International Conference on Corporate Social Responsibility and Decent Work in the era of Sustainable Development Goals

21st-23rd March 2024

— CALL FOR PAPERS —

ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Emeritus Professor of International Business-Society Management, Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University

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Supported by

Dr. Dishan Kamdar

Vice Chancellor, FLAME University, Pune

Fiona Dragstra

General Director, WageIndicator Foundation

ABOUT FLAME UNIVERSITY

Spread over 70 acres of green expanse, FLAME University stands tall in the heart of Pune. FLAME University has been established as a state-private university vide the FLAME University Act 2014 (Maharashtra Act No. II of 2015) of the Government of Maharashtra. The university is recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) under Section 2(f), and degrees awarded by the university are recognized under Section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956. FLAME University is an ISO 21001:2018 certified educational organization. The university has been awarded an overall Diamond ranking along with a Diamond ranking in Academic Development, Diversity and Accessibility, Facilities, Faculty Quality, and Research Parameters by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS). FLAME's postgraduate business program offered by FLAME School of Business has been accepted into the CFA University Affiliation Program and received A* (National) and A** (State) gradings from CRISIL. FLAME University is a member of the Association to Advance Collegiate School of Business (AACSB).

FLAME has revolutionized the way students learn by breaking classroom barriers and providing them with a real-world educational experience that enables them to select their own career paths. Rooted in Indian tradition and emerging as one of the pioneers of liberal education in India, FLAME nurtures thinkers and doers who question the status quo and challenge themselves. FLAME aims to create an environment where students can break free from traditional thinking patterns, unlock their full potential, and embark on a journey of self-discovery.

The FLAME Vision

FLAME University exists to build an aspirational destination for students and faculty, to push the design and nature of studies, and to create a societal upgradation phenomenon, particularly in the fields of liberal education and leadership. FLAME will continue to be a leader in the creation and dissemination of knowledge. Being a pioneer of liberal education, FLAME promotes interdisciplinary teaching and impactful research that inspires new ways of thinking. FLAME believes in transforming society through cultivating wisdom, ethics, and character, and it hopes to pursue these goals in all its endeavors.

ABOUT WAGEINDICATOR FOUNDATION

The WageIndicator Foundation is a global, independent, non-profit organisation. Our work began in 2000 with Vrouwenloonwijzer.nl, an inclusive salary check website aimed at working women. WageIndicator has now grown to a worldwide organisation that collects, analyses and shares information on Actual Wages, Minimum Wages, Living Wages, Labour Laws, Gig and Platform Work, Collective Agreements and much more.

Our mission is to ensure more labour market transparency for workers, employers and policy makers worldwide, advocating that all workers earn a fair wage under good conditions.

Our Work

To assist workers, their representatives, employers, and policymakers worldwide, WageIndicator provides coherent, independent and accessible labour market information for 206 countries (including territories and overseas areas) worldwide through 200+ websites in 50+ national languages. Over 40 million people visited these websites in 2021.

To achieve our goals, we designed high-quality global databases on Living Wages, Minimum Wages, Actual Wages, Labour Laws, Collective Agreements and more, that are continously updated. We also developed several tools to gauge cost of living, labour law compliance, worker priorities, and salary levels.

With our quarterly-updated Living Wage database, WageIndicator helps (multinational) companies work towards implementing Living Wages in their supply chains. We help them calculate wage gaps among their workers, create roadmaps to remedy these, and provide technical support as they do so. In this way, we help them create sustainable supply chains and ensure their workers are fairly compensated. Our Living Wages are also used by NGOs in their advocacy campaigns, and by auditing firms to support their clients.

In partnership with leading universities and academic institutes across the world, WageIndicator undertakes cutting-edge research on wages, working conditions, labour law compliance, the gig economy, Collective Agreements, and more.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Corporate Social Responsibility and Decent Work in the era of SDGs

An international conference jointly hosted by FLAME University and the WageIndicator Foundation.

