12th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION

Jointly organised by

Department of Social Work, Sardar Patel University

Anand · Vallabh Vidyanagar · Gujarat

&

Indian Association of Life Skills Education (IALSE), Chennai, India

6 – 8 January 2027

Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat

On

Revisiting Life Skills: Integrating Theory and Practice for Regenerative Societies

Call for Participation

At the 12th International Conference on Life Skills Education (ICLSE 2027), we invite educators, researchers, social work professionals, policymakers, development organisations, and practitioners to revisit life skills by integrating theory and practice and to explore their role in advancing human dignity, social equity, environmental stewardship, and global citizenship on an international, interdisciplinary platform.

Backdrop

The world is experiencing rapid technological advancement, ecological challenges, widening social inequalities, and shifting patterns of human interaction. These realities call for a renewed understanding of life skills education that moves beyond helping individuals cope with change to empowering them to contribute to resilient, equitable, and regenerative societies. Collective societal change can only occur when individuals are first anchored in personal agency, self-mastery, and the cognitive adaptability required to navigate rapid transitions.

The modern landscape requires a deeper look at life skills education, shifting our focus from coping mechanisms to active renewal and long-term societal harmony. While traditional life skills have focused on helping individuals adapt to and sustain themselves in challenging environments, the

complexities of today's world call for an intentional shift towards a regenerative culture — one defined by deep empathy and creative change-making. Hence, there is a critical need to revisit conceptualisations of life skills education at this turning point. By revisiting life skills through this forward-looking lens, we enrich personal competencies, equipping individuals with the adaptive agency needed to move from merely managing day-to-day adversity to stewardship-driven behaviour.

About the Conference

This conference offers a dynamic platform to revisit the evolving landscape of life skills education by integrating theory and practice to address the complex challenges of our times. By bringing together researchers, educators, practitioners, policymakers, and life skills professionals from diverse domains, the conference will foster critical dialogue, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the exchange of evidence-informed practices that contribute to regenerative societies.

We invite you to join this collective endeavour to bridge knowledge and action and to reimagine a life skills framework that empowers individuals and communities not only to address the challenges of our times, but also to regenerate the human, social, and ecological systems on which our collective future depends.

Key Questions Addressed by the Conference

- How should life skills education be re-envisioned to address contemporary social, technological, and environmental challenges?
- How can theory and field practice be integrated to strengthen the quality and impact of life skills education?
- What role can life skills play in promoting social equity, gender justice, digital citizenship, peace, and ecological stewardship?
- How can interdisciplinary collaborations generate innovative, evidence-informed approaches for education, community development, and public policy?
- How can life skills education prepare individuals and institutions to contribute meaningfully to regenerative societies?

Structure & Participants

Structure of the Conference

The conference will include Panel discussions, Symposium, Seminar, Round Table, Teen Talk, Invited Lecture, NGO Conclave, Think Tank, Master Class, Spotlight sessions, and Thematic sessions (in both face-to-face and online modes) planned over three days.

The conference, which will be held in hybrid mode (in-person and online), is expected to cater to over 300 delegates from India and abroad.

Participants

Academicians, social scientists, research scholars/researchers, government representatives/officials, members of civil society, NGO/NGO practitioners, youth workers, trainers and practitioners of life skills, professional social workers and activists, and individuals interested in life skills education, training and research are invited to participate in the conference as delegates, sponsors and partners for deliberations and paper presentations.

CORE THEMATIC TRACKS

Revisiting Life Skills For:

1. Social Work, Community Empowerment, and Rights-Based Practice for Regenerative Societies
2. Gender Pluralism, Human Dignity, and Relational Regeneration
3. Eco-Social Practices and Stewardship for Self-Regenerating Systems
4. Technology, Digital Citizenship, and Education Policy for Regenerative Futures
5. Peace Education, Mental Well-being, and Collective Coexistence in Harmonious Societies
6. Social Perspectives and Inclusion for Regenerative Communities
7. Global Perspectives and Collaborative Pathways for Regenerative Societies

