

SUB THEMES

- ❖ Innovation, Start-ups and Women Entrepreneurs
- ❖ Access to Finance and Financial Inclusion
- ❖ Government Policies and Institutional Support
- ❖ Women in STEM and Emerging Fields
- ❖ Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development
- ❖ Rural Women, SHGs and Grassroots Entrepreneurship
- ❖ Work-Life Balance and Supportive Ecosystems
- ❖ Inclusive Entrepreneurship for Marginalized Women
- ❖ Market Access and Global Opportunities
- ❖ Future of Work and Women's Entrepreneurship
- ❖ Research, Evidence and Gender-Responsive Entrepreneurship

SUBMISSION OF RESEARCH PAPERS

- ❖ The research papers should be sent to the e.mail id: radhikadevi.wsc@mkuniversity.ac.in on or before 24th August 2026.
- ❖ A soft copy of the research paper in English should be submitted in MS Word format using Times New Roman, 12-point with 1.5 line spacing on A4-size paper and should not exceed 7 pages.
- ❖ The submitted research paper must be an original work and should not have been presented or published elsewhere.
- ❖ The author and co-author must register separately.
- ❖ All submitted manuscripts will be subject to a peer-review process.
- ❖ Papers received after the submission deadline will not be accepted.

PUBLICATION

All the accepted papers will be published in the ISSN Journal

REGISTRATION FEE

NO REGISTRATION FEE

Registration must be completed through the link :
<https://forms.gle/5MjAV1r783SjY5uj9>

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract & Full paper submission : 24.08.2026
Acceptance for publication : 27.08.2026

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Madurai Kamaraj University

(University with Potential for Excellence)
(Re-accredited by NAAC with "A++" in the 4th Cycle)



Women's Studies Centre

with the support of

Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA 2.0)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

on

Entrepreneurship and Higher Education:
Advancing Gender Equality through
Inclusive Ecosystem

3rd September 2026

Registration Link:

<https://forms.gle/5MjAV1r783SjY5uj9>



Organized by

Women's Studies Centre
Madurai Kamaraj University
Madurai- 625 021



Madurai Kamaraj University

Established in 1966, Madurai Kamaraj University is a State University attained the status of University with Potential for Excellence for 'Teaching, Research and Outreach' in 2007. The University is governed by Acts, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations. The University has been accredited with "A++" grade in the 4th cycle (2021) by NAAC. In the 2017 Golden Jubilee Convocation, 809 Ph.D. Scholars were awarded doctoral degrees. In the "SWACHHTA" Ranking of Higher Educational Institutions in the Country, the HRD Ministry awarded Second Rank to the University in the category of Government Institutions on 14th September 2017. The University with 20 Schools comprising 77 Departments offers 44 Post Graduate, 40 M.Phil., 57 Ph.D programmes and 17 diploma/ P.G. diploma/ certificate courses has produced more than one crore graduates in the past 60 years.



Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)

Entrepreneurship and Innovation Hub is a knowledge centre to inspire and cultivate professional entrepreneurship among the students of Madurai Kamaraj University. The primary aim of this hub is to actively engage in a day to day engagement with students to make them entrepreneurs to start, grow and scale into sustainable enterprises through providing training and other programs and activities to students focusing on strategic, operational and commercial excellence.



Women's Studies Centre

The Women's Studies Centre (WSC) at Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, was established with the approval of the University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi, during the XI

Five-Year Plan in August 2009. The primary objective of the Centre is to strengthen Women's Studies as an interdisciplinary academic discipline through teaching, research, training, extension, and advocacy programmes.

A separate Postgraduate Board of Studies has been constituted for the programme. The Centre offers M.A in Women's Studies and Non-Major Elective (NME) courses. As part of its community outreach initiatives, the Centre has adopted the villages of Muthupatti and Thenpalanji under Vadapalanji Panchayat, Thiruparankundram Union, Madurai, to implement various women empowerment and community development programmes.

The Centre also undertakes documentation on issues concerning women. In addition, the Centre regularly organizes workshops, seminars, special lectures, awareness programmes, Extension activities and advocacy initiatives to promote women's empowerment and gender equality.



About the Conference

The National Conference on "Entrepreneurship and Higher Education: Advancing Gender Equality through Inclusive Ecosystem" provides a platform for academics, researchers, policymakers, entrepreneurs, educators, students, and practitioners to explore the role of higher education in promoting gender equality and inclusive entrepreneurship.

The conference will focus on entrepreneurship education, skill development, mentoring, incubation, digital transformation, access to finance, networking, and industry-academia collaboration. It will also examine inclusive policies and institutional practices that enable women and underrepresented groups to overcome barriers to entrepreneurship. Through expert deliberations and knowledge sharing, the conference aims to generate actionable strategies for strengthening the

pathways from higher education to entrepreneurship, innovation, leadership, and inclusive economic growth.



Aim

The conference aims to explore and strengthen the role of higher education in promoting gender equality, empowering women through entrepreneurship, and building an inclusive, innovative, and sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystem.



Objectives

- ◆ To examine the role of higher education in promoting gender equality and inclusive entrepreneurship.
- ◆ To explore opportunities for entrepreneurship education, skill development, mentoring, incubation, and innovation.
- ◆ To promote industry-academia collaboration and strengthen pathways from higher education to entrepreneurship and employment.
- ◆ To examine mechanisms for improving women's access to finance, credit, markets, technology, infrastructure, and business networks.
- ◆ To encourage green entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship, and sustainable business practices among emerging entrepreneurs.



Call for Papers

In light of the above mentioned objectives, research papers are invited from the members of Academicians, Scholars and representatives of NGOs and students in any of the following key themes of the conference



Key themes of the Conference

- ❖ Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment
- ❖ Higher Education as a Catalyst for Gender Equality
- ❖ Gender-Inclusive Entrepreneurship Ecosystems