Introduction

In recent decades, decent work has increasingly been on economic and social agendas, with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) explicitly linking it to economic growth in SDG 8. The International Labour Organisation built on this by framing the Decent Work Agenda around the tenets of SDG 8. Governments actively promote this too; the G20 New Delhi Leader's Declaration in September 2023 committed to the cause of decent work for all workers.

Though global fora like the UN, the ILO, and the G20 may place decent work at the centre of global agendas, the responsibility of implementing decent work across value chains ultimately lies with corporations. This may take the form of paying Living Wages, providing better working conditions, ensuring gender equality, or supporting collective bargaining.

The business case for this is increasingly evident. Growing inequality has a demonstrably negative impact on economic growth, while closing the Living Wage gap could boost the global GDP by 5.4%, adding US$4.56 trillion annually, through increased productivity and spending at a cost of just $1.89 trillion. Similarly, the ILO has estimated that poor safety at work costs businesses US$2.8 trillion annually – 4% of global GDP – through lost working time, interruptions in production, treatment of occupational injuries and diseases, rehabilitation, and compensation.

There is no longer a trade-off between an economy that grows and an economy that helps people thrive. So how can we achieve this?

As we stand at the halfway point between 2016 (SDG adoption) and 2030 (SDG implementation targets), it is necessary to assess how corporations can catalyse the achievement of SDG 8, and how these efforts will fit within the larger realm of corporate social responsibility (CSR). This is all the more apt in a country like India, where notions of CSR have hitherto been narrowly restricted to mandatory philanthropic efforts.

To this end, the WageIndicator Foundation and FLAME University are organising a conference that will be a unique interface between academia and industry, aiming to advance both discourse and action on corporate responsibility.

The conference will be held at FLAME University, Pune, between **21st to 23rd March 2024.**

Conference themes and call for papers

The conference invites proposals from researchers, academics, and professionals from relevant domains for papers and poster presentations on the following themes:

- The scope of corporate social responsibility
- The centrality of Living Wages in enabling decent work and economic growth
- The role of governments, labour law, and regulation in decent work
- The power of collective bargaining in ensuring decent work
- The unique challenges of enabling decent work in the gig economy

Proposals beyond the above topics, but aligning broadly with the conference theme, are also welcome.

Submission Guidelines

Paper submissions

Applicants interested in presenting a paper at the conference should submit an abstract for the same. Abstracts must be in English and no longer than 500 words. They should contain the following elements:

- Introduction
- Research question(s)
- Methodology
- Contribution to literature
- Findings
- Keywords

Your application will be either accepted for paper presentation, poster presentation, or rejected.

Special session submissions

Applicants are also encouraged to submit proposals for special sessions at the conference. These sessions should be for between 60-90 minutes and should take the form of a panel discussion or workshop. Proposals must be in English and should be no more than 500 words. They should include

- The name of the lead organisation
- A description of the session topic and its link with corporate social responsibility, decent work, and the SDGs
- Brief descriptions of individual papers being presented (in case papers are to be presented)
- Ideas for potential speakers

All submissions must be completed by 11:59 PM IST, 15th January and made on this Google Form.

For all proposals that are accepted by the organising committee, applicants must then submit extended abstracts of up to 1,500 words with a detailed description of their hypotheses, methodology, conclusions, and contribution to discourse through this submission link.

In case of any queries, you can email the organising team at sdgconference@flame.edu.in

Conference Registration and fees

The following conference registration fees are applicable to participants whose submissions are accepted. Successful submissions will be notified by 1st February. Registration fees must then be paid by 1st March, 2024.

Participant Type	Fees for Indian Applicants	Fees for International Applicants
Academics and Researcher	INR 3,000	Euros 50
Industry professionals	INR 5,000	Euros 100
Junior researchers (PhD or postgraduate students)*	INR 1,500	Euros 25

*Junior researchers will need to provide proof of enrollment in their respective programmes.

