



INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON DESIGNING THE FUTURE 2026

Creativity, Inclusion & Technology in Youth Innovation



18 to 20 MARCH 2026

Organised by

School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi

Ministry of Education, Government of India

In collaboration with

Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports

Government of India

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON DESIGNING THE FUTURE 2026

Creativity, Inclusion & Technology in Youth Innovation

Background

In a rapidly transforming world driven by technology, innovation, and cultural exchange, it is essential that young minds actively participate in shaping equitable and future-ready societies. The Department of Youth Affairs (DoYA), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, has launched a series of International Seminars to empower youth with global exposure, academic exchange, and leadership development. As part of this initiative, the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, is organising the seminar on the thematic focus: **“Designing the Future (ISDF) 2026: Creativity, Inclusion & Technology in Youth Innovation”**. The ISDF 2026 aims to bring together youth innovators, researchers, practitioners, designers, technologists, and policymakers from India and abroad to collaboratively reimagine inclusive futures through creativity, culture, design, and technological advancement.

Theme Rationale

Design today is no longer limited to aesthetics or form; it shapes social behaviour, accessibility, identity, environment, and collective well-being. Youth are at the forefront of experimenting with new models of creative expression, ethical technology, entrepreneurship, and sustainable solutions that directly impact everyday life.

This seminar explores how creativity, inclusion, and technology can converge to build:

- Accessible urban environments
- Ethical AI and digital cultures
- Community-driven innovation ecosystems
- Sustainable and regenerative design practices
- Youth-centred frameworks in policy and governance

Objective

The seminar seeks to:

- Facilitate dialogue between youth and global experts on inclusive and future-oriented design.
- Encourage cross-cultural collaboration in creative and technology-led communities.
- Strengthen global networks among universities, youth-led organisations, and innovation ecosystems.
- Support youth research and publication through a peer-reviewed paper compendium.
- Create a platform for youth to voice perspectives in public discourse on design, identity, and technology.

The International seminar highly encourages the youth (between 18 and 35 years of age), including early-stage entrepreneurs, designers, research scholars, and academicians. The seminar highly encourages professionals not only in design, architecture, planning, textile, AI, robotics, and creative industries, but also community leaders, activists, and youth organisations, including student delegates at the national and international level. The themes for the ISDF 2026 are,

- **Inclusive Design for Social Futures**

This track will examine how design can create equitable, accessible, and socially responsive futures. Contributions may explore frameworks, methods, technologies, and case studies that foreground inclusion and justice in built and digital environments.

- **Creative Cultures & Identity**

This theme explores how creativity intersects with identity, heritage, and cultural expression. Youth play a transformative role in shaping contemporary cultural ecosystems through art, craft, media, design, and hybrid creative practices.

- **Technology for Transformation**

This track focuses on how emerging technologies can reshape social experiences, governance systems, economies, and urban futures. It emphasises ethical, sustainable, and people-centric technological development.

- **Youth Leadership & Social Entrepreneurship**

This theme explores youth-driven leadership models, social enterprises, and bottom-up innovation ecosystems that address societal challenges, livelihood needs, and community resilience.

- **Creative Education & Future Learning Systems**

This session explores innovative approaches to education that foster creativity, critical thinking, and interdisciplinary learning to prepare future generations for rapidly evolving social, technological, and environmental challenges. It will examine emerging pedagogies, learning environments, and institutional models that enable adaptive, inclusive, and future-oriented education systems.

- **Sustainability, Climate Resilience & Ecological Futures**

This track focuses on strategies, policies, and design innovations that support sustainable development while strengthening the capacity of communities and ecosystems to adapt to climate change.

Important Dates & Eligibility for Paper Submission

Eligibility: Open to Youth Researchers, Scholars, and Practitioners (below 35 Years)

Short Article / Full Paper Submission Deadline: 20th February, 2026

Notification of Acceptance: 1st March, 2026

Registration and Submission of Presentation: 15th March, 2026

Note: All Accepted Papers will be published in an edited book with ISBN Number. Selected Papers will be published in a Scopus Indexed Edited Book (to be confirmed).