POSTER PRESENTATION

Poster presentations Offer participants a platform to share innovative practices, conceptual frameworks, and research in Life Skills Education in a visually engaging manner. Faculty, life skills trainers, researchers, and students are invited to present their work that reflects the conference theme Posters may depict classroom innovations, institutional initiatives, field-based studies, or emerging models that advance understanding and practice in life skills education. posters should be prepared in portrait format (A1 size: 594 mm x 841 mm) and include the title, author(s), institutional affiliation, objectives, methodology, key findings, and implications. Participants are encouraged to use clear visuals a nd concise text for effective communication. Accepted poster presenters Will be intimated by the organizers. Such presenters must register for the conference by paying the registration fees. The Poster Presenters will display their prepared poster in the designated space at the Conference Venue on the days of the conference. The presenters will have the opportunity to interact with delegates during designated poster sessions. Last date for submission of Posters: 15 October 2026.

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP

CONFERENCE PATRON	CONFERENCE CHAIR	CONFERENCE CONVENER	CONFERENCE DIRECTOR
Prof. (Dr.) Niranjan P. Patel **Vice Chancellor, Sardar Patel University**	**Dr. A. Radhakrishnan Nair** **President, IALSE**	**Prof. (Dr.) Shivani Mishra** **Head, Dept. of Social Work, Sardar Patel University**	**Dr. Gauri Hardikar** **Vice President, IALSE**

Important Dates & Links

Key Dates at a Glance

Conference Dates: 6–8 January 2027

Abstract Acceptance begins: 15 August 2026

Last date for Abstract submission: 15 November 2026

Registration begins: 15 September 2026

Last date for Full Paper submission: 15 December 2026

Pre-Conference Workshop on Research Methodology: 4 & 5 January 2027

Workshop registration opens: 1 October 2026

Important Links

- Abstract Submission Link: https://forms.gle/dUoY2ksxnFoMjn5Z7
- Pre – Conference Registration Link: https://forms.gle/x4LfNc1hJBq9EzeR8
- Conference Registration Link: https://forms.gle/ierZze6e2m7jCX4o9

Publication

The conference Scientific Committee will scrutinise the papers. A Proceedings book with an ISSN will be published during the conference. The Proceedings book will include only those abstracts that are accepted for presentation. Selected papers will be published in the International Journal for Life Skills Education (a peer-reviewed journal with ISSN).

Conference Registration Fee

Registration Categories	Early Bird (up to 20 November 2026)		Registration (up to 15 December 2026)		Spot Registration (In person & Blended)
	In-person	Online	In-person	Online	
Academicians / Professionals (Paper Presenters) / Participants from SAARC Nations	INR 3500/-	INR 3000/-	INR 4000/-	INR 3500/-	**INR 5000/-**
Foreign Delegates / NRI (Paper Presenters)	US$100/-	US$100/-	US$125/-	US$125/-	**US$150/-**
IALSE Members (all types), Research Scholars & Collaborating-Agency Participants	INR 2000/-	INR 1500/-	INR 3000/-	INR 2000/-	**INR 3500/-**
Students	INR 1000/-	INR 1000/-	INR 1000/-	INR 1000/-	**INR 1500/-**

Conference Registration

- Registration fee includes the cost of conference kit, lunch and refreshments during the three-day conference sessions.
- The conference registration fee also includes a special visit to the Amul Chocolate Factory, offering delegates an opportunity to experience one of Gujarat's iconic institutions as part of the conference programme. **There will be no additional charge for this visit.**
- **Kindly note that all co-presenters need to register for the conference; otherwise, separate certificates will not be given to co-presenters.**
- Registration should be done online on or before 30th November 2026, after which only Spot registration fees will apply.

> ***Conference registration will begin on 15 September 2026 — please hurry to avail the early-bird offer!***

Payment Process

- The conference fee shall be paid online. Details are available on the IALSE website: https://www.ialse.in/
- Registration without payment of fees will not be accepted, and delegates will not be allowed to participate. Papers submitted without payment of fees will not be published. Fees once paid will not be reimbursed.

Please Note

Participants from Afghanistan, Iraq, Sudan, foreigners of Pakistani origin, and stateless persons should take prior permission from the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, for participation in the conference, and must upload the permission letter during registration.

Participants from Pakistan, Turkey, and Azerbaijan are not permitted to participate.