Accommodation

The University can provide limited twin-sharing accommodation to participants on a first-come, first-serve basis. The accommodation charges include breakfast and dinner (lunch will be provided to all conference participants).

Accommodation Type	For Indian Applicants (including 18% GST)	For International Applicants (including 18% GST)
Twin-sharing (per day charges)	INR 3,000	Euros 50

Travel Support

Travel costs must be met from participants' own resources. For participants staying off-campus, a shuttle to the FLAME campus will be provided from an accessible location.

Awards

The following awards will be given to meritorious participants:

Best paper	INR 10,000 + certificate
Second-best paper	INR 6,000 + certificate
Best paper by a junior researcher	INR 5,000 + certificate
Best poster	INR 5,000 + certificate
Second-best poster	INR 4,000 + certificate

Important Dates

Abstract submission	25th January 2024
Response to abstract submission	6th February 2024
Registration deadline	1st March 2024
Extended abstract submission	1st March 2024
Pre-conference workshop	20th March 2024
Conference dates	21st March - 23rd March 2024

Organising Committee

- **Prof. Rupa Korde** - Assistant Professor of Economics and Public Policy at FLAME University; Director of Operations, WageIndicator Foundation
- **Fiona Dragstra** - General Director, WageIndicator Foundation
- **Paulien Osse** - Co-Founder and Lead of Global Living Wage Team, WageIndicator Foundation
- **Prof. Hoshiar Mal** - Assistant Professor of Operations and Analytics at FLAME University
- **Prof. Ravikiran Naik** - Assistant Professor of Economics at FLAME University
- **Vivian Hartlief** - Fundraising Lead, WageIndicator Foundation
- **Pooja Gill** - Research Associate and Manager, Dean's Office, FLAME University
- **Shantanu Kishwar** - Research Assistant at WageIndicator-FLAME Research Lab
- **Abhishek Patil** - Intern Manager, WageIndicator - FLAME Research Lab

HOW TO GET TO FLAME UNIVERSITY

Directions & Location Map to FLAME Campus

From Mumbai

150.1 km

- Cross the expressway
- Change over to the Pune-Bangalore highway
- Reach Wakad Bridge (Rajeev Gandhi InfoTech Park)
- Continue straight on the Pune-Bangalore highway
- From Wakad Bridge, our site is at a distance of 9 kms
- Just before the site, you will see a Crystal Honda showroom on the right
- You will also see a Pink Water Tank on the right
- Take a U-Turn on the Pune-Bangalore highway, 50 mtrs ahead of the Pink Water Tank
- After the U-Turn, take another U-Turn to go up to the Pink Water Tank road
- FLAME is at a distance of 6.6 kms from the Pune-Bangalore highway turning

From University Circle, Pune

15.5 km

- Turn left towards Pashan
- At Pashan Village, turn left towards NDA
- After 3 kms and after the BEL factory, turn right towards the Pune-Bangalore highway
- Turn left on reaching the Pune-Bangalore highway
- After 1 km on the Pune-Bangalore highway, you will see a Crystal Honda showroom on the right
- You will also see a Pink Water Tank on the right
- Take a U-Turn on the Pune-Bangalore highway, 50 mtrs ahead of the Pink Water Tank
- After the U-Turn, take another U-Turn to go up to the Pink Water Tank road
- FLAME is at a distance of 6.6 kms from the Pune-Bangalore highway turning

From Chandni Chowk, Pune

9.6 km

- If you are coming from Kothrud, turn right on the Pune-Bangalore highway, going towards Mumbai
- If you are coming from Katraj, continue straight on the Pune-Bangalore highway
- After 2.5 kms, you will see a Pink Water Tank on the left
- Take a left turn at the Pink Water Tank turning
- FLAME is at a distance of 6.6 kms from the Pune-Bangalore highway turning

FLAME UNIVERSITY

Gat No. 1270, Lavale, Off. Pune Bengaluru Highway, Pune - 412115, Maharashtra, India.
https://www.flame.edu.in/

Location QR Code