Overview

Our world is increasingly facing complex challenges. We have repeatedly promised ourselves a sustainable world – in terms of societal, environmental and economic perspectives. In reality, we have got now an economic motor, with considerable environmental damage and social inequalities. Our challenges therefore include preserving the environment and creating sustainable use of natural resources in spite of the rapidly increasing population and consumption, bridging the extreme wealth inequality that exists in the world, which has been a perennial problem in the history of mankind.

These challenges are transnational in nature and trans-institutional in solution. They cannot be addressed by any government or institution acting alone. They require collaborative action among governments, international organizations, corporations, universities, NGOs, and creative individuals.

Design for development is a tool to address these issues. Everyone designs who devises courses of action aimed at “changing existing situations into preferred ones” is the foundation for the concept of Design for Development. This definition expands the scope of designing beyond engineering. Viewed this way, the intellectual activity that produces material artefacts is no different fundamentally from the one that prescribes remedies for a sick patient or the one that devises a new sales plan for a company or a social welfare policy for a state. Design, so construed, is the core of all professional training; it is the principal mark that distinguishes the profession from the sciences. Schools of engineering, as well as schools of sociology, economics, architecture, business, education, law, and medicine are all centrally concerned with the process of design. Therefore design is a multi-disciplinary endeavour.

This course is introductory in nature, focusing on a quest towards design and sustainable innovations for improving the quality of life of people of marginalized communities. Nobel laureate Amartya Sen’s writings on human face of development serve as guidance. This week long course is interdisciplinary in nature covering a wide range of aspects including issues concerning developing countries with a focus on India, tools and methods to search for solutions, case studies, field visits, brainstorming and multidisciplinary research towards interventions, presentation of results, etc.

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<th>Module</th>
<th>Introductory Course on Design for Development: 26 till 31 Dec 2016. The course will have a maximum intake of 50.</th>
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| You Should Attend If... | • You are studying or have completed post graduate studies in Economics, Sociology, Social Work, Management, Commerce, or Computer and Information Science.  
  • Completed or following graduate course in Engineering (any branch), Medicine.  
  • Ph.D. scholar pursuing research in development studies.  
  • Development practitioner or policy maker. |
| Fees | Students of University of Mysore: INR 1,000  
Students of any other university in India: INR 1,500  
Indian participants other than students : INR 3,000  
International participants: USD 100  
The above fee includes all instructional materials.  
The participants will be provided with accommodation on payment basis.  
Register at: [http://www.gian.iitkgp.ac.in/GREGN/index](http://www.gian.iitkgp.ac.in/GREGN/index) |
The Faculty

Prof. Prabhu Kandachar, PhD, Professor Emeritus - Industrial Design, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands. Prabhu Kandachar’s interest is on Sustainability, Design & Innovations. He is extensively involved in human centred innovations to design & prototype products and services for the Base-of-the-Pyramid (BoP). Issues covered include water, healthcare, energy, housing, etc., in countries like India, Indonesia, China, Brazil, Ghana, Tanzania, Honduras, Philippines, Pakistan, Madagascar, etc. He has given several keynote lectures on this topic. Recently, he organized and chaired the Indo-Dutch International Conference on Design for Sustainable Well-being and Empowerment, 12th to 14th June 2014, Bangalore, India.

Prof. M.Indira, PhD is professor of Economics in University of Mysore. She has worked on various development issues ranging from gender issues, impact of voluntary organizations, agricultural policy, corporate social responsibility, tourism, financing of education to capability approach. She is a member of several professional bodies like International Society for Third Sector Research, International Association for Feminist Economics, Indian Association for Women’s Studies, Human Development and Capability Association, etc. She believes that higher education institutions should have greater engagement with the communities around the institutions and use of participatory research methods.

Course Objectives

The objective of this course is to introduce the concept of Design for Development to the students from different disciplines and the practitioners to stimulate them to think and use inter-disciplinary approaches to evolve sustainable innovations for improving the quality of life of people of low income communities. While it provides necessary theoretical background to the practitioners, it connects the academia with the practical nuances of real world problems, project design and implementation.

Course co-ordinator:

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