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

INAUGURAL SESSION

Day 01 – Wednesday, 18 March 2026 | Venue: India Habitat Centre (Jacaranda Hall)

9:00 am to 9:30 am	Registration of the participants
9:30 am to 10:00 am	Receiving the guests and expert panellists
10:00 am to 10:10 am	Inauguration and address by the Director, SPA New Delhi
10:10 am to 10:40 am	Keynote Session by Martin Duplantier, MDA Architectes
10:40 am to 10:50 am	Address by the Guest of Honour
10:50 am to 11:00 am	Address by the Chief Guest
11:00 am to 11:05 am	Address by the Chairman - BOG, SPA New Delhi
11:05 am to 11:10 am	Vote of Thanks
11:10 am to 11:30 am	Tea/Coffee Break
11:30 am to 1:00 pm	Presentation by the Panellists
1:00 am to 1:30 pm	Panel Discussion
1:30 pm to 2:30 pm	Lunch break
2:30 pm onwards	PAPER PRESENTATIONS (Parallel sessions)
2:30 pm to 4:30 pm	Thematic Track 1: Youth Leadership & Social Entrepreneurship
3:30 pm to 3:40 pm	Tea/Coffee Break
3:40 pm to 5:00 pm	Thematic Track 2: Creative Cultures and Identity
5:00 pm to 5:05 pm	National Anthem
7:30 pm onwards	Gala Dinner (Silver Oak Lawn)

SESSION 02 – PAPER PRESENTATION

Day 02 – Thursday, 19 March 2026 | Venue: India Habitat Centre (Magnolia Hall)

9:00 am to 11:00 am	Thematic Track 3: Inclusive Design and Social Futures
11:00 am to 11:30 am	Tea/Coffee Break
11:30 am to 1:30 pm	Thematic Track 4: Technology for Transformation
1:30 pm to 2:30 pm	Lunch break
2:30 pm to 4:00 pm	Thematic Track 5: Creative Education and Future Learning Systems
4:00 pm to 4:15 pm	Tea/Coffee Break
4:15 pm to 5:00 pm	Working Papers presentation
5:00 pm to 5:05 pm	Concluding Remarks

SESSION 03 – VALEDICTORY SESSION

Day 03 – Friday, 20 March 2026 | Venue: Swami Vivekanand Sabhagar, SPA New Delhi

6:00 am to 7:30 am	Heritage walk
11:00 am 11:30 am	Tea/Coffee Break
11:00 am to 11:45 am	Welcome Address followed by the Valedictory Session
11:45 am to 12:00 pm	Address by the Special Guest/s
12:00 pm to 12:30 pm	Certificate and best paper award distribution
12:30 pm to 12:50 pm	Feedback session
12:50 pm to 1:00 pm	Vote of Thanks
1:00 pm onwards	Lunch

Chief Patron

Prof. (Ar.) Habibeb Khan, Chairperson-BOG, SPA New Delhi

Patron

Prof. (Dr.) Virendra Kumar Paul, Director, SPA New Delhi

Convener

Prof. (Dr.) Jyoti Pandey Sharma, Head of the Department of Architecture, SPA New Delhi

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Dr. Jatinder Kaur, Associate Professor, Member

Dr. Ankit Kumar Singh, Assistant Professor, Member

Neha Prakash Korde, Assistant Professor, Member

Conference Chair

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• Neha Prakash Korde, Assistant Professor, SPA-D

Conference Co-Chair

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• Dr. Abhijit Rastogi, Assistant Professor, SPA-D

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• Dr. K. Bangkim Singh, Assistant Professor, SPA- D

Contact Information:**Seminar Secretariat**

“International Seminar on Designing the Futures (ISDF) 2026: Creativity, Inclusion & Technology in Youth Innovation”

School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi

Email: spa.isdf@spa.ac.in

Mobile: +91 96173 24471, +91 98332 84278

Registration is MANDATORY and open for youth (18–35), Faculties & Young Researchers with the link.

Link for Registration:
<https://forms.gle/6CMCCNpDKMDgsM6AA>



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