

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

Reimagining Sanitation Systems for Inclusive and Sustainable Future

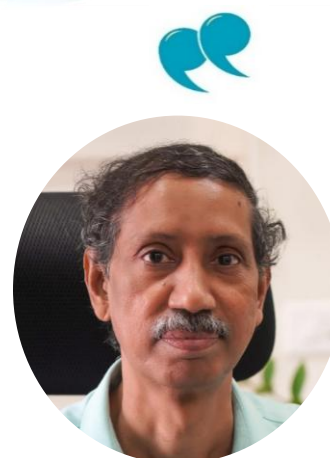
09<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July 2026

Indian Institute of Technology Palakkad  
Kerala, INDIA

<https://nssconference2026.org/>



## From the Organizers' Desk



It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2<sup>nd</sup> IWA Conference on Non-Sewered Sanitation Systems (ICNSS 2026) at IIT Palakkad, from 9–12 July 2026. In partnership with the International Water Association (IWA), this event unites global experts to advance sustainable sanitation solutions. At IIT Palakkad, we believe in innovation through collaboration to address real-world environmental challenges. I look forward to engaging in dialogues and impactful outcomes that shape the future of non-sewered sanitation systems.

**Prof. A. Seshadri Sekhar**  
Director, IIT Palakkad

This conference provides a dynamic platform for global experts, innovators, and practitioners to exchange ideas and advance the frontiers of decentralised and sustainable sanitation. With a focus on resilient technologies, circular resource use, and inclusive implementation, ICNSS 2026 aims to catalyse meaningful dialogue and actionable outcomes. We look forward to your active participation in shaping the future of sanitation for a healthier and more sustainable world.



**Dr. Praveena Gangadharan**  
Conference Chair, ICNSS 2026



This conference series continues to serve as a pivotal global platform for advancing innovation, policy, and practice in decentralised and non-sewered sanitation. Building on the success of our previous gathering, ICNSS 2026 will bring together leading researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers to share experiences, showcase technologies, and strengthen collaborations toward achieving sustainable sanitation for all. I look forward to your participation in shaping the next chapter of this transformative movement.

**Mr. Jay Bhagwan**  
Chair, IWA Non-Sewered Sanitation Specialist Group

As the convenor and a member of the organizing team from the Global Sanitation Center of Excellence (GSCOE) at IIT Palakkad, I am delighted to see this conference provide a global platform to exchange transformative ideas and innovations in sustainable sanitation. ICNSS 2026 aims to foster collaboration among academia, industry, and policymakers to address the pressing challenges of sanitation access, resilience, and resource recovery. We look forward to welcoming you to Palakkad for an inspiring and impactful event that will strengthen the global sanitation community.



**Dr. Devasena M**  
Conference Convenor, ICNSS 2026

### Host organizations

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



## 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.



## 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.



## 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

### 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

### 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



## Call for Abstracts

The second call is open now for enthusiastic participants to submit their abstracts for ICNSS 2026. The abstract submission is integrated through the "Shocklogic" platform and supported by the International Water Association. Before proceeding with the submission, you can prepare your abstracts as per the template provided on the conference website and by referring to the guidelines for submission. We look forward to your submissions and active participation.

Visit here



Abstract submission weblink: <https://nssconference2026.org/submissions.html>



Upon acceptance of the abstracts, notifications will be sent to further register for the conference and make the payment accordingly. Please follow the conference website for regular updates, timelines, and other instructions for registration and payment.

## Conference registration categories and charges

Early registration (From 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb till 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2026)	High-income countries	Fee (₹)	Low-income countries	Fee (₹)
	Non-IWA	40000	Non-IWA	15000
	IWA	30000	IWA	10000
	YWP (student)	20000	YWP (student)	8000
	Accompanying delegate	16000	Accompanying delegate	5000
Late registration (From 16 <sup>th</sup> April till 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2026)	High-income countries	Fee (₹)	Low-income countries	Fee (₹)
	Non-IWA	50000	Non-IWA	25000
	IWA	40000	IWA	20000
	YWP (student)	30000	YWP (student)	12000
	Accompanying delegate	25000	Accompanying delegate	8000
On-site registration (From 01 <sup>st</sup> June till 01 <sup>st</sup> July 2026)	High-income countries	Fee (₹)	Low-income countries	Fee (₹)
	Non-IWA	60000	Non-IWA	30000
	IWA	50000	IWA	25000
	YWP (student)	35000	YWP (student)	15000
	Accompanying delegate	30000	Accompanying delegate	10000

The IWA categorizes countries based on their income levels, following the World Bank's Gross National Income (GNI) database. For discounted registration rates, become an International Water Association (IWA) member. Select the IWA membership with your registration to avail the membership discount on the conference delegate ticket price.



<https://join.iwaconnectplus.org>



Join IWA now for  
discounted registration

inspiring change • connecting people • pioneering science • innovating technology • leading practice

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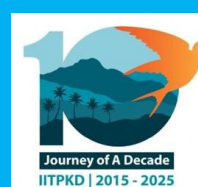
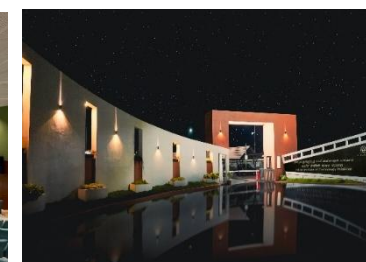
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