PUBLICATION GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS FOR ORAL/ONLINE PRESENTATION:

- Abstracts submitted for consideration should use the following criteria:
- An abstract should not exceed 300 words (Any abstract that exceeds the required word count will not enter the review process).
- The relevant conference thematic track should be identified
- The abstract should be in English (Font: Times New Roman, size 12), or Gujarati (Shruti font, size 12.5) or in Hindi (Shruti font, size 13)
- Line spacing should be 1.5, overall margins should be 1 inch
- The title should be as brief as possible but long enough to indicate the nature of the study
- Abstracts should state briefly the background, purpose/objectives, methodology, results and conclusions/discussions of the study and keywords
- The abstract should indicate the first author of the paper by adding one * as the superscript after the name (Eg, Axxxx*)
- The designation and affiliation of the authors should be mentioned on a separate page. The contact details of the Corresponding Author, including phone number and email address, should be mentioned.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF FULL PAPERS FOR ORAL/ONLINE PRESENTATION

- The following criteria are to be considered while submitting full papers:
- Author's name should be on the title page only, to facilitate a blind referring process
- The following order is to be noted when typing the manuscript:
- Title, Authors, Affiliation, Abstract, Keywords, Main Text, Acknowledgements, Appendix and References

- The manuscript must
- Be typed, 1.5 spaced (single spaced for indented material, notes and references)
- Have the suggested font size - all headings, including the title, should be in 14, Full papers in English -Font Times New Roman and text should be in 12-point size , Full Papers in Gujarati- Font Shruti, 12.5-point size, Full papers in Hindi – Font Shruti, 13-point size
- Have margins of 1 inch on all sides
- Follow APA format for reference
- Full papers should include a separate page containing:
  - Title of paper
  - Suggested topic and sub-theme
  - Name(s) of authors
  - Organisation/Institution affiliation
  - Corresponding Author, Cell phone, Fax, E-mail address
- Note: Full papers will only be accepted for review if:
  - The manuscript has not been copyrighted, published, presented or accepted for presentation at any other academic gathering and is not currently under review for presentation/ publication. A declaration to this effect must accompany the final paper in the format that will be shared.
  - Completed papers are received by the appropriate deadline and conform to the format and length requirements.

Research Methodology Workshop

A team of expert resource persons with extensive experience in life skills education leads this workshop. The two-day research workshop on Life Skills Education (LSE) will cover:

- Concept of Life Skills
- Philosophical and Theoretical Underpinnings of Life Skills
- Strategies in Research in Life Skills and their Applications
- Quantitative & Qualitative Research Designs for Life Skills Research
- Evaluation and Assessment in Life Skills Research
- Report Writing

Pre-conference Workshop Registration

- The registration fees for the Pre-conference workshop are INR 2100 (Early Bird Registration, valid till 15th November 2026) and INR 2600 (Registration fees valid till 15th December 2026)
- The Workshop registration fee shall be paid online.
- Pre-conference workshop registration link: (Clickable link to be added)

Bank Details for Workshop Registration

Name of A/c Holder: Indian Association of Life Skills Education

Bank Name: Canara Bank

Savings A/c No.: 2926101003784

Branch: No. 9, First Avenue, Ashok Nagar, Chennai 600 083

IFSC Code: CNRB0000975

MICR Code: 600015006

- **Registration without payment of fees will not be accepted.**

For Registrations, Please Contact

Prof. (Dr.) Bigi Thomas,
Professor, Department of Social Work, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat &
Organising Secretary, ICLSE 2027
Mobile: +91 9825124745

Mr. B. Senthil
Joint Secretary, IALSE &
Organising Secretary, ICLSE 2027
Mobile: +91 9962552223

Opportunities for Collaboration

In keeping with the spirit of collaboration and shared purpose, we invite educational institutions, civil society organisations, development agencies, foundations, and mission-aligned enterprises to actively participate in shaping the discourse and direction of life skills for regenerative societies. This is more than a sponsorship opportunity — it's a platform to share your vision and voice in an international movement dedicated to equity, resilience, and transformative education.

We invite you to become a Strategic Contributor in this learning journey. Organisations that extend financial support to the conference will be offered curated spaces to share their contributions through the following avenues:

Conference Branding

Contributing organisations will be prominently acknowledged through logo and name placement across select conference communications, including the programme booklet, banners, and digital materials. This visibility not only reflects your support for life skills education but also aligns your institution with a forward-looking, rights-based vision of transformative learning.

