



National Conference

on

**Renal Healthcare in India: Understanding
Environmental Exposures and Social
Determinants**

organised by

**Sociology Programme, D.D. Kosambi School of
Social Sciences and
Behavioural Studies,
Goa University**

in collaboration with

**Indian Council for Social Science Research
(ICSSR), New Delhi**

on

27th June 2025

INTRODUCTION TO GOA UNIVERSITY AND THE D.D. KOSAMBI SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND BEHAVIOURAL STUDIES

Goa University, established in 1985, is the premier higher education institution in Goa, India. Located on a scenic campus overlooking the Arabian Sea, the university has grown from its origins as an affiliate of the University of Bombay to become a comprehensive academic center with 28 departments, offering diverse undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programs across disciplines.

The university's vision focuses on preparing students to thrive in a rapidly changing world, equipping them with knowledge and skills to navigate emerging trends and contribute to society. With state-of-the-art facilities including a modern library, advanced laboratories, and research centers, Goa University has established itself as a hub for academic excellence and innovation.

The institution maintains strong international collaborations with universities worldwide, promoting global perspectives and cross-cultural understanding. It hosts numerous conferences, seminars, and cultural events that enrich the academic environment and celebrate Goa's diverse heritage.

The D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies (DDKSSSBS), established in 2022, integrates multiple departments from the university campus and affiliated colleges. Named after Damodar Dharmananda Kosambi (1907-1966), a distinguished Goan polymath who made significant contributions to mathematics, statistics, history, and Indology, the school encompasses a wide range of disciplines including History, Political Science, Sociology, Women's Studies, Social Work, Geography, Psychology, Education, Journalism, and specialized Centers such as the Center for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy.

Building on Goa's pluralistic ethos, DDKSSSBS focuses on developing strong teaching and research programs that advance understanding of Goan society and contribute to new knowledge production. Its multidisciplinary approach encourages innovative solutions to complex social issues while preserving the intellectual diversity that has been the hallmark of the state.

INTRODUCTION TO INDIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

The Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) is the apex body of the Government of India for research in the social and human sciences. Founded in 1969,

ICSSR operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Education, Government of India. ICSSR plays a pivotal role in advancing knowledge and understanding of various social issues and challenges, and providing research-based solutions to policymakers and stakeholders in the development of the nation through initiatives and schemes such as research projects; doctoral, postdoctoral, senior fellowships, and national fellowships; research internships; training and capacity building of early career researchers; publication grants; national and international seminars, conferences and workshops; publication of cutting-edge research; national and international collaboration; promotion of social science and humanities research through research institutes, recognised institutes and regional centers. Documentation center of ICSSR - National Social Science Documentation Center (NASSDOC) - provides library and information support services to researchers in social sciences.

ICSSR's mission is to shape the agenda of social science research across the nation and contribute to informed policymaking and societal development by promoting research excellence.

ABOUT THE PROJECT “ENHANCING RENAL HEALTH: EXPLORING ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS AND SOCIOECONOMIC DETERMINANTS IN GOA, INDIA”

Chronic Kidney Disease of unknown etiology (CKDu) represents a growing global health challenge affecting an estimated 850 million people worldwide. Unlike traditional kidney diseases linked to diabetes and hypertension, CKDu disproportionately impacts agricultural communities and developing regions where environmental and socioeconomic factors likely play significant roles in its development and progression.

In India, the burden is particularly concerning, with approximately 220,000 new End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) patients annually, creating demand for an additional 34 million dialysis sessions each year. While CKD is prevalent across various regions of India, Goa shows a disproportionate burden, especially in coastal areas where residents face heightened risk, suggesting location-specific environmental factors may be contributing to this public health crisis.

This research project, aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 3 (ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being), aims to comprehensively examine CKDu in Goa, India. The study will investigate epidemiology, etiology, risk factors and potential interventions, with particular emphasis on environmental contaminants,

occupational hazards, and socioeconomic determinants affecting disease progression.

By identifying the specific factors driving the high incidence of CKDu in Goa, this research seeks to establish a foundation for targeted public health interventions that address both environmental and socioeconomic pathways to improve renal health outcomes in the region and potentially provide insights applicable to similar contexts globally.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE RENAL HEALTHCARE IN INDIA: UNDERSTANDING ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES AND SOCIAL DETERMINANTS.

The National Conference on "Renal Healthcare in India: Understanding Environmental Exposures and Social Determinants" is scheduled for June 27, 2025, as part of the ICSSR-funded project "Enhancing Renal Health: Exploring Environmental Factors and Socioeconomic Determinants in Goa, India" under the Vision Viksit Bharat@2047 scheme.

