The INNOTAL project aims to build the capacity of universities in the

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Philippines, Nepal, Sri Lanka and India to enhance graduates' employability. It aims to facilitate the development of students' talent through co-curricular and extracurricular innovation activities involving the key stakeholders towards inclusive growth and sustainable development. The University of Madras is one of the partnering institutions from India for this project and has been working with the INNOTAL project in achieving its objectives.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Entrepreneurial education has seen exponential growth in higher education institutions worldwide and has increasingly been engaged in promoting education for social entrepreneurship. In recent years, several trends and pedagogical practices for social entrepreneurs' training have emerged, bringing new challenges to the academic sector. It is a great challenge for HEIs to train the faculty and students in knowledge economy, develop creative thinking and to promote entrepreneurship to make a social impact.

The growth of social entrepreneurship in higher education would impact the society by offering solutions to many social issues. Social entrepreneurship education is a bridge: between traditional teaching methods and new experiential learning; between knowledge and application; between schools, businesses and communities; and between nations.

The academic programmes of most universities tend to teach students to become employees instead of developing their skills and competencies to try something new, particularly in entrepreneurship endeavors. This innovative learning model will ease the teaching and learning process for both the educators and students. It can change their perspective and encourage them to start focussing on social entrepreneurship, and it also provides more knowledge to support the evolution of entrepreneurship.

Since social enterprise in education is a new area for research and interest, it attracts student community in a major scale. Therefore we intend to seek the valuable opinions of educational experts and social entrepreneurs globally to strengthen the inputs for the social entrepreneurship education.

With the above background, the INNOTAL Project (Integrating Talent Development into Innovation Ecosystems in Higher Education) under the Erasmus+ Programme, Action-Capacity Building in Higher Education of the European Union is



organizing a two day Virtual International Conference on “Developing Social Entrepreneurship Skills: A Teaching –Learning Perspective”. The participants will meet virtually to discuss the development of the graduates’ employability skill and the ways to promote entrepreneurship skills and education. It will also address the issues related to socio-cultural and gender concerns in social entrepreneurship education.

THEMES

- ❖ **Scope and avenues in Social Entrepreneurship.**
- ❖ **Impact of Socio-cultural markers on Social Entrepreneurship.**
- ❖ **Addressing the Gender concerns in Social Entrepreneurship.**
- ❖ **Impact of the pandemic towards developing entrepreneurial mindset in Students.**
- ❖ **Development of Entrepreneurial competences for a new generation of teacher at universities and colleges.**
- ❖ **Best practices to introduce entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial education into teacher training.**
- ❖ **Inspirational practices in entrepreneurship education.**
- ❖ **Sharing the experiences of INNOTAL Project partners.**

OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE

Social entrepreneurship is growing rapidly in size, scope and support. This conference would enable the participants to gain knowledge about social entrepreneurs. The participants would learn how to address social issues and how to develop creative solutions to different social problems. The conference would also help the participants to envisage social entrepreneurship as a force for social change. The deliberations and active interactions will help colleges and universities to redesign the training process of social entrepreneurship skills, curriculum, learning activities and would render ideas to start their own business.

REGISTRATION

There is no Registration Fee. Participation in this conference is open to students, faculty, external stakeholders, educational experts and social entrepreneurs. Please register through the following link:

<https://forms.gle/DbdGweyxbVAHoYWK8>

(Open this link using Adobe Acrobat Reader IX for registration or Cut and paste the above link in the google search engine for registration).



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Abstract Submission & Guidelines

Page | 5 **Abstracts should be sent through email to innotalunom@gmail.com**

The conference will be organized virtually on Zoom platform. Participants will have to submit an abstract (not more than 300 words, without maps/figures/references, Times New Roman; 12 pt, double spacing). The abstracts will be peer-reviewed and only accepted papers will be invited for presentation. E-Abstracts of the conference will be circulated before the conference to all the registered participants. The two-day conference will be divided into different sessions based on various themes and timing will be decided based on the participating countries. Ten minutes for presentation and five minutes for discussion will be allotted for each presenter. Invited talks from renowned scholars and practitioners will be organized in each session. System requirements will be communicated to all participants.

Both Registration and Abstract submission will close on 17.09.2021 (12 PM IST).



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Organizing Committee

Chief Patron:

Prof. Dr. S. Gowri

Vice- Chancellor, University of Madras, Chennai.

Patron:

Dr. N. Mathivanan,

Registrar i/c, University of Madras, Chennai.

Conveners:

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Deputy Director – HRDC &
INNOTAL Project Manager.

Dr. V. Bharathi Harishankar

Professor & Head – Dept. of Women Studies &
INNOTAL Project Principal Investigator.

Dr. M. Sornam

Professor – Dept. of Computer Science &
INNOTAL Project Principal Investigator.

Keynote Speakers:

Dr. Steven Pollard

Lecturer, Dept of Mgmt, Leadership & Marketing & Ulster University
Business School, United Kingdom.

Dr Ivan Stoychev

INNOTAL Project Coordinator, University of National and World Economy (Bulgaria).

Dr. Yeoryios Stamboulis

Department of Economics, University of Thessaly, Greece.

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Dr. Tek Chhetri, Pokhara University, Nepal.

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Ms. Rajkala Partha

Founder and President of Sharana (Social and Development Organization),
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