Spotlight Sessions

We are pleased to offer Spotlight Sessions — dedicated parallel slots for organisations to showcase their contributions to life skills education and allied fields, present innovative programs, tools, and research, and engage in dialogue with a diverse global audience. Selected publication materials (subject to editorial review) will also be included in the Conference Resource Kit, providing extended visibility for your work among educators, policymakers, and practitioners.

Exhibition

The Exhibition space Offers NGOs, career guidance agencies, publishing houses, technology provider, employment agencies, organisations offering educational and other loans, entrepreneurs, nationalised banks, insurance agencies and other financial institutions etc a space to engage the delegates with their work at their own pace, ask questions, and explore possibilities for collaboration, a place where the organization's ethos, impact, and aspirations remain visible and accessible throughout the event. Interested individuals may write to ialse.iclse2027@gmail.com

Knowledge in Every Hand

Have your publications, toolkits, or curated material (pending approval) included in the Conference Kit, distributed to every registered participant — an excellent way to amplify reach and foster new collaborations.

For Partnership Discussions, please contact

Dr. Gauri Hardikar,
Vice President, IALSE
Conference Director,
Mobile no: 9820737709
Email: iclse2027@gmail.com

We look forward to spotlighting your story at the conference.

About the Organisers

Indian Association of Life Skills Education (IALSE)

The Indian Association of Life Skills Education is a registered society that, since its inception in 2010, has created a forum for officials, academicians, professionals, researchers, policymakers, functionaries, and like-minded individuals to interact, discuss, and promote and strengthen Life Skills Education through an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approach. It has a pan-India presence, with over 300 members, including life members, institutional members, and patron members from various regions of the country. The association enables life skills professionals, practitioners, and researchers nationwide to share ideas, resources, and expertise. The focus areas of IALSE include training, content and curriculum development, research, and publication in life skills education. The International Journal of Life Skills Education (IJLSE) is the exclusive journal on life skills education and related subjects, published by IALSE.

https://www.ialse.in/

Department of Social Work, Sardar Patel University

Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Anand, Gujarat, established in 1955, is a prominent state university situated in the unique educational township of Vallabh Vidyanagar, providing a community-oriented and conducive environment for learning, research, and innovation. It comprises 27 postgraduate departments, one constituent college, and 148 affiliated colleges, offering diverse programmes across major disciplines and multidisciplinary fields from **undergraduate to doctoral levels. Re-accredited with an 'A' Grade and a CGPA of 3.11 by NAAC in its fourth cycle, the** University is widely recognised for its contributions to rural and sustainable development.

Recognised as the First Green University of Gujarat, the University demonstrates a strong commitment to environmental sustainability alongside academic excellence and social responsibility. Established in 1997, the Department of Social Work offers postgraduate and doctoral education in Social Work and Human Resource Management, with a strong emphasis on integrating academic learning, research, field-based practice, and community engagement. The Department addresses areas such as human development, mental health and well-being, human resource development, social inclusion, community development, life skills, and sustainable social transformation.

https://www.spuvvn.edu/academics/departments/social-work/

ICLSE 2027 Conference Leadership and Committees

CHIEF PATRON

- Prof. (Dr.) Niranjan P. Patel
- Vice Chancellor, Sardar Patel University

PATRONS

- Dr. A. Nirmala, Teacher-in-Charge, Loreto College, Kolkata
- Dr. A D. Solomon Raj, Managing Trustee, Shelter Trust
- Dr. Balaji Varadarajan, Founder Director, ISSRA

CONFERENCE CHAIRPERSON

- Dr. A. Radhakrishnan Nair, President, Indian Association of Life Skills Education & Former Registrar, Central University of Kerala.