This interdisciplinary gathering will bring together researchers, environmentalists, economists, healthcare professionals, and policymakers to address key aspects of kidney health in India. The conference will focus specifically on understanding the epidemiology, etiology, risk factors, implications, and evidence-based interventions for CKDu, with particular emphasis on exploring environmental and socioeconomic dimensions that contribute to this condition. The conference will feature a best paper presentation competition for participants. The papers will be evaluated by an esteemed panel of judges from diverse domains, comprising three external resource persons from outside Goa and one local resource person. These judges will be responsible for judging the paper presentations and moderating the four groups mentioned later in this document.

THE CONFERENCE INVITES PAPER PRESENTATIONS ON THE FOLLOWING SUBTHEMES:

1. Socioeconomic Status and Kidney Disease: Exploring the Social Gradient in Renal Health
2. CKDu in Vulnerable Communities: Developing Culturally Appropriate Interventions
3. Interdisciplinary Approaches to CKD Research: Bridging Environmental Science and Nephrology

4. Policy Frameworks for Environmental Protection and Kidney Health
5. Climate Change Effects on Kidney Disease Patterns and Management
6. Economic Burden of Kidney Disease: Household Impact and Coping Strategies
7. Health Literacy and Kidney Disease: Developing Effective Educational Interventions
8. Agricultural Practices and Kidney Health: Examining Occupational Exposures
9. Treatment-Seeking Behaviors: Understanding Patient Journeys in Kidney Disease
10. Water Quality Assessment and Kidney Disease: Identifying Environmental

- The conference subthemes are divided into four groups to facilitate the best presentation competition, where one outstanding presentation from each group will be awarded.

Group	Focus Area	Subthemes
Group 1	Socioeconomic Aspects of Kidney Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socioeconomic Status and Kidney Disease: Exploring the Social Gradient in Renal Health • Economic Burden of Kidney Disease: Household Impact and Coping Strategies
Group 2	Environmental and Occupational Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Quality Assessment and Kidney Disease: Identifying Environmental Risk Factors • Agricultural Practices and Kidney Health: Examining Occupational Exposures • Climate Change Effects on Kidney Disease Patterns and Management
Group 3	Intervention and Educational Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Literacy and Kidney Disease: Developing Effective Educational Interventions

Group	Focus Area	Subthemes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CKDu in Vulnerable Communities: Developing Culturally Appropriate Interventions • Treatment-Seeking Behaviors: Understanding Patient Journeys in Kidney Disease.
Group 4	Policy and Interdisciplinary Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy Frameworks for Environmental Protection and Kidney Health • Interdisciplinary Approaches to CKD Research: Bridging Environmental Science and Nephrology

Note: The best presentation will receive an award. Selected papers will be published as per ICSSR guidelines.

WHO MAY ATTEND THE CONFERENCE:

The National Conference on Renal Healthcare in India: Understanding Environmental Exposures and Social Determinants is open for academicians, medical professionals, environmentalists, students, researchers, and policymakers. The Conference is envisioned to provide a platform for discussions and exchange of ideas and research related to renal health in Goa and across India and impact of environment and socioeconomic factors.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES IMPORTANT DATES

- Abstract submissions must be strictly in Word format with a permissible co authorship of maximum of five authors.
- The abstract should be between 250-350 words, including 5 keywords. The abstract must be accompanied by a Cover page including the following details: Title of the Paper, Name of the Author and Co-author (if any), Designation, Affiliation and Contact details of the Authors (E-mail ID and Contact number).
- Full papers should be between 5000-6000 words (excluding footnotes) and should follow the APA style of citation, Source of Figures, Tables, Images, etc

- All submissions must be made at icssrgurenalhealthcare@gmail.com with the subject heading as “Abstract Submission- (Name of the First Author)” or “Paper Submission- (Name of the First Author)”.
- Selected papers will be published in the conference compiled journal after the Conference.
- Language should be American English
- The body of the document should use Times New Roman font 12, 1.5 line spacing
- Headings and Subheadings: Times New Roman, size 14 (Bold). Include numbering like "Chapter 1" (Heading 1.1, Subheading 1.1.1).
- Academic writing style

IMPORTANT DATES

Last date for abstract submission	10 June 2025
Communication of abstract acceptance	12 June 2025
Last date for registration	15 June 2025
Last date for final paper submission	25 June 2025

REGISTRATION LINK

For registration [Click here](#)

Co-authors must register separately for the event. The University will provide limited accommodation based on room availability. Please confirm your accommodation requirements not later than 15 June, 2025. All lodging requests must be submitted by this deadline to ensure appropriate arrangements can be made. Please note that no travel allowances (TA) will be provided by the University or the organizers. We kindly request that you make your own travel arrangements.

For abstract submissions, paper submissions, and any queries, please contact us at icssrgurenalhealthcare@gmail.com. Additionally, participants may also contact our Principal Investigators and Research Team:

Principal Investigator: Dr. Arvind N. Haldankar, Associate Professor in Sociology, arvindhaldankar@unigoa.ac.in

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VENUE –

**The International Center
Goa (ICG) is located at Dr. E
Borges Road, Dona Paula,
Goa 403004, India.**

