

# 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Non-Sewered Sanitation Systems (ICNSS 2026)

Reimagining Sanitation Systems for Inclusive and Sustainable Future

09<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July 2026

**Indian Institute of Technology Palakkad  
Kerala, INDIA**

<https://nssconference2026.org/>

**Host**

Global Sanitation Center of Excellence  
(GSCOE)

Indian Institute of Technology Palakkad

**Supporting Agencies**

Center for Continuing Education  
(CCE) of IIT Palakkad

Technology Innovation Foundation  
of IIT Palakkad (TECHIN)

**In Association with**

International Water  
Association (IWA)

International Water  
Association (IWA) - India

**Early Bird Registration**

26<sup>th</sup> February - 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026

**Regular Registration**

16<sup>th</sup> April - 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026

**Late Registration**

1<sup>st</sup> June - 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026

# About The Conference

The 2<sup>nd</sup> IWA Conference on Non-Sewered Sanitation (NSS) Systems will be held from 09-12 July 2026 in Palakkad, Kerala, India, hosted by the Global Sanitation Center of Excellence (GSCOE), Indian Institute of Technology Palakkad (IIT Palakkad) in collaboration with the International Water Association (IWA). Building on the success of the first IWA NSS Conference held in Johannesburg in 2023, this global event will bring together students, researchers, practitioners, policymakers, industry partners, and utilities to exchange cutting-edge knowledge, experiences, and innovations in non-sewered sanitation systems.

With an expected participation of national and international delegates, the conference will feature plenary talks, technical sessions, poster presentations, panel discussions, and exhibitions, showcasing innovations from across the world. The event provides a unique platform to share global evidence and best practices for non-sewered and decentralized sanitation, explore emerging technologies and pathways for implementation, discuss policy frameworks, financing models, and governance mechanisms, highlight the linkages between sanitation, health, environment, and climate resilience, and foster international collaboration towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Join us in Palakkad, Kerala, India to shape the future of sanitation and contribute to building resilient, inclusive, and sustainable sanitation systems worldwide.

## Timeline

Opening Call for Abstract Submission	Abstract Submission Deadline	Intimation to Authors for Registration	Earlybird Registration	Regular Registration
15 <sup>th</sup> September, 2025	15 <sup>th</sup> December, 2025	25 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026	26 <sup>th</sup> February to 15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2026	16 <sup>th</sup> April to 31 <sup>st</sup> May, 2026

## About IIT Palakkad

Established in July 2015, the Indian Institute of Technology Palakkad fosters an environment for learning, innovation, and research, empowering students and faculty to become agents of change. Starting with 120 students, the institute now has nearly a thousand, supported by top talent in key roles.

IIT Palakkad emphasizes collaboration with industry and academia, advancing both blue-sky and applied research. Guided by its motto "Nurturing minds for a better world", it aims to lead in cross-disciplinary inquiry and harness India's demographic potential.

Set in the historic and vibrant Palakkad region—Kerala's gateway through the Western Ghats—the institute draws inspiration from its rich traditions, lush landscapes, and proximity to the Silent Valley rainforests.

[Visit here](#)



## Conference Themes and Sub-Themes

### Research, Technology & Innovations in Decentralised/Non-Sewered Sanitation Systems

1. Frontier Technologies in Sanitation
2. Nature-Based and Thermal-Based Treatment Technologies
3. Innovations in Sludge Dewatering and Drying Technologies
4. Advances in Pathogen Detection and Disinfection Technologies
5. Energy and Resource Recovery from Wastewater
6. Greywater Reuse and Groundwater Protection

### Policy, Standards, Financing and Governance

1. Global Standards in Sanitation: Pathways and Challenges for Adoption
2. National Sanitation Missions: Strategies, Achievements, and Gaps in Implementation
3. Policy Frameworks for NSS Implementation in LMICs
4. Financial Models for Policy Formulations and Implementation
5. Business Models for Sanitation Service Delivery in Peri-Urban Areas
6. Decentralized Governance Models for NSS Adoption

### Climate Resilient Sanitation Management

1. Emergency Sanitation Systems
2. Sanitation Solutions for Coastal and Flood-Prone Regions
3. Low-Carbon Technologies and GHG Emission Reduction in Sanitation
4. Integration of Sanitation in Climate Adaptation Planning
5. Digital Twins and AI-enabled Optimization in Sanitation Systems
6. Climate Finance and Carbon Credits For Sanitation Projects

### Global Evidence and Practices for Sustainable Sanitation

1. Case Studies on Citywide Inclusive Sanitation
2. Life-Cycle Assessment and Cost-Effectiveness
3. Urban-Rural Convergence in Sanitation
4. Faecal Sludge and Septage Management
5. Community-Led Sanitation Innovations and Social Entrepreneurship
6. Circular Economy Models in Sanitation Value Chains

### Public Health and Environmental Impact

1. Wastewater-Based Epidemiology
2. Gender Responsive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
3. Biosolids Disposal and Reuse
4. Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) in Sanitation Systems
5. Emerging Contaminants (Microplastics, PFAS, Pharmaceuticals) in Sludge and Wastewater
6. Water Resource Management Under Climate Extremes

## About GSCOE

Global Sanitation Center of Excellence (GSCOE) is a center of excellence of IIT Palakkad, initiated and facilitated through the Office of Principal Scientific Advisor, Government of India. The center's ongoing projects include developing new sanitation technologies and solutions for non-sewered sanitation systems, which are crucial in rural and underserved urban areas. The GSCOE is also involved in national and global networks on non-sewered sanitation systems which focus on national and international cooperation to improve sanitation across regions.

GSCOE's lab infrastructure includes state of the art facilities for testing septage, sludge, water and wastewater. The Global Sanitation Centre of Excellence is committed to providing rigorous technical evaluation and effective field testing of sanitation technologies. This is achieved through the Engineering Field Testing Platform built within the campus, which allows for sophisticated testing and validation of various sanitation solutions.

[Visit here](#)



## Programme and Scientific Committee



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Chair, ICNSS 2026

GSCOE & Dept. of Civil Engineering, IIT Palakkad



**Jay Bhagwan**

Chair

IWA -NSS Specialist Group



**Dr. Devasena M**

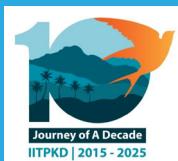
Convenor, ICNSS 2026

GSCOE, IIT Palakkad

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<b>Ms. Mei Yee Chan</b> Singapore	<b>Dr. Sudhir Pillay</b> Water Research Commission, South Africa	<b>Ms. Cate N. Nimanya</b> Water For People - Africa	<b>Mr. Stefan Reuter</b> Faecal Sludge Management Alliance
<b>Mr. Arun Kumar R.S</b> University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa	<b>Mr. Danish D.R</b> IIT Madras India, YWP India Chapter Chair, India	<b>Dr. Praveena Gangadharan</b> Indian Institute of Technology Palakkad, India	<b>Dr. Devasena M</b> GSCOE, Indian Institute of Technology Palakkad, India

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