CONFERENCE CONVENER

- Prof. (Dr.) Shivani Mishra, Head, Dept. of Social Work, Sardar Patel University

CONFERENCE DIRECTOR

- Dr. Gauri Hardikar, Vice President, IALSE & Executive Director, Indian Ocean Comparative Education Society

ORGANISING SECRETARIES

- Prof. (Dr.) Bigi Thomas, Professor, Department of Social Work, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat
- Mr. Senthil B., Joint Secretary, IALSE; Member, Juvenile Justice Board; Department of Children Welfare and Special Services, Tamil Nadu

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Chair: Dr. G. Sureshkumar, Chairperson, Family Planning Association Of India, Kerala Chapter & Treasurer, Indian Association of Life Skills Education
- Co-chair: Mr. Pritesh Rathava, Accountant, Department of Social Work, Sardar Patel University

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- Chair: Dr. C. Praveen, Former Principal, IASE Thrissur
- Co-chair: Dr. Manisha Parmar, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Sardar Patel University,

Conference Collaborators

Loreto College, Kolkata (Autonomous) - https://www.loretocollege.edu.in/

Indian Social Sciences Research Academy

Shelter Trust

Knowledge Partners:

Indian Ocean Comparative Education Society - https://www.ioces.org/

Emotional Intelligence and Life Skills Training Team (GTE), Sri Lanka- https://www.eilifeskills.org/

Life Skills Education Institute P. Ltd, Nepal

We look forward to welcoming you to ICLSE 2027.

CONFERENCE DESTINATIONS & POST-CONFERENCE EXCURSION

Vallabh Vidyanagar • Gujarat

PLACES OF INTEREST



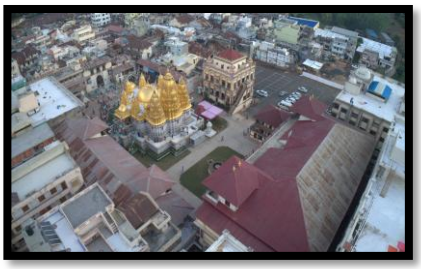
Statue of Unity, Kevadia

Standing 182 metres tall on the Narmada River, the Statue of Unity is a landmark dedicated to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The surrounding Ekta Nagar destination also offers a range of nature, heritage and visitor attractions.



Sardar Patel Memorial, Karamsad

The memorial complex commemorates Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Veer Vithalbhai Patel. The nearby ancestral house preserves the setting of Patel's childhood and includes photographs and historical material.



Shree Swaminarayan Mandir, Vadtal

A historic Swaminarayan temple complex dating to the 19th century, noted for its distinctive domes, lotus-shaped architectural elements and ornate craftsmanship. It is an important pilgrimage centre of the Vadtal Swaminarayan tradition.



Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad

Situated on the Sabarmati River, the ashram preserves important spaces and collections associated with Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian freedom movement, including his former residence, Hriday Kunj.



Laxmi Vilas Palace, Vadodara

A grand Indo-Saracenic palace associated with the Gaekwad dynasty, built in 1890. The complex is known for its elaborate architecture, art collections and extensive landscaped grounds.

POST-CONFERENCE EXCURSION • STATUE OF UNITY

Join us for an exclusive group tour to the Statue of Unity on Saturday, 9th January, 2027

Schedule	Departs Vallabh Vidyanagar at 8:00 AM • Returns approximately 10:00 PM
Transport	Air-conditioned bus
Cost	₹5,000 per delegate
Includes	Round-trip AC transportation and Statue of Unity entry fees
Confirmation	Tour confirmation is subject to a minimum registration of 30 delegates.

Important Note: The excursion is subject to minimum registration.

ACCOMMODATION – SUGGESTED HOTELS

Accommodation is not included in the conference registration fee. Limited, modest accommodation is available on the Sardar Patel University campus on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to availability. Delegates seeking University accommodation, as well as those requiring assistance or information regarding other accommodation options, may contact **Dr. Rakesh Gandhi, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Phone: 9725614403.**

Delegates opting for hotel accommodation are requested to make their bookings directly with the respective hotels; the following nearby hotels are suggested for their convenience.

Note: Distances are approximate and are shown from the conference venue / Sardar Patel University area. Delegates should confirm the exact location, availability, rates and booking terms directly with the hotel before making reservations.

Suggested Hotel	Approx. Distance
Hotel Restandview	Approx. 0.2 km
Humming Bird Hotel & Banquet	Approx. 0.3 km
Hotel Rose Prime	Approx. 0.6 km
Hotel Sun Shine	Approx. 0.7 km
Hotel Mahnsh Palace	Approx. 0.8 km
Viz Park Hotel – Business Hotel GIDC Anand	Approx. 1.5 km
Hotel H	Approx. 